

# THE NEW OREGON TRAIL

An Official Publication of  
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for Key Women Educators  
Oregon State Organization



**Mission:** *The Society promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.*

**Vision:** *Leading women educators, impacting education worldwide.*



Vol. 45, No. 1

August 2016

## FALL WORKSHOP FOR CHAPTER OFFICERS

**Saturday, September 17, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**Salem Public Library**

**585 Liberty Street, S.E., Salem, Oregon**

NOTE: Parking is 75 cents/hour, so carpool!

### Directions

From I-5 North: Take Exit 253 (OR 22 West/Santiam Hwy., S.E.

Continue to the library on Liberty. OR Take the Commercial St. Exit and follow Commercial, turning slightly right onto Liberty.

From I-5 South: Take Exit 260A (OR 99E Business South/Salem Expressway in Keizer) Follow it to the library on Liberty.

From East or West of I-5: Take Hwy. 22 into Salem. It will cross Liberty. From the West, turn right. From the East, turn left.



**Are you ready for the 3 R's?**

- 1. Recruit**
- 2. Retain**
- 3. Reinstate**

**INSIDE**

- 2 President's Page
- 3 State Board
- 3 Fall Workshop Agenda & Registration Form
- 4 New Website!!
- 4 2016 Int'l Convention
- 9 PAC Brunch Info
- 13 Articles & Chapter Chatter
- 20 President Cindy's Schedule

Pictures are scattered throughout.

**INSIDE**

## PRESIDENT'S PAGE



*Dr. Cindy Ryan, President  
Oregon State Organization*

Dear Alpha Rho Sisters,

As summer ends, I feel the anticipation of a new school year approaching. Families are shopping for school clothes and materials, teachers are in their classrooms preparing for students, and everyone is enjoying the last days of their summer. I love this time of year!

A special thank you goes to Alpha Rho Sisters who attended International Convention in Nashville. Although I was looking forward to attending, an illness kept me in Oregon. Without hesitation, our amazing members stepped up and led the way. **Kelly McIntyre**, Oregon Vice-President, attended meetings and events that I wasn't able to, and others sent video clips, photos, and texts to make me feel included. It was definitely not fun to miss International, but it was made much better by the kindness and generosity of Oregon Sisters who shared their experiences with me, as well as with you in the *Trail*.

Thank you to **Grace Pitzer**, our State Webmaster, who has taken time this summer to re-design our state website. Please take some time to check it out at [dkgoregon.weebly.com](http://dkgoregon.weebly.com) It looks fantastic!

As you plan your chapter programs, please put the State Fall Workshop in Salem on your schedule. We want **all** chapter officers to attend this fun and educational training. Chapter officers will meet with State officers who share their position (secretary, treasurer, etc.), so bring your ideas and questions to share. We will have plagiarism training and a group session on *Strengthening the Chapter* with Cindy and Kelly. Good food, laughter, and fun will be sprinkled through the day, so come to enjoy it.

*Strengthening the Chapter* will focus on ways to strengthen local chapters, retain our current membership, reach out to reinstate former members, and recruit new members. Take advantage of this training and time with others from around the State. We are going to *Catch the Wave*, roll up our sleeves, and get to work. See you in September!

For everyone headed back to work, I wish you a wonderful school year. My wish for you is a few butterflies in your tummy, a smooth transition into the classroom for your students, laughter, and few tears.

For those of you who are retired, I have heard that those butterflies may still make an appearance this time of year. Although you will not officially be going back to school, you are a teacher, and that muscle memory of *back to school* is still there. I wish you a beautiful fall. Many of you will spend this time in schools, mentoring, visiting, and supporting working teachers. Your continued work is so appreciated by all those on the receiving end. Sisters, you spend countless hours supporting children, families, and each other. You are all my heroes.

*Cindy*

## 2015 - 2017 ALPHA RHO STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ideas? Questions? Concerns?  
Comments? Contact us!

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# Alpha Rho State Fall Workshop



**Saturday, September 17, 2016**  
9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**Salem Public Library**  
585 Liberty St., S.E.  
Salem, Oregon

**This is a workshop for Chapter Officers.**

**Although others are welcome, chapter officers are strongly encouraged to attend. There will be a special gift for the first 60 attending.**

## Agenda

- 9:00 – 9:20 Registration and continental breakfast
- 9:20 – 9:30 Welcome
- 9:30 – 10:20 Marie Mueller on *Plagiarism & DKG*
- 10:20 – 10:30 Break
- 10:30 – 11:25 *Strengthening the Chapter* with Dr. Cindy Ryan and Kelly McIntyre
- 11:30 – 12:30 Individual trainings: Presidents, Vice-Presidents, Treasurers, Secretaries
- 12:30 – 1:15 Lunch and state book club gathering (Jodi Picoult, 19 minutes)
- 1:15 – 1:45 DKG updates
- 1:45 – 3:00 2017 State Convention meeting with District Coordinators and District 2 members

Cost: **\$20** (includes continental breakfast and lunch)  
Parking: **\$.75/hour if parking in the library parking structure--about \$5.00**  
(Carpool and bring quarters.)

Return the completed registration form below by **September 8, 2016**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**DKG Chapter Officer** (please circle) **President** **Vice-President** **Treasurer** **Secretary**

**Enclose this registration and \$20 check or cash. Make checks to: Alpha Rho State.**

**Mail to:**

Jill Snyder  
2465 Timothy Dr., N.W.  
Salem, OR 97304



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS  
**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA**

## WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE

**[dkgoregon.weebly.com](http://dkgoregon.weebly.com)**

Oregon was one of the early states to have a website. It was designed by Grace Pitzer in 2001 and maintained by her. Others took over while she was the state's editor for eight years. She then resumed the webmaster job and has maintained it ever since.

This summer Grace re-designed our state website using web-based Weebly.com, a free website builder and hosting company. This will make it easier to maintain the site, and we will no longer need to pay a fee for hosting on the International server.

Since the site is new, please bookmark it so you can have quick access. It is also designed to work smoothly on all mobile devices, so you can look for information easily on smart phones and tablets. If you find mistakes or have suggestions for additions, please contact Grace using the [Contact Us](#) link on the Home page or by an e-mail to [gcpitzer@comcast.net](mailto:gcpitzer@comcast.net).

