The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

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MONTANA STATE ORGANIZATION
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2020-202 DKG ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

Rebecca “Becky” Sadowski (TN) was elected as the new DKG President. A member since 1989, she previously served in leadership positions at all levels including Tennessee President, Southeast Regional Director and International Second Vice-President. Committed to supporting DKG’s mission and vision, she is dedicated to the Society’s advancement.

The following leaders were selected as members of the Administrative Board:

Dr. Lace Marie Brogden (SK)
June M. Bowers (NE)
Dr. Debra “Debbie” LeBlanc (IL)
Barbara Clausen (WA)
Candace “Candi” Martin (AR)
Janis Barr (CA)
Margarita Hanschmidt (EE)
Connie Rensink (TX)
Cynthia “Cyndy” Moore (BC)
Marjorie Sinclair (NB)
Grace Rodriguez-Mesa (Panama)
Dr. Helen Popovich (FL)
Cathy Daugherty (VA)
Nita Scott (TX)

The 2020 International Convention that was to be held in Philadelphia was cancelled due to COVID-19 but was held as a Virtual Event on July 7-10, 2020. Sessions from the 2020 International Convention are available on the International website for all member to view at dkg.org/events. Members must log in to be able to view the proceedings.

A BACKWARD LOOK AT THE 2020 VIRTUAL EVENT

submitted by Janice Nerem (Omega)

It would have been my 25th International Convention of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. Flights were scheduled, hotel reservations made, invitations to events accepted. I was ready.

But then came March and the pandemic. Everything changed. Even the International Convention was cancelled—or was it? Not really. It just found a new route, a new venue and a new leadership style and all came off in a different format.

Didn’t need my plane ticket – I watched the convention from my lounge chair. Didn’t need the hotel reservation – I slept in my own bed. Didn’t need my name tag or my event tickets. Oh yes, and I didn’t get that new dress that I thought I needed for my five-minute presentation on the program.

Through the valiant efforts of the Administrative Board and Headquarters Staff, they orchestrated an excellent convention in spite of the fact that Headquarters was closed and everyone was working from home in all parts of the country. Emails took care of all of the directions (excellent and easy to follow) and help was available where and when needed.

The traditional events of a convention took place; however they appeared different from those of the past:

• The announcement of Dr. Helene Popovich of Florida as the recipient of the International Achievement Award. Dr. Popovich is the International Parliamentarian.
• The presentation by Past President Evelyn Barron of HERITAGE IV—the history of the Society from 2007-2017. Her completed work can be found on the Web Site and is available to everyone. I looked through it and saw many Montana Organization names among the pages.
• Keynote speakers (whose presentations are on the Web Site) included: Jane Golden and Olympia LePont. LePont’s presentation was funded by the Eunah Temple Holden Leadership Fund.
• Presentation of the Educators’ Award was presented to Gail Goolsby for her book Unveiled Truth. Join Gail and her husband as they go to Kabel, Afghanistan where she was the principal of a school. A good read.
• The work of International Honorary Member Dolly Parton and her books for children program.

Next year’s conference will be held in Portland, OR on July 11-18.

You can begin to plan now to attend the next international convention in July of 2022 in New Orleans. It will be one that will be full of new ideas and new procedures. And the new dress—well, that will have to wait for another time.

CALL FOR LEADERS

Nominations Committee Chairman Audrey Collins (Omicron)

The Nominations Committee is looking for members who are willing and able to step up and serve as leaders of our state organization for the 2021-2023 biennium. We need to fill a slate of officers to include: president, 1st vice-president, 2nd vice-president, recording secretary and corresponding secretary. There are also two positions on the nominations committee. These committee members will join the immediate past president to work on securing officer nominees for the 2023-2025 biennium.

A member may be nominated, with her consent, by an individual or a chapter for one or more offices. The nominations form has been emailed to each chapter and is available on the Montana State website. Serving as a State Officer provides opportunities for growth, allows you to work with other key women educators and opens many doors.

Please consider saying YES to this chance to share your leadership skills!

Nomination Forms can be sent to Audrey Collins, PO Box 394, Drummond MT 59832. They are due by December 1, 2020.

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide
Congratulations!
Congratulations to Past State President Audrey Collins for being appointed to the International Non-Dues Revenue Committee.

