



Newly Installed Arkansas State Organization Officers for 2023-2025

Shown at the conclusion of the installation of officers for the upcoming biennium are ASO President Cathy Toney, ASO First Vice President Janie Hickman, ASO Second Vice President Heather Dunn, and ASO Secretary Lindsey Bohler. Joining the newly elected officers on the 2023-2025 ASO Executive Committee are Related Personnel: Immediate ASO Past President Sue Cook, ASO Executive Secretary LaVonne Kirkpatrick, ASO Treasurer Linda Vailes, ASO Parliamentarian Candi Martin, ASO Editor Linda Davidson, and ASO Webmaster Paula Williams.

The ASO Convention was held at the Ozark Folk Center June 2-4, 2023. Members are shown at the start of the executive board meeting on Saturday morning during the convention.



Cathy Toney was named the 2022 Carolyn Pittman Achievement Award Winner

The 2022 recipient of the Carolyn Pittman Achievement Award truly embodies leadership. Cathy Toney was initiated into Delta Kappa Gamma in 2004 and has been a vital member to her chapter and the state organization ever since. Doing was the example Cathy modeled from the beginning. She built her team, including all the state organization members, then guided them through the different and challenging times of a pandemic. She modeled how to learn and grow in the midst of this different world. Cathy supported ASO as the organization did new things, taught us as we met new challenges, and nurtured us as we learned new skills as part from our teaching and our lives.

Cathy is passionate about addressing lost membership and chapters, so she was instrumental in distributing resources and innovative ideas to chapters, thus seeing an increase in members as well as a new chapter. Cathy was constantly connected with and encouraged chapters and members as they struggled with isolation during those two years. ASO weathered the pandemic with a virtual International meeting, virtual area meetings, and a hybrid state convention.



ASO Awards Committee Chair Cathy Long congratulates Cathy Toney after presenting the Carolyn Pittman Achievement Award to her on Saturday.

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From ASO President Cathy Toney:



The ASO convention was held in Mountain View on June 2-4, 2023. The Ozark Folk Center was a great place to enjoy the beautiful scenery. In addition, the food was good and the fellowship was amazing! Thank you ASO President Sue Cook (2021-2023) for selecting the location and for all your hard work during the past 2 years. Janie Hickman, Second Vice President and chair of the state convention, along with her committee members planned the weekend. We had folk music, business meetings, and sessions to attend. There was also time to visit the craft village, a banquet featuring DKG International Guest Speaker Teresa Cowan, installation of new officers, and awards. The convention ended on Sunday with the Ceremony of Remembrance. Again, a big thank you goes to Janie and her committee.

I was humbled two different times at the convention. The first was being elected as ASO president for another two-year term. The pandemic shortchanged all our goals for 2019-2021. I hope to visit every chapter and share my goals for the biennium: "The 3 R's: Rethink, Revise, and Revitalize." Thank you for entrusting me to guide ASO for 2023-2025. The second was being selected to receive the Carolyn Pittman Achievement Award. What a surprise and tremendous honor it was to receive an award named after a woman who truly represents DKG key women educators. Carolyn is who we all strive to be like!

Please contact me if you have questions or the date you want me to visit your chapter. My email is cathytoney54@gmail.com and cell number is (501) 269-5777.

Below center, ASO President Cathy Toney talks about her theme for the biennium during officer training on Sunday, June 4, after the ASO Convention.

During the Presidents' Banquet program Cathy Toney presents Sue Cook with the traditional Apple Blossom painting done by Wanda Roe. The original framed painting is handed down from president to president and each president also gets a copy to keep.



Cathy Toney is shown just as she realizes she is the new Carolyn Pittman Achievement Award winner.

Outgoing ASO President Sue Cook installs the new 2023-2025 ASO President Cathy Toney.



Photo Highlights of the ASO Convention













Order of the Rose Awards 2021-2023

The Order of the Rose recognizes members who have made outstanding contributions to their chapter and community, but who have not received state level recognition. Nominees shall have been an active participating member for six years.



Vernoise Baldwin of Gamma Iota Chapter has been a member of DKG for 13 years.



Carolyn J. Brooks of Iota Chapter has been active in DKG for 20 years.



Reba Cloud of Gamma Iota Chapter is an 11 year member of DKG.



