



NEWSETTE

Leaders: Here, There, and Everywhere!

Do you consider yourself a leader? Have you stepped forward to encourage a new DKG member? Are you an effective communicator? Do you share your ideas? Can you be a team player? Do you hold yourself and others accountable? Have you been an inspiration to others? Do you feel confident? Are you committed to the ideals of Delta Kappa Gamma and the promotion of education? Do you find yourself being empathetic to the needs and desires of others? Would you like to support personal and professional growth?

If you answered “YES!” to one or more of these questions, you are a leader! You are a person who has potential to serve Delta Kappa Gamma at the chapter and state levels. The opportunity to lead our state in the advancement of our society is at your fingertips. Your efforts will be supported by the State Leadership Committee, past state presidents, and members in your chapter and throughout West Virginia. Support is an email, a phone call, or a website away. Collaboration is the key to success in DKG leadership.

A Rosie the Riveter said after she completed her work in an airplane factory during World War II, she joined the Coast Guard because of a sign that read,

“Uncle Sam Needs YOU!” **Delta Kappa Gamma needs YOU!** The opportunity to serve others and be a mentor to them is an experience filled with rich rewards.

New officers as well as a nominations committee will be elected at the West Virginia State Convention in April, 2021. Applications are being accepted through January 4, 2021. You can find the application for officers at the West Virginia State website, <http://www.dkgwv.org/>. Go to Committees, Society Business, Nominations Committee, and then click on the Nominations Form. After opening the form, click “enable editing” to be able to complete your application for an office or for the nominating committee. The application process can be completed online, or you may print the application and mail it. You may nominate yourself or have the application completed by a DKG member.

Should you have any questions, please contact **Rebecca Wilson, Nominations Committee Chair**, at rgwilson@suddenlink.net.

Nominations Committee 2019 – 2021

Rebecca G. Wilson (Phi), SE

Susan Hardy (Phi), SE

Mary Beth Cornell (Eta), NE

Karen Zinn (Alpha Epsilon), NW

**Save
the
Date**



**State Leadership
Nominations due
January 4**

**April 23 – 25 WV State
Convention in Charleston**

**July 21 – 24
International Convention
in San Antonio, TX**



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A Note from the President...

By Dr. Glenda Wait

Just like many, I was disappointed that no one would be going to Philadelphia for the DKG Convention. Rather than wallow in disappointment, I decided to immerse myself virtually, July 7-10. I cleared my calendar and logged in every day. Prior to the first day, I took part in two events I had been looking forward to attending. One was a meeting of state presidents and the other was a meeting of first-time international conference attendees.

We were promised four days of DKG programming modeled on a typical international convention. I wanted to feel the fatigue and adrenalin rush I always felt after several days of full programming. I even made it a point to purchase a Philadelphia pin. Once I was online, the chat box and my smart phone kept me connected to other DKG members. It was almost like being there.

I was caught up in an excellent presentation for creating new chapters. My take away is that much of what was shared can be used to strengthen and expand existing chapters. This presentation could be shown at a chapter meeting, discussed and an action plan developed. Our chapters can work together to find common interests to seek out new members, both active and retired.

Three new honorary members, Mary Sanchez, Marion Blumenthal Lazan, a concentration camp survivor, and Dolly Parton were recognized. Mary Sanchez has been a valued employee of DKG for fifty years and never thought she would be a DKG member. Marion Blumenthal Lazan is the author of Four Perfect Pebbles and presents her survival story to people throughout the world. Dolly Parton's Imagination Library is making a difference in literacy all over the United States. Her strong belief that education leads to better days is shared with all DKG members.

The workshop following the introduction of the new honorary members focused on the Imagination Library, started in 1995. Local chapters are encouraged to link with 501 C3 organizations to provide five books to children birth to age five each year.

