DKG International Society for Key Women Educators
Washington State Organization News
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Fall Board: A New Venue and a New Look Await

Southwest Region hostesses are excited to welcome you to the 2026 Washington State Fall Board Meeting to be held September 25-26, 2026, on the campus of the Evergreen State College in Olympia. Meals, main meetings, and workshop sessions will be held in the majestic House of Welcome Longhouse. (Click here to learn more about the venue.)

Housing is available in single or double dorm rooms, or in nearby hotels. Registration and housing details may be found on page 10 of this newsletter or on the state website: www.dkgwa.org.

Fall Board is designed to provide support and encouragement to all members as we continue expanding our DKG community. Some new features will include a keynote address from Ingrid Wysong of Better Angels who will challenge us to engage in meaningful listening and dialogue with those whom we might disagree. Time will be afforded for chapters to work on required Strategic Action Plans, as well as to consider advocacy actions that increase DKG's visibility and relevance.

Traditional chapter officer and committee member training will be provided to enhance their success as leaders, but other training will provide all members with ideas for supporting those leaders. Several clock hour sessions will also be available.

Attendees will find time for reacquaintance with friends and the opportunity to make new friends. Come to Fall Board 2026 for something old, something new, and something of value to you in the coming year.

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Washington State Organization 2025-2027

Executive Committee

President
Teri King, Iota Mason & Thurston

First Vice-President
Dr. Marge Lofstrom, Beta Delta Auburn

Second Vice-President
Dr. Charlene Shea, Mu Clark County

Recording Secretary
Dr. Claire Smith, Mu Clark County

Treasurer
Mary Rennie, Theta Yakima

Parliamentarian
Barbara Clausen, Chi Cowlitz

Immediate Past President
Monique Harrison, Beta Sigma Seattle

Executive Secretary
Sherri Wagemann, Eta Spokane

Society Business

Bylaws & Rules, Bev Reinvik, Alpha Tacoma

Stipend & Scholarship, Karen Chance, Theta Yakima

Communications, Barbara McPherson, Kappa Kent

Finance, Jane Carden, Alpha Tau Tacoma/Puyallup

Leadership Development, Kay Stern, Chi Cowlitz

Membership, Expansion & Dissolution,
Dr. Charlene Shea, Mu Clark County

Nominations, Lisa Wiese, Eta Spokane

Society Mission & Purposes

Educational Excellence, Dr. Marge Lofstrom, Beta Delta Auburn

Educational Policy & Legislation,
Nancy Sheng, Lambda Bellingham

State Rep to US Forum, Nancy Sheng, Lambda Bellingham

Leadership Retreat, Caryn Mears, Psi Kennewick

State Website Editor, Mary Lou Gregory, Beta Chi Grays Harbor

WSON Editor, Pat Bennett-Forman Alpha Sigma Kitsap

All Washington State Organization officers and committees may be contacted using the WSO Directory or through DKGWA.org.

Dr. Holly Budge Honored as Educator of the Year

We are thrilled to announce that Dr. Holly Budge has been named DKG WSO "Educator of the Year," a prestigious recognition of her lifelong dedication to learning and leadership. With a career spanning from a student-centered P-8 teacher and principal to her current role as Director of Human Resources of the Kelso School District, Dr. Budge has consistently demonstrated a thirst for growth and a passion for sharing her expertise.

Throughout her tenure, Dr. Budge has held pivotal roles, including instructional coach, Associate Director of Teaching and Learning, and Interim Director of Special Education. Her leadership is defined by a commitment to fostering equity, staff wellness and a healthy organizational culture. She is known for her empathetic support of over 850 staff members, modeling conflict resolution and leading with a vision that prioritizes both student success and employee growth.

Beyond the district office, Dr. Budge's impact is felt deeply throughout the Kelso community. Her extensive involvement includes service with Head Start, the Kelso Public Schools Foundation, Lower Columbia School Gardens, United Way, and Lower Columbia College. As a communicator and leader, she represents the educators of our community with pride and integrity.

A three-year member of the Chi Cowlitz Chapter, Dr. Budge has served as chapter secretary and this biennium, as co-president. She has been instrumental in the growth of collegiate members in the chapter.

Washington State DKG is pleased to recognize Dr. Budge for her outstanding contributions to education and to our organization. Please join us in congratulating Dr. Holly Budge on this well-deserved honor!

Every Member Leads

Teri King, WSO President 2025-2027

As our chapters begin a new biennium, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our outgoing officers for their dedication, service, and leadership. Your commitment has strengthened our organization in countless ways. At the same time, I warmly welcome our newly elected officers as they step into their new roles. Thank you for accepting the opportunity to lead and serve.

