



The Keystonian

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International - Key Women Educators

Pennsylvania State Organization Official Publication

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2021-2023 State Officers Pennsylvania State Organization



(Front Row) Wanda Keller, Treasurer; Marcia Erickson, 2nd VP; Eileen Little, President; Royce Boyd, 1st VP.
(Back Row) Barbara Gasperini, Past President; Greta Marie Taft, Corresponding Secretary; Amy Dobbins, Parliamentarian

A VIRTUAL VIEW OF THE SAN ANTONIO CONFERENCE

Becky Johnen, Alpha Beta

This year, the Society offered a hybrid version of the Portland and San Antonio Summer Conferences. One could attend onsite or online. I chose to attend the San Antonio conference online and was able to participate in both General Sessions; the five Breakout Sessions; the DKG Opportunities, Contributions, Impact Luncheon; and the Saturday Special Dinner, during which President Sadowski gave her address to the membership.

Instead of networking with others in the hallways, I did so through the online chat feature: (see Virtual page 4)

2021-2023 Administrative Board



(Front Row) Sue Martin, Scholarship Chair; Candace Claar, Convention Treasurer; Mary Wilhelm, Finance Chair; Becky Johnen, Convention Coordinator; Linda Nickerson, Communications Chair; Kathy Lauer, Historical Records Chair; Rose Colosimo, World Fellowship Chair. (Back Row) Connie Marr, Convention Protocol; Nancy Schnell, State Achievement Chair; Susan Allen, Webmaster; Lois Brown, Rules Chair; Jade Leung, Projects Chair; Tracey Dusch, Convention Protocol; Dr. Lyn Schmid, Leadership; Tina Smith-Gilbert, Professional Affairs Chair
(Missing from photo: Kristine Reynolds, Recording Secretary; Deb Seng, US Forum; Karlie Vaughn, Visual & Performing Arts; Bonnie Barnes, Editor; Deborah Yargar-Reed, Photographer



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Fall Issue #2 - **August 1**
Winter Issue #3 - **November 1**
Spring Issue #4 - **February 1**

President's Message

Eileen Little

DKG PA State President 2021 – 2023



July has been a busy month for your PA State Officers, Committee Chairs and members! On Wednesday, July 14, 2021, we met in State College for dinner and then had our Executive Board meeting in the evening. On Thursday, July 15, 2021, we had breakfast, our Administrative Board meeting and lunch. WOW what a productive two days! The Officers, Committee Chairs and committee members contact information will be posted on the website in the password protected directory. Due to the International Guidelines contact information cannot be included in newsletters. This is to help privacy and decrease spam or computer hacks. I encourage you to check out the directory as we have several new Chairs and committee members. If you are interested in being involved at the State level email me at dkgpapresident@gmail.com

Each committee has a President's goal and then they were asked to create a goal for themselves or their committee. I will be using these goals to create a Strategic Action Plan for PA State Organization. Also, all officers and committee chairs are creating a word doc about their position/job responsibilities. My goal is to bring clarity to what we are all doing and have a common title for these docs and an electronic file that can be shared so we are all speaking the same language moving forward.

The many forms we use for awards, nominations, etc. are being revised to fillable PDF. Sue Allen, Webmaster, is working with each of us and our forms, and will be posting these fillable PDFs on the PA website. We will continue to have them in the *Keystoneian* at the various times closer to each event. The Communications committee, led by Linda Nickerson, will create a plan for gathering current emails for all members and then a plan for how members will share their voice and choice in reference to receiving the *Keystoneian* electronically or as a paper copy that is mailed via the US Post Office. Due to all the changes this past year we are realizing the need to have current emails and mailing addresses for our members to better communicate.

Membership will be working on several things such as expansion creating a new chapter, supporting our 50 chapters, and addressing any mergers. Your PA Officers are here to help! We had success with the three chapters in Erie merging into one new chapter, called Erie Chapter. We were sad to lose Iota Chapter and Alpha Lambda Chapter. Please reach out to me. We are here to help! Check out the membership article from Marcie Erickson, Second Vice President and Membership Chair. Marcie has some great new ideas for supporting members so each *Keystoneian* will have an article.

We are working on our venue for State Convention 2022. We know that the Nittany Lion Inn will continue to be student housing for

(see President page 3)

EEC - US Forum Update

Deb Seng, Erie

US Forum/Educational Legislation Chair

First of all, I'd like to thank Sue Fritz for her time spent as US Forum Chair and for helping with my transition into the position. I was on the US Forum Facebook page and noticed that one of the speakers at the San Antonio Convention was on human trafficking. Although I did not hear this particular speaker, I have been involved in an anti-human trafficking coalition for about ten years.

Human trafficking is defined as **the use of force, fraud**

or coercion to compel a person into commercial sex acts or labor against his/her will. One exception is inducing a minor into commercial sex. It is considered Human Trafficking regardless of the presence of force, fraud, or coercion. Twenty-seven million people are trafficked worldwide each year. Pennsylvania has ranked fourth nationwide in cases, making it to the state's federal courts and in convictions. PA is considered a pass-through state,

with traffickers utilizing our many highways to deliver people to their destination, selling them along the way many times.

The average age of a child being trafficked is 14. It is important that educators know the signs of trafficking and where to go for help. One of the best sources for information is the Polaris Project, www.polarisproject.org. Since 2002, Polaris has assisted victims and survivors through the National (see Trafficking page 4)

(President from page 2)

PSU students so our contract is voided. We have a tentative date for Leadership Seminar for June 9, 2022, and a tentative date for PA State Convention for June 9-11, 2022. Both Leadership Seminar and PA State Convention would be at the Penn Stater Conference Center in State College, PA. Good news is the Leadership Seminar will be offered this year! There will be two strands one for incoming Chapter Presidents and one for members. It will be with our State Convention like we did this past year. So, stay tuned for more details!

