

The U.S. Civil Rights Trail - Nashville, Jackson, Birmingham, and Memphis

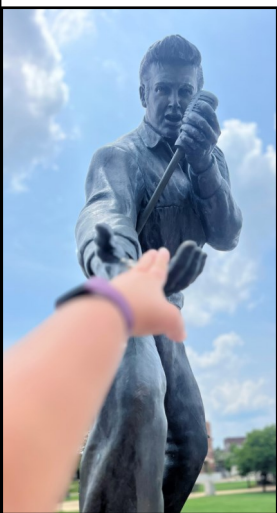
An Enrichment Grant Experience

Melissa Ostrowski, Chi

Thanks to the Enrichment Grant I was awarded at the State Convention, I was able to hear wonderful music, meet interesting people, eat delicious food, see beautiful scenery, and most importantly learn about other ways of life in our own country. Let me take you on an adventure through the Deep South and share our experiences in Alabama and Mississippi.

My husband and I are working toward visiting all fifty states, and we both “needed” Alabama and Mississippi. Hearing the Delta Blues and immersing ourselves in the rich history of Civil Rights in the United States were our primary areas of interest. Following our adventure we realized just how much we didn’t know about life in the areas we visited.

We flew into Birmingham and spent time in Kelly Ingram Park. In May 1963, Birmingham police and firemen attacked civil rights demonstrators in the streets bordering this park. The violence raised a nationwide public outcry in America's most segregated city. Kelly Ingram Park was an assembly point for sit-ins, boycotts, marches, and jailings designed to end segregation in Birmingham. It is here where Public Safety Commissioner Bull Connor ordered police to arrest and jail 1,000 children. Throughout the situation firemen blasted the protestors, including children, with high-pressure fire hoses, and police used their nightsticks indiscriminately. Police K-9 units unleashed their dogs into crowds of peaceful demonstrators. Statues throughout the park depict all of these scenes and across the street is the 16th Street Baptist Church where four young girls were killed in a bombing by the Klan. Our visit set the stage for our trip. Neither my husband nor I expected to be so moved on the first morning of our trip.



After learning about the history of the iron industry in Birmingham, we hopped into our rented Camaro and headed to Tupelo, MS, birthplace of the King of Rock n Roll! Luckily for me he was singing in the local park! We headed on down the road to Oxford, where we enjoyed the campus of Ole Miss and visiting William Faulkner’s home, Rowan Oak. Miles later and after passing fields of cotton, soybean, cotton gins and sunflowers, we arrived in the Mississippi Delta specifically Clarksdale, the birthplace of the Blues. We spent a few days driving through small towns in the Delta as we sought out the final resting places of legendary Bluesmen. We stumbled upon the town of Rueville, home of Civil Rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer. (see [U.S. Rights Trail](#) page 3)

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Reflections of the State President Royce Boyd, Alpha Beta DKG PA State President 2023-2025



I am reflecting on my past months as state president wondering how community building is developing inside your chapters and within the places you live, work, and volunteer. As I make chapter visits and read the newsletters you send me, I see the progress you are making by doing something additional or different than your original projects. You are accomplishing excellent outreach into your communities. I am convinced that DKG members can be a force in eradicating fractures and differences by being strong community builders.

Since this is the time of year when nominees are being sought to fill a new slate of officers, I am also wondering if the community building within your chapters is bearing fruit with a bountiful crop of volunteers for these positions. If not, work needs to be done to make your chapters thriving, nurturing places to flourish. Bringing in new members is just one step in the process.

- Do you have a mentoring plan for new members, not only to get them involved in chapter activities but also to educate them in chapter, state, and international knowledge and benefits?
- Have you surveyed chapter members to determine what a great chapter experience means to them, e.g., meeting times, types of programs, meals/no meals, social gatherings?
- Have you considered what may be making younger women educators drop out after being inducted? Do you need to examine chapter rules that may be outdated or too rigid for growth?

The upcoming holiday season brings wonderful opportunities for you to celebrate Community in your kinship, chapters, and towns. I wish you bounty and peace as we all move forward in DKG.

Reminder to all Chapters from President Royce:

I have received a disclaimer statement that the International Administrative Board requests we post on any website or social media site that bears the DKG Society International name (including DKG or the DKG logo).

FOR AFFILIATED WEB and SOCIAL MEDIA SITES (State Organizations, Chapters, Member Groups)

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(U.S. Civil Rights Trail from page 1)

This would be a trend on our trip - Civil Rights history around every turn. We passed through Mound Bayou, founded as an independent black community by former slaves. One of the most impactful locations we passed through was Sumner, MS, where we noticed a courthouse with a historical marker. Lo and behold it was the location of the Emmett Till murder trial where an all-white jury acquitted two white men of Emmett's murder. The juxtaposition of the courthouse, confederate monument in the front yard, and a prisoner in striped clothing performing lawncare out front made for an intense experience.



