



# PEAKS



Published by Omega State Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Volume 68 December 2015

Number 3

## LILLY VIGIL OMEGA STATE TREASURER



I was born and raised in Leadville, Colorado, where I attended St. Mary's School 1-8, public schools 9-12 and graduated from Lake County High School. My Bachelor's Degree in Business Education/ Basic Business and Economics with Colorado Vocational Certificate was earned at the University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, Colorado. I continued my formal education and earned a Masters of Education/Computers in Education Degree at Lesley College, now a university in Cambridge, MA.

My professional career began as a teacher in the Business Department at Lake County High School, Leadville, Colorado. I then moved to Denver and substitute taught in Denver Public Schools, Aurora Public Schools, and Jefferson County Schools.

I returned to Leadville and married my husband of 37 years where we have raised three sons and been volunteers in church, youth and school organizations, service and political organizations.

My professional life continued at Colorado Mountain College, Timberline Campus, where I started full-time as an instructor in the Secretarial Science Department and have progressed to Associate Professor teaching two computer application classes each semester.

I was initiated into Delta Kappa Gamma - Alpha Sigma Chapter, Leadville, on April 1, 1982. Since then I have attended chapter, Omega State – Colorado, Southwest Regional Conferences and International Conventions from West to East and North to South! I typed the first copy of Omega State By-Laws and Standing Rules prior to becoming a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. Since I was initiated I have held all offices at the chapter level and was Chairman of the 1st Biannual Omega State Conference held at Timberline Campus, Leadville, Colorado; Omega State Membership Chairman, Second Vice President, First Vice President (appointed to fill a one year vacancy); served as interim editor of the Omega Peaks and was elected State President for the 1997-1999 Biennium. In 2000, a vacancy for the position of State Treasurer was announced and the Personnel Committee recommended me. Thus, my career as State Treasurer began and continues to the present. Delta Kappa Gamma has given me many opportunities to be a lifelong learner, build friendships and fellowship with many sisters, and to travel to places that were only pushpins on a map before I was initiated.

## INSPIRATION

by Dr. Sue Pettit, 2015-2017 Omega State President



Do you ever get so busy and caught up in life that you have a hard time finding inspiration? Without inspiration it is difficult to take action and without action, leadership does not exist. Well that happened to me when this letter was due for the Omega Peaks. My responsibilities are requiring me to do “chin-ups” and my brain has no muscle left! Maybe you have had this experience. I could not find any inspiration for this letter and hence; I could not act! However, this temporary brain crash coaxed me into thinking about what it is that makes belonging to our organization so meaningful and inspiring. It is you, Colorado DKG. You are my inspiration, and

it is your dedication to your chapters and communities that inspires me to take action for the future.

My beloved 1970’s college dictionary lists the following descriptors for inspiration—a creative force, stimulating creativity, or instilling vision into a person. Isn’t this fascinating to think about? We can instill creativity, enthusiasm, and vision into our members, other leaders, and the schools. From my perspective, our mission: to promote personal and professional growth and excellence in education, can best be achieved through nurturing and capitalizing on *inspiration*—we can inspire our Sisters and community educators to act on their passions for the sake of excellence in education and Colorado children. We are the educational leaders and “instillers of vision”. What can you do to support the Strategic Action Plan in your chapter? What can you do to inspire others to join the important work Omega State has to do in 2016?

Inspirational reminder: Please bring your most recent Strategic Action Plan to the March 19, Executive Board Meeting.

### NEW IDEAS AT FALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

President Sue initiated a new format for the Fall Executive Board Meeting in October. Everyone reported from radio station WDKG. Each committee reported as usual, but it was very unique and lots of fun.

The Membership Committee presented their Lone Ranger skit emphasizing membership and the value of Kemosabes (true and loyal companions, friends, etc.).

Deb Francis and Maxine Faucett-Yeske, Narrators, with Kathy Flynn as the Lone Ranger, and Jan Dermer as Tonto entertained and presented valuable information on radio station WDKG at the fall board meeting.



Everyone is invited to Executive Board meetings. This in an excellent way to get to know your state organization. The Spring Executive Board Meeting will be held on March 19, 2016. Save the date! Time and place will be announced later.



