



## The Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar, An Acrostic Poem

Dunia Jean-Baptiste, Former Seminar Participant  
teachaka@aol.com

**Dunia Jean-Baptiste** is a member of **Beta Mu Chapter** in District II. Currently, she teaches Intensive Reading for tenth - twelfth graders at Oakleaf High School in Clay County. Before earning her Reading and ESOL Endorsement, Dunia taught at two elementary schools in the county. In 2013, Dunia was invited to DKG membership, and the next year she participated in The Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar. Ms. Jean-Baptiste says, ***“Attending the Leadership Seminar was an absolute blessing that everyone should try to take advantage of within the first five years of membership. The Seminar inspired, energized, encouraged and motivated me. Being with like-minded women was a blessing.”***

**J**ust another  
**E**xample of a  
**S**uccessful  
**S**isterhood full of intelligent, professional women  
**L**eaders sharing their  
**Y**ears of experience and education to  
**N**urture the growth of others.

**M**otivating, encouraging and  
**C**ollaborating to mentor others.  
**B**eautiful due to their desire to  
**R**each out and impact the lives of others by being an  
**I**nfluencing force in all areas of society nationally and internationally.  
**D**etermined through hard work to  
**E**nlighten the world of the work of committed educators.

**L**aborers in the field of  
**E**ducation at ALL levels.  
**A**ccepting the call to assist in the  
**D**evelopment of purposeful  
**E**ducational experiences with great care and  
**R**esponsibility.  
**S**triving to sustain and promulgate  
**H**igh standards  
**I**n the field of education by  
**P**romoting, supporting, encouraging, personal and professional  
growth of women educators towards excellence

Before moving to Florida, Dunia taught in Fayetteville, Cumberland County, North Carolina and for the Department of Defense at Fort Bragg. She began her teaching career in Harford County, Maryland at the elementary level. During the Fall Executive Board Meeting & Workshops, Dunia presented her first workshop entitled “Can We Be Honest?” about self-evaluations. She is currently at the end of her reign as **Beta Mu’s Chapter President**. For the next biennium, she will serve as Parliamentarian.



## 2019 - 2021 Florida State Officers

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Dr. Nancy Henning  
the\_hennings@yahoo.com

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roxanne.berger45@gmail.com

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t1stan@bellsouth.net

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nmarmesh@yahoo.com

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pateckstein@yahoo.com

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"Sam"  
gammanuking@gmail.com

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Carol Ann Casey  
caseyca.dkg@gmail.com

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**Mu State Editor**  
Bonnie S. Kelley, Ed.S.  
531 Hadley Drive  
Palm Harbor, FL 34683

MuStateEditor@gmail.com



## The 2020 Florida Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar

**Pat Litterick, Chair**  
plitterick@att.net

The Florida Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar will be held June 14 - 17, 2020, at the Orlando Marriott Lake Mary. Applications for the seminar are available on the Florida State Website under *Committee Pages: Leadership Committee*. Submission deadline is March 15, 2020.

The Leadership Committee will be presenting a breakout session at each of the District Meetings titled: "EMPLOY DKG Publications into Your Leadership Toolbox." Members interested in attending the seminar can complete the one-page application at the District Meetings.

## Spotlight on Florida Members

### **Mary Cavaoli: Rotary Teacher of the Year**



On May 16, 2019, **Mary Cavaoli**, a member of **Beta Alpha Chapter** in **District V**, received the Rotary Club Teacher of the Year Award in Boca Raton, Florida. As a member of the Florida State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma, we offer our congratulations for representing our group of "Key Women Educators!" We are indeed proud of your accomplishment!

### **Barbara Perkins Retires from Suncoast Symphony Orchestra**



**Barbara Perkins**, one of the beloved orchestra violinists with the Suncoast Symphony Orchestra, has elected to retire her position after 14 grand years. Barbara devoted her energy as an outstanding musician and avid supporter of the orchestra. Join members of the Suncoast Symphony Orchestra and its Board of Directors in thanking Barbara for her years of unselfish dedication. Barbara has been a DKG member since 1961 and a **Beta Iota** member since 2005.

**Bravo, Barbara, Bravo!**



## Florida State DKG President's Message

**Remember:  
TOGETHER, WE CAN!**

**Dr. Nancy Henning, President  
DKG Florida State Organization 2019-2021**

Fellow DKG Members,

*We are at the end of one year and the beginning of a new one. I hope your holidays were filled with laughter, love and leisure. I have rested, rejuvenated, and readied myself for District Meetings.*

*What fun these meetings will prove to be! Be prepared to learn, laugh, and lunch; emphasis on learn. Our current directors have been working diligently for many months to prepare a meeting that will provide each member with activities that will energize and renew their commitment to DKG. Don't forget the specialized training for new presidents and treasurers. State Committees will be presenting workshops for membership designed to help your chapter's programs and projects work in tandem with international's suggested priorities. Make it a priority to attend your district meeting and perhaps a neighboring district's meeting.*

*Remember me telling you that I was volunteering in a beginning teacher's classroom.... well, that teacher is now a DKG member! I am looking forward to continuing to mentor her and perhaps get some retired members to get onboard at her school with volunteer work. Who knows where this could lead, maybe more members for Florida State Organization.*

*Continue your efforts to grow in DKG; look at the state and international websites to see what is new and where you can fit in. Attend your chapter meetings and involve yourself in programming and projects. Put state and international meeting dates on your calendar in ink. Start making your plans now to attend these meetings. Stretch yourself by volunteering to present a workshop at one of these meetings or even be on a state or international committee.*

*You are a valuable asset to DKG.*

*The more you are involved and know what is available, the more you get out of our society.*

*I will be looking for you at district meetings.*

*Nancy Henning*

## WORLD FELLOWSHIP: A Whole New World



**Myrna Santos, Chair**  
**ESLCARE@aol.com**

The World Fellowship Committee had its first meeting of the new biennium at the Florida State Organization's Fall Workshop. Committee members and the chair representing Districts III, IV, V, and VI were in attendance. It was a huge success! Plans were made for several potentially successful fundraising events and recipient acquaintance get-togethers within the coming year and beyond.

