



# INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™



## THE ROSE

Newsletter of Alpha Iota Chapter  
Region XI NC DKG  
Cherokee-Clay-Macon-Graham  
Swain-Jackson-Haywood Counties



### What's new in this issue:

- International News
- NC DKG News
- Chapter News
- President's Message
- Celebrations & Concerns
- Dates to Remember

### Classroom Practice/Program

## Handicrafts: Lessons in Sustainability and Knowledge for Life

By Malin Ambjörnsson and Marianne Skardvås

The authors discuss the importance of ongoing instruction in handicrafts as a way to support individuals' creativity and help them adopt practices that increase awareness of our impact on the planet.

After teaching handicrafts to pupils ages 9–13 at a compulsory school for the intellectually challenged in Skövde, Sweden, Malin Ambjörnsson was still filled with fervor for handicrafts. Leaving her position at the school and starting an enterprise called Mud Valley Design Craftroom, she sought to convey the same message as she had offered at school—but now to adults. She wanted to support learners through courses but also create a meeting point to inspire people to create and design. Malin is familiar with many techniques, such as weaving, spinning, tangling, printing, knitting, needlework, and lace making. All these techniques have been used in her teaching. But ultimately, the Mud Valley enterprise stands for creativity, textiles, entrepreneurship, and environmental consideration.

Malin long ago left behind the old-fashioned way of teaching craft in which all students were working on the same item at the same time, such as sewing an apron or crocheting a potholder. Today, the process in creating objects is the main point: getting an idea, planning, doing, redoing, and, finally, reflecting on the finished object. In this process comes learning about materials, techniques, colors, and shapes and how they can be used together to create something beautiful and useful.

Malin's approach to handicrafts is much broader than working in different materials and different techniques. It is a question of conveying a message for **sustainability and knowledge for life**. Malin points out that the finalized product is not always the most important part of the learning. Rather, it is the journey—the process—that is important. Handicrafts is a subject where students are trained in many skills—social skills, cerebral skills, creative skills, and design skills. For example, youth today live in a culture of haste and speediness; thus, practicing patience might be of value for life. Similarly, learning to take care to achieve a product to one's own satisfaction will also be a meaningful life learning. Furthermore, handicrafts are not just manual activities but are deeply connected to social and natural subjects. If one is not content with the colors of the object he or she is creating, for example, it is possible to dye it using knowledge from other subjects such as natural sciences.



Vintage Belle - April Tallant, NC; Spring 2022 DKG Fine Arts Gallery

Collegial Exchange • 29

## International Conferences

DKG will host three International Conferences in July 2023. Detroit, Michigan; Phoenix, Arizona; and Tampere, Finland, will offer enriching fellowship, stimulating speakers, and personal and professional growth opportunities.

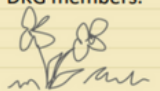
The common theme for all three events is "Moving Forward with Vitality, Relevance, and Sustainability in Our Changing World" with a focus on growing personally and professionally in our changing world. Each conference offers an exciting location where members can create lasting memories with their DKG sisters.

Look at our 1st VP's artwork in International's Collegial Exchange!

The International Fine Arts Gallery Submission window for Spring gallery ends February 15

### Is your DKG profile up-to-date?

- Sign into the DKG website — [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)
- Click on your name in the top right corner.
- Select a pencil to update your phone number, email address, or mailing address.
- Be sure to click SAVE at the bottom!
- Select the "My Participation" tab to make your information visible to other DKG members.
- Need help? Here is a [helpful tutorial](#)



## State News



*NC DKG Leadership: Honoring the Past,  
Embracing the Present, and Inspiring the Future!*

## 2023 NC DKG Leadership Seminar

*Where: Caraway Conference Center, Sophia, NC (near Asheboro)*

*When: March 25-26, with an optional event on March 24, 2023*

*Who: Everyone who wants to further their leadership at the local, state, or international level*

