WSO DKG President’s Newsletter Vol. 1 #11 May 2022  
 Pat Bennett-Forman, WSO DKG State President 2021-2023  
 [p.bennettformandkgwa@gmail.com](mailto:p.bennettformandkgwa@gmail.com)

**“Coming Together to Build Community and Advance Our Purposes”**



Dear Colleagues,

**2022 Spring Convention** is here. If you have not registered for this **virtual only** event to be held   
**May 12-15, 2022,** please do so today.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. Pre-registration is required in order to send the Zoom link for the Convention to attendees. The Executive Board will meet at 5 p.m. on May 13th. Your presence and your vote is important  
so please be sure you are registered.  
 The convention program will be on-line this coming weekend and registered members will receive their  
Zoom invitation and daily schedule beginning May 10th.  
 Please remind members that the Saturday workshops include 3 courses that earn clock hours. These courses are open to non-members as well as members, so (again) encourage folks to register. Plus there are workshop by our International guest and a World Fellowship recipient session. And art and yoga and more!  
 There has been a little confusion about the Saturday afternoon Awards Banquet. It is a general session in that all registrants are invited to attend, but it is NOT a business meeting. It is a CELEBRATION of our year, our  
members and our chapters. There will be several featured speakers and recognition of our Achievement Award  
recipient, long time members, scholarship recipients, and a special award. It should be a fun session!

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](mailto:dimaginecreations@gmail.com) by May 10, 2022. This is important in order to allow your designee to vote in your absence.

**Timelines/Reminders**

A few reminders:

1. I am still awaiting some chapter reports – just a bulleted list of your chapter’s accomplishments for the year (and any challenges you face). Please send these to Pat Bennett-Forman [p.bennett-formandkgwa@gmail.com](mailto:p.bennett-formandkgwa@gmail.com) and a copy to your area liaison as soon as possible.
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 and to me (Pat Bennett-Forman).
3. New officers will receive training at Spring Convention. Presidents and new treasurers on May 12;  
   returning treasurers, EEC/Vice President for Programming, Membership/Vice President, and   
   Communications contact on May 15th. See the Convention Program for details.

**Mental Health Resolution**

In January, the Education Policy and Legislation Committee sent out a survey asking chapters to rank order   
their highest priorities for legislative work by the committee. The #1 ranked item was Mental Health for students and educators. Based on that information, the Committee members and those attending the US Forum National Legislative Seminar completed a literature search and review of current legislation. They found that there were several bills at both the State and National level that addressed suicide prevention, need for increased staff to support students with mental health concerns, and awareness of the growing number of youth with mental health concerns. But, there was little conversation about educator mental health among legislators despite data indicating this to be a significant concern and one which is threatening the number of staff going into and staying in the profession.

As a result, the Committee wrote a Resolution which it would like to present to the full US Forum in July. The resolution is attached. The crux of the resolution is found on the bottom of page two in the “be it resolved that” section. This is the part that asks the DKG US state organizations and chapters to take action to learn about these issues, promote appropriate legislation, disseminate information and engage in activities that show support to our working educators. The Committee is seeking your approval to take this resolution to the  
US Forum meeting where it would be presented, discussed and voted upon. You will be asked to give your vote (approval or non-approval) at the Executive Board Meeting. It would help if you read at least pages 1 and 2 prior to the Board Meeting. If you have any questions, they may be directed to Marge Lofstrom [mtlofstrom@gmail.com](mailto:mtlofstrom@gmail.com) or to Pat Bennett-Forman [p.bennettformandkgwa@gmail.com](mailto:p.bennettformandkgwa@gmail.com).

It has been a fast and furious year for me; I have learned a ton and see before me the need to continue to  
advance our chapters and state organization by paying particular attention to our members, to effective  
communication, making real connections, and to helping our chapters grow. I look forward to seeing you at  
Convention and working with you again in the coming year. Happy May!!



As always,   
 Pat BF