Important Dates... Mark your calendar

February 22, 2020—MSO Executive Board Meeting at Thames Center at Co-Lin, Wesson

February 29, 2020—Central District Meeting at Mt. Olive Attendance Center, Mt. Olive

March 21, 2020—Southern District Meeting at William Carey University, Tradition campus in Gulfport

March 28, 2020—Northern District Meeting at St. Luke’s United Methodist Church, Tupelo
Are you ready to ADAPT?? From a different name for our state to a new membership category, we are facing some fairly substantial changes. The Mississippi State Organization of DKG is open for business, eagerly accepting new active, reserve, honorary, and now collegiate members! That takes a moment to process, doesn’t it?

This moment of pause is why the second part of our theme for this biennium is so important. In order to process and then to embrace these changes, we must have a plan. In June, Mississippi was well-represented at DKG’s first-ever International Conference, the Arts & Humanities Conference in Asheville, NC. At the general sessions and workshops held there, this group of almost 40 Mississippi members learned about how we can move forward with the Society’s changes – as well as some pretty nifty arts and crafts! Also over the summer months, several members of our state’s leadership team participated in International training. This training aided us in developing a plan for Mississippi State Organization for the 2019-2021 biennium.

In late July, the MSO Team gathered at Headquarters to begin implementation of Mississippi’s plan. District Directors and Assistant Directors are now working diligently with Second VP Carol Walker to plan and prepare for 2020 District Meetings. MSO committees have also begun meeting, developing their individual plans, setting goals, and assigning tasks to accomplish their objectives. The common thread in all of these groups is that they are developing and implementing their plans together! As I promised at our State Convention in April, “You don’t have to ADAPT alone.” We will figure this out together.

So just what does Mississippi’s plan entail? There are five simple parts. In short, they are as follows:

- Honor Chapter status
- Membership diversity
- Collegiate members (if applicable to the chapter)
- Joint meeting(s)
- Participation beyond the chapter level

These five goals have been set to guide both chapters and members in navigating not only Society changes but also the growth and sustainability of both Mississippi State Organization and The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. Mississippi’s plan is set. It is now time for each of us – chapters and members – to “adapt” it on a local and/or personal level; then work the plan and reap the benefits of fulfilling the plan—together. Can we do it? Absolutely!

On a personal note, I want to thank each member of our state organization for the faith you have placed in me as the first elected MSO President. My goal really is to make you proud. I think about you in every vote I cast and every word I say or write when communicating with International Headquarters staff, fellow state presidents, or any other DKG member. I hope to reflect “Mississippi at its best” over the next two years because I truly believe that we are.
Don’t forget that MSH is available...Janet Berg, Chair

The Mary Stuart Harmon Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the availability of a $1,000.00 scholarship for an applicant who has been a member of DKG for at least 3 years as of February 1, 2020, active at the state level, and is pursuing a degree above the Master’s Degree. The application (Form 15, revised May 2019) is available on the state website, (www.zetastatedkg.org), and from Board Chair Janet Berg (iceberg1234@comcast.net). Only those applications that follow guidelines and are postmarked by February 1, 2020 will be considered. The recipient will be recognized at her 2020 District Meeting.

DKG Art Gallery... Aleta Sullivan & Rosemary Wollard;
Liaisons for Arts Gallery

Mississippi Sisters, be proud of your art and photography. DKG Society International wants you to showcase your talent. There are several categories: literary efforts, performance art (submitted with YouTube videos), two dimensional art, three dimensional art, photography, and mixed media.

You must be logged in to get to these documents, but let’s give it a go. Make Mississippi proud! It is NOT time to submit yet, but study the documents to see where you fit.
http://gallery.dkg.org/index.html
http://gallery.dkg.org/assets/art-gallery-submission-procedures---7.27.2019.docx

A State Scholarship Awaits You! by Cynthia Colburn, chair

The Scholarship Committee is looking forward to another great year! We have been working to organize and digitize files in order to receive deserving members’ scholarship applications. We anticipate honoring women educators seeking advanced degrees while still sharing time and talents with DKG. The MSO Scholarship Committee consists of Stacy Baudoin and Christy Sheffield from Southern District, Cynthia Colburn from Northern District, and Tamnie Brewer and Dr. Marlynn Martin from Central District with Consultant Dr. Angie Quinn from Northern District.

