

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. 48, No. 2, Winter 2020

2020 Spring Conference April 24 - 26, 2020 -- DKG: Oregon State Organization



KEYNOTE SPEAKER Dr. Heidi Olivadoti

Dr. Heidi Olivadoti has been chosen to serve as the Regional Educator Network Coordinator for Southern Oregon. Heidi's career spans 30 years and is marked by experience as an Elementary Teacher, Title I Specialist, Professor, Mentor, Program Administrator, and School Improvement Specialist. She is committed to improving education in Southern Oregon by engaging with wholehearted educators whose practice is marked by courage, compassion, connection, and an unwavering belief that challenges are opportunities for growth.



Aurora Vignau International Guest 2018 - 2020 Latin America Area Representative

Aurora Vignau has been an active member of DKG since 1984 (36 years). She has served as Nuevo Leon State President (2003-2005), Chair of the World Fellowship International Committee (2006-2008), and currently serves as the Latin America Area Representative (2018-2020). She continues to work in education through her extensive involvement as Chair of the Board of the Mexican Red Cross, Monterrey Chapter, and as a state delegate of Nuevo León, Mexican Red Cross.

WITHIN

- 2 President's Page
- 3 Workshops
- 5 10-Minute Takeaways
- 6 Chapter Chatter
- 6 Beta Beta Chatter
- 10 Water Run at the Border
- 11 Collegiate Member
- 12 Darlene's Travels

Note: If you are reading this in printed format in a published newsletter, you are missing considerable information. To see the whole newsletter, click on www.dkg.org, then choose NW and then Oregon. You can find information about registration, lodging, tours, activities, food, fall conferences, and some helpful tips for technology use.

CONFERENCE WEBSITE:

[https://dkgoregonconvention.
weebly.com/](https://dkgoregonconvention.weebly.com/)

All the forms and details are
here.

PRESIDENT'S PAGE



Darlene Cook
Alpha /2
2019 - 21 President
Oregon State Organization

Happy New Year!

Welcome not only to a new year, but also to a new decade of DKG in Oregon. This decade will lead us up to the 100th anniversary of the founding of Delta Kappa Gamma on May 11, 1929. On May 23rd, Oregon will be celebrating 79 years as the 41st state organization installed into the Society. Our state name has been changed from Alpha Rho to Oregon State Organization, but our Society purposes remain the same.

This spring, DKG members will have an excellent opportunity to see in action **Purpose No. 4:** *“To initiate, endorse and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators”*; and **Purpose No. 7:** *“To inform members of current economic, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.”*

DKG plays an instrumental role as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) with the United Nations Department of Public Information. In February, DKG members have an opportunity to travel to New York City to see our Society involvement with the United Nations firsthand. The

theme of this year's CTAUN conference is “War No More.” Then, in March, the National Legislative Seminar will give members an opportunity to discuss important issues and to practice advocacy skills in our national Capitol. The seminar includes time on Capitol Hill to meet with Oregon's senators and representatives. Oregon members will be attending both events. There is time to register, so join our state delegation for these opportunities. For information, see the related articles in this newsletter.

During the past few months, I have had the opportunity to visit several Oregon chapters and have formed many new friendships. Thank you all for making me feel at home! It has been great to see the impact you are making in your schools and communities through your service projects and training opportunities. To all our Chapters, please let us know what great things you are doing! Continue to provide information to Chapter Chatter in the newsletter and invite me to your meetings or special events. I would like to visit all of you at least once during this biennium.

I look forward to welcoming you to our Oregon State Conference, April 24-26, at the beautiful and relaxing Oregon Garden Resort. Please plan to attend. We have a rich history of service and advocacy to celebrate. You will find several changes to our conference schedule this year. In addition to nine great workshops, we will offer several 10-minute takeaway sessions. Many great tours are planned for Friday afternoon, and we are opening our FUNdraising activities to a variety of auction items in addition to the traditional baskets. Be creative! Join in on the FUN. Money raised will help fund members to attend state and international events.

My best wishes for a successful and productive year,

Darlene

2019 -21 ALPHA RHO STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Ideas? Questions? Contact us!

