



ANYWHERE IS HOME: LEADING WOMEN EDUCATORS IMPACTING EDUCATION WORLDWIDE

**Tennessee State History 2019-2021
Compiled by Dr. Beverly Hall-Maughan**

The following Tennessee State Organization officers and related personnel were presented to members at the Presidents' Banquet at Sewanee: The University of the South on Friday, May 31, 2019:

Dr. Beverly Hall	Alpha Rho	President
Dr. Elaine Vaughan	Alpha Epsilon	First Vice-President
Marsha Brewer	Beta Upsilon	Second Vice-President
Dr. Linda Eller	Alpha Lambda	Recording Secretary
Ann Gann	Pi	Corresponding Secretary
Dr. Dianne Anderson	Gamma Alpha	Treasurer
Dr. Kathie Harned	Beta Upsilon	Parliamentarian
Jennifer Lusk	Beta Xi	Executive Secretary
Orlean Bauman	Alpha Rho	Editor
Jaime Kerns	Gamma Lambda	Webmaster

2019-2021 Incoming President's Focus and Theme

During the annual Birthday Brunch on Saturday, June 1, 2019, incoming president Dr. Beverly Hall announced the theme for the 2019-2021 biennium as *Anywhere is Home: Key Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide*. A child of a military family, Hall explained that she moved often during her youth. She did not attend the same school until her junior year of high school. As a result, making friends was difficult because she was always considered to be the new girl who just didn't quite fit in. Something was always different, such as her accent, hair, clothes, or beliefs. Hall expounded that being a member of DKG has provided her with a sense of belonging and acceptance. DKG provides a sense of connectivity with others and personal differences do not matter. Her vision for our state is to have an organization that makes women feel accepted and loved regardless of their educational backgrounds, regardless of their differences, regardless of their beliefs. Tennessee DKG should celebrate and embrace differences as two people who think differently can achieve more than two people who think exactly alike. In DKG - *Anywhere is Home*. Anywhere is home when among your DKG family. She envisions a Tennessee organization where members want to join because of kinship with one another. When speaking to potential members, scholarships and personal development are often highlighted, but often, the most important aspects of our society - the friendship and relationships - are not mentioned. In addition to encouraging members to become part of our DKG family, Hall encouraged members to streamline and simplify practices by questioning if things are done a certain way because of tradition or because it is the best approach for the state organization.

She ended her comments with the following: “During the next two years, let us embrace our uniqueness and pattern our state organization into a family where all are accepted and *Anywhere Is Home.*”

International Conferences 2019

On September 13, 2018, the International Administrative Board adopted the DKG Vision Statement “Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide” coupled with a specific focus for each of the 2019 International Conferences. International Conferences replaced Regional Conferences and members were encouraged to attend the conference of most interest versus attendance at a particular region. The conferences and specific focuses offered were:

Arts & Humanities – Asheville, North Carolina

Leadership – Des Moines, Iowa

Technology – Costa Mesa, California

Professional Research – Reykjavik, Iceland

Global Awareness – Mashantucket, Connecticut

Tennessee members attended three of the five offered conferences.

Arts & Humanities – Asheville, North Carolina June 27-29, 2019

Elaine Warwick, Rho, shined as Southeast Regional Director and overseer of the Arts and Humanities International Conference in Asheville, North Carolina. Four hundred eighty members from various states attended the three-day event joined by over forty Tennessee members who were actively involved. Speaking or presenting workshops were Orlean Bauman, Alpha Rho; Sherrie Collins, Beta Pi; Dr. Beverly Hall, Alpha Rho; Tammy Jones, Beta; Mary Martin, Beta; Dr. Dorrie Powell, Beta Sigma; Becky Sadowski, Alpha Lambda; and Beverly Smith, Alpha Xi. Nancy Davis, Gamma Mu, served as Music Director.

Tennessee Night was planned by Dr. Elaine Vaughan, Alpha Epsilon, and was held at The Stoneridge Tavern. 2017-2019 Tennessee State President Dr. Elaine Alexander, Beta Epsilon, presented President Hall with the Iris Circle pin indicating membership into the Past State Presidents Iris Circle. The Iris Circle Pin represents unity, closeness, and never-ending commitment to Tennessee State Organization.

Leadership – Des Moines, Iowa July 10-12-2019

Representing the Tennessee State Organization at the International Conference on Leadership in Des Moines, Iowa was Dr. Beverly Hall, Alpha Rho; Brenda Oldham, Beta Upsilon; Chasity Ragsdale, Alpha Rho; and Elaine Warwick, Rho. As Southeast Regional Director, Elaine Warwick assisted in the training of incoming state presidents which was attended by Dr. Beverly Hall. State Membership Chair Chasity Ragsdale attended training for incoming state membership chairs. Brenda Oldham, a member of the State Membership Committee, attended *Leadership Bootcamp* with Susan Leahy. Dr. Beverly Hall, International Finance Committee Chair, presented a workshop session.

Global Awareness – Mashantucket, Connecticut July 30-August 1, 2019

Representing Tennessee State Organization at the International Conference on Global Awareness in Mashantucket, Connecticut was Dr. Beverly Hall and Tennessee State Awards Committee Chair Janice Stooksberry, Alpha Rho. President Hall presented the flags at opening session, provided information on the DKG Emergency Fund during the second general session, and presented a workshop on behalf of the International Finance Committee.

