



North Star News

Winter Edition 2010



Tau State Board Restructure

By: Jan Sorell

If you had attended a Tau State Board meeting two or more years ago, and then visited the most recent Tau State Board meeting, you would have seen a dramatic difference in the way in which the meeting is held and business is conducted.

The Board consists of Tau State officers, Tau State committee chairs, chapter presidents and Tau State past presidents, a total of approximately 65 outstanding woman leaders. These women meet three times a year to conduct the business of Delta Kappa Gamma at the state level and inform chapter presidents of the activities and projects of the state and chapters.

Until recently, these meetings were quite formal and structured with reports and information being given. There was some opportunity for discussion and input from the attendees, but not a lot.

Restructuring began with the Bylaws Committee, chaired by Ruth Kinnunen being charged with developing a recommendation for future restructuring of committees. That came from the 2007 Fall Board meeting. Delores Fletcher and Barb Whiting joined Ruth on the project. Their complete charge was to develop a recommendation for future restructuring of Tau State committees, including parallel changes in the bylaws and standing rules. The purpose of these changes: to streamline the duties of committees, eliminate duplications, and decrease costs. Timeline: the final proposal was to be brought to the membership for a vote at the spring 2009 convention.

The Ad Hoc Committee on Committee Restructuring immediately envisioned a circular structure with tasks of committees and the state organization falling into three broad areas: leadership, communications, and business.

The development of these concepts took much time, effort and creative thinking on the parts of the committee and Board members. Streamlining took place, some committees were eliminated and some combined with others. The timeline was met and since then, the Board has been working to implement the new structure demonstrating improvement with each meeting.

Meetings in the new structure have a whole new look and feel. Shortly after the meeting begins, the group divides itself into three Councils: the Leadership Council (Delta), Society Business Council (Kappa) and Communications Council (Gamma). Each council

consists of committee chairs, chapter presidents, state officers and past state presidents. Committee reports are given and lively discussions take place. Instead of sitting and listening to reports all morning, everyone participates. Discussions are centered on the work of the committees and responsibilities of the council area as well as issues for the good of the state, chapters and members. A fourth council, the Coordinating Council pulls it all together when two representatives of each of the three councils meet with the president and vice presidents over lunch to share highlights of their Council meeting and any action items to be brought before the body. After lunch the whole group hears reports of the Councils and makes decisions based on recommendations of the Councils.

This structure seems to breath new life, involvement enthusiasm into state Board meetings. Tau State President, Cory Peters states, "I support the new Council (Leadership, Society Business, and Communications) organization pattern for Tau State. It streamlines the business in many different ways: reduces the number of state committees, decreases the cost of mileage and printing, eliminates duplication of services, encourages better attendance and more involvement at state board meetings, conferences, and conventions. It is an effective use of people and resources to maintain a vital and successful state organization."

Tau State is not the only unit of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society undergoing restructuring. International is bringing their reorganization plan to the International Convention at Spokane for a vote this summer. (CONTINUED ON PAGE 9)

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"We create
our
tomorrows
by what we
dream
today!"

Cory Peters

**Tau State
President**

2010-2012

Dear Tau State Sisters,

Spring is just around the corner (I think)! Can you believe this winter – it has been a long, snowy, windy, rainy, and cold time for most of us. You snowbirds are a smart flock – hope you are having wonderful weather wherever you may be.

Tau State is undergoing several changes – mostly positive. Our CHEERS Committee has scheduled meetings with all of our Tau State Chapters in the coming months to assess their status and how the state may be of assistance to them. They have had one meeting already with very positive feedback.

The new Three Council Organization Pattern (Leadership, Society Business, and Communications) is working very well. See the related article from the Leadership Council, chaired by Jan Sorell.

We have lost another four chapters, but many of the members joined us as State members and we appreciate having them still with us. We have purchased a license for GoToMeeting which may enable us to have contact with up to 15 people in an interactive audio session. This electronic tool can be used by any chapter and member also. I will be receiving training this month on the program and hope to have it up and running this spring before the state conference.

