

# PEAKS AND PLAINS

C O L O R A D O

Published Colorado Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Volume 75 Special 2020 Number 3



## President's Corner

Where are we? Where has Delta Kappa Gamma Gone? Are we lost in all the



muddle of rioting, and the fear of pandemic? The fellowship and closeness of our missed meetings - chapter meetings, Spring Board meeting, International Convention are all gone for now. Feelings of being adrift and disconnected are threatening and could swamp us. BUT...

As teachers we persevere, innovate, collaborate and penetrate the fog. Letters and emails a-flying, Colorado DKG communicated. Zoom meetings substituted for in-person moved many groups ahead. Projects were completed

and delivered. New officers were located and voted on. Dues collection in progress or done. No, planning and prepping are moving ahead as summer days slip away.

Our chapters and members lost out on some chapter meetings and our Spring Board meeting. Through flexibility and ingenuity, we were able to finish our organizational year and are looking ahead. As you work on your plans for the next cycle of programs for your chapter, would you make it a priority to focus on the reopening of our schools?

Our children and schools have lost out on nearly a semester of classroom instruction, continuity, and feelings of confidence in the future. Their families may have lost their income, their home, and their safety net and security. School districts are looking at across-the-board funding cuts. What can our DKG members do to help ease the stress for teachers? What advice are you giving to your school board and legislators?

It is time to live our DKG Mission Statement. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes Professional and Personal Growth in Women Educators and Excellence in Educating. The situation this past spring certainly required personal and

professional growth as we embraced ZOOM and Google; as instruction went electronic overnight; and as health concerns took control of our daily lives. But the job is not finished.

Evan now that summer has come and we can enjoy the sunshine outside, life still has to be premeditated. Did we remember to bring our mask? Will that business be open if I drop by to pick up something? To hug or not to hug? Regardless, Colorado Delta Kappa Gamma must move ahead. As our DKG song says, "our sisters (in education) need us". Members and officers, these items need your attention...

1. **Cultural Diversity! Reopening our Schools! Funding for Schools! These are just some of the important issues we will be examining at the State Conference. Where does DKG fit into these issues? What can your chapter do to support your local schools, teachers, families, and children?** Come join the discussion. We need your ideas! Your chapter and teams need to collaborate with other chapters and teams.
2. Plans are moving ahead for our postponed **Colorado State Leadership Conference, August 14-16, in Montrose, Colorado.** Our International Guest Speaker will be Marilyn Gregory, SW Regional Director, from Austin, Texas. Enjoy the rich harmonies of the Sweet Adelines. Bring the family to enjoy the western Slope. Put together your chapter travel team. Come enjoy the beauty and treasures of our state.
3. Make plans to follow the **Virtual International Convention**, July 7-10.

This would be a great opportunity to gather for coffee, viewing, discussion, and planning - in appropriate, small group numbers, of course.

4. Thank you to those chapters who have turned in the **slate of officers** for 2020-2022. If you haven't done so, expect my contact soon. We want to recognize the outgoing chapter presidents for their leadership and to provide training for the incoming presidents at the Stat Conference. Your chapter needs to be represented!
5. Are your **chapter dues** turned in to Colorado and International? Yes, International is ready to receive them now. If you need help, contact Lilly Vigil, Colorado State Treasurer at <cmer1@msn.com>
6. Have you turned in **Form 6** for any members who have passed away recently? Do one Form 6 for each individual. Form 30 is the Chapter Necrology summary. Please do both.
7. It is **Talent Show** time again. August 14th at the State Leadership Conference in Montrose. We need to enjoy and recognize all the wonderful talents of our members. We need you to participate! Get your acts together now. Contact Bonnie Norton to sign up at <NRanch5@aol.com>
8. **Reminders for State Conference**  
**Deadline for Hotel rooms is July 14, 2020. Method of Hotel Reservations:** Please call the Holiday Inn Express directly at 1-970-240-1800 and tell them you are with the Delta Kappa Gamma group.
9. **Conference Registration Deadline:** July 30, 2020.

10. BYOB - Bring your own convention bag; Bring a donation for Schools for Africa; Be prepared to bid on Silent Auction baskets.

Everything seems a little topsy-turvy right now. We normally don't have a lot Delta Kappa Gamma work in the summer, but this year has been like a trip to the Tea Party in Wonderland. So the only thing to do is to make Lemonade!

Please take care of one another and please take good care of your chapter. Delta Kappa Gamma members do so many important things that would be missed if we faded away in our communities. As we make sense of this year, it is probably for the best that we did get shaken up a bit. The quarantine has caused us to recognize some complacency and weaknesses in our technology and lines of communication. We have learned some things and are better for it.

Where is Colorado Delta Kappa Gamma? It is in the hearts of its members. It is wherever outstanding women educators are meeting to promote excellence in education. I look forward to a good turnout of members at our State Leadership Conference. Mostly I look forward to being able to see you, talk to you in person and to lock elbows as we head into 2020-2021.

Our teachers, families, children, and schools need us.