Get Connected
The DKG Society International September/October 2020 issue of Get Connected has an article on GAPP. It gives information for websites and Privacy/Protection Security that suggest using BCC when mailing to groups and other valuable information. Get Connected is found on the International website.

DEADLINES AND DATES TO REMEMBER
2020 - 2021
November 1 - deadline to apply for International - Cornetet Seminar Professional Development
December 1 - Nominations for State officers for the 2021-2023 biennium due to Audrey Collins (Omicron).
December 1 - Applications for Catherine Nutterville Achievement Award due to Lorran Depner (Alpha Gamma).
December 1 - Changes to State Rules due to Carol Shipley (Omega).
December 10 - Nominations for Champion of Education due to Lloyd-Ann McMahan (Mu)
December 11 - Mini-grant applications due to Lloyd-Ann McMahan (Mu)
December 23 - Deadline for articles for the January 2021 issue of Alphamusings due to Joyce English.
February 1 - Scholarship applications due to Genelle Hocevar (Delta)
February 1, 2021 and May 1, 2021 - deadline to apply for International - Cornetet Individual Professional Development
April 23-April 25, 2021 - Montana State Organization Convention at the Northern Hotel in downtown Billings.

Thank You
Thank you to all chapter treasurers who sent me dues and their scholarship money. A reminder to fill out the 990-N e-postcard for the IRS and send or email me a copy of this. It is due before November 15th. Chapters may lose their non-profit status if they don’t file this for three years.
Maureen Watt, maureen.watt@bresnan.net or 1112 Heather Dr., Anaconda MT 59711.

Montana State Organization Convention Report
Chairman Charmaine Mansheim (Alpha Alpha)
Good afternoon! How is everything in your city? Everything is the same here--wear masks, stay six feet apart and stay home a lot. Like one lady said, “Can’t go in because of virus and can’t go out because of smoke!!!!”
Montana State Organization Convention is set for April 23-25, 2021 at the Northern Hotel in downtown Billings. That is, of course, if we can hold a convention by then. We will have to wait and see. Hopefully it will be a go!
This is all the information available at this point because of the COVID virus and because we have not received any other guidelines as to what to do. Committee members Cindy Osland, Nancy Cormier, Pat Jones and I have not done anything else. So whoever is keeping the folder for convention as a keepsake (just joking) we would appreciate knowing what our next step and duties are!
Thanks!!
Stay safe and healthy and as we know, this too shall pass!!

LOST OR HOPEFULLY FOUND
The Convention Committee would appreciate having the Convention Folder from the 2019 Convention with the information for hosting the convention.
Does anyone know where the folder is? Please see that Chairman Charmaine Mansheim receives it ASAP.
It will be greatly appreciated!
COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Membership - WE CAN DO THIS!

2nd Vice President-Membership Chairman, Mavis Peterson (Omega)

On Monday, September 21, Mavis wrote, “I am so excited! Our chapter is inducting three new members this evening. That is quite an accomplishment considering that COVID has kept us all safely tucked away in our homes for months. We are using Zoom and you can too. It will look different, it won’t feel the same, and probably never will be the same, but we are resilient and can roll with these necessary changes. Remember when they took away our chalk-boards, or when we had to start putting our grades and lesson plans on computers? It was difficult the first time or two and then we just did it. As my mother used to tell me, “Sometimes you just do what needs to be done, whether you like it or not.” The most difficult part of learning a new method of communicating is that first step of deciding to just do it. Once you are used to it, it may become even more useful for those members that have a hard time getting to meetings, especially in bad weather. I am guessing here, but I predict that even when we can get together, we will still be Zooming our meetings, just to let everyone in.

“Members that are still teaching need to be supported by their chapter. I can’t even imagine the additional work-load they have as many are preparing both online and in-person lessons. Add to that the stress of not knowing if they will get sick, if they will bring it home to others and how long this is going to go on. A quick call or email, a box of candy or some fall flowers will show your support for their tireless efforts and will be appreciated.

“VOTE! Your right to vote was a hard-fought battle that took several years of women marching, demonstrating and pleading. We should never take it for granted and we should never abuse that right by not being informed and not voting. Encourage your members to vote, give them rides, give them information if they request it and above all take part in all celebrations marking 100 years since we received this right.

“Talk about your chapter activities with potential members. Tell them what you are doing and why. Let them know how rewarding it is to know you are contributing to women educators everywhere. If you are excited about being a member, you will convey that excitement to them. How could they not want to join?”