I have attended three chapter meetings since the last newsletter: Beta Beta, Lambda, and Alpha Theta. I enjoyed each of these events, their program, and visiting with the chapter members. I have four more scheduled for this winter and spring. Please contact me if you wish to have me attend one of your chapter meetings before the summer break or early in the fall.

Laurie Huston, our Webmaster had included several new things on our state website: www.deltakappagamma.org/MN. - The **Educator Edge and Tech Talk** for active teachers and a link to my blog **Cory's Chronicle**. I have monthly entries so please go on to the state website and check these out. Also on the website are the minutes of the spring and fall executive board meetings, the summer and fall issues of the North Star News, and important upcoming dates to remember. There is also a link to contact any of the Tau State Officers and Committee Chairs with ideas, questions, or concerns. We want to hear from you – our state sisters.

Diane Larson, Program Chair, and I will be attending the US Forum in Washington, DC March 14-17. We hope to meet with our two Senators – Amy Klobuchar and Al Franken, and our 1st District Representative Tim Walz. We have contacted them to let them know we are representing Delta Kappa Gamma Society International – key women educators.

Our Spring Tau State Conference is just in a couple of months-April 23-25. The Theme is "A Circle of Giving". See the related article and information about registration and hotel reservations. It will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Brooklyn Park. Again, there will be many changes to this event with an entertainment session on Friday evening, the executive board meeting on Saturday morning with a concurrent session for conference attendees, plus many other innovative and exciting happenings. We will have the "kickoff" of our Tau State Project at this conference also.

It is not too early to think about attending the Seminar in Purposeful Living in Tacoma, WA from July 15-18 and/or the International Convention in Spokane, WA from July 20-24 with pre-convention tours on July 18, 19, and 20. Information and registration can be found on the International Website www.deltakappagamma.net.

I hope to see each and every one of you at the Spring Conference.

Cory ***Imagine, Inspire, Act(ivate), and Celebrate***

President Cory's Traveling Schedule

Date	Chapter	City
February 20, 201	Omega and Iota	Wabasha
March 14-17, 2010	US Forum	Washington, D.C.
April 17, 2010	Mu	Bemidji
May 4, 2010	Eta	St. Cloud
May 20, 2010	Nu	Mankato
July 18-24		International Convention Spokane, WA



Notes to You

by Jewell
Mendenhall

(218) 547 0020

jewellm@arvig.net

322 Tianna Drive
Walker, MN 56484

The theme for our conference in Brooklyn Center on April 23-25 is to be "The Circle Of Giving." Leslie Erickson invited us all to attend at the State Board Meeting in October. Instead of receiving a bag of "goodies" when we register, we are going to bring food and money to give to a good cause that the committee has established. Now I ask you, what better way could you give than to bring your wonderful voice to the conference, and sing in the "Happy Warblers?" Of course you'd bring the food and money too, and double your contribution by singing.

Our organization achieved international recognition at the International Convention in Minneapolis at our 75th anniversary jubilee. But we have always performed at the Inspirational Breakfast on Sunday morning at all conventions and conferences. There are usually about twenty of us, and we rehearse on Saturday, (April 24) for an hour and a half. Our skit this year will be "Forward Giving," and will be all about the benefits you give and receive in Delta Kappa Gamma, with fitting music. There are no auditions, we figure that the choice to sing should be up to you!

So put April 25 on your calendar, and plan to attend and sing with us. Call, e-mail or write me if you want the music ahead of time.
We are a very bonded group, but we always welcome new voices.

For those of you who are not lucky enough to want to join us, remember to "Keep Your Chapter Singing!" Nothing starts a meeting better than a good song or two, especially if it suits the season or the subject of your program. Music is a charmer, and the camaraderie and enjoyment derived is well worth the time.

Please contact me if you wish to join the "Happy Warblers."