Jeanne Harvey of Theta Chapter is an 18+ year member of DKG.



Julia Sharp of Gamma Eta Chapter is a 22 year member of DKG.



Elizabeth Vernon of Alpha Theta Chapter is a 14 year member of DKG.



Sandy Weishaar of Gamma Iota Chapter has been a member of DKG for 20 years.

Cathy Toney's biography continued from page 1

Cathy Toney holds both a BSE and MSE in early childhood education from the University of Central Arkansas, library resource endorsement from Prairie View A & M in Texas and has 38 total years of experience in early childhood and as a media specialist. She has served as board member and president of the Arkansas Association of Instructional Media, conference chair and president of the Arkansas Association of School Librarians, received the AAIM Herb Lawrence Leadership Award, and was named Teacher of the Year at Sallie Cone Elementary School.

Cathy has served Theta Chapter as president and member of the Communications Committee. On the state level she has served as ASO First Vice President, ASO Second Vice President, and as ASO President. Cathy has served as a member of the ASO Records and Properties Committee, chair of a state convention, and as a member of an ad hoc committee developing procedural manuals for state events. Cathy has also served as coordinator of ASO committee chair training. She currently serves on the Education Foundation Board of Trustees. As ASO President 2019-2021 she inducted Epsilon Gamma Chapter in Clarksville. She will continue her excellent service to DKG during her second term (2023-2025) as the newly installed Arkansas State Organization's President.



**A list of the members lost in 2021-2023
remembered with a white rose during the June 4, 2023,
ASO Ceremony of Remembrance**

<i>Betty Atkinson</i>	<i>Gamma Eta Chapter</i>
<i>Jane Conley</i>	<i>Alpha Sigma Chapter</i>
<i>Deborah Sue Driggers</i>	<i>Alpha Sigma Chapter</i>
<i>Regina Earlywine</i>	<i>Beta Omega Chapter</i>
<i>Melba Lewis Head</i>	<i>Alpha Kappa Chapter</i>
<i>Cassie Hatch</i>	<i>Grant County Beta Epsilon</i>
<i>Lyn Hubbard</i>	<i>Gamma Rho Chapter</i>
<i>Judy Hutchison</i>	<i>Alpha Sigma Chapter</i>
<i>Betty Kelly</i>	<i>Beta Beta Chapter</i>
<i>Erma Davis Lynn</i>	<i>Alpha Kappa Chapter</i>
<i>Ella Reese</i>	<i>Theta Chapter</i>
<i>Diane Johnson Roberson</i>	<i>Alpha Sigma Chapter</i>
<i>Bea Roby</i>	<i>Epsilon Beta Chapter</i>
<i>Wanda Roe</i>	<i>Gamma Eta Chapter</i>
<i>Tennie Ellene (Taylor) Russell</i>	<i>Beta Sigma Chapter</i>
<i>Sherrye Shipp</i>	<i>Alpha Sigma Chapter</i>
<i>Donna Smith</i>	<i>Alpha Delta Chapter</i>
<i>Dr. Earline A. Way</i>	<i>Alpha Mu Chapter</i>
<i>Anna Marie Woodell</i>	<i>Gamma Theta Chapter</i>

**Items of Interest from
the ASO Convention:**

- 58 members were registered and 58 members attended.
- Alpha Alpha Chapter, West Helena, was dissolved with regrets.
- The budget as printed in the convention program was approved.
- Terri Leins and Karen Roe were elected without opposition to the Kappa State Foundation Board.
- The proposed slate of candidates for ASO 2023-2025 offices as printed in ARNews and convention program was elected without opposition.
- The ASO 2023-2025 Nominations Committee election was held. Paula Williams was elected chairman and Melinda Bittle and Hannah Rossen were elected members at large.
- All the proposed rule changes as printed in the ARNews and convention program were passed.
- The DKG Emergency Fund collected \$928.
- The Non-Dues Revenue Committee basket fundraiser collected \$624.
- The 50/50 fundraiser earned \$322 with \$161 being earned by the lucky winner and \$161 for the Non-Dues Revenue Committee.
- A sale of items from previous state events earned \$58.
- The Kappa State Education Foundation earned \$310 for the summer bag and the calendar earned \$300.

