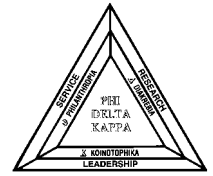




Phi Delta Kappa
University of Kentucky Chapter #037
March, 2001 Newsletter



THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY
PHI DELTA KAPPA CHAPTER
AND THE SCHOOL FOR THE
CREATIVE AND PERFORMING
ARTS PRESENT
"AN EVENING AT SCAPA"

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28, 2001, 7PM, SCAPA, 400 Lafayette Parkway (next to Lafayette High School)

This is a dinner meeting. The cost is \$10.00 for either steak tips or chicken breast. Catering by Steak Out. **For readers of this newsletter, the deadline to make reservations has been extended to Monday, March 26, 2001, by 3PM.**

To make a reservation, call Willis Johnson, 257-3156, or email wjohnsn@pop.uky.edu. If you email or phone, be sure to leave your name and specify either steak or chicken. Non-PDK members are welcome!

What Kind of School is SCAPA?

The School for the Creative and Performing Arts at Bluegrass (grades 4-8) and SCAPA at Lafayette High School (grades 9-12) provide students who are especially talented and/or interested in the arts the opportunity to further develop and enhance their abilities in the fine arts in a setting that emphasizes the arts while providing a solid academic foundation.

The students who attend SCAPA receive instruction in their major area of arts interest: Visual Arts, Band, Strings, Vocal Music, Piano, Ballet, Contemporary Dance, Drama or Creative Writing in addition to the mandated academic curriculum. Students receive their major arts instruction on a regularly scheduled basis (grades 4 & 5: 3 days per week; grades 6 to 12: 5 days per week). The school day is extended at Bluegrass in order to ensure that the academic as well as arts needs of the students are met. Lafayette High School classes take place during the regular school day. Transportation is provided by Fayette County Public Schools on a limited basis.

Evening at SCAPA to be varied and enjoyable

According to Carla Beranek, "Right now, we have several different artistic acts for the evening and our kids are excited to be performing for you. The arts areas that will be represented are: Art, Ballet, Contemporary Dance, Creative Writing, Strings, Piano and Drama."

The entertainment will be preceded by a short activity by the UK Phi Delta Kappa leadership, and, of course, dinner.... to be catered by the local Steak Out.

Following dinner and the entertainment, persons attending the meeting will have an opportunity to tour the SCAPA facilities.

THE PRESIDENT'S PEN by Robb Gaskins

Greetings! After two wonderful winter meetings, a fun and relaxing Social Event in December and an informative and fascinating discussion and demonstration of Assistive Technology by Carol Moffett, we are going to greet the spring with yet another excellent meeting. This will truly be a spring extravaganza! Carla Baranek is hosting a spectacular introduction to the new School for the Creative and Performing Arts. This will be a dinner meeting that will start at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 28. The meeting will feature numerous student performances and a tour of the facilities. This will be a meeting unlike any we have had before. I can't wait to see the variety of student performances! This meeting will be a real treat. Don't miss it!

On Tuesday, May 8, we will have our Awards and Initiation Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the UK Faculty Club. This is always an enjoyable culmination of the year. If you have suggestions for awards or new initiates for the UK Chapter of Phi Delta Kappa, please contact Cathy Bell, our Vice President in charge of Membership, Gary Schroeder, our Newsletter Editor, or me, Robb Gaskins.

PDK NEWS

By
Eve Proffitt, President Elect

PDK International News:

The staff and PDK membership were informed of the death of Bessie Gabbard, the first woman to be initiated into PDK. Bessie was the epitome of what a life-long educator should be. Up until her death at the age of 95, she was still reading, discussing and learning about education. She learned to use the computer with word processing, email, etc., in the last three years. She was in the process of doing her income taxes at the time of her death.

Bessie was truly a friend to PDK. She was the benefactor of many of the Gabbard initiatives as well as the leadership initiative that PDK is undertaking. She donated not only money, but time to PDK and was a life long member.

Kentucky should know that Bessie attended Berea College for her undergraduate degree. She went from there to Cincinnati where she taught school. While in Cincinnati, Bessie met Gerald Read and became connected to PDK. She taught herself to fly an airplane in Cincinnati. She also had a program on the Cincinnati radio station called, "The Children's Hour" where she read stories to school children. She had many fans of this program including Shirley Temple, who wrote her a letter.

This time of year we are reminding our chapters of their foundation giving. Bessie is one of the prime reasons we hope every Kappan will donate to foundation this year. Let us continue her dreams for educators, especially our young educators.

Dates for Legislative Council in Louisville

The PDK International Legislative Council will meet in Louisville, KY at the Galt House, November 1-4, 2001. This is an exciting time for the Kentucky Chapters. As we move closer to the date, each chapter will be asked to assist with some of the arrangements, etc. Stay tuned. Area Coordinator, Clyde James will be working with the chapters on this project.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR.... NOVEMBER 1-4, 2001

LOUISVILLE, KY. for the PDK INTERNATIONAL LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL



KAPPANS LEARN ABOUT ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY.

The February 2001 UK-PDK meeting was organized around the topic "ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLIC EDUCATION (What is it and what does it do?)." Carol Moffett, Resource Specialist in Assistive Technology for the Fayette County Public Schools provided the group attending the meeting with an opportunity to see and "try out" a variety of assistive technology devices. Included were electronic switches (amazing what you can do with those things), alternative input devices (keyboards, speech recognition, and trackballs), text readers (both for on-screen text and self-contained readers), and customizable teaching devices.