New this biennium will be the upgraded Diamond Award which will be given to chapters or individuals who have contributed \$200 or more to the World Fellowship cause during this biennium. As most of you already know, World Fellowship does not receive any money through DKG, but collects money to award scholarships to aid women's education globally solely through earnings by fundraising. With that in mind, the sales table at Fall Workshop collected more than \$200 in proceeds in only the few short hours allotted for sales at this Convention!



For those of you who will be pursuing the Silver, Gold, Platinum, or Diamond Award in the next biennium, please contact me. I do now have the current recipient brochure, and I will send it to you. You may contact one or more of these ladies, each from a distant land, and each welcoming your friendship and support to possibly develop a relationship with you or your chapter.

## School Supplies Collected at Fall Board Meeting & Workshop



On September 30, 2019, **Past State President Merle Jones** delivered school supplies to Hiland Park Elementary. She made another delivery to Deer Point Elementary early in October. **Kathy Diesner** delivered her car load to Calhoun County.



### Love to Read? Join the DKG Book Club!



1. Go to [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org).
2. Sign in with your membership number and password.
3. Click on MyDKG Tab.
4. Click on Communities.
5. Select DKG Book Club and complete information.
6. Subscribe and write topics to share with others.
7. Please post! The value of the community lies in its members contributing.



## Parliamentary Moment: Using “Unanimous Consent”

**Stephanie (Sam) King, PRP  
Parliamentarian, Florida State Organization**

The presiding officer uses “unanimous consent” to adopt motions without having to go through the steps of stating the question and then putting the motion to a formal vote. The meeting will run more efficiently. Members may always object and request an actual vote be taken on the specific action. When there is an objection, it’s usually a request for something to be added or removed, such as an item on the agenda. If the objection is to the motion being handled as unanimous consent, then a vote must be taken by the presiding officer.

This process may be used in many instances and these are some of the more common situations:

- to approve the agenda as presented (or approving to change the agenda)
- to approve the minutes as written (or approving the minutes as corrected)
- to approve an individual to serve as a pro tem for the meeting (i.e. secretary or parliamentarian pro tem)
- to adjourn the meeting

### Approving the Agenda

The President asks, “Is there any objection to the approval of today’s agenda as presented?” [pause] If there is no objection, the President continues, “Since there is no objection, the agenda is approved.”

If there is an objection from a member, “I object,” then the member may request a change to the agenda or request the formal process of handling the motion to adopt the agenda.

Assuming that there was a request for an item to be added to the agenda, the President would then state, “The item requested under new business has been added to today’s agenda, if there is no objection, [pause] the agenda is approved.”

### Approving the Minutes

The President states, “The minutes were emailed to the membership last week. Are there any corrections to the minutes?” [pause] “If there is no objection, [pause] the minutes are approved as written.”

If corrections are made to the minutes and all the corrections have been made, then the President says, “If there is no objection, [pause] the minutes are approved as corrected.”

### Approving a Pro Tem Serving for the Meeting

The President states, “Due to the absence of our secretary for this meeting, Jane Doe has agreed to serve as the secretary pro tem for this meeting. If there is no objection [pause], Jane Doe will serve as the secretary pro tem for this meeting.”

### Adjourn the Meeting

When it is apparent that the business for the meeting has been completed, the President may state, “If there is no further business and no objection, the meeting will be adjourned. [pause] The meeting is adjourned.”

Unanimous consent enables a motion to be adopted or some action to be taken without the necessity of having the chair state the question on a motion and put the motion to a vote. It even permits taking action without the formality of a motion being made at all. The chair simply asks the assembly if there is any objection to taking the desired action, and if no member then objects, the chair declares that the action has been agreed to. Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised (RONR) In Brief, 2nd ed., p.68.

***Protect the rights of all members including:  
the majority, the minority, individual members, of those that are absent, and of the entire organization.***

## Apply Now for an Educational Grant or Professional Development Award



### Florida DKG Educational Foundation

**Ann Tikka, Ed.S.**  
**Board of Directors, Florida Educational Foundation**  
**AnnMT@leeschools.net**

There is still time to apply for a Professional Development Award or the new Educational Grant to promote educational excellence for Florida students. Funding is available for activities that occur between April 1, 2020, and March 31, 2021. Both applications can be found at the Florida DKG Educational Foundation website at <http://www.FLDKGEF.org>. Applications are available now and are due by February 1, 2020.

#### Difference Between Two Options

The NEW Educational Grant may be used to cover costs associated with, but not limited to, the following examples: classroom activities, projects, materials, supplies, field trips, speakers, follow up activities to support previous professional development, limited equipment to support classroom activities, and/or other activities. This means that both employed and retired educators may apply for this grant. The maximum amount of the grant is \$1,000.

The Professional Development Award funds participation in professional development activities sponsored by organizations or institutions other than The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. This includes presentations/attendance at educational conferences that will contribute significantly to the educator's own professional development. The award may pay for registration fees and conference-related materials, travel, lodging, substitute teacher, if not provided by the district, and other expenses necessary for participation in the professional development activities.

#### Award Winners Last Year

The Foundation's award winners from last year presented their professional development opportunities at the Florida Executive Board Meeting and Conference last fall. **Nancy Rosenbaum** attended the week-long Space Academy for Educators at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama. Nancy said she was "refreshed, rejuvenated, and inspired by the experience" and couldn't wait to share her new knowledge with her 5th graders at Teach//University School in Tallahassee. **Sarah Watters** took the three-month long "Happy Teacher Revolution" online training course that allows her to facilitate meetings that will focus on mental health and wellness of teachers at her school site at Riversink Elementary in Crawfordville, Florida. This training helped Sarah establish the first "Happy Teacher" group in the state of Florida. Congratulations to our 2018-2019 recipients!

