

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



Volume 66, Issue 3, Nov. 14, 2022
Marylin Nease, editor

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

Co-Presidents' Message



Melanie

Note: Kay wrote Nov.'s message.

Dear Delta Omicron Members,
Happy Thanksgiving!

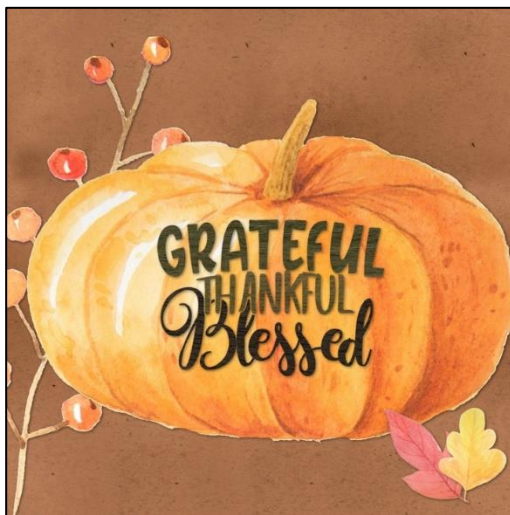
November is here, and the holiday season is underway. Plans are being made for family and friends getting together. This is the time to reflect on what is truly important and give thanks.

Keeping an attitude of gratitude.

Sending thanks to our DKG members for the support and love they have given us.



Kay



Sincerely,

Kay & Melanie

Co-Pres/Kay Keeland & Melanie Rudebeck
Co-1st VPs/Denise Barker & Cindy Braley
2nd 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

What to Bring on Nov. 14?

Children's books, especially for older elementary ages. Or cash or gift card so chapter can shop for books.

Next meeting: Mon., Nov. 14, 5:00 p.m.,
Greek Isles

Program: Carolyn Miller, "Reflections on DKG,"
Induction Ceremony for Janet Melton, &
Welcome Back to

Project: Books for Dallas Foster Closet, aligned
w/DKG International Project: Supporting Early-
career Educators (SEE)
(DKG Purposes 1, 3, 6, 7)

CHAPTER: PROGRAMS, PROJECTS, AND CONVENTION/CONFERENCES NEWS

Prog/Proj
VP Cindy
Braley



Mon., Sept. 19, 2022, 5:00 p.m., Highland Park Presbyterian Church (HPPC).

Program: Dr. Rose-Mary Rumbley (Historian, Actress, Storyteller), "Humanity Faces Calamity—How the Brain Affects Us, and the Epidemic of Pain Pills."
Recommitment Ceremony led by Ceremonies Committee. (1, 2, 3, 7)



Prog/Proj VP
Denise Barker

Mon., Oct. 17, 2022, 5:00 p.m., HPPC. Chapter Project intro: Supporting Early-career Educators (SEE) [International Project #2](#) / Leslie Kajs, Dallas Foster Closet. [Dallas Foster Closet](#)
Program: Shalan Inmon (TSO President). (1, 3, 6, 7)

Mon., Nov. 14, 2022, 5:00 p.m., Greek Isles Grill & Taverna. Program: New Member Induction Dinner, Carolyn Miller: "Reflections on DKG." **Chapter Project:** Supporting Early-career Educators (SEE) [International Project #2](#) : Books for Dallas Foster Closet. [Dallas Foster Closet](#) (1, 2, 6, 7)

Sat., Dec. 10, 2022, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Elenora Asbury's Home. Program: Holiday Brunch and Fellowship. **Chapter Project:** Monetary gifts for Denton State-Supported Living Center. [DSSLC](#) (1, 6, 7)

Mon., Jan. 23, 2023, 5:00 p.m., HPPC. Program: Class Act Tap Company (Jill Rumbley Beam Dancers). **International Project:** Schools for Africa (SFA) [International Project #1](#), Monetary gifts honoring/remembering an educator. (1, 6, 7)

***Mon., Feb. 13, 2023, 5:00 p.m., HPPC. Program:** (HPISD Retired Principal), "Education Update." **Project:** TSO's ASTEF February Giving Month. <https://www.astef.org/> (1, 4, 6, 7)

