

South Central Region Star Gazette

January/February 2021



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SC Membership Chair

Hello Sisters of the South Central Region!

I actually have to confess that I started writing this newsletter before the Christmas holiday, but Covid had other ideas. It hit our family with a vengeance and is just now releasing its hold on us all. It has left us with extreme fatigue, but at least the worst seems to be behind us now. Please take precautions and observe safe practices when you are out in public, and yes, you can have it for a second time. My husband and I had it in February 2020 so this is our second go around.

I didn't feel like sitting up to see the new year in, but have had a lot of time to think about the upcoming year and what expectations that I have of it. I don't make resolutions, mainly because I never keep them, but I do have expectations for the year and myself. If 2020 taught us anything, it was not to take anything for granted. So as this year begins, I have decided that I am going to try my best to not take anyone or anything for granted again and to treasure each moment. Even though this year is starting with a virus, I am determined to love more, laugh more, and live more! There is so much to look forward to this year! As the vaccine is being distributed, it brings with it a hope that it will help to bring about some form of normalcy to our world again. One thing that I do know is that we will persevere and will come out stronger for it.

As always, please continue to invite and allow me to be a part of your meetings and celebrations. I will attend as many as possible.

I hope that your year is filled with love, peace, good health, and prosperity.

Love and hugs,

Cindy



CONGRATULATIONS

We have a lot to be excited about in the South Central Region! First, I want to welcome Nancy Medina as our South Central Membership Chair! She accepted the position and started to work on the IMC immediately. Nancy is doing an amazing job and will lead our state membership teams into a successful membership campaign.

Below is her story that I think you will enjoy reading. We are excited to have Nancy as our SCMC!

When I was in fourth grade, my teacher was Mrs. Butler. She was tall, blond, kind, and spoke with a Midwestern “twang”. I wanted to be just like her...a teacher.

I was born in Kansas City, MO, raised in California Bay area, then returned to KC and graduated from Bishop Ward High School. When the college recruiters came to my school, I collected all the information and took it home to review. Next thing I knew I was moving into the dorm at Kansas State Teachers College (now Emporia State University) and into a totally new world. With the support of family, friends, and teachers, I graduated in 1969 with a BSE degree and minor in Library Science.



Right: My family taking me to college and then gathering for my retirement.



Although I wanted a classroom position, I was overwhelmed with many offers for school librarian. I was hired at Prairie School in Shawnee Mission where I had student taught in both 3rd grade and library. Four months later I was transferred to Merriam School. Forty-four years later, I now have wonderful memories of my years in teaching not only library skills, but also teaching in 5th grade, 4th grade, ¾ combination classroom and third grade. I loved them all.



So how did ADK enter my life? In 1971, I found a necklace with the symbols and asked the staff about it. It belonged to Sandy Wegener, a member of KS Alpha Alpha. She invited me to a meeting to tell me why I wanted to be a part of this group. I enjoyed meeting other teachers from the district and I was especially interested in their altruistic projects so I joined. I have held most chapter offices except treasurer. (I know my limits). I was chapter president twice. Eventually I moved onto state board positions and was your state president – 2014/2016 biennium. During my career I was also involved in NEA, KNEA, and SM NEA activities from

building representative, Executive Board, and delegate to state and national conventions. I am a lifetime member and currently serve as secretary to the KNEA Sunflower East retired teachers.

Another organization I belong to is Psi Psi Psi. This is a sorority of mothers of daughters that are Tri Deltas. My mother has been a member for many years. I am now an honorary member. We travel to international conventions. At this time, I’m social director for our local chapter.

In my spare time, I love to travel, spend time with family, make paper crafts and cards, watch Hallmark movies, and read adult novels. What a life!



I also want to recognize and send out congratulations to our DPA winner! **Congratulations to Texas Sigma** on being selected as the **2020 Distinguished Program Award winner for the South Central Region**. Please look for their program, along with photos, that will be featured in the next Kappan. Their president is Mary Windham. Thank you for your service and involvement in providing outstanding chapter programs.