*Leila*

## Table of Contents

President's Corner.....	1
Omega State Officers.....	3
White Roses of Remembrance.....	4
Team Updates.....	5
Chapter Happenings.....	8
An Update from the Webmaster.....	8
Mark Your Calendars!.....	12
Dues Reminder.....	13
Colorado Arts.....	13
Read Any Good Books Lately?.....	13
Mission Statement.....	14
Vision.....	14
Society Purposes.....	14
Colorado Peaks & Plains.....	14
Submission Guidelines.....	15
Pay Your Money and Ride.....	15
Leadership Conference Agenda.....	17
Registration Form.....	21
Talent Show Entry Form.....	23

## Omega State Officers 2019-2021

**President** - Leila Koenig  
**1st Vice President** - Suzanne Foster  
**2nd Vice President** - Dr. Maxine  
Fawcett-Yeske  
**Recording Secretary** - Michelle Miller  
**Corresponding Secretary** - Kerry Tripp  
**Executive Secretary** - Cynthia Mousel  
**Treasurer** - Lily vigil  
**Parliamentarian** - Memory Wollenweber  
**Editor** - Juana Hajek  
**Webmaster** - Heidi Ragsdale  
**Archivist** - Kathy Flynn  
**Immediate Past President** - Janet  
McClaskey



### White Roses of Remembrance

Glenna Havens Mathis  
Mu Chapter  
Died February 15, 2020  
  
Rho Chapter  
Betty Yoder  
Died April 16, 2020

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### Reminder for Chapter Presidents

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:

1. **International Membership Services:** [mem@dkg.org](mailto:mem@dkg.org)
2. Omega State Membership Chair:  
**Beth Barzdukas:**  
[barzdukas@live.com](mailto:barzdukas@live.com)
3. Omega State Treasurer: **Lily Vigil:**  
[cmcer1@msn.com](mailto:cmcer1@msn.com)

The form is interactive online and is available on both the state website and the international website. Names will not be listed in the White Roses unless the form 6 is submitted.

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#### A Note From the Editor

My apologies to my DKG sisters. I made a HUGE mistake when sending the April issue of the Peaks & Plains to our webmaster. I did not check with her to see whether the email was sent correctly, or whether she had received it. I also neglected to check closely enough to see if the current copy of the newsletter had been uploaded to the website. I will do my utmost to see that this never happens again. Again, I apologize.  
Sincerely,  
Juana Hajek

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## **Team Updates**

### **BYLAWS AND STANDING RULES**

### **TEAM**

Here is an update from your Colorado State Organization Bylaws and Standing Rules Team. Our governing documents have been updated to comply with the changes made at the International Convention in 2018. This included membership recommendations and the changing of the State Organization name from Greek to geographic (hence, “Omega State” became “Colorado State Organization”). The Colorado State Organization Bylaws and Standing Rules have been approved by International in December 2019. The BSR Team just finished the Standing Rules Appendices which are on hold until the membership can vote on them. These Appendices are also on the Colorado State Organization website for your information.

Incoming officers for the 2020-2022 biennium, should have the most current governing documents: 2019 International Constitution and Standing Rules (can download from the International website); International Go To Guide (available from International’s website); 2019 Colorado State Organization Bylaws and Standing Rules (available on the Colorado State Organization website or

by contacting the BSR Team). **Now that these newest governing documents are with us, chapters should delete or shred their older documents !!**

Chapters wanting to update their Chapter Rules need look no further than the template that is on the Colorado State Organization website, under the Bylaws and Standing Rules tab. Members of the Colorado State Organization Bylaws and Standing Rules Team are always available to assist chapters with their governing documents.

The changes wrought on education by the pandemic have caught the interest of the BSR Team as well as our DKG members. It would be interesting to hear what recommendations come forward, especially from the Educational Excellence Team. Perhaps round table discussions by interest levels could be had. This is a call for our society to step forward and make a difference in these times.

*Submitted by Susan Denny  
Team Leader*

### **MEMBERSHIP TEAM**

This year has been a difficult year to make contacts for potential new members with social distancing and the safe at home mandates in place. However, the fact remains that we are losing members in Colorado and we need to work hard to increase our membership.

**Currently, we need to:**

- Develop strategies and learn from one another various tactics to entice people to see all the benefits DKG has to offer.

- Research all benefits of membership in DKG.
- Become familiar with the various forms that are used for membership.
- Develop strategies and practices to welcome new members to the group once they have joined.

### **What has our team accomplished this year?**

- We mailed booklets containing all kinds of information about membership including International constitution and standing rules concerning membership plus changes in the membership process. Further included were rules on the new collegiate membership.
- We also presented at the fall board meeting the statistics compiled by International on the current state of membership in Colorado.
- Due to the coronavirus shut down, emails were developed and sent listing all the details of inducting new members complete with rituals, where to find the correct forms and hints on welcoming new members.
- A PowerPoint listing new changes in the membership process as outlined at the last International convention was developed and posted on the Colorado state website.
- Preliminary plans have been developed for the Celebration of Life to be held at the state convention in 2021.

