

It Has Been a Busy Spring For ASO Members...



All the members attending the Revitalization Meeting on June 4 got together for a group picture.

Everyone visits just before the start of the Area 2 meeting on May 13 in Heber Springs.

Below left page, members listen to the welcome given by Area 1 Leader Stacy Potter in Harrison on April 23.

Below center page Past International President Carolyn Pittman presents her session "The DKG Map from Then to Now" to the group at the Ella Reese Leadership Seminar on June 20-21.



*With More Events
Planned
for
Summer and Fall!*

Inside This Issue:

President's Letter. 2
 News about Areas 1 & 2. 4-7
 Revitalization Day. 8
 Ella Reese Leadership 9
 Dates to Remember 12

“ Follow Your Dream With DKG”

From ASO President Sue Cook

On June 4, 2022, ASO had a wonderful Revitalization Meeting at the Pulaski Tech Culinary Arts Campus in NLR. I would like to thank ASO Revitalization Chair Carolyn Pittman and her committee for a very successful meeting.

Our special guest speaker was Past International President Evelyn Barron. Evelyn led the workshop and discussions about the state organization and chapters with the members that attended Saturday’s workshop. Each of the participants shared their ideas about the strengths and needs of their own chapters. These ideas helped to brainstorm possible solutions that were discussed and refined and can be taken back to share with their local members to help strengthen their own chapters. The workshop was well prepared and many of the ideas will help to reinforce and revive chapters of ASO. We are so glad that International sent Evelyn to help with the Revitalization process and as always those present enjoyed working together.

On page 8 of this newsletter the first part of notes taken during the process are outlined with the rest of the day’s work notes to follow in the September ASO newsletter. The notes are also available on the ASO website.

On June 20, I was back on the road traveling to The Red Apple Inn in Heber Springs. Pam Posey and her committee did a wonderful job with this seminar. The facility is beautiful, and all participants enjoyed a mini vacation while attending the Ella Reese Leadership Seminar. ASO was privileged to have Dr. Sharlene McGowan, a Canadian from the International Speaker’s Fund attending the seminar. Sharlene spoke on Women’s Mental Health. She was so informative and quickly became a new friend.

After dinner, members watched the University of Arkansas baseball game. Sharlene and her husband had the experience of listening to us “call the hogs”. You should have seen their faces!! They will never forget Arkansas.

The DKG International Convention is two weeks away in New Orleans. This convention will be another wonderful opportunity for our members to attend workshops, seminars, dinners, meetings, and visit with old friends from other states and countries!! These members will bring all these ideas and new information back to Arkansas!

I hope you have a great summer! If I didn’t visit your chapter this past year, please feel free to contact me for a visit!!

ASO President Sue Cook, Past International President Evelyn Barron, and Past International President Carolyn Pittman are shown at the June Revitalization Meeting in North Little Rock.



ASO President Sue Cook works with team members on a project during the Revitalization Meeting on June 4.

Above center, Sue Cook pauses for a picture during the Area 1 meeting in April.

ASO President Sue Cook visits with others at the Ella Reese Leadership Seminar in June.





Read more about the upcoming convention on the DKG International website: www.dkg.org

The DKG 2022 International Convention in New Orleans will be in eleven days! The convention agenda is packed with speakers and sessions, providing a variety of opportunities from which to select. Electing new International officers and voting on proposed amendments to the governing documents are Society business matters that will take place at the convention. Every DKG member has a voice, so make your vote count by attending the convention.

Enjoy networking with women from across the globe while enjoying the sights and sounds of an exciting city! Attendees are encouraged to bring family and friends to experience the "Big Easy" as DKG members participate in the Society's first in-person convention since 2018. Many activities are available throughout New Orleans, such as the Audubon Aquarium of the Americas, the National World War II Museum, and a steamboat ride on the Mississippi. A walk around Jackson Square is also a must.

(See more information about late registration deadlines on the DKG website.)


Like us on Facebook!
DKG Arkansas State Organization
Show us you liked our Facebook page and be entered to win a prize at the fall meeting.

To find the ASO page go to Facebook and type **DKG Arkansas State Organization** into the search box.

From The Editor: Have you seen this!?!?



