

# 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  
**O**pen your heart, mind, & attitude  
**A**ct to serve & share  
**R**each to renew, respond, & relate



Volume 67, Issue 2, Oct. 16, 2023  
Marylin Nease, editor ([neasem@sbcglobal.net](mailto:neasem@sbcglobal.net))

\*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 Fall! So glad that we finally have some fall weather. This summer was particularly hot.

Hope that everyone enjoyed our first meeting of the year as much as I did! It was so great to see everyone there. The new room is so nice, and Betty Sue did a great job organizing the food.



Kay

What area of Delta Omicron is your passion? We are starting to look for new officers for the next biennium. Do you like to lead? Is there a committee that you have some new ideas for? We would love to have you volunteer for a job in DKG! It's so much fun to get to know other members better and serve alongside your friends to help the group provide wonderful programs and fellowship for everyone.

Looking forward to this month's program and seeing everyone.

*Melanie Rudebeck and Kay Keeland  
Co-Presidents*

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/Linda Tokoly  
Treas/Leesa Cole  
Parl/Betty Sue Welch  
Im P Pres/Katherine Grogan

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

**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.

**Please bring:** Your \$28 check (write to Delta Omicron & give to Marta Finlay) for Induction Dinner at Greek Isles, 5934 Royal Lane, #120, Mon., Nov. 20, 5:00. Melanie Rudebeck will speak about her CCDC scholarship & trip to Costa Rica.

**Thank you to our Oct. refreshments hostesses:** Lou Brown, Joyanne Burger, Sara Coleman, Judy Culbertson, Katherine Grogan, Dr. Jan Nance, Marylin Nease.

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

## AGENDA (WORKING DRAFT): Delta Omicron meeting, Oct. 16, 2023

### I. Opening

- A. Call to order: Kay Keeland & Melanie Rudebeck
- B. Welcome to guests: Margaret Thompson & Lou McMillan
- C. Inspiration: Margaret Arnold
- D. Ice breaker/Fellowship: Katherine Grogan

### II. Program

- A. Introduction: Katherine Grogan
- B. Renae Perry, Chief Operating Officer, The Senior Source

### III. Business

- A. Treasurer's report: Marta Finlay
- B. Nominations Committee: Wanda Spoonmore, 2022-24 officers, Marylin Nease
- C. Chapter project - The Community School of the Park Cities: Kay Keeland
- D. Refreshments: Betty Sue Welch

### IV. Announcements:

- A. Nov. 20 meeting
- B. Other announcements

### V. Adjournment – DKG Song: Penni Lewis



Renae Perry  
The Senior Source  
Oct. program presenter

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## 2023-24 Meeting Dates & Programs

**Oct. 16, 2023** – Renae Perry, The Senior Source <https://theseniorsource.org/>

**Nov. 20, 2023** – Greek Isles, \$28, Dinner & Induction, Melanie Rudebeck's reflections on her Coordinating Council of Dallas County (CCDC) scholarship & educational adventure in Costa Rica

**Dec. 2, 2023** – Holiday Brunch & Fellowship, home of Dr. Dawna Walsh

**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. TBD, 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 75087, 8am-5pm, **June 22, 2024**

### 2024 International Convention:

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

## CHAPTER: MEMBERSHIP NEWS

by Margaret Thompson, Membership VP



It was so good to see many of you last month. This month, I look forward to welcoming two visitors, Sandra Couch and Libby Evans, to our meeting. They are both former teachers from Shelton School. Again, thank you to Lou McMillan and Kay Keeland for introducing them to me this past summer!

Please feel free to let me know if you have any teacher friends you would like me to contact about Delta Kappa Gamma. The continued growth and health of our chapter is dependent upon your efforts to reach out to prospective members, so your referrals are always welcome!

*The continued growth and health of our chapter is 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 October Birthday!

Melanie Rudebeck, 6 🎂 Wanda Spoonmore, 16 🎂 Lou McMillan, 27 🎂 Jean Wallace 27 🎂





## MEMBERS' PROFESSIONAL NEWS

**Kathy Sutton**, current Delta Rho member and future Delta Omicron member, teaches students with visual impairments in Dallas ISD.

Kathy reports, "**Annually, Oct. 15 is White Cane Awareness Day.** Below is a link to information about the day, currently and historically.

