



# Arizona SAHUARO

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International – For Key Women Educators

## 2009 Executive Board Meeting and General Session

Omicron State held its 2009 Executive Board meeting and Fall Workshop at the First Assembly of God Church, Chandler, on Saturday, October 24, 2009.

There were 33 chapters represented, 10 past state presidents, and seven state officers for a total of 140 attendees.

New business discussed was the Mariposa Project, which resulted in the formation of an Ad Hoc Committee for further study.

The date was also set for the 2010 Executive Board Meeting and Fall Workshop for Saturday, October 23, 2010 at the First Assembly of God Church in Chandler.

*Mary McNichols (Alpha Rho)*

## Chapter Officer Training

All incoming officers, including parliamentarians and treasurers, will receive training on Friday April 23, 2010, at the Hilton.

Presidents – 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

First Vice Presidents - 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Second Vice Presidents - 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Secretaries – 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Treasurers – 7:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

Parliamentarians – 7:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

There will be dinner only for incoming officers and trainers. Current chapter presidents will receive detailed information regarding the schedule. ♥

**AKT**

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

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Raffle

The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee is pleased to announce that two theme baskets will be raffled at the 2010 state convention. Donna Reynolds and Dena Martin have chosen "All You Need to Blossom." The theme for Ann Stephen's and Connie Myren's basket is "Silver and Gold." Tickets will be available at the convention.

At the 2011 Anniversary Convention, special recognition will be given to members born in the year 1936, mother and daughter Society members, schools or buildings named after members, and memorabilia of the 1930's. Further information about any of the above items is welcome. Contact Anniversary Chairman Berneild Drake at berneild@aol.com. ♥

## Omicron State Welcomes Linda Eller

International Communications Services Administrator Linda Eller has been named the international representative to the 2010 Omicron State Convention.

Linda began her duties in Austin, Texas, September 10, 2009. For the past eight years, Linda has served as professional development coordinator for instructional technology in the Memphis, Tennessee, city schools.

She earned her Bachelor's degree from Tennessee Tech University; her Master's degree from the University of Memphis; and is currently working on her doctoral dissertation at Pepperdine University.

Linda served as the Tennessee state webmaster the past two years and as state editor since 2004.

In her spare time, Linda loves to travel and read fantasy titles. She enjoys the company of her two dogs: Scarlett, a boxer, and Midnight, a black lab.

At the Omicron State convention, Linda will be an active participant as a keynote speaker, workshop presenter, and assist with leadership training. ♥

## 2010 State Convention in Mesa

"Let Your Dreams Take Flight" by attending the Omicron State Convention April 23-25 at the Hilton East in Mesa.

This is a training year for all incoming chapter officers. These sessions will be held on Friday, April 23. Convention greetings and entertainment will be provided for all attendees on Friday night, beginning at 8:00 p.m.

Saturday morning complimentary light breakfast will begin at 6:30 a.m., followed by the Executive Board meeting at 7:30 a.m. There will then be two sessions of workshops.

Following the Birthday Luncheon at 12:30 p.m., a general session/workshop featuring State Legislator Kyrsten Sinema (Alpha Alpha) will be held.

Special music will be presented at the 6:30 p.m. Rose Banquet where you will be treated to the humor of Will Rogers, presented by Forrest Dougherty.

Sunday the Memorial Service will be at 8 a.m. followed by the Lei of Friendship Breakfast.

A convention registration form is included in this issue of the *Sahuaro*. Hotel room reservations are now available.

Hilton East in Mesa

1011 W. Holmes Ave., Mesa, AZ 85210

U.S. 60 and Alma School Road

1-800-544-5866

Be sure to say you are with Delta Kappa Gamma

Room rates

Standard \$129.00

Suites \$169.00

All rooms are subject to Arizona state sales and occupancy tax ♥



## Pura Vida!

### Dream with Judy!



Omicron State  
President Judy  
Strommeyer

A message from Omicron State President Judy Strommeyer (Mu)

Thank you to all who participated in the Fall Workshop: the Executive Board; presenters; chapter members who organized the event, prepared packets, sold raffle tickets, purchased raffle tickets, and gave their moral support.

As a new year begins, we focus on those things we hold dear, those which we would like to see change, and those that sustain us. It is a time to envision our dreams and to make a plan of action to generate the change we seek.

It is a time to renew our commitment to DKG and its seven purposes at all levels. Where can we make a change? Is it in a more active role at the chapter level, participation in state level activities, or becoming involved at the international level?

At the chapter level, share your leadership skills, take a chapter office, invite a teacher to membership, dedicate time to Collaborative Connection, and attend chapter meetings.

At the state level, participate in Legislative days, attend the State Convention, donate a new or like-new purse for the Latin American Committee boutique sale, contribute an item for the Purple Elephant Raffle/Silent Auction, participate in committee activities, buy raffle tickets for the De Grazia print and the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Basket.

