

# The 4:15\*

Delta Omicron Chapter, #111, Dallas, Dallas County, Area 9, Texas State Organization, DKG Society International

**Mission Statement:** DKG Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

**Vision Statement:** Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide



Texas State Organization

Seek new members & opportunities  
Open your heart, mind, & attitude  
Act to serve & share  
Reach to renew, respond, & relate



Volume 67, Issue 4, Jan. 8, 2024  
Marylin Nease, editor

\*The 4:15? Delta is the 4<sup>th</sup> letter of the Greek alphabet and Omicron is the 15<sup>th</sup>. On a good day, 4:15 is the time we leave school and head to a Delta Omicron meeting!

## Co-Presidents' Message



Melanie

Dear Delta Omicron Members,

Happy New Year! 2023 went by in flash! Kay and I have been enjoying our time as co-presidents! It's been so fun getting to know everyone better and welcoming our friends from Delta Rho to our meetings. Does anyone else choose a word for the year? I have been doing this for a few years. If you do, maybe we can share them at our Jan. meeting.

2024 is going to bring some changes for my family! My son Luke is graduating from high school in May. It will be a bittersweet occasion, I'm sure! I was pregnant with him when I was president of Delta Omicron the first time. He's turned into a wonderful young man.

I sure hope that you all were able to spend time with family and friends over the holidays and will come back refreshed. I know that I enjoyed some time off!

I really enjoyed our Delta Omicron holiday activities. First was attending the Delta Rho auction! I hope that we will keep that going when Delta Rho merges with our chapter. It was such a fun event! I got some great stuff! Also, we are so thankful to Dawna Walsh for opening her home to us for our Delta Omicron Holiday Brunch. Our fellowship was such a fun time, and the food was yummy.

We have some fun activities planned this year! Hope you will join us!

*"Hand in hand, our loyal band,"*

*Melanie Rudebeck and Kay Keeland*  
Co-Presidents



Kay

Co-Pres/**Kay Keeland & Melanie Rudebeck**  
1<sup>st</sup> VP/**Katherine Grogan**  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP/**Margaret Thompson**  
Rec Sec/**Margie Rohde**  
Cor Sec/  
Treas/**Leesa Cole**  
Parl/**Betty Sue Welch**  
Im P Pres/**Katherine Grogan**

**Chapter Website:**  
[link to chapter website](#)  
Liza Leggett, Webmaster

**Jan. 8, 4:30/5:00**  
**4:30 p.m. Refreshments & Fellowship**  
**5 p.m., Chapter Meeting: Agenda, p. 2.**  
**Program Presenter:**  
**Janie Wigley, Area 9 Coordinator**  
**Meeting Location Info:** Highland Park Presbyterian Church, 3821 University Blvd., Dallas, **third floor, room L.**  
Enter parking garage from Shannon Lane on church's west side. Take elevator to third floor.

# **CHAPTER: PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, REGIONAL AREA WORKSHOP & CONVENTION NEWS**

## **AGENDA (WORKING DRAFT): Delta Omicron meeting, Jan. 8, 2024**

### **I. Opening**

- A. Call to order: Kay Keeland & Melanie Rudebeck
- B. Inspiration: Margaret Arnold
- C. Welcome Guests: Margaret Thompson
- D. Fellowship Ice Breaker: Katherine Grogan

### **II. Program**

- A. Introduction: Katherine Grogan
- B. Janie Wigley, Area 9 coordinator

### **III. Old Business**

- A. Approval of Nov. 2023 Meeting's Minutes
- B. Treasurer's Report: Marta Finlay
- C. Nominations Committee: Leesa Cole & Wanda Spoonmore
- D. Refreshments: Betty Sue Welch

### **IV. New Business: Any New Business from Members?**

### **V. Announcements: Next Meeting, Feb. 12**

### **VI. Adjournment: DKG Song: Penni Lewis**

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### **Remaining 2023-24 Meeting Dates & Programs**

**Jan. 8, 2024** – Janie Wigley, Area 9 coordinator

**Feb. 12, 2024** – Jill Rumbley-Beam, entertainer

**Mar. 18, 2024** – Margaret Arnold's Education Memories; Delta Omicron Committees Activity

**Apr. 27, 2024** – Coordinating Council of Dallas County (CCDC) luncheon

**May 20, 2024** – DKG Founders presentation, Delta Omicron birthday celebration and awards, Installation of 2024-26 chapter officers

