

DKG Maryland State News

Summer 2023

Volume 86 No. 2

DKG MD State Convention a Resounding Success

Janey Snyder, Alpha, DKG MD 1st Vice-President

It seemed that the convention planning committee worked forever on planning this convention, but it came and went so quickly. Friday night opened with a short welcome from our State President, **Dr. Marilyn Keane**. It was followed by a sing-along, led by **Ann Campbell**, Music Committee chair, and our DKG sisters. All sang along with great enthusiasm. It was followed by Trivia/Game Night, led by **Patty Simon**. Everyone was involved and seemed to have a great time. It was a big surprise to me to end up on the winning team, although my only major contribution was the response to a math question. Who would ever guess! We ended with a reception honoring our guest for the weekend, **Patricia "Trish" Woodley**, International Membership Director, and honoring our own President, **Dr. Marilyn Keane**. Dr. Keane led us through the biennium, getting us through COVID and virtual meetings to finally return to in-person gatherings. Thank you, Marilyn, for your strong leadership during this difficult time.

Saturday morning, the state business meeting was followed by the luncheon. We were brought greetings from International by way of our International guest, Patricia Woodley, DKG Business Services Administrator. At the luncheon, the Scholarship Committee gave out five scholarships to five DKG MD members, and the Chapter Support Committee gave out Chapter Achievement Awards to seventeen chapters. The afternoon brought a choice of five workshops for our members to attend.

During the weekend, the Women in the Arts Exhibit included a variety of art work from members across the state. What a talented group of ladies! The Silent Auction contained many items from chapters across the state. It raised approximately \$2400, which was split between the International Emergency Fund and the DKG MD State Available Fund. During the luncheon, DKG MD had a special collection for one of our members who lost her home and belongings in a fire. Again, we raised more than \$2000 for our Maryland sister.



Dr. Marilyn Keane and Trish Woodley

The Nominations Committee did a great job at the Saturday evening banquet. The committee, led by chair, **Jane Smith**, installed the four elected officers. The new officers for the 2023-2025 biennium are **Sally Nazelrod**, Xi, President; **Janey Snyder**, Alpha, First Vice-President; **Dr. Terri Showers**, Lambda, Second Vice-President; and **Jean Marie Hofstetter**, Omega, Recording Secretary. Each received an officer's toolkit. After the evening banquet, Xi Chapter, under the leadership of **JoAnn Velten**, president, welcomed the new officers with a lovely reception.



New DKG MD officers are installed during the Saturday evening banquet.



Sally Nazelrod, Xi, takes the reins from **Dr. Marilyn Keane**, Upsilon.

On Sunday morning, the Celebration of Life was a touching service, remembering the members that have passed on over the last four years. This year, there were special tributes in memory of **Dr. Edna May Merson**, Mu, given by **Sheila Owens**, Mu; **Betsy Barclay**, Xi, given by **Sally Nazelrod**, Xi; and **Nadine Roberts**, Upsilon, given by **Dr. Marilyn Keane**, Upsilon. They were recognized for their chapter contributions and especially for their state contributions as state president.



Dottie Loughlin, **Dr. Terri Showers**, **Sally Nazelrod**, **Dr. Marilyn Keane**, **Janey Snyder** and **Sheila Owens** are among the many members honoring their DKG sisters during the Celebration of Life service.

We cannot forget all the special music on Friday night, during the luncheon and the banquet, and at the Celebration of Life Ceremony. Our lovely singers included **Ann Campbell**, Nu; **Luianne Potter**, Alpha Theta; and **Bonnie Nelson**, Nu. They were accompanied on the keyboard by **Joan Wiggins**, Alpha Theta. Saturday night ended with a lovely duet by Alpha Beta's **Marci Fleck** on bassoon and **Janet Gross** on oboe.



Ann Campbell, Nu, leads the sing along. **Luianne Potter** and **Joan Wiggins**, Alpha Theta, provide music during the Celebration of Life.



Luianne Potter, **Bonnie Nelson**, **Ann Campbell**, **Janet Gross**, and **Marci Fleck** provide vocal and instrumental music during the Saturday evening banquet.

