



Beta Mu Chapter

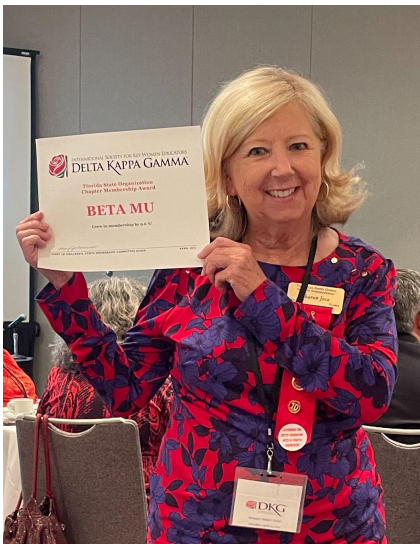
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May 2023 Newsletter

Volume 15 Issue 5

Your 2022-2024 Executive Board Members

<u>President</u> Sharon Joca <u>1st Vice-President</u> Jennifer Eason <u>2nd Vice-President</u> Maryjane Edgar <u>Secretary</u> Carol Cochuyt <u>Corresponding Secretary</u> Lisa Forster <u>Treasurer</u> Pat Litterick <u>Parliamentarian</u> Ruth Paine	<u>Personal Development Committee Chair</u> Beverly Wilber <u>Professional Development Chair</u> Susan McInarnay <u>Impacting Education Worldwide Committee Chair</u> Lisa Allen
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Left: President Sharon Joca receiving one of three state awards for our chapter! Middle: Dunia Baptiste received a scholarship from the state DKG to continue her doctoral studies! Right: Sharon Joca and Lisa Allen having fun at the DKG State Convention in April!



**Above:** Constance, Sharon, Terry, Lisa and Pat



**Above:** Alma's Leadership Condo Project was a big hit as it depicted the structure of the DKG organization with levels representing the members, the chapter, the state, the district, the region and international.

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A MESSAGE FROM  
THE PRESIDENT

Hi Everyone,

We are about to close out our 2022-23 year and have a lot to be proud of. We welcomed 14 new or renewed members, shared the joy of the birth of the son and grandson of the Cochuyts, and celebrated the election of Terry as state president. We registered over 1,000 children for free books for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library and donated over 300 pounds of food to the Clay County Food bank (so far).

We shared delicious food, enjoyed fantastic programs, connected with old friends and made new friends. We made a solid effort to improve our singing skills with the DKG song, but still left a lot of room for improvement!

Our last meeting of this year will be Saturday, May 13 at 10:00 a.m. hosted by the Executive Board. Please continue to bring in non-perishable food donations (including pet food).

I look forward to many more laughs, learning opportunities, connections, and support next year as we grow in friendship and fellowship with Delta Kappa Gamma.

Love to all,

Sharon

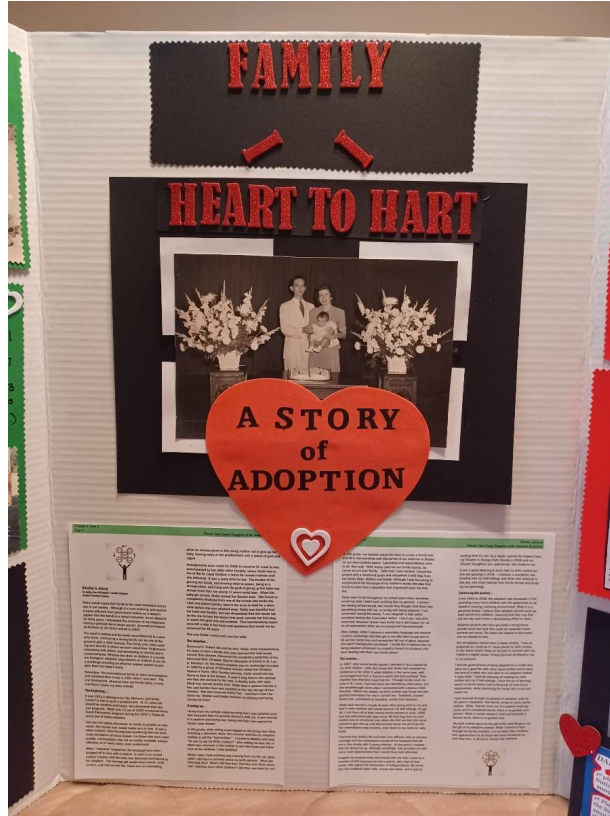
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**Above:** Terry accepts the gavel from outgoing state president, Roxanne Berger.

