



Arizona SAHUARO

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International – For Key Women Educators

Come to Convention

The Omicron State Convention will be held April 20, 21, and 22, 2012 at the Scottsdale Resort and Convention Center, 7700 East McCormick Parkway, in Scottsdale.

The cost of a room is \$99 a night for double occupancy. Be sure to mention you are a DKG member to receive the special discounted price.

Dr. Carolyn Rants will be our international representative. She is the 79th recipient of the Society's International Achievement Award. She oversaw the revision of the Constitution and International Standing Rules as she skillfully guided members through the 2010 international convention voting.

This is a time to renew friendships with DKG sisters. It is an opportunity to grow in the organization, to share your talents, and grow as a professional through exciting workshops. This year's convention will host training for incoming chapter officers on Friday and the birthday luncheon, workshops, and banquet on Saturday. The Ceremony of Remembrance will be followed by the World Fellowship breakfast on Sunday.

It promises to be a weekend full of excitement. Chapters will have the opportunity to do some fund-raising at the Rose Boutique. There will be a raffle for prizes such as beautiful gift baskets, discounts for Fall Workshop registration, and more.

Join us at the 2012 Omicron State Convention.

Dr. Terri Matteson (Alpha Sigma)

Pre-Convention Events

One of the pre-convention events planned by the Life Experience Committee is a visit to the Musical Instrument Museum located at 4725 E. Mayo Blvd in Scottsdale. This will be a morning event on Friday pre-convention. Cost is \$15.00 or \$13.00 for seniors. Those interested will meet at 10:00 a.m. at the museum for a self-guided fun tour.

This most unusual and interesting museum displays musical instruments indigenous to various parts of the world. Wireless "hot spots" around MIM provide loops of streamed music, immersing guests in the sounds of musical instruments throughout the museum.

An on-site café for lunch or light refreshments is available. Wear **comfortable walking shoes**.

The Life Experience Committee is also in the process of planning other events throughout this biennium in addition to pre-convention activities. We welcome any ideas for such get-togethers for fun and/or educational events.

Please feel free to contact Diane Gara-Weiner, Chair, with such ideas at dgweiner@hotmail.com

*Diane Gara-Weiner, (Alpha Delta), Chair
Life Experience Committee*

*Terri Matteson, (Alpha Beta) Co-Chair
2012 Omicron State Convention*

Chapter Officer Training

Friday, April 20, 2012

The 2012 Omicron State Convention
Scottsdale Resort and Convention Center

Chapter Presidents
Chapter First Vice-Presidents
Chapter Second Vice-Presidents
4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
(short break for dinner)

Chapter Secretaries
Chapter Treasurers
Chapter Parliamentarians
6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Registration Times
Friday – 3:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Dr. Carolyn Rants International Representative at State Convention



*Dr. Carolyn Rants
Convention
International
Representative*

Dr. Carolyn Rants, immediate past international president will be the international representative at the 2012 Omicron State convention. She will bring greetings and updates from international.

She is from Sioux City, Iowa, and retired in July, 2007, as Vice-President for Instruction and Student Services at Western Iowa Tech Community College. Dr. Rants has two sons and four granddaughters.

During the previous biennium she lived in a downtown Austin, Texas, apartment just a few blocks from DKG headquarters. Carolyn has been a member of DKG in three states. She was initiated in Nebraska transferred to Michigan and has spent the last 40+ years in Iowa.

She was the Iowa state organization president, served on several international committees, and was the northwest regional director, international first vice-president and international president.

Carolyn is very grateful for all the experiences she has gained as a member of this organization. Delta Kappa Gamma has opened opportunities for her, enabling her to enhance her leadership skills, and meet women educators in seventeen different countries.

She is always eager to talk with you about your ideas for ways to advance the Society. ♥

2012 Omicron State Convention

Registration Form

on

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

From The President

JUDY VINSON

Remembering the past Celebrating the present Believing in the future



PHOTOGRAPH BY
MERRY LEWIS

Omicron State
President Judy
Vinson (Alpha)

To paraphrase my Christmas card, I wish you a wonderful new year filled with joyful memories and bright hopes!

Omicron State honors and remembers its distinguished 75 years of existence. Let's continue to recognize the accomplishments we have made. A big thank you to all who helped

organize and realize a great Fall Workshop. In Arizona, we remember 100 years of statehood. If you have any suggestions for ways to share our state history and that of Omicron State, communicate that to me.

