The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for Key Women Educators
West Virginia State Organization

NEWSETTE

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WEST VIRGINIA STATE ORGANIZATION 2023 CONVENTION

"EDUCATORS ARE SUPERHEROES"

The theme for the 2023 convention, "Educators are Superheroes," reflects the actions of teachers across the state, the country, and the world. In recognition of their dedication in the face of adversity, Mu and Pi chapters have chosen to honor the strengths and efforts of educators during the convention.

One way that WVSO members can support education in the flood-devastated area of Kentucky is to bring school supplies such as construction paper, tape, plastic page protectors, dry erase markers and erasers, glue, pencils, crayons, two-pocket folders, tissues, etc. These supplies will go to Whitesburg Elementary School in Whitesburg, Kentucky. The teachers and students are currently housed in Letcher County Central High School. Angela Craft, a Kentucky DKG member and kindergarten teacher, has provided information on the needs of the teachers and students. If there are any chapters interested in providing a few larger ticket items ($100 - $200) please contact President Joanne Gregory for items Angela has requested.

More information about our Convention is throughout this issue of the Newsette.

INTERNATIONAL 1ST VICE PRESIDENT CONNIE RENSINK TO ATTEND WV STATE CONVENTION

Connie Rensink will be the International Representative at the 2023 West Virginia State Organization (WVSO) Convention in Flatwoods. Mark your calendar and plan to attend the convention on April 21 – 23. Connie is currently the DKG International 1st Vice President. She was the International Member at Large from 2018–2022, during which time she served the Administrative Board as chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, Revitalization Committee, and ISF Committee. Connie Rensink has been both chair and member of the International Membership Committee, member of the International Scholarship Committee, and a DKG@theUN representative. She was the recipient of the Texas State Achievement Award in 2020, and she is the Director of Global Education for iEARN-USA.

You may have seen Connie's name as our revitalization plan was developed during this biennium. The Revitalization Team met with Connie via Zoom to explore the successful endeavors of our chapters, the glowing leadership across the state, and the areas where steps can be taken to increase membership, participation, and outreach in WVSO. Connie has maintained contact with WVSO and is supportive of the focus on mentoring, leadership, and volunteerism.

Connie will give an update on what is happening at the International level and will be available to talk with members throughout the convention. As we anticipate Connie's visit, if there are questions or concerns you would like her to address, send ideas to President Joanne at busyteach@gmail.com.

PERCEPTIONS FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

By Joanne L. Gregory

As 2022 comes to a close, I hope you have memories that warm your soul, accomplishments that fill your heart, and troubles that will dim with the passing of time. In 2023, may you flourish in the love of your family and friends, create moments of joy, and triumph over the challenges that you face. Enjoy reading about what lies ahead for WVSO!

WVSO 2023 Convention

Schedule-at-a-Glance

Friday, April 21, 2023

3:00 – 8:30 – Registration & Exhibits Received

3:30 – 4:30 – Executive Committee Meeting

7:00 – 8:30 – Friday Night Social

8:30 – 9:30 – Special Music Rehearsal

Saturday, April 22, 2023

8:00 – 9:15 – Registration & Exhibits Received

8:30 – 9:15 – Executive Board Meeting

9:30 – 11:30 – First General Session

12:00 – 1:45 – Celebration Luncheon

2:00 – 2:30 - Second General Session

2:45 – 3:30 – Breakout Workshops

3:45 – 4:45 – Take Away Sessions

5:00 – 5:30 – Special Music Rehearsal

6:15 - Presidents' Line Up for Banquet

6:30 – 9:00 – Presidents' Banquet

Sunday, April 2, 2023

9:00 – 9:45 – Ceremony of Remembrance

10:00 – 10:30 – Final General Session

10:45 – 11:30 – Executive Committee Meeting (2023 – 2025)

EXHIBITS, SILENT AUCTION BASKETS, AND CHAPTER SALES AT THE STATE CONVENTION

Once again, there will be displays of chapter exhibits including scrapbooks, newsletters, newspaper clippings, and single displays. Watch for an email about submitting digital scrapbooks as those will be judged prior to convention.

