



# Nu's Notes



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

Volume 43, Number 2

December 2019



professional and personal growth of women educators and

excellence in education.

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide (Vision)

### 2018-2020 Officers

President .....Connie Voss  
First Vice President ..... Karen Ball  
Second Vice President ..... Cathy Curtis  
Recording Secretary ..... Julie Frank  
Corresponding Secretary ..... Mary Taylor  
Treasurer ..... Cathy Curtis  
Parliamentarian ..... Chris Berto  
Webmaster ..... Mary Jane Sterling  
Newsletter Editor ..... Dorothy Dean

Websites: [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)  
[www.deltakappagamma.org/IL/](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/IL/)

Nu Chapter's website:  
[www.nuchapterdkg.weebly.com](http://www.nuchapterdkg.weebly.com)

### Thoughts from Connie

As I look down my street, I see trees bare of leaves like mine finally are, but also visible are some large trees that are still retaining almost all of their brown/rust colored leaves. Seems like a strange sight. This year we have had snow in October and 60 degrees in November. There are many more examples all around us of how our topsy-turvy world is changing so quickly and unpredictably (Am I showing my age?)

But we all have our areas of stability in our lives. One of those is Delta Kappa Gamma Nu Chapter. In the last year or so, I experienced some major changes in my life. You, too, have probably had some experience with change and challenges at some point(s) in your lives as well. Nu Chapter is there for us no matter what. We help each other in times of need and we enjoy visiting with our "sisters" when we get together, as well as the satisfaction that come from giving through our service in the schools and community.

Whether Thanksgiving is (or was) for you a gathering of family, a gathering of friends, or serving a holiday dinner at a soup kitchen, it is a wonderful time of coming together with others which continues through The Holidays. I am looking forward to our upcoming Nu Chapter meeting— our gathering—as we have our annual pot luck lunch/brunch on December 7 and hope to see you there!

Blessings to you and those dear to you as we celebrate Thanksgiving, Christmas and whatever you celebrate this time of year, and glide into the new year ahead! *Connie*

### Membership Committee



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

## Need a Ride???



If you would like to attend a meeting and would like a ride but don't know who to call, please contact any of the officers (telephone or email), let your phone tree caller or an officer know, and/or reply in your email response.

## Please Respond



A reminder to return calls/voice messages, text messages, and/or emails whether or not you'll be attending a meeting.



## 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.

## Update on M. Josephine O'Neil Award Winner



In 2015, Nu Chapter nominated Emily Altic (now Rixstine) for the M. Josephine O'Neil Arts Award. At the time of her nomination, she was an oboe performance major at Millikin University. Emily received the \$2,000 award. Since then, Emily graduated from Millikin in 2017, received her master's degree in Oboe Performance from the University of Oklahoma in 2019, and has started working on her Doctorate at that university, with graduate assistance. Emily was Music Director of the Children's Bell Choir at St. Stephens United Methodist Church while working on her master's and is now tutoring oboe students. Nu Chapter is so happy to have been a part of her journey.

## Yearbook Updates

Please update the 2019-20 Yearbook with the following:

**p. 4** Professional Development Coordinator  
Cheryl Cox prefers cherylcox1979@gmail.com  
to pd.lambdailstate@gmail.com

**p. 51** Phone Number corrections

Voss, Connie – delete both numbers listed;  
insert [REDACTED] (boldface)

White, Sandy – delete number listed; insert c  
[REDACTED] (boldface)

**p. 31** Civic Federation - March – change Civic History to Women's Issues

**p. 28** Under Executive Board Meetings –  
change November 18 to November 25 and  
February 24 to February 17.

**p. 6** Clarinda Hodgson

Change email to [REDACTED]

**p. 8** Effective 1-1-2020

Phyllis Hickey's title will change to Strategic Outreach Director.

Peggy Jonas, Finance Director [REDACTED]  
will be added to the Professional Staff.

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

## Literacy Certificate Nominations

Nu Chapter is looking for nominations for our *Literacy Certificate* – with an intent to recognize members of the community for their contributions to the need for increased

literacy opportunities. Please contact Mary Jane Sterling if you have any names or organizations to suggest.



## School Supplies

We will be collecting school supplies to restock the Lincoln School teachers in January. Please watch for sales. If you need items picked up, please contact an officer or bring items to a meeting.

## Nu Chapter Memorial Fund Grant

This fall, Nu Chapter made a grant application available to the teachers at Lincoln School. The purpose was to provide an opportunity for teacher and/or student enrichment. We are so happy to announce that we were able to provide \$200 for just such a project.