Katherine Grogan, 1<sup>st</sup> VP: Programs



### **2023-2024 Projects:**

**Chapter** – Community School of PC (Sept/ May). Denton State-Supported Living Center (Dec).

**Coordinating Council of Dallas County (CCDC)** – Cora McFarland Scholarship Fund (Apr).

**TSO/State** – ASTEF (Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation) (Feb/June).

**International** - Schools for Africa (SFA) (Jan). Supporting Early-career Educators (SEE) (Sept/May).

### **2024 Northeast Regional Area Workshop:**

Dr. Gene D. Burton College & Career Academy, 2301 John King Blvd., Rockwall, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.,

**June 22, 2024**

### **2024 International Convention:**

National Harbor, Maryland  
**July 9-13, 2024**

## CHAPTER: MEMBERSHIP NEWS

by Margaret Thompson, Membership VP



Christmas was wonderful this year – Dawna Walsh hosted a beautiful brunch for our group. Sandra Couch, a visitor with our Society, had the opportunity to visit with many of us and looks forward to joining us as a member.

As we enter the new year, continue to think of friends and other teachers who might enjoy our Delta Omicron chapter. Invite them to attend our meetings and outings as guests to introduce them to the benefits of Delta Kappa Gamma. Happy 2024!

*The continued growth and health of our chapter are dependent upon your efforts to reach out to prospective members.*

## MEET OUR GOLDEN MEMBERS

Delta Omicron is proud and honored to have four 50+ year members:



L-R: Shirley Kochman, inducted 1963; Wanda Spoonmore, 1964; Janet Cundiff, 1968; Jean Wallace, 1970

## Happy Dec. & Jan. Birthday!

Becky Quigley

Betty Sue Welch

Mary Carol Hughes

Sara Coleman

Shirley Kochman

Jan Nance

Leslie Kajs

Katrina Hallman



## MEMBERS' PERSONAL NEWS



**Margaret Thompson** reports, "It has been an interesting month for me: cataract surgery threw a wrench in all my plans! I feel out of balance wearing my glasses with one lens removed. My second eye won't be done until Jan. 22, so I'm going to feel weird for the next few weeks!

"On happier news, our son came in from Washington, D.C., to celebrate the holidays with us. We had a fabulous Christmas celebration with him!"

**Lou McMillan** shares, "I was especially excited this Christmas because I got to be with all my children, my grandchildren, and my precious great-granddaughter , who turned one year old on Dec. 23. I had to quickly get busy baby-proofing my home! "I send wishes for a glorious New Year to all my DKG sisters and their families!"



**Carolyn Miller** reports, "Jim and I celebrated our 61<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary on Dec. 22, with dinner for the family.

"How can it be that 61 years have passed? Time flies!"



**Katherine Grogan** shares, "My left foot is broken and finally healing after my being in bed for two weeks for it to heal. Right knee keeps collapsing; surgery is scheduled for Jan. 22. I'm now in a boot and walker."



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## DELTA OMICRON MEETING MINUTES, NOV. 20, 2023

**Delta Omicron Chapter, Dallas, Texas, Texas State Organization, DKG International, met on Mon., Nov. 20, 2023, at Greek Isles Restaurant.**

**Attending were 27 members:** Margaret Arnold, Maureen Baker, Delores Bates, Barbara Clinton, Leesa Cole, Sara Coleman, Marta Finlay, Mary Carol Hughes, Kay Keeland, Shirley Kochman, Gwen Lawe, Penni Lewis, Lou McMillan, Carolyn Miller, Dr. Jan Nance, Marilyn Nease, Carolyn Power, Kathy Rodriguez, Margie Rohde, Melanie Rudebeck, Marilyn Smith, Wanda Spoonmore, Margaret Thompson, and Dr. Dawna Walsh.

**Two guests attended:** Sandra Couch and Kathy Sutton. Sandra is considering joining our chapter, and Kathy is a member of Delta Rho Chapter. Both have visited before.



**Margie Rohde**  
Recording  
Secretary

### OPENING:

Kay Keeland, Co-President, **called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.**

Margaret Arnold, Personal and Professional Enrichment Committee chair, **gave the inspiration. She discussed things for which she is thankful.** First, she is thankful to be an American and to live in a democracy. She is grateful for her family, who encouraged education, and for her career as a teacher. She remains thankful for her marriage of 54 years. Margaret is also mindful of many smaller things that add up to blessings in her life.

