

# KENTUCKY STATE ORGANIZATION



*International Guest*  
*Teresa H. Cowan*



**Teresa H. Cowan, SE Regional Director, is the Society Representative for our 2023 State Convention in Louisville March 17-19.**

Teresa H. Cowan has over 30 years of educational experience working with students and teachers K-12 through college as a classroom teacher, director and instructor at a residential outdoor education facility, adjunct college professor, and off campus faculty with North Carolina State University. She is a National Board Certified Teacher, has a Bachelors of Art in Biology, a Masters in Middle Grade Education, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership. Dr. Cowan has been recognized at the national, state, and local levels for her service to education.

Dr. Cowan is a member of the North Carolina DKG state organization and has served at the chapter, state, and international levels in numerous positions. Teresa currently serves as a member of the DKG Administrative Board as the DKG Southeast Regional Director.

# NEWS

## KSO OFFICERS 2021-2023

President: Dr. Bonnia Cook Fouts, Alpha

[bonniacookfouts@gmail.com](mailto:bonniacookfouts@gmail.com)

1st VP Education Excellence Chair Lucy Riffle, Zeta

[lucyriffle116@gmail.com](mailto:lucyriffle116@gmail.com)

2nd VP,, Membership Chair: Cherie Mingus, Mu

[cheriemingus@gmail.com](mailto:cheriemingus@gmail.com)

Secretary: Patricia Hackworth, Tau

[patricia.hackworth@floyd.kyschools.us](mailto:patricia.hackworth@floyd.kyschools.us)

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[sheliawilk@comcast.net](mailto:sheliawilk@comcast.net)

Corresponding Secretary: Diane Woods, Alpha Alpha

[dwoodsay@icloud.com](mailto:dwoodsay@icloud.com)

Executive Secretary: Kathy Zwanzig, Xi

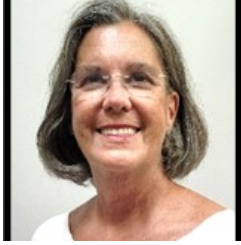
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## *Bonnie's Beacon Bullets*

It's State Convention Time!

I hope the new year is being good to you and yours. In about six weeks we will gather at the Crowne Plaza in Louisville for our annual convention, business meeting, birthday luncheon, and presidents' banquet where we will "in-person" install our new officers for the next biennium. We were together at Bowling Green in 2022, but we have not been together in-person for an installation of officers since 2019. On Sunday, we will celebrate the lives of members lost since our last convention. Please plan to attend and celebrate our many blessings. Together we are making KSO more lively!

The deadline for submitting award nominations is about a week away – February 15<sup>th</sup>!

KSO Scholarship applications are also due on February 15<sup>th</sup>!

We hope that each chapter will bring at least one basket for the silent auction - The silent auction at the state convention is used to fund the Nancy McClure Leadership Savings Account.

The forms you need and more can be found on our state website:

**<https://kentuckyalphagammastate.weebly.com>**

Please read all the articles about our convention as well as the minutes from last year's business meeting and the proposed amendment changes. We want you to be informed.

A tentative convention schedule is also in this newsletter. You will see that we are having a special event for those who are attending a KSO convention for the first time, and we are bringing the music back. Last year we felt it was safer not to sing since we were just coming out of the pandemic. But this year we hope that some of you will join our choir and sing at our luncheon. We will all have the opportunity to sing a few other times during the weekend. You also have the opportunity to buy and/or sell in the marketplace.

We are looking forward to hearing Jill Speering, author of *Rubies in the Rubble*, who will be our luncheon speaker, and we are fortunate to be able to host the Southeast Regional Director, Dr. Teresa Cowan who is our society representative for the convention.

**The most important person at our convention is YOU!!! Please plan to attend. The hotel block closes February 15<sup>th</sup>, and we want you to register as soon as possible.**

In closing, I wish each of you a Happy Valentine's Day! I hope to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with you at the convention! And may you continue to grow and glow as you continue to light the way for others!

*Bonnie*

## Lucy Writes:

EEC

By Lucy Riffle

1<sup>st</sup> VP Kentucky State Organization

February 2023

As we prepare for the state convention in March, we are reminding chapters to send in nominations for the Annie Award/Projects and Annie Award/Programs. Many chapters focus on those projects and programs that help others. Remember, these don't have to be new endeavors – they can be long standing ones. The only restriction is if they have already been honored.

Chapters throughout our state have started projects helping those still in the classroom. These are excellent ones to submit.

DKG/KSO is full of teachers who exhibit excellence in the classroom every day. Who are your Super Stars? Get them nominated!!

Don't forget – all of your nominations for Annie Awards and Educator/Administrator Excellence are due by February 15. We want to hear from you!

