



Theta Chapter News  
Theta Chapter, Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
November 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](http://Deltakappagamma.org/IA-theta)  
[iowadkg.weebly.com](http://iowadkg.weebly.com)  
[www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)

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

**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: \*Rhonda Achenbach, 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. **(We will be collecting hats and gloves to donate to area schools.)**

**January or February, 2020: Executive Board Meeting, Time and Date TBD**

**March 12, 2020: Geometric Building, 415 12<sup>th</sup> Ave SE, 5:00-7:00 pm**  
**Computer Science for All Students K-12**

**April 16, 2020: 5313 N Park Place NE, 5:00-7:00 pm**  
**Project Big for High School Students**

**May 14, 2020: Prairiewoods, 120 E. Boyson Rd. Hiawatha, 5:00-7:00 pm**

**Supper, induction of new members, and induction of officers**

**Important Dates**

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

*Celebrate November Birthdays:*

Nov. 3: Ann Nicholson  
Nov. 12: Betty Stewart  
Nov. 14: Chris Evan-Schwartz  
Nov. 14: Tammy Wawro  
Nov. 24: Patty Kucera  
Nov. 26: Cindy Garlock

## November 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting and Panera Fundraiser

Our November meeting will be held at the Linn Area Credit Union SW, 3700 Edgewood Rd SW. We will have a presentation on the Eastern Iowa Honor Flights Program.

We will also have a Panera Fundraiser at the SW Paneras (2665 Edgewood Rd. SW) from 4:00-8:00 on November 14<sup>th</sup> so feel free to pick up a sandwich, salad, or soup to bring to the meeting for a snack or supper. (We will also have snacks available at the meeting if you are unable to stop at Paneras before the meeting.) Or, you could stop by Paneras after the meeting to pick up something. Please encourage friends and families to consider purchasing items from Panera during this fundraiser, as a percentage of the purchase price will go towards our student scholarship fund. There is a flyer on the last page of this newsletter that you can copy and give to friends, or just tell them to mention Delta Kappa Gamma Women Educators when they order.

## Recruiting New Members

We would like to recruit and induct new members. Please consider recommending someone you know who could be a potential member. Send your suggestions to Betty Stewart or Ann Nicholson, or bring your suggestions to upcoming meetings.

We can send an informational letter from the chapter providing information on the organization and inviting potential members to come to a meeting.

We are also planning an information coffee/tee in March for potential members (Date and time TBD) and an induction of new members at the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## December Social Gathering

We will be having a Holiday Social on December 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 6:30 pm at Farmer's Daughter's Market, 495 Miller Rd, in Hiawatha. Members will be able to shop, socialize, and enjoy a delicious meal. There will be a variety of soups, sandwiches, and desserts available for purchase.

We are also collecting hats and mittens which will be donated to a few area schools. If you know of a school that you feel would be in need of winter apparel for students, please let Ann Nicholson know.

## Ushers Ferry Safe Halloween

Theta Chapter participated in Safe Halloween on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Members donated money towards candy to be passed out to trick or treaters. Deanne Robinson and Betty Stewart were at the Delta Kappa Gamma sponsored table to pass out the treats. (Betty Stewart is shown in the picture below.)



## Grant and Scholarship Information

Our chapter website has information about scholarships available to members (as well as our student scholarships). Please visit our website at <http://deltakappagamma.org/IA-theta/> and then click on the **Scholarships and Grants** link along the left side. The following scholarships are available to members:

**IOWA STATE ORGANIZATION SCHOLARSHIP:** This scholarship is for \$600 for graduate work in 2019-2020. Scholarship applicants must have been members of Delta Kappa Gamma three years prior to April 15, 2020.

**IOWA STATE ORGANIZATION ROAD SCHOLAR:** This scholarship is for \$600 for a Road Scholar travel experience in 2019-2020. Scholarship applicants must have been members of Delta Kappa Gamma three years prior to April 15, 2020.

For both of these scholarships, the application deadline is April 15, and there is a link to the application on the Theta website

**EDUCATIONAL GRANT FOR THETA MEMBERS:**

The grant could be used for workshops for specific interests, credit toward a degree, courses to enhance abilities within the classroom, summer school, etc. Applicants must have been members for three years. The application is on the Theta website. There is no deadline. This application can be submitted at any time.

