



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS  
**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA**

**Key Notes from Xi Chapter of Upsilon State**

**October 2011**

**Cerro Gordo and Adjoining Counties**



**Time:** Tuesday, October 18, 6:30 p.m.

**Place:** Roosevelt Elementary School, 313 15<sup>th</sup> St. SE, Mason City

**Program:** Sharon Steckman, State Representative and Xi Chapter Honorary Member will discuss education issues

**Planning Team:** Legislation and Professional Affairs Committees

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**Dues Reminder**

**A huge thank you to those members who have already sent their dues to Xi Treasurer, Judy Witte. If you have not already done so and won't be at the next meeting, please remember to send your check to Judy Witte at 617 Southview Drive, Rockwell, IA 50469. Dues are \$71 for active members; \$39 for reserve members. Remember-- Deadline for paying dues is October 31<sup>st</sup>.**

**Xi Chapter Recognized for Grant-in-Aid Support**

NIACC's 8th Annual Scholarship Recognition Luncheon was held October 7 at the Muse Norris Conference Center. Xi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma is a long-time supporter of the NIACC Foundation through the Grant in Aid program. This year the scholarship student receiving the award is Chaddrick Beshirs from St. Ansgar. Karen Regal and Carol Iverson attended the complimentary luncheon.

**Promoting the Arts in Iowa Schools – From State President Angela Pratt**

At our Fall Executive Board meeting we chose “Supporting the Arts in Iowa Schools” as a statewide project for this next biennium. The Arts, including music, visual arts, theater, and dance, are considered important to the well-rounded education of our students. During the next two years chapters are asked to advocate for the Arts, identify available and needed resources in their communities, and help provide added resources or support through their chosen projects. Chapters are also encouraged to have at least one program per year that highlights some form of “The Arts”. At the 2012 Upsilon State Convention in Council Bluffs chapters will be asked to donate art supplies for local schools

# “Getting to know you...Getting to know all about you”

Xi Chapter Member interviews

By Karen L. Regal-Johnson

October 2011

*NOTE: Welcome to my new column for our monthly newsletter! Karen Dole and I explored my writing options for the this year, and along with my other future contributions, I thought taking some time to introduce a little more about our new members would be a worthy subject here.*

Many of us were lucky enough to meet and chat with our new members in September, but those of you were not able to attend, I hope that you enjoy learning about our first new member, Diane Frank.

Diane and I have been colleagues at North Iowa Community College for quite some time—at least ten years, now, I think. We have worked on many committees together, including one called Quality Faculty Planning in which we help our college by planning our staff development weeks and help them with their development documentation. Isn't it funny, how you can work with someone a long time, admire their work and work ethic, and even their style (a nod from one fashionista to another), and still not know as much about them as you should? Thanks, Diane, for this little peak.

I am making a giant educated leap here to suggest that Diane might be a native lowan since she Shares that she attended Northwood-Kensett High School. You'll understand if I don't tell her graduation date—no lady ever does. She pursued her educational career at the University of Northern Iowa earning her B.A. degree in Business Education. She followed up at Morningside College by earning her Master's in Teaching. She has continued her learning through graduate course work from Upper Iowa University and her alma mater, UNI.

As I listened to Diane and Sethanne DeGabriele, another new member this year, chat at our September meeting, I realized that, when we get together, we just don't limit our sharing to our academic life, but we are likely to share the other important parts of our lives. It was enjoyable to eavesdrop on her family life: she' is married to Matt, and they live with their two daughters Jayden (9) and Chloe (7) in Garner.

When I asked about her mentor, I was not surprised by her answer as many of her colleagues Would probably say the same thing about the former NIACC Business Division chair, Gary Christianson, husband of fellow XI chapter member, Colleen. It is not surprising that Gary earns high praise from Diane, when she says. “Gary served as an amazing mentor to me. He empowered me, motivated me, and believed in me. He is an outstanding role model and always gave me valuable advice.” I echo Diane's sentiments as another person who found Gary an influential person to work with.

Now that Diane has been a part of the NIACC family for so long, I wondered what her advice might be to those teachers we meet daily who are just getting started. Ever positive, Diane reminds our new professionals to “expect the unexpected and plan for it; have high expectations, and have fun!” Diane also shared with me a favorite memory of being a teacher. She does a good job of reminding us of one reason we might, ourselves, consider when we think about our profession: “The teaching profession has many intrinsic rewards. To me, it's a wonderful feeling to see students succeed. Therefore, one of my favorite experiences is watching the graduation ceremony at NIACC. It is very rewarding when I see a former student walk across the stage and achieve his/her goals.”

I'm right with you, Diane, with a tear in my eye when they do just that.

## Minutes of September Meeting

The September meeting of Delta Kappa Gamma was held on September 20, 2011 at the Prime 'n Wine in Mason City. Social Time was 5:30 pm. The Business meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Barb Wells. 19 members responded to role.

The minutes were approved as printed. Judy Witte gave the Treasurer's Report. The bank balance is \$3048.94 and the Grant-in-Aid fund is \$2148.41. Colleen Christiansen submitted a bill for membership supplies and flowers. Karen Regal moved and Karen Dole seconded that the bill be allowed. Pro vote followed.

### Committee Reports:

*Membership:* Colleen Christiansen introduced the 4 initiates for this evening: Chrismar Orton, Cindy Weber, Sethanne DeGabriele and Diane Frank. She also announced that Dedra Stanton, a teacher at Mason City High School, was a candidate for Iowa Teacher of the Year and was one of the Top 5. Congratulations, Dedra!!

*Correspondence:* A thank-you letter from Phyllis Oetken was read.

*Old Business:* Barb Wells reported on the State Convention in June.

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Dinner was served and enjoyed by all.

Initiation was held at 7:15. Those assisting with the ceremony were Becky Alexander, Carolyn Reeder, Colleen Christiansen and Judy Piersma. Kathleen Nelson was the soloist.

We welcomed our new members and congratulate Chrismar, Cindy, Sethanne and Diane on their membership in Delta Kappa Gamma!

A rose was presented to Betty Burley who has been a member for 55 years!!

Initiation was followed by Committee Work. Members met to plan the programs for our coming year. Information will be sent to Katie DiMarco for the yearbook.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Paula Warren  
Recording Secretary

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## Mission Statement

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Chapter President: Barb Wells Newsletter: Karen Dole, Karen Regal, Kari Wagner

Xi Chapter Website: <http://www.orgsites.com/ia/xichapter/>  
Upsilon State Website: <http://deltakappagamma.org/IA/>