Stock photos are from Pixabay. Photograph sources vary and are listed.  
**Grace Pitzer** graciously photographed the convention and purchased a copy of the official "Oregon" photo for us.  
Many thanks to **Christine Luehring** for excellent proofreading of the Trail drafts again.

## CONVENTION COVERAGE BY THE DAY & BY THE EVENT

### **Kathie Hill: Opening Night Ceremonies:**

Opening night of the 2016 DKG International Convention in Nashville began with an emotional Presentation of the Flags from the 17 represented countries and ended with dancing and singing. In fact, there was a lot of dancing and singing during the week in Music City!



The keynote speaker was Kai Kight, a classically trained violinist since age three, who found renewed energy and freedom when he began writing and playing his own compositions. As he played several of his compositions, he encouraged us to live without regret. Be creative. It is not always necessary to conform. Don't be afraid to "step out of your comfort zone." Recognizing women who have been members for 50+ years, Dr. Connie Hoag, IA, asked us to stretch vertically as well as horizontally. Using a rubber band we each received in our packets as a reminder, Connie encouraged us to grow our chapters not just in number. We also need to stretch our members horizontally to be involved within the chapter and organization.

### **Marietta Kukendahl: Tennessee Night**

At the conclusion of the opening meeting on Tuesday, we were welcomed to Music City USA with "Tennessee Night." Five local musicians regaled us with an hour's performance of country music. A DKG sister from Tennessee said the performance included old time country, traditional country, rock, honky-tonk, and bluegrass, as well as new country music. It took no time before we were up, moving and shaking, and dancing in the aisles. This was just the first of many opportunities to enjoy the music of Nashville.



### **Kathy Martell (Wednesday): General Session II**

The Second General Session was a mixture of committee reports, music, and speakers. Have you ever wondered if there were other organizations with the same philosophy or vision as DKG? At our general session, we found out about one such organization: UNICEF, founded in 1946. Our similar vision is to "advocate for the



protection of children's rights to meet their basic needs and to be able to expand their opportunities through education." In 1998, almost 20 years ago, UNICEF and DKG formed a partnership and developed the Schools for Africa project. With education support, the pathway to clean water and good health will continue in African nations where this partnership is working.

Our keynote person for this session was Mike Figliuolo, author of *One Piece of Paper*. He explained that his book provides a model for real leadership in the real world. He explained four basic aspects of leadership: leading yourself, leading the thinking, leading your people, and maintaining perspective and a balanced life. The fourth basic aspect is the most important. You can't lead others well if you can't set and maintain healthy boundaries for yourself; that includes diet, exercise, balance, and a healthy perspective. The book helps a person take a holistic approach to defining one's personal leadership philosophy.

### **"Be the Change" Luncheon: Grace Pitzer**

"Be the Change" was the motto for the Thursday convention luncheon, mirroring the overriding theme of the gathering in Nashville, TN. In just two hours, the ballroom was converted from chairs to 100+ tables, each set for 12. The room was abuzz as members introduced themselves to their tablemates and learned something about each other while waiting for the program and the delicious food. The 11 Oregon members scattered throughout the room.

Heidi Chadwick (CA) gave the "85 Years and Beyond" challenge, pointing out that, while traditional cultures change slowly, modern cultures change more quickly and that we need to nurture our new members in their modern culture. After a few words from two members of the luncheon sponsors—RBC Wealth Management of Austin, TX—the winner of the DKG Friends of Education Award was announced. This prestigious award was given to The Country Music Hall of Fame for its many educational programs. One program uses local musicians who go into classrooms to work with teachers and students on the art of writing lyrics. The musicians write the music, perform, and record their songs. We heard one of these songs and learned the story of the



student who wrote it. The museum has the Taylor Swift Education Center, allowing 80,000 to participate each year. What an amazing program - well worth the honor we gave them. Eleven members who earned doctoral degrees in the last biennium were honored and four new international scholarships were awarded. One of the special speakers was a Generation X young woman who was a newer member of DKG. She gave an inspiring talk on "Advancing Key Women Educators for Life." She emphasized that we are "Life Long Learners." How true.

### **Sandy Watts (Thursday): 3<sup>rd</sup> General Session**



Lively, heartfelt debates were sparked by the proposed amendments to *International Standing Rules*. Although five amendments were presented, only two passed. One of those passing changed the due dates for nominations and endorsements from October 15 to

September 15. The other amendment that passed will allow abstracts in *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin* to be printed in languages other than English.

We were reminded of our founders and the Seven Purposes by Michigan sisters as they comically raced stick horses across the stage. A narrator read from a script as the race was played out. If our Michigan sisters would share their script, this could be a great Founders' Day presentation at chapter meetings or even at a state convention!

A physical break had us up and moving. We learned an abbreviated line dance to "I've got Friends in Low Places." This was a fun precursor for the night at Wild Horse Saloon.

Oregon's own Karen Shelton, Iota Chapter, made us proud with her uplifting message. Being asked her opinions at the International level and with her voice having been heard and valued, changed her plans in DKG membership and commitment. Karen's well-spoken comments were loudly cheered and applauded by all present, especially by her Oregon sisters!

### **Dr. Bobbie Middaugh: "Call Me Country!"**

Thursday night was a free night at the International Convention, so 500 DKG members donned western outfits and took a short ride on the Opryland bus for a fun evening at Nashville's fabled Wildhorse Saloon. The event included an excellent barbecue buffet, a country



western band, and lots of line dancing, including lessons. The money raised will go to the DKG Educational Foundation to support its many projects. To be able to kick up one's heels and raise money for a good cause at the same time made the event a special one for all.

### **Kathie Hupp (Friday): 4<sup>th</sup> General Session**



At the Fourth General Session, 1633 DKG members were eligible to vote. Reports: Area Representatives, Forums, Educational Foundation Board of Trustees, and Elections Committee.

Dr. Cherie Ward, DC, honored at the "Be the Change" Luncheon for receiving her doctorate, spoke and read her beautiful poem, "By the Rubric of Rhythm They'll Read." Dr. Ward's passionate, powerful words inspired the entire audience. She received a standing ovation.

