



# New Jersey News

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## “For the Love of Books” DKG 2019-2020 Book Drive

Alpha Zeta State’s President, Ingrid Williams, has initiated a president’s project for the 2019-2020 year. “For the Love of Books” Book Drive will commence this year and all chapters will be collecting new and gently used pre-school through grade 12 books to be redistributed throughout the state of New Jersey.

### Our goal...15,000 books...We Can, and We Will!

Through the coordination of the chapter chairs, the project will be rolled out in October and continue throughout the year. Each member is asked to donate at least 25 books and members can submit them at chapter meetings. Chapters are creating a plan for the redistribution of their choice or utilize organizations such as Book Smiles or Bridge of Books to find appropriate recipients. Many of our chapters are already engaged in this project, so this project will unify our chapters. Together, we can accomplish so much more!

DKG prides itself on being a philanthropic society and this project gives us a chance to put books in kid’s hands! The benefits of reading are endless! Please contact state chair Susan Murphy – Nu Chapter – if you have any questions! [susierudd@aol.com](mailto:susierudd@aol.com)

**The Delta Kappa  
Gamma Society  
International  
promotes  
professional and  
personal growth of  
women educators and  
excellence in  
education.**



## A Message from our NJ State President, Ingrid Williams



I am humbled and honored to begin my biennium as the president of the New Jersey Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma. I am fortunate to be surrounded by passionate, intelligent, and enthusiastic officers, committee chairs and chapter presidents. I look forward to serving with the other elected officers: Dr. Nora Pollard, First Vice-President, Irene Maskaly, Second Vice-President, Dr. Pam Albert Devine, Recording Secretary, and Gail Starr, Corresponding Secretary.

July was busy as Irene and I started the month with our training at the International Leadership Convention in Des Moines, Iowa and we ended the month at the International Global Awareness Convention in Connecticut. The highlight of Connecticut was the Jersey Girls dinner, where 21 of us gathered in the spirit of camaraderie and friendship to break bread and get to know each other a little better. The Executive Board met in August to discuss our goals and to review our Strategic Plan. Our new, updated plan will soon be available on the state website.

I want to start by sharing some stark facts that I learned while in Des Moines. In 1961, DKG International had a membership of 161,000. In 2019, our membership hovers around 65,000. When you hear me say that membership is one of my goals, therefore. I truly believe that we don't market and advertise ourselves as well as we need to. Do you ever read an article in the newspaper about DKG? When you ask someone to join, do you ever hear "WOW, I'd be honored and would love to join such a prestigious organization!" as a response? I know I always must explain who we are and what we do. Years ago, it started off as a "secret" society, but we have been past that for decades. If we want DKG to last another 91 years, each of us needs to take responsibility for recruiting new members.

Here are some more numbers to contemplate (sorry, I was a math teacher!). In New Jersey during the 2017-2018 school year, there were approximately 140,000 certified teachers. DKG-NJ only has 839 members and many of them are retired. Granted, some of the 140,000 are men but stop and think



about those numbers. Yes, it's a society for "key women educators" but we don't even have 1% of the currently active New Jersey teachers in our society. I know we can increase our membership with quality women, and I challenge each chapter to induct at least 5-10% new members at our convention in March.

Contemplating the above numbers was a driving force in helping me decide to on a **mantra** for my next two years. Repeat after me: WE CAN . . . and WE WILL. Say it again: WE CAN . . . and WE WILL.

There are so many things that can replace the three dots in the middle. What will you replace them with? I can think of a few ideas.

WE CAN increase our chapter membership by 5-10% ...and WE WILL.

WE CAN make sure we have a full slate of officers for the next biennium .... and WE WILL.

WE CAN reach out to members who aren't attending chapter meetings .... and WE WILL.

WE CAN make sure our chapter is well represented at the state convention in March - - - and WE WILL.

WE CAN encourage all our inductees to come to the state convention to participate in the induction ceremony on Saturday night - - - and WE WILL.

WE CAN market ourselves so that people recognize DKG and what we represent . . . and WE WILL.

You get the idea.

One way I hope we can generate a buzz about DKG in our state is through the President's Project. We will work together, as a state, to collect children's books (preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade) that will be distributed to underprivileged children. Full credit for this idea goes to Nu chapter sister, Susan Murphy. Not only did she suggest it, she has accepted the responsibility of chairing the project. Many chapters already collect

and distribute books on their own. All I ask is that you keep track of how many books you donate so we can add them into our total. Check out Sue's article for ideas on collecting books to help us reach our goal of 15,000 books.

