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**2018-2020 Officers**

**President**

Terry Sharp

**1st Vice-President**

Saralee Peccolo-Taylor

**2nd Vice-President**

Sherry Walsh

**Recording Secretary**

Julie Golden

**Corresponding Sec.**

Kelly Reed

**Treasurer**

Myra Sowder

**Parliamentarian**

Janice Walker

# Zeta News

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

## April 2020 - PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Engage, Empower, Involve

Hello Zeta Sisters!

I hope this letter finds all of you staying well! These are certainly trying times. I have missed seeing you all at our monthly meetings, and I fear that we will miss seeing each other at April's meeting. I feel like now, more than ever, it's important to maintain those connections we have with each other. Humans were meant to be in community with each other. For now, our community will have to exist through phone calls, emails, letters, and online video chatting.

For now, our state conference is going ahead as planned. We will know on May 15<sup>th</sup>, if it will be happening for sure. For those of you who are interested in attending, this is a great time to register. I'm happy to help with the online form. Payment does not have to be remitted online. In fact, Marsha Brewer has stated that all payments will be held until we know, for sure, that the conference will be held. In the meantime, we need to have a good head-count, so we know how many to plan for food, housing, and the breakout sessions.

We have received an invitation to attend the Vision Foundation Tea. I loved getting to attend the tea last year. It allowed us an opportunity to hear about some of the projects that have been funded through the Vision Foundation. One of those presentations was made by our own Alice Carson. I'm looking forward to again hearing our sisters from across the state talk about the innovative ways they bring learning to their students!

Additionally, the International Convention, to be held in Philadelphia, is also scheduled to go on. This decision, like that for the State Convention, is pending on how things progress in the COVID-19 pandemic. Stay tuned!

In the meantime, let's keep talking. We know that social distancing does not mean social isolation. Check in on others. If you know of people who may be struggling, please reach out. I found it alarming that during a 48-hour span in March, there were 9 possible suicides in our city. That's alarming. At the same time, I'm heartened to see the number of folks who are contributing their time and talents to help others. I'm reminded of a fairly famous quote by Mr. Rogers: "When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say, to me 'Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping.' "

Let's be the helpers.

Stay well sisters.

*Terry*

**April Meeting**  
**Has been cancelled.**

## **May Meeting**

Date: May 11, 2020

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: Henry's Deli

7231 Tazewell Pike, Corryton, TN  
 37721

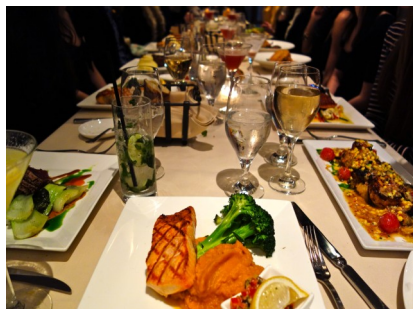
Cost: \$15.00

Program: TBA

Remember money for Tami Smith,  
 Spotlight on an Educator, for American Government textbooks.

## **Dinner Reservations**

If you make a dinner reservation and cannot attend, you will need to pay for the meal. Due to a tight budget, we need to pay for missed meals within a week of the meeting. Also, remember, if you invite a guest and they are a **no show**, you are responsible for the guest's meal. Zeta has to pay in advance for reservations made. Please send the money to Myra or bring it to the next meeting.



## **• Chapter Meetings**

2020

April 27 - Induction, Founders Day, Installation of officers - TUMC



May 1 - Tennessee State Convention Registration due

May 11 - End of Year, and KIN Program - Henry's Deli

May 16 - Children's Reading Festival

June 4 - 6 Tennessee State Convention - University of the South

July 7- 11 International DKG Convention - Philadelphia, PA

September 18 - 19 Creative Arts Retreat - Rogersville, TN

## **Newsletter**

Articles, information etc. needed for future newsletters. Please submit to Connie Silvey at [cfsilvey@bellsouth.net](mailto:cfsilvey@bellsouth.net) by the 10th of each month.

Thanks, Connie

## **Telephone**

Members, **please return the callers' calls**, even if you are not making a reservation. A returned call lets the caller know that the message was received.

*You did it!*  
**Congratulations**

Zeta received Maycie Chapter Excellence Gold Award and the Highest Communications Award.

## **Weather Policy**

The Zeta chapter meeting will be cancelled if Knox County Schools are closed for weather issues.

## Concerns

Keep in our thoughts and prayers:

Carolina Fleming      Gloria Kitzke  
 Mary Smith (back)      Ceclia Rivers (mother)  
 Janice Walker

### Sympathy

To the family of Patricia "Trish" Diane Gilham Groves. Trish passed away on April 8, 2020. She had been a member of DKG since 1980 and served the Zeta Chapter as President from 1986 to 1988. Berry Highland Memorial is in charge. Services will be held at a later date.

### Zeta Phone List

Send changes in telephone, address, cell, work numbers to Connie Silvey cfsilvey@bellsouth.net

### Yearbook

Please send yearbook corrections to Sherry Walsh, 1270 Kensington Dr. 37922 or email to sbw7042@gmail.com

### Awards

**Remember:** If you have received an award this past school year, please notify: Wynona Dye, 1301 Snowdon Dr., 37912



### Next Month Meeting

Date: August 24, 2020

Time: 5:00

### SAVE THE DATE

The Tennessee State Organization's Creative Arts Retreat will be held in Rogersville, Tennessee on September 18 - 19. It's a fun weekend. Plan to attend.



