



CENTOS

The Ontario Newsletter for Teachers Who Make a Difference
Education in a Global Community for an Optimal Future
Collaborate ♦ Communicate ♦ Commit



Published Since 1967

Beta State (Ontario) News

Winter/Spring
2018

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

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Have a Society question?

Need quick answers?
International
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Ontario, Canada

The IN Place to BE
Ottawa
for the
Spring Convention
April 20-21, 2018

ALL MEMBERS
are NEEDED



Daring to kindle growth! "Changes, changes very scary changes that keep me the way that I am"(from *Rosepetal Hall*, a children's album by Marie Osmond) I have just finished reading all the proposed changes in the international constitution and standing rules. I am very excited about them. Here is some of what is being proposed. (The best parts!)

A name change to "Women Educators International (DKG)". This was proposed by our sisters in British Columbia. States will now be known by **only** their geographic names. This is already a practice by Austin. There are big changes to classifications of membership.

- Fifty year+ members will now be classified as "emeritus".
- New members will now be *inducted* not initiated.
- Prospective members may *apply* to become member, but can still be invited.
- A brand new classification of membership is **collegial**. This opens the doors to a woman in college or university to become an active member. She must be enrolled in an education degree, and intent in continuing in the education field. She can participate fully in DKG affairs but cannot hold elected office. The international portion of her dues would be \$20.00 US. If after two years from graduating she is not active in education then her membership would be withdrawn.

Changes in the constitution can happen every two (2) years instead of every four (4) years. A lot of the other proposed changes are word changes or housekeeping items.

I am very excited about the name change. It gets away from the stigma of a perceived sorority. When I talk to women about DKG they often say "It sounds like a sorority. No thanks!" The name change gives the indication that we are serious educators.

One of the biggest membership challenges we have had is contacting prospective new members, getting to know them, inviting them to membership and, then initiating them. With the new membership category collegial, we can participate in job fairs and info days in local education facilities and community colleges, getting the word out about what DKG is about and what great programs it offers. Growing our chapters means change. (continued on page 20)

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International Website:
www.dkg.org
Beta State Website
www.dkgteachersontario

The submission date for this issue of Centos was February 14, 2018:

Valentine's Day. This day is supposed to represent love and commitment.

So if you love Centos and are committed to seeing it continue in the future, please consider stepping forward and taking on the role of editor.

The next issue will be my last!



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**Events to Mark on your
Calendar**

Spring Conference
April 20-21, 2018
Ottawa

DKG Convention
Austin, Texas
July 16- 20, 2018

**Let's Keep Beta State
Up-to-Date**

Please send address or telephone changes, new email addresses, and addresses of new initiates to:

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CENTOS Publication Dates:

Submission Deadline:
June 17, 2018

Publication
The *next* issue of CENTOS:
July 8, 2018



Please send submissions for the Summer CENTOS to Lyn Harrison.

**"SAVE your copy of
CENTOS!"**



Greetings From Your Area Representative Canada.

Greetings and wishes for the very best in 2018! Much gratitude from your Ontario

Sisters and your ARC for your wonderful efforts resulting in 2017's extremely successful NERC in Windsor, Ontario. Your support, assistance, and the enthusiastic participation of those who were able to attend were all appreciated. We trust that you experienced the many blessings attendance at events beyond the chapter level bring, and that you shared your experiences with your chapter members who couldn't be there. Special thanks for the leadership of the steering committee. Congratulations to Aggie Moynihan as she continues her regional leadership as North East Regional Director. Know that your Beta State Ontario Sisters are here for you, supporting you any way you require.

It has been exciting learning about the work being done across the country, seeing the similarities in types of projects, hearing expressions of gratitude from recipients of DKG generosity, and meeting many of the new young women joining DKG. I am thrilled to report that we are having a wonderful surge of new members across the country. Many chapters are successfully applying suggestions from the website. Have you been on the new website? It was developed to be easier to navigate and to provide ever increasing resources enabling members and chapters to function with increasing effectiveness and efficiency in fulfilling multiple aspects of our mission. There will also be a new app to watch for with the same goals. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have 100% of Canadian members visiting the website regularly. Can Ontario set the example by being the first to have 100% of our members connected? Did you see the Member Highlight of our Canadian Saskatchewan member last month? Is there an Ontario member whom we can present for a future issue? I know there are several!

Our hearts and thoughts go out to those who have suffered natural disasters in southern

areas, and our thanks to New Brunswick's President, Roberte Melanson, for spearheading fundraising and action to let our Sisters know we care. Several Canadian chapters and provinces had already contributed to the International Emergency Fund, and individual actions were determined to be the preference rather than a combined Canadian action. The total assistance provided by our DKG Emergency Fund by the November meetings was \$91,500 and continued funds will be needed once infrastructure is repaired and schools reopened.

Accolades and congratulations are extended to Quebec State President, Barb Angus with the publication of her book "Beads on a Necklace". What a wonderful model of life-long learning, team work with other authors, the blessings of literacy to share information and history for the benefit of future generations, and sharing gifts and talents to inspire others to follow your example. I thank Barb, for inspiring us, and modelling exemplary use of gifts and talents to make a difference for others. So many will be touched and inspired by her book and example. I wonder how many future books will be sparked by Barb's courage and diligence.

