

**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Alpha Kappa of Mu State
Mission Statement**

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

**Newsletter - May, 2018
Prepared by Connie Lewis**

Member Spotlight – Nancy Watson



Ciao! I am sitting here preparing for two exciting events in my life. In May, my husband, Frank, and I are taking a trip to Italy to celebrate our retirement. Although I have had a few international trips (i.e. Germany, Italy, South Korea, and cruising the Caribbean), Frank has never crossed an Ocean. He is humoring me, with some trepidation, but looking forward to seeing Tuscany, the Italian Riviera, Rome, and particularly the Colosseum, Pompeii and Vesuvius.

The second exciting event is preparing to be the President of the Delta Kappa Gamma, Alpha Kappa chapter. The preparation has already begun with lots of brainstorming and reflecting. By the time July rolls around we should be ready for a year of projects, programs, and social events. Your input is important because the success of an organization is meeting the needs and interests of its members so you will have opportunities to speak up. I must say that it was a bit intimidating when I was asked to be President-elect. There are many members of Alpha Kappa that have years of historical knowledge and have shown great leadership. I was delighted to find that they have been very supportive and continue to help shape the future of our organization.

To give you a sense of who I am, let me tell you a little about myself. I am a farmer's daughter, the first to attend and graduate not once by twice from college – Go NOLES! As indicated above, my husband is Frank a retired television executive for WCTV, FOX 49, and the Florida News Channel. We have three children Michael, Matthew, and Julie and two lovely daughters-in law, Heather and Jennie.

I earned a double major in History and Criminology. My first jobs were investigating child neglect and abuse in central Florida and directing programs for a youth services (e.g. volunteer programs, counseling and providing court support for youthful offenders). After a few years of this rather stressful work, I took off a few years to have a family and stay at home to have a hand at making sure they developed the kinds of values and attitudes that would serve them well in life. As they

entered school, I began substitute teaching and fell in love with the idea of being a teacher. My early years of teaching were in Alternative Education.

I recently retired from Chiles High School where I taught AP Human Geography and World History for 15 years. Prior to that I taught at Raa Middle School (8 years), BelleVue Middle School (3 years), Crystal River Middle School (2 years), and Suncoast Middle School & Caloosa Middle School (1 year each). I served as the Gifted and Pre-AP Coordinator at Chiles, as well as, the History Fair Coordinator for many years at Chiles and Raa.

After starting the first AP Human Geography course in Leon County, I became a reader for the essay portion of the exam and was asked to serve on the College Board AP Human Geography Development Committee charged with developing the annual exam and curriculum for training teachers for the course. I served for 7 years, the last three as the co-chair of the committee. This was quite an honor, as the committee is made up of three secondary teachers and three university professors, the Chief Reader and a College Board and an ETS lead. It was a wonderful experience allowing me to travel and present at conferences and workshops. I made geography friends from coast to coast and across the world, which has fueled my love of travel and interest in world affairs. Now I have time for both.

I look forward to Alpha Kappa's new year. It will be fun to get to know everyone better and continue the strong tradition of engagement and professional service. I am depending on every member to get involved in some way that will strengthen our purpose and help us achieve our goals. Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President.

Ciao (what a versatile word!), Nancy

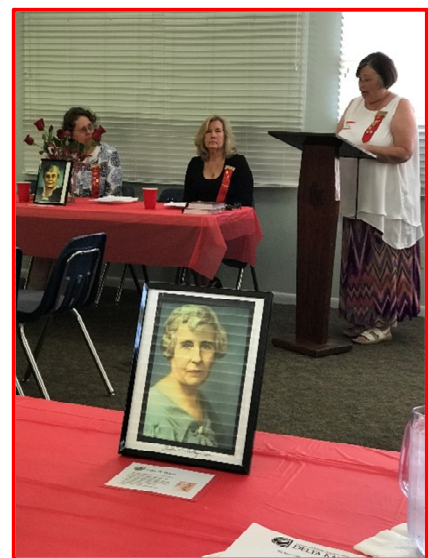
Founder's Day Luncheon

The luncheon was held May 19, 2018 at the St. Stephen's Lutheran Church on Meridian Road. Susan Womble presided. There were 33 members from the 4 chapters attending. Scholarships were awarded to the following:

- Christina Whitfield, Alpha Lambda – Woodbery scholarship
- Ciara Anderson – Grant-in-Aid

The raffle raised \$86.00 for the Scholarship Fund.

Gale Workman honored Janice Smith-Dann during the necrology. New Chapter officers were installed. The luncheon of delightful salads was provided by Little Italy's accompanied by delicious deserts. A big thank you to Sharon Simmons of Beta Phi for making the facilities arrangements and to Emily Ruddell of Beta Phi for arranging the meal.



