

Ω PEAKS

OMEGA COLORADO



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SHIRLEY ORGAN

OMEGA STATE FIRST VICE PRESIDENT



Mom, mama, mommy, Granny, Grandmother, G-Ma, Great Grandmother, teacher, - Shirley L. Organ was all of these. She was born in Hasting, Nebraska, to parents Lloyd and Lorine Talbott on February 1st, 1933. Later the family moved to Colorado and eventually settled in Breckenridge, where they owned and operated the "Summit County Journal."

Graduating high school at sixteen years old and beginning college, the world was open to her. Easter Sunday, 1950, she elected instead to follow her heart. At the age of seventeen years and two months, she married war veteran Robert E. Organ, a hard rock miner from Kokomo, Colorado. Already a decent snow skier, Shirley became a novice ice skater – taught by Robert on frozen beaver ponds.

Late 1950 found them back in the military. Traveling the world, the Organ family grew with five children: Connie, Bob Jr., Carol, Rebecca and Bill. Twenty-one years later, the family found themselves permanently back in Colorado with Robert's retirement from the service.

Shirley returned to college and earned her bachelors degree in teaching from Metropolitan State University of Denver. Now she began to pick up steam in a new career - from being a mentor mother of five to a mentor mother of thousands as a Denver Public School teacher. Along the way she received a distinguished teacher award for her dedication and devotion with DPS.

After her retirement, Shirley returned to Greenlee Elementary to work in the office – taking care of business in any way to assist in the successful mission of the school. She worked up until a month before her death.

Never one to settle for just OK, Shirley stayed active and involved as a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Omega State, and Alpha Beta Chapter – serving positions at chapter and state levels. At the time of her death, she was serving as first vice president of Omega State.

She also belonged to "School Dames" and was a member of Lakewood Rotary. In her spare time, she was an active square dancer and NASCAR fan.

Shirley took an active part in the growth and education of her grand and great grand children.

Her husband Robert Organ preceded her in death. She is survived by her sister, Rogene Moser, and brother in law, Wally Moser, sisters-in-law, Phyllis and Barbara Organ, her five children, nine grandchildren, fourteen great grandchildren, one great great grandson, nieces, nephews and many loving friends.

Shirley will be remembered as an educator who cared!

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SUE PETTIT
OMEGA STATE PRESIDENT

From My DKG Journal: Saturday, March 18, 2017.

This past weekend, Colorado State DKG celebrated the Spring 2017 Board Meeting. This was the final broadcast from WDKG Radio and featured special programming related to DKG Superheroes. Our own Loretta Kerr provided a presentation of the DKG Heroes Power Tools. Her broadcast highlighted the strengths of our members and focused on the impact that our organization is having in the lives of our members. Fifty-one amazing leaders were in attendance and my heart is full as I reflect on the following three things that I took away from spending this time with my amazing Colorado Sisters.

Our members are deeply committed to nurturing and protecting our legacy in order to make sure that the benefits of our work continue and have a significant impact on future members and their communities. The Executive Board voted to move forward on a proposal to update our current committee structure. The proposal to use a team format will be voted on at the 2017 Convention when all members will have a voice in the recommended change. Chairpersons reported on membership, the UN and CTAUN, Finance, Nominations, U.S. Forum, the Legislative Breakfast, and Educational Law and Policy. We heard from Farabe Smith as she talked about the strength of those historical Colorado women who paved the way for women educators in our state.

Our members are forever ready to lead and are open to the change that will benefit new and long-term goals. Several of our members shared their hopes and dreams for Omega State as they took part in focus group planning for the next Biennium. Fifteen committees were present. This is phenomenal. Committees celebrated their work and began the process for reporting their outcomes. The Nomination's Committee presented a great slate of new officers to be voted on at our June 9-11 Convention in Ft. Collins. Carolyn Pittman, International President will be presenting at the summer convention. Scholarships are available and Lilly Vigil drew Kappa Chapter as the winner of the free convention registration for getting dues in on time!

Our members care deeply about each other. Friendships blossomed as we spent the day together in genuine spiritual fellowship. A moment of silence and a white rose were dedicated to our beloved Shirley Organ. Several members were mentioned as we discussed how to best support those members who are going through loss and health issues.

DKG membership in Colorado is a priceless gift that continues to delight and surprise us all. Our members discussed opportunities for continued professional development. We made plans with each other to attend the Southwest Regional in Hawaii. Suzanne Foster and Gail Fray did a great job of leading us in beautiful DKG music. Memory Lamfers led the group in a peace activity and then we ended with the amazing DKG Song. So much in one day and so much to look forward to as we bid each other farewell until we meet in Ft Collins. "Each is bound to each as Sister; With this faith in one another; We shall win for aye!"

CONGRATULATIONS, DR. SUE PETTIT!

Her article "*Preparing Teaching Candidates for Co-Teaching*" has been selected for inclusion in the 2017, Volume 83-3 issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin: Journal*.

President—Sue Pettit

1st Vice President—Janet McClaskey (Interim)

2nd Vice President—Brenda Wray

Recording Secretary—Memory Lamfers

Corresponding Secretary—Dr. Barbara Whinery

Executive Secretary—Cynthia Mousel

Treasurer—Lilly Vigil

Editor—Farabe Smith

Webmaster—Nancy Scofield

Parliamentarian—Susan Denny

Archivist—Kathy Flynn

Immediate Past President—Beth Barzdukas



Mrs. Janet McClaskey
Omega State President

During the past nine years, I've attended Omega State Executive Board meetings, Leadership Conferences, and Conventions, as well as Regional and International Conventions, learning about both Omega State's specific needs and DKG's big picture. I've taught in Colorado's public, private, and university settings, learning about the specific challenges facing today's educators.

