

*Summer 2020*



*The*  
WHEEL  
*of*  
DELTA OMICRON

# The Wheel

## Educational Journal of Delta Omicron

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**Editorial Assistant**  
**MICHELLE WORTHING**

**Summer 2020**  
**Volume CV**  
**Number 2**

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Lorena Creamer (Mrs. James A. McClure) ..... d. 1977  
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,***

What extraordinary times we have been living in for the past six months. I've been frustrated, angry, disappointed, scared, sad, grieving, depressed, and listless since quarantines and social distancing took effect. I'm sure you're feeling the same way, and it's perfectly normal to have all those feelings right now!

I've drawn strength from thinking about our Delta Omicron brothers and sisters of yesteryear. Many, many members would have had those same feelings during past times of national crisis. We have sisters (sorry, gents, it was just women in those days) in the Chapter Eternal who lived through World War I and World War II, both times of great fear, anxiety, and worry for the future. Those D.O.s also wished it would end, hated new routines

and new lifestyles, lost family members, and stayed glue to the news for any hint of a "return to normal." Of course, it is a dangerous path full of pitfalls and quicksand to put a modern lens on past events: wearing a face mask to the grocery store does not compare to losing a family member on the beaches of Normandy, but the human emotions are the same. Those D.O.s were frustrated, angry, disappointed, scared, sad, grieving, depressed, and listless just like we are today, and yet they kept on continually striving. Like all things, this too shall pass.

Lately I've found a great solace in practicing. At first I was too depressed and I "hung up my lyre." My concerts were cancelled, I couldn't see my students, what point was there in practicing? I'm embarrassed to admit that I've only just recently

returned to my instrument, but it's been an extraordinary return. I have found great comfort in playing old etudes that still fall easily under my fingers. I've been reminded that music continues to serve us in all our needs, good times and bad. If we only pick up our instruments in times of great joy, then we have missed half of what music has to offer. Members of Delta Omicron know this. If you haven't picked up your primary instrument in a long time, do it. Do it now. Even just 15 minutes of playing has made a world of difference to me in my quarantine.

Staying with the times, this issue of *The Wheel* is a little more subdued. If your chapter did not get your reports turned in, or you didn't get to do your musicales, or you didn't get to initiate new members, it's ok. Your national

board is more concerned about your health and safety. We will get those things caught up when we can see each other again. If you find something is missing from this issue of *The Wheel*, we will catch up with that as well in our next issue. Still, chapters were able to do all kinds of neat things before their schools closed, we're looking to the future with hope, and we're remembered some very dear sisters who have entered the Chapter Eternal. Lots of things to rejoice in.

Love, in D.O.,

*Elizabeth Feters*

Elizabeth Rusch Feters

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

### *Dearest Members,*

I hope that *The Wheel* lands in your hands at a time when our country is healthy and has a feeling of healing in their hearts and minds. This is at least the third time I have rewritten this letter to all of you during these crazy unprecedented times. To say this has been one of the most challenging years of my career is an understatement and I have a bad feeling that some of you feel the same way.

This spring when COVID-19 reached our country and threatened the health of so many our fraternity was quick to respond and think about ways to remain true to our vision while keeping our members safe. Most collegiate members were learning from home to end their semester and alumni groups suspended face to face meetings. While this is not the most authentic way to meet I was pleasantly surprised by the positive response from chapters and the creative ways they met, planned, and highlighted



the chapter members and activities online.

Teaching orchestra online was not the most relaxing or rewarding activity, but I am happy to say I survived remote, or as I prefer to call it “emergency learning.” Having to make plans for teaching and leading groups online without prior training or experience has really opened my eyes to things we need to do to move our fraternity forward in years to come. Our board was amazing and willing to meet via Zoom and we brainstormed many things like leadership academies, ways to fundraise, and what recruitment looks like if our country doesn’t return to school as we historically have known it. We also personally checked in on chapters to help ease the transition to online meetings and finishing out the year.

Reality is hard. We know that many of our members have struggled. Collegiates have struggled with missing milestone events like recitals and graduations.

Alumni have struggled with the deep connection that comes from meeting face to face that is currently absent from their lives. The fraternity is struggling, what will it look like if new members are not recruited on campuses? What will it look like if financial obligations are not met? I urge those of you reading this, if you are able, please consider doing a few things that can help your fraternity. First make sure your dues are current, if you are paying towards life membership, consider paying the remaining balance. Second, consider a donation. Many of our chapters were unable to meet financial obligations since they were not able to fundraise. Although we understand their struggle we still have expenses that must be met and we are still planning to hold the Triennial Conference next summer. Third, consider reaching out to a chapter near you. Everyone appreciates a friendly phone call.

We all need a little love and support. All of us. This final edit comes to you after an hour long conversation with my sons about our broken world. We are a family of love. We are a family of acceptance. We are a family that listens and tries our hardest to be understanding of EVERYONE. We are a family of mixed race. We are a family with police officers, who are good people, yet they are judged by others’ actions because of the uniforms they wear. We are a family, Delta Omicron. You are my family. I hope you are safe, healthy and happy.

Thankful to lead and love you,

Love in DO,

Kimberly Martin-Boyd

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

### *Friends and Family of Delta Omicron,*

I hope this issue of The Wheel finds you and your family well and safe.

I know that many of our lives look completely different now than we thought they would just six months ago. The COVID-19 crisis has robbed many of you of graduations, performances, family reunions, and the daily activities that provide many of us structure. If you are like me, the lack of structure has been difficult; however, I have found rest and solace in this extra time which I have been provided. I am so grateful for the time I have had to be intentional with my own family and my family within Delta Omicron. I hope you have also found this to be true, but know that your Delta Omicron brothers and sisters are here to support you however you need.

As we move towards the fall, please take time to think about how Delta Omicron can be intentional throughout the summer and at the beginning of the school year. Our collegiate members are the lifeblood of our organization, but they cannot succeed without the help and



support from our wonderful alumni. Just as our country will find success in unity, so will our beloved fraternity. Reach out to local chapters and see how you can help. Encourage each other to love through Delta Omicron and beyond to make new and stronger connections.

It is also so important during this time to remember the platform that music gives us. Always use your voice for unity, and there is no better time than now to do so - many causes need our support, and no voice is too small. Remember to reach out to our brothers and sisters of color in the fraternity and offer them support and encouragement. Re-

member our educators, especially those potentially facing program cuts and curriculum change due to COVID-19 guidelines. Remember to encourage our members who are owners of small businesses. Comfort our members who have lost loved ones. Music gives us an incredible opportunity to speak and be heard, and we should utilize that in a way that will make the world a better place. I have never known better people than the incredible members of this fraternity, which means I know that we will strive through the circumstances of this pandemic and time and civil unrest in our country.

Finally, as Delta Omicron fords this path of uncertainty, please also consider making a monetary gift to the fraternity. This time has been financially uncertain for many, and Delta Omicron is no exception. If you

are looking for a place to give, please consider donating to Delta Omicron. Your National Board members and I are always here to listen and answer any questions you may have. Let us know how we can help you plant seeds for an even better future.

We are so looking forward to seeing you in Norfolk next summer!

Continue to be creative - musicians are some of the best problem solvers!

Continue to be empathetic - show the world what music can do!

Continue to be a family.

Yours in D.O.,

Augusto Gil

Please note new address for executive office:

P.O. Box 30558

Indianapolis, IN 46230

Phone: (865) 471-6155

Email: doexecsec@gmail.com

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

**Dear Delta Omicron Members,**

What a time we are living in. How many concerts have been cancelled? Recitals skipped? Church choirs silenced? Family members and friends lost? Too many to count and too many to comprehend. In a time when it seems we have lost so much, it's good to remember what we still have. In Delta Omicron, we have a family. A fellowship of kindred spirits always striving for the beautiful. A group of musicians who, despite the odds, find a way to share their gifts and talents with the world. A light in the darkness and a symbol of strength and courage. Delta Omicron has withstood the test of time and our members will pull our fraternity through. This trial will be over, and when it is we will be stronger than ever. Please reach out to other members and alumni and assure them that they are not alone. Now is the time to extend a helping hand to our fellow D.O. brothers and sisters who may be in need. If your alumni chapter or club has been considering a donation to the national organization, now is the time.



