

## WSO Welcomes Lisa Olson to Spring Convention

Lisa Olson, a lifelong North Dakota resident and DKG International NW Regional Director, was invited into membership in 2003. She has served DKG at all levels including as North Dakota's State Organization President during three separate bienniums. Lisa has enjoyed serving on a variety of international committees including Educational Excellence and Golden Gift and the Chair of the Membership and Expansion Committee. She feels fortunate to represent the NW Region on the DKG International Administrative Board and thoroughly enjoys meeting with members from across the NW Region. Lisa has accepted the nomination to continue serving as the NW Regional Director for the 2026-28 biennium. Elections will take place at the 2026 DKG International Convention being held in Aurora, Colorado.



Lisa's educational career included time as a classroom teacher, a special education teacher and Dean of Students. "Making a difference" is Lisa's mantra and she carries that into her service to DKG.

We look forward to meeting Lisa at Spring Convention and hearing news from DKG International. Be sure to check for her workshop and don't miss her keynote address.

## Washington State Organization 2025-2027

### Executive Committee

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Teri King, Iota Mason & Thurston

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Dr. Marge Lofstrom, Beta Delta Auburn

Second Vice-President

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Sherri Wagemann, Eta Spokane

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Stipend & Scholarship, Karen Chance,  
Theta Yakima

Communications, Barbara McPherson,  
Kappa Kent

Finance, Jane Carden, Alpha Tau  
Tacoma/Puyallup

Leadership Development, Kay Stern,  
Chi Cowlitz

Membership, Expansion & Dissolution,  
Dr. Charlene Shea, Mu Clark County

Nominations, Lisa Wiese, Eta Spokane

### Society Mission & Purposes

Educational Excellence, Dr. Marge Lofstrom,  
Beta Delta Auburn

Educational Policy & Legislation,  
Nancy Sheng, Lambda Bellingham

State Rep to US Forum, Nancy Sheng,  
Lambda Bellingham

Leadership Retreat, Caryn Mears,  
Psi Kennewick

State Website Editor MaryLou Gregory,  
Beta Chi Grays Harbor

**All Washington State Organization officers  
and committees may be contacted using the  
WSO Directory or through [DKGWA.org](http://DKGWA.org).**

## WSO Upcoming Dates

State Convention

April 24-26, 2026

Delta Hotel by Marriott, Everett WA

Convention Registration is OPEN

Hotel Registration is OPEN

DKG International Convention

June 30-July 4, 2026

Gaylord Rockies, Aurora CO

Leadership Development Retreat

July 21-23, 2026

Rainbow Lodge, North Bend WA

Registration is OPEN

Postmark deadline July 9, 2026

Fall Executive Board

September 25-26, 2026

The Evergreen State College

Olympia WA



**Announcing  
NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE  
SEMINAR (NLS)  
March 8-11, 2026  
Old Town Alexandria, VA**

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[www.dkgwa.org](http://www.dkgwa.org)

Send articles to:

[DKGWANEWS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:DKGWANEWS@GMAIL.COM), Editor

Deadlines: July 15, October 15,  
January 15, April 15



## Connecting Through Community: A Visit to Alpha Sigma Kitsap

Teri King, WSO President 2025-2027

One of the wonderful things a State President gets to do is visit chapters. This past weekend, I had the pleasure of connecting with Alpha Sigma Kitsap members at the U.S. Naval Undersea Museum in Keyport, Washington.

We enjoyed a fantastic tour led by Ted, a retired Navy diver, who guided us through both the outdoor and indoor exhibits. As we moved through the museum, Ted wove stories from his underwater career into the history on display, bringing the exhibits vividly to life. The tour was made even more special by Kathy Luce—our Area 10 liaison and an Alpha Sigma Kitsap member—who is also a dedicated museum volunteer.

The work of this private foundation is truly laudable. Not only does it preserve and share the stories of U.S. Navy undersea operations, but it also supports robust STEM education programs. Our visit concluded with a delightful meal at a local Indian restaurant and continued conversation and connection. Thank you, President Susan Fritts, for inviting me to join you all.

Additional chapter visits are planned—*is your chapter on my list?* I would love to meet you in your community.



Alpha Sigma Kitsap (Area X) members touring Keyport Undersea Naval Museum L-R Susan Fritts, Donna Faulk, Teri King, Jackie Finckler, Kathy Luce, Pat Bennett-Forman, Kathy Caldwell



Tour Guide Ted Ross, a former Navy diver, relates stories about the rescue sub DSRV Mystic (which was used in the movie *Search for Red October*) to the Alpha Sigma Kitsap chapter members on tour at the Keyport Undersea Naval Museum

While at the museum, I was instantly drawn to a beautiful award called the **Realm of the Arctic Circle** and insisted on a photo. Kathy shared that she has one of these awards in her home, as her husband Frank was a recipient. Frank is also a volunteer at the museum. She graciously offered a photo of the award for me to share with this story. It's a reminder that, long ago, the awards we used to honor people were deeply infused with artistry.



