

# The Florida State Organization of DKG

## Florida Rays

Vol. 67 No. 4

TOGETHER WE CAN!

Summer 2022

### Florida DKG Educational Foundation

Ann Tikka, Board of Directors

[annmt@leeschools.net](mailto:annmt@leeschools.net)



The Florida DKG Educational Foundation (FLDKGEF) was represented by the Board of Directors at all six spring district meetings. Attendees were given a two-minute update at the General Session, an opportunity to attend a workshop on applying for awards or grants, and FLDKGEF's latest brochure. We thank those district directors who donated the proceeds from the sale of basket tickets for the Educational Foundation.

This spring, the Florida DKG Educational Foundation was pleased to announce four Professional Development Awards for 2022. Recipients include **Doreen Alvarez**, Port Charlotte, who will attend the "Teaching Learning Coaching Conference" that focuses on instructional coaching and instructional practice including techniques to create a coaching cycle with teachers for professional development; **Kaye Barfield Darby**, Vernon, will take the "Counseling Children with Sexual Trauma" virtual course that addresses pressing social issues including mental health and counseling techniques for children who were sexually assaulted; **Lucinda Rempala**, Port Charlotte, who will attend the "American School Counselor Association National Conference" that will enhance school counselor knowledge and provide opportunities to network with other school counselors to discover best practices; and **Elisabeth Davis**, Altamonte Springs, was to participate in the "Advanced Placement (AP) Project Based Learning Series" which focused on skills needed for an AP Environmental Science class. However, the activity was cancelled and the funding was returned. She will be eligible to apply again.

The Florida DKG Educational Foundation also awarded four Educational Grants. Recipients include **Beth Cavallaro**, Cocoa-FL, to fund the "Morning Running Club" at her school to encourage students and teachers to begin their day by walking or running three mornings per week with laps cumulatively added with predetermined goals that earn incentives; **Renea McKenzie**, Vernon-FL, will organize a family event for students and their parents/guardians called "Bingo for Books" to play Bingo to win children's books that are theirs to keep; **Rebekah Richey**, Sanford-FL, to take bi-monthly field trips with themed lesson plans for low-income K-6 grade students who attend an after-school program; and **Sarah Watters**, Crawfordville-FL, who will implement "4 Houses, 1 Otter Family" where students and staff are sorted into a house where positive behaviors are acknowledged and rewarded to encourage student engagement and improve the school climate.

Please consider applying for the FLDKGEF Professional Development Award that provides funding for educators to attend training that relates to the educator's professional aspirations or the FLDKGEF Educational Grant that supports classroom activities and projects designed by active or retired educators to be implemented in schools or communities. The updated applications for projects or professional development that occurs between April 1, 2023, and March 31, 2024, will be available on September 1, 2022, online at [www.fldkgef.org](http://www.fldkgef.org). Applications must be submitted by February 1, 2023. A tax-deductible donation can be made to the Foundation at the same website.

It is with extreme sadness to announce we have lost a catalyst for the establishment of the Florida DKG Educational Foundation and a member of the Board of Directors since conception, **Merle S. Jones**. She died on February 8, 2022. The Foundation, and members of the DKG organization at all levels, are indebted to Merle for her friendship, vision, leadership, generosity, integrity, and passion for DKG.

### 2021 - 2023 Florida State Officers

President

Roxanne Berger  
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First Vice-President

Terry Stanilonis  
t1stan@bellsouth.net

Second Vice-President

Nancy Bentz  
nbenteach@protonmail.com

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Parliamentarian

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Immediate Past

State President  
Dr. Nancy Henning  
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**Florida Rays**

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**MuStateEditor@gmail.com**

### Spotlight on... Nancy Bentz

In the latest DKG News, our own **Nancy Bentz, Florida DKG State Second Vice-President, 2021-2023**, has been selected to be a participant in the 2022 DKG Ignite Class (Golden Gift Seminar). She has been a member of **Beta Xi Chapter** since 2010. Nancy lives in Stuart, Florida. *Way to go, Nancy!*

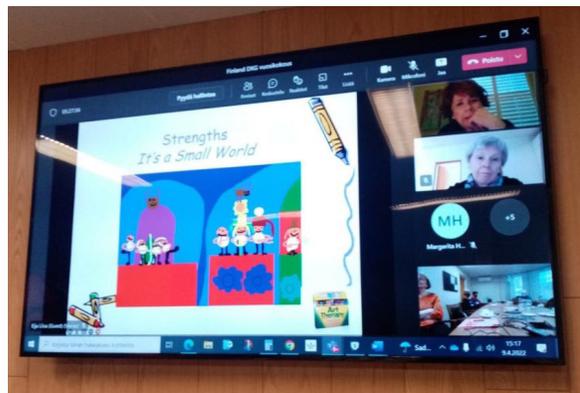


### Spotlight on... Martha Bireda

The Leader in Education is awarded to a Charlotte County educator who is responsible for allocating financial and staff resources to further education of people of all ages. **Martha Bireda** was the recipient of the 2022 Leader in Education Award. She has been a speech therapist, a Head Start teacher, a college academic counselor, an owner and operator of Diversity Training Associates, and currently is the director of the Blanchard House Museum of African American History and Culture, located in Punta Gorda. Congratulations, Martha, for all you have done and continue to do to foster learning in Charlotte County.

### Spotlight on...Dr. Peg Dunn-Snow

On Saturday, April 9, 2022, Dr. Peg Dunn-Snow had another opportunity to be a DKG International Speaker, giving a PowerPoint presentation to several International DKG members in Finland. She was invited to give an overview of her work as an art therapist, highlighting mini case studies of clients who she has worked with in nursing homes, school settings, and private practice. She is always happy to talk about the advantages of art therapy in combination with verbal therapy and play therapy. She even had the opportunity to participate in a virtual "coffee break" with the members prior to her session at the 2022 DKG Spring meeting in Helsinki.



## Florida DKG State President's Message

Roxanne Berger, State President, 2021 - 2023  
 Florida DKG State Organization  
 Roxanne.berger45@gmail.com



Greetings Florida State Organization,

**“CHANGE is  
 HEALTHY and BEAUTIFUL.  
 Ask a Butterfly!**



Congratulations to the District Directors and the chapters for presenting outstanding meetings in all six districts. More than 450 members were in attendance. It was wonderful to see many friends giving hugs and laughing out loud after two years of isolation. Now is the time to get a SPRING back in your step and re-engage with our state membership.

Please read the *Florida Rays* to see the wonderful activities and events going on in Florida. I hope to see many of our Florida members at the DKG International Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana, on July 12 – 16, 2022. Florida has always had a large number of members attend the Conventions. The keynote speakers are always very qualified and interesting. There will be a variety of workshops, and, of course, we will vote on more than 120 amendments to our Constitution during the General Sessions. There will be work to accomplish and lots of fun activities. Please register early.

We will be recognizing all past District Directors at our Executive Board Meeting and Workshops on September 23-24, 2022, at the Orlando Marriott Lake Mary. Our Special guest is **Candace (Candi) Martin, our current Southeast Regional Director**. Please attend and celebrate with us in September. Last September we did not reach our quota at the hotel, so we had limited rooms for meetings and workshops. Call early to make sure you get a room at our very competitive hotel room rate. The more hotel rooms we rent, the more breakout rooms we will have. Please get back to DKG business by attending this September.



Thank you to those chapters who have invited our state officers and district directors to attend local chapter meetings. DKG is a service organization, so we enjoy hearing firsthand what each chapter is doing for the community, school children, and educators.



It is an honor to have membership in Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. We have more than 57,000 members in 17 countries who, when combined, accomplish great things for education around the world. I hope you always feel the pride of DKG membership. If you are not actively involved at the local chapter level, please remember you are vital to the success of your chapter.

Please look at the Florida and DKG international websites for lots of information! Looking forward to seeing you in New Orleans and Lake Mary!

