

The Alaska Nuggets

BETA GAMMA STATE



THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL for KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS



Winter 2016 Volume XXVII No. 1

<http://www.dkgalaska.org>

ZETA CHAPTER NEWS

Zeta Chapter had their first-ever chapter retreat in November! For quite some time, there had been conversations about the future of Delta Kappa Gamma, our chapter, and concerns about members not feeling connected to the organization. So, we created a committee to plan a retreat in Girdwood where we would have time to address these concerns and make a five-year strategic plan to move our chapter forward. We were very fortunate to have Mary McMahon, an educational leader in Alaska, join us to facilitate our workshop.

We began our session by sharing when and why we joined DKG in the first place. That activity alone was very powerful because it helped set the tone and focus for our work. After introductions, our first goal was to develop a mission statement specific to our chapter. Through individual effort and team collaboration, the end result was the following: "To work collaboratively as women educators to promote education through professional and personal growth. We will make a positive impact on our community by providing support to organizations and individuals that are committed to enhancing the lives of others".

With a clear mission statement written down, the next step was much easier to take. We worked together to figure out what organizations fit into the mission statement we'd just created. After narrowing the ideas down to manageable groups, we set out

HELP FUND

Do you make purchases from Amazon? A portion of what you spend could help DKG International, with no cost to you.

Sign in to Amazon Smile (smile.amazon.com) and click on the DKG Supporting Corporation as the charity of your choice. Then bookmark Amazon Smile, and use it when you buy from Amazon (The website is identical to the Amazon website except that DKG International gets a portion of your purchase price.)

By doing this, you are supporting the following DKG 501 (c) 3 funds:

Educators Award, Emergency, Golden Gift, Loretta Halek, Eunah Temple Hold Scholarship, World Fellowship, and International Speakers funds. These funds are managed by DKG Supporting Corporation directors, who utilize the Society's investment advisors in understanding how income is managed consistent with the investment policy of each fund.

making goal statements, tasks and deadlines for each area. Members then signed up as committee members for the areas that were of most interest to them.

The end result of this entire process was fantastic! We had devoted time away from other distractions to do important work for the chapter, developed a dynamic plan to move our chapter forward, and every single

person in attendance had a feeling of excitement and renewed commitment to Delta Kappa Gamma and Zeta Chapter.

It wasn't just all work, though! We had a fantastic time laughing, cooking, and bonding with one another. Mary was so inspired by what Delta Kappa Gamma means, we initiated her into Zeta Chapter at our December meeting!

Names in ZETA Chapter WorkSession Photo (clockwise): Nicole Ulman (in hat), Gina Perry, Jennifer Schmitz, Nicole Holta, Kati Rogness, Mary McMahon, Cherilyn Ansley, Colleen Pucillo-Stout, Amy Downer



Names in ZetaSelfie: Wendy Roberts, Jennifer Schmitz, Gina Perry, Judi Westfall, Amy Downer, Heather Jipping, Colleen Pucillo-Stout, Cherilyn Ansely, Nicole Ulman, Nicole Holta, Mary McMahon



PLAN TO ATTEND!

DKG International meets in Nashville, Tennessee July 5-9, 2016.

Bring a spouse or a friend.

Enjoy Nashville with tours of Music City and experience the wonder of the Opryland Hotel.

The DKG Educational Foundation invites you to *Call Me Country* at the world-famous Wildhorse Saloon in Downtown Nashville on Thursday, July 7th during the International Convention!

The Wildhorse Saloon is a three-level historic warehouse turned into a 66,000 sq. ft. country music dance hall, dining club, concert hall, and TV production site.

Registration Info: http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Events/2016_International_Convention_Nashville.aspx

Theta Chapter Spotlights Kay Sanders

“Who will win Kay’s pie this Christmas Exchange?” This is the question in all Theta Chapter members’ minds as they attend the annual Christmas Brunch and Gift Exchange. Kay Sanders has created a tradition of purchasing a ceramic or pottery pie plate from a local artist each year and baking a pie (often strawberry/rhubarb) in the pie plate to contribute to the Christmas Gift Exchange. It is the one present which is much desired by the members, year after year.



