



Arizona SAHUARO

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International – For Key Women Educators

Board Meeting at 2013 Convention

In the absence of Omicron State President Judy Vinson (Alpha), the meeting was chaired by State Vice-President Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho).

One hundred twenty-eight members were in attendance, with twenty-four chapters represented. Following the state theme of “Aspire, Act, Achieve,” Gloria Day (Alpha), State Music Chairman, provided music, which complemented this theme. A short welcome was given by Convention Chairman Marge Gilbert (Upsilon).

Northeast Regional Director Mary Lee Maki-nen, the international board representative, brought greetings from the international board and an update on Society happenings.

The business meeting was conducted following Robert’s Rules of Order. Pages, timers, and mike monitors were recognized. Fall workshop minutes were approved and editing committees were announced. The treasurer’s report was



2013-2015 Omicron State President Rachel Wear

given, followed by committee reports from Finance and Membership. Communications Chairman Gloria Day gave the Sahuaro report.

Nominations Committee Chair Dena Martin (Zeta) presented the slate of officers for 2013-2015.

The Business Meeting was then adjourned and the Executive Board Meeting began. The budget for 2013-2014 was presented and approved. No action was taken regarding the future of Rho and Sigma Chapters. Diane Sheets, Rules Chairman, presented state Bylaws and questions from the floor were answered.

The Business Meeting was then reopened for election of officers and nominating committee members for 2013-2015. They were unanimously elected. State Bylaws revisions were approved with new Units being established.

Meeting was adjourned following convention remarks by Florence Foster (Upsilon).

Dr. Nancy Noll (Alpha Delta)

Editor Berneil Retires

To members of Omicron State:

It was thirty years ago that Berneil Drake (Alpha Delta) was asked by then State President Kathryn Whalen (Alpha Epsilon) to become the Editor of the Arizona Sahuaro.

In 1984 the 12 page Sahuaro was mailed to 2,100 members in Omicron State and the May 2013 issue was mailed to less than half that number.

Members from Omicron State have been responsible for the success of the paper with their countless number of articles. These articles have been carefully and professionally proofed by Beth Swanson (Rho).

Thanks to the past Omicron State presidents who have asked me to serve as Editor. It has been a pleasure. The time has passed quickly, but it is now time for me to retire.

I wish the best to the incoming Editor.

Sincerely,

Berneil Drake (Alpha Delta)



2013-2015 Omicron State Officers, left-right: Janet Vickers (Omega), Shelley Smith (Lambda), Kathi Houtcooper (Alpha Iota), Alice Reule (Alpha Delta), Joye Sterrett (Omega), and Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho)

Omicron State Officers 2013 – 2015

Omicron State Officers

President

Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho)

First Vice-President

Joye Sterrett (Omega)

Second Vice-President

Alice Reule (Alpha Delta)

Recording Secretary

Kathi Houtcooper (Alpha Iota)

Corresponding Secretary

Shelley Smith (Lambda)

Nominations Committee

Area I – Dr. Sandy Breece (Alpha Chi)

Area II – Kathy Shroyer (Sigma)

Area III – Ruth Wilmot (Iota)

Area IV – Mary Holloway (Alpha)

Area V – Roberta Paeper (Epsilon)

Achievement Award to Gloria Day

At the 2013 Omicron State Convention Gloria Day (Alpha) was named the recipient of the 2013 Omicron State Achievement Award.

Gloria is very musical and has used this talent as a soloist and choir director. She also served as the 2012 state convention chairman and on Women in the Arts exhibits.

Award continued page 8

AKT

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

From The President

JUDY VINSON

As my biennium comes to a close I want to express my heartfelt thanks to Omicron State. You have been warm, generous, and welcoming. The work you do is amazing. The overwhelming image of the members and chapters as I read



PHOTOGRAPH BY MERRY LEWIS

Omicron State President Judy Vinson (Alpha)

the chapter reports (Did your chapter send me one?) and visited chapters shows how well you are serving educators, students, schools, and your communities.

Many chapters are beginning to take on projects that support early career educators. I believe that will eventually lend itself to more awareness of DKG and ultimately to new members. Continue your own good work and be aware of the changes being made at the international and state levels. There is always help available.