For those planning to apply, remember your application is due by February 1, 2020. Begin collecting your information now, focusing on chapter, state, and international service in order to build a strong application. Check the website, www.zetastatedkg.org, for basic requirements and scholarship applications.
A Whole New World with LMS by the LMS Class of 2019

Leadership Management Seminar challenges each class to create an end of the seminar program to conclude everything that we have learned in 2 ½ days. These days are packed full, and we are presented with so much information-ways to create a healthy life, financial information so we can make the best decisions for our life, good goal setting practices, and SO much more! We wanted our song for the program to show some of what we had learned.

The first thing to focus on is yourself, so you can be the best possible leader. Open your eyes to the things you don’t know or choose to ignore about healthy living. Debby Renfroe discussed ways to help us de-stress and really get our mind in check for leading. Next a women’s wellness panel came to discuss heart health, herbs (our favorite topic of conversation from this session was the worm castings), toxins in the environment, and women’s health. Yes, the health you don’t want to talk about- hormones and sex health! We then got on our magic carpets (AKA yoga mats) to go to Essentrics. Whew! Our legs and backs hurt the next day!

Our perspectives on our financial plans and plans for the future were challenged the next day. Some dreams of retiring might have changed after our financial planning session. Some may have even thought- Oh wow! I really need to get a financial planner! We learned the importance of life insurance and what options might be best for us during the different stages of life. Mrs. Betty Barrett gave us law advice from a woman’s perspective; advice on property ownerships, wills, and power of attorney. Then came the hard part- goal setting. Gay Saxon really challenged us to think about what we valued. That most valued thing is what your goals should focus around. The Myers Brigg assessment on the last day meant our time was coming to an end. Some of us were very shocked with our results. This assessment helped us understand ourselves and why we behave the way we do.

Our whole new world is forever changed by the relationships we have created, and new information gathered in 2 ½ short days. The following are reflections from the LMS Class of 2019 Graduates: Donna Harris noted, “I have a new friend for life. This experience was one I’ll never forget.” Becky Avis commented, “We have all we need to be successful DKG leaders.” Lady Anne Bruce wrote, “LMS was a great experience. It truly delivered a time to reflect and grow.” Anna Beth Scott said, “I left LMS encouraged to be my true self and inspired to step up as a leader.” Laura Byrd noted, “There was so much information presented by respected individuals in their fields that caused me to reevaluate choices that will impact me as a woman.” We are so glad to be the 2019 LMS graduates! We encourage you to go to the Leadership Management Seminar to find out more about you!
To enhance the professional status of women educators, chapters have the opportunity to submit chapter recipients for two outstanding state awards. These are the Zeta State Grant-in-Aid Award and the Red Rose Award. Recently, I attached Form 10 and Form 20 to an email message that was sent to each Chapter Professional Affairs representative and Chapter president. Thank you for your replies and cooperation.

**Zeta State Grant-in-Aid Award (Form 10) –** A grant-in-aid award of $750 is presented annually. There are several criteria for eligibility:
- A female resident of Mississippi
- A college student who will be an incoming senior for the fall 2020 semester
- Exhibits an aptitude for and desire to pursue a career in the field of education

**Due date:** February 1, 2020

**Red Rose Award (Form 20) –** The Red Rose Award honors a woman who is a non-member of the Society, who resides and/or works in the chapter area and whose accomplishments have benefited education and the status of women in education leadership roles.

**Due date:** February 1, 2020

**Chapter Grant-in-Aid Report (Form 11) –** If your chapter awards a grant-in-aid, be sure to submit the completed form to the Professional Affairs Rep. by February 1, 2020.
**Membership Memo... Nancy Jay, Chair**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Raccoons and Mississippi State Organization (MSO) members share similar characteristics! Both demonstrate high levels of intelligence. Both are able to learn from past experiences in critical and problem-solving thinking when obstacles arise.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

A raccoon’s mask helps it to SEE well!

