



DKG TENNESSEE NEWS



November 2025
Volume 72, Issue 2

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In Memoriam

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All-Digital Format

DKG Tennessee News is now all digital. Readers can click links directly from the newsletter to visit webpages.



TENNESSEE LEADERS PARTICIPATE IN LATIN AMERICAN FORUM CONFERENCE AND WORLD MEETING ON VALUES

by President Dr. Beverly Hall-Maughan

Nancy Davis, Southeast Regional Director, and Dr. Beverly Hall-Maughan, International President, represented the Tennessee State Organization at the Latin American Forum Conference in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, from September 25 to 27, 2025.

They were joined by Connie Rensink, International Leadership

Development Chair, and Belinda Clift, Southwest Regional Director, further amplifying the influence and visibility of U.S. leadership at this international gathering. The Forum offered an exceptional platform for dialogue, professional growth, and collaboration centered on advancing education and youth initiatives throughout Latin America. Continued on page 3.

TAKING NOMINATIONS

"See something, say something!"
or in our case "See someone, tell someone!"

TNSO Nominations Committee is searching for candidates to serve as future state officers and on elected state committees. Let a member of the state nominations committee or your area director know about the fantastic leaders in your chapter who could become a future leader for our state. To get started, contact committee chair Beverly Smith at tndkg.nom@gmail.com.



Please Print
the News
for members
without access.

Personnel

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Tool Kit

Fall Financial Literacy

Beta Sigma hosts financial chat.

Golden Hour Gatherings

Zoom for Retired Members

Pre-order
Convention
T-shirt



President's Message

Be Inclusive



Sherrie Collins
TNSO President

tndkg.pres@gmail.com

Across our Society, DKG is a place where women educators can come together and find common interests and goals - not just as classroom teachers, but on a personal level as well. In our Tennessee State Organization, we must work to reach our members and potential members of different generations and disciplines. We want to keep our Society a strong and welcoming space where we support each other and encourage growth as leaders. Inclusivity has to be more than a buzzword. It has to be the way we conduct ourselves on the chapter, state, and international level.

Each DKG member brings something unique to the table. From the teachers posting lesson ideas on Instagram and sharing on Teachers Pay Teachers, to those publishing research and professional articles in our *DKG Bulletin*, to the retired teacher mentoring the next generation—all belong here. When we celebrate that diversity, we make DKG stronger and more relevant for everyone.

Our mission to promote professional and personal growth among women educators allows us to encourage women to step into leadership positions at all levels of the Society. That's something worth celebrating and expanding. By expanding our definition of potential members, we open doors for new voices, fresh ideas, and bigger impact. By promoting digital literacy and keeping up with global education trends, we can remain relevant to today's educators and welcome those who might not have seen a place for themselves in DKG before.

Being engaged socially is another way we can reach potential members and be more inclusive. Some of us love Instagram and TikTok, while others prefer to stick with Facebook. By showing up in these spaces, we can remind current members why they joined and help new educators see why they should. We can also advertise the benefits of DKG, as we celebrate the achievements of our membership.

Inclusivity in DKG isn't about changing who we are. It's about making our circle more inclusive, ensuring every member—from collegiate member to retired mentor—knows she has a place and a voice here. Together, we can stay true to our *legacy* and further enhance our *leadership*.





International News

Continued from page 1.

Participants engaged in expert-led conferences and a diverse array of workshops, enjoyed cultural enrichment, and forged valuable professional connections. Noteworthy experiences included a cultural tour of the Milarca Museum, an icebreaker dinner that fostered new relationships, and a gala dinner honoring global achievements. Workshops covered topics such as Service Leadership in DKG, Early Childhood for Quality Education in Latin America: Guiding a More Equitable Future, Closing the Digital Gap in Latin America, Top Ten in Technology, and the use of Lego® Serious Play to enhance critical thinking.

A key highlight of the Forum was its partnership with the XVIII Encuentro Mundial de Valores (World Meeting of Values), themed “Caminos de Paz y Compasión” (Paths of Peace and Compassion). The World Meeting of Values championed universal ideals of compassion, peace, and social harmony. Coordinated by the Encuentro Mundial de Valores and supported by the Secretariat of Equality and Inclusion, the event united leaders, scholars, and practitioners from across the globe to deepen the dialogue on building a more compassionate society.

Dr. Beverly Hall-Maughan served as a panelist, representing DKG in high-level discussions on peace, compassion, and leadership. Her presence reinforced the Society’s enduring commitment to educational leadership and the expansion of global partnerships. She shared the panel with Dr. Fernando Reimers, Professor of Practice in International Education at Harvard University, and Sofioleticia Morales, Secretary of Education for Nuevo Leon, further elevating the program’s prestige.

The involvement of Tennessee members in both the Latin American Forum Conference and the World Meeting of Values underscores DKG’s unwavering dedication to advancing education, promoting universal values, and empowering women educators in their leadership journeys worldwide by impacting education worldwide.



Pictured left to right: Belinda Clift, Dr. Beverly Hall-Maughan, Dr. Fernando Reimers, Nancy Davis, Connie Rensink



Pictured left to right: DKG International President Dr. Beverly Hall-Maughan, Southeast Regional Director Nancy Davis



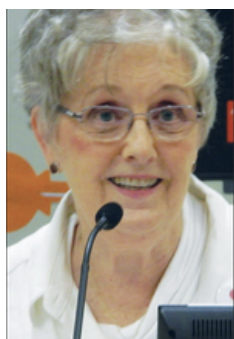
Chapter News

Across Tennessee, chapters are serving, celebrating, and growing. From brunches and service projects aiding the homeless to supporting early-career educators and welcoming new members, our chapters continue to shine through connection and commitment.

