



NEWSLETTE

And a Good Time Was Had by All!

Vickie Skavenski, WVSO Second Vice-President

This title says it all—the WVSO Leadership Conference was a time of fellowship, learning, and just good old face-to-face fun! We started with the Executive Board meeting at 3:00 where we celebrated Glenda’s 80th birthday. Then we moved into the Revitalization Committee meeting where we talked about future plans and put together the Mentor bookmarks. Next, we were off to registration and the social hour where Marcia Dunlap used M&Ms to help break the ice.

Chapters kept arriving that evening and early the next morning to begin the day. The lobby came alive with the chapter exhibits and a couple of vendors. President Joanne Gregory greeted everyone to begin the morning session, Deloris Lipps, state treasurer, explained the reimbursement forms, and Dr. Glenda Wait introduced the morning speakers, Randi Downs and Kathy Houghten. One highlight of this session was the making of DKG bumper stickers which were displayed at the end of the tables so all participants could walk around and check them out. This was a great idea for getting DKG’s name out to the public, and it would be a relatively inexpensive project for individual chapters.

Vickie Jenkins, first vice-



Clockwise – Randi Downs and Kathy Houghten display their appreciation gifts, Conference theme, Members Sing Delta Kappa Gamma Song, and WVSO President Joanne Gregory welcomes members

president, presided over lunch and gave the inspirational message about little silver boxes. Second vice-president, Vickie Skavenski, and Alpha Kappa Chapter members—Ann Bennett, Amber Champ, Vickie Saville, Gayle Allen, Donna Bodkins, Pam Boggs, Carolyn Harper, and Leadership Development Committee members Jackie McDaniels, Glenda Wait, Susan Marra, Robin Chancey, and Newsette Editor, Connie Boggs, presented “Hats Off to Our Founders”. We then had cupcakes in honor of WVSO’s 81st birthday. President Gregory presented our keynote speakers with Blenko Glass water pitchers and Glenda announced that she had received

over 100 birthday cards from chapter members.

Next it was off to officer training and the Fast Break Sessions. These were set up much like the little mini sessions at the International Conference. During the hour, members could learn about four of the following topics—Digital Scrapbooking, Sherry Poole, Alpha Delta; Projects with Pizazz, Rebecha Catlett, Eta; International Events, Glenda Wait, Xi; Imagination Library, Marcia Dunlap, Xi; National Board Certification, Connie Boggs, Gamma; World Fellowship and Schools for Africa, Priscilla Marten,

Continued on Page 5

PERCEPTIONS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

It is with feelings of anticipation, intrigue, and dedication that I continue the journey of serving you as the 2021 – 2023 West Virginia State Organization (WVSO) president. As we look toward the summer months, I anticipate that time with families and friends, trips to long-awaited vacation destinations, and days of rest, relaxation, and rejuvenation will bring joy to our hearts and peace to our souls.

The first year of the biennium has quickly passed, and as I reflect on what we have done on the state level of Delta Kappa Gamma, I am truly thankful for the creativity, the energy, the flow of ideas, and the progress of our chapters. At this point in time, I have visited with Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Nu, Alpha Beta, Alpha Delta, and Alpha Iota chapters. The projects these ladies undertake include but are not limited to: Savannah's Closet where foster children can get clothing and other necessities; gift cards for new teachers; fundraising to finance chapter projects; Christmas gifts for children in need; and supplies for early career educators. Please send an article to Connie Boggs, Newsette editor, to share your chapter activities with the state. Pictures are always a nice addition.

The Revitalization Team has been established and is focusing on **Mentoring**. Be sure to read the article Vicki Jenkins, WVSO 1st VP, has included in this issue of the Newsette. If you would like the **Mentor** bookmarks as a printout, let me know, and I will email it to you.

This team will meet again after the International Convention in New Orleans to determine our focus for the second year of the biennium. If you or your chapter have specific requests you would like the Revitalization Team to consider, please let one of the state officers know.

The outreach our members have individually and through chapter projects is impacting not only educators and students, but also members of our communities. Through the **Local Leading Lady** state project, we are honoring many exceptional women who are serving organizations, schools, churches, and other programs designed to improve the lives of those they touch. As soon as you stepped into the classroom, you became a **Local Leading Lady**. Have you nominated someone for this honor? The next deadline is August 1.

