

THE LimeLighter

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Oklahoma State Organization

December 2022 Vol. LXX, No. 2
okdkg.org

It's All About "Time"

It's About Christmas "Time"

By Cynthia Adair



Be still.....listen We have come to the time of year when we are wondering! How did we get this much on our plates? How did this happen again!! We have taken our already busy lives and added on extras.....programs, rehearsals, trips, shopping, family obligations, special occasions.

Demands on our time have not seemed greater until today. Now, it's just too much. While we may look forward to and enjoy some of these "extras," there are always the ones we wonder why we ever

agreed to do. Yet, sometimes those are the ones we enjoy the most and reminisce over in the years to come.

Why do we let ourselves become overbooked and then overwhelmed at attempting to do it all? Are we fearful of failing or of not meeting someone's expectations of us?

Stop! It's okay to stop. Stop and sit awhile in the quiet of your home, your classroom, your car, wherever you can find a quiet spot for solitude. In the quiet of these moments, you need to breathe deeply and relax slowly.

Listen; just listen. No radio, no CDs, no children, no conversations, no phone calls, no texting. Just be quiet. You may be amazed at what you discover about yourself.

This moment of solitude may help you find the strength and wisdom to face the next demand on your time and your being.

While I hope you can find some time for solitude, I do wish you a wonderful Christmas season, full of hope and bountiful blessings. Remember to make some time for you as you are important and need the quiet. Remember to listen, just listen.

It's About "Time"

By Beth Schieber

After reading the inspirational column by Cynthia, I sat myself down and did some thinking about the holidays. In addition, I read many insightful pieces about the time we spend during the holidays and how we spend it. These are just a few of the things about time that really stand out in my life. Cynthia's words of wisdom and my thoughts seem to fit together nicely, and I hope you, the reader, will take away from both of us, a wee bit of beneficial holiday advice.

- * Practice active listening. It's easy to tune out, but try being attentive by using active listening. Put away your smartphone, turn off the television and turn down the music so you can hear people. Try to understand the complete message people are communicating — not just through their words, but also through their actions and body language.

- * Communicate how you care in different ways. The holidays often mean gift-giving, but there are many other ways

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*DKG Oklahoma
Serving Education
Honoring Tradition*

Lori's Letters



Lori's Letters

According to Catherine Pulsifer, "When we remember a special Christmas, it is not the presents that made it special; rather it is the laughter, the feeling of love, and the togetherness of friends and family that made that Christmas special." I think our Christmas styled conference was a perfect example of the "togetherness of friends and family" that made it special. I sincerely hope that your Christmas will be a special Christmas this year.

Most Sincerely,
Lori



OSO Members

Diane Laase reports we now have 480 members; that is a combination of active, reserve and honorary members.



100 things

In preparation for our DKG Centennial, International encouraged us to do something connected to 100. We listed favorite things about DKG at our Conference last June. Here are two more members' comments.

"DKG encouraged me to pur-

sue my doctorate in 2017, not just with my scholarship, but also with the encouragement to support women educators and grow as an educator. My mother and grandmother paved the way for me as women educators. I simply followed in their steps." Elayne Bowman

"Because of my membership each day I am blessed. I love you all." Member Unknown

"I have met and continue to interact with several key, innovating teachers, including my daughter." Paula Walker



Convention 2023

We are steadily working toward our convention in June. I was notified just a few days ago that our International Guest will be our International President Dr. Debbie LeBlanc. I am thrilled that she will be joining us. Please mark your calendars!

Shelly and I will work to establish the accommodations for the hotel and meals soon. Those will be sent to chapter presidents to be shared with you, and posted on the website. As you may remember our theme will be "Share Your Adventure" and we will use travel theme decorating items. I am looking for ladies that would be interested in teaching others a skill or craft at the Friday evening Make n' Take. We will have many items to discuss and vote on during the Executive Board meeting. I encourage all of you to attend and give input on the amendments.



Leadership Training for New State Leaders

The summer training for our

state leaders will be June 23-25, in Irving, Texas.

This training is for the new OSO President, Treasurer, Membership Chair, EEC Chair, and Secretary. Lodging and meals will be provided for all participants.



Coping with the Blues at Holiday Time (Zoom Meeting)

Beverly Johns asked Dr. Ellen Williams to share her presentation. I will be happy to share those slides with you if you will contact me. Here are some notes that I made from those slides.

The holiday blues tend to creep in from October 31 to January 1.

If you have expectations or make demands, here is what you are likely to experience:

- You may feel anxious, irritable, agitated, angry, impatient, frustrated, or sad.
- You may be more likely to eat more, drink more, be sleepless or exercise less.
- You may also have headaches, stomach distress, tense muscles or backaches.
- Your relationships may also be affected.

Here are some examples of coping skills that you may want to implement:

- ⇒ be present in the moment
- ⇒ be accepting without judgement
- ⇒ be grateful
- ⇒ use breathing exercises
- ⇒ remain calm
- ⇒ meditate

We must remember to take care of ourselves.

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Lori's Letters

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From the December, 2022, International President's Page

International asks that we work to **update our By-Laws and Standing Rules**. These can be found in the *Collegial Exchange*. Committees can look into the various blogs on the website to connect with others.

There are **26 communities** to share ideas and thoughts/questions. They have a meeting the last Tuesday of the month.

We must remember to submit ladies (honor/celebrate) to International for features in the **Member Spotlight** and/or **Project**

Spotlight on the website.

Workshops/Breakout proposals for International Conference are due **January 16, 2023**.

Those conferences are in **Detroit, MI July 11-16; Phoenix, AZ July 18-22; and Tampere, Finland, July 26-29**.

Arts & Humanities Gallery opens January 15, 2023.

Scholarship Applications are due **February 1, 2023**.

DKGIEF Educational Projects Application due **March 1, 2023**.

International Achievement Award nominations due **March 1, 2023**.



Share Your Chapter Projects

Project Spotlight

by: DKG Blogger Nov 3, 2022

KGSI

Many DKG chapters are doing great things. Members are teaching, learning, sharing, and growing in their schools and communities. Incredible projects are taking place across our organization!

