

# The Voice

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide



**Renew**



**Recapture**



**Respond**

## *A Message from OSO President Melodie McGee*



Greetings, it's a beautiful day today in the OSO Delta Kappa Gamma Society neighborhood!

It's time for us to enter the beautiful budding month of May. The budding flowers are beginning to come up and bloom in our DKG OSO Chapter gardens. We are also remembering our DKG Founders in our OSO Chapters, our seven Purposes, our Mission Statement, and honoring them in many different ways.

Let's continue to honor and recognize all the present serving blossoming flowers in our OSO DKG gardens too! The blossoms on their different types of flowers are continuously blooming and giving off sweet unforgettable aromatic fragrances. Why because, each are serving to fulfill their assignment of their offices as well as their *behind-the-scenes* duties too!

As you are asked to serve and consider serving in a particular office in your OSO Chapter for 2024-2026, please know that what you will be doing for your Chapter is treasured and valued by all the members of OSO.

As you continue blooming remember some of these quotes...



The blooming of flowers are symbols of growth and change, as they transform from buds to beautiful blossoms.



Watching flowers bloom is a reminder that each of us has our own unique journey of growth and transformation.



Like a flower opening up to the sun, we too can open ourselves up to new experiences, perspectives, and possibilities.

## *Ohio State Organization*

President

Melodie McGee, Gamma Nu

First Vice President

Michele Maniskas, Alpha Xi

Second Vice President

Molly Helmlinger, Beta Kappa

Recording Secretary

Meier Bauer, Gamma Phi

Corresponding Secretary

Karen Dombrowski, Alpha Nu

Parliamentarian

Joyce Jones-Weinkam, Gamma Xi

Treasurer

Diana Haskell, Gamma Phi

Immediate Past President

Debby Canter, Delta Epsilon

Editor of *The Voice*

Cathy Tenney, Beta Kappa

Webmaster

Eileen McNally

Ohio State Organization



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

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The act of blooming is a reminder to embrace change, take risks, and step out of our comfort zones.



As you bloom, remember to bloom with grace, courage, and resilience, and inspire others to do the same.



Bloom where you are planted and let your unique beauty and brilliance shine through.

### **Melodies' Meaningful Memoirs...**

#### **OSO Chapter Leaders' Officers Training Seminar**

**In Person Seminar: Tuesday, June 11, 2024, 9:15 AM – 4:00 PM**

**Der Dutchman, Plain City, 445 S. Jefferson Ave**

**Zoom Seminar: Thursday, June 13, 2024, 9:15 AM – 4:00 PM**

We're going on a quest to seek and discover information about serving as an OSO chapter officer. We will have OSO Executive Officers presenters prepare and or review information for Chapter Presidents, Treasurers, Secretaries, Vice Presidents, and Parliamentarians for their new/or continuing roles as OSO Chapter officers!

Our presentations will happen with two options: Option 1 will be an in-person event that will take place on Tuesday, June 11 and Option 2 will be a Zoom event that will be held on Thursday, June 13. Each chapter will have the choice to decide which training option is the best choice for their Chapter officers.

Each OSO Chapter is strongly encouraged to attend one of the officer training options to be prepared to serve and receive important information about their position to maintain and grow strong OSO Chapters.

Let's continue to bloom together as we.....



Renew



Recapture



Respond...

May each of You Have a Bouquet of Red Roses in your lives every day...

*Melodie*



**Donna Carol Weaver**

Beta

**Marilou Coverstone**

Alpha Upsilon

**Luanne Dunham**

Alpha Pi

**Urcelle Willis**

Alpha Phi

**Ellen Joyce Andrews**

Beta Gamma

**Diana A. Buffenbarger**

Alpha Eta

**Sondra Jean Hurwood**

Beta Rho

## ***Let the Treasures of Delta Kappa Gamma Ohio State Organization S.H.I.N.E!***



Thank you to all chapters who opened their treasure chests and let them S.H.I.N.E! Sisterhood, Helpful hearts, Igniting interest, Nurturing members, and Everyone seeking out new members provided helpful ideas to strengthen chapters. Now you have those new members, how do we keep them?

### **Building Relationships**

Plan social time during each chapter meeting to develop genuine relationships. A planned social time allows new members and seasoned members time for interaction. Seasoned members have the opportunity to share their DKG story. Sharing a member's DKG story promotes unity among the members. New members need to hear stories of encouragement and the strength of our legacy. Our individual stories are very powerful in developing relationships which lead into lifelong friendships.

### **Mentoring**

Provide new members with a mentor. Someone special to greet them when they arrive at chapter meetings or events. They have someone to explain chapter traditions and procedures. A mentor will be someone for them to talk with sharing life's challenges and successes. Mentors can introduce new members to other chapter members. Most importantly mentors can help develop new members into leaders and guide them into leadership roles. At the very least a mentor can save new members a seat and be a smiling face with whom they feel comfortable. Mentoring is very valuable for both parties involved!

