



NEWSLETTE

West Virginia State's First Virtual Convention a Huge Success

West Virginia State's first, and hopefully only, Virtual Convention was held on April 23 and 24, 2021. The theme of the 77th State Convention was "Celebrate Being a DKG Woman" and the host chapters were Beta, Tau and Alpha Iota.

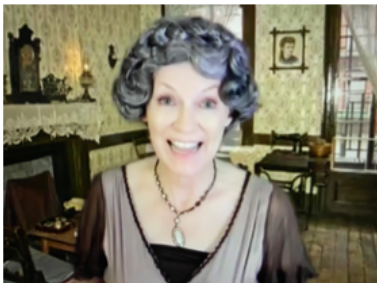
The convention opened on Friday night with a West Virginia History Alive presentation on Nellie Bly portrayed by JoAnn Peterson. **Yvonne Martin**, Alpha Iota, introduced Mrs. Peterson and moderated a question-and-answer session.



A busy Saturday began with a Virtual Convention Orientation which was very helpful to learn the ins and outs of virtual etiquette. The WV State Executive Board held their meeting then the General Session began. President Dr. Glenda Wait, Xi, called the meeting to order. Members were welcomed to the convention by WV First Lady Cathy Justice and **Joanne Gregory**, Beta, Convention Chairman. An inspirational thought using calligraphy was presented by **Priscilla Marten**, Alpha. Business was conducted then members were invited to the Founders' Day Luncheon and Break-Out rooms featuring the Membership Gallery, Chapter Scrapbooks, and Chatting with Nita Scott, DKG International Executive Director.

The afternoon consisted of workshops, door prizes, and awards presentations, and the 2021 Ceremony of Remembrance. The winner of the 2021 WV State Achievement Award was **Dr. Marilyn "Susie" Rogers**. Look for a feature article on Dr. Rogers in the Fall Newsette. The day concluded with the Installation of the 2021-2023 State Officers, more door prizes, and the Delta Kappa Gamma Song.

A big thanks goes to everyone who worked to make our virtual convention a success, especially our facilitator, **Sara Sweeney**, Epsilon, and West Liberty University for hosting the event.



Nelly Bly (Joann Peterson)



Achievement Award Winner
Dr. Marilyn "Susie" Rogers



Installation of 2021-2023
State Officers

Remembering Dr. Kay Clawson



As Alpha Phi, West Virginia State Organization of DKG, was starting to relax from our first virtual convention, we learned of the passing of former State President, Dr. Kay Clawson. Kay was from Epsilon Chapter and served as State President from 2007-2009. Her hometown was Grafton, WV. Her smile was contagious and made you feel welcome. She was goal-oriented and achieved a great deal by drawing in people to work together for a common good. Kay had a way of making you want to be involved and always try your best. As some of our sisters from Epsilon remembered, Kay encouraged educators to go for that extra degree. She helped many receive Master and Doctoral degrees. She was a strong supporter of DKG Scholarships. She introduced many teachers to the honor and benefits of being inducted into DKG.

Growing our membership was always on Kay's mind. For several years, Kay welcomed Epsilon Chapter to her home for our first meeting in September. It was such a wonderful time to renew our friendships and focus on our goals and projects as we began a new year.

Kay held Delta Kappa Gamma as one of her most important organizations. She was a recipient of the Golden Gift Award in 1999 and considered the Leadership/Management Seminar in Austin, TX to be a very unique learning experience. Kay held many Chapter and State offices and in 2003 served on the Planning Committee for the Northeast Regional Conference held at The Greenbrier. Kay presented papers at regional and international conferences.

To all who knew Kay, we express our deepest sympathy to her family. We will always carry warm memories of her in our hearts.