Please visit our website at www.deltakap-pagamma.org/AZ/ to celebrate the present. Plan to join us on Legislative Day February 15 at the capitol. We will meet in the House basement rooms 35/38 at 8:30 a.m. Representative Lela Alston will greet us. Speakers include Representative KimYee, John Hupenthal, State Superintendent, and Rebecca Gau from the Governor's office. The Virginia state newsletter reminds us that DKG members are positive, persistent, persevering, and professional and our legislators need to recognize that. Current chapter activities and duties include selling convention pins and raffle tickets, nominating officers for the new chapter biennium and filling out reports. Consider nominating a state legislator for the Friend of Education Award or a local media person for the Media Award. Many chapters are having interesting and informative meetings. I truly enjoy hearing about them and visiting with you when I can.

Believing in the future is a positive approach to making choices that will help you grow personally and professionally while your contributions to DKG improve Omicron State. Plan to attend the state convention April 20 – 22 and participate fully in what it offers. Make chapter plans to sell items at the Rose Boutique, encourage attendance, plan to attend the Life Experience event, and attend the training if you are a new chapter officer.

Dr. Carolyn Rants, immediate international past president will be our international representative. Plan to make her welcome and talk with her about your vision and design for the future for DKG.

The initiative called SECE (Support for Early-Career Educators) is a goal of the

Educational Excellence Committee and will be proposed as an international project at the 2012 Convention. Supporting new educators is inline with our Collaborative Connections State Project and, hopefully, will also provide us with some new, enthusiastic members. Continue to seek ways for your chapters to help and invite educators to membership.

Now is the time to renew your commitment to the future of education by sharing your talents, time, and resources with your chapter, state, and international DKG. Together we are better, *Aspire, Act, Achieve!* ♥

Need New Members?

Chapters serious about gaining new members could follow this time frame. From September to December members are encouraged to be looking for new members. This might mean contacting principals of various schools and other personnel to ask for recommendations of teachers whom they consider outstanding or who are new to the district.

The names submitted would be checked to see if they are eligible. Eligible women would receive a personal invitation to attend an informal brunch to be held in February.

The DVD from the state and the brochures would be used as well as member experiences. The membership forms would be available at the brunch and time would be made for those invited to fill them out while there.

After contacting each person as a follow-up, prospective members would be ready for initiation. If a chapter is to grow, an effort must be made to reach contacts beyond the chapter members.

We must reaffirm our dedication to DKG's mission statement so that we see ourselves as a professional organization with the responsibility to support and serve women educators.

Linda Stockbauer (Xi)

Educational Excellence Committee

The Educational Excellence Committee has been busy planning leadership training for the newly elected chapter first vice-presidents of Omicron State. The committees presentation is scheduled for Friday evening, April 20, 2012. This committee has been collaborating with the Leadership Development and Membership Committees to assure that the officers receive

thorough, innovative, and uncomplicated leadership training.

The chapter presidents and first vice-presidents will receive detailed assistance in formatting their chapter committees and yearbooks, which will place their chapters in compliance with the new state Bylaws and Standing Rules. It is imperative that the incoming chapter officers attend these carefully prepared training sessions in order to easily understand the changes that have been put into place.

All chapters are encouraged to participate in the Schools for Africa and Early Career Education international projects, as well as the Omicron State's Collaborative Connections and Shining Star Spotlight project.

Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho),
Omicron State First Vice-President

Finance Committee

The Finance Committee is composed of five members who represent the areas of the state. Its purpose is to monitor expenses so that they don't exceed income.

Each spring the committee meets to prepare a budget for the next year. Members project income and expenses. They are always cautiously optimistic but also very thrifty.

If you have recommendations, especially if you represent a committee, now is the time to submit proposals. Send your requests or ideas to Chairman Merry Lewis. If finances interest you, be sure to think about serving on the committee in the future.

Merry Lewis (Mu), Chairman
Omicron State Finance Committee

Membership Techniques

This Fall workshop was packed with attendees and creative ideas. Carmen Wendt (Chi) and Jean Fuer Davis (Alpha Rho) joined forces to present tried and true ideas to encourage new members and nourish the chapter members.

A few of their ideas: provide name tags. Present reorientation reminders, encourage attendance at state/regional/international conventions, put photos and information about members in the yearbook, start a secret "buddy" to keep everyone involved and valued, and involve new members immediately.

Alpha Rho Chapter presented their membership drive idea. Invite selected teachers to a brunch where they hear about DKG from chapter members and can ask questions. They are given a membership recommendation form to fill out right then! Alpha Rho has added several new members every year with this idea.

Gloria Day (Alpha)



Carmen Wendt
(Chi)
Membership
Workshop
Presenter



Marge Threewit
(Alpha Beta)
Omicron State
Treasurer

Fall Workshop Business Meeting

After a tasty breakfast served with bright smiles, 123 members from 26 chapters gathered for the Fall workshop business meeting.

Karen Blackstone (Alpha Epsilon) led the remembrance of our past state president Judy Strohmeier.

The opening thought by new member Michelle Headley (Alpha Delta) gave insight to the wonders of skyping for home-bound students.