For more information on the new Educational Grant or the Professional Development Award or to apply, please login to the Florida DKG Educational Foundation website listed above. Please pay close attention to the details of the applications to ensure you have the best opportunity to be awarded funds to enhance your teaching skills or to receive funding to promote educational excellence. The Board looks forward to receiving your applications.

On the right is a photo of the turnout at the FL DKG Educational Foundation Annual Membership Meeting last fall.



## Rally in Tally: Legislative Committee Report

Nancy Bentz, Chair, [nbenteach@protonmail.com](mailto:nbenteach@protonmail.com)

# Rally in Tally

A Legislative Forum in Tallahassee

Supporting Issues on Education, Women and Children

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

February 10-12, 2020

### Monday

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, 2198 North Meridian Road, Tallahassee, FL

3:00-5:00 PM: Rally Prep/Review of Schedule/Agenda

5:00 PM: Dinner

5:30 PM: Speakers

6:00-7:00 PM: Guest Panel Questions & Discussions

### Tuesday

8:30 AM: Arrive Capitol Conference Room to ready for Rally

9:30 AM: Rally in the Senate Rotunda

10:00 AM: Conference room for regroup and Committee Meetings

12:00: Lunch in Capitol

1:00 PM: Conference Room with Legislators

2:00 PM: Legislator Office Visits (Appointments Made by Participants)

Dinner – TBD in home of the Hennings

### Wednesday

8:30 AM – 12:00 Capitol Conference Room (Meetings with Legislators)

12:15 PM: Lunch at Harry's/Debrief

## Legislative Issues:

Teacher Shortages and Retention

High Stakes Testing

Honorable Accountability

Financial Support for Education

Human Trafficking

Interested in participating?

Contact Nancy Bentz at [nbenteach@protonmail.com](mailto:nbenteach@protonmail.com) OR Carrie Frye at [cfrye@att.net](mailto:cfrye@att.net)

Event sponsored by **FL State Organization of DELTA KAPPA GAMMA**. Participants include members of AAUW, League of Women Voters, FL Retired Educators Association & Seminole County Retired Educators Association.

Please consider etching this event into your calendar. We are having a rally in the rotunda this year sponsored by Florida DKG. Many legislators & organizations have been invited to join us, and we are hoping many DKG members will be able to come to this fascinating event in Tallahassee. Take a look at our flyer/agenda (above) for the three days in Tallahassee. If you've never been to an event like this before, plan to be amazed at Florida's legislative system. We promise you will leave with much to talk about at your family dinner table! Our state legislative committee has been using monthly GoToMeetings to plan an event that will leave a mark on your memory! Looking forward to seeing you there!



**Friday Night Dinner**  
**Rutabaga Restaurant**  
 23 Jackson Street  
 Chattahoochee, Florida  
[www.facebook.com/Rutabaga-Cafe-169252816739660/](http://www.facebook.com/Rutabaga-Cafe-169252816739660/)

**You are Invited**

**to Delta Kappa Gamma's**

**District 1 Meeting**

**to be held on January 25, 2020**

**at Eastside Baptist Church**

**4785 Highway 90 (I-10 exit #142)**

**in Marianna, FL, from 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
CST**

**Econo Lodge Inn & Suites**

*Exit #142 off I-10*  
 2196 Post Oak Lane  
 Marianna, FL 32448  
 850-526-0096  
 1 King \$79 / 2 Queens \$89

**Comfort Inn & Suites**

*Exit #142 off I-10*  
 2214 FL-71  
 Marianna, FL 32448  
 850-482-7112  
 2 Queen Beds \$89





You are cordially invited to District II's  
Modern Woman's Tea  
Saturday, February 1, 2020  
Asbury United Methodist Church  
16 College Drive  
Orange Park, FL 32065 

District II invites you to attend the DKG Modern Woman's Tea as we celebrate DKG in northeast Florida. Please join us on Saturday, February 1, 2020, at Asbury United Methodist Church, 16 College Drive, Orange Park, Florida. Enjoy a continental breakfast between 7:30 – 8:15 AM. The full group meeting will begin promptly at 8:30 AM. Breakout sessions will run from 10:00 – 10:50 and 11:00 – 11:50 AM. Following the breakout session workshops, participants will gather in the Tea Room for our DKG Modern Woman's Tea. Please refer to the Florida State website for registration and workshop proposal forms. For out of town guests requiring an overnight stay on Friday the 31st, we reserved a block of rooms at the Hampton Inn located in Middleburg, Florida.

## DISTRICT II HOTEL RESERVATION UPDATE

- **THE HAMPTON INN**, LOCATED IN MIDDLEBURG, IS NOW ACCEPTING RESERVATIONS VIA AN EMAIL MESSAGE TO THE HOTEL MANAGER, **CORRINE JOHNSON**. AS THE HOTEL'S SERVER IS UNDERGOING ISSUES WITH THEIR ONLINE RESERVATION LINK, CORRINE WILL ACCEPT AN EMAIL REQUEST FOR RESERVATIONS AT [CORRINE.JOHNSON@HILTON.COM](mailto:CORRINE.JOHNSON@HILTON.COM). ONCE THE SERVER IS UP AND RUNNING, SHE WILL KEY IN MEMBER RESERVATIONS. CORRINE WILL THEN FOLLOW-UP BY EMAILING MEMBERS' HOTEL CONFIRMATIONS.