Finally, there are a few ways we can promote our society. One way is to put "DKG" magnets on our cars or filing cabinets at work (or both). The Executive Board decided to order them and make them available to members at the state meetings and convention for \$5 each. I'll also have them with me when I visit chapters. Many of us have clothing that has "DKG" on it. Instead of saving those tops for chapter and state meetings, think about making it a regular part of your wardrobe rotation. Be prepared to answer the question "What is DKG?" Let's make ourselves visible and help people get to know who we are and what we do.

I am sincerely looking forward to the next two years. With the support, energy and enthusiasm from our DKG sisters across the state, WE CAN, and WE WILL have a successful two years!

## NEW JERSEY STATE ORGANIZATION NEWS

Official publication of the NJ State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (published three times per year)

### 2019-2021 NJ STATE ORGANIZATION OFFICERS

Ingrid Williams, *President*

Dr. Nora Pollard, *First Vice-President*

Irene Maskaly, *Second Vice-President*

Dr. Pamela Albert Devine, *Recording Secretary*

Gail Starr, *Corresponding Secretary*

Ellen Hahn, *Treasurer*

Carol Ritter, *Parliamentarian*

Carol Schwartz, *Immediate Past President*

### 2019-2021 NJ STATE ORGANIZATION NEWSLETTER

Heather Lieberman, *Editor*

Barbara Smith, *Staff*

Jane Tallmadge, *Circulation*

If you want to submit a story, news, or a noteworthy event please send all submissions to Heather Lieberman, Gamma Chapter

[Heathdawn527@yahoo.com](mailto:Heathdawn527@yahoo.com)



# DKG International Conference: A First-Timer's Reflection

*Gail Starr, Corresponding Secretary*

I had an amazing opportunity to expand my membership by attending this year's DKG International Global Awareness Conference at the Foxwoods Resort in Connecticut! It was a remarkable experience to share fellowship with our NJ sisters, as well as to be able to network with other key women educators from around the world. It was truly amazing to recognize the breadth and depth of our members' educational experiences, their contributions to our profession, and our united efforts to impact education globally.

This conference afforded DKG members from the northeast region and beyond an opportunity to explore the 17 sustainable development goals developed by the United Nations to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, and protect the planet. This event also provided further information about DKG's partnership with the United Nations, as well as our international awards and service projects, especially the Schools for Africa endeavor.

The keynote speaker, Marion Blumenthal Lazan, a Holocaust survivor, captured our attention as she provided vivid details of her childhood in concentration camps, and her family's perseverance to survive. She is truly a remarkable woman who has made it her mission to educate the world about the importance of respect, tolerance, and acceptance of all people. It was heart-warming to witness Marion being inducted as a DKG International honorary member at the conference.

Another highlight of this year's conference was the annual Jersey Girls' Dinner. Irene Maskaly did a fabulous job arranging a scrumptious meal enjoyed by all. This was a delightful opportunity to become better acquainted with our awesome NJ sisters in a relaxed atmosphere. The lively conversations and delicious cuisine were savored by all.

In closing, keep in mind that the 2020 DKG International Convention will be held in Philadelphia on July 7-11 next summer. Consider attending this inspirational event to broaden your membership beyond the chapter level and discover the true honor of being identified as a key woman educator from around the globe.

*The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International*



*DKG NJ  
Ingrid Williams, President  
Carol Schwartz, Immediate Past President  
Jersey Girls' Dinner*

*2019 Global Awareness International Conference  
Mashantucket, CT July 30- August 1, 2019*



*Photos  
by  
Michelle  
Contala*

## DKG New Jersey State Organization Stipends and Scholarships

*Pamela Watkinson*

**December 15, 2019** - Application deadline for DKG-NJ Professional Growth Stipends, the Elizabeth M. Bozearth State Scholarship, and the Margaret Abel Scholarship Award.

- **DKG-NJ Professional Growth Stipends:** Stipends may be used for the following: professional growth, personal development, research, travel related to one's field of work, educational or community service projects, conference attendance related to one's field. DKG-NJ AZS Sisters may apply after the first anniversary of their membership. Open to both active and retired educators. For details, go to <https://www.dkgnj.org/the-professional-growth-stipend.html>.
- **Elizabeth M. Bozearth State Scholarship:** A DKG-NJ member for at least three years who is accepted in a graduate program is eligible. For details, go to <https://www.dkgnj.org/the-elizabeth-m-bozearth-state-scholarship.html>
- **Margaret Abel Scholarship Award:** Provides a grant-in-aid to an outstanding woman enrolled in an education program to attain **initial** teaching certification. For details, go to <https://www.dkgnj.org/the-margaret-abel-scholarship-award.html>
- Go to <https://www.dkgnj.org/available-scholarshipsstipends.html> for all available scholarships and stipends.