Omicron State President Judy Vinson (Alpha) shared her vision and goals for this biennium. Chi chapter members encouraged all to attend the 2012 state convention at the Scottsdale Resort and Convention Center.

Committee reports included the Shining Stars awards, Legislative Day, a new membership video, updated Omicron State Bylaws and Rules, new convention units, and scholarships.

The 2012 Fall Workshop will be held October 20, 2012 at Metro Tech High School, 1900 West Thomas Road, Phoenix.

The closing thought was by Faye Golden (Alpha Delta). Members joined in song with "Diamonds Shining On" to close the meeting.

Gloria Day (Alpha)



*Michelle Headley
(Alpha Delta)
Opening thought at
Fall Workshop*

Educational Excellence Workshop

Omicron State First Vice-President Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho) led the Embracing Educational Excellence workshop at the 2011 Fall Workshop along with Shelley Smith (Lambda), Denise Martin (Nu), and Marge Jones-Shafer (Beta).

This is the first biennium that the newly created Educational Excellence state committee has tackled the role of three previous committees: Program of Work, Professional Affairs, and Professional Growth and Services.

The new committee has eight members plus the first-vice-president as chairman. The committee's goals include:

1. Promote programs that increase the personal and professional growth of members
2. Focus on educational excellence
3. Promote DKG/UN relationships
4. Increase member global awareness
5. Support early-career educators
6. Support Schools for Africa project

The state committee will work with chapters as this new committee is implemented at the chapter level. States and chapters are expected to adopt this new structure to comply with state and international guidelines. ♥

Rachel emphasized that as long as the work is fulfilled, chapters have great flexibility as to how this is accomplished. Existing efforts, such as the "Shining Stars" program and "Collaborative Connections" are options that reflect this new direction of DKG.

Kathy Green (Alpha Delta)

Common Core Standards

Common Core Standards: What are the implications for Arizona schools and teachers? Kathy Hrabluk, associate superintendent for high academic standards from the Arizona Department of Education made us aware that these are pivotal times in education and that the rate of change has increased.



*Kathy Hrabluk
From Arizona
Department of
Education*

We need to step back and think of the purpose of education: to provide educated citizenry for the state. How we define this has drastically changed. There needs to be a shared shouldering of responsibility, critical partnerships and with the Arizona Ready Plan children will be asked to do different things from before.

This plan is reflective of a grass roots committee: teachers, community, business members, and parents whose vision is a future in which all Arizona students are prepared to succeed in college and careers.

Arizona Ready created strategies that improve our state's lowest performing schools, raise educational standards, and reward teachers for their successes.

For more information: www.ArizonaReady.com

Gloria Day (Alpha)

Moon Rocks, Bill Clinton and Omicron State Archives

In September it was nationally reported that an archivist at the Central Arkansas Library System had discovered a missing-for-decades Goodwill moon rock from among 2,000 boxes containing Bill Clinton's gubernatorial memorabilia.

The latest news reports have revealed that several hundred of the priceless rocks are also unaccounted for or misplaced from other states and historical organizations.

At the 2011 October Fall Workshop, the Omicron State Archives Committee held an informal organizational meet-and-greet brainstorming conversation during the lunch hour. Though we did not discover any missing moon rocks in the four archival boxes, we agreed to be vigilant in our search for priceless information and objects of historical value to Omicron State. We will continue our dialogue of discovery at the 2012 convention in April. You never know what we might find..

*Sharon Modi, Chairman
Omicron State Archives Committee*

Omicron State Achievement Award Nominees

It is time to finalize your application for the Omicron State Achievement Award. Two awards may be given at our 2012 State Convention.

The purpose of the award is to recognize and honor members for their continuous and outstanding service to Omicron State.

Each nominee must:

- *be an active member of an Omicron State chapter

- *have been a Society member for a minimum of five years

- *have made outstanding contributions to Omicron State.

Each chapter has the privilege of nominating one member for the honor. Remember, previous nominees who did not receive the award may be re-nominated..

Nominations must be postmarked by February 1, 2012, to:

Donna Reynolds
Achievement Award Chairman
4558 S. Bannock Ave.
Sierra Vista, AZ 85650-9716

Nominations received after the deadline cannot be considered.

*Donna Reynolds (Epsilon)
Achievement award Committee Chairman*



Make and Give Away Workshop

Make and Give Away: Creating Smiles

Presenters Bonnie Dent (Tau), Kim George (Alpha), and Pat Fountain (California) showed us how to put together shoe boxes filled with toys and activities for children's charities.

Bonnie's chapter participated in Operation Christmas Child which sends these boxes to children world-wide for Christmas. Boxes must be mailed to a central location in November. For more information go to www.samaritanspurse.org

Kim and Pat (her mother) told about Jared Boxes that are delivered directly to a hospital with which their chapter had established a connection. These boxes are given to children that must stay for an extended time. The chapters can send boxes all year. For more information go to www.thejaredbox.com

Workshop attendees had great fun filling and decorating their boxes. Tau and Alpha Chapters will distribute them.

