



Sunflower

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Kansas State Organization

◆Honoring Key Women Educators◆

October 2021, Vol. 23, No 2, Fall

KSO President Tina Brewer's Message



Hello DKG sisters, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Tina Brewer and I am recently retired after 30 years of early childhood/special education teaching. I am excited to represent you as your KSO President. I have wonderful people surrounding me to help me learn the ins and outs of my new position.

Your past president, Alicia Rues, did an awesome job of guiding us all through the “pandemic” biennium. I marveled at how she handled all the “new” things that had to be dealt with during this time. I hope to react and deal with new obstacles, as well as she did, while trying to come out of this pandemic.

My theme for this 2021-23 biennium is **Build a New Chapter**. This has two meanings. The first is following Alicia’s theme, **Turn the Page**. As we turn the page and begin to write a new chapter for this biennium, I hope we can work together, be kind and support one another into the new normal of society and education. The second is how we can actually build up our chapters. This is not only by gaining

new membership, but by building each other up through praise, understanding and sharing knowledge.

I challenge each chapter to gain one new member each.



By doing this we could increase our state membership by 27. How amazing would that be!

We can do this by watching for those new teachers that need a community of key women educators to support and guide them through the adventure of teaching. We can also do this by looking outside of the box for those women educators that are not just in the classrooms. Some examples of that are, yoga instructors, public librarians, nurses that teach, dance instructors, and so on. You get the idea. These are not the normal people we look for but are certainly key women educators in our communities.

Many of you are wondering about the state convention. We are diligently working to finalize the date and location for this. After not being able to have an in person convention the last two years, we are starting from scratch to build

up a new contract. Normally the dates and contracts are set with our hotel of choice a few years in advance. The hotels are wading in new territory just as we are. I thank you for your patience as we work through the logistics of it all.

Chapter presidents should have digital copies of the new directory that will provide other information you may need for your yearbooks.

Your new EEC Chair, Donna Knoell, will be sharing information about yearbooks and who needs to receive copies of those once they are done. She is also a great resource for programs and speakers. Your membership chair, Ruth Waggoner, will have ideas for you to build up your membership. Watch for information from them on the website and in the Sunflower.

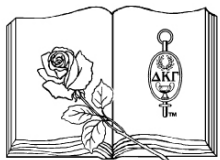
Please let me know how I may better serve you and if you have any questions reach out to me and I will try to answer them or find someone that can. I hope you are all staying healthy and enjoying all the blessings you are given. Continue to encourage one another and work together as we **Build a New Chapter**.

Rules Committee—Now is the time to submit proposals for change!

Welcome from the 2021-2023 Kansas State Organization Rules Committee! This committee is composed of Marie Hieger, Chair; Kathryn Hatfield, Parliamentarian, Tina Brewer, KSO President. If you are not familiar with the Governing Documents of our Society, please take some time to do so.

The chapter rules are submitted every four (4) years to our committee. Reminders have been given periodically since 2018 to up-date the chapter rules. There were many changes made by International to cause state and chapters to up-date their rules.

The chapter president is responsible for appointing a member(s) to make necessary changes. This is a big responsibility for the chapter which includes filing the revised copy with the KSO. We do hope



you are using KSO instead of DKG!

We will review and file the Chapter rules. (See Chapter Rules Checklist, page 29 of [Go-To Guide for Chapter Members.](#))

If you need help contact Marie Hieger, Chair KSO Rules - mariehieger106@gmail.com.

If you or your chapter would like to submit proposals to the KSO Bylaws and Standing Rules and/or Amendments, please submit the changes to me (Marie Hieger) by November 1, 2021. The proposed changes will be in the Winter Sunflower at least 45 days prior to the opening of the convention. We will vote on the proposed changes at the state convention.

Marie Hieger, Chair KSO Rules Committee
600 E. Elm St., Apt. 106
Salina, KS 64401

To submit a proposal to the KSO Bylaws and Standing Rules and/or amendments, click on the following link and fill out the google form provided. There is also a hard copy to print off on the website.

To fill out a form for a Proposal for the KSO Bylaws and Standing Rules and/or Amendments—[click here!](#)



Want to present at State Convention?

President Brewer and her convention committee are looking for presenters for the 2022 Kansas State Organization Convention! Presenters are needed to share their expertise and knowledge about DKG Society, Professional Development topics, and Personal Growth topics.

To submit a proposal click here: [Workshop Proposal](#)

The link and a printable form will also be available on the KSO website.

