



# Focus on Finance

## The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

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### Is a Mobile Credit Card Reader For Your State Organization?

Are DKG members contacting you with the anticipation of paying for dues, convention registration, meals, and workshop fees by credit card? This article is to acquaint you with a few possible avenues of using mobile credit card readers rather than expect your members to pay by check.

First, **CardConnect** helps your organization accept payments with paper authorization (including online submission), on phone, or in person. There is no contract and their fee is 2% of the amount swiped. You pay a \$60 fee to IRS per year for using the system and can put your unit on seasonal hold if you wish. They claim the industry's most advanced security features. Their contact number in Chicago is 877-894-2299.

Second, **Paynet Systems** allows organizations and businesses to accept credit card payments in person, via phone, or with written authorization including online submissions. Their fee is 2% of your monthly tenders. Their contact number is 1-800-809-1989 (ext 484 for Fred Hogan).

Third, **Square** provides mobile credit card reader services. Their fee is 2.75% of your monthly tenders, but if you key-in the transaction, it will cost you 3.5% + \$.15 per transaction. Getting a real person to answer your questions is one area where Square is lacking; the company focuses on mobile-only support.

Flagship ROAMpay is rated high by Business News Daily as its rates range from .38% to 1.58%. This mobile reader plugs into the head-jack of any Android, Blackberry, or iOS device. The contact number is 855-905-4957.

You and your Finance Committee will want to research which mobile credit card reader will be best for your situation and probably decide how to adjust prices for anyone desiring to use a credit card so additional fees are not charged to your chapter or state organization. There are many more brands. However, our technology age must be reckoned with. Writing checks is becoming a thing of the past.

### Honoring Members

Connecticut has started the Life Membership Award to honor long-time members by paying their International and scholarship fee. This small gesture is significant to many long-time members who live on a fixed income or are dealing with health issues. The Connecticut State Organization is keeping members who may have dropped or have families that may have dropped their membership because they did not understand the importance of DKG in their loved one's life. If a member's age and years of membership add up to 135, CT invites the member to accept the award. A member can opt out if they wish to. The member's chapter usually recognizes her at a meeting with a rose and a certificate provided by Connecticut State Organization.

This year, 20 long-time members qualified for the award. CT paid their International dues & scholarship fees, and the state and chapter dues were not collected. The total cost to the state was \$580. This small price allowed CT to honor these long-time dedicated members.

This program, initiated by Connecticut Organization Treasurer, Donna Chaney, was unanimously supported by the CT Executive Board and the state organization Finance Committee and has become a positive and worthy project for Connecticut.

### Dues Collection Ideas

Many ideas on collecting dues were shared and generated in the treasurers' breakout sessions at the 2013 Regional Conferences. We continue to share these ideas and hope they will be useful to chapter treasurers.

- ⇒ Include scholarship in the budget to pay the dues of a member who has a financial need. This would be confidential between the president and the member.
- ⇒ Do not charge the chapter president her chapter portion of the dues. This may encourage members to take leadership roles.
- ⇒ Transfer funds on-line to the chapter account.
- ⇒ Start collecting dues in the spring.
- ⇒ Discount on chapter dues if paid early.
- ⇒ All members who pay early are entered into a drawing with the winner having her dues paid by the chapter.
- ⇒ Also see the credit card reader idea in the adjacent article.
- ⇒ As always, we cannot emphasize enough that collecting dues is a team effort and is not the sole responsibility of the chapter treasurer.



**Watch** for an email from Phyllis Hickey regarding *How Your International Dues are Spent*. This will be updated after the fiscal year closes. All state organization treasurers will receive this important email. It will also be available in the Finance Committee section of [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org). Please share with your state organization executive board and chapter treasurers.

### Are Webinars of Interest to You?

Soon you will be heading to a regional conference and experience training updates as a state organization treasurer. We want to continue updates by offering webinars during the year. If you would like to learn more about a specific area, please contact Phyllis Hickey at [phyllish@dkg.org](mailto:phyllish@dkg.org) soon after your training.



### Are YOU Joining us at Regional Conference?

Each member of the International Finance Committee is looking forward to seeing you at your regional conference. You don't want to miss what has been planned

If you are a state organization treasurer, plan on attending the pre-conference training designed by the committee just for you.

If you are a state organization treasurer, chapter treasurer, state organization finance chair or chapter finance chair be sure to attend the "Engaging in DKG Finances." Join us for an interactive discussion and sharing of valuable resources that take the mystery out of DKG finances.

You can also drop by our blackjack table at the InfoFair for a chance to "win" some program ideas that the committee has prepared for you to educate your members about DKG finances.

### PowerPoint Presentations Available

In order to assist you with being a financial ambassador for your chapter, the International Finance Committee has prepared short PowerPoint presentations for use in your chapter/state organization meetings. We encourage you to share these presentations at upcoming business meetings to educate your fellow members.

The following will be available for downloading from the Finance Committee page of [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) after July 1, 2015:

- You Own a Building
- The Available Fund
- The Power of Member Dues

A fourth one will be available after September 1, 2015. It will be entitled *How Member Dues are Allocated*.

### Important Deadlines

**July 1** November 15 (U.S. only) File 990N or 990 with IRS

**July 15** Submit Form 15 Annual Report of Chapter Treasurer to state organization treasurer

**September 1** Submit Form 16 Annual Report of State Organization Treasurer to Phyllis Hickey at Society Headquarters

