



Arizona SAHUARO

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International – For Key Women Educators

Remembering Connie Myren



Past Omicron State President (1991-93) Constance Myren passed away on December 23, 2015. A member of Lambda Chapter, she was best known for her humor, musical talents and vibrant personality. Connie received Omicron State's Achievement Award in 1986. She served the Society at all levels, attended International and Regional events and had a wide range of friends from all over the world. In 2012, when Japan became a

part of DKG, Connie attended the installation of officers and initiation of members and played the piano for the ceremonies. She was always an active participant and presenter at Omicron State's Creative Arts Retreats, Life Experience activities, Leadership Days and state and chapter programs and events. She was also passionate about her membership and participation in the Arizona Retired Teachers Association.

Meet Dr. Beverly Helms



Dr. Beverly Helms
PHOTO BY JIM,
FLORESVILLE, TEXAS.

Dr. Beverly Helms, Past International President (2012-2014), will be participating in the 2016 Omicron State Convention as International Representative. Dr. Helms brings with her a sunny outlook on DKG, perhaps a reflection of her Florida environment. In addition to leading the International organization as President, she was awarded the 2010 International Achievement Award, served as Second Vice President, and chaired the Communications Committee. During 2002-2004, Dr. Helms was Southeast Regional Director. She has presented numerous leadership workshops at regional conferences and attended over 10 international conventions. She has served the Society as convention representative to over 30 states. She is currently Vice Chair of the Florida DKG Foundation. Dr. Helms' background includes many offices in the DKG Florida State Organization in addition to local chapter roles.

Dr. Helms holds an Ed.D. in Educational Administration from Florida State University. With her background, work, and consulting experiences in speech pathology, she has actively served on

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

► SEE MEET DR. BEVERLY
HELMS, PAGE 12

State Convention is *Opening Doors to the Future*

The Omicron State Convention, *Opening Doors to the Future*, will be held April 15, 16, 17 at the Four Points by Sheraton, 2532 West Peoria Ave, Phoenix, Arizona.

Convention committee chairs Suellen Brahs, Rho, Convention Chair; Kim Meighan, Beta, Business Manager; and Susan Halliday, Alpha Delta, Registrar, have been working with members from the planning chapters of Beta, Rho, Chi, Omega, Alpha Beta, Alpha Delta, Alpha Epsilon and Alpha Sigma to provide an outstanding experience of speakers, workshops, meals and entertainment.

Registration: The registration form is available in this edition of the Sahuaro, on the state website (deltakappagamma.org/AZ), in the president's letter mailed to chapter presidents, or by email from the state president joyesterret@gmail.com

Hotel Reservation: Register for the Four Points by Sheraton Phoenix North by **March 15**, the deadline for reduced rates. Call 1-888-627-9057 by March 15, and mention *Delta Kappa Gamma* for the reduced rate.

Hotel Breakfast: The hotel will provide free breakfast with registration. The cost is \$10 for those not staying at the hotel.

Leadership Training: This year new officers are invited to Leadership Training presented by Omicron State officers. Training will occur on Friday. See other information in this issue of the *Sahuaro*.

Life Experience Event: A tour of the famous Wrigley Mansion will occur. To register, email Renate Krompasky, Nu, at renate.krompasky@aol.com and send the \$15 admission made out to Omicron State to 3943 E. Paseo Dorado, Tucson, AZ 85711. Please mail by Thursday, April 7th. Attendees will meet at the Mansion at 3:45 and can still attend the Evening Reception.

Friday Night Reception: A dessert reception Friday night at 7 pm will welcome members. Attendees are urged to eat dinner before the reception – take advantage of the hotel shuttle to enjoy restaurants in nearby Metrocenter or eat at the hotel restaurant. Classical Synergy, a string quartet of music education teachers, will perform.

Guest Speakers: Dr. Beverly Helms, International Immediate Past President, will talk about meeting the challenges of change at our Rose Banquet. Jeannette Marè from Ben's Bells, Tucson and Phoenix, will speak on Conversations on Kindness at the Birthday Luncheon.

Workshops: Workshops cover a wide range of topics from influencing the state legislature, technology for teachers, using art in teaching, gaining an understanding of Islam to foldables – the next level.

Chorus Rehearsal: If you are willing to sing in the chorus, contact Gloria Day, Alpha, State Music Representative, at gjeanned@aol.com. Rehearsals will held Friday and Saturday afternoons.

Please come to the convention to greet old friends and make new ones, to learn what's new in education and to be inspired by our speakers. We are ready to welcome you to this wonderful event!



KEY THOUGHTS FROM *Joye*

Keys for Success, our theme for this biennium, contains three goals: membership, programs and leadership. Membership, both recruiting and keeping members, continues to be one of our goals and one filled with challenges. Especially of concern is keeping new members we worked so hard to recruit and then have them drop their membership explaining they are too busy with travel (if recently retired) or too busy with family and jobs (if younger members). Our mission statement *The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education* is designed to help recruit and keep members. We do a good job of promoting professional and personal growth with our fall and spring workshops and with our opportunities for scholarships and awards. We can publicize what we are contributing to excellence in education to help us to attract and keep members.

