



















## NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

*Lise Van Brunt, Yvonne Fasold, Kathie Hill*

### 2021 SLATE OF CANDIDATES STATE OFFICERS

#### **PRESIDENT: Brenda Jensen/Alpha/2**

I have been a Speech Pathologist in the public schools for 46 years. Three years in Malheur County, Oregon 42 years in Klamath County, Oregon. My career has been very enjoyable working with school age children for 30 years and 15 years with 3- to 5-year-old preschool children. I did spend one year as a special education teacher in Chiloquin, Oregon. I live on my property that has been in my family for over 100 years with horses, a donkey, goats, chickens, cats, and dogs. In addition to teaching, I have held many positions in Alpha Chapter and have been active in Oregon DKG for years. I am looking forward to serving the DKG Oregon State Organization during the 2021-23 biennium.

#### **VICE PRESIDENT: Bonita Fillmore, Alpha/2**

Bonita is a retired educator who served students for 23 years. She was a Media Specialist, District Media Coordinator, Reading Teacher, and Art Teacher for the Klamath County School District. Bonita is a member of the Oregon Education Association Retired and the Oregon Retired Educators Association where she has served as a Unit President and is currently State Vice President. She may be State President for this group in the near future.

Bonita is a dedicated DKG member. She has been a Chapter President more than once and is currently serving again as President of Alpha Chapter. She has been Oregon State Organization Administrative Secretary since 2017 and served on the State Finance Committee in the past. Bonita is involved in the Parish Council as Vice President and President, CCD and assists with a Youth group. Her special interests include photography, stamp collecting, art and traveling.

#### **SECRETARY: Kate Kelleher, Beta Beta/5**

Kate has years of experience in DKG. Currently serving in the state secretary position, Kate wishes to continue. In Beta Beta, she served as co-president, co-vice president,

and secretary, as well as supporting BB projects. In her professional career, Kate taught upper elementary grades for 18 years, spent 15 years as a school counselor, and she also ran a private counseling business. After initial retirement, she worked 9 years as counselor, liaison, and tutor. She is conscientious and follows through on her work.

Kate is the mother of two, is happily divorced, and has family on the East Coast, which gives her a good excuse to travel.

### STATE STANDING COMMITTEES FINANCE COMMITTEE

#### **DISTRICT 1: Laurie Graves, Zeta/1**

Laurie was a dedicated Elementary teacher for grades 2 through 4 for 32 years. After retirement she continued to sub for 6 more years. Laurie has been a member of Zeta Chapter since 2004. She served as Secretary for Zeta from 2016 to 2020.

Laurie has served the youth of her community as a 4-H leader/volunteer since 1997. She also served as the 4-H Superintendent of Food for Union County. She is an active member of the First Presbyterian Church where she has been an Elder and a Deacon. Laurie was awarded the Meritorious Service Award for Union County 4-H in 2016.

#### **DISTRICT 2: Carolyn (Cari) Hinesly, Omega/2**

Cari was a teacher for the Eagle Point School District from 1968 to 1998. She also worked as a Media Specialist for there from 1985-1998. She is now retired.

Cari became involved in DKG in 1975 as a member of the former Epsilon Chapter in Medford. She remained with them through 2016 until the Chapter dissolved. She then became a member of Omega. Cari was a leader in Epsilon, serving as Treasurer 1980-1992 and then again 2008-2012. She was Chapter President 2012-14, Co-President 2014-16. She became a Co-Secretary this year for Omega.

Cari serves her community as the Secretary/Treasurer of the Community Water District. She has very interesting hobbies: Cari loves sportscar and sled dog racing.

## DISTRICT 3: FINANCE COMMITTEE: OPEN!



This could be YOU! If you are interested, just give Darlene Cook a call at 541-331-3282 or dcook.dkg@gmail.com

*From All-free-download.com/free-vector*

## STATE STANDING COMMITTEES NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

### DISTRICT 1: Sandra (Sandy) Rysdam, Zeta/1

Sandy has served in Education since 1986. She was an Associate Director of Financial Aid at Eastern Oregon University, Director of Leadership in La Grande, and an elementary teacher for Elgin School District. In 2010, Sandy received the Elgin School District Service Award. She currently is a substitute teacher.