The majority of those managing the museum are retired veterans or their spouses, while the STEM educators are paid staff. What you feel there is community—people who may no longer be able to do their life's work on the sea floor yet still gather for camaraderie and a shared desire to give back. We know loneliness is an epidemic, and this museum is a microcosm of what's possible when people are given space to belong and contribute.

That brings me to a question: **How is your chapter supporting our biennium theme—The core elements of community: Relationships, Service, and Purpose, fueled by Courage, Grace, Love, Generosity, Kindness, and Hope?**

Do you have a project that builds these elements within your chapter or in the broader community? I would love to hear about it, and we would like to highlight your work at our Spring Convention. Please reach out and share your story along with a few photos.

Speaking of **Spring Convention 2026**, the Executive Committee has been working hard behind the scenes to create a wonderful event. We have a great lineup of workshops, thanks to everyone who contributed to the EEC survey this past fall. We are also delighted to welcome Lisa Olson, Northwest Regional Representative for DKG International.

It will be a meaningful time to gather, honor our incoming Chapter Presidents, and celebrate this year's Educator and Achievement Award recipients. Please register today—and don't forget to bring a friend, a fellow member, or someone who may be interested in joining DKG.



## Spring Convention Workshops Shaped by Member Feedback

Dr. Marge Lofstrom, 1<sup>st</sup> VP  
Educational Education Committee

We are excited to announce that the workshops for this year's DKG Washington State Spring Convention have been carefully selected based on the valuable feedback collected from you, our members. Input on the Fall Board survey and member recommendations play a crucial role in determining the topics and sessions that matter most to you. By reviewing your suggestions, we were able to identify the most requested workshop themes and search to bring in speakers. The response from volunteers was tremendous. Our dedicated volunteers have stepped forward to present a diverse array of workshops, each designed to enrich and support our members. Let's take a sneak peek at our presenters and their workshops.

Looking for a healthy, happier you? **Roxanne Kaufman** (Kappa Kent president) will help you find that healthy, well balanced you in her workshop, **Real Self Care**. Roxanne is Master Certified Life Coach (MCLC) trained by the Certified Life Coach Institute. She has worked as an Elementary School Counselor in Kent, WA. In addition to working with children, she ran groups for parents of gifted students and taught Love & Logic. Roxanne is currently working on her Parent Coach Certification at the Parent Coaching Institute (PCI). Part of the Fall training at PCI focused on Self-Care. She used the book *Real Self-Care: Crystals, Cleanses, and Bubble Baths Not Included*, Pooja Lakshmin, MD for her class paper. This presentation for Spring Conference will contain information from this book as well as a few other sources.

**Barb Clausen** (Chi Cowlitz, WSO Parliamentarian) and **Mary Rennie** (Theta Yakima, WSO Treasurer) are stepping beyond their multi-faceted DKG roles and have volunteered to present their workshop, **Heaven Bound: Preparing for Loved Ones**. They believe this topic is relevant to all of us no matter what our age. Both women speak from experience and will give you ideas for your home, possessions, memorial plans, and burial. Barb and Mary will treat this topic with warm stories, tips, and resources. You will leave with the knowledge and understanding of what you need to consider to confidently plan your final legacy.

**Pamelia Valentine's, (Iota Mason & Thurston co-president),** workshop **DIY Nature Art Therapy: Find Balance in a Frantic World**, is a 90-minute artful stress relieving experience. Pamela is a Visual Arts Teacher with certification in Art Therapy. She has often presented at DKG conferences about teaching and learning in the arts classroom. Participants of this workshop will learn relaxation techniques and have the

hands-on opportunity to create one of four different types of nature art to use in centering and controlling emotional responses to everyday stress. This class is offered for 1.5 clock hours meeting the Social-Emotional learning standards, benchmarks, and indicators under RCWW28A.410.270.

As a dedicated Fascial Stretch Therapist/Fitness Trainer with 30 years of caregiving experience, Certified Reiki Master/Teacher (2010), and Co-Founder of The Wellness Club, **Maria Norby** (Eta Spokane president) is excited to lead the workshop **My Self Care Plan**. Through her work at Snap Fitness and as President of DKG Eta Chapter, she has developed a passion for empowering others to prioritize their well-being. She invites you to join her as you explore practical strategies for putting self-care at the forefront of our lives.

Have you ever wanted to declutter and get organized but just don't know how to get started? Maybe you have decluttered and want to learn some more tips to up your game. **Stacie Kentop's** (future DKG member?) workshop, **Organizing is More than Pretty Bins**, can get you on the right path to a stress-free and simpler life. Stacie, a professional artist, says she started professionally organizing in 2021 but has been decluttering and organizing all her life. It's not about getting rid of everything, or everything you love. It is decluttering with intention. And that is where she comes in.

