



XI STATE NEWS

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Collier participates in “DKG Next 2019”

On September 21 and 22 fourteen DKG members convened at International Headquarters in Austin, Texas for “DKG Next 2019,” a think tank that first met to consider the future of the Society in 2015. This year’s group included several members from the 2015 and 2017 DKG Next meetings along with five new members. Among those attending was Tennessee State Organization member Tracy Collier.

The group looked closely at the current seven purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma, considering each purpose’s wording, relevance and ordering. Through several activities they also explored and defined the core values of today’s DKG.

As a culminating activity, the group reviewed the correlation between their identified Core Values and DKG’s Mission Statement, Vision Statement, Purposes, and Strategic Plan. Through a variety of upcoming articles, blogs, website survey questions and presentations at the 2020 DKG International Convention in Philadelphia, these women will share their weekend experiences and “thinking” with Society members.

DKG International President Cathy Daugherty congratulated the Tennessee organization for being represented on DKG Next 2019 and urged the state organization to take advantage of Tracy’s experience at upcoming Tennessee State Organization events. According to Daugherty, “[This group] validated my faith in DKG’s future and our rising leaders.”



Tennessee member Tracy Collier (front row, far right) is shown with other members of the DKG Next 2019 cohort and International President Cathy Daugherty (standing to the right of Tracy)

Think changes are needed? Here’s how

If you would like to suggest a change to the Tennessee State Organization Bylaws or Rules, please submit your suggestions to the state Bylaws and Rules Committee for consideration at the 2020 state convention (for changes to Rules) or the 2021 state convention (changes to By-Laws). Submissions should be received by committee chair Diana Womble by **December 1, 2019**. Send submissions to:

dlwomble@gmail.com

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

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Xi State News

Published four times a year in September, November, February and April by the Tennessee Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. State dues for active members are \$14.00 of which \$4.00 is a subscription to the **News**.

Contributors to ***Xi State News*** are asked to send news as soon as it is available to ensure its placement in the next issue. Send news items for the February issue no later than **January 1, 2020**, to:

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Become the person you dreamed of being. . .



Greetings, Ladies,

Dorothy was right -- there is no place quite like home. Throughout our lives, we might encounter the occasional wicked witch or flying monkey, but home provides love, warmth, comfort, and open arms. This is what DKG members offer to me -- a sense of home.

During a recent chapter visit, I shared an experience with members regarding an airline scare that had me questioning whether I had become the person I had dreamed of being. While on the tarmac waiting for the plane to be towed back to the gate, a thought kept running through my mind: What happened to that girl who dreamed of making a difference? When did my thoughts change from "I want to..." to "I won't..."? I won't because... I am too old, or too busy, or too broke, or not smart enough. It occurred to me that it is not too late to become the person I dreamed of being. All I need to do is take one step toward reaching that goal every day.

Are you the person that you dreamed of being? Did you dream of making a difference? We can take that daily step toward our goals through Delta Kappa Gamma. There are so many opportunities available through our Society that will help us in making a difference in our lives and the lives of others. I encourage you to take advantage of everything your membership offers and gain comfort in knowing that while we struggle to become the person we dreamed of being, we have acceptance and encouragement from our DKG sisters.



Regards,

Beverly

**International Leadership Management
(DKG Ignite!)
application and video due December 1, 2019**



If this is your chapter's year for a review, please submit your chapter rules to the state committee via Diana Womble (dlwomble@gmail.com). Be sure your submission is received by April 1, 2020 to ensure you get credit for the Maycie Chapter Excellence Award.

Vision Foundation grants help dreams come true

Have you been dreaming of an educational project, publication of educational research, or professional development opportunity? If so, a grant from the Vision Foundation may provide just the help you need. The purpose of the foundation is to “encourage and promote the personal and professional growth of Tennessee State Organization members and excellence in education.” The Vision Foundation board would like to partner with you to make your professional dreams come true.

Are you an active teacher who would like to attend a professional development conference or training? If so, you should apply for the Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award. You can be awarded up to \$2,000 to make that dream come true.

Active teachers who want to incorporate an educational project into their classrooms or schools should apply for one of the four Vision Foundation grants awarded each year. The grants offer up to \$1,000 each for projects.