***Mon., Mar. 20, 2023, 5:00 p.m., HPPC. Program:** Jeanette Rhyan (Theta Chi, Area 10), Spectacular Texas Arts Retreat (STAR) Overview [STAR](#) and Heart Warmer Craft Activity. **Guest:** AC9 Liz Garrett. **Chapter Project:** [Dallas Foster Closet](#), donate items from list [Dallas Foster Closet](#) (1, 6, 7)

Sat., Apr. 22, 2023, 9:30 a.m., Lakewood Country Club. Program: Coordinating Council of Dallas County's Spring Luncheon. **CCDC Project:** Donation of chapter basket for Cora McFarland Scholarship Fund's Silent Auction. [Coordinating Councils](#) (1, 2, 3, 5, 6)

***Mon., May 15, 2023, 5:00 p.m., HPPC. Program: Ceremonies to (1) Honor Our DKG Founders & (2) Celebrate Our Chapter—a) Birthday, b) 25- & 50-year Members, c) Member Interview, d) Chapter Scholarship & Grant-in-aid, e) Achievement Award, and f) Necrology (if needed). TSO Project:** McAllen Convention's Unifying Project. [McAllen Convention](#) (1, 2, 3, 5, 6)

2022-2023 Projects:

Chapter – Dallas Foster Closet (Oct/Nov/Mar). 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). Unifying Project (May/June).

International - Schools for Africa (SFA) (Jan). Supporting Early-career Educators (SEE) (Oct/Nov/Mar).

Meeting Location Info: Highland Park Presbyterian Church, 3821 University Blvd., Dallas, second floor, room K. Enter parking garage from Shannon Lane on church's west side. Take elevator to second floor.

2023 Convention: TSO, McAllen, June 14-17
2023 Conferences: Detroit, Michigan, July 11-16; Phoenix, Arizona, July 18-22; Tampere, Finland, July 26-29

CHAPTER: MEMBERSHIP NEWS by Margaret Thompson, Membership VP



As Thanksgiving approaches, I am thankful for the friendships I have in this society! 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.

It will be special to induct our newest member, Janet Melton, to our group at our dinner this month and to welcome back our reinstated member. Please join me in congratulating Janet and saying "Welcome back!" to

Thank you if you have been able to update your biographical records. I am again attaching a copy of this form for you to complete and return to me via email,

I will continue to bring forms to our meetings for you to complete should you not be able to do this online. If you're unsure whether you have updated your information, feel free to phone me! [Form 82 Chapter Member Biographical Data Sheet \(Chapter Use Only\)](#)

MEMBER ORIENTATION #2—THREE MORE POINTS ABOUT DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

DKG's Mission Statement: *The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.*

Each member in each chapter in each state organization adheres to the same mission.



DKG's Numbers: DKG has approximately 52,000 members in 2,000 chapters in 17 countries in five regions of the world.

Who we are: DKG is a professional honor society of key women educators worldwide.

Opportunities Through DKG: Leadership, such as the Leadership Management Seminar and leadership growth opportunities sponsored by the Eunah Temple Holden Leadership Fund Committee. **Travel & Networking**, such as the International Speakers Fund, International Conventions, Regional Conferences, State Organization Conventions, & Area Workshops.
More opportunities next month....



MEMBER ORIENTATION WILL CONTINUE MONTHLY. NEXT INSTALLMENT? DECEMBER.

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

MEMBERS ON MEMBERSHIP: What's your "why" for being in DKG? Our answers are what we need to communicate to potential members!

shares, "In 2000, I was honored to be recommended for membership in DKG, and to have the opportunity to associate with educators who also considered their membership in DKG to be an honor.

"DKG is focused on helping members and other educators continue their education, and on assisting women, children, and families who are less fortunate.

"Equally important are friendships with other DKG members.

"It is truly an honor to be part of Delta Omicron and DKG."



**Happy NOVEMBER
Birthday!**

Dr. Elyse Griffin, 11
Joyanne Burger, 17
Katherine Grogan, 30

Delta Omicron's Birthday?



May 19, 1956!



Birthday Note, by Katherine Grogan

It's November 30, 1953. I was told it was a special day, my second birthday, and I would get a cake. I was so excited that I was going to have a special cake with candles on it.

Family was so important growing up, and there was a lot of emphasis on being with each other. Big expensive parties with big presents were something we didn't do.

So as I reflect on all my birthdays, it's the simple ones with close family or friends that I truly treasure the most.



