

Wisconsin State News

Official Publication of the Wisconsin State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Wisconsin State Website <https://dkgwsowebly.com/>

December 2023, Volume 73, Number 3

Wisconsin Group Facebook Page www.facebook.com/groups/WISigmaStateDKG



Communication, Cooperation, Connections,
to build DKG for the future

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As we transition from a colorful fall to a snowy, cold winter, I hope we all have interesting programs planned.

An Ad Hoc Committee took the LOGIC MODEL developed in Texas and prepared a plan for WSO to increase members. This plan was presented to the chapter presidents (chapter representatives) on October 2. If your chapter did not have a representative at the October 2 presentation, you can access the video using <https://youtu.be/cmNEAZTS4Fw> for the information. We hope that the presidents have **communicated** our ideas to the general membership so that each chapter can formulate new ideas that work for them to attract new members. We all agree we need a new approach to this issue.

The vote for the pilot delivery of the WSO newsletter was very close, with most concerns involving the cost for chapters. We have decided the state will send out print copies, instead of chapters, at this time. However, we ask that you encourage your members to sign on to receive an electronic copy of the newsletter. They can print their own copy (four times a year) at far less expense than our printing and mailing. Sharon Storms (dkgsseditor@gmail.com) needs to be notified of any newsletter delivery changes.

This issue will be addressed in a Zoom meeting for chapter presidents and any interested members, tentatively scheduled for January 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Plan to attend the WSO Conference in Wausau on May 4, 2024. The Jefferson Street Inn is in a very nice location, and the breakout rooms are conveniently located. The Planning Committee is working to have a variety of sessions that appeal to everyone. For those arriving on Friday, we plan to meet at the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum on Friday afternoon, May 3. This is a free admission museum with "barrier-free access to a vast array of visual-arts experiences." I'm excited about the possibilities, and I hope you will be too.

Kathleen Clouthier
2023-2025 WSO President
dkgwsoprez23@gmail.com

Save the Date!
WSO Conference

May 4, 2024

Jefferson Street Inn
Wausau, Wisconsin



Calendar Deadlines:

January

- 3 Give Back Grant Applications
- 15 Missling Achievement Award Applications
- 15 State Newsletter Articles

February

- 1 Int'l Scholarship Applications

March

- 1 WSO Scholarship Applications



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA



News from Sigma State Foundation

**For more information about Foundation business, contact
Foundation President Karoleen Glenzer
Glenzerreads@gmail.com 715-341-6767**

**Mission: To accept, manage, and distribute contributions that will
enhance the future quality of education.**



Happy Holidays to all from the Sigma State Foundation Board! After completing our yearly financial review, things are looking good! Our conservative investment strategies have proven to be an effective way for us to continue supporting our commitments to the Wisconsin State Organization. It is important to the Directors of our Board that we can fund the Nettlesheim Literary/Illustrator Competition, Give Back Grants, and Leadership Development Grants in the framework of the Wisconsin State Organization. The Leadership Development Grant for Individual Members is a golden opportunity for DKG members to take advantage of a funding source designed to enable DKG members in good standing for at least three years to attend professional seminars, workshops, webinars, and other training programs. Applications available on the WSO/Sigma State Foundation website must be submitted and approved two months before the event. Applications should be submitted electronically to the Sigma State Foundation President at Glenzerreads@gmail.com.

Sigma State Foundation Donors

2022-2023

Individuals

Barbara Albrechtson
Leslie Bakum
Pat Brabazon
Margaret Bussone
Barb Cody
Ellen Dowd
Vicki Frome
Roberta Gale
Karoleen Glenzer
Kathleen Goodwin
Joanne Hagen
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Kathy Harrison
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Mary Martin
Mary Metz
Patricia Premo
Marilyn Rabideau
Rachel Schultz
Jean Schollmeier

Judy Schneider
Sharon Storms
Marcia Trentlage
Audrey Vandeyacht

Extra Activities

Wisconsin State Convention
Creative Arts Craft Retreat

Chapters

Alpha Upsilon Sigma Chapter
Phi Chapter

Special Donations

Lena Hanson Memorial/Carl Hanson
Gloria Weiganat Memorial/David Weiganat

White Roses in Memory of Those Who Have Gone Before Us

**Our Teachers ~ Our Mentors
Our Sisters ~ Our Friends
Forever in Our Hearts***



| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|------------|
| Alpha Iota | Jackie Schwengels | 10/17/2023 |
| Alpha Omega | Mary Dunn | 10/24/2023 |
| Alpha Xi | Judith Miller | 6/17/2023 |

*Taken by permission from Patricia DeWitt
Illinois State Newscaster Editor

Our condolences to Margaret Bussone on the death of her sister, Jeanne Holper, on November 21, 2023.

Margaret Bussone
11862 N. Springdale Court
Mequon, WI 53092

Wisconsin State Organization Committees Working for You

Action Grant Committee

by Bobbi Momchilovich, Chair

The WSO Action Grant Committee presented an Action Grant Workshop via Zoom on Thursday, October 25, 2023, at 9 a.m. There were 15 members present, with 9 chapters represented.

