

**Omicron News**

Omicron Chapter, Alpha Beta State

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Established June 14, 1960

***Vol. 58, No. 2 \_ Spring 2018***

**Message from the President**

Dear Omicron Sisters,

So hard to believe it is February already! While we still have much of winter to trudge through, the good news is that we have four meetings to look forward to during the rest of this winter into spring. Nothing lifts us up quite like an evening spent with sisters.

As always, Iris has organized some interesting programs for us. Please plan to attend our meetings and learn more about acupuncture, WWI and Jefferson County West Virginia, and a Mother’s Hope project from Ghana. I am thrilled that we have at least 3 new members being inducted in May. A thriving membership is key to a successful chapter. These new members will quickly learn what amazing women comprise the Omicron Chapter.

Mark your calendars for the Alpha Beta State Society Leadership Workshop set for May 5th. There will be speakers and breakout groups to expand our roles as leaders and learners. Always a fun time to spend with sisters around the state. Look for registration information in the coming months.

2018 will be an exciting year for my family and it also marks the end of my tenure as Omicron president. I have enjoyed this role tremendously as it has allowed me to get to know many of our members on a more personal level. It also has made me appreciate the work that our sisters do to keep this chapter running efficiently. Please consider stepping up to chair a committee or volunteer for an officer position. There is support for you from every aspect of our chapter.

A huge thank you to all who supported me during my presidency. It has been an honor to lead this very special group.

With Omicron Pride,
Kathleen

**CCRSPA Establishes $1,000 Scholarship**

The Carroll County Retired School Personnel Association (CCRSPA) is offering a $1,000 scholarship for a current CCPS employee to pursue further education.. Scholarship information and applications are available at <https://www.carrollrspa.com> and will be available at the February meeting. Applications are due April 1, 2018.

** ***Please recommend an outstanding woman educator***

 ***for membership! Access the nomination form at***

[**http://omicrondkgmd.weebly.com/publications.html**](http://omicrondkgmd.weebly.com/publications.html)

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**Upcoming Meetings**

 **February 20, 2018 (6:00) March 22, 2018 (6:00)**

 **Linton Springs Elementary South Carroll HS**

 Program: Acupuncture Program: WWI & Jefferson

 Raffle-Nominations County, WV Raffle-Scholarship

 \*Community Service: Women’s Shelter Raffle – Scholarship

 (additional information below) Community Service: SCHS Food Pantry

 **April 18, 2018 (6:00) May 8, 2018 (6:00)**

 **Winters Mill HS CCCTC**

 Program: Ghanaian Mother’s Hope Program: Initiation/Installation

 Raffle: Remembrance Raffle-World Fellowship

 Community Service: $10 for Community Service: School Supplies

 Ghana children’s book

 June 20, 2018 (12:00)

 Iris Wingert’s house

 Executive Board Meeting

**Upcoming Events**

 **March 3,2018 May 5, 2018**

 State Executive Board Meeting ABS Leadership Development Conference

 Bowie, MD

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**\*Community Service for February**

Our community service focus for our February meeting will be the women's shelter in Westminster. According to the shelter’s coordinator, items most needed by the residents are: over-the-counter medicines (Tylenol, etc.), toiletries, socks and underwear for children (infant – age 11) and women.

**Gift Card Orders**

Do you buy groceries? Do you eat at local restaurants on a night out? Do you give gift cards to friends or family members for a birthday, anniversary or holidays? Do you know people who do?

Our spring gift card fundraiser is currently taking place. For each card sold, Omicron receives a percentage so please participate. Gift card order forms are attached to this newsletter as a download. They are due to Pat Minnich the evening of our February 20 meeting.

If you do not plan to be at the February 20 meeting, please mail your order form along with a check payable to Delta Kappa Gamma, Omicron Chapter early enough to ensure that Pat gets your order by February 20. Only in the event that schools are closed that day due to inclement weather, will the deadline be extended to Friday, February 23.No late orders will be accepted. Thank you very much!

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**Cookies, Cookies, and More Cookies**

During our November meeting, chapter sisters discussed our next step in our year-long partnership with Linton Springs Elementary School. The membership felt that a nice gesture of the Omicron Chapter Sisterhood would be to bring cookies as a special treat for the faculty to enjoy.