Have you made plans to in Austin from July 16 - 20th, 2018 to enjoy the opportunity to see headquarters? This is where it all began! We need your support for amendments aimed to make important changes to move the Society forward. Will you participate in this important step in continuing the mission and work started by Annie Webb Blanton? Her work has accomplished so much over the years, and is as relevant today as it was when DKG began in 1929? Watch for and review the many proposed amendments in the DKG NEWS and on the website. There are many aspects of the Society being examined and addressed and this is a unique opportunity to be part of simplification which will be as inviting, efficient, and effective as possible to keep us moving forward. Be informed and prepared to contribute to discussions and decisions, and let your delegates to the International Convention in Austin know your opinions.

The Ad Hoc Committee struck at the 2017 NERC Canada Forum to investigate the option

of Canada as a Region is awaiting the results from Ontario to the survey distributed in the fall and due January 31st. Have you completed the survey and returned it to your president?

Thank you for all you do to add to the tapestry of DKG's significant contributions making a positive difference across the world. Every member, every chapter counts, as we initiate the "butterfly effect", sending forth energy that builds, as it continues to expand across the world, beginning with you and the significant happenings within individual chapters.

WE ARE LEADING WOMEN EDUCATORS IMPACTING EDUCATION WORLDWIDE.

Thank you for all you do! Best wishes for success and fulfillment in 2018.

Sincerely, Joan Wolfe, Area Representative Canada, 2016-2018.



A DKG Opportunity

Submitted by: Kathryn Derby

While my husband, Bob and I were on our Baltic Cruise this summer, I emailed two Estonian DKG sisters to see if we might be able to meet when we arrived in Tallinn. Both of them replied immediately - Erika to say that she was currently out of the country, and Anu to accept the invitation. We corresponded for a bit, and then planned to meet under the clock in the main town square on August 3. I went into the town to walk around for an hour or so before our appointed time. Tallinn is a beautiful old medieval city with an interesting history. At 4 pm Anu and I met and walked through the narrow cobblestone streets to a pub that Anu knew. We spent the next hour

and a half talking over a beer. Anu is a lovely woman, a teacher of English in Tallinn. My initial concern (what will we talk about!) flew out the window! We discussed our experiences in DKG, especially that of hosting a regional conference. Estonia had hosted the European one this summer as Ontario had hosted the NERC. We discussed our countries, our families, our plans for the future, our lives. If I hadn't had to return to the ship, we would have continued much longer. It was an amazing experience. What a delight to find such common ground in DKG with a sister from another continent. Next time you are traveling, look up the names of DKG members in the city or country you are visiting. Send them an email. Give them a call. You will be as excited to visit with them as I was to meet Anu.



Anu Ariste, Past President of DKG Estonia and Kathryn Derby, Past President of Beta State Ontario in Tallinn, Estonia,

The church in the town square in Tallinn, Estonia. This is where Kathryn and Anu met.



International News

International Nominations: to be voted on at the DKG Convention in Austin, Texas: July 16 – 20, 2018

PRESIDENT: Cathy P. Daugherty

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT: Becky Sadowski

SECOND VICE PRESIDENT: Dr. Lace Marie Brogden

EUROPE REGIONAL DIRECTOR: Ingibjörg Jónasdóttir

NORTHEAST REGIONAL DIRECTOR: Jane D. Tanner

NORTHWEST REGIONAL DIRECTOR: Dr. Donna Niday

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL DIRECTOR: Elaine Warwick

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DIRECTOR: Marilyn Gregory

MEMBER AT LARGE: Connie Rensink

AREA REPRESENTATIVE (CANADA): Betty Rose

AREA REPRESENTATIVE (LATIN AMERICA): Aurora Vignau

FINANCE: Margery Threewit and Dr. Margie Nowak

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION: Merry Lewis and Beth Schieber

EUROPE NOMINATIONS: Eygló Björnsdóttir

NORTHEAST NOMINATIONS: Deborah Rodaway

NORTHWEST NOMINATIONS: Lynna Gene Cook

SOUTHEAST NOMINATIONS: Ramona Jeffries

SOUTHWEST NOMINATIONS: Kathy Davis

Looking for an Autumn Get-away.

Cruise out of Seattle to Alaska
See towering blue glaciers, spot whales,
View totem poles in Ketchikan

Join the DKG Alaskan Glacier Cruise
Aboard the Celebrity Solstice
August 29 – September 8, 2018

Bring a spouse, a friend, a colleague
Tour the Seattle Fish Market,
Pass through a 20-mile fjord,
Learn about the 1800 Gold Rush,
Have fun!



For more information contact
Carolyn@rants.net
Or
alaskacruisedkg.grouptoursite.com
Or call
1.800.438.7672



World Fellowship Recipients' Update

Did you know that the World Fellowship program that is run by our International body was begun by our beloved Dr. A.T. Sheehan, (Sister Toni to us). This worthwhile program awards scholarships to women working at a post graduate, masters or doctorate level. The recipients must be from non DKG member countries. Candidates apply. The applications are then vetted for completeness and sent on to the International World Fellowship committee. The program is totally funded by member donations so the number of awards varies annually. We have four universities in Ontario that receive World Fellowship students. Sister Toni is in her 90's and is anxious to hand this program over to new blood. Could this be your chance to be *daring to kindle growth* and take this challenge?

The following are two letters sent to Sister Toni and Omicron by World Fellowship recipients to update Beta State:

During the past twelve months, I have spent several weeks conducting fieldwork in New Zealand and the south Pacific. I am a PhD student in Linguistics, and in my research I aim to understand how human languages are structured, produced, and understood. By looking at a wide variety of languages (there are around 7000 languages spoken around the world today!), linguists try to understand how grammars may both vary and at the same time show striking commonalities. My dissertation focuses on the syntax of Niuean, a Polynesian language spoken in New Zealand and on Niue- a small coral island, a 3.5 hour flight north of Auckland, just the other side of the date line. I am studying how sentence transitivity and event structure are processed by speakers, which, in turn, may offer insight into why certain languages are structured the way they are.