Our new Projects Chair is Jade Leung. She will be sharing STEM ideas with us as that continues to be our State project. Check out her first article in this *Keystonian* and more things will be posted on our website. Also, we will continue to support Schools for Africa and Early Career Educators which are International's projects.

World Fellowship Chair, Rose Ann Colosimo will share with us in

the Winter *Keystonian* the new recipients. International's World Fellowship committee has met and selected this year's recipients. The list is not available from International until October as we want to make sure all the ladies are able to follow through with their educational plans and studies.

Our new US Forum/Educational Legislation Chair is Deb Seng, Erie Chapter. Check out her first article in this *Keystonian*. It is a topic that was addressed at the International Conference in San Antonio and something Deb feels strongly about too.

Six of our members traveled to San Antonio, Texas for the International Conference, July 22-24, 2021. Several members attended the conference virtually, including me. Check out the articles from Marcie Erickson and Becky Johnen about their wonderful conference experiences.

International Leadership Training was in Atlanta, Georgia July 30 – August 1, 2021. Royce, Marcie,

Wanda and I chose to join virtually. It was excellent as there were times, we were all together and times when we were in separate rooms based on our positions. We plan to have a zoom meeting on August 11, 2021, to follow up and discuss more of our plan for PA State.

As you can see, we are doing PA State business both virtually and face to face! At the Administrative Board meeting we had a *Meeting Owl Pro* to help facilitate the connection for our virtual participations. It was a great connection and the board voted to purchase an Owl to be used at meetings and other events.

**PA State is forward
moving ever,
*Eileen***



(Virtual from page 1)

the activity feed, or by posting comments on social media. A different way to connect, but the excitement and passion for DKG still came through loud and clear.

The keynote presenters and the session speakers were all informative, inspiring, and motivating. Highlights included:

~ Eva Marie Kangro's keynote *Reflections on the Importance of Human Connectivity* which emphasized the importance our social network plays in our success and reminded us that life is built in moments so mindfully collect those moments.

~ Diane Carroll Phillips' keynote on *Embracing Opportunities – Impact Your Life, One “Yes” At a Time!* which reinforced the concept that real personal growth only happens when we reach beyond ourselves and push our personal boundaries. We do this with patience, resilience, grit, persistence and by saying yes to opportunities. She challenged us to dare to make a difference.

~ Wendy Gates Corbett's *Building Belonging* lunch-on presentation which shared that belonging is the sense of security and support and results from feeling accepted, included, and part of something beyond ourselves. We feel we belong when we feel connected, respected, and protected.

~ Learning how to *Maximize Talents and Develop Leaders*.

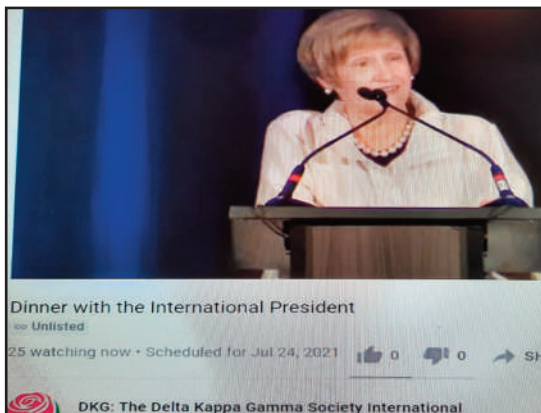
~ Getting new ideas for *Breaking the Ice* at meetings.

~ Becoming introduced to the *Teach to Lead* program and the Learn and Lead summits.

~ Looking at *Stress-Free Ideas to Promote DKG*.

~ Gaining insight into *Leadership and Communication Matters* through the five ways leaders lead.

~ President Sadowski's address on *Membership as a Journey* during which she reminded us that members



are the heart and soul of the organization and we all have a seat at the DKG table (and our voices, ideas, and expertise are needed). We are instrumental in what our DKG journeys look like and on our journey we need to: take advantage of the opportunities DKG affords us, be intentional, be flexible, be nimble, be forward thinking, stay informed, and help enrich the journey of others.

For those unable to travel to one of the International Conferences, the virtual component was a wonderful way to stay connected with DKG colleagues, share ideas and information, and become re-energized and re-charged for the 2021-2022 DKG year!

New Inductees Fall 2021

Beta Kappa
Karen Locke

Alpha Theta

Sue Byrne
Anna Smith

(Trafficking from page 3)

Human Trafficking Hotline, 1-888-373-3777. Polaris has many resources to use in the classroom.

Students should also be educated so they do not have the *“It can't happen to me,”* attitude. There are many resources available for educators to access. When I was in the classroom and would do a presentation on Human Trafficking the students had all seen the movie “Taken” which depicts the kidnapping of a girl and subsequent trafficking of her.

Although kidnapping does occur, the majority of minors are not kidnapped into trafficking, rather they are groomed by the trafficker and most believe that the trafficker “loves” them.

Educators play a key role in combatting Human Trafficking. By knowing the signs, knowing where to go for help in your area, and educating our youth we can help to stop this horrific crime.

Members are the Key

Marcie Erickson, Beta Epsilon

Second Vice President/Membership Chair



At the San Antonio, TX, 2021 International Conference, DKG International President Becky Sadowski stated that we, the members, are the **key** to the Society's sustainability. And as members, it is an exciting time to practice nimbleness which is the ability and the willingness to respond in a timely fashion to the needs of our members.

Always remember that the PA State Administrative Board and its Membership Committee are eager (and nimble) to support your chapter in attaining its membership endeavors, whether it be achieving specific goals, revitalization, or expanding your chapter's reach, to name a few possibilities.

