

OMICRON TODAY

Omicron Chapter | Kansas State Organization | Delta Kappa Gamma International

Omicron Officers

President: Kristi Burik
Immediate Past President: Loretta Scott
Vice Presidents: Lynne Renick & Karen Zimmerman
Secretary: Hazel Davidson
Treasurer: Cathy Ebmeier
Newsletter Editors: Georgiana Beverly & Loretta Scott
Parliamentarian: Marlene Merrill

2021-22 Meeting Dates

August 28: Book Discussion-American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins with Lynne Renick; Location: Baker Wetlands Discovery Center. 10am. Book Exchange: Bring a book that you have read and trade it in for a new read. Guests are welcome as we begin in-person meetings.

September 25: Story Strolls with Deanna Kessler-Miley; Location: Baldwin City Library. Location: Baldwin City Library; 10 am.

October 23: Yoga and Mindfulness with Annemarie Chilton; Location: Baker Wetlands; 1365 N 1250 Road. Time: 10am. See Newsletter article for more details.

January 22, 2022 ZOOM Board Meeting

February 26: Zoom

Program: #Be More Like Claire, Lawrence NonProfit with Shannon VanLandingham. 10am.

March 26: Habitat for Humanity with Erika Zimmerman, Lawrence Public Library, 10am

April 30: Grant in Aid Presentation, Officer Installation, Brunch, Home of Carolyn Montney, 10am.

June 11: Board Meeting

A Note from Kristi:

Hello Omicron Sisters,

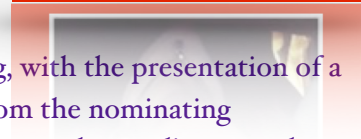
Hope you are taking advantage of the sunshine while we have it. The cold and snow hasn't thrown this Wisconsin girl!

I am quite excited for our February 26 ZOOM meeting. The program looks inspiring, "Be Like Claire", as does the business meeting, with the presentation of a new slate of nominees for officers from the nominating committee. Also, I need to remind you to be sending your dues in to Cathy Ebmeier through snail mail. We are still not used to spring semester dues collection. It is \$65 plus anything you want to add for the running of the local chapter or if you want to add a yearly amount for World Fellowship Fund. Some of us prefer to write a second check to World Fellowship. (I usually separate my food on my plate, too. hee-hee.)

We will also be talking about our summer book study choices so that we can vote on one in March. So far, we have *Sitting Pretty* by Rebecca Taussig, *The Girl Who Smiled Beads* by Clementine Wamariya, and *Maid* by Stephanie Land. If you have another title suggestion, please get it to Lynne Renick. I think this is one of the coolest things we have done: to read a book over the summer and discuss it at our fall kick-off meeting. Perhaps it's that as teachers, reading is at the center of all we do. Or as Dr. Seuss would put it, "You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax. All you need is a book."

Cheerio!

Kristi





-LOOKING AHEAD

Change of Date: Omicron's April meeting will be held on April 30.

KSO Spring Convention, April 9-10, 2022, Salina, KS Hilton Garden Inn. Look for registration information to be posted on phistate.weebly.com

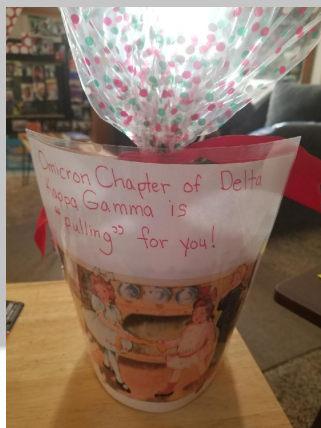


February Birthdays

- **o4 Mary Gauthier**
- **o8 Shirleen Augustine**

Omicron is "pulling" for Cordley Staff.

In January, Karen Zimmerman and her helpers delivered bags of taffy with a message of support.



Omicron Grant-In-Aid

Deanna Kessler-Miley, Grant-In-Aid Chair, reported that Omicron will be offering one grant to Baker and one to KU to Education majors beginning their Junior or Senior year. The information will go out to both Universities in February. Deadline for application is April 1.

