

*Winter 2021*



*The*  
**WHEEL**  
*of*  
**DELTA OMICRON**

# The Wheel

## Educational Journal of Delta Omicron

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### Editorial Assistant

MICHELLE WORTHING

Winter 2021

Volume CVI

Number 1

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Mabel Dunn (Mrs. Earl Hopkins) ..... d. 1955  
Hazel Wilson (Mrs. Edward Bowsman) ..... d. 1920

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## *From the Editor.....*



### ***Dear Brothers and Sisters in Delta Omicron,***

In December I read “Wintering: The Power of Rest and Retreat in Difficult Times” by Katherine May. It was the perfect book to read as we collectively stared down a long and difficult winter. We were still trying to stop the spread of a virus in a worldwide pandemic and we were waiting patiently for the vaccine to get to us. Katherine May writes that we have a tendency to think of our lives as linear, but in reality they are more cyclic. We don’t live in a perpetual spring or summer, but instead have periods in our lives of winter. She writes this nugget as if it will be new information to some people. Life runs in cycles? Not in one long line? Not a surprise to me. As musicians we travel a cycle every year: fall marching band, honors ensemble auditions, holiday concerts, Twelfth Night concert, winter doldrums concert, playing for Easter Sunday, spring concerts, pit orchestra for local spring musical,

singing the National Anthem at the ball park, Memorial Day parade, summer community band, and back around to marching band again. Once again music has prepared us for some of the more difficult aspects of life: the cycles of death and renewal.

I hope this issue finds us slowly coming out of a long and dark winter. I’ve spent this time resting and reevaluating. I’ve taken the time to read and to practice things that I want to practice and enjoy playing my instrument again.

Members of Delta Omicron have found ways through our winter, which you’ll read about in this issue. The National Board has met over Zoom and performed ceremonies and rituals. After all, winter isn’t a dead season, but a period of rest and rejuvenation. Already the trees have buds.

Love, in D.O.,

*Elizabeth Feters*

Elizabeth Rusch Feters



## *From the President.....*

*Dearest Members,*



I hope this letter finds you safe, rested and ready for all the joy that the spring season will bring us. As our lives have changed drastically, especially for those of you who are practicing musicians, our fraternity has worked hard to adapt and maintain the ideals we were founded upon. One of my favorite parts of our “new normal” (is anyone else tired of that phrase yet?) is the fact that we held our first ever online Founder’s Day Ceremony. It was so great to see collegiate and alumni members from all over gather and celebrate our fraternity. The conversations after the ceremony reminded me of those around the dinner tables at conferences. Connecting with members is my favorite part of serving as your President.

Last year the fraternity voted on a change to the bylaws which allows alumni chapters in good standing to initiate new members. This is an exciting way for our fraternity to continue to ex-

tend the bonds of fraternity to musicians in our communities. If your alumni chapter is interested in performing an initiation ceremony, please contact me for your supplies.

Your board has made the difficult decision to postpone the conference for one year, to July, 2022 in Norfolk, Virginia. This decision was not made lightly, but it was made to insure the safety of our members and stability of our financial future. Although delayed, we still cannot wait to see you all again in person next summer.

Love in DO,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kimberly N. Martin-Boyd".

Kimberly Martin-Boyd  
International President



*Board Members lead a virtual initiation over Zoom. Contact the 1st VP to schedule your virtual initiation.*

*Members participated in a virtual Founders' Day Ceremony over Zoom.*



## *Please Note and Save the Date*

**Delta Omicron Triennial Conference 2022**  
**July 27-30, 2022**  
**Norfolk, Virginia**

The national board is concerned for the safety of our members. Although the vaccine is being to roll out across the country, the board has decided to err on the side of caution and postpone our conference to 2022. The good news is that we were able to move the date without incurring a financial penalty, and we'll be able to stay in the same hotel and conference center in Norfolk, Virginia. The new conference dates are July 27-30, 2022. Please mark your calendars and plan on joining us for a great reunion of brothers and sisters in Delta Omicron with exciting live music performances and our composition competition winner.

Please consider a conference sponsorship. You can sponsor anything from a full day of conference to a meal to name tags. Contact President Kimberly Martin-Boyd for more information. We appreciate your support. Also consider applying to perform in the alumni or collegiate recital. We love hearing members perform. Contact Music Adviser Brenda Dannewitz for more information. As you return to shopping and maybe even an outdoor flea market, keep an eye out for fun music-related items to bring to the silent auction. And, keep working on those chapter scrapbooks for the scrapbook contest.

## *From the First Vice-President...*

### *Wonderful Delta Omicron Brothers and Sisters,*

What a whirlwind of a year this has been. I know many of you end 2020 with bodies worn from taking the additional mile to be extraordinary, hearts weary from the anxiety and grief of the year, and minds pleading for a break from the constant barrage of processing information. As easy as it is to focus on the overwhelming and discouraging, find moments from this year to celebrate and goals and moments of anticipation for 2021!

I have so enjoyed seeing our collegiate and alumni chapters continually striving to make Delta Omicron a priority. In a time that we are constantly being asked to reinvent normal, you have gone above and beyond to ensure that Delta Omicron is persisting in your communities! Thank you for continuing to fill out your reports, sending emails, and filling The Wheel with your accomplishments and endeavors.

As we look to 2021, find opportunities to lift each other up. Push yourself to be the best version of you that you can be, but find moments to rest. Stay safe



and healthy during this time, and embrace the community that you have around you!

Finally, continue to represent Delta Omicron well as we look for opportunities to lift up and empower the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color community in our nation. We are here for our alumni of color and we want to celebrate your accomplishments. I encourage you to continue to put actions with words: listen, educate, and act for the good of everyone.

Yours in D.O.,

Augusto Gil  
1st Vice President

## *From the Second Vice-President...*

*Dear Fellow Delta  
Omicron Alumni,*

What a year it continues to be! It seems like nothing is normal and there is no clear end in sight. I hope that you and your family remain safe and that Delta Omicron has been a source of comfort during these trying times.

Change and uncertainty seem to be the themes of 2020. I am teaching “concurrently” which means I have music students in front of me as well as at home on the computer. There is never a dull moment.

I would like to take a moment to focus on the positives of this new “virtual” world. I have appreciated being able to “Zoom” into alumni chapter meetings and meeting new people in the fraternity. Please continue to invite me and I will attend your meetings as I am available. I am glad to be able to meet with the Board of Directors more frequently and touch base more often. Delta Omicron was able to do its very first virtual prospective member ceremony and initiation. It was so nice to actually



see our new members. This would not have been possible previously. I do admit that technology has benefited our fraternity and we have all learned that yes, we can in fact “D.O.” hard things.

Please remember, we are still planning on holding our conference this summer in Norfolk, Virginia. We would love to see you there! Look for more details to come soon!

Please enjoy time safely and responsibly at home with your family. Reach out via phone calls and Zoom and stay connected with Delta Omicron as much as possible. We are here for you, even if you just want to say “hello.” Thank you for always being the solid base of our wonderful fraternity.

Love in D.O.,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads “Stephanie K. Thompson”. The script is cursive and fluid.

Stephanie Thompson



## *From the Music Adviser...*

### *Hello Delta Omicron Family!*

As I reflect at the end of this very challenging, indescribable year, I think of how honored and proud I am to continue to serve as your National Music Adviser. I am amazed at all our collegiate and alumni chapters who keep Delta Omicron thriving and surviving. Thank you for sending in reports and for keeping the national board informed of what is happening with all of you. I especially enjoyed connecting with different chapters and maintaining that relationship via text, email, phone and Zoom!

I am so inspired by the creative work you achieved during this challenging year. Keep it up! In addition to the great work you've done, you continue to impress me with innovative ideas to keep your chapter communications strong.

With conference now scheduled for 2022, please don't forget to submit audition materials to

be considered for performance. If you are selected to perform, all expenses are paid for you to attend. It is a fun, yet humbling experience to perform in front of an audience of your Delta Omicron sisters and brothers. I cannot wait to hear each of you!

As always, you can contact me with any questions about reports, meetings and/or Delta Omicron.