We also want to celebrate your chapter's membership achievements, and we encourage you to share your successes.

The 2021-2023 Membership Committee is comprised of:

- ~ Beth Becker, Omega
- ~ Brittany Bertoli, Chi
- ~ Marcie Erickson, Beta Epsilon
- ~ Melissa Flynn, Alpha Beta
- ~ Deborah (Deb) Johnson, Pi
- ~ Michelle Fitzgerald, Beta Alpha

During the upcoming bien-nium, the Membership Committee will work closely with President Eileen to reconnect with Philadelphia educators interested in establishing a chapter, as well as work with the International Expansion Commit-

tee and utilize its Chapter Locator Tool to explore expanding into areas that do not have nearby chapters.

While at the San Antonio International Conference, I attended a panel workshop led by International Membership Chair Lois Vogel, IN, entitled, "*Strategies of Membership: Review...Renew...Revitalize.*"

Key takeaways included:

REVIEW:

- ~ Remember traditions, but be open to new ideas.
- ~ Make a ★ (star) list and a challenge list.
- ~ Keep what's working and build upon it.

RENEW:

- ~ Make a ★ (star) list and challenge list committee.
- ~ Allow for humor; it creates enthusiasm, and it allows a comfortableness in which members are more willing to share ideas and take risks.
- ~ Promote change when needed.

REVITALIZE:

- ~ Work collaboratively and involve all members throughout the process.
- ~ Develop a SMART plan of action addressing the chapters' ★ (stars) and challenges.
- ~ Mentor new members.

Chapters can also utilize membership recruitment, retention, and reinstatement resources found at dkg.org. After logging

in, open the Resources tab and select Chapter Tools (Resources > Chapter Tools). There are a host of meaningful and effective materials available for use.

REMINDER TO CHAPTER PRESIDENTS:

To report a death of a member, please send a **Form 6 - Report of the Death of a Member** to myself, the State Membership Chair, in addition to Wanda Keller, the State Treasurer, and to International Membership Services at mem@dkg.org. Contact information for the State Officers can be found on the PA website – dkgpa.weebly.com – in the password-protected directory. To access the directory, select the PA State Directory button on the home page (Home > PA State Directory). If you need the password to access the directory, contact your Chapter President or State President Eileen.

The Form 6 - Report of the Death of a Member can be downloaded from dkg.org. Log in, open the Forms tab and select Membership (Forms > Membership). It is the first form listed.

Please submit the Form 6 in a timely manner. In order for deceased chapter members' names to appear in the **Keystonian**, and the PAState and International *Celebration of Life* materials, a completed Form 6 must be submitted prior to the lists' compilations.

STEM/STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math)

Jade Leung, Alpha Xi
Projects Chair



STEM/STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) has taken on a new role during the pandemic! Join me on my STEM adventure!

My name is
Jade Leung

(Alpha Xi), and I am taking on the role of Projects Chair, focusing on STEM. I am excited to provide opportunities and examples of how DKG can be a part of the STEM revolution in school while being mindful of the pandemic.



I teach at a large suburban high school north of the city of Pittsburgh (Shaler Area High School). Last year I was a part of a wonderful example of STEM in the classroom. A new elective course was piloted at my school for upper-classmen called *Sustainability*. It was part of a college in high school course through the University of Pittsburgh. The teacher, Abbey Nilson, who piloted the course asked me to be a part of her field trip as a chaperone, and it gave me the idea for my first *Keystonian* story!

Girty's Woods is a 155-acre nature preserve that is part of Reserve Township, a suburb near the city of



Pittsburgh. It is part of the school district where I teach. Students in the *Sustainability* course became part of an effort to help raise funds and awareness for the Allegheny Land Trust to purchase Girty's Woods to keep it as a nature preserve. It includes 3 miles of trails and was once used for logging. In 2020, the "Save Girty's Woods" campaign began with community organizers and the involvement of the Allegheny Land Trust. Through the help of many people, funds were raised to help Allegheny Land Trust take over the land and establish it as a nature preserve for public use.

Throughout the year students in the *sustainability* course learned about the park and the steps involved in establishing it as a nature preserve. Midway through the school year, students got the rest of the school involved and organized a fundraiser where students, faculty, and staff could



donate a small amount of money to sponsor a tree. Donors received a **certificate** of thanks (designed by the students) that listed the type of tree that they sponsored. The students grew the trees in school, and at home due to the pandemic. In April the trees were ready to be planted.

I was invited to be a part of the field trip to Girty's Woods to help plant the trees. Members of the Allegheny Land Trust met us at the park, and students learned more about the nature preserve and the types of plants and animals that are found in the park. After the introduction, we spent the day planting the trees throughout the park. After the trees were planted, students also painted rocks to mark the donated trees. It was a wonderful example of STEM/STEAM during the pandemic. Students learned about the intricacies with establishing nature preserves and how to properly plant trees. Throughout the school year they also learned about the different types of trees and their life cycles and were able to see the completion of the project by planting the trees. They spent the day enjoying nature and even relaxed on the trails of the park and painted the rocks before placing them in front of the donated trees. Over 60 trees were planted in just a few hours!

When I think of DKG I know this is an opportunity for all chapters to become involved in STEM/STEAM. Pennsylvania has beautiful parks throughout our state. I bet there is at least one park within every chapter that could use a little love! Contact your local area school or argil Scout troop in the neighborhood. There are many ways to get involved besides the example that I provided in this article. Perhaps there is a community clean-up day, or a Girl

(see STEM on page 7)

Rosebud Recognition 2022

Nancy Schnelli, Chi
State Achievement Chair



Rosebud Recognition 2022 – Do you know anyone?