Guidelines and applications for the 2020 awards can be found on the state organization website (xistate.org) under “Forms.”

The deadline for all applications is midnight CST on **December 31, 2019**.

If you have questions, please contact:
Nancy Davis (nini02@embarqmail.com) or
Holley Ziglar (holleyziglar@gmail.com)

We need YOU!
The nominations committee is looking ahead to the next biennium and is actively seeking candidates for elected state offices.
Step out of your comfort zone and
STEP UP FOR TENNESSEE!
Questions? Contact Elaine Warwick
[**elainewarwick@att.net**](mailto:elainewarwick@att.net)

Education costs got you down? DKG can help with that

Education is priceless. Every educator in the world knows this, and we shout it from the rooftops and soapboxes every chance we get. But, unfortunately, education at the graduate and doctoral levels is also expensive. Sigh.

Did you know that the Tennessee State Organization and Delta Kappa Gamma can help with that? Apply for a state or international scholarship today. Deserving applicants can receive anywhere from \$1250 to \$3000 for a state scholarship and up to \$10,000 for an international scholarship. Applications are available on the state and international websites and must be submitted electronically.

Don't delay! Applications for both levels of scholarships are due by **February 1, 2020**. Let DKG help you further your education by applying now.

Steen chosen for International Speakers Fund

In 1982 when DKG celebrated its 30th anniversary as an international organization, the International Speakers Fund was established to “promote cultural understanding.” DKG members who apply for the ISF serve for a period of two years during which time state organization presidents may request them to speak at their state conventions. Speakers may be asked to speak at DKG state organizations around the globe, and the ISF pays their travel expenses.

The Tennessee organization is pleased to announce that Michelle Steen (Theta) has been selected for the International Speakers fund for 2019-2021. Steen, who has served in various positions on the Tennessee State Organization officer team, teaches Spanish at South Side High School in Jackson.



Essay Contest announces topic, changes for 2020

The 35th annual Essay Contest will now be extended to middle school students as well as high school students across Tennessee. The purpose of the contest is to encourage, recognize and reward Tennessee students (grades 6-12) who demonstrate outstanding writing skills.

The essay must be 450-600 words in length and must be typed, double-spaced, and converted to a pdf, including the cover page. All essays should be typed in size 12 Arial font for ease of reading. Each school may submit up to four entries per sponsoring DKG chapter. For complete requirements for submission, please go to the state website (xistate.org).

To mark the 100th anniversary in 2020 of the passage of the 19th Amendment guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote, the committee chose the following quote by Lucy Stone as this year's essay topic:

"I think, with never-ending gratitude, that the young women of today do not and can never know at what price their right to free speech and to speak at all in public has been earned."

Essays should comment on the quote using the issue of women's suffrage to provide context and provide a discussion of its impact and/or relevance to individuals today. For relevant contextual information, the TN Suffrage Heritage Trail website can be used.

<https://tnwomansuffrageheritagetrail.com/>

Students must email their essays to their designated school official **before** January 10, 2020. In turn, the school official will email essays to the sponsoring DKG chapter **by January 10, 2020**. All essays from sponsoring DKG chapters must be submitted to the state committee by email (one with middle school submissions and one with high school submissions) at

**xistate.essay@gmail.com
by January 17, 2020**

Let your voice be heard: Legislative Symposium 2020

Now, more than ever, it is crucial for educators to let their voices be heard in our state legislature. So many issues are facing education in Tennessee, and decisions are often made by individuals who know little, if anything, about actual conditions in our classrooms.

To help DKG members let their voices be heard, the Tennessee State Organization will hold its annual Legislative Symposium on March 3-4, 2020, in Nashville.

On Tuesday evening at 7:00, members are invited to a panel discussion featuring key state legislators. In the past, these panel discussions have prompted lively exchanges between teachers and legislators. You won't want to miss it!

The morning assembly on Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. will energize members before their visits to individual legislators on the Hill. It's not too soon to contact your representatives and schedule a visit with them.

The location for this year's symposium will be the Best Western Plus Sunrise Inn, 825 Murfreesboro Pike, Nashville. The special DKG rate is \$111 (plus taxes and surcharge). The rate includes a deluxe buffet breakfast, free parking and WI-FI. Both the panel discussion on Tuesday night and the morning assembly on Wednesday will be held at the hotel.