Sandy is a member of Zeta Chapter and has served Zeta as a Vice President and President. Sandy is also a member and past chapter

president of Beta Sigma Phi, which she joined in 1978.

### DISTRICT 2: Kathleen (Kathie) Hill, Omega/ 2

Kathie retired after serving students for 39 years. She was a teacher for 24 years grades 4 through 8. She then became an administrator at K-5 level for 15 years. Kathie worked in North Carolina as well as in Oregon. She currently volunteers at a local elementary school when allowed by COVID rules.

Kathie served as President of Omega Chapter. At the state level she is currently serving as a *New Oregon Trail* proofreader. In earlier years, she served as photographer when needed and on several committees. Kathie was honored for her Service to Education by the Oregon State Organization in 2007.

Kathie served as the treasurer and secretary of the Administrators of Three Rivers Association (ATRA) at different times. She is a dog lover and enjoys golfing and travel whenever she can!



## DISTRICT 3: Kaye Jones, Kappa/3

Kaye began working with students in 1980. She taught in Klamath Falls City Schools, Klamath County Schools, and Greater Albany Public Schools. She was a special education teacher, GAPS resource teacher, tutor/teacher at the Juvenile Detention Center and substitute teacher.



As a member of Kappa Chapter, Kaye was chapter president several times, co-president, treasurer, and immediate past president several times. She served on Kappa's scholarship and hostess committees.

At the state level, Kaye was Secretary 2015-2017 and 2007-2008; Communications Chair; and World Fellowship Committee, 1993-1996. She assisted at many state meetings. Regionally, Kaye attended membership training in 2011, was a shuttle driver at Spokane (International Convention in 2010) and in 2009, was Hostess Committee Chair at NW Regional in Portland.

Kaye's professional organization roles varied: she has been on the Jefferson School District Board since 2011. She served on the AWANA Missionary Ministry Board 2005-2011 and was a short-term missionary to Senegal and Sierra Leone, Africa, in 2003 and 2008. She served on the Basin Transit Service Board of Directors from 1990-1997.

Kaye was honored by being elected to the Jefferson School Board, and she was given the Citation Award for *Bible* Memorization from AWANA Clubs International. Kaye's other activities include being Red Cross Lifeguard Trainer, Water Safety Instructor, and Women's Ministries at JBC.

*Kaye's pix is from 2018 the convention folder.*

## PRESIDENT-TO-PRESIDENT SHARING

Thank you for joining us in January & March. Your support of state meetings and activities is appreciated! In January, 34 attended: 33 Oregon members representing 14 of 19 chapters, and Barbara Clausen, NW Regional Director, from Washington. On March 6, we had 26 Oregon members representing 12 chapters. A round-table discussion with SE Regional Director Candace (Candi) Martin, our 2021 International guest, was the highlight of our March President-to-President session.

Candi answered questions from chapter presidents, such as how we can reach out to working educators and ideas for making leadership roles more attractive to members. As co-chair of the San Antonio International Conference, she provided insights into the planning of a large international event.

Also joining us was Daphne Cagle, chair of the California State Expansion Committee. She invited members to the pre-conference workshop, "A Team Approach to Revitalize Your Chapter." Daphne, along with Past Washington State President Sherri Wagemann, will lead participants in developing plans to strengthen their chapters. A second pre-conference workshop, "Robert's Rules Made Easy" will be offered by International Parliamentarian Dr. Helen Popovich.

Brenda Jensen updated us on our virtual state convention, and Jean Fairbairn discussed plans for the Portland International Conference. Vickie Jackson explained the process for applying for a \$100 conference stipend. Information on our 80th Birthday Celebration was shared by Dana Murphy.

Please share comments and suggestions on topics, materials, discussion groups, frequency of meetings, etc., for future president meetings. Thank

you for your continuing support and dedication to your chapter and to our state organization.

*With much gratitude, Darlene*

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## TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE REPORT

### Why Do International & State Want My Email Address?

**The better to communicate with you, my dear!** In today's world, email opens the door to the vast resources available on the DKG and Oregon websites.

