



**Theta State, New Mexico News**  
**of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**  
 Summer 2020



**MESSAGE FROM OUR**  
**2019-2021 STATE**  
**PRESIDENT**



**Greeting**  
**NM**  
**Sisters!**

Another school year is upon us, however, this one will be like no other! I am sure that each of you are facing new challenges and obstacles as we enter the brand-new school year without things that are comfortable to us. As we begin this virtual time in education, I hope that you all have your smiles on and are ready to continue to change the lives of students, even as we meet using computers and cameras rather than hugs and high fives in our classrooms. Our Theta State Leadership Team is still hard at work, setting up some digital learning for our new Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs. Please be on the lookout for an email soon with information to help get you going. Your State Executive Committee met virtually this summer (in June) and worked on business in the best way that we could in order to keep Theta State moving forward through 2020. One of the things that came out of this meeting was an Ad Hoc Committee,

which has been working diligently to put together information regarding future State Conventions. Thank you so much to those of you that have offered to serve on this committee. There are some amazing ideas coming from all around New Mexico. Central Coordinating Council (CCC) is also hard at work planning our Fall Meeting which is set to take place on November 7th. We are planning to do a lot of celebrating during this event, as that was something that we did not get to do in April for our State Convention. Information regarding this will be on our website soon, so keep checking for updates! Lastly, I really hope that each of you has remained healthy through all of this. I know it has been hard to remain at home, missing out on so much that many of us look forward to each summer. I have been thinking about all of my New Mexico sisters and pray that you are all healthy and happy. I am very much hoping to see each of you in November. Have an amazing start to the 2020/2021 school year!!

*Shawna Denney,*  
**Theta State President, 2019-2021**



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

# THETA STATE VIRTUAL FALL EVENT 2020

**Friday, Nov 6, 2020**

**4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.**

**Saturday, Nov. 7, 2020**

**7:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.**

**Courtyard Marriott Journal Center, ABQ, NM**

Program: Executive Board Meeting, Workshops, Chapter Leaders Training, Birthday Luncheon with Awards, Exhibits, and More! **Virtual meeting for all!!!**

## LEADERSHIP UPDATE

The leadership committee has been very busy. We were finalizing plans for a summer training in the mountains where we could meet and cool off a little. Then, our world got flipped around and we had to go into all new territory with online training.

To see what would best fit the needs of our state, a survey was sent out and the response was good. An overwhelming amount of responses indicated that a scheduled, in-person meeting using zoom or go to meeting would be challenging and that having the videos and material available on the website would be best. We are currently working to develop videos from our experts within the state to cover the topics of interest according to the survey results. We are also going to have links to the workshops and materials that were presented during the International convention. The vision is to provide a virtual library for materials not just for chapter officers and state leaders, but for all members.

As a committee we would like to have as much expert help as possible for this task. So, we are calling on members from throughout the state to help. If you have a topic you are knowledgeable in and would like to share with your sisters, please let us know. Videos 10 to 30 minutes, workshops presented and recorded, links to others videos that we can get permission to share, inspirational "tidbits" anything we can save on the website for members at all levels of leadership. We can also make available documents that committee chairs would normally have given out during a face to face leadership. We can email those and post in our library. Finally, if there is a topic you need/want please let Susan Swope know. It would be great for this to develop into a long-term library.

Please see information about the fall meeting and the leadership opportunities if we are going to be able to meet. It would be a great time to develop a community where we as leaders can network and share. I cannot wait to see everyone again!

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## STATE CONVENTION PLANNING AD HOC COMMITTEE

Meeting virtually, the Theta State DKG Ad Hoc committee on state conventions and meetings continue to do their work.

Nearly every local chapter is represented on this team which is looking at locations and procedures for future NM state meetings, especially the spring conventions.

Roswell will be hosting the 2021 state convention in April 2021. Silver City is on tap to host the 2022 event. After that, there are no assigned chapters for hosting the event, which is part of what this ad hoc committee is considering.

In addition, the group is considering a proposal that would establish a statewide convention planning committee that would provide additional support and help for local chapters.

The committee's final recommendations will be brought to the Executive Board at the meeting in Albuquerque, currently planned for Nov. 7, 2020. More information will be shared with local chapters as it becomes available. Some changes to Theta State's Standing Rules and ByLaws may be needed as well.

The committee is chaired by Pat Graff, Gamma Chapter, Theta State's first vice-president.