OMEGA STATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	
President	Sue Pettit
First Vice-President	Shirley Organ
Second Vice-President	Brenda Wray
Recording Secretary	Memory Lamfers
Corresponding Secretary	Barbara Whinery

## NEW MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT PLAN (Recommended by International)

Questions—Contact Kathy Flynn, Omega State Membership Chair katherineaflynn@yahoo.com



**Step 1:** This plan emphasizes the honor of membership in DKG. The chapter membership committee should request members to submit name(s) via a prospect card (See sample document, *DKG Prospect Card on International Website.*) at one or two meetings. They should then compile a list to present to the membership for a vote. These active public and private school teachers and retirees do not have to be contacted before recommendation. (Key to making up this list is to choose those women whom you really want in your chapter—assume nothing would prevent them from saying yes. Don't eliminate them because you “assume” they would say no. Let them decide for themselves!)

**Step 2:** Each prospective member should be informed in a special, personal letter that she has been chosen for membership in our prestigious society. (See sample document, *Prospect Letter*) Key elements of the letter are that the prospect was recommended by a member (named) based on her stellar qualities as a teacher and approved by the entire chapter. Brief info on DKG and the chapter is included, as well as the invitation to an orientation meeting. The letter emphasizes the honor of membership and asks them to RSVP for the meeting. (See the international Website for a sample letter and adapt it.)

**Step 3:** Some may decline; some may call with questions; and some may agree to come immediately. For each of those who plan to attend, invite an equal number of current members to serve as “buddies” at the orientation.

**Step 4:** At the orientation, provide social time for current and prospective members and then present the *Pride in the Big Picture* slide show (available for download at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)). Current members can meet with the prospects in small groups to answer any questions. At the conclusion of the meeting (which lasts only one hour), ask them to make a decision to accept or decline the invitation to become members. (Remember, no one has approached these women about joining prior to the letter.)

**Step 5:** The current member “buddy” can use the Chapter Member Application (See sample document, *Chapter Member Application*) to obtain information about the prospective member. This application serves as the Recommendation for Membership or Form 11 used by many chapters to obtain member information. It can also serve as a commitment from the prospective member.

**Step 6:** Invite the prospective members to the initiation ceremony with the Initiation Letter (See sample document, *Initiation Letter*). Remember to plan ahead and order all necessary supplies in preparation for the ceremony.

During the orientation, the prospects are introduced to the Society via the *Pride in the Big Picture* presentation, featuring specific chapter program and project highlights, benefits of membership, and shared stories of the power of DKG to transform lives. After initiation, the new members may also receive prospect cards to honor someone they know with membership in the Society.

*Sherri Wagemann, Washington State Organization and member of the International Membership Committee, commented: "Providing an orientation for prospective new members prior to their initiation is vital. It helps them understand the value of membership and what our organization has to offer. This recruitment plan also offers a natural transition for mentoring. The 'Rose Buddy' mentoring system helps to forge that all important 'friendship connection' and encourages active engagement in the new members' area of interest. Many of my state's chapters have been successful using this model. It really works!"*

### 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*



*Babetta Persons-Quist Alpha Iota, Aurora July 24, 2015*

## IMPORTANT DATES

- February 1 1. Chapter annual/ biennial forms due. Each chapter president should use the Google Doc link (sent in a November email). The data will be compiled in a state report that can be immediately accessed and used. Please contact President Sue Pettit if you are having trouble completing the report form. [719-423-9600](tel:719-423-9600)
- February 28 2. Breakout session proposals for International Convention due (See dkg.org)
- February 28 3. International scholarship applications due (See dkg.org)
- February 28 Omega State scholarship applications due (See description of Omega State Scholarships on page 9.)
- March 1 1. State annual/biennial forms due
- March 1 2. Omega State Award nominations due (Guidelines are on the Omega State web page.)
- March 15 Dr. Sue Petit would like to have you bring your Chapter Rules and SAP to the Executive Board meeting.

