### The Iowa State Organization -



## **NEWS BULLETIN**



of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Fall 2021 Volume 75 Issue 2

## State officers elected by unanimous consent

A full slate of state officers was elected by unanimous consent of the membership and installed at the June 12 State Convention via Zoom.

Elected to offices for the 2021-2023 biennium were President Kristin Merkle (Tau), First Vice President Liz Poock (Alpha Pi), Second Vice President Suzanne Bartels (Mu) and Secretary Pam Wittkamp (Alpha Iota).

Amy Jacobson (Alpha Nu-SE), Nancy Middaugh (Beta-SW), Judy Shimon (Alpha Omega-NW), Michelle Anderson (Theta-NE) and Janice Reutter (Eta-C) were elected to the state nominations committee, also by unanimous consent.

An amendment to the Iowa State Bylaws, Article IX, regarding electronic meetings also passed.

Following the scheduled business, the membership voted to adopt a motion to fix the time at which to adjourn, keeping the 2021 meeting "open" until the event resumes June 24-25, 2022, at the Arrowwood Resort in Okoboji.

The motion was adopted, and the 2021 Iowa State Convention Virtual Meeting was adjourned and will reconvene in person next summer.

#### What's Inside...

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~ 6 ~ Why Teaching?

Headquarters Sale



### Hoag receives achievement award

Dr. Carolyn Rants, a previous International Achievement Award recipient, places an award necklace on Dr. Connie Hoag, the 2021 International Achievement Award recipient. Hoag is a long-time education professor at the University of South Dakota at Vermillion. These two women are lowa's only recipients of this highest award given by DKG International; both are members of Mu chapter in northwest lowa. Hoag's honor was officially announced by International President Becky Sadowski at the International Conference in San Antonio in late July.

### Connecting with Kristin

## 'Reconnect' to your passions, DKG and leadership

by KRISTIN MERKLE (Tau)
Iowa State Organization President

I am thrilled to begin my time as president of the Iowa State Organization. My hope is that during this bien-

nium our meetings and conventions can reconnect us after such a strange and isolating couple of years.



Building on this hope, the theme I have selected for

my tenure is "Reconnect." I'd like to help you all reconnect to your passions, to DKG and to the leader in you.

So many of us had to put our passions on hold during 2020; my thought is that we all need to reconnect to our old passions or find new passions that bring us joy. These passions can be shared with your chapter through service projects, meeting programs and small informal gatherings.

Through these activities, you might connect to someone who has the same passion or perhaps you will try something you have always dreamed of doing.

"Reconnecting" to your passions will help you shift your thinking to the positive and find the silver lining as we are navigating this new normal.

It is also time to "reconnect" to DKG, to take time to remember why you joined the organization in the first place.

Perhaps this is a topic you can write about in your chapter newsletter or a "roll call" topic for an upcoming meeting.

Reconnecting to your own DKG story will remind you how important you are to others in this organization. Someone saw great potential in you

and wanted to recognize your commitment to education and celebrate the amazing person you are.

Never forget where your DKG journey started. Remembering my journey makes me a bit emotional, but also inspires me and drives me forward.

I challenge you to share your DKG journey with a potential member or someone who might be thinking about leaving the group. This personal story will bring our organization to life and inspire others to join or to participate more.

After you reconnect to your past DKG journey, you should also look ahead to where it might take you in the future. Continue to connect with others through committee work, hosting a meeting, leading a service project or just by speaking up and sharing ideas at a chapter meeting. Connect on a state Zoom "reconnection" gathering.

The most exciting way we can all "reconnect" is to attend the state convention in Okoboji, June 24-25. The energy that comes from a state convention will inspire you and, especially

for active teachers, it will rejuvenate you before you return to your job next August.

I love listening to speakers, attending workshops and talking to others about their teaching ideas at DKG conferences and conventions. It thrills me to be able to do this just for me and not because I have to do it for a committee or a school goal.

If you want to "reconnect" on a grander scale, then plan to attend the DKG International Convention in New Orleans, July 12-16. I already have a

mask to wear to celebrate in the Mardi Gras city.

Finally, I want each one of you to realize that you are a leader. "Reconnect" to your leadership skills. You do not need a title to be a leader. As an educator, you lead and inspire all the time.

If you are retired, you still lead and inspire those who are actively working in education. Your knowledge and journeys have taught the members in this state so many things. The wisdom you bring to meetings and conversations is priceless.

I want all of you to "reconnect" to the leader already living within you. Leadership does not mean knowing all the answers. Leadership is learning and growing alongside others who share a goal with you. Leaders learn from observing and interacting with others.

When the time is right, answer the

Be bold; embrace

and foster your

leadership abilities...

call and take the next step in DKG leadership. An authentic leader sometimes makes mistakes and never hesitates to ask others who are more knowledge-

able in certain areas to take the reins.

Be bold; embrace and foster your leadership abilities. This organization is a celebration of leadership among women and strongly supports the growth of leaders.

I never dreamed I would become State President when I became a member in 2004, but it has been an incredible journey. I am here to support you on your leadership journey. Whether in this biennium or in the future, I hope that you feel inspired and supported to "reconnect" to the leader you are.

## President Merkle's Goals for the 2021-2023 Biennium...

#### For the Iowa State Organization:

- To commemorate our 85th year, I challenge our 32 state chapters to induct or reinstate a total of 85 members in our state by July 1, 2023, the end of the biennium.
- Celebrate living chapter charter members and honor them at the 2023 State Convention.
- Have monthly Zoom meetings with new members and chapter presidents to build connections.
- Create opportunities through Zoom meetings for members to explore and share their passions.
- Help chapters across the state "reconnect" to each other through a blend of face-to-face and virtual meetings.

#### Personal:

- Be an inspiring leader who motivates all members in our state, both active and retired, through written communication, in-person chapter visits and Zoom gatherings.
- Inspire and increase leadership among women educators in our state.
- Participate in mindful communication, be a compassionate listener and seek ideas that move the Iowa
   State Organization forward through conversations with members across the state.
- Video my testimonial about what a current teacher can gain from DKG membership.
- To "reconnect" our members and ignite the passion for DKG.

#### COMMUNICATIONS TRICKS AND TIPS

#### TIME TO UPDATE YOUR DKG PROFILE

Log on to dkg.org and open My DKG (on menu bar) and then My Profile (left side). Choose viewing preferences using "My Participation" (red dashboard). Open and edit "About Me" with pencil icon. SAVE and close when done.

