

# UPSILON UPDATES

APRIL 2014, VOLUME III.III

EDITOR - ABI PAYTOE GBAYEE

## JULIA'S JOTTINGS



Your President

- Invites you to attend the April meeting. Representatives from Children's Village and Raising Readers will be there to receive their checks and tell us a bit about how the money will be used. The program will feature a master gardener and should be quite informative and interesting.
- Points out that we will vote on new members at the April meeting and 2012-2014 Executive Board members will be recognized for their great work for the chapter.
- Hopes all eight (8) members with April birthdays will be

there so we can sing Happy Birthday to them.

- Reminds members that the April 26th State Meeting is for any member who wishes to go and Nina Scott from Austin will be the International Guest. Did you find all the details in the recent ROUNDUP?
- Asks that you mark May 19 on your calendar for the joint Founders' Day meeting, 6:00 pm at the Holiday Inn.
- Expresses an appreciation to all members for your service to the chapter.
- Extends a special thank you to Abi for her program in March and thanks the hostesses Dorothy Middleton Owens, Sheila Monger and Sarah Horen for the pretty table setting and delicious treats at the March meeting.
- Sends this month's thought: "If students can read a message, they are blessed that someone taught them to read, and furthermore, they are more blessed than over two billion people in the world that cannot read at all". As educators we make a difference.

Warmly,  
Julia Burke, 2012-2014 President

*Julia Burke*

## WHAT'S INSIDE

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## APRIL 21ST MEETING

The April meeting will be held at Triumph High School at 4:15 pm.



## APRIL MEETING - BUSINESS & GARDENS

One of our most important meetings this year. Last Upsilon business meeting of the biennium due to joint May meeting. Visit from representatives explaining how the money will be used by the groups receiving grant checks from the book sale. PROGRAM: Master Gardener, Julie Huntington presenting 'Giddy-Up & Grow' (elevated planters, patio gardening) Business includes voting on new members and thanking the 2012-2014 officers for their service to the chapter.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Membership Committee will be meeting on April 10 at South HS to review recommendations for membership. We will hear brief oral recommendations from the presenting members at the April 21 meeting and then vote. If you are recommending someone, please plan to speak about them or designate someone else to do so. It IS awkward to present a name and have no one to speak about them. Also, please plan to attend the May 19th Founder's Day Dinner to escort your initiate through the ceremony. We currently plan to offer Orientation for initiates on May 5 at Johnson JHS, Room 30. That could change if the day is inappropriate for several people. Please call if you have questions. (Mara: 630-1257)

## BITS AND PIECES


Keeping You in the Loop

Several plan to attend the state leadership meeting in Casper April 26. Did you see the interesting topics and workshop titles that can be attended? It's always an honor to meet a member of the staff from headquarters in Austin. Nina Scott, international guest, and the members with experience will provide outstanding workshops. It's still not too late to jump in and attend the one day meeting. Ask JoAnn or Julia.

MEMBERS OF THE 2014-2016 EXECUTIVE BOARD SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED AN E-MAIL MESSAGE stating that: Irene Story, 2014-2016 President, is holding a 2014-2016 Executive Board plus Book Sale Chair Meeting: Subject: DKG Planning Meeting—working on programs and identifying members for committees Date: Tuesday, April 22, 2014, 6:00 PM (pizza will be served) Location: Linda Carlson's home, 3514 Sunrise, in Cole Edition near Channel 5 News Station on Lincolnway RSVP BY APRIL 15

If you are a member of the board and did not receive the message please call Irene (634-8346) or Julia (632-0209) to get it re-sent.

A special "Write-It" meeting for those born before 1950 will be held May 8 at Irene Story's home. See article in this newsletter.



## WHY I'M PROUD TO BELONG TO DKG

Dr. Michelle Aldrich

I belong to several educational and professional organizations but DKG is the one that brings me the most satisfaction for the following reasons:

- I get to associate with other women educators at every grade level and in every discipline.
- I get to participate in the Upsilon Used Book Sale that has become an important literary event in our community.
- I get quality publications that are relevant to what is happening in education right now.
- I get a great balance of activities ---those I like or would like to develop as hobbies and those that affect my classroom effectiveness.
- I have been able to develop leadership skills at a chapter, state, regional and international level.
- I have gotten to travel nationally and internationally while discovering that educational concerns cross all borders and cultures.
- I have been able to experience several DKG opportunities with my 2 daughters who are also teachers ---one of which is also a member of our chapter.
- I have been able to invite colleagues into a professional organization that will help them grow professionally that also offers scholarship opportunities.
- I have been able to make a difference in our community, state, and internationally when my dues and donations are combined with those of my DKG sisters.
- And last but not least I count many retired teachers and teachers who are still in the classroom that I never would have known otherwise amongst my friends!