Birthday Memories, by Joyanne Burger

My childhood birthday memories are linked with my beloved mother and my precious twin sister, Cordelia.

Our (Christ-like!) Mom loved to teach all of us six children generosity as a way of life. When birthdays came around, she encouraged us to give gifts to others on our special day—rather than focus on ourselves. At school we would share little treats, home-baked items, etc.—whatever we could afford in our large family. Mom wanted us to focus on giving rather than to seek attention and presents, and we genuinely appreciated that approach.

Another memory is that Mom liked to dress Cordelia and me in matching outfits as twins, but she liked these matching dresses to differ in one detail from each other, the color. She explained that this symbolized that although we were twins, we were still each uniquely individual. Cordelia and I are fraternal (non-identical) twins, one looking more like Dad's side of the family and the other like Mom's side. I wish I still had photos of those long-ago treasured dresses, but I do have recent pictures of Cordelia and me wearing our favorite matching jackets.

There is a fun story behind these colorful paisley tops. I bought my jacket many years ago (at a thrift shop as I recall), and in 2015 I happened to stumble upon the very same jacket in Terlingua, Texas, while on vacation! Imagine my delight to see that very same jacket at a thrift store named "Otra Vez" (in Spanish, "once again"). I whispered, "Thank you, Lord!" (What a "God wink" this was!) It would be my reward to Cordelia upon returning to Dallas. She had taken great care of our home while my husband, Stan, and I had been in Terlingua/Big Bend for five months!

So...enjoy photos of Cordelia and me in our matching jackets, and a photo of "Otra Vez" thrift store (it's still there!).

The hiking photo is of Cordelia and me during our fun Terlingua/Big Bend trip in April, Cordelia's first time there (the very place I got her jacket)! We feel so blessed to be sisters!



DELTA OMICRON CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES, OCT. 17, 2022

by Margie Rohde, Recording Secretary

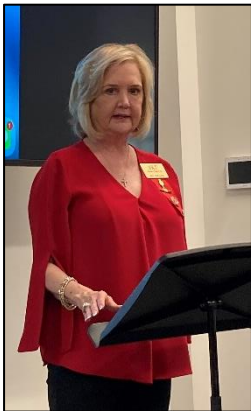
Delta Omicron Chapter, Dallas, Texas, Texas State Organization, DKG International, met on Mon., Oct. 17, 2022, in room K at Highland Park Presbyterian Church.

Attending were 30 members: Maureen Baker, Dee Bates, Susan Bell, Jaime Callahan, Barbara Clinton, Leesa Cole, Sara Coleman, Marta Finlay, Mary Gill, Katherine Grogan, Mary Carol Hughes, Leslie Kajs, Kay Keeland, Penni Lewis, Lou McMillan, Janet Melton, Carolyn Miller, Jan Nance, Marylin Nease, Kathy Rodriguez, Margie Rohde, Melanie Rudebeck, Marilyn Smith, Wanda Spoonmore, Margaret Thompson, Jean Wallace, Dr. Dawna Walsh, and Betty Sue Welch.

Two guests attended: Shalan Inmon and . Shalan is TSO president and was the meeting speaker, and Leslie Kajs, member and service project presenter.



OPENING:



Kay Keeland called the meeting to order at 4:55 p.m. Melanie Rudebeck, Co-President, gave **the inspiration. She read a story about a boy on the shore who was throwing starfish back into the water.** A man suggested that the boy could not save all the starfish. However, the boy responded that it mattered to the starfish he did save. Melanie encouraged members to do something to help another person whenever possible. She stated that words really matter.



SPEAKER:

Leesa Cole, TSO Executive Secretary, introduced **Shalan Inmon, TSO President.** Leesa stated that Shalan is a skilled and creative leader who tells great stories. She lives near Lubbock and has six grandchildren. She also works full time as the lead office manager at a church. Shalan asked Kay and Melanie to pass out yellow slips of paper to all members. She **asked members to guess the prices of various items as they were in 1956 when Delta Omicron was founded and to pair the items with cards that had the correct prices.** Members shared their pairings of items with prices, and Shalan then stated the true cost of various items in 1956. Members enjoyed the activity. She shared some **facts about 1956.** First, that was the year of Shalan's birth. *Heartbreak Hotel* was a hit, and *The Ten Commandments* was playing at movie theaters. The federal interstate highway bill was passed by Congress. Segregation in schools was ruled unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. The soap opera *As the World Turns* started on television. Grace Kelly married her prince, and Castro conquered Cuba.