The Broadway Babes...errr...Ladies, regaled us with Broadway show tunes. Colorful feather boas and exquisite harmonies dazzled the crowd! We were invited to Austin, TX, for the 2018 International Convention with a video showcasing some Austin highlights. Y'all come!

The funny, witty, all-knowing, very excellent, incomparable Judith Viorst was the featured speaker. She entertained the audience with "Life Lessons From Under Eight Till Over Eighty." Ms. Viorst read poems that reflected life lessons she had learned about love, happiness, family, marriage, relationships, etc., regardless of one's age. She was wise, humorous, insightful, and spot-on! She also received a well-deserved standing ovation.

Amber Hedgepeth, SC, gave the closing reflection, encouraging DKG to advance, press on, and gain ground.

### **Kelly McIntyre (Thursday): U.S. Forum**

We were welcomed by the U.S. Forum Chair, Judy Fox Jackson from Tennessee. Following the *Pledge of Allegiance*, the *National Anthem* was played by trumpeter Steven Smartt, PhD, retired, from Vanderbilt University. He exceeded his goal of playing throughout the US 100 times. U.S. ladies chimed in by singing the anthem.



Jessica Donze Black was our guest speaker. She talked to us about the time it takes to pass bills. The Federal govern-

ment gets over 10,000 bills a year. Some of them are as simple as making May National Watermelon Month. She brings this up to help us understand how to cultivate ideas and when the right time is to present these ideas. It takes 6 to 10 years to move ideas. She uses the banana as an analogy. If the banana is not ripe or too ripe, you don't want to eat it. If some topics are presented too soon for people to get behind or if it's too late, there won't be support. You need to know when the opportunity is ripe. You need to be patient and gain bi-partisan support. This is why it takes so long to get some things going. Sometimes it takes a news event to jump start idea, but even the smallest things, like a ribbon cutting, should be made into a big deal.

School lunches started in the 1940s. By the 1980s, lunches were being cut from the Federal budget. By 2000, it went from 1 in 10 to 1 in 3 children struggling with obesity. Vending machines were in the school with *a la carte* service and cheaper, less healthy foods. Wellness policies started to change lunch policy, first at district levels then state and finally back to the Federal level. In 2010 the Federal government set a higher nutrition standard.

Jessica shared with us the three excuses given by policy makers and encouraged us to be persistent and keep talking. (1) time – never enough time but the calendar still has 365 days. (2) money – never enough money but they can reprioritize the numbers; (3) politics – it's always about politics but we can advocate for what we want. We need to be patient and listen to the other side and address their concerns. We need to fight because it's the right thing to do even if we know we won't win . . . this time. However, the seed has been planted.

Jessica ended with a quote from Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

We then went on to the business portion of the US Forum. An update from the National Legislative Seminar held this past March in Washington, DC, was given; 74 DKG members attended. High topic areas were cyberbullying/bullying, human trafficking, high stake testing, women's history museum, gun violence, mental illness, and pay equality. We passed an initiative on bullying/cyberbullying prevention. We shared in groups about these key issues. We voted for new regional representatives. After the vote, Oregon's **Darlene Cook** won Northwest Regional Representative again! We also learned that **a stipend would be available for the 2018 Legislative Seminar to help more members attend.** We ended with a drawing for a U.S. flag that was flown over the Capitol just for this event. The winner was a member from Missouri.

**Karen Shelton: DKGnext! panel member:  
The Presidential Banquet**



*85 years and Beyond: Advancing Key Women for Educators for Life.* This was not only the theme for the 2014-2016 Biennium, but was also the very apparent mood and movement for the 2016 International Convention President's Banquet.

As a fairly new DKG member, I was excited to be present at such a beautiful and moving event. The room was nothing short of beautiful. The evening began with a lovely appetizer and bar hour where all members could gather. I had made so many new friends that I wanted to see before we parted ways at the end of the night that I kept mingling until the doors to the banquet hall opened.

We began the ceremony with a moving speech from Jean Gray. She spoke eloquently of how we must never stop changing and growing. That change is a natural evolution of life and it must continue if we are to thrive. I was moved to hear how amazing the Delta Kappa Gamma Chorus was. They performed lovely songs and were dazzling both in sound and appearance on stage.

Sara Sweeney, a DKGnext! member shared with the group what DKG meant to her. To Sara, DKG means being a servant leader, a mentor, and a friend to DKG sisters.

The state presidents were announced, followed by the installation of the new officers and regional directors. Carolyn Pitman shared with us stories of her family, her goals, and her vision for the future of Delta Kappa Gamma. She quoted Vince Lombardi by saying "Making it work is a commitment to the greater good, not the individual." Ms. Pitman's theme for the next biennium is *The Butterfly Effect*. The analogy is that the movement of a butterfly's wing can create a ripple effect, similar to a stone being cast into water. The effects go far beyond our present and into a future that we want to share. This is her vision for the future of DKG.

As a first time international convention attendee, you can bet on seeing me at the 2018 Delta Kappa Gamma international convention in Austin, Texas. I had an amazing time!

**Darlene Cook (Saturday): General Session V**

International President Dr. Lyn Schmid opened the 5<sup>th</sup> and final general meeting on Saturday, July 9. The convention treasurer announced that nearly \$25,000 had

been collected for the International Emergency Fund. The emergency fund came into existence in 1948 when DKG members contributed \$3,000 after a flood destroyed Vanport, Oregon. Any member who sustains a major loss from a natural disaster may apply for a \$500 award from the emergency fund.



Judy Fox Jackson, US Forum 2014-2016 Chair, announced election results for the US Forum Committee. Carmela DeMarco (NJ) was elected chair for the 2016-2018 biennium. Regional representatives are Northeast: Barbara Bostwick-Quinn (NY); Northwest: Darlene Cook (OR); Southeast: Candace Martin (AR); and Southwest: Kathy Davis (OK).