Each chapter needs to hang on tight to their new members, being very intentional and strategic to help build strong bonds for the future of OSO!

Here are some more reasons our OSO DKG members treasure their membership...

Connecting with community resources and organizations, connecting with teachers from *competing schools* to share ideas, and the ability to share my talents and experiences with other educators.

Angie Miesle Stokes, Beta Eta, Vice President

Friendship, charity work, learning and growing

Mary Beth Powell, Delta Iota, President

Leadership

Barb Weidus, Beta Nu, President

Sharing educational experiences with other current and retired educators.

Phyllis Gibbs, Delta Mu, President

Meeting inspiring women educators, sharing many educational *helps*, and sharing ideas.

Peggy Lester, Alpha Delta, Co-President

Michele Maniskas, Alpha Xi

OSO 1st Vice President

OSO Membership Chair

## ***Bloom as a DKG Member***



It has been thirty-four years since I was initiated into the sisterhood of Delta Kappa Gamma International Society for Key Women Educators. Both Aunt Alice and Mom were long serving members until their respective passings. It touched my heart to see both the Indiana chapter and Ohio chapter send a single red rose in a beautiful glass vase to their funerals. It was a gentle reminder that being a member of DKG is an honor and the bond of sisterhood is ever present.

Moving on a regular basis during my professional career as I progressed through the leadership ranks was both a curse and a blessing. One of the blessings in my life was maintaining an active membership in DKG. I had the good fortune of being a member of five different chapters in Texas as well as my current Ohio chapter of Beta Kappa. It has been an interesting journey to say the least.

I want to encourage each DKG Sister to **BLOOM**.

**B = Boldness.** We desperately need members willing to be bold. Being bold means getting in the trenches and doing the work necessary to making your chapter better. Each member must commit to doing their individual part in making the chapter come alive and relevant. As the Nike slogan states, "Just Do It!"

**L = Lead.** You need to lead yourself before you can lead others. Are you sitting on the sidelines waiting for someone else to do something or are you swinging away at making your chapter more engaging? Lead through example.

**O = Open.** Be open to the opportunities that DKG has to offer. Apply for financial assistance to enhance your graduate studies, leadership skills, board training, and other educational endeavors. Be open to serving on an OSO State Committee. There are endless opportunities to participate if you are open to serving.

**O = Optimism.** Strive to exemplify optimism. Of the six different DKG chapters I have been an active member in, I gravitated towards members that were optimistic. They were enthusiastic, open, and confident in their interactions with others. Optimism is contagious and will have an immediate positive impact on your mental health.

**M = Memorable.** I have more than my share of memorable moments in DKG because I chose to be actively engaged at the chapter level. If you desire to increase your memorable moments increase your active involvement now.

We are all pressed for time. However, I sincerely encourage you to take time this spring and summer to **bloom** in your DKG endeavors.

Dr. Molly Helmlinger, Beta Kappa  
OSO Second Vice-Present  
Educational Excellence Chair

### ***News from the 2024 Legislative Forum***

Happy Spring!! My blog this month focuses on who is in Washington D.C. representing us in Ohio. Plus, what is the focus for the Biden Administration for Education in 2024? Check out my blog by following this link: <https://www.smores.com/n/r57jd>

These blogs have been created through Smore.com. If you would like to create a blog for your chapter, I highly recommend Smore. Very user friendly for all.

Sharon Scheidegger, Beta Delta  
Legislative Liaison UN & US Forum



### OSO-DKG Membership and Chapter Update

Active Members	2,287
Collegiate Members	5
Reserve Members	305
Total Memberships	2,597
Ohio Chapters	70

### OSO-DKG Financial Update July 1 – March 31, 2024

#### *Statement of Financial Activity*

Revenue	\$ 55,177.00
Expenses	\$ 27,406.00
Epsilon Alpha Expenses	\$ 424.00
Net Income	\$ 27,347.00

#### *Statement of Financial Position*

Assets	\$245,556.00
Board Designated	\$ 1,076.00
Total Assets	\$246,632.00
Liabilities	\$ 1,890.00
Net Assets	\$244,742.00

Diana Haskell, Gamma Phi  
OSO Treasurer



Mu Chapter President, Debbie VanArsdale was a winner of one of the raffle drawings at the April 6th OSO Executive Board meeting.



Alpha Phi Chapter members Jyl Dwyer, Rhea Young and Lynn Martin love choosing a treasure from their meeting drawing which raised over \$100 going to Schools for Africa.

Alpha Phi Chapter members Robin Prewitt, Carole Haines, Linda Beaver, Linda Parker, Denise Shaneyfelt, Maxine McClellan, and Pat Lewis made 15 fleece blankets that went to Project Linus which services children in the Dayton area.



## ***“Is it too soon?” “Too soon for what?” you may be asking.***

The Ohio State Organization Nominating Committee members have the answers to both questions! It is not too soon to **think about** and **consider** applying for an OSO leadership position. At the 2025 OSO Convention, the election will be conducted for the following positions.

