We did it!! After two years of planning for Phi State to host the 2015 Southwest Regional Conference at Wichita’s Hyatt Regency, July 22-25, we celebrated with pride! Our efforts brought smiles and a good time to our guests and ourselves. We created fond memories for the nearly 400 members and guests. Members experienced a multitude of personal interactions, keynote presentations, meal events, break-out sessions, U. S. Forum, general sessions, “Take a Bite Out of Kansas,” Info Fair, Market Place and the gracious hospitality of our Kansas “sunflowers.” If Dorothy and Toto had attended, she surely would have exclaimed, “We’re in Kansas, Toto, and it’s an ah-some place to be.”
2015 Southwest Regional Steering Committee

**Front row:** Rebecca Hochstein (block prize coordinator, program ads, event sponsor, International guests), Glenna Hackerott (2013-2015 state president, conference treasurer), Susan Perkins (Steering Committee chair, signage, Kansas Night, media awards), Beth Schieber (SW Regional Director), Maybelle Circle (properties), Kathryn Hatfield (properties, Emergency Fund); **Middle row:** Becki Racunas (block prize coordinator, exhibits/vendors), Margo Rakes (Kansas Night), Julie Dauber (onsite registration), Bonnie Raff (Info Fair), Cynda Carr (publicity, newsletters, media awards), Kathy Chamberland (tote bags), Susan Graham (2015-2017 state president, Kansas Night favors), Jennifer Stanfield (music facilitator); **Back row:** Georgia Klein (tours), Judy Branden (greeters, hostesses), Gail Goolsby (photography coordinator), Julie Matt (decorations), Lila Thayer (hospitality room); Not pictured: Janice Ostrom (meals coordinator), Nancy Eis (audio visual)

Photograph is courtesy of Photographs by Jim, Floresville, Texas

“Take a Bite Out of Kansas” promotes our state

A rainbow of balloons greeted DKG members and guests on July 22, 2015, as they entered the ballroom to “Take a Bite Out of Kansas.” The ballroom and hallways were overflowing with a smorgasbord of interactive speakers, samples, displays, high school jazz band, belly dancers, and costumed gunslingers and their dance hall gal.

The event featured:

☆ Kansas authors Beverly Olson Buller (From Emporia: The Story of William Allen White and A Prairie Peter: The Story of Mary White); Debra Seely (Grasslands and Last of the Round-up Boys); Dave Webb (399 Characters of Kansas and 999 Characters of Kansas)

☆ Susie Haver, “The Great American Cover-Up” (historical role of aprons)

☆ Skylines Jazz Band

☆ Linwood Belly Dancers

☆ Wichita Quilters (display of quilts)

☆ Dodge City Girls and Gunslingers

☆ Displays and/or free items from: Southwest Dairy Association (tote bag, ice cream scoop); Art’s & Mary’s Chips (potato chips); Nu Way Café (Nu Way samples); Tundra Rose Soaps (soap, lip balm); Kansas Wheat Commission (bread samples); Kansas Pork Association (“stress” pig; classroom kit);

(See Take a Bite... page 5)
As I begin my biennium, I ask you to journey with me to “Follow the Sun...Leave a Legacy of Leadership.” I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as Phi State’s president for the next two years. But I want you, the members of Phi State, to know that this isn’t just my journey; it is a “we” journey. We are a team to help make a difference in Phi State and in the chapters.

I chose the sunflower as the visual focus of my biennium for several reasons. Some say the flower follows the sun but stops when it begins to bloom as a mature flower. It is a bright, cheery, “smiling” flower that stands tall and proud. I like to think that DKG members have those same qualities.

Because I have always had a high regard for Annie Webb Blanton and her legacy of leadership, I also wanted to include that focus in my theme. Many leaders have influenced me in my personal journey of leadership. I wasn’t born a leader; I developed those skills through following leaders and having been given an opportunity to lead. At SW Regional in Wichita, I had the rewarding opportunity to take part in the Leadership Development Training for Presidents led by Dr. Lyn Schmid, Sandra Smith Bull, Nita Scott, Beth Schieber and Pat Park. I only wish that every member of Phi State could have this opportunity as well.

One of my goals is to help others develop their own leadership potential and personal connection with DKG. They need to be nurtured through the traditions and legacies of the past leaders and of our Society’s values and purposes. I want to give Phi State members an opportunity to learn to lead and to make a difference in advancing women educators.