Under new business, Dr. Carolyn Rants, International President 2008-2010 and chair of the 2012-2014 Ad-Hoc Election Process Committee, presented a motion regarding the election of international Society leaders. At the 2014 international convention, a majority of members in attendance approved amendments to the Constitution to include an electronic voting option to elect international society leaders. However, a two-thirds vote was required to pass the amendments. As there was still a concern among members that the process for voting had not been resolved, Dr Rants brought forth the following motion: as chair of the committee, she moved that a review of the work of the 2012-2014 Ad-Hoc Elections Process Committee be conducted, and proposed amendments be prepared to enable the 2018 international convention to consider the election of international society leaders by one of the following voting methods: (a.) All DKG members attending the convention; (b.) One member one vote by an electronic method. The motion passed.

Nita Scott, membership services administrator, reported on the DKG--Girl Scouts collaboration. Nita noted that many chapters are building relationships with other organizations in the local community to accomplish common goals. This not only engages members, but also promotes DKG to all who are involved. One such alliance is with the Girl Scouts. By working with DKG members, Girl Scouts can earn a special patch. Activities required for the patch center around the Society's seven purposes. Shared projects and activities help to strengthen intergenerational connections, and provide an excellent avenue for DKG members to impact the lives of young women and to grow the leaders of tomorrow.

Natalye Paquin, Chief Transformation Officer for the Girl Scouts of America, leads the GSUSA Office of Strategy and Investment. In her remarks Natalye noted the similari-

ties between our organizations: (1) in our purposes: to promote personal growth and genuine fellowship, to encourage participation in our world society, and to inspire women to take the lead; (2) to our founders, Dr. Annie Webb Blanton (DKG) and Juliette Gordon Low (Girl Scouts). She shared statistics of women in leadership positions, reporting that the percentage of those who had been Girl Scouts was significantly higher. When convention attendees were asked if they had been or are currently working with the Girl Scouts, many stood in affirmation. Natalye emphasized that young girls are ready to work together and with adult mentors, striving to reach their highest potential. In fact, they are not only ready; they are BORN READY!

The fifth general session ended with the retiring of flags. Tennessee Girl Scouts served as escorts.



The Portland area chapters of  
**Delta Kappa Gamma**  
invite you to join us  
for our annual Fall Brunch

Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>  
Multnomah Athletic Club

Doors open at 9:30  
Event begins at 9:45

Program:



For ticket information contact  
Jean O'Neil  
503.653.1332

Cost: \$25.00



**The Gaylord Opryland Resort--This is the atrium, only one of many classy venues within the resort.**

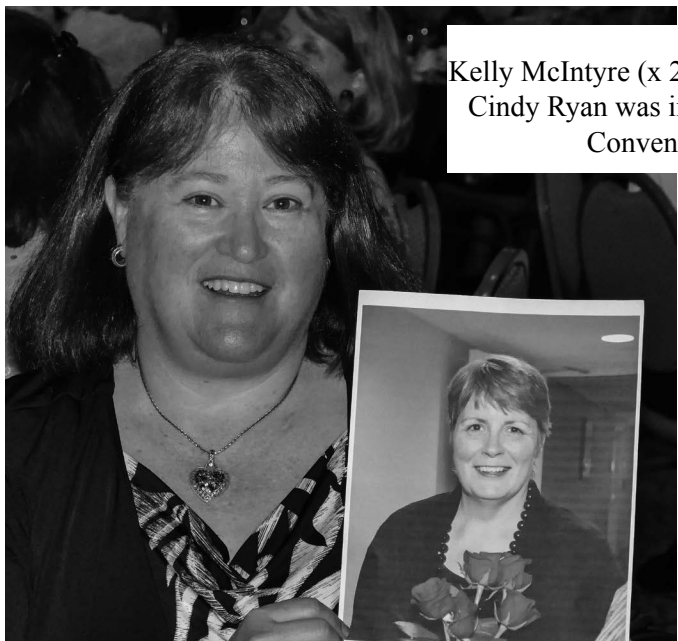






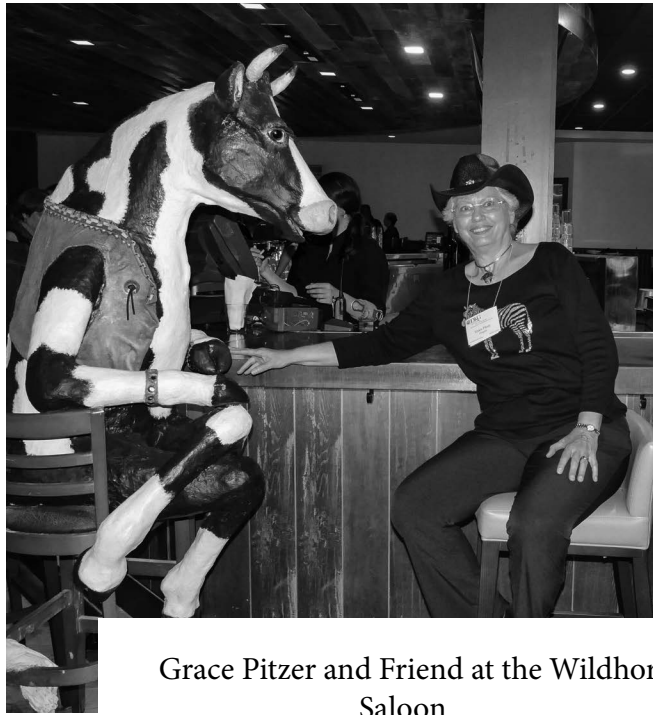
**OREGON CONVENTIONEERS, L to R**

**Rear:** Kathie Hill, Grace Pitzer, Karen Shelton, Marietta Kukendahl, Kathie Hupp, Darlene Cook  
**Front:** Sandy Watts, Kelly McIntyre, Cindy Ryan's photo, Kathy Martell, Madaline Lapp, Bobbie Middaugh