It provides a means for you to receive important announcements, to ask questions, to chat with like-minded members on a blog, to view deadlines for opportunities, to maintain your own information on MyDKG, and to participate in the many virtual and online activities that keep DKG members current in this vibrant and ever-changing Society.

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## OREGON GAME NIGHT February 18, 2021

We had fun! Laughs and some brain-stimulating games made for a great evening--and 23 members from 10 chapters joined Alpha Epsilon hostesses Dr. Cindy Ryan and Jill Snyder. *Scattergories* and *Truth or Lies* turned out to be highly entertaining!

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## EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE: OREGON LEGISLATURE Kate Kelleher—OSO Legislative Liaison

The Capitol is silent these days, with Legislators attending House and Senate Committee meetings virtually. Some are feeling the same "Zoom Fatigue" that many educators and students are dealing with as we move into Year 2 of this Pandemic.

Democrats dominate both chambers; however, even with their 3/5 super

majority to approve tax measures, they do not have a quorum majority to sweep in new policy. A main goal of this session is to approve a biennial budget. Due to diminished income tax and reduced collections from Oregon State Lottery, spending issues will be tight, even though marijuana sales have skyrocketed!

"Hot" topics for this session:

- COVID response: effects as well as vaccine rollout.
- Wildfire recovery: Many are still homeless.
- Redistricting--This only occurs once a decade and could create change.
- Campaign finance reform, following up on an initiative that Oregon voters approved in November 2020.
- Advancing Racial Equity across the state. Currently, the Legislature's Black, Indigenous and People of Color Caucus (BIPOC) has 12 members. Lew Frederick, long time member, said, "Never before has the conversation in this state been so focused on the legacies of racial inequality and the continuing impact of systemic racism of our society."

Here are three key player's quotes from the beginning of the session a month ago:

- **Governor Brown**, "*The reality is, the challenging times we have faced in the last year have really created the legislative agenda.*"
- **Tina Kotek, House Speaker, Democrat, Portland** "*This session is about responding to crisis and helping people,*"
- **House Minority Leader Christine Drazan, Republican—Canby** *said the session must address, "the challenges and problems that Oregonians feel in real time."*

Will we see consensus in the coming weeks left in this session? Please tap the link to the Oregon Legislature

here, [OLIS](#) to find your Representative and Senator. Read their notes on legislation and email them your thoughts. **Connections from constituents are the most important thing we can do to ensure our voices are heard in this democracy.**

## WHITE ROSES 2019 – 2021



### Omega/2

- Dr. Patricia Hayes: March 21, 1922 - October 29, 2019

### Alpha/2

- Judy Smith-Clifton : January 1, 1946 - July 22, 2019

### Lambda/3

- Jule Crume: June 29, 1919 -- August 28, 2019

### Beta Beta/5

- Jean Haldorson: July 10, 1931- May 22, 2019
- Susan Eve Herron: April 4, 1938 – June 3, 2018
- Edith Evelyn Knouff: October 13, 1919 – April 25, 2017
- Carolyn Saxe: June 24, 2019 – August 29, 2020
- Darline Sverid: October 31, 1938 – July 26, 2017
- Karen Wedeking: August 25, 1943 – October 2, 2018
- Norma Wetzell: July 16, 1933 – July 25, 2020
- Margaret “Peg” Hewlett: August 7, 1949 - March 16, 2021

### Alpha Nu/5

- Helen Fohl --1921 – May 6, 2020

### Alpha Epsilon/5

- Betty McChesney Haus --February 16, 1939 -February 11, 2021

### Eta/6

- Helen Kappler: October 13, 1928 - May 1, 2018
- Jeurine Marshall: April 17, 1928 - December 1, 2019
- Betty Jean Dawkins: February 17, 1943 -February 18, 2020

### Chi/6

- Patricia Maple: August 23, 1937 - May 2, 2019

## EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE: CURRICULUM OF HOPE

Have you read the *Curriculum of Hope* newsletter that offers suggestions to stay positive and hopeful in our world? As we continue to struggle with the pandemic and experience uncertainty, this is a newsletter full of hope and useful ideas. *Curriculum of Hope* is a Standing Committee of Connecticut State Organization, DKG.