It was a joy to see so many members at the WVSO Leadership Conference in Flatwoods in April. Kathy Houghton and Randi Downs presented interactive sessions about leadership, officers had specialty training to help them feel confident about their new positions, some members attended Fast Break Sessions to when their appetites about a number of topics, and members left with door prizes and goodie bags. Dr. Glenda Wait received the WVSO Achievement Award, Local Leading Ladies were recognized, and scholarships were awarded. Thanks to Vickie Skavenski, WVSO 2nd VP and the Leadership Committee for their hard work in planning and carrying out the conference.



Did you know that you can still register for the DKG International Convention in New Orleans? It will be from July 12 – 16. You can register by going to DKG.org by June 13. There was a time when West Virginia has 20 – 25 ladies attending the conventions. Let's make this the year that our attendance gets back into the double digits! You can help.

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 and to care, share, and listen to your needs and concerns. I already care about DKG, and I commit to listen on the phone, through text messages and email, and in person.

Thank you for your support in all aspects of Delta Kappa Gamma.
WVSO President Joanne Gregory

Achievement Award Winner is... Dr. Glenda Wait

Dr. Glenda Wait (Xi) is the recipient of the West Virginia State Organization (WVSO) Achievement Award. Dr. Susie Rogers, the 2021 recipient presented the award during the WVSO Leadership Conference on April 23 at the Days Inn Conference Center in Flatwoods. This award is the highest honor bestowed upon a WVSO DKG member and is based upon dedication, commitment, and contributions to the society. Dr. Wait was presented the award and special gold medallion that only WVSO Achievement Award recipients have the privilege of wearing. Dr. Wait has been an active member of Xi chapter in the Beckley area since retiring in West Virginia. At the chapter level, she has served as recording secretary and president and has been on the nominations and chapter rules committees. She was co-chair of the 2017 state convention.

Her writing skills have been beneficial as she was the chapter newsletter editor and had a article published in the *Collegial Exchange, Volume 87-2*. Her article was titled, "The Virtual Event: Reflections on the Replacement for Convention 2020".

On the state level, Dr. Wait has served as 1st vice president and president. Dr. Wait has been active at the state level on the archives, leadership, and nominations committees. She has attended state, regional, and international conventions and conferences. During her presidency, Dr. Wait lead, encouraged, and maintained communications with WVSO



Dr. Susie Rogers presents Dr. Glenda Wait with the 2022 Achievement Award with Dr. Wait's daughters Kathy Houghton and Randi Downs

members. Through her passion and caring for DKG, she was able to use technology to aid chapter members in continuing with various programs and projects. She "turned every challenge into an opportunity" and promoted the personal and professional growth of WVSO members.

Dr. Wait is also active in other organizations including the Rotary and the Glade Community Church. She is always an active member who strives to participate in any way she is needed.

Dr. Wait's passion for education is reflected in her studies at Nazareth College, SUNY Brockport, and the University of Rochester. She has degrees in speech and hearing impaired, elementary and special education, reading, and education administration. Not only has she worked in the classroom; she has served as a school superintendent and an adjunct professor at Concord University.



Dr. Glenda Wait with Past Achievement Award Recipients

Her family and her vast travels fill Dr. Wait's retirement with such joy. She loves her children, grandchildren, and great-grands with her whole heart.

WVSO members are fortunate to have Dr. Glenda Wait as a leader, a mentor, and a friend. Congratulations to the 2022 WVSO Achievement Award recipient! She will wear her medallion with pride and respect for the founders of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

WV Local Leading Lady Award Recipients

The Educational Excellence Committee of WVSO DKG is pleased to announce the Local Leading Lady award winners for the period ending May 1, 2022. The following women have been nominated by their peers to be recognized for their volunteer efforts within their communities. Take time to read about each lady who is receiving the award and visualize the impact they are making in their schools, churches, and communities.

Please join me in congratulating these outstanding Local Leading Ladies who are marvelous community volunteers! Our next round of applications will be accepted until July 1, 2022. Please email applications to me at jenkinsvicki00@gmail.com **AND** Joanne Gregory at busyteach@gmail.com.

