



# BLOOMING ROSES

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Oregon State Organization – Alpha Epsilon Chapter

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Kathy Martell, Newsletter Editor

*The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Mission Statement:*

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

## Chapter Officers:

**Presidents:** Kathy Martell

**Website:** Cindy Ryan

**Rec. Sec:** Shawnie Murphy

**Corr. Sec:** Deb Freels

**Treasurer:** Jill Snyder



Hello Everyone!

I hope everyone is enjoying the nice weather we've been having. If we could only get a little rain at night, everything would be perfect.

I want to share with you some exciting things that have been happening this summer.

## Book Collection - Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

I will start with Deb Freels sharing with me that she was so impressed with our program by Kacy Bradshaw and Shannon Murphy-Barlow about the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Salem Health she had to share about it with her coffee group. During that conversation, one of her friends decided she would like to do something to help contribute books to the Neonatal Unit. So, she has added Deb to her account at the Reader's Guide in West Salem. That means Deb can go in and buy **new** books to donate to Salem Health and use the account to get 25% off.

Deb went in last week and bought some new books and was able to save some money. Deb and I would like to offer all of you the opportunity to help support the Neonatal Unit with books. If you are interested in doing this, Deb has agreed to buy the books for us if we want to donate money at our meetings. If you would rather bring **new** books to our gatherings to donate, we will collect them and make sure they are delivered. It is up to you how you participate if you want to be involved. There is no pressure.

We will be doing this for the 2021-2022 school year and evaluate the project next May at our last meeting. We'll start collecting at our social in August!

Kacy and Shannon are thrilled to have Alpha Epsilon partner with them. They are having a drive by parade celebration/reunion in September of former children who went through the Neonatal Unit to hand out books to them. I have offered our help with the reunion if they need help on that day.

In August they are going to go through all the books they have collected in past book drives and take out any used books, which they can't use. They will be giving the used books to Jill and me to use in our Little Libraries. It's a win-win situation!

Another win with this partnership is Kacy and Shannon have agreed to present to Cindy's students at WOU. Their professional presentation on child development and how it relates to reading will be a great learning tool for the early childhood students.

In a recent Zoom meeting, Cindy and I were able to introduce Kacy and Shannon to Lisa Harnisch, Executive Director of the Marion & Polk Early Learning Hub. Lisa donated a large box of new books to Shannon and Kacy for their ongoing collection for the Neonatal Unit and has promised 150 more books for the reunion. Another win, win situation!

## Dolly Parton's Imagination Library

Since I first learned about the Imagination Library from Cindy when she moved to Oregon, I have been trying to figure out a way to bring the program to Marion and Polk Counties. There is new light in that dream as of last month. At the International Conference in Portland, Gamma Nu Chapter in California did a workshop on Siskiyou Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. I was not able to attend the workshop, but I talked with the ladies and they shared their contact information with me.

After talking with them I decided I was ready to try one more time. I went looking for a non-profit who has a 501(c3) tax ID and would be interested in partnering with Alpha Epsilon Chapter to make this happen. Well, I found three such organizations and a committee has been formed to see how we can do it. On the committee are Cindy and me from Alpha Epsilon, Lisa Harnish, Marion and Polk Early Learning Hub, Kacy Bradshaw and Shannon Murphy-Barlow, Salem Health Neonatal Intensive Care Unit and Nikki Paxton, Family Building Blocks. Nikki is the Donor Relations Manager for FBB and she actually came looking for me after the rest of us had met for the first time and I shared with her about this program. She was so excited and said “yes” to being on the committee. Our next meeting will be in September.

My job after the meeting was to find out more info about the program and do some research on how to make it sustainable after we start it. During my research I contacted Sarah Lessen, Yamhill Enrichment Society, who handles the Imagination Library for Yamhill County. She encouraged me to go ahead and fill out the “I’m Interested” paperwork on the Imagination Library’s website. I did and that put me in contact with Pam Hunsaker, NW Regional Director for Dolly Parton’s Imagination Library. With that contact came the “Quick Start Checklist” with directions for the next step. In Pam’s letter, she shared that the Imagination Library is already in three towns in Marion County; Silverton, Stayton and Jefferson.

At our next meeting of this committee, we will be discussing how to finance the program, where do we want to start it and how many children do we want to sign up to start with? Attached you will find a flyer titled “How It Works?”

### **Thank you, Cindy!**

Thanks, Cindy for organizing our August Social Event for us. This will be a perfect time to relax and enjoy each other’s company after the past year and a half. Those who would like to carpool, feel free to meet at my house at 11:30. Marie and I have offered to drive. Cindy will have four chairs and I think I can bring six. Once we’re through eating it might be more relaxing sitting under the oak trees!

It’s a perfect time to bring a female friend and introduce her to your DKG sisters. Everyone loves to celebrate summer and friends!



## **Alpha Epsilon's August Social Event**

**When:** 12:00p.m., August 13th

**Where:** [Left Coast Cellars/Estate](#)

4225 N. Pacific Hwy 99W

Rickreal, OR 98371

**RSVP-to Cindy or Kathy (feel free to  
invite a friend)**

by Mon., Aug. 9th

For more info: email Cindy  
at [ryanc@wou.edu](mailto:ryanc@wou.edu)

**We have tables reserved on the patio**, but you are also welcome to sit under the oaks overlooking the vineyard. If you want to sit under the oaks, you need to bring your own chairs (I will have 4 with me if you need one).

**They will have the wood fire pizza oven** fired up and ready to go and wine can be ordered. They also have a variety of juices, but you are also welcome to bring water, etc. Both their pizza and wine are absolutely delightful and made to share with friends.

**-Let's celebrate summer and  
friendship-  
We hope to see you there!**