The Winter 2021 edition includes interesting and diverse articles such as:

- **DESSA:** A standardized, strength-based SEL assessment that measures the **social and emotional** competence of youth in kindergarten through 8th grade.
- **A Little Spots Books:** Author Diane Alber became inspired to start writing and illustrating books because she saw a need for a book that inspired art and creativity in children.
- **Just for Fun Feel- Good Reads:** A list of 12 books to help you feel better.
- **Free Online Courses:** A link for some free online classes regarding Emotional Intelligence.

You can subscribe for free. I encourage you to check it out! In closing, here are words from their Founder, **Jeanne Morascini:** “Just remember to love each other, to help each other and to share your abundance of goodness. Go forth and spread your message of peace through kindness, empathy, and love. Our very ill world population needs the support of every peacemaker right now. Blessings for your good health, peace and joy in a more normal world in 2021.”

# BONDED BY FIRE

**Omega of Oregon**

**&**

**Epsilon Omicron of  
California**

**SISTER CHAPTERS  
RULE!**

*January 2021*

We have some wonderful news to share. Our sister Chapter, **Epsilon Omicron from Huntington Beach, California**, has donated another \$500 to our mutual efforts to support a local family. At Omega's February Zoom meeting, a number (13) of Epsilon Omicron members joined us from Orange County, CA: **Cynthia Blackwell, Ginger Longwell, Frazer, Joan Copp, Becky Cameron, Karen, Kathy Elles, Sheila Nelson, Lynn Records, Lissa Pestolesi, Susan Selman, Teri, Cathy Ryder**. It was an inspiring and friendship-making session.

This is the story of the family that received the \$1,000 donated by Epsilon Omicron. At the recommendation of a local principal in the Three Rivers School District (Josephine County, Oregon), this family was selected by Omega to receive assistance. The family takes the children to a mobile hot spot where a Three Rivers District-provided van comes periodically. Staff set up warming tents, portable heaters, and tables so kids can work on laptops.

This Illinois Valley family lost everything in the September fires. They have a truck, and someone donated a small camper trailer that all five share. They are living far out in the county, almost to the Oregon/California border. They have three kids: two at Evergreen Elementary and one who is a senior at Illinois Valley High School in Cave Junction.

High school staff provided a warm blanket for each family member and gas cards to run the family's generator and truck. The generator is the only way they can cook and have light and heat. They run the heat about two hours at night before they sleep. Omega has donated a new Chrome Book (laptop) to assist the family with on-line education and more recently has added \$250 for gas for their generator..

As you can well envision, this generous \$1,000 donation will go far toward a new beginning and a better chance at success.



*Update: March 7, 2021*

The family is sometimes able to get WIFI at home now. Two of the kids are at Evergreen. We talked to the office manager and the principal at the high-school who were in close contact with the family. The family desperately needed a washer and dryer, but supplies of appliances are low in our area due to fires and COVID. We were able to work with a local appliance store. The store found an older set that they refurbished for the family and then even knocked off \$100 for us after I told them the family story.

The family was so grateful. They drove in to Grants Pass where I (Lise Van Brunt) got to meet them all. The kids said they had been especially delighted to get the laptop, as sharing just the school laptop is

very hard among three of them.

The high school daughter is on track to graduate, despite everything that has happened in the last year. In talking directly with them, I discovered that the trailer they live in was purchased from funds they received through a Go Fund Me account set up by family.

They are hardworking, humble people who are working hard to re-establish themselves for the sake of their kids. They are living on their land despite the challenges of no power yet and deep mud because the fire was so hot it burnt underground roots so soil sinks deeply. Snow and rain produce high humidity in their house, causing wet muddy clothes and towels all the time. Despite that, they arrived clean with only muddy boots to show the story!

Thank you, Epsilon Omicron, for beginning this journey of funding for a local family. We are inspired by your generosity and kindness.