The International website is definitely worth a visit as often as you have time. In a visit this afternoon I learned quite a bit about the upcoming International Convention in New Orleans and read the latest issue of *DKG News*.

The most fascinating thing I experienced was the first installment of the Centennial Celebration of DKG. This project celebrates the history of DKG from 1929 to 2029, "celebrating 100 years of women educators across the globe." You can enjoy this time line as it progresses through each decade over our 100 year history. Each year as we progress toward our centennial year of 2029 a new video of a decade will be released. The 1930s is available now! Learn more about this organization that we all love by watching the video. It is easy to find on the International website by clicking on the Events tab and then selecting Centennial Celebration (https://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Events/DKG_Centennial_Celebration.aspx). You can also see the video by going through YouTube (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H4_BZFOqfHg) which might be a more direct route and would not require a member login. Just don't miss this new website feature!

The Area 1 Meeting was Held in Harrison

The Area 1 meeting was held in Harrison on April 23, 2022, at the Fellowship Bible Church. The theme for the day was “A DKG Picnic” with cheerful red and white checked tablecloths, flowers, and interesting accessories. Following registration and refreshments, Area 1 Leader Stacy Potter of Chi Chapter welcomed approximately 28 members including state officers to the meeting. Deb Baldwin of Beta Sigma Chapter offered an inspirational moment. Tammy Ward of Chi Chapter led the members in the Collect. Boy Scout Troop 446 from Jasper presented the Flag and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The business meeting was called to order. Anice Tedford of Epsilon Gamma Chapter was elected as the new Area 1 Leader for the 2022-2024 biennium. Brandy Brown of Chi Chapter was chosen for the Nominations Committee and Leisa Phillips of Chi Chapter was elected to serve on the Personnel Committee.

The first breakout sessions followed the business meeting. Members had the choice of “Presidents’ Training” led by ASO President Sue Cook, “Revitalization: One Chapter’s Story” presented by ASO First Vice President Dee Ann Daniel, and “There’s An App For That” led by Area 1 Leader Stacy Potter.

After a short break the second set of breakout sessions began. Choices for this session included “Treasurers’ Training” led by ASO Treasurer Linda Vailles, “iPhone Tips” presented by Technology Committee Chairman Heather Dunn, and “Mentoring” presented by Area 1 Leader Stacy Potter.

The luncheon program began with Jenny Hodge of Chi Chapter sharing some brief logistical information about the luncheon with members. A blessing was led by Billie Warwick of Beta Tau. The luncheon was catered by Western Sizzlin’. During the meal, gift bags were placed on the tables for donations to the DKG Emergency Fund with a total of \$293 being collected.

The guest speaker for the meeting was Delaney Reddell, Kid Board Member of Three Wishes for Ruby’s Residents. This organization was founded by local young people to help residents in nursing homes to have small things and feel more cared for.

Next on the program chapter presidents from Area 1 were introduced and given a red rose. Area Leader Stacy Potter, Chi Chapter, then recognized the hostesses for the day. Chapters in the area had contributed 10 door prizes and names were drawn for the lucky winners. Heather Dunn of Grant County Beta Epsilon shared information about the Ella Reese Leadership Conference scheduled on June 20-21 at the Red Apple Inn in Heber Springs. Cathy Long of Gamma Eta talked about the work of the Awards Committee and invited members to submit the forms for those awards to her committee. It was also voted to send the surplus registration funds from Area 1 to the Kappa State Education Foundation. Area 1 Leader Stacy Potter offered some closing remarks and the meeting ended with the Delta Kappa Gamma Song.

Below center, Deb Baldwin offers an inspirational moment at the start of the Area 1 meeting.

Area 1 Leader Stacy Potter welcomes everyone to the meeting in Harrison on April 23.



The registration table was manned by Tammy Ward and Jenny Hodge at the Area 1 meeting.

Members enjoy their breakfast and visit before the meeting begins.



All the photos shown on this page are from the Area 1 meeting on April 23.

Area 2 Leader Mary Catherine Propes welcomes members to the meeting on May 14.



Heber Springs was the Location for the Area 2 Meeting

The Area 2 meeting on May 14, 2022, was held at the First United Methodist Church in Heber Springs, AR. The theme for the day was “Bee...Enthusiastic and Engaged.” The clever theme was used throughout the meeting.