(Clockwise Theta Chapter members Emma Barth, Sandy Buhite, Christine Cook, Tanya O’Brien, Kay Sanders (pie maker!), Carolyn “Ag” Jackson, Robin Benjamin (2015 pie winner!), Karen Middleton)

Kay retired from the North Star Borough School District in 2002, after a twenty-seven year career of Reading Specialist and classroom teacher. Since retiring, Kay continues to be active in family and community events.

Delta Kappa Gamma, Theta Chapter, is very fortunate to have Kay’s leadership qualities. Kay served as President for four terms of two years each, and held the offices of Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, and is currently the Treasurer, a position she has held for many years.

Kay's husband owned and operated a mechanical shop in Fairbanks. After Mr. Sanders' death, Kay and her son continue to maintain the mechanical shop, which adds to Kay's many trips from North Pole to Fairbanks.

Kay, originally from Iowa, and former basketball player for the University of Iowa, maintains her interest in sports by swimming, supporting the Green Bay Packers, and aiding the Fairbanks Hockey Association by being a time keeper/score keeper. She has performed this duty for the last twenty-two years. Mrs. Sanders continues the position for the Men's Hockey League and Competition Tournaments each hockey season. Kay volunteers as the "Box Keeper" for the high school hockey games too.

Since retiring from the school district, Kay has been a tutor and job coach for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. She, presently, maintains this position in helping others.

Church activities are a major focus for Kay. She has served on the church council and just completed a term of president.

Kay's son and daughter are grateful for the family functions and Kay's willingness to babysit her two grandsons, a six year old and two year old toddler.

In addition to all the family and community service, Kay travels throughout the state each summer, annually attends a Green Bay Packers game in Wisconsin, attends Women's College Basketball Championship games, gardens in the summers, quilts, sews, and is an avid reader.

Hats Off to Kay for all the joy and service she gives to others, and "Who will win Kay's pie in 2016?"

February 1, 2016 Deadline

International scholarships of \$6,000 for advanced studies and \$10,000 for Doctorates are awarded annually to as many as 30 Delta Kappa Gamma members.

To qualify for a scholarship at the international level, the applicant must be an active member of the Society for a minimum of three years if pursuing doctoral studies, and be an active member at the time of application if pursuing other graduate studies.

Have completed a bachelor's degree or equivalent.

Be accepted and enrolled in a graduate program of a nationally accredited institution of higher education, preferably pursuing a doctoral degree.

Provide evidence of excellence in scholarship and service to the community.

Be a first-time recipient of an international scholarship.

PROFILE PREMIERE CHALLENGE

Is your chapter ready to meet the Challenge? It's an effort to facilitate keeping the DKG member data base up to date.

Over time, member information changes but it frequently isn't communicated to headquarters. The way it works: each chapter is asked to set aside time to meet and update members' profiles online on a secure member-only area of the International website.

After the chapter meeting when all members' profiles have been updated, the chapter president or designee is asked to indicate on a short, online survey that her chapter has met the Challenge. Results will be presented at the International Convention in July in Nashville.

The hope is that the member database will be as accurate as possible once all chapters have participated.

It is also possible for individuals to do this; check your email from Aldean for the directions.

**DO NOT ASSUME PROFILE IS CORRECT
UNLESS YOU GO ONLINE AND CHECK!!!!**

BETA CHAPTER “SPOTLIGHT



Recently, BP wrote an article on one of our own, Debbie Hall, of Fairbanks, AK. For 20 years, BP has been recognizing Alaska's exceptional teachers -- like Deborah Hall -- with the BP Teachers of Excellence program. Since 1995, they've recognized 650 teachers. Debbie is the principal of Denali Elementary. Her style is reflective of her personality; she's a team player, compassionate, motivating, and leads by example. She helps the teachers who are privileged to work for her achieve their potential by providing feedback with a balance of constructive criticism and motivating message. She also, however, takes on the responsibility of looking at the school as a whole. She has made it a priority that all students of Denali Elementary continue to make progress while ensuring nobody slips through the cracks.