Tennessee State Leadership Conference for Committee Planning September 7, 2019

One hundred forty-eight members were appointed to Tennessee State Committees and Area Director positions. The Tennessee State Leadership Conference for State Committee Planning was held on Saturday, September 7, 2019, at Goodpasture Christian School in Madison, Tennessee. One hundred two members attended the planning conference. No pre-meeting was held on the evening prior to the training as in previous years; instead, committee chairs were provided with presidential charges and challenges for the biennium via postal mail prior to the event. Professional headshots and committee group photos were taken by Lusk Photography to make committee photos available for the state website. The traditional *Report Out* by committee chairs was replaced with an afternoon *Share Session* allowing time for committees to work together with other committees as needed. State officers and related personnel met immediately following the leadership conference to make advanced plans for the biennium.

Serving as committee chairs for the 2019-2021 term were:

- Achievement Award – Marsha Rains (Omega)
- Arts and Personal Growth – Sherrie Collins (Beta Pi)
- Awards – Janice Stooksberry (Alpha Rho)
- Bylaws and Rules – Diana Womble (Alpha Rho)
- Chapter Strengthening – Dr. Elaine Alexander (Beta Epsilon)
- Communications and Publicity – Dee Dee Rives (Theta)
- Convention Steering – Marsha Brewer (Beta Upsilon)
- Educational Excellence – Dr. Elaine Vaughan (Alpha Epsilon)
- Expansion – Sandra Pineault (Beta Upsilon)
- Finance – Kathleen Benedict (Pi)
- Historical Preservation – Cindy Tarkington (Alpha Nu)
- Leadership Development – Michelle Steen (Theta)
- Legislation – Peggy Monroe (Alpha Rho)
- Membership – Chasity Ragsdale (Alpha Rho)
- Nominations – Mary Jo Wilson (Alpha Lambda)
- Personnel – Dr. Dovie Kimmins (Beta)
- Planning – Dr. Dorrie Powell (Beta Sigma)
- Scholarship – Dr. Susan Young (Beta Beta)
- Special Events – Allison Maynard (Gamma Lambda) and Kim Thurman (Alpha Xi)
- State Projects – Tammy Jones (Beta)
- Vision Foundation – Doris Ann Hendrix (Beta Eta)

Area Directors for 2019-2021 were:

- Area I – Becky Redding (Alpha Iota)
- Area II – Carolynne “Kay” Moss (Alpha Epsilon)
- Area III – Cami Mitchell (Alpha Phi)
- Area IV – Becky Sanderson (Gamma Iota)
- Area V – Wynona Clayborne (Alpha Gamma)
- Area VI – Joan Howell (Beta Epsilon)
- Area VII – Jeanette Brandon (Kappa)
- Area VIII – Nancy Hickey (Theta)
- Area IX – Laura Evans (Alpha Sigma)

Private Social Media Groups Established for Chapter Committees

In September 2019, two private Facebook Groups were established for chapter membership chairs and chapter rules chairs to offer networking opportunities for chapter leaders. Tennessee State Membership Chair Chasity Ragsdale, Alpha Rho, and Tennessee State Bylaws and Rules Chair Diana Womble, Alpha Rho, created these social media accounts.

New Tennessee State Organization Recognition - Rosebud Award

In September 2019, the Tennessee Awards Committee chaired by Janice Stooksberry, Alpha Rho, and the Tennessee Achievement Award Committee chaired by Marsha Rains, Omega, collaborated to introduce the Tennessee Rosebud Award. The Rosebud Award shall be presented at the Tennessee State convention to a member having five or fewer years of membership who exhibits outstanding service to her chapter and state organization, as well as an interest in the international Society.

Educational Excellence Committee Announced EEC Corner Spotlight

In September 2019, the Educational Excellence Committee (EEC), chaired by First Vice President Dr. Elaine Vaughan, Alpha Epsilon, created an EEC Corner Spotlight to highlight Tennessee Organization Chapter Programs and Projects on the state website. Each chapter was encouraged to submit at least one program and one project to feature on the EEC Corner Spotlight.

Communications and Publicity Committee Hosts Professional Development

The Tennessee State Communications and Publicity Committee, chaired by Dee Dee Rives, Theta, offered a professional development opportunity for members on Saturday, October 26, 2019, at Red Bank High School in Chattanooga. The following sessions were offered: *Creating a Literacy Legacy*; *ESOL Best Practices*; *Social Media for Educators*; and *Tech Tips for an Engaged Classroom*.

Essay Contest Expanded

In November 2019, the Tennessee State Projects Committee chaired by Tammy Jones, Beta, announced the expansion of the Tennessee State Essay Contest to include middle school students. The 2020 Essay Contest Topic was *"I think, with never-ending gratitude, that the young women of today do not and can never know at what price their right to free speech and to speak at all in public has been earned."* – Lucy Stone.

Meeting at Sewanee: The University of the South

Marsha Brewer, Beta Upsilon; Dr. Beverly Hall, Alpha Rho; and Dr. Elaine Vaughan, Alpha Epsilon, met with The University of the South personnel on Monday, January 20, 2020, to plan the 85th Tennessee State Convention scheduled to be held June 4-6, 2020.