<https://nfb.org/programs-services/blind-equality-achievement-month/white-cane-awareness-day>

Katherine Grogan & Kathy Sutton having fun at our Sept. meeting

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## DELTA OMICRON MEETING MINUTES, SEPT. 18, 2023

Delta Omicron Chapter, Dallas, Texas, Texas State Organization, DKG International, met on **Mon., Sept. 18, 2023**, in room L at Highland Park Presbyterian Church.

**Attending were 28 members:** Margaret Arnold, Elenora Asbury, Suzanne Babcock, Maureen Baker, Delores Bates, Leesa Cole, Sara Coleman, Marta Finlay, Katherine Grogan, Mary Carol Hughes, Leslie Kajs, Kay Keeland, Shirley Kochman, Penni Lewis, Lou McMillan, Carolyn Miller, Dr. Jan Nance, Marilyn Nease, Kathy Rodriguez, Margie Rohde, Melanie Rudebeck, Marilyn Smith, Wanda Spoonmore, Margaret Thompson, Linda Tokoly, Jean Wallace, Dr. Dawna Walsh, and Betty Sue Welch.



**Margie Rohde**  
Recording Secretary

**One guest, Kathy Sutton, attended.** Kathy is a member of Delta Rho chapter and is planning to transfer to our chapter eventually. Kathy has attended meetings before.

### OPENING:

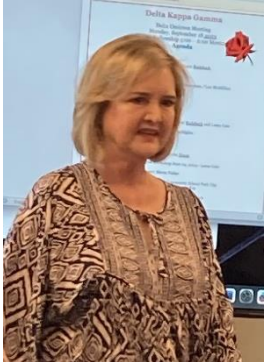
Kay Keeland, Co-President, called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**Margaret Arnold, Personal and Professional Enrichment, gave the inspiration.**

**She spoke about aging and the things we can still control as we age:** our beliefs, attitudes, and thoughts; books; how we exercise; risks we choose to take; how kind we are toward others; when we ask for help; whether we smile every day; how we spend our money; our willingness to try again; memories of the past; and how much we appreciate the things we have in our life.

**Margaret Thompson, Second Vice President for Membership, welcomed Kathy Sutton and stated that members have contacted her about five possible new members.** Of those five, two ladies, Libby Evans and Sandra Couch, are likely to join. Neither of these ladies was able to attend the meeting today, but Margaret will keep in touch with them and invite them to the Oct. meeting,

**Katherine Grogan, First Vice President for Programs and Projects, introduced an ice breaker for fellowship before starting the program.** She had four letters on the wall of room L marked "A," "B," "C," and "D." Members picked the letter that best described their summer activities, and then they briefly shared their summer activities with other members in that group. "A" was for members who mostly stayed home. "B" was for members who traveled in the state of Texas. "C" was for members who traveled elsewhere in the United States or abroad. "D" was for members who spent a lot of time with grandkids. Members enjoyed this activity.

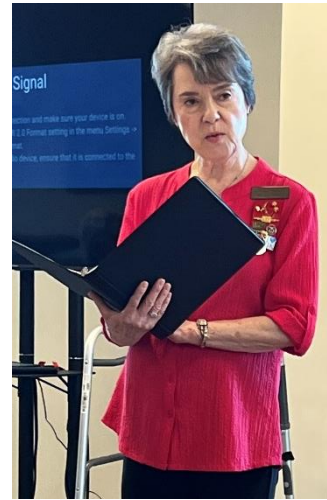


**PROGRAM:**

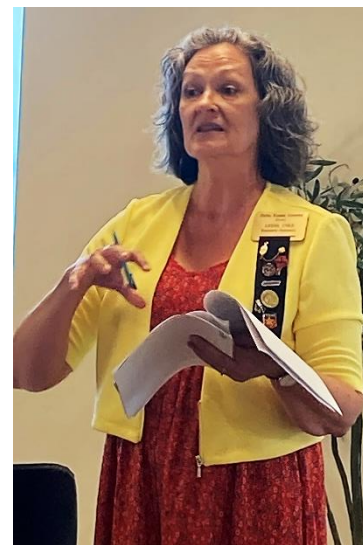


1.) **Katherine Grogan then introduced Melanie Rudebeck to share her memories from the McAllen TSO Convention in June.** Melanie roomed with Marilyn Nease and especially enjoyed seeing old friends from previous conventions, sharing meals with her friends, and making new friends. She stated that the convention felt like home. She also attended the meeting for chapter presidents, which she found helpful. Melanie had never been to McAllen, so she especially enjoyed learning about the city and shopping. She also liked sampling the city’s favorite drink, “border buttermilk,” which was actually a margarita.