I also want to say a special thanks to Pam Coyne who has served as our DPA Regional Chair during this biennium. We will miss her in Arkansas, as she has moved to Alaska, but she will always be a part of the SCR!



News from our International Executive Board Chair Sandy Wolfe

An Update Regarding 501(c) (3) Status for States and Chapters

Information provided by Sandy Wolfe, Chairman of the International Executive Board

On December 5, 2019 Alpha Delta Kappa received a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that granted the Alpha Delta Kappa organization (501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. Further review of the application for our states and chapters was needed.

In April 2020 additional documentation was requested from our IRS reviewer that required submission of a massive list of documents from 60 subordinates (chapters or states, including the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico). The list included such things as newsletters, financial reports, minutes, and much more from each subordinate from the past two years. We were unable to meet the deadline.

In late August 2020, the IRS sent a letter of declination on the 501(c)(3) status for our states and chapters within the United States. The *declination letter* meant the IRS was not willing to make a ruling on our request at that time. The key is that it was not a *rejection* letter.

We can submit a new application to the IRS in the future requesting a review for 501(c)(3) status for states and chapters, but the IRS now requires:

1. A dissolution policy in our International Bylaws and in each state's and each chapter's bylaws. Based on previous recommendations from the IRS, we had encouraged S/P/Ns to adopt Policies & Procedures with a policy statement certifying they are governed by Alpha Delta Kappa's

International Bylaws. The IRS policy has changed and currently requires bylaws with a dissolution clause to meet 501(c)(3) criteria.

2. A conforming amendment for our International Bylaws will be proposed at the 2021 International Convention. The language was adopted for the Constitution in November 2020.

3. Currently, for governance, we have 27 states using state bylaws and 24 states using International Bylaws and Policies and Procedures Manuals. Amending our S/P/Ns' bylaws with the dissolution language in place will occur at their next convention in spring 2022.

4. The bylaws template will be developed that refers to the International Bylaws and includes the Dissolution Clause to make them acceptable to the IRS for 501(c)(3) after the International Convention.

So ... we cannot submit a new application for 501(c)(3) status until the International Bylaws have been amended and we know states and chapters within the United States have their bylaws in order. In the meantime, we can work to comply with the latest IRS rulings. Thanks for your patience and understanding!

Higher Logic and AΔK Connect are Coming!

The International Executive Board took action during its November meeting to provide new opportunities for all members support that will significantly increase the value of their membership and will greatly enhance our international website. The addition of Higher Logic to our iMIS database and Alpha Delta Kappa website will make our long awaited AΔK CONNECT program a reality. Higher Logic will allow the creation of communities that can link our members together by their interests, grade levels, locations, or subject matter. Members will be able to have connections with their peers, post questions, take part in discussions, share best practices, recommend resources, participate in mentorship programs, and take advantage of other opportunities. Alpha Delta Kappa Connect and Higher Logic offer *Infinite Possibilities* to meet the needs of our members by providing opportunities for personal and professional growth. Implementation should take place during late winter or early spring. More information will be shared in upcoming e-blasts.



A great way to bring “great minds” together!

Graphic designed by IVP Gulf Terry Peyton

From our International Immediate Past President Sue Pelchat



MEMBERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE KAPPAN ARTICLES AND IMAGES

Member contributions to the KAPPAN are welcome. Here are some tips for having your chapter members and activities recognized.

Write a brief fact-based article describing the activity and naming the people in the accompanying picture. Follow the website path LIBRARY> PUBLICATIONS> KAPPAN. At the bottom of the screen is a jotform. The form will ask for some personal contact information in case more information is needed for the article, and you will be able to upload files at the same time. Articles should be submitted as WORD documents, not pdf. A pdf file cannot be manipulated in the layout aspect of magazine preparation. You may also upload .jpg image files to accompany your article. Do not embed the picture in a WORD document as it must be used as stand-alone file for layout. Pictures should be original files in the highest quality available. There will be an article in the upcoming KAPPAN about taking high quality pictures. Clear, crisp, action shots are best to show your sisters' engagement.

THEMES

Each KAPPAN focuses on a theme. September's theme was Celebrations of Leadership. December will highlight Leadership in Action. March will feature Altruism in Action. And the June issue will focus on World Understanding.

