

Delta Kappa Gamma Chi Chapter September 2021 Newsletter

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Contacts

DKG International

<http://www.dkg.org>

PA State Organization

<http://dkgpa.weebly.com>

Chi Chapter

<https://padkg-chi.weebly.com>

dkgpachi@gmail.com



Chi Chapter's Basket for the raffle at State Convention.

President's Message

President Susan Fritz

Welcome to a new year of Delta Kappa Gamma events and experiences. I believe we all thought when we last gathered in the spring that we would be charting a course with more choices and opportunities by August 2021. There was great hope that vaccinations and waning infection rates would make a difference and calm concerns about being together. While there has been some movement in that direction, many concerns remain which has created challenges for planning.

I trust you responded to the one-question survey pertaining to your willingness to meet in person for Chi Chapter events. According to the 30 responses received to date, 13.3 percent prefer to meet in-person, 37.7 percent prefer virtual, and 50 percent will participate in either format. As we may receive a few more responses, we will be deciding on plans with consideration of final results. The first chapter meeting this year will be held via Zoom given changing circumstances and difficulty locating appropriate venues.

A few changes for this year:

Minutes from the previous business meeting will be sent separate from the newsletter so watch for that information.

Rather than give verbal reports at the chapter meetings, committee reports will be in the newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (CONT.)

By Susan Fritz

newsletter sent a few weeks prior to the meeting. This change results from complaints about the amount of time spent on the business during our chapter meetings. Members will review the reports prior to the meeting and be ready with questions for the chairs to answer at the meeting. This change allows the meeting time to focus more on questions regarding the reports, the meeting program, and socializing. As I have discussed throughout last year, one of my personal goals was to increase information in writing so sisters have access to information if they were unable to be present at meetings.

In talking with a five-year Chi member, she mentioned how her understanding of DKG greatly expanded when she took a position at the PA State Organization. This was my experience as well. In thinking about how to help sisters understand the DKG world beyond Chi Chapter, we decided the Programs Committee will invite a Chi sister to present on some experience in DKG that resulted from an opportunity at the State or International level. Look for My DKG Experience at our next meeting.

Best wishes to our sisters who are returning to the classroom this month and happy learning to their students. We are here to support you and lend a listening ear as needed.



PA STATE CONVENTION NEWS

By Susan Fritz

The Pennsylvania State Organization (PSO) Convention was at the Hilton Scranton & Conference Center in Scranton, PA on June 11 through 13, 2021. This was a new venue for Convention and one with many positive features. Statistics reported at the Second General Session on Sunday morning indicated 128 members and six guests represented 33 of Pennsylvania's 51 Chapters. Total PSO membership was given as 2158. The raffle of 32 baskets plus two cash donations yielded \$2358 to offset convention costs. Thank you to Andrea Rutledge for creating Chi's Convention Auction Basket.

Chi Chapter was well represented throughout the Convention starting with PSO officers President Eileen Little, Second Vice President, Dr. Marj Paradise; and Dr. Lyn Schmid, Leadership Development Chair. Serving as State Committee Chairs were Lois Brown (Rules), Susan Fritz (US Forum/Educational Legislation), Nancy Schnell (State Achievement Award), and Susan Allen (Webmaster). Assisting with committees were Carol Hartley, Linda Young, and Chris Kowalski. Gisele Siebold and Barb Andrews contributed their voices to the Convention Chorus.

PA STATE CONVENTION NEWS (CONT.)

By Susan Fritz

Saturday workshops included Chi Sisters presenting on "PM Chapter Presidents with Leadership Chair Lyn Schmid and the Leadership Team", "*STEM Through Literacy: Challenges and Robotics" by Sue Allen, and "Journey Dance with Gisele" by Gisele Rinaldi Siebold.

Lest you think that there was no time for fun, several of us partook in the Friday afternoon "pre-convention event" of wine tasting at the beautiful Maiolatesi Wine Cellars. We also enjoyed socializing together with our sisters from throughout the state at the Educational Excellence Committee Social Friday evening.