Ideas were still swirling around in my head when key note speaker Olympia Lepoint inspired us to rewire our brains to create change. We were encouraged to recognize the power of the past and the present to look to the future. In an add-on presentation, Lepoint shared six decisions needed to overcome individual racism. These can be achieved by using science and innovative thinking. Examples of what needs to be done to move forward were shared.

As the convention drew to a close, I watched the International Achievement Award winner, Helen Popovich, react to winning. Then at the Installation Ceremony, Becky Sadowski accepted the challenge of leading DKG until 2022. I ended the week overwhelmed, but energized by possibilities. The virtual convention presentations will remain on line until July 2021. What a wonderful and unique experience!

Mentoring That Matters

By 2nd Vice President Vicki Jenkins

Mentoring can help retain DKG members. Most of us have had a mentor sometime in our life. It may have been a parent or other relative, a classmate, a co-worker, or someone who just took the time to offer guidance, give advice or show support of some type. When DKG sisters help new members it's a rewarding experience for both the seasoned and the new member.

According to the article "Keys to Successful Mentoring" in the Journal of Extension, December 2010 by Teresa Byingyon, "The keys to establishing a successful mentoring relationship include creating a relationship of trust, clearly defining roles and responsibilities establishing short and long-term goals, using open and supportive communication, and collaboratively solving problems". Taking the time and energy to mentor new members is well worth the investment.

Creating a nurturing environment while building relationships of trust is key. Clear and well-defined roles help new members navigate the opportunities and responsibilities of membership. Establishing goals helps new members see the benefits of membership. When members can openly communicate and collaboratively solve problems, the mentors and mentees experience growth and refine their leadership abilities.

Take time and share your knowledge, energy, and support with new members. You'll gain as much as they do and realize that mentoring does matter. Creating positive relationships through mentoring can help your chapter grow and thrive.

Musings from the 1st Vice President...

Educational Excellence Committee

It's not as difficult as you think.

By Linda Arbogast

As each Chapter begins a new Biennium, your EEC Chairman and her Committee will be developing quality programs to move your Chapter forward. As WV State EEC Chairman, I have received an email from the International EEC Chairman, Emily DelPiano that will make this job so much easier. The DKG International website has lots of information about the Educational Excellence Committee. I am recommending it as your first resource. Also, Emily DelPiano recommended the Tennessee State Organization's website to view its virtual tool "What is EEC?". I encourage every Chapter EEC Chairman to log on to the DKG International Virtual Convention to find the Five Core Values presentations. The presentations are about 30 minutes each and provide wonderful ideas for Chapter programs as you plan for this biennium. If you have any questions or concerns as you develop your programs, I can be reached at larbogast53@gmail.com

Alpha Beta

Alpha Beta members **Sherri Butler, Virginia Hicks & Heidi Thompson's** art students had artwork in the WVDE ArtsAlive showcase on August 3. Sherri & Virginia teach at Buckhannon-Upshur Middle School; Heidi teaches at Buckhannon-Upshur High School.

Sally Miller-Collins led a small group of Alpha Beta sisters to complete hand-stamped postcards for the 2020 seniors of Buckhannon-Upshur High School. It was one small acknowledgement of the accomplishment of graduating in an unprecedented way. These were students we'd watched grow up & it was our honor to be part of their educational journey. Best of everything to the class of 2020 everywhere!



Alpha Delta

The Alpha Delta Chapter held their August meeting virtually through Zoom. (See picture attached.) . After the business meeting, members played a Zoom game "Two Truths and a Lie" in which we learned some interesting facts about our members. Members contributed to the new teacher bags to be given to all the new teachers hired in Jackson County this year. The bags contained a mask, hand sanitizer, pen and notepad. (See attached picture). Our members have missed seeing each other in person but have kept in contact through letters, emails and Zoom.



Condolences

Karen Zinn (Alpha Epsilon) in the death of her brother who was also the uncle of **Taryn Veltri** and **Rhonda Rhodes**

Find WV State DKG Group on Facebook

- Search "West Virginia State DKG"
- Look for the picture with "You are the Key" in red letters.
- Click "Join"
- Starting communicating and sharing with your DKG sisters!



