

THE NEW OREGON TRAIL



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

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

Vol. 48, No. 1

Fall 2023



Oregon DKG Events--Attend one or attend all. Invite a friend to ride along.

*District 1
Iota & Zeta*

Date: October 13 -- **Lunch**
Union County Museum, Union, OR
Visit museum. Discuss scholarships for
Umatilla students to Eastern Oregon Univ.

*District 2 & 3
Alpha & Omega
Lambda, Sigma, Kappa*

Date: October 21--9:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Step Into Fall
Edgewater Christian Fellowship
Grants Pass

*Districts 4, 5, and 6
Alpha Omicron, Alpha Omega,
Beta Beta, Alpha Epsilon, Psi, Chi,
Alpha Phi, Beta Gamma*

Date: October 7, 2023
Time: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Place: Mary's Woods
Lake Oswego, Oregon
Theme: Healthy Minds for All

Save The Date

**2024 OREGON STATE ORGANIZATION
CONFERENCE**

**WHERE? RUNNING V RANCH RESORT IN
KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON**

WHEN? MAY 17-19

Begin planning now to carpool next spring to a fabulous event in a beautiful location. Details will come in a future Trail.

CALLING ALL PRESIDENTS & MEMBERSHIP CHAIRS!

Mark your calendars today for a Zoom meeting on **September 30 from 8:30-11:30 a.m.** with the International Membership Committee's Daphne Cagle and our own Dr. Wendy Hacke, Oregon VP and Membership Chair,

NOTE: International President Debbie LeBlanc is attending. This will be a high quality session that you and your chapter membership chair, will not want to miss!

2023-2025

**Oregon President
Darlene Cook
in Tampere, Finland**



Welcome to DKG Oregon 2023-2024!

“Mentoring: The Bridge to Membership and Leadership”

I look forward to joining forces with you this biennium as we continue our revitalization efforts and work to support the goals of International President Debbie LeBlanc: “Moving Forward with Vitality, Relevance and Sustainability in our Changing World.”

DKG is on the move. We are moving forward with vitality, spirit, and passion to make our Society more professional, more education-related, more relevant for our membership, and more sustainable for the challenges of the future.

Membership and leadership are concerns across the Society. Numbers are down, making recruitment, retention, and reinstatement a primary goal. Seriously consider who you might invite into membership. Think outside the box. The gift of DKG is not only for educators in the traditional sense! Who might you mentor to take on a leadership role? On May 11, 2029, Delta Kappa Gamma will be 100 years old! Who will lead our chapters and state organization into the next 100 years? “Mentoring: The Bridge to Membership and Leadership” is the Oregon theme for this biennium. Mentorship is the key, the bridge that will propel us into the future!

This year, instead of one fall conference, we will have three district

meetings across the state.

- District 1 (Iota and Zeta) will meet in Union on October 13th.
- District 2 & 3 (Alpha, Omega, Kappa, Lambda, Sigma) will get together in Grants Pass on October 21st.
- Districts 4, 5, and 6 (Alpha Omicron, Alpha Omega, Alpha Epsilon, Psi, Beta Beta, Alpha Phi, Chi, and Beta Gamma) will gather in Lake Oswego on October 7th.

Please plan to attend one of the conferences or maybe even two! Come visit with friends from other chapters; learn about projects throughout the districts; and enjoy enlightening and thought-provoking presentations. Information about the conferences can be found in our newsletter and on our website, dkgoregon.com.

Together we can make a difference! I look forward to working with each of you to strengthen our chapters and our state organization.

My best wishes for a successful and rewarding year!

Darlene Cook

2023-2025

**OREGON STATE
ORGANIZATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Ideas? Questions? Contact us!

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2023-2025

**Vice President
Dr. Wendy Hacke**

**Oregon President
Darlene Cook**

**Secretary
Judy Brimmer**



2023 International Conferences: Detroit -- Phoenix -- Tampere, Finland

OREGON WAS PRESENT AT ALL OF THEM!

