



Join the State Unity Project:

Vol. 80, #3 Summer 2021

Supportive Connections

Pat Bennett-Forman, WSO President 2021-2023

The Unity Project for the 2021-2023 biennium will focus on making connections – not just any connection though but connections that provide support. When we look at the needs of members to feel connected, especially following the pandemic, as well as the needs of chapters to develop new leaders, priority must be given to how we can support each other as DKG members and as educators at large. Initially I thought of these connections as mentoring but to avoid any confusion with the more formal programs used by school districts and OSPI, decided to use the term “supportive connections.”

The intention of the Unity Project is for all chapters to engage in some way determined by that chapter in providing supportive and collaborative relationships, a positive guiding influence in which the members encourage and assist another’s development. Supportive connections can be about opening doors, forming relationships, sharing experiences, providing resources, and/or serving as an ally.

Potential Supportive Connections projects include: supporting new DKG members (such a “rose buddy” program), connecting with those members who seldom participate or come to meetings, teaching an older member to effectively utilize technology, helping new teachers with, for example, behavioral management plans or student assessments, practicing interview techniques with prospective teachers, or being a lunch buddy with a student. One chapter is discussing how to help “soon to be retired” educators through the retirement decision processes and the “what next” stages.

Chapters are struggling (and sometimes folding) because members don’t see themselves in leadership positions. What an opportunity for supportive connections! Persons currently in leadership roles could have prospective leaders “shadow” or job share, or offer to serve as a “guide on the side” or mentor during the first year of the new leader’s biennium.

While collaborations are often one-to-one, they can also be group oriented. Perhaps a chapter could share its successful membership recruitment strategies with

another chapter. Or help a chapter by co-sponsoring an event or an orientation. Could a chapter support another by putting on a special program or training by request?

The Teacher Brigade (see teacherbrigade.org) pairs retired teachers in Oregon and SW Washington to classroom teachers needing assistance in any number of ways. It is a model that might be replicated in other areas. Teachers Helping Another Teacher (T.H.A.T.) is a simple DKG program for establishing positive supportive relationships based on matching needs of one teacher to the skills of another.

The key to successful support is to establish connections, to build relationships through active/reflective listening, being available, and helping the collaborating partner to determine what learning is needed, what skills they want to develop, and what support they need to achieve their goals. What specific supportive connection or mentoring project a chapter decides on is as open as one’s imagination. Want to run your idea by someone first? The WSO EEC members and other state officers would gladly assist.

Later in the year, chapters will be surveyed to discover what exciting mentorships or other supportive connections their members are engaged in and to set up a simple record keeping system so that at the end of the year, we can know how many hours and what variety of services have been provided. In short, the WSO will also be connecting with chapters to provide support and to advance our DKG goals.

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Coming Together to Build Community and Advance Our Purposes

Pat Bennett-Forman, WA State Org. President 2021-2023

Normally your state president and membership chair would be exhorting you to gain membership – and indeed, the newly adopted state membership

plan calls for a 7% annual chapter growth rate. However, in the wake of COVID, many members of our Washington State Organization DKG are feeling isolated and disconnected from our organization, perhaps wondering if they will continue their memberships. For that reason we need to focus first on those individuals. It is incumbent upon all of us to re-envision and re-energize our chapters and our state organization and then re-commit ourselves to the purposes of DKG. Membership gains will follow.

My theme for the biennium, “Coming Together to Build Community and Advance Our Purposes,” speaks to how we might accomplish these revitalization goals. By “coming together” – because we are better together – we can build our DKG community into an even more vibrant and relevant organization and advance the purposes we value so much and that brought us to DKG in the first place.

I believe we can (re-)build our community by focusing on four strategies: (1) connecting with and supporting members; (2) creating and sustaining a sense of belonging; (3) promoting relevant programs of action; and (4) enhancing the leadership skills of all members. In the coming months, each of these four areas will be examined in depth through articles published in the *Washington State Organization News (WSO)*, as our state newsletter has recently been retitled. Members will also receive resource listings and articles via email and programs that can be used at the chapter level to stimulate discussion around these four areas. The remainder of this column will focus on the first strategy: **connecting with and supporting our members**. Other articles in this edition of the *WSO* will also address this topic.