At the international level, attend the 2010 International Convention in Spokane and be a part of the changes in our governing documents.

Now is the time to renew your commitment to the future of education through support of ΔΚΓ. It is the sharing of ourselves that binds us together and makes us strong as a Society and individuals. Let your DREAMS take flight. Let your HEART be your guide.

Pura Vida for all. ♥

### Professional Affairs Committee Project

At the Fall Workshop, the Professional Affairs Committee brainstormed ideas to showcase members' current professionalism in education. Selected members' accomplishments will be celebrated through a monthly posting on the state website. These highlights will include a biographical profile, a brief synopsis of the accomplishments, and pictures.

In a brief synopsis, members will describe

how their accomplishments have helped to emphasize professionalism in education. (Examples: unique or outstanding projects in education, innovative teaching methods, collaborative connections project, National Board Certification, Fulbright Scholar, etc.).

The twice a year deadlines are February 1, 2010 and September 1, 2010. Submit applications and pictures to chairman Sandy Breece, 3232 Pioneer Drive, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404 or sbreece@telesis-academny.org

### From Corresponding Secretary Alice Reule

When will your chapter elect officers for the 2010-2012 biennium? The Omicron State Corresponding Secretary has set a deadline date of February 28, 2010, to receive the results of your election. This early date is necessary so a complete directory will be ready for you at the state convention. Send the information to Alice Reule at areule@cox.net ♥

### From Leadership Chairman Dena Martin

Newly elected chapter presidents will meet on Friday, April 23, 2010, at 4:30 p.m. at the Hilton East Hotel in Mesa. At this training session you are asked to bring the notebook that was presented to the current chapter president.

This book will be an on-going tool to be used by each new chapter president. Current chapter presidents, please hand this important information to the incoming president at her installation ceremony. ♥

### Legislative News

**Legislative Day** at the Arizona State Capitol is Wednesday, February 24, 2010. Members will have the opportunity to meet state legislators and to be a strong advocate for education.

**National Legislative Seminar** at the Hyatt Regency Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia is March 14-17, 2010.

Forms may be downloaded from the Society website.

**2010 Friend of Education Nomination Forms** are due March 16, 2010. Any DKG member may nominate a state legislator who has completed one full year in the legislature and has a voting record that reflects support for children and education. Forms available on Omicron State website.

At the **2010 State Convention** Representative Kyrsten Sinema (Alpha Alpha) will be a presenter. If you bring her book *Unite and Conquer* she will sign it.

Lori Good (Alpha Alpha), Chairman  
Omicron State Legislative Committee



Omicron State Officers Kathy Green (Alpha Delta), Judy Vinson (Alpha) and Joye Sterrett (Omega) at the business session.

### From First Vice President Judy Vinson

1. Current chapter Program Committee Chairmen must send their biennial reports to Judy Vinson by February 1, 2010.

2. Incoming chapter Second Vice-Presidents should plan now to attend the training for their new office at the 2010 Convention. Be there for the 4:30 p.m. Friday session.

3. At the Fall Workshop, an Ad Hoc Committee was established, with Judy Vinson as chairman. The committee is to investigate ways to assist Costa Rican members other than those provided by the Latin American Award Committee. It will be presented for vote at the 2010 state convention. If you have information you would like the committee to address, please contact Judy at judyv4@wildblue.net ♥

### Communications Chairman Shelley Smith

It is now easier than ever to complete the task of biennial reports. The form is located on the Delta Kappa Gamma International website; just click on the appropriate line. Once you have downloaded the form, complete it and email it to Omicron State Committee Chairman Shelley Smith at Belleshelley@aol.com

No e-mail? Answer the questions on the hard copy you received and mail to Shelley at 930 W. White Acacia Place, Tucson 85701. ♥

### World Fellowships

The World Fellowships program began in 1946 as a project to aid women in war-torn countries. Since February of 1960, 685 grants representing 109 countries and totaling \$3,283,408 have been awarded.

This year there are 38 recipients and eleven extensions from 33 countries; however, no recipients selected Arizona colleges this year. At the Lei of Friendship Breakfast on Sunday morning, April 25, information about the recipients will be available.

For use at the chapter level, the committee is collecting ideas for World Fellowships meetings. If your chapter has done something informative and interesting as a program, please contact Chairman Joye Sterrett at Sterr8113@aol.com ♥

## “And the Winner is...”



The 75th Anniversary basket “Diamonds Are A Girls Best Friend” was won by Marge Threewit (Alpha Beta). The basket was created by Merry Lewis (Mu) and Jan Rosenberg (Nu).