Your new state officers as well as past state presidents will be great resources for you. At all times, your state president should be the first to know what your needs and concerns are.

My current "A" word is angels. As the convention date approached and my health declined, the angels of Arizona picked up the pieces and helped provide you with a great convention. If you did a big job or a small one, called me, wrote notes, sent cards, or visited me, you were an angel to me. This whole experience has shown the level of leadership and expertise in Omicron State.

Be willing to risk saying "yes" to a leadership position whether at the chapter or state level. Just one idea could become a program or project. Mentoring someone could make a difference in her life. What you discover and learn can make a difference in your life as well.

Take pride in your continuing membership, learn about the varied aspects of the Society and share your talents, enthusiasm, and abilities. Everyone will benefit.

An international opportunity this summer is well worth your consideration. The Southwest Regional Conference takes place in Branson, Missouri, July 17-20, 2013. You will experience professional, educational, and leadership activities as well as the fellowship of members and the sights and attractions of Branson.

If you have never been to an international event, a regional conference is a wonderful place



The Apple Logo "Aspire, Act, Achieve"

to begin. You will return with great ideas for your chapter and new energy for serving, sharing the vision, and strengthening our Society, reaching out to others. We are leading women educators impacting education Worldwide. ♥

Opening Eyes to the Wonder of Books

Marion Triem (Nu), a retired middle-school English teacher and a forty-one year member of Nu Chapter, is still opening the eyes of students to the wonders of the world. How?

First she began by buying, reading, and giving at least 385 children's books to the gift shop in the Tucson Children's Museum. This allowed the museum to have inexpensive books for students and families to buy and take home after a story time in the museum.

When there was no longer a need for her books at the museum, Marion began donating books to a new K-8 school in Three Points, Arizona. The school's library had only old books and no budget for new ones. For the past three years, she has been donating 75-100 good literature books several times a year to help the library. Marion's motto is "I want children to learn to love to read and become life-long readers."



Marion Triem (Nu) presented the Workshop "Opening Eyes to the Wonder of Books"

Pearl Zimmerman (Nu)

Friend of Education Award

Arizona State Senator Katie Hobbs received the Friend of Education Award at the 2013 Omicron State convention. Prior to being elected to the Senate, she served one term in the Arizona

House of Representatives.

Katie is from Phoenix and has a Bachelor of Social Work from NAU and a Master of Social Work from ASU. Katie has been a professional social worker since 1992. Prior to being elected to the legislature, she worked in the areas of domestic violence, behavioral health, and homelessness. She is currently the Executive Director of Emerge Arizona, the premiere political training program for Democratic women

She is adjunct faculty in the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department at Paradise Valley Community College.

Outside her professional life, Katie enjoys spending time with her family. She has been married to Pat Goodman for 17 years and they have two children: Sam, age 14, and Hannah, age 11.

Liz Tataseo (Alpha Delta)
Lori Good (Alpha Alpha)

From Mary Lee Makinen, International Representative at the 2013 Omicron State Convention:

"Too often, life just rolls along and we don't take the time to tell those who have touched our lives in some special way how much that has meant. I want you to know how much you are appreciated."

"Thank you for the open acceptance you accorded me. I had a magnificent weekend and visit."

"I hope to see you in Indiana."

Mary Lee



Northeast Regional Director Mary Lee Makinen (Maryland) was the international representative at the Omicron State convention

CONVENTION CHORUS

A very enthusiastic and talented group of ladies were willing to learn six songs in a very short time. Members were doing music and CD's to practice ahead of time. The leader, Gloria Day (Alpha), thanks you for doing your homework. Many practiced in their cars!

The chorus sang three songs for the Saturday banquet, all with the theme of roses, "Everything's Coming Up Roses," "The Rose", and "Second-Hand Rose" - - complete with dress-up clothes and solo by Cinde Schuttner (Epsilon).

At Sunday's ceremony of remembrance, the choir sang and led the audience singing "The Rose," "On Eagle's Wings," and "You'll Never Walk Alone."

Gloria Day (Alpha)



The Convention Chorus all dressed in their finery

Little Dresses for Africa

Presenters Lori Good (Alpha Alpha) and Alice Reule (Alpha Delta) shared how and why to make pillowcase dresses for African girls at the convention.