*Lise Van Brunt  
Omega President  
Grants Pass, Oregon*

And here is the sad part: A similar scenario was repeated over and over as fires raged in southern Oregon in Jackson, Josephine, and Klamath Counties; in the north Willamette Valley, in the Santiam Canyon fires, in Lane County, in Clackamas County; and on the Oregon Coast in Lincoln County. So many homes and lives were burned to a crisp.

Keep Well... Stay Safe



## CHAPTER CHATTER

### District 2

#### Alpha (Klamath Co.): ALPHA'S LITTLE FREE LIBRARY

Thanks to Melissa High, we were able to set up a Little Library in the Midland Store. **Melissa, Judy Brimmer, Bonita Fillmore, Joanne Skinner, and Brenda Jensen** were able to put DKG stickers in each book donated. Bonita donated a bookshelf and helped



to set up a library. Books for various ages were placed on the shelves. It is pretty exciting and hopefully residents in the area are taking advantage of

the Midland Little Free Library

**Omega (Josephine & Jackson Cos.):** Omega has been doing well with Zoom and /or hybrid meetings this year, although not all members are comfortable with either one! Our March speaker, Co-Secretary **Sara Kinstler**, discussed challenges of classroom management during a pandemic, when the "classroom" is a computer screen--a different issue entirely.

### District 3

**Lambda (Lane Co.):** Eight of Lambda's active classroom teachers and two guests presented a panel discussion about "Teaching Online During the

Pandemic: Problems and Positives" for our February Zoom meeting. They were praised for their resilience and determination to provide the best education for their students.

To help children gain an understanding of diversity, five book bags each containing five children's books are being circulated among our members in the schools. Literacy Chair **Dr. Karren Timmermans** shared a list of children's picture books that help increase understanding of diversity.

State President **Darlene Cook** was present at both the February and March Zoom meetings. She provided updated information about the upcoming State Convention and the International Conference.

The focus for our March meeting was White Bird Clinic's CAHOOTS (Crisis and Helping Out on The Streets) and HOOTS (Helping Out Our Teens in School) programs. Ashley Barnhill-Hubbard informed us about this community-based public safety system to provide mental health first-response.

### District 4

**Alpha Omicron (St. Helens):** Our March meeting was followed by a trip to the past. A presenter from the Columbia County Historical Society spoke on some history of Columbia County's earliest schools and educators. Many members recognized buildings that they had taught in before those buildings had been either re-vamped or replaced. A few of the members even remembered the presenter from his elementary school years!

### District 5

**Alpha Epsilon (Salem & Polk Co.):** Alpha Epsilon's past three programs have been outstanding. In January, Salem-Keizer Superintendent, Christy

Perry shared with us about her strong commitment to anti-racism as she works with SKPS staff and the board of directors. In February, soon-to-be-installed Oregon's 2021 Kid Governor, Taneesh Garg, joined us virtually to share about his community issue for the year: Racism. Also presenting was Mary Beth Herkert, State Coordinator of the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Civics Program, sharing information about the "Oregon Kid Governor Program."

In March, Ashley Hamilton, Project Program Director for ARCHES, shared with us how a data-driven examination of homelessness works in Marion and Polk County. More housing for the homeless was exciting to hear about. She also shared critical information regarding trends in homelessness and COVID.

**Alpha Nu (Hillsboro, Beaverton & Washington Co.):** In February, Alpha Nu members joined Beta Beta Chapter in their Zoom meeting to hear about the remarkable women featured in the book, *Notable Women of Portland*. President **Melanie Morris** delivered members' donated books to **Kathy Martell** for her Little Library.

Members shared personal stories at the March meeting. We had an introduction to a new precious granddaughter; tales of extraordinary teaching experiences; travel stories to favorite countries; important teaching advice from a member's student; remote teaching challenges and rewards; delivering services to students in a motorhome; the joy of going through old family photos; and an explanation of how a member makes beautifully decorated Ukrainian Easter eggs.

**Helen Fohl** passed away on May 6, 2020, at 99. Her 57 years of active membership in Alpha Nu Chapter, 38 of those years as treasurer, were an inspiration.