In November 2016, I spent six weeks in Auckland, New Zealand, working with a native speaker of Niuean to compile and record materials for an experimental eye-tracking study. This involves measuring eye movements on a display board in relation to auditory stimuli, in order to determine which parts of a sentence are easier or more difficult to process, relative to others. In April and May of this year, I returned to the south Pacific, and traveled this time to Niue Island to conduct the experiment. I spent four weeks there running the study, meeting many lovely Niue islanders, presenting my research to the community, and discussing what Linguistics is all about. I was also very fortunate to have time to explore the island, and appreciate the relaxed Niuean lifestyle. Now back in Toronto, I am currently coding the data from the study and hope to begin writing up the research over the coming weeks.

A huge thank you to all at Delta Kappa Gamma for your support and encouragement - I have been so fortunate to be a part of such a superb network!

Becky
Rebecca Tollan



World Fellowship Recipients' Update (continued)

Dear DKG Society,

I am Catia Perciani, an international student from Brazil pursuing a PhD in Immunology at the University of Toronto. It is my pleasure to share with the members of DKG some of my recent advances in my doctoral study. My topic of research is HIV/AIDS vaccine development. I work with Dr. Kelly MacDonald and the Kenyan AIDS Vaccine Initiative (KAVI) testing the safety and protective aspects of the chickenpox virus (also called Varicella Zoster virus or VZV), as a prospective carrier for HIV genes in an HIV vaccine. After VZV infection or vaccination, the virus persists in the body in a dormant state lifelong. Periodically though, the virus 'reawakens' which effectively boosts the immune response allowing it to prevent secondary infections caused by VZV. This is a great feature that could potentially be incorporated into an HIV vaccine in hopes of generating a similar lifelong durable immune response against HIV.

As African women are disproportionately affected by HIV infection, my study focuses on characterizing aspects of the immune system at the female genital tract as well as susceptibility to HIV in a cohort of Kenyan women following vaccination with a VZV vaccine. The study protocol for this clinical trial has been recently published as a peer reviewed article by BMJ Open (the full article can be accessed at <http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/bmjopen/7/9/e017391.full.pdf>). The experimental part of this project has been concluded this September, and I am currently working on the data analysis for this study. I was very happy to see participants' feedback about the study, including how much they have learnt about their health status and about how to prevent sexually transmitted diseases. Volunteers' compliance to the study visits and their high interest in taking part in future clinical studies reflect their satisfaction with this trial.

Due to the nature of this project I was given the opportunity not to only develop my scientific skills but also ethical, logistical, and interpersonal skills, which were of paramount importance for successfully conducting this study. Additionally, I helped transferring knowledge and technology to the KAVI institute. This collaborative work will help us move more efficiently towards an efficacious HIV

vaccine.

There have been several roadblocks and challenges during these years of study, and I assure that the kind words received from the DKG sisters were very encouraging and motivating; as was the financial support I received from DKG. Thank you all!

Sincerely,
Catia ---

Catia T. Perciani Ph.D. Candidate
Department of Immunology
Faculty of Medicine, University of Toronto
Email: c.perciani@mail.utoronto.ca

From the Educational Foundation

What is a great way to spend Wednesday night, July 18th during the Austin International Convention? Not in your room! Not making a restaurant search! Not paying a huge cover charge to see a local band!

Join the fun at *THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF AUSTIN* right in the JW Marriott Lone Star Ballroom when the DKG Educational Foundation hosts its second annual Fundraising Event. Tickets for the event may be ordered on the Convention Registration form, and are \$155 per person.

Wednesday, July 18
JW Marriott
Lone Star Ballroom

SAVE THE DATE
FOR THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF AUSTIN

Dinner, dancing, fun,
and entertainment
all night long!

★
DKG EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION
FUNDRAISING EVENT

A spectacular dinner and entertainment event featuring different
styles of Tex-Mex cuisine, talent from local artists, and live dancing.
Tickets may be ordered on the Convention Registration Form.

Project Updates

Berekum Update February 2018

Submitted by: Debbie Rodaway

The school in Berekum is up and running. It has 3 classrooms and 50 students. Presently they are raising money to build a kitchen so the students can have at least one meal a day. When the kitchen is finished they will build more classrooms. The pencils, decorations and notebooks were sent over in August by container and should arrive later this month. Many thanks to all our members for their support of this project.

Dear members of DKG,

I have wonderful news about Osotwa. The smartphone revolution has very recently completely bypassed the need for computers. We have received frequent WhatsApp messages from our Masai friends. Lucas, son of our first Osotwa teachers Namayana and William at Sanjan speaks English and communicates that Sanjan preprimary school is operating well. Michael, another Osotwa teacher, has maintained his school through the long drought. His brother, Lawrence, is highly respected and trusted by the Masai community and he has provided us with a report today.

The community library has been completed. Next question for him is about the books we ordered several years ago.

There are 7 Osotwa preprimary schools in operation.

There are currently 297 students.

We are now eagerly awaiting the pictures and a video Lawrence has taken.

After another severe drought that resulted in the loss of many cattle the rains have arrived, grass has appeared and the wildebeest have begun their migration.

What a miracle of technology that allows a Masai herdsman leaning on his spear to send words and photos to us in Turkey! Dale and I and our Masai friends in the Salei Plain of Tanzania will be forever grateful for the support we received from DKG.