The lucky winners at the 2009 Fall Workshop included the following:

**THE PASTA BASKET**  
Mary Lou Boetcher (Phi)

**THE MOVIE BASKET**  
Anna Palazzo (Chi)

**THE CHOCOLATE BASKET**  
Ginny Novell (Gamma)

**THE RELAXATION BASKET**  
Nancy Noll (Alpha Delta)

**THE WINE AND CRACKER BASKET**  
Wanda Lynch (Chi)

**THE 75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY BASKET**  
Marge Threewit (Alpha Beta)

Other winners in the drawings included Jean Davis (Alpha Rho) who won a ticket for the World Fellowship breakfast at the 2010 convention; Shannon Newman (Gamma), a ticket for the convention banquet; Judy Tucker (Chi), convention registration; Linda Gustafson (Delta), the birthday luncheon; and Dr. Sandra Breese (Alpha Chi), registration for the Life Experience Seminar.

In addition, attendance awards were given to those chapters with the largest number and the largest percentage of members at the workshop. There was a five-way tie for in-area: Rho, Chi, Alpha Beta, Alpha Delta, and Alpha Iota with nine members each. The out-of-area chapter with the largest attendance was Lambda, also with nine members.

The greatest attendance percentage in-area was Rho with 45 per cent while Zeta took home the honor for out-of-area with 35 per cent.

*Shelley Smith (Lambda), Chairman  
Omicron State Communications Committee*

## Move It Or Lose It

The *Move It or Lose It* workshop was presented by health and physical education teacher Rachel Gonzales.

The workshop was designed to improve mobility by low-impact chair exercise. Members sampled chair aerobics that benefit overall well-being and learned tips for incorporating exercise into our day. Members left feeling invigorated.

*Sharla Torchia (Lambda)*

## Women in Arts Display

A display of handcrafted items, artwork, photography, and books of essays and poetry, as well as music on CDs were displayed at the Fall Workshop.

Eleven large quilts - - some by individuals, some by chapters - - added to the artistic ambience of the artwork representing 23 individuals in addition to several joint chapter projects.

Pastels, oils, acrylics, and water colors in addition to quilting, crocheting, knitting, embroidery, jewelry dolls, ceramic mosaics, and handmade greeting cards showed the varied talents of Omicron State members.

*Wanda Lynch (Chi)*



*Sue Ellen Brahs (Rho) and Sharon Willy (Alpha Beta) at the Women in the Arts display.*

## Are You as Talented as a Third Grader?

Members who attended the *Are You as Talented as a Third Grader* workshop found that they were just that - -with a little help from their teacher.

Under the direction of Diane Gara-Weiner (Alpha Delta), the attendees made an original item that could be used as a greeting card, a journal, or a spot to paste favorite photos. Tied with a bow, the folder was ready to present to someone as a gift.

One member, who teaches in an elementary school, decided it would make a good project for her class; the students could use it to record plant growth over time. Sharing ideas among friends while creating something useful made this a great workshop.

*Mary Brock (Iota)*



*Diane Gara-Weiner (Alpha Delta) presented the workshop “Are You As Talented as a Third Grader” at the 2009 Fall Workshop.*

## Joys of Teaching Shakespeare

Members attending the workshop presented by Jo Ann Lawson (Rho) came away with new insights into teaching Shakespeare. After teaching a total of 45 years. Jo Ann is currently a staff member with Camp Shakespeare, held annually in Cedar City, Utah.

Attendees were quizzed at the opening of the session, and those with correct responses were rewarded with prizes.

Participants learned about techniques Lawson employed to engage her students in the reading and appreciation of Shakespeare, including a special party for juniors and seniors at which they dressed in character and were required to memorize lines before being able to enter the party. From that starting point, she eventually was able to take ten students to London, where they could experience the Bard’s genius at Old Globe Theatre.

Before the workshop concluded, Jo Ann pointed out how pervasive Shakespeare’s impact on our language has been, citing many commonplace phrases that are part of our everyday conversations: for example, “being footloose and fancy free” and “thank someone from the bottom of my heart.”

*Shelley Smith (Lambda)*

## Make and Take Workshop

For some, massages are a key way to relax. Others of us can’t sit still for so long! Crafts are one way that many of us enjoy relaxing.

Patricia Holmes’ (Lambda) workshop, “Make and Take: What’s Up My Sleeve?” featured a trick-or-treat bag project. Construction paper, felt, and peel-and-stick stickers were the order of the day.

Delta Kappa Gamma members created clever bags and took new ideas back to their classrooms.

*Jenny Lichtsinn (Alpha Rho)*



*Patricia Holmes (Lambda) and Jenny Lichtsinn (Alpha Rho) at the “Make and Take Workshop”.*



*Jo Ann Lawson (Rho) presented a workshop entitled “Joy of Teaching Shakespeare”.*

## What is the Collaborative Connections Omicron State Project?

In October, 2008, under the leadership of State President Dena Martin, Collaborative Connections was approved as an Omicron State Project. This is a partnership between a DKG chapter or state organization and local schools or school districts. Through this project, experienced Society educators – current, former, retired - mentor, guide, coach, and support classroom teachers to help students learn.