For amazing member and feature articles, aim for 400-500 words plus pictures. Chapter news, a few sentences and one picture. Write from the heart. The KAPPAN Team will be in touch if they need more information. E-BLASTS Read the tri-monthly e-blasts for special requests. The team has previously gathered pictures of people in masks and handmade holiday cards. Currently they seek photographs for the cover of the March issue. If you have a wonderful shot to share with your sisters, send it in.



What's new in the SCR?

If you remember, I asked for volunteers to help with the tutoring program between Spanish speaking sisters in the U.S. and our Mexico sisters. You will also be working with with Mexico President, Marli Camargo. We are still seeking help with this project. If you

are interested, please send me an email. We are anxious to get this program started this year.

Would you like to help? We would love to include you in this program. Our sisters in Mexico are a wonderful group and you would enjoy getting to know them.

LEAD! What is it?

**LEAD is an acronym for
Leaders Emerging and Developing!**



The IVPs developed this idea and each of the IVPs from the seven regions have created several slide videos that you can share with your members/chapters. They are only a couple of minutes long but deal with important aspects of leadership. These will be posted on our SCR website for future reference. [Home | Scr2019 \(wixsite.com\)](#) The videos will also be shared in upcoming Eblasts with our membership.

Below are links to two of these with more to follow:

[LEAD Planning and being Prepared CW - YouTube](#)
[Why LEAD - YouTube](#)



A message from SCR MC Nancy Medina

Welcome to 2021! I think the world has been anticipating the arrival of a new year hoping that it will bring positive feelings, a hopeful future, and infinite possibilities for the membership of Alpha Delta Kappa and their families and friends. We made it through last year so I have the greatest confidence that together we will do our best to encourage growth in our membership. Let me know if I can help in any way.

MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

From January 1- April 30 you will have the opportunity to invite qualified women to join our outstanding organization. Spread the word! In this month's Cornerstone you will be reminded of the educators in specialized fields of education that are prospective members. Don't give up! Keep extending invitations



Care, Concerns & Celebrations in the SCR

(Since the last newsletter)



Donna Linn – MO Alpha Eta – unexpected passing of her husband

Janie Gray – MO Gamma – illness

Carolyn Hudson – TX Beta – loss of her husband

Marsha Armstrong – OK President – Covid illness

Kathey Roberts – AR President – hospitalized due to Covid complications

Ruth Currie – TX Gamma Sigma – shoulder surgery

Sharon Ward – TX Gamma Sigma – loss of her brother

Vicki Mitchell – TX Alpha Epsilon – surgery due to heart issues

Omega Chapter

Debbie Beasley – TX Epsilon Tau

Shirley Scott Williams – TX Theta

NC sisters and family of North Carolina State President Carol Jones

Celebrations

None

*****Sisters, please text or email me when sisters are ill or have a death in their family. I want to reach out to those sisters, but I don't always hear of concerns in our region. Also, please let me know of celebrations within your chapters, districts, and states. Thank you so much.**

Cindy

Upcoming Deadlines and Important Dates

January 1 st	Membership Campaign begins
January 15 th	H-142 S/P/N President's Report due to Regional IVP
January 31 st	Dues Deadline *
January 31 st	Regional Professional Development Scholarship Deadline
January 31 st	Annual S/P/N Membership Consultant Report due
January 31 st	S/P/N Presidents EIE chair to International headquarters
February 15 th	Agnes Robertson Global Outreach (ARGO) Scholarship Application due
February 15 th	Fine Arts Grants Applications due

March 1st

Future Educators Scholarship Applications due

March 15th

Chapter Altruistic Report due to S/P/N Altruistic Chair

** Please remember that the H-138 is due at International Headquarters showing receipt of membership dues being paid by January 31st. This qualifies your chapter for one of the seven pearls!*



If you haven't liked our Facebook page please do so now! 😊 Your South Central Region is connected on Facebook too! It has new posts regularly so make it one of your favorites. **Search for Alpha Delta Kappa SCR and LIKE us today!!!**