Chapters are asked to bring themed baskets for the silent auction. A variety of basket sizes with interesting products will appeal to many members and help raise funds for WVSO.

Chapters may choose to have a fundraising table during the convention. There is no cost for the table, and all proceeds will go directly to the chapter.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

September - December	Review **Chapter Rules** - send to the Bylaws & Standing Rules Committee – *larbogast53@gmail.com*
January 5, 2023	Amendments to the **Bylaws and Standing Rules** to larbogast53@gmail.com
January 5, 2023	**Nominations for WVSO officers** due
February 1, 2023	Deadline for **Local Leading Lady** recommendations
February 1, 2023	Submit WVSO **State Achievement Award** recommendations
February 1, 2023	Submit WVSO **Scholarship applications**
February 1, 2023	Submit **requests from state committees** to fund ongoing projects
March 1, 2023	Deadline for **spring Newsette** articles
April 7, 2023	Deadline for **$15 convention registration fee**
April 21 – 23, 2023	**WVSO Convention** – Flatwoods Days Inn Conference Center
May 1, 2023	Deadline for **Local Leading Lady** recommendations
June 1, 2023	Deadline for **summer Newsette** articles
July 1, 2023	**2023 – 2025 WVSO Officers** start their biennium

WV LOCAL LEADING LADY RECIPIENTS

Vicki Jenkins, 1st Vice-President WVSO

The Educational Excellence Committee of WVSO DKG is pleased to announce the Local Leading Lady award winners for the period ending Nov 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 February 1, 2023. Please email applications to me at jenkinsvicki00@gmail.com **AND** Joanne Gregory at busyteach@gmail.com.

Alpha Delta- Lora Sturm. Lora believes in volunteering and is involved as an alto singer in her church choir when she has participated for over 40 years. Her special skills in the kitchen have been utilized with her church bereavement committee and with the Jackson County Junior Fair. She also prepares lunch for her 96 year old mother-in-law and is involved with a local food panty and with the Jackson County Special Olympics Committee. Hats off to Lora!

Alpha Kappa-Amber Champ. Amber believes in giving back to her community and serves as an AWANA leader and 4-H volunteer and is past matron of her local Eastern Star organization. Amber also works with the Lady Shriners. She is active in her church where she serves as a Lay Leader in addition to serving on the SPPRC, finance, and administrative council committees. She also guides her school in the MIS (Motivating, Independent, School Leaders) program. Congrats Amber!

Eta-Mary Duke- Mary taught first grade for 45 years and continues to serve her community. She is a co-founding member of "Sister Acts" at her church. This group encourages women of all walks of life to work together and bring change as they support others. Mary is involved with Hospice (for over 32 years) where she has served in a variety of roles. Mary is a Master Gardner and has shared her talents with many organizations. She is also a WISH member at Shepherd University. Well done Mary!

Alpha Kappa-Pam Boggs. Pam is an avid volunteer who has served Pendleton County's 4-H camp for over 30 years. Pam also serves as an All Star Scout for the state 4-H program where she has served as a judge and leader in addition to presenting demonstrations. Pam is an active member of her church (Pleasant View UM) where she has taught Sunday school for over 50 years. Additionally, Pam has volunteered for over 30 years with the flower department of the Tri-County Fair. Kudos to Pam!

Alpha Kappa-Sharon Harr- Although Sharon retired from teaching, she did not retire from community activities. Sharon continues to serve as a judge for school and county science fairs and is a 4-H camp counselor. In addition, Sharon teaches Sunday school and assists with her church's Vacation Bible School. She also assists with the American Red Cross where she helps with blood drives. Her nominee says "she shares her talents and listens to all". Way to go Sharon!