First, a little history of the Schools for Africa Project was presented. More than half of the poorest children on earth, who live in Africa, are girls. Hopefully, owning a dress will make these youngsters feel worthy.

A simple pattern was given to each observer. Finished dresses were displayed. Presenters demonstrated to the group a step-by-step method of making the dresses. Suggestions were given for embellishment. Attendees were told where to purchase the materials inexpensively.

Two hundred of the pillowcase dresses were shipped to a central location in the USA and then shipped to Africa. Upon arrival in Africa, orphanages associated with the project will distribute the dresses. Members at the "shipping party" were Lori Good (Alpha Alpha), Lynn Pinda (Alpha Alpha), Marge Threewit (Alpha Beta), and Alice Reule (Alpha Delta).

The projects will continue through the Fall Workshop and members may bring completed dresses to that event.

*Barb Westover (Alpha)
Kathy Green (Alpha Delta)*

Scholarships Awarded

Two Delta Kappa Gamma members were presented with financial opportunities at the 2013 Omicron State Convention.

Penny Hanes (Alpha Zeta) received the Kathryn Young Endowment Scholarship with a \$1,000 check and certificate presentation.

Kristy Morelli (Alpha Chi) received the Vera Kellems Gibson State Scholarship with a \$1,000 check and a certificate.

Scholarship Committee Chairman Dr. Sandy Breece (Alpha Chi) introduced and thanked the Scholarship Committee after making these presentations. She also encouraged all DKG members to apply for scholarship funds next year by the February 1, 2014, deadline.

*Dr. Sandy Breece (Alpha Chi), Chair
Omicron State Scholarship Committee*

Early-Career Educators to Receive Monetary Awards

In support of the Early-Career Educators initiative Omicron State members who are Early-Career Educators (those who started teaching in the years 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, or 2013) are eligible to apply for monetary gifts.

The fund is named in memory of Past State

World Fellowship Breakfast Celebration



*World Fellowship recipient
Anastasiya Bezborodova
attends NAU*

"Let us place a lei of friendship around the whole wide world." These words to the song, "Lei of Friendship," reflected the sentiment of worldwide peace and friendship as chapter presidents, adorned with colorful leis, opened the World Fellowship breakfast.

The lei, the floral necklace of the Hawaiian Islands, is a fitting reminder that DKG activities impact women around the world with multi-nation membership, World Fellowship grants, and various international projects.

World Fellowship recipient, Anastasiya Bezborodova, currently attending NAU, was a featured speaker at the breakfast. A native of Uzbekistan, Anastasiya is working on her master's degree in teaching English. She shared with the audience the strong influence of her mother in her learning English and her achievements in education. She is one of over 800 recipients of World Fellowship grants since the program started in 1946. To date, almost \$3 million has been awarded in 123 countries.

Kathy Green (Alpha Delta), Patricia Rendon (Lambda), Linda Stockbauer (Xi)

Media Award Winner

Tamara Crawley, of the Marana Unified School District, received the Media Award at the Omicron State Convention.

In her role as Director of Public Relations in Marana, Tamara has created an environment to which information about the District is shared across a variety of platforms so that families and stakeholders are kept informed of key issues and District success stories.

She has created a comprehensive communication program that includes a newly designed District website, District messaging, multi-media presentations, and printed materials. She serves as a liaison between the District and the media, supervising the production and distribution of news releases regarding school and district events.

Tamara is often the spokesperson of the District for on-camera interviews. She has developed promotional materials for use by the District to promote a very positive image in the community.

Gloria Day (Alpha)



*Tamara Crawley, Media Award
2013 winner*

President Jo Regenold and is funded from the 75th Anniversary surplus funds.

The money from the award is to be used at the discretion of the member for classroom needs such as supplies, books, field trips, speakers, etc. Members must complete a short application, and the 75th Anniversary committee will select the winners. Checks will be presented to the recipients in February, 2014.

Applications must be submitted to 75th Anniversary Committee Chairman Berneil Drake, 1650 W. Glendale Avenue, #1120, Phoenix, AZ 85021 by December 1, 2013. Form is available on page 8 on this issue of the Sahuaro. ♥



A Visitor at the State Convention

Teta Minuzzo, Past State President, Illinois

What a wonderful time I had enjoying all of the friendship and activities planned by Omicron State members

From the moment I arrived, I was embraced by your Arizona hospitality. All the excellent speakers at your meetings and workshops inspired me.