Debbie was honored as a BP Teacher of Excellence as an elementary teacher at Denali in 2004.

“As principal, you never know what's going to be on your plate,” Hall said. “I could be in a third grade classroom subbing, could be helping in the library, could even be outside plowing snow if I don't have a custodian. It takes an entire staff for a school to run, and that's the coolest part about being principal. You get to see what everybody does and to appreciate that everyone has something to offer to make it a really good school.”

Hall has been at the helm of Denali Elementary for two years. But she's been with the school district for 18 years, starting as a first grade teacher before moving to fourth grade. She was hired to take over as Principal when Tim Doran retired. Some may have predicted those were big shoes to fill as he was principal for 28 years, but Hall walked into the office with ease.

“She recognized that there are a lot of people in the building with expertise and she didn't try to change everything, but instead sought information from the staff about what we think works well, so we don't change that, and on what we can improve,” Janet Speed, 4th grade teacher at Denali, said. “Her approach is all about getting feedback and respecting her staff.”

Hall believes you can never stop learning, especially in her current position. “As soon as we stop learning, no matter what job we're in, we become stagnant,” Hall said. “We do a lot of in-services here and, at them, I tend to sit with my staff and learn with them, because I think that's important. I can mentor teachers and provide ideas, but I think I need to also be down in the trenches with them.”

Mrs. Hall understands the families at Denali Elementary. She lives in the Denali district and was a Denali parent herself when her kids attended the school she now oversees. She makes meaningful connections with students and parents and often shows her love through her baking. Sharing a pancake breakfast with students with strong attendance records, tutoring kids who need an extra boost after school, or attending her students' sporting events or talking to them about their interests and hobbies, Hall sees some of her proudest moments as an educator stem from the connections she's made with her various students.

“Recently I had a group of students seek me out just to have lunch together, just because they wanted to,” Hall said. “We talked about their lives and got caught up. That's important and it reiterates why I do what I do. I can still make differences in those lives.”

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Good Day, Mates!

I've just returned from six weeks in Australia with our daughter, where I should have had time to "catch up" on paperwork. Instead, I did absolutely nothing . . . work-wise, that is! It was a *fabulous* vacation☺ I hope each of you had an equally wonderful holiday season, relaxing with family and friends.

Now that I'm home, it does feel a bit like fall, when I would realize that summer was over, school was starting and some of the things I wanted to do, still needed doing☺ Fortunately, the deadlines of school put me into overdrive and I would accomplish many of my tasks. Similarly, it's just about February and there are DKG Deadlines ahead.

February 1st is the date **chapter president's reports** are due to your state president, me. **International scholarship requests** are also due at Society headquarters. (dkg.org)

March 1st is the due date for **AK State Scholarship Applications**. Look at our *new website* under *ABOUT* to apply. (dkgalaska.org)

In addition, be early and register for our **April Workshop**, by March 1st. Remember that *everyone* is invited to this training opportunity, not only the officers. Read the invitation from NU in the following pages and register now!

While you are at it, send in your registration for the **International Convention** in Nashville. It's early this year and July 5 – 9 is just around the corner. Airfares are good now, and the Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center will be buzzing with DKG enthusiasm when we get there.

Exciting opportunities abound in DKG. We need YOU to keep them viable. Please attend your chapter meetings, join me at our state training, and try an International gathering without leaving the U.S.! Be part of the learning, networking, honoring, and general fun and fellowship during these special times. Our organization will grow because you are involved.