**Psi (Hillsboro, Beaverton & Washington Co.):** On February 11, Psi held a Zoom meeting hosting special guest speaker: Amy Richter, founder of *Music Workshop*. Amy saw a need for relevant music education in the classroom. Her program started with an idea for increasing student love of music with CDs and teacher instruction and then grew to an online program reaching 800,000 to 2,100,000 students, in all 50 states and 77 countries. Her program is being used by teachers in public schools, international schools, private schools, as well as reaching out to homeschoolers. Take a look at *Music Workshop* by visiting the website: <https://www.musicworkshopedu.org>.

As a chapter we are looking forward to the Oregon DKG Convention, where member **Bertha Hass** will be a presenter, sharing information about Huruma School in Tanzania. If we are able to meet in person for the International Conference in Portland, **Meri Putzler** will be the committee chair for the properties room. Hope to see you all there!

**Beta Beta (Tigard/Tualatin/Sherwood):**

*Notable Portland Women*

February's History Committee Program featured Zadie Schaffer presenting a talk about Notable Women of Portland, the book which she co-wrote with her mother, Dr. Tracy Prince. The project began as Zadie's Mitzvah part of her Bat Mitzvah project. Zadie is a senior at Lincoln High School in Portland and has been admitted to Stanford University next year. This lively presentation highlighted a group of Portland's prominent women over the years from first people and pioneers to the present, including names we recognized and many we did not. Notable Women of Portland can be purchased from Amazon or Powell's.

**Bunco Alert:** Who knew a fundraiser could be so much fun? At our fall auction, one of the big moneymakers was an online Bunco game. **Sharon Kabusreiter and Kim Brown** spent long hours learning how to put Bunco online. The idea was to meet new people, have fun, and win some big bucks. It worked perfectly! Almost 40 people (on Zoom!) moved from table to table, throwing dice and accumulating points as they went. **Wendy Hacke's** eight-year-old granddaughter, Ava, almost stole the show with her enthusiasm and skill. The big winner was **Sherrie James**, who won \$100 for throwing the most buncos. Sherrie graciously donated her prize back to the Foundation. A great time was had by all. Stay tuned for our next game!

**District 6**

**Chi (Clackamas):** Would you like to become a Book Fairy? Once a week, a Book Fairy delivers a book to a child who could use extra reading support and also becomes the child's pen pal. Gently used books and printed books from Raz-kids.com are provided as another resource for Book Fairies. A stamped, self-addressed envelope and Book Fairy Stationery are also part of this packet. Interested? We are gathering names of Book Fairies now. Sign up at [www.teachersbrigade.org](http://www.teachersbrigade.org) to get started! or call **Cindy O'Mealy**, 503-830-5077 Teachers Brigade Director

**Beta Gamma (Canby/Molalla):** At our January Zoom meeting, we had a wonderful sharing of special teacher moments and winter snow stories. Due to the ice storm and power outages, our February meeting was canceled. Our agenda was to finalize our Beta Gamma scholarship winners, so we did it by email. Four projects from four different schools were awarded around \$150 each.

**COMING UP**

**July 31 to August 1, 2021  
Int'l Leadership Training  
Atlanta, Georgia**

1. State Organization President
2. State Organization Treasurer
3. State Organization Executive/Administrative Secretary (first term)
4. State Organization Membership Chair
5. State Organization Educational Excellence Chair

Sessions will be recorded for on-demand viewing and use for participants unable to attend the training in-person.

As our NW Representative on the International Leadership Development Committee, **Dr. Kelly McIntyre** will be a member of the leadership training team.

**2022 July 12 - 16, 2022  
Int'l Convention  
New Orleans, LA**

## 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**

## DARLENE'S SCHEDULE

3/16, 6/15

Alpha Rho Foundation Board Meeting

3/17, 4/14, 5/19, 6/23 7/6- 7/10

Int'l Conference Steering Committee Meetings

3/29 Executive Committee meeting

4/5 Sigma Chapter meeting

4/7 Chi Chapter meeting

4/12 Beta Beta meeting

4/15 Alpha Phi meeting

April 23-25 - Oregon State Organization Convention –

**VIRTUAL**

5/12 Alpha's Educational Excellence Celebration

5/22 Oregon State Organization's 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday

7/ 7-10 Int'l Conference, Portland Downtown Marriott