It was a pleasure to be with my special friends and L/M Golden Gift sisters, Merry Lewis (Nu) and Mercedes Umana (El Salvador).

I was impressed with the way incoming State President Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho) handled the many duties and responsibilities of this convention. Judy Vinson (Alpha) would be proud of all you accomplished.

The Lei of Friendship program at the final session summed it up – Omicron State members do Aspire, Act, and Achieve. ♥



Above, Peggy Scott (Alpha Epsilon) with 50 year member Beth Grenfell (????)



Chi Chapter President Linda Perl

Birthday Luncheon

Vice-President Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho) presided at the Birthday Luncheon. Opening thoughts were given by Ann Huber (Xi), followed by a Founder's Day tribute presented in a clever manner by members representing our Founders whose pictures were affixed to a picture puzzle board.

International guest speaker Mercedes Umana from El Salvador spoke on the topic "The Rainbow of Inner Peace." In her powerpoint presentation she spoke about the colors of the rainbow relating to each person's idea of achieving inner peace and offered seven actions to practice in order to attain this inner peace. Those include knowing and controlling yourself, practicing human values, being optimistic, being positive, being grateful, being happy and serving others.

Dr. Joyce Sterret (Omega) recognized fifty-year members, and first-timers.

Spotlight Awards were presented by Jenny Lichtsinn (Alpha Rho) and Shelley Smith (Lambda) to five members for their achievements in the Society.

Closing thought was given by Linda Perl (Chi). Guitarist Eduardo Umana, husband of our international speaker, presented closing music.

Dr. Nancy Noll (Alpha Delta)

Room Makeover: Feng Shui Basics

Feng Shui means "wind" and "water." It is an ancient Chinese science and art of living in harmony with the environment. Chi is the vital energy that flows around living spaces.

Presenter Julie Holdsworth (Alpha Zeta) then said when a home or classroom has good feng shui, chi flows through the space with good feelings of balance and harmony. Clearing the clutter is not enough. Julie offered many helpful ideas for improving the balance in our lives.

Jenny Lichtsinn (Alpha Rho)

International Speaker

The International Speakers' Fund fulfills Purpose One - - "To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship." State organizations must apply to have an international speaker and support the speaker's registration, meals, and hotel expenses. The Society pays for the speaker's transportation.

Previously, Omicron State has had speakers from Mexico and Guatemala. The 2013 convention hosted Mercedes Umana, from El Salvador. Her talk on "Inner Peace" mapped ways to find and hold on to peace. Mercedes used the rainbow to represent topics such as self-control, optimism, gratitude, and service.

She also presented a workshop on "El Salvador, the Country, Schools, and DKG." She used food, music and a PowerPoint to educate attendees about the small country.

Husband Eduardo also attended the convention. He played the guitar at the Birthday

Luncheon, the Banquet, and the workshop. The talented couple added poise, grace, talent, and genuine spiritual fellowship to our 2013 convention.

Merry Lewis (Nu)



International Speaker Mercedes Umana from El Salvador and her husband guitarist Eduardo Umana

NAMI Parents and Teachers as Allies

NAMI (Nationtonal Alliance on Mental Illness) has developed a two-hour program titled "Parents and Teachers as Allies" for school professionals and families within the school community.

This program was presented at the Omicron State Convention by a team trained by NAMI. Included in the team was moderator Charlotte Kraus (Alpha Epsilon). NAMI is the nation's largest and most recognized grassroots organization that advocates for access to mental health services, treatment, support, and research. There are ten NAMI affiliates in Arizona.

Mental health is essential to learning and academic success, as well as to positive social and emotional development. Teachers are first-hand observers of student behavior and through documentation and communication with parents and appropriate school personnel can be facilitators for interventions to meet student needs.