Roxanne Berger, President 2021-2023  
 Florida DKG State Organization  
 Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
 Key Women Educators

727-445-5328 (C)  
 Roxanne.berger45@gmail.com

**Florida DKG State Organization  
 Fall Executive Board Meeting  
 Registration Form  
 September 23 – 24, 2022  
 Orlando Marriott Lake Mary**

**Please print or type one name per form:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Check all that apply:**  Member  Member five years or less  First State Meeting  
 Current Chapter President/Designee  Past State President  
 Current District Director  Past District Director  
 State Officer or Related Personnel \_\_\_\_\_  
 State Committee Chairman (Name of Committee) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Special Dietary Needs (please indicate) \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Deadline: Postmarked on or before September 9, 2022**

<b>Member Registration</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>	<b>Make Check Payable to:</b>	<b>Delta Kappa Gamma OR see attachment</b>
<b>(includes materials and Saturday Lunch)</b>			<b>for Automated Registration</b>
<b>Friday night dinner for member</b>	<b>\$17.00</b>		<b>Send to: Carolyn McGowan</b>
<b>Non-member Friday night dinner</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>		<b>230 Overlook Drive</b>
<b>Name:</b>	_____		<b>Clermont, Florida, 34711-2428</b>
<b>Non-member Saturday Luncheon</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>		<b>mmcdm1@aol.com</b>
<b>Name:</b>	_____		<b>352-223-7773</b>
<b>Late Registration Fee</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>		
<b>Total Included</b>	<b>\$</b>		

**No refunds after September 15, 2022**

**Check online for Convention Schedule/Agenda:** [dkgmustateflorida.weebly.org](http://dkgmustateflorida.weebly.org)

**Please note:** Unless you indicate below, your attendance at this meeting gives permission for your photo and contact information (if needed) to be used in the *Florida Rays* or any DKG publication.

\_\_\_\_\_ No, I do not want my photo or contact information used in the *Florida Rays* or any DKG publication.

Orlando Marriott Lake Mary  
 1501 International Parkway  
 Lake Mary, Florida, 32746  
 Phone: 407-995-1100 or 800-380-7724

**Group Reservation**  
 2022 DKG Fall Ex. Board  
 September 23 - 24, 2022

**Directions from Turnpike:**  
 Take I-4 exit, Exit 259 Orlando/Tampa  
 Merge onto I-4 E toward downtown Orlando  
 Take EXIT 101A (CR-46A exit, Sanford/Heathrow)  
 Turn left onto H.E. Thomas Jr. Parkway CR-46 W  
 Turn left onto International Parkway  
 Turn left at 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway for Marriott

Rates: Single - \$119.00 Double - \$119.00  
 Triple - \$119.00 Quad - \$119.00  
**(Room rates do NOT include taxes and fees.)**

**Directions from I-95**  
 Take I-95 to exit 223 (Sanford/Mims)  
 Head west on Rt. 46 through Sanford  
 Turn left onto International Parkway  
 Take 2<sup>nd</sup> left – to Marriott

Each reservation must be guaranteed with a first night’s deposit or major credit card.  
 Please specify the group name (above) to receive your group rate.

**Reservation cut-off date: September 1, 2022**

Any reservation after this date is subject to availability  
**Refund Policy:** Cancellations, no shows, or early departures without a 48-hour advance notice will result in forfeiture of one night’s deposit or a change of one night’s stay to a credit card.

**Directions from west on I-4**  
 Take 429 (toll road) on west side of Disney Properties  
 Stay on 429 until it connects to CR-46  
 Travel east toward Sanford/Daytona Beach  
 Turn right onto International Parkway  
 After 3<sup>rd</sup> Stop Light, take 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway on left



**Florida DKG State Organization**  
**Fall Executive Board Meeting**  
**Registration Form and Automated Payment**  
**September 23 – 24, 2022**  
**Orlando Marriott Lake Mary**

**Please print or type one name per form:**

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (    ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Check all that apply:**     Member     Member five years or less     First State Meeting

Current Chapter President/Designee     Past State President

District Director     Past District Director

State Officer or Related Personnel \_\_\_\_\_

State Committee Chairman (Name of Committee) \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary Needs (please indicate) \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Deadline: Postmarked on or before September 9, 2022**

**Member Registration**    \$75.00 \_\_\_\_\_ (includes materials and Saturday Lunch)

**Friday night dinner for member**    \$17.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Non-member Friday night dinner**    \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Non-member Saturday Luncheon**    \$35.00 \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Late Registration Fee**    \$40.00 \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Payment**    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**No refunds after September 15, 2022**

Send to: Carolyn McGowan

230 Overlook Drive

Clermont, Florida, 34711-2428

mmcdm1@aol.com

352-223-7773

**Check online for Convention Schedule/Agenda:**    [dkgmustateflorida.weebly.org](http://dkgmustateflorida.weebly.org)

**Please note:** Unless you indicate below, your attendance at this meeting gives permission for your photo and contact information (if needed) to be used in the *Florida Rays* or any DKG publication.

No, I do not want my photo or contact information used in the *Florida Rays* or any DKG publication.

**Automated Payment Instructions:**

Download the Venmo Service App using your mobile device. Then proceed with the directions below:

- Select pay or request
- Enter [dcrevels1@gmail.com](mailto:dcrevels1@gmail.com)
- Fill in the amount
- Select pay
- Select send
- Send in your completed registration form by mail or email to:  
Carolyn McGowan  
230 Overlook Dr, Clermont, FL 34711-2428  
Email: [mmcdm1@aol.com](mailto:mmcdm1@aol.com)  
Cell: 352-223-7773

**If you choose to use Venmo, you have two choices: "Friend" or "goods/services"**

**Please only use the "Friend" option.**

**The "goods/services" option has a large fee.**

**Please sign up soon and make your hotel arrangements directly with the hotel.**

## Uniting Women Educators Dr. Elsie Gross Florida DKG State Organization President 2003-2005



Initiated in 1972, **Dr. Elsie Gross**, a member of **Beta Theta Chapter**, became the leader of Florida's DKG members during the 2003-2005 biennium. A Ph.D. in organic chemistry, Elsie was very organized, paid attention to detail, demonstrated a compassion for others especially during the hurricane season in 2004, and challenged the membership to reflect on Dr. Annie Webb Blanton's most basic purpose of uniting women educators. In 2001, she received the Sara B Ferguson Achievement Award and was inducted into the state's DKG Hall of Fame that same year.

During Dr. Gross' biennium she was assisted by fellow officers, Dr. Ann Lumsden, Barbara Van Diepen, Mary Lee Erhardt, Peggy DuBose, Myra Ponder, Dr. Beverly Helms, and Kristen Sternberg. Chairs of Committees appointed by Elsie included Patty Segrest, Andrea Geiger, Mickey Stout, Morita Hadlock, Barbara Jeffers, Fern Cleary, Carol Ann Casey, Jan McNutt, Sharon Lassiter, Lou Burns, Carrie Frye, Ann Blossfield, Edie Smith, Adwina Quamina, Dr. Peg Dunn Snow, Mildred Thomas, Carolyn McGowan, Sandra Smith, and Connie Kostyra.



At the 2003 Fall Executive Board/Workshop, she challenged members to move their chapters from "good" to "great." During this state meeting President Gross also took action to help defray expenses of members who were assigned duties by the state organization president and purchased a computer and related financial software for the state organization treasurer.

Dr. Gross led 95 members with her to North Carolina for the 2003 Southeast Regional Conference at which she delivered the inspirational thought. Dr. Beverly Helms presided at the conference as the Regional Director.

Fifty members attended the 2004 International Convention held in Minneapolis in 2004 where Doris Nesbit was elected Chair of the U.S. Forum and Dr. Dorothy Johnson, 1968-70 International President, wowed everyone as she eloquently articulated "the sparkle of our past" and inspired attendees to "embrace the brilliance of the future."

Six district meetings were held in the spring of 2004 from January 10 - April 23. At the Fall Executive Board/Workshop meeting in 2004, Dr. Neila Conners, founder and president of Positive Connection, was the keynote speaker. Evelyn Barron, International President, shared the international update. The meeting was held during the summer of hurricanes including Bonnie, Charley, and Francis. Hurricane Ivan was anticipated. More than \$2,800 was collected for emergency funds to help Florida DKG members who experienced hurricane damage.