#### SIGN UP FOR MAILCHIMP

Mailchimp sends the *Bulletin* to your personal email address. It is a marketing tool for Iowa DKG. With MailChimp, we can send one email to many people at one time. It is used by businesses of all sizes, non-profits and individuals. You may subscribe for Iowa-DKG at https://iowadkg.weebly.com

# Mu chapter members launch study of lowans' DKG involvement

Though members of most Iowa Organization chapters have a sense that women educators in this state are very involved people both in DKG and elsewhere, three members of Mu chapter are in the process of doing an intensive "literature review" that will document this phenomenon more precisely.

Connie Hoag, Carolyn Rants and Odelia Schrunk have been working on "Presentations, Participation and Publications (PPP)," a project that involves combing through various communications that account for Iowans' work with DKG International.

"Iowans have a rich history of providing service on the international level," the authors said.

The trio of researchers is working to detail every member of our state who has:

- PRESENTED: at international conferences or conventions;
- PARTICIPATED: was elected, appointed or invited to an international position; or
- PUBLISHED: written articles, blogs, columns or other publications.

The intent of the project is that each of these contributors be acknowledged and honored for her service to DKG International.

The authors researched the official Society documents. including the *DKG News*, *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin*, *The Collegial Exchange*, *The President's Page*, *Get Connected*, *Our Heritage* Volumes I II, III, and IV, the Society website and archived publications.

The research has found:

- PRESENTATIONS: 10 Iowa members presented 57 times at conferences or international conventions;
- PARTICIPATION: based on elected, appointed and invited International service, there were 79 Iowa members (including 42 state presidents and 37 other than state presidents) who participated in 209 activities; and
- PUBLICATIONS: nine Iowa members published 70 times in the various publications examined by the researchers.

Documents with full information (names, dates, positions, titles) will soon be submitted to the Iowa State Organization, archivist, webmaster and the Membership Committee.

Please be watching for the notifications and make special note to honor your chapter members who have shared their service with the International society.

## Three Iowans are published in DKG International Bulletin

Three members of chapters in Iowa have recently had their writings included in Delta Kappa Gamma's International *Bulletin*, according to Nita R. Scott, DKG executive director.

Dr. Donna Niday (Eta) had her article "'You've Come a Long Way, Baby': Changes in Well-Being for Student Teachers Over the Last Half Century" selected for inclusion in the 2021, Volume 88-1 issue of the *Bulletin*.

Earlier this year, Dr. Jill T. Tussey and Dr. Leslie Haas (both of Beta Kappa chapter) had their article "Questing with Dr. Seuss" selected for inclusion in the 2021, Volume 87-4 issue of the *Bulletin*.

## Iowa DKG wiki or website? Where should I go for info?

by MARY ZIRKELBACH (Tau) State Webmaster

I thought I'd take just a minute to explain the difference between our State Organization wiki and our website. Both locations on the Internet are public.

The Iowa DKG wiki (http://upsilonstate.pbworks. com) is similar to a file cabinet. It stores documents. I have tried to sort the pages and files into folders.

The front page shows state officers and committees with a few other helpful links to information.

If you click the tab "Pages and Files," you will see all of the folders on the left and a list of documents and webpages on the right side.

There is also a "search" feature and users can sort documents by name, type or date.

I have given some members access to edit their pages. You must log in only to edit, not to view. Some documents with personal information are password-protected.

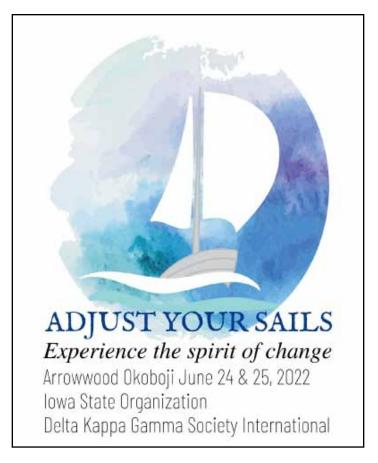
The Iowa DKG website is public. I try to show the public what we are doing at the state and chapter level. Photos that chapters have sent along with descriptions of activities are also included.

There are many hyperlinks to documents in the wiki, resources for programs and projects. There are also important due dates and meeting dates included.

Anyone may "Contact Us" for more information or use the Google Search feature on the Home page.

As state webmaster, I am open to suggestions about improvements for either site. I also really enjoy getting chapter news to include on the website.

If you have any items you would like to have publicized statewide, just send me an email, mezirk@gmail.com.



## Plan to 'set sail' in Okoboji at June 2022 convention

by BEV RINEHART (Chi) 2022 Convention Co-Chair

The continuation/conclusion of this summer's State Convention is a go for June 24-25, 2022.

After an early-February Leadership Committee vote, the majority of this year's Iowa State Convention was postponed to 2022 because of concerns related to the pandemic.

A business meeting was gaveled in virtually on June 12 when state officers were elected and installed, a guest speaker was presented and a time was fixed to adjourn. This procedure allowed the meeting to be continued to the summer of 2022.

The convention planning committee is back at the helm and it looks like "smooth sailing" ahead.

Adjust your sails and experience the spirit of change at Arrowwood Resort and Convention center in Okoboji, June 24 and 25.

Plan to come and connect with the fabulous women of Delta Kappa Gamma. Bring your family; there's lots to do.

Details will follow in the months ahead but, for now, mark your calendar for June 24-25, 2022. We want to see you there!

## Admin Board finalizes Texas headquarters sale

The search is on for an appropriate location for the national headquarters after the early September sale of the former headquarters site in Austin, TX.

The International Administrative Board, during its August 21, 2021, meeting, approved a plan for the transition to a new headquarters site.

They authorized an ad hoc real estate committee composed of the international president, executive director, immediate past president and member-atlarge 2020-24 to approve a lease of building space that meets the requirements of space, safety, parking and other needs of the Society.

Now that the sale of the building is final, DKG will have six months remaining to continue to occupy the current building under a complimentary lease agreement.

Within that time frame, a new site will need to be chosen from the options available in the current Austin area real estate market, allowing for a move by March 2022.

Leasing will provide an opportunity to test the appropriateness of a smaller headquarters space before ownership is explored in the future. It is implied by Constitution parameters that the international president and the executive director will sign the lease contract.