Nita Scott, Executive Director, Delta Kappa Gamma International Remembers Dr. Kay Clawson

Dr. Kay Clawson was 2014-2016 Northeast Regional Director and served on the Foundation Board from 2016 until present. In the latter position, she was elected to the Educational Foundation Board of Trustees for 2016-2022 and was elected chair for the 2018-2020 biennium. During that biennium, she oversaw the merger of the Educational Foundation and the DKG Supporting Corporation and was elected to serve as chair of the new DKG International Educators Foundation after the merger (2020-2022). It was during that term of office that she passed away. Her leadership was evident in the way she guided the Foundation through the merger, and her leadership will always be remembered as the new DKGIEF continues to grow and flourish.

We will all miss Kay and her energy, wisdom, and leadership.



Remembering Helen M. Kiser

Former State President Mrs. Helen Kiser (Phi Chapter) passed away peacefully in Lakeway, Texas on May 24, 2021, at the age of 96. She served Alpha Phi State as President for the 1975-1977 biennium. Helen began her teaching career at age 19 due to a teacher shortage during World War II. For the next 43 years, she taught in the McDowell County school system at Welch Elementary School and Welch Junior High School. Taking summer courses, she completed a Master's Degree in 1963 and additional graduate studies at the University of Cincinnati.

Helen was very active in many school activities, church leadership, and civic organizations. In addition to her state and international service in Delta Kappa Gamma she was the long-time director of her church's children's choir. She was active in the McDowell Women's Club, the Chaminade (music) Club, and the Order of the Eastern Star. Helen retired in 1987 and took advantage of her freedom to travel.

She will be remembered as a gifted teacher, organizational leader, wonderful wife and mother. She was a bright and spirited soul who was quick to make friends by being a great friend to others.

Magic Carpet Ride

Dr. Glenda Wait
West Virginia State DKG
President
2019-2021

When I think of the movie Aladdin, the lyrics of Magic Carpet Ride pop into my head. ***I can show you the world, shining, shimmering splendid.***

Delta Kappa Gamma is a magic carpet ride for a lifetime. The DKG world opens up when you look within and beyond your chapter. ***I can open your eyes.*** Delta Kappa Gamma is in 17 countries and boasts a membership of over 60,000 women. ***Take you wonder by wonder.***

On a magic carpet ride, a whole new world, a new fantastic point of view. Little did I realize when I committed to being your state president, that I would share all of your worlds in ways I never imagined. My husband and I enjoyed our trips around West Virginia, meeting members and sharing my passion for Delta Kappa Gamma. ***A dazzling place I never knew.***

Zoom became another adventure for connecting with DKG members. ***That now I am in a whole new world with you.*** With your help we were able to put on the first ever virtual convention for West Virginia DKG.

Unbelievable sights, Indescribable feeling. A whole new world (Don't you dare close your eyes). As we move towards a more traditional experience, there are ***a hundred thousand things to see. I'm like a shooting star. I've come so far. I can't go back to where we used to be.***



This past year has made members more confident and able to meet all of the challenges that were put in their paths.

We connected and grew together. We marveled at the success of our active teachers and came to realize how important our relationships are in our DKG family. ***A whole new world (every turn a surprise). With new horizons to pursue.***

But when I am way up here it is crystal clear that now we need to extend a hand to others to join our magic carpet ride on a DKG Journey for a lifetime. The invitation will be ***let me share the whole new world with you. That's where we will be. A thrilling chase, A wonderous place, for you and me.***

Thank you for my magic carpet ride. I never dreamed how much I would be enriched by the state presidency. I am encouraging each of you to take the next step in your growth as a DKG sister. That can be accomplished by becoming a more active chapter member, seeking a chapter office, or looking towards state and international leadership.

***That's where we'll be.
 A thrilling chase.
 A wonderous place
 For you and for me.***

Menken, Alan and Rice, Tim. (1992). A Whole New World, [Recorded by Lea Salonga and Brad Kane] Walt Disney Music Company

Thank You for the Honor of Serving

Linda Arbogast
WV State 1st Vice President



It has been a wonderful experience to assist Dr. Glenda Wait as your 1st Vice-President.