2020 Legislative Symposium

The annual Tennessee State Legislative Symposium was scheduled for March 3-4, 2020, at the Best Western Plus Sunrise Inn in Nashville, Tennessee. Sadly, from late in the day on March 2 into the early morning hours on March 3, several super-cell thunderstorms spawned numerous tornadoes across southeast Missouri, southern Kentucky, Tennessee, and central Alabama. The worst of these, an EF-3 tornado, touched down across Middle Tennessee during the early morning hours of March 3, 2020, resulting in widespread damage, hundreds of injuries, and twenty-five fatalities. The hotel venue had no power and interstates and legislative offices were closed; therefore, the decision was made to cancel the 2020 Legislative Symposium.

2020 Beginning Leadership Management Seminar

The Tennessee State Beginning Leadership Management Seminar hosted by the Tennessee State Leadership Development Committee chair Michelle Steen, Theta, was held on March 13-14, 2020, at the Natchez Trace State Park in Wildersville, Tennessee. Although Tennessee Governor Bill Lee issued an executive order on March 12, 2022, declaring a state of emergency due to COVID-19, it was decided to continue with the Beginning Leadership Management Seminar with special attention given to health precautions. Eight members attended the event along with State President Dr. Beverly Hall, Alpha Rho, and State Treasurer Dr. Dianne Anderson, Gamma Alpha. Past Tennessee State Presidents Dr. Dorrie Powell, Beta Sigma, and Beverly Smith, Alpha Xi, presented *Leadership: A Piece of CAKE – Communication, Authenticity, Knowledge, Empathy*. Topics included: Time Management; Leadership Styles; Self-Care; Generational Differences; Branding; and Parliamentary Procedures. Unknown at the time, this would be the last face-to-face Tennessee State Organization event until June 2021.

Global Crisis

The global COVID-19 crisis was caused by a severe respiratory syndrome known as the coronavirus. The virus spread world-wide causing the World Health Organization to declare a Public Health Emergency of International Concern in January 2020 and a Public Health Pandemic in March of 2020.

On March 16, 2020, Tennessee Governor Bill Lee asked Tennessee schools to close by March 20, 2020, and to remain closed until March 31, 2020. On March 24, 2020, The Department of Education extended the closure through April 24, 2020. On April 2, 2020, Governor Lee issued an executive “Stay at Home” order requiring Tennesseans to remain at home except for essential activities. On April 15, 2020, Governor Lee closed schools for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

Social distancing and the wearing of masks for individuals over the age of two was encouraged in public settings. Governor Lee urged Tennesseans to work from home and ordered restaurants to close apart from drive-thru, take-out, and delivery services. Other restrictions included closing gyms, barring visitors to nursing homes and long-term care facilities, postponement of elective medical and dental procedures, and prohibiting social gatherings of 10 or more people.

DKG Cultural License Plate

President Hall brainstormed ideas with Dr. Dianne Anderson, Gamma Alpha, while traveling to visit Gamma Mu chapter in Mountain City, Tennessee in August 2019. One idea being a DKG license plate which could be purchased by Tennessee members. Hall researched the two options available through the Tennessee Department of Revenue and was provided the following information:

- Before a license plate can be created, it must be introduced through legislation.
- There are two types of plates: 1) specialty license plate, where a portion of the fees goes to the sponsoring organization, and 2) cultural license plate, which does not designate any revenue toward the sponsoring organization.
- The cost for the specialty plate would be an additional \$75 per plate with a minimum order of one thousand plates. The cost for the cultural plate would be an additional \$35 per plate with no minimum order.

Based on the provided information, President Hall enlisted Representative David Byrd and Senator Joey Hensley to sponsor the required legislation. HB1605 and SB1591 allowing Tennessee State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International to have a cultural license plate was filed for introduction on January 10, 2020. The bills passed the Safety & Funding, Financial Ways & Means, Transportation & Safety, and Calendar & Rules Committee and became effective April 6,

2020. Following approval, the bill was submitted to the Vehicle Services Division for artwork design. Unfortunately, when working on the artwork design with the Tennessee Vehicle Service Manager, it was revealed that the information provided by the Department of Revenue was inaccurate and the Vehicle Services Division must be provided artwork along with a total amount remitted of \$35,000 with a list of one thousand residents of the State of Tennessee accepting the cultural license plate. The applicant list, payment, and artwork must be submitted together by June 30 of the year legislation passed. Although legislation for the Tennessee DKG license plate was approved, it was determined that obtainment of needed funds to proceed with this venture would be difficult to secure, especially during the midst of a global pandemic.

2020 Tennessee State Leadership Conference for Chapter Leaders

The Tennessee State Leadership Conference for Incoming Chapter Leaders, organized by State Recording Secretary Dr. Linda Eller, Alpha Lambda, was scheduled for March 28, 2020, at South Side High School, Jackson (West); May 2, 2020, at Goodpasture School, Madison (Middle); and May 16, 2020, at Trinity United Methodist Church, Knoxville (East). Based on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines for mass gatherings, it was determined to cancel the scheduled face-to-face meetings and use technology to conduct the training sessions.