"I have created an ad hoc committee to assist in de-

veloping a plan for what we will need to do in regard to the furnishings/contents of the building," International President Becky Sadowski said. "An Austin DKG member who has a great deal of experience in archiving records/documents is assisting with that part of the process."

By March 2022, redundant furnishings, artifacts, equipment and records will need to be moved, sold or disposed of, Sadowski said.

The authority to manage the building and its contents is assigned to the International Administrative Board by the organization's constitution.

The former headquarters site was purchased by Stratus Properties, Inc., which intends to build a luxury high-rise rental property called "Block 150" which will be home to 300 Class A luxury multi-family units for lease and ground level retail properties.

"We are very excited about Block 150, a high-rise rental project in downtown Austin focused on luxury living and design sustainability," William H. Armstrong III, CEO of Stratus, said.

"Unlike the surrounding properties, Block 150 will not be impacted by capitol view height restrictions and will have unobstructed 360-degree views of the capitol, downtown Austin, the University of Texas campus and west Austin," he added.



The DKG building at 416 W. 12th St., Austin, TX, was sold to the developer of a high-rise luxury housing facility on September 1, 2021.

The site at 12th and Guadalupe in Austin includes the historic A.O. Watson house (next door to the DKG building), which will be renovated and expanded to offer amenities that may include a restaurant, pool and garden, while preserving the property's historic and architectural features.

Though the current DKG building, which was built in 1956, is on the Historic Register, the Society was actually founded on the University

of Texas campus in Austin in 1929 so this property is not DKG's "original" home.

In early sale negotiations, the buyer indicated that building plans presented by the developer include constructing a garden on the property that will commemorate the history of DKG and its work throughout the world.

Design work on the new project will now commence and is expected to take 12-18 months.

With the sale of the former Headquarters property, International now has a temporary new address:

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International 1801 E. 51st Street, Suite 365 - 163 Austin, TX 78723 Phone:

512-478-5748 Fax:

(512) 478-3961

### For your consideration—

## 'Who would want to be a teacher right now?'

This commentary was submitted to the Oct. 12 Fauquier (VA) Times by David Jeck, superintendent of the Fauquier County School Division, and is reprinted by permission of the author.

Read it, consider its message and send your reactions to state editor Carole Henning, clhenning60@gmail.com, for inclusion in the spring Bulletin.

Who WOULD want to be a teacher right now?

Today, we find ourselves in a national teacher shortage that we have been able to avoid over the past few years. Old educators like me were warned about it many years ago, the lens being inevitable baby-boomer retirements.

Moreover, the number of college stu-

dents choosing to teach for a career continues to dwindle while the demand for teachers continues to grow.





**David Jeck** 

today, we are down over 40 teachers, and there are very, very few candidates available to interview.

Our human resources professionals attend over 40 recruitment fairs both in person and virtually, including our own hiring fair held every March. Still, the number of prospective candidates continues to decline each year.

Unless we act decisively and creatively, the impact of the shortage will only get worse. The people who will suffer as a result of this shortage are, of course, our kids. The long-term effects could be catastrophic for our communities in general.

When we search for solutions, the most obvious answer doesn't seem so obvious anymore. Increasing pay is an important factor in attracting and retaining our teachers, but it is no panacea, as we see even the highest-paying school divisions in our state deal with the same shortages.

I've been fortunate enough to work with a large group of superintendents tasked with generating potential solutions.

Here are some of the proposed strategies:

- college loan forgiveness
- tax breaks
- housing assistance
- signing and loyalty bonuses
- limit what we expect from teachers to teaching and teaching only

Most of these strategies are expensive, potentially very expensive, but the instructional alternatives associated with not having enough teachers are sparse. Widespread virtual instructional models still have a long way to go.

Even the most robust and userfriendly models still have limitations that must be addressed, not the least of which is that virtual learning is never going to replace the effectiveness of in-person, face-to-face instruction for most students.

But, there is another solution, one that gets very little attention but has the potential to have a monumental impact.

I was able to speak with the current state secretary of education earlier this summer. We talked about teacher shortages, and he was kind enough to ask me what I thought the cause was.

I asked a somewhat rhetorical question: "Who would want to be a teacher right now? Have you seen how teachers are being treated?"

Teachers have had to endure revolting public comments at school board

meetings, floggings via social media and even being called "losers" by national leaders. *This kind of treatment* needs to end immediately.

Teachers are indispensable to our society, but sadly, they are not treated as such. We have to not only defend our teachers, but praise them and elevate them to a level commensurate with the value they add to our communities.

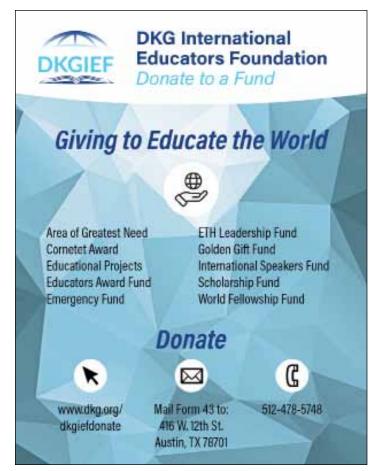
I recognize that the vast majority of folks in our community agree, and they do respect, appreciate and recognize the value they provide to our community.

Teaching is hard work. Unless you have done it yourself, you may not be able to relate entirely. I am not, by the way, pitting teaching against any other profession.

I wouldn't attempt to draw those comparisons unless I had actually walked in those shoes. And yet, some will do just that even if they've not spent a single day teaching in a classroom.

Let's change the conversation and consider all strategies to attract more good people to this amazing profession. It is not too late to fix this problem.

Send chapter
news to
clhenning60
@gmail.com
for inclusion
in the next
Bulletin.
Deadline is
February 1, 2022.



### Donate to DKG through Amazon

Did you know that you can make a charitable contribution at no cost to you by simply changing how you order items on Amazon?

Instead of going to the main Amazon site, go to https://Smile.Amazon.com and choose "DKG International Educators Foundation" as your designated charity.

You can also go directly to the URL https://smile.am-azon.com/ch/74-6066228 to start shopping immediately.

The best thing is that at Smile.Amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experiences as at Amazon.com—but you will be supporting DKG's

charitable foundation.

Once you begin shopping, the Amazon-Smile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible Amazon-Smile purchases.

