



# Beta Delta News

**Biennium Officers**

2012 - 2014

President:

Sandy Stoker

First Vice President:

Eileen McNally

Second Vice President:

Sue Christian

Recording Secretary:

Linda Mackey

Corresponding

Secretary: Judy Davis

Treasurer:

Robin Somers

Newsletter Editor:

Eileen McNally



## Notes from Sandy:

We had to cancel the February meeting do to the unpredictable weather.

Carole Koontz will present her "Buttons" talk at the May meeting not the April meeting as mentioned in my email.

**Sandy wants your feedback positive or negative about continuing to support girls for the BeeWise Science camp at Denison AND continuation of the teacher grants. She wanted to vote on continuation of both projects at the February meeting and get them into the 2016 -2017 budget. PLEASE let Sandy know your thoughts about both of these programs. Unless there is a major outcry against these projects, Sandy will include them in the new budget. Reach Sandy at [sandystoker@windstream.net](mailto:sandystoker@windstream.net) or call her at (740) 344-8833.**

We will collect for both Baskets of Life and the Y.E.S. Club at the March meeting. We hate to slight either one. We will be at Arlington Care Center.

Please see the next page for our list of nominated officers for the 2016- 2018 biennium. We will vote on them in March. Thanks to our Nominating Committee: Diana Ganz, chair and her committee Jean Hovland, Debbie Weber, and Vicki Baker. Great job!



### January

Jean Hovland 2nd

Cara Noyes 21st

Judy Davis 28th

### February

Diane Green 14th

Lana Lawson 19th

Karen Treece 23rd

Beth Gress 9th

Debbie Weber 27th

Diane Ganz 31st

Sandy Turco 17th

Marti Kolb 20th

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

## Our Officer Slate for the 2016 - 2018 Biennium

President - Edna Ridenbaugh  
 1st V-P - Eileen McNally  
 2nd V-P - Kayla Hughes  
 Recording Secretary - Debbie Weber  
 Corresponding Secretary - Judy Davis  
 Treasurer - Debbie Jones  
 Parliamentarian - Cherisse Hopper

## Favorite Authors

Janet Cassell - Jennifer Trigiani is a favorite because of her detailed descriptions of people, food and the Italian heritage.

Sandy Stoker - I don't have a favorite author, too many good ones. I am recommending Rick Riordan to people buying for 11 to 20 year olds. (I do read him too). He teaches Greek and Roman Mythology and his latest series has gone into Egyptian Mythology. Since our schools has less and less time to teach these topics, and I think they're interesting, I suggest these items. They're part of our world's culture.

Kathleen Wallace - Perhaps Shakespeare because I like the language. I do not read him or play with that language very much any more.

## Happening in the Newark Area

Get The Led Out  
 February 27, 2016  
 Midland Theatre, Newark, OH

HOMEMADE CRAFT FAIR  
 Dawes  
 February 27th from 10am-4pm, many vendors: Food, hand blown glass, lotions, textiles.

Celtic Service  
 First Presbyterian in Granville  
 February 28 at 5 PM

Historic Homes Tour -Licking County Historical Society  
 Sunday, April 24  
 Lectures at 1:00 PM & 2:00 PM, then tour the homes  
 \$15/members, \$20/non-members

## Fashion from the Past

Janet Cassell - My bubble hair style

Carole Koontz - Before we moved to our new home, my daughter and I were going through all the things I had saved over the past 40 years or so. We found in an old suitcase some clothing I wore in 1972. Among the items was a "bare midriff" top. "Oh, my! You wore THAT?" she asked incredulously. I just smiled and explained that it was the style then, along with long skirts, "peasant" blouses, bellbottoms and love beads. Maybe for a moment or two, I had achieved "cool" status in her eyes

Kathleen Wallace - When the short hemline was in vogue I wore that look along with a Sassoon haircut. I might get away with the haircut today but I no longer have the fine set of fans I once had.

## Kids and their answers

Name six animals which live specifically in the Arctic.