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WORKSHOPS

CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS TO STIMULATE YOUR MINDS

Peggy Cowens, Chair, Educational Excellence Committee

Six Words That Sparked a Revolution

Heidi Olivadoti, Ed.D., School Improvement Specialist

Courage, Compassion, and Connection; Safety, Significance, and Belonging. These six words have sparked a revolution in Southern Oregon. Come to hear how the Southern Oregon Regional Educator Network (SOREN) is connecting with courage and compassion to elevate educator voice, to invite diverse perspectives, to ensure equity, to fix systems, and above all, to do NO harm.



Emotional Intelligence

Cindy Coe, Adjunct Professor, Secondary Education, Beta Beta Chapter

Based upon the award-winning book *Emotional Intelligence*, this workshop will discuss the key concepts and urgency to build this intelligence in our lives and schools.

Love and Logic Tips to Build Resiliency Skills in Ourselves and Others

Kate Kelleher, School Counselor, Beta Beta Chapter

By responding with empathy and letting others solve their own problems, we are able to focus on support. Whether we are caregivers for children, grandchildren, or parents, we need the tools of self-empowerment, respect, and dignity. Love and Logic tools neutralize arguments, use enforcing statements, set limits, and employ quick interventions that build resilience for lasting relationships.



Cultivating New Members



Linda McCoy (left) & Fonda Lawson (right), Co-Chairs
Alpha Omicron Chapter Membership Committee

In this workshop, we will share a DKG recruitment plan that emphasizes the honor of membership in Delta Kappa Gamma.

How to Get Started to “Go Digital”

Eloise Gibson, Chair (in blue), Beta Beta Chapter Digital
History & Platforms Committee

We will go through the various decisions that need to be made before a chapter begins to have a website, Facebook page, online records storage, and distribution of digital materials.



World Fellowship, DKG, and You

Brenda Kirk, Iota Chapter, World Fellowship Chair--right
Paty Fernandez Guajardo, World Fellowship Recipient--left

Meet World Fellowship recipient, Paty Fernandez Guajardo, from Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. Paty has been earning her doctorate at Oregon State University in Corvallis, funded partly by DKG. Paty will present information on her dissertation: *Sustainable Management of the Water, Energy, Food Nexus*; this is timely research as the world is impacted by climate change. Brenda will share information on the history and impact of DKG's World Fellowship fund.



Creating New State Chapters

Janis Barr, 2018-2020 International Leadership Development Committee, Zeta Iota Chapter, CA--left
Daphne Cagle, CA Membership Expansion Chair, International US Forum SW Representative, Alpha Eta, CA--right



California began expansion of new chapters in 2017. The process that has been successful in identifying locations for expansion and steps that led to chartering new chapters in order to grow their state organization will be shared.

Models of Resilience

Barbara Mills (left), Charmaine Lindsay (center), Evie Banko (right), Beta Beta Chapter

Whether coping with change and day-to-day stresses or rebounding from traumatic life experiences, resiliency is the key to a happy and productive life. Using a variety of individuals (both fictional and factual), this workshop will explore the nature of resilience, its essential characteristics, and its significance throughout our lives. Examples will include children, young people, and adults whose ability to harness the power of resiliency make them worthy role models.



Tai Chi Chih

Jo Ann Brinkman, Certified TCC Instructor, Beta Beta Chapter

Tai Chi Chih is a joyful meditation practice. It consists of 19 moves. Benefits may include peace of mind, improved health, and joy. This is a brief introduction to the practice.

Website: www.taichichih.org

10-MINUTE TAKE-AWAYS

What's Changing at International:

Aurora Vignau, DKG International Latin America Area Representative

Our International Guest will highlight proposed amendments to the *DKG Constitution* that will be presented at the 2020 International Convention.

The Unique Boutique: What, Why, and How You Can Help:

Catie Thurber-Brown, Beta Beta

This session provides a brief background about the Unique Boutique and the scholarships/stipends awarded. Catie will share how to apply for them and how members can help to support the Unique Boutique.

Expand Your Horizons, Travel the World!

Nancy Lewis, Beta Beta

Each year, OEA-Retired sponsors travel programs for individuals and groups to domestic and international locations with Collette and Grand Circle Travel Companies. Nancy will share the programs for 2020 and 2021.

The United Nations and DKG—What is the Connection?

Jennifer Cole, Alpha

For over 20 years, DKG has been one of the NGO Partners, working with the United Nations in developing and providing exemplary curriculum materials for classroom teachers devoted to global understanding. Jennifer Cole attended the 2020 Committee on Teaching About the United Nations conference (CTAUN) in New York. Honoring the 75th anniversary of the UN, this year's theme was called, "War No More." Jennifer will share some of her "take aways" and highlights from this extraordinary experience!

