

THE SAHUARO

Arizona State Organization's News Publication for
Delta Kappa Gamma, a Place for Key Women Educators

Executive Meeting

by Carmen Wendt, Chi



Rachel Wear, Jean Davis, and Jenny Lichtsinn (left to right) social distance at Lichtsinn's home while attending the June State Executive Board meeting online.

The Arizona State Organization had its first online Executive Board meeting on June 6, using GoToMeeting. Of the 51 attendees, many had never used the format, but a number were experienced in Zoom, Skype, FaceTime and other digital face-to-face format meetings. The classroom teachers were "old hands" at how many things worked online.

Attendees enjoyed being able to see faces not seen for a while. Lori Good (Alpha Alpha) echoed the comments of many who stayed for chat time after the meeting. "We were just talking and learning about GoToMeeting and other platforms and their advantages and disadvantages," she said.

Frustrations did come with the meeting though. There were only 25 camera slots, and that meant only half of the attendees could be shown at one time.

Deborah Bueche, DKG Technology Relations Specialist, commented on the fact there were 51 attendees at the meeting. That is "quite a large crowd for a GTM, so congratulations!"

Members saw bonuses for having the meeting online. "The easiest part was not having to drive four hours to be there!" said Ruth Wilmot (Iota), who lives in Yuma. Recording Secretary Linda Perl (Chi) was in New Hampshire while Carrie Snyder (Alpha Xi) joined from Montana.

The plan for a future meeting will be to mute everyone better, skip the song which was quite a job for Cinda Wood (Alpha Sigma) to try to keep all together, and for everyone to learn how to use the private chat.

"I want to thank everyone for being willing to try something new, and especially those who stepped up to help. Overall I think we got some work done and enjoyed the time together. I was delighted to see familiar faces. Just wish I could have hugged everyone!" said State President Carmen Wendt.

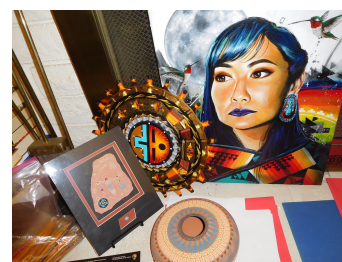
All agreed that muting 51 teachers in one "room" was a challenge, and getting the technology to cooperate required patience. When it was time for Finance Committee Chair Emilie Kanon (Delta) to

IN THIS ISSUE



SEE WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO IN THE CHAPTER ROUND-UP - P. 9

COMMITTEE UPDATES ARE OUT FOR REVIEW & CONSIDERATION - P. 4



READ MORE ABOUT INDIGENOUS PEOPLE IN OUR CHAPTER SPOTLIGHT - P. 13

VOTING RESULTS - P. 3

discuss the proposed ballot, her mic wouldn't connect. Her solution was to stay on the computer camera to be seen and to call on the phone to be heard. It worked!

Many thought we could, and might have to, have additional state meetings online. "I thought it was great and with a little practice, it will get better and better," commented Sandy Breece (Alpha Chi), Corresponding Secretary.

President's Message

by Carmen Wendt, Chi

Greetings from my sofa! Here we all are still at home, and it looks like Arizona's coronavirus numbers are going up again. I hope you are following the guidelines and staying safe.

Thank you to all who came to the GoToMeeting on June 6. It was wonderful to see DKG faces. It was a new experience for us all to have the Executive Board meeting online. I wish we could have seen everyone on camera. I've asked about the 25-camera limit. It was so nice to visit with those who stayed after the meeting. It was a chance to informally visit, ask questions, and generally check-in with each

other. If you've not done so yet, I suggest you have a virtual chapter social time and/or a meeting. Also chapters may find a presenter who will join you online for a program.

And, please invite me to join you. I would love to come. When I started the biennium, I planned to travel the state and visit every chapter. Sadly, that's probably not going to be possible. But, I look forward to seeing you online. I am willing to try any meeting format. So far I've done Zoom, GTM, and Google meetings.

I just learned that we have a new challenge in October. Rio Salado College has decided to suspend all in-person activities at their Conference Center and meeting rooms through January 4, 2021. We can start looking for another location; however, we'll have to wait to see if we will be able to gather then. Generally our Fall Workshop is more economical, and we usually meet at a school which helps control the cost. I welcome all input on possible locations.

