

“Survivor”



October 7 was a party day in Sumner, WA and the guests of honor wore banners that read “Survivor.” The City of Sumner partnered with MultiCare Health System of Pierce County to host a 5K walk through the town of Sumner. For many years this party and fundraiser has honored those who have survived the illness, supported treatment of breast cancer and remembered those who have lost this battle. Leading the celebration were motorcycles, the Sumner High School Band and then survivors, friends and neighbors. The goal was to raise funds that stay in the local Pierce County facilities and increase awareness for breast cancer prevention.

Alpha Tau Tacoma/Puyallup of Delta Kappa Gamma participated again this year and were happy to support members Joan Schilling and Jane Carden who are breast cancer “Survivors” from their chapter. They also were so incredibly honored to welcome Monique Harrison, the WSO President who walked with them and brought friends to join in the walk. Thank you to Monique and friends who contributed to the team! Alpha Tau exceeded their goal, contributing over \$1500! This beautiful day was a fun, worthwhile project that initiated the ‘23-’24 year of sisterhood for the chapter.

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Dare Know Give

Monique Harrison, WA State Org. President, 2023-2025



As we begin celebrating this holiday season, I want to give my sincere thanks to each of you for your support as I serve as your president this biennium and your DKG Sister forever. The cards, emails, texts, and phone calls are greatly appreciated.

How are you serving your community this holiday season? Are you being daring in your ventures to serve your communities? Are you gaining knowledge about your community needs this season? Are you giving of your time, talent, and treasure? As you embark on this season of giving, please document your efforts through your chapter holiday events and submit pictures to our WSO Communications team, Jannette Manuel, Barb McPherson, and Mary Lou Gregory.

Our DKGiving Project

If your chapter is looking for ideas to give back to our communities by supporting our students without housing, students in foster care, and students who qualify for McKinny-Vento funds, here are some resources for identifying organizations in your area:

Washington State Department of Commerce, Office of Homeless Youth (OHY) works with partners and communities to establish ongoing and future funding, policy, and best practices to improve the lives of homeless youth and young adults in Washington. Funding for the Office of Homeless Youth is specifically allocated to several programs, each with a targeted mission, working together to increase youth and young adults' stability and well-being. The site has a [Provider List](#) available detailing partners by county.

Westside Baby – The Giving Circle meets the basic needs of children to promote safety, security and healthy development. They collect and distribute diapers, clothing, and equipment throughout Western King County. WestSide Baby’s model is unique. They receive donations from the community, check and sort those donations, and distribute them directly to 100+ partner agencies.

Youthcare in Seattle works to end youth homelessness and to ensure that young people are valued for who they are and empowered to achieve their potential. YouthCare envisions a community where no young person experiences homelessness, all young people have the opportunity to thrive, and the systems that oppress them are dismantled. To see how to help check their website [What We Need Now](#) or how to [Host a Drive](#).





Achievement Award Nominations Open

The Washington State Organization State Achievement Award is presented annually to honor a member who, through continuing and outstanding service to education and to the DKG Society, has promoted the purposes of DKG. She is a member who has provided distinguished service to DKG at a variety of levels. She is a leader who has demonstrated her commitment to DKG, has made vital and notable contributions to education and her community and is deserving of special recognition by our state organization. Know a member like that?

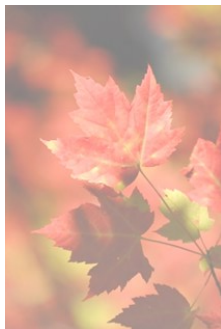
Nominations for the 2024 WSO Achievement Award are now open. Chapters must submit nominations for the award via email or postal service **no later than February 1, 2024** to Pat Bennett-Forman, Immediate Past president. The nominations form and guidelines are available on the state web site under resources>forms www.dkgwa.org.