One of the greatest strengths of our organization is that leadership is not confined to a title or position. We are blessed with members who lead at every stage of their journey and in innumerable ways. When we pause to look around, we see a remarkable tapestry of talents, experiences, and gifts—all contributing to the success of our chapters, our state organization, and ultimately, our mission.

This summer, I had the privilege of attending **Ignite 2026**, the Delta Kappa Gamma International leadership education program held at the McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas in Austin. I was honored to attend alongside Charlene Shea, Washington State Organization's Second Vice President.

For one intense and inspiring week, twenty women from across the organization—selected through a blind application process—lived together on campus, learned together, shared meals, exchanged ideas, and formed lasting friendships. Our advisor was the International Leadership Chair for 2024–2026 and our newly installed International President Connie Rensink. It was an extraordinary opportunity to learn from exceptional instructors and from one another.

Although each participant brought unique experiences, perspectives, and backgrounds, we all shared one common purpose: a genuine desire to grow as leaders, to put that leadership into practice, and to give back to Delta Kappa Gamma.

Now that I've been home for a couple of weeks, I find myself recognizing leadership opportunities every day. The lessons from Ignite continue to surface in my work, my volunteer service, and my daily interactions. I have discovered that leadership is not reserved for special occasions—it is practiced in the everyday moments when we choose to encourage, support, collaborate, and inspire others.

This experience has also deepened my appreciation for the leadership opportunities within the Washington State Organization. Every member has a role in moving our organization forward and advancing our mission and purposes. Our state leaders are committed to providing training, resources, encouragement, and support so that every member has the opportunity to develop their own leadership potential.

One statement from Ignite continues to resonate with me:

"If you aren't growing, you are dying."

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Those words remind us that leadership is a lifelong journey of learning and growth. With that in mind, I invite each of you to join us this September for our Fall Executive Board Training at The Evergreen State College. I also encourage you to participate in our statewide Zoom learning opportunities throughout the year and to take advantage of the outstanding leadership programs and events offered by Delta Kappa Gamma International.

Not every leadership journey looks the same—and that's exactly as it should be. Whether you serve as a chapter officer, mentor a colleague, welcome a new member, organize an event, or simply offer encouragement when someone needs it most, you are leading.

Even if you don't yet see yourself as a leader, I do.

I look forward to getting to know each of you better, discovering the unique gifts you bring to education and to our organization, and watching how, together, we continue to learn, grow, and lead with purpose.

DKG International IGNITE Leadership Development Class of 2026
(WA State President Teri King in back row far left; 2nd Vice President Charlene Shea in second row, third from left; International President 2026-2028 Connie Rensink in second row, far left.)

NOTICE: Order State Directory and/or Newsletter

Members may order a hard copy of the 2026-2027 WSO State Director or a hard copy subscription to the WSO News, 2026-2027 edition, with the link below.

Order your hard copy WSO State Directory or hard copy WSO newsletter with this link.

Connecting and Growing at Fall Board

Dr. Marge Lofstrom, 1st VP
Educational Education Committee

We're kicking off the new biennium with an open-door Fall Board — and everyone's invited. New officers, returning members, and support teams are all welcome to join us for two days of learning, sharing, and connecting.

🤝 **Bring Your Team**
New officers, bring the people who help you shine — outgoing officers, committee members, partners, helpers, and even potential members. Fall Board is built to support you and strengthen your chapter for the year ahead.

🌟 **Friday Evening –**We are offering many opportunities for you to get energized and involved starting at 6:00 PM on Friday. The Educational Policy and Legislation team will discuss the newly passed US Forum resolution on food insecurity, other current US Forum resolutions and state news at the **US Forum Power Hour. Darice Johnson**, a Rachel Royston recipient, will then share her insights on technology and education today and for the future. Of course, no DKG gathering is complete without time to reconnect. After the presentations, you can join your DKG sisters for some well-deserved social time at the **Stipends & Scholarships Committee Social Fundraiser**.
It's a fun, relaxed way to catch up, build community, and support the programs that empower educators across Washington.