### **Our team will be presenting at leadership conference various interactive pieces including:**

- contests,
- table discussions,
- goal setting

- idea sharing on ways to entice new members and
- what to do once the new members have joined the chapter.

### **On the third question we were given, “What can your team contribute to meeting the challenges of reopening schools, etc.?”**

Since our team’s main concern is increasing membership, we could offer ways to volunteer and mentor new and seasoned teachers in the various tasks they must do to teach children.

### **Lastly, teachers are facing challenges of dealing with:**

- decreased funding
- social distancing in the classroom— space, materials, equipment, etc.
- use of technology and being sure that all students have access to materials (computers, internet service, etc.)
- parent and student fears about getting the coronavirus and precautions that are taking place to insure a clean germ-free environment.
- Plus, all the content and preparation needed to teach children.

### **Ideas circulating in the community**

include timely pieces written by the superintendent about the start of school and the procedures that will need to take place for school to open in the pandemic. The local newspaper carries articles about the school district issues and ways they are trying to solve problems.

In conclusion, we on the membership team hope to see you in Montrose in August and any new pieces of information from the International virtual convention will be relayed to you.

Submitted by Elizabeth Barzdukas  
Team Leader

**EDUCATIONAL LAW & POLICY/US  
FORUM TEAM**

**Educational Law and Policy**

At our last meeting the ELP/US Forum Team discussed two Colorado state tax initiatives being circulated this spring and summer. Petitions to get these proposals on the state ballot must have the required number of valid signatures of 124,632 by August 3, 2020. The DKG Colorado Organization has taken a position of neutrality when it comes to controversies, legislation, ballot initiatives and measures. When presenting educational information about a particular issue, both pros and cons will be presented. Then it is then up to the individual to make a personal decision on what they support and advocate for. The two tax initiatives are Colorado Graduated Income Tax (Colorado Fair Tax) (Initiative #271) and the Colorado Decrease Income Tax from 4.63% to 4.55 % (Initiative # 306). Since they have not been approved for the ballot, we did not make pro/con statements to share with you but we are providing some information about each for your consideration. Further information about the ballot initiatives is available at [www.ballotpedia.org](http://www.ballotpedia.org) or at individual websites. **Read before you sign!!**

**Thumbnail sketch of the two ballot initiatives:**

**Colorado Graduated Income Tax (Colorado Fair Tax) Initiative #271:**

**Provisions:**

Repeal the flat tax and create a graduated income tax rate.

- Decreased from 4.63% to 4.5% for income up to \$250,000;
- Increased from 4.63% to 7% for income from \$250,001-\$500,00;
- Increased from 4.63% to 7.75 % for income from, \$500.001-\$1,000,000; and
- Increased from 4.63% to 8.9% for income over \$1,000,000.

Proposes to raise additional state revenue up to \$2 billion each year. 50% of the revenue raised will be used for increasing pay for public pre-school through twelfth grade teachers and student support staff. The other 50% will be spent on other critical needs including affordable housing, healthcare, road repairs and maintenance and community colleges. (The impacts of a growing population and economy.)

The ballot measure requires the creation of a citizen's oversight committee to assure that the additional revenue is used as required and a tax review commission to report the effects of the income tax structure on or before 2031.

**Colorado Decrease Income Tax Rate from 4.63% to 4.55% Initiative #306:**

**Provision:**

Changes the Colorado Revised Statutes to reduce the state income tax rate from 4.63% to 4.55%.

**US Forum**

At the urging of several of our Colorado DKG Organizational leaders past and present, the Educational Law and Policy (ELP) and US Forum Team sprung into action in mid-April, 2020. The ELP/US Forum Team members include: Dr.

Barbara Whinery, Team Leader, Kathy Hall, US Forum Leader, Shirley Simpson, Maggie Hunt, Nancy Pierce and Ex-Officio members: Leila Koenig, President and Suzanne Foster, First Vice President. We strongly felt it would be important to look at the impact of the pandemic on education and how we as an organization could have our voices heard on those important issues. Since mid-April we have been meeting via Zoom to gather information and prioritize the issues we would investigate.

The ELP/US Forum Team is a combined team that works collaboratively together. Educational Law and Policy follows issues at the state level and the US Forum follows legislation at the national level. Dr. Barb Whinery takes the lead with the team when we are focused on state issues and Kathy Hall takes the lead and shares issues identified by the US Forum on at the national level.

The first task we had was to complete an *Embracing Diversity Survey* sent to us by the US Forum in preparation for the 2020 DKG International Convention presentation in July. The survey asked us to explain what Diversity meant to us, identify current issues regarding diversity that are of concern to our members and to identify what initiatives were being undertaken by the state and chapters. There will be a presentation sponsored by the US Forum at the Convention that will shed more light on the issue of Embracing Diversity and areas that we need to examine. (July 9, Thursday at 1:30 p.m.) The diversity issues of concern we identified were school funding, digital learning gap, mental health (students, teacher, and parents), re-opening schools in the fall and the teacher shortage. We will share this

information with you at our upcoming state summer Leadership Conference in August.