Call 615-499-4443 to reserve your room, and make sure to request the DKG rate. The cut-off date for reservations using the DKG room rate is **February 3, 2020**. The link to register is:

<https://forms.gle/1iyxefgDQ4upigkM6>

SAVE THE DATES:

85th Annual

Tennessee State Convention

June 4-6, 2020

The University of the South, Sewanee, TN

2020 DKG International Convention

July 7-11, 2020

Philadelphia, PA

Philadelphia Marriott Downtown

A Heartfelt Thank You. . .

Words are so inadequate to express my profound thanks to the many members and chapters in DKG who have showered me with expressions of love, concern, and support over the last few weeks.

As many of you know by now, my husband Wilson died on September 7 as I was on my way home from our TN State Committee Leadership Conference in Nashville. Because of serious heart issues, he had been through a tough summer beginning soon after our Xi State Convention. He had finally begun to recover. The doctors were all pleased with his recent progress, and so were the physical therapists.

He seemed finally to be beyond the truly dangerous period and was gaining strength. He returned to some of his favorite activities -- playing the organ at church, driving his 1930 Model A, taking care of business for our church, and tending to items at home and on the farm. He was looking forward to a family reunion we were to host in mid-September, his 80th birthday at Thanksgiving and our 40th wedding anniversary in late December.

I spoke to him on my drive home from Nashville, and he sounded strong and invigorated by the things that he had done while I was at the meeting. When I was only a mile from home, his sister called to tell me they thought he had gone to Heaven -- and he had.

I would not have been so stunned by his death if it had occurred while he was in surgery or during his struggles with recovery. Still, I am so very grateful that he regained his dignity and, for at least a few days, felt again like himself.

This is the most difficult thing I have ever had to do. One great consolation during all of this is that I have his family who treat me like one of their own -- and I have all of you. Wilson always supported my work with DKG and fondly remembered meeting many of you through the years. He saw the value of our organization and felt that I had received far more from my membership than I could ever repay. He was right.

Dorrie Powell



Welcome to the EEC Corner

Calling all chapters! The Educational Excellence Committee has created the "EEC Corner" to highlight Tennessee State Organization chapter programs and projects on our state website (xistate.org).

The idea behind the EEC Corner is to showcase how Tennessee chapters create that "Anywhere is Home" feeling through the many programs, projects and activities that are shared with their communities, schools and families. The EEC Corner hopes to house chapter "recipes" for successful programs and projects so that they can be shared with members across the state.

Chapters, the EEC is asking that you submit one program and one project using the EEC Corner Spotlight form found on the website. Chapters will receive 5 points each for the program and project on the Maycie Chapter Excellence Award. Please submit the form to Dr. Elaine Vaughan at mevaughan@ortn.edu

Bring your program ideas "to the mountain"

The Tennessee State convention is an excellent opportunity for all DKG members to enjoy professional development and personal enrichment workshops. It's not too early to begin to think about ideas or suggestions for convention programs.

If you have an idea for a convention workshop, please complete the "Bring it to the Mountain" form found on the state website (xistate.org), and then submit to Dr. Elaine Vaughan at mevaughan@ortn.edu

Sadowski, Davis nominated for international positions

Tennessee members may have already heard the exciting news that two of our own have been nominated for international leadership positions.

Past state president Becky Sadowski will be the nominee as the next International President of DKG. In addition to her stint as Tennessee state president, Sadowski has served in a number of positions at the international level, including Southeast Regional Director and International Second Vice-President. Hopefully, many Tennessee members will be on hand at next summer's 2020 DKG International Convention in Philadelphia when voting on the slate of officers will take place.



Past Tennessee state president and recently retired Tennessee State treasurer Nancy Davis has also been nominated to an international position. Nancy has served the Society as International Music Representative and as a member of the International Educational Excellence Committee. When elected, Davis will serve on the International Finance Committee, beginning in 2020.



Does your chapter have a "Rosebud"?

Does your chapter have a member with five or fewer years of membership (inducted March 15, 2015 or later) who has exhibited outstanding service at the chapter and state levels as well as an interest in the work of the International Society? If so, the Awards and Achievement Award committees invite you to nominate your chapter member for the brand new "**Tennessee Rosebud**" award.