2.) **Katherine Grogan next introduced Marylin Nease, who shared her best practices to recruit and retain members.** Marylin shared an article that she submitted to the DKG magazine *Collegial Exchange*, and that is based on her membership presentation at McAllen. **She stated that the most important one of the Founders’ seven Purposes is Purpose 1, fellowship.** Our Founder, Dr. Annie Webb Blanton, knew that the most important goal of DKG was to unite women educators in fellowship, more important than scholarships or instruction on issues affecting education. Although much has changed since the founding of DKG, this Purpose still works and leads members into working successfully on the other six Purposes. Fellowship time might not work in some other countries, or some educators might find joining DKG too costly, so chapters should adapt the ideas as needed. **Marylin urged members to share the joy of membership with prospective members and to be welcoming to any new members and members they do not already know.** Chapters should schedule time for fellowship, have inspirational messages and ice breakers, encourage members to sit with members they don’t know well, recognize members’ birthdays and years of membership, and generally try to learn interesting facts about members they may not know well. New members should be spotlighted in the newsletter, mentored by *all* members, and welcomed with a receiving line after they are inducted into DKG. **Encouraging fellowship is the best way to recruit and retain members and grow the chapter.**



3.) **Katherine Grogan then introduced Leesa Cole to share a big change coming to DKG.** A survey was conducted to get members’ opinions on proposed changes before announcing them. **A convention will be held every other year. On the even years, regional workshops will be held instead of a statewide convention. Our chapter will attend the Northeast Regional Area Workshop, which will be for all chapters in areas 1, 9, and 17. The Northeast Regional Area Workshop will be held on Sat., June 22, 2024, and breakfast and lunch will be included.** Lynda Anderson (TSO mentor for areas 1,9, and 17) and the area coordinators for areas 1, 9, and 17 will be leading the planning for this workshop. The workshop will have a lot of similarities to what happens at convention—without a business meeting. **The workshop will cost only \$50, and incoming presidents of chapters will have their fees covered by TSO. Janie Wigley, Area 9 coordinator, will be publishing a regular newsletter, which will be sent to all area members with information regarding the workshop.** Kay Keeland, Co-President, has signed up Delta Omicron to be in charge of morning snacks.



**DKG Purpose 1:**  
Uniting women  
educators of the  
world in a  
genuine spiritual  
**FELLOWSHIP**

**Of the state convention in McAllen, Melanie Rudebeck said,** “I especially enjoyed seeing old friends from previous conventions, sharing meals with my friends, and making new friends.” She added that “the convention felt like home.”

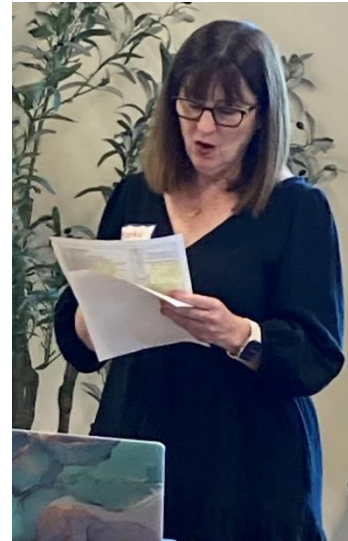
## BUSINESS:

- 1.) **Marta Finlay, Finance Committee Co-Chair, gave the treasurer's report.** The **bank balance** as of Aug. 30, 2023, is \$2,556.83. **Income** during May through Aug. included dues for 55 members (48 active, 6 reserve, and 1 state honorary). \$90 was added to the chapter speaker fund. **Expenses** for May through Aug. included dues to International, dues and fees to TSO, president reimbursement for McAllen Convention, member stipend for McAllen Convention, ASTEF contribution for Mary Louise Million's memorial, and ceremonies chair reimbursement. **Anticipated Income for Sept.** includes dues from new members if any. **Anticipated expenses for Sept.** include the chapter donation to the Cora McFarland Scholarship Fund, chapter fee to CCDC, and membership chair reimbursement. The Aug. balance closes out all income and expenses for 2022-23. Form 15 annual treasurer's report has been filed with TSO, and the 990n ePostcard annual filing has been submitted to IRS.
- 2.) **The Finance Committee and the chapter co-presidents met in Aug. to form the proposed budget for 2023-24. Marta shared changes in the budget from the previous budget.** \$30 will be paid to each member who attends the NE RAW, thus requiring members to pay only \$20 to attend. Members can expect to pay \$50 for the CCDC luncheon to cover the cost of the meal and the staff to serve the luncheon. **Margaret Thompson questioned an item in the proposed budget regarding dues for new or reinstated members.** The dues cost was listed as \$100, but dues have been changed to \$90. Leesa Cole agreed that this item should be changed to \$90. Betty Sue Welch made a motion that the proposed budget be accepted, and Lou McMillan seconded the motion. **The budget was approved unanimously.**
- 3.) **Marylin Nease announced that she now has enough volunteers who are willing to print and mail newsletters to those members who have requested them for vision or technology reasons.** Margaret Arnold, Joyanne Burger, and Penni Lewis will each print and mail two newsletters each month.
- 4.) **Kay Keeland announced that the chapter will support Melanie's school, The Community School of the Park Cities, this year as the chapter's service project.** On Fri., Sept. 29, Kay wants us to take breakfast to staff at the school. Members who accompany Kay will have an opportunity to build up teachers at the school and encourage their work. The school is in a red brick building near SMU. Kay hopes that the chapter can do another breakfast or some other event in the spring.