As the pandemic lingered on, the more we struggled with where to start with numerous issues that we had identified for the US Forum. We prioritized our list and studied related concerns. After much discussion we decided to focus on the issue of re-opening of the schools in the fall. We then developed a list of several areas each of us would follow. The list includes: student/teacher and staff health and safety, expectations from CDE and school districts opening guidelines, on-line instruction and its impact on learning (access and equity), planning and coordinating learning activities, special education and finance/policy issues. The team has been following a variety of resources from the Colorado State Legislature, Colorado Department of Education, organizational newsletters, NEA, CEA, individual school districts, webinars, US Forum and the Governor's office to collect data, make observations and read reports related to these areas.

The team plans to share its findings on a variety of issues associated with the impact of Covid-19 on education generally and specifically on the reopening of schools in the fall at the upcoming summer Leadership Conference. We will summarize our findings, provide resources and activities for the state and chapters.

*Submitted by Dr. Barbara Whinery  
Team Leader*

**COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING  
TEAM**



In 2019 the team established guidelines for submissions to the Peaks and Plains Newsletter. They were written at the team leadership meeting in August and presented at the October State Board Meeting.

Unfortunately, only one other member of the team was at the August leadership workshop and no other members of the team were at the October meeting. Then the pandemic prevented a spring meeting, so no other work has been accomplished by Communications and Marketing. As the team leader, I am uncertain about how this team can help the rest of you. I would like chapter Communications and Marketing team leaders and/or another designated chapter member to contact me with:

- what your chapter does in communications and marketing that you would be willing to have this team share with chapters across the state
- what you would like to see this state team do for your chapter.
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I will work with the other members of the Communications & Marketing team and see how each team member is able to contribute, whether electronically or, in the future, in person. Also, if you know of anyone in your chapter who would have an interest in being on this team and would also be able to attend state board meetings let both Leila Koenig and me know.

*Submitted by Mary Lauck  
Team Leader*

## **An Update from the new Colorado state webmaster, Heidi Ragsdale**

Well what an opportunity I have to serve as you new Colorado webmaster! Thanks to Nancy Scofield, my predecessor, who has provided an easy transition.

### **A few updates on our website. The address is:**

<https://dkgcolorado.weebly.com/>

There are so many fantastic pieces on our website including:

1. Updates and photos from Local Chapters and State and International Happenings!
2. A monthly message from our President, Leila Koenig!
3. Information on applying for scholarships!
4. A Fine Arts Gallery - we know you are creative souls! Send me your best artwork, poetry, cakes, quilts and more!
5. Event updates and registration materials!

### **If Facebook is more your style, please join us at**

<https://www.facebook.com/ColoradoDKG/>

Facebook offers the opportunity to friend each other and follow along with chapter and state happenings. Look for some "Facebook Live" video events coming your way from the Colorado Leadership Conference in Montrose, August 14-16.

I will be hosting a "Tech Tips" session at the Colorado Leadership Conference and would love to know what you need from

me as your State Webmaster, so be sure to find me in Montrose!

### Game Time!!!

I will be hosting our first ever online scavenger hunt called "First to Find" which will be a game to encourage state membership to use our Website and Facebook! Look for the "First to Find"

clues coming your way soon! There may even be some prizes involved! Stay Tuned!

*Heidi Ragsdale*

*Colorado Webmaster*

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

## Alpha Mu

*Greetings from Alpha Mu Grand Junction!*  
By Heidi Ragsdale, Chapter Co-President

A quick summary of our last few months. . . .

In March our leadership team decided, with little to no hesitation, to thrust ourselves into our very first Zoom meeting! As a chapter we helped each other with tech tips and got almost everyone on smoothly! In between adjusting our zoom cameras and the



occasional dog or husband cameo, we had a great time! Our guest speaker was Estrella, a local immigrant advocate who educated our chapter on current needs for diverse education! Our chapter concluded that meeting with lots of waves and zoom-hugging!

In April we again met via Zoom, with this time celebrating our International Night with our guest speaker and member Mayela Vallejos, who teaches Spanish at Colorado Mesa University! We learned about the educational opportunities for students and teachers in Costa Rica!



Longing for some physical meeting, Alpha Mu masked up and went to the home of Therese Moran to induct our newest Alpha Mu member, Sonja Predovich, celebrated the bienniums and turnover of new officers. Our scholarship recipient, Nicole Mejia-Mendoza, accepted her scholarship and provided her background and goals! Nicole will be student teaching with Fruita Middle School teacher and Alpha Mu member, Liz Henrikson in Fall 2020. We are looking forward to following her journey into education!

Alpha Mu Chapter is excited to celebrate 30 Year member Gabriele Meyer-Hunke, and 40 year member Yolanda Crawford!

Our goals this summer will be to update our member profiles on our website, <http://alphamuco.weebly.com/> and begin to think about how we can support



local educators with racial equity at the heart of our community!