Registration and a continental breakfast started the day off. At 9:30 the meeting began with a welcome from Area 2 Leader Mary Catherine Propes of Beta Xi. There were a few announcements and then the Collect and Response was recited by those attending. There were 29 registered for the meeting and 26 members were present.

Breakout sessions were next on the agenda. There were three choices for the first 50-minute session: “Bee a Leader” Presidents’ Training was offered by ASO President Sue Cook, “Bee Creative” (a 2 block session) was a painting class led by Mandy Russell (Pangburn Schools Art Teacher), and “Bee Observant” was a photography session presented by Photographer Kenny Nations (retired special education teacher).

The second breakout session again had three choices, which were as follows: “Bee Loyal” Sharing Ideas for Increasing and Maintaining Members led by Revitalization Committee Chair Carolyn Pittman, “Bee Creative” Painting (continued from the first session), and “Bee Efficient” Treasurers’ Training conducted by ASO Treasurer Linda Vailes.

Following a break members assembled in the main meeting area for the luncheon. As everyone was enjoying lunch, Renee Estes and Mary Margaret Couch helped members “Bee Stylish” with a fashion show presented by The Lake Boutique/FL Davis Ace Home Center in Heber Springs.

The business portion of the Area 2 meeting followed the meal and was led by Area 2 Leader Mary Catherine Propes. Darlene Emmons of Mu Chapter was elected Area 2 leader for the 2022-2024 term. Carolyn Pittman of Gamma Omicron was elected as the Area 2 representative to the Nominations Committee. ASO President Sue Cook announced that she had the DKG t-shirts for sale if anyone was interested. Past International President Carolyn Pittman talked about the DKG Emergency Fund. Sacks had been placed on each table for donations and there was \$171 collected for the fund during lunch.

The keynote speaker for the meeting was Dr. Linda Griffith of Beta Xi. Her presentation was entitled “What Am I Doing Here?” Dr. Griffith told of her early experiences in education and shared while she was in school she “decided to be smart”. She shared several amusing and profound anecdotes from her journey through life. She advised the group to “go where you are a little uncomfortable—it helps you to grow.”

Following this inspirational presentation it was time for the third set of breakout sessions. The offerings for the afternoon were “Bee Energetic” Simple Exercise and Other Suggestions presented by Sue West and Melinda Bittle, Beta Xi Past Presidents. The other class offered was “Bee Growing” Gardening Tips, presented by ASO President Sue Cook.

Members assembled in the main area once again and were treated to the chance of winning several door prizes. The day concluded with “Bee Seeing You” favors and closing remarks.



The three photos above are all from breakout sessions held during the Area 2 meeting.



Past International President Carolyn Pittman leads a breakout session on increasing and keeping members.



Members were treated to a style show during the luncheon.

Dr. Linda Griffith presented the keynote speech following lunch. Her topic was "What Am I Doing Here?" Her talk was a lively and thoughtful account of life choices.

The theme for the Day was "Bee...Enthusiastic and Engaged". Members enjoy seeing each other and making their choices for the breakout sessions.

Below center page are various photos from the day's activities.



ASO President Sue Cook provided Presidents' training during one of the breakout sessions.

Sue West and Melinda Bittle were the leaders for another of the afternoon breakout sessions.

ASO President Sue Cook led discussions on growing and gardening tips during her afternoon breakout session.

The Revitalization Meeting was Held on June 4, 2022

Approximately 25 DKG Members from across the state gathered at the UA-Pulaski Technical College Campus on June 4th to answer the question of how to work on revitalizing local chapters as well as the Arkansas State Organization. International President Becky Sadowski sent Past International President Evelyn Barron to lead the assembled members in searching for solutions or ideas to better our organization. Evelyn posed several questions or talking points to get thoughts flowing. One criterion to consider is the loss of membership in the last few years. She asked the group about the potential of the organization. Evelyn also asked, "What can the state organization do and how can chapters function better?"