She served West Virginia State DKG with a determined attitude and great incite on what needed to be done to accomplish her goals. The exemplary slate of Officers for the 2021-23 biennium will be able to meet the challenges they encounter.

To the Chapter Chairman of your Educational Excellence Committee, I encourage you to use the DKG website for guidance. There is a wealth of information available to you.

I was inspired by the words of Nita Scott, DKG Executive Director, at our virtual Convention in April. She encouraged each member to provide the names of TWO people into membership.

Each Chapter should have educators from every school. Have you looked at private and parochial schools in your area? Are there higher education institutions in your Chapter? After you sponsor your new members, mentor them on the workings of your Chapter. Advise them on the privileges of membership especially the scholarships that are available. Assist them as they become involved in your Chapter work. And most especially, be sure they maintain their membership in the years to come.

Thank you for the honor of serving Delta Kappa Gamma.

New Challenges Ahead

Vicki Jenkins

WV State 2nd Vice-President

This past year was certainly one to remember! We heard new words like “Covid , Coronavirus, and Zoom” and one we really had not heard since the early 1900s, “pandemic”. Life for all of us changed and with it came new challenges and ways of doing things.

As DKG members we were able to meet the challenges and move forward. Our state convention was absolutely wonderful and if you were not able to attend the virtual convention, you did miss something special. The planning committee did an excellent job of providing the next best thing to being there. The ladies from Beta, Tau, and Alpha Iota Chapters did a specular job of organizing and delivering a first-class convention.

President Glenda Wait rallied the troops and things all came together. Joanne Gregory (Beta) and Sara Sweeney (Epsilon) served as great Zoom facilitators. Many folks from the above-mentioned chapters served as gracious hosts and delivered a first-class convention.

With many of the mandates lifted, 2021-2022 looks to be a better year with regard to health and safety. I am hopeful we will be able to meet for future events in person. Our new challenges are still great. **How do we keep DKG women involved and active?** Rebecha Catlett (Past President, Eta Chapter) and I presented a workshop at the convention entitled “Tapping Your Talents & Growing Your Gifts”.



A few things that are worth repeating include the following suggestions for chapter leaders:

- create dynamic agendas that work-make them worthwhile by providing programs that are not only structured and efficient but beneficial to members
- be creative with fundraising and make the investment of time and energy worthwhile
- connect with your community through projects and programs, and use the talents of your own members to “grow the gifts”
- promote interaction and leadership.

You may also want to reach out to other chapter leaders and invite them to share a talent or gift with your own chapter. We saw many talented members at our virtual convention.

You alone will not be able to everything, but how great the feat when we all pull together. Trisha Yearwood says *“What's meant to be will always find a way”*. Let's find a way to meet those new challenges ahead!



Passing the Gavel

On May 3, 2021, Dr. Glenda Wait officially passed the gavel and the leadership of West Virginia State DKG to Joanne Gregory, 2021-2023 State President.

Since our Convention was virtual this year, the two leaders met at Dr. Wait's home in Glade Springs for the exchange.



News from the Chapters

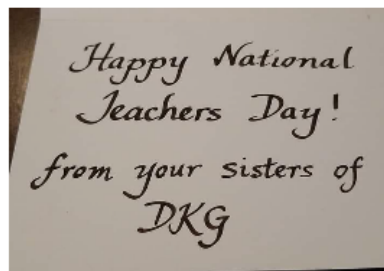
Eta

Eta Chapter ended our spring meeting strong with an uplifting meeting. We celebrated Founder's Day in a unique way. **Bett Sims** and **Nancy Broadley** shared information about our founding members in a song. We had a memorial service for two members who had passed. Our Professional Affairs committee enjoyed a huge success with a fundraiser called "Honor and Memorial Project" where members donated money to honor or memorialize people who have made a difference in their lives. We raised an unprecedented \$1800 for our three scholarships for female Shepherd University students who are majoring in education. Those will be presented in the fall. As one member shared with me about our meeting, "Everything that was said and done shouted 'we care'." Because we generally have over 40 members attend our meetings, we have met virtually for the last year. In the fall, we hope and pray to gather in person. Our theme for September will be "Tales from the Trenches" when members can share the stories from their classroom to include challenges and victories. We will also collect and deliver teaching materials and supplies for new teachers, as well as donate books for classroom libraries.