Gloria Day (Alpha)

In Touch With Tech

*With permission from the
Pennsylvania KEYSTONIAN*

By Linda Nickerson

Owning an eReader is as popular these days as having new earphones! There are many different eBook readers available on the market that can be loaded with accessories. The three eReaders that stand out from all others are: the Amazon Kindle, the Barnes & Noble Nook, and the Apple iPad. Each has its own pluses and minuses and all are fabulous devices, but it's easy to become overwhelmed with all of the features. If you're in the market for an eBook reader and are looking at the Kindle, Nook, or iPad, check out the information below to help you make your decision.

The Amazon Kindle

There are three varieties of the Kindle – the Kindle, \$79 – Kindle Touch, \$99 with 3G-\$149, and the Kindle Fire - \$199. The Kindle sports a 6-inch EInk screen, which if you are familiar with, is much easier on the eyes than your traditional laptop or desktop screen. Looking at one, it looks amazingly like a matte piece of paper, and there is no glare or reflection. It's exceptionally light and sized closer than ever to a mass market paperback book, so it doesn't feel like you are holding a clunky device and it can fit into your pocket! The downside of the Kindle is its refresh rate, which Amazon says they have improved. It's still not quite as fast as flipping a page in a traditional book, and this is because of the EInk screen. But, in terms of the Kindle, it's their best reading experience yet. The Kindle also features the Web-kit browser, which is sufficient if you just to look something up online while you're e reading, but it's definitely not for heavy or regular internet use. The latest Kindle version also supports PDF files, which is a major bonus. There's also a feature that allows you to share your books. Should you buy it? This is a great eReader for those wanting just a nice reading experience and aren't concerned with all the bells and whistles. The Kindle Store has just over 900,000 titles to choose from.

The Barnes & Noble Nook

There are actually two varieties of the Nook to choose from, the Nook (\$149) and NookColor(\$249). The standard Nook features a 6-inch E Ink screen and is most similar to the Kindle. If all you want to do is read this is a great device. The NookColor features a 7 –inch, full color touchscreen LCD screen, and offers enhanced books, magazines, newspapers, & interactive kids books, and can be used as a media player as well. Both the Nook and NookColor include the unique LendMe

feature, which allows you to share eBooks with your friends, something that the Kindle lacks. Barnes and Noble also has a Lifetime Library, which allows you to store your favorite books for download anytime, anywhere with any device that you have the Nook app installed on. With over 2 million titles to choose from, you've got a great selection of books to read. Should you buy it? If you want lots of choice in terms of titles, the Nook has it. Barnes & Noble has more than twice the number of titles available as the Kindle. If you want an upgraded reading experience, with color instead of grayscale, a nice internet browsing experience, and lots of features, get the NookColor.

The Apple iPad

The Apple iPad is not dedicated eBook reader/ Rather, it is a computer device with eBook reader functionalities and capabilities. The iPad features a 9.1 inch full-color touchscreen LCD, and because of it's larger screen size you can turn the screen horizontally and have 2 pages of an eBook open at a time, just like a real book. Just like the NookColor though, the downside is that it is LCD, so you might not be able to read on it comfortably for as long as you could on a device with an E Ink screen. The iTunes store offers you both eBooks and audiobooks that you can download to your iPad (as well as your iPhone and iPod). The 2nd generation model has 16GB of storage and \$499, prices and storage capacity going up from there.

Should you buy it?

Casual readers or those who want a tablet computer first that can also serve as an eBook reader will find that the iPad is their choice. Upcoming software update will bring even more reading options, most notable of which is the new Newsstand app – basically an app store for magazines and newspapers. So the iPad is an excellent tablet and is only getting better the larger price and size will give bargain hunters reason to opt for the cheaper competition!

I hope this information has helped in making your decision! **Happy reading!**

(Data source from – www.news.cnet.com)

Legislative Committee Update

Your Legislative Committee is hard at work planning for Legislative Day on February 15, 2012.

Members Rebecca Sutton (Alpha Zeta), Pattie Vincent (Alpha Epsilon), Lori Good (Alpha Alpha) and Chair Liz Tataseo (Alpha Delta) met on October 22 during the Fall Workshop and discussed goals, objectives, and plans for Legislative Day.

Members recommended legislators and activities for Legislative Day that should make it a great event. All are invited to attend.

Also, all chapters should be thinking of a legislator to nominate for the "Friend of Education" award due in March.

Liz Tataseo (Alpha Delta), Chair
Legislative Committee



Liz Tataseo
(Alpha Delta)
State Legislative
Committee
Chairman

Support Early Career Education

*Copied from the
December 2011 Broadcasting the Buzz*

What kind of support can a chapter offer to early career educators?

