

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Alpha Kappa - Florida
Mission Statement
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional
and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.
Newsletter May/June, 2022
Prepared by Connie Lewis

President's Message – Nancy Rosenbaum

Spring has sprung and brought with it a fresh start and new growth. The birds are singing, plants are blooming, and everything is flourishing again! Alpha Kappa is thriving as well!

We have begun in-person activities again on a more routine basis! It has been wonderful seeing some of you and with several more activities coming up, I hope to see many more soon!

In March, Maria Pouncey organized an informative meeting with the Early Learning Coalition. We learned more about what they do, who they serve, and how we can help! It was enlightening to hear from sisters about their connections and passions for education!

Early April brought an outside in-person visit with the ladies of the Lundquist Scholarship House. Our sisters showered the Lundquist residents with food and supplies for their home. There were many smiling faces amongst the group! Thank you to Felecia Jordan-Jackson and Nancy Watson for always keeping close contact with the house so that we may continue to support these women!

Jennifer Gaurraia and Janie Register so graciously volunteered their time to speak with our chapter about Educational Foundation Awards and Grants. These funds are so simple to apply for and have such a tremendous impact on educators and students!

In May, we look forward to celebrating Founder's Day together with the other chapters of the Big Bend Coordinating Council. We will be remembering our past, celebrating the present, and looking toward the future. It would be wonderful to see as many Alpha Kappa sisters present as possible for this special event. Be sure to get your registration to Rhonda Work ASAP so you can join us! Rhonda has done a significant amount of planning to ensure we can have a lovely and safe luncheon!

The Founder's Day celebration will also begin a transition of leadership for our chapter. While the new biennium doesn't begin until July 1st, we will install our new slate of officers during this event. It is hard to believe how fast the past two years have gone. I have loved every minute of serving as the Alpha Kappa President and I thank all of you for having the confidence in me to represent you!

As we continue through the spring and look towards the new biennium, I ask you to reflect on YOUR growth in DKG and as an educator. What brought you into DKG? What impact would you like to make? What activities should we engage in? Why are these activities important and why should these activities be intentional? How do we go about fulfilling our goals? Our chapter strives to follow the passions and interests of our members and we would LOVE to hear from YOU!



Early Learning Coalition – Our tour and visit to ELC was delightful and informative. This year we donated 181 books for the children.



From left to right: Maria Pouncy: AK Member & ELC Book Drive Coordinator; **June Townsend:** AK Member; **Nancy Rosenbaum:** AK President; **Kara Palmer Smith:** ELC Chief Operations Officer; **Hadassah Israel:** ELC Community Relations Manager; **Yolanda Singletary:** AK Member

Welcome to Alpha Kappa - Below are the members that have transferred or been reinstated during the 2020-2022 biennium. We want to recognize them and get to know each one. We are proud that you have chosen to join us. Welcome Sisters!

Transfers from Iota (FL)



Laura Casto
Griffin MS
Media Specialist



Genae Crump
Leon Co. Schools
District Adm



Nancy Henning
RT: Site Coord
Leon Co Schools



Diane Johnson
RT: Leon Co
Schools



Sandra Smith
RT: Perry Primary
Schools

Transfer Member
Alpha Lambda (FL)

Transfer Member
Delta Omicron (AL)

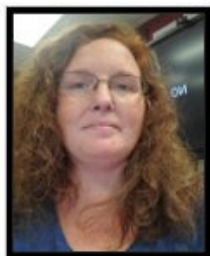
Transfer Member
Kappa (FL)

Transfer Member
Alpha Kappa (FL)

Transfer Member
Alpha Delta (FL)



Jessica Deneen
FSUS – 7th grade
Language Arts



Micha Nowak
FSUS – HS
Science



Yolanda Singletary
DOE Ed Policy
Office of Articulation



Taita Scott
LCS Admin



Patricia Scott
RT: Elementary
MS Language Arts

Education Excellence Committee Delegate Responsibilities

The Educational Excellence State Committee would like to be in regular communication with your chapter. We are suggesting **you recruit a chapter member to act as a liaison** between your chapter and the committee; this liaison would be called the **EEC Delegate**. We would like to have those delegates in place by June 30.

