**Omicron News**

Omicron Chapter, Alpha Beta State

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Established June 14, 1960



***Vol. 60, No. 1 Fall 2019***

**Message from the President**

Dear Omicron Sisters,

 I hope that you are having a great, great summer replete with wonderful travels and exciting adventures. Let’s continue the fun when we meet on October 3rd for our first program of the new school year. I’m psyched to hear our guest speaker, Gabrielle Balasonne who friends describe as “a role model of women and girls everywhere” and as having guts, integrity, and tenacity as well as an infectious attitude and pure grit and determination. Hopefully, you’ll get inspired by her tales of adventure, fortitude, and survival.

Our calendar of programs and dinner meetings is attached to this newsletter. Please make every effort to attend at least three of our six annual meetings. (If you ever need a ride to a meeting, please email me at iwingert3@comcast.net to work out ride sharing with a nearby sister). You won’t be disappointed by our line-up of programs created just for you!

 Our chapter operates successfully because of the many volunteers who believe in it and support it. Chapters have been known to fold because members could not find someone to serve as a chapter leader. I am most thankful and grateful that Omicron is not in that position. So, I want to recognize the chapter leadership for their outstanding work. These folks are all members of the executive board which consists of chapter officers, our past president and committee chairs. I won’t name them all, but you can find their list of names on the chapter website. They all deserve a round of applause and membership support. To quote Calvin Coolidge, “No person was ever honored for what [s]he received. Honor has been the reward for what [s]he gave.” (I added the ‘s’). So, I hope when our nominations committee or chapter chairwomen ask for your service or assistance, you will offer a resounding “yes.”

 We only publish two newsletters a year, and, with no exception, this one is filled with important information for our members. Please read it through and get ready for a great 2019-2020 school year ahead! Enjoy the rest of your summer!

 Iris



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**Calendar of Events 2019–2020**

**Thursday, October 3, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Place** - Winters Mill High School
**Program** - Reality TV star, Gabrielle Balassone discusses her numerous adventures on the Discovery Channel's Naked and Afraid Program
**Community Service Focus**:  Winter Coats and Men's Clothing, plus New men's socks (heavy material preferred) and New men's underwear for Shepherd Staff, Cindi King, liaison

**Tuesday, November 12, 2019 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Place** - Carroll County Career and Technology Center
**Program** - Dinner Meeting catered by the Culinary Arts Students followed by business meeting
**Community Service Focus**: Supplies for Robert Moton Elementary School, Laura McClelland, liaison

**Wednesday, January 14, 2020 - 5:00 p.m.**
Executive Board Meeting—South Carroll High School Media Center

**Wednesday, February 12, 2020 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Place** - Westminster High School
**Program** - The History of Hoffman's Ice Cream Establishment
**Community Service Focus**: Items for a Family Shelter in Westminster, Kathie Tromble, liaison

**Thursday, March 26, 2020 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Place** - Robert Moton Elementary School
**Program** - A local history of the town of New Windsor presented by Frank Batavick
**Community Service Focus**: Cookie Exchange for Robert Moton faculty and staff

**Saturday, March 28, 2020 - 11:00 a.m.**

A visit to the New Windsor Museum and a Walking Tour of the Historic Town (weather permitting) followed by lunch in New Windsor.

**Tuesday, April 21, 2020 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Place** - A Likely Story Bookshop in Sykesville
**Program** - Book talk and discussion of great reads
**Community Service Focus:** Supplies for the Boys and Girls Club of Westminster, Laura McClelland, liaison

**Wednesday, May 13, 2020 - 6:00 p.m.**

**Place** - Carroll County Career and Technology Center
**Program** - Dinner Meeting catered by the Culinary Arts Students followed Induction of New Members; Installation of New Officers
**Community Service Focus**: [Shepherd's Staff Backpack Program/School Supplies Donations](https://omicrondkgmd.weebly.com/uploads/4/9/5/7/49576775/2019_bts_donate_brochure_6.4.19.pdf)

**Thursday, June 18, 2020 - Time: 5:00 p.m.**
Executive Board Meeting—The Home of Jo Anne Stevens

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**Gift Card Orders**

Gift cards make great Christmas or birthday presents. Also, buying gift cards for yourself where you normally shop is pain-free. When you buy a $100 gift card for groceries, for example, you get $100 worth of groceries. Omicron wins by receiving a small percentage for all the gift cards purchased. That percentage adds up when all members participate in this fundraiser.