Chapter Presidents

President Hall produced three video series for incoming chapter presidents titled *I'm President...Now What?* with follow-up virtual networking opportunities including select committee chairs. The virtual networking sessions were:

- June 4, 2020 Rules & Bylaws; Diana Womble, State Bylaws and Rules Chair
- June 4, 2020 Membership; Chasity Ragsdale, State Membership Chair
- June 6, 2020 Chapter Strengthening; Dr. Elaine Alexander, State Chapter Strengthening Chair
- June 6, 2020 Communications & Publicity, Dee Dee Rives, State Communications Chair and Orlean Bauman, State Editor
- June 11, 2020 Educational Excellence; Dr. Elaine Vaughan, State EEC Chair
- June 11, 2020 Strategic Planning; Dr. Dorrie Powell, State Planning Chair

The incoming chapter presidents video series and virtual networking event recordings were placed on the Tennessee state website.

Chapter Membership Chairs Training

A video presentation for incoming chapter membership chairs created by Tennessee State Membership Chair Chasity Ragsdale, Alpha Rho, was placed on the Tennessee state website and e-mailed to chapter membership chairs. Ragsdale also designed an electronic Form 6 allowing chapters to report the death of members online.

Chapter Vice Presidents and/or Program/EEC Chairs Training

Virtual training for incoming vice-presidents and/or Educational Excellence Committee chairs was held on Friday June 12, 2020, and Friday, June 19, 2020, by State First Vice President Dr. Elaine Vaughan, Alpha Epsilon. Additionally, a training video was generated by First Vice President Vaughan and placed on the Tennessee state website.

Chapter Treasurer Training

Two virtual treasurer training sessions for chapter treasurers were conducted by Tennessee State Treasurer Dr. Dianne Anderson, Gamma Alpha, on May 2, 2020, and May 9, 2020.

Chapter Strategic Plan Template

In March 2020, Tennessee State Organization Planning Committee chaired by Dr. Dorrie Powell, Beta Sigma, and Barbara Hinson, Alpha Rho, released a template for use in creating chapter strategic plans. Plans were submitted electronically through Google Forms.

2020 Tennessee State Convention

On April 17, 2020, President Dr. Beverly Hall, Alpha Rho; First Vice President Dr. Elaine Vaughan, Alpha Epsilon; and Second Vice President and Convention Steering Committee Chair Marsha Brewer, Beta Upsilon; made the decision to cancel the Tennessee State Convention scheduled to be held June 4-6, 2020, at The University of the South. This decision was based on the state of COVID-19 and concern for the safety of all members. Chris Carlson with University Conference Services sent the following message: *There is no other summer conference that's anything like Delta Kappa Gamma. Your strength, resilience, and humor are an inspiration to us. Be well and stay safe.*

2020 International Convention

The International Convention was scheduled for July 7-11, 2020, at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, Philadelphia Pennsylvania. Corresponding Secretary Ann Gann, Pi, planned Tennessee Night to be held at Maggiano's Little Italy Restaurant for July 9, 2020. On May 16, 2020, the International Administrative Board voted to conduct the 2020 International Convention virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Several events were held live and some were pre-recorded. No registration fee was charged for members to virtually attend the convention activities and all events were filmed and available on the DKG website for future viewing.

Virtual Celebration

Tennessee member, Becky Sadowski, Alpha Lambda, was virtually installed as the 2020-2022 International President. A Zoom-celebration (virtual celebration) was conducted on July 9, 2020, to honor International President Becky Sadowski. Video messages from various Tennessee chapters, past state presidents, and state officers and related personnel were highlighted. State Treasurer Dr. Dianne Anderson, Gamma Alpha, presented a video comprised of greetings from several chapter treasurers congratulating immediate-past Tennessee State Treasurer Nancy Davis, Gamma Mu, on her election to the International Finance Committee. Joan Howell, Beta Epsilon, was named 2020 Tennessee Star of the Southeast.

Leadership Redefined

President Hall applied for and received a *Lucile Cornet Seminar Professional Development Award* from the International DKG Educators Foundation (DKGIEF) to offer a weekend multi-state leadership development seminar at The Chattanooga in Chattanooga, Tennessee during the spring of 2020. Due to COVID-19, permission from DKGIEF was granted to change the seminar to a virtual event. The workshop was hosted by the Tennessee State Leadership Development Committee chaired by Michelle Steen, Theta, on July 13, 2020. The *Leadership Redefined* presenter was Dave Weber, author of *Leadership Redefined: The 12 Xs of Success for TODAY's Leader*. Two hundred ninety-five members and seven non-members attended *Leadership Redefined* with representatives from twelve states.

Reopening of Tennessee Schools

On July 28, 2020, the Tennessee Department of Health released recommendations for managing COVID-19 in schools. Tennessee local districts and individual schools were tasked with developing individual reopening plans for the 2020-2021 academic year based on the CDC color-coded guidelines.

to aid communities in the safe opening of schools for in-person learning. The Tennessee Department of Education offered guidance with several options for in-person, online, or hybrid learning, such as:

Remote or distance video and audio instruction.

Staggered student schedules for face-to-face instruction.

Self-paced or independent programs.