Best wishes,
Joanne Elmer



Pictures showing the progress of the school in Osotwa.

CHAPTER CHATTER

Gamma Chatter, London, ON



Submitted by: Mary Jane Etcher

Gamma's December meeting is a chapter favourite! We combine the celebration of our chapter birthday with the beginning of the Christmas season. The actual date of our birthday is December 10th and we hold a birthday luncheon on the

closest Saturday.

Our meeting this year was held at the Highland Country Club. We have chosen this venue for a number of years now. Jacquie Caldwell, one of our chapter members, has a membership at the Highland and helps to facilitate the arrangements. It is always a lovely event. Looking out the large windows of the dining room onto the golf course, we could see snow falling gently. Beautiful!

Bette Ferguson welcomed everyone, extending a special welcome to Elizabeth Van Dongen of Eta Chapter.

Joan Slater coordinated the birthday ceremony that celebrated 56 years as a chapter. Kathy Campbell, Marilyn Elford and Margaret Otton participated in the ceremony. Mary Margaret Farrow led us in the singing of the Delta Kappa Gamma song. Charter member Margaret Brown and long-time member Maisie Allen performed the ceremonial cutting of the birthday cake. Following grace, a lovely luncheon was served.

As is our chapter custom, members brought books to donate to the "Book for Every Child" campaign. Carol Coulter suggested this Birthday/Christmas project many years ago and it has been continued every December since then. This year, 27 books and 2 monetary donations were received and subsequently delivered to a London Public Library.

The donated items were used to help fill requests from various social agencies for needy children. After lunch, we gathered around the beautifully decorated Christmas tree in the fireplace room, where Stephanie Allen played the piano and led the members in the singing of familiar Christmas carols. Stephanie provided information about the origin of many of the carols, which added interest to our singsong. As always, the singing was interspersed with lots of stories and laughter.

Red roses were presented to special members

Margaret Brown and Maisie Allen, as well as to our Eta Chapter guest, Elizabeth Van Dongen. Bette thanked Jacquie Caldwell and Joan Slater for organizing a most enjoyable birthday celebration. She wished everyone the best of the season and finished with a reading from the book *Finding Joy*. The lovely setting, the enjoyable program and the Christmas music left us all in a festive mood. In January, an executive meeting was held at the home of Gamma's president, Ellen Atkinson. In spite of the wintry weather, there was perfect attendance at the meeting. Congratulations ladies! That's dedication.

Sadly, several Gamma members have experienced the loss of a loved one recently.

Doreen Knight's husband Wally passed away in November 2017 and Joan Slater's husband Derek passed away this January. Marg Hyde's sister-in-law Catherine lost her battle with cancer in January also. Our heartfelt condolences go out to these very special chapter members.

Since Ellen Atkinson's return from Hanoi, Vietnam, she has been busy designing a boy's quilt for her newly adopted grandson, Vuoe. The fabric art features transportation with vehicles on the back and construction equipment on the front. Since arriving in Vancouver, Vuoe has been busy exploring his new home. Samantha, Ellen's adopted granddaughter, is 7 years old now and delighted to have a new baby brother to love. Vuoe's adoption has been a very positive experience for the whole family.

When your March issue of Centos arrives, Ellen will have returned from her winter escape to Portugal. The weather was cooler about 14 to 24 degrees C but daily walks by the ocean and site seeing in a variety of locations were possible.

Mary Margaret Farrow spent 10 days at the cottage during the holiday season, enjoying the beauty of clean, fresh snow, while she observed some interesting shadows cast on the winter landscape. Too cold for skiing or snowshoeing at -31 degrees C., her observation points were the windows of her warm, cozy cottage.

Bette Ferguson spent an enjoyable Christmas in Denver with her brother's family.

CHAPTER CHATTER (and more)

We are pleased to report that Nonnie Butson is doing well as she recovers from recent hip surgery. Nonnie is looking forward to attending her granddaughter's wedding in London this spring.

Two other Gamma members have escaped to Florida for the winter months. Both Kathy Campbell and Margaret Otton are enjoying warmer climates. A welcome change from our 2018 Canadian winter!

Maisie and Stephanie Allen enjoyed a weeklong, Western Caribbean cruise, over Christmas. It included biking and kayaking on Holland America's private island *Half Moon Key*, river rafting on the Martha Brae River, near Montego Bay, Jamaica, observing rare blue iguanas and tropical flowers in Grand Cayman's botanical gardens and viewing pink spoonbill birds on a photography tour in Cozumel, Mexico. They have also been using their downhill skiing membership passes at Boler Mountain to enjoy all that our Ontario winter has to offer this year, including watching the Winter Olympics on the giant screen in the brand new chalet.

During March Break, Stephanie is off to Reggio Emilia, Italy, to once again participate in the Ontario Study Tour to learn even more about the teaching approach on which our Ontario Full-Day Kindergarten program is based and to visit in more of the schools there.

Many of us wintered in place this year and are looking forward to the arrival of spring. Members of Kappa Chapter, Ottawa, are working diligently to provide an enjoyable spring conference in April. It's the perfect time to visit Ottawa and renew our friendships with other DKG members once again. We hope to have a good size delegation from Gamma Chapter, London.



Margaret Brown & Maisie Allen cutting Gamma's Birthday Cake.



