

***NOMINATIONS WILL BE SENT AT A  
LATER DATE***

Volume 58, Issue 1  
Spring 2017



# Theta State News

*The Delta Kappa Gamma International Society for  
Key Women Educators in New Mexico*

## **Becky Sadowski Represents DKG at TS Convention**

Theta State is honored host Becky Sadowski at the 2017 Theta State Convention. A member of the Society for 27 years, **Becky Sadowski** currently serves as International Second Vice-President and Parliamentarian for the Tennessee State Organization. At the international level she has served as the 2014-2016 Southeast Regional Director and chair of the 2016 International Convention Steering Committee. **Becky** has also been a member of the International Golden Gift Fund Committee and chair of the Leadership Development and Membership Committees. She has also served as chapter president as well as the 2003-2005 Tennessee State Organization President.

**Becky's** DKG membership has provided many opportunities for personal and professional growth. She attended the Basic and Advanced Leadership Seminars in her state organization and is a graduate of the 1999 International Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar. **Becky** is a frequent breakout session presenter and speaker at all levels of the Society. She was a keynote speaker at the 2005 SERC and has facilitated the Advanced Leadership Seminar four times in her home state of Tennessee.



Serving as a Special Education advocate has been **Becky's** passion. Her career includes serving as a classroom teacher, a reading specialist, a Lead Teacher for the Memphis City Schools, an Adjunct Professor at the University of Memphis, and a Special Education Specialist and Educational Consultant for Shelby County Schools, as well as Head of the School of Education at Lambuth University. **Becky** has served as the President of the Tennessee Association for the Gifted and was a Keynote Presenter at the Tennessee Legal Education Conference on Special Education. She received the **Jo Patterson Award in Gifted Education** in Tennessee in 1996.

Married to her college sweetheart for 47 years, **Becky** has two grown children and enjoys spending as much time as possible with her four granddaughters. She is active in her church as well as in her community.

A "lifelong learner", **Becky** often refers to one of her favorite quotes from **C.S. Lewis** ~"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

**Jean Leonard**, Theta State President 1993-1995, is now living at Montebello on Academy, an assisted living facility. The address is 10500 Academy Blvd., NE, Albuquerque, 87111. Her room number is 810, and her phone number is (505) 463-7354. After the first of the year, she had a series of small strokes which left her unable to walk without assistance or on a walker. She is able and willing to chat with people, and is trying very hard to stay as active as possible in Alpha Iota chapter. **Jean** would love a card or a call!

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**Women Teachers to the Calling . . .**



**Susan Swope**  
Theta State President 2015-2017

*Ring, Ring*

Hi ya,

I am so glad we get to talk again. My Delta Kappa Gamma Sisters are truly a bright light in my life. I can always depend on each of you.

We do have a great group of ladies all over New Mexico and across the wide world of education. I count my blessing to be involved with The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. I am definitely looking forward to our next state meeting in Albuquerque. I even have my registration form completed and turned in. The meals sound wonderful. I have spent a lot of time at the Marriott hotel for many of my FFA and 4-H meetings. We should be well taken care of by the staff. The convention committee has been working hard to plan this year's events.

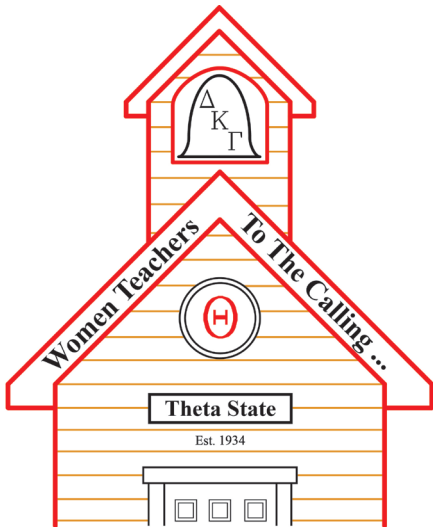
Yes, we have changed the schedule a little and are trying a few new things. I think they are positive changes. Anytime you recognize people for the work they have been doing, you are making a difference and the Awards Breakfast is designed to do just that. I hope that everyone will try and make it to our convention.

