Mu State Past Presidents Characterize
Dr. Beverly Helms in One Word

Organized: “When I think of you, I am reminded of how organized you are and with your sense of humor you are immediately in charge of whatever you’re doing with people following along without even caring what you’re doing!” by Louise McMullian.

Devotion: Beverly, through her notable character, enthusiasm and high ideals, gives her unselfish devotion and distinguished service to the profession and to the advancement of women educators,” by Maxine Smith.

Gracious: “No matter how busy, or whatever else awaited your expertise, you were never less than gracious in making whatever I needed (or thought I did) seem important to you,” by Yvonne Rice.

Renaissance Woman: “You are a highly cultivated woman who is skilled and well-versed in many fields of knowledge and work, one capable of multi-tasking in a variety of areas, taking on many responsibilities at once and doing an efficient, competent job of each and every one,” by Edie Smith.

Caring: “One caring person can do wonderful things... as in the day you took Jane Posten to lunch and made her feel so special... a day I will never forget!” by Dr. Connie Bivens.

Decisive: “A problem doesn’t stymie Beverly. She looks at the information she has, makes a decision and that task is finished!” by Judith Mix.

Caretaker: “Most know Beverly as really caring for DKG with all the things she has done for us; but at home she cares for her girls, helps older ladies and others - picks up for church, buys their groceries, takes them to doctor visits, pays bills, moves them into assisted living, assists with legal affairs - the list goes on and on!” by Doris Nesbit.

Strong: “You are an example of a strong person; your friendships, your faith, your family relationships and your Society dedication all exemplify exceptional strength,” by Dr. Elsie Gross.

Miss Delta Kappa Gamma: “You are Mu State’s example of excellent leadership, mentor extraordinaire and a strong, intelligent, beautiful Southern lady,” by Dr. Ann Lumsden.

Counselor: “Your wise and caring counsel regarding anything Delta Kappa Gamma enabled me to be a more effective presider and made my biennium as Mu State President more enjoyable and carefree,” by Barbara Van Diepen.

Communicator: “During my biennium Beverly, as ‘Queen Bee,’ led us in Creating the Buzz, edited our Florida Rays, delivered the message from International, no matter her location, remained ever available by phone or email - What a communicator!” by Ruth Pridgen.
Help us continue to save money on printing and mailing the Florida Rays by sending your name, ID # and email address to lindad@dkg.org.

There are still members whose names and email addresses have not been sent to international.

Chapter presidents were given a list of the members in each chapter who have not submitted an email address. Help us by doing it for your chapter.

In Memoriam

Jane R. Harrell
Delta Thetla

Elaine T. Tompkins
Alph Psi

Betty Wylie
Pi

Karen Whitman
Alpha Theta

Gwyn Adele Ramsey
Gamma Nu

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Florida Rays
Mu State Organization
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Volume 58 Number 1
Fall 2012

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 Presidents

Member’s names are not listed in Florida Rays until Form 6 is received from the chapter. Please send Form 6 immediately upon the death of a member to:

Fern Cleary
9557 Portside Drive
Seminole, FL 33776
2013...Will this be your year? Starting a new year can be a time for revisiting your goals and considering changes that may need to take place in order to realize growth and success. How did you begin 2013? Did you view it as a time for a fresh start? Are you approaching things with more enthusiasm? What do you need to do to make this the best year of your life and to close the gap on achieving your personal and professional goals?

Perhaps 2013 is the year during which you concentrate on your professional growth. On the other hand, you may feel you need to focus on you and some of the aspects of your personal growth. Sometimes the two are so closely intertwined that separating them can be difficult. Fulfilling either can promote the success of the other.

Through the benefits of Delta Kappa Gamma, a whole new world awaits. Your Society membership can be an important factor in helping you accomplish your goals. Take advantage of the opportunities for monetary assistance to pursue a degree, certification or staff development. We are excited to award scholarships and celebrate the recipients. (This year one Florida member received a total of $12,500 and another received $10,000. Several others have had the cost of a workshop or seminar paid in full.) Have you researched all of the options for grants and scholarships offered through Delta Kappa Gamma?

Personal gratification can be achieved through your commitment to any DKG project whether at the chapter, state, or international level. What can you do to help your chapter help others in a way that your heart is fulfilled? Making a positive impact on education and the lives of others by assisting students and teachers at all levels in any way is gratifying. A few minutes weekly spent supporting or mentoring an educator could make a dramatic difference in that person’s life. Participating in International Projects such as Schools for Africa and Support Early-career Educators (S.E.E.) has given many members such a feeling of accomplishment as many lives are impacted and changed through our contributions. How honorable!

As you begin this new year, utilize your new strength and new thoughts to make each day better than the last. May 2013 become the year in which you grow closer to achieving your dreams and goals or actually succeed in doing so. Embrace your vision so it remains clearly focused in order that your design for your future evolves.

Embracing Our Vision ~ Designing Our Future

Important Dates and Deadlines

January 15
Mu State Scholarship

January 15
News Media Award nomination

January 15
Legislative Award nomination

February 1
International Scholarship

February 1
Chapter President Form 8 due

February 1
Chapter Necrology Form 2 due

February 1
Articles for Florida Rays due

April 19 - 21
Mu State Convention

July 10 - 13
Southeast Regional Conference
From the Desk of

Judith Mix
Executive Secretary

I have a question about . . . I can’t find the source for an item. I need something sent to the Mu State Executive Board. My email address changed – how do I let everyone know? These are some of the questions I have been answering lately. It’s always satisfying to help any one of you when you have questions or concerns. Sometimes it is a past state president requesting information or wanting something sent to the Executive Board. Sometimes it is a chapter president who has changed her email, and sometimes it is an invitation to attend a DKG event. I answer each one quickly and cheerfully. That is what my position is – to be helpful all Mu State members. So remember if you have a question or concern, just contact me. Looking forward to hearing from you!