The weekend was full of delicious food. Aside from the luncheon and banquet, there was lots of food available for breakfast each morning as well as light refreshments on Friday night, Saturday afternoon and at the reception on Saturday evening. We reviewed the evaluation forms, and we were glad that everyone was pleased with the hotel, the staff and the food. There were rave reviews about the food. We thank all who attended. There was concern that members would not attend after such a long time away during COVID, but many came out, and the Convention Planning Committee hopes that everyone had a great weekend.

I wish to end with another “thank you” to all who worked so hard on the Planning Committee to bring about such a great weekend. There were many involved from the five chapters who hosted the event: Delta, Theta, Iota, Upsilon, and Rho. A special “thank you” to all the state officers, state committee chairs and their members, and the workshop presenters. Thank you again and I look forward to seeing everyone at the 2025 convention somewhere on the Eastern Shore or Southern Maryland.



President's Message

Dr. Marilyn Keane, Upsilon,
DKG MD State President

It's hard to believe two years are coming to an end! It has been a real pleasure and honor to be your state president for the 2021 - 2023 biennium. It feels like the end of the school year when I am waving goodbye to the buses as they pull away. I think back to the struggles, the successes, the lessons learned, as well as the people I have met, the nostalgia, and a sigh of relief that the job is "all done."

Many thanks to all those who attended, presented, and planned our first convention since the pandemic. Because of each of these pieces, our convention was a success!!! Thank you to **Janey Snyder**, Alpha, for organizing each of these pieces, as well as the committee chairs who presented and the host chapters of Upsilon, Iota, Rho, Delta, and Theta who organized the activities.



Janey Snyder, Alpha and **Sharon Darling**, Nu

Over the past month, I had the great opportunity to visit a few chapters. **President Sharon Darling**, Nu, invited me to her chapter meeting where I learned about herbs and planted some of my own. Currently, four of the little plants I planted are struggling to grow. I am crossing my fingers for success. The funny part is I do not remember what

I planted, so it will be a happy surprise to see what grows. **President Gwen Cooley**, Delta, invited me to listen to a remarkable speaker, **Elizabeth Helm-Frazier**, Master Sergeant, USA (Ret.), who is an integral part in ensuring the legacy of the 6888th Central Postal Battalion. This battalion consisted of women of color during WWII, and she told of their amazing accomplishments and impact on morale in Europe. This was great information. There are several books published about the battalion if you are interested! I rounded off my biennium by visiting **President Shari Grim**'s Tau Chapter. We had a great lunch, a fun Meet and Greet session, and fabulous conversation. Thank you all for inviting me to join and learn!!!

This summer there are a few International opportunities. The International conferences will be held in Detroit, Michigan from July 11 - 16; Phoenix, Arizona from July 18 - 22; and Tampere, Finland from July 26 - 29. Please check out the International websites for registration information. DKG Maryland will also hold meetings for committee chairs and committee members in August. The dates will be announced soon.

When closing a biennium, the next piece you think about are the people who helped you along the way. There are so many people to thank: the Executive Committee, LDC Committee, chapter presidents, committee chairs, and a multitude of members. To run anything truly takes a village. This is our strength!!! Just remember, through our talents we will *Evolve*, because of our perseverance we will *Rise*, and because of our unity we will *Flourish*.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Keane

DKG Maryland State President 2021-2023

Innovative Ideas from International Speaker

Patty Simon, Mu

What does farming have to do with DKG? Well, DKG International Membership Director **Patricia “Trish” Woodley** made the connection clear during her keynote address at the DKG MD State Convention.

In order to ensure successful crops, farmers have to strategically plan their seasons and leave nothing to chance. Cultivation begins the moment a seed is planted. Accordingly, cultivation in DKG begins the moment a potential member is identified. Ms. Woodley equated the terms “*cultivate, plant, reap*” with DKG MD State President **Dr. Marilyn Keane**’s slogan “*evolve, rise, flourish.*”

Ms. Woodley offered suggestions for growth. These included using the term *educator* instead of *teacher*, and putting an end to saying, “We’ve always done it this way.” In addition, she recommended that chapter members ask themselves the following questions:

- Are you a diversified chapter?
- Whom do you recruit?
- What are your prospective members’ interests?
- What is the value of joining DKG?