Ideas for Improving Member Engagement in Chapter Activities suggested by AK Board

- ❖ Continue **member spotlight** in the newsletter. The board decided that we would highlight the new officers in the upcoming newsletters and then consider highlighting the new members. The objective is to recognize achievement and to get to know each other better.
- ❖ Reinstate the **Cookie Exchange** at the December Meeting. The board voted to reinstate this event. Note: JoAnne Arnett agreed to host this year again.
- ❖ Provide **social opportunities** for members more frequently. This item will be referred to the members for discussion and ideas of places to meet, times, etc. at a later chapter meeting.
- ❖ Share **“ATTA GIRL”** at chapter meetings – Chapter programs will provide members an opportunity to share achievements, activities, special events of their own and/or other members.

TCC students interview AK members

Reggie Grant, a professor at TCC will work with Gale to arrange for our members to be interviewed (on a volunteer basis) which can be used to update our bios, recognition of members, and use in “getting to know you” activities, etc. [Note – This may become an AK project.] It was decided to gather current information on members via the TCC student interviews and put the scrapbooking on hold for now.

Remind 101 App is a cell phone application that is useful for texting members quick reminders of events, special assignments, etc. It is faster than email and would require members to input their cell phone numbers into the app. Member can elect to participate or opt out.

Webinar

There was discussion about having a meeting at TCC at CPE with Michele Dames so that we can consider broadcasting our meetings. This would provide those members who cannot be physically present to “tune in” to participate. Nancy will follow up on the possibility of webinar-style meeting for next year.

Leadership Roles

The board suggested that more members need to become involved in chapter leadership roles. Some areas were mentioned include:

- Books collection for and delivery to ELC
- Management of Pack the Pantry Project for Scholarship House
- Membership Recruitment

- Program Chair to coordinate programs for our 4 required meetings.
- Individuals finding substitutes for meetings when they have accepted a responsibility during a given meeting.
- Coordination of the refreshments at meetings. Board recommended returning to the A-L and M-Z system used in the past.

News from BBCC Board

Amendments -The proposed name change of Delta Kappa Gamma International Society was discussed. Rhonda Work, as chair of the BBCC was instructed to send a note to Carol Ann Casey, Mu State President, expressing concerns about the change

Scholarships – It was agreed that one grant-in-aid for \$400 and one Woodbery Scholarship for \$500 would be awarded. Both recipients will be invited to Founders' Day.

Member Recognition

Nancy Rosenbaum, a fifth-grade teacher at FSUS was awarded the 2018 June Scobee Rodgers Innovative Educator Award from the Challenger Center on May 10. The award recognizes an outstanding educator who understands the importance of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education and demonstrates enthusiasm and passion in teaching STEM subjects. Congratulations to Nancy, one of our new members. (Third from left in picture)



Susan Womble, award-winning author, is now launching the publication of *The ABC's of Teaching: A Guide for Teachers*. This book assures teachers that there is no magic formula to make them become successful teachers. Rather it is a look at what Womble herself has seen and experienced as a National Board Certified teacher with a career of teaching grades K-12. She has taught reading, special education, language arts, math, social studies, and the profoundly handicapped.

This book is a compilation of her observations and opinions and is meant to help create a positive mindset about teaching. (This is an excerpt from an article published in this May's newsletter of the Tallahassee Writers Association.)

AK was recognized at the District I meeting for having won the **Mu State Communication Award**.

Leadership Conference - Nancy Watson, Susan Vinson, and Delores Hudson will be attending the Leadership Seminar, June 24-27, 2018 in Orlando. Congratulations.

Chapter Meeting Schedule 2018-19

- May 19, 2018 - Big Bend Founders' Day Luncheon, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. St. Stephen's Lutheran Church, 2198 N Meridian Rd.
- June 19, 2018 - Alpha Kappa Board Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Rhonda Work's house.
- July 16-20, 2018 - International Conference, Austin, Texas - Proposed Constitutional Amendment Revisions to be voted on.
- July 17, 2018 - Summer Luncheon 11:30 a.m., Backwoods Bistro, across from Leon High School.
- October 13, 2018 - Orientation of New Members
- November 3, 2018 - Initiation
- December, 2018 - Fellowship and Cookie Exchange, JoAnne Arnett's house, Time TBA.
- February 23, 2019 - Legislative Meeting
- May 18, 2019 - Founders' Day

Other Important Dates

- The FL Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar - June 24-27, 2018, The Orlando Marriott Lake Mary, Lake Mary, FL
- 2018 DKG International Convention - July 16-20, 2018 JW Marriott, Austin, TX
- Mu State Fall Workshop and Executive Board Meeting - Sept 21-22, 2018, The Orlando Marriot Lake Mary, Lake Mary, FL