Chapters wishing to submit a nominee should download the form, give it a title and save it to your computer. Then open the document, type your responses and save it again before submitting it. Nomination forms should be mailed to:

Pat Bennett-Forman, Immediate Past President
20840 Gala Way NE
Poulsbo, WA 98370

or emailed as an attachment to: p.bennettformandkgwa@gmail.com.

There are many members in our state organization deserving of the Achievement Award honor. You are encouraged to give thoughtful consideration to those worthy members and submit your nomination.



Fall is here!

Winter is knocking at your door!

Are you thinking about applying for a State Stipend or Scholarship this fiscal year?

The guidelines and applications are on the [website](#). Our Stipend and Scholarship committee would like to give some money again to deserving WSO DKG members.

But first you must apply; the deadline is February 1, 2024.

It is time to get busy with your application!



2023-2025 Washington State Organization Executive Committee

President

Monique Harrison, Beta Sigma Seattle

First Vice-President

Teri King, Iota Mason & Thurston

Second Vice-President

Jessica Tufts, Beta Upsilon Grand Coulee

Recording Secretary

Dr. Claire Smith, Mu Clark County

Treasurer

Pat Russell, Beta Sigma Seattle

Parliamentarian

Linda Elliot, Beta Delta Auburn

Immediate Past President

Pat Bennett-Forman, Alpha Sigma Kitsap

Executive Secretary

Sherri Wagemann, Eta Spokane

Society Business

ByLaws & Rules Bev Reinvik

Stipend & Scholarship Linda Johnson

Communications Jannette Manuel

Finance Mary Rennie, Jan Morgan

Leadership Development Marge Lofstrom

Membership, Expansion & Dissolution

Jessica Tufts

Nominations Kris Bishop

Society Mission & Purposes

Educational Excellence Teri King

Educational Policy & Legislation

Keitha Bryson

State Rep to US Forum Pat Bennett-Forman

Leadership Retreat Marge Lofstrom

Creative Arts Retreat Terri Diehm

Music Liaison Terri Diehm

State Webmaster

MaryLou Gregory, Beta Chi Grays Harbor

State Editor, *Washington State Org News*

Barbara McPherson, Kappa Kent

All Washington State Organization officers and committees may be contacted using the WSO Directory or through DKGWA.org.



Educational excellence is all around us

Teri King, 1st Vice-president—EEC Chair

WSO chapters have a long history of sharing great Educational Excellence workshops and events. Have you shared your best or most impactful program over the last few years with other chapters? Would you like to? We are collecting information about what programs you have pulled together that have made a lasting impression. We are trying to update our state website with information to inspire other chapters.

I was recently on a call with EEC chairs from all over the Western Hemisphere where we shared the great things our state and chapters have been doing. I was able to inspire and share information about our past statewide literacy program conducted under past President Susan Fritts, our purposeful purse project under past President Sherri Wagemann and our mental health emphasis under past President Pat Bennett-Forman. The efforts that chapters have gone through to participate in these statewide efforts and the documentation of them through slideshows and newsletter articles helped me to share some things that others in the DKG family had not considered. For example, many are working on literacy which is great but felt they struggled to reach far enough. I mentioned the work of some of our chapters to give away books at laundry mats and you should have seen the women’s eyes open wide as they hadn’t thought of that.

Another hidden gem in our discussion was about the offering of clock hours for educational programming. Some

had offered clock hours in the past and discontinued, others were keen to learn more about the process and how they might apply as they thought it would be an incentive for members and also an opportunity to recruit members. And, in the recruiting members vein, Second Vice President Jessica Tufts and her team are doing a great job in providing membership recruitment and retention strategies, and we at the EEC are here to help in this effort as well by supporting chapters with excellent programming and the ability to offer clock hours.