The purpose of the Workshop was to encourage chapters to apply for an Action Grant, present information on how to write an effective Action Grant, and answer any questions regarding the Action Grant writing process.

Bobbi Momchilovich explained the timeline of the Action Grant procedure, which is listed on the cover of the *Action Grant Handbook*. The second page of the Handbook explains the questions on the application and encourages members to use the Rubric as a guide in writing their Action Grant. Comments and suggestions prepared by Wava Haney, Action Grant Committee member, were presented by Bobbi Momchilovich for each of the sections of the Action Grant Application. This information, titled "Suggestions for Grant Writing Tips" from the *Action Grant Handbook*, is posted on dkgwsowebly.com under the Action Grant section. It is beneficial in writing quality evaluation questions.

The remainder of the Workshop focused on the questions and comments of those members attending. One suggestion was to have the deadline for the Action Grant be December 15, instead of December 1. Another suggestion was to begin the Action Grant in the current school year that it is awarded (for example, this year that would be the 2023-2024 school year). The explanation for this request was that the discussion about the Action Grant might have begun with the current school personnel, and they anticipate that the Action Grant would happen immediately (in the spring of the year). We will discuss these requests at the next Action Grant Committee meeting, which will be in January or February of 2024.

The Workshop ended with Bobbi Momchilovich summarizing the handout, "Advice from Action Grant Self-Evaluations," first presented at the May 2023 State Convention. These suggestions came from chapters that have written Action Grant Applications to chapters that are considering applying for Action Grants.

Members are encouraged to contact any WSO Action Grant Committee member with any questions regarding the Action Grant process. These members' names and contact information can be found at <https://dkgwsowebly.com/action-grant.html>

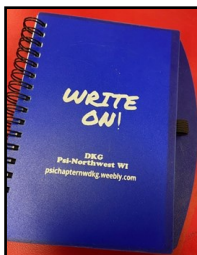
Psi Chapter: Seasons of Literacy Action Grant

On Wednesday, August 2, the Psi-Northwest Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma partnered with the Ice Age Trail Alliance and the Cumberland School District's Foundation Camp to complete its fourth and final season of their Seasons of Literacy Action Grant. Representatives from the three partners hiked the Ice Age Trail section at Timberland Hills outside of Cumberland in the morning. Psi-Northwest DKG gave students in the Foundation Camp journals to write about their hiking experiences. DKG members then spent time in the classroom, expanding their nature journaling with various writing activities. Almost 80 students were involved, as well as 15 Ice Age Alliance members and 8 Psi-Northwest DKG members. It was a fantastic day (even with all the mosquitoes!).

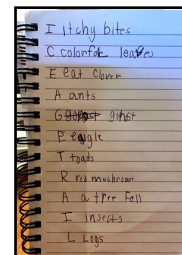
This event was the culminating activity of Psi-Northwest's Seasons of Literacy Action Grant. Other activities in this project were recognizing student authors who participated in the Mary Jo Nettesheim Literary Competition in Cumberland's annual Rutabaga Parade, handing out free books at Trunk or Treat, and partnering with Cumberland Elementary to sponsor author Lisa Bullard. This Action Grant was a full year of activities with something taking place each season!



DKG member Sandy Stevens points to objects of interest for journaling a nature hike on the Ice Age Trail



Students in the Foundation Camp were each given a journal from the Psi-Northwest DKG chapter to capture their thoughts while hiking



Back in the classrooms, students used their journals to write about their hiking experiences, including this poem.

Beta Alpha: Spreading the Love of Literacy

The ladies of Beta Alpha have been busy all summer working on our Action Grant project. We have made tied fleece blankets and gathered goodies for the Women's Center, which helps victims of domestic violence. We support the women but mainly concentrate on helping the children involved. We make them cozy fleece blankets to keep as their own. We also make Christmas stockings that we fill with books, school supplies, toys, and other sundries. We just took these to the Center to help brighten the holidays of the children being served. We also give grants to teachers for special literacy projects in their classrooms.



Beta Alpha elves Marilyn Hill, Millie Buege, and Laura Muchowski at work

Psi: Creative Starters for Future Writers

DKG Psi-Northwest Chapter received an Action Grant entitled "Creative Starters for Future Writers." This Action Grant provided funds to assemble 24 storytelling kits containing different manipulatives for students to create a story with their hands. In addition, funds were used to purchase a variety of books included with each set of storytelling kits to be read to students, prompting them to create stories. Titles included *I Am a Story* by Dan Yaccarino, *My Hands Tell a Story* by Kelley Starling Lyons, and *A Squiggly Story* by Andrew Larsen. Our entire chapter participated in assembling the 24 storytelling kits and practiced modeling lessons that we would use when presenting the kits to educators. Lesson plans were made, and as of this writing, the DKG members presented the kits to two 4th-grade and 5th-grade classrooms. The students were so creative in using the kits to start their stories. The instructors were also enthusiastic about the kits as they gave students a creative opportunity for story ideas. Future plans are to use the kits in 3rd-grade classrooms at Cumberland Elementary School this fall and provide a workshop at our local Cumberland Thomas St. Angelo Public Library in January. DKG members have also reached out to parochial schools and the charter and homeschool network to encourage student use of the storytelling kits and participation in the Mary Jo Nettlesheim Literary and Illustrator Competition. We are excited to provide a creative starter for these future writers!