Maisie & Stephanie Allen rafting on the Martha Brae River in Jamaica

Some thoughts from The Curriculum of Hope

The Power of Positive Posting

Help students combat cyberbullying with Posting Positive. Posting Positive is posting a positive comment on social media, a photo of an act of kindness, or a video of someone helping. "It's a movement to stand up, share and feel the good in all of us instead of using digital space to complain, criticize, gossip or even make an insensitive comment". Challenge children to take a moment to celebrate someone in their life, creating a new normal on social media. <http://postingpositive.org/>

Word Walls of Kindness

A word wall is a collection of words which are displayed on a wall, bulletin board, or other surface in a classroom. The word wall is designed to be an interactive tool for students and contains an array of words that can be used during academics. Why not create a word wall of kindness in your classroom or for your whole school.

CHAPTER CHATTER

Kappa Chatter, Ottawa

Submitted by: Kappa Chapter

January brought some horrendous weather and difficult driving conditions to Ottawa. All of which impacted how many members were able to attend our January Luncheon, which we had named (somewhat ironically) *Meet Me In Savannah*. Those who were able to attend were treated to southern treats, including: Mint Juleps, Hot-Egg-and-Peanut Nibbles, Green Pea Soup with Arugula and Mint, Scalloped Cucumbers (we were skeptical, but we genuinely liked this dish), Lemon-Rosemary-Garlic Chicken and Potatoes, followed by Tropical Rice Pudding and Watermelon Mini Tarts.

Kappa/Ottawa looks forward to hosting you at Beta/Ontario's 2018 April Conference. We will be meeting at the Holiday Inn near the train station (formerly the Chimo Inn which many of you will remember) on April 20-21. Mini meetings and working meetings during February and March have been scheduled to prepare for this event. 2017, Canada's 150th Birthday Celebrations, resulted in very high prices in Ottawa. Every effort has been made to keep the 2018 costs comparable to the cost of April Meetings in 2011 and 2015!!

Our May meeting will feature *The Best and Worst Places to be a Woman in Canada: The Gender Gap in Canada's 25 Biggest Cities*, based on research completed by the Canadian Research Institute for the Advancement of Women and the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

Omicron Chatter, Toronto

On November 21st we enjoyed a delicious variety of snacks, refreshment and conversation before the Initiation ceremony as well as covering some business items and updates about DKG.

We welcomed our newest member, Alicia Hutton, who has attended every meeting this year so far. She is a mentee of Roseann Runte. We wish her much success and joy in her teaching career. Most importantly, we are honoured to have



September's meeting.

her in our midst while she attends her studies here in Toronto. This meeting was also an opportunity for us to welcome, in a more personal way, our new member, Veena Semprie, who was initiated at

It is a joy to share notes and ideas with such a positive thinker and active member of our society.



Omicron members with our two new initiates. Second from left is Vena Semprie, initiated in Sept. and our newest initiate. Alicia Hutton holding the rose.



Alicia Hutton and Sr. Toni in conversation at the September meeting.

This is just a friendly reminder that Beta State requires several leadership roles to be filled.

There is an immediate need for a Centos editor and a World Fellowship Chair.

We will also need members to fill the positions of Beta State President and First Vice President.

These positions provide opportunities for personal and professional growth.

CHAPTER CHATTER

Our **annual auction** on January 20 was a great success. Once again our auctioneers, Ann and David Watson kept us laughing and on our toes! What an example of team work -the proficient group in the kitchen, the members who set up and displayed items, guests who helped rearrange the furniture and tables, to all who brought guests and purchased treasures and to those who sent a donation because they could not attend. A big thank you!!

-16 members attended

-17 members contributed food

We had 24 guests including Debbie Rodaway, president of Beta State and Joanne Colbourne from Delta Chapter.

Total: \$3372.00



Members and guests examining the treasures to bid on.



Ann and David Watson, our fabulous and dedicated auctioneers!

As soon as Ann is finished with an item, David steps in and keeps things running smoothly keeping us interested and ready to bid.



Nu Chatter, Kingston

Submitted by: Jan Gollan

Nu chapter decided to try something new this year.

Instead of one member being responsible for the Nu News submission to Centos, the president asked for a volunteer at each meeting. Consequently, Jo-Anne Wheeler, Carol Rogers and Norma Reed are the contributors to this issue.

October Program

With Remembrance Day seventeen days away, members of Nu Chapter were fascinated by our guest speaker, Sherry Pringle, an artist and author from Napanee Ontario, who took four and a half years to write her book called "Extraordinary Women, Extraordinary Times ". It is about "the great contributions of Canadian Women in World War II". She featured over 61 Canadian women, telling how they contributed during the war. Stories include information about an artist, our only female war correspondent, nurses who worked in the battlefield, unlike doctors who worked in London, a Polish resistance lady whose war medal outranks that of the Armed Forces husband she met after the war, spies, aviators who flew more than 100 types of planes ferrying them from manufacturers to pilots who only flew a limited number of types of aircraft, and professional baseball players who took the place of men on the diamond.

November Program

The November meeting of Nu Chapter featured an inspirational speaker, Deb Wood. Her theme was **FORMER EDUCATORS NEVER RETIRE, THEY REPURPOSE.** Deb, herself, is a living testimony to this theme. After 35 years of teaching in the Ontario school system, she and her husband moved to Kingston. Deb taught for some time in the Kingston Skills and Literacy Program. Her skills and experiences led her in directions she never anticipated. She is now a qualified mediator, focussing on seniors' advocacy and advocacy

CHAPTER CHATTER

around safety for women. She conducts workshops with women, many who suffer from poverty and abuse. One such group named themselves the **PURPLE POSSE** and designed cards that can be carried in their purses. These cards list phone numbers of organizations that offer immediate assistance, e.g. Interval House. Deb spoke with sincerity and passion, as she described a reality that we often forget. She motivated us to recognize that we can repurpose rather than retire!