Musically yours,



Brenda Dannewitz



### **Delta Omicron Executive Office:**

P.O. Box 30558  
Indianapolis, IN 46230  
Phone: (865) 471-6155  
Email: doexecsec@gmail.com

## *From the Treasurer...*

***Dear Brother and  
Sisters in  
Delta Omicron,***



I hope that you and your families were able to enjoy some quality time together during the holiday season, whether in person or electronically. 2020 has been an unexpected, challenging year that we will be talking about for many years to come.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank all of the collegiate chapters who have been able to fulfill their financial obligations to the Fraternity. We have been so impressed by how our collegiate chapters have continued to meet and initiate new members in spite of the restrictions of this virus.

We would also like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to the alumni members who have generously supported the Fraternity financially. We have had a record number of new life memberships and gifts during the last several months and we are thrilled to have reconnected with "lost members." Without your continued support, Delta Omicron would not be able

to continue operating during this pandemic.

I hope that you have been able to stay safe and healthy during these trying times. I know that I have been able to find some solace in music-making with some of the ensembles I sing, ring, and play with, in spite of many restrictions and I look forward to the day when those restrictions are lifted and we can continue to make beautiful music together without masks and social distancing.

I wish for you and your families a blessed, safe, and healthy 2021 and look forward to the possibility of meeting many of you at our next Triennial conference.

In D.O.,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura L. Thurier".

Laura Thurier

# *Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity Chapter Operations and the Coronavirus*

The Delta Omicron National Board is continuing to monitor the news about the Coronavirus (COVID-19). We understand that schools across the country are in a hybrid model, closed, open, or some combination for an indefinite period of time. We know that this is challenging for collegiate and alumni chapters. We want all of our members to be safe and healthy.

We know that being away from your chapter is not ideal. If your school is operating on a hybrid model, please contact the executive office with that information: doexecsec@gmail.com. Please follow guidelines from your school and public health agencies.

**General Membership:** No matter the status of your school, Delta Omicron members are still Delta Omicron members for life. The National Board members are here to support you however we can.

**Meeting Requirements:** Do your best and take your cue from your school. If your school is on a hybrid model, hold chapter meetings and events virtually. Alumni chapters should postpone all

in-person meetings. Take advantage of the wide range of services over the internet to hold meetings such as; Google Hangout, Skype, WebEx, FreeConferenceCall.com, Zoom, Slack, or TWEN.

**Holding Elections:** Consider holding elections online through SurveyMonkey.

**Initiation:** Contact the First Vice-President for information about hosting a virtual initiation. do1stvp@gmail.com.

**Fraternity Supplies:** If you need supplies, *the executive office is open* and sending out supplies. Please email the executive office: doexecsec@gmail.com.

**Financial Obligations:** Please pay your financial obligations as soon as possible by check or through PayPal. New alumni can immediately start paying toward their life membership.

**Reports:** Please continue to complete and submit reports to the national board.

**National Virtual Musicale:** Delta Omicron is still hosting a National Virtual Musicale for members. Record your performance, upload it to social media,

and tag us with #DONational-Musicale.

### **Basic Health Guidelines for Delta Omicron Members:**

Refer to the CDC's website for official updates and recommendations: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

- If you are sick, stay home and rest.
- If you have symptoms that include fever, cough, or shortness

of breath, and are unsure if you need medical attention, contact your health care provider.

- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Members with underlying health conditions, who take medications that suppress their immune system, are 65 and older, or who have other risk factors, and who have cold or flu symptoms should consult with their health care provider immediately.



### *Corrections and Amplifications:*

With the sudden shutdown of many schools in the spring, we missed publishing **Episilon Iota's** awards. Please join me in congratulating these two members.

**Senior Honor Pin - Cecilia Yip**

**Star of D.O. - Toni Richardson**

## *Lost D.O.s*

In each issue, we are listing about 50 “lost” D.O.s, in hope that perhaps you might recognize a name or two and help us locate them. A Lost D.O. is a Delta Omicron member for whom first class mail is returned as undeliverable. These members were initiated between 2002 and 2003. If you do know the whereabouts of any of these members please contact our executive office: P.O. Box 30558, Indianapolis, IN 46230. Phone: (865) 471-6155. Email: doexecsec@gmail.com.

### **Alpha Alpha**

Jodi Gerarden

### **Alpha Gamma**

Paula Johnson  
Brenda Shanks Swinson  
Elissa Thomas

### **Alpha Epsilon**

Andrew Bolden  
Andrea Weatherman

### **Alpha Eta**

Diana Wrobel  
Laura Laney Sosh

### **Alpha Psi**

Lindsay Zwart

### **Alpha Chi**

Elizabeth Johnson

### **Alpha Theta**

Julie Adolphsen  
Jennifer Hull

### **Alpha Zeta**

Patricia Nichting  
Rennie Salata

### **Alpha Alpha**

Constance Wojtasiak  
Nieforth

### **Gamma Beta**

Chenitha Reddick  
Crystal Turner

### **Gamma Kappa**

Leslie Cook  
Colleen Ritter  
Candice Thurston

### **Gamma Psi**

Jonathan Cambron Lanham  
Caitlin Donohue  
Erin McQuire  
Abby Winterberg

### **Gamma Pi**

Jennifer Davenport  
Jennie Hoose  
Laura Crouthamel

### **Gamma Iota**

Beth Bernstein

### **Gamma Omega**

Bridgett Wanner Bakhtiari  
Marshall Bessieres  
Dustin Lee Callahan  
Essie Burton  
Kevin Coffey  
William Ogburn  
Orlando Yabes, Jr.

### **Gamma Mu**

Laura Crouse  
Philip Staso

### **Gamma Chi**

Deborah McMechan

### **Gamma Upsilon**

Elizabeth Bruner  
Bethany Witter

### **Delta Delta**

Tiffany Durr  
Erica Underwood

### **Delta Nu**

Emily Schmidt  
Susan Fisher  
Melinda Smothermon  
Hensley

### **Delta Tau**

Meg Slachetka  
Christopher Boyd  
Jennifer Rich  
Peter Thaxter  
Rebekah Nolan  
Corina Snoeren  
Bethany Stalder



## *Lost D.O.s*

### **Delta Chi**

Andrea Kahle  
Rachael Miller  
Sarah Preston  
Joshua Hermansen  
Renae Younghuns Nicholson  
Adam Wacha Zrust

### **Delta Iota**

Melissa Stouffer Andres

### **Delta Sigma**

Johanna Baker  
Christopher Culp  
Bryan Kline  
Alyssa Varner  
Scott Kemerer  
Jonas Sterner  
Heather Warner  
Stacey Womer  
Linsey Lowe

### **Delta Theta**

Suzanne Skok

### **Delta Psi**

Heather Blossom  
Christina Ryan

### **Delta Upsilon**

Andrea Vallejo

### **Epsilon Epsilon**

Alleena Koss

### **Zeta**

Rebecca Cole  
Jessica Heard  
Linda Pulley  
Miranda Turner  
Jamie Bonacum  
Courtney Drown  
Katherine Fondrisi

### **Eta Beta**

Elizabeth Skelton

### **Mu**

Veronica Dicker  
Alyssa Beachum

### **Omega Alpha**

Marybeth Cave  
Nora Erhardt  
Brandon Moss

### **Omicron Beta**

Jennifer Howland

### **Omicron Delta**

Amy Adams

### **Omicron Epsilon**

Laramie Jackson  
Sheridan Mosley

### **Omicron Zeta**

Rachael Haines  
Amanda White  
Valorie France Jonas  
Suzan Matney

### **Omicron Theta**

Erica Owens  
Donald Shubkie

### **Omicron Omicron**

Natalie Adcock  
Rebecca Cannon  
Valerie Cole  
Jeremy Huffman  
Michelle White  
Courtney Wright  
Laura Taylor

### **Omicron Phi**

Ashley Birkholz  
Katie Murwin Campbell  
Sarah Sprifke

### **Omicron Psi**

Crystal Isabell  
Adrienne Wilson  
Hannah Smith  
Erin Wilbanks  
Autumn Pate  
Parissa Gharavi

### **Omicron Omega**

Meredith Melvin  
Amy Zordon  
Jodi Lau

### **Sigma**

Amanda Conley  
Meghan Guse

### **Upsilon**

Alisson Stevenson  
Jamie King

# In Memoriam

Melba Ethel Norwood  
February 27, 1951 - March 13, 2012  
Initiated Omicron Delta, January 1, 1971