Some chapters have done an outstanding job of maintaining relationships with their members throughout the COVID pandemic. You will enjoy reading about their efforts in this edition. Having access to Zoom technology has helped chapters come together during the shut-down. But too many of our members were not engaged in Zoom meetings; others had no computer access. Some chapters chose not to meet at all during the pandemic. Regardless of how well chapters tried to stay connected, there are members who feel ignored, isolated, lonely, and disassociated. What will we do about it?

Each of our chapters, and indeed each member, will want to evaluate how best to re-connect with those absent members. Perhaps it is through phone contacts, notes of appreciation, or small “coffee” gatherings. Perhaps it is a pandemic-friendly picnic or just simple one-to-one relationship building. The point is to be thoughtful and pro-active in reaching out to all our previous and current members to share our caring, to let each one know they are valued, and to ask what support they might need. Member support can be individualized to the chapter and to the member. And let’s not forget prospective members!

My unity project for the biennium is called **“Supportive Connections”**. In the past, unity projects have frequently involved making or donating things (“Dresses for Africa,” blankets, books, etc.). This biennium I am asking you to DO something that will demonstrate our caring and support for each other and non-member educators while building or strengthening our DKG purposes. Support, as is explained in the Unity Project article on page 1, can come in many different forms. The key is to provide the support needed by the person with whom you are collaborating. All you have to do is ASK! What support will your chapter choose to give this biennium? What form will your Supportive

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Connections take? Whom will your chapter support and what goals will you hope to achieve?

I am asking each chapter or chapter board to take the time to reflect on these issues and questions this fall and come up with a set of actions that speak to your members. Actions that define how your chapter will re-connect and support its members. Actions that will clarify how your chapter will define and provide collaborative support to prospective members. Please share your thoughts and ideas with me so that we, in turn, can share ideas with other chapters. Remember that every chapter and every member has this same need to re-connect and feel supported. Your ideas just might be the ones to help another chapter re-envision and re-energize itself. Your ideas might help other members re-commit to DKG and help to build us back stronger and better and more able to advance our purposes. I look forward to hearing from you.

WSO Welcomes Cathy Daugherty to Fall Board



Washington State DKG is excited to welcome Cathy Daugherty to the 2021 Fall Board Conference.

Daugherty was DKG International President in 2018-2020. She has also served as First Vice President and on the International EEC, Strategic Plan, and Membership committees. Cathy was awarded the International Achievement Award in Spring 2018. She has attended the Leadership Management Seminar.

Cathy served her state DKG (Virginia) as state editor, executive secretary, state president and parliamentarian. She was SE Regional Director in 2008-10, the DKG International point person for Schools for Africa from 2010 -2014, and a DKG NGO representative with the United Nations. Cathy has numerous presentations and publications to her credit, and was the International representative to the Washington State Organization 2016 Spring Convention.

We are excited that Cathy Daugherty has agreed to give the key note address at the Opening General Session of Fall Board, 10 am on October 2 (via Zoom). She will address the role each of us has in moving DKG forward, sharing the enthusiasm she had in a similar address delivered at the Portland International Conference in July 2021.

2021-2023

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Monique Harrison
First Vice President
Educational Excellence Chair

WSO Strategic Action Plan—Getting started

I am excited and proud to be your First Vice President and chair of our Educational Excellence Committee. I would like to welcome our new committee members: Kimberly Elias, Beta Sigma Seattle, and Jessica Tufts, Beta Upsilon Grand Coulee. Our fourth member is still to be determined.

During Fall Board, all chapter EEC Chairs will meet with the state committee to create a menu for our state and chapter programs. I am truly looking forward to working with all of you to build a menu based on our SAP and your chapter needs and interests.

To begin our work around Social Justice, the EEC is beginning a Social Justice Community column in each edition of the WSO Newsletter.