Find the nomination form on the state website (xistate.org) and send completed forms to Marsha Rains (marsharains@yahoo.com) by **March 15, 2020**.

Leadership seminar offers an empowering experience

Applications are now available for the Beginning Leadership Management Seminar to be held at Natchez Trace State Park in Wildersville, TN on March 13-14, 2020.

The two-day event is a valuable opportunity for Tennessee members to participate and network with other members. Members who have graduated from the leadership management seminar have reported that the experience has empowered their involvement in DKG at the chapter, state and international levels and has enhanced their contributions to the education profession as a whole.

Interested? You can find the application form on the state website (xistate.org) and submit it by the deadline of **February 1, 2020**. If selected, you will be asked to submit a \$25 commitment fee. This fee will be used to help the Leadership Committee with your room and meals. Chapters are encouraged to pay this fee on behalf of members who are accepted to the seminar.

National Legislative Seminar planned for March 2020

With the theme of "Finding Your Voice Through Legislative Action," the U.S. Forum's National Legislative Seminar is scheduled for March 15-18, 2020, at the Holiday Inn National Airport Crystal City in Arlington, VA.

The four-day seminar will be packed with opportunities to network, learn advocacy skills, discuss issues facing educators today, listen to informative speakers, meet with congressional representatives, and enjoy historic tours.

A registration form and additional information can be found on the DKG website.

Chapter News

Ernestine's got talent

At the Seniors Got Talent contest held in Chattanooga in September, Alpha Xi's own Ernestine Eldridge took top honors. The contest featured ten finalists drawn from Chattanooga area assisted living facilities.



Ernestine, a member of DKG and Alpha Xi for over 60 years, is a former physical education and music teacher in Soddy Daisy schools. At 92, she was the oldest contestant and won by playing a medley of patriotic songs on the piano and asking the crowd to sing along. She is shown above with her first-place trophy. In addition, she won \$250 and plans to contribute some of her prize money to the Alzheimer's Association.



Theta members Sharon Rapp and Dee Rives recently volunteered at the 37th Archeofest at Pinson Mounds State Archeological Park. Rapp and Rives gave guided hayride tours of the park, picked up trash, supplied water for workers at the event and were on call for other duties. The park covers more than 1200 acres and features more than 15 Native American mounds.



Dr. Beverly Hall attended a joint chapter orientation with Beta, Alpha Nu and Beta Upsilon chapters on Saturday, October 19, 2019, at Welch College in Gallatin. During the event, Beta chapter inducted nine new members.



Phi chapter recently held a very successful fundraiser for its new teacher grants project. Twenty-three members and guests attended this fun-filled day presented by Rebecca Walton and Van Go paints.



Beta Beta chapter celebrated its 55th birthday on Saturday, October 26, 2019, at the American Legion Hall in Wartburg, TN. Guest speakers were Tennessee State Organization First Vice-President Dr. Elaine Vaughan and Area II Director Kay Moss. Also attending the festivities were Tennessee State President Dr. Beverly Hall, state Corresponding Secretary Ann Gann, and 2017-2019 State President Dr. Elaine Alexander.

**We're still
looking. . .
for a new name (?)
and a new editor (!)**

**If you think our state
newsletter needs a new
name, send your ideas to
Orlean Bauman
ogbauman@gmail.com
(There could be a prize)**

**or
If you would like to apply to
be the new State Editor in
2021, contact Beverly Smith
on the Personnel Committee
bevsmith88@hotmail.com**

In Memoriam

**Iva Shields
(10 May 2019)**

Iva Shields was inducted into a New Mexico chapter in 1965. She later moved to Tennessee and became a founding member of Gamma Zeta chapter where she served as recording and corresponding secretary in 1998. Throughout her 33-year career, Shields taught elementary school in England, New Mexico, Arizona and Tennessee. While teaching in New Mexico, she served as the media director for grades 4-6 and special education.

**Dr. Minnie Burnett
(2 September 2019)**

Dr. Minnie Burnett was inducted into Beta Rho chapter in 2004. After serving on multiple committees, she became chapter president in 2009. Burnett taught in Maury County schools for 23 years and was highly respected by her peers.