Judith Mixjutom@embarqmail.com

Strategic Action Plan Update

SAP Committee- Judith Mix, Chair Barbara Van Diepen & Gerry Hacker

Thank you to all of the Mu State committee chairs for their excellent input during the committee’s review of the Mu State Strategic Action Plan. Your timely suggestions make the revision of the plan both relevant and usable.

You will find the revised Mu State SAP on the Mu State website. Please make sure to read it carefully. The revised plan will be presented to the Mu State Executive Board in April at the state convention.

Thanks also go to the many chapters who have indicated that they are working on their SAPs and to those who have been good enough to send the committee copies of their completed plans. Keep up the good work. Even if your plan is finished, it is never complete as it needs to be updated at least biennially. It is not a static document, but a blueprint for your chapter’s journey toward its goals.

Educational Foundation Can Help

Dr. Elsie Gross
Board of Trustees

The Educational Foundation has selected 13 educators to receive Cornetet Professional Development Awards. Six of these went to DKG members and seven to non-members. One recipient – Coleen Stoffa – is a Florida educator. The total amount expended for this round was $12,740.00. If you are – or know of - an educator, who would like to attend a professional conference or receive assistance with the cost of National Board certification, be sure to consider applying for the next round of Cornetet Professional Development Awards. The deadline is February 1, 2013 and applications are on-line at www.dkgef.org.

Applications are also on-line for Educational Projects. The deadline to apply is January 3, 2013 and these are also available to both DKG members and non-member educators. If you, or some educator you know, has an idea for a project, the Foundation has money available to help.

In January, the Foundation will begin advertising a campaign to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The plan is to give 50 grants to 50 educators.

If you, or your chapter, has not already done so, don’t forget to consider becoming a Miracle Maker by contributing $500.00 over a five year period. Contributions of other amounts, as well as bequests are gratefully accepted as well. All contributions are tax exempt and the money goes to promote educational excellence and intercultural understanding. This is a most excellent way to make a difference to the youth of today - and tomorrow.
Looking for The Next Mu State Treasurer

Ruth Pridgen, Chair
Personnel Committee

The Mu State Personnel Committee is seeking a new State Treasurer to fill the position when Myra Ponder retires on Aug 31, 2013. This is an essential position in DKG and it does include an honorarium and reimbursement for many expenses. We know the right person is out there in our membership. Won’t you help us identify that person? Share this information with members in your chapter; contact friends that you feel could do the job well and encourage them to apply.

Deadline for submission of applications is February 1, 2013. Please see the Mu State Website to download an application packet which includes the specifics on qualifications, duties, term of office, compensation, and application procedures. Copies of the packet are also being sent by email to Chapter Presidents and other interested individuals. Please share this information with members who are potential candidates.

For additional information, you may also contact Ruth Pridgen, Chair Mu State Personnel Committee by calling 904-945-1314 or emailing repridgen@aol.com.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Mu State

“Embracing Our Vision – Designing Our Future”

CALL FOR WORKSHOPS
April 19, 2013

It is time to submit your workshop proposal for the 2013 Mu State Convention. The topics for the 2012 Fall Workshop/Executive Board Meeting were prudent and served our attendees well. You, too, can contribute to our vision and help design our future in DKG. Present a workshop at the State Convention April 19, 2013. Begin thinking about a topic for your session at the 2013 Mu State Convention. We wish to continue to inform, inspire, and engage our members to strengthen our Society with the presentation of excellent workshops.

Think about our theme, “Embracing our Vision – Designing Our Future”. Also, consider International President, Dr. Beverly Helm’s theme, “Sharing Our Vision – Strengthening Our Society”. You are unlimited in the topics you can present in the areas of academia, technology, health updates, hands-on activities, or global issues. Don’t forget the ‘fun’ topics. We need laughter! We all have an area in which we excel. What can you share with our DKG members to advance our Society?

Mu State is blessed with talented ladies who are willing to share their expertise on varied topics. Think about what you can offer that just may be appreciated more than you ever thought. Look for proposal applications on the Mu State website or contact me and I will e-mail you a form. Do not wait to let me know you are interested. Contact me by email dwmsj@att.net, phone 850-638-1280, or mail Merle S. Jones, 1973 Cane Mill Road, Chipley Florida 32428.
Mu State Convention
April 19 - 21, 2013
Orlando Airport Marriott Hotel
Registration Form
Please print or type one name per form:

Name:______________________Chapter:_______________District:_____
Address:____________________City:__________________Zip:_________
Phone: (_____)_______________Email:____________________________

Please check all that apply:
___Member ___First time attending a state mtg ___Chapter President _District Director
___State Officer or Related Personnel:(_____________________) __Past State President
___State Committee Chairman: (Name of Committee)_____________________________
___State Committee Member: (Name of Committee)_______________________________
___Special dietary needs: Please indicate)_____________________________________

Registration ___$55.00 Make check payable to:
(includes Luncheon)
Late Registration ___$65.00 Check #________________
(Postmarked after April 5, 2013)
Send to: Carolyn McGowan
Friday Night Dinner ___$27.00 Phone: (352) 394-5336
(Optional)
Banquet ___$45.00 Email: MMCDM1@aol.com
___Chicken ___Roasted Salmon
Total $____________

Please Note: Unless you indicate below, your attendance at this meeting gives permission for your photo
and contact information, if needed, to be used in the Florida Rays or any DKG publication.
___No, I do not want my photo or contact information used in the Florida Rays or any DKG publication.

