

Rose Petal

NC DKG Theme - Ready, Set, Grow! - Vol. 39/Iss. 4 - Nov. 20



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™

**The NC DKG North Carolina State Chapter - Alpha Gamma Chapter
Avery & Watauga Counties - Region IX**



President's Message

Everyone,

"It is not happy people who are thankful. It is thankful people who are happy."

This simple quote by an unknown author resonates with me as I move into this Thanksgiving week. 2020 has certainly been a doozy of a year, and brought with it many unforeseen challenges and heartaches. But, in the midst of these tough times, beautiful moments have arisen as well. I have heard numerous stories of kindness, heroism, and faith emerging out of difficult situations. It is tough to focus on the positives when we are surrounded by chaos, division, and isolation; yet, we can CHOOSE to be thankful for so many things we so easily take for granted. As we celebrate Thanksgiving this week - even perhaps in an unconventional setting - I challenge each of us to look for, acknowledge, and celebrate the many blessings we do have.

As I shared with you at our last meeting, I was afraid my Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma had returned, and I was driving to MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Texas for tests. I am pleased to say that my scans were clear, and the "swollen lymph node" observed by two local doctors was not even a node at all. Thank you for your thoughts and prayers. May your Thanksgiving be filled with good food, good health, good memories, and a long list of giving thanks. Blessings to you all!

Best Wishes,
Kim Shields
Co-President

Hospitality House - December 14, 2020

We will be serving a meal at the Hospitality House in Boone on December 14. Volunteers are needed to bring food, toiletries, paper goods, and blankets. More information and sign up for items at the document linked below:



[Hospitality House Holiday Meal Planner](#)

From the November Chapter Meeting


[November 1, 2020 - Chapter Meeting Minutes](#)

[Alpha Gamma Chapter Beginning Teachers Project](#) - Email Brenda or Kim to sign up

Click here to sign up to bring Refreshments

Click here to sign up to bring Door Prizes

April 1 April 23-25 May 6 July 7-10 July 21-24	<small>Watauga County</small> Travel Program, Avery Library NC DKG Convention, Asheville Crowne Plaza Ardi Resort Induction International Conference, Portland, OR International Conference, San Antonio, Texas
ALPHA GAMMA CHAPTER DATES	
NOV. 5	Watauga Board of Education Program by Nancy Gryder (New Inductee and LMC Professor)
DEC. 14	Hospitality House Service Project
JAN. TBD	Beginning Teachers Packing Party
FEB. 25	Zoom Meeting for Book Club
APR. 1	Travel Program Watauga County

 MARK THE DATES

docs.google.com

Chapter News

Nancy Gryder: Find the Try!

Nancy Gryder, who currently works with future teachers at Lees McRae College in Banner Elk, speaks to Alpha Gamma members at our November meeting. Nancy is well known in our area, not just for her work with future educators at Lees McRae, but also for the professional development she has provided in multiple schools in multiple counties in Western North Carolina. Nancy is a practical, realist who understands the real world challenges of teaching. She constantly offers strategies which teachers can modify and adapt to meet the needs of all learners. Listening to Nancy speak motivated all of us to be more patient and to, as she says, *Find the Try!*



Look High... Look Low... Then Nominate!

This is just a quick reminder from Susan Phipps and Keana Triplett, your Membership Committee Co-Chairs, to take a little time to consider outstanding women educators in Avery and Watauga Counties who would be excellent additions to our merry band. Remember, these educators do not need to be "traditional" teachers and administrators in our schools. They can be members of the community who

teach dance, music, healthy eating, exercise, senior seminars, pre-school children, nature classes, travel tips, etc.

All you need to do is think, think, think about all our talented educators and nominate anyone who would be an excellent addition to our growing chapter! Then send their name, email address, phone number and what they teach to [Susan](#) and/or [Keana](#) by January 1, 2021. We will make contact with each person nominated and set up an orientation date(s) when we can introduce them to DKG and find out if they would be interested in joining the chapter.

Happy searching!