Psi Northwest DKG member Annette O'Hern works with fourth graders to create stories using storytelling kits



An example of a student's creativity using the storytelling kit. The kit helps the students create a story.



An example of 1 of the 24 storytelling kits used in classrooms as well as two of the literary examples that are read to the students.

Missling Achievement Award Application Deadline

The due date for all Missling Achievement Award applications is January 15, 2024. Information and the application form can be found at <https://dkgws0.weebly.com/lorraine-missling-achievement-award.html>

Communications and Marketing Committee by Carole Henning, Chair

In the last issue, I asked you to think about how well your chapter "communicates." Hopefully, your members took a close look at what you are doing to get the message of DKG out to both current and prospective members.

Now I'd like you to do a deep-dive into how your group communicates internally, most likely through your chapter newsletter. Who has the task of making sure all members are up-to-date with chapter business and activities, and how well is that person supported in her work?

If the wheels are turning smoothly in your chapter, many things can be included in each month's newsletter. It's very important that all members can read information for upcoming events and meetings, review minutes from your previous meeting, check out news about members' activities and awards, and access contact information for officers. Each member should take the lead when possible and submit items of interest to your newsletter editor.

If any member feels she has "nothing to talk about," ask her to contribute other items for publication. These could be photos from events and activities, member spotlights, book/movie reviews, recipes, opinion pieces on relevant topics, quizzes/puzzles based on member information, or reflections from long-time members . . . the sky's the limit!

Over the next few months, send me your chapter newsletter (either digitally or by "snail mail") so I can get acquainted with your chapter and your publication. This will lay the groundwork for our upcoming "newsletter upgrade" session at the May 4 WSO Conference. My email is dkgwsocandm@gmail.com. My postal address is Carole Henning, 2938 Makou Trail, Waukesha, WI 53189. Send me something; I love to get mail!

Membership Committee

by Roberta Gale, Chair

Membership Minute

You have heard of Adopt-a-Highway. What about Adopt-a-Wausau Principal/Teacher?

Your leadership team is in the midst of making arrangements for an exciting spring conference to be held on May 4, 2024, in Wausau. We would like to invite 21 Wausau principals/teachers to attend our meeting to encourage them to expand the benefits of DKG to the Wausau area. Are you willing to support a prospective new member by paying their \$40 registration fee to attend our conference?

OR, would you consider sponsoring one of your chapter members to attend by doing the same? It is imperative that we encourage our younger members to attend. By supporting the cost of their registration, we can encourage them to attend more events and increase their understanding of our organization on the state level.

If your chapter or an individual in your chapter is willing to support someone from Wausau, please contact me at rjgale@gbonline.com, and we can work together to increase membership in WSO.

Precept: "The miracle is this: The more we share, the more we have."

Leonard Nimoy

Rules Committee

by Leslie Bakkum, Chair

The 2023-2025 WSO Rules Committee is looking for two new members. Traditionally, each WSO Convention Rotation area is represented on our committee. With this structure, committee responsibilities are shared, and each area of the state organization has a facilitator close at hand as questions arise. We are seeking someone from the North West area (Psi or Alpha Tau) and someone from the North East area (Alpha Eta, Gamma, Nu, or Zeta) to serve with us until June 30, 2025. All our committee meetings are held via Zoom. Most of the committee work is accomplished via email. If you are interested in learning what the position involves, please contact Leslie Bakkum by phone (608.780.1228) or by email at clbakkum@gmail.com.

(continued on page 6)

The deadline to submit proposed amendments to the *Wisconsin State Organization Standing Rules* was October 1, 2023. The Rules Committee received no proposals. Your next opportunity to submit proposed amendments to both the *Bylaws and Standing Rules of Wisconsin State Organization* is October 1, 2024. Proposal forms will be available on the state website after July 1, 2024.

The Rules Committee has turned our attention to a review of local Chapter Rules. This review occurs biennially in odd numbered years. One member of the WSO Rules Committee will facilitate the review of Chapter Rules in each Convention Rotation Group. By now, your facilitator has contacted you via phone or email to share documents you will need and to answer your questions. Between now and March 2024, she will work with you to revise your Chapter Rules to reflect changes in the *2022 Constitution and International Standing Rules* and the *Bylaws and Standing Rules of Wisconsin State Organization, Amended May 2023*.

Once you have completed the required revisions, please submit a copy of your 2023 Chapter Rules to your Rules Committee facilitator before March 25, 2024. The WSO Rules Committee will review your document and return it to you before May 1, 2024.

We are offering additional support to you in the 2023 Chapter Rules review process. Three Zoom meetings are scheduled in February 2024 for those who would like to attend. You may attend the meeting of your choice:

Monday, February 5, 2024 at 7 p.m.
Saturday, February 10, 2024 at 9 a.m.
Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 1 p.m.

To receive a Zoom invitation, please send your request *before January 25, 2024*, to Leslie Bakkum via email at clbakkum@gmail.com. Include your name, email address, and the date of the meeting you wish to attend.