Scholarship

Chairman, Genelle Hoecevar (Delta)

This year the Montana State Organization is excited to offer a Montana State Organization Scholarship in the amount of $1000.00 for members that are pursuing an advanced degree. This Scholarship can also be used for National Board Certification. The Scholarship Committee offers three scholarships with the deadline being February 1st. Members may receive this scholarship up to two times. They also have to have been a member for two years.

If you are interested in applying for a scholarship, go online to Montana State Organizations’s website and download the form. You may also contact Genelle Hoecevar at 3605 3rd Ave. No, Great Falls MT 59401 or at the following email: genhoecevar@gmail

Champion of Education

Chairman Lloyd-Ann McMahen (Mu)

Does your chapter know a person or group, man or woman outside the field of education that has had an impact on education in your community? This “Educational Hero” may support a cause that is not directly related to your chapter but has been involved with a project that has been relevant in the lives of students in your community.

Begin to think about the different heroes that are quietly at work and begin to gather information to support a nomination for this award. Some things you need to know to support your nomination are (1) General information, who, what, when, where (2) Description of the nominee’s contribution to education and (3) Why is this nomination unique and worthy of recognition?

The Champion of Education will be awarded at the 2021 Montana State Organization Convention. The deadline for the nomination to be submitted is December 10, 2020. A copy of the application will be by email or snail mail to each chapter president in October. If you have any questions before that time, contact lloydanmc@gmail.com.

Montana Mission Statement

The members of the Montana State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promote quality education and the professional development of Montana women educators.
Catherine Nutterville Achievement Award  
Recipient Lorran Depner (Alpha Gamma)  
   Now that fall and the new DKG year has arrived, please begin thinking about those members in your chapters who have made outstanding contributions to the society. Now is the time to fill out the application and submit it. Be sure to collect the required information and provide as many specific details as possible. This is crucial so the committee can rate each application fairly. A member can be nominated more than once but may only be given the award one time.  
   Forms are available on the Montana State Organization website https://montanadkg.weebly.com/montana-state-organization.html, will be emailed to chapter presidents and can be obtained by contacting Lorran Depner at songlady@3rivers.net. The deadline for applying is December 1, 2020. The award will be presented at the State Convention in April.  
   As a reminder, the criteria for this award AS STATED IN THE 2015 ALPHA MU STATE BY-LAWS reads: The Catherine Nutterville Achievement Award will be presented to a Montana State Organization member who:  
   1. Has made outstanding contributions to education  
   2. Has rendered exceptional service to the society at the state level  
   3. Has been a member in good standing for at least four years. If two candidates have comparable qualifications, the member having the longest membership in Alpha Mu State shall receive the award  
   4. Has not been a state president or served on an international committee  
   5. Has not previously received the award  

Golden Legacy  
Chairman Lloyd-Ann McMahan (Mu)  
   GOLDEN LEGACY COMMITTEE  
   HONORS  
   • MEMBERS AND THEIR SERVICE  
   • MEMORY OF A DECEASED MEMBER  
   • CHAPTER AND STATE SPECIAL EVENTS  
   The Golden Legacy Committee has five $200 mini-grants available for 2020-2021 and requires matching funds. Mini-grant applications are due December 11, 2020 and notification to chapters will be January 29, 2021. Two brief follow-up reports are requested noting the progress made on April 9, 2021 and the second at the time of completion of the project with an article or pictures, if possible.  
   Please include the following information: 1. Chapter name, 2. Number of chapter members, 3. Names and mailing addresses of chapter officers, 4. A project description, 5. A plan for raising the matching funds, 6. The expected affect that the project will have on the community, 7. Name and phone number of person completing the application and 8. Please send application to Lloyd-Ann McMahan at lloydannmc@gmail.com or to 8642 Panorama Drive, Bozeman MT 59715.  

Personal Growth  
Chairman Lorran Depner (Alpha Gamma)  
The Personal Growth committee would like to congratulate our recruitment grant recipients for the 2020 year. They are Haley Milton and Katharine Kostelnik/Dyer.  
   Haley Milton is a student at MSU-Bozeman studying elementary education. Originally from Great Falls, Haley is involved in the Business Professionals of America organization and has participated in the Montana State University volleyball club. Since high school, she has worked as a camp counselor for the Flathead Lutheran Bible Camp, worked as a retail sales specialist at the Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and been a digitizer at Sletten Construction. Haley expects to graduate with her bachelor’s degree in May of 2022.  
   Hi, my name is Katie Dyer (it was Kostelnik, but I got married in July). I would first like to thank you all very much for awarding me this scholarship. A little bit about me is that I live in the small town of Brady with my husband, two dogs and many cows. I love organizing, hunting and doing crafts! Growing up I would take my dad’s office supplies to make my “classroom”. Little did I know that play would lead me on the path I am today. I did not start college with the intent of becoming a teacher but that quickly changed. Through my educational journey I have learned a lot about myself and hopefully I can impart that knowledge to my students. After this academic year I will have my bachelors in elementary education with a minor in reading.  
   Once again, best wishes to both young ladies as they finish their degrees and embark on their careers in education. We hope they become members of our society and join an organization of key women educators!  

Leadership Development  
Chairman Audrey Collins (Omicron)  
   As they say, the best laid plans... As you all know we had planned a Leadership Development Workshop in June but had to cancel. We hoped to abbreviate the schedule and do it in conjunction with Executive Board, but that did not work out. So, Plan C, it was!  
   Information to support chapter officers has been emailed out and; shared in our on-line Zoom Executive Board meeting. I hope that this will be of value to new chapter officers, as well as experienced ones.  
   In these challenging times, things have not happened as they usually would, but I hope that the Leadership Committee can be a resource that you can call upon for assistance any time you need it. We will do our best to help you in any way we can, so please contact us if a need arises.
Education Excellence
Chairman Lorran Depner (Alpha Gamma)

When Joyce sent out reminders for Alphamusings articles, she asked if those of us still in the classroom could write some reflections as to what we have seen in education since the advent of COVID. WOW! - where do I begin?

Last spring, who would have thought that our last day of “in school” instruction would have been March 13th? We used that first week to put together “battlefield” online instruction plans and had students attending class the following Monday via Google Classroom and/or Zoom.

The next two months of trying to teach band and choir online was interesting, to say the least! Performance-based classes are not very easy to teach virtually—especially in the spring, when students are preparing for festivals and concerts (their tournament season, so to speak). We soon found out that all of that was not to be and so how do you fill the time with meaningful instruction when there really is no end of the year goal? Online theory, musicianship and listening exercises fill a void, but quickly lose their charm after a certain amount of time.

I also felt it was crucial not to overwhelm the students as each one had a daily schedule of six to seven classes they were responsible for—all while under a different format and learning environment. Keeping in contact with my students and keeping my expectations practical were my goals during this online time—just being able to see each other and chat with one another was a huge reassurance for all!

This summer, I had many conversations with administration and the county Health department about the status of teaching band and choir in school. The initial answer was “no”, it is too dangerous. I spent a majority of my summer researching ways that I could teach and protections I would need for students and myself to make this happen. I purchased cloth bell covers for all horns, gallons of disinfectant, shields for my choral singers and have moved out of my classroom for the foreseeable future. My new classroom is the 500-seat auditorium so I can socially distance the students. Picture this: a choir sitting four seats apart and in every other row or band kids sitting in the aisles going down to the stage six feet apart, so they do not blow directly at anyone - the drums and the trombones are on the stage because trombones require nine feet!! Also, because the lighting in the auditorium is dim outside the stage, I had to purchase individual, rechargeable LED music stand lights so students could see their music. After setting all this up, the superintendent and county health department came into the auditorium and thankfully gave their approval. I feel very lucky to be able to continue music instruction this fall—many schools in the state and nation do not have that opportunity.

I think what I struggle with most are the inconsistencies as to what is safe and what is not. You cannot convince me that opposing football teams facing each other across a line of scrimmage are not blowing air and moisture into each other’s face, yet that is deemed OK.

But, to sing or blow an instrument is one of the most dangerous activities to engage in? We have yet to see how this year is going to shake out - we already know that All-State and Northcentral Honor Band and Choir are cancelled. I expect we will soon learn if there will be a district and state music festival in the spring. If cancelled, it will again be a real challenge to keep students interested and focused without any real performance goals to work toward.

So, how does this relate to our society? I can think of many parallels. We are meeting via Zoom (both on the chapter and state levels) because being able to see and converse with one another is vital. We are pushing on and making future plans because to not have a goal is defeating in both body and mind! We are adapting and coping with the hand dealt. Once this subsides and we return to a sense of normalcy, we will hopefully look back and say, “we did the best we could, learned, forged on and came out the better because of it!” It is all about celebrating what you have instead of what you do not!