Personally, I am an elementary general music teacher who has now been forced, like many, to teach online. My students lost their recorder recital, singing the National Anthem at a minor-league ball game, their spring musical, and spring concert. I am sad that they will not have those memories. I am sad that it looks like schools in Maryland in the fall will probably look very different. It's difficult to wrap my head around. But, I know I will make it work. Delta Omicron has taught me well, and I know that "continually striving, we will attain". It will take all of us, and D.O. has made us strong and ready.

I hope you and your family are safe. Please reach out to your D.O. family for any reason. We are here for you. I cannot wait until the time we can meet again. Love, in D.O.,

*Stephanie K. Thompson*

Stephanie Thompson

## *From the Music Adviser...*

**Hello Delta Omicron Family!**

What a different world we now all live in. I hope and pray for our country and our world.

I am in awe of all our chapters who have found ways to keep in touch and share their love of music with one another. It was heartwarming to read the music and publicity reports and I am so appreciative for you to take the time to send your reports in.

I am truly proud to be a musician and see how the world has reached out with and communicated with music, a strong bond for everyone.

We, as a board, have reached out to chapters so you would know we were thinking of you and keeping you close to our hearts.

I hope some of you will consider composing new DO songs for our songbook. We are always looking for new songs! Please submit them to me.

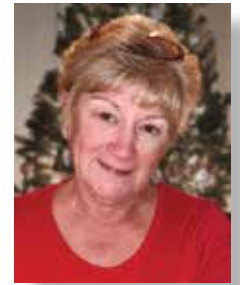
As we are trying to come to terms with this new world please consider performing at the next Conference.

At this time, all recording applications are due by February 1, 2021. This is the BEST way to get to conference- you get your registration and room and board paid for! Please contact me if you are interested and need more information.

I hope you and your families continue to be safe and if I can help you in any way, please feel free to contact me. We ALL are a family.

*Brenda M. Dannewitz*

Brenda Dannewitz





## *From the Treasurer...*

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

I hope that you and your families have been safe and healthy during these stressful, uncertain times. I have never, in my 37 year teaching career, had a school year end like this and I hope I don't have another one. I missed my students so much, and as a teacher of 8th graders, it was not the way I wanted to send them on to high school.

I really missed my music making friends and our weekly rehearsals and spring concerts that were cancelled, more that I thought I would. Belonging to two bell choirs, a church choir and orchestra, there were huge holes in my weekly schedule that I did not like at all. I am thankful, though, that I had music in my life, in spite of the pandemic, but just not in the usual way and I suspect you all feel the same way. I have come to appreciate so much more, all the memories I have had over music-making with so many people throughout my life. What a joy and peace music has brought to me, during this time, even when I wasn't the music maker most of the time!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to thank all



of the collegiate chapters who were able to fulfill their financial obligations to the fraternity even though you were not physically together at the end of this school year. We count on these funds to get us through the summer and into the fall. Those chapters that were not able to do that, we understand the crazy circumstances and hope that you will be able to "catch up" on those payments in the fall when classes resume, hopefully on campus.

The board continues to look for ways to cut costs so that we can remain financially stable during this difficult time. We want to thank all of the members who have reached out with gifts to the fraternity during the pandemic. They have been greatly appreciated and needed to keep the fraternity operating.

The Board continues to make plans for the 2021 Triennial Conference in Norfolk and we hope that you will consider joining us for a time of fellowship and music-making together as members of Delta Omicron.

In D.O.,

*Laura L. Thurier*

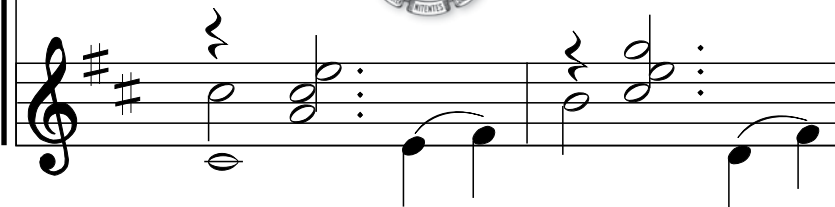
Laura Thurier

## *Anniversaries*

Happy 100th Anniversary in 2018 to Zeta!

Happy 75th Anniversary to Delta Iota!

Happy 25th Anniversary to Gamma Pi!



**Delta Omicron does not stand for and will not tolerate racism, xenophobia, and any other form of social injustice that impacts communities of color. Our purpose as members is to tune our lives into some feeble echo of the life of God, no matter the color of our skin.**

**Do not be silent against injustice.  
Do not hesitate to listen and learn.  
Stand for strength, happiness, and peace.**

**Organizations to consider supporting:  
The Sphinx Organization,  
National Association of Negro Musicians,  
Black Lives Matter, Campaign Zero,  
The Innocence Project**

## *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 many schools across the country are closed, some 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 closed, please contact the executive office with that information: [doexecsec@gmail.com](mailto: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:** For the spring semester, requirements for meetings and musicales are suspended. If your school is closed,

then you should follow the guidelines of your school by cancelling or postponing in-person meetings. Alumni chapters should immediately cancel or 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, FreeConference-Call.com, Zoom, Slack, TWEN, or any other student portal your school uses.

**Holding Elections:** If you have not yet held elections for next school year, consider hold elections online through SurveyMonkey.

**Initiation:** If you have not yet held initiation, plan to do so as soon as you return to campus, even if that means in the summer or fall sessions. Make all prospective members “initiation ready” by having them complete the fraternity knowledge test online. Contact the First Vice-President for information: [do1stvp@gmail.com](mailto:do1stvp@gmail.com).

**Fraternity Supplies:** If you need supplies, the executive office will be sending out supplies as soon as schools reopen. When your school reopens, please email the executive office: [doexecsec@gmail.com](mailto:doexecsec@gmail.com).

**Financial Obligations:** If you are able to meet your chapter financial obligations online through PayPal, great! If not, plan to pay any outstanding obligations once you are back in school. New alumni can immediately start paying toward their life membership.

**Reports:** Please continue to complete and submit reports to the national board. No chapter will be penalized for not completing required activities.

**National Virtual Musicale:** Delta Omicron is hosting a National Virtual Musicale for members. Record your performance, upload it to social media, and tag us with #DONationalMusicale.

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

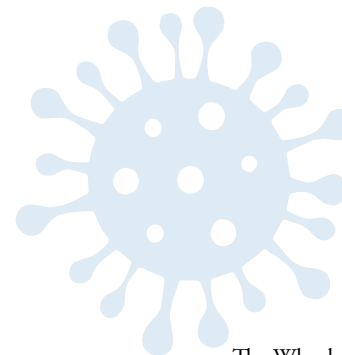
Refer to the CDC’s website for official updates and recommendations: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

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.





## 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 2004 and 2005. 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.