Drives through rice fields took us through Greenwood, Greenville, and Money, MS, as we made our way to Jackson. We saw the resting places for Charlie Patton and Robert Johnson as well as the legendary Blue Front Cafe in Benton where we met Jimmy Duck Holmes and he played for us on his front porch! In Jackson we visited a museum of Civil Rights, drove the Natchez Trace Parkway where we walked through a cypress swamp and saw alligators in the wild. We also saw the home of Eudora Welty in a Jackson suburb. I bought her book *Delta Wedding* at a famous bookstore in Oxford and enjoyed seeing what I was reading about! We passed catfish farms and logging lands as we headed back into Alabama via Selma where the Bloody Sunday March of 1965 happened. Over 600 Civil Rights marchers faced

beatings and teargas. As we drove over the Edmund Pettis Bridge, I paused to think of John Lewis and all the other leaders who dedicated their lives to end lynchings and racial injustice. It was quite a shock to visit the Live Oak Cemetery where large numbers of confederate monuments, graves, flags, and tributes to Klan leaders are still maintained. In Montgomery the intensity of the pain of racial killings and injustice was depicted as we saw the first White House of the Confederacy. I used to have my students recreate the Southern Poverty Law Center Civil Rights Memorial that was designed by Maya Lin. To see it in person in the shadow of the Alabama state capital, where the Selma to Montgomery Voting Rights March ended, was powerful. As we walked to dinner we passed by slave auction blocks and slave prisons as well as the corner where Rosa Parks refused to get off the bus.

Montgomery was our last destination before heading back to Birmingham. We visited the Equal Justice Initiative, and I encourage all of you to visit their website <https://eji.org/> and consider visiting as there are no words that I can use to describe the story of racial injustice that is told at the Legacy Museum. Every American should visit. As you have probably discerned, the vacation we thought we were going on turned into something so much more. We saw bits and pieces of our American story that many do not acknowledge or take time to learn. I am a better person for having taken this trip, and I thank DKG for the Enrichment Grant!



Just a reminder...

Chapters should send their chapter newsletters to President Royce Boyd in PDF form.

Chapter news, which will no longer be printed in *The Keystoneian*, should be sent to IT Specialist Sue Allen in an email in text form. Please do not send PDFs to Sue Allen.

Congratulations to Lauren Blatchford, Alpha Sigma, the winner of prizes from Robokind. Lauren found the hidden messages in the video provided at state convention by Dr. Jessica Redcay of Robokind. Thanks to all of you who participated!

Our Trip to the MARITIMES
An Enrichment Grant Experience
Ann Ryan, Alpha Mu, and Becca Hilzinger, Alpha Epsilon

This July, we traveled to Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. We had a wonderful trip and are grateful to Delta Kappa Gamma for awarding us an Enrichment Grant.

M is for Miles and Miles

This trip was not part of an organized tour. We used many websites to search out our own car rental, housing, and activities. Luckily, we had unlimited miles for the car rental because we drove over 1100 miles!

A is for Alpacas

While traveling around Prince Edward Island, we visited several places on the PEI Fiber Trail. One of our stops was Green Gable Alpacas. This farm has a herd of alpacas and produces its own fiber.

R is for Rocks

The maritime geology was influenced by volcanoes and glaciers, and it created a rocky Coastline, and the erosion on the Bay of Fundy exposes rocks with each tide. Joggins Fossil Museum is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This research museum studies fossils formed 310 million years ago, during the Pennsylvanian Carboniferous Period, long before the dinosaurs. This site attracted Charles Lyell, the father of Geology. Part of our experience was hunting fossils on the beach below the cliffs.

I is for Island Travel

There are two ways to access Prince Edward Island when traveling by car: the Confederation Bridge and the Northumberland Ferry. We decided to try both! The Confederation Bridge is 8 miles long and connects New Brunswick to the western side of Prince Edward Island. The ferry was a 75-minute ride across the Northumberland Strait.

T is for Tides

The Bay of Fundy has the largest tide changes in the world. There can be up to a 50-foot difference between low and high tide. One hundred billion tons of sea water change location every time the tide changes. We stayed in a cottage right on the water at Five Islands. We had a relaxing day reading and knitting while watching the water go in and flow out. At low tide we attempted to walk on the bottom of the ocean, but it was very mucky so we stuck to the beach. We saw lots of wildlife, including six adults and two immature bald eagles flying around all day.

I is for Island Lighthouses

While on PEI, we decided to travel the coast and visit many of the lighthouses. The West Point Lighthouse was one of our favorites. We climbed the stairs all the way to the top and had a beautiful view of the Northumberland Strait. This is the tallest lighthouse on the island and currently operates as an inn.

M is for the Maritime Museum

Halifax is the largest city and the capital of Nova Scotia. The harbor has the Maritime Museum and we took a Harbor Hopper tour. The Harbor Hopper was in an old army truck that drives on land and then is a boat when you enter the water. The tour was great. It included the citadel on the top of the hill and then a trip through town past the public garden. Our docent was knowledgeable and shared a lot of history about the Halifax Explosion of 1917. It was the largest explosion before the atomic bomb; 1700 people were killed and 9000 injured.

E is for Education

One of our stops in Nova Scotia was Lunenburg. At the top of the hill is the Lunenburg Academy. This school was built in 1894. In 1965, the high school students moved to a new building, but the elementary students remained there until 2012. When it was built, the townspeople chose this location because they wanted it to be visible throughout the town. This location provided lots of wide open spaces, fresh air, and natural light. At the time, most schools were built of bricks, but this was a community of

(see Maritimes page 5)

(Maritimes from page 4)

shipbuilders and they wanted a wooden structure that reflected the architectural style of the town. The townspeople knew that this beautiful school would show everyone that Lunenburg values education.

S is for Steps and Slopes

Nova Scotia was very hilly and among steps, ladders and hills we were always walking uphill!

Thank you again for the Enrichment Grant. We encourage others to apply!