Secondly, I want to improve the “health” of Phi State. It is the vision of Dr. Schmid and other members of the International Executive Board to find ways to approach the trend of declining membership. I want to explore as a team what can be done to increase and sustain the membership of our chapters. Ask those early career educators; reinstate those dropped members; re-energize your chapters with relevant, informative programs and projects.

Lastly, because we are a team, I want a two-way line of communication between myself and the members of Phi State. I plan to communicate through news articles in the Sunflower, monthly emails to chapter presidents, visits from myself and the State Representatives, and personal notes and emails. Please contact me with questions, concerns or comments. I may not know all the answers, but I will find them as soon as I can.

Let me close with a quotation to consider as we begin this journey of my biennium. “People will know who we are and what we believe by what we say and do.” One of the trainers for my President’s Leadership Training gave this inspirational quotation. I believe that if we want to continue the legacy of our DKG’s Founders, as well as sustain and increase membership, we need to let others know that we are DKG women educators, and we believe in promoting professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. Let’s “Follow the Sun...and Leave a Legacy of Leadership.”

Susan Graham
2015-2017 State President
Dr. Lyn Schmid, international president, selected her biennial theme: “85 Years and Beyond—Advancing Key Women Educators for Life.” Eclectic opportunities at the Southwest Regional Conference carried out her theme by advancing personal and professional knowledge, experiencing cultural diversity and creating a bond across borders.

The conference created a mood of celebration all week. Four general sessions celebrated the faces of change, education excellence, possibilities and the future. The president’s luncheon celebrated our legacy and was attended by eleven Phi State presidents: Julie Dauber, Dorris Brant, Georgia Klein, Maybelle Circle, Lila Thayer, Judy Branden, Kim Oatney, Kathryn Hatfield, Susan Perkins, Glenna Hackerott and Susan Graham. Other meal events celebrated our milestones, fellowship and talents.

Dr. Justin Patchin shared his expertise with, “Bullying Beyond the Schoolyard.” He enlightened members when he said, “Technology isn’t the problem — it’s relationships.” Adolescents desire to be connected with others; they use social media to feel connected.

Dr. Maureen Clemmons, a DKG member from California, left members in awe after her keynote address, “Wind, Pyramids and Obelisks: Harnessing the Wind to Build the Megaliths of Antiquity.” Pat Lisowski wrote in the conference newsletter about Dr. Clemmons: “She ‘looked with new eyes’ at the hieroglyphs of ancient Egypt and saw in them the tools they could have used to make monuments ‘fly’ into position.”

Dyane Smokorowski, 2013 Kansas Teacher of the Year, inspired members with her message, “Keeping It Real for Kids.” She encouraged educators to plan relevant experiences for learning. She excitedly shared how Andover middle school students have been involved with solving water quality issues in Kenya by helping fund Lifestraw systems.

“Paint the Town” at Pinot’s Palace offered a special event for members 35 and under to meet International officers and staff in a unique venue.

Over forty workshops provided varied topics related to the Society, personal health and interests, education, and technology.

No conference is complete without a shopping venue. The Market Place allowed vendors and exhibitors to showcase their items — and bring smiles to the shoppers.

Celebrating the Society’s work occurred at the Info Fair, as members of International committees displayed their committees’ work.

The culminating “Boots and Bling” banquet honored the cultural diversity of the Southwest Region with a showcase of talent: piano, vocal and chorus performances; hula dance; folkloric dance; and Reiko Sumi of Japan’s spellbinding vocal solo, “Time to Say Goodbye” by Sattori.
Take a Bite… (from p. 2)

Kansas Beef Council (beef jerky samples); Hyatt Hotel Bar and Grill (farm-to-table food); Tanganyika Wildlife Center (interaction with a hedgehog, bearcat/binturong and ball python snake); Kansas DKG Bookmark Favors; Kernel’s Popcorn Express (cup of assorted popcorn); and Council Grove Tourism.

Phi State members busied themselves by overseeing the displays and punching cards at each station for a special drawing.

As our Southwest Regional Director Beth Schieber expressed in her thank you on page 8, “The unique opening night, Take a Bite Out of Kansas, was a triumph.”