Other members are as follows:

Beta- Kelly Williams  
Gamma- Jeannette Vigil  
Epsilon- Cathy Maxwell  
Kappa- Pat Latona  
Lambda- (vacant)  
Upsilon- Gay Simpkins  
Psi- Ina Jean Barnes

*Many thanks to these women for providing their time, energy, and knowledge to work on this state issue.*

## EDITORS MESSAGE

Chapter presidents and chapter editors, please review the criteria for the TS Editor's Award so you can start planning what you want to do for this year.

The award will be presented to chapter editors at the 2021 Theta State Convention.

If you need another copy of the TS Editor's Award Criteria, contact Jeannette Vigil at [leahvigil14@gmail.com](mailto:leahvigil14@gmail.com).

Please send Jeannette the names and contact information for you incoming President and Editor.

**ALSO...** I am asking that when you email me a chapter article please put ***TSN + (Chapter Name)*** in the Subject Line.

## EDUCATION EXCELLENCE FOCUS

### Keeping the Education Excellence Focus in Local Chapters Virtually

Here are a few ideas for members and chapters to try during these continuing quarantine times, based on our Education Excellence Committee parameters:

**Personal Growth:** This time at home can really wear on a person, so plan to reach out frequently to another member or two and see how she is doing. Sometimes just a chat on the phone can help. In chapters, establish a network of support so if a member needs something, perhaps another member can bring it to her, safely masked and socially distanced, of course. Be each other's lifelines!

**Professional Affairs:** It's official- teachers and administrators in the schools are going to be juggling online and (perhaps) face-to-face teaching for what could be months on end! Remember to reach out to your members who are in the schools— and their colleagues— with your support. If there is a school supply drive (most of these are for money donations only right now), organize your chapter to participate.

## CHAPTER NEWS

### ALPHA IOTA CHAPTER

Alpha Iota members are missing each other greatly! We miss seeing each other in person, laughing, hugging and participating wholly in meetings. But we are staying in touch and keeping up with the needs and news of each member. Although we have not met in person this summer, Alpha Iota officers had a Zoom meeting and are busy making plans for the coming year. We are looking forward to the September and October Zoom meetings that are planned for the entire membership.

It will be a new experience to have a "virtual installation of officers"! And it will be exciting to conduct a "virtual induction" of our newest member, Audrey Colwell!

*Submitted by Donna Moore  
Alpha Iota Chapter*

### OMEGA CHAPTER

On Monday, August 24th, Omega Chapter conducted an induction service via ZOOM. Four new members were added to our roster - they are: Catherine Burn (retired career educator), Betty Patterson (retired SPED teacher and previous NEA State President), Maria Pearce (retired bilingual teacher), and Joan Sheehan (retired career educator).

Following the induction a drive by salute (horns honking and enthusiastic hand waving) was formed visiting Maria's, Joan's, and Catherine's homes - Betty currently lives in Rio Rancho.

When Omega yearbooks were dispersed, members were delighted to view Sharon Sevachko's artistic talent. SEEING IS BELIEVING.

As Barbara Jewett begins her term as Omega president with energy and enthusiasm into the 2020-21 era, we are cognizant of her meaningful mantra: **\*\*If you see a need, take a lead.\*\***  
Sharron Stepro for Omega Chapter