This July we will be having a virtual online International convention. I've not seen the schedule yet, but check International's website ([dkg.org](https://www.dkg.org)) for more information. As a member of the International Executive Board, I will be voting for the new International officers June 15 - 19. The winners will be announced in July. Take a look at the candidates for office at https://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Nominees_2020_2022.aspx. There are several offices that have more than one candidate. Please share your comments on the candidates before I vote. Thanks!



Rock the Vote

RESULTS FROM THE BOARD MEETING VOTES

by Carmen Wendt, Chi

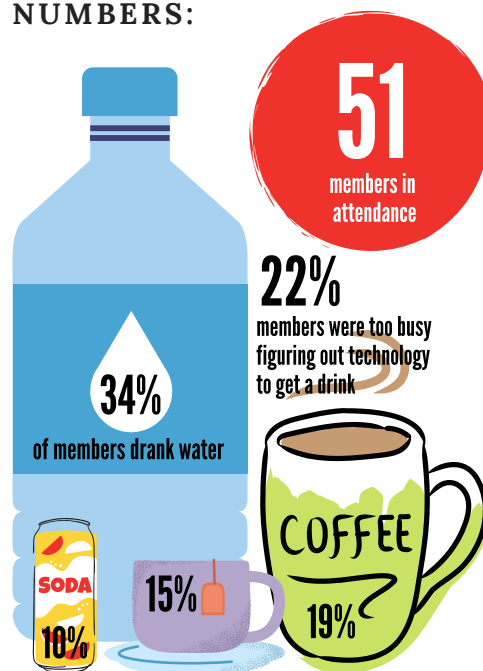
The executive board did discuss state business. The new budget for the 2020-2021 year was discussed as well as the location and dates for the 2021 Spring Convention. Because the Bylaws do not allow for voting at virtual meetings, the vote on the two issues was done by email, using a Google Form ballot that met with the Bylaw requirements. The results of the vote will be ratified at the next state meeting when the Board can all gather in one room.

The ballot was open June 6 - 12. Invited to vote were Board members present at the meeting: 24 chapter presidents or their substitutes, seven past presidents and 6 voting state board members. A total of 33 votes were received. One person voted twice and the second vote was voided for a total of 32 votes. A quorum voted and a majority was needed to pass.

Ballot Question #1 passed. It received 32 “Yes” votes and no “No” votes. (Question: Do you approve the adoption of the 2020-2021 budget?)

Ballot Question #2 passed. It received 31 “Yes” votes and 1 “No” vote. (Question: Do you approve that the next State Convention be June 4-6, 2021, at the Sheraton Phoenix Crescent, 2620 W. Dunlap, Phoenix, AZ?)

THE MEETING NUMBERS:



56% covered their feet in shoes or slippers



ENDOWMENT AWARDED



Kimberly George (Alpha) was awarded the DKG Arizona Alice Lang/Kay Fischer/Judy Vinson Endowment. She is working on a master's in autism special education at Grand Canyon University. George anticipates graduating in February.



Committee Updates

ARTS

Our committee met at the Fall Conference at Rio Salado. We focused on ideas for the Art Retreat. We also discussed what help might be needed at the June convention. Things have been pretty quiet since then.

I have received excellent ideas for the Make and Take for the Art Retreat.

We do need some more people to teach in January. Please let me know if you would like to share something to make or do. My email is debbieb704@gmail.com

To those serving on this committee: We will have a meeting at the Fall Conference. More details will be sent in an email as the conference draws near. Hope all is well with you and yours!

Debbie Bennighof – Chair

ARCHIVES

This committee presented a report at the Fall Workshop and saw that each chapter president got a copy of the report that needs to be filled out every year. We will be contacting them for their reports before July 1st.

Chapter Presidents, feel free not to wait for your committee lady to contact you. You may email me or your Area Representative for another copy if you need, or just send it in whenever you have it done.

Archive Committee – 2019-2021

Area Representative (2019-2021)

1 – Barbara Scott junipersv@gmail.com

2 – Jane Holdcroft jkh2125@aol.com

3 – Deltrina Grimes

deltrinagrimes@yahoo.com

4 – Debbie Gordon debbie@skgordon.net

5 – Darcy Wimer darcyrobinson@gmail.com

X – Donna Reynolds warna2@cox.net

Ruth Wilmot – Chair

clueclass2@yahoo.com



EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The members of the committee have been preparing for the State Convention in June. We have planned training sessions, presentations, and reviewed nominations forms. We have been looking forward to seeing everyone from around the state in June. Unfortunately, we now must wait like everyone else and only meet virtually. Now, we set our sights on Rio Salado College in October.