By now you are somewhat familiar with the membership recruitment plan introduced by Dr. Lyn Schmid, International Delta Kappa Gamma President. It involves several steps your chapter can use or adapt for use. This approach is one that many Arizona chapters have used and includes inviting prospective members to a lunch or brunch. This would be the first step.

Also, we need to pay attention to ways to retain members. The International Membership Committee recommends giving each new member a small or large job to build a feeling of belonging. Acting as a hostess at a chapter meeting, being on a committee at a state or chapter level, attending state and international events or being on the program at the chapter or state level will help new members feel they are contributing to DKG.

Membership challenges are related to changes in the world of work, especially education, and the demands on women balancing work and family responsibilities. The perspectives toward work and organizations from younger generations is different as well. These changes are also influencing changes in Delta Kappa Gamma as we try to meet the needs of women educators. Dr. Beverly Helms, Immediate Past President, our Society Representative, will speak on working with change at the Rose Banquet at the Spring Convention April 15, 16, and 17. Plan to attend and find answers that will influence you and your chapter in the future.



Farewell Dr. Barbara Baker

Dr. Barbara Baker, International President 1986-1988, died in Phoenix on January 30, 2016. Dr. Baker was a member of Alpha Delta and a recipient of both the Omicron State Achievement Award and the International Achievement Award. A child of a military family, she attended public schools in five states. She was a graduate of the University of Texas in Austin and received her M.A. Degree in education from The American University in Washington D.C. Her Ed.D was from Peabody College at Vanderbilt, Nashville, Tennessee. She was a physical education and health education instructor/specialist and was published several times in various physical education journals, as well as the Spring, 1989 DKG Bulletin.

Dr. Baker was initiated into Upsilon Chapter of Iota State, in 1958 and was state president in Virginia from 1975-1977. At the international level, she served on several committees, was a member of The Educational Foundation Board of Trustees and served as Member at Large. The Society Mission Statement was formulated during Dr. Baker's biennium as International President. Formalizing of the Forums also was accomplished.

Dr. Baker's recreational interests included bird watching, photography, reading and collecting Native American jewelry and artifacts. She will be remembered for her strength, character, integrity and leadership.

Latin America Committee calls for donations

The Latin America Committee's (LAC) main focus is to raise money to defray the cost of attendance to Regional and International DKG conferences for our Latin American sisters. In the past the LAC has sold scarves and purses to raise money. This year all Omicron members are asked to donate items Latin American in origin that are in excellent or very good condition. These can be brought to the convention. Examples include ruanas, ponchos, scarves, purses, jewelry, textiles, paintings, and ceramics that a fellow member may want to purchase. LAC has also received items from our Latin American sisters to sell. Direct any question about a donation to Sherry Alimi at 928-830-2718 or by email s.alimi@sbcglobal.net.

Sherry Alimi, Eta

Hotel reservations and directions for the convention

Opening Doors to the Future, the 2016 Omicron State Convention, will be held at the Four Points Sheraton North in Phoenix, AZ. The room rates are \$122.70 for up to two people per room, \$133.96 for three people and \$145.22 for four people. Rooms have two queen beds or one king size bed. If you plan on booking a room for three, we suggest you reserve a king size bed with a roll-away.

There are two ways to make your room reservation. By phone, you may call 1-888-627-9057 and ask for the "Delta Kappa Gamma group rate." If you wish to book on line, go to <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/DED14A2016> and follow the prompts on that site. The deadline to make your reservations at our group rate is March 15, 2016. If you need to cancel a reservation, you must do so 48 hours prior to your reservation to receive a refund.

All the rooms are refurbished with new beds, bedding and other appointments.

Directions: The easiest way to get to the hotel is to drive I 17 to the Peoria Avenue exit. Exit the freeway turning east to the first light which is 25th Avenue. Turn left at the light and turn left again almost immediately at the first driveway. You will then be in the hotel parking lot.

The way we were...

1941 (75 years ago) – Eta Chapter was formed with twelve pledges from Yavapai County.

1966 (50 years ago) – The Society specifically required the wearing of hats to the Birthday Luncheon and the Memorial Service.

1991 (25 years ago) – Connie Myren was elected Omicron State President and the World Fellowship quilt was made by Arizona members.

Everyone is a leader

“Everyone is a Leader” is the theme the state Leadership Development Committee has selected for the 2016 Leadership Training Seminar for new chapter officers, which will be held April 15, the first day of the spring convention, at the Four Points Sheraton North in Phoenix.

The committee has been crafting numerous innovative ideas in collaboration with the Educational Excellence, Membership and Expansion committees in order to assure every new chapter officer a stimulating and inspiring training experience. Even those who are repeating a chapter office are sure to be energized by many of the fresh topics that will be presented, which will include the key responsibilities of prepared chapter leaders.

The current chapter Executive Boards and members are urged to make a strong effort to assist their new officers with finances for the training as well as the convention. Several chapters are conducting fundraisers to provide payment for registration, meal and travel expenses. Each training attendee will receive a certificate of participation for professional credit.

