



Arizona SAHUARO

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International – For Key Women Educators



USED WITH PERMISSION

Meet Nita R. Scott

Members of Omicron State Delta Kappa Gamma are looking forward to welcoming Membership Services Administrator, Nita R. Scott to the convention as a friend and dynamic speaker. She will conduct a membership workshop and be the Saturday banquet speaker.

In Nita's blog this fall, she states how much she loves her job and the opportunity to meet people from across the globe. We're lucky to have her sharing her talents for three days. Nita is a Xi chapter member from Texas and writes about the joy of teaching and the influence we all have on the world around us. Her question in one of her blogs is, "Has anyone influenced you? Have you said thank you? Go ahead—play it forward today. Be that someone for someone else. Remember, Purpose 1 - genuine spiritual fellowship."

Be sure to look for Nita, attend her workshop and hear her inspirational talk.

Nancy Mahon, Alpha

Dr. Nicholas Clement is Luncheon Speaker

Dr. Nicholas Clement, author of "How to Catch a Swamp Frog", will be the guest speaker at our Saturday Birthday Luncheon. Dr. Clement, Ernest W. McFarland Citizen's Chair in Education at Northern Arizona University, is a lifelong educator, administrator and superintendent who has written his first book about what we can learn from stories of legendary teachers in his life. Since 2001, he has written and received over \$8 million in 21st Century Community Learning Center grants. These grants have allowed the Flowing Wells School District to develop and sustain nationally recognized after-school programs for all students, along with expanding adult literacy programs for school district parents. He is, also, very active in his community, serving on various boards and associations. He has received numerous awards, including ASA Arizona National Superintendent of the year.

Nancy Mahon, Alpha



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Convention Committee Invites Members to Shine in Tucson

The Omicron State Convention - the place to "Let Your Light Shine", will be held April 24 - 26, 2015, at the Radisson Suites, 6555 E. Speedway Boulevard in Tucson, Arizona.

Convention Co-chairs Gloria Day and Nancy Mahon (Alpha) have been working with steering committee members from Alpha, Delta, Epsilon, Kappa, Lambda, and Xi. Registrars

Patricia Rendon and Mary Ann Liddle (Lambda) along with Business Managers Patricia Holmes and Sylvia Payne (Lambda) are also preparing for the convention. Working diligently, the steering committee intends to provide a memorable convention from enlightening entertainment to terrific speakers to stimulating, informative workshops. This edition of the Sahuaro and the state website <http://deltakappagamma.org/AZ/> provide the registration form.

Guest Speakers: We are pleased to welcome Membership Services Administrator Nita R. Scott to the convention. Dr. Nicholas Clement will be the guest speaker at the Saturday Birthday Luncheon.

Radisson Suites Reservations: Secure hotel reservations now by phone 520-721-7100 or online at www.radisson.com/deltakappagamma. Register before April 3rd to get conference rates. The prices for rooms, including taxes are \$109 for a double, \$119 for a triple, and \$129 for a quad. Each room has a microwave and a refrigerator. Room rates are good for 3 days prior and 3 days after the convention if you need a little extra vacation time. Check-in time is 3:00; check-out is noon.

New This Year:

Days registered: If you are unable to register for all three days, you may register for just one of the three days. If you can only attend one day, this a great opportunity to bring a guest and maybe the next time she will be a member attending with you regularly. The prices are listed on the registration form in this Sahuaro.

Saturday Breakfast Special: When

you register, you will be given a \$3.00 discount coupon applicable towards the Saturday hotel breakfast buffet. We hope you will like this new selection of having a variety of food choices for the great price of \$7.00.

Chorus: Please consider joining the Convention Chorus directed by Gloria Day. If you like to sing and have fun, this chorus needs you. Check the appropriate square on the registration sheet.

Short Overview:

Friday: The opening event on Friday will include an illuminating performance from the Continental Ballet in the Green Valley/Sahuarita area. The group is directed by Lisa DiGiacomo (Alpha Rho).

Saturday: Following breakfast, an Executive Board meeting and the election of new state officers for the 2015 biennium will occur. Throughout the day a variety of enlightening workshops will give you the opportunity to grow personally and professionally. Certification hours will be given.

Sunday: The Ceremony of Remembrance will be held followed by the Lei of Friendship breakfast hosted by the World Fellowship Committee.

Please join us at the 2015 Omicron State Convention. Take time to make new friends and greet long time friends. Let your light shine this weekend and throughout the year. Brighten the convention with your presence!

Nancy Mahon, Alpha





Stepping Up with Rachel

As we rapidly approach the closing phase of this biennium, I find myself reminiscing about my many extraordinary experiences throughout my twenty-three years as a member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. On attending my first Omicron State function, I remember feeling quite apprehensive, saying to myself; "Is this organization really for me? Do I really have the skills and intellectual wherewithal to connect with these exceptional women?" Well, I received the answers to my questions as I began meeting an abundance of warm, accepting members, who instantly made me feel that I belonged. I gradually became more and more confident and began

volunteering to serve on chapter committees and in helping with other chapter activities. I realized this participation was actually helping my chapter continue to thrive. Then, I took the next step up and began serving at the state level, and later participated in International activities. The many opportunities DKG has given me for personal growth and the expansion of my leadership skills have greatly enlightened my life far beyond my wildest dreams.