Do you feel like you are coming out of your COVID-19 cocoon yet? Unbundling ourselves and opening up DKG chapter procedures will be a priority for all of us to help welcome in the new normal.

Chapter members will again be able to enjoy the comradery of each other and see your friend's full body rather than just a head with the background of the inside of her home. You will be able to see feet move, shake hands (no more elbow bumps), and feel the hug of a good friend. Chapters will be better able to meet the DKG seven purposes with purpose. Members will be able to go out into the community to support, develop plans with integrity, and give time of themselves. This all brings me to my point.

It is an even year coming up, 2022, so it is time for chapter officers to identify a member for the Rosebud Recognition Award. At our June 2022 convention, a member from one of 50 chapters in the

Pennsylvania State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma with 3-5 years of membership will be recognized. Keep in mind there is no age minimum for this award! We are on the lookout for a member (preferably younger) who has shown stellar leadership qualities and has had an active interest at the state level.

Chapter officers, start thinking now. Rack your brain. Talk to your board members/committee chairs. Recognize the large and small actions and passions of a newer member to find our next Rosebud Recognition Award Recipient. Chapters are reminded that the nomination form must be submitted by **March 15, 2022**, to Nancy Schnelli, Chi, State Achievement Chair. Contact information, Achievement Award Guidelines, and the Nomination form can all be found on the DKG State Website (dkgpa.weebly.com) QUESTIONS? Contact the State Achievement Award chair, Nancy Schnelli.

Workshop Proposal

It is workshop proposals time again for the 2022 State Convention. The Educational Excellence Committee is looking for members to provide workshops that may be offered in 2022. Society Workshops will also be provided by committee members. Act 48 hours will be available again depending on content of workshops. The fillable form for proposals can be found on the PA Website – dkgpa.weebly.com under the Archives tab then the Forms tab. Deadline for workshop proposals is **December 20, 2021**.

Proposals can be submitted to Royce Boyd, EEC Chair. Her contact information can be found on the PA website <https://dkgpa.weebly.com> in the password protected Directory. To access the password-protected directory, select PA DKG Organization Directory and Committees located under the Home tab.

If you need the password, contact your Chapter President or State President Eileen Little.

(STEM from page 6)

Scout troop utilizing a park for projects. Become involved in your local park and find ways to make it a better place. If you cannot physically help in the park, there may be a need for supplies or flowers for schools and Girl Scout troops to use. During these unprecedented times, all of us can enjoy the beauty of nature and nurture students' appreciation of the world they inhabit!

Newsletters: Your Voice to your Chapter Members

Linda Nickerson, Alpha Zeta
Communications Chair



Communication is a way that all Delta Kappa Gamma chapter members feel involved and informed. One of the best ways to maintain communication with your chapter is to publish newsletters on a regular basis. The efforts of publishing a chapter newsletter can be rewarded with an increase of member's involvement and commitment. In order to be recognized for a Chapter Newsletter Award a chapter must submit 4 newsletters from July to May. They are to be sent to the President, Communication Chair, the Webmaster and sent as a PDF.

Some suggested guidelines for a professional chapter newsletter is described below.

Each issue of a Chapter newsletter should include:

- ~ The Society Name
- ~ The Society Mission Statement
- ~ Chapter and State Organization Name
- ~ Volume and Issue Number
- ~ Date

At least three (3) of the following important features:

- ~ Any chapter honors or awards
- ~ Brief summary of the last meeting
- ~ President's message
- ~ Legislative update
- ~ Reminder of important dates and deadlines
- ~ Articles about current chapter projects
- ~ State happenings
- ~ Chapter member's news and or achievements

The newsletters can be emailed, sent by regular mail, hand delivered and also posted on your chapter website. Please make sure to get copy to our State President, our Webmaster and the State Communications Chair in order to receive recognition at the State Convention.

2022 PA State Scholarship and Enrichment Grant Opportunities

Susan Martin, Eta
Scholarship Chair



Thinking of professional growth and learning through an advanced educational certification, receiving your master's degree, fulfilling an internship, or pursuing your doctorate degree, your PA State Scholarship Committee invites you to apply for a scholarship to aid you in achieving your goal. There is an even greater incentive for new chapter members to apply for the Marian Spitzer Robling Scholarship. This scholarship is awarded to women in the first three years of their membership in DKG. There are even awards specifically available to members who have an expressed interest in studying abroad or are interested in technology. The Committee urges you to complete a scholarship application and submit it by **February 1, 2022**. There are additional scholarship opportunities

through International for professional growth.

Enrichment grants are another option available for our members. The Committee encourages you to apply for a grant to enrich your life and the lives of others through an experience that enhances your knowledge, interests, and skills. We encourage you to embrace the Seven Purposes of DKG and select at least one purpose that will guide you in reaching your enrichment goal. Previous grant recipients have researched their ancestry, enhanced their artistic skills, enriched their leadership and teaching knowledge through workshops, supported educational programs in other countries, and engaged in mission work. What is your goal to enrich your life and the lives of others? The grant applications will be available on the website and must be submitted by **February 1, 2022**.

A special thank you to the Scholarship Committee members who will continue their service in this next biennium. The committee members are Karen Ball, Betty Grossheim, Christine Kowalski, Carol Lane, Monique Lautenschlager, and President Eileen.

In Case You're Wondering...

Kathy Lauer, Beta Beta Historical Records Chair



As years go by and committees pass information hand-to-hand, items are easily lost or misplaced.

Once such lost item was a specific job description of what the Historical Records Committee for DKGPA's actual duties are. This year, at President Eileen's behest, a new "job list" has been established and approved. I thought I would share these duties and specific tasks with you.

***To gather records of the current biennium for the State Archives at Paterno Library, State College**

Specific Task – Collect **Keystonians** and other documents as they are given to the Committee.

