



“Coming Together to Build Community and Advance Our Purposes”

Dear Colleagues,

2022 Spring Convention is less than six weeks away. This **virtual only** event will be held **May 12-15, 2022**. The calendar of events is now on the state web site, <https://www.dkgwa.org>, as is the Registration form. Please encourage your members to use the on-line registration if possible. Note that members without an e-mail address will be sent a hard copy of the registration form. The **registration deadline is May 4, 2022**. Pre-registration is required in order to send the Zoom link for the Convention to attendees.

Please note the following and encourage your members to attend as many sessions as appeal to them.

(1) Thursday, May 12 is a pre-convention day with training workshops for chapter presidents and treasurers. There will also be a training provided by the Educational Policy and Legislation Committee on effective letter writing for advocacy, open to all members.

(2) The Executive Board (chapter presidents and the WSO Executive Committee) will meet on Friday, May 13th at a new time (5:00 – 6:30 p.m.) to conduct state business, including elections. That meeting will be followed by General Session 1 to open the Convention. We will hear from our International guest Dr. Debra LeBlanc. Debbie is currently the NE Regional Director (same position as Barb Clausen holds for the NW). She is also nominated for the 2022-2024 International presidency. Friday evening includes an informal discussion session with Dr. LeBlanc, followed by the Ceremony of Life at 8:15 p.m.

(3) Workshops, including clock hour offerings, will occur on Saturday, May 14, from 8:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Session descriptions will be available on the state web site and present a wide range of topics of both professional and personal interest.

(4) The Second General Session occurs 3- 5 p.m. on Saturday and will feature special recognition of many state members, including the State Achievement honoree, Rachel Royston awardees and scholarship/grant recipients. This will be a special and fun session.

(5) Sunday morning, May 15th, the Executive Council (state officers, area liaisons, and committee chairs) will meet for a work session to plan ahead for 2022-2023.

(6) Chapter officers and other interested members are invited to attend trainings from the EEC, Membership, Treasurers (returning), and Communications Committees held Sunday afternoon from 1- 2:30 p.m. These sessions will provide critical information for members leading these areas at the chapter level next biennium.

In between are times for enjoying member talents and visiting across chapters. We believe the Convention has much to offer all our members and hope you and your chapter members will register for the event. Remember it is free (except for those desiring clock hours) and an excellent opportunity for professional development, personal growth, and training for Society leadership. Oh, and some fun!

If you as chapter president are unable to attend the Executive Board meeting on May 13, please find a substitute (authorized designee) and e-mail that person's name and e-mail address to WSO Secretary Deirdre Catlin dimaginecreations@gmail.com by May 10, 2022. This is important in order to allow your designee to vote in your absence.

Rainbow Lodge

Rainbow Lodge Leadership Retreat will be in-person. It is being held from June 21-23 at the Rainbow Lodge Retreat Center in North Bend. Arrangements have been made to house registrants as singles, if desired, or in double rooms. The registration form for the retreat is on the web site and will also be in the May edition of the WSO News. This is a great opportunity for training for folks who have never been to a state function, plus a

chance to relax and get to know folks from around the state. The theme is “A.L.L. In,” focusing on **A**ffirmations, **L**eadership and **L**iteracy. Thanks to Laurie Fisher (Kappa Kent) and her committee for their work on this program. Karen Gross, recipient of the DKG International Book Award for her book Trauma in the Classroom, will be the featured speaker.

Timelines/Reminders

A few reminders:

1. There have been some questions about **chapter reports**. There is no requirement in state By-laws or Standing Rules for an annual report from the Chapters. However, it is essential for the WSO Executive Committee and Standing Committees to have a brief summary of your chapter’s activities for the year (June 2021 – May 2022), membership growth, and both accomplishments and concerns if we are to successfully promote your chapter’s goals. Please submit a written document (brief bullets are fine) to Pat Bennett-Forman p.bennett-formandkgwa@gmail.com and a copy to your area liaison by the **end of April**.
2. Please complete **form 110** (on the International web site under forms/reports) as soon as your 2022-2024 biennium officers have been elected. This form must be sent to International with a copy to WSO Executive Secretary Sherri Wagemann.
3. Also, a reminder that we would like to feature the out-going and in-coming presidents in a slide show presentation at the Saturday, May 14 Celebration “Banquet.” **Please send in photos of both the current and the newly elected presidents as email attachments (jpeg) to Sherri Wagemann by May 1, 2022.** sherri.wagemanndkg1@gmail.com.

International Opportunities

1. International Convention is July 12 – 16 in New Orleans. You will want to register as soon as possible to enjoy the lowest registration fees. Please let Sherri Wagemann know if you (or someone from your chapter) plans to attend so she can invite all our state participants to the WA dinner. Also, if your attendee is willing, Convention organizers are looking for volunteers to help out at various events. See the International web site to check out volunteer needs.
2. Applications are open until May 1 for persons interested in serving on an International committee or the US Forum Steering Committee (May 20). See the International web site for details. Please consider the many talented members of your chapter and/or committee and encourage them to consider applying for an International Committee position. It is a powerful learning experience.

I can hardly believe that it has been nearly a year since I accepted the position of WSO president. While a great deal has happened, I also feel that we are just beginning. I am proud of the work you and your chapter members have accomplished in building community and in furthering our DKG purposes. I am proud of the work accomplished by our committees. The last few years have been particularly hard on educators (and our Society), but with each of us supporting each other we will remain strong and continue to give value to our members and all educators. Thank you.

As always,

Pat BF