Alpha Chapter DKG Minutes

March 7, 2026

Tri-Boro Rescue Squad

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10 AM, by President Laura Perrius who welcomed everyone to our meeting.

Past Presidents: Cathy Cleenput, Debbie Hoeflinger, Jan Paxton, Cindy Sokoloff, Claire Swanson, and Theresa Messineo were introduced.

Inspiration: Kim Heilig shared a lovely inspiration entitled "Faith."

Secretary's Report Copies of the secretary's report were distributed. Evelyn Oberndorf reported that she sent a get-well card to Laura Perrius. Sympathy cards were sent to Jan Paxton and Dr. Esther Guerin's nephew. Alpha received a Christmas card and a generous donation from Peggy Firtion.

Treasurer's Report: Cathy Cleenput presented her report. Cathy Cleenput reported that since DKG State has lost four Chapters this year there will be fewer baskets at Convention. The State President, Cathy Fortunato, requested that sisters not able to attend the Convention donate money toward baskets as this is the only State fundraiser.

President's Report: Laura stated that she has been ill this winter, but thankfully is on her way to recovery. Laura would like suggestions for activities we can have for "Between the Pedals." There was an Executive Board Meeting on January 26, on Zoom.

Society Business:

Membership: Cindy Sokoloff and Claire Swanson introduced three prospective members who attended our meeting: Janelle Garcia and Vanesa Suscreba who teach in Parsippany, and Natasha Tyjer-Mendez who teaches in Riverdale. Everyone should be looking for new members to expand our membership.

Hoitsma: Cindy Sokoloff shared information about the Hoitsma Fund to our guests.

Scholarship: Suezette Given reported the Scholarship Committee had a Zoom meeting and proposes that our scholarship requirements be changed. Scholarship will be given to a William Paterson female student who is enrolled in a Teacher Education program.

The State Convention will be held April 17-19, 2026 at The Somerset DoubleTree. It is always a great time. It will be different this year. There will be an after party on Friday night

with a DJ and everyone is asked to wear pink for Breast Cancer Awareness. Alpha is responsible for the programs at lunch and dinner. Presently, the programs are under control. Jan reminded us of the deadlines for hotel reservations and convention registration. Keynote speaker is the State Teacher of the Year.

Service Project: Items for the Pioneer Pantry for William Paterson will be collected at the May Meeting. Items recommended include feminine hygiene products and personal care products. There is also an Amazon link.

Program: Joan Oehm introduced Wren DiGisi, Director of Development, Major Gifts, at William Paterson University and Kimberly Galves. We were informed of the great need at the University for student support. They also informed us about Mentoring programs, History Day, and the need for volunteers to read to children in the Child Center.

Monies collected: Grant-in-Aid - $165 GIRLS Fund - $140

Old Business: Claire Swanson made a motion, seconded by Evelyn Oberndorf to change the requirements for the Grant in Aid Scholarship. The motion was passed unanimously.

New Business: Alpha and William Paterson will be discussing opportunities to collaborate with them. An election for a new slate of officers was held. President- Kristin Massotto, Vice President- Jennie Villanueva, Secretary- Laura Perrius, Treasurer- Cathy Cleenput. The vote was unanimous.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Debbie Hoeflinger, seconded by Cathy Cleenput to adjourn the meeting at 12:00. Twenty-five members attended the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Oberndorf