

ETA News & Notes

UPSTOWN STATE Ames/Story County

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Donna Niday, ETA Chapter President

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

Volume 49

February 2025

Number 5

President's Column

Hi Eta Members,

Happy Valentine's Day! I hope you are keeping warm through our snowy and cold days and that you are feeling warm-hearted in the spirit of love.

Postponed Galentine's Lunch: The weather forecasts for Saturday vary from 3"-6" of snow, so we are going to postpone our Galentine's lunch. During next Tuesday's meeting we will decide upon a new date.

Tuesday's Zoom Meeting: Tuesday's weather forecast shows that at our meeting time of 6:30 p.m., the temperature is expected to be around zero degrees—brrr! I don't want members driving during such cold temperatures, so we will move the meeting to be on Zoom. Rhonda Schmaltz will send us a Zoom link before next Tuesday.

- The programs for the February and March meetings are going to be switched to meet the needs of the speakers. Our meeting for Tuesday night will feature Jane Esterly talking about "Unlocking Brain Fitness." Hopefully, we can learn on a cold night how to fire up our brains! Thanks to Judy Dahlke for setting up our programs.
- Our roll call for Tuesday night's Zoom meeting will be showing us something that is red in your household. (I'm borrowing this idea from the Des Moines Tau chapter.)
- For the second half of this chapter's year, we are sharing teacher stories called Sprinkle Stories during our meetings. I shared a story in January about Dr. Carolyn Rants' predicament when some of her college students started yelling profanities at the other team's players and how Carolyn responded. I'll have another sprinkle story ready for Tuesday, but any member may share a teacher story. Think about it!
- An agenda and the treasurer's report for Tuesday night's meeting are provided after the President's Column. The minutes will be sent separately.

Congratulations: Good news! Di Claus received a letter from the state Educational Excellence Committee (EEC) stating that Eta Chapter is the recipient of a \$100 grant for our project of helping the Educational Assistants (EAs) at Northwood Preschool to obtain their substitute authorization. (The letter is below after the treasurer's report.) Thanks to Shaeley Santiago for

bringing this need to our chapter's attention and thanks to Di Claus and her committee of Sally Beisser, Ann Lee, and Shaeley Santiago for composing the state grant. One requirement of receiving the grant is that our chapter needs to give a presentation at the state conference. Di and her committee members can provide more information at Tuesday's meeting.

Legislative Day: The Iowa DKG Legislative Day has been moved to Wednesday, Feb. 28 since members requested that we meet with legislators prior to the consideration of major education bills. I will plan to drive (unless we have challenging weather), so any members may ride with me. A registration form is attached. The due date is this Saturday, Feb. 16, but I'm sure that you could register next week after our meeting.

State Convention: Our state convention will be Friday, June 6-Saturday, June 7 at the Marriott Hotel in West Des Moines. All chapters are encouraged to provide a gift basket of \$50 which will be used for state expenses, so at Tuesday's meeting we can set up a committee to create our gift basket. A convention registration is attached.

Leadership Opportunity: Please consider participating in the Neva Barnhart Leadership Seminar, which follows the state convention on June 8-9. The \$200 per participant cost is covered with \$100 by the chapter and \$100 by the individual member. Rhonda Schmaltz participated in the last seminar, so please direct any questions to Rhonda. An application form is attached.

I'll look forward to seeing your faces on Zoom on Tuesday night!

Donna

Items Below:

- February agenda
- February treasurer's report
- State EEC letter with congratulations on our \$100 grant
- Legislative Day registration
- State convention registration
- Neva Barnhart Leadership Seminar registration

Eta Agenda for Tuesday, Feb. 18, 6:30 p.m., Zoom

Program: Jane Esterly will talk about “Unlocking Brain Fitness.”

- I. Call to order
- II. Approval of agenda
- III. Secretary’s report: Vickie Unferth
 - A. Roll call: Since our meeting follows Valentine’s Day, show us something “red”
in your house (idea borrowed from the Tau chapter)
 - B. Minutes for approval
 - C. Correspondence (Vickie or Ann Lee)
- IV. Treasurer’s report: Rhonda Schmaltz
- V. Standing committees’ reports
 - A. Program (upcoming March speaker): Judy Dahlke
 - B. Social Committee (report on Turkish baking and decision on date for Galentine’s Day): Social Committee
 - C. Legislative Committee: Charli Hanway
- VI. Unfinished business
 - A. Educational Excellence Committee update: Diana Claus
 - B. Scholarship project update: Rhonda Schmaltz
- VII. New business
 - A. State convention gift basket of \$50
 - B. Iowa Avenue M (new name #SecondCenturyDKG and Beyond)
 1. Sprinkle story (Donna) (Other members may share a teacher story.)
 2. Benefits of DKG—slide and talk by member
 - C. Eta Survey results on sense of chapter belonging (provided by Iowa Next)
 - D. Member biography sheets (will be sent in separate email)
- VIII. Announcements
 - A. Next social: Galentine’s Day Lunch at Pasta Al Forno (date to be decided)
 - B. Good news! (No money needed this month for Good News!)
- IX. Adjournment