## DKG UPSILON CHAPTER WRITE-IN

To: All Upsilon members who were born before 1950 and have not written their autobiography/biography for the "Let Your Life Shine" Project.

Subject: You are invited to attend our first "WRITE-IN" to start your biographies.

When: Thursday, May 8, 2014 11:30am to 4 pm

Where: Home of Chris and Irene Story, 505 Star Valley Drive 82009

Other Info: We will serve pizza at 11:30 am for lunch. The rest of the time will be directed toward your writing.

Process:

- Bring a fellow Upsilon member or an educator whose biography you would like to write.
- When we start writing, you will be paired with another person. That person will talk about herself for about 90 minutes, following guidelines that will be provided. Her partner will write/take notes on the guidelines sheet.
- After 90 minutes, you will trade positions and the partner who wrote will now tell about her life with her partner writing down the narrative. Again, this will take 90 minutes.

What do you need bring:

- Notebook, tablet to write, OR
- Laptop—if you have one

Please RSVP to Irene Story by MONDAY, MAY 5, 2014:

307-634-8346 or irenestory@q.com

## MEET IRENE STORY

### OUR INCOMING PRESIDENT



I am very excited about being the president of Upsilon Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma for the next biennium, 2014-2016 I am a retired educator, retiring after 26 years with Laramie County School District Number One where I was an elementary teacher at Hebard ES, Goins ES, and Henderson ES; and a principal at Hobbs ES. I ended my career as the Assistant Director of Instruction where I had a myriad of duties: planning and organizing professional development for certified and non-certified personnel; preparing the district for the district summer school program that included student from Pre-K through grade 12; and completing applications for federal and state grants, monitoring that the implementation of the grant programs, and ensuring that the grant data collection was valid and reliable. I have previously served as the Treasurer from 1996-1997.

I received a BA in Elementary Education from the University of Wyoming, then continued to attend classes and professional programs at UW for the next 25 years. In that time I earned four post-graduate degrees: an MA in Curriculum and Instruction, an MA in Educational Leadership where I became certified as a principal and a director, an Educational Specialist Degree, and a Doctorate of Education, becoming certified as a superintendent. The only thing I truly learned as I pursued my degrees is that the more you learn, the less you know—obtaining knowledge leads to more unanswered questions with the need to know more! I am currently working part time for two different entities. I am a consultant for the University of Northern Colorado in Greeley, and I mentor and guide special education student teachers who are placed in LCSD1 schools. I am also a Mandt trainer for LCSD1 Special Services Department.

I have been married to my husband Chris (aka Lars Christian Story) for 42 years. We have 2 children, Lars (aka Lars Christian Story II), who is married to Aleta, also from Wyoming. They have 2 children—our only grandchildren—Emie (Isabella Emerson), 8, and Trey (Lars Christian Story III—or “Trey” for “3rd”), 6. They are currently living in Greensburg, PA, where Lars is a chemical engineer and plant manager for DynoNobel in Donora. This is located south of Pittsburgh in the southwest part of Pennsylvania. He will be transferring to the Cheyenne DynoNobel plant, the largest plant Dyno has, starting May 1. The family will be following in June after school is out, and Grandma and Grandpa is so excited to have them back home. Our daughter Rene (Jennifer Rene) is married to Matt Wolf, originally from Illinois, and they live in Golden, CO. Rene is a chiropractor and has her clinic in Arvada, CO, and Matt is an industrial designer who designs displays for conferences.

I am looking forward to this new DKG adventure on which I am embarking. I have an outstanding group of women on my Executive Board with whom I will be working as we lead our chapter into and through the next two years.

# MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Delta Kappa Gamma Upsilon 3/17/2014 @ Triumph High School

Meeting was called to order by Julia Burke at 4:20 PM.

Roll Call was done with a sign-in sheet.

Quorum Marca Fox Grigsby determined there was a quorum present.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved with two corrections of the spelling of Nicole Kang's last name and the number of reams of paper bought was changed from six to ten, as approved by the Executive Board.

Correspondence – Patricia Urasky

- Wounded Warrior Project – Request for continued support.

- University of Wyoming Foundation – Invitation to the Grand Opening of the UW Literacy Center and Ribbon Cutting for the UW Education Annex Canopy Project on Thursday, March 27, 2014, 11 AM.