Alpha Epsilon Honors Member, Hosts Guest Speakers, Creates Art

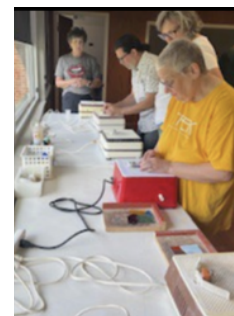
by Elaine Vaughan

Mary Jane Williams received her 60-year member pin and certificate during a chapter visit. Mary Jane served as chapter president from 1982-1984, chaired the Read-to-Me Committee that distributed books to babies at the local hospital, and supported the Grant-In-Aid Scholarship for young educators. She was a recipient of the Order of the Rose in 2009.



Benita Albert, former Calculus teacher at Oak Ridge High School and Board member of the Public Schools Foundation for Oak Ridge, was the guest speaker for the August meeting. She shared information about “Who’s Who” of Oak Ridge graduates. Graduates’ accomplishments included working with the inception of AI, winning the Nobel Peace Prize, serving as a Rhodes Scholar, becoming the first Black African Americans to graduate from Oak Ridge High School, and many, many more stories. Benita’s perspective on presenting the information on all the achievements of students was informative and engaging.

In addition to starting off August’s first program on a remarkable note, the chapter hosted the first Activities Alpha Epsilon “fun about town” event. A handful of chapter members, family, and friends made a stained-glass piece. The experience was fun for all, and each person went home with a piece of stained glass.



Dr. Lauren Wilmoth was the presenter at the September meeting. Lauren discussed “Protecting Yourself and Your Students Against Misinformation.” Resources included the Misinformation Susceptibility Test (MIST), Fake Out/Two Truths and a Lie, Google’s Interland, and Common Sense Media Digital Citizenship Curriculum.



Beta Zeta and Alpha Xi Enjoy Brunch

by Eileen Carter

Saturday, August 9, members of Beta Zeta and Alpha Xi met at Anthony & Theresa's Home Cooking Buffet for brunch. This is the second time for our chapters to get together. We were hoping for a good turnout, but when planning, we all forgot about the World's Longest Yard Sale. That did not stop those who came from enjoying great fellowship and a delicious meal. We all were pleased to have the new Area III director, Donna Lamkin, in attendance with us for the meal. The time was spent with lively conversations, which included anxiety about the new school year, what we did over the summer, and when and where we can do this again.





Alpha Iota Mother-Daughter DKG Sisters

by Becky Redding

Becky Redding and Emily Roberts are more than just DKG sisters & coworkers, they are also mother and daughter! Additionally, they both attended the school where they now work. *From the article in the Alpha Iota Newsletter:*

What is it like teaching alongside your former teachers and/or your daughter/mom?

Becky: "Working with my daughter has been the highlight of my career! Watching her interact with her students and seeing how much they are learning and how much they love her makes my momma heart proud!"

Emily: "Working with Mom has been so much fun! I think for both of us it definitely helps on the difficult days. Also, bringing each other food and drink surprises is quite the treat. On the other hand, I got to work closely with my 5th grade ELA teacher last school year on a grant. She came to observe me teach a few times, and it was a surreal experience having her there."



Beta Omega September Program

by Sandra Coleman

The Beta Omega chapter enjoyed an exceptional program in September. Judith and Llew Wade presented a slide show of their trip through Kruger National Park in South Africa. Pictured is Beta Omega member Judy Cleek with Judith and Llew Wade.



Alpha Xi Aids Homeless

by Beverly Smith

Alpha Xi Co-Presidents Karen Phillips and Dr. Jane Brower are pictured with the many food items donated by Alpha Xi members for the HUMC homeless pantry. Alpha Xi members are generous!





purchase supplies in bulk. We spent 30 minutes as a team putting together 200 gift bags for those new to the career of education this fall! The bags included items such as post-it notes, markers, erasers, stickers, tissues, and candy. We included a tag explaining that our chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma wishes them well and supports them as they begin this incredible career. Lead mentor teachers in the districts handed the bags to their mentees as they made their rounds of visits in late August and early September. Our chapter will follow up by writing personal notes of encouragement to the same 200 professionals to be delivered in November when new educators often experience a period of disillusionment. Our notes are meant to lift them up a bit at that time!

Rho Chapter Supports Early Career Educators

by Laurette Carle

Rho Chapter kicked off the new school year with a business meeting, fellowship over lunch, and our annual project to support new teachers in the two local public school systems: Williamson County Schools and Franklin Special District. Rho Chapter members either donated supplies or funds to





Beta Sigma Fall Financial Literacy

by Dr. Dorrie Powell

Beta Sigma's October meeting featured a financial literacy program provided by the Bolivar branch of Regions Bank. As part of the Regions Next Step education outreach, branch manager Sylvia Harris and senior relationship banker Caroline Vandiver shared information on preparing for and navigating retirement. They highlighted investment products and services offered by the bank, shared tools available on the bank's website, and answered specific questions about annuities, IRAs, and trusts. They offered such an abundance of information and expertise that the chapter hopes to invite them back for Financial Literacy, Part II.