### April

Tracy Van de Vate	8
Janice Walker	8
Darlene Vickers	12

### \*\*IT'S DUES TIME!!!\*\*

Yearly Dues (\$85 Active Members and \$40 Reserve Members) are now due every June, so I will start collecting them at our April and May meetings. Final deadline to pay dues will be **May 31, 2020**.

Mail to: Myra Sowder  
 8045 Majors Rd  
 Corryton, TN 37721  
 Thanks, Myra



### Spotlight on an Educator

Tami Smith is our Spotlight on an Educator for the second term. Tami has been a Special Education teacher for twenty-two years at Powell High School.

#### Wish List

#### Power Basic American Government

Textbook: \$25.99

Teacher's guide \$6.99

Key: \$5.99

Workbook: \$5.99

Test Pack \$20.99

The suggestion is to bring money and give it to Tami so she can order the books.

### Legislation

Lamar Alexander: alexander.senate.gov  
 Marsha Blackburn: blackburn.senate.gov  
 Tim Burchett: burchett.house.gov  
 US Congress 2nd district

### Board of Education

Terri Coatney, Executive Assistant:  
 Terri.coatney@knoxschools.org  
 Chair - Susan Horn  
 Susan.horn@knoxschools.org


### Knox Co Commission

Commission@knoxcounty.org  
 Chair - Hugh Nystrom  
 hugh.nystrom@knoxcounty.org

### Web Site

Check out Zeta's Web site

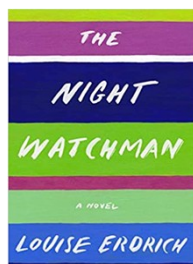
<http://dkgxizeta.weebly.com/>

 Checkout EEC Corner on the Xi State website. You will find several programs and projects completed by other chapters that may be of interest.

Read page 8 in the April Xi State News issue.

### Book Corner

Based on the extraordinary life of National Book Award-winning author Louise Erdrich's grandfather who worked as a night watchman and carried the fight against Native dispossession from rural North Dakota all the way to Washington, D.C., this powerful novel explores themes of love and death with lightness and gravity and unfolds with the elegant prose, sly humor, and depth of feeling of a master craftsman.



**WANTED:**

**NEW-MEMBERS**

I challenge each member to bring a prospective member to our next meeting. Martha

### Meet Zeta Member - Wynona Dye



**Wynona Dye** was born in North Carolina and went to elementary schools in both Eastern and Western North Carolina before moving to Tennessee as a sophomore in high school. She received a B. S. in Education and an M.S. in English Education from the University of Tennessee. She taught English for nearly 25 years at Holston High School and then 8 more at Gibbs High School, both in Knox County. She worked as a state evaluator for the Career Ladder program for two years. During some summers Wynona attended Foxfire I and II seminars and a Governor's School of Writing. She was a member of the first Knoxville Leadership Education class.

Wynona became a member of Delta Kappa Gamma in 1990. She served on the Social and the Telephone Committees before becoming Second Vice-President and then President of Zeta from 1998 to 2000. She served as Chairman of the Rules, Legislation, and Scholarship and Awards Committees. For Xi State Wynona has served on the Finance Committee, member and Chairman of the Membership Committee, the Awards Committee, and the Achievement Award Committee three times. She served on the board of the Vision Foundation for one term and then was a member of the Personnel Committee for one term. She has attended many Xi State conventions at Sewanee and at least seven international conventions. She attended Leadership and Advanced Leadership Seminars and was awarded the Order of the Rose in 2011. She also served as Area Director 2001 – 2003.

Since retirement Wynona, in addition to attending Zeta meetings, has helped in her church office, joined the bell choir of her church, graduated from the Citizen's Police Academy, and enjoyed her six grandchildren and now three great grandchildren. She also enjoys her P.E.O. Sisterhood meetings. Her hobbies are reading, quilting, crocheting, and traveling.

<u>May</u>		<u>June</u>		<u>July</u>	
Shelley Walker	7	Tricia Jones	2	Rachel Rhea	26
Carolina Fleming	10	Martha McCluen	8	Susan Martin	31
Connie Silvey	16	Tracy Cagle	25		
Sara Key	19	Kaye Williams	25		
Joyce Condry	20	Shirley Wolfe	25		
Myra Sowder	26	Gloria Kitzke	30		
Maggie Miller	27				



### **Legislative Report**

Tennessee has seen legislation recently that affects schools in light of the Covid-19 pandemic. Governor Lee ordered schools to remain closed until April 24. In light of the nearly two months of instructional time that has been disrupted this spring, the legislature passed Public Chapter Number 652 which cancels TNReady testing as well as teacher evaluations for this school year. In addition, seniors are not required to pass a civics test for graduation this year, and the 11<sup>th</sup> grade proficiency test (ACT or SAT) is not required. The bill also ensures that LEAs would not lose state funds due to the suspension of school this year. The State Board of Education was authorized to promulgate emergency rules to address issues caused by school closures and the bill requires the Commissioner of Education to waive the requirement of 180 days of classroom instruction.

In response to this bill, the State Board of Education issued new rules which followed the guidelines above. Also, students' spring semester grades were to be frozen as of March 20, and any remote learning which occurs can only be used to increase the grade. The Board lowered the number of credits required to graduate from 22 to 20, to ensure students were not hurt by the shortened classroom time. Schools may not issue unexcused absences or report truancy for any remote learning not completed. The Board also approved emergency policy changes that will allow student teachers to be approved for licensure, even if they didn't complete all of their required student teaching hours, and will extend educator licenses about to expire until August 2021.

Additionally, Tennessee received approval on its request to the U.S. Department of Education to waive statewide assessment, accountability, and reporting requirements in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) for the 2019-2020 school year.

Submitted by Tricia Jones