Table 455 by the Window, Please An Enrichment Grant Experience Elizabeth “Liz” Brewer, Sigma

This request was made each evening for dinner in the Grand Britannia Dining Room on the Queen Elizabeth ocean liner in July 2023 when my sister, Janie, and I sailed along the inner passage of Alaska.

Our (QE) adventure began in British Columbia. We arrived in Vancouver two days before we were to sail. It gave us an opportunity to tour the beautiful city. One evening as we sat at an outdoor restaurant, we got to experience the excitement of people going to the Whitecaps soccer game at the huge BCPlace Arena which was just across the street from us. As we walked in the Victorian Gastown neighborhood the next day by the docks, we were fascinated as were many others by the Gastown Steam Clock. On each hour the clock produces a puff of smoke and unique whistle.

Boarding the Queen went very smoothly and when we arrived at our stateroom, 8098, our luggage was already in the room. When we went to the dining room that evening, we were informed that our request for the early seating was full, but we could stand in a certain line to wait for a table. We did, and as it all turned out, it was a real highlight to our voyage. Even though we had to arrive early each evening, we managed to get “table 455 by the window.” We had three of the nicest and most handsome servers who took very good care of us. When it was the last evening of our cruise, Luis from the Philippines said he told his wife that morning, “I am sad because my ‘two ladies’ are leaving the Queen tomorrow!” It was a memorable moment for us.

We had a nice balance of sailing and tour days. We visited Ketchikan where we heard histories of totem poles, lighthouses and eagles. In Skagway we took the White Pass Scenic Railroad enjoying the abundance of wildlife and natural beauty of the region. The stops at Sitka and Juneau were also delightful. We had a delightful lunch on the 11th deck at the Grills Terrace while we were treated to a real close look and narration about the Hubbard Glacier which is 70 miles in length and still very active.

Cunard liners are the only ships which are allowed to enter the Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, designated as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. As the Queen floated slowly through this region, several Park Rangers boarded the QE. They did on-deck narrations and lectures throughout the

(see Table 455 page 6)



(Table 455 from page 5)

day. Besides the magnificent snow-topped mountains, crystal clear waters and wildlife sightings, it was the haunting sounds of the “calfing” of the glacier that took our breaths away. These huge chunks or icebergs floated alongside of the Queen!

When we docked in Victoria, British Columbia, I toured the magnificent Butchart Gardens. We were told there are over 900 varieties of plants which cover the 55 acres of the gardens. Each area is sculpted in lovely blooms and fragrances.

A lovely highlight for me was 3 o'clock tea in the Queens Room each afternoon. The daily ritual would begin with musicians playing and servers coming in with their silver trays and white gloves. There would be three courses: sandwiches, scones with jam and clotted cream, and then petit four desserts with tea being poured throughout the ritual.



Then there were the times I spent in the elegant two-level library. My interest was in the shelves that housed the books on the Cunard ships. The times I spent looking and reading through the large collection of books, thinking and wondering how my grandparents and, in 1965, my own parents, sister, and I experienced those transatlantic crossings, brought moments of happiness and tears. I made a list of the book titles and publishers before we disembarked. My hope is to locate a few of the titles in local libraries and perhaps for sale in secondhand bookshops. I might even come across a picture of the Queen Elizabeth's Britannia Dining Room. If so, I will look for “table 455 by the window!”

I am so very grateful to Susan Martin, Chair, and committee members of the PA State Organization Scholarship Committee for the enrichment grant which helped to make this adventure possible.



Scholarship and Enrichment Grant Opportunities Susan Martin, Scholarship Committee Chair, Eta

Are you enrolled in a graduate study program to attain a doctorate, master's degree, or certification/endorsement in a special field? If you have been a member of DKG for three years, you can apply to the PA State Scholarship Committee for a scholarship to assist you in reaching your goal. Scholarships are also available from DKG International for doctorate and master's degree programs for women who have been members for three years. The application submission deadline for the state and international organizations is February 1, 2024. There is a scholarship available for a new member of the PA State Organization who is within her first three years of membership.



Enrichment grants are awarded to individuals for the purpose of stimulating personal and professional growth in areas of special interest. Past recipients have used their grants in a variety of areas. One sought to focus on a different painting medium, another to advance her skill in riding horses, another pursued studies in her family legacy, another to enhance her knowledge in areas of science, and another to further her study of human rights to be a better teacher. We encourage you to be creative and enrich your mind and body through an educational experience. The grant application is on the website, and the deadline is February 1, 2024.

Start the application process now. You need to submit references with the applications. The awards for the scholarships and grants will be presented at the annual convention.

A SHIP Adventure in the Western U.S. An Enrichment Grant Experience Joyce Bigley, Alpha Nu

After traveling with my Shippensburg friends to Alaska five years ago, we had so much fun that we decided to do it again touring National Parks and Monuments in Wyoming and South Dakota. Of course, I am referring to Yellowstone, Grand Tetons, Mt. Rushmore National Memorial, Devil's Tower National Monument, and the Badlands. This time the group totaled 16 people.

