



Shown above are members attending the ASO Fall Conference for the first time.

Below, on Saturday, October 14, members visit before the ASO Fall Conference starts.



*ASO Fall Conference Was Held on October 14, 2023, at Pulaski Tech*

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# From ASO President Cathy Toney:



• **Fall Conference:**

What a great time we had together at our ASO Fall Conference on Saturday, October 14! We had 56 women who enjoyed a day of meeting with friends from the past and making new friends. We had wonderful breakout sessions. Our luncheon keynote speaker Meghan Ables, a member of Beta Omega Chapter and a former Arkansas Teacher of the Year, shared about her journey back into the classroom, as well as what is happening in education now. She really was inspiring! Thank you to ASO First Vice President Janie Hickman for planning our fall conference! Great job! Janie chairs both the Fall Conference Committee and the Educational Excellence Committee.

• **Dropped Members:**

Those members who have dropped from your chapter might just need to be invited back. They may have dropped when life was too busy for them. Just ask them to come back and be reinstated. That is all they are required to do. This is a way to bring back some good members.

• **Prospective members:**

Possible members are in preschools, day cares, and church preschools. Other members could be paraprofessionals or your teaching buddy right beside you. Don't assume these women would say no because they seem really busy. Invite them to the next chapter meeting and let them decide if they are too busy.

• **Communication:**

Communication is a great concern for our organization. Members do not update their emails, or they don't read the emails that chapter presidents send to them. Please check that your email is current on DKG International website under MyDKG and with your chapter president. We want all members to know what is happening in Arkansas and at the International level.

• **Chapter meetings:**

I want to visit your chapter. I don't have to be a speaker. Meeting members around the state is good for my soul. Just send an email or call and we can set up a time for me to come.

• **Hope you have a wonderful Thanksgiving!**

ASO President Cathy Toney presents a rose pin to Meghan Ables, who was a first time conference attendee. Meghan was also the luncheon speaker and is a former Arkansas Teacher of the Year.

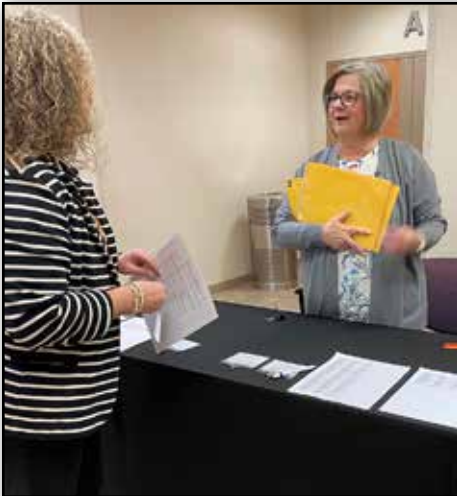


President Cathy Toney opens the ASO Fall Conference on October 14, 2023.

Above center, President Toney confers with Cissie Pendergrass prior to the meeting held at Pulaski Tech in North Little Rock.



### Photo Highlights from the ASO Fall Conference















## Kappa State Education Foundation Grant Recipients for 2023

Congratulations to the recipients of the Education Foundation's \$500 grants for 2023. We are happy to announce that we have awarded seven grants to deserving teachers who will use this money to enhance learning in their classrooms and communities in a variety of ways.

**Area 1:** Kimberly Wyborny is from Beta Nu Chapter in Russellville. Kimberly will use her grant for a Decodable Class Literacy Set. The goal is to improve literacy skills to reach mastery across all grade levels.

**Area 2:** Laura West is the Gifted & Talented Coordinator with the Hot Springs School District. She is a member of Mu Chapter in Benton. Laura will use her grant to purchase additional games and activities that will increase communication skills, critical thinking, and social skills.

**Area 3:** Amy Simpson and Gamma Rho Chapter of Jonesboro applied for one of the grants to enhance their Dolly Parton Imagination Library in cooperation with the Jonesboro United Way. This grant will allow them to sponsor additional children in the program.

**Area 4:** Kathy Knight is the robotics teacher at Hope High School. She is a member of Alpha Delta Chapter in Hope. Robotics allows creative minds to find solutions to everyday problems by using team building and collaboration. The grant money will be used for her teams to travel to state competition in the spring.

**(At Large) Area 1:** Hannah Campbell is a member of Chi Chapter in Harrison. She is a second grade teacher and she will use her grant to implement flexible seating in her classroom. She will purchase flexible seating options such as wobble cushions, stability stools, and legless floor chairs.

**(At Large) Area 2:** Carolyn Hoggard is a member of Mu Chapter in Benton. Mu Chapter has supported the Dolly Parton Imagination Library for many years. The funds from the grant will be used to allow additional children to be served by the Imagination Library in Saline County.

**(At Large) Area 4:** Tanya Clayton is a member of Alpha Delta Chapter in Hope. She teaches fifth grade science in the Atlanta School District. Tanya will use her grant to purchase hands-on materials for her classroom and for lab experiments. Eighty students will benefit from the purchase of these materials.

Thank you to everyone who applied for grants this year. We look forward to seeing your applications next year.

Kathryn Dickinson, Vice Chairman  
Kappa State Education Foundation Board

## Kappa State (DKG) Education Foundation Annual Report October 2023

The Board of Trustees meets twice a year to handle foundation business and to award grants to further education in a variety of ways. Since Covid in 2020, the Board has met virtually and in person.