New Teacher Goody Bags

Saturday, January 2, 2021 will be here before we can bat an eye! So this is a reminder that each of us needs to contact our wonderful local businesses to ask for gift cards or coupons or items for our now-famous New Teacher Goody Bags that we send out each January to beginning teachers who have likely run out of all kinds of supplies by that time of year. Actually, items do not need to be school-related. They can be anything a struggling young teacher might appreciate to help make ends meet. For example, we will include a gift card for a Bubbles Car Wash in each bag. Wendy's will donate food coupons. The list can go on and on. There are 32 bags to be loaded up this year and it would be wonderful to get that many items, gift cards, coupons, etc., but if a business can't do that many, no problem! Any number of items will be greatly appreciated and items can be mixed and matched to come out even. Let's fill our bags to overflowing! With your help, we can do it!

[Here is a letter to local businesses explaining the project that can be given to businesses for tax purposes.](#)

Book Study: Date Change

February 25 - 5:00 pm

Planning Committee Members Include:

Danielle Parker and Kristen Vann—Alpha Phi

Maggie Christenbury, Ala Sue Moretz, Adele Byrd,

Kim Shields, Brenda Reese—Alpha Gamma

After a joint Zoom planning meeting with Alpha Phi, our mentor chapter, the decision has been made to move our March meeting to one week earlier. This will allow Alpha Phi and Alpha Gamma to count this joint venture for Chapter Achievement which is due on March 1. We will have one joint chapter Zoom meeting on Thursday, February 25th at 5:00 pm. We will discuss the main themes of the book using the questions provided by Kristen Vann (Alpha Phi). The four themes to be discussed are: code shifting, apartheid, multiracial identities, and motherhood. Maggie Christenbury, Ala Sue Moretz, and Danielle Parker (Alpha Phi) will share PowerPoints with Kristen to combine into one slide deck. We will send out a synopsis of themes to be discussed to members (after a second planning meeting on January 19) so they can be thinking about them while they are reading the book. ***Alpha Gamma will stay online after the book discussion to conduct its business meeting.

Endowment Challenges

THANK YOU for meeting the challenges of Judith Carlson and Susan Phipps to raise additional funds for our Endowment!!! As of November 23, we have raised \$770 including the matching donations of \$150 from Judith Carlson and \$300 from Susan Phipps. These are our wonderful members who contributed to this project:

Maggie Christenbury
Ala Sue Moretz
Birgitta McGalliard
Brenda Reese
Sherri Hale
Carmen Scoggins
Hannah Reeder
Kim Shields
Leslie Howser
Barbara Perry-Sheldon
Susan McKay
Teresa Shadoin
Radie Armstrong
Nancy Henry
Sherry Nikbakht
Nancy Gryder
Pam Vesely
LeeAnn Williams
Amy Anderson
Diane Ward

A huge THANK YOU goes out to everyone who helped!

Venmo

As fewer and fewer members write checks, Venmo is being offered as an alternative. If you would like to make a payment toward the endowment, the Venmo account is @AlaSue-Moretz.

NC DKG Chapter Rules Review, 2019-2020

Congratulations! Alpha Gamma Chapter Rules, updated October 1, 2020, are in compliance with the Constitution, International Standing Rules and NC DKG Bylaws and Standing Rules. The NC DKG Rules Committee celebrates your excellent work. Thank you for keeping your chapter rules aligned with changes occurring in governing documents at the international and state levels. A copy of your current chapter rules will be filed with NC DKG State Organization.

The next statewide review will be in 2024. However, chapters are encouraged to submit rules to the state Rules Committee anytime changes are made, to keep an updated copy of your documents on file.

NC DKG Rules Committee

Thank You Email from Reserve Member Nancy Henry October 16, 2020

I have been going over again mail I received while I had company here. Now that the house is quiet I wanted to review both business and personal mail just in case I overlooked anything needing response. I am so impressed by all the worthwhile DKG information you have sent recently. No telling how long it may have taken to compile and address all those envelopes. Congratulations are in order for the awards for Chapter Achievement and personally for the Golden Key Award. You have worked diligently. I'm sorry that I have been on the sidelines lately through some medical problems, as I want

to keep up with sisters. I hope soon I can be active again. I did have a pleasant reunion with Judy Carlson. She has made an amazing recovery from her surgery. She is a determined lady.