Each attendee needs to register for the training on the State Convention Registration form, by checking (yes) by “officer training” and (yes) by the training luncheon. The keynote speaker for the luncheon will be Diana Hutchinson (Beta), an experienced instructor of many aspects of leadership at ASU and Scottsdale Community College. Past International President Dr. Beverly Helms, who will be the convention international representative, will also lend her expertise to the seminar. A list of all new chapter officers needs to be sent to President Joye Sterrett no later than February 20, 2016.

The New Chapter Officer Training schedule:

Presidents: 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., including luncheon 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

First and Second Vice Presidents: Luncheon (12:00 to 1:00 p.m.), followed by training sessions until 3:00 p.m.

Recording and Corresponding Secretaries and Treasurers: Luncheon: (12:00 to 1:00 p.m.), followed by training workshop 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Rachel Wear, Alpha Rho

The power of one



Diana Hutchinson,
Beta

Diana Hutchinson (Beta) will deliver the luncheon address at the upcoming Leadership Training Seminar for newly elected chapter officers. Her topic will be a “The Leader in Each of Us: The Power of One in Relationship with Others.” She will emphasize

that we all must reach within ourselves and believe in our own ability as leaders - our power of one - as we connect with others and form positive relationships. Diana will share key points from her vast professional and personal experiences. The audience will be asked to focus on trust, which is at the heart of successful relationships. As expressed by the speaker, “It is the willingness and generosity to show up and share our insights that will make us aware of what is unique in us and allow us to evolve and grow as leaders.”

Diana holds Masters of Arts in Organizational and Interpersonal Communication. She has been a professor at Scottsdale Community College and an instructor at Arizona

State University, where she has taught courses in leadership, dynamics, communication, and conflict resolution.

She is Beta Chapter Recording Secretary and believes that her membership in DKG has been one of the most rewarding experiences in her journey of leadership. She remarks that the growth of relationships from professional colleagues and the lasting friendships have made all the difference in her personal development as a leader and educator.

Rachel Wear, Alpha Rho

Calling all songbirds

Please contact Gloria Day (gjeanned@aol.com) if you would like to sing in the convention choir. Rehearsals will be held Friday, April 14 from 6-7 p.m. and Saturday, April 15 from 4:15-5:45. Performances will be at the Saturday banquet and on Sunday at the Ceremony of Remembrance. Day will send you music and a rehearsal CD to practice. Let her know what voice part you sing (soprano or alto). We need an accompanist for the convention – any volunteers?



Evelyn Craft (Lambda) is one of the seven deserving candidates inducted into the Sunnyside School District 2015 Hall of Fame on Saturday, November 7, at a recognition reception and dinner. A video presentation highlighting Evelyn included the people and activities most important to her throughout her career.

Lisa DiGiacomo (Alpha Rho) Director of the Ballet Continental Company in Green Valley/Sahuarita, was honored at the company’s December performance of the *Nutcracker*, a gala celebration of the company’s 30th anniversary. Many former dancers returned to celebrate with Lisa and show their life-long love and respect for her.

Darby Downs (Alpha Rho) danced the role of Sugar Plum at Ballet Continental’s performance of *The Nutcracker*. She has performed with Ballet Continental in every one of its presentations the entire thirty years.

Merry Lewis (Nu) authored *Baby Bobcat Goes to School* which highlights Lou Lewis’ paintings of bobcats and is written for emerging readers. The companion book, *A Little Book of Bobcats* written by Diane Hanover, also highlights Lewis’ husband’s paintings and contains several of her photographs. Both books are available at Amazon.com.

Mary McGraw (Alpha Rho) was recently selected as one of Arizona’s top ten teachers. She teaches first grade at Anza Trail School in Sahuarita.

Jenny Lichtsinn (Alpha Rho) was recently named “Master Leader in Early Childhood Education” from the *Early Childhood Exchange Magazine*.

Carolyn Allen-Ware (Nu) received a Cornet Professional Development Award from the Educational Foundation. She attended a conference to study with a focus on “Preparing Today’s Readers for Tomorrow’s World.”

Carmen Wendt (Chi) has been selected to attend the 2016 Leadership Management Seminar at the University of Texas Graduate School of Business.

Life experience activities – Pre-convention tours

The Life Experience Committee has selected a guided tour of the Wrigley Mansion for April 14, 2016. The mansion is located at 2501 E. Telawa Trail adjacent to the Biltmore Hotel. The one-hour tour starts at 4 pm. The mansion has 24 rooms, 12 bathrooms and 11 unique fireplaces. On the tour you will see some of the living, dining and bedroom areas and hear about the mansion's history as well as information about the Wrigley family. There are beautiful 360-degree views of the Valley from the mansion.

After the tour, the committee recommends the special happy hour where you can dine inside or outside. Either spot has great views of the city. Select beverages and appetizers on the menu are half priced until 6 pm. The appetizers can definitely be a meal!