Shalan reminded members that **DKG Founders paved the way for current members.** In 1929 when DKG was founded, teachers could not be married and still teach school! Lou McMillan shared that in 1964, when she got pregnant, she had to quit teaching as soon as she started to show. Shalan **discussed international officers** and stated that they were a talented group. She feels that the possible change of the society's name will come to the floor at the international convention again even though such a change was not voted on in New Orleans. **Texas has the largest membership of any of the states in DKG.** She is very pleased to announce that 43 members have signed up for the **2023 Leadership Seminar** and reminded members that a **TSO Virtual**

Meeting will be held on November 17. A **personal technology workshop** will be held Mar. 31-Apr. 1 in Cleburne; further information should be printed in the next *Lone Star News*. Shalan reminded members that **DKG is an honor society, not a sorority**.

DELTA OMICRON PROJECT:

Kay Keeland, Co-President, introduced **Leslie Kajs, a chapter member who volunteers with the Foster Care Closet**. Leslie showed a presentation about the Foster Care Closet, which is an **outreach ministry of Highland Park Presbyterian Church**. 5,400 children are in foster care in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. **Many foster families manage on a limited budget**. Many foster children arrive at their foster families with only the clothes on their back. Foster parents do get paid to care for these children, but the money is never enough to meet the needs of the children. The Closet is **located at 1421 N. Peak Street in Dallas and is open on Thursdays and first and third Saturdays of the month from 9:30 to 12:30**. Families can return once a month, or sooner if they receive new children, in order to get more clothes, books, toys, car seats, etc. A sign at the entrance to the Closet states: "Always pray to have eyes that see the best, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad, and a soul that never loses faith in God."

The Closet stocks clothes for babies through elementary-age children; diapers, car seats, strollers, and other baby supplies; toys; books; and various accessories to go with clothing. Volunteers sort all the donations and organize the donations by category. **CPA/CASA workers are encouraged to visit and get items for their families. Leslie would like Delta Omicron to donate books to the Closet, especially books for older elementary students**. Members were encouraged to purchase books and bring them to the November meeting. Katherine Grogan volunteered to deliver books collected at HPPC to the Closet. Donating books for children and families served by the Closet is one way Delta Omicron members can be part of DKG International's Supporting Early-career Educators (SEE) project. Members might also want to volunteer at the Closet. Kay offered to take a group of interested members to visit the Closet. Members were impressed with this new chapter project.



BUSINESS:

1.) Marta Finlay, Finance Committee Co-Chair, read the **treasurer's report** for Leesa Cole, Treasurer. The **bank balance** as of Sept. 30, 2022, **was \$3,276.88**. Income for Sept. was Nov. dinner reservations; there were no expenses. **Anticipated income for Oct. includes more dinner reservations. Anticipated expenses for Oct. include chapter donation to the Cora McFarland Scholarship Fund, chapter fee to CCDC, and the honorariums for speakers for Sept. and Oct.** Two new items were approved at the Sept. meeting. **\$50 will be used from the Miscellaneous fund as a reward/incentive for members to attend the meetings and wear DKG pins to receive either \$50 paid for state convention registration or \$50 reduction in dues. The chapter now has an expense form to use for reimbursements to members. Members who incur expenses will request the form from the treasurer and follow instructions to receive approval and reimbursement.**

2.) **The Nov. meeting will be held at the Greek Isles restaurant on Nov. 14. The induction dinner costs \$23.** Members need to get their money to Leesa by November 9, as Wanda Spoonmore, Fellowship Committee co-chair, must give the restaurant a final number of members attending by Nov. 10.

3.) Betty Sue Welch, Legislation chair, gave a brief **presentation on the need to vote this Nov.** A voter information sheet was passed out to members.



