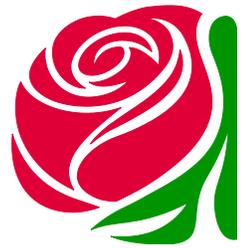


# Beta Bits



Volume 83, Issue 2 – September 2021

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International • Beta Chapter • Indiana State Organization

*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:

- Presidents' Perspective
- National, State, & Council News
- Sheila Baker's "Celebration of Life"
- Variety, the Spice of Life
- Did You Know?
- Deadlines
- Together Again!
- October Meeting Invitation
- Council Luncheon Reservation Form

## Dates to remember:

**Tuesday, October 12**

**10:30 a.m.**

Eagle Creek Park  
Ornithology Center, 6515  
DeLong Road,  
Indianapolis

**Saturday,**

**November 13**

**9:00-3:00**

FAR (Fall Arts Retreat)

**Saturday,**

**November 20**

**11:00 a.m.**

Council Luncheon

**Wednesday,**

**December 1**

**1:00 p.m.**

Holiday Tea

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## *The President's Perspective*

Hello Beta sisters!

Women educators supporting each other is part of our "DKG DNA." It's fundamentally why Delta Kappa Gamma was formed as a society in 1929.

Our September chapter meeting showed Beta carries this forward. A poignant comment by Yvonne Bernier on what membership in DKG has meant to her since moving to Indiana was a tribute to the supportive friendships made in Beta chapter.

Beta Circles of Care continued beyond a way to make new connections with members living on your side of town. Members offered to deliver anniversary roses to Beta sisters in their circle of care who couldn't attend September's meeting. This is what our former co-president, Sheila Baker, hoped the circles of care would do – help make members feel they were special to our chapter. As a way to keep Sheila's memory alive and in support of each other, I proposed at the September meeting that Beta try to take our circles of care from last year's beginning stage to the best actions we can think of. Some ideas already generated last year were planning a lunch out and an email contact group for checking in with each other before or after meetings. Consider sending any news from your circle of care to me and we'll post it in Beta Bits.

Another action of women educators supporting each other was our September program theme, *Taking Care of Early Career Educators*. This is one of two ongoing project commitments of Delta Kappa Gamma International. The other is *Schools for Africa*. Beta chooses one of the two DKG International projects every other biennium as part of our service goals. This is along with our partnership with Anna Brochhausen IPS 88 and community service projects.

*Continued on next page*

## ***The President's Perspective – continued***

Carolyn Kendall will serve as our liaison with the administration at Anna Brochhausen as Beta member Lori Schneider is not teaching at our partner school this year. At our September meeting Carolyn gave the results of a survey that reported what early career educators need. Help buying school supplies was number two on the survey and our big-hearted Betas brought enough supplies to fill the back of Carolyn's SUV!

Thank you to a great group of educators who helped plan, participate, or notify members of our kick-off meeting in September. We're off to a good start!

***Ruth***

## **National, State, & Council News**

**News from DKG International:** A new policy requires chapters' standing rules be revised by the end of **each** chapter president's biennium. This will serve to consistently include changes voted into International and State bylaws and standing rules so The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International can continue to improve.

**News from DKG Indiana State Organization:** The former Greek names for state organizations have been modified to clarify which states they represent. Alpha Epsilon is now Indiana State Organization. There are 41 chapters and 1,725 members in Indiana! 70.5% of Indiana's chapters were able to meet and connect virtually during the pandemic last year.

**News from Council 8: Nancy Goldfarb** has been elected Vice Chairperson and **Karen Braeckel** has agreed to another term as appointed treasurer. Meetings have begun to organize twelve state councils into five. Council 8 will become part of Central Council with chapters from Montgomery, Putnam, Boone, Hendricks, Hamilton, Marion, Johnson, Shelby and Hancock counties. The goal is to allow for more "people power" in planning state events for which councils rotate responsibilities.

### **"Celebration of Sheila's Life"**

We will remember Sheila Baker at the "**Celebration of Sheila's Life**" on Saturday, October 9, 2021, at 1 p.m. The tribute will be at the Indianapolis Bridge Center, 8030 Castleway Drive,

(Proof of Vaccination card must be shown to enter, unless under the eligible vaccination age.) Visitation of Sheila's interment at Our Lady of Peace Cemetery (Prince of Peace building near office with flags), 9001 Haverstick Road, Indianapolis.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Indianapolis Bridge Center, Special Olympics or the Stroke Foundation.

## *Variety, the Spice of a Busy Life*

In this age of heightened awareness of diversity, one Beta sister shines a whole different light on the topic. In fact, few can hold a candle to the variety of subjects and courses this educator taught.

In this category Barbara Moser deserves the title “queen of diversity.”