Alpha Beta

Congratulations! Alpha Beta sister **Deidra Casto** - Union Elementary School's Teacher of the Year.

Retired teachers worked to honor our active sisters by painting cards & including a message and gift card (doughnuts from our most iconic local business) for National Teacher Day on May 4.



Alpha Kappa

Alpha Kappa had a wonderful spring since we were able to meet in person for both the March and April meetings. In March, our guest speaker was state president, **Dr. Glenda Wait**, who encouraged all sisters to stay involved. She recognized our president, **Vickie Skavenski**, who has served as state recording secretary and recognized **Rosanne Glover**, **Carolyn Harper**, **Beverly Mathias**, **Ann Bennett**, **Pam Boggs**, and **Vickie Saville** for serving on state committees.

Members brought feminine items which were donated to the Family Crisis Center in Petersburg and WVU items which were mailed to the West Virginia School in Argentina. **Carolyn Harper** received the R.O.S.E. Award for copilotting during the delivery of our "Little Bags of Sunshine" and

members finished the day with painting a West Virginia Home sign.

The April meeting, which featured our World Fellowship Auction, was hosted by our Grant County members. **Pamela Boggs**, Chairperson of this committee, reported that members raised \$476.00 which was the second highest total raised by the group to provide scholarships to women educators from other countries for advanced studies.

President Skavenski encouraged members to attend the Virtual Convention, and according to our tech guru **Vickie Saville**, Alpha Kappa had the most members present for roll call! **Dorothy Harper** was recognized as our "Following in the Footsteps of our Founders" for her many dedicated years of service to Alpha Kappa Chapter. We also received excellence award for our newsletter, scrapbook, and newspaper clipping, and now we also have the Second Vice-President of WV State DKG. **Rosanne Glover** received the R.O.S.E. Award for stepping up and volunteering to organize the April meeting.

Mu

Mu Chapter's 2021 Recruitment Grant was awarded to Marissa King who graduated from Calhoun County High School. She plans to attend Glenville State College where she will major in English Education.

White Roses

Linda D. McLaughlin (Eta) passed away May 6, 2021

Condolences

Rhonda Rhodes' (Alpha Epsilon) father passed away. He was also the brother of Karen Zinn and the uncle of Twila Veltri, also from Alpha Epsilon.

Deloris Lipps' (Mu) brother passed away from COVID complications.

Missy Whetzel's (Alpha Kappa) husband passed away in April.

Karen Zinn's (Alpha Epsilon) sister-in-law passed away. She was also the aunt of **Twila Veltri** (Alpha Epsilon).

Gamma

Gamma Chapter held their Spring Picnic on June 5th at the Suncrest Center in Morgantown. Members enjoyed a boxed lunch catered from the Beehive Cafe. It was great to meet in-person and catch up with what has been going on in each other's lives. A gardening program was presented by member, **Connie Boggs**. With Connie's guidance each of those present planted a container garden which included a tomato plant, a pepper plant, parsley and basil. Chapter President **Susan Marra** announced that she and Connie will be attending the International Conference in San Antonio, Texas, July 21 – 25.



Alpha Theta

We are very proud of Alpha Theta members, who strive to provide Wyoming County Students with Excellence in Education, by continuing to grow as Teachers and furthering their education. We applaud their commitment and dedication to Education.

