



NORTH STAR NEWS

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International - Key Women Educators

2 0 1 5 W I N T E R E D I T I O N

Official Publication of Tau State, MINNESOTA

Volume 64



Registration is now open for the Tau State Convention! You may register via mail or online. Visit the Tau State Convention website:

www.dkgtaustateconvention.weebly.com

for registration details and schedule of events. Mu and Chi Chapters have been working hard to make this a memorable convention.

If any member would like to read the State Executive Board/committee reports they can request access to Dropbox either from Kathy Patton or their chapter leadership.

Dates to remember:

February 7, 2015: State Executive Committee will hold a GoTo meeting

April 17-19, 2015: Tau State Convention - Bemidji, MN

April 18, 2015: State Executive Board Meeting in Bemidji

June 23-25, 2015: Leadership Retreat - St. Ben's
"Women Leading: Attitudes and Altitudes"

July 29-August 1, 2015: Northwest Regional Conference
- Regina, Saskatchewan

President's Message.....	2
Building Membership.....	3
NW Regional Conf.....	4
Celebrate!.....	5



**Happy
New Year!**

The deadline for the Summer Edition of North Star News will be June 1st. Please contact me if you have any articles you'd like submitted. Thank you!

Libby Underhill

underhlk@paulbunyan.net

Thoughts From State President, Kathy

My theme for this biennium is **ACT**:

Achieving goals

Celebrating

Communicating Together

DKG in Minnesota is at a crossroads. We are an aging organization. We can continue on the road we have been traveling for the past few years. This road has us losing each year more members than we add and we continue to see chapters dissolving. We can also look at this crossroads and see what other roads we could go down.

We need to mindfully think about exactly where our chapter is and where we fit in our chapter. In visiting chapters, I know that the fellowship is strong in every chapter. Members have formed friendships and are there to support one another. I also know that chapters are providing excellent programs, including programs that offer clock hours and are advertise to nonmembers.

Now I'd like each of you to ask the hard questions. What are the short-term goals of your chapter and how do you support them? How do you mentor leaders within your chapter so that members feel comfortable to take on roles within your chapter. What is your chapter doing to reach out to nonmembers? How do you support the goals of DKG International?

I don't have answers but I have questions. I want to challenge each of you to begin asking the questions in your chapter. These are difficult questions that need all voices to be heard and all options considered.

I don't want you to feel overwhelmed or defeated before you even begin. I have found that engaging in dialogue is exciting and opens my mind to new possibilities. The future of DKG in Minnesota lies in your hands. After having had the opportunity this past year and one-half, I know that these are competent and capable hands.

Start the conversations.



Kathy Patton
Tau State

kpattondkg@yahoo.com
<https://twitter.com/kpmtka>



Building Tau State Membership...Share, Invite, Inform, and Recruit!

Kim Kusler, Membership Chair

One of the Tau State Membership Committee goals this year is to increase our numbers. Membership in Delta Kappa Gamma will grow if we share, invite, inform, and recruit, and we have a wonderful opportunity to accomplish all four of these on April 17 - 19 at the DKG Tau State Convention in Bemidji.

Interested women who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma are warmly welcomed to attend the state convention. Members, bring a colleague as your guest! What better way to showcase our organization and the wonderful things we do!

Share! The April convention details have now been posted at www.dkgtaustateconvention.weebly.com. Please share with your colleagues the engaging workshop, entertainment, and networking opportunities available at our convention. Informative professional development workshops highlight the convention, with opportunities to gain clock hours in state-mandated CEU areas. Members and non-members alike will enjoy the cultural, culinary, and musical celebrations planned at the convention. There's something for EVERYONE! Share—get the word out!

Invite! Personally invite a woman who may be interested in Delta Kappa Gamma membership to attend the convention with you. Non-members may register on the same form as members. Share the ride, share the room, share some "girl time"! In the next month or so, take a minute to consider colleagues who have the potential of becoming excited, new DKG members. Warmly invite!

Inform! The purposes and benefits of Delta Kappa Gamma in your community, the nation, and the world are far-reaching. Inform potential members about our organization's goals, scholarship opportunities, and service projects. Encourage your convention guest to experience first-hand the charitable benevolence of DKG by watching members' donations to Bemidji's Village of Hope grow! (<http://www.villageofhopebemidji.org/>) Your colleague's excitement about Delta Kappa Gamma will grow as she gains information about our organization.