DELTA KAPPA GAMMA CONFERENCE - TAU STATE

“CIRCLE OF GIVING”



APRIL 23-25, 2010

CROWNE PLAZA MINNEAPOLIS NORTH

BROOKLYN PARK, MINNESOTA

FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2010

4:00 – 8:00 pm

Registration
Pre-function area

Lake of the Isles Ballroom

8:00 pm
Evening Session
Lake of the Isles

Give Your Heart a Song

Delta Kappa Gamma is privileged to welcome Phillip Brunelle and an accompanying musician. The Plymouth Music Series was founded by [Phillip Brunelle](#), now one of Minnesota's most recognized musical entrepreneurs. Brunelle, artistic director and founder of VocalEssence, is an internationally renowned conductor, choral scholar and performer. Believing that listeners and musicians alike must experience music of many genres and styles, he has worked enthusiastically—and tirelessly—to expand audiences for rarely heard works of the past and worthwhile new music. His conducting engagements have taken him across the United States, South America and Europe. Recently, he has conducted the New York Philharmonic, Boston Symphony, Oregon Bach Festival and the Berkshire Choral Festival. For the past ten years, he has been very involved with the International Federation of Choral Music: serving as president of the Sixth World Symposium on Choral Music held in Minneapolis in 2002, on the Artistic Committees planning the Eighth Symposium in Denmark (2008) and the Ninth Symposium in 2011 in Argentina. In 2006 he served as artistic director for the NEA initiative, American Masterpieces: Choral Music. He serves on the boards of Chorus America and Musica, and previously served on the St. Olaf College Board of Regents. He is also in his 41st year as Organist-Choirmaster at Plymouth Congregational Church. Among his many awards are honorary doctorates from St. Olaf College, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. John's University and United Theological Seminary. Chorus America has honored Phillip with its most prestigious award, the Michael Korn Founder's Award for Development of the Choral Art, and he has also been recognized with the F. Melius Christiansen Lifetime Achievement Award by the Minnesota chapter of the American Choral Directors Association, its highest honor. In December 2005, Phillip was invested as an Honorary Member of the Order of the British Empire in recognition for his service as an “ambassador for the United Kingdom within the music world.” The American

Composers Forum named Phillip Brunelle “2007 Champion of New Music” and in December 2007 he was invested as a Commander of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit for his promotion of Norwegian music in the United States. He has also been honored by Sweden and Hungary.

SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2010

8:00 am

Registration
Pre-function area

Lake of the Isles Ballroom

8:00 am
Executive Board Meeting
Room

Minnetonka

9:00 am
First Session
Lake of the Isles

Silent Auction Open
Collection Tables for People
Serving People and Second
Harvest Food Bank
Teacher Sharing Giveaway
Treasure Table

Giving Yourself a Stress Break

Stress Busters presented by Kaye Otter, D.C. who practices in Richfield, Minnesota. She diagnoses and treats common spinal misalignments that can occur from lifestyle or injuries causing pain, discomfort and degenerative conditions. Learn how to relieve stress and feel better.

10:00 am
Session

Opening General
Lake of the Isles
Welcome and Introductions
Cory Peters, Tau State

President

Giving a Boost to the Needy

People Serving People, Inc. (PSP) was incorporated and received its 501(c)(3) status in 1982, as a temporary homeless shelter for men and women and their families. By referrals from Hennepin County and the development of cooperative ventures with community agencies, PSP offers a holistic approach by providing on-site collaborative services. In 2002, People Serving People renovated and moved into its new location at 614 South

Third Street, Minneapolis. The facility was crafted so that 21 other agencies could be housed on-site. The current facility has 10 floors including a lower level full service dining hall and seven floors for emergency housing, offering 99 hotel-size rooms and 10 two-bedroom apartments. There are four service floors containing a dining room, two libraries, several classrooms, collaborative agency offices, medical clinic, one infant and one preschool center, computer lab, and more.