Social Justice Community

In this edition we will begin, and for some continue our journey to understanding implicit bias. Please begin by taking the Implicit Association Test: <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>, Be sure to begin with the test related to race. (We will cover other identities throughout the biennium.) After taking the test, please review other areas of the website to gain more understanding. The EEC would also like to anonymously gather your reflection about the test. Please complete the following Google survey <https://forms.gle/Ri8q3i9dbFddP9M66> to share your thoughts. This will help us to design workshops on social justice that will reflect your input.

As we move into our new biennium the focus for Educational Excellence is to provide programming statewide and for our chapters grounded in our Strategic Action Plan (SAP). In alignment with our SAP, we will develop program offerings in:

- Service to State and Community
- Political Education Issues
- Social Justice
- Personal Growth (Wellness & Technology)

Becoming an advocate, making a difference

Marge Lofstrom, Education Policy/Legislation Chair

The newly formed WSO Education Policy/ Legislation (EP/L) committee actively supports DKG purposes 4 and 7 to keep our DKG sisters informed and involved in non-partisan legislation that advocates for women, children, and educational issues. President Marge Lofstrom, Beta Delta Auburn, Member-at-Large Keith Bryson, Iota Mason & Thurston Counties, and U.S. Forum representative Susan Fritts Alpha Sigma Kitsap, are urging our members to get involved beginning at the grassroots level. Keitha Bryson defines non-partisan as, “I don’t know how you vote, and you don’t know how I vote, but I’m certain we have certain community issues we would like to have our elected officials address.” Being non-partisan, won’t tell you what to say, but we do give you tools to help you to voice your opinions effectively. This month we

urge all our members to visit the WSO state website at www.dkgwa.org/advocacy.html to find resources about how to advocate effectively as well as links to other sites that can lead you to learn more about educational issues. The EP/L Committee suggests you find your state and federal legislators by visiting leg.wa.gov, and typing in your address. You will find links to that legislator’s webpage and contact information.

This committee is making plans to regularly update our DKG members about important issues, resources, and activities. Watch for our monthly emails, workshops, and website postings in the coming months.

Marge Lofstrom
Education Policy/Legislation Committee Chair
mtlofstrom@gmail.com



Thank you, Washington State DKG Members!

We appreciate your help in making the 2021 Portland International Conference a success! Thank you for your support, your generosity, and your participation. It was wonderful having you at the conference to lend your perspectives on topics and your enthusiasm and ideas to discussions. We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans in 2022!

*Jean Fairbairn, 2021 Portland International
Conference Steering Committee Chair*
*Darlene Cook, Oregon State Organization
President, 2019-2021*
*Brenda Jensen, Oregon State Organization
President, 2021-2023*

Go online shopping and help the DKG International Educators Foundation

If you ever order on Amazon, check out AmazonSmile. Everything on the website is the same, including all your lists. The difference is that on AmazonSmile, all of your purchases have the added benefit of supporting your chosen charity at no charge to you.

1. Go into your [AmazonSmile account](#).
2. Up on the top left hand side under the search bar, you will see what cause you are currently supporting.
3. Click on the arrow to the right of the cause you have chosen.
4. Click on change.
5. Type in **DKG International Educators Foundation** and then click the search button.
6. Once you see the name of the foundation, click select.

That's it! Now shop!

The Rachel Royston Permanent Scholarship Foundation announces 2022-2023 Scholarship Program

Opening September 1, 2021; deadline December 1, 2021 at 12:00 am.

Please help to spread the good news about a scholarship opportunity for women educators available to members as well as non-members of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Rachel Royston Permanent Scholarship Foundation was established over fifty years ago to grant awards to outstanding women educators for study towards an advanced degree or specialized area. The Foundation has, to date, awarded 445 scholarships totaling \$955,455.00. Applicants must be women educators who are bona fide residents of the State of Washington and are pursuing post-baccalaureate degrees or advanced study at a nationally or regionally accredited college or university. The scholarship period is for July 1, 2022

through June 30, 2023. The Rachel Royston Permanent Scholarship Foundation is a private non-profit Charitable Trust 501(c)(3) registered with the Washington State Secretary of State.