*Submitted by Heidi Ragsdale*

## Alpha Rho

An update from Alpha Rho, Greeley! In December, Alpha Rho happily welcomed two new members: Kathy O'Neil and Patti Burgess. Also in December, we awarded a scholarship to a student who is completing her education degree at the University of Northern Colorado. As with everyone else, activities for our chapter are put on hold due to the Corona virus, but we are maintaining contact through email and phone calls and looking forward to the time we can get together again. Our members are maintaining safe at home practices and are doing well.

*Submitted by Ginny Helwick-Jackson*

## Rho

On June 27 th, 2020, the last meeting of the 2019-2020 year was held at East United Methodist Church in Colorado Springs. Three new members were inducted. They are Holly Sielaff of Simla, Colorado; Virginia Beteille and Heidi Baird, both of Colorado Springs. Donna Hoover of Rush, facilitated a lovely ceremony of induction. The members signed their names into the members book and it became official. Red roses were presented to them as a symbol of recognition. Four officers were also initiated for the 2020-2022 biennium. They are Maggi Johnson of Colorado Springs, President; Donna Jenkins of Simla, First Vice-President; Christina Collazo of Colorado Springs, Second Vice-President; and Tracy Thieman of Simla, Recording Secretary. Christine Keller of Rush, headed the Nominations Committee that recruited the new officers.

A memoriam for Betty Yoder was observed, with Donna Hoover presenting memories of her life. A red rose was placed in her honor in the remembrance bouquet. A gavel was purchased by Donna Jenkins to be used in the meetings in her honor. Mary Richert hosted the meeting. It was her last meeting as President of the Chapter since 2018. We all enjoyed this inspirational meeting.

*Submitted by Mary Richert*

## Chi

Chi Chapter has remained active despite the COVID limitations. Many of our members were able to participate in a Google Meets meeting in May to elect officers, announce our scholarship recipients, and to solidify plans for the upcoming leadership conference in Montrose.

Members of Chi Chapter are looking forward to seeing all of our Colorado sisters in Montrose, August 14-16th. Our area offers amazing amenities, sights to be seen, and fun to be had. As with many locations around the state, social restrictions are being gradually lifted, and by mid-August it will be safe to come join in the fellowship and festivities. Here is a welcome opportunity to get away...with a purpose!

In other news, one of our two grant-in-aid recipients is shown in the photo below with her family. Elsie Vazquez graduated from Hotchkiss High School, and will attend UNC in the fall, majoring in elementary education. Chi Chapter's other scholarship winner is Alexis Waltrip from Montrose High School. Congratulations to two fine young ladies!



*Submitted by Wendy Burrell*

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## Publish Your Family Snapshot!

Since many of us have wonderful memories from childhood and love learning family history, the State Music, Arts, and Humanities Team invites each member to write a paragraph or poem and insert a photo for a one-page entry into our *Family Snapshots* booklet. You might even spend part of a meeting writing together and sharing!

Send your *Family Snapshots* to [janet.mcclaskey@gmail.com](mailto:janet.mcclaskey@gmail.com) We plan to print a booklet and make it available for purchase in 2020. We already have several entries, and we'd like to have snapshots from each chapter to represent our whole state organization!

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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Please note and share these

**Important Dates –**

### PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE IN DATES

Colorado State Leadership Conference, **August 14-16, 2020**, Montrose, CO Registration available on the Colorado DKG website and in this edition of the **Peaks and Plains**. Deadline for motel reservations is **July 14, 2020**.

International Convention, **CANCELLED**,  
**with sessions available virtually!**

Colorado State Fall Board  
Meeting, October 17, 2020,  
Greeley, CO

Colorado State Spring Board  
Meeting, March 20, 2021, Colo.  
Springs, CO



### **Presidents' Training at State DKG Leadership Conference Date To Be Announce**

Are you a newly elected president of your chapter? Have you been newly elected as a chapter officer? Please plan to attend the Colorado State Leadership Conference in lovely Montrose, Colorado. There will be many opportunities to hone your leadership skills, including a special training for chapter presidents. There are also learning opportunities for all chapter officers! Get to know your sisters from all over Colorado! Plan to attend, August 14-16, 2020.

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### **Dues, Dues, Dues!**

Don't forget your dues! This year, because of the quarantine, there will be

no review of any memberships for non-payment of dues until after September 30, 2020. Still, they need to be turned as soon as possible.

### **Colorado Arts!**

Are you an artist? Whether your art is photography, drawing, baking, crocheting, sewing, (well ANYTHING!). If you are one of Colorado's talented sisters, please consider submitting your

Janet McClaskey, State Chapter, Watercolor



artwork to the Colorado DKG Art Gallery. Here you'll find works by sisters from all over Colorado. Requirements for submissions are on our state website at <https://dkgcolorado.weebly.com> .