## Cherie Writes:

Membership

Cherie Mingus – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President KSO

February 2023

I hope everyone is making plans to attend our 2023 Kentucky State Organization Annual Convention being held March 17-19 in Louisville. As the convention is fast approaching, I would like to remind chapters about Form 6. If your chapter has had a member death this past year (since being recognized at the 2022 KSO Convention's memorial service), you will need to fill a Form 6 out. This form is used to remember those sisters we lost during the "Celebration of Life" held Sunday morning of the state convention. If you are not sure where to find Form 6, go to the DKG International website, sign in, click on "Forms." Once you are in the "Forms" section, click on "Membership" and Form 6 is the first membership form listed. After filling out the form, send KSO Treasurer Shelia Wilkinson, DKG International, and myself a copy. All three of us need to receive a copy. In order to be remembered during the KSO 2023 Convention, I need any and all death notifications (Form 6) by **February 15** not previously been sent to me at [cheriemingus@gmail.com](mailto:cheriemingus@gmail.com). We will also be recognizing KSO members who are celebrating 40, 50, and/or 60 milestone membership years during the state convention. These are sisters who were inducted in the years 1983, 1973, and 1963. I need those names also sent to me from each chapter by **February 15**. I hope that I will be able to see some smiling faces of our recognized milestone members and all our members having fond memories of our sisters during the Celebration of Life. See you in March!

- What is State Convention?** Our state convention's main purpose is to hold our annual business meeting. It is also a time for members to network, see old friends, make new friends, and learn more about our society. There is a marketplace at which chapters can rent a table and sell products to earn money for chapter projects/programs/scholarships for examples.
- What is the Birthday Luncheon?** Many chapters also have an annual birthday luncheon. This is a time we celebrate our Founders and honor the years we have been in existence. Kentucky's birthday into DKG was March 24, 1937. We were the 25<sup>th</sup> state to join DKG and the first two chapters were Alpha and Beta. Our first state president was Founder Dr. Ethel Parker (Beta). This year we are 85 years young!
- What is the President's Banquet?** This is a more formal dinner in the evening where wonderful memories can be made. Hall of Fame Inductees are announced at this banquet and on the odd years, we install the new state officers. Past State Presidents and Chapter Presidents march in at the beginning of the banquet and we usually ask that if a president cannot make the banquet, that someone attends in her place. We would like for all chapters to be represented in the march; however, with the pandemic still with us, we understand if some chapters may not be represented and that not all presidents may be able to attend. Most ladies love to dress up with some place to go and this is the place to dress up and go! *This dinner is not just for chapter presidents – it is for any member and/or guest who chooses to attend.*
- What is the White Rose Ceremony?** This ceremony is actually a memorial service at which any of our deceased members in the past year are honored and remembered. A white rose in her memory is placed among the red – signifying that her memory will live on within our hearts.
- So, what happens on Friday?** In years past, a variety of things have happened on Friday. We plan something for those who need to travel a distance and wish to arrive the evening before. We have had karaoke, craft fun, fun with word games, and more. The pandemic makes us change things up a bit to keep us all safe. This year we have a hospitality room. We will wear masks and *To Go Bags* with snacks will be available for attendees to take to their rooms.
- What is the attire for convention – what do I wear?** Friday night is come as you are and comfortable from travel. Saturday Business Meeting, Birthday Luncheon, and Sunday White Rose Ceremony are business casual. The President's Banquet is more formal, and some members wear long gowns while others wear short dressy dresses and some don nice pant outfits that are made for more formal occasions. Please do not feel that you must go out and purchase an outfit to attend. Simply dress up a bit more than usual as if you are going out to a special dinner.

***Kentucky State Organization 2023 State Convention  
Delta Kappa Gamma Society International***

***Key Women Educators Lead Like a Guiding Light***

March 17 - 19, 2023  
Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Expo Center Hotel  
830 Phillips Lane, Louisville, KY

Reservations need to be confirmed no later than February 15, 2023. Use the booking link [Delta Kappa Gamma Annual Meeting 2023](#) to make your reservations. You can also call 866-888-0620 and reference group code DKG. Room rate is \$129 + taxes and fees.

_____	Registration Fee. (must be paid by all attendees)	\$50
_____	Birthday Luncheon	\$45
_____	Presidents' Banquet	\$60
_____	Saturday Continental Breakfast (pastries, muffins, fruit)	\$5
_____	Sunday Continental Breakfast (pastries, muffins, fruit)	\$5
_____	Total Enclosed	

**Mail to:** Shelia Wilkinson, 1301 Burns Road, Radcliff, KY 40160-9307

**Email:** [sheliawilk@comcast.net](mailto:sheliawilk@comcast.net)

**Phone:** 270 319-2065

Please make checks payable to **Kentucky State Organization**. Please register by **March 5, 2023**.