An interactive, online application may be found in September at www.WashBoard.com as well as at <http://www.dkgwa.org/royston-scholarship.html>

For further information contact:
Carol Linscott, Treasurer and Administrative Assistant
Rachel Royston Permanent Scholarship Foundation
roystontreasurer@gmail.com



Teri King
Second Vice President
Membership Chair

New opportunities for a new biennium

It is a new biennium and just like the beginning of the school year I am giddy with anticipation of the great things that lay ahead. Something new for this year is that the Membership Committee has been combined with the

Expansion/Dissolution Committee. I want to thank the members of the committee for answering the call for service and stepping forward: Sara McKeever – Eta, Spokane, and Susan Fritts – Alpha Sigma, Kitsap. We have an opening for another member, and we would love to have you join our committee. Please reach out to President Pat Bennett Forman if you would be interested in serving.

I appreciate your patience as our committee finds its feet. We are in the process of reaching out to all chapter membership chairs or designees to form a Membership Team that will have regular virtual meetings to share membership related opportunities and challenges outside of Fall Board and Spring Convention. As a team, we

have a lot of experience to share amongst ourselves, what worked, what has not worked and some new and novel ideas to attempt. Sharing lessons learned is an important part of success. Together, we will be able to help our chapters develop chapter membership strategic action plans. With each chapter designating one person to serve on the Membership Team, that could check the box of one item on their membership strategic plan.

If you haven't had a chance to renew your membership for 2021-22, please reach out to your chapter treasurer today to make arrangements. Please don't let financial hardship stop you from being a member of DKG. These past two years have been challenging. There is financial support available, so please consider applying for WSO confidential membership dues support. The application form can be found on our website at [Members Request for assistance with dues.](#)

In closing, I want to give a huge thank you to Monique Harrison, our First Vice President for sharing all of her wisdom and knowledge of the position with me. I also want to thank you for your vote of confidence in selecting me as the Second Vice President. Together we can accomplish great things. If you ever want to share, please reach out, my door is always open.

Welcome New Members

Congratulations and welcome to the following members newly inducted or reinstated into DKG.



- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Nancy Baldwin | Chi Cowlitz |
| Carissa Jackson | Chi Cowlitz |
| Mary Beth Tack | Chi Cowlitz |
| Ann Williamson | Chi Cowlitz |
| Kelly McFadden | Psi Kennewick |
| Wendy Wickersham | Theta Yakima |

White Roses of Remembrance



The list below shows our members we have lost since April. They will be honored in the Celebration of Life at the 2022 WSO State Convention.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Ivern Rubida | Epsilon Puyallup |
| Joanne Parth | Beta Beta Emeritus SeaTac |
| Kaija Lietuvietis | Beta Beta SeaTac |
| Lynn Brown | Beta Kappa Oak Harbor |
| Betty Noack | Lambda Bellingham |

Fine Arts Fridays

Claire Smith, Mu Vancouver

I teach at a comprehensive high school in Vancouver, WA. During the 2020-2021 school year - amidst all the upheavals, Zoom lessons, hybrid learning, live-streaming, social distancing, mask-wearing, canceled or scaled-back school activities - my school colleagues found a unique and special way to brighten our teacher spirits. The vocal music teacher put together a series of Fine Arts Fridays: every week one or more staff members would contribute a video, audio or slide show of creative work. The range of performance was incredible: the music offerings ranged from a staff member conducting an orchestra, original compositions for guitar, a handbell choir, a recorder ensemble, a mass performance of an Elton John song, a "cloned" singer doing all three voices of a canon; there was a dramatic reading of a Cuban poem (in Spanish); there were several cookery demonstrations and a wide assortment of art and craft talent showcased.

We kept this up throughout the entire year: from September, when all of us were working from home, through to June, when most of us were back in the classroom teaching "at home" and "at school" students simultaneously. It was a highlight of the week, pressing on the email link to see what was being shared that time. The feedback from staff to the performer of the week was always heartening

For the very last week, the vocal music teacher put it all together, to remind us how much we had created and performed this year.

Starting A Partnership with Your Chapter

Barb Clausen Chi Cowlitz

Chi Cowlitz a year ago invited two wonderful faculty members to make a presentation to our chapter. They were from Lower Columbia College and have started a four-year teacher certification program that extends beyond Lower Columbia College's two-year associate degree.