- 4.) Margaret Thompson, Second Vice President for Membership, reminded members that she still **needs more biographical sheets filled out**. She offered to give out more sheets to any members wanting them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- 1.) Kay shared that Rose-Mary Rumbley has had two more falls and is back in rehab. Jill Rumbley Beam, her daughter, is concerned.
- 2.) Dr. Dawna Walsh, Women in the Arts chair, passed around a sheet about a **painting class, *You Can Paint*, to be held at University Park Elementary on Nov. 10 from 6:15 p.m. to 9 p.m.** The cost is \$65, and the class will feature Master Artist . Participants will learn to paint a tribute to Monet’s Water Lilies series.
- 3.) Corresponding Secretary, read a **thank-you note written by a member of the ASTEF board. The note acknowledged Delta Omicron chapter for donating to ASTEF for ten years.**



ADJOURNMENT:

Door prizes were won by Dee Bates, Susan Bell, and Leslie Kajs. Penni Lewis, Music chair, led members in the DKG song. The meeting was adjourned at 6:07 p.m.

Margie Rohde
Recording Secretary

Kay Lynn Keeland
Co-President

Melanie Rudebeck
Co-President

TREASURER’S REPORT for Nov. 2022

by Leesa Cole, Treasurer



Bank balance as of 10/30/2022 \$3,675.68

Income October 2022

Budgeted: None (Reinstated member: Active Dues)
In and Out: November dinner

Expenses October 2022

Budgeted: Speaker Honorarium to ASTEF: Sept. & Oct.
Dues to Int’l / Dues + Fees to TSO

Anticipated income November

Budgeted: None
In and Out: November dinner

Anticipated expenses November (awaiting payment requests)

Budgeted: CCDC chapter dues
McFarland scholarship chapter dues
Membership chair reimbursement
In and Out: November dinner

Finance Notes:

- Current November dinner income = \$529.00 (23 reservations as of 10.30.22)
- Detailed monthly financial reports have been submitted to the recording secretary, chapter president, and finance chairs.



WOMEN IN THE ARTS COMMITTEE

with Dr. Dawna Walsh, Chair

NEWS ITEM # 1 – The DKG Fine Arts Gallery jury has selected winning submissions for the “Fall 2022” gallery. Two Delta Omicron members are among the artists whose works have been accepted for display in the DKG online gallery. *Works are to be posted online by mid-Nov. For link, see bottom of home page,*



International DKG

Marilyn Nease “A Sickbed Memory,” essay. “Daddy and Huck Finn, A Dramatic Monologue,” playwriting.

Dr. Dawna Walsh “Poppies in Red,” painting. “Sunset,” mixed media, stained glass.

NEWS ITEM #2 – 2022 Spirit Is Ageless Art and Writing Contest, sponsored by CC Young Senior Living, open to CC Young residents and to DFW community members ages 55 and up, w/15 categories for submissions: 13 art categories, 2 writing categories. 144 submissions received. The 2022 Celebration of Artists and Writers was held Fri., Oct. 28, at The Point, CC Young.



On left, Dr. Dawna Walsh, Featured Speaker, studies the artworks. She speaks on “Creatives and Their Traits.”



Marilyn Nease, 1st Place Poetry and Prose & Best in Show – Writing, Community Member, for her poem “With Me Still.” Pictured with Dr. Dawna Walsh.

learning (brush strokes and scientific order of color), and fun: Master Artist presents “You Can Paint.” For adults, *including DKG*, and for all levels of painting experience. “Monet’s Water Lilies,” Thurs., Nov. 10, University Park Elementary School, art room, 3500 Lovers Lane, Dallas, 6:15pm-9pm. Fee of \$65 for oil painting lesson and all art supplies set up for you! *Patient instruction.* Register by Tues., Nov. 8, at noon by calling Academy for Lifelong Learning at 214-780-3380.

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs Janet Melton and Wanda Spoonmore



On Thurs., Oct. 13, eight chapter members met at Outback Steakhouse for lunch and fellowship.

Left side of table, front to back: Margaret Thompson, Sara Coleman, Carolyn Power, Wanda Spoonmore.

Right side of table, front to back: Marilyn Nease, Kay Keeland, Mary Gill, Marta Finlay.

Thank you, Wanda, for arranging our lunch.



NEXT CHAPTER OUTING AND LUNCH:

Delivery of children's books to the Dallas Foster Closet on Sat., Nov. 19, 2022, at 11:30 will be followed by 12:45 lunch at Jason's Deli, 9100 North Central Expy (northeast quadrant of I-75 and Park Lane). Or, members can choose the Foster Closet option or the lunch option, whichever is better for them.