Gamma-Aven Tallman-Recently retired, Aven continues to tutor students and is currently working with seven students. Aven also assists teachers and county office staff in ways to work with students who experience reading difficulty. She can be found assisting new and experienced teachers with IEPs and goal writing. Aven also consults with the teachers of her students and assists any way she can. Parents often attribute her work as the reason their child is successful. Hip hip, hooray Aven!

Nu-Lauren Jarroll- Lauren is involved with Read Aloud where she is the Nicholas County Director. She has helped secure numerous books for literacy promotion. Additionally, Lauren is involved in the Presbyterian Church where she serves on several committees and assumes leadership positions. The food pantry at the church is a special project and she helped add a traveling library in addition to the food pantry. Lauren's nominator says she is creative and energetic. You rock Lauren!

Nu Chapter-Lisa Bennett- Recently retired, Lisa's influence on her students has had a dramatic impact on their lives. Lisa chaired the Science Department for eight years and was a prom sponsor in addition to her many duties at NCHS. Lisa received special recognition and was honored by her students as she was voted to be the one to recognize the senior class at graduation multiple times. Lisa is involved in her church where she taught Sunday and Vacation Bible School. Three cheers for Lisa!

New Local Leading Applications will be accepted until February 1, 2023. Nominate a colleague for this special recognition. The Educational Excellence Committee will share ideas for chapter programs and projects during the WVDO Convention in April.

The Leader in You

2021 – 2023 WV State DKG

Cares Shares Listens

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2023

This is the time to think about who in your chapter has made a significant impact to the state organization. Think of her as a worker with the ideals of Delta Kappa Gamma as her goal., then go to the web site and fill out a nomination form so she may be considered for the WVSO State Achievement Award.

All nominations must be in by February 1. We need to have them in on time for the committee to make a selection.

To access the nomination form, go to:

http://www.dkgwv.org

Then select the WVSTATE tab, click on Achievement Award, and click on recommendation form.

Send completed forms to Lora Sturm, at lsturm67@yahoo.com .

TRACKING THE GOLD ROSE

Vickie Skavenski, WVSO Second Vice-President

I have been playing detective looking to see what each chapter has done towards earning the Gold Rose. Seven chapters are really close to completing 14 of the 20 items and many others have significant numbers. Things that I have checked so far include

- the Leadership Conference registration
- the award list for exhibits—display, scrapbook, newspaper clippings, newsletters
- the state committee and officer lists
- minutes from Zoom meetings for attendance
- new member lists in the Newsette
- Newsette articles
- Necrology reports
- Invitation to state president to attend a chapter meeting.
- Postings on the state website.

If you have a website, have collaborated with another chapter, have yearbooks and newsletters, have created a rising star, have chapter projects, etc., please let me know at wvelac_2000@hotmail.com. I am hoping that every chapter will be at the WVSO Convention and that we will recognize every chapter president, or her designated attendee with a Gold Rose!

NEWS FROM THE CHAPTERS

Alpha Beta

On September 11, West Virginia State President **Joanne Gregory** assisted with Alpha Beta Chapter's induction of three new members. **Sister Jeanne Bennett** was virtually inducted and decided to go through the ceremony with **Stephanie Johnson, Terri McCann & Sarah Nolte.**

Eta

At our October meeting, we collected around 300 children's books that will be distributed to our three counties. Our members enjoyed a fabulous lunch at Hospice of the Eastern Panhandle; their chef is quite talented.

The CFO of Hospice, Maria Lorenson, gave an overview of Hospice's work in our communities, especially with the growth we are experiencing here in the eastern part of the state. Our members created holiday cards to be given to the patients at Hospice's in-patient facility and to be delivered to those patients at home.

Our members will meet in December at a sister's home for our annual Christmas tea.

