



“Coming Together to Build Community and Advance Our Purposes”

Dear Colleagues,

Happy New Year! I trust you have been able to secure a little “me” time during the past month to enjoy the holidays, your family and friends and just doing whatever you wanted and needed. The snow, ice and cold temperatures made it challenging I know as did the burst pipes and flooding some of our members experienced. If you, or one of your members, had the unfortunate happenstance of home damage, recall that DKG International has an Emergency Fund to help in just such circumstances. (See the DKG web site under DKGIEF/Emergencies.) Otherwise, I hope you have renewed energy for the second half of the DKG year.

I can hardly believe that my term as president is $\frac{3}{4}$ over. There is still much I want to accomplish and I know that my fellow officers and committee chairs share that sentiment.

IMPORTANT

Our state bylaws require the Executive Board (chapter presidents or designee and state officers) to meet by January 12th to take action on proposed amendments to our bylaws and standing rules. In addition to reviewing the changes required by amendments to the International Constitution passed in July 2022, there are five proposed amendments that will require your vote.

I will send the proposed changes to you by next weekend so that you have time to review them before our meeting on **January 12 at 5:30 p.m.** I will also send out the zoom meeting invitation at that time. Remember that if you cannot attend, you need to submit the name of your designee to Deirdre Catlin, WSO secretary prior to the meeting, dimaginecreations@gmail.com. I would anticipate that the meeting will last no longer than one hour.

Timelines/Reminders

A few reminders:

1. The Finance Committee is meeting on January 14, 2023 to prepare its proposed budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. The proposed budget will be posted in the next edition of the *WSO*.
2. Also to be found in the *WSO* next edition: nominees for officers 2023-25, and nominations for the Nominating Committee and the Rachel Royston Permanent Scholarship Foundation Board. The proposed bylaw and standing rule changes will also be in that edition.
3. 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. Workshop proposals for Spring Convention 2023 are now due to Monique Harrison Monique.dkgwa@outlook.com. The proposal form is found on the state website under “forms.”

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.

Saturday, January 14, 2023 12:00 noon-1:30 pm ET (Webinar) 9:00 Pacific Time
Dealing with Educator and Student Mental Health: Sharing Successful Strategies
Register at: <https://forms.gle/odh1mWRACNnxwKAVA>

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 6:00 pm-7:00 pm ET 3:00 Pacific Time
Opening of Virtual Teachers' Lounge (link provided later).

In other news, though the time line is short, the League of Women Voters WA, is offering its **Speak Up School** training on **Saturday, January 7th from 8:30 – noon**. This is excellent training for those interested in advocating for educational issues with legislators. A flyer advertising the event is attached.

I hope that you are all talking to your members about Spring Convention, April 28-30th. It will be in-person for the first time in three years at the Olympia Red Lion. Clock hour workshops, leadership training, great speakers, and, of course, wonderful fellowship awaits participants. Encourage their attendance, even if only for the Saturday workshop and general meeting sessions. The convention is the best way to really understand the “big picture” of Washington State DKG and to hook members into a deeper commitment to DKG. I encourage your chapters to consider using leadership development monies to support first timers to attend.

As we enter the last six months of this DKG year, I am committed to working even harder on our theme of building community and advancing our purposes. I look forward to making and expanding connections with you. State officers will be attending area workshops and, hopefully, I will also get to some of your chapter meetings. I plan to invite myself – no fuss on your part, just a date, time and location so I can meet your members and share our DKG aspirations.

Stay well my friends.

As ever,

Pat B7

upcoming meetings:

Chapter Presidents Chats Feb. 23; March 23; April 20
Area Liaison Meeting Jan. 18; Feb. 15; March 22; April 20; May 17
Area 4 Workshop February 4
Area 3 Workshop February 11
Area 2, 5, and 7 Workshops March 11
Area 6 Workshop May 6