

Beta Kappa Bits

Back to School Edition
August 2019



Mission statement: The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.



President's Message

Dear Members,

There have been some major changes to Delta Kappa Gamma. A new member can join at any time in the year. An induction will be done at a time of choice. This is an opportunity to invite potential members to all our meetings. Treasurer Andrea has the information on how financials will be handled.

Our DKG International logo is: **Anywhere IS Home: Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide**. Please invite your teacher friend(s) to join you as a leading woman educator. We begin our second year with two co-presidents. At our planning meeting, we made decisions about what is important to our Beta Kappa chapter. It was like no planning meeting ever!! We will be doing things differently. We have deep friendships among our membership. We will strive to improve education and meet the needs of our membership.

Teresa Brown
Carla Caldwell
Co-Presidents



Next Month.....at our Beta Kappa Meeting

Tuesday, October 1, our **Silent Auction** will be at Church Street Church of Christ in Lewisburg at 6 p.m. Soup and sandwiches will be served!! Bring a guest if you want to, it is sure to be a great auction with lots of items and fun for everyone! This would even be a great time to invite someone that you think might like to join our membership. We haven't had new members in a couple of years, so be thinking!!!

Calendar of Upcoming Events and Activities

September 7, 2019 **Tennessee State Committee Planning**, Madison, TN
October 1, 6 pm **Beta Kappa Meeting**, Church Street Church of Christ Lewisburg, Silent Auction
January 16, 6 pm **Beta Kappa Meeting**, Book Talk Night, each county meets at their public library
March 3, 6 pm **Beta Kappa Meeting**, Cahoots in Fayetteville, Women's Suffrage presentation
April 30, 6 pm **Beta Kappa Planning Meeting**, Mildred Scott Building, Petersburg (executive board at 5 pm)
June 4-6 2020 **This is the 85th TN State Organization Convention, University of the South at Sewanee**
July 7-11 2020 **DKG International Convention**, Philadelphia, PA

Deadlines to Remember

DKG dues will be collected in the Spring each year before we break for summer due to the new state guidelines.

Legislative/Education News

Tennessee is making some progress in teacher salaries. Although more can be achieved, we are headed in the right direction. "For the first time, Tennessee teachers have a higher average salary than Alabama, going from 39th to 35th in state rankings." (TEACH, Vol. 51, Issue 1)

Community and/or School News and Events

Schools in both counties are now back in session! Sept 3rd is the next Lincoln Co School Board Meeting, Sept 16th is the next Marshall Co School Board meeting and Fayetteville City Schools meeting will be Sept 2nd.

Wishing all our teachers and students a GREAT school year!!!



DKG and/or Beta Kappa News

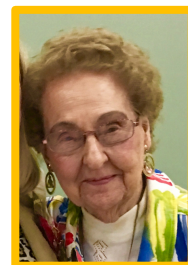
Teresa Brown will be on the DKG State Program Committee for this biennium and **Meri Bigham** will serve on the State Communications Committee.

Cecelia Johnson attended the DKG International Arts and Humanities Conference in Asheville, North Carolina on June 28, 2019. She attended informative sessions as well as creative experiences, and she heard dynamic speakers. "Attending the conference was akin to going to revival. I'm excited about what's happening in DKG," she shared with other participants.

The Leadership Management Seminar sponsored by DKG International has a new name, a new curriculum, and a new online application. Check out **DKG Ignite**, the one week program that will accept twenty participants from throughout the Society to examine current trends in leadership. Complete information and applications are now available on the International website. DKG Educational Foundation provides funding for educational projects, Cornet Individual Professional Development activities and Cornet Seminars for state organizations for DKG members and non-members. The Foundation has launched a new fundraising campaign, **DKG Luminary**, as contributions of any amount give light to the Society vision: *Leading women educators impacting education worldwide*. Any DKG member who contributes \$1,000 or more between June 1, 2019, and June 1, 2020, to DKG Educational Foundation will be designated as a "DKG Founding Luminary." A member's contributions for any amount after June 1, 2019, will be recorded and when her contributions to the foundation reach \$1,000, she will be designated as a "DKG Luminary."

