

THE LimeLighter

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Oklahoma State Organization

October 2022 Vol. LXX, No. 1
okdkg.org

OSO Chapter Service Award Recipient Karla Eischen

Karla Eischen is the recipient of the 2022 Oklahoma State Organization's Achievement Award. She has been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society for 45 years and has been an anchor for Theta Chapter.

She joined DKG while working on her master's degree in secondary education. Next, Karla completed work for her vocation certification and then earned a second master's degree in administration. During this time, she was selected as Oklahoma Home Economics Teacher of the Year and Regional IV Home Economics Teacher of the Year. In addition, she served as president of the Oklahoma Home Economics Association.

Her next academic step was obtaining her counseling certification. Karla was selected as Teacher of the Year for Okarche High School and then again for Kingfisher Public Schools. She was also named Redlands Community College's High School Counselor of the Year.

In her chapter, Karla has served as president, as vice-president, as treasurer and as a member of on every committee, usually as chairman. If a volun-



Sherry Whisler, award committee chair, presents **Karla Eischen**, **Theta Chapter**, the **OSO Chapter Service Award**.

teer is needed, Karla is the "go-to gal." She accepts responsibility and does whatever needs done. She participates in every chapter project, presents chapter programs and attends chapter meetings regularly. In OSO, Karla attends conventions, seminars,

and training sessions and serves on state committees.

Karla is actively involved in Theta chapter's grant-in-aid project. Each year she makes sand plum jelly for her chapter's

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*DKG Oklahoma
Serving Education
Honoring Tradition*

Lori's Letters



If DKG were a quilt....

The **THREAD** that runs through would be our love of teaching. Sometimes that thread becomes tangled just like in our careers when things take a sudden turn outside of our control. Still....we don't give up, we just keep on stitching. We find a different path (or thread.....) to achieve our goals.



If the **THREAD** becomes knotted or breaks, again we can connect this to a time when we needed to make a change to a new classroom or a different building or maybe move outside of the district. We keep plugging away at our assigned tasks.



The **BLOCKS** within a quilt represent many aspects of education. For example, the rectangular Log Cabin blocks represent when you are in the early years and you are learning and building on many things to help you in your day-to-day teaching.



The **BLOCKS** within a quilt are a Wedding Ring pattern that flows and connects to each other as you do professionally with other educators and administrators. They could also represent the children that you touch as they wander in and out of your door.

DKG is represented in your



QUILT as the Evening Star pattern. We have many squares and triangles, all moving toward a central goal. Isn't that DKG? We have opportunities for women such as leadership, authorship, and scholarship. Other DKG benefits are the squares of travel, camaraderie, committee work and a genuine spiritual fellowship.

And, through Delta Kappa Gamma, we're **TIED** to one another as sisters.

Do you wear your key pin?

Professional teams or nationwide companies often wear uniforms. If we consider our **PIN** as our "uniform," would there be a benefit to wearing it at chapter, state, and international meetings and other public events? I say **YES!**

- The key pin helps to promote member loyalty.
- The key pin shows the chapter's standard and value.
- The key pin helps members feel part of the same team!
- The key pin promotes unity.
- The key pin is a great conversation starter!
- The key pin identifies our Society as a long-standing and professional organization.

We are, in a sense, sporting our "company" logo!

We take our society seriously. We are part of the unit. We win together, lose together and have fun together.

Our key pins represent equality. Every member is important, and our key pins untie us!

Wear your key pin proudly.

(Continued on Page 3)

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Lori's Letters

(Continued from Page 3)
100 Things

In preparation for our DKG Centennial, International encourages us to do something connected to 100, so I decided to bring this activity to our OSO Conference.

At the conference, I had OSO members list their DKG favorites. The results are as follows: 3 stated opportunities to publish, 5 mentioned our scholarships, 5 noted our travel opportunities, 9 remarked about service to others, 11 stated mentorships, 17 pointed out leadership opportunities, 21 appreciated fellowship with sisters and 29 noted cherished friendships.

Over the next few months, I will share some of the comments made by our sisters about **100 Things**.

"I enjoy the gifts of friendship in DKG. In my years in DKG, I've formed friendships with women educators throughout the state. I have been able to call or visit with DKG members statewide for program ideas, classroom help or just to chat and laugh." **Alice Pettit, Alpha Chapter**

"DKG has helped me really connect with other women teachers in our area. Their insight and friendship has made a huge impact in my teaching career." **Adrienne DeKlotz, Alpha Iota**

Karla Eischen

(Continued From Page 1)
booth at the December Winterfest to raise funds for the grant-in-aid. She also recommends students to apply for the grant.

Equally active in her church, community and county, our re-

ipient lives a life of service by lending time, talent and donations. Karla is proficient in so many areas that she has become a desired volunteer. After retiring, Karla continues to help schools by substituting.



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

[Link to Clipart Plus List](#)

Belinda Clift Appointed Chair of International Committee



Belinda Clift, Alpha Chi, has been appointed **chair** of the **International Communications and Marketing Committee** for the 2022-2024 biennium by International President Dr. Debbie LeBlanc.

She will lead the committee in developing effective communication between members at all levels of the Society and in establishing ways to promote effective internal and external marketing.

Belinda met with other committee chairs and the administrative board in Austin this summer for Leadership Orientation. Belinda and her committee met the first week in October in Aus-



Seated: Heather Dunn, Arkansas; Glenda Wait, West Virginia; Chair, Belinda Clift, Oklahoma; Standing: International President Dr. Debbie LeBlanc; Auli Ottelin, Finland; and Victor Trisnadi, Technology Director and staff liaison.

tin to begin their assigned work for the biennium.

Belinda Clift has been an active leader at both the state and international level. She has served Oklahoma State as secretary, 1st vice-president and president. Currently, she is the OSO webmaster and chair of the Te-

bow-Herrington Leadership Seminar.

At the international level, Belinda was named Golden Gift recipient in 2016. She served on the International Scholarship Committee, on the Expansion Committee and on the Steering Committee for the 2021 Regional Conference in San Antonio.

Amazon Shopping?



Don't forget to use Amazon Smile to designate a portion of your purchase be donated to Delta Kappa Gamma.

Shopping Amazon?



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.

Welcome New Members

Alpha Iota

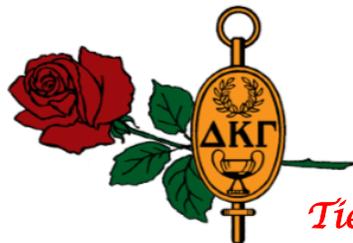
*Inda Jo Conway
Kallie Jo Petrie
Rachel Karger
Michele Underwood
Hannah Smith*

Beta Beta

*Krystin Brewer
Rosealyn Harrison
Jennifer Onderek
Hayley Furr
Janna Connolly*

Beta Mu

*Stacy Lee
Amy McClure
Lisa Ellington*



Xi

*Crystal-Elizabeth Polk
Jana Gardner
Tierra Brockington Martin*

Rho

*Dusti McCartney
Rebecca Ogles*

Alpha

*Melissa Jones
Ann Canavan*

Beta Nu

Jennifer Mangus

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

DEADLINES

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



DKGIEF Cornetet CIPD Applications
Cornetet Individual Professional Development
November 1, 2022; May 1, 2023

DKGIEF Cornetet CSPD Applications
Cornetet Seminar Professional Development
November 1, 2022

All Treasurers to file IRS 990
November 15, 2022

Bulletin: *Collegial Exchange* submissions
December 15, 2022

DKG Ignite (LMS) application
December 15, 2022

Scholarship Application
February 1, 2023

Arts & Humanities Submissions for Spring Gallery
February 15, 2023

Chapter Newsletters: Your Voice

Communication is a way that all Delta Kappa Gamma chapter members feel involved and informed. One of the best ways to maintain communication with your chapter is to publish newsletters on a regular basis.

The efforts of publishing a chapter newsletter can be rewarded with an increase of member involvement and commitment.

In order to be recognized for a Chapter Newsletter Award, a chapter must submit three newsletters from July 1 to May 1. They must be sent as a PDF to the OSO president, OSO communication chair and OSO webmaster.

Each issue of a chapter newsletter should include:

1. The Society Name - The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
2. State Name - Oklahoma State Organization
3. The DKG Mission Statement
4. Chapter name
5. Volume and Issue Number - (the volume number changes on July 1 and the issue number changes each month or with each new issue)
6. Editor's name and email
7. Suggested features:
 - a. Any chapter honors or awards
 - b. Brief summary of the last meeting
 - c. President's message
 - d. Legislative update
 - e. Reminder of important

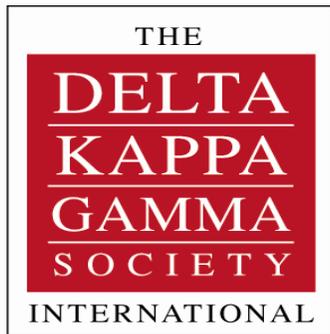
dates and deadlines

- f. Articles about current chapter projects
- g. State happenings
- h. Chapter members' news and or achievements

Your chapter newsletters can be emailed, sent by regular mail, hand delivered and/or posted on your chapter website.