🌼 **Saturday Sessions**
Bright and early on Saturday morning at **8:00 AM ,** participants will engage in a presentation by our **keynote speaker**, followed by a program on the **State Strategic Action Plan**, and a **Nuts & Bolts, Q&A** session. Chapters will be able to work on their own SAP later in the day, but first come educational workshops:

🛠️ **Workshops:** Hands-on sessions include:

- Building Member Relationships
- Zeffy and YOU
- Sustainable Chapter Leadership
- Funding Your Impact
- Treasurer's Role
- Communications
- Emerging Leaders: What's New in DKG

Clock-Hour Workshops (1 hour each)

- The Linguistically Diverse Classroom
- Racing into STEM with LEGOS
- Middle School Girls in Science

Our culminating activity in the afternoon will be the **Executive Board** meeting where chapter presidents and the Executive Committee will discuss and vote on important DKG Washington matters. While chapter presidents or their designees are eligible to vote, all members are encouraged to attend to keep abreast of our society's business.

The WSO Executive Committee has worked hard to make this Fall Board relevant to all chapter officers and members. There is something being offered for everyone, plus the new location makes the event more affordable. A twist is being provided from how Fall Board looked in the past that we hope will entice more members to participate. Fall Board participants will walk away trained, invigorated, and inspired—ready to carry this momentum home and put it to work. We're looking forward to seeing you there.

CELEBRATE!

Dr. Charlene Shea, 2nd VP, Membership Chair

I'm grateful to have had the opportunity to join fifteen of our WA State DKG sisters at the 2026 International Convention in Aurora, Colorado! So many new and continuing friendships deepened; exceptional learning and leadership opportunities, and fireworks!! Thank you to the Stipend and Scholarship committee for all the generous stipends/scholarships that were awarded. This generosity supported several of our members, including me, with scholarship funds to help assure WSO was an active participant in the International Convention and other member opportunities.

Congratulations to our new International President: Connie Rensink and Kay Stern, WSO Chi Cowlitz, who will be serving as NW representative to the US forum steering committee!

The International Celebration of Life recognized the following members who passed during the 2024-2026 biennium: Caroline Brodniak, Alpha Delta; Kathey Cokelet, Beta Sigma; Patricia Ann Cosner, Alpha Zeta; Kathy Davis, Theta; Patsy Ethridge-Neal, Beta; Susan Grant, Beta; Jane Gruver, Iota; Mary Virginia Keinath, Phi; Susie Metully, Psi; Rose Ann Moore, Alpha Lambda; Lillian Parra, Alpha Psi; Kimberly Diane Wells, Beta Chi; and Maryruth Williamson, Alpha Tau. A copy of the International Celebration of Life booklet will be sent to chapter presidents who experienced a member passing by the end of August 2026. Each of these ladies' incredible talents were exceptional gifts to WSO DKG.

A few more SOLT Training 2025 Myth Busters (see articles in the January and May 2026 WSON) to encourage you to ask an inspiring educator to join DKG:

1. **Myth**: *You can't be an officer until you have an induction ceremony*. **Truth**: Active members do not have to participate in an induction ceremony to become an officer.
2. **Myth**: *If your chapter becomes too big, international will split the chapter.* **Truth**: No way—there are NO LIMITS on how big a chapter can become. Remember our 100 new member challenge? Don't feel limited on who you ask!
3. **Myth**: *Your chapter MUST have a complete Executive Board.* **Truth**: Chapters are required to have a president (or co-presidents), vice president (there's some wiggle room with this position), treasurer and a secretary.
4. **Myth:** *You must have a college degree in education to be a member*. **Truth**: We are a truly diverse community—you only need to be or have been an educator or been involved in education. Who do you know that you can invite to join DKG?

Many chapters will be having summer meet and greet opportunities. Invite an educator friend to join your chapter—there's always room for one more!

Upcoming events: Fall Board- Evergreen State College September 25-26 (Friday night and Saturday). All incoming chapter officers are encouraged to attend. There will be something for everyone- new leaders, existing leaders and FUTURE leaders! See you there!!

Grants and Scholarships Fund Raiser: Rock and small pot painting

Ever painted a rock? A small pot? Want to spend a relaxing evening to start off Fall Board? This is the place to be on Friday, September 25th !

No artistic ability required! Join your friends, have a snack and drink of choice, and paint away!

For $10.00 you will be provided a rock or small pot that you can decorate and take home! Great opportunity to relax after traveling to Olympia, The Evergreen State College, before getting into "the work" the next day.

Rocks, pots, paints and brushes will be provided for the small amount of $10.00!! Be sure to join in the fun!

All proceeds benefit the WSO Grants and Scholarship fund. You can apply for those funds by February 1, 2027, for the opportunity to enrich your own professional and/or personal development. What a win-win!