Their duties would be to communicate with the chair of the Education Excellence Committee on a regular basis to share the great things your chapter is doing to support efforts in scholarship, music, the arts, supporting classroom teachers, and any other efforts your chapter undertakes that fits the EEC charge. The EEC Delegate would also receive information from the EEC Chair to share with their chapter. The EEC Delegate would not be expected to attend the committee meetings.

We look forward to your response to our request and to more frequent communications with your chapter. Please let your President know if you would be interested in filling this position as the EEC Delegate.

Report from Lorraine Ausley – Florida State Senator

As this year's legislative session comes to a close, in addition to standing up against a long list of harmful legislation, I worked with other common-sense leaders to secure much-needed funding for important projects that will help so many hardworking families and local businesses across the eleven North Florida counties that make up Senate District 3.



I'm happy to announce that \$400 million was secured to expand broadband, helping local small businesses, students, and economies throughout the Big Bend that are currently unable to access high-speed internet. Additionally, a significant increase in pre-K funding was secured to help thousands of North Florida families afford child care costs while setting children on a path towards success.

I've been in close contact with county managers, local commissioners, and law enforcement departments in every county to ensure they receive the funding they need. And I'm grateful for the local partnerships and leadership that helped secure half a billion dollars in funding for our North Florida communities.

See below for some of the projects I was able to help secure funding for in this year's legislative budget to address the challenges we are facing here in North Florida:

- ◆ **5.38% across the board pay increase for all state employees**, while at the same time bringing every single employee up to a minimum wage of \$15 per hour. This represents the **largest pay increase in more than 20 years** and its impacts are felt across the entire district, but especially Leon, Gadsden, and Wakulla counties.
- ◆ More than \$70 million for 37 individual projects across the district, in addition to \$6.4 million for parks, historic preservation and cultural projects in our communities.
- ◆ **\$50 million was secured in additional funding for small county roads and bridges**, which will help improve transportation and spur economic development.
- ◆ \$25 million for the Rural Infrastructure Fund to help provide funding to build and repair infrastructure in our rural communities.
- ◆ **\$5 million to help transition charter schools back to the county school district in Jefferson County**, which will help deliver high-quality public education to thousands of students. After a hard fight, we were also able to secure nearly **\$400,000 to help the Children's Home Society create a Community School in Jefferson County**, providing health and other essential services to ensure success.
- ◆ **\$6.7 million for Rish Park in Gulf County**, a park specifically designed for the disabled population, which will fund much-needed enhancements following the damage caused by Hurricane Michael.

- ◆ **\$15 million for local Law Enforcement Officers** to help improve public safety in our smaller counties, along with pay increases for Correctional Officers, State Attorneys and Public Defenders.

Thank you for your feedback and words of encouragement throughout the legislative session. The support and engagement from so many of you helped us deliver for our families and all of the people of North Florida.

The Florida DKG Educational Foundation Board of directors sent Alpha Kappa an appreciation letter for our contribution of \$50.00 in memory of Merle S. Jones. Merle was a catalyst for the establishment of the Florida DKG Educational Foundation.

DKG International Headquarters

On behalf of the International President, Becky Sadowski, and the entire professional staff, we are pleased to announce the relocation of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and the DKG International Educators Foundation headquarters. The new address is:

*12710 Research Blvd Ste 230
Austin, TX 78759-4395*

Please direct all future correspondence, payments, and contributions to the new location effective immediately. Your patience during the transition period was truly appreciated.

Reminders:

- ◆ **Please bring some cash for the raffle baskets at Founder's Day.**
- ◆ **There are still openings for the Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar. Contact Monica Hayes for more information.**
- ◆ **Please collect your change for World Fellowship. You can bring it to any meeting to turn in.**



Thank You!

Nancy, you have served Alpha Kappa well as its President. You have brought new insights to us, made us proud by all you do for education and kids, and through your desire to acquire new knowledge to enhance your professional growth and development. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. You are a true key woman educator!



We also want to express our appreciation to other Board members for their service to our chapter. Thank you for all you have done to make this chapter as productive as it is. You are valued sisters of the Society.



From left to right: Ruth Bickel - Vice President; Delores Hudson - Corresponding Secretary; Lisa Phillips - Parliamentarian; Nancy Watson - President and Past President. We will miss you but we know that you will continue to be active contributors to the chapter.

Thank You!