These donations will help support effective educational projects and charitable activities of DKG and professional growth of educators worldwide.

Thanks for considering changing how you purchase things on Amazon. Encourage your family and friends to choose DKG International Educators Foundation when they shop at Amazon.

Together, we can all make easy donations to impact education worldwide.

### 'Katrina' takes a car ride

by DENA HIGGINBOTHAM (Beta) World Fellowship Committee Chair

Katrina is a traveling "prize" doll representing Iceland. Iowa DKG was instrumental in supporting Iceland when the country became a member state.

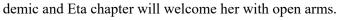
Each year, the Iowa DKG chapter that donates the highest per member amount to state and/or international World Fellowship is awarded the honor of hosting Katrina.

The winner of the 2021-2022 Award was announced at

the Fall Executive Board Meeting. Coming in at \$16.19 per member, Eta chapter had the highest per member donation rate. Congratulations to Eta!

After the meeting, Katrina took a road trip from Mason City to Ames. She traveled via car with Karen Dole from Xi chapter and met up with Donna Niday from Eta chapter somewhere between Mason City and Ames where they enjoyed some coffee and conversation.

Her journey continued to Ames with Niday. We know Xi chapter has taken excellent care of Katrina during the pan-



Chapters wishing to host Katrina are encouraged to donate to State and/or World Fellowship.

State Treasurer Sandy Aronson asks that members designate "World Fellowship" donation on their checks when sending funds to her and to indicate whether the donation is for state or international World Fellowship.

Individual members and chapters who send funds directly to international are included in the average per member donations. Sandy contacts international to get the amounts donated directly to them when she crunches the final numbers.

### Thank you

Iowa State DKG members,

Thank you for your letters, cards, texts, calls and all sweet messages of congratulations and support upon the announcement of the 2021 International Achievement Award recipient. I have attempted to contact or respond to each of your messages, but I fear that someone might have been missed in that electronic process. If this is true, please know your message touched my heart. I am still overwhelmed with the honor! It is my position that the medallion is an Iowa award, and I am overjoyed to share it with each of you.

Connie Hoag (Mu), 2021 International Achievement Award winner

## State committee chairs outline goals for biennium

The leadership of each of the Iowa State Organization's various committees presented goals for the upcoming year at the September 25

fall Executive Board meeting via Zoom.

#### Report summaries follow:

#### **SOCIETY BUSINESS**

**Communications** 

Chair Mimi Moore (Mu) presented two main goals—to create a state brochure that will be available on the Iowa DKG website for chapters to print and distribute for use in retaining and increasing membership; and to offer training in using various chapter communication methods at district meetings.

State editor Carole Henning (Tau) shared goals which include publishing the two required issues of the state *Bulletin* with "special" editions as needed to accommodate up-to-date communications on topics such as conventions, elections, etc.

She said chapter presidents and district directors should submit information for the *Bulletin* on or before the two required state deadlines (Oct. 1 and Feb. 1) to meet statewide goals.

State webmaster Mary Zirkelbach (Tau) outlined her goals to update website pages and social media with new content regularly to keep members well-informed.

She said she will also provide resources and training for chapters wanting to create websites and use social media to retain and increase membership.

#### Expansion

Chair Yettee Girard (Alpha Phi) presented three goals:

 strive to maintain the health of chapters throughout the 2021-2023 biennium by visiting each chapter, planning the district meeting and coordinating the state president's visit;

- district directors will serve as liaisons between state leadership and chapters by sharing essential information; and
- Health of Chapter reports will guide district directors in determining each chapter's strengths and weaknesses.

Motions were presented to dissolve Omega chapter in Wayne County and Beta Gamma chapter in Marshall and Story counties. Both motions passed unanimously.

#### Finance

First Vice President Liz Poock (Alpha Pi) offered the following goals:

- promote the President's Challenge to reinstate or induct 85 members within the Iowa State Organization by June 30, 2023, to alleviate the loss of revenue;
- continue to host state meetings of three hours or less virtually to reduce expenses;
- host a non-dues revenue Zoom program presented by Phyllis Hickey before July 1, 2022, that is open to all state organization members; and
- investigate the purchase of a Zoom Pro account for the state organization.

#### Leadership Development

Second Vice President Suzanne Bartels (Mu) discussed two major goals: to provide chapter leaders with support and suggestions through frequent communications and to encourage members to apply to and register for as well as attend district, state and international events including NBLS and DKG Ignite when they are scheduled.

#### Membership

Chair Pat Yates (Iota) presented goals related to growth and retention.

Her committee intends to support the state initiative for membership growth by working with chapters to recruit and/or reinstate 85 members in the biennium while extending the Membership Recruitment Plan to not only seek new members, but to work on the retention of members with chapters retaining 100% of their fall 2021 membership by June 30, 2023, so that current membership will remain the same.

The Membership Committee also plans to obtain names and addresses of new inductees from chapters in each district so that committee members can welcome them to DKG and follow up with encouragement.

#### Nominations

Chair Michelle Anderson (Theta) said her committee is planning to actively encourage chapters and directors to solicit recommendations for state officers and committee members in order to generate both a slate of district directors for 2022-2024 and a slate of officers and nominations committee members for the upcoming 2023-2025 biennium by January 2023.

They also plan to encourage Iowa State members to seek international positions, to assist in the application process and to be visible at state meetings and conventions to help identify and encourage potential leaders.

#### Rules

Chair Karen Dole (Xi) said the Rules Committee will review Iowa State Bylaws and Standing Rules to make sure that they are in compliance with the Constitution and International Standing Rules and propose amendments to be presented to the state convention in 2022.

They also intend to have rules from 10 chapters reviewed by the Rules Committee each year during the biennium.

#### Strategic Action Plan (SAP)

Chair Mary Zirkelbach (Tau) indicated that her committee plans to update the SAP that includes annual/biennial SMART goals from state com-

—Committees, con't on p. 9

## Committees make reports at fall executive meeting

—Committees, con't from p. 8 mittees by October 15, 2021.

She reported that training was held August 7, 2021, and committees met in September 2021, with committees and officers submitting goals by October 15, 2021, and that the goals will be updated prior to state convention.

Zirkelbach said the committee will present the Strategic Action Plan to the Executive Board for approval annually with the 2021-2022 major area of focus being the State President's theme and goals plus personal and professional growth of membership.