Darlene Cook, Jo Strom Lane, Kaye Jones, & Julie Voelker-Morris



Tampere, Finland, Conference

Darlene Cook

Jo Strom Lane

Julie Voelker-Morris

OREGON: Our Oregon State Organization was well represented in July at the three DKG International Conferences: Detroit, Phoenix, and Tampere, Finland! Oregon State President and US Forum Steering Committee Chair, Darlene Cook, Chi/6, was present at all three events. Kaye Jones, Kappa/3,



Phoenix, AZ, Conference Kaye Jones

(above on the right) with Daphne Cagle (CA--left)

attended the conference in Phoenix; and Jo Strom Lane, Chi/6, and Julie Voelker-Morris, Lambda/3, traveled to Finland to join the conference in Tampere. Oregon was pleased and excited that Julie was presenting her workshop, “Why You Should Consider Starting a Common Reading Program in Finland! Great job, Julie.! Thank you to our state organization for helping fund the expenses of Darlene, Jo, and Julie!

THEME: The theme of all three conferences was “Moving Forward with Vitality, Relevance, and Sustainability in Our Changing World.” Each stressed the importance of membership recruitment, retention, and reinstatement. The conferences offered motivating and energizing speakers, informational forums, stimulating panel discussions and thought-provoking workshops on varied topics. Members were empowered to hone and expand key leadership skills, to enhance mind and body, and to take valuable resources and materials back to their states and chapters. Congratulations to Immediate Past President Becky Sadowski who received the 2023 International Achievement Award!

US FORUM: As Chair of the US Forum Steering Committee, Darlene planned and presided over the US Forum Session in Tampere. Fifty US members attended the session, which was the first US Forum held at a European conference. Darlene shared information on the US Forum includ-

Pat Bennett-Forman (Washington state) emphasized the importance of the Mental Health Resolution passed by the Forum at the 2022 International Convention. She presented information on H.R. 744, “Supporting the Mental Health of Educators and Staff Act of 2023.” To support DKG advocacy efforts, she shared a handy guide for crafting an advocacy message and an easy testimony fill-in sheet. Both are available at dkgwa.org in the advocacy tool kit under resources.

The European Forum hosted an activity that involved all three Forums: US, Canada, and Europe. Conference attendees were asked to design a “recipe” for either “A Happy Student” or “A Happy Teacher.” For both categories, “ingredients” such as safety at school, healthy food and sleep, friendship, respect for both students and teachers, positive support from home, and a caring community were most often selected. No matter the country, state, or province, the recipe is usually the same!



Darlene presenting on the US Forum

ing the Purpose and Mission and how members can be involved in Forum work. Discussion included pending federal legislation affecting women, children, and education and results of the survey conducted last fall. Darlene encouraged members to attend the 2024 National Legislative Seminar and to consider running for a position on the 2024-2026 committee.

THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON'S COMMON READING PROGRAM

Julie Voelker-Morris (she/they)
University of Oregon

Senior Instructor II/Graduate Career Services Director
School of Planning, Public Policy, and Management
Director: UO Common Reading

I was extremely honored to serve as an invited presenter at the 2023 DKG International Women Educators Conference in Tampere, Finland, on July 26-29. The title



of my presentation was “Why You Should Consider Starting a Common Reading Program.” The presentation explored the successes, outcomes, and benefits of the University of Oregon’s Common Reading program, which I have directed for 6+ years. My international audience included workshop participants from Germany, Estonia, Canada, Tennessee, and other locations. They said they were inspired by the talk and hope to design common reading programs at their own educational institutions.

Because of this presentation, I have been invited to contribute to *OPEN!*, the professional journal of the Estonian Association of Teachers of English, about the value of UO Common Reading as a case study example of a successful program. I made new connections with colleagues from across the world -- enjoying many “Skol!” cheers with Norwegian and Swedish colleagues throughout the opening night reception. I learned the extent of international educator awareness about the influence and impact of the University of Oregon through its exposure during the World Championships 2022 and through the UO’s American English Institute. I attended lectures, seminars, workshops, and other activities throughout the conference that provided a strong emphasis on educational models in Finland, arts and culture experience, and a focus on social and environmental sustainability in educational models. All this directly connects with (1) social sustainability; diversity, equity, and inclusion; and (2) cultural management focus that I bring to my courses and publications. I gained new pedagogical tools and content knowledge to bring to classroom experiences and to further support student success in my departments, college, and throughout the university.