**Please Print**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter or State (Circle One)

Position(s) Held: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

First Time to Attend a State Convention: Yes No (Circle One)

*A tentative schedule and menus for the luncheon and banquet will be in the KSO State News in*

## Tentative 2023 KSO Convention Schedule

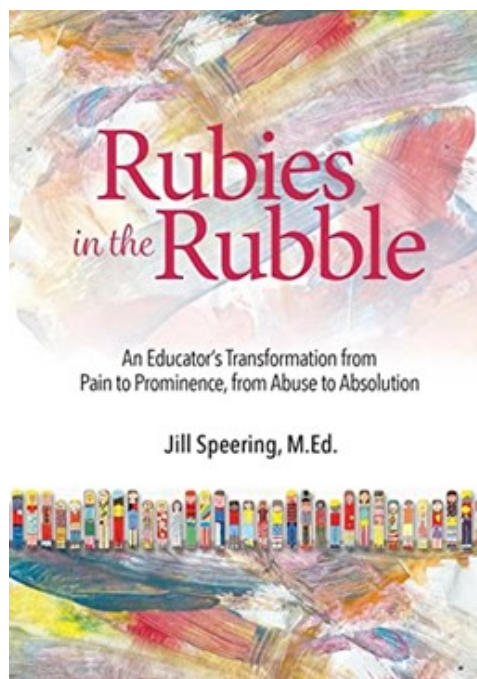
<b>Friday March 17</b>	
3:00pm – 7:00pm	Registration Open <i>Crowne Hallway</i>
6:30pm – 7:30pm	First Time Attendees Get Together – <i>Hospitality Suite</i>
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Choir Practice <i>Location TBA</i>
7:00pm – 8:30pm	Hospitality Suite Open for all who are present Friday evening
<b>Saturday March 18</b>	
7:00am – 8:45am	Registration Open <i>Crowne Hallway</i>
7:00am – 4:30pm	Marketplace Open <i>Crowne Hallway</i>
7:00am – 8:00am	Breakfast open in <i>Hospitality Suite</i> for those with tickets
9:00am – 11:00am	KSO Annual Business Meeting <i>Coronet B</i>
11:15am – 11:55am	KSO Choir Practice (only if needed) <i>Location TBA</i>
12:00pm – 2:00pm	KSO Birthday Luncheon – Annie Awards, Milestone Members
2:15pm – 3:20pm	Workshop Session and Roundtable Discussion with Regional Di-
3:30pm – 4:20pm	US Forum/Kentucky Legislative Session with Lisa Petry-Kirk
5:45pm	Chapter Presidents and Tulip Poplars line up for banquet
6:00pm – 9:00pm	Founders’ and Presidents’ Banquet including installation of officers – also includes announcement of EEC Award Winners and Hall of Fame Inductee <i>Coronet A</i>
<b>Sunday March 19</b>	
7:00am – 8:00am	Breakfast open in <i>Hospitality Suite</i> for those with tickets
9:00am – 11:00am	Celebration of Life Service and Closing <i>Elliott Room</i>

**Jill Speering**, author of *Rubies in the Rubble*, will be our luncheon speaker at the 2023 State Convention. *Rubies in the Rubble* is about overcoming trauma and adversity.

Jill Speering is a 35-year career educator who taught kindergarten and first-grade children to read through writing using invented spellings and then publishing students' stories into books within the classroom. During her distinguished teaching career, Speering received many accolades including Distinguished Educator of the Year for all of Middle Tennessee and Master Teacher under then-governor Lamar Alexander's Career Ladder Program.

During her last 15 years in Metro Nashville Public Schools, Jill trained educators how to teach the reading and writing processes through graduate classes. Speering has presented her reading research across Tennessee and at national conferences. Her articles have been published in the *Tennessean*, in educational journals and in national reading publications.

After retiring from teaching, Jill continued her advocacy for young children and was twice elected to serve on the Metro Nashville School Board against big money from those who supported charter schools. After serving for eight tumultuous years on the school board, Speering published her first book, entitled, *Rubies in the Rubble, An Educator's Transformation from Pain to Prominence, from Abuse to Absolution*.



2023 Kentucky State Organization Convention  
What You Need to Know

The 2023 KSO State Convention is on our doorstep: Friday, March 17 - Sunday, March 19.  
We know you have lots of questions! Here are some answers:

**Friday** evening is time for networking and making and renewing friendships at the reception in the Presidential Suite. President Bonnia Fouts is also preparing an activity for that time.

**Saturday** activities will include our KSO business meeting, our Birthday luncheon with author/speaker Jill Speering, afternoon sessions, and our Presidents' banquet (when our new officers will be installed.) The Ceremony of Remembrance concludes the convention on **Sunday** morning.

**Breakfast:** Breakfast, for both Saturday and Sunday, is not included with hotel room reservation, so we are offering a continental breakfast in the Presidential Suite, adjacent to Bonnia's and Kathy's rooms. It will be a continental style breakfast, consisting of pastries, muffins, fruit, and coffee and hot tea. We are charging a nominal fee of \$5 for each day, payable with your registration. We will purchase food and drink according to those who have paid for them.