The group's expectations for the day were also something that Evelyn was interested in discovering. Brainstorming together the following expectations were identified:

- Keep DKG in Arkansas alive
- New ideas for growth
- How can we meet the needs of members?
- Inspiration/information

Next members were each asked to share what they felt was going well for ASO and chapters or what are the strengths? Identified strengths are as follows:

- Communication from the state
- Willingness and support
- Serving community
(art contest for kids example)
- Attendance in meetings
- Strong leadership at the state level
- Dedicated core group at chapter level
- Good publicity
- Leadership development
- Relationships
- Community involvement
- Core group at state level
- Leaders training newer leaders
- Recruiting younger members
- Encouragement from state and local members
- Online resources: websites, newsletters etc.
- Past leadership encouragement to current leaders
- Grants and scholarships available through International, state and chapters

After this session the group discussed more in depth about some of the points above. One point explored was the need to have a core group of leaders in the organization to help keep people motivated. This core group needs to remain flexible and allow other members to assist in a time of need. They must allow and encourage people to work together. It is important that leaders and those working hard behind the scenes, as well as in the group, receive affirmations. A healthy group strives to make sure everyone feels appreciated and part of the organization.

Pitfalls of the core group were also pointed out during the discussion. If the core group, is too tight other members can feel cut off from the action. Sometimes also leaders can be overwhelmed with their responsibilities and feel the whole world is on their shoulders.

Other problems and procedures were also discussed at length during the morning. Members talked about some of the ways they recruit new members and encourage all members to attend. The discussion also explored the various ways the chapters and ASO share news, accomplishments and general communication in their groups.

Following lunch the group switched their focus to the weaknesses at the local and state level. This information and ideas generated to help with the problems identified will be discussed in the September issue of this newsletter.

(The notes of the day were organized and sent out by email to those that were registered for the event by Heather Fulmer and Jessica Wright.) The complete document with notes in outline form is available on the ASO website.

At times members were divided into smaller group sessions to discuss topics related to the day's work.



Members enjoy a box lunch provided during the meeting.

Above center, Past International President Evelyn Barron was the leader for the day.

Lower left and center more discussion groups are shown working on their assignments.

The photos below show candidates and leaders participating in the June Seminar.

The Red Apple Inn in Heber Springs was the Site of the Ella Reese Leadership Seminar

The Ella Reese Leadership Seminar was held June 20-21 at the Red Apple Inn in Heber Springs. The “Inn” was very comfortable and accommodating and made a perfect setting for the seminar.

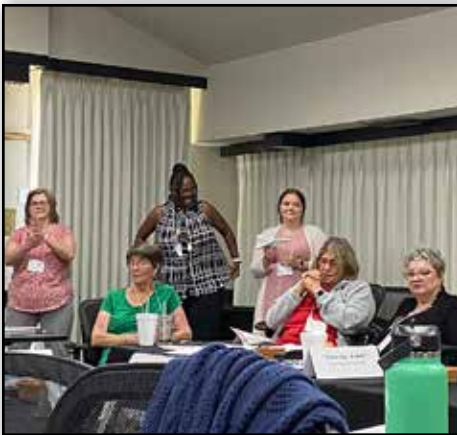
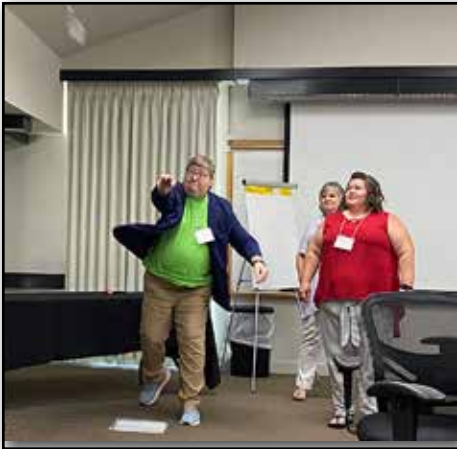
The theme for the seminar for 2022 was “Dream Big-Be Bold”. Nine participants (and everyone in attendance) enjoyed presentations from Dr. Debbie Jones, Carolyn Pittman, Dr. Sharlene McGowan, Candi Martin, Heather Dunn, Dr. Teri Cox, and Dr. Judy Merz.

Participants also had an opportunity to read and discuss the book, *The Art of Influence*, by Chris Widener. Throughout the presentations and book study, the skills and characteristics of good leadership resonated. Participants gained insights, encouragement and confidence to be better prepared as they serve in leadership positions.

