



KENTUCKY ALPHA GAMMA STATE NEWS

Kathy Zwanzig welcomes
our guests to Kentucky
Alpha Gamma State
Convention



Joan Wolfe and Edna Thayer

KAGS OFFICERS 2017-2019

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President's Message

Kentucky Alpha Gamma State President's Message May 2018

We are *KEY Kentucky Women Educators Unlocking Our IDEAS*.

We are *Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide*.

HOW can WE unlock our IDEAS to help educators and education and students in KENTUCKY?

With all that has been happening in education in Kentucky recently, Kentucky DKG members need to reflect upon what we can do, as an organization, to make an impact. I have watched, via Social Media, as many of you, from all across the Commonwealth, have marched multiple times in Frankfort. I have attended meetings this year at which members were given names, phone numbers, and addresses of their local legislators to contact. I have listened as we are urged to be vigilant and vote for those in Frankfort who are supporting teachers and true quality education in Kentucky. Our participation in these activities are part of our Seven Purposes:

To advance the professional interest and position of women in education

To initiate, endorse and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators

To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society



Not only do we need to be activists for education legislation in Kentucky, but we also need to initiate and participate in activities that support our Sisters who remain in the field. We also need to reach out to as many educators and students as possible. I encourage you to find ways to help educators and education and students in KENTUCKY, both as individual Kentucky DKG members and as Chapters. I challenge every Kentucky DKG member to find a way to support and encourage at least one educator in Kentucky.

If you were not able to attend the State Convention in Ashland, you were missed. And you missed important work, celebrations of achievement, and opportunities to shop, create, and enjoy fellowship. There were several notable outcomes of the business meeting:

The official state name was changed to the Kentucky Alpha Gamma State Organization.

It was decided that the Fall Leadership Workshop would, instead of rotating around the state, be held in Lexington every Fall. The hosting responsibilities will rotate through the Area Coordinating Councils. This was suggested so that it would be located in a more central part of the state to make it more accessible for all members to attend.

An Ad Hoc Committee was formed to work with the Rules Committee to investigate the feasibility of having an Executive Secretary for the State Organization.

Charlotte Benton (Omega) and Carolyn Wells (Alpha Alpha) were inducted into the State Hall of Fame.

Finally, each Kentucky Alpha Gamma State member was encouraged to attend the Fall Leadership Workshop and 2019 State Convention. Please put these dates on your calendar.

It is important that all officers, plus Membership, EEC, and Music Committee Chairs, attend the Fall Leadership Workshop. This is when you receive specific training for the coming biennium.

It will be held September 7 & 8 at the Embassy Suites at Lexington Green.

The five chapters of the Louisville Area Coordinating Council are busy preparing for the 2019 KAGS State Convention. It will be held at the Embassy Suites Louisville East, located off of Hurstborne Parkway, about a mile north of I-64. It will be held March 29 – 31.

I wish you a successful end to the school year and a fabulous, restful Summer.

KAGS Hugs!

Kathy



EEC News Beth Pyle

I just returned from walking our dog on this beautiful Sunday morning; walking, the dog or not, is my quiet time for reflecting on the week past or contemplating the events of the week to come. Since my classes are over (just final week remains), my thoughts turn to KAGS and DKG.

My enthusiasm is always heightened after the state convention -- congratulations to Xi Chapter for the Annie Program Award and Kappa Chapter for the Annie Project Award -- and in anticipation of a DKG International Convention. I am eager to learn additional ideas about Educational Excellence and the promotion of programs and projects that I can bring to KAGS and each local chapter. Sharing with teachers from throughout the US and from around the world is most enlightening.

I strongly suggest if it is within your financial means and time frame to attend our International Convention in Austin, TX, July 16-21, that you do so. However, if you are unable to join us in Texas, the next best thing will be to attend our KAGS Fall Leadership Workshop on Saturday, September 8, in Lexington at the Embassy Suites, Lexington Green. The focus of our Fall Workshop will be training chapter officers (and members) for the next biennium, 2018-2020; in addition, you will be able to experience firsthand the enthusiasm brought back from Austin – a true example of the “butterfly effect.” In addition, we will report on the changes to the DKG constitution which may also affect our state and chapters by-laws. Fall Workshop will be filled with a great deal of information to benefit KAGS, each chapter, and each individual member.

