# THE NEW OREGON TRAIL

An Official Publication of
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for Key Women Educators
Oregon State Organization

***Mission:*** *The Society promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.*

***Vision:*** *Leading women educators, impacting education worldwide.*

Vol. 46, No. 5 Summer Edition June 15, 2022

## COMING EVENTS
**Mark your calendars today**

**2022**
**June 21, 4 p.m., Zoom**
**ARF Annual Meeting**

**June 25,** 9 a.m.
**Leadership Training** via Zoom. Watch for your invitation on email.

July 12-16: **Int'l Convention**
New Orleans, Lousiana

October 8: **Fall Conference**
Jefferson, OR

**2023**
**April 21-23, 2023**
**Oregon DKG Convention**
Independence Hotel
201 Osprey Ln.
Independence, OR 97351

October TBA
**Fall Conference**

**2024**
**April 26-28, 2024**
**Oregon Spring Conference**
Location: TBA

**October TBA**
**Fall Conference:** TBA

## LEADERSHIP AGENDA
**June 25, 9 a.m., Via Zoom**

| | |
|---|---|
| 9:00 - 9:15 | Join in on Zoom and socialize |
| 9:15 - 10:05 | Leadership Training by Kim Brown, Beta Beta |
| 10:10 | Enter your breakout room for 20 minutes |
| | President |
| | Vice President |
| | Secretary |
| | Treasurer |
| | Communications: Newsletters, Social Media, Brochures, etc. |
| | Committee Chairs |
| 10:30 | Discussion of information shared in rooms |
| | Question & Answer period |
| 11:00 | If all goes well, you'll be on your way home! |

## YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

The **Annual Meeting of the Alpha Rho Foundation (ARF)** will be on Zoom 4:00 p.m. on June 21, 2022. All Oregon DKG members are also ARF members and are invited to join the meeting. We will discuss the board positions and confirm our officers and treasurer for the 2022-23 year. If you have questions about the Foundation or suggestions about our procedures, this is the meeting to discuss change. If we have any grant requests, they will be considered after the financial review.

Current agenda follows:

1. Introduction
2. Vote on leadership: Positions 2, 4, 5, and 7 are up for election. The board has a vacancy because we enlarged the board membership to allow more discussion.
3. Concerns from the group
4. Financial review
5. Review of grant applicatioins
6. Advertisement of the Foundation

**RSVP** to Vickie Jackson to attend this zoom meeting, so that she can send you a link: dandvjackson@gmail.com

**2021-23 PRESIDENT**
**Brenda Jensen / Alpha 2**

## President's Message

WOW! Wasn't that a great conference in a beautiful venue?! I appreciated the interactive discussion at the Friday revitalization meeting. It was exciting to witness the dedication of our members to help the Oregon State Organization move forward into the future.

The workshops provided wonderful learning opportunities. Speakers held our attention during their presentations and provided information that we were able to digest and take home with us.

The panel discussion provided timely information dealing with diversity and identifying the obstacles facing those we teach and others that we interact with in daily life. Special thanks go to Dana Murphy for organizing the workshops and speakers. Priscilla Ing, many thanks for moderating the panel discussion so expertly. This conference was expertly organized by Bonita Fillmore who spent many hours providing us with a memorable event. The food was wonderful and plentiful, and we had lots of help from resort staff.

SPRING CONFERENCE AT THE OREGON GARDEN RESORT
We had a good crowd!

***Photo Booth: Bonita (L) and Brenda (R) dressed for a party.***

You know, I think the best part was seeing and enjoying the person-to-person contact with our sisters. The hugs, conversations and laughter have been sorely missed.

You asked what is coming up? An organizational team will be meeting to develop a plan as we move forward with the revitalization. We will keep you all posted on the progress and the final plan.

- Our **2022-23 Leadership Training** will be held via Zoom on **June 25** at 9:00 a.m. All executive committee members, chapter presidents, treasurers, secretaries, and committee chairs are urged to attend.
- A day-long **Fall Conference** will be held **October 8** in Jefferson, OR, just south of Salem.

I hope you have a wonderful summer with family time and relaxation. I would like to thank each of you for making my first year as state president a success. I appreciate each of my sisters.

***Yours, Brenda***

**FYI MEMORIAL SERVICE**

Madaline Lapp's memorial service is on July 1st at 10:00 A.M.at the First United Methodist Church, The address is 1771 W. Harvard Avenue, Roseburg, Oregon.

There is still time to register for the **July 12-16, 2022 International Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana**; however, the early registration discounts ended on June 13. Check the convention website to see all the great things that are planned for our event in one of America's most famous cities--then get your plane ticket and be on your way to fun, information, and fellowship.


*The New Oregon Trail* is an official publication of the Oregon State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int'l. for Key Women Educators. Marie Mueller, ed.

# OREGON IS REVITALIZED AND REJUVENATED!

Approximately 30 members, including Carolyn Pittman, our presenter and guide, registered for the Friday event. Ms. Pittman stressed that this was Oregon at work. During the day, Oregon members faced challenging and difficult decisions and realized that our own talents and skills are what will make our state and Oregon chapter stronger, more vital, and better able to address the needs of current and future educators, both those in the classroom and those who train others in industry, in medical settings, in gyms, in kindergartens, as paraprofessionals, as administrators, and as superintendents, college presidents, and more. Oregon chapters need to "think out of the box"--the box being classrooms--and invite those in other settings who educate just as do teachers.

These boxes below re-cap our conclusions for the day. Special thanks to Dr. Cindy Ryan for serving as the scribe.

## RELEVANCY

- Three groups of members: Retired -- Working -- Community Educators
- Community: Open up to new ideas: Professional trainers, Human Resources personnel, military trainers, and more. Share that idea with current chapter members so they know how open to change we are.
- Consider those on meaternity leave or who have left. Look at their skills for at-home DKG work.
- We could have a variety of meetings for different groups; e.g., retired, working, community. Can we provide the diversity we need?
- Get into the schools and colleges to learn what teachers really want. Offer PDU's.
- Contact members who don't attend. Ask this: "How would you like to contribute?"

## COMMUNICATION

**Internal**

- Chapter Chatter for the Trail
- Red and White Roses
- Honor current members and others who contribute to the Seven Principles of DKG
- Honor 5-year 10-year, etc. List in the Trail. Draw for prizes.

**External**

- Advocate to legislators
- Publicize your work: newspapers, media
- Community outreach
- Commumity events: cultural, language, etc.
- CONNECT using social media, search engines and technology
- Tables of info at COSA, cohort meetings, etc.
- University papers
- Celebrate new members

## MEMBERSHIP

- Publicize the organization
- Provide certificates of recognition
- Hold celebrations
- Offer Excellence in Education Award to community members who support learning
- Use Alpha Rho Foundation Grants for community education
- Share scholarship opportunities
- Create "elevator" speeches to use at meetings with eligible women
- Use speakers on Zoom to encourage more participation
- Keep membership info (brochures, activities) close by so you can share it widely
- SHARE what DKG does with others

## LEADERSHIP

- Recommend that your members apply for DKG Ignite (formerly Golden Gift) leadership training
- Mentor young teachers or trainers. Invite them.
- Join with sister chapter(s) for inspiration and support
- Delegate responsibilities lightly to new or struggling members--and provide support!
- If members are afraid of a "President" role, change the name of the leadership position. For example, Alpha Epsilon/5 now has "co-communicators."
- Attend Oregon officer training. It's online via Zoom this year.