Thank you for your dedication.

Nancy Henry

Birgitta McGalliard Publishes New Book

Across Borders Lives Changed, Birgitta's third book in the Gottlieb Family Saga, has just been published. It is available at [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com). Many of our newer members may not be aware that the first two books in the trilogy, ***Lives Divided: My Family Torn Apart by WW II and the Russian Gulag*** and ***Years Stolen, My Father's True Story***, were published in 2013 and 2017 respectively.



Birgitta is a retired foreign language teacher who shares her family's experiences before, during, and after World War II in her three remarkable books. In her lifetime she has had the opportunity to live in various countries including Austria, Sweden, Germany, Canada, and the United States. She brings a wealth of cultural knowledge to our Alpha Gamma Chapter as well as to The North Carolina Delta Kappa Gamma Society!

You can visit her online store at <http://www.booksbybirgitta.ecwid.com> to find out what the books are about. Birgitta will be more than happy to autograph copies at our next meeting if you would like to purchase any directly from her at the special price of \$15.00 reduced from the list price of \$18.95.

Appreciation for Service - Watauga County Board of Education

On Monday evening, November 9, Alpha Gamma Co-President, Brenda Reese, and Mr. Ron Henries are recognized at the Watauga County Board of Education meeting. Brenda has served for eight years and Mr. Henris has served for ten. Their plaques read: *In Appreciation for Your Many Years of Distinguished Service to Watauga County Schools and Years of Service on the Board of Education.*



Hannah Reeder: Academy at Middle Fork

Alpha Gamma members are excellent at multitasking and one of our newest members, Dr. Hannah Reeder, is a pro at this. She will be adding new responsibilities to her plate although she is not leaving her current position. For at least the next six months, Dr. Reeder will step in as the interim for Dr. Robin Groce's position at Appalachian State University's lab school in Winston Salem. Dr. Robin Groce, Assistant Dean for the Academy at Middle Fork, has made the decision to return to teaching in ASU's Reading and Special Education Department. Her move paved the way for Dr. Reeder's new opportunity!



Carmen Scoggins Receives Award

The ACTFL Florence Steiner Award for Leadership in Foreign Language Education (K-12) was recently awarded to Carmen Scoggins, a Spanish teacher at Watauga High School. It was given to her by ACTL (the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) which is the national foreign language organization. The committee looked at her overall service in the classroom and on the state, regional, and national levels. She is extremely humbled and honored!



The Buzzing BEE

Beginning Educator Excelling

Just as a Rose cannot grow with the BEE, educators cannot grow without outstanding support provided by fellow educators. DKG promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. The NC DKG Beginning Teacher Support Committee advocates for initially licensed teachers by identifying excellence, supporting their journey, and creating relationships in an effort to sustain and retain quality educators.



This month we would like to recognize **Shelby Hatton**, a 5th/6th grade teacher at Valle Crucis School in Watauga County. Shelby is a second year teacher. Last year she taught 6th grade math, and this year she is teaching 5th and 6th grade math to some of the largest classes at the school. Shelby is always willing to help wherever it is needed and works hard to meet the needs of her students.

With the unusual schedules and situations teachers are experiencing this year our members may need to get creative in how they can interact with and see our beginning teachers in action. Twitter, school and classroom newsletters, and FaceBook posts give us glimpses of what teaching looks in 2020 and how our young teachers accept the challenge! Be aware of their efforts and present them with a BEE Award to encourage them and let them know they are appreciated.

State News

Digital Badges Awarded, Award Applications Posted

Digital badges have been awarded for 2020 Chapter Achievement and were emailed the week of October 26 to chapter presidents who served during the 2018-2020 biennium. These can be used on chapter websites, social media, and publications. (Awards Committee Chair Donna Rudisill deserves our appreciation for her dedicated work.)

