



# Arizona SAHUARO

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International – For Key Women Educators

## Alpha Omega Chapter Installed

A new chapter for Arizona! The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International has granted a charter to Alpha Omega Chapter in Arizona's Verde Valley.

Eleven new initiates and one transfer member are the charter members of the chapter. Initiated on October 4, 2008, at Thousand Trails Preserve in Cottonwood were Tamara Addis, Vanessa Di Carlo, Denise Dix, Genie Gee, Rhonda Gonzalez, Angie Hillman, Trish Hutchinson, Kathleen Jensen, Doris Johnson, Carol Karber, and Denise Kennedy. Transferring from Eta Psi Chapter in Chi State (California) is Linda Spellman.

Omicron State President Dena Martin (Zeta) was the installing officer for the initiation ceremony and the chapter chartering. Omicron State Past President Jo Regenold (Lambda) wrote the ceremony and presided at the installation of the chapter officers.

The newly elected officers are President, Angie Hillman; First Vice-President, Genie Gee; Second Vice-President, Denise Dix; and Secretary, Vanessa Di Carlo. Treasurer is Linda Spellman.

Accolades for doing the ground work toward the formation of the chapter go to Expansion Committee Chairman Judy Tucker (Chi) and transfer member Linda Spellman.

Three new members were initiated on November 8, 2008: Cherie Heath, Colleen Kerr, and Alvena Meyer. Re-instated member Jacki Dunsmore is from Tau Chapter in Flagstaff.

Welcome to Omicron State, Alpha Omega. We were so pleased to see three of your members at the 2008 Fall Workshop. ♥



Alpha Omega president Angie Hillman with transfer member Linda Spellman

## Nominees For 2009-2011 Omicron State Offices

### President

Judy Strohmeier (Mu)

### First Vice-President

Judy Vinson (Alpha)

### Second Vice-President

Janet Vickers (Omega)

### Recording Secretary

Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho)

### Corresponding Secretary

Alice Reule (Alpha Delta)

## Convention Registration and Scholarship Application

The 2009 Omicron State Convention registration form is included in this issue of the *Arizona Sabuaro* as well as on-line. The Omicron State Scholarship form and the Proposed Standing Rules and Bylaws changes are also available on-line.

1. Go to: [www.deltakappagamma.net](http://www.deltakappagamma.net)
  2. Click on Society Website
  3. Click on State website links
  4. Click on Arizona
  5. Click on Convention Registration form
  6. Click on Omicron State Scholarship form
- Convention Registrar Sharon Willy (Alpha Beta) informs members that the Saturday morning continental breakfast will be complimentary. ♥

## “The Right Shoes Can Take You Anywhere”

2009 Omicron State Convention

**April 24-25, 2009**

Four Points Sheraton

at Metro Center

Phoenix, AZ

**Reservations 1-800-368-7764**

### Friday, April 24, 2009

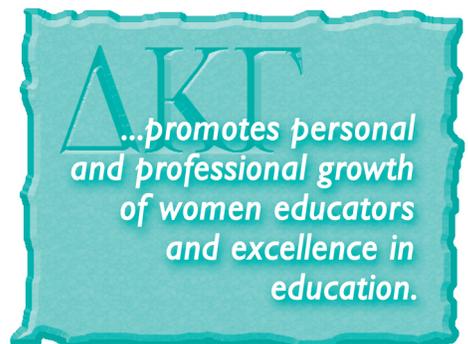
3:00-6:30 pm	Registration
5:00-6:30 pm	State President's Dinner
7:00-8:30 pm	Reception and Entertainment

### Saturday, April 25, 2009

8:00-11:45 am	Registration
8:45-10:30 am	General Session
10:45-11:45 am	First workshops (4)
12:00-2:00 pm	Birthday Luncheon
2:15-5:30 pm	Registration
2:15-3:15 pm	Second Workshops (4)
3:30-4:30 pm	Third Workshop (4)
6:00 pm	Past State Presidents Processional
6:15-8:00 pm	Banquet

### Sunday, April 26, 2009

7:30-8:00 am	Registration
8:00-8:45 am	Memorial Service
9:00-11:00 am	Lei of Friendship Breakfast



## Walk The Talk With Dena



Dena Martin (Zeta)  
Omicron State President

We are now on the downside of preparing for the Omicron State Convention April 24 – 26, 2009. The Steering Committee has been busy getting everything ready. The registration form and hotel information are in this issue of the *Arizona Sabuaro*.

I look forward to seeing you at the convention. It is truly a joy to meet you and renew our friendship. It has been my joy and pleasure to serve you and getting the monthly Newsletters to your chapter presidents has been a “labor of love.” Continue to bring great chapter programs to serve your members.