When comparing the three national parks, they all have their prairie ecosystems. The Badlands contains one of the largest remaining undisturbed mixed-grasslands in the U.S. We saw bison and pronghorn, but we were more fascinated by the many prairie dog towns. It was fun to watch the centauries as they squealed, alerting the clan of danger. Lamar Valley is the prairie in Yellowstone's northeast corner. We saw most of the park's wildlife there. We enjoyed watching the herds of bison as they were grazing, running, and wallowing in the dirt. Newborn "red dogs" (bison calves) were easy to spot because of their orange-red color during their first three months of life. The U.S. is the only place where bison roam continuously since prehistoric times. We saw pronghorn and dull sheep also roaming throughout the valley. We were disappointed we did not see any wolves or brown or black bears, but we knew they were in the area based on all the photographers staked out along the main park roads waiting for their "perfect shot." We managed to see a small band of mountain goats along the road and a few bighorn sheep on a faraway ridge. We were thrilled when we saw a coyote hunting rodents in the sagebrush about 10 feet from our bus. That made our day! On the Teton prairie, we also saw bison. Since there are more forests adjacent to the grassy areas, we saw about a dozen moose over the 8 days with a highlight of seeing a cow and bull grazing together. His antlers were HUGE!



My two favorite parts of this park involved more activity than bus touring. We floated 10 miles down the prairie's Snake River while having the Tetons as our backdrop. During our float we came upon a small flock of American white pelicans who put on a show of their "flock" behavior and their flying skills. We also saw dull sheep grazing on a nearby hill. The second part was a 6-mile bike ride (all downhill) on the Antelope Flats to the Mormon Row Historic District. I really enjoyed this bike ride since we were able to be off the bus, exercising, not wearing a mask, while feeling free in the majesty of the Tetons on a gorgeous day! At our destination of

Mormon Row, we toured the area of the most photographed barn in the world. What a nice memory! That view was amazing!

When contrasting these 3 parks, one gets the sense of their unique environments. Yellowstone lies on the caldera of an ancient volcano. Therefore, hot springs, geysers, fumaroles (steam vents) and mud pots poke out and reside at the ground's surface on some of the 2.2 million acres. Although seeing the park's most famous geyser, Old Faithful, upon our arrival was a highlight, the Grand Geyser was just as spectacular. Near the spray field were "ghost trees" (trees sprayed with geyser mineral water killing the tree and turning them white) and "bobby sock" trees (trees which soaked up mineral laden run-off which kills and can petrify the tree, leaving only the bottom 3rd white). While touring we saw evidence of last year's floods and burned trees from previous forest fires. We hiked to Yellowstone's largest spring, Grand Prismatic, which is the 3rd largest and most photographed hot spring in the world. It was beautiful, showing all its brilliant colors on a clear sunny day. Hot spring's colors depict the temperature of the thermophiles living there. Yellow archaea/bacteria live at 140°F and the blue live at approximately 190°F, which was the predominant color of the Grand Prismatic.



Mammoth Hot Springs is in Yellowstone's northwest corner. The main topographical attraction at Mammoth are the Travertine (Limestone) Terraces. These are made (see A SHIP Adventure page 8)

(A SHIP Adventure from page 7)

from dissolving calcium carbonate which is brought up from the deep ground with the hot springs, and then calcite is deposited to form a stepped terrain. The landscape constantly changes due to the flow of the released hot water around these deposits. They are amazingly beautiful appearing in many different colors due to the bacterial action. Upon our arrival, we observed a herd of elk. Bull elk #24 was huge and made his presence known by bugling a younger bull nearby to signal these cows are mine and stay away! It was fascinating to observe his and his harem's behavior as they inhabited the town square.

The Grand Tetons show a completely different ecosystem. Being formed from the uplifting at a fault line, the Tetons (3 sisters or "3 tits" named by the French – "Les Trois Tetons"), rose to 13,775 feet while the other side of the fault line remained mostly a prairie environment. This stark contrast allows for beautiful photography.

We spent a day in Badlands National Park. Being a place of extremes, we were surprised to see not only its grassy plains but the pinnacles (needles), buttes, and canyons in the park. The park's claim to fame is having one of the world's richest fossil beds from a prehistoric sea. We found a few fossils near an exposed roadside bed; one clearly was a tortoise!



The other part of our trip was touring mainly memorials/monuments: visiting South Dakota's Mt. Rushmore Memorial, Crazy Horse Memorial, and Devil's Tower National Monument in Wyoming. We arrived at Mt. Rushmore in the early evening and then saw it lit up at night during a very moving constitutional tribute and closing ceremony of retiring the flag with honoring active/retired veterans. The monument is a true architectural marvel, and a museum contains all the facts and pictures.

The Crazy Horse Memorial was even more impressive. Being privately funded and considered the 8th Wonder of the World in progress, it depicts the victory of the spiritual nature of the American Natives. Unfortunately, I will probably not see its completion in my lifetime; however, there is a scale model of the finished monument on display. They have mapped out his horse on the rocks, intending to soon start carving that part of the statue. It will be exquisite when it is finished and a much-needed monument for honoring Indigenous people!

Our next stop was the majestic Devil's Tower, jutting out of the earth into the sky 5,112 feet above sea level. We saw prayer bundles hanging on tree limbs all around the tower's base. The Black Hills, especially the tower area, are sacred for being the Oglala Lakota Sioux's place of creation and where the Cheyenne people became a nation. It has been for generations the homeland of their important tribal events and the land of their religious wellbeing. The Sioux now own the land.