The SAP committee will meet quarterly to review progress in reaching outcomes presented in the plan.

#### SOCIETY MISSION AND PURPOSES

Achievement Award

Chair Sherrie Moore (Iota) said her committee intends to increase member participation through chapter participation in the nominating and selecting process of the Achievement Award recipient.

She said they expect 100% participation in voting for recipient.

Educational Excellence

Committee chair Susan Carlson (Alpha Omega) presented the following goals:

- communicate ideas and suggestions for programs and projects through the Iowa State President's newsletter to each chapter president;
- develop and implement the State 2021-2023 legislative focus;
- continue the Educational Excellence Award certificates:
- support the Iowa-Kosovo Project in order to gain ideas of how DKG members can use their skills to assist Kosovo teachers;
- facilitate the annual State minigrant process: application, grant categories, evaluation process and

monetary awards.

The EEC also presented motions and amendments for the approval of the 2021-2023 Legislative Focus. The motions read:

—Iowa State DKG, in following Purpose #4: To initiate, endorse and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interest of women educators, will focus on the following during the 2021-2023 biennium:

- support a rate of Supplemental State Aid for public schools that ensures adequate, equitable, and timely funding of PreK-12 education;
- support legislation that ensures public tax funds are allocated to public schools;
- address ways to help higher education to be affordable to all by examining tuition freezes, tuition increases, tuition assistance programs and funding formulas;
- support comprehensive Safe Harbor laws to protect victims of human trafficking in Iowa.

—Iowa State DKG, in following Purpose #7: To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society, will focus on the following during the 2021-2023 biennium:

- encourage and assist Iowa State chapters in efforts to advocate, lobby, build coalitions and engage in actions that support and improve public education at all levels, including preK-12, community colleges, and Iowa regent universities;
- sponsor and encourage members to attend the Iowa State DKG Legislative Day at the Iowa State Capitol in March 2022 and March 2023;
- encourage members to attend the DKG National Legislative Seminar, March 6-8, 2022, in Washington, D.C.

Mary Zirkelbach moved to amend the Legislative Focus, Purpose #7, first bullet point, by striking the word "public" and inserting "private colleges and universities" after community colleges. That motion carried, so Purpose #7, first bullet point, now reads: Encourage and assist Iowa State chapters in efforts to advocate, lobby, build coalitions, and engage in actions that support and improve education at all levels, including PreK-12, community colleges, private colleges and universities, and Iowa regent universities.

The motion to adopt the Legislative Focus as amended carried.

Scholarship

Committee chair Bev Bucklin (Alpha Nu) reported the committee has yet to meet.

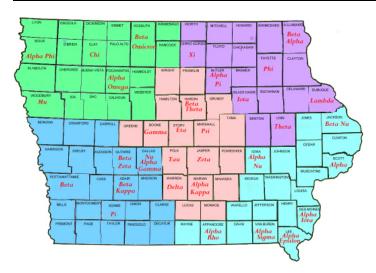
World Fellowship

Chair Dena Higginbotham (Beta) outlined her committee's goals:

- provide training to chapter World Fellowship Committee chairs around the state in even-numbered years along with a conducting a workshop at state conventions;
- encourage chapters to donate to the International and Iowa State World Fellowship funds. The Katrina doll will be awarded to the chapter with the highest per-member giving at the Fall Executive Board meeting, striving for 85% participation of chapters;
- correspond at least twice each year with chapter World Fellowship chairs in their district;
- use a timeline and standard process to administer the Iowa State International Student grant.

With donations of \$16.19 per member, Eta chapter will host Katrina for 2021-22.

Other top chapters and their permember donations included Alpha Nu-\$9.72, Nu Alpha Gamma-\$12.50, Alpha Pi-\$14.97, and Tau-\$15.22.



## Four chapters hit milestone decade 'birthdays' in 2021

Congratulations to Eta, Theta and Iota chapters who celebrate the 80th anniversary of their founding in 2021. In addition, Alpha Nu will be ringing in 60 years this year.

Below are the names of all of the active Iowa chapters and their founding dates:

#### **CENTRAL**

Gamma (82 yrs.) - 03/04/39; Delta (82 yrs.) - 10/30/39; Zeta (81 yrs.) - 03/08/40; Eta (80 yrs.) - 11/08/41; Tau (69 yrs.) - 04/17/52; Psi (66 yrs.) - 10/22/55; Alpha Kappa (62 yrs.) - 06/05/59; Beta Theta (52 yrs.) - 11/01/69

#### **NORTHEAST**

Theta (80 yrs.) - 11/08/41; Iota (80 yrs.) - 11/08/41; Lambda (77 yrs.) - 01/15/44; Xi (73 yrs.) - 03/06/48; Phi (67 yrs.) - 05/15/54; Alpha Pi (58 yrs.) - 04/06/63; Beta Alpha (55 yrs.) - 04/30/66

#### **NORTHWEST**

Mu (77 yrs.) - 02/26/44; Chi (67 yrs.) - 10/02/54; Alpha Phi (57 yrs.) - 10/10/64; Alpha Omega (55 yrs.) - 04/16/66; Beta Omicron (49 yrs.) - 05/05/73

#### **SOUTHEAST**

Alpha (83 yrs.) - 02/26/38; Omega (66 yrs.) - 10/29/55; Alpha Epsilon (63 yrs.) - 04/13/58; Alpha Iota (62 yrs.) - 04/11/59; Alpha Nu (60 yrs.) - 10/14/61; Alpha Rho (58 yrs.) - 04/13/63; Alpha Sigma (58 yrs.) - 11/09/63; Beta Nu (49 yrs.) - 04/22/72

#### **SOUTHWEST**

Beta (82 yrs.) - 01/14/39; Pi (73 yrs.) - 04/17/48; Beta Zeta (53 yrs.) - 10/05/68; Beta Kappa (51 yrs.) - 10/03/70; Nu Alpha Gamma (7 yrs. formerly Alpha Gamma (reorganized in 2014) - 11/04/56

## Activist June Parker Goldman, state honorary member, passes

June Parker Goldman, 95, passed away Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at Accura Healthcare in Spirit Lake. She was laid to rest in the Lakeview Gardens Cemetery in Okoboji. She became a DKG State honorary member in 1969.

Condolences may be sent to her daughter, Candace Goldman, at 1652 Euclid Ave., #1, Berkeley, CA 94709.