Phoebe Oliphant Kuebler  
April 9, 1940 – January 1, 2017  
Initiated Delta Upsilon, March 1, 1959

Patricia Jefferies Wegman  
December 28, 1945 - March 21, 2019  
Initiated Alpha Xi, May 1, 1967

Janet Aycock Fields  
October 18, 1953 - August 14, 2019  
Initiated Alpha Psi, November 1, 1972

Joan Bartelt Sorenson  
July 28, 1928 - July 6, 2020  
Initiated Delta Eta, March 1, 1947

Paula Kay Parsche  
August 1, 1950 – July 13, 2020  
Initiated Alpha Phi, July 1, 1971

Patricia Anne Fite Butler  
d. August 4, 2020  
Initiated Delta Phi, March 1, 1954

Judith Gilmore Kirby  
d. August 7, 2020  
Initiated Sigma, March 1, 1959



# In Memoriam

Mary Helen Romine Vaughn  
August 16, 1940 - August 12, 2020  
Initiated Zeta, May 1, 1959

Mary Jane Tudor Pennycuff  
d. September 2, 2020  
Initiated Alpha, February 2, 1976

Janet Schoonmaker Hempton  
January 6, 1926 - September 12, 2020  
Initiated Rho, December 1, 1946

Alva Jean Muther  
July 1, 1930 - September 24, 2020  
Initiated Alpha, May 1, 1950

Maryalice Weller Seaholts  
March 7, 1927 – September 24, 2020  
Initiated Chi, February 1, 1948

Dorothy Rankin  
May 3, 1916 – October 3, 2020  
Initiated Chi, November 1, 1949

Melinda Joyce Roellig  
December 6, 1982 - November 15, 2020  
Initiated Zeta, March 30, 2013

Anne McGuire  
Initiated Delta Theta, March 1, 1974



## *Remembering our Delta Omicron Members in the Chapter Eternal*

**Melba Ethel Norwood** was initiated into Omicron Delta chapter on January 1, 1971. She entered the Chapter Eternal on March 13, 2012. She was a resident of Denham Springs and native of Baton Rouge. Ethel graduated from Southeastern Louisiana University in Education. She retired from East Baton Rouge Parish school system having taught at Prescott Junior High School. Internment was in Greenoaks Memorial Park.

**Phoebe Oliphant Kuebler**, 76, of Valparaiso died Sunday, January 1, 2017 after a series of long illnesses. She was born in Warren, Ohio on April 9, 1940 and attended Kent State University as a music education and French Horn major.

**Janet Lee Aycock Fields** was a charter member of the Alpha Psi chapter on November 1, 1972. She entered the Chapter Eternal on August 14, 2019. Growing up in Avondale Georgia, she attended Avondale High School and was the drill captain in the band. In her youth and teen years, she was very active in the Girl Scouts of America and achieved their highest honor, The Curved Bar. She graduated from Newberry College with a degree in music and received an Master of Business Administration degree from Queens University.

**Joan Bartelt Sorenson** was initiated into the Delta Eta chapter on March 1, 1947. She entered the Chapter Eternal on July 6, 2020. Joan grew up in Mayville, Wisconsin. She attended University of Wisconsin Milwaukee and graduated with a degree in vocal music. She went on to be a vocal music teacher in Oconomowoc, Mayville, and Elmbrook schools for over 20 years. Internment was at Wisconsin Memorial Park.

**Paula Kay Parsché** was initiated into Alpha Phi chapter on July 1, 1971. She entered the Chapter Eternal on July 13, 2020. She was the Wilhelmina MacDonald Chair of Music for the music department at Florida Southern College and a faculty member since 1980. The school will establish a scholarship in her memory. Paula earned her bachelor's

degree at Florida Southern and a master's in piano performance from the University of South Florida. Paula was featured on the school's website with a statement reading in part: "My goal as a teacher and mentor is to challenge each student, at his or her level, to explore the vastness that is music. I strive to encourage students to seek means by which to gain informational context, develop and implement skills and strategies, and communicate in appropriate and diverse ways." She received the Ben and Janice Wade Award for Outstanding Teaching in 2005. Paula often performed in Branscomb Auditorium on campus, accompanying students and fellow faculty members in concerts. She also performed often at the Tuesday Music Club, a private performance space in Lakeland that hosted recitals for nearly a century before closing in 2015. She was a founding member of the Hollingsworth Trio, a professional chamber music group active for 25 years.

**Anne Butler** died on August 5, 2020. A native of Anniston, Alabama, Anne developed an extraordinary vocal talent early in life that took her to Auburn University on a voice scholarship and later to Jacksonville State University. Anne was in demand for her brilliant soprano voice for church choirs, special events, and weddings. Anne and her family served as foster parents for 15 years. Anne also worked as a Geriatrics Counselor, which inspired her to write, "Where Has Grandma Gone," a book aimed at helping children understand Alzheimer's Disease.



**Judith Gilmore Kirby** was initiated into Sigma chapter on March 1, 1959 and entered the Chapter Eternal on August 7, 2020. She was a beloved music teacher in Flossmoor, Illinois and also directed choir at Flossmoor Community Church. Judy earned a bachelor's degree in music education at Illinois Wesleyan. Tributes from her students were featured on WGN9 TV Chicago on August 10th and on US99 Chicago's Country Music Station on August 11th. Judy taught at Western



Avenue Elementary School for 35 years. When her former Flossmoor students learned their dying teacher could no longer speak herself, they sang to her one last time. They sang to her from outside her care facility window, and through laptops and cell phones.

**Mary Helen Romine Vaughn** was initiated into Zeta chapter on May 1, 1959. She entered the Chapter Eternal on August 12, 2020. She attended the University of Louisville and earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education and also earned a Master's in Education from Murray State University, Kentucky in 1967. Mary Helen taught with Jefferson County Public Schools for 30 years as a music and choir teacher and as a school counselor. Mary Helen was active with the Kentucky Music Educators Association.

**Mary Jane Tudor Pennycuff** was initiated into Alpha chapter on February 2, 1976. She entered the Chapter Eternal on September 2, 2020. Mary earned a bachelor's degree in Music Education from Berea College, Kentucky. She did graduate work in musicology at the University of Redlands in California, studied voice with professional tenor David Johnston in Oxford, England, and did graduate work in vocal pedagogy at Southeast Missouri State University. She taught music at schools in Kentucky, Texas, California, Mississippi, as well as in England at the USAF Dependent's School RAF Upper Heyford, Our Lady's Convent in Abingdon, and finally at the University of Southeast Missouri State, Model School. Mary later managed the piano and keyboard department at Mannerino's Sheet Music, where she worked until retirement in 2003. She was a soprano soloist and directed church choral and handbell choirs. She studied voice well into her 70's and was still performing soprano and coloratura repertoire. The Chorister's Guild published her children's choral music, and the Cincinnati Camerata commissioned her to compose a choral suite entitled "The Seeds of Love." She also composed "The Day is Past and Gone" for the October Festival Choir, which was premiered under the direction of Philip Brunelle in 2002.

**Janet Louise Schoonmaker Hempton** was initiated into Rho chapter on December 1, 1946 and entered the Chapter Eternal on September 12, 2020. Janet graduated from Wilber Lynch High School

in Amsterdam, New York and attended Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester where she majored in flute and minored in piano. She was the State Music Chairman of the General Federated Junior Women's Club in New Jersey and Choir Director and President of South Jersey Music Teachers Association.

**Melinda Joyce Roellig** died November 15, 2020 in Clarksville, Indiana from COVID-19. She was an avid musician, artist, and a beloved educator in Indiana for nearly 15 years. She was born on December 6, 1982 in Greenock, Strathclyde, Scotland while her father, James Roellig was stationed abroad. She later grew up in Indiana where she went on to earn her Undergraduate and Master's degrees in Music Education from the University of Louisville where she was initiated into Zeta chapter on March 30, 2013. Melinda was a part of her high school and college marching band and Tau Beta Sigma Sorority. Melinda served as a fine arts educator at Rock Creek Community Academy, she was also a member in the Indiana University Southwest Community Band where she was mentored by Phil Thomas. Melinda touched the lives of many and leaves behind a legacy of creativity, inspiration and kindness. She was the kind of person everyone loved and she always knew the right words to say. She would often quote lines from Harry Potter and during this time of sadness she would have chosen this quote; "But you know, happiness can be found even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light." – Albus Dumbledore



## *Maryalice Weller Seaholts*



Mary Alice Weller Seaholts, age 93, passed away on September 24, 2020. Mary Alice was born in Shelby, Ohio and attended The Ohio State University graduating with a degree in education and music with majors in piano and voice and a minor in organ.