These lands have been subject to much controversy throughout the centuries. Early travelers to the present have used this land for economic endeavors while the Indigenous people see these lands as their spiritual, procreation, and economic sanctuary for humans (and beasts). Present day rifts run the gamut from restoring all their land to them to equality of health care and equitable education that other Americans enjoy. Even though they struggle, the local Indigenous communities are working to help enlighten the powers that be of conservation methods and ways humans can live with bears and wolves peaceably and to protect other wildlife in the region. Much work needs to be done to work together and reach a compromise.



As I reminisce about this trip, it brings wonderful memories and new knowledge of this beautiful land. But it also brings sadness to think of all the hardship to people who are fighting for their ancestral lands and home. Hopefully, in making a PowerPoint presentation, I can let others view the region's glory and open people's minds to needed action as to land conservation and cultural equality.

We Are All Lifelong Advocates Deb Seng, US Forum Chair, Erie



According to Webster's Dictionary the word Advocate means: **"One who defends, vindicates, or espouses a cause, by argument; one who is friendly to; as, an advocate for peace, or for the oppressed."** As educators, being an advocate is hardwired into us. We are always looking out for what is best for our students. We advocate with parents, with administration, and with school boards for what is best for the students for whom we are responsible. Advocacy is based on our relationships. The better our relationship is with the individual or institution the more successful we will be in promoting our cause. But what happens when you retire? Do you just give up advocating? Absolutely not! Advocacy may take on a new look, but our work is far from over. In truth you might even have more time to reach out on issues that are important.

The first step in being an Advocate is to know who your Senators and Representatives are and how to contact them. They often have a local office close to you and, of course, an office in Harrisburg. When you call or write to them, make sure you identify yourself as one of their constituents. Don't be discouraged if you speak to one of the legislative aids. They are ones that inform the legislators about the issue for which you are advocating.

How does anyone find out about the issues? There are several ways that you can find information. If you are a Facebook user, please join The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International US Forum Group. This group posts frequently about legislation and encourages you to contact your legislator to support these important bills. Read the "US Forum Connection" which comes out several times a year. If you use email, watch for invitations from the US Forum to participate in webinars to stay informed about the issues. They are also offering wonderful programs to promote mental health for educators. And lastly, if you have a real interest in advocacy, consider going to the DKG US Forum National Legislative Seminar in Washington DC., March 10-13, 2024.

The US Forum has an Advocacy Statement to which I would like to make a slight alteration. It states that "The US Forum (I would replace with "each DKG member") is dedicated to being an advocate for women, children, and education by implementing actions which enable change and improvement in social institutions, systems, legislation, and practices that impose hardships or impact negatively on individuals, groups, or families." This is a lifelong journey.

Congratulations to Sue Allen, Chi; Teresa Cavalier, Beta Rho; Arlene Fuller, Alpha Beta; Angela Gates, Alpha Beta; Eileen Little, Chi; Amy Radford, Beta Rho; and Cindy Reynolds, Beta Rho!

These PA State members have had their submissions to the DKG Gallery of Fine Arts accepted for the fall of 2023. Their submissions can be viewed on page 14.

Apply for the Nancy Grove Visionary Fund Award and Make Your Vision a Reality!

The Pennsylvania State Organization Nancy Grove Visionary Fund awards a grant to in-service active teacher members to fund innovative ideas and activities related to Excellence in Education within the educational community. This annual award is administered by the Past State Presidents of the Pennsylvania State Organization and will be awarded at the annual state convention. The grant is to be used during the school year immediately following the state convention. **It is imperative that the recipient be in attendance at the Pennsylvania State Organization Convention to receive her award.**

At the end of her biennium in 1995, then Pennsylvania State Organization President Nancy Grove recommended the creation of a new fund to be known as the Visionary Fund. Nearing the dawn of a new Millennium and realizing the technological challenges that awaited our State Organization, President Nancy proposed that the fund be used for the future development and needs of the State at the discretion of the State President.

(see Nancy Grove page 10)

(Nancy Grove from page 9)

Since its creation the Visionary Fund has been used to start the development of the Creative Arts Retreat and to help finance meeting expenses and materials for the 2011 Northeast Regional Steering Committee in Hershey. Fast forward to today and keeping Nancy's vision in mind, it was proposed that the Past State Presidents permanently manage the fund and that it help fund through the awarding of grants to active in-service educators innovative teaching ideas in their classrooms or community.

A visionary plants seeds for the future and nourishes them by imagination, innovation, wisdom, and action. The Nancy Grove Visionary Fund has the means to turn innovation into action and bring ideas to fruition. What are your dreams? What is something new and innovative you'd like to try in your classroom? Deadline to apply is February 1, 2024, and the application can be accessed through the State Website. Apply now and your vision just might be realized through the Nancy Grove Visionary Fund Award!

Call for Workshop Proposals

Margie Zorn, Professional Affairs Chair, Alpha Delta
Marcie Erickson, First Vice President/EEC Coordinator, Beta Epsilon



Now that daylight savings time has ended and 2023 is moving into its end-of-year festivities, the Educational Excellence Committee is beginning its preparations for the June 2024 PA State Convention. Like many seasonal benchmarks, convention planning, too, has its cyclical traditions, and one of the most enriching is the call for workshop proposals from our state membership.

Our members possess many skills, innovative ideas, and educational experiences. Presenting and sharing at state convention is a community-building endeavor that enriches and energizes others, even beyond our membership, when workshop participants return home and put into practice what inspired them at convention.

The Educational Excellence Committee and Professional Affairs Committee encourage members to submit a workshop proposal either as an individual or as a small collaborative group. Proposal applications can be found on the Pennsylvania State Organization (PSO) website - dkgpa.weebly.com (on the home page > 2024 State Convention > Workshop Proposals.)