### ***"SAVE THE DATE"***

## **2016 OMEGA STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

**WHEN:** JUNE 10-12, 2016

**WHERE:** FRANCISCAN RETREAT CENTER  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO

**ATTENTION: CHAPTER PRESIDENTS AND OFFICERS!**  
THE OMEGA STATE OFFICERS AND  
HOST CHAPTERS (PI AND ALPHA UPSILON)  
ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU  
AT THIS PICTURESQUE VENUE!!!  
*All members of Omega State are invited.*



## OMEGA PEAKS WORLD FELLOWSHIP REPORT

November 15, 2015

The international World Fellowship Program began at the 1946 DKG International Convention in San Francisco. Four German women educators received funds from DKG to spend eight weeks of study and visitation in Sweden during the spring of 1948. In 1952, the WF program began an alliance with UNESCO to provide special help for Korean women. During 1958-1960, an agreement was made with the Institute of International Education to provide dossiers from which a Society committee could select recipients for study in the United States. From an initial award of \$2,500.00 (based on \$11,528.00 in contributions), the WF program has grown to impressive totals. Since 1960, nine hundred women in 120 countries have received awards totaling \$3,811,171.12 (nearly \$4 million through June 2014).

Dr. Mary Ann Roldan (past president of Omega State) currently serves with other DKG representatives from Iowa, Massachusetts, and Iceland to select recipients who wish to study in the US. Dr. Roldan reported at the October Omega State Board Meeting that during 2014-2015, nineteen recipients were each selected to receive a \$4,000.00 award and 4 women were each granted a \$1,000.00 extension. In summary, DKG donated \$80,000.00 to 23 women in 17 countries during 2014-2015.

FYI: Omega State members contributed \$140.00 at the June 2015 Omega State Convention in Lone Tree CO and \$125.00 at the October 2015 Omega State Board meeting at the Holiday Inn Denver East – Stapleton.

Dr. Roldan also reported that in 2015, the international WF committee received 63 applications for WF grants (the good news). However, due to the limitations of available funds, only 20 applicants could be selected (the sad news).

Obviously, the need for increased funding continues. It is the hope of the Omega State WF committee that chapter presidents and/or World Fellowship chairs will encourage their members to contribute to the international World Fellowship Fund. Contributions may be made using the on-line contribution form or Form 43. Both can be accessed at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) under Forms, Contribution Forms. Donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law in the U.S. and some other countries.

If you write a check and intend to claim your donation to the International World Fellowship fund as a tax deduction, please make the check payable to the World Fellowship Fund. Upon receipt of your check, DKG International will issue a letter of acknowledgement to you. .

Be assured that donations to the International World Fellowship fund do make a difference not only in promoting the advancement of education for women around the world, but in promoting friendship and understanding between countries. Contributions do have a ripple effect.

### LET'S EXPAND THE RIPPLE!

#### OMEGA STATE WORLD FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBERS (2015-16)

- CH: Gail Fray                      MU – Longmont
- Irma Boltman                      Alpha Gamma – Denver
- Rosie Jelden                      Alpha Rho – Greeley
- Dr. Mary Ann Roldan      Beta - Pueblo

#### REMINDER FOR CHAPTER PRESIDENTS – FORM 6

**It is very important that each death of a member be reported as soon as possible on Form 6 for Death of a Member. Please work with your membership chairs to promptly report to all three of the following:**

International: International Membership Services: [lindad@dkg.org](mailto:lindad@dkg.org) or [NitaS@dkg.org](mailto:NitaS@dkg.org) or [mem@dkg.org](mailto:mem@dkg.org)

Omega State Membership Chair: Kathy Flynn: [katherineaflynn@yahoo.com](mailto:katherineaflynn@yahoo.com)

Omega State Treasurer: Lilly Vigil: [cmcr1@msn.com](mailto:cmcr1@msn.com)

The form is interactive on-line and is available on both the state website and the international website.

## AROUND COLORADO CHAPTER NEWS

### ALPHA RHO CHAPTER, Greeley

by Nancy Heinz

Alpha Rho Chapter kicked off the year with a potluck dinner at their September meeting. Members brought school supplies for the El Teatro program at Greeley West High School. It is a program for newly immigrated students to the community. The chapter has chosen El Teatro as their educational project this year.