I encourage you to apply for one of the three \$1,000 state scholarships available this year. Contact Suellen Brahs (Rho) for an application: brahs@hotmail.com. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who said “Yes” to serving as a state committee chairman or member. I appreciate your dedication to Omicron State and taking time from your busy schedules to serve your fellow members. I also thank those of you who presented workshops at our state meetings. I can’t praise you enough for taking these tasks and performing them so perfectly. God bless each of you!

Remember this convention will be the time to vote on your new state officers, on possible changes to our *Omicron State By-laws* and *Standing Rules*, and on a possible dues increase in 2010. If you were at the Fall Workshop, you voted to take funds from an account to help meet the needs of our finances. It is important for you to come and have a say in Omicron State business.

Have a great rest of the year, and I’ll see you at the convention.

## Achievement Award

We hope that you have submitted your nominations for the Omicron State Achievement Award. Recipient will be named at the 2009 Omicron State Convention.

Terri Ackland, (Zeta), Chairman  
Omicron State Achievement Awards Committee

## Personal Growth and Services

Omicron State chapters have many varied activities to assist individual members and others. By having a variety of small projects, each member has an opportunity to participate in one that suits her abilities and time frame.

The projects are usually of short duration. Some are money-making projects that provide funds for grants-in-aid.

Some projects such as collecting books for schools and giving service to homeless and battered women's shelters can be continued from year to year. There are many talented women in our chapters and many with little time so that with a variety of projects we attempt to meet the personal growth needs of our members.

Diane Henry (Alpha Sigma), Chairman  
Omicron State Personal Growth and Services Committee

## Delta Kappa Gamma Doing a World of Good

From an initial award of \$2,500 in 1960 based on \$11,528 in contributions, the World Fellowships program has grown through the 2007-2008 academic year to impressive totals.

Awards given: 685 totaling \$3,293,808.

Contributions: \$3,240,364  
(through March, 2008)

Bequests and contributions determine the number of World Fellowship awards given each year by the international committee. As of March 1, 2008, \$64,601.16 had been contributed since July 2007.

The International World Fellowships Committee announces that Maria Gomez, from Chile, is pursuing a Ph.D. in Special Education at the University of Arizona.

The committee encourages you to welcome Maria Gomez to Arizona by sending a card, letter, or box of goodies. You may wish to invite her to one of your chapter meetings.

At [www.deltakappagamma.net](http://www.deltakappagamma.net), the complete list of recipients and extensions for the 2008-2009 program has been published. If you or your chapter would like to correspond with a recipient, you may request her address by emailing [societyd@deltakappagamma.org](mailto:societyd@deltakappagamma.org).

Through our good works on the Society’s World Fellowships program, we are helping fulfill the goal of “uniting women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship.”

*Editor’s Note: At the Society website, click on Committees, then click on World Fellowships, and finally “Arizona’s World Fellowships Quilt.”*

Sharon Modi (Alpha), Chairman  
Omicron State World Fellowships Committee

## A Rescue Needed

Omicron State, Arizona, needs rescuing. As members, we must save ourselves financially. An increase in dues of \$10.00 for active members and \$3.00 for reserve members is needed.

After two years of diminishing funds and increasing costs, a dues increase is necessary to meet the needs of our members and chapters and to provide current services. In the past five years income has decreased by nearly \$1,750. Recently a carry-over amount from the previous year was used to provide an Available Fund (operating fund) to achieve a balanced budget for the biennium. Income for the past biennium was projected with a total of \$19,806. Of this amount, \$8,346 was for required expenses that include financial statements, copier maintenance, the Arizona Sabuaro, and stipends. There is not much left for officers and committees to do their work. To balance the budget this past year, the officers and committees were cut back by a total of \$1,175.

Sometimes those who serve on committees or as chairmen need more reimbursement than \$175 for expenses such as paper, programs, and needed materials. Also, our per-mile allowance of 20 cents is less than the national recommended amount of 58 cents.

Why not put your change in a piggy bank? You surely would have enough for the 2010-2011 Omicron State dues increase and also that decadent dessert.

Ann Stephens (Nu), Chairman  
Omicron State Finance Committee



## Membership Committee

At the 2009 Omicron State Convention the Membership Committee will honor those women who have now reached 25-years and 50-years of membership. First-timers will also be recognized as well as chapters within and outside the region who have the most attendees.

The committee will present the Ceremony of Remembrance on Sunday morning.

Chapters or members are invited to communicate with committee members whether it is a question, a concern, or to share a great idea for increasing membership and retaining members.

Judy Vinson (Alpha), Chairman  
Omicron State Membership Committee

## Executive Board Meeting

The October 25, 2008, Executive Board meeting of Omicron State was called to order by President Dena Martin. Past State President Donna Reynolds (Epsilon) gave an inspirational opening thought.

Finance Committee Chairman Ann Stephens (Nu) informed the membership that an increase in State dues will be voted on at the 2009 State Convention. To meet expected increases in expenses for the 2009-2010 year, Chairman Stephens moved that a one-time only transfer of up to \$5,000 be made from the Reserve Fund to the Available Fund if necessary. The motion was unanimously approved.