Throughout the year we have worked to collect data on chapter and individual volunteer projects. We are planning to reveal the totals at the Fall Workshop. So be sure that your chapter's data has been sent to Marilyn Duerbeck (mduer71704@aol.com).

We also would like to know the total contribution made by each chapter for the Schools for Africa project. This is to be sent to Suellen Brahs (sbrahs@cox.net). The donation itself is to be sent directly to UNICEF USA Attn: Global Cause Partnerships 125 Maiden Lane New York, NY 10038. The Arizona State Organization will be building virtual schoolhouses based on each chapter's donation totals. See how many rooms your chapter's schoolhouse has built at the Fall Workshop.

Looking for new ideas for chapter programs? The EEC can help. We have designed a chart of program ideas and resources from chapters all around the state. Please find this resource on the AZ State website to help plan your future meetings.

The Educational Excellence Committee will be announcing the 2020 Spotlight Award recipients at the Fall Workshop. Please plan to attend to give these dedicated women the recognition that they so deserve.

Susan Halliday - Chair

EXPANSION & RENEWAL

The Expansion & Renewal Committee continued to work through March 14th, 2020 until we were halted by COVID-19. Thus far we have kept our goals of working with Chapter Leadership to support Early Career Educators, building community within their teams and providing support to sustain and nurture membership. Most Chapters are progressing well with their projects and seem to have attained the goal of increased engagement and interactions amongst Chapter members. We continue to update the DKG AZ Serves database of projects that Chapters may reference for their group projects. Looking forward to the Fall Workshop 2020 to see the results of Chapter participation.

Saroj Jagernauth - Chair

FINANCE

During 2019-2020, the Finance Committee has met electronically via e-mails and by phone on several occasions to prepare the 2020-2021 Budget. We had hoped to meet for a business lunch to finalize the budget on March 28 but that was not to be.

However, we were able to create a solid budget for next year that remains relevant to our changing needs and expectations while allowing ample wiggle room for unforeseen contingencies.

We have also updated the Financial Assets and Restricted Funds portion of the budget report to May 1, 2020. This presents a more accurate picture of funds available for operational costs and scholarships.

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FINANCE CONT.

We continue to use an Excel spreadsheet for the budget format to allow for ease in making changes and updates, in reading and understanding the budget, and sharing the document electronically.

Also, more of our assets have been converted to longer term CD's which allows for greater earning power and fewer bank fees.

This past year the treasurer has been sending our bank statements to the committee chair for review and comment which has led to greater transparency and understanding of our financial operations and the budgeting process.

Emilie Kanon - Chair

LATIN AMERICA



The Latin America Committee, led by Jenny Lichtsinn (Alpha Rho), met by Zoom and telephone on May 4th (see picture above). We are continuing on with our plans for the Latin America/Arizona Night at the International Convention in July.

For this event, you are invited to join us for a no host event at the Union Bar (adjacent to the hotel) for dinner on July 8th from 5-8. At this event, we will host 15-20 Latin American Presidents. We will provide each President with a small favor of a tiny cactus candle in a pot with the words of President Carmen, "Celebrate", "Connect" and "Cultivate" written in Spanish on the sides of the pot.

To fund our activities, we sold puzzle pieces which led to a map of the world (with Latin America highlighted) at the Fall Workshop. We also sold "To Go Bags" with snacks and water for the trip home. We will repeat this effort at the Fall All Member Workshop with the beautifully decorated bags that Maria Luera (Zeta) decorated for our use (see picture on page 7). We are always selling our personalized society name tags with black or red ribbons for \$20. If you would like to purchase one, please contact Jenny at jlichtsinn@cox.net. Of course, we will always accept your donations!

In addition, this year, we will be offering small grants to Latin American members who wish funding for projects. Stephanie Hoopes (Kappa) has created a simple grant application in both Spanish and English which will be offered through our Latin American Representative. We are doing in this in place of providing funds toward the convention expenses of the Latin American members.