WHOLE PERSON AND PROFESSIONAL COACHING PROGRAMS

Through the generous support of DKG Oregon State Organization and the University of Oregon, I completed both the Certified Professional Coaching Certification and the Whole Person Coaching Certification through Coach Training World. Through this internationally accredited professional training program, I have been learning from a Level 3/Master Certified Coach alongside 15 peers (125 hours); preparing for the next level of certification through the International Coaching Federation exam; and achieving a high level of required coaching practice hours (100 hours) as part of the tiered certification process. Areas of content focus within the training include ethics, somatics and mindfulness, intervention models, communication and relationship building techniques, referral procedures, motivational preferences, assessments, contracting, neuroscience, and psychology, among others. This professional development training and certification has allowed me to a) rejuvenate myself and refresh my role as an educator, b) apply what I learn to my own teaching and coaching with students; and c) support other educators, leaders, and professionals in strengthening themselves and their work. This certification process requires prior leadership experience, an openness to experimenting and to varied epistemologies, openness to feedback and uncertainty, and a personal investment and intention. I look forward to further translating the practices and skills I have learned into my current teaching practice to support my students as they journey into the next stages of their professional lives.

Opportunity: I would be honored to work with any DKG members who would be interested in engaging in coaching in support of any aspect of their sense of purpose or growth as leaders or professionals.



One of Julie's museum photos. I'm guessing it's Cinderella's slipper??

FEELING FINNISH IN FINLAND, AND OTHER ADVENTURES ABROAD

Jo Strom Lane



Hyvää huomenta! Or less formally, **hyvää päivää!** The phrase translates into “Good day” in Finnish and is a greeting that is sincere and reflects the relaxed, present, and genuine feeling of being in the country of Finland, a place where Moomin and its creator, Tove Jansson, were seen at the conference site.

Finnish is known as a more challenging language to learn. Spelling and length of words can seem almost impossible. Forget about pronunciation! Luckily, the first workshop I took entitled “Stimulate Your Brain with Some Finnish,” led by Sirkku Lato-maa and Virpi Matala, made learning 50 Finnish words fun and accessible! They demonstrated tools for both engagement in the classroom and interactive techniques that I recognize from my own theatre arts classroom: demonstration with a partner, songs with rhythm for memorization, turn and talk, repeat after me, and guess and check, all accompanied by visuals to reinforce the lesson.

In 60 short minutes, I picked up a few words and phrases, their pronunciation, and fun facts to make this Finn (yep, that’s me—a Finn from the USA) learning Finnish feel more comfortable speaking the language. Some highlights may help you learn Finnish, too!

All Finnish words place emphasis on

the first syllable. The letter “i” always sounds like “ee” while “y” is an “I” sound. If there’s a double letter, both are pronounced. In the case of “*Hyvää huomenta*” or “*hyvää päivää*,” both words should sound like “HOO-vah WHO-oh-mentah” or “HOO-vah PIE-vaah.”

Like we did in this workshop, test yourself to see if you recognize these Finnish words and can guess how they might be pronounced: *kulttuuri*, *teatteri*, *baletti*, *konserti*, *musiikki*, and *museo*. You’re right! It’s culture, theatre, ballet, concert, music, and museum. See? It’s not as difficult as it seems.

Beyond workshops, the conference



included other adventures, although I didn’t have to go far! Speaking of a museum, the conference location in Tampere, which I learned is pronounced TAM-puh-ruh, houses the world’s only Moomin Museum. I explored the museum, which was filled with artifacts, information, and interactive exhibits showcasing Tove Jansson’s famous creation of Moomin characters, as well as learning more about her life. (Coincidentally, Nordic Northwest, of which I am also a member, is hosting a film this November at Nordia House about Tove Jansson’s life. More information can be found on the Nordic Northwest website.) Learning about the Moomins, and subsequently a bit about Jansson’s life, was interesting. And yes, you got it correct. It’s pronounced TOE-vah YAN-son.

Additionally, conference attendees had the opportunity to gather at the Vapriikki Museum, tour a fairy tale storytelling exhibit (Fabulous!!), and hear the city’s mayor speak about educators in his family and the impact of education. Like my fellow sisters, I had the chance to shake his hand before hearing him speak, and I practiced my newly acquired Finnish to say “*Hauska tavata!*” (HOW-ska TAH-vah-ta) or “Nice to meet you.”



Monique Harrison, Jo, and Darlene displaying the US Forum info.