### Delta Theta

Joshua Buyze  
Joshua Neuenschwander

### Upsilon

Ginny Fugett  
Jason Duteil  
Janet Ritter Tague  
Karyn Esten Estela

### Epsilon Epsilon

Andrea Smith

### Omicron Gamma

Laura Lynch  
Jennifer Steiner Walsh

### Gamma Pi

Charles Lutte  
Eric Weiss  
Rebecca Dries  
Alauna Butler

Caitlin Aranelle McNeish

### Alpha Theta

Errin Tucker

### Omicron Omicron

Kristen Rasor  
Jessica Mays Asbrooks

Jessica Broady

Holly Coover

Jessica Dilsaver

### Alpha Phi

Jana Benton  
Daniel Brooks  
Dayna Benvenuti  
Sarah Walters

### Gamma Omega

Laura Cline  
Andrew Connelly  
Lewis King  
Helen Ivory

### Omicron Psi

Jessica Long

### Alpha Epsilon

Melissa Anderson  
Katherine McDaniel  
Leigha Pace

### Delta Delta

Nora Whitehead

### Alpha Eta

Rachael Dowell

## Lost D.O.s

### Zeta

Tiffany Wilson

### Omicron Delta

Maria Burkett  
Alissa Mercurio Rowe  
Patrick Tuck  
Jordan Beard  
Kristen Hilliard  
Mary Phillips

### Gamma Chi

Dawn Hritz  
Chiyo Palacios

### Omicron Alpha

Natalie Emptage  
Aaron Moats  
Victoria Alexander  
Laura Muellner  
Khalida Sims

### Omicron Beta

Kimberly Puckett

### Alpha Gamma

Jonathan Hodge  
Jennifer Justus

### Delta Upsilon

Michelle Thompson  
Kathleen Weimer

### Mu

Carrie Calvin

### Omicron Sigma

Lacey Cofield Bolling

### Delta Iota

Rachel Nemcik

### Delta Nu

Mary Kierst

### Alpha Alpha

Angelina Lopez Frank  
Sarah Porwoll-Lee

### Gamma Kappa

Jenifer Brown

### Sigma

William Dwyer

### Delta Sigma

Joshua Srolinsky

### Delta Kappa

Melanie Baldwin  
Jennifer Linn

### Gamma Mu

Sarah Davis

### Omicron Theta

Jessica Ham

### Gamma Chi

Michael Oberhauser

### Gamma Xi

Shelly Jackson  
A. Rose Rodriguez  
Genevieve Zimnox

Unknown Chapter

George Gray

Selinda Jeffereson

John White

# In Memoriam

Harriet Elizabeth Wyatt Johnson  
June 20, 1920 - May 21, 2018  
Initiated Sigma, March 1, 1939

Elizabeth Bauer Whitney  
January 20, 1943 - March 10, 2019  
Initiated Theta, April 1, 1962

Marjorie Suzann Young Davids  
May 21, 1930 - June 28, 2019  
National Honorary Member, initiated November 1, 1975

Eleanor Froehlich  
June 24, 1926 - January 22, 2020  
Initiated into Beta, March 3, 1947

Joan Kitzrow Luetzow  
March 19, 1929 - February 9, 2020  
Initiated Delta Eta, 1949

Mary E. Wishmann  
September 1, 1956 - March 1, 2020.  
Initiated Gamma Gamma, May 1, 1975



# In Memoriam

Sister Marion Verhaalen  
1930 - March 16, 2020  
Initiated Delta Eta, 1971

Carol Joyce Kline  
May 23, 1923 - March 25, 2020  
Initiated Sigma, 1957

Gladys Zate  
January 1, 1927 - April 15, 2020  
Initiated Beta, March 1, 1957

Phyllis Conrad  
May 18, 1927 - March 1, 2020  
Initiated Alpha, March 1, 1946

Virginia Mead  
January 31, 1930 – February 22, 2020  
D.O. National Patroness

Virgil Hughes  
1924 - April 29, 2020  
D.O. National Patron



## *Harriet Elizabeth Wyatt Johnson*

Harriet Elizabeth Wyatt Johnson was born on June 20, 1920 in Hennepin, Illinois. She studied piano and voice at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois. She was initiated into the Sigma chapter of Delta Omicron March 1, 1939. She was active in the Presbyterian Church as a church leader and musician, and performed widely with a variety of choirs. She died on May 21, 2018 and is survived by eight children, twenty grandchildren, and fifteen great-grandchildren.



## *Elizabeth Bauer Whitney*

Elizabeth Bauer Whitney died March 10, 2019. She was born on January 20, 1943 in Friend, Nebraska. She attended the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and was initiated into Theta chapter of Delta Omicron on April 1, 1962. She was a longtime piano teacher and member of the musical community in Nebraska. She is survived by her two children and two grandchildren.

## *Marjorie Suzann Young Davids*



Marjorie Suzann Young Davids was born May 21, 1930 in Eklhart, Indiana. She received her Bachelor of Music degree from Oberlin Conservatory of Music, two Master's degrees from the University of Iowa, and a Juris Doctorate from Valparaiso University. She was initiated as a National Honorary Member on November 1, 1975 and was a Chapter Patroness for the Zeta Zeta chapter. Suzann was a well-known harpist and harp teacher. She died on June 28, 2019 and is survived by three children and numerous grand-children.

## *Eleanor J. Wood Froehlich*

Eleanor J. Wood Froehlich was born June 24, 1926 and died January 22, 2020. She was initiated into Beta chapter on March 3, 1947. She earned degrees from the Detroit Institute of Musical Arts, Mercy College, and Marygrove College. She taught for many years and enjoyed cooking and traveling.

## *Joan Kitzrow Luetzow*

Joan Kitzrow Luetzow died February 9, 2020. She was born on March 19, 1929 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and lived there her entire life. She attended Wisconsin State Teacher's College and was initiated into Delta Eta chapter in 1949. She taught music for Johnson School, West Allis and for the City of Milwaukee. She was an active member of Delta Omicron, the Milwaukee County Genealogical Society, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. She is survived by her husband, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.



## *Sister Marion Verhaalen*

Sister Marion Verhaalen (School Sisters of St. Francis), died on March 16, 2020. She was initiated into Delta Eta chapter in 1971. She attended Alverno College, Catholic University, and received her doctorate in Music Education from Teachers College, Columbia University. She was an active teacher, author, and composer in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and specialized in the music of Brazil and Brazilian composers.





## Carol Joyce Kline

Carol Joyce Kline entered the Chapter Eternal on March 25, 2020. She was initiated by the Sigma chapter in 1957 and was an active member of Zeta Eta. Carol was preceded in death by her husband, Robert, in 2013. She is survived by children, step-children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren.

Carol Kline was featured in the Spring/Summer of 2017 edition of the Delta Province newsletter by her chapter, Zeta Eta. Below is that feature, written by Charlotte Fesler, and reproduced with permission.

Carol Joyce Bellin was born May 23, 1923 in Two Rivers, Wisconsin, where she grew up. Carol was always into music. She tried clarinet and flute as a youngster, but it didn't work out. Then at 13 she tried piano and organ, which went better. But singing was always Carol's forte. She showed promise early, first singing solo in a kindergarten play. Recognizing Carol's talent, her choir director asked her to join the adult choir at 16. From that launching pad, Carol went on to do a lot of performing. She sang solos in the choir, sang trios



with two cousins, and duets with friend, Evelyn Samp, in the Beloit choir, bringing music to many schools. Carol mentioned several times that she "kept getting pushed", despite her reticence in the spotlight.

Despite the lack of comfort, Carol loved the experience of performing, taking every opportunity. She claims she became more of a "show off" as she got older – so she must have adapted well to the recognition.

Carol's mother was the third of nine children and quit school at 16 to help with her younger siblings. Carol remembers her as a strict but loving mother. Her mother had a sewing business, and Carol learned the trade. She started sewing at age seven and was making her own clothes by nine. By the time Carol was in seventh grade, she was in business with her mother, continuing after high school. It wasn't until she was married that she bought a dress from a store. During the war, she worked in the shipyard building submarines (D.O.'s own Rosie the Riveter!). In 1994 Carol received the Auxiliary Faithful Award from the 96th

Infantry Division Association for that service. 1943 was also the year she married Lionel Chicquette. They moved to Beloit in 1945. By 1946 she was mother to Barbara Lynn, followed in 1947 by son Gale Dean. A uterine cancer diagnosis during her second pregnancy made her pregnancy and delivery difficult.

Carol and Lionel divorced, and Carol moved on to a different profession after marriage: beautician. It started in Wisconsin, and continued after the family moved to Normal, Illinois, in 1952. She started the "Fashion Plate" at Roland's Department Store in Bloomington – one of several she launched. In 1970 she opened "Chic's", her own shop. Carol was a charter member of the Red Bird Chapter of American Business Women Association, and in 1986 was their Woman of the Year.

In 1982, Carol married Robert Kline. He mentioned several times he wanted to travel when Carol retired. Carol's and Robert's travels took them to Alaska, Switzerland, and Australia, among other places. Eventually Carol became the matriarch of a group that included five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Carol's performing experiences as a child laid the groundwork for her adult musical life. In 1948, she joined the Treble Clef Music

Club, affiliated with the National Federation of Music Clubs.