JJ

ALASAK BETA GAMMA STATE OFFICERS 2015-2017

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Northwest 2017 Regional Conference	June- 28-July 1	Spearfish, South Dakota Spearfish Holiday Inn Convention Center
Southwest Regional Conference	July 4-7	Honolulu, Hawaii Sheraton Waikiki Hotel and Resort
Northeast Regional Conference	July 12- 14	Windsor, Ontario, Canada Caesars Resort and Convention Center
Southeast Regional Conference	July 19- 22	Myrtle Beach, South Carolina Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel
Europe Regional Conference	July 26- 29	Estonia State Organization
2018 International Convention	July 16- 20	Austin, Texas JW Marriot Austin

TEACHER-TO-TEACHER: Alaska to El Salvador Completes Final Workshop

After a 13-year history of presenting English language proficiency training to English teachers in El Salvador, TEACHER-TO-TEACHER: Alaska to El Salvador is retiring.

Beta Gamma State – Alaska has supported T2T as the State Literacy Project since 2009. Without your generous help the project could not have provided the teacher participants with the materials and supplies that were such an important part of the workshops.

Over the years the project worked with an estimated 500 teachers, teacher preparation students and university professors. They in turn shared the T2T philosophy and communicative language teaching techniques with thousands of students in El Salvador.

Dianne Coursey and Daphne Hofschulte bid a bitter-sweet farewell to their host universities, Universidad Don Bosco in Soyapango and Universidad de Oriente in San Miguel on December 19, 2015 at the close of their final 3-week workshops. They are encouraged by the hope that workshop participants will continue the T2T legacy through their teaching.

From hundreds of photos taken over the lifetime of the project, they offer these as special memories.



- 1-Dianne and Daphne 13 years ago
- 2-Applying new activities to the teacher syllabus
- 3-Suitcases of materials lost - volunteers prepare lessons with found objects
- 4-Beautiful Universidad Don Bosco located in rural Soyapango
- 5-Dianne - Annual shopping trip for materials
- 6-Class activity - dialog
- 7-Annual orientation for new volunteers
- 8-Class activity - simulated market
- 9-Class activity Read-pair-share
- 10-2015 Final class photo (Daphne cntr front)
- 11-Class activity - singing
- 12-Class activity - puppets
- 13-Universidad de Oriente, San Miguel
- 14-Diane; Materials given to participants every year



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DKG U.S. Forum National Legislative Seminar March 13 – 16, 2016 Washington, D.C.

Geri Benshoof would like to invite anyone interested in an informative and engaging conference to consider the U.S. Forum Legislative Seminar. It has many speakers on topics of current legislative issues. It gives hints about engaging politicians on matters of importance to you and education. It provides a “Day on the Hill” which is a time to meet with Alaskan Senators and Congressman. She went in 2008 and found it very interesting and worthwhile (see photos next page). She has registered for the Forum, has a reservation with the hotel and has made her airline reservations. You can see Geri is serious about going this year.

PLEASE JOIN HER. Telephone if you have more questions 907-378-2244 or email geribenshoof@aol.com.

Register for U.S. Forum/National Legislative Seminar!



When? March 13-16, 2016

Where? Holiday Inn, National Airport, Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia

How? Registration information on U. S. Forum website at usforumdkg.org

What? Join DKG Key Women Educators for speakers, tours, a day on Capitol Hill and networking with legislators

Who? All U.S. members

Why? To take a non-partisan, active role in fulfilling Society Purposes Four and Seven

Dates to know

February 12 -
National
Legislative Forum
Seminar hotel
registration
deadline

February 13 -
National
Legislative Forum
Seminar
registration price
change

March 13-16 -
National
Legislative Forum
Seminar

(l to r) Kathy Davis, Carmela DeMarco, Judy Jackson, Carrie Frye, Darlene Cook



Registration Form

Name: _____
 Name Tag: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City: _____
 State/Zip Code: _____
Email: _____
 Phones: Work: _____ Mobile: _____
 Home: _____
Emergency Contact: _____
Emergency Phone: _____
 First Time Attendee: _____
 State Forum Rep: _____
 Arrival Date & Time: _____