I've presented poems and workshops at State Conventions, served on and chaired the Expansion Committee, gathering new members for a Douglas County chapter, hosting and promoting meetings, and presenting programs. I've visited other chapters and driven around Colorado, learning about the workings of Omega State.

At President Pettit's request, I stepped out of my comfort zone, creating boot centerpieces and doing a Minnie Pearl stand-up routine. While that sort of creativity is easy for some, I'd much rather be doing something intellectual. But when I joined DKG, I was told never to say *no*. Most recently, I said *yes* to serving as First Vice President when others were unable to fill the role.

But all my unintentional preparation for the office of Omega State President pales in the face of the host of wise women behind me, supporting me as Omega State moves forward. I would like to serve Omega State, helping build a bridge between who we've been and who we will become. Even as we hold onto the values that have made DKG strong for eighty-five years, we will change *our methods of serving and ways of seeing* the educators who now serve our diverse student populations.

Janet's educational background includes a BSE in English from Truman State University, an MA in Curriculum and Instruction w/emphasis in English from Missouri State University--Columbia, METROLEADS (MSUDenver leadership training) and Advanced Placement Summer Institute Certification from University of Texas at Dallas.

Currently Janet is a member of the State Chapter of Omega State – Colorado. Previously she was a member of Alpha State (Texas) Kappa Theta Chapter. She served as President, 2nd Vice President and on numerous committees. Since coming to Colorado she has served as 1st Vice President for Omega State and as the Expansion Committee Chair. She has attended the Southwest Regional Conventions in Oklahoma, Nevada and Colorado as well as the 2016 International Convention in Tennessee.

Janet's other interests include participation in Joseph Prince Ministries and Jewish Voice Ministries. She spent time in Vision National where she built and supported orphanages and schools in Nepal. She is a Castle Pines Community Organizer and volunteers for DISHCARES, a group that cleans up the Cherry Creek trail, including relocation of homeless camps. In 2014 Janet was honored as the Truman State University Alumni of the Year.



Mrs. Leila Koenig
First Vice President

I have been a member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for more than 25 years. I have been blessed to be a member of two outstanding chapters, Kappa Beta in Texas and Chi in Colorado. DKG has given me many opportunities for personal and professional growth and supported those efforts with several scholarships. The friendships I have made are very precious to me.

Delta Kappa Gamma has helped me feel valued as a woman, a professional, and as an educator.

When ccomplishing our mission we make a profound difference in our communities, state, nation and globally. I am in awe of the founders and the leaders who have made this organization available to me.

Now, I feel it is my responsibility to step up and continue the legacy. It would be my honor to serve as Omega State First Vice President for the 2017-2019 biennium.

Leila received a BS in Vocational Home Economics Education from Colorado State University in 1972 and an MS in Human Sciences from Texas A & M University in Kingsville, Texas, in 1997.

Mrs. Koenig has taught Home Economics and Family & Consumer Sciences throughout her career. Her teaching experiences have been in Kansas, Texas and Colorado.

Leila received the Omega State Award in 2013. She served as Omega State Corresponding Secretary in the 2009-2011 biennium. She has also served as member of the Community and World Connections Committee. In Chi chapter Leila has served as President and as Chairman and member on most committees. In 2007 Leila coordinated the Omega State Convention in Montrose. She has attended state, regional and international conventions across the USA from Spokane to Nashville.

In her community, Leila is active in Bags of Love. She has "adopted" a Teacher from an elementary school in Delta, Colorado, and has mentored a Family & Consumer Teacher at Centennial Middle School in Montrose. In addition she has Omega Peaks P. 4

taught sewing for 6-8th graders for 21st Century after school program in Montrose and has worked as a fundraiser for the Chi Chapter Grant-in-aide project.



Dr. Maxine Fawcett-Yeske

Second Vice President

I am excited about the possible opportunity to serve Delta Kappa Gamma at the Omega State level as the Second Vice President. I believe in giving back to the community that nurtures and inspires me, and Delta Kappa Gamma has done that for me for more than ten years now. I am serving in my second biennium as President of the Eta Chapter. Members of the chapter have said that I have “breathed new life into our chapter out of sheer will and enthusiasm.” I suggest, however, that I have sparked enthusiasm in our members and together, we’ve been recapturing the spirit of our chapter. I hope my enthusiasm and leadership can help us find ways to strengthen and grow DKG at the state level and beyond.

Maxine has a BS in Music, a Masters in Music Education, a Ph.D. in Music History and is currently working on a Masters in Arts in History. Currently she is employed at the United States Air Force Academy as Director of First-Year Programs, Academic Advisor, and Professor of History and Music. As a member of Eta Chapter Maxine is serving her second biennium as Chapter President. Previously she served as Vice President. She is currently Chair of the Communication and Publicity Committee, has also served on the Membership Committee and the Community and World Connections Committee.

Dr Fawcett-Yeske is a member of numerous professional organizations such as the American Musicological Society, The College Music Society, and The Society for American Music. Also, she serves as the Officer-in-Charge for the Cadet Native American Heritage Club at the United States Air Force Academy. She is an elected member of the Faculty Senate at the Air Force Academy. In her community, she sings in the Celebration Multicultural Ensemble—a group that specializes in African American spirituals and gospel music, and her most recent volunteer work has been with One Nation Walking Together—a non-profit organization that provides food, clothing, and furniture to Native American communities in a seven-state region.