Congratulations, applause and appreciation to Kansas Night coordinators Margo Rakes, Susan Perkins and the many Phi State members who volunteered before, during and after the event.

During the conference, Society leaders challenged and inspired members. International President Dr. Lyn Schmid asked, “Who are the women who will advance DKG?” She encouraged us to have fun, treat all members with respect, and appreciate the honor of being a member. “The women who will advance the Society want to do good work in their own communities. They are passionate about education and are the bedrock of our organization.” She challenged us to “take up the mantle to advance DKG.”

Sandra Smith Bull, international executive director, posed questions to ponder: “Are we a sorority, society, social club or a professional organization?... Does it matter how we market ourselves?” Bull focused on four Rs to consider for our future: recognition, relevance, role and relationships. She stressed the need to make it easier to be a member of DKG and to be tolerant and respectful.

Member Services Administrator Nita Scott shared her excitement about the growing connection between Girl Scouts and DKG. “There’s more to Girl Scout cookies than what’s in the box.” She would love to share more details via email about a patch that has been developed for collaboration activities between troops and chapters. She shared a quotation, “When opportunity knocks, some people are in the backyard looking for four-leaf clovers.”

Jeannette Zúñiga, second vice president, highlighted DKG experiences as she told how “A Personal Touch Can Make a Difference.” She appreciated knowing that “you are there in any moment to assist me.”

Author Dave Webb entertains members with his knowledge of Kansas characters

Dr. Lyn Schmid, international president
Photograph is courtesy of Photographs by Jim, Floresville, Texas

Author Dave Webb entertains members with his knowledge of Kansas characters
Throughout the week of hostessing the Southwest Regional Conference, members wearing sunflowers were seen everywhere. They registered, greeted, punched, filled, announced, facilitated, collected, decorated, sold, presided, hosted, served, sang, prepared, attended, finalized, assisted and cleaned!

Space doesn’t allow naming all the members who helped in myriad ways, but the efforts of each were recognized and are appreciated.

President Susan Graham
—Attended over twenty hours of Leadership Development Sessions and meals for state organization presidents.
—Carried the Kansas flag at the second general session

President Susan Graham and 2013-2015 President Glenna Hackerott
—Presented the Kansas banner and welcomed members to Kansas at the first general session

Past President and Conference Chair Susan Perkins
—Attended a training session for state membership chairmen
—Presided at the first general session
—Made announcements at events

Past President Glenna Hackerott
—Presided at the “Boots and Bling” banquet
—Handed out recognitions for members with fifty or more years of membership
—Presented the Excellence in Education Philanthropy Media Award to Gloria Balding, who represented KAKE-TV

Kathy Chamberland
—Attended training for state Educational Excellence Committee chairmen

Janice Ostrom
—Attended a training session for state treasurers
—Presented the Excellence in Print Media Award to Suzanne Perez Tobias, reporter for The Wichita Eagle

Cynda Carr
—Met with other state editors for a training session
—Prepared two conference newsletters
—Presented the Excellence in Education Philanthropy Media Award to Sue Kimmel, who represented KAKE-TV

Kathryn Hatfield
—Provided Emergency Fund information, collected and reported on amount contributed

Pat Lisowski
—Assisted Kathryn with Emergency Fund announcement and collection
—Wrote a newsletter article

Julie Dauber, onsite registrar
—Announced final registration figures at the fourth general session

Betty Amos and Shirley Malcolm
—Presented piano prelude and postlude music at the luncheon

Judy Schwanz
—Won the “Meet the Block” drawing and prize: free registration and meals for the International Convention in Nashville

Shirley Erickson and Barbara Carlson
—Received recognition for their 50+ years of membership

JoLynne Campbell, Lela Heacock and Sally Maack
—Sang in the chorus

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—Handed out recognitions for members with fifty or more years of membership
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Workshop presenters included:

—Georgia Klein and Rebecca Hochstein, “Got Money? I Found Some!”
—Beth McDonald, “Why Recycle?”
—Georgia Klein, “Making a Difference—Impacting the World”

Kathryn Hatfield
—Provided Emergency Fund information, collected and reported on amount contributed

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Dear Kansas Members,

Thank you for your warm welcome and genuine Kansas hospitality when I attended your state convention.