## Special Awards

*Luella Vengenock and Barbara Henderson,  
Special Awards Co-chairs*

The Special Awards Committee will not hold a meeting at the September AZS meeting. Instead, a folder will be prepared for each chapter president containing all the information needed for the Rose Awards and the Dedicated Service Award this coming year. Presidents can pick up your folder at the President's Meeting and distribute the information to whoever handles Special Awards in your chapter. Thank you for all your help.

## Travel with DKG

Perhaps you would like to travel with fellow DKG members from around the world. DKG, in partnership with Go Ahead Tours, has the following trips available. Visit [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) for additional trip details.

**December 28, 2019- January 5, 2020**



**Costa Rica: Rainforests,  
Volcanoes & Wildlife**

## ***Newsworthy Notes***

### **Congratulations to Kimberly Dickstein, member of the Iota Chapter, who has been named NJ Teacher of the year!**

An English teacher at Haddonfield Memorial High School has been named New Jersey's Teacher of the Year for 2019-20, the state Department of Education announced on Wednesday. Kimberly Dickstein, who was named [Camden County Teacher of the Year](#) in August, has been recognized as the top teacher in the state. "You could not have chosen a finer, more deserving educator for this award than Kimberly Dickstein," Haddonfield Superintendent of Schools Lawrence J. Mussoline said. "Kimberly has one speed: 100 m.p.h. She instills confidence in her students every day. She delves deeper than most into inquiry, and in the case of caring about and raising money for a former child soldier in Sudan, she brings content to life for her students. We are lucky to have her on staff and New Jersey is lucky to have her as the 2019-20 New Jersey State Teacher of the Year." We are all proud of Kimberly's amazing accomplishment and her dedication to education.

### **DKG Publications**

Did you know that your DKG membership affords you access to a variety of online publications? You can read these online periodicals by visiting [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org). You will need to login using your membership number and password. Below are five DKG publications available to you, all just a click away!



## Chapter News from Around NJ

### ALPHA CHAPTER

Jan Paxton, *president*

Esther Guerin, Ph.D., has retired, at the age of almost 90, from her position as a Professor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science at Seton Hall University, where she had taught for more than 50 years. She was elected to Phi Beta Kappa at Douglass in 1953 and became a member of the Alpha Chapter of DKG in 1976.

On her web page she says, "My main interest is in teaching mathematics: low level prerequisite courses as well as math major courses. I have done research and been published in the areas of prime number theory, partitions and combinatorics. I enjoy advising the Math majors."

Jennifer Skomial is the New Jersey State Teacher of the Year. She has visited many schools throughout the state as well as delivered presentations that include topics such as planning and preparation strategies.

Our first meeting was October 10<sup>th</sup>. We had a wonderful guest speaker, our State President, Ingrid Williams, as well as 1st Vice President, Nora Pollard.

### BETA CHAPTER

Jo Ann Corvino, *president*

Beta Chapter proudly recognizes our new initiate Regina Gaston. Regina was named as the Salem County Counselor of the Year for 2019. She currently works as a school counselor at Salem High School.

Susan Maniglia, a pre-K teacher at Lower Alloways Creek School, continues to serve the Salem County Education Association as county President. Sue serves the local and state association in many capacities. Colleen Gilmartin, a special education and social studies teacher in the Penns Grove Carneys Point School District, holds the position of secretary for Salem County Education Association. Colleen also serves on the NJEA Government Relations Committee.

At the September Beta chapter meeting, Marilyn Mortimer was acknowledged by Sue Maniglia for her loyal commitment to the NJEA. Marilyn represents the retired educators of Salem County, attending many state meetings and lobbying activities, providing updates to Beta sisters and the members of the Salem Retired Teachers Association. Marilyn was awarded the Salem County Council of Education Associations Golden Apple Award at our annual Retirement Reception for her continued dedication to NJEA.

Beta celebrates sisters with fifty years of membership. Thank you to, Doris Salati, (1957) Bea Brinker (1962), Marion Heath (1967) and Ann Saienni (1968) for your continued loyalty to Delta Kappa Gamma.

### EPSILON CHAPTER

Pam Raynor, *president*

In March, Epsilon held a meeting with the dual purpose of conducting business and a game day. The meeting ran so smoothly that we were able to devote more time to teaching our sisters new activities. We had one table set up for the sisters to learn *Mah Jongg*, a second table playing *Mexican Train*, and a third table set up for *Backgammon*, as well as a 300-piece jigsaw puzzle. These activities provided opportunities for sisters to get together and enjoy one another's company, a goal that has been promoted during this biennium.

The sisters of Epsilon were happy to welcome three inductees as new sisters at our recent state convention. One more inductee will become a sister at our May meeting. These four new sisters will be asked to help us

## Chapter News from Around NJ

prepare for our 60th anniversary in the spring of 2020. The committee is just getting started and is excited to plan this special occasion. Our committee also plans to celebrate our 60th anniversary at the 2020 state convention next spring. It is our hope that everyone will notice that Epsilon is in the house.