Did you know that WSO DKG can offer clock hours for educators for eligible programming? A great program is a wonderful way to introduce eligible educators to the world of DKG. The application forms and additional information are available at www.dkgwa.org/forms or via email from teridkg@gmail.com. Program proposals must have the Professional Qualifications block completed with enough information to show the capability to present for each presenter or have a completed resume/vitae attached for each presenter. Clock hour proposals must be received by DKG WSO at least ten calendar days prior to the beginning of the proposed event. Upon approval, a Clock Hour Registration Packet will be sent to the contact person/facilitator for duplication and distribution. The packet will include a cover/instruction letter, in-service sign-in sheet, Request for Clock Hours form, and program evaluation form. All clock hours must be approved by DKG WSO prior to the commencement of training.

I am looking forward to an inbox of emails with excellent EE programs from your chapter to share state and worldwide, and for your clock hour application form.



Ad-hoc Tech Committee: reports to the Executive Secretary.
Member: What is Zoom? **You:** A Zoom meeting? I got you!
Member: What are VGA and HDMI? **You:** Do you need VGA or HDMI?
Member: Do you have a dongle? **You:** Yes, of course, Mac or PC?
If any of these statements/questions sound like you, please join our newly formed **WSO Ad-hoc Tech Committee!** Please email or call Sherri Wagemann, WSO Executive Secretary.



UNLOCKING YOUR INNER POWER

JOIN AMAZING DKG WOMEN

AT RAINBOW LODGE

26820 SE Mt. Si Road, North Bend,
WA

JULY 23-25, 2024

Grab the keys to your inner power and unlock your energy. Recharge your batteries with two days of fellowship and experience a myriad of learning opportunities with amazing speakers.

Self-Worth and Self Care



Positive affirmation

Recognize gratitude

Set Goals!



Bring a friend for a wine pairing session!

\$295 for 2 nights in the beautiful lodge with 5 meals!

High quality speakers, hikes, music and more!

Contact Caryn Mears - Text or call 509-430-7515

Welcome New Members



Congratulations and welcome to our newly inducted members.

Linda Hardy	Psi Kennewick
Charlene Mueller	Psi Kennewick
Karen Meyer	Beta Sigma Seattle
Dorothy Dunkin	Zeta Wenatchee
Marisol Bos	Alpha Lambda Yakima Valley

White Roses of Remembrance



We have lost seven members since August 2023. They will be honored in the Celebration of Life at the 2024 State Convention.

Barbara Quigley	Alpha Lambda Yakima Valley
Carolyn Simonsen	Alpha Tacoma
Nancy Ellingham	Alpha Delta Seattle
Anita Tschirgi	Eta Spokane
Susan Reynolds	Beta Kappa Oak Harbor
Susan Ochs	Mu Clark County
Donna Carver	Mu Clark County



Addressing our membership challenges

Jessica Tufts, 2nd Vice-president—Membership Chair

Think of a place that you frequent often and enjoy being at. Then reflect on how you feel when you walk into that location. For me, I feel loved, wanted, and welcome. I am guessing that the location you were picturing gave you similar feelings of warmth. If you were to think of a place you go that you dread, your feelings when you enter there are probably not as warm and fuzzy. As humans, we naturally seek out these places that make us feel wanted. Does DKG give these feelings to its members and prospective members? This applies to all levels of the organization including the chapter level. What are you doing in your chapter to build relationships with members?

Membership begins at the chapter level. Many of our chapters have members that have been in DKG for many years together and have formed close bonds of friendship. This is great! This is what we need! But, we need to do this for all the new members as well. Too often new or prospective members come in and see how close everyone in the chapter is, and feel like they are an outsider looking in. This is not what we want to have happening.

As you plan your meetings and programs this year, and as you write your agendas, I dare you to build in ice-breakers and shake-ups. Even if you are coming from a small chapter with fewer members, you can still do this. I am willing to guess that you will notice people talking with different people. Your members might just learn something new about each other. There are so many ideas online available with a simple internet search that you could do in your chapter. Be willing to step out of the box and maybe out of your comfort zone so that others can step in and feel the feelings of being wanted and welcomed at your next chapter gathering.