**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**
**Oregon State Organization**
**Treasurer's Report for June 1, 2022**

**NOTE: I am still waiting for a few vouchers to arrive.**

| | |
|---|---|
| Available Fund Balance 4/30/21 | **$40,155.00** |
| **Available Fund Balance 6/1/2022** | **$25,046.18** |

**Income**

| | |
|---|---|
| Dues and Fees | $ 9,512.00 |
| Treasurer Bonding Fees | $ 190.00 |
| Scholarship Fund Investments' interest | $ 15,576.00 |

**Disbursements**

| | |
|---|---|
| Officers and Related Personnel | $ 5,600.00 |
| Standing Committees | $ 3,875.00 |
| Business Expenses | $ 4,700.00 |
| **TOTAL** | **$14,175.00 (Approximately)** |

REMINDER

**Dues are due by June 30.** Pay your chapter treasurer promptly.

**Special Funds on hand right now 6/1/22**

| | |
|---|---|
| Scholarship Savings Account | $ 8,022.00 (after conference) |
| Money Market Fund | $ 4,984.00 (after conference) |
| Boutique Account | $ 2,737.00 (after conference) |
| Permanent Fund* | $ 33,959.00 |

****Required .3(16,275.00) = $ 4,883.00 (to have in reserves) for the new budget (2022-23)***

| | |
|---|---|
| Chapter Treasurer's Bonding Fund | $ 18,317.00 |

**Scholarship Investment Funds** 6/1/22

| | |
|---|---|
| Commemorative Scholarship Funds | $ 192,158.00 |
| Hazel Fishwood Funds | $ 115,554.00 |
| State Founders & Presidents Funds | $ 71,210.00 |
| Emma Henkle Funds | $ 48,047.00 |
| Jeppeson Grant Funds | $ 51,913.00 |
| Edith Green Grant Fund | $ 53,821.00 |
| **TOTAL** | **$ 532,712.00** |

**Oregon Generosity Abounds with Conference Fundraising**

- ARF raised $2,000.00
- Baskets raised $997.00
- Unique Boutique raised $575.00

**Thank you!**

***Vickie Jackson at the conference***

The Oregon State Organization has a self-bonding plan for Chapter Treasurers. The Bonding fee is $10.00 per chapter.

Respectfully Submitted,

***Vickie Jackson***
DKG Oregon State Organization Treasurer


*The New Oregon Trail* is an official publication of the Oregon State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int'l. for Key Women Educators. Marie Mueller, ed.

**SPRING CONFERENCE: BY THE NUMBERS**
**Special thanks to Vice President Bonita Fillmore who provided the registration information.**

### Friday, April 29: Revitalization

30 registered.
25 will stay for the whole conference.

### Conference Statistics

72 registered, including 6 guests
4 Saturday only
1 Online (from Montana)
1 Nonmember

69 for Saturday lunch
60 for Saturday dinner
51 Oregon Garden tickets ordered

**Special Recognition** to our newest collegiate member, **Jarnelle Robinson!**

Jarnelle Robinson's mother attended from South Africa. That is most definitely the longest-distance of anyone at the conference. Jarnelle and her mother (pictured below, right) were both at our Saturday lunch, then returned to Portland, where our World Fellowship and Fulbright Scholar graduated on Sunday, May 1!! Jarnelle went home with a brand-new master's degree in communications and with memories of many new friends.

**Jarnelle's workshop** is discussed along with the others, beginning on page 10.

### Chapter Representation

4---Alpha
1---Alpha Phi
3---Iota
4---Psi
4---Alpha Epsilon
19--Beta Beta
2---Kappa
3---Sigma
3---Alpha Nu
1---Beta Gamma
5---Lambda
4---Zeta
7---Alpha Omicron
5---Chi
2---Omega

**First-Timers** to an **Oregon** Conference or Convention

Jo Ann Brinkman
Wendy Hacke
Sharon Kabusreiter
Jo Strom Lane
Susan Sager
Chris Stewart
Karren Timmermans
Monica Boucher

### Chapter Officer Representation

6--Presidents
7--Co-Presidents
2--Vice Presidents
4--Secretaries
7--Treasurers
2--Membership Co-Chairs
1--Parliamentarian
1--Historian
1--Webmaster

### Member Info Provided

- 6--Past State Presidents
- 4 attendees have doctorates, including the new co-presidents for Lambda: Dr. Yvonne Fasold and Dr. Karren Timmermans
- **Longest DKG membership: Roberta Hutton, 1971: 51 yrs.**
- **Newest member attending: Chris Stewart (2020)**
- Furthest distance traveled in the US: Kathie Hill, Omega/2, from Little River, South Carolina

## 2022 AWARD LIST

**Longevity – 25 Years: Inducted in 1997**

- Maxine Krowen, Alpha
- Jayne Ichikawa, Beta Beta
- Sue Craig, Chi
- Susan Colvin, Lambda
- Vicky J. Hallmark, Zeta

**Rosette Award**

The timely submission of four (4) chapter newsletters, the chapter's yearbook, the chapter's brochure, and a listed of at least three (3) quality programs.

- Alpha Nu Chapter
- Zeta Chapter

**Order of the Rose**

All of the Rosette Award criteria plus at least one (1) new member

- Lambda
- Psi
- Alpha Epsilon
- Alpha Omicron
- Beta Beta

**State Awards**

- **Service to Education** – Dr. Cindy Ryan – Alpha Epsilon Chapter
- **Service to Community** – Barbara Smutz – Zeta Chapter
- **Service to Society** – Jill Snyder – Alpha Epsilon Chapter

**Special Award**

- Lisa Gerlits – New Oregon Author

***Submitted by Kathy Martell and Sandy Watts, Co-Chairs, Awards***

# KAREN SHELTON PROMOTED!

JOHN DAY - Grant Union Jr./Sr. High School's Assistant Principal, Karen Shelton, will become Principal on August 1, 2022! Karen's comment: "I'm honored to be the first female in this role. The school has had 15 men and I'm the first woman!".

A press release from Grant School District #3 Superintendent Bret Uptmor explains that the search for the new Grant Union Jr./Sr. High School Principal is over. Grant Union's Assistant Principal Karen Shelton will move up into the position August 1st. The official news release states that "Karen Shelton has been selected as the new Grant Union Jr./Sr. High School principal. Ms. Shelton has served as the assistant principal at Grant Union for the last two years. She has expertise in Social Emotional Learning, Response to Intervention, Positive Behavior Supports, and intervention systems. Ms. Shelton has been a key person in our school and a leader of change. She looks forward to embracing the school needs as next year's plan unfolds. Her first day in the building will be August 1. Thank you Grant School District community in welcoming Karen Shelton to our team."

## OREGON ARTIST FEATURED IN DKGSI ARTICLE

Oregon's own **Dana Murphy**, Educational Excellence chair, was featured in the May 17, 2022, DKG Art Gallery Artist Spotlight. The article features Dana's comment as to her articstic background, how she gained skills, and how she chose the medium for her artwork chosen for display in the DKG Art Gallery. She also offered some advice to others with un- or under-developed artistic talents that are just waiting to bloom. Check out her art, too.

tic

Check it out at **https://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/BlogFeed.aspx?WebsiteKey=f2a9f9b2-97e4-46ea-a2f2-6b3771b0cb9d** You will need to copy the URL into your browser to reach the site.

## The Men of Oregon DKG

Left to Right

- Vickie Jackson
- Ray Pokorny
- Annette Hildebrand
- Don Jackson



*The New Oregon Trail* is an official publication of the Oregon State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int'l. for Key Women Educators. Marie Mueller, ed.