I congratulate Glenna Hackerott for a most inspiring and motivational convention. Her theme of Quilting a Strong Society Foundation did and does uphold and promote the mission and purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma.

The Ceremony of Remembrance and the Founders Ceremony were poignant and beautiful, honoring those who have paved the way. The installation of officers honored those who will serve as your 2015-2017 state organization leaders.

The convention provided many valuable workshops, and I especially enjoyed Georgia Klein’s review of Sara Sladek’s book, Knowing Y: Engage the Next Generation Now and Beth McDonald’s session, “Why Recycle?”

I love my treasures, and there are many, that I won in the Country Store auctions, especially the beautiful charm bracelets that celebrate each month by providing soft musical reminders of the time I spent with my Kansas sisters.

As you know, Kansas and her members hold a special place in my heart. I treasure the friends, new and old, I have in the great state of Kansas.

SW Regional Director Beth Schieber says:

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2015 Southwest Regional Conference in Wichita

Volunteers are a treasure - thank you for making lives richer by your service.

I want to thank each volunteer for helping to make the 2015 Southwest Regional Conference a success. The week ran smoothly, members seemed to enjoy themselves, and many positive comments about the conference were made by attendees. I extend my most sincere appreciation for the efforts of the many Kansas State Organization members that worked to put together and host the 2015 Southwest Regional Conference in Wichita.

What has become evident is that the Southwest Regional Conference is a stand-out, professional development and networking event for our 22 state organizations. The task of pulling it all together has grown as well. Conference volunteers are wearing many more hats on the job, and this all leads to a truly monumental task for the numerous volunteers who make it all come together. The phenomenal success of our Southwest Regional Conference is a reflection of the dedication and enthusiasm of the Kansas volunteers, and I would like to personally thank each of you for your recent contribution of time and skill. This conference would not have been a success without your involvement. I appreciate your gift of time, energy and enthusiastic support.

From the wonderful Steering Committee chaired by the energetic and extremely creative Susan Perkins and the amazing accounting and budgeting skills of our conference treasurer Glenna Hackerott to each of the amazing committee chairs, our conference would not have been possible without the assistance of the countless Kansas members who helped prepare ahead of time, work during the event itself, and clean up afterwards.

(See Thank you p. 8)
**Thank you** (from page 7)

I have heard many compliments from members. During the conference, many people came up to me to compliment us on how smoothly the event ran, how much they enjoyed the beautiful conference bags and programs, and how they appreciated the friendly and helpful Kansas volunteers. The unique opening night, Take a Bite Out of Kansas, was a triumph.

One member said the conference showed her just how many facets there are to DKG and how many ways there are to get involved. She was grateful for the chance to be a participant and excited for how she might become more involved in DKG in the future. Thank you for playing such a critical role in making the conference a rewarding and successful experience for the members that attended.

I am in awe and forever grateful to all the Kansas members!

Thank you,

Beth

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A great time was had in Wichita, Kansas, July 22, 23, 24, and 25, 2015. The steering committee chairs worked hard with our Southwest Regional Director Beth Schieber from Oklahoma. With the help of many of our members from across the state, we had a great conference! It was a success for all the participants, who responded that it was the best they had been to in a long time. Our guests enjoyed our Kansas hospitality and all of the wonderful events, speakers and workshops. Kansas Night was an experiment in a new way to share knowledge and entertainment about our state to our guests, and it was declared a huge success!

Thanks to each and every one of the members of our state who helped. All that contributed money, time, and energy are greatly appreciated! With all of the help and hospitality of our members, we were a success! I encourage everyone who helped to consider going to International in Nashville next summer and just have fun, meet with new friends you made at our conference and relax!

I hope all that helped rested well after the conference. You all earned it! Thank you again for all of your assistance and help in making the 2015 Southwest Regional in Kansas the best regional ever!

**Susan Perkins, chair**
**Steering Committee**

I cannot say that Phi State does not know how to host a Southwest Regional Conference. The many compliments received were proof that we knew what we were doing! I would like to especially thank all the members who graciously provided the delicious snacks for the Hospitality Room and to those who volunteered to be hostesses. You all were super!

Thanks again for your help in showing our DKG sisters “Kansas hospitality!”