News from the Chapters

Mu

The 2020 Mu Chapter Recruitment Grant was awarded to Maggie Bailey from Wirt County High School. The presentation was pre-recorded by Deloris Lipps and included in the virtual awards ceremony which aired on the school's Facebook page. Maggie plans to major in elementary education.



Gamma

Gamma Chapter executive board met in **Connie Boggs'** backyard in August to plan our fall meetings. We decided to attempt to hold 2 fall meetings – one on September 19th and the other in early December. We took into consideration that we had to plan for social distancing and the wearing of masks. Therefore, our September meeting was a backyard barbecue at **Norma Gaines'** house. We installed our new officers and honored members with 20 or more years of membership. We also celebrated Gamma Chapter's 77th birthday. We are busy collecting baby items to put in four Salvation Army Angel Stockings for the Angel Tree in December.

Eta

Starting a new biennium during our Covid-19 pandemic has certainly made for a new way of planning how to best reach out to our membership and complete the outreach projects that Eta Chapter so loves. After much thought, prayer, and deliberation about our fall meetings, it was decided that the health and welfare of our members were so important that we will not gather in-person until 2021. The decision to meet remotely was overwhelming among our members.

Although we may not get to see each other in a local venue, we will continue to celebrate together via Zoom. We accomplished many projects in our last biennium. Since we were unable to bring a close to **Rebecha Catlett's** loving leadership, we are going to have a special celebration in September. We also plan to induct nine new members and have a former member return. Eta Chapter is growing!

Beta

During the COVID shutdown, our members were donating food and one played her flute to be recorded for the church service. We have called each other on the phone to keep check on them. One of our members and her husband have made public announcements for the Fine Arts on PBS.

Phi

Miss Cathy Jack, Phi Member, was named the 2019-2020 Teacher of the year for McDowell County.

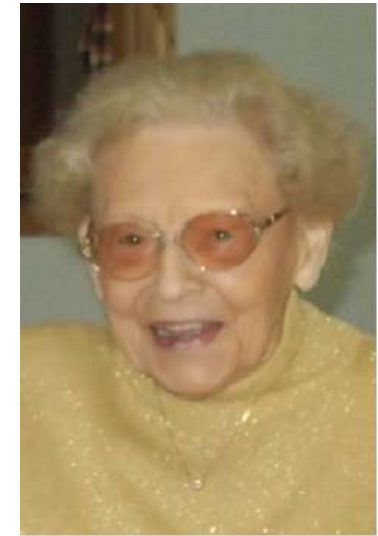
Alpha Mu

The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) announced five finalists for the West Virginia School Service Personnel of the Year Award. All finalists serve their counties as the 2020 County Service Personnel of the Year. One of this year's finalists is Alpha Mu's **Gail Artimez**, from Marshall County Schools. She began her career in the school system as a volunteer and has worked as a substitute secretary, high school secretary and now executive secretary of transportation. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she stepped up to face the many challenges and assigned bus routes and drivers for food delivery. Artimez's role was key to the success of feeding 1,500 Marshall County students weekly. When not working in the central office, she donates her time, talent and materials to work with students in the John Marshall Caring Card Club. We wish her luck!

Alpha Mu's **Tammy DeWitt** joins the Retirement Class of 2020 after 37 years in education! Tammy spent 23 years at West Liberty University before making her way to John Marshall High School, Marshall County, WV, where she spent 14 years teaching chemistry and AP chemistry. While at JM, Tammy was the science department chair, an academic team coach, and founder of the Caring Card Club- making cards for local veterans and soldiers serving overseas. Now in retirement, Tammy enjoys time with her grandbabies!