Please make sure to get a copy to our state president Lori Richardson-Morphew, our webmaster Belinda Clift and the OSO communications chair Beth Schieber in order to receive recognition at the 2023 state convention.

The Limelighter



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

Oklahoma State Organization
 The Delta Kappa Gamma
 Society International

Published four times a year:
 October, December
 February, April



Newsletter Awards

2021-2022

EAST

1st Alpha.....Alice Petit

2nd Nu.....Opal Upshaw

3rd Alpha Iota...Debbie Terronez

WEST

1st Beta Beta.....Beth Schieber

2nd Beta Nu.....Sue Ann McGowan-Miller

3rd Beta Mu.....Linda Gunsaulis

Annie Up Awesome Programs

By Dr. Jo Ann Pierce

I was delighted to present the Annie Awards at our 2022 DKG Oklahoma State Organization Conference.

Leadership: Beta Mu for their program “Harmful Effects of the Mobile Device on Children” presented by **Lori Richardson-Morphew**

Community Service: Nu for their program “Oklahoma Historical Society” presented by Chad Williams, also highlighting **Darla Jones Tresner**, member of Nu.

Educational Issues: Beta Nu for their program “Cardinal Point: A Direction for Hope. Canadian County’s Family Jus-

tice Center. El Reno, OK”

Just for Fun: Beta Mu for their program “Cricut Make and Take.”

The Program of the Year went to **Beta Mu** for their program “Harmful Effects of the Mobile Device on Children” presented by **Lori Richardson-Morphew**.

Congratulations to these Annie Award winners! Go to the okdkg.org website to forms protected to get your program application filled out and entered for 2023. Email to **1st VP Dr. Jo Ann Pierce** aspirehigherconsulting@gmail.com or mail to 2518 Copper Cove, Duncan, OK 73533.

Maybe your chapter will receive one of these program awards at our 2023 DKG Oklahoma State Organization this next summer. Good luck and good programming this year!



Gold and Red

Gold Chapter

- Alpha.....Joann Rogers, President
- Lambda.....Marva Webb, President
- Beta Nu...Dr. Elayne Bowman, President
- Gamma Beta.....Donna Talley, President
- Beta Beta.....Beth Schieber, President
- Beta Mu.....Linda Gunsaulis, President
- Nu.....Kay Morris, President

Red Chapter

- Alpha Mu.....Natalie Johnson, President
- Alpha Iota...Kim Leatherwood, President
- Beta Lambda...Rachel England, President



Oh, Say Will You SEE

By Dr. Jo Ann Pierce

The **See Program**, Success for Early Educators, continues to be so valuable as we witness the need to help new teachers. I shuddered as I read recently Math and reading scores for America's 9-year-olds fell dramatically during the first two years of the pandemic, according to a new federal study — offering an early glimpse of the sheer magnitude of the learning setbacks dealt to the nation's children.

Reading scores saw their largest decrease in 30 years, while math scores had their first decrease in the history of the testing regimen behind the study, according to the National Center for Education Statistics, a branch of the U.S. Education Department. (1440 Daily Digest)

These setbacks, which erased two decades of progress in American test scores, will cause years of upheaval for the country's education system. Can you imagine a new fourth grade teacher being

issued fourth grade textbooks to a classroom primarily working on second grade level? Schools shut down for months at a time amid COVID-19 outbreaks. Many children spent a year or more learning from home.

Virus outbreaks among staff and students continued the disruption even after kids returned to the classroom. Our newest teachers need our support.

Thank you, **BETA MU, BETA NU, GAMMA BETA NU, GAMMA BETA and XI** for the **\$1, 808.41 of financial contributions and 164 man-hours to Oklahoma classrooms.**

Sustained effort/support and investment by OSO DKG is crucial to help our newest teachers. Keep it up and double up for SEE this next year. I want to report your chapter with pride at Convention!!!

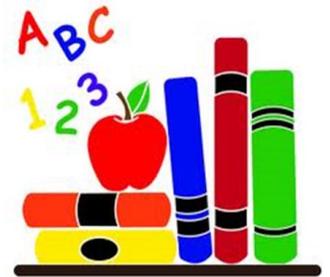
To get the reporting forms you will need to go to okdkg.org At

the top you will see more... At the dropdown choose **EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE.**

Under **Need a project?** You will find **SEE-Support Early-career Educators.** Click on it to get to the project reporting form and the monetary reporting form for the SEE projects you do this year.

Please send an e-mail to Dr. Jo Ann Pierce, 1st VP with these two forms attached to aspire-higherconsulting@gmail.com or send a letter at 2518 Copper Cove Duncan, OK 73533.

Your chapter will receive an award at our 2023 DKG Oklahoma State Organization this summer for your service and support to SEE.



SEE

Support for Early Career Educators

Why is our support needed?

Schools that have depended on a core of veteran teachers are seeing those teachers retire. As much is expected of a new teacher on the first day of school as is expected of a 30-year veteran. Teachers supporting teachers is crucial. Of

the first year teachers assigned a mentor in 2007 – 2008, around 8% left the profession in 2008 – 2009.

Of the first year teachers not assigned a mentor in the same years, about 16% were not teaching in 2008-2009 and about 23% were no longer teaching in 2009 – 2010.

We truly can make a difference with our support.

SEE encourages members and chapters to be creative in support of early-career educators with a

variety of strategies, such as

- giving support for phone calls and visits,
- helping with lesson plans and bulletin board ideas,
- offering advice on classroom management and parent-teacher relations; and
- providing support in appropriate and practical ways.

Start supporting early-career educators in your community today! Get a list of new teachers/educators from your local school district and list of student teachers in your area to support.

We Need Financial Support for Schools in Africa



By Dr. Jo Ann Pierce

As the count keeper for **Schools for Africa for DKGOSO**, I personally had asked our 2nd Vice President, Dr. Jamie Polk, to do a program on **Schools for Africa** at our summer conference. She has given amazing programs for XI, highlighting our first International project, which started in 2010. Jamie's program has been added to the OSO Speaker's Forum, so if you did not see it, ask her to do a program for your chapter in person or ZOOM.

As a state organization we need to send more money to Schools for Africa. Our contribution for this past year was \$695.00 given by **Alpha, Beta Lambda Gamma Beta, and Xi chapters**. Please ask your chapters to give generously to this very worthwhile project, knowing:

- \$ 5.00 can provide ten children with a pencil and exercise book.
- \$ 10.00 can provide a learner kit for 1 student in Mozambique and Mali. This kit contains a bag, stationery, mini atlas and math tables.
- \$ 60.00 can provide a School-in-Bag with individual school supplies for 40 students and 1 teacher.
- \$100.00 can provide 100 children with a sketch pad and crayons.
- \$250.00 can provide a School-in-a-Box.

Chapters that collect money throughout the school year for "Schools for Africa" should send a check directly to:

U.S. Fund for UNICEF

Attn: NGO Dept.
125 Maiden Lane
New York, NY 10038

You can print the **UNICEF brochure** online at the OKDKG website. You will need to go to okdkg.org At the top you will **see more...** At the dropdown choose **EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE**.

Under **Need a project?** You will find Schools for Africa. You will need to download the brochure. Send your payment with the bottom of the brochure.

Please send an e-mail to aspirehigherconsulting@gmail.com or a letter to Dr. Jo Ann Pierce, 1st VP. 2518 Copper Cove Duncan, OK 73533 Include the amount you sent. If I am notified, your chapter will receive an award at our 2023 DKG Oklahoma State Organization Convention.

Creative Women of Oklahoma

The Creative Women of Oklahoma Award began during the biennium of Beth Schieber, Gamma State President 1995-1997. It has now evolved into the review of literary works of Oklahoma women in primarily four areas: Children, Young Adult, Nonfiction or Poetry, and Illustrator. This year's awards were presented in Children, Young Adult, Juvenile Fiction, and Illustrator categories.

The criteria for a book to be selected for review are that the book be written or illustrated by a woman born in Oklahoma, a current resident of Oklahoma, or who has lived in Oklahoma. The year of review is two years behind the year of publication. The books must be suitable for classroom use. The books for this year's award were published in 2020. Nominations for review can be made by chapters or individuals.

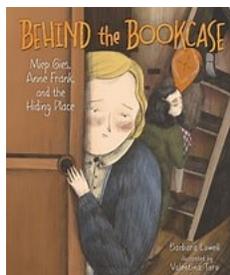
The review is completed by an appointed committee, composed of six women, three of whom are appointed each biennium. Each Oklahoma State Organization President appoints three members to this committee for a term of four years. The committee reviewed a total of forty-nine books this year. Included in this list were fourteen Children's books by nine authors, eight Juvenile Fiction books by seven authors, nineteen Young Adult books by eighteen authors, three Poetry books by three authors, and five books by four illustrators for Illustrator review.

