



Theta Chapter News
Theta Chapter, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
October 2019

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Executive Committee
2018-20

President:
Ann Nicholson

Vice President:
Betty Stewart

Recording Secretary:
Char Zrudsky

Treasurer:
Patty Kucera

Parliamentarian:
Betty Ehlinger

Past Co-presidents:
Deanne Robinson

Sue Vogel

Deltakappagamma.org/IA-theta
iowadkg.weebly.com
www.dkg.org

Please bring your HyVee receipts and Box Tops for Education to meetings.

October 10, 2019 Thursday 5:00-7:00

Avoiding Scams

Ladd Library Community Room, 3750 Williams Blvd SW, CR

Supporting growth and learning in the community— Learn about the most recent and widespread scams from a member of the Better Business Bureau, what to do if you think you might have encountered a scam, and how to avoid becoming a victim.

Hostesses: *Rhonda Achenbach, Ruth Ann Kelleher, Emily Emonin

Reminder: If you are donating school supplies, please bring them to the October meeting.

November 14, 2019 Thursday 5:00-7:00

Honor Flights: Linn Area Credit Union, 3700 Edgewood Rd. SW CR

The Honor Flight Network is a non-profit organization created solely to honor America's veterans for all their sacrifices. Learn about Eastern Iowa Honor Flights and the volunteers who lead the program. We will also have a SW Paneras fundraiser from 4:00-8:00.

Hostesses: *Deanne Robinson, Char Zrudsky, Judy Chihak

December 12, 2019 Thursday 4:30-6:30

Holiday Social at Farmer's Daughter's Market, 495 Miller Rd, Hiawatha

Gather for socializing, shopping, and a meal.

Important Dates

October 10th, 2019 – Open Minds Open Doors STEM conference at Coe College for middle school girls. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Ann Nicholson at 364-2869.

October 20th, 2019 – Safe Halloween Sunday at Ushers Ferry Historical Village from 1-4 pm. Contact Betty Stewart at 319-393-2554 to volunteer.

April 15, 2020 – Applications due for Iowa State DKG Road Scholar Award.

Celebrate October Birthdays:

October 26: Michelle Anderson

September 12 Meeting and Potluck

The September meeting was held at Grant Wood AEA. The meeting focused on using DKG website resources and logging in to the DKG international website. Betty Ehlinger arranged for the chapter to have the use of laptops so members were able to follow along with the program and set up their DKG accounts. If you were unable to attend the September meeting and are interested in setting up your DKG account, contact Ann Nicholson and we will email directions to you.

We also had a potluck supper, received this year's chapter books, and reviewed suggested rule changes. Michelle Anderson shared information from the Regional DKG conference she attended this summer. She shared pamphlets about the National Legislative Seminar in Arlington, VA on March 15-18, 2020 as well as the United States Forum which can be accessed at www.usforumdkg.org. This information will also be available at upcoming meetings.

School Supplies Reminder

If you are donating school supplies, please bring them to the October 10th meeting at Ladd Library or contact Ann Nicholson (364-2869) to arrange for your items to be picked up. We will be scheduling a day in November for volunteers to sort, bag, and deliver the supplies to new teachers in the Cedar Rapids district.

Congratulations to Enid Benda

Enid became a 50 year DKG member this summer. She was initiated in April of 1969 and was a sixth grade teacher at Wilson Middle School in Cedar Rapids when she retired.

Road Scholar

If you have been a DKG member for at least three years and like to travel, you might want to apply for a \$600 Iowa State DKG Road Scholar scholarship. Applications are due April 15, 2020 and can be found on the Iowa State DKG website under Date→Due dates. (<https://iowadkg.weebly.com/due-dates.html>) Look for the April 15th deadline to get a link for the application. One section of the application asks for the number of meetings attended over the past five years and needs to be filled out by the chapter president and secretary. If you are interested in applying for this scholarship, please start working on it as soon as possible.

Brag Bag

"Have some big news? Want to brag a little? There will be a Brag Bag available at the end of meetings for you to drop a donation into and share your news. (The suggested donation is \$1.) In the spring we will decide where we want the money to go—general fund, scholarships, special cause, etc. We want to give members the opportunity to share what's happening in their lives and also raise a little money."

BYOB

We are continuing the BYOB (bring your own beverage) policy at our meetings this year after testing it out last year. It really helps our hostesses to not have to worry about what type of beverages and how much to provide, and how to transport it to the meetings. You might consider putting a note on your calendar to remind you to bring your beverage to the meeting. We will continue to have paper cups available for water, also.



Officers Needed

We are in need of a president and vice president for the next two years (starting in June, 2020). Please consider becoming an officer of our chapter. Here are a few reasons for becoming an officer:

1. You will have a lot of support from past and current officers
2. DKG International and Iowa State DKG provide support and training resources for chapter officers
3. DKG scholarship applications ask for evidence of chapter participation including offices held.
4. It's a great way to learn more about DKG and Theta chapter

Excerpts from DKG Get Connected (Sept/Oct 2019)

Publications Benefit

An often-overlooked benefit of being a DKG member and a good internal marketing tool is the opportunity to be published in a professional journal. DKG has two scholarly publications— **Bulletin: International Journal for Professional Educators** and **Bulletin: Collegial Exchange**. Both are peer reviewed so being published in either is an honor and resume-worthy. The Journal has three online issues per year and focuses on research based and documented works. Collegial Exchange issues, printed and mailed to every member, focus on articles based on practice and experience related to education, the Society, women and children, plus personal reflections and creative works. Learn more about these quality periodicals on the website under the **Publications** tab.