Funds for Lifelong Learning:

Roberta Hutton, Psi

We have money to help us grow personally and professionally! Let's use it! Roberta will guide us in understanding how easy it is to apply for funds, share important deadlines, and how to successfully apply for opportunities for lifelong learning.

The New Bylaws and Standing

Rules: Jean Fairbairn, Chi, Past State President

Copies of the new document will be available to new chapter presidents. A quick presentation and clarification of changes in the new bylaws and standing rules will be covered.

Steps to Becoming an NBCT:

Kelly McIntyre, Psi, Past State President

"National Board Certified Teacher" is more than just a title. Research has shown the NBCTs improve student learning. Going through the process, explaining your approaches, and showing evidence of student achievement helps in understanding what you do, why you do it, and how that works together to increase student learning. In ten minutes, Kelly will give you information on how you can become an NBCT. You will learn eligibility requirements, costs, timeframe, and available supports. This is a good use of your time!

BEAR Reading Successes:

Judy Brimmer, Alpha

Student participation data was gathered over seven years of participation in the BEAR Project. Judy will share results, along with principal, teacher, parent, and student feedback on this wonderful service program. If time allows, she will share fundraising efforts to support the BEAR Project.

Why Current Teachers Need More Help than Ever:

Cindy O'Mealy, Chi

Cindy will explain in a funny way why teachers are overwhelmed and could use our help today. It will be reminiscent of your teaching career and, if you are retired, you will leave understanding the continuous demands today's teachers face. She will explain how you can help by volunteering to be a Teachers Brigade Ambassador or part of the Troop.

Becoming a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) Volunteer:

Donna Rhinevault, Beta Beta, CASA volunteer

CASA's work with youth who have been abused or neglected, make placement recommendations to the court, and support the youth through the process. CASA's have unprecedented authority to work on behalf foster youth. Unfortunately, there are not enough CASA's for the need. This short workshop answers questions about this important volunteer opportunity.

What is Your Color?:

Brenda Jensen, Alpha, Oregon V Pres.

This is a personality test to determine one's characteristics and to tell whether you fall into a blue, yellow, orange, or green category. Come learn more about your personality!

The DKG Educational Foundation (DKGEF) Supports Excellence in Education:

Kathy Martell, Alpha Epsilon, Past OR Pres.

DKGEF supports educators in professional growth and special projects. Learn how and when to apply for a grant or stipend.

CHAPTER CHATTER

Reminder: This serves as the “historical” record of what our chapters are accomplishing. Be sure your chapter’s work is recognized by sending a few sentences to cwmueller33@gmail.com

District 1

Zeta: Zeta Chapter hosted the Oregon State Organization District 1 Fall Conference in September. State President Darlene Cook reviewed the current *Bylaws* and *Standing Rules*. Sandy Watts and Kathy Martell of the State Awards Committee explained the new system and criteria for determining if a chapter is eligible for specific awards. Our October program featured guest speaker Mike Frasier, who discussed restoration of the Liberty Theater in La Grande. The theater was closed in 1959 after years of being an active entertainment center. Mike’s presentation included history, present status of the restoration, and plans for community use of the facility. This restoration is important for and is of great interest to the residents of Union County.

To honor Zeta members for their years of teaching, the November program included students from the Altitudes Dance Group. Three age groups performed, each portraying a different message: Teacher Appreciation, Respect, and Sisterhood.



For a service project, Zeta collected items ranging from personal items and

clothing to laundry soap for the Angel Fund which serves students in transition. Plans include the Virtual Tea to earn money for scholarships that will be awarded in May.

District 2

Omega (Josephine & Jackson Cos.): Omega was blessed with a \$1,000 grant from the Valley Girls Quilt Guild for our BEAR Program this fall.

At the November meeting, we hosted a presentation by two outstanding high school students, Ashley and Eden. They spoke of a cultural exchange called Self, Others, and Systems (SOS) that they participated in during August 2019. The experimental student-led program celebrated diversity, as students from Southern Oregon (rural) and Portland (urban) areas participated in a two-week camp where they lived together, participated in system-building activities, and explored their differences and similarities in a variety of ways that ultimately made them more understanding and become close friends with their campmates. It was amazing to hear two confident, young people from our community share their brave experiences.