In accepting membership in this society of "key women educators," we also agreed to willingly participate in its purposes and endeavors. Just as each of us once chose a career in education, knowing we would be leading our students towards positive goals, we are encouraged to accept leadership responsibilities in this unique organization – be it in our chapter, state or at the international level.

I have so enjoyed visiting many of the chapters throughout Arizona, and will continue to make every effort to get to all of them during the remainder of this biennium. I am impressed with the participation, enthusiasm and ingenuity of the chapter members, regardless of membership size. Many chapters are maintaining projects which benefit their communities and enhance their chapters.

One of my biennial goals has been to promote networking among our chapters, giving them all the opportunity to share ideas, to brainstorm about meeting challenges they may be facing, and to cultivate fellowship and personal relationships. In keeping with this objective, the state Membership and Expansion Committees are producing a pamphlet filled with descriptions of special projects and programs of all the Arizona chapters, which will serve as a ready resource to assist chapters with future program planning.

The 2015 Convention Steering Committee has been busy planning an innovative and entertaining spring convention, April 24 – 26, to be held at the Radisson Suites in Tucson. The committee has initiated some new ideas for the convenience of convention attendees, such as offering one-day registration for those unable to attend the entire conference. A variety of workshops will meet the interests of all members. I am anxious to see you all at what is bound to be an exciting convention.

Remember, when we step up and boldly participate in the actions of our chapter, state and DKG as a whole, we will reap much more than we have sown.



U.S. Representative **Kyrsten Sinema** (Alpha Alpha Honorary member) has been re-elected to a second term from her Phoenix-area district and will serve as House Chief Deputy Whip for the 114th Congress.

Carolyn Warner (State Honorary and Alpha Alpha chapter member) and Ginny Serbin (Alpha Alpha) were given their 40-year membership pins at the December Joint Luncheon with Rho Chapter.

Lela Alston (Alpha Delta) has been re-elected as the House Representative from District 15.

Mary Lou Taylor (Omega) was honored by Tempe Union High School District and community for serving on the school board for the past twelve years. She completed her last term in December. Taylor retired from Scottsdale Unified School District in 1996 after teaching for thirty years.

Merry Lewis (Nu) was presented with a woven blanket thanking her for her support in

recent years to Arts Express, which provides a Fine Arts Youth Academy for Tucson students.

Katie Hobbs (2013 Friend of Education Award Winner) has been selected as the Arizona Senate Minority Leader.

Steve Farley (2014 Friend of Education Award Winner) has been selected as the Arizona Senate Assistant Minority Leader.

Marcy North (Nu), a reading specialist at Homer Davis Elementary School, Flowing Wells District, and Jessica Jaeger (Nu), fifth grade teacher at Sam Hughes, Tucson Unified School District, have received National Board Certification.

The 2014 members of the Tucson Area Coordinating Council thank **Vicki Berglind** (Alpha) for her upbeat and dedicated work as president.

The Impact Treasurers Have on Membership

Treasurers have an impact in Delta Kappa Gamma, especially in membership. As they strategically collect dues, they encourage membership growth and retention. The treasurer communicates positively by phone, email, and newsletters. Incentives used at the chapter level could include recognition for points earned by attendance, participation, and paying early to reduce a person's dues. Also, chapters could get creative by

reducing elder members' dues to keep them as members. Some chapters already pay for ailing members that no longer remember to pay their dues.

It is important to have a budget to address member needs, meet goals, and provide stability. There are samples and algorithms on the International website to help figure a realistic budget.

International (www.dkg.org) also provides digital calendars for chapter leaders. Pie charts can be found showing how funds are spent.

*Marge Threewit, Alpha Beta
Omicron State Treasurer*



Children's Action Committee Sends Thanks

Carolyn Warner (Honorary State and Alpha Alpha), speaker at our 2014 State Convention, asked that a donation be given to Children's Action Committee in her name. The thank-you note from Children's Action Committee states that our donation helps strengthen their voice for Arizona's children and families. To stay connected with their work, go to www.azchildren.org.

Lori Good, Alpha Alpha

Committee Announces Omicron State Officer Nominees for 2015-2017

The Omicron State Nominations Committee has selected the slate of nominees for the 2015-2017 biennium.

President: Dr. Joye Sterrett (Omega) is currently the state first vice-president and has served as second vice-president and parliamentarian.

During the 2012-2014 biennium, she chaired the International Scholarship Committee. She has served on the Educators Award Committee and has had two articles published in the *Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin*.

First Vice-President: Alice Reule (Alpha Delta) is the state second vice-president and has



USED WITH PERMISSION
Joye Sterrett (Omega), nominee for Omicron State President



Alice Reule (Alpha Delta), nominee for Omicron State First Vice-President



Kathi Houtcooper (Alpha Iota), nominee for Omicron State Second Vice-President



Carmen Wendt (Chi), nominee for Omicron State Recording Secretary



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Susan Halliday (Alpha Delta), nominee for Omicron State Corresponding Secretary

Omicron state for 12 years and has served on several state committees and as chapter president. She teaches kindergarten at Joy Christian School in Phoenix.

Recording Secretary: Carmen Wendt (Chi) is the state Expansion Committee chair-

man and co-chair of KARE ambassadors. She is presently on the International Membership Committee. She has served in many chapter offices.