Once a project is well under way, chapters are encouraged to take one more step. Submit an article to DKG's Project Spotlight. Project Spotlight is found on the [DKG website](#), under the Programs/Projects tab. It serves to share information about projects done well, so that others can replicate them or be inspired to create a similar one of their own.

The process is simple, just write a brief article about the project and include pictures if possible. Submit the article to [Trish Woodley, DKG Membership Director](#). Members from across our organization will be glad that you did.

Belinda Clift and Beth Schieber Assigned Phoenix Responsibilities



Belinda Clift, Alpha Chi, is serving on the Phoenix Expo Committee, and she is in charge

of facilitating International committee tables. Each committee will share with attendees the work of that committee and how it benefits members as well as encouraging member involvement.

Belinda also chairs the International Communications Committee and has responsibilities connected with that committee.

Beth Schieber, Beta Beta, is the chair of Volunteers for the International Conference in Phoenix. If you are going to Phoenix in July of 2023, please contact Beth and volunteer.

Beth also chairs the DKGIEF (DKG International Educators Foundation) Communications Committee and Educational Projects.



Beth Schieber

OSO 2021-2023 SCRAPBOOK

OSO Chapters are asked to submit one (or two scrapbook) pages for the OSO Scrapbook which will be presented to *President Lori Richardson-Morphew* at the state conference in early June.

The scrapbook is a 12 x 12 Scrapbook with 3-rings. If you have used a 2-ring page, please make sure that it can be easily removed from the sheet protector so I can put it into a 3-ring sheet protector. If your chapter is doing only one page, please put 2021 activities on one side and 2022 activities on the other side of the scrapbook page. If your chapter would like to use two pages please put one year's pictures and information on one scrapbook page and the next year's on a second scrapbook page. Please include pictures, news articles, names of officers, and names of people in the pictures. You may mail your completed pages to me or bring them to the OSO Conference in early June.

Alice Pettit
300 Early Dawn Dr.
Edmond, OK 73034
405-613-3336

If you need to email me, please put DKG/OSO in the Subject Line so I know it is a DKG/OSO related email. I will not open an email if I do not recognize the email address! alempet@yahoo.com

Thank you very much for your help!
Alice Pettit, OSO SCRAPBOOK CHAIR



Oklahoma State Organization State Project

Operation ENGAGEMENT

TRANSFORMING CLASSROOMS. TRANSFORMING EDUCATION.

Our mission is to spark student engagement and inquiry,
inspiring joyous, lifelong learning.

OSO has chosen Operation Engagement as its statewide project. This nonprofit organization was founded by a group of Yukon educators, and it offers a selection of thematic classroom kits that may be checked out by teachers across the state.

Each kit includes a variety of backdrops, costumes and artifacts to engage students in the study of themes, such as construction, space, dinosaurs, courtroom, pirates, detective, safari and STEM.

The kits can be used at any grade level and subject area, and they align with curriculum and academic standards. The kits are free and may be checked out for a week. See: operationengagement.org.

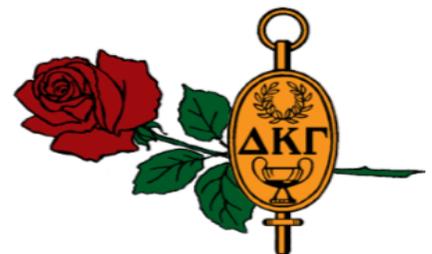
Red Rose



Beta Nu celebrates
Billye Mae Sayers in hon-
or of her 90th birthday on
Dec. 21, 2022.

She has been an mem-
ber of Delta Kappa Gam-
ma since 1976.

Happy
Birthday,
Billye Mae!



Tebow-Herrington Leadership Seminar

OKLAHOMA STATE ORGANIZATION

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the Tebow-Herrington Leadership Seminar at the 6400 square foot Robert's Retreat and Lodge, centrally located just north of Ada. Space will be limited to 25 participants. Applications can be found at okdkg.org on the forms protected page.



“Lead Her Ship”

Tebow-Herrington Leadership Seminar

Strengthen your professional leadership skills!

When: April 28 – 30, 2023

Check in after 4:00 pm on Friday – Check out at 11:00 am on Sunday

Where: Robert's Retreat Lodge



Calendar

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

DKG International Conferences

Michigan – Detroit, July 11-16, 2023
The Westin Book Cadillac

Arizona – Phoenix, July 18-22, 2023
Sheraton Wild Horse Pass

Finland – Tampere, July 26-29, 2023
Tampere Hall

OKLAHOMA EVENTS

Oklahoma State Organization Conference

Oklahoma City
June 2 - 3, 2023
Embassy Suites
1815 South Meridian



DEADLINES

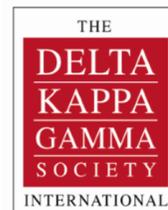
International Conference Workshop proposals
January 16, 2023

Scholarship Application
February 1, 2023

Arts & Humanities Submissions for Spring Gallery
February 15, 2023

CTAUN tentatively
February 24, 2023

International Achievement Award Nomination
March 1, 2023



World Fellowship

**Contributions to World Fellowship,
one of the nine funds managed by
DKGIEF, change lives.**

A World Fellowship recipient from Ukraine said that DKG support for women gives her a sense of empowerment because DKG members have encouraged her with their words and financial support. “I’ve been very touched by this endless support, and I honestly feel like they are helping me mentally to survive these dark times away from home.”

A World Fellowship recipient from Kazakhstan said, “I hope to return to my country and apply my knowledge to make the lives of kids with special needs better. I am grateful to DKG for this life-changing opportunity.”