We will be electing the new state leadership. I am so excited to see who is nominated to serve Theta State in an elected office. So many of our ladies would do an exceptional job of leading New Mexico for the next two years. I know they will be looking for committee members and others to help support them. Anyone interested in serving simply needs to let me or any of the officers/committee chairs know, and we will make it happen. I never realized all the valuable skills I would develop from my service. I have used many of the things I learned in other organizations and with my students.

Are you meeting the Piggy Challenge? In my chapter, we had a "dump the change out of your purse" day. At our next meeting, we will have a clean out your car ashtrays for any spare change.

I am so impressed at the way many of the chapters have been working on my challenge to strengthen the fellowship of their members and membership. I hope to have time during the convention to share many of these ideas with each other. We, as an organization, will only be as strong and connected as our members are. New Mexico is very blessed to have ladies who are top-notch sisters, and my wish is that we continue to grow in numbers and in true sisterly fashion.

Thanks for the visit and I hope to talk to you again soon.



## Committee Communiqué

### World Fellowship

This International DKG committee grants World Fellowships in accordance with the Constitution and International Standing Rules when sufficient funds are available. It maintains contact with the World Fellowship recipients for the duration of their studies when possible and encourage members to maintain contact with recipients studying in their states. The committee may also grant requests for fellowship extensions.

Awards given in 2015-2016:

20 \$4,000 awards

2 \$800 extensions

4 \$400 extensions

Total of \$83,200 to 26 women in 19 countries.

We passed the bags at the Theta State Fall Birthday Luncheon. The Theta State sisters in attendance were very generous and donated \$276.00 (\$101.00 more than last year!). Thank you all for giving!

*Jane Williams, TS World Fellowship Chair*

### Educational Excellence

What is your chapter doing to promote Educational Excellence? Each chapter should develop activities, projects, and /or programs that “empower women through leadership opportunities, promote and change global awareness through collaboration worldwide.”

Some ideas might be service projects, welcome bags for new teachers, as well as donations of age appropriate books to a new educator. So, if your chapter isn't promoting Educational Excellence, now is the time to start.

Please send your ideas, programs, etc. to me at [gwenhamilton@centurylink.net](mailto:gwenhamilton@centurylink.net). Include your chapter name and city. Thanks!

*Gwen Hamilton, TS First Vice-President*

### U S Forum

Do you get the Connection? Sheila Hanes sends the US Forum Connection, a newsletter from the DKG US Forum, to inform DKG members of federal legislation that impacts women, children, and education. The US Forum supports the fourth (4th) purpose of DKG. This month, an impending Supreme Court is highlighted:

#### SUPREME COURT & AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

When sixth grader Ehlena Fry who suffers from cerebral palsy entered kindergarten in 2009, the school district (Napoleon Community Schools) denied her the ability to bring her service dog into the school. The district ruled that an adult could perform the tasks with which the dog helped her. The dog which was trained to open doors and pick up items, among other things, was designed to give her a measure of independence, so she would not have to rely on other peoples for help. The family is seeking monetary damages from the school rather than pursuing a lengthy administrative remedy process. Although the school eventually allowed her to bring the dog to school after two and a half years, they placed so many restrictions on the dog that Ehlena's parents decided to homeschool her. The family later located a school which allowed her to have the dog at the school. At issue is whether the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) which would allow the dog to accompany her to school or whether the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) which would allow the family to sue the school would take precedence. A ruling on the matter is expected later this year.

You can follow the US Forum on facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>). You can also visit the Forum at its website (<http://www.usforumdkg.org/>).



## Chapter News

### PSI Chapter (Grants)



Psi Chapter began the year recapping the April state convention held in Grants. **BJ Johnson** gave us her convention workshop on making candy bouquets. The workshop was a hit once again!