William Wrigley Jr. known for the chewing gum and owning the Chicago Cubs, purchased the Biltmore hotel during the depression. On a hill nearby, he built a mansion for his wife for their 50th wedding anniversary. It was used as a winter retreat for many years. William Wrigley Jr. died in the house one year after it was built. However, his wife continued using the home until her death in 1958. Following her death, the

Wrigley Mansion underwent several ownership changes. George Hormel, of the famous meat company, purchased the mansion in 1992 and renovated it. Currently it is a restaurant and lounge, as well as a banquet and wedding facility. However, many of the rooms have been preserved to look as the mansion did in the Wrigley glory days.

If you are interested in the tour, please fill out the registration form below. More detailed information about the tour logistics will be given to you. For additional information about the Wrigley Mansion, you may call (602) 955-4079 or visit the website at WrigleyMansion.com.

CERRETA CANDY COMPANY AND CATLIN COURT

An alternate activity for those participants who are free earlier in the day is a visit to the

REGISTRATION FOR THE WRIGLEY MANSION TOUR

Please fill out the information below and mail it with a check for \$15.00 made out to Omicron State by April 7th. Mail to the Life Experience Chair: Renate Krompasky at 3943 E. Paseo Dorado Tucson, AZ 85711. If you have questions, please email renate.krompasky@aol.com or call (520) 850-5470.

Name _____ Number of Tickets _____
 Address _____ Phone _____
 City/State/Zip _____ Email _____

PLEASE PLAN TO BE AT THE MANSION AT 3:45. The tour begins at 4:00 pm. More information will be sent to you.



Membership is everybody's business

The Membership Committee, along with the Expansion Committee, is working to re-inspire and reaffirm chapter members, and rebuild chapter membership rolls. At the Fall Workshop we announced that our goal for the biennium will be 7 by '17. We are encouraging chapters through new initiations and reinstatements to meet or exceed this goal. International has provided a new recruitment plan available on the DKG website Membership Committee page. It includes complete instructions and all the resources your chapter needs to begin building membership. In addition, the focus for **KARE** visits this biennium will be not only membership development but also how to incorporate it into your strategic action plan. Having a specific goal of increasing membership, and strategies to meet that goal will be different for each chapter. The **KARE** team's goal will be to visit all chapters this biennium. Finally, and as important as recruitment, is retention of members. Retention, like recruitment, must be deliberate and planned for by each chapter. The International Membership Committee put it this way: "Celebrating members' accomplishments is an effective way to develop positive relationships among members. When we feel nurtured and valued, we are more likely to be involved in chapter activities." We need to share ideas of how your chapter shows appreciation of its members.

Kathi Houtcooper, Alpha Iota, Membership Chair

Cerreta Candy Company Factory at 5345 W. Glendale Avenue. Free guided tours are available at 10:00 and 1:00. During other times, you can take a self-guided video tour and learn about the process of making candy. (Samples are available.) Following the tour, the committee recommends driving to Catlin Court in downtown Glendale. Parking is available on some streets and in garages, such as the free Palmaire Parking Structure. Historic Catlin Court has white picket fences, large shade trees and bungalows converted to specialty shops. Stroll through the shops and eat in one of the many restaurants located in historic downtown Glendale. Detailed maps are available at the Glendale Visitor Center located at 5800 W. Glenn Drive, Suite 140. There is no required sign up for this optional activity.

"Pick Your Passion" — Move toward educational excellence

As we enter 2016, let us take time to reflect. How are we progressing with our goals toward Educational Excellence? Are your chapter programs stimulating your members to grow in their learning? Are the two state projects *Collaborative Connections* and *Support of Early Career Educators (SEE)* still an important focus? Has a member been assigned to record and report volunteer hours for Collaborative Connections? Are Early Career Educators being mentored in local schools? What efforts have been made to encourage members to accept leadership positions? Are plans being made to take part in the Legislative Day at the State Capitol on February 10th to demonstrate concern about educational issues, budget and state retirement? What efforts are being done to improve global awareness? Let these questions stimulate your passion for success.

Alice Reule, Alpha Delta,
Omicron State First Vice-President

2016 OMICRON STATE CONVENTION SCHEDULE

April 15 - 17, 2016 — Opening Doors to the Future

Friday, April 15

Leadership Training

9:30-3:00
 (Other officers start with lunch and training)
 12:00-3:00
 12:00-2:30
 Registration
 Life Experience, Wrigley Mansion
 Opening Night, Dessert Reception, Classical Synergy

Presidents
 First and Second Vice-Presidents
 Secretaries and Treasurers
 3:00 – 7:00
 4:00-6:30
 7:00

Saturday, April 16

Hotel Breakfast, no charge with hotel reservation
 Registration
 General Session
 Workshop Session I
 Workshop Session II
 Birthday Luncheon
 Workshop III
 Rose Banquet

6:00 – 7:45
 7:00 – 12:00
 8:00 – 10:00
 10:05- 11:05
 11:15 -12:15
 12:30 –2:30
 3:00 – 4:00
 6:30

Sunday April 17

Ceremony of Remembrance
 Lei of Friendship Breakfast

8:00 – 8:45
 9:00

Be sure to visit the *Rose Boutique* and the *Women in the Arts Displays*

Meet your committee chairmen



Kathi Houtcooper
Membership Chairman
 “My committee is working to reinspire and reaffirm chapter members, and rebuild chapter membership rolls.”