Thank you for your support!

WSO 2023-2025 Rules Committee

Leslie Bakkum and Shari Eberhardt (Theta)

Kathy Goodwin (Pi)

Beverly Hess (Chi)

Kathleen Clouthier, WSO State President (Ex-Officio)

Scholarship Committee

by Johanna Dvorak, Chair

Denise Geiwitz (Alpha Upsilon Sigma) was awarded the Hunziker Award for a trip to Italy from October 4-16, 2023. She visited three areas of Italy (Rome, Venice, and Florence) to learn about specific foods of the region and how to create those dishes. Below is an excerpt from her mouthwatering trip:

“Dining in Italy is quite different than dining in Wisconsin. Breakfast in Italy consisted of a quick cappuccino along with a croissant or "crema" (to describe the filling) of the croissant or pastry. Breakfast there is meant to be light and not too filling. A typical American breakfast of eggs, bacon, and hash browns is not seen in Italy, although we did see an omelet on a menu in Florence and gave it a try. It did not have the taste and texture of our American omelets!

I noticed that meals were prepared with much less sugar than what we are used to in America. A cappuccino in Italy is more like a frothy coffee and is not very sweet. Our American cappuccino is too sweet for my taste.

During our travels throughout the cities, we enjoyed stopping for a bite to eat but did not wish for anything too filling. We sampled many *cicchetti* (Venice's small finger foods), consisting of baguette slices with different toppings, such as *lardo* (a melt-in-your-mouth lard!). It has a smoky flavor and is wonderful!

There was *cicchetti* with prosciutto and tomatoes, seafood, and many other toppings. These finger foods and bruschetta were popular snacks and could be found in each city we visited, although they were only called *cicchetti* in Venice.

Something I noticed about the foods in Italy was that the ingredients in the cafes and restaurants are fresh. People shopped almost daily at the markets for their food. There are no preservatives or processed foods like in the States.

(continued on page 7)

Food, such as cicchetti, meats, and cheeses, can also be sitting out without refrigeration. Charcuterie was quite popular, too. We visited a meat and cheese shop in Florence, and the meats and cheeses were wonderful! The meats looked very similar but tasted slightly different. Some flavors were milder and some were spicier. I enjoyed trying the meats, but I preferred other food choices.

Wisconsin prides itself on having wonderful cheese. Italy also has wonderful cheese, but the difference is that the cheeses are white and are an excellent hard-nibbling type of Parmigiano or a soft burrata or mozzarella cheese that is very tasty melted on a pizza or lasagna.

Gelato was a wonderful sweet to try! We visited many gelato shops throughout Italy and tried many different flavors. I tried coffee, pistachio, salted caramel, hazelnut, avocado, wine, and chocolate! They were all wonderful. I love ice cream, so testing the gelato was an experience I was happy to have every day! I wish we had gelato like this in America. Ice cream tastes "icy" and can be a bit grainy compared to gelato, which is very smooth and creamy.

We enjoyed learning about wine during our tour of two wineries, the Formaggioteco Terroir and Savignola Winery. These are both in the Tuscany region of Italy. We learned that the most common type of wine is chianti, as the Tuscany region around Venice and Florence was popular for the Sangiovese grape used to make chianti.

We learned that there are 600 different regions in Italy, and they produce 21 percent of the world's wine. Grapes for wine grow very well in this region due to the diverse soil and climate. The soil in Italy, California, and Japan is the youngest and best for grapes due to the volcanic soil, earthquakes, and proximity to the sea. There are 450 different grape varieties in Italy!

Traveling is such an eye-opening and educational experience. Seeing how people work, live, and thrive in another country makes me want to travel more and to Italy again."

Won't you consider applying for a scholarship? Up to \$1500 is available on a one-time basis. See the WSO website (<https://dkgws0.weebly.com/scholarship-applications.html>) for details and the application.

Advice from Your State Zoom Coordinator

When attending a Zoom meeting, allow at least half an hour before the meeting starts. If you wait until close to the start time of the meeting you are to attend, many things can delay your joining the meeting. Some of these are:

1. Your computer is doing an update and has stalled your ability to continue doing other things.
2. You can't find the email with the link.
3. The link does not allow you to join.
4. You text or email me, and I don't respond because I have already started the meeting and don't have time to look at my text messages or emails.

If you join early, you can do other things while waiting for the meeting to start. You'll know you are in the right place if you see a message saying something like, "Waiting for the Host to start the meeting."

If you need help joining a Zoom meeting, contact me, and we can always do some practice joining Zoom meetings so you feel more confident with the procedure.

Barb Cody

2023 Creative Arts Retreat

On October 6, twenty-six DKG sisters gathered at the Lone Tree Lodge, Green Lake Convention Center for a "Mother Goose on the Loose" fun, crafting weekend. NE Regional Director Carol Herzog was our special guest.

Friday evening was a time for catching up with friends and DKG Bingo. We took time out on Friday evening to honor and share memories of our cherished Sister Janet Heder.

Saturday was a fun-filled day of card making, glass etching, hand applique, Mod Podge plates, paper design making, wool ornaments, and earrings, as well as learning how to make matzah ball soup.