Two other motions made and approved were to adopt Collaborative Connections as the Omicron State project and to hold the Fall 2009 Board Meeting on October 24, 2009, at the Chandler First Assembly of God Church.

Margaret Bogan (Sigma)

## Growth through Personal Services Workshop



Diane Henry (Alpha Sigma) Personal Growth and Services Committee Chairman

Personal Growth and Services Committee Chairman Diane Henry (Alpha Sigma) opened the workshop with Texas songs and the reading of a children's book, Ten Gallon Bart, stressing individual needs as well as teamwork.

She suggested that the types of projects a chapter carries out can make a difference in chapter growth. Chapters need to find projects in their community that inspire their members to commitment.

One suggestion was to work with the women at a women's shelter. This would offer a variety of short-and long-term activities. Other suggestions were mentoring of new teachers and becoming political advocates for education.

Linda Stockbauer (Xi).

## Membership, Recruiting, Retaining, Involvement

The workshop session "Membership, Recruiting, Retaining, Involvement" was presented by Karen Blackstone (Alpha Epsilon).

She shared slides on the computer from the Successful Chapter Practices Survey. Topics covered explained the differences between chapters which experienced growth and those that did not.

One survey question, "Do you encourage members to come late or leave early rather than not attend at all?" led the group to discuss how important this was to getting members to attend meetings in this hectic world.

The result of this survey is a successful chapter model which all chapters can use as a guide for improvement.

Roberta Paeper (Epsilon)



Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho) and Janet Vickers (Omega) presented the workshop for chapter secretaries.

## Rachel Wear Speaker at Fall Workshop

The luncheon speaker at the Fall workshop, Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho) reflected on her experience at the 2008 Star Golden Gift Leadership Seminar at the University of Texas. Along with thirty other Society members from four countries, she had leadership training, gained new friendships, and enjoyed the spirituality of the group.

In addition to classes the first Renaissance program was held, which included former Seminar attendees.

Professors from the McCombs Business School of the University of Texas led classes in professional and person development and developing one's own leadership style.

Rachel emphasized "learning to thin on your feet." Advice for each of us came from her speech at the Seminar which was titled "Keep Learning Always..."

Carmen Wendt (Chi), Chairman Omicron State Communications Committee

## Resources for Your Chapter

Dr. Joye Sterrett (Omega) and Lori Good (Alpha Alpha) informed members on resources and ideas to use in an effort to strengthen chapters.

The importance of all governing documents was stressed. Chapters must follow the *International Constitution and Standing Rules* as well as the *Omicron State Bylaws* and *Standing Rules*.

Several hands-on activities helped guide members to find answers for a *Constitution* or *Standing Rules* question.

The importance of all governing documents was stressed. Chapters must follow

the *International Constitution* and *Standing Rules* as well as the *Omicron State Bylaws* and *Standing Rules*.

Creative suggestions for programs, budget planning, newsletters, and membership brochures were presented.

Participants engaged in interesting conversations and shared ideas that their chapters use to ensure success.

The Net program, Leadership Tools, was discussed as a great education opportunity for Delta Kappa Gamma members.

Angie Hillman (Alpha Omega)

## Getting a Jump Start as Treasurer

Omicron State Treasurer Kathy Green (Alpha Delta), jumped right into the ins and outs of being a chapter treasurer. She displayed and explained the necessary books, forms, and applications needed. She said, "Make sure your chapter has these resources: Guidelines for Chapter Treasurer and Omicron State Bylaws."



Kathy Green (Alpha Delta) Omicron State Treasurer

The deadline for Form 18 (blue this year) and 18A was November 10, 2008, and Form 990 was due to IRS by November 15, 2008.

The workshop concluded with an open discussion about how the increase in dues has impacted members. Some chapters feel they will lose members. Others have been creative by offering scholarships, paying by installments, or using chapter resources.

If you need help, please contact Omicron State Treasurer Kathy Green. ♥

## Write On! A Secretary's Survival Guide

As the meeting is called to order, the secretary frantically begins writing. What to include and how much to include is the most important information on her mind.

Thanks to presenters Janet Vickers (Omega) and Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho) this is no longer a problem. Through their informative workshop, secretaries now know that their minutes are the history of their organization, representing what is done and not what is said. They are living records, which can be edited at any time.

The submitted minutes are to be kept on a very business like level with any "playtime events" added after their signature. Their most important references are the organization's constitution and parliamentary procedure.

Mary McNichols (Alpha Rho)

## Nominees for Omicron State Offices

**Judy Strohmeyer** (Mu), nominee for Omicron State President, is a retired special education teacher who has taught in Alaska, Illinois, and Arizona.

She is currently serving as the state first vice-president. In her Arizona and Illinois chapters, she has served as president, first vice-president and chaired or been a member of several committees.

Judy is known for her creativity and travel to exotic places.