Gloria Urian (Alpha)

Gloria was inducted into DKG in 2002. She is a volunteer at Pea Ridge Baptist Church in Huntington where she leads a Bible Study. She is also on the special events committee for the church. This group planned activities aimed at bringing the congregation back together following the isolation created by the Pandemic. The church choir and hospitality committee are other areas where Gloria gives of her time.

Gloria is always willing to lend a helping hand and does so with a smile and enthusiasm. "She leads for the good of most concerned and not for personal gratification." Delta Kappa Gamma is fortunate to have such a caring lady in the society.

Susan Marra (Gamma)

Susan was inducted into DKG in April, 1979. She serves her community in several capacities. In the Methodist Temple, Susan is the worship chairman, treasurer, and staff parish chair. Susan is active in Eastern Star where she serves as secretary and has volunteered at the VA Hospital in whatever way she is needed. Susan is a member of the DAR.

Susan's work as WVSO Executive Secretary keeps her busy as she strives to maintain all records for the state as well as to have answers to most 'Questions about DKG!' Her continuous work in the Society makes her an excellent mentor for blossoming leaders in DKG.

Dr. Glenda Wait (Xi)

Dr. Wait was inducted on May 1, 1997 when she lived in New York. Upon retirement, she moved to West Virginia and became a member of Xi chapter. She maintains communication with youth through her church, is active in the Rotary Club, and was instrumental in promoting the Thirst for Learning Project to purchase books for schools in Ghana, Africa. During the Christmas holiday season, Glenda takes time to ring the bells for the Salvation Army.

As past WVSO President, 2019 – 2021, Glenda had a major impact on keeping members connected. Her passion for DKG was recognized during the WVSO Leadership Conference where she was recognized with the State Achievement Award.

Barbara VanBeveren (Upsilon)

Barbara was inducted into DKG on April 5, 2003. As a retired teacher, Barbara finds many ways to serve her community. She is engaged in her church as a Eucharistic minister and Elector at church services. She serves the community through the Catholic Women's Club.

Barbara is a mentor and advisor to education students at Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH, as she fulfills her position as an adjunct professor. She also is a mentor to Hancock County teachers.

Upsilon members are grateful for the encouragement and motivation that Barbara has provided. They state that, "Definitely, her actions prove her immense capacity for caring, sharing, and listening." She is a true leader.

Bethany Post (Alpha Beta)

Beth was inducted in September, 2001. She is a retired, yet very active, middle school teacher. Her dedication to the members of her community has a significant impact.

Beth is president of Buckhannon's Fred Brooks Garden Club where service projects happen year-round. From maintaining public flower gardens to decorating at Christmas, there is always work to be done.

Beth keeps her hand in education by volunteering at the Buckhannon-Upshur Middle School Book Fair and mentoring officers of the Upshur County Chapter of West Virginia Professional Educators.

Because Beth donates blood on a regular basis, it has been said that "she literally gives her blood and sweat to volunteering!" Beth is an excellent leader.

Continued on Page 5



Phyllis K. Fox (Alpha Delta)

Phyllis was inducted into Alpha Delta Chapter in 1995. As a retired teacher she has become more involved in her church and community. She is a member of the First United Methodist Church in Ravenswood, where she is the chair of the Outreach Committee, a team of members who provide monthly lunch at Ravenswood Station, a rent assisted apartment complex for seniors and disabled individuals ages 50 and older. Phyllis is a member of the Staff Pastor Parrish Relations Committee and the Methodist Women in Faith.

Phyllis was instrumental in working with the Pilot Club of Jackson County to raise funds for seniors in need of dental care.

Phyllis has made a tremendous impact on her community and has taken the initiative to make so much happen for the citizens of Jackson County.

Dinah Courier (Alpha Kappa)

Dinah was inducted into DKG on April 1, 2005. She is active in her community in a variety of ways including serving a soup, sandwich, and dessert meal to Keyser residence through Soup's On, a program sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Church. She also coordinates the church's project that provides bags of toiletries and household products that are not covered by food stamps.

Dinah founded and coordinates Food For Thought, a backpack program that feeds nearly 400 Mineral County students each week. However, her service does not stop there; she also volunteers with the Keyser Rotary, the WVU Potomac Valley Hospital, and the Mineral County Historical Society Museum.