Dr. Jessica (Jadi) Redcay was honored in the 2021 Album of Distinction for receiving the International Computer Science Network Educator of the Year 2020 from the International Society for Technology in Education. This award recognizes an exceptional educator and leader who is championing the cause of improved computer science education and computational thinking for all.

Sue Allen was the recipient of The Nancy Grove Visionary Fund for 2021. She is using her grant to purchase two Hummingbird Premium kits which include all the components needed for her students to create a robot.



Chi Chapter was recognized with the 2020-2021 Chapter Newsletter Award and the 2020-2021 Chapter Website Award. Many thanks to Editor Sue Allen and Webmaster Nancy Frederick for their excellent work communicating with our chapter.

Congratulations to Eileen Little as she begins her second biennium as Pennsylvania State Organization President. Additional information from State Convention 2021 is available on the

PSO website, in the Summer 2021 Keystonian, or by talking with one of the sisters mentioned in this article. Please consider attending next year.

IMPORTANT DATES

Executive Board Meeting Dates for 2021-2022, 4:30pm to 6:00pm

Monday October 4, 2021

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

Thursday, February 10, 2022

Newsletter Articles Due Dates

Monday October 18, 2021

Tuesday January 18, 2022

Friday February 18, 2022

Chapter Meeting Dates for 2021-2022

Wednesday, September 15, 2021: 4:30 to 6:00

Tuesday, November 16, 2021: 4:30 to 6:00

Saturday, February 5, 2022: 9:00 to 11:30

Saturday, April 9, 2022: 9:00 to 11:30



Proposal/Application Submission Dates for PA State Organization

October 15, 2021: Proposals for Amendments due to Lois Brown, Rules Committee

December 20, 2021: Workshops Proposals for State Convention 2022 due to Royce Boyd, EEC

February 1, 2022: Scholarships Forms due to Susan Martin, Scholarship Committee

February 1, 2022: Enrichment Grants forms due to Susan Martin, Scholarship Committee

February 1, 2022: Nancy Grove Visionary Award due to Tracey Dusch

March 1, 2022: Album of Distinction due to Tina Smith Gilbert, Professional Affairs Chair

March 15, 2022: Rosebud Award due to Nancy Schnell, Achievement Award Committee

Important Dates for DKG Society International

September 15, 2021: Arts & Humanities Gallery Submissions for Fall Gallery

September 15, 2021: Nomination Recommendations and Endorsement Forms for International Officers/Elected committees

September 30, 2021: Sisters who have not paid their dues will be dropped on October 1, 2021

IMPORTANT DATES (CONT.)

Important Dates for DKG Society International

October 1, 2021: Bulletin Journal submissions deadline

October 1, 2021: Amendments to Constitution/ International Standing Rules

November 1, 2021: DKGIEF Cornetet CSPD application

December 15, 2021: Bulletin Collegial Exchange submissions

December 15, 2021: DKG Ignite (LMS) application

July 12 thru 16, 2022: International Convention Sheraton New Orleans, Louisiana

Summer 2024: International Convention, Gaylord National, DC Area National Harbor, Maryland

Summer 2026: International Convention, Gaylord Rockies, Aurora, Colorado

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

The Role of the Treasurer

The treasurer will keep the official membership record of the chapter. She will keep accurate records and present a current budget report at each Board meeting. The treasurer will receive chapter meeting reservations and information from members regarding illness, family deaths, and announcements. She will share the reservations needs with the first vice-president who will act upon them, and any other information with the secretary for action.

The treasurer will order the president's pin at the chapter's expense and make it available to the Nominations Chairman before the installation of officers. She will order the pins for initiates and receive fees and dues which she will submit on the appropriate forms to State and International. Members who have lost their keypins are encouraged to order new ones through the treasurer.

The Role of the Parliamentarian

Active, collegiate and honorary members may serve as parliamentarian. The parliamentarian will advise the officers and members of Chi chapter on parliamentary procedure for conducting business. She will be responsible for leading the review of Chi Chapter Rules at least once in each biennium.