**Judy Vinson** (Alpha) is the nominee for state First Vice-President. She is retired from a long teaching career in the Flowing Wells School District and currently tutors in mathematics for Pima Community College.

At the state level Judy is currently Second Vice-President. Earlier she served in the offices of corresponding secretary, parliamentarian, and for three biennium, as treasurer.

**Janet Vickers** (Omega), nominee for Omicron State Second Vice-President, has had a wide variety of professional experiences. She cur-



*Judy Strohmeyer (Mu) nominee for Omicron State President*



*Judy Vinson (Alpha) nominee for Omicron State First Vice-President*



*Janet Vickers (Omega) nominee for Omicron State Second Vice-President*



*Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho) nominee for Omicron State Recording Secretary*



*Alice Reule (Alpha Delta) nominee for Omicron State Corresponding Secretary*

rently teaches Senior AP English at Coronado High School, in the Scottsdale School District.

She has assisted with and developed many innovative programs through her schools and for professional and community associations. She received the Coronado High School "Charros Teacher of the Year" award and the first Grand Award from the City of Phoenix "Kids' Pride" Program.

**Rachel Wear** (Alpha Rho) is the nominee for Omicron State Recording Secretary. She is currently retired from Sahuarita Unified School District and Great Expectations Academy, where she taught primary grades. Although retired, Rachel still works as a substitute teacher and teaches a weekly class for her church.

In 2008, Rachel received the Omicron State

Achievement Award and was chosen to attend the International Golden Gift Leadership Seminar.

**Alice Reule** (Alpha Delta) is the nominee for Corresponding Secretary. Alice is currently a second grade teacher at Desert View School in the Washington Elementary School District, where she is active as a mentor teacher. She has been a principal and an assistant principal.

She has served as chapter president and second vice-president and has been chairman of the Omicron State Life Experience Committee. She has presented workshops at Regional Conferences and International Conventions.

*Jan Rosenberg (Nu), Chairman  
Omicron State Nominations Committee*

## Nominations Committee Nominees

Each area in Omicron State has a member on the Nominations Committee.

**Area I** – **Janet Fish** (Alpha Eta) is currently an elementary orchestra and general music teacher in the Winslow Unified School District, although for most of her career she was a high school math teacher.

**Area II** – **Marge Threewit** (Alpha Beta) taught for twenty-two years in the Deer Valley School District, where she had first through fifth grade, her favorite being third grade. She is business manager of the 2009 Omicron State Convention.

**Area III** - **Terri Ackland** (Zeta) is the Dean of Arts and Social Sciences at Central Arizona College. Twice she has served as president of Zeta Chapter. She is currently chairman of the Omicron State Achievement Award Committee. She has presented workshops at state functions.

**Area IV** – **Janis Parks** (Xi) is a K-5 Mathematics Specialist for the Tucson Unified School District and works with over 70 schools. She has served on the state leadership committee and presented several programs at the Fall



*Janet Fish (Alpha Eta) Area I Nominations Committee*



*Marge Threewit (Alpha Beta) Area II Nominations Committee*



*Janis Parks (Xi) Area IV Nominations Committee*



*Terri Ackland (Zeta) Area III Nominations Committee*



*Phyllis Sue Sword (Epsilon) Area V nominee for Nominations Committee*

Workshops and Omicron State Conventions.

**Area V** – **Phyllis Sue Sword** (Epsilon) lives in Sierra Vista, where she has been a reading teacher at the Colonel Smith Middle School on Fort Huachuca for 31 years. She has served her chapter as president and is currently on the Omicron State Nominations Committee. ♥

## Glendale Sparkles

The 2009 Omicron State Convention will be held at the Four Points by Sheraton near Metrocenter. This is an ideal location to visit and explore the charm of downtown Glendale.

Glendale has been named by *USA Today* and *Sunset Magazine* as one of the country's ten best places for antique shopping. The city also offers quaint restaurants such as "The

Spicery" and "The Tea Shoppe."

You can enjoy the flavors of Mexican, Polish, German, and Asian cuisines as well. Two sections of the city, **Old Towne** and **Catlin Court**, will delight visitors who enjoy historic homes and buildings.

The **Bead Museum** maintains a permanent collection of over 100,000 beads and beaded artifacts. World cultures and art are reflected in these small objects of human expression.

Adjacent to Glendale Community College is **Sahuaro Park**, a premier spot of the Glendale park sites. Visitors can explore the historic ranch buildings, view chickens and peacocks, or play games.

Set aside some time during the convention to be inspired by the charm of Glendale.

*Kathy Green (Alpha Delta), member  
Life Planning Seminar Committee*



Mother and daughter, Frances Seifman and Susan Silva (Alpha Delta)

## Frances Seifman Susan Silva

Fran Seifman (Alpha Delta) was born in Chicago, Illinois. The Gorden family moved to Evanston, where Fran's father worked during the war. Subsequent moves to Massachusetts, Texas, and Arizona resulted in Fran's attending seven schools by the end of fourth grade.