For our December meeting, member **Lise Van Brunt** hosted a Christmas social. With Lise’s delicious home-cooked brunch and a fun white elephant gift exchange, plus an opportunity to celebrate **Karreen Ghena’s** birthday, we ended the year on a great note and are looking forward to 2020.

District 3

Lambda (Lane Co.): Lambda members were saddened by the passing of Jule Crume, age 100, on Aug. 28. She was the last of our charter members. To honor Jule, a \$1,500 grant will be awarded in her name to a woman enrolled in a post-secondary program. In other financial news, Lambda moved the separate memorial fund to create

the Lambda Memorial Scholarship Fund within the chapter scholarship fund. Increasing overall scholarship funds will allow more members to receive scholarships from the chapter.

Eleven members visited Catholic Community Services in Springfield in September. They were informed of the services the agency provides as they “work with the poor.” Clients can receive food, clothing, legal, financial, medical, energy, and other assistance. The director believes they provide “hope for tomorrow.” Bess Day, Education Director of the Lane Early Learning Alliance and Lane Kids, presented the program for our October meeting. She talked about Early Learning Hubs and the Student Success Act, recently passed by the Oregon legislature, that created a tax on businesses to provide money for schools.

As a reminder to BREATHE, Peggy Cowens took members through some simple breathing exercises for the program in November. Yoga mats and pillows were provided for those who chose to do the exercises on the floor. Others adapted the exercises to join in from chairs. It was a very relaxing meeting! For our holiday gathering, we met at Peggy’s home and had a potluck lunch. Lots of good food and friendly conversation, as well as a brief business meeting, put us in a good mood to get through the holidays without too much stress. Chapter Rules have been reviewed, revised, and approved to bring us in line with State and International.

District 4

Alpha Omicron (St. Helens): Ten members of Alpha Omicron gathered at the Pittock Mansion in December for a social event. They toured the mansion where each room had been adorned for Christmas by different decorating firms, celebrating well known books or authors. They then

enjoyed a lunch at a nearby restaurant.



Only eight members are pictured; the other two were still roaming the mansion! Pictured standing from the bottom are **Fonda Lawson, Colleen Menze, Debbie Wells, Betsy Penziol, Linda McCoy, Kellee Wood** (top). Seated are **Sandy Watts** (bottom) and **Christine Ebrahimi** (top). Present but not pictured: **Nancy Lessar** and **Linda DiPietro**.

District 5

Alpha Epsilon (Salem & Polk Co.):

In December, we continued to label books for the Marion and Polk County Early Learning Hub. This time, books were to be given out at different children's holiday gatherings around Salem-Keizer.



Five members of our chapter—**Debra Freels, Kathy Martell, Jill Snyder, Cindy Ryan, and Shirley House**—

celebrated the holidays by gathering at The Yard in Salem. This was a great place to enjoy foods from different countries. Food carts surrounded the outside of the inside eating area, and we ordered our dinner from whichever one we wanted. After dinner, we tried two trivia games that tested our knowledge of Christmas carols, Christmas movies, and Christmas TV shows. Jill Snyder turned out to be filled with Christmas knowledge!

Alpha Nu (Hillsboro, Beaverton & Washington Co.):

Alpha Nu's September meeting was a time of fellowship as we shared a potluck dinner, participated in a fun get-to-know-you activity, and considered program plans for the year. An informative October program educated us on the many aspects of recycling. November's program was an opportunity to learn about the Confluence Project in which the presenter took us on a virtual trip up the Columbia River where we learned the history, culture, and ecology at six sites.

In November and December, we focused on donations to our community outreach organization, Beaverton Schools' homeless students program, HELP. In November, members donated 41 personal hygiene bags and many dollars' worth of snack items. In addition, \$300 budgeted from the chapter treasury was given in gift cards from Target and Fred Meyer. More donations in December brought our total HELP giving to about \$1,000. In December, we gifted our working teachers with a variety of homemade cookies, and we had a spirited Christmas-themed gift exchange.

Psi (Hillsboro, Beaverton & Washington Co.):

Psi met at the home of member **Freda Boyles** for our annual Christmas Tea in December. Psi remembers HomePlate, an organization that supports homeless teens in the area. Together we filled 20 Christmas gift bags with a wide variety of items,

from bus passes to toiletries. We were honored with the presence of **Darlene Cook** at our tea.