- **\*\*WHEN MAKING YOUR RESERVATION, MENTION DKG-DISTRICT II IN YOUR MESSAGE AND THAT YOUR BOOKING IS FOR FRIDAY, JANUARY 31ST, FOR A ONE-NIGHT STAY. INCLUDE MY NAME (TERRY STANILONIS) AS THE DKG CONTACT IN MIDDLEBURG.**



## District III Prepares for Grand Slam

**Yvonne M. McShay**  
District III Director



## District III Hotel Information "Grand Slam"

Using the theme "**Grand Slam**," I invite you to enjoy the Reader's Digest version of District III happenings. The District consists of 14 winning chapters stretching across Tampa Bay and beyond. One chapter includes members from three counties, one county includes members from three chapters, and one chapter consists of members from three cities. The committed chapter presidents, serving as team captains, wear their red ribbon with an assortment of pins to celebrate their accomplishments. They set out to navigate the landscape from Beverly Hills to Safety Harbor then to Winter Haven to invite rookie initiates to join our team of champions, and they do!

**March 7, 2020**, the day of the championship game, will feature a line-up of dynamic players. **Florida's State President Dr. Nancy Henning** will throw out the first pitch as she shares her 2019-20 goals with all participants. Other state leaders, and a field of educators from District III, will present enlightening sessions. We are anticipating bases loaded with an accomplished speaker, professional entertainment, and a delicious lunch, all of which will contribute to making District III's "Grand Slam" a memorable activity.

We ask you to save the date  
and become a participant.

**Date:** March 7, 2019

**Game Time:** 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM



**Stadium Location:**  
Polk State College (off 98 S.)  
"LTB building"  
3425 Winter Lake Road  
Lakeland, FL 33803

**Park:** In the lot directly in front of the building

**Casual Attire:** Wear baseball paraphernalia  
or your favorite team colors

If you aren't a State Officer or District III member  
and you would like to attend the game,  
you may request the registration form  
from **Yvonne McShay** at [ymcshay@gmail.com](mailto:ymcshay@gmail.com)

Hotel: Holiday Inn Express & Suites  
3405 South Florida Avenue  
Lakeland, Florida  
(863) 606-1000  
Cost - \$159.00

Be sure to ask for  
Delta Kappa Gamma Society reservation.

The Holiday Inn Express and Suites is near  
Polk Parkway for easy access to Polk State  
College. Exit Bartow Highway.

- Block off date ends 2/7/20.  
Rooms booked after the cutoff  
date aren't eligible for discount  
rates.
- Check in time is 3:00 PM.
- Check out time is 11:00 AM.

### Amenities

Full breakfast served from 6:30 - 9:30 AM  
with exclusive cinnamon rolls,  
24 hour Fitness Center,  
WiFi,  
Complimentary parking,  
Outdoor heated pool,  
Coin laundry on site,  
Microwave, Refrigerator, and Keurig.

District III promises a day of education, energy, and  
excitement! Don't forget the attire is casual, and you  
are welcome to wear paraphernalia that represent  
your favorite baseball team. All forms can be found  
on the Florida DKG website.

**Yvonne M. McShay**  
District III Director  
[email-ymcshay@gmail.com](mailto:ymcshay@gmail.com)  
(863) 604-3503



## District IV Meeting Invitation



*DKG Florida State Organization . . .  
growing stronger, going farther, and becoming greater!*

**Diana Brown, District IV Co-Director, [dbrown4710@gmail.com](mailto:dbrown4710@gmail.com)  
Sandy Reaves, District IV Co-Director, [reaves101@aol.com](mailto:reaves101@aol.com)**



*Above is the picture taken during the District IV Session of the Fall Executive Board Meeting & Workshops. We had 100% attendance of all Chapter Presidents! Co-Chairs Sandy and Diana are so blessed to support such a great group of DKG Florida State Organization leaders!*

*Here are the details, so save the date!*

**Who:** District IV Champions  
DKG Florida State Organization

**What:** DKG FL State District IV Meeting

**When:** February 28 - 29, 2020

**Where:** First United Methodist Church  
Wesley Center  
950 7th Street  
Clermont, Florida. 34711

*Each District IV Chapter is strongly encouraged to present a poster session at the District IV Meeting on February 29, 2020.*

*Sessions: There are two categories of sessions.*

**Workshops** will be presented by state officers and committees within a 30 minute time frame. Chapter Presidents and Treasurers will have an hour long session.

**Poster Sessions** will occur in 5 minute rotation intervals to small groups with an explanation of the informational poster highlighting the chapter's successful programs, projects, personal health, and/or growth.

*Let the race begin  
District IV meeting is near.  
Get your gear all ready  
Leap Day of Leap Year.*

*February 29, 2020  
Reserve this date.  
District IV Champions are convening  
Don't be late.*

*FUMC Wesley Center  
In Clermont is the place.  
All DKG sisters are invited  
To this important race.*

*Registration begins early,  
Lots of surprises to find.  
Fun while we work  
Stimulating the mind.*

*Making Chapters grow stronger  
Go farther, be greater for all.  
Great food, ideas, friendships  
Please accept our call.*

*Don't forget to come early  
Friday, February 28 when you wake.  
Journey to beautiful Clermont  
For pontooning on the lake.*

**District V Meeting:  
One World ~ DKG  
A United Nations of Education.**

**Myrna J. Santos, District V Director**  
ESLCARE@aol.com

The District V Meeting will take place on March 14, 2020. The theme is **One World ~ DKG- A United Nations of Education.**



It is our goal to inform you, as well as, entertain you! We aspire to do this by acquainting you with the liaison between the educators of Delta Kappa Gamma and the United Nations, a deep and true bonding of which very few members are aware. There will be colorful attire from the member countries and fun facts! Mark your calendar with the information below:

**Saturday, March 14, 2020  
8:15 AM – 2:15 PM**

**Nova Southeastern University  
Carl DeSantis Building, Room 3000**  
(Home to the H. Wayne Huizenga  
School of Business)  
Coral Springs, FL

**Submit Registration  
by February 20, 2020  
to Myrna Santos**

3600 N 82nd Drive  
Coral Springs, FL 33065  
Electronically to: ESLCARE@aol.com

**Make Checks Payable to  
DKG, Alpha Pi, District V Meeting  
Send to Jane Guterman**

7702 La Corniche Circle  
Boca Raton, FL 33433

**Hotel Reservation Information  
La Quinta by Wyndham**

7901 SW 6th Street  
Plantation, FL 33324

Because of our connection with Nova Southeastern University, you must use the **Group Code Name of NSU** for a rate of \$109 per room! The cut-off date for the discount is March 1, 2020. This hotel is a newly renovated facility.