Pictured left to right: Betsy Lucas, chapter president, branch manager Sylvia Harris, customer service specialist Caroline Avent, and chapter member Rachel Weir, who arranged the presentation.

Phi Awards Mini-Grants

by Sherry Woods

The Phi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma is excited to announce this year's mini-grant winners! Each educator received \$250 to support innovative projects in their classrooms. Phi Chapter member Carole Cheatwood presented the grants. We're proud to support these dedicated educators as they bring new opportunities to their students.



*Christian Robertson
South Lawrence School*



*Leslie Smith
David Crockett Elementary School*



*Kaitlyn Tipper
Ingram Sowell Elementary, K-2 UDL*



Zeta Induction of Five New Members

by Connie Silvey

On August 25, 2025, Zeta inducted five new members at the CORE Building of Central Bearden Church, Knoxville.



Pictured left to right: Robin Nelson, Dr. Linda Treadwell, Dr. Mary Lynn Berry, Angela Freeman-Hunter and not pictured Asia Wade.

TNSO

2025 STATE DIRECTORY AVAILABLE NOW!

If you would like a digital copy of our state directory, fill out the request on our home page of the website.

WWW.TNDKG.ORG

Click for the Request Form

Alpha Xi Inducts Outstanding First Grade Teacher

by Beverly Smith

Kirsten Duca, a first grade teacher at Barger Academy of Fine Arts, was inducted by Alpha Xi members during their October meeting. Kirsten was the recipient of the chapter's Early Career Educator Grant the previous spring. This third-year teacher was recognized by a local Chattanooga television station as the Educator of the Week during the week of October 20-24.

Alpha Xi looks forward to getting to know Kirsten better and to working with her on future chapter projects.



Pictured left to right: Wynne Anderson, Jeanette Esch, Kirsten Duca, Karen Phillips, and Norma Cate



Committee News

The committees of DKG TNSO continue to advance our mission through purposeful projects and meaningful impact. From funding dreams to celebrating excellence, TNSO committees remind us that the strength of our Society is found in the dedication of its members.

Personnel Committee

TNSO Related Personnel Spotlight

by Linda Prichard

Congratulations to Dr. Dawn Viles who was selected by the TNSO Personnel committee to serve as the Editor of the *DKG Tennessee News*.

In 2023, Dawn earned her Doctorate from Lincoln Memorial University in Curriculum and Instruction. Dawn was the recipient of both the TNSO Scholarship and International Scholarship for her doctoral work. Additionally, Dawn earned other advanced degrees throughout her career, including Education Specialist - Curriculum and Instruction, and Masters of Education - Administration and Supervision. Her undergraduate degrees are from Carson-Newman and Walters State in English and Secondary Education.

Dawn is a thirty-two-year educator with a background minor in Journalism that prepared her for teaching journalism, newspaper, and yearbook classes. She has also served as editor of countless newsletters for many organizations, churches, volunteer organizations, and school groups. She was a lead professional development trainer for the National Writing Project, teaching teachers to be better writing instructors.

Dawn is passionate about helping students and educators. She always goes above and beyond what is expected in her teaching, writing, and training. Currently teaching Special Education English at Dobyns-Bennett High School, Dawn's dedication to student literacy is evident.

In addition to Editor, Dawn has served as both president and vice president of Beta Pi and continues to be active in her local chapter, as well as TNSO state and DKG International levels of the Society.

The new biennium and editorship bring with it a new digital distribution of the *News*. Watch for more to come!



Welcome Dr. Dawn Viles as our TNSO Editor.



Xi State Vision Foundation

by Pat Parker

The Xi State Vision Foundation is pleased to announce that a new grant has been established in honor of Lois Jones who passed away this spring. Mrs. Jones was a dedicated member of Delta Kappa Gamma for many, many years. She served as a State president, as well as served on numerous committees either as a member or as chair. Mrs. Jones held DKG in high esteem and worked diligently to introduce the Society to many of the teachers she oversaw in her long, illustrious career. Mrs. Jones included The Xi State Vision Foundation in her will, leaving a sizable amount of funding so that her legacy of supporting DKG and education. This generous gift will continue to give others the opportunity to seek professional development or life passion project. The grant is named the Lois Jones Passion Grant for Personal Growth. Both retired and actively employed members teaching in a school can apply for this grant. Information can be found on the TNSO website.

Xi State Vision Foundation now has four categories of grants: Classroom/School Project grants, the Seminar grant, Liz Worley Bradley, Doris Hendrix, and Janice Enck Professional Development grants, and Lois Jones Passion grant for Personal Growth.

Each category is explained on the state website, which includes the application, guidelines and the scoring rubric to aid anyone who wishes to apply for this year's grants. All grants must be submitted by December 31, 2025 by midnight. [Click here.](#)

Last year the Xi State Vision Foundation was able to award thirteen grants. This year we have one Seminar grant, three Professional Development grants, eleven Classroom/School Project grants, and one Lois Jones Passion Grant for Personal Growth. These sixteen grants provide a wide range of opportunities for our members. Please check out the state website for complete information.

As members of TNSO, we have the privilege of contributing to the Xi State Vision Foundation to assist this vital grant program in continuing to offer future possibilities to our ladies. Thanks to so many who have supported the Xi State Vision Foundation throughout the years. Thank you for the continued and generous support.





