



Nu's Notes



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International - Illinois State Organization
Nu Chapter #13 -- Peoria, IL

Volume 45, Number 3

March 2022



professional and personal growth of women educators and

excellence in education.

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide (Vision)

2020-2022 Officers

President Barb Blanco
 First Vice President
 Second Vice PresidentConnie Voss
 Recording Secretary Mary Taylor
 Corresponding Secretary Kathy Johnson
 Treasurer Cathy Curtis
 Parliamentarian Camille Ratcliff
 Webmaster Mary Jane Sterling
 Newsletter Editor Dorothy Dean

- DKG Society International: www.dkg.org
- Illinois website: www.deltakappagamma.org/IL
- Nu Chapter's website: www.nuchapterdkg.weebly.com
- Facebook page: [dkg-illinois key women educators](https://www.facebook.com/dkg-illinois-key-women-educators)
- CAR Facebook page: [dkg-ilsowiacar](https://www.facebook.com/dkg-ilsowiacar)
- YouTube: Delta Kappa Gamma, Illinois, key women educators
- Zoom sessions: nuchapterdkg@weebly.com

Dear Nu Chapter,

I am writing this note while our second huge snowstorm hits. WOW, what a winter we have had here in Central Illinois. There have been many blessings come about during these storms. We get to stay inside curled up with a great book to read from the Peoria Public Library. We also get to take a break from the pages of the book and look at the magnificent patterns of winter. Both are nourishment to the soul.

The fall of the year was enlightening. The Downtown branch of PPL was very welcoming. It is such a clean and well lighted library. We learned so much about the PPL website and genealogy. North Branch offered a large room to host our Christmas dinner. We all sat around one large table and enjoyed each other's company immensely. February took us to the Lakeview Branch. There was hardly a spot to park at this popular branch. We enjoyed our book discussion led by Roberta. We all came away appreciating our hometown called Peoria and all that it offers us.

The Spring will bring new adventures for our chapter. On March 5th, we will walk through the doors of the McClure Branch of the PPL. Here we will be exposed to many diverse books for children. On May 5th we will be back to the Main Branch for a Snapshot of Peoria's history. This will be a lead in event for our June meeting, when Cathy Curtis will be taking us on a tour of Peoria. This all sounds like so much fun to me!

Mark your calendars for April 2nd. This Saturday is our annual Coordinating Council brunch and meeting. We will be dining at

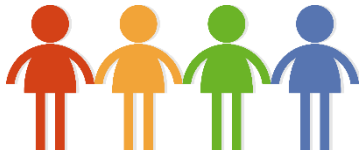
Childer’s Banquet Center on Dries Lane.
Watch for further details to come.

When we are together next, let’s share what we have been up to. You will see that Mary and Kathy traveled with Ollie to Costa Rica. I can’t wait to hear about their adventures. MaryJane has been writing and several of us are eagerly awaiting new grandbabies.

I can’t wait to catch up,

Barb

Membership Committee



Recommendations for membership may be submitted at any time to the Membership Committee or an officer.

Yearbook Updates

Please make the following changes to your yearbook:

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Karen Ball and her husband have moved to Algonquin, IL to be closer to their children.

Ball, Mrs. Karen

New address: 2865 Waterfront Ave.,
Algonquin, IL 60102-6834

If you know of yearbook updates, please send to Chris Berto [REDACTED].



Have You Been Thinking?

Delta Kappa Gamma has the opportunity each year to help young ladies in their teacher education. Please share names of those you think may qualify.

A huge THANK

YOU to Mary Jane Sterling and LaVonne Chaney for their work on the Delicious Kitchen Gambits cookbook and their donations to their chapters. Mary Jane and LaVonne researched, gathered recipes, tested, typed, marketed, sold and delivered their cookbook all by themselves. And then they donated the profits. Nu chapter received \$383.16 from all their hard work. **THANK YOU, Mary Jane and LaVonne!**



Congratulations!



The winner: ALEXA E. CARY.

Nu Chapter applied for and obtained a grant to “Promote the Arts”. Our winner, Alexa Cary, is a photographer, graphic designer, and visual artist.



Alexa is a resourceful and innovative local artist with over 15 years of experience in the arts. She has collaborated with many community members and organizations on both business and personal levels. Her goal is to support the many possibilities that art can bring to the community. Her expertise is in photography, but she has a background in a variety of art mediums. She is one of the founding members of the Peoria Guild of Black Artists. And Alexa has taught two photography programs at the Peoria Public Library McClure Branch, Art in the Park, 2021.

Her objective is to introduce the possibilities of photography to students with little or no experience. Many are familiar with photography, but some don’t know what to do

with the art and process outside of what they see in glamor magazines. She would like to introduce the many ways photography can be used in both an art sense and its commercial properties, as well as how to shoot in creative ways and how to edit your work.