### Alpha Beta Chapter

(Glendale/Peoria area)

Alpha Beta Chapter members are collecting for the “Goody Basket/Bag” for their adopted first grade teacher at Orangewood School. Any item that would be useful in a classroom for a new teacher is appreciated.

We are also encouraging volunteering in a classroom, supporting special events held at school, tutoring after school, baking for teachers, providing gift certificates, etc.

Members are asked to keep a record of time they spend participating in this project.

At their October meeting, Alpha Beta Chapter took a field trip to Florence Crittenton Youth Academy. The Academy provides programs and services to over 1,200 teens annually.

During the visit the chapter presented a check for \$150.00 to the Volunteer Services Manager. This money was raised at the chapter’s September auction.

Florence Crittenton of Arizona is a non-profit organization that has served Arizona’s youth and their families for more than a century. Today they offer a comprehensive continuum of care designed to help at risk girls from 12 to 21 overcome issues of abuse, neglect, teen pregnancy, teen parenting, and behavioral and/or mental health problems.

Most important, Florence Crittenton creates safe environments where youth, young adults, and families can discover the support of a caring community and the possibility of a bright new future.

After visiting the main campus, chapter members shopped at *Flo’s on 7th*. This is an upscale thrift shop that supports Crittenton’s life-changing programs.

*Marge Threewit (Alpha Beta)*



Alpha Beta member Bev Combs presented a check from Alpha Beta members to Barbara Castillo of Florence Crittenton.



Patricia Rendon (Lambda) works with a second grade student at Sam Hughes Elementary School.

### Lambda Chapter

(Tucson area)

Lambda Chapter has established a partnership with Sam Hughes Elementary School in Tucson.



Lambda Chapter members participate in Collaborative Connections project at Sam Hughes School. Barbara Chinworth, Sharla Torchia, Patricia Holmes, Kristin Audelo, Mary Ann Liddle, Carol Bahill and Betty Klein.

Members have provided snacks for the staff on workdays, helped assemble materials, provided in-class support, and attended programs.

This partnership is continually growing as needs are discovered. One Lambda member has become part of the extended day staff teaching Spanish. Members may need to help fill in gaps that have been created by severe budget cuts.

When reporting on a PTO visit, member Mary Ann Liddle wrote: “Hooray! Surely this is what volunteerism, love of kids and teaching, and a sincere desire to help kids succeed is all about. How touching it was to have our members describe past teaching and student and parental ties with this school as well as with complete strangers and current neighbors, who all want to help the children succeed. The parents’ positive response to Lambda’s offer (to join in a partnership) was overwhelming.”

*Susan Hergenhan (Lambda)*

### Mu Chapter

(Tucson)

Mu Chapter members “connect” both in the school and through membership in other organizations.

Seven years ago, before Collaborative Connections became a state project, Marianne Sarver volunteered two mornings a week at Drexel Elementary School in Tucson. This year, representing Mu Chapter, she works in a third grade with English language learners.

Merry Lewis and Carolyn Simbari “connect” with San Xavier Mission School and Santa Cruz Elementary School. They both belong to the Christ Child Society in Tucson, which provides money for nutrition, back packs, clothing, and books for the schools. The society provided a Smart Board for Santa Cruz School. Kathryn Bossuyt and Nancy Jones (Upsilon) also work with the Christ Child Society.

Marilyn Ludwig’s “connection” is a pre-

cursor to children’s school years. She collects and delivers books for the “Reach Out and Read” program.

*Merry Lewis (Mu)*

### Iota Chapter

(Yuma Area)

Iota Chapter has begun its Collaborative Connections at Pueblo School in Yuma’s Crane School District.

The primary focus of the project is to provide math manipulative devices for students and teachers at the newly renovated school. Iota members met at the school under the leadership of chapter member and math guru, Janet Hoy and Principal Lynn Connor to create needed devices.

The members, most active retired, have shared experiences with the teachers at the school while they worked there. Shared, too, were cookies brought by members and left for the staff’s enjoyment. ♥

## Alpha Chi Chapter

(Lake Havasu Area)

Alpha Chi Chapter's Collaborative Connection project was the Novice Teacher Education Fair held on September 21, 2009, at the Quality Inn and Suites in Lake Havasu. This event was designed to provide a clearinghouse of information about coursework required so that novice teachers in the area could achieve the designation, "highly qualified".

The clearinghouse concept was accomplished by asking institutions and agencies who could offer needed coursework to assemble in one place. Novice teachers were able to visit information stations staffed by official spokespersons.

Representatives from Mohave Community College, Northern Arizona University, University of Phoenix, Kaplan College, and Arizona State Teachers Association were invited. Lake Havasu Unified School District's Professional Development Director was available with information needed by teachers in the district. Novice teachers from private schools and public and private charter schools were also invited to attend.

In addition to the information stations, all participants were served dinner, and the chapter provided numerous door prizes.