Educational Excellence Committee News



Educational Excellence Committee:
Donna L. Knoell,
Chair

Dear friends in Delta Kappa Gamma, it is a pleasure to share some exciting and worthwhile ideas for the benefit of your individual chapters. At the recent Leadership Training in Atlanta, Georgia, a number of really good ideas and suggestions were shared, that can hopefully be helpful to you. One idea that my chapter (Beta Nu) has implemented is to try to plan programs that are enriching and meaningful to the 'whole' individual. Rather than focusing on topics that may be covered at professional development meetings in schools, we have tried to plan a broad array of programs, with special interest to both active teachers and to retirees. We have found that programs with a focus on improving health and wellness are especially well received by our membership. So for a joint meeting that we have with another chapter, we are fortunate to be having a program given by the cardiologist at one of our hospitals who specializes in women's cardiac health. We are indeed fortunate to be able to have this program! We have also planned programs dealing with good nutrition, and one on improving skin care. We also plan one meeting each year where we invite a local community college teacher to come teach us how to paint some-

thing for our homes. The choice of what we paint is selected so each of us is a 'successful artist'... not requiring special talent- just a fun night where we each feel fulfilled by our accomplishment!

Another aspect of the Educational Excellence Committee involves special project considerations where each chapter can select a meaningful project to try to make a positive difference in our communities. The idea which resonated most with me while at the Leadership Training was a project called Project Linus. It involves making small, fleece blankets for children who are in the emergency room or experiencing 'crisis' in some other way. The simple directions for this project do not even involve any sewing...just a couple easy cuts and then tying the fabric. The EEC individual in Kentucky who shared this project said they have even found fabric stores who have been willing to donate the fleece for these blankets. If this sounds like a good project for your chapter, feel free to contact me for specific directions. The additional suggestion for this even included giving the child a book along with the blanket, to give him or her something special to add to their comfort and education.

I would like to remind you that each chapter needs to send me a copy of your directory for the year, and you also need to send me a copy of your newsletter(s) as you write and distribute them. Please send the directory

by November 1, 2021, and please send the newsletters as you write them. These can be sent to me either digitally to my email: dknoell@sbcglobal.net or they can be mailed via USPS to me at my address: Dr. Donna L. Knoell, 5165 Somerset Drive, Prairie Village, Kansas 66207.

I wish each of you a successful year ahead, and know that your chapter members will really appreciate all your efforts to educate and enrich their lives with your valuable and meaningful programs and your meaningful friendships with each other throughout the year. And for chapters who have members who cannot get to meetings, I thank you in advance for reaching out to those individuals to let them know they are missed, and how much you care about them! A simple phone call, or a card or note can be so very meaningful to members who find it difficult to attend meetings.

Thank you to each of you for continuing to share the true, special meaning of membership in Delta Kappa Gamma, and I hope you will also reach out to potential members, to share our purposes and to encourage them to join us as members.

KSO State Representatives 2021—2023

Thank you for agreeing to serve as a State Representative (SR). You can be a vital link with KSO chapters.

One of the key components of the SR program is communication. One of the best ways to communicate is by visiting your assigned chapter at least once a biennium. KSO pays for your mileage for one visit (15 cents a mile); chapters are asked to fund mileage if a second visit is requested.

There are two (2) forms that you and the chapter president will complete. One of those is the KSO Representative Report and the other is the Chapter Report of State Representative's Visit. I will make sure that both of those forms will be available on the KSO website and that a mileage voucher can be downloaded from the site, too.

I'll be in touch with additional information in the next few months. Thank you again for your support and dedication to KSO/DKG!

Alicia Rues, Chair of KSO State Representatives

Upcoming Deadlines:

- Aug. 15: KSO Road Scholar application due
- Nov. 1: Bylaws and Standing Rules proposed amendments due to Rules committee chair
- Nov. 15: Workshop proposal for state convention 2021 due to State President, Tina Brewer
- Nov. 15: KSO Road Scholar application due to Scholarship Chair, Loretta Scott
- Nov. 15: Chapter Treasurer IRS Form 990 due to the IRS
- Dec. 1st: Chapter rules update due to Rules Committee Chair, Marie Hieger
- Dec. 1st: Chapter Yearbook (print or digital) due to ECC Chair, Donna Knoell
- Jan. 1st: Scholarship Applications Due to Scholarship Chair, Loretta Scott

Scholarship Money to Build a New Chapter!

Are you ready to turn a new page in your professional development and need a little help? Have a unique classroom project you want to implement? Want to continue to learn as a Road Scholar? Kansas State Organization has money to share to help members reach their goals! Applications are available on the state website and all members are encouraged to apply!

Postmark by August 15, November 15, February 15, or May 15

- ◆ Helen D. Bobbitt Hostelship/Road Scholar Award (Eight for \$300)

Due January 1, 2022

- ◆ Post Doctoral Study (\$3,000)
- ◆ Doctoral Degree (\$3,750)
- ◆ Specialist Degree (\$2,250)
- ◆ Master's Degree (\$1,500)

Due February 1, 2022

- ◆ First Time Convention/Conference Award (Three for \$200; must be a member for at least one year before applying)

- ◆ Innovation in the Classroom Award (Three for \$300)
Reviewed on first-come, first served basis
- ◆ Professional Enrichment Award (Five for \$300)
- ◆ Continuing Education Award (Five for \$300)
- ◆ National Board Certification (Two for \$1,000); Renewal (Two for \$500)



KSO is 85 years old on October 17th!

