

# Peaks & Plains



Colorado Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Volume 79

Spring 2024

Number 2

Mark your calendars! June 3-5, 2024 is coming soon and you won't want to miss the Colorado DKG Summer Leadership Conference. Your state leadership team has been working hard finding the best speakers and most interesting workshops. There will be lots of great fellowship, good food, door prizes, and LEARNING! The conference will be held at the United Firestone Power Facility in Firestone, Colorado. Keep checking the website for the registration and agenda, which will be coming soon.



**IMPORTANT!!**

**PLEASE READ!!**

**STATE PERSONNEL APPLICATIONS ARE  
INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE.**

Smile in trouble, gather strength from distress, and grow brave by reflection.

*Thomas Paine*



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## Omega State Officers

2023-2025

**President - Dr. Maxine Fawcett-Yeske**

**1st Vice President - Maggi Johnson**

**2nd co-Vice Presidents - Paulette Evans  
Deutsch/Karen Libby**

**Recording Secretary - Nancy Pierce**

**Corresponding Secretary - Memory  
Wollenweber**

**Executive Secretary - Cynthia Mousel**

**Treasurer - Lilly Vigil**

**Parliamentarian - Memory Wollenweber**

**Editor - Juana Hajek**

**Webmaster - Heidi Ragsdale**

**Archivist - Kathy Flynn**

**Immediate Past President - Suzanne  
Foster**



## White Roses of Remembrance



### REMINDER FOR CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

It is very important that each death of a member be reported as soon as possible on **Form 6 for Death of a Member**. Please work with your membership team leaders to promptly report to all three of the following:

1. **International Membership Services:**  
[mem@dkg.org](mailto:mem@dkg.org)
2. **Omega State Membership Team Leaders:**

**Kelly McGuire:**

[mcguire\\_maureen@yahoo.com](mailto:mcguire_maureen@yahoo.com)

**Farabe Smith:** [farabes1@gmail.com](mailto:farabes1@gmail.com)

3. **Omega State Treasurer: Lilly Vigil:**  
[cmcer1@msn.com](mailto:cmcer1@msn.com)

**The form is interactive online and is available on both the state and international websites. Names will not be listed in the White Roses unless the form 6 is submitted.**

## Team Updates

### Membership Team

The membership team had another ZOOM meeting in April and welcomed several new members. Co-leader Kelly McGuire showed members the presentation that we are planning to give at the summer leadership conference. Please be sure to read the Avenue M Report from International, which can be found here:

[https://www.dkg.org/DKGSIOther%20Rotator/Avenue\\_M\\_Report.aspx?WebsiteKey=4f6c23eb-36e1-4557-aba5-169aa0735a47](https://www.dkg.org/DKGSIOther%20Rotator/Avenue_M_Report.aspx?WebsiteKey=4f6c23eb-36e1-4557-aba5-169aa0735a47)

The membership team is also working diligently on certificates of recognition for those members who had significant anniversaries (10 years or more). We definitely had a great many members who celebrated milestones in DKG during the past two years! Please plan to bring your ideas for attracting new members to the leadership conference coming up in June.

*Submitted by Juana Hajek*

### Education Law and Policy Team

The ELP Team studies and recommends action supporting desirable legislation in the interest of education and women educators. Our team would like to inform, stimulate, and encourage participation of educational issues for individuals, or chapter research as Colorado state and local elections become ever important. As Colorado DKG members, let's pursue legislative knowledge. The following are websites that provide resources used by our team and facilitate ELP purposes. Included is the DKG US Forum website.

#### HELPFUL WEBSITES

<http://leg.colorado.gov> Your go to place researching all aspects of Colorado General Assembly legislative information. One can study specific bills, to include their action and sponsors.

<http://www.cde.state.co.us> Your site for specifics pertaining to educator information in Colorado.

A teacher focused Newsletter within the CDE, **THE SPARK**, is filled with Information and inspiration for Colorado Teachers. To Find **THE SPARK** on the CDE website, Click Educators, scroll down to blue rectangle; one can find State Board of Education info with this Newsletter.

<http://www.coloradoea.org> Colorado Education Association.

<http://lwvcolorado.org> League of Women Voters site.

<http://ballottrax.coloradosos.gov/voter/> Track your mail ballot, can update your voter registration.

<http://www.vote411.org> Another site for voter information and voter registration.

<http://www.coloradoinitiative.org/projects/ai-in-colorado-education> new website in conjunction with Colorado Initiative Organization focused on supporting AI in schools.