Registration Fees DKG Members

Registration postmarked no later than
 February 13, 2016 **\$160.00** \$ _____
 Registration postmarked after
 February 13, 2016 **\$185.00** \$ _____

Registration Fees DKG non-Members

Registration postmarked no later than
 February 13, 2016 **\$185.00** \$ _____
 Registration postmarked after
 February 13, 2016 **\$210.00** \$ _____
 Sunday Night Dinner: \$45.00 \$ _____
 Wednesday Breakfast: \$19.00 \$ _____
Registration/Meals Total (w/o Tour) \$ _____
 Number x \$45.00 for Optional Tour \$ _____
Registration/Meals/Tour Total \$ _____
 Special Dietary Needs: _____
 Special Accommodations: _____

Optional Tour

8:00am - 4:00pm, on Sunday,
 March 13, 2016, for DKG members
 and non-members
Price: \$45.00 per person

- "Museums, Memorials, and Moving Moments in American History" ...
- Visit: Ford's Theatre, White House Visitor's Center, Arlington Cemetery, Smithsonian (special exhibit), and several Memorials
- Lunch on your own

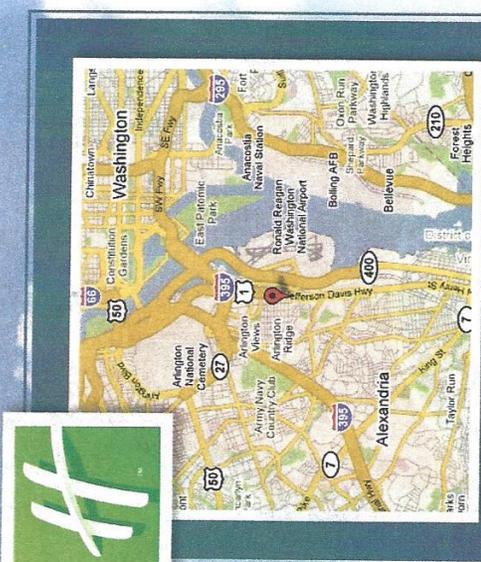
Make check to: NLS 2016
Mail check and registration form to:

Dr. Angela Bedenbaugh
 63 Suggs Rd.
 Hattiesburg, MS 39402-3639
 bedenbaugh.angela@gmail.com

Join your DKG Key Women Educators in Washington, D.C., for an exciting and informative National Legislative Seminar. The U.S. Forum Committee is here to make your experience the best. See you there!

Judy Fox Jackson, Chair
 jfoxj2@gmail.com
 615-794-9646 (h)
 615-948-5286 (m)

**"Communication, Cooperation,
 Advocacy into Action"**

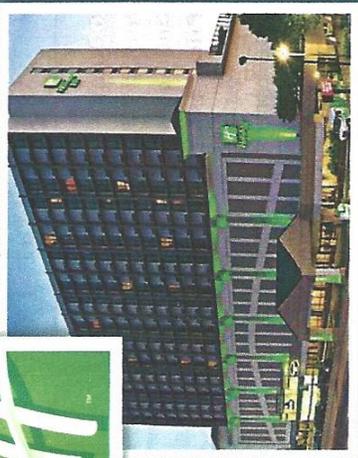


Holiday Inn,
National Airport, Crystal City
 2650 Jefferson Davis Hwy.
 Arlington, VA 22202
 p.(703) 684-7200 f. (703) 842-1238
hernationalairport.com

Make reservations directly with the hotel using the reservation link **Delta Kappa Gamma Group Code DKS** to receive special rates or call 888-294-5059.

Cut-off date for reservations at the special rate is:
February 12, 2016

Room rates: \$189.00 plus tax for single, double, triple or quadruple occupancy.
Special room rates apply from March 10, 2016, through March 19, 2016.