The winners this year were as follows: Children: *Behind the Bookcase: Miep Gies, Anne Frank, and the Hiding Place* by

Barbara Lowell, Broken Arrow; *Ignite the Sun* by Hanna C. Howard, Tulsa; *The Inheritance Games, Book 1*, by Jennifer L. Barnes, Norman; and Illustrator: *Doodle and Peck*, Marla F. Jones, Yukon.

Books are continually being added to the review list. If you know of a book that fits the criteria and was published in 2021 or later, please contact Cynthia Adair, chair, Creative Women of Oklahoma Committee, to submit the book for review.

Behind the Bookcase



Anne Frank's diary is a gift to the world because of Miep Gies. One of the protectors of the Frank family, Miep recovered the diary after the family was discovered by Nazis, and then returned it to Otto Frank after World War II.

Displaced from her own home as a child during World War I, Miep had great empathy for Anne, and she found ways--like talking about Hollywood gossip and fashion trends--to engage her.

The story of their relationship--and the impending danger to the family in hiding--unfolds in this unique perspective of Anne Frank's widely known story.



Ignite the Sun

Once upon a time, there was something called the sun ... In a kingdom ruled by an evil witch, the sun is just part of a legend about light-filled

days of old. Luckily for everybody in the kingdom, Siria Nightingale is headed to the heart of the darkness to try and restore the light—or she will lose everything trying.

Sixteen year-old Siria Nightingale has never seen the sun. The light is dangerous, according to Queen Iyzabel, an evil witch who has shrouded the kingdom in shadow.

The Inheritance Game Book 1



A Cinderella story with deadly stakes and thrilling twists, perfect for fans of *One of Us is Lying* and *Knives Out*.

Avery Grambs has a plan for a better future: survive high school, win a scholarship, and get out. But her fortunes change in an instant when billionaire Tobias Hawthorne dies and leaves Avery virtually his entire fortune. The catch? Avery has no idea why—or even who Tobias Hawthorne is.



Illustrator: Marla F. Jones has read thousands of children's books. Literally. As a first grade teacher, she found story time her favorite part of the day. She is both

a writer and an illustrator, having authored four picture books and illustrating five. She uses a colorful mix of media, papers, fabrics and found objects, and layers them to create texture and dimension to her folk art style.

US Forum

I attended the US Forum at International Convention in New Orleans this summer. **Darlene Cook** from Oregon State Organization, was elected as the US Forum Committee Chair. She has attended four National Legislative Seminars in Washington DC. and served as her state US Forum contact for six years. Darlene was Northwest Regional Representative from 2014-2018.

Linda Perl from Arizona State Organization was elected as the Southwest Regional Representative to the US Forum. She is a retired government, economics, and American History teacher. She is involved with local government and has visited her Arizona senator while in Washington DC.

Natalie Jayroe of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana ad-

ressed the Forum on the issue of Food Insecurity. She said 1 in 5 Louisiana residents face food insecurity, 1 in 3 Louisiana children live in poverty and 1 in 4 Louisiana seniors face food insecurity, which is the highest in the nation.

The pandemic has increased food insecurity among families with children and communities of color, who already faced hunger at much higher rates before the pandemic. Every community in the country is home to families who face hunger, but rural communities are especially hard hit.

Many households that experience food insecurity do not qualify for federal nutrition programs and visit their local food banks and other food programs for extra support.

Hunger in African American, Latino and Native American

communities is higher because of systemic racial injustice. To achieve a hunger-free America, we must address the root causes of hunger and structural and systemic inequities.

The assembly approved a resolution "On Recognizing Mental Health Issues for Educational Staff and Promoting Support Services." To read the complete resolution go to www.dkgusforum.com.

Continue communicating with Oklahoma Legislators and let them know your concerns for Oklahoma children, teachers and all residents.

Sandra Pendergraft
US Forum
Chair



By Laws 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.

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 would like to hear from the committees, officers, or chairman relating to these items. I would like committees, officers, chapter and members to 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
Chair



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/> 

OSO Essay Contest Winners

By Opal Upshaw, Chair

Hearing students read their winning essays is a highlight for many at convention or conference. Who knew the process for determining state essay winners included so many small steps before arriving at a 1st and 2nd place 7th grade and a 1st and 2nd place 8th grade winner!

For example, the committee decides on a topic in April, and essay packets are presented to chapters at conference or convention in June. Chapter essay chairs have the busy job of dispensing packets to 7th and 8th grade English teachers. Teachers must then be willing to provide time for students to research and write about the topic and then mail final essays back to the chapter chairman. The chapter committee members read provided essays and narrow the entries down to one 1st place 7th

and one 1st place 8th grade winner, which are then sent to the state committee chairman.

The state committee chair sends copies to each state committee member where the process finally concludes with 1st and 2nd place winners being chosen for the 7th grade and the 8th grade. Winners, families, and teachers are contacted and invited to the state conference or convention so that winners can read their essays before the members attending the state event.

Not all the essay winners were able to participate in the reading this year, but members heard all the winning essays with the help of eager 7th grader **Makenzie Steury of Davis Middle School**, who not only read her 1st place essay, but also the essay of the **2nd place winner Emily Ensley of Denison Elementary School in**

Idabel. Ayva Eidson, 8th grade 1st place winner, was too shy to read her winning essay, but **her mother, Reesha Alvarez**, stepped up to the microphone to read her daughter's entry as well as the 2nd place winner's essay by **Avery Vascellaro of Mustang South Middle School**. In all my years of attending convention, I've not seen this challenge happen before, but the readings were handled with grace and flexibility.



7th Grade

- 1st place Makenzie Steury, Davis Middle School in Davis, teacher: Paige Murphy, submitted by Patsy West of Chapter Rho
- 2nd place Emily Ensley, Denison Elementary School in Idabel, teacher: Jordan Lindsey, submitted by Shelley Ebert of Chapter Beta Kappa



8th Grade

- 1st place Ayva Eidson, Denison Elementary School in Idabel, teacher: Kristi Parker, submitted by Shelley Ebert of Chapter Beta Kappa
- 2nd place Avery Vascellaro, Mustang South Middle School in Mustang, teacher: Angela Burns, submitted by Shereen Rasor of Chapter Beta Nu

Above: 7th grade 1st place Makenzie Steury, Davis Middle School in Davis.

Center: Ayva Eidson, 8th grade 1st place winner, was too shy to read her winning essay.

Right: Reesha Alvarez, the mother of 8th grade 1st place Ayva Eidson, Denison Elementary School in Idabel.

Remember Your Sisters

LimeLighter.



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*



DR. LOREE RICE

MARCH 6, 1924
AUGUST 30, 2022

Dr. Rice joined **Alpha Sigma** in April of 1970. She served as chapter president 1974-1976. She also served on many committees.

She was a faithful attendee even when the chapter had to go to Zoom meetings during the pandemic. Once able to return to in-person meetings, the chapter was unable to utilize the retirement facility where Loree resided. That meant that she was not able to attend due to declining health.

Dr. Rice was a high school teacher of business education and English for seven years and a college professor for 27 years, 26 of

which were at the University of Central Oklahoma. She served as director of graduate studies in English at UCO for five years and as a member of many campus committees.

Dr. Rice was listed in *Who's Who in American Education*, *World Who's Who of Women in Education*, *World Who's Who of Women*, and the *Dictionary of International Biography*.

In 2008, she was honored by the Edmond Women's Club as one of the 100 most influential women in Edmond's 100 year history.

DKG Members Have Insurance Options Through DKG International

With the economy struggling, people 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, [click on this link to go to the Insurance Benefits page on the International website.](#)



World Fellowship

World Fellowship scholarships are given to women from many countries who then study in the United States or Canada.

The WF countries represented in 2022 were Nigeria, Peru, Indonesia, Brazil, Paraguay, Vietnam, Swaziland, India, Argentina, Colombia, Chili, Cuba, Ukraine, Bangladesh, Burma and Mexico.

In the Spring of 2022, the WF committee graded 62 applications.

- 10 candidates were selected from the IIE (Institute of International Education) to study in the United States
- 5 were selected to study in Canada.
- 12 extensions for the 2022-2023 academic year were awarded.

DKG works with the Fulbright

organization to select these women. Once selection is completed, society members provide support for the recipients' work in Canada and the United States.

See the dkg.org website under World Fellowship for further details and learn about these women and their areas of study.

Nine chapters were recognized at the 2022 OSO Leadership in June for their contributions to World Fellowship.

