



2024 WWSO Leadership Conference Success

WWSO ladies met at Canaan Valley Resort on April 5-6, 2024, for a wonderful weekend of learning and growing. It was a snowy, but beautiful weekend full of fellowship and sisterhood. Friday evening's entertainment from the Dulcimer Dames and Mary Dailey portraying WV History Alive character Minnie Reed were an excellent kick off to the weekend. Saturday was a busy day of workshops and sessions with a keynote address from Dr. Annie White from the Fred Rogers Institute on how we can support our helpers (teachers, caregivers, volunteer, etc.) and appreciate the work they are doing.

Before our luncheon, 1st Vice President Janet Lohr gave a special inspirational moment. Thanks to all of our workshop presenters for sharing their wealth of knowledge - Vickie Skavanski, Susan Marra, Janet Lohr, Jackie McDaniel, Lauren Jarroll, Deloris Lipps, Whitney Healy, Becky Heavner, Beth Post, and Barbara Tabaretti.

The Closing Session was a time of celebrating! Chapter Presidents were recognized for their work during their biennium and several chapters were awarded the Red Rose Award and Gold Rose Award. See Jackie McDaniel's article in this issue for how your chapter can earn these awards next year. The WWSO scholarship was awarded to Katlin Grantham who is working on her Educational Leadership Doctorate.

The final award presented was the WWSO Achievement Award. As always, members enjoy playing the guessing game of who the recipient will be. Here are a few clues from the presentation:

- This member has attended chapter and state executive board meetings, 17 state conventions, 17 state leadership development workshops, and has been the chairman of a state convention host committee.
- She sang in the state DKG choir for 10 years.
- She has been a member of the state and county education associations for more than 25 years.
- She is active in her church where she has been a member for more than 20 years. She sings in the choir and teaches Sunday school.
- She has been a member of DKG for 47 years.

She is a member of Alpha Delta Chapter in Jackson County.

This year's WWSO
Achievement Award
recipient is Lora Sturm.
Congratulations!





“Bits and Pieces”

Vickie Skavenski, WWSO President

“It’s a good day to be from West Virginia wherever you are!”

The first year of my biennium is over, and what a great time we had at the Leadership Conference in Canaan. It was snowy and cozy and wonderful. We were able to meet with members throughout the state to learn of their problems, successes, and ideas for the future.

From the Executive Board meeting came the idea for a new super ad hoc committee, State Leadership Plan Committee, which will be composed of Connie Boggs (Gamma) chair; Vicki Jenkins, (Eta); Gloria Urian, (Alpha); Ann Bennett, (Alpha Kappa); Meg Ashby, (Nu); and Susan Marra (Gamma). This committee will meet by zoom (invitation to be sent later) on June 18th at 7:00 along with the Executive Board and Support Personnel along with the chairs of the Communication and Publicity Committee, Vickie Saville (Alpha Kappa); Membership Expansion Committee, Jackie McDaniels, (Alpha Beta), and the Revitalization Committee, Rebecha Catlett, (Eta). We will discuss the results of the survey, Avenue M, and our plan to move forward working on membership throughout the state. I will be sending out information to these members next week.

We have at least fourteen members from Alpha, Beta, Xi, Nu, Alpha Beta, Gamma, Mu, Delta, and Alpha Kappa who are planning to attend the International Convention at National Harbor. This is wonderful because we will be able to spread out and cover many different sessions. If anyone else is planning to attend, there is still time to register. West Virginia will have several Newbees recognized and that is just great!

Omega and Nu chapters are planning an exciting WWSO Convention at Flatwoods, April 25-27, 2025, so please put it on your calendar now and be there with your sisters. DKG is much more exciting when you attend state and international events.

If you have not invited me to your chapter for a meeting, please keep this in mind as you plan your upcoming biennium. I have been to Alpha, Beta, Gamma, Alpha Beta, Alpha Zeta, Alpha Iota, and Alpha Kappa and am scheduled for Mu in September and Xi in October.

Have a great summer—enjoy your family and friends and this wonderful state in which we are privileged to live.

We’re looking for a new State Editor and Executive Secretary.

If you’re interested in learning more about these positions, please contact Vickie Skavenski - wvelac_2000@hotmail.com

Connie Boggs (Editor) - csue1986@gmail.com

Susan Marra (Executive Secretary) - smarra1950@gmail.com



Gems of West Virginia

By Janet Lohr
WVSO 1st Vice President

My part of West Virginia, the Eastern Panhandle, is home to one of the smallest state parks, Berkeley Springs. Consisting of 4.5 acres, only Fairfax Stone and Tu-Endie-Wei are considered smaller at 4 acres each. However, don't let the small size fool you; this park is packed with surprises.

