



The Nevadagram



An Official Publication of Alpha Chi

Welcome to Founder's Day!

*Excerpt from Gamma's presentation.

The founders were all strong, dynamic women with a vision for the future, but we thought we'd try a little different focus for this year. Why did these women choose to make their marks by founding DKG? The early years of the 20th century were rife with causes they could have chosen: women's suffrage, women's legal status, women's health, child labor.....but they chose to found an organization to advance the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. Why? Of course we don't have anything in their own words but here are some of the results we found in our research.

Let's start with a quote from 1849 by the Littleton School Committee, of Littleton, MA:

“God seems to have made a woman peculiarly suited to guide and develop the infant mind, and it seems...very poor policy to pay a man 20 or 22 dollars a month, for teaching children the ABCs, when a female could do the work more successfully at one-third of the price.”

It seems pretty obvious that their primary thought was saving money. School boards don't seem to change much over the years.....

Contents	Pg
Happy Founder's Day	1
Internat'l Convention	2-5
Events not in ABC order	4-8
Chapter Chatter (news)	9-10
In Memoriam	11
Important Dates	12

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Secretary: Karen Laskowski

Treasurer: Maxine Emm

Parliamentarian: Judy Silker

Editorial Staff: Cindy Frazer

and

Donna Harper: Send all info for future newsletters to:

donna Harper1266@gmail.com

President Pat's Notes on International Convention

What a trip!

I used Uber for the first time to get to the airport. Cindy Frazer helped me install it on my phone. The flight was pretty smooth but I had to change planes in St. Louis. (a small airport, thank goodness)

The plane landed at Ronald Reagan International Airport on time but I was totally shocked at how small it is! Two luggage carousels! I called for an Uber and headed to National Harbor, Maryland. Crossed the Potomac (I was too late to join George), and saw the top of the Washington Monument and the Capitol.

I checked in, went to my room and collapsed. I did revive enough to buy a sandwich and drink at the Market. I attended the Opening Session that evening which welcomed everyone and had announcements concerning the Convention. I then went back to my room and it was "bed here I come!" That was Monday.

Day 1 of the Convention, Tuesday, was an all day Executive Board meeting. A lot of points brought up:

1. 83 voting members were present, 22 non-voting
2. Told to review Avenue M Report
3. We did not meet our room block % required. 51% needed 80%
4. Told to download DKG APP, which I did (with help)
5. Review your DKG profile.
6. Focus on one Voice!
 - a. Confident, assertive and authoritative
7. Went over how to use voting device.
8. There was a Goosechase Fun activity using the APP. Well, forget that noise.

The International Leadership Training will be PRIOR to the International Conference in New Orleans from July 29-August 2, 2025. More information will

be coming. Reimbursement will be available for the State President, State Secretary, State Treasurer, State Membership Chair, State EEC Chair.

Wednesday was Day 2. The theme for the Convention was Relevance, Vitality and Sustainability.

Relevance - more info to come

Vitality -

Leadership Discovery Center

Ave. M report

Model Learning - Action Reports

Chapter to Chapter Connections

Bursting the Bubble Campaign

Pilot Visual Networks - professional and personal

DEIA Task Force

Sustainability -

Travel Reimbursement Updated

Code of Ethics

Maintain guidelines for future selections and awards

EEC

Hiring of two Executive Board members

The Second General Session opened with 746 members in attendance. The Standing Rules and Conventions that were adopted were gone over and Parliamentary Procedures reviewed.

Dates given:

1. International Conference - July 29-Aug 2, 2025 in New Orleans
2. International Convention - June 30-July 4, 2026 in Aurora, Colorado

3. International Convention - July 4-8, 2028 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
4. International Conference - July 25-28, 2029 in Austin, Texas (100-year anniversary)

The updated Society Handbook is now available on the International Website.

Our Keynote Speaker during lunch was Margot Lee Shetterly, the author of Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race. She was a great speaker and continues to search for hidden truths.

The entire General Session Three was voting to approve or not approve proposed amendments.

In between everything, I attended two Spotlight Sessions. More on the Spotlight Sessions I attended will come at a later time.

Thursday was Day 3. It opened with Regional Breakfasts. We are in the SW Region.

General Session 4 was voting on proposed amendments. 692 voting members I did attend two Topic Talks - Fundraising and Teamwork.

