

# Omicron News



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
NC DKG – North Carolina State Organization  
Omicron Chapter Newsletter  
Wilson/Greene Counties, NC  
Region II  
February, 2024



VOL.78, NO. 3

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

## From Omicron President - Christine Gilmore



Where is our snow???? Yes, I am trying to manifest the snow again this year!!! That's it, just one or two days!! Bonus if it is during a school day. I'm even reading books about snow and snowmen to my second graders. I just need one or two days of my yard covered in white so my puppies can play. I told my students that we did not want it during Christmas break because it was more fun to have a snow day. Years ago, I remember when Christy Proctor, owner of Chick-Fil-A, wished for snow to come only on Sunday. She would make that plea every time we had a snowflake stirring on our weather apps. We all have our hopes, right??

A little recap from our November meeting...Omicron held a joint meeting with Gamma Mu. We had a brief business meeting, then enjoyed a delicious pot luck lunch. Afterwards, we wrote encouraging notes to the Beginning Teachers of Wilson County Schools. Sherri Jernigan, Gamma Mu president, brought Kit Kats to include with the cards. It was great getting to know the Gamma Mu members! We have already said that we must do it again next year.



Our **next meeting** will be on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm at the Wilson Academy of Applied Technology (WAAT) located on 4809 Ward Blvd, Wilson. David Lyndon, principal of WAAT, will be our guest speaker. We will also get to tour the new school. This will be the meeting that we collect our **Love Offerings** for WCS 3<sup>rd</sup> year teachers.



Looking ahead, our last meeting of the year will be held on Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church on Goldsboro Street. Jim Howard, Seeds of Hope director, will be our speaker. We will also install our new officers.

I hope you all have a warm and possibly snow-white February!!

Warm Regards,  
Christine



2023 – 2025 NC DKG Theme

## From Dot Carter – NC DKG Educational Foundation

The NC DKG Educational Foundation is offering two scholarships this year:

### Opportunities

- The Marilyn F. Grinwis Gray Scholarship for elementary education and music education @ \$3,000 (Six Marilyn Grinwis Gray Scholarships, \$3,000 each, are available again this year to individuals currently enrolled in Music Education or Elementary Education degree programs at a recognized college or university in NC.)
- The Phil Harrell Memorial Scholarship for computer science @ \$2500 (This is a new scholarship! An **anonymous individual from Wilson** has donated funds to the Foundation to endow the Phil Harrell Memorial Scholarship. It is for a college/university sophomore or junior **computer science** major. Need is a priority. The information is on the website. This year four (4) scholarships for \$2500 each will be awarded.

See the NC DKG website for details of each and the application for each.

**Deadline: March 10, 2024**

**Also announced: 2024 ECU GenCyber Teacher Summer Camp!** See details on page 4.

## From Dr. Phyllis Broughton, Educational Excellence Committee Chair

The NCDKG Leadership Development Committee is providing a book review of **Dare to Lead** by Brené Brown. Dr. Mary Earp will lead discussions and conversation of this virtual book review beginning February 13 for 7 to 8 p.m. through Zoom. This is an opportunity for personal and professional leadership growth. [Click here to register](#) if you would like to participate.

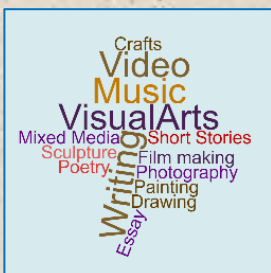
## Community Soup Kitchen Volunteers

Omicron's next scheduled Soup Kitchen date is **Monday, April 29, 2024**. An email will be sent to those who expressed an interest in volunteering. If you did not sign up and would like to volunteer, please contact either Martha Wrenn or Marsha Irvin. Please mark your calendars and plan to join us.