Her most lasting legacy began in 1953. Remembering her experience with the Treble Clef Music Club, Carol approached two important local music educators: Anna Gail Wilcox, Carol's church organist, and Marguerite Nenne, Carol's kids' piano teacher. She was easily able to sell them the idea of starting a National Federation of Music Clubs chapter in Bloomington-Normal. The result was The Orpheus Club – the area's only nationally affiliated organization providing support to private teachers and opportunities to students from toddler to age 19 and beyond. Through the years The Orpheus Club has offered scholarships to hundreds and performance opportunities to thousands of students. Thanks to Carol's enthusiasm and leadership along with pioneers Marguerite Nenne and Anna Gail Wilcox, The Orpheus Club was begun and still exists today.

Anna Gail returned the favor by sponsoring Carol in Zeta Eta chapter of Delta Omicron. Carol says she has enjoyed it "immensely". We feel the same way about her.

## Call for Conference Performers



Just a reminder that the deadline for submitting audition materials to be considered as a performer for the Collegiate and Alumni concerts at Delta Omicron's Triennial Conference is February 1, 2021. All fraternity members in good standing are eligible for consideration.

All dues must be current.  
(Collegiate all fees paid, Alums Life Membership/or beginning payments)

Please encourage your chapter members to apply.

Interested applicants should submit an mp3 of good quality (recorded within the last 3 years) to me with the following information:

**Title/Composer of work(s) on recording**

**Full name of performer(s)**

**Instrument(s)**

**Collegiate performer's school address**

**Performer's permanent address**

**Performer's telephone number**

**Performer's email address(on campus and at home (during spring break)**

**Delta Omicron chapter/club affiliation**

The concerts are part of our Triennial Conference 2021  
If chosen, you will be a Music Delegate to the Conference and expected to be present at all official sessions of the Conference.

Please send all materials to:  
**DOMusicAdviser@gmail.com**

Yours in Delta Omicron,  
Brenda Dannewitz, National Music Adviser  
Delta Omicron International Music Fraternity  
3036 Sandpiper Pl  
Clearwater, FL 33762

## Members Remember Gladys Zate

Gladys Zate was born in Poland on January 1, 1927 and died on April 15, 2020. She immigrated with her family to Detroit when she was eight years old to escape persecution by the Nazis at the start of World War II. She spent most of her life in the Detroit area. She taught for over 30 years in the Detroit Public Schools. She was a world traveler and involved in her family's theatrical organization, The Elmhurst Players. She was initiated into the Beta chapter on March 1, 1957.



was for Michigan and I was for Texas. Over the years, we met at 13 more Triennial Conferences after that. We each served as Province Presidents for 25 years. Then we served on the National Board

for ten years. I was first Vice President and Gladys was second Vice President. Then we served another eight years on the Advisory Council (Past National Officers Council). I was President and Gladys was Vice President until her passing this past April.

We started traveling together in June 2005 when we went on a tour of Croatia and Slovenia. I will never forget how amazed the tour guide was that Gladys and I had arranged to meet in the Zagreb airport and wait for the tour guide. Gladys had flown from Detroit and I had flown from San Antonio. Our traveling adventures had just begun.

In August of 2007, we met in Norfolk, Virginia. I rented a car and we drove all over the area, but stayed in Williamsburg. We chose that area because it was the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown. One evening





we met Janet Twenty Gross and her husband, Bill, for dinner at a restaurant in Williamsburg. We had such a pleasant visit to Colonial Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Yorktown.

Then during my spring break (I was still teaching at the time) of March 2009, we took a cruise of the Greek Islands. It was early in the cruise season, so there were only four people in our Friendly Planet group. We cruised at night, and toured a different island each day. We even went to the ruins of the great Temple of Artemis in Ephesus, Turkey. At the end of the tour, we had a couple of free days to take in the sights of Athens, including the Acropolis and other ancient Greek ruins.

A few years later, Gladys said she had to get away from the frozen winters of Detroit. We planned a trip to Guatemala and Honduras for January of 2014. This time we met in Atlanta and flew to Guatemala City. More adventures awaited us. We had to fly to Flores

in a prop plane. Then we had to ride in the back of a 4-wheel drive truck over wet, rutty roads to get to the Mayan ruins of Tikal. Then we were both mortified to take a speedboat ride over the Gulf of Honduras with no life jackets on board. Then we had to walk two miles through the rain forest to get to the ruins of Copan. As Gladys climbed all over the rough stone steps of the ruins, I heard a fellow tourist call her "the energizer bunny." The tour guide had previously taken up all our passports. He was shocked to discover that Gladys was 88. After all the years that I had known Gladys, we had never discussed our ages.

The last time that I saw Gladys was at the Conference in July 2015 when we stayed at the Hilton Chicago Indian Lakes Resort. There were always so many beautiful concerts, inspiring meetings, delicious dinners, and just cherished friends with whom to meet at all the Conferences. Gladys was always the



happiest person. In fact her email was "happyzate@aol.com." Now she rests in the Chapter Eternal, spreading music and happiness to God and all his angels and saints.

### **Dr. Jonny Ramsey**

Gladys served as Second Vice President from the Conference of 1997 with Ann Jones (taking that office over from Miki Worthing) and from 2003 to 2006 during my first term as president. I was on the board with her from 2000 to 2006, and she was a great second VP. The alumni loved her; she kept track of her alumni chapters closely and she planned wonderful activities for the alumni at conferences including offsite conference socials. Gladys' email name was "happy zate", and that is what she was - seemingly happy all the time, a very humorous jester that made our board meetings fun, and just being around her made you happy. She and I shared a lot of common (and humorous) experiences teaching kindergartners, her as a classroom teacher and me as a music teacher. My husband even remembers Gladys, and he only met her once!

She was such a positive person. The world needs more people like Gladys.

### **Dr. Kay Wideman**

I never saw Gladys down. She was always up. It was great to have her on board as she always gave good suggestions and was always open to anything new. And of course, she was always happy.

### **Michelle Worthing**

Her email began with "happy zate" and that she was! Gladys was always happy, always smiling - I never saw her without a smile. She was funny, generous and so helpful with Delta Omicron and with anything you'd ask her about. She kind of walked about with a sunbeam around her - and our conferences will not be quite as bright without her.





## Members Remember

### Past International President Phyllis Conrad

Phyllis Iseringhausen Conrad was born on May 18, 1927 and died March 1, 2020. She attended the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music where she was initiated into Alpha chapter on March 1, 1946. She was a life member of Delta Omicron and a Past International President. She was also a Past President of the Dayton Music Club. She was a soloist at Hope Lutheran Church in Dayton, Ohio and a member of the former St. Paul Lutheran Church. She was a member of the Christian Women's Connection and the Republican Club.

#### Dr. Jonny Ramsey

Phyllis was International President from 1987 to 1993 preceding Ann Jones and following Jo Holt. As president, Phyllis was one of the primary movers to help establish PFA. I believe Phyllis was president when the Women's Musician's group and the Men's groups merged to form PFA. Phyllis was probably an earlier province president of the Ohio area whatever that encompassed



at that time before becoming president. She was Second Vice President while on the Fraternity Board before becoming president. She was elected President at the 1987 Conference at Carson-Newman. Phyl-

lis was always so helpful when I was president. I went to her often for advice and historic background on D.O. policies and activities particularly in relation to alumni issues.

#### Virginia Miller

Phyllis will be greatly missed! She was such a loving and supportive DO sister. She was an excellent teacher and musician! Most importantly, she was an encourager, enthusiastic, kind and caring person. She was a servant and always willing to help others. She served in many positions in Delta Omicron and we always looked to Phyllis when we had questions on D.O. history and rules. We are forever grateful and blessed for having known Phyllis as a friend and fellow musician in Delta Omicron. She was the first President of Zeta Chi from

1967-1969, then served as International President, and was also Zeta Chi's secretary for a number of years.

#### Dr. Kay Wideman

We became good friends after her presidency often sharing our favorite Bible verses and talking about old times. Phyllis was sweet, generous, and kind.