The deadline for submitting a workshop proposal is Friday, December 22, 2023. Submit completed applications to Professional Affairs Chair Margie Zorn, Alpha Delta. Margie's contact information can be found on the PSO website in the password-protected directory. To access the directory, select the 23-25 PA State Directory button on the home page (Home > 23-25 PA State Directory) and click on the Pennsylvania State Organization Directory link. If you need the password to access the directory, contact your chapter president or State President Royce.

Album of Distinction

Tina Smith-Gilbert, Album of Distinction Chair, Alpha Beta



The Educational Excellence Committee is in search of members who have received an award or honor for their life's work outside DKG and represents Purpose #6...To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members, and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action. This accolade should represent a member's passion to work for and improve the lives of others on a global, community, or personal level. Last year we honored a chapter for the first time during our AOD ceremony. The honor or award for individuals and chapters needs to have been bestowed between January 1 to December 31, 2023.

Applications and guidelines for the Album of Distinction can be found on the Pennsylvania State website: dkgpa.weebly.com. Applications can be found under the Awards/Scholarships tab. Applicants can be nominated by their chapter president or self-nominations can be accepted with chapter president's signature. All applications will need a clear JPEG photo or clear print photo (see AOD page 11)

(AOD from page 10)

submitted to the AOD committee: no applications will be accepted without a photo. Applications must be submitted by March 1, 2024, to Tina Smith-Gilbert, Alpha Beta. Tina's contact information can be found in the State Directory. Contact your chapter president if you need the password to access the State Directory. If a member is accepted as an AOD recipient, she will be given her award during the ceremony on June 19, 2024, at the State Convention.

The Album of Distinction committee is looking forward to reviewing all applications received. AOD award recipients will be contacted in early April so they can plan to attend the State Convention in June.

Finance Committee Report

Trisha Dilick, Finance Committee Chair, Alpha Theta



It is almost time for the State Finance Committee to start developing the budget for 2024-2025. To ensure our budget meets the needs of the Pennsylvania State Organization, the finance committee requests that **ALL** Committee Chairs and Officers submit budget requests by March 15, 2024. These requests should be sent to Trisha Dilick. Trisha's contact information can be found in the State Directory on the PA website. The directory is password-protected; contact your chapter president or State President Royce Boyd if you need the password. If the committee does not receive a request from you, the committee will assume that your committee is satisfied with your present level of funding.

Also, I want to remind First Vice Presidents that I will be sending out an evaluation survey soon, asking for input on the performance of the State Treasurer, *The Keystone* Editor, and the IT Specialist. Each chapter will be asked to evaluate one of these positions. This survey will be used to determine their stipends for the year. Please fill it out and return as requested, preferably to Trisha's email address by April 1, 2024.

Finally, I want to remind all Finance Chairs throughout the state to please refer to the Finance Guidelines document for record keeping. If you do not have one, the booklet can be requested from the International Society website. Please be aware that all chapter bank statements, as well as all receipts and budget reports, should be maintained for four years. Copies of Membership Form 18 should be maintained for seven years.

Thank you to all chapter Finance Chairs and Treasurers for your diligence in keeping your chapters on firm financial foundations.

Rosebud Recognition 2024 - What Have You Noticed Lately?

Nancy Schnelli, State Achievement Award Chair, Chi



New members are doing great things for sure.

Delta Kappa Gamma women need to be recognized for their time and efforts within our organization. Notice new members within your chapter that could be recognized for the 2024 Rosebud Recognition Award?

Stop and take time to recognize the great work newer members are doing. Think about attendance. Think about chapter meeting planning. Think about leadership. Think about women that help without being asked. Identify a member worthy of the Rosebud Recognition Award now. This member needs to be a woman with 3-5 years of membership. There is no age minimum for this award. We are on the lookout for a member who has shown stellar leadership qualities and could have an active interest at the state level as well as the local level.

The deadline will be here before you know it - March 15, 2024. Send nomination forms 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). Any questions? Contact the State Achievement Award chair, Nancy Schnelli.

Podcasts and Blogs Galore!

Kristine Reynolds, Second Vice President/Membership Chair, Beta Kappa



The International Membership and Expansion Committee recently held an Inside Membership Zoom Meeting for State Organization Membership Chairs. The International committee members, Chairs, and other attendees discussed the general struggle of membership that occurs in the Society and shared insight on how to recruit and retain members. The Membership and Expansion Committee has recorded podcasts and written blogs which Chapter Membership Chairs and other officers may find helpful.

Podcast topics recorded by the Membership Committee:

<https://dkgsi.podbean.com>

- DKG Members: Who Qualifies for Membership?
- DKG Members: Tips on Retaining Members
- DKG Members: Reinstating Members

Blog topics covered by the Membership/Expansion Committee:

<https://dkgsi.blogspot.com> (Choose Membership/Expansion Committee within the top title bar)

- Project Spotlight
- Spotlight Outstanding DKG Members
- Retaining Your Members: Helpful Hints for Chapter Dues Collection
- Who Qualifies for Membership?
- Is There a Location in Your State Organization Where There Is No DKG Chapter?
- DKG Myths
- Will Your Members Continue in Your Chapter?