Check-in, a deluxe continental breakfast, and basket arrangement will begin at 8:15 AM.

**“One World - DKG:  
A United Nations of Education”**

*We will celebrate the many countries of  
DKG in apparel, food, and song,  
And realize that among our international bonds,  
Together we really do belong!*

*So, please join us as we demonstrate to ALL  
That we are indeed ONE WORLD,  
Similar and Different,  
But United through it ALL!  
Discover what makes global education come alive,  
Come to our Meeting in District V!*

## Take Me to the District VI Meeting!

**Kathy Avery, District VI Co-Director**  
averykat5@aol.com

**Joann Higgins, District VI Co-Director**  
gammanuhiggins@yahoo.com

**We hope to see you there as we are  
\*\*HONORING OUR ALL STARS!\*\*  
Saturday, March 21, 2020, 8:00 AM  
Carlisle Inn**



3727 Bahia Vista Street  
Sarasota, FL 34232  
844-369-2275

Standard 2-Queen Room  
Rate \$149 + tax  
Use room block code RB0327  
Reservation Cut-off date is February 1, 2020.

Any reservations after this date  
will be subject to availability.

## Finance Committee Report



**Arlene Oehler, Chair**  
arlenem@fairpoint.net

The primary mission of the DKG Florida State Finance Committee is to supervise the financial affairs of Florida State, including recommendations for the expenditure and investment of funds and preparing the budget for adoption for the next biennium.

Two motions made by this committee and approved at the September 20 - 21, 2019, Fall Workshop Executive Board meeting were the following:

The Finance Committee moved that the collegiate members shall be charged five dollars for state organization fees. The rationale was that at the 2018 convention DKG International dues for collegiate members were set at \$20 for a full year and \$10 after January 1; no provision was made for state collegiate fees at the time. Approval of this motion provided for a normal state fee for collegiate members.

The second motion provided for a \$25 fee for use of a sales table at Florida State organization conventions. The rationale for this motion was that the chapters, vendors, etc. need to absorb the rental cost of a sales table.

Our committee is committed to continue to make appropriate motions to the Executive Board to amend the budget as needed. A budget item currently under study for action at the September 19, 2020, Fall Workshop is a separate line item allocation for the Necrology Committee, since it currently shares the Membership Committee budget allocation.

**Arlene Oehler (I) Chair, 2017 - 2021**

**Terry Stanilonis (II), 2019 - 2023**

**Marilyn Terry (III), 2017 - 2021**

**Dr. Margie Hunt (IV), 2019 - 2023**

**Victoria McFarland (IV), 2017 - 2021**

**Joyce Cotner (V), 2019 - 2023**

**Jan Lorton (VI), 2019 - 2023**

**Marla Thomas Cannon (V), Cons.**

**Beverly Stagg (I) State Treas., ex officio**

**Carrie Frye (IV), State Ex. Sec., ex officio**



**Florida State Organization's  
Featured Artist from the  
2019 Betty Thornton Arts & Crafts  
Gallery:**



**Marilyn Freeman**  
from **Gamma Delta Chapter**

In 2013, **Marilyn Freeman** retired from the Clayton County Schools in Georgia where she taught second and third grade students. Also, she served as chapter president of the **Gamma Alpha Chapter** of DKG in the Atlanta area.

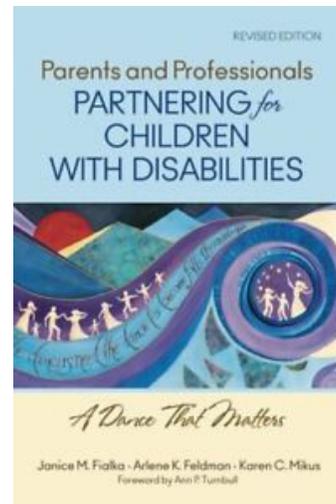


In September of 2013, Marilyn and her husband relocated to The Villages. Marilyn transferred her membership to the **Gamma Delta Chapter** where she served as a committee chair. In 2017, she became one of the Charter Members of **Delta Xi** which was established in The Villages. Marilyn serves as Delta Xi's First Chapter President.

After relocating to The Villages, Marilyn finally found the time to pursue her love for art. She chose watercolor as her medium and enrolled in local art classes. "My art provides a tranquility that I truly value," declares Marilyn. She and her husband have two sons, six grandchildren, and one great grandson.

**Book Review**

***Parents and Professionals  
Partnering for  
Children with Disabilities:  
A Dance That Matters***



**by Janice M. Falka, Arlene K. Feldman  
& Karen C. Mikus**

*In Parents and Professionals Partnering for Children with Disabilities: A Dance that Matters*, the authors use a dance metaphor to capture the complexities and possibilities of building strong partnerships between educational professionals and parents of children with disabilities. This revised edition of *Do You Hear What I Hear? Parents and Professionals Working Together for Children with Special Needs* provides real-world stories and examples with refreshing insights and practical strategies. Learn how to cultivate partnerships through honest, respectful, and skillful forms of communication.

# DKG Fine Arts Gallery

**Carol Ann Casey**  
**DKG Arts and Humanities Jury 2018-2022**  
**caseyca.dkg@gmail.com**



With the New Year comes the January 15 – February 15 submission period to the DKG Fine Arts Gallery. This is your opportunity to share your creative and artistic talents with the many DKG members from around the world. Interest in the Gallery has been steadily growing over the past year. For our Fall 2019 Gallery, we had 104 artists submit 174 works of which 147 were accepted. If you have not had the

opportunity to view the Gallery, please take some time to do so. The talents of your fellow sisters are outstanding, a joy to behold.