Gina Olson (Alpha Chi)  
First Vice President

## Wisconsin's Alpha Eta Chapter

Alpha Eta Chapter in Wisconsin is a small, largely retired group that has a *Food for the Mind* project in which they distribute new or gently used children's books to the dozen-plus food pantries in a large area where many struggle to make a living.

It is the hope of the members that children who get the books will find their way to higher education because they learned to love learning about new things and prefer reading to other areas of entertainment.

Dr. Mary Weinkauff (Alpha Eta Chapter) Wisconsin

## Chi Chapter

(Scottsdale)

Collaborative Connections of Chi Chapter have an informal format. Fourteen Chi women are assisting current teachers by mentoring and helping teachers with a wide range of needs. They are free to take their talents to any school with which they have a connection.

### Connecting:

- \* Resource person and chaperone for teacher/advisor of Teenage Republicans

- \* Planner/Presenter/Mentor for teachers and students at state and national journalism events

- \* Mentor/helper for student teachers, colleagues, substitute teachers

- \* Story-teller/musician who incorporates reading objectives at Zuni School

- \* Facilitator for teachers/students participating in Sister City foreign exchange

- \* Member of Scottsdale Unified committee for teacher development

- \* Lender of materials and room decorator for colleague

- \* Helper for librarian's annual Book Fair

- \* Advocate liaison in teacher relationships in mainstreaming of an ELL student

- \* "Sunshine Ladies" mailbox treats and teacher lunch potlucks

- \* Extra Hands for field trips, parties, computer lab, reading, story telling

- \* Supporter of tutors at Arabian Library after school program for Desert Canyon School

- \* Facilitator liaison with teachers placing autistic students in jobs at Saguaro Library

Lisa White (Chi)

Chapter First Vice-President



Students at Unlimited Potential work with Alpha Epsilon member.

## Alpha Epsilon Chapter

(Tempe/Mesa Area)

Alpha Epsilon, for the second year, is assisting Unlimited Potential, a school in Phoenix that instructs young women learning English.

Unlimited Potential is a two-year program that not only teaches English, but also prepares women for their U.S. citizenship exams and for job readiness.

Our Collaborative Connections opportunity is with the children of these women. Alpha Epsilon members help supervise and provide learning activities for the school-aged children during the children's school breaks, allowing their mothers to continue with their own learning schedule.

Alpha Epsilon members also help by donating school supplies, books, and magazines to both the adults and the children. Donations of cash and of garage sale items are of further help..

Peggy Scott (Alpha Epsilon)

## Alpha Rho

(Green Valley Area)

Alpha Rho members have been busy reaching out to students and teachers. Gail Gentry gave an inservice presentation for the Sahuarita District, tutored, and volunteered her time and expertise in one classroom

Bea Olivas offers her time assisting with kindergarten and third-grade field trips at Sopori School.

Sandy Parker is teaching fifth graders in the Sahuarita Intermediate School Enrichment Program one day each week.

Members enjoy helping the area schools anytime and anywhere. "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time, they just have the heart."

Ralette Cruse (Alpha Rho)

## Chapters Are A "Buzzing"

**Eta Chapter** (Prescott area) members, at their September meeting, made survival kits for new teachers in the Humboldt Unified School District.

At the November meeting members donated enough food to "almost fill a grocery cart" for the *Community Cupboard*.

**Phi Chapter** (Mesa area) members brought school supplies to their September meeting for the teachers at Children First, a charter school in Tempe.

**Alpha Beta** (Phoenix area) members carry a business-size card that includes the dates of the chapter meetings for 2009-2010.

**XI** (Tucson area) helps support the Flowing Wells-School District food bank, which not only distributes food boxes but also provides weekend backpacks, as well.

**Alpha Zeta** (Casa Grande area) wishes to share the news that in January, 2010, they will have a 50-year member. Rita Nader was initiated in Zeta Chapter and later became a charter member of Alpha Zeta.

**Alpha Rho** (Green Valley area) members at their December meeting, bring little girls' socks with surprises inside, such as a piece of costume jewelry, lip gloss, or a small toy. These small gifts are given to needy children in Tucson.

**Alpha Delta** (Phoenix area) members adopted two families for Christmas. Members provided clothing, toys, gift certificates, and household items for the families.

**Alpha Rho** (Green Valley area) members presented Principal Shirley Kalinowski of San Xavier Mission School with more than 150 books at the annual Christmas celebration. More than 90 of the books were donated by Omicron State members at the Fall Workshop. Alpha Rho members contributed new picture books for the students at the school. ♥

## 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Honors Mother – Daughter Members

Twenty mother/daughter Society members have been featured in recent issues of *The Arizona Sabuaro*. These members will be recognized at the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 2011 Omicron State Convention.

In this issue of the *Sabuaro* we are honoring another six members. The committee continues to search for more mother/daughter members. Please contact the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee Chairman Berneil Drake if you know such members.