#### Elizabeth Rusch Feters

I attended my first Delta Omicron Conference in 2000 (Athens, Georgia) as a collegiate performer. I was so tickled to have been selected to perform, that I wanted to place an announcement in the local newspaper. A photographer friend at my church took a picture of me with my bassoon next to the beautiful stained glass windows of our church building. The picture went in the paper, and also went in *The Lutheran Magazine*, a magazine for members of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, in a small "highlights" section. Phyllis saw the article and after the conference I received the nicest note from her thanking me for my performance

*Upon a member's death, their jewelry is returned to the fraternity. It was a sad day when the executive office received Phyllis's.*

and she enclosed a copy of that little "highlights" article with the picture of me and my bassoon. Many conferences later, and now being a national board member, I know quite well who Phyllis is, but that first act of kindness from her has never left my heart. I have her note to this day in my conference 2000 scrapbook.

#### Ann Jones

Phyllis Conrad was a vibrant and an energetic member of Delta Omicron. She was a close professional and personal friend of mine. I spoke to her on the phone last December and she was chipper as ever.

Phyllis was National President of the Board of Directors when she asked if she could submit my name as President when she left office. I was not on the Board at this time but was Director of International Chapters. I was very



shocked when she asked me. I had to think long and hard about this because my husband had just been diagnosed with a form of cancer. When I told my husband, he told me to accept the nomination. A long story short, I became president for ten years.

Phyllis was very connected with the Professional Fraternity Association in many positions and she and I both became presidents of the organization.

She and I provided vocal duets for various dinners at the annual meetings. It was so much fun singing with Phyllis. She had a beautiful contralto voice and had a private studio while she was doing her Delta Omicron work. Phyllis was a professional in every endeavor she undertook. She worked diligently on the workings of the Fraternity. Delta Omicron came first for her in her professional life and her husband Dave was so proud of her.

Phyllis was a leader and did so much for Delta Omicron when she was president. She consistently inducted National Patrons and Patronesses into the Fraternity and got educators to submit articles for *The Wheel* on their expertise. Many new chapters were installed during her tenure. She was a role model for new



members in loyalty, dedication, and consistently in work ethics in each endeavor.

I could always call Phyllis and ask her many questions while I was president. She never was tired of my questions. She was so giving and willing to help any D.O. She is so missed and leaves a legacy of "continually striving we attain."

### **Michelle Worthing**

I sat on the board with Phyllis as our president. Our meetings were very organized and she was thorough and always doing what was the best for D.O. She always put D.O. first. She was a fantastic president for Delta Omicron. Phyllis was thoughtful, caring, kind and always so pleasant to work with. I feel so lucky to have been able to visit her last summer and interview her for the first of the "Pearls of D.O." She was a wonderful person!

## ***Virginia Hoge Mead, Delta Upsilon Chapter Patroness***

Virginia Mead was born into a musical family in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on January 31, 1930. She began piano lessons at age seven and developed a fascination with the sound of music. She knew she wanted to be a music teacher.



taught at the Kent/Blossom School and was responsible for introducing Dalcroze Eurhythmics to the People's Republic of China in 1982. Virginia received her Master of Music Education degree from Indiana University.

Virginia attended Oberlin College and its imminent Conservatory of Music. After receiving her Bachelor of Music Education degree in 1951 she began her teaching career at a private girls' school, Louisville Collegiate, and also was named assistant director of the Louisville Philharmonic Chorus. The chorus sponsored her to study choral conducting at the Tanglewood Music Festival. Over the next several years Virginia taught elementary and secondary classes in public and private schools and at Muskingum College in Ohio. In 1963 she joined the faculty at Kent State University, Kent, Ohio teaching music education and Dalcroze Eurhythmics.

She became internationally certified to teach Dalcroze Eurhythmics in the late 1960s. Giving workshops and summer courses at many colleges and universities, she also

Virginia retired from Kent State in 1988 as a full professor, having created a "sing and movement" program based on the Dalcroze method for pre-schoolers and parents called "Music-Go-Round." Her speaking engagements ranged across the country.

In 1997 Virginia moved to Texas to be near family. Virginia celebrated her 90th birthday with a lovely party, receiving many cards and flowers from her friends and former students. She died on February 22, 2020. Her legacy and influence continue with her two publications *Encountering the Fundamentals of Music* published by Schott Publishing and *Dalcroze Eurhythmics in Today's Music Classroom* published by Mayfield Publishing Co., which remains a standard resource and recommended read for Dalcroze educators even today.

## Virgil Hughes, National Patron

*Editor's note: Much of this information was provided by Sue Ellison, longtime friend of Virgil and member of Zeta Zeta Alumni Chapter, Denver, Colorado.*

National Patron Virgil Hughes was born in 1924, and passed away on April 29, 2020 at the age of 96. He was a man of many talents. Virgil began his studies to become a science teacher at Colorado State College of Education. However, after two years he volunteered for the army. The army sent him to Yale University to study chemical engineering. Those studies were interrupted by service in Europe and the South Pacific. When returning he completed his Bachelor of Science degree, plus two Master's degrees. Still in the army Virgil returned to Greeley and became certified to teach physics, chemistry, biology, and math. Then the army placed him in its Disaster Control Team, as an engineer. He was "on call" with large amounts of unoccupied time so he founded the Hughes Dulcimer Company in Denver and began selling completed instruments and also kits



*Virgil Hughes with Sue Ellison.*

for dulcimers, hurdy-gurdies, balalaikas, guitars, sitars and more. Virgil retired as a colonel in 1988 with 33 ½ years in the army.

Virgil continued taking classes in industrial education, history, percussion methods, geography, and geology to name a few. He founded the 4th Artillery Regimental Band. For this group he gathered authentic music, bought and repaired period instruments, made their hats, sewed and repaired their uniforms. He founded the Friday Afternoon Band and the Denver Band. He also played with the Lake City Band and the GAR Band and performed with an area vocal group, the Nu Chords.

Virgil certainly exemplified what many of us strive to be – life-long learners and a life-long teacher.

## Rotating Grants 2019-2020

### Zeta Sigma

As recipients of a Delta Omicron rotating grant for 2019-2020, Zeta Sigma members chose to distribute the \$150 grant among three groups in which members participate: the Hillcrest Concert Band in suburban Cleveland Ohio; the Canton (Ohio) Symphony Chorus; and the West Virginia Symphony Chorus in Charleston, West Virginia.



*Susan Tams (left) and Dr. David Castleberry.*

yearly with the Canton Symphony in works such as Orff's *Carmina Burana*, Handel's *Zadok the Priest* and other staples of the choral-orchestral repertoire.

Susan Tams sings in the West Virginia Symphony Chorus, which was established in 1988 and is under the direction of Dr. David Castleberry. The group performs with the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra and in the past several years, has participated in works such as the Verdi *Requiem* and the Beethoven *Symphony No. 9*.



*From left, Ann Droste, Paul Lawrence and Trish Lawrence.*

Ann Droste, flutist, and Patricia (Trish) Phillips Lawrence, trumpeter, both play in the Hillcrest Band, which is directed by Lawrence's husband, Paul, who is a chapter patron of Zeta Sigma.

Sylvia Gaines Schneider sings in the Canton Symphony Chorus, under the direction of Dr. Britt Cooper. The chorus was established in 1984, and performs



## Star of D.O.

*Editor's note: In March many schools closed, some unexpectedly, and all chapters struggled to meet. If you received the Star of D.O. or the Senior Honor Pin and your name is not listed, we will make sure it gets in the next issue of The Wheel. Please contact the editor or the first vice-president. Stars and pins can be mailed to a recipient's home. Please contact the executive office and give us the recipient's mailing address.*

### Delta Iota

Stephen Andrews

### Sigma

Andrew Johnson

### Delta Omega

Andrew Epperson

Noah Gipson

Eric Rush

### Omicron Gamma

Annesley Streets

### Omicron Sigma

Alyssa Bussolati

### Omicron Phi

Ryan Schultz

### Delta Nu

Daniel Winkler

### Alpha Phi

Claire Valentine

### Delta Kappa

Autumn Ellis

### Alpha Gamma

Anna Lauren Kelly

### Omicron Omicron

Melanie Valone

## Senior Honor Pin

### Delta Upsilon

Montana Hollis

Ezekiel Paulowski

Zachery Young

### Delta Iota

Spencer Nolton

### Sigma

Keara Corbett

### Delta Omega

Emily Langston

### Omicron Delta

Carley Duet

### Omicron Sigma

Benjamin Brockway

### Omicron Phi

Rebecca Weber

### Delta Nu

Myles Kellerman

### Alpha Phi

Emily Carbo

### Alpha Gamma

Emilie Jones

### Omicron Psi

Abigail Luster





## JEWELRY PRICE LIST

Effective March 1, 2020

The following items must be ordered through the executive office.