Gamma

Gamma Chapter held their October 22nd meeting at the home of member, **Chris Ruppenthal**. A delicious lunch was provided by **Pam Gardner and Chris**. State President, **Joanne Gregory,** presented the program. Members brought items for the Salvation Army Christmas Stockings. They also provided Halloween candy and stuffed over 250 treat bags that were passed out at Monongah Elementary's Trunk or Treat. On December 3rd members traveled to Elkins and enjoyed the Christmas Dinner Show at The Gandy Dancer Theater.

Alpha Iota

We celebrated our longest serving member of 56 years, **Lorella Boggess'** milestone birthday of 101 with a vintage basket of skincare treats. Our chapter thoroughly enjoyed Genene and Frank Gourley's presentation on their African trip to Kenya. They dressed in authentic clothing and provided a show-and-tell table of beautiful wood carvings!

Omega

Omega Chapter hosted an informational meeting featuring Katie Johnson, coordinator of the Integrated Community Engagement (ICE) Collaborative. ICE is in partnership with the West Virginia Prevention Research Center. The Collaborative is a substance use prevention model that is based on confidential student surveys that are taken in Fayette County 7th-12th grades. The goal of the ICE Collaborative is to delay or prevent the initiation of substance use. The model comes from Reykjavik, Iceland where community members rallied around their youth who were suffering high rates of alcohol use. Much of their success came from encouraging parents to spend more time with their children, their children's friends and their children's friends' parents. They also organized the community to offer a plethora of meaningful, outside of school activities for youth involvement

Beta

Beta Chapter's meeting in September featured state president **Joanne Gregory**. She gave an update of information from the 2022 Convention in New Orleans, LA. In October, **Kathy Thomas**, discussed the Educational Elevators program that pairs business mentors with students in Kanawaha County Schools.

At our November meeting, **Jeanette Farmer** gave a presentation on YWCA Sojourner's Margaret Taylor Job Center. She has recently retired from being the education coordinator of this program and gave our members an overview of how this program assists people seeking to continue their education and find employment. **Karen Simon and Lori Ray** took morning snacks and coffee to teachers at Edgewood Elementary. Each teacher was given a bookmark with information about Beta Chapter.

On October 1, Alpha Iota Chapter invited Beta Chapter to join them in the American Heart Walk at Power Park. We raised over $400.

In addition, we visited the Davis Child Shelter on November 11 and enjoyed a day of interacting with the children housed there. We had games, gifts and snacks for all to enjoy.

Mu

Mu Chapter had its annual paper bag auction at the November meeting to raise money to help fund the chapter's Recruitment Grant.

State President **Joanne Gregory** visited the chapter at the November meeting.

White Roses

Helen Kay Williams, Alpha
August 19, 2022

Treva L. Kerns, Eta
September 9, 2022

Eleanor Jean Effland, Eta
September 15, 2022

Waneila Chloe Halbritter, Gamma
October 11, 2022

Condolences

Christy Groves (Alpha), loss of spouse David Groves

Carol Hastie (Alpha), loss of spouse Tom Hastie

Beta Chapter will be selling license plate frames for a fundraiser. The frame has red roses and DKG in gold is placed at the bottom.

They sell for $20 if buying in person or $25 if being mailed. To purchase send $25 check made to Barbara Tabaretti along with your name and mailing address.
Send to:

108 Judith Drive
Charleston, WV 25387

LEADERSHIP: INSIGHTS & ADVICE

The Nominations Committee invites members to become WVSO Officers for the 2023-2025 biennium. Serving our state as an officer or other leadership position is an exciting and fun adventure. This is what some of our current state leaders have to say about their experiences as leaders in DKG:

"Be open to new possibilities. Any time I have needed support or questions answered, I was able to rely on a fellow DKG member to assist me. In order to grow, one needs to travel outside of the comfort zone and new discoveries can be made." -Barbara Tabaretti, Beta Chapter