The World Fellowship Fund, established in 1960,

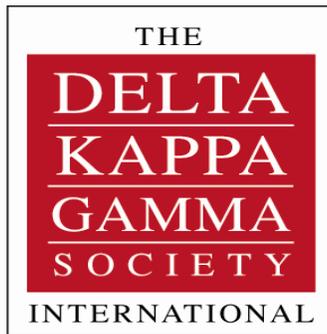
has provided awards totaling \$3,739,250 for 1,029 women from 122 countries to pursue graduate studies in Canada and the United States. Twenty-five women in 23 countries received awards in 2021-2022 totaling \$83,500.

The amounts and numbers of World Fellowship awards depend on contributions to the fund.

Your donation helps other women become future leaders around the world. Your gift to the World Fellowship Fund through DKGIEF supports the dreams of countless women and impacts countless others.



The Limelighter



Send e-mail articles to:
triumphantheartwoman@yahoo.com
Beth Schieber, Editor

Oklahoma State Organization
The Delta Kappa Gamma
Society International

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**The Delta Kappa
Gamma Society
International**

**...promotes
professional and
personal growth of
women educators
and excellence in
education.**

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of showing that you care. Explore how you show your care. Are there additional ways to show feeling or care, such as spending quality time, expressing how you feel about them directly, or doing something thoughtful and supportive?

- * Balance the “should” and “have to” with your own needs. Holiday obligations can be important, but be sure to balance them with the time and space you need to nourish yourself in the meantime.
- * Practice self-compassion. During a busy holiday season, don’t forget to take care of yourself and be good to yourself. You may even find that when you take care of yourself, it is possible to be kinder and more giving to others—all keeping in the holiday spirit.

- * It’s important to take some time off. So many of us struggle just to be still for awhile.
- * Play with your kids. Turn the television off and put down the tablets and go outside and play. If the weather has other ideas, play board games or puzzles or build a fort out of the couch cushions and have a camp-out inside.
- * Make time for your partner. Express gratitude—make this your New Year’s resolution. Regularly thanking one another, even for little things, will be life-changing.
- * Visit with your elderly relatives or at least give them a call. There is nothing your grandma wants more than to hear your voice or to see your face.
- * Write a note to your friends and/or neighbors just because.
- * And, if you are an introvert

- like me, spend some time by yourself. Take walks in the park with your dog or sit by the window with your cat while he talks to the birds. Pretend to read in a coffee shop while you secretly eavesdrop and people-watch. Maybe you don’t need to plan anything, do anything, or be anything. Read the book that keeps slipping to the bottom of the pile. Watch the DVD you’ve heard others rave about. Listen to music you love for as long as you want. Make that special recipe.
- * Be with others. Attend church services. Volunteer at a local shelter. Go to places others congregate. Be open to meeting new people and you will.
- * **Most Importantly!** Be kind to yourself and kind to others during this holiday season.

Educational Excellence-Be Generationally Savvy

Dr. Jo Ann Pierce
1st Vice-president



Sometimes it's hard to teach an old dog new tricks, but I'm learning from my daughter and daughter-in-law quickly that modern working wives and mothers are so much cooler than I was. Give me some credit — my son and my daughter went to college and are gainfully employed, but I did not realize how much I would learn from them as I matured. Many Baby Boomers like me are old dogs, but we can look at our upcoming generations and applaud their strengths or we can point out their weaknesses one by one and lament their shortcomings. As members of DKG, we have witnessed the decline of membership starting with **Generation X**, continuing with **Generation Y** or **Millennials** and carrying on with **Generation Z**.

Women to the calling...we are called to let go of the comfort blankets we cling to before they smother us and get on board with

our young women educators. We can learn so much—we need to be generationally savvy.

I choose to embrace our **Generation X** teachers born between 1965 and 1980. They don't see themselves as anything special, but they often question authority. They have been stereotyped rather negatively as cynical and passive, but they are individualistic, motivated to learn as evidenced by greater levels of education than any other women before them. As educators, they have married later and divorced sooner than previous generations as they seek to maintain work-life balance. They want to save the neighborhood, not the world (must be a great DKG starting point there). Their self-absorption and self-reliance make them great entrepreneurs (maybe they can overhaul your chapter and make it new again). They don't like night meetings and Saturday meetings. Find ways to make meetings a part of their day (lunch meetings on campus or right after school). Let them design and plan the meetings.

Generation Y or **Millennials** were born between 1981 and 2000. They respect authority and schedule everything, so get on their schedule. They are team players with unlimited ways of accessing information. They have strong views and want quick answers, so long meetings with long agendas bore them to tears. Secret scooby-doo rituals do not impress them as they seek diversity and inclusion without fanfare. They have been told they are special, so they do love to hear good

things about themselves. As parents they give what they expect, so Pinterest inspired charcuterie boards might be the highlight at a Christmas DKG meeting and Bento box lunches will delight their children and be the envy of others in the school cafeteria. As educators, these young teachers were raised in schools where they might be shot, so they know the world is not a safe place. They can be great change agents to revive your DKG chapter. Some of these young teachers might do a "Just for Fun" program and teach you how to make a lovely Christmas charcuterie board or help you spruce up your next brown bag lunch. (Wouldn't it be fun for everyone to bring a Bento box to a meeting and give it away to a teacher to give to a child who does not have one!)

Finally, **Generation Z** teachers are much like Baby Boomers and are just entering classrooms. They were born after 2001. They were handed a smart phone soon after delivery (no eye rolling). They are growing up in a highly diverse world often compared to the crazy times of the 1970s. Our parents thought our morals were bad, and that is why Baby Boomers will relate well to **Gen Z**. Since, the 1700s, the most common last name in the US was "Smith," but not anymore; now it is Rodriguez." How has your chapter changed to reach out to the growing diversities of our world? **Gen Z** knows how to do that! Make sure you capitalize your new teacher activities on

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Spotlight Moment Field of Dreams

The DKG International Arts and Humanities Jury announces that **Beth Schieber's** photograph 'Field of Dreams,' has been accepted into the Fall DKG Fine Arts Gallery. Schieber says she was watching her granddaughter **Kamryn Schieber** pitching during one of her softball games. Her granddaughter was so intent on her pitch that she just had to try and capture her in that moment.

