ALPHA DELTA STATE OHIO EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Foundation Matters

A publication of the Alpha Delta State Ohio Educational Foundation

Ohio State Organization
Delta Kappa Gamma Society

ADSOEF - funding the future of excellence in education

Volume 5 | Issue 11 May 15, 2026 Cathy Tenney, Editor



A Word or Two from the Board…

Greetings with Gratitude!

It was a delight to see and meet many of you at the May 2, 2026, OHSO Spring Executive Board Meeting! It was wonderful to share with you the successes of your Foundation during the ADSOEF Annual Meeting.

If you missed the meeting, the 2025-2026 Foundation Report for the Annual Meeting will be posted on the website adsoef.org. Five directors were elected: Lona Bowman, Sue Samoviski, Hannah Fairbanks, Dr. Lois Harkins, and Chris Snoddy. See more details below.

All of you have showered the Foundation with generous donations of time, talent, and funds. $78,500 has been awarded to members and nonmembers in grants, scholarships, and fellowships this year. In the 2026-2027 Budget, the Board of Directors was able to increase the income and expenses by more than $41,000. Most notably, ADSOEF has over $1,000,000 in assets due to your generosity and to favorable investments. WOW! This amazing achievement has been a group effort you have helped create.

Do you know someone who teaches technology classes? Does your chapter have a website? Do you know someone who can use Weebly or is willing to learn? No candidates for the open webmaster position have been identified, so please, please, help suggest people who might consider taking this position!

With thankfulness,
Chris Snoddy
The ADSOEF Board of Directors



THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

You have added many Colors of Hope and Helped us Paint a Brighter Future.

The Fundraising Committee members are overflowing with gratitude to all of you who donated to the Birthday Luncheon and bought raffle tickets. The raffle earned $618, and the Birthday Luncheon contributions raised $2,214. This made a grand total of $2,832!

The fundraising figures from July 1, 2025, through April 30, 2026, were $37,451.46. When the donations from May 2 were added, they equaled $40,283.46. Even if you deduct the generous gift of $20,000 from Beta Lambda, this far surpasses the Fundraising Committee's goal of $14,000.88! We cannot thank you enough for all your generosity to ADSOEF!

These contributions continue to bring bursts of color to our palette, promising to help **fund the future of excellence in education**! Each paint splatter and colorful brushstroke brings hope and light to the lives of educators and their students!

Charlene Greene, Delta Mu
Annie Zahradnik, Gamma Theta
Holly Buente, Gamma Pi, Co-Chairman
Barb Zirke, Alpha Psi, Co-Chairman

Pictured below are some of the raffle winners with their baskets and prizes. Congratulations to all the winners!

1) Judy Szabo won the gardening basket.
2) Pat Cermak won the mystery gift.
3) Sue Samoviski won the purse that Dr. Lois Harkins brought from Ghana.
4) Janet Kidd won the OSU lamp.
5) Nancy Shuster won flowers and lottery tickets.
6) Dr. Lois Harkins will enjoy wine and chocolate treats.
7) Ana Kitts won the Feel-Good Gifts.
8) Lyndi Ross will truly be a Bobcat now.

9) Then, Lyndi generously shared her bounty with a DKG sister who had wanted to win that basket!

Winners not pictured are Barb Dolan won the Pet Palooza; Lona Bowman won the white pendant and Marlene Vorherr won the blue pendant.



















THANK YOU FOR THE GRANT!
From Amelia Woollard



Receiving the Esther H. Strickland Student Teaching Grant allowed me to fully focus on my student teaching experience and my growth as an educator. I am incredibly grateful for this opportunity and for the experiences that have helped shape me into a more confident and prepared teacher.

In the beginning of my fieldwork, I was nervous and unsure of my abilities. Taking on responsibilities such as planning lessons, managing the classroom, and keeping up with grading felt overwhelming at first. However, over time, my confidence grew as I gained more experience and became more comfortable in my role.

I have developed a better understanding of how to manage a classroom while also building meaningful relationships with students. I have learned that creating a supportive and respectful environment plays a key role in student engagement and success. I have also grown in my ability to adapt instruction, respond to student needs, and reflect on my teaching.

The support and guidance I received during this experience helped me build the confidence needed to take on the responsibilities of my own classroom. I am truly grateful for this experience.

I would like to thank my parents for their constant support, my mentor teacher for her guidance and encouragement, and my professors and clinical educator for helping me grow throughout this process. This experience has strengthened my confidence, increased my desire to pursue a career in education, and prepared me to support future students in their learning.



FIVE DIRECTORS WERE ELECTED TO THE ADSOEF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Two nominees were elected for two-year terms (2026-2028):



Lona Bowman, Delta Kappa, is a retired educator from the Dayton area. The majority of Lona's educational career was at Miami Valley Career Technology Center, and she served as an adjunct in the School of Education and Health Sciences at the University of Dayton.

She also worked in the Chillicothe City Schools with orthopedically handicapped students, was a graduate assistant in the Reading Center at Bowling Green State University, taught Title 1 Reading in the Cory-Rawson Local Schools and taught Adult Literacy and ESL.

Lona currently serves on the Educational Services Committee for ADSOEF and will add a wealth of knowledge to the Board of Directors.



Susan (Sue) Samoviski, Chi, is a retired educator living in Butler County. She taught art from elementary school through the college level for thirty years. She has served in several leadership roles in her chapter.