We are very fortunate to have a very active, organized group of women on our committee! Much thanks to our advisor, Rachel Wear (Alpha Rho), Bea Olivas (Alpha Rho), Marie Luera (Zeta), Stephanie Hoopes (Kappa), Sherry Alimi (Eta) and Lorraine Mejia (Alpha Rho). Our next meeting is scheduled for June 1 at 10:00 on zoom.

Jenny Lichtsinn (Alpha Rho) - Chair

LEADERSHIP

The Leadership Committee met face-to-face in December, January and again in April via Zoom. It worked great, thanks to Kristy Miller for hosting. Another option for committee meetings is using Go-to-Meeting through International.

Thank you to all chapters who have turned in Form 110 Reporting of New Chapter Officers. The list is needed to contact new officers for the Officer Training at the Fall Workshop, Saturday, October 24, at Rio Salado College. Encourage new officers to attend. The training for presidents will start at approximately 12:30 and end about 3:30pm. Other officers' training will be approximately an hour. There will be time for questions and discussion.

The Leadership Committee promises to be a resource for each chapter. Committee members will be reaching out to individual chapters to be a support through e-mails, zoom meetings or phone calls. If you have

questions or concerns, please forward them ahead of time to Alice Reule. The Leadership Committee is determined to meet your needs.

Alice Reule, Alpha Delta - Chair

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

The Marketing and Communications committee has moved to social media in the past two years. We are now on Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn. We have a few ads running on Facebook and Instagram. In the next year, we can run paid ads, depending on the needs of our community. We have also moved the Sahuaro to a virtual publication, which helps us to save money.

Julie Cober - Chair



NECROLOGY

The news we receive on the Necrology Committee is not happy news. However, we so appreciate all of the hard work the presidents, second vice presidents and members of each chapter do to send us sincere, loving, kind, thoughtful and informative information on each member in Delta Kappa Gamma who has passed away.

It is important to receive relevant information about each member passing away pertaining to their activities and contributions in both DKG events and the field of education. We can then acknowledge their achievements properly in our Remembrance Ceremony usually held on Sunday, the final day of our spring DKG Convention.

This information is requested in Form 6 which must be sent by the chapter president as soon as they are aware of a member's death. Form 6 must be sent to the DKG International Membership Chair, the DKG AZ State treasurer, and the DKG State Necrology chair. Keep a copy of Form 6 for your chapter files. (Check for current addresses or emails.)

Another important piece of information is Form 2. The second vice-president of each chapter will fill out this form as events happen and send in the finalized form to the DKG AZ State president by February 1.

Retain a copy of Form 2 with chapter minutes to be saved and in the chapter archives file. This form is a final accountability so we don't miss this information from any chapter.

Since we will not be having the convention in 2020, all members passing will be honored together in the June 6, 2021 Remembrance Ceremony.

Nancy Mahon - Chair

NON-DUES REVENUE

The Committee sent out 103 invitations to Prospective Vendors/Exhibitors for the 2020 State Convention.

Agreements/Applications, along with checks to reserve 13 tables were received. Checks were either returned to Vendors/Exhibitors or held for next year's convention. The 2021 Vendor and Exhibitor Agreement/Applications can be found on the State Website. Members are encouraged to help procure vendors and Exhibitors. It's a great way to market the Society!

Lori Good - Chair

RULES

The Arizona State Rules Committee has been very engaged this biennium assisting chapters in the revision of their rules and in the organization of a new state Procedures Manual, for the state officers and committee chairs. The committee is pleased to announce the majority of the chapters have submitted their revised rules and have them ready to distribute to the members. The updated state Bylaws and Standing Rules are completed, other than some possible automatic changes to include suggestions from International.

Rachel Wear - Chair



Chapter Round Up

ALPHA



Members tour Diamond Children's Medical Center at the University of Arizona. The Chapter donates Jared Boxes to the hospital, and it was rewarding to see children using materials from our boxes.

ALPHA ALPHA

A visit to Phoenix Art Museum occurred in November (left). January's meeting (right).



In December members had a luncheon with Alpha Iota and guest speaker Kelli Butler, member of the Arizona House of Representatives. She represents District 28.