In March Psi Chapter wants to invite all DKG members to our next upcoming event, **The Taste of Tanzania**, on March 7, 5:30 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, 178 NE Evergreen Road, in Hillsboro. Enjoy a dinner, entertainment, a silent auction and Tanzanian art works. You may help us support the Huruma School for children with disabilities in Tanzania. We hope to see you there.

For tickets: <http://www.brownpaper-tickets.com/event/4461066>

For information: TasteOfTanzania@yahoo.com

Beta (Tigard/Tualatin/Sherwood):

Beta Beta selected two recipients for the Margaret Nielsen Financial Award, given every year to young women with the potential to become outstanding educators in Oregon. This year's recipients are Sophia Aguirre, who received a grant of \$4,000, and Gabriela Garcia, who received a grant of \$2,000. Both are graduates of the University of Portland. In addition, we awarded \$2,500 to elementary schools in our districts.

High school mini-grant applicants were awarded funds for classroom enrichment, such as an articulated skeleton for a science class and a booming bass speaker for a jazz band. At our December meeting, we donated 1,000 pounds of canned goods to the Bethlehem House of Bread Food Pantry. In April, Beta Beta will host the OSO Spring Conference at the beautiful Oregon Garden. Coming in 2020 are results of "Visioning Discussions"—small group member meetings conducted last year to provide future direction to the chapter.

District 6

Eta (Portland): We had several guests including **State President Darlene Cook**. **Cindy O’Mealy**, Executive Director of Teachers Brigade, was the guest of member **Kathy Evans**. **Lynda Bell’s** guest was her friend Vicki, who has attended several of Eta chapter events. Sadly, we just learned the passing of our member **Jeurine Marshall** on December 1. Jeurine had been an inactive member for many years. We will pass a white rose and share a memory at our January meeting at Albertina Kerr.

Thirteen members attended the October 26 Fall PAC brunch held at the Multnomah Athletic Club in Portland. On December 6, we gathered for our Christmas lunch held in the King Hill room at the Multnomah Athletic Club. Our guest was **President Darlene Cook**. This is always a well-attended event where members just enjoy each other’s company and a delicious lunch. Our thanks to member **Kathleen Allen** who made all the arrangements. Happy New Year!

Chi (Clackamas): Chi Chapter celebrated its holiday dinner with a visit from **State President Darlene Cook** (below, center bottom), 16 members,



and 2 visitors.

The evening of laughter, fellowship, good food, and the induction of new member **Cindy O’Mealy**—all made the event outstanding.

Chi’s senior member, **Elia Harmon** (soon –next May—to be 100!) was



among the celebrants.

Elia--left; Cindy--right

Chi chose to support two teen house-less centers for their Christmas celebration and donated \$240, numerous pieces of sports equipment, along with pj’s, jeans, t-shirts, sox, underwear, and four blankets. **President Emma** stated, “It felt like a night of miracles.”

Alpha Phi (Clackamas Co.):

Alpha Phi provided small grants to our three working educators. The chapter also assists with the registration fee for any member attending a state event. We have a scholarship auction each year, but often have more places to put the money than there is funding—so much need in society today.

**RED ROSES**

District 2
Omicron (Roseburg)
New Member: Laurel Santos (9/19)
Reinstated member: Kristine Stolz (9/19)

District 6
Chi (Clackamas)
Cindy O’Mealy 12/11/19)

WHITE ROSES

District 2
Omega (Jackson & Josephine Cos.)
Patricia “Patty” Hayes, October 2, 2019

Alpha (Klamath County)
Judy Smith-Clifton, July 22, 2019

District 3
Lambda (Eugene & Lane County)
Jule Crume, August 28, 2019

**District 5**
Eta (Portland)
Jeurine Marshall, December 1, 2019

BUSY, BUSY BETA BETA

Beta Beta has been busy this fall and winter. The November Fall Auction brought in \$8,000 to the Beta Beta Education Foundation (BBEF) from members and guests. Of this amount, \$2,000 was raised from Business Partners donations, using our tax-exempt status. The lasagna dinner featured canned food bingo games, with the canned food donated to the Bethlehem House of Bread. On December 14, member Sandy Bartnik and her family hosted 110 guests, with Christmas trees and “over the top” Christmas decor in every room. This was the sixth year for this event and was our best yet, with \$2,100 in donations, all going to BBEF, which grants financial aid to future teachers attending Oregon colleges and universities. BB asks for a minimum donation of \$5 per person, but many people contribute more. We also received generous checks from several folks who couldn’t attend, but still wanted to support BBEF. The great thing about this fundraising event is that a very high percentage of money generated comes from outside the chapter—and that’s always a good thing! Sandy and her husband are fabulous collectors. We wish everyone a wonderful 2020.