Corresponding Secretary: Susan Halliday (Alpha Delta) is the chairman of the state Legislative Committee and has worked with KARE and SAP trainings. She is her chapter's president.

served as chapter president and vice-president. She has presented workshops and attended most state and international conferences/conventions. She was a 2014 participant in the Leadership Management Seminar in Austin, TX.

Second Vice-President: Kathi Houtcooper (Alpha Iota) is currently the state recording secretary. She has been the copy technician for

Nominees for Nominations Committee

Area I - Wally Turner (Eta) has served as Oklahoma state president. She was the U.S. Forum chair during 2012-2014 and has served International in many ways. She is currently on the state Leadership Committee and is her chapter's second vice-president.

Area II - Karen Blackstone (Alpha Epsilon) is a two-time chapter president and is now chairman of the state Necrology Committee. She also volunteers for a number of community programs.

Area III - Mary Velia Luera (Zeta) is a past chapter president and is now a member of the state Latin American Committee and has served on the state Scholarship Committee and the Editing Committee.

Area IV - Gloria Day (Alpha) has served two bienniums as chapter president and on numerous state committees. At state events she directs the choir or the assembly and sometimes sings a solo or plays the flute. She volunteers in schools and works with church and community groups.

Area V - Denise Crockett (Kappa) is the chairman of the State Arts Committee. She has served five years as chapter president. She works in the community with her church, Cancer Society, Cactus Needles Quilt Guild and other organizations.

FALL WORKSHOP STATISTICS

Fall Workshop Raffle winners

- Pam Dickerson, Eta
- Lois Cullipher, Epsilon
- Marge Threewit, Alpha Beta
- Gloria Guzman, Zeta
- Mary Delia Luera, Zeta

First timers (10 chapters represented)

1. Annette Winfield, Alpha Alpha
2. Susan Kahl, Alpha Beta
3. Sheri Swerdfeger, Alpha Beta
4. Heather Chavex, Alpha Chi
5. Susan Mueller, Alpha Delta, guest
6. Toni Atchison, Alpha Epsilon
7. Hayley Fox, Alpha Rho
8. Angela Guerra, Alpha Rho
9. Valerie Ramirez, Alpha Rho
10. Ginnie Arthur, Gamma
11. Roberta Bishop, Kappa
12. Sharon Lawrence, Omega
13. Barbara Chinworth, Lambda
14. Denise Durazo, Lambda

Chapter Awards

Most members in Attendance (Area):

Alpha Beta - 12

Most members (Outside Area):

Lambda - 8

Greatest % in Attendance (Area):

Alpha Delta - 48%

Greatest % (Outside Area): Zeta - 33%



Gretchen Bock	Rho
Phoenix, AZ	March 25, 2014
Betsy Cary	Alpha Delta (Honorary)
Scottsdale, AZ	September 20, 2014
Alice Zoeller	Alpha Chi
Kingman, AZ	September 7, 2014
Carol H. Kassik	Alpha Chi
Wichita, KS	April 13, 2014
Alice Mae Charman	Alpha Sigma
Buckeye, AZ	July 9, 2014
Mary McGinness	Delta
Globe, AZ	November 3, 2014

2015 Southwest Regional Conference

Hyatt Regency Hotel • Wichita, Kansas

Expect the unexpected in Wichita, Kansas!

The Air Capital of the World is filled with many attractions, art, wildlife & nature, events, shopping, sports, history, and entertainment. Tons of fun and adventure while you are learning in sisterhood with Delta Kappa Gamma International!

Start making plans now and check out more at www.gowichita.com

Happening in Today's Classroom

Walking into Room 1120 and seeing the walls covered in math problems, the computer/projector set up and three happy faces anxiously watching fellow DKG members enter, one knew they were in for a great lesson. Alpha Rho members and outstanding young teachers, Valerie Ramirez and Haley Fox, who teach third grade, and Angela Guerra, who teaches fifth, presented a snapshot of today's classroom in Arizona. They shared how the Arizona College and Career Readiness Skills have redefined their job but at the same time allow students to reach a higher level of expectations and learning than in the past. They used math objectives to show how ACCRS benefits students in understanding math as opposed to just rote learning. They also demonstrated how using the



objectives contributed to raising reading and writing to a higher level.

Additionally, they shared how technology has changed classrooms resulting in instant communication with parents and students via class websites. Parents no longer have to rely on printed material from the class-

room but can use personal devices to receive e-mails and even pictures of what happened in their child's classroom that day.

The presenters are three outstanding master educators. After the workshop, participants agreed and marveled at how these women so seamlessly provide meaningful education to their students and parents.

Now if only I could figure out how to use those "QR codes!"

Kathi Houtcooper, Alpha Iota

Fun In the West – Follow the Sun!