<http://www.@chalkbeat.org/colorado/> Current Colorado educational news and issues, first-person stories, analysis, and updates. One can sign up for a newsletter.

<http://dkgusforum.org> Identifying major federal educational issues affecting women, children, & education in which United States DKG members may act.

### **CONTACTING OUR COLORADO LEGISLATORS**

To email most Senators: first name.last [name.senate@coleg.gov](mailto:name.senate@coleg.gov) unless otherwise noted after their name.

Similar for Representative: first name.last [name.house@coleg.gov](mailto:name.house@coleg.gov) unless otherwise noted after their name.

The Capital mailing address for a senator or representative is:

Name of Legislator  
200 East Colfax Avenue  
Rm 346 (Senate) Rm 307 (House)  
Denver, CO 80203

### **Suggestions and what to include in a written letter or email to a legislator:**

- 1) Your name and some information about yourself.
- 2) Why you support or oppose a bill (with number and name of bill).
- 3) Why the issue is important to you, your family, or your community.
- 4) Include how you would want your legislator/representative to vote on the issue.
- 5) Sign your name, Print your name, include your address

### **Watch and/or listen to the Senate and House in Action:**

<http://www.coloradochannel.net>

Comcast Channel 165

### **ELP Committee Members:**

Maggie Hunt, Eta, Team Lead, [rac96@earthlink.net](mailto:rac96@earthlink.net); Alice Murphy, Chi; Nance Pierce, Chi; Sarah Jack, Beta US Forum Team, Kathy Hall, Alpha Chi, Team Lead

*Submitted by Maggie Hunt*

## Star Chapter Awards

Just a friendly reminder for you to be working on filling out the Star Chapter award form. The year is going by so very fast. I'm sure your chapter has done some exciting things this year. I would love to hear about it. The form can be found on the state website at [dkgcolorado.com](http://dkgcolorado.com) in two formats. You could fill it out on line or mail it to me before the conference. The due date is Saturday June 1st. Thank you ahead of time for participating in this program.

*Submitted by Karen Eilenstine*

## Chapter Happenings

### Rho

It has been challenging to get together due to inclement weather! Thankfully, we were able to meet in both March and April. Our March meeting was our annual combined meeting with Eta Chapter. Our combined meeting is always a highlight of the year and this year was no exception. Our sisters from Eta arranged for the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo Mobile to be at the meeting! Elli Kuhn, Adventure Mentor, and Charlotte Greene, Docent, brought several interesting animals for members to check out.



There was a chinchilla, a tortoise, a millipede, and a snake. The millipede seemed to be the hit of the day with everyone having the opportunity to let it crawl across a hand. We learned about the animals' habitats, what they eat, and about whether they were endangered or not. This was a great way to learn about those animals.



Elli Kuhn, left and Charlotte Greene, right

Rho chapter also met on April 13th at the Miami Yoder School in the library. Mary Richert's son David Richert gave us a presentation about AI (Artificial Intelligence).



David Richert

The presentation was simply an introduction to AI and David showed members some of the uses for AI in education. Several of our members have used it for making lesson plans and rubrics. We even got to see AI write a letter that could be sent to prospective members! It was an eye-opening presentation.

*Submitted by Juana Hajek*

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## **IMPORTANT: Editor Update**

Don't forget about the new email for Peaks and Plains! It is [coloradodkgpeaksandplains@gmail.com](mailto:coloradodkgpeaksandplains@gmail.com). Please use THIS email for Peaks & Plains articles. Need to reach your editor? You may contact me personally at the following: Phone: 719-775-6630

Submission deadlines are **February 1st, April 1st, and September 1st.**

*Submitted by Juana Hajek, Editor*

## **Mark Your Calendars!**

### **Summer Leadership Conference**

**June 3-5, 2024**

**United Power Facility**

**Firestone, Colorado**

### **International Events**

**International Convention, Maryland 2024**

## MY Librarian

One of the books that I recently shared with my middle school students is one that came to my attention due to some recent news stories in Colorado and in the nation. Several years ago, the state of Colorado began requiring schools with mascots depicting Native American tribes to get permission to continue using those mascots or to change their mascot. This ruling affected two schools on the Eastern Plains; the Kiowa Indians and the Arickaree Indians. Both schools wrote letters asking permission to continue to keep their school mascots. The Kiowa Indians heard back from the Kiowa Nation and were granted permission to keep the Indian mascot. Arickaree school did not hear back from the Arickaree Nation and were required to change the mascot of their school. They have now become the Arickaree Buffaloes.