I also attended a Spotlight Session on Revitalization presented by Becky Sadowski - Chair and past International President. I am still going through the notes I took.

Toward the closing of the day, I went to a Spotlight Session that explained the DKG International Educators Foundation. This foundation is very busy!

My last day was Day 4, Friday.

During General Session 5, the final amendments were voted on (signed, sealed and delivered!!!!).

Our Keynote Speaker during lunch was Andre Bradford, an Austin-based slam poet. What is a slam poet, you ask? I had no idea at the start and I am not too sure I know much more now.

The best part of the day was attending a Spotlight Session on AI-Powered Education. One important thing I learned about myself is that I am way behind the 8-ball concerning technology in the classroom. There can be great bene-

fits and also major downsides. I wish we had had about 2 hours more time to talk about how it is used from teachers already incorporating it in their classrooms.

I also attended a Spotlight Session on EEC.

The end of the day was both sobering and inspiring. Marion Blumenthall Lazan, a DKG International Honorary Member, spoke of her life from a concentration camp in Germany during WWII to becoming an Instrument of Peace. She speaks to students and adults across the US and Europe, advocating for tolerance and respect whenever she addresses her audience. It is a message of perseverance, determination, faith, and hope. I feel honored to have had the chance to attend one of her inspirational talks.

I did not attend Saturday, but Judy Merz kept me informed of events.

I returned home to a storm! The plane was actually told to circle the airport until the storm started to clear off. THEN....when we got the OK to land, the planes were too close so we had to go around again. Needless to say, the passengers applauded when we touched down. My friend, Shannon picked me up and we had dinner with her family. BY this time, I was dragging and couldn't wait to meet my bed. Good thing these conventions only happen every two years!!!!!!!!!!!!



Founder's Day Events

Held at "Queen of Hearts" in Henderson, Gamma and Epsilon enjoyed a fine day of tea, sandwiches, and sweets. The program, put together by Cindy Frazer, included speakers on teachers' duties over the years.



Happy Founder's Day from Delta Chapter!

Eighteen Delta Chapter members celebrated Founder's Day and DKG's 95th birthday together on May 18th at the beautiful home of Jill Harper. Cindi Supko facilitated an interactive skit about our 12 founders for the Inspiration, and Pam Gilmartin facilitated a fun interactive sisterhood activity. We were excited to be able to induct a new member, Mary Ann McNeill, and install our new officers for the 2024-2026 biennium: Co-Presidents Maxine Emm & Candy Rooney; 1st VP Pam Gilmartin; 2nd VP Paige Coziahr; Recording Secretary Rosanne Anderson; Corresponding Secretary Jill Harper; Treasurer Diane Drumm; and Parliamentarian Candy Rooney. Immediate Past Chapter President, Cheryl Anderson, was presented with flowers from Pam Gilmartin and the chapter members for organizing Delta's first spring food and wine fest scholarship/grant fundraiser. It was a huge success! We made \$4415 to fund our annual student teacher scholarships and Nevada Apple Grants. Thank you to Nu and Lambda Chapters for buying tickets to support our event! Our 2024 \$1000 Delta Chapter Gwen Anne Thacker Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Shea DeJoseph, student teaching at Bordewich Bray in Carson City.

Our five \$250 Nevada Apple Grants were awarded to classroom teachers Jenny Hemsath, K-Minden ES; Jackie Smith, 1st-Seeliger ES; Ryan Cassidy, fine arts Pinon & Zephyr Cove ES; Rebecca Linford, ELL-Jack's Valley ES; and Rebekah Goins, K-Jack's Valley ES.

Maxine gave a brief report about our awesome time at the State Convention in Winnemucca! Maxine, Cheryl, Candy, and Diane all attended. Thank you Omicron and Xi Chapters for your hard work and fabulous efforts hosting one of our best state conventions yet!

Our last pin drawing of the year was won by Maxine Emm; our last attendance drawing of the year was won by Jill Harper (Jill will have her dues for next year paid for by the chapter); and Pam Gilmartin's 50/50 raffle fundraiser was won by Brenda Downs (Brenda will keep \$75 and Delta Chapter will keep \$75). Our final DKG Emergency Fund donations' total was announced: \$82!