Mrs. Memory G. Lamfers

Omega State Recording Secretary

If we are fortunate enough, we have women in our lives who love us, guide us, and mentor us. For me, those women were all teachers.

Because of my grandmother, I knew by the age of eight that I wanted to become a teacher just like her. She began her teaching career in a one-room schoolhouse on the Colorado prairie and became fast friends with a teacher in a neighboring school. The friend became my “Auntie Pep”. Her name was Bertha Campbell who went on to become a Jefferson County principal and a proud member of Pi Chapter, Omega State, The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

My third great fortune was to have Naomi Kullerstrand Olson as my third grade teacher and principal. I will never forget the love that she showed me and the feeling of being special in my teacher’s eyes. It’s a need all children have, and the memory lasts a lifetime. Naomi was a founder of Omega State and the first president of Pi Chapter.

When I became a teacher, it was my Auntie Pep’s dream for me to become a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. She didn’t live long enough to see it come true. But, her friends, Rose Stein and Freda Rizzari saw it through to fruition.

I had the great honor and pleasure of chauffeuring Naomi to Pi functions and State Conventions. There were many “greats” in Pi Chapter when I became a member: women dedicated to the purposes of DKG with schools named in their honor – Ilene Deane, Marjorie Thomson, Bertha Campbell, Naomi Kullerstrand Olson. My life is far richer for knowing these inspirational leaders.

It is with a grateful heart that I accept the nomination for Recording Secretary of Omega State in honor of our past and with a vision for our future.

Mrs. Lamfers is a retired educator from Jefferson County Public Schools where she taught elementary students for 35 years. She received both her Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education and Master of Arts in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Northern Colorado.

As a member of Pi Chapter, Memory has served as President (two terms) and 1st Vice President and a member of Omega State Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee.

Memory is a Member of Trinity Presbyterian Church, Making Choices Teacher and Mentor (pairing professional women with incarcerated women at Denver Women’s Correctional Facility), Yoga Instructor, Board of Directors Arvada West High School Foundation, Arvada Historical Society and Denver Audubon Society.



**Mrs. Kerry Tripp
Corresponding Secretary**

When I became a member of Alpha Delta Chapter in 1988, I was so honored to be a part of a society that included so many women I had known as mentor, colleague, administrator and friend. I had admired these women for years while teaching in the Cherry Creek school district. PLUS, I was introduced to equally remarkable and talented women from Englewood, Littleton and Sheridan. This group holds a special place in my heart for its kindness, support, humor, caring and dedication to educating children and holding the bar high to be a strong and positive influence as a teacher. When I reflect on these past moments, I smile happily remembering the relationships, hard work and learning that the chapter provided me.

Becoming a member of the Nominations Committee in 2011 opened another door of the Delta Kappa Gamma world to me. Expanding my awareness and experiences to the women from around the state had been good for me as a person and a member. Learning about the amazing programs that are occurring around the state was exciting and honestly, ideas that I have pinched and taken back to my chapter. This is a group that is making a difference for kids and teachers in so many ways and it is such a good feeling to be a part of it.

DKG has been good to me and for me. Giving back to the society by working with the women who will lead the two years builds on my desire to see our organization grow and welcome, engage and support women educators.

Mrs. Tripp is a retired teacher from the Cherry Creek School District where she taught elementary/intermediate students for 31 years. She received her Bachelors degree from Colorado State College and her Masters from Colorado University.

As a member of Alpha Delta chapter, Kerry has served as president, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President and chair for the Membership Committee. At the state level she had served on the Personal and Professional Pride Committee, the Expansion Committee, the Membership Committee and Nominations Committee as both a member and chair.

In the community, Kerry is active in the Retired Employees of Cherry Creek School District, as a member, fundraising chair and secretary. She is also a member of the Cherry Creek Teacher Awards Committee and Spellbinders in both Cherry Creek and Littleton districts.

Nominations Committee candidates

Laurie Salazar – Area 2

Beth Barzdukas – Area 3

Esther Romero – Area 4

Musings on the Ad Hoc Committee on Committees

by Janet McClaskey

We've all had that DKG group where everything just seemed to click--everyone listens to everyone, you all laugh together and crack each other up, you enjoy a meal and fellowship, and yet you get the hard work completed. I just have to say that the Ad Hoc Committee appointed by President Pettit to redesign the committee structure of Omega State was hands down the best experience I've had in my 18 years of DKG!

The committee was in full swing when I joined the team as interim First Vice President.

For one meeting, I invited them to my house, asking them to bring something they had created so we all could enjoy seeing it and hearing about it. Dr. Norma J. Slivers brought some of her watercolors; we liked the bird a lot, but we all liked the flower best! She loves just sitting for hours painting watercolors! Omega State Recording Secretary, Memory Lamfers, brought a beautiful poem she had written, entitled "North Star" and a CD of Christmas music for each of us to keep. (Mine's still in my car two months later, and I play it each week!)

When I went back to the other room to get some paper, I found a delightful scene sculpted out of copper and impeccably nailed to a piece of wood lying on the table with our other items. "Oh!" I cried, "Look at this house and tree! Whose is this? Somebody brought this!" Past Omega State President, True Morgan had made it in school as a child, and her father had helped her nail all those tiny nails so neatly to the frame. When she found it cleaning out some boxes in the garage, she brought it for us to enjoy.

While we know these women as professionals, servants of Omega State, and wise guides to all of us, this little gathering gave me the opportunity to see their creative sides and know them in a new and wonderful way! This is when the magic happens: when you break bread together, share your talents and your childhood dreams, and make the time to get to know each other as sisters. I'm sure we'll all be bringing our art and poetry to State Convention. Please come and join us!