The goal of NAMI is to make presentations in schools to teachers, counselors, nurses, social workers, psychologists, and administrators as well as to parent and teacher organizations. Contact Laura Shirling in Maricopa County at namimaricopaedu@gmail.com or Judi Maikoff in Tucson for southern Arizona at jmaikoff@namisa.org

Charlotte Kraus (Alpha Epsilon)

Spotlight Awards



Dr. Sandy Breece (Alpha Chi)
Rebecca Cavazos (Nu)
Lynette Christian (Alpha)
Darby Downs (Alpha Rho)

Susan Halliday (Alpha Delta)
Reene Horowitz (Beta)
Carol Stimple (Eta)



The 2013-2014 officers of the Phoenix-Scottsdale Unit of AASRA (All Arizona School Retirees Association) are President, **Sally Switzer** (Rho); First Vice-President, **Berneil Drake** (Alpha Delta); Co-Second Vice-Presidents, **Lucille Bridgewater** (Rho) and **Colleen Lines** (Rho); Co-Secretaries, **Suellen Brahs** (Rho) and **Kim Meighan** (Beta); and Treasurer, **Beth Swanson** (Rho).

Jenny Gendreau (Alpha Beta) received the Excellence in Education Award in the Alhambra District.

Marge Threewit's (Alpha Beta) double tennis team went to the Nationals in Chattanooga, TN.

Dr. Gerae Peten (Alpha Beta) is the new superintendent of the Ft. Thomas Unified School District.

Merry Lewis (Nu) has written an article, "Mary Baker Eddy's Thimble" which will be published in the summer issue of The Thimble Collectors' Bulletin.

Barbara Rath (Alpha Alpha) has received the Lamp of Learning Award from Washington Elementary School District in Phoenix in recognition of outstanding service to the children of the District.

Mary McNichols (Alpha Rho) has been appointed as the new Principal of Continental School in Green Valley.

Co-chairs **Barbara Markert** (Upsilon), **Marge Gilbert** (Upsilon), and **Florence Foster** (Upsilon) of the 2013 Omicron State Convention: Thank you for your hard work.

Convention Business Manager **Bea Olivas** (Alpha Rho) and Registrar **Darby Downs** (Alpha Rho) thank you for your dedication.

Merry Lewis (Nu) Thank you for the photographs in this issue of this Sahuaro.

Chi Chapter Thanks for donating 100 Little Dresses for the Africa Project.

Elizabeth Richardson (Alpha Xi) is a 50 year member of DKG. She was initiated in Lewiston, Idaho, where she taught elementary school and education courses at the community college. Liz also was a teacher and a principal in Seward, Alaska. She resides in Surprise, Arizona.

Beth Swanson (Rho) and **Ginny Moun-tain** (Chi) were the proof readers for this edition of the Sahuaro. ♥

Fifty \$1,000 International Grants to be Awarded

Fifty \$1,000 grants are to be awarded as part of the 2014 international anniversary celebration

The awards are for educational projects in the classroom, school, or community. Get the word out to your members. Encourage them to apply to be one of the 50 lucky awardees.

The presentation of awards will be made at the Celebration Luncheon in Indianapolis at the 2014 International Convention. Award recipients will have reserved seating. Those unable to attend the convention will receive their award checks in the month following the convention.

The interactive application for the award will be posted on the Foundation website (www.dkgef.org) on May 1, 2013. Deadline for application is November 15, 2013.

*Copied from the Foundation Liaison News
March, 2013*

Warm Hearts, Warm Danish and A Cold-Blooded Murder Mystery

Serendipity was found in abundance as we all sought to "Aspire, Act, and Achieve" at the 2013 Omicron State Convention held at the Radisson Suites, in Tucson.

At the Continental breakfast on Saturday, the Danish was delightfully warm but not as warm as the friendly key women educators who exchanged greetings and intelligent ideas while taking the time to "smell the roses along the way" in the pleasing outdoor patio setting.

One of the many benefits of attending convention is the opportunity to network and exchange ideas with Arizona's brightest and best problem solvers among our members, seminar presenters, and invited speakers.

We were guided by the seven purposes of the society from the inspiring message delivered by Mercedes Umana (El Salvador), the warm greeting from International representative Mary Lee Makinen, and the genuine expression of thanks

from World Fellowship recipient, Anastasiya Bezborodova.