Chapter News:
Omega Chapter
Mary Meissner (Omega)

And who are those masked women anyway? Why, they are the new members of Omega Chapter. They were inducted using ZOOM on September 21, 2020.

President Annie Simkins opened the meeting from her home where the candidates had gathered—distancing properly, of course. Her dining room table was decorated with the DKG motifs, members checked in from their own homes and the ceremony honoring these candidates was as meaningful as ever.

Later the laptop was moved to the fireplace mantel and a business meeting ensued. Cupcakes in charming little boxes were given out to celebrate Omega’s 38th birthday.

It was an evening to remember. No hugs, no handshakes but lots of laughter and uncertainties. Compliments to our technology expert President Annie and to the willingness of the members to try something new.

The evening is an example of Purpose 6: To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members, and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action!

Darlene Pugh (Omega) also commented, “ It was very interesting to get together by computer. The inductees and sponsors were masked and at the president’s home, but many others of us joined in online.”

Mission Statement
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.
Need Money For Professional Development?
Travel, hotel, meals, substitutes, conference/seminar expenses?

We have a deal for you! Cornetet Professional Development Awards
Available to members and non-members
Up to $2,000
Two award cycles:
February 1, May 1
Go to: www.dkgief.org
1. Click on Apply
2. Click on Cornetet Professional Development

DKG International Educators Foundation History

DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF) began a new phase of The Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation (DKGEF) that was established in 1964. The new name was established as a result of the merger of DKG Supporting Corporation (DKGSC) which was established in 2010, merging with the DKGEF in 2020. Generous contributions from the Society, members, states, chapters and friends will continue to support DKGIEF and continue to carry out its mission and purposes. Gifts to the DKG International Educators Foundation are welcome at any time and are tax deductible in the United States and some other countries. Since its inception, the Foundation has awarded millions of dollars in its effort to improve, enrich and encourage inter-cultural understanding and educational excellence.

The new foundation supports effective educational projects, the educational and charitable activities of the Society and professional growth of educators worldwide.

The Cornetet Individual Professional Development will fund participation in conference, seminars, lecture series, online courses and workshops plus other degree programs. Deadlines are February 1 and May 1.

The Cornetet Seminar Professional Development is granted to sponsor professional development seminars. Regions, areas and state organizations of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International may apply for a Seminar Award to assist in providing development opportunities for educators in their locale. Deadline is November 1.

Remote Learning Then and Now
by Leesa Halcro (Delta)

Leesa wrote: “Remote learning and teaching is not for the faint of heart. Last Spring, on March 15th Governor Bullock announced that schools were closing for the next two weeks. As we know, that temporary shutdown lasted the rest of the academic year for most schools across the nation. All the teachers still reported to school on March 16th and went into emergency shutdown mode.

“We tweaked our plans, we called parents and we started to roll out what we could - in any way we could. We adjusted to parent reactions about workloads and ability levels. We were told every child would pass if they even tried. While most children did pass, some did not. Some just never re-engaged in school. This was scary! We feared we lost them. We feared they were not getting fed. We feared they were losing ground academically. Mostly, we feared for their safety. Calls were made at least once a week to students or parents or both. We worked to stay engaged with them and keep them engaged.

“Many students did not have an appropriate setting in which to do school work. Many lacked internet or learning devices. Students thought all work can be done on a hand-held device like a phone, but that wasn’t true. If the work got too hard, many quit working. We were forced to assign work that would simply keep their skills at the same level to get them and us to June. June came and went and we hoped and prayed we’d be back to normal life by August. This did not turn out to be the case.

“By late July our district announced that schools would be opening for face-to-face learning and for remote learning. Parents were given a choice and asked to commit to that choice in a timely manner. Most parents chose to send their children back for in-person learning. But, about 12% of the student population was requesting to be remote.

“A team of seasoned teachers was assembled to roll out remote learning. This team doubled in size by the time schools started as the number of parents requesting remote learning increased. The remote teachers use the same platform for rolling out school. It is called Moodle. For the most part, this means students only need to look in one place for their work and assignments. This has created more cohesion and a better plan for kids and teachers.

“The remote teachers all report to work in a retired school building together. This gives us a sense of inclusion and a way to work together to provide a streamlined program with rigor and relevance for students.