The Leadership Development Committee thanks everyone who helped make the seminar a success. Members who haven’t had the opportunity to attend the Ella Reese Leadership Seminar should make plans to apply in 2024!

Pam Posey,
Leadership Development Chair

The members of the Leadership Development Committee are Chairman Pam Posey of Alpha Rho Chapter, Heather Dunn of Grant County Beta Epsilon, Cathy Toney of Theta Chapter, Candi Martin of Chi Chapter, Joy Graham of Gamma Beta Chapter, Linda Vailes of Grant County Beta Epsilon, Claudia Smith of Gamma Omicron and Ella Reese of Theta Chapter.



The 2022 Ella Reese Leadership Graduates are front row: Laura Gray, Alpha Delta; Jackie Phillips, Alpha; Linda Griffith, Beta Xi; Jessica Wright, Lambda; Sue Hull, Alpha; and Dee Ann Daniel, Grant County Beta Epsilon. In the back row are: Paula Williams, Zeta; Jennifer Matthews, Theta; and Dana Cox, Alpha Delta.

Ella Reese is shown with other members of the Leadership Committee at the Seminar.

Apply for a \$500 Kappa State Education Foundation Grant

I bet you have never heard a teacher say, “I do NOT need \$500 for a project for my classroom.” No, they don’t say that do they? Teachers can ALWAYS use some extra money for projects and supplies they need for their classrooms. The Kappa State Education Foundation is here to help. Every year in October the Foundation awards seven \$500 grants to teachers to help with a project for your classroom or community. Some of the projects funded this past October included children receiving books when they go to their local county health unit for their immunizations, incorporating arts into the classroom to help students to heal and learn how to use art-based experiences in everyday life, extending the Dolly Parton Imagination Library to more pre-school children, purchasing Breakout Boxes for Gifted & Talented Students, and purchasing audio and video equipment for a county library.

Don’t you have some classroom or community projects that Kappa State Education Foundation can help you with? **The deadline to submit your application is October 1.** Applications can be found on the Arkansas DKG website. Please be thinking about how Kappa State Education Foundation can help with those projects.

The Foundation Board funds its projects by donations, memorials, and special fundraisers that the board supports. We will have a fundraiser at the ASO Fall Meeting which will be held on Saturday, October 22. You will definitely want to bring your extra \$’s to buy your chances to win! If we can answer any questions about the projects or the application process, please contact one of the board members.

Kathryn Dickinson, Vice Chairman
Kappa State Education Foundation Board

Important Reminder from ASO Treasurer Linda Vailes:

Treasurers’ dues are now due!! Finish up with collections from chapter members and get the information listed on the International Dues Portal found under MyDKG.

***Chapter yearly reports are due July 15th**

***Form 990-IRS must be filed by November 15th**

(Forms can be found on www.dkg.org; after logging in, click *Forms* then select *Treasurers*; additional forms can be found in Chapter Connect under MyDKG)

For any questions please call Linda Vailes at 870-941-8702

A Message from Your ASO Awards Committee

As we look forward to our next state convention, we need to consider our sisters who have tirelessly served our state organization and our local chapters. We will select recipients of the Carolyn Pittman Achievement Award (state level), as well as induct new members into the Order of the Rose (chapter level).

We encourage you to access the ASO website (dkgarkansas.weebly.com) for the exact requirements for nomination to either of these awards. Nominations can be submitted by chapters or individual members. (The applications forms are also available on the ASO website.)

Nominations are open to ALL members, not just past presidents, but can also be committee members or someone who serves behind the scenes. If the nominee is not in your chapter, contact her chapter for necessary information.

Peruse your chapter rosters to identify those who have exhibited exemplary service to your chapter. When you are in a meeting, look around the room to identify those who would qualify.

Complete a nomination form, include a photo suitable for publication, and email and/or send a hard copy to me as soon as possible. **The final deadline will be February 1, 2023.** Contact one of the committee members if you have questions.

We need your help. Let’s not let another biennium pass with no recipients.