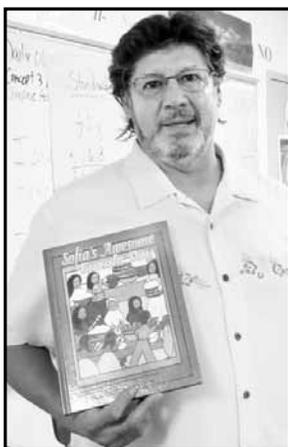
This workshop was an all-too-brief shared a synopsis from her friend and Arizona Sold Its Sunshine: The Histori- was mesmerized by the varying tales ghosts and their wild beginnings dat- the more obscure hotels were Ash- modeled after the California Missions; in the 1920's which allowed Native and probably most fascinating was built in 1898 which burned down three times and was rebuilt three times. Finally, it was built out of brick! Some of the more well-known hotels still operating today that Ptyuac shared were the Monte Vista in Flagstaff, a former hospital now known as the Jerome Grand in Jerome, El Tovar hotel at the Grand Canyon and the Hassayampa Inn of Prescott. I'm sure all of the attendees could have listened to Ptyuac share more of the fabulous, rich history of the western days of old.



presentation by Virginia Ptyuac, who author Victoria Clark's book "How Cal Hotels of Arizona." The audience of the hotels: their guests, amenities, ing back to the late 1800's. Some of fork's Escalante, built in 1905 and Chinle's Thunderbird Lodge, built American's to sell their wares there; the Conner Hotel in Jerome, originally

Kim Meighan, Beta

LOCAL AUTHOR SHARES HIS WORK



Local author Albert Monreal Quihuis shared some of his stories at Omicron State's Fall Workshop. The Phoenix native and Certified Financial Planner has self-published three books for children. As the oldest of six children, he is very proud of his Mexican heritage and gets his inspiration for his writing from this background. Sofia, named for his mother, is the major character in his three self-published books. His first book, "Sofia's Awesome Tamale Day," won the 2013 Latino Book Award. Quihuis is currently working on his fourth book from which he read excerpts to get the audience's opinions/suggestions. He visits schools to read his books and to motivate children by telling them about his background. Ultimately his goal is to become an independent publisher. Albert's books are available online at www.Amazon.com and his email address is aquihuis@msn.com.

Shauna Patton, Alpha Iota



Saroj Jagernauth (Alpha Iota) shows attendees how to determine if they are hydrated sufficiently

Eat Your Way to Good Health

Humans love food! Food surrounds us, and we need it to survive. But how can we make sure we are eating to improve our health and not destroying it? Patricia Rendon (Lambda) and Saroj Jagernauth (Alpha Iota) presented practical and tasty ways to "Eat Your Way to Good Health" in their Fall Workshop presentation.

Rendon discussed eating mindfully. Chew food well before swallowing, take time to eat, notice what times of day are best for you to eat and notice how your body reacts. She reminded us that there are many things in life we have no control over, but what we eat and how we eat are two things we can control.

Jagernauth offered three tips to eating more healthfully:

- Eat a bowl of salad every day – this helps you incorporate lots of fiber and fruits and vegetables into your diet.
- Hydrate, hydrate, hydrate! Water keeps our bodily systems functioning.
- Eat in moderation.

She also suggested incorporating the following spices into our diets: turmeric, ginger, cinnamon, and cardamom. All offer many healthy benefits. Thanks to the presenters for showing us that by making different food choices you can enrich your diet and make eating more satisfying.

Kay Manship Wilson, Alpha

Cyber Bullying: Behind the Keys

Masquerading (using fake IDs to befriend a person online), *outing* (posting personal information), *cyber stalking*, and *flanning* (trading insults electronically), are just a few of the new words introduced to those who attended the presentation on Cyber Bullying at Omicron State's Fall Workshop. Cyber bullying is defined as any harassment that occurs through the use of cell phones, computers, and tablets as well as communication tools such as social media sites, text messages, chat, and websites to intentionally harm others through hostile behavior. Examples of cyber bullying include mean text messages or emails, rumors sent by email or posted on social networking sites, and embarrassing pictures, videos, websites, or fake profiles.



Yvonne Lawson speaks about the dangers of bullying.

The presenter, graduate student Yvonne Lawson, shared many of the negative results of our ever increasing electronic world of "Cyber Bullying". Cyber bullying has hit an all-time high affecting our youngest electronic enthusiasts the hardest. Over 4400 teenage deaths occur each year as a result of cyber bullying.

Students that are victims of cyber bullying are more likely to participate in high risk behavior, withdraw from public activities and events, display low self-esteem and are also usually experiencing in-person bullying. To protect our youth from cyber bullying "Safe Teens.com" suggested the following guidelines for electronic devices usage:

- Don't respond**
- Don't retaliate**
- Save the evidence.**
- Talk to a trusted adult**
- Block the bully**
- Be civil.**
- Don't be a bully**
- Be a friend, not a bystander.**

Deltrina D.Grimes, Iota



Susan Halliday (Alpha Delta), Jan Rosenberg (Nu) and Jean Davis (Alpha Rho) help chapters with their SAPs.

Defining Strategic Action Plans

What is a Strategic Action Plan? Why do chapters and state organizations need one? A very smart person (Henry Kissinger) said, "If you don't know where you are going, every road will get you nowhere." A Strategic Action Plan (SAP) is a road map to somewhere. Where? That is each chapter's decision.

Work on chapter SAPs began last spring. Each chapter was to have completed three goals already reviewed and embraced by chapter members in time for the 2014 Fall Workshop.

As some chapters needed more time, the workshop session helped the chapter presidents finish the work. If the chapter had finished the goals, attendees were invited to read the SAP from other chapters to see what road other chapters had chosen.

The SAP should be referred to during the year just as a road map should be during a trip. Every chapter should know where it is going so it chooses the road to somewhere.

Sherry Alimi, Eta

2014 Media Award Winner Inspires Members

Omicron State's 2014 Media Award Winner, Kim Covington gave an inspiring and motivational talk at the Fall Workshop.

