Alpha Chapter DKG Meeting

May 14, 2026

Memorial Middle School, Cedar Grove, N.J.

WELCOME: Meeting was called to order at 5PM by President Laura Perrius. The past presidents were introduced: Cindy Sokoloff, Jan Paxton, Cathy Cleenput, and Claire Swanson.

INSPIRATION: Kim Heilig presented a tribute to our deceased sister, Barbara Ann Ellert, “Dwell in Possibility,” from the book "Year of Miracles.”

BUSINESS MEETING:

Secretary’s Report: Evelyn Oberndorf presented the minutes of the March meeting, and they were approved. A note was received from Denise Doychak thanking Evelyn for mailing her our chapter’s information. Enclosed was a check for the 2026-2027 dues. William Paterson Foundation sent a letter of thanks for the $1500 contribution to establish the DKG Scholarship.

Treasurer’s Report: Cathy Cleenput presented the treasurer’s report, which was approved. The largest expenditure was $565.11 for printing the Convention luncheon and banquet programs for which Alpha was responsible. It was decided that we must find a better way to print these programs. The expenditure is costly and most members do not keep them after Convention. The party room was a wonderful addition to Convention and the International President partied with us both nights. Our baskets were successful.

INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS:

Janelle Garcia, Vanessa Suscreba and Natasha Tyjer-Mendez were inducted into Alpha.

President’s Report: Laura read a thank you note from our International President for our hospitality. Laura also shared that the Executive Board had a Zoom meeting to plan this meeting.

PROGRAM: Claire Swanson and Cathy Cleenput presented the informative program “Exploring and Enhancing DKG.”

INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS:

The following Officers were installed. Kristen Massotto, President, Jennie Villanueva, 1st Vice President, and Laura Perrius,Secretary.

Membership: Claire Swanson and Cindy Sokoloff welcomed our new members.

Hoitsma: Cindy Sokoloff shared information about Hoitsma. You must be a DKG member for 3 years to apply for financial assistance.

Scholarship: Suezette Givens introduced her guest, Beth Abouliem. The Margaret Abel Scholarship was awarded at the Convention.

OLD BUSINESS: Our current Service Project is the Pioneer Pantry at William Paterson University. We collected items for the pantry this evening. There is a list on our website of the products that are needed. The students can visit the Pantry once a week for the supplies they need.

NEW BUSINESS: Between the Petals, which Laura Perrius started as President, was discussed. The consensus was that it should be continued as we should have more get-togethers. The four meetings a year are not enough. This will be discussed at the executive planning meeting.

Flowers were presented to Joan Oehm. Joan is retiring from the Cedar Grove School System and moving to South Carolina. Joan will be missed.

Grant in Aid: $170 was collected.

Girl's Fund: $80

Attendance: 20 members

Meeting was adjourned at 6:20. Motion was made by Joan Oehm and seconded by Evelyn Oberndorf.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Oberndorf

Recording Secretary