This food for thought gave the audience plenty to consider when planning strategies to increase membership. Those in attendance were very fortunate to be the recipients of Ms. Woodley’s expertise and insights.



Trish Woodley shares valuable information at the DKG MD State Convention.



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Visit our website at
<https://www.dkgmd.org>

DKG MD State Convention Workshops, April 14-16, 2023

The New DKG Website

Carol Hutzley, Mu Chapter President

The DKG MD Convention, which took place on April 14 – 16, included an opportunity to attend a workshop about navigating the new website. This session was given by **Trish Woodley**, the Membership Director at DKG International. During the session, Ms. Woodley shared many new inclusions on the website and demonstrated how to locate topics and use the website.

To reach the new website, you may need to clear your browser history to be sure you are going to the new website when you enter DKG.org. If your browser recognizes the address as one you have visited recently, it may take you to the older one in your browser history. The new website has a green bar at the top and a changing banner of news. Two important new additions are the search bar, located at the top of the page, and the chat box, located on the lower right side of the page. Although there are drop-down menus containing sub-topics, if you are unsure of your topic, you can use the search bar to find a list of topics pertaining to your subject. Many people are so accustomed to using these search bars that they rely on them being there for assistance. The “online chat box” is a new tool that will send your “chat” message to a staff member at the DKG International Office. They are very familiar with the website and can assist you with your questions and also help you to correct problems that you may have.

When you sign in on the secure website, you will use your member number and a password. Ms. Woodley stressed that members should create their own passwords, rather than continue to use the default password you were given when you joined. You can also check under “My Account” to

see and/or update your profile information and keep it up-to-date. Click on the little pencil icon to change or add information and then click on “save.”

Another engaging area of the website is sure to offer something of interest for everyone. Under the “My DKG” drop-down bar, you will find “My Communities.” There you will go to a list of a variety of clickable sites that you can join and/or read according to your interests. There are groups such as: a “Collaborative Community” for sharing ideas, strategies, etc. in teaching; a “Book Club Community” for members interested in reading; a “Home Life Community” for sharing ideas, tips, DIYs, recipes, etc.; and a “Travel Community” for sharing travel experiences, etc. to name just a few.

Of course, you will also find forms, history, the new member kit, the DKG Store link (requiring a separate log-in and password), ceremonies, events, and even a free business card to add your name and print yourself! Check out all the available resources! Then think about adding your chapter’s special project or special member highlight to the “Spotlight” section found under the “About” drop-down menu.

The new website is more interactive, well-organized and rewarding to visit! New documents are always being added, so plan to visit DKG.org often to stay up to date.

Recruiting and Retaining Members

Carol Hutzley, Mu Chapter President

This workshop was presented by **Trish Woodley**, Membership Director for DKG International. In a world of shrinking participation in professional and honorary societies, it is important to think about how DKG MD can continue to flourish and grow in a more diverse and connected way.

A prospective member may be defined as “a professional who educates others and receives a fee for it.” Although home-school moms do not qualify, there are many other professionals who may, such as trainers, museum curators, and physical therapists, just to name a few. Prospective members should be invited to a meeting, be paired with mentor members who will contact them, and maybe watch the “Pride in the Big Picture” PowerPoint with their mentors during a meeting (perhaps in a different room during the business segment of the meeting). When a person pays her dues, she becomes a member, even though this can be celebrated at a different time if necessary.

In order to retain members, connections should be made with chapter members so that they will feel comfortable in the group. These connections can be made by staying in touch, taking a personal interest in them, and offering high quality continuing programs. As members’ needs may change, so does the need for ongoing evaluation of their needs. It is important to provide up-to-date resources and well-timed speakers, as well as remain flexible when scheduling days and times for meetings and social events.