RACHEL ROYSTON PERMANENT SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

In the Spring Edition of the DKGWA Newsletter (WSON), the RRPSF Board shared pictures and information about the newest group of nine scholarship awardees whose scholarship year began on July 1, 2026. The Board of Trustees, in addition, is awarding three of these women a Margaret Harvin award for their high level of success in the area of educational scholarship. This year's three Harvin Award winners are: Pam Johnson, Jill VanderVeer and Ashley Cahill.

It is almost time to begin the process of determining the 2026-2027 scholarship awardees. Please be on the lookout for women in Washington State who are already or are planning to work towards advanced degrees, certificates or advanced training in education. Applications will be posted on September 1, 2026, on the DKG State website: https://www.dkgwa.org. Please encourage fellow teachers, friends, and colleagues to apply any time between September 1 and December 31, 2026!

Darice, Johnson, a 2025-26 recipient, will be speaking at Fall Board on Friday evening. She will share one of the most powerful lessons she has learned about education today. You won't want to miss it!

Honoring Excellence

Monique Harrison, Immediate Past President

For more than a century, our organization has stood on the shoulders of extraordinary women—educators who lead, serve, innovate, and uplift others in ways both seen and unseen. The Washington State Organization Achievement Award is our premier way of honoring this vibrant legacy of leadership.

As Immediate Past President, I have spent this year reflecting on how we can strengthen awareness of this distinguished recognition and ensure that the legacy of the Achievement Award continues for future generations. Today, I am filled with enthusiasm as I invite you to join me in a renewed celebration of the excellence that surrounds us every day. This is an opportunity to look across our chapters and shine a bright light on the incredible contributions our members make to education and our community. Not because excellence is absent among us, but because it is so deeply embedded in who we are that we sometimes forget to name it, celebrate it, and lift it into the light.

The Achievement Award has always represented the very best of DKG. It honors members who have demonstrated commitment through chapter involvement, leadership at the state level, contributions beyond our state through regional or international work, and meaningful service to education and community.

These are the women who say yes when leadership is needed. The women who quietly carry programs, mentor others, and represent us with excellence. The women whose impact extends far beyond a single meeting or moment.

At our recent convention, we had the opportunity to reflect on the remarkable women who have received this honor in the past. Their contributions have shaped our organization, strengthened our communities, and impacted generations of learners. Their stories remind us that leadership is not always loud, but it is always powerful.

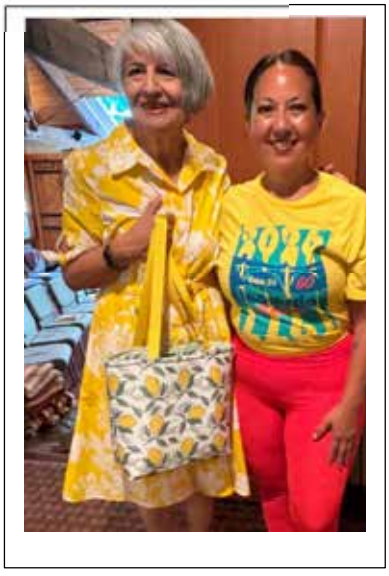
As we move forward, I am committed to ensuring that our past Achievement Award recipients continue to be recognized and celebrated. One step we are exploring is intentionally acknowledging those in attendance at our conventions, so members can see, connect with, and be inspired by those who have carried this legacy of excellence.

Recognition matters. It tells our stories. It preserves our history. It inspires the next generation of leaders. As we celebrate those who have come before us, I invite you to begin thinking about the extraordinary women within your chapters, those whose work reflects the very best of DKG. Visit the WSO website to view the distinguished list of past Achievement Award recipients and learn more about the nomination process. Please consider nominating an outstanding DKG woman for the WSO Achievement Award, **due February 1, 2027**.

When life gives you lemons -
SQUEEZE THE DAY!

HIGHLIGHTS of the LEADERSHIP RETREAT at RAINBOW LODGE

The Leadership Development Retreat was a positive experience for all. Attendees learned when "Life Gives You Lemons... the door often opens up a new opportunity!" The presentations were outstanding and the fellowship provided the zest we needed for a revitalization of our own DKG spirit. Here's a picture of our entire group taken July 22, 2026, at Rainbow Lodge.



Fall Board is just around the corner and now is the time to reserve your seat for the event and your room if you would like to lodge at The Evergreen State College, our meeting location.

Below is the information you need to get ready for Fall Board. You will also find this on the registration page. It is also on the state website.

Fall Board Registration

https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2026-wso-fall-executive-board-registration

Deadlines:

- **Early registration BY August 18**
  - **Regular registration BY August 25**
    - **Late registration BY September 1**

Last date to register for fall board and reserve a dorm room is September 1, 2026.