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### **Read Any Good Books Lately?**

*Killers of the Flower Moon; the Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*

by David Grann

In the 1920s, the Osage people lived on one of the least productive pieces of land in Oklahoma. That was until oil was discovered. With this discovery the

people became wealthy. They owned mansions, were chauffeured in high dollar automobiles, and living the good life. While the Osage people reveled in their new wealth, others were watching. The watchers wanted the wealth for themselves. Then the people began to die. Suspicions started to build with the deaths of members of Mollie Burkhart's family. Her sister was shot and other relatives were shot and poisoned. Mollie herself felt unwell. The FBI was called in to investigate in the person of Tom White. White and his investigators discovered a conspiracy that involved many officials in the area. Men were going to great lengths to acquire the wealth of the Osage people for themselves.

David Grann has investigated these crimes extensively. He dug into FBI files, viewed secret grand jury testimony, read court transcripts, and spoke to several of the relatives of the murder victims. While this book is nonfiction, it reads like a novel. Full of suspense and based on true events, this book is highly recommended. I give it FIVE STARS.

[Book Review by Juana Hajek](#)

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## Talent Show

The world famous (or at least Colorado DKG famous) talent show will take place on Friday August 15, 2020 at 8:00 pm. Do you have a hidden talent? If so, please send your entry (found on page 23 of this newsletter) before August 10th. Our talent show may not be ready for the Great White Way, but we are ready for some FUN!

## Mission Statement

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

## Vision

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

## Society Purposes

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

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## Colorado Peaks & Plains

Published four times a year in February, April, September, and December by the Colorado State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Deadline for submissions to the September issue is **August 31, 2020**.

Contributors to the newsletter are asked to send news as soon as it is available to ensure inclusion in the next issue to:

Juana Hajek

24886 County Road 2L

Hugo, Colorado 80821

or [farabejhajek@gmail.com](mailto:farabejhajek@gmail.com)

For email submissions, please list Peaks & Plains as the subject.

### Send address and email changes to:

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society  
International

PO Box 1589

Austin, TX 78767

or [mem@dkg.org](mailto:mem@dkg.org)

## Colorado Peaks & Plains Submission Guidelines

1. Each individual article should be a **maximum** of 300 words. The purpose is to have room to make the newsletter a statewide representation of as many chapters as possible.
2. Two photos **maximum**, per article. Photos must include a clear description and name identification of each person in said photos.

3. Additional photos/videos should be submitted to our webmaster Heidi Ragsdale at [STEMisMyFuture@gmail.com](mailto:STEMisMyFuture@gmail.com) to be used in a slideshow on the website. Members are encouraged to send photos for this slideshow.
4. Submit basic word processed documents - do not heavily format your submission as it will not translate to the column style of the newsletter.
5. Communicate clearly with the newsletter editor if you want your submission formatted in a specific way.
6. Some suggestions for submissions to *Colorado Peaks & Plains*:
  - New chapter member bios/photos
  - Chapter awards given to members
  - Special chapter projects and/or presentations
  - Programs given at the chapter level
  - Scholarships or other awards given to student teachers, first-year teachers, other community members, etc.

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### From Our President's Blog

## Pay your money and ride the ride

As with many other things this summer, carnival rides and amusement parks may

not be available, or will be very limited. But I have vivid memories of the music playing over the loudspeakers, the smell of the popcorn, and the screams and gasps of people as they rode their favorite roller coaster. At least one trip to a local carnival or Lakeside or Elitch Gardens was a summer requirement and much anticipated.

Money was saved up or doled out by parents and tickets purchased. Then we made the careful decisions about how to use the tickets and which rides to do first. Enjoying these youthful moments we had no idea that we were practicing for many of life's decisions, such as how to use our paychecks wisely and when to splurge a bit for sheer freedom and joy.

As it turns out, this year is very much like the (not so) fun house and it feels like we are stuck inside. The lights flicker on and off as we try to understand the issues and dangers. We see our lives distorted by the wavy mirrors that give information but exaggerated, embarrassing and hilarious. We try to find the exit but more passageways open up and there are slides and barrels to traverse. But as we found out in Kindergarten, if we hold hands and keep moving we will finally get to the end, laughing and with a big sense of relief. Ready to go again? Or ready to move on to another challenge? And finally, out of tickets and exhausted it is time to go home, filled with a summer of memories.

Fast-forward to the summer of 2020 – School changed this year and was way too much like that blasted (not so) fun house. The rules were hazy and distorted. Isolation was required and left many feeling stranded. With feelings of helplessness and frustration there was

little option except to hold on and keep searching for the best passageways for teachers, families, and children. Schools are still searching for the exit as the realization dawns that things will never go back completely. It is now time for Delta Kappa Gamma to bravely step forward with solid ideas and solutions. I don't recall a time in my lifetime when people were more open to innovation and creativity to solving the issues of safe distancing, careful sanitation, remediation, and achievement for students.

Our membership is a rich resource of ideas and experiences that need to be dusted off, measured and evaluated, and shared widely. One of the major advantages of belonging to a professional organization is the opportunity to share problems and to search together for solutions. That is why we meet in local groups, larger statewide conferences, and even larger International conventions. That is why we continue to take coursework and workshops. We are trained and able to solve some issues by ourselves. Other problems require more resources and commitment than one person can supply.