ALPHA CHAPTER DKG HOLDS PLANNING MEETING IN JUNE

Members of Alpha chapter and two from Theta Chapter attended a delicious brunch at outgoing President, Lynda Siminske's, home in South Reno. It was a sunny and warm day...not too hot. Society members planned activities and meetings for the coming year. Three members attended the state convention and reported on it. It was a well-organized, informative, and entertaining convention.

Our September meeting will be a joint meeting with Theta Chapter at President. Kay Kurvers, home. "Bring a Book, Buy a Book" will be part of the program. We will have a speaker. October's meeting sounds like fun...a Hayride at Andelin Family Farm. (I will report on other meetings through the year.) Alpha chapter has not received any request for mini grants. We voted to grant the \$1200 set aside for mini grants to give it to Arts for All Nevada funding visual arts workshops to Title 1 schools in the Washoe County School District.

Arydne Sprinkle, from Theta, did an installation of officers. Lynda provided red roses. the new officers are Kay Kurvers, President; Lynda Siminske, First Vice President; Eva Wick-Lerud, Recording Secretary; Susan Burke, Corresponding Secretary; Betty Barker, Treasurer; Kay Kurvers, Parliamentarian.



Joint Alpha/Theta Meeting

By: Lynda Siminske

About 25 ladies from DKG met on Saturday, May 4th, at Reno's Yellow Library for a combined meeting of Alpha and Theta's Chapters. Theta put on a large and scrumptious brunch. Following lunch Silver State Chautauqua presented four colorful ladies telling about their lives. They dressed in costumes appropriate to their times (many wore wigs). Dorothy Parker an American poet and writer, known for her wit and wisecracks was first. Second was Florence Drake, a Reno teacher of the past who has a school named after her. The third was the popular World War II Rosie the Riveter (played by Theta member Ardynne Sprinkle) and rounding up was Francis Perkins, a women's rights advocate and architect of FDR's New Deal. After each speaker the audiences was able to ask questions about the lives of the women and how they researched their subjects. Silver State Chautauqua can be contacted through email: Kelsey.piechocki@gmail.com





In Memoriam for Barbara Bernstein, Epsilon Chapter

Our beloved Barbara Bernstein, Epsilon Chapter, passed away on May 31st after fighting her valiant battle with brain cancer. She was 79.

Barbara has been a long-time resident of Las Vegas, and was a dedicated teacher for 40 years. She was very involved in the Jewish community, and active with Congregation Ner Tamid. She loved spending her free time swimming, traveling, and playing Mahjong. Her friends fondly remember her as a go-getter, always so full of life. Barbara is predeceased by her husband, Stanley, and her two sons, Michael and Marc.

DKG Nevada State would like to recognize Barbara for her many years of service to Epsilon Chapter and our state organization. Barbara has been a DKG member since May 2016. She has served on the DKG Nevada State Executive Board as Epsilon Chapter's co-president for the past 7 years. During her tenure, Barbara attended every State and International Convention, and all State Executive Board meetings and Leadership Trainings until her medical condition made it impossible to travel. Over the years, she helped promote, plan, and initiate joint meetings with members of nearby Gamma Chapter. In 2019, Barbara accepted the DKG Nevada State *Delta Rose Outstanding Achievement Award* for inducting seven new members. Barbara and her co-president, Jennifer Neeman, worked tirelessly to implement the *Rebel Teach* program in the Clark County School District, of which she was extremely proud. Barbara was twice honored with Epsilon Chapter's *Rose of Recognition* award. We honor Barbara's dedication and commitment to DKG. Her beautiful smile, warmth, and exuberance will be forever missed.



Hi Everyone!

What a busy last couple of months! I think I am getting the hang of this ZOOM meeting stuff (that's what I tell myself anyway). I am going to be taking a long weekend off starting May 30th. My son Jimmy's son is getting married June 1st in Texas. Tyler is a 2nd Lt. in the Air Force and his fiancée, Katherine, just graduated from Texas A&M a couple of weeks ago. Also, very special during this trip is my first meeting with my 1st Great Grandchild, Arthur Vaughn Works. Being a Great Grandma has to be the BEST! I'll fill you in more about my trip next month. Keep safe and enjoy the summer!

Pat Goeppinger

onehappygrandma@cox.net

702-308-3489

Nevada Deadlines:

Save the dates: April 25-26 Convention 2025

Saturday, August 3, 2024. TOWN HALL ZOOM meeting for 9:00am.
As it says, everyone is invited.