Chapter Members / Lincoln and Marshall County News

Congratulations to **Mrs. Erline Patrick** on her 98th birthday as well as her 50th year as a DKG member! Erline is a charter member of Beta Kappa Chapter, Beta Kappa's first president and our longest standing member. She has been a mentor to many and she is an inspiration to us all! We wish her a wonderful birthday and a happy and healthy year ahead!



Erline Patrick

Beta Kappa member **Melanie Laten** has been busy making Fayetteville, TN a better place to live by writing a grant for Creative Placement. The project is a vision to create an enormous mural on the back side of the west side of the Fayetteville square. It will be visible as people are coming up from Highway 64 west to the square. Melanie already has over 100 hours invested in grant writing, fundraising, and painting of the mural. The mural is being done on a flat surface at the Fayetteville Art Center by local artists. The finished panels will be assembled and installed in September. The mural will tell the history of the Fayetteville square for the past 100 years. Maybe you remember the Green Frog or people getting on the bus at the corner. The long range plan is to make the back side a park area with this lovely mural reminding us of local history.



Melanie Laten

In June, Melanie held Special Needs Art Camp. There were 3 groups a day with music, art, dance, movement, and snack. At the end of Art Camp there was an art show and performance. Parents of these art campers were appreciative because this is an activity that is not available to special needs groups. As leading women educators, we recognize the work of Melanie Laten impacting education.

This fall Melanie will be traveling to the Atlanta area to help her daughter with the birth of her twins. We send our love to this family. Melanie will be an amazing grandmother. Congratulations on all the good things you have accomplished. Melanie is the definition of a leading educator. (thanks so much to Teresa Brown for providing this information)

Gay Brunson is slowly improving from the chemotherapy and bone marrow transplant earlier this summer. She is now at home in Fayetteville. Her appetite is improving, she is still weak but doing better. Gay said that she looks forward to when she will be able to be back with us. Please continue to keep Gay in your thoughts and prayers as she recovers.

Andrea Hardison attended the very informative Dyslexia Summit this summer. **Jan Salsman** at Cornersville Elementary is enjoying her move to third grade math.

In June, **Emily Gordon** accompanied the youth group at her church along with a larger church on a Mission Trip to the Ducktown/Copperbasin area in Polk County in East Tennessee. Emily said that the experience was humbling and eye-opening.

Betty Woodford's granddaughter, Mallory Neal, received her MBA from Belmont University on August 9 and already has a job beginning August 19. Betty and family are so proud of Mallory and we all wish her the very best as she begins her career!



Dr. Beverly Hall

Dr. Beverly Hall is the new TN State Organization President, 2019-2021. You may remember that Beverly was our area-wide director just a few years ago. We congratulate Beverly and look forward to her enthusiasm, leadership ability, and wonderful smile as she leads our state organization!

Our VI Area-wide Director for this biennium is **Joan Howell**. Joan lives in Murfreesboro and is president of her chapter, Beta Epsilon. She looks forward to visiting with the area VI chapters and being a resource for area VI chapters.



In Memoriam....

Margaret Dowell Curtis, 91, died on July 2, 2019. She taught in Lincoln County Schools for 31 years, and she engaged in church, community and family activities, giving generously of her time, finances, and wisdom. Margaret was inducted into Beta Kappa in 1980 and was an active member until her health forbade her to participate. She was a reserve member at the time of her passing. Because of Margaret's regard for DKG, the family recognized the members of DKG as honorary floral bearers at her memorial service. The family requests that memorial donations be made to the Fayetteville-Lincoln County Public Library for children's books, and/or to the Alzheimer's Association.

Maxine Bentle Petty, 95, of Lewisburg, died August 3, 2019. Mrs. Petty taught elementary school in the Marshall County School System for 42 years. She became a member of Phi Chapter in 1973. She was a charter member of Beta Kappa Chapter and was an active member for many years until 1997. Donations may be made to Marshall County Retired Teachers Association or First Baptist Church Building Fund, Lewisburg.