When I saw the book *Mascot* by Charles Waters and Traci Sorell, I knew that it was one that we needed in our school library. The book takes place in Rye, Virginia, which is located just outside Washington, D.C. The town, like many towns across the nation, is heavily invested in football. In examining the front cover of the book, we can see two feathers and part of a tomahawk, so we can infer that the school mascot is a depiction of a Native American.

Callie Crossland is a new student at Rye who just happens to be a citizen of the Cherokee Nation and African American. She is horrified to see the mural that has pride of place at the school, and by the “stupid tomahawk-chop chant” that is used at the pep rally before the weekly football game. Not only are those two things offensive to Callie, but so is the “cheap

chicken-feather headdress” that is worn to games by the school mascot. After Callie expresses her opinion, eighth grade teacher Ms. Williams assigns a persuasive writing/oration project entitled “Pros and Cons of Indigenous Peoples as Mascots.” Some of the students believe that the mascot IS racist and should be changed. Some, however, believe that the choice of mascot is not a big deal and should remain the same.

I chose this book because of the highly relevant content. I love books that make me think, and that make my students think (hopefully). This one is written in verse, which is also a plus, since books that are in verse don't seem nearly so threatening to reluctant readers. This one is definitely on my TBR list!

*Submitted by Juana Hajek*

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# Mission Statement

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

## Vision

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education  
Worldwide

## Society Purposes

- To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship
- To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education
- To advance the professional interest and position of women in education
- To initiate, endorse, and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators
- To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to women educators from other countries
- To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action
- To inform the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

## Colorado Peaks & Plains

Published three times a year in February, April, and September, by the Omega State

Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Deadlines for inclusion of articles in the Peaks & Plains are as follows:

- **FEBRUARY 1**
- **APRIL 1**
- **SEPTEMBER 1**
- **Contributors to the newsletter are asked to send news as soon as it is available to ensure inclusion in the next issue to:**

Juana Hajek, 24886 County Road 2L Hugo, Colorado 80821

or [coloradodkgpeaksandplains@gmail.com](mailto:coloradodkgpeaksandplains@gmail.com)

**For email submissions, please list Peaks & Plains as the subject.**

**Send address and email changes to:**

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

12710 Research Blvd Ste 230

Austin, TX 78759-4395

or [mem@dkg.org](mailto:mem@dkg.org)

[Colorado Peaks & Plains Submission Guidelines](#)

1. Each individual article should be a **maximum** of 300 words. The purpose is to have room to make the newsletter a statewide representation of as many chapters as possible.
2. Two photos **maximum**, per article. Photos must include a clear description and name identification of each person in said photos.
3. Additional photos/videos should be submitted to our webmaster Heidi Ragsdale at

STEMisMyFuture@gmail.com to be used in a slideshow on the website.

4. Members are encouraged to send photos for this slideshow.
5. Submit basic word processed documents - do not heavily format your submission as it will not translate to the column style of the newsletter. **Please do NOT send submissions in PDF. PDF submissions cannot be formatted correctly for inclusion.**
6. Communicate clearly with the newsletter editor if you want your submission formatted in a specific way.
7. Some suggestions for submissions to *Colorado Peaks & Plains*:
  - New chapter member bios/photos
  - Chapter awards given to members
  - Special chapter projects and/or presentations

- Programs given at the chapter level
- Scholarships or other awards given to student teachers, first-year teachers, or community members.

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Colorado State Organization

Application for State Executive Secretary  
**Due May 1, 2024**

**Professional Personnel Position: State Executive Secretary**

Year of initiation:

List any experience that you have had in managing technology for others:

Membership in DKG (10 pts)

(1) List the current position(s) or office(s) that you currently hold in **your chapter** and in 2-3 sentences, write a summary of what you have brought to each position(s) or office(s):



**Chapter President's** brief response and signature (you may attach a hard copy to this document or Google Doc. Title the attachment, Treasurer: Chapter President's response and signature.

If you are the current State Executive Secretary, you may not actually hold an office or position at the chapter level. This item may be a description of how your work at the State level adds value to your attendance and participation at the chapter level.

#### Activity in DKG

(2) List the current position(s) or office(s) that you currently hold in the **Colorado State Organization** and in 2-3 sentences, write a summary of what you have brought to each position(s) or office(s):

**State President, First Vice, or Second Vice President's** brief response and signature (you may attach a hard copy to this document or Google Doc. Title the attachment, State President, First Vice, or Second Vice President's response and signature.