Alpha	.....	\$25.00
Beta Nu	.....	\$100.00
Beta Beta	.....	\$115.00
Gamma Beta	...	\$152.00
Beta Lambda	.....	\$ 61.00
Beta Mu	.....	\$60.00
Theta	.....	\$50.00
Nu	.....	\$50.00
Psi	.....	\$50.00
Total		\$663.00

These women come from many countries. Some are from third world countries and are thousands of miles from their homes and families. These women sacrifice so much in order to make a difference in this world. Any help we can provide is greatly appreciated.

Send WF donations directly to Headquarters on Form 43.



Nominations

Thank you to all who picked up nomination and committee forms at the state conference in June. However, now is the time for you to complete those forms and to send them to me, Suzanne Ritter, 308 Harding, Poteau, OK 74953, before the **December 1 deadline**.

If you would like to apply but have no idea where you might serve, here is a list of the elected positions for 2023-2025: President, 1st Vice-president, 2nd Vice-president, Secretary, and Nominations Committee (4 positions—one of which will carry over from the present committee).

If you are applying for an elected position, be sure to in-

clude a photo of yourself. It is helpful for the committee to put names to faces.

There are also 17 committees on which you can serve. It would be absolutely wonderful if I received a host of forms for all the positions. Remember, you are never alone in Delta Kappa Gamma—sisters all are we. Together, we build bridges for the future. No position is too great when we join together!

Chapter presidents, please encourage your members to complete the officer and/or committee forms. There might be women in your chapter who would like to serve at the state level.

All the forms are available on

our Oklahoma State Organization website.

If you would like to receive a form in the mail, please email at rittersuzanne@hotmail.com.



Suzanne Ritter, Chair

Dr. Jo Ann's Journey



Dr. Jo Ann Pierce

At our Fall Board Meeting in September, 2022, President Lori Richardson-Morphew asked me to share what we did to take care of our members when I was president of XI and beyond. I called the program **How to Grow Roses (Taking Care of Your Rose Buddy)**.

I presented this program at several leadership events during Sandy Pendergraft's presidency. It was well received, but perhaps our new members need to hear this information also. You are welcome to adapt this program to your chapter. If you e-mail me at

aspirehigherconsul-ing@gmail.com,

I can send you a copy of this program and details. If one of your members was at Fall Board, ask her if she picked up a copy. It is fun and it reminds us of how important it is to be accountable to each other and to new members. Grow your roses all year long.

I have enjoyed my first year as Oklahoma State Organization 1st Vice President. Christmas in June, sharing the gifts of Delta Kappa Gamma, looking at HOPE for Oklahoma children revealed through our programming at our summer conference are just a few of the highlights.

Many of the speakers have been added to our OSO Speaker's Forum. Lori did such a great job designing, decorating, facilitating and presiding at our summer conference. It was a pleasure serving beside her. Thank you to all who attended and to the many who helped my committee with programming.

You are greatest Rose Buddies!!!!

As part of our Educational Excellence, we continue with articles in *The LimeLighter*, updating the Strategic Plan, training local chapter officers via Zoom and promoting quality leadership in the schools and excellence in the

classroom.

If you need anything, let me know. As your chapter first vice-president, you are always on call to be president at a moment's notice, and if you have not done so, I recommend scrolling through the **Guidelines for Chapter Leaders** available on our DKG website.

Log in, your membership # is your username. E-mail me for the password if you do not know it. Go to Resources. See Chapter Tools in the drop down. Find **Guidelines for Chapter Leaders** in the list.

As first vice-president, read this booklet. I downloaded it, printed it, and marked the portions that prepared me for my first vice-presidency and presidency too.

- Help me make sure your chapter gives to Schools for Africa.
- Help keep track of hours given and financial \$\$\$ given to new teachers (SEE).
- Enter programs for the Annie Award.

Finally, Yippee for first vice-president. Maybe it's the job for you, too! Fill out the forms if you want to serve OSO in this position the next biennium.

More later, Jo Ann



Award Concepts – Our Society Jeweler

An online shopping store found on the DKG website, Award Concepts has been in business since 1985. If you have been to an international convention, you probably have seen the Award Concepts booth. They design our convention pins and so much more for our organization. They have been a long-time partner of DKG.

When you log in as a member to the DKG website—www.dkg.org—choose **DKG store > shop now**. Award Concepts is listed on that page. Take a minute and look at all the branded products that have been designed for Delta Kappa Gamma. Ordering is easy via the order form provided on the website.



DKG International Educators Foundation

Cornetet Individual Awards will fund participation in conferences, seminars, lecture series, online courses and workshops plus other degree programs. This award deadline is November 1.



Did you know that both the Cornetet Individual Professional Development Award (CIPD) and its counterpart, the Cornetet Seminar for Professional Development Award (CSPD), are part of the nine funds coming under the auspices of the DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF)?

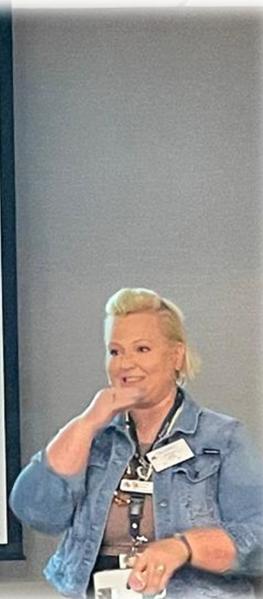
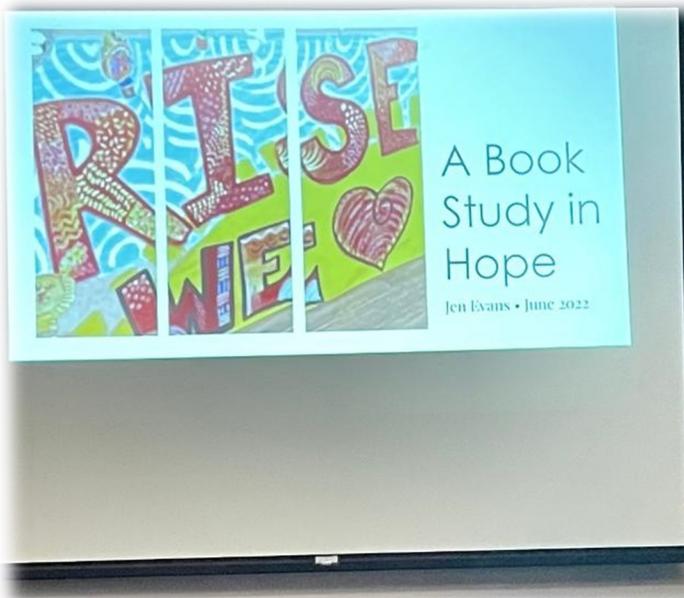
A former recipient of a CIPD Award expressed

her gratitude for the significant impact this funding had on her: “Being a recipient [of a CIPD] has helped me grow as an educator. I attended a workshop with other educators who had a shared vision. It was exciting to collaborate meaningfully. I was surrounded by those who stay curious and celebrate learning. I met friends who continue to inspire me. I am so appreciative to the DKGIEF for this Award.”

More information about applying for a CSPD (applications due November 1, 2022) can be found on the [DKGIEF page](#) of the Society’s website. Money awaits! Fund your dream experience in education.

[Follow this link to donate to the Cornetet Fund or any of the other funds under DKGIEF.](#)

OSO Conference Presentation



Jen Evans, Alpha chapter, presented a session about how she organized and facilitated a schoolwide book study in an easy jigsaw format. The book was *Hope Rising: How the Science of HOPE Can Change Your Life* by Casey Gwinn and Chan Hellman.

Jen shared how to get through an entire book with twenty or more chapters without overwhelming an already time demanding school year and busy staff.

A fourth grade teacher at Ralph Downs Elementary School in Putnam City, she has taught for twenty-three years.

Beta Beta Chapter



Above: Paula Walker presents the Founders Day Program. It gave the inductees a wonderful background of DKG.



Below: Community service is one of the best ways to help others. It is our hope that it brings benefits to your life and personal development. With that being said, the Service Project committee is excited to be focusing on “**Showering the Students**” as the first Beta Beta service project for the 2022-2023 year. Pictured below are **Jennie Wilmes** (left) and **Tonya Taylor** (right). They are the Service Projects co-chairs, collecting and distributing money and needed items to the appropriate charitable foundation. Vicki Bright, chapter treasurer, is seated in the background.



Above: New members **Krystin Brewer, Rosealyn Harrison, Jennifer Onderek and Hayley Furr** pose with their sponsor **Julia Wilhite** (center) after their induction ceremony.

Below: Members welcomed Texas transfer member **Janna Connolly** at their September meeting.



Beta Beta Chapter



Yukon Public Schools “Back to School Breakfast”

Beta Beta provides an eye-catching table for the staff of YPS annual breakfast. Our table’s theme was “Marching Into 2022” with a merry band of marching dinosaurs. **Above Left: Beta Beta president Shelly Hudson and Trudy Capraro (chair)** greeted and served the faculty and staff at the Beta Beta table. Not pictured, **Neda Duke** helped **Trudy** set up the table the Friday before the breakfast.