Achievement Award Nomination

by Sharon Schmitt-Matzen

It is not too early to nominate an outstanding DKG member for the 2026 Achievement Award. Both the nomination [Google Form](#) and a [rubric](#) are available to help with the application process. Consider the following when nominating: contributions the member has made to the DKG Society (special consideration given to the TNSO and the member's chapter), to education, and to women overall. Be certain to highlight the candidate's outstanding personal qualities or achievements. What sets her apart and raises her to the next level? Submit forms online. [Click here](#). For questions please email Donna Campbell campbelldior3@gmail.com.

Scholarship Funds for TNSO Members

by Sandra Pineault

Are you considering or working towards an advanced degree? DKG membership can help you with scholarship funds. TNSO has two scholarships of \$3,000 each available for members working towards a doctorate, and one of \$3,000 for members working towards a Master's degree. There are five scholarships of \$1,500 each for members working for study beyond a Bachelor's degree. Information and application forms are available on the TNSO DKG website. [Click here](#). International Scholarships are also available. [Click here](#) for the International application forms and an informational tip sheet.

Forms are due before or on February 1, 2026.

Special Events

by Judy Bailey-Ogle

The 2026 TNSO Convention will be here before we know it! It's not too early to start deciding about our donations for the Silent Auction, a highlight of our time together at Sewanee. We are truly blessed with many creative sisters who take the time to create the beautiful artwork we enjoy each year. We bid, win, and bring our treasures home.

The Silent Auction is the gift that keeps on giving as the proceeds help finance the many leadership opportunities sponsored by Tennessee DKG.

The 2025 Convention saw the participation of 43 chapters with more than 100 auction items. We would love to see all chapters represented in 2026. Put together a basket, or make a craft item. Cash donations are also accepted. However, in order to receive Maycie

points, the minimum cash donation is \$30. To count Iris Card donations toward Maycie points, your chapter must purchase at least one package of 10 cards.

So, start sharing ideas and getting your items together. We can't wait to see what you create! And think how good that Apple Award will look at your Chapter meetings.





GIRLS Initiative

by EEC, First Vice President, Michelle Steen

Since 1997, Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG) has partnered with UNICEF USA to expand educational opportunities for children across the globe. This long-standing collaboration has focused especially on reaching the most vulnerable populations, with an emphasis on girls' education and literacy.

For more than a decade, DKG supported UNICEF's Schools for Africa program, raising over \$600,000 to provide education to children in 21 priority countries. In addition, DKG contributed over \$200,000 to education and literacy programs in Central America, The Gambia, and Afghanistan, where UNICEF worked to ensure children—especially girls—had access to learning opportunities in some of the most challenging environments.

Today, DKG is continuing its impact through support of UNICEF's Girls Initiative to Revitalize Learning and Success (GIRLS) Fund. Launched in response to the setbacks caused by COVID-19, this fund is dedicated to bolstering girls' education in Africa. By providing flexible resources, the GIRLS Fund helps remove the barriers that keep girls out of school and strengthens global expertise to improve learning outcomes.

The GIRLS Fund focuses on secondary education, equipping girls not only to

complete their schooling but also to acquire life skills, overcome harmful social norms, and prepare for brighter futures. In addition to classroom learning, the initiative ensures schools provide supportive environments by addressing girls' health and nutrition needs—an essential component of academic success.

Through this effort, UNICEF and DKG are working to:

- 1) Understand and overcome barriers preventing girls from accessing education.
- 2) Address harmful social norms that hold girls back.
- 3) Use technology to accelerate educational results.
- 4) Drive global advocacy and leadership through a Global Platform.
- 5) Establish a Technical Advisory Panel (TAP) to bring together experts on gender equality and women's empowerment. (www.dkg.org)

Together, these strategies aim to change the trajectory of learning and earning outcomes for girls and young women across Africa. The work of DKG and UNICEF demonstrates the transformative power of education: when girls are given the chance to learn, they thrive—and their communities thrive with them. "Together, we can ensure the next generation enjoys greater opportunities and a better life than the last." (www.dkg.org)

All information included came from the DKG UNICEF tab on the international website. [Click here.](#)



State Membership Committee to Offer a Wide Variety of Resources

by Dr. Elaine Vaughan

The Tennessee State Organization Membership Committee is providing resources in the domains of recruitment, retention, and reinstatement for chapter promotion and revitalization. A plethora of resources for membership is available on Onboarding and Recruitment, the Retention Plan, the Reinstatement Plan, the New Member Dashboard, and several other topics. Go to www.dkg.org, Resources, and Membership. You must be logged in. If you do not know your Member Information, please contact Elaine Vaughan, Membership Chair, tndkg.mem@gmail.com, your chapter treasurer, or www.dkg.org.



Do you know someone who is interested in becoming a member? Information is available at www.dkg.org, Membership, and Becoming a Member. DKG membership is an honor and is offered by invitation from a local chapter. A candidate for membership must identify as a woman and is or has been employed as a professional educator at the time of her election, or is a college student studying Education.

Interested in the Reinstatement Project for your chapter? The Reinstatement Project may be used by chapters to review dropped membership in an effort to attract dropped members. For more information or assistance contact Elaine Vaughan at tndkg.mem@gmail.com.



Other Information Found on the TNSO Membership Website

Centennial Challenge: Chapters growing their membership by **2 or more by May 1, 2029**, will earn the prestigious title of **Centennial Chapter Organization**-a lasting legacy of leadership, growth, and commitment to the future of DKG. Will you see your chapter's name on the list in 2029?

Form for Reinstatement of Member: Please fill out the Form for Reinstatement of a Member in order for your chapter to receive credit towards membership.

