



“Coming Together to Build Community and Advance Our Purposes”

Dear Colleagues,

I trust you all have had a lovely and well deserved holiday celebrating Labor Day. While we don't have as many unions now as there used to be, we certainly have plenty of laborers who deserve recognition and celebration, especially those front line folks who are so deeply engaged in fighting COVID and forest fires. For those of you still in the classroom, I know this “break” is welcomed for all those last minute tasks you are doing to prepare for the school year.

Timelines

A few reminders of approaching deadlines:

1. **September 15:** The Zoom Bundle is a terrific option (at only \$104.30 plus tax for a year) for either chapter or individual purchase. If you already have an account, you will receive credit towards this amount. We only need two more chapters or individuals to sign up by September 15 to qualify for the bundled price. Contact Pat Russell as soon as possible if you are interested p.russell@comcast.net. Since the Delta variant is forcing us to social distance again, having a chapter Zoom account will allow you maximum flexibility for hybrid or all virtual meetings at a bargain price.
2. **September 24:** Fall Board registration deadline. Fall Board will be a 100% virtual event so we hope that you will encourage all your leadership team to attend some or all of the Conference. And also encourage all your members to join whatever workshops and general sessions they might find interesting. Only those who register will receive the Zoom link so please pass the word.
3. **September 28:** Deadline to send chapter input on DKG Values to Teri King msoyster@gmail.com. This process was explained in the mailing sent you August 18 both via email and snail mail. The information from all chapters will be combined into a word cloud and presented at Fall Board. Recall that these values are what makes DKG unique and that drive our work.
4. **Before October 2:** please submit the names of your chapter's legislative liaison and membership chair (if you do not have a vice president for membership) to me at p.bennettformandkgwa@gmail.com. There will be sessions for both at Fall Board.

Also, submit copies of your **chapter handbook** (electronically or hard copy) to Sherri Wagemann sherri.wagemannndkg1@gmail.com. Try to send the handbook pages as a single combined pdf file if you can when submitting electronically. If you are submitting hard copy only, also send copies to Pat Bennett- Forman, Monique Harrison, Teri King, Barb McPherson and your area liaison. Snail mail addresses may be found in the last edition of the Washington State Organization Newsletter (WSO).

5. **October 2-3:** Fall Board Conference on Zoom. Monique Harrison has arranged a variety of engaging workshop for chapter leaders as well as sessions valuable to all members. The opening General Session will feature a keynote address from Past International President Cathy Daugherty. Members will have opportunities to work together and feel that support that makes our state meetings so powerful.
6. **October 25:** be sure to send Susan Fritts sdfritts@comcast.net a copy of the WSO DKG Chapter Strategic Plan form indicating portions of the WSO DKG Strategic Plan (SAP) that your chapter is committed to working on for this 2021-2022 year. See the August 18th mailing.

Supportive Connections Unity Project

I hope your Board and general membership will read in the WSON my article on Supportive Connections. The intent is for each chapter to determine a way that is meaningful to the chapter to provide support and connections, collaborations or mentorships to members or prospective members. I know I still struggle with feeling disconnected and have talked to many members around the state as I have tried to recruit members for state committee positions (too often in vain) who are struggling. I sincerely appreciate all your efforts to keep your chapters afloat and suggest that Supportive Connections is one way for your members to come back to the DKG fold. I speak on behalf of my Executive Committee members as well in not only wishing you well in your efforts but also to offer our support and assistance. All you need do is ASK; let us know what your needs are and how you think we might help.

To that end, I would like to meet with each of you individually to discuss your chapter strengths and concerns so that I might appropriately direct Executive Committee actions and provide you needed resources. Later, we might choose to meet in small groups with other chapter leaders who share your issues. I will begin scheduling these calls (preferably via Zoom) this week. Let me know if you have other members of your chapter you would like included in the call we will schedule.

Finally, please send me your chapter meeting schedule this month so that I can begin to schedule chapter visits for myself and/or Executive Committee members. Our goal is to visit every chapter sometime during the year.

I look forward to visiting with you and to seeing you at Fall Board October 2 – 3, 2021. Thank you for all your efforts in DKG – both at the chapter and state level. I am grateful.

As always, *Pat EF*