Our goal has always been to ensure the convention experience is relevant, engaging, and directly aligned with members' interests. Thank you for sharing your thoughts and helping us create a program that truly reflects the needs and desires of our community. A special thank you goes to all of you who have volunteered to present a workshop and appreciate your willingness to share your skills in the future.

See you in Everett!

## Meeting The Opportunity

Charlene Shea, Mu Clark County President

Mu Clark County learned that students at Lyle School District, a community of approximately 195 PK-12 students, needed support. The specific need was boxed cereal and peanut butter. Over 70% of Lyle County families are low-income. Word went out and the collection began! Member Dr. Ann Varkados delivered the donations to these incredible students.



Look for opportunities. Don't let your chapter's membership size be an obstacle, be a catalyst! Mu Clark County is a small, but growing chapter that seized an opportunity. Don't shy away from small projects. They can "inspire the triad of relationships, service, and purpose." **Share your chapter's service project. Be the inspiration for your community and DKG sisters!**



## Membership Myth Busters

Dr. Charlene Shea, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Membership Chair

Some of us are favorite odd numbers people. Others are favorite even numbers people. I'm the latter. Ask anyone who knows me (my family, friends or students)—I choose even over odd. Every classroom I have been assigned to has been an even number. My principal thought it was unusual that I would choose a smaller classroom space until I reminded her that I was an even number person! When I go to a performance- I always sit in an even numbered seat. When I bake (anything) I make sure I have an even number of products! Given my obsession with even numbers, I'm confident that 2026 will be an amazing year for DKG and all of you!

We have been challenged by DKG International to build our state total membership by 100 new members by May 2029—that's two years (*EVEN!*) and 100 new members (*EVEN!*). Statewide, we currently have 538 members (*EVEN!*), imagine all the amazing educators in our state who are waiting for the invitation to join DKG! Active and retired educators, para-educators, future collegial educators, college/university educators, and returning members can join—What educational leader do YOU know? Invite them to join you for a chapter meeting or the Spring Convention. There will be some incredible workshops. The dates: April 24-26, 2026 (*EVEN!*). Check out our [dkgwa.org](http://dkgwa.org) website for registration details.

From the 2025 State Organization Leadership Training here are four (*EVEN!*) myth busters to help build your chapter membership:

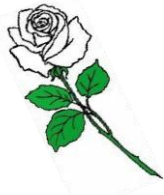
1. New members no longer required a majority chapter membership approval vote or any other membership vote.
2. Traditional induction ceremonies are no longer required. Chapters decide which ceremony they would like to use and how it is implemented.
3. New members no longer wait for an annual induction ceremony before membership acceptance- educators can join at any time!
4. There is not minimum Membership meeting attendance requirement.

Given the current challenges in the educational field, DKG membership helps build a strong social fabric by fostering deep community connections, values and cultural understanding within education and beyond. We are stronger together! Who will you invite to your next chapter meeting and encourage to join DKG?



### **There's a new Doctor in the House!**

Congratulations Heidi Harris, Beta Delta Auburn, for completing your Doctorate Degree! Your DKG sisters are proud of you and this incredible achievement!



## White Roses of Remembrance

We have lost one member since November 2025. She will be honored in the Celebration of Life at the 2026 State Convention.

Lois Horton    Rho Seattle



## Congratulations and welcome to our newly inducted members!

Anne Lichtenstadter    Beta Sigma Seattle

Tiffany Kuhn                Beta Sigma Seattle



## Your Donations are Needed for the Emergency Fund to help DKG Sisters

Susan Fritts, DKGIEF Ambassador, WSO Rep.

Members are in need of your help. Why? With the constant rain the past few months, the rivers in Washington State have overflowed, their banks often flooding lowlands and areas where residents lived. We have DKG members in the state of WA who have been affected by these rising waters. They may have lost their homes, their possessions or are dealing with the aftermath of mold. We know how black mold if not removed is bad for everyone's health.

How can you help? DKGIEF (Delta Kappa Gamma International Educators Foundation) includes the Emergency Fund which is solely supported by donations and helps members with major loss due to a natural disaster. Here's how to donate:

1. Go to [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) and click on "donate to DKGIEF. Choose the Emergency Fund.
2. Call 512-478-5748 and speak to the Foundation Specialist. Ask about the Emergency Fund.
3. Send a check to DKG International Educators Foundation, 12710 Research Blvd., Ste. 230, Austin, TX 78759-4395. Designate that you would like your donation to support DKG Members in the State of Washington in the Emergency Fund.

Please help. Your donation is greatly appreciated and will have a ripple effect to help others.



## Legislative Watch 2026

Education Policy and Legislation Committee:  
Nancy Sheng, Joanne Vining, Pat Bennett-Forman

The 2026 Legislative Session began on Monday, January 12 and will continue during this "short term" session only until March 12, 2026. As with any session, an incredible volume of spirited debate will occur in that short nine-week time span. Theoretically, the short session does not concern budget, however, because of the projected budget shortfall, budget and proposed taxes will likely be front and center of this session. Education legislation is relatively light at this time but may be addressed because of the impact of federal funding decisions. DKG members will want to follow the action and contact your state representatives and senators to be sure they know what is on your agenda for their votes.