The results of this committee's work are on the following pages.

The Omega State Executive Board recommends approval of the proposed revisions to the Omega State Colorado Bylaws 2013 clarified in March and May 2015. The proposed revisions are written in **BOLD PRINT**.

Omega State Colorado Bylaws

ARTICLE IX TEAMS

Section A. Omega State Standing Team Structure

1. Society Business

Communications and Publicity **Team**
Bylaws and Standing Rules **Team**
Finance **Team** *
Leadership Development **Team**
Membership **Team** *
Nominations **Team**
Personnel **Team**

(The previous Expansion Committee and Chapter Strengthening Committee responsibilities are deleted and included within the proposed revisions to the Omega State Colorado Bylaws.)

2. Society Mission and Purposes

Educational Excellence **Team**
Early and Career Educators
Educational Law and Policy
Personal and Professional Pride
Community and World Connections
Music, Arts and Humanities Education

Scholarships and Awards **Team**

Section B. Forum

U. S. Forum

Section C. General Procedures

1. All **Team Leaders** shall be appointed by the state president for a two-year term, unless otherwise stated, except for the Omega State Nominations **Team**.
2. The Bylaws and Standing Rules **Team** and the Educational Excellence **Team** shall be appointed by the state president on a rotation basis, each member serving a term of four (4) years, with the privilege of being reappointed for an additional term.
3. The Membership **Team** and the Communications and Publicity **Team** shall be appointed by the state president with each team composed of one member from each of the stated geographic areas of the state.
4. The Nominations **Team** shall consist of one member elected from each of the stated geographic areas of the state.
5. The Omega State President shall be an ex-officio member of all the **teams** except the Nominations **Team**.
6. Matters requiring immediate **team** action may be voted upon by mail or teleconference with all team members being notified.
7. **Team** meetings shall be held with the approval of the state president.

Section D. Duties of the **Teams**

Duties and responsibilities of the Omega State **Teams** are specified in the CONSTITUTION ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES Section B. and C. and In the *Omega State Colorado Standing Rules IV Teams* Section A. 1. and 2.

Section E. Special Committees

Special Committees shall be appointed by the Omega State President as authorized by the Omega State Executive Board or the Omega State Convention. After submitting a final report to the body that authorized a Special Committee, the committee shall be dissolved.

PROVIDING THE ABOVE PROPOSED REVISIONS ARE APPROVED AT THE
2017 OMEGA STATE CONVENTION, THE BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES
TEAM WILL EDIT ALL ARTICLES IN THE OMEGA STATE COLORADO BYLAWS 2013 TO CHANGE THE WORD "COMMITTEE"
TO "TEAM" WHEN
APPROPRIATE.

The Omega State Executive Board recommends approval of the proposed revisions to the Omega State Colorado Standing Rules 2013 clarified in May 2013 and the dues amendment adopted at the June 2015 State Convention.

Revisions are written in **BOLD** face.

Omega State Colorado Standing Rules

IV Teams

A. STANDING OMEGA STATE COLORADO TEAMS

The Omega State Colorado **Teams** shall be in compliance with the International CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE VIII, and the *Omega State Colorado Bylaws* ARTICLE IX. Unless stated otherwise, appointments to a **team** is for a period of two years. (Biennium) It is suggested that the state standing **teams** include a representative from each of the geographic areas of the state when possible.

I. SOCIETY BUSINESS

- a. Communications and Publicity TEAM shall provide technical support during state held meetings; produce and maintain the state web-site; produce publications authorized by the state (including Omega State Peaks); promote the use of the Society's publications; publicize state activities; and assist chapters in publicizing the Society.
- b. Bylaws and Standing Rules Team shall:
 - 1) Receive all proposals for amending the *Omega State Colorado Bylaws* by January 15 **in** odd-numbered years. Recommendations for changing or for amending the bylaws will be referred to the Omega State Convention for a vote. Recommendations for changing the standing rules will be referred to the Omega State Convention and/or to the Omega State Executive Board for a vote.
 - 2) Submit to the International Constitution Committee recommended changes or amendments for the International CONSTITUTION or the *International Standing Rules*.
 - 3) Review chapter rules to determine if they are in compliance with the International CONSTITUTION, *International Standing Rules*, *Omega State Colorado Bylaws* and *Omega State Colorado Standing Rules*. Each chapter will submit Chapter Rules every two years to the Omega State Bylaws and Standing Rules **Team** for their review.
 - 4) Present a workshop on developing chapter rules when required by the state and/or chapters.
 - 5) **The Bylaws and Standing Rules Team will present proposed amendments/revisions to the Spring Executive Board in odd-numbered years for their review and support and to the *Omega State Peaks* for publication in the March issue prior to state convention.**
- c. Finance Team shall be responsible for the supervision of the financial affairs of the Omega State, including the preparation of a proposed budget for the adoption by the Omega State Executive Board. The adopted budget shall be used for an annual audit/review. The Omega State Executive Secretary and the Omega State Treasurer shall serve as ex-officio members.
- d. Leadership Development Team **The Second Vic-president shall serve as the team leader. Team members will consist of the Omega State Treasurer, the Omega State Executive Secretary, the Omega State Educational Excellence Team Leader and two members-at-large. The team shall plan and implement leadership programs for the state/chapter officers and chapter team leaders for the Omega State Leadership Conference held in even-numbered years and as needed during the biennium.**
- e. Membership Team shall study and make recommendations related to membership concerns to the Omega State Executive Board. At the Omega State Convention,

the team will conduct the *Ceremony of Remembrance* to memorialize deceased members. Team responsibilities will include providing ideas for increasing and maintaining membership; continuing the expansion of state chapters; and strengthening chapters. The team shall evaluate recommendations for Colorado State Honorary Membership and submit names of qualified candidates to the Omega State Executive Board for vote. One member shall be designated **HISTORIAN** and update the Omega State Historical Book. Refer to:
APPENDIX IV GUIDELINES.