The Finance Committee - Submitted by Paula Long, Chair

Description of the Committee: The Finance Committee will consist of a minimum of three (3) actively involved members, with ex-officio members being the chapter president, the chapter treasurer and assistant treasurer (if applicable).

Responsibilities of the committee:

- Prepare the budget and present it for review, modification and adoption by the Executive Board as a recommendation to the chapter membership.
- Supervise all expenditures.
- Supervise all investments.
- Provide for an annual review of the treasurer's books.
- Perform other duties determined by the Executive Board, including a state biennium report.

Membership/Necrology - Submitted by Marlene Reynolds, Second Vice-President and Membership Chair

Description of the Committee: The second vice-president will serve as chairman of the Membership/Necrology Committee. She will be responsible for inviting eligible members for membership.

Responsibilities assigned to the Committee:

Membership/Necrology Committee will:

- Keep records of pertinent information about chapter members.
- Distribute and screen applications for new members.
- Be responsible for maintaining and updating the chapter name tags.
- Provide to the Historical Records Committee any newspaper announcements, State and Chapter necrology service bulletins, and other pertinent information about members who have died.
- Plan and facilitate a necrology service (as needed) for a chapter meeting. Invitation to that service should be given to the family of the deceased member(s).
- Perform other duties determined by the Executive Board, including a state biennium report.

Achievements from the past year: COVID-19 impacted the number of participants because meetings were held via Zoom rather than in person. An induction ceremony was held during the April Zoom meeting; one new member was inducted. Also participating in the induction ceremony was a member who had joined the previous

year. Sadly, we had three members pass away. The Necrology Service has been postponed until the April 2022 in-person meeting due to the importance of remembering those sisters who had contributed so much to the chapter and had strong friendships with Chi members.

With the assistance of Brittany Bertoli, an online form was developed for members to suggest women for possible membership in Chi.

What is happening next: Chi sisters can continue to submit names of women for possible Chi membership. As had been past practice, orientation is held in the spring to introduce potential members to Chi and DKG. Induction is held in April. If the designated orientation date and time present a conflict for the perspective member, a separate time and date can be arranged to accommodate schedules.

Nominations Committee - Submitted by Marjorie J. Paradise, Chair

Description and Responsibilities of the Committee: The Nominations Committee will consist of a minimum of three actively involved (3) members. The Chairman will be the Past-president of the biennium once removed. The Nominations Committee will:

- Present to the chapter members, with the Board's approval, its choice of one or more candidates for each elective office.
- Prepare the ballot for election of officers, with space for nominations from the floor.
- Secure a President's pin from the Treasurer to be presented by the outgoing President to the incoming President at the time of installation.
- Encourage and submit nominations for state and international offices and committees from among the Chi members.
- Perform other duties determined by the Executive Board.

Achievements from the past year: The Nominations Committee has monitored and supported the officers serving this current biennium and has participated in conversation of potential incoming officers.

Upcoming activities: The committee will actively recruit a slate of incoming officers for the upcoming biennium. This will include surveying current officers to learn of their interest in continuing in Chi leadership, as well as contacting other interested members. The committee will present a slate of Officers to the Executive Board in January 2022, with an expected vote of full membership at the February 2022 meeting. The Past Chapter President will be notified so that Installation of Officers can be conducted at the first meeting of the new biennium.

Professional Affairs Committee - Submitted by Brenda Walker, Chair

Committee description and responsibilities: The Professional Affairs Committee will initiate action in the field of legislation to improve education and the status of women educators. This committee will keep the membership informed of legislation which focuses on education, women's issues, and children's nurture and care. A member of the committee will be assigned to the U.S. Forum /Ed. Liaison.

Achievements from the past year:

The Professional Affairs Committee wrote articles for the Chi newsletter and kept the membership informed about legislation that affects the membership.

What is happening next:

Some educational issues that DKG is currently concerned about deal with Title I and equitable funding for schools. Racial disparity in schools is another area of concern because of school segregation, educational resources, disciplinary treatment and then the educational outcomes that results from these issues. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is a concern about the mental and emotional needs of students and the learning recovery that may be needed to help the students be successful.