Orlando Airport Marriott
7499 Augusta National Drive
Orlando, Florida 32812
Phone: (407) 851-9000 or (800)766-6752

Group Reservation: DKG International
April 19-21, 2013
Rates: $129 Single, Double, Triple or Quad
(Room rates will also include 12.5% tax.)

Name:______________________________________________________
Address:_______________________________________________________________________________
Type Credit Card:___________________Card Number:_______________________ Expiration Date:______
Date of Arrival:______________________  Date of Departure:___________________________
    (Check in Time:  3:00 PM)

Each reservation must be guaranteed with a first night’s deposit or major credit card. Reservations can also
be made by calling 1-800-766-6752. Please specify the group name to receive your group rate. Reserva-
tions must be received at the hotel by April 5, 2013. Rates effective 3 days before and after depending
on availability. Any reservation after that date will be subject to availability.

Refund Policy:
Full refund of deposit will be forfeited unless cancellation is received 48 hours prior to arrival date.
Betty Thornton
Arts & Crafts Exhibit 2013
Embracing Our Vision ~ Designing Our Future

At the upcoming Mu State Spring Convention held April 19 - 21, 2013, in Orlando, the Educational Excellence Committee will host the Betty Thornton Arts & Crafts Exhibit. This event is named in honor of a long time supporter of the arts and is aligned with the purposes of the committee to honor and recognize the talents and skills that our members possess. This event will give them a forum to display their works. Please submit the application to reserve your space in this great event. Share your talents with your DKG fellow members! All members will receive a certificate of participation. The application below outlines the criteria and if in doubt email Joann Higgins at gammanuhiggins@yahoo.com

**Purpose**
To celebrate members who participate in the arts.

**Registration Form**
Inviting all members who desire to display their artistic talents.

*Please print or type one name per form.*

Name:______________________ Chapter:_______________ District:_____
Address:________________________ City:__________________ Zip:_________
Phone:______________________ Email:____________________________

I plan to enter the following item(s) in the Arts & Crafts Exhibit:
(Check all that apply)

Painting(s): __ oil    __watercolor    __photography     __other (specify)

Needlework(s): __knitting      __crochet   __crewel
               __embroidery     __sewing      __other (specify)

Literary work(s):   __poetry   __short story     __novel   __other (specify)

Miscellaneous arts & crafts:      __ fused glass
                                __ other (specify):

Musical arrangements (specify):
Recordings may be used to demonstrate musical expertise.

Send completed form by the **deadline of March 1, 2013** to
**Joann Higgins**, 1386 Craleigh St., North Port, FL, 34288.
Members/Chapters Designing Their Future

The Arts and Crafts Committee of Alpha Chi has sewn and donated about fifty quilts to the Salvation Army Homeless Shelter, along with numerous totes. Joanne Minke reports they have covered the twenty-seven beds for women with lovely, colorful quilts and coordinated pillow cases. Their focus now will be to make quilts for the children in the six family apartments. These will be gifts to the children, so they will need to be replaced regularly.

Alpha Delta Chapter in Fort Myers collected packages of infant diapers in exchange for a lottery ticket at the November 10th meeting. The Adolescent Education Director for Destiny Diaper Bank of Southwest Florida was the guest speaker on the topic of “Teenage Parenthood.” This charitable organization offers diapers to low income moms who are currently enrolled in high school. They also supply adult diapers and incontinent supplies to adults and elderly who cannot afford the diapers they need. Their long term vision is a community where everyone’s needs are met. The Destiny Diaper Bank strives to convert our community’s compassion into action on behalf of those in need by increasing awareness of the issues facing vulnerable populations.

Beta Chapter’s second meeting was held at Mu State Headquarters in Deland. The topic was Beta service to DKG—promoting Headquarters and Beta Chapter. Chapter President Kathie Hammer reported that they are designing and building a website highlighting Beta chapter and promoting the use of our State Headquarters to other chapters. Beta members signed and addressed invitations to Mu State Chapter presidents to visit headquarters.

Mu State President, Carrie Frye, helped Beta Chi deliver another load of school supplies collected by Wekiva Elementary students. Sponsors of this project were Claire Closson and Peggy Keiffer, Beta Chi Chapter members. Alabama 1st Vice President, Wendy Stephens, received the supplies and will distribute to Tuscaloosa schools destroyed by tornadoes.

Beta Mu Chapter formed an Early Career Educator Adhoc Committee charged with presenting information to Beta Mu members. We spend 5-10 minutes each meeting addressing important issues and or a planned activity. Beta Mu Committee member, Dr. Joanne “Tippy” Roberts resides too far to attend meetings scheduled during the work week. Member Karen Robinson connects with Tippy utilizing her Smart Phone and iPad. Members were happy to greet Tippy through facetime. Tippy provided members with pertinent information on how best to mentor/support teachers new to the profession.

Coleen Stoffa from Beta Mu was awarded the Lucille Cornetet Award for the amount of $940 to attend and present at the Florida Association of School Psychologists. Coleen developed a behavioral screening tool currently used by the School District of Clay County.

Pat Williams from Beta Omega Chapter hosted a lovely Initiation Tea in her home on November 4th welcoming three new members—Fran Halpern, Jennifer Stowers and Ellen Zuerndorfer. Second Vice-President Jenny Ferlott presided over DKG’s traditional initiation ceremony. This brings a total of five new members this school year.

Delta Mu’s first meeting had fantastic attendance, an outstanding program, genuine fellowship, and a terrific meal. Pat’s grandson, J.P. Leonard did an excellent job describing his winning science fair project. Isn’t it interesting how a relatively simple problem, well-tested and with valid conclusions drawn can be a top winner?

Epsilon Chapter initiated Cassie Perez-Zarranga as a new member at its recent meeting held at Romanza Restaurant in Miami. The book sharing was informative, the company delightful, and the food delicious. Half of the 50/50 raffle funds its community projects.

Rho Chapter’s Beth Bosse has been named “Teacher of the Year” at New Smyrna Beach High School.
COMMUNICATION

LeAnn Pollard, Past Chair

The focus of the Communications/Publicity Committee this biennium has been to design a new scoring rubric and award system for chapter level communication awards. The committee believes this is a way for every single chapter in Mu State to gain some level of recognition for each chapter’s participation in the work of Communication and Publicity and to promote the work of our Society across the state. Emphasis on publicizing chapter events in local media outlets and through chapter communication boards was promoted at last year’s Fall Workshop. Several chapters created communication boards and shared them at their respective district meetings. A handout was provided in the packets that explained specific instructions on how to report chapter communication award participation prior to the April 1st deadline. The committee hopes to recognize the majority of Mu State Chapters at Spring Convention with this award. Reprinted from the Minutes of the 2012 Mu State Fall Workshop.

Criteria for 2011-2013 Mu State Communication Award

A Chapter Communications form will be completed by the chapter communication chair or chapter president and submitted to the district communications representative (along with artifacts for documentation) to be eligible for the award before the deadline April 1, 2013.

1. Chapter has a website. Website must be linked to the International website. (25 points)
2. Chapter has a social media information page, for example facebook. (10 points)
3. Chapters must communicate at least 5 times per year with members via newsletters, email blasts, website updates, or social media announcements, such as facebook, twitter, etc. (15 points)
4. Document how the chapter maintains communication with members in the “digital divide” who do not use electronic means of communication, such as phone tree, newsletters or US mail. (10 points)
5. An information board, multi-media presentation, collage, or other creative display depicting chapter events and involvement and information about the Society is displayed at the District Meeting, in a school setting, at the district school board office or other setting appropriate for communicating with non-members about the Society in the community. (10 points)
6. Submit one article during the biennium to the Florida Rays. (5 points)
7. Submit news releases to local newspapers. (10 points for each release submitted)
8. Chapter has a Communication Chair, or contact person who may also be the chapter president, who attends Fall Workshop training or the District Meeting and submits communication form and all artifacts for documentation for Communication Award before the deadline. (10 points)

Communication Committee Representatives

Dr. Nancy Henning, Chair

| District I: | Debi Morgan | District II: | Terry Stanilonis |
| District III: | Ann Ottaviano | District IV: | Connie Holland |
| District V: | Joyce Cottner | District VI: | Joan Stancil |

Emergency Relief Request

Yvonne M. McShay, Chair

Delta Kappa Gamma Society has met a variety of ladies with names of great force. Some of these are Rita, Wilma, Emily, Katrina and most recently Sandy. They all came crushing in and rushing out leaving behind millions of dollars in destruction.

Thanks to you since 1948, the Emergency Relief Fund has donated over a half million dollars to DKG to disburse for members, our sisters, in need across the country.

In Mu State the appeal continues, and with an open heart you are encouraged to donate to the emergency fund. And here’s how:

1. Go online to http:www.dkg.org complete and submit form 43
2. Through chapter and state organizations’ treasurers.
3. Send donation directly to:

Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int.
Emergency Fund
P.O. Box 158
Austin, TX 78767

In addition, at Mu State Convention, on each table, “The Brown Bags” await your contributions, for we are individually challenged to help our sisters get back to “normal.”
Floridians Demonstrated Leadership as Presenters

At the 2012 Fall Executive Board Meeting held on September 14-15 at the Orlando Airport Marriott Hotel, several members of Mu State demonstrated leadership by presenting breakout sessions on a variety of topics. They are organized below alphabetically by last name.

Carol Ann Casey and the Mu State Membership Committee presented “DKG Treasures - Its Members, Part II.” Strategies for attracting members, retaining and engaging retired and employed members and nurturing new chapter leaders were shared. Participants learned new materials International has to offer that will help them in their quest.

Dr. Elsie Gross, chair of Board of Trustees of the Educational Foundation, and Ann Blosfield presented “The Educational Foundation and How It Can Help You.” This workshop described the Individual Professional Development Awards, the Project Awards, the Seminar Awards and the Make a Miracle campaign.

Bonnie Ignico presented “You Can Draw Better Than a 5th Grader!” Learning how to use the right side of the brain will improve your drawing skills. After finishing a few drawing exercises, participants saw improvement in their drawings.

Bonnie Kelley from Beta Ome-ga presented a breakout session entitled Meet Your New Mu State Editor of the Rays. In addition to introducing herself as the new Mu State Editor of The Rays, Bonnie explained her plans and provided an open forum for inviting input on all levels - chapter, district, state, regional and international. Participants learned how to be part of the contributing team!

Judith Mix, Mu State Executive Secretary, presented “Activating Your Vision of DKG.” Participants learned more about Delta Kappa Gamma, the benefits for members, and the importance of active involvement. They met Mu State officers and began to network with fellow members. This was a must for all first time attendees.

Sherry Snarr and Education Excellence Team; Sandra Smith, Chair presented “Site See In.” Tour the DKG website and see what is available to you.

LeAnn Pollard, Chair, and Dr. Peg Dunn-Snow, Mu State Web-master, presented “Chapter Communication & Publicity through Websites & Newsletters.” Participants learned the International updates about chapter websites. Tips on using International forms, navigating the process of certifying and re-certifying chapter websites and improving chapter newsletters were shared.

Linda Petuch and Laurie Mec-ca presented Growing Up in a Green Ribbon School. “Soil Sisters,” Laurie and Linda shared ways that Pine Jog Elementary, a Title I public school, has become Florida’s first LEED certified Green School and is Florida’s only public school to be named a National Green Ribbon School.

Ruth Pridgen presented “Keeping Your Balance When Life Changes.” Illness, loss of a loved one, retirement or another life-changing event can create stress that rocks your world. Participants explored ways that “Hope, Humor, Hugs and Health” can help as you seek to maintain/restore balance and regain self-confidence. Practical actions to take were explored.

Sandra Smith, Chair of the Educational Excellence Committee, presented “What is Educational Excellence, Part II.” This was an informative session in which participants explored the many ways DKG promotes excellence in education.

Deborah Thomas, Chair of the World Fellowship Committee,
presented “World Fellowship - Celebrate 65 Plus Years!” which discussed ways a chapter can continue the “Ripple Effect” globally by learning about the World Fellowship program.

Barbara VanDiepen and Gerry Hacker presented “The SAP Continues to Rise.” This question and answer session was designed for chapters developing their Strategic Action Plan.

District Meetings
Each of the six District Directors experienced a meeting of the minds with their respective Chapter Presidents for informational purposes and initial planning for the district meetings in 2014. Kathy Avery and some District VI Presidents are pictured below.

Mu State Nominations Committee Selects Slate

The Mu State Nominations Committee composed of Pat Eckstein, Chair, Beverly Stagg, Merle Lear, Yvonne McShay, Bea Wilbur and Lou Burns will submit the following nominees to lead the state organization for 2013-2015 biennium with voting taking place at state convention on April 19-21, 2013.

President: Merle Jones, is currently First Vice President of Mu State. At the state level, she served as Second Vice President, Recording Secretary, District I Director, Cookbook Project Treasurer and Nominations Committee member.

First Vice President: Gerry Hacker is currently Second Vice President of Mu State. At the state level she served as Recording Secretary, Bylaws Committee Chair, Strategic Action Planning Team Co-chair, Music Chair, Professional Affairs Committee Chair and District III Director.

Second Vice President: Carol Ann Casey is currently serving as Mu State Membership Committee Chair. At the state level, she served as District V Director, World Fellowship Committee Chair, Scholarship Committee Chair, Nominations Committee Chair, Awards Committee Chair, and Music Committee Chair.

Recording Secretary: Dr. Nancy Henning is currently serving as Mu State Corresponding Secretary. At the state level she served as District I Director, and served on several committees.

Corresponding Secretary: Dr. Peg Dunn-Snow is currently serving as Mu State Recording Secretary and Webmaster. At the international level, she is serving on the Communications and Publicity Committee.

Wanted!

Mu State Hostesses for Southeast Regional Conference

Wednesday, July 10 - Saturday, July 13, 2013

Duties of Hostesses
* Greeting conference attendees throughout the day at hotel to give directions, answer questions or locate someone.
* Being pages for General Meetings.
* Manning of Hospitality Room around the clock.
* Distributing the daily newspaper at the door of General Meeting areas.
* Being greeters for entertainers and escorting them to entertainment areas.
* Being greeters for special guests and entertainers as they arrive at the hotel.

General Information
* Agree to work 2 - 3 hour shifts with some beginning at 7:30 a.m.
* Wear hostess name tags and indentifying scarves and/or corsages.
* Report to Edie Smith, Hostess Chair, before going on duty.

Name: ___________________________________________ Chapter: __________________________
Address: ___________________________________________ Phone: __________________________
Email: __________________________________________

Edie Smith
7150 Captain Kidd Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34231
941-924-5423
elunicorn@juno.com
Membership Moment

Carol Ann Casey, Chair
Membership Committee

Over the past several issues of The Rays, we have taken a look at the materials that International and Mu State have to offer you in your quest to revitalize, retain and reinstate your members. We have also touched on how to grow our chapters by attracting new members. We looked at being creative and thinking out of the box to see who and where our next new members could come from and how to attract them.

We also need to retain our present members, though. It is not healthy for the chapter to add new members if we are consistently losing the ones we already have. Let's look at some practices that our successful chapters use to create vibrant, enthusiastic and growing chapters. How many of these practices do you use?

- Holds 4-6 well-planned, relatively informal but still structured, quick-moving business meetings per year
- Meets at varied times, days, and places convenient for working members
- Meets for approximately 1 ½ hours in length, excluding meals
- Has more refreshment-only meetings than meetings with meals
- Plans fellowship time as part of each meeting
- Focuses on meeting members’ social needs (fellowship/camaraderie)
- Has open meetings and activities that welcome non-members
- Has a wide variety of high-quality, interesting programs and speakers, including programs that highlight community initiatives and those that use members’ talents/expertise
- Supports a variety of one-time and ongoing projects that actively engage members
- Supports projects in the areas of mentoring/Collaborative Connections; fund-raising and volunteer efforts; scholarships and grants-in aid; community initiatives, especially for women and children; literacy; the legislative process; and others, including international projects
- Communicates with members in multiple ways: newsletter (print, website or email 4+ times a year), phone, email, snail mail, website
- Has specific strategies in place for attracting new members, retaining members, engaging retired and employed members, and developing/nurturing new chapter leaders
- Implements formal and traditional initiation and installation ceremonies
- Emphasizes the Society’s mission, purposes, and history
- Offers benefits and services that members cannot get elsewhere, including chapter scholarships, grants, interaction among a diverse group of educators, friendship/camaraderie, and service to community

You might also want to try, if you do not already do so, to contact members who are not in attendance to let them know that they are important, needed and missed. You can do this by phone calls from your phone committee and/or by sending short notes on blank cards letting them know they were missed and that you are thinking of them.

Budget Planning

Dr. Margie Hunt, Chair
Finance Committee

The Finance Committee has scheduled a GoTo Meeting for the end of January to work on the budget. If you have any input, please forward ASAP to Mickey Stout at vmstout@aol.com. You may also contact the Finance Committee Representative from your district: Babs Bailey (District I), Megan Sullivan (District II), Mickey Stout (District III), Bea Wilbur (District V), or Cynthia Fischer (District VI).
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Mu State Organization

Sara B. Ferguson Mu State Achievement Award

Guidelines for the Sara B. Ferguson Mu State Achievement Award
Administration of the Sara B. Ferguson Mu State Achievement Award

The Sara B. Ferguson Achievement Award is named in honor of the first Mu State President. This award, patterned after the International Achievement Award, is given only to active members of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International who are outstanding educational leaders. Evidence of service to Delta Kappa Gamma is a major factor in the selection.

Nominations for the Achievement Award are made to the Mu State Achievement Award Committee. This committee is responsible for the consideration and selection of an award winner for each year of the biennium. Presentations of the Sara B. Ferguson Achievement award gold medallion and chain are made at the Mu State Convention.

The committee will review the following, which MUST be submitted:

____ the Nomination Form with date of recommendation
____ a current photograph within the last three (3) years
____ a letter of endorsement from a chapter
____ five (5) letters of recommendation

DEADLINE:
Nomination must be sent by certified mail and postmarked on or before February 1, 2013. It should be in the hands of the Mu State Awards Committee Chairman on or before February 1, 2013.

Mail completed form by certified mail to:

Dr. Ann S. Lumsden, Chair
2057 Cynthia Drive
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
Phone: 850-386-3224
Email address: lumsden@bio.fsu.edu

NO MATERIAL WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE DATE. All materials must be sent by certified mail.

Eligibility of the Nominee:

A nominee shall...
• Be an active member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.
• Be well-informed as to the principles and purposes of the Society.
• Have contributed to the advancement, growth and development of the Society and of education in the state of Florida.
• Have rendered outstanding service to the Society on the chapter, district and state levels in the past ten (10) years.
• Have participated in activities of the community.
• Be evaluated on the basis of information submitted to the Achievement Award Committee.

A state president shall be considered ineligible for the award during her term of office.
An outgoing president shall be considered ineligible during the biennium immediately following her presidency.
MEDIA FRIEND OF EDUCATION AWARD GUIDELINES

I. Administration of The Mu State Media Friend of Education Award
A. Nominations for the Mu State Media Friend of Education Award are made to the Mu State Awards Committee Chair. This awards committee is composed of one representative from each district of the state appointed by the president of each biennium. This committee is responsible for the consideration and selection of the award winner. Announcement of the recipient and the presentation of the award will be made at the Mu State Convention.
B. This award is made only to local, state or national media source (television, radio, newspaper, magazine) in Florida who are making positive contributions to education (individual, publication or station).

II. Who May Nominate a Candidate
A. A chapter may submit a nomination to the Mu State Awards Committee Chair for consideration.
B. The nomination must be endorsed at a regular chapter meeting.

III. Criteria of Eligibility
A. A nominee must be a Florida Media Source (local, county or state).
B. A nominee shall have made positive contributions to education in the state of Florida.
C. A nominee may not receive the award a second time.

IV. Method of Nomination ***MUST BE FOLLOWED AS STATED***
A. Secure a nomination form from the Mu State Awards Committee Chair or member, the Executive Secretary, or the Mu State Website.
B. Material submitted must be on the official nomination form only. NO ATTACHMENTS or additional pages will be accepted (except for the attached picture). Please print or type.
C. Submit your nomination form to the Mu State Awards Committee Chair postmarked by the 15th of the year of the award. (Example: 2013 award nomination must be postmarked by January 15, 2013.) No exceptions will be made.
D. Submit a recent photograph of the nominee unless it is a station or publication. (No larger than 4x6)

V. Method for Selecting Recipient
A. Proof of eligibility of nominee will be the responsibility of the Mu State Awards Committee.
B. The Mu State Awards Committee will select the recipient from the nominations received based on the official Mu State Media Friend of Education Award Rubric.

VI. Presentation of Award
A. The committee will notify the recipient of the Friend of Education Award by mail.
B. The winner will be invited to receive the award at the state convention luncheon as a guest of the convention.
C. The award shall be an engraved plaque.
D. In the event the winner is unable to attend the state convention, the recipient shall be presented the award at a chapter or district meeting.
E. The nominating chapter will be the hostess of the awardee and assume responsibility for the cost of the luncheon at the convention.

VII. Source of Information
A. Refer to media source’s webpage and/or
B. Ask the candidate or his/her assistant for the information required.
LEGISLATIVE FRIEND OF EDUCATION AWARD GUIDELINES

I. Administration of The Mu State Legislative Friend of Education Award
   A. Nominations for the Mu State Legislative Friend of Education Award are made to the Mu State Awards Committee Chair. This awards committee is composed of one representative from each district of the state appointed by the president of each biennium. This committee is responsible for the consideration and selection of the award winner. Announcement of the recipient and the presentation of the award will be made at the Mu State Convention.
   B. This award is made only to local, state or national legislators in Florida who are making positive contributions to education.

II. Who May Nominate a Candidate
   A. A chapter may submit a nomination to the Mu State Awards Committee Chair for consideration.
   B. The nomination must be endorsed at a regular chapter meeting.

III. Criteria of Eligibility
   A. A nominee must be a Florida Legislator (local, county or state).
   B. A nominee shall have made positive contributions to education in the state of Florida.
   C. A nominee may not receive the award a second time.

IV. Method of Nomination ***MUST BE FOLLOWED AS STATED***
   A. Secure a nomination form from the Mu State Awards Committee Chair or member, the Executive Secretary, or the Mu State Website.
   B. Material submitted must be on the official nomination form only. NO ATTACHMENTS or additional pages will be accepted (except for the attached picture). Please print or type.
   C. Submit your nomination form to the Mu State Awards Committee Chair postmarked by January 15 of the year of the award. (Example: 2013 award nomination must be post marked by January 15, 2013). No exceptions will be made.
   D. Submit a recent photograph of the nominee. (No larger than 4x6)

V. Method for Selecting Recipient
   A. Proof of eligibility of nominee will be the responsibility of the Mu State Awards Committee.
   B. The Mu State Awards Committee will select the recipient from the nominations received based on the official Mu State Friend of Education Award Rubric.

VI. Presentation of Award
   A. The committee will notify the recipient of the Friend of Education Award by mail.
   B. The winner will be invited to receive the award at the state convention luncheon as a guest of the convention.
   C. The award shall be an engraved plaque.
   D. In the event the winner is unable to attend the state convention, the legislator shall be presented the award at a chapter or district meeting.
   E. The nominating chapter will be the hostess of the awardee and assume responsibility for the cost of the luncheon at the convention.

VII. Source of Information
   A. Refer to legislator’s webpage and/or
   B. Ask the legislator or his/her aide for the information required.
## Proposed Amendments to the Mu State Bylaws of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

### #1. Article III: Membership

**NOW READS:**

Section C. Chapter Membership
Chapters in the state shall have full power to act in matters of chapter membership.

**PROPOSED CHANGE:**

Insert: **Membership records are kept at the chapter level.**

**IF APPROVED, WILL READ:**

Article III: Membership
Section C. Chapter Membership
Chapters in the state shall have full power to act in matters of chapter membership. **Membership records are kept at the chapter level.**

---

(p. 6)

**Rationale:** To be consistent with *International Standing Rules 3.*

### #2. Article VI: Officers and Related Personnel

**NOW READS:**

7.b. **employed in the future to fill this position** shall be classified as a professional contracted specialist.

**PROPOSED CHANGE:**

Strike: **employed in the future to fill this position**

**IF APPROVED, WILL READ:**

Article VI: Officers and Related Personnel
Section A. State
7.b. **shall be classified as a professional contracted specialist.**

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(p. 8)

**Rationale:** To be consistent with other Mu State professional contracted specialists.

### #3

**NOW READS:**

Insert new:

[15] **oversee selection of dates and sites for state conventions and state executive board meetings to be presented to the executive board for approval.**

**PROPOSED CHANGE:**

**IF APPROVED, WILL READ:**

Article VI: Officers and Related Personnel
Section B. Duties of Officers and Related Personnel
1. President

a. The president shall

[15] **oversee selection of dates and sites for state conventions and state executive board meetings to be presented to the executive board for approval.**

---

(p. 9)

**Rationale:** This is the current practice so should be stated as one of the duties of the Mu State President. It is also consistent with practices in the *Constitution, Article VI, Section C.b.(5).*
Proposed Amendments to the Mu State Bylaws – continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NOW READS</th>
<th>CHANGE</th>
<th>IF APPROVED, WILL READ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#4.</td>
<td>Article VI: Officers and Related Personnel</td>
<td>Insert new: 11. The editor of the Florida Rays shall perform those duties specified in the job description approved by the executive board.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(p. 10)

**Rationale:** Statement is needed as the Editor of the Florida Rays is one of the Mu State related personnel.

#5. Article VI: Officers and Related Personnel

Insert: state headquarters administrative assistant,

3. The parliamentarian, treasurer, editor of the Florida Rays, state executive secretary, and the state webmaster may serve in the same office longer than two (2) terms in succession.

(p. 10)

**Rationale:** The position of state administrative assistant was created to carry out some of the duties formerly the responsibility of the state executive secretary. Therefore, this position should be included with those who may serve more than two terms in succession.

#6 Article VI: Officers and Related Personnel

Insert: in a manner consistent with the Constitution

1. Officers shall be elected at the convention in odd numbered years.

(p. 10)

**Rationale:** To be consistent with the Constitution, Article VI.
Proposed Amendments to the Mu State Bylaws – continued

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>READS</th>
<th>PROPOSED CHANGE</th>
<th>IF APPROVED, WILL READ</th>
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</thead>
</table>
| Article VII: Boards  
Section A. 2. Duties  
a. The duties of the executive board shall be:  
[6] to determine the time and place of meetings;  
[7] to set the date and secure convention facilities for the executive board meeting immediately following the end of its tenure;  
Strike: to determine the time and place of meetings;  
Substitute: to approve the dates and sites for state conventions and state executive board meetings;  
Strike: [7] to set the date and secure convention facilities for the executive board meeting immediately following the end of its tenure;  
Renumber: remaining items | Article VII: Boards  
Section A. 2. Duties  
a. The duties of the executive board shall be  
[6] to approve the date and sites for state conventions and state executive board meetings;  
[7] to receive reports of the committees;  
[8] to act in the interim between convention upon matters requiring immediate attention;  
[9] to vote on motions presented by standing and ad hoc committees with the exception of the bylaws, nominations, and awards committees;  
[10] to establish the number of districts and the boundaries of each, subject to the ratification by vote of the convention;  
[11] to approve the organizing of a new chapter;  
[12] to elect state honorary members;  
[13] to determine the need for, function of, and termination of ad hoc committees;  
[14] to approve the establishment of new scholarships, subject to ratification by the general membership;  
[15] to approve the establishment of special funds and their disbursement;  
[16] to approve the establishment of trusts for special bequests and memorials; and  
[17] to approve all state projects. |
## Proposed Amendments to the Mu State Bylaws – continued

<table>
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<th>NOW READS</th>
<th>PROPOSED CHANGE</th>
<th>IF APPROVED, WILL READ</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>#8</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Article VIII Committees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Section B. General Procedures</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. All committees shall be appointed by the president except the nominations committee. This committee shall be elected as provided in Article IX, Section C.3. and Article VIII, Section C.5.a. of these bylaws.</td>
<td>Insert new: State and chapters may establish committees that fulfill their constitutional responsibilities.</td>
<td>Article VIII Committees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Strike: Article VIII, Section C.5.a.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Insert: Article VIII, Section C.8.a.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>(p. 12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rationale:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>To be consistent with the Constitution Article VIII, Section A, 2.b.; to be consistent with the changes made to the Mu State Bylaws and Standing Rules at the 2011 state convention.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>#9</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Section B. General Procedures</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Insert new: 10. Reports of work accomplished will be prepared on forms supplied by Society Headquarters.</td>
<td>Article VIII Committees</td>
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<td>(p. 13)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rationale:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>To be in accordance with the Constitution Article VIII, Section A.2.c.; the number 10 was chosen as that number was omitted in the numbering of the items under Article VIII Committees, Section B. General Procedures in the 2011 Mu State Bylaws and Standing Rules.</td>
</tr>
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Proposed Amendments to the Mu State Bylaws –continued

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Article IX Meetings</td>
<td>Business of the state may be conducted at a state convention or at an executive board meeting held at a time and place to be determined by the executive board.</td>
<td>Add new: Contracts for state conventions and state executive board meetings shall be signed by the president at least two (2) years in advance of the date of said convention or executive board meeting.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section A. Convention 1. Biennial conventions in the odd-numbered years shall be for the purpose of approving reports, adopting and/or amending bylaws, electing officers, and other business, which may properly come before them. Convention sites shall be selected at least two (2) bienniums ahead of date. Motions to be presented by committees shall be published in the Florida Rays prior to the convention. Strike: Convention sites shall be selected at least two (2) bienniums ahead of date. Insert: A state convention is optional in even-numbered years. |

Rationale: To be in accordance with the Constitution Article X, Section A.1.b and Article IX Section B. 2.a.

(pp. 17-18)
Proposed Amendments to the Mu State Bylaws – continued

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#11 Article IX Meetings Section C. District Meetings</td>
<td>Strike: program chairman, treasurers</td>
<td>Article IX Meetings Section C. District Meetings 5. Workshops for new presidents, treasurers, program planners, Educational Excellence Committee chairmen, and leadership training for all members shall be a part of the district meeting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Workshops for new presidents, program chairman, treasurers, and leadership training for all members shall be a part of the district meeting.</td>
<td>Insert: treasurers, program planners, Educational Excellence Committee chairmen.</td>
<td>(p. 18) Rationale: Given the flexibility of chapters in the creation of committees, this statement will help clarify those individuals for whom workshops will be provided at the district meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#13. Mu State Standing Rules E. Executive Board</td>
<td>Insert: (postal or electronic)</td>
<td>Mu State Standing Rules E. Executive Board The state executive board may authorize a vote by mail (postal or electronic) when necessary. In such cases, the executive board shall be fully informed of the deadline necessitating such a vote. The board shall have the opportunity of canceling such a vote if they do not agree to the necessity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The state executive board may authorize a vote by mail when necessary. In such cases, the executive board shall be fully informed of the deadline necessitating such a vote. The board shall have the opportunity of canceling such a vote if they do not agree to the necessity.</td>
<td>(postal or electronic)</td>
<td>(p. 21) Rationale: To be consistent with Article VII, Section A. 4. of the Mu State Bylaws and Standing Rules.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Florida Rays

Members are encouraged to call or send information to be used in the Florida Rays.

February 1......Spring
May 1...........Summer
September 1......Fall
December 1.....Winter

Find the Mu State website on the International website. Go to www.dkg.org, click on Society Websites, click on the U.S. Flag, and then click on Florida. Click at the top of the map of Florida for the state website and on the chapter name for a chapter website. You can also visit the new website at www.dkgmustateflorida.weebly.com

Folding the Florida Rays reduces the cost for mailing. Thanks for your patience and understanding.

The Educational Foundation will be 50 years old in 2014. Members may add to the celebration by contributing in several ways:

• Become a Miracle Maker by contributing $500 over five years.
• Light a candle on the celebration cake by contributing $50.
• Honor or memorialize someone special by contributing any amount. Those gifts of money fund projects that benefit education and children around the world. Go to www.dkgef.org to find out more.