Christmas 2017

There can be no doubt that the annual Christmas gathering to celebrate at the home of Carol and Charlotte is one of the favourite meetings of the year! Seventeen Nu members, including our amazing Alice (wearing a pair of her signature fancy shoes) now a Reserve member and Deb Wood, our guest speaker in November, had a most enjoyable evening. Our dynamic music leader, Charlotte Clark, led us in singing our favourite Christmas songs as she accompanied on her grand piano. As part of our tradition, Mimi and Kathryn treated us to singing "O Christmas Tree" in German. Charlotte also led us in playing the bells - we are getting pretty good!! Our hostesses provided delicious treats and much socializing and laughter filled the air! Nu Members make suggestions in the autumn and then vote on the charity we will sponsor each year. We were so inspired with Deb's presentation that we decided that we wanted to help a needy family this year. Deb provided us with the name of a very needy "working poor" family – a single mom with two teenage sons. We were delighted to be able to provide \$440.00 for gift cards to help with their Christmas.

Due to inclement weather our plans for a January luncheon were cancelled, but we hope the weather will cooperate for our rescheduled date in February. On the bright side though, we presented our Margaret Craig Education Award of \$750 to a young female Queen's student and a second one of the same amount to a young female St. Lawrence College student. Two applications for the World Fellowship Scholarship were also sent to International.



Eta Chatter, London

Submitted by: Donna Baran

In October, Eta Chapter hosted Debra Bridgman, Principal of the Standing Stone School, Oneida of the Thames and Mary Joy Elijah, Director of the Language and Cultural Centre. These women

spoke to us about difference in indigenous education in terms of funding, appropriate curriculum etc. Due to the dedicated work of staff and some unique programs, reading scores have improved from level 1 to level 3. One such program has students working in gardens, planting, growing, and harvesting their own food. The school also funds a breakfast program which is sometimes the most nutritious meal the students receive all day. However this breakfast program is only funded until April and then the funding runs out and another program determined by the federal government is implemented. We received an invitation to visit. Hopefully, when the weather improves some Eta members will accept the invitation.

Mary Joe Elijah spoke to us about the loss of the Oneida language because there are fewer and fewer indigenous speakers. The students at Standing Stone are being taught their language by some of the few speakers left. The evening was very interesting and informative, with lots of learning on our parts occurring.

In November, we met at the home of Eta member, Mary Vernon. Jim Rule and his wife did a presentation about a service/learning trip Althouse students took which concentrated on the Holocaust. Jim led the trip the theme of which was: ***How do we Remember? How do we commemorate our past?***

He shared with us areas in both Germany and Poland where memorials have been established to help visitors and citizens alike learn/recall the loss of life, torture, and terrorism that occurred during WW II. He and his wife showed many pictures which enhanced the presentation.

In December, Eta Chapter members met for our annual Christmas Outreach meeting. Members brought several items from a list that had been provided by Rotholme. Rotholme is a Women and Family Shelter for those seeking transition

CHAPTER CHATTER

accommodation and assistance in job placement. Most of the members provided pillows and some blankets which had been determined to be a high priority need.

Elizabeth Van Dongen attended Gamma's Birthday celebration at the Highland Country Club in early December.

Our scheduled February meeting was cancelled. However, on Friday, February 2, seven Eta Chapter members joined Carolyn and Allister Cameron for the opening of their son, Ken's, play **Harvest**. The play tells the story of Carolyn and Allister's experiences with a grow op in the home they rented. It was also Carolyn and Allister's 55th wedding anniversary. It was a wonderful evening.



Jim Rule spoke to Eta Chapter about his excursion with students from Western University (Althouse) to Germany and Poland. Seated are Mary Margaret MacDonald (foreground), Jim's wife, and Joan Wolfe.



Carolyn Cameron, Eta, (R), husband, Allister, and son Ken at the opening of Ken's play **Harvest**. They are cutting the cake made in honour of their 55th anniversary.



Eta members, Donna Rollins, (L), Joan Wolfe, Ruth Stephenson, and Mary Vernon listen to Jim Rule's presentation on Holocaust memorials and their significance.



Eta Chapter members attend the opening of the play **Harvest**.

Eta Chapter celebrating Christmas and packaging items for the outreach program for Rotholme.



CHAPTER CHATTER**Alpha Chatter, Windsor**

Submitted by: Judy Bowden

Alpha Chapter is looking forward to a year with little business and a lot of fun. Our plans for the year include our usual Christmas luncheon, Kay's Birthday Celebration (97 in March), and our own Birthday Celebration. We are looking to add lunch at one of our local wineries with sampling and a tour, lunch and a visit to our museum and art gallery, a theatre night at the University of Windsor and a Detroit River Cruise. The "business" part of our year will be looking after our friends at Leone Residence, Street Help and the Windsor Youth Centre.

Speaking of our special friends - for our September meeting we attended a fund raising dinner for our friends at Leone Residence. In addition to eating lots of pasta we presented Sonya, Leone's Director, with a cheque for \$650.00 - the money raised from our Buy a Square - Build a Bed Campaign at NERC. We were thrilled to have Aggie and Helen make the trip down to join us. We welcomed a new member -not yet initiated but the first to pay her dues. Adrienne has actually been joining us, off and on, for about a year now. We look forward to her initiation in October.