NOVEMBER AUCTION

1. Get your bidding paddle! Catie Thurber-Brown (L); Pam Culp (R)
2. Nancy Lewis, Auctioneer, at work
3. Deb Starr, Auctioneer, and “Demo Elf” President Mary Bell
4. Bidders: Members and Guests



WATER RUN AT THE ARIZONA / MEXICO BORDER

Brenda Kirk, Iota/1

Immigration issues are complex and controversial, but citizens of Tucson, AZ, have come to a consensus that they want no more deaths in the desert that is their backyard. To this end, organizations see that refugees and asylum seekers have access to the water necessary to survive desert conditions. Over 3,400 deaths have been documented since 1999, and all parties—Border Patrol, ranchers, Fish and Game, National Parks Service—agree they don't want anyone else to die.

I had plans to visit my son in Arizona for several weeks and went on-line to see if there was a way I could help the situation at the border. I signed up for a water run with an organization called Humane Borders. This group has over 60 watering stations scattered throughout the Arizona desert bordering Mexico. Humane Borders makes regular water runs to refill the bright blue, 50-gallon water drums at these sites, which are marked by a 30-foot pole flying a blue flag. Humane Borders has permission from all private, state, and federal landowners to maintain these sites.

Unfortunately, two days of monsoon rains, the likes of which I have never seen, led to the cancellation of the water run I had signed up for. The large water trucks used by Humane Borders could not get to the remote sites until the ground firmed up again. Their coordinator transferred me to the Tucson Samaritans, who use smaller vehicles and set out gallon jugs of water. From 7:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., I rode with



Gail and two other volunteers as we bounced around off-road, setting out water, picking up discarded items and looking for anyone needing help.

According to Gail, anyone crossing the border must pay the cartels. The cartels then provide the refugees with camouflage shirts, pants, hats, backpacks, slippers made from shag carpet to leave no footprints, and a black plastic jug of water. (White plastic jugs show up under surveillance.) A coyote (guide) leads the group across the Mexican side of the desert to the end of the border fence and then the group is on their own. However, their payment to the cartels does give them three tries to cross successfully! Once across the border, asylum seekers discard their camouflage clothing and put on clothing they brought. They want to be picked up by the border patrol so they can submit their petitions for asylum, be processed, and begin the wait back across the border for their number to be called. Tucson organizations also help with feeding those waiting in Mexico.

If a humanitarian organization comes across such a group, they check if water, food, or medical treatment is needed. Foot injuries are a major issue. Everything in the desert is prickly. Then they call border patrol to let them know where to send a bus to pick up the group. Some groups have had up to 60 people. The volunteers also collect all discarded items.

Other undocumented immigrants that are trying to avoid discovery—mainly single men that have no basis to seek refugee status—can still legally be offered water by the volunteers, but they cannot be transported by a humanitarian organization. We met other volunteers throughout the day who were excited by the recent ruling of “not guilty” for Scott Warren. Scott, a volunteer for No More Deaths, had been charged with harboring undocumented refugees who had stopped for supplies at a staging area run by the

organization.

We drove to the border crossing at Sasabe, AZ, and viewed the border fence that has been there for decades. New concertina wire has been added to the U.S. side of the fence. Then



we drove a few miles to the end of the fence where Normandy fencing continues to the foothills of the nearby mountains. Normandy fencing looks like what was on Normandy beaches



in World War II, and this is where the coyotes bring their clients to crawl under the fence.

Gail has been volunteering for some years and has taken government officials and journalists from several countries on this same run to view conditions firsthand. The two Toyota 4-Runners they use are named Joe and Josephine in honor of a sheriff who sued journalists for a story they wrote about his mistreatment of immigrants. The sheriff lost the lawsuit, and the money awarded the journalists was given to the humanitarian organizations, allowing Tucson Samaritans to buy their two vehicles.

Gail speaks to civic and school groups.

Her message focuses on seeing the humanity in these refugees, showing the personal items they brought to look their best as they came to ask the U.S. to take them in. One backpack she displays had two sets of clothing, one adult-size and the other for a child. Gail doesn't know why this clothing was not worn. Several times, Gail mentioned how proud she was of Tucson's response to this problem. Some have accused these humanitarian groups of pulling money away from organizations helping U.S. citizens, but records show even these organizations have seen an increase in giving in the Tucson area. Several groups mark sites where deceased immigrants have been found. One white cross marks where the body of an infant



was left by parents along a paved road, hoping someone could offer the baby a decent burial. The site has become a shrine as passersby

leave items on the cross. The undocumented immigrants usually carry no identification as per cartel instructions.

Many volunteers, such as Gail and I, believe Jesus would do this. But volunteers come from many religions and denominations, along with those having no religious affiliation, but see the issue as simply as seeing fellow human beings in need and addressing that need. A militia group in the area could be responsible for destroying water barrels and jugs; however, this group is being held in check. Many small stores in the area post signs stating, "Militia are not welcome."

The day was quite moving and emotional, and it put a personal face on the issue.

LIFE OF A DKG COLLEGIATE MEMBER

My name is **Emily Hickman**. In January 2019, I applied for the Dagmar Jeppeson Grant-in-Aid with hopes of receiving some financial relief for the coming academic year. I really had no idea how much the grant would be, but anything was helpful. Apparently I was the only person who even applied for it, so I was pleasantly surprised to find I had received the grant in full. While having a wonderful meeting with some of Delta Kappa Gamma's members, they explained to me what DKG is about. My eyes grew wide and DKG had my heart, along with its members, when they passionately proclaimed their love for women in education and told their stories of being educators themselves once upon a time.



After this first meeting, I stayed in contact with **Kathy Martell**, who was nice enough to be my sponsor for the Jeppeson Grant without meeting me beforehand. It seemed that my enthusiasm toward hearing about DKG had them talking about trying to add a collegiate member for the first time. Since I am not yet a teacher, I technically would not be able to join DKG until then. Luckily, I was welcomed in with open arms and was inducted into the Society on June 17, 2019.

Since being inducted into DKG, I am constantly being cheered on while facing the struggles of student teaching and finishing my senior year at Western Oregon University. The week before my first experience of teaching with my own lesson plans, I received letters from multiple members of Alpha Epsilon Chapter, giving me advice and words of encouragement. In all honesty, these letters were what got me through the term. Knowing that I had such a strong community there to support me really helped me through the hardest times.

Although I have not been able to involve myself with their meetings or other events this year, they have nonetheless been a support for me. They understand exactly what it is like to go through the process of finishing school and becoming a teacher. Not only are they great supports emotionally, but they have offered me aid with getting properly prepared with materials and lesson plans if there is ever a need for it. If I could recommend any future educator to join an educational society, Delta Kappa Gamma is definitely the one to choose. They are located internationally and have smaller chapters throughout the states and countries. They have so much more to offer, but this is all that I have witnessed first-hand. I look forward to my experiences in the future as a full member. I am honestly so excited to become a teacher with such a wonderful group of ladies to support myself and the community.

Emily Hickman

Elementary/Middle Education Major
Western Oregon University
Alpha Epsilon Collegiate Member

Return Address

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

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CONFERENCE WEBSITE:

<https://dkgoregonconvention.weebly.com/>

All the forms and details are here.

Darlene's Travels

Invite Darlene to join one of your chapter meetings or activities. Send a copy of your brochure or program guide or call 541-331-3282. E-mail dcook.dkg@gmail.com

11/11	Beta Beta Foundation Auction	Tigard
11/21	Beta Gamma meeting	Canby
11/21/19	Alpha Epsilon New Member Social	Salem
12/5	Eta Holiday Luncheon	Portland
12/9	Beta Beta Lasagna Dinner	Tigard
12/11	Chi Holiday Dinner	Milwaukie
12/14	Psi Christmas Tea	Forest Grove
12/14	Beta Beta Education Foundation Holiday Open House, Courtesy Sandy Bartnik	McMinneville
1/13	Alpha Epsilon (tentative)	Salem
1/29	Eta	Portland
2/1	Finance Committee Meeting	Salem
2/7	Conference Steering Comm. Meeting	Tigard
2/28	CTAUN	New York City, NY
3/15-18	National Legislative Seminar	Arlington, VA
4/14	Psi—Excellence in Action Celebration	Hillsboro
4/24-26	Oregon State Organization Spring Conference	Silverton
5/14	Alpha—Excellence in Education Award Celebration	Klamath Falls
7/7-11	International Convention	Philadelphia, PA