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Alpha Phi Chapter –Pennsylvania State Organization – March Issue 2023

\_\_\_Alphie-Gram Newsletter\_

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by Donna Shultz

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Please note that these new guidelines start with the March 18, 2023 meeting. Therefore, the FINAL

COUNT will be due on Saturday, March 11.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 412-384-7894. Your cooperation on

these new guidelines will be greatly appreciated

**PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Becky Johnen

At both the state and International levels there are several opportunities to expand both your personal and professional horizons.

The state’s **CREATIVE ARTS RETREAT** is taking place April 21-23 at Camp Ladore in Waymart, PA. Sessions at this retreat include yoga, doodle therapy, meditative walking, book discussions, making an exploding box, stress management and meditation, water aerobics, a brush with watercolors, ukulele sing-along, loom knit hats, churn dash quilt patches, earrings made easy, creative ornaments, and pencil drawing. Registration is due March 24 and the form and detailed information in on the state website and in the Winter Keystonian.

The **2023 STATE CONVENTION** will be held Wednesday, June 21- Friday, June 23 at the Wyndham Resort and Convention Center in Lancaster. Prior to convention activities which begin at 5 PM on Wednesday, the Purposeful Seminar will be held during the day. If you want to be one of the 50 participants in this wonderful event, sign up early. The morning will be spent visiting Ten Thousand Villages and Kitchen Kettle Village and the afternoon will be spent working on a service project at Mennonite Central Committee. Details and the registration form will be in the Spring Keystonian.

The Convention kicks off with a new addition to the offerings, Nibble and Network. This event is designed to give you time with a facilitator to network and share ideas, concerns, and questions regarding assorted topics such as relaxation and stress reduction, lifelong wellness, balancing caregiving with one’s own life, meet the author Kim Kluxen Meredith, scholarships and enrichment grants, recruiting/retaining/engaging members, service projects. Groups of up to 10 will meet for 15-minute sharing sessions that will be facilitated by “those in the know” on the topic. Participants will have the opportunity to network at several of the topic tables throughout the evening. Registration for this event is required and includes reception-style food and beverages.

Kim Kluxen Meredith is this year’s keynote speaker. At Thursday’s Celebration Luncheon she will speak about diversity using her children’s books, *Henri’s Home*, *Henri to the Rescue* and *Heidi Saves The Day*. She is also presenting a workshop Thursday morning based on her book, *Listen for the Whispers*, Coping with Grief & Learning to Live Again. Her books will be available for sale.

Traditional events like the Album of Distinction Ceremony, EEC Social, 12 workshops, focus table sales, basket raffle, Celebration of Life, Celebration Luncheon, President’s Banquet, Honors Breakfast, and two general sessions will fill the days.

The resort offers many amenities (indoor and outdoor pools, game room, golf course, walking trail) and its proximity to the Tanger and Rockvale Outlets and other Lancaster sites will provide for many relaxing and fun-filled activities.

More details and registration information will be on the website and in the Spring Keystonian.

On the International level, three conferences will be held this summer. The **Detroit conference** begins on July 12 with your choice of two pre-conference events. One will be Parliamentary Training with Helen Popovich and Lynna Gene Cook. The other is titled ‘Breathe for Change.’ The focus there is yoga for yourself and in the classroom. Detroit’s focus all week is Wellness. Fun entertainment has been contracted for your enjoyment. Check the DKG website for the Schedule at a Glance for other events of the week.

The **Phoenix** **conference** begins on July 18 with a Gila River Indian Community (GRIC) Immersion Experience. We will tour the Huhu Gam Heritage Center, partake of cultural cuisine, make a take-away Gila River craft and experience cultural dancing. There is a limit of 50 participants for this pre-conference experience. The rest of the week will be your basic conference format. Speakers include a World Fellowship Recipient from Ukraine, our own Latin American Area Representative, and an area (Phoenix) award-winning author. Please check out the You-Tube video (link on the international website) to learn more about the GRIC. Shuttles from the airport to the hotel in Phoenix will not be offered. You will need to get a taxi, Uber, or Lift to make your way to the Sheraton Grand at Wild Horse Pass.