Fran graduated from West Phoenix High School, Phoenix College, and from NAU, where she received a B.S. in Education with a major in secondary math and a minor in science. Her M.A. in Education was from ASU in 1968.

Fran's earliest teaching experience was in Williams, Arizona, followed by four years at Tolleson Union High School. From 1964 until her retirement in 1992, she taught in the Phoenix Union High School District at Central, West, and Trevor Browne High Schools.

In 1961, Fran married Bob Seifman and acquired two stepsons, ages 4 and 3. In 1968 her son Randy was born and in 1972, along came Susan. The great joy of her life now is her grandchildren - Susan's children, Ryan, Lance, Paige, and Jake.

In 1976, Fran was initiated into Alpha Delta Chapter.

Susan Silva (Alpha Delta) is a Phoenix native and attended elementary and junior high school in the Washington District. Susan was a Girl Scout in a troop led by her mother, took dance lessons, and played softball. At Greenway High School, from which she graduated, she was freshman class president and was in one of Liz Tataseo's (Alpha Delta) classes.

Susan's degree in elementary and special education is from ASU West. She taught special education classes in the Alhambra District before teaching special education and grades 4 and 5 in the Chandler School District.

In 1998 Susan married Chris Silva, and they are the proud parents of mother Fran's four joys in life mentioned above. Susan was initiated into Alpha Delta Chapter in 1998.

Before the birth of Lance, Susan became

a stay-at-home mom, changing her teaching venue from classroom to home. Undoubtedly, she was influenced by observations she made as a part-time college worker in a daycare center where many of the caretakers were unskilled.

Susan enjoys volunteering in her children's classrooms and working at home as a consultant for a skin-care product company that helps women develop personally and achieve financial success. ♥



Mother and daughter, Sandy and Kristen Chemsak (Alpha Iota)

## Sandy Chemsak and Kristen Chemsak

Sandy Chemsak (Alpha Iota) was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She attended Slippery Rock University, where she received a degree in Special Education and Elementary Education.

After teaching for three years in an inner city school in Pittsburgh, she chose to stay at home with her two daughters.

In 1985 the family moved to Phoenix, and in 1989 Sandy taught in the Peoria Unified School District as a special education teacher. She has taught K-8 self-contained special education, developmental preschool, and two years regular first grade.

Currently Sandy is teaching part-time in a resource class and part-time as a mentor teacher for all the self-contained programs in the district.

She was initiated into Alpha Iota Chapter in 2004 and was elected chapter president for the 2006-2008 biennium. She is currently co-chair of the 2009 Omicron State Convention.

Sandy says, "Being a member of Delta Kappa Gamma has been a very rewarding experience. I have attended all the State conventions and one International Convention in San Diego. Every year when I go to the conventions I learn so much more about our organization."

Sandy's daughter, **Kristen Chemsak** (Alpha Iota), was also born in Pittsburgh. She was 18 months old when the family moved to Arizona.

Since first grade, Kristen wanted to become a teacher. Her first-grade teacher in-

spired her, and her mother (Sandy) helped her achieve her goal.

Kristen graduated from Ironwood High School, in Glendale, where she was involved in a future teachers' program. She graduated from ASU West in 2007 with a degree in Early Childhood Education. She teaches first grade at Hurley Ranch Elementary in the Union School District.

"I think more young teachers need to be encouraged to join Delta Kappa Gamma, since I have received a lot of support from members of my chapter," said Kristen. ♥

## 75th Anniversary Celebration

The 75th Anniversary Celebration of Omicron State will be held at the 2011 State Convention in Tucson. Omicron State was founded January 25, 1936, at the Pioneer Hotel in Tucson.

We have begun celebrating this occasion by honoring mother/daughter members in each issue of the *Arizona Sabuaro*. In this issue we are honoring Frances Seifman and her daughter, Susan Silva (both off Alpha Delta), also Sandy Chemsak and her daughter Kristen Chemsak (both of Alpha Iota).

At each Fall Workshop and State Convention, the past state presidents will be offering special-theme baskets in a raffle. At the 2009 Omicron State Convention two baskets will be available. Past presidents Berneil Drake (Alpha Delta) and Sally Switzer (Rho) will present one basket and Jo Regenold (Lambda) and Jean D. Fuer (Alpha Rho) the other.

Are there other mother/daughter members in the state? Let the committee know. Were you born in 1936? The committee would like to feature Omicron State members who were born in this special year.

Watch for more news of the special events that will take place at the 2011 Omicron State Convention.

Berneil Drake (Alpha Delta), Chairman  
Ad Hoc 75th Anniversary Celebration Committee

## 2009 Omicron State Convention

### Hotel Reservations

#### Four Points by

#### Sheraton Phoenix Metrocenter

Call Judith Sebastian 602-331-9873

or 1-800-368-7764

You are with the Delta Kappa Gamma group.