Merry Lewis
Saburo Editor
 “My goal is to produce timely, informative and interesting newsletters that will also help share the wonderful benefits that DKG has to offer.”



Alice Reule
Educational Excellence Chairman
 “I will work to promote International’s focus on Empowerment, Educational Excellence and Changing Global Awareness.”



Sherry Alimi-Kent
Latin American Chairman
 “Our goal is to raise money to help defray the cost of attendance to Regional and International DKG events for our Latin American sisters.”



Mary Ann Liddle
Scholarship Chairman
 “Our goal is to award scholarships to our deserving members.”



Jeannette Marè

Conversations on kindness

Attendees at the 2016 Omicron State Convention will want to sign up for the Birthday Luncheon and hear Jeannette Marè from Tucson. Marè founded “Ben’s Bells” after the death of her son. The everyday acts of kindness bestowed upon her during that time inspired her to form the organization to help build communities of kindness, recognize specific acts and empower people to be more aware of the need for kindness. This leads to the strengthening of communities and relationships. Attendees will hear how “Ben’s Bells” has stretched from Tucson to Newtown, how the organization is now involved with research studies on kindness, and how the effect of kindness benefits health and quality of life.

State scholarships available

Omicron State’s Scholarship Committee has several awards to offer member applicants this year. It is time to review the application forms and organize the information needed to apply for one of these. To qualify, an applicant must be a one or more year Society member and desire funding to help finance an advanced degree or special certification.

Also available are smaller amounts from the Jo Regenold Fund. These are for DKG educators who want to pursue a classroom project or attend a conference or seminar serving to

enhance student learning abilities.

To help support the Jo Regenold Fund members may make monetary donations. Send a check to Treasurer Marge Threewit with a note that designates Jo Regenold Fund.

Please spread the word and encourage your DKG friends to apply for these financial awards. They are worthwhile and are one of the benefits of membership. Additional information may be found on Omicron’s website: <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/AZ/>

Mary Ann Liddle, Lambda

Need a Chapter Program Idea? Omega Learns About World Fellowship

Omega Chapter's September meeting gave members an opportunity to become more familiar with the goals and focus of the World Fellowship Committee. Members were asked what they knew about the committee and the fund, and were then given additional information and a brochure about the vision of the committee. Each member received a bag with a bookmark including facts about one of the most recent fund recipients, note paper and envelopes, address labels, and a pen. As members waited for the luncheon meal to be served, each member wrote a personal note of encouragement to the recipient listed on the bookmark. Members have been asked to correspond with their recipient two additional

times during the year. The luncheon had an international theme: appetizers included veggie spring rolls and bruschetta; the main course consisted of pita bread with curried chicken or Mediterranean chickpea spread, cheeses, and sandwich veggies. A Greek salad with olives and feta cheese was served. Desserts included Belgium cream puffs, ginger cookies, strawberry cream cake, and baklava. Donations were collected and sent to the World Fellowship Fund from Omega Chapter. Many thanks go to Denise Martin who provided the electronic files containing bookmark recipient information and address labels.

Judy Lewis, Omega

Supporting Student Teachers: The Process

<http://www.gofundme.com/zs38h2a>

We know educational resources are becoming more scarce. We also know that funding your own education is becoming harder with the costs of tuition, books and supplies skyrocketing. But let's put that information on the back burner for a few minutes and talk about the mission of DKG which is to "promote professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education" and how chapters, even small ones, can develop fundraising and service projects to support our mission.

First you need membership engagement. Xi Chapter (Tucson) is fairly small and we have not had a significant fundraiser for service projects in a while. One of our recent initiates, Maryann Nuckolls, had an idea for fundraising and the energy and motivation to pursue it. She heard of crowdfunding and saw potential for raising more funds than our previous smaller projects. And, if we raised enough money, we could have a larger impact on our educational community. With this in mind, she did extensive research on crowdfunding and developed a white paper that she presented to our Chapter. She also shared it with headquarters, and they were very impressed!

The membership was energized as we discussed the crowdfunding options and what service project we would develop. The chapter agreed to the following:

Develop a crowdfunding account.

Use the funds to support University of Arizona student teachers by presenting them with \$50 gift certificates.

Establish the crowdfunding goal of \$10,000 since there are about 200 student teachers for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Keep in mind that there are a number of websites that provide crowdfunding opportunities and they are not all alike. You need to consider numerous factors such as how fees are paid, do you need to reach the goal to access the funds, etc.

Nuckolls then contacted prospective partners. Jonathan and Marcia Katz, owners of Jonathan's Educational Resources in Tucson and Phoenix, agreed to partner with us as well as make a contribution.

The University of Arizona's Director of the Office of Field Experiences, Margaret R. Shafer welcomed our project to assist student teachers and has been very supportive.

Though \$50 may not sound like a lot, it can make a dent in student teacher expenses. And, the \$10,000 goal is lofty! How are we doing?

