



BLOOMING ROSES

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

Vol. 62, No. 5 – February, 2022

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

be a stress-free evening! Everyone needs to take some time to relax and have fun.

Kathy



Hello Everyone!

In case you haven't noticed, the days are getting longer again. This past Saturday had ten minutes more daylight time than the Saturday before it. With February coming, maybe those working will be going to work again in the daylight! I'm sure we are all ready for spring.

Speaking of spring, please reserve April 29-May 1 and plan on attending the State Spring Conference at the Oregon Gardens in Silverton. Alpha Epsilon and Alpha Omicron chapters will be hosting the Hospitality Room. We will need your help. It's time to make our room reservations for the event. Go to the state website at dkgoregon.weebly.com to see what's being offered for the weekend. There will be workshops, keynote speakers, socials and lots of networking with our sisters around the state.

With the help of the Marion and Polk Early Learning Hub, I am writing a grant to DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF) for help with funding the Dolly Parton's Imagination Library. They have changed the due date for those projects grants to March 1 instead of January 1. The Steering Committee decided to start with this grant and get our goals written out so we can all use the same information when contacting some other organizations to see if this is a project they would like to help support. We're still looking at late Spring or early summer to get started.

Hope to see you online **February 7 at 6:30pm!** Why don't you invite a colleague to join us? It will

Jill Snyder 1/31
Kathy Martell 2/6
Sue Nelson 2/19



Something to think about!

I hope all of you are giving some thought about being an officer for the next biennium. Please let me know which one you would like to do. Remember, the present officers are willing to help guide you. We are all in this together.

Also, be thinking about prospective members. I would be happy to contact them if you would give me a name and contact information. You could also run a copy of this newsletter to give to them.

January Meeting

We missed many of you at our January program to hear our World Fellowship Recipient, Jarnelle Roberson. Enjoy reading about her program on the next page. Thank you, Marie for the write up. It really gives you the feel of being there. Jarnelle will be at the Spring Conference at the Oregon garden if you haven't met her yet.

Once again, Alpha Epsilon shared a Zoom program with other chapters—and we had 25 attendees on January 10. Jarnelle Robinson, World Fellowship recipient and Fulbright Scholar, spoke to us on many topics. She shared her screen, patiently answered questions, and provided an inspirational evening for all those present. Jarnelle was born in Zimbabwe but grew up in South Africa. She gained two bachelor's degrees: 2019 Corporate Communications and 2020 Honors in Communication Management. She is a first-generation college student who has high levels of support from her family, who are all thrilled and excited that she has been able to do so well and to experience so many new things.

Jarnelle described the complex series of hoops through which she jumped to be chosen for the Fulbright Scholar program. Competition is among the very best students worldwide! She discovered that she is just one of nine Fulbright winners from South Africa. Once she was chosen by Fulbright, other opportunities for funding became available, including Delta Kappa Gamma's alliance with UNESCO and DKG's World Fellowship program. In the end, Jarnelle was selected for the graduate program in Communications and was placed at the University of Portland. Her first term was, alas, spent at home in South Africa on Zoom, as the pandemic prevented travel. With embassy assistance, she arrived in Portland in time for the next term.

Last summer, Brenda Kirk (Iota/1) chair of the Oregon World Fellowship Committee, asked Jarnelle to join DKG for the International Conference in Portland: July 7-10, 2021. Jarnelle attended every session and presented a workshop. In October, she presented a workshop for the Fall Symposium. She will be joining us this spring in Silverton and was inducted as a student member of Psi Chapter of DKG.

At present, Jarnelle expects to finish her work and to graduate in May 2022 with a Master of Arts degree in Communication. She is finishing her thesis: *Intergenerational Family Story Telling and Its Effect on Future Life, Family, & Employment*. While here, Jarnelle was excited to join the efforts of many diverse groups to advocate for The Crown Act (HB 2935): allowing natural hair styles in schools, colleges, and workplaces. She sent testimony to the Oregon legislature, advocated to groups, did door-to-door canvassing, and more with the result that the Crown Act passed and goes into

effect this month. It was, she said, a great introduction to the legislative process and the joy of personal action.

Once she returns home to South Africa, she has several goals, all related to advocacy. Why? South Africa has 57.47% unemployment among young adults—the highest in the world. This is caused by a combination of factors: high drop-out rates, lack of access to education and skill building (especially STEM topics) opportunities, drugs, gangs, lack of funding, lack of community and family support, traditional tribal expectations, and more.

Her goals:

- Foster Heartfelt Community
- Female Empowerment
- Representation Matters!
- Embrace the Adventure (of trying new things, learning new ways, studying hard, mastering skills, traveling, education . . .



Jarnelle joined Psi Chapter in December as a Collegiate Member and hopes to take back her DKG experiences to South Africa when she returns home next summer. Will we eventually see a chapter in South Africa? That would be very exciting! She's the perfect one to be able to do that. We wish her well as she finishes her Masters Program at the University of Portland!