Welcome to Our New Board
They officially begin their duties on July 1



President: Monica Hayes

Immediate Past President:
Nancy Rosenbaum



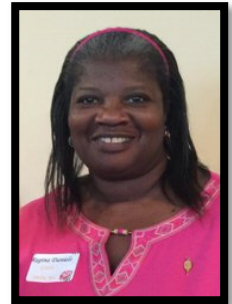
President-Elect: Stacy Thompson

Vice President: Jennifer Guarraia



Recording Secretary: Nikki Abels

Corresponding Secretary: Ragina Daniels



Treasurer: Rhonda Work

Communication Director: Connie Lewis



Visiting the Lundquist House Ladies

We have visited with the ladies this year via Zoom and in person. We provide meals for the residents as well as help with supplies that they need throughout the year. The ladies are interested in getting to know our members and in finding mentors. Please support this group as they are most grateful for our assistance. (



The lady on the left is Jeana Louis – the Lundquist House Liasion.

Materials for the State Prison Library – Nikki Abels

Charles Huber, the Prison Library Administrator, said they would be happy to take materials at any time and of course during the book drive around the end of the year. There is a wide variety of subject material needed.

The following are the types of material they could use:

- popular fiction
- science fiction
- western novels
- young adult novels
- fantasy fiction
- historical fiction
- Spanish language titles
- large print books
- audio books
- Introduction to Spanish
- continuing education – (GED, GRE, vocational texts)
- cover letter writing
- chess sets and boards
- travel guides
- drawing techniques
- arts and crafts
- puzzle books
- interviewing techniques
- G to P13 rated movies and documentaries
- animals
- children's literature (3/4 grade reading level)

Nikki will collect the books and make arrangements with Charles for delivery. Thank you, Nikki!

Louise McMullian - In Memorium We will Miss You!

Ms. Louise McMullian, passed away at age 100 on Friday March 18, 2022, in her home at the Tallahassee Westminster Oaks Retirement Community. She was born in Jackson County Florida. Louise never married, but chose to treat her brother's children (13 nieces and nephews) as her own.

She received her degree in business education at Berry College in Rome, Georgia and received a Master's degree from the University of Tennessee. Afterward, she taught in Franklin, Pinellas and Orange counties and at Valencia Community College in Orlando, Florida from where she retired and moved to Tallahassee.

Louise joined the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in 1955. She served the society at the chapter, district, state, regional and international level. Louise was state president 1975-77 and received the state achievement award in 1978. She was a member for 60 plus years. She was a member of Beta Phi.



Spring Chapter Meeting Schedule 2022



- January 22, 2022, District I Meeting. AK will staff the Registration Table and Present the Founder's Day Tribute. Port St Joe Elementary School, Florida
- Date CANCELLED, BBC Legislative Day
- March 8, 6 p.m. Visit with Lundquist Women via Zoom.
- March 29, 6:00 Program: Early Learning Coalition Presentation and Tour (in person), Edgewater Corporate Center (2639 North Monroe Street, Building C-300, Tallahassee, FL 32303 Phone: (850) 385-0504)
- April 26, 5:30 p.m., Program Meeting - Educational Foundation Professional Development Awards and Grants, Presenters: Jennifer Guarraia and Janie Register, LeRoy Collins Main Public Library, Room B, 200 W. Park Ave.
- May 14, 11 a.m. BBCC Founder's Day, St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 2196 N. Meridian Road, Pre-registration required.
- June 26 - 29, 2022 Florida Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar, Orlando Marriott Lake Mary
- July 12 - 16, DKG International Convention, Sheraton New Orleans, Louisiana
- September 23 - 24, Florida State Organization's Fall Executive Board Meeting & Workshops, Orlando Marriott Lake Mary. Book rooms early.

Florida Rays

Members are encouraged to email information to be used in the **Florida Rays** to Bonnie Kelley at **MuStateEditor@gmail.com**

December 1.....Winter
February 1.....Spring
May 1.....Summer
August 1.....Fall

Important Dates

Sept 1, 2022
Applications will be available for 2023 Award & Grants.

Sept 23, 2022
FLDKGEF Annual Membership Meeting at the Florida State Executive Board Meeting;
Orlando Marriott Lake Mary.

Feb 1, 2023
2023 Award & Grant Application Deadline

April 2023
Award & Grant Recipients notified.



For more information contact
FLDKGEF at
<https://www.fldkgef.org/>