The Artist in Residence Program will run at the McClure Branch, March 2022 - May 2022. Watch out for opportunities to help with the project!



Mary Jane Sterling donated a copy of her new book to the Peoria Public Library.



Pictures from Kathy Johnson's and Mary Taylor's trip to watch dolphins and snorkel in Costa Rica in January 2022.

Mary Taylor:



Tracey Born, Kyra Johnson (Kathy's granddaughter), and Kathy Johnson



Past Meeting Minutes**NU Chapter (#13) General
Membership Meeting,
December 2, 2021****Approved at the February 7, 2022
General Business Meeting**

Call to Order President Barb Blanco called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m. at Peoria Public Library North Branch. A quorum was present with eleven members in attendance.

Minutes The minutes of the November 2, 2021, meeting were approved as printed and distributed.

Treasurer's Report (Cathy Curtis) The following report was presented and will be filed for financial review: Checking Account Balance October 25, 2021 \$1,113.13; Income \$0.00; Disbursements \$144.76 (\$21.20 ISLO Executive Board Meeting mileage/Barb Blanco, \$21.79 Flowers for Necrology Service/Barb Blanco, \$101.77 Yearbook printing & mailing/Chris Berto); Checking Account Balance December 2, 2021 \$968.37; CEFCU Savings Account Balance \$29.66; CEFCU Money Market account \$7,451.92; Total Balance December 2, 2021 \$8,449.95.

Communications and Marketing (Kathy Johnson) *Nu's Notes* deadline is February 19. Mary Jane Sterling continues to post ILSO Zoom meeting notices on Nu Chapter website and will add Peoria Public Library scheduled events. Yearbook updates appear in December *Nu's Notes*. Cam Ratcliff reported Mayor Rita Ali was the speaker at the Women's Civic Federation meeting.

Finance (Mary Jane Sterling) No report

Membership (Barb Blanco) No names of potential members were submitted.

Nominations (Connie Voss) No report

Rules (Chris Berto) No report

Educational Excellence (Connie Voss) Nu Chapter received a \$2,100.00 Lambda State Foundation for Educational Studies Stipend for

McClure Branch project - "Make Art Your Superpower." Mary Jane Sterling and Cathy Curtis will help select the artist(s), and McClure Librarian Sarah Couri will be invited to Nu's February meeting. The January Side by Side has been canceled. Barb Blanco will lead the January 6 Book Discussion via Zoom.

Professional Advancement and Outreach

Shirley Dresden requested members update number of minutes read. Cathy Curtis will provide an update on amount in the Malawi Well fund. Submitting one or more items for Art Mart was discussed. Kathy Johnson volunteered to contribute framed art and Barb Blanco volunteered to contribute centerpieces similar to those she made for Coordinating Council.

Unfinished Business None

New Business None

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Program A potluck dinner preceded the meeting. Following the meeting, members assembled holiday candy bowls and made cards for employees of the Peoria Public Library Branches.

Mary Taylor, Secretary
Barb Blanco, President

**Nu Chapter #13 General
Membership Meeting
February 7, 2022****To be approved at the March 5, 2022
General Business Meeting**

Program Roberta Koscielski, Nu member/Peoria Public Library Deputy Director, led the book discussion on This Is Where You Belong, Peoria Reads selection.

Call to Order President Barb Blanco called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. at Peoria Public Library Lakeview Branch. A quorum was present with eight members in attendance.

Minutes The minutes of the December 2, 2021 meeting were approved as printed and distributed.

Treasurer's Report (Cathy Curtis) The following report was presented and will be filed for financial review: Checking Account Balance October 25, 2021 \$968.37; Income \$5.00 (\$5.00 potluck dinner donation); Disbursements \$28.66 (\$21.80 Candy for libraries and tablecloths for dinner/Connie Voss, \$6.86 December *Nu's Notes*/Dorothy Dean); Checking Account Balance January 24, 2022 \$944.71 CEFCU Savings Account Balance \$29.66; CEFCU Money Market account \$7,451.92; Total Balance January 24, 2022 \$8,426.29.

Communications and Marketing *Nu's Notes* deadline is February 19. Peoria Reads activities will be posted on Nu's website and published in *Nu's Notes*. Yearbook updates will appear in March *Nu's Notes*. Thank you notes from McClure Library staff and Family House were shared.

Educational Excellence (Connie Voss) Michelle Nielsen-Ott will present "Diverse Books for Children" at the March 5, 2022 meeting at Peoria Public Library McClure Branch. McClure Librarian Sarah Couri, who is coordinating the Foundation stipend for "Make Art Your Superpower," will be invited.