Thanks

- Thanks to members for their flexibility in postponing Galentine’s Lunch and moving to Zoom for the meeting

Upcoming Events/Deadline)

- Feb. 15: POSTPONED Galentine’s Day at Pasta Al Forno, 11:30 a.m.
- Feb. 18: Chapter meeting (ZOOM) 6:30 p.m. Program: “Unlocking Brain Power”
- Feb. 28: State Legislative Day at State Capitol in Des Moines
- April 15: State scholarship deadline
- June 6-7: State convention in West Des Moines
- June 8-9: Neva Barnhart Leadership Seminar in West Des Moines

TREASURER'S REPORT			
February 11, 2025			
Beginning Balance November 18, 2024			\$3,387.59
Income/Receipts:			
No Income Received January 21-February 11, 2025			
Total Receipts			\$0.00
Total Income			\$3,387.59
Expenses:			
January guest speaker stipend - Olli Presentation			\$25.00
Northcrest Foundation Heartwood House Endowment - Kathy Conner memorial			\$50.00
Total Expenses			\$75.00
Ending Balance January 21, 2025			\$3,312.59
Submitted by Rhonda Schmaltz, Treasurer			

STATE EEC Letter

February 13, 2025

Dear Diana Claus and the members of Eta Chapter:

After reviewing the mini-grant applications, the Educational Excellence Committee has selected Eta Chapters *SOS--Save Our Subs* project as a recipient of one of the \$100 grants. Congratulations! Iowa State Treasurer Sandi Aronson will be sending you your \$100 check.

As a recipient of the grant, your chapter is required to send me photos or a slideshow of your project for the State Convention in the Summer of 2025 and the state WIKI page. Please submit those by June 1, 2025. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for applying for the grant this year. The committee hopes this \$100 will enable Eta Chapter to work together toward the success of the project.

Sincerely,

Susan E. Carlson
Educational Excellence Committee Chair

**Iowa State Organization DKG
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**

WHAT: Legislative Day

The Educational Excellence Committee is sponsoring a Legislative Day at the Iowa Capitol Building in Des Moines on February 26, 2025, beginning at 10:00 a.m. This will include a briefing on Educational Issues during the 2025 Legislative session and an opportunity to speak to your State Representative and State Senator at the Iowa Capitol.

WHEN: February 26, 2025, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

WHERE: Capitol Building, Des Moines

We will hold a briefing for Iowa State Organization DKG members in the Capitol cafeteria at 10:00 a.m. (The cafeteria is open from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.) At approximately 12:00 p.m., members will meet their legislators as they adjourn for lunch. (Please contact your legislators at least a week ahead of time to make appointments to speak with them or to schedule lunch with them). I am also communicating with elected officials, from both parties, who could meet with us that day during their noon break.

- The best source of data on individual legislators is at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators/find> that lists all legislators and their contact information, including their email addresses; this is their preferred way of scheduling.
- The following site <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators/informationOnLegislators> lists all committees; click on the appropriate link and you will end up at the legislator's e-mail address.
- Just general information is at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/chambers> that gives data on daily activities and how to connect to the audio feed of the floor debate.
- The Iowa Department of Education website <https://educate.iowa.gov/legislative-information> has a daily legislative up-to-date of bills introduced.

If you are interested in a tour of the Iowa Capitol Building or the Iowa Judicial Branch Building, there can be tour schedules available in the afternoon on February 26, 2025. Please place an x in the boxes below if you are interested in tours and I will arrange these tours.

Iowa Capitol Building – 2:00 p.m.

Iowa Judicial Branch Building (to be scheduled)

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND? ALL IOWA STATE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA MEMBERS
Reservations (Please respond by **February 16, 2025**):**

Contact:

Judith Olson, Chi Chapter

Educational Excellence Committee Legislative Representative

1200 Craig's Court

Spencer, Iowa 51301

(712) 262-2516

(515) 341-0170

jaolson@ncn.net

LET'S SHOW OUR LEGISLATORS THAT WE CARE ABOUT EDUCATION AND CHILDREN.