MSO’s SEE (Supporting Early-career Educators) Project and the newly established Collegiate Membership option offer potential members for future induction into our Society. Please continue to document each mentor’s time and activities by submitting the **SEE Report (Form 22) by February 1, 2020, to Lady Anne Bruce, MSO SEE Representative (brucelady4@gmail.com)**. At the District Meetings, chapters and their sponsored ECE’s (early-career educators) and Collegiate Members will be recognized at the Birthday Luncheon.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Raccoons are very vocal! They make more than fifty sounds. They can purr, whistle, growl, scream, whinny, etc. and are not afraid to do so when appropriate. Currently, MSO has 971 active members. Now is the time for members to “shout out” the benefits of being a DKG member and help grow our membership. It is interesting to note there are nineteen Honor Chapter points that deal with Membership. Six of those points pertain to the Chapter President and six more points pertain to members (other than the Chapter President) who attend meetings beyond the chapter level. It takes the voices of all members to ensure success for chapter and state growth.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

A group of raccoons is called a gaze! Our Mississippi State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is ready to adapt, and is excited to move forward as we work together to promote professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

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**Treasurer Tidbits...Lynn Holliday, Treasurer**

**SILENT AUCTIONS** to be held at District Meetings!

Proceeds help maintain our Headquarters and related expenses. Look for more details in the winter edition of the *Zeta Data*. Start saving your dollars now, and we’ll see you there!
School has begun, and though we’d never know it by the weather, fall is here! It is time for chapter meetings and time for distribution of chapter yearbooks. Why? What is so special about a yearbook, other than being TWO of the Honor Chapter criteria? According to the 2016 Go-To Guide for Chapter Members, Handbook of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, a yearbook is indeed one of the most important tools of the chapter.

- A chapter yearbook provides a ready reference of important facts concerning Society business, a calendar of events, and the contact information of each member and may include state officers, committee chairmen and International officers.
- A yearbook provides members information about meetings, activities, deadlines, and may include state organization and international personnel contact information.
- A chapter may include its chapter rules in the yearbook.

Important? Extremely important! That’s one reason there are two Zeta State Honor Chapter Criteria regarding yearbooks—one being that the yearbook is reviewed with members at the first meeting; the other that it is mailed to select Zeta State officers by December 1.

Recommendations for 2021-2023 Officers and Related Personnel...Stacy Baudoin, Chair

The Mississippi State Organization Nominations Committee will be compiling a slate of officers for the state 2021-2023 biennium. It’s not too early to start thinking about our next biennium. Chapters and chapter members are encouraged to submit recommendations for the elected positions of president, first vice president, second vice president, recording secretary, northern district director and northern district assistant director, central district director and central district assistant director, and southern district director and southern district assistant director. In addition to the aforementioned, the committee will accept recommendations for the State Nominations Committee, which consist of one elected representative from each of the three districts.

Pages 39-40 in the Chapter President’s Notebook provide additional information about candidates’ qualifications and about the election process. An official “Mississippi State Organization Recommendation for Elected Office” form (Form 16, revised May 2019) must be completed for each member recommended and postmarked or emailed no later than Monday, August 1, 2020 to: Chairman of the Mississippi State Organization Nominations Committee Dr. Stacy Baudoin 264 North Hill Drive Carriere, MS 39426 sbaudoin@prcschools.org. Chapter presidents may want to refer to the revised Honor Chapter Criteria and the recommendation by chapter for state officers. Thank you for submitting names.
Helping Others Through Service Projects... by Dorie Kisner, EEC Professional Growth & Services Rep

I am pleased to be serving as the Personal Growth and Services Representative for our state. Each year chapters report on the service projects that are taking place throughout the state. Please consider the needs of your community as you develop your projects. I would like to highlight some of your projects through our Zeta Data newsletter or on the Mississippi State Organization website. Sometimes reading about other chapters’ projects will start a conversation about what can be done in your own community to help others. Please send me a short description of your project so I can share with other members.