At the Florida DKG State Organization Convention in 2005, Evelyn Barron, International President introduced the international representative, Elizabeth Van Dongen, Area Representative, Canada. During this convention, the state received the Betty Thornton bequest of \$12,392.44. Of this, the Executive Board approved \$3,392.44 to go to the state's emergency fund, and \$9,000 to be used to purchase equipment for use by state organization personnel. Fern Cleary conducted a beautiful Ceremony of Remembrance. Those inducted into the Hall of Fame included Ann Blossfield, Mary Lee Erhardt, Barbara Jeffers, Dr. Ann Lumsden, Dr. Joan Lutton, Irva Maddox, Fran Marinari, Ruth McCrary, Mickey Stout, and Nancy Thompson.

Thank you, Dr. Gross, for your expert leadership of the state organization during this biennium, as well as your previous and continued leadership in Florida. Your leadership at the international level as chair of the Educational Foundation was exemplary. Your chairmanship of the Florida DKG Educational Foundation from its inception and for two terms, along with your service as a director from 2015-2022 has been monumental in its success. We love you and appreciate the impact you have had on the lives of so many in the chapter, district, state, regional and international organization. Thank you, Elsie, for your exemplary service.



## District III Meeting: **CREATED A GREAT DKG!** March 13, 2022 Bayside Church, Safety Harbor

**Karol Gotte, District III Director**  
 gotteya@aol.com

The District III meeting was **CREATED** by the awesome DKG chapters in the district! Every chapter contributed so much to the success of the meeting! **Karol Gotte, District III Director**, called the General Session to order at 10 AM at Bayside Church in Safety Harbor, Florida.

There were 98 ladies present at the meeting. The General Session began with a parade of chapter flags and the introduction of the outgoing and incoming presidents. **Diane Revels, District IV Director**, was an honored guest! Other guests included

**Roxanne Berger, Florida State President; Terry Stanilonis, Florida State 1st Vice-President; Beverly Stagg, Florida State Treasurer; Carrie Frye, Florida State Executive Secretary; Bonnie Kelley, State Editor of the Florida Rays;** former state presidents; thirteen former district directors, and nine members attending the District III meeting for the first time! It was a great start to a wonderful day!



During the morning, District III remembered **Merle Jones, 2013-2015 Florida State President**. The District III Chapter Presidents are making a donation in her memory to the Florida DKG Educational Foundation.

After state committee reports, **Angela Wright-Nash** was elected as the **2022-2024 District III Representative to the FL State Nominations Committee**. Brenda Johnson was elected to be the **2022-2024 District III Director**. Both of these women will represent District III very well, and we are proud of them!



There were twelve workshops presented before lunch. Everyone enjoyed a delicious box lunch from Honey Baked Ham while listening to **Sarah Ann Painter, 2022 Florida Teacher of the Year**, speak about her experiences and challenges in teaching. She shared what JOY means to her:

**J**oin with others;

**O**wn your practice and data;

**Y**et—some things we haven't accomplished yet, but we are on our way!

***Ms. Painter, a fifth grade teacher at Eisenhower Elementary in Clearwater, was truly an inspiration!***

Our "Create a Blessing" project was "WOW" (Women on the Way) from St. Petersburg College. All of the chapters in the district participated in raising \$550 for WOW!

The day ended with fun door prizes and beautiful baskets! And, of course, we joined in singing the Delta Kappa Gamma Song! District III created a wonderful day of fellowship, learning, sharing, laughter, and hugs! Many happy memories were **CREATED**!

## District IV Meeting: "Dreaming Big & Reaching For Stars" April 2, 2022 @ First United Methodist Church, Clermont



**Diane Revels, District IV Director, [dcrevels1@gmail.com](mailto:dcrevels1@gmail.com)**

District's IV's theme "Laugh Often, Dream Big, and Reach for the Stars" resonated from each of the chapters throughout the 2020-2022 biennium. First, we celebrated with food, fun and fellowship at **District IV Director Diane Revels'** home and pool for some "Time to Flamingle" on Friday evening with 37 DKG members in attendance. The planning committee consisting of Gamma Delta members did a great job with a "Flamingo" theme and food.. We had flamingoes swimming in the pool and a flamingo cake as well as flamingo cupcakes. The barbeque from Oakwood Smokehouse & Grill in Clermont certainly was delicious!

Registration began at 7:45 AM with 67 registered DKG members. **Carolyn McGowan, Gamma Delta Chapter**, did a wonderful job as the registrar and **Jennifer Fulmer also of Gamma Delta**, made sure our financials were in order. A continental breakfast of yogurt, cheese sticks, assorted pastries, orange juice, coffee, tea and water invigorated our participants. Diane Revels called the District meeting to order. **Vicky Brio** and **Debbie Phelps, Beta Sigma**, led us in the pledge followed by "God Bless America", led by **Lonnie Kirsch, Beta Nu**. Our inspirational thought was given by **Vicki Nikoncyk, Beta Chi**. **Diane Revels** introduced key participants.. **Former District IV Co-Chairs Diana Brown** and **Sandy Reaves** shared information about each chapter and introduced the outgoing and incoming presidents. Each outgoing president received a District IV pin and the incoming presidents a long-stemmed red rose.

**Roxanne Berger, Florida DKG State Organization President**, gave her message. Diane Revels held elections for the next District IV Director, and **Vicky Brio** and **Debbie Phelps of Beta Sigma** were voted in as the next **District IV Co-Directors**. **Karen Metalonis of Gamma Delta** was voted to be the **District IV Representative on the State Nominating Committee**. Congratulations to them for taking on these responsibilities. The meeting continued with 15 informative state committee reports. **Carrie Frye, Florida's Executive Secretary** gave a very heartfelt speech in memory of **Past State President Merle Jones**. After a few short announcements by **Diane Revels**, it was time for a break. Participants were treated to homemade cookies from the FUMC Food Service Staff.

After break, the incoming presidents, new treasurers and experienced treasurers attended their specific workshops. The workshop for the incoming presidents was led by State President **Roxanne Berger, 1st Vice President Terry Stanilonis, Executive Secretary Carrie Frye**, and **State Treasurer Beverly Stagg**. All other DKG members were in the Wesley Center for large group presentations. The presentations included: "Bringing out the Mighty Woman in You" by **Missy Jones**, "Bylaws Buzz" by **Nancy Marmesh** and **Pat Eckstein**, "Let's Build and Cultivate Member Relationships to Strengthen our Chapter" by **Debbie Phelps**, "Update from the Educational Foundation" by **Connie Kostyra** and **Vicki Simms**, "Keeping DKG Members Informed: The Legislative "Plate" 2022" by **Diana Brown**, and "How to Get Rid of Single Use Plastic in Your Life..." "Let's Save the Earth" by **Susan Siemer**. Members commented on their evaluations that they appreciated hearing all the presentations, not having to pick which one(s) to go to and not having to move from room to room.

During a short break, participants could view the Gallery Walk, posters that chapters made about what they did during the biennium, and a last call to purchase raffle tickets for the baskets. We convened back in the Wesley Center for the song, "Getting to Know You" led by **Mary Schiano & the Beta Chi Singers**. **Diane Revels** delivered the inspirational thought followed by the blessing given by **Carolyn McGowan**.

As the participants were enjoying their delicious lunch, **Diane Revels** started addressed the group with, "What words come to your mind when you're trying to come up with ways to describe someone who inspires you?" She talked about 5 words used to describe someone who inspires you: Inspirational, Motivational, Source of Inspiration, Motivator, and Mentor. **Roxanne Berger** presented **Vicky Brio** and **Debbie Phelps** their District IV Co-Directors' pins followed by a few announcements. Evaluations were completed, and the District IV basket winners were announced. The proceeds of \$900 were divided between Florida DKG Emergency Fund and the Florida DKG Educational Foundation in memory of **Merle Jones**. Door prizes were awarded and **Diane Revels** gave her closing remarks. **Mary Schiano, Beta Chi** led us in the DKG song.