The applications and guidelines for Founders Award, Golden Key, and Rising Star are now available on the NC DKG website. Members can access these under the Forms tab. (Alpha Gamma members need to be thinking about who we wish to nominate for these awards this year.)

Motivational Stress Relief for Educators

Comedy is a perfect way to de-stress and unwind, so neighboring Tennessee State Organization (TNSO) is opening their last virtual Motivational Stress Relief session to NC DKG members. Brad Tassell, an award-winning comedian, author, speaker, and educator with a Masters Degree in Behavioral Sciences, will lead the 90 minutes of fun. His best-selling book *Don't Feed the Bully* is read by thousands of students each year. His last session will be held Tuesday, December 1, at 8:00 p.m. Registration is free. Learn more on the TNSO website.

Eta Data

November 15, 2020

International Website: <https://www.dkg.org>

NC DKG Website: <https://www.ncdkg.org>

DATES TO PLACE ON YOUR CALENDAR

Convention Dates

April 23-25, 2021 — NC DKG Convention, Asheville Crowne Plaza and Resort

July 7-10, 2021 — International Conference, Portland, OR

July 21-24, 2021 — International Conference, San Antonio, TX

July 28-31, 2021 — International Conference, Tampere, Finland

July 12-16, 2022 — International Convention, New Orleans, LA

International News

Trio of Choices for 2021 International Conferences

Annie Webb Blanton's vision for our Society will come alive at three international conferences in July 2021. Plans are underway for the events in Portland, Oregon (July 7-10); San Antonio, Texas (July 21-24); and Tampere, Finland (July 28-31). The two conferences in the United States will celebrate the benefits realized by members through DKG: Opportunities, Contributions, and Impact. The conference in Europe will focus on the theme Well-being and Sustainability in our Changing World.

Members are eligible and welcome to attend any or all of these conferences! Check the DKG website for the most current information, including applications to present, which are due by January 8, 2021. See page 5 for a link to these applications!

Designing DKG

The Strategic Plan is the road map for DKG. The Strategic Plan includes four broad goals designed to strengthen the Society by improving the DKG experience for members: Support Members, Provide Global Opportunities, Develop Leaders, and Build Resources.

In August 2020, the Administrative Board's Strategic Plan Committee, the society mechanics, closely analyzed the Strategic plan and aligned the goals, initiatives, and objectives with Society work.

In 2020, implementation of the DKG Strategic Plan will be new, different, and both challenging and exciting.

Destinations can be reached via a variety of routes.

***This is a great reminder for us to review Alpha Gamma's Strategic Plan again this spring.

DKG News

Nov/Dec 2020

INTERNATIONAL DEADLINES

November 1

DKGIEF Cornetet CSPD applications

November 10

SOPs to request an international speaker from International Speakers Fund

November 15

U.S. Treasurers to le IRS 990

December 15

Bulletin: Collegial Exchange submissions

January 3

DKGIEF Cornetet CIPD applications

January 15

Submission window opens for Spring Fine Arts Gallery



Technology Corner

Connect to DKG International on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#). You can also connect to DKG Alpha Gamma Chapter on [Facebook](#). The DKG Alpha Gamma website is [linked here](#).

DKG - Alpha Gamma Chapter Information

[Alpha Gamma Dates 2020-2021](#)

[State and International Dates 2020-2021](#)

[Alpha Gamma Birthday List](#)

NC DKG State Contacts

International Website: www.dkg.org

NC DKG State Website: www.ncdkg.org

Region IX Director [Dr. Susan Blackburn](#), Delta Chi

ALPHA GAMMA OFFICERS

Co-President - [Brenda Reese](#)

Co-President - [Kim Shields](#)

Vice President - [Adele Byrd](#)

Secretary - [Melanie McLeod](#)

Treasurer - [Ala Sue Moretz](#)

Editor - [Sherri Hale](#)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS/MENTEES

[Click here for a list of our current committees and chairs.](#)

Newsletter

Information for the newsletter can be sent to Brenda Reese or Sherri Hale.