Carol, who was initiated into the UK chapter last summer, has completed the master's in assistive technology at UK. She is an experienced teacher, and an active participant on the District Technology Coordinators listserv. As a result, her talk was authoritative, practical, and technologically savvy.

In addition to a great program, it was quite interesting to meet at the Fayette County Central Office. Many of us have been there in the past, but it is always fun to get into a new environment.

Carla Beranek chose Magee's Bakery (across the street from the Board office) for refreshments, and we all enjoyed a truly delectable repast.

**TUESDAY, MAY 8, 7PM
 SPRING AWARDS CEREMONY,
 NEW MEMBER INITIATION,
 AND END-OF-THE-YEAR
 SOCIAL.**

**UK FACULTY CLUB
 510 ROSE STREET
 (PARKING AVAILABLE)**

What is The Legislative Council, Anyway??

The Phi Delta Kappa legislative council replaced the biennial council and became the legislative body of Phi Delta Kappa International in November 1996. Among the business actions of the council are adoption of the budget to support PDK's program for the next two years and fixing international dues. The 3rd Legislative Council will be held in Louisville, KY, in fall 2001.

Members of the legislative council include the area coordinators and Board of Directors. Past international presidents also attend as non-voting members. The area coordinators serve as the legislative representatives of the chapters that elected them at the district conference. As such, area coordinators are responsible for reviewing with chapter leaders the legislation coming before the legislative council and the legislation passed by the council.

Election of the international president-elect and vice president also occurs at the legislative council. Council members vote on the finalists selected by chapter ballot in a primary election held the previous spring. Candidates for international president-elect and vice presidents are nominated by delegates at the district conference.

WHY SHOULD UK-PDK MEMBERS WANT TO ATTEND THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN LOUISVILLE?

In addition to being a governance meeting, the legislative council is also a great party. It's a place to learn about all of the services of PDK International, and to meet the people that we read about in the Kappan and "News Notes and Quotes." Also, it will be a chance for all of us in Kentucky to work together to help make this council a success

KENTUCKIANS IN THE KAPPAN

Congratulations to Dr. Liz Spalding, Assistant Professor in Curriculum and Instruction AND UK-PDK member, for the publication of her article, Performance assessment and the new standards project: A story of serendipitous success. Kappan, 81, 758-764

Also, Dr. Tom Gusky, Professor of Education at the University of Kentucky has an article in the March, 2001 Kappan, 82, 534-536, "High percentages are not the same as high standards."



INTRODUCING NEW MEMBERS INITIATED ON DECEMBER 15, 2000

Vice-president for Membership, Cathy Bell announces the initiation of the following new members:

Robert "Jake" Bell Jake is Principal at Henry Clay High School in Fayette County

Kristine S. Jolivette Kristine is an Assistant Professor in Special Education at the University of Kentucky

Michelle Lee McAlpin Michelle is an upper primary teacher at Veteran's Park Elementary in Fayette County

Joan M. Mazur Joan is an Assistant Professor in Instructional Technology at the University of Kentucky

Amy B. McVey Amy is a Professional Staff Assistant at Veteran's Park Elementary in Fayette County

NEXT OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A MEMBER

The next opportunity to join Phi Delta Kappa's UK chapter will be on Tuesday, May 8. If you wish to sponsor a candidate or if an educator wishes to self-nominate, use the membership form included with this newsletter. It costs \$60.00 for regular initiation. This includes \$45.00 PDK dues, \$10.00 local chapter dues, and \$5.00 initiation fee.

Contact Cathy Bell at cbell@fayette.k12.ky.us, ((859) 381-3161) to begin the membership process.

BEEN TO THE WEB LATELY?

Your intrepid newsletter editor, Gary Schroeder, has been checking out the Phi Delta Kappa web site to see how the development process is going. He reports that the change from a year ago is phenomenal!

How many Kappans keep their PDK publications at the ready-to-use-status when needed in that discussion with legislators, parents, community leaders, etc? If you sometimes have a problem "laying your hands" on these gems of information, worry no more! The PDK website <http://www.pdkintl.org> has it all. The following publications are now ON LINE.

News, Notes, & Quotes, the association's newsletter, is distributed to each member. It carries information about chapter activities and members, and alerts members to Phi Delta Kappa's diverse program offerings.

Washington Newsletter -- The purpose of this newsletter is to provide Kappans with information on issues related to U.S. education policy and the major education bills before the U.S. Congress.

Research Bulletins -- These summaries of current research and issues in education are provided free as a service of the Center for Evaluation, Development, and Research.

FastFacts is a series of publications providing reliable information on education topics related to the future of the public schools. It is published in a brief, easy-to-read format so that educators can be effective participants in this critical debate.

2000 Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll This is one of the most authoritative polls on the state of education in the United States available. When you want to rebut those media numbers... this is the place to turn.

*The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in the moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy. -
Martin Luther King, Jr.*

20-20 Status....

Linda Holbrook, our PDK Foundation Representative tells us that we are just a few member contributions short to make 20-20 status. Send in a check made out to Phi Delta Kappa Foundation to Linda Holbrook at 609 Summershade Cir, Lexington, KY 40502. Support the foundation and keep our chapter at 20/20 status!