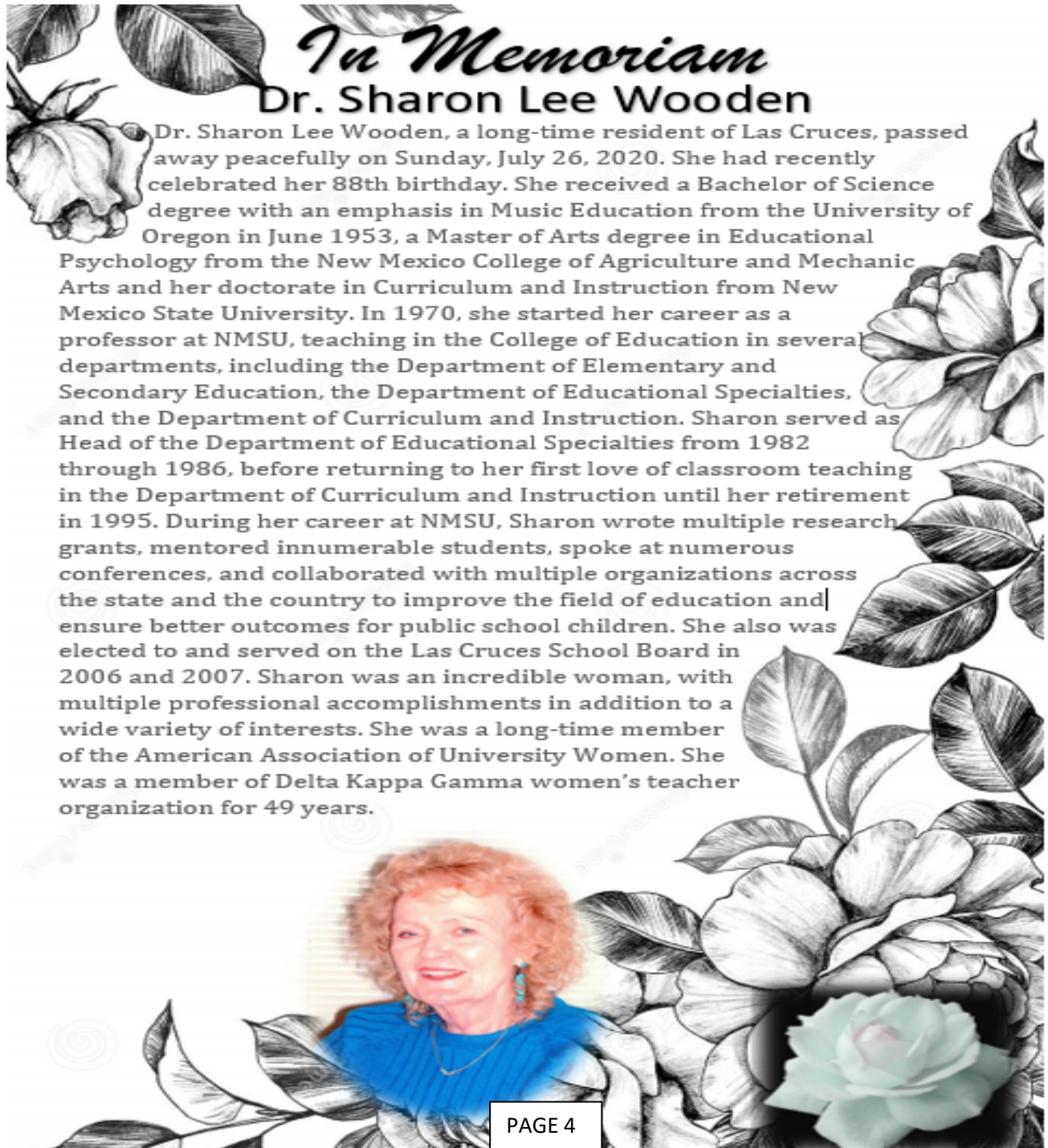
## RED ROSES



**Pat Graff, Gamma Chapter** was recently appointed as the Southwest Region Representative to the Education Excellence Committee for DKG International. She will serve a two-year term, 2020-2022, and will attend her first committee meeting in Austin this coming December. She will work with programming and chapter support as part of her committee duties.



## WHITE ROSES



### *In Memoriam* Dr. Sharon Lee Wooden

Dr. Sharon Lee Wooden, a long-time resident of Las Cruces, passed away peacefully on Sunday, July 26, 2020. She had recently celebrated her 88th birthday. She received a Bachelor of Science degree with an emphasis in Music Education from the University of Oregon in June 1953, a Master of Arts degree in Educational Psychology from the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts and her doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction from New Mexico State University. In 1970, she started her career as a professor at NMSU, teaching in the College of Education in several departments, including the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Department of Educational Specialties, and the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. Sharon served as Head of the Department of Educational Specialties from 1982 through 1986, before returning to her first love of classroom teaching in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction until her retirement in 1995. During her career at NMSU, Sharon wrote multiple research grants, mentored innumerable students, spoke at numerous conferences, and collaborated with multiple organizations across the state and the country to improve the field of education and ensure better outcomes for public school children. She also was elected to and served on the Las Cruces School Board in 2006 and 2007. Sharon was an incredible woman, with multiple professional accomplishments in addition to a wide variety of interests. She was a long-time member of the American Association of University Women. She was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma women's teacher organization for 49 years.

## ***TS NOMINATIONS***

Ladies, it is time to start thinking about new officers and committee members for the next two years. Officers and two committee members each on nominations and finance are needed. So now is the time to start thinking about who will fill these positions. More information will be posted on the TS website and in the November Theta State News. Eligibility Requirements can be found in the TS Bylaws and Standing Rules.