The systemic issues of poverty, changing demographics, limited budgets, distance from resources, and fragmented families, that plague schools, will only be solved by facing them together. Taking our cue from those children lost in the fun house, we need to link arms, encourage one another, laugh a bit, and speak out for education.

You purchased your ticket to the park with your education program and degree. You joined the organization and promised



Delta Kappa Gamma to promote excellence in education. Will you ride the ride and come collaborate with your teacher sisters? You are needed and yes it will make a difference if you come or if you leave us stranded, still searching.

You paid your money, will you ride this ride?

*Leila*

## **AGENDA**

**Colorado DKG Leadership Conference**  
**Montrose, Colorado**  
**August 14-16, 2020**  
**Holiday Inn Express**

**A Discussion about the Role of Cultural Diversity**  
**in DKG and in our schools/communities**

*Friday, August 14, 2020*

1:00 - 4:00pm - Registration Open in Jordan room

4:00pm - Opening Session – Leila Koenig, presiding

Welcome from Montrose mayor Barbara Bynum

Introduce Marilyn Gregory, International guest

Sights and adventures await –

Are your roots on the Western Slope - Montrose Genealogy Center

Announcements and dinner instructions

5:30pm - dinner/networking discussion –How does/can DKG help teachers and schools in your area of the state deal with diverse populations?

6:30pm - 1<sup>st</sup> General Session

Presenting the Colors/ America the Beautiful/ Pledge of Allegiance

Honoring our outgoing and incoming Chapter Presidents – Suzanne and Maxine

Speaker - Marilyn Gregory – update from International DKG

Rededication to DKG

Team connection time - addressing diversity in schools and communities

7:45pm - Announcements and short break

8:00 pm – yoga stretch  
music and talent show  
networking

*Saturday, August 15, 2020*

Breakfast at hotel for registered guests starting at 6am.

Coffee/tea available in Jordan Room for registered DKG members.

Ticket donations for silent auction - Baskets available for viewing - Jordan Room

8:30am - 2<sup>nd</sup> General Session - catching up from Spring Board meeting  
Colorado music  
Inspiration – Maggie Hunt  
Call to Order, Call the Roll, Establish a Quorum  
Approval of minutes from the Fall Board Meeting and the 2019 Convention  
By-laws and Standing Rules Team  
    Appendices discussion and vote  
Finance Team - Budget issues and approval  
Nominations – Laurie Salazar  
Kathy Flynn - Charter members of Colorado DKG (our diverse background?)

9:15am Announcements and Break

9:30 - 10:00am Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Ed (CDL) – Identifying the Issues  
Facing the Reopening of Schools in Colorado  
Ed Law and Policy/ US Forum Team panel, Dr. Barb Whinery Chairman, Suzanne Foster, Shirley Simpson, Maggie Hunt, Leila Koenig

10:15 -10:45am Breakout Session 1

A. Training for Presidents  
B. CDL - part two - practical ideas  
    Team continued discussion and plan promoting diversity

11:00-11:45am Breakout Session 2

A. Training for Presidents continued  
B. Special Ed tips that help everyone read better- Laura Kunianski  
C. Humane Education – Wendy Burrell and Kristal Benson

12:00 - Lunch Networking - What experiences have you had with CDL?  
What is working in your locale?

1:00 - 1:45pm - General Session 3

Call back to order

Membership Team – Beth Barzdukas

State Honor Roll – Who should you be honoring?

Your Elevator Speech – Attracting diverse members -Leila

Other teams?

2:00 - 2:45pm - Breakout Session 3

A. Individualizing for diverse populations - Tour of Vista Alternative HS

B. Training for Chapter Treasurers

C. Improve your Virtual Meetings – Tech Tips – Heidi Ragsdale

3:00 - 4:00pm - Breakout Session 4

A.Zumba by Alice

B.Driving tour to Dennis Weaver memorial or Ute Museum? Car pools

Suggested \$ donation to drivers

A.Staying Healthy/fighting virus with Essential Oils

5:30 - 6:45pm Dinner mix and mingle – Share ideas on supporting teachers as schools

reopen

Donations - Schools for Africa (bring your checkbook?)

Last chance to shop Silent Auction

7:00pm - General Session 4

Special Music - Sweet Adeline group

Keynote - Marilyn Gregory

8:00pm - State Awards

Thank you for outgoing chap presidents – Maxine, Suzanne, Leila

Determine Silent Auction winners

DKG music

*Sunday, August 16, 2020*

Breakfast at hotel for registered guests starting at 6am.

Coffee/tea available in Jordan Room for registered DKG members.

8:00am - Inspiration

Announcements

National Geographic resources – Heidi Ragsdale

9:00am - General Session 5

Speaker - Ute Museum - Contributions to western Colorado culture

10:00am - Your Diversity Check List - - Summing up - Where do we go from here?

Future needs and school concerns? How does DKG fit into the picture?

