

Founders' Day Remembered

Reimagined by: Annie Brindle & Karen Gibson 2025

NARRATOR: The presentation you are about to see is historical fiction. It is based on facts, but the actual words are those that our Founders might have said as they met. It is factual that they almost always were dressed in hats, gloves and furs and came in marching in a row. They also always wore long formals for installations and other special occasions. We now present Founders' Day Remembered.

MARIE: (Marches in in/ fur, hat and gloves and sits at small table)

AGNES: (Comes in, disgustedly. She is dressed the same as Marie.)

MARIE: What is it Agnes? You look frustrated.

AGNES: I am, I really am. I just told my principal I was thinking about becoming a principal and he patted me on the head and asked why I might want to do that. Although women make up the majority of teachers we just don't get the respect we deserve as educational leaders.

MARIE: I know. I've had similar experiences. We really need to do something about the situation. My husband, Thomas, has represented a book company and we found that although we presented seminars there was no follow-up.

AGNES: Yes, we need to organize as women. We need to train, educate and promote ourselves as serious women educators.

MARION: (comes in dressed the same) What are you two being so serious about?

MARIE: Agnes and I are just lamenting about the fact that we aren't really as respected in our profession as we should be and are considering organizing formally . . . maybe kind of like a sorority of sisters supporting each other.

MARION: That's a really good idea. I think we should and right away.

AGNES: If we do we need to have a plan and organize carefully.

MARIE: Yes, we will need a charter. Agnes, you're good at organizing and administrating. Will you write up a draft and we'll meet to refine it?

AGNES: Yes, M'll be glad to, but let's do some further planning. Let's design a pin ... no, "badge" is a better word to identify us. Any ideas?

MARION : How about using columns? Most colleges and universities use columns to represent knowledge.

AGNES: Good idea What about adding pearls to represent wisdom?

MARIE: Since the center of wisdom is associated with Greece maybe we should use some Greek gods as educational symbols ...no, goddesses. How about three columns and three goddesses and pick one whose name is hard to pronounce so it will sound more intellectual.

AGNES: We need a flower. Maybe one that is a woman's name.

MARIE: Lily?

MARION: Rose?

MARIE: Daisy?

AGNES: How about the violet? The color purple is very regal.

MARIE & MARION: (both nod) Good idea

MARIE: We've done a lot of planning, but we haven't even considered a name.

AGNES: As a sorority of women maybe we should use a Greek name. Why don't we use the name Alpha Delta Kappa and then we can use the Greek alphabet to name new chapters as they are organized.

AGNES: Marie, if you do the executive-treasurer's work, and Marion, you be first vice president, then I will serve as president and work with expansion and membership. We could also ask Hattie Poppino to join us and she would be a wonderful chaplain.

Scene II-Several Years Later -

All three are seated around the table.

AGNES: Here comes Margaret Orlich. Margaret, it is a great honor for you to be elected as our Grand President. When you are installed at our international assembly, remember our important traditions.

MARGARET: Yes, everyone knows that this is a very solemn occasion. I have brought my formal and know the other officers will too.

AGNES: I will be doing the installing reminding all our members of the importance of our organization. We are already giving a great deal of money for scholarships and other important altruistic projects.

MARGARET: Yes, I'm very proud to represent our sorority and the things we do for women educators and projects for youth. And Agnes, you are such an inspirational leader

Someday there might even be a violet named after you. (Everyone laughs).

AGNES: I am so glad I was one of the Founders of Alpha Delta Kappa. I'm always inspired when we close our gatherings with our theme song, "The Lamp of ADK" written by our own Southalls. (Turns to Marion) Thank you and your son for this wonderful song.

MARGARET: I'm sure with the ideals you Founders have set for us we will grow and continue to grow, not only in the United States, but in other countries also; and every year we will celebrate Founders' Day.

Sing- "The Lamp of ADK"