The seventh grade team members, led by Emily Hrdlicka, have been providing a “Journey on the Underground Railroad”. They have been reading and studying about Harriet Tubman, civil rights, and the impact of the civil rights movement on today’s society. The goal is to learn about what was fought for over the years and provide incentive for continued advocacy. The students saw what a powerful woman Harriet was and how she changed the lives of so many others. They have been using a book series and other resources and wanted to finish the project by attending the movie *Harriet*. And that’s where our grant money came in.

The teachers and students had raised over \$200 but needed a total of \$481 for the theater tickets. Our contribution made their capstone adventure possible.

Emily will be reporting to us later about the project and the impact of our contribution. Congratulations to Emily and the Lincoln School teachers.

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

## Donations to Lincoln School (Peoria) Teachers for Fall 2019

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Calculators.....   | 2   |
| Colored paper reams .....                                    | 13  |
| Composition books .....                                      | 84  |
| Crayola markers .....  | 30  |
| Crayons/ box of 24 .....                                     | 5   |
| Disinfectant wipes .....                                     | 1   |
| Dry erase board cleaner/ small .....                         | 2   |
| Dry erase eraser .....                                       | 2   |
| Dry erase markers .....                                      | 112 |
| Dry erase white boards 4x8 ft. cut into smaller boards ..... | 2   |
| Erasers/cap size for end of pencil .....                     | 385 |
| Glue/large refill size 32 oz. ....                           | 1   |
| Highlighters .....   | 38  |
| Kid scissors .....   | 2   |
| Kleenex .....  | 12  |
| Markers/Sharpies .....                                       | 29  |
| Pencil pouches .....   | 8   |
| Pencils .....  | 164 |
| Pens .....   | 108 |
| Post-it, chart size .....                                    | 24  |
| Post it pads, small .....                                    | 39  |
| Poster Boards .....  | 30  |
| Rulers .....   | 8   |
| Snack bags, boxes .....                                      | 9   |
| Spiral notebooks.....  | 10  |
| Stickers, by the package .....                               | 7   |
| White-out .....  | 4   |

## Updated listing/Additional school supplies for teachers at Lincoln School

- Large sticky chart paper
- Dry erase markers – colored
- Lined chart paper (large – display)
- Book bins (about size of plastic dish pan – about 12 X 9 X 7 high)
- Large Ziplock bags (quart and gallon)
- Popsicle sticks (craft sticks)
- Kleenex (large boxes for desk)
- Hand sanitizer
- Individual white boards
- Pillows (large enough for kids to sit on in “reading corner”)

Sticky tabs (double-sided tape to hang stuff – like “command hooks”)

Large and small sharpies

Stickers (smelly)

Shaving cream (for 1st and 2nd grade)

Rubber bands

Reading books (stories; “independent reading books”)

## Peoria Women’s Civic Federation Meetings

As a member of the Peoria Civic Federation, our Chapter members can (and do) attend their meetings. The exact title of any meeting is published in the Journal Star in the week before the event. Here is their schedule:

9:30 a.m., St. Paul’s Lutheran Church,  
1427 W. Lake, Peoria

- **4th Wednesday of the month**

January-Health/Social Issues; February-  
Education; March-Civic History; April-  
Environment

- **3rd Wednesday of the month**

December-Religion

## Lincoln School Schedule of Activities

Our chapter is continuing to support the Lincoln School K-8 teachers. Here is the current schedule of activities:

**December** - Collect supplies and put the teacher boxes together

**January** - Deliver boxes to Lincoln teachers

**April** - Provide treat with slogan "You Can Do It!" to encourage teachers for the rest of the year.

## Past Meeting Minutes

# NU Chapter (#13) General Membership Meeting, October 2, 2019

### Approved at the November 4, 2019 General Business Meeting

**Program** Members toured Lincoln Elementary School (K-8). Following a staff meeting, Principal Tom Blumer gave his leadership team the opportunity to thank Nu Chapter members for their teacher supplies and provide a list of supplies requested for the beginning of second semester.

**Business Meeting** President Connie Voss called the meeting at Lincoln Elementary School to order at 4:25 p.m. followed by the recitation of *A Collect for Teachers*. Eleven members attended; a quorum was present.

