

# GAMMA PHI GAZETTE



November 2021  
Volume 55, Issue 5

Ohio State Organization  
Editor, Katie Gantz

## November Chapter Meeting Details:



### DKG - Gamma Phi

November 13, 2021  
10:30 AM

## Dragonfly Foundation - A Journey in Courage and Learning



Hauk Mansion  
506 Oak St.  
513-494-6474



Join us for a tour and information about the Dragonfly Foundation. Box lunches for \$15 provided by Jimmy John's. Options are:

Country Club,  
Veggie,

Italian Night Club.

RSVP with lunch choice by 11/8/21 to Jane Houser,  
housja@gmail.com,  
513-519-6205

Masks are optional at this time

## Upcoming Dates & Deadlines

### November 13

Dragonfly Tour  
Hauk House, 505 Oak St.

### December

Chapter Holiday Party  
To be discussed at November meeting

### January 8

Lost Tea Rooms of Cincinnati  
DeShas Restaurant

## Happy Birthday Wishes To:

- Sue Eades November 18
- Diana Klenk November 21
- Janet Todd November 22

## November meeting lunch options:

- **Country Club** - turkey, ham and cheese
- **Veggie** - double cheese, avocado spread, cucumbers
- **Italian Night Club** - salami, capicola ham, cheese, onions, oil and vinegar



Each box lunch also comes with a dill pickle, chips and a cookie.

We will provide iced tea and water.

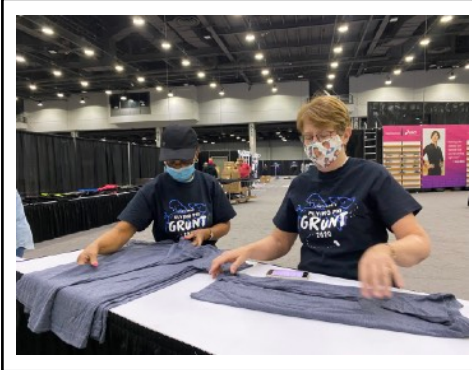
## A Flying Pig Thank You

Dear Gamma Phi Sisters,

By the time you read this the 2021 Flying Pig will be history.

I want to thank all of you who volunteered to work at the event.

Needless to say it was somewhat of a challenge this year with new people, new procedures and communication issues.



Carol recruited 2 friends to help out!

Brand gave four days notice as to when they could use our help. Three of our ladies could arrange their schedules to accommodate those times. Thanks to Diane Heilmann, Jane Houser and Margaret Murph. I'm sure more of you would have helped being given more time.

Whatever the outcome this year, we gave our best to accomplish our mission which was to contribute money to our scholarship fund.

Again, thank you for giving your time for a very worthy cause.

Best regards to all.

Sue



## Care, Concern and Congrats Corner



- Katrinka is happy to report that she completed her twenty radiation treatments on Wednesday, October 27, 2021. As of now, she has had minimal side effects from the radiation. She will begin taking an estrogen blocking medication soon to assist her body in fighting the cancer.
- Diana Haskell is having hip replacement surgery on November 16th.
- Sue Eades recently took a fall and broke her wrist. Despite her injury, she continues to be as active as always, even doing her part at the Flying Pig setup day with the others from our chapter.

Happy Thanksgiving wishes to  
all our Gamma Phi members and  
their families and friends.



## Zoom Meeting about STRS with Dean Dennis

Where do I begin? Perhaps at the end. We all need to get involved to solve the mismanagement of our STRS funds. This is not only for retired teachers, but all who will be retiring but are still working now.

A lot has been said about retired teachers not getting a COLA as was promised in our defined benefit retirement plan. There hasn't been a COLA since 2017. STRS was to reevaluate it for 2022. NOTHING HAS BEEN SETTLED as of today 10/23/2021. Out of the 5 state pension programs, STRS is the only one not giving a COLA.



The bigger picture is the lack of transparency in how the funds are being invested and used. There were a lot of figures and projections that didn't sound too good. When STRS is audited using an outside agency, they supply all the data. So STRS looks great!

Mr. Siedle was hired by the Ohio Retired Teachers' Association (ORTA), which had independently raised \$75,000 to fund its own audit of STRS books and practices to see if what they'd been told about the fund's current and projected health are true.

They found some interesting facts that are misrepresented in the STRS audit. "One of these errors is costing more than 1/2 million dollars that should be in the STRS fund." This report was brought to the State Auditor and FINALLY they are doing a thorough audit.

The best way to stay on top of this is to read information on the watchdog web site; <https://www.strsohiowatchdogs.com> and their Facebook page.

Also, support is needed to have ORTA (Ohio Retired Teachers Association) continue to bring these matters forward to the STRS board. It is only \$35 a year for a retired teacher and \$10 for a current teacher. (FYI —OEA has not been helping with this!)

This entire zoom call was recorded if you are interested in more details, I hope this is made available before this newsletter is printed. If not, it will be emailed to you later.

Carol Ladrigan



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

[Link to Gamma Phi Chapter's Website](#)  
[Link to Gamma Phi Chapter's Facebook Page](#)  
[Link to Gamma Phi Scholarship Forms](#)