As your school year winds down, or as you shift from winter to spring to summer events, please make DKG part of your reflection and anticipation. I wish you all a safe summer and I hope to see you in Austin and/or Lexington.



Membership News Dr. Bonnia Cook Fouts

Spring Greetings! It's that time of year when some of us begin to sum things up...a school year, graduation, a college class, a new degree, and so on. It is also a time when many of our KAGS chapters reflect on and sum up their year and/or in some cases, biennium. Yes, our reports are due in January so that officers can turn things into International, and those reports generally reflect on the past calendar year; nevertheless, for most of us, we begin anew every other summer when the biennium turns over for the chapter. And the new chapter year generally begins sometime between June and September. No matter where you are in the summation of things, here are a few questions to consider.

Who are your incoming officers? Were you asked to help lead your chapter as an officer or as chair of a committee? Did you step up to the duty? What kind of new programs have been planned? Did you or will you have a say in developing 2018-2019 for your chapter? How many guests have you invited to a meeting or an activity this past year? Has someone joined DKG because you told them about our wonderful society? Have you mentioned our society to anyone in your circle of friends this past year? Have you told anyone how to find the International website and how to visit as a guest? If you have done any of these things, great! If you have not, it is never too late to start.

If you are retired, have you attempted to meet or call the teachers of your grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or the children of a neighbor? Teachers meet many needs these days and the tasks can be overwhelming, but DKG is not just one but many communities that can help mentor us in a variety of ways. If you are still working in a school in some capacity, do you tell colleagues about your chapter activities? In casual talk, we can say something like, "I won't be able to think much about school this weekend because I am heading to an awesome state meeting with DKG." You may be ignored, but someone may ask you where you are going or even better – they may ask about DKG! Please do not hesitate to share our society with others. After all, we are no longer a secret organization of the past. We are DKG. We are you and me. We are now and tomorrow. Have a fantabulous summer and I look forward to seeing each of you at our Fall Workshop!

Cordially yours in DKG,

Bonnia

NEWS FROM OUR CHAPTERS

[Site your source here]

OMEGA CHAPTER

Omega Chapter had a busy 2017-2018 year. Three members, Emily Perry, Sandy Anderson, and Bonnye Roof, attended the KAGS Fall Leadership Conference in Hopkinsville. Our September meeting focused on Relaxation and Meditation by Betty Thompson. We also learned how to cut strips and weave mats for the homeless.

Phyllis Russell and Candice Griffin presented a program "Tour of Cuba" for our November meeting. Omega adopted a family from the Family Resource Center for Christmas. We bought presents and groceries for them. In February we collected books for the Community Kitchen and attended the Empty Bowls Event to raise money for the homeless kitchen. We plan to volunteer one day at their kitchen in May. At the KAGS Convention, Omega members, Emily Perry, Lynn Werner, Harrietta Harper, Sharon Bray, Betty Thompson, and Bonnye Roof, received the Women of Vision Award. Nancy Johnson received her 40th year member award. Charlotte Benton received the distinguished Hall of Fame Award. Kathy Zwanzig, our state president, will give greetings and install our officers for the upcoming year.

Bonnye Roof



Tour of Cuba November 2017**Omega Chapter****Nu Chapter Supports Banquet For Life**

The Appalachian Pregnancy Care Center was founded in 2007; it currently serves 12 Eastern Kentucky counties. APCC exists to enable individuals and families to make wise life choices through the provision of education, resources and unconditional love. Nu Chapter's work with APCC began in the late summer of 2007 when the chapter donated funds to renovate, refurbish and furnish a conference/training room. Nu Chapter has continued to support APCC in various ways for the past ten years: hosting baby showers and diaper drives, filling baby bottles with donations, participating in various fund raising events and in many other capacities to show their involvement with and support of the center.

APCC recently celebrated the legacy of life by hosting its 5th Annual Banquet For Life. Various businesses, organizations, churches and individuals came together to raise awareness within the community for the appreciation of life. With approximately 750 in attendance, this year's attendance exceeded the previous years.

Members of Nu Chapter donated many hours to help make the event a success. These included: planning and organizing, soliciting monetary donations and silent auction items, decorating, setting up, hosting and cleaning up. In addition to the time given, several chapter members donated money to the cause.