She taught in the Kent (Ohio) City school system. She was president of the Kent State University Orchestra Society for 23 years and was instrumental in organizing that group. During her time with the Orchestra Society over \$800,000 in scholarships were awarded. She and her husband set up two charitable trusts to assist orchestra musicians. She also was involved with many community groups including Meals on Wheels, Coterie II, Chestnut Society, The United Methodist Church in Kent, the Kent State University Alumni Associations, and was a Life Member of The Ohio State University Alumni Association. Mary Alice was also inducted into the Kent City Schools Hall of Fame for major contributions to Kent City schools. She continued to accompany vocal music performances at Stanton Middle School at 90 years of age.

Mary Alice was initiated into Chi chapter at The Ohio State University and was a charter member of Zeta Omicron alumni chapter in Kent (founded in 1956), serving in many offices, including president. Until very recently she continued to be active in that chapter, especially organizing their spring tea, which featured the recipient of Zeta Omicron's yearly scholarship to a Delta Upsilon member.

## *More Memories of Gladys Zate*

*Editor's note: Jennifer Dixon of Zeta Alpha chapter sent us a few more memories of Gladys. For additional memories, please see the Summer 2020 issue of The Wheel.*

**Mary Abbot** is a long-time member of Delta Omicron. She is currently in her 90's, but she remembers Gladys fondly.

My most vivid memories of my dear friend Gladys are of the many years (almost 70 years) of driving to and from the triennial D.O. conferences we had such a good time! We always shared a room and one of my work associates at Kmart made a sign for us to hang on the hotel room door for every conference, which everybody did then. Our sign said, "From A\_bbot to Z\_ate" so everyone knew who we were and that we knew ALL about D.O. from A-Z!! We had such fun at those conferences and many wonderful times with all our sorority sisters. Throughout the years Gladys and I attended many social events together and went to all sorts of concerts and operas at the Detroit Symphony and the Met[ropolitan Opera in New York City] as well as the Michigan Opera Company. Gladys my friend, you are truly missed.

### **Jennifer Dixon**

I got to know Gladys in the late 70s when I was a collegiate member of Delta Theta at Wayne State University. Over the years when I became a member of the alumni group, Zeta Alpha, we became good friends and my best memories of our times together were when we started having fun playing piano duets "just for the hell of it." We both felt that we needed to keep the "old gray matter" working and what better way is there than to play music together!! We had many a laugh and giggle as we "practiced." We had so much fun that Gladys suggested that we should make it into a comedy sketch to perform for our chapter! Gladys loved to direct and was well known for her theater skills. Often she would direct and write skits for her family club and for D.O. too I believe! She felt sure that we two could do this also! Oh boy!! We finally decided after so much laughing and joking about our piano skills that it would not be fair to submit ANY audience to such stress and happily continued having fun 'practicing.' I miss you Gladys.

## *Memories of Dorothy L. Rankin*

### *From Virginia Miller and Zeta Chi Chapter*

Dottie Rankin was born May 3, 1916 and died on October 3, 2020 at the age of 104. She attended Ohio State and was initiated into Chi chapter in 1949. At the time of her death she was still an active member of Zeta Chi. She retired from teaching music in 1982. A very small service of prayer and scripture was performed for her at a park and attended by her pastor, her Stephen Minister, three of her caregivers and their spouses, and Virginia Miller. As the small group was leaving, the sun came out. Everyone agreed that Dottie was smiling down on them.

Treasured friend, fun, delightful and more, describe Zeta Chi's beloved Dorothy. She was a beautiful lady, inside and out. Dorothy had fashion sense and always dressed nicely, had her hair styled and make-up on, even though she still had color in her face and really didn't need make-up. Dorothy did something that most of us never have done; she taught for the Department of Defense in three countries, Japan, Germany and France. She later taught in Ohio. Her apartment was filled with treasured items from her travels. Virginia took Dorothy to chapter meetings, which she attended until she was 102! She enjoyed the performances so much. Members said she was always a pleasure to see because she was so friendly, was so interesting to talk to and had such a beautiful smile. Our drives there and back thrilled her - she didn't miss a thing and loved seeing all the trees, bushes and flowers. She was an avid gardener. When she could no longer do it, she had her home caregivers do it and she was right out there with them and telling them what to do. Her back door entry was lined with pots of flowers and hanging baskets - so many that you only had a little path to get to the door. Something was



*Dottie with the Reverend John W. Neely, Associate Pastor for Music, organist, and choir director at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Dayton, OH*



blooming all year. In the winter, she brought many inside her apartment and into the building entryway. She was an active member of the Centerville Garden Club (as well as many other clubs) for many years. Dorothy lived at the Greenville (her hometown) Community Home the past couple of years. Her last week of life the aides heard her

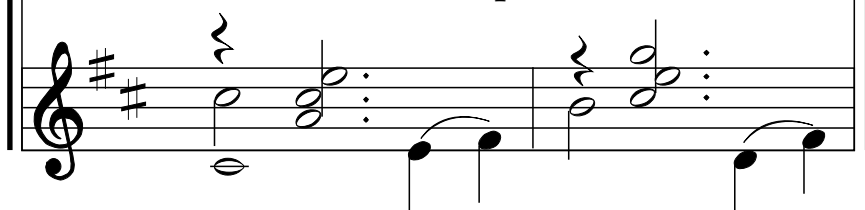


*Dottie with Virginia Miller*

softly singing and her pastor heard her humming a scale. Dorothy was loved by everybody. She and Phyllis Conrad traveled together when Phyllis had D.O. functions to attend. Zeta Chi has lost two amazing ladies in 2020, two “Giants in D.O.” Surely there are two special stars in heaven named for them. How fortunate we were to have had their friendship in our lives.

## *Anniversaries*

Happy 95th Anniversary  
to Zeta Alpha!



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### Archives Note:

Archives can be sent directly to  
Ann Jones at: 3024 Belltown  
Road, Bedford, VA 24523.

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## ***Richard Worthing***

### ***National Patron***

*Editor's Note: When I was initiated into Delta Omicron in 1997, Miki Worthing was our province president. I memorized her name along with Ann Jones for my test. A few years later, I met her at Kent State University where my husband and I completed our masters' degrees. I also met Professor Worthing, who was the dean of the college when I studied there. Miki is another one of our "Pearls of D.O." and she's my fearless editorial assistant for The Wheel. I'm sure I speak for everyone in Delta Omicron, Miki, when I say that we are all mourning the loss of Dick with you.*



Richard D. Worthing passed away on July 1, 2020. He was born in Castalia, Ohio and received his Bachelor of Science degree from Kent State University and completed his Master's and Doctoral work at Michigan State University. He served as assistant Director of the Conservatory of Music at Baldwin Wallace College for three years and then joined the music faculty at Kent State University where he taught music theory, analysis and orchestration and served as coordinator of Kent/Blossom Summer Music Festival. In 1979 he became assistant Dean of the College of Fine and Professional Arts, retiring as Dean Emeritus of that college in 2004. His service to the university was recognized in the conferral of The President's Medal in 2004. He was a well-respected teacher and mentor to countless students and colleagues. He served on several boards and associations. His compositions were published by Ludwig Music Company and was piano accompanist for his daughters and D.O. member "Miki" for 56 years. His hobby was woodworking and he crafted beautiful furniture for his family.

Dick became a National Patron in 1996. He was always a staunch supporter of all things D.O. especially helping during two conferences that were held at Kent State in 1984 and 1996.

The university has established a Kent/Blossom Music scholarship so that his legacy will continue. Donations can be made in his memory to the KSU Foundation or to the Delta Omicron Foundation.

## ***2020-2021 Rotating Grants***

### **Collegiate**

*Epsilon Iota*, Austin College, Sherman, Texas will use their grant to support local music teachers during the pandemic.

*Alpha Alpha*, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, Wisconsin will use their grant to award an individual scholarship to a jazz student. The chapter typically does fundraising events for jazz students, but due to campus closures they haven't been able to fundraise. The scholarship will be awarded to a jazz student who displays great musicianship and character. The selection will take place in collaboration with the Stevens Point jazz professor.

*Delta Psi*, Judson College, Marion, Alabama will use their rotating grant to support their local band program.

### ***Notes from the National Music Council***



The NMC is pleased to report the third release of preliminary results in the Performing Arts Aerosol Study. This study has been sponsored by a coalition of music and performing arts organizations. To read the complete report, please visit the National Federation of State High School Associations at: <https://bit.ly/3n6nIcr>.

NMC also thanks music educators for their work during the pandemic. To see a collection of "thank yous" visit the NMC website at: <https://bit.ly/38WUeZl>.

## ***2020-21 D.O. Foundation Grants Recipients***

*D.O. Foundation Update:* The Delta Omicron Foundation sends greetings to all fraternity chapters and members as we move into 2021 with hope the pandemic will dissipate and a brighter future is in sight for our country and the world. In 2020 all of us adapted to how we go about our daily lives, but surprisingly we have learned new things along the way. Virtual connections made access to family, friends, classes, church, shopping, medical advice all possible. Our fraternity and its chapters modified procedures. Our Foundation trustees met virtually for the first time. Author Vivian Greene noted, "Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass. It's about learning how to dance in the rain." As this pandemic storm passes, we better appreciate our person-to-person connections. Hopefully, those renewed connections will be a blessing to us all as we move into the future.

Sadly, the Foundation lost two of our Trustee Emeriti this year with the passing of Phyllis Conrad and Judith Kirby. Those were two great D.O.'s who fulfilled the Delta Omicron Creed in their many fraternity and Foundation activities and in their daily lives. They are greatly missed. The Foundation also extends our condolences to the D.O. families that suffered Covid-related illness or death in 2020-21.

The Foundation awarded ten educational grants to music college students for the 2020-21 academic year. Each of these grants was made possible by donations from Delta Omicron's Zeta Sigma and Zeta Eta Alumni Chapters, estate memorial funds (like the Reba A. Will and Grace Kwak grants), or by individual donations made to the Foundation. If you or your chapter donated to the Foundation's Principal Fund last year, you made five of these grants possible. We especially thank Joyce Harn for her gracious contribution that fully funded this year's grant that is in her name. The ten grant recipients were as follows:

***Alyssa Eiden*** (Kay Wideman Educational Grant) is a 2019 graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point where she earned degrees in Choral and General Music Education and Vocal Performance. She is pursuing a Master



of Music degree in Vocal Performance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She also has completed training to become a certified Suzuki Voice teacher.

**Andrew Warriner** (Reba A. Will Memorial Grant) is a senior at Central Michigan University and will graduate in the spring of 2021 with a Bachelor of Music Education in Instrumental Music and a minor in Political Science. A percussionist, Andrew is in the SMU Choir, is active in Delta Omicron, the National Association for Music Education, and Fish 'n' Chips Acapella, holding leadership positions in those groups. After graduating from CMU, he will be pursuing his dream of being a high school band and choir director.



**Angela Jacoby** (Reba A. Will Memorial Grant) is a senior at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. A saxophonist, she is an instrumental music education major and a French minor. She is active in UWW jazz ensembles, both combo and big bands, several sax quartets, sax ensemble, symphonic wind ensemble, marching band, and basketball pep band.



**Becca Davis** (Reba A. Will Memorial Grant) is a senior choral music education major attending Samford University. She participates in the University Chorale and Worship Arts Ensemble (WAE). Becca has served as secretary and Music Director for the Omicron Gamma Chapter. She also serves as the music ministry intern at Covenant Presbyterian Church (PCA) in Birmingham, Alabama, assisting with the chancel and children's choirs.



**Christian Clark** (Reba A. Will Memorial Grant) is a senior music education major at Central Michigan University studying both the piano and trombone. He became a D.O. in the spring 2017 and has served as Secretary and Director of Musical Activities, organizing the Young Artist



Scholarship Competition and the Patricia Nixon Memorial Scholarship Competition. After graduating, he will pursue a Masters in Collaborative Piano and then teach in the public schools as a band director.

**Edward Garner** (Grace Kwak Memorial Grant) is a junior pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Music (Pre-Medicine) with a Minor in Chemistry at Samford University. Edward is the Drumline Captain for the Samford University Marching Band and a member of the Samford University Percussion Ensemble and Wind Ensemble. He currently serves as Treasurer for the Omicron Gamma chapter. After graduating from Samford, Edward plans to attend medical school. While he is still undecided about what specialty he will pursue, he believes majoring in music will prepare him to work efficiently, bring new perspectives, and be detail-oriented in his future profession.



**Helen Smith** (Phyllis Conrad Memorial Grant) is a senior vocal performance major and management minor at Moravian College. She was initiated into Delta Omicron her sophomore year has served as Publicity Director and Treasurer for Gamma Pi Chapter. She is a member of the college mixed and women's choirs, chorale, and guitar ensemble. Helen is also an active member of the Christian Fellowship club on campus, as well as College Republicans, Turning Point USA, and work study. After graduating in the spring, Helen will be heading to Nashville, Tennessee to continue her career as a country music singer and songwriter.



**Kathryn Lemon** (Reba A. Will Memorial Grant) is a junior pursuing a degree in Music Education at Central Michigan University. She is a member of the percussion studio, plays bass drum in the Chippewa Marching Band, and is active in the university percussion ensemble, symphony orchestra, and symphonic wind ensemble. She is a member of the Delta Iota Chapter and CMU's NafME Chapter 102. She is the current treasurer of CMU's NafME Chapter and is also section leader of the CMU Drumline.



**Melissa Valone** (Robb Family Fund Grant) is a senior at Western Kentucky University, majoring in Instrumental Music Education with a focus on flute. Melissa performs in five flute choirs (one of which performed for the annual Flute Society of Kentucky Convention), six masterclasses, and the Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble. She is currently the President of the Omicron Omicron chapter. After getting her degree, Melissa plans to obtain her diploma in Instrument Repair and teach.



**Raven Aiken** (Joyce Harn Educational Grant) graduated from Carson-Newman University in Jefferson City, Tennessee, where she received her Bachelor of Music Education- Instrumental and Vocal. While at CNU, she participated in wind ensemble, marching band, various chamber groups, Carson-Newman Music Teachers Association, and Delta Omicron. Raven was an active member of the Alpha Gamma chapter and served as publicity director for the 2018-19 school year and treasurer for the 2019-20 school year. Raven continued her studies at Eastern Kentucky University in fall of 2020 with an assistantship in the orchestra, working towards a Master of Music in French Horn Performance.



***Applications for  
educational grants  
for the 2021-22 academic year  
are currently open.***

**Deadline for applications is April 30, 2021.**

**Applications may be found  
on the Foundation website:  
[www.dofoundation.org](http://www.dofoundation.org)**







## ***A New Foundation Endeavor- Youth Music Education***

Another area that the Foundation is focusing on is financial support for national music organizations that foster youth music education particularly in low-income areas. We did so in 2017-18 with the Denver Youth Artists Orchestra, the Colorado Youth Symphony Orchestra, and the Denver Children's Choir through an estate memorial to Zelma Zimmerman Mawhinney. This year, through a gracious gift from Michelle Worthing in memory of her husband Dr. Richard Worthing, we are supporting the San Diego Youth Symphony Conservatory's Opus Program.

### ***Foundation Support***

Tax deductible donations may be made online at [www.dofoundation.org](http://www.dofoundation.org) for our projects. Donations can be specified for grants, the MacDowell Delta Omicron Cottage maintenance, or the new national youth music education project. Large or small, donations help maintain the Foundation endeavors. Estate planning materials are available by emailing [jramsey18@verizon.net](mailto:jramsey18@verizon.net).

### ***Summer Scholarships***

Delta Omicron Summer Scholarship applications are due April 15. Summer Scholarships can only be used for short-term, NON-CREDIT summer workshops or camps. These may be located in the USA or internationally. The scholarships cannot be used for graduate or undergraduate for-credit study, or for-credit study abroad. Scholarships may not be used for conferences and conventions.

We hope to be able to award scholarships to members, however due to the pandemic, Delta Omicron reserves the right to limit or suspend awards this year. We will be in touch with applicants if scholarships are not available this year.