Another area of concern is the stress and depression that teachers are experiencing in comparison to the general adult public. Extracurricular activities for teens are also being studied for the emotional well-being that they provide the students. Some current legislation that deals with these educational issues are S.1585: Improving Mental Health Access for Students Act and H.R. 5 Equality Act.

Visit the DKG website, dkgusforum.com, to glean additional information and resources concerning legislative issues.

The Communications and Publicity Committee - Submitted by Brittany Bertoli, Chair

Committee Description and Responsibilities:

- Promote the use of the publications of the Society and be responsible for publications authorized by the Executive Board (Chi chapter yearbook, yearbook updates and chapter newsletter).
- Forward chapter activity information to *The Keystonian* editor.
- Publicize chapter events.
- Supervise the work of an appointed Webmaster to maintain a Chi Chapter website linked to the International and Pennsylvania State websites.
- Obtain necessary permissions for publication of website information.

- Take photographs of events of the chapter and work with the Historical Records Committee to archive them.
- Perform other duties determined by the Executive Board, including a state biennium report.

Achievements from the past year:

- Created the yearbook
- Created the 2020-2022 Directory
- Updated the website
- Posted events on the DKG PA Chi Chapter social media

What is happening next:

The Yearbook is done and will be printed and distributed for those that wanted a paper copy. If a member did not request one, but wants one, please email Brittany Bertoli for a paper copy. For those that wanted a digital copy, an email will be sent soon with the electronic copy attached. It will be password protected and can be downloaded as needed. The password will be located in the email. Also, please send them to Brittany Bertoli any pictures from DKG Chi Chapter events to be posted on the chapter social media sites.

Historical Records Committee - Submitted by Carol Hartley, Co-chair

Description and Responsibilities of the Committee: The Historical Records committee maintains the historical records of the chapter. From the chapter secretary, the committee receives and stores the minutes of each Executive Board and General Membership meeting. These minutes reflect the membership changes, business conducted, and agenda items for each meeting. The records are stored at the home of committee member Marcia Trach. A list of our 380+ members from 1948 to the present is kept in a computer file and as a hard copy in the main files.

The committee works with the Communications Committee to archive photographs of events and pictures from Induction ceremonies. Copies of the Yearbooks and its mid-biennium updates are also kept.

What is Happening Next: The largest and most difficult task to accomplish is keeping and updating the chapter's Autobiography Book (with an entry about each member). Members can help with this responsibility by preparing their page(s) for the book; contact co-chairmen Carol Hartley or Debbie Bridgewater for "how-to" either online on a Google Form or by submitting a paper copy of the form. Their contact information is available in the Chi Directory.

The Historical Records committee is working toward achieving 100 percent participation from the membership.

The Induction Committee - Submitted by Linda Young, Chair

Description and Responsibilities of the Committee: The Induction Committee will:

- Plan and facilitate (prior to the chapter initiation meeting) an introduction to Delta Kappa Gamma, Chi Chapter, and the induction ceremony for women who have accepted the membership invitation.
- Direct and carry out the induction ceremony at a membership meeting.
- Care for and store the ceremony booklets and our chapter's ceremonial items.
- Provide the chapter's ceremonial items for the Membership/Necrology Committee.

Achievements from the past year: At the Chi Chapter meeting held via Zoom on April 17, 2021, Ann Stachura (she joined in April 2020) and Malia Bertoli (she joined in April 2021) were inducted. The "Chapter Induction Ceremony" that was posted on the Delta Kappa Gamma International website was utilized for the induction. This script allowed more Chi sisters to actively participate in the Induction Ceremony and worked well for the virtual meeting format. DKG keypins were not officially presented to each newly inducted Chi sister. The plan is to present the keypins to them at the next face-to-face meeting.

What is happening next: One goal for 2021-2022 is to induct new Chi sister, Denise Calhoun. She joined in April 2021 but was unable to attend the April 2021 chapter meeting. In addition, the committee looks forward to inducting other women educators into Chi Chapter.