Officers and members are Dr. Paula Williams, Chairman; Kathryn Dickinson, Vice-Chairman; Cathy Long, Secretary; Terri Leins, Treasurer; Carolyn McGough, and Karen Roe. Cathy Toney, Janie Hickman, and Sue Cook serve as ex-officio members. Each member serves on either the Budget Committee or the Projects Committee.

At the fall 2022 meeting four area grants and two at-large grants were awarded. During the fall 2023 meeting four area grants and three at-large grants were awarded.

The Foundation raises funds to contribute to our monies. Our recent fund raising efforts include: a Razorback themed basket (\$515), a summer-themed bag (\$310), and "calendar-day donation" (\$300) at the ASO Convention. At our fall conference, we raffled a fall-themed basket (\$136) and "calendar-day donation" (\$111).

Dr. Paula Williams,  
Chairman





## Alpha Sigma Chapter

Alpha Sigma met on Thursday October 5, 2023, at the Morrilton Elementary School Cafeteria. They had two new members and one collegiate member in attendance for the evening. Area 2 Leader Darlene Emmons visited the meeting and spoke about the upcoming spring Area 2 meeting. The guest speaker for the program was Leanne Mobley, who coordinates Morrilton High School Education Accelerated by Service Technology (EAST) Program.

Alpha Sigma works on providing scholarships for senior female students who plan to be educators. Their chapter also helps the local foodbank in October by providing jars of peanut butter and members also make a yearly donation to their Boys and Girls Club.



## Grant County Beta Epsilon Chapter



Grant County Beta Epsilon Chapter had a fun meeting hanging around the campfire.

They enjoyed seeing old friends and new faces!

Top right, Members of Grant County Beta Epsilon Chapter are shown at the ASO Fall Conference in North Little Rock at Pulaski Tech.







# Theta Chapter



*Theta Chapter met Monday, October 9, 2023, at the Buffalo Alumni Building on the UCA campus. The chapter's guest speaker was Sheila Franklin a new Conway School Board member.*

*The chapter supports several backpack projects for six local schools, a Senior Adult Center, and the UCA Students' Food Pantry. Theta Chapter continues to fund raise by selling black or red DKG personalized pin ribbons (\$30).*



# Alpha Chapter



*Alpha Chapter toured the El Dorado High School Agriculture Building for their October meeting. It is an amazing building and program for students to utilize. Thanks to Miss Neely and Gary Harwell for the grand tour.*



# Beta Nu Chapter

Beta Nu Chapter is shown on their Fall Kick-off Night. Members made care packages for new teachers and gathered oatmeal for River Valley Food4Kids.



During "Pink Pizza Party in the Park" the Beta Nu Chapter program was breast cancer awareness, and they celebrated their survivors! It was a beautiful evening to gather for a meeting by the river.

# Beta Omega Chapter

Beta Omega Chapter met October 2 and packed goodie bags for all school employees in public and private schools, as well as Easter Seals in Stuttgart. The chapter also inducted two new members.







# Chi Chapter

Chi Chapter is proud of Tammy Ezell Ward. Chi Chapter Member Tammy Ward was recognized by Arvest Bank in the Bank's "We Love Teachers Recognition Program."



## Other News!!!

ASO Second Vice President and Membership Chairman Heather Dunn had the opportunity to work with an incredible group of women in October over a weekend to strategize ways to market DKG! Women from all around the world and the USA work together through DKG to solve problems together in this one of a kind educational organization.



Members from Beta Epsilon joined ASO officers in Monticello October 2, to help revitalize their chapter. The event began with four former members and one new potential member in attendance. Everyone was excited about this chapter's potential for growth.



**Linda Davidson Had an Oil Painting Selected for the Fall / Winter DKG Fine Arts Gallery**



Linda Davidson, Mu Chapter Editor and ASO Editor, received a letter that the DKG International Arts and Humanities Jury had selected her painting entitled "Ramsey Creek" to be included in the DKG Fine Arts Gallery. The unveiling of the new DKG Fine Arts Gallery will be by mid-November. This is an online gallery of works of art and letters on the DKG International website. Linda's work will be displayed in the gallery for six months. Congratulations, Linda! We are SO PROUD of you.

Cathy Toney, ASO President

**Congratulations!!!**



**ASO President Cathy Toney announced at fall conference that ASO Secretary Lindsey Bohler, Grant County Beta Epsilon, is now Dr. Lindsey Bohler! ASO is PROUD of you and for you.**

**Kappa State Education Foundation**

**Memorials:**

**Mary "Jane" Betts, Beta XI Chapter**  
by Beta Xi Chapter

**James P. Corder,**  
Father of Cheryl Harper, Beta Xi Chapter  
by Beta Xi Chapter

**Chapter Treasurers**

Form 990N **MUST BE FILED BY**  
**NOVEMBER 15**

Chapter treasurers with questions should contact ASO Treasurer Linda Vailes by email or phone: linda5662@windstream.net or 870-941-8702

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**Dates to Remember and Deadlines:**

- \* **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
- \* **February 1, May 1, September 1** Applications for Cornetet Professional Development Award deadlines ([dkgef.org](http://dkgef.org))