Services provided by Holiday Inn:

- Complimentary shuttle service to & from Ronald Reagan National Airport & the Metro
- Free Wi-Fi
- 24-hour Fitness Center
- 24-hour Business Technology Center
- Two restaurants in house
- Overnight fee-based covered parking
- Non-smoking facility

Questions:

- **Hotel/Meals/Special Dietary Needs:**
Carrie Frye - cfrye@att.net
386-668-4409
- **Special Accommodations/Roommates:**
Darlene Cook - kfreach@aol.com
541-331-3282
- **Technology/Webmaster:**
Kathy Davis - kldavis52@gmail.com
405-659-5089
- **Transportation:**
Carmela Demarco - cardemarco@comcast.net
609-291-7411
- **Tours:**
LaWalta (Wally) Turner - 64sedona@gmail.com
580-402-3098

Schedule of Events

Sunday, March 13, 2016

- **8:00am** Bus/Walking Tour
"Museums, Memorials, Moving Moments in American History" and more...
- **5:15pm** Opening session, dinner and keynote speaker

Monday, March 14, 2016

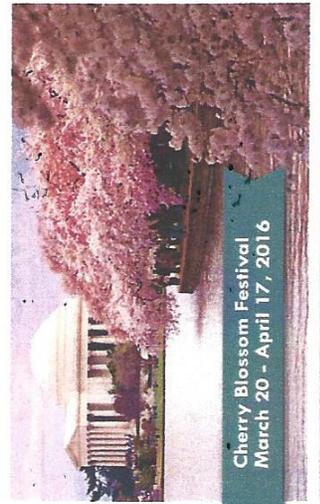
- **9:00am** First Session
- **12:00 Noon:** Box luncheon (included in registration)
- **1:00-4:00pm** Second Session

Tuesday, March 15, 2016

- **8:00am** Day on the Hill
- Pre-arrange visits with your Congressional Representatives (afternoon suggested)
- To visit the White House, make arrangements by contacting whitehouse.gov
- Lunch is on your own

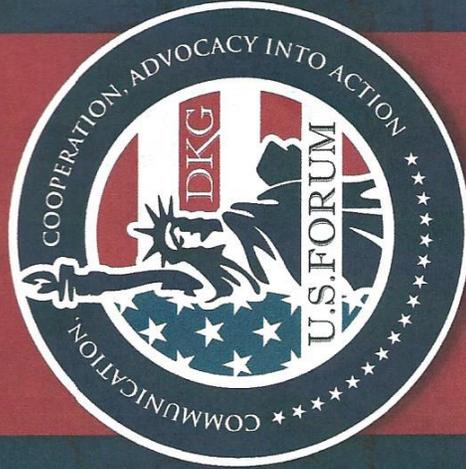
Wednesday, March 16, 2016

- **8:00am** Celebration Breakfast, presentations and speaker
- **12:00 Noon:** adjournment



Cherry Blossom Festival
March 20 - April 17, 2016

THE U.S. FORUM
— of —
THE DELTA
KAPPA GAMMA
SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL



NATIONAL
LEGISLATIVE
SEMINAR

MARCH 13-16, 2016



Holiday Inn,
National Airport, Crystal City
2650 Jefferson Davis Hwy.
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 684-7200



APRIL 15-16, 2016

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SPRING WORKSHOP

“Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants”

We are a sisterhood “teaching minds and touching hearts” day by day. Come grow with us this April in Eagle River. Let’s deepen our roots to help strengthen each other and serve our communities with a renewed vitality.

**Friday Night
Social at the
Microtel Inn 7 p.m.**

**Saturday
Leadership
Training in the
morning at Joy
Lutheran Church**

**Fun Workshops in
the afternoon**

**Founder’s Day
Luncheon**

**Dinner in the
evening with
International
Guest Speaker**

NU CHAPTER

Eagle River, Alaska

Friday, April 15, 2016
Reception/Social

Saturday, April 16, 2016
Lunch and Dinner
Joy Lutheran Church
10111 Eagle River Loop Rd.

