



# The Nevadagram

An Official Publication of Alpha Chi



## Convention & Awards Edition Fall 2022

**From the President:** Welcome back to a great year in DKG! I'm sure most of you have already attended your first chapter meeting of the year. I look forward to hearing about your chapter's plans, and hopefully this year, health permitting, I will be able to pay another visit! I want to thank all the outgoing chapter officers for a job well-done, and welcome our new officers for the next biennium. I look forward to working with all of you! We had a great turn-out for our virtual State Convention in March, and we accomplished a lot. I tried to add some fun and humor with the tea party theme, but there's only so much one can do virtually. By the way, you all looked delectable in your fascinators! We also had a great turn-out for our first-ever virtual leadership training in July. It was bittersweet for me this year for two reasons: as crazy as it may sound, I always looked forward to that drive to Eureka; and, as we planned the training, I was reminded of its original founder, our dear Carol Mueller, who we lost in June. We will continue to think of Carol every time we plan the leadership training, as she was the first to implement the training for our state organization, and continued to organize and facilitate it every year until she couldn't. Thank you to all who attended the convention and participated in the leadership training, and to those who facilitated the events or presented. I know having in-person meetings and events is always the best way to enhance sisterhood and camaraderie; however, since we've adopted the virtual Zoom platform, our attendance for these events has certainly spiked. Perhaps we can keep that in mind when planning our chapter meetings for this year. If possible, it would be great to offer an option. I would like to leave you with these last thoughts: Stay involved the best you can. Any offer of help is always appreciated. Remember to reach out to those in your membership who might need an incentive to attend or simply a ride. Make personal calls to those who you've not seen in a while. Offer an attentive ear. Show you care. Those simple acts of kindness could make all the difference.

Together in DKG, Cheryl

Welcome Ladies to another edition of the Nevadagram. This edition is all about our State ZOOM Convention on March 25<sup>th</sup> of this year. Quite a lot happened during the day-long event.

### **MORNING SESSION**

After Cheryl Anderson called the meeting to order and saying the Pledge of Allegiance, Margaret von Rumph inspired us with *The Upside of Humor*.

Dorothy Todd won the attendance raffle then we split off into “Tea Rooms” to enjoy our refreshments and get caught up on the news of members.

### **Society Business**

Then Cheryl Anderson made us get down to work. Judy Silker outlined Parliamentary Procedures we needed to follow and Maxine took attendance. A total of 44 members attended! Awesome!

The minutes were approved and are posted on our state web page. (Check them out!)

Cheryl Anderson gave her President’s Report where she congratulated the chapters efforts to keep going during trying times. The “DKG Sisterhood” really stepped up! Cheryl acknowledged and praised the chapters for their flexibility and creativity in conducting meetings and events.

Check the state website for the names of the Chapter Presidents for 2022-2024.

One area of concern for everyone, including chapter, state and International, is the loss of membership. Karen Laskowski stated that we were now down to only 182 members with only 166 active members. Everyone needs to be thinking of new ways to increase our membership - no matter outside of the box it seems.

Hey folks, we actually have money in the state treasury. Heidi Hull went over our deposits and expenditures and stated that we have a balance of \$8625.00. We also have money available in our scholarship accounts. Ladies! If you want to take classes, put on seminars, provide training programs, or attend trainings/conventions submit an application and let’s get to using our money!

Cindy Frazer is continually updating our state website so CHECK IT OUT!

The Nevadagram editors want to thank everyone who has and will send in articles.

Our Historian, Candy Rooney created a 2021 Alpha Chi Nevada State Scrapbook. May sure your chapter continues to send in chapter activities and events to Candy so she can create a scrapbook for 2022.

We hope all the chapters were able to present the Alpha Chi State Nevada Apple Award to individuals, groups, or organizations in their area.

If you haven't discussed the proposed changes to the State Standing Rules, please do so soon. Proposed changes will be voted on at the State Executive Board ZOOM meeting, then recommended for approval and vote at the 2023 Convention.

Marlene Killian reported that 15 states received Emergency Funds after suffering a natural disaster. Nevada donated a total of \$1541.00 for the fund. Way to go, Nevada!

The Southwest Regional Forum is supporting two House Bill's. One bill is to stop the reduction in Social Security for retired teachers and the other supports Equal Treatment of Federal Services Act.

Ardynne Sprinkle presented a proposal for a photo competition. More information is to come!

Two of our chapters, Theta and Lambda, donated \$125 to the World Fellowship Fund. Our guest Speaker, Barbara Clausen, Northwest Regional Director, feels this is a worthy cause.

### **Unfinished Business**

Theta and Alpha Chapters shared how they are collaborating to keep both chapters active and involved. They said it is an evolving and exciting process.

### **New Business**

"What's been happening in the trenches during the Covid pandemic? What do our DKG classroom teachers need from us?"

What a discussion we had! Some concerns addressed were technology, behavior and attendance concerns, and masks hindering speech. Other concerns were student trauma, teacher absenteeism, and the high need for social workers and psychologists.

We could help our teachers by sending cards with well-wishes and words of encouragement. You could even attend and participate in school board meetings.

### **Message from our DKG International President, at the time, Becky Sadowski.**

"Members are important" in DKG. Our dues help provide member services.

- The Golden Gift Fund is still active. It was suggested by our guest speaker, Barbara Clausen, that members apply to participate in the Leadership Event.
- The Educational Fund provides Grants and Aids for members.
- Scholarship money is available.
- DKG history is displayed at the University of Texas at Austin, Texas.

### **DKG Workshop**

We were so lucky to have Barbara Clausen, Northwest Regional Director, as our guest speaker. She facilitated the workshop, “Let’s Gear Up to Retain & Recruit”.

The key points of the workshop were:

- Retain members by keeping personal connections.
- Recruit new members by searching in diverse fields.
- Have a party and make members feel welcome.
- Build a partnership with schools or colleges.
- Use the DKG website (dkg.org) as homepage on your computer, so you are always there.



Members expressed their thanks to Barbara Clausen for her information and ideas. It was suggested that Barbara Clausen’s PowerPoint be sent to chapters for use during meetings.

### **IN MEMORIUM**

With sadness and respect. We lost two of our long-term members this last year. Virginia (Kitty) Hayes (Beta) passed away on May 14, 2021 and Gwen Anne Thacker (Delta) passed on September 26, 2021.



### **AFTERNOON SESSION - AWARDS**

#### **Rose of Recognition**



Alpha: Betty Barker

Gamma: Linda Fleming

Delta: Maxine Emm

Epsilon: Emily Ladner

Theta: Charlene Harris

Kappa: Jill Murphy

Lambda: Eileen Aragon

Nu: Mary Whalen

Xi: Nicole Howard

Omicron: Jackie Riggan

#### **Exemplary Award**

The Exemplary award was presented to **Dorothy Todd** for her outstanding efforts during her participation in Nevada State Leadership and Nu Chapter Leadership. Dorothy served in many officer positions during her 42 years of membership.



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Stayed tuned for our next edition of the Nevadagram! It will have the late spring and summer activities and events, with pictures, of our chapters and members. Expect to see it in your email in about a month!