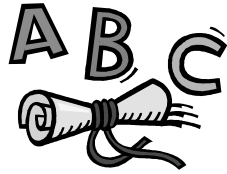


November, 2017



Update

Alpha Beta Chapter, Lambda State, The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Barb's Musings

by Barbara Baumann, AB President

I don't know why for sure, but this month I'm really struggling with what to say. I have so many things going through my head. Our immediate family is having our family gift exchange on Thanksgiving. One son comes home just once a year, and this is what works for them. That means all gifts must be made, purchased, and wrapped by then. Not only will we have the Thanksgiving meal to deal with for this family, my husband and me, but we are babysitting for another son's two and five year olds from Sunday to Wednesday night (if the flight is as scheduled) at their house in another town. This limits time to prepare for Thanksgiving/Christmas. The evening meal will be soups, so two kinds will be made by others. I will have just one to make myself. For the evening meal, all 18 or 20 of us will be here. I learned the family of seven will stay over (we have no guest room), so I'll have breakfast and lunch the next day to plan and prepare. Another daughter-in-law wants to do some of our traditional cookie baking Friday morning, so there is preparation for that. Besides all this, I'm currently scheduled to see a new doctor for an appointment I scheduled six months ago. To say I'm feeling stressed is an understatement.

The weather is now more fall like, so it is easier to be in the home to do things. I know things will get done, but the sooner I check things off the list, the sooner

I'll be able to enjoy the season, family, and friends. Can any of you identify with this? I hope I'm not the only one!

At the November meeting, I plan to destress with Zentangle led by Sue Dion and enjoy the chicken pot pie comfort food. All will be better then.

There is no cost to members for the program, but there will be kits to purchase for five dollars available if you so choose. There is no requirement to purchase a kit as Sue will have with her the supplies we'll use during the program. This program will be an introduction to Zentangle and its benefits, and we'll get to practice a few of the tangles. I hope to see all of you there!

I pray you all have a wonderful, stress free holiday season with family and friends. This is time we should cherish as we make memories with others.

Next Meeting:
Saturday,
January 13, 2018
9:00 a.m.
Edinger's,
Pontiac

Lambda State Convention Pre-tour



Chapter President Barbara Baumann has received information about the 2018 Lambda State Convention Pre-Convention to be held in at the Odeum Expo Center for their Spring Arts and Crafts Festival. There will be over 350 booths.

This will take place on Friday, April 20, 2018, from 1-4 P.M. The cost is \$28. Space is limited, and is on a first come-first serve basis. Let Barbara know if you'd like a flyer to register.

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION



The Foundation for Educational Studies, Inc. collects Box Tops for Education at the Fall Executive Board Meeting and the Lambda State Convention. Each member who brings the box tops places them in a container for the area where their chapter is located and places their name and preferred school in for a drawing. That school then receives the box tops which provides one of those publicity moments that chapters can share.

Congratulations to Carol Hughes who won the boxtops for District 4 Lambda State chapters. Davenport Elementary in Eureka was the school she chose to receive them.



DKG Membership Recruitment Plan

Food for thought as our chapter, like many others, faces a declining membership--

Chapters throughout the Society are searching for new ways to increase membership. The International Membership Committee encourages the use of this new plan that has been used successfully to revitalize struggling chapters, to energize healthy chapters, and to develop new chapters in several state organizations. This easy to use recruitment plan, available on the DKG website, includes complete instructions and all the resources your chapter needs to begin building membership.

During a chapter meeting, members receive prospect cards on which they record the name and contact information of an educator they would like to nominate. Chapter members might nominate an enthusiastic teacher they noticed at a district training session or a talented music teacher they noted directing her school's student musical. A retired teacher could nominate a beloved teacher she learned about from a grandchild or a teacher she noticed while volunteering in a school. A member could record the name of an educator whose outstanding teaching ability she witnessed while receiving instruction at a photography or painting class, a master gardener session, or technology training.

Once the cards are collected and a vote is taken on the prospects, the chapter mails an enthusiastic letter to the prospective members inviting them to an orientation session. Research shows that holding the orientation on a weeknight from 7-8 p.m. is optimal for attendance. During the orientation, the prospects are introduced to the Society via the Pride in the Big Picture presentation, featuring specific chapter program and project highlights, benefits of membership, and shared stories of the power of DKG to transform lives. After initiation, the new members may also receive prospect cards to honor someone they know with membership in the Society.