We welcomed two of our three Delta Kappa Gamma initiates **Sheena Meech** and **Brandy Hayes** during our November meeting. **Ina Jean Barnes** led the initiation ceremony with current members participating.

Psi Sisters collected donations for two local projects we support. The local pantry is able to multiply donations to purchase food and other items to distribute to community members. The second donation, given to our local Martin Luther King Day community event in January, rewarded students participating in the creative writing contest.

**Dorothy Pougés** organized the Grants 11<sup>th</sup> annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Extravaganza on January 16, 2017. Her responsibilities included directing the volunteers, reading approximately 500 essay contest submissions with the volunteers, and closing the event as she does every year by leading the attendees in singing "We Shall Overcome".

Our December Christmas Social was thoroughly enjoyable as always. Past Psi President **Claudette Jaramillo** graciously opened her home to us. The food was delicious and our gift exchange was filled with laughter as we played a 'Right/Left' game while **Claudette** read a holiday story to us.

The January meeting began with the initiation of new member **Patty Black**. Member **Asha Ashby** happily gave the DKG pin to her. Afterwards, first vice-president **Brooke Ratliff** encouraged and motivated us with her Teachers Pay Teachers presentation from the state convention.

*Jane Williams, Psi Chapter*

Peggy Bishop's (Pi Chapter, Deming) husband, Raymond, passed away suddenly on February 22, 2017. Please keep Peggy in your thoughts. Condolences may be sent through Baca Funeral Home's website (<http://www.legacy.com>) or to Peggy at:

1481 Dona Ana Rd SW  
Deming, NM 88030

### Red Roses

Peggy Jackson continues her amazing work as the national president of the National Council for the Social Studies. Her term ends July 1, 2017, and she travels across the nation promoting quality civic education and speaking to social studies teachers. She is doing great work! As a sign of her continued commitment to Delta Kappa Gamma, she has been able to attend Gamma's last two chapter meetings, sharing some of her adventures, and has agreed to present a workshop at Theta State's spring convention this April in ABQ!

## More Chapter News

### Gamma Chapter (Albuquerque)

Gamma chapter continues to recruit new members and provide quality programs. The January meeting had more than 20 attendees!

Gamma initiated the following new members at the holiday brunch in December:

**Amber Arrellano**, teacher at Edward Goncales Elementary in ABQ

**Katy Hammel**, NBCT, teacher at Edward Gonzales Elementary and administrative intern in ABQ

**Amy Reece**, NBCT, teacher at NexGen Academy in ABQ

#### Welcome to Gamma chapter and Theta State!

Our new member orientation program continues as well. More potential new members will attend the next new member orientation dinner at **Pat Graff's** house on March 30. These are small, friendly meals where the ideals and programs of Delta Kappa Gamma are shared.

Chapter programs continue to be outstanding! In December, we held our annual holiday brunch and welcomed **Susan Swope**, Theta State President, as our speaker. Besides the initiation and speaker, we held a silent auction which netted over \$100 for the chapter's scholarship fund and collected gift cards for Silver Horizons of more than \$250 in value!

In January, **Amy Reece**, one of the newest mem-

bers, shared her writing process and success. She has written four young adult novels and recently published a fifth book. Her success is inspiring!

In March, the chapter will be meeting at the Shark Reef Café at the ABQ Aquarium for dinner. This is an event which has been opened to all local DKG chapters and their members. Interested individuals should contact **Evelyn Sanchez**, Gamma President, at [summergal8188@msn.com](mailto:summergal8188@msn.com). The May meeting will be a celebration of the year and will include one more initiation of new members.

Gamma is currently taking applications for its Grant-in-Aid program. The chapter supports the following charities: Title I Homeless program in APS, Ronald McDonald House, Silver Horizons, and the APS Clothing Bank.

Members of Gamma continue to work with the Central Coordinating Council and Theta State to plan for the state convention in the spring. Convention planners include **Dianna Valdez, Jeannette Vigil, Mary Gallemore, and Kat Graham**.