Kiitos (KEY-e-e-toes), or Finnish for “thank you,” which is heard frequently, for supporting me to be able to attend this remarkable experience!

REMEMBERING OUR SISTERS

REMEMBERING OUR SISTERS

Our Roles and Responsibilities

Dr. Wendy Hacke, OSO Membership Committee Chair

Please let your Chapter and State Membership Chairs know of a Delta Kappa Gamma sister in your life who has passed away. DKG celebrates their life and loyalty to our sisterhood at the chapter, state, and international levels. Two ways that the state honors sisters who have passed away is through having a "Remembering Our Sisters" section in *The New Oregon Trail* and at the White Rose Ceremony conducted at the state conference/convention.

International celebrates the lives of loved DKG members when Chapter Presidents send in their Form 6 (see below). Form 6 is to be filled out by the Chapter President and sent to International Membership Services so that they can remove the deceased member from the membership rolls and can include them in the International Celebration of Life. Send a copy to the State Treasurer for notice of dues and to the State Membership Chair or Necrology Chair for the state's recognition at the annual meeting of members. Then both the International and State ceremonies will honor our sisters who passed in the year prior to the ceremony.

All levels of the organization (International, State, Chapter) are encouraged to send cards of condolence. Form 6 requests the name and mailing address of the closest relative or friend, so be sure your chapter has current information on file.

Finding Form 6: https://www.dkg.org/DKGS/Forms/Membership_Forms.aspx OR: Go to dkg.org. Sign in. (1) Click on Resources. (2) Click on Membership. (3) Form 6 is at the top of the list of forms.

Finding Officers 2023-24:

- International Membership Services: mem@dkg.org
- State Treasurer: Vickie Jacson: dandvjackson@gmail.com
- State Membership & Necrology: Dr. Wendy Hacke: wdhacke57dkg@gmail.com
- Chapter positions: Presidents, please copy your own chapter treasurer, membership, and necrology chairs when you complete Form 6.

WHITE ROSES

Sheila Kleinheinz, Beta Beta /5

June 22, 2023



Retired Special Education & Administration

Judy Kieser, Beta Beta/5

July 22, 2023



Retired School Psychologist. In DKG, participated as hostess & on fundraisers and activities.

Beverly Emmons, Lambda/3

July 3, 2023 (age 90)



Beverly (Bev) Emmons, Lambda, passed away July 3 in Eugene, less than two weeks after being diagnosed with cancer. Bev had been a member of DKG for 59 years, inducted in Anchorage in 1964. She transferred to Lambda in 1977.

Her involvement in DKG ranged from chapter president (1988-90) to member of multiple committees at local and State levels. Her first recorded state in Oregon was as district coordinator (1989-91). Bev's organizational skills and attention to detail shined when she was Convention Coordinator from '91-93. Bev served on the Leadership Development Committee for several biennia, providing mentorship and encouragement to members all over the state.

Bev's many contributions to DKG earned her the Service to Alpha Rho State award in 2013. Among Bev's greatest traits was her concern for others. She became passionate about World Fellowship, spearheading Lambda fundraising, resulting in yearly donations to the World Fellowship Fund. She encouraged members to apply for scholarships. When an award was received by a member, Bev was one of the first to congratulate and help celebrate.

WHITE ROSES

Patricia Jean Howard, Chi/6

August 24, 2023



Past State President Patricia (Pat) Howard, Chi, passed away Aug. 24 after a fall in June. She was in a rehab facility at the time of her death.

Pat's first State position was that of Alpha Rho State Secretary from 1991-93. She became State President in 1993-95. She dealt with some controversy regarding the location of state convention in 1995 (due to OCA political issues), remaining calm and dedicated to providing the responsible leadership to keep the State unified and moving forward.

Following her term as President, Pat served not only as Immediate Past President, but also as a member of the State Bylaws Committee. She remained on that committee until her death, serving as chairman from 2003-05. From 1999-2001, she also served as International Projects chair for the State. From 2008-2017, she was State Parliamentarian, after being co-parliamentarian from 2005-08. Pat received the Service to Alpha Rho State award in 2009, in recognition of her many contributions to Oregon DKG.

Pat displayed dedication and commitment thru her years in DKG (1986-2023). Whether in a leadership role or as a "regular member," Pat represented OSO many times at regional conferences and International conventions, including being on the International Executive Board when she was Oregon DKG President. She attended many workshops, business sessions, and social activities, fully participating in each event.