This will be Sue's second term as an ADSOEF Director. She currently serves as the Educational Services Committee Chairman, and as a lovely thank-you note writer for the Donor Relations Committee.

Three nominees were elected for three-year terms (2026-2029):



Hannah Fairbanks, Gamma Theta, is a retired educator who taught for 39 years. She was the instructor for the Early Childhood Career Tech Program and Director of the Red Raider Preschool of Painesville City Local Schools. After retiring, she taught at Lake Erie College for 10 years.

This will be Hannah's second term as an ADSOEF Director. She currently served as the Nominating Committee Chairman, and as a member of the Finance Committee.



Dr. Lois Harkins, Alpha Lambda, is a retired educator. Her experience ranges from teaching fifth grade through graduate school at two Athens County school districts, a private college, and Ohio University. During her teaching career, she taught health, physical education, life skills, and intervention, among other things. She also is a Hospice volunteer and a Presbyterian Church Deacon.

This will be Dr. Harkins third and final term as an ADSOEF Director, and she currently serves as the ADSOEF Treasurer.



Christine (Chris) Snoddy, Alpha Lambda, is a retired educator who taught sixth grade for 35 years in the Trimble Local Schools, Athens County. She held several officer positions in TLTA, serves on two church committees, and is also the president of her chapter.

This will be Chris's third and final term as an ADSOEF Director, and she currently serves as the ADSOEF Board Chairman.



Opening for a New Webmaster

Due to the retirement announcement by Eileen McNally, the current webmaster, the ADSOEF Board of Directors (BOD) is searching for someone to provide the services of a webmaster beginning July 1, 2026. Eileen's contract ends on June 30, 2026, and she has indicated that she will not be renewing it. However, she will be available to mentor and train the new webmaster for the remainder of 2026.

The main responsibility of the webmaster is to maintain and update the ADSOEF website. Currently, this includes, but is not limited to, Weebly for the website and Jotform for the applications. Experience with Weebly and Jotform is preferred, but anyone willing to learn and work with these platforms is welcome to apply. The contract is for one fiscal year from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2026, with a stipend of $500.00 for the year.

Please consider helping ADSOEF keep the website updated, accurate, and user friendly! It greatly impacts the Foundation's ability to raise funds, attract donors, advertise opportunities, and allow people to apply for scholarships, fellowships, awards, and grants.

Contact Chris Snoddy at **ckvs@sprynet.com** with any questions.





Alpha Delta State Ohio Educational Foundation

April 2026 Donors

Anonymous
In honor of Carol Schortgen

Beta Lambda Chapter

Beta Psi Chapter

Beta Psi Chapter

Carolyn Forrest
In honor of Delta Theta Chapter

Carolyn Forrest
In honor of Lois Harkins

Dr. Norma Kirby

Dr. Norma Kirby

Gamma Iota Chapter

Lona P. Bowman

Into the Future. . .Important Dates to Remember!

May 18, 2026
ADSOEF Board of Directors Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

May 20, 2026
ADSOEF Fundraising Committee Meeting @ 4:30 p.m.

May 27, 2026
ADSOEF Personnel Committee Meeting @ 1:00 p.m.

June 1, 2026
ADSOEF Governance Committee Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.

June 15, 2026
ADSOEF Board of Directors Meeting @ 7:00 p.m.

Foundation *Directors*

Holly Buente, Gamma Pi
2025-2026

Hannah Fairbanks, Gamma Theta
2024-2026

Dr. Lois Harkins, Alpha Lambda
2024-2026
Treasurer

Diana Kirkpatrick, Alpha Delta
2025-2027

Sue Loader, Alpha Psi
2025-2028
Vice Chairman

Linda Reeves, Alpha Delta
2025-2028

Sue Samoviski, Chi
2024-2026

Tammy Schroeder, Beta Eta
2025-2027
Secretary

Christine (Chris) Snoddy, Alpha Lambda
2024-2026
Chairman

Annie Zahradnick, Gamma Theta
2025-2027

Dr. Molly Helmlinger, Beta Kappa
2025-2027
OHSO President
Ex-officio Ohio State Organization Liaison

Dr. Norma K. Kirby, Alpha Delta
ADSOEF Registered Statutory Agent

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funding the future of excellence in education

Contribution Form

- Please use a separate contribution form if you are making more than one donation.
- A contribution acknowledgement will be sent in honor or in memory of the person designated below.
- Contributions or bequests are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.
- Checks should be made payable to Alpha Delta State Ohio Educational Foundation (ADSOEF) and should be mailed with this form to:

Dr. Lois Harkins
12 N. Shafer Street
Athens, OH 45701-2303

Date: _____ Amount: _____

Cash (In-person only) Check #_____ (Please Circle)

This contribution is designated for:

____The programs of Alpha Delta State Educational Foundation (without restriction)

____Educational Projects Fund (Classroom/School/Community)

____ International Studies Fund (A. Margaret Boyd)

____ Student Teacher Grant Fund (Esther H. Strickland)

____Jane Brundige Stein Scholarship Fund

____ Scholarship Fund (Annie Webb Blanton)

____ Leadership Fund

____ Lifelong Learning Fund

_____Florence L. Woodward Scholarship Fund

Donor Information (name of individual, chapter, or group)

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone_____

Email_____

_____ I wish to remain anonymous.

In MEMORY OF or IN HONOR OF (circle one)

Name _____

Contact Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Donations can also be made by visiting adsoef.org and donating online using PayPal or a credit card.

Alpha Delta State Ohio Educational Foundation 10/23