## District VI Meeting: "HONORING OUR ALLSTARS" March 19, 2022 @Carlisle Inn, Sarasota

**Joann T. Higgins, District VI Director (2020-2022)**

The theme for the 2022 District VI Meeting was lively and filled the day with enthusiasm, fellowship, and joy as district members and guests from all over Florida joined in this celebration. It has been four years since we have engaged in a large gathering of District VI members, and we were ready to party. Friday evening, we gathered at the Der Dutchman Restaurant and were treated to an Amish buffet of whatever our hearts desired. It ended with specialty pies! Our surprise guests were **Edie Smith, Jean Henry, and Gamma Upsilon members** who were welcomed by all.

We began our morning with a pledge of allegiance attended by an honor guard from the Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, and a rousing singing of "God Bless America." The tables were all decorated with "We're #1 red hands set in long vases filled with baseballs. Cracker Jacks and bubblegum were the goodies laid on a small patch of green turf centered on the table. A plastic baseball was

wrapped in cellophane with a homerun red wristband and a "Thank You for coming, Hope you had a ball," message written on a baseball note paper as the favor.

We were enlightened by **Dr. Connie Besco's** Inspirational words to our members. We have all enjoyed the benefits of DKG over time and should consider giving back so that others may benefit from our generosity.. We were honored with words of welcome from our **State President, Roxanne Berger**, who encouraged us to stay connected, change what we have done for the past ten years, and refresh our purpose of being a DKG member.

We were informed by representatives of the state committees as they presented their two minute reports. District VI members confirmed the selection of the new **2022-2024 District Director Dee Dee Rice, Gamma Upsilon**, and our **District VI Representative to the State Nominations Committee, Ann-Marie Spakowski, Alpha Delta**. Congratulations to both talented and capable members ready to serve DKG!

Everyone who attended the three sessions of workshops were enthusiastic, informed, and entertained! Our presenters wowed the participants with inspiring "What our Stories Teach Us" by **Dr. Jackie Greene**, "Reading Portraits" by **Marsha Mayers**, "Dive Beyond Reading with a Twist" by **Dixie Lee** and **Diana Encarnacion**, and "Socratic Paideia Book Clubs are Fun and Rewarding!" by **Sharon Dyke**. Our State Bylaws, Legislative, Membership, and Leadership Committees all delivered informative ideas which stimulated questions and conversation in each session.

Our special speaker was **Mary Anne Servian, CEO of the Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida**. She was inspirational with relating how the young girls were taught skills to make their lives and the world better. Our ALLSTAR Banquet/luncheon again was a treat for the foodies! The house specialty was broasted chicken, deluxe mashed potatoes, salad bar, and pies! There was so much laughter and talking in the room you may have thought there were two hundred people attending! We were modest in attendance but mighty in fun and excitement.

District VI Chapter Presidents stepped up to support the district theme by bringing their ALLSTAR members and presented them with certificates and defining words as to WHY they were ALLSTARS in their chapters. The Lucky Auction Baskets were a tremendous success with at least two chapters having a money theme- a potted plant with money and a tree with lottery tickets! We sold \$740 in tickets to benefit the FLDKGEF!

We are stronger when we are together! Let's take what we learned today and connect with our members who could not attend. Communicate and support our chapters so District VI can move forward into the future. Everyone sang the DKG song led by **Jan Lorton, Gamma Nu**.



## The 2022 Florida Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar: A Tribute of Jesslyn McBride

Pat Litterick, Chair  
plitterick@att.net

In 2012, the name of the Mu State Leadership Growth Seminar was changed to The Florida Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar. Many DKG members have asked who is/was Jesslyn McBride and why is the Leadership Seminar named after her?

**Jesslyn McBride** taught elementary and secondary music, and then became an administrator before retiring after 35 years in education. She joined DKG Kappa Chapter in District III, St. Petersburg, in May of 1964. She served in all chapter offices, was District III Director, and Mu State President 1983-1985.

In 1983, Jess attended the International Leadership Management Seminar. This seminar left a lasting impression on Jess, and she felt Mu State members would benefit from a similar leadership seminar. In 1984, using many of her own resources, and against the wishes of some, she initiated the Mu State Leadership Growth Seminar. The seminar was conceived as a means of giving Mu State members training in both personal and professional development. The lack of opportunities for women educators in such training was quite evident at that time.



Jess saw something in others that they did not see in themselves and encouraged them to reach their highest potential. Jess would have been labeled a feminist, for her life was filled with instances when she stood up for women. She never stopped giving or believing that women could and should take control of their lives and strive for lofty goals. She loved bringing younger members into the organization, and she was persistent in her support and encouragement of them. She is quoted as saying, "You have to help educators and members of our society see their potential and achieve it. We have to be personally involved in our members' lives. The best investment you can make is in people."



There have been 35 Leadership Seminars in Florida since Jess started the first one in 1984, serving almost 1,000 Florida DKG members. She believed in all of us and what we could become. If Jess were here in person, she would tell you that you have only one life to live and you should live it passionately. The legacy she left behind was for us to be the best people we could be and to help nurture future leaders. This characteristic, she thought, was a sign of a truly great leader.

Jesslyn McBride is known as the "mother" of the Mu State Leadership Seminar. It was only fitting that the seminar be renamed The Florida Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar after her death in 2011. Jesslyn McBride made a difference in the lives of many.

(Information obtained from Dr. Beverly Helms and old Leadership minutes.)

### Announcement for Florida Members Attending International Convention

**Carrie Frye** and **Terry Stanilonis** invite Florida attendees of the International Convention in New Orleans to a "reception" on Thursday, July 14 from 4:30 – 6:00 PM during which Dr. **Nancy Henning** and **Roxanne Berger** will be recognized. Each attendee will be contacted upon arrival as to the exact location.



## **Parliamentary Moment: “Committees – Standing & Special”**

### **Stephanie (Sam) King, PRP**

#### **Parliamentarian, Florida State Organization**

Before you read any further, I have to make a disclaimer, I love committees. Committees can make or break an organization; they are the “go-to” team to work through details and to present a solution to the assembly.

Per Robert’s Rules of Order: “A committee, as understood in parliamentary law, is a body of one or more persons, elected or appointed by (or by direction of) an assembly or society, to consider, investigate, or take action on certain matters or subjects, or to do all of these things.” RONR (12th ed.) 50:1

Committees come in two distinct types and are sometimes confused with each other: standing committees and special (aka select or ad hoc) committees. The responsibilities of each type of committee cannot overlap or perform the same functions.

#### **Standing Committees**

Standing Committees are listed in the bylaws or the chapter rules and the bylaws should state as to how a standing committee is determined. In many cases, per the bylaws, the chair and committee members are chosen by the incoming president, and in some cases, must be approved by the executive board.

*“Standing Committees are constituted to perform a continuing function and remain in existence permanently or for the life of the assembly that establishes them. In an ordinary society, the members of such a committee serve for a term corresponding to that of the officers, or until their successors have been chosen, unless the bylaws or other rules otherwise expressly provide. Thus, a new body of committee members is normally appointed at the beginning of each administration.”* RONR (12th ed.) 50:7.

#### **Special (select or ad hoc) Committees**

Think of special committees as having a shelf life. The special committee is appointed to carry out a specific task and when that task is completed, usually with a presentation of a final report, it automatically ceases to exist.

*“A special (select, or ad hoc) committee is a committee appointed, as the need arises, to carry out a specified task, at the completion of which—that is, on presentation of its final report to the assembly—it automatically ceases to exist. A special committee may not be appointed to perform a task that falls within the assigned function of an existing standing committee.”* RONR (12th ed.) 50:10.