Dorm Registration

The Evergreen State College Dorm Lodging information. Last date to reserve a dorm room is September 1, 2026.
https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2026-fall-executive-board-evergreen-state-college-dorm-lodging-reservation

The Evergreen State College Dormitory Bldg. A. Twin bed(s) single/double occupancy with access to shared restrooms. Bed linens and towel sets are provided. Access to campus WiFi included. For those staying in the dorm, parking is located in LOT F. Shuttle service will be provided from the dorm to the **House of Welcome**, upon request.

- SINGLE = $64.35 + 9.6% tx $6.72 = $76.72 per person per night.
- DOUBLE (one roommate) = $55.00 + 9.6% tx $5.28 = $60.28 per person per night.
- ROOMS limited for Thursday night.
- **DEADLINE to RESERVE DORM ROOM: September 1, 2026.**

- Other lodging options: Reserve your own lodging at a nearby hotel.

Some suggestions:
DoubleTree by Hilton Olympia Downtown Capitol District 3.7 miles;
Courtyard by Marriott Olympia 4.8 miles;
Best Western Tumwater-Olympia Inn 5.5 - 5.8 miles)

Parking on The Evergreen State College Campus Parking M-F until 7pm $6
Saturday/Sunday - FREE Parking in LOTS B & C
Debit and Credit cards payment for Friday parking.

Friday, September 25, 2026 Schedule

3:00 - 8:00 pm Registration
2:30 - 4:30 pm Executive Committee Meeting
5:00 - 6:00 pm Dinner on Your Own
6:15 - 7:15 pm US Forum Power Hour
7:15 - 7:45 pm Rachel Royston Recipient Reflection on Technology
7:45 - 8:30 pm Social Time/Stipend & Scholarships Fund raiser

During Fall Board, participants may earn up to 3 professional clock hours while attending workshop sessions. Clock hour application forms will be available at the General Registration table. Participants must keep a record of sessions attended, sign session attendance forms, and turn in required evaluation sheets along with the clock hour fee to receive certification by the Clock Hour Registrar. The $3/clock hour fee may be paid in cash or check made out to DKG WA by the end of the conference.

6:15 - 7:15 pm US Forum Power Hour

The Educational Policy and Legislation team will discuss the newly passed US Forum resolution on food insecurity, the other current US Forum resolutions, state initiatives and other state news at the US Forum Power Hour. **Presenter(s): Nancy Sheng (Lambda Bellingham); Pat Bennett-Forman (Alpha Sigma Kitsap); Joanne Vining (Alpha Lambda Lower Yakima)**

7:15 - 7:45 pm The Most Powerful Lessons I've Learned About Education Today Didn't Come from a Textbook

Rachel Royston 2026 Permanent Scholarship Foundation recipient, Darice Johnson, will share what she has learned by watching educators use technology to better serve the needs of today's students. Her message is inspirationally positive and one you don't want to miss. Laurie Fisher, RRPSF chair, will also briefly speak on the scholarship and how to apply. **Presenters: Darice Johnson, Laurie Fisher (Kappa Kent)**

7:45 - 8:30 pm Social Spark: Crafts for a Cause

Stipends and Scholarships Fund Raiser--Are you a budding Picasso? Maybe Rembrandt? How about Frida Kahlo? Here is your opportunity to unleash your hidden artist!! Friday evening at Fall Board join DKG sisters to paint a rock or small flowerpot. No prior experience is required. $10.00. All donations go to the Stipends and Scholarship fund. Any questions, please reach out to Karen Chance at k_chance@charter.net.

Saturday, April 25, 2026

7:00 - 8:00 am	**Registration/Mini-Continental**
8:00 - 9:00 am	**Group Meeting: Braver Angels**
9:00 - 9:30 am	**Group Meeting: Nuts & Bolts**
9:30 - 9:45 am	**Announcements**
9:45 - 10:00 am	**Mid-morning Break**
10:00 - 10:50 am	**Workshop Session 1: A, B, C, D**
11:00 - 11:50 am	**Workshop Session 2: A, B. C, D**
12:00 - 1:00 pm	**Lunch/Social Time**
1:15 - 2:15 pm	**Workshop Session 3: A, B, C, D**
2:15 - 2:30 pm	**Mid-day Break**
2:30 - 4:30 pm	**Executive Board Meeting (open to all)**

Whole Group Meeting Sessions

8:00 - 9:00 am Braver Angels – Courageous Citizenship

The Braver Angels organization works to close the partisan divide gap and strengthen our democratic republic. Ingrid Wyson will speak on how this nonprofit organization provides opportunities for people to respectfully discuss political topics with others of different opinions. **Presenter**: **Ingrid Wysong**