The mineral springs at the park have been visited since before colonial times. Native Americans were known to frequent the "healing waters." George Washington visited in 1748 with a surveying team, and continued to return through the 1760s. Maintaining a constant 74 degree temperature, the springs draw visitors year-round to this day. Prefer to drink the waters? There is a public tap available, so bring your jug and take the healing powers home with you.

I took my children to the park, and now I take my grandchildren. It is a beautiful little spot, with trees and picnic tables. Children love to play in the warm springs (and so do adults).

If you prefer to swim rather than wade, there is a public pool, for a minimal fee. Just like the park, it is small, but delightful. For the adults, there are the Roman baths. The building dates back to 1815, and the waters in the nine private bathing chambers are heated to 102 degrees. The baths are more like small versions of lap pools, where customers can sit and relax or float around. The minerals in the water are not only good for your joints and muscles, they help you maintain buoyancy. Other spa services are available, but the Roman baths are a unique experience you should try at least once.

At the end of your day, you can stay at the historic Country Inn of Berkeley Springs, located beside the park. The lobby is worth a visit, even if you don't stay. You can try one of the several restaurants located at the inn, but I recommend eating on the garden patio, so you can continue to enjoy the park as you dine. Berkeley Springs State Park may be small in size, but it is filled with unique experiences for all ages. *I am still waiting for park memories from my DKG sisters. Send me an email (janilohr@comcast.net) with your favorite state park memory or story.



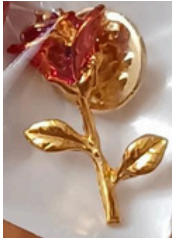
Who's Going to International Convention?

International Convention is a great way to learn more about DKG and its impact worldwide. It is also a fountain of ideas from other chapters who are facing the same issues that we are here in West Virginia.

At this time, Glenda and Jerry Wait, Joanne Gregory, Susan Marra, Deloris Lipps, Connie Boggs, Delphene Haddox, Jackie McDaniels, Beth Post, Susie Rogers, Gloria Urian, Diane Bowsher, Ann Bennett, and myself will be there. If I have missed anyone or if you have recently decided to attend, please send me (Vickie Skavenski) an email.

International events are not only educational and fun, but they give our state delegates a chance to be together, to share ideas for the future of WVSO DKG, and to get excited for our own upcoming convention in 2025.

Membership Updates from 2nd Vice President Jackie McDaniels



MEMBERSHIP RED ROSE AWARDS

Congratulations to the chapters that earned our NEW Membership Red Rose Award: **Beta, Nu, Xi, Omega, Alpha Beta, Alpha Iota, Alpha Mu, and Alpha Theta**. How did they do that? They inducted new members within April 1, 2023 – March 31, 2024.

This means that EVERY member of those chapters will receive a small, red rose pin.

They should be delivered soon!

Do you want your chapter to get in on the bling? Simply take in at least one new member between April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025. At least one chapter has already earned the next red rose pin! Is it yours?

WHAT IS THE GOLDEN ROSE AWARD?

The Golden Rose Award is a gold rose pin given to the president of each chapter that completes, by February 1st, at least 12 items on the list provided to the chapter presidents at the Leadership Conference. Keep these items in mind when planning for the coming year. Wouldn't it be great to have every president receive one?



WVSO Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee Update

The Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee will update the WVSO documents following the 2024 DKG International Convention. These revisions will reflect any amendments that passed during the general sessions that impact the WVSO Bylaws and Standing Rules. The authority for this action is found in the Standing Rules 8.1 Bylaws and Standing Rules 8.11 d. Any such changes will be sent to WVSO members for their information. Chapters should refer to these when updating their chapter rules.

As Article VIII, Section D, (3), the Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee "Shall receive and review chapter rules to ensure compliance with the current CONSTITUTION and State Bylaws." A copy of the chapter rules should be submitted by Dec. 1 to the Bylaws and Standing Rules Chairwoman via email or USPS. (See address below.)

During the WVSO Convention in April, the members will vote on proposed amendments to the WVSO Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Proposed amendments may be made by an individual or individuals, a chapter, the Executive Board, or a WVSO committee. The procedure for such action is for the proposed amendments to be submitted to the WVSO Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee with a postmark or email submission by January 5, 2025. The form for proposed amendments is on Page Five and the WVSO website. Go to <http://www.dkgwv.org/>, click on Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee, click on Proposed Bylaw Amendment Form. It can be completed on the computer or downloaded and printed.