Some of the suggestions are:

- To provide recognition for new teachers/ teachers-to-be
- To help new teachers maintain enthusiasm/joy for teaching
- To offer mentoring
- To lessen the feeling of isolation
- To provide tactics for overcoming frustration, to share ideas
- To give a token of esteem and appreciation for the work done by teachers
- To introduce them to our wonderful DKG Society

Noteworthy Projects

Copied from Alpha Kappa State – Connecticut Newsletter

At the 2010 International Convention, a new project was adopted in conjunction with UNICEF: *Schools for Africa: Transforming Lives through Education*. This is a joint campaign founded by UNICEF, the Nelson Mandela Foundation and the Hamburg Society to promote education for children in Africa. The campaign will increase access to quality basic education for children with special focus on girls, orphans, and vulnerable children.

Another worthy project adopted by DKG is *Tom's Shoes*. For every pair of shoes purchased by a DKG member, *Tom's Shoes* gives a pair of new shoes to a child in need. *Tom's Shoes* is listed under the "shopping" menu on the international website, where you will find a wide variety of shoes in many styles and colors. Check out [One for One](#) to learn about and participate in this program.

Alpha Beta Chapter Project

(copied from the Alpha Beta Newsletter)

During January and February Alpha Beta Chapter collected items for Desert Mission in Sunnyslope. This organization was established in 1927 to address the physical and social needs of destitute families in the desert north of Phoenix.

Today it still has the same focus and mission, but serves north Phoenix, which covers 152 square miles and more than 400,000 individuals.

In a typical year, Desert Mission serves more than 24,000 people in 10,600 households.

The Desert Mission campus has a Food Bank, Children's Dental Clinic, Community Health Center, Marley House Family Resource Center and the Lincoln Learning Center.



Diane Sheets
(Alpha Beta)
Past President of
Alpha Beta Chapter

Schools of Historic Tucson

Joan Fox, retired Amphi teacher, has researched the history of schools in Tucson from territorial days to the beginning of the Amphitheater School District.

Dressed in a long black skirt and turn-of-the-century blouse and boots, Joan shared very interesting and sometimes surprising information about Tucson schools and education.

She brought many authentic props, including an old chalk slate, report cards, school-books, and pictures of schools and educators.

We learned that Brichta was the first school in Tucson. Amphitheater School District got its name because the surrounding mountains shaped the area like an amphitheater.

Students were tested on practical information, including their knowledge of how many bushels of something would fit in a wagon. Joan answered many questions posed by her enthusiastic audience. She taught 2nd or 3rd grade for 38 years. Since retirement she has tutored students from kindergarten through adults, including felons on parole.

Gloria Day (Alpha)

Alpha Chi Invites Mark Hoog

When Alpha Chi Chapter members returned to Lake Havasu City after the Omicron State Convention in Tucson, they shared with the chapter the inspiring keynote message of Mark Hoog. Two

of those members, Penny Burtless, president of the Lake Havasu K-12 Foundation, and Dr. Sandy Breece, superintendent and founder of Telesis Preparatory Academy, decided that Hoog's message was one that should be shared with Lake Havasu City students and teachers.

Through the work of Burtless and Breece, nine community organizations joined DKG's Alpha Chi Chapter in bringing the motivational speaker and author to the city.

During the visit, Hoog shared his story of personal growth, self-empowerment, and leadership at a joint inservice for teachers in the Lake Havasu City Unified School District No.1 and teachers of Telesis Preparatory Academy, a K-12 public charter school.

He also participated in Telesis orientation activities. In addition, Burtless and Breece arranged for a free evening event for students, teachers, parents, and other members of the community at which Hoog emphasized that if a dream is worth having, it's worth working for.

Regina Olson, President
Alpha Chi Chapter



World Fellowship Committee

The Omicron State World Fellowship Committee invites you to our celebration of cultures at the annual Lei of Friendship Breakfast during the 2012 Omicron State Convention.

Denise Crockett (Kappa), Diane Henry (Alpha Sigma), Patricia Hendon (Lambda), Angelica Rodriguez (Beta), Linda Stockbauer (Xi), and Chairman Terri Ackland (Zeta) are meeting in January to continue planning for this event in collaboration with the Convention Planning Committee and President Judy.

Though the holiday season has passed, I was reminded of our common bonds with women educators across the globe as I received holiday greeting in many languages.

Merry Christmas (U.S.A.), Frohe Weihnachten (Germany), Happy Christmas (Britain), Happy Kwanzaa (African American), Happy Hanukkah (Jewish), Feliz Navidad (Mexico and Spain), God jul (Sweden), Sheng Tan Kuai Loh (China), Nodig Mhaith Chugal (Ireland), Manuia Le Kernsimasi (Samoan), and Feliz Natal (Brazil). Let us pause to reflect our unity as members of DKG and to celebrate our diversity.