**Lila Thayer, chair**
**Hospitality Room**

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**Beth Schieber (OK), Sandi Causey (TX) and Diane Lasse (OK): Thank you, thank you, thank you for blessing us with your friendship, service and expertise.**
Two Alpha Psi members from Mulvane participated in groundbreaking for the new community library. **Nancy Cadwell** is secretary of the library board, and **Sue Nelson Nord** is a member of the new library planning committee. Another chapter member, **Barbara Banzet**, is treasurer of Friends of the Library.

**Kathy Chamberland** (Alpha Tau—Sedan) serves on the Chautauqua County Community Board of Education for USD 286.

**Gail Daugherty** (Alpha Theta—Council Grove) received a $50 Tanks of Thanks gift card from Cenex and CHS Inc. for “going the extra mile for others” as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) volunteer. Members **Mary Collins** and **Penny True** also serve as CASA volunteers, who advocate for children in the court system.

**Anita Nelson** (Gamma Kappa—Topeka) was honored at Doorstep’s annual banquet as Volunteer of the Year. Doorstep is a non-profit organization which helps people “survive crises, improve their way of life and become self-sufficient.”

Kansas National Education Association Board of Directors includes two Phi State members. **Jane Melroy** (Beta Psi—Pratt) represents Ark Valley, and **Beverly Furlong** (Beta Omega—Gardner) serves as Director Emeritus.

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**In Memoriam**

They strengthened us for our future journey and will forever be a part of who we are as a Society.
Becky Sadowski, TN

**Virginia Champlin**
Alpha Tau, Grenola, April 25, 2015

**Dora Gross**
Alpha Delta, Marysville, June 28, 2015

**Mary Lou Janssen**
Alpha Zeta, Wamego, June 8, 2015

**Reta Kennedy**
Delta, Prairie Village, June 14, 2015

**Donna Loeb**
Gamma Theta, Columbus, June 13, 2015

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**Membership Update**

**Welcome to our new initiate:**

**Gamma Kappa**
Gwen Elliott, Topeka

**Transfer:**

Ruth Kelly, Topeka
From Beta Upsilon to Gamma Kappa
Omicron

The chapter is adopting Kennedy Elementary School in Lawrence for the school year. “Welcome” bags containing snacks, teacher desk items, and words of wisdom from chapter members were delivered in August. Members plan to deliver snacks and other surprises to the Kennedy staff throughout the year, while sharing information about Delta Kappa Gamma.

Alpha Iota

Members awarded two grant-in-aids to high school students Kassidy Dahl, Royal Valley High School, and Emaleigh Clark, recent graduate of Holton High School.

Beta Nu

The chapter continues its ongoing project of collecting prescription bottles for the Great Plains SPCA animal shelter.

Gamma Theta

Members collected school items, which will be distributed to teachers at West High School in Wichita.

Alpha Zeta

Members raised funds through a chapter auction and were able to award their first grant-in-aid awards. Recipients were Leah Piper of USD 321 and Chelsea Ebert of USD 323.

Alpha Psi

Tyler Balsters, Belle Plaine High School, received a $500 grant-in-aid from the chapter.

Gamma Kappa

Five members delivered a ream of paper and a poem to 68 first-year teachers in USD 501!

Follow the Sun for your Membership Goals

BY SUSAN PERKINS
Membership chair
Committee members: Sally Maack, Nancy Thompson, Glenna Hackerott, Maybelle Circle, Janice Ostrom, Susan Graham, president

For Susan Graham’s biennium, she is asking us to “Follow the Sun...Leave a Legacy of Leadership.” As we consider her call to action this biennium, it challenges us to think about leadership and keeping a positive outlook towards our organization and our members. How do we encourage leadership and keep looking toward the sun as we consider the membership in our chapter, state, and International levels?

Each year during the next biennium, we are going to honor the chapters in our state which exemplify the theme of “Follow the Sun.” The membership challenge will revolve around the acronym of SUN:

- Sustain your chapter membership;
- Understand and support your members’ needs; and
- Nurture leadership in your chapter.

Chapters which fulfill one of these three challenges will be recognized at the state convention as a White “Follow the Sun Chapter.” Chapters fulfilling two of the three will be recognized as a Red “Follow the Sun Chapter.” Gold “Follow the Sun Chapters” which fulfill all three challenges will be honored and receive opportunities for chapter rewards at state convention.