The committee is also looking for:

- 1) Schools or buildings named after members
- 2) Memorabilia of the 1930's
- 3) Members born in 1936
- 4) Former state presidents from other states

Please send information to Berneil Drake, [berneild@aol.com](mailto:berneild@aol.com) ♥



Lambda members—mother Susan Hergenhan with daughter Kristin Audelo.

### Kristin Audelo and Susan Hergenhan—Lambda duo

Kristin Audelo and Susan Hergenhan have been called the dynamic duo of Lambda Chapter. They are currently serving as first vice-president and president of the chapter.

Susan hails from the East Coast and attended Wagner College on Staten Island, Wagner College in Bregenz, Austria, and the University of Arizona. She started teaching in the Sunnyside Unified School District in Tucson and then did curriculum work before she was named principal of Santa Clara Elementary School. She retired in 2001 after 30 years of teaching.

Kristin, a Tucson native, started as a child helping her mom set up a classroom and preparing for the beginning of school. She went to Northern Arizona University, where she earned a bachelor's degree and a Master's in Educational Leadership. She also holds reading and ESL endorsements, and a principal's certificate. In addition to teaching a class of fifth graders in the Sunnyside District, she works extra hours as a school SFA coordinator.

Susan and Kristin enjoy spending time together. Family vacations that include travel are a favorite activity, but it is difficult to match their schedules. ♥

## Dr. Marjorie Jones-Schafer and Janelle Radoccia Multi-tasking Mother/Daughter DKG Team

Before Sky Harbor Airport was even envisioned Dr. Marjorie Jones-Schafer's pioneer Arizona family homesteaded the east end of the land the airport would later occupy.

It was there and at Garfield Elementary School that Marj learned to multitask. At age 10, while still at Garfield, she was also attending Lamson Business College as their youngest student.

At Phoenix Union High School, Marj met DKG members Betty Fairfax (Beta) and Berneil Drake (Alpha Delta), both of whom she considered great role models.

At ASU she earned her BA degree with majors in Speech Therapy and Drama; her master's degree in Special Education; and her Ed.D. with emphasis on reading (Dyslexia).

She returned to the Phoenix Union District as a teacher. It was during her last seven years of her 30 years there that an opportunity in applied research developed for her with the National Center for Learning Disabilities, Wake Forest University, and the Arizona Institute for Developmental Behavioral Neurology. With the help of Betty Fairfax the Arizona Literacy and Learning Center was opened.

Marj's daughter, Janelle (Beta) is another multitasker. "Church activities, teaching Sunday School and Vacation Bible School on the Navajo Reservation developed my passion for young children," Janelle said.

She received her B.A. degree from Pacific Oaks College with emphasis on education of



Beta chapter mother/daughter team Dr. Marjorie Jones-Schafer and Janelle Radoccia.

young children and for the past 19 years has been a preschool teacher, director, and owner, having joined Marj at the Arizona Literacy and Learning Center.

Currently, Janelle is working on her Master's Degree at Concordia University while serving as director of Early Childhood at Apostles Lutheran Church.

A year ago she was appointed and now chairs the First Things First NW Maricopa Regional Council. In addition, she teaches at Rio Salado and Estrella Community Colleges and is a member of the Board of Women's Health Coalition.

Three years ago, Janelle and her husband became foster parents, adopting a special-needs three-year-old boy and his 15-month-old sister. ♥

## Terri Matteson and Shawna Matteson

Terri Matteson has been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma since 1983, but her relationship with Alpha Sigma Chapter began in 1989, when she did her student teaching with then chapter President, Sandy Kelley.

She received Alpha Sigma's grant-in-aid in 1989, and members of the chapter mentored her through her first three years of teaching at Estrella Mountain School in the Liberty Elementary District. She has held positions of leadership in her chapter, the Phoenix Council, and Omicron State.

Terri's passion for education began at Maryvale High School when her high school counselor was Berneil Drake (Alpha Delta). She received her B.A. degree from NAU, her M.A. from Grand Canyon University, and is currently working on her doctorate in Educational Leadership at Argosy University. She has received an Omicron State Scholarship twice and was recently the recipient of an International Scholarship. She was also a Challenger Fellow for 2004-2006 and attended advanced training in Inquiry Methodology at Harvard University.

In addition to her work in DKG, Terri is the Arizona State Director for Science Olympiad, B Division, an active member of the National Science Teachers Association, and of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

Terri and her husband, Tim, have been married for 26 years and have three sons. Michael, Patrick, and Tim II. When Michael married Shawna in 2003, Terri finally had her daughter. Michael and Shawna have two children.

Shawna Matteson is a new member of Alpha Sigma Chapter. Seven years ago she was the grant-in-aid recipient during her student teaching. She is currently a fourth-grade teacher at Westar School in the Liberty District and recently ran her first half-marathon.

Shawna and Terri are avid scrappers and spend time together working on scrapbooks. ♥



**Donna Reynolds** (Epsilon) has been nominated Southwest Representative for the Board of Trustees of the Education Foundation, 2010-2016.