“We are trying to embrace relationships by holding two hours of office hours every day as well as having one live teaching seminar a week. Many of our lessons are pre-recorded for students and they view the lesson before completing the learning activity.

“As teachers, we have had to learn a whole lot in a short period of time in regards to technology, but we have learned an immense amount from a strong mentor and leader. The teachers have had to completely change their way of thinking when giving assignments and work. Virtual learning is a whole different way of thinking and rolling out instruction and material.

“While the learning curve was hard, we are getting students on board. It’s much more streamlined and we are working to make it even more streamlined by assigning Connections classes to each teacher so we have a smaller group to call and look after instead of all eight of us trying to reach out to almost 275 children. One similarity to the emergency shutdown is our fear of losing students.

“While we are in week three of learning, some children have yet to log on. I fear for them. I fear that parents enrolled them in remote learning as a way of getting them out of school as school has perhaps not been a great experience for the parents or children. We keep working to get them on board and get them engaged. It’s what we’d do in person. It’s what we do as teachers. Whether we are teaching in-person or teaching remotely, we continue to care about students and work every day to do what’s best for them. That’s why we teach. That’s our calling. Teaching is not for the faint of heart, remote or in-person!”
More about COVID 19

Megan Schaak (Delta) said, “As a current teacher it brought tears to my eyes to think back about the emergency teaching that was put together last spring as well as the smiles and excitement that came back with the children this fall. It has been a whirl wind of emotions for all of us these last six months, and I think the fear of the unknown still worries us a bit.”

WHITE ROSES OF REMEMBRANCE
“A Moment to Remember... A lifetime to Honor.”

Carolyn Ann Pfrimmer, Lambda Chapter died March 14, 2020
Geraldine “Gerry” Bantz, Alpha Chapter died June 27, 2020

Geraldine “Gerry” Mae Bantz
1929 - 2020

Geraldine “Gerry” Mae Knight was born August 14, 1929 in Midby, Montana to Doris and Avery Knight. She spent her childhood and early adult life in Redstone. She started school shortly after turning five, graduated from Redstone High School at age 16 and signed her first teaching contract that summer. She taught at rural one-room schools, boarding with local families or living in the corner of the schoolroom.

On December 27, 1948, Gerry married Lawrence “Penny” Bantz. For several years Gerry helped with the farm and the family dairy business. Later she resumed her teaching career in Redstone and then in Outlook. She attended many summer college sessions over the years and finally completed her BA in Education in 1969. After 30 plus years of teaching, Gerry retired in 1986.

Gerry was a born leader and organizer. She was involved in a multitude of community projects and served in leadership positions in several organizations.

A charter member of Chi Chapter in the northeastern Montana area, Gerry served as an officer including several terms as president. She served Alpha Mu State as first and second vice president as well as a member and/or chairman of Alpha Mu State committees. A participant in the first parliamentary law seminar sponsored by the Eunah Temple Holden Committee enabled her to serve as State Parliamentarian for several bienniums. She transferred to Alpha Chapter after moving to Helena. For her service, she was awarded the Catherine Nutterville Achievement Award in 1997.

After Penny’s death in 1990, Gerry moved to East Helena to be near her children and their families. She immediately became involved with the Methodist Women, Friendship Force, Fortnightly Book Club, Retired Teachers and several bridge clubs. Her travels with Friendship Force took her to Germany, Australia, The Holy Land and several destinations within the United States. She also loved hosting reciprocal visits from those club members.

Gerry was preceded in death by her parents, her brother Jim, sister Iylene, her husband Penny, son Larry, son-in-law Tim West and grandson Patrick West.

She is survived by her daughter Mary Jane West, daughter-in-law Wendy Bantz; granddaughters Yvette (Lee) Keller, Tina West, Melissa West, and Bronte Bantz; grandsons: Justin Bantz, Kevin (Dayna) West, and son Bantz, Aaron West and Tyler Bantz and several great-grandchildren.

Due to the COVID-19 complications, private family services were held on Friday, July 3, 2020 at the East Helena United Methodist Church with interment to follow at a later date in Outlook, Montana.

submitted by Jan Nerem (Omega)

Carolyn Ann Pfrimmer
1932 - 2020

Carolyn Ann Pfrimmer passed away March 14, 2020. She left this life with the same grace and peace as her life exemplified.