Meet at Northway Christian Church, 7202 W Northwest Hwy (NW Hwy near NorthPark) at 11:15 to carpool.

Thank you, Delta Omicron members, for donating books.
Thank you, Janet Melton, for arranging delivery of the books and tour of DFC.
Thank you, Wanda Spoonmore, for arranging lunch.

RSVP to Marilyn Nease by 11/17/22 to carpool with Kay Keeland and me to the Delta Rho outing!

Annual Holiday Auction

Delta Rho invites you to attend our Annual Holiday Auction
Tuesday, November 29, 2022
6:00 P.M.

Christa McAuliffe Learning Center
900 S. Greenville Ave
Richardson, TX 75081

Join us for a great opportunity to purchase affordable **Christmas gifts**, enjoy good **food, fun, and fellowship!**

RSVP by 11/17/22 to:

COORDINATING COUNCIL OF DALLAS COUNTY (CCDC)



What: 2023 Spring Luncheon

Who: Dallas County's 12 chapters

When: Sat., Apr. 22, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

Where: Lakewood Country Club, 6430 Gaston Ave, Dallas 75214

Program: Spring Luncheon, Host chapter: Eta Zeta, **Mary Claire Welch** (pictured)

Project: Each chapter donates a basket of goodies for the silent auction benefiting our CCDC's Cora McFarland Scholarship Fund. [Coordinating Councils](#)

AREA 9

Nov. 2022 Area 9 Newsletter Excerpt

AC9
Liz
Garrett



Membership Tips--Michelle Grandinetti, TSO Membership VP

Are you having fun? What better place for fellow educators, active and retired, to come together to share, celebrate, and have fun than at a chapter meeting? Members bring with them the events of the day, maybe unresolved problems, or tasks not quite complete. A gathering of kindred spirits like your chapter meeting can often provide that much needed respite that each member needs. As one member expressed, "It is my time to escape."

How does your chapter provide the opportunity for members to exchange ideas, share concerns, learn about each other? What activities are planned that are just for fun? Does your chapter include ice breakers, games, or maybe even the program itself that are designed to give members a chance to laugh, relax, and enjoy themselves?

The connection of individuals who share and understand the profession of being an educator can be very comforting. Take care of chapter business, but remember to add a bit of fun. If members walk out smiling and are maybe even a little reluctant to leave, then that was time well spent.



Texas
State Organization

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



→ 2021-23 State President

Shalan Inmon's biennium theme? **JOURNEY: Which Way Will You Go?**

Her biennium goals? **Nurture** - Develop relationships with current and new members.

Serve - Give of your time to others. **Educate** -

Promote the purposes and mission of DKG to others. **Wonder** - Dream, ask, reflect.

JOURNEY
Which way will you go?

→ Application for State Personnel Roles

It's time for chapter members to think about applying for a role at the state level. Here's the link to the application form. [State Personnel Application Form](#) (fillable PDF form)

Below, seven Delta Omicron members who have served and/or are serving at the state level reflect.



Katherine Grogan asks, "Ladies, want to have some fun? Consider applying to be a part of DKG at the state level. The application is very simple to fill out, and you can select what committee you're interested in applying for."

"I've had the privilege for the past four years of serving on two committees. I first served on the Personnel Committee and currently am on the Archives Committee. I learned a lot and made some really great friends. They were fun to work with, and I felt good about helping our organization. I was surprised that one of the members and I had very similar backgrounds, and we often get together because of this new friendship."



Marilyn Nease reports, "I've served at the state level as area coordinator and on

eight committees—necrology, archives, research, communications and publicity, headquarters (member, then chair), convention steering committee (newsletter editor), and membership. At the international level, I've served on two convention steering committees, one as recording secretary and the other as newsletter editor. I recommend saying yes to these opportunities to serve. I hope you'll apply!

"What's in it for you? A chance to learn about DKG beyond the chapter level. An opportunity to meet members from other parts of Texas and other states and form new friendships. An occasion to grow as a person as you develop your skills and talents and work alongside other 'key women educators' and are mentored by TSO leaders.

"Yes, it might feel bold or scary to apply, but take that leap! You'll be glad you did!"



