



## Pennsylvania State Organization

Alpha Sigma Chapter  
Pennsylvania State Organization  
Volume 25, Issue 4  
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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

### President's Message, May 2024

Hello Alpha Sigma Sisters,

We had a fantastic Four-Chapter Meeting with our State President, Royce Boyd. Zeta, Lambda, and Alpha Omicron joined us at Gallo's, in New Castle, to fellowship together and witness the installation of the newly elected 2024-2026 Biennium Officers of Alpha Omicron and Alpha Sigma.

As a bonus, all members present had the opportunity to participate in a Recommitment Ceremony, officiated by President Royce. This reaffirmation of what membership in DKG means refreshed our commitment to the Society. The Seven Purposes were read and the DKG Crest, Colors, and symbolic Red Rose were presented to remind us of Annie Webb Blanton's vision for *Key Women Educators*.

***“Be progressive. Keep up with the moving world while not discarding what in the old has value. But don't cling to the old when its worth has passed. Don't be a person so set in your views that nothing can change you.”***

**Dr. Annie Webb Blantaon, 1870-1945  
Women's Activist & Educator**



State President Royce concluded our morning by sharing her “Building Communities” biennial theme. On her chapter visitation journeys, she has been able to talk to individual chapter members about the changing path of our Society. One concern expressed was how we were giving up past practices that many of our more senior members held so dear, causing some members to consider dropping out.

President Royce addressed this head on. Using an analogy of how change in some past educational practices occurred in order for us, as educators today, to do our jobs more effectively. She shared individual instances from several chapters and how they were able to overcome change concerns particular to their areas.

The key points in her discussion were, as members of the Society, our Mission has not changed, and our Purposes have not changed. We still provide “professional and personal growth for women educators, and excellence in education.” We still promote the Seven Purposes.

1. To Unite Women Educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship.
2. To Honor Women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in *any* field of education.
3. To Advance the professional interest and position of Women in Education.
4. To Initiate, Endorse, and Support desirable legislation in the interests of education and of Women Educators.
5. To Endow Scholarships to aid outstanding Women Educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to Women educators from other countries.

6. To Stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.
7. To Inform the membership of current economic, social, political, and educational issues to the end that they may become intelligent functioning members of a world society.

We have not strayed from the Mission or the Purposes. We are *evolving*. We are equipping our present members and aiding our new members to build on the unchanged foundational values of our Society to be relevant, vital, and sustainable.

Until we meet again, be healthy, stay safe, and God Bless,  
Bonnie Lee Barnes  
Alpha Sigma  
Chapter President 2020-2024



Installation of Alpha Sigma and Alpha Omicron Chapter Officers by State President Royce Boyd.



Alpha Sigma Chapter 2024 Achievement Award Recipient Betsy Wolford and Alpha Sigma Chapter President Bonnie Barnes

**Watch for information about our summer picnic.**

ALPHA SIGMA CHAPTER, April 27, 2024, **Meeting Minutes****1. CALL TO ORDER**

- A. Seventeen members were in attendance: Bonnie Barnes, Lauren Blatchford, Diana Borowski, Mamie Catlin, Mary K. Davis, Dot Dodson, Mary Chris Falbo, Rose Ann Fulena, Stephanie Fulena, Carol Herbert, Debbie McMillin, Octavia Payne, Ursula Payne, Janice Sneizek, Jean Speight, Alyssa Trocci, and Betsy Wolford.
- B. Absentees: Angie Murrman is home taking care of her husband, Dave. He has a broken arm. Karen Matis is in New York City with a group of students.

**2. MINUTES**

- A. Jean Speight made a motion to accept the minutes from the March meeting as written. Motion was second by Dot Dodson.
- B. Motion passed.

**3. TREASURER'S REPORT**

- A. Betsy Wolford presented the treasurer's report and thanked Mary K. Davis for her hard work making and selling the fund-raising nut rolls.
- B. Reminder – Payment of dues (\$83) must be made before June 30, 2024.
- C. The treasurer's report and the minutes from March differ because one extra nut roll was sold after the minutes were written. Both the minutes and the treasurer's report are correct due to this change in nut roll sales.

**4. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. First Vice President – Debbie McMillin none
- B. Communications – Mary K. Davis The newsletter will be sent out after this meeting.
- C. Membership – Dot Dodson none
- D. Special Committee updates:
  - a. The VA hospital is requesting not only books, but new puzzles.
  - b. We will continue collecting coupons for the military and eyeglasses as well as books.
- E. Scholarship
  - a. Since we had no applicants for the scholarship money, we will not be giving a college scholarship this year.
  - b. It was discussed that since we are not giving a college scholarship, we will give one teaching member of Alpha Sigma up to \$250.00 for outstanding educational enrichment.

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. State Raffle Basket – Rose Ann will be in charge of making and delivering the raffle basket. Up to \$100 may be spent on the basket.