#### Room Rates:

Standard:	\$99.00
Cabana Suite:	\$129.00
Atrium Suite:	\$139.00

All guestrooms are net, non-commissionable, and subject to Arizona State Sales and Occupancy Tax of 12.27%



**Mary Pat Lansing** (Epsilon) has been honored by having the St. David Schools Auditorium named the Lansing Auditorium in recognition of her many years as music instructor at St. David.

**Pam Snow** (Alpha Epsilon) is a creative fabric artist and has had the design of a skirt published in the fall issue of *Somerset Magazine's Altered Couture*. She will have a vest creation published in the same magazine. You may view her work at [treasurersn-textures.blogspot.com](http://treasurersn-textures.blogspot.com)

**Carmen Wendt** (Chi) was inducted into the Arizona Scholastic Press Association's Distinguished Adviser Hall of Fame on October 9 at a dinner at the Walter Cronkite School of Journalism and Mass Communications.



Virginia Eberle (Alpha Zeta) was inducted into the Wall of Fame at Casa Grande High School

**Virginia Eberle** (Alpha Zeta) was inducted into the Wall of Fame at Casa Grande Union High School, where she taught history for many years. Virginia is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Arizona State University and was initiated into Delta Kappa Gamma in 1968.

**Rita Ponzo** (Alpha) received the Edith Davis Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her unique contribution of service to people with cognitive and developmental disabilities. Rita is the Second Vice-President of Alpha Chapter.

**Mary Powell** (Rho) was honored at the 2008 Arizona English Teachers Association Fall Conference with an AETA contest award.

**Berneil Drake** (Alpha Delta) has been named Arizona Public Relations Representative for the Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation.

**Mary Holloway** (Alpha) has returned from her third experience with Global Volunteers. She has taught English in Poland (1997), Italy (1998), and this October and November in Romania.

**Mary Lou Palmer** (Alpha Delta) is one of twenty in the United States selected for the Fulbright Exchange Program for Administrators. She will spend four weeks in June, 2009

'shadowing' a school principal in Mendoza, Argentina. In November 2008, Mary Lou was the hostess for the Mendoza, Argentina principal at Moon Mountain Elementary School.

**Nancy Noll** (Alpha Delta) is a member of the International Ad Hoc Study Society Committee. The committee is responsible for the study of the possible restructuring of the Society committees. **Diane Sheets** (Alpha Beta) is the Arizona liaison to the committee.

**Zura Dotton** (Lambda) became a US citizen at a swearing in ceremony in Tucson on December 5, 2008. Zura is from Kazakhstan and is an instructor at the University of Arizona.

**Jo Regenold** (Lambda) has been asked to serve on the newly appointed International Ad Hoc Revision Committee. This committee will work in conjunction with the International Constitution Committee on complete revision of the *Constitution* and *Standing Rules*.

**Diane Gara-Weiner** (Alpha Delta) has been elected and installed as the President of the United Methodist Women, First United Methodist Church, Phoenix, Arizona.

**Merry Lewis** (Mu) attended *A Conference for Educators and Concerned Citizens* at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, January 30, 2009.

**Barbara Tingle** (Alpha Rho) was recently honored with a Wal-Mart "Teacher of the Year" award, which included \$1,000 for her school and \$100 for herself.

**Dinghy Sharp** (Alpha Rho), a professional storyteller, was given a Lifetime Community Service Award for her longtime dedication to sharing stories and promoting literacy among both children and adults throughout the Santa Cruz Valley. She is the great-great-great-granddaughter of Clement Moore, writer of "The Night before Christmas." ♥



## Phyllis Steinmann WINGS Scholarships

All the recipients of the Phyllis Steinmann WINGS Scholarship expressed their sincere gratitude. Sharing the words of a few:

"I can't explain how grateful I am to accept this scholarship. It comes as a great comfort to my parents and me to know that I'll be getting some kind of help with my college expenses." (Sierra Vista)

"It is with great appreciation that I write this note to inform you that I am very thankful for the \$4,000 scholarship you awarded . . ." (St. David)

" . . . This scholarship award was a blessing considering that I come from a single-parent household and that college tuition was going to be difficult to pay for alone . . . Thank you once again from the bottom of my heart!" (Mesa)

"I am deeply grateful . . . My mother and I are honored to share in Phyllis Steinmann's vision that a college education be within the reach of deserving students who need financial assistance in order to achieve their goal of a college degree." (Scottsdale)

Peggy Scott (Epsilon), Chairman  
Phyllis Steinman WINGS Scholarships Awards

## Legislative Day

Legislative Day at the Arizona State Legislature is set for February 25, 2009. All members are urged to attend to see our lawmakers in action, to visit with your district representative, and to voice your opinion on issues related to education and children.

