

Omicron News



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
NC DKG – North Carolina State Organization
Omicron Chapter Newsletter
Wilson/Greene Counties, NC
Region II
September, 2022



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

From Christine Gilmore

Welcome to the 2022-2024 biennium!! I am so excited (and nervous) about serving as your president for the next two years!!! Marsha asked me, "What is one thing I would like to accomplish during my term?". I will have to say that I would like to work on relationships between our current members. I strongly feel that this is one way to retain our members and keep them involved. When I worked for the Chamber in my past life, we always told the members that they get out of their membership what they put in. I feel this is the same for our organization too. I have not had an epiphany on the magic formula for this, so I am open to suggestions.



A little bit about me. I grew up in Kinston. I graduated from ECU with a BS in Business Administration (1999), a Masters in Elementary Education (2006), and a Masters in Library Science (2020). Go Pirates!!! I am married to my wonderful husband, Sammy, who is also from Kinston. We have three fur babies, Juno (tan pug), Eliza (black pug), and Georgia Lily (black lab). We enjoy traveling, especially to the mountains!! Our bucket list trips are Alaska and Ireland. I am currently a second grade teacher at Jones Elementary School. This is my 14th year at Jones and 19th year teaching (all in Wilson County). My love is 2nd grade, but I have also taught 3rd and 4th grade.

I am super ecstatic about our programs for the 2022-2023 year!!! We are going to have great speakers this year starting with our first speaker, who I admire tremendously. Our September 26th meeting will be here soon!! We will meet at the Frank L. Eagles Community Business Center at Wilson Community College at 5:30 pm. Our guest speaker will be Robin Williams from the Wilson Education Partnership (WEP). She will be sharing information on their new programs and future endeavors. We will also be inducting Tricia Hester as a new member. We met Mrs. Hester last May when she was our guest at the Wilson Arts Center. Her husband, Chip Hester, is the Barton football coach and he spoke at our November 2021 meeting at Barton College. We would like to bless our active teachers and their colleagues at this meeting, as well. If you are able, please bring a donation of school supplies. Some favorite items are white or colored copy paper, Post-It notes, pencils, Sharpies, Flair and InkJoy pens, Mr. Sketch markers, marbled composition books, Band-Aids, and dry erase markers. Of course, any donation would be very much appreciated!!!!

We are working hard on securing a speaker and location for our November meeting. We will definitely be keeping our tradition of completing a service project at this meeting so please keep your eyes peeled for more information.

Our February meeting will be on February 27th at 4:30 pm at St. Timothy's Episcopal Church. We will have the pleasure, once again, of having our own Beth Searcy as our guest speaker. She will be sharing all about Dress for Success, which is an organization that empowers women to achieve economic independence through career and image coaching services.

While our May meeting is pending a date and location, we have secured our speaker. Our speaker for the May meeting will be Mahalia Witter-Merrithew of Casita Brewing Company. She is a wonderful advocate for community service and philanthropy. Casita has poured themselves into our community every month with a new nonprofit organization to support. I am very excited about hearing her speak!!! It will definitely be an inspiration!!!

Here's to building relationships!!!

2021 – 2023 NC DKG Theme

Warm Regards,

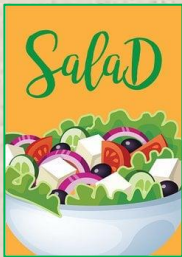
Christine Gilmore
Omicron President

“Linking the Past, Present and Future”



From Lisa Lewis - Omicron September Meeting

The hostesses for this meeting are Meredith Fychok, Marsha Irvin, Beth Searcy, and Jean Yelverton.



We plan to have a salad dinner at this meeting. The hostess committee will provide paper products, cups, cutlery, drinks (water and tea). Omicron will supply the desserts.

We ask that each attendee bring a salad to serve 3 to 4 people. Our suggestions for salads are potato, fruit, pasta, meat (chicken, tuna, or other meats), vegetable (greens), or congealed salads. All of you are so creative you may think of other types of salads. If so, feel free to bring your choice of salad. We look forward to a good meeting with lots of interesting food! See you on the 26th!

In Memory of Dr. Janice Thompson (August 26, 1934 – July 25, 2022)



Dr. Janice Thompson was inducted into DKG - Omicron in October, 1964 (58 years ago!). When Dr. Thompson was healthy and lived at home (Clinton, NC), she would attend every Omicron meeting even though she lived 70 miles away. She served as Program Chair (1978 - 1980). Dr. Thompson was a very intelligent, kind "life-long learner" with an eye for detail and a twinkle in her eye. She kept us "on our toes", making sure our grammar, prose, and pronunciations were correct. She felt it was an honor to be a DKG member and Omicron was honored to have her as a member.