OUR PORTLAND ROSIE CONVENTION EXCEEDED OUR WILDEST DREAMS !!

Dr. Yvonne Fasold, a Rosebud



14 of the 15 Rosies present. Photo by Jan Davis

We honored the Rosies for four days and did a really good job of it. The Rose Festival Foundation created a spectacular float and invited the Rosies to a reception where they announced that the Rosies were the Grand Marshals of the Portland Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade! The Boeing Company sponsored our float and current Boeing workers walked in the parade with us. The parade route was lined with people cheering. Waving, and thanking our WWII Rosies for their service.

Nita Eggers (98) and Clarice LaFreniere (101) were the Rosies we met at our OSO Conference in Independence. They were both featured in special interviews! Clarice worked as a welder in Portland, so a local TV station did a pre-Rose Festival interview with her to explain the role of women in wartime production. Clarice was also featured in the Rose Festival Souvenir Program. Nita had worked as a riveter and buckler at Boeing in Seattle, so the Boeing camera crew interviewed her before the parade started, then took photos during the parade.

In all, 15 World War II Rosies attended, ages 94-101, which is an incredible turnout of World War II women workers. Family and friends shared the excitement with them. Two Rosies had five generations of family present! At our Friday open house, the room was packed as convention participants and the community honored our Rosies, gave them gifts, and took photos.

here must have been four TV channels there. That room was filled with enough electricity to power most of the universe!

Saturday night, we honored the Rosies by introducing each one and telling what she did during the war. On Sunday, we shared activities from around the nation and were inspired at our Memorial Service.

Our "grand finale" was a champagne brunch cruise on the Willamette River aboard the Portland Spirit. It was an exhilarating weekend! We thank all who remember, honor, and are inspired by our World War II women home front workers,



Grand Marshals of the Portland Rose Festival Grand Floral Parade! Riding on the Boeing-sponsored float.

Top: Photo by Stephen Dipaola, Boeing

Bottom: Photo by Amy Frazier

DKG was so honored to have two of these women visit with us and share their stories at convention 2023. That was a very special treat.

FUN AND FUNDS FOR THE FOUNDATION

Beta Beta Education Foundation – Women Who Wine for Education

June 22, 2023, was BBEF's initial wine social fundraising event, *Women Who Wine for Education*, but men were invited, too! The two-hour event was held in the lovely Nathman Building at Mary's Woods in Lake Oswego. It was a success! Guests really enjoyed themselves, and we raised about \$8,000! After expenses, we expect to net about \$6,000. As Grace Pitzer and Eloise Gibson are residents, we were able to use this venue at no cost. Grace was pivotal in securing the location and being the liaison between the organizing committee and Mary's Woods. Thanks so much, Grace!

Why a new fundraiser? After members expressed concern over our ability to continue with a summer garage sale, the Beta Beta/BBEF fundraising committee sought a new event. Sandy Barnik told us about the McMinnville Soroptimists' Women Who Wine fundraiser. In 2022 Catie Thurber-Brown, Fundraising chair, proposed that BBEF do a similar event. The motion was accepted, so Pam Culp and Catie Thurber-Brown went on a recognition mission, attending McMinnville's event in October 2022. The Soroptimists were generous in sharing ideas on how they do tickets sales and their check-in process. Catie (above) then began planning.



By April, major jobs were filled. Dana Murphy designed our flyer and tickets; Susan Scharf designed the brochure and arranged printing. Eloise Gibson ran ticket sales; Sandy Barnik organized the guest check-in. Nancy Lewis procured the wine. Kim Brown, Donna Krauthoefer, and Donna's daughter Alyssa volunteered to be wine pourers. Connie Gillespie and Pam Culp created the décor and food presentation. To add to our potential profits Nona Hoffinger and Sherrie James

coordinated the raffle items, Pam Kenyon prepared the blind wine pull (gift-wrapped bottles of red and white wine at two price points), and Pam Culp >> created centerpieces featuring bottles of wine for sale. We sold four "larger-ticket items" in a live auction, with Nancy Lewis as auctioneer and Sharon Kabusreiter helping spot bids. Stevie Viaene coordinated door prizes, many made by Joyce Brantley, and Pam Rostron distributed them.