(3) List any Delta Kappa Society **International** position or office that you currently hold:

#### (4)Evidence of Abilities

In order to fulfill the responsibilities of State Executive Secretary, you will need strengths and abilities in the following areas. In a short response for each, give specific examples and evidence that you are prepared to fulfill the requirements of Colorado State Treasurer.

Preparing and Planning:

Facilitating:

Communicating:

Consulting:

(5) To finish your application, include any documentation that you believe will make your application stronger or clearer.

#### Self-Inventory of Leadership Dispositions

(6) Please reflect on the following Leadership Positions and identify each disposition with the following mark: a plus sign for dispositions that are a strength for you and a check mark for dispositions that are something that you would be willing to work on during your time in this position.

I am willing to:

- Practice positive people and networking skills
- Grow in my leadership skills
- Attend most State and International Meetings (training sessions)
- Develop new relationships with members and chapters

- Support the 7 DKG Purposes, International DKG policies, and the vision of the current Colorado State Executive Team
- Self-evaluate leadership and current technical skills and practices
- Ask for and review suggestions of teams and members
- Support a collaborative planning and working environment
- Work independently when needed
- Practice strong and efficient organizational skills and time management
- Meet deadlines and respect the time of others
- Develop a good relationship with event location staff and providers

Please send your application by first-class, Google Docs, or by email. Number and identify each page with your name.

Applications will be reviewed, and a decision will be made by June 1, 2024. The nominee will be recommended to the State Executive Team for a vote of confidence at the State Leadership Conference.

Team Leader: Dr. Sue L. Pettit  
[slpettitdkg@gmail.com](mailto:slpettitdkg@gmail.com)  
 719-423-9600

Team Members: Beth Barzdukas, Suzanne Foster, and Dr. Vangie Sena (team consultant)  
 Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
 Colorado State Organization

**Application for Treasurer**  
**Due May 1, 2024**

**Professional Personnel Position: Treasurer**

Background

Name:

Chapter Name:

Year of initiation:

List any experience that you have had in accounting:

Membership in DKG (10 pts)

(1) List the current position(s) or office(s) that you currently hold in **your chapter** and in 2-3 sentences, write a summary of what you have brought to each position(s) or office(s):

**Chapter President's** brief response and signature (you may attach a hard copy to this document or Google Doc. Title the attachment, Treasurer: Chapter President's response and signature.

If you are the current Colorado State Treasurer, you may not actually hold an office or position at the chapter level. This item may be a description of how your work at the State level adds value to your attendance and participation at the chapter level.

**Activity in DKG**

(2) List the current position(s) or office(s) that you currently hold in **your Colorado State Organization** and in 2-3 sentences, write a summary of what you have brought to each position(s) or office(s):

**State President, First Vice, or Second Vice President's** brief response and signature (you may attach a hard copy to this document or Google Doc. Title the attachment, State President, First Vice, or Second Vice President's response and signature.

(3) List any Delta Kappa Society **International** position or office that you currently hold:

**(4)Evidence of Abilities**

In order to fulfill the responsibilities of State Treasurer, you will need strengths and abilities in the following areas. In a short response for each, give specific examples and evidence that you are prepared to fulfill the requirements of Colorado State Treasurer.

Preparing and Planning:

Accounting:

Communicating/Responding to Chapters, the Executive Team, and Members:

Forms, Reports, and Reporting:

Training and Teaching State Members:

(5) To finish your application, include any documentation that you believe will make your application stronger or clearer.

#### Self-Inventory of Leadership Dispositions

(6) Please reflect on the following Leadership Positions and identify each disposition with the following mark: a plus sign for dispositions that are a strength for you and a check mark for

dispositions that are something that you would be willing to work on during your time in this position.

I am willing to:

- Practice positive people and networking skills
- Grow in my leadership skills
- Attend most State and International Meetings (training sessions)
- Develop new relationships with members and chapters
- Support the 7 DKG Purposes, International DKG policies, and the vision of the current Colorado State Executive Team
- Self-evaluate leadership and current technical skills and practices
- Ask for and review suggestions of teams and members
- Support a collaborative planning and working environment
- Work independently when needed
- Practice strong and efficient organizational skills and time management
- Meet deadlines and respect the time of others
- Develop a good relationship with event location staff and providers

Please send your application by first-class, Google Docs, or by email. Number and identify each page with your name. The application will be

Applications will be reviewed, and a decision will be made by June 1, 2024. The nominee will be recommended to the State Executive Team for a vote of confidence at the State Leadership Conference.