The 2023 NC DKG Leadership Seminar is coming soon. Don't wait! Register today. There is space for 30 attendees ready to have a fantastic time while learning some new leadership strategies. There are sessions for those new to DKG and those who are already leaders but want to take their leadership in DKG to the next level. Accommodations, meals, snacks, leadership development sessions, and fun are included in the registration fee! Accommodations are single occupancy, and registration is "first come, first served." Friday, March 24, will be an optional day for those who wish to arrive early. This will be especially helpful for those who are traveling greater distances. There will be dinner at a local restaurant and time to relax in a beautiful setting Friday evening. Dinner is optional, and everyone will pay for their meal. Saturday morning, March 25, will begin with a continental breakfast (included in your fee). Nikki Steckroth is planning some activities to keep everyone entertained on Saturday, including a trip to Seagrove to visit some working pottery studios to see the potters at work. Afterward you may have lunch as a group or on your own with participants paying for their meals. Saturday afternoon, March 25, is the official beginning of our seminar. Check-in will begin at 2:30 p.m., and programming will start at 3:00 p.m. The seminar ends after lunch on Sunday, March 26. The registration fee includes all programming, dinner on Saturday, and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. Caraway will cater these meals, and the food is fantastic. It is served buffet style, so you can choose what you would like including vegan and vegetarian options. Lunch and dinner always have a salad bar, as well as entrees, sides, and desserts. Make plans now to attend the Leadership Development Seminar as we "honor the past, embrace the present, and inspire the future" of NC DKG! For more detailed seminar information or to register, click the links below:

[Leadership Seminar Registration Form](#)





[Schedule](#)

[Session Descriptions](#)



State News

*Linking the Past, Present and Future...  
Key Women Educators Moving Forward*  
April 28-30, 2023

<i>Date Due</i>	<i>What It Is/Link to Form</i>	<i>Contact</i>
Feb. 15	<a href="#">Workshop Proposal Form</a> 	Second Vice President <a href="#">Tammy Cullom</a> First Vice President <a href="#">Hilda A. Parlér</a>
Mar. 15	<a href="#">Convention Program Ad Form</a> Direct questions to <a href="#">Carol Bostian</a> 	Mail checks to: Leslie Black, NC DKG Treasurer, 4715 Little Mountain Rd., Catawba, NC 28609-8212
Mar. 15	<a href="#">Marketplace Vendor Form</a> 	Finance Committee Chair <a href="#">Dr. Barbara Perry-Sheldon</a>
Apr. 9	<a href="#">Convention Registration</a> 	Convention Treasurer <a href="#">Leslie Black</a>

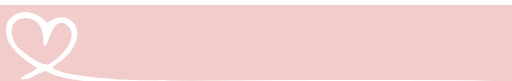


REGISTRATION AND HOTEL

Registrations for the 2023 NC DKG Convention are coming in, and plans are being finalized for the Greenville event to be held April 28-30.

Early registration is open until April 9. The fee increases \$10 after that date, and meal tickets and materials are not guaranteed. Hotel registration is available through the Holiday Inn website but is easiest made with a phone call to the hotel at 252-355-8300 during normal business hours.

Mention the code DKG for the group rate.



## State and Chapter News

## 2023 NC DKG Convention Project



The 2023 NC DKG Convention Project will provide support for the Food Bank of the Albemarle. This agency works to fight hunger and poverty in 15 NC counties, including Beaufort, Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington. NC DKG will collect monetary donations and food items including canned meats, proteins, vegetables, fruits and soups; dry goods such as pasta, cereal, rice and dried beans; and toiletries such as personal hygiene items, toilet tissue, and laundry soap that are necessary essentials that clients cannot obtain with food stamp benefits. Monetary donations may be made on the convention registration form. They will also be accepted at a table set up at the convention. Checks and money orders may be written to Food Bank of the Albemarle with reference to the 2023 NC DKG Convention Project. Chapters and/or members are invited to support the convention project with donations. More information can be found at <https://afoodbank.org/>.

Alpha Iota Membership is Awesome!