We are proud to say that the website for this project has been up since July 2015. One of the student teachers agreed to be the face of the project for the website and additional publicity. At Homecoming 2015, Maggie Shafer arranged a marvelous reception, including refreshments, at which time Xi members as well as Jonathan and Marcia Katz had an opportunity to meet the eleven Fall semester student teachers and hear them talk about the importance of their experience and



Barb Westover, Alpha, presents a grant to Kim Tinghitella.

Marana Teachers Receive Awards

Alpha Chapter awarded three Marana Unified School District teachers \$200 each to buy classroom supplies. All three women educators are in their first three years of full time employment by the district: Darci Brown, first grade teacher at Estes Elementary; Andrea Sera, fourth grade teacher at Quail Run Elementary; and Kim Tinghitella, kindergarten teacher at Thornydale Elementary. Books for classroom libraries and math manipulatives are some of the items to be purchased.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. The grants awarded by the Alpha Chapter help with the support and retention of early career educators in the Marana District.

Kay Wilson, Alpha

plans for the future. Then came their surprise as we awarded them each a \$50 gift certificates for Jonathan's Educational Resources. So we are on our way!

The down side is that we are far from our goal of \$10,000. Please join us in showing your support and Delta Kappa Gamma's support, for the next generation of teachers and their students. Take 10 minutes to contribute . . . no amount is too small. Please go to the following website: <http://gofundme.com/zs38h2a>

Ann Huber, Xi

Using a Quilt to Teach the Underground Railroad

I was most impressed with Denise Crockett's (Kappa) presentation at the Fall Workshop about the use of quilts to communicate information about the Underground Railroad and direct slaves to freedom. Crockett teaches art at Safford Middle School in Safford, AZ. She displayed her handmade quilt, which had sixteen different blocks – 4 across the quilt and 4 down. Each block had a different meaning and was a code to direct a slave's journey. For example, the Log Cabin block was used to signal a "safe house" for runaway slaves. Each block had a different name, except the last one, which was a summary of the 15. The quilts would be hung one at a time on a fence or cabin door, left to "air out" while communicating a specific action or step for the runaway slave to take next.

Following is an explanation of the code. The name of the block on the quilt is underlined in the narrative. The Monkey Wrench turns the Wagon Wheel toward Canada. With help from Jesus, the Carpenter, follow the Bears' Trail through the woods. Fill your Baskets with enough food and supplies to get you to the Crossroads. Once you get to the Crossroads, dig a Log Cabin in the ground. Shoofly told us to dress up in cotton and satin Bow Ties. Follow the Flying Geese & Birds in the Air, stay on the



Denise Crockett, Kappa

Drunkard's Path. Take the Sailboat across the Great Lakes to the North Star above Canada.

Safe houses along the way were known as "stations," those who guided the escapees were called "conductors" and the runaways themselves were called "passengers." Harriet Tubman was one of the best-known conductors on the Underground Railroad. After her escape from slavery, she returned to the South 19 times

to bring over 300 fugitives to freedom and never lost a single passenger.

This information would make an interesting history lesson. Crockett included the titles of many children's books on this subject. This is a short list of the books, which were displayed: The Last Safe House, The Secret to Freedom, Stitchin & Pullin (also as a video) and Oma's Quilt.

Charlotte Kraus, Alpha Epsilon



Navajo Code Talkers

Judy Weber, Alpha Beta, spoke about the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II at our fall workshop at Metro Tech High School on Saturday, October 24, 2015.

Judy Weber, Alpha Beta, discusses Navajo Code Talkers

Weber's presentation was very interesting and full of information. She had prepared a timeline beginning with 1940—when the Navajo Nation passed a resolution that Navajo men would defend America.

There were Navajos already serving in the Marines, but this was a different mission—to be able to send messages that the Japanese could not translate. The men had to be able to speak English and Navajo, be aged 18 to 30 years old, and be small of stature. The timeline continued through 2014 when the last of the original 29 Code Talkers passed away.

The Code Talkers had to develop their own alphabet. They also used the words, "Arizona" or "New Mexico" before starting their transmis-

sions. The Japanese tried to decode the messages but could not. Japanese intelligence also tried to disrupt the Navajo transmissions.

When WWII ended in 1946, the Code Talkers were quiet about their service. They went home and resumed their lives. In 1969, the Unbreakable Code was declassified, and the Navajo Code Talkers (20 were still alive) received special recognition at the Annual Reunion of the 4th Marine Division.

Judy Weber's presentation was well worth attending and presented a slice of American History that some of us did not know about.

Evelyn Harris, Epsilon

EXPECT MORE ARIZONA



Dr. Joye Sterrett, Omega welcomes Pearl Chang Esau

Eighteen thousand students drop out of Arizona schools every year. Pearl Chang Esau spoke about this problem at the Omicron State Fall Workshop. In 2009, she wanted to change this statistic and formed a non-profit organization titled *Expect More Arizona*. She began by recruiting parents, educators and corporate sponsors. She reminded attendees that knowledge is power because it is one thing no one can take from you. As educators we are preparing students for jobs that do not yet exist. The major issue is funding. Educational achievement will translate to money for the local, state and national economy. *ExpectMoreArizona.org* provides information and resources for students, parents and educators and also offers opportunities for volunteering.