Even after the singing of the DKG song another adventure awaited us as we loaded trunks for the journey home. Author Renee B. Horowitz (Beta) asked us if we would share our knowledge of the Tucson area so that her fourth "Ruthie Kantor Morris Mystery" setting would have the proper authenticity. The main character and sleuth in Renee's mystery novels is a woman pharmacist who has already solved crimes in Rx for Murder, Deadly Rx, and Rx Alibi. If you are a mystery genre fan, put Ruthie, the pioneering woman pharmacist/detective, on your must-read list.

Sharon Modi (Alpha)

Jo Regenold Early-Career Educators Award Presented to two Members

The 2012-13 Jo Regenold Early-Career Educators Grants were presented to Gina Etzel (Alpha Iota) and Apryl Cooley (Alpha Chi). The monetary awards were presented at their respective chapter meetings. Winners were Early-Career Educators who started teaching in the years 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, or 2012. The money was used for classroom needs, such as supplies, books, field trips, speakers, etc. ♥

Have You Met the Top Ten at the Met?

Another title for this workshop could be "A Golfer's Tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Art."

The workshop presented by Susie Heintz (Nu) and inspired by her husband, focused on the top ten artists featured at the Met.

Susie's enthusiasm for these beautiful works of art was evident as she engaged the audience in a lively, participatory workshop. Attendees left the workshop invigorated and ready to share works of art with others.

Jenny Litchsinn (Alpha Rho)

KARE – Keep Active Reach Everyone

The KARE The idea is to use the expertise of past state presidents and members of past and present Membership and Expansion committees as well as other interested members to visit local chapters. The term "Chapter Ambassador" is the title for the team visitors.

At the April 19, 2013, convention meeting of past state presidents and membership committee members, they discussed how visits might be done. Materials from the Membership Committee officer training are available for handouts as well as the booklet, Guidelines for Chapter Membership chairs, The Restoration Guide, Sustaining Pride in the Big Picture, a booklet and Power Point CD could also be used.

The next meeting of the KARE teams will be June 12, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Dena Martin, in Casa Grande.



*Omicron State First Vice-President
Joye Sterrett*

Joye Sterrett (Omega)



Mother and daughter attended the convention. Dena Martin (Zeta) and her daughter Denise Martin Moore (Nu)

Benefits and Privileges of Membership

Membership benefits include leadership training, scholarships, grants, insurance offerings, group discounts, and networking opportunities through attendance at conferences and conventions. A juried professional journal, newsletter, and other publications are also provided to members.

Members are empowered with new knowledge and professional development targeted towards reaching their full potential.

As a group of more than 90,000 strong, Delta Kappa Gamma members are women educators impacting education worldwide. ♥

Choose to Lead

Leadership is every member's responsibility. According to Kouzes and Posner in *The Leadership Challenge*, 2012, "Leadership is not about who you are, but what you do."

Each member can help create a vision for her chapter by volunteering to share talent, skills, and knowledge. This generates greatness in organizations.

If each member does something to enhance her chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma will never lack for quality leaders. Leadership is a choice.

At the regional conferences various committees and speakers will present leadership ideas during the Info Fair and workshops to improve leadership skills.

The Leadership Development Committee says that participants can experience leadership, tune into leadership, dive into leadership, lasso leaders, and help leaders bloom.

Please join the Leadership Development Committee to create the atmosphere of leaders everywhere.

Dr. Kay Clawson, Chair

Membership Notes

Declining numbers in membership has been a great concern for many chapters in recent years. One of the most overlooked options for members is reinstatement.

About 70% of membership who dropped in 2011 indicated that, if asked, they would reinstate. This data is supported by the efforts of Nita Scott, International Membership Services Administrator. Nita has shared that when a chapter president contacted former members, they reinstated their membership.

Another former member shared that she had completed the transfer information and did not feel comfortable attending any meetings when she had not been invited to be a part of a chapter. When the chapter president invited her, she became an active member.

If your chapter has members who have dropped recently, try to contact them about reinstatement. It may just take one person to show interest in that member to encourage them to return to DKG.

*Copied from The Bridge
Virginia State Newsletter, Spring 2013*



Achievement Award winner Gloria Day (Alpha) and Media award recipient Tamara Crowley

Who Can Belong to Delta Kappa Gamma?