Terri Ackland (Zeta), Chair
Omicron State World Fellowship Committee

Scholarship Committee Has Money

Scholarship Committee chair, Dr. Sandy Breece (Alpha Chi) gave the committee report at the 2011 Fall Workshop after handing out \$100 dollar bills stamped with the reminder: "Scholarship \$\$\$."

This was a take-away reminder of the February 1 deadline to submit scholarship applications for the state and international scholarships Delta Kappa Gamma offers each year. Committee members have met via email and stand ready to accept the applications.

Omicron State members of three or more years in good standing and qualified to do advanced work may apply. Commitment and service to the Society are additional factors to be considered.

\$1,000 state scholarships are available to Omicron State members of three or more years in good standing and qualified to do advanced work. Requirements and forms for state scholarships may be obtained from your chapter scholarship chairman. Application forms for the \$5,000 international scholarships may be obtained from www.dkg.org.

To borrow a popular slogan, "You can't win, if you don't play."

Dr. Sandy Breece, Chair
Omicron State Scholarship Committee



Dr. Sandy Breece
(Alpha Chi)
State Scholarship
Committee
Chairman

World Fellowships Fund

Did you know

The World Fellowships Program began at the 1946 National Convention in San Francisco with a project to aid women in war-torn countries. Four German women educators, with financial assistance from Delta Kappa Gamma members, spent eight weeks of study and visitation in Sweden in the spring of 1948.

The second step toward the present-day World Fellowships Program was the alliance in 1952 with UNESCO to provide special help for Korean women. During 1958-1960, the present program began to take shape, and an agreement was made with the Institute of International Education (IIE) to provide dossiers from which a Society committee could select recipients for study in the United States.

Work with the World Fellowships was originally the province of the Personal Growth and Services Committee. In 1972 the World Fellowships Committee became a standing committee, with state organizations and chapter committees added to the Constitution in 1974.



Betz Frederick (Alpha Epsilon) won ten awards at the 2011 Arizona State Fair for weaving and spinning.

Merry Lewis (Mu) is featured in the Winter 2012 Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin. She has written a review of *The Gospel of Joy* by Amanda Gore. This is a must read. The mission of the book is to eradicate fear. By removing fear, one can identify and connect with what is important in life.

Geræe Peten (Alpha Beta) is the new principal at one of the first charter schools in the state, called "Pinnacle Charter High School" and located in Tempe.

Christal Hamann (Alpha) was named one of Marana Unified School District's Employees of the Year.

Dr. Sandy Breece (Alpha Chi) announced the grand opening and official ribbon cutting of the new facility at Telesis Preparatory Academy in Lake Havasu City on December 15, 2011. Sandy is the founder of Telesis which has grown from nine students to over 500 in twenty years.

Mary Powell's (Rho) article, "Writing into the Profession: Clear Step-by-Step Instructions to Teacher Research" was printed in the Fall, 2011, issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin*.

Dr. Joyce Sterrett's (Omega) article, "2011 Educators Award: Degrees of Inequality: Culture, Class, and Gender in American Higher Education" is included in the Fall, 2011, issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin*.

Merry Lewis (Mu) participated in the 2011 Illinois State Creative Arts Retreat. Her picture appeared in the winter edition of the *Lambda* (Illinois) State Newscaster.

Caroline Carlson (Xi) received a McDonald MAC Grant of \$500 for the purchase of four LeapFrog Leap Pads for her classroom.

Dr. Terri Matteson (Alpha Sigma) is the principal of Glassford Hill Middle School in Prescott Valley, Arizona. ♥

McCorkle Academy Dedicated

The Mary Belle McCorkle Academy of Excellence was dedicated on December 3, 2011.

At the November meeting, Upsilon Chapter presented Mary Belle with her fifty-year pin and a certificate of achievement.

Dr. McCorkle also received a certificate from Omicron State Organization and a letter from Nita Scott, international Membership Services Administrator.

The letter thanked McCorkle for her mem-

bership and dedication to education stating, "It is with great pride that I congratulate you on the dedication of the school and thank you for these years of committed service to the Tucson Unified School District, to the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, and to education."

Merry Lewis (Nu)

International Speakers Fund

The International Speakers fund (ISF) Committee is seeking applications from members to participate in this program.

Established in 1984, ISF facilitates exchange of Society speakers among member countries and helps unite women educators of the world. The ISF Committee selects speakers from among the applications. ISF speakers went to Maine and Costa Rica in 2010.

An interactive Speaker's Application form is available on the Web site as a download. These applications must be returned by e-mail attachment to International Headquarters at isfapp@dkg.org by September 15, 2011. ♥

Educational Foundation

Do you need money for a creative project, seminar, or professional development? Since 1964 the Educational Foundation has given more than \$2.5 million to improve education worldwide.