Together Toward Tomorrow
or
A Look Back at Yesterday



This article is the second in a series of looking back at yesterdays in the Florida State DKG Organization. It covers the years of 1981-83 when **Maxine Smith** was the state organization president. Her artistic, receptive, energetic and very collaborative personality is reflected in the development of her theme, *Together Toward Tomorrow*.

Florida's 25th state organization president was initiated into DKG in Alpha Theta chapter in Cocoa, Florida in 1965. She taught Home Economics in Indiana, West Virginia, and Ohio prior to teaching English in Melbourne, Florida. Maxine is currently an active member in Alpha Zeta in West Virginia. Her chapter president, Tanya Stewart, who considers Maxine a true Mentor, shared that as a new chapter president she was told, "If you have any questions, call Maxine." Another member of the chapter, June Monnenberg, shared a recent photo and reported that Maxine doesn't get out much but is still an active member of Alpha Zeta.

Maxine helped organize the Beta Sigma chapter in Florida and is one of its charter members. She was also District IV Director and wrote the history of the district in 1976, reviewing the zoning of the state first in 1946 when the state had only three districts or regions as they were called then, and in 1961 Florida was rezoned into five areas. At this point they became known as districts and District IV came into being.

At the first state executive board meeting in 1981 there were 362 members in attendance. The Board supported the nomination of Louise McMullian as Southeast Regional Director for 1984 and initiated the selling of note paper for the Miccosukee Indian Project. At the same meeting in 1982, Maxine led the 327 members in attendance to strengthen its friendship with Finland as it was no longer a part of the Southeast Region. During the state convention in 1983, the Program of Work Committee recommended that a Leadership Management Seminar begin in Florida in the summer of 1984. Jesslyn McBride chaired the Program of Work Committee during 1981-83 as First Vice President of the state organization and was installed as Florida's 26th Mu State organization president in 1983.

During her term of leadership, Maxine was instrumental in researching the need, purpose, location, and a plan for funding a state headquarters building. She combined the District meetings and half day workshops for new chapter presidents, treasurers and program chairs, and made leadership development an identified part of the state's committee structure.

Expansion was a huge part of the thrust during Maxine's tenure as state organization president and Florida grew to 95 chapters. Serving in state leadership roles with Maxine were Jess McBride, Yvonne Rice, Dot Oliver, Virginia Raysor, Ruth Smith, Jane Harrell, Helen Smith, Gerry Adams, Doris Nesbit, Pat Parham, Mertice Ringer, Pat Palmer, Ruth Smith, Louise McMullian, Sarah Elrod, Mary Rarig, Joan Walker, Linda Sparks and numerous others, most of whom are no longer among us.

With 146 members in attendance, Florida had the largest number at the 1982 International Convention in Atlanta and many still remember the Constitutional amendment session with Dr. Sarah Tobolowsky, presiding, that continued well after midnight. As is typical with state organization leaders, Maxine was active beyond the state level and attended numerous regional conferences and international conventions serving as recorder, panel moderator and active participant during and following her time as state organization president.

Maxine, we miss you in Florida but glad you are able to continue to influence your Alpha Zeta chapter in West Virginia. **Have a wonderful 92nd Birthday on July 1, 2020.** Wish we could all join you!

-Copied from Florida State Organizations Newsletter, **Florida Rays**, Fall 2020 edition

Blast from the Past ... Fall 1995 Newsette

WEST VIRGINIANS SHUFFLED OFF TO BUFFALO TO ATTEND THE NORTHEAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON AUGUST 2-5 AT THE HYATT REGENCY HOTEL



President Alberta Huggins, Barbara Cover and Marge Sims (*Epsilon*) proudly display the West Virginia sign.



Members, from around the state, gather together for dinner.

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Please send
correspondence to
Connie Boggs, Editor
50 Fire House Rd.
Fairmont, WV 26554
Phone – 304-376-3197

NEWSETTE
Connie Boggs, Editor
50 Fire House Rd.
Fairmont, WV 26554

DKG[™]



**West Virginia
State Organization**