### Regulation Badge

Plain golklad: .....	\$ 25
Plain 10K yellow gold: .....	\$ 107
Close set pearl, golklad: .....	\$ 85
Close set pearl, 10K: .....	\$ 175
Gold crown set pearl, golklad: .....	Call



### Golklad Guard\*\* Single Letter

Plain: .....	\$ 20
Etched: .....	\$ 24
Crown set pearl: .....	\$ 49

### 10K Gold Guard\*\* Single Letter

Plain: .....	\$ 50
Etched: .....	\$ 24
Crown set pearl: .....	\$ 49



### Golklad Guard\*\* Double Letter

Plain: .....	\$ 22
Etched: .....	\$ 27
Crown set pearl: .....	\$ 68

### 10K Gold Guard\*\* Double Letter

Plain: .....	\$ 66
Etched: .....	\$ 64
Crown set pearl: .....	\$ 125



### Senior Honor Pin

Golklad: .....	\$ 36
10K gold: .....	Call
Delta Omicron Star Golklad: .....	\$ 12



### Prospective Member Pin

.....	\$ 16
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### Recognition Pin

Golklad: .....	\$ 20
10K gold: .....	Call



### Chapter Mother/Father of D.O. Pin

Sterling silver: .....	\$ 40
Golklad: .....	\$ 30
10K gold: .....	Call



### Officer Dangle

Golklad: .....	\$ 11
10K gold: .....	\$ 32



### Chapter Patron Charm

Golklad: .....	\$ 37
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### Chapter Patron Pin

Golklad: .....	\$ 37
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### Anniversary Pin

25 Year Pin, silver: .....	\$ 18.50
50-Year Pin Golklad: .....	\$ 18.50
50-Year Stickpin Golklad: .....	\$ 25



### National Patron Key/Pin

Golklad: .....	\$ 37
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Make checks payable to: DELTA OMICRON FRATERNITY

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

\*\*Prices include postage.\*\*

\*\*Prices may change without prior notification due to jeweler precious metal price increases.\*\*

Other jewelry, including rings, bracelets, charms, and necklaces are available online through:  
[www.hjgreek.com](http://www.hjgreek.com)

## Delta Nu Excels at Fundraising

By, Olga Brunel

*Editor's note: The national board noticed at one of our meetings the amazing job Delta Nu chapter was doing with fundraising. This chapter at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, knows how to raise money, and how to give back to their community. I asked Olga to tell us what makes her chapter so special.*

Something that I really love about being a part of such a wonderful organization like Delta Omicron is our philanthropy. Helping towards a good cause makes clubs and organizations more than just a simple social club, which makes me really enjoy being Delta Nu's Fundraising Chair. The Mr. Holland Opus Foundation is an organization that really provides for its community and allows students to pursue and explore the amazing world that music has to offer. At the Delta Nu Chapter, we always take on our fundraising events as a team and strive to give back as much as we can. If we plan an event and get a small outcome, we really sit back and think about everything we can do better to get the best results. Southwestern University is a small school with a small, well-knit fine arts community, and one of our biggest goals is to expand our outreach to the other departments. When we plan fundraising events, we try to determine ways we can use music and art to unify students in other fields of study.

Each semester, I try to achieve a baseline goal of one to two profit shares per semester at local restaurants that give back about 20% of their profits. I use a website called GroupRaise that allows me to select nearby restaurants and schedule events easily and efficiently. Once an event is scheduled, we broadcast our event to the student body. You don't have to be a music major to like food!

As the semester progresses, we also host events that showcase our talent to the school. Towards the end of the fall semester, we host a Holiday Concert where the members of Delta Nu get together and arrange a show performing our favorite holiday tunes. We gain our profits by selling bake sale tickets to allow our guests to snack and drink hot chocolate while they watch us perform. It's a wonderful way to wrap up our semester together.

In the spring, our university hosts an event called Music on the Mall where our student activities club invites local bands to perform for our student body. Music on the Mall is the perfect event to allow Delta Omicron to really shine. We host a booth where we have face painting and sell simple t-shirts for students and faculty to purchase and tie dye at the event. Our district president generously matched the price for every t-shirt we sold, which encouraged all of us to sell as many shirts as we could!

When it comes to fundraising, I can't take full credit on the amazing events Delta Nu comes up with. We work as a team, and I know we are going to come up with even more amazing ideas soon!

help philanthropy give  
altruism donation



## ***Quality versus Quantity: Selecting the Right Perspective Members***

***by, Michelle Gratis Worthing***

*Editor's note: In the interest of full disclosure, Miki has been a dear friend ever since I attended graduate school at Kent State University. Even before then, I memorized her name (along with Ann Jones!) in my prospective members classes, because she was our province president. Besides being a good friend, Miki has long served Delta Omicron as a past national officer, past province president, chapter advisor, and is currently secretary of the Delta Omicron Foundation - no wonder I asked her to help me get The Wheel back on its feet. As our chapters are struggling to come back from school closures, I thought her article about selecting members is timely and important.*

An open letter to collegiate chapters with thoughts on attendance policies, prospective members:

Attendance has, and probably will, always be a problem. Just finding a meeting day and time that all members can agree on is a problem. Everyone has busy schedules and full class loads. However, once the meeting time is decided and if members are really committed, they'll put the meeting time on their calendars and won't let much get in the way of attending. Yes, things come up, but it has to be something really important if you are going to miss a meeting. This is called making and fulfilling a commitment.

If you initiate good members, commitment shouldn't be a problem, which brings us to getting good members. Quality is much more important than quantity. A prospective member that really wants to join, is what your chapter wants. Your chapter would rather have six really gung-ho candidates than sixteen who will end up dropping out or not doing their share. That is why D.O. has to be very visible in the music department, by the chapter being active, and as individual members, exemplifying the ideals of Delta Omicron. I remember I felt honored to be asked to be a member of D.O. We want our prospective members to feel the same way. Chapters should have "pin days" or "letter days" once a week when all chapter members wear their lyre of gold or their

D.O. letters. That's an easy way to be visible in your school community. Members should always be on the lookout for standout students in their classes, university, or community and invite those people to come to a prospective members event. Did you hear someone play an incredible solo? Invite them to a D.O. function. Is there a classmate who always has the right answer? Invite them, too! Don't forget about non-majors: there are many members of Delta Omicron who will always have music in their life, but didn't major in it in college. You might have a friend who has all of these characteristics and who you know would become a great member – ask that friend! Talk about D.O.! It's making a personal connection with people that will build up your chapter.

In prospective member meetings you might want to talk about the "pledge" they take. Begin by talking about what an oath is. Whether they place their hand on the Bible or raise their right hand, they are making a promise. Part of that oath is "I will willingly do my share toward the support of Delta Omicron, whether it be financial or in the line of duty." This is critical. If they are not willing to do their share then perhaps they should look elsewhere for a group to join. The oath continues, "further progress involves an obligation." Candidates need to realize that once you become a D.O. you are a D.O. forever. And, honestly, there are few things in life anymore that are "forever." It's a hard time to grasp as a prospective member, but we want to be sure that prospective members understand the seriousness of making an oath to Delta Omicron before we initiate them and share our fraternity secrets. Sure, some put D.O. by the wayside after graduation, but many of us continue to support D.O. by joining alumni chapters and give our continued support of both local and national projects. It was important to us in college and continued to be important to us after graduation.

