Slide #1

As members participate in seminars, workshops, and programs sponsored by DKG, they associate with respected professionals in their specific fields which strengthens their own expertise. The Tennessee State Organization offers three leadership seminars each biennium – two beginning seminars and one advanced seminar. Our state Leadership Development Committee also offers online workshops presented by best-selling authors and master teachers completely free of charge to members. Those who choose to participate in these opportunities greatly enrich their professional and DKG competence and readiness. [81 words]

Slide #2

Tennessee State Organization Leadership Management Seminars are offered to members in West, Middle, and East Tennessee on a rotating basis in order to provide convenient locations for all members. Beginning seminars are held in the Spring and Fall of even years. For example, if the first beginning seminar were held in East Tennessee, the next beginning seminar would be held in West Tennessee. There is no requirement for length of membership before application, so even the newest members may take advantage of these trainings; however, only graduates of a beginning seminar are eligible to attend the Advanced Seminar in the Spring of odd years. Advanced Seminars are always held in Middle Tennessee. Applications may be found on the state website, completed, and emailed to the state Leadership Development Committee chair by the deadline. Those selected will pay a modest $25 charge for materials, overnight lodging, three meals and snacks as well as professional training by an experienced Society leader. Seminars begin on Friday afternoon and end Saturday afternoon with a graduation ceremony complete with certificates and pins. [177 words]

Slide #3

Leadership Seminar graduates in the past have had the opportunity to spend time with Consultants who went on to become International Presidents and Achievement Award winners. This group includes Dr. Jensi Souders, 2010-12 International President and 2014 International Achievement Award winner; Dr. Beverly Helms, 2010 Achievement Award winner and 2012-14 International President; Dr. Carolyn Pittman, 2015 Achievement Award winner and 2016-18 International President; Cathy Daugherty, 2016 Achievement Award winner and 2018-20 International President; and Becky Sadowski, 2020-22 International President. Beautiful locations for past Seminars include St. Columba Episcopal Conference and Retreat Center in Memphis (West Tennessee), Henry Horton State Park in Chapel Hill (Middle Tennessee), and Carson Springs Baptist Conferences Center in Newport (East Tennessee). [115 words]

Slide #4

The content of Beginning Leadership Seminars includes Myers-Briggs personality typing, management styles, parliamentary procedures, effective communication, leadership blunders, technology tools, goal setting, and generational differences. Participants may be asked to do some reading in advance which will serve as the foundation of the weekend. Members have the opportunity to get to know fellow teachers by rooming with them, working in small groups, and even role playing. The Seminar begins Friday afternoon with a creative “getting to know you” activity followed by a delicious dinner and an instruction session before bedtime. There is free time for networking and plenty of midnight snacks reminiscent of our college days in the dorm. Saturday is filled with lively instructional sessions throughout the day after a hearty breakfast and tasty lunch. The Seminar ends with a graduation ceremony complete with certificates, pins, and photographs with the consultant. Members depart having made friends for life and looking forward to seeing them at state functions in the future. [161 words]

Slide #5

For recent Advanced Seminars, the consultants have asked participants to read best-selling books about leadership such as *The Art of Possibility: Transforming Professional and Personal Life* by Rosamund Stone and Benjamin Zander and *One Piece of Paper: The Simple Approach to Powerful, Personal Leadership* by Mike Figliuolo. Our Advanced Seminars follow the same Friday and Saturday format as the Beginning Seminars with the added benefit of participants meeting even more outstanding educators who may have attended different Beginning Seminars. If the Advanced Seminar during the biennium of the Beginning Seminar a participant attended conflicts with family or personal responsibilities, she may apply for the Advanced Seminar during a future biennium. Many graduates of both Seminars are tapped for state committee leadership positions which provides opportunities to practice the skills they learned from the Consultants. Incoming Tennessee State Organization Presidents always attend the Advanced Seminars to have conversations with these chapter leaders to find out where they would like to serve on the state level. A bonus to reading and discussing current leadership books is that participants may have the opportunity to meet the authors in person. Both Benjamin Zander and Mike Figliuolo have been keynote speakers at international conventions. This was an amazing experience for these Advanced Seminar graduates that likely never would have occurred outside DKG. This is another bonus to Society membership! [224 words]

Slide #6

The Tennessee State Organization Leadership Development Committee organized two special trainings in 2020 available to every member with a computer and an internet connection. First, best-selling author Dave Weber presented a virtual seminar based on his book *Leadership Redefined: The 12 X’s of Success for TODAY’S Leader*. This dynamic speaker delivered two hours of engaging, energetic instruction with advice ranging from “Xtract a Goal” and “Xpose Yourself to Winners” to “Xpect Opposition” and “Xclude Negative Thinking/Thinkers.” Funding for this online workshop was provided by an international Lucile Cornetet Professional Development Award.

A second online offering was *Vibrant Virtual Classrooms* with instructional designer Laurie Nave. She provided a proven template for virtual learning including meeting/conferencing tools, assignment managers, quality guide, and engagement tools to tweak any curriculum for effective online teaching. This session enhanced members’ leadership skills within their classrooms, buildings, and school systems. [143 words]

Slide #7

What have we learned about the Tennessee State Organization leadership training? We are now familiar with the Beginning and Advanced Leadership Seminars as well as the professional development webinars offered by the Tennessee State Organization Leadership Development Committee. Complete the five-question activity for module 13: “Tennessee State Organization Leadership Training” and submit it to DKG.member.edu@gmail.com for credit. [57 words]