



# Nu's Notes



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

Volume 45, Number 1

October 2021



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 President .....Connie 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](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)

## Thoughts from BARB



### Happy Fall!

The signs of fall are everywhere! I have fewer Hummingbirds coming to feed, the leaves are abundantly falling, Mike is not having to mow as often,

school buses are running the usual routes, and Christmas ornaments are selling like hotcakes at Hallmark! Fall also brings a brand-new year to Nu chapter. Connie, Roberta, Cathy, and MaryJane have been working very hard to bring chapter members an informative and fun slate of meetings this year. You won't want to miss any!

Our chapter is focusing on the Peoria Public Library. We are looking forward to visiting every branch. The staff at the libraries will be presenting information on their personal expertise. Jeanette will be documenting our experience with photographs. Next fall Nu chapter will work with PPL to sign up as many Peoria students as we can with library cards. Nothing like giving all children the ability to get their hands on great books! Isn't that a teacher's dream!!!! Well, we will be able to make this happen next September!

Take a moment to call, text, or stop by your DKG partner's home. Chat for a while to get to know one another. Offer a ride to the next meeting, or to go out for a cup of Joe. Maybe one member can RSVP to the meeting for both of you!!

Cindy Baldwin and Shirley Dresden  
 Chris Berto and Nan Hasenstein-Kleffman  
 Laveine Birditt and Jeanette Kosier  
 Barb Blanco and Mary Sutton and Karen Johnson  
 Cathy Curtis and Gail Thigpen and Christie Rickets  
 Dorothy Dean and Roberta Koscielski  
 Helen Dunn and Connie Voss  
 Julie Frank and Carol Sleeth  
 Kathy Johnson and Dee LaRue  
 Cam Ratcliff and Sandy White  
 Rose Robinson and MaryJane Sterling  
 Jalee Scott and Mary Taylor

I have mixed feeling when I share this news. Karen Ball and her husband accepted an offer on their house about 2 weeks ago. Closing is scheduled for Nov 5. They had their offer on a house in Crystal Lake accepted this past week with closing Nov 8. We are so happy that the Balls will be moving closer to all four of their children. I believe they will even be babysitting for some of their precious grandchildren. Nu chapter will be losing a vibrant educator with a multitude of skills ranging from classroom teacher, special education teacher and advocate, and administration. Nu chapter is grateful for your friendship and service to the Peoria area communities, Karen. We wish you blessings and happiness in your new Chicagoland life!

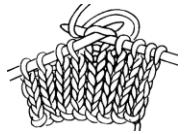
Embracing the changes in the wind,  
 Barb

## Membership Committee



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

## 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.

Mark your calendars for two new dates: Both will meet at Barb Blanco's home:

- Saturday, January 29 at 10:00 a.m.
- 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!

## Please remember to RSVP to any Nu Chapter events.

We need your help! As our chapter changes over the years, the numbers of members who can actively participate has changed. We sometimes end up with a very few people doing many jobs and it is increasingly important for us to find simpler or more practical ways to do things. One of the things to consider is how we communicate information.

Please let me know how you would like to receive your meeting notices and other information. I will be sending out notices by email as much as possible, but if you need to receive by text or a phone call, please let me know by November 20. Thank you!

Connie Voss, [REDACTED]



## Condolences

- To the family of Mary Krull due to her death on June 14.

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



## Listen, Learn, and Lead

DKG, ILSO Legislative Seminars on Zoom

### **Saturday, October 23, 1:00-2:00 p.m.**

“How to Have an Impact on Laws Affecting Teachers” – Sheila Simon, former Lieutenant Governor of Illinois and instructor of Law at SIU will be the speaker. Have you ever wanted to have your voice heard to facilitate change? **Listen and Learn** the proper procedures to make a difference.

### **Tuesday, October 26, 7:00-8:00 p.m.**

“What is the Great Lakes Center for Education Research and Practice and What Can it Do for Illinois?”- Executive Director, Dr. Gretchen Dzladosz, will speak with us. Participants will learn of the mission of the Center, how it can inform policy, and advocate for educational reform in the member states.

### **Thursday, October 28, 7:00-8:00 p.m.**

“What’s the Latest in Legislation, as it Pertains to Education?” – Sean Denney, Director of Government Relations at the IEA, will facilitate the discussion of current bills passed and proposed and how we can continue to be involved.

### **Saturday, October 30, 1:00-2:00 p.m.**

“Evidence Based Funding for Education” – Executive Director of the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability, Ralph Martire, will speak of legislation that was passed several years ago and funding going forward as it relates to education and the well- being of our students.