Member Spotlight: Complete the form for the member you are selecting for the spotlight. The information provided will be used to determine the spotlight members as well as provide information for the spotlight article.

What's Your DKG Story and Leaving a Legacy: The TNSO Membership Committee would love for you to share your DKG Story: How DKG has changed your life; what you appreciate most about DKG; fellowship among members; connections through the education profession; support of DKG sisters through difficult times; opportunities to participate in DKG events, etc.



New Vision Foundation Passion Grant

by Kacey Whited

Mrs. Lois Jones, TNSO 1987-1989 state president, left an endowment to the Xi State Vision Foundation upon her passing. Lois was passionate about travel, birds, art, and using creativity to teach children. Any member, retired or currently employed, is eligible to apply for this grant to fund or help fund her means to investigate her passion. The grant will not exceed \$2,500, and the recipient will give a report on how she used this grant to other members of TNSO at our annual Vision Foundation Coffee during our state convention. Applications are open now through December 31st. We look forward to seeing where members' passions take them and to honor Lois's legacy for teaching and exploring. [Click here.](#)

Order of the Rose, Rosebud

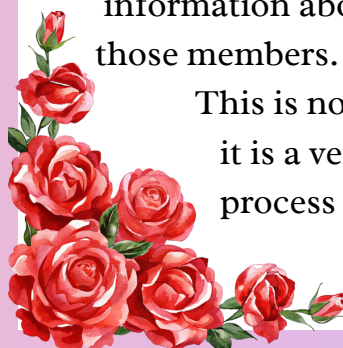
by Beth Naylor

The TNSO Awards Committee is reviewing the Order of the Rose and Rosebud nomination forms. The committee is working to create digital Google Forms of the nomination documents, which will be on the TNSO website soon. [Click here.](#)

Chapters who want to nominate members for Order of the Rose and

Rosebud should now start gathering information about the service of those members.

This is not an easy task, but it is a very rewarding process for the honored member and her chapter.



In Memoriam

Paula Campbell

Pi

Paula served as President, First Vice President, and Secretary for Pi Chapter. She chaired the following chapter committees: By-Laws & Rules, Membership, Hospitality, Special Events, Early Career Educator, Nominations, and Finance.

Paula was passionate about the two local grants given to high school seniors and initiated an increase in funding to the grants in 2023.

Pi Chapter members established a grant fund in Paula's memory after her death.

Paula was a 30-year educator and taught English, Theater, and Creative Writing. She was a distinguished educator who received many awards locally. She was also an active and retired member of NEA, TEA, and Anderson County Education Association.



In Memoriam

We lovingly remember our Delta Kappa Gamma sisters of the Tennessee State Organization who have recently passed. Their devotion to education, service, and sisterhood continues to shine across our Tennessee valleys and hills—reminding us that their influence endures in every heart they touched and every life they inspired.

Margaret Cook Alpha Gamma

Margaret Lucille Grime Cook, a member of Alpha Gamma since 1968, passed away at age 94. She was a faithful leader, serving as chapter president, Area VI Director, and on state committees for Nominations, Rules, Professional Affairs, and planning Xi State's future.

A graduate of Middle Tennessee State University (B.S., Math and English) and Tennessee Tech (M.Ed., Secondary Education), Margaret taught for more than 28 years in Georgia and Tennessee. She ended her career teaching advanced math at Gallatin High School. Active in the Macon County Retired Teachers Association and Lafayette First Baptist Church, Margaret was known for her creativity and love of sewing, painting, music, and family. Her guidance and friendship will be greatly missed by Alpha Gamma and DKG.

[Continued on page 18.](#)

Click for [Obituary](#)

Renee Cooper Kappa

Renee Cooper was a devoted member of Kappa Chapter who faithfully attended meetings and served on the executive board. She chaired the Induction Committee and mentored new members with warmth and wisdom.

Renee taught for 30 years in Benton County Schools, first in second grade and later in special education for young learners K-2. Her gentle leadership and steady devotion to students and colleagues alike will be remembered by all who knew her.



Mary Elaine Hargis Beta Epsilon

Mary Elaine was an active member of the Beta Epsilon Chapter in Murfreesboro for 44 years. She faithfully attended meetings and generously supported chapter projects. She was always smiling and full of encouragement for others. She will be greatly missed by Beta Epsilon's chapter members.

Mary Elaine was active in the League of Women Voters for 60 years. She was a 1959 graduate of Hay Long High School in Mt. Pleasant. Mary Elaine also earned a BA in Elementary Education from Tennessee Tech in 1962 and an MA in Special Education from Middle Tennessee State University.

She worked for many years in Cannon County Schools as a special education teacher and later as the Supervisor for Special Education for the county.



In Memoriam

Mildred Mauney Pi

Mildred was a loyal member of Pi Chapter for over 33 years, faithfully serving on committees and supporting chapter projects throughout her life. She taught for 43 years in Anderson County Schools, primarily at Lake City Elementary.

Known for her kindness and generosity, Mildred often funded field trips and purchased supplies and clothing for students in need.

Mildred's compassion and dedication made a difference in countless lives and will be fondly remembered by her Pi Chapter sisters.

Martha Millsaps Delta

Martha was the consummate professional and a proud member of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Always ready to volunteer, she contributed her time and talents to chapter projects whenever needed.

A graduate of both the University of Chattanooga and Middle Tennessee State University (with both Master's and Ed.S. degrees), she taught in Hamilton County and served in Rutherford County administration.