"WaWa," as she is called by her grandchildren, knows how long and how hard Kamryn works to fulfill her dream. She takes pitching and hitting lessons and dedicates endless hours practicing with her team and by herself.

Kamryn is 10 years old at this time, and she played on the Pink Sox, which is 10 and under.

The jury anticipates the unveiling of the new DKG Fine Arts Gallery by mid-November. Schieber's work will be displayed on the gallery for six months, after which it will be archived for two years.

Another opportunity for showcasing her accepted work is at the DKG International 2023 Conference or 2024 Convention Expo.



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Dr. Jo Ann Pierce

changing times. What is your chapter doing to reach students at the college level who are choosing teaching? **Gen Z** or Zoomers are our newest membership possibility, so time to learn.

I am open to new tricks!! If you are an old dog like me, let your DKG legacy be one of empowering our younger generations to command DKG leadership with positivity and new ways of engagement. They are not going to come to us...we go where they are. Let's throw off our blankets and make some members. As we

continue to nurture the rose in us, may we also nurture the rose in a new generation with excellence.

Have a wonderful Christmas — go make a pretty charcuterie board for a teacher's lounge in your neighborhood—just for fun!



<https://thebakermama.com/recipes/healthy-santa-snack-board/>

<https://thebakermama.com/recipes/holly-jolly-kids-snack-board/>

International Project Focus . . .

Schools for Africa



In 2017, 64 million children of primary school age across Africa were not in school. 54% of these children live in sub-Saharan Africa. Approximately 50% of the sub-Saharan population is under 18.

Since 2010, Delta Kappa Society International has partnered with UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund) to help fund its **Schools for Africa** program. The program provides **quality basic education to school-age children in sub-Saharan Africa, focusing on girls, orphans and other vulnerable children.** SFA currently operates in 13 countries: Angola, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Over 30 million children have benefitted from Schools for Africa programs. For example, the **TechnoGirl program** places girls in STEM fields, and the **KIND program (Kids in Need of Desks)** supplies desks for classrooms. Schools for Africa also provides emergency classroom supplies and shelters after natural disasters.

Below: Students are attending school in a tent provided by SFA.



SFA's objectives include:

- Building and improving **classroom buildings and equipment**
- Creating **safe and productive learning and play environments**
- Providing access to **clean water and sanitation** facilities for boys and girls in schools
- Supplying exercise books, pens, proper furniture and other **school and sports materials**
- Training teachers to provide **proper hygiene and HIV prevention**
- Providing other interventions, such as **health checkups, immunizations and scholarships**
- Promoting stimulating **early education** opportunities for children under 5 years of age
- Fostering **community participation** in managing local schools

ByLaws and Standing Rules

Please submit Bylaws/ Standing rules amendments to the bylaws chairman so she can share them with her committee for review and the proposed amendments can be printed in the April *LimeLighter*.

Some housekeeping changes that involve items we no longer do and need removal are already being reviewed.

ByLaws and Standing Rules Committee Suggestions:

- **Scholarship Committee** needs to look at Standing Rule 4.6.1.8. Do International Scholarships need to be a part of our Standing Rules? If so, the address needs to be changed. Also, the Scholarship Committee needs to look at SR 8.2.2.7.

- The **Essay Committee** should review how essay guidelines are distributed to schools in SR 8.3.3.7.
- Since OSO no longer has an expansion committee, should SR 5.2.2.4 be omitted or changed?
- Does the President send all committee chairs to International conventions and/or conferences or only a select few?
- Because the *LimeLighter* is digital, are the permanent files on a flash drive and who is responsible for storing these?
- Should **Creative Women** should consider Nonfiction as a category?

As chairman, I want to hear

from the committees, officers or chairman relating to these items. I suggest committees, officers, chapter and members submit any changes, omissions or additions that our organization needs to consider.

Any member or committee can propose bylaws/standing rules changes.



Suzanne Ritter
Bylaws/
Standing
Rules

International Scholarships

AWARDING SCHOLARSHIPS TO OUTSTANDING DKG WOMEN AND ADVANCING PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL GROWTH THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS

As many as 30 scholarships are awarded each year to members pursuing advance degrees. Scholarships for those seeking other graduate studies are \$6,000 and a doctorate is \$10,000.

Who should apply? To qualify for a scholarship at the International level, the applicant must:

- Be an active member of the Society for a minimum of three years if pursuing doctoral studies, or be an active member of the Society for a minimum of one (1) year at the time of application if pursuing other graduate studies.
- Have completed a bachelor's degree or

equivalent.

- Be accepted and enrolled in a graduate program of a nationally accredited institution of higher education, preferably pursuing a doctoral degree.
- Provide evidence of excellence in scholarship and service to the community.
- Be a first-time recipient of an international scholarship (International Standing Rule 13.62).
- Complete current application form available July 1 on Society website.
- Request and submit appropriate transcripts.
- Obtain status of program documentation.
- Secure letters of recommendation.
- Send application as an e-mail attachment to Society Headquarters by **February 1, 2023.**

US Forum

Mental Health Issues for Educational Staff

One of the U.S. Forum Resolutions “is to recognize the significance of Mental Health Issues for Educational Staff and promoting appropriate support services.” Educators certificated and classified staff were surveyed and the results are as follows:

73% of teachers report frequent job-related stress compared to 40% of other working adults.

27% of educators have symptoms consistent with a diagnosis of clinical depression (compared to 10%).

37% of educators have generalized anxiety disorder symptoms as compared to pre-pandemic levels of 12%.

Only 6% of teachers received counseling support from their schools.

Only 16% reported school or

district mental health benefits as adequate.

30,000 educators surveyed report that disrespect by elected officials, parents and community, students and the media, bullying threats and assaults have contributed to increased stress and feelings of anxiety.

57% of educators indicate they are seriously worried about burn-out.

53% are thinking more about leaving the profession than they did before the pandemic.