Reminders

- ◆ The WSO Educator of the Year Award nominations are officially open. Chapter presidents should have received an email with the nomination form and FAQ sheet. The nomination form is also posted to dkgwa.org.
- ◆ The Membership Challenge is officially underway! Chapter presidents have been sent an email with their goal for total membership by State Convention in April. If you didn't receive this email, please contact Jessica Tufts at jessica.tufts.dkg@gmail.com
- ◆ A demographic survey was sent to all membership chairs to share with members in their chapters. WSO is working to gather this information on all members. If a member in your chapter does not have internet services or ability, please match them with a rose buddy to help them with this. You are only asked to provide the information you feel comfortable sharing. These results will help the WSO support current members and guide our growth within the state.

**DARE
TO ASK**

*A previous member of
your chapter to attend
an upcoming meeting*



WSO Board explores Quadrant/Area reconfiguration.

Pat Bennett-Forman, Immediate Past President

The WSO Executive Board will vote on a proposed reconfiguration of the current quadrant and area map at the 2024 Spring Convention. Prior to that time, three virtual Q&A sessions will be held so that all state members can learn about the proposals, ask questions, and raise concerns to be addressed prior to the vote. Information on these virtual sessions is found in the box inset in this article.

The proposals to reconfigure are a result of discussions by area liaisons, the Executive Committee and two surveys sent to chapter presidents in February and April 2023 by an appointed ad hoc committee. Six of ten areas have only 1 or 2 chapters. Several areas have only 15-20 members. The workload and expense for area workshops and state meetings is burdensome for smaller chapters and areas.

Survey results indicated 90% of respondents wanted quadrants rather than areas to be hosts for state conventions and 86% wanted quadrant workshops in place of or in addition to area workshops. Respondents indicated a need for flexibility in defining areas and area activities.

Quadrant boundaries were drawn in 2010 to reflect a similar number of members and chapters in each geographic section, keeping the areas intact. Current membership now shows an imbalance in areas and quadrants; realignment is necessary.

Based on survey results and the current number of chapters and members, the ad hoc committee proposes:

Proposal 1: Move from Quadrants to three regions: Northwest (Areas 6, 7, 10), East (Areas 1, 2, 3, 8), and Southwest (Areas 4, 5, 9), and the format and monies marked for quadrant workshops be transferred to the region workshops.

Rationale: To maintain balance in each region regarding number of chapters and number of members; if changes are needed in the future, the word regions is less restrictive than quadrants.

Proposal 2: The rotation of state event hosting duties be assigned to regions, rather than to an area. Further, the hosting region for the state convention will be on the same side of the state as the convention.

Rationale: Spreads the workload for volunteers and expenses to more chapters and equalizes the financial and time burdens associated with hosting. Further, enables a region to recruit more volunteers for on-site duties as the travel burden is reduced by having the convention hosts located on the same side as the convention.

Proposal 3: Every 5 years, the state president appoint a committee to study the demographics of the regions to determine if realignment is appropriate and take such action as is needed to reflect similar number of members and chapters in each Region.

Rationale: Keeps WSO more responsive to demographics and member/chapter needs.

Additional proposals may be made concerning area boundaries or allowing for greater flexibility in terms of where a chapter chooses to attend an area workshop. More details on the above-stated proposals and other ideas will be shared on the state web site and at the Q&A sessions.

Quadrant/Area Reconfiguration Q&A Sessions

Register for the Q&A sessions by clicking the link on the home page of the WSO web site:

www.dkgwa.org

Tuesday, January 30, 20 5:30-6:30 pm

Saturday, February 24, 2024 10:30 – 11:30 am

Thursday, March 14, 2024 7:00 – 8:00 pm

Update on HR 744: "Supporting the Mental Health of Educators and Staff Act of 2023"

Education Policy/Education Committee

WSO DKG passed a resolution in 2022 to advocate for legislation to improve mental health services for educators and other school staff. At the same time, the DKG U.S. Forum passed a similar resolution. Work by Oregon and Washington members resulted in a bill (H.R. 744) being introduced to Congress in February 2023 by Oregon Representative Suzanne Bonamici. The bill was referred to the House Subcommittee on Health. Since then, Representative Bonamici has been successfully working on obtaining bi-partisan support for the bill known as "Supporting the Mental Health of Educators and Staff Act of 2023."