Ginny Mountain, Chi

Fall Workshop by the numbers

Registration	146
Past State Presidents	6
First Timers	12
Chapters	26
Best In-Area Attendance:	Alpha Alpha
Best Out-of-Area Attendance:	Eta
Best Percentage In-Area:	Alpha Alpha
Best Percentage Out-of-Area:	Lambda



The "35 and under" table attendees enjoy each other's company.



Members of the Membership Committee greeted attendees.



The Rose Boutique was the place to be!



Judy Lewis and Janet Vickers presented a workshop on "Foldables".



Above, Linda Perl, Chi, sells cards and below, Hattie Williams, Tau, sells other miscellaneous items at the Rose Boutique.



Sales are brisk at the Rose Boutique.



AKT Inaugural trip to
England, Scotland & Ireland

July 18-29, 2016
 Find more information at dkg.grouptoursite.com






Marge Threewit, Alpha Beta, presents a workshop.



Vicki Berglind, Alpha, is a winner!



Alpha Beta members give the invitation to the 2016 convention.

White Roses

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

Elizabeth Manera Scottsdale, AZ	Beta October 11, 2015
JoAnn Smith Sierra Vista, AZ	Epsilon November 8, 2015
Beth Puhler Tucson, AZ	Xi November 16, 2015
Velma Edward Phoenix, AZ	Rho July 23, 2015
Mary Palsma Phoenix, AZ	Rho May 15, 2015
Elizabeth Swanson Phoenix, AZ	Rho December 15, 2015
Susan Shafer Green Valley, AZ	Alpha Rho June 18, 2015
Constance Myren Tucson, AZ	Lambda December 23, 2015
Dr. Barbara Baker Phoenix, AZ	Alpha Delta January 30, 2016

U.S. Forum offers seminar

The purpose of the U.S. Forum is to inform members on pending legislation that furthers the Purposes of the Society. Forum members are dedicated to being an advocate for women, children, and education, maintaining affiliations with other like-minded organizations, and surveying members to determine their legislative priorities.

The U. S. Forum holds a National Legislative Seminar each March of even-numbered years for DKG members and their guests. The National Legislative Seminar (NLS) will occur at the Holiday Inn National Airport Crystal City in Arlington, VA, March 13-16, 2016. Based on the results of the NLS Planning Survey given at each 2015 regional conference, the NLS will place an emphasis on five topics:

- Bullying and Cyberbullying
- High Stakes Testing
- Human Trafficking
- Mental Health/Gun Violence
- Pay Equity/Fair Pay for Women

In addition, other topics of interest will be discussed, a tour entitled "Museums, Memorials, and Moving Moments in American History" will be available. Participants will have an opportunity to visit members of Congress during the day on Capitol Hill. For more information or to register for the 2016 NLS, go to usforumdkg.org

Susan Halliday, Alpha Delta

"CALL YOURSELF COUNTRY" in Nashville

Start getting your western duds together and come join the Education Foundation for a fun-filled evening, July 7, 2016 during the International Convention in Nashville. This will be an evening on the banks of the Cumberland River in a three-level historic warehouse turned into a country music entertainment center. The murals are fabulous, along with so much more designed by a local artist. You will even find horses and sculptures of custom horses that "belly up to the bar" with you. There are bars, dance floor, pool tables, shuffle board and much to enjoy. The **Wildhorse** has been completely bought out so only DKG members will be in attendance.

The \$169 ticket includes: *transportation to and from the **Wildhorse** with buses run-

ning every 20 minutes from the Opryland Hotel, *access to all three levels and activities, *entertainment – live Band, DJ, line dance instructor, dance floor, *dinner buffets including salads, many condiments, *Hickory pit smoked pork shoulder, * **Wildhorse** BBQ Spice rubbed beef brisket, *chow chow cole slaw and piccalilli relish, along with *14 ingredient BBQ baked beans as well as *red roasted potatoes, *butter yeast rolls and buttermilk biscuits and a *seasonal fruit cobbler, and a tax-deductible donation (US only) to the Foundation. A cash bar will be on each level.

Be sure to purchase your ticket for the "Call Yourself Country" event when you register for the Convention.

*Donna Reynolds, Alpha Epsilon,
AZ Liaison to the Foundation*

Legislative Day at the Capitol

Thirteen DKG members from across the state attended Legislative Day at the Arizona Capitol on February 10, 2016. The busy morning was spent visiting with a variety of legislators from both political parties. Legislators shared their expertise on many education issues and were quite willing to answer all questions. The speakers, Eric Meyer, 2015, Friend of Education recipient, along with Representative Rios, Representative Ackerley, Representative Gabaldon, and Representative Brophy McGee, were advocates for education and spoke to the importance of supporting education. Time was also spent visiting with our own legislators, touring the museum and visiting the monuments. After lunch we headed to the gallery in the House and Senate, where we were recognized by a member of the legislature. It was a good day to be with fellow DKG members. We are ready to continue to advocate for good education policies in Arizona.