Professional Advancement and Outreach (Carol Sleeth) Carol Sleeth reminded members of the ILSO book discussion selections, [The Radium Girls](#) and [The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek](#). Mary Jane Sterling will send in the Art Mart contribution form. Cathy Curtis shared that Marion Medical Mission's 2021 goal of 3000 wells was met with 3379 wells being built, and a picture of Nu's 2021 well will be posted on Nu's website and published in *Nu's Notes*.

Unfinished Business None

New Business None

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Christine Berto, Secretary pro tem
Barb Blanco, President

Check the website for stipend deadlines

May 1 and November 1 are the deadlines for applications for stipends from the Lambda State Foundation for Educational Studies, Inc.

Guidelines, rubric, and the application form can be found under Foundation on the state website: www.deltakappagamma.org/IL/

READ....READ...READ

Keep track of minutes you have been reading. We will let you know how Shirley will collect them.



Book discussions at the DKG Illinois state convention will include a fiction and a non-fiction selection:

- *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson explores the "blue people" of eastern Kentucky who were victims of discrimination. It also enlightens us the pack horse librarians of eastern Kentucky and Eleanor Roosevelt's advocacy for literacy.
- The non-fiction book *The Radium Girls, the Dark Story of America's Shining Women* by Kate Moore has strong connection to Ottawa, Illinois. The "shining women" were embroiled in one of the biggest scandals of America's early twentieth century.



Condolences

- To the family of Roberta Koscielski due to the death of her mother and father-in-law in January



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Saturday, April 2, 2022

Peoria Area Coordinating Council Joint Meeting

Childer's Banquet Center
3113 N. Dries Lane, Peoria

9:30 a.m. Registration; 10:00 a.m. Brunch;
10:45 a.m. Program; 11:30 a.m. Meeting;

Program: *Challenges and Changes* by Beth Crider, Regional Superintendent, Peoria Regional Office of Education

Thursday, May 5, 2022

4:00 p.m. Sign in; 4:15 p.m. Program;
5:00 p.m. Meeting;

PPL Main Branch, Classroom A
107 N.E. Monroe, Peoria

Program: *A Snapshot o Peoria History* by Karla Wilkinson, PPL Programming Librarian

Purposes: 1, 6, 7

Donations: Books for PPL; monetary donation for Friends of PPL

Activities/Reports: Membership; Communications and Marketing (*Nu's Notes*); Finance (present/vote on budget); Professional Advancement and Outreach; Installation; Educational Excellence (evaluation)

Hostess: Educational Excellence - Program Committee

Saturday, June 4, 2022

10:00 a.m. Sign in; 10:15 a.m. Program;
11:15 a.m. Meeting;

Location to be determined

Program: *Peoria History Tour* by Cathy Curtis

Purposes: 1, 6, 7

Activities/Reports: Membership;

Hostess: Educational Excellence - Program Committee

Side by Side

Come one Come all.....



We are having so much fun with Side by Side that we would like to have it throughout the winter months.

Meet at Barn Blanco's home (5110 West Newcastle Drive, Peoria)

- **Saturday, March 26 at 10:00. a.m.**

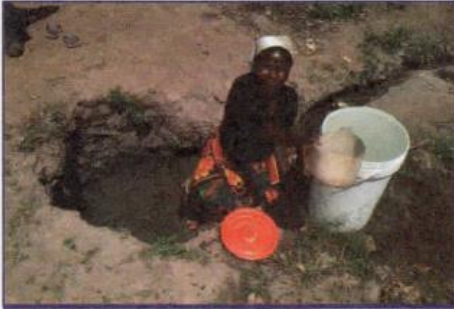
EVERYONE IS WELCOME. You do not even need to bring a craft to work on. Just come and enjoy the company!

If you know of someone who needs our attention, please let one of the officers know.

New Scam Alert

A new scam in the area. If you get a call from someone alerting you to a needed cable box/modem update, hang up. They are trying to tunnel into your system to steal information or download a virus on to your system.

If you are worried, call your provider directly using the telephone number on your invoice.



Volunteer's photo - Mission Trip

Why we go: A
typical water
source in
Malawi,
Tanzania and
Zambia.

The Well Program not only provides safe drinking water, but also the necessary knowledge, skills, and tools to manage and maintain the protected water source, so that safe drinking water continues in future years. Where wells have been built, water-borne diseases are eliminated.

Sub-saharan Africa has the highest under 5 mortality rate in the world. Safe drinking water means the difference between life and death.

"I tell you the truth, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his reward." Mark 9:41

This new well was installed 10/4/2021 2:21:42 PM

In the village of Dzama 1, Malawi

And will serve 280 people

Donated by Delta Kappa Gamma Nu

#1793 MMM-A125 10-04-2021



Life-giving water flows for this village.