I am sorry to read about the continued move towards changing the way we identify ourselves and the rush we seem to be in to do so. Common use of the Greek letters unites us - the use of our city names separates and divides us. It gives us a regional flavour as opposed to a chapter/state/provincial/international connection. There is strength in the unity that is implied through the commonality by which we currently identify ourselves, in that, it makes us part of the whole. To call my Chapter the Windsor Chapter not only disconnects my Chapter from the London Chapter but it also disconnects members of my Chapter who may live in La Salle or Essex or Kingsville or Belle River or where ever.

Consider this if you will - The Greek Alphabet represents our Society - as part of that Society -the States/Provinces take a letter from that alphabet. As Chapters we in turn take a letter from that Alphabet as well. This makes us all part of that

same alphabet. This common "identity" if you will, also unites us internationally throughout 17 countries.

In order for us to grow, aggressive marketing may be in order. Rebranding does not guarantee a change in the public perception of who we are. That will only come by remaining true to who we are and continuing to do the good that we do. Through marketing and especially, through what we do and how we go about doing it, is how we get that message out - not through a name change. In our area we have what is known as the AKO Minor Football Association. This Association has a Fraternity connection. However, they are not recognized for that connection but for the good work they do with our young people. They wear the AKO title proudly.

A couple of years ago - at our Initiation Ceremony - I found myself apologizing for the all the pomp and circumstance (which I happen to like). The person to whom I apologized said that there was no need to apologize - that she liked the pomp and circumstance - that it made her feel special.

Some of you may recognize this little editorial as it was presented as a report at the September, 2016 Board Meeting. However, I want to share my thoughts on this issue with our Beta State Ontario Members who don't get to hear our reports.

**Delta Chatter, Toronto**

Submitted by: Debbie Rodaway

We met for lunch in January. MaryEllen Gucciardi and Vikki Borg-luele have just returned from a six month travelling sabbatical leave. Vikki has

returned to her position at Loyola Secondary School in Mississauga. MaryEllen has an exciting new position working at Sheridan College as a teacher for students completing their high school while also attending some college courses. Daphne Rodaway has moved from Thunder Bay to Barrie so she was able to meet with us. She is working on completing her Masters of Education. Caroline Farr is busy organizing her new home. Although she was not able to be with us we

CHAPTER CHATTER and Omicron Tea

welcomed Jennifer Kottick back into Delta. MaryEllen showed us the *ibook* she had just finished collaborating on, **Inuksuk**. It is completely interactive, suitable for all levels. It is truly amazing. If you have an *IBook* lucky you as it is only available on the apple platform.



Beta State President, Debbie Rodaway, (R), and DKG International President, Carolyn Pittman at the NERC in July, 2017.

From the Curriculum of Hope Newsletter, December, 2017.

“Watch your thoughts, for they become words.

Watch your words, for they become actions.

Watch your actions, for they become habits.

Watch your habits, for they become character.

Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny.”

Frank Outlaw
Late President of Bi-Low Stores

Omicron Chapter invites you to attend The Sr. A. T. Sheehan Annual Lecture and Tea on April 7, at the Old Mill (2:30 pm.) Members and guests are welcome! The cost is \$45.00. Please send cheque by March 22, to Linda Larcina 9 Stuart Ave. North York M2N 1A9. Cheques are to be made out to “Omicron Chapter of Ontario.” We hope you will be able to join us for an inspiring and informative talk.

**Guest Speakers: Liz Armstrong and Linda Rosier
Environmental Activists
“Making Hope Happen. We all can!”**

Liz is a writer, speaker and activist. She has written two award winning environmental books, and has recently launched a handbook to motivate adults of her generation to “step up to the plate” on Climate Change action. Liz also co-founded the *Women’s Environmental Health Network*, *The Breast Cancer Prevention Coalition*, and *Prevent Cancer Now*. Close to home, she founded and guides an annual eco-documentary series called *Fast Forward* -now in its ninth season - and leads a local *Citizens Climate Lobby* chapter.

Linda is a partner in Concept 3 Advertising Agency – a business that has served the personal passions of its partners through what they call ‘*Creative Contribution*’. As well as helping environmentally responsible clients to be successful, they initiated *World Council* – a round table that accesses people’s greatness through meaningful dialogue, and enable them to act with their greatness; *Wee Gates* – a social enterprise supporting Indigenous art and culture, and seniors’ programs, and *Colours of Freedom Foundation* – supporting children’s peace initiatives.



Sr. Toni Sheehan speaking at the Canadian Forum. She is a passionate and persuasive speaker.

Proposed By-laws and Standing Rules Changes

The following proposed amendments were suggested by the International Constitution Committee. They will be discussed and voted on at the April Conference in Ottawa in April of 2018. The committee has also been working on the streamlining of the whole document. This will take significant time. As well any constitutional amendments made at the International Convention in Austin in 2018 will also have to be reflected in our Bylaws. More to come!

Kathryn Derby, Past President and Chair of the Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee

1. Add **ORGANIZATION** to the title. This will now read as follows:

**BYLAWS
AND STANDING RULES
OF BETA STATE
ONTARIO *ORGANIZATION***

JUNE 20TH, 1953

2. **Article VI OFFICERS AND RELATED PERSONNEL**

Add (*optional*) to the position of corresponding secretary in Article VI, Sections A and B: The sections would now read:

**Section A
State Officers**

1. The state officers, all of whom must be members, shall be a president, a first vice-president, a second vice-president (*optional*), a recording secretary and/or a corresponding secretary (*optional*) (all elected), a treasurer (selected by the Executive Board).

**Section B
Chapter Officers**

1. The chapter officers, all of whom must be members, shall be a president, a first vice-president, a second vice-president (*optional*), a recording secretary and/or a corresponding secretary (*optional*) (all elected), a treasurer (selected by the Executive Board).