If you fall in one or more of these categories, the following may help you! You need to establish work-life balance and acknowledge emotional needs without judgment. Make time to exercise and have good nutrition. Take time to connect with loved ones, get involved with hobbies and interests and fight the tenden-

cy toward shame with self-compassion. Strengthen boundaries to protect self-care instead of repeatedly sacrificing your needs. Get help for unhealthy coping (addiction, behaviors that are harmful to self or others.). Utilize your support system (friends and family, book clubs or hiking groups or other groups). Reach out to a mental health profession.

If you don't fall in one or more of these categories, be a friend and assist someone that does, but only in a caring and non-judgmental way. We can all help one another and when we do, this makes us all better.



Sandra Pendergraft
US Forum
Chair

Shopping at smile.amazon.com Supports the DKGIEF!



DKGSI

Did you know that you can make a charitable contribution, with no direct cost to yourself, by simply changing how you order items on Amazon? Instead of go-

ing to the default Amazon website, go to <https://smile.amazon.com> and choose DKG International Educators Foundation as your designated charity.

You can also go directly to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/74-6066228> and start shopping immediately.

At smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experiences as at Amazon.com—but, best of all, you will be supporting DKG's foundation.

Once you begin shopping, the Amazon-Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible Amazon-Smile purchases. These donations will help support effective educational projects and charitable activities of DKG and professional growth of educators worldwide.

Thanks for considering changing how you make purchases on Amazon. Encourage your family and friends to choose DKG International Educators Foundation when they shop at Amazon. Together, we can all help to impact education worldwide.

MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE...

U.S. FORUM

 **DKG** *International Conference*

JULY, 2023



Detroit, MI

JULY 11-16

THE WESTIN BOOK CADILLAC



Phoenix, AZ

JULY 18-22

SHERATON WILDHORSE PASS



U.S. FORUM
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
usforumdkg.org

For More
Information Visit:

<https://dkgusforum.org/> 

Funding For Educational Opportunities

EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS

It is extremely likely that you or someone you know has had a fantastic idea for a project involving your chapter or state organization, but had trouble obtaining the funding necessary to help the project succeed. The answer may be applying for the Educational Project Award.

The DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF) provides monies which support projects designed to address intercultural understanding, encourage standards of excellence in education, or assist and cooperate with various funds in support of the improvement of education.

For more information, you can visit the [DKG website](#). From the Home page, look to the far right of the black banner and click on [DKGIEF](#) before scrolling to Educational Projects. Tabs labeled Apply, Recipients, Mid-Year Form and Year-End Form will give you access to further information about the grant process. Click on Recipients to peruse the various projects which have been approved. You will surely be amazed to discover that you have had very similar ideas, but just didn't know where to turn for assistance in getting those projects off the ground.

The application process is simple, and all documents are filed electronically no later than January 3. Applications are available online. Any further documents required are also easily accessible. If not completed after one year, your project is eligible for a one-time renewal.

Don't hesitate to begin putting

together the details of your great idea. DKG may be able to assist you in seeing your project dreams become a reality.

CORNETET AWARD INDIVIDUAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD

Cornetet Individual Awards (CIPD) will fund participation in conferences, seminars, lecture series, online courses, and workshops plus other non-degree programs. **This award is given May 1 and November 1.**

For more information, you can visit the [DKG website](#). From the Home page, look to the far right of the black banner and click on [DKGIEF](#) before scrolling to Cornetet Award Fund.

Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute

Colonial Williamsburg Teacher Institute participants are involved in an interdisciplinary approach to teaching social studies with early American history as the focus. They meet with historians and character interpreters, take part in re-enactments of 18th-century events, and learn new teaching techniques from mentor teachers as well as from each other. Together with Colonial Williamsburg staff, they prepare new instructional materials for use in their own classrooms.

Fifth-Grade Teacher Institute
Dates: June 4-10, 2023

Eighth-Grade Teacher Institute
Dates: June 11-17, 2023

Applications are due by 5 p.m. Wednesday, February 1, 2023.

Fund for Teachers Oklahoma Program

Pre-K through 12th-grade teachers have the opportunity to pursue self-designed professional learning through a Fund for Teachers fellowship. Teachers decide what they want to learn and where they want to learn it. Their odysseys take them all over the world—as scientists, researchers, artists and agents of change—and they return to their classrooms with new ideas that transform student learning and achievement.

Fund for Teachers encourages fellowship proposals that empower teachers to seek solutions to their own, genuine problems of practice and to also encourage students to become active changemakers in their own communities.

HOW TO APPLY: The Fund for Teachers application portal will open online October 1 at www.fundforteachers.org. The application is comprised of a coversheet signed by the applicant's principal, the proposal, and an itemized budget of the proposed fellowship.

Applications are now open. Deadline is 5 p.m. on January 19, 2023.



Remember Your Sisters



Just a reminder to chapters about the importance of record keeping and membership!

If you are not sure if you have sent me a Form 6, please email **Dr. Jamie Polk** at jcpolk@okcps.org.

A copy also should be sent to Diane Lasse at dlaase@hotmail.com and International at mem@dkg.org.

In addition, Beth Schieber at triumphantheartwoman@yahoo.com will post the obituary in *The LimeLighter*.



DKG Members Have Insurance Options Through DKG International

With the economy struggling, members are looking for ways to trim their budget expenses. Did you know that DKG offers insurance benefits through various providers?

You can do some comparison shopping for your health insurance, liability coverage, long term care, dental, identity protection and even pet insurance. DKG has partnered with several providers. To take a look at your options, just [click on this link to open the Insurance Benefits page on the International website](#).



Clipart and Copyright

A list of trusted websites to get your photos and Clipart is a click away.

[**Link to Clipart Plus List**](#)



Legislative News

Tulsa World

Editorial: Keep Teacher Pay Competitive and Don't Forget Per-pupil Expenditure December 14, 2022

An encouraging sign emerged last week as several Tulsa-area Republican lawmakers signaled support for a teacher pay increase.

The exact amount wasn't discussed at the annual Jenks Public Schools legislative forum, but it's promising that conservative legislators recognize the need for competitive salaries, according to a story from reporter Andrea Eger.