Luckily, there are many resources that can help members keep up with how statewide policy is progressing in Olympia!

(1) The first are the incredible resources through the State Legislature's website at [leg.wa.gov](http://leg.wa.gov). Three resources in particular are of value:

- Introduction Reports: [House](#) & [Senate](#)  
These began populating on January 9 with the pre-files (bills listed before the legislative session began) listed and any new legislation introduced during the session added as it occurs.
- Committee Agendas: [Committee Schedules, Agendas, and Documents](#)  
These began on January 7 when the schedule for the first week was released. The last day for action by committees in the bill's chamber of origin (House or Senate) is February 17. In the following week, bills are read and considered by the opposite chamber. Bills with budgetary impact have one additional week but voting on all bills (and any compromises made between the houses) must be completed by March 12, unless the Governor calls for a special session.
- GovDelivery: [Washington State Legislature](#)  
You can sign up to receive email notifications when:
  - New Introduction reports are published;
  - Committee agendas are published or amended;
  - Bills are pulled to the floor calendar;
  - Bills are placed on an order of consideration; and more.

(2) The free service Fast Democracy will send out weekly updates on bills you have identified as of interest. Members may sign up for this service online at [fastdemocracy.org](http://fastdemocracy.org)

*Continued on page 10*

(3) The League of Women Voters Washington has a weekly newsletter during the legislative session which reports on many bills and actions by the legislature. It is subscribed to free of charge (one does not have to be a League member) from the LWVWA website under the About Us tab/weekly newsletter. The LWVWA also published position statements and tracking for bills they have determined to support.

Given the funding cuts from the federal government and various regulation changes coming down on the states, DKG members will want to ask questions of their local school districts about the impact of those changes. They should gather information and stories to relate to their state and national legislators via email, post cards or phone messages to make sure the decision makers have good understanding of student and educator needs as they debate budget and legislation during the short session in Olympia.

**Your voice does make a difference!**



**WE THANK YOU!!**

Barbara Brown, Trustee

The Rachel Royston Permanent Scholarship Board of Trustees thanks all WSO members for their involvement in sending applicants our way by encouraging so many to apply this year. We have twenty application forms to score! After scoring, we will meet on Zoom to determine which ladies will be awarded an interview in late February.

Last year we awarded nine scholarships and are looking at the possibility of even more this year. Our goal is to help as many Washington State educators achieve their goals of becoming more knowledgeable and, thus, effective in their fields of study. An example of one such success is when we received a notification in December that one of last year's recipients, Michelle Ricci, received a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from WSU. We **Congratulate** her for her accomplishment!

There is a definite place for gaining more knowledge in the educational arena. We encourage our students to learn daily. RRPSF encourages all educators to do the same!!



## U.S. Forum acts on WSO Resolution

Pat Bennett-Forman, U.S. Forum Steering Committee chair

The U.S. Forum is the advocacy arm of DKG for U.S. and Puerto Rican members, serving purposes #7 (informing members of current issues impacting education) and #4 (endorsing suitable legislation supporting education). At its July 2025 General Meeting in New Orleans, the members present adopted an amendment to Forum Operating

Guidelines that specified the process by which state organizations, chapters, or individual members could introduce position statements and/or resolutions which if passed by a majority of members present at an announced U.S. Forum General Meeting (in-person or online) would become the focus of advocacy efforts for the U.S. Forum nationwide.

A resolution on the proposed closure of the Department of Education, originally put forth by Beta Sigma Seattle Chapter, was adopted by the WSO Executive Board at its Spring 2025 convention and subsequently submitted to the U.S. Forum. That resolution has been approved to come to the vote of the general Forum membership. It calls for (1) state organizations and chapters to study the actions of the Department of Education and Executive Orders for their impact on local districts; (2) to request that Congress conduct research into the consequences and impact of proposed (and actual) actions related to the dismantling of the Department PRIOR to taking any vote on bills that would eliminate or defund the Department; and (3) to express to members of Congress, the Secretary of the Department of Education, and the President of the United States its [DKG U.S. Forum] support for the full funding of services in defense of equitable, inclusive, and well-resourced public education for all.

Other resolutions to be considered include one proposed by the state of Florida regarding vouchers and another on the need to recognize educators as professionals. Both of these issues have arisen due to new regulations being implemented by the Department of Education without Congressional approval.

Watch the WSO website and look for an email blast announcing the date of the online U.S. Forum General Meeting which is being called to consider and vote on these resolutions. It will be held in mid-February via zoom. Your vote matters and the more members attend the meeting, the more powerful the messages that will be given to Congress at the National Legislative Seminar in March. See [dkgusforum.org](https://dkgusforum.org) for more information on the resolutions and the meeting specifics.

