

Alpha Kappa Orientation Program – Text 2024

R- Slide 1: Introduction

You will belong to Alpha Kappa Chapter, to the state organization – Florida; and the International Society – Delta Kappa Gamma International. You will then become a part of supporting the Society’s Vision that we are *Key Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide*.

R - Slide 2: Organization

DKG has chapters in the US Canada, Central America, Europe, and Japan. The international offices for DKG are located in Austin, Texas, because the organization was founded there in 1929.

Explain Big Bend area, coordinating council and name 3 chapters - Alpha Kappa, Alpha Lambda, Beta Phi.

R – Slide 3: Mission & Vision Statement

Read from slide

C - Slide 4: Welcome - You are Special

Read from slide

C - Slide 5: Our Goals

Read from text on screen

C - Slide 6: E D U C A T I O N

Excellence in Education

Read from slide then say “These ideals will be presented in following slides.”

R - Slide 7: Dedication to our 7 Purposes

1. To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship – is one that many members feel is unique to our organization. Why? Because when you go to an educational meeting you meet someone else who is a DKG member and immediately feel a kinship.
2. To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education. We consider active membership the most visible way we can honor outstanding women educators.
3. To advance the professional interest and position of women in education. Our Founders were dismayed by opposition to efforts by women to obtain equal pay and opportunities for administrative positions. Today, through networking, assistance with advanced degrees, certification and professional development, we continue to help member be the best they can be.
4. To initiate, endorse and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and women educators. However, the Society does not support political candidates or parties – non-partisan.
5. To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators. In most years the Society donates around \$3,000,000 in grants, scholarships and project funding.
6. To stimulate the personal and professional growth of women educators and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action. The Society offers members outstanding leadership training through seminar, workshops and other opportunities.

7. To inform the members of educational issues that are impacted by economic, social, and political events. The BBCC offers an annual Legislative meeting where these issues are presented.

R - Slide 8: United in Fellowship

- **Social Activities** – Social events i.e., annual summer luncheon; socializing before each program i.e., sharing foods, extra gatherings beyond meetings, and others.
- **Home Hosting** – members volunteer homes for meetings and other members help prepare for the meeting by volunteering to bring goodies to share.
- **Committee Work** – will be detailed later in this presentation.
- **Interactive Programs** – – talented membership; often are presenters at meetings as well as at District and State meetings. Chapter Example: Getting to know you activities, Speed friending, Who wrote this about themselves – members guess.
- **Conferencing** – The Florida Fall Workshop is open to all members and usually held in Orlando. Our District I holds meetings biannually. These meetings rotate hosting from west to central to the east Panhandle. All members of DKG in our district are invited to attend as well as officers throughout the state. There are 6 districts in Florida. Our District I includes areas from Pensacola through Taylor County. Last year, the District I meeting was hosted in Tallahassee.

C - Slide 9: Communicate within the Society

Networking – among members via group email; among others in society within Big Bend i.e., Coordinating Council, planning joint meeting, sharing information i.e., via Tallahassee Democrat

Chronicle, Florida Rays, the State newsletter, etc. Members are regularly informed of current events through chapter email, newsletters, and announcements sent from our members and State.

For Chapter Members – telephoning, carpooling to meetings, notes of thanks, well wishes, congratulations, share ideas at meetings, recognizing member achievements. Many of our programs are presented by members of the chapter. Members also enjoy social events together.

Through Media i.e., Website, Facebook – AK has a website. It is a resource for all information about AK activities as well as links to our State DKG and the DKG International website. It includes scholarship and grant information, our yearbook, the newsletters and chapter minutes, a photo gallery and our membership list as well as our symbols and society song.

We also have a Facebook page so that others can post to the site and where current activities and reactions are posted. Both sites provide a public presence for our DKG chapter and for interacting with others DKG sisters.

Publications: Opportunities to publish professional achievements, personal writings, and research articles through various media are offered at all levels of the Society.

Florida publishes the *Florida Rays* highlighting chapters' activities within the state, posting the event schedule, deadline schedules, and information from various officers of the State organization. *The* international Web site (www.dkg.org) is a source for detailed information about benefits offered to members as well as conferences conducted worldwide. The Society also provides a

news source *The DKG NEWS* and a juried, professional journal *The Bulletin*.

Through knowing and working with key women educators in your community, state, and around the world, you will have extensive networking opportunities and support.

R - Slide 10: Active in Chapter Events

Chapter Meetings - Annually - 4 program meetings (includes a social, program and business meeting), 1 District Meeting (alternate years), 1 joint induction, 1 joint Founder's Day Luncheon, 1 Legislative meeting, 1 summer luncheon.