9:00 - 9:30 am Nuts & Bolts/SAP- SAP Isn't Just in Trees

Like a tall, sturdy tree that guides our path, the WSO Strategic Action Plan will guide our state for the next five years. Come see how it will focus on *chapter needs with state support.* **Presenters**: **Barb Clausen (Chi Cowlitz); Loveday Conquest (Alpha Delta Seattle); Candice Rutherford (Kappa Kent); Cathy Johnson (Beta Upsilon Grand Coulee)**

Workshop Sessions

10:00-10:50 am Workshop Session 1

A. Building Member Relationships

Our DKG strength is in relationships with current and future members. How do we support long-term, mid-term and new members to build generational relationships both within and between chapters. In this workshop we will explore the demographics of your chapter and how to build both current and future relationships with DKG sisters near and far. Building connections builds your chapter! **Presenters: Dr. Charlene Shea (Mu Clark County), Pamelia Valentine (Iota Mason/Thurston Counties) , Candice Rutherford (Kappa Kent); Monique Harrison (Beta Sigma Seattle)**

B. Emerging Leaders' Guide: What's New in DKG?

What changed at the International Convention? What do I need to know about GAPP, bylaws, and chapter rules? What really should be on the chapter agenda and in the minutes? Come increase your preparation to be a leader! **Presenters: Barb Clausen (Chi Cowlitz); Beverly Reinvik (Alpha Tacoma)**

C. Communications & Marketing: Did you hear….?

Communication is the glue that holds members and chapters together. In a world of electronic communications there are websites, emails, texts, newsletters, blogs, podcasts, and social media sites. Then there are old school snail-mail, phone calls and visits. Does your chapter have a plan for the best way to communicate with members, potential members and the community? The Communication Committee will look at how to use communication tools to benefit your members, recruiting and community image. **Presenter(s): Barbara McPherson (Kappa Kent); Chair, Pat Bennett-Forman (Alpha Sigma Kitsap); Newsletter Editor; Mary Lou Gregory (Beta Chi Grays Harbor), Website Editor**

D. The Linguistically Diverse Classroom (offered for 1 Clock Hour*)

Strategies for reaching ALL your multilingual learners, including those whose languages and cultures are unfamiliar to you. Learn how to acquire just enough of the language and to learn just enough about the culture to make a true difference in the life and learning of everyone in your classroom. **Presenter: Dr. Claire Smith (Mu Clark County)**

**Applying for clock hours for this workshop is optional. If you do want clock hours, you will need to complete the form and pay the $3 fee(cash or check to WSO DKG) by the end of the event. Your application will not be processed until confirmation is received from the presenter that you have completed any and all assignments.*

11:00-11:50 am Workshop Session 2

A. Leadership: Building/Maintaining a Sustainable Chapter

The center of DKG structure is the chapter. The chapter is the place where members learn about and experience the purposes and fellowship of our society. It is a place to grow professionally and personally. The chapter does not function without leadership. To be sustainable, chapters need a pipeline of leaders. This workshop will discuss how to build that pipeline and explore various ways to organize small, medium and big chapters that encourage members to actively participate in leadership roles. **Presenters: Kay Stern (Chi Cowlitz), Caryn Mears (Psi Kennewick)**

B. What's New in the Treasurer's Role and Deadlines That Can Bite You!

Current deadlines, necessary forms, and up-to-date requirements for success in the treasurer's role. Also, you can use your DKG Int. login to your advantage. **Presenter: Mary Rennie (Theta Yakima), State Treasurer**

This workshop will work better if you have your laptops so you can download and see what is being talked about. It is also better if you have a login for the DKG INT site. (You can email for help, now on that). BUT, you can also just come, listen, take notes, and partner with someone. Have no FEAR; we will also have lessons for you to do on your own.

C. Funding Your Impact: How to Access DKG Stipends, Scholarships, and Resources

Support for educators, projects, and community come in many ways at DKG. Come learn about our Washington Stipends and Scholarships: what they are, how to apply, and how they are used. You'll also have a chance to explore the purposes and resources of DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF). A brief follow-up to Friday's Rachel Royson information will be shared. **Presenter(s): Karen Chance (Theta Yakima); Susan Fritts (Alpha Sigma Kitsap)**