CDL Panel

11:00am - - Installation/ Introduce new chapter presidents

Star Chapters Awards

Invitation to the Fall Board meeting

Invitation to 2021 State Convention

DKG song

## **Reminders –**

Bring your own tote bag.

Bring your donation for Schools for Africa.

There will be a Silent Auction with wonderful gift baskets.

Pursuing the Treasures of DKG-Past, Present, and Future  
**Colorado State Leadership Conference**  
**August 14-16 2020**  
Holiday Inn Express – Montrose, CO  
1391 S. Townsend Ave., Montrose, CO 81401 - 970-240-1800

\*\*\*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 \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter Office/Committee \_\_\_\_\_ State Office/Team \_\_\_\_\_

First Time Attending? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No                      Free CEU Credit? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

**Registration Deadline: July 30, 2020 (Registration fee not refunded after this date.)**

**Registration Fee:** (Circle one). Member -\$ 75.00 Non-Member -\$ 85.00 Hostess Chapter Member \$ 50.00

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

**Meal** Please list any dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Enter number of meals and total amount for that meal.

| Indicate #<br>Of meals: | Total for meals |                                           |                            |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| _____                   | \$ _____        | Friday Night Dinner - \$ 25.00            | BBQ Buffet                 |
| _____                   | \$ _____        | Saturday Luncheon - \$ 23.00              | Soup/Salad/Sandwich Buffet |
| _____                   | \$ _____        | Saturday Dinner - \$ 32.00                | Home Style Buffet          |
|                         | \$ _____        | Food Total                                |                            |
|                         | \$ _____        | Registration total from above             |                            |
|                         | \$ _____        | <b>Total Due (Registration and Meals)</b> |                            |

If you have indicated more than one meal, please list the names of your guests. \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: The Delta Kappa Gamma Society

**Send registration and check to:**

**Laurie Salazar**  
**885 County Road 311, Ignacio, CO 81137-9128**  
[lsalazar@frontier.net](mailto:lsalazar@frontier.net)                      970-749-9809

For Questions Contact:  
Cynthia Mousel 303-475-9892  
[camousel@gmail.com](mailto:camousel@gmail.com)

Updated registration information will be available at [dkgcolorado.weebly.com](http://dkgcolorado.weebly.com)

**Meal Information**

(**Breakfasts** - If you are registered and staying overnight at the Holiday Inn Express, your breakfast is included in the cost of your room.  
Not staying at the Holiday Inn? Breakfast on your own.)

**Friday Night Dinner - \$ 25.00**

**BBQ Buffet**

Beef Brisket – rubbed with our blend of seasonings and smoked low and slow.  
Pulled Pork – seasoned with our top secret rub and smoked low and slow.  
Also includes: ranch style beans, macaroni and cheese, cole slaw,  
Cornbread, fresh split rolls, and fruit Cobbler with vanilla ice cream.

**Saturday Luncheon - \$ 23.00**

**Soup, Salad, and sandwich Buffet**

Garden salad with dressing.  
Your choice of black forest ham & sunset cheddar,  
Or Chicken salad sandwich  
Our House-made soup, served with Bread and Butter

**Saturday Night Dinner - \$ 32.00**

**Home-Style Buffet**

Roast Turkey – slow roasted in House and topped with our signature turkey gravy.  
Roast Beef – dry cured and slow roasted, topped w/ mushroom and red wine demi glaze  
Also includes: roasted garlic mashed potatoes, Green beans with bacon, fresh garden salad,  
House-made bread and butter,  
Chocolate Cake

**Lodging Information**

Holiday Inn Express Guest Room Group Rates  
Standard Guest Room, single or double - \$119 per night  
Available June 12 and 13, 2020- may extend stay up to 3 days  
before and after Conference at DKG Group Rates.

Hotel's room rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes, currently 8.85%).

\*Hotel will provide complimentary wireless internet in guest rooms and complimentary breakfast.

**Method of Hotel Reservations:** Please call the hotel directly – 1-970-240-1800  
**and tell them you are with the Delta Kappa Gamma group**

Group rate is guaranteed for reservations made on or before the **July 15, 2020.**  
Any reservations made after the Cutoff Date shall be at the Hotel's current available rate.

Colorado DKG  
TALENT SHOW!!!

Please join us in Montrose for the **Fabulous** Talent Show at the Leadership Conference, August 14, 2020.

Come join us with a song – do you sing or play an instrument? Sing or play your favorite – or - gather some friends for a small choir or musical ensemble!

Do you love writing? Grace us with a poem or short story – either yours or one you love!

Show off your latest artistic adventure! Painting, ceramics, sewing, knitting, crocheting, photography, sculpture.....

All are welcome and you know we'll LOVE whatever you choose to do!

Please let Deb Howard, MAHE Team Chair know by August 10 or see Bonnie Norton at the Conference.

[debhoward1634@gmail.com](mailto:debhoward1634@gmail.com)

Yes! I will participate in the Talent Show.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_

Talent \_\_\_\_\_ Others who will perform with you:





