

# The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International



# Florida Rays



Vol. 57 No. 3 Mu State Organization of Key Women Educators Spring 2012

## Chapters update Standing Rules

Most chapters are in the process of updating their Chapter Standing Rules to be sure they are consistent with the **Constitution, International Standing Rules** as well as the recently amended **Mu State Bylaws**.

**Linda Pinkerton**, Chair of the Mu State Bylaws Committee says, "It is a great time to be sure that the Standing Rules are what is wanted or needed. Actions are sometimes taken by chapters and much later, forgotten because they were not written down. Now is an excellent time to compare your Standing Rules with the international and state governing documents as well as with previous action taken by your chapter."

One of the duties of the Mu State Bylaws Committee is to review Standing Rules. This process is under way. Many chapters took advantage of having their Rules reviewed by a member of the Mu State Bylaws Committee at their district meeting. If your chapter has not revised its Standing Rules since April 2011, you will want to consider doing so.

Contact **Linda Pinkerton** Chair, Mu State Bylaws Committee at [lepinkerton2@cfl.rr.com](mailto:lepinkerton2@cfl.rr.com) with questions or to submit your Rules for review. Other members of the committee are **Merle Jones, Pat Litterick, Dr. Elsie Gross, Nancy Marmesh, and Lou Burns**.

## It's in Florida in 2013

The 2013 **Southeast Regional Conference** will be held at the Gaylord Palms Resort and Convention Center in Kissimmee, July 9-13, 2013. **Carrie Frye**, Mu State President, 2011-2013 is also the chair of the 2013 Conference Planning Committee. She invites all Florida members to join her, the Southeast Regional Director, who will be elected at the 2012 International Convention in New York City, and the conference planning committee in providing the members of the other 10 southeast state organizations an unforgettable conference.



Unpredictable but fabulous experiences await DKG members as they enter the resort. The size and architecture are astounding. A sixty-foot schooner is floating in a Key West lagoon. A baby alligator sleeps. A three story Spanish fort centers historic St. Augustine and to top it off, the entire conference will be held under glass. Start planning now!

## Could you be the next Mu State Editor?

**Ruth Pridgen**, Chair, and members of the Mu State Personnel Committee are searching for a new Editor for the **Florida Rays**. Dr. Beverly Helms is the nominee for the office of International President. Contingent upon her election at the Convention in July, she will relinquish her duties as editor, August 1. Deadline for submission of application is March 31, 2012.

Check the Mu State website for specific qualifications, duties, responsibilities, term of office, and compensation. The packet of detailed information and a separate application form are posted on the website. Packets have been sent to chapter presidents and other interested individuals. For additional information you may also contact Ruth Pridgen, Chair Mu State Personnel Committee, by calling 904-945-1314 or by email at [repridgen@aol.com](mailto:repridgen@aol.com)



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](mailto:lindad@dkg.org)

There are still **1227** members whose names and email addresses **have not been sent to international**.

All chapter presidents have been given a list of chapter members who have not submitted email addresses. The names and email addresses of 200 members were sent following the last issue. **Thanks.** Would you do this **NOW** for your chapter? 

### **Florida Rays**

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## **In Memoriam**



We pause and remember these with love and appreciation.

### **Callie Brown**

Alpha Omega  
**Geraldine Coates**  
Kappa

### **Hughlene Roberts Cole**

Gamma Omicron

### **Edna Elrod**

Phi

### **Mary Ruth Fitzgerald**

Gamma Rho

### **Lois Slate Hammer**

Zeta

### **Zillah Kindred**

Beta Nu

### **Irma Lovell**

Alpha Rho

### **Dr. Maryly Van Leer Peck**

Delta Delta

### **Katie Walters**

Phi

## **Presidents**

Some chapters are not submitting Form 6 upon the death of a member. They wait and include them in the Annual Report. **Please** help us recognize, in a timely manner, our members who leave us, by sending **Form 6** immediately upon their death to:

**Fern Cleary**  
**9557 Portside Drive**  
**Seminole, FL**  
**33776**

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**Carrie Frye**  
**Mu State President**  
**2011 - 2013**

"Spring is in the air...." and in various parts of Florida we have the good fortune of experiencing the aromatic citrus blossoms, colorful azaleas, fragrant wisteria, shimmering dogwood blossoms, and numerous budding trees and shrubs. We are surrounded by a palette of pastels and delectable aromas. These things bring to mind freshness and new beginnings.

Freshness and new beginnings....What new ideas are you implementing in your chapter? What fresh faces have you invited to a meeting or initiated into your chapter? There is no better time than the present to "spruce" up your chapter. We tend to think of spring cleaning as getting rid of many things. In Mu State, let's have a Delta Kappa Gamma chapter spring cleaning for freshening things. What can you do to make your next meeting livelier, more colorful and more exciting for all?

In some states in our nation, including Florida, this can also be a season of destructive tornadoes. Our fellow Southeast members in Arkansas and, particularly, Alabama have already experienced such. Our Society is a philanthropic organization, so remember to participate at the chapter level in

# Comments from Carrie

## *Embracing Our Vision ~ Designing Our Future*

helping build the Mu State Emergency Fund so we can help each other when the "call" comes.

This is also a good time to explore your calendar and complete plans for any upcoming Society meetings. We still have some District meetings to attend and will look forward to seeing you there. Did you apply for the Jess McBride Leadership Growth Seminar which will be held in Tampa on July 12 -15, 2012? Are you attending the Educational Foundation Seminar in Arlington, VA on July 19 -22, 2012? Are you joining us in New York City for the International Convention on July 24 -28, 2012?

Our really big meeting this year is the Delta Kappa Gamma International Convention, NYC. More information is on the website [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org). This will be a most exciting time for Mu State members as we participate in the election of our next International President knowing that our own Dr. Beverly Helms is nominated. Please be there to witness this electric and auspicious occasion.

It is not too early to start thinking about our Fall Executive Board Meeting which will be held at the Orlando Airport Marriott Hotel on September 14 - 15, 2012. The attendance of all executive board members is required. All Mu State members are encouraged to attend to be a part of a meeting which helps you better understand our state organization and to participate in the exciting and educational workshops that are planned for you. You will find registration information in this issue of **Florida Rays**.

Upon receipt of this newsletter, the annual chapter reports are past due. I wish to express my gratitude to each chapter president and committee chair who filed the reports as requested. Timely and accurate reporting from the chapters enables us to submit required paperwork and helps bolster the great reputation that Mu State holds in our International Society. Thank you!

During January and February, I have traversed the state making numerous chapter meeting visits. I am very proud of the projects, activities, fellowship and productivity that you have in place. Each experience has enriched my life. Kudos to all of you for your accomplishments! A special note of thanks to all of you for your warm and gracious hospitality extended during my visits and for the opportunity to get to know you better. Serving you is an honor.

As we experience the transition into spring, look upon this as a time for renewal. What new beginnings will you put in place that may have the potential for creating endless possibilities to refresh your chapter and your personal life? Spring into action and inspire others to join you.

**Carrie**

Jesslyn McBride  
 Leadership Growth Seminar  
 Tampa Airport Marriott  
 July 12-15, 2012

International Convention  
 New York City  
 July 24-28, 2012

Fall Mu State Workshop  
 September 14-15, 2012

## From the Desk Of...

When I am not at a meeting, I am on the phone or computer helping chapter members & presidents, working with our State Treasurer, Myra Ponder, District Directors, and our State President, Carrie Frye. If I can't answer the question I let them know the person/place to contact. Other times I research and get back to the person.

At the present time I am working on lists of the incoming chapter presidents. I compile the data for the district meetings and for future use by our State president Carrie Frye and the incoming district directors. I prepare materials and check details prior to each district meeting. After each meeting the material is updated again.

The Mu State Executive Board receives a lot of information by email. Board members have been very good about informing me of changes in their email addresses. I encourage each chapter to double check its list of members and email addresses. Send the chapter list to International Headquarters. Don't forget to send your new email address each time you change it.

The district meetings are a time of learning, sharing, and socializing. I have attended three and have three to go. I look forward to greeting members who have transferred from other states.

Stay in Touch. Judith



**Judith Mix**  
Mu State  
Executive  
Secretary

## Get Your Website Certified

**Dr. Peg  
Dunn-Snow  
Mu State  
Webmaster**



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International has a more efficient and easier way for webmasters to certify or re-certify state or chapter websites. Form 72 *Society Website Certification Request* is a short, interactive form that takes less than five minutes to fill out and submit to Society Headquarters. After the International Communications Committee reviews and approves each form, an electronic badge will be sent to the webmaster to post on her site, indicating that the site is an official Delta Kappa Gamma Website.

To access Form 72 go to the top of the homepage of the DKG Society website at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org). Click on the link labeled *Forms*. Click the folder labeled *Websites* then click on the link entitled *Certified Link Request-Form 72*.

## The Value of One Member

**Ten** little members standing in a line... One disliked the president, then there were **nine**.

**Nine** ambitious members offered to work late. One forgot her promise, then there were **eight**.

**Eight** creative members had ideas good as heaven. One lost enthusiasm, then there were **seven**.

**Seven** loyal members got into a fix. They quarreled over programs, then there were **six**.

**Six** members remained with spirit and drive. One moved away, then there were **five**.

**Five** devoted members vowed to attract more. One became indifferent, then there were **four**.

**Four** cheerful members who never disagree... 'Til one complained of meetings, then there were **three**.

**Three** eager members... What do they do? One got discouraged, then there were **two**.

**Two** lovely members... our rhyme is nearly done... One joined a bridge club, then there was **one**.

**One** faithful member was feeling rather blue. Met with a neighbor, then there were **two**.

**Two** earnest members: each enrolled one more. Doubled their number, then there were **four**.

**Four** determined members just could not wait... 'Til each won another, then there were **eight**.

**Eight** excited members signed up 16 more. In another six verses, there will be **1,024!**

*Source unknown. Shared by Terri Diehm of Oregon.*

# Members Design their Future



Left to right, **Robin Elliott**, President, Alpha Chi, **Pat Hazellief**, District III Director, **Carrie Frye** Mu State President, **Karen Whiteside**, incoming Alpha Iota President, **Shirley Bassford**, Incoming Alpha Chi President, **Christine Swank**, Incoming President, Beta Iota and **Linda Wallen**, President, Alpha Iota.



Broward Chapter Presidents at the saloon during intermission at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Murder Mystery Luncheon, "Murder in the Wild West" sponsored by **Beta Alpha** Chapter. \$150 dollars was raised this year in support of the Mu State Emergency Relief Fund. L-R **Dr. Peg Dunn-Snow**, Beta Alpha, **Beth Castro**, Alpha Alpha, **Bea Wilbur**, Xi, **Marilyn Ruymann**, Alpha Pi, **Elizabeth Decker**, District V Director, **Carrie Frye**, Mu State President. (Absent from photo, Michele Rivera, Gamma Beta Chapter)

**Ann Tikka**, Alpha Delta, is the Middle School Technology Teacher of the Year for Lee County.



**Susanne Griffin** is Madison County's **Teacher of the Year**.

**Dr. Ruth Sylvester's** article, *Educators Maneuvering the Challenges of RTI Conferences: Guidelines for Success* was selected for inclusion in the Winter 2012 issue of The Delta Kappa Gamma **Bulletin**.

**Dr. Janice Novello's** article, *Meeting the Needs of Gifted and talented Students: An Interview with Dr. Susan Assouline* was also selected for inclusion in the same issue. Congratulations to you both!



**Grace Wilhelm**, Upsilon, is one of three top national finalists for Counselor of the Year. She is a member of the American School Counselors Association and has conducted workshops for Mu State and other groups. She compiled a booklet on **Stress Busting**. You may contact her at [grayseaw@yahoo.com](mailto:grayseaw@yahoo.com).



Kappa Chapter holds meeting with **Gamma Rho**. Above, from l to r, Gamma Rho Chapter president, **Mary O'Brien**, Mu State president, **Carrie Frye** with Kappa Chapter President, **Joan Sackett**.

**Colleen Skinner**, **Beta**, a 60 + year member of DKG is active at the chapter, district and state levels. She celebrated her 98th birthday in a two seater Cessna over Deland, the site of Mu State Headquarters.

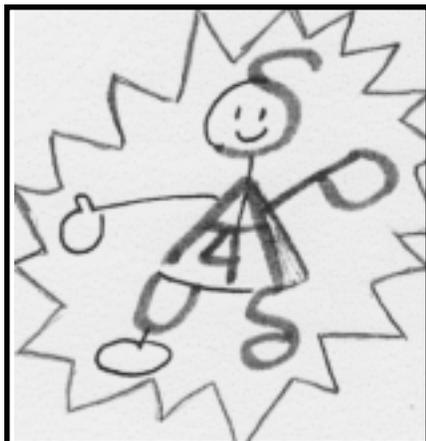


**Leading Women Educators Impacting Education World Wide.**

## The Rise of the Chapter S A P

*Planning is bringing the future into the present so that you can do something about it.*

Alan Lakein



**S A P 4 U S**

As your chapter develops its Strategic Action Plan, questions will arise. When that happens, contact your Mu State SAP Committee for guidance and answers. Some questions are common to all chapters regarding areas of concentration and format, for example. The answer to both questions is that it is up to your chapter and what works best for you. The updated Mu State Strategic Action Plan and the International Strategic Action Plan are on both the Mu State website and the DKG International website.

The Mu State SAP Committee has been presenting a question and answer workshop at each district meeting. This will be continued in the remaining districts. The committee will also present a workshop at the Fall Workshop/ Executive Board meeting to be held in Orlando, September 14-15, 2012.

The beginning of a new biennium for chapters, July 1, 2012, is a great time to write your chapter Strategic Action Plan. It can serve as the guide for chapter activities. Don't put off developing a chapter SAP. It does not have to be a perfect plan. It simply needs to help you as a chapter move from where you are to where you desire to be. Help is always available from Barbara Van Diepen, Mu State SAP Chairman. You may contact her at [Vandiepen61@bellsouth.net](mailto:Vandiepen61@bellsouth.net) Others on the committee are Gerry Hacker, [pianosteel@hotmail.com](mailto:pianosteel@hotmail.com), Judith Mix, [misjutom@embarqmail.com](mailto:misjutom@embarqmail.com) and Dr. Beverly Helms, [bevhelms@embarqmail.com](mailto:bevhelms@embarqmail.com).



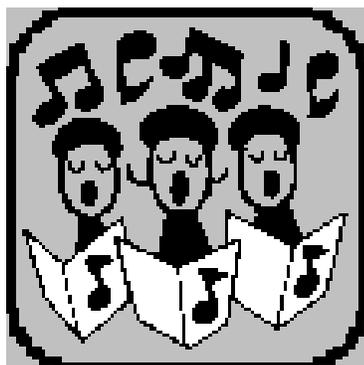
Barbara Van Diepen,  
Chair,  
Mu State Strategic Action Planning Team

*A good plan today is better than a perfect plan tomorrow.*

George Patton

If your chapter is developing or has completed its Strategic Action Plan, please let Barbara Van Diepen know.

### Join the Mu State Chorus



**Ruth Yeilding and Lonnie Kirsch** invite you to be a part of the Mu State Convention Chorus in 2013. Let Lonnie know if you are interested, your phone number, email address, and the part you sing. Contact her at [lonchobee@netzero.com](mailto:lonchobee@netzero.com)

### 2012 International Convention

Have you registered for the 2012 International Convention? It is available online. Go to [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) and register. Get all the information you need about the Convention as well as the Seminar for Purposeful Living preceding the Convention.

Convention activities include outstanding speakers at general sessions, a pre-convention seminar open to all members and non-members, with Dr. Bonnie Davis presenting strategies and tips for working with students who don't look like you, cutting edge break out sessions, several general business sessions, two spotlight sessions and much more.

A computer lab will be available to check email and a panel discussion of the Arts will be intriguing.

### Visited the DKG website lately?

The DKG website maintains an electronic library on its website at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) You can find information of a broad spectrum of Society activities. Blogs for the international president and headquarters administrative staff require only a click on a link. Follow the activities of these leading key women educators.

You can find program ideas for the fine arts, Society Purposes, projects and a founder quiz that could be used as a chapter meeting program. Power Point presentations are available, as well as tips for broadcasting the buzz and creating a chapter Strategic Action Plan.

## Mu State Fall Workshop/Executive Board September 14-15, 2012 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**  Current 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 \$46.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (includes Luncheon)  
 Late Registration \$54.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Postmarked after August 29, 2011)  
 Friday Night Dinner \$25.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Optional)  
**Total** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to : **Delta Kappa Gamma**  
**Check #** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Send to: Carolyn McGowan**  
**230 Overlook Drive**  
**Clermont, FL 34711-2428**  
**Phone: 352 394 5336**  
**Email: MMCDM1@aol.com**

**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.



**Directions: From the airport:** Follow 436 North (Semoran Blvd), turn right at TG Lee Blvd., turn right onto Augusta National Drive. (Courtesy transportation to and from the airport available 24 hours a day.)  
**From I-95:** Exit Hwy 528 West (Bee Line Exp.), then exit at 436N, turn right at TG Lee Blvd., turn right onto Augusta National Drive.  
**From I-4 and Florida Turnpike:** Exit Hwy 528 East (Bee Line Exp.), then exit at 436 N. (Semoran Blvd.), turn right at TG Lee Blvd., turn right onto Augusta National Drive.

Orlando Airport Marriott 7499 Augusta National Drive Orlando, Florida 32812 Phone: 407-851-9000 or 800-766-6752	<b>Group Reservation</b> <b>The DKG Society International</b> <b>September 14-15, 2012</b>
Rates: Single-\$129.00 Double- \$129.00 Triple - \$129.00 Quad - \$129.00 ( Rooms rates will also include an 12.5% tax)	
<b>Date of Arrival:</b> _____ <b>Date of Departure:</b> _____ (Check in Time : 3:00 p.m.)	
_____ Name	
_____ Address City State Zip	
_____ Type Credit Card Card Number Expiration Date	
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.	
Reservations must be received at the hotel by <b>August 25, 2012</b> . Any reservations 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. Rates effective 3 days before and after depending on availability.	



## Chapter Biennial Reports

Chapters in Mu State will be asked to share the following type information when they submit your report.

1. Did you support the Schools For Africa Project?
2. Did you support early-career educators?
3. Did you attend training provided by the Mu State Educational Excellence Committee?
4. How many programs/projects/activities did you have that focused on the following:
  - . Increasing members' personal and professional pride
  - . Excellence in Education
  - . Increasing members' global awareness
  - . Understanding the DKG/UN relationship
  - . Impacting educational law and/or policy.
5. What chapter activity had the greatest impact on education?
6. Describe your most successful chapter program.
7. What resources do you use for chapter program ideas?
8. What suggestions have you received from the Mu State Educational Excellence Committee to assist you?

**Beta Alpha** contributes canned foods in support of the Gateway Food Bank as well as toys in support of the HolidayToys for Tots Community Project. The Chapter also contributes storybooks for the Boys and Girls Clubs and the Broward County Public Elementary Schools. The chapter president is **Dr. Peg Dunn-Snow**.

**Delta Kappa** Chapter raised over \$500 from their Avon sale to fund its service projects.

## DKG Chapters have diverse projects, programs and activities



*Mu State President, Carrie Frye with Wendy Stephens, Alabama's First VP.*

**Beta Chi** Chapter reached out to Alabama schools that were destroyed in tornadoes. Carrie Frye, Mu State President, traveled to Valley, AL, where she delivered boxes of books, science videos, glue, crayons, pencils, scissors and other supplies to Wendy Stephens, Beta State 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President.

Some of the supplies were donated by students of Wekiva Elementary School where Beta Chi member, Claire Closson, is a counselor.

Pictured below, **Beta Chi** increases its visibility by getting publicity for their support of educators in a local magazine.

## Supporting Early Educators

An international initiative and major focus for chapter programs and projects this biennium has been *Support for Early Career Educators*. This will be proposed as the second international project at the 2012 Convention in New York City. The efforts include but extend beyond mentoring and provide help for new teachers to maintain enthusiasm, inspire networking among new teachers, reduce the feeling of isolation, provides nurturing and support, enhances self esteem and invites those with potential for distinctive service to membership in DKG.

**Alpha Delta** chapter is celebrating record attendance at its meetings. Outstanding guest speakers, involvement in charitable causes and the luncheon buffet, among other things, are credited with increasing the attendance. The chapter collects canned goods, holds a *White Elephant* sale, a *Holiday Extravaganza* for scholarship funds, gathers personal hygiene items for the Abuse Shelter and donates books to Tice Elementary School.



*Seminole County DKG members get recognition in Lake Mary Life.*



**Dr. Elsie Gross**, Trustee  
Educational Foundation

The Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation has a new website. You can find a variety of information about projects, stipends, Lucille Cornet Awards, and the Seminar in Purposeful Living at [www.dkgef.org](http://www.dkgef.org)

Deadlines for applications are posted. Visit the website today and you will be reminded of many of the benefits that are available to both DKG members as well as non-members.

**Lots of people want to ride with you in the limo, but what you need is someone who will take the bus with you when the limo breaks down.** Oprah Winfrey



## WORLD FELLOWSHIP The Ripple Effect - "Celebrate 65"!

Deborah Thomas, Chair, Mu State  
World Fellowship Committee

It's because of you, the members of Delta Kappa Gamma, that women of non-member countries have the opportunity to live and do graduate study in the United States and Canada. The vision our founders had in 1929 for an organization of women educators uniting to help empower women to be future leaders in education began 65 years ago.

World Fellowship is about much more than members and state organizations contributing to the Fund, although this is an important aspect. It's about a worldwide networking of women helping women through knowledge and professional development to reach their full potential. Go to [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) to learn about our World Fellowship recipients. Get in touch with them. Let them know that you care about their well being. A chapter in North Carolina used Skype to communicate with a recipient during a chapter meeting.

Since this Fund is maintained solely through volunteer contributions, the World Fellowship Committee is asking each MU State member to "**Celebrate 65**" by contributing *65 cents* to World Fellowship at each chapter meeting; for each chapter to contribute *65 dollars* to the Fund; and each member attending your District Meeting to contribute *65 cents*. Contributions to the World Fellowship Fund may be made using Form 43.

We are helping make a global impact on women and their lives and in their countries. Empowering one to empower many . . . what a ripple effect we have!

## Taking Care of Your Members?

It is not a secret that attendance and membership attrition have been a problem in DKG for some time. Chapters are realizing the importance of being flexible in terms of meeting dates, times and sites. Others recognize the need to remind members of meetings, contact those who were not in attendance, provide transportation for those unable to drive, ensure meaningful programs and projects, maintain communication and connectivity.

Near the top of the list is to make sure that every member feels needed and is involved, but not overwhelmed. Younger

members who are not able to attend every meeting or chapter activity, for whatever reason, must continue to feel supported and encouraged. Members who are pursuing advanced degrees should not feel excluded because they cannot attend many of the chapter activities. Longstanding members who may have difficulty getting to and from the meetings may require assistance. And, the list goes on...

We do a good job of attracting and recruiting new members, but a major problem we are facing as an organization is **retaining** our own members. Keep in touch with every member in your chapter, but especially those marginal members who may not understand the benefits of

membership as well as you.

No other organization provides the diverse benefits to both members and non-members as does DKG. Often those members who are not active beyond the chapter level have little knowledge of the variety of opportunities for leadership development, scholarships, stipends, Cornet Awards, world-wide networking, publishing and so many other benefits of membership provided by our organization.

Let's enthusiastically welcome our new members and, at the same time, devote sufficient energy, time, and care in the support of our existing members.

# Three District Meetings remain!

District IV, V and I will be held March 24, April 28 and May 5, respectively. Plan now to attend at least one. More specific information and registration forms are available on the Mu State Website.



**Lonnie Kirsch**  
District IV Director

**District IV**  
Dixon Hendry Campus  
Indian River State College  
Okeechobee  
**March 24, 2012**

On Friday evening the early arrivals will go to Lightsey's to enjoy catfish, frog legs, gator bites, cooter, etc. District Director, Lonnie Kirsch has planned a full day on Saturday which will include workshops, a general session, entertainment, silent auction baskets, lunch and more. Leave the city and join with district IV members in real cowboy country.

**District V**  
*From Vision To Action*  
Safe Schools Institute  
Boca Raton  
**April 28, 2012**



**Elizabeth Decker**  
District V Director

Experience *Pride in the Big Picture* on the regional level as District V honors its outgoing and incoming presidents and welcomes Mu State officers, past presidents and committee chairs. Registration is at 8:15, and sessions will start at 9:00. In addition to the business agenda and workshops lunch will include entertainment by Dimensional Harmony—the Boynton Beach High School chorus, winners of the Today Show's Show Choir Showdown in November 2010.

**District I**  
*Making Connections*  
Wright Place  
Pensacola  
**May 5, 2012**

**Clancy O'Donnell**  
District I Director



Friday night guests to District I will have a UFO trolley ride and boxed supper. Beverly Stagg will be responsible for registration on Saturday at 8:00. Making Connections sessions will begin at 9:15. Elections will be held, officers trained and all will enjoy a fabulous lunch.

## What is A QR code?



QR codes are the second generation of the matrix barcode. This technology has been available for 20 years, but we are beginning to see it used more by DKG members with smart phones. Such phones use applications, or *apps*, to read QR codes.

Download the new application and search for a reader, most of which are free. After you install the QR Reader on your phone, turn on the app, and when the screen appears, place your phone over or in front of the QR code, just like you were taking a picture of the code. Your phone may vibrate to let you know the code has been successfully read. If you want to go to the website or get the information relative to the QR code, click on *yes* and you will be taken to the website or to the information concerning the code.

Technology is changing rapidly. DKG members cannot afford to get caught on the wrong side of the digital divide!

## Mu State Committees

If your committee plans to present a motion to the Executive Board in September, you must submit it to the Mu State President in time for her to submit it to the members of the Executive Board at least 15 days prior to their meeting. That means she must receive it no later than mid August.

**Merle Jones**  
Mu State  
First Vice President



## Workshop Presenter?

Workshops are being scheduled for the Mu State Fall Workshops/Executive Board meeting to be held September 14-15, 2012. If you are interested in presenting, please complete the form that is posted on the Mu State Website no later than **July 01, 2012**. Presenters and topics will be selected in late spring so that the tentative workshops can be shared with the members in the 2012 Summer issue of **Florida Rays**.

You may email the form to Merle at [dwmsj@att.net](mailto:dwmsj@att.net), call her (850 638-1280) or send the form to 1973 Cane Mill Road, Chipley, FL 32428.

# Educational Excellence Where Is Your Chapter?



**Sandra Smith**  
EE Chair  
[slsmith@gt.com.net](mailto:slsmith@gt.com.net)

The Educational Excellence Committee promotes International Projects, supports early career educators, and encourages programs and activities that further educational excellence worldwide.

How are you doing with the Schools for Africa Project? Contact **Ann Perrine** at [perrineap@cfl.rr.com](mailto:perrineap@cfl.rr.com). How are you doing supporting Early-Career Educators? Contact **Sandy Byars** at [sbbyars@hotmail.com](mailto:sbbyars@hotmail.com).

For more information you may go to the international DKG website at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) or to the up-to-date Mu State Website at [dkgmustateflorida.weebly.com](http://dkgmustateflorida.weebly.com)

You also can find program ideas about personal and professional pride, global awareness, educational law and policy, and educational excellence. A lot of the work has been done to make it easier for you to use.

Donations made to the Emergency Fund are now tax deductible. Be sure to send all donations to **Myra Ponder**, Mu State Treasurer, 253 Prado, Apalachicola, FL 32320. What a great Christmas gift to give in honor of someone special!

Be sure to attend the remaining district meetings and come to the Educational Excellence workshop. We will share information and conduct a Question and Answer time.

## Resources Available for Chapters

**Go-To Guide for Chapter Members**  
**NEW Handbook of the DKG Society International**  
**can be ordered from Society headquarters in**  
**March 2012**

Order the **Reinstatement brochures** from Society headquarters. They are free. You only pay shipping charges. Great suggestions for finding and reinstating former members. There is no reinstatement fee and chapters do not have to vote again.



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



Need help recruiting new members? Order the new brochure that is free. The chapter pays shipping charges. It is a professional and attractive brochure that describes our organization, what we do, why we exist and the many benefits of belonging.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
 Mu State Organization  
**Florida Rays**  
 Dr. Beverly Helms, Editor  
 bevhelms@embarqmail.com

**Periodical Postage  
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**Postmaster**  
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**The DKG Society International**  
 PO Box 1589  
 Austin, Texas 78767-1589

### **Florida Rays Deadlines**

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

Deadlines are

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

Find the Mu State website on the International website. Go to [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org), click on **Society Websites**, click on the U.S. Flag, 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](http://www.dkgmustateflorida.weebly.com)

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

### **SAVE THE DATES**

**Jesslyn McBride**  
**Leadership Growth Seminar**  
 Tampa Airport Marriott  
 July 12-15, 2012

**International Convention**  
 Sheraton New York Hotel and  
 Towers  
 New York City, NY  
 July 24-28, 2012

**Mu State Fall Workshop/  
 Executive Board**  
 Orlando Airport Marriott  
 September 14-15, 2012

**Mu State Convention**  
 Orlando Airport Marriott  
 April 19-21, 2013

**Southeast Regional**  
 Gaylord Palms, Kissimmee  
 July 9-13, 2013

#### **Mu State Website**

[www.dkgmustateflorida.weebly.com](http://www.dkgmustateflorida.weebly.com)

#### **Mu State Headquarters**

245 North Clara Avenue  
 DeLand, FL 32720

#### **International Website**

[www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)

## **Mu State Communications Award - Criteria**

Your chapter can be recognized by the Mu State Communications Committee at the 2013 Mu State Convention. There are different levels of recognition depending on the number of points accumulated. You do not have to achieve all criteria to be recognized. Earn the maximum number of points possible, then submit your file or documentation of communication efforts by **April 1, 2013**.

1. Chapter has a website and is linked to International. (25 points)
2. Chapter has a social media page with members participating. (10 points)
3. Chapter communicates with members at least 5 times annually. (15 points)
4. Chapter maintains communications with members without computers, emails, etc. (10 points)
5. Chapter information board displayed at district meeting or in community. (10 points)
6. Chapter submits article to **Florida Rays**. (5 points)
7. Chapter submits news releases to local media. (10+ points)
8. Chapter represented at Fall Workshop/ district meeting/ and meets deadline for submission. (10 points)