Marilyn Nease, newsletter editor, **introduced the icebreaker**, as Katherine Grogan, First Vice President for Programs and Projects, could not attend the meeting. Katherine has injured her left foot and is unable to walk because of her right knee, which is also injured and will be replaced on Jan. 22. Marilyn gave one person at each table a sheet with questions to ask the members at that table. The questions included where each member lives, whether she is cooking dinner on Thanksgiving or eating out, and her favorite Christmas song.



### PROGRAM:

**Kay introduced Melanie Rudebeck, Co-President, to speak on her trip to Costa Rica.** The trip was a mission trip sponsored by White Rock Fellowship Church to San Juan, Costa Rica. **Melanie applied for a Coordinating Council of Dallas County (CCDC) Scholarship last spring, which paid for her trip.** Melanie stated that she does not speak Spanish, but that she found ways to communicate with the children they worked



with during the trip. While in San Juan, the church members worked on an art project with neighborhood children, played games, and generally enjoyed themselves. Melanie stated that she now appreciates all that she has in her life after seeing how little many of the San Juan community members have. Members enjoyed Melanie's talk.



### **BUSINESS:**

**Margaret Thompson, Second Vice President for Membership, stated that Delta Rho Chapter of DKG has requested to merge with Delta Omicron since they only have six members, one of whom is a reserve member. Kay opened the discussion.** Leesa Cole explained that the members of Delta Rho are five active members and one reserve member and all five would contribute easily to our chapter. Margaret Thompson explained that it is difficult to run a chapter with only five active members. The five active members of Delta Rho are

and a reserve member is . Lou McMillan made a motion that Delta Omicron accept the merger of

Delta Rho with Delta Omicron. Delores Bates seconded the motion. **The vote was unanimous to accept the merger. Delta Rho will vote at their Jan. 2024 meeting to merge with Delta Omicron. Then, TSO will be notified of the decision of both chapters by Delta Omicron**

**sending its Nov. minutes and Delta Rho sending its Jan. minutes to TSO President Bonnie Moore, who will present the information to her executive board for action.**

**Next, Margaret Thompson discussed our chapter's membership updates, first with the desire of several members to move to reserve membership. Reserve membership can be granted for either health or geographic distance reasons.** The members wanting reserve membership are Susan Bell for distance reasons, Janet Cundiff for health reasons, Barbara Harris for health reasons, Marilyn Lamb for health reasons, and Mary Riddle for health reasons. Wanda Spoonmore made a motion to accept these members as reserve members. The motion was seconded. **The vote to accept the reserve membership of these members was unanimous.**

**Margaret continued with membership updates, moving to transfers.** Denise Barker and Cindy Braley transferred their membership from Delta Omicron to the Rockwall chapter, as they live in Rockwall. The transfer was announced officially in the spring of 2023.

**Margaret's last membership update was terminations.** The following members terminated their membership in Delta Omicron: Jaime Callahan for new employment reasons, Cindy Dominguez for family reasons, Susan Endicott for family reasons, for family reasons, for family reasons, and for health reasons. Mary Louise Milliorn died. All except Mary Louise Milliorn terminated their membership this fall; Mary Louise died earlier in the 2023 year.

**Marylin Nease, newsletter editor, explained her mistake in listing Carolyn Power as "past Legislation Committee chair" when Marylin was editing/revising the Oct. minutes before inserting them in the Nov. newsletter. Marylin thanked for informing her of the mistake in the minutes posted in the newsletter.** had served for 10 years as our chapter's Legislation Committee chair. Margaret Thompson made a motion to amend the Oct. minutes as posted in the newsletter by omitting "past Legislation Committee chair" and to approve the amended minutes from the Oct. meeting. The motion was seconded. **The vote to approve the amended minutes was unanimous.** Margie will send copies of the amended Oct. minutes to Kay Keeland, Melanie Rudebeck, and Marylin Nease.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT:**

**Kay Keeland reminded members of the Holiday Brunch, which will be Sat., Dec. 2, at Dr. Dawna Walsh's home at 4015 University Blvd. from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Dawna handed out invitations to the

brunch to all members present. Kay encouraged members to bring a check or money to the brunch to support the Denton State Supported Living Center, the chapter's community service project for Dec.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The DKG song was not sung, as we didn't want to disturb the other patrons at the restaurant. The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m. for dinner and fellowship.