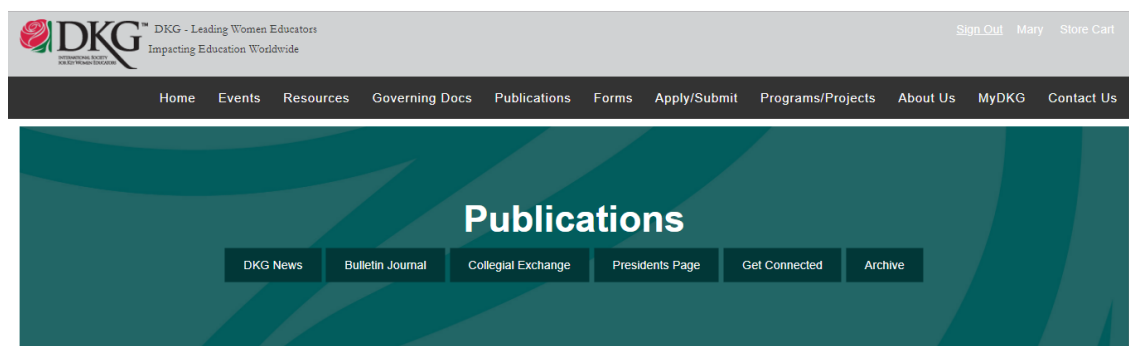
The Numbers Behind the Need

Healthy chapters and engaged members often wonder aloud why we need internal marketing. Consider these facts shared with SO Membership Chairs during their recent training: Over the last five years, DKG has lost 250 chapters and over 13,200 members. Inductee numbers have declined as well. If one key to retaining members is to provide access to information as frequently as possible, as research suggests, consider using the DKG website to help meet this need.

The Member-Side of the Website

The **Resources** tab, with its wealth of information for internal marketing, is only available to members once they are signed into the DKG website. Getting members signed in so they can see the resources and more on the member-side is another way to keep them informed. Chapter presidents can help members log in by providing a computer at a meeting and walking them through the process. Members will need their ID number and the generic password the first time they log on. Treasurers, as well as presidents, have ID numbers on membership rosters. If anyone needs help, they may use the website's chat feature, another valuable tool for keeping members happy and involved.

Get Connected and other DKG publications can be accessed at the DKG International website (dkg.org) by clicking on the Publications tab. If you haven't signed on to this website, contact Ann Nicholson for information on how to do so.



U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #188, AUGUST 2019

NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE LAW

The **National Popular Vote Law** is legislation passed by state legislatures rather than Congress. The states ratifying it pledge to cast votes in national elections based on the popular vote in their state rather than the all or nothing mandated by the Electoral College System. This system would not take effect until enough states committed. So far fifteen states and the District of Columbia have passed the law with a total of 196 electoral votes of the needed 270. The National Popular Vote Law has been passed by California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington. Additionally, the Arizona House has passed it as well as the Oklahoma Senate. Arizona has eleven electoral votes and Oklahoma has seven electoral votes. Legislation addressing this issue has been taken up in Georgia (16 electoral votes) and Missouri (ten electoral votes). Assuming these four states pass the bill that would bring the total electoral vote count to 240. The National Popular Vote bill would guarantee the Presidency to the candidate who receives the most popular votes in the 50 states and the District of Columbia. The bill would ensure that every vote, in every state, will matter in every presidential election.

[Note: This is legislation originating in the state rather than Congress.]

ANOTHER POTENTIAL CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

An effort is being made in Congress to overturn the **Citizens United decision of the Supreme Court** which allows corporations and wealthy people to make large donations to national elections. (It is even possible for foreign countries or foreign individuals to contribute money to US elections.) In order to amend the Constitution, 38 states must approve the measure. New Hampshire is the twentieth state to approve the amendment. Other states which have passed the amendment are California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Montana, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington and West Virginia. The District of Columbia has also passed the amendment. There is a measure in Congress which addresses this problem along with several other things related to voting. The **For the People Act of 2019 (H.R.1)** "expands voter registration and voting access, makes Election Day a federal holiday, and limits removing voters from voter rolls." It has passed the House and been sent to the Senate where it has not been voted on.

GUN CONTROL

The recent shootings in El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio have saddened us all. Two ex-military congressmen have advocated for an assault weapons ban based on their combat experience. There needs to be legislation passed which bans guns of the AR47 type. This would not prevent the events from happening, but it would reduce the number of people killed. It is likely that seven of the nine people killed in Dayton and 15-20 of the people killed in El Paso would not have died if the shooter had been using a conventional weapon. During the 1994-2004 period when an assault weapons ban was in place, there were 53 deaths from mass shootings. From 2005-2017 after the assault weapons ban lapsed there was an increase of 309 deaths. Some gun control bills have been introduced. Most notably is **The Assault Weapons Ban of 2019 (H.R.1296, S.66)**. Neither of which has been brought to a vote in either house.

NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR

Now is the time to make plans to attend the **National Legislative Seminar**. The seminar will be held at the Holiday Inn Crystal City on March 15-18, 2020. The registration form and additional information can be found on the United States Forum website (www.usforumdkg.org). We look forward to seeing you in March!