#### **“Proper Composition of Committees.**

The members of a standing committee should be chosen so as to provide the strongest possible group for the handling of any task that may arise within the province of the committee. In the case of a special committee, the purpose for which it is appointed affects the desirable size and composition, as follows:

- When a special committee is appointed to implement an order of the assembly, it should be small and should consist only of those in favor of the action to be carried out. If anyone not in sympathy with the action is appointed, he should ask to be excused.
- When a special committee is appointed for deliberation or investigation, however, it should often be larger, and it should represent, as far as possible, all points of view in the organization, so that its opinion will carry maximum weight. When such a committee is properly selected, its recommendations will most often reflect the will of the assembly. By care in selecting committees, debates on delicate and troublesome questions in ordinary societies can be mostly confined to the committees. The usefulness of the committee will be greatly impaired, on the other hand, if any important faction of the assembly is not represented.” RONR (12th ed.) 50:18

***To have successful committees,  
remember Robert’s advice: choose wisely.***



## From the State Legislative Committee!



**Dr. Vivian Posey, Chair**  
**vivposey@gmail.com**

### Did You Know....

- In the recently ended 2022 session of the Florida Legislature, more than 3,000 bills were filed for consideration by lawmakers, but only 292 bills made it through the committee meetings to be voted on by the full House and Senate and are now on their way to becoming law.
- The Florida Senate and House of Representatives passed the largest budget in state history during the 2022 legislative session. (\$112 billion)
- The redistricted maps for voting districts in Florida have not been finalized yet? (Currently there are 2 sets of maps that are being considered, and it is likely that the courts will make the final determination).
- All 120 seats in the Florida House of Representatives are up for reelection in November, 2022.
- As of this date, 20 of the 40 seats in the Florida Senate are up for reelection in November, 2022.
- There are additional requirements for registering to vote and casting a vote in Florida that will be in place by the time of the November, 2022 elections.
- Historically, voter turnout in non-presidential election cycles is considerably lower, and this is why every eligible voter should have a plan to register and vote.
- Your DKG District Representative to the State Legislative Committee is available to speak to your chapter on legislative issues.



### Legislative Friend of Education Award Nominations for 2022

At this time, the State Legislative Committee is encouraging nominations from all DKG members for the 2022 DKG Legislative Friend of Education Award. Nominees should be elected officials (local, state, or national) who have demonstrated support for traditional public schools and equal educational opportunities for Florida's students. The person selected will be honored at the Fall Executive Board Meeting, scheduled for September 23-24, 2022, in Lake Mary, Florida. Please submit your nomination for this award to **Dr. Marlisa Santos, Awards Committee Chair (santosm@nova.edu)**. Thank You!



### Florida DKG Finance Committee Report

**Dr. Margie Raub Hunt, Chair**  
huntmargie4873@gmail.com

The Florida DKG Finance Committee is comprised of resourceful ladies that love Delta Kappa Gamma and want to preserve DKG's finances as they aid our chapter sisters, Florida, and worldwide communities.

The Finance Committee reported the following information at all six district meetings this past 2022 spring:

1. Earlier this year, the **Florida DKG State Organization Editor Bonnie Kelley** informed the Florida DKG State Finance Committee that there were 166 Florida DKG members who did not receive the international or state newsletters. Please enlist the help of your chapter treasurers to update your members' email addresses at International, so they receive copies of these newsletters. Print copies can be made for those without email addresses.
2. During past Florida hurricane emergencies, the Florida State Emergency Fund received several donations from other DKG state organizations. The State Finance Committee would like to propose a rules amendment that a donation could be made to other DKG state organizations that experience similar catastrophes.
3. The Culpepper Scholarship account was closed due to an extreme drop in the interest rate. The balance in excess of \$44,000 was invested in mutual funds for a better rate of interest.

A special thank you to the members of the FL DKG Finance Committee for 2021—2023.

**District I — Linda Wunderly**



- District II — Peg Misner**
- District III — Janet Tolson**
- District IV — Dr. Margie Raub Hunt, Chair**
- District V — Joyce Cotner**
- District VI — Jan Lorton**
- Treasurer— Beverly Stagg**
- Consultant — Arlene Oehler (I)**
- Executive Secretary — Carrie Frye (IV)**

### Bylaws Committee



**Nancy Marmesh, Chair**  
nmarmesh@aol.com

The Bylaws Committee would like to remind chapter presidents that it is not too late to review your Chapter Rules. Each chapter received a copy of the review materials at the recent district meetings. Chapters should make sure their Chapter Rules are relevant and comply with the Florida State Bylaws and the DKG International documents. If you haven't done so already, please email a copy of your Chapter Rules to your district bylaws representative.

After the DKG International Convention in New Orleans this summer, the Florida Bylaws Committee may need to make changes based on what happens at the international level. If you would like to submit any proposed changes to the Florida State Bylaws, you will need to complete the proposal form and submit it to the committee by November 1, 2022. This form can be found on the Bylaws Committee page of the Florida DKG Website. Any proposed changes to the Bylaws must be published in the **Florida Rays** at least 60 days prior to our State Convention in April of 2023.

If you have any questions or need any support, please contact **Florida State Bylaws Chair Nancy Marmesh** at nmarmesh@aol.com.

# Sharing Chapter Experiences

## Gamma Nu Chapter

The Gamma Nu annual Reach to Teach fundraiser was held in January after a year's hiatus. The luncheon, fashion show, and auction raised approximately \$9,000 to give GIA awards to three graduating seniors in Charlotte County who will major in education. Continuing GIA awards are given to young women who have received the award and continue to meet the criteria. A portion of the money raised is also donated to the Charlotte County Imagination Library, the Boys and Girls Club of Charlotte County, and the Golden Apple Award. This event enables us to have fun while enjoying a delicious lunch, fantastic fashions from Dillard's Department Store, and an opportunity to showcase the Gamma Nu Chapter.



During this annual fundraiser, awards are given to Gamma Nu and community members. **Jill Overby** was awarded The Trailblazer Award for her amazing work on the silent auction through the years. Jill stored the silent auction items in her home, set up the items, and ran the auction.



**Chris Zimmer** was part of a story about the Imagination Library. Chris is the managing director of the Charlotte County



Imagination Library founded by Dolly Parton. The Imagination Library mails books to children free of charge every month from birth to age five.

An article about the non-profit group Kids Needs of Greater Englewood featured a photo of **Mary Jo Holleran**. The group's volunteers raise funds to pay rent and provide free clothing to children in the greater Englewood area.



## Gamma Delta Chapter

Gamma Delta had another in-person meeting on February 15, 2022. Besides socializing, we finalized plans for the upcoming District IV BBQ and meeting which was held April 1-2, 2022. Eleven of our members attended the BBQ pool party, and twenty were in attendance at the District meeting.

On April 9, 2022, our New Member Orientation was held at **Susan Gant's** beautiful garden in Groveland, Florida. Members provided us with a wonderful homemade breakfast casserole, homemade muffins, fresh fruit, delicious croissant sandwiches, orange juice, lemonade, tea, and water! **Membership Chair, Carolyn McGowan**, along with **Chapter President, Kelly Kertz** ran the orientation for our new inductees and reinstatements. **State President, Roxanne Berger**, and **State Executive Secretary, Carrie Frye**, joined us in the festivities.

Gamma Delta Chapter's Annual Banquet, the first one since 2019, was held on Tuesday, May 3rd, and our theme was "Run for the Roses!" We wore hats and/or fascinators for this BIG event. We inducted



six new members and two reinstatements. Also, we awarded one grant in aid scholarship to an education major at UCF, our chapter scholarship to one of our members to help offset the cost of getting her PhD and our first annual Joyce Stevens Memorial Scholarship, which will go to another education major at UCF. The Gamma Delta Joyce Stevens Memorial Scholarship has been established by her daughter in her memory.

Our 2nd annual pool party was held on May 21, 2022, from 3:30-6:30 PM at the home of **Diane Revels**. We enjoyed grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, sides, desserts, iced cold beverages, and all the fixings!

Stay tuned for our next article in the fall edition of the **Florida Rays**!



## World Fellowship

Dr. Victoria Eastman, Chair, Florida State World Fellowship Committee  
vleastman.27@gmail.com

In the winter issue, our World Fellowship Committee invited you to select one or more of the 24 World Fellowship Recipients to support and encourage as they studied and achieved their master's degree or Ph.D. in a variety of areas including Law, Education, Sciences, Language, Management, Nutrition, and Physics. These women educators plan to use their new knowledge to improve the learning environments in their countries. Please share a quick story with me of your encounters with your recipients by using the email address below my name. A new list of World Fellowship Recipients will be available October of 2022.