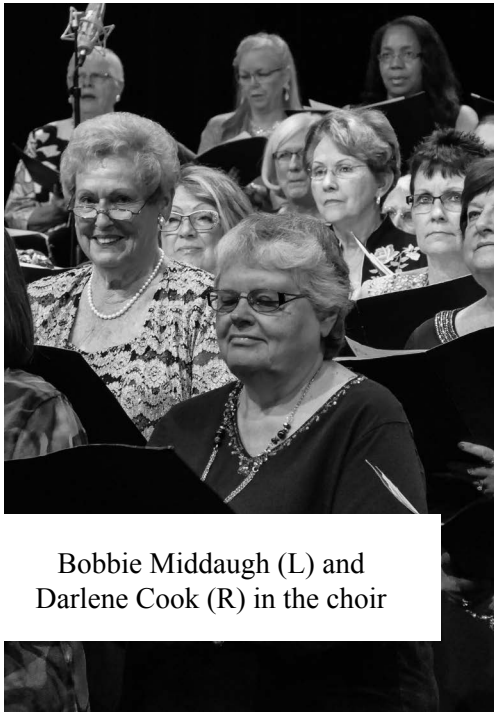




Darlene Cook, taking some notes



Grace Pitzer and Friend at the Wildhorse Saloon



Bobbie Middaugh (L) and Darlene Cook (R) in the choir



Karen Shelton (L) Oregon, & Michelle Pittman, Texas, co-presenters on *Marketing Your Chapter*



Madaline Lapp, Presenting



L to R: Darlene Cook, Kathie Hill, Marietta Kukendahl, Sandy Watts, Kathie Hupp, Grace Pitzer, Kathy Martell, and Kelly McIntyre at the Wildhorse Saloon.



L to R--Standing: Bobbie Middaugh, Karen Shelton, Kathy Martell, Kathie Hill  
 L to R--Seated: **???**, Kathie Hupp, & Sandy Watts



L to R: Kelly McIntyre (& “Cindy”), Bobbie Middaugh, Darlene Cook, Madaline Lapp, Grace Pitzer, Kathy Martell



L to R: Kathie Hill, Sandy Watts, Karen Shelton, Marietta Kukendahl, & Kathie Hupp

## SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE



The Scholarship Committee will be presenting a \$2,300 award from the Hazel Fishwood Fund to Kelly McIntyre at the Fall Leadership Conference on September 17. Kelly has been admitted to George Fox University's Doctor of Education Program!

We would like to remind other members to **submit applications for awards by December 1**. All applications are on line, including directions for completion.

The Dagmar Jeppeson and Edith Green Grants are also due to the sponsoring chapter on February 1. These are for nonmembers who are sponsored by a chapter. The applications are then due to me on March 1. These are considered only once a year.



*Martha Nicoloff*  
*State Scholarship Chair*

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## TEACHING IN MEXICO

*Brenda Kirk, Iota/1*

I recently returned from teaching English in Mexico and wanted to share my experiences with my DKG sisters in Oregon. When the e-mail came across

my desk offering free board and room in Jungapeo, Mexico, in exchange for teaching English, I jumped at the chance to return to Mexico. The offer came from a former employee of the school district where I teach. He had retired and returned to his hometown in Mexico, where he is now the mayor.

Thus I found myself, along with two other Walla Walla teachers, doing the Hokey Pokey, Head/Shoulders/Knees/Toes, Macarena months of the year, Good Morning/Good-bye songs, What's Missing? and Simon Says over and over as I taught beginning English. The kids were wonderful and the townspeople very friendly.

During my short stay, however, I was told that education in Mexico has many challenges, including teacher preparation, qualifications required for various positions, and possible misuse of funding. I also heard that change is on the way. The federal government has passed an education reform bill, and the states are coming on board.

During the two weeks I was in Mexico, reporters asked me general questions about where I was from, why I was in Jungapeo, and what I thought of the town. Both times I was then asked what I thought of education in Mexico. As a lifelong public education teacher, I responded, "Children are the future of any country, and their education is of utmost importance."



*Jungapeo, Mexico*

*Our students on August 4, 2016*

## U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #149

### PROGRAM IDEA

To find out what is going on in classrooms in your area, consider inviting first year teachers to describe what their classroom experience has been. You will be interested in what teaching materials they do or do not have available, what their classrooms have or what they lack, and how you and your chapter can help. Many state legislatures are cutting funds to education, the result of which is reductions for students and teachers. The new teachers can be invited into your chapter.

### FORUM FACEBOOK PAGE LINK

<http://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>

FORUM WEB SITE: <http://www.usforumdkg.org/>

Delta Kappa Gamma members wishing to subscribe to this FREE online newsletter should send a request to the editor, Angela O. Bedenbaugh at [Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com](mailto:Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com)

All DKG members residing in the US are members of the US Forum. Plan to attend Forum Sessions at NW Regional in Spearfish, SD., and remember the National Legislative Seminar in March 2018. The first member from our NW Region to register for the seminar will receive a stipend. [This last paragraph is from Darlene Cook, our NW Representative.]

## CHAPTER ARTICLES & NEWS

## CHAPTER CHATTER!

Photo by Peggy Cowens, Omega/2



### BEAR Project Report : Omega Chapter/2

Omega Chapter had the privilege of supporting the BEAR Project at Evergreen Elementary in Cave Junction. The project was coordinated by members of Omega's Literacy Committee; **Tawnya Campbell**, Omega President/Evergreen's Title 1 Intervention Specialist; **Carrie Gragg**, member and third grade teacher at Evergreen; and **Ellen Ellis**, just selected as District 2 Coordinator.

This year's project included 18 families, 23 Evergreen students, and 26 younger siblings. Three students were individually recognized for turning in reading logs with the most books read amongst their family with Kayden, a third grader and her family reading 60 books, Ethan a kindergartner and his family reading 62 books, and then there was Julian, a second grader! He and his family turned in logs totaling 432 books read throughout the year; truly amazing!

During the year-end celebration, we constructed a "cave" where Carrie and the students gathered in for a read-aloud of *How to Share With a Bear*, by Eric Pinder. The read-aloud was followed with refreshments as we acknowledged all students with a certificate and ribbon for their participation. Kayden, Ethen, and Julian each received a large gift bag including a Dairy Queen™ gift card, games, books, and treats for the family to share and enjoy.

Through various donations, we are excited that we will continue this project at Evergreen next year and anticipate an even larger group of participants. Major 2015 – 16 gifts were from:

- Terry MacDonald and Laura Bennett at the **St. Vincent De Paul Society of Lane County** donated 100 books (thanks to Omega member Kelly Turner).
- Tawnya Campbell and her husband Shawn through his company, **ADI Electric Sales and Service**, generously donated \$300.