In July 2023, a companion bill (S. 2530) was introduced to the Senate by Senator Robert Casey of Pennsylvania. It has been referred to the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee. In early October, we were informed that Representative Derek Kilmer of the Washington 6th Congressional District has become a co-sponsor of H.R. 744. Progress is being made, albeit slowly.

H.R. 744 established grants and requires other activities to improve the mental health of education professionals and other school staff. It calls for a campaign to encourage staff to seek support and treatment and will help reduce the stigma associated with getting help. It also calls for the dissemination of best practices to prevent suicide and improve mental health resiliency for educators and other school staff.

"While this bill is not generously funded (\$10M), it is a step in the right direction in that it recognizes the need to provide mental health support to educators and it

promotes the dissemination of best practices for building resiliency," according to Pat Bennett-Forman, WSO representative to the U.S. Forum and a member of the Forum task force on mental health. "These bills are an important first step," she added, "but in order to get them passed into legislation, our members will need to step up in terms of contacting their Congressional representatives."

Bennett-Forman outlined several opportunities that interested members could take to promote the legislation, including: (1) contacting Congressional Representatives to have them become co-sponsors and to encourage them to help move this bill to the vote; (2) writing our senators in favor of S. 2530, urging its passage; (3) writing our elected officials who have signed on to thank them for their support.

A complete list of co-sponsors and information about the bill may be found at the Congress web site: www.congress.gov. This web site allows members to identify her Congressional district and representative in order to send an email. All that is needed is to enter one's home address, click on the name of the representative and then click on "contact me." Finally, a click on "send an email" will bring up a box in which the member can type her message to her representative.

Bennett-Forman and other members of the Washington State Education Policy and Legislation committee would be happy to assist members with samples of communications and other assistance for contacting legislators. She can be reached at p.bennettformandkgwa@gmail.com.



Be a Buddy, not a Bully.

Mission: To help end bullying and promote mental health awareness in kids.

Vision: To promote and create a buddy culture at school, work, and home.

Presented by Lovely Sheridan at WSO Fall Board. For more information see the videos or contact Buddy Ambassadors at Info@buddyambassadors.com.

[Buddy Ambassadors and Bench Encourage Inclusion](#)

[Be A Buddy Anti-Bullying Club Launched At Carmen Rene Memorial](#)

[Buddy Ambassadors website](#)

Bylaws and Standing Rules Information for Chapter Presidents

Bev Reinvik, Bylaws & Standing Rules Chair

The WSO Bylaw changes that affect chapters as adopted at the April 2023 Spring Convention were sent to all chapter Presidents. Presidents received the exact wording needed for alignment of Chapter Rules to our governing documents, but any member can complete this task. It's as easy as adding SIX phrases which can be 'cut and pasted' into each chapter's documents.

The Bylaw changes are now on the [WSO website](#). After logging in, scroll down to Quick Links. Click on Bylaws & Rules. Scroll down to "New Additions for Chapter Rules, 2023-2024."

Thank you to the chapters who have sent in their Chapter Rules for approval to the Bylaws & Standing Rules Committee.

Please have your updated Chapter Rules submitted to Bev Reinvik breinvik@msn.com by Friday, March 22, 2024. The Committee is here to help you if you have any questions.

The Bylaws Committee is in the process of reviewing proposed amendments to our WSO Bylaws & Standing Rules, and suggested amendments will be shared in the Winter WSO Newsletter.



Congratulations!

Washington State Organization is proud to announce that three state members have been accepted by the International Speakers Fund Committee for the '23-'25 biennium. WSO appreciates these members sharing their expertise and dedication with others in the DKG International organization.