D. Title: Middle School Girls in Science: Supporting Girls' Participation in Science Courses and Careers (offered for 1 Clock Hour**)*
The middle school years are a critical time when girls' interest and participation in science courses decreases. This workshop will discuss how Place-Based Education (PBE) teaching strategies impacted girls' willingness to actively participate and pursue advanced science course work and careers. Even if you are retired or teaching other subjects, the information in this workshop can be used to teach other content areas and support K-12 children you know. **Presenter: Dr. Charlene Shea (Mu Clark)**
**Applying for clock hours for this workshop is optional. If you do want clock hours, you will need to complete the form and pay the $3 fee(cash or check) to WSO DKG by the end of the event. Your application will not be processed until confirmation is received from the presenter that you have completed any and all assignments.*

1:15-2:15 p.m. Saturday: Workshop Session 3

A. Ready, Set, Go! WSO Committees Planning for Action
WSO Leaders need to plan their activities for the year to get approval for expenditures. Please come prepared to review the WSO new Strategic Plan for your committee's action items to support chapters, meet with your committee during this time, and complete the work plan for your year. The modified form, tools to measure the impact of your work, and the new reporting form will be available. Approval of this form releases the finances so your chair may approve the committee expenditures--your participation is important! **Presenters: Teri King (Iota Mason), Dr. Marge Lofstrom (Beta Delta Auburn), Dr. Charlene Shea (Mu Clark), Mary Rennie (Theta Yakima), Dr. Claire Smith (Mu Clark), Monique Harrison (Beta Sigma Seattle), and Sherri Wagemann (Eta Spokane)**

B. Chapter Action Plans ~ Help at Your Fingertips
This session will take you by the hand and walk you through the great resources that will be available to help your chapter meet state goals. Data shows chapters need help in leadership succession and membership retention/recruitment. Come see the "menu" of state support and a sample action plan! Materials include state programs, documents, and sample tools to measure the impact of your efforts. A new action plan and separate reporting form will be shared. **Presiders: Dr. Loveday Conquest (Alpha Delta Seattle), Cathy Johnson (Beta Upsilon Grand Coulee), Candice Rutherford (Kappa Kent), and Barbara Clausen (Chi Cowlitz).**

C. Zeffy and Other Methods to Deposit and Organize Your Deposits
If you have never used Zeffy and other electronic methods to collect money, come see what is available for you to use for free. There are always two or three ways to help your work. **Presenter: Mary Rennie (Theta Yakima), State Treasurer**
This workshop will work better if you have your laptops so you can download and see what is being talked about. It is also better if you have a login for the DKG INT site. (You can email for help, now on that). BUT, you can also just come, listen, take notes, and partner with someone. Have no FEAR; tutoring help and on-line lessons are available.

D. Racing into STEM with LEGOS *(*offered for 1 Clock Hour STEM**)*
This simple LEGO car challenge combines creating a vehicle with LEGO Blocks. STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) skills include teamwork, engineering design, problem-solving, experimentation, measurement, recording data and drawing conclusions. Participants will learn about force, motion friction and distance concepts and use that information to work with a partner to build a vehicle. After vehicles are completed, participants will compete against other teams to see who can make their car go the longest distance in the shortest time. There will be LEGO prizes available for the winners.
Presenter(s): **Melanie Olson(Alpha Delta Seattle), Kris Hotchkiss (Alpha Delta Seattle), Loveday Conquest (Alpha Delta Seattle)**
**Applying for clock hours for this workshop is optional. If you do want clock hours, you will need to complete the form and pay the $3 fee(cash or check to WSO DKG) by the end of the event. Your application will not be processed until confirmation is received from the presenter that you have completed any and all assignments.*

Clock Hours

If you have any questions regarding clock hours, attendance requirements, evaluations, fees or registration, please see Marge Lofstrom before the end of the conference.

Around the State: Area V: Joint Meeting Service Activity

Chi/Cowlitz Chapter and Mu Clark County Chapter met together in March to share a meeting with WSO President Teri King. Both chapters had great turnout for a breakfast buffet and inspirational presentation from Teri. She shared her journey into DKG and gave an exciting preview of the Spring 2026 convention events. Teri also reminded us of the purpose and impact behind our work as DKG members.

Creativity and service came together beautifully as members crafted small, folded paper containers filled with treats. The room buzzed with laughter and teamwork as members of both chapters worked side by side, creating over 200 thoughtful favors. A few were sugar-free, a few contained nuts, but they all were labelled with love and a DKG sticker. We donated them to Canterbury Inn, Longview, and Cogir of Glenwood Place in Vancouver to be enjoyed during movie time or bingo activities. These simple but meaningful acts reflect the heart of DKG, serving our communities while strengthening bonds of friendship and care.

Kathy Williamson (Chi Cowlitz) enjoys time with State President Teri King at the Area V gathering.in March 2026.