Alpha Delta Chapter

Alpha Delta Chapter used their KS Education Foundation Grant to partner with the local Methodist Church to provide bookcases to first grade students at Clinton Primary School. Members also brought a book to each meeting to fill the bookcases for students.

Center left, Alpha Delta Chapter members Tanya Clayton, Diana Keith, Dana Cox, Laura Gray, and Karen Ivers led the induction of the new members.



Alpha Delta Chapter proudly inducted six new members at their meeting on May 1, 2023. They are left to right: Shauntelle Bennett, Devon Butler, Shannon Hawthorne, Holly Hooker, Payton Jones, and Alyssa Rector.

Shown above are pictures of Inductee Shauntelle Bennett (top photo) and Karen Ivers. The lower photo is of Inductee Payton Jones and Karen. Shauntelle and Payton are mother and daughter which is an interesting story to tell in the chapter.

Grant County Beta Epsilon Chapter

Lindsey Bohler as chapter president carried the Grant County Beta Epsilon flag in the Parade of Flags at the start of the Presidents' Banquet on Saturday.

Grant County Beta Epsilon was well represented at the recent ASO Convention. Linda Vailes, Dee Ann Daniel, Lindsey Bohler, Heather Dunn, Patsy Reynolds, and Jalyn Lee are shown before dinner on Saturday, June 3.



Above, Lindsey Bohler, Jayln Lee, and their instructor show off key chains made during one of the breakout sessions during the ASO State Convention at the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View.

Lower right, It was a big night for Grant County Beta Epsilon during their May meeting. There were seven new members inducted. They are Shannon Watson, Bobbi Hall, Taylor Thomas, Raegan Cheatham, Billie Corley, Cheryl Mote, and Christian Ramsey.

Above center, the chapter also welcomed back five former members. Missy Overton and Joan Moltz were able to attend the meeting. (Not pictured are Marianna Glassco, Julie Allen, and Stacy Stockton).

Above right, the chapter awarded three scholarship winners for this year. They are Abby Stockton, Kennadie Hobson, and Christian Ramsey.

At the end of the year annual meeting, the chapter was served a wonderful dinner by the Sheridan High School FCCLA students. During the meeting, a collection was taken up to support the students at Nationals in Denver! The members collected \$130 to donate to the student organization. DKG Member Lindsay Rich is their club sponsor.



Beta Omega Chapter

Beta Omega President Janie Hickman (below) presented Beta Omega Chapter's scholarship to Cailyn Baser (left) at Stuttgart High School during the senior day assembly in May.

ASO First Vice President Janie Hickman is also president of her chapter. She carries her chapter flag at the first of the program on Saturday evening of the ASO Convention.



Congratulations to Outstanding ASO Members!

Teri Cox-Meadows and Tia Brickley are featured in the 2023 spring/summer issue of UCA's magazine.

Teri Cox Meadows' article is *A Legacy of Hope / Giving Back as a Worldview*.

Tia Brickey's article is *Booking It! Librarian's Legacy of Learning and Literacy*.



ASO Officers Attend DKG State Officer Training

ASO officers attending the training held in Irving, Texas, June 23-25, 2023, are ASO Treasurer Linda Vailes, ASO Parliamentarian Candi Martin, ASO Second Vice President Heather Dunn, ASO President Cathy Toney, ASO First Vice President Janie Hickman, and ASO Executive Secretary LaVonne Kirkpatrick.

Editor's Note: In this issue and upcoming issues of the *ARNews* and the *AR Presidents' UpDate* the officer and committee reports for the 2021-2023 biennium that were in the ASO Convention program will be shared so that those not at the convention may read them.

ASO Awards Committee Report 2021-2023:

The goals of the Awards Committee were to increase advertisement of deadlines for nominations and to receive an increase in nominations for the Order of the Rose and the Carolyn Pittman Achievement Award. Both goals were accomplished.

Committee members each received copies of nomination forms prior to the meeting. We met via Zoom on March 26, 2023, to finalize recipients. The committee voted to suspend the rules, as one chapter had three worthy nominees. Seven nominees were approved for the Order of the Rose, and one was approved for the Carolyn Pittman Achievement Award.

Committee members: Cathy Long, Gamma Eta, Chair; Melinda Bittle, Beta Xi; Kathryn Dickenson, Alpha Delta; Elizabeth Waldrip, Mu; Linda Morrow, Gamma Iota.