Committee Meetings – There are many committees within the chapter that provide various services for the chapter.

Members volunteer to chair these groups and to participate as a member of the committees. Example: AK's recruitment has improved due to sending letters to prospective members from the membership committee, offering orientation, and mentoring. We develop committees as needs arise i.e., Work Projects, Hosting, Name Tags, Fund Raising, Social Activities. Others are recommended by our State and International organizations.

Officer Opportunities – Pres., Pres. Elect., V. Pres., Recording Sec., Corres. Sec. are all elected. Each serve a 2 year term. The treasurer is selected by the president; other officers serve on the board by our President's appointment e.g., Parliamentarian and Communication Chair. Also, members may choose to run for offices at the District or State levels.

Service Projects – Our chapter participates in projects that benefit the community. To be explained later.

Summary - Your Participation is essential to becoming a key member of your chapter.

- **Participating in meetings, projects, and activities at the chapter, district, as well as state and international levels.**
- **Sharing interests, talents and professional expertise – we want to learn from you.**
- **Seeking out opportunities to grow personally and professionally and supporting others in their growth – we encourage each other.**
- **Supporting the organizations efforts by paying dues and fees in a timely manner**
- **Becoming involved in chapter life by attending meetings and other activities, by using voice and vote in chapter business, by taking risks and taking advantage.**

C - Slide 11: Teaching through Mentoring

DKG members have many opportunities to mentor.

As a Sponsor of a New Member – guide the new member as she learns about DKG.

As a Mentor to a new teacher in your school – reach out to new teachers in your school to provide guidance and support as they begin their teaching careers.

As a professional educator - Many members disseminate information by volunteering to make presentations to their chapter, in the schools, at teacher in-service, at district meetings, state and

national conferences and also disseminating information via publications.

A key woman educator has unique educational gifts that can be shared with other educators and is a person who willingly offers to contribute to the professional development of others.

C - Slide 12: Inspired Toward Self-Improvement

Read from slide – Many members have pursued professional growth through these opportunities. Information is available on the International website.

C - Slide 13: Open to New Ideas for Service

Read from slide – then talk about our projects below.

Southern Scholarship Foundation House, the Lundquist house, at Florida State University.

In past years, members of the chapter meet at the house with the residents, bring meals to them and enjoy getting to know them face-to-face. In addition to meals, the chapter provides supplies to "pack their pantry" and other items the ladies have on their wish list. They refer to AK members as their "House Champions". Some Lundquist house residents request a mentor. Several of our chapter members mentor members of the house.

Materials for the State Prison Library - Charles Huber, the Prison Library Administrator will receive materials at any time and during their book drive around the end of the year. There are a wide variety

of subject material needed. Recently, you were sent the list of books needed and the criteria for selecting books.

Supplies for Alpha Kappa Members – sisters can put their Amazon wish lists on our Facebook page so that others can see it in support of member's needs at the beginning of school. AK has set aside funds to help with this project as well as individual's may help any member with needed supplies. The information is found under the comment section of our Facebook page.

World Fellowship – DKG members are encourage to maintain contact with recipients of the scholarships studying in their states when possible. BB chapter members have been fortunate to meet some of the recipients. Funds are provided to support this cause.

C - Slide 14: Notable Contributions

Read from slide

R - Slide 15: Pride in Delta Kappa Gamma – Our Symbols – Coat of Arms

The crest or **coat of arms** is often printed on Society publications. The top portion of the crest represents leadership. The cup of knowledge and the laurel wreath representing achievement are also found on the key pin. The torse below the laurel wreath on the crest represents inspiration. The lamp of learning, the rose, and a book are found on the crest. Finally, the name of the Society, in Greek, completes the crest.

R - Slide 16: Our Symbols – Key Pin

The key pin is given to each member upon initiation. It is the emblem of Society membership and is worn only over the heart. No other pin, piece of jewelry, or name tag may be worn above it. It is not to be worn pinned to scarves or on collars.

R - Slide 17: Our Symbols – The Red Rose

The **red rose** is the official flower of the Society and is used in all ceremonies and for special occasions.

R - Slide 18: Our Symbols – Our Song

Read from slide – Sung at the end of chapter events and ceremonies.

R - Slide 19: DKG Society International

Read from slide

Comments:

By Connie - This power point presentation will be available to you through the AK website. For those who could not attend, their mentors can use it to orient the person they sponsored.