



# Maine State Organization

Hello My Maine DKG Sisters,

It's hard to believe we are already in the middle of November and it has been a month since our virtual event. I was very happy to see that 57 of you joined in. Since Zoom is a new format to many of us this was a very good attendance, as we usually have about 90 for Spring Convention and 70 at our Fall workshop. Our online raffle went very well, raising \$750 for our World Fellowship Fund. Members from almost every chapter either donated items or made a monetary donation. The bidding was competitive and many items went higher than their value. Again Maine DKG showed great support for this, even though it wasn't our usual basket raffle. I'm hoping Spring 2021 sees us back together having our usual raffle. If this isn't possible, I'm willing to do another online one.

At our virtual meeting we conducted a business meeting. Thanks to Melanie Ruark's foresight to add electronic meetings and voting into our Rules, we were able to conduct business. We opened by repeating the Collect. Mary Gilman did the roll call. There were all 9 State officers, 6 Past Presidents, 8 Chapter Presidents, and 4 chapters with representatives among those present. The minutes of our last in person meeting, Fall Workshop Oct, 2019 was approved. The 2020-2021 budget was presented and approved by a show of hands. Kathy Sticht presented the treasurer's report. She told us that our Roberta Roger's Fund was still in fair condition considering the pandemic. Judy Gilbert made a plea for chapters to submit their histories to her for the 2018-2020 biennium. Chapters should have received an email from Judy if you have not sent yours in. If you are unsure if your chapter is up to date on histories she has a record of the last date one was sent in. The State Historian is responsible to collect historical records and maintain a written account of the history of the Society in the state and the contribution of its members to education and Delta Kappa Gamma and update the histories archived at the University of Maine, Orono. Without chapters submitting their histories this makes her job difficult. Thank you to all those chapters who have completed theirs and sent them to Judy. Phyllis Hickey, our International Guest, agreed to join us via Zoom. She was to attend in person in the Spring and then agreed to attend our Fall Workshop. When we decided to hold the event virtually, Phyllis again agreed to join us. She is the Society Strategic Outreach Director. She presented a power point titled Evolution, Momentum, Transparency that explained changes in the society. She shared how our membership has changed and ways to bring in new members. Another change is the Golden Gift funds and the Educational Foundation combined to cover all grants and scholarships under one umbrella, now the DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF). If you are looking for scholarship or grant including the Golden Gift leadership seminar it is all together under DKGIEF.

Phyllis was very impressed with our online raffle and the results for our World Fellowship fund. Since I've done very little shopping since all this pandemic hit, I decided to make her a table runner. I wanted something with a Maine theme so I used fabric from the Maine 2019 Spring Quilt Shop Hop which was a special design of Maine wild flowers. I sent it as a gift from Maine DKG.

Elaine Hendrickson and her committee are working on a STRETCH workshop for March 20, 2021. If we can not meet in person it will be a virtual event. As part of our Goals 2025, she gave chapters suggestions to help accomplish some of our goals. She also reported that the Nominations committee was working on filling the slate of officers for the 2021-2023 biennium. If you are interested in serving at the state level please let Elaine know. After my Zoom meeting with the Northeast Regional state presidents, I think we are in a better place filling our slate of officers than some states. Some combining 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> vice presidents and only having membership chair, others have combined recording and corresponding secretaries into one position.

Brenda Sturdivant, Maine State DKG Scholarship chair, presented the Alpha Psi State Scholarship to Christina Jackson in the amount of \$500. Christina is in the Masters in Education Leadership program at Saint Joseph College. She belongs to Zeta chapter.

After waiting and wondering since April, Mary Hyland presented the 2020 Alpha Psi Achievement Award to our Immediate Past President Elaine Hendrickson. Congratulations to a well deserved recipient. Now Mary needs your nominations for the 2021 award by December 1, 2020. We have many deserving members so chapters please get your nominations to Mary.

Priscilla McFarland did a wonderful job honoring 33 of our 40 and 50 plus year members. It was amazing to hear all about these members who have been dedicated to DKG all these years.

Considering we were not there to take part in the Celebration of Life service, Priscilla did a great job honoring the lives of those that passed. She placed white rose for each member after she gave a brief account of their life. If your chapter had a member honored please contact Priscilla for a copy of the booklet.

In the afternoon Judy Gilbert gave a presentation about her trip to Katahdin Woods and Waters National Monument with Elaine Hendrickson and her husband along with other DKG members. It was suggested that this would be a good resource for professional development.

We then discussed how chapters are meeting during this trying time. Some are able to meet in person where social distancing is possible and others are doing Zoom or a combination of the two. I'm delighted that chapters are working diligently to stay connected with their members.

As I mentioned earlier, the Northeast Regional Director (NERD) Deb LaBlanc had a Zoom meeting with the NE state presidents on November 9. All states are meeting using Zoom, some more than others. One of the positive comments was that members can join meetings even if they are away.

Many said they were able to join more chapter meetings this way. One of my take aways from the meeting was from the president of Ontario who stated we all need to take time to laugh.

To those of you still teaching, I wish you a restful Thanksgiving break.

May all of you have a great Thanksgiving. For my family, I'm only hosting 8 instead of the usual 20-24. However, we all want to stay safe. We will Zoom over dessert!

Being at home, I've got a jump on my Christmas sewing projects and designing my Christmas card.

The rest of my shopping will be online. How I miss wandering the aisles and touching "stuff".

Somehow online is not the same. Oh well, just like teaching I need to adjust to this change in lifestyle.

Stay safe everyone.

*Donna Kennison*

*Maine State DKG President*