Split days or alternating days of face-to-face and virtual instruction.

Additional recommendations included the wearing of face coverings, limited movement of students, one-way hallways, student cohorts, and six-foot distancing. On September 29, 2020, Governor Lee announced the State of Emergency to continue through October 2020.

Presidents to Presidents (P2P)

On August 1, 2020, President Hall announced that monthly virtual Presidents to Presidents (P2P) meetings would be held on the third Sunday afternoon of each month as a method for chapter presidents to network and share ideas with one another during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Virtual Leadership Development Event

To aid educators in offering online learning, the Tennessee Leadership Development Committee chaired by Michelle Steen, Theta, offered a professional development opportunity titled *Vibrant Virtual Classrooms* on Saturday, August 15, 2020. The event was presented by Instructional Designer Laurie Nave who demonstrated free and easy ways to tweak curriculum to enhance virtual learning.

2020 Creative Arts Retreat

Tennessee State Arts and Personal Growth Chair Sherrie Collins, Beta Pi, announced the date of the 2020 Creative Arts Retreat for September 18-19, 2020. The event was scheduled to be held in Rogersville, Tennessee, with the theme of *Happiness is Homemade*. Due to COVID-19 global pandemic guidelines for mass gatherings, the Creative Arts Retreat was rearranged as a virtual event. The Virtual Creative Arts Retreat was held on September 19, 2020, with six thirty-minute workshop session options offered to members. Over fifty members attended this virtual creative arts retreat.

2020 Virtual Workshops

President Hall collaborated with several state committees to offer a variety of virtual workshops for members to provide opportunities for social interaction and emotional support during the globally stressed “Safer-at-Home” and social distancing sanctions. Many of the workshops were recorded and placed on the state website for viewing by members who were not able to attend the live events.

Creating Powerful PowerPoints

On October 3, 2020, the Tennessee State Organization Communications & Publicity Committee chaired by Dee Dee Rives, Theta, offered *Creating Powerful PowerPoints*. The virtual event was conducted by Henry Lawton, president of the Florida Association of Parliamentarians. The workshop focused on helpful tools regarding clarity, design, and the insertion of eye-pleasing arrangements within a presentation. Twenty-two Tennessee members attended this event.

DKG Goes Country

The Tennessee Arts & Personal Growth Committee chaired by Sherrie Collins, Beta Pi, offered *DKG Goes Country*. Award-winning duo *2Country4Nashville* performed traditional country tunes for DKG members. Thirty-two members attended the October 11, 2020, event with representatives from three states.

Facebook for 'Fraidy Cats

On October 17, 2020, Tennessee Executive Secretary Jennifer Lusk, Beta Xi, presented *Facebook for 'Fraidy Cats*, to aid members in learning the basics of using Facebook as a social networking service. Twenty-two members attended from two states.

Virtual Ice Breakers

Dr. Beverly Hall, Alpha Rho, presented *Virtual Ice Breakers* on October 27, 2020. The session provided examples of games and activities designed to welcome attendees and warm up conversations among participants meeting virtually. Thirty-four members from Tennessee attended.

Motivational Time Out

Four ninety-minute sessions of fun titled *Motivational Time Out* were offered by award-winning comedian Brad Tassell on November 8, November 9, November 10, and December 1, 2020. Tassell's best-selling book *Don't Feed the Bully* is read by thousands of students each year and his comedy shows are a favorite on Carnival Cruise lines. Tassell has been seen on CMT, ESPN, MTV, and PBS. One hundred forty-four members representing twelve states attended during the four offered sessions.

Canva Content Creation

On November 21, 2020, Dr. Kristy Sherrod, Theta, presented back-to-back sessions on content creation using Canva with *Beginning Canva* and *Advanced Canva*. Canva is an online graphic design platform used to create social media graphics, presentations, posters, documents, and other visual content. Thirty-one Tennessee members attended both workshops.

Adobe Spark

Heather Dunn, Arkansas State Organization Technology Chair, presented *Adobe Spark* on December 10, 2020. Attendees gained tips on creating ads, flyers, invitations, holiday cards, and more using the drop and drag Adobe app technology. Thirty-four members from four states attended this event.

Zoom Caroling

In December 2020, Governor Lee limited indoor public gatherings to ten people and requested that Tennesseans avoid gathering for Christmas outside of homes. On December 19, 2020, Tennessee State Organization Education Excellence Committee chaired by First Vice President Dr. Elaine Vaughan, Alpha Epsilon, presented *Zoom Caroling* with a Virtual Cookie exchange. The event was hosted by Tennessee Music Representative Nancy Davis, Gamma Mu. In addition to holiday songs led by Nancy, poems were recited by Harriett King, Gamma Omicron; Jane Eve Rayburn, Beta Rho; and Kathy Smith, Alpha Nu. Solos were performed by Nancy Davis, Gamma Mu, and Donna Camper, Alpha Alpha. Bible scripture was read by Dee Dee Rives, Theta. Fifty-nine members attended the virtual caroling event with representatives joining from three states. Contributed recipes were distributed via e-mail and the recorded event was placed on the state website.

