



# Nu's Notes



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

Volume 45, Number 4

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professional and personal growth of women educators and

excellence in education.

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide (Vision)

### 2020-2022 Officers

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

## Dear Nu Chapter,

Welcome to the Spring edition of Nu's Notes. Yes, it is spring! Even though the temperatures outside are not cooperating, the temperature inside is. We had a wonderful, warm gathering of Side by Side on March 26<sup>th</sup>. Sitting around a kitchen table knitting and hand sewing. Filled with conversation about family, interests and Peoria happenings. Please join us for our next Side by Side on May 7 at 10:00 a.m. Watch for new dates and times for Side by Side next year.

We are finishing up the 2021-2022 Nu year with a salute to the city of Peoria. Please join us and bring a guest on May 5<sup>th</sup> to the Main PPL Branch. The program, starting at 4:00 (sign in) 4:15 program starts, *Famous Historical Residence of Springdale Cemetery* will be one you do not want to miss.

Our June meeting wraps up this year with a tour of Peoria. On Saturday June 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 we will all gather in the Notre Dame parking lot and hop on a small bus. Led by Cathy Curtis, we will venture around Peoria to hear fun historical facts about this town we all call home. The 45-minute bus tour will be one that you do not want to miss. PLEASE RSVP BY MAY 10<sup>th</sup> TO BARB BLANCO, [REDACTED], to reserve your spot. Space is limited and we want to accommodate everyone.

Barb

## Membership Committee



### Invite your someone special to a meeting

Spring is the season for fresh starts, renewal, awakening, and possibilities galore. Take a minute and look around. Who do you know that would like to be connected? Who do you know who would like to be engaged with a group of dynamic educators? Who is looking for a fresh start, a new group, a chance to enhance young educator's lives? Who do you know who would like to make a difference in the lives of Peoria's youth? Please invite these special gals to a meeting. We are looking to grow our chapter and you can make that possible.

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

## CONGRATULATIONS ROBERTA!!!!

On May 15, 2022, Roberta will be retiring from her position as Peoria Public Library Deputy Director. Roberta has had an amazing career enriching many children and adults through her love of the written word. Nu Chapter has been blessed over and over again with her wonderful book talks, insights into authors, and background information of the books she presents. Roberta, you will now have all the time you want to read. I'm sure your "must read" book list is very long. Congratulations again, and enjoy your retirement in good health!!



## June Meeting Information

Did you know that our own Cathy Curtis is one of the persons who can "officially" give historical tours of Peoria? Cathy will give us a tour with historical information on Saturday, June 4, 2022. We will be touring the areas of Peoria Heights, Grandview Drive, and the Near North Side of Peoria. Our multi-talented Cathy even knows how to drive a bus! We will travel in the small bus from Notre Dame, or if not available, by car (utilizing a couple of our members' largest cars).



When: Saturday, June 4, 2022

Where: Meet at 10:00 am. In the Notre Dame parking lot

What: *Peoria Historical Tour*, by Cathy Curtis

**Please RSVP to Barb Blanco as soon as possible so that the transportation needs can be determined.** Come have fun with your Nu Sisters and learn more about our area's rich history as we wrap up our program year!

## Yearbook Updates

Please make the following changes to your yearbook:

### page 8

Mailing Address for Society Headquarters –  
12710 Research Blvd, Ste. 230, Austin, TX  
78759

### page 49

Johnson, Kathy c # [REDACTED]

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

## CONGRATULATIONS Laveine and Cam!!!!

WOW! On January 15, 1977, Laveine Birditt and Cam Ratcliff became members of Nu Chapter.



Congratulations on celebrating your 45-year membership with Delta Kappa Gamma! I wonder what else has happened over those 45 years...we can talk on cell phones from any location instead of being tied to a land line with a rotary dial. We are safer riding in a car as we all are required to wear seat belts. There have been 9 presidents of the United States during this time period. The public schools now serve all students' diverse academic needs. Every person has access to calculators instead of slide rulers. We carry computers, phones, and cameras in our pockets, all in one I might add. We have landed the Perseverance rover on Mars.

Some things haven't changed much. Teacher's still work long extra hours because they love what they do. Teachers are still underpaid and undervalued in the United States. Teachers still thrive on community and working together for the good of the group. Teachers love to learn, explore and share with others. **Congratulations Laveine and Cam!**

## 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/](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/IL/)



Nu Chapter (Roberta Koscielski) received a \$2,100 Stipend from Lambda State Foundation for Educational Studies, Inc. for the project *Make Art Your Superpower*, bringing art and art education into public spaces. The process of creating art engages both the body and the mind, encouraging us to see the world in a new light. Artists in Residence Alexa Cary and Kaitlyn Ostolaza (selected from all those who applied by Sarah Couri,



Mary Jane Sterling and Cathy Curtis) displayed their works, taught classes, hosted office hours, and worked with students in their spaces (Boys and Girls Club of Peoria and Peoria High School).



The stipend provided for artist pay, camera rental, and art materials. Sarah Couri, McClure Librarian, acquired supplies, arranged the scheduling, and facilitated the various sessions, and Peoria Public Library Deputy Director Roberta Koscielski oversaw the project and funding.