Public school teachers last received an average bump of \$1,220 in 2019 after a \$6,100 raise the previous year, forced by a statewide educator walkout to the Capitol. A lot has happened in four years.

The effect of COVID-19 cannot be overstated for its financial devastation and health care stress. Public education took a particular beating as elected leaders and right-wing fringe groups turned administrative decisions into political talking points and targets.

The rising rhetoric led to a wave of earlier-than-expected retirements and resignations.

Oklahoma was already facing

teacher and staff shortages, and the pandemic turned it quickly into a crisis. That is evidenced by historic numbers of emergency certifications (over 3,500) and occasional school closures due to lack of staff.

Oklahoma ranks No. 4 in the region for average annual compensation, trailing New Mexico, Texas and Colorado. However, that amount — \$57,706 — is far more than teachers actually see on payday because it includes state-mandated benefits.

Sen. Dave Rader, R-Tulsa, said it was "probably time for an adjustment." Rep. Lonnie Sims, R-Jenks, noted that Oklahoma teachers are recruited across state lines.

Newcomer Rep. Mark Tedford, R-Tulsa, who replaces Sheila Dills in District 69, summed it up: "It's a competitive market. I'm an employer. If we think we're going to get the best teachers and not be competitive with wages, I think we're kidding ourselves."

Republicans hold the supermajority of the Legislature and every statewide office. Getting the GOP on board with continuing to put funding into public education is critical.

Many Republicans believe in

bringing business principles to government. Business leaders understand the need for investing in infrastructure and in people. That needs to extend to public schools.

Oklahoma student outcomes overall aren't faring well. That's no surprise when our experienced and talented educators are leaving the profession without replacement teachers available. Getting top results means recruiting and retaining top professionals.

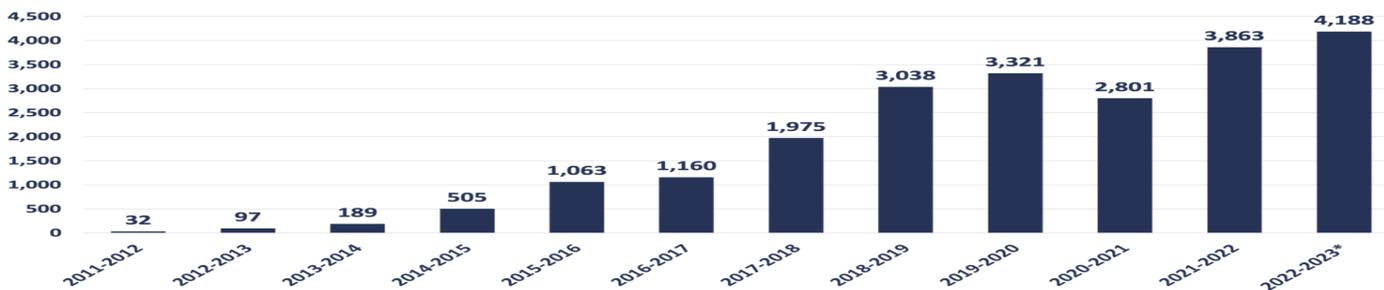
Lawmakers are right to keep teacher pay competitive, but they shouldn't forget per-pupil expenditure, which reflects resources and programs for students and teachers. It gets at what is available in classroom, school and teacher support.

Oklahoma is 46th in that measure.

We're optimistic by what the lawmakers were saying about public education last week. We encourage them to stay on this path and not get distracted by culture wars and wedge issues.

(tulsaworld.com/opinion/editorial/editorial-keep-teacher-pay-competitive-and-dont-forget-per-pupil-expenditures/article_d166917a-7b1f-11ed-92af-c7b1fd9b50ab.html)

Emergency Teaching Certificates



Source: Oklahoma State Department of Education
*Through November 2022

Beta Beta Chapter



Above left: (L to R) Vicki Bright and Paula Walker “visit” with one of the beautiful therapeutic horses.

Above right: Andi Holland, executive director of Savannah Station, introduces one of the residents of Savannah Station.

Hope and Healing with Horses is the mission statement of Savannah Station.

Fifteen members and one guest met at Savannah Station Therapeutic Riding Center. **Andi Holland, Executive Director and Certified Therapeutic Riding Instructor**, gave a tour of the facilities. The Station has eleven horses working at this time.

Beta Beta members were able to see, hear and learn about this remarkable program. They collected \$155.00 for this amazing riding center.

Savannah Station provides healing to people with special needs through the amazing power of the horse. Riders ranging in age from 4 to 37 benefit from equine assisted services at this therapeutic riding program. In 2022, around 56 riders came to Savannah Station with a variety of diagnosed cognitive and physical special needs.

Savannah Station Therapeutic Riding Program, Inc., is a nonprofit therapeutic riding facility located near Yukon, Oklahoma, established in 2013. Therapeutic riding is an equine-assisted activity. Positive results are achieved from the combined relationship of riders, volunteers, donations, leaders, and very patient horses. Without the support of the community, however, they would not be able to exist.

November Scholarship Auction

President Shelly Hudson (left) and auction chair Neta Duke (right) present an honorarium to Ted Lee (center) for his wonderful gift of time (and for giving up part of the first day of quail season to be our auctioneer). Ted has performed this service for Beta Beta for several years, and we adore him and his wife Janet for sharing their time and talent with us.



Beta Beta Chapter



Above: And so it begins...the bidding starts with “the signs of the times,” Christmas decorations for inside or outside your home. **Kay Casper (seated)** signals her bid as **Shelli Selby (left)** and **Neta Duke (right)** hold up items as **Ted Lee (center)** solicits the highest bid.



Above Left to Right: November hostesses Evelyn Hawk, Lee Wells, Kathleen Smith, Cheryl Neal, Kathryn Plumb, Tonya Taylor and Jennie Wilmes pictured are behind the breakfast feast prepared for the Scholarship Auction.