As you come back to your college campuses and start to renew and revitalize your chapter, take a good look at the Delta Omicron ideals of loyalty, excellent in musicianship, and hard work, and make sure your chapter is representing those ideals. Then, make personal connections to build your chapter with quality members. Explain the commitment prospective members are making before they're initiated, and then welcome them into your chapter. You'll be glad you did!

# *Riding the Wind:*

## *The Role of Free Improvisation in My Creative Journey*

*by John McGinn*

*Editor's note: Dr. McGinn is the Epsilon Iota chapter advisor and an Associate Professor of Music at Austin College in Sherman, Texas. Active as both a composer and pianist, he served as a judge for the Delta Omicron 2015 Triennial Composition Contest as well as performing the winning work, Sin Young Park's "Three Preludes for Piano." He holds a DMA in Composition from Stanford University.*



A well-tuned upright piano stood in a simple but lovingly crafted cabin, situated within the bucolic woods of the Massachusetts Berkshires. Such was the ideal inspirational setting in which I found myself as one of eight composition fellows at the Tanglewood Music Center in the summer of 1985. Already five weeks (of eight) into the program, my would-be masterpiece, a trio for violin, cello and piano, should have been rounding third and sailing for home. Instead, it seemed stubbornly stuck at first, if that – two measures forward, three back, day after day regardless of effort. Within my 20-year-old self, a sense of frustration had been building steadily for days, indeed weeks. This particular afternoon in mid-July, I found myself approaching something akin to desperation: What was wrong with me? How could composing, always so simple and fun in the past, suddenly become so difficult?

I still remember clearly the moment, following erasure of yet another “not nearly good enough” measure, when my hands raised up high and came crashing down upon the keys. There was nothing remotely positive or creative about the motion; it was like striking the ground with a baseball bat, nothing more. Some vaguely cathartic need being met, my hands continued to hammer loudly and chaotically upon on the keys for several minutes, up and down, all around. Presumably, my little sonic tantrum would eventually run out of steam and I’d resume my dogged strivings.

Rather to my amazement, it didn’t. Though it did change: the hammering gradually receded in volume and intensity to be replaced by ... something else, I had no idea what. And it just kept coming and coming, one wave after another: ideas, gestures, textures, interactions, climbs, falls. I had not a clue where it was coming from or what was holding it together, if anything. Nor did I attempt to guide it in any way, I simply let it flow forth – which it proceeded to do for nearly two hours. At long last, the sunlight beginning to fade outside, my fingers crept their way to some sort of final “phrase” and ceased.

I sat there, heart racing. I couldn’t quite believe what had just taken place. And then I was struck by two singular realizations. First, much of what had just reached my ears was largely unfamiliar to me; it was unlike any composition I had ever heard, either by myself or by anyone else. Second, a surprising amount of it had actually sounded – and felt – really *good*. Indeed, perhaps as good or better than anything I had ever actively, consciously composed. Unbidden and unexpected, a tantalizing new musical door had opened to me.

It has now been 35 years since that astonishing afternoon in the Berkshire woods, and alongside plenty of composing and performing in the traditional sense, my fascination with and pursuit of free improvisation has been fervent and ongoing. Technology has of course proved a great boon, with cassette tapes and pencil giving way in the 1990s to MIDI software, allowing me to capture, transcribe, and ponder my spontaneous outpours. I’ve also become gradually bolder in my willingness to take them public, from a fully improvised 7-minute interlude within an hour-long collaborative graduate composition seminar work titled *Scroll* at Stanford in 1997, to including three free improvisations at the end of my 1999 American Camerata solo CD, *The 20th Century Piano* (these were especially well-received in magazine reviews and even won a contemporary radio program listener award!), to moderating the first ACF “Improvisation Salon” in San Francisco, and so on into the present day. Since 2015, an especially rewarding – and challenging – activity has been to “insta-score” at the keyboard the exceedingly clever antics of the Austin College Improv Troupe here in Sherman, Texas (including several theatrically-minded Epsilon Iota D.O. members!) in various performances throughout the school year, culminating in a sweeping 8-hour *Epic Improv* each May. What a



*A dramatic twist in the 11th hour (literally) of the Austin College Improv Troupe's 2020 Epic Improv, with McGinn (10th window) offering insta-scoring alongside current Epsilon Iota members Callier Creedle-Reynolds (playing Mathew) in the 2nd window and Grant Garrison in the 12th*

wonderful experience that has been, every time – yes, even our 10-part Zoom version of *Epic* in 2020.

Especially compelling for me, though, has been the question of whether it's possible to truly merge the “unbridled winds” of free improvisation with the intricate craft and technique of conscious composition. By this, I don't mean “composing” intricate instructions for an improvised performance, which has been done in avant-garde circles since the 1950's. Nor do I mean embracing a body of techniques and principles for realizing certain improvisatory styles and genres, as in much of jazz or in the Indian Carnatic tradition, where it may take decades of individual mentoring and practice to attain true improvisational mastery.

No, what I have in mind is much more personal, indelibly tied to the magic I experienced in that cabin back in 1985. Fast-forward to the premiere of my *Three Preludes* for solo piano at a NACUSA/TX conference at Texas State University in San Marcos in 2015. The program note articulates: “These Three Preludes are selected from a growing collection of piano pieces based on free improvisations captured and transcribed with the help of MIDI software. An avid devotee of improvisation since the mid-1980s, I've long been fascinated by the

question of what may be gained – or lost! – from the application of rigorous compositional techniques (judgment, development, revision and so on) to the bright, unpredictable flames of spontaneous creation. My goal for these pieces is that such distinctions will ultimately fall away, leaving a music that feels at once fresh and ‘immediate’ yet also carefully structured.”

By way of illustration, let me turn to Prelude III from this set. A PDF of the score is available as ITEM 1 at the site link bottom of this article. Perhaps the first thing to notice about Prelude III is that it looks, well ... like a fairly standard piano solo. And if I've done my job properly, it should strike most performers and audiences in this way. As with any composition, my ultimate desire here is simply that the music provides a worthy and enjoyable experience.

That said, if such does happen in this particular instance, then I admit to an extra special satisfaction. Why so? Because everything from the label “[DK 2-25 0:44-3:51]” in the opening bar to “[End]” in m. 85 originated as a single unbroken passage of free improvisation. No planning, no preparatory thoughts or materials, just push “record” and go – in this case (according to the “DK” label) upon a black upright Disklavier in the basement of the CCRMA computer music center at Stanford, circa 1998. Happily, nearly all the original MIDI data has survived multiple transferences via floppy disks, changing software, etc. and can be heard as ITEM 2.

Listening to the original 1998 improvisation while following the 2015 score of Prelude III (as I hope you'll do) reveals a number of things. First, whatever the qualities of the original opening, I apparently didn't hear anything “Prelude-worthy” until 0:44. However, everything from that point until 3:51 made the grade – an exceptionally fortuitous stretch! (By comparison, Prelude I utilizes five transcribed segments drawn from two separate improvisations, with the longest continuous segment being 0:47.) Prelude III also eschewed the original ending (3:52 on), instead “completing” the piece from m. 86 to the end by returning to and varying earlier materials in the hope of achieving a more satisfying conclusion and overall form. Along the way, I fine-tuned a few notes here and there, and of course added tempo and character markings, dynamics, phrasing marks and so on, some of which differ considerably from the original. You may hear all of these



incorporated changes in my 2015 premiere of Prelude III at TSU from 5:37-9:56 in ITEM 3.

So, to what extent does Prelude III qualify as a “composition”? Well, I would definitely hesitate to perform the original DK 2-25 transcription in public, whereas I’ve happily presented Prelude III on multiple occasions – and indeed have heard other pianists perform it beautifully, including James Knight at an SCI Conference in 2016 and Max Lifschitz in his Piano Music from the Americas concert at the National Opera Center in New York in 2019. The latter may be heard from 8:56-12:09 in ITEM 4.