**Birthday Luncheon:** \$45 "Smokehouse Buffet" consisting of House Salad, Shaved Smoked Brisket with House BBQ sauce, Char-grilled Marinated Chicken Quarters with Smokey BBQ sauce, Molasses Baked Beans, Macaroni & Cheese, Cole Slaw, assorted bread & rolls, dessert, tea, coffee, and water.

**Presidents' Banquet:** \$60 Dinner Buffet consisting of House Salad & Mixed Salad, Herb Marinated Chicken Breast, Herb Infused Wild Rice, Glazed Carrots, Steamed broccoli w/Herb Butter, Chef Selection Dessert, iced tea and water.

Feel free to contact Kathy Zwanzig, [kathyzwanzig@gmail.com](mailto:kathyzwanzig@gmail.com) or 502 541-7738, if you have any questions.

If you have never attended a state function, this is the perfect opportunity for you to experience a state convention. You get to meet teachers from across the state, participate in state society business, and gain a deeper understanding of the Society.

Join us!!!"

**Congratulations to Linda Mauser, KY Upsilon Chapter!**

*Her article "Reflecting on the 'Rub' – An Essay Content Scorer's Dilemma" has been selected for inclusion in the 2022, Volume 89-2 issue of The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin.*



## **Building the Next DKG Slate of Nominees Begins With YOU**

Your invitation to DKG membership highlighted your leadership. Are you ready to apply for an elected position at the international level, or can you encourage another member to do so?

Applications will be accepted by the International Nominating Committee (INC) in summer 2023. The time to plan and recruit is now! You, as a DKG member, may self-nominate or nominate another DKG member. Leadership in our organization is key to our future, so please give careful consideration to this important task.

All qualifications and recommendations for applicants for each position are listed in the International Standing Rules (ISR) 8.82.f. These are the **only** qualifications considered when the INC evaluates the applications.

Please ignore commonly assumed rumors. Applicants need not have. . .

- Earned a doctorate
- Attended Leadership Management Seminar (Ignite)
- Participated in a prescribed number of international conferences/conventions
- Held a certain number of specific state positions
- Been a member for a minimum number of years

The duties and responsibilities of the elected INC members are outlined in the Constitution Article VIII Section B.8.b. INC members MAY NOT...

- Recruit applicants
- Assist applicants in any way with the application process
- Discuss any application with anyone other than another INC member
- Support or advocate for any nominee in any way

Act now! Evaluate your interests and skills with the qualifications listed in SR 8.82.f noted above.

Guidelines and applications will be posted on the DKG website in May 2023.

**Friday, March 17 - Sunday, March 19**  
**KENTUCKY STATE ORGANIZATION**  
**STATE CONVENTION**

**Crowne Plaza Louisville**  
**Airport Expo Center Hotel**

### KEY Women of Vision

We are recognizing **KEY Women of Vision** again this year at the State Convention. The Women of Vision Award is given to members, living or deceased, who have encouraged other DKG members over the years. These members have not necessarily held an office or served in a leadership role; but have been instrumental in making other members' DKG experience a glorious one because of their encouragement. Women may be nominated by any member of the Society. Chapters are encouraged to nominate members for this recognition. There is no limit on the number of people that can be nominated by an individual or a chapter. This year, please consider anyone who has given outstanding compassion or aid to their community or members during this dreaded pandemic that we are still experiencing.

A donation of \$5 for each nominee must accompany the nomination. Checks should be made payable to KENTUCKY STATE ORGANIZATION.

Please complete the following form and return it to:

Karen Martin  
 10630 Lower River Road  
 Union, KY 41091-9794

**Nominations must be received no later than February 24, 2022**

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Nominees & Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Kentucky State Organization  
2022 General Business Session  
March 19, 2022  
Holiday Inn University Plaza, Bowling Green

Call To Order: 8:13 AM by KSO President Dr Bonnie Cook Fouts.

I.

Inspirational Thought: Loretta Bednar (Alpha Delta Chapter President.)

Welcome: Dr. Beth Pyle (Delta), Immediate Past KSO President

Response to Welcome: Cherie Mingus (Mu), KSO 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

Introductions: Dr. Bonnie Cook Fouts (Alpha) KSO President

The Head Table was introduced, and the following special guests were also introduced:

Cynthia Moore: Society Representative from Canada

Beverly Hall: Past State President from Tennessee

Roll Call & Quorum: Patricia Hackworth (Tau), KSO Recording Secretary

See attached Roll Call

KSO President Dr. Cook Fouts stated that we have a quorum.

Minutes: Patricia Hackworth (Tau), KSO Recording Secretary

Minutes were in the KSO Newsletter and the Convention Program on page 10-12.

There were no changes to the Minutes from the last General Business Meeting. They will be accepted as printed.

Treasurer's Report: Sheila Wilkinson (Mu), KSO Treasurer

KSO President, Dr. Cook Fouts called for discussion or questions.