### ZETA CHAPTER

Jennifer Goodwin, *president*

Zeta sisters dabbled with paints and pallets during their “Sunflower Designs” creative get-together. Hosted by Zeta member, **Amy Casais**, everyone designed their own work of he‘art’ and enjoyed each other’s company and sharing stories of the summer days and nights.

As summer was simmering to a close, Zeta sisters enjoyed some time at the “Summer Fun Pizza Party”. Zeta member, **Johanne McCauley**, hosted and prepared her delicious variety of salads to accompany a low-key and relaxed evening. The engaging book talks that crocheted itself throughout the evening was a perfect pairing with the plentiful desserts. It was a wonderful evening to wave goodbye to the summer and to embrace the new school year.

Zeta members, **Tana Walsh**, **Lisa Andrews**, and **Jennifer Goodwin** earned their wings while aboard a C-17 and DC-10. Hosted by the Joint Base McGuire-Dix Lakehurst and the 514<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Wing, Operation Bright Future, a flight for educators, was an invitation for an exciting adventure in the sky. Zeta sisters locked arms and were literally taken aback, strapped well into their seats, as the planes took off. They were privy to refueling at 21,000 feet, and everyone had the opportunity to visit the cockpit. It was a flight with great insight into our military and its many opportunities for young people to consider.

An inspiring professional development experience was initiated and organized by Zeta member, **Tana Walsh**. The Medal of Honor Foundation offered a full-day experience for middle and high school teachers. The theme of the program focused on character development by using the following elements: courage, sacrifice, commitment, integrity, citizenship, and patriotism, all of which are elements of the Medal of Honor. Not only did the teachers find the program to be the very best of professional development, but the program was also free of charge to the district and offered a light breakfast and a catered lunch. Teachers also received a copy of the book *Choosing Courage* by Peter Collier. The program was well-received by colleagues of **Tana Walsh**, and all attendees found the program to be “a valuable professional development”. [www.](http://www.)

### OMICRON CHAPTER Diane Roberts, *president*

Dr. Barbara Wheeler has recently been published in the *Journal of Music and Medicine*. The research study is entitled, "Music Therapy and Music Medicine Studies in Oncology: Part 1: A Comparison" and is available with membership to the International Association of Music and Medicine. Dr. Wheeler has served on the IAMM and the MMD journal as an editorial review member for 10 years and is highly regarded for her publications, research, teaching and service work.

Omicron President Diane Roberts and Chapter Motivator Kathleen Thulin spent part of their summer on a mission trip to Costa Rica. The ladies were part of a 17-member team from the Manahawkin Baptist Church and helped at a local church and its ministries near Paso Canoas on the Panama, Costa Rica border. Diane and Kathleen were tasked with painting both the inside and outside of the church as well as instructing several Vacation Bible School events.

Rosalind Ribaldo was recently inducted into the Barnegat Township School District's Hall of Fame for her outstanding years of service to the district. Rosalind began her administrative career in Barnegat in 1985, serving as Supervisor of Instruction, Director of Curriculum and Instruction and Assistant Superintendent. Upon her retirement in 2006, Rosalind was also honored with the naming of the Rosalind Ribaldo Chapter of the National Honor Society at Barnegat High School.

### PI CHAPTER Catherine Hoyer Kelly, President

#### KidzPack's.

Every Friday this backpack program provides school aged children who receive free or reduced priced breakfasts/lunches with nutritionally balanced meals to sustain them and their families, over the weekend. These packs are carefully designed to allow children (with minimal supervision) to easily prepare meals for themselves.

Kitchen of Hope in Glassboro is providing KidzPacks with help from the Food Bank of South Jersey to eligible children in the three elementary schools in the Glassboro School District. Pi Chapter members will be donating food collected at each meeting and event to this worthy endeavor. Each member will be asked to bring individual packages of fruit cups, applesauce, juice boxes, instant oatmeal, cereals, pop tarts, cookies, cheese crackers, animal crackers, granola bars (no nuts), small bottles of water, mac & cheese, tuna, spaghetti & meatballs, ravioli, soups, puddings, pretzels, chips, etc. Foods that are non-perishable and easy to prepare are optimal.

Pi Chapter is looking forward to helping food insecure children.

## *Dates and Deadlines*

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**January 4th: DKG State Meeting**

**March 27-29: NJ State Convention**  
**Double Tree Somerset Hotel, Somerset, NJ**

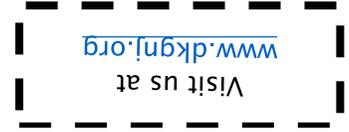
**July 5<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>: DKG INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
**Philadelphia, PA**



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