In October, the chapter celebrated their 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We held an Afternoon Tea. Members and guests enjoyed delicious refreshments. The program consisted of the Chapter History. Susan Conn, a charter member, told about her experiences as a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, and then other members shared their stories. Other charter members of Alpha Rho, who could not attend, are Lillie Erwin, Sue Hackett, Grace Napier, and Jan Raehal. Judy Leinweber, president of Kappa, and Letha Hummels from Delta were guests. Beth Barzdukas, immediate past president of Omega State, was our hostess. Everyone had an enjoyable afternoon.

### ALPHA CHAPTER

Alpha Chapter started the year with a wonderful itinerary of programs for our members. In September, one of our members, Natalie Monteclavo, gave a presentation on Sangetsu flower arranging. Each member walked away with her own, individual arrangement of beautiful, delicate flowers. This was the beginning of using the talents of our members for our programs. In November, Kelly Mettler, another one of our members, presented a program on fashion and jewelry. She demonstrated ways to use scarves, layering and framing jewelry, and mixing various pieces for that special "pop". Everyone walked away with many new ideas.

We are also using the talents of local authors. In October, Bonnie Scudder presented a program on her book, *The Secrets of Elk Creek*, a book on one of our newest state parks, Staunton State Park. The book shares the local history by Schaffer's Crossing, Elk Falls, and Lion's Head. It was fun and interesting sharing some of our local history. In December, David Radmman will share his journey on publishing a children's holiday story, and share the story through a special reading.

As a chapter, we are always looking for exciting programs that will interest our members. It is amazing the talent found within our own chapter and our local communities. In February, a local group titled IMPACT will do a presentation on safety for children and adults. Storytellers will be our April program, with many of

them being retired educators who weave wonderful stories for all ages. At all of our meetings, we give away door prizes, and a special gift. We hope that this adds a little something special for our members that attend.

### UPSILON CHAPTER

by Theresa Ann Cortese,

Upsilon Chapter has been off to a running start. In September the Chapter had their first meeting where they bagged almost 300 bags with books and brochures for their "Books for Babies" project. Since 1999 the bags have been given to the Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center to be given to parents of newborns. After all that work the members present enjoyed a pizza party.

In October the members voted to once again give a check to each school district in the Chapter's area. Salida Longfellow Elementary School received the money for their fourth graders' field trip and Buena Vista Avery-Parsons Elementary School received the money for their fifth graders field trip.



Program books were passed out to the members. Our First Vice President Dorothy Sanchez and her daughter Susan put the book together. We thank them for the wonderful job!

November's program should be enlightening. We will have a local Special Education teacher explain Down Syndrome. Then in December the members will have their annual Christmas Party.



## CHI CHAPTER

by Wendy Burell

Omega Peaks p. 7

(The editor apologizes for missing this in the August newsletter.)

Let the good times roll! Chi Chapter members take a moment to pose at the Omega State Convention in June.



Shown from left to right are Pat Mroczek-VanAllen, Sandy Balerio, Leila Koenig, Linda Read, Suanne Hughes, Alice Murphy and Kristal Benson.

Chi Chapter members met several times during the summer to plan meetings for the 2015-2016 year, and to work on apple themed crafts to sell at the upcoming Apple Fest in Cedaredge in early October. The proceeds from the sales of the arts and crafts will be applied to Chi Chapter's Grant-in-Aid fund.

A full schedule of interesting and informative meetings have been outlined for the upcoming year, in addition to the release of Chi Chapter's Resource Guide for area teachers. We are looking forward to another fun and productive year.

## DECEMBER NEWS

Chi Chapter members have had a busy few months, starting with the Vendor Fair at Montrose High School in Mid-August. The drawing for a school supply tower was a big hit.



Alice Murphy and Suanne Hughes proudly show off the Vendor Fair display and school supply tower.

The new, hot off the press Teachers' Resource Guide for field trips and guest speakers available to teachers in Montrose and Delta Counties was also a big hit. In early October, Chi Chapter hosted a booth at the Cedaredge Apple Fest, selling handicrafts made by the members.



Madaline Lake and Leila Koenig pause outside the Chi Chapter booth at the Cedaredge Apple Festival

More crafts were sold at a Montrose craft show in November, making Chi Chapter's grant-in-aid account pleasantly plump. The December Christmas party brought in more funds from the ever popular silent auction, and a good time was had by all. January will give us a well-deserved rest!