## ***TS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM***

### **THETA STATE OF THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 2020**

- **NM State Organization Scholarship(s)** available to be awarded: up to \$2,000
- **\*Not all scholarships will be awarded each year; decisions to award or not will be made based on availability of funding and/or the number of qualified applicants**
  - Eligibility:
    - Applicants must be members of a NM, Theta State chapter for at least **three** calendar years.
    - Service to Delta Kappa Gamma is an important criterion in the selection of a recipient.
    - Applications should be electronically submitted on/before the deadline (March 1<sup>st</sup> of the year awarded) **Incomplete or late applications will not be eligible for consideration.**
- **New Mexico Application Packet Requirements**
  - Electronically submit one complete application packet (items a-e below) to Kelly Raye Williams, Scholarship Chair at **kraye22@comcast.net**
    - the completed application form;
    - an original photograph (applicant only) suitable for publication;
    - a brief written account (use template provided) of your proposed program plans with documentation of current enrollment (This account should include institution, major, degree, beginning date, anticipated completion date, a brief description of courses completed, and the professional goals to be accomplished through this program. Current enrollment can be documented through a screenshot or a copy of the applicant's graduate school registration page showing name and present course enrollment);
    - an accounting of your service to Delta Kappa Gamma, as detailed on the application. (This should include offices and committee appointments at the chapter, state, and international levels; attendance at Delta Kappa Gamma conferences and conventions; participation in training sessions and legislative and/or leadership seminars; and other services rendered to Delta Kappa Gamma. Please include dates of service or participation.); and
    - The name, phone and e-mail contact information of 3 references defined below. You may include signed letters of reference with your application packet. (Signed letters are not required.)
      - the current **president** of your chapter (or other officer if you are the president),
      - a direct supervisor/administrator of your **professional** work, and
      - a university or college professor familiar with your **graduate level** work.
  - One copy of each transcript of the applicant's undergraduate and graduate records to be sent by to the New Mexico State Scholarship Chair at **kraye22@comcast.net** Include transcripts for all institutions you list on the application. Transcripts **MUST** arrive to the New Mexico State Scholarship Chair on or before March 1. Late submissions will result in applications NOT being considered.
  - Due Date: All applications must be complete **electronically submitted ON or BEFORE March 1.**

**THETA STATE  
OF THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL  
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

*Please Print or Type*

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
(First) (Middle/Maiden) (Last)

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street and Number) (City) (Zip)

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_ INITIATION \_\_\_\_\_  
(Month and Year)

TELEPHONE: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

**PRESENT POSITION:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Place of Employment) (Number of Years) (Grade/Subject/Area)

**EDUCATIONAL CREDENTIALS:**

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY	DEGREE EARNED	YEAR
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THIS APPLICATION IS FOR THE \_\_\_\_\_ (DEGREE) \_\_\_\_\_ DOSSIER OR NB

HAVE YOU APPLIED FOR AN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP THIS YEAR? \_\_\_\_\_

HAVE YOU RECEIVED AN INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PRIOR TO THIS YEAR? \_\_\_\_\_

HAVE YOU RECEIVED A THETA STATE SCHOLARSHIP PRIOR TO THIS YEAR? \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT YEAR? \_\_\_\_\_

*Carefully follow all directions/requirements listed on the preceding information page. All required components transcripts must be included as an application packet when it is electronically submitted. ALL components must be electronically submitted and/or postmarked ON or BEFORE February 1<sup>st</sup> for the application to be eligible for consideration.*

Send application materials to: Kelly Raye Williams, Scholarship Chair [kraye22@comcast.net](mailto:kraye22@comcast.net)

**PROGRAM PLAN**

- COURSEWORK COMPLETED (list courses completed thus far in your program)
- CURRENT COURSEWORK (copy and paste or attach proof of current enrollment including name of course(s), number of credit hours, and dates for the semester)
- COMPLETION OF PROGRAM (list the remaining courses needed to complete your program including anticipated dates of enrollment, i.e. semester and year)
- DEGREE TO BE AWARDED (PROJECTED) DATE:
- DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS FOR USING YOUR DEGREE (200 words or less)

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# THETA STATE FALL MEETING ~~ BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION SCHEDULE AND DESCRIPTION OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER 6 and 7, 2020

*These activities will be offered virtually. Please send in your registration to be sent an invitation.*

## Friday, Nov. 6

**4 p.m.-** DKG Happy Hour with Italy Tours

**Title:** *A Perfect Trip to Italy- in the Golden Years*

**Presenter:** Sharon Wilson

**Description:** Wilson, who wrote the book *A Perfect Trip to Italy in the Golden Years*, will provide details to enjoy your travel experience, taking age and physical limitations into consideration. Learn how you can still have a wonderful time in Italy.

## Saturday, Nov. 7

**8:00 a.m.-** Theta State Executive Board Meeting

**10:15 a.m.-** Principals Roundtable- Dealing with Covid 19

**Title:** *Running Schools During a Pandemic: Administrators Panel*

**Presenter:** Katy Hammel, NBCT, Kimberly Woodley, Joe Clarkson, NBCT;

**Moderator:** Barbara Shirrod

**Description:** Hear from this panel of DKG members who are also school administrators about all the issues, challenges, and successes of reopening schools during the Covid 19 pandemic.