The 2022 Live Auction for Scholarships is in the books, and it was the perfect way to begin this holiday season for thirty-one members. This year the chapter raised **\$1555.50** for scholarships while having a wonderful time enjoying the company of our sisters, entering into friendly bidding competition and making some lovely purchases.

Right: President Shelly Hudson and Beth Schieber display the beautiful quilt donated by OSO president Lori Richardson Morphew. Thank you goes to President Lori for the donation and to Beth because she bid high enough to win the quilt!



Nu Chapter

Left: Co-president Opal Upshaw presents a plaque to **Charlene Wells** in recognition of Charlene's dedicated service to Chapter Nu for 30 years. Charlene was a teacher at Central Middle School for 17 years where she taught 7th grade math.

Below Right: Our beloved member, **Sarah Winn** received her 60-year

membership pin. Sarah was a librarian for 40 years.

President **Opal Upshaw** brought the Nu Chapter scrapbook to share, and she also read the hand-written minutes of Sarah's chapter initiation.

Members learned Sarah had written an autobiography. Sarah shared some stories from her

book, which also contained poems and recipes Sarah had written.

In parting, Sarah read members the Bible verses, numbers 6:24-26. "The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace."



Christmas Traditions of Our Chapter Members

Jeannie Bennett: Growing up... the big gift was given last... starting with a clue or puzzle to decipher the next clue...until finally getting to the gift. I also did this with my sons when they were in grade school.

Lois Bergstad: Our favorite Christmas was to go to the Candle Light Service at church, then go to see the winning Christmas lights at homes and return home and enjoy eggnog.

Marty Louthan: The seven Louthan siblings always got a can of black olives in our Christmas stocking! Still do!

Sue Reynolds: At the Reynolds

home, we gather in the living room with the Christmas tree. Granddaughters pass out the gifts. We take turns opening one gift at a time, going around the room until all gifts are opened. This allows everyone to see what each has received.

Susan Simmons: We always go to Woolaroc and see the Christmas lights. We take the hayride and then have hot chocolate/cookies in the lodge.

Tina Steele: I would spend hours with my mom and aunt, carefully wrapping gifts. We would use tons of fancy paper, ribbons and bows! It was a great time for us to spend together. And, the presents would look stunning under the tree!

Robin Thompson: We always

went to the Glass Mansion in Nowata sometime in December when the house was decorated for Christmas.

Darla Tresner: Our family always had waffles with strawberries and whipped cream on Christmas morning.

Opal Upshaw: One of our family traditions on Christmas Eve, was to wait until it got dark to go look for Santa. No matter how hard we tried, we always missed seeing him. Happily we would come in from the cold to a warm house and presents under the home-cut Christmas tree. We would open up our treasured gifts and indulge in homemade treats like fudge, peanut brittle, divinity, peanut butter balls (and more) that my mother had made.

Theta Chapter



Theta Members made a field trip to the Crall Goat Farm southeast of Thomas.

Mrs. Debbie Crall, also known as the Goat Farmer's Wife, took us through the process of making goat soap. Debbie is a retired educator and her husband has 60 goats that he milks twice daily.

What else would an industrious retired educator do with all that milk? They built a "barn" for the soap making process where she makes the soap, cures the soap and packages the soap. It was a delightful learning experience. The fragrance of the "barn" was the best that you can imagine.

Left: Debbie Crall (center), owner of Crall Goat Farm, welcomes **Theta Chapter** members **Charlene Heronema** and **Karla Eischen**.



Above: Just a few of the goat residents on the **Crall Goat Farm** near Thomas.



Above: Debbie Crall, one owner/operator of Crall Goat Farm, explains the process of goat milk soap making and discusses the many product made from that milk. One example is the finished soaps pictured above.

Part of the Crall history: "Unlike commercial soaps, we are a family business which means that everyone in the family helps in the business, from milking the goats twice daily to feeding, scheduling vet-checks, soap making, advertising, packaging, shipping, and customer service. "

Alpha Iota



Above: Assisting in the initiation of two new members were OSO president **Lori Richardson-Morphew**, **Rachel Karger**, and **Shannon Freeman**.



Left: Newly initiated members **Michele Underwood** and **Kallie Jo Petrie** pause for a picture op after the ceremony.

Chapter members collected teaching supplies for three new teachers, **Laura Kalka**, who teaches Kindergarten at East Side, and **Sara Gross** and **Leah Ready**, who both teach 6th Grade at Park Road.

Members also collected Children's Books for DHS Christmas.

At the October chapter meeting, members enjoyed favorite dishes prepared by each member and purchased \$1 recipes as their fundraiser.



Alpha Chapter



Transfer Members and new Alpha inductees at the October meeting: left to right—**Rachelle Conner** (Transfer member from Nebraska), **Jo Yandell**, **Eva Sharp**, **Jen Evans** (2nd VP), **Laura Hann**, **Cheryl Brouwer**, **Rachel Breaux**, and **Peggy White** (Transfer member from West Virginia).

ALPHA CHAPTER WELCOMES NEW-BEES TO THE HIVE

Rachel Breaux — currently teaches 5th grade in OKCPS. She's taught for 5 years.

Cheryl Brouwer — is a teacher in the OKCPS district. She has been in education for 19 years.

Laura Hann — is a 2nd grade teacher at Ralph Downs Elementary in the Putnam City School District. She has been teaching for 10 years.

Eva Sharp — is currently a 5th Grade teacher at Tulakes in the Putnam City School System. She has been teaching for 18 years.

Jo Yandell — is currently a teaching librarian in Putnam City Schools. She has been with the district for 10 years.

TRANSFER MEMBERS

Rachelle Conner — comes to Alpha from Nebraska. She is the Professional Development Coordinator for OKCPS.

Peggy White — comes to Oklahoma from West Virginia. She taught secondary school for many years and has moved to Edmond to be near her daughter and family.

Below: Alpha November inductees **Melissa Jones** and **Ann Canavan** receive a red rose after the induction ceremony.