This idea was further fleshed out at the chapter’s January executive board meeting. It was thus decided to ask each member who attends the February 20 meeting to bring a portion of cookies to share with the chapter membership (so that we would not feel deprived) and another portion to share with Linton Springs Elementary School faculty. You could call this event a Member Cookie Exchange / Linton Springs Cookie Donation. It is suggested that the cookies that you bring for Linton Springs (a dozen of them would be a nice round number) be wrapped up on a paper plate so that they can be left at the school for the faculty to enjoy the next day, February 21. Don’t worry if you’re not inclined to make homemade cookies; you could buy some at your local grocery store. Whatever you bring would be greatly appreciated by the LS faculty and your fellow sisters.

Oh, and if you are bringing homemade cookies, how about including a few copies of your recipe so that you are not bombarded with questions from members asking you how you made your deliciously wonderful treats. Thanks.

**Membership**

Hopefully you have seen some familiar faces from the past at our meetings. We are sooo glad to have Lacye, Jackie, Linda, Penny and Annie with us again. Welcome back!  Speaking of welcoming, new sisters will be initiated into our chapter at the May meeting. Officers will be installed at that time, too.

Let’s take time to remember sisters we have not seen for a while by sending a card, or having a conversation on the phone. We continue to update our files.  If you haven’t completed the bio sheet and/or need to make changes to yours, please contact Laura McClelland.

If you know of an outstanding woman educator who has taught for at least two years, please take time to introduce them to Omicron chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma and invite them to a meeting.

Professional Development Money Available

The deadline to submit an application for a DKG Cornetet Individual Professional

Development Award is May 1, 2018 if you are planning to attend a professional

development activity between June 15, 2018 and Feburary 15, 2019. The award

money, which is quite competitive, will pay for such things as participation in

professional seminars, workshops, lecture series, national board certification

(initial certification only – not recertification), online courses, and other non-

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For more details about qualifications, requirements, etc., look up the Lucile Cornetet Individual Professional Development (CIPD) Award at [dkg.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CIris%5CDownloads%5Cdkg.org). From the DKG home page, click on Apply.

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**Spring Field Trip Planned**

Our chapter will be having a very enjoyable field trip planned for Saturday, April 14 at the Historic Sykesville Colored Schoolhouse at 10:00 a.m.

The schoolhouse was open for classes on January 4, 1904. It was used as a private residence in 1939 and restored back to a schoolhouse by 2006.

Visitors to the schoolhouse will learn about the early history of the schoolhouse attended by the children of the small African-American community of the town of Sykesville.

If you would like to learn more about this topic, an excellent read would be, *In Carrie’s Footprints: The Long Walk of Warren Dorsey* by Jack McBride White with Warren Dorsey. The book, which is available through the Carroll County Public Library, tells the story of the life of Warren Dorsey, an African-American, born in 1920 who attended the schoolhouse in Sykesville.

Our visit to the schoolhouse will be followed by lunch at E.W. Beck’s on Main Street in Sykesville (<http://www.ewbecks.com/>).

 The schoolhouse museum is sustained by donations from visitors. It is therefore suggested that Omicron sisters make a donation of not less than $5.00. Our fieldtrip will be open to family members as well.

The schoolhouse is located at 518 Schoolhouse Road in the Sykesville Historic District. Directions: From Main Street, follow Oklahoma Avenue .4 miles to the intersection with Schoolhouse Road. The building is on the right.

Parking is very limited at the location of the schoolhouse, so we may need to park in the public parking lot on Oklahoma Road and car pool to the schoolhouse which is under a half mile up the road (hill actually). More details about parking to follow.

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**May Meeting Dinner Reservation Form**

**Dinner Meeting at Carroll County Career and Tech Center on Tuesday, May 8 at 6:00 p.m.**

Send $12.00 to Stella by Tuesday, May 1 or bring to the April meeting.

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

Number of people attending: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: Delta Kappa Gamma; Omicron Chapter

Mail to: Stella Letras; 2128 Herbert Ave.; Westminster, MD 21157