We are fortunate to have three of our Florida sisters with artwork in the Gallery. **Dr. Peg Dunn-Snow** has two jewelry pieces on display- **Pink Florets and Pearls** and **Underwater Splendor** pictured above. **Jody Stewart**

has two photography pieces on display- **Is There a Gnome in Here?** and **Great Smokey Mountains**. **Kathy Yarbrough** has a photograph entitled **Waiting for the Horses** and a mixed media piece entitled **Daffodil** featured at the bottom of the page.



Whether your passion is in the written or musical composition arts, performing arts, 2D or 3D visual arts or even a combination of two of these, there is a category for you. Visit the Art Gallery site on the DKG website and find out how to submit and take the plunge!



If you would like to find out more about submitting to the Fine Arts Gallery and have a chance to meet some of the Gallery exhibitors and the Arts and Humanities Jury members, plan on attending our breakout session at the International Convention in Philadelphia this summer. Get inspired and share your talents in a future gallery.

## Chapters Share Their Vision

### Alpha Chi Chapter



Here in beautiful Saint Petersburg, Florida, our forty or so Alpha Chi Chapter members enjoy a variety of committees, activities, and friendships. One committee we started many years ago stands out -- the Starwalk Committee. Believing that every child deserves the dignity of an enriched education, Starwalk members go above and beyond to find children who would otherwise miss out on quality learning and play. In the past thirty years, we have offered a reading program for homeless children, led an art and science morning for the local Salvation Army Homeless Shelter, donated school supplies to various organizations for women, children and families, partnered with our Arts and Craft Committee to provide quilts for children, and held a monthly afternoon of play for the children of refugee women who are learning to sew through Sew Much Hope Project.

Let me tell you a little bit more about Sew Much Hope Project (SMHP) and the women and children we serve there. While documented refugees who are resettled in the US are given assistance through major agencies, after about a year the refugees are expected to integrate into their new communities. Organizations such as DKG can make an enormous difference in helping these families move toward self-sufficiency during this difficult time of adjustment. Some families come with no education or English language, and they all find a bewildering cultural maze to navigate. SMHP was started to teach refugee women to sew so that they could acquire a skill to supplement their family income. When these wom-

en came to sewing days with their children in tow, that's when our Alpha Chi Chapter stepped in to help. Under the guidance of our chapter's Co-President Shannon Lipan and The Wonder Studio (Shannon's business), we began to offer hands-on arts, science, and movement activities for the children while their mothers learned sewing skills. The mosaic below was made by one of our chapter members, **Carol Moyle**, who is an art teacher and very involved in Starwalk. It's from her Immigrant Series.



Our DKG teachers plan and supervise all the activities, including tactile tables, magnetic building blocks, painting, play dough, slime, bubbles, construction projects with cardboard and recyclables, "car washes" with kids' cars, water play, chess, board games, jump rope, and much more. The children arrive with great excitement, and each one leaves with a donated book and a big smile. Thanks to the service of Alpha Chi members over the last two years, the SMHP refugee women are now sewing well enough to create fabric purses to bring to market, and are starting to form a co-op.

In DKG, we are committed to the idea that the education of all women makes an important difference for them, their families, and their communities. Through our Starwalk Committee, the women refugees are learning English, culture, how to sew, and teamwork -- as well as building community. Meanwhile, their children are learning, playing, exploring, and reading. We have found it so gratifying to see the positive results of this Starwalk service effort unfold so quickly and so completely- it has been a two-way blessing for all involved!

## Chapters Share Their Vision (continued)

### Beta Lambda Chapter



Members and guests of **Beta Lambda Chapter** celebrated Christmas at the Quina House Museum which is the oldest house in Pensacola still on its original site. Thanks, Julie Connerley, for the two photos!



### Beta Omega Chapter



On Saturday, December 7, **Beta Omega's Co-President Arlene Burrows** facilitated the chapter's business meeting before members sang Christmas Carols, enjoyed a delicious buffet, and shopped at the Annual Holiday Bazaar held at their beautiful new meeting location of Regal Palms in Largo. All of the members have been drumming up their creativity to make lots of cute and useful items for sale. Cooks in the chapter baked homemade cookies, breads, and other food items. By providing members with time to socialize, the Arts & Crafts and World Fellowship Committees met **Beta Omega's** goal of building strong bonds of community by supporting each other.



This year we had more shoppers as members invited guests, the residents and staff of Regal Palms, and the two closest DKG chapters (**Beta Iota** and **Kappa**) joined us. They bought gifts for neighbors, friends, students, colleagues, and of course, family members! The proceeds of \$750 were applied to the general operating budget.



### Beta Xi Chapter

**Beta XI** hopes that you have all had a successful first semester of this school year. We have had an organizational meeting, two book club meetings, and a fundraiser for Dress For Success Palm Beaches. We spent a good deal of our organizational meeting planning the Dress For Success fundraiser and community outreach project. Committee event chair, **Alicia Torres**, provided details and tasks for members.

On Sunday November 17th, we rode the fast train, Virgin Trains USA (formerly Brightline) to Miami for the opening day of the book fair. This was organized by our book club members. We meet every six weeks. Our book club has met twice in the past few months and recommends reading **Bel Campo** and **Nickel Boys**.

A holiday party was held on December 7th at the lovely garden home of our expert hostess **Linda Petuch**. A yoga demonstration is planned for February. Members are very involved in the planning for the Rally in Tally set for February 10 - 12, 2020. They continue to be a liaison with legislators and the Human Trafficking Coalition of Palm Beach County to push for more legislation regarding human trafficking.