New Tennessee State Webmaster

President Hall served as interim state organization webmaster on a volunteer basis from October 14, 2019 until June 30, 2020. On June 18, 2020, the Tennessee State Executive Board approved the recommendation of the Tennessee State Personnel Committee that Sherrie Collins, Beta Pi, begin service as Tennessee State Webmaster on July 1, 2020.

Chapter Yearbook Template

In September 2020, Tennessee State First Vice President Dr. Elaine Vaughan, Alpha Epsilon, created a template containing information needed for use in preparing chapter yearbooks. Updated state and international information was provided and chapters only needed to add chapter specific information.

2021 Essay Contest

Tennessee State Projects Committee chaired by Tammy Jones, Beta, coordinated the 2021 Essay Contest theme with the global pandemic: *Is internet access a necessity of modern life, like running water or electricity, or is it a bonus, something that is nice to have but not a requirement?* Middle school students were included in the 2021 Essay Contest.

New Tennessee State Editor

On November 15, 2020, the State Executive Board approved the recommendation of the Tennessee State Personnel Committee that Michelle Steen, Theta, begin service as Tennessee State Editor on July 1, 2021. Steen replaced Orlean Bauman, Alpha Rho, who served as State Editor for ten years.

2021 Virtual Workshop Opportunities

In January 2021, the Tennessee Department of Health released a distribution plan for implementing COVID-19 Vaccines. The plan included three allocation phases based on risk factors and the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Framework for equitable allocation. In an effort to better control the pandemic, Tennesseans were encouraged to be vaccinated, wear a face mask, maintain social distance, and be tested if exposed or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19. Based on positive responses from members across the state, virtual social activities and professional development opportunities were continued to aid in the maintaining of relationships within the state organization.

Beginning Sign Language

On Tuesday, January 5, 2021, Limestone County Schools (Alabama) Speech Language Pathologist Carrie Gervais presented *Basic Sign Language*. Gervais presented PSE techniques which is a combination of American Sign Language and Signed Exact English. Topics included the alphabet, common phrases, and basic sign language etiquette. Twenty-three members from two states attended.

Chair Yoga

Yoga instructor Kat Smith with Southern Soul Yoga from Chattanooga, Tennessee, presented gentle stretching and breathing exercises during *Chair Yoga* on Friday, January 8, 2021. Thirty-five members from five states attended.

Miniature Boxes

On Saturday, January 16, 2021, Janice Stooksberry, Alpha Rho, demonstrated the making of *Miniature Boxes* using recycled holiday greeting cards. Attending were twenty-seven members representing four states.

Triskele Paper Globes

Texas State Organization Area VIII Coordinator Cathryn Burke demonstrated the making of Triskele Paper Globes on Tuesday, February 9, 2021. Thirty-five members from six states attended this virtual crafting event.

Questions About Technology? Let's Find Answers!

Technology Director of Milan Special School District/Tennessee State Organization Treasurer Dr. Dianne Anderson, Gamma Alpha, presented *Questions About Technology? Let's Find Answers* on Saturday, February 10, 2021. Attendees submitted specific questions in advance and follow-up questions during the event. Nineteen members from three states attended this informative workshop.

Excel Basics

Wayne County Career and Technical Education Director Heather Warren presented *Excel Basics* on Saturday, February 27, 2021. Thirty-one members representing five states learned the basics of Microsoft Excel formulas, tables, and charts.

Google Docs Basics

Tennessee State Webmaster Sherrie Collins, Beta Pi, presented *Google Docs Basics* on Thursday, March 4, 2021. Thirty-four members from four states attended this member requested workshop.

DKG Zoom Olympics

Amber Roberts, Alpha Epsilon, demonstrated various functions to increase virtual meeting engagement and interaction with *DKG Zoom Olympics* on Saturday, April 3, 2020. Nineteen members attended representing five states. Roberts was invited to present the workshop at the Oregon State Organization virtual state convention.

How to Instagram

Abbi Hill, Pi, instructed members on *How to Instagram* on Monday, April 5, 2021. The workshop focused on connecting educators using Instagram as a social media platform. Twenty-four members attended from four state organizations.

Watercolor Techniques for Absolute Beginners

Texas State Organization Women in Arts Committee Chair Shirl Hawes presented *Watercolor Techniques for Absolute Beginners* on Tuesday, April 13, 2021. Twenty-four members from three states learned basic watercolor art techniques.

New Member Educational Instructional Video Series

In January 2021, the Tennessee State Chapter Strengthening Committee chaired by Dr. Elaine Alexander, Beta Epsilon, released a video series to serve as informational material for new members. Chapters were encouraged to customize the video series with photos and recordings featuring chapter members to serve as new member orientation modules.

Meeting with Sewanee: The University of the South

Orlean Bauman, Alpha Rho; Marsha Brewer, Beta Upsilon; Dr. Beverly Hall, Alpha Rho; and Dr. Elaine Vaughan, Alpha Epsilon, met remotely with The University of the South personnel on Monday, January 18, 2021, to discuss the possibility of holding the Tennessee State Convention on The University of the South Campus. Outside groups were to be permitted on campus during the summer; however, several restrictions would be enforced including:

- Required COVID testing for each attendee at the cost of \$50 per individual.
- Wait time of at least four hours for COVID test results.
- Workshop spaces restricted to six individuals per breakout session.