Afterwards, a chapter member pursued a partnership with the LCC program that could include such things as mentoring early educators, providing guest presentations on needed topics (classroom management, special education experiences, etc.), interview tips, and mock interviews to help them as they prepare for the job search. The two faculty members have joined our chapter and are such dynamic women we look forward to helping them learn about DKG and how they can make a greater difference in our world. They each have two rose buddies to help them build DKG relationships and to get involved.

This fall we plan to follow up with the employed graduates to support them in their local classrooms, invite them to our program meetings, and then to offer collegiate membership to them when we have built a relationship with them. We will also have an informal meeting with the juniors and seniors and begin to find ways to support them in their career pursuits.

Members invited to Fall Board virtual leadership conference

This year Fall Board is **Saturday, October 2 and Sunday, October 3**, and will be virtual; no travel is involved and you can attend from the comfort of your home.

With the virtual format, it is hoped that all chapter officers will be able to attend some or all of the 2021 Fall Board Conference. But Fall Board is more than officer training. It is about building our WSO DKG community, not just for officers, but also for those members not currently serving in officer positions. For that reason there are workshop sessions, guest speakers and general sessions, the US Forum and several informal sessions with movement, arts, music and book shares for any member to attend. Let's have record registration!

There are two ways to register: online at [REGISTER ONLINE](#), or use the [paper version](#) which you can fill out on your computer, print and mail in. The paper version also has directions for ordering a WSO State Directory.

We hope to see you there. Register now and put it on your calendar so you don't miss out!

Fall Board Meeting Zoom Conference

October 2 – 3, 2021



“Coming Together to Build Community and Advance Our Purposes”

Computer assistance/speaker ready room

Saturday 8:00 am – 9:30 am
Sunday 8:00 am – 9:00 am

Schedule at a Glance

Saturday, October 2, 2021

10:00 --11:00 am General Session
Keynote Speaker
11:15 am --12:15 pm Workshop session 1
12:45 ---1:45 pm Workshop session 2
2:00 --- 3:00 pm Workshop session 3
3:15 --- 4:15 pm Workshop session 4
4:15 ---4:45 pm Movement Activity
5:00 --- 6:00 pm US Forum Power Hour

Sunday, October 3, 2021

9:00 -- 10:00 am Committee Action Planning
9:00 -- 9:30 am Music
9:30 -- 10:00 am Book Share
10:15 --10:45 am General Session:
Chapter Share Activity (open to all)
11:00 am – noon Executive Board Meeting
(state officers, chapter presidents & open to all)
1:30 -- 2:00 pm Executive Committee Meeting

Fall Board 2021 Leadership Workshops

Connecting to the Leader in YOU – discovering your competencies and courage to lead

Year 2 President’s Workshop – building capacity and planning ahead to set up for leadership success in the next biennium

Finance: Connecting to non-dues revenue opportunities

Legislation: Finding Your Voice and Connecting to Legislators – education issues in the 2022 legislature, contacting your legislator and advocacy resources

S.E.E.: Connecting DKG members to Early Career Educators – strategies for identifying and volunteering with early career educators

Connecting to Members and the “World” – implementing a variety of communications strategies for internal and external communications, including brochures and social media

Membership: Hiding in Plain Sight – ideas for finding prospective members and effective recruitment strategies

EEC: Bringing the SAP to Life - conversation and sharing of ideas to implement the State activities for the SAP EEC/Program, aligning to chapter needs and interests

U.S Forum Power Hour: DKG’s International Connections – how chapters can make a difference by participating in DKG’s International programs, including the United Nations. International guest speaker Connie Rensink, DKG Member-at-Large and member of the DKG NGO board for the United Nations.