### District 1

**Iota (Umatilla & Morrow Cos.):** Umatilla County School Districts chose their 2016 Crystal Apple Award winners and IOTA Chapter's **Jacque Fox** won as a third teacher from the Athena-Weston School District. Jacque was in charge of our B.E.A.R. program.

### District 2



**Alpha (Klamath Co.):** Alpha Chapter elected officers for the 2016-2018 biennium (see photo above): Left to right Cheryl Kenney (secretary); Lisa Swartz (Vice-President); Brenda Jensen (President); Judy Smith Clifton (Treasurer). We are all set for a busy two years!!

**Epsilon (Medford/Ashland):** has dissolved as of Conference 2016.

**Omega (Josephine Co.):** Welcome to former Epsilon members who wish to join our chapter to stay active in DKG (and we are hoping more will transfer in the coming weeks). Epsilon donated some paraphernalia to Omega. Aug. 19 was the Executive Board planning-for-the-year potluck session.

### District 3

#### **Lambda (Lane Co., Eugene):**

Awarded grants of \$1000 each to Noriko Baldwin and Holly Lamb to continue their pursuits of professional development. Noriko was licensed in Japan, but now needs to obtain her US/Oregon teaching license. She has been working with Head Start of Lane County while attending the University of Oregon. Holly has been assisting with the Kids in Transition to School (KITS) program this summer. A student at Pacific University, Holly looks forward to becoming a full-time teacher.

More than \$800 was added to the chapter's grant fund, as a result of the annual June yard sale at the Fasold home. Bev and Jodi Emmons made a June delivery of food and other items to the Eugene Service Station, a homeless day shelter. Members donated money and/or supplies toward this. Since then, Bev had surgery and is recuperating at home, limiting further activities.

#### **Sigma (Deschutes, Jefferson & Crook Cos.):** Welcome to our new



members: **Angie Henderson**, from Madras, and **Carol Wayne**, from Prineville.

This summer Terri Comment went on a mission to Thailand and Christine

Sime travelled to France. The chapter had a very successful yard sale fundraiser in Prineville in July. Our August 23 yearly planning meeting will be by the pool at President Carol Bicart's house where we also will prepare books for our Care Bags. New member Carol Wayne will share her teaching experiences in Alaska.

### District 4

**Tau (Clatsop & Columbia Cos.):** has dissolved as of Conference 2016.

**Alpha Omicron (St. Helens):** had two members journey to Nashville in July for the International Convention. Kathie Hupp and Sandy Watts participated in as much of the convention as they could fit into their days. They extended their stay to enjoy even more of Nashville's musical history. They are excited to share their experiences with their chapter at an upcoming meeting.

### District 5

**Alpha Epsilon (Salem & Polk Co.):** Our chapter is busy planning programs for 2016-2017. We had a picnic in the park in July to brainstorm ideas. Now the Executive Board is planning programs around these ideas. As we do so, we are looking at topics that would be interesting to teachers still in the workforce as well as retirees. We will be sending out invites for certain programs throughout the year in hopes that nonmembers will attend and learn more about DKG.

#### **Beta Beta (Tigard/Tualatin/Sher-**

**wood):** This is a beautiful water lily at Hughes Water Garden, one stop on our 4-garden tour. This tour came from our November auction, on which we



**Barb Becker, Jeanette Voss, & Jo Ann Brinkman from Beta Beta enjoy the garden tour**

all bid. Our organizers were Barb Becker and Jeanette Voss. It was a beautiful day!

### District 6

**No one reporting**

If you have a chapter member who received a printed copy of the Trail, you may wish to share content from your digital copy with her. The printed Trail is limited to 12 pages, so both photos and articles were cut to fit that restriction.

## Maggio in Bella Italia!

By *Catie Thurber-Brown*  
ARS Personal Enrichment  
Scholarship Winner

On Saturday, May 1, I was thrilled to receive an ARS Personal Enrichment Scholarship at state conference for my upcoming trip to Italy. What great timing, too, as I was leaving the following Tuesday. Winning Omega's Italian Food Auction Basket too made it seem like I really was meant to go to Italy.

I traveled with two other retired educators, my Beta Beta sister **Nancy Lewis** and her friend Louise Curran, a former school secretary. We planned our trip with the help of Rick Steves' Italy guidebook. I have always been a Rick Steves fan, but now I am a devotee – we appreciated his recommendations for hotels and restaurants, his large travel map, and his *Audio Europe* app. I strongly recommend you download his app before your next European trip. He includes walking tours of most visited sites, as well as some lesser-known ones, with photos, a map, and script for each tour. Also available are podcast interviews on relevant topics to the country. I listened to these on the plane, on trains and sometimes in the evening to prepare for an upcoming tour/town.

May 4: Louise and I met Nancy in Venice, our first stop. We loved Venice and were a bit surprised by how much. We enjoyed the freedom of buying 1- and 3-day passes on the "Vaporettos" – Venice's mass transit boats – hopping on and off to explore new neighborhoods. One day, due to a museum workers' strike, we changed our original plans and happened across a fun interactive exhibit of Leonardo da Vinci's machines held in a church. While looking for a recommended restaurant, Louise found a charming courtyard that turned out to be a favorite with locals.

I was thrilled by the art and archi-



The intrepid travelers to Italy: Left to right--  
*Louise Curran, Catie Thurber-Brown, Nancy Lewis, in Cinque Terre*

ture we saw everywhere; it was gratifying to see in person many of the works I had studied in Art History: St. Mark's, the Venetian arbesque seen on the Doge's Palace and several of palaces on the Grand Canal demonstrated Venice's influence from Arabic, Byzantine, and Asian cultures.

May 7: We took the train to Florence and then on to Cortona, where we stayed in Casa Stella until the 14<sup>th</sup>, using it as a base to explore Tuscany. On our first day, we explored charming Cortona and discovered a gelato store close to our house – yes, we did go back often. The next day was our all-day cooking class, at the 400-year-old, restored farmhouse of the chef, and we made so much food that we ate on it for much of the remainder of the week. We also did a day tour to Florence, a wine-tour to Montepulciano, Pienza, and Montalcino, and then another day tour to Siena, San Gimignano, and Monteriggioni. In Cortona, we found a helpful local travel agent who was friendly and had very reasonable prices for tours.