**Minutes** The minutes of the September 19, 2019 General Membership Meeting were approved as printed.

**Treasurer’s Report** (Cathy Curtis) The following report was presented and will be filed for financial review: Checking Account Balance September 19, 2019 \$287.16; Income \$2.00 (\$2.00 Malawi Well fund); Disbursements \$53.20 (\$53.20 Connie Voss - lodging at ILSO Executive Board meeting); Checking Account Balance October 2, 2019 \$235.96; CEFCU Savings \$6.59; CEFCU Money Market Account \$7,616.12; Total Balance October 2, 2019 \$7,858.67.

**Communications and Marketing** Yearbooks and October *Nu’s Notes* were distributed. Dorothy Dean requested articles for December *Nu’s Notes*. Camille Ratcliff shared highlights of the Peoria Women’s Civic Federation meeting on the Fine Arts. The next meeting will feature Civic History.

**Membership** Goodie Bags for Lincoln School teachers will be filled at the home Barb Blanco on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.

**Nominations** (Julie Frank) A motion to suspend Chapter Rule VII, A, 1 and 2 was made and seconded; motion passed. This allows the announcement of slates for Nominations Committee and Officers to be presented and voted upon at a later time.

**Educational Excellence** (Cathy Curtis) The program for November 4, 2019 meeting at the home of Barb Blanco will engage Nu members in "Creating Your Own Cards." Members are requested to bring greeting cards, scissors, and teacher supplies.

**Professional Advancement and Outreach** Mary Jane Sterling provided a form for Lincoln School teachers to apply for Nu Chapter Grant(s) with \$230 budgeted. Number of grants and amounts will be determined based on applications accepted. Cathy Curtis shared that the cost of a fresh water well in Malawi is \$450, and that Nu Chapter has approximately \$100 towards the next well.

**Old Business** None.

**New Business** None.

**Announcements** Connie Voss shared that PPS Foundation is seeking children and young adult books for the PPS Little Free Libraries. Universalist Unitarian Church is holding a Used Book Sale October 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Books that are purchased or donated for the Little Free Libraries may be dropped off at The Book Rack. Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Julie Frank, Secretary  
Connie Voss, President

## Past Meeting Minutes

# NU Chapter (#13) General Membership Meeting, November 4, 2019

To Be Approved at the December 7, 2019  
General Business Meeting

**Business Meeting** President Connie Voss called the meeting, at the home of Barb

Blanco, to order at 5:00 p.m. followed by the recitation of *A Collect for Teachers*. Twelve members attended; a quorum was present.

**Minutes** The minutes of the October 2, 2019 General Membership meeting were approved as printed.

**Treasurer's Report** (Cathy Curtis) The following report was presented and will be filed for financial review: Checking Account Balance October 2, 2019 \$234.96; Income \$1.00 (\$1.00 Malawi Well fund); Disbursements \$96.95 (*Nu's Notes* \$4.93, Yearbook Printing/Mailing \$92.02); Checking Account Balance November 4, 2019 \$140.01; CEFCU Savings \$6.59; CEFCU Money Market account \$7,623.36; Total Balance November 4, 2019 \$7,769.96.

**Communications and Marketing** *Nu's Notes* deadline is November 26, 2019. Yearbook corrections appeared on the meeting handout.

**Nominations** (Julie Frank) A motion by committee was made to approve the proposed slate of officers for the 2020-2022 biennium: President - Karen Ball; First Vice-President - Barb Blanco; Second Vice-President - Connie Voss; Recording Secretary - Mary Taylor; Corresponding Secretary - Kathy Johnson. It was adopted. A motion by committee was made to approve the slate for the Nominations Committee for 2020-2022 biennium: Connie Voss, Chair; Shirley Dresden; Carol Sleeth; Mary Jane Sterling; Mary Sutton. It was adopted.

**Educational Excellence** (Cathy Curtis) The December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting at Proctor Place (10:30 a.m. Registration; 10:45 a.m. Meeting; 11:00 a.m. Cookie Exchange/Brunch (potluck or \$5) will be followed by a *Tour of the International Creche Show* (Community Festival of Nativities). Side by Side will meet at Kathy Johnson's home November 18<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7 p.m.

**Professional Advancement and Outreach** No Chapter Grant applications have been received.

**Old Business** None.

**New Business** None.

**Announcements** Peoria Public Schools is sponsoring a drive for non-perishable food items and toiletries for the Little Food Pantries.

**Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

**Music** *I'm Gonna Sit Right Down and Write Myself a Letter*

**Program** *Create Your Own Cards* - Barb Blanco led members in making their own greeting cards.

Julie Frank, Secretary  
Connie Voss, President



## Side by Side Everyone is a Welcome!

Bring a craft to work on, or come and enjoy great conversation. You can also bring dinner or purchase it there!