June's contributions to education included: member of the Adult Advisory Committee of the Department of Public Instruction, member of the Iowa Board of Public Programs in the Humanities, director of the Governor's Dropout Program and coordinator of the Neighborhood Youth Corps. She was also a featured speaker at the 1972 State convention.

June was born in Kobe, Japan, in 1925. She attended the Canadian Academy in Kobe. Her classmates hailed from all over the world and she developed lifelong friendships there.

As the clouds of war were gathering, June was sent to the U.S. in early 1941 to live with her grandparents in Pittsfield, MA.

The war came with the family still separated and it was many months before June had any word of her parents' fate, but they were reunited in late 1942 as part of the only exchange of persons between the U.S. and Japan during the war.

June graduated from Pittsfield High School and Wellesley College, where she majored in sociology.

June became a public speaker and activist against racism, which she experienced first hand. She was appointed by Gov. Harold Hughes to the first Iowa Human Rights Commission.

She wrote two books, Search Every Corner and To Touch the Sky and served on the Dickinson County Board of Supervisors for 16 years.

June enjoyed young and old alike and worked for Westmar College and the Area Agency on Aging. She was involved in church and civic activities and roles over the years too numerous to list here.

Longtime friend Janet Hayes (Tau) writes:

"I am so very sad to report the death of my dear friend, DKG State honorary member June Parker Goldman.

I lived in Keokuk when her husband was the minister at the Methodist church I attended. I believe June is the most amazing person I have ever known.

You can find her obituary at Turner Jenness Funeral Home and it will give you an idea of her full life. Someone mentioned that it didn't list DKG. That is recognized as an 'honorary' organization. None of the many honors June received are listed either.

Her life was one of giving, not receiving."

### Multi-state effort rescues human trafficking victims

Iowa law enforcement officials were part of a 12-state sting resulting in a total of 47 human trafficking victims being rescued and netting 102 arrests in late August.

More than 40 of the victims needed some sort of medical attention. The operation ran throughout the day on August 26 and into early Friday morning, August 27.

In Iowa, law enforcement executed 10 search warrants, identified 10 businesses involved in sex trafficking, made 11 arrests and seized a large quantity of U.S. currency. Officials did not initially release the identities of those arrested or the businesses involved.

Area agencies participating in the operation included the Iowa Department of Public Safety, Ankeny Police, Clive Police, Des Moines Police, Urbandale Police, West Des Moines Police, Walcott Police, Dallas County Sheriff's Office, Jasper County Sheriff's Office, Polk County Sheriff's Office and the Mid-Iowa Narcotics Enforcement team.

The Missouri Attorney General's Office and the Missouri State Highway Patrol coordinated the effort which was named "Operation United Front."

Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt said the massive sting is believed to be the first of its kind.

"Human trafficking uniquely affects Iowa, given our proximity to major metropolitan areas like Kansas City and Chicago and the intersection of two major interstate systems," said Iowa Department of Public Safety Commissioner Stephan Bayens.

"As a result, we know human trafficking is happening in Iowa and that it occurs in a variety of settings. We thank our law enforcement partners and state and federal prosecutors for the unified commitment to stamp out human trafficking in our cities and counties throughout Iowa," he said.



Volunteers construct a porch at Dorothy's House, a residential facility for victims of human trafficking in the heart of Des Moines. Homes like these around the state need help of all kinds, from gifts-in-kind, to cash, to mentors to skills needed by the organization.

"We will continue to provide training and resources designed to identify and effectively respond to human trafficking in whatever form it may take. Together we can prevent this from happening in our state, because even one victim is one too many," Bayens added. HOW DKG CHAPTERS CAN HELP

In addition to being vigilant about reporting any suspicious activity (call the National Human Trafficking Center hotline at 888-373-7888 if you see anything that captures your attention!), volunteers with a wide variety of skills are needed by victims and caregivers.

If you can assist victims with business, educational, personal growth or legal issues, contact a facility near you. In trying to rebuild their lives, these individuals need support and development in areas that many of us take for granted.

Cleaning, gardening and construc-

tion skills are often also needed at support facilities since the staff is usually focused on residents' needs.

In terms of donations, now is a great time to get connected to a human trafficking support facility, since the holiday season is almost upon us.

Many facilities like Dorothy's House in Des Moines, Wings of Refuge in Ames and other organizations that accommodate victims are in significant need at this time.

Though each staff and facility may need different items, typical needs include meal donations, gift cards, single serve healthy-leaning snacks (nuts, trail mix, etc.), small incentive items like toiletries and makeup, simple jewelry and cleaning and laundry supplies.

Many times, storage of items can be an issue, so contacting the organization directly for specifics and how to donate items is always advisable.

## Three named as World Fellowship grant recipients

Iowa State International Grant Recipients for 2021-22 have been selected by the World Fellowship Committee.

Sofia Lopera Cardona is from Colombia. She is attending Cornell College, with majors in chemistry, biochemistry and molecular biology. Her plans include becoming a researcher/university professor in the areas of pharmacology or immuology.

Upon completion of her education, Sophia states, "I will have the credentials and experience to go back home and encourage a change in the approach to science and research, both from the classroom as professor who motivates students to pursue a career in academia and as a principal investigator in a laboratory where I can study pathogens and ways to fight them to produce relevant results and show the general public that investing in research can help us advance the most important aspect of everyone's life: health."

Chaitrali Reddy is from India. She is attending Wartburg College and is majoring in clinical psychology and neuroscience. Chaitrali plans to become a clinical psychologist or counselor.

Upon returning to India, Chaitrali wishes to gain experience as a fellow (teacher) and then open her own school and be a part of education policy-making committees.

"When I work at educational committees, I hope to make experiential learning and values-based learning a very important element in the education system," Chaitrali says. "I hope to make the education system more inclusive and empowering for the minorities in India."

Nancy Zebedee is from South Sudan. She also attends Wartburg College and is studying political science and international relations.

Nancy's grant application speaks of her experiences of gaining education, returning home and then giving back. This is a cycle she implemented prior to her studies in the United States and plans to continue.

Following this school year, she plans to return home for the summer and work with others to renovate science labs in their former high school.

The World Fellowship Committee encourages chapters to connect with our recipients. Each of our committee members represents a district of the state. We are here to support chapters as they explore and support DKG World Fellowship. Let us know how we can help.