## School Supplies Bagged and Delivered

This year, Theta chapter prepared 38 bags of school supplies for first year elementary teachers in the Cedar Rapids Community School District. Bags were delivered to 17 elementary buildings. Thank you to everyone who donated supplies and helped with bagging and delivery!



The bag assembly line is on the left and Deanne Robinson and Ann Nicholson are shown with the completed bags on the right.

## Iowa State and International DKG Information

### 2020 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

"City of Brotherly Love and Sisterly Affection" Awaits you in 2020

Make plans now to attend the 2020 International Convention, July 7-11, in Philadelphia, PA. The convention will be held at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown. With opportunities for education, inspiration, fellowship, and entertainment there will be something for everyone.

For anyone interested in presenting a workshop or learning lounge (formerly known as takeaways), the proposal forms will be available on the Events page soon. Presenting provides an opportunity for members to share their expertise and creativity with other members. Experience as a presenter enhances your portfolio, expands your professional resume, and in some states/ provinces/countries provides for professional development credits.

Does your chapter sell a unique product in order to raise funds? The marketplace may be the perfect opportunity for the chapter to connect with DKG members. Chapters enjoy a discounted rate for a table as a vendor (sales) or an exhibitor (displays). Find the form on the Events page under the 2020 International Convention and click on Forms. Early registration for vendor applications are due by October 15, 2019. See you in Philadelphia!

### DKG NEWS

The latest edition of the DKG NEWS is now available for viewing on the International DKG website at: [dkg.org](http://dkg.org) under the **Publications** link. You must sign in to the website to view the DKG NEWS. If you have not created an account to do so, contact Ann Nicholson for directions.

## **CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE**

Most of us are aware of the process of amending the U.S. Constitution. (I'm still waiting for the Equal Rights Amendment to pass.) Article V of the U.S. Constitution provides for the convening of a "Constitutional Convention" to substantially change or even to rewrite the Constitution. Earlier this year I received snail mail proposing convening a national Constitutional Convention. Apparently, this has been receiving some attention in some of the states. I was amazed to learn that the 2019 Mississippi Legislature was considering this. That there was considerable dissent in that body does not surprise me. I do not know what is happening in other states, but this whole concept came as a great shock. It would seem that a total rewrite would neglect to cover some situations which are now covered either by law or by the original constitution.

## **HEALTH INSURANCE UPDATE**

The Affordable Care Act is still in the courts. The individual mandate (anyone not subscribing to ACA) would pay a penalty. The individual mandate was in effect through 2018 but disappears as of 2019. Through the end of 2019 ACA provides

- Young adults up to age 26 can be insured on their parent's health insurance
- There would be no annual and lifetime caps on benefits
- Pre-existing conditions are covered
- Coverage for mental health and addiction treatment services
- Federal support for expanded Medicaid eligibility
- Premium subsidies for low- and moderate-income individuals and families to purchase coverage and cost sharing subsidies to lower out-of-pocket costs

Whether the lawsuit (Texas vs Azar) eliminates ACA or not will be determined by the Supreme Court which will not hear the case until 2020 at the earliest. If ACA is struck down, there is currently no health legislation to replace it.

The American Medical Association has its own recommendations. "Continue efforts to cover the uninsured, and ensure that any future proposals do not cause individuals covered as a result of Affordable Care Act provisions to become uninsured, maintain key insurance market reforms, such as pre-existing conditions, guaranteed issue and parental coverage for young adults, stabilize and strengthen the individual insurance market, ensure that low/moderate income patients are able to secure affordable and adequate coverage, ensure that Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and other safety net programs are adequately funded, reduce regulatory burdens that detract from patient care and increase costs, provide greater cost transparency throughout the health care system, incorporate common sense medical liability reforms and continue the advancement of delivery reforms and new physician-led payment models to achieve better outcomes, higher quality and lower spending trends."

Currently during the Democratic debates Medicare For All has been discussed. One main part of the debate is whether or not people could keep their private insurance. It is not clear whether the private insurance option would cover preexisting conditions and/or denial of coverage for selected major medical expenses.