- f. Nominations **Team** shall be composed of one **elected** member from each of the geographic areas of the state. The **team** members shall be elected at the Omega State Conventions in odd-numbered years by ballot and shall serve four (4) years on a rotation basis. It is suggested that one member be a past State President. The primary consideration of the Nominations **Team** shall be to seek the best leadership possible for Omega State. Each member of the **team** should review all endorsements submitted for each position. The selection of candidates for the slate of officers shall be based on the stated criteria found in the International CONSTITUTION ARTICLE VI OFFICERS Section C. 1-10; and the *Omega State Bylaws* ARTICLE VI Officers Sections A. B. C. D. E. At the Spring Omega State Executive Board meeting in odd-numbered years, a recommended slate of officers with biographies will be presented. The *Omega Peaks* will publish the slate of officers in the March issue in odd-numbered years. The recommended slate of officers will be presented at the State Convention for vote. The Nominations **Team** is responsible for conducting the *Installation Ceremony* at the Omega State Convention.
- g. **Personnel Team** shall consider applicants **for Professional Personnel** and recommend candidates to the Omega State Executive **Board** whenever a vacancy occurs or a new professional position is created for Omega State. The **team** shall study matters related to the employed professional personnel **and support them where needed**. The **team** shall receive self-evaluations **biannually** from each of the professional personnel. **The employment of the professional personnel is the responsibility of the Omega State Colorado Executive Board.**

2. SOCIETY MISSION AND PURPOSES

- a. Educational Excellence TEAM **The First Vice-president shall serve as a team leader.** The team shall be composed of a least one member from each of the state's geographic areas. The team shall be organized as a team or in specific groups to study and research educational excellence programs; to acquaint members of the educational excellence activities at the International level and to promote educational excellence programs for Omega State and its chapters in the following areas:
 - 1) Early and Career Educators—support early and career educators with programs and projects.
 - 2) Educational Law and Policy—study and recommend action on professional issues and urge the state organization to initiate, endorse, and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interest of education and women educators. Omega State selects a recipient for the Lawmakers Recognition Award. Refer to *Omega State Colorado Bylaws* ARTICLE X ACTIVITIES Section D. Special Awards.
 - 3) Personal and Professional Pride—encourages participation in programs that promote professional growth and pride of women educators.
 - 4) Community and World Connections—support programs of action that promote personal well-being, intellectual growth and global awareness of women educators. Encourage members to contribute to World Fellowship and suggest appropriate programs of action

to chapters. The World Fellowship contributions are sent directly to International Society using the appropriate form from the Society.

5) Music, Arts and Humanities Education—support music, the arts and humanities education at the state and chapter levels. Working with the state president, provide appropriate music, art and humanities activities at Executive Board meetings, Omega State Leadership Conferences and Omega State Conventions.

b. **Scholarship and Award Team** shall be responsible for promoting an interest in and support for International and Omega State scholarships; develop criteria for state scholarships; receive and evaluate scholarship applications; and award the Omega State scholarships Leadership Conferences and State Conventions. Refer to: *Omega State Colorado Bylaws*, ARTICLE X Section 1 and APPENDIX III SPECIAL AWARDS F. Star Chapter Award.

c. **Omega State Award Team** (Omega State Award information should have been included in information approved at the Executive Board meeting, True Morgan)

d. **U. S. Forum Representative**

U. S. Forum Representative shall be responsible for informing and educating the membership; advocating relevant education; communicating current issues at meetings and/or electronically; and encouraging members to attend chapter, state, regional and U. S. regional and National U. S. Forum sessions. The representative or designee attends National Legislative Seminars in even-numbered years in Washington D. C.

V. ACTIVITIES

F. Special Awards

Information on the Omega State Citation of Merit, Omega State Honor Roll, Delta Kappa Gamma Lawmaker's Recognition Award, Omega State Honored Educator's Award for Higher Education is found in the *Omega State Colorado Bylaws* ARTICLE X Section D. Guidelines for the awards are found in *Omega State Colorado Standing Rules* APPENDIX III Section B. SPECIAL AWARDS.

(Please NOTE...V. ACTIVITIES F. Special Awards information has been corrected for accuracy after the Omega State Executive Board meeting on March 18, 2017. T. Morgan)

At the March 18th, Omega State Executive Board meeting, the Board recommended approval of the Ad hoc Committee on Committee Structure proposed revisions to the Omega State Bylaws 2013 and the Omega State Standing Rules 2013. The proposed revisions precede this paragraph. The proposed revisions will be voted upon at the Omega State Convention June 2017. It is requested if a member(s) wishes to amend the printed proposed revisions that the amendment be sent to the Bylaws and Standing Rules Chairman, Joyce Best, by April 15 ...coloradobest@comcast.net The request is made to help the process of adopting proposed revisions at the State Convention. Amendments can still be taken from the floor of the convention.

WHITE ROSES OF REMEMBRANCE

"She has left a part of herself with those she loved, with her colleagues, and with all of us."