More details on submitting your chapter for this honor will be sent directly to chapter presidents. As we enter this first year of the biennium for the state and second year of chapter leadership biennium, begin to think of how this honor can assist your chapter in growth and leadership.

- Sustaining your chapter membership involves re-inspiring, re-affirming, and re-building your chapter membership. Sustaining your current membership number is just as important as initiating more members. Problem-solve membership issues with your chapter. If a member is not returning, call and ask why. Find solutions to why members are not returning to membership.

- Understanding and supporting your members’ needs involves knowing what benefits your chapter members receive or could receive from being a DKG member and a member of your chapter. Your chapter will be asked to submit a chapter health check-up sent to your president that outlines the needs of your chapter and ideas on how to keep your chapter healthy. Does your chapter get involved in a project to meet the members’ need to be part of the community?

- Nurturing leadership in your chapter will involve taking a look at how you encourage and support leadership in your chapter and at the state level. Do you have a job for all of your members so they feel needed and a part of the chapter? Do you mentor and support members to reach their full potential?

As this biennium begins, we will continue to offer help and suggestions to assist every chapter in the state to reach the honor of Gold "Follow the Sun Chapter." We encourage you to start now by taking time to discuss membership in your chapter and how you can begin to meet the initiatives in the Follow the Sun honor. The membership committee will work to provide assistance and ideas when needed. All you need to do is ask! Our current membership is our greatest asset in DKG, and we need to continue to sustain, understand, and nurture our members to grow Kansas Sunflowers that Leave a Legacy of Leadership for the Future.
Another year has begun. For chapter officers, it’s the second year in your biennium. I hope you had a successful first year and the new year will be even more fruitful.

I want to remind you of the goals set forth by the International Educational Excellence Committee as you plan your activities (programs and projects) for the coming year.

The First Goal is to advance excellence in education. I hope you are looking for ways to reach out, encourage and help new educators, not just in your chapters, but in your local school districts. When those who are new to teaching are successful, everyone wins! Chapters should also find ways to impact educational law and policy at every level.

The Second Goal is to empower women. Help your members build pride in their personal and professional lives. Look for programs that encourage life-long learning through the arts and leadership skills.

The Third Goal is to increase global awareness. Sometimes we need to look beyond our boundaries to find ways to support literacy around the world. You can find projects which are endorsed by the international committee on the Society website.

Chapter vice presidents/program or educational excellence chairs are responsible for preparing and submitting a chapter yearbook to me by November 1. I will display the yearbooks at the 2016 Phi State Convention in Wichita. If you choose, you may submit a digital copy to me at kathy.klc52@gmail.com. However, only paper copies can be displayed at convention.

If you need help, please check the DKG website for ideas. The Phi State Educational Excellence Committee is also available for you to contact to ask questions or for help. We want your programs and projects to be interesting, engaging, and successful! Happy planning!

The State Representative program was implemented to strengthen communication and provide a personal contact for chapters to ask questions, share concerns, celebrate accomplishments and be informed of state and international events/deadlines.

Sixteen Phi State members accepted President Susan Graham’s appointment to serve as State Representatives (SR) for the remaining year of the chapter biennium. Although some of the SRs continue with the same chapters from last year, several new appointments were made.

A chapter which hosted a SR last year is not required to schedule another meeting. If no visit was made last year, plans should be underway to have a SR visit or present a program.

Communication between chapters and SRs does not end with official visits. By using a team approach, chapters and Phi State will both be the winners!
Create your legacy—apply for scholarships, awards

BY ALICIA RUES
Scholarship chair
Committee members: Susan Sutton, Bonnie Raff, Dr. Annabeth Hind, Susan Graham, president

Our new Phi State president, Susan Graham, begins her biennium with the theme of "Follow the Sun...Leave a Legacy of Leadership." Why not create your own legacy by applying for scholarships and awards which are available to all members? Spread the word! Encourage your fellow DKG sisters to create their own legacy. The opportunities await you!

Postmarked by January 1, 2016:
- Post-Doctoral Study ($3,000)
- Doctoral Degree ($3,750)
- Specialist degree ($2,250)
- Master's Degree ($1,500)

Reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis:
- Professional Enrichment Award (Five for $300)
- Continuing Education Award (Five for $300)
- National Board Certification (Two for $1,000); NBC renewal (Two for $500)

For Phi State Officers:
- Continuing Education Award ($300)

Due February 1, 2016:
- First Time Convention/Conference Award (Three for $200)
- Innovation in the Classroom Award (Three for $300)

Due February 15, May 15, August 15 or November 15
- Helen D. Bobbitt Hostelship Award/Road Scholar (Eight for $300)

State applications can be found at phistate.weebly.com.