In addition to the blog topics listed above, other International Committees have also written blogs on various topics at the same link: <https://dkgsi.blogspot.com> (Choose the committee within the top title bar)

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| • Communications and Marketing Committee | • Nominations Committee |
| • Constitution Committee | • Non-Dues Revenue Committee |
| • Finance Committee | • Scholarship Committee |
| • Golden Gift Committee | • US Forum Committee |
| • Leadership Development Committee | • World Fellowship Committee |

As a reminder, to report the death of a member and have her name appear in State and International Celebration of Life materials, please send Form 6 - Report of the Death of a Member - to me, the State Membership Chair, as well as Susan Blazosky, State Treasurer, and to International Member Services at mem@dkg.org. My contact information can be found in the State Directory on the PA State website (dkgpa.weebly.com) - Home > PA State Directory. If you need the password to access the directory, contact your Chapter President or President Royce.

Form 6 can be downloaded from dkg.org. Log in and under MyDKG, select Forms and then Membership. It is the first form listed and can be typed into directly and emailed or printed, filled out by hand, and sent via USPS.

World Fellowship

Rose Ann Colosimo, World Fellowship Chair, Theta



This year we do not have anyone studying in Pennsylvania. You can establish communication with the World Fellowship recipients by sending welcome emails, as well as holiday greetings, birthday cards, thinking of you cards, gift cards, thank you notes, and stamps throughout the year. Perhaps one of the ladies is studying a field you would like to know more about or you want to share your expertise with her. I am sure any of them would love a note or card, whether by email or U.S. mail!

(World Fellowship from page 12)

Fellowship Chairwoman or Chapter President for further information.

Another way to support World Fellowship is to remember a loved one or special friend by sending a memorial or special tribute for a birthday, anniversary, or special occasion! Form 43 is located on the International Website under DKGIF. You can also send a check to Rose Ann Colosimo, and I will fill out the paperwork and send it to International. All checks should be made out directly to the World Fellowship Fund.

Many wonderful, lasting bonds can be created with our World Fellowship recipients.

In Memoriam

Christine Woodward
Alpha Zeta
February 11, 2023

Christine was inducted into DKG in 2017. Chris was a strong, kind, caring, and giving mother, sister, daughter, and friend with an infectious smile. She attended Mansfield University where she played basketball and earned her Bachelor's Degree in education in 1997. She went on to earn her Master's Degree from Wilkes University. She taught in the Troy School District for almost 15 years, the Elmira School District for 7 years, and the Philadelphia School District for 2 years.

Joyce A. Van Dusen
Alpha Zeta
September 25, 2022

Joyce was inducted into DKG in 1977. Joyce was a strong, independent woman who set an example to those who were fortunate enough to meet her along her path. She graduated with her Bachelor's in elementary education from Mansfield University in 1962, her Master's in elementary education from Elmira College in 1969, and her principal's certificate from Penn State in 1971. Joyce taught in the Towanda School District and became the elementary principal where she served until her retirement in August 1995.

Sandra Neighbour
Alpha Zeta
January 23, 2023

Sandra was inducted into DKG in 1979. Sandra earned her Master's in teaching from Keuka College. She taught at Sayre schools for many years before going to work at Binghamton University in Administration. She retired from Empire State College in Binghamton. Sandra enjoyed shopping, flowers, and her garden.

Martha Palumbo
Alpha Epsilon
July 25, 2023

Martha "Marty" was inducted into DKG in 2003. Marty attended Jamestown Business College, Jamestown Community College, SUNY Geneseo, and graduate school at Clarion State College. She was an accomplished speech therapist for 35 years at the Seneca Intermediate Unit 9 and worked mostly in the Otto-Eldred and Oswayo Valley School Districts. After retirement, Marty was a volunteer at the Bradford Hospital and an exercise instructor for seniors at the Bradford YMCA.

Diana "Dede" Rittman
Alpha Xi
August 2, 2023

Although Dede was only a member of Alpha Xi for 9 years, she was a very active member. She attended meetings regularly and was always an enthusiastic participant. She wrote an award-winning children's book, *Grady Gets Glasses*, and received the Album of Distinction 3 times for her work as an author. She taught English and Theatre at North Allegheny Intermediate High School for 37 years. Dede was also a motivational speaker, blogger, producer, and co-host of Total Tutor Education Network. She was a beloved teacher and an exceptional woman who had an everlasting impact on all who knew her.

Clare Farrell
Erie
September 1, 2023

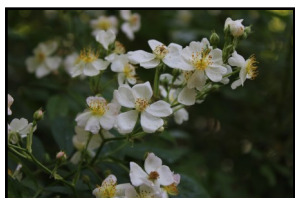
Clare was inducted into DKG in 1983 and held many leadership roles including president. She graduated from Villa Maria College in 1960 with a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education. Clare spent her 33-year-long teaching career at Hamilton and Grover Cleveland Elementary Schools, retiring in 1993.