Special thanks to our January volunteers: Shirley, Elvia, Jean, Martha, Marsha, and Pat



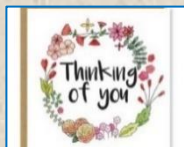
## DKG Gallery of Fine Arts



Are you an artist? A photographer? A writer? A musician? Omicron would like one or more of its members showcased in the DKG Gallery of Fine arts. Application Forms, with the new July 2022 revisions, and judging rubrics are found at [gallery.dkg.org/](http://gallery.dkg.org/). Contact Dedra Davis, NC DKG liaison to the International Art Gallery, with questions. Dedra encourages members to showcase their talents. The submission periods are August 15 – September 15 and January 15 – February 15. Please consider sharing your talents!



## From Susie Pope – Member News



If you have news of members, please contact Susie Pope, Christine Gilmore, or Marsha Irvin.

## From Jerri Moore – Omicron Website



Visit <http://wilsonomicron.weebly.com/> for all the latest Omicron news. Jerri has our site updated to include meeting dates/times/locations, newsletters, tributes, and photos.

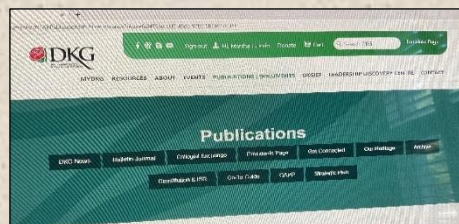
## Omicron newsletter

Please let Marsha know if you have any announcements, suggestions, articles, etc. for our newsletter. You may call/text Marsha at 252-230-3830 or send her an email.



## Online DKG News

The 2024 January-February issue of *DKG News* is available online-only on the DKG website. Have you set up an account on the DKG website? All you need is your membership ID number which is printed on your DKG membership card. Go to <http://www.dkg.org> and set up your account! Once you have set up your account, click on the Publications tab. In addition to *DKG News*, you can also read other publications.



The Winter 2023 issue of *NC DKG News* is available online. Go to <https://www.ncdkg.org/> to read the exciting things happening in NC DKG chapters. NC DKG members and chapters are encouraged to send information to be used in the NC DKG News to Dedra Davis, Editor. Newsletter Deadlines to submit information are August 1 (Fall), November 1 (Winter), February 1 (Spring), and May 1 (Summer).

## Only 3 months until the DKG State Convention!

Make sure the dates April 26-28, 2024 are on your calendar! Secure a roommate! Start planning your “After 5 Attire” for the Saturday night banquet! And don’t forget your dancing shoes! It’s not too early to start daydreaming about the fun you will have at the NC DKG State Convention!

**April 26 – 28, 2024**  
**NC DKG Convention**  
**Sheraton Imperial Hotel**  
**Research Triangle Park**  
**Durham, NC**



**Convention Registration**  
**A registration form can be found at**  
**[Registration Form](#) . Registration**  
**opens on February 1, 2024.**  
**Everyone who attends must register.**

## Important Dates for Omicron Members

January 15 – February 15, 2024..... Arts and Humanities Gallery submission window open  
February 1, 2024 ..... Deadline to submit articles and news to NC DKG News

February 1 – April 9, 2024 .....	Early Bird Convention Registration
February 15, 2024 .....	Convention Workshop proposals due
March 1, 2024 .....	ROSE Awards. Golden Key Award, and Rising Star Award nominations due
March 1, 2024 .....	Newsletter Excellence, Website Excellence, and/or Communications Excellence Award forms due
March 1, 2024 .....	DKGIEF Project applications due
April. 26-28. 2024 .....	NC DKG Convention, Durham
July 9 – 24, 2024 .....	International Convention, National Harbor, Maryland

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### **Invitation for Participants: 2024 ECU GenCyber Teacher Summer Camp!**

East Carolina University (ECU) is proud to offer a 5-day GenCyber camp during the summer of 2024. We welcome Grades 9 - 12 high school teachers in North Carolina to participate in this Camp!

Our goal is to equip participants with cybersecurity knowledge and skills, enabling them to deliver content effectively to their students. The camp will focus on cybersecurity threats and attacks, providing participants with resources to design appropriate cybersecurity curricula for integration into their classrooms.