Margie Rohde  
Recording Secretary

Kay Keeland  
Co-President

Melanie Rudebeck  
Co-President

**Editor's/Marylin's note:** Further research after Nov.'s meeting reminded me that Carolyn Power had served on TSO's 2015-17 Legislation Committee representing Area 9. In her state role, Carolyn gave legislation updates in chapter, workshop, and convention settings. Go, Carolyn! Go for your 10 years as Delta Omicron's Legislation Committee chair! How lucky Delta Omicron is to have both and Carolyn keeping us updated on legislation!



We welcome Sandra Couch into our Delta Omicron fellowship!

Fellowship + Business + Dinner + More Fellowship = Delta Omicron





**TREASURER'S REPORT for Dec. 2023**

by Leesa Cole, Treasurer

**Bank balance reconciled 12/27/2023 \$2,115.42**

**Income October - December**

Budgeted: None  
In and Out: Nov. dinner (28 members paid)  
DSSLC chapter contribution (member collection)

**Expenses October - December**

Budgeted: Senior Source contribution (Oct. speaker)  
ASTEf Schol. Fund contribution (Maje Harris memorial)  
HPPC contribution (Pastor Dunnagan memorial)  
Reimburse Necrology Chair (David Welch memorial flowers)  
McFarland Scholarship: chapter contribution

In and Out: Nov. dinner payment to Greek Isles  
DSSLC chapter contribution

**Anticipated income January**

Budgeted: New Member Dues  
In and Out: Schools for Africa (member collection)

**Anticipated expense January**

Budgeted: Chapter contributions to TSO, ASTEF, & International  
Chapter payment to CCDC (luncheon fee)  
ASTEf contribution (Jan. speaker)  
In and Out: Schools for Africa (member collection)

DSSLC = Denton State Supported Living Center  
ASTEf = Alpha State Texas Educational Fund  
HPPC = Highland Park Presbyterian Church  
TSO = Texas State Organization  
CCDC = Coordinating Council of Dallas County

**Finance Notes:**

- Nov. dinner expense = \$784.00 (27 meals + tip)
- DSSLC contributions collected at the Dec. brunch = a total of \$395.00  
\$295 submitted by the chapter from the chapter collection  
\$100 cash was submitted along with Carolyn Miller's contribution as her husband's former employer matches the donation.  
\*\*Some members contributed directly to DSSLC to receive an individual tax receipt.
- Members requesting reimbursement for a chapter expense should fill a Reimbursement Form, attach paid receipts, & get approval from one of the presidents before submitting to chapter treasurer. Leesa (treasurer) has the forms.
- Detailed monthly financial reports have been submitted to the recording secretary, chapter presidents, and finance chairs.

## **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

Co-Chairs: Leesa Cole & Wanda Spoonmore

### **Timeline:**

- **Jan. 8**, present nomination list to chapter
- **Feb. 12**, provide nomination list for vote at meeting:
  - ✓ President, 1 & 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Rec & Corr Secretary ( members vote)
  - ✓ Treasurer & Parliamentarian (new executive committee appoints)
- **Mar. 15**, president & treasurer name & contact info to TSO HQ for planning

Committee members are Katherine Grogan, Marylin Nease, Margaret Thompson.



## **CHAPTER'S HOLIDAY BRUNCH, DEC. 2, 2023, 11:00-2:00**

**30 Members Attended:** Elenora Asbury, Maureen Baker, Delores Bates, Joyanne Burger, Barbara Clinton, Sara Coleman, Grace Delatour, Marta Finlay, Mary Gill, Mary Carol Hughes, Kay Keeland, Shirley Kochman, Liza Leggett, Penni Lewis, Carolyn Miller, Marylin Nease, Carrie Parsons, Carolyn Power, Becky Quigley, Kathy Rodriguez, Margie Rohde, Melanie Rudebeck, Wanda Spoonmore, Margaret Thompson, Dr. Dawna Walsh, Betty Sue Welch

**2 Guests Attended:** Sandra Couch, Cordelia Venechanos

*"I enjoyed the delightful Holiday Brunch at Dr. Dawna Walsh's festive, fabulous home! What a gracious hostess she is! Kudos to her and to all who prepared the delicious food!"—Joyanne Burger*

*"I thought the brunch at Dawna's home was amazing. It was so fun to visit with everyone and catch up. Thank you, Dawna. You were the perfect hostess!"—Carolyn Miller*



**Thank you, Dec. hostesses, for our refreshments:**  
Elenora Asbury, Maureen Baker,  
Marta Finlay, Mary Gill, and Dr. Dawna Walsh!