**Millicent Kasun** (Epsilon) has been selected by AARP to receive the Arizona 2009 AARP Andrus Award for Community Service. The Andrus Award, the association's most prestigious and visible award for community service, symbolizes the belief that individuals have the power and ability to make a difference in the lives of others.

**Marge Threewit** (Alpha Beta) is the webmaster of the internationally approved Alpha Beta Chapter website.

**Liz McLaws** (Alpha Eta) was the 3A Volleyball State All-Star Tournament Dedicatee in July, 2009. She coached volleyball for Winslow High School for 29 years and produced many championship teams.

**Susan Ford** (Alpha Rho), a member of the Santa Cruz Shoestring Players, co-directed a challenging play of compassion and hope entitled "The Laramie Project."

**Sandy Parker** (Alpha Rho) recently co-directed and performed in the Green Valley Aquabelles production of "See the USA."

**Lisa Baker DiGiacomo** (Alpha Rho) is the artistic director of the Ballet Continental Dance Company. The company recently presented "La Sylphide" and excerpts from "Swan Lake." **Darby Downs** (Alpha Rho) performed as one of the principal dancers.

**Michelle R. Schreur** (Alpha Iota) received a Cornet Professional Development Award to attend the Arizona Reading Association Fall 2009 Conference.

**Sharon Jessup** (Iota) was honored as Volunteer of the Year by the Yuma Community Foundation at its annual Heart of Yuma event. She actively participates in the work of her chapter, church, Garden Club, and has given over forty years of service to the Boy and Girl Scouts of America.

**Barbara Tingle** (Alpha Rho) was named Ambassador for Excellence in the Arizona Teacher of the Year Program. She teaches kindergarten at Sahuarita Primary School.

**Marilyn Ludwig** (Mu) has received the State Award for Community Service in Literacy from the Arizona Reading Association, an affiliate of the International Reading Association.

**Nancy Frank** (Alpha Beta) received the NRTA *With Our Youth!* Excellence Award. She was honored for her commitment to service and community through intergenerational volunteer work. Nancy's is one of only three nationwide awards given in the Individual Category.

**Dorothy Finley** (Mu) has written a book about her life, *Just Plain Dorothy: The Life of Dorothy Hunt Finley, Cowgirl, Teacher, Tycoon, Philanthropist*.



*Dorothy Finley (Mu) is a real life heroine from Old West who invested her life inspiring others.*

**Chinworth** (Lambda) is touring China with the Southern Arizona Symphony Orchestra. Barbara also plays with the Catalina Foothills Philharmonic.

**Merry Lewis** (Mu) took a photo of her cat and it was published in the Arizona Daily Star (Tucson). Over 14,000 photos were submitted and Merry's was one of several selected for publication.

**Miki Grady** (Chi) received an Award of Recognition from Alpha Lambda State (Vermont) for her outstanding Society contributions. ♥



*Nancy Frank (Alpha Beta), 2009 recipient of the NRTA With Our Youth Excellence Award.*

This is a story of a real-life heroine from the Old West who invested her life inspiring others.

**Debi Ybarra** (Iota) was initiated into Iota Chapter December 12, 2009. Her mother, Past Omicron State President Dena Martin (Zeta) participated in the ceremony.

**B a r b a r a**

## This is The School That Determination Built

The year was 1991 and after five years of pondering and planning the idea, Sandy Breece opened Telesis in Lake Havasu, Arizona. It was called **Hands-On! Learning**, with nine middle-school students.

The purpose was simple: to create a learning opportunity where the students' needs are met first and foremost by wrapping the curriculum around the student, rather than the more traditional method of forcing the student to fit the curriculum. It involves an emphasis on *process*, as opposed to *product*, with individualized curriculum and individualized lesson design at its heart. Determination was the glue that held it all together.

That was 18 years ago and now it is **Telesis Preparatory Academy**, a public charter school for kindergarten through twelfth grade students. Telesis, which by its very definition translated from Greek, means *planned progress*.

The **Academy** now supports an accredited academic program for 325 students, K-12. With more students came the need for more teachers and staff: only 2 in 1991; 35 in 2009! With this growth came the need for more space: one classroom in 1991; 17 classrooms in 2009, plus seven administrative offices, a library, two computer labs, and a conference room in 2009.

Today Telesis is a Character First school with dual accreditation and an athletic department that includes football, girls and boys basketball, co-ed soccer, volleyball, Color guard, and cheerleader squads, as well as a variety of extracurricular sports and clubs.

Telesis is for students who love learning and whose parents and teachers want them to love it. Telesis continues to grow.

*Sandy Breece, Ed.D. (Alpha Chi)  
Founder, Superintendent/Principal  
Telesis Preparatory Academy  
www.telesis-academy.org*

## Rose Boutique Registration

If your chapter is planning to have a table at the Rose Boutique at the State Convention, please notify Patricia Holmes (Lambda) by April 1, 2010.