# The Transition Is Coming! Part 2

Caryn Mears and Kay Stern, Leadership Committee

In our last article, you read “Now is the time to start your transition planning.” Well, I lied! Actually, the day you take office is the day you should start transition planning! That’s right, the day you said you would be the president of your chapter is the day that you should start finding your replacement! Don’t freak out! There are easy steps to follow and some of these steps you have already done.

The first step is to get your Executive Board together. I know you’ve already done this. However, the step I didn’t know about was to ask the board members to write down their job descriptions and share them with each other. This ensures the board is on the same page.

This next step is something my chapter didn’t do until it was too late. (Thus the sixty phone calls I told you about in the last article.) **Share the positions that will be open for the next biennium with your nominations committee. Ask the Nominations Chair to send out a letter/email to all the members, informing them of the open positions.** If you're lucky, someone may volunteer. Consider what happened at one of my meetings. I explained I had called sixty members, and no one wanted to take on the position of president. All of a sudden, one of the older members in the front row said, “No one called me!” Yikes! I was embarrassed. I hadn’t called her because she was an older member and had never volunteered in the past. Was it because we had never asked her? Hmm... We happily invited her to be our president.



Knowing we truly needed a working member to step into the president’s position, several members of the Executive Board graciously helped this member through her biennium, which brings me to an important point. Annie Webb Blanton knew exactly what she was doing when she set about forming the by-laws for DKG. She knew by bringing in a new set of leaders at each biennium, the chapter would naturally refresh itself with new ideas and programs. In essence, she was curtailing the chapters from growing old and stagnant. It was her idea to revitalize the chapters naturally and allow those changing times to happen organically. I’m sure Annie, herself, would smile down on us and be pleasantly pleased with how we have kept some of the old traditions alive with a balance of new traditions.

The next step in the transition process involves approaching someone and asking them to serve in a leadership position. At Fall Board, I was quite straight forward, “Hey, we're looking for someone to be on our leadership team, wanna join us?”



This forthrightness sometimes works, but you would be much better off if you followed Kay Stern's example and approached them with more finesse.

"You know Suzy," Kay said, as she approached a member during a workshop demonstration, "I've noticed that you're always at our meetings, and you are so attuned to details. I'd love to have you step up into the secretary position. You don't have to give me an answer right now but think about stepping into that role. I really think you'd be awesome!" Kay was personable and honest. She gave her chapter member time to think about the position and ask questions. Kay knew that particular member possessed the qualities she was looking for, and she knew that member had a positive attitude, was accountable, and showed confidence when she spoke up at meetings. Kay had previously formed a relationship with that member and knew she was approaching a team player.

Now you've gotten your members to agree to taking on a leadership position with your chapter. Your final responsibility in the transition plan is to offer support to those new officers physically, emotionally and financially. Encourage others to share their support for the changes that a new officer will bring to the chapter. Be positive about that person. Respect the new ideas and encourage other chapter members to support those ideas. Offer to provide guidance to that member, suggesting others who she could use to delegate jobs to. After all, by now you know your members well.

Some chapters support their new officers financially by offering to pay a portion of the new leader's registration fee at Rainbow Lodge and Fall Board. Some chapters also offer to help with fees for the Spring Convention. Some chapters also offer stipends or raffles to encourage other members to join the Leadership training offered at Rainbow Lodge and both conventions. Your encouragement is essential to help your chapter through this next transition. Remember, it's never too late to start the transition planning!

INTERNATIONAL  
*Women's Day*  
MARCH 8TH

**Honor the Women Who *Inspire* You**  
Order the 2026 DKGIEF  
International Women's Day Pin

Available from Award Concepts beginning January 12, 2026

By purchasing a pin, you are empowering DKGIEF's mission while honoring a woman in your life.

For more information and how to order go to [DKGIEF](https://www.dkgief.org)

DKG International Educators Foundation



Dear Washington State Sisters,

You are invited to the annual **State Convention** on April 24-25, 2026. Plan to join our State President Teri King and her officers for informational meetings, meaningful workshops, and renewed friendships at the Delta Hotel by Marriott located at 3105 Pine St., Everett, WA 98201

This WSO News edition has links for online registration and payments. Remember that early registration is now open and ends March 27, 2026, and will save you money. The last deadline is April 10. Registration will be payable using Zeffy.

Consider staying an extra day or two to visit places in and around Everett, WA. Some suggestions are to explore Boeing's factory, visit the Funko Headquarters, hike Evergreen Arboretum and Gardens, try some whale watching, or head to Seattle to visit the Space Needle, Chihuly Garden, or Pike Place Market. The Tulip Festival will be happening, too! Be sure you give yourself enough time. These are just a few of the options you might like to think about.

Areas 6, 7, and 10 are pleased to serve as your hostesses. All chapters are encouraged to attend.