Delta Kappa Gamma Ceremonies Book

WHITE ROSES MARCH 2017

Lillie Erwin Wright	Alpha Rho, Greeley Zeta, Thornton	September 18, 2016 November 11, 2016	Donna
Estelle Johnson	Pi, Arvada	November 6, 2016	
Elizabeth Ford Boss	Mu, Longmont	December 22, 2016	

A well-known Delta Kappa Gamma member has passed away, but no form 6 has been filed. Grace Henninger did the music for Omega State along with Violet McCarthy and Gail Fray. She was retired but tutored and worked at Bookies for a while, a children's book store in Denver. Grace put together the "Omega State Sings" music books back in the early 1990's.

Would you say PRICELESS?

Kathy Flynn, Omega State Membership Chair

What is Your Membership Worth to you?

When we reflect on the ways our membership has enriched our lives, we would have to say the value is "PRICELESS." Along the way, we meet extraordinary educators in our local chapters and at the state level meetings, and for those who attend the international conferences and conventions, the scope is even wider!

PRIDE in our organization is knowing that our lives are enriched, and we grow through the association with women focused on bettering education! We cannot keep this wonderful gift to ourselves! We must extend it to many who are interested in the same PRICELESS benefits!

GIVING THE GIFT of MEMBERSHIP is the best gift we can give. The sharing of our knowledge, experience, and talents can benefit many in education! We must share! We can share through "Classroom and Community Connections," chapters increased visibility and credibility in communities and in local school systems; increasing the number and amount of scholarships and grants given, and collaborating with other organizations in sponsoring seminars to promote legislative awareness and classroom innovations. MEMbership begins with ME! Each of us must do our part to bring in new members and nurture the members we now have.

WE ARE RELEVANT! WE ARE NEEDED! LET'S GO BACK TO SCHOOL!

DKG has wonderful, talented members who can provide the incentives and the sparks to ignite educators by engaging with the schools and communities. We need to advocate for the teachers and the students in the schools. Through this means, we have purpose! Please visit a school classroom before convention and share your story.

MEMBERSHIP FOCUS: Two of the top priorities for Membership are retention and growth. While the state committee has responsibility to disseminate information and encourage participation, the task of putting these into practice is the responsibility of the chapter and its members.

SIMPLY STATED STRATEGIES FOR EACH OF THESE: Chapters can honor significant contributions of an educator by presenting them a certificate or asking them to share with the chapter about their project or program achievements. Chapters can invest in educators through scholarships and grants helping either their continued education or a specific project.

BE PRESENT! PUBLICIZE! Keep members informed and keep community informed! Advertise programs, encourage committee participation, keep members involved and extend the same invitations to the community for special presentations. Have fun at the meetings, but also have relevance in the programs to the members and to the school district educators. Invite new teachers to a meeting.

OUR MEMBERSHIP IS PRICELESS!



Zeta Chapter By Nancy McFaddin

One of Zeta's most anticipated meetings is our Christmas Brunch, craft and bake sale. Every year interesting crafts and yummy treats are then purchased and consumed by members and their guests. This year we changed venue to Good Shepard Presbyterian Church and the ladies of the church prepared a delicious brunch for us. We had a surprise visit by our 100-year-old member, Verda McConnell and her daughter, Karen Sandstead, also a Zeta member. Many

wonderful Christmas items were donated for our philanthropy, *Precious Child*.



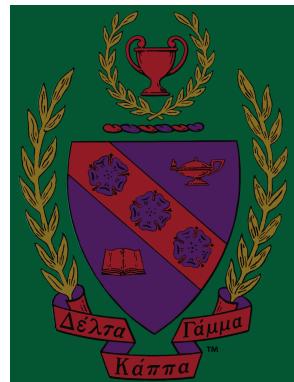
Right: Zeta members at the Christmas meeting.
Left: Verda McConnell



ethnic food or special family recipes. It was a big hit with inquiries to exchange recipes. Our program was timely as spring is approaching and Rosie Garner, a certified Master Gardner who trained through CSU programs gave an outstanding program. She explained helpful gardening techniques, preparations of soil for spring and answered many questions including pruning of roses.

Elizabeth Price, our Historian has spent countless hours developing our Zeta History from its beginnings as a new DKG Chapter in 1938. Her attention to details, perseverance and research skills are not to be matched! We are thrilled with the first installments recently shared by email with the ladies of Zeta Chapter. At the January, 2017, meeting the chapter voted to print 10 copies, available to be purchased and/or for archives. The complete book will be stored electronically for members and others to enjoy.

In spite of the small number of our Zeta membership, ten ladies attended and enjoyed the Tri-Chapter Meeting on February 11th at Heather Gardens, sponsored by Alpha Iota Chapter. Jackie Bell was the recipient of the beautiful rose centerpiece. (See picture). We all enjoyed the delightful trip down memory lane with the musical program by ***SWINGTIME***. Thanks to all who made this Tri-Chapter meeting such a great way to spend time together.



MU CHAPTER HAPPENINGS

Omega Peaks P. 13

By Kathy Flynn, Chapter Editor/Historian

The November Chapter outing was to Niwot H.S. for the musical "Into The Woods." Talent abounded as the numbers were excellently performed. The students worked long hours to have such precision. A small group of us thoroughly enjoyed the show!

At our annual December Potluck Brunch, we welcomed the Longmont Chorale Singers for a super presentation of traditional and popular Christmas music.



Director Scott Hamlin and accompanist, Karen Main, delivered stellar performances as usual. It was delightful.