Psi Chapter

Hope certainly seems to be this year's theme for **Psi Chapter**. At the chapter's October meeting, **Deena Fisher's** Moment of Inspiration focused on the air of expectation, the promise of a new beginning that a new year brings. According to the speaker, **Shanna Gosner, Director of the Hope Center's Day program**, many of her homeless clients seek a new beginning but can face many difficulties. For example, the lack of a stable address, reliable transportation, or telephone and internet access are obstacles to finding and keeping a job. Some also have social anxiety that may cause them to be reluctant to seek assistance. Previous negative experience with social services often results in wariness and lack of trust in "the system."

The morning the chapter met they experienced a clear illustration of the importance of the Hope Center's services. Just as Shanna was about to begin her presentation, a young woman opened the Center's door. She had just walked out of an abusive marriage, and her friend had brought her to find a place to stay.

Deena's inspirational moment referenced Isaiah 43:19: "I will make a pathway through the wilderness. I will create rivers in the dry wasteland." Through the monies raised by our silent auction, we can clear the pathways and provide springs of hope for the vulnerable in our community and the world. **Debby Yarbrough**



Shanna Gosner, Director of the Day Center program at The Hope Center, spoke to members about the issues affecting the homeless population in our community. Open since April 2022, the Day Center provides a daytime place for the homeless to escape the extremes of Oklahoma weather, enjoy a snack, take a shower, do their laundry, and catch some television. Clients also receive assistance with obtaining employment and navigating the sometimes-frustrating social services system. Members filled a donation cart...and then some!

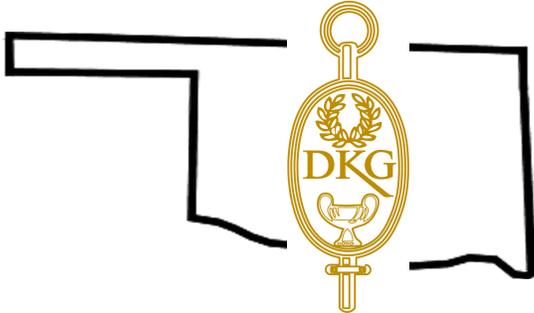
Below: **Shanna Gosner, Rita Barnett, Toni Burgess, Janice Rutledge, Phyllis Howard, Esther Fields, and Debby Yarbrough** fill the donation cart for The Hope Center.



Beta Nu

Right: **Beta Nu** had December initiation at the home of **Joyce Hess**.

Left to Right: New initiate **Dana Whitley**; **Andrea Wildman**, longtime **Beta Nu** member responsible for recruiting these 3 ladies; initiate **Miranda Sweaney**; and initiate **Kari Brandon**. All teach at Prairie View Elementary, Mustang Public Schools.



Below: Dana Whitley is the recipient of \$100 drawing from Beta Nu for new teachers to Mustang Public Schools. She is a first grade teacher at Prairie View Elementary School, Mustang Public Schools.



Right: Dana Whitley and Andrea Wildman take time to visit after the meeting.

Delta Chapter



Members of **Delta Chapter** made wreaths for their November meeting. **Jen Evans, Alpha Chapter**, far left, supplied materials and expertise. Delta participants pictured are **Dasha Hudleson, Sandy Pendergraft, Katherine Talkington, Susie Hinton and Marilyn Dorl**. **OSO President Lori Richardson Morphey** also joined in the fun and made bows for each of the wreaths

Beta Mu



A Note from the Fledgling Editor in Tribute to the Past Editor

As I began gathering information for this newsletter, I realized I had greatly misjudged the amount of time it was going to take.

I went back to my e-mail and revisited several of Linda's past newsletters. I looked at formats, articles, fonts, pictures, etc. and was astounded by the amount of STUFF that Linda packed into each newsletter.

Now, I have never looked at Linda's feet, but suddenly I realized that I had some large shoes

to fill... NOT normal shoes... GIANT shoes.

I know I have *a lot* to learn about Beta Mu and DKG, our members, the state organization and so much more.

Linda created beauties over her many years of service, and I will do my best to carry on her legacy.

Please join me in giving Linda a shout-out, standing ovation, high-five or even a pair of odor eaters for her GIANT shoes to let her know how much we appreciate her work and will miss her as the editor of *Beta Mu Musings*.

--**Jennifer Shaw**
Editor of *Beta Mu Musing*

OKLAHOMA STATE ORGANIZATION SCHOLARSHIPS

MARCH 15 DEADLINE MARCH 15 DEADLINE MARCH 15 DEADLINE

Helen Olander Scholarship \$3000

Full-time student devoting one (1) academic year to her studies, six (6) to twelve (12) hours of coursework each semester.

Blanche Moon Scholarship \$3,000

The recipient will be a student who is completing a doctoral dissertation.

Beulah Elliot Clinton Memorial Scholarship \$1,000

The recipient will be a full-time educator working toward a master's degree in the field of education. The money can be used for either summer school or course work during the school year. At least six (6) hours of graduate work is to be taken each year. The scholarship is renewable for three (3) years providing the recipient meets the academic standard.

Summer Term Scholarship \$500

The applicant will be working toward a degree or certification. Minimum six (6) hours coursework.

Edna Donley Summer Term Scholarship \$500

The applicant will be working toward a degree or certification. Minimum six (6) hours coursework.

Regular School Year Scholarship \$250

The recipient will be a full-time educator working toward an advanced degree or special certificate by taking university courses during the school year. Minimum three (3) hours coursework.

Thesis/Dissertation or Research Scholarship \$500

The applicant should have a baccalaureate degree, a minimum of twenty-six (26) graduate hours and be able to devote the necessary time for the satisfactory completion of her university-approved project.

Enrichment Scholarship Applications

Dora McFarland Scholarship \$3,000

The recipient will be a full-time educator attending a state, national, or international conference, convention or training aimed at classroom enrichment.

Enrichment Scholarship \$250

This scholarship is for a member who desires to take a university course or attend a workshop for enrichment.

Hazel Benedict Scholarship up to \$1500

The recipient will be a member who desires to attend a state, national or international educational conference or convention. Estimated costs should be included in the definitive statement of plans for study.