For me, perhaps the key distinction is that “composition” – upon whatever materials, including those generated by free improvisation – allows proper time for reflection, judgment, and revision. When I compose, I’m continually comparing a score in progress to any number of works that I’ve learned and loved over my lifetime, and accordingly sketch, plan, select, listen, frown, revise, smile, hone, hone, hone. By contrast, free improvisation hardly allows time for any of that! (Okay, perhaps the occasional frown or smile.) Indeed, while that mystical breeze is blowing through, my one firm rule – absolutely vital – is that I resist any critical judgment whatsoever; the goal is complete receptivity to anything my fingers are drawn to do. Whatever the musical qualities or lack thereof, the inspiration itself should remain pure, not interfered with in any way.

Ah, but then! Once the breeze has fully blown through, filled the awaiting MIDI vessel I’ve prepared for it (by dint of a “record” button) and then tapered away into silence ... then I may turn back and take whatever time I desire to listen, select, transcribe, and otherwise attempt to come to terms with what has transpired. And from this point, I may respond to such just as I would to any compositional materials – analyzing, developing, connecting with other passages (perhaps also improvised), honing transitions and so on. That is precisely what I aim to do in my Preludes; it is their defining characteristic.

Now then, is all or most (or much) of that grand outpour “Prelude-worthy”? Of course not – far from it. But with hundreds and hundreds of recorded improvisations on my hard drive (carefully labeled for future culling), I am reminded of a saying from somewhere: brew it strong, then take gentle sips. Is there plenty of mud to sift through?



*McGinn with Nu Province President Andrea Stumpf, Epsilon Iota president and chapter delegate Grace Harrison, and chapter alum and invited violist Rizwan Jagani at the 2018 D.O. Triennial Conference in Orlando, Florida*

Absolutely. Are there also plenty of gems shining through, beckoning? Absolutely!

And what of that unknowable, heaven-sent breeze itself, blowing through my fingers in the Berkshires in 1985, in the basement of CCRMA in 1998, in my present-day office in the Austin College music building – what credit do I deserve, what pride can I take, in my fingers being able to do such a thing? After 35 years, what I feel most of all is a sense of profound gratitude. Yes, I’ve done my best to welcome, fathom and even attempt to ride this glorious “wind.” But in the end, I must admit that I’ve done nothing to deserve it and honestly have no idea where it comes from. It really is purely a gift.

And I love that fact. Indeed, when I see all the diverse gifts (many of which I utterly lack) in so many people throughout the world and across time and place, I cannot help but feel that such things really do flow from a single source – that we are all fellow beneficiaries, connected to one other and to something higher and greater than ourselves. That I am allowed to translate some part of my own portion into tangible objects of musical art, to be passed on, learned, experienced and shared, I deem a tremendous blessing indeed.

*Links for musical selections referred to in this article may be found at the following link or by scanning the QR Code:*

<https://bit.ly/30KUYhK>



## *Upcoming Due Dates*

Sept 15 – IB 395 School Calendar, IB 361 Fall Chapter Roster

Oct 1 – IB 361al Alumni Chapter Roster

Oct 1 – National Dues (IB 364)

Oct 1 – Service Fee (IB 364) (alumni, too)

Oct 1 – IB 367 Financial Report #1

Oct 1 – IB 367.1 Bank Account (alumni, too)

Oct 1 – IB 368 National Annual Dues Form (alumni, too)

Oct 1 – IB 370.3 Chapter Patron List

Oct 1 – IB 380 Proposed Music Activities (alumni, too)

Oct 1 – IB 390 Publicity Reports (alumni, too)

Oct 1 – National Alumni Dues

Dec 1 – Rotating Grants

Dec 1 – IB 366 Members Becoming Alumni

Dec 1 – IB 367 Financial Report #2 (alumni, too)

Dec 1 – IB 390 Publicity Reports

Dec 1 – PM records and fees: IB 437, 341, 337s, 344

Dec 15 – IB 367al Financial Report (alumni)

Dec 15 – IB390al Publicity Report (alumni)

# NORFOLK

*Save the Date!*

*Delta Omicron  
Triennial Conference 2021*

*July 21-24, 2021*

*Waterside Marriot  
Norfolk, Virginia*



## Chapter News in Highlight

*Edited by, Kelsey Brown, Omicron Alpha*

### ALPHA NORTH

**Delta Upsilon** (*Kent State University, Kent, Ohio*) Playing with the Kent State Orchestra in February were members **Kayla Mandak**, **Gabriel Parrish**, **Alan Goetz** and **Sam Bennet**. Members playing in the March wind ensemble concert were **Alan Goetz**, **Kayla Mandak**, **Charlotte Daugherty** and **Nicole Cummings**. The chapter ushered for all ticketed school of music events. They also hosted a soup sale in February and a back-to-school breakfast for the School of Music at the beginning of the year. Members **Emily Hoff** and **Zachary Young** both received scholarship from Zeta Omicron and Zeta Sigma alumni chapters.

**Omicron Alpha** (*Otterbein University, Westerville, Ohio*) Members participated in concerts for Wind Ensemble, String Orchestra, and Otterbein's choirs in the first half of the semester. Member and first Vice President **Lindsay Cooperrider** managed new member education online, and prepared the new class for initiation in the fall. Lindsay will serve as President in the fall. Member and newly-elected Publicity Chair **Sidney Conn** started an Instagram page for the chapter (@deltaomicronotterbein), and coordinated posts for a Senior Sendoff that celebrated the graduating seniors. The chapter held nominations and elections online with Microsoft Surveys and Zoom Meetings to prepare for the following school year.

**Zeta Omicron** (*Kent, Ohio*) Members attended the performance of *Porgy and Bess: Live at the Met*, and had dinner together after. The chapter voted to give their annual scholarship to **Emily Hoff**. They are also sending donations to Kent State Stark Campus in memory of Charlie Wentz, husband of Zeta Omicron member **Denise Seachrist** and to the College of the Arts Emergency Fund for Students. **Miki Worthing** accepted the Arts Advocacy Award for the Chestnut Society, from the College of the Arts at Kent State University. She is co-president of that organization.

**Zeta Sigma** (*Cleveland, Ohio*) At their annual Christmas party, members donated clothing and other items worth over \$600 to Ohio Guidestone-Berea Children's Home. **Ann Droste** played several con-

certs with the Hillcrest Band, and in a hand bell choir. She continues to perform with several flute groups, the Greater Cleveland Flute Society and Flautrageous, giving concerts at the Music Settlement. She also plays both flute and piano for her church and played in the pit for *Shrek: the Musical* at Bedford High School. **Joan Robertson** played for an Irish Fiddle Sing-Along for Waltonwood senior living facility in Cary, North Carolina. **Sylvia Schneider** sang with the Canton Symphony Orchestra Chorus at the pre-concert lecture for their Holiday Pop Concert and performed two solos for the Christmas concert of the Canton MacDowell Club. **Miki Worthing** gave her presentation about hearing via Zoom to the Western Reserve Music Teachers Association.

### ALPHA SOUTH

**Zeta Chi** (*Dayton, Ohio*) held their scholarship auditions virtually this year in April, which resulted in the scholarship being awarded to two high school seniors pursuing music study in college. Those students will be invited to perform at their first meeting in the fall. They presented individual programs in the Dayton area retirement centers, and have plans for another virtual meeting in May or June. Members were extremely busy before the pandemic restricted their activities. **Mary Fahrenbruck** was accompanist or orchestra pianist for the Yellow Springs Community Chorus and for the touring company of the musical *Chicago* at the John Legend Theatre in Springfield, Ohio. Mary also serves on the board and booking committee of Chamber Music Yellow Springs. **Virginia Miller** gave twice monthly programs at Bethany Village in Dayton, and **Debbie Drake** provided weekly piano music at Von Maur Department Store. **Linda Snyder** provided special music at Epiphany Lutheran church in Centerville and serves on the national board of the National Association of Teachers of Singing as immediate past president, on its Strategic Planning Leadership Team, on its Advocacy committee and the 2020 conference committee. In January, she served as guest voice instructor at the University of Dayton. **Carolyn Sargent** directed and performed in monthly programs in area nursing homes. **Raymonde Rougier** served as accompanist for the Dayton Gay Men's