Applications and information on [www.delta-omicron.org](http://www.delta-omicron.org). Select "Resources" and then "Scholarship Information."

# NORFOLK



*Save the Date!*

## *Delta Omicron Triennial Conference 2022*

*July 27-30, 2022*

*Waterside Marriot  
Norfolk, Virginia*



## ***Chapter Awards***

### **AWARD OF EXCELLENCE**

Delta Iota  
Alpha Gamma  
Omicron Sigma  
Zeta Sigma  
Zeta Chi  
Zeta Alpha  
Zeta Eta  
Zeta Zeta

### **CHAPTER EFFICIENCY**

Delta Omega

### **MUSIC**

Epsilon Iota

### **CAMPUS/COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Gamma Mu  
Omicron Delta  
Delta Nu  
Zeta Delta

### **PUBLICITY**

Epsilon Iota  
Alpha Phi

## **PROGRESS**

Sigma  
Omicron Omega  
Gamma Mu  
Delta Omega

## **ALUMNI CLUB OF THE YEAR**

Lincoln Alumni Club

## **BEST NEW ALUMNI CLUB OF THE YEAR**

Knoxville Alumni Club

## **AID TO COLLEGIANS**

Zeta Omicron



## **Chapter Advisor of the Year**

Kathy Vail

## **Province Presidents of the Year**

Chris Justice, Zeta South  
Laurie Zeller, Beta

## *Chapter News and Individual Honors in Highlight*

*Editor's Note: With many chapters still unable to meet "as usual" the "Chapter News" and "Individual Honors" have been combined into one section. Please continue to send in your reports, even to tell us that you're doing Zoom meetings and virtual activities.*

### ALPHA NORTH

**Delta Upsilon** (*Kent State University, Kent, Ohio*) Members have been meeting via Google Meet. Selection of prospective members was discussed at their last meeting. Through strict protocols and social distancing, many members were able to perform with university ensembles this fall. **Audrey Smith** played in the marching band for two games. **Jessica Brind**, **Michaela Brugmann**, **Julia Sterbenz**, **Gabriel Parish** and **Nicole Cummings** performed in the Wind Ensemble concert. **Alan Goetz** played in the orchestra concerts and **Nicole Cummings** performed in the New Music Ensemble. Chapter advisor **Janine Tiffe** served as an African music consultant for Music Workshop, served as a guest speaker at the University of Iowa, and she took over the Glauser School of Music Twitter account for a Twitter-based conference through Swansea University (Wales). She also received the Distinguished Achievement in Service Faculty Award from Kent State University.

**Zeta Sigma** (*Cleveland, Ohio*) Meetings via Zoom were held in October with **Ann Droste**, flute, performing a set of flute pieces titled "Quarantunes" by Ricky Lombardo. **Joan Robertson**, violin played a set of pieces for a sing-a-long. Because of meetings held via Zoom, long time, but long-distance members from Florida (**Joan Robertson**), Mentor, Ohio (**Carla McHenry**) and North Carolina (**Nancy Forestieri**) were able to join the meetings. **Ann Droste** has continued to attend many flute conferences as well as maintaining her flute studio via the computer. **Trish Lawrence** sang for several church services, **Joan Robertson** plays for her residence group from the balcony, **Fran Hawthorne** has performed with her handbell choir at her church, **Su Tams** has done recordings of anthems for a virtual choir in Beaufort,

North Carolina and **Sylvia Schneider** prepared a virtual Christmas concert of her piano students as a gift for their parents. **Mary Ann Obert** led the chapter's Founders' Day ceremony. Instead of the chapter's usual Christmas party at which members donate clothing items for children serviced by Guidestone (a behavioral health agency), members contributed monetary donations of more than \$550 to be used by Guidestone as needed.

**Kent (Ohio) Alumni Club** continues its support of Delta Upsilon chapter at Kent State University and of the fraternity. Collections were made in memory of the husband of member **Denise Seachrist**, for a scholarship fund at the Stark campus of KSU. Donations were also given to The College of The Arts Emergency Fund, designated for a music student and a donation was made in memory of National Patron **Richard Worthing** (husband of member **Michelle Worthing**) to the Richard D. Worthing Scholarship Fund for Kent/Blossom Music. Member **Sara Burky** and her husband have both recovered from covid-19. Member **Laurel Seeds** was given the title of Professor Emeritus on her retirement from KSU's Stark County Campus music department. In November **Sharon Alberson** presented one of her original musicals at her church. She has also posted several performances of her songs on YouTube.

## ALPHA SOUTH

**Zeta Chi (Dayton, Ohio)** Virtual auditions in April resulted in scholarships award to two high school seniors who were introduced to Zeta Chi at their September meeting. They were invited to perform at the October meeting via Zoom. The chapter met three times via Zoom, hosted by **Linda Snyder**. Programs included a discussion on how covid was affecting their teaching and other activities, a program of piano music and a concert by the Dayton Performing Arts Alliance. Members that are teaching in the public schools are **Debbie Drake**, **Killary Toerner** and **Kristen Gooley**. **Mary Fahrenbruck** serves on the board and booking committee of Chamber Music Yellow Springs and practices daily to maintain her performance level during the pandemic. **Linda Snyder** serves on the National Association of Teachers of Singing Advancement committee and is director of the NATS Intern Program for Professionals at the University of Dayton. She served as

presenter and committee member for the June 2020 national virtual conference. **Susan Carlock** continues her home piano studio both virtually and live and is active in the Ohio Federation of Music Clubs. She chairs the OFMC Junior Division composition contest, her students winning many awards. **Brandon George**, flute and Zeta Chi patron performs with the Imani Winds. He is a former student of member Virigina Miller. The chapter mourns the death of long time member **Dorothy Rankin**, past president of Zeta Chi. Dottie was 104 years old, taught music in the community and abroad and was a strong advocate for music.

## BETA PROVINCE

**Delta Iota** (*Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan*) The chapter's annual fall retreat was held virtually this year. Delta Iota combined their open recruitment event with Phi Mu Alpha, Kappa Kappa Psi and Sigma Alpha Iota. **Christian Clark** recorded a rendition of the Delta Omicron prayer. The chapter's musicales were moved to an online recorded format and were presented once a week. Prospective members performed in a virtual musical on Nov. 10. The chapter held their Founders' Day ceremony (virtually) on Nov. 7 and held another musical for members of Zeta Alpha alumni chapter. The chapter also held virtual musicals to keep the joy of music through this unusual time. Musicals were held on Oct. 9, **Christina Caron**; Oct. 16, **Jacob Hornick**; Oct 23, **Christian Clark** and **Alex Proust**; Oct. 30, **Stephen Andrews**, **Jacob Hornick**, **Kyle Wendling**, **Andrew Warriner**, **Paige Webb**, **Alex Proust**, **Kathryn Lemon**, **Joseph Haynes**, **Jennifer Gladkowski**, **Conor Weir**, **Rebecca Henning** and **Chad Bischoff**; Nov. 7, **Christina Caron**, **Christian Clark**, **Conor Weir**, and **Dylan Flanagan**; Nov. 13, **Sierra Datillo**, **Kyle Wendling**, **Gabrielle Bass**, **Dylan Flanagan**, **Paige Webb** and **Kathryn Lemon**. Delta Iota members also sent out a program of live music for local nursing homes. The chapter initiated its spring 2020 class that included **Chad Bischoff**, **Hanna Costa**, **Jennifer Gladkowski**, **Rachel Green**, **Rebecca Henning**, **Mason Hicks** and **Connor-Michael Weir**. Three on-line rushing events were held, including a scavenger hunt, a trivia night and a game night. **Emily Gradowski**, **Kayla Hoyt**, **Jared Jones**, **Riley Kruger**, **Spencer Perilloux** and **Allison Spens** became prospective members and then were initiated on Nov. 10. The alumni ceremony was held for **Hay-**



**ley Dwire.** Delta Iota members set up a pen pal system with local nursing homes allowing members and residents to write letters and feel more connected to one another. They also organized “warm and fuzzies” throughout the entire school of music allowing students to acknowledge the hard work of their peers. Other members’ activities included: **Alexander Prout** performing at “A Prelude to A Season, Live From Staples! Auditorium and Jazzlab1 in the great outdoors;” **Rebecca Henning** performed on Dee’s Vocal Music Competition and on Live from Staples!, at the American Choral Director’s Michigan State Conference, on CMU’s voice area recital, in the choral Vocal Day Masterclass and in the CMU choirs fall concert; **Rachel Green** performed on Live from Staples! Brass Ensembles and New Music from the Composition Studio and performed in the CMU wind symphony concert; **Chadd Bischoff** performed a recorded session for YouTube and **Christian Clark** performed on CMU’s Keyboard Area Recital.

