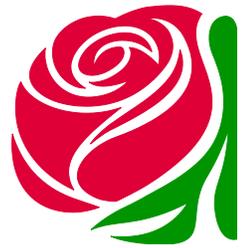


Beta Bits



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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International • Beta Chapter • Alpha Epsilon State

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

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In this issue:

- President's Perspective
- New Officers
- Beta Backstory
- Remembering Phyllis Imel
- From Roleen Pickard
- Thoroughly Modern Addie!
- Dues Form for 2020-2021

Dates to remember:

- ❖ **Thursday, May 14 4:00 p.m.**
Zoom meeting to install officers
- ❖ **???????????**
Stayed Tuned – this will end, and we will meet again in person!

Thank you. . .

for the wonderful cards, texts, and phone calls while I was recovering from hospital visits and surgeries. (Before the pandemic!) A big thank you to Jan Good and Ruth Simmons for making sure the December issue of *Beta Bits* was out on schedule! Betas are the Best!
Barbara Moser

The President's Perspective

Dear Beta sisters:

I'm writing this during one of the most anxiety-producing, tragic, and uncertain times in all our lives. I trust that you are all staying well and practicing physical distancing while still finding ways to have social connections, which are vital to our emotional wellbeing.

At times like this, I look to the wisdom of my parents, of blessed memory, for comfort to get us through this, and I believe they would have reassured us, as they always assured me during stressful times, that "this, too, shall pass." May it do so speedily and without touching any of you or your loved ones. In addition, may this challenge reinforce our gratitude for all the blessings we enjoy.

We were hoping to meet in May at School 88, but to ensure everyone's health and safety, we will be conducting the meeting online via Zoom. Between now and then, I will host a few practice sessions to help everyone get up and running with Zoom. It's really not too difficult if you are patient and don't let anxiety overcome you. A good metaphor for life! Our May 14 meeting was initially scheduled at 5:30 as a dinner meeting, but we moved the time for our virtual meeting to 4 p.m. so you can have dinner afterwards. Our main item of business will be to install our wonderful new officers. So please plan to join us on Thursday 14 May at 4 p.m. for our last meeting of the year. We'll meet in the following Zoom Room (website): <https://iu.zoom.us/j/99394810098>. In the meantime, I will be contacting you soon with some dates and times for learning and practicing Zoom.

My term as president of Beta has been more fulfilling and enjoyable than I could ever have imagined or hoped for. All of you have generously provided me with wise and loving support and encouragement every step of the way. Whenever I called on one of you for help or advice, you were right there when I needed you, ready and eager to help. I can't even begin to tell you how much I've learned from this experience. I thank each and every one of you for your collective wisdom, support, guidance, humor, can-do attitude, and positivity.

Continued on next page

The President's Perspective – continued

I knew from the moment I joined Beta what a wonderful group of women you are, but it wasn't until I had an opportunity to serve as your president that I discovered why Beta is one of the most successful DKG chapters not only in Indiana but in the world. You make leadership a pleasure and a privilege.

A few people deserve special thanks. Karen Braeckel and Ruth Simmons have been quietly supporting and guiding me for the past two years, teaching me the ropes of being president, answering my questions, calming my nerves, and carefully reading each meeting agenda and Beta Bits column to offer their wise advice. Through their mentorship and support, they embody the generous spirit of Beta. I'd also like to say a special thanks to Barb Moser, whose contributions to our group we all discovered when she had to be out for health reasons for a few months earlier this year. Many people overlook the power of the written word to hold a community together. Our wonderful *Beta Bits*, which has won more awards than we can count, is a major reason we are such a strong chapter. Barb quietly, diligently, and expertly puts together our newsletter without sufficient public recognition. In addition, she quietly donates the paper and printing costs to send *Beta Bits* to those of us who enjoy our paper copies and has repeatedly declined our efforts to reimburse her. Please join me in thanking Barb for all of her hard work and generosity.

Though it is time for me to share the pleasure and privilege of leadership with our incoming officers, I will still be here and am ready and eager to help in any way I can. Bless you all and Delta Kappa Gamma for bringing us together!