The treasurer's report is on Page 13 of the Convention Program.

The treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

Correspondence: Dr. Diane Woods (Alpha Alpha) KSO Correspondence Secretary

No communications/correspondence at this assembly.

II. A.

Standing Committee Reports

Society Business Committee Reports

Communications Report was given by Co-Chair Dianne Woods (Alpha Alpha), KSO Correspondence Secretary and was accepted Report was accepted and filed.

Expansion Committee was given by Chair Sandra Smith (Xi). Report was accepted and filed.

Finance Committee was given by Karin Edgington (Upsilon).

Finance Chair, Karin Edgington proposed to adopt the proposed budget for the 2022-2023 year.

Proposed 2022-2023 Budget is in the Convention Program on page 16.

Finance Report and 2022-2023 Proposed Budget were accepted and filed.

Leadership Development Committee Report was given by Chair Joyce Hamberg (Zeta)

Committee Chair wants to thank Kathy Zwanzig for all her help with EVERYTHING and the planning for the Fall Conference. Report was accepted and filed.

Membership Committee Report was given by Chair Cherie Mingus (Mu)

Committee Chair, Cherie Mingus regretfully disclosed that Kappa Chapter dissolved this year.

The Membership Report was accepted and filed with the change of the misspelling of Kathy Zwanzig's last name in the report. (Zwangzig to Zwanzig)

Nominations Committee Report was given by Chair Tina Shawler.

We need a member from the Western Part of the State to help serve on this committee.

KSO President, Dr. Cook Fouts asked for a caucus at break to put someone on the nominations committee.

## B. Society Mission and Purposes Committee

Educational Excellence Committee Report was given by Chair Lucy Riffle (Zeta) and KSO 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Winners will be announced at noon. They are listed in the Conference Program on page 19.

Scholarship Committee Report was given by Chair Pam Thomas (Upsilon)

The Committee has been looking at the applications and have considered them to be somewhat overwhelming. They would like to streamline the application process and would like a more simplified Mini-Grant Application since this is for \$500 or less for school/classroom projects.

Committee Chair Pam Thomas also expressed much thanks to Sheila Wilkinson, KSO Treasurer for serving as an advisor.

World Fellowship Report was given by Chair Bonnie Roof (Omega)

Committee Chair will be putting information in the newsletter each month concerning World Fellowship and the red cups on the table will be used to keep any donations for the World Fellowship Fund taken up during the Convention.

## C. Other Committee Reports

History and Archives Committee. The Committee Co-chair Donna Forsythe (Delta) was unable to be at the Convention to give the report, but

it is on page 22 of the Convention Program.

This committee is asking to add a member from the Lexington area who can visit the archives easily (when needed.)  
 Rules Committee Report was given by Chair Dr. Beth Pyle (Delta). See page 22 in the convention program. We are still in need of work on the bylaws.

Hall of Fame Committee. Committee Chair Judy Reeves (Alpha Beta) gave the report that the Committee corresponded through emails and that recognition will be given at the banquet to the upcoming Hall of Fame recipients.

Order of the Tulip Popular Committee. Report was given by Chair Beth Pyle that the role is completely advisory and is to help all chapters (especially those who are struggling.)

Non-Dues Revenue Committee. Report was given by Co-Chair, Sheila Renn (Xi).

50-50 raffle, the T-shirt for New Orleans and the Chapter Baskets are some of the fund raisers.

The Ribbon Pins are not in yet.

The Music Committee Report was given by Chair Pam Manker (Upsilon). The report is in the Convention Program. Also, Judy Ihrig has cancer of the esophagus and Pam asked for all Sisters to keep her in our prayers.

Strategic Action Plan Committee Report. Co-chair Beverly Westphal (Alpha) relayed that the Committee had not met yet but plan to meet by the next State Meeting.

#### D. Special Committee Reports

Supporting Our Sisters (SOS) Committee Report was given by Co-chair Bunny Nash (Alpha). This is a new committee which helps all KSO Sisters to learn, grow professionally and personally and to basically just support each other.

Short 10 minute break.

#### III. Individual Reports

##### Executive Secretary—Kathy Zwanzig (XI)

KSO President and Executive Secretary are working out all the job duties. At this time, if you have a question and cannot get in touch with the KSO President, please contact Kathy Zwanzig and she will help you.

##### U.S. Forum—Lisa Petry-Kirk (Beta)

Lisa Petry-Kirk gave a report of the U.S. Forum and discussed how mental health is a large problem with educators at this time. She also discussed the GOP—WEP and how it is affecting families, women and especially widows.

Her ending comments were “If not me, then who? If not now, then when?”

KSO President—Dr. Bonnia Cook Fouts (Alpha)

Dr. Cook Fouts gave her report of her first year as KSO President and her report is on page 29 of the Convention program.

Reports concluded at 9:21 AM.