**One PD credit** will be available for each session. Pam Painter, [painterpam3@gmail.com](mailto:painterpam3@gmail.com) must have your IEIN number and email in advance of the seminar. Those participants wanting credit must use a video, (not phone), connection 10 minutes in

advance and answer an oral roll call prior to the session. The beginning and ending times will be recorded and an attendance sheet will be completed. Following the session, the evaluation and survey will be emailed to participants wanting credit. These forms will be returned to Pam Painter. After an evaluation summary is completed an Evidence of Completion form will be sent to the participants.



## 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.

## Yearbook Updates

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

## Changes to Dialing in the 309

(From an article by Mike Kramer published in the Journal Star, page 3A, on September 24, 2021)

Beginning October 24, 2021, you need to use the three-digit area code for all cell phone calls in the 309 area code—instead of the normal seven digits, you’ll need all ten. If you use a landline, you will need to dial 1 plus the area code and number.

This change allows the 988 three-digit number for the National Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Lifeline to work in the 309 area code. As systems update, landline users will need to use 1-800-273-8255 to reach the lifeline until July 16, 2022.

## Peoria Women's Civic Federation

By C. Ratcliff

**Wednesday, September 22, 2021:** The Peoria Women's Civic Federation has begun meeting again and focused on the topic of Central Illinois Women in Action. The program speaker for the meeting was Maureen Naughton, curator of the Peoria Historical Society. Maureen is a retired high school English teacher from Pekin Community High School. She has a bachelor's degree in English with a minor in history, a Master of Science degree in multicultural education, and a master's degree in museum studies.

In reviewing Central Illinois Women in Action over the years, the speaker cited several groups that were established and fought for a variety of causes including winning the right to vote, several suffrage groups (the temperance union, the anti-slavery movement, prison reform, labor laws) which inspired the organizing of the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU). In Peoria, Lucie Brotherson Tyng organized the Peoria Suffrage Association assisted by Clara Bourland. It was Susan B. Anthony's visit to Chicago in 1870 that became the motivational factor resulting in the development of these organizations.

The Peoria Women's Club was founded in 1886, chartered in 1890 and by 1893 had raised \$25,000 and built their own building at the corner of Madison Avenue and Fayette Street. Julia Proctor White became the second president of the Peoria Women's Club, which is one of the oldest women's clubs in the nation.

In June of 1913 Illinois was the first state east of the Mississippi River to pass the right to vote for women and in June of 1920 the 19th amendment became a part of the US Constitution. At the convention in Chicago in 1870, the National League of Women Voters was organized. Julie Proctor White became the first president of the Peoria League of Women Voters.

The next meeting of the Peoria Women's Civic Federation will be on October 27, 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

### Past Meeting Minutes

## NU Chapter (#13) General Membership Meeting, September 22, 2021

### To be approved at the October 14, 2021 General Business Meeting

**Program** *Together Again! Let's Talk Library!*  
PPL Lakeview Branch, Lakeview Room 1137  
W. Lake St. Peoria. Presented by Nu Chapter member Roberta Koscielski, Peoria Public Library Deputy Director.

**Call to Order** Vice President Connie Voss called the meeting to order at 5:24 p.m. A quorum was present with seven members in attendance. She relayed President Barb Blanco's thanks to the following members: Chris Berto - editing yearbook. Mary Jane Sterling – proofing yearbook, Educational Excellence Committee - planning programs for 2021-2022, Roberta Koscielski – library arrangements, Connie Voss – email & phone communications to members.

**Minutes** The minutes of the May 5, 2021 and June 5, 2021 meetings 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 April 26, 2021, \$348.02; Income \$2,660.16 (\$1,932.00 Dues, \$72.00 Art Mart, \$198.00 Malawi Well, \$75.00 Commemorative Fund, \$338.16 Cookbook profits [MJ Sterling & L Channey]); Disbursements \$882.63 (\$25.00 Women in the Arts Committee - ILSO, \$14.20 April Nu's Notes-Dorothy Dean, \$104.93 ILSO Zoom License, \$598.00 ILSO DUES for 2021 – 2022, \$30.00 ILSO Foundation for Educational Studies, \$25.00 ILSO Scholarship Fund,

\$27.00 ILSO Convention Fee, \$26.00 Scholarship Fee, \$30.00 ILSO Training for Chapter Leaders, \$2.00 Newscaster fee); \$25.00 void check from 2020; Checking Account Balance September 22, 2021 \$348.02; CEFCU Savings Account Balance \$29.66; CEFCU Money Market account \$7,447.51; Total Balance May 5, 2021 \$2,160.55; CEFCU Savings Account Balance \$29.66; CEFCU Money Market account \$7,449.93; Total Balance September 22, 2021 \$9,640.14.

**Finance** (Mary Jane Sterling) International dues deadline is September 30. Dues are now charged at the end of March not April and should be paid by June 30.