Kathy Flynn, Chair of Educational Excellence, and Aileen Solt, met with first year teacher, Lindsey Cook, our Adopt-A-Classroom recipient, Language Arts teacher at Sunset M.S. and delivered a gift card, money for classroom supplies and various items for her classroom reading program. Lindsey's classes are studying the holocaust, and she simulated for them what it would have been like to be a

Jewish person being square taped on the floor repeated the instructions, discussed what it felt like

Our Personal and with all the toppings for



transported to the camps. The students squeezed into a 12 x 12 and while they listened to a description of the journey, the teacher "No Talking!" and "Stay inside the square!" The students then to be in that situation. It was a moving discussion.

Professional Pride Committee provided a waffle breakfast complete the January meeting. Instructor Marsha Babcock presented the Tai Chi program, arranged by committee chair Gail Ward. Members participated in Tai Chi moves to discipline and relax the mind and body. We also hosted our annual Safe Shelter contribution meeting and received an update from Safe Shelter legal advocate, Chase Mosqueda. Mu Chapter has helped fund Safe Shelter since the early 1980s. Their work is most valuable in Boulder County as they are now the only safe house operating.

President Susan Burnett invited everyone to attend the February joint meeting with AAUW, an annual event since 2002 begun by Aileen Solt during her chapter presidency. Coming up in March, Lindsey Cook will share some of her experiences as a first year teacher at Sunset and Westview M.S. and will present on Robotics and the STEM program at the school.

ALPHA CHAPTER

by Debbie Francis

The holidays are always a special time to celebrate and enjoy being together as members. Alpha Chapter chose to host a lovely luncheon at Pinehurst Country Club in Denver. Many of our members choose to bring guests at this luncheon, to enjoy the delicious food, entertainment, and to learn more about DKG. The atmosphere was so wonderful with all the beautiful decorations, trees, holiday train, and Christmas village. Our program was presented by a chorus from John F. Kennedy High School (Denver Public Schools), and it consisted of a fun holiday skit, and holiday songs. The students did a fabulous job, and had the opportunity to introduce themselves, and where they had attended school. It was a festive time with delicious



food, great entertainment, and wonderful fellowship!



Picture by Holcomb Mosley

Every February **ALPHA IOTA, OMEGA, AND ZETA** chapters have a joint luncheon. This year we honored Diedra Tidwell who presented our January program featuring the many types of scarves and fashionable ways to tie them. We decided to wear scarves to the February luncheon to surprise Diedra for teaching us so much. You can see how fashionable we all are:

From left to right: Tina Grimmer, Carol Drollinger, Leanne Pratt, Sue Miller, Sharon Gordon, Suzanne Richards, Ronnie Schamberger, Karen Eilenstine, Elizabeth Price, Carol Tebo, future member Ruth Reiley, Diedra Tidwell, Shalese Stroup, Ruth Whitmore, Mary Boughton, Kathy Tedrick, Lois Astler, and Mary Metcalf.

Alpha Iota members were hostesses at the Tri-Chapter Luncheon featuring table centerpieces of red rose bouquets decorated with actual 45 rpm records of love songs. Swingtime, the musical program consisted of five vocalists and three musicians who specialize in the music of the 30s and 40s. Kathy Hansen (Alpha Iota) is the musical arranger / keyboard accompanist and Marney Hawes (Alpha Iota) is part of the vocal group. Their repertoire included wonderful love songs from The Great American Songbook. Many of us were humming along with Swingtime enjoying their performance very much. A great time was had by all!

Submitted by Mary Metcalf, Omega chapter and Carol Drollinger, Alpha Iota chapter



CHI CHAPTER by Wendy Burrell

During a March tour of Garnet Mesa Elementary in Delta County, Chi Chapter member, Miriam Hartig, poses by the many awards given to the school as she reminisces about her years spent teaching there. Miriam will soon turn ninety-eight. Miriam joined Chi Chapter in 1971. She is our most senior member.

Assistant Principal Adam Truitt led the school tour for Chi Chapter members, many of whom are buddies to Garnet mesa teachers, providing classroom support to them in various ways. Chi Chapter has adopted Garnet Mesa Elementary for the past two years, supplying seasonal treats for all the faculty and staff, as well as classroom support.

Members are looking forward to the May pitch-in dinner where they will meet and greet the two Chi Chapter scholarship recipients for 2017

Omega State mirrors International with the Display of Fine Arts

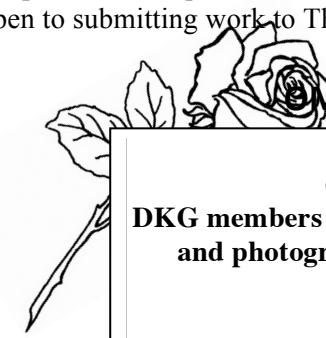
by Suzanne Foster

As the Chair of the Music, Arts and Humanities Education Committee, I have also been selected as the state liaison to the International Arts and Humanities Committee. I received an email from Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone who is the Arts and Humanities Jury Liaison. The Arts and Humanities Jury is “entrusted with the coordination and fulfillment of the DKG Gallery of Fine Arts, an online publication and display of DKG members' creative works”.

We in Omega State have progressed in the efforts to display the Art, Photos and Written pieces for our DKG members. Four years ago, our fledgling effort was well received by DKG attendees at the Grand Junction Leadership Conference. Since then we have increased our displays and limited the Art Show to Conventions only; however, the talent and creations are certainly worthy to be a part of The DKG Gallery of Fine Arts. There will be break-out sessions offered by Jury members at each of the Regional Conferences this coming summer. I encourage each of you wonderfully, wildly creative ladies to attend a break out session at a Regional Conference of your choice. If you would like to submit a piece, you are encouraged to visit the Arts and Humanities Jury documents that can be found on the jury webpage which include: Submission procedures; Categories/Subcategories; Judging Rubrics; 10 steps for submitting; Artwork Application Form (available at the beginning of an application period); Q 7 A's; Logos and PowerPoint's.