PSP has been a special project for many charitable organizations and in 2004 received a large amount of needed school supplies and books from the International Delta Kappa Gamma

11:00 am

Giving Life to the Printed Page

Illustrator Karen Ritz has a degree in Children's Literature from the University of Minnesota and has learned to draw along the way. As a high school student, she attended Rhode Island School of Design. She has illustrated over forty books, including *Kate Shelley and the Midnight Express*, a Public Television Reading Rainbow feature, *Ellis Island*, a 1995 Minnesota Book Award Winner, and *A Picture Book of Anne Frank*. Her work is housed at the Children's Literature Research Collection at the University of Minnesota. Karen uses her thirty years of experience in the field to teach about Visual Language at the college and graduate levels. Karen lives in St. Paul.

Giving Through Offering Educational Opportunities in Honduras

Miriam Hanson is the Director-Owner-Founder of Sandy Bay Alternative School in Honduras. It is based in Roatan Island, just off the Caribbean coast of Honduras. The student body is as diverse as the island's community, reflecting the island's rich mix of local and international cultures gathered around the island's heritage, fishing, diving, tourism and commerce. The school's mission is to develop a permanent spirit of inquiry in children through creative thinking and problem-solving skills. Students are continuously challenged to find solutions using available resources. The maximum student/teacher ratio is 10 to 1, so teachers and students develop close relationships, with students individually nurtured to reach their potential. Curriculum is based on the internationally recognized Calvert system and enhanced with music, art, science projects, field trips, and a continuous knowledge quest of the local marine environment. The school serves the poorest of the poor children in Honduras.

Giving Mysteries a Whirl

Mystery writer Beth Solheim, like the main character in her Sadie Witt mystery series, was born with a healthy imagination and a hankering to solve a puzzle. Raised in Northern Minnesota, the setting for her stories, she resides in lake country. Dangle your feet off the end of the dock and reel in a hefty dose of humor as you enjoy the Sadie Witt mystery series. What do resorts and funeral homes have in common? Not much, unless you arrived for a stay at Witt's End Resort. Learn about the fun and frustrations of mystery fiction writing and sample the Sadie Witt series.

12:00 Noon

Luncheon

Lake of the Isles

Bernice Gestie World Fellowship Award Presentation – Robbie Johnson

Grant-In-Aid Award Presentation- Joanne Lockner
Outstanding Service Award Presentation- Jan Sorrell

Giving Food to the World

A speaker from **Kids Against Hunger** – The organization will be introduced and the speaker will talk to us about kids who have hunger and are in poverty. We will watch a video. The total amount of meals packaged in the sessions will be announced at the end of each session. At their location at 5401 Boone Ave. N., New Hope (763) 257-0202, a capacity up to 50-60 volunteers can offer assistance at one time. KAH can also accommodate groups of 5 or less. Groups can ask for KAH to come to a personal location like ours, as well. A Sauk Rapids location is available, too.

2:00, 3:00, and 4:00 pm

Giving Food to the World – the Workshop Session

Participating Delta Kappa Gamma volunteers will work to help package a specialized formula for impoverished people around the world. In addition to international shipments, they distribute a significant amount of food to local food shelves. Attendees will prepare and package meals during three different workshop sessions, each one an hour in length. Participants must sign up for workshop blocks at the registration desk.

2:00 and 3:00 pm

Give Flight to Your Feet

Lake of the Isles

Line Dancing by Annette Fragale. Exercise the fun way and learn to hitch in vine and dance in a line. A variety of music is used with an easy pace and lots of review. For beginners or intermediates, just have fun with a vivacious leader. Give your heart a bit of activity! It will make you smile. One hour class is offered twice at 2 and 3 p.m.

2:00 – 4:00 pm

Giving Your Creative Side a Chance

Sara Hanlon, artist from Chaska will present a two hour hands-on creative art session. She teaches regularly through Chaska's school district community education, offering adult evening courses. In her class, "Working with Acrylics and Water Mediums," she works individually with participants with all levels of skills. Her goal is to discover the artist within each person and assist that to emerge. A graduate of MCAD, Sara has been a professional artist for more than 35 years.

