



The Voice

Delta Kappa Gamma promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

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News From Ohio State Organization

<http://dkgohio.org>

From Diana's Desk Chapter Climate Change?



What is your chapter's "openness and friendliness" factor? Do you feel welcomed when attending meetings? Do other members/officers take the opportunity to listen and/or include you in the conservation? Is the chapter aware of your interests and/or talents? Does the chapter get you involved in meaningful programs and activities? Or, do you feel unwanted and your ideas undervalued? Feeling **needed** and **valued** is a basic human necessity and is most certainly essential in the nurturing and growing of our chapters' memberships. To understand the reasons members, drop their DKG memberships, chapters would perhaps benefit from evaluating their "openness and friendliness" factor? Perhaps the solution is as simple as being **N.I.C.E.!**

Is your chapter in need of a possible change in climate? How would you rate your chapter's "openness and friendliness" factor? The solution can be as simple as being **N.I.C.E.***

•**Need:** To be truly needed is an amazing feeling for the participating member. As long as the feeling is sustained and kept alive the chapter will have a committed member. However, the need to feel valued and supported must start as soon as the member joins and must continue through the years...usually a member who gets involved stays involved. Members who however, become less involved, who start attending less, may often feel their talents and contributions are no longer wanted or needed. You have heard the phase, "it takes a village." It takes the entire chapter to make each individual member feel welcomed, supported and valued. Remember, a valued member is a happy member who becomes a potential leader!

•**Involvement:** It is so easy to get "caught up" in the moment and forget to look at other chapter members to see if all are participating and involved. Some members may only want to be considered for a particular activity and/or responsibility (and that is OK) but at some point, all members need to be involved in something! Chapter leaders or even designated chapter members should talk to indifferent members to identify their interests and talents plus invite them to take on (at first) minor responsibilities. Not all individuals find it easy to volunteer. Some need to be asked and then asked again and again.

•**Creativity:** Members need to fulfill and develop their own creativity. Regardless of what the member may think, each has her own special talent/gift to share. Giving members the opportunity to express and

grow their talents will certainly benefit the entire chapter. Just learn and know what talent and strength each individual member possesses, then utilize it and nurture it!

•Enjoyment: Each member must find her DKG membership experience rewarding as well as professionally beneficial. Chapters need to support a variety of programs, activities, fund-raising, collaborative efforts and community initiatives that will actively encourage and engage chapter members of diversified interests. By all means, do not forget to add an element of fun as well. Be sure to offer benefits and services that potential members cannot get anywhere else. Maintain and encourage active participation at the chapter, state and International levels. Members who work hard and play hard together will enjoy and look forward to future chapter meetings, activities and even say "yes" to leadership commitments. But beware, if no one in the chapter seems to be having fun (and that includes the officers), stop, look and pay attention. Become aware of what is actually going on, decide what is amiss and work in a positive manner to find a successful avenue to motivate and inspire your chapter members.

Look at your own chapter experience and ask yourself, can engaging, maintaining and "yes" even growing chapter membership really be just as simple as being **N.I.C.E.?**

*Idea and material summarized/paraphrased from a membership article written by Anna Dinter, Chi (California) State Membership Newsletter, Vol. 2, Issue 2, page 1.

Diana



ADSOEF

November - The Month of Gratitude

The Directors of ADSOEF are **truly grateful** for all of our OSO sisters and their support this past year. Can we count on your support to help us meet our fundraising goal this year of \$25,000.00? "**Building from the Heart**" is this year's theme. Please consider your donation to "pay it forward with gratitude from your heart". Your chapter president has a brochure or you can view it **here at** (<https://adsoef.weebly.com/forms--applications.html>). ADSOEF wants to continue to support current and future educators and we know your chapter could have a lot of fun supporting this mission! Giving Tuesday is fast approaching and another opportunity to honor a family member or friend who is a treasured educator!

Don't forget to encourage eligible DKG Sisters and others to complete scholarship, fellowship, project, and **grant applications at** (<https://adsoef.weebly.com/forms--applications.html>) which are due January 1, 2020! (Link to Educational Opportunities on ADSOEF website)

Don't forget to encourage...

...eligible Sisters who are working on graduate degrees to complete a Scholarship application or the A.M. Boyd Ohio Fellowship application, both can be found at (<https://adsoef.weebly.com/forms--applications.html>)

...college students going into their student teaching year at any of Ohio's state supported university teacher education programs to complete the Strickland Grant application, which can be found at (<https://adsoef.weebly.com/forms--applications.html>)

...and Sisters who have a special Individual/Classroom/Community project in mind to apply for the Educational Projects award also found at (<https://adsoef.weebly.com/forms--applications.html>)!

All applications are due **January 1, 2020!**

Happy Thanksgiving!

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE COMMITTEE: Foster Care

This month we will share with you three short facts about Foster Care. This will focus on our second objective which is the word Knowledge. This Knowledge will provide information to our OSO Delta Kappa Gamma members so that you are able to gain and acquire facts about the Foster Care Process.

Did You Know That....

Fact #1

- Foster Care is meant to be temporary, but its impact can last a lifetime

Fact #2

- Ohio has more than 6,000 Foster Parents who open up their hearts and homes to children during different times of the year

Fact #3

- Foster Care can provide stable, loving homes. The rest of them are living in residential care, living with friends or family, who are sometimes called “kinship caregivers”

Continue to watch for more fast facts about ‘Foster Care in Ohio’ next month.

Melodie McGee, Chair

EXPANSION COMMITTEE EXPANSION COMMITTEE IS UP AND RUNNING!

The Expansion Committee would like to thank all of those in attendance at the Executive Board meeting on Saturday, October 12th, for completing the Expansion survey. We received great feedback and many excellent ideas!

We are working diligently to put together a resource booklet that we hope will be of value to your chapter. You can still offer ideas and feedback on how you would like to receive this booklet. Just email expansion@dkgohio.org to do this. Most of the surveys showed that chapters would like to receive this booklet via the internet. We will continue to keep you informed with articles in The Voice.

The Expansion Committee is also “brain storming” (part of a healthy approach to progress) ideas to assist chapters with program presentations, interesting meetings, new visions on topics, etc.

One important facet of our meetings is **music**. It can be an introduction to a topic, a transition between segments of a meeting, or just for fun. Parodies are always fun, and they are easy to write. Look to your members for witty words that can fit a familiar tune.

By Convention time, the Committee will have several musical selections for you to utilize or for samples of what you might create. After you write your ideas, please share them with the Committee.

Patricia Cermak
Millie Holzer
Molly Tharp
Karen Dombrowski, Chair

COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING

“Get Connected” Great Source of Information for Chapters

Have you seen or read the DKG Blog? It has a wealth of information for everyone and most committees. Examples of blog posts follows:

- "The clock is ticking for International Scholarship applicants."
<http://dkgsi.blogspot.com/search/label/Scholarship%20Committee>
- "Chapter Membership Chair Guidance"
<http://dkgsi.blogspot.com/2019/09/chapter-membership-chair-guidance.html>
- "Marketing Chapter and State Excellence Quickly and Easily"
<http://dkgsi.blogspot.com/2019/03/marketing-chapter-and-state-excellence.html>

When you are reading these blogs, make sure you sign up so that you receive notifications when new blogs are posted.

Why The Gold Key

What is the Gold Key? Louisa Strock, Beta Zeta, started the Gold Key in 1982 with the first awards given out in 1983. She designed the Gold Key as an incentive program intended to make chapters aware of the activities required by the Society and at the same time to recognize outstanding chapters and their leaders. The program helps each chapter realize higher achievements as its members cooperate to achieve the expected goals. Timely response from chapters helps State officers and committee chairman meet their reporting deadlines and recognize chapter success.



The original goals of the Gold Key in 1982 were to:

- Underscore the importance of the chain of communication linking chapter members and the International, State and Chapter organizations.
- Increase chapter effort toward achieving Society goals.
- Foster the concept that rather than simply independent educational clubs, chapters are units of an International Society. Encourage chapters to look outside of just going to their own meetings.
- Develop chapter awareness of what other chapters are achieving.
- Recognize chapters for effective participation in the programs of the Society.

Since 2005, these same goals continue along with the following:

- Awareness of chapter's responsibilities as part of a great International Society.
- Acceptance of those responsibilities.

- Teamwork in achieving distinction.
- Pride in accomplishment.
- Communication through every level.

The current checklist has evolved over time as things have changed at both State and International. It takes a little more effort and determination to receive the Gold Key or Honor or Honorable Mention awards but with the recognition comes a sense of teamwork, pride and accomplishment. The goal of the Gold Key is to recognize as many Ohio State Organization chapters as possible. Fulfilling the Gold Key requirements will assist every chapter in attaining the purposes of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Judith McClanahan, Gamma Nu, Gold Key Coordinator.

Legislative Liaison Blog

By Pamela Henney, Legislative Advocate

Everyone likes a break in taxes, which the Ohio Statehouse is considering in legislation introduced this term. While they are potentially offering some tax breaks for educators and women, new bills review school security requirements, youth suicide prevention, and, yet again, study the amount of year-end testing.

Ohio's state budget, as most states, is funded by taxes paid, whether income, sales, or value added. Two proposals in the Ohio legislature potentially would give educators and women a bit of a break. House Bill 121/SB 26 adds a provision to the state tax law permitting educators to deduct up to \$100 (HB121) or up to \$250 (SB 26) for expenses incurred for buying their own instructional materials. The bill is currently in committee so the two versions can be rectified settling on a deductible number and a definition of "instructional materials." Additionally, HB 19 has legislators in committee considering elimination of the "Pink Tax," or sales tax on an array of feminine hygiene products. Saving money can help take some stress away from all the duties of educators in today's classroom.

Protecting students is the focus of Ohio HB 123 passed by the House and currently in Senate committee. The Safety and Violence Education Students Act (SAVE Students) requires Ohio districts to choose from a minimum of three evidence-based training programs, including at least one free program for school personnel and students alike to identify the signs and symptoms of depression, suicide, and self-harm in students. Included in the training would be ways to identify and refer to in-school and community-based mental health services, along with teaching students about mental health and depression, warning signs of suicide, and the importance of and processes for seeking help on behalf of self and peers and reporting of these behaviors. In the recent media around the state, some students at risk for mental health issues, or other risks, could have been saved from major trauma if their family/guardian were contacted earlier. Therefore, the required time before reporting the absence of a student to parent/guardian will potentially be changed from 120 minutes to 60 minutes after the beginning of the school day (SB 157). Other preventative measures include establishment of an Ohio Children's Behavioral Health Prevention Network (sub. HB 12) to centralize resources and services.

Additionally, lawmakers are beginning to hear instructors, parents, and students regarding the time and stress of year-end testing. Currently in Committee, HB 239 proposes time studies and formation of work groups to evaluate the amount of time students spend on testing. Work groups will review everything from time on testing (district wide and more), to purpose, cost, and use of data. Under this bill, nationalized assessments will be offered in the spring of the 11th grade, but participation will be voluntary.

The US Forum Connection from DKG International is a free newsletter with national news impacting women and educators. In this month's installment, free resource links are offered:

The National Women's History Museum (<https://www.womenshistory.org>) contains history lesson plans, biographies, posters and videos.

The Energy Teacher Resource (<http://energyteacher.org>) created by the Association of Science Technology Centers designed for teaching grades K-12 provides videos and energy literacy resources.

The Green Room (<https://bit.ly/2Goy/OA>) is another free K-12 resource which provides suggested classroom activities created by the National Wildlife Federation to provide suggestions on activities dealing with wildlife, habitat, and ecosystems.

Sign up for the US Forum Newsletter via <http://www.usforumdkg.org/>

BEAT MICHIGAN!

THE BUCKEYE/CHERRY CHALLENGE

The Buckeye-Cherry Membership Challenge has begun! Ohio State Organization and Michigan State Organization are vying for bragging rights to see which organization can increase membership by the greatest percentage. View the introductory YouTube video (<https://youtu.be/3KDzi6wVN1g>) and read the directions below.

- To grow chapter membership, the Ohio State Organization leadership team initiated a membership challenge with the members of Michigan State Organization. The team with the most, new members by percentage will be declared the winner. The losing team will donate \$100 to the DKG Educational Foundation in the name of the winner.
- **The Buckeye-Cherry Membership Challenge** officially began **September 1, 2019**, and ends **September 1, 2020**, with an extension to **March 1, 2021**.
- We challenge chapters to make use of Ohio's 3 R's of Membership: **Retain** your current chapter memberships; **Recruit** new members utilizing the **DKG Membership Recruitment Plan**; and **Reinstate** former chapter members
- Varying point values can be earned for inducting new members, reinstating former chapter members, receiving transfer memberships, and completing the Buckeye-Cherry Membership Challenge Survey and Recognition Form. (For point values, refer to the information listed on the "tree" handout of the challenge.)
- Chapters receiving 1 to 4 points will be **recognized** at the 2021 OSO Convention and announced in the May 2021 edition of **The Voice**.
- Chapters earning 5 points, or more will be **honored** at the 2021 OSO Convention and announced in the May 2021 edition of **The Voice**. There will also be additional recognitions for 10- and 15-point categories.



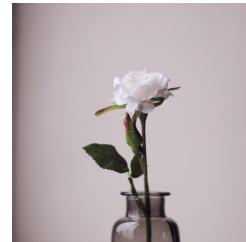
- To receive chapter recognition in the **honored (5 points or more)** or **recognized (1 to 4 points)** categories, it will be the responsibility of the chapter president to complete the Buckeye-Cherry Membership Challenge Survey and Recognition Form (available on the OSO website October 1, 2020) and send to Membership Chair, Debby Canter, 309 N. Bingham St., Oak Hill, OH 45656 or e-mail to membership@dkgohio.org by March 1, 2021.

Contact Information: Debby Canter, Membership Chair
309 N Bingham St., Oak Hill, OH 45656
membership@dkgohio.org
740-688-1604

Membership Committee Members: Jeanne Bennett, Alpha Gamma; Kim Lewis, Delta Epsilon; Michelle Maniskas, Alpha Xi; Sarah Thompson, Delta Theta

REMEMBERING OUR LOST SISTERS

Madeline Bradford, Beta Chi
Mary Krauss, Beta Chi
Elizabeth M. Nassif, Tau
Katherine Sabo, Delta Chi
Cynthia L. Sweeney, Alpha Omega



DATES TO REMEMBER

February 1, 2020 - Necrology Report due
See website for form

March 20 - 22, 2020
DKG/Ohio State Convention
Embassy Suites,
Dublin, Ohio

CONVENTION - BE AN EARLY BIRD

In just five months, winter will be behind us, spring will be ahead of us, and we will be gathering for the State Convention at the Embassy Suites in Dublin. The convention will begin on Friday, March 20, with a "Taste of Ohio, Taste of DKG," and continue through Sunday, March 22. Look for more information about happenings at convention in future issues of The Voice.

It is not too early to book your room at the Embassy Suites. This can be done by calling 1-800-220-9219 and using the group name, "2020 Delta Kappa Gamma Ohio Convention" and the group code, "DKG." Reservations can also be made online at www.columbusdublin.embassysuites.com and entering the group code, "DKG," when you click on "Add Special Rate Code" on the left side of the screen. The reduced group rate is \$136 + tax/night. By booking your room in the DKG block, you will qualify for free parking, free breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, and free snacks on Saturday afternoon in an area set up just for DKG.

Plan to attend the DKG/Ohio State Convention with chapter members and share the cost of a room.

Linda Diltz, Convention Coordinator

FROM THE EDITOR

SEND PHOTOS AND CAPTIONS

We want to feature news from our State chapters. Send a photo with a caption. Send to editor@dkgohio.org

- If members are identified, make sure you have permission to use their photo.
- Make sure you tell us your chapter name.
- Tell us what is going on in the photo.
- Keep the caption to 1 - 2 sentences.

See examples below.

Chapter News



The sisters of the Alpha Omega Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma packing boxes of gifts for Operation Christmas Child (Samaritan's Purse) at their October meeting. Each member brought gifts for the boxes according to their birthday months.



Kappa Member Martha Cramer, a long-time volunteer at the Forest Jackson Public Library, celebrated her 90th birthday at the library in July. Friends donated \$1300 to the library in Martha's honor. Happy Birthday, Martha!



Delta Chi enjoyed the Biennial Seminar in Cincinnati



Alpha Sigma Chapter of DKG at their October Birthday Celebration. On October 7, 1939 Alpha Sigma Chapter was founded in Findlay, Ohio. Eighty years later we are still going strong!



Addison Taylert, the recipient of the BeWise scholarship gave Beta Delta a recap of the fun times she had at Kenyon over the summer.



Beta Kappa members enjoyed a delicious meal provided by the Wilson Health Foundation at their October 7 meeting.