# NEW AUTHOR HONORED AT CONFERENCE

At our Spring Conference, Oregon State Organization honored new author Lisa Gerlits, who lives in Silverton with her Dutch husband and three children. Lisa, who is an award-winning author, muralist, and children's art teacher, published her first book, *A Many Feathered Thing,* in 2020. She dedicated it to her daughter Annabel "Who Feathers the Light Too."

***Autographing her book***

The book was written for students nine and up, but adults enjoy it too. Many of us can identify with her 11-year-old character, Clara, and her inability to speak in public. It's always easier when you have a friend who enjoys doing something you enjoy doing.

Lisa graciously autographed copies of the books she brought to the conference and sold out. If you're still interested in buying her book, it's on Amazon. She has two more books going through the publishing process, so watch for them soon.

***Bonita supervises sign-ins***

***Ready for Game Night!***

***Table Decor***

***L to R: Barbara Clausen, NW Director; Carolyn Pittman, Int'l Revitalization; President Brenda Jensen: Membership, Darlene Cook.***

***Where is your chapter? Incoming Lambda Co-President Yvonne Fasold***

Past Oregon Presidents, L to R, with rose candles

***Sharon Hohstadt***
***Jean Fairbairn***
***Darlene Cook***
***Dr. Cindy Ryan***
***Alice Hartness-Reichle***
***Kathy Martell***

## LAMBDA SELECTS GRANT-IN-AID WINNERS!

Once again Lambda Chapter has selected two outstanding young educators to win a $1,500 grant-in-aid each to help them in the last year of their teacher preparation training! The winners were **Elizabeth White** and **Cheyenne Verano,** both in the University of Oregon Teach program.

Four teacher education programs were contacted and candidates solicited. The grant committee read wonderful letters of recommendation which bolstered their confidence in the women entering the teaching field

**Elizabeth** has worked 25-30 hours per week while pursuing her education. She has entirely funded her schooling while taking classes. Even with this load, Elizabeth has joined the U of O Aspiring Educators, which works closely with the NEA. While in this organization, she has had the opportunity to attend several NEA conferences on key issues facing teachers: diversity, anti-racism and helping each student feel like they belong in the classroom environment. She hopes to take this ability to search out answers with her into the classroom when she graduates.

The desire to become a teacher started early. Elizabeth shared, "I fell in love with teaching in high school. One of my first significant experiences leading up to my current path was teaching piano lessons to kids ages 5-14. I will never forget the joy that came with planning each student's lessons and working with them to support their learning and passion. I also taught at my family's karate studio, Odyssey Martial Arts. As I have been a member of the studio for 11 years, I have had the invaluable opportunity to teach and watch students grow over multiple years. These experiences combined with my love for helping others are what ultimately inspired me to become a teacher."

**Cheyenne Verano** is the second grant recipient. Cheyenne recently lost her father, who was the sole supporter of the family. She has a 5-year-old sibling whom she helps care for presently. She has worked in pre-schools during her teacher training and has a passion for young children. She plans to become a Special Education teacher.

She hopes to make the classroom environment safe and comfortable for each child. As she explained, "Growing up I was in a predominantly white community. My teachers were all white and my peers were as well. College was my first time seeing/having a teacher that was a person of color. To some, this might be nonsense, but to me, it's so important for my future students to see themselves being represented where[ever] that can be— in books, movies, within the instructions in the classroom. I know that if I had [had] representation [while] growing up, I would have been more motivated and [would have] spoken out more."

These candidates represent the best and brightest in hopes for the education of young children in the future. Lambda Chapter feels fortunate to be of some help and assistance along their pathway to success.

## BOUTIQUE TREASURE STIPEND-- A SINCERE THANK YOU

***Dr. Karren Timmermans, Lambda/3***

The Boutique Treasure Stipend for first time attendees to a state conference supported me with a $150 award for the Oregon DKG Spring Conference. As a new officer, attending provided me with the opportunity to learn more about DKG and to meet Oregon members. The keynote speakers and workshops were dynamic and offered multiple perspectives on various topics focusing on diversity and teaching.

Amanda Coven, Director of Education at the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education, spoke from the heart about ways to infuse the Holocaust and topics of Genocide into our instructional practice and promote restorative justice. Dr. Cindy Ryan of Western Oregon University not only shared her ever-expanding list of children's books focusing on social justice and diversity, but also brought copies of many books for us to preview and enjoy. The conversation springing from this session considered how to support teachers who may find themselves amid the controversy on books that address diversity.

Kim Brown [Beta Beta] took us on a mindful journey with the Kundalini Yoga practice. These techniques provided a space to reflect on the day and bring everything to center. Priscilla Ing from Lambda led a thoughtful panel of diverse educators to reveal the ways in which we come together to support and expand children's worldview. The sessions I attended clearly supported DKG's mission to promote professional and personal growth as well as the conference theme to cultivate learning.

**Thank you, DKG sisters, for this opportunity.**



*The New Oregon Trail* is an official publication of the Oregon State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int'l. for Key Women Educators. Marie Mueller, ed.

# 2022 SERVICE AWARD WINNERS

**COMMUNITY**
**BARBARA SMUTZ**
**ZETA/1**

**Barbara Smutz** has been active in Zeta Chapter, serving on committees, and as Communication Chairman (writing their newsletters), and as vice-president and president for three biennia.

As a Special Ed teacher, she developed a social interaction program for special need students in her county. She has been involved with Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts for 10 years and with 4-H for 25 years. She has served on Union County's Fair Board for 20 years, during 3 of which she was the board president. She was awarded the Meritorious Service Award 4 years in a row as well as earning the Ackerman Service Award.

Zeta Chapter and Union County are thankful to Barbara for her dedicated service. The Oregon State Organization is proud to award Barbara Smutz the 2022 Service to Community Award.

**SOCIETY**
**JILL SNYDER**
**ALPHA EPSILON/5**

**Jill Snyder** is an active member of DKG. She has served her chapter in many offices, including as co-president for two biennia. She became Chapter Treasurer in 2010 and continues today. She participates in planning programs, making our chapter basket(s) for State events, and leading virtual game nights.

At state, Jill served as Administrative Secretary for four state presidents: Bridget Honan, Alice Reichle-Hartness, Kathy Martell, and Dr. Cindy Ryan. Because of her expertise in math and computer skills, she accomplished her duties while teaching and raising a family.

Jill has attended many International Conventions and Conferences. In 2009, the International Conference was in Portland, Oregon. Jill and another chapter member hosted the Hospitality Room. In 100-degree weather, they were able to make the Hospitality Room the place to be throughout the conference. That meant a lot of pre-planning and late-night trips to the store for breakfast items the next day.

Jill has endless energy and talents she shares with DKG and deserves the Service to Society Award.

**EDUCATION**
**DR. CINDY RYAN**
**ALPHA EPSILON/5**

**Dr. Cindy Ryan** is a past Oregon State President and is currently Professor of Early Childhood & Special Education at Western Oregon University. Cindy's Service to Education is unique as she trains teachers and is working with children from birth through university.

At WOU, Cindy is collaborating to develop a state-wide Center for Early Childhood that focuses on justice, equity, and inclusion. Topics are ableism, gender equity, advancing race, equity, and social justice in early childhood. She is on a state leadership team on early childhood inclusion and is both a published author and designer of online workshops. Cindy organized an exchange at WOU with students from China in 2017. Since 2014, she has directed the Early Childhood Inclusion Summer Institute at WOU and created a bridge program for transferring community college students. She works with the Marion Polk Early Learning Hub, the NW Down Syndrome Assc., was on the Chemeketa Community College Early Childhood advisory board, serves on the Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education Higher Education Consortium and is active in multiple councils and professional organizations.

## PERSONAL ENRICHMENT COMMEMORATIVE SCHOLARSHIP

***Dr. Karren Timmermans, Lambda/3***

Earlier this year, I was awarded a Personal Enrichment Commemorative Scholarship of $2,500 from the DKG Oregon State Scholarship Committee to attend the 24th Annual International Conference on Education in Athens, Greece, in May 2022. The conference is a small event following Plato's Symposium Model of academic meetings. I presented on *Vision and Reading Readiness* with a focus on visual perception as a predictor of reading outcomes, as reported by the National Early Literacy Panel in 2008. Vision acuity and reading readiness are topics I have been deeply passionate about for years, and I make every effort to infuse this information into courses at Pacific University.

***Hydra***

The conference was more than me sharing my knowledge—it was an opportunity to fulfill DKG's mission of professional and personal growth. From professional growth, I listened to and met with amazing women who are making a significant impact in their fields. Six women from the David Yellin College of Education [https://www.dyellin.ac.il/en] in Jerusalem are helping faculty offer alternate ways to support and evaluate students with disabilities who face challenges with their academic studies. Dr. Rosa Jimenez of the University of San Francisco gives migrant youth their voices through her research and the community-based project, El Jardín de ALAS. Dr. Adrienne Coleman, Director of Equity and Inclusion at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy [https://www.imsa.edu/], directly confronts racial inequities within STEM education and careers. Through my work with The Pilcrow Foundation [https://thepilcrowfoundation.org/], I was able to connect Dr. Coleman with Nia Asemota, the author of *Black Girls Code the Future* [https://www.blackgirlscode.com/]. Dr. Noami Kruger-Arram from the Michlalah Jerusalem Teacher's College [https://www.michlalahmachal.com/about-us] shared her research on how readers search for information in previously read extended text. Her work is providing a new understanding how we comprehend and retain information.

Unlike most conferences in which you attend session after session and may spend little time with presenters you haven't met before, this conference embedded excursions and cultural events into the program that allowed multiple opportunities to interact with other presenters. These opportunities for personal growth allowed us to connect and develop a common ground by sharing lavish meals of Greek food, Greek hospitality, and Greek dancing; enjoying a walking tour of Athens; embarking on a boat excursion to the islands of Hydra, Poros, and Aegina; and taking an interesting bus tour to Delphi. Walking around Delphi, seeing the Acropolis and strolling the streets of Athens brought stories from Greek history and mythology to life.

***Acropolis***

**Thank you to my DKG sisters** for supporting this opportunity to learn from others and to experience the offerings of Athens.

**Karren and Colleagues**

***Adrienne Coleman, Jean Berlie, and Rosa Jimenez. Karren Timmerman at far right.***



*The New Oregon Trail* is an official publication of the Oregon State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int'l. for Key Women Educators. Marie Mueller, ed.

# CONFERENCE SUMMARIES

**WORKSHOP #1:** ***We're Different, We're the Same: Teaching Equity & Diversity with Picture Books.***
Presenter: Dr. Cindy Ryan, Western Oregon University
*Summary by Kathy Martell, Presider*

Dr. Ryan shared many picture books with participants that they could use in their classrooms or with their own children. Teachers can use these books to help students compare and contrast stories, learn about others, and explore diverse cultural traits. A good picture book can teach children how to detect racism and sexism, so they don't accept stereotypes and myths about minorities and women as a reality.

She encouraged us to follow ten guidelines when evaluating picture books that we want to use in our classrooms. Those ten guidelines are:

1. Check the Illustrations: Look for stereotypes, tokenism, and who's doing what.
2. Check the Story Line: Standard for success, resolution of problems, and role of women.
   - Does it take white behavior standards for a minority person to "get ahead"?
   - Are reasons for poverty or oppression explained?
   - Are girls and women achieving because of their initiative, intelligence, and education, or is it because they are pretty and popular?
3. Look at the Lifestyles: Are people from other countries or those in poverty shown favorably, or are they put down for not being white suburbanites?
4. Weigh the Relationships Between People: Who is in a supporting or subservient role?
5. Note the Heroes: For what action have they become a "hero"?
6. Consider the Effects on a Child's Self-Image: Are self-image and aspirations positive?
7. Consider the Author's or Illustrator's Background—Read the cover info.
8. Check Out the Author's Perspective—Look him/her up on the Internet.
9. Watch for Loaded Words: "savage," "primitive," "conniving," and "lazy"
10. Look at the Copyright Date (older—pre-1970— books are more likely to be lacking equity and diversity)

At the end of her workshop Dr. Ryan handed out a beginning resource list titled *Celebrating Diversity with Children's Books.* The book list was broken down into Board Books, PreK-Early Elementary, Elementary, Resources for Early Educators, Websites, and Instagram handles to follow. Participants left the workshop well equipped with innovative ideas to try out. **Email Cindy if you want a copy of the resource list:** ryanc@mail.wou.edu

**WORKSHOP #2:** ***Oregon Legislative Issues***
Presenter: Kate Kelleher, Oregon State Secretary & Educational Excellence Committee
*Summary by Jean Fairbairn, Presider*

The most critical issue in education in 2022 is the college loan issue. It directly affects equity and adds to the teacher shortage. Although only 10 percent of Oregon dollars are from federal sources, DKG members and their families should learn how top issues affect us. At the federal level, three significant issues are (1) immigration, (2) abortion, and (3) gun control. Many issues at the federal level are actually managed in a bipartisan manner. That statement is certainly different from what we hear in the media. Trivia: The average age of federal legislators: 54.

Kate, our presenter, encouraged us to be INFORMED and take action, especially at state and local levels. She recommended some excellent resources: BallotPedia, Oregon Education Association, League of Women Voters, AAUW. WRITE to your legislators! COVID has strengthened contact with legislators because more voters are contacting them with concerns and ideas. Letters to the editors of local newspapers can be very effective to share your views and help sway the views of other voters.

**WORKSHOP #3:** ***Going Digital: Creating Chapter Websites for DKG***
Presenters: Eloise Gibson, Historian (L); Stevie Viaene, Webmaster (C) ; Kim Brown, Co-President (R); Sharon Kabusreiter, Tech Committee. All part of the Beta Beta Panel:
*Summary by Donna Rhinevault*

Beta Beta history was formerly kept in a scrapbook, housed with the current presidents, and not easily accessible to members. A confluence of COVID and a rise of technology changed Beta Beta's procedures, and the history committee transitioned from paper to digital records. Members have access to all records via Google Docs, with the public having more limited access.

The digital implementation was gradual and workshop participants were able to learn the process. Agendas, minutes, newsletters, committee information and much more can be accessed by a click of a few buttons. The website was shown to the participants. Google Docs were also part of the chapter and Beta Beta Educational Foundation. Zoom helped share the processes for members.. Accessibility is the keyword for Beta Beta's digital history committee. Changes are directed to making the website more accessible and responsive to users' wants and needs. The panel highlighted the benefits of a reliable website. There is lots to learn, but Weebly—recognized by DKG Int'l—is a user-friendly platform for accomplishing your chapter's website development.

**WORKSHOP #4**: ***New Approaches to Teaching and Discussing the Holocaust in Schools.***
Presenter: Amanda Coven*;*
*Summary by Priscilla Ing, Presider*

Amanda Coven, Director of Education for the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education (OJMCHE), shared with educators the importance of teaching about what led up to the Holocaust in the early 20th Century and how those same mechanisms are being used today in dividing our society. She talked about the Universe of Obligation circles as an approach to helping students realize their own impact on the world. Amanda informed the DKG audience of the work at OJMCHE and of the many opportunities in which educators may participate. For more information, contact acoven@ojmche.org or visit the OJMCHE website at www.ojmche.org

**WORKSHOP #5:** ***Women, Children, Family, Education—African Perspective in America*** Photo, page 4
Presenter, Jarnelle Robinson, World Fellowship Recipient;
*Summary by Janet Schultz, Presider*

Jarnelle Robinson read three short stories she had written that led her audience to connect with superstitions the stories generated as well as ones we have heard for years, such as "Don't walk under a ladder," or "Don't cross in front of a black cat." These types of stories are intergenerational and frequently narrative. More importantly, we can create our own stories. Out of story telling, there can be affect and effect. Affect includes values, attitudes, and beliefs. Effect may carry out in the decisions we make.

Jarnelle went on to explain some of the differences and similarities between growing up in Africa and living in America, and she highlighted educational and work opportunities in comparison to the work opportunities here. In Africa, there are significant challenges in obtaining funding for education and in achieving a higher education. Work opportunities are influenced, not only by education but also by where you live, gender equality, and economic challenges.

Jarnelle made note of one particular woman who identifies with the struggles of young women and the educational needs in Africa: Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, who served as the United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director

of UN Women from August 2013 to August 2021. Jarnelle has been inspired by her actions and words of encouragement to the African people.

**WORKSHOP #6:** ***Navigating the DKG Website to Help Your Chapter Thrive***
Presenters: Oregon State Membership & Expansion Committee: Darlene Cook (R), Dr. Wendy Hacke (L), Cindy O'Mealy
*Presider Linda McCoy*

A wealth of information is available to chapters and members on both the DKG International and Oregon websites. Our presenters provided insight, and demonstrated techniques for finding specific resources, e.g., chapter program ideas, membership materials, grant and scholarship applications, upcoming events, specific forms and much more! Workshop attendees were encouraged to log in on the international site, update their personal data, and check out the various communities available to members. Scavenger hunt questions were provided to encourage participants to sharpen their website skills

**WORKSHOP #7:** ***The Holocaust, Human Rights and Education--***
***Carrie's Photo is with PANEL 2***
Presenter Carrie McCallum, St. Helens High School
*Summary by Kaye Jones, Presider (written by Marie, since I attended this one, too)*

Ms. McCallum has traveled widely both in the US and abroad to learn more about the topic she shared with us. As teachers, we should make discussions relevant to students' age groups. We should remember that genocide is not limited to, nor did it begin with, the Holocaust and Adolph Hitler. Teachers should not focus on the horrors of the Nazi death camps (e.g., pictures of trenches filled with skeletal bodies or soldiers shooting people lined up in rows), as doing so could cause students to shut down and not process any information at all. Teachers also need to focus on causes—social, cultural, historical, economic, biases, deliberate lies, geography, and more. What reasons were/are offered by those who conduct such atrocities? Why is something an *atrocity* to us, but a *victory* to others? Are people killed because of their history? Their color? Their beliefs? Expanding on that, how can students find the truth among all the things being discussed on TV and in social media?

Help students identify ways to avoid repeating those acts. When we disagree with others, we can use debate or discourse to reach a solution. Consider this approach: I think you are wrong, but I'm still open to listening and learning about your ideas. Let's talk. When Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity are a goal, students need to learn what those terms mean and how they can personalize the concepts. Discuss human rights and ways to resist when those rights are threatened.

**WORKSHOP #8:** ***Understanding Emotions as a Foundation for Resiliency***
Presenters: Aimee Biggs and Sheri Le Drew, Social-Emotional Learning and Character Development Coaches at Tigard-Tualatin School District
*Summary by Pam Kenyon, Presider*

This workshop focused on providing insight and strategies for understanding our emotions to cultivate deeper self-awareness. To help children recognize their emotions, we must understand our own. SEL—Social and Emotional Learning—fosters emotional intelligence. We can learn to identify our emotions, name them, and then move on. Sheri and Aimee used information and ideas from the book *Onward* by Elena Aguilar. Our brain is like a **staircase**. Our **senses** activate our thinking brain. The bottom step of the staircase represents our emotional brain, but often the next step is the "trauma" that interrupts the brain from stepping up to the thinking brain on the third step. Emotional trauma often triggers a flight or fight response in humans. What can we do to get our brains to become a well-regulated staircase?

The **12 Resilience Strategies** can help when they are successfully taught and used with students during daily SEL meetings. **Positive Self-Talk** - **Return to your Body**: Engage the senses to activate the thinking brain. **Breathe**. **Resilience** is defined as the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.

There are **8 core emotions**: fear, anger, sadness, shame, jealousy, happiness, disgust, and love. Students learn to name their feelings. They modeled a small conversation one could have with oneself, "Hello, sadness, what do you want to tell me?" Or "OK, anger, I'm willing to listen. What do you want me to know?"

These strategies and skills are explicitly taught to their students who are also given guided practice in social and academic settings. SEL lessons offer colorful and fun slides to teachers and students each week. They learn about real world examples, and experiences are noticed, highlighted, and shared. Student and teacher identities are explored and honored with SEL. Sheri and Aimee opened and closed their presentation with a wonderful quote from Jim Rohn who sums up the power of Social Emotional Learning: *"The greatest gift you can give to somebody is your own personal development. I used to say, "If you will take care of me, I will take care of you." Now I say, "I will take care of me for you, if you will take care of you for me."* We all experience "trauma" in our daily lives. SEL lessons offer "resilience lifelines" to all who participate.

**WORKSHOP #9:** ***Kundalini "Chair" Yoga to Spark Inner Wisdom***
Presenter Kim Brown, Beta Beta Co-President >>>Pictured at the right
*Summary by Eloise Gibson, Presider*

Kim Brown, Beta Beta Co-President, offered a workshop on chair yoga. We learned that Kundalini yoga is but one of many forms of yoga. The idea, as I understand it, is to clear your mind, center your body, and allow the mind-body connection to benefit all parts of your life. Kim reported that this type of yoga is, for her, very clarifying. She is often able to see a way through confusing, troublesome, or murky issues with this practice.

This was the very first time I tried any sort of yoga. Because we were seated most of the time, I found it very doable, even with bad knees and old age! We learned some basic poses, ways of breathing, basic chants, and how to begin clearing the mind. After our meditation, I felt quite refreshed, relaxed, and ready to go on to the rest of the day. I will definitely look for a class of this type of yoga in the future.

**PANEL 2:** ***We the People: United in Learning***
**Panelists:** Jarnelle Robinson, Graduate Student and Advocate; Aime Biggs, Social Emotional Learning and Character Coach; Carrie McCollum, English/Language Arts Teacher, St. Helens High School; Charissa V. Jones, Doctoral Student in STEM Education and Outreach Coordinator; Priscilla Ing, Panel Moderator; Retired Media Specialist and Title I Coordinator. *Summary by Marie Mueller*

**ALPHABET SOUP FOR YOUR PERSONAL VOCABULARY**

**PR -- Pride and Respect** **DEI -- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**
**JEI -- Justice, Equity, and Inclusivity** **EDIJA -Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, Justice, Accessibility**

Our Panelists

***Charissa V. Jones*** ***Jarnelle Robinson*** ***Aimee Biggs*** ***Carrie McCollum***

At the end of the session, the participants above noted that, because they came from such diverse backgrounds and locations, they were surprised at the points of agreement in their views and in their hopes for the future. Moderator Priscilla Ing started the conversation with a question or two, and the group took it from there, presenting multiple views of how education can better address the hopes and needs of current students.

- **Carrie** said she had taken her high school students on field trips to the Holocaust Memorial and the Holocaust Museum in Portland. Students absorbed the information and were able to blend it into their textbook topics.
- **Jarnelle**, from South Africa, said she is sharing the stories, the joys, and the challenges of successful communication in a new country. Being able to advocate for passage of the Crown Act (allowing the wearing of hair just as it

comes out of one's head) was a high point. She was able to testify before the Oregon legislature, write articles, and both attend and conduct workshops.

- **Charissa,** originally from Suriname, South America, discussed the value of outdoor education that provides access for rural and urban students, both able and those who are disabled. Long ago, all people grew up in and with nature, and it is important to strengthen ties to what nature offers.
- **Aimee** is working with student emotions prior to assignments by asking students how they feel about coming to this class (which could be to any class). Since their brains are developing, this helps them consider what they are thinking and feeling on a certain day, as well as how to describe that to others—and it also shows their teacher ways to approach the subject without raising barriers.

Some ideas:

1. **Fairness:** We have the same values, but our understanding of them differs because of our families, our culture, our education, and much more.
   **Freedom:** If we define *freedom* from our individual perspectives, those definitions will change over time and will differ from one of us to another.
   **Grace:** Everyone is valuable and worthy of respect.
   **Arguments:** An argument is valued only when supported by evidence.
   **Yes or No**: Both could be true, but there are paradoxes and nuances to clarify.
   **Pain**: Disengage and leave.
   **Discomfort:** Evaluate why. What is causing the feeling? "I feel uncomfortable (or scared or angry) because -----)"
   **Dialogue:** Engage in dialogue and ask questions to better understand the others in your group, their backgrounds, their feelings, and what has molded their way of life. Remember to <u>listen</u> to what others say.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER AMANDA COVEN

Ms. Coven, Director of Education for the Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education (OJMCHE), jump-started our brains at the beginning of the day with a presentation on why harrassment and persecution occurs against many groups--not just the Jewish Americans. She stressed why Oregon's recent legislation provides avenues to help students and communitioes begin to heal, with hope that political, racial or religious discrimination may lessen in the future. In her later workshop, she provided additional details and resources.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER NORTHWEST REGIONAL DIRECTOR BARBARA CLAUSEN

As our representative from International Headquarters, Ms Clausen brought greetings from Austin and updated us on changes. Among other things, she decribed conditions at the former headquarters facility. The extensive collection of memorabilia has been reviewed and either stored, sold, or donated appropriately; The goal of the new facility is to share a large building with other nonprofits to better use resources for all--and to have modern infrastructure and security in place for staff. Having all staff in one central location will help with communications and daily work, as well as preparations for conventions and conferences.

Ms. Clausen urged us all to attend in New Orleans this July. We can vote on a number of items for strengthening DKG.

Oregon State Organization mourns the loss of four chapters and their members:

**Omicron/2**
**Alpha Nu/5**
**Eta/6**
**Pi/6**

Current members of those chapters are urged to join another chapter. They will be warmly welcomed.

**8th Annual Beta Beta Spring Tea**
**Saturday, May 7, 2022**

Beta Beta's Spring Tea benefits their Education Foundation. More than 120 guests dined on 2 types of scones, homemade clotted cream, and lemon curd; 3 kinds of savories; 3 types of sandwiches; 3 desserts; and fresh fruits. Three types of tea were served. Equinox (piano and flute duet) entertained before and after the tea.

More than 50 BB sisters (and family members) made this a grand success. Volunteers were involved with everything from scone making to arranging flowers, working hard Friday and Saturday to prepare foods from scratch.

As this was our first in-person event, it made seeing guests enjoying themselves particularly sweet. We had guests from State and other chapters, too. This delightful affair earned approximately $4,500 for the Beta Beta Education Foundation with ticket sales and donations and after expenses.

**Watch for our next tea in 2024!**

***Darlene Cook (L); Grace Pitzer (R)***

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS!

**Welcome, new members to DKG Oregon! We celebrate YOU as Key Women Educators and members of our Oregon DKG family!**

Our Oregon State Organization welcomed 10 new, 1 transfer and 2 reinstated members representing 8 Oregon chapters. **Meet all 13 new 2021-2022 Red Roses below!**

**Lacey Guest, Lambda** - 5/15/2021. Lacey is the College and Career Coordinator at Cottage Grove HS. She received a State DKG Hazel Fishwood Scholarship, thus helping her pursue a Master in School Counseling at OSU. She participated in a panel discussion at our 2021 virtual convention before she was inducted into Lambda.

**Kay Huston, Beta Gamma** - 7/15/2021. Kay taught middle school in Oregon districts, ending with Language Arts in Fern Ridge. She was a part-time librarian and in charge of the Talented and Gifted Program. Kay now enjoys portraying Abigail Adams in re-enactments and teaching Revolutionary history at the Canby Library.

**Lark Abrahamson, Alpha Epsilon** - 10/11/2021. For most of her career, Lark worked at MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility in Woodburn. She retired in 2021.

**Breanna Apostol, Alpha** -12/11/2021. Breanna worked for AmeriCorps, the Peace Corps, and CASA as a volunteer coordinator. She just completed her first year as a Spanish and ELD instructor at Lost River..

**Jarnelle Robinson, Psi** - 12/11/2021. Our DKG World Fellowship Recipient from South Africa and DKG collegiate member. She returned home after graduating with a Master of Communication from the University of Portland. Her thesis focused on intergenerational family communication and activism. Jarnelle advocated extensively for the Crown Act recently passed by the Oregon State Legislature and has presented workshops at both Oregon and Washington State Conferences.

**Heather Crowder, Alpha** - 1/12/2022. Heather teaches computers and keyboarding at Ponderosa Jr. High in Klamath Co, She has 20 years' experience in business, including 10 years in marketing at Jeld-Wen.

**Marlo Zeller, Omega** -2/10/2022. Marlo worked for 30 years with the Three Rivers Dst.(Josephine Co.), including 20 years at New Bridge HS inside the Rogue Valley Youth Correctional Facility. She was Intel's Teach to the Future Instructor for the district, offered business and career exploration classes through Rogue Community College, and for 20 years contracted with the U of O to develop a social skills curriculum called WAGES for incarcerated youth.

**Manju Bhatia, Beta Beta** - 4/11/2022. Educated in India, Manju is a professor at City College STEM Institute NYC. She is a lead instructor of Coding with Kids (online) and a computer science instructor for Sunshine Elite Education. Fluent in several coding languages, ***Continues on the next page . . .***



***The New Oregon Trail*** is an official publication of the Oregon State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int'l. for Key Women Educators. Marie Mueller, ed.

Manju is a certified IBM instructor and has customized training for over 2500 employees in software development. She is a volunteer teacher for the TEALS Microsoft initiative at Lakeridge High School.

**Sandra Carter, Beta Beta** - 4/11/2022. Sandra is a retired principal from Prince William Co., VA. With a MEd from George Mason University, she earlier taught several grade levels. Sandra is an avid bridge player, a knitter, and reader.

**Kyra Donovan, Beta Beta** - 4/11/2022. Kyra retired last year and is currently an Associate Partner for the International Center for Leadership and Education. She taught elementary, primarily first grade, for 19 years in the Tigard-Tualatin Dst. and served both as a school and district-level administrator in McMinnville for 11 years. Kyra co-authored a book to support teachers: *Rigorous Curriculum Design*.