With love and gratitude,

Nancy Goldfarb

Beta Officers for the Next Biennium:

Co-presidents

Sheila Baker

Chapter responsibilities

Ruth Simmons

Council, state, and international responsibilities

1st Vice-president

Sue Kiefer

2nd Vice-president

Doris Downing

Corresponding secretary

Michele Lefkowitz

Co-recording secretaries

Maureen Murphy

Lori Schneider

Thank you for agreeing to serve our chapter!

Beta Back Story:



Adventure is Her Middle Name!

This month's member spotlight is the generous and adventure-seeking Julia Price. She was invited to join Beta Chapter by Sarah Ashman. Julia remembers her initiation into Delta Kappa Gamma at the Propylaeum. The ladies wore hats and gloves and were very "proper." Through her thirty-nine years of membership, Julia has proudly served as president, treasurer, finance chair and as a member of the executive board.

Julia grew up in Anderson, Indiana, in a family of ten children, seven brothers and two sisters, all still surviving. Her father owned a music store, sold RCA records, and had four studios. Her mother was very artistic and musical. She was a fine organist and played for two churches during her career. In the silent film era her mother played the background music on a theater organ. Julia inherited her parents' musical talents.

After graduating from Anderson High School, Julia attended DePauw University for two years. She transferred to Ball State Teachers College and received a BS in Music in 1960. In 1967 she earned a MA in Music from Ball State. Julia also went to Butler and IUPUI and earned fifteen hours in Special Education for the Visually Impaired.

Julia met her husband, John, her junior year at Ball State. They married and Julia's first teaching position was in music at South Bend Central and Center Grove Elementary in South Bend for three years. As a sociology major, John loved to know about people. He loved to wander and applied for teaching jobs all over the world. Julia and John's partnership in adventure began in 1962. They went to a remote Eskimo village, Clarks Point, Alaska, and taught in a two-room school. John taught grades 5-8 and Julia taught grades 1-4. They became close to their 40 students and the 200 residents in the salmon-fishing village and kept some of their connections through the years. Julia received a DKG State travel grant to return to Alaska to visit a former student who arranged a reunion of the village students. This was in honor of historical documentation John helped photograph that was being added to the Alaskan state historical archives.

Upon returning to Indiana in 1964, Julia enjoyed working at the Indiana State library in extension services while John attended law school. She then taught music for two years in grades 5-8 in the Beech Grove Schools. In 1968 Julia began another adventure, a 33-year position teaching music at the Indiana School for the Blind. Since she taught music most of her career, Julia feels she had a "fun" job, especially at ISB. A fond memory of her career was the partnership her all-girl chorus, *The Descants*, had with the *Capitol City Chorus*. They combined in barber shop style performances in New Orleans, Louisiana, as well as the Hyatt hotel atrium and other venues in Indianapolis. Julia made certain her students had enriching experiences when they traveled to regional concerts for schools for the blind. She is still in touch with some of her students and peers from the Indiana School for the Blind.

In 1981 Julia, her husband, and daughter Lynette traveled to Alaska so Lynette could see where her parents had taught when they were young. It was summer, and the river had a huge salmon run. John asked Julia if she thought she should apply for a summer job there, and she began another adventure as a bookkeeper in the cannery office for eleven summers. Julia said the most important event was when Lynette met a fellow named Jeff at the cannery in Alaska. They married, and they have three sons who have graduated from college and are working in their chosen fields. Julia states "I'm a proud grandmother!"

Beta Back Story: Continued

After retiring, Julia lived in Sitka, Alaska, for two years while her husband was a visiting professor in social studies. She and her husband enjoyed traveling and went to Africa four times, making friends in South Africa with whom Julia continues to keep in touch.

Along with Delta Kappa Gamma, Julia has been involved in several associations including: ISTA-Retired, AAUW, her condominium homeowners board (architectural committee), and two book clubs. One is a contemporary book club of modern fiction that her daughter also belongs to. The other is Athene, a literary group that has been active since 1898. This club reads the classics with a “very well-read leader.” Julia has always volunteered in her associations and is generous with her talents. She sums up with “All of my associations have been very rewarding. I’ve made wonderful friends.”

Beta Chapter thanks you, Julia, for bringing joy to your students through performance and your dedication to advocacy and learning!