Marilyn Duerbeck, Alpha Iota, Legislative Chair





OPENING DOORS TO THE FUTURE
Increase Membership • Enhance Programs • Build Leadership
2016 Omicron State Convention • April 15, 16, 17, 2016



Four Points by Sheraton Phoenix North
 2532 W Peoria Ave • Phoenix, AZ • 888-627-9057
 (When calling say Delta Kappa Gamma for special rate by March 15)

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

HOTEL REGISTRATION IS SEPARATE (SEE ABOVE)

PLEASE FILL IN FORM COMPLETELY!

Last Name: _____ First Name: (Badge) _____ Chapter: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Current International or State Officer/Committee Chair Title: _____

- | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| • Past State President | Y | N | • 25 Year Member (1991-2016) | Y | N |
| • Chapter President (2014-2016) | Y | N | • 50 Year Member (1966-2016) | Y | N |
| • Chapter President (2016-2018) | Y | N | • Member age 35 years old or younger | Y | N |

Mark the functions below that you wish to attend. Indicate the number and names of guests attending.

****Guest's meals must be paid for with your registration.****

Fill in total amount for each function, ending with the overall TOTAL amount due.

EVENTS	ATTENDING	COST PER PERSON	AMOUNT DUE
REGISTRATION FEE			
Attending 1 day only Fr. ____ Sat. ____ or Sun. ____		\$30.00	_____
Attending 2 or 3 days			
POSTMARKED BEFORE March 21		\$55.00	_____
POSTMARKED from March 22-April 8		\$75.00	_____
Friday Officer Training (by invitation)	Y N	NO CHARGE	0
Lunch	Y N	\$21.00	_____
Friday Night Dessert Reception	Y N	NO CHARGE	0
Guest: _____	# _____	\$15.00	_____
The hotel restaurant serves a breakfast buffet daily. The breakfast will be free of charge to DKG hotel guests only and at a reduced rate of \$10.00 to DKG members not staying at the hotel.			
Saturday Birthday Luncheon*	Y N	\$19.00	_____
Guest: _____	# _____	\$19.00	_____
Saturday Rose Banquet*	Y N	\$33.00	_____
Guest: _____	# _____	\$33.00	_____
Sunday World Fellowship Breakfast*	Y N	\$18.00	_____
Guest: _____	# _____	\$18.00	_____
		<u>TOTAL</u>	_____

*SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS: Diabetic _____ Gluten Free _____ Vegetarian _____

PHOTO RELEASE: By attendance at this event participants are granting their permission to be filmed, videotaped, audiotaped or photographed by any means and are granting full use of their likeness, voice and words without compensation.

Make checks payable to: **OMICRON STATE ANNUAL CONVENTION**

Mail check and complete form by **March 21** to:
 Susan Halliday shalliday3@gmail.com
 16820 S. 12th Way 480-460-5444
 Phoenix, AZ 85048

●●●●●●●●NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 1st●●●●●●●●

Delta Kappa Gamma-Omicron State
4315 N. Pontatoc Road
Tucson, AZ 85718-6766

Dates to Remember

April 15 – 17, 2016
Omicron State Convention
Four Points by Sheraton Phoenix North
2532 W Peoria Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona

July 5 – 9, 2016
International Convention
Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee

October, 2016
Omicron State Executive Board Meeting/
All Member Workshop
Metro Tech High School
1900 W Thomas Road
Phoenix, Arizona

July 4 -7, 2017
Southwest Regional Conference
Sheraton Waikiki Hotel and Resort
Honolulu, Hawaii

July 16 -20, 2018
International Convention
JW Marriott Austin
Austin, Texas

Educational Foundation news

In September 2015, thirteen individuals received Cornet Professional Development Awards. Ten of the recipients are DKG members. Of these, five are in the southeast, three in the southwest and one each in the northwest and northeast. One member each from Arkansas, Arizona, and Nebraska received an award. A total of \$18,133.52 was granted and individual awards varied from \$738 to \$2000 which is the maximum award given.

In January 2016, eight state organizations applied for the Seminar Awards. Awards were given to four applicants for the full amount requested. One state application involved leadership for life, another leadership training, and one professional development with the studies of science, art, math, technology and engineering for the main focuses. The fourth award was presented to four states that are working together in the area of creative arts. A total of \$16,000 was awarded.

*Donna Reynolds, Alpha Epsilon,
Arizona Liaison for the Foundation*

USE THESE WEBSITES

Omicron State
<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/AZ/>

DKG Arizona
Facebook

DKG
www.dkg.org

DKG Foundation
www.dkgef.org/

Meet Dr. Beverly Helms

from page 1

several school boards, competency assessment groups, and been an adjunct faculty at University of West Florida and Baptist College of Florida. No stranger to community involvement, she has led the County Tourist Development Council, belonged to the County Chamber of Commerce, and co-chaired the American Cancer Relay for Life.

Come to the 2016 Omicron Convention to hear and enjoy the insights of Dr. Beverly Helms, an outstanding example of leadership in action.

Kathy Green, Alpha Delta

THE ARIZONA SAHUARO

Publication Deadlines

Spring Issue	May 15, 2016
Fall Issue	August 15, 2016
Winter Issue	January, 2017

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