Lastly, everyone enjoys a well-deserved acknowledgement of one’s contributions. Don’t forget the long-term members! Connect and communicate the contributions of chapter members and celebrate all their value to the group.

Make connections and enrich the lives of others!

Do You Know Who’s Your Cousin?

Sheila Owens, Mu

“Create Your Family Tree: An Introduction to Family History Research” was one of the workshops at the DKG Maryland State Convention. **Carol Miller-Schultz** of Pi Chapter was the instructor.

A pencil was a necessary implement for this session. Carol explained that, when filling out research charts, one should use a pencil. Rationale: if one makes a mistake, it is easy to erase and start again. During the session, Carol introduced a new research chart called “The Eight Generation Pedigree Chart.” A genealogy pedigree chart is a diagram that shows the direct lineage or lines of descent in a family tree, but it is more of a working document. It may include names, dates, places, and other information about the ancestors. When filling out research charts, she instructed the participants to write all last names in uppercase letters and for all females to use their maiden names only. The pedigree chart had numbers on it. Male names were recorded on the even numbers, and female names were recorded on the odd numbers. This was quite interesting!

Next, Carol shared other locations that would be helpful in researching information. Such locations were: family Bibles, birth certificates, marriage licenses, church records, the Census Bureau, gravesites, military websites, historical websites, the history room at one’s local library, wills and probates, land records and many software programs to help one navigate through the pedigree chart.

Carol Miller-Schultz has a true passion for genealogical research. This was evident in her enthusiasm for sharing websites, computer programs and other locations that she has visited for research. This was an interesting and very informative workshop!

Wellness Workshop Wows Attendees

Patty Simon, Mu

Dynamic, informative, and entertaining are just a few of the adjectives that describe Rho Chapter's **LaTanya Eggleston** and her workshop on "Mental Wellness through Self-Care." A board member of NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, LaTanya is well-qualified to speak about mental wellness.

After identifying some of the problems that people face today, such as burn-out and depression, LaTanya offered some steps that can be taken to alleviate those problems. A couple of helpful hints included learning to say "no" and taking a Personal Health Inventory so as to see where one is now and where one wants to be. In addition, she led the group in a breathing exercise.

As with her presentation at the DKG MD Fall Workshop, LaTanya's convention presentation was interactive. Attendees were asked to pair off. One member of each pair would tell about an experience that impacted her while her partner simply listened for two minutes. Then the roles were reversed. Afterward, all pairs were asked to introduce their partners and say one word that summed up what was important to that person. These ideas included family, love, service, education, community, generosity, and resourcefulness, just to name a few.

The participants left with ways to improve their mental health; a goodie bag that included hand-softening gloves, lip balm, and Life Savers among other items; and a feeling of camaraderie.



LaTanya Eggleston gives another dynamic presentation.

Card Making Sparks Creativity

Jayne Alexis and Barbara McKimmie, Epsilon

"Make It, Take It: Card Making" was presented by **Weezie Carey** and **Yvonne Babcock** of Alpha Delta Chapter. This workshop was fun and relaxing thanks to the excellent preparation of card kits and a variety of design choices. It provided a chance to visit with friends and get creative. Each participant had the chance to choose which three cards to make. Cards were personalized by choice of ink color and messages stamped on the cards. Everyone had the opportunity to try out many different techniques. A fun time was had by all.



Congratulations, Scholarship Recipients!

Jean Marie Hofstetter, Omega

Congratulations to this year's DKG Scholarship recipients! **Dorothy Clowers** from Theta Chapter and **Eve Dodson** from Alpha Beta Chapter will each utilize \$1,500 to continue their Doctoral Studies. Awarded that amount also, **Casey Perkins** from Omega Chapter will put her funds towards her Administrative Degree. Lifelong Learner winners, **LaTanya Eggleston** from Rho and **Jessica Meadows** from Omega, were each awarded \$750. LaTanya will attend conferences on Coaching as well as Mental Health Support, and Jessica will participate in Professional Development to augment her online training skills. Special thanks to all on the Scholarship Committee for ensuring the \$6,000 was given to the DKG MD members.