Look for registration and agenda information in the January Presidents Newsletter. Contact Kathi Houtcooper with any questions. Call her at 602-971-1665. ♥

## Around the State

**Lambda** – Each member has been challenged to do two hours of community service between September and February.

**Alpha Rho** – Their newsletter suggests that we need four hugs per day for survival and eight hugs per day for maintenance.

At the December meeting members brought fancy girl's socks with a small treat inside – lip gloss, hair tie, candy cane, etc.

**Alpha Beta** – Members wrapped gifts at Borders Book Store on three different days prior to Christmas. A "tip jar" was available. Alpha Beta members also helped the girls at Black Canyon School make holiday greeting cards on November 8.

**Phi** – Chapter members made fall gift bags for the teachers at Pappas School who had worked for several weeks without pay and have no PTO.

**Alpha Epsilon** – members donated school supplies for The East Valley Child Crisis Center on August 30.

**Alpha Omega** - completed 18 blankets for the local mission's winter warmth project and delivered 20 bags of canned foods to the local food bank.

**Alpha Delta** – at Christmas time members adopted two families who received gifts of clothing, household supplies, food, and generous gift cards.

**Chi** - at the December meeting cut and fringed 50 fleece blankets for a local charity. ♥

## Lambda Members Participate in Open World Forum

Lambda Chapter members Barbara Chinworth, Susan Hergenhan, Patricia Holmes, Connie Myren, Jo Regenold, and Zura Dotton participated in a panel discussion at an Open World Forum - "Women in Leadership Roles." This presentation was part of a project of the Tucson-Almaty, Kazakhstan, Sister Cities Committee working with the Academy for Educational Development, an Open World entity.



members discussed the Society's mission, purposes and structure as well as the many opportunities available to members for personal and professional growth.

The panel highlighted the programs which reach out beyond the membership to people in communities throughout the world thus making a significant difference in the lives we touch. Education, teacher certification and women as entrepreneurs were also topics of discussion.

Open World is a U.S. State Department funded program covering topics focused in Eurasia and the Balkans. The program helps develop a network of leaders who have gained significant, firsthand exposure to America's democratic, accountable government and its free-market system.

Tucson Ward 6 Councilwoman Nina Trasoff welcomed the five women delegates from Kazakhstan in the Russian language. Lambda

The delegates expressed interest in and appreciation for a women's organization such as Delta Kappa Gamma. At the present time educators in Kazakhstan do not have an organization comparable to our Society which can serve as an advocate for educators and education in general.

*Patricia Holmes (Lambda)  
Jo Regenold (Lambda)*

sional and personal growth opportunities for members, support educational legislation, recognize outstanding women and provide leadership training for women educators at the local, state, and international levels."

*Copied from "Create a Buzz - Tip of the Month" October 2008 Issue*

## Cornet Awards to Two Arizona Members

Rita Ponzo (Alpha) and Vickie Free (Epsilon) have each received a Cornetet Professional Development Award.

Rita plans to use her award to attend Practical Strategies for Working with Students with Asperger's Syndrome and High Functioning Autism Conference. She teaches a kindergarten-aged mild-to-moderate special needs class at Estes Elementary School in Marana.

Vickie plans to use her \$1,000 award to pursue National Board Certification. She teaches seventh grade Language Arts at Apache Middle School, in Sierra Vista. Vickie currently serves on the Block Scheduling Committee and the 301 Committee at her school. She is the past president of Zeta Chapter in the Kearny area, having recently relocated in Sierra Vista. ♥

## Donna Reynolds Article in Society Bulletin

Did you read the article in the Fall 2008 Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin by Donna Reynolds (Epsilon)?

She describes the culmination of Project WINGS. This project was conceived more than 20 years ago by six members of Alpha Epsilon Chapter. After high school, 50 percent of the WINGS students used funds from the project to continue their education. Seven of those graduated from their respective levels of higher education, and two of the college graduates also continued on to earn their Master's Degrees.

According to Reynolds, "The funding of Project WINGS is officially over, but it is the hope of Omicron State members that the emphasis on education will continue to be seen in the lives of the WINGS students as they encourage their own children and generations to come." ♥



*Lambda members Barbara Chinworth, Jo Regenold, Susan Hergenhan, Connie Myren, Zura Dotton and Patricia Holmes participated in the Open World Forum with delegates from Kazakhstan.*

## Create the Buzz About the Society

The International Communications Committee urges members to get the word out about Society projects and honors received by members.

### Create the Buzz by:

1. Always identify your affiliation with Delta Kappa Gamma when recognized for an honor or when published.
2. Develop an "elevator speech" as a brief description of the Society that can be shared with others who may not know who we are.
3. Leave Society publications in public environments - doctor's office, school libraries, waiting areas.
4. Publicize chapter projects/activities in local media.
5. Recognize outstanding educators and publicize events.

*Copied from "Creating the Buzz About the Society" Fall 2008 Issue*

## Elevator Speech

An elevator speech is a brief statement describing Delta Kappa Gamma to those who may not know who we are. Here are some examples. You may wish to develop your own.