During the event, twelve members worked in various aspects. APCC Executive Director Kay Hammond remarked, "I want to thank my fellow members of Nu Chapter for supporting the Banquet For Life. Your assistance is greatly appreciated."



Pictured:
Front Row Jone Goodman and Mary Beth Stiltner
Back Row: Patty Johnson, Felicia Varney, Christy McCoy, Sandy Brown and Judy Lester
Absent from photo: Tammy Casey, Kay Hammond, Helen Kirk, Rita Scott and Cheryl Slater

Sisters from Nu and Alpha Gamma Chapters At KAGS Convention



Kentucky Alpha Gamma State Organization



2018 Fall Leadership Conference – Chapter Officer Training

September 8, 2018

Embassy Suites by Hilton at Lexington Green
245 Lexington Green Circle, Lexington, KY 40405

Hosted by **Alpha Alpha** and **Phi** Chapters

_____ \$20 Registration Fee

_____ \$25 Lunch

Total: _____

Make Checks Payable to Dr. Carolyn Wells

Mail to:

Dr. Carolyn Wells

15 Eastland Acres Phone: 859 339-8070

Lancaster, KY 40444 email: catwells242@gmail.com

Registration confirmation will be sent via e-mail unless otherwise requested.

Conference Registration Deadline – August 15, 2018

Please Print

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip
Telephone (Include Area Code)		
Email		
Chapter	Chapter or State Officer? (circle one)	
Position Held		
Dietary Restrictions		
Special Needs		
First Time to Attend a Fall Conference? Yes or No		
<p><i>Reservations can be made at the Embassy Suites by Hilton at Lexington Green 245 Lexington Green Circle, Lexington, KY 40405</i></p> <p>Phone: (859) 271-4000</p> <p><i>The conference block will be held until August 15, 2018. Twenty (20) rooms will be reserved in the block. Cost per room is \$149 per night before taxes and includes a Friday night reception, a complimentary breakfast on Saturday morning, and WiFi.</i></p> <p>Please make your reservations as soon as possible.</p>		

Annie Award for Program

Congratulations to Xi Chapter – Program “Filling in the Pieces of Autism”

We had a special education teacher from Russellville, KY, who has a self-contained classroom for autistic children speak to us. She currently works with a grant from University of Louisville and has 10 students ages 4-8.

Her program presented characteristics of these children, the importance of early intervention, and services available. She discussed how we can empathize with the families and remain nonjudgmental in public situations.

We role played with activities to understand how we tune out stimulations but lights, sounds, touch etc can't be filtered and cause anxiety and outbursts.

These students can be very bright, and we need to have high expectations for their future.

Annie Award for Project

Congratulations to Kappa Chapter – Project “Teacher Yard Sale”

We created a shoppers' paradise July 19 and 20, 2017; preservice teachers at Murray State (Madisonville) were invited to peruse thousands of teacher supply items and purchase them for mere pennies.

The idea came about from a chapter discussion about how teacher clean out their rooms in May, preparing for the upcoming year and that many things are thrown out for lack of room or desire.

Letters were sent to every elementary school in the county, and then we were contacted when the classroom items were ready to pick-up. Our members drove around collecting the materials after which we sorted, organized, and priced the items for sale.

From the members' perspective it brought back some good memories and made us feel good that we were helping the next generation of our profession.

One of the preservice teachers commented, “I filled my truck on July 19 and then returned on July 20 to do it all over again. I bought everything from children's books to math games, thematic units, flashcards, classroom décor items and may supplies such as colored pencils, scissors and crayons. It was a great way to get a head start on stocking my future classroom. The prices were real good, too. Most things were a quarter or fifty cents. I spent about \$30.00 and purchased two trunksful. I'm a happy girl!”

Awards at Birthday Luncheon

Rosebud-Four honorees

Key Women of Vision- Seventy honorees from nine chapters: Epsilon, Kappa, Mu, Xi, Upsilon, Omega, Alpha Beta, and Alpha Gamma

Membership Milestones-Members who have reached 40 or 50 years of service from eleven chapters.