Cathy Long, Gamma Eta, Chairman (cslong@suddenlink.net or 870-404-1279); Linda Morrow, Gamma Iota; Melinda Bittle, Beta Xi; Kathryn Dickinson, Alpha Delta; and Elizabeth Waldrip, Mu



Congratulations to Donna Tennison of Gamma Eta Chapter who retired after 41 years of dedicated service to education. She taught the majority of those years in the business department at her alma mater, Yellville-Summit High School. Her colleagues, community members, and DKG sisters helped her celebrate at a reception on May 22.

Gamma Eta Chapter



On May 5 Dolly Parton was welcomed to the Arkansas Governor's Mansion for a celebration of the total statewide participation in Imagination Library.

Several ASO chapters support the efforts of the Imagination Library in the state. Your editor was aware that Mary Anne Williams of Sigma Chapter, Carolyn Hoggard, and Darlene Emmons of Mu Chapter were there for the celebration.



Alpha Delta Chapter

The Alpha Delta Chapter inducted 2 new members at their May meeting. The new members are Mary Storey and Tina Smith.



Mu Chapter

During the May Founders' Day meeting the new Mu Chapter officers for 2022-2024 were installed. They are Linda Davidson, Recording Secretary and Chapter Editor; Melissa VanCleave, President; Jennifer White, 1st Vice President; Darci Stoll, 2nd Vice President; and Elizabeth Waldrip, Parliamentarian. Not pictured are Laura Cross, Treasurer; and Sharon Runyan, Corresponding Secretary.



T-Shirts for Sale

The Non-Dues Revenue Committee has red, short-sleeved DKG t-shirts for sale for \$20.00. If you would like a t-shirt, please contact ASO President Sue Cook or she can bring them to your meeting when she visits. They also are available at other DKG events.

Sue's email is:
suecook428@gmail.com



Cissy Pendergrass sells DKG t-shirts at the Area 1 meeting on April 23.

Arkansas State Organization News

is published online the first of each odd numbered month at dkgarkansas.weebly.com

Send articles, pictures, comments, and questions to:
Linda Davidson at
lindavidson@comcast.net
or 618 LaSalle Drive
Little Rock, AR 72211
or text to (501) 580-4309

Arkansas State Organization Seeks Executive Secretary

The Personnel Committee announces applications are open for ASO Executive Secretary.

The successful applicant will be an ASO member, highly organized, diligent, and collaborative. A brief list of duties includes: maintaining ASO central files, records, and historical data; maintaining and updating chapter membership lists and establishing/communicating deadlines for same; preparing the ASO Membership Directory each year; attending state officer training; and sending publication notices of ASO News to ASO Executive Board and chapter members, international administrative and executive boards and personnel, and state/international committee chairs. Go to dkgarkansas.weebly.com for a full job description. Click the About Us tab and choose the drop down Bylaws link which is password protected. You'll find the complete list of executive secretary duties under Article VI, Section 10.

The executive secretary's position is a six year term, beginning July 1, with a remunerative contract of \$250 per quarter. The executive secretary shall be approved by the ASO Executive Board upon recommendation of the Personnel Committee.

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please email a cover letter/resume in PDF format to Leisa Phillips, Personnel Committee Chair (Area 1) at sqpeglife@gmail.com.

Kappa State Education Foundation

Memorials:

Marjorie Forrest by Cathy Long, Gamma Eta
Betty Jo Atkinson, Gamma Eta
by Cathy Long, Gamma Eta
Nannie Lee Trammell, ASO
by Everette and Cathy Long

Honorariums:

Jenny Hodge, Chi Chapter
by
Chi Chapter

Donations:

Area 1 donated surplus funds
from the April 23, 2022 meeting

Dates to Remember and Deadlines:

- * **June 30, December 1** Annual deadlines for submitting applications for the Arkansas State Organization Scholarship
- * **July 12-16, 2022** DKG International Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana
- * **September 1, February 1, May 1** Applications for Cornetet Professional Development Award deadlines (dkgef.org)
- * **October 1 2022** Deadline for Kappa State Education Foundation project grant applications
- * **October 22, 2022** ASO Fall Meeting, UA-Pulaski Technical College, 3000 West Scenic Drive, North Little Rock
- * **November 1, April 1** Annual deadlines for submitting applications for the Agatha Prator Grant
- * **February 1, 2023** Final deadline for applications for ASO award nominees for the 2021-2023 biennium