Washington State Organization of DKG
Virtual Fall Executive Board ZOOM Registration Form
Print Format Only—Google Form for On-line registration available
on state web site: <https://dkgwa.org>
October 2-3, 2021



Registration Form Deadline: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2021

Name _____ Chapter _____ Area _____
 Address _____ Home Phone _____
 City _____ Zip _____ Cell Phone _____
 Email _____

State Officer _____ Past State President _____ Chapter President _____ Collegiate Member _____
 State Comm. Chair _____ RRPSF Board _____ Chapter Officer _____ International Rep. _____
 State Comm. Member _____ State Liaison _____ Chapter Member _____ Guest _____

I wish to purchase a printed copy of the 2021—2022 WSO Directory _____ #copies @ \$10.00 each = \$ _____
 Multiple copies may be ordered. Send check payable to WA State Organization with a copy of this registration form to:

Patricia Russell **253-859-9284**
21038 102nd Ave. SE, Kent WA 98031 **p.russell@comcast.net**

Photo Release: With this registration I grant permission to WSO of DKG, to be videotaped, audio taped or photographed and give permission for my photo, voice or words to be used in any WSO official publication, including the state website, social media and Washington State Organization News (WSO). I understand that if I do not give permission, I must submit a written statement denying permission for use of my photo, voice or words attached to this registration.

ALL registrants will receive Zoom meeting access codes via Email. Please check all you plan to attend.	
Saturday, October 2, 2021	Sunday, October 3, 2021
_____ 10 -11am General Session w/Keynote Speaker	_____ 9 - 10 am State Committee Action Planning Committee: _____
<u>11:15 am - 12:15 pm Workshop 1</u> _____ Connecting to the Leader in You! _____ Year 2 - Chapter President's Workshop	_____ 9 - 9:30 am Music Presentation
<u>12:45 - 1:45 pm Workshop 2</u> _____ Finance: Non-Dues Revenue Opportunities _____ Finding Your Voice & Connecting to Legislators	_____ 9:30 - 10:00 am Book Sharing Activity
<u>2:00 - 3:00 pm Workshop 3</u> _____ Connecting DKG Members to Early Career Educators _____ Connecting to Members & the World	_____ 10:15 - 10:45 am General Session and Chapter Sharing Activity
<u>3:15 - 4:15 pm Workshop 4</u> _____ Membership: Hiding in Plain Sight _____ EEC: Bringing the SAP to Life	_____ 11 am - Noon State Executive Board Meeting
_____ 4:15 - 4:45 pm Movement Activity	_____ 1:30 - 2 pm State Executive Committee Meeting
_____ 5 - 6 pm US Forum Power Hour w/ International Rep. Connie Rensink	



It was delightful to meet in person, face to face, and hug to hug. enjoyed hearing Dr. Gene Sharratt and of course, Becky Sodowsky. It was a well organized and conference with many workshops to choose from.—Lisa Wiese

Felt united with lots of new sisters and was truly inspired by Gene Sharratt. Portland was lovely! The staff was accommodating and gracious.—Karen Pace

President Becky Sandowski's keynote inspired me to reach out to those women educators around me and my chapter that don't know about DKG and invite them to see the opportunities that our organization can provide to them through membership.— Jessica Tufts

Dr. Gene Sharratt's keynote speech was very inspiring. So many great quotes and positive messages of encouragement. I also loved the Six Wives of Henry VIII high school performance.—Nancy Sauer

Wow, the girls from Louisiana were fun, but so was Hawaii and numerous other states. We all made friends. Dr. Sharratt's speech was amazing and hit home many times. Nita Scott was dynamic in her report on the current status of DKG. Favorite workshop was the laughter workshop. The gal was so funny and spot on. This was my first time attending an International. I highly recommend it as I learned many more things about DKG than I ever have. A huge thank you to the organizers as it was well run and it was fun.—Mary Rennie

New friend: Abbie from California. She was in the tech room and is a great new member of only 5 months! —Cathy Johnson

Dr. Gene Sharratt was a favorite of mine. He is always so uplifting in his presentations. Such a positive outlook on life and with his work with others. — Kathy Williamson

It was wonderful to see everyone in person after such a long time! — Nancy Sheng

The conference was fantastic. Not only did I make two new friends in Mary Rennie and Janet LeBeau, but I was so impressed by the our international president, by her speech, her friendliness, and her listening to members. Gene Sharratt, as always, was a delight to listen to and to watch.—Rosa Eilert

Every workshop was solid, every speaker excellent but best of all was the energy generated being in a group of women who are change agents in education. - Kay Stern