KAGS Key Leader Award-***Diane Woods*** Alpha Alpha; ***Bridget Murphy*** Epsilon

Awards at President's Banquet

Annie Awards for Program and Project: Xi and Kappa Chapters

KAGS Hall of Fame

Carolyn Wells-Alpha Alpha

Charlotte Benton-Omega

Celebration of Life

In Remembrance

Alpha-Sarah Adeline Miller; Joyce Ann Wood Whitaker

Gamma-Dr. Alta Virginia Presson

Epsilon-Janice Elaine Evans LeBrun

Iota-Joanne Story

Xi-Christina H. Bowling

Omicron-Barbara J. Russo

Rho-Doris F. Brenner

Psi-Meryl Fair Allen

Dates to Remember
Fall Workshop: September 8, 2018
KAGS Convention: March 29-31, 2019



Hall of Fame Award presented to Charlotte Benton by Melanie Van Tassel, chair of committee.

Hall of Fame Award presented to Carolyn Wells by Melanie Van Tassel, chair of committee.





Mu Chapter members at KAGS in Ashland.



Have you registered? Made hotel reservations?
KAGS will represent.

KAGS has a new webpage address:
<https://kentuckyalphagammastate.weebly.com/>

ZETA

It has been another good year for the ladies of Zeta Chapter!

June Madison, Vice President, **Programs**, brought us the following: September: From NKU Dr. Cynthia Reed, Dean of Education and Human Resources, and Tara Widener, Director of Development, College of Education & Human Services. "Trends in Higher Education, Teacher Preparation, and Ways to Support our Future Teachers."

November: Nancy Hutcherson, Reiki Practitioner, Certified Life Coach, and Wellness Advocate. "Dealing with Stress." Happy and thankful to be sisters of Zeta, we enjoyed our time together. **See photo**, at the table and in the foreground, front row, left to right: Sally Walters; Shirley Obel and Karen Schofield, Hospitality; and June Madison, Vice President, Programs.

March: Butch Ham, Boone County High School, and the 2010 Kentucky Teacher of the Year. "CHANGE: Could You Teach Today?" **See photo** of Butch Ham. Also with a March meeting on St. Patrick's Day, many had fun wearing green in the spirit of the Irish. **See photo**, left to right: Pam Bernard, Deborah Onkst, Julianne Comerford, Joyce Fortney Hamberg, Rose Mary Hoffman, Margaret Hoffman, and Sue Osborne.

May: Shellie Baker, Director of the Lincoln Grant Scholar House. At this meeting we give a special tribute to our Delta Kappa Gamma founders and install our new officers for 2018-2020. President, June Madison; 1st Vice President, Dr. Joyce Fortney Hamberg; 2nd Vice President, Pam Bernard; Treasurer, Debbie Onkst; Recording Secretary, Renee McKellogg; Corresponding Secretary Colleen McCabe; and Parliamentarian, Lynn Mays.

Rose Mary Hoffman, **Personal Growth and Services**, shared some facts about Delta Kappa Gamma, why we were chosen as members, and the benefits of membership. At our September meeting we each received a booklet she created, "Tips for Reading to Your Child," which is being given to mothers and grandmothers across our area as part of the Books and Bibs program. Books and Bibs continues to reach out to teen parents and other young parents seeking help from agencies as well as many grandparents raising grandchildren. We are pleased to often receive compliments from local high schools who say, "We love your program!"

At each meeting members donate books for our Books and Bibs program. In March, Anna Kelly donated an abundance of used books thanks to her mother who volunteers at a library. **See photo** of Anna with Rose Mary Hoffman.

Margaret Hoffman, Chairman, **Grant-in-Aid**, sent 26 scholarship applications to local high schools this year. From those returned, done new recipient will be chosen. Margaret shared a February letter of appreciation from Samantha Martin who will graduate this year, having received \$1600 from us during her four years of studies in education at EKU. Christina Widrig's letter of appreciation told how she used her scholarship money for books.

Joyce Fortney Hamberg, Vice President, **Membership**, announced that Zeta will have added seven new members by the end of this meeting year. **See photo** from November's induction of four of those new members (holding roses) with Dr. Hamberg and President Lynn Mays. Left to right: Carol Beirne, Director of Alumni Affairs, Beechwood School; and from Ockerman Middle School, Amy Grant, Language Arts; Darla Payne, Principal; and Miranda Tieman, Drama, Dance, and Communications.

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