3 pm – 5 pm
practice

Happy Warblers
Pepin Room

4:00 pm
Paw
Room

Giving a Helping
Minnetonka

Come and Meet a Helping Paw. Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for people who are deaf, hard of hearing or disabled by creating mutually beneficial partnerships with specially trained dogs. Incorporated in 1987, Hearing and Service Dogs of Minnesota initially provided services for deaf clients only. In 1995, programs to serve people with physical disabilities were added for persons, including diabetes and seizures. In 2006, the service area was expanded to Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, Iowa, Missouri, and parts of Illinois. In 2007, the Autism Assist Dog program began to help young children with autism and their families. All assistance dogs are provided to the client at no charge.

5:00 pm

Social Time. Greet Old
Friends
Lake of the Isles
Silent Auction

Special happy hour prices for wine and soft drinks will be available in the lobby area immediately adjacent to the Lake of the Isles Ballroom

6:00 pm
Banquet
Isles

Celebration
Lake of the

Parade of Presidents
Diane Larson, pianist

Founders Birthday Celebration

International Guest, Glenda Reynolds from Wyoming

Giving Your Voice a Chance to Sing: Presentation and Sing-a-long

Dan Ritter has been the principal accompanist of the American Swedish Institute Male Chorus since 2005 when he was part of its concert tour of Sweden and Norway. During his career, he has worked with the White Bear Lake Choral Association and the Metropolitan Boys Choir. He has performed as a pianist, either as a soloist or as part of small ensembles in a number of settings and also served as a church organist for more than twenty years. He gives private piano lessons. Dan earned a BA in piano from the University of Minnesota and lives in St. Paul.

SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2010

8:30 am
Remembrance **Ceremony of**
Minnetonka Room

9:15 am
Brunch **Conference**
Lake of the Isles

Happy Warblers Presentation

The Brave Journey of an Orphan Train Rider-(Give your heart a warm quilt)

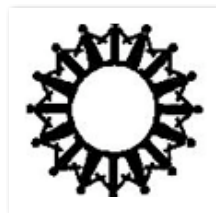
The heartwarming story of an orphan train rider as told through the blocks of a quilt by Ann Zemke. From 1854 to 1929 an estimated 250,000 children rode trains from New York and other overpopulated areas of the United States to find a new home, mostly in the Midwest,. Some of these children were orphans; others were abandoned, while others were put on trains by their parents hoping they would have a better life. The trains were called "orphan trains."

Marjorie Peterson, an orphan train rider, survived a lifetime of seemingly insurmountable challenges, including being indentured by a family who took her off the orphan train. Marjorie's indomitable spirit allowed her to make significant personal contributions to the world. Ann Zemke, her granddaughter, tells Marjorie's heartwarming story through the blocks of a commemorative quilt. A book signing of Ann's book *They Named Me Marjorie* will follow the program.

11:00 am
2011 Convention **Post Conference Meeting for**
Board Room

"Circle of Giving"

Delta Kappa Gamma Annual Conference – TAU STATE
Friday, Saturday & Sunday: April 23 – 25, 2010
Crowne Plaza North Minneapolis
2200 Freeway Boulevard, Brooklyn Park, MN 55430



Registration Form

Name: _____ Chapter: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ First Time Attending: _____

E-mail: _____

Registration:

		Guest
Registration Fee (conference participants)	\$40.00 _____	_____
Friday evening only	\$10.00 _____	_____
Luncheon Saturday	\$15.00 _____	_____
Banquet Saturday	\$25.00 _____	_____
Brunch Sunday a.m.	\$15.00 _____	_____
Late fee after April 13	\$10.00 _____	_____

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Cancellations by written request only will be accepted through April 20, 2010 with a \$10 processing fee.