Above Right: In addition to breakfast, those seated at the **Beta Beta** table received gift cards and other teacher classroom goodies.

Beta Beta began their biennial journey with a program given by **Dianna Mann, the YPS District Volunteer Coordinator**. The beginning of the school year is a busy time for her. New applicants must be approved and trained if necessary.

Members might find one of the following programs is a perfect opportunity to serve.

- **Helping Hands** allow volunteers to take over some of the non-teaching responsibilities for the teachers;
- **Miller Mentor Program** provides positive role models for at-risk students by offering encouragement, support and guidance;
- **Santa’s Friends** helps students referred by a counselor, teacher or administrator by meeting needs that directly affect their classroom success.

Volunteering empowers us to make a significant difference in Yukon Schools.



Nu Chapter



Left: Kessie Cabler, is NU

Chapter's recipient of the Carrie Jacobs Scholarship.

Kessie is planning to pursue a degree in early childhood education and Christian ministry at Oklahoma Baptist University.

Kessie is talented in music and academics. In high school, she maintained a weighted GPA of 4.0147. She was on the Principal's Honor Roll and graduated with honors in science. Kessie was very active in choir, theater productions and volleyball.

"I believe that teachers play major roles in their students' lives. I want to show children that there are real people in this scary world who love them. I want to help children fall in love with learning and knowledge."

Chapter's recipient of the Carrie Jacobs Scholarship.

Right: Nu Chapter is supporting **Kaylee Cromwell Burris** for their SEE project. She is a 2021 graduate of the University of Central Oklahoma. Kaylee has recently taken a position as a 2nd grade teacher at Sooner Elementary School in Moore.

Kaylee has created an Amazon wishlist of supplies so Nu Chapter can help her as a teacher during the 2022-2023 school year.



Left: In September, **Opal Upshaw, Sue Reynolds and Kay Morris** served spaghetti, bread sticks, salad, green beans, cookies and cake to visitors at the Hope Clinic. The food was prepared **Vicki Stewart, Robin Thompson, Cindy Dronyk, Betty Keim and Jeannie Bennett.**

HOPE Clinic in Bartlesville provides free health care and dental services for those in need. They also partner with The Cottage, an organization that provides assistance to expectant mothers.



Nu Chapter Awards Received!

- ◆ **OSO Gold Award**
- ◆ **The "Annie" Award, Community Service category 1st place**
- ◆ **Chapter Newsletter 2nd place – East**
- ◆ **Support Early-Career Educators (SEE) Award**
- ◆ **Contributed to the World Fellowship Fund**
- ◆ **Participation in State Essay contest**

Nu Chapter



Chapter essay contest winners visit **Nu Chapter** to read their winning essays.

8th Grade: 1st place - **Logan Waller**, "How Kindness Can Bring Unity to the World," **Bowring Public Schools**

7th grade: 2nd place - **Vivian Bussey**, "Kindness," **Central Middle School**; Honorable Mention - **Shriga Sriram**, "Kindness 101," **Central Middle School**; 1st place - **Claire Barta**, "Kindness Unifies," **Central Middle School**; **Mrs. Heather Davis**, **Central Middle School** teacher



Kay Morris (right) takes advantage of a photo op with **Joann Rogers (left)** from **Alpha Chapter** at the International Convention held in New Orleans this summer. A total of 898 women from all around the world attended. **Oklahoma** was well represented at the Marketplace and the Member Art Gallery. **Kay** attended several break-out sessions on new digital tools. Many opportunities were offered for local chapters to be involved. Interaction with other chapters and state organizations gave insight into the commonality and diversity of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Alpha Iota



Above: Cynthia Snider, Alpha Iota Chapter, is pictured with her cheerleaders at Regional competition.

Cynthia Snider was named Oklahoma Coaches Association Cheer Coach of the Year for 2022. Also named coach of the year in 2011, she has coached for 34 years, and her teams have made it to state 20 times. Mrs. Snider has also been OCA Regional Coach of the year seven different times from 1997 to 2022. She has served as president of the Oklahoma Cheer Coaches Association from 2019 through 2022.

Cynthia teaches Family and Consumer Science at Chandler High School. She was recognized for participating in the Oklahoma Better Futures Project at the Oklahoma Career Tech Summit training this summer. The Oklahoma Better Futures Project works with teens to help them learn how to make better life decisions and how to be better friends and partners.



Above: New officers installed for the 2022 – 2024 biennium: **Kim Leatherwood**, parliamentarian; **Cynthia Snider**, secretary; **Laura Keefover**, vice president; and **Marilyn Young**, president.



Left: At the September meeting, new members **Inda Jo Conway** and **Rachel Karger** were inducted. **Inda Jo** teaches drama, and **Rachel** is a band instructor. Both are teachers in the Chandler Public School system.

Alpha Chapter



Alpha members **Joann Rogers** and **Lori Richardson-Morphew** attended the International convention in New Orleans where they participated in numerous sessions and workshops but also enjoyed the sights and sounds of New Orleans.

OSO President Lori represented our state and its members during Executive Board meetings, general sessions and other DKG events.

As **Financial Development chair, Joann** was responsible for the OSO booth at the Marketplace.

The International Convention offered opportunities to visit famous sites in New Orleans including Sazerac House, Mardi Gras World and Grand Oaks Mansion.

AlphaBits received “First Place — East” in Chapter Newsletters. Additionally, Alpha chapter received an OSO Gold Award!

OSO president and Alpha Chapter member Lori set up a table at the Professional Development Day for OKCPS. More than 30 ladies indicated an interest in joining DKG.

Lori learned that some of those ladies were in buildings of current Alpha members. She then forwarded names and took around brochures. Alpha may have possible recruits at their September meeting.

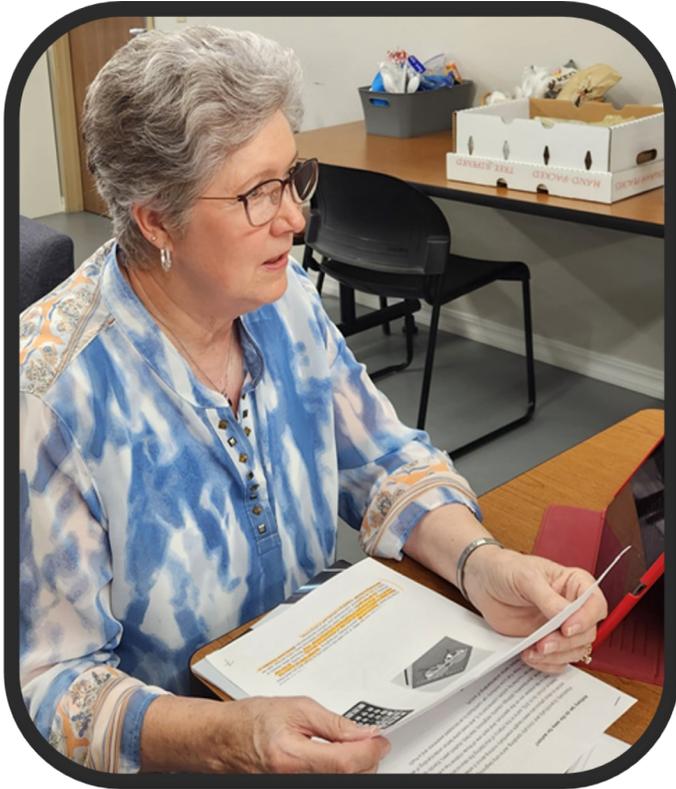
In addition, the chapter has two ladies who will join them for the first time in October. Lori predicts that Alpha Chapter has a good chance of winning the *Red Roses Award* for 2022-2023.



Right: Kenyelle Waiters and Jen Evans enjoy the many table activities at the Oklahoma Night — Make and Take at state conference.



Psi Chapter



Inspired by a book review in *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin Collegial Exchange* (Volume 88-4, 2022), Toni Burgess presented “Making Memories 101: Where are my glasses? Where’s my phone??”

Toni offered tips on maximizing the effectiveness of our memory based upon insights from Dr. Lisa Genova’s book *Remember: The Science of Memory and the Art of Forgetting*.

As part of the workshop, participants took an inventory of their prospective and retrospective memory and shared their own memory strategies.

PSI CHAPTER SALUTES:

- **Elaine Coram** on her election as president of the Oklahoma Retired Educators chapter for Woodward, Harper and Ellis Counties.
- **LaDena Eads** for her presentation on effective classroom modifications and techniques for special education students.
- **Toni Burgess and LaDena Eads** for volunteering their time and food for the Shattuck Community Youth Ministry sponsored by the Methodist Church of Shattuck.