- B. Number of members attending State - about ten members are planning to attend at least one day of the convention.
  - a. A motion was made by Rose Ann Fulena that the \$500 budgeted for the convention be distributed after the convention. Money will be divided according to the number of days spent at the convention.
  - b. Motion was second by Mary K. Davis. Motion passed.
- C. Number of members attending International Convention – two members are planning on attending.
- D. Mary K Davis requested that Sonie Laughead’s membership be moved to reserve status. Sonie is in a nursing home at this time.
- E. Mary K. Davis made the motion to have Alpha Sigma pay the three reserve members’ dues. Motion was second by Rose Ann Fulena. Motion passed.

**6. SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS -**

- A. Date and place for our summer picnic is to be determined.
- B. Picnic will be in or near New Castle

**7. SPOTLIGHT – CHAPTER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

- A. Betsy Wolford was awarded the Chapter Achievement Award due to her hard work as treasurer and her willingness to always help with the chapter.
- B. Officers are not eligible for this award.

**8. OTHER NEWS**

- A. Rose Ann Fulena won 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the Oneness Program for Lawrence County
- B. Mamie Catlin and Jean Speight are working on the Vivian Davidson Hewett book Committee.

**9. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

- A. President Bonnie Barnes thanked all who served during the 2022 – 2024 biennium.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**11. INSTALLATION**

- B. State president Royce Boyd installed new officers.
  - a. President: Rose Ann Fulena
  - b. 1<sup>st</sup> vice: Lauren Blatchford
  - c. 2<sup>nd</sup> vice: Ursala Payne
  - d. Recording Secretary: Janice Sneizek
  - e. Corr. Secretary: Alyssa Trocci
  - f. Treasurer: Betsy Wolford (will remain in this position)
  - g. Parliamentarian: Diana Borowski

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: MARY CHRIS FALBO**

**Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Alpha Sigma Chapter, PA  
Treasurer's Report  
April 27, 2024**

**Balance as of January 16, 2024:** **\$ 6,883.99**

**Receipts:**

Nut Rolls 340.00

March Meeting Lunch/Tours 259.00

March Meeting Raffle Basket 55.00

**Total Receipts** **\$ 654.00**

**Disbursements:**

Reimbursements Lunch/Tours 255.00

Scholarship envelopes/postage 15.32

**Total Disbursements** **\$ 270.32**

**Account Balance:** **\$ 7267.67**

General Fund: \$ 4,220.92

Grant-In-Aid: \$ 1,211.55

Special Projects: \$ 1,835.20

Betsy Wolford  
Treasurer, Alpha Sigma Chapter

**Enrichment Grant**

Alpha Sigma had no applications for our Grant-in-Aid this year. It was decided at our April 27, 2024, meeting that we would award \$250.00 to a member who is still teaching to be used in her classroom. Working teachers, if you have an idea and needs some funding, please fill out the application at the end of our newsletter and submit it to Karen Matis by June 30, 2024.

**ALPHA SIGMA NEWS**

Sonie Laughead's new address is

Rose Ann Fulena was awarded third place in New Castle's Oneness award.

Mamie Catlin and Octavia Payne are participating on the Vivian Davidson Hewett book committee.

Ursula Payne is serving as Interim Associate Provost of Slippery Rock University.

Mary K Davis has been awarded a PA State Enrichment Grant.

Bonnie Barnes has two photographs selected for International's website Art Gallery will have another photograph on display at the International Art Gallery in DC.



Winter Morning Fog



Disappearing Fog

**Our sisters are a very busy group, and they are being recognized as Key Women Educators.**

### **Projects**

We are still supporting these projects.

1. Glasses to donate to the Lions Clubs to support the Dr. Michelle McCollum Memorial Eyeglasses Project. Give the eyeglasses to Debbie McMillin.

2. Coupons to be mailed to the overseas PX's on our military bases. These are usable for six months after the expiration date. Mary K Davis will send these on.
3. Books for nursing homes. Also, jigsaw puzzles for the Community Support Program at the Butler VA. Bonnie Barnes and Debbie McMillin will place bookplates in the books before they are delivered to nursing homes and the VA in New Castle and Butler.





## Up Coming Dates to Put on your Calendar.

Important Dates to Remember:

May 15, 2024,	<i>Bulletin:</i> Journal Submissions Report of Chapter Officers
June 18-19, 2024,	Chapter Presidents, and Leadership Training
June 19-21, 2024,	State Convention/Leadership Seminar, Pittsburgh, PA
July 9-14, 2024,	DKG International Convention



### Change in communication.

We decided at our March meeting to again include address information in our chapter newsletter. If you share this newsletter with anyone who is not a member of Alpha Sigma, please delete any personal information before forwarding the newsletter. This is in conjunction with a directive from the International Office to prevent identity theft and hacking. When you need to contact any chapter sisters, please use your membership book for the needed information.

Mary K Davis, Editor