*Northwest Region Hostesses  
Susan Fritts and Kathy Luce – Alpha Sigma Kitsap, Co-chair*

### **Briefed Spring Convention Schedule at a Glance**

#### **FRIDAY April, 24, 2026**

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| <b>2:30 pm - 4:00 pm</b>  | <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b>                                     |
| <b>2:30 pm - 8:00 pm</b>  | <b>Registration, Marketplace &amp; Art Gallery Displays Setup/Open</b> |
| <b>4:30 pm - 6:30 pm</b>  | <b>RRPSF Meeting &amp; Dinner</b>                                      |
| <b>5:00 pm - 6:30 pm</b>  | <b>Executive Committee Dinner</b>                                      |
| <b>7:00 pm - 8:00 pm</b>  | <b>Educational Policy &amp; Legislation / US Forum Power Hour</b>      |
| <b>8:30 pm - 10:00 pm</b> | <b>Social Gathering - Dessert &amp; No Host Bar</b>                    |
|                           | <b>WSO Scholarship Fundraiser - Craft Activity</b>                     |

#### **SATURDAY April 25, 2026**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>7:00 am - 12:00 noon</b> | <b>Registration Open,</b>                               |
| <b>7:00 am - 3:00 pm</b>    | <b>Marketplace &amp; Art Gallery</b>                    |
| <b>7:00 am - 8:45 am</b>    | <b>Breakfast on your own</b>                            |
| <b>9:00 am - 11:50 am</b>   | <b>Workshop Sessions 1, 2, 3</b>                        |
| <b>12 noon - 1:30 pm</b>    | <b>86th Annual DKG Birthday Luncheon</b>                |
| <b>1:45 pm - 2:30 pm</b>    | <b>Celebration of Life</b>                              |
| <b>2:30 pm - 3:00 pm</b>    | <b>Marketplace &amp; Art Gallery</b>                    |
| <b>3:00 pm - 5:00 pm</b>    | <b>Board Meeting/RRPSF/General Session</b>              |
| <b>6:15 pm - 7:00 pm</b>    | <b>Doors open - Presidents' Reception - No-Host Bar</b> |
| <b>7:00 pm - 9:00 pm</b>    | <b>Presidents' Banquet</b>                              |

#### **SUNDAY APRIL 26, 2026**

|                            |                                       |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>8:00 am - 10:00 am</b>  | <b>WSO Advisory Council Breakfast</b> |
| <b>10:00 am - 10:45 am</b> | <b>Executive Committee Meeting</b>    |

# Spring Convention registration is available now

The days are getting longer and WSO Spring Convention will be here before you know it. Convention is April 24-25, 2026, at the Delta Hotel Seattle/Everett in Everett. (See hotel reservation information below.)

Registration is done using Zeffy. You can access registration at:

<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/wso-dkg-spring-convention>

or by using the QR code.



|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Early registration, until March 27,      | \$150.00 |
| Regular registration, March 28 - April 3 | \$165.00 |
| Late registration, April 4-10,           | \$180.00 |

Complete information about the convention schedule, workshops, and registration information is available in this issue and on the website [dkgwa.org](http://dkgwa.org)



## The Delta Hotel Seattle/Everett reservation portal is now open!

All Members and Guests can now reserve lodging for our 2026 WSO Spring Convention April 24-25, 2026. Don't Delay! The room block can fill up quickly, so reserve early. Help us meet our room block. Plan to arrive earlier or stay

later to explore the NW Region and take advantage of the sights it has to offer.

DELTA HOTEL BY MARRIOTT SEATTLE/EVERETT  
3105 Pine St., Everett WA 98201

**Hotel Accommodations:** Single/Double/Triple/Quad \$157.54 *(Includes all taxes and fees per night)*

For reservations at the WSO Convention Group Rate:

- **Call** 1-425-339-2000 or to reserve online click [Delta Hotel DKG WSO reservation](#)
- **State** DKG Washington State Organization
- **CODE** to use: DKG
- **Tell** your arrival and departure dates.
- **Tell** name of person(s) who will be rooming with you *(if any)*
- **Specify** if you require an ADA room.

Reservation deadline is ON or BEFORE Friday, March 27, 2026.

# Chapter Table Rentals at Spring Convention

Is your chapter getting the “itch” to increase your non-dues revenue funds? Why not consider selling creative, crafty items at the spring state convention to help support your chapter scholarships/grants-in-aid, favorite service projects and/or special programs? All chapters have the opportunity to market their creative wares to entice members to purchase.



**Note:** To avoid liability concerns with regards to food allergies etc., please avoid selling homemade food items; however, commercially packaged/labeled food items are perfectly fine.

Gather your chapter members and begin brainstorming all the fun items that you might like to sell. A table reservation form will be emailed to all chapter presidents and is also posted on [dkgwa.org](http://dkgwa.org), under [FORMS](#). Guidelines for Sales are also on the website.

Contact WSO Executive Secretary Sherri Wagemann at [sherri.wagemannkg1@gmail.com](mailto:sherri.wagemannkg1@gmail.com) as soon as possible for planning purposes, then complete a Table Reservation form and send it in with your payment. Space may be limited, so reservations are on a first come, first served basis.