Congratulations!!!!

We are so proud that the next state president is our very own Terry Stanilonis who was elected this past weekend at the Florida State Delta Kappa Gamma Convention in Orlando to serve for two years. Terry is dedicated to DKG and gives so much to our organization!



**Above:** Also, at the state convention Beta Mu was represented in the Art Show with a display by Kathy Marsh. She shared her adoption story, “Heart to Hart”. Well done, Kathy!

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

Beta Mu Save the Dates for 2023

Saturday May 13, 2023	10:00 am, Beta Mu Chapter Meeting hosted by the Executive Board
Saturday March 2, 2024	District 2 Meeting in Palatka



Food Pantry Donations

We will be accepting donations at each of our chapter meetings, with our next meeting being Saturday, May 13th.. Clean out your pantry of any unwanted non-perishable

items or grab an item or two on your next shopping trip. We are looking forward to supporting our community during these times.

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## INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS



### Dolly Parton's Imagination Library of Clay County - Zip 32043/32073

Our Imagination Library continues to grow in Clay County! Currently, we have 1,061 active children, and so far, 200 children have officially graduated from the program. Thank you to everyone for your continued support and generosity to DPIL of Clay County - Zip 32043 / 32073! Our program is only possible because of you and all the other individuals in our community who realize the importance of helping children build strong educational foundations, starting at an early age.

Please continue to tell your relatives, neighbors, and friends about DPIL of Clay County - Zip 32043 / 32073! Below are two documents we would really like for you to share with them. You may print hard copies or send them as attachments to an email message. This will help us register more eligible children and it will make us closer to our goal of making the Imagination Library available to all children under five who live in Clay County.

- [DPIL Flyer with QR Code](#)
- [DPIL Donation Form](#)

Thank you as always for your continued support of the Imagination Library in Clay County, our Beta Mu Chapter, and DKG!

### ***Pat Litterick and Ruth Paine***



**Left:** Pat, Mary, Sherry, Ruth, and Kathy signing up children for the Dolly Parton Imagination Library at the Orange Park Kid's Fest. **Right:** Karen Robinson and her daughter Haley Moore.

## Membership



Is there a special woman educator you know who's working in the field, or may be retired, and you would like to recommend her for membership in DKG? ALL types of educators are welcome! Prospective members may be recommended year round and we are always looking to grow our chapter. If you have someone in mind, [please complete this online form](#) and use

[ruth.paine5758@gmail.com](mailto:ruth.paine5758@gmail.com) to email it to Ruth Paine.

## Yearly Dues Due-June 15, 2023

It is that time of year again when Beta Mu Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma is collecting yearly dues. The dues are \$75 for Active Members / \$30 for Reserve Members. The dues are due by June 15, 2023. If you would like to make a donation to Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, you can make your check for \$100 and \$25 will be donated in your name. Checks are to be made out to Delta Kappa Gamma. You can bring your checks or cash to the Chapter meeting on May 13, or mail your check to Pat Litterick.

## Celebrate, Support, Involvement

We are always looking for new ways to connect with our members. If you are involved with an outside commitment, we would love to celebrate and support you! This includes school organizations, sports organizations, community theater groups, etc.! Use [this Google Form](#) to let us know what you are involved in and when your event(s) are. Physical hard-copy forms will also be available to fill out at chapter meetings.

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY!



MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
Janet Hallstrom Michelle Haynes Ruth Casias Sharon Walsh Crystal Martin Brenda Osborne	Kezia Laberis Kathie Langevin Barbara Robbins Erin Brown Sabrina Tompkins	Mary Bolla Ruth Pridgen Carol Cochuyt Meg Nesi Angela Wolfe Nancy Heiskell Shaundricka Medlock Carol Rush Haley Moore Elise Day Tippy Roberts	Rachael Bush Janice Tucker Jennifer Nix Lynda Wiggins Joyce Hallmark Sharon Joca Shannon Isom

CHAPTER  
MINUTES

March 9, 2023 Beta Mu Meeting Minutes

Sharon Joca welcomed us and we had a wonderful snack from Lisa Allen's Committee. The foods went along with the evening's theme. Kim Mikowski. introduced our speaker. Francesca Weeks, Art Teacher, Coppergate School of the Arts. Terry Stanilonis led our Word Search Ice Breaker.

Schools For Africa is supported by Delta Kappa Gamma as a part of Impacting Education Worldwide.

Kim M. demonstrated how to find "Schools For Africa" on the DKG website. Thirty million children have received education through this initiative. Lisa shared a few South African expressions with us as well.

Francesca is from South Africa and spoke about the challenges of teaching in South Africa. Most South

Africans are multilingual and speak two or more languages. Pupils must study at least 2 languages. She

pointed out that education is not free – parents are exempt from paying school fees in the poorest Areas. We collected \$105 to donate to Francesca’s school. Peggy Elmore told us about Uganda and explained her display about missionary work in Africa. Her friend Mary is a teacher at the Uganda Christian University. Sharon Joca called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. Jennie Eason shared our inspirational message. She read from “All on the Board,” a book about 2 men from London. She mentioned how we can encourage others. The minutes were included in the March Newsletter. They will stand as published. Pat Litterick gave the Treasurer’s Report. Ruth and Pat shared information about the Dolly Parton Imagination Library with \$40,697 total donations so far. We have spent \$17,491 and have mailed 8239 books. We need to continue fundraising. Pat has a chart to share about the books and expenses. Ruth invited everyone to join the DPIL program. We are hopeful to have more people join to help with behind the scenes work. They need help contacting daycares and donors. We need to sustain and grow the program with everyone’s help. Contact Pat or Ruth to volunteer. Thirty percent of our children who start kindergarten are behind on the first day in the state of Florida. We discussed having a fundraiser at restaurants. We are hoping to do this with Bonos in Middleburg. Those who participate need to bring in the paper to get credit. We would love help with these events. Karen Robinson spoke about the T-shirts and please let her know if you would like to purchase one. We wear them when we go to festivals and dinners. Ruth spoke about membership and welcomed the new faces in our group. Biographies will be sent out about each of the prospective members. Kathy Lawrence is planning to come to our next meeting. Susan Horne is a Guidance Counselor at CHS. Mary Lou Whittlesey is a retired teacher. Mary Kenfield is with the Clay County Public Library. Kelly Ludlam works in Reading Professional Development in Clay County.

We have donated 179 pounds through the DKG Food Drive so far. Lisa Forster read the thank you from the Food Pantry. Please continue to bring food items to all of our functions. At our District 2 Meeting, we are in charge of one centerpiece. The theme is “Reaching for More in 2024.” Please begin thinking of a beach themed basket. It is March 2nd of 2024. We have a planning meeting in April at the state convention. It will be in Palatka. Coming up in a month is the State Convention. Team Terry will be elected



State President. If we have a group of 9 or 10, we get to have lunch together at the same reserved table. This chapter is the star of the state because of longevity, retention of members, number of members, dedication, and commitment. There is a 6-year vision at the state level for the 100th year anniversary. Banquet is Saturday night in Lake Mary. You can just drive for the day if you would like. Ruth gave a recap of her legislative committee. Constance went to the Capitol with them. There were 16 advocates there on behalf of women, children, and education. Constance helped them to meet with the legislators. They have already begun filing their bills. Ruth offered to keep us updated on what is happening in the legislature. Ruth will forward the information to us, so we can make our own decisions. We had many Happy Dollars celebrations and brought the meeting to a close with our song. Our next meeting will be on Saturday May 13th at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Cohuyt



“Like” and share our public Facebook page Delta Kappa Gamma- Beta Mu  
[click here](#)  
View the Beta Mu website [here](#)

Requests for the newsletter? Feedback? Send an email to Maryjane Edgar  
[mjkiffmeyer@gmail.com](mailto:mjkiffmeyer@gmail.com)  
Pictures for the newsletter email