ALPHA BETA



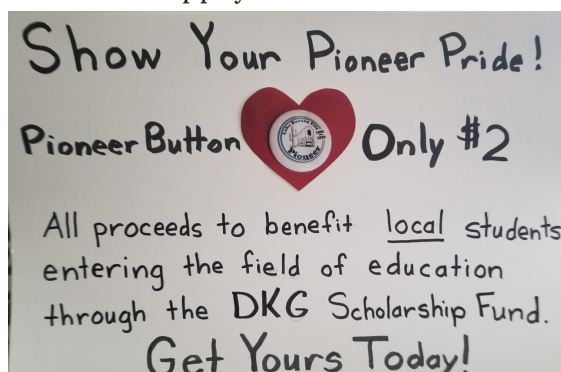
Members, Maureen, Marge, Judy, Marilyn, and Donna, stuff folders for Fall Workshop.

ALPHA CHI

Toni Ade, member in Lake Havasu City, is responsible for organizing the Pioneer Celebration and Reunion held in that city every two years.

The event celebrates those residents who helped found the city between 1963 and 1973. Just before social distancing went into effect earlier this year, over 200 people from far and wide attended.

Member Ashley Miller came up with the idea to make and sell Pioneer Buttons to raise funds to support the chapter's grant-in aid. Then Ade suggested making a Pioneer Button to sell at the upcoming luncheon. Member Marti Nash supplied the button machine and the chapter members went to work at a meeting. Over 200 buttons were made and happily sold like hotcakes!



ALPHA DELTA

The December 9, 2019 chapter meeting (below) follows the tradition. Dinner is always held at The Beatitudes for their December meeting. The Christmas/Holiday project this year was “One Step Beyond.” They donated \$875 to the non-profit this year!



Front seated row: Kathy Green, Fran Seifman, Nancy Noll, Diane Gara-Weiner. Back standing row: CC Chambers, Faye Golden, Alice Reule, Mary Hodge, Marilynn Steffen, Liz Tataseo, Christa Dettmer, Sue Mueller, Susan Halliday and Debra Bergbower.

ALPHA EPSILON

Members do crafts that were learned at the Creative Arts Retreat. Debby Webster taught alcohol painting (below).



ALPHA EPSILON CONTINUED



Sally Carter teaches the art of Zentangles at one of Alpha Epsilon’s “Just for Fun” events. We also learned weaving throughout the year.

ALPHA SIGMA

Alpha Sigma had its first Zoom meeting. Six current members/teachers shared information about their last six weeks teaching online. The chapter found the Zoom session a fantastic way to conduct its meeting during the pandemic.

Member Pat Rovey recently received the Outreach Award from the All Arizona Schools Retirees Association. This award recognizes an individual who promotes educational and charitable projects with her community.

The chapter awarded a \$1000 grant-in-aid to Elly McAniff. McAniff, now a senior at Grand Canyon University, is majoring in education. Her career goal is to be a kindergarten teacher. This past year she had a 4.0 and volunteered at homeless shelters with the small children.

BETA



Arizona State President, Carmen Wendt joined members of Beta Chapter for their Thanksgiving Meeting at the home of Marge Dillon.

EPSILON

Epsilon Chapter celebrated Women in the Arts and Quilts at their March meeting. Sonna McQuerry, on the left (below), shares her quilt and the story behind it. Darcey Wimer, on the right, is helped to hold quilts.



Darcey Wimer, on the left, (below) and Camille Call, at the top, hold up the quilt. On the right, the quilt's rightful owner: Joy Mims.



EPSILON CONTINUED



On the left, Cinde Schuttner and Camille Call, on the right, with another quilt with a story.

IOTA

Continuing its support of Operation School Bell, Iota Chapter in Yuma has once again collected and donated children's books. Each child who comes through the doors is given clothing, shoes, miscellaneous other items, and 2 books of his choice. Keeping School Bell supplied with books for K-12 level readers is always a challenge which the chapter does its best to meet.

KAPPA



For their community service project members made fidget mats for the local health department. The county nurse uses them for Alzheimer and dementia clients.

NU

An informal happy hour get together of chapter members and friends was held at St. Philips Plaza in Tucson, AZ.



The Annual Holiday Brunch at the SaddleBrooke 2 Clubhouse comes with specific theme such as: Christmas Carols, Holiday Traditions, Angels, and an ugly sweater theme! The members and guests look forward to the event each December.



XI



Above is a group picture members took last fall when they hosted Dr. Marsha Brooks-Candela, OB/GYN of Northwest Women's Center. She spoke on women's over 55 health issues and was well received.

Xi Chapter sadly closed her doors on June 1, 2020. Co-presidents Linda Stockbauer and Catheryn Simpson are transferring to Alpha Chapter while others are transferring to either Nu or Upsilon Chapters, and the remaining will be dropping due to health or other commitments.

Stockbauer and Simpson are looking forward to joining Alpha Chapter and wish all members of Xi Chapter all the best in their future endeavors.

The chapter also extends their warmest congratulations to Mrs. Kim George, Alpha, on being awarded the Xi Chapter \$500 scholarship for advanced education. A formal presentation will be made at a later date.

UPSILON

A meetings where members ate out is pictured left. Members always have a good time sharing a meal with each other, especially when eating at a restaurant.



Chapter Spotlight

WORLD FELLOWSHIP LOOKS AND TASTES GREAT

by Janet Vickers, Omega

On a beautiful early March Saturday, already implementing respectful distancing, and not a handshake or hug in sight, Omega went no farther than its own members and a nearby neighbor to get a positive global perspective.

Our chapter's World Fellowship-focused program highlighted Native American arts, crafts, and foods. We learned more about the inter-connectedness of cultures, and enjoyed the camaraderie that comes with adventurous making and eating, as we savored the talents of members Judy Lewis, Carol Gordon, and Janet Blum, and neighbor Ro Ziegler.

Carol Gordon's hands-on talk included her own museum quality weavings, memorable personal narratives, and examples of indigenous foods, medicines, and fabric dyes.

Janet shared part of the Blum family art collection, family stories, and tales of special art students, along with her expertise about pottery symbols, mandalas, and indigenous peoples' art history and techniques.

After a short walk members toured nearby neighbor Ro Ziegler's home and focused on her Native American art and artifacts collection. Then we returned for hostess Judy Lewis's grand finale of tempting scents, colorful settings, and stories behind the cross-cultural feast.

Judy prepared chicken Pozole Verde, Three Sisters soup (corn, beans, squash), green salad, both Mexican and sweet cornbreads, and berry shortcake for dessert.



Judy Lewis' collection of Mexican and sweet breads (above) and Chicken Pasole Verde (left).

In exchange for Judy's donating the food, members donated money for World Fellowship and we made \$200.

Five prospective member guests had as much fun as we did at Omega's annual cross-cultural awareness World Fellowship program this year.



Janet Blum and Carol Gordon, Omega members, enjoy the feast.

Roses



WHITE ROSES

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

Linda Spellman March 14, 2020	Eta
Dr. Donna Johnson March 22, 2020	Alpha Beta
Carmen Portillo April 14, 2020	Alpha Delta
Ora Lee Allred May 7, 2019	Kappa
Dr. Renee Barbara Horowitz February 11, 2020	Beta
Phyllis "Sue" Sword January 8, 2020	Epsilon
Dr. Carol Stimple April 1, 2020	Eta
Dana Jaeger May 12, 2020	Alpha Iota

RED ROSES

Julie Cober (Beta) was selected for an International Scholarship for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Merry Lewis (Nu) was elected vice-chairman for the new DKG International Foundation. It is the result of merging the DKG Supporting corporation and the Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation. The merge will simplify contributing fund to the Society as well as saving on accounting and legal fees. Congratulations, Merry!

REMEMBERING DANA JAEGER



by Kathi Houtcooper, Alpha Iota

Dana Jaeger (Alpha Iota) died on May 18, 2020. She has been Arizona State's webmaster since 2013 when she was appointed by Rachel Wear. Dana was called upon often for her expertise in technology not only by state officers but members of her chapter too. Her expertise was the result of classes Dana took for computer programming and web site design after retiring. All this effort has really benefited our chapter and the state.

Dana was an active member of Alpha Iota since 2002 when she joined at the invitation of her mother. Dana held the offices of Chapter President, Corresponding Secretary and Chapter Treasurer as well as serving on Chapter and State committees. Dana shared her expertise often as a presenter at Fall Workshops and Conventions. She also did many programs for her chapter. She was a knitter and crochet master and many of members have goodies she shared at the Rose Boutique and the chapter's holiday auction.