**Time:** 8:00am - 5:00 pm, June 10-14, 2024

**Location:** East Carolina University, Greenville, NC

Each participant will receive:

- Up to \$600 stipend for traveling and lodging
- Free breakfast, lunch, and dinner everyday
- A USB flash drive with all camp materials
- A certification of completion
- A GenCyber summer camp T-shirt

More detailed information can be found: <https://cet.ecu.edu/techsystems/2024-ecu-gencyber/>

**Application Link: [2024 ECU GenCyber](https://cet.ecu.edu/techsystems/2024-ecu-gencyber/)**

Application deadline: February 15, 2024

**We look forward to having you join us!**



**2023 – 2025 NC DKG Officers**

Hilda Parlér ..... President  
Janie Webb ..... First Vice President  
Dr. Michelle Tuck Thomas ..... Second Vice President  
Carol Bostian..... Secretary



**Omicron Officers For 2023 – 2024:**

President ..... Christine Gilmore  
Vice-President ..... Lisa Lewis  
Recording Secretary ..... Joan Satterly  
Corresponding Secretary ..... Susie Pope  
Parliamentarian ..... Rosalie Bisette  
Treasurer/Editor ..... Marsha Irvin  
Past President ..... Marsha Irvin



**Committee Chairs for 2023-2024:**

Educational Excellence Committee ..... Carol Putney  
Membership ..... Meredith Fychok  
Scholarship ..... Pat Campbell  
Nominations ..... Isabel Fulghum / Amy Nichols  
Rules ..... Jean Yelverton  
Communications ..... Dana Skinner  
Publicity ..... Kristin Lamond  
Finance ..... Martha Wrenn  
Strategic Action Plan ..... Dot Carter  
Westview House Project ..... Barbara Brinson  
Website ..... Jerri Moore

**International Website: <https://www.dkg.org>**

**NC DKG Website: [www.ncdkg.org](http://www.ncdkg.org)**

**Omicron Website: <http://wilsonomicron.weebly.com>**

**Region II Director: Ellen Benton, Sigma**



**Minutes of the November 18, 2023 Meeting (First Christian Church)**

Omicron President, Christine Gilmore, called to order the joint meeting of Omicron and Gamma Mu at 11:10 on Saturday, November 18 at the First Christian Church in Wilson. Sherri Jernigan, President of Gamma Mu, welcomed everyone. Joining the meeting was Dr. Jami Woods, President of Wilson Community College, and soon to be reinstated member of Omicron.

Gilmore suspended the approval of the minutes and the report of the Treasurer and turned the meeting over to Dot Carter to update us on NC DKG Educational Foundation. Omicron member, Meredith Fychok, has received a \$500 grant to establish a library in New Sandy Hill. Ten (10) Foundation grants were given this Fall and ten (10) will be awarded in the Spring. Literacy projects and professional development are two foci of the grants. Grants are open to members and non-members and do not discriminate by gender. Other specific grants are also available so members should check the NC DKG Educational Foundation website. A discussion followed concerning the restrictions individual school boards are putting on teachers applying for grants.

One of the fund-raising projects the Foundation is presently doing is “Make an Educator Smile”, where for a donation of \$10 or more one may get a certificate to send to an educator, presently working or retired, to honor them. Forms are available on the NC DKG website. November is designated as the month of giving, so donations may be made to the Foundation to help support the scholarship program. At least 95% of all donations go directly to scholarships.

Our next meeting will be on February 13, 2024 at WAAT.

The NC DKG State Convention will be held in Durham, April 26 – 28, 2024.

Jernigan thanked everyone for bringing note cards and gave instructions concerning the note card writing project for teachers in their first three years of teaching. Each member selected approximately 10 of the 135 names to write a note to. Jernigan had also made Gamma Mu/Omicron stickers to put on the cards and Kit Kat bars.

Gilmore adjourned the meeting and we enjoyed the covered dish luncheon we brought, then joyfully wrote our cards.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Yelverton



Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 13

Location: WAAT (4809 Ward Blvd)

Time: 5:00 pm

See you there!!