***To forward all DKGPA records to the Paterno Library's Special Collections Archives**

Specific Task – Prior to Convention, create and AEON account at Paterno Library. After Convention, take materials to Paterno Library for archiving.

***To be gatekeeper of valuable Society information**

Specific Task – if you are asked to locate something from the Paterno Library, sign onto your account or visit the library to locate the information requested.

***To make archival information available for display at the State Convention**

Specific Task – Display on tri-fold boards or other displays, pictures of Past State Presidents, information about the duties of the Historical Records Committee, other information that you want to disseminate to the membership.

***To assist chapters in the handling of their historical records (as a resource)**

Specific Task – Give ideas to chapters as to how to digitize or cull unwieldy amounts of materials collected.

***To prepare an official record of the State President's biennium**

Specific Task – During the President's biennium, collect photos of chapter visits, administrative meetings, conventions, and conferences. Create a "scrapbook" of these events. Submit the scrapbook to the President or Paterno Library (if digital) for archiving.

***To write articles, when appropriate, for The Keystonian**

Specific Task – Once or twice a year, write an article asking for materials from chapter visits to be forwarded to you for scrapbook creation, or write an article about the job of the Historical Records Committee on how to deal with information collected by a chapter Historical Records Committee.

***To present workshops at State Convention as it relates to Historical Records**

Specific Task – Work with another committee member to present a workshop at Convention to explain what Historical Records Committee jobs are, how to maintain information, etc.

***To complete activities requested by the State President**

Specific Task – The State President may ask our committee to retrieve materials from Paterno Library for Convention or create something (such as a display for Convention) or locate other material from the archives. For example: we were asked to locate the names of all Album of Distinction recipients in 2019.

***To write an annual report regarding the goals and focus of the committee**

Specific Task – Prior to Convention or Administrative Board Meetings, prepare a report of the activities the Committee has been involved with and goals wanted to complete for the biennium.

The list of duties looks long and arduous, but most of the activities overlap and don't require more than one trip to Paterno Library a year or biennium. With the help of the State Historical Records Committee, the burden is easy and the task is light!

CHAPTER TREASURERS!

All chapter treasurers need to file form 990N by **November 15**. Send or email Wanda a form indicating ACCEPTED (not pending). Contact Wanda Keller, State Treasurer, if you need help.

**Proposal to Amend PA State By-Laws or
Chapter Standing Rules
DEADLINE: MUST BE RECEIVED ELECTRONICALLY OR
POSTMARKED
NO LATER THAN **OCTOBER 15.****

Proposal to Amend PA State Organization By-Laws
(state Article and Section):
OR

Proposal to Amend Chapter Standing Rules
(state Number and Section):
=====

Write proposal for new PA By-Law or Chapter Standing Rules in 5 steps
as below:

- [1] By-Law or Rule now reads:
 - [2] To be amended by striking out and/or inserting new word(s), sentence(s), or paragraph(s) as follows:
 - [3] If adopted would read:
 - [4] Rationale for change:
 - [5] Financial Impact:
- =====

Submitted by:

Name of contact person and Chapter:

Contact Person's E-Mail:

Phone:

Committee Members:
=====

Send to Lois Brown, PA State Organization Rules Chair, by **October 15.**

Rev. 07/2021

**Chapter Rules Update
Lois Brown, Chi
Rules Chair**



The Pennsylvania State Organization Rules Committee is pleased to report that out of 50 PA State Chapters, thirty-four have approved, updated Chapter Rules. An additional six chapters are working on their updates. ***Way to go ladies!***

The Rules Committee is ready and willing to assist the remaining ten chapters. Please reach out to the Rules Committee members if you need help. Also, President Eileen Little is willing to assist. The PA State Directory, which is password protected, has the contact information for all Officers and Committees. If you need to know the password, contact your Chapter President or President Eileen Little.

All Chapters need to have updated Rules approved by the PA State Rules Committee.

Please email Lois Brown, Rules Committee Chair, if your chapter needs assistance. We look forward to working with you.

Reminder to Chapter Presidents

To report a death of a member, please send a **Form 6 - Report of the Death of a Member** to Marcie Erickson, the State Membership Chair, in addition to Wanda Keller, State Treasurer, and to International Membership Services at mem@dkg.org. Contact information for the State officers can be found on the PA Website - dkgpa.weebly.com - in the password-protected directory. To access the directory, select the PA State Directory button on the home page (home>PA State Directory). If you need the password to access the directory, contact your Chapter President or State President Eileen.

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In Memoriam

Nancy Reese Xi

August 1, 2021

An active member for fifty-one years, Nancy was inducted in October 1970. She was employed by the Schuylkill Haven Area School District as a teacher for thirty-seven years. Nancy was dedicated to her Welsh heritage, and she was the recipient of the Welsh Citizen of the Year Award.

Ethel Warner Eta

July 10, 2021

Ethel was an active member of Eta Chapter for thirty-five years. She attended meetings, social activities, and participated the monthly book club and chapter fundraising events. For thirty-six years, Ethel taught first grade at Paradise Elementary School and Thomasville Elementary School. After retiring, Ethel continued to substitute, tutor, and volunteer her time at Paradise Elementary School.

Bonita (Bonnie) Bober Upsilon

July 9, 2021

Inducted in November 2003, Bonnie served as Upsilon's Parliamentarian, Recording Secretary, First Vice President, and President. Bonnie worked as a third grade teacher for the Kiski

Area School District. She was a member of the Kiski Area Education Foundation, the Kiski Area and Pennsylvania State Education Associations, and Bonnie served on the Kiski Area Long Range Planning Committee and Language Arts Curriculum Committee, in addition to being a Laurel Point Elementary PTO member.