I realize that this is a lot of info to absorb, and I plan to have a sample of these forms available for Convention. I hope that all the photographers, artists, poets and writers out here will plan on making a submission to this year's Artists' Display, and be open to submitting work to The DKG Gallery of Fine Arts.

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OMEGA STATE CONVENTION

“The Heart of DKG”

Omega State 2017 Fine Arts Committee Art Show

DKG members are invited to share your two and three-dimensional artwork and photography during the Omega State Convention, June 9, 10, 11.

The Hilton in Fort Collins

Guidelines:

Original work of art.

Frame works on paper behind glass.

Limit 3 artworks per person.

If you would like to participate in the Art Show, please respond by June 1, 2017 to Cheryl Barnett at cmhbarnett@gmail.com and include:

- ❖ Name, Chapter and contact information
- ❖ Art Description: Subject matter, Media, Size

Bring to the convention:

- ❖ **Printed Name and Media Label**
- ❖ Artist's Background Information, Statement about artwork (optional)
- ❖ Standing easels will need to be provided by the artist for each piece of artwork. Tables and tabletop easels will be available for small paintings and sculptures.
- ❖ The Art Show will be set up from 3-5pm on June 9.

Come and “Embrace the Heart of DKG” at the Hilton Fort Collins from June 9-11. Your Steering Committee and State Board are so excited about all of the exciting components of this event. Registration forms need to be mailed to Susan Chapman. You may reserve a room online or by phone. We hope to see all of you in June!

Omega State Convention Lodging Information

June 9-11, 2017

Lodging available at: **Hilton Fort Collins**
425 W. Prospect Rd.
Ft. Collins, CO 80526

To arrange lodging online go to:

<http://www3.hilton.com/en/hotels/colorado/hilton-fort-collins-FNLCOHF/accommodations/index.html>

Click on “Add special rate codes” when selecting the dates and use the code “**mdk**” in the group code box to receive the discounted rates.

To arrange lodging by phone, call 970-482-2626. Be sure to mention DKG to get the group rate.

Room Rate: The following rates are per room per night. Rates are subject to state and local taxes at time of check-in.

Single Rate	Double Rate	Triple Rate	Quad Rate
\$149	\$149	\$159	\$169

Embracing the Heart of DKG
Omega State Convention Registration Form



June 9-11, 2017

Hilton Fort Collins
425 W. Prospect Rd.
Fort Collins, Colorado 80526

******Please use a separate form for each person******

PHOTO RELEASE: By your attendance at this event, you are granting permission to be filmed, videotaped, audio taped, or photographed by any means and are granting full use of your likeness without compensation.

Name _____ Phone _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____ Zip Code _____
Email _____ Chapter _____
Chapter Office/Committee _____ State Office _____
First Time Attending? Yes No
Free 1 CEU Credit? Yes No (Must attend full conference for CEU Credit-18 contact hrs.)
Choir Participant? Yes No

Registration Deadline: Friday, June 2, 2017 (Registration fee not refunded after June 6, 2017)

Registration
\$ _____ Fee: Member - \$85 Non-Member - \$95 Hostess Chapter Member - \$50
\$ _____ Late Fee: Add \$20 (if postmarked after June 2, 2017)

All attendees (including presenters, volunteers, and hostess chapter workers) must register.

Meals

Please list any dietary restrictions: _____

Enter number of meals and total amount for that meal.

Indicate # of meals:	Total for meals
_____	\$ _____ Friday night supper - \$40
_____	\$ _____ Saturday Celebration Luncheon - \$35
_____	\$ _____ Saturday night banquet - \$51
_____	\$ _____ Sunday morning breakfast - \$25

\$ _____ **Food total**

\$ _____ **Registration total from above**

Must pay by check. Make payable to: **The Delta Kappa Gamma Society**

\$ _____ **Total Due (Registration and Meals)**

Send registration to: Susan Chapman, 1302 Aralia Ct., Loveland, CO 80538
Phone: 970-217-9940 or 970-667-5300



SOCIETY PURPOSES

1. To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship
2. To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education
3. To advance the professional interest and position of women in education
4. To initiate, endorse, and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators
5. To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to women educators from other countries
6. To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action
7. To inform the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society



MISSION STATEMENT

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education

COMMITTEE CELEBRATIONS

The Nominations Committee found nominees for all State Board Positions and three team members!

The Communications and Publicity Committee created and recertified our user-friendly website and increased Omega Peaks to four issues per year which garnered recognition for a quality newsletter from International!

The Omega State Award Committee had wonderful applications for winners who were amazingly qualified and had lots of chapter support!

The Scholarship Committee has received lots of donations! (All you need to do is apply!)

OMEGA STATE NEEDS EDITOR FOR OMEGA PEAKS

Omega State is seeking an editor for the Omega Peaks newsletter. If you love working with a computer, learning more about Omega State and being of service to the state, this job is for you!

Please apply to Evangeline Sena
vangiesena@msn.com

Farabe will be happy to answer any questions and give any help she can.

Omega Peaks
Published three times a year in March, August and December by the Omega State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Contributors to the newsletter are asked to send news as soon as it is available to insure its placement in the next issue to:

TO BE ANNOUNCED
Send address changes to:
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
PO Box 1589
Austin TX 78767 or
Dkg.org