Covington said she has been given a blessing to do something that she loves. Television news is something that she has wanted to do since she was a little girl. She has been an anchor, reporter and education advocate for KPNX 12 News for nearly ten years. She said that she would go anywhere and do just about anything to tell a great and almost always emotional story.

She is passionate about serving children and learning new things and feels so honored because television news gives her that opportunity.

Covington tells the students she speaks to that they should not be afraid to use their talents, reach for their dreams and set high expectations for themselves.

Covington grew up in East St. Louis, where she and her family were often told dreams like theirs could not be reached. She tells the youth to not believe in the negative, but to remember all dreams are possible. Just as her family taught her to dream big, Covington encouraged teach-



Kim Covington continues to inspire members at the Fall Workshop.

ers to continue to dream big and change the lives we touch each day.

Darby Downs, Alpha Rho



**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE
OMICRON STATE BYLAWS
AND STANDING RULES**

The following changes in the Omicron State Bylaws and Standing Rules are being submitted and recommended by the Rules Committee and will be voted on at the **2015** State Convention.

Procedure for Omicron State Bylaws/Standing Rules Amendments:

Article XII Amendments, Section A.

These bylaws may be amended by the General Assembly at any state convention in odd-numbered years by two-thirds (2/3) vote, provided notice of proposed amendments shall have been published no later than the winter issue of **THE SAHUARO**.

#1. Article III Membership, Section B-3, **which now reads:**

3. An honorary member shall be a woman not eligible for active membership who has rendered notable service to education or to women and is elected to honorary membership in recognition of such service.

BE AMENDED BY: inserting The initiation fee for state and chapter honorary members shall be \$ 49.50 (U.S.).

IF ADOPTED WOULD READ: (changes are underlined)

3. An honorary member shall be a woman not eligible for active membership who has rendered notable service to education or to women and is elected to honorary membership in recognition of such service. The initiation fee for state and chapter honorary members shall be \$ 49.50 (U.S.).

FISCAL IMPACT: A one-time reduction of \$.50 for each new honorary member.

RATIONALE: Honorary membership is considered a gift. Congressional and government employees are not permitted to receive gifts of over \$ 50. State and International governing documents need to be aligned.

SUBMITTED AND RECOMMENDED BY: the State Rules Committee

#2. Article VIII Committees, Section B – 8a Rules (Society Business), **which now reads:**

The committee shall consist of the five (5) immediate past state presidents who are able to serve. The senior member shall serve as chairman.

BE AMENDED BY: striking ~~The senior member shall serve as chairman~~ and adding: No member shall serve as chairman more than one biennium. The chairmanship shall continue in chronological order so that each past state president serves as chairman once.

IF ADOPTED WOULD READ: (changes are underlined)

The committee shall consist of the five (5) immediate past state presidents who are able to serve. No member shall serve as chairman more than one biennium. The chairmanship shall continue in chronological order so that each past state president serves as chairman once.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

RATIONALE: This keeps the continuity of the line of chairmen intact, while still providing for additional members on the committee as needed.

SUBMITTED AND RECOMMENDED BY: the State Rules Committee

#3. Article IV Finance, Section A1, **which now reads:**

Annual dues shall be paid by active and reserve members.

BE AMENDED BY: adding If a chapter provides the International dues and Scholarship fees for a member, the State Executive Committee may waive the state dues upon written request.

IF ADOPTED WOULD READ: (changes are underlined)

Annual dues shall be paid by active and reserve members. If a chapter provides the International dues and Scholarship fees for a member, the state executive committee may waive the state dues upon written request.

FISCAL IMPACT: up to \$25 per request

RATIONALE: Some members go through hard times and some members reach a point where they can't make decisions for themselves. A chapter may decide to assist a member to keep the member in good standing.

SUBMITTED BY: Marge Threewit, Alpha Beta

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY: the State Rules Committee

#4. Standing Rule, Section F2 (Society Mission and Purposes) C, 2b) which now reads:

Endowment Scholarship(s) shall be awarded when a designated amount of interest has accrued for the awarding of an individual endowment scholarship(s).

BE AMENDED BY: inserting and donations ~~has~~ have

IF ADOPTED WOULD READ: (changes are underlined)

Endowment Scholarship(s) shall be awarded when a designated amount of interest and donations have accrued for the awarding of an individual endowment scholarship(s).

FISCAL IMPACT: None

RATIONALE: All endowments have principal. New donations could be used for scholarships rather than added to principal. It is difficult to generate interest, but donations would allow more scholarships to be given.

SUBMITTED BY: Marge Threewit, Alpha Beta

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY: the State Rules Committee

#5. Standing Rule, Section C. ORGANIZATION (SR), 1, 2, 3 which now reads:

1. Area divisions for Omicron State shall be:

- a. Area I: Gamma, Eta, Tau, Alpha Eta, Alpha Chi,
- b. Area II: Beta, Omicron, Rho, Sigma, Phi, Chi, Omega, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Beta, Alpha Delta, Alpha Epsilon, Alpha Iota, Alpha Xi, Alpha Sigma
- c. Area III: Delta, Zeta, Iota, Alpha Zeta
- d. Area IV: Alpha, Lambda, Mu, Nu, Xi, Upsilon, Alpha Rho
- e. Area V: Epsilon, Kappa