Through her many avenues of volunteerism, Dinah shares her time and talents with people of all ages. Her Alpha Kappa sisters are grateful that Dinah is in their chapter.

A Good Time Was Had By All!

Continued from Page 1

Alpha; and The Iditarod Conference, Janet Lohr, Eta.

Randi and Kathy then met with members in two different Breakout Sessions before we ended the day with President Gregory who introduced Barbara Tabaretti who presented the publication awards. Two members received state scholarships. Janet Lohr received \$100 for a conference in Alaska and Brenda Epling, Xi chapter president, received the scholarship and declared that she was a life-long member of DKG! Past President Glenda Wait received the Lifetime Achievement Award for her dedication to DKG and her refusal to let it die during the Pandemic. It was an honor well deserved.

Carrena Rouse, on behalf of Pi and Mu Chapters, issued the invitation to next year's convention, April 21-23, 2023, at Flatwoods.

Personally, I would like to thank the members of the Leadership Development Team for their hard work in making the conference run so smoothly. We collected 144 books which were donated to Braxton County Schools and Beta President, Beth Post, sold prints from Buckhannon Upshur Middle School raising \$235.00 for Samaritan's Purse. Chapters brought wonderful door prizes which added a little excitement during the day—there were over 26 of them—and the goody travel bags made the drive home a little easier. So, I guess you really could say, "A good time was had by all!"

Pam Braden (Alpha Delta)

Pam was inducted into DKG in May, 2021. As she looked forward to retirement after 40 years in education, her heart led her to do volunteer work in the community. Her many aspects of service to the United Methodist Church is completed at the local, district, and state levels.

Pam volunteers as a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) in Jackson County where she promotes the well-being of foster children who need a consistent caring adult in their lives when they are facing turmoil. She also works at Savannah's Closet, which provides clothing and other necessities to foster children.

Her service can often tug at her heartstrings while she is making such a difference in the lives of children.

Don't forget to pay your 2022-2023 dues to your chapter treasurer before June 30!

Check your email or our Facebook page for a message about the upcoming state history book. We need some information from each of you.

News from the Chapters

Alpha Kappa

Members of Alpha Kappa held their March meeting at the Forman Community Center. **Rosanne Glover** presented a moving tribute of memories from **Ruth Ann Columbia's** life. Officers were elected for the new biennium, and members voted on a possible nine new members.

The program was "Little Dresses for Africa" with a sample dress made by the chapter president and second vice-president, **Ann Bennett**. These dresses are made from pillowcases or cotton material and while they are very simple to make, their impact is great. Little girls who wear these dresses and the little barrettes clipped to the pockets are usually safe from human traffickers because their clothes say that someone cares for them. Many little girls in Africa have only a t-shirt and underwear, so these little dresses make them special.) Members agreed to make dresses throughout the summer and bring them to our October meeting. Vickie Saville later posted that there is a possibility they will be sent to the Ukraine too.

Gayle Allen, Susan Garrett, Vickie Skavenski, Donna Bodkins, JoAnn Harman, Ann Bennett, and Betty Inskip were presented the Local leading Lady Award with a certificate and pins designed by **Vickie Saville** who received the R.O.S.E. award in recognition of her accomplishment.

It is such a joy to belong to a chapter that is so caring, giving, and kind. To be surrounded by sisters who are willing to help those who are less fortunate, who welcome new members with little gifts of encouragement, and who give of themselves every time that they are asked to participate makes Alpha Kappa Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma a very special place to be.

Alpha Delta

Alpha Delta met in person for our Spring meetings. **Marquita McIntyre** presented the program in March about her trip to China. She had the opportunity to visit schools and taught in them while she was there. It was an interesting program and we learned quite a lot about the cultural differences. In April, we elected new officers and **Robin Chancey** presented a Founder's Day program. Our May meeting consisted of the Installation of our chapter officers and the Induction Ceremony of our two new members. Our two new members are **Michelle Stellato** and **Melissa Fisher**. Michelle Stellato was hired this year as the principal at Kenna Elementary and was previously a principal in a private school in another county, Melissa Fisher was hired as a third-grade teacher at Kenna Elementary and was previously a Middle school teacher in another county. Alpha Delta presented Grant-in Aid Scholarships to two students from our local high schools. Madison Hatcher from Ripley High school and Alyssa Smith from Ravenswood High school.

Eta

Eta Chapter ended this biennium by celebrating the lives of members whom we lost this year and welcoming new members to the chapter. **Cary Burgoyne** (Mt. Ridge Middle, Berkeley County), **Abigail Hjort-Michel** (Special Education Office, Berkeley County), Page Moore (Blue Ridge Community Technical College, Berkeley County), **Katlyn Grantham** (Washington High School, Jefferson County), **Candice Pennington** (Berkeley Springs High School, Morgan County), and **Christal Akers** (Warm Spring Intermediate, Morgan County) became Delta Kappa Gamma, Eta Chapter, members. We also welcomed Pamela Larson, retired, who transferred from Beta Lambda, Ohio. As the gavel was passed to **Teresa Campbell**, our next president, she has started organizing with an energy that speaks to her enthusiasm and excitement for a new biennium.



Alpha Delta new members Melissa Fisher, left, and Michelle Stellato, right.

Beta

Beta Chapter held a joint meeting with Alpha Iota for our annual auction on March 15. **Kathy Knighton** acted as our auctioneer at the meeting. Each chapter received \$80 from the gifts donated. A great time was had by all.

In April, Alison Gerlach, spoke to our members about becoming a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) volunteer. This is a national nonprofit program that recruits, trains, supervises and supports community volunteers who advocate for abused and neglected children in the child welfare system. **Joanne Gregory** is involved in this program and encouraged us to volunteer. She feels she helps these children find a safe place to live and participate in their educational program. These children rely on the CASA volunteer to be a consistent adult they can count on during difficult times.



Beta and Alpha Iota members at their joint meeting in March

ALPHA IOTA

Our members have enjoyed a variety of fun events this spring! We joined the Beta chapter for an auction of "secret items" in March. Proceeds were split between the two chapters. During the business meeting, our chapter launched the Bonnie McClung Imagination Library project. We will be selling red DKG umbrellas (y.martin.589@gmail.com). Our member **Martha Hopper** conducted our April meeting on the history of the Kanawha State Forest and the opportunities offered there. Members enjoyed learning that there is an easily accessible walking trail. Having an outdoor meeting with snacks is always a treat!

On a gorgeous spring day, Alpha Iota hosted the Beta chapter for our Founder's Day Luncheon at the John XXIII Center. Our theme was "Time for Tea and Sisterhood" and the tables were adorned with teapots full of fresh roses. We honored our twelve founders and remembered our members who have passed: **Emma Mae Matthews, Hester Covert, Bonnie McClung, and Karen Winter.**



Our keynote speaker was nationally-honored author and former teacher Katherine Manley. She spoke personally about growing up poor in Kanawha County. You won't want to miss her novel, "Don't Tell'em Your Cold." We look forward to working on our three chapter goals: membership, mentorship, and scholarship!

Alpha

Alpha members enjoyed the WV State Leadership Conference in April. Pictured are members who attended the Friday night social: Priscilla Marten, Gloria Urian, Stacey Ellis, and Laura Grass.



Mu Chapter

The 2022 Recruitment Grant was presented to Emily Smith at Roane County High School's Awards Assembly. She plans to attend Glenville State University and major in elementary education.

Officers for 2022-2024 were installed at the April meeting. (picture attached) They are **Amber Taylor**, vice-president; **Brittney Vaughan**, president; **Carol Williams**, treasurer; **Meghan Sinclair**, secretary; and **Deloris Lipps**, parliamentarian.



Alpha Beta

Alpha Beta chapter thanks everyone who bought Ukraine art prints at the leadership conference in April. The total raised was \$235! Also, we appreciate all the kind comments about the students' efforts. Teacher **Sherri Butler** is a great example of Delta Kappa Gamma sisters going above & beyond with their students.



Alpha Beta Continued

Alpha Beta Chapter sisters **Virginia Hicks & Sherri Butler** have done outstanding things this year. Virginia is Upshur County Teacher of the Year. She teaches art at Buckhannon Academy Elementary School.