2021-2023 WORLD FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Dena Higginbotham (Beta - chair) Trudy Dugan (Beta Omicron) Bette Hauber (Alpha) Angela Pratt (Gamma) Karen Sudmeier (Lambda)

## World Fellowship grant recipients:

Please encourage our grant recipients with a card or an email!

Sofia Lopera Cardona (Columbia) 810 Commons Circle SW #167 Mount Vernon, IA 52314 319-412-5492 sloperacardona22@cornellcollege.edu

Chaitrali Reddy (India)
Wartburg College – Box 857
100 Wartburg Blvd.
Waverly, IA 50677
319-419-8192
chai.reddy@wartburg.edu

Nancy Zebedee (South Sudan) Wartburg College 100 Wartburg Blvd. Waverly, IA 50677 No phone nancy.zebedee@wartburg.edu

### Dates to Remember

#### **IOWA STATE ORGANIZATION**

November 1: deadline for Educational Foundation Seminar Award applications December 15 - deadline for Mini-Grant Applications (submit to Susan Carlson, sec68@jumpgate.net)

March - Legislative Day, Iowa State Capitol Building, Des Moines (date TBA)

April 15 - deadline for Iowa State Scholarship Application (submit to Judith Olson, jaolson@ncn.net)

April 15 - deadline for Iowa State Road Scholarship Application (submit to Judith Olson, jaolson@ncn.net)

April 15 - deadline for Iowa State Memorial Scholarship Application (submit to Judith Olson, jaolson@ncn.net)

April 15 - deadline for special summer convention *Bulletin* (submit to editor Carole Henning, clhenning60@gmail.com).

May 1: deadline for Cornetet Individual Professional Development (CIPD) Grant Applications

(Application and instructions for Projects Grants and available at www.dkgef.org.

Deadlines are Feb. 1, May 1, and Sept. 1 of each year.)

October 1 - deadline for the fall Iowa State News *Bulletin* (submit to editor Carole Henning, clhenning60@gmail.com).

#### **STATE CONVENTIONS**

June 24-25, 2022 - Iowa State Convention, Okoboji - Arrowwood Resort & Convention Center

June 9-10, 2023 - Iowa State Convention, Honey Creek Resort State Park, Lake Rathbun, Moravia

#### INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

#### Summer 2022

June 26 - July 2, 2022 - Leadership/Management Seminar IGNITE! - University of Texas, Austin, TX

July 12-16, 2022 - New Orleans, LA

#### **Summer 2024**

National Harbor, Maryland (Gaylord National, D.C. Area)

#### Summer 2026

Aurora, Colorado (Gaylord Rockies)

## Iota continues long-term literacy project with Habitat

Ten years of hard work and dedication has become a true labor of love for Iota chapter in the form of Habitat for Humanity learning shelves.

The chapter produced their first set of shelves in May 2011 and, as of this past June, has given 108 shelves to 128 children as they've moved into their new Habitat homes.

Children sharing a room also share a bookshelf. Each shelf is still customized to fit the needs and interests of each child; no two are the same.

Parents complete a survey listing their children's favorite authors, subjects, interest areas, colors, etc. to help with the customization.

Parents are given a bookmark with tips for "Raising a Reader."

The chapter's goal is to provide a center to enhance literacy for children moving into each new Habitat home.

The criteria were, and still are, to provide a bookcase, 15-20 books per child, a lamp to read by, a fleece blanket in which to wrapup and read, a stuffed animal reading buddy, learning games and art supplies.

All choices were/are designed to enhance reading skills, creativity, and, in younger children, fine motor skills.

Items gathered by Iota members are new or gently used with the quality equal to items they would put in their own children's or grandchildren's room.

Members donate items and spend time fundraising to purchase items for the shelves.

During the 2019-2020 fiscal year, Iota received a \$2,255 grant from the Community Foundation Northeast Iowa Women's Fund to support their efforts.

Iota members attend each home dedication to present the completed bookshelves to the children.

The learning shelves are the only furniture in the house at the time of the dedication.

During the height of the pandemic, shelves were delivered to the new homes with the items chosen to be put on the shelves in a box. The family would then put the items on the shelves.

Members say the excited reaction of the children is very gratifying and that feedback from parents and children alike has been extremely positive.

The most recent dedication was June 1. The home was built for Karen Whiteside, a single mom and nurse and her three boys, Graham, 10, Grayson, 8, and Gage, 2.

She applied for Habitat assistance about two years ago after outgrowing several apartments with her young family.

Judy Marshall, a neighbor and Habitat for Humanity board member, kicked off this summer's dedication by sharing historic facts about the site, including a story of



Exploring his new Habitat for Humanity home, Grayson Whiteside gets a first look at his learning shelves with lota member Lisa Dumler, who was his teacher this year. Little brother Gage (on the floor) also got a chance to look at books and play with puzzles.

the earliest recorded home on the property built in the early 1800s.

Mandy Mahncke, area Habitat program director, also welcomed the family to their new home.

"The kids, they just love it. The shelves they put together are so cute and sweet," she said.

Grayson's eyes lit up as he ventured around the twostory Wateroo home searching for his room.

When he found it on the top floor, he slowly stepped in to discover a shelf with learning activities customized with his favorite books and interests.

"This is so cool," he said, studying each item that was picked out specifically for him

Grayson likes dogs and the *I Survived* series by Lauren Tarshis. Graham likes cheetahs and nonfiction. Both older boys received 19 books each.

Gage likes dogs and the Hungry Little Caterpillar. He received several matching games along with puzzles and 12 books.

"It's like Christmas morning when they see them," said Sherrie Moore (Iota), who attended the dedication.

## Chapter work underway in fall activities

#### **BETA**

Beta chapter members toured the new Hoff Family Arts and Culture Center in Council Bluffs.

The 95,000 sq. ft. facility combines a renovated warehouse and new construction to house a theatre, ballet studio, culinary kitchens and art studios and galleries. It's also a beautiful setting for weddings and meetings.

#### CHI

Chi chapter has several, very involved, members on the upcoming 2022 State Convention committee.

We are fortunate to have several members who can be "boots on the ground" for the in-person work to be done. Convention planning will be an item on each month's agenda.

Agendas for upcoming months also include two very exciting programs. A local child therapist will address our group about trauma/treatment for our youth.