Teams were formed and the fun and games began on Saturday evening as each team selected one of Mother Goose's golden eggs. Each egg contained a task or activity, which was shared with the group. There was even time for a ukulele/kazoo sing-along. A good time was had by all.

After a delicious Sunday morning buffet, we said goodbye, already looking forward to next year. Please join us October 4-6, 2024, as we "Let the Games Begin!"

(See pictures beginning on page 14.)

Chapter Spotlight: Alpha Eta

It is a pleasure to introduce Alpha Eta as the first chapter to be recognized in a continuing series of articles spotlighting the extraordinary chapters that make up Wisconsin State Organization.

Edythe Sandeman was initiated into Alpha Chapter in Madison in 1937, the second year of the existence of DKG in Wisconsin. As an Alpha Chapter member, her work took her to Oneida County, and she recognized a need for a Rhinelander area chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society. As a result, she and her friend Hermina Schmutz began Alpha Eta Chapter on April 11, 1964, with 27 charter members, none of whom are still living.

Alpha Eta Chapter is unique in the fact that many members live 30 to 75 miles away from the hub of Rhinelander. Currently, members are from Antigo, Deerbrook, Eagle River, Laona, McNaughton, Rhinelander, Shawano, and Three Lakes communities. Two members maintain membership long distance from Eagle, Wisconsin, and Maple Grove, Minnesota. Our members are involved in so many activities in their respective communities, such as running food pantries that distribute new and used books to children, participating in FORK – Feed Our Rural Kids, reading at day care centers, and putting together Birthday Bags for little ones, as well as providing SPOT Camera Eye Screenings at Antigo, Crandon, Elcho, Laona, Wabeno, and White Lake Schools, to name a few. Since COVID, our Chapter has taken on a special project each year and provides monetary donations or items of need to various nonprofit organizations, including The Never Forgotten Honor Flight, Lily's House, Trees for Tomorrow, and The American Legion Camp in McNaughton.

We are a fantastic Chapter with 20 members living out the vision - Women Educators – Impacting Education Worldwide. One of the projects we are very proud of is “Food for the Mind”.

On a rainy Saturday, September 26, Alpha Eta Chapter–Rhinelander participated in the Harvest Hoe Down, a major fundraiser for the local food pantry. The “Food for the Mind” project distributes slightly used books for free to the children in attendance. This year, 226 books went home with the children. Last year, 100 books were selected by the children. Alpha Eta has been involved all three years that the Harvest Hoe Down has been in existence. Children who have been receiving books in previous years come looking for the "Book Lady," Dee Jacobs, chairperson of this committee. Ellen Greenland, a member of the Historians/Publicity Committee, also helped this year.



The “Food for the Mind” project originated in 2002 when Pauline Doucette was Education Chair for the Rhinelander Woman's Club and also a member of Alpha Eta. The goal was to put children's books in Rhinelander's food pantry. The thought was if families needed to visit the food pantry, books would not be a top priority for their children. Members of the two groups wanted to encourage reading by giving a child a book to call their own, to read and keep. The hope was that this would motivate children to read. A few years later, Pauline wrote a grant to Sigma State requesting money to keep the project going. Members purchased used books at garage and library sales. The chapter also participated in a street sale to raise money for the project. We are giving new books to six day care centers, The Birthday Bag Project, and Tri-County's Lily's House. We have found avenues to collaborate with Rhinelander School District's Run Into Reading Project, Oneida County Health and Human Services, Kindness to Kids, Food Pantry's Harvest Hoe Down, Boys and Girls Club, as well as eight to twelve other food pantries in various communities in the Northwoods. Many of these food pantries have become self-sustaining with help from Lions Clubs and individual community support. When COVID forced the pantries to close, we found other avenues to distribute books.

This year, “Food for the Mind” distributed about 1,000 new and used books. Twice a year, new books are given out to children before Easter and Christmas. Our goal has changed. We give books to ALL children, not just those who come to the various food pantries. Volunteers generously give their time and money; and various organizations help buy new books. We purchase the books from the American Book Company at 80 percent retail cost, stretching the dollars. Alpha Eta Chapter continues to keep the vision of Delta Kappa Gamma Society alive in the Northwoods.

Chapter News

Alpha Beta had two opportunities to showcase DKG in November. On November 4, we held a successful fundraising event to help fund our scholarship. We sold homemade caramels, donated by an Alpha Beta friend; peanut brittle made by Mary Holton; White Chocolate, Cranberry cookies by Erika Guth-Degner; Mint Oreo Delights by Sharon Burow; and a variety of jams by Donna Dinco.



We volunteered to fill Christmas shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child on November 11. With our help, 5,199 boxes were filled to be delivered to children throughout the world. Sharon Burow invited a friend and

her grandchildren, Katie Malterer's son Aiden was a good helper, and Pam Brandt invited the new physical teacher. As you can see, we had quite a group. We worked for two hours or more.