Two polar bears  
~~Three~~ four seals

## STRS February Board News

***To our entire membership: I always post the latest STRS News on our website. The January news is of importance to our members who is already retired as well as our active teachers. Please read! I will post the February Board Update in a few days. Later, please take a minute to go to the website and read it. Members who are knowledgeable can make informative decisions.***

### Health Care Funding Challenges Will Be Key Focus in 2016

During its 2016 retreat, the State Teachers Retirement Board took an intensive look at the funding challenges facing the STRS Ohio Health Care Program. The board retreat, held at the STRS Ohio offices in Columbus, provided the board an opportunity to review in depth health care presentations from staff and consultants. The key takeaway is that the projected life of the health care fund has significantly dropped due to increasing health care claims payments and the lack of a dedicated source of funds for health care.

### The Challenge — a Closer Look

- In late 2011, the board adopted a strategic framework for health care based on receiving a continuous allocation of 1% of the employer payroll contribution (about \$100 million annually). By the end of 2013, the health care fund solvency grew to 49 years.
- Effective July 2014, the board discontinued the 1% employer allocation to the health care fund in an effort to strengthen the financial condition of the pension

fund and as part of STRS Ohio's plan to eliminate its unfunded liabilities in less than 30 years (as required by state law). The projected life of the health care fund dropped to 19 years. The hope was to restore this funding for health care within a few years.

- Today, the suspension of employer contributions to health care will continue because all of the employer contribution is needed for the pension fund. Depletion of the health care fund is now a major concern. While the projected life of the health care fund is expected to be about 17 years, this figure is an average — meaning there is a 50% confidence level that the health care fund has at least 17 years of solvency. Depending on the strength of the financial markets, the amount of health care claims and whether additional funding is available, there is a chance the life of the fund could be 10 years or less.



### Next Steps

The Retirement Board identified several steps for staff to pursue while continuing to study potential funding solutions. These steps include:

- Work with membership and stakeholder groups to determine the components that deliver a plan that represents a good value** and determine how long — with a high degree of confidence — STRS Ohio can offer a meaningful plan.

- Evaluate the impact of additional health care plan changes** in the areas of eligibility, plan design and subsidy levels.

- Work with membership and stakeholder groups on approaches to increase funding** for retiree health care.

- Continue open and honest communication** with the membership and stakeholders.

The Retirement Board and staff will explore options to allow STRS Ohio to continue providing a health care program that is of value to members and will communicate with members throughout the discussion of possible options. STRS Ohio will use its website, newsletters and eUPDATE email news service to keep members informed.

### Additional facts about the STRS Ohio Health Care Program

- Health Care Program costs for fiscal year 2015 totaled \$673 million — more than \$1.8 million in health care expenses per day. The total cost has grown more than 51% since 2005 when the program costs were \$444 million.
- Health Care Program has 131,193 enrollees in 2016, an increase of nearly 17% from 2006 when the number of enrollees was 112,310.

## A Teacher's Poem

Every day you greet your students with a smile upon your face.  
Though paperwork the night before seemed like a grueling race.

Money's not your motivation, it's the love for what you do.  
You hear that special calling to which you always will stay true.

Your students are your dedication, devotion is to them.  
To you each child's unique and special, a beautiful little gem.

Some days are just demanding and frustration takes its course.  
Then you see those little faces, their inspiration is your force.

Each day you're in your classroom reminds you why you're there.  
Making differences in children's lives with whom your heart you share.

There's a special pride in teachers, and a love for what you do.  
And appreciation's always shared between those little lives and you!



### Meeting Dates

March 15, 2016

No Social Hour

Tuesday, 6 PM

Snacks provided by the  
by Arlington Care Center

Arlington Care Center

Spring Craft by the

Research & History

Committee

Crafts distributed to  
residents of Arlington

Special Collection:

Baskets of Life

April 19, 2016

Dawes Arboretum -

Visitor's Center

Tuesday, 6 PM

Box dinner from The Grill

Deli at the Works \$10.00

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DKG  
% Eileen McNally  
2535 Martinsburg Rd.  
Newark, OH 43055