If you have any food allergies or special needs please contact us by email at knaak002@metel.net or list. _____ Preferred phone number _____

Please check your current status:

_____ Current Tau State Officer _____ Happy Warbler
_____ Chapter President _____ Chapter President's Alternate
_____ Tau State Chairperson _____ Past Chapter President
_____ Member (_____ Elementary _____ Secondary _____ Post-secondary _____ Retired)

Send Check with Registration Form to:

Jacqueline Gierymski
1797 Berkeley Avenue
St Paul, MN 55105-2029

(Make check payable to Tau State Delta Kappa Gamma; write 2010 convention in the memo line.)

If you have questions please email knaak002@metel.net or leslie.erickson@spps.org or call (651) 483 9261, Jean or Leslie (612) 481-0424.

CEU certificates will be available at the Tau State Registration desk.

THIS CONFERENCE THEME IS ABOUT GIVING SO WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE MAJOR GIVING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS:

- For our "Silent Auction," please bring items we can sell that will add to the joy of giving to others monetarily. Proceeds from the sale (after YOU reap a prized possession) will go to "People Serving People" and "Kids Against Hunger." Consider donating a basket from your chapter, tickets for events, wine or other goodies like chocolate, knitted items, new baby clothes, books, DVDs, picture frames, jewelry and more. Be creative!!
- "People Serving People" needs toiletries to give residents. The little bottles of shampoo, soap bars, hand cream, etc. are also welcome. PSP gives a birthday gift to each child through age 18 such as books, stuffed animals, hand lotion, bubbles, toys, games, etc. Think of what you can do to help.
- The Second Harvest Food Bank would appreciate canned goods or paper products for folks in need of assistance in the area. Please be generous in your donations.
- "Teacher Sharing Giveaway" treasure table: Bring teacher items you received that you do not need. Suggestions for the giveaway would be stickers, bookmarks, posters, pencils, books, teaching ideas, and more. You know what we mean!

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

For room reservations call: 763-566-8000 or 1-800-481-3556

Request the **Delta Kappa Gamma block rate of \$69.00 plus sales and occupancy tax per night**. The rate is for one or two people staying in the room. There is an additional \$ 10.00 charge for the third and fourth person staying in the room.

Breakfast is not included, but all attendees may purchase the hot breakfast buffet including beverages on Saturday morning for \$9.95 plus tax.

Go to the website www.minneapolisnorthhotel.com for more hotel information and a photo tour of the hotel. The hotel is located in the northeast quadrant of I-694 and Shingle Creek Parkway in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota. A good map is available on the website.

Reservations must be made by April 10, 2010 to receive the special rate.

Parking is free and is handicapped accessible. Access is easy off interstate 694 and the hotel is in the northern suburbs. Take advantage of the upgraded amenities available. All rooms are smoke-free and include 112 king-bedded rooms and 64 double-bedded rooms.

Guest Rooms Include complimentary wireless high speed Internet, Crowne Plaza Sleep Advantage Program, dual-line phone with voicemail, hairdryer, iron / ironing board, coffee maker, free local phone calls, heated indoor pool and sauna, onsite health and fitness center, and room service.

LEADERSHIP “GRAB-BAG”

By: Barbara Whiting

Objectives:

To provide an introduction (icebreaker) for any leadership topic or activity which may lead to further information/discussion on selected topic

To provide a more exact outline for discussion of leadership characteristics and responsibilities

Materials: Paper or plastic bag, markers, flipchart paper

Procedure:

Gather in a circle. Pass around the bag and have participants contribute something they have with them (pencil, watch, necklace, nametag, etc). Some leaders are very creative and you may be surprised what shows up in the bag. After everyone has made her contribution to “The Leadership Grab Bag of Tricks,” select someone to begin the activity, such as the one with the shortest hair, birthday closest to this day, etc.