## **PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT**

The Paycheck Fairness Act (H.R.7) which directs the EEOC to collect compensation data on employees with respect to the sex, race, and national origin from employers. This could be used to enforce laws prohibiting pay discrimination. The bill has passed the House with 239 cosponsors, and it was sent to the Senate where it has not been brought up for a vote. An act of this type has been introduced in every session of Congress for at least the last ten years. This legislation would begin

addressing the pay discrimination identified in the case of Lilly Ledbetter which was partially remedied by the Lilly Ledbetter Act of 2009.

Background: Lilly Ledbetter worked as a supervisor for Goodyear Tire and Rubber. After she retired, she got an anonymous note informing her that she had been paid substantially less than men with similar experience and seniority. (She was paid \$3,727 per month whereas men were being paid \$4,286 to \$5,236 per month.) She sued the company for back pay, but she eventually lost the suit in the Supreme Court because her suit was filed over 180 days after she received her last paycheck. Although the Supreme Court majority ruled against her, Justices Ginsburg, Stevens, Souter and Breyer ruled in her favor. In an unusual move, Justice Ginsburg wrote the dissent and read it from the bench. She argued against applying the 180-day limit to file pay discrimination, because discrimination often occurs in small increments over long periods of time. The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 lifted the time limitation on filing pay discrimination suits; however, it did not allow Mrs. Ledbetter to receive a settlement for back pay nor did it attack the problem of sexual pay discrimination. Lilly Ledbetter not only lost the back pay due to discrimination, but her Social Security was and is based on her lower pay thus reducing her continued income over the rest of her lifetime.

## **STUDENT LOANS**

There are several bills in Congress dealing with student loans. These include the Student Loan Repayment Assistance Act of 2019 (H.R.3098), The Student Loan Interest Tax Deduction Expansion Act (H.R.1070), Student Loan Forgiveness (H.R.3098), The Student Borrower Bankruptcy Relief Act of 2019 (S.1414), and the Bank on Students Emergency Loan Refinancing Act (S.768). None has been brought to the floor for a vote in either house.

## **POSSIBLE NEW MEMBER OF CONGRESS**

In the 1835 Treaty of New Echota, the Cherokee Nation was granted the right to appoint a delegate to serve as a member to the U.S. House of Representatives. On September 5, 2019 the first person to fill this position was selected by the tribe. The next step in the process would be whether the House of Representatives will seat this delegate. If seated this delegate would presumably have the same rights as delegates from the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. These officials cannot vote on the House floor, but they can serve on and vote in committees, introduce legislation, and participate in debate.

## **HATE IN AMERICA**

There are currently many hate groups and different types of hate groups. After 9/11 the federal government found only one organization which had been tracking terrorist leaning groups in the U.S. This was the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) headquartered in Montgomery, Alabama and founded in 1971. In the intervening years the center has been involved in a number of law suits ranging from crowding in juvenile detention facilities, killings of gay people, school discrimination problems and other problems most of which they have won. The center has recently published maps showing various types of hate groups. It can be found at <https://www.splcenter.org/hate-map>. The map allows one to check hate group variety as well as how many and which such groups exist in your area.

## **FREE CLASSROOM RESOURCES**

[The National Women's History Museum](https://www.womenshistory.org) (<https://www.womenshistory.org>) contains history lesson plans, biographies, posters and videos.

[The Energy Teacher Resource](http://energyteacher.org) (<http://energyteacher.org>) created by the Association of Science Technology Centers designed for teaching grades K-12 provides videos and energy literacy resources.

[The Green Room](https://bit.ly./2Goy/OA) (<https://bit.ly./2Goy/OA>) is another free K-12 resource which provides suggested classroom activities created by the National Wildlife Federation to provide suggestions on activities dealing with wildlife, habitat, and ecosystems.



HELP SUPPORT

# DELTA KAPPA GAMMA WOMEN EDUCATORS

**WHERE** 2665 Edgewood Road SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404

**WHEN** Thurs, Nov 14th

**FROM** 4:00pm - 8:00pm

Bring this flyer or show an electronic version to the cashier when you place your order and we'll donate a portion of the proceeds from your purchase.\*

## Ordering Online for Rapid Pick-Up or Delivery?\*

Enter **PRFUND** as your Promo Code to have a portion of your proceeds donated to your organization.

Learn more at [Fundraising.PaneraBread.com](http://Fundraising.PaneraBread.com)

\* Gift card purchases and catering orders are excluded and will not count toward the event.  
Rapid Pick-Up and Delivery only where available.

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