Name & Chapter _____

Email Address _____

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Iowa State Organization
2025 Convention Registration
June 6-7, 2025

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Address: _____ City & State: _____ Zip Code: _____
Phone Number: (__) _____ Email: _____
Chapter: _____ Chapter President: ____ Yes ____ No
First-time attendee: ____ Yes ____ No
In case of emergency, contact name and number: _____

Meal Choices: Descriptions of meals are in the state newsletter. _

Friday Evening Potato Bar \$48

____ Yes, I will be eating.
____ No, I will not be eating.

Saturday Birthday Salad Luncheon \$40

____ Yes, I will be eating a Caesar Salad. **OR (mark only one Yes choice)**
____ Yes, I will be eating a Chef Salad. ____ No, I will not be eating.

Saturday Evening Banquet \$55

____ Yes, I will be eating Mustard and Honey Glazed Pork Loin.

OR (mark only one Yes choice)

____ Yes, I will be eating Beef Tips. ____ No, I will not be eating.

Saturday Morning Breakfast (Hospitality Room) ____ Yes, I will be eating (no cost).

____ No, I will not be eating.

Do you have any required dietary restrictions/allergies? ____ Yes ____ No ____ Gluten

____ Vegan ____ Other

If Other, please explain:

West Des Moines Marriott 1250 Jordan Creek Parkway West Des Moines (515) 267-1500

Convention Registration Fee: \$40/ Late \$60

\$ ____ \$40 if postmarked on/before May 16 \$ ____ \$60 if postmarked after May 16

\$_____ **Meals Total** (no charge for Saturday Banquet for current/past state presidents.)

\$_____ **Total Amount Due** (registration plus meals total)

Registration and Meal Charges also cover the cost of meeting rooms rental and equipment charges.

**Make checks payable to
2025 Iowa DKG State Convention**

Check # _____ Date sent: _____

Mail your registration form and check to:

Sue Leslie 1409 – 30 Street Perry, IA 50220

Art Gallery Submission at the Convention

_____ Yes, I will bring art to display. _____ No, I will not have a submission.

Photo Release: By your attendance at this event, you are granting permission to be videotaped, audiotaped, or photographed by any means and are granting full use of your likeness, voice and words without compensation.

Hotel Information:

Marriott West Des Moines (515) 267-1500 Standard room: 2 Queen Beds or 1 King Bed \$149 plus state and local taxes (currently 13%) Reservations must be made by May 16, 2025. Mention DKG Iowa State Convention.

Schedule Overview

Friday, June 6

Registration open from 12:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Hospitality room open 12:00-3:30 p.m.; 8:45-9:45 p.m.
Self guided tours from Catch Iowa
Workshops after evening meal

Saturday, June 7

Registration open from 7:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Hospitality room open 6:45-8:00 a.m.; 3:30-5:00 p.m.
8:30-9:30 p.m.
Workshops
Executive Board Meeting
Ceremony of Remembrance
Time to renew friendships and make new friends

Attention Iowa State DKG Members: Neva Barnhart Leadership Seminar

To Chapters' Leadership: Each chapter should encourage their members to register and should help support their participation.

The 2025 Neva Barnhart Leadership Seminar (NBLs) will be held after the Iowa State DKG State Convention June 8-9, 2025, in West Des Moines, Iowa. This will be an opportunity for members to participate at an international conference with a LEADERSHIP theme.

Topics will include:

- Leadership Celebration
 - Leading Multigenerational Groups • Leadership Styles
 - Ins and Outs of DKG/ISO Leadership • Running an Effective Meeting
- Special events will be held for NBLs Participants:
- International NW District Director Breakfast
 - Chapter Leadership tools
 - Networking
 - Private meals
 - Collaboration, Fellowship, and Discussion Groups • Leadership takeaways

Included in the conference are one evening of lodging, double occupancy, and meals from Sunday morning through Monday lunch.

Requirements to attend are to be sponsored by your local chapter, \$100, and participants pay \$100. The first session- breakfast is at 8:30 am on June 8th and the last session ends around 1pm on June 9th.

Please bring either your laptop or ipad with you.

Application and Chapter Recommendation must be received by April 15, 2025.

Participants will be notified by May 1, 2025. Chapter and individual checks can be brought to the NBLs.

To register for Iowa DKG NBLs Seminar: Complete Google Online Form

<https://forms.gle/tZHHD8St2QedhhDA6>

Chapter Recommendation Google Online Form:

<https://forms.gle/mAHvMeXpHkVsEfsf7>

If you have any questions please e-mail: kmerkleiadkg@gmail.com

“Leading women educators impacting education worldwide”