Somehow this young mom was able to complete her spring graduate level course while in the NICU with her newborn baby! **Casey Perkins**, Omega, is grateful to DKG MD!



Jessica Meadows, Dorothy Clowers, Sheila Owens, Jean Marie Hofstetter, and Eve Dodson Scholarship Committee chair, Jean Marie Hofstetter, and Scholarship Committee member, Sheila Owens, present the scholarships to Jessica Meadows, Dorothy Clowers, and Eve Dodson during the DKG MD State Convention luncheon.



LaTanya Eggleston, Jean Marie Hofstetter, and Sheila Owens Right before her workshop presentation, LaTanya Eggleston receives her scholarship from Jean Marie Hofstetter and Sheila Owens.

Women in the Arts Exhibit Displays a Variety of Talents

Sally Nazelrod, Xi, DKG MD 1st Vice President

Congratulations to the following DKG MD members who shared their talents in the Women in the Arts display: **Jayne Alexis**, Epsilon; **Gwen Cooley**, Delta; **Barbara Eitemiller**, Tau; **Betsy Fleischman**, Tau; **Shari Grim**, Tau; **Wendy Happel**, Mu; **Mary Lee Makinen**, Alpha Delta; **Christine Redman**, Nu; **Patty Simon**, Mu; **Cheryl Townshend**, Omega; and **Cheryl Tyler**, Tau.

Special thanks to **Dr. Annette Blake**, Theta, for setting up the displays and serving as a greeter in the Women in the Arts Display Room during the convention.



Dr. Annette Blake welcomes attendees.



Jayne Alexis poses with her beautiful quilt.



Shari Grim's creative cross stitch



Wendy Happel's lovely picture made from jewelry.



Mary Lee Makinen's gorgeous greeting cards

DKG MD Time Capsules Reveal Timeless Messages

Cheryl Townshend, Omega, and **Joan Wiggins**, Alpha Theta, Past State Presidents

When you think about a time capsule, you probably picture a building with a cornerstone located on its front or side. Inside the cornerstone are documents or artifacts that reflect the era when the building was erected. In 2011, **Cheryl Townshend**, the State President of the Maryland Organization, used that idea and challenged the chapters to create time capsules that would contain narratives of the events that reflected their activities and vision in 2011. These decorative time capsules would be opened in 2029 at the celebration of 100 years of DKG's existence or in 2037 at the celebration of 100 years of Maryland's DKG existence.



Once the capsules were completed, they were housed in the Historical Files/Storage Unit. The current Historical Records chair (2019-2023), **Joan Wiggins**, was tasked with organizing the Storage Unit. When Cheryl mentioned that the time capsules box could be removed and the capsules distributed at the 2023 State Convention, Joan brought them to the convention. During the committee reports, the time capsules were presented and many of the chapters were amazed that we kept these precious gems. In reading the names of the chapters that had time capsules, we reflected upon the chapters that had dissolved since 2013. When the capsules were distributed,

some of the members of those dissolved chapters, who had moved into other Maryland chapters, wanted to have the capsule to remember the engaging time spent with their original chapter.

Here is part of a narrative written in April, 2013.

Dear Sisters of 2037,

Our chapter has always pursued the purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma. We have endowed scholarships for women in education at both the university and high school levels. We promote personal growth and development by encouraging our members to apply for five hundred dollar grants to aid them in pursuing their interests. The chapter made Book Bags for Babies to present to new mothers at the local hospital to inspire the young mothers to read to their babies. Continuing their literacy movement by supporting Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, the chapter assisted children from birth to age five with free monthly books. Currently, the chapter is participating in the local Cancer Walk, and we publicize our activities in the local newspaper. (They close the narrative by stating that it is their wish that the chapter continues to be a vital and active presence in their county.)

For those chapters still thriving, the opening of the capsule was a reminder that DKG continues to be an important part of the world of education. Chapters are granting scholarships and providing numerous community service projects. Each capsule recognized that it is possible for one to be a key woman educator in every season of life! They proved that, year after year, the Maryland State Organization has continued to promote professional and personal growth for women educators, as well as excellence in education, as the International society envisions. The chapters of Maryland State Organization are indeed attempting to impact education worldwide through their continued support of DKG Society International. We look forward to the future with anticipation!