**Hospitality**  
means receiving  
and entertaining  
guests in a way  
that makes them  
feel well taken  
care of.  
Dawna = Hospitality



**Fellowship**  
(friendly  
association,  
especially  
with people  
who share  
one's  
interests) =  
a DKG  
purpose.





**DKG**  
**Purpose 7:**  
To unite  
women  
educators  
in a  
genuine  
spiritual  
fellowship



We thank you, Dawna, for  
your hospitality!



**COORDINATING COUNCIL OF DALLAS COUNTY (CCDC)**

CCDC chair **Mary Claire Welch** reports, "Our 2024 spring luncheon will be April 27 at Lakewood Country Club."

**Q.** What can CCDC's twelve chapters think about now to plan ahead?

**A.** ✓ Making a fundraising basket for the silent auction that supports our Cora McFarland Scholarship

✓ Encouraging members to apply for the scholarship.

- ✓ Thinking of a candidate for the Friend of Education Award and preparing the nomination form.
- ✓ Checking chapter records for 25- and 50-year members to be honored.
- ✓ Asking presidents about our chapter's luncheon-day responsibility.
- ✓ Publicizing the event and encouraging members to attend.

## AREA 9

Are you staying informed? Be sure to read Area 9 Coordinator **Janie Wigley's** newsletters each month. They're quick, easy reads full of valuable info!

*Area 9 Sky Press* newsletters have Area 9 news and info.

*Northeast Regional Area Workshop* newsletters are about the mini-convention our part of Texas—the northeast part (Areas 1, 9, & 17)—will have in Rockwall on June 22, 2024. A state-wide convention is set for June 23-26, 2025, in Denton.

**Words of wisdom from our DKG Founder:**

*"Be progressive. Keep up with the moving world while not discarding what in the old has value. But don't cling to the old when its worth has passed. Don't be a person so set in your views that nothing can change you."* -- **Dr. Annie Webb Blanton** <https://www.dkg.org>



**Texas  
State Organization**

**TEXAS STATE ORGANIZATION** <https://www.dkgtexas.org/>

➔ **2013-15 State President Nancy Newton**

From Nancy's husband, Ed:

*Nancy Gayle Reid Newton*

**24 November 1943 - 4 November 2023**

**Celebration of a Life Well-Lived**

*Saturday, 27 January 2023, 2:00 – 4:30 pm*

*Alsbury Baptist Church Worship Center, 500 NE Alsbury Blvd.,  
Burleson, TX 76028*

*Casual, come and go (or preferably, stay) / Finger foods*

*Delta Kappa Gamma Society International's Service of Remembrance at 3:00 pm*

*A celebration, not a wake. Sharing good-times stories of Nancy with friends.*



➔ **Lone Star News, Winter 2023 Edition** [Lone Star News, Winter 2023](#)

→  
**Northeast  
 Regional  
 Area  
 Workshop  
 (NE RAW)**

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
 Northeast Regional Area Workshop  
 Saturday, June 22, 2024  
 Dr. Gene Burton College & Career Academy  
 2301 John King Blvd, Rockwall TX  
 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

www.dkgtxas.org

→ **TSO Conventions**

- 95th Annual Convention: June 23-26, 2025, Embassy Suites and Convention Center, Denton
- 96th Annual Convention: June 15-18, 2027, Embassy Suites and Conference Center, San Marcos

→ **2023-25 TSO Leadership Names, Faces, & Roles We Need to Know**



**Bonnie Moore**  
 President



**Jeanette Rhyan**  
 First Vice  
 President



**Dr. Stacey Arnold**  
 Second Vice  
 President



**Lynda Anderson**  
 Recording Secretary &  
 Mentor, Areas 1,9,17



**Judy Mezick**  
 Corresponding  
 Secretary



**Shalan Inmon**  
 Immediate Past  
 President



**Mellie Smithwick**  
 Parliamentarian



**Janet Helmcamp**  
 ASTEF President



**Leesa Cole**  
 Executive  
 Secretary & State  
 Treasurer

“...Aid and  
 guidance  
 from those  
 leading...”



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS  
**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™**

**DKG International**

The latest *DKG Bulletin Magazine: Collegial Exchange* (p. 15) has **Marilyn**

Nease's article: "Want Members? Want to Keep Them? Include Fellowship!" [2023 Collegial Exchange 90-2](#)