Martha was instrumental in the opening of Siegel High School and deeply respected by colleagues and students who continued to seek her guidance long after graduation. Her commitment to education and service will long be remembered.

Cheryl Savage Alpha Upsilon

Cheryl was a devoted member of Alpha Upsilon for 29 years and an educator in the Overton County School System for 43 years.

She taught kindergarten with a heart for every child, believing that education could uncover each student's unique potential.

Cheryl's classroom was a place of kindness and encouragement where children learned to believe in themselves.

Cheryl's dedication touched generations of families, and her chapter sisters will remember her gentle spirit and lifelong commitment to teaching.

Kay Sullivan

Alpha Xi

A devoted member of Alpha Xi for 54 years, Kay Sullivan served on many committees and was deeply involved in chapter activities.

She taught for 30 years at Lookout Valley High School, where she met her husband, John, the school's football coach.

Kay earned a Master's degree in education and a degree in counseling, always seeking new ways to serve students. She also gave her time to the Ider Library Board and retired in 1999 after a distinguished career.

Her Alpha Xi sisters will miss her friendship and grace.

[Continued on page 18.](#)

Click for [Obituary](#).

Jimmie Faye Trotter

Gamma Nu

Jimmie Faye Trotter was a charter member of Gamma Nu and served as president of both Alpha Omega and Gamma Nu.

Known for her bright smile and encouraging words, she welcomed new members and generously supported the chapter scholarship fund. A Sevier County educator for 32 years, she taught English at Pigeon Forge Middle and High Schools, earning induction into the Sevier County and Pigeon Forge Halls of Fame.

Jimmie Faye also chaired the Retired Teachers scholarship committee with dedication and care. Her love for students and for learning was the hallmark of her life.



In Memoriam



Margaret Cook



Kay Sullivan

From International

Mark your calendars! DKGIEF is proud to be participating in **Giving Tuesday on December 2, 2025**. What better way to contribute to a better future for educators and students worldwide than by donating on this special day?

The DKGIEF utilizes your generous contributions to foster and promote educational excellence worldwide. Every donation supports essential DKG programs that have a lasting impact, including:

- Grants and Scholarships for dedicated educators.
- Professional Development activities and special projects.
- Sponsoring innovative Speakers and much more!

Giving Tuesday



Click the heart or scan the QR.



DKGIEF DONATE PAGE



TNSO Treasurer's Reports

Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual Tennessee State Organization of DKG Current through 9/30/2025						Leftover SOLT money moved to Misc.
Budget Name	Budgeted Expenditures	Budgeted Income	Income	Expenses	Amount Left in Account	
President's Operating Expenses	\$ 3,500.00				\$ 3,500.00	
Int'l Convention (President)	\$ 1,040.00		\$814.00	\$1,854.00	\$0.00	\$109.84
Communications (President)	\$ 300.00				\$300.00	
1st Vice President Int'l Convention	\$550.00		\$814.00	\$1,366.00	\$0.00	\$179.01
2nd Vice President Int'l Convention	\$550.00			\$550.00	\$0.00	
Corresponding Secretary Int'l Convention	\$550.00			\$550.00	\$0.00	
Recording Secretary Int'l Convention	\$550.00			\$550.00	\$0.00	-\$550.00
Treasurer Int'l Convention	\$550.00		\$814.00	\$1,366.00	\$0.00	\$157.57
Executive Secretary Int'l Convention	\$550.00		\$814.00	\$1,366.00	\$0.00	\$231.07
Parliamentarian	\$550.00			\$550.00	\$0.00	
Webmaster	\$550.00			\$506.17	\$43.83	
Editor	\$550.00			\$550.00	\$0.00	
Honorarium for Immediate Past Cor. Sec.	\$0.00				\$0.00	
Honorarium for Immediate Past President	\$200.00			\$200.00	\$0.00	
Honorarium for Immediate Past Treasurer	\$0.00				\$0.00	
Honorarium for Webmaster	\$1,100.00				\$1,100.00	
Office Expenses for Webmaster	\$500.00				\$500.00	
Honorarium for Editor	\$1,100.00				\$1,100.00	
Office Expenses for Editor	\$500.00				\$500.00	
Honorarium for State Treasurer	\$1,500.00				\$1,500.00	
Office Expenses for State Treasurer	\$1,000.00			\$441.18	\$558.82	
Travel Insurance	\$150.00				\$150.00	
Honorarium for Executive Secretary	\$1,100.00				\$1,100.00	
Office Expenses for Executive Secretary	\$1,000.00				\$1,000.00	
Auditing/Financial Review	\$1,750.00			\$1,875.00	\$1,875.00	
Bank Service Fees	\$50.00				\$50.00	
Fee for Charitable Organizations	\$200.00				\$200.00	
Bonding of Treasurer	\$150.00			\$125.00	\$25.00	
TN Event (Int'l Conv/Int'l Conf)	\$600.00		\$965.94	\$1,138.72	\$427.32	
Memorials/Gifts	\$150.00				\$150.00	
Rules Committee	\$50.00				\$50.00	
Finance Committee	\$50.00				\$50.00	
Leadership Development Committee	\$100.00				\$100.00	
Leadership Mgt. Seminar-Beginning	\$5,000.00				\$5,000.00	
Advanced Leadership Seminar	\$0.00				\$0.00	
Membership Committee	\$500.00				\$500.00	
Nominations	\$0.00				\$0.00	
Personnel Committee	\$50.00				\$50.00	
Historical Preservation	\$50.00				\$50.00	
Leadership Conference for New Officers	\$4,000.00				\$4,000.00	
Planning Conference for State Committees	\$3,500.00			\$3,240.54	\$259.46	
Annual Fee to State of TN	\$25.00				\$25.00	
Planning Committee	\$50.00				\$50.00	
Communications and Marketing	\$100.00				\$100.00	
Educational Excellence Committee	\$100.00				\$100.00	
Legislation Committee	\$1,000.00				\$1,000.00	
Awards Committee	\$500.00				\$500.00	
State Projects	\$1,150.00				\$1,150.00	
Chapter Strengthening Committee	\$300.00				\$300.00	
Scholarship Committee	\$100.00				\$100.00	
Arts Committee	\$100.00				\$100.00	
Special Events	\$100.00				\$100.00	
Int'l NoteCards	\$1,000.00				\$1,000.00	