Additionally, each chapter is required to complete Form 6-Chapter Service Project Report by February 1, 2020. I look forward to receiving information about how the projects are making a difference in your communities. Please reach out to me if I can help you in any way: Dorie Kisner, 662-417-7301, dorie66@hotmail.com

2020-22 MS State Organization Directory... Jenetta Waddell, Recording

The 2020-22 Mississippi State Organization Directory will be published in summer 2020. I will be in contact with chapter presidents soon to request your updated roster.

Chapter Rules Needed ... Eva Guice, Bylaws & Standing Rules Chair

Each chapter’s rules have to be reviewed and approved by the MSO Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee once every four years. However, when there are Constitution Changes voted on at the International Convention (2018) and the State Convention (2019), Chapter Rules have to be updated and submitted to the State Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee for approval as soon after the conventions as possible. Once Chapter Rules are approved the chapter only has to update as needed and submit to the state committee every four years.

The MSO Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee will conduct a workshop at each of the district meetings in the spring to help chapters that have not submitted their rules to state for approval to get their Chapter Rules approved. The Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee is here to help you, just contact us.

The following chapters have made the Honor Roll for Chapters by having their rules approved and updated since the Mississippi State Organization Convention in 2019: Northern District: Iota, Alpha Delta, Alpha Psi, and Beta Beta, Central District: Pi, and Rho, Southern District: Psi, Zeta, Alpha Rho and Alpha Theta.
Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Mississippi State Organization District Meetings
“ADAPT: Forward Moving Ever!”
(Actively Developing a Plan Together)

Name_________________________________________ Chapter________________________
Address___________________________________________ City, State, Zip________________________ Telephone____________________
Email___________________________________________

Registration/Refreshments: 8:00 am - 9:00 am
Meetings/Luncheon: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Indicate which meeting you will be attending:
___ Central District (February 29, 2020), Mt. Olive Attendance Center Multipurpose Building, Mt. Olive
___ Southern District (March 21, 2020), William Carey University, Tradition Campus, Gulfport
___ Northern District (March 28, 2020), St. Luke United Methodist Church, Tupelo

Check if applicable:
___ Chapter President ___ State Committee Chairman
___ State Officer ___ ECE (Early Career Educator)
___ Past State President ___ Guest
___ Attending First Time ___ Dietary Restriction

Please specify ______________________________________________________________________________

Registration and Luncheon Fees: $30 before deadline/$40 after deadline

Central District Deadline: postmarked February 14, 2020
Southern District Deadline: postmarked March 6, 2020
Northern District Deadline: postmarked March 13, 2020

Make checks payable to: DKG Central District, DKG Southern District, or DKG Northern District

Mail Registration Forms to:

Central District  Southern District  Northern District
Lynn Holliday  Sarajane Smith  Cynthia Colburn
106 Oakdale Street  22539 Miller Edwards Rd.  4296 Eagles Ridge Dr.
Florence, MS 39073  Saucier, MS 39574  Tupelo, MS 38801
2019-2021 Mississippi State Officers

President...........................................................................................................Dr. Joanna Alston
1st Vice President...........................................................................................Janice Garrett
2nd Vice President..........................................................................................Carol Walker
Recording Secretary.......................................................................................Dr. Jenetta Waddell
Treasurer.......................................................................................................Lynn Holliday
Executive Secretary........................................................................................Linda Lightsey
Parliamentarian..............................................................................................Jean Ricks
Immediate Past President..............................................................................Linda Hollingsworth
Northern District Director...........................................................................Dr. Dorothy Prestwich
Northern District Assistant Director.............................................................Neelie Owen
Central District Director...............................................................................Cindy Alsworth Jones
Central District Assistant Director...............................................................Fonda Dickinson
Southern District Director...........................................................................Nadine Nicholls
Southern District Assistant Director.............................................................Jackie Wintruba
Mississippi State Web Master........................................................................Toni Cook
ZETA DATA Editor.........................................................................................Tracey Crawford

Lynn Holliday, Treasurer; Joanna Alston, President; and Nancy Jay, Membership Chairperson at DKG International training in Des Moines, Iowa.

Membership Committee is planning something special...