"The most impressive aspect of state leadership has been the opportunity to meet and network with educators in all fields and at all levels of the academic environment. Although there are many common aspects of being an educator, there are unique opportunities also." – Joanne Gregory, Beta Chapter

"I feel leadership is a responsibility as much as an opportunity. In our busy lives it's sometimes hard to meet the needs of the job, but I know that I have a team behind me, and the job will get done. I have learned I am not in this alone! We all have activities or situations that we avoid because we're afraid or feel uncomfortable. Those are the ones we need to tackle first, and with enthusiasm. Embrace discomfort and you will triumph with confidence." -Claytina Shepherd, Xi Chapter

Any member interested in learning more about becoming a state leader or officer can contact Nominating Committee Chair, Rebecha Catlett (garagesalediva@frontier.com). The deadline for nominations is January 5, 2023.

Alpha

Alpha Chapter is trying something new this year. We have decided to try putting our focus for donations to one organization. This year we will be giving to the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Fund. We had set a goal of $500. As of our November 5, 2022 meeting we have already met that goal. The new goal? Let's see just how much we can raise. This year we have decided to meet at several of the different libraries throughout Cabell County.

WEST VIRGINIA DELTA KAPPA GAMMA STATE CONVENTION
Hosted by Mu and Pi Chapters
April 21 - 23, 2023

Flatwoods Days Inn and Suites
350 Days Drive, Sutton, WV 26601

Call 1-866-700-7284 to make reservations. **Reserve by April 10, 2023**
Ask for Delta Kappa Gamma West Virginia State Convention to get the group rate.

$96.00 + tax for 1 or 2 persons. Free breakfast for up to 2 persons per room.

Convention Registration Form

Send this form and a check payable to **DKG - Mu Chapter** to the convention treasurer
Carol Williams, 128 Locust Ave., Spencer, WV 25276

Please print the following information:

Name _____ Chapter _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Email Address _____

Chapter Office _____ State Office or Committee _____

I am interested in participating in the state chorus.....Yes_____ No_____

Registration ..... $15.00 ($20.00 if postmarked after April 7) ..... $ _____

Friday Night Social Event (7:00 - 8:30)..... I will attend Yes _____ No _____

(All breakfasts are in the Woods and Waters Restaurant 6:30 - 9:30 a.m. included in room rate)

Founders' Day Celebration Luncheon (Saturday) ..... $ _____
Boxed lunch includes sandwich on chef's choice of bread, chips, cookies, whole seasonal fruit, and bottled water. Price includes tax and service charge. **Please circle your choice of sandwich.**

Ham ($26) Turkey ($26) Chicken Salad ($26) Hummus Wrap ($31)

President's Banquet (Saturday evening) ..... $46.00 $ _____
Garden salad, tortellini primavera, meat lasagna, pasta with marinara sauce, roasted garlic bread, cheesecake and beverages (tea, water, and coffee). Price includes tax and service charge.

Total Enclosed $ _____

Alpha Kappa

Members of Alpha Kappa Chapter met in October to enjoy the fellowship they share, to complete projects, and to pay tribute to a lost member. Ruby Alvaro shared a beautiful White Rose Remembrance Ceremony for Sharon Floyd who passed on June 21, 2022. Members prepared nursing journals for EWCTC (32) and Potomac State College (24). They packed about 50 dresses for their "Little Dress for Africa" project. Alpha Kappa also took a chapter picture to be include in the new state history that is being compiled.

The chapter has been giving an annual Book Award of $500 for a student majoring in education at Potomac State College. This year's recipient was Madison Hawk. Hoping to encourage an interest in teaching, members also agreed to begin presenting a Book Award to a student at Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College.

The November meeting found us holding our World Fellowship Auction. Twenty-nine members attended, the bidding at times was heated, and we raised the highest amount we have ever raised--$842.00!

Congratulations to Vickie Skavenski for being accepted to the DKG Fine Arts Gallery for the fall submission period! Her photo is called "Through the Cafe Window."

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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