A life-long learner, Dr. Thompson held degrees in English from East Carolina University and earned her doctorate in English from UNC-Chapel Hill. She was awarded the Gilbert-McNairy Scholarship (1971-1972) and the UNC Department of English Scholarship (1972-1973). Early in her career, she taught at Pine Level High School, Princeton High School, and Greene County Central High School. Moving to the college-level instruction, she taught at Appalachian State College, UNC-Chapel Hill, then finished her long career at Sampson Community College. In 1971 she was awarded a Fulbright Lectureship and taught at Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich, Germany. In addition to teaching, she also served as Liaison Specialist for Support Services in the NC Department of Public Instruction. Locally, she judged 4-H speeches, VFW speeches and essays. She published 2 articles on Caroline Howard Gilman in American Authors Dictionary.

Dr. Janice Thompson will be missed.

From Dot Carter – NC DKG Educational Foundation

Opportunities

Need funds for a classroom or educational project or for professional development? Want to honor the classroom teachers or other educators for their heroic efforts in the past year to continue to educate students? Then the North Carolina Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation (NCDKGEF) presents opportunities for you!

Projects – NCDKGEF offers grants from \$500 to \$1,000 to fund projects that enhance education in school or community and/or to provide some funding for attending professional conferences. Go to the NCDKGEF website; see Grants tab for a listing and descriptions of the grants available. **Deadline** for this round of grants is **September 30, 2022**. Ladies, this gives us plenty of time to apply!

Community Soup Kitchen Volunteers

Omicron's next scheduled Soup Kitchen date is **Monday, October 31**. 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.



From Susie Pope – Member News



A “Thinking of You” card was sent to Dr. Janice Thompson. If you have news of members, please contact Susie Pope, Christine Gilmore, or Marsha Irvin.

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/. 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 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.

Chapter Achievement Award

The NC DKG Chapter Achievement Award has been replaced by the Rose Award. Both awards serve as a guide for successful chapters. To learn more, please visit the NC DKG website (ncdkg.org) and click on Rose Award.

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 email her at [Marsha Irvin](mailto:Marsha.Irvin@dkg.org).



Online DKG News

The 2022 July/August 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!

The Summer 2022 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 Carol Bostian, Editor. Newsletter Deadlines to submit information are August 1 (Fall), November 1 (Winter), February 1 (Spring), and May 1 (Summer).

NC DKG State Convention

Please mark your calendars for the NC DKG State Convention which will be held April 23 – 30, 2023 in Greenville, NC! The Hilton Greenville, site of the 2023 NC DKG convention, was renovated in 2020 and has comfortable accommodations for the event. A large outdoor space with seating areas to socialize and rest is next to the meeting rooms, and Convention Chair Dr. Phyllis Broughton shares that all meeting rooms are on one floor and close to each other. Please plan to attend!

International Officers Installed

New International Officers were installed at the New Orleans Convention in July. Pictured on the right is Dr. Debra “Debbie” LeBlanc of Illinois, the new 2022 – 2024 DKG President. Joining her on the Administrative Board are Connie Rensink, Texas, First Vice President; Dr. Beverly Hall, Tennessee, Second Vice President; Dr. Teresa Cowan, North Carolina, Southeast Regional Director; four other regional directors; two members-at-large; two area representatives; Dr. Helen Popovich, Parliamentarian; Becky Sadowski, Immediate Past International President; and Nita Scott, DKG Executive Director



Two NC DKG Leaders, Others Honored at International Convention

Carol Bostian was honored with NC DKG’s Star of the Southeast Award and Dr. Teresa Cowan was elected as the Southeast Regional Director during the International Convention in New Orleans in July. Connie Savell (Delta Tau) was invited to serve on the International World Fellowship Committee and Dr. Rhonda Hager (Delta Sigma) to serve on the International Scholarship Committee. Dr. Judith Carlson continues on the DKG International Educators Foundation Board of Directors.



Carol Bostian



Dr. Teresa Cowan



Connie Savell



Dr. Rhonda Hager



Dr. Judith Carlson

Resources Tab on DKG Website Has Wealth of Information



As chapters prepare programs, invite new members, update resources, or need tools of any kind, the Resources tab of the DKG website is a good place to start. It is a member's go-to resource for anything DKG! It has music, logos, sample brochures and flyers, the ceremonies' scripts, and tools for communication and marketing, scholarship, finance, and general chapter tools, such as a new member kit, chapter strengthening tips, best chapter projects list, and fundraising ideas. Become familiar with what is there so that when you or your chapter needs ideas, support, or tools, you know right where to go! (Log in to have access to it.)