Perhaps the first signs appeared in her own higher education. After receiving her diploma at Martinsville High School, she attended DePauw University for one year and then transferred to Ball State to study English. She earned her master’s degree from Indiana – and then took various hours at Ball State, Indiana and Indiana State. (One might ask, “What was wrong with Purdue?”)



Barb began her teaching career at IPS School #65, then a K through 8 building close to the University of Indianapolis. There she taught seventh grade language arts, boys health – and first grade P.E.! After two years she moved to IPS #103 on the far-east side.

After 4.5 years in IPS she moved to the MSD of Warren Township where she substituted full time for eight years mainly for teachers on maternity leaves. (These years she earned her queenship.) She taught all the core courses – English, math, science and social studies. During the desegregation era, she served for 1.5 years as a guidance counselor. She even tried her hand at shop (where she says they did a lot of bookwork rather than woodworking.) And, of course, she dabbled in P.E. again where they studied more health than sports in her classes.

Anyone want to challenge the title?

Barb says the district got tired of re-signing her every year, so she landed a job at Stonybrook Middle School teaching English and publications. She eventually worked full time in publications where she oversaw the production of 13 yearbooks. She and her students even developed their own black-and-white film.

But her career did not end here. After all those yearbooks, she wanted to go into computer technology – for her last 12 years. She says she taught all the students, including gifted and non-English speaking, for a nine-week quarter each.

In those days no curriculum existed for computer technology, so she wrote her own. She backed up everything she taught with Indiana Standards. She says eighth-grade computer science was her favorite class to teach. No one told her what to do. They had no idea what she did.

She tried to instruct the teachers as well. Some did not want to learn – even when the computer could make life easier. It still meant *change*. Not one to give up easily, Barb developed a classic example to bring things into perspective.

She asked, “Do you have indoor plumbing?”

She probably received a few strange looks. When they gave the obvious reply, she said, “Outdoor plumbing worked just fine. Why invest all that money?”

Before Barb retired, Stonybrook named her School Teacher of the Year twice. She also received the Golden Apple Award in 1998. She served as an officer in the Warren Education Association.

Barb always loved school. She admits deciding what she liked to teach was the hardest part. Yet she knew when it was time to retire. “It was time to go when it was time to go. If I couldn’t go to school feeling good and happy about it, it was time to quit.”

## ***Variety, Continued***

*Retiring* means diverse things to people. To Barb it translates into editing Beta Bits, an annual award-winning publication for her DKG chapter; serving on the Warren Arts & Education Board, her neighborhood association, and the Warren Retired Teachers Association Board; and remaining active in her church, St. John United Church of Christ.

She also loves reading and her neighborhood book club, music, cross stitching and old TV shows. Her sons say, “If you like a movie, most of the people are deceased.”

“Sons” brings up the one area in her life that lacks diversity. Barb and her husband, Max, had three boys. She met Max at Ball State her sophomore year. He taught government and social studies at Eaton High School and later at Muncie Central. They married her senior year. In 1969 they moved to Indianapolis.

At 12 their older son, Max II, decided he wanted to work in radio. He is now the on-air personality at KORN Country, 100.3 FM from 2 – 7 p.m. every weekday. He goes by Fritz Moser. (Barb says she likes all music except heavy metal.) Fritz has a son, Max III, who has a degree in communication.

The Mosers’ second son, Bob, is semi-retired from the insurance industry.

Their infant son, Joshua, died as a baby.

The family enjoyed traveling and visiting relatives, historical sites and museums. Daddy called amusement parks a waste of time.

With all the students she touched while teaching in this diverse array of subjects and grade levels, Barb says she’s most proud when people tell her she made a positive difference in their lives.

(Anyone know the size crown she wears?)

*(Note: Barb graciously agreed to an interview and allowed us to write her story. She continues to serve as Beta’s communication chair as she has since 2014. She joined DKG in 2012.)*

## **Did You Know?**

**Jan Good’s** multi-media collages, sculptures and boxes were featured on the Arts for Lawrence Facebook page as a Talent Tuesday Artist in September. Her multi-media piece, “Echoes” was juried into the SALI National Abstract Art Exhibition XVII at Garfield Park Art Center. Opening night is Friday October 1<sup>st</sup>. The exhibit runs through October 29.

**Nancy Goldfarb** was granted a sabbatical in IUPUI’s English department to prepare a service-learning course on Literature and Sustainability.

**Glenda Ritz** returned to her love of books. She’s the new media specialist at Northview Middle School.

## **Deadlines coming up!**

Sunday, October 10  
registration deadline for  
FAR (Fall Arts Retreat) Go to [www.DKG.org](http://www.DKG.org) for registration information.