"We are a professional organization of key women educators. We have over 116,000 members in 16 countries. Our mission is to promote the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education."

"We are an international honor Society that promotes the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. We have 16 member countries and serve over 116,000 members. We provide scholarships, leadership training, mentoring and global networking opportunities for women."

"We are an honor Society that represents all levels of education. We provide profes-

## Society Website

The Society website address recently changed to [www.deltakappagamma.net](http://www.deltakappagamma.net). The e-mail addresses for the International Headquarters staff remain the same.

# White Roses

"A Moment to Remember...  
A Lifetime to Honor"

<b>Jane S. Wilson</b> April 22, 2008	Alpha Tucson, AZ
<b>Rose Kirkham Kimball</b> August 24, 2008	Tau Sandy, Utah
<b>Arline Lee Ranck</b> October 9, 2008	Rho Phoenix, AZ
<b>Margaret Collins</b> October 29, 2008	Alpha Epsilon Mesa, AZ
<b>Rose Goodman</b> November 10, 2008	Alpha Beta Sun City, AZ
<b>Sandra Corriero</b> December 23, 2009	Alpha Zeta Casa Grande, AZ
<b>Madeline Wyatt</b> January 10, 2009	Epsilon Tombstone, AZ

## Share Heritage and Society Data

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International was organized May 11, 1929, in Austin, Texas. Dr. Annie Webb Blanton and eleven other women educators believed there was a need to unite women educators in an effort to recognize the important work of women in the field of education as well as to provide scholarships for those needing aid in improving their professional preparation.

As of January 20, 2009, the Society has a membership of more than 109,000 members in 16 member countries around the world, including the United States (1929), Canada (1952), Norway (1970), Sweden (1972), Mexico (1974), Finland (1974), Guatemala (1975), Iceland (1975), The Netherlands (1976), Puerto Rico (1976), Great Britain (1977), El Salvador (1978), Costa Rica (1980), Germany (1992), Denmark (2007), and Estonia (2008). ♥

## Unlimited Potential Alpha Epsilon's Service Project

Unlimited Potential  
1250 S. 7th Ave. • Phoenix, AZ 85007  
[www.unlimitedpotentialaz.org](http://www.unlimitedpotentialaz.org)

Unlimited Potential was founded in 1986, serving parents primarily in the Roosevelt School District of Phoenix. The program grew out of community needs to address adult functional illiteracy, unemployment, and resulting family problems.

As it evolved, the program now has a permanent physical space with a three-year waiting list. Class instruction now includes preparing for the U.S. citizenship exam and job readiness activities.

With the aid of a little education and access to resources, hundreds of women have demonstrated that they indeed have Unlimited Potential.

Alpha Epsilon Chapter is helping with:

1. Funding: donations, AZ tax credit
2. Volunteering: helping supervise school-age children during their school breaks while mothers are in class. Substitute-teach for the instructors of the classes and assist with special events.
3. Collecting: old cell phones, Box Tops for Education, Campbell Soup labels, and needed supplies.

*Peggy Scott (Alpha Epsilon)*

## 2009 Southwest Regional Conference

July 8 – 11, 2009 is the date of the 2009 Southwest Regional Conference. Kathy Flynn (Colorado), Southwest Regional Director, and the members of Alpha Chi (Nevada) State Organization invite members to attend the conference at the Nugget Conference Center and Casino in Reno, Nevada.

"Snow Clad," the meaning of the Spanish word from which the word "Nevada" is derived, aptly describes the area around Reno. With 314 mountain ranges, 24 state parks, and Lake Tahoe, one of the bluest lakes in the world, Nevada is nature's breathtaking playground.

When you visit Nevada, you will discover art, history, culture, entertainment, endless

adventures, and many of your Delta Kappa Gamma sisters.

The deadline for Workshop proposals and Info Fair request is February 16, 2009. Workshops will be on Thursday and Friday and the Info Fair is tentatively scheduled for Saturday. Check the Society website for detailed information. ♥

## Dates to Remember

**April 24-26, 2009**

Omicron State Convention  
Four Points Sheraton at Metro Center  
Phoenix, Arizona

**July 6-11, 2009**

Southwest Regional Conference  
John Ascuaga's Nugget  
1100 Nugget Ave., Reno, Nevada

**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

**June 27-July 2, 2011**

Southwest Regional Conference  
Hyatt Regency Tech Center  
7800 East Tufts Ave., Denver, Colorado 80237

## Carolyn Pittman

Administrative Board Member Carolyn Pittman of Arkansas has been named the International representative to the 2009 Omicron State Convention. She is a Member-at-Large on the Board.



*Carolyn Pittman (Arkansas)  
International Representative*

## SAHUARO

### Publication Deadlines

Spring Issue	May 1, 2009
Fall Issue	August 15, 2009
Winter Issue	January 15, 2010

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