Misty Lyons - Received National Board Certification

Deanna Bailey - Marshall University, *College of Education*, Certification in School Principalship

Allison Adkins - Marshall University, *College of Education*, Certification in School Principalship

Alpha Iota

Our ladies thoroughly enjoyed DKG's first virtual convention! Ten of our members were present for Friday's and Saturday's presentations. A special thanks to **Pat Schillings** and **Margie Turley** for hosting a "Watch Party" at their homes. It was our sincere pleasure to nominate **Peggy Sias** and **Pat Schillings** as our "Following in the Founders Footsteps" honorees. They each received a rose bouquet and certificate presented at their homes by **Yvonne Martin** and **Margie Turley**.

Most of our work this spring centered around preparing for the convention and keeping our members informed and involved. In addition, **Yvonne Martin** was excited about getting involved with the Gabriel Angel program which supports mothers with children from birth to two years of age. She represents our chapter each Thursday at Highlawn Presbyterian in St. Albans. Future fund raisers for this program will be considered for part of our chapter's agenda for 2021-2022. We continued our support of Rhea of Hope with a \$100 donation towards their golfing fund raiser at the end of May.

Summer will find us busy planning for a full in-person year of meetings and activities! Yvonne will host an Executive Board luncheon in June for idea exchange and planning. Our kick-off for the new year will be a lawn party at Peggy Sias' in late summer. Thanks to Peggy for encouraging members to pay their dues and hosting this FUN event. The spirit of DKG is alive and ready to have a fabulous new year within the Alpha Iota chapter!

PERCEPTIONS FROM YOUR 2021-2023 PRESIDENT

It is with feelings of anticipation, intrigue, and dedication that I embark on the 2021 – 2023 West Virginia State Organization biennium with each of you. As we awaken from these months of Covid-19 pandemic restrictions, I anticipate that the reunions with families and friends will help us feel connected once again. I am intrigued by the opportunities we will have to carry some of our pandemic technology practices into our “new normal.” Hopefully, those who cannot participate in person will become involved virtually so they may share in the genuine spiritual fellowship of Delta Kappa Gamma. Please know that I am dedicated to the purposes of our society and to every WV State Organization member. My responsibility is to serve you.



The theme of the biennium is “The Leader in You...Cares, Shares, Listens.” You may recognize the message from Coach Lance Loya’s book “Be a Good Teammate!” With his blessing and a “smile in his heart,” he has given me permission to share his words and his website with you. There are activities for children or even something fun you can do at a chapter meeting. Not only do teammates care, share, and listen, but leaders do the same. I already care about DKG, and I commit to listen on the phone, through text messages and email, and in person. We all need to be prepared to share concerns, ideas, and plans. We should share our talents, our time, and our energy as we move forward together in the new biennium.



<https://www.coachloya.com/be-a-good-teammate/>

By working as a team striving for the success of educators, chapters, and our communities, we can accomplish so much. Thank you for your support in all aspects of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Joanne Gregory
 2021- 2023 WV State Organization President
busyteach@gmail.com
 304-382-6414

Help Please!

Many of you have stepped up to serve on committees for which I am so grateful. There are positions available for you or someone in your chapter.

Please read over this list and consider volunteering for one or more of the committees. Send me an email with your name, chapter, and committee(s) that are a good match for your skill set.

Committee	Member needed from the following regions
Bylaws and Standing Rules	Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest
Finance	Northeast, Southeast
Leadership Development	Northeast, Southwest
Membership Expansion	Northwest, Southeast, Southwest
Educational Excellence	Northwest
Achievement Award	Northeast, Southwest
Music	Northwest, Southeast
Publication Awards	Northeast
Scholarships	Northeast, Northwest, Southwest
World Fellowships/International Projects	Northwest, Southeast
Archives	Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest
Disaster Fund	Northwest, Southeast
Technology	Northwest, Southwest