Recruit! Following an educational and enlightening experience at the Tau State convention in April, your guest will be ready to join Delta Kappa Gamma! Answer her questions, invite her to a post-convention social gathering with your chapter, and encourage her to become a part of our wonderful group!

Share, Invite, Inform, and Recruit - Help us build DKG Membership at the Tau State Convention in Bemidji, April 17 - 19!



With the arrival of the new year, my inbox started to notice a change from a trickle to a steady stream of breakout session proposals. Thanks to all of you for indicating a willingness to share your ideas, knowledge and expertise at the conference next summer. Thanks, too, to those who recruited more reticent members. I received numerous comments in the emails that the person had been encouraged by other members to make this presentation. I wish I could attend them all; there are proposals in all four strands. Membership is the most prevalent topic and one of great concern to us all.

Showcase your chapter projects!!

There is a new display at Society Headquarters with a focus on YOU. Visitors (members and non-members) will see what members are doing to support children, women and education at the chapter level within their communities, as well as outreach to "promote professional and personal growth of its members and excellence in education" around the world.

Send a digital picture (jpeg file requested) to societypoper@dkg.org. Provide a one-line caption for the picture, your name, chapter name and state organization (geographical name).

This is just another way to recognize and celebrate the achievements of DKG members for the past 85 years, today and beyond



Regina has no tour agency, but DKG members have prepared a list of exciting tours so that you may explore the city and surrounding area via coach buses. For Canadians, prices are the daily prices. For others, paying with US dollars, the tours are a bargain—the US dollar is stronger and that means even more savings at the NW Regional. Information will be in the next issue of the *DKG News*, on the NW link on the International Webpage and in the upcoming newsletters. Experiential learning packed with fun for all guaranteed.

I recall well the excitement that you chapter leaders are experiencing now—the excitement of your state convention and the deadlines before you. As you remind your members to attend the state convention, please recruit them to attend a regional conference this summer. Everyone who attends a regional says that it is a wonderful experience that defies description.

While you may not download or embed the opening night festivities from Indianapolis last July or Dr. Lyn Babb Schmid's acceptance speech, you may stream them from www.dkg.org and bring the convention to your state convention. What a marvelous way to link your state organization members with an international convention—bring it to them.

Remind your successor of the pre-conference training in Regina starting on Monday evening, July 27 in the conference hotel.

Phyllis

Celebrate!

Chapter News



The theme of Kappa Chapter this year is "Being Fit..." and December's meeting was "Being Fit Spiritually." Sister Lisa Maurer was the guest speaker introduced by Kappa Co-President Julie Stauber at the Duluth Women's Club on December 13.

Sister Lisa Maurer is the kicking coach at the College of St. Scholastica's football team in Duluth, as well as a Benedictine nun who is an administrator in the Benedictine Health System. Maurer is pursuing a master's degree in pastoral ministry at St. John's. Her message was on keeping faith a focus of our lives.

Kappa hosted Alpha Delta Kappa members for the event. Personal care products were collected for donation to CHUM, a social safety net of programs which include emergency food, shelter, advocacy and outreach to over 7,000 hungry, homeless, and low income people each year.



Sister Maurer on left. Co-President, Julie Stauber, a teacher at Proctor Schools, on right.



Kappa member, Joanna Walters, provided holiday music for the event with her violin renditions. Joanna is a dean at Lincoln Middle School in Duluth.

Kappa Chapter awarded a Grant-in-Aid scholarship of \$1,000 to Haley Westphal. Haley is attending UMD and is currently student teaching at Denfeld High School in English and Communications.

Congratulations, Haley!

From left to right:

Kappa Treasurer, Insoon Han

Haley Westphal

Kappa Scholarship Chair, Margaret Fawcett



Mu Chapter celebrated the holidays with their annual Christmas Tea. This year had a Swedish theme. Over 60 members and guests were welcomed with Swedish Glögg when they arrived.

After hearing the story of Sankta Lucia, all were invited to remove the Pepparkakor cookie from the woven heart at their place setting and try to break it into 3 pieces for good luck in the New Year, while Sankta Lucia and her attendants served Lussekator buns.



Sankta Lucia procession



Then each guest was served a plate of Swedish meatballs, Västerbotten cheese on Swedish rykrisps, Swedish cabbage salad, a dessert of Swedish Creme topped with lingonberries and a special Swedish tea. A performance by the Tomte Choir added to the festivities.

The Christmas tea has become a very successful fundraiser. This year over \$700 was raised for scholarships and special projects.



MU member, Judy Dvorak