**11:15 a.m.-** Online Integrity

**Title:** *Building Integrity in Online Education*

**Presenter:** Cheryl Martinez, NBCT

**Description:** The presenter recently defended a dissertation on the need for online proctoring systems in online education. She will share problems experienced and suggestions for solutions.

**12:30 p.m. Theta State Luncheon/Awards**

THETA STATE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION      THETA STATE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
LONGEVITY AWARDS      MERIT AWARDS      EDUCATOR RECOGNITION AWARDS  
2020 SCHOLARSHIP      B. JUNE WEST RECRUITMENT GRANT

**WE WILL HONOR ALL OF THEM!**

**2:30 p.m.** Leadership #1- Important Facts

**Title:** *Leadership News for Chapter Leaders*

**Presenters:** Susie Swope and Shawna Denney

**Description:** Chapter leaders should attend this session with important information about deadlines, leadership, and other key issues for chapters from Theta State and DKG International.

**3:30 pm.-** Leadership #2- Program and Membership

**Title:** *Building Leadership To Support Chapter Work: Focus on Membership & Program*

**Presenters:** Joe Clarkson, NBCT, and Pat Graff, NBCT

**Description:** Chapter leaders will share ways to build outstanding local programs and build membership during the new biennium. Plenty of good ideas and dialogue

**4:30 p.m.-** Treasurers

**Title:** *The Joys of Being a Treasurer*

**Presenter:** Yvette Moore

**Description:** With all the changes in DKG regarding finances, join this refresher course on the treasurer's duties. This workshop is a "must" for first-time treasurers and a confidence-builder for those continuing treasurers.

# THETA STATE, NM FALL EVENT REGISTRATION FORM

**Saturday, November 7, 2020**



**OH, YES!!! WE WILL ACTUALLY... FACTUALLY.... VIRTUALLY  
GATHER TO TAKE CARE OF STATE BUSINESS AND  
TO CELEBRATE WONDERFUL AWARDS TO BE BESTOWED !**



***FEATURED GUESTS: All of our wonderful Theta State Members!***

**WE WILL CELEBRATE BEING TOGETHER . . . virtually  
WE WILL CELEBRATE OUR STATE AWARDS . . . for members AND non-members  
WE WILL CELEBRATE BEING ABLE TO SEE EACH OTHER**

**YES, WE ARE PLANNING A DAY OF FABULOUS WORKSHOPS,  
TAKING CARE OF STATE BUSINESS AND LUNCHEON TIME  
(at the hotel or at home)  
FULL OF THETA STATE JOY!**



**RESERVATION DEADLINE - OCTOBER 28, 2020.** Scan or photograph to Email to Diana Valdez at [valdezd8844@gmail.com](mailto:valdezd8844@gmail.com) OR snail mail to CCC PO Box 35035 Alb., NM 87176. Attention: Diana Valdez

**This year's TS Fall Events are free, because there is no luncheon fee.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Chapter** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Chapter Office:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City, State, Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TS Position:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\* A personal working e-mail address is required on the registration form in order to send a ZOOM log on invitation. Confirmation of registration will be sent via email by November 1, 2020. If you do not receive confirmation by this date contact Diana Valdez, (505) 328-3669) or [valdezd8844@gmail.com](mailto:valdezd8844@gmail.com) .

**ALL ACTIVITIES WILL BE PRESENTED ON LINE.**  
**PLEASE CHECK THE EVENTS THAT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND,**  
**SO WE CAN LET YOU INTO THAT EVENT.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Friday afternoon workshop (See Schedule and Descriptions) DKG Happy Hour with Italy Tours
- \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday Executive Board meeting  
     Chapter Presidents or their official designees are granted one vote per chapter.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday morning workshops (See Schedule and Descriptions)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Running Schools during a Pandemic.      \_\_\_\_\_ Building Integrity in Online Education
- \_\_\_\_\_ Lunchtime Awards Celebration (BYOL... and beverage)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday afternoon workshops (See Schedule and Descriptions)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Leadership News for Chapter Leaders      \_\_\_\_\_ Building Leadership to Support Chapter Work
  - \_\_\_\_\_ The Joys of Being a Treasurer

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Your attendance at this meeting gives permission for use of your photo/name in Theta State Newsletter and Website and any DKG publication.

\_\_\_\_\_ Initial if you understand this agreement. It is your responsibility to remove yourself from photographs.