## DELTA PROVINCE

**Zeta Eta** (*Bloomington-Normal, Illinois*) All chapter meetings were held via Zoom which were coordinated by **Sharon Lunday**. In September the chapter watched a program presented by President **Kimberly Martin-Boyd**, cello, accompanied by First Vice President **Augie Gill**. She also gave a preview for the 2021 Triennial Conference. The October meeting featured **Sharon Lundy**, flute and the November meeting **Kimberly Martin-Boyd** performed with **Rex Moore** on the harp. In August the chapter lost a former Sigma member, **Judy Gilmore**. **Marilyn Musick** has been playing hymns via recording for her Sunday morning online services as did **Lou Ann Fillingham**, **Colleen Rapp** and **Navana Ahrends**. Member **Kay Sire** has agreed to be Sigma’s chapter adviser, beginning the first of the year. **Sherrill Williamson King** was able to connect with **Navan Ahrends** through reading several issues of *The Wheel*. They had not been in contact for over 50 years. Both were initiated into Sigma chapter in 1961. Navana also sent out a request to all members asking for their comments about the pandemic. Many replied, including **Lou Ann Fillingham** who stated “the pandemic is teaching us many things-endurance, patience, flexibility and much more.” Members are all continuing their music activities, but in different, mostly virtual ways.

## GAMMA PROVINCE

**Zeta Zeta** (*Denver, Colorado*) The chapter awarded scholarships to Jake Treasure Berger (strings) and Jessica Dias (percussion), music students at the Metropolitan State University of Denver. Members held several virtual programs including a Lecture/Recital on Brahms's Variation on a Theme of Schumann by **Donna Levine**, piano, "An Exploration of Music Therapy" by **Sara Wise**, and a student recital featuring students of **Marlena Hooker Moore** from the Denver School of the Arts and the Denver Metro Area. Another Zoom program was given by **Dr. Grace Asquith**, composer and pianist, Pedal II.

## IOTA PROVINCE

**Delta Omega** (*Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, Alabama*) Delta Omega members decided to showcase collegiate, alumni and faculty members on each of their social media platforms. They have supported local music fundraisers and worked on fall recruitment for new members. They held a giveaway for a gift card to Get Personalized, a local vendor in Jacksonville, to raise funds for their outreach efforts. In June they assisted with a piano cleaning for practice room pianos. On each of their social media platforms, they have been showcasing collegiate and alumni/faculty members, supported local music fundraisers and functions, and shared fun facts regarding D.O. in preparation for fall recruitment. Performing in the JSU Civic Symphony concert was **Emily Pointer** and **Andrew Carodine** performed in the JSU Chamber Singers concert. Playing in JSU Tubaween was **Chris Boles** and **Emily Pointer**. **Andrew Carodine**, **Andrew Epperson**, **Noah Gibson** and **Emily Pointer** performed in the JSU A Capella Choir concert and with that same ensemble performance at the American Choral Directors Association, Southern Region Collegiate Choral Festival. **Brad Walker** played with the JSU Jazz Ensemble. Performing at JSU Marching Southerners Bands of America Grand National Championships were **Sammy Cermack**, **Noah Gibson**, **Perry Heiden**, **Brandon Owens**, **Emily Pointer** and **Eric Rush**. **Matthew Reeves** presented a joint recital with **Will Arrington**.

## MU PROVINCE

**Alpha Alpha** (*University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, Stevens Point,*

*Wisconsin*) Members performed “Pinnacle Pieces” that highlighted a famous composition from each instrument that members play. Getting to know D.O. members was posted on Facebook and an informal, in person meeting was held outside of the Fine Arts Building. Individual spotlight pieces showcased a performance by **Rachel Jacobson**.

**Zeta Delta** (*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*) Members **Judy Holterman**, **Jeff Shabman** and **Donna Bizub** watched Zoom as three new Delta Omicron members from three chapters were initiated by the International Board officers in November. The chapter held three Zoom meetings in June, August and October. Eastwinds Chamber Ensemble performed horn and trio works (Music on the Hill) at St. Mary’s Church in Port Washington, WI, which was recorded and presented on YouTube in August. **Donna Bizbu** performed in a program commemorating Women’s Suffrage, recorded outside and which can be viewed online at <https://youtu.be/T2QS-dBDKs>. Donna also performs with the Milwaukee Letter Carriers and is their music librarian.

## THETA PROVINCE

**Delta Chi** (*University of Nebraska, Kearney, Nebraska*) Member **Rochelle Hazelton** was invited to present her research on the composition by Brahms, Op. 91 at the national convention of undergraduate research. **Terran Homberg** was the third place winner for a poster competition for UNK’s undergraduate research week for research on the songs of the Egyptian goddess Isis.

## XI PROVINCE

**Alpha Phi** (*Florida Southern College, Lakeland, Florida*) The chapter held a fall rush event in September.

## ZETA SOUTH PROVINCE

**Alpha Gamma** (*Carson-Newman College, Jefferson City, Tennessee*) Members **Emiley Wilson**, **Maddie Harding**, **Chase Baxles**, **Courtney French** and **Michael Bloomer** presented a socially distanced hymn sing-a-long. The chapter hosted a rush week which included an embroidery night, Kaboom and getting to know the music faculty on campus. Spring 2020 prospective members were initiated in August

and a prospective member ceremony was held in September. The chapter held a music meme competition as a fundraiser in which the winner got their meme made into a sticker and sold in the music department. A Halloween musical was held to raise money and food donations to the food bank at Carson-Newman's campus to help students and community. Favorite Disney songs were performed for the music department and community by **Chase Baxley, Dalton Kretschmar, Tyler Roberts, Grace Thornton, Emily Wilson, Maddy Harding, Gabbi Brewer, Courtney French, Renny Massey, Michael Bloomer and Kayley Horack**. Prospective members **Tyler Roberts, Dalton Kretschmar, Grace Thornton, Renny Massey** and **Makayla Beason** performed for the chapter. Performing for a virtual church service were **Maddie Harding** and **Courtney French**. A Carson-Newman's Men's Chorus video tribute to the retirement of long time director Dr. Eric Thomson included performers **Chase Baxley** and **Dalton Kretschmar**. Initiated in October were **Tyler Roberts, Renny Massey, Grace Thornton**, and **Dalton Kretschmar**. **Makayla Beason** was initiated during the National Virtual Initiation. Performing in the Wind Ensemble and Symphony Winds concert were **Chase Baxley, Emily Wilson, Tyler Roberts, Dalton Kretschmar, Kayley Horack, Renny Massey, Grace Thornton, Michael Bloomer** and **Gabbi Brewer**. **Courtney French** sang at the West Hills Baptist Church throughout October and November and also sang with the Campus Contemporary Christian group. **Chase Baxley** performed at his home church in November.

## ZETA WEST PROVINCE

**Omicron Omicron** (*Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, Kentucky*) Prospective members were initiated at Warren Central High School. The chapter hosted a social event during which prospective members could tie-dye fabric masks with chapter members. The event was held outdoors for social distancing requirements. They also held a T-shirt fundraiser promoting The Big Red Marching Band.