Proceeds from our gift card orders cover the $1,200 contributed to our grants-in-aid scholarships (one $600 award for each semester). Our fall gift card fundraiser is currently underway so, please, please, please participate.

Gift card order forms are attached to this newsletter as a download. They are due to Pat Minnich by October 10th so you can bring your orders to our October 3rd meeting at Winters Mill High School or mail them to Pat if you will not be attending that meeting.

**Boscov’s Fundraiser 2019** by Dixie Elmes

Get a jump on the upcoming holidays and support Delta Kappa Gamma at the same time. A money-making project is *Boscov’s Friends Helping Friends Day*. It is an easy way to raise funds for our organization. Members are encouraged to sell tickets to friends, neighbors, and family.

Everyone who purchases a $5 ticket receives a **25% discount**shopping pass for most purchases (some exclusions apply).  This discount applies only on **Wednesday, October 16th, Friends Helping Friends Day.**We need your support!  Last year we made $ 535.  We hope to do as well or better this year.

Tickets will be available at our first meeting. If you don’t make it to the meeting and need tickets, please contact Dixie Elmes at 410-857-5068.

An idea - If someone has done something special for you recently, you might repay them and express your appreciation for their kindness by purchasing a ticket for them.

**Please note:** This year Boscov’s Friends Helping Friends Day is on a Wednesday. We will not be selling tickets at the store. This is one way to raise funds for our organization. We can get an early start on our holiday shopping and help our group at the same time.

**Membership News** by Laura McClelland, Chairperson

Committee Members: Laura McClelland, Sandy Dutterer, Bonnie McEroy, Lisa Macurak and Nora Murray

 On May 8, six outstanding woman educators were inducted into our chapter: Joanne Davis, Patricia Keenan, Rachel Kowalski, Shannon Leister, Lisa Macurak and Nora Murray. We are proud of each of them. Lisa and Nora have already taken an active part in the Membership Committee.Thanks to a clever idea of Iris Wingert, we will be sending invitations to more outstanding teachers in our county. Iris has been completing prospect cards for teachers that are featured in the newspaper. If you know of a prospective member, please complete the **Prospect Card** (attached or on our website), or ask a member of our committee for a card and we will gladly invite them to a meeting. With your help, Omicron continues to be a strong chapter in DKG Maryland of Delta Kappa Gamma International.

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**October’s Community Service Focus** by Cindi King

Our community service focus for the October 3rd meeting is donating Coats for Shepherds Staff. Of course, ALL coats and winter gear are appreciated, but they particularly need men’s coats, sweaters, sweatshirts, etc. Heavy boot socks and thermal underwear for men and women are also a continuing need. Thanks!

**Standing Rules**

Our chapter Standing Rules Committee met on July 19 to update or revise the procedures by which our chapter is governed. Now that amendments to these rules have been proposed, they are attached to this newsletter for your review and will be discussed at our October meeting and voted on at our November meeting. Thanks to the Standing Rules Committee members for their time, ideas, and dedication: Kathie Tromble, committee chair; Laura McClelland, Maria Shanabarger, Jo Anne Stevens, and Iris Wingert.

**Notes from the June 20th Executive Board Meeting**

* You can save some money: The executive board decided to eliminate the raffle drawing at the end of each meeting saving members money for the purchase of a prize and the dollar or two for the raffle drawing itself.
* Shortened minutes: While the complete minutes will be emailed to the membership for any changes and approval, only the business sections of the minutes will be read at each meeting. This will cut some time off the length of each meeting.
* Infusing more fun: A suggestion was made at the May 8 dinner meeting to add more social events. Therefore, an outing will be planned to visit the COB51 pottery art studio at the mall in Westminster where we will gather in the spring for a fun social time in addition to engaging in a community service project for the Shephard’s Staff Empty Bowls program.
* New leadership: Sandy Dutterer volunteered to serve as chair of the Education/Professional Affairs Committee. She will recognize the significant achievements of our chapter members. Please let Sandy know if you (don’t be modest) or a chapter sister deserves recognition at each meeting. Cindi King and Kathleen Brunnett both stepped up to serve as officers in our next biennium. Cindi volunteered to be 2nd Vice President and Kathleen volunteered to be Corresponding Secretary. We still need a recording secretary. Please contact Kim Arnold to volunteer to serve in that capacity.
* Rerouting a dollar: One dollar of your chapter dues will be distributed to the DKG, International Emergency Fund instead of the World Fellowship Fund. The Emergency Fund channels a maximum of $500 to DKG society members whose homes have been impacted by a natural disaster. If you itemize on your taxes, the dollar is tax deductible. **☺**

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**Odds and Ends**

* Retired teachers who wish to help out in the schools (book fair, school fundraisers, reading to students during Read Across America, etc.) should take the CCPS volunteer training located on the CCPS website or at <https://www.carrollk12.org/admin/hr/volunteer/Pages/default.aspx>.
* Shop now to save for school supplies that we normally donate to the Shepherd’s Staff Back-to-School/backpack program in May. Since retail stores are having school supply sales this time of year, you could save now rather than waiting until spring to make your school supply purchases. A list of needed items can be found on the Shepherd’s Staff website: <http://www.shepstaff.org/services/back-to-school/>.
* Start saving up to attend the DKG, International Convention in Philadelphia, July, 2020. You will meet sisters from across the United States as well as 16 member countries. There will be meetings, workshops, special meals and more.
* The deadlines to apply for the DKG Lucile Cornetet Individual Professional Development Grant of up to $2000 are September 1, 2019, February 1, 2019 and May 1, 2020. Details can be found on the Publications Page or our chapter website: <https://omicrondkgmd.weebly.com/publications.html>
* The deadline to apply for a DKG Maryland personal growth mini grant of up to $200 is November 1st. For more details visit: <https://www.dkgmd.org/mini-grants.html>

**DKG and Technology**

* You can join the Delta Kappa Gamma International **Facebook Group**. To join, you have to answer a very easy question and wait to be accepted. Currently members are sharing their experiences about the International Conventions that took place across the U. S. and in Iceland.
* You can download the **DKG International APP** on your cell phone and get updates on publications, news, and more.
* Please visit our **Chapter Website** for updates about our meetings, additions to our photo gallery, links to publications and forms and more. <http://omicrondkgmd.weebly.com>
* Contact the chapter anytime using the **Chapter Email Address**: omicrondkgmd@gmail.com. Our chapter email is sent to all members with important chapter news and updates about everything DKG and about the accomplishments and welfare of our members.
* Our **Omicron Chapter Blog** is currently soliciting ideas from our membership for programming ideas for next year as well as ways to improve our chapter. Please visit the blog at <https://omicrondkgmd.weebly.com/chapter-blog>
* The **DKG Maryland Website** at <https://www.dkgmd.org/> has news from our State President, grant opportunities, member recognition, newsletters and more.
* The **DKG International Website** at <http://dkg.org> can be accessed using your member ID number and password. If you don’t know your ID number, contact Iris Wingert.

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**November Meeting Dinner Reservation Form**

**Dinner Meeting at CCCTC on Tuesday, November 12 at 6:00 p.m.**

**Send $15.00 to Pat Minnich by Monday, November 4**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of people attending:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: Delta Kappa Gamma; Omicron Chapter

Mail to:  Pat Minnich, 208 St. Matthew Court, Westminster, MD 21158

**NOTE: Please write separate checks for dinner, Boscov's, and gift card orders.**- - - - - - - - - - - - - - **Thanks!**

**Seven Points to Ponder**: How does the Omicron Chapter embody the **Seven Purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma, International**? Can we do a better job?

**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 or other suitable endeavors 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 non-member women educators

6. To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action

7. To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society**

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DKG Prospect Card

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

DKG Prospect Card

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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