Submit the form:

- electronically to busyteach@gmail.com or
- print it and mail it to Joanne Gregory, 1334 Morningside Dr., Charleston, WV 25314

WVSO Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee
2023 – 2025

Joanne Gregory – SW Chairwoman

Rosanne Glover – NE

Dr. Marilyn Susie Rogers – SE

Brenda Brown – SW

Sarah Sweeney – NW

West Virginia State Organization***DKG International**

Proposed Bylaws and/or Standing Rules Amendment

Proposed amendments are due to the Bylaws and Standing Rules committee chairwoman by January 5, 2025.

Postmark or email submission must be dated on or before January 5, 2025.

Please mail it to: Joanne Gregory 1334 Morningside Dr. Charleston, WV 25314 or

Email it to: Joanne at busyteach@gmail.com, Subject: Proposed Amendment.

Complete a separate form for each proposed amendment.

Mark only one (bylaw or standing rule)

 Proposed Bylaw Amendment

Article _____ Section _____ No. _____ letter _____ (no.) _____ (letter) _____

 Proposed Standing Rule Amendment

No. _____ letter _____

Presently reads:

(You may copy and paste from the documents found on the WVSODKG website.)

Amend by: (Circle one) Addition - Deletion - Substitution

Wording of amendment: (Write the wording of the proposed amendment.)

If amended, would read: (This is the new wording of the proposed amendment.)

Cost: _____ (What expenses would be required to implement the amendment?)

Rationale: (Why is the amendment being proposed?)

Proposed by: _____

Circle one: Individual - Chapter - Executive Board - Committee

Contact information: email - _____ Phone number - _____

2023 - 2025 Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee

Joanne Gregory, Beta - Chairwoman

Dr. Marilyn Susie Rogers, Nu

Brenda Brown, Alpha Delta

Sara Sweeney, Epsilon

Rosanne Glover, Alpha Kappa

Chapter News

Alpha Kappa

Alpha Kappa had a busy spring with special programs, projects, participating in the WVSO Leadership Conference, and installing new officers. At the March meeting, **Rosanne Glover** presented "The Art of Becoming Published" describing her journey in creating [Chloe, the Very Special Goat](#). **Susan Garrett** conducted a white rose remembrance ceremony for Dorothy Romine Harper, and the chapter helped to prepare World Fellowship bookmarks and travel bags for the upcoming state conference. Nine members were signed up to attend the meeting in Canaan Valley with Becky Heavner slated to present a session.

Donna Bodkins presented a slide show with highlights of the Leadership Conference to kick-off the April meeting. **Ann Bennett** explained the Lifelong Learning Institute program at WVU, **Jo Ann Harman** reported that a sugar maple tree will be planted by Alpha Kappa at Jackson's Mill in honor of **Annette Boggs**, and **Betty Inskip** read a note from Eastern Regional Family Services Network for the purses donated by the chapter.

Membership pins were presented at the April meeting to **Becky Heavner**, 5 years; **Donna Bodkins**, **Vickie Lambert**, and **Vickie Saville**, 15 years; **Cynthia Yokum**, 25 years; and **Jo Ann Harman** and **Beverly Mathias**, 35 years. Installed as officers for 24-26 were **Vickie Skavenski**, President; **Donna Bodkins**, First Vice-President; **Ann Bennett**, Second Vice-President; **Amber Champ**, Recording Secretary; **Angela Propst**, Corresponding Secretary; **Beverly Mathias**, Treasurer; and **Melissa Whetzel**, Parliamentarian.

The chapter book scholarship was presented to Zahra Brooks, a sophomore at Potomac State University. Journals were prepared for the nursing students at Potomac State and Eastern WV Community and Technical College.

Time to Start Thinking About 2025-2027 State Officers!

Information and Nomination Forms are available at
<http://www.dkgwv.org/nominations-committee.html>

Nominations forms are due January 6, 2025.

Beta

Beta Chapter along with Alpha Iota held the annual auction on March 19. Members were asked to bring a hidden item in a bag to be auctioned. Each chapter received approximately \$100.

On April 16, Frank Polion, a representative from Berea College located in Kentucky, provided our program. This college has unique opportunities that allows students who may not be able to go to college to attend.

On May 11, Alpha Iota hosted the Founders' Day event with a dinner at the John XXIII Pastoral Center.



Pictured left to right, Barb Tabaretti, Nancy White, Frank Polion, Louise Weber, graduate of Berea College, Natalie Tennant, guest.