Pat Bennett-Forman, Immediate Past President,
Marketing DKG: strategies for growth

Monique Harrison, WSO President,
Biases, Equity, and Social Justice

Dr. Claire Smith, WSO Secretary,
NOTICING: the neglected skill in Multilingual Education

I DARE You...To Submit Your Art!

Teri Diehm, Art & Music Liaison

The International Art Gallery will be opening for submissions Jan 15 - Feb 15, 2024. We have so many talented members in all areas of Fine Arts, Music, Dance, Photography, Arts and Crafts as well as Literary Arts, Textiles, 3-D Art etc. I would love to see your work in the upcoming Spring Gallery. To submit your work and share your talents, simply go to gallery.dkg.org to find all the information you need to make your submission. There you will find the four categories of art that are accepted and then, each of the Sub-categories, along with the rubrics that are required for your particular medium. You will also find several other documents to help you through the process of submitting your work. The rubrics must be followed exactly in order to be considered for the gallery. Please keep in mind that all work must be original...no kits!

I **DARE** you to challenge yourself and submit your work in any medium you choose.



This just in

Nancy Sheng,
US Forum Steering Committee

Registration has just opened for the National Legislative Seminar in Washington, D.C, March 10-13, 2024! For more information about the exciting program and speakers, visiting your representatives on Capitol Hill, tours, and registration form, please go to the US Forum website, www.dkgusforum.org.

Rachel Royston Permanent Scholarship Foundation

LET'S HELP WOMEN EDUCATORS REACH THEIR FULL POTENTIAL!

Barbara Brown, Chair

Each school year in the Fall, the Rachel Royston Permanent Scholarship Foundation publishes its **application*** for the coming school year's awards. In this way we honor Rachel Royston's memory and her dream. We follow in her footsteps by providing financial support and encouragement to assist women educators as they realize their full potential. **Please share this information with women educators you know and at schools you visit and/or are involved with.** Below we share updates from our current 2023-2024 scholarship award recipients.

*Go to <https://www.dkgwa.org/royston-scholarship.html>

From Kristyn:

I am in the 6th (of 10) week of my Practicum for School Counseling. It requires 100 hours of direct/indirect hours. I have Internship I and Internship II to complete (Winter 2023 and Spring 2024). The internships require a total of 600 hours (direct and indirect with students). I live in Colville and work in Republic, WA. I am working half-time while I complete my field experience hours (700 hours total). I have applied for both Internships and feel confident that I will be successful. My practicum cohort meets weekly on Friday mornings to share experiences, gain insight and learn from our assigned faculty. It has been a wonderful experience so far. I changed my program emphasis from the General Program to a specialization in Crisis and Trauma.

I feel very blessed and appreciative that The Rachel Royston Foundation selected me as a recipient this year.

From Trish:

Thank you all. I am currently enrolled in the WWU Superintendent/EdD program and we just began this quarter's coursework in late September. Each quarter I will be enrolled in one class with my cohort and my superintendent internship all year. I will be involved with several Bainbridge Island School District initiatives, strategic planning committees, and leading our district's principal team. My current course is School System Management, where we focus on managing district budget priorities, school board partnerships, and navigating the challenges of district levies, bonds, and capital budget projects. We meet as a cohort three times a quarter for a weekend and learn from current superintendents and other guest speakers. Thank you so much for ongoing support and the scholarship funds are essential to make my future leadership goals possible.