- LCCC – Invitation to the Lifetime Heritage Society Reception, Thursday, April 17, 2014 6:00 – 8:30 PM at Little America

## Reports and Announcements

Courtesy – A sympathy card was sent to Patrice Denisson and a get well card was sent to Jo Zunker, who is in the hospital.

Newsletter and Website – Thank you to Abi Paytoe Gbayee.

DKG Educational Foundation Award – Patricia Urasky was given a \$1000 award to buy color graphing calculators for use in her school.

Membership – Mara Funk reminded the chapter that March 28 is the deadline to recommend new members. Initiation will be at the Founder's Day Dinner in May.

April meeting – Julia told us that the program will be provided by a master gardener from the Cheyenne Botanical Gardens.

Report on the sign – Sheila Monger informed us that the sign is up at a cost of \$233. 20.

Other – Michelle reported on the Coordinating Council Meeting of all three chapters. Plans were discussed for the Founders Day Dinner in May. The council makes sure that there is no conflict on recommendations for new members and they assigned duties for 2014 – 2016. Julia Burke will be the secretary, Carol Johnson will be the member at large, and Irene Story will also be on the council as our Upsilon Chapter President.

A Special Time Together – “Happy Birthday” to Joan Schade. Joan introduced her guest, Jenefer Pasque.

Thank you to our hostesses – Dorothy Middleton-Owens, Sheila Monger, and Sarah Horen.

## Unfinished Business

Book Sale Report – Michelle Aldrich. Thanks to all of you who helped make the book sale a success. Other groups benefit from the book sale, which is the largest recycling project in Cheyenne.

Treasurer's Report - JoAnn Baumhover Balance TBA

Grant Applications Irene Story shared the questions that were asked on the applications. Julia Burke explained the procedure. Michelle Aldrich gave an explanation of what the committee discussed at the meeting. Applications were received from: Boys and Girls Club of Cheyenne, Paul Smith Children's Village, Raising Readers in Wyoming, · LCCC Aimee Sommers, SEEK Program

JoAnn Baumhover - “On behalf of the ad hoc committee, I move that Upsilon Chapter donate \$10,000 to the Paul Smith Children's Village and \$5000 to Raising Readers. Motion carried. We will explore the possibility of presenting the checks to the two groups at the April meeting.

Michelle Aldrich – In the past, we have offset the cost of membership dues with money earned from the book sale. Michelle moved that we discontinue this practice of subsidized dues and members pay the full dues of \$80. Motion carried.

## New Business

Resignation – Sarah Holle has submitted a request to resign from the Upsilon Chapter. Michelle moved that we accept her resignation, with regret. Motion carried.

Alpha Xi State Leadership Training Saturday, April 26 8:00 – 5:00 in Casper.

Message – Irene Story asked that all members, who have not already done so, fill out an information sheet for next year. She discussed the possibility of moving meetings to the second Monday of each month because of the conflict with national holidays on two of the third Mondays. JoAnn Baumhover reminded us that our Chapter Traditions state that meetings will be held on the third Monday of each month, except for holidays. This topic will be discussed again at the April meeting.

Door prize winners were drawn.

Meeting adjourned 5:25 PM

Program: Art with Abi T-shirt to scarf project

Submitted by Patricia Urasky, Secretary

## **DATES TO NOTE**

April 15, 2014

Alpha Xi Scholarship Application  
Due date extended until April 15, 2014  
Go to [alphaxistatedkg.weebly.com](http://alphaxistatedkg.weebly.com)  
State documents

April 21, 2014

4:15 p.m., Triumph High School  
Program: Julie Huntington,  
Master Gardener 'Giddy-Up & Grow'  
Voting on New Members &  
Thanking the 2012-2014 Officers  
Short explanation by those  
receiving checks for Grants

April 22, 2014

6:00 P.M., 3514 Sunrise - RSVP by April 15  
2014-2016 Executive Board Meeting  
Planning Meeting for new Executive Board and  
Book Sale Chair

April 26, 2014

Alpha Xi Leadership Training in Casper  
See ROUNDUP or go to  
[alphaxistatedkg.weebly.com](http://alphaxistatedkg.weebly.com)  
Registration due no later than April 18

May 8, 2014

11:30 A.M – 4:00 P.M. , 505 Star Valley Drive  
"WRITE-IN" to work on Biographies  
See article in this newsletter

May 19, 2014

6:00 p.m. Holiday Inn  
Joint Chapter Meeting  
Founders' Day and State Presidents' Visit  
Installation of New Chapter Officers  
Recognition of those retiring  
Initiation of New Members

July 28 – Aug. 1, 2014

International Convention, Indianapolis, IN

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD**

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