White Rose



Frances Rose Bell

Frances Rose Bell of Baltimore, member of Xi Chapter, passed away on February 11, 2023. She was born in Washington, DC, in 1929. She was known to be a friendly and well-liked person.

She received her Bachelor's degree at Wilson Teachers College and her Master of Arts from George Washington University.

Her teaching career began at Northwestern High School in Prince George's County. She transferred to the Baltimore County Public Schools and taught Business Education at the high school level at Milford Mill, Randallstown, and Kenwood. She served as the Department Chair of the Business Education Department at all three high schools. Her professional involvement in BCPS included membership on the High School Study Committee, chair of the Shorthand Committee, and participation in curriculum workshops.

Fran was considered a master teacher. She possessed leadership qualities and was considered to be well-organized and dependable. She was highly respected by other teachers in her content area, her fellow teachers and her friends.

Fran retired after 31 years of teaching. She had a very successful career.

Here is a quote from one of her students: *Mrs. Bell was my typing/shorthand teacher at Milford Mill in the 1960's. She was smart, polished, listened and put up with no nonsense. Every teacher should follow her example. My sympathy goes out to her family.....Cheryl K.*

Fran became a member of Delta Kappa Gamma in May of 1983. She was an active member of Xi Chapter and chaired several committees and held various offices.

She will be missed by her family, friends, Xi Chapter, and Delta Kappa Gamma.

Sally Nazelrod, Xi, DKG MD 1st Vice President

Committee News

World Fellowship Encourages Connections

Laura McClelland, Omicron

The state convention was a wonderful time to see our committee members and to hear what other chapters are doing to connect with the World Fellowship recipients. For example, **Jayne Alexis** of Epsilon shared how her chapter devoted one meeting to writing personal notes to each of the World Fellowship recipients. We had hoped to have **Paloma Martin**, who is studying Public Management at the University of Maryland, come to the convention. She regretted that she was unable to be present as she was attending a conference in New York.

While at the DKG MD conference, participants heard from **Patricia “Trish” Woodley**, Membership Services Administrator. She helped them navigate their way through the updated website. To locate the World Fellowship recipients on the new website, please follow these steps:

Sign into the www.dkg.org website.

Click the word “About.”

Click the word “Recognition.”

Click “World Fellowship Recipients.”

Click “2022-2023 WF Recipients List.”

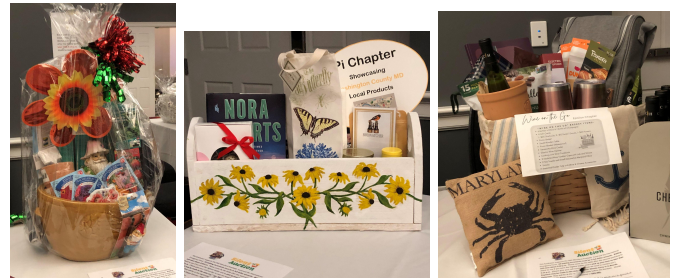
2023-2024 recipients will be posted by the end of October.

Contributions made by DKG MD chapters to World Fellowship from July 1, 2021 to April 20, 2023 totaled \$4,171.89. Thank you for helping to make a difference in the lives of these young women.

Chapter News

Congratulations!

Congratulations to **Brenda Patterson**, Tau, whose hard work in organizing the Silent Auction enabled DKG MD to raise approximately \$2400 to be split between the International Emergency Fund and the DKG MD State Available Fund!



Silent Auction items

Congratulations to **Janey Snyder**, Alpha, for doing an outstanding job of chairing the Convention Committee! Thanks to her leadership, the DKG MD State Convention was a huge success.

Congratulations to **Wendy Happel** of Mu Chapter for once again having her artwork accepted into the DKG Fine Arts Gallery. Go to the website to see Wendy's amazing colored pencil drawing entitled “The Big Catch,” which will be on display throughout the summer. DKG MD members are encouraged to submit their artwork and share their talents. Fall submissions will be accepted from August 15th to September 15th.