Jo Ann Brinkman's jazz trio—Equinox—provided entertainment, adding to the ambiance of the evening. Barb Fuson, as Emcee, kept the evening moving. Grace Pitzer and Barb Fuson created a BBEF PowerPoint (see above) that we can use again at



coming fundraisers. Grace also designed reusable parking signs and ran the AV and the dishwasher.

Many thanks to Barbara Mills and Carol Swain for their help and "Tea" experience. The menu planning committee included Catie Thurber-Brown, Pam Culp, Connie Gillespie, and Nancy Lewis. They worked with Kim Brown, Sharon Kabusreiter, and Donna Krauthoefer who prepared food for the event.

It takes many people to make such an event happen. I am grateful for everyone who said "Yes!" when asked to help and who worked hard to make the event such a success. Our plans are

to repeat this event every other year, alternating with our Spring Tea.

Catie Thurber-Brown



**Barb Fuson,
Emcee, at
work**

**Eloise Gibson, Sandy Barnik, and
Jennifer Atwood welcome guests**



**Pam Culp and Connie Gillespie in
front of buffet.**



**Donna Krauthoefer and Kim Brown
at wine pour table.**



CHAPTER CHATTER (2023-24)

District 1

Zeta (Union County): Three words come to mind as summer winds down and fall is on its way. They are *rewarding, anticipation, and reflection*.

We had the rewarding opportunity to see performances by the OHYA. (Opera House Youth Actors.) Zeta met some of these children when they presented Zeta's May program. OHYA is a team of competitive youth actors, affiliated with the Elgin Opera House, who want an intensive theater experience.

This year Zeta members anticipate being part of a mentoring process for all beginning teachers who are starting their careers in Union County. Each will be offered a Zeta Chapter mentor to help them over those bumps that always appear.

As summer ends, take some time for reflection. Keep in mind how the sun shines as you wake up and how you feel when your grandkids or friends come to visit; enjoy day trips or vacations. Zucchini must be made into bread; there's swimming in the pool, creek, or river. Buy and delight in a Hermiston watermelon, Read. Appreciate that last visit, picnic, or watermelon before the leaves turn and school buses run. As teachers, even retired, thoughts of a new school year are invigorating. There are new ideas and the privilege of touching lives of a new group of students. It seems summer flew by 'way too fast.

District 2

Alpha (Klamath Co.): We held a yard sale fundraiser this summer. Our Friday and Saturday event netted us enough to fund our teacher grants in the upcoming year. Yahoo!

We have been working hard to recruit new members. It looks like we will be welcoming a transfer member to our

chapter. We are busy planning our next year's programs for our Monday night meetings. Alpha members will be



Joanne Skinner (R) and Bonita Fillmore (L): Ready to take dollars!

assisting Brenda Jensen in local needs for our 2024 Conference here in Klamath Falls at the Running Y Resort. Hope you plan to come next May! It will be loads of fun!

Omega (Josephine Co.): Chapter officers met on August 8 to discuss and set up activities for the coming year. A partial schedule was designed, to be filled in by members at a "Meet and Greet" on September 19.

District 3

Lambda (Lane Co.): Lambda's annual yard sale was held at Marj Maxwell's home August 5. Proceeds will be added to our June Crume Memorial Grant fund, which is used to support women working toward their teaching certificates. This year we earned over \$900 from the yard sale.

A lovely Celebration of Life was held Aug. 20 for Beverly Emmons, who passed away on July 3. She had been a devoted, inspiring, hard-working leader for many years, and her passing has deeply affected all who knew her. Lambda members helped her daughter, Jodi Emmons, prepare a ceremony that would have made Bev proud.

Karen Olsen and Jeanette Engel are preparing for The Non-Stop Players' upcoming fund-raising performance. Their Destinies and Destinations Concert will take place at The Wildish Theater in Springfield on Oct. 7. It will be jam-packed with a combination of well-known comedic and dramatic songs and dances representing many musicals throughout the decades. All are rooted in American dreams and desires of special places. There will be

a silent auction as well as a raffle for tickets to their winter production of Oklahoma! Tickets are on sale at The Wildish.

District 4

Alpha Omicron (St. Helens): We took the summer off!