Phyllis Imel, 85, passed away on February 22, 2020. Phyllis was a charter member and past chapter president of Beta Gamma Chapter, which merged with our chapter. Phyllis was elected to the IPS Hall of Fame upon retiring from her meaningful career as a teacher, principal and administrator. She then founded and directed the Teachers’ Treasures free school supply resource in our city. Always lifting up her disadvantaged students, Phyllis was presented a Points of Light Award, in person, by President George H.W. Bush. Beta Chapter sent our condolences to her son Stephen and **Barb Imel**, Beta Reserve and a donation in Phyllis’s honor to Teachers’ Treasures.



Our dear Roleen Pickard sends greetings and this poem from Ohio. She found Easter eggs under her pillow, had jellybeans with lunch, and received pansies in a pot. She reports they all wear masks at Parkside where she lives, but she does go downstairs for her mail. She sent along this poem which was sent to her from friends in Noblesville.

Thank you Roleen – we miss you!

The Coronavirus Blues

There’s panic in the papers and contagion in the air,
I must stock up on essentials but the market shelves
are bare.

My conference is canceled and my meetings now can’t
meet.

I’m not allowed to travel and my friends I cannot
greet.

I’m told I can’t shake hands or touch my face, my
eyes, my mouth.

My retirement fund has sickened, the economy’s gone
south.

I have no-refund tickets that are worthless now to use.

Oh, no, oh yes, feelin’ down, I guess;

I’ve got those coronavirus . . . blues.

(by Bob Carter who is a Friends missionary in Kenya)

The yellow rose was the symbol of women's fight for suffrage.



'Thoroughly Modern Addie':

Timely Reminder of Women's Fight to Vote

When we met on March 11, little did we Beta sisters suspect that in a few days we would be told to "stay at home." Our speaker, Debra Slone, presented a short history of our foremothers' struggle to be allowed to vote-at a time when "stay at home" was what women were expected to do!

Dressed appropriately for the times, the early 1900s, Debra related how in researching her family she discovered a distant relative, Aunt Addie, who was on the front line in the fight to gain women's suffrage. Now we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th amendment, which seems a long time ago. However, in 1920 many of our grandmothers were among the first to cast a ballot, which makes it seem more recent.

Thanks to women such as Addie who endured ridicule, verbal, and sometimes physical abuse, including time in jail, women today have the ability to influence our political process.

Thank you, Addie!



Debra Slone portrays a suffragette as she enumerates the many activities these courageous women engaged in in the fight for passage of the 19th amendment.



The hostess team, led by Michelle Lefkovitz, poses with Debra as it's time to cut into our "celebration cake." Pictured are Sherry Watkins, Ruth Simmons, Debra Slone, Michelle Lefkovitz, Mindy Armstrong, and Barbara Moser.



President Nancy Goldfarb guides Beta members through a short business meeting.

Please turn this in with dues ... this is the treasurer's 'Checks and Balances' system.

Dues are due by June 30, 2020.
Delta Kappa Gamma – Beta Chapter
Dues and Address Form 2020-2021

Please send your CHECK (payable to **Delta Kappa Gamma - Beta**)

and **THIS COMPLETED FORM** to **Jan Good**, 315 E 10th St, Indpls, IN 46202. If you have questions, contact Jan at 317-371-1172 or janmgood@sbcglobal.net

Name _____

Address _____

Phone # _____ cell or landline

E-mail _____

Current Educational Position _____

Name of School _____

1. DUES:

_____ \$76.00 (Active) (International \$40, State \$22.20, Local chapter \$13.80)

_____ \$33.00 (Reserve). Please note that to change your membership to reserve status, you must send a written explanation to the president so that the chapter can vote on it.

_____ \$16.00 (Active Life) for Julia Allen

_____ \$5 (Reserve Life) for Martha Hays

2. Please check one or more of these funds **if** you wish to contribute. These are in addition to your dues:

_____ Our **education partner** School 88 (donation) in the amount of _____

_____ **Grant-In-Aid** (for a college student in education) in the amount of _____

_____ **World Fellowship** for the amount of _____ (DKG International).

_____ **DKG Emergency Fund** for the amount of _____ (DKG International).

_____ **Schools for Africa** in the amount of _____ (DKG international project)

3. _____ **\$7.00** to mail the Beta Bits newsletters and yearbook (otherwise, Beta Bits is emailed)

4. _____ Other _____

5. TOTAL AMOUNT of check being sent is \$ _____ for dues, postage & donations.