Pi Members Bond over Books

Kathy Thornhill, Pi

One of Pi Chapter's favorite activities is its monthly book club meeting. Organized by past president **Jane Smith**, the club reads a variety of fiction and nonfiction works selected by members. Some choices have come from recommendations in *Good Reads* and *Book Pages*. Some recent favorites include *Remarkably Bright Creatures*, *Grandma Gatewood's Walk*, *The Bookwoman's Daughter*, and *Lessons in Chemistry*. Members volunteer to host meetings at their homes. At Christmas, they met at a local restaurant, Bistro 11.

The book club has offered a new way to solidify friendships.



Alpha Beta Emphasizes Service

Jeanette Gionfriddo, Alpha Beta President

Spring has sprung down in Southern Maryland. The pollen and flowers are as colorful in the day as the Northern Lights appearing at night. Members of Alpha Beta met at the end of March at a new public library in Leonardtown. Their service project was collecting items for student and family use at schools in St. Mary's and Calvert Counties in support of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Programs, federally legislated programs related to the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness further authorized in part by ESSA. The members of Alpha Beta were

very generous in supporting their annual service project. Some items that they collected included feminine products, socks, soaps, lotions, toothbrushes, toothpaste as well as cash and gift cards. Best wishes go out to their active teachers as they head into the home stretch of this school year. They also offer congratulations and good luck to the many graduates in their DKG families. Here's hoping that some of these graduates will become future teachers.

Omicron Honors Members

Iris Wingert, Omicron



Omicron Chapter sisters could not be prouder of chapter member **Denise Kresslein**, who has been teaching in Carroll County since 1996. Denise was recently selected by Maryland Humanities as the Maryland History Day Middle School and High School

Teacher of the Year. Denise has served as an Advanced Academics teacher at North Carroll and East Middle Schools since 2021. She is a hard-working, talented educator who is very invested in her students and brings out their best efforts. Denise has received and earned numerous awards during her teaching career in Carroll County. In 2019, she was awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST), and in 2020, she was a finalist for the Hoby Wolf Memorial Citizen of the Year Award. During her 27 years in education, Denise has served on many Maryland State Department of Education committees, including Maryland Integrated Science Assessment range finding, content review and standards setting. Currently, Denise writes science curriculum, mentors teacher finalists for PAEMST, and serves as the advisor for the robotics teams at both of her middle schools. For the second time in the past two years, Denise is one of eight finalists for Carroll County's Outstanding Teacher of the Year Award. Omicron Chapter members are rooting for this superstar teacher to come out on top as the Carroll County Teacher of the Year. Denise's Omicron sisters recognize her as a real teaching rock star and wish her all the best.

On May 16th, the Omicron Chapter inducted five new members and enjoyed the company of their new scholarship recipient from McDaniel College, **Elizabeth Hobbs**, during their end-of-year dinner meeting. Elizabeth will be teaching at a brand new elementary school in Anne Arundel County beginning in the fall.



*New Omicron inductees: (l to r) **Kathleen Wallis**, **Debbie Sherry**, **Rachel McCusker**, **Erica McAndrew Rose**, and **Nancy Baecker** Not shown in the picture is **Dr. Christine Koenig**, Omicron's new reserve member.*



***Elizabeth Hobbs**, scholarship recipient, with **Zeenie Burns**, Omicron's Scholarship Committee Chair*



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Save the Dates! DKG International Conferences

July 11 - 16, 2023
Detroit, Michigan

July 18 - 22, 2023
Phoenix, Arizona

July 26 - 29, 2023
Tampere, Finland



Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Phoenix Conference

VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE
YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

YOU CAN

- Play an important role in making the DKG Phoenix Conference a success.
- Greet and assist conference attendees in your volunteer position.
- Be a part of an international conference.
- Give as much of your time as you are able in order to make this event a wonderful experience for you and your colleagues.

Click the link below to volunteer!

[Delta Kappa Gamma Society International: Phoenix Conference \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)