(see In Memoriam page 15)

PSO Members in DKG International Fall 2023 Fine Arts Gallery



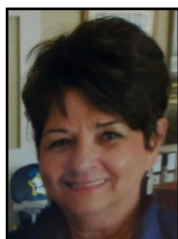
Sue Allen, Chi



"Wild Roses in Bloom"



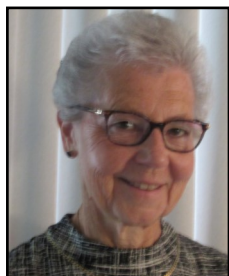
"Rising from the Floor"



Arlene Fuller,
Alpha Beta



"In Memory Quilt"



Cindy Reynolds,
Beta Rho



"Celebrating Dance"



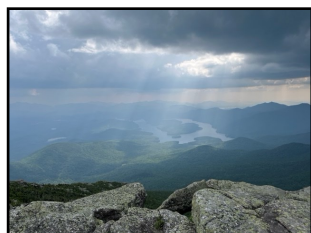
"Suncatcher Rose Bud"



Amy Radford,
Beta Rho



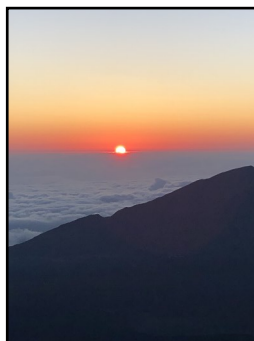
"A Misty Sunrise
on the Lake"



"View from Whiteface
after a Storm"



Eileen Little, Chi



"Haleakala Sunrise,
Maui"



"Kilauea Point
National Wildlife
Refuge, Hawaii"



Angela Gates,
Alpha Beta



"Kaleidoscope of
Flowers"



"A Common Field One
Day, A Field of Honor
Forever, Flight 93 Site"



Teresa Cavalier,
Beta Rho



"Designer Paper Handbag"

(In Memoriam from page 13)

Aleida Jackson
Alpha Xi
August 14, 2023

Since becoming a member of DKG in 2000, Aleida helped and represented Alpha Xi in a variety of ways during her time as an active member. She served as a hostess at meetings, and she worked on various committees such a projects, programs, and educational services, and as a U.S. Forum liaison. Aleida earned a Bachelor of Science degree in home economics education from Indiana University of PA in 1970 and later a Master's Degree in secondary counseling from Shippensburg University. She taught in the Shaler Area School District for over 30 years and retired in 2005.

Yvonne Marie Baldwin
Beta Delta
September 6, 2023

Inducted into DKG in 1985, Yvonne was an active participant in all of the service projects and programs of Beta Delta, and she served on a number of committees. In 2013 Yvonne was a PA State Album of Distinction honoree for earning the Girl Scouts of America Thanks II Badge. She taught 2nd grade for 41 years in the South Western School District. She spent 67+ years in Girl Scouting, including as a leader of 3 very active troops (Junior, Cadette, and Senior), who spent much time doing community service projects. In her retirement years, Yvonne was a facilitator for the Girl Scouts' Nature Explorers program.

Welcome to Our PSO New Inductees

Zeta

Alexis Patton

Xi

Carol Sutzko

Alpha Zeta

Jenni Lane
Theresa May
Amy Pautz
Jennifer Seeley

Beta Iota

Katrina Allwein
Susan Catanzaro
Diane Nell
Amy O'Hare
Eileen Tharp

Lambda

Karyn Senita
Michelle Shingledecker

Pi

Jeannette Jones

Psi

Heather Good
Leslie Hanley
Julie Horner

Alpha Mu

Kara Hess
Alexis McAvoy

Beta Xi

Francine Davis

Nu

Christina Boltz
Kristin Hoffer
Nicole Malinoski
Susan Pokorny
Mariah Rackley
Amy Shirk

Alpha Delta

Marilyn Cornell
Krista Fioravanti
Kayla Rypczyk
Jayme St. Clair

Beta Delta

Debra Sowers

Beta Pi

Beth Uckele

Beta Epsilon

Erica Reighard

Erie

Jordan Caldwell

President Royce's Schedule

January 9, 2024:	Chapter Presidents' Zoom
March 16, 2024:	Scholarship Meeting
April 13, 2024:	Kappa, Alpha Kappa, Beta Theta, and Beta Iota Visit
April 20, 2024:	4-Chapter Brunch with Beta Gamma, Beta Delta +
April 27, 2024:	Alpha Sigma, Lambda, Zeta, and Alpha Omicron Visit
May 2, 2024:	Sigma Visit
May 3-4, 2024:	Finance Meeting
May 18, 2024:	Alpha Phi, Theta, and Alpha Xi Visit
May 23, 2024:	Nu Visit
June 1, 2024:	Erie Visit
June 18-19, 2024:	Chapter Presidents and Leadership Training
June 19-21, 2024:	State Convention/Leadership Seminar
June 27, 2024:	Alpha Beta Visit
July 9-14, 2024:	International Convention

The Keystonian

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trae917@brockwaytv.com

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SUBMISSION DEADLINE DATES:

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

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140 McCracken Run Road
DuBois, PA 15801



Important Dates

December 15, 2023:	<i>Bulletin:</i> Collegial Exchange submissions DKG Ignite Applications
February 1, 2024:	Scholarship Applications Educators Book Award Submissions Nancy Grove Visionary Fund Award
February 15, 2024:	Arts & Humanities Submissions for Spring Gallery
March 1, 2024:	Album of Distinction Applications DKGIEF Project Applications <i>Bulletin:</i> Journal Submissions
March 10-13, 2024:	National Legislative Seminar, Washington, D.C.
March 15, 2024:	Rosebud Award Applications
April 30, 2024:	Dissertation Recognition
May 1, 2024:	DKGIEF Cornet CIPD Applications International Committee Recommendations Editorial Board Applications Jury Applications
May 15, 2024:	<i>Bulletin:</i> Journal Submissions Report of Chapter Officers
June 30, 2024:	Members to submit dues to chapter treasurers