Women educators who:

1. Are employed in an educational position or as a self-employed educator
2. Are retired from an educational position
3. Live in one of 18 countries where DKG is established
4. Membership is by invitation only and considered a prestigious honor. ♥

Merry Lewis is New Editor

After thirty years of devoted service as editor of the Arizona Sahuaro, Berneil Drake (Alpha Delta) has reluctantly made the decision that the time has come to pass the baton to a new leader.

President-elect Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho) has appointed Merry Lewis (Nu) as the new editor. Merry currently serves as the Official Omicron State Photographer.

Berneil will continue on as advisor to the new Sahuaro staff.

What is Delta Kappa Gamma?

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is a professional honorary Society of women educators. The Society promotes professional and personal growth of its members and excellence in education.

Established in 1929, Delta Kappa Gamma attained major objectives in improving opportunities for qualified women employed at every level of education as well as in advancing the status of women educators.

To this end, the Purposes set forth by the Founders continue to embody the spirit of the Society. The Purposes have grown and changed over time, but continues to be as valid in today's contemporary world as when first adopted. The Mission and vision support the Purposes.

Membership is by invitation only and considered a prestigious honor with a variety of benefits. ♥

Friday Night Reception

At the Friday night reception, we were treated to dessert and entertained by a very talented group of singers. The Academy of Tucson Chorus, under the direction of Caleb Nihira, performed musical selections ranging from the Renaissance period to Bulgarian folk and American blues.

The eleven girls sang acappella in close harmony, expressing the lyrics and culture of each piece. They were well-prepared and enjoyed singing for us and talking about themselves and their choir.

*Bravo, ladies and Mr. Nihira!
Gloria Day (Alpha)*

Emergency Fund

Chapters or individuals may contribute to the Emergency Fund to assist members experiencing tornadoes, hurricanes, floods, fires and other such natural disasters.

You may contribute to the Emergency Fund using Form 43 online. On the contribution form, mark the donation type as chapter or individual. In the Gift From include the chapter name or individual name. In the name and address section add any extra comments you may want to make.

If contributing by check, make payable to the Emergency Fund:

Send directly to:

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society
International Emergency Fund
P.O. Box 1589, Austin TX 78767-1589

Historical Marker Honors Dr. Blanton

In news from Denton, Texas, comes the announcement that the Texas Historical Commission has recognized Delta Kappa Gamma Founder, Dr. Annie Webb Blanton for her significant role in Texas history with a historical marker. The marker was dedicated March 1, 2013, outside the Denton school district's Blanton Elementary School.

Dr. Blanton began teaching at the age of 17 in a one-room school. Beginning in 1901, she taught English at what is now the University of North Texas. She held the rank of associate professor there until 1918.

The founder of Delta Kappa Gamma was elected the first woman president of the Texas State Teachers Association in 1916. Two years later, Texas elected her superintendent of public instruction. She was the first woman elected to a Texas Public office. ♥



Jean F. Davis (Alpha Rho) was hostess for our international representative Mary Lee Makinen (Maryland)

Chapter Strengthening

Although attendance is no longer a requirement for membership, chapter members will feel special and become more involved when someone connects with them personally about each meeting.

- Set up a calling tree where a communications or executive committee can call members to remind them about upcoming events.
- Ask a member to call another member who was not at the meeting to let her know she was missed.
- Assign new members a "buddy" or a mentor who can maintain contact with them and introduce them to other members. ♥



Electronic Election Process

The International Ad Hoc Election Process Committee (EPC) continues to discuss changes that would be needed to the governing documents to implement a general election whereby each member has a vote.

Committee Chairman Dr. Caroline Rants (Iowa) and the committee assures us that no final decisions about amendments have been made, but they are seeking opinions from YOU our member.

The earliest date that any voting could take place is 2016. The committee is hosting a workshop and info fair activity at each regional conference to gather member input.

They would like the opinion of each member about the election process. Register your opinion on the committee page at dkg.org. Discuss this at your chapter meetings. ♥

DKG App updated

Get ready, get set, go! The DKG app has been updated. Download the app from the app store of choice. The Schedule button has new features tailored to each regional conference. For example, select the Southwest Regional Conference to find a daily schedule and list of speakers by date and time that can be added to individual schedules. Each regional conference has its own section under Schedule.

Under Maps, find a city map of each location with local connections. Some hotels will have map layouts of the rooms for events that aid one in finding sessions and spaces.