Alpha Omega had a wonderful time getting together and socializing at our August 24 Welcome Back meeting. Mary Wetterling was highlighted as our very first "Spotlight" special. We raised \$290 for a great cause, Random Acts of Kindness, through the La Crosse Public Education Foundation. Roxanne Fox is creating a photo directory for our chapter.



Carol Nelson-Britten and Barb Albrechtson with our finished painting.

On October 3, we had a pop-up session at the Pump House with a Paint & Pour Class featuring Georgia O'Keefe's "Jimson Weed." We had three members who signed up for the class.

At our October 26 Fall Meeting, our presenter Zoe De Boer gave an excellent speech about Body Shaming. She related how it affected her personally. Her "skinny minny" nickname was a part of her identity, and when she was no longer skinny minny, it was a negative happening in her life. She went through therapy to help with her negative feelings and still continues therapy today. She also talked about eating disorders that can result from body shaming: anorexia nervosa, binge eating disorder, and bulimia nervosa. Her final message was that if you know someone who is experiencing body shaming, seek out therapy for them. We collected donations for Abilities in Harmony (local adaptive show choir). After the meeting everyone had a wonderful time socializing and enjoying a meal together at the Freight House. We recognized the loss of one of our members, Mary Dunn, by having a photo of Mary at a place setting with a red rose and tea light. We shared memories of her many accomplishments.



Mary Wetterling, Sally Emerson, Pam Griffin



Terri Daley Mack, Carol Egge

Beta Alpha members filled Christmas stockings for children at the Women’s Center at our November 13 meeting. The stockings were filled with gifts, school supplies, books, hand knit mittens and socks, as well as sundry items. The stockings were delivered along with blankets, scarves, and knit hats.

We were joined at our meeting by Lisa Janssen, the Volunteer Coordinator at the Pewaukee School District. Lisa explained how our chapter members could help in the schools. Expert listeners are needed to help students with reading skills. From the earliest readers to those who are learning English as a second language, expert listeners help on a regular basis and get very involved in seeing the growth of the students. Math mentors help students in first through fifth grade with math concepts. The library assistant volunteer helps the librarian as classrooms come to the library to check out books. Volunteers are also needed to help classroom teachers with tasks that come up throughout the school year. The Pewaukee School District encourages volunteers to help at all grade levels and across all subject areas. Our members were encouraged with the opportunity to connect with current classroom teachers.



Jeanne Witthun introducing Lisa Janssen



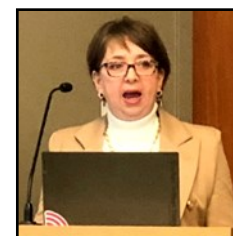
Rick Seybold and Michael McMahon with WSO Vice President Chris Shewczyk

Chi showcased administrators and teachers from the Grafton Wisconsin Public School District in their last two fall meetings. On October 10, Dr. Michael McMahon, Director of Teaching and Learning for the district and Rick Seybold, Director of Technology and Assessment Coordinator spoke on “How Smartphones and Technology Continue to Reshape Education.” They shared research on the increasing phone use by younger students and its effect on their behaviors. Grafton and other districts created policies to mitigate the effects in the classroom on student learning and development.



Bev Hess, Beverly Mantey- VanCronkhite, Nancy Arcara. DKG Northwest Regional Director Beverly Mantey-Van Cronkhite (Delta) joined our meeting.

On November 14, Carrie Smolinski, John Long Middle School Business Education Teacher, shared insights on “Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Teaching and Learning.” She explained how society is increasingly using AI, and specifically how teachers are utilizing it. For example, AI can be a starting point for their lesson plans, generate test questions, and be a tool for instruction. She demonstrated AI tools, such as CHATGPT, highlighting its strengths and limitations.



Carrie Smolinski

Nu members, as well as teachers and community members in the Wittenberg-Birnamwood School District, toured pollinator and vegetable gardens created by Ashley Hegewald, a teacher and parent volunteer, in September.

"I've Been Scammed, Now What Do I Do?" was presented by members of Premier Bank during the October meeting held in Marion.

Jan Mielke spearheaded an effort to make the holidays a bit brighter at the Veterans’ Home in King. Nu Chapter members donated comfortable clothing, toiletries, and slippers during the chapter's November meeting. Community members, businesses, and churches in Marion, Tigerton, Clintonville, Wittenberg, and Shawano also donated items. In addition, chapter members and the community donated \$750.

Mary Polcin, a Stampin Up demonstrator, Judy Kucksdorf, and Lynn Aprill helped chapter members create holiday cards for veterans. Working in assembly-line fashion, the group of 20 made 60 cards in less than an hour.

Chapter members also support the Books for Newborns project, donate \$200 to each of two different school libraries each year, and this year will award a \$500 scholarship to a student pursuing a career in education.



Nu members Jan Mielke, Jenny Hangartner, Lynn Aprill, Elaine Schuler, and Pat Osmuss



Nu's holiday cards for veterans.

Pi members learned about self-care and Chinese medicine that can help with stress and anxiety from our guest speaker, Jennifer Rose, at our September meeting.

During the October 23 meeting, Sheri Hess, the Outreach Coordinator of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) of Racine County, informed Pi members about how NAMI Racine County works with students, teachers, and families in Racine Unified Schools and other areas of the community to make them aware of mental illness, letting us know NAMI has programs to help individuals and families.