President  
First Vice President  
Second Vice President  
Recording Secretary  
Corresponding Secretary  
Nominating Committee Representative, Area I Northeast  
Nominating Committee Representative, Area II Southeast  
Nominating Committee Representative, Area III Northwest  
Nominating Committee Representative, Area IV Southwest  
Nominating Committee Representative, Area V Central

All job descriptions for the offices listed above are in the International Constitution. You can find the link to the Constitution on the OSO website at [dkgohio.org](http://dkgohio.org). The term of each office is two years, July 1, 2025 - June 30, 2027.

Serving OSO will give you the opportunity to

- ❖ build lasting interpersonal relationships,
- ❖ participate with leaders sharing a common interest and common goals,
- ❖ make connections with other OSO sisters, and
- ❖ reap both tangible and intangible benefits.

For more election information, check subsequent issues of *The Voice* or contact any of the 2023-2025 Nominating Committee members.

Shirley Moore, Chairman, Gamma Nu  
Karen Dunn, Alpha Psi  
Dr. Norma Kirby, Alpha Delta  
Cynthy Kleman, Beta Eta  
Marilyn Kretschman, Gamma Iota



Trivia was the name of the game at the April 13 joint meeting of Gamma Lambda and Phi Chapters. Gamma Lambda members, Claudia Grimes and Cindy Acklin, created 20 trivia questions. The winning team of Sandy Procaccio, Gamma Lambda President; Jill Nelson, Gamma Lambda; and Lynn Asente, Phi President received gold medals for their efforts.



Gamma Pi Chapter members learned about Family Tech Connect from Vince Bevacqua who spoke about his company. Family Tech Connect provides free of charge, tech coaching for seniors in their homes who are residents of Mahoning, Trumbull, Ashtabula and Columbiana counties. Pictured are Barbara Murray, Co-President, Vince Bevacqua, Melissa Hackett, Co-President, and Holly Buente, Communications Chair.



Delta Upsilon Chapter celebrated their 50th anniversary. Our program remembered and honored the 22 charter members of our chapter. Mary Ann Cook, the only remaining charter member, shared some interesting stories about the early years of Delta Upsilon.

## Upcoming Dates to Remember

**June 1, 2024**

**Chapter President's Report Due**  
**Gold Key Online Form Due**

**June 11, 2024**

**9:15 AM - 4:00 PM**

In Person Chapter Officer Training Seminar  
Der Dutchman, Plain City

**June 13, 2024**

**9:15 AM - 4:00 PM**

Chapter Officer Training Seminar Via Zoom

**June 30, 2024**

**Form 110 - Reporting 2024 -2026 Chapter Officers**

Due to OSO President As Soon As Possible  
Due to DKG International

**July 9-13, 2024**

DKG International Convention  
Gaylord Resort & Convention Center  
National Harbor, Maryland

**September 14, 2024**

OSO Fall Executive Board Meeting  
Time & Place TBA  
(note the change in date)

## The News

The May edition of *The News* is available at DKG.org. You can also access the proposed amendments that will be voted on at the International Convention, July 9 - 13, at National Harbor, Maryland. If you are attending, please let an OSO Officer know so that we can meet up with you while there. If you are there, you will be part of the voting body. If you are not attending, you can let an OSO Officer know your opinion on any of the amendments so that your thoughts will be taken into consideration during the voting on the proposed amendments.

Meier Bauer, Gamma Phi  
OSO Recording Secretary



## OSO Needs You!



The search for our OSO webmaster continues this month. The webmaster's main job is to keep our webpage updated. She also serves as part of the administrative team and helps chapters with the creation and maintenance of their webpage. A complete description of job responsibilities for the webmaster is available on our website along with the application. Please contact Beth Archer Personnel Co-Chairman at [archer1140@yahoo.com](mailto:archer1140@yahoo.com) with your questions about this wonderful opportunity to become part of the OSO Team.

Gamma Alpha Chapter's April program was presented by Pat Gates. Pat showed and shared the history of places she has visited in the United States on her Harley.







# IDKG FORM FOR REPORTING 2024-2026 CHAPTER OFFICERS

**Please send a copy to your state organization and a copy to Society Headquarters**

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Please complete the form including all member ID#s to report change of officers and email or mail to your state organization president and to Society Headquarters at [mem@dkg.org](mailto:mem@dkg.org) or Membership Services, 12710 Research Blvd., Ste 230, Austin, TX 78759-4395. The form may be downloaded as an interactive form from the Society website and forwarded as an email attachment. Remember to also send Form 87 for any change in chapter treasurer. These credentials will be updated on July 1, 2024.

Person Completing Form: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Name: \_\_\_\_\_ State Name: \_\_\_\_\_

	NAME	MEMBER I.D.#	MAILING ADDRESS	PREFERRED TELEPHONE (include area code)	CELL (Optional)	E-MAIL
President						
Treasurer						
First Vice-President						
Second Vice-President						
Recording Secretary						
Corresponding Secretary						
Parliamentarian						

Thank You!