The World Fellowship Committee members have been busy connecting with the chapters at district meetings. **Dr. Charlotte Johnson-Davis** attended the District I meeting and shared the work of the International World Fellowship Committee and the Myrna Santos Chapter Recognition Application updates. **Annie Ashworth** gave a report from the World Fellowship Committee and a presentation at her District II meeting and will present again at the Fall Workshop at Lake Mary in September 2022. **Dr. Victoria Eastman** shared information about the Myrna Santos Chapter Recognition Application and process updates at the District III meeting. She also gave a presentation on digital scrapbooking. **Marilyn Freeman** presented greetings and World Fellowship information at the District IV meeting. **Linda Petuch** attended the District V meeting and presented a two-minute report from the World Fellowship Committee. **Kathy Avery** attended the District VI meeting and gave a two-minute report updating our DKG sisters.

What is the work of Florida Organization World Fellowship Committee? This six member committee promotes the work of the International World Fellowship Committee, creates an awareness of the World Fellowship Program within each Florida DKG Chapter, and encourages personal contact with World Fellowship recipients. Your chapters have been engaged in fundraising events that promote the work of International World Fellowship leading to donations of \$50, \$100, or \$150 that make it possible for non-member women educators to continue their education and improve their effectiveness as educators. Your chapters have reached out to the World Fellowship recipients with cards and encouraging emails supporting them. Our committee is excited as you send in your **Myrna Santos Chapter Recognition Applications with the Society Contribution Form 43 to Dr. Victoria Eastman at 8014 Planters Knoll Terrace, University Park, FL 34201**. We have already received six applications with contributions. **The deadline is March 1, 2023**. We will celebrate your efforts and recognize your chapters at the April 2023 convention in Lake Mary. This chapter recognition award is newly-named for Myrna Santos because of her service, dedication, efforts, and belief in the value of women, education, and the global impact World Fellowship has on women educators everywhere.

Have you ever thought of our World Fellowship recipients representing the call of a leader? When these women educators received a vision for what education might look like in their communities, they had a need to create that learning environment. The vision became a call which was general in nature, but each of these women took it personally and realized her need for more education and applied for the fellowship.

According to John C. Maxwell, there are three factors that make up the call of a leader. Let's explore these as it relates to our World Fellowship recipients.

- First, she saw an opportunity, a specific place where she could make a difference – which had to do with timing.
- Second factor was ability; she recognized her gifts of the teaching/learning process which would allow her to do something about the need – which had to do with competence.
- Lastly, is desire; she had the desire to step out and address the need – her hunger pushed her. This was her passion for the education and the lives of her learners. Her desire to create an effective learning environment in her community in her country. These women may not be DKG members, but they are exhibiting our purpose to advance the professional interest and position of women in education.

Each of you, as a DKG chapter member, have answered the same call to lead by endowing scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate studies and grant fellowships to non-member women educators as you encourage the World Fellowship recipients,

# THE ARTS



**Featured Artist  
from DKG International's  
Fine Arts Gallery & State's Betty  
Thornton Arts & Crafts Gallery:**



**Kathy Yarbrough  
Delta Theta Chapter  
District 1  
rding0470@gmail.com**

The DKG International Arts and Humanities Jury has completed judging the artwork submitted by February 15, 2022. Kathy Yarbrough's two-dimensional art "Timberwolf" and "Birds of Paradise" were accepted into the DKG's Spring 2022 Art Gallery. It is currently available at <https://gallery.dkg.org> and her work will be on display for six months, after which it will be archived for two years. Once at the weblink, choose "Visual Art" and select "Drawing."

We have had great interest in the DKG Art Gallery and consider it to be an especially important venture for the Society. DKG members are encouraged to submit additional works during the next submission period from August 15 – September 15, 2022.

Kathy is a retired school teacher who enjoys various kinds of art. Her dad was a professional artist and her mother loved to do embroidery and to sew. Creativity was a way of life in their home. As a teacher, Mrs. Yarbrough taught all levels of English and reading.

Inducted in 1997, she has been a member of the Delta Theta Chapter of Florida's District 1 for 25 years. As a member of this chapter, she has held various positions including: 1st Vice



President, World Fellowship Chair and Committee Membership Chair. Also, she served on the Membership Committee at the state level.

What she learned about art she attributes to both her parents. For years she liked sewing her own clothes and wanted to be a dress designer. But that was nixed when she realized she would have to draw and be able to mix colors, neither of which she felt capable of doing.

About six years ago, Kathy decided to try drawing. She recalled what her dad had always told her, "Draw what you like." So she started drawing flowers and animals using techniques and points her dad had shared with her as he drew. When she was growing up, her family lived in a small two bedroom house and her bedroom was also her dad's "studio."

Kathy enjoys using colored pencils for her art renderings as they are transportable. When she goes photo shooting, she takes her pencils just in case she sees something to draw. The entries accepted into the gallery are both colored pencil art. She chose to draw a bird of paradise plant as her great aunt used to grow and sell them in her south Florida nursery. The other rendering is a timber wolf. Pictured below is her endangered animals collage including a Red Panda, Tiger, and Mountain Gorilla.



Kathy Yarbrough has had several art pieces displayed in the Betty Thornton Arts & Crafts Gallery, most recently in 2019. Kathy wishes to thank DKG for allowing her works to be exhibited.

**Betty Thornton Arts & Crafts Exhibition  
Florida State Spring Convention, April 28 - 30, 2023**

**Lonnie Kirsch, Chair, lonchobee@gmail.com**

The biennial celebration of the Betty Thornton Arts & Crafts Exhibition will take place at the Spring Convention held at the Lake Mary Marriott, April 28 - 30, 2023. This is the time for all participating members to display their gifts and talents in the areas of Art, Music, Drama, Writing, and Crafting categories including Needlework, Crocheting, Quilting, and Sculpting. The Educational Excellence Committee would like to give members enough time to SHARE this information with all applicants, so they will have plenty of time to PREPARE their exhibits, and REGISTER for this grand event using the form below. Chapters should encourage members to share their arts and crafts at a meeting, too! The registration form is to be mailed to Lonnie Kirsch who coordinates this event by April 1, 2023.

Please remind applicants that IF there is a category that is not mentioned on the form to please fill in the appropriate category and complete the registration form found below. We want to make this an exciting and fun exhibition, so please consider attending and bringing your PASSION! Also, encourage other members of your chapter who may not have participated in the Arts & Crafts Exhibition in the past to bring their wonderful talents to display in the gallery at this convention. Additionally, if a member or members are musically talented, a live performance or a recorded performance would enhance the gallery and add another dimension to celebrate all talents at this event. The Educational Excellence Committee would like to promote Florida State members in celebrating their talents, accomplishments, and personal growth.

**REGISTRATION FORM: Please print or type one name per form.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
District \_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

I plan to enter the following item(s) in the Arts and Crafts Exhibit:  
(Check all that apply)

Painting(s): \_\_\_oil \_\_\_watercolor \_\_\_photography \_\_\_other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Needlework(s): \_\_\_knitting \_\_\_crochet \_\_\_crewel \_\_\_embroidery  
\_\_\_sewing \_\_\_other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Literary work(s): \_\_\_poetry \_\_\_short story \_\_\_novel \_\_\_other (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Miscellaneous arts, crafts and/or musical arrangements: \_\_\_(specify) \_\_\_\_\_

Recordings may be used to demonstrate musical expertise or give a live performance. We are encouraging all members who have musical talent to perform either live, or bring a taped recording (DVD) to be played during the Galleria of Arts.

SEND COMPLETED FORM TO: Lonnie Kirsch at lonchobee@gmail.com or  
500 S.W. 28th Terrace Okeechobee, FL 34974

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: April 1, 2023  
An acceptance email & directions will be sent  
upon receipt of this form.**

**Florida State  
Nominations  
Committee**



**Gale Carter Chair  
gdcdenise@gmail.com**

It is a pleasure to introduce the following members to the DKG Florida State Nominations Committee serving the 2022-2024 biennium.