Julie Trafton presents Lisa Lequia, Asst. Director of Students Services for Racine Unified District, with Pi's Educator of Excellence Award.



Julie Trafton presents Pi's Educator of Excellence Awards to Susan Pena, kindergarten teacher, Gifford School; Sarah Grycowski, third-grade teacher, Gifford School; and Patricia Howard, school counselor, Red Apple Elementary and Roosevelt Elementary Schools.

Theta kicked off our year on August 29, 2023, at the Bekkum Memorial Library in Westby to learn about the history and tradition of Norwegian baking from Ruth Scholze. She shared stories and recipes from her family and provided delicious treats for all who attended. In the words of the Westby Library Director, "Ruth hit the ball out of the park with her presentation!" We are Theta proud! After the presentation, we enjoyed lunch at Norse Haven Farm. Peggy Green taught us how to make her original greeting cards, and we left with five cards and instructions to use the cards to share notes of encouragement with others.



Ruth Scholze shares her Norwegian baking expertise.



Kathy Werre tells us about the Spanish curriculum at Luther High School.

Our October Planning Team facilitated a meeting on October 19, 2023, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Holmen. Kathy Werre, a Spanish teacher at Luther High School in Onalaska, shared stories and photos from a trip she chaperoned with Luther High School students to Puerto Rico. We learned about the history and culture of Puerto Rico and were amazed as we watched the Luther High School Spanish students work with the young school children and interact with the elders in the community. Theta members, members of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, and the entire community were invited to attend.

Wisconsin State News Deadlines

January 15 for February Issue * May 15 for June Issue

August 15 for September Issue * November 15 for December Issue

Zeta was pleased to recognize members for their milestone years in DKG.

Pictured left to right: Marilyn Rabideau, 35 years; MaryLee Gibson, 50 years; and Cindy Baker, 40 years. Not pictured are Joyce Hannemann, 45 years and Brenda Krause, 25 years. Margaret Maslowske has been a DKG member for 72 years and Elaine Martin for 66 years. Congratulations to all members for their dedication to DKG and the Zeta Chapter.



Nancy Herrmann

Mary Jo Nettesheim Literary Competition

Barb Cody



We hope all chapters participating in the Nettesheim Literary Competition have established a committee and have distributed the Rules and Student Entry Form to the schools in their area. Soon, this committee will be hard at work judging the books and awarding the winning students for their outstanding efforts and creativity. I know many members of our chapters look forward to reading and judging these books.

Important dates for the Literary Competition:

All entries are due to local chapters on February 2, 2024.

Volunteers are needed to judge the state entries on Saturday, **March 16, 2024**, at Meadowbrook Elementary, 720 Hillcrest Heights, Green Bay.

Contact Nancy if you are interested: nancyjerryher@charter.net

Please contact Barb Cody with any questions or comments about the competition. The best way to reach me is by email at either wsolitcomp@gmail.com or bjcody46@gmail.com. You can also text or call me at 608-475-3537. Please put your name and chapter in the text so I know who you are.

Here are a couple of questions I have received so far:

Are homeschoolers and students in private schools allowed to enter? Yes, they are eligible. They must enter through a chapter, not directly to the state.

Can a student enter a book in all Spanish? Yes.

I need to have my Rules and Entry Form in Word. Will you email me a copy in Word? Yes, if you need the Rules and Entry Form in a different format, just let Barb know.

If your chapter is participating in the competition and still needs to complete this questionnaire, click this link: <https://forms.gle/ECK1RvkXaF5GSdVT8>. If you are unable to use this link, let Barb know, and she will email the questions to you. As it gets closer to the due date, there are usually more questions from students who would like to submit a book but do not have a chapter near them. Barb needs your information to find a chapter for them to enter their book.

We look forward to receiving the students' books displaying their creative writing and illustrating talents.

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

A big THANK YOU for all the cards and well wishes on my birthday. I love hearing from you and what you're doing.

Marj Margelowski
Patriot Place
609 Broadway
Berlin, WI 54923

Help Wanted: WSO Needs YOU!

As Key Women Educators, we know organizations don't run themselves. We know many hands make light work. Have you asked yourself, "What can I do to help DKG WSO, the organization that has given me so much?" We have several opportunities for you. If you've never worked on the state level, now is a good time to step up. You'll be doing important work with a great group of women. Contact WSO President Kathleen Clouthier (dkgwsoprez23@gmail.com) to let her know how you can help.

Scholarship Committee Members: On this very important committee, you get to give away the Society's money. The committee's job is "to promote interest and support for scholarships, and award state scholarships for graduate study as well as Ernella Hunziker International Studies Scholarships." (*Bylaws & Standing Rules of Wisconsin State Organization, Amended April 2021*, p. 8)

Grants-in-Aid for Educational Publication (GAEP) Committee Members: Anyone who has ever received a GAEP award can tell you how instrumental it was in getting her work published. This committee is responsible for "promoting and awarding Grants-in-Aid for Educational Publication in the state." (*Bylaws & Standing Rules of Wisconsin State Organization, Amended April 2021*, p. 8)



State Treasurer: Are you good with numbers? attention to detail? computer literate? This may be the job for you. Current Treasurer Sandy Ruesink will mentor you as learn the duties of State Treasurer.