Proceeds from boutique sales are for chapter scholarships and grant-in-aid. Homemade items of all types, including bake sale type foods are encouraged. The hotel does not allow the sale of any commercial items.

To reserve a table, make your request to pholmes10@cox.net by April 1, 2010.

## Travel Workshop

Workshop participants learned how to gain the most from their travel dollar from presenter Don Gleason of AAA Chandler VP Travel Division. Tips given come down to doing your homework:

- Compare air fares
  - Search for buys
  - Search internet to learn about specials
- Popular travel destinations are:
- River cruising in Europe
  - Day trips for persons interested in photography
  - Costa Rica

At the end of this presentation, materials were distributed to each participant.

*Mary Ann Liddle (Lambda)*

**White Roses**  
*"A Moment to Remember...  
 A Lifetime to Honor"*

**Dr. Betty Beck** Eta  
 August 8, 2009 Prescott, AZ

**Charlotte Gibson** Alpha Zeta  
 November 18, 2009 Casa Grande, AZ

## All Hands On! Reading Can Change A Life!

Since 1997, Omicron State has had an annual date with the Maricopa County Juvenile Detention Center. With the contributions of members around the state, Rho Chapter has been able to continue the Hands On Books project for 13 years.

Each detainee receives a new paperback book to keep and take home. DKG members visit with each detainee for a short interview. Members assist in the selection of an appropriate book among those that have been donated.

Reading is the only "leisure" time activity allowed during their stay at the Detention Center. Delivery time of this year's book is Presidents' Day, Monday, February 15, 2010, 8:30 a.m. to noon. At least twenty members are needed to help the process move smoothly.

You are welcome to join us at the Juvenile Detention Center, 3131 W. Durango, Phoenix.  
*Mary Ann Yee (Rho)*

### SAHUARO

#### Publication Deadlines

Spring Issue	May 1, 2010
Fall Issue	August 15, 2010
Winter Issue	January 15, 2011

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## Omicron Membership by The Numbers

Through the diligent work of the chapter treasurers, all the chapters have fulfilled their financial obligations to State and International for annual dues and fees. What better time to examine some statistical highlights of membership!



*Omicron State Treasurer Kathy Green (Alpha Delta) gives us some "Facts and Figures".*

State membership is now at 949, a decrease of 5.6 percent over last year. The five largest chapters in the state are Alpha Rho with 43 members, Iota and Lambda with 42 each, and Epsilon and Chi listing 40 members. Average membership of the 33 Omicron State chapters is 28 members.

Several chapters have initiated new members – Alpha, Gamma, Eta, Lambda, and Alpha Eta have three or more new members. Six chapters have successfully reinstated former members.

Breakdown of the 949 state members by membership classification is as follows:

Active – 842 (89 per cent)  
 Reserve – 88 (9 per cent)  
 Honorary – 19 (2 per cent)

What membership challenges lie ahead for your chapter this year? How can we grow? Let's practice some simple arithmetic this year by adding and multiplying our members.

*Kathy Green (Alpha Delta)  
 Omicron State Treasurer*



*Estene Tarber and Peggy Yale of Alpha Beta pose with World Fellowships past recipient Precious Biyela. Precious presented a workshop, "South Africa, Land of Great Contrasts" at the Fall Workshop.*

## Dates to Remember

- April 23-25, 2010**  
 Omicron State Convention  
 Hilton East-Mesa  
 1011 W. Holmes Ave., Mesa, Arizona
- July 15-18, 2010**  
 Seminar for Purposeful Living  
 Tacoma, Washington
- July 20-24, 2010**  
 International Convention  
 The Davenport Hotel and Tower  
 Spokane Convention Center, Spokane, Washington
- October 23, 2010**  
 All Member Workshop & Executive Board Meeting  
 First Assembly of God Church  
 523 W Ray Road, Chandler, Arizona
- April 29-May 1, 2011**  
 Omicron State Convention  
 Westward Look Resort, Tucson, Arizona
- June 27-July 2, 2011**  
 Southwest Regional Conference  
 Hyatt Regency Tech Center  
 7800 E. Tufts Ave., Denver, Colorado
- July 24-28, 2012**  
 International Convention  
 New York

## March4Schools Statewide Day of Action

On March 4, 2010 at 4 p.m. thousands of education supporters across the state will be mobilized in concurrent community outreach activities.

Get involved with the AEA March4Schools Statewide Day of Action by visiting [www.march4schools.com](http://www.march4schools.com) ♥

## DKG Websites

There are 60 Delta Kappa Gamma state websites and 227 chapter websites linked to the International Website.

The Arizona website is maintained by Webmaster Linda Spellman (Alpha Omega). The Alpha Beta Chapter webmaster is Marge Threewit, Alpha Iota Chapter's webmaster is Dana Jaeger, and the webmaster of Alpha Omega Chapter is Linda Spellman. ♥



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