Important Dates for Omicron Members

- August 15 – September 15, 2022 DKG Art Gallery submission window open
- August 22, 2022 ASK Time for chapter presidents
- September 24, 2022..... NC DKG Fall Executive Board meeting in Greensboro, NC
- September 26, 2022..... ASK Time for chapter presidents
- September 30, 2022..... NC DKG Educational Foundation Grants applications due
- October 8, 2022 NC DKG Educational Foundation golf tournament
- October 24, 2022 ASK Time for chapter presidents
- October 27, 2022 NC DKG Founders Day
- October 31, 2022 Website compliance renewal Form 72 due
- November 1, 2022 Cornetet Individual and Seminar PD Awards applications due
- November 1, 2022 NC DKG News deadline
- November 15, 2022 Nominations due for 2023-25 NC DKG State Officers
- December 1, 2022 Deadline to submit proposals for state Bylaws/SR changes
- April 28-30, 2023 NC DKG Convention, Greenville, NC
- July 11 – 16, 2023 DKG Conference, Detroit, MI
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2021 – 2023 NC DKG Officers

- Beth Winstead President
- Hilda Parler First Vice President
- Tammy Cullom Second Vice President
- Patty Higgins Secretary



Omicron Officers For 2021 – 2022:

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



Committee Chairs for 2021-2022:

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 Pat Campbell
Website Jerri Moore



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

NC DKG Website: www.ncdkg.org

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

Region II Director: Ellen Benton, Sigma

Pictures from the May 10, 2022 meeting (Wilson Arts Center)





Omicron Minutes

Minutes of the May 10, 2022 Meeting (Wilson Arts Center)

After President Marsha Irvin welcomed the 31 members at 4:30 pm, she called on Mamie Boyette to deliver the inspirational moment. Boyette told the story of a teacher, talking to her mom, expressing frustration about her classes, students, and school. Aptly, the mom stated it must be May. Boyette then gave teachers quotes of encouragement from A. A. Milne, Einstein, and finally Donna Sommers: I will survive. This was her wish to all current teachers.

Joan Satterly gave some background information about Cathy Hardison, Director of Wilson Arts, who was scheduled to be our speaker. Stephanie Pridgen, Marketing and Events coordinator, substituted for Hardison, who was called out of town for a family emergency. Pridgen gave us a tour of the building and told us about the flexible structures used throughout the center.

Irvin called the Business portion of the meeting to order at 5:05.

Diane Hooks moved the approval of the minutes of the February meeting and, with a quorum present, they were approved.

Irvin then gave the Treasurer's report which was filed.

Corresponding Secretary Joan Satterly reported she had sent thinking of you notes to Jane Cooke (who has finished her cancer treatment and is slowly regaining her strength in Washington, NC) and a get-well card to Shirley McMahan's husband Rick.

Membership chair Christine Gilmore introduced Trish Hester, a prospective member.

Under old business, Irvin cited our projects at the Soup Kitchen (our next service will be August 29) and Westview House, hopefully to restart.

Jean Yelverton and Dot Carter reported on the NC DKG State convention held in Asheville April 29-May 1. Omicron was declared Excellent on the Chapter Achievement Award, Excellence for our Web site, and Excellence for our Newsletters. Carter encouraged members to apply for the NC DKG EF grants for teachers in the classroom, conferences, or community projects.

Congratulations to 2021-2022 TOY for Jones Elementary, Christine Gilmore and 2021-2022 TOY for Hunt, Kasey Hare.

Congratulations to Elm City Middle School assistant principal, Morgan Stephenson, for earning her Masters in School Administration.

2022-2023 Dues are due to Irvin by June 15. Active members, \$87; New Inductees, \$97, Reserve, \$39. Each amount includes \$12 for our grant-in-aid raffle.

New Business was the installation of 2022-2024 officers. Participating in the ceremony were Dot Carter, Installing officer, Marsha Irvin, Jean Yelverton, and Joan Satterly. The slate of officers is

President: Christine Gilmore; Vice President: Lisa Lewis; Recording Secretary: Kasey Hare; Corresponding Secretary: Susie Pope; Treasurer: Marsha Irvin; and Parliamentarian: Rose Bisette.

Irvin took a few minutes to reflect on the accomplishments of her four years as President. Omicron chapter met 15/16 meetings (some virtual) in a variety of places including the hospital, schools, churches, President's box at Barton College, and the Whirligig Park. We received one Distinctive and three Excellence chapter awards. Unfortunately, we lost 6 members: Jeanette Brooks, Carol Brugh, Rachel Edwards, Beth Frazier, Louise McLawhorn, and Carol Pittman. At the conclusion of her report, Yelverton and Carter presented Irvin a small token of appreciation from a grateful chapter. Irvin then presented the gavel to Christine Gilmore and adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Yelverton, Recording Secretary