Detroit and Phoenix will have an Expo where you can visit vendors to purchase their wares, view displays at the Arts and Humanities exhibit and chat with members of various international committees about their work. In the Expo, there will be an area for Newbies to hang out and talk /relax.

The **Tampere (Finland)** **conference** will have a totally different feel of course because of its location. This conference begins on July 26 with a visit to and old local factory converted to a beautiful gathering place and a tour of a museum. Speakers on Thursday will focus on Reading and Learning by Doing. In the evening we will go to a local park for a BBQ. The Moomin Museum is connected to the conference center in Tampere. Discounted admission will be offered with your name badge. The speaker on Friday will speak on Brain Research. The conference will conclude with a Farewell Lunch on Saturday. Directions on how to make your way to Tampere will be posted on the DKG website.

More detailed information on all the International events can be found in the last issue of the DKG NEWS as well as in blogs and media blasts that have been sent out. The next Inside International, on March 7 at 1:30 ET, will feature the Regional Directors talking about each of these International events.

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Newsletter Information, February 2023

Membership/Grant-in-Aid News

Please contact Zoe Akhtar if you know anyone who is interested in learning more about

our chapter. Our Alpha Phi chapter brochure has been updated again to reflect

changes/additions through 2024. Copies will be available at our March meeting.

Our Grant-In-Aid application is available on the Alpha Phi website.

Becky reports that site visits have increased, but no application has been submitted yet.

The Mon Valley Independent will run our notice weekly in the Valley Grapevine section.

Other publications that have been contacted are Herald Standard, The Park News,

Observer Reporter, and The Valley Mirror. If anyone has another publication, please

send me the information.

This is the ad being placed:

Scholarship Application Available

The Alpha Phi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma (an honor society for women educators)

Is accepting applications for an educational grant-in-aid award.

Women who are in their junior or senior year of college, majoring in

education, and attending Pennsylvania Western University, California,

are eligible to apply. Two grants of $1000 will be awarded in 2023.

Applications are available on the Alpha Phi website (alphaphipa.weebly.com),

Community Outreach tab, Grant-in-Aid and are due to the

chapter webmaster by April 1, 2023.

Questions about the award can be sent to the chapter by using

the Contact Us tab on the website.

Lastly, please mention our grant-in-aid to friends and family, at church, garden club, etc

when opportunities arise. You never know who knows someone!

Thank you,

Submitted by Zoe Akhta

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**NEWS FROM THE WEBMASTER**

By Becky Johnen

Have you checked out the updated International website (dkg.org) which was launched on January 17? It has been redesigned to be more user friendly and user focused. Information available when the site is first pulled up is that which has been designed for non-members. To get to the member information (details listed below), one must sign in using their member ID and a password. (If you aren’t sure of your member ID, check your membership card or check with Donna Shultz. The system has automatically set a generic password, one you can get from me should you need it, or you can set your own password.)

Member information has seven tabs all of which have a drop-down menu (containing the items in parenthesis):

* MYDKG (my account, apply/submit, forms, deadlines, communities, DKG Store, directory, chapter locator)
* RESOURCES (media, DKG officer, new member, and marketing)
* ABOUT (mission/vision/purposes, information on becoming a member, the DKG history, key initiatives, recognition, leaders, state organization and chapter websites)
* EVENTS (International conventions and conferences, related events, Go Ahead Tours, and the Centennial Celebration)
* PUBLICATIONS and DOCUMENTS (Constitution and ISR, DKG News, Bulletin Journal, Bulletin Magazine, Get Connected, Go-to-Guide, President’s Page, Our Heritage, Board Actions – Administrative and Executive, GAP, Strategic Plan, budget, archives)
* DKGIEF (about, funds, ways to contribute, blog, donate)
* LEADERSHIP DISCOVERY CENTRE (general resources: society and outside)

The site also contains a new feature – a language translator containing over 100 languages and can be used to translate information on any page one is reading.

There is a wealth of information on the website. Check it out.