The Lucile Cornet Fund is administered by the Foundation. Individual awards are given to employed educators for their professional development. Seminar awards are given annually for professional development of educators.

Educator Edge website serves as a resource for professional educators looking for workshops courses, seminars, and conferences to enhance skills, develop talents, and become better educators.

Check the dkg.org website for detailed information. Financial awards are available.

Donna Reynolds (Epsilon) is a member of the Educational Foundation Board of Trustees.

Beiril Drake (Alpha Delta)
Educational Foundation Liaison

From Broadcasting the Buzz

"Broadcasting the Buzz" is published once a month by the International Communications Committee. You will find copies on the Omicron State website.

A recent article gave hints on approaching potential members. Chapters are using the new *Pride in the Big Picture Orientation* CD PowerPoint and the accompanying brochure with exciting results.

Pride in the Big Picture is available from International for \$5.00. A sample letter to invite future members to the orientation is included in the packet.

The emphasis of the orientation is on the dynamic culture of DKG, our projects locally and internationally, and the benefits of membership.

As The SAP Rises

What is SAP? *Strategic Action Planning*

International President Jensi Souders and members of the administrative board will be providing *TIPS* for state organizations and chapters as they begin or continue their strategic planning.

State organization representatives participated in pre-Conference sessions at the 2011 regional conferences. Many others attended and participated in a Strategic Planning Workshop for Chapters.

Past International President Carolyn Rants suggested using the following steps:

1. Review the Mission and Vision Statements as well as the seven Society Purposes.
2. Use the **SWOT** Procedure:
Consider your Strengths
Identify your Weaknesses
Determine your Opportunities
List the Threats (obstacles)
3. Determine the vision for your state organization/chapter.
4. Select Areas on which to Focus:
 - a. Where are you now?
 - b. Where do you want to be?
 - c. How can you get there?

Copied from the Fall 2011 *Tips*

Contemporary Initiation Ceremony

Copied from *Broadcasting the BUZZ*

Chapters are BUZZING about the new contemporary initiation ceremony recently released by the International Membership Committee. Change does not usually find people singing its praises but members are emailing their accolades of approval on a daily basis.

The traditional initiation ceremony used over the years has emphasized the Founders, symbols, key pin and other protocols that bind DKG members together with a common purpose and is still a very impressive and appropriate ceremony.

Now that our Society is well established, we can focus less on the past and more on bringing together qualified and diverse women educators.

The contemporary initiation focuses more on the needs of educators serving in a broad spectrum of educational fields, emphasizing the pursuit of worthwhile projects that make a difference in communities around the world.

Your chapter may continue to use the traditional initiation ceremony, but the committee hopes you will checkout the new contemporary initiation ceremony which is available at www.dkg.org under Membership Committee, see resources section. ♥

ASPIRE - ACT - ACHIEVE

ΔΚΓ Embracing Our Vision, Designing Our Future ΔΚΓ

2012 Omicron State Convention at Scottsdale Resort and Convention Center • 7700 E. McCormick Parkway, Scottsdale, 480-991-9000
April 20 – 22, 2012

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

PLEASE FILL IN FORM COMPLETELY!

LAST NAME _____ FIRST NAME (BADGE) _____

ADDRESS _____ CHAPTER _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL _____ E-MAIL _____

Current State or International Office or State Committee Chair Title: _____

*Past State President	Y	N	* 25 Year Member (1987-2012)	Y	N
*Chapter President (2010-2011)	Y	N	* 50 Year Member (1962-2012)	Y	N
*Incoming Chap. President (2012-14)	Y	N	* 50+ Year Member	Y	N
* First Omicron State Convention	Y	N			
*Chapter Charter Member	Y	N	*Attained a PhD, EdD, or Nat'l Board Cert	Y	N

Mark the functions below that you wish to attend. Indicate the **number and names** of guests attending.

Fill in total amount for **each** function, ending with the overall TOTAL amount due.

EVENT	ATTENDING		COST PER PERSON	AMOUNT DUE
REGISTRATION FEE (POSTMARKED BEFORE APRIL 8)	Y	N	\$45.00	\$ _____
REGISTRATION FEE (POSTMARKED AFTER APRIL 8)	Y	N	\$60.00	\$ _____
EVENTS:				
<i>FRIDAY NIGHT</i>	Y	N	NO CHARGE	\$ <u>0</u>
Guest _____	# _____		\$10.00	\$ _____
<i>SATURDAY BREAKFAST*</i>	Y	N	NO CHARGE	\$ <u>0</u>
Guest _____	# _____		\$15.00	\$ _____
<i>SATURDAY BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON*</i>	Y	N	\$22.50	\$ _____
Guest _____	# _____		\$22.50	\$ _____
<i>SATURDAY ROSE BANQUET*</i>	Y	N	\$40.00	\$ _____
Guest _____	# _____		\$40.00	\$ _____
<i>SUNDAY LEI OF FRIENDSHIP BREAKFAST*</i>	Y	N	\$25.00	\$ _____
Guest _____	# _____		\$25.00	\$ _____

***SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS (Please explain/list):** _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Make checks payable to: OMICRON STATE ANNUAL CONVENTION.