Reminder: To keep Chi as an outstanding chapter of the DKG Society International, consider nominating women educators by inviting them to a meeting and/or completing a membership card.

Projects Committee - Submitted by Amy Smith, Chair

Description of the Committee: The Projects Committee serves to connect Chi chapter with local organizations through volunteering both time and resources. Women and children are supported through various projects rooted in education and care for the needs of others.

Responsibilities assigned to the Committee: The Projects Committee organizes activities and opportunities where the sisters of Chi Chapter can engage with one

another in order to promote connections in the community through education, mentorship, and volunteerism.

Achievements from the past year: Last year, the Projects Committee volunteered in the spring and fall at UNTO (a global outreach organization) through the sorting of donated/resourced items to be sent to areas of need around the world. The chapter intended to work with Domestic Violence Services (DVS) but could not do so because of COVID-19 restrictions. Christmas and Holiday wishes were sent in lieu of caroling to those who typically are unable to attend in-person events

What is happening next: Items of need are being collected for women and children at DVS (Domestic Violence Services), as well as books for all ages of children to expand the DVS library. In addition, a Back-to-School Supply Drive for Unto is going on now. Details for the DVS collections were sent out by email; the UNTO information was in the Summer 2021 Chi Newsletter.

Social Committee - Submitted by Sue Allen, Chair

Description of the committee: The Social Committee plans and facilitates experiences that encourage fellowship, including the Book Club for chapter members.

Responsibilities assigned to the Committee: To plan and facilitate experiences that encourage fellowship, which may include a Book Club.

Achievements from the past year: The Social Committee held several virtual escape rooms through Zoom that were well attended, but no face-to-face events were held due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

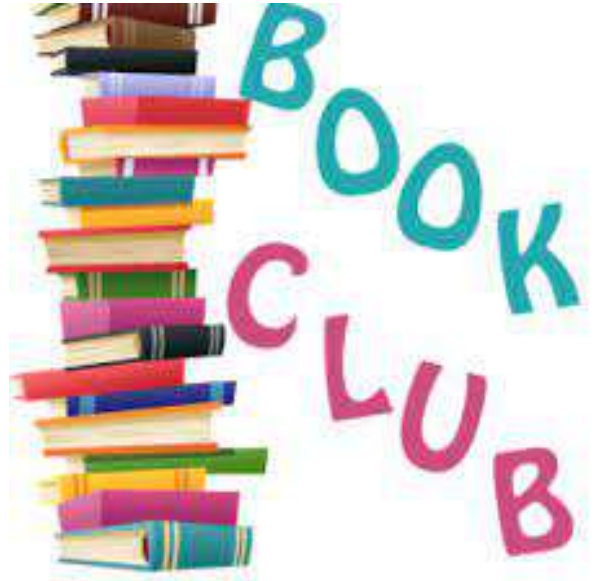
What is happening next: New committee members are being sought to plan upcoming social activities for this year. Any member who is interested in joining the committee or has a suggestion for an activity is asked to contact Sue Allen.

Book Club - Submitted by Melissa Ostrowski, Coordinator

What is happening next: The Chi Chapter Book Club Committee met on August 23 and is seeking suggestions from members for books to read this year. Please click this [link](#) for preliminary information and to make suggestions

Book Club meeting dates are Thursday, October 28; Thursday, January 27; Thursday, March 24; and Thursday, May 19.

All meetings will start at 6 p.m. Locations will be determined. The plan is to have October and May as in-person gatherings and January and March as virtual meetings. Please join us for one or all get-togethers this year.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Please continue to check out our social media pages!

- **DKG Facebook Page** - [DKGPACHi Facebook Page](#)
- **DKG Instagram Page** - [DKGPACHi](#)

To follow us, just search our username or scan the Nametag below. [Click here for directions](#) on how to use the name tag.



- **DKG Twitter Page** - [DKGPACHi Twitter](#)
- **DKG Facebook Group** - [DKG Chi Chapter of Pennsylvania](#)