### WANTED: ITEMS FROM ALL CHAPTERS!

We appreciate so much all the articles that have been sent from chapters. It is so much fun to see what other chapters are doing. It also gives all of us ideas for things we might do in our chapters. I hope in the future all chapters will send news.

### WANTED: ITEMS FROM ALL COMMITTEE CHAIRS!

I know that the Omega State committees are doing amazing things. Please let all of the members know what you are doing.

## TWO OMEGA STATE CHAPTERS CELEBRATE 75 YEARS

### PI CHAPTER

By Memory Lamfers

Pi Chapter celebrated their 75th Anniversary in October. The chapter was founded on October 26, 1940.



President Virginia Champlin welcomed two honored guests: Omega State Officers Shirley Organ and Brenda Wray. A Diamond Anniversary poem was shared and an invocation by Marjorie Thomson, Past Pi and Omega State President. A delicious five-course tea was enjoyed. Scrapbooks dating back to Pi's origin were displayed. It was a true diamond celebration.



“MUSIC CITY” AWAITS YOU IN 2016  
Make plans now to attend the 2016 International Convention, July 5-9, in Nashville TN. The convention will be held at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in the heart of the “Music City.” With opportunities for education, inspiration, fellowship and entertainment, there will be something for everyone.

For anyone interested in presenting a breakout session, the proposal forms are available on the Events page at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) and must be submitted by February 1, 2016. Presenting presents an opportunity for members to share their expertise and creativity with other members. In addition, experience as a presenter enhances your portfolio, expands your professional resume and in some states, provinces and countries, provides for professional development credits.

### RHO CHAPTER

by Farabe Smith



75 years ago a new chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International was initiated at the beautiful Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs. Saturday, December 5, 2015, this chapter, RHO, celebrated at the beautiful (redecorated) Antlers Hotel in Colorado Springs. Rho President Debby Womack was mistress of ceremonies for the tea. Cynthia Mousel, Lilly Vigil and Donna Hoover reenacted some DKG history, featuring Annie Webb Blanton (AKA Cynthia). Karen Eilenstine played and Sarah Helman led us in our two favorite songs, *Hand in Hand* and the *Delta Kappa Gamma Song*. Rho Chapter history was read and all present made a recommitment to Delta Kappa Gamma.

Rho was honored to have Sue Pettit, Omega State President; Cynthia Mousel, Executive Secretary; Lilly Vigil, Treasurer; Shirley Organ, First Vice President; Brenda Wray, Second vice President; Theresa Cortese, Communications Chair; Karen Eilenstine, Star Chapter Awards Committee, and Cecelia Varosy, Alpha Iota Chapter. We were also honored to have Maxine Fawcett-Yeske, president of ETA Chapter, our fellow Colorado Springs Chapter.



## OMEGA STATE SCHOLARSHIPS

### *The Hildegard Sweet and Katherine S. Glendinning Scholarship*

This scholarship shall be awarded as money is available and is open to an active member of any chapter of Omega State. This individual must be admitted to a graduate school and is pursuing an advanced degree (beyond a Master's degree at a nationally accredited institution of higher learning.) Must have belonged to DKG for a minimum of 5 years. Amount: \$3,000

### *The Omega State Scholarship*

This scholarship is open to an active member of Omega State to engage in study toward advancement beyond a baccalaureate degree. Six to nine semester hours of credit are recommended. Must have belonged to DKG for a minimum of 2 years. Amount: \$600 - \$1,500

### *The Elderhostel Scholarship*

This allows an active member of Omega State to participate in an approved Elderhostel Program and is contingent on funds available. Must have belonged to DKG for a minimum of 2 years. Amount: \$500 - \$1,000

### *The Lifelong Learning Scholarship*

This scholarship is open to an active member of any chapter of Omega State to participate in a Lifelong Learning Program and is contingent on funds available. Must have belonged to DKG for a minimum or 2 years. Amount: \$200 - \$1,000

## Mission Statement

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

## 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.



### *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:

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**PO Box 1589**  
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