5.) **Betty Sue Welch, Social Arrangements Committee, thanked the hostesses for the Sept. meeting** and encouraged those members on the list as hostesses for the Oct. meeting to let her know what they will bring in Oct. **Kathy Sutton announced** that Delta Rho will be attending the Oct. Delta Omicron meeting, and that they will provide all the paper products needed for refreshments.

## ADJOURNMENT:

**The DKG song** was sung. Penni Lewis, Music Committee chair, asked if any member collected the laminated song sheets from the last meeting after she had to leave early. Margaret Thompson told Penni that she had the sheets. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.



*Margie Rohde, Recording Secretary Kay Keeland & Melanie Rudebeck, Co-Presidents*

## **TREASURER'S REPORT for Oct. 2023**

by Leesa Cole, Treasurer



**Bank balance as of 9/30/2023** \$2,392.87

### **Income Sept. 2023**

Budgeted: none

### **Expenses Sept. 2023**

Budgeted: Reimburse Membership Chair

### **Anticipated income Oct. 2023**

Budgeted: none

In and out: Nov. dinner reservations

### **Anticipated expenses Oct. 2023**

Budgeted: Chapter donation to Cora McFarland Scholarship Fund  
Chapter fee to CCDC (\$40 last year, may rise again)  
Honorarium to ASTEF for speaker

- The chapter approved the proposed budget for 2023-24 at the meeting on 9/18/23.
- **NEW**– Regional Area Workshop in June of 2024 replaces June State Convention and the Sept. Area 9 Workshop.  
\*\*Budget areas affected include chapter president reimbursement and member stipend for attending the Northeast Regional Area Workshop (NE RAW).
- Approved budget and detailed monthly financial reports have been submitted to the recording secretary, chapter presidents, and finance chairs.

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## **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

Co-Chairs: Leesa Cole & Wanda Spoonmore

### **Timeline:**

- **Oct.-Nov.**, receive input from current officers / chapter members
- **Nov.-Dec.**, meet to narrow and prioritize the list for officer positions
- **Dec.-Jan.**, contact members for officer positions
- **Jan. 8**, present nomination list to chapter
- **Feb. 12**, provide nomination list for vote at meeting:  
President, 1 & 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Recording & Corresponding Secretary (voted by members)  
Treasurer & Parliamentarian (appointed by new executive committee)
- **Mar. 15**, president & treasurer name & contact info to TSO HQ for RAW training planning



At our Oct. chapter meeting, Wanda will speak about the importance of members providing feedback on their interest in serving in an officer or chair position. Current officers will share testimonials. Members will complete surveys and hand to a committee member: Katherine Grogan, Marylin Nease, Margaret Thompson.

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**Please see page 10 for 2022-24 officers' testimonials.**

**CHAPTER PROJECT: SUPPORT FOR EARLY-CAREER EDUCATORS, SEE**



L-R: Margaret Thompson, Betty Sue Welch, Kay Keeland, Margaret Arnold, and Dr. Jan Nance were Delta Omicron's hostesses for our Fri., Sept. 29, breakfast for the wonderful

teachers at The Community School of the Park Cities. Many thanks go to chapter members who contributed money toward our breakfast project in support of early-career and continuing educators. [Support for Early-career Educators](#)

Co-president Kay Keeland reports, "The teachers [and Delta Omicron co-president Melanie Rudebeck, school director] loved every minute of it. We also got to tour the school and see the adorable, precious kids.

