

The Alaska Nuggets

BETA GAMMA STATE



Winter 2014 Volume XXX No. 1

<http://www.dkg-ak.org>

2014 DELTA KAPPA GAMMA BETA STATE WORKSHOP

Don't miss the 2014 Delta Kappa Gamma Beta State Workshop at the Hilton Hotel in Anchorage, Alaska, April 11-12, 2014! This exciting weekend begins Friday evening with a reception hosted by Zeta and Delta Chapters at the Hilton. After the reception, feel free to explore what downtown Anchorage has to offer by taking in a show, having a delicious dinner at one of the many fine restaurants Anchorage has to offer, or exploring the many shops and galleries. Saturday is a great day of interacting with our fellow DKG sisters, leadership training workshops for newly elected chapter officers, along with fun sectionals to be determined in the near future. The Workshop officially concludes with a dinner banquet Saturday night in the Hilton Chartroom. All meals and conference space fees are included in the registration fee of \$150. Book your room today and receive the discounted rate of \$119 plus 12% tax when you use the code: AKBG. Stay tuned to dkg-ak.org for updated information. Zeta and Delta look forward to hosting each of you in our

wonderful city! (see last page of newsletter for registration information or go to the Beta Gamma website)

NEWS FROM ALPHA CHAPTER

Alpha Chapter's main project is providing a bookshelf and approximately 100 books to each new Habitat for Humanity family in Anchorage each year. We collect used books and purchase others. When we sort the books, we try to include a variety of genres and books that will fit each child's age and/or grade level. For the past few years, the students in the shop classes at Gruening Middle School have built our bookshelves for us. Thank you students and teachers! If you have extra books, let us know!

In addition to this project, our chapter offers grants each year to UAA and APU women enrolled in an education program. Our last three grants went to these deserving women: Erynne McAndrews, Jennifer McNeal, and Marie Larson. Our grant applications for 2014 will be coming out soon. Grants will be \$550 this year

and three will be given. If you know women who may be interested in applying, information will be available in January at each university or by emailing Sue Archer at archersm@ak.net.

NEWS FROM ETA CHAPTER

Longtime ETA member, Barb Dexter, was named an Alaska YWCA Woman of Achievement. On December 5, 2013, Barb Dexter, ASD Secondary Teacher Specialist with the Child in



Transition Program, was inducted into the Alaska YWCA Women of Achievement Hall of Fame.

As the Secondary Teacher Specialist, Barb is in charge of seeing to it that homeless and foster cared for teens and pre-teens receive the same access to education as their non-homeless peers. She has been doing this with seemingly limitless energy and wisdom for the past 19 years. In her position, she has run tutoring programs, set up a summer school, coordinated transportation so students can stay in their home schools, and even set up a nonprofit organization,

Partners in Homeless Education, to provide “extras” like athletic shoes, movie passes, appropriate school clothes and back packs. By taking homeless students to Washington, DC, to tell their stories to lawmakers and their aides, she even brought about a change in federal law so that her high school graduates are eligible for federal educational scholarships without the backing and financial records of often absent parents.

Barb is a hands-on teacher; she keeps tabs on her hundreds of students via a dedicated cell phone, and she tutors students herself at Covenant House and other venues. One of her nominators recounted how when there is a fire in the community, Barb reaches out to the affected family to connect them to resources and make sure parents have the means to get their kids to school and back. She also involves her ETA sisters in her care for students. Every ETA Christmas meeting is devoted to Child in Transition donations for movie passes and Christmas gifts, and recently ETA members sewed and stuffed 100 colorful teen-pleasing pillow cases for the often transient teens.

Recently Barb told stories of young women from her program, all now college graduates. One will be participating in Teach for America and is heading for a career in education; a second is an assistant director of a homeless shelter in Portland. One young woman who spent the summer before her sophomore year living in the woods and making visits to Hiland Correctional Center to visit her mother on weekends, just graduated from

UAA. Another amazing woman who had a child at 14 and lived on her own or with friends from 15 on was picked up by Barb every Wednesday night for correspondence courses. She quickly earned a high school diploma, went to college, then medical school and is now a doctor with the Center for Disease Control. These students are an amazing testament to Barb's wise influence and unending zeal for helping students succeed. She truly is a Woman of Achievement!



Mike Kurth, Gretchen Van Hove, Rose Van Hemert, and Judy Ireton relax with the pillows covered by the pillowcases sewn by ETA members.

THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership in Delta Kappa Gamma is a gift. It is a gift from someone who saw and appreciated your potential, your commitment, your talents, and your style. It is a gift that inspires, that empowers, that enhances, that opens new vistas and provides outreach. It is a gift to be valued, to be nurtured, and to be developed. It is a gift to share. Education is our greatest opportunity to give an irrevocable gift to the next generation. Sharing our

Delta Kappa Gamma experience is our gift to our fellow women educators who already give so much of their own gifts to others. Share the gift of membership with someone by extending the opportunity to become a Delta Kappa Gamma sister. With an International goal of "everyone getting one," let's make sure each of us finds at least one person this year with whom we can share our gift of membership.

**NEWS
FROM NU
CHAPTER**

NU Chapter
in Eagle River
did the
Strides to
Beat Breast
Cancer walk
on a lovely
autumn day
last October
2013



Above, Jackie Purcell (channel 2 weather person) Pam Christianson, Tanya Beck, Cynthia Miller, Tracy Sinclair (channel 2 weather person), Cynthia Newbrough, Barbara Kovarik, Sandy McKinnis, and Clea Loudermillk





NEWS FROM THETA CHAPTER

THETA Chapter offers and awards Mini Grants to Fairbanks educators each year. The following article describes one of the projects aided by Theta.