Carolyn was born on April 16, 1932 in North Hollywood, CA to George Silas Payton and Alenath Maybell Binford. A strong and driven woman, Carolyn’s life goal was to play music and teach, both of which she did while living in Whitefish. Over her 35-year teaching career, Carolyn was fortunate to have taught over three generations of students, all of which are recorded and kept in scrapbooks that she had made each year.

She attended North Hollywood High School and Lincoln County High School before earning her BA in Elementary Education with a minor in music at Western Montana College and her masters in Elementary Education at the University of Montana. She taught at Lincoln County High School and in Whitefish until she retired in 1986.

Carolyn was awarded International Co-worker of the Year and the Women of the Moose award, and was named First Lady of Whitefish. She was an active member of the United Presbyterian Church, The Museum Society, Moose Lodge, The Whitefish Historical Society, Calamity Singers and Bridge club. She also worked out every day at The Wave in Whitefish, swimming and doing Tai chi to stay active and busy.

She was always very busy. She was part of the Flathead Valley Live on Stage, and she volunteered with the Glacier Symphony.

Carolyn was initiated into Lambda Chapter in 1958. She was a faithful leader and served on many committees at the chapter and state level. She was a loyal participant in state meetings and for her efforts, she was awarded the 2007 Catherine Nutterville Achievement Award.

Carolyn was preceded by her husband Bruce Pfrimmer, her parents and her brothers, Kenneth and Donald Payton. She is survived by her brother Richard Payton, her three sons, David, George and Jerrald Pfrimmer, as well as four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Our lives and the world were made better by Carolyn’s grace and contributions each and every day. She is a light that will shine on forever through all of us.

submitted by Jan Nerem (Omega)
FALL 2020 VIRTUAL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
submitted by Janice Nerem (Omega)

First Vice President Lorran Depner of Alpha Gamma Chapter called the meeting of the Executive Board of Montana State Organization to order on Saturday, October 3, 2020. The virtual meeting was attended by representatives from ten chapters seated in their comfortable chairs at home.

The following actions were taken by the Executive Board:

• Approved the minutes of the September 21, 2019 meeting as printed.

• Received the Treasurer’s report.

• Adopted the budget of $9212.42 for the 2020-2021 year.

• Approved the offering of up to five grants from the Golden Legacy Fund. These are matching grants for $200 each.

• Approved the rewarding of up to three recruitment grants to college students (if there is one applicant, she will receive $1000, two applicants get $750 each and three applicants receive $500 each.

• Approved the offering of three scholarships for $1000 each.

• Encouraged members to apply for Lifelong Learning grants to explore an area of personal interest. Grants can be for amounts of $50 to $200.

• Reminded members that changes in State Rules need to be submitted to Carol Shipley (Omega) by December 1, 2020.

• Voted to approve with regret the requests from Alpha Chapter and Alpha Lambda Chapter to dissolve.

• Leadership - plans were put on hold because of the COVID 19 virus.


• Urged chapters to submit names for Catherine Nutterville Achievement Award that will be presented during the convention.

• Nominations Committee urged members to submit names of persons willing to assume leadership responsibilities.

• Approved the printing of THOSE WHO SERVED Volume VI. Jan Nerem (Omega) will be editor and it will be ready for the April convention.

There were new folks at the meeting - it was good to have them actively participate in the work of the Montana State Organization.

Finance
submitted by Finance Chairman Rita Fish (Mu)

The Montana State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma met on Saturday, October 3, 2020 in a virtual meeting. The Finance Committee usually meets the evening before the Executive Board to propose a balanced budget to be voted on at the Executive Board meeting. Since that wasn’t possible we met in late September with the state treasurer via email and phone.

Treasurer Maureen Watt did a wonderful job of working the figures on her computer and after committee approval, a balanced budget was able to be presented at the October 3rd virtual meeting and was approved.

Because of the pandemic, Montana was unable to hold their Leadership meeting, the International Convention had to be held online and the Montana Fall Executive Board meeting had to be a virtual meeting leaving extra money to work with in 2020-2021.

The minutes of the Executive Board meeting will be sent to all Executive Board members and all chapter presidents along with copies of the budget.

Thank you, Maureen Watt (Omicron), Pat Jones (Gamma), Rosanne Jones (Upsilon), Rebecca Marinko (Rho) and a special thank you to Lorran Depner (Alpha Gamma) for organizing and running such a wonderful Executive Board meeting.