2. Unit divisions for Omicron State shall be as follows:

- a. Unit 1: Chi, Alpha Delta, Alpha Xi, Alpha Sigma, Alpha Chi
- b. Unit 2: Iota, Mu, Nu, Upsilon, Alpha Rho
- c. Unit 3: Beta, Gamma, Eta, Tau, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Eta
- d. Unit 4: Omicron, Sigma, Omega, Alpha Beta, Alpha Iota
- e. Unit 5: Zeta, Rho, Phi, Alpha Epsilon, Alpha Zeta
- f. Unit 6: Alpha, Delta, Epsilon, Kappa, Lambda, Xi

3. New chapters will be added to the appropriate geographical area and unit.

BE AMENDED BY: removing the above schedule and adding the following:

1. Area divisions for Omicron State shall be:

- a. Area I: Gamma, Eta, Tau, Alpha Eta, Alpha Chi,
- b. Area II: Beta, Omicron, Rho, Phi, Chi, Omega, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Beta, Alpha Delta, Alpha Epsilon, Alpha Iota, Alpha Xi, Alpha Sigma
- c. Area III: Delta, Zeta, Iota, Alpha Zeta
- d. Area IV: Alpha, Lambda, Nu, Xi, Upsilon, Alpha Rho
- e. Area V: Epsilon, Kappa

2. Unit divisions for Omicron State shall be as follows:

- a. Unit 1: Beta, Rho, Chi, Omega, Alpha Beta, Alpha Delta, Alpha Epsilon, Alpha Sigma
- b. Unit 2: Zeta, Iota, Nu, Upsilon, Alpha Zeta, Alpha Rho
- c. Unit 3: Gamma, Eta, Tau, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Eta, Alpha Iota, Alpha Xi, Alpha Chi

- d. Unit 4: Alpha, Delta, Epsilon, Kappa, Lambda, Xi
 3. New chapters will be added to the appropriate geographical area and unit.

IF ADOPTED WOULD READ: as above

FISCAL IMPACT: none

RATIONALE: Disbanded chapters need to be taken out of the rotation.

SUBMITTED BY: Ad Hoc Committee to determine areas/units

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY: the State Rules Committee

#6. Standing Rule, Section H.2 MEETINGS – GENERAL, which now reads:

A state convention rotation schedule shall be assigned to units:

Unit 1	2012 Convention	2018 Convention
Unit 2	2013 Convention	2019 Convention
Unit 3	2014 Convention	2020 Convention
Unit 4	2015 Convention	2021 Convention
Unit 5	2016 Convention	2022 Convention
Unit 6	2017 Convention	2023 Convention

BE AMENDED BY: removing the above schedule and adding the following

A state convention rotation schedule shall be assigned to units:

Unit 1	2016 Convention	2020 Convention
Unit 2	2017 Convention	2021 Convention
Unit 3	2018 Convention	2022 Convention
Unit 4	2019 Convention	2023 Convention

IF ADOPTED WOULD READ: as above

FISCAL IMPACT: none

RATIONALE: Disbanded chapters need to be taken out of the rotation. Dates need to be revised.

SUBMITTED BY: AD HOC Committee to determine areas/units

RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL BY: the State Rules Committee

Spotlight Award Information

What is this award?

This is an annual award given to a member of DKG recognizing her for her accomplishments through contributions to the community and/or education OUTSIDE of DKG projects or affiliations. Specific examples are given on the nomination form.

Who does the nomination?

The nomination form, found on the Omicron website and given to all chapter presidents and first vice presidents, may be completed by anyone in the chapter. The committee requests that only one nominee per chapter be submitted.

How difficult is the nomination form to complete?

The nomination form has a page of general information about the nominee and the chapter contact information. You are asked to attach a typed brief synopsis (limited to one page) describing your nominee's accomplishments

as an educator or community member. Two electronic photographs are required. The first should be the nominee in a setting mentioned in the nomination. The second needs to be a portrait shot of the nominee. It is suggested that you use a cell phone and email the photos electronically. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

When is the deadline for submission?

The completed application form along with the electronic pictures needs to be emailed by March 15th to Renate Krompasky at renate.krompasky@aol.com

How will I know if my application has been received?

Chapter presidents will be notified when the application is received. If the application is incomplete, you will be given an opportunity to complete the application (including sending the electronic pictures) as long as it meets the March 15th deadline.

When will we know if our nominee will receive the Spotlight Award?

Within two weeks of the deadline, the chapter president and nominee will receive notification if the nominee will be receiving the Spotlight Award. The nominee will receive an electronic or written invitation to attend the state conference luncheon. She will be asked to RSVP. Each Spotlight Award recipient will be featured at the luncheon and will receive a certificate. Additionally the winners will be recognized in the Saguaro Publication.

If I have questions, whom should I contact?

You should contact Renate Krompasky at renate.krompasky@aol.com. You may call her at (520) 795-2621 or (520) 850-5470; her mailing address is 3943 E. Paseo Dorado Tucson, Arizona 85711.

Renate Krompasky, Nu

Show Me the Money!

Scholarships, endowments, grants--all are intended to help in various ways. Your state scholarship is provided each year by using the \$1.00 fee you pay with your membership dues.

Endowments have been established by funds provided in the name of the individual. We have six state endowments. They are Anna Brown, Alice Butts, Alice Lang/Kay Fischer, Isadore Munger, Phyllis Steinman/WINGS and Kathryn Young. Both state scholarships and endowments are given for advanced education degrees, training or certification.