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[slpettitdkg@gmail.com](mailto:slpettitdkg@gmail.com)

719-423-9600

Team Members: Beth Barzdukas, Suzanne Foster, and Dr. Vangie Sena (team consultant)

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Colorado State Organization

Application for Webmaster  
**Due May 1, 2024**

**Professional Personnel Position: Webmaster**

Background

Name:

Chapter Name:

Year of initiation:

List any experience that you have had in managing technology for others:

Membership in DKG (10 pts)

(1) List the current position(s) or office(s) that you currently hold in **your chapter** and in 2-3 sentences, write a summary of what you have brought to each position(s) or office(s):

**Chapter President's** brief response and signature (you may attach a hard copy to this document or Google Doc. Title the attachment, Treasurer: Chapter President's response and signature.

If you are the current Colorado State Webmaster, you may not actually hold an office or position at the chapter level. This item may be a description of how your work at the State level adds value to your attendance and participation at the chapter level.

Activity in DKG

(2) List the current position(s) or office(s) that you currently hold in the **Colorado State Organization** and in 2-3 sentences, write a summary of what you have brought to each position(s) or office(s):

**State President, First Vice, or Second Vice President's** brief response and signature (you may attach a hard copy to this document or Google Doc. Title the attachment, State President, First Vice, or Second Vice President's response and signature.

(3) List any Delta Kappa Society **International** position or office that you currently hold:



#### (4) Evidence of Abilities

In order to fulfill the responsibilities of StateWebmaster,, you will need strengths and abilities in the following areas. In a short response for each, give specific examples and evidence that you are prepared to fulfill the requirements of Colorado State Treasurer.

Marketing:

Communication:

Building Content:

Teaching State Members:

(5) To finish your application, include any documentation that you believe will make your application stronger or clearer.

#### Self-Inventory of Leadership Dispositions

(6) Please reflect on the following Leadership Positions and identify each disposition with the following mark: a plus sign for dispositions that are a strength for you and a check mark for dispositions that are something that you would be willing to work on during your time in this position.

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- Grow in my leadership skills
- Attend most State and International Meetings (training sessions)
- Develop new relationships with members and chapters

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- Self-evaluate leadership and current technical skills and practices
- Ask for and review suggestions of teams and members
- Support a collaborative planning and working environment
- Work independently when needed
- Practice strong and efficient organizational skills and time management
- Meet deadlines and respect the time of others
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 719-423-9600

Team Members: Beth Barzdukas, Suzanne Foster, and Dr. Vangie Sena (team consultant)

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
 Colorado State Organization

**Application for Editor**  
**Due May 1, 2024**

**Professional Personnel Position: Editor of the Peaks and Plains**

Background

Name:

Chapter Name:

Year of initiation:

List any experience that you have had in managing technology for others:

Membership in DKG (10 pts)

(1) List the current position(s) or office(s) that you currently hold in **your chapter** and in 2-3 sentences, write a summary of what you have brought to each position(s) or office(s):

**Chapter President's** brief response and signature (you may attach a hard copy to this document or Google Doc. Title the attachment, Treasurer: Chapter President's response and signature.

If you are the current State Editor, you may not actually hold an office or position at the chapter level. This item may be a description of how your work at the State level adds value to your attendance and participation at the chapter level.

Activity in DKG

(2) List the current position(s) or office(s) that you currently hold in the **Colorado State Organization** and in 2-3 sentences, write a summary of what you have brought to each position(s) or office(s):

**State President, First Vice, or Second Vice President's** brief response and signature (you may attach a hard copy to this document or Google Doc. Title the attachment, State President, First Vice, or Second Vice President's response and signature.

(3) List any Delta Kappa Society **International** position or office that you currently hold:

#### (4) Evidence of Abilities

In order to fulfill the responsibilities of State Executive Secretary, you will need strengths and abilities in the following areas. In a short response for each, give specific examples and evidence that you are prepared to fulfill the requirements of Colorado State Treasurer.

Marketing:

Communication and Feedback

Building Content:

Publishing:

(5) To finish your application, include any documentation that you believe will make your application stronger or clearer.

#### Self-Inventory of Leadership Dispositions

(6) Please reflect on the following Leadership Positions and identify each disposition with the following mark: a plus sign for dispositions that are a strength for you and a check mark for dispositions that are something that you would be willing to work on during your time in this position.

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