Awesome! — Lydia Elsom

My new friend Mistie is not only a good teacher, but a mentor who inspires new teachers with her advice and sense of humor.—Jan Morgan

We had 21 members meet for drinks on Friday night at Pete's Bar and Grill!—Paula Nichols

Part of our healing process after experiencing COVID19 for one year is being able to converse with our fellow DKG sisters; actually be in the same room with them. I loved learning about new books, ways to support and inspire our members, and then of course laughing and learning with our Keynote Speaker Dr. Gene Sharratt on "What's in the Way: Is the Way". The Conference was like a shot in the arm, energizing! — Susan Fritts



DKG around the state

Area I Area Liaison Isabel Castro, 2019-2021

Alpha Lambda Lower Yakima Valley

Due to COVID, most Alpha Lambda meetings were via Zoom. Members finally met in person for their April (Area 1 Workshop) and May meetings.

In September, the chapter participated in welcome back activities and shared how members had been doing health wise. In October, local scholarship recipients provided updates. In November, the presenter shared different resources on how to research a family tree. In December, members had an on-line Christmas party, with trivia, bingo, and polling. In February, Avalon Valencia, a high school based therapist spoke about her job working with high school youth during the pandemic.

Theta Yakima

For the Theta Literacy project, members collected over 1,400 books and delivered them to schools, clinics, emergency rooms, juvenile court, etc. Several members also built "Little Libraries" around town and put new books in them. The chapter had a drive through event for it's Christmas meeting. Members donated food, books, and toiletries for local charities and also donated money for needy families. Members were gifted with small Christmas gifts. In February, members had an informational presentation on Vision Therapy, which is

March was "Women in History Month." Members participated in a question and answer bingo. April was the Area I workshop. Avalon Valencia presented on "Perseverance Through Uncertainty: Balancing the Unknown With Confidence". Kimberly Starr spoke on "A Mother's Guide to Suicide Prevention/Language Matters: Using Constructive Language Around Mental Illness and Suicide." It was a wonderful morning learning strategies to take care of one's self. May was "Founders Day", which included researching and reading information cards about founding members. The chapter also honored our 50 year member Jo Klarich.

used to diagnose children with reading problems. "Teachers in the Trenches" was another presentation where three teachers shared their challenges in teaching during COVID times. The program was held outdoors at the Wenas Mammoth Foundation, which is a perfect site for classes of all ages. Finally, the Yakima Arboretum gave a presentation on changes in their programs. Theta ended the year with a "Bunco" party where money was raised to send to DKG charities supported by the Theta Chapter.

Alpha Zeta Goldendale

Alpha Zeta began its year by planning and scheduling meetings via Zoom and continued the "Secret Sisters" program to encourage contact with other members. In September, members contributed a favorite recipe, reviewed and voted on updated chapter by-laws and contacted legislators regarding education. In October, members planned a clothing donation for needy students and provided snacks for teachers during parent/teacher conferences. Written memories were requested for Arlene Dolan who passed away. Several members shared ideas from Fall Board and active teachers shared their experiences with virtual learning. In November, program presenter Elsie David shared information about her Native American culture.

At December's "Show and Tell", members shared a special Christmas tradition or recipe. The program was a Celebration of Life for Arlene Dolan and Kay Kimmel. In February, the program was a presentation by Lou Palermo, the education curator from the Maryhill Museum. In March, Randi Krieg had her FFA students discuss their program at the Middle School and High School. Isabel Castro, Area I Liaison shared information about the Area I Workshop in April. Founder's Day was celebrated in April with a presentation and charter member biographies. In May, members reviewed scholarship applications and voted on recipients. Attendees at the State Convention shared information and "Secret Sisters" were revealed.

Area II Area Liaison Lydia Elsom

Tau Palouse

It is difficult to reflect upon and write about the 2020-2021 Tau year. One wants to complain and vent and yet celebrate everyone on a year well done for surviving! Tau Chapter met only a few times throughout the year with our seven active members. Tau's goal of inviting new prospects was postponed due to COVID and to concentrate on support during the 2020-21 school year.