- No off-campus lodging.
- Reduced number allowed at meals and Presidents' Banquet.

Taking all these considerations into account, the decision was made to explore the possibility of securing another location for the 2021 convention. Tours of possible venues were conducted both virtually and in-person. After extensive research, it was determined that the 85th Tennessee State Convention would be held on June 4-5, 2021 at the Grand Hyatt Nashville in Nashville, Tennessee.

2021 Tennessee Legislative Symposium

The Tennessee Legislative Committee chaired by Peggy Monroe, Alpha Rho, hosted the 2021 Legislative Symposium. The event was held virtually on Tuesday, March 2, 2021. Members were welcomed with video greetings from Tennessee State Commissioner of Education Dr. Penny Schwinn. Lisa Henderson, former Legislative Liaison for Tennessee Counseling Association, served as keynote speaker. Ninety-three members attended this legislative event with Representatives John Ray Clemmons, Vincent Dixie, John D. Ragan, and Senator Raumesh Akbari serving as panelists.

2021 Executive Board Meeting

In place of the traditional two-night three-day state convention, the 85th Tennessee State Convention was reduced to a two-day one-night event consisting of three General Sessions, two Break-out sessions, *Homecoming Dinner*, *Taste of Tennessee Breakfast*, and Presidential Luncheon. To accommodate the reduced time frame, the Tennessee State Executive Board Meeting was held electronically on Sunday, May 16, 2021. Four pre-meeting practice and information sessions were held prior on Thursday, April 8, 2021; Saturday, April 17, 2021; Sunday, April 18, 2021; and Wednesday, May 12, 2021. During the executive board meeting, previous electronic votes were read into the minutes including the approval of the revised State Strategic Plan for 2021-2023 and the following chapter dissolutions and mergers:

- Dissolutions - Mu; Gamma Theta; Alpha Pi; Psi; and Upsilon.
- Mergers - Alpha Tau with Zeta and Gamma Lambda with Alpha.

2021 Tennessee State Convention

The 85th Tennessee State Convention was held at the Grand Hyatt Nashville in Nashville, Tennessee on June 4-5, 2021. A highlight of the convention was the presence and participation of the Society's Membership Director Trish Woodley and keynote speaker Dr. Stephanie Bailey. Dr. Bailey is a lifetime champion of community health excellence and served six years as the Chief for Public Health Practice at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia. Eighteen workshop sessions were available ranging in topics from writing grant proposals, planning a happy life, basics of Canva and Google Apps, goal setting, and more. Betsy Thorpe, Beta, was inducted as a state honorary member. Dr. Kathie Harned, Beta Upsilon, was presented with the 2020 Achievement Award and Dr. Elaine Alexander, Beta Epsilon, was presented with the 2021 Achievement Award. Chasity Ragsdale, Alpha Rho, was awarded the 2020 Rosebud Award and Pam Henitzman, Beta Upsilon, was awarded the 2021 Rosebud Award.

The following members were recognized with certificates for longevity of service:

Donna Cotner, Beta Rho	50 years
Patsy Cunningham, Beta Eta	50 years
Brenda Oldham, Beta Upsilon	50 years
Patsy Woodham, Alpha Phi	55 years
Julia Householder, Gamma Nu	59 years

Corresponding Secretary Ann Gann shared *Starry Starry Night* plans for Tennessee Night scheduled to be held Friday, July 23, 2021, at the Chart House Tower of the Americas during the upcoming International Conference in San Antonio, Texas.

The Nominations Committee presented the following slate of nominees:

State Officer Nominees for 2021-2023:

President: Dr. Elaine Vaughan, Alpha Epsilon
First Vice President: Marsha Brewer, Beta Upsilon
Second Vice President: Orlean Bauman, Alpha Rho
Recording Secretary: Chasity Ragsdale, Alpha Rho
Corresponding Secretary: Amanda Pugh, Beta Eta

Elected Committee Nominees for 2021-2025:

Nominations - Ann Gann, Pi; Sandra Pineault, Beta Epsilon; Patsye Jones, Beta Omega.
Personnel Committee - Elaine McIntosh, Gamma Nu; Janice Stooksberry, Alpha Rho; Jeanette Brandon, Kappa.
Finance Committee - Susie Westbrook, Alpha Phi; Brenda Oldham, Beta Upsilon; Dr. Dorrie Powell, Beta Sigma.
Vision Foundation Board - Joan Howell, Beta Epsilon; Dr. Cathy Meredith, Alpha Lambda.

Passing of the Gavel

President Hall shared the following final comments before passing the gavel to 2021-2023 Tennessee State president Dr. Elaine Vaughan, Alpha Epsilon.

Ladies, it has been my greatest honor to serve as your state president; although there were times when I felt that our theme should have been *Nowhere but Home* versus *Anywhere is Home*. When I was installed 2 years ago, I thanked my chapter – my Alpha Rho family – for their love and support. I enjoyed visiting with chapter members across the state and was able to attend sixty-eight chapter meetings during my two-year term (33 face-to-face and 35 virtual meetings). I want to thank all members who have become my family.