*Pat Graff, Gamma Chapter*



### Omega Chapter (Las Cruces)

The February meeting of Omega chapter was held at the home of president **Yvette Moore**. The program was a wonderful presentation by **Cynthia Smith**. She brought some of the dolls that she has cleaned and remade. **Cynthia** told us about problems with doll hair, fitting the shoes, and the history of some of the outfits.

The chapter collected stuffed animals for La Casa (a battered women's shelter where women and children fleeing abuse find refuge). Because the children leave their homes with nothing but the clothes they are wearing, a stuffed animal may bring some comfort.

The chapter also discussed venues for the 2018 Theta State Convention.

*Yvette Moore, Omega Chapter president*

## Still More Chapter News

### Alpha Iota (Albuquerque)

**Mary Beavis** reported on the progress of the New Mexico Legislature at the January meeting of Alpha Iota. **Mary** is a member of NMAER and has worked with legislators and legislation for many years. She is impressed with the number of bills considered and passed by the Senate in the first week of the current session. All the bills passed concerned New Mexico's solvency problem and took funds from the budgets of projects and agencies to provide funds to reduce the shortfall. The NMAER's challenge is to try to protect teachers' salaries and schools' budgets as well as the ERB retirement fund. If you see a bill of interest which you would like to have passed or not passed, contact the legislators in your district to express your opinion. **Russell Goff**, Executive Director of the NMAER, always reminds us not to take our benefits for granted.

**Betty Begeal** reported on the progress of plans for the state convention. She gave us a list of the committees for which we can volunteer. Rather than working on a specific task assigned to each chapter, we can volunteer individually to work on any committee we

**Betty also** reminded us of the various scholarships offered by Theta State and the application deadline

for each. The Theta State Scholarship, which is for DKG members of at least three years, can be used for graduate level classes or National Board Certification. She also explained the **B. June West** Recruitment Grant and the Theta State Scholarship.

**Judy Allman** was the hostess for our meeting, and she also presented the program. She spoke about the philanthropic programs of the Assistance League of Albuquerque. These include Blue Portal, one of Old Town's prime gift shops which supplies a venue where senior artists may sell their designs and art; Buddy Bear Patrol which supplies over 1,000 new teddy bears each year for children in times of crisis. Operation School Bell issues new school uniforms each year to over 4,000 children in need. Tender Loving Care provides handmade blankets, quilts and caps for cancer patients and newborns at UNM Hospital. The Assistance League Thrift Shop is located at 5203 and 5211 Lomas, NE, Albuquerque, 87110. Donations are accepted Monday –Saturday. **Judy** urged us to join the Assistance League so that we can participate in any of these programs.

*Alyce Cummins, Alpha Iota*

## Loretta Hall, Theta State Convention Luncheon Speaker

*Speaking on: Women & Space History in New Mexico*

**Ms. Hall** is a freelance writer and nonfiction book author. Although she has written for a variety of consumer magazines, she concentrated on civil engineering and architecture trade publications for many years. About ten years ago, her latent fascination with space exploration resurfaced, and she has since concentrated on that subject. Topics for her eight nonfiction books include space exploration, ecological architecture, and multiculturalism. She has written hundreds of magazine articles and reference book chapters. During the past fifteen years, she has written seven books for adults and young adults, including two on architecture and three on the history



and future of space travel. Her newest book, a children's picture book about visiting Spaceport America, is in publication.

She is 2016-2018 president of New Mexico Press Women. **Loretta** received the 2016 Communicator of Achievement Award from the National Federation of Press Women (NFPW). This is the highest honor bestowed by NFPW upon those members who have distinguished themselves within and beyond their field. The recipient is recognized for exceptional achievement in the communications field, as well as service to NFPW and to the community.

## 2017 THETA STATE CONVENTION PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

### Friday, April 28, 2017

4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.  
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Registration & GALA Reception- Marriott

**Chautauqua Presentation: A VISIT WITH GEORGIA O'KEEFE**  
- Deborah Blanche

6:45 p.m.

