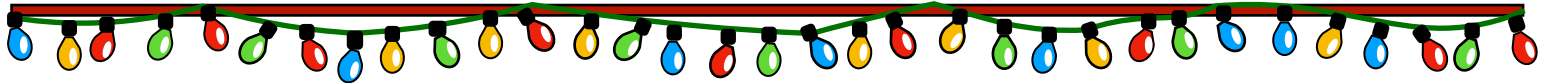


GAMMA PHI GAZETTE



December 2020
Volume 54, Issue 6

Ohio State Organization
Editor, Katie Gantz



Upcoming Dates & Deadlines

January 9

Speaker: Kelly Moore
Organizing & Decluttering
Your Home

The meeting flyer and ZOOM link will be sent via email several weeks prior to the meeting date.



We plan to continue to adjust our meetings and programs based on the status of COVID-19 in our area. Please save the following dates of our upcoming meetings on your calendars and we will provide more specific information as it becomes available:

February 13
March 13

Happy Birthday Wishes To:

- Meier Bauer December 16
- Diana Haskell December 20

Happy Holidays

A poem my students have recently read is called “No!” by Thomas Hood. It lists things that NOVember does not have—flowers, sunshine, warmth, etc. This year November has been a time of NO’s and sadness. But December brings a sense of hope with homes decorated for the seasons, greetings through cards, calls, or virtual, and the first snowfall.

May we all enjoy the holiday season with love for family and friends, a sense of wonder and awe, and a hope for a better year to come. Have a happy, safe, and healthy holiday.

Take care and stay healthy.
Helen

Update on the Foster Care Project

I talked with Kathy Teitelman, Gamma Eta, about our Foster Care Project. Kathy is head of the coordinated effort of the local chapters.

I think you all know that Travina Adams has taken a new job within the JFS organization and a new person is our liaison for the project.

Travina had requested more chairs for the foster care room but unfortunately Ikea no longer carries that chair. Kathy has reached out to the new liaison for ideas and for supplies that need to be replenished. She hasn’t heard anything just yet. I’m sure with a new position and the Covid pandemic things can be more complicated within the system. Kathy will keep us up to date when she hears from the liaison.

Mary Jo Berry

In Memoriam

JoAnne Jones

1938-2020



Initiated into Gamma Phi
Chapter in 1997

We will have a memorial service for
Jo Anne at an upcoming chapter meeting.

Those who desire may make a donation to the
Alzheimer's Association or another charity of
their choice.

A short graveside service will be held on
Friday, December 4, 2020 at 2:00 PM at the
Oak Hill Cemetery in Springdale. Masks and
social distancing are required.

Condolences may be left at
www.springgrove.org.



December Feature Member

Jane Orth



My entry into a career as an educator did not follow the typical route. After graduating from high school, I attended Xavier University and majored in business earning a B.S.B.A. – Industrial Relations, summa cum laude, degree.

My first career led me to NCR in Dayton, OH, where I was a personnel generalist with a variety of responsibilities including hiring, compensation and benefits, training, and the role of personnel liaison with the regional and district sales managers. I loved my role in training, but it was only a small chunk of my job. I became burned out on what I refer to as the “corporate rate race and busting my behind putting in long hours to help a corporation generate a profit”. I wanted something I felt had greater meaning and purpose.

In my mid-thirties I decided to change careers and was accepted into the charter class of Xavier University’s Occupational Therapy program. Being that it was the first OT program in the region, the make-up of students was unique; 28 of 34 of us were career changers already having

... continued on page 3

... feature member continued from page 2

a bachelor's or master's degree in a different field of study and related work experience. Due to a condition in which classmates were unable to obtain student loans for a second bachelor's level program, the dean of the education department provided an option in which we could also take graduate level education courses and earn a Master of Education – Administration degree. Although I earned the M.Ed. while completing the occupational therapy program, I had no thoughts of working in education; then I had what some would call a twist of fate, but what I refer to as God's plan for my life. Since OT was a developing program that would not be certified until a certain percentage of my class passed the National Occupational Therapy Certification Exam, the department chair determined our fieldwork placements (similar to student teaching) would be in the two classic domains of OT: Physical disabilities and Psychosocial disabilities. I completed the first placement and was supposed to go to a facility in Reno, NV, for the second, but in the eleventh hour the Reno placement fell through. Our fieldwork coordinator had to scramble to find an alternate placement and looked to other settings, ultimately resulting in my fieldwork placement in school-based occupational therapy at Lakota Local Schools. If not for that experience, I probably never would have considered working in the school-setting.

Fast forward, I passed the OT certification exam and accepted a position with Hamilton County Educational Service Center. I have been with HCESC for 23 years, most of which was spent in the Northwest school district and more recently the Winton Woods school district. During this time I have worked with students across the grade range from preschool through high school with my first love being preschool. Remote learning during the pandemic has been especially challenging and frustrating with the preschool population because so much of what I do is hands-on.

Outside of school I enjoy outdoor activities (hiking, kayaking, bicycling, and tending to my perennial garden), church activities, playing with my dogs, and Xavier basketball . . . Go Muskies! I reside in Middletown with my 88 year-old mom and two canines, both of which (the dogs, not my mom 😊) are rescues. The photo of me is pre-COVID, therefore unmasked, with Maizey the corndog.

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy to Linda Ausman and her family following the sudden passing of her husband Chuck.

Sincerely,
The Ladies of Gamma Phi Chapter



Handy links to our chapter's website and social media platforms:

<https://gammaphiohio.weebly.com/index.html>
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2358967190829279>