**District I  
Kathy Diesner  
Delta Theta Chapter**

**District II  
Ruth Burrell  
Beta Rho Chapter**

**District III  
Angela Wright-Nash  
Kappa Chapter**

**District IV  
Karen Metalonis  
Gamma Delta Chapter**

**District V  
Carleen Spano  
Omicron Chapter**

**District VI  
Ann-Marie Spakowski  
Alpha Delta Chapter**



### Attitude

There once was a woman who woke up one morning,  
looked in the mirror,  
and noticed she had only three hairs on her head.  
"Well," she said, "I think I'll braid my hair today?"  
So she did and she had a wonderful day!

The next day she woke up,  
looked in the mirror  
and saw that she had only two hairs on her head.  
"H-M-M," she said,  
"I think I'll part my hair down the middle today?"  
so she did and she had a grand day.

The next day she woke up,  
looked in the mirror and noticed that she only had one  
hair on her head.  
"Well," she said, "Today I'm going to wear my hair in  
a pony tail."  
So she did and she had a fun, fun day.

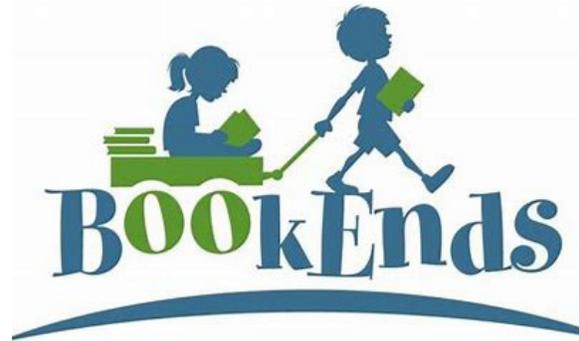
The next day she woke up,  
looked in the mirror and noticed that there wasn't a  
single hair on her head.

"Yea!" she exclaimed,  
"I don't have to fix my hair today!"  
Attitude is everything.

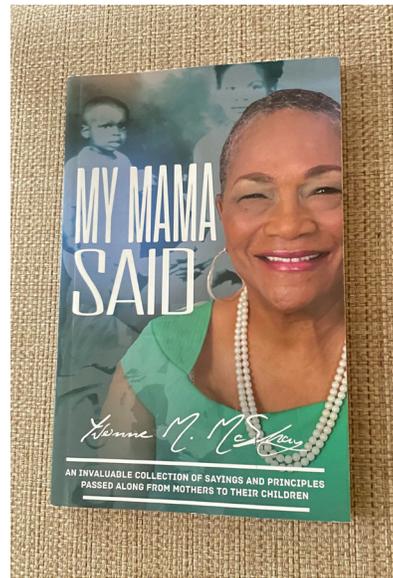
Be kinder than necessary,  
for everyone you meet is fighting some kind of battle.  
Live simply,  
Love generously,  
Care deeply,

Speak kindly.....Leave the rest to God.  
Life is 10% what happens & 90% how we react.

**Author unknown & submitted by Priscilla Smith.**



### My Mama Said

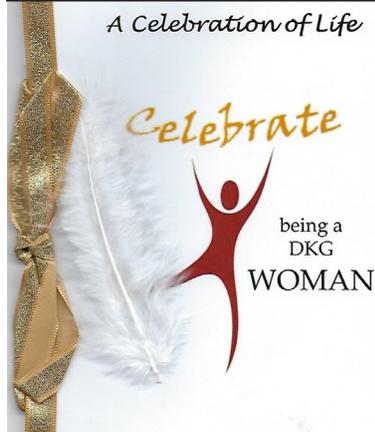


### by Yvonne M. McShay

Representing two countries, six states, and many local individuals, **My Mama Said** is a 116 page compilation of adages and words of wisdom imparted by mothers to their offspring. This fun and special collection was freely picked from a cross section of individuals who comprise these expressions. In fact, Yvonne tells us this is her new greeting, so be ready to share your answer when she poses the question, "What your mama said?"

Inducted in 2000, **Yvonne McShay** is an active member of DKG with a 22 year membership in **Delta Beta Chapter** in Lakeland, Florida. From 2018-2022, Yvonne was the District III Director. Recently, she was featured in the spotlight on the International Webpage. The book entitled **My Mama Said** is a perfect gift to include in your mom's gift basket.

If you are interested in scheduling a speaking engagement or purchasing a copy of the book, go to [yvonnemcshay.com](http://yvonnemcshay.com) or [ymcshay@gmail.com](mailto:ymcshay@gmail.com)



**Dr. Judith Bachay**  
**Beta Zeta Chapter**  
**District V**  
**May 26, 2022**  
**Miami Shores, FL**



Dr. Judith Bachay was an experienced Psychotherapist and Trans-Disciplinary Educator with a demonstrated history of working in the mental health care sector. In 1994, she graduated from Barry University with a Ph.D. in Philosophy and Leadership with a Counseling Cognate.

Judith Bachay was inducted as a member of Delta Kappa Gamma in October of 2007. She was a dedicated educator and chapter member of Beta Zeta Chapter.

From 2007 to 2019, Judith was a Fulbright Scholar and Fulbright Specialist who was an Interdisciplinary and International Educator and Counselor in Slovenia, Croatia, and Greece.

Dr. Bachay was a Professor at St. Thomas University, a private Catholic University based in Miami Gardens, Florida. A colleague said, "Judy is a caring and creative professional with excellent communication skills."

She is the author of **Creating Peace, Building Community -- Student Activity Books, Grade 7** which helps students understand important topics such as diversity, anger management, character development, citizenship, values, ethics, cultural awareness, peer pressure, perspective taking, self-esteem, stereotyping, bullying and violence prevention and more.

**Audrey Lindsey Rimmer**  
**Davis**  
**Delta Beta Chapter**  
**District III**  
**April 11, 2022**  
**Lakeland, Florida**



Audrey Davis was born on September 16, 1923. She graduated from Kathleen High School in 1954 where she experienced the strawberry school culture. In 1958, Audrey received her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Florida. Later, Audrey received a Master's Degree which she used as a Gifted Specialist.

Kind and caring, direct, and no nonsense, Audrey enjoyed a long career, including several decades, as an educator in Polk County Public Schools including Padgett Elementary and Southwest Middle where she positively impacted thousands of young lives. In 1988, she was Polk County Schools' Teacher of the Year.

She was honored in December of 2021 by the 1981 alumni of Lake Gibson High School and Kathleen High School as "A Teacher Who Mattered" at a ceremony at Heritage Park.

Audrey became a member of DKG in April of 1972. She was inducted into **Lambda Chapter**. In 1987, she became a charter member of **Delta Beta Chapter** and served as our first president. Her leadership abilities formed a successful chapter which still exists today.

In her spare time, she was a board member of the Kathleen Area Historical Society. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in her memory.

**Louise McMullian**  
**Beta Phi Chapter**  
**District 1**  
**March 18, 2022**  
**Tallahassee, Florida**



Louise McMullian, age 100, of Tallahassee died March 17, 2022 in Tallahassee.

Louise taught in Franklin, Pinellas, and Orange Counties in Florida and retired from Valencia Community College before moving to Tallahassee.

Louise served DKG at the chapter, district, state, regional, and international levels. She served as State President 1975-77 and received the state achievement award in 1978. She mentored long term and newer members. She had celebrated her 100th birthday last summer.

**Joan Hughes Odom  
Beta Zeta Chapter  
District V  
March 8, 2022  
Miami, Florida**



Joan Odom, a longtime resident of Palmetto Bay, passed away on March 8, 2022. She was born on March 13, 1942, in Gordon, Alabama, and raised in Houston County by a hard working farm family.

It was through her rural roots that Odom met one of the great loves of her life, 4-H. She joined 4-H in the 4th grade and remained active

throughout her school years. While attending Ashford Senior High School, Odom started a 4-H club that grew to more than 300 members. She was a three-term president of that club, which was one of Alabama's largest 4-H clubs ever. In 1959, she was the Alabama State entomology winner.