Virginia and Sherri Butler, art teacher at Buckhannon-Upshur Middle School have both helped their students create art that will benefit children in Ukraine. Students in their art classes have produced Ukrainian-themed prints, which they are selling in the community. The artwork is predominately blue & yellow, the national colors, and based on Ukrainian national symbols, including the sunflower. Sherri's students have already donated over \$800 to Samaritan's Purse. These dedicated teachers have not only helped their students create art but also taught them a valuable lesson about helping others.



Xi

Dr. Glenda Wait and her husband Gerald Wait recently established the Delta Kappa Gamma Xi Chapter Legacy Fund. This fund will be used to support members by covering a small part of travel expenses for state and international conventions and conferences. In a press release, **Brenda Epling**, chapter president, said "We are very appreciative of Dr. Glenda Wait and her husband, Gerry Wait, for their generous contribution to the future of DKG Xi Chapter. Glenda's effective leadership at the local, state, and international level contributes to the personal and professional growth of her DKG sisters. Her leadership is truly an inspiration! With this funding, DKG can continue to grow and develop their leadership skills through training and other leadership development opportunities."

White Roses

Ruth Ann Columbia (Alpha Kappa)
March 11, 2022

Doris Costello (Eta)
March 13, 2022

Karen Winter (Beta)
May 11, 2022

Condolences

Liz Eppinger (Eta) for the loss of her husband



WV State Scholarship Recipients



Brenda Epling, Xi, received the Gertrude Roberts Scholarship (\$1000) to fund her doctoral studies.

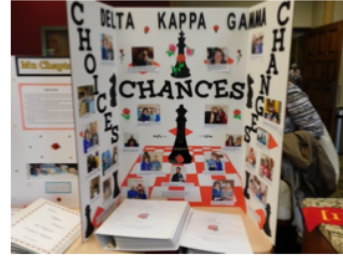
Janet Lohr, Eta, received the Professional Workshop/Seminar Scholarship (\$100) to attend the Idatarod conference in Alaska



Publication Awards Presented at Leadership Conference

The following are the Publications Awards: (all were excellence)

- Beta - Scrapbook
- Gamma - Newsletters
- Eta - Scrapbook, Newsletters, Newspaper clippings
- Mu - Scrapbook, Display, Newspaper clippings, Newsletters
- Nu - Scrapbook, Display, Newsletters
- Xi - Scrapbook and Display
- Alpha Delta - Scrapbook and Display
- Alpha Kappa - Scrapbook



Archives

With the beginning of a new biennium, there are minutes and other DKG paraphernalia that are often transferred from one of the outgoing officer or chairman to another. Instead of keeping many years' worth of minutes, there is an easy way to store this information. It is suggested that chapters keep information from the last 7 years, but the others can be taken to the WVU library located at 1549 University Avenue (Downtown Library, Wise Library). Prior to boxing up materials, there is a short Deed of Gift form to complete and submitted. Banker's boxes are good to use, and they will not be returned. Scrapbooks and other miscellaneous items are also accepted. If interested, contact Jane La Barbara, Head of Archives & Manuscripts, West Virginia & Regional History Center for an appointment. Her email and address are as follows:

jane.labarbara@mail.wvu.edu, (304) 293-0352. This information will be sent via email after contacting Jane. Parking is limited so it is suggested to use the loading dock. Directions to the loading dock: from Willey Street, turn between White Hall and Wesley United Methodist Church. After arriving, call (304) 293-3536 (the main desk) and ask for a cart to be brought down if needed. There is no need to meet with Jane unless requested.



Welcome Our New Members!

Please welcome our new DKG sisters who joined our organization between April 2021-May 2022. Let's strive to have every chapter on this list next summer!