**Executive Board Meeting**

### Saturday, April 29, 2017

7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.  
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Registration

**Awards Breakfast and Educators Recognition**

Exhibitor Set-Up

Exhibitor Sales

9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**General Session**

9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

**Resource Center and Hospitality Room Open**

**Workshops - Round I**

- A Basic Overview of Sex Trafficking- Morgan Langer, Homeland Security
- Elevator Talks: Advocating Effectively for your classroom, chapter & your students  
- Pat Graff, NBCT, Gamma Chapter

11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Lunch Check-in

12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Resource Center, Hospitality Room Closed

**Luncheon- Guest Speaker: Loretta Hall, NM Press Women President. -**  
*Women & Space History in New Mexico*

1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Resource Center Opens**

**Workshops - Round II**

- Leadership: More Ups than Downs - Peggy Jackson, NCSS, National President, Gamma Chapter
- Panel: Innovative alternative programs - Yvette Moore, moderator, TS Editor, Omega Chapter

3:15 p.m.

Resource Center Closes

2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

**Workshops - Round III**

- Overview of Personal Safety - Trish Hoffman, APD
- Myth of One Size Fits All- Becky Sadowski, DKG 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Int'l Representative
- Zentangles - Cathy Everitt, Alpha Theta Chapter
- Students with ASD: Learning Challenges and Characteristics - Maryann Trott, MA, Board Certified Behavior Analyst-UNM Ctr. for Development and Disability

3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Workshops - Round IV**

- NM is a Treasure Trove of Space History - Loretta Hall, NM Press Women President
- Keys to Downsize and Organize Your Life - Gail Rubin, CT
- Revolutionize Learning and Behavior at all Ages with Brain-Based Movement - Marcia Lee Unnever, NM Ed'l Trainer, Rdg Specialist, ADD/ADHD Consultant
- Silver Horizons: Helping Extremely Low-Income Seniors... with Your Help - Ron Hidalgo, Executive Director
- Navajo and other Native American Children: How they might be different - Esther Yazzie-Lewis, Federal Navajo Interpreter
- Learn Money Sense: Free financial Capability Resources for Teachers - Shana Runk, Nusenda Credit Union, AVP Community Relations/Financial Capability

4:45 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

What is DKG? - Orientation

Exhibitors Breakdown

TS Incoming & Outgoing Officers' Practice

Banquet Check in

5:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

**Founders and Presidents Banquet**

### Sunday, April 30, 2017

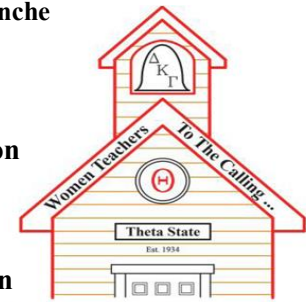
8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

**Celebration of Life Ceremony**

Give out the Water and fruit

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

**Executive Committee Meeting**



Impacting Education in New Mexico

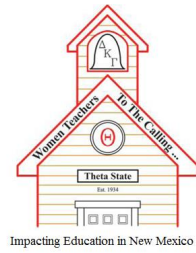


## 2017 Theta State Convention Registration Form

April 28, 2017 - April 30, 2017

Albuquerque Marriott 2101 Louisiana Blvd. Albuquerque, NM 87110

***“Women Teachers to the Calling-Impacting Education in New Mexico”***



Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter Office \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Theta State Position \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