#### IV. Introduction of Society Representative—Lucy Riffle (Zeta)

Lucy Riffle discussed the Society Representative, Cynthia Moore (Beta/Calgary) and also the decline in enrollment both nationally and internationally (the topic of the Society Representative.)

Greetings from Cynthia Moore (Beta/Calgary) Her position is International Member-at-Large.

On the international level, we gained 1,800 members but we lost 5,000. We can focus on what we are doing losing or focus on what we are doing well.

The KSO will be making a donation to the International Speaker fund in honor of Ms. Moore. Ms Moore left us with the words of Booker T. Washington, “If you want to lift yourself up, lift up someone else.”

#### V. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business

#### VI. New Business

##### Proposed Change to ByLaws

Much discussion concerning combining the offices of State Recording Secretary and Correspondence Secretary.

The proposed change was to combine the two offices, effective immediately. There was discussion about waiting until the end of the biennium to make this change.

Lucy Riffle (Zeta) made a motion to accept the amendment change of combining secretary offices into ONE KSO State Secretary at the end of the Biennium.

Charlotte Benson (Omega) seconded the motion.

Motion passed.

##### Representative from the West

Charlotte Benton (Omega) moved that Bonny Roof from Omega Chapter be placed on the Committee.

KSO President accepted the nomination and Bonnye Roof accepted the position.

Members voted and nominee was elected.

#### VII. Future Events—KSO President Dr. Bonnia Cook Fouts discussed the following events:

DKG International Convention—New Orleans LA—July 12—16, 2022

KSO Executive Board Meeting—TBA (Virtual)

KSO Summer 2022 Coordinating Council Meetings—TBA (Virtual)

KSO 2022 Fall Leadership Conference—Louisville—Sept 9/10

KSO Winter 2023 Coordinating Council Meetings—TBA (Virtual)

KSO 2023 Spring Convention—TBA

DKG 2023 International Conference TBA

KSO 2023 Fall Conference—TBA

2024 International Convention (Harbor, Maryland)

2026 International Convention (Aurora, Colorado)

## VIII. Announcements—Kathy Zwanzig (Xi)—KSO Executive Secretary

Treasurer's Session with Sheila Wilkinson (Mu) 10:15—11:00

Rules Chair Session with Dr. Beth Pyle ( 10:15—11:00

Luncheon 12:00—2:00

Sessions with International Speaker—2:15—3:30

KSO Marketplace will close at 4:00

Chapter Presidents and Tulip Poplars line up for Banquet at 5:45

Formal Banquet will be at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment at 10:20 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Slone Hackworth (Tau)

KSO Recording Secretary (2021-2023)



DKG is accepting ads for the 2023 summer conferences. State organizations, chapters, members, vendors, and more are invited to place an ad in the conference program book of your choice. Submission details are included on the [DKG Ad Form](#).

Detroit, Michigan - July 11-16, 2023

Phoenix, Arizona - July 18-22, 2023

Tampere, Finland - July 26-29, 2023

**Ad Deadline: April 15, 2023**

Slate of Officers President Lucy Riffle, 1st Vice President Cherie Mingus

2nd Vice President Patricia Hackworth, Recording Secretary Loretta Bednar



Lucy R Riffle was born in Covington, KY on November 6, 1955 and has lived in the family home in Erlanger, KY since then. She has one brother Tom who is an attorney in Northern Kentucky. Lucy has been married to Kevin for 30 years and has one step-son, Joshua. She also has two beautiful granddaughters Aidan and Camryn. After graduating from Lloyd Memorial High School in 1973, Lucy attended Eastern Kentucky University. She currently serves on the Alumni Board for ECU. Lucy then continued her education at Northern Kentucky University where she received her Master's in Education and Rank I in administration.

Lucy started her teaching career in 1977 as a primary teacher. After teaching for 14 years, she then moved into administration. Lucy retired as Principal of Tichenor Middle School in 2004 and currently works as a consultant for the Kentucky Center for School Safety travelling around the state doing safe school's assessments in public schools at all levels.

Lucy R. Riffle has been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma since 1993. She is proud to admit that she was recommended for membership by her first grade teacher. Since her initiation she has been First Vice-President and President (twice) of her chapter, Zeta. During her time as President, she became involved in Kentucky Alpha Gamma State (currently KSO) organization. She served as chairperson for the History Committee for two biennium and KSO's representative to the US Forum. This past biennium Lucy served KSO as 1<sup>st</sup> vice president/EEC Chair. Lucy has attended both International conventions and SER conferences in a variety of locations.

Lucy is also active in her Church, Erlanger Christian. She is currently a trustee, elder, volunteer secretary, worship leader and chairperson of the Ministerial Search Committee.