From Mary, who is working on her PhD:

I took three classes over the summer and began Chapter 4 of my dissertation. Unfortunately, I was unable to complete chapter four and I am taking it again along with another course. My new expected graduation date is in the spring. My program requires 15 participants for qualitative studies and I just finished my 12th interview. I'm still looking for candidates, but hope to be done by next week with data collection. Then I will continue transcribing and then start coding. The whole process has been very fulfilling. It was so nice to only have to write a \$104 check this term. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

From Alia, who is working on Administrative credentials:

This is currently my sixth year in education, and also my first year out of the classroom. In addition to the internship and my studies, I took on a new position as a behavior specialist for our school, and I work with some of our school's most vulnerable, trauma-impacted students. As of now, I am still on track to complete my internship and my credentials by the end of this academic school year. **Thank you!**

Who's Who in Washington State Organization

Dr. Claire Smith, WSO Secretary

In 2006, when I joined DKG, everything was pretty straightforward. At my first Chapter meeting, a group of kind ladies made me welcome and pointed out the Chapter President, the Treasurer, the Minutes Secretary and - most important of all - the ladies in charge of refreshments. But then later I attended my first State level meeting, and things began to get complicated. There were all sorts of Councils, Committees, Teams and Boards; Liaisons, Representatives,

and Officers; Conferences, Conventions and General Sessions. In 2023, I was honored to be elected as an Officer at the state level, but I was still confused. So, for Fall Board 2023, I decided to make a poster showing Who's Who in WSO. I had a great deal of help sorting out the various titles, terms of office, manner of election and duties. Hopefully the poster will be of help in your Chapter as new members try to navigate the State Level of our Organization

Governing Bodies

State Executive COMMITTEE

Elected Officers



- Elected by voting Officers and Chapter Presidents to a 2-year term.
- Officers set the overall direction of WSO for the biennium.

Selected & confirmed:



- Treasurer and Executive Secretary: 4-year terms.
- Immediate Past President & Parliamentarian: 2-year terms
- Executive Secretary and Parliamentarian do not vote.
- All these officers keep the committee machinery functioning.

State Executive BOARD

All Officers, plus



- Elected by the respective Chapter Members to a 2-yr term.
- The President (and her Chapter Officers) set the overall Chapter direction.
- Presidents represent their Chapters at the State level.

Non-Governing Bodies

WSO ADVISORY COUNCIL

Past Presidents only



All available Past Presidents

- Group meets once a year to advise and encourage the current leadership.

State Executive COUNCIL

All Officers, plus



Area Liaisons



Tech Arts

Committee Chairs

- The State Executive Council is a non-governing body focusing on communication between the Executive Committee and various state-wide teams.
- Liaisons are selected by the president and serve a 2-year term.
- Area Liaisons work with each Chapter in a given geographical area.
- Nomination Committee members and RRPSF trustees are elected by the State Executive Board.
- Other committee chairs are appointed and committee members are recruited. Committees usually have a specific time-frame and focus.
- ⇒ **Business Committees:**
Bylaws & Rules—Leadership—Finance—Membership, etc., etc.
- ⇒ **Mission & Purpose Committees:**
Educational Excellence—Educational Policy & Legislation
- ⇒ **Special and Ad-Hoc Committees:**
Creative Arts Retreat—Minutes Review—RRPSF, etc., etc.



DKG around the state

Area V Kay Stern, Liaison

Mu Vancouver and Chi Cowlitz, are excited to welcome twelve new and reinstated members this year. With the increased membership, we will include bits about our DKG state founders and our purposes at several meetings so members will know DKG WA's long record of advocating for women educators at all levels. Both chapters' calendars include social outings and community involvement with groups that support our students e.g. Emergency Support Shelter, Family resource service, and foster children's programs.

Chi prepared welcome back to school bags for our working members and delivered them the opening weeks of school. Forms for the Barbara Clausen Leadership stipend are now available on Chi's website. These

stipends are designed to help members attend workshops, conferences and state meetings, including our State Convention. Both chapters are moving towards developing members' leadership skills and involvement to have new people in leadership roles in DKG.

Mu will be holding the Area 5 Regional workshop featuring Edna Thayer, who spoke at the International Conference in Portland. Humor is her specialty. The workshop is set for March 16 from 9:00 am-1:00 pm at the First Presbyterian Church in Vancouver. All DKG members are invited but a special invitation to those in Areas 4 and 9 who may be part of our region. Registration details will follow.