**Communications and Marketing** (Kathy Johnson) Kathy Johnson sent thinking of you card to Dee LaRue. *Nu's Notes* deadline is October 3 for the October issue. Mary Jane Sterling will continue to post ISLO Zoom links on Nu's website as requested. The yearbook is close to going to print. Civic Federation will meet 9:30 a.m. St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 1427 W. Lake, Peoria: September 22 - Fine Arts, October 27 -Women's Issues (Central IL Women in Action the right to Vote), November 17 - Local Government.

**Membership** (Barb Blanco) Our chapter goal is to introduce DKG to as many people as possible, adding at least one new member to our Chapter. Next membership meeting will be October 14, Central IL Agency on Aging, 700 Hamilton Blvd., Peoria. 3:15 pm sign in, 3:30 pm program, 4:00 pm meeting. Parking is limited. Try to carpool as much as possible.

**Nominations** (Connie Voss) President position needs to be filled.

**Educational Excellence** (Connie Voss) Chapter meetings are scheduled for Sept. 22, Oct. 14, Nov. 2, Dec. 2, Feb. 7. Mar. 5, May 5, June 4, Sept. 1, & Oct. 5. A book discussion will occur Jan. 6. Coordination Council Joint Meeting will meet April 4. Programs will be library related. Nu Chapter will partner with Peoria Public Library (PPL) during 2021-2022.

Bring gently used or new books (all reading ages) to any meeting. PPL will have small sales throughout the year instead of one large sale. Monetary donations (cash/checks) can be made at any meeting with checks made payable to "Friends of the Peoria Public Library" and a notation on the check that it is from DKG Nu Chapter. Members will assist with the Library Card Sign Up September 2022. Literacy committee is meeting to write a grant from the Lambda Sate Foundation for Educational Studies, Inc which could help fund a library project.

**Professional Advancement and Outreach** (Carol Sleeth) Literary efforts will focus on the library rather than school involvement. Card making workshop, October 17, 2021, at Connie Voss's 108 N. Dixon Ave. W. Peoria, 61604. Open to all Nu members. Cost \$7.00. RSVP by Oct. 9 cvoss9@gmail.com 309-643-9558, barbblanco@comcast.net 309-868-9120.

**Unfinished Business** None

**New Business** None

**Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Mary Taylor, Secretary  
Connie Voss, Vice-President

## NU Chapter (#13) General Membership Meeting, May 5, 2021

Approved at the September 22, 2021  
General Business Meeting

**Program** Nu Chapter member Roberta Koscielski, Peoria Public Library Deputy Director, led the book discussion of Peoria Reads The Library Book by Susan Orlean. Ten members attended the Zoom discussion.

**Call to Order** President Barb Blanco called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom. A quorum was present with nine members in attendance. She recognized Mary Jane

Sterling and Chris Berto for their involvement in the Virtual 2021 ILSO Convention.

**Minutes** The minutes of the April 6, 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 April 26, 2021 \$348.02; Income \$268.00 (\$268.00 Dues); Disbursements \$42.33 (\$25.00 Coordinating Council Dues, \$17.33 April *Nu's Notes*-Dorothy Dean); Checking Account Balance May 5, 2021 \$348.02; CEFCU Savings Account Balance \$29.66; CEFCU Money Market account \$7,447.51; Total Balance May 5, 2021 \$7,825.19.

**Communications and Marketing** (Kathy Johnson) Kathy Johnson sent birthday greetings to Roberta Koscielski in April and will send her a thinking of you card. She will send May birthday greetings to Karen Ball, Dorothy Dean, Karin Johnson and Sandy White. *Nu's Notes* deadline is May 15 for the May edition distributed in June. Mary Jane Sterling will continue to post ISLO Zoom links on Nu's website as requested. Women's Civic Federation dues for 2020-21 were paid April 30, 2020. Civic Federation did not meet in 2020-21 due to Covid and has not scheduled programs/location for 2021-2022. Nu Chapter will not pay dues for 2021-2022 at this time. Yearbook updates will appear in *Nu's Notes*.

**Finance** (Mary Jane Sterling) Mary Jane Sterling reviewed a summary of the projected receipts and disbursements for 2021-2022 and moved to adopt the proposed 2021-2022 Nu Chapter budget; motion passed. Dues are due to Cathy Curtis by June 30<sup>th</sup> - Active dues (\$96.00)/Reserve dues (\$61.00) with all members eligible to take a \$20.00 dues discount. Mary Jane Sterling reported that \$100 in proceeds from the ILSO Chapter Bazaar Auction will be distributed as follows: \$25.00 ILSO Women in the Arts Fund; \$28.00 Nu Chapter's Marion Medical Mission (Malawi Well) Fund; and \$47.00 Nu Chapter. Nu

Chapter's share of cookbook profits will be deposited in Nu Chapter account when cookbook sales are over.

**Membership** (Barb Blanco) Certificates from ILSO for membership milestones years will be delivered to Jeanette Kosier (40), Mary Krull (50), and Deanna LaRue (55).