Under More, the Postcard feature encourages friends to Meet You. Take a photo and send a postcard to a friend.

Copied from DKG News, May/June 2013

News from Southwest Regional Director Heidi Chatwick

The Southwest Regional Conference will be held July 17-20, 2013, in Branson, Missouri. This is an excellent opportunity for professional, educational, and leadership experiences while networking and enjoying your friends as we "Share Our Vision, Strengthen Our Society."

Pre-conference sessions, informative and extensive have been planned to strengthen our Society. The incoming state organization presidents will have invigorating training for three days. State organization editors, web masters, treasurers, educational excellence, and membership committee chairs should plan to attend training sessions.

A fun *First Timers* session is being planned to help new attendees gain the most from the conference.

You will enjoy outstanding speakers, workshops, member's musical talents, and explore Branson where there are more shows to see than New York City and don't forget the shops galore.

We will welcome members from Japan. Check your copy of the March issue of *International News* for the registration form and additional details. See you there! ♥

Regional Workshops

Strategic Action Planning (SAP) is a road-map for your chapter's future. Your chapter, not International, decides what that future will be by addressing issues, maintaining successful practices, and pruning things that are no longer useful.

The workshop session at regionals is designed for those who are in all stages of Strategic Action Planning development at the Chapter level, and may also interest those involved in planning at the state organization level.

Let's lay a path to help your chapter get from where you are to where you want to be.

Chairman Jeannette Zuniga of Costa Rica is in charge of the SAP workshops at the Southwest Regional Conference. ♥

Delta Kappa Gamma-Omicron State
1650 W. Glendale Avenue, #1120
Phoenix, Arizona 85021

White Roses
"A Moment to Remember...
A Lifetime to Honor"

Aagot Titus	Charter member, Upsilon Tucson, AZ	August 13, 2012
Dorothy Finley	Nu Tucson, AZ	February 20, 2013
Norma Tisdell	Alpha Delta Phoenix, AZ	May 2, 2013
Mary Alice McNamara	Rho Scottsdale, AZ	May 6, 2013

AWARD CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

She has been Alpha Chapter president for two biennium. Words to describe Gloria are guiding, giving, generous, and gracious. She is always trying to put the driving spirit in others through her devotion in various capacities.



2013 Omicron State Achievement Award winner Gloria Day (Alpha)

She is the true image of a Delta Kappa Gamma woman and has a knack for knowing what to do in any situation.

*Donna Reynolds (Epsilon), Chair
Omicron State Achievement Award Committee*

Dates to Remember

July 17-20, 2013
Southwest Regional Conference
Hilton Branson • Branson, Missouri

October 19, 2013
Omicron State Fall Workshop
Metro Tech High School
1900 West Thomas Road • Phoenix, Arizona

April 25-27, 2014
Omicron State Convention
Hilton Phoenix East/Mesa
1011 West Holmes Avenue • Mesa, Arizona

July 28 – August 1, 2014
International Convention
JW Marriott Hotel • Indianapolis, Indiana

July 19 - 25, 2015
Southwest Regional Conference
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Wichita, Kansas

July 5 – 6, 2016
International Convention
Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee

2017 Southwest Regional Conference
Hawaii

Ceremony of Remembrance

Seventeen women were recognized in the Ceremony of Remembrance on Sunday morning at the Omicron State Convention. The ceremony began with a special tribute to Past State President Jo Regenold given by Merry Lewis (Nu) and Betty Klein (Lambda).

A short bio about each of the other members was read and Gloria Day (Alpha) led the choir in singing several songs.

Karen Blackstone (Alpha Epsilon)

Early-Career Educator's Award — Application Form

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Chapter _____ Date Started Teaching _____

How and where will you use this award? _____

Please submit by **December 1, 2013**, to: Berneil Drake, 1650 W. Glendale Ave., #1120, Phoenix, AZ 85021.
Or berneild@aol.com

SAHUARO

Publication Deadlines

Fall Issue	August 15, 2013
Winter Issue	January 15, 2014
Spring Issue	May 15, 2014

Merry Lewis, Editor
4315 N. Pontatoc Road • Tucson, AZ 85718-6766
e-mail: merryls@aol.com