Area VII

Beta Beta SeaTac gathered in May to celebrate fellowship and honor two members who passed away in 2021 and 2022, Judy Neumann and Kaija Lietuvietis. Janiece Johnson, a founding member of Washington State DKG and of Beta Beta Chapter on March 1, 1969, was among the twelve members who gathered.

Bev Loeffler, President of Beta Beta, spoke about the importance of sharing responsibilities and thus, a Secretary was chosen. Events of the state convention in Olympia were reviewed by members who attended, focusing on positive elements from presenters and encouraging others to participate in the future. Members discussed the continued support they will provide this year to students in education in higher ed. Beta Beta has made such a positive impact in so many lives through their financial support. Commendable!

While eating delicious desserts, members continued to reconnect with friends.



"Spending quality time with Beta Beta chapter members was truly a highlight as Immediate Past State President. It was such an enjoyable experience. It is so important to attend other chapter's meetings and invite others to yours." **Susan Fritts**

Area VII (continued)



Beta Sigma Seattle enjoyed their annual birthday lunch in June. We are 44 years old! Members enjoyed a potluck lunch and member Mary Katka

provided a beautiful birthday cake. This was also an opportunity to celebrate our Beta Sigma sister, Pat Russell, who received the 2023 DKG WA State Organization Achievement Award.

The 2023-24 school year was kicked off with a wonderful program provided by our Beta Sigma

member, Kelley Clevenger titled "Breathe for Change". Breathe For Change www.breatheforchange.com is on a mission to "Change the World, One Teacher at a Time." This is wellness training that unites, trains, and supports educators in enhancing individual and collective well-being. Members enjoyed learning about this organization and practicing some of the yoga and mindfulness exercises.

We continue to provide access to our meetings via Zoom for members who are not able to join us at our in-person meetings.

Heidi Gainer, Beta Sigma President

Zeta Wenatchee



Teri St. Jean, VP for Programs, presenting collected items Wenatchee HS for their Panther House to help needy students with food and hygiene items.



Teri St. Jean, VP for Programs, presenting some of the collected items for the Eastmont HS cupboard to help needy students with food and hygiene items.



Find your **Books for Bucks Challenge** designated groups for 2023-2024. Your chapter president should have the challenge sheets to share with you. Please read the contest rules! On November 1st you start reading books and recording them on your November/December chart. We have prizes for the designated groups that read the most books during the bi-monthly challenge. When we finish in June, we suggest that you donate a dollar per book read. These dollars will help maintain funds in the Stipend and Scholarship budget. **HAPPY READING!**

The DKG International Administrative Board and counsel have approved the placement of a notice on DKG affiliated internet sites (including social media accounts, such as Facebook) that we hope will defray liability and protect the Society. We want to support the continued use of the DKG name and logo by members, chapters, and state organizations. However, we also cannot and do not wish to monitor the many affiliated sites in order to identify potential liability and risk. The following notice is recommended for your social media sites.

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The Washington State Organization Membership Brochure is available to print from the [DKGWA website](http://www.dkgwa.org). For published copies please contact your WSO Area Liaison.

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Barbara McPherson, Editor

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January 15, April 15

Important Dates

Educator of the Year nominations accepted.....	October 1, 2023—February 1, 2024
Rachel Royston Scholarship applications accepted	October 13—December 15
DKG Collegial Exchange submissions due	December 15
DKG Ignite Program applications due	December 15
Quadrant/Area Reconfiguration Q&A Sessions	January 24, 2024
DKG International Scholarship applications due.....	February 1, 2024
Quadrant/Area Reconfiguration Q&A Sessions	February 24, 2024
DKG National Legislative Seminar, Washington, DC	March 10-13, 2024
Quadrant/Area Reconfiguration Q&A Sessions	March 14, 2024
WSO Spring Convention, Pasco, WA	April 26-28, 2024