Together...we have

- Created templates for chapter rules and chapter yearbooks.
- Provided examples of chapter programs and projects on our state website.
- Initiated a Rosebud award to honor newer members.
- Established monthly virtual meetings with chapter presidents.
- Secured a new editor and webmaster.
- Included middle schoolers in our essay contest.
- Held a virtual arts retreat and legislative symposium.
- Conducted in-person leadership training one week before shelter-at-home.
- Hosted a virtual leadership event with 295 members from 12 states.
- Created modules for chapters to use for new member orientation.
- Created private Facebook pages for chapter membership and rules chairs.
- Conducted virtual training for incoming chapter presidents, vice presidents, treasurers, and membership chairs.

- Raised \$2,150.00 towards leadership development without a silent auction.
- Revised the communication award to include social media.
- Modified the budget virtually.
- Revised and improved the state strategic plan to make it more concise and user friendly.
- Held 21 virtual workshops attended by 651 members from 16 states, and
- Organized an in-person state convention in the aftermath of a global pandemic.

What women we are!!!!

Dr. Beverly Hall-Maughan, Alpha Rho Chapter
2019-2021 Tennessee State Organization President

**Awards and Achievements
2019-2020**

2020 Tennessee State Scholarship Recipient

Leigh Anne Durham, Kappa, Mary Hall Scholarship

Achievement Award

Dr. Kathie Harned, Beta Upsilon

2020 Vision Foundation Grants

Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award

Dorothea Royle, Gamma Alpha

The Ron Clark Academy Experience in Atlanta

Kathy McCullough Smith Project Grant

Jennifer Young Hood, Phi

Sand and Such (For Counseling)

Doris Ann Hendrix Project Grant

Harriet Camilla King, Gamma Omicron

Resources for New Directions Academy

Leigh Workman Project Grant

Carol Ridley Nanney, Gamma Alpha

Seeing Ourselves in Pictures!

Marilyn Ivey Project Grant

Carol Gardner, Gamma Omicron

Assessment for Life

2020 New Visionaries

Vickie Sewell

Alpha Nu Chapter

Tennessee State Members with International Positions

Dr. Beverly Hall	Alpha Rho	Chair, International Finance Committee
Becky Sadowski	Alpha Lambda	International First Vice-President
Beverly Smith	Alpha Xi	International Educational Excellence Committee
Elaine Warwick	Rho	Southeast Regional Director
Dr. Jensi Souders	Alpha Phi	Past International President 2010-2012
		International Editor, <i>DKG News</i>

2020 Rosebud Honoree

Chastity Ragsdale, Alpha Rho

2020 Order of the Rose Honorees

Diane Alsop, Pi
Linda Beth Barker, Beta Zeta
Dorcas Fairchild, Alpha Iota
Joan Holt, Iota
Dr. Dovie Kimmins, Beta
Judy McDonald, Alpha Rho
Dr. Kathleen Phillips, Beta Upsilon
Linda "Dee Dee" Trentham, Gamma Nu
LaNoka Rhodes, Alpha Tau
Dr. Laura Snyder-Jones, Alpha Nu
Linda Waldron, Alpha Alpha

Beginning State Leadership Management Seminar Participants

Bethany Brown, Theta
Nikki Davis, Beta Sigma
Celestine French, Alpha Lambda
Abbi Hill, Pi
Angie Justice, Kappa
Beth Naylor, Theta
Amanda Pugh, Beta Eta
Clemmie West, Alpha Lambda

Awards and Achievements 2020-2021

2021 Tennessee State Scholarship Recipient

Bethany Billingsley, Beta Upsilon, Mary Hall Scholarship

2021 International Scholarship Recipients

Bethany Billingsley, Beta Upsilon

Sarah Rudolph, Beta Upsilon

Achievement Award

Dr. Elaine Alexander, Beta Epsilon

International Guest

Patricia Woodley, Membership Director

Vision Foundation Grants

Kathy McCullough Smith Project Grant

Amy Webb Wilkes, Gamma Alpha

Little Learners Using iPads for Success in the Future

Doris Ann Hendrix Project Grant

Debra Clayton Martin, Theta

Don't Be a Dummy: Prepare Today!

Leigh Workman Project Grant

Beverly Miller LeBlanc, Alpha Rho

IXL—I'm Excited about Learning

Marilyn Ivey Project Grant

Ladonna Cook Herrin, Gamma Alpha

Reaching the Young Adult Reader

New Visionaries

Dr. Dianne Anderson

Dr. Beverly Hall

Ann Gann

Beta Rho Chapter

West Nashville Kiwanis Club

Tennessee State Members with International Positions

Becky Sadowski	Alpha Lambda	International President
Nancy Davis	Gamma Mu	International Finance Committee
Beverly Smith	Alpha Xi	Chair, International Educational Excellence Committee
Dr. Jensi Souders	Alpha Phi	Past International President 2010-2012
Dr. Dorrie Powell	Beta Sigma	International Editorial Board

2021 Rosebud Honoree

Pamela Heintzman, Beta Upsilon

Order of the Rose

Christine Carroll, Theta

Shirley Dark, Alpha Rho

Kathy Fasig, Beta Upsilon

Barbara Northcut, Alpha Phi

Rhonda Phillips, Pi

Leni Smith, Gamma Mu

Pat Tyree, Rho