Marianne Graczyk Theta

July 3, 2021

Marianne was an Administrative Secretary for twenty-five years at the Pittsburgh Public Schools. Inducted in 2016, Marianne was a dedicated, fun loving, and caring member of DKG. She was a bright light and a welcoming smile at every meeting. She always lent a helping hand with projects and the chapter's benefit. Marianne will be missed by all of her Theta sisters.

Dawn Beisel Erie

June 30, 2021

Dawn was a March 1985 inductee, and she served on the Membership Committee. Dawn taught second grade at McKean Elementary for forty years, and afterwards, for a decade, she substituted for the

Diocese of Erie. Known as "Mrs. B," she brought joy, creativity, and puppetry to her classroom.

Kristin (Kris) Swope Psi

June 23, 2021

As a thirty-year member, Kris served as a chapter officer and participated on several committees, as well as hosting chapter meetings and presenting a program. For thirty-four years, Kris was a kindergarten and first grade teacher in the DuBois Area School District. She also helped launch the Make-A-Wish Light Up a Child's Life holiday fundraising competition within her school district.

Deloris Simmons Alpha Theta

June 20, 2021

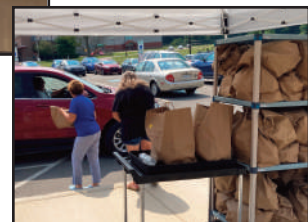
Deloris was inducted in October 1980, and she was the Alpha Theta President from 1986-1988. She enjoyed going to conventions with her chapter sisters, and one time she met two textbook writers and maintained lasting friendships with them. Deloris taught fourth and fifth grades, and she was a reading specialist at many of the elementary schools in the Armstrong School District.



Chapter News

Lambda

Lambda Sisters have been helping with a summer food program through Grove City School District. Sisters helped pack bags on Tuesday and Wednesday. Wednesday was distribution day. It was wonderful knowing we were helping families with food for the summer. The Grove City Cafeteria staff are amazing!!!!



Alpha Beta

Ongoing Jabulani School Project

“Who would have thought?” That is the question my husband and I ask each other when we have been privileged to travel to a place that we never imagined possible. When I realize what Delta Kappa Gamma has been able to accomplish for impoverished children in a rural area of Zimbabwe, Africa, at a school called Jabulani, I have asked that same question. I am astounded!

This journey started in 2014 when I received an PA State Enrichment Grant to help defray the cost of our trip to South Africa and Zimbabwe. Delta Kappa Gamma’s “Schools for Africa” project was intriguing, and as part of our journey, we planned to learn about education in these areas. While there, we talked to parents, teachers, and students about their education, and we volunteered at a preschool and at an after-school program. This was Delta Kappa Gamma in action.

While visiting Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, we talked with our guide, Harrison Muronga, about the benefit of education. At one point, Harrison said, “Education is the basic necessity for any society to move forward!” We were impressed by his integrity, and as we talked, it was clear that he deeply valued learning.

Upon our return home, we remained in contact with Harrison via email and asked what we could do to help improve education for the children. He explained that parents in the area had asked teachers to create a local school so that their children didn’t have to walk long distances through dangerous areas to get to a government school. A primary building had been built; however, they needed a building for the secondary students.

The cost would be about \$30,000. About that time, an article in the *DKG News* conveyed information regarding grants offered by the Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation. Over the next



two years, I applied for, and received, a total of \$20,000 in grant money from the foundation. The funding was wired to Sefiwe Ndhlovu, the school founder and principal, and it was used to build the foundation, walls, and roofing for the building. Again, this was Delta Kappa Gamma in action.



Additional money was needed to complete the school. Over the past years, my local chapter, Alpha Beta, and individual members have contributed over \$6,000 to this project. Funding was also provided by additional state chapters: Alpha Phi, Alpha Rho, Delta, and Beta Beta. Windows and doors were added to the building. Painting was completed. Harrison faithfully sent pictures of each step during the building process. The building opened, and classes were held. Again, this was Delta Kappa Gamma in action.

The Covid pandemic has been devastating to the community of Victoria Falls because local income is dependent on tourism. In addition, continued drought has decimated the crops that the rural communities rely upon. Hunger has become a major concern, and of course, this affects the schools and its students. To alleviate this crisis, the government asked schools to provide 2 daily meals for the students. Harrison explained that \$80 provides one meal a day for a month for the 120 students and staff at Jabulani School. So, once again, my local chapter, Alpha Beta, and a nearby chapter, Alpha Phi, have decided to wire funds that are used to provide meals for the children. Yes, this again has been Delta Kappa Gamma in action.

My experience with Delta Kappa Gamma has shown me that the possibilities are endless. While in Zimbabwe, a safari bush guide named Nkosi told us, “Education is the way to improve a country.” Delta Kappa Gamma is improving a country, and you are part of that amazing effort!

Alpha Kappa

Sisters from the Alpha Kappa Chapter recently were gifted beautifully handcrafted bookmarks from sister, Cindy Kennedy. Cindy purchased the bookmarks at The Bookhouse in Cameron Park, CA. They were made by sisters belonging to the DKG Chapter in Eldorado County. The proceeds are used for their scholarship fund. Ladies attending the meeting were: front row, Cindy Kennedy, Beverly Berich, and Bonnie Seigler; back row, Dr. Molly Kinney, Chapter President, Tena Kauffman, Pat Brown, Nancy Chrismer, and Shirley Covert.