Alexa Cary, a founding member of the Peoria Guild of Black Artists and a professional photographer and artist based in Peoria, displayed her work at McClure Library and hosted office hours where she was available to give tips, answer questions, and critique work. Alexa taught an adult art class at McClure Library during which nine participants learned to take photographs with an artist's eye. She taught four classes at Peoria High during which five students learned about portrait photography, product photography, light painting, landscape/long distance photography, artistic/commercial themes, and presenting for a critique. The stipend provided for camera rental, flash drives for students, and albums of individual work for each student.

Kaitlyn Ostolaza, a Bradley University student studying graphic design but with experience in many different mediums, displayed her work at McClure Library and held office hours where she was available to answer questions, take a look at portfolios, and advise participants about the artistic process. She taught classes on visual art for five adults who practiced and developed their drawing and painting skills, each creating a painting on canvas. Kaitlyn taught four classes to elementary students at the Boys and Girls Club of Peoria during which she introduced sketching, different painting styles including watercolor/acrylic/oil, and 2-D/3-D design that included collaging and ceramics. Classes varied in size from 14-23 students. The stipend provided the paints/brushes, canvases/paper, clay, pencils, and sketch books.

Any unused materials will be used for McClure Branch Art-in-the-Park summer art program for children.

Roberta Koscielski, Connie Voss, Carol Sleeth, and Sarah Couri collaborated on the stipend application. Roberta Koscielski, Mary Jane Sterling, Mary Taylor, Kathy Johnson, Cathy Curtis, and Chris Berto assisted at the March/April sessions. Mary Jane Sterling supplied snacks.

## Past Meeting Minutes

# NU Chapter (#13) General Membership Meeting, March 5, 2022

### To Be Approved at the May 5, 2022 General Business Meeting

**Program** Michelle Nielsen Ott, Assistant Professor, Science/Health Sciences Librarian at Bradley University presented *Diverse Books for Children*.

**Call to Order** Second Vice-President Connie Voss called the meeting to order at 11:20 a.m. at Peoria Public Library McClure Branch. A quorum was present with nine members in attendance.

**Minutes** The minutes of the February 7, 2022 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 January 24, 2022 \$944.71; Income \$0.00; Disbursements \$715.00 (\$15.00 Peoria Women's Civic Federation dues, \$715.00 moved to MMA); Checking Account Balance March 5, 2022 \$229.71; CEFCU Savings Account Balance \$32.01; CEFCU Money Market account \$8,154.25; Total Balance March 5, 2022 \$8,415.97.

**Communications and Marketing** (Cathy Johnson) *Nu's Notes* deadline is April 23. Cam Ratcliff updated members on Peoria area projects as discussed by KDB Group CEO/President Greg Birklund at the Peoria Women's Civic Federation meeting.

**Educational Excellence** (Connie Voss) Connie Voss reminded members to bring to the May 5th meeting donations (books or money) for Friends of Peoria Public Library. Members attending the April 2<sup>nd</sup> Peoria Area Coordinating Council Joint Meeting should make reservations with Connie Voss and send checks (payable to Nu Chapter) to Cathy Curtis. Kathy Johnson will contact Mary Jane Sterling regarding an Art Mart contribution.

**Unfinished Business** None

**New Business** None

**Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Mary Taylor, Secretary  
Connie Voss, Second Vice-President

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

## Peoria Area Coordinating Joint Council Meeting

The Peoria Area Coordinating Council Joint Meeting was held Saturday, April 2, 2022, at Childers Banquet Center in Peoria. Five Nu Members and two Nu guests were among the 32 persons in attendance. Beth Crider, Superintendent of the Peoria Regional Office of Education, presented the program.



### 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.

## Dues 2022

Once again your dues for Delta Kappa Gamma are due on June 30. Dues for Active members are \$96, but members can take a \$20 relief and pay \$76. Reserve members' dues are \$61; taking the relief would mean a total of \$41 for reserve members.



Members can pay their dues at the June meeting or by sending a check to [REDACTED]

## READ....READ...READ

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



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Saturday, June 4, 2022**

### Peoria History Tour

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

**Notre Dame Parking Lot at 10:00 a.m.**

**PLEASE RSVP to Barb FOR A SEAT ON THE HISTORICAL TOUR BUS BY MAY 10.**

**Activities/Reports:** Membership (report on meeting goals of adding a new chapter member and having 50% membership attendance at meetings)

**Hostess:** Educational Excellence - Program Committee

## Thursday, September 1, 2022

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

**PPL Lincoln Branch**, Lincoln Room,  
1312 W. Lincoln Avenue, Peoria

**Program:** *PPL Card Sign-Up Campaign  
Kickoff* (service project)

**Purposes:** 1, 6

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

**Activities/Reports:** Finance (DKGIEF Grants,  
Lambda State Foundation Stipend deadlines);  
Membership (prospective members);  
Professional Advancement and Outreach  
(activities and deadlines/see pg. 32); President  
(Coordinating Council); Educational Excellence  
(evaluation)

**Hostess:** Educational Excellence - Program  
Committee

## Wednesday, October 5, 2022

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

**PPL North Branch**, Seminar Room,  
3001 W. Grand Parkway, Peoria

**Program:** *Share a Favorite Book* (Nu  
members)

**Purposes:** 1, 6, 7

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

**Activities/Reports:** Collect Library Card Sign-  
up materials; Membership (necrology,  
prospective members); Communications and  
Marketing (Nu's Notes, Yearbook distribution);  
Professional Advancement and Outreach  
(activities); Educational Excellence (evaluation)

**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.



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