Kansas State was organized October 17, 1936 at the Allis Hotel, Wichita. Dr. Annie Webb Blanton held the installation ceremony with the assistance of Maude I Gorham, State Founder. Send your celebration ideas and pictures to sperkinsdkg@gmail.com to share in our Winter Newsletter!

Statue unveilings honoring DKG members with Orphan Train Connections

Concordia, KS, home of the National Orphan Train Museum will be adding two beautiful new bronze statues that will join the 30+ already on public view in and around the town. Statues are the work of the Randolph Rose Collection of Yonkers, NY and help memorialize an individual, family, agency or entity in the spirit of the humanitarian efforts of the Orphan Train Movement. In Kansas alone, over 5,000 children were sent to our state where they were guided to a new life by caring adults and communities.

Mary Ann Lagemann became a member of Alpha Sigma chapter of DKG in May of 1987. Her daughter Mary Lisa Thoman, also an Alpha Sigma member, as was her daughter Carol, now deceased, spearheaded a family effort to donate a statue honoring not only Mary Ann, but also father William Lagemann. This statue will be dedicated at Concordia's Broadway Plaza, noon, Saturday, September 25. The statue unveiling will be taking place as part of Concordia's Annual Fall Fest.

A second statue unveiling will be taking place in December (TBA), for Mil-

dred Tracy who taught language arts in the Concordia school system, starting in a rural one-room facility. Mildred also served as Alpha Sigma chapter President 1960-62. In honor of Mildred, Alpha Sigma reached out to current members, former students, and community members to help raise funds in honor of Concordia's Orphan Train Rider and teacher.

Mildred Tracy was born Emilie Lung in NYC, 1907. Along with her brother, Henry, the two were placed in New York's Children's Aid Society orphanage after the death of their mother, and rode the Orphan Train January 16, 1913 (Emilie's 6th birthday) to Warrensburg, MO where they were placed at the O'Brien family farm.

After college, now named Mildred O'Brien, began teaching in Mayville, MO where she met and married Buford Tracy, manager of Leidigh Lumber. In 1948, the couple had a daughter, Margaret Ann, who also be-

came a teacher. The three-some moved to Concordia where Mildred continued her teaching and Buford took over managing the local lumber company. Mildred retired from teaching after 34 years and after her husband's death in 1988, she moved to Kansas City to be near her daughter. Mildred passed away in 1993. Mildred's statue will be placed at the entrance of Concordia High School.

Sue Sutton, Alpha Sigma President/KSO World Fellowship Chair



Lending a Helping Hand/Mildred Tracy



Teach Me/Mary Ann Lagemann

Focus on Membership!

Dr. Ruth Waggoner (Beta Omega), Membership Chair

Committee Members:

Audrey Vaughn

JoLynne Campbell

Kristi Burik

Tina Brewer - KSO President / ex officio

Maybelle Circle - Executive Secretary / ex officio (w/o vote)

Sandra Ellis - Treasurer / Consultant (w/o vote)

This summer, Delta Kappa Gamma International hosted State Organization Leadership Training in Atlanta, Georgia. Officers from across the United States and foreign countries as well, came together for this three-day event. One of the most common topics of discussion was membership. How do you recruit new members and retain active members?

Becky Sadowski, 2020-2022 DKG International President, stated, "Knowing who we are and why we are is integral to telling the DKG story." In the September/October 2021 edition of the *DKG News*, the following is shared. "Capturing the essence of the 'who' and 'why' of DKG is the first step in successful marketing for member recruitment and retention and for marketing DKG in communities. The DKG Vision statement captures the 'who.' DKG is Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide. The DKG

Mission statement clearly explains the 'why.' The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education" ("Know the Facts! Marketing 101", 2021. p. 8).

One way to increase membership is to share our own experiences that capture the 'who' and 'why' of DKG. I recently participated in a professional development session where I mentioned Delta Kappa Gamma. The teachers at my table had never heard of our organization. As I shared my DKG story with them, they remarked with interest, "Why haven't we heard about this society before?" As a result of that discussion, Kansas will have at least four new members! Sometimes it's just a matter of getting the word out about all the opportunities and resources DKG has to offer. Don't be afraid to share your DKG story with others!



Where to find more information about DKG and Kansas State Organization!

Check out our website at www.phistate.weebly.com
(Member only tabs are accessible with the password sent to chapter presidents.)

International website at www.dkg.org
(You will need your member number and a password to access the members only area of the website)

DKG promotes professional and personal growth of members and excellence in education.