District 5

Alpha Epsilon (Salem/Marion Co., Polk Co., Lincoln Co.) Almost everyone in our chapter met on August 14 for a planning social. The AC was on, and we had cool drinks. After catching up on summer fun, we mapped out most of our year's work, decided on chapter projects, and celebrated being together again. Our group (below):



Our projects are moving smoothly to add community support through our Neo-Natal Intensive Care Unit donations (new books) and contributions to Salem for Refugees (a "Welcome Baby" Kit). Chapter members helped register kids (0-5) for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. In August, we donated school supplies to CASA for foster children. A collection for the Mary Lynn Morgan Early Career Educator Library award awaits information from Shirley Lomax on logistics.

Psi (Hillsboro, Beaverton & Washington Co.): Psi Chapter met in Lincoln City at the home of Roberta Hutton for some summer planning. Our hostess provided a wonderful seafood salad lunch. Attending members brought supplies to donate to the Lincoln County School Supply program. It was wonderful to see everyone after summer break.

Our annual dictionary donation program continues this year. As in the past, we will provide Spanish/ English

dictionaries to all third graders at Echo Shaw Elementary School in Cornelius. We are adding third grade classrooms at Joseph Gale Elementary in Forest Grove. We deliver the dictionaries in early fall so students can make use of their books all year. The members who deliver dictionaries teach a short lesson to each classroom. A second project is continuing our support of homeless youth at Homeplate in Beaverton. In October, we meet at their new location to discuss plans to support them for the coming year.

Psi is happy to add our new collegiate member, **Jordyn Krake**. She is currently completing graduate studies at Pacific University. Jordan is a grateful recipient of the Edith Green Grant from Oregon DKG as well as a scholarship from Psi Chapter.



Pictured from the left: Donalene Biller, Kelly McIntyre, Katherine Warrior. Right: Sue Pass, Roberta Hutton, Anne Kingsley Beeson, Bertha Haas

Beta Beta (Tigard/Tualatin/Sherwood):

Literacy: Our Literacy Committee placed a new Little Free Library, and Joanne Brinkman and her husband painted the benches beside it. Calling all books! Another action item of our literacy committee is distribution of dictionaries to third graders. This year, they will go to schools in Sherwood in October.

Fundraisers: (1) The “Women Who Wine” event met with great reviews and was successful. We look forward to doing it again in two years. (2) In 2024, we will host our Spring Tea, another major event and FUNdraiser. Watch for the opportunity to buy your ticket. (3) The chapter issued checks to recipients of our Beta Beta Education Foundation Margaret Nielsen financial award. They are future Oregon educa-

tors who are upper division and graduate level students. (4) July was our yearly garage sale. Thanks to all who participated either by donation, publication of the event, or being present to help customers. Another success!

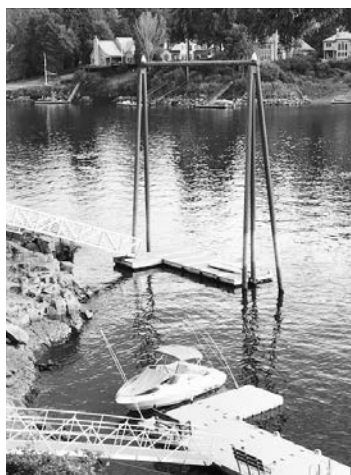
Planning: Beta Beta’s Executive Board held their retreat in August. It was fun, filled with plans, sharing of ideas, and a review of what we accomplished last year. We began charting 2023-24: Ignite, Connect, Belong. A takeaway: Begin to mentor members so they feel qualified to serve in an officer position for the chapter. Our Community Service committee will focus on providing necessary items to foster care children. Each month we will donate items to a select age group.

District 6

Chi (Clackamas): Chi mourns the loss of long-time member Pat Howard. (See page 13) after a fall in June.

Alpha Phi (Clackamas Co.): Our first meeting of 2023-24 was “picture perfect.” We met in our hostess’ spacious backyard, overlooking the Willamette River, which sparkled in that evening and was dotted by boats, skiers, and docks that swayed with the current. Trees cast silvery reflections, making a lovely setting.