Beta Pi

Beta Pi had a very eventful Spring 2021 season despite the challenges of the pandemic. Our annual Designer Handbag Bingo and Basket Raffle that is normally held in the fall had to be canceled this year. However, Beta Pi rose to the challenge and refused to accept a year without bingo. We held our event virtually over ZOOM on Friday, March 19, 2021. Participants purchased tickets via Ticketleap and were mailed their programs, bingo packets, and raffle tickets. ZOOM links were sent via email. We even held a practice ZOOM where participants could practice logging in and voice any questions or concerns the night prior. On the night of the big event, we hosted approximately 100 participants! We held ten games of bingo where prizes consisted of designer bags by Kate Spade, Coach, Fossil, Dooney & Bourke, Vera Bradley, and Michael Kors. Our Jackpot game prize consisted of a Coach tote filled with wine and gift certificates valued at \$500. We



finally raffled off 18 baskets at the end of the night! Everyone had a great time and Beta Pi raised \$3500 for our grant in aid scholarships and community outreach.

On April 27, 2021, Beta Pi held a dining night fundraiser at Peppers Restaurant in King of Prussia. Members, friends, and family could dine in or take out and 15% of their total bill would be donated to our chapter. We brought in approximately \$500 in sales and raised \$70 for our chapter!

The community outreach committee of Beta Pi met at the end of the year and allotted funds to worthy organizations in our community. This year, we chose to support **Norristown Ministries, The Center for Loss and Bereavement of Skippack (Beta Pi funds scholarships for children to attend Camp Millie), Theatre Horizon (Beta Pi funds scholarships for children to attend the Autism Drama Program), Upper Merion Township Library, Upper Merion Emergency Aid, and The Adalyn Rose Foundation.**



Beta Pi hosted its first in person event on May 25, 2021, at Peppers Restaurant in King of Prussia. Twenty five members joined in person (some virtually) for dinner and our end of the year meeting. We also inducted our new treasurer, Cathy Rubbo.

Beta Pi awarded three grant in aid scholarships for 2021. Two high school senior female students preparing to enter college were each awarded \$750 and one college senior female preparing to student teach was awarded \$500. Our first high school scholarship recipient is **Cinthya Resendiz-Reyes**. Cinthya is a graduate of Norristown Area High School and will be pursuing a degree in Secondary Mathematics Education at West Chester University this fall. She has always wanted to be a teacher and while teaching in a classroom with the teacher who inspired her, she realized secondary was where she wanted to be. Cinthya assisted her mother, as she was teaching Catechism classes, to translate for students. Cinthya would like her parents to be proud of her as they were not able to finish their education. Our second high school scholarship recipient is **Gabrielle DeFrancesco**. Gabrielle is a graduate of Norristown Area High School and will be pursuing a degree in Elementary Education at Kutztown University. After graduating, Gabrielle would like to continue on to receive her Masters and Doctoral degrees. She has always desired and been determined to be a teacher, especially after a great experience with her 5th grade teacher. Gabrielle would like to mold children's minds by being a creative teacher who makes them want to come to school and to help them bring out the best qualities in themselves. Our college scholarship recipient is **Marlena Ruser**. Marlena will be pursuing her Master's degree in elementary education in the Fall as well as Student Teaching. Marlena completed her Bachelor's degree at Lehigh University and while there, she participated in a variety of clubs and organizations. Marlena is excited to continue her career in education thanks to the strong love of learning that was instilled in her at a very young age by her parents. She believes children are the future and wants to impart critical social values and knowledge that will allow them to be empathetic human beings. Congratulations ladies and we wish you much success in the future!

Alpha Xi

Alpha Xi chapter had a hybrid year in 2020-2021. We met in person for meetings in September, October and May, and Zoomed for meetings in January and March.

In September, we met at Trinity Lutheran Church with masks, distancing, and boxed meals from Jason's Deli. We played some "getting to know you" games and received coin wrappers to save change to support our Teacher Enrichment Grant.

In October, we met at the Heinz History Center for in-depth tours of the Heinz Company display and the glass collection led by Affiliates Program Coordinator, Robert Stakeley; this is where President Paulette Hemmings has volunteered over 3,000 hours since 2009. Our chapter is an affiliate of the Center, and we try to hold one meeting a year there. We also selected our Secret Sisters for the year and turned in 27 Busy Boxes for the Allegheny County Children, Youth, and Family Services department. During the fall, U.S. Forum chair Melissa Costantino-Poruben campaigned for and was subsequently elected to the NEA Board of Directors.

In January member Jade Leung prepared a Zoom presentation on "The State of Education during the Pandemic Era." State President Eileen Little attended virtually and later asked Jade to be the Projects Chair on the State Educational Excellence Committee.

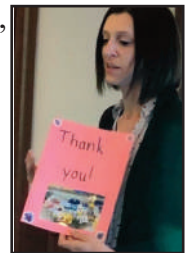
In March, Bonnie Nichols presented a Zoom meeting on "Living in Liberty: Human Trafficking in the Pittsburgh Area." We pledged to fill purses/backpacks with personal hygiene sample items for her to distribute to women whom she tries to help.

Our year concluded on May 1 with our meeting at Diamond Run Golf Club. The parking lot was the site of "The Exchanges," as we concluded our projects for the year. Items for Dress for Success went in one trunk, purses went into another, and Busy Boxes were distributed to be filled for the September meeting.

We had a Welcoming Ceremony for new member **Jeanne Keys**, a

used book sale to benefit the Teacher Enrichment Grant, a program on self-publishing and marketing by member Dede Rittman, creator of Grady Gets Glasses, and a report from our Teacher Enrichment Grant winner, **Nicole McDonald**, who bought each of her 23 kindergarteners at Scott Primary School in the Shaler Area School District five books to take home for their personal libraries and to foster their love of reading.

Stay tuned for future adventures and success of Alpha Xi!



Jade Lueng and Darlene Farrell with their "secret sister" gifts.