Treasurer's Report page 1 submitted by Dr. Dianne Anderson



Profit and Loss Budget vs. Actual Tennessee State Organization of DKG Current through 9/30/2025						Leftover SOLT money moved to Mkt.
Budget Name	Budgeted Expenditures	Budgeted Income	Income	Expenses	Amount Left in Account	
Achievement Award Committee	\$800.00				\$800.00	
Area Directors	\$1,600.00				\$1,600.00	
Miscellaneous	\$1,000.00		\$527.49		\$1,527.49	
Online Meeting Platform (Zoom)	\$350.00				\$350.00	
AIM Liability Insurance	\$175.00				\$175.00	
Active Membership 1750 @ \$14		\$24,500.00	\$19,554.00			
Reserve Memberships 168 @ \$7		\$1,176.00				
Collegiate Memberships 1 @ \$7		\$21.00				
Induction Fees 25 @ \$2.50		\$62.50				
Available Fund Interest		\$200.00				
Fundraising		\$3,000.00				
General Fund Donations						
Governor's Literary Fund Donations			\$25.00			
Silent Auction			\$25.00			
Scholarship Expenditures						
Lois Jones Special	\$1,000.00				\$1,000.00	
Isabel Wheeler	\$1,000.00				\$1,000.00	
Maycie K. Southall	\$1,000.00				\$1,000.00	
Mary Hall	\$1,000.00				\$1,000.00	
Evangeline Harbuck	\$1,250.00				\$1,250.00	
Lottie McCall	\$1,250.00				\$1,250.00	
Louise Oakley	\$1,250.00				\$1,250.00	
Eleanor Osteen	\$1,250.00				\$1,250.00	
Scholarship Fees (\$1.00 per member)		\$1,918.00	\$383.60		\$383.60	
Transfer from CD					\$1,000.00	
Interest		\$378.00			\$0.00	
Contributions		\$1,414.00			\$0.00	
SOLT—Membership Chair Expense		\$816.00	\$190.33	\$1,006.33	\$0.00	
Convention Contributions		\$525.97				

Treasurer's Report page 2 submitted by Dr. Dianne Anderson



Zeta Chapter members share Imagination Library sign-up information with families at Knoxville Zoo's annual Boo at the Zoo event.



Pictured from left to right: TNSO President Sherrie Collins (Beta Pi) and DKGIEF Ambassador and Area II Director Terry Sharp (Zeta) support DKG's emphasis on literacy by sharing Imagination Library and smiles with trick-or-treaters.



DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT

Assets

Current Assets

Bank Accounts

1115 MM- SOA-Permanent Fund- 3779	7,440.96
1150 InvestCo AmerMutualFund Sch	33,594.04
1152 AccumulatedGain/Loss ICA Sch	126,052.10
1160 AMCAP Mutual Fund Sch	31,120.28
1162 AccuGain/Loss AMCAPSch	117,729.38
1175 MM- Cap. One- Avail Sav 0696	2,443.50
1235 Regions CD Avail Sav 1400	61,544.27
1253 Regions CD 5130 Avail Savings	3,548.12
1255 Regions-AvailableFunds 4471	18,428.65
1257 Regions 2016 Savings Acct 8981	6,541.41
1258 RegionsCD-Permanent Funds-1211	22,394.17
1259 Regions CD Scholarship 1354	65,701.34
1265 RegionsScholarshipFund4617	5,400.09
1267 Regions CD-Scholarship1117	35,345.37
1268 Regions State Convention 6335	8,637.76

Total for Bank Accounts

\$545,421.44

Accounts Receivable

Other Current Assets

1001 convention account	0.00
12000 Undeposited Funds	0.00
1310 Inventory	0.00

Total for Other Current Assets

\$0.00

Total for Current Assets

\$545,421.44

Fixed Assets

1700 Property and Equipment	\$20,647.29
1750 Accumulated Depreciation	-20,647.29

Total for 1700 Property and Equipment

\$0.00

Total for Fixed Assets

\$0.00

Other Assets

Total for Assets

\$545,421.44

Treasurer's Report page 3 submitted by Dr. Dianne Anderson



TNSO

90th Anniversary Celebration

State Convention

May 28-30, 2026



90th Anniversary

Commemorative Pin

\$5.00

Pre-Order Now

Pick up at the 2026 Convention

[Click to order your pin.](#)

PRE-ORDER FOR CONVENTION

GRANITE
ANNIVERSARY
T-SHIRTS

\$22-25

PROCEEDS WILL HELP STATE PROJECTS
WITH THE COST OF THE EARLY CAREER
EDUCATORS SEMINAR.[T-Shirts will be delivered at TNSO
Convention May 28-30, 2026.](#)This is a mock-up. The color will be lighter lilac, matching
the back design. The front pocket lettering will be more
the color of the text on the back.Payment: Venmo the appropriate amount to TNSO
Treasurer, Dianne Anderson: @Dianne-Anderson.