Mail check and completed form by April 8, to: Marilyn Steffen, Convention Registrar
18001 N 88th Drive, Peoria AZ 85382-0843
(623)933-8415, omicronregistrar@gmail.com

**NO REFUNDS
AFTER
APRIL 15**

I give my permission to the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International to use my photograph and/or my name in the Arizona Sahuaro and/or the Omicron State Website.

Yes No Signature: _____

Phoenix, Arizona 85021
1650 W. Glendale Avenue, #1120
Delta Kappa Gamma-Omicron State



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Rachel Leichty June 11, 2011	Alpha Eta Winslow, AZ
Nancy Ruth Perry August 12, 2011	Beta Phoenix, AZ
Florence Howe October 21, 2011	Nu Tucson, AZ
Helen Marie Thomas October 22, 2011	Alpha Iota Glendale, AZ
Christine Reed December 7, 2011	Rho Phoenix, AZ

Come to New York in July 2012

The 2012 International Convention, July 24-28, happens in New York City. Will you be there? You will have incredible opportunities for fun and entertainment while you learn at convention sessions.

The opening night keynote featured speaker is Tori Murden McClure, the first woman to row alone across an ocean. She tells her story in her book, *A Pearl in the Storm*. When you hear her in person, she makes the story come alive. McClure is president of Spalding University in Louisville, Kentucky

Make plans to attend. Hotel reservations began December 1, 2011, and convention registration began in January 2012.

Perhaps a group from your chapter can apply to be a presenter. Application forms are on the website. Follow the icon for international convention at the bottom of the home page for up-to-the minute news and information. ♥

Webmaster Training Offered

Webmasters, are you planning to attend the 2012 International Convention in New York City? You have an opportunity to attend a training session designed for you. An all-day pre-conference BYOL (Bring Your Own Laptop) workshop using Weebly.com to design and construct a website will be offered on Tuesday, July 24, 2012.

The day will be broken into sections: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. for learning how to use Weebly.com; 12 – 2:00 p.m. for lunch (on your own) and 2 – 4:30 p.m. for working on your new site.

Pre-registration is required a \$75.00 per person. This offering will be a first come, first served event. There are seats for 50.

The instructor will be Diane Moose, Texas State Organization webmaster. ♥

Keep Addresses Updated

Did you know that you can complete a change of address form online?

In today's fast paced world, email addresses have become as important as postal mailing address. Yet email addresses change much more rapidly.

Have you updated your email address? Find the online form under FORMS. Then select Membership folder. The change of address online form is the first choice on the page. ♥

Seminar in Purposeful Living to be held in Washington, D.C.

Members who wish a Capital Experience should consider attending the Seminar in Purposeful Living on July 19-21, 2012 in Washington, D.C.

Activities include visits to Arlington National Cemetery, the Tomb of the Unknown, The Capitol Building, National Cathedral, and the Smithsonian Museum on the Mall.

The Seminar is held prior to the International Convention in New York City. Bus transportation is available from the Seminar to the Convention.

For detailed information, visit the newly designed Educational Foundation website at www.dkgef.org. ♥

Dates to Remember

February 15, 2012

Legislative Day at Arizona State Capitol

March 18-21, 2012

National Legislative Seminar • U.S. Forum
Washington, D.C.

April 20-22, 2012

Omicron State Convention
Scottsdale Resort and Convention Center
7700 E. McCormick Parkway
Scottsdale, AZ

July 19-21, 2012

Seminar in Purposeful Living
Hyatt Regency Crystal City Hotel
Arlington, Virginia

July 24-26, 2012

International Convention
Sheraton New York Hotel and Towers
(Seventh Avenue)
New York, New York

October 20, 2012

All Member Workshop
Executive Board Meeting
Metro Tech High School
1900 West Thomas Road, Phoenix, AZ

April 19-21, 2013

Omicron State Convention • Radisson Suites
6555 E. Speedway, Tucson, Arizona

July 17-20, 2013

Southwest Regional Conference
Hilton Branson
Branson, Missouri

July 28 – August 1, 2014

International Convention • JW Marriott Hotel
Indianapolis, Indiana

2015 Southwest Regional Conference
Kansas

2017 Southwest Regional Conference
Hawaii

SAHUARO

Publication Deadlines

Spring Issue May 1, 2012
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