



# THE D.C. AREA

## PHI BETA KAPPA ASSOCIATION

Founded on December 6, 1913

[www.dcpbk.org](http://www.dcpbk.org)

### NEWSLETTER

[suggestions@dcpbk.org](mailto:suggestions@dcpbk.org)

March 2017

Connect with DC PBK Online!

"Like" the new DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association page and follow us on Twitter at [@DCPhiBetaKappa](https://twitter.com/DCPhiBetaKappa)!

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## 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>.

**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 6<sup>th</sup> Place. Street parking is available, but carpooling would be a very good idea. Any questions or problems, call [703-790-9187](tel: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.

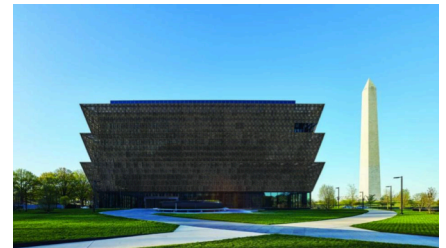
Due to the late snowstorm, we have rescheduled the St. Patrick's Day/Spring Happy Hour with the Young Professionals Network. Fado Irish Pub has generously agreed to extend Happy Hour deals for our group until 8:00pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

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

## Recent Events

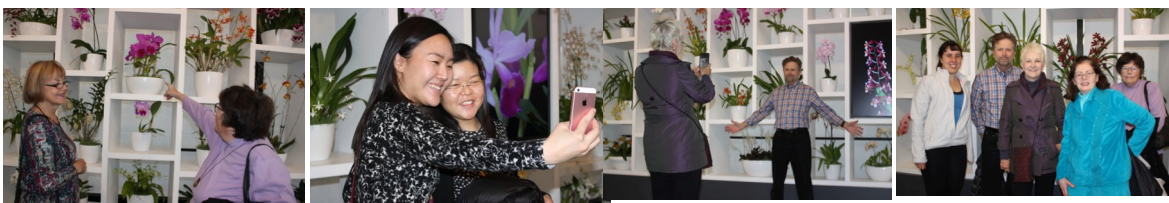
### Visit to the new National Museum of African American History and Culture

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 ice-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](mailto: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](http://www.dcpbk.org/volunteer-positions). To apply, please send your resume and a statement of interest to [volunteer@dcpbk.org](mailto: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).



From our January Board Meeting

### Find Us on Social Media!

Please be sure to "Like" the new [DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Association](https://www.facebook.com/DCPhiBetaKappa) page on Facebook to follow our updates! You can also find us on LinkedIn, and follow us on our Twitter page at [@DCPhiBetaKappa](https://twitter.com/DCPhiBetaKappa)!

## **DC Area Phi Beta Kappa Board**

### **2016-2017 Officers**

**PRESIDENT: Elizabeth Marshall** (Lawrence University, 2009)

**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE-PRESIDENT: Paul Lubliner** (University of Oregon, 2006)

**2<sup>ND</sup> 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