## Chapters Share Their Vision (continued)

### Eta Chapter



### Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranches® MENDING LIVES, HEALING HEARTS®

Janet Sampson, Donor Relations Representative to the Florida Sheriff's Youth Ranches, presented an informative program on their history and mission for **Eta Chapter's** October 5 meeting. Many members were not aware of the variety of services the program offers to both boys and girls throughout the state of Florida. The organization serves many children including foster children and children at risk for abuse or neglect. The program is God-centered and work-ethic based. In November, **Eta Chapter** awarded a \$500 Grant-in-Aid to recipient **Leighanna Miller**. **Eta Chapter** also sponsors a "Supporting Schools and Teachers" program. Since the beginning of this school year, 62 hours were volunteered. Members mentor, tutor, sponsor a STEM Club, attend SAC meetings, judge contests, bring goodies to schools, and other activities to uplift students and teachers.

### Gamma Delta Chapter

The Executive Board of **Gamma Delta** met over the summer, discussed their 2018-2019 needs assessment results and developed goals for 2019-2020 under the theme of "Believe in the Power of You." Each year Gamma Delta adopts a school for which their members donate school supplies. They started the year off donating seven \$25 Office Depot Gift Cards for the Lake County Back to School Teacher Appreciation breakfasts. The gift cards were delivered to the local Chamber of Commerce, along with an invitation to join Gamma Delta. We look forward to working with our very own **District IV Co-directors Diana Brown and Sandy Reaves**, in regards to the District IV Regional meeting which will be held on Saturday, February 29, 2020, at the First United Methodist Church in Clermont.

At our October meeting, the Educational Excellence Committee provided the program and Polish favorites for dinner. Three members presented. **Marni Kay**, a professor at UCF's School of Teacher Education, shared "Connecting the Dots" by giving an overview

of International Dot Day. **Bonnie Watkins**, a teacher at Tavares High School, presented an updated overview of their Teaching Academy program. **Dr. Mary Kay Pieski**, Co-President of Eagle-Orzel Educational and Cultural Exchange, gave an overview of the organization. Also, a fourth year Lake County teacher shared creating a love of literacy for students through book tasting. A UCF intern shared "Lake County Teacher Knights" which is a monthly collaboration night that supports and encourages teachers. **Amy Crockcroft** spoke to the "Teacher Knights" on reading conferencing.

At our November meeting, the Arts Committee provided dinner and members made Santa gift card holders for Kid's Central which is our biggest community involvement endeavor. Kid's Central helps create bright futures for children and families in Central Florida, including Lake County. In December, at our World Fellowship Christmas party, members voluntarily brought gift cards for teenagers in the foster care program.

### Gamma Nu Chapter



**Gamma Nu Chapter** held our 3rd annual "Coffee, Donuts and Literacy" workshop in October. Each year it grows as more speakers and resources are added. This year the keynote speaker, Kathryn Harrison with Harrison Educational Training, treated participants to a presentation titled "Ramp Up Your Reading Aloud." Kathryn also held a session on ASL and Early Literacy. **Gamma Nu member Dr. Jackie Greene** pictured above held a session on "Keep it REAL- Relevant, Engaging, Affirming, Literacy for all Learners" and **Gamma Nu member Janet Bell** held an informative session on Dyslexia.

## Chapters Share Their Vision (continued)



A member of the Charlotte County community, Crystal Smith, gave information that focused on how to hit mastery of domains and standards in her session entitled "Literacy for the Early Childhood Classroom." Participants were given the opportunity to use the workshop for in-service credit. Books, door prizes, displays, and of course, coffee and donuts were enjoyed by everyone. **Gamma Nu member Sharon Dyke** is pictured on the left.

## Palm Beach Chapters

**Beta Xi** and **Gamma Lambda Chapters** joined together to make their annual fundraising project a festive community outreach event. It was held on Saturday evening, September 28th, and consisted of a banquet-style dinner with sensational juicy beef and chicken marsala at the Palm Beach National Golf and Country Club followed with a silent auction, fashion show, and delectable desserts. We used the theme "**Lights, Camera, Auction!**" The models dressed up as teachers from movies.

The event's emcee was **Maria Cavallo-Benkirane**, a **Beta Xi** member. The primary event coordinator and presenter of the check to Dress for Success was **Alicia Torres**. Clothing for the fashion show was provided by Dress for Success Palm Beaches. It was an entertaining night, and the event raised \$952. The models' names, chapters, and movie titles pictured below are:

**Izzy Parrado (Alpha Omega) - School of Rock**  
**Nancy Bentz (Beta Xi) - Dangerous Minds**  
**Chelly Templeton (Beta Xi) - Bad Teacher**  
**Lourdes Day (Guest to Alicia Torres) - Mean Girls**  
**Linda Petuch (Beta Xi) - October Sky**  
**Nancy Thorson (Gamma Lambda) - Mr. Holland's Opus**  
**Judy Hanrahan (Gamma Lambda) - Harry Potter**  
**Henny Santo (volunteer) - Up the Down Staircase.**



## A Celebration of Life: Being a DKG Woman



**Betty Louise Donkersgoed**  
**Beta Kappa Chapter**  
**District VI**  
**October 18, 2019**  
**Naples, FL**



**Mary Louise Donkersgoed**, age 93, of Naples, FL, and formerly of Bloomington, MN passed away on October 18, 2019. She was born in Minneapolis, MN on January 1, 1926, and grew up at the Masonic Home where her parents were superintendents. Mary Louise graduated from Winona State University and received her Masters in Education from Mankato State University.

She had an exemplary 34 year career in the Bloomington Schools and was a pioneer as one of the early female principals. She was ahead of her time advocating for the inclusion of special needs students in the regular education classroom.

She was an active member of DKG for 50 years. Retiring in 1981 and moving to Naples, she joined Beta Kappa Chapter. Children were always a focus in her life, and she supported any program that was in their best interest. She was an accomplished equestrian and had many beloved pets

throughout her life. Many of her favorite days were spent enjoying nature at her lake home "up north" in MN in the middle of the Chippewa National Forest. Mary Louise had a big and open heart and lived life to the fullest as school principal, world traveler, pen pal, volunteer and social diva.