**Marleen Wallingford, Beta Beta** Marleen joined Alpha Pi in 1994. Alpha Pi dissolved in 2020, so Marleen reinstated her membership in Beta Beta last fall. A speech and language pathologist, Marleen served students in Grades K-8 in Portland for 20+ years. She worked in the Clark College Early Intervention Program (Vancouver). Marleen is a member of OEA-Retired and a docent for the Japanese American Museum of Oregon.

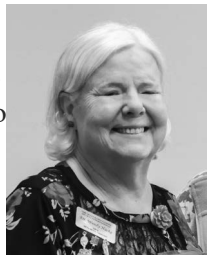
**Diane Lindeleaf, Sigma -** Initiated into DKG in 1983, Diane was an active member of Sigma during her employment with Bend Dst. After retiring, she traveled the world. Back in Central Oregon, she is reconnecting with her Sigma sisters.

**Erin Sands, Psi -** Erin joined DKG in 2008 in Texas. She transferred her membership to Psi in 2021.Erin currently teaches third grade at Joseph Gale Elementary in Forest Grove.

**To recognize and honor our new members, the Membership/Expansion Committee created a display board for our state conference. Thanks to Audrey Cant of Zeta Chapter for design and construction!**

## BETA BETA MEMBER HONORED

**Congratulations to Dr. Wendy Hacke, Beta Beta/5!!** A Learning Resource Center Teacher for Dayton School District, Wendy was recently nominated for the **On Point Prize for Excellence in Education.** The award recognizes local educators who work to inspire enthusiasm and creativity in the classroom.



According to Erin Olinghouse, Community Relations Specialist for On Point Community Credit Union, "The nomination submitted on your behalf demonstrated your passion for innovation and creativity. We admire your impact in the classroom and your skill in motivating students to grow and learn . . .the fact that you were nominated speaks volumes about your talent, enthusiasm and worthiness of recognition . . . . Thank you for your commitment to education and to building a thriving community."

**Psi Chatter:** Our year-end gathering is June 21: time for sharing, hugs, and smiles. We missed seeing each other & will honor Co-Presidents Judy Forsberg & Sue Pass, reflect on 2020-21,and seek ideas for 22-23. Psi enjoyed spending time with Jarnelle Robinson and her Mom before they returned to South Africa: a rainy trip, but the sun appeared long enough to walk in the sand at Lincoln City and visit Tillamook Creamery.. Jarnelle and her Mom returned safely to Africa, and we all have plans to stay connected. Time spent together was truly treasured.

## TITLE IX TURNS 50!

June 23, 2022, is the 50th anniversary of Title IX. It arguably is one of the most significant laws for gender equality in America's history. **Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex (including pregnancy, sexual orientation, and gender identity) discrimination in any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.**

Title IX:

- has opened doors and removed barriers giving girls and women equal opportunity to participate in sports programs at the high school and college levels;
- has given girls and women equal opportunities to pursue the STEM fields;
- because of Title IX, interest in STEM programs and careers is at an all-time high among high school girls;
- requires federally funded schools to help individuals who have experienced sexual or gender-based harassment and to prevent discrimination from happening again;
- prohibits denying admission of a person into an educational or training program on the basis of sex;
- prohibits sex-based harassment including sexual harassment, when such harassment is sufficiently serious as to limit the ability to participate in and benefit from a program or activity.

***Information developed by Claudia Gray and Marty Maharg, members of AAUW of Oregon. Used with permission.***

**Included because this impacts educators and students in every town and city.-- Marie**

## CHAPTER CHATTER

### District 1

**Zeta (Union County):** Zeta ended the year's monthly meetings on a high note. The State Conference was well attended by our members, who reported that it was one of the best they ever attended!

Sandy Rysdam, Zeta's incoming President said, "The 2022 OSO Conference was a great experience for me. I attended the Revitalization workshop and came away invigorated and hopeful that our Zeta Chapter will revitalize and grow in the future…. I met many great ladies that made me feel included in their discussions and generated comradery through chatting, eating, and laughing!!! I am looking forward to more encounters with Oregon DKG members. Kudos to the Steering Committee and all that worked to make this long awaited in-person conference a big success".

Past State President and Zeta member Sharon Hohstadt shared her thoughts, "It was wonderful to be able to gather again. The White Rose Ceremony was beautiful as we remembered our sisters and it was an honor to be an active part of it."

Zeta earned the Rosette Award. Barbara Smutz was not there to receive the Service to Community award, so President Mary Jo Lemon presented it to her at Zeta's May meeting along with the "Zeta Girl of 2022." Barbara was overwhelmed and is honored to have received these awards.

Back home over the mountains, the 2022-2024 biennium officers were installed. They are Sandy Rysdam, President; Kate Bottger, Vice President; Connie Slater and Judy Martin will share Secretary duties; Betty Hyde will continue as Parliamentarian; and at this time we don't have a treasurer. We are looking forward to our Family Picnic this summer.

### District 2

**Omega (Josephine Co.):** Omega has a new newsletter editor! New member Marlo Zeller, who has experience in publishing, has agreed to take on that role. Thanks, Marlo!

Omega members Lise Van Brunt and Kathie Hill attended the Spring Conference at the Oregon Garden Resort. President Lise was in charge of the basket drawing and was deluged with many marvelous baskets from across the state. When you see her, give Lise a hard time for forgetting the tickets!

### District 3

**Lambda (Lane Co.):** Officers for the next biennium were installed May 21 at the home of Guadalupe Jones.

**New officers, Lto R:** ***Treasurer Mary Jo Huisman, Past Co-President Darby Tracy, Co-secretary Chris Luehring, Co-President Dr, Yvonne Fasold, Vice President Julie Voelker-Morris, Co-Secretary Linda Mooney, Past Co-President Priscilla Ing.*** Co-President Dr. Karren Timmermans was presenting in Greece; she'll be installed in the fall.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Chris Luehring for her consistent reporting of Lambda news to the Trail and to Marj Maxwell for her extra work as secretary to the Lambda Finance Committee. Members brainstormed ideas for programs, and a poll will be taken to determine the final choices.

An August 6 yard sale will take place at the home of Marj Maxwell, at the same time her neighborhood has an annual sale. Proceeds will be added to the chapter grant fund.

Five members attended the April OSO State Conference at the Oregon Garden in April. This included Priscilla Ing, Darby Tracy, Mary Jo Huisman, Yvonne Fasold, and Karren Timmermans. The chapter was awarded the Order of the Rose for the year's activities.

**Congratulations retiree!** After 41 years of teaching fifth grade, **Karen Olsen is retiring.** She plans to continue working with the theater group she formed, The Non-Stop Players. In April her group presented "Anastacia" at the Wildish Theater in Springfield. Several chapter members attended the final performance, in support of Karen and her co-director Jeanette Engel.

**Sigma (Bend, Redmond, Central Oregon):** On May 5, six Sigma members met at the new Madras East Hills Trail, where bikes, horses, and walkers enjoy the scenery. Laurie Sensibaugh taught us about the rocks that could be found there. She even brought a lovely selection of rocks she and her husband Denver have found on the trails. She also brought exam-

ples of fossils, some from a collection Dr. Evan Thomas had had, and referred to a book Mel Ashwill wrote. Imagine a Salmon vertebra, larger than a quarter, belonging to an ancient salmon 7 - 11 million years old!