Important Dates

September 15, 2021, Arts & Humanities Gallery Submissions for Fall Gallery
 September 15, 2021, Nomination Recommendations and Endorsement Forms for International Officers/Elected committees
 September 30, 2021, All dues must be entered in the portal to avoid members being dropped Oct. 1st
 October 1, 2021, Bulletin: Journal submissions
 October 1, 2021, Amendments to Constitution/International Standing Rules

November 1, 2021, DKGIEF Cornetet CSPD application
 November 15, 2021, All Treasurers to file IRS 990
 December 15, 2021, Bulletin: Collegial Exchange submissions
 December 15, 2021 DKG Ignite (LMS) application
 February 1, 2022, Scholarship Application
 February 15, 2022, Arts & Humanities Submissions for Spring Gallery
 March 1, 2022, International Achievement Award recommendations
 March 1, 2022, DKGIEF Project Application
 March 1, 2022, *Bulletin*: Journal Submissions
 April 30, 2022, Dissertation recognition



2021 - 2023 Officers and Committee Chairs

President	Eileen Little, Chi	Visual & Performing Arts Chair	Karlie Vaughn
First Vice President	Royce Boyd		Alpha Zeta
	Alpha Beta	Nominations Chair	Barbara Gasperini
Second Vice President	Marcie Erickson		Alpha Upsilon
	Beta Epsilon	Leadership Chair	Lyn Schmid, Chi
Recording Secretary	Kristine Reynolds	Rules Chair	Lois Brown, Chi
	Beta Kappa	Communications Chair	Linda Nickerson
Corresponding Secretary	Greta Marie Taft, Pi		Alpha Zeta
Parliamentarian	Amy Dobbins	Scholarship Chair	Susan Martin, Eta
	Beta Epsilon	State Achievement Chair	Nancy Schnell, Chi
Immediate Past State President	Barbara Gasperini	World Fellowship Chair	Rose Colosimo, Theta
	Alpha Upsilon	Historical Records Chair	Kathy Lauer, Beta Beta
Treasurer	Wanda Keller	Webmaster Chair	Susan Allen, Chi
	Alpha Beta	Keystonian Editor Chair	Bonnie Lee Barnes
Finance Chair	Mary Wilhelm, Kappa		Alpha Sigma
Membership Chair	Marcie Erickson	Photographer Chair	Deborah Yargar-Reed
	Beta Epsilon		Beta Kappa
EEC Coordinator	Royce Boyd	Convention Coordinator	Becky Johnen
	Alpha Beta		Alpha Beta
Professional Affairs Chair	Tina Smith-Gilbert	Convention Treasurer	Candace Claar
	Alpha Beta		Alpha Beta
Projects Chair	Jade Leung, Alpha Xi	Convention Protocol	Tracey Dusch, Psi
US Forum Chair	Deb Seng, Erie	Convention Protocol	Connie Marr, Alpha Theta

PA Members Attending San Antonio Conference



**Marcie Erickson,
Joanna Jacobs,
Kay Stuart,
Haddie Weber,
Greta Marie Taft
Deborah Yargar-Reed**

**(Editor's note:
Several members
attended virtually.
Names were not avail-
able at
publication date.)**

May 1, 2022, DKGIEF Cornet CIPD Application
May 1, 2022, International Committee Recommendations
May 1, 2022, Editorial Board application
May 1, 2022, Arts & Humanities Jury application
May 15, 2022, *Bulletin*: Journal submissions
May 15, 2022, Report of Chapter officers
June 9, 2022, Leadership Seminar, Penn Stater
Conference Center, State College, PA (Tentative)
June 9 – 11, 2022, PA State Convention, Penn Stater
Conference Center, State College, PA (Tentative)

June 30, 2022, Members to submit dues to chapter
treasurer
July 12 – 16, 2022, International Convention, Sheraton
New Orleans, Louisiana
Summer 2024, International Convention, Gaylord
National, DC Area National Harbor, Maryland
Summer 2026, International Convention, Gaylord
Rockies, Aurora, Colorado



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Summer Issue #1 - June 1
Fall Issue #2 - August 1
Winter Issue #3 - November
Spring Issue #4 - February 1

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**Pennsylvania
State Organization**

State President Schedule

August 9, 2021, Zoom Meeting - Northeast State Presidents

August 11, 2021, Zoom Meeting - PA State Officers re: International Leadership Training

September 11, 2021, Chapter Visit: Alpha Upsilon – Alleghany, Armstrong, Butler and Westmoreland

September 16, 2021, Zoom Meeting - PA State Officers re: Positions and Job Responsibilities

October 4, 2021, Zoom Meeting - Northeast State Presidents

October 26, 2021, Zoom Meeting - Chapter Presidents & Leadership team

December 6, 2021, Zoom Meeting – Northeast State Presidents

February 7, 2022, Zoom Meeting - Northeast State Presidents

March 19, 2022, Scholarship Committee Meeting

April 2, 2022, Four Chapters Visit: Kappa, Alpha Kappa, Beta Theta and Beta Iota - Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Juniata, Mifflin, Perry

April 4, 2022, Zoom Meeting – Northeast State Presidents

April 23, 2022, Two Chapter Visit: Omega and Beta Kappa – Adams, Cumberland, and Franklin

April 30, 2022, Four Chapters Visit: Lambda, Zeta, Alpha Omicron and Alpha Sigma – Beaver, Butler, Lawrence, and Mercer

May 11, 2022, Finance Committee Meeting

June 6, 2022, Zoom Meeting – Northeast State Presidents

June 9, 2022, Leadership Seminar at the Penn Stater Conference Center, State College, PA (Tentative)

June 9 -11, 2022 State Convention at the Penn Stater Conference Center, State College, PA (Tentative)