Having a blast with our members! President Tracie hosted the winter executive board meeting at the Sylva Public Library. What a view we had from the balcony! New membership chairperson, Kathryn Kantz wants to remind us that nominations for new members will be approved at the March Meeting. If you have not asked anyone to join our chapter and know some key women educators who would enjoy being involved with our amazing chapter, engage with them in a conversation about the benefits of membership in DKG. We have so much to offer on so many levels! Watch your emails for more information on new member nominations.



## Alpha Iota News

Next Meeting Saturday March 18th @ 10 AM  
Macon County  
Lead Host: Pat Davis

Location:

Cartoogechaye Baptist Church  
465 W Old Murphy Rd,  
Franklin, NC 28734

Regrets must be received by Friday,  
March 10  
to Pat Davis at [garypatdavis1@gmail.com](mailto:garypatdavis1@gmail.com)

- +Leadership Development Program
- +Committee Updates
- + New member nominations
- +Chapter shirt delivery

## UPDATE!

The Alpha Iota Chapter Polo shirt will now be  
**\$3 more than advertised.**

( deadline to order is Feb. 15th)

The vendor/supplier of the shirts have increased their prices to our printer. You will write your check to Alpha Iota when you receive the shirt at the March meeting.



## President's Message



These first several weeks of 2023 have been a whirlwind and even the phrase “time flies” can’t capture its full impact. It’s in this rapid pace that I reflect on the investment time plays in my day to day decisions within those finite 24 hours in a day. Does the time I spend on social media, whether personal or professional, have the return of investment that I hope for? For me, one 3 sentence social media post can take up to thirty minutes to develop - Oy Vey! Yet, I hope those brief posts shine a light on those around our region who are working diligently to impact one person and one community at a time.



As we sprint into March, our organization has the opportunity to invite new members to join our cause. Through our mission filled work for local scholarships, international educational opportunities for female students, and more, it is our opportunity to share with those the value of joining our group. During our time together, we gain the sisterly collegiality of one another, and create opportunities for others as we join hands locally, nationally and internationally! Your paragraph text

**Dr. Tracie Metz**  
**President**  
**2022-2024**

In our upcoming March and May meetings, our team will engage in discussions for how Alpha Iota’s investment in one another and in our community can be strengthened even more in the days to come! Thank you for your investment of time in our group and for reaching out to others who can join us.

Thanks,  
~t

[Presidents pin photo credit](#)  
[Awardconcepts.net](#)

### Celebrations and Concerns

- Congratulations to Kathryn Kantz’s daughter Lena, who has received grants/scholarship to attend graduate school in Cambridge, Massachusetts at the Longy School of Music.
- Congratulations to Suzi Cabe who is now fully retired!
- Alissa Cheek is celebrating the near completion of the Cherokee County School of Innovation and the successful field trips to the school by every 8th-11th grader in the district.
- Terry Gribble is celebrating an all clear health report after a recent biopsy.
- April Tallant is excited to be presenting a poster at a conference in Savannah next week. She recently wrote a grant for the Coulter Faculty Center to provide a guest speaker to the staff of WCU to help combat faculty burn-out.
- Sandra Marr is continuing her self-education via travels abroad. She recently found the Christmas Markets in Germany and Austria especially fascinating.
- Sharon Perry recently celebrated her daughter Sara’s college graduation and wedding!
- Thoughts and prayers to all members experiencing illness or loss. We wish you the best and hope to see you in March!

Please submit information for the newsletter to editor: Dedra Davis



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Save the Dates



LINKS

International Website: [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)

NC DKG Website

Alpha Iota Website <https://alphaiotanc.weebly.com>

ALPHA IOTA

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Alpha Iota Chapter Meetings

March 18  
May 20

Macon County  
Clay County

Upcoming DKG Events



April 28-30, 2023	NC DKG State Convention Greenville, NC
July 11-16, 2023	DKG International Conference, Detroit, Michigan
July 18-22, 2023	DKG International Conference, Phoenix, Arizona
July 26-29, 2023	DKG International Conference, Tampere, Finland
2024	DKG International Convention National Harbor, Maryland (Gaylord National, D.C. Area)

Please submit information for the newsletter to editor: [Dedra Davis](#)  
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