International scholarships due February 1, 2016
- Total of thirty scholarships for master’s degree work ($6,000) and doctorate work ($10,000); forms available online at: www.dkg.org (Links: Committees, Scholarship)

WANTED:
Nominees for 2016 Phi State Achievement Award

Known for the following traits:
- Having a minimum of ten years active membership in DKG
- Having served actively in the state organization at least six years
- Having made outstanding contributions to Phi State

The recommendation form and further information can be found online at phistate.weebly.com.

Please send completed form by February 1, 2016 to: Judy Branden, Achievement Award chair, P.O. Box 194, Sublette, KS 67877 or to rjbran71@hotmail.com.

Committee members: Sandy Daugherty, Kendee Heck, Kim Oatney, Susan Graham, president
The form to use in preparing proposed amendments can be found on Phi State’s web site <phistate.weebly.com> under “Resources.” I can also send you a copy. For that or any other assistance, find my contact information and that of my committee members in your chapter president’s Phi State Directory or on the web site.

BY MELINDA CROSS
Communications chair
Committee members: Diane Ladenburger, Cynda Carr, Susan Graham, president

The light of the sun nourishes us in many ways. Susan has chosen it to be a part of her theme for the 2015-17 biennium. Communication shines light on our chapters and keeps us knowledgeable about what benefits our DKG offers all of its members. It is extremely important to keep the lines of communication open among the local chapters, Phi State organization and International. Letting the public know what we are pursuing will entice new members and recognize the achievements of our members.

For communication and publicity committee members and chairs, the Leadership Manual (now available on the Phi State website) provides additional help. Following are some ideas that members can use to promote our work for Delta Kappa Gamma. Tailor them to your needs as appropriate.

1. Have your “Elevator speech” ready about DKG. This is a brief description of the Society’s purposes and/or benefits to share with prospective members and others whenever an opportunity arises, such as when someone notices your key pin.

(See Communications p. 15)
As this school year begins, please work together as a committee to encourage members to be willing to assume leadership roles that many have refused to accept in the past. Our members should all have the skills needed to successfully conduct chapter meetings. When chapters fail to find new leadership, the end of the chapter may be imminent.

As you choose your slate of officers, look for a variety of traits, such as: problem solvers, good people skills, passion for DKG, eagerness to listen and learn, sense of humor, willingness to help all members, and those who have supported the chapter in the past.

Your new chapter officers will begin their own biennium on July 1, 2016. Everyone has the capacity for leading — often they just need to be asked. In DKG we have many training opportunities, and we willingly adapt to various leadership styles. There is not just one way to do things — just as all people are not exactly the same.

Remember that leadership is an important part of each successful teacher’s repertoire. Finding your new officers is your committee’s responsibility. We are certain you will be very successful.

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**Communications** (from page 14)

2. Utilize technology as an optimum communication tool and be sure to include your affiliation with Delta Kappa Gamma (not just “DKG”) when recognizing honors or accomplishment of members.

3. Read your DKG publications to be informed of all the great things we do. Post information about our organization in public places, checking first to make sure it’s OK, and let the public know who we are.

4. Read “Get Connected” on the International website and use the information and ideas you find there.

5. File the “Communications and Publicity Committee Biennial Report” for your chapter on time in February of even-numbered years.

6. Encourage all members to keep your chapter president, newsletter editor and communication chair informed of personal achievements and events, including illness and loss, if appropriate, so they can spread the word!

If I can be of further help, please contact me. Your chapter president has contact information.

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**Does your chapter award a scholarship or is it a grant-in-aid?**

The Grant-in-Aid – a monetary award granted by a state organization or chapter that is supported by funds other than the U.S. One Dollar ($1.00) scholarship fee. The award is for a member or non-member. The specific title of a grant-in-aid award is the choice of the presenter.

Source: *Go-To-Guide for Chapter Members*, p. 3
Welcome to a gallery of pictures from the conference

Volunteers from Wichita-area chapters and Kathy Chamberland, tote chairman, fill totes

Susan High and Kailyn Hochstein prepare filigree for votive candles

Margo Rakes poses with her former students from Minneola who are the Dodge City Girls and Gunslingers: Josh Roesener, Charlotte Wilczek, Jerrod Lies and Bradley Lies

Julie Matt and Gail Goolsby love their job!

Susie Haver (r) entertains Kansas Night attendees with “The Great American Cover Up” aprons. Susan Sutton assisted Susie.
Photos on this page are courtesy of Photographs by Jim, Floresville, Texas

Larry Daughterty and Russ Branden greet (and greatly assist) members at the new Wichita airport

Julie Dauber and Terry Eaton-Naden supervise the KS Wheat Commission bread

Gloria Balding (r) accepts the Excellence in Education Philanthropy Media Award for KAKE-TV from Glenna Hackerott

Jennifer Stanfield shares her beautiful voice in several ensembles

Cynda Carr (l) presents the Print Media Excellence in Education Award to Suzanne Perez Tobias, reporter for The Wichita Eagle

Barbara Carlson receives 50+ years membership recognition from Glenna Hackerott

Shirley Erickson — still smiling after reaching her 50+ years milestone recognition from Glenna Hackerott
Carole Byram (front) and Diana Redger hand out newsletters

Move over Martha Stewart for our Hospitality Room hostesses from Beta Eta: Marilyn Marchel, Wilma Jean Johnson, Sherry Curtis, Bonnie Raff and Lila Thayer, chair

Lucky! Lucky! Lucky! Judy Schwanz wins registration and meals to the 2016 International Convention

Take a guess what Maybelle Circle is doing with so many sunflowers

Bonnie Raff, Info Fair chair, meets Patti Belknap, Educator Book Award Committee member

Becki Racunas, chair of Vendors/Exhibitors, prepares to greet the shoppers

Jane Biles (back) and Jessica Gatz receive their hostess envelopes from Janice Ostrom

Rebecca Hochstein admires one of the infamous boots
State officers and committee chairmen convened in Salina at Residence 600 on August 1, 2015, for an all-day workshop led by President Susan Graham (left).

After introducing her theme, “Follow the Sun...Leave a Legacy of Leadership,” Susan shared how Phi State can help others become leaders. She said, “Everything we do comes back to the seven Purposes.”

She directed an enlightening group activity, which tested everyone’s DKG knowledge. All were winners of chocolate-covered sunflower seeds!

Officers and chairmen shared their goals for the biennium, and discussions provided an opportunity to assess problem areas and possible solutions:

- Chapter treasurers are not automatically bonded.
- Chapters wanting to honor at state convention a valued, deceased member whose dues had lapsed, may reinstate her posthumously by paying her reserve dues and later sending Form 6—Death of a Member.
- Members are not limited to apply for only one First-Time Conference/Convention Award (state convention, regional conference, international convention), as long as their attendance is their first for that event. The group appreciated the efforts of Marie Hieger for her hostessing duties and Joan Barnhydt for catering lunch.
Phi State Organization, Kansas, The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Circulation Chairman
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Phi State (Kansas) Sunflower
Spring/Summer 2015

Check out these dates, deadlines

October 17, 2015  Phi State’s 79th birthday
October 31, 2015  Dues due to chapter treasurer
November 1, 2015  ●Proposals for amendments to state
bylaws/standing rules due to Pat Lisowski
●Complete copy of chapter yearbook
due to Kathy Chamberland
November 10, 2015  State/Int’l dues due to Janice Ostrom, Phi State treasurer
November 15, 2015  Internal Revenue Form 990n due
November 16, 2015  Proposals for convention work-
shops due to Pres. Susan Graham
January 1, 2016  Postmark deadline for state
scholarship applications due to
Alicia Rues
January 3, 2016  Educational Foundation project
grant applications due
February 1, 2016  ●Chapter reports due to Phi State
●State Achievement Award
nominations due to Judy Branden
●First-Time Convention/Conference
Award and Innovation in the Class
room Award applications due to
Alicia Rues
April 1-3, 2016  Phi State Convention, Wichita

Thank you to proofreaders:
President Susan Graham,
Marie Hieger, Pat Lisowski
and Maybelle Circle!