May 14: We were on our way to Monterosso, Cinque Terre on the

Italian Riviera. We arrived in the midst of their annual Festa del Limone. At tables set up in the town square and along the streets, lemon cake, limoncello, lemon bonbons, lemon soaps, and more were common items for sale as fundraisers for various civic groups. I was surprised to be offered limoncello (lemon liquor) by three charming 14-year-olds who were selling it as a fundraiser for their church youth group. They seemed confused when I told them they wouldn't be allowed to sell this where we lived and countered, "But it is for a good cause." While in Cinque Terre, we explored all five charming harbor towns via rail, ferry, and hiking – all typical ways for this area. We treated ourselves to an exceptional seafood dinner here and were impressed by the food and the wonderful tableside preparation.

May 18: We were on the train to Rome. We enjoyed treating ourselves to the first class trains, which seemed very reasonably priced to us. Our "Rick Steves recommended" hotel in Rome was close to the Tiber in a nice, tree-lined



neighborhood and only 1.5 blocks for the subway/metro. We bought Roma passes and got unlimited use of public transportation and entry to two museums – a good deal! (Thanks, Rick!) We chose not to ride the buses that go to the tourist sites, as we had heard this is a good place to get pick pocketed. We used the subway and an occasional taxi to get around.

While in Rome we saw all of the usual tourist sights – and here we encountered more tourists than we had most other places, except Florence. Though my husband teased me about it, I was glad to have a selfie-stick so I could get some photos over the heads of all of the tourists. Our first evening we did one of Rick Steves' walking tours, strolling through piazzas, past fountains and fancy shops, and doing lots of great people watching. Over the next few days, I was impressed with the Colosseum, the Roman Forum, the Pantheon, the Vatican Museum, and St. Peter's Basilica.

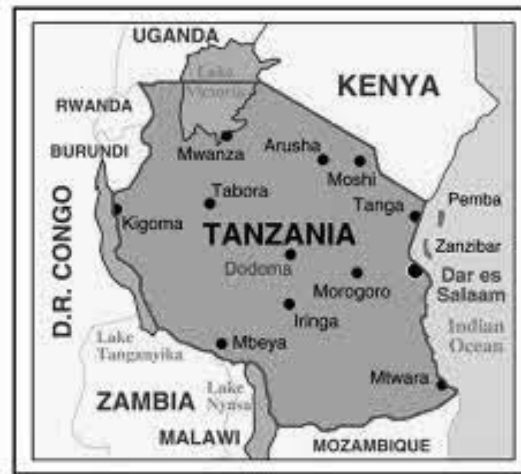
May 23: We boarded our plane from Rome to Amsterdam and then on to Portland. I was satisfied with our trip and was impressed by the beautiful country, the spectacular art and architecture, the wonderful food and the warm and caring people. Yes! I would love to return and highly recommend this trip.

Thank you, Alpha Rho State Sisters, for helping me realize this dream trip!

## SCHOOLS FOR AFRICA = MAKING A DIFFERENCE MINNIE & NEMWINDI

*Google Maps*

**Pamela Boston, Omega/2**



Three women stood near the library on the campus of University Iringa in Tanzania. Minnie (age 86), her daughter Tomi, and I felt a combination of nervousness and excitement. The students milled around the courtyard, laughing and chatting with each other, and occasionally glancing at the three white women with varying shades of grey hair.

Suddenly Minnie declared in a whisper, "There she is!" At that

moment, Minnie was unaware of anyone except the young woman striding towards us. As she neared, Nemwindi dropped her eyes in shyness, but her face shone with a beautiful smile. Then the two women, who had never seen each other in person, embraced. Nemwindi kept repeating, "Thank you. Thank you. Thank you." Neither woman wanted the embrace to end. Tomi and I wiped away tears. For the remainder of the day, Nemwindi held Minnie's hand.



Nemwindi had been a shy 14-year-old Massai girl when she began school at the MAA SAE Lutheran Girls Secondary School ("MGLSS") in Monduli, Tanzania. Her father had recently died, leaving Nemwindi, her mother and three siblings to make it on their own. Nemwindi had been invited to go to the boarding school to complete her education. Minnie and her husband Tom had signed up to sponsor Nemwindi throughout her years at MGLSS through Operation Bootstrap Africa. When Nemwindi graduated from MGLSS, Minnie and Tom considered travelling to Monduli to attend the graduation. They decided, however, that they would rather use that money to sponsor Nemwindi through university. Nemwindi enrolled in University of Iringa and continued her studies to become a teacher. During ten years of sponsorship, they exchanged letters and photographs. Unfortunately, Tom died before he got to meet his adopted daughter. Minnie was determined to attend Nemwindi's graduation from university.



Nemwindi was now 24, still shy, but an elegant woman, her dark skin and hair shining in the hot sun. She had accomplished her goal: was going to be a teacher. Waiting to hear from the government office of education about a school assignment was difficult. She was eager to get into the classroom and teach, offering hope to other young women.

The next couple of days were busy as we attended graduation, met up with

Nemwindi to talk, and visited places important in Nemwindi's life. Each time we were with Nemwindi, she sat next to Minnie, holding her hand.

The graduation was to begin in the morning before it got too hot, but it began late and lasted for hours. We were almost the only white faces in the large crowd. It was impossible to see well from the back rows where we were escorted. We had asked which group would be the education majors. We were told which ones that would be and were seated at the back of that section. We spent hours fruitlessly trying to get a sight of Nemwindi. Not speakers of Swahili, we rarely knew what was going on. The speeches were totally lost on us. We did, however, provide continuous fascination to the young children seated near us who wanted to touch us and experiment with the paper fans we were using. By 2:30 in the afternoon, we had given



up. The temperature was stifling even under the tent. Minnie was suffering from the heat and, beginning to feel unwell, she asked to leave. We were sad to go without seeing Nemwindi.