Below: Rita Barnett; Esther Fields; Toni Burgess, secretary; LaDena Eads; Debby Yarbrough, president; Sharon Meier, treasurer; and Ann Peetoom. Not pictured but present are Janice Rutledge and Deena Fisher, vice-president.

Psi Chapter



Left: Deena Fisher speaks to the Rotary Club of South Oklahoma City.

Deena Fisher, Psi Chapter, recently assumed office as Rotary District 5750 Governor for 2022 – 2023. District 5750 covers the northwest quadrant of Oklahoma and includes over 30 local Rotary clubs. Her duties include organizing new clubs and strengthening existing ones.

Deena also is responsible for conducting district conferences, supervising district nominations and elections, preparing the district budget and providing an annual report to the organiza-

Pictured Above: Deena has been selected by the NextGen under 30 Foundation as a 2022 honoree for the 55 Over 55 Inspiring Oklahomans Award.

This award recognizes her lifelong contributions to Oklahoma's growth and prosperity. Deena and fellow recipients will be honored at a reception at the Oklahoma History Center in Oklahoma City later in November.



The Executive Board of **Sharon Meier**, treasurer; **Toni Burgess**, secretary; **Esther Fields**; **Deena Fisher**, vice-president; and **Deborah Yarbrough**, president met at A Touch of Home in Woodward to plan meetings and projects for the upcoming year. **Deborah Yarbrough** also was recently elected vice-president of the Oklahoma Retired Educators Chapter for Woodward, Harper and Ellis Counties.

Beta Nu

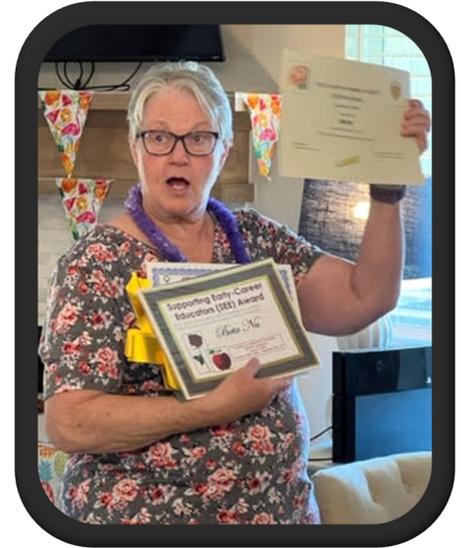
The 2022-2023 **Beta Nu Chapter** is off to a great start! In September members kicked off their fall meetings with a New Teacher After School Social in the Mustang High School STEM room.

Those invited were the new-to-Mustang School District teachers who had responded to the information brochure received at the new teachers' meetings. There were twenty-six who responded, twenty-one were willing to attend an informal gathering.

Members provided the fixings

for a "yogurt bar" and were joined in fellowship by three new teachers to the Mustang Public School District. Chapter members shared several benefits of membership with their visitors and then had a drawing for two \$100 checks for school supplies for their classrooms. The winners were **Autumn Morris** and **Dana Whitley**.

Right: Dr. Elayne Bowman, president, discussed all the awards our chapter received at the OSO Convention.



Pictured below: standing **Dr. Elayne Bowman**; front table left **Amanda Thomas** and daughter; back table left **Andrea Wildman**, **Carol Scott** and **Dana Whitley**; back table right **Diane Ackerman**, **Cynthia Adair** and **Trena Rogers**



GREAT IDEA!

Beta Nu asks: What do you consider as "teacher essentials"? Why not grab one or two each time you shop to share with a new teacher each month?

Beta Nu Website

Beta Nu has a presence on the Internet, thanks to our webmaster, **Sue Ann McGowan-Miller**.

<https://betanuoklahoma.weebly.com>



Beta Nu



The September chapter meeting was held at the home of **Joyce Hess** for the first hybrid meeting of the year.

Pantry items for the Mustang High School pantry were collected. Membership joys and con-

cerns were shared.

Front row: Cheryl McInnis, Carol Scott, Shereen Rasor and Sue Ann Miller.

Back row: Dr. Elayne Bowman, Cynthia Adair, Betty Lytle,

Sarah Carnes, Diane Ackerman, Andrea Wildman and Joyce Hess

Joining virtually were Billye Mae Sayers & Jackie Smith.

Editor's note: Dr. Bowman expresses a beautiful reflection in her president's column.

"Every Autumn is a new beginning for me. I'm sure much of that is because being reared in a family of teachers, becoming a teacher, having children, and marrying a teacher, the routines of heading back to the classroom have been a continual part of my life.

From a teacher's perspective, it's so exciting to see new faces in the classroom and have an op-

portunity to touch the lives of each child.

From a parent's perspective, there is perhaps a bit of angst in who will be spending time with our own children and how their perspectives on life may effect our children's mindsets.

From a retired teacher's perspective, there is a mix of yearning and a sigh of relief as others post their back to school photos all over social media. Whatever hat you're currently wearing, I pray that your school year gets

off to a wonderful start and that you are refreshed from the summer to meet whatever lies ahead."

Dr. Elayne Bowman



Gamma Beta



Gamma Beta Chapter in Tahlequah inducts **Maureen Johnson**, Assistant Professor of English and Director of Composition at Northeastern State University.

Left: **Sherry Whisler**, **Beth Herrington**, **Jeannie Van Veen**, **Maureen Johnson** and **Donna Talley**.

Gamma Beta Chapter member **Dr. Jennifer Edwards** was selected as the winner of 2021-22 Northeastern State University Faculty Circle of Excellence Award for Teaching.

The Circle of Excellence is the highest award a faculty member can receive as it is bestowed upon them by their peers. Faculty are nominated by other faculty members, and prior COE winners serve on the selection committee. Each faculty honoree of the Circle of Excellence Award receives \$2,500 that he or she can receive as a check or use for professional development.

Edwards is a professor of sociology and has served NSU for 19 years. Her areas of specialization



Above: **Dr. Nathan Green** (left) and **NSU President Steve Turner** (right) present the Northeastern State University Faculty Circle of Excellence Award for Teaching to **Dr. Jennifer Edwards**.

include criminology and social psychology. Specifically, she focuses on intergroup conflict and the relationship between ritual behavior and power. Edwards

teaches a variety of courses including criminology, sociology of gender, rural sociology, urban sociology, social psychology and sociology of religion.

Xi Chapter



Two **Xi sisters** were awarded grants for their buildings recently. **Ella Snavelly** received \$10,000 for building improvements - flooring. **Jennifer Tadlock** was awarded \$10,000 for playground equipment.

Left: Ella Snavelly receives her grant check from Lisa Carson, executive director of Lawton Public Schools Foundation. **Right:** LPS Foundation executive director Lisa Carson presents a check to Jennifer Tadlock.

OSO Conference Presentation

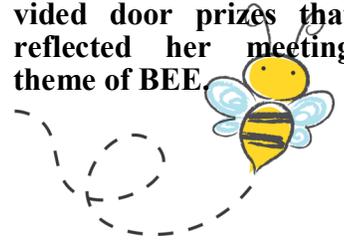


OSO 1st Vice-president Dr. Jo Ann Pierce presents a conference session “**Your Strengths Are Your Gifts.**” She emphasizes, “Learn your most dominant strengths and discover what makes you exceptional. Your strength—your gift, maximizes your potential. Let’s open your gift.” Given the conference theme, “The Gifts of Delta Kappa Gamma,” her session was the perfect gift.

OSO Executive Board



Alpha Chapter members Lee Jones, Jen Evans, President Lori Richardson-Morphew, Joann Rogers and Karen Stoss hosted the executive board. They furnished a veritable feast for lunch, and President Lori provided door prizes that reflected her meeting theme of BEE.



OSO secretary and convention chair Shelly Hudson, state treasurer Diane Laase, Dr Sheryl Barnett, OSO parliamentarian Paula Walker, Immediate Past State President Belinda Clifton and Creative Women of Oklahoma Committee chair Cynthia Adair share a table as plans for the next year are made.



OSO 2nd Vice-president Dr. Jamie Polk (left), Kay Morris and Opal Upshaw (center), and 1st vice-president Dr. Jo Ann Pierce add their vast expertise, experience and leadership skills to the planning discussions.

OSO Convention

THE GIFTS OF DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Lori Richardson-Morphew along with her OSO State Conference committee put together a fabulous state Conference in June of 2022. The theme was “The Gifts of Delta Kappa Gamma,” which brought a Christmas excitement to the event. Fun was had by all!

The Friday night General Session began with the presentation of flags and greetings from International by special guest **Nita Scott, International Executive Director**. A Ceremony of Remembrance was held to honor all OSO members lost during the 2021-2022 year. The night ended with Oklahoma Night—Make & Take, featuring craft tables for bow making, tea cup dioramas, embroidery and cork crafts; a puzzle table; and a trivia table.