Phi

Phi Chapter is fortunate to have two members, Theresa Bales and Susan Hardy, who frequently participate in activities at our local elementary schools because they have elementary-age grandchildren. So, Phi Chapter was pleasantly represented when they read to students on Dr. Seuss Day. Pictured on the left is Theresa, appropriately dressed as Dr. Seuss, with her granddaughter Bella. Susan is pictured on the right reading to a group of interested listeners at Welch Elementary, where her daughter, Katherine, teaches and four of her grandchildren are students.



Alpha Delta

The Alpha Delta chapter added 4 new members. They held the Induction at their May meeting. The new members are in the picture from left to right, **Missy Ross, Stephanie Casto, Krista Baker, and Amber Gwinn.**



Xi

Congratulations to **Dr. Glenda Wait** for having her article "Grit and Growth" published in *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin*.

Linda Kutliek and **Glenda Wait** attended a PreK Exposition to sign children up for Imagination Library. Glenda also represents Beckley Rotary. Club. XI and Rotary partnered to receive a Literacy Grant from Rotary International. Over 2 dozen children were signed up. What was encouraging was that more than half the children we encountered were already registered for Dolly Parton's Imagination Library.



Mu

The 2024 Recruitment Grant was presented to Breanna Helmick from Calhoun County High School during their awards ceremony in May.

At the April meeting, Mu Chapter treasurer **Carol Williams** presented the incoming president, **Meghan Sinclair**, with her chapter president's pin. (photo attached with Carol on the left and Meghan on the right)



Eta

Eta members have been busy this spring and are being recognized for their great work. **Katie Madrid** was recently named Jefferson County's 2025 Teacher of the Year. **Katlin Grantham** (below) received two scholarships for her doctorate degree work - one from Eta Chapter presented by Eta President **Theresa Campbell** and the other from WVSU. Congratulations!



Nu

Nu Chapter recently met to induct four new members and install chapter officers. Pictured below is 2022-2024 Nu President **Dr. Marilyn "Susie" Rogers** passing the gavel to 2024-2026 Nu President **Ressie Phillips.**



Alpha Epsilon

Alpha Epsilon members **Jean Hinzman** and **Janet Mundell** attended the Leadership Conference in April and shared Janet's recent publication in Goldenseal magazine.



WELLNESS IDEAS

By Barbara Tabaretti
Wellness Committee

1. Create music playlist for Exercising: develop a list of songs that match exercise you can do
 - o "Tiptoe Through the Tulips" for standing on tiptoes behind a chair.
 - o "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" for the mountain pose with hands lifted skyward.
 - o "I Think That I Shall Never See a Poem as Lovely as a Tree" for the tree pose.
 - o "Rock Around the Clock" for circular movement exercises.
 - o "I Feel Like Dancin'" for incorporating favorite dance steps.
2. Create a gratitude list:
 - o Begin each day with three things you are grateful for.
3. Read a good book

The Publication Awards Committee recognized the following chapters with Excellence Awards at the WVSO Leadership Conference in April:

Newsletters - Beta, Gamma, Eta, Mu, Nu, Xi, Alpha Kappa

Newspaper Clippings - Mu, Nu, Alpha Kappa

Traditional Scrapbook - Eta, Mu, Nu

Digital Scrapbook - Beta, Xi, Alpha Delta, Alpha Kappa

Single Display - Mu, Nu, Alpha Delta

Snapshots from Leadership Conference



Clockwise from top left: **Joanne Gregory** invites everyone to attend International Convention in National Harbor this summer, **Diana Bowsher** and **Gloria Urian** recognize "Shout-Outs" to raise funds for the Disaster Fund, **Alpha Chapter** poses for a picture, **Amber Champ** attends a workshop, and snowy Canaan Valley.





White Roses

"How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard." ~ A.A. Milne



Dr. Harriet Leurant (Beta) - March 29, 2024

Candolences

Anne Helmick (Eta) for the loss of her mother.

Marsha Stevens (Alpha Theta) for the loss of her sister, Betty Lou "Sissy Betty" Cohenour Dotson.

Brittany Vaughan (Mu) for the loss of her mother.

Sharon Norman (Alpha Theta) for the loss of her mother, Juanita Louise Lusk.

Phyllis Lusk-Banther (Alpha Theta) for the loss of her grandson, Dray Bennet Lusk.

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.

Please send correspondence to: Connie Boggs, Editor 50 Firehouse Rd. Fairmont, WV 26554 Phone - 304-376-3197

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**West Virginia
State Organization**