Grants are often given by chapters for specific purposes such as classroom supplies or projects and tend to be for smaller amounts. For the purposes of reporting, money given to members is called scholarships and money awarded to non-members is called grants.

Did you know that all of these funds can receive contributions from you, your chapter or any other source (such as a relative of the member in whose name the fund is given). For example, Alpha chapter budgets a small amount each year for the Alice Lang/Kay Fischer Endowment and also sends money to remember members when they pass away.

Be sure to encourage qualified members to apply for scholarships each year. The state has money to award.

Judy Vinson, Alpha Chapter

Lambda Chapter Holds Holiday Tea and Bake Sale

On Saturday, Dec. 6, members of Lambda Chapter and invited guests gathered for their

annual holiday tea at President Denise Durazo's home. Instead of a silent auction to raise money for the grant-in-aide fund, members decided to offer baked goods for sale and a few hand-crafted items, such as aprons, bowl blankets and knitted items for the money to help support five high school students

The new format was declared a smashing success; everyone dashed to the array of goodies and made their purchases before eating, visiting and finally singing carols to put a festive stamp on the gathering. It was a wonderful way to usher in the holiday season and may be the start of a new tradition for Lambda.

Shelley Smith, Lambda

Omega Chapter Gives a Pounding

For their December meeting, the ladies of Omega Chapter held a pound party. Each member brought a wrapped gift that equaled a pound of "something". Gifts were auctioned off with the proceeds helping to fund their grant-in-aid for next year.

Omega ladies got very creative with this challenge. Gifts ranged from a pound of M&Ms or other candy to a pound of Fairytale Brownies, from soup to nuts, and from decorate-your-own gingerbread men to a collection of art supplies. Other auction items included candles, appliquéd kitchen towels for each month, note cards, a keyfinder, coffee and server, artificial flowers, a coin purse, and a festive fascinator.

It was a unique way to raise funds and have fun with fellow sisters. In the end, the chapter had raised over \$300 for its grant-in-aid.

Shirley Johnson, Omega treasurer

Alpha Chapter News

Alpha members have been busy since September. We have started an Adopt-a-Teacher program, where early career teachers let us know what supplies and/or help they may need. Alpha members then adopt one of the teachers. Ten new teachers have been assisted so far.

In September, Alpha hosted a presentation by Pam Simon (Alpha) on "Everytown for Gun Safety," a group that was formed after the January 8, 2011, shooting at the Safeway in Tucson. We also joined with Xi chapter members and visited the Oro Valley Hospital, which has a wonderful display of art. We attended the play "The Full Monty" at the University of Arizona theater for our December event. Our January meeting featured Dr. David Lucas, who gave a presentation on the neuroplasticity of the human brain and ADHD. In February we visited Reid Park Zoo for a behind-the-scenes tour with our Alpha Rho sisters.

We will also have an Outstanding Early Educators Brunch in April. Marana District principals are asked to nominate one early career educator from their school, and Alpha invites them and their principals to brunch, where they are given an award, and gifts from and membership to Treasures for Teachers, where they can get school supplies.

Carolyn Risch, Alpha Chapter President



LITTLE DRESSES FOR AFRICA

Members of Alpha Alpha, Alpha Beta and Alpha packed and sent 173 dresses to the **Little Dresses For Africa** charity in Brownstown, MI (www.littledressesforafrica.org). Thanks to those chapters who participated in creating dresses out of pillowcases and/or yardage. Thanks to Alpha Alpha and Alpha Delta for their contributions towards postage for sending the dresses on to Africa (\$2.00 a dress is the suggested amount). Postcards were received thanking us for our support and stating, "Together, we really will make a difference, one little dress at a time! We're not just sending dresses, we're sending hope." At the 2014 Fall Workshop, 75 dresses were turned in, and pillowcases were donated by Alpha Xi for making dresses at our Creative Arts Retreat.

Lori Good, Alpha Alpha



Ann Huber (Xi), Carmen Wendt (Chi), Alice Reule (Alpha Delta) are part of the K.A.R.E. (Keep Active, Reach Everyone) Team. The team has been visiting chapters, bringing state news and offering support and encouragement.

Attendees Enjoy the Creative Arts Retreat

Chaired by Denise Crockett (Kappa), the 2015 Creative Arts Retreat held January 31-February 1, 2015, at *Spirit in the Desert* in Cave Creek was a whirlwind of activity. Crafters made stained glass stars, fused glass pendants, and embossed metal tags. Card-makers were able to try their hands at iris paper folding and learned to make cards from tissues or paper napkins. The sewing machine corner was busy all day while members and guests sewed *Little Dresses for Africa* and quilted hot pads. Participants also made fabric flowers, decorated silk scarves, painted pots, and decorated journals. Without knitting needles, ladies could even knit a scarf using just their hands and arms. Writers created their own scenes or characters. Four tables of projects offered independent work, including decorated gift bags, paper purse candy covers, and an origami passenger pigeon project. Relaxation techniques, paper plate dancing, ribbon dancing, Chinese joint movements, and a labyrinth walk allowed participants to connect with their bodies and souls. Saturday evening ended with a readers' theater production of *Possum Come A-Knockin'*. There were so many projects to choose from that no one could do everything. Discussion about the next Creative Arts Retreat is already underway. When it is planned, give yourself the gift of attending the fun-filled creative event.