Saturday brought executive and business meetings, guest speakers, silent auction winners and workshops. Awards and recognition were presented for chapter newsletters, scholarship, World Fellowship Creative Women of Oklahoma, Order of the Rose, Schools for Africa, Annie Award and Red and Gold Chapters. The Chapter Achievement Award also was given. Seventh and eighth grade essay winners read their compositions for the OSO members. The Oklahoma City Handbell Choir with **Cynthia Adair** and OSO’s Chorus under the direction of **Donna Tally** and accompanied by **Beth Herrington** gave superb musical performances.

Guest speakers were **Michele Johnson** for Beautiful Day and **Lesa Hefner** for “Science and Power of Hope.”

Workshops presented included “Your Strengths Are Your Gifts” by **Dr. Jo Ann Pierce**, “Presents from Beth: The Nitty Gritty of 501C3s” by **Beth Herrington**, “The Gift of Books: Imagination Library” by **Cynthia Adair**, “Ongoing DKG Gifts: Schools for Africa” by **Dr. Jamie Polk** and “HOPE Rising: How the Science of hope Can Change Your Life” by **Jen Evans**.

If you missed the conference this year, be sure to attend the 2023 OSO Convention.



OSO Convention



Above: Attendees were entertained by the musical talent of the **Oklahoma City Handbell Ensemble**. Members are **Brooke Calhoun, Sara Cage, Ruth Nichols, Marci Waguespack, Cynthia Adair**. Cynthia belongs to **Beta Nu Chapter**. The Oklahoma City Handbell Ensemble is a community group with members from the Oklahoma City area.



Dr. Jamie Polk (third from left), OSO 2nd vice-president, recognizes three of Oklahoma's Grand Ladies: Beth Herrington (49 year membership), Dona Talley (49 year membership), and Dr. Joe Anna Hibler (56 year membership).

OSO Convention



Left: Lisa Hefner and Ella Snavely, Xi Chapter, enjoy the table conversation at conference.

Right: President Lori's mom, Marilyn Dorl, and Melissa Jones visit the Oklahoma Night "Make and Take" tables. **Below:** Natalie Papageorge Johnson and Dr. Sheryl Barnett, Alpha Mu, tend to the business of Oklahoma State Organization during one of the General Sessions.



OSO Convention



Above: Michelle Johnson, co-founder of Beautiful day Foundation, shared the Foundation’s message: “The day you were born was a BEAUTIFUL DAY. Your life and existence are worthy of being celebrated.” They want kids to know that they are seen and loved by the community they call home. For more information, click on the link : [Beautiful Day Foundation](#).



Above: Karon McCubbin and Alexia White, both members of Lambda Chapter, find a few minutes to visit between general sessions.



Right: Suzanne Ritter studies the general session agenda. Each conference day is completely filled with activities and meetings. Attendees must be sure to know what is on the schedule so they do not miss any event.



Left to Right: Kathy Black, Jen Evans, Kandy Bishop and Nikki Coshow, Alpha Chapter, find that taking care of Society business can definitely be mixed with having fun and visiting.

OSO Convention



Creative Women of Oklahoma award recipients signed copies of their books for convention attendees.

Illustrator of the book *Doodle and Peck* Marla F. Jones (left) of Yukon and author of the book *Ignite the Sun* by Hanna C. Howard (right) of Tulsa were honored at the conference.

Standing in the back are committee chair Cynthia Adair and committee member Kay Morris. They are ready to help with the book signing.



Left: Jo Ann Hefley and Harriet Weber of Rho Chapter take advantage of a photo-opportunity.

Below: Patty Robison and Sandra Harrison, Alpha Sigma, share some snacks as they listen to a general session speaker.



OSO Convention



Above left: Dacia Hudelson, Delta Chapter, demonstrates the art of embroidery for the members that wish to try sewing a Christmas themed square. **Above Right: Betty Estes** gives the inspirational message before the first General Session begins.



Left: Honoring the passing of our sisters in the Ceremony of Remembrance, **OSO Past President Sandra Pendergraft** places a white rose in the vase as a tribute to each deceased member in 2021-2022. **Center: OSO Past President Pam Harding** smiles as she greets members at the general session. **OSO President Lori Richardson-Morphew** presides over one of the general sessions at conference.



Left: International guest **Nita Scott**, OSO 1st vice-president **Dr. Jo Ann Pierce** and OSO parliamentarian **Paula Walker** prepare for the upcoming general session by checking notes and the agenda.

OSO Convention



Left: OSO secretary **Shelly Hudson** and 2nd vice-president **Dr. Jamie Polk** make preparations for the next general assembly.

Right: OSO past president **Ramona Paine** attends one of the many breakout sessions.



Arneeta Gordon and OSO Immediate Past President **Belinda Clift** visit one of the Round table Discussions about the proposed amendments to the International Constitution and Standing Rules. These discussions were to further explain the proposed amendments.



Left: OSO treasurer **Diane Laase** checks the state's finances during the conference. She keeps the state in compliance with all society, local, state and national laws.



With the assistance of **Kandy Bishop**, 2nd vice-president **Dr. Jamie Polk** presents her **Schools for Africa** session.



OSO Convention



Left: Stephanie Adams, Alpha Chapter, accepts her “First Timers” certificate from President Lori Richardson-Morphew. **Right:** Debbie Schimmer and Kathleen Smith, both from Beta Beta Chapter, stand for the president’s processional at the banquet.



Right: Trena Rogers, Beta Nu Chapter, is the recipient of five academic scholarships. She received one International Scholarship and four OSO scholarships.

Trena tells us, “I am honored and humbled to have been selected as the recipient of the following scholarships for the 2022-2023 school year”:

- Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Berneta Minhsitz Scholarship
- Beulah Elliot Clinton Memorial Scholarship (Oklahoma State Organization DKG)
- Summer Term Scholarship (Oklahoma State Organization DKG)
- Edna Donley Summer Term Scholarship (Oklahoma State Organization DKG)
- Regular School Year Scholarship (Oklahoma State Organization DKG)



Left: Alice Pettit shows off her Christmas sleigh table decoration she won in the final drawing of the evening. **Right: Jennifer Rader, Alpha Mu,** checks on the progress of her tea cup tree decoration she is making during the “Make an Take” time.



WEBSITE REDESIGN



**COMING
SOON**

The Website Design Team (a subcommittee of CTOG) is rolling out a new DKG website (late fall 2022) that is focused on users' needs.

We have heard your concerns and comments. That is why the website redesign is driven by two key principles: User-Focused and User-Friendly.

Interested in learning more and/or offering your feedback? Visit [DKG Website Redesign](#) for design site maps, a video presentation, a PowerPoint with notes, and a feedback form.

Hope you are getting excited to see the new design. Hope you will take time to share this information with a friend, your chapter, and

your state organization membership.

Hope you will see and appreciate that your concerns and comments have been heard and responded to given the parameters within which we had to work.

DKGSI : July 25, 2022



Oklahoma House Bill 1775

When [House Bill 1775](#) was signed by Governor Stitt in May of 2021, it created a lot of controversy among school administrators, teachers and parents. The bill was dubbed as the ban against Critical Race Theory (CRT). In summary, House Bill 1775 outlines the following:

No student will be required to engage in any form of mandatory or sexual orientation training. "Any orientation or requirement that presents any form of race or sex stereotyping or a bias on the basis of race or sex shall be prohibited."

"No teacher, administrator or other employee of a school district shall require or make part of a course the following concepts:

- a. one race or sex is inherently superior to another race or sex,
- b. an individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously,

- c. an individual should be discriminated against or receive adverse treatment solely or partly because of his or her race or sex, members of one race or sex cannot and should not attempt to treat others without respect to race or sex,
- e. an individual's moral character is necessarily determined by his or her race or sex,
- f. an individual, by virtue of his or her race or sex, bears responsibility for actions committed in the past by other members of the same race or sex,
- g. any individual should feel discomfort, guilt, anguish or any other form of psychological distress on account of his or her race or sex, or
- h. meritocracy or traits such as a hard work ethic are racist or sexist or were created by members of a particular race to oppress members of another race."

While many schools have fol-

lowed the requirements of the bill, not all schools have been found to be compliant. Tulsa and Mustang Public Schools were both reprimanded by the Oklahoma State School Board by receiving the disciplinary action of "accreditation with warning."

Several large groups have brought a federal lawsuit challenging the law. Those groups include the American Civil Liberties Union, ACLU of Oklahoma, the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, the Black Emergency Response Team (BERT); the University of Oklahoma Chapter of the American Association of University Professors (OU-AAUP); the Oklahoma State Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP-OK); and the American Indian Movement (AIM) Indian Territory, to name a few.

The Nu Network

Issue No. 2 October 2022

International Convention

International Convention in New Orleans was exceptional! Ten members from Oklahoma attended.