Tables for the two-day event:

**Cost:** Full 6' table fee \$25;  
half table fee \$12.50.

Mail a printed copy of Table Reservation form **and** a check payable to WA State Org. to:

State Convention Registrar Mary Rennie  
2201 Longmire Ln  
Selah, WA 98031

Table Reservation Deadline: MARCH 27, 2026

This is a great chapter fundraiser because we know DKG members love to support one another, and they especially enjoy shopping for just the right treasure to take home to chapter members, friends and family.

# 2026 Proposed Amendments to the State Bylaws & Standing Rules

## Proposed Bylaw Amendments

The Executive Committee recommends approval of all the proposed amendments presented.

### **BYLAWS ARTICLE VI Officers, Section B. Duties**

*Executive Committee*

Beginning Line #269

#### 2. Vice-Presidents

b. The second vice-president shall:

(2) serve as chair of the Membership, Expansion, /Dissolution Committee, ~~and~~  
**serve as a non-voting member of the Educator of the Year Award ad hoc  
Selection Committee;**

**Rationale:** Clarification of how appointed and who serves on the selection committee.

**Financial Impact:** None.

### **BYLAWS VI Officers and Article VIII Committees**

*Barbara McPherson & Mary Lou Gregory*

Beginning Line #278 and #509

3. a. and the state webmaster **website editor, newsletter** editor

Section B. a. Communications and Marketing

and the state webmaster **website editor**

### **Add corresponding language to the Standing Rules 3.65 Meetings b.7**

**Beginning Line 257**

**Rationale:** There is a negative connotation to the term webmaster. Since the person in charge of the state website virtually is the editor of the site, this may be a more appropriate term.

**Fiscal Impact:** None

### **ARTICLE VIII Committees, Section B. Society Business**

*Executive Committee*

Beginning Line #596

#### 5. Membership, Expansion/Dissolution

k. The chair shall report the committee's recommendation for chapter dissolution to the Executive Board for action. The committee shall retrieve the Society charter and paraphernalia as listed in the international documents, and any remaining funds shall

be submitted to the state treasurer. **Chapter funds may not be dispersed separately by the dissolving chapter.**

**Rationale:** Clarification –this is mandatory by International and will not be a voted amendment.

**Financial Impact:** None.

**ARTICLE VIII Committees, Section B. Society Business** *Executive Committee*

Beginning line #596

Art. VIII, Committees, Sect. B Society Business

5. Membership, Expansion/Dissolution

k. The chair shall report the committee’s recommendation for chapter dissolution to the Executive Board for action. The committee shall retrieve the Society charter and paraphernalia as listed in the international documents, and any remaining funds shall be submitted to the state treasurer. **Chapter honorary members, if feasible, will be informed of the chapter’s dissolution and thanked for the involvement in DKG. If desired, they may be nominated for a WSO state honorary award.**

**Rationale:** Clarification –this is mandatory by International and will not be a voted amendment.

**Financial Impact:** None.

**ARTICLE IX Liaisons Section D. Technology** *Executive Committee*

Beginning Line # 710

The Technology Liaison shall be appointed by the president to serve the needs of state meetings and to report to the Executive Secretary. **It is recommended that the liaison be considered for a second two-year term.** The Technology liaison shall help facilitate all technical equipment and assist with in-person and virtual Fall Board, Convention and Regional meetings with reimbursement with that of a committee chair as stated in SR 3.65b. **The Technology Liaison shall provide training and turnover of documents with an asset inventory, including condition and recommendations, to the Executive Secretary at the end of each year.**

**Rationale:** Clarification of importance of consistent expertise for this position.

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**ARTICLE XII Awards, Section A. State Awards** *Executive Committee*

Beginning Line #818

2. The State Organization **may** provide an Educator of the Year Award to one WSO member **who is a current member of a chapter and**, at the time of the award,

actively employed in the **any** field of education. Each chapter may nominate one of their **employed active member educator by the announced deadline.** ~~in the field of education.~~ The **Second Vice President** ~~President, or her designee,~~ will chair the Selection Committee and will announce the recipients at the state convention. **The recipient shall be selected from the received nominations.**

**Rationale:** An award will be made in years that there are qualified nominees, and permits the award to be skipped if nominations are not received.

**Financial Impact:** None

## **Proposed Standing Rules Amendments**

**SR 3.4 Other Income** Beginning Line 118

*Executive Committee*

3.43 When undesignated monetary gifts in excess of U.S., one thousand and no/100 dollars (\$1,000) are given to Washington State, the state president and the executive secretary shall recommend to the Executive Board where the money should be placed. If the undesignated funds are less than U.S., one thousand dollars (\$1,000), the state Executive Committee shall determine the placement. **Undesignated donations on the death of a WSO member, including past state presidents, shall be placed in the general fund until such time as the Executive Board/Committee shall determine its placement.**

**Rationale:** This clarifies what to do with this kind of income and since it is undesignated, it clarifies who will decide its use.