**Nominations** (Connie Voss) None

**Rules** (Chris Berto) Chris Berto asked that members review chapter rules and submit recommendations for amendments.

**Educational Excellence** (Connie Voss) The June 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and program "Evaluation and Planning Discussion" will take place at Charter Oak Park with Barb Blanco's home as an alternate location. Members planning to attend should RSVP. The September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting at the PPS Administration Building will feature Dr. Susan Grzanich.

**Coordinating Council** (Connie Voss) Connie Voss reported that nineteen persons (none from Nu) attended the Coordinating Council Joint meeting that received many positive evaluations. Those in attendance voted to maintain a minimum balance of \$500.00 in the Coordinating Council account and approved the rotation of officers. Several suggestions for the 2022 program for which Nu Chapter is responsible have been received.

**Professional Advancement and Outreach** (Carol Sleeth) Carol Sleeth reported Nu's plant exchange will occur May 10 from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at her home and made members aware of a Succulent Sale June 7-8<sup>th</sup> at 5524 Renwood. The virtual Creative Arts Retreat will be held June 21-25, 2021. There is no registration fee, and the registration form will be posted on the ILSO website.

**Unfinished Business** None

**New Business** None

**Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Mary Taylor, Secretary  
Barb Blanco, President

# Nu Chapter #13 General Membership Meeting June 5, 2021

Approved at the September 22, 2021  
General Business Meeting

**Call to Order** President Barb Blanco called the meeting to order at 10:22 a.m. at Charter Oak Park. A quorum was present with ten members in attendance. Barb thanked members for their support and opened with "What do we have to offer?" followed by a discussion regarding possible 2021-2022 chapter goals (membership-growth/attendance/involvement/support and chapter project focus-Malawi Well and supporting an existing project in the community).

**Minutes** The minutes of the May 5, 2021 meeting will be approved at the September 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

**Treasurer's Report** (Cathy Curtis) The following report was emailed to members: Checking Account Balance April 26, 2021 \$348.02; Income \$792.00 (\$652.00, \$72.00 Chapter Bazaar, \$68.00 Malawi Well Fund); Disbursements \$25.00 (\$25.00 ILSO Women in the Arts Fund, portion of Chapter Bazaar proceeds); Checking Account Balance June 5, 2021 \$1,115.02; CEFCU Savings Account Balance \$29.66; CEFCU Money Market account \$7,447.51; Total Balance June 5, 2021 \$8,592.19.

**Program Evaluation and Planning Discussion** Nu members reviewed 2020-2021 programs and suggested program topics, volunteer opportunities, book titles, and speakers to be considered by the Educational Excellence Committee for 2021-2022 programming. Barb Blanco volunteered to present a book discussion on The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe. A "Readers Corner" was suggested for inclusion in *Nu's Notes*.

**Adjournment** The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Christine Berto, Secretary pro tem  
Barb Blanco, President

**Check the website  
for stipend deadlines**



....usually in January.

The deadline for applications for stipends from the Lambda State Foundation for Educational Studies, Inc. has been changed from May 1, 2020, to April 1, 2020. Guidelines, rubric, and the application form can be found under Foundation on the state website:  
[www.deltakappagamma.org/IL/](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/IL/)



**MARK YOUR  
CALENDARS**

**Tuesday, November 2, 2021**

4:45 p.m. Sign in; 5:00 p.m. Program;  
5:45 p.m. Meeting

**PPL Main Branch Computer Lab**  
107 N. E. Monroe, Peoria

**Program:** *Genealogy by Computer*, Amber Lowery, PPL Reference Assistant

**Note:** *Optional PPL Technology Lesson starts at 3:00 p.m. in computer lab*

**Purposes:** 1, 2, 6, 7

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

**Activities/Reports:** Membership (prospective members); Nominations (voting on officers); Professional Advancement and Outreach (activities, deadlines/see pg. 32); Educational Excellence (evaluation)

**Hostess:** Educational Excellence - Program Committee



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### Thursday, December 2, 2021

4:00 p.m. Sign in; 4:15 p.m. Dinner;  
4:45 Meeting; 5:15 p.m. Program

**PPL North Branch**, Mackenzie Room  
3001 W. Grand Pkwy., Peoria

**Program:** *Potluck Dinner & Making Christmas  
Cards*, Nu Members

**Purposes:** 1, 6

**Donations:** Support the PPL Giving Tree

**Activities/Reports:** Membership (prospective  
members); Communications and Marketing  
(*Nu's Notes*); Nominations (voting for Officers);  
Professional Advancement and Outreach  
(activities, deadlines/see pg. 32); Educational  
Excellence (evaluation)

**Hostess:** Educational Excellence - Program  
Committee

## READ...READ...READ



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

**DKG DISCUSSION  
BOOKS...** See website for  
more info

## International Project



Watch for news.