Alpha

- Mary Gue (September 2021)

Eta

- Cary Burgoyne (Spring 2022)
- Abigail Hjort-Michel (Spring 2022)
- Page Moore (Spring 2022)
- Katlyn Grantham (Spring 2022)
- Candice Pennington (Spring 2022)
- Christal Akers (Spring 2022)

Mu

- Baylee O'Brien (April 2022)
- Meghan Sinclair (November 2021)

Omega

- Michelle Bartlett (April 2021)
- Cornelia Begley (April 2021)
- Kathy Rutledge (April 2021)
- Tracey Thompson (April 2021)

Pi

- Suzanne Bell (May 2021)
- Melonie Dolin (June 2021)
- Sherry Dotson (May 2021)
- Brett Kuhn (May 2021)

Theta

- Jimi Bailey (October 2021)
- Jamie Clark (October 2021)
- Cortney Perry (October 2021)

Alpha Beta

- Tanya Zickefoose (September 2021)

Alpha Delta

- Saunyeell Atkinson (May 2021)
- Pamela Braden (May 2021)
- Brenda Brown (May 2021)
- Melissa Fisher (May 2022)
- Michelle Stellato (May 2022)

Why Say Yes to DKG Leadership

Dr. Glenda Wait
Immediate Past President
WVSO Delta Kappa Gamma

Becoming a DKG leader is a very selfish thing to do. Why do you think that is? Women who accept leadership positions gain more than they ever can give. All of you have a leader within. You may think you are more comfortable following than leading. Hold that thought! The truth is that we do need to learn to follow before we lead. Being approachable, authentic, visible and present are qualities we work to develop throughout life and when the time is right, we can confidently step up to a leadership role.

Saying yes to leadership deepens and broadens our relationships with our DKG sisters. By saying yes to leadership, we learn to appreciate and rely on the different gifts and skill sets of others. Good leaders delegate and encourage others to use their skills to complete the tasks of the organization. Organizations fade and die away if no one steps forward. Why not you? If not now, when?

As we learn more, listen more, and lead more, passion increases. The imagery I have is being on fire for the growth of Delta Kappa Gamma. The enthusiasm of leaders is infectious. Passion for what we wish to accomplish in our organizations and communities is contagious.

By selfishly accepting a leadership role, you can build on what has gone before, embrace new ideas for growth and leave our state organization and all of the chapters stronger than when you began. Your service to DKG will influence a good today and an even better tomorrow. How that will happen and what it will look like ...That's up to you.

Alpha Kappa

- Judy Bowyer (April 2022)
- Karen Davis (April 2022)
- Shay Dove (April 2022)
- Janice Heavner (April 2022)
- Beth High (April 2022)
- Carrie Nesselrodt (April 2022)
- Amy Rexrode (April 2022)
- Jessica Saville (April 2022)
- Taylor Yokum (April 2022)



Mentoring-A Sure Way to Support Members

Vicki Jenkins, WVSO 1st Vice-President

One of the major areas of concern addressed by members of the Revitalization Team is the issue of mentoring, especially new initiates. The definition of mentor is to “advise or train someone, especially a younger colleague”.

The Team identified ways to invigorate chapters and assist members in re-energizing their chapters. It is important to create a welcoming atmosphere for all members, but especially those who may be new to the organization. Chapters identify key issues of concern within their communities and assist where possible with a number of projects or initiatives. All members need to see the worth in joining DKG, but newer members especially need to feel valued. What we do as DKG members makes a difference to many!


In 2004, David Clutterbuck, an academic who studied mentoring relationships coined an acronym for what mentors do. He said:

- M**-Manage the relationship
- E**-Encourage
- N**-Nurture
- T**-Teach
- O**-Offer mutual support
- R**-Respond to the learner’s needs



Members socialize during the 2022 Leadership Conference

Everyone wants to feel valued, and we assist others by nurturing, supporting and encouraging one another. When we are able to intrinsically nurture, support and encourage one another, we all feel valued and appreciated and the mentor feels positive about their own ability to convey the ideals of DKG. Those who attended the leadership conference were given bookmarks that identified “What Can A Mentor Do?” President Joanne Gregory provided the following bookmark to attendees. Cut this valuable bookmark out of your newsletter and keep it as a sure way to support members.



WHAT CAN A MENTOR DO?

- M** – make time for interaction, maintain communication, and marvel at accomplishments
- E** – encourage growth, exemplify leadership, and empower membership
- N** – network with all members, nurture new ideas, and nudge ladies into active roles
- T** – talk about DKG, transfer knowledge to others, and team up for success
- O** – open-heartedly welcome opinions, orchestrate change, and optimize talents
- R** – recommend potential members, resolve to grow, and radiate kindness



**West Virginia
State Organization**

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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