We also have a Zoom presentation by Michelle TeGrootenhuis, the 2021 Iowa Reading Teacher of the Year of the Iowa Reading Association.

#### **ETA**

Like many chapters, Eta chapter in Ames has had their first meeting and is starting up their yearly projects.

One project that has been going on for several years is supplying hygiene products for the supply pantries at Ames Middle and Ames High Schools. Last year because of Covid, the school administration agreed to place a large container in their initial entryway for the deposit of these products and it is still there.

Our cause has been joined by staff who walk through those door regularly.

Our chapter's involvement will be shared with the school board at their next meeting. Maybe more individuals will notice that large container.

#### **TAU**



Tau chapter has started its marketing plan to attract potential members.

In August, we invited a group of active educators to a pizza party. This month we are sending to that group, plus nine more active educators, some Up-lifting thoughts, cans of 7-Up with chapter information.

We will continue to stay in contact with this group. Results so far...one new member.

#### ΧI

At the September 21 chapter meeting in Mason City, three members from

Xi chapter were honored for retiring from Roosevelt Elementary in Mason City. They are Judy Piersma, Laurie Haugen and Laurie Lichman.

#### ZETA

Zeta chapter started the year with a project for new teachers in our surrounding five districts.

Each teacher who is new to the profession this year received a potted plant with a "Welcome from DKG" sticker on the pot and care instructions for the plant.

Teachers who were new to the districts but not to the profession received full Post-it note holders with a welcome from our chapter on the cover.

We have done this project for several years to reach out and connect with new teachers. This will continue to be an annual project.

Many members contribute by starting plants, providing pots, making labels and crafting the instructions and Post-it folders.

#### **ALPHA EPSILON**

Alpha Epsilon chapter is planning a service project with our local libraries.

We will be assembling Family Reading Bags that contain fall-related activities for reading, math and science. We will be putting these together at our October meeting.

#### **ALPHA PI**

At our September meeting, we began work on setting our chapter values. Each person wrote down

some ideas for our chapter values on sticky notes and we posted them on a wall.

Now the plan is to look at all the suggestions and try to narrow it down to three or four common themes.

We also decided to continue financial support for our local Reach Out And Read program through our community library.

We decided to try a silent auction at our Christmas gathering to raise funds. Some items might even be included in a live auction. We have several members with some experience in this process who are taking charge.

In addition to items of value or white elephant gifts, we are including bakeless bake sale items which could be a recipe along with an ingredient or two, or a recipe and a pan or some utensil used to make the item.

#### **ALPHA SIGMA**

Alpha Sigma members like to provide a book to every kindergartener in our school district each fall.

At our September meeting, we also collected diapers, wipes and monetary donations for our local Parents as Teachers organization to help families with young children in our area.

#### **NU ALPHA GAMMA**

Nu Alpha Gamma chapter celebrated its 65th anniversary October 9.

Members and guests convened at a preserved oneroom schoolhouse where an —*Chapters, con't on p. 15* 

#### —Chapters, con't from p. 14

interactive audio project has been donated by our chapter for an enhanced educational experience for schoolhouse visitors.

One of our chapter members wrote a play about the beginning of Nu Alpha Gamma and chapter members performed that play with guest actress State President Kristin Merkle.

Guests attended a luncheon at the historic Hotel Pattee in Perry. The secretary read the minutes of our chapter's first meeting in 1956 with the Collect written in 1956 recited by members.

First Vice President Liz Poock (Alpha Pi) attended with her mother, Florence Heck, who is a long-time member of Nu Alpha Gamma.

#### **BETA OMICRON**

Susan Doster shared information with Beta Omicron members about the Donald Tietz Charitable Foundation and its philanthropic efforts: Donald Tietz Wildhaven Educational Fund, Entrepreneurship programs for students, and more.

#### Thank You

Thank you for the honor that was bestowed on me at the Fall Execu-



tive Board meeting. I am thrilled and humbled to be the 2021 Iowa State Achievement Award recipient. My years as State editor and com-

mittee member as well as chapter officer have been labors of love. Delta Kappa Gamma is a special organization, and I cherish the friendships I have made because of it.

Sincerely, Nancy Middaugh (Beta)



Beta Alpha Chapter is excited to announce that six new members were inducted at their September meeting. New members are (I to r): Karen DeBuhr, Heidi Meyer, Pat Novak, Nina Van Gorp, Angie Killian and (not pictured) Peggy Stock. Beta Alpha is also looking forward to their program year which includes a local chef presenting holiday tips/fun with food and a local naturalist presenting nature photography and poems. They will also finalize their chapter rules update and hold an annual Founders' Day Recognition.



Beta Nu Chapter had the opportunity to meet with World Fellowship recipient Hameeda Tayyiebur at Cornell College in Mt. Vernon in May. Hameeda, one of four World Fellowship recipients in 2020-21, was finishing her studies at Cornell and was very appreciative of the financial assistance she has received from Delta Kappa Gamma.



#### Iowa State Officers

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#### **Iowa State 2021-2022 Chapter Presidents**

<u>Chapter</u> <u>Name</u>

Alpha Roseann Robe
Beta Linda King

Beta Dena Higginbotham

Gamma Angela Pratt
Delta Sue Edwards
Zeta Jennifer Pryke
Eta Mary Martens
Theta Ann Nicholson
Theta Deanne Robinson

Iota Erin Yates

Lambda Karen Sudmeier Lambda Christine Davis Mu Kayla Ruhland Xi Judy Piersma Ρi Sandy Harris Tau Mary Zirkelbach Phi Virginia Dedor Chi Dorothy DeGroot Psi Naomi Musal

Psi Jocelyn (Jo) Frohwein

Alpha Epsilon Ellie Rickelman
Alpha Iota Jane Evans
Alpha Kappa Shawn Helle
Alpha Nu Kathy Fisch
Alpha Pi Pat Fox

Alpha Rho Glenda Dinwiddie
Alpha Sigma Linda Golden
Alpha Phi Marjorie Wagner
Alpha Omega Sandy Aronson
Beta Alpha Norma Thiese

Beta Zeta Kelly Polson

Beta Theta Chris Leichsenring
Beta Kappa Robyn Ploeger
Beta Kappa Denise Ackerlund
Beta Nu Pauline Antons

Beta Omicron Chris VanDeventer

Nu Alpha Gamma Sharon Ulrich