Specifically with Rosalia's School District, the teachers found themselves with additional needs to help



their students not only navigate through the changes that COVID-19 demanded, but maneuver additional social-emotional and physical support for those students whose families lost their belongings and homes due

to fire. Tau provided weather appropriate gear for the teachers to offer students, donated STEM tools to one grade, and provided snack items for members' classrooms.



It is with great hopes that next year Tau will be welcoming at least one new member, selecting an on-going project to support, having at least one fundraiser, and continue to support and celebrate our members and their accomplishments!

Eta Spokane

Eta Chapter members Lydia Elsom and Sherri Wagemann recently returned from a highly successful International Conference in Portland OR. Fellowship with friends both old and new, outstanding speakers, timely workshops on a variety of topics, and beautiful weather made this a memorable conference. Sherri co-presented a day-long pre-conference workshop on rejuvenating chapters, as well as a conference session presentation on membership ideas. During the US Forum, she encouraged members to run for positions on the US Forum steering committee for the next biennium. Sherri also sang in the choir. She was a busy gal!

As our State Area II Liaison Lydia made great connections with like-minded educators and enjoyed attending the many workshops. She collected many ideas to share.

Eta's EEC and Membership Committees have been busy throughout the months of June and July. Each committee member, led by Chairs Joan Polzin, Sue Artman, Inga Boyles and Paula Clark spent quality time personally

calling every chapter member to survey their ideas for programs and service projects. They listened carefully and recorded members' views regarding our chapter successes and concerns/challenges. The information collected will help to provide relevant program topics of interests and ways to effectively meet the needs of the Eta members. Everyone in the chapter has a voice! As part of the Eta chapter committees' action planning, membership, program and leadership goals from the WSO Strategic Action Plan will be incorporated.

Though Eta Chapter experienced challenges during COVID, as did many chapters, it has a strong leadership body and looks forward to a very productive year. A summer planning/potluck retreat was held on July 20, 2021 at Chapter President Sherri Wagemann's lake house, and a new prospect orientation was July 15. Our chapter recruitment challenge continues... *"Each One, Bring One!"* It is our hope every WSO chapter will take on that challenge to help lead DKG into the future.

Important Dates

Washington State Organization News is

published online four times per year:
August 15, November 15, February 15,
and May 15.

Washington Website:

www.dkgwa.org

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(please e-mail pictures in .jpg format)

Deadlines: July 15, October 15,

January 15, April 15

September 15, 2021	DKG Int'l Arts & Humanities Gallery Submissions for Fall Gallery
September 15, 2021	Nomination Recommendations and Endorsement Forms for International Officers/Elected committees
September 24, 2021	Registration deadline for WSO Virtual Fall Board
October 1, 2021	DKG Int'l <i>Bulletin</i> : Journal submissions
October 2-3, 2021	Virtual Fall Board, Yakima Red Lion NOTE: This is a Saturday-Sunday conference.
October 15, 2021	WA State Org. News deadline dkgwanews@gmail.com

Strategic Action Plan 2021 - 2026

Membership

GOAL: Strengthen chapters, support members, and recruit new members, yielding an increase of 7% each year.

- Assess chapters' demographics for potential leaders: ethnicity, age, career status, etc. to be aware of leadership.
- Implement a plan to retain, recruit, and support new members. Example: Rose Trio: for each new member—one recruits, one interacts, one involves; and retain current members.

Leadership

GOAL: Recruit, train, and support new leaders at the chapter/state level with at least 15 new leaders each biennium.

- Promote programs made easy, interactive activities to raise engagement, leadership scenarios, technology, leadership styles, encouraging attendance, motivational programs, mentorship, etc.
- Market leadership opportunities available through International and State: Leadership Management Seminar, Holden Fund, Cornet, WSO scholarships/stipends, etc. on a personal one-on-one basis in chapters.

Program

GOAL: Annually implement and measure the impact/effectiveness of four programs that advance educational excellence and social justice/equity, personal & professional development, and service and global awareness.

- Assist chapters in developing goals and plans to incorporate programs that include personal growth (wellness and technology), professional development, social justice, political education issues, and service.
- Promote programs at the state and chapter level to support early-career educators and other active teachers, including clock hour offerings, mentorships and volunteer opportunities.