Carolyn Miller shares, "I enjoyed serving on several state committees and was even chair of the Personnel Committee and the Headquarters Committee. Getting to know people from other chapters around the area and the state was a wonderful experience.

"I encourage everyone to consider volunteering to serve DKG in some way. It will enrich your life!"



Kay Keeland reports, "What a surprise and honor I received, being nominated to serve on the state Programs and Service Projects Committee.

"Working with DKG members who have the same goals is exciting. I've learned so much about how programs and service projects are **the heart of DKG chapters**. I've learned what makes a successful program and what makes a successful service project for a chapter.

"So far, my favorite part of serving on a state committee has been being asked to present the topic of programs and service projects at the 2022 Area 9 Workshop. I met so many DKG members and got great ideas from them.

"Being on a state committee is terrific! I appreciate having this wonderful experience."





Carolyn Power shares, “When _____ asked me to marry him, I said yes. When Penni Lewis asked me to join Delta Omicron, I said yes. When I was asked to serve as part of the Texas State Organization (TSO) work, I said yes three times. Saying yes can be risky, can’t it?”

“In these cases, it turned out to be ‘gold.’ Got a golden wedding ring, a golden DKG pin, and golden opportunities for statewide friendships and learning opportunities.

“Serving on the TSO Legislation Committee and the TSO Research Committee allowed me to be the contact person on these issues for chapters in Area 9. I presented breakout sessions on these topics at Area 9 Workshops and assisted at TSO Conventions.

“Patti Belknap served as TSO President from 2019-2021, and she asked me to serve as the TSO Liaison to the US FORUM. Part of the job was keeping the TSO officers and all the area coordinators for the entire state updated on DKG issues as they related to the DKG work in the United States.

“I am so glad I said yes!”



Shirley Kochman reports, “I served at the state level with the TSO Music Committee and as Coordinator for Area 9. I helped provide music for a number of ceremonies at state conventions through the years. Also, I presented music breakout sessions at area workshops and state conventions. As area coordinator, I was invited to a lot of little towns to speak to chapters and sometimes to do musical things. The members in the chapters I visited were always very cordial, welcoming, and respectful.

“My advice to Delta Omicron members thinking of applying for a state position is to hold leadership positions at the chapter level first in order to gain experience and be ready to contribute at the state level.”



Leesa Cole shares, “I can say I serve at the state level only because I work at TSO Headquarters as TSO Executive Secretary/Treasurer. I've never applied to serve TSO other than as an employee, so I don't think I have a good perspective to share with those applying for volunteer roles. It's part of my job to serve in an *ex officio* capacity on a number of state committees--or as a contributor of information for committees.”

Marilyn Nease adds, “In Leesa’s job as TSO Executive Secretary/Treasurer for seven years and in her *ex officio* role on many state committees, my guess is Leesa might know more about TSO than anyone else.” 😊

➔ **Forms/Dates/Info to Note:**

- **Nominations for State Elected Officers due Jan. 1, 2023.**
- **Applications for State Committee Chairs, Committee Members, & Area Coordinators due Feb. 1. [State Personnel Application Form](#) (fillable PDF form)**
- **Scholarships:** Guidelines and application forms have been updated: [Resources](#) .

➔ **TSO Newsletter [Lone Star News - Fall, 2022](#)**

Winter edition of Lone Star News coming soon....



→ **2023 STAR (Spectacular Texas Arts Retreat): Registration Open** Jan. 13-15, 2023 at Camp Allen. Use [this link](#). Or, register on the [Women in Arts Committee](#) page. **STAR is full, but you can register to be on the waiting list.**

→ **TSO 2023 Convention: McAllen, June 14-17** — **Save the Dates!** [McAllen Convention page](#)

→ **TSO's Educational Foundation**

What? ASTEF (Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation)

When & Where? Attendees at our 2011 State Convention in McAllen discussed and voted to approve ASTEF.

Why? As a 501(c)(3) public charity, ASTEF

- provides funding for activities that support professional and personal growth of women educators in Texas and
- promotes educational excellence for Texas students.

How? Our donations to ASTEF fund activities for leadership, scholarships, and projects.

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- **2024 Convention:** National Harbor, Maryland (Gaylord National, D.C. Area)
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- **Supporting Early-career Educators** [Supporting Early-career Educators](#)

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