Donna Betz, guest



Denise Crockett (Kappa), Arts Chairman outlines the events to attendees.



Lori Good (Alpha Alpha) helps Teta Minuzzo (Illinois) make a "Little Dress for Africa"

Below, Sally Switzer (Rho) plays "Possum" during the evening event.



Above, attendees participate in group activities led by Gloria Day (Alpha).



Connie Myren (Lamda) and Sue Ellen Brahs (Rho) take their parts seriously.





Let Your Light Shine

2015 Omicron State Convention • Radisson Suites Tucson
 6555 E. Speedway Blvd. • Tucson, AZ • 520-721-7100 (use code Delta Kappa Gamma)
 April 24-26, 2015

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

HOTEL REGISTRATION IS SEPARATE (SEE ABOVE)

PLEASE FILL IN FORM COMPLETELY!

Last Name: _____ First Name: (Badge) _____ Chapter: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Current International Office Chair Title, if applicable: _____

Current State Officer or State Committee Chair Title, if applicable: _____

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| • Past State President | Y | N | • 25 Year Member (1990-2015) | Y | N |
| • Chapter President (2014-2016) | Y | N | • 50 Year Member (1965-2015) | Y | N |
| • 1 st Omicron State Convention | Y | N | • 50+ Year Member (1964-2015) | Y | N |
| • Chapter Charter Member | Y | N | • Attained a PHD, EdD or Nat'l Board Cert.
(during 2014-2016 biennium) | 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.**

EVENTS	ATTENDING	COST PER PERSON	AMOUNT DUE
REGISTRATION FEE			
Attending 1 day only Fri. ____ or Sat. _____ or Sun. _____		\$20.00	_____
Attending 2 or 3 days			
POSTMARKED BEFORE APRIL 12		\$50.00	_____
POSTMARKED from APRIL 13-20		\$60.00	_____
Friday 1 p.m. – Philabaum Studio Tour	Y	N	\$10
Friday Night Reception	Y	N	NO CHARGE
Saturday Breakfast Buffet (To be paid separately at the time of the meal: \$10 - \$3 hotel coupon = \$7.)			_____
Saturday Birthday Luncheon*	Y	N	\$20.00
Saturday Rose Banquet*	Y	N	\$37.00
Sunday Lei of Friendship Breakfast*	Y	N	\$21.00
Chorus Participation	Y	N	NO CHARGE

Guest's Name (If applicable) _____, Event attendance and fees:

Fri. night(@\$15) _____, Sat. Luncheon(@\$20) _____, Sat. Banquet(@\$37) _____, Sun. Breakfast(@\$21) _____ = _____

TOTAL _____

*SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS (Please explain): _____

PUBLICITY: 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: Y N

Make checks payable to: **OMICRON STATE ANNUAL CONVENTION**

Mail check and completed form by **April 12** to: Mary Ann Liddle
 11272 N. Via Rancho Naranjo
 Oro Valley, AZ 85737-7222
 e-mail: mayne1@comcast.net
 520-797-9084

.....NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 15th.....

Delta Kappa Gamma-Omicron State
4315 N. Pontatoc Road
Tucson, AZ 85718-6766

Executive Board Meeting Highlights

The 2014 Fall Workshop Executive Board Meeting held at Metro Tech, Oct. 18, 2014, Phoenix, AZ, was opened by President Rachel Wear and attended by more than 125 members. Peggy Scott (Alpha Epsilon) paid tribute to Past State President Kathryn Whalen (1983-1985) followed by a moment of silence. Following the lead of the International Convention in Indianapolis of highlighting chapter activities, Gamma and Alpha Chi chapters shared what their chapters do. Peggy Scott and Sally Switzer shared the history and results of the WINGS project, one of Omicron State's most successful projects. Gloria Day (Alpha), co-chair of the 2015 State Convention, invited members to attend the convention which will be held in Tucson, April 24 - 26. Another successful Omicron State project, Collaborative Connections, was extended through 2018.

Kathi Houtcopper, Alpha Iota

Play the Educational Excellence Game

How many times do teachers have their students play games to learn? Not often enough according to Renate Krompasky (Nu) and the ladies who presented the breakout session Educational Excellence at the Fall Workshop. They put together several board games to test the members' knowledge of DKG and its structure and projects, and then gave everyone time for learning. All were reminded that however long they have been in DKG, there is always something to learn and usually a fun way to do so. There was also time to hear about ideas that chapters have to promote these projects. Attendees left the workshop feeling enthused and encouraged to go home and share the information.

Ruth Wilmot, Iota

THE ARIZONA SAHUARO

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Fall Issue	August 15, 2015
Winter Issue	January 15, 2016

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Jackie Trujillo

PRINTING

JC Printing



Renate Krompasky (Nu) demonstrates "The Educational Excellence Game"

Dates to Remember

April 24-26, 2015

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

July 19-24, 2015

Southwest Regional Conference
Hyatt Regency
Wichita, Kansas

October 24, 2015

Omicron State Fall Workshop
Metro Tech High School
1900 West Thomas Road
Phoenix, Arizona

April 22-24, 2016

Omicron State Convention
Embassy Suites Hotel
2577 W. Greenway Rd. • Phoenix, Arizona

July 5-9, 2016

International Conference
Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee

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