There were breakaways, take-aways and general sessions. Members addressed 73 of the 120 proposed amendments. International will soon share a document with all these changes so state organizations can revise their

State Bylaws and Standing Rules and chapters will need to update their Chapter Rules.

Attendees had fun too! There was the Second Line Band, the Sazerac House, Mardi Gras World and Grand Oaks Mansion sponsored by the DKGIEF, Oklahoma Night and International's banquet Saturday evening. Sight-seeing and the French Quarter

were other events that our members enjoyed.

Beth Schieber and Belinda Clift served as door monitors at general sessions and **Beth** presented a DKGIEF workshop.

Kathy Davis was remembered at a beautiful ceremony honoring our departed sisters.



OSO members attending the New Orleans Convention enjoy Oklahoma Night at the condo shared by several members. Front: **Sandra Harrison, Paula Walker**; Second row: **Joann Rogers, Dr. Jamie Polk, Kay Morris, Beth Schieber, Shelly Hudson, Lori Richardson-Morphew, Sandra Pendergraft and Belinda Clift.**



Kathryn Louise Davis
2018-2020 US Forum Chair

January 7, 1952 - June 18, 2020

Kathy Davis joined Oklahoma Beta Beta Chapter on October 1, 1987. During her thirty-three years of membership, Kathy served in numerous capacities at all levels of the Society, including as Beta Beta's chapter president, newsletter editor, and webmaster, as Oklahoma State Organization's state organization president and webmaster, and as International's United States Forum Chair and an elected member of the Nominations Committee. Kathy was honored with the Oklahoma State Organization Achievement Award and attended the Golden Gift Leadership Seminar in 2008.

Kathy was also a committed member of DKG. At the International level, Kathy served with honor and dedication. As a life-long educator, Kathy was employed at Yukon Public Schools as a classroom teacher for thirty-two years and as the Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Professional Development Coordinator for seven years. Kathy Davis will be remembered as a master teacher, supportive colleague, insightful motivator, natural problem-solver, tech-savvy educator, and a skilled administrator. She always went the extra mile whether she was teaching, mentoring, or being a friend. The lives she impacted are innumerable, and her legacy will live on through the positive impact she made on all who knew her.

"We do not remember days, we remember moments."

Cesare Pavese



Above: Paula Walker and Shelly Hudson demonstrate the "clickers" used for electronic voting. Electronic voting is faster and more accurate than a show of hands or pen and paper, and the results are immediately

Kathy Davis was remembered at a beautiful ceremony honoring our departed sisters.

Below: President Lori Richardson-Morphew and Past President Sandra Pendergraft join the Second Line Parade outside the convention center.



International Convention

International Convention



Beth Schieber, DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF) board of directors member in her fifth year of a six year term, presents a workshop titled “Stories from DKGIEF,” highlighting stories from re-



Left: Joann Rogers, Kay Morris, Sandra Harrison, Sandra Pendergraft and Lori Richardson-Morphew pose for a picture in the Grand Oaks Mansion at Mardi Gras World. These were fundraisers for the DKGIEF. The mansion provided live music, food stations, mask-making and dancing opportunities for those that attended.

International Convention News



Left: Dr. Jamie Polk, OSO 2nd vice-president, and Lori Richardson-Morphew, OSO president, enjoy table conversation with diners from chapters worldwide. International events give members the opportunity to network, make new friends and visit old ones.

Bottom Left: Belinda Clift, past OSO president and present International Communications Committee chair, attends the Saturday night banquet. **Bottom Right:** OSO president Lori Richardson-Morphew and OSO Financial Committee chair Joann Rogers set up Oklahoma's booth at the Marketplace.



International Convention News

International Convention business meetings were under the leadership of International **President Becky Sadowski** from Tennessee. At each business meeting, amendments were voted on, and some adopted. Two that passed which may interest Oklahoma members are the combining of the Membership and Expansion Committees into one committee, now known as the Membership and Expansion Committee, and making the Leadership Management Seminar (Ignite) part of the International Leadership Development Committee. This seminar is funded by the Golden Gift Committee.

There was no vote to change the name of the organization or to create any new publications.

The keynote speakers during the business meetings included **Courtney Clark**, a motivational speaker and author, and **Ingy**

Hrannar Omarrson, an educator, entrepreneur and speaker from Iceland. Both used a common theme of change. Ms. Clark said that end results need not change, but how we get there may involve major changes. She spoke of the many changes in her career path and the changes she has made based on roadblocks in her life, such as not becoming a dancer due to her need for improvement in her technique. At age 26, she developed cancer, which recurred later in her life. Her theme, DETOUR, demonstrated how life constantly changes our paths in life and how important it is to take those detours to make us the persons that we are today.

Mr. Omarrson encouraged non-traditional methods of teaching to enhance learning, including the use of play and “hands on” experiences. He believes that the envi-

ronment in our schools needs to promote conversation and increased opportunities for students to interact with their peers. Omarrson said that many schools are still trying to teach as if it were 1980 or 1990. Students no longer require textbooks, but they must understand the use of technology. He also believes that critical and creative thinking need to be promoted and that students need to be counseled to find a path for success as well as happiness.

Daily break-out sessions and take-away sessions focused on innovative programs and successful chapter projects. Examples included: **Create Engaging Graphics Using Canva**, a program to enhance flyers, newsletters, and social media posts and **Mu Connect: Iowa**, a tiered program which focuses on levels of involvement in DKG: Member, Chapter, Region, State, and International and the importance of each.

Dr. Debbie LeBlanc was installed as International President Saturday evening. She was the former Northeast Director from Illinois, but she recently moved to Louisiana.

ΔKT

Left: Oklahoma was actively involved in the proposed amendment sessions. **Past president Sandra Pendergraft** proposes an amendment to the amendment as **Sandra Harrison** and **Past President Belinda Clift** listen. **Belinda** also voiced an opinion on one of the proposed amendments.



International Headquarters



International president Dr. Debbie LeBlanc and Bill Staples, office and facilities manager, pose a moment as they give Beth Schieber a tour of the new headquarters during her DKGIEF meeting in Austin.



Left: Office space at headquarters. You can see the up-to-date facilities and equipment available to your International staff.

In the background, you can see International president Dr. Debbie LeBlanc's office and executive director Nita Scott's office.

Below right: Phyllis Hickey, the DKG Strategic outreach director, visits with Beth Schieber, the photographer.



Left: Picture of Wall of Roses in the new International headquarters.

Your gift of \$10,000 and more will be noted in the memory book at the Wall of Roses with your name and attached to the rose trellis on the Wall of Roses. Please contact Phyllis Hickey at headquarters for more information.



Article or ISR	<p>This table gives the newly adopted wording of only those rules that are most likely to have a direct impact on state organization bylaws or chapter rules.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">New Wording</p>	Affects SO Bylaw	Affects Chapter Rules
Article III.A.1 (PA 49)	Membership in The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International shall be by invitation. At the time she joins the Society, a member becomes a member of the international Society, a state organization, and a chapter.	X	X
Article III.B.2 (PA 51)	Reserve membership shall be granted only to a member who is unable to participate fully in the activities of the chapter because of medical disability, geographic location, and/or no technological connection/skill.	X	X
Article III.B.3 (PA 53)	<p>Honorary Members</p> <p>a. A chapter or state organization honorary member shall be a woman not eligible for active membership who has rendered notable service to education or to women and is elected to honorary membership in recognition of such service.</p> <p>b. An international honorary member shall be a woman who has rendered notable service to education or to women, who is elected to honorary membership in recognition of such service, and who is not a current or former member of DKG at the time of election.</p>	X	X
Article III.B.4 (PA 48)	<p>Collegiate members shall be undergraduate or graduate students who meet the following criteria:</p> <p>a. Bachelor student collegiate members shall</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) be enrolled in an institution offering coursework leading to a career in education; and have the intent to continue academically and professionally in the field of education; and (2) be enrolled within the last two years of their bachelor's education degree. <p>b. Graduate/Masters/Doctoral student collegiate members shall have Graduate/ Masters/ Doctoral standing in an institution offering coursework in the field of education; and have the intent to continue academically and professionally in the field of education.</p> <p>When a collegiate member starts her career as a paid educator, she will pay active member dues and become an active member. If a collegiate member does not pursue a career as an educator, her membership will expire upon graduation or withdrawal from the education degree program.</p>	X	X
Article IV.B.1 (PA 55)	Eliminated from the Constitution (Remaining subsections are not renumbered in this table.)	X	X
Article IV.C.2 (PA 63)	New members shall become members when dues are paid. New members who join between July 1 and December 31 shall pay full international dues for current fiscal year. New members who join between January 1 and March 31 shall pay half dues. New members joining between April 1 and June 30 shall pay full international dues for the ensuing year. Reinstated members shall pay full annual dues whenever reinstated. Chapter and state organization dues may be pro-rated as the chapter/ state organization determines.	X	X