Joan received her Bachelor's degree from Auburn University and a Master's degree in Education from Florida Atlantic University. She was a dedicated and passionate teacher/educator for more than 50 years and National Board Certified. As an educator, she inspired the best for her special needs students.

Odom's training in 4-H led to a natural career choice as a home economics major. With her degree, Odom was a Family and Consumer Sciences educator at J.R.E. Lee Opportunity School in the Miami Dade County Schools. Odom's students, many of whom are in high-risk situations, participated in 4-H. Odom also taught at Deerborne School, Miami International Fine Arts College, and Miami Christian School.

In 1991, Joan joined DKG and served **Beta Zeta Chapter** not only as a dedicated member, but also as the Finance Chair.

Joan received many awards throughout her life, including National Teacher of the Year in Home Economics in 1992 and 2002 inductee to the inaugural class for the Florida 4-H Hall of Fame. Joan was a board member of the Miami-Dade County Youth Fair, a 4H Club leader, and an advocate and volunteer for Deering Estate.

"There are so many things the 4-H program teaches that today's kids really need to know. Things like perseverance, meeting deadlines, and trying to get a project tweaked to meet a high level of expecta-

tion. To prepare something and stand before a panel of judges and have it taken apart. To feel the gratification of a job well done. These kids learn some really valuable life-lessons," said Odom.

**Dr. Doris Parsons-Nesbit  
Beta Zeta Chapter  
District V  
January 17, 2022  
Athens, Georgia**



Doris Nesbitt of Athens, Georgia, passed away on January 17, 2022, at the age of 80. She was born on December 16, 1941.

Doris was a teacher in North Carolina, Virginia, & Florida; Assistant Principal, Consultant & Grant Writer for Miami-Dade County Public Schools; FAU Adjunct Professor, School of Education, and Educational Speaker.

Doris and her sister, Jeannie, were long time members of Beta Zeta Chapter. Having joined DKG in April of 1971, Doris was a member for 51 years. She served as Florida State Organization President from 2001 – 2003. She was a recipient of the Sarah B. Ferguson Award; Florida State President; Florida State Scholarship recipient; Beta Zeta Chapter

President; Miccosukee Indian Education Project Committee Member; Beta Zeta and Florida Legislation Committees; Florida State Headquarters Building Committee Member; DKG Speakers Bureau, and meeting presenter.

Doris had many strengths, but the one that really stood out was her passion for involvement in legislation. She encouraged all DKG members to vote and to use our voices in standing up for the rights of women and children and promoting public education.

**Myra Marie Pattishall**  
**Beta Pi Chapter**  
**District II**  
**April 7, 2022**  
**St. Augustine, Florida**



Myra Pattishall, 98, of Jacksonville, Florida, passed away on April 7, 2022. She attended local schools and graduated from Florida State College for Women (now Florida State University) with a BA degree before receiving her master's degree from Jacksonville University.

Myra taught school at the Department of Defense in Germany. Myra spent many years in Europe and traveled extensively. She was a Title 1 Reading teacher in Duval County until retirement.

Myra began her membership in DKG on April 1, 1969. She was a charter member of **Beta Pi** and very active in the chapter, participating in all capacities. She was a mentor to all with her integrity and love of teaching.

Myra chose to donate her body to the University of Florida College of Medicine for medical research. Memorial gifts may be made in her honor to the Music Department at Riverside Presbyterian Church, 849 Park Street, Jacksonville, Florida, 32204.

**Dr. Margaret "Peggy" Jean Schwartz**  
**Pi Chapter**  
**District V**  
**August 14, 2021**  
**Sunrise, Florida**



Dr. Peggy Schwartz was born on December 30, 1942, and left us on August 14, 2021, after a valiant fight against Parkinson's disease. On the morning of August 14, 2021, her cousin, Susan Beaumont, had a nurse put a phone to her ear and lovingly said goodbye from all of her extended family and friends. Moments later Peggy peacefully left this world.

If there are brunches, happy hours, concerts, jazz clubs, great restaurants, and friends to share them all with in heaven, our girl is there. God will likely assign her to His social committee board of directors. Peggy had a vivacious lust for life, and a heart too big for her chest. She gave so much of herself. Peggy never complained once about the hand she was so suddenly dealt.

Peggy was an educator in her hometown of Pittsburgh and continued that career in the Miami-Dade School System in Florida. She taught special education for third and fourth graders. Peggy organized flower and gift collections for co-workers' special occasions. In Miami-Dade, she taught at Bunche Park, Palm Springs, Palm Springs North, and Joella Good Elementaries.

In 2005, Dr. Schwartz was inducted into DKG. She was very active on the chapter level. She served on the Scholarship and Telephone Committees, wrote and sent cards to patients at the Veterans Hospital, donated socks and shoes to the Chapman Partnership Project, and organized flower and gift collections for sick members.

After retirement, Peggy continued as a volunteer in a reading program for children with learning disabilities. Her volunteerism also included being a guide at The Bonnet House, an usher at The Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Parker Playhouse, and The Au Renee Theater. Her love for music and theater made this a perfect match.

Peggy enjoyed beautiful and elegant clothing and having her hair and nails done regularly. She loved jewelry and was always sporting several bracelets, and earrings to accent her winks and smiles. She always had a good hug and a kiss for you when meeting and a bodacious, "HI! How are yewww?" We will miss you and yet are grateful that your pain and struggles have ended and taken your soul to a peaceful step in your next journey.



## Directions for Setting Up Your DKG Log-in & Profile

You will need your membership # to log-in!! This can be found on your membership card, DKG publications, or contact your chapter president or treasurer if you need assistance finding your number. You can also use the Chat feature on the DKG website to ask for your membership #.

1. Open Google Chrome or Firefox on laptops or desktops or Safari on iPads.
2. Go to [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)
3. Click "Sign In" tab near top of page
4. Click "Username" and enter your DKG I.D.# (from membership card or DKG publication)
5. Click "Password" and enter the generic password **dkg2014society** OR click "Forgot My Password" (If you choose *Forgot My Password*, a new window opens. Enter your DKG I.D.# and International will send you an email with a link to change your password.) OR click on the chat feature and ask for a reset of your password.
6. Click "MyDKG" or your name at the top.
7. Click "Change My Password" and enter a password of your choice!!
8. Complete the "About Me" information by clicking the small pencil icon. This opens text boxes where you can type phone #, email address, & birthday. Scroll down to "My Address" and click pencil icon to change your address.
  - \* Be sure to click the **SAVE** button!!
9. **IMPORTANT Step:** Click "My Participation" tab near top of page.
  - \* Scroll down to "Communication Preferences" near bottom of page. Select the check boxes for how you would like information from DKG International to be sent to you. **If you do NOT check Yes, Include my DKG Profile in the Online Directory, no one will see your information!!**
  - \* Be sure to click the **SAVE** button!!
10. **OPTIONAL!!** If you choose to enter a detailed profile, click the **DKG Profile** button near the top left side of "Communication Preferences" page.
  - \* A YouTube video on creating your profile can be found at:  
[http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Committees/Society\\_Business/Communication\\_Publicity\\_Assets/Video-Profile.aspx](http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Committees/Society_Business/Communication_Publicity_Assets/Video-Profile.aspx)



### 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 FL](https://twitter.com/DKGMuStateFL)

**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)

**Florida Jesslyn McBride Leadership Seminar**  
June 26 - 29, 2022  
Orlando Marriott Lake Mary

**DKG International Convention**  
July 12 - 16, 2022  
Sheraton New Orleans, Louisiana

**Florida DKG State Fall Executive Board Meeting & Workshops**  
September 23 - 24, 2022  
Orlando Marriott Lake Mary

**Florida Education Foundation's Educational Grants & Professional Development application**  
Due by February 1, 2023

**Myrna Santos Chapter Recognition applications**  
March 1, 2023

**Florida DKG State Spring Convention**  
April 28 - 30, 2023  
Orlando Marriott Lake Mary

**DKG International Convention**  
Summer of 2024  
Gaylord National, D.C. Area  
National Harbor, Maryland

**DKG International Convention**  
Summer of 2026  
Gaylord Rockies  
Aurora, Colorado