**Financial Impact:** None

**SR 3.6 Financial Accounting** Beginning Line #180

*Executive Committee*

3.63 The available fund budget shall provide funding for state expenses to support publications, state and international conferences, forums, and the work of state officers, committees, and area liaisons **as well as capital outlay for equipment.**

**Rationale:** Clarification of how funds can be expended and where equipment purchases would be made. (Follows past practice.)

**Fiscal Impact:** None

3.65 a.5 Meetings

**3.65 a.5 Due to the cost of advanced contracted expenses**, in case of emergency and upon request, refunds may be made **at the following rate**. ~~in a timely manner~~. A processing fee **of twenty (20) dollars** may be withheld from all registrations.

**Cancellations of three or more weeks in advance will be 75% refund. Within two weeks of the event (due to the contract obligations), a 25% refund will be considered. Emergency consideration will be given for such events as death of an immediate family member.**

**Rationale:** This clarifies what the requirements are for refunds and how to proceed.

**Financial Impact:** It has become increasingly expensive to contract with venues and that requires the state organization to stop absorbing the cancellation expenses with the contractual commitments.

**3.65 a.7 Executive Committee may authorize non-budgeted expenditures up to five hundred dollars (\$500). Any expenditure over five hundred (\$500) dollars must be approved by the Executive Board either electronically or in person.**

**Rationale:** To date the state governing documents have not had a limit on expenditures that are not budgeted. This clarifies monies with a safe guard limit of what the Executive Committee can do in a timely matter and for emergencies.

**Fiscal Impact:** None unless there is an emergency.

10.43 The ad-hoc Selection Committee will be comprised of the State President (**member**), or her designee, Second Vice President (**chair**) and ~~one~~ **two other person members appointed by the president. Committee appointment considerations should be given to diverse geographical regions and vocational areas.**

10.44 The selection of the award recipient will be ratified by a majority of the Executive Board. **The winners will be recognized at the Spring Convention.** Awarding of the plaque to the recipient, and certificates to all other nominees will take place ~~at Spring Convention or~~ as soon as feasible.

**Rationale:** Clarification of how appointed and who serves on the selection committee.

**Financial Impact:** None.



*Leadership Development Retreat 2026*  
*When Life Gives You Lemons... Squeeze the Day!*

*July 21-23, 2026*

*Presented by Washington State Organization, DKG*

**Treat yourself to the Leadership Retreat**

Join us for:

- \*Leadership
- \*Outstanding speakers
- \*Singing
- \*Fellowship
- \*Beautiful nature
- \*Relaxation

**WHEN:** July 21-23, 2026

**WHERE:** RAINBOW LODGE  
 46820 SE Mt. Si Road  
 North Bend, WA

**COST:** \$305- Double Occupancy



**REGISTRATION IS OPEN!**

Registration must be postmarked by JULY 9, 2025!

Take a picture of the QR code. It will take you to the registration site at [www.zeffy.com](http://www.zeffy.com) {You may have to download the Zeffy app.}

If you need help, contact Mary Rennie by email, [Mary.renniedkg1@gmail.com](mailto:Mary.renniedkg1@gmail.com)



**Registration is not complete until payment has been received!**

All rooms are double occupancy. Registration includes lodging and five (5) meals. Roommates will be assigned, or a roommate may be requested by listing their name on the registration form. ONLY four (4) single rooms are available. They are reserved for people with medical purposes. Single rooms must be medically verified by phone call and registrar clearance.

**PHOTO RELEASE:** *The submission of this registration grants my permission to Washington State Organization, DKG, to be videotaped, audio taped or photographed and give my permission for my photo, voice or words to be used in any WSO official publication, including the state website and Washington State Organization News. I understand that if I do not give permission, a written statement denying permission for use of my photo, voice or words must be attached to this registration.*

**\*\*\*CANCELLATION/EMERGENCY POLICY:** *Cancellations prior to July 9, 2026, will be refunded less a \$10 handling fee. Refunds for cancellation post July 9, 2026, will be void unless a replacement participant may be found. Refunds will follow the WSO voucher process.*



## ELEVATE POTENTIAL, EMBRACE CHANGE, EMPOWER ALL

Join us for the **2026 International Convention** at the stunning Gaylord Rockies Resort & Convention Center in **Aurora, Colorado, U.S.A.**, from June 30 to July 4, 2026. This event will bring together key women educators from around the globe to celebrate professional growth, leadership, and the shared mission of advancing excellence in education.

Throughout this immersive five-day event, attendees will have the opportunity to engage in meaningful presentations, inspiring speakers, and vital discussions on the future of our society -- including voting on proposed bylaws that will shape the future of our organization, ensuring it remains a powerful force for change.

Whether you're attending to gain new insights, network, or influence the future direction of DKG, this convention promises to be a milestone in our ongoing commitment to uplift "Leading Women Educators, Impacting Education Worldwide."