FUNCTION	FEE	NUMBER TO ATTEND	AMOUNT ENCLOSED
<b>Registration</b>			
<b>MEMBER:</b>			
Early Bird Registration <i>Postmark before January 1, 2017</i> -----	\$40.00	_____	_____
Regular Registration <i>Postmark January 1-April 1, 2017</i> -----	\$45.00	_____	_____
Late Registration – received after <i>April 1, 2017</i> -----	\$55.00	_____	_____
<b>NON-MEMBER:</b>			
Regular Registration ( <i>includes lunch</i> ) <i>Postmark Nov 1-April 21, 2017</i> ---	\$45.00	_____	_____
<b>Meals are not guaranteed with walk-in registrations.</b>			
<b>MEALS Tax and Gratuities included</b>			
<b>Breakfast-</b> Saturday 8:00 am Traditional Plated Breakfast Scrambled eggs, bacon, link sausage, potatoes, assorted breakfast breads, orange and apple juice. Coffee, tea	\$25.00	_____	_____
<b>Lunch-</b> Saturday – 12:00 pm . <b>Check one choice</b> Both meals served with fresh baked bread and key lime pie <input type="checkbox"/> Pasta Primavera in Parmesan Alfredo sauce <input type="checkbox"/> Southwest Chicken Salad - lime and tequila marinated grilled chicken on spring mix with vegetables, jack and cheddar cheese	\$25.00	_____	_____
<b>Banquet-</b> Dinner -Saturday – 6:00pm. <b>Check one choice</b> (All meals are served with Garden Fresh Salad, baked bread and lemon or chocolate cake) <input type="checkbox"/> Rosemary and Black Pepper crusted pork loin, wild rice, broccolini <input type="checkbox"/> Filet of Salmon. Lemon butter sauce, wild rice, broccolini <input type="checkbox"/> Vegetable Napoleon - fresh grilled vegetables on a skewer, wild rice and broccolini	\$47.00	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Rose Corsages</b> Corsages can be picked up at 4:00pm	\$14.00	_____	_____
<b>Total Amount Enclosed</b> -----			<b>\$</b>

Dietary restrictions \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I understand if I choose not to give permission, it is my responsibility to remove myself from the photos

Is this your first Theta State Convention? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Write Convention in the memo line and make check payable to: 2017 Theta State Convention**

Mail to: Caroline Nelson, Treasurer, 2009 Virgin Wood Rd., Rio Rancho, NM 87124

Questions to: Caroline Nelson 892-2073 or wn5030@centurylink.net

**Confirmations will be posted on the Theta State website after April 4, 2017.**

\* Each individual is responsible for making her own hotel reservations. **(1-800-228-9290 or 505-881-6800) Deadline Tuesday, March 31, 2017.** Ask for the **2017 Theta State Convention for April 28-30.** The discounted room rate is \$89.00 + tax. (\$201.47 for two nights). It is important to stay at the convention hotel to keep costs for the convention as low as possible. Bring a copy of this Registration Form to convention check in. If reserved rooms are sold out, call Carmen Pennington for assistance. 505-256-9506



PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

DEADLINES:  
Fall - August 10  
Winter - November 10  
Spring - February 10  
Summer - May 10

RETURN ADDRESS:  
Yvette Moore  
3040 Cheyenne Drive  
Las Cruces, NM 88011-5269  
Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
THETA STATE NEWS

**ALL CHAPTER PARTICIPATION REQUESTED!**

**Educator Recognition Award**

In the spirit of Delta Kappa Gamma's mission, this 2017 convention has chosen to recognize outstanding woman educators from around our state. NUSENDA will provide breakfast for the recipients.

**Award Breakfast and Educator Recognition**      April 29, 2017      8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.  
*Albuquerque Marriot Uptown*      (2101 Louisiana Blvd NE Alb., NM 87110)

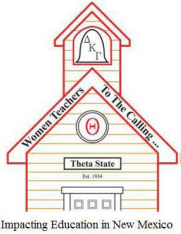
**Eligibility:** A key woman educator: two awardees per chapter (one member and one non-member **or** two non-members)

**Awarding Chapter Contact Information:**

o Name:      E-mail:  
o Phone Number:

**Recipient Contact Information:**

o Name:      E-mail:  
o Phone Number:  
o Member \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
o Non-member \_\_\_\_\_



- Reason for recognition: (Educational and/or community contributions) (25-50 words)
- Biographical sketch (25-50 words)
- Picture (jpeg)

**Deadline:** E-mail this form and information for each awardee by **Monday, March 27, 2017.**  
Jeannette Vigil      [leahvigil14@gmail.com](mailto:leahvigil14@gmail.com)      505 328-5798