

MEETING MINUTES- October 15, 2019

Delta Kappa Gamma
Alpha Delta Chapter
St. Colman's Catholic Church Parish Hall

Welcome:

President Carol Waddle opened the meeting by welcoming all members and by thanking First Vice President Cathy White for presiding at the September meeting. Joyce Lott gave the invocation and Robin Dolphin, Meal Concierge invited all present to a buffet meal prepared and served by The Willow Restaurant.

Program:

Rebekah Milstead introduced the program presenter, Kristy Bowers, Community Development Director at The Ranch of Opportunity, a thirty-bed residential facility for teen-aged girls who are survivors of extreme trauma. Ms. Bowers informed members of the programs available at the Ranch, which is located on a 22 acre campus in Fayette County.

Ms. Bowers noted that it is the goal for each girl who is served at the Ranch to gain a sense of hope and self esteem, as well as a greater feeling of responsibility and empowerment. Since many of the girls have a history of long term abuse or neglect, it is especially important for them to work on dealing with past problems with self-image. She reported that “trauma informed care” is provided, since each girl's history has an impact on all areas of functioning. She mentioned that each resident must learn new skills for coping with stress. The residents participate in daily group therapy sessions and weekly individual therapy, as well as coaching in the life skills which will help prepare them for a positive future as independent adults. The resident girls also have opportunities for therapy with animals at the Ranch, including horses, pigs and some other small animals. In addition, special activities are planned for the residents, such as a prom, which takes place each April. This allows every girl to experience a special evening, with hair styling, make up, dinner and photos, all of which can help to strengthen a new feeling of self confidence and positive self image.

Ms. Bowers stressed in her presentation that each girl's program at the Ranch of Opportunity is individually tailored to her unique situation and needs. Ultimately, the goal of the program is to help residents to make the transition into a less restrictive setting. At the close of her presentation, Ms. Bowers was given some donations from DKG members to provide to the girls, including 60 books, \$110 in gift cards, \$63 in cash and one bucket (for use with the animals at the Ranch).

Business Meeting:

President Carol called the business meeting to order and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the September minutes which had been emailed to members. Since no corrections were made, the minutes were approved as sent.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Pam Feick reported that all dues have been paid and mentioned that having dues taken care of early is helpful in planning for the year. Pam indicated that there is a balance of \$1,299.00 in the checking account and \$3,705.81 in the savings account.

Committee Reports:

Membership:

Robin Dolphin, Membership Chair reported that membership applications will be available at the December meeting and noted that she was happy to see recently inducted new members in attendance.

Educational Excellence:

Cathy White, First Vice President, distributed new program book pages to members present and encouraged all to look them over and to notify her of any necessary corrections.

Old Business / New Business:

President Carol reported on the recent Executive Board meeting, noting that this was Diana Kirkpatrick's first Executive Board meeting as State President, and commending her for a successful meeting. The topics discussed at the

Executive Board meeting included membership, scholarship and the State Convention.

President Carol shared some details of a creative new idea to increase membership at the state level, initiated by State President Diana Kirkpatrick. The Buckeye-Cherry Membership Challenge is a friendly competition between the Ohio State DKG Organization and the Michigan DKG State Organization, and will run from September 1, 2019 to September 1, 2020. During that time the Challenge encourages new memberships in all categories of educators. The winning organization will have the most new members, by percentage of membership, and the losing organization will donate \$100 to the DKG Educational Foundation, in the name of the winner.

Another topic considered at the Executive Board meeting was scholarships. President Carol urged members who are doing continuing education to look at the Alpha Delta State Ohio Educational Foundation, the DKG International and the Ohio State Organization websites for the scholarships which are available.

President Carol reported on plans for the State Convention, which will be held on March 20-22, 2020 at the Embassy Suites in Dublin, Ohio. Participation was encouraged, as our chapter is part of the Steering Committee. There will be many jobs to be done at the convention and chapter members can show support of our own State President Diana by lending a hand. President Carol mentioned that a special hotel room rate is available for the convention and noted that the state convention promises to be a wonderful experience for all.

President Carol also announced that a liaison volunteer is needed in our chapter, for the Alpha Delta State Ohio Educational Foundation. This person would receive information to distribute to chapter members regarding scholarships and grants.

Announcements:

President Carol urged members to check the new program book pages to find committee assignments and hostess duties for the coming year.

Sarah Kirkpatrick and Katie Abbott announced that the Miami Trace Academic Booster Club is conducting a membership drive. President Carol inquired of those present whether there is a similar group in the Washington Court House City Schools, but no immediate response was made.

Rebekah Milstead mentioned the upcoming Washington Court House City School tax levy and referred members with questions about the levy to Beth Gerber.

President Carol expressed thanks to the October Hostess Chair, Susan Ferguson and her committee: Sarah Kirkpatrick, Frances Moore, Norma Kirby, Julie Kellough and Joyce Lott.

The Hostess Chair for the December 3 Holiday Auction Fundraiser is Billie Lanman, with assistance from committee members Donna Kelley, Carolyn DeWeese, Helen Henson, Pat Gall and Jennifer Breedlove.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned with the singing of the DKG Song, with Alice Craig at the keyboard.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Puckett,
Recording Secretary