We found our driver and began to walk sadly to our jeep. Suddenly we heard a voice call, "Mother!" Tomi and I turned around to see Nemwindi running toward us in her cap and gown. We had been sitting in the wrong section, and looking for the wrong color academic hood! Minnie's face lit up and the two women embraced again. Nemwindi took off her mortarboard with its tassel and placed it on Minnie's head. She said,

"This is yours too." We gave Nemwindi the presents we had brought for her. We told her that we really had to get Minnie out of the heat and that she should have fun celebrating with her friends. We would see her tomorrow. She understood. Nemwindi visited us at our hotel the next morning and we talked and laughed for hours.

Travelling by plane to Arusha, we went to MGLSS where Nemwindi got her start. We talked with Dr. Msimjili, the headmaster. He, too, was thrilled that Minnie had made the effort to attend Nemwindi's graduation. We asked what the school needed. Without hesitation he responded, "Sponsors for the new girls." Minnie and Dr. Msimjili good naturedly bantered about Nemwindi: "She's my girl." "No! She's MY girl." Laughing, they agreed to share her.

The next day we were in Nemwindi's home town on the outskirts of Arusha. At Nemwindi's family home, we were ushered into a concrete room with a



concrete and dirt floor. At once we were offered a soft drink. The younger brother was sent to the corner shop to purchase them for us. There was a light hanging overhead in the main room. To the right was a sleeping room for Nemwindi's brothers; on the left was a sleeping room for Nemwindi, her mother and her younger sister. Nemwindi's mother, through our interpreter/driver, shared her thoughts. One of the things she said to Minnie, was, "Thank you for giving Nemwindi the opportunity and the vision." She

understood not only the value of the education Nemwindi received, but that her daughter's vision of her present and future was expanded as well.

The saddest moment came when it was time to leave. Minnie knew this was the last time she would see Nemwindi. It was the last time the two mothers who loved the same young woman and gave her the gifts they had to offer would embrace. As we took photos of various combinations of people, the



final photo was of Minnie and Nemwindi. With their arms around each other, Minnie leaned her head to one side, resting it on Nemwindi's shoulder. There was a look of both satisfaction and sadness on Minnie's face. The ride back to our hotel was quiet, each of us lost in her own thoughts.

NOTE: Map of Tanzania from Google Maps <https://www.google.com/> If you look closely, you will find Arusha in the top right corner.



*L to R: Mother, youngest brother, Nemwindi, and younger brother*

## GO FOR A GRANT!

Oregon DKG is one of the best states for supporting its members! I had the privilege of receiving a grant to help support me financially at International Convention in Nashville. The grant helped me accomplish my workshop presentation on National Board Certification on July 6. The information I shared with those attending helped educators understand the revised process of national board and what it takes to become nationally board certified. Grants provided by DKG help members accomplish many projects and activities. I am thankful for the support Oregon DKG has given to me. What can Oregon do for you?

*Kelly McIntyre, Psi/5--State Vice President*

### A FIRST-TIMER'S REFLECTION ON INT'L CONVENTION

This spring I was grateful to receive financial support from Alpha Rho State and the Boutique to attend my first International Convention. I was eager to learn what convention was all about. Since all was so new, I had a wide range of emotions. I was nervous about giving a session, excited to be working in the cyber café, and downright terrified to give a speech to such a large group.



This whole process started last fall when I was selected to be part of the “**DKG next!**” panel.

We are a group of young women who work with Dr. Lyn Schmid and the staff from headquarters to really focus in on how our organization can continue the rich heritage of the past while still moving forward to support younger teachers coming into the profession. Last September, while sitting at International Headquarters, Lyn implored for the seven of us all to have a presence at International Convention in July. I knew she was putting trust into us and that we could not let her down. I knew she would be putting us to work, which I

was eager to do. Being a single parent, I also knew this could be financially challenging. This is where all of you came in to help me out!

Getting the gifts from both the boutique and the scholarship made it possible for me to represent Oregon at International. I presented a session on **DKG next!** for those members who were new to DKG. I also presented a session on how to market your chapter. I worked with individuals and small groups in the cyber café, offering technology support and advice. Finally, I gave a speech to the whole group on advancing key women educators. I am pleased to say I didn't pass out while speaking to over 1,500 people, so I considered that a real success! I was both shocked and honored to hear that the earlier keynote speaker, author Mike Figliuolo, had asked to meet me after hearing my speech.

I made new friends, both from Oregon and from other parts of the world. I got to visit my friends from **DKG next!** I got to see Nashville and have a rootin' tootin' good time raising money for the Educational Foundation at the Wildhorse Saloon. I got to hear my favorite childhood author, Judith Viorst, speak about adulthood. I got to enjoy honoring Dr. Lyn Schmid with Whoopie pies (a new treat for me). I heard compliments as well as constructive criticism about our plans for incorporating future generations within DKG. I bought my first pair of cowboy boots, which is quite surprising since I live in Eastern Oregon! I

took it all in. I learned how amazing this group of women really is.

When I came home to enjoy time with my daughter and relax from the excitement of International, I was honored to be appointed to the International Membership Committee for 2016-18. I am eager to make my journey back to Austin this fall for our first committee meeting, and I look forward to attending my first Regional session next summer in Spearfish, SD.

Delta Kappa Gamma has given me many opportunities to grow, and I want to thank every one of you for that. I am truly blessed to be part of such an amazing group of women.

Warmly, Karen Shelton, Iota/1

*Karen--Top Right--&  
Friends*



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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**FALL OFFICERS' WORKSHOP &  
CONVENTION PLANNING  
September 17, 2016  
Salem, Oregon**

**April 28 - 30, 2017  
2017 OREGON ORGANIZATION  
CONVENTION  
Medford, Oregon**

<b>President Cindy's 2016 - 17 Schedule</b>		
<b>Date(s)</b>	<b>Chapter/Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>2016</b>		
8/24	Chi Chapter Picnic	Salem
9/17	Fall Conference & Exec. Bd.	
10/13	Family Building Blocks Dream Builders' Luncheon	Salem
10/22	Psi Chapter Meeting	Hillsboro
11/2 - 6	National Assc. for the Education of Young Children Annual Convention	Los Angeles
<b>2017</b>		
April 28 - 30	Oregon Convention	Medford