February Program #Be More Like Claire

You won't want to miss our Feb 26 Zoom meeting. Shannon VanLandingham, Executive Director of #Be More Like Claire, a Lawrence non-profit, whose mission is to carry on the legacy of her daughter, Claire, by both harnessing the power of collective generosity to improve the quality of life for all, and amplifying the work of nonprofit partners through grant making, volunteering, and community outreach. Please see the website for additional information: <https://www.bemorelikeclaire.org>

Report from the Nominating Committee

The Omicron Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers for the 22-24 Biennium. The following slate will be presented at the Feb. 26 meeting. Nominations from the floor and Election will be held during the March 24 meeting in accordance with the Chapter Rules. Thanks to Georgiana Beverly, Janine Monaghan, and Susan Ralston for their work on the Nominating Committee.

- ♦ **President: Janine Monaghan,**
- ♦ **Vice Presidents: Susan Ralston and Terri Johnson,**
- ♦ **Secretary: Dot Smith.**

The **Treasurer and Parliamentarian** are appointed positions.

See pages 3 & 4 for additional Omicron News: Dues, the Summer Read, Convention, and Cordley valentines!

A Note from the Treasurer

Treasurer Cathy Ebmeier is now accepting dues checks for the 22-23 Omicron year. Dues for Active members are \$65 and dues for Reserve members are \$26. Also consider adding a few dollars extra to your check for the International World Fellowship Fund, as well as for Omicron Chapter's operations. Read more about the World Fellowship fund below. **Please send your check to Cathy Ebmeier, Omicron Treasurer, 4309 W. 13th Ct., Lawrence, KS 66049.** We are starting this collection early again this year.

International World Fellowship Fund

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES WORLDWIDE · MAKING A GLOBAL IMPACT ON WOMEN, THEIR LIVES AND THEIR COUNTRIES

How it began

The World Fellowship Program began at the 1946 National Convention in San Francisco. Four German women educators received funds from Delta Kappa Gamma to spend eight weeks of study and visitation in Sweden during the spring of 1948.

In 1952, the World Fellowship Program began an alliance with UNESCO to provide special help for Korean women.

During 1958–1960, the present program began to take shape. An agreement was made with the Institute of International Education (IIE) to provide dossiers from which a Society committee could select recipients for study in the United States.

In 1972, the World Fellowship Committee became a standing committee, formerly part of the Personal Growth and Services Committee. In 1974, state organization and chapter committees became part of the *Constitution*. The Institute of International Education recognized the World Fellowship Program with an award in 1978 that is displayed at Delta Kappa Gamma Society Headquarters in Austin, Texas.

Impressive numbers tell story

From an initial award of \$2,500 in 1960, based on \$11,528 in contributions, the program has grown through the 2020-2021 academic year to impressive totals:

Impacting education worldwide

1,029 women in 122 countries have received awards totaling \$3,739,250 since 1960.

Contributions

\$4,158,974.75 (through June 30, 2021)

Contributions and bequests determine the number of World Fellowship Awards given each year by the committee.

Awards given In 2021-2022

19 \$4,000 awards

4 \$2,000 extensions

2 \$1,000 extensions

Total of \$83,500 to 25 women in 23 countries.

It's Time to Think About Omicron's Summer Read

We are planning our 4th annual book discussion for August. If you have a book title recommendation for our summer read, send it by March 15 to Lynne Renick at lmr2bells@gmail.com

Convention News from Georgiana Beverly

The big news from KSO is that it is going forward with the April 9-10 in-person Convention in Salina. Hotel reservations must be made directly with Hilton Garden Inn by March 15. Registration form with check for convention and meals must be postmarked by March 18. The form will be on the KSO website at phistateweebly.com. (Maybe by the time you read this article).

By our February meeting, Georgiana will be able to share more about the program (3 workshops and an international speaker, plus author visit from Wichita chapter) leaving plenty of time for Omicron members to register.

Happy Valentine's Day, Cordley!



Thanks,
Karen
Zimmerman,
her friend
Pat Collins,
Sue Schmidt,
and Jean
Reimer for
your work in
supporting
teachers!