Most importantly though Dana was a friend, who had a gift for listening and encouraging. She will be missed; Dana was a true "gem."

Dana is survived by her husband Ken, two daughters and two granddaughters.

RECOGNIZING LONGTIME MEMBERS

by Joye Sterrett, EdD, Omega
Past State President 2015-2017

Delta Kappa Gamma Arizona State Organization has always honored members for attendance and for long term membership.

The Membership Committee gives First-Timer Awards at convention and fall workshop and attendance awards for In-Area and Out-of-Area Attendance to chapters with the most members in attendance at convention and fall workshop.

Every convention, the Membership Committee awards members marking 25 years with a pin and certificate and 50 years of membership with a rose, a booklet of biographies, a certificate and a pin. This year, as the convention was cancelled, 50-year and 25-year members will be acknowledged in 2021.

In 2020, eight Arizona State Organization members, inducted in 1970, reached fifty years of membership. They are:

Carol Hullihen, Alpha Alpha
Velma Carlson, Alpha Epsilon
Jeanette Andriano, Alpha Zeta
Nancy Westefer, Alpha Zeta
Marion Dennis, Alpha Xi
Rosemary Teichrow, Delta
Susan Black, Upsilon
Joye Sterrett, Omega

Inducted in 1995, seven members in 2020 have twenty-five years of membership. They are:

Cynthia Bagley, Alpha Zeta
Debra Shelton, Alpha Iota
Linda Stockbauer, Alpha
Sharon Newman, Gamma
Donna McEuen McGaughy, Kappa
Jessie Zander, Nu
Linda Perl, Chi

THREE LAMBDA MEMBERS CELEBRATE A SPECIAL BOND

by Shelley Smith, Lambda



Barbara Chinworth, Sharla Torchia and Patricia Holmes, pictured left, celebrate their 80th birthdays within ten months of each other this year.

Barbara's party at The Arizona Inn in Tucson

Attended by many friends and family members, Barbara's celebration was a lovely fete at the Arizona Inn, while Sharla's was at her home. Patricia's will be on June 30, the plans for which will obviously be effected by the pandemic.

Barbara, from Holbrook, AZ, met Sharla from Yuma, AZ, when each came to the UofA to study music education. They were roommates in Pima Hall.

Patricia entered the picture when Barbara was a student of Patricia's husband who taught at the school of music. The three women began playing music together sporadically about 1982. Later they formed the Wildflowers to continue performing together, which even resulted in their making a CD.

The ladies truly have a unique history highlighted by their deep love for each other and their appreciation of their similarities and differences which their friends will be looking forward to celebrating again - when they turn 90.

ALPHA XI TOASTS TO 50

by Linda St. Pierre, Alpha Xi

Marion Dennis was feted at the March 10, 2020, meeting of Alpha Xi Chapter to celebrate her 50 years of membership in Delta Kappa Gamma, a rare honor indeed. Marion's life was recounted from her birth and early schooling in Kulm, North Dakota, to her graduation from the University of Omaha, to her career as an elementary teacher at Belle Ryan School in Omaha, Nebraska.

Marion was initiated into Omega Chapter of DKG in 1970 in Omaha. During her "actor's studio" style interview, she recounted the many friends she has made within DKG, her presidency of her chapter, and the many state conventions she has attended. With a twinkle in her eye, she denied ever getting into any real mischief at these conventions! This well-traveled lady will celebrate her 97th birthday later this year.

Presented with her 50-year certificate, a 50-year pin and a very special cake celebrating this milestone of membership, Marion was showered with love and affection by her Alpha Xi sisters (pictured below). How privileged they are to have this classy lady as a member.



The Way We Were

by Merry Lewis, Nu

1945 (75 years ago) – The ninth Omicron State Convention was held in Phoenix. Ida Flood Dodge was appointed to write a history of the state to be presented to Annie Webb Blanton (National Founder) upon her 1945 retirement as Founder and Executive Secretary.

1970 (50 years ago) – The first achievement awards (32) were awarded at the 34th convention in Scottsdale. All founders, past state presidents and other members from across the state were honored.

1995 (25 years ago) – The state convention was held in Flagstaff. "Miss Annie" (portrayed by Berneil Drake, Alpha Delta) celebrated Dr. Annie Webb Blanton's contributions to the Society.