State Newsletter Editor: It's time for new blood. Are you good with software? Would you enjoy working with members throughout the state? For more details, contact Sharon Storms (dkgsseditor@gmail.com.)

Key Women Educators

Mary Wetterling

Mary is a charter member of Alpha Omega, which started on May 13, 1987. Her favorite colors are yellow, red, and blue. You can make any other color from these three. Being with family and friends brings her great joy. How has she made a fulfilling life? She has done this through volunteering, reading, writing cards, and entertaining. It was difficult for her to choose a favorite memory because there were so many, but she had to say it was her wedding day in a size 4 dress. At the August Welcome Back meeting, she shared that she and husband Dale had just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary with their children. Mary's favorite "guilty pleasure" is Culver's turtle sundae. She cannot live without chocolate and her friends. Mary has no favorite splurge purchases since she has everything she needs. Most people don't know that when she was a junior in high school, she went to Badger Girls State in Madison. The celebrity that she would like to have lunch with is Laura Bush. She was a classy first lady, and she has many questions to ask her such as: How does she like being a grandma? How does she spend her days?



Mary has a master's degree in education from Viterbo University. She taught first and second grades in Iron River, Wisconsin, and first grade at St. Pat's in Onalaska. She then taught at Summit Elementary School for 27 years, many combination grades but second grade the longest. Her community service and interests are the American Cancer Society, Rotary Lights, Wafer Board of Directors, Advisory Board at Viterbo, and Parish Council Roncalli at Newman Parish. Mary has many accomplishments, including serving as secretary and vice president for the family business, raising two well-educated and successful daughters, a well-deserved retirement, and traveling to many parts of the U.S. She has published a book, *Million Penny Magic*, which is a family history of how the community of Woodruff, Wisconsin, built a hospital for Dr. Kate Newcomb aka The Angel on Snowshoes.

2023 Creative Arts Retreat



Sitting Front Row: Mary Backus, Mary Metz, Kathy Goodwin, Kathy Zautner, Sarah Cook. Standing Middle Row: Sharon Storms, Leslie Bakkum, Patti Hart, Barb Newell, Louise Killberg, Sandy Ruesink, Pat Brabazon, Carol Herzog, Kathy Mader, Shari Eberhardt, Mary Martin, Ellen Dowd, Anne Herman. Standing Back Row: Mary Jane Carreno, Marilyn Rabideau, Julie Trafton, Millie Buege, Roberta Gale, Kathy Clouthier, Chris Shewczyk. (Missing, Toni Durben)



Toni Durben leads the group in honoring the memory of Sister Janet Heder.



Kathy Clouthier, Anne Herman, and Julie Trafton try not to eat the M&Ms used to play Delta Kappa Gamma BINGO



Kathy Goodwin demonstrates the making of her creative Spinner Greeting Cards to Barb Newell, Leslie Bakkum, and Shari Eberhardt.



Carol Herzog generously provided glass vases and bowls and shows Anne Herman, Mary Backus, Sarah Cook, and Sharon Storms how to etch glass.



Julie Trafton shows Kathy Clouthier how to make a variety of crafts.



Roberta Gale with her beautiful hand appliqued quilt.



Left: Chris Shewczyk and Roberta Gale demonstrate the techniques used to make Roberta's quilt.



Sandy Ruesink shows Patti Hart and Pat Brabazon how to make paper decorating designs using shaving cream and food coloring.



Toni Durben shows Kathy Mader, Mary Jane Carreno, Louise Killberg, and Marilyn Rabideau how to paint decorative wooden circle projects.



Mary Jane Carreno shows off her Badger project.



Sandy Ruesink taught us how to make Matzah Balls for Matzah Ball Soup, which we enjoyed for lunch.



After lunch, there were many available options: back to crafting, a walk on the beautiful grounds, a nap, shopping at the World Store, visiting, or just looking at the displayed four volumes of Creative Arts Retreat pictures that go back 34 years.



Millie Buege provides plates and a choice of material covering themes such as sports, hobbies, seasons, and holidays for making Mod Podge decorative plates.



Brick Piggy Shari Eberhardt, Stick Piggy Sharon Storms, Straw Piggy Leslie Bakkum



Patti Hart, Ellen Dowd, Kathy Zautner, Julie Trafton

A special thank you to Millie Buege for the Creative Arts Retreat pictures.



Mary Metz, Sandy Ruesink, Roberta Gale, Chris Shewczyk, Kathy Clouthier



Mary Martin and Kathy Zautner visit with our server Randy, who has been with us since our first CAR, 35 years ago!

Save the Date!!

**Creative Arts Retreat
Green Lake Conference Center
Lone Tree Lodge
October 4-6, 2024**

Hosted by Pat Brabazon, Mary Jane Carreno, Kathy Clouthier, Kathy Goodwin, Anne Herman, Louise Killberg, Barb Newell, Julie Trafton, and Judy Snyder

THEME: Let the Games Begin!