3. Housekeeping item: this section has been renumbered as follows:
**Article VI, Section E
Duties of Beta State Officers**

The first two remain the same:

Proposed By-laws and Standing Rules Changes

1. President and
2. Vice-President.

The headings then read as follows:

3. **Recording secretary (elected) shall:**
4. **Corresponding secretary (elected) shall:**
5. **Treasurer (appointed) shall:**
6. **Parliamentarian (appointed) shall:**

1. Article VIII Committees

Section B 1

Delete: “prepare an annual report for the state president, a copy of which shall be retained for the committee file” and replace with “Reports of work accomplished will be prepared on designated forms, sent to International and a copy kept with the state organization.”

The section would then read:

Article VIII Committees Section B General Duties

1. “Reports of work accomplished will be prepared on designated forms, sent to International and a copy kept with the state organization

2. **Article VIII Committees Section C 1. d. ii. Delete** “the president to appoint” **and replace with** “*the nominations committee to determine the next step*”.

The section would then read:

Article VIII Committees Section C 1. d.

- ii. If there is no majority for any office, other than president, the office is left open for the Nominations Committee to determine the next steps.

Rationale: the phrase that “the President appoint” is not in compliance with the International constitution.

5. **Article IX MEETINGS Change “annually” to three times a year. The section would then read:**

Section A

1. State Organization Meetings

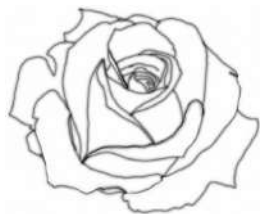
- a. Meetings of the executive board shall be held **annually.**

Rationale: Section A 1. Is in conflict with Article VII Section C 1.a.

Delete Section B 1. Chapter Meetings

Renumber Section C and Section D as Section B and C respectively

Rationale: the chapters have the right to decide on their organization. The state should not make their decisions.



DKG Ontario (Beta)

Daring to Kindle Growth

Kappa Chapter invites you to Ottawa, Canada's Capital City
April 20 -21, 2018

Beta State Conference Registration Form

Complete this form and send a copy, along with your cheque payable to
"Kappa Chapter DKG : Conference 2018" to
 Registrar: Dr. Morag Gundy, 12 Elmdale Ave, Ottawa, ON, K1M 1A4
 before March 21, 2018

| | | | |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Registration Fee | | \$74 per person | _____ |
| Received after March 21 | | \$ 82 | _____ |
| Friday Reception/ Cash Bar | | \$8 | _____ |
| Saturday Refresher and Buffet Lunch..... | | \$36 | _____ |
| Saturday Banquet /Cash Bar | Chicken Kiev | \$42 | _____ |
| | Salmon | \$43 | _____ |
| | Total | | _____ |

Name: _____ **Chapter:** _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____
Dietary Needs: _____

Holiday Inn (formerly the Chimo Inn)
 1199 Joseph Cyr Street, Ottawa, ON, K1J 7T4
613 744 1060

Rates **Single Room \$129, Including hot breakfast \$139**
 Double Room \$139, Including hot breakfast \$149

Free Parking

**Please make your own reservations with the hotel at the telephone number above.
 Don't forget to mention you're with Delta Kappa Gamma**

Change results in new ideas that stimulate inspiration.

Thank-you to all who responded so thoughtfully to the survey regarding whether or not to proceed with an application for a unified Canadian region. All the responses are not yet in but it is overwhelming against the proposal.

The planning for the April conference is well under way. Our guest Dr. Lace Marie Brogden, although she is not an official international guest, she has been endorsed by the International Nominating Committee for the position of 2nd Vice-president. She was one of the leaders at my State presidents' training. She is the founding Dean of the Faculty of Education Laurentian University, Sudbury. Check her out on Instagram, Facebook or Twitter. Kuddos to Kappa for undertaking this Conference. The registration form is included in this Centos. Just a reminder that each chapter is to provide a door prize.

At present there is no one stepping up for leadership positions in the next biennium. Alpha, Gamma, Delta, Eta, Nu, Kappa and Omicron members make up Beta State, Ontario. Ontario needs a President, 1st and 2nd vice-presidents, and a recording secretary. Ask yourself how you can participate at the state level. Often people will think/say, "I'd be interested in doing that but nobody asked me". Therein is the rub. With members stretching from along the 401/417 from Windsor to Ottawa, with stops in London, Mississauga, Toronto, and Kingston knowing individual strengths and interests is impossible. Thus, it falls to each of us to volunteer and encourage others to do so with you. The Ontario executive will change in 18 months. Please be *daring to kindle growth* and consider becoming a committee chair or an elected officer.

The changes proposed and recommended for adoption by the International Constitution Committee are a wonderful beginning to "Women Educators International (DKG)". After the convention in Austin, our constitution, by-laws and standing rules will need revising. Hopefully we will be able to simplify, eliminate, clarify and find ways to be more efficient. Perhaps even change our name to just ONTARIO .

Daring to kindle growth is our Aggie Moynihan who jumped in taking over as North East Regional Director, when Carol Hughes resigned. What an example! I have accepted the nomination for being the northeast region's representative on the nomination committee. I am going to Austin in July. Are you? I've got my room booked.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in our nation's capital April 20 and 21. I've registered. Have you?

Important: The World Fellowship and Centos Editor leadership roles are an **immediate need!**

Debbie Rodaway, your Beta State, Ontario President. 2017-2019

DKG. . . Together Everyone Achieving More
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

CENTOS Editor
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