Chapters that are having difficulty adding new members can use this plan to help turn the tide. The newest chapter in Premont, Texas, used the plan to develop a list of new members and other chapters in Texas are growing as a result of its use, as well. Joanne Davis, past Texas State Organization President who is working on chapter development, states, "All chapters should use this approach if they want a professional, new way of offering membership."

Step 1: This plan emphasizes the honor of membership in DKG. The chapter membership committee should request members to submit a name via a prospect card (See sample document, DKG Prospect Card) at one or two meetings. They should then compile a list to present to the membership for a vote. These active public and private school teachers and retirees do not have to be contacted before recommendation. (Key to making up this list is to choose those women whom you really want in your chapter—assume nothing would prevent them from saying yes. Don't eliminate them because you "assume" they would say no. Let them decide for themselves!)



“Wonder” by R.J. Palacio and “The Courage to Teach” by Parker Palmer are the two books selected by the Lambda State Literacy Committee. There will be book discussion sessions on both at the Lambda State Convention April 20-22 at the Westin Lombard Yorktown Center, Lombard.

Chapter members are encouraged to “check these out” at their library or a bookstore.

Step 2: Each should be informed in a special, personal letter that she has been chosen for membership in our prestigious society. (See sample document, Prospect Letter) Key elements of the letter are that the prospect was recommended by a member (named) based on her stellar qualities as a teacher and approved by the entire chapter. Brief info on DKG and the chapter is included, as well as the invitation to an orientation meeting. The letter emphasizes the honor of membership and asks them to RSVP for the meeting.

Step 3: Some may decline; some may call with questions; and some may agree to come immediately. For each of those who plan to attend, invite an equal number of current members to serve as “buddies” at the orientation.

Step 4: At the orientation, provide social time for current and prospective members and then present the Pride in the Big Picture slide show (available for download at www.dkg.org) . Current members can meet with the prospects in small groups to answer any questions. At the conclusion of the meeting (which lasts only one hour), ask them to make a decision to accept or decline the invitation to become members. (Remember, no one has approached these women about joining prior to the letter.)

Step 5: The current member “buddy” can use the Chapter Member Application (See sample document, Chapter Member Application) to obtain information about the prospective member. This application serves as the Recommendation for Membership or Form 11 used by many chapters to obtain member information. It can also serve as a commitment from the prospective member.

6: Invite the prospective members to the initiation ceremony with the Initiation Letter (See sample document, Initiation Letter). Remember to plan ahead and order all necessary supplies in preparation for the ceremony.

Sherri Wagemann, Washington State Organization and member of the International Membership Committee, commented: *“Providing an orientation for prospective new members prior to their initiation is vital. It helps them understand the value of membership and what our organization has to offer. This recruitment plan also offers a natural transition for mentoring. The ‘Rose Buddy’ mentoring system helps to forge that all important ‘friendship connection’ and encourages active engagement in the new members’ area of interest. Many of my state’s chapters have been successful using this model. It really works!”*

Keep your chapter informed of any changes in your email or other contact info. Updates will be published in the newsletter.

DKG Membership/Recruitment Plan October, 2017

*The Delta Kappa
Gamma Society
International*

**Lambda State
Alpha Beta Chapter
Livingston, Marshall
and Woodford
Counties, Illinois**

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Upcoming Lambda State Events

2018

April 20-22 Lambda State Convention -- The Westin Lombard
Yorktown Center, Lombard, IL

June 2 Training for Chapter Leaders - South Central Junior High School,
Belleville, IL

June 9 Training for Chapter Leaders - North Ottawa High School, Ottawa,
IL

July 16-20 International Convention -- JW Marriott, Austin, TX

September 21-22 Lambda State Executive Board Meeting Holiday Inn &
Suites, Bloomington, IL

October 5-7 Creative Arts Retreat -- Lorado Taft Field Campus,
Northern Illinois University, Oregon, IL

2019

April 26-28 Lambda State Convention -- The Decatur Conference
Center and Hotel, Decatur, IL

June 1 Transition Meeting for Lambda State Leaders Ramada
Springfield North, Springfield, IL

**ABC UPDATE
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