ASO Communications and Marketing Committee 2021-2023:

Goals for the 2021-2023 biennium:

- To improve or enhance communications between and among the various state committees.
- To increase DKG visibility and introduce its benefits to potential members at the collegiate level.

During the 2021-2023 biennium the Communications and Marketing Committee, formerly the Communication and Publicity Committee, continued the transition process by working with the Southeast Region (SER) DKG International Communication and Marketing Committee to develop new resources for state and chapter use. The emphasis during this biennium has been on the restructured purpose of: providing DKG members with tools that enable them to market the Society through personalization, DKG media (publications, websites, social media, etc.), and the use of effective strategies.

Stakeholders attended SER Roundtable meetings virtually, to develop (1) communication guidelines for virtual settings, (2) chapter achievement guidelines, and (3) marketing resources.

ASO Educational Legislative Committee:

Goals:

1. Increase member awareness of legislative issues pertaining to education and educators

The US Forum emails were sent from the International Legislative Committee to the ASO Legislative Chairman. In turn, they were then emailed to the ASO Legislative members, committee chairs, and chapter presidents in order for them to inform their chapter members of current legislative issues. The reasoning for sending it to so many people is due to the fact that the chapter presidents have numerous emails/items sent to them each month; it is best if another member is also responsible for informing chapter members about the legislative issues.

2. Assist members in understanding legislative issues at the state and national levels

To help members understand the legislative issues presented at the state and national levels, the committee sent the US Forum newsletter from the International Legislative Committee about the current legislative issues.

2021-2023 Legislative Committee Members: Rana McClain, Epsilon Beta, Pine Bluff; Brenda Taylor, Alpha Rho, Van Buren; Nancy Stewart, Beta Omega, Stuttgart; Sharon Wilson, Alpha Sigma, Morrilton; and Chairman: Stacy Potter, Chi, Harrison

A “Thank you” from the Kappa State Education Foundation Board of Trustees

The members of Kappa State Education Foundation Board of Trustees would like to thank all Arkansas state DKG members for your support in our fundraisers this past year. We were able to raise money to support our foundation grants. We also depend on your donations and memorials for the foundation.

As you begin to think about the new school year and needs that you see in your community, we want you to think about applying for one of the seven \$500 grants that are awarded every year in October. The deadline to apply for the grants is October 1, 2023. All applications will be submitted online this year.

Some of the grants that we funded this past year include adding books to classroom libraries, seat sacks for student chairs, Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library, small bookcases with books for first grade students, and many others. Put on your “thinking cap” and dream of ways that you can help the students in your classroom or support a project in your community. The sky is the limit.

The Education Foundation Board wants to help you and support your efforts as we support our students and our community. You can find the application for the grant on the state website at dkgarkansas.weebly.com. Don’t forget the deadline is October 1. Reach out to any member of the board if we can assist you.

Kathryn Dickinson
Vice Chairman
Kappa State Education Foundation

Kappa State Education Foundation

Memorials:

Clifton Earl Lang
brother of Earlene Hankins, Beta Xi Chapter
by Beta Xi Chapter

Clifton Earl Lang
brother of Earlene Hankins, Beta Xi Chapter
by Terri Leins, Alpha Pi Chapter

*Did you forget to
pay DKG dues
for 2023-2024?*

Send your dues payment
ASAP to your
chapter treasurer!

Arkansas State Organization News
is published online the first of each
odd numbered month at
dkgarkansas.weebly.com
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and questions to:
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Dates to Remember and Deadlines:

- * **June 30** Deadline to pay dues for the 2023-2024 DKG year
- * **July 11-16, 2023** DKG International Conference, Detroit, MI (see International website dkg.org for more information)
- * **July 18-22, 2023** DKG International Conference, Phoenix, AZ (see International website dkg.org for more information)
- * **September 1, February 1, May 1** Applications for Cornetet Professional Development Award deadlines (dkgef.org)
- * **October 1** Annual deadline for submitting a Kappa State Education Foundation Project Application form
- * **November 1, April 1** Annual deadlines for submitting applications for the Agatha Prator Grant
- * **December 1, June 30** Annual deadlines for submitting applications for the Arkansas State Organization Scholarship