The first leader reaches in without looking and pulls something from the bag. She then describes quickly how that object pertains to a leader or leadership. For example, a pencil is selected—LEADERSHIP “GRAB-BAG”

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The first leader reaches in without looking and pulls something from the bag. She then describes quickly how that object pertains to a leader or leadership. For example, a pencil is selected—a leader gets to the point, or from the eraser—a leader makes mistakes and has to correct them and learn from them. She gives the item to the owner, and that person goes next. The last person to receive her item ends holding the bag. A facilitator may record the “descriptions.”

Processing:

A leader wears many hats, and much is expected of a leader. Tie this activity in with the agenda of training or with a further exercise in defining leadership and the traits of good leaders. This activity can be adapted easily.

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Restructure (Continue from page 1)

In addition, some chapters in Tau State have been experimenting with change and restructuring. Some chapters have leadership teams or co-officers who share a leadership position.

Omicron Chapter has three teams that chair three meetings. Each team is totally responsible for one meeting, the program, the venue, the refreshments, etc. Each team takes complete ownership of its meeting and is excited to take on the responsibility. In addition, they have an organizational meeting in the fall, in January they pack Book Buddies and in May an evaluation meeting. They have one treasurer, one person who does the annual program manual and a communicator who attends executive board meetings. This reorganization has truly revitalized the chapter.

Iota Chapter also uses coordinating teams that are in charge of meetings and programs.

Chapter structure often reflects that of International and state. With both being restructured the question arises, what does that mean for chapters? The answer is open, chapters are encouraged to examine current practice, consider tasks to be done and responsibilities of the chapter. Keep what works and/or try new approaches for revitalization.

Bernice Gestie Fellowship Recipient Selected

By: Robbie Johnson

Xin Yuan Low was selected as the recipient of the Bernice Gestie Fellowship for Foreign Women Educators.

She is currently pursuing a Master of Science degree in Counseling education at Winona State University. Her expected graduation date is May 2011.

Her goal is to gain one year of working in the United States (Optional Practical Training) in community counseling and then return to Malaysia to work in a college setting as a college counselor. Eventually she would like to obtain a Ph.D. and become a professor in Malaysia.

Program Committee

By Diane Larson

When we offer stimulating programs that members do not want to miss, we keep the participation and interest in the Chapter high. The question is: **WHAT MEANINGFUL PROGRAMS MUST WE OFFER TO ATTRACT MEMBERS?**

Listed are some of the favorite programs noted by the seven Chapters who sent the Biennial Report.

1. Domestic Violence, Mongolia Medical Missions, Financial Planning, Operation Bootstrap, Books for Low Income Children, Gourmet Dinner with Culinary College, Building Trades Class on Homes, Sharing Favorite Crafts, Giving to Habitat for Humanity, Food Shelves and Shelters, Aging Gracefully, and Authors.

2. It was suggested we put more emphasis on volunteerism. Also, chapters like program ideas on educational, social, and economic issues.

3. Consider visiting websites www.deltakappagamma.org/MN and www.deltakappagamma.net, the International site for these: Leadership Tools on the Net, a DKG Electronic Course on CD. For \$20.00 this acquaints one with email, SKYPE, Wiki, Blogs DKG Leader's Learning Suite, a bundle of 10 online classes related to leadership for \$49.95.

Technology Information

By: Laurie Huston

Are you interested in increasing your level of knowledge about technology? If so, check out "DKG Tech Talk". This website aims to provide DKG members with resources to enhance their understanding of technology tools for leadership--in the classroom, the community, and in The Society. It is intended for varying levels of expertise and includes clear definitions and examples of current technology tools, general resources, and specific tools to help you improve your knowledge of technology. "DKG Tech Talk" can be accessed at <http://web.me.com/judithmerz/TechTalk/Welcome.html>. You also can reach the website through the Tau State website. You will find the link to International's website at the bottom of Tau State's homepage. Once International's site comes up, go to the "Resources" tab on the far right of the page. When the menu appears, click on "DKG Tech Talk".