Snapshots from the Convention



2021-2023 WV State President Joanne Gregory



Harriet Leurant dances the Charleston during a break



Lauren Jarroll reads Be A Good Teammate with her nephew



2019-2020 WV State President Dr. Glenda Wait opens the Convention



Linda Arbogast shares Inspirational Thoughts



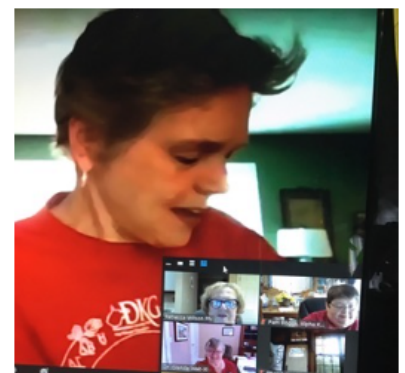
Priscilla Marten shares Inspirational Thoughts



2021-2023 Recording Secretary Barbara Tabaretti



Alpha Beta Banner

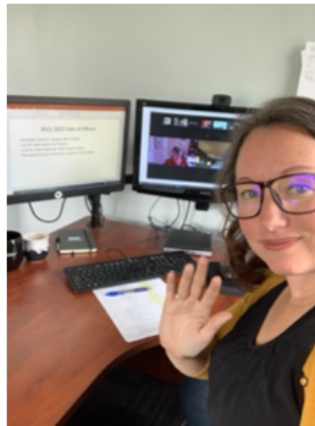


Marge Turley announces door prize winners

More Snapshots from the Convention



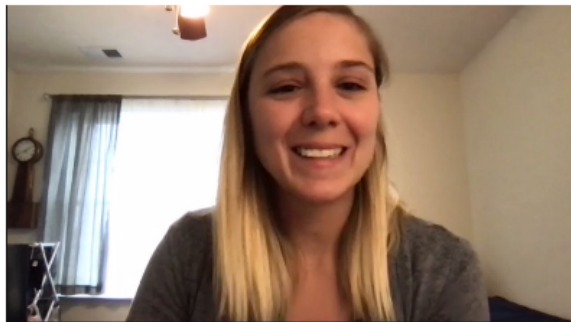
Connie Boggs, Newsette Editor, recovers from foot surgery while participating in the Convention



Sara Sweeney
Convention Facilitator



Rebecha Catlett and
2021-2023 1st Vice
President Vicki Jenkins



Taylor Thomas
Scholarship Recipient



June Nonnenberg's Convention Buddy -
Teazer



Priscilla Marten's
Convention Buddy – Lucy



Mu and Pi Chapters
Cordially Invite You
to the

**2023 West Virginia State
Delta Kappa Gamma
Convention**

April 2023
(Date TBA)

Location
Flatwoods Days Inn and Suites



*Looking forward to seeing our DKG members at the 2023 Convention!
Carrena Rouse and Brittney Vaughan, Co-Chairmen*

More Chapter News...

Beta Chapter has had a busy year. Besides planning for the 2021 State Convention, we had a variety of interesting programs including:

Rae of Hope - Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery for Women. Our chapter along with Alpha Iota bought Christmas gifts for children of ladies that are housed there.

CASA - Court Appointed Special Advocates - Joanne discussed that as a CASA volunteer you are assigned a foster child and will connect with the child at least once a month. In addition, a written report to the judge is required once a month. Information on improvement of situation for the biological parents can be shared. Members would serve strictly as an advocate for the child. Retired teachers are considered some of the best volunteers because they understand the child's struggle. Thirty hours of training is required to participate.

Gabrielle Project – an agency that works with families of children under two years of age. Baby supplies are provided (diapers, wipes, gently used clothing, et al). No need to prove income which is especially important during this time. Only expense to parents is \$10 to receive a new car seat or playpen.

Regarding the Convention, another thank you is extended to all those who helped make it a successful adventure.

The Newsette is published four times a year: Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer by the West Virginia State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Deadlines are September 1, December 1, March 1, and June 1, respectively.

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DKG™



West Virginia
State Organization