Upcoming Events

Spring Fling featuring a lecture by Past DCPBK President Andy Steigman

**What:** Annual welcome-spring event  
**When:** Saturday, April 1, 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
**Who:** All local Phi Beta Kappa members and friends  
**Where:** The spectacular home of Eddie and Rachel Eitches at Old Chesterbrook Road, McLean, VA. Directions below.  
**How:** RSVP by March 25 to [http://www.dcpbk.org/Events/352](http://www.dcpbk.org/Events/352).  
**Cost:** This is a potluck, as usual, plus a $5.00 donation (cash) to cover beverages and incidental expenses.

**Andy Steigman**, a DCPBK Past President, and an Associate Dean in the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University, is a world traveler and travel expert. His illustrated talk will focus on “**The Baltic States: A Rich History Indeed**,” which is quite timely in light of Mr. Putin’s recent aggressiveness in that part of the world. And it’s always fun to visit the Eitches, whose home is not only spacious, but an international art gallery.

**Directions:**  
Take the G.W. Parkway to the exit for Route 123, going toward McLean.  
Get to the left *immediately*, and take a quick left onto Kirby Road (the first intersection).  
Go a couple miles to the light where Kirby crosses Old Dominion Drive (the first light); just after the overpass, take the first right onto Old Chesterbrook Road. **Old Chesterbrook** will be the house after you pass a small garden in the middle of the road at the intersection with 6th Place. Street parking is available, but carpooling would be a very good idea. Any questions or problems, call 703-790-9187.

**YP St. Patrick's Day Happy Hour Rescheduled**

**When:** Tuesday, March 29th, 6:30pm-8:00pm (new date)  
**Where:** Fado Irish Pub, 808 7th St, Washington, DC 20001  
**Who:** Young Professionals Network  
**What:** Come celebrate St. Patrick’s Day (a bit late because of the weather) and the arrival of Spring with the **DC PBK Young Professionals Network** at Fado Irish Pub! You’re welcome to stop by for any length...
of time. Fado is located less than one block from the Gallery Place/Chinatown metro stop on the corner of 7th and H streets.

Due to the late snowstorm, we have rescheduled the St. Patrick's Day/Spring Happy Hour with the Young Professionals Network. Fado Irish Pub has generously agreed to extend Happy Hour deals for our group until 8:00pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

To learn more about Fado, please click here: [http://www.fadoirishpub.com/washington/happy-hour](http://www.fadoirishpub.com/washington/happy-hour).
To RSVP for the event, please click here: [http://www.dcpbk.org/Events/349](http://www.dcpbk.org/Events/349)

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**Recent Events**

**Visit to the new National Museum of African American History and Culture**

On Saturday, February 25, some 30 DCPBK members spent a fascinating morning at the new National Museum of African-American History and Culture (NMAAHC) on February 25, most of whom gained admission thanks to the efforts of Deirdre LaPin in arranging a group ticket for the Association. Once inside, members were on their own, making their way slowly through the three below-ground levels chronicling African-American history and then on to the upper floors with additional exhibits, most notably the topmost floor, with a superb presentation on African-American culture, from music and literature to an excellent art gallery. The history presentation on the lower levels proved particularly moving, as it follows the African-American experience from slavery and discrimination to the civil rights movement and beyond. This is a museum that deserves to be seen by all DCPBK members—and it will require more than one visit to fully absorb all that it has to offer.

**Orchids at the Hirshhorn!**

On Saturday, March 18, about two dozen Phi Betes and friends sloughed off the last winter ice and ventured into the sun for a second spring at the Hirshhorn/Botanical Garden’s stunning exhibit “Orchids, a Moment.” Displayed in a huge wall-length bookcase opposite the museum entrance, the hundred delicate plants were framed each in its own cubicle like the works of art they truly are. In thrall with the blooms, out came everyone’s smart phones and cameras to freeze the precious “moments” with a frenzy of clicks … selfies with slipper orchids, goofy husbands cavorting with cattleyas, friends admiring phalaenopsis, a group portrait rimmed with blooms. It was a welcome moment of tropical exuberance after a hellish, stormy week. Thank you DCPBK for returning nature’s incomparable beauty to our iced-dulled lives. – Deirdre LaPin
Regular Events

Book Club Meetings

The book club met on Tuesday, February 28th at Nagomi Izakaya to discuss The Violent Bear It Away by Flannery O'Connor. The first classic of our Spring series, this dark and unrelenting novel explores family ties, religion, and destiny in the mid-20th century American South. Members discussed the text's themes of fate and perspective, as well as its prominent religious symbolism and allegorical narrative.

In March 28th, 2017 the book club will meet at Nagomi Izakaya at 7:00pm to discuss A Gentleman in Moscow by Amor Towles. All attendees are encouraged to bring any books they're looking to clean out, to see if we can find them new homes with our members.

Selections for Spring 2017

Here are the rest of our selections for the spring months; I've tried to assign books to months based on alternating page lengths, per feedback from the group:

April: The Martian Chronicles by Ray Bradbury, 256 pp., Classic
May: The White Road: Journey Into an Obsession by Edmund de Waal, 401 pp., Nonfiction
June: Commonwealth by Ann Patchett, 336 pp., Fiction

Kate Hannon is our Book Club Coordinator; you can reach her at bookclub@dcpbk.org.

Announcements

Open Volunteer Position
Fundraising Coordinator
The DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association seeks a Fundraising Coordinator to help focus and renew our fundraising goals, to organize a potential fundraising campaign, and to manage any fundraising campaigns with which we decide to move forward. A detailed description of the position can be found by visiting www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions. To apply, please send your resume and a statement of interest to volunteer@dcpbk.org.

Board Meetings

Meetings of the DC PBK Executive Board are open to all members in good standing. The next meeting will take place on Saturday, April TBD from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at the PBK Society headquarters, 1606 New Hampshire Avenue, NW (just two blocks from the Dupont Circle Metro’s Q Street exit).

Find Us on Social Media!
Please be sure to “Like” the new DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association page on Facebook to follow our updates! You can also find us on LinkedIn, and follow us on our Twitter page at @DCPhiBetaKappa!
DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Board

2016-2017 Officers
PRESIDENT: Elizabeth Marshall (Lawrence University, 2009)
1ST VICE-PRESIDENT: Paul Lubliner (University of Oregon, 2006)
2ND VICE-PRESIDENT/PROGRAM COORDINATOR:
   Carol Bontempo (University of Connecticut, 1962)
SECRETARY: Dan Rosenberg (George Washington University, 2014)
TREASURER: Pat Cascio (Denison University, 1969)

Executive Committee Members
Mary Fay (American University, 2012) – Past Second Vice President
Chelsea Rubin (Arizona State University, 2011)
Eleanor Hudson (Auburn University, 2015)
David MacDonald (University of Chicago, 2009) — Immediate Past President
Sarah A. Neely (Indiana University, 2009) – Mentorship Program Manager
Kathryn A. Sullivan (University of South Carolina, 2012) — High School Awards Chair

Advisory Council
Deirdre LaPin (Agnes Scott College, 1967) — Past Vice-President
Christel G. McDonald (George Washington University, 1986) — Past President
Andy Steigman (Princeton University, 1954) — Past President