"The DKG members were so generous in their donations. We had enough money to give the teachers breakfast, DKG convention bags, and Chick-fil-A gift cards."

Co-president Melanie Rudebeck adds, "Thanks to Delta Omicron for providing breakfast for my staff today!!! It was so special!"

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**CHAPTER FELLOWSHIP:  
OUTBACK STEAKHOUSE,  
MON., OCT. 2, 12:30 P.M.**

Kay Keeland reports, "Outback! Fun, relaxing lunch! Catching up on how everything is going with everyone!"

Thank you to Wanda Spoonmore for organizing and hosting the event!

L-R Clockwise: Carolyn Power, Barbara Clinton, Mary Carol Hughes, Penni Lewis, Wanda Spoonmore, Kay Keeland, Betty Sue Welch, Dr. Jan Nance, Shirley Kochman







# Texas State Organization

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

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

## Northeast Regional Area Workshop

### Save the Date!

Date: Saturday, June 22, 2024  
 Location: Dr. Gene Burton College and Career Academy, Rockwall TX  
 Time: 8:00 AM-5:00 PM  
 Registration: \$50 until May 15; after May 15 \$65; Onsite \$65



**Texas State Organization**  
Don't miss this event!!

➔ **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



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



**Leesa Cole**  
Executive Secretary & State Treasurer



**Janie Wigley**  
Area 9 Coordinator



**Mary Claire Welch**  
Chair, Coordinating Council of Dallas County (CCDC)

➔ **TSO STAR 2024 Registration Now Open**

Registration can be accessed on the [Forms](#) page. Mark your calendar: February 16-18, 2024, Camp Allen.



# INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™

**INTERNATIONAL** <https://www.dkg.org/>

➔ **DKG International Conventions**

**2024 Convention:** National Harbor, Maryland    **2026 Convention:** Aurora, Colorado

**Continued from p. 7: 2022-24 Delta Omicron Officers' Testimonials**

**Kay Keeland**, co-president, shares, "What a privilege it is serving Delta Omicron as president. I have learned so much about what DKG stands for and what it is all about. ♦ One of the most important things I cherish as president is the fellowship and working as a team. ♦ I am so thankful I said YES to being president. It has made me a stronger and more confident member, a better listener, and a team player better at working with others. Serving as president is one of the best decisions I have made."



**Melanie Rudebeck**, co-president, reports, "What do I enjoy about being president? ♦ I have enjoyed getting to know all of the other members and making positive changes by being co-president. It's been nice to share the work with someone else as well. ♦ Everyone needs to take a turn as an officer because we all must contribute in order to help continue to make the chapter run smoothly. We need rotation of leadership to keep the chapter fresh. New people bring new ideas and new energy to the chapter. ♦ Hope you will consider an office or a committee chair role in Delta Omicron."



**Katherine Grogan**, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, shares, "Twice, I have been the 1st VP, in charge of programs. ♦ Ideas are so easy. Sept. is our first time back from summer; Oct., something for fall; Nov., our induction ceremony and dinner; Dec., our holiday brunch; Jan., health and exercise; Feb., love; Mar., spring; Apr., our CCDC luncheon; May, honoring our Founders & celebrating our chapter's birthday, plus every other year, installation of new officers. ♦ This is a fun job: finding people to speak to our chapter. Many of the best speakers have been our own members, which is pretty easy. Ask members, and see what we can offer."



**Margaret Thompson**, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, reports, "Membership has been a relatively simple position to manage. It's important to be organized and follow up with possible new members. ♦ I would be willing to go over the records and responsibilities with the new officer thoroughly. I inherited this position during the Covid shutdown and had to familiarize myself with it alone. ♦ Good prerequisites for the job are liking new people and enjoying the task of getting to know them!"



**Margie Rohde**, recording secretary, shares, "I have found that being recording secretary is an excellent way to learn more about how Delta Omicron works. ♦ Once you have learned the basic form for recording the minutes, it is easier to duplicate that form on subsequent minutes. ♦ It helps to be organized and listen well at meetings."



**Linda Tokoly**, corresponding secretary, reports, "Being the corresponding secretary and serving on the executive committee helped me to develop a closeness with some of our sisters."



**Photos:** Lynda Anderson, Leesa Cole, Katherine Grogan, Kay Keeland, Bonnie Moore, Marylin Nease, Renae Perry, Melanie Rudebeck, Margaret Thompson, Mary Claire Welch, Janie Wigley

**Graphic Art:** Janie Wigley, DKG, TSO, Pixabay.