Our meeting, planned by our Membership Committee, focused on interactive activity to become better



acquainted by being in small groups to discuss several questions pertaining to our personal and professional lives. Questions were placed in handmade origami boxes given to each member. We drew numbers and met with mem-

ber(s) whose numbers corresponded with our own. Groups (below) had time



to ask and respond to questions from our boxes. (Below)



It was fascinating that we shared similar responses! For example, two in the one group shared that, as kids, they attended lab schools on a college campus in different states, and both expressed what a solid education they received. Three members discovered that each grew up with three brothers! A member attended a multi-cultural high school, and it had a positive effect on her own teaching.

Each person brought a picture of herself as a baby or young child. The committee mounted them on a display, and members attempted to guess the identity of each. At the “reveal,” each member explained the significance of her photo and when and where it was taken. That was an interesting and challenging activity!

A highlight of our short business meeting was that we unanimously approved a generous contribution to DKG OSO Foundation for distribution as needed

... with special thanks to the Elsie Clements Scholarship Funds that we received three years ago from the aunt of a member.

We were treated to a stellar sunset, then a brisk wind caused branches on the huge oak tree (our shelter for our meeting) to sway briskly: our “cue” to adjourn and return home with fond memories of time with our Alpha Phi sisters.

Beta Gamma (Canby/Molalla): Beta Gamma invited our Teacher Grant recipients to the May dinner meeting. The program included reports by the recipients on how they will use their grants. Our winning recipients are:

- Kendall Krage from Clarks Elementary in Molalla. The funds will be used to repair musical instruments and purchase bongo drums.
- Christie Lee from Clarks Elementary in Molalla. Christie is purchasing a reading specialist classroom easel.
- Amy Modric Trost from Lee Elementary in Canby is purchasing art books.
- Jackie Anderson from Mulino Elementary in Molalla will buy 5th grade materials to help her students comply with Spanish benchmark projects
- Melany Mayuiers and Eric Heinsoo at Mulino Elementary in Molalla will use their funds for 4th grade Artist-in-Residence materials.

The May meeting was also the perfect time to present **Carol Stanfield** with her 25-year pin and certificate! Congratulations, Carol!

FALL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

One scholarship was awarded this fall, going to **Stevie Viaene**, Beta Beta. She had received a Personal Enrichment Commemorative Scholarship last spring but had to return it because her dog was injured and was unable to participate in the agility competition. “Bandit” (below) is pulling a long fishing net.



Another opportunity became available for later this summer, so Stevie reapplied and was approved. She received \$968.30 to participate in a national specialty competition of the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America. She entered both her experienced dog and a new puppy in events which took place in Albany and at Dexter Reservoir between Aug. 24 and Sept. 1.



“Puppy” (left) at 8 months is bigger than Bandit. “He gets his ‘show dog’ grooming this week, but now is a big mop,” says Stevie.

US FORUM – MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND INFO

Nancy Sheng, US Forum NW Representative

Here is a timely article that aligns with the DKG Resolution on Mental Health for teachers and support staff. As teachers return to the classrooms soon, please forward to your chapters and members. Links to many helpful resources are included.

https://www.common sense media.org/kids-action/articles/this-back-to-school-its-time-to-talk-teacher-mental-health?j=9431437&sfmc_sub=228146132&l=2048712_HTML&u=222192113&mid=6409703&jb=21&utm_source=edu_nl_2023.8.15&utm_medium=email

Save the Date: March 10-13, 2024, for the National Legislative Seminar in Washington, DC, where DKG members receive training and then visit with and lobby their congressional representatives! Planning is underway and more information will be coming soon!

I hope your summer break has been rejuvenating! Enjoy these last days of your summer!



RETURN ADDRESS

The New Oregon Trail is a publication of the Oregon State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

c/o

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Darlene's Schedule Fall 2023

Date	Event	Site
9/11	NW Presidents	Zoom
9/18	Zeta Chapter	Island City
9/20	State Communication /Technology	Zoom
9/30	State Membership	Zoom
10/4	Iota Chapter	Milton-Freewater
10/7	Dsts. 4-5-6 Meeting	Lake Oswego
10/9	NW Presidents	Zoom
10/13	Dst. 1 Meeting	Union
10/19	Beta Gamma Chapter	Canby
10/21	Dsts. 2 & 3 Meeting	Grants Pass/Zoom
11/6	Alpha Epsilon Chapter	Salem
11/13	NW Presidents	Zoom
12/11	NW Presidents	Zoom