### District 4

**Alpha Omicron (St. Helens):** Alpha Omicron Chapter has now pro-


*The New Oregon Trail* is an official publication of the Oregon State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int'l. for Key Women Educators. Marie Mueller, ed.

vided Columbia County communities with four benches made of recycled plastics. The latest bench was dedicated to the memory of our friend and immediate past co-president, Annette McCoy. The bench was placed in a peaceful city park in Annette's neighborhood. The dedication was well attended by family members, friends, neighbors, and of course Alpha Omicron members. As guests arrived at the park, they were given roses which were later placed upon the bench. Our chapter collaborates with the St. Helens Lions Club to recycle plastics

and earn benches. We have placed three benches at local schools, and this fourth one in a city park.

## District 5

**Alpha Epsilon (Salem & Polk Cos.):** We are SO proud of Jill Snyder and Dr. Cindy Ryan who were recognized for their service to Society (Jill) and Education (Cindy)! Congratulations to you both!! (See page 8)

Our chapter enjoyed an in person meeting in May. We toured the Salem Public Library, newly remodeled and reorganized, which now meets seismic structure standards and is lighter and more modern. A special children's room (still under construction) was very attractive. Following the meeting, we walked to a nearby restaurant for a lovely dinner and some friendship renewal.

Four of us attended the excellent Oregon State Spring Conference: Kathy Martell, Marie Mueller, Dr. Cindy Ryan, & Jill Snyder. Our chapter co-hosted the hospitality room with Alpha Omicron, so we had plenty of talking time. On June 28, we meet at Kathy Martell's to plan 2022-23

**Beta Beta (Tigard/Tualatin/ Sherwood):** Nellie the clown, (AKA Trudy Sang of BB) at the Opening of the City Fair for the Rose Festival with S ghter

**Alpha Phi (Multnomah Co.):** In 20-22, we experienced changes, creativity, and transitions. As a result, we have grown to be more sensitive, accepting, and respectful of one another's views and comfort levels.

October: We learned of a very generous donation to our chapter scholarship fund from the estate of Elsie Clements, Oregon teacher and long-time member of a Portland DKG chapter. Elsie, (d 2020) was the beloved aunt of Theresa Taylor, our current chapter treasurer. It was Aunt Elsie who brought Theresa into her chapter many years ago. This lovely bequest will benefit members and student recipients. Our three classroom teachers received money for their classrooms, and we look forward to others being awarded scholarship money for personal and professional enrichment through workshops, conferences, classes, travel, and more.

The theme of our February Arts and Creativity Support meeting was: "How have you expressed or demonstrated creativity in your life during the past two years?" Thanks to our DKG State President Brenda, we were able to meet via Zoom. Members had a choice of creativity quotes to help brainstorm ideas. Creative activity ideas included spending more time outside, enjoying gardening and nature, enhancing student music classes through new instruments (compliments from scholarship fund), making professional-looking greeting cards, learning-how to make slides, clay sculpting, and revision and editing /self-publishing of poems. Members who participated agreed that creativity helped them survive the challenges of COVID while helping to exercise the right side of their brains!

April, planned by our Global Support Committee, included receiving a DKG Connecticut newsletter, *A Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World*. The Winter 2022 edition emphasized "Caring for Our Planet," teaching about Climate Change Awareness, and providing a wealth of resources for individuals who want to make a difference. We discussed changes for our own lives to reduce our carbon footprints and to increase recycling, reducing, and reusing. It was humbling to read the research about products we use and their harmful effects on people, our planet, and our oceans. This newsletter motivated us to be creative and intentional in making earth-friendly changes.

### WHITE ROSE CEREMONY

We mourn the loss of our sisters and of three past presidents in this biennium. Other past presidents (below) conducted the ceremony. Names of all deceased sisters were published in the March 2022 Trail (available online).

**Left to right, our presenters:**
Alice Hartness-Reichle
Jean Fairbairn
Kathy Martell
Sandy Watts
Dr. Cindy Ryan

## THE RUN-UP TO FALL ELECTIONS IS ON!

**Legislative Liaison tips for continued involvement leading up to the Fall elections.** A reminder- DKG is nonpartisan, with a focus on candidates who support the two broad areas of (1) Women & children and (2) Educational issues. Many issues fall under those two categories!

- At the Congressional level, be aware that there are 6 Senators and 49 House members not returning after 2022. Top issues include reproductive rights, gun legislation and immigration and create divisiveness. Most other issues are bipartisan.
- Congress.gov is my favorite link for information. Click here Congress
- OLIS - **O**regon **L**egislative **I**nformation **S**ervice will help you find your State Legislators with this link Find my legislators

**What can you do to stay involved?** Share your story/oppose or support a bill/ share your opinion of the impact of the bill on your town, school, or family. Humanize the issues by making your communication personal. As educators, we have experiences to share with our legislators. Consider sharing. Join their Facebook page/ Instagram/Twitter accounts so you are notified of their choices and actions. Read and absorb opposing views. We are all Americans! Enjoy summer!

**Kate Kelleher, OSO Liaison**

## MARCH FOR OUR LIVES: June 11, 2022

On Saturday, June 11, 2022, Darlene Cook and I (Dana Murphy) attended **The Virtual *March for Our Lives* Across the Globe in Response to Uvalde, Texas, Shooting and a Call for Action.** March for Our Lives was organized by students in March 2018 with a massive march in Washington in response to the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida,

This year, many in-person marches took place on June 11. We participated virtually as we couldn't join a local march in person. **It is my understanding that a handful of DKG members put this all together in a few weeks. A quick poll calculated that we had over 70 participants, representing 5 different countries and 29 states all juggling 10 different time zones! What an achievement for DKG! They had over 11 speakers, mostly members of DKG.** Speakers were knowledgeable, dynamic, and passionate, holding our attention for 1.5 hrs. Each offered resources and ways we must get involved.

The speakers included, among others:

- **Dr. Karen Gross**, author of *Trauma Does Not Stop at the School Door*, 2020 DKG Educators Award, instructor at Rutgers School of Social Work
- **Sakina McGruder**, kindergarten teacher in Montgomery County Schools, Maryland
- **Dr. Vinni Hall**, former member of the Illinois State Board of Education, professor at Roosevelt University, and president of DKG Gamma Tau, Illinois chapter
- **Pat Neal**, educator, immediate past president of DKG District of Columbia
- **Ana Isabel Quesada**, educator, Costa Rica
- **Vicky Suarez,** advocate, music teacher in Dallas, Texas; visiting scholars coordinator at Songworks Educators Association; auditions coordinator, New Texas Symphony Orchestra

**The Virtual Teachers' Lounge was mentioned several times as a valuable resource for teachers.** Please visit www.virtualteacherslounge4today.com for more information.

We were encouraged to make our own posters, as if we were marching on the streets, drawing public attention! Here is the one I made…..

***Dana Murphy, Educational Excellence Chair***

*The New Oregon Trail* is an official publication of the Oregon State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int'l. for Key Women Educators. Marie Mueller, ed.

**RETURN ADDRESS**

***The New Oregon Trail*** is a publication of the
Oregon State Organization of
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.
c/o
**Vickie Jackson, OSO Treasurer**
**235 S.E. C St.**
**Madras, OR 97741-1732**

DKG™
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS

# Oregon State Organization

**BRENDA'S JOURNEYS**

Remember: Chapters should invite Brenda to visit a meeting every year.

June 23: Alpha's Ice Cream Social

June 25: Leadership via Zoom

July 10 - 17: International Convention
New Orleans, LA

Sept. 2-10: Taking a cruise, so I'll be out of contact.

A big **THANK YOU** to the faithful proofreaders who spot errors, typos, and missing or unclear ideas:

- Christine Luehring, Lambda/3
- Kathie Hill, Omega/2
- Darlene Cook, Alpha/2