Statement of Financial Position
Tennessee State Organization of DKG
 As of September 30, 2025

DISTRIBUTION ACCOUNT	TOTAL
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20000 Accounts Payable	0.00
Total for Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Credit Cards	
Other Current Liabilities	
2310 Interfund Payable	0.00
Total for Other Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Total for Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Long-term Liabilities	
Total for Liabilities	\$0.00
Equity	
2700 Temp. Restricted Net Assets	63,361.72
2900 Perm. Restricted Net Assets	99,905.07
30000 Opening Balance Equity	0.00
2800 Unrestricted Net Assets	377,254.29
Net Income	4,910.36
Total for Equity	\$545,421.44
Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$545,421.44

Treasurer's Report page 4 submitted by Dr. Dianne Anderson

Quarterly Calendar

11/1/25	Planning Committee Form Due	12/15/25	Bulletin Submissions Due
11/1/25	DKGIEF Cornet Individual and Seminar Prof. Devt. Apps Due	12/15/25	Chapter Yearbooks Due
11/1/25	DKG Vionary Network Facilitator Applications Due	12/31/25	Vision Foundation Grant Applications
11/4/25	Inside International 12:30 PM CST	1/1/26	Celebrate International Women's Day with DKGIEF - Pin sales kickoff
11/11/25	Inside Connections 5:30 PM CST	1/1/26	DKG Tennessee News Submission for February Issue Due
11/15/25	All Treasurers file IRS 990N	1/10/26	Treasurers Talk 10 AM CST
11/20/25	Inside Impact 5:30 PM CST	2/1/26	International Scholarship Applications
12/1/25	DKG Ignite Applications Due	2/1/26	State Scholarship Applications Due
12/1/26	Electronic Deadline: Amendments to Rules & Bylaws Submitted	2/15/26	Submissions for Art Gallery at International Convention (through 4/15/26)
		2/28/26	Officer Training - Middle TN

Golden Hour Gathering: Halloween Magic Kicks Off a New Monthly Series

by Staff

The October Golden Hour Gathering launched a new Delta Kappa Gamma Zoom series designed especially for retired educators. Hosted by Linda McCrary, the monthly virtual sessions provide a creative and social space for members to share ideas, celebrate the seasons, and stay connected across the state.

This month's kickoff featured festive Halloween demonstrations. Sherrie Collins, Tennessee State Organization president, opened with a lively presentation on Halloween and fall mantle décor, showing how simple additions—like cobwebs, candles, and glass beads—can bring spooky elegance to any home.



Dawn Viles, *DKG TN News* editor, followed with a cheerful autumn tablescape tutorial using repurposed items, teal pumpkins, and a candy bouquet to create a warm and cohesive look on a budget. The gathering concluded with Sherrie's step-by-step Halloween Chex Mix recipe and quick kid-friendly crafts, including ghost vases and light-up decorations that delighted participants.

The first Golden Hour Gathering was both festive and heartwarming, blending creativity with camaraderie. Members are already looking forward to the next monthly session in November, which will feature Thanksgiving and Christmas decorating ideas led by Linda McCrary and friends.





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

2025-27 TNSO Officers &

Related Personnel

President

Sherrie Collins

Beta Pi (East)

First Vice President

Michelle Steen

Theta (West)

Second Vice President

Misste Phillippi

Gamma Mu (East)

Recording Secretary

Chasity Ragsdale

Alpha Rho (Middle)

Corresponding Secretary

Belinda Juergens

Beta Epsilon (Middle)

Treasurer

Dr. Dianne Anderson

Gamma Alpha (West)

Parliamentarian

Becky Sadowski

Alpha Lambda (West)

Executive Secretary

Jenni Lusk

Beta Xi (Middle)

Editor

Dr. Dawn Viles

Beta Pi (East)

Webmaster

Tracy Parker

Beta Xi (Middle)

See Your Chapter in the DKG Tennessee News

Let the members of the TNSO know the great things your chapter is up to. Since the newsletter is all digital now, there are more options for submitting articles for publication.

Option 1: Complete this [Google Form in an easy to use format.](#)

Option 2: Email [Dr. Dawn Viles](#)



TNSO State Officers and Related Personnel

Pictured left to right Row 1: Chasity Ragsdale, Michelle Steen, Sherrie Collins, Misste Phillippi, Becky Sadowski. Row 2: Jenni Lusk, Tracy Parker, Dr. Dawn Viles, Belinda Juergens, Dr. Dianne Anderson.

DKG Tennessee News

Published four times a year in September, November, February, and April by the Tennessee Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. Contributors to *DKG Tennessee News* are asked to send news as soon as it is available to ensure its placement in the next issue.

Send news items for the February issue no later than January 1, 2026.



[Dr. Dawn Viles, Editor](#)

Dr. Dawn Viles

1375 Riverbend Drive

Kingsport, TN 37764

vileseditor@gmail.com

*Please Print
the News
for members
without access.*

Send personal information changes to:
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
12710 Research Blvd., STE 230



Austin, TX 78759

mem@dkg.org