Saturday, October 30  
RSVP deadline for  
Council 8 Luncheon

*On the evening of March 11, 2020, Beta members were enjoying a meal at the Castleton MCL and looking forward to Debra Sloan's presentation about how the suffragettes worked tirelessly to gain the right to vote. Suddenly many of our phones were lighting up with news that the NCAA tournament was closing the game to spectators. Then other events were announcing postponements and cancellations. Little did we suspect that this was only the beginning, and it would be 18 months before we could be . . .*

## ***Together Again!***

On a sunny Saturday in September twenty-one Betas gathered at another MCL to meet in-person after 18 months of Zoom meetings. (We enjoy eating!) “Elbow bumps” substituted for hugs, and face masks covered faces, as members enjoyed catching up with each other.

President Ruth Simmons opened the meeting with a memorial tribute to co-president Sheila Baker who had a fatal stroke in July. It was a somber, yet nostalgic, moment as she recounted how Sheila's enthusiasm and caring nature made her such a good friend to everyone.

Roses and certificates were presented for the Golden Key, 5-Star Newsletter, and Women of Distinction awards. Membership anniversaries ranging from fifteen years to sixty years were celebrated with roses and applause.

Following the business meeting Carolyn Kendall presented a short program on “Taking Care of Early Career Educators.” She thanked everyone for bringing items to give the early educators at IPS 88.

The meeting ended with a rousing Trivia Team competition.

After waiting a year to due COVID, Nancy Goldfarb finally receives her past-president's pin from Karen Braeckel.



Nancy Goldfarb displays Beta's Golden Key Award as Karen Braeckel presents her with a rose.



Julia Allen, Lori Schneider, and Doris Downing are recognized for earning the Women of Distinction award.

## ***Together again! continued***

Nancy Goldfarb carefully pins the president's pin on Ruth Simmons. A Beta tradition is to present the president with the gold member's pin passed on to Beta from member Helen Frick. It passes from president to president and is worn on the president's red ribbon when representing Beta at DKG functions.



Even in "normal" times, chapter newsletters are an important way to keep in touch. During the pandemic, newsletters were vital for Beta members to connect with each other. Newsletter editor Barbara Moser accepts a rose from Karen Braeckel in recognition of Beta Bits earning 5-Star Newsletter recognition.



**Happy Beta membership anniversary!**

15 years- Mindy Armstrong and Barb King  
20 years – Barbara Burdge and Nancy Hoff  
25 years – Jan Good and Ruth Simmons  
30 years – Betty Flynn and Shirley McCoy  
40 years – Doris Downing and Julia Price  
45 years- Yvonne Bernier  
50 years – Millie McClary  
60 years – Julia Allen

With a combined total of 110 years as members of DKG, Millie McClary (50 years) and Julia Allen (60 years) inspire us all to be the best we can be!

**Tues 12 October 2021 Beta Meeting**  
*Meet Some Birds and Write Some Haiku*  
*Picnic lunch & optional hike*



Where: Eagle Creek Park Ornithology Center (Nearest park entrance: 71<sup>st</sup> Street)  
6515 Delong Road, Indianapolis

When: 10:30 a.m.

Park Entrance: Mention “DKG” to the gatekeeper at either entrance (56<sup>th</sup> Street, or 71<sup>st</sup> Street), and you will be admitted to the park without charge.

Cost: \$5

Cost includes: Park admission, program, beverages and desserts

What to bring:

- Your own sack lunch
- A mask, in case we are indoors for the program
- Walking/hiking shoes if you plan to join the hike afterwards

## **Schedule:**

10:30-11 a.m. Eagle Creek Ornithology Center Birds of Prey Presentation  
Outdoor classroom, weather permitting

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Eagle Creek Shelter H Haiku-writing, lunch & meeting

For those interested, Katy Smith will lead a hike in the woods after our program and meeting.



*You are invited!*  
*DKG Council 8 Luncheon*  
*Saturday, November 20, 2021*  
*11:00 a.m.*

*Menu*

*Garden salad (ranch or balsamic)*  
*Chicken Diane (gluten free) -sautéed breast*  
*topped - spinach, mozzarella, mushroom, basil*  
*Vegetable orza pasta*  
*Hot rolls & butter*  
*Mini mousse -white & dark chocolate, berries*  
*OR*  
*Vegetarian dish TBB*  
*\$29*

*Woodland Country Club*  
*100 Woodland Lane*  
*Carmel 46032*

*Reservations & Payment*  
*Must be made to your chapter*  
*treasurer by October 30, 2021*

*Elaine Sholty*  
*as Caroline Scott Harrison*

*Portraying First Lady Caroline Scott*  
*Harrison for twelve years in TN, regional and*  
*nationally, including serving officially as*  
*Mrs. Harrison for the Benjamin Harrison*  
*Presidential Site in Indianapolis.*