**Leah M. Hackney**  
**Mu Chapter**  
**District III**  
**September 30, 2019**  
**Beverly Hills, FL**

**Leah Mae Hackney**, age 102, passed away on September 30, 2019, in Beverly Hills, FL. Previously, she lived in Brandon and Tampa. She was a reading specialist at the middle, high school, and community college levels.

She was inducted into **Delta Kappa Gamma** on April 1, 1966, in Hillsborough County, FL. As a Mu Chapter member, she held several offices and volunteered on many committees. She was a DKG member for 53 years!

**Nancy Jackson**  
**Xi Chapter**  
**District V**  
**October 23, 2019**  
**Plantation, FL**

**Nancy Jackson** was born on November 1, 1936. She graduated from Susquenita High School, Millersville University, and the University of South Florida.

Nancy Jackson was a hard-working, dedicated member of DKG. She was eager to help where needed. When given a committee position, she was very faithful in attending and doing her part. Nancy went to great lengths to help keep up our headquarters property when she served on the Headquarter's Committee. She drove

from Plantation, Florida, several times, spent the night on her own dime, brought her husband who was in early stages of Alzheimer's, and was there working in the yard, the house, or where needed. She was there when we began packing up for the sale of the headquarters property.

**Dr. Michaelyn Mallette**  
**Zorn**  
**Gamma Zeta Chapter**  
**District VI**  
**October 30, 2019**  
**LaBelle, FL**



**Dr. Michaelyn Mallette Zorn** passed away on October 30, 2019, at her home in LaBelle, Florida surrounded by her loving family. Born in Andalusia, Alabama on September 29, 1935, she graduated from Andalusia High School in 1953. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Education from the University of Alabama in 1958.

She was an elementary school teacher for 30 years including Florala City Schools in Alabama, Santa Rosa County Schools in Florida, and Hendry County Schools in LaBelle. She retired from teaching in 2000.

While living in Florala, Florida, in December of 1979, she was initiated into DKG. For 40 years, she was an active member of **Gamma Zeta**, served as Chapter President, headed various committees, supported chapter projects, and served as a mentor to many members. She was a DKG member in Alabama as well.

**Dr. Mary Joe Zehnter**  
**Gamma Zeta**  
**District VI**  
**July 8, 2019**  
**Fort Meyers, FL**

**Mary Joe Zehnter** was born on March 14, 1928, in Punta Gorda, FL and passed away on July 8, 2019. She graduated from Florida State University in 1948 with a Bachelor of Science and from Florida Atlantic University in 1977 with a Masters of Education.

She was inducted in 1973 as a Charter Member of the **Gamma Zeta Chapter** located in LaBelle, Hendry County, FL. She was an Active Member and served the Gamma Zeta Chapter for years. During her retirement, she continued her service as a Reserve Member.

Dr. Zehnter was engaged in various capacities as an educator. Beginning in 1954, she taught Math and Science at LaBelle High School. Her teaching assignments included Chemistry and Physics at various levels- elementary, junior high, and high school. Starting in 1978, she was assigned to be assistant principal followed by high school principal for both Hendry County high schools- Clewiston and LaBelle. Mary Joe served as a Board of Education member for nearby Glades County. Mary Joe retired in April of 1984 from her education career as principal of LaBelle



High School. Mary Joe's avocations were needlepoint, reading, and genealogy.

### Florida Rays

Members are encouraged to email information to be used in the **Florida Rays** to Bonnie Kelley at [MuStateEditor@gmail.com](mailto:MuStateEditor@gmail.com)

December 1.....Winter  
February 1.....Spring  
May 1.....Summer  
August 1.....Fall



### Information Sources

**DKG Florida Website**  
[www.dkgmustateflorida.weebly.com](http://www.dkgmustateflorida.weebly.com)

**DKG Florida on Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/DKG-Florida-State-Organization-128818413969052/>

**DKG Florida on Twitter**  
[@DKGMuState](https://twitter.com/DKGMuState) FL

**Florida DKG Educational Foundation Website**  
[www.fldkgef.org](http://www.fldkgef.org)

**Florida DKG Educational Foundation on Facebook**  
[www.facebook.com/FLDKGEF](http://www.facebook.com/FLDKGEF)

**Florida DKG Educational Foundation on Twitter**  
[@FLDKGEF](https://twitter.com/FLDKGEF)

### Upcoming Meeting Dates

**District I Meeting**  
“There’s No Stopping Us Now!”  
January 25, 2020  
Eastside Baptist Church, Marianna, FL

**District II Meeting**  
“DKG Modern Woman’s Tea”  
February 1, 2020  
Lake Asbury United Methodist Church, Orange Park, FL

**District IV Meeting**  
“District IV Champions - Stronger, Farther, Greater”  
February 29, 2020  
First United Methodist Church, Wesley Center, Clermont, FL

**District III Meeting**  
“Grand Slam”  
March 7, 2020  
Polk State College, Lakeland Campus, Lakeland, FL

**District V Meeting**  
“One World DKG - A United Nations of Education”  
March 14, 2020  
Nova Southeastern Univeristy, Davie, FL

**DKG US Forum National Legislative Seminar**  
March 15 - 18, 2020  
Holiday Inn National Airport Hotel  
Arlington, VA

**District VI**  
“Honoring Our DKG All-Stars”  
March 21, 2020  
Carlisle Inn, Sarasota, FL

**The Florida Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar**  
June 14 - 17, 2020  
Orlando Marriott Lake Mary

**DKG International Convention**  
July 7 - 11, 2020  
Philadelphia, PA

**Florida State Fall Workshop & Executive Board Meeting**  
September 18 - 19, 2020  
Orlando Marriott Lake Mary

**Florida State Convention**  
April 30 - May 2, 2021  
Orlando Marriott Lake Mary