

A Message from OSO President Melodie McGee

When I got home on Saturday 9/14 from the Fall Executive Board Meeting after getting 20 minutes of sleep the morning of the meeting, I fell into a deep sleep. I had a dream entitled **IF NOT YOU, THEN WHO?**

The dream started with three of the OSO founders having a tea party on an array of puffy clouds looking at us through the windows of The Quest Conference Center during our Fall Executive Board Meeting. Suddenly Margaret L. White, our founding First State President, leaned through the clouds to hear one of our OSO members saying "Well, this is my last time serving as President, I'm tired of this!" Margaret turned and looked at Amelia Kirkland, our state's first parliamentarian, who gasped and said, "I don't believe this!" Soon Edith Keller, one of our state's founders who was known for her *merits of honor and service*, overheard one of the chapter presidents saying that their chapter was strongly considering dissolving, and she began to weep. So, the three founders said, "Let's see if we can look around up here and find H.G. Wells and see if we can borrow his *time machine*. They wanted to be able to travel into the future and see what would happen if all the OSO officers, members, and chapters, said the words, "Not me, I'm not serving again."

What might happen to the future of OSO?

They found H.G. Wells and borrowed his *time machine*, climbed in and moved the lever forward a few years from now. My dream now turned into a nightmare! The NOT ME virus/plague spirit had spread from one officer to the next officer, from one OSO chapter to the next OSO chapter until Delta Kappa Gamma Ohio State Organization no longer existed.

The three founders said to each other, "Just think of all the work, sacrifice and dedication that we put in beginning this state organization that is no more, due to the lack of leadership. What we built and tried to model for these future generations, is no more, *we failed*. Our lineage is gone forever. Then they returned to the year 2024 and asked the question again to the OSO members... IF NOT YOU, THEN WHO?

It's time now Chapter officers to mentor, encourage, prepare, and have others understand their roles so that they can share in the responsibilities of serving in OSO chapters. If not, my nightmare will become a reality. Generations to come will not know OSO ever existed, reap the financial scholarships and other benefits of our OSO community of educators.

It's time to look at yourself in the mirror again that you received as a member of our OSO community when I first began my presidential journey. You need to *reflect* on the words of our biennium theme before it's too late.

Look in the mirror and ask yourself the question...What can I do during this fall harvest season to Renew - Recapture and Respond to the needs of my chapter and its members right now, so that it will be able to stay alive, functioning, and strong!

We can't just give up now and quit. The future is in our hands. Remember...If NOT YOU...THEN WHO?

Melodies' Meaningful Memoirs...

Congratulations, to our new OSO Corresponding Secretary, Judith McClanahan, from Gamma Nu Chapter!

Don't forget the Fireside OSO Chapter Presidents Zoom Chat on October 10, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.! Watch for the Zoom link to come out soon!