## *Wishing all D.O.s well*

The Executive Office received a donation and a note from Fryda Nicoloff. Fryda was initiated into Sigma chapter on March 3, 1939. She currently resides in San Diego, California and sent us this note:

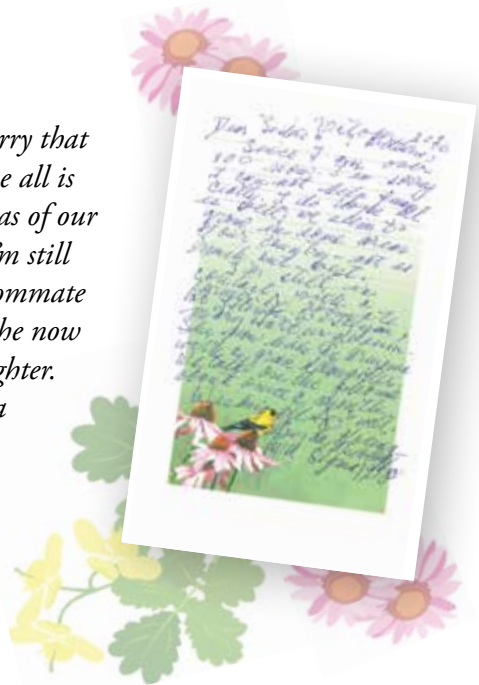
*October 2020*

*Dear Sisters and Brothers,*

*Since I am over 100 now, I am sorry that I cannot help financially. I do hope all is well. We seem to grow in some areas of our country – not so much out west. I'm still in contact with a former D.O. roommate at Illinois Wesleyan Mary Hart. She now lives in Arizona with a granddaughter. We talk on the phone about once a month.*

*Wishing all D.O.s well.*

*Fryda Nicoloff*





***Pearls of Delta Omicron:  
A Conversation with Frances Collyer Gage  
by Michelle Worthing***

*Editor's note: my favorite memory of Fran is at the 2018 conference in Orlando. I was hovering around the lobby at the end of the conference in order to say goodbye to friends and be able to help some of our alumni with their suitcases. Fran appeared with a sweater over her shoulders, white gloves, a frame handbag, and her small rolling suitcase. Quicker than I could say, "May I help you with that?" she was out the door and loading her suitcase onto the shuttle to the airport. Elegant and independent is the kind of D.O. I want to be – just like Fran.*

***Where were you born?***

In Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. When I graduated from college I moved to Wilmington, Delaware for my first teaching position. After several years of teaching and completing my Master's Degree at the Philadelphia Conservatory of Music I married William H. Gage. Following the wedding and reception we left to travel across the U.S. to Pasadena, California where Bill completed his seminary studies at Fuller Seminary. After his graduation and later that summer we moved back east, camping across the U.S., traveling 5800 miles to Philadelphia, and seeing many of the National Parks and some State parks. Bill had been accepted to Princeton Seminary to study for an advanced degree in New Testament. We lived in Philadelphia while he commuting to Princeton, New Jersey, and I took graduate studies at Temple University.

### *How did you meet your husband?*

We met in Sunday School. The classes were all boys or all girls at that time. My class had four girls, the last names beginning with A, B, C, and D. Some years later Bill told me he remembered seeing me that first Sunday when I was introduced, which was a statement I did not believe. I challenged him by asking what the color of the dress I was wearing; he replied, "yellow," which was correct. He added that his impression of me was "My, she's different." My older brother was a constant tease and I was bullied by four boys at school so my conclusion was "all boys ought to be dropped to the bottom of the ocean." We knew each other's families. In high school Bill's dad was my Social Studies teacher two different years. He also became our family dentist. Bill and I were married for 52 years. He was ordained by the Presbyterian Church U.S. and was installed as Pastor of a Philadelphia Church where we ministered for 43 years. Eventually I was asked to become the organist/choir director when a vacancy occurred at the church. I accepted on a temporary basis but that turned into a 41 year position. My responsibilities were the service music at the organ each Sunday and planning and training for one or more of the three choir to sing each Sunday, plus special events. It was a challenging position, but a wonderful growing time for me. We had two daughters, Ruthanne and Frances.

### *Where did you attend college?*

I attended the University of Pennsylvania. (The other option was Temple University which didn't interest me very much then). My second sister Adelaide, also a member of Delta Omicron, was already a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania working on a graduate degree in Liturgical Music. She had a full time position at a Philadelphia bank as well as being organist/choir director of a local church. My major was music and I minored in English. I received a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree with a major in music. At that time there were more men than women at the university.

### *How did you become interested in Delta Omicron?*

My sister, Adelaide, was already a member of the Delta Lambda chapter at the University, so it was easy to learn about the organization. I pledged as a freshman and was initiated my sophomore year. I served as treasurer of the chapter in my junior year and as president in my



senior year. As of this date I have now been a Delta Omicron member for seventy years.

*Were you a National officer?*

On several occasions I served as a temporary province president for Epsilon Province, was National Treasurer for 16 years. Currently, I serve as vice-president of the Delta Omicron Foundation.

My sister Adelaide served as National Treasurer for the Fraternity and later as President. She served as a trustee for the Delta Omicron Foundation and then as its second President. She was a great model for me.

*Any favorite memories?*

I had the privilege to induct Giselle Ben-Dor, conductor, in 1995 as a National Honorary Member at her home in Northern New Jersey, assisted by Catherine Zanotti, then Epsilon Province President. In a ceremony in Philadelphia I inducted Jon Spong organist, teacher and composer as a National Patron in 1990. Other D.O.s present at that ceremony were Adelaide Collyer, and Allison and Maria Ezerman Drake of the Philadelphia Conservatory of Music. Along with Past National President Ann Jones and Deborah Payne, Epsilon Province President we installed Gamma Mu Chapter at Moravian College in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Through the years I have met many interesting and wonderful D.O.'s and have had long friendships with some even though we live miles apart. It was a special delight to serve the fraternity as National Treasurer. For many of those years we met in the home of Jane Kuckuk in Columbus, Ohio for the annual Board Meeting and while they were busy meetings we genuinely had fun times. Jane and her husband, John, also housed most of us during the week. Roxine Petzold was my Province President when I was a collegiate. She certainly was an exemplary star of D.O. and later became National President, followed by being the first president of the Delta Omicron Foundation. She wrote me a most welcome letter when I accepted the Treasurer position for the fraternity.

Conferences were wonderful times, taking place in hotels. The evening dinners and concerts were formal dress affairs which we girls loved. All told a Delta Omicron membership and the experiences involved have been treasured ones. Thank you, Delta Omicron.

## ***Upcoming Due Dates***

### **March 1**

- IB 362al Conference Delegate (alumni)
- IB 365al Equipment and Supplies (alumni)
- IB 367 Financial Report #3
- IB 372 Senior Honor Pin with IB 364
- Chapter Newsletter
- IB 378 Star of D.O. with IB 364
- IB 390 Publicity Reports #3

### **April 1**

- Delta Omicron Summer Scholarships
- IB 341 Member Exam Grade Sheet
- IB 361al Chapter Roster (alumni)
- IB 362 Conference Delegate (conference year only)
- National Investments: IB 364 and payment for Conferences, Endowment, Founders Pennies (alumni, too)
- IB 365 Chapter Inventory
- IB 366 Members Becoming Alumni
- IB 367 Financial Report #4
- PM records and fees: IB 437, 341, 337s, 344
- IB 378 Star of D.O. (alumni only)

### **April 15**

- Summer Scholarship Applications Due

### **April 30**

- Foundation Educational Grants Applications Due

### **May 1**

- Publicity Reports
- Summer Custody
- IB 314 Life Member with IB 364
- IB 361 Spring Chapter Roster
- IB 367 Financial Report #5 (alumni, too)
- IB 370 Patron Induction
- IB 373 Chapter Adviser Report
- IB 374 Adviser and Sponsor Nomination
- IB 375 Annual Chapter Summary
- IB 376 Chapter Annual IRS Report (alumni too)
- IB 381 Music Activities of Year Report (alumni, too)
- IB 382 Chaplain Report (optional for alumni, too)
- IB 390 Publicity Report #4 (alumni, too)

## **Delta Omicron Foundation, Inc.**

PROMOTES THE CAUSE OF MUSIC

- Educational grants named in honor and memory of contributors awarded to Delta Omicron members for graduate and undergraduate study at home or abroad
- Scholarships in Music Therapy and Piano Pedagogy
- The Delta Omicron Composition Competition open to composers throughout the world
- The Thor Johnson Memorial Composition Commission
- Seat Endowment at the Carnegie Hall--Isaac Stern Auditorium, New York; at the Metropolitan Opera House in Lincoln Center, New York; and at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, Washington, D.C.
- The Delta Omicron Studio at the MacDowell Colony in Peterborough, New Hampshire; home of the Petzold-Collyer Memorial Piano
- Support of national and international music endeavors

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Send to: Ms. Susan Tams, Treasurer

2 Wynfield Trace, Winfield, WV 25213

**\* ALL GIFTS ARE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE \***



**Delta Omicron**

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