Membership News

By: Kathy Patton

Remember: International is encouraging us all to join the SHOE-IN Challenge. The state organization challenge is that all states that install at least one new chapter or reinstates a dissolved chapter will be recognized at the 2010 International Convention in Spokane, Washington. Every chapter will be recognized who accomplishes one, two or all three of the following:

Maintain the numbers of members in their chapter from January 2009 through May 2010

Increase the overall number of members in the chapter in the same time frame

Add a member from an educational environment not currently represented in the chapter.

The Expansion/Membership Committee continues to be a committee of one. If you have a member of your chapter who would be interested in talking with me about being on the committee, I would love to have them contact me.

kathrynpatton@earthlink.net

Materials from dissolved chapters will be brought to the Executive Committee meeting for purchase by current chapters at the Spring Conference.

Website Updates

By: Laurie Huston

Have you visited the Tau State website lately?

The Tau State website has useful information for you. Visit it at www.deltakappagamma.org/MN/.

Do you need to know who to contact when your address changes? Click on the Update Your Contact Information link for the answer.

Are you uncertain of when the Outstanding Service Award Nomination form is due? Check the Important Dates link . . . and the nomination form itself is available, too.

Do you need to see the minutes from the General Business Session of last spring's Tau State Convention? The minutes are available on the website by using the Tau State Executive Board Minutes link.

Are you in need of information related to the Minnesota State Legislature or the U.S. Congress? Check out the Legislation Resources link.

Do you need some help in finding quality professional development opportunities? Check out the Educator's Edge link which will take you to a website sponsored by the Educational Foundation of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society. There you will be able to search for opportunities to update your skills, learn new teaching strategies, gain a new certification and/or renew your license. You also can find out about the Individual Awards that can help you pay for attendance at a workshop, conference, seminar or course.

The Tau State website also has a link to the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International's website where even more helpful information is available. Check it out.
www.deltakappagamma.org/MN/.

U.S. Forum

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/US-Forum/history/history.html>
U.S. Forum

MISSION

The United States Forum seeks to serve the interests of members and reflects the purposes and mission of the Society. Emphasis is on sharing information and ideas that explore solutions to common problems.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the United States Forum is to identify and select major issues affecting women, children, and education upon which the U.S. members may take action. At the national, regional, state, and chapter levels, it serves as a viable vehicle through which members may participate in efforts to make the Purposes of the Society come to fruition through action.

ADVOCACY STATEMENT

The U.S. Forum is dedicated to being an advocate for children by implementing actions which enable change and improvement in social institutions, systems, legislation, and practices that impose hardships or impact negatively on individuals, groups, or families.

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/US-Forum/history/history.html>

Other resources:

The Library of Congress

<http://thomas.loc.gov> (for information on YOUR Congressmen, all pending bills, including the voting records of members of Congress, and for a link to other sites)

Senate Home Page

<http://www.senate.gov>

U.S. House Home Page

<http://www.house.gov>

INTERNATIONAL

International Convention 2010

Make plans to attend the [International Convention](#) in Spokane, Washington. [Online registration](#) is now available.

Seminar in Purposeful Living

[Registration](#) for the Seminar in Purposeful Living is now available online.

Dates to Remember

Due March 1

- State Necrology Biennial Report
- State President Biennial Report
- State Communications Biennial Report
- State Finance Biennial Report
- State Membership Biennial Report
- State Nominations Biennial Report
- State Program of Work Biennial Report
- State Scholarships Biennial Report
- State World Fellowships Biennial Report
- Achievement Award Recommendation

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society
International U.S. Forum Presents.....
THE NATIONAL LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR

For
Key Women Educators
**"From Vision to Action: Advancing the
Society Through the U.S. Forum"**

March 14-17, 2010

Hyatt Regency, Crystal City

2799 Jefferson Davis

Arlington, VA 22202

703.418.1234

Strategic Action Plan

The updated [Strategic Action Plan](#) is available.