Cherie Mingus, a member of Mu Chapter since 2007, is currently serving her fourth term as Mu President. Since joining Delta Kappa Gamma, Cherie has been active on both the local and state level. She currently is in the second year of her term as KSO Second Vice-President. In 2017, she served as the KSO Convention Chairperson held in Elizabethtown. In 2018, she co-chaired the Non-Dues Revenue Chairperson with Judy Lester. From 2019-2021, Cherie served as a KSO Membership Committee member. Cherie Mingus is a retired Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher having taught for 32.5 years. During her teaching career she has held several offices in various organizations. Cherie has been the National Association Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences

(NATFACS) President, the Kentucky Association Teachers of Family and Consumer Sciences (KATFACS) President, the Kentucky Association of Career and Technical Education (KACTE) President, and the Kentucky Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (KAFCS). In 2017, Cherie was inducted into the University of Kentucky School of Human Environmental Sciences Hall of Fame. Cherie serves as the Nominating Chairperson for the Kentucky State Family and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). Cherie Mingus is also active in her community. She currently volunteers for the Hosparus Thrift Shoppe, serves with Youth Theatre of Hardin County (YTHC) as the Secretary/Artist Care, serves as Vice President for the Hardin County Homemakers as well as the Secretary for the Cecilia Homemakers. Cherie also serves as Secretary/Treasurer for Fourth District Retired Teachers Association (4<sup>th</sup> District RTA) as well as the Secretary for the Elizabethtown Hardin Larue Retired Teachers Association (EHLRTA). Cherie is married to Gordon Mitchell Mingus and they have two adult children – Michael Mingus and Cherise Mingus. Michael is married to Lindsey Oakes and they have one daughter, Eilee Jean and expecting Baby Boy Kenton May 2023.





Patricia Slone Hackworth is a proud Eastern Kentuckian. She is currently the President of Tau Chapter in Prestonsburg, KY. Her chapter is one of the smallest in the state but she feels like it has one of the biggest hearts in the state.

Patricia has been an educator for 26 years and is SERIOUSLY considering the “R” Word—Retirement at the end of next school year (if she can line up another job.) During her 26 years, she has worked in both Knott and Floyd Counties as an English Teacher, District Literacy Gap Coach and now as an Assistant Principal at Betsy Layne High School. The whole idea of being an educator has never been far from Patricia’s mind. Even as a young child, she made her brothers and sister play school during the summer.

Patricia is also a Member of KEA (Kentucky Education Association), a member of the EKEA Board of Directors, the Secretary of the Prestonsburg Women’s Club GFWC-KY and the GFWC –KY District 7/8 Governor. She is also a member of the KEA TLC (Teaching and Learning Committee,) She is a member of KASA (Kentucky Association of School Administrators) and is a member of the KASA School Safety Committee.

Her hopes for KSO is that all females begin to feel empowered by being with other female leaders. Sometimes we are our own worst enemies and we forget about the people in the trenches when in reality, even as an administrator I need to remember that the teacher is where education hits the road. We need to be able to allow teachers to teach and help them. We have enough people not respecting the education program so WE MUST HELP EACH OTHER!!!

On a personal note, Patricia is married to her soulmate, Keith Hackworth and she has one fur baby, Lady Macbeth Hackworth. She also currently has 429 Bobcat babies very close to her heart!

**Loretta M. Bednar** Former President of Alpha Delta Chapter-KSO-DKG



I have been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma since September of 2016. I was honored and humbled when invited to join this prestigious organization. Over the past few years, I have tried to learn about the heritage of our chapter and the amazing ladies who belong to our chapter as well. I have attended Leadership trainings, Tri-Chapter luncheon, State Conventions and International Convention July 2022.

I am still actively teaching at Flaherty Primary School in Meade County. I taught 1st grade from 2004-2014, 2nd grade from 2014-2018, then Kindergarten from 2018 until present. I can say that I worked in Hardin County schools some 24 years ago when my husband was still-active duty with the U.S Army on Ft. Knox. I was a substitute teacher and I worked at Radcliff Middle School as the ESL teacher/assistant. I have worked in Lawton, Oklahoma in 2nd grade and the technology teacher. I was a substitute teacher for over 15 years and have “subbed” at every grade level from Kindergarten-high school while living in Germany as well for the DODDS school systems.

I was a foreign exchange student in 1982-83 in Ecuador, South America. Upon my return, I started college at Joliet Junior College in Joliet, IL. I then transferred to Carroll College in Waukesha, WI majoring in International Relations. I took a break from school and married my husband to see the world as a military spouse. While being stationed at Ft. Knox, Ky, I completed my AA degree from Elizabethtown Community College. I began my Education career with Western Kentucky State University. That was short lived and we transferred to Lawton, Oklahoma. I continued my education at Cameron University where I completed my BA in Arts and Sciences. In February, 2008, I completed my Masters of Arts from Nova Southeastern University -Fischler School of Education & Human Services.

