



“Coming Together to Build Community and Advance Our Purposes”

Dear Colleagues,

As we near the half way mark of this 2022-2023 DKG year I am cognizant of how fast time goes by, of how much has been accomplished and how much more we want to do, whether as state officers, in our state committee work, as liaisons or as chapter presidents. Mid-year is a great time to reflect on the status of plans and the needs for action in the upcoming months.

We have several tools we can use for these mid-year evaluations: (1) our Strategic Action Plans and/or Committee Action Plans; (2) reports from committees on progress to date; (3) check lists of healthy chapters; and (4) reflection on goals and priorities. For example, I have discussed resilience and revitalization through communication, commitment and connection. So in addition to looking at the WSO SAP and action plans, I will be asking myself if we have any indicators of effective communication, increased commitment by members, and connections for enhanced collaboration. If not, why not!

One tool I have shared with liaisons and state officers is an assessment of chapter health which I am asking the liaisons to complete with each chapter president by May. (It is attached to this bulletin.) The purpose of the healthy chapter assessment is to provide information for both chapters and state officers to use to discuss and plan for appropriate activities to keep chapters vital, relevant and sustainable (the focus points for International President Dr. Debra LeBlanc). If we all engage in this type of self-reflection frequently and ask for help early on, we can hopefully keep chapters healthy, reverse the trend for dissolution, and, in fact, grow our chapters and state. Thank you in advance for being open and honest when your area liaison contacts you about the survey.

Timelines/Reminders

A few reminders:

1. WA DKG Scholarship applications are due to Linda Johnson LLjohnson65@gmail.com by Feb. 1, 2023. Applications and information available on the state web site.
2. Nominations for the State Achievement Award are due to Susan Fritts susan.frittsdkg1@gmail.com by Feb. 1, 2023. Nomination form on the state website.
3. Form 2, Necrology Report, found on the International web site under forms/reports, is due Feb. 1, 2023. Form 6, reporting a member's death, is sent to Pat Russell and Teri King. Teri requests you also send a photo and brief biography so the Membership Committee can properly prepare a suitable celebration statement for the Spring Convention White Rose Ceremony.
4. Liz Friedrich, Nominations Committee chair, is still looking for members willing to step up to the leadership challenge for several state positions: secretary 2023-2025; nominations committee 2023-2026; Rachel Royston Scholarship Foundation Board 2023-2026 (three year term to replace a trustee who resigned); Rachel Royston Scholarship Foundation Board 2023-2028 (normal five year term). Please help out the Nominations Committee by applying for a position OR offering names of members you believe would be excellent in one of these roles.

The Virtual Teachers Lounge is back with meaningful webinars and discussion sessions for teachers. The three discussion leaders are all DKG members from the D.C. area, one an active teacher, one an active administrator and one an active university level professor. The sessions are always free and always open to anyone wishing to attend. Please share this information with your members.

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 6:00 pm-7:00 pm ET 3:00 Pacific Time

Opening of Virtual Teachers' Lounge

The zoom link will be provided the day before the event after registration found here:

<https://forms.gle/rxScdstiRghNy3NB8>

I hope that you are all talking to your members about **Spring Convention, April 28-30th**. This is our first in-person convention in four years and promises to be very exciting. Of course, we will have clock hour workshops on educational issues and other sessions addressing member wellness, leadership development and personal growth (travel, books, crafts, etc.). But we are also planning some special events to recognize and celebrate our being back together in person. There is a Friday late afternoon "all member social" to connect with old friends, new members and first timers to the convention. There will also be a dessert mixer on Friday evening following the U.S. Power Hour panel. Saturday includes the Celebration of Life, our Birthday Luncheon, and of course the Awards Banquet. Sunday morning includes an informal round table discussion with Connie Rensink, International 1st vice president and our special convention guest. Plus, of course, arts on display, music, the announcement of our State Achievement Awardee, and more.

I encourage your chapters to come up with ways to bring members who have never been to convention before. It is a great way to see the bigger picture of our work in the state and make lasting friendships. (Remember connections help us be resilient and revitalize us.)

My fellow state officers and I are excited to be attending the upcoming area workshops, to meet more chapter members and to learn about the wonderful accomplishments of your chapter and committees this year. We are also distributing, through the area liaisons, the new state brochure, enough for every member and then some, with hopes that none of them will end up on a shelf but rather be used to invite a prospective member to join. With each of us supporting one another, we can make our state grow.

As ever,

Pat B7

upcoming meetings:

Chapter Presidents Chats	Feb. 23; March 23; April 20
Area Liaison Meeting	Feb. 15; March 22; April 20; May 17
Area 4 Workshop	February 4
Area 3 Workshop	February 11
Area 5 and 7 Workshops	March 11
Area 6 Workshop	May 6