The following are the 2019-2020 dates and locations:

- Thursday, January 9 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Mary Jane Sterling's home
- Saturday, February 22 from 10:00-noon at Barb Blanco's home
- Monday, April 6 from 5-7:00 p.m. at Panera Restaurant at West Lake shopping center
- Wednesday, May 20 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Hardees on Willow Knolls

## Cabin fever closing in on you?

Come to the February chapter meeting and you'll find ideas for your next road trip. You'll need to prepare a brief description of your favorite day trip in Illinois (or neighboring state) to share with our members. Your suggested trip could be a family outing, a school field trip, a girl-friends escape day - whatever you

choose. You may want to include pictures, suggestions for places to eat or gastronomic specialties, activities (biking, hiking, fishing), "don't miss" sites (museums, parks, shopping centers), guided tours, etc. Please try for a 3- to 5-minute presentation.

Donations for this meeting include small gifts for soldiers at Bagram Air Field in Afghanistan (granola bars, dried fruit, gum, Nutella, books, magazines, socks, beef jerky, Oreos, hard candy) as well as donations to Common Place/Neighborhood House.

On March 2 a Family House representative will up-date us on their activities and goals and their relationship with the new Ronald McDonald House. We will also discuss our plans for the dinner we'll serve at Family House on March 7. Donations are toiletries for the guests at Family House and contributions to our dinner. We'll choose our menu and let you know in February.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Wednesday, February 5, 2020**

**Location:** Peoria Public Library North Branch, 3001 W. Grand Blvd., Peoria

**Registration:** 5:00 p.m.

**Meeting:** 5:15 p.m.

**Program:** 5:30 p.m. Day Trippin'. Nu members will share their favorite one-day trips in Illinois (or the surrounding states)

**Donations:** Teacher supplies, Common Place, see Yearbook page 31.



## Monday, March 2, 2020

**Location:** Family House, 1339 N. Nebraska, Peoria

**Program:** 5:00 p.m. Family House by Laura Blackaby, Executive Director

**Registration:** 4:30 p.m.

**Meeting:** 5:30 p.m.

**Donations:** Toiletries, ingredients for dinner Nu Chapter will prepare for Family House on Saturday, March 7 at 4:30 p.m., see Yearbook page 29.

## Recipes

Several people asked about a recipe for the sausage squares at November's meeting. It's pretty much "to taste," but here's how to start.

### Cheezy Sausage Squares

- 1 pound good quality Italian sausage
- ½ to 1 pound cheese (cheddar, Swiss, Monterey jack, mixture) – to taste
- 2 to 6 tablespoons ketchup – to taste
- Garlic powder - to taste
- Worcestershire sauce – to taste
- Loaf of cocktail/party rye or pumpernickel

Brown sausage and chop into small pieces. There shouldn't be any fat to drain off, but do drain if there is.

Cut up or shred the cheese. Add slowly to the sausage, letting it melt. Add enough to make a spreadable mixture.

Add the ketchup (or skip it, if you prefer).

Add garlic powder and Worcestershire to taste.

Spread the mixture on the party rye squares. Place the squares on a cookie sheet.

Place under the broiler until the mixture bubbles. Watch it carefully. It doesn't take long.

And, for those of you wanting a more "healthy" snack, here are two recipes from *50 Plus News & Views*. (Thank you, Cam.)

### Banana Pecan Cherry Oatmeal

(Makes two bowls)

- 1 cup old-fashioned oats
- 2 cups water
- ½ cup pecan milk
- 1 banana, sliced
- ¼ cup pecan halves
- ¼ cup dried tart cherries
- ¼ cup honey

In large, microwave-safe bowl, combine oats and water. Microwave on high 3 – 4 minutes, or until oats are cooked through. Watch carefully to avoid boiling over.

Remove from microwave, stir and divide between two bowls. Pour 1/4 cup pecan milk over each bowl. Divide sliced banana, pecan halves, and dried tart cherries between each bowl and drizzle with honey. Serve immediately.

### Cherry Pecan Energy Bites

(Makes 10 – 12 bites)

- 1 cup toasted pecan halves or pieces
- 1 cup dried cherries
- 4 medjool dates, pitted
- ¼ cup old-fashioned oats
- 1 T. cacao powder, plus additional for coating (optional)
- 1 t. vanilla extract

In bowl of food processor, combine all ingredients. Pulse until ingredients begin to bind and form a loose, dough-like ball.

Roll into 1-inch balls. Roll balls in additional cacao powder, if desired, and transfer to airtight container. Refrigerate until ready to serve, up to seven days.