I come from a very large family- 6 sisters and 3 brothers. I have 2 adult daughters and 1 grandson. I have been married for almost 38 years. I love to travel and enjoy time with my family & friends. As my favorite author/illustrator would say, “Bloom where you are planted.” ME

### **But we're Such a Small Chapter...**

"Once upon a time" ... We all love a story with an underdog, the smaller or the tinier. We root for the tortoise, the littlest bear and the boy who slew a giant with a stone. But sometimes being the smallest comes with some unique problems. And now the story...

Once upon a time there was a very strong organization full of "key women" in education. They were known for their work supporting schools and advocating for the teaching profession. They formed chapters filled with many educators both across the nation and even internationally. You could find their chapters in Finland, Texas and even in Kentucky. One such chapter existed in Central Kentucky called Beta. The members loved their chapter but over the years it had shriveled to only a few active members and with the loss of several strong and active of their membership, they had grown sad and worried. It had become a chapter small in number but not in heart and spirit. The smallness hadn't happened overnight, it had just snuck up on the members as the years sped by. "What to do" they wondered. "How to "fix" the problem" they lamented. "Could they go on with such small numbers", they pondered. But not ones to shrink from a challenge, they decided to forge on. You see, they had a small but strong group of working members, maybe as many as 8 or more. They worked hard at things. They collected books for kids, they had fun meetings, they brought in speakers and they planned activities but they were worn from "having to do so much with only a few". But spurred by the memories of the Jane's and the Rosemary's and the Jennie's, they decided to keep going and try a new approach. They planned a brunch to revitalize their numbers; they hosted coffee bars in the four elementary schools to "brand" their name with the intent of inviting in new members, but mostly they decided to keep going...

Maybe you are dealing with some of the same thoughts and feelings if your chapter is a smaller one. If it seems that the same few are working all the activities, hosting all the meetings and charged with coming up with all the ideas, you might be combating organizational overload - then read on. According to national statistics, fraternal and service groups as well as professional ones have been declining in numbers for the past two decades. Amid the cries that "people just aren't joining groups anymore and just not interested in belonging", experts say it's just not that simple. In a recent book *"Bowling Alone: The Collapse and Revival of American Community,"* author Robert Putnam documented that while traditional activities like attending club meetings don't appeal to traditional professionals anymore, joining still does! In the 1950's and 60's organizational and professional memberships were at their peak. Joining was the social thing to do. It was how we fulfilled our need for social interaction. But now the average American no longer is found sitting home evenings, or venturing to run errands only on Saturday morning. Sitting down to family dinner at 6 or dropping by a neighbor's house to sit in the formal living room and chat are activities of a bygone age. When was the last time you ran next door to drink a cup of coffee and talk about your day? Our lifestyles have changed dramatically. How we form our social groups has not only changed so is how we work, play and give back to our community. Putnam goes on to say that even with all the change in our lifestyle, what people desire most is the opportunity to connect with one another, find their "tribe" and work for what they believe in.

So how does that knowledge impact our small chapter? Here are a few suggestions:

**Understand that you don't have to do everything.** One or two meaningful projects around what you believe in are enough! We have to really understand that the smallest project completed with passion can have a tremendous impact. If we only collect 200 books to distribute to kids, not the 500 we set as a goal, that's 200 more books in the hands of kids.

**"Brand" all your efforts as DKG** When you can't be everywhere, be loud and proud where you can be. The coffee bar will surely be appreciated by busy elementary teachers but how much better if every drinker carries a cup with a sleeve that not only tells who is sponsoring the even- "Key Women In Education" but why – "because we value what educators do every day!"

**Involve non-members in your work** Adopt a "sneak up" and involve them" approach. All the studies indicate that people like joining other people who share the same "why" that they do. It's human nature. By creating collaborative opportunities, we establish bonds with the very people we hope will join us as members and who eventually bring their friends into the fold. Eight folks collecting books

**Change how you do business** Don't abandon the DKG mission or get crazy and throw the proverbial 'baby out with the bathwater' but rethink the meetings you hold, the content, the when's and the where's. Especially assess the how you stay in contact with your members and your alert your potential members to what's happening. Value their input and acknowledge their busy lives and schedules. Got members who don't text – call them. Got members who need a hand written note – write them. Email, snail mail or tweet. Just contact them in the way they communicate!

**Celebrate your accomplishments!**

**No matter how large or small, take the pictures, send the thank yous and stay open to new ideas. Find yourself a Mexican restaurant or a member's kitchen table and celebrate!**

So what's that mean for our small chapter...? I'm not real sure YET. But I'll let you know. We'll still keep plugging away and we know you will too! Perhaps we can sit down at the upcoming state convention and chat. At Beat we are always up for some help and suggestions after all there is only 9 or so of us. But who knows the next time we talk there will be more (fingers crossed).

And for the next chapter of the "Once upon a time"...stayed tuned!

It means we have to be more intent in recruiting and it means that we have to find the activities and events that professionals want in 2023. We that we might need to "reinvent" ourselves and our chapters.

Lisa Petrey-Kirk, Beta Chapter