Registration Form
“Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants”
Beta Gamma State Workshop
April 15-16, 2016

Registration Fee: \$75.00 Due April 1, 2016. (No fooling)

Please print:

Name _____

Chapter Name and Location _____

Mailing Address:

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Registration for Workshop \$75.00 includes-

Meals: Friday night appetizers
Saturday lunch and dinner

****Special dietary needs can be accommodated. Please note any needs you may require.**

Saturday afternoon sectionals TBD: Sign up will be on site.

Airline Information:

Anchorage Arrival Date: _____ Time: _____ Airline/Flight#: _____

Anchorage Departure Date: _____ Time: _____ Airline/Flight#: _____

Do you need a ride from the airport? YES NO (circle your answer)

Do you need a ride from the hotel? YES NO (circle your answer)

Please make Room Reservations directly with the Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham in Eagle River, Alaska. Single rooms \$70 and double rooms \$80 a night. The phone number is 907 622-6000 or use Google search : Eagle River, AK AND Microtel

I give permission to use my name, photo, and email address on the Beta Gamma State Website: <http://www.dkgalaska.org> and/ or the Nuggets Newsletter.

YES NO (circle your answer)

Mail registration form and check (payable to DKG Nu Chapter) to:
Kathy Adamich PO Box 770803 Eagle River, AK 99577

For questions, email Kathy Adamich at colorado@mtaonline.net

Alaska Beta Gamma State Workshop in Eagle River, Alaska
Sponsored by Nu Chapter
“The Sisterhood of the Traveling Plants”
April 15-16, 2016

Agenda

Friday, April 15, 2016

5-8:00 p.m. **Registration** at Microtel

7-8:30 a.m. **Reception** at Microtel

Saturday, April 16, 2016

8-10:00 a.m. **Registration** at Joy Lutheran Main Entrance

- Continental Breakfast served for Microtel guests at the motel.

9:00-10:15 a.m. **Executive Board Meeting** at Joy Lutheran Church main entrance (open to all members)

10:15-10:30 a.m. **Break**

10:30-10:45 a.m. **Official Welcome** by Leadership Development Committee

10:45-12:00 a.m. **Leadership Training** (please plan to attend a training of your own choosing if you are not a newly elected Chapter Officer)

12-2:00 p.m. **Luncheon, Words from our International President, Founder’s Day Celebration, and Installation of new Chapter Officers** - Hosted by Anchorage Area Council

2-2:15 p.m. **Break**

Fun Breakout Sessions

(Participants choose 2 out of the three offered sessions.)

Session Choices:

- **Beaded Jewelry**- Kristen Brown
- **Felted Pins**- Kathy Adamich
- **Laughter and Other Stress Reducers** – Ruth Townsend,
MS Director, Health & Well-being Solutions Alaska
Regional Hospital

2:15-3:00 p.m. First Session

3:00-3:45 p.m. Second Session

3:45-6 p.m. **On Your Own** to shop, relax, visit with sisters, and get ready for Banquet.

6- 9 p.m. **Dinner** at Joy Lutheran Church (use south side rear entrance only)

- **Welcome:** Judy Jasperson, Beta Gamma State President
- **“Star Spangled Banner and “Alaska Flag Song”:** Judi Westfall, Zeta Chapter
- **Collect:** Barbara Kovarik, Nu Chapter
- **Entertainment**
- **Dinner**
- **Introduction** of our International DKG President, Lyn Schmid by Judy Jasperson, Beta Gamma State President
- **Inspirational Message** from our International President- Lyn Schmid
- **Acknowledgements, announcements, and door prizes**
- **DKG Song** - All DKG members led by Judi Westfall, Zeta Chapter
- **Group and Chapter photos**