Teacher Moira O'Malley and her intern Laura Cartier, from Watershed Charter School in Fairbanks, received a mini grant from Delta Kappa Gamma Theta to help support the creation of an interactive mural. The school recently celebrated the completion of the mural with an Open House. The mural was designed not only to be a beautiful piece of art, but also to act as a foundation for place-based learning through the use of lesson plans, books, and technology. The mural reflects the school's goal of using the outdoors and the community as a classroom.

About 800 hours went into planning and creating the interactive mural, which includes the work of 60 student painters. The design was inspired by grade-specific curriculum including boreal plants and animals, transportation, and biomes. This project was a collaboration between school staff, students, PTA, sponsors, and volunteers.

Here is what Moira (O'Malley) said about the project:

"The mural/grant proposal was my idea. Laura Cartier, my intern, helped implement the grant. I wanted Laura to see what it was like to write a small grant.

The initial idea was a small mural, but the project kept getting bigger and bigger. (It ended up being) 10' x 40' in the end. The DKG mini grant went toward materials. We spent five times as much as we had planned on for materials. Thank you again for helping offset the materials cost.

The Artist-in-Schools (program) paid artist Klara Maisch to work with our students.

(The) One Tree (project) paid Zac (Meyers) to work on the augmented reality part of the mural."

The mural has a technology component, which allows users to access more information about the animals and plants using an Aurasma, an

augmented reality app. Viewers use their smart devices to scan a trigger image on the mural. Once the target is recognized, the user can view facts, find a book cover, and watch a short video about the topic.”

Here is what Zac (Meyers) said about the interactive piece of the project: “The students who participated in the summer art club painted original works and provided direction on the videos that they wanted. I distilled the info about the animals and the teacher provided some of the books that they use in the classroom. Not all the content pieces that are displayed are original works. (The original intent) was to demonstrate the possibilities of the technology component with the mural to make it more dynamic and a place for information exchange.

For every trigger image we provided

- 1) A book that is found in the library at Watershed
- 2) A factsheet about the topic
- 3) A modified video

We are going to try and eventually get each class to create content pieces but the main objective this semester was to get the buy-in from the teachers, students, and community.

Thank you for all the support. We are all exhausted from all the work.”

The Delta Kappa Gamma THETA Chapter is proud of our role in supporting these hardworking educators in completing this ambitious project.

Readers of this article can interact with the artwork, by following these directions to scan the photo of the fox.

1. Download the Aurasma app from Google Play or the App Store on your iPad or smartphone device.
2. On the Aurasma App, search for Stream Works: Interactive Mural.
3. “Follow” the Stream Works: Interactive Mural channel and preview the trigger images
4. View the trigger image of the fox through your iPad or smartphone device to access additional content. (Note: It takes a couple of seconds for the content to appear).
5. Double tap the images and video to enlarge the view.



HAPPY NEW YEAR, LADIES!

Forget losing pounds or taking up an exercise program...TAKE TIME FOR YOURSELF! Of course eating healthily and exercising daily are wonderful ways to be kind to your self. Consider also, a pedicure, manicure, or new hairdo ☺

Spend quiet time to read and reflect. Or, go to coffee with a sister.

Our society is as strong as its chapters and our chapters are as strong as its members. YOU are the society. Pamper yourselves. Relax. Enjoy your winter wonderland, whether you are in our beautiful Alaska or in the States, and getting a taste of our usual winter weather somewhere else. It's beautiful to look outside and even better to get outside. Rejuvenate yourselves to help rejuvenate your chapter!

KEEP IN MIND the **Alaska State Workshop, on April 11**, at the Anchorage Hilton, where you can do just that...get back in touch with sisters and learn ways to move DKG forward in 2014.

International President, Beverly Helms, sends a President's note to society presidents. Some of the things she reminded us about are on the International

Website: Proposed amendments to the Constitution and to the International Standing Rules, administrative board actions taken in November, and The DKG *Gallery of Fine Arts*. Be sure to check out these informative items *and* register for this summer's **International Convention in Indianapolis from July 28 - August 1**.

Finally, be sure to keep your personal/ mailing information current with your local chapter treasurer, who will in turn, contact the State treasurer. **State reports are due to International by early February**, so we want to have everyone's information current. Remember "Teaching Minds and Touching Hearts" happens every day and can happen even here, with your sisters. Enjoy! jj

"Together Towards Tomorrow"
Beta Gamma State Workshop
Hilton Anchorage Hotel
Anchorage, Alaska
April 11 - 13, 2014

Registration Fee: \$150

Registration Information (please print):

Name: _____

Chapter/Location: _____

Mailing Address:

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Registration for Workshop \$150 includes -

Meals: Friday appetizers (hosted by Zeta & Delta Chapters),
Saturday breakfast, lunch, and dinner

Saturday afternoon sectionals TBD; sign-up will be on-site

Airline Information:

Anchorage Arrival Date:_____ Time:_____ Airline/Flight #:_____

Anchorage Departure Date:_____ Time:_____ Airline/Flight #:_____

Do you need a ride from the airport to the hotel? YES NO

Do you need a ride from the hotel to the airport? YES NO

I give permission to use my name, photo, and email address on the Beta Gamma State Website: www.DKG-AK.org and/or the Nuggets Newsletter -

YES NO

Please make **Room Reservations** directly with the Hilton Anchorage Hotel. We have secured a discounted group rate of \$119 a night plus 12% tax. Please use code "AKBG" when calling 1-907-272-7411 or 1-800-HILTON or online at www.hiltonanchorage.com using the "Add Special Rate Codes" box.

Mail registration form and check (payable to DKG Zeta Chapter) to:

Kati Rogness 2220 Sorbus Way Anchorage, AK 99508

For questions email Kati Rogness at danroq@alaska.net