Area VII: Beta Sigma Recognizes Members

Beta Sigma Seattle applauds two members, Monique E. Harrison, Ed.S., and Jannette Manuel for their recent articles in *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin,* Volume 92-5, 2026. Monique works for Kent School District as a Mathematics and instructional leadership specialist. Monique has served both the Washington State Organization and Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in multiple capacities. Her article is titled "*Reimagining Professional Learning for African American Women Administrators: Intersectionality, Literacy Instructional Leadership, and Equity-Centered Support*". Monique explores how the traditional professional learning models do not consider African American women administrator's lived experiences of gender, race and the invisible work they do as cultural mediators, equity advocates and mentors in their school communities. She advocates for professional learning models that are sustained, job-embedded and collaborative and draw upon the administrator's

commitment to student and family cultural identity and reducing systemic barriers to learning for students.

Jannette is a Family and Consumer Science Education teacher at Garfield High School in the Seattle Public Schools. Jannette has served as editor for WSO newsletter in the past. Jannette's article is titled "*From Crisis to Classroom: Using **Unlocking US** to Teach Family Health in High School".* Jannette discusses how she integrated Brene Brown's podcast *Unlocking Us* as a lifeline for connection with her students during COVID. The podcast helped provide students with emotional vocabulary and models adult accountability and reflection. Jannette carefully chooses podcast sessions that align with her district's Social Emotional Learning frameworks and utilizes trauma-informed approaches. She uses a method of providing pre-listening prompts, listening for quotes, questions and emotional reaction and a post-listening activity of journal, small-group discussion or art to reflect on what the student heard.

You can read more on the DKG International website by logging in with your Member ID number and password. Congratulations for your contribution to your profession Monique and Jannette.

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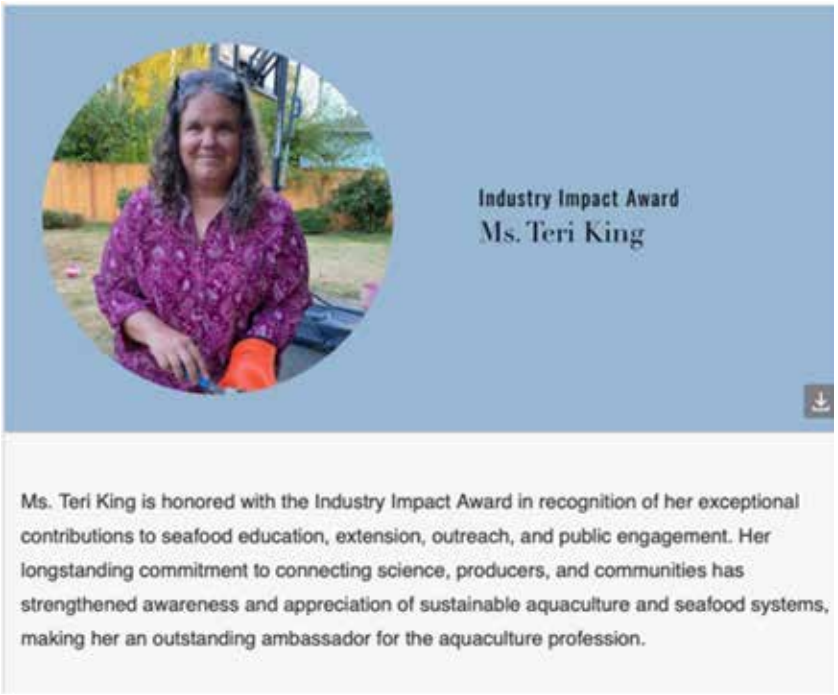

Bennett-Forman ends term as U.S. Forum Steering Committee Chair

Pat Bennett-Forman served as chair of the DKG U.S. Forum from 2024-2026. She brought an energy and commitment to growing member awareness and involvement with the Forum's purposes. In her role as chair, Pat spearheaded the reformatting of the Forum newsletter style and content to include analysis of major proposed legislation resulting in almost doubling readership. Under her leadership, the Forum produced nine virtual panels discussing major issues with presenters representing all sides of the issue. The number of viewers increased with each panel. To maximize the impact of meetings with Congress members and staff by the National Legislative Seminar, participants received pre-seminar training virtually. The training, open to all, also served to assist DKG members to advocate in their state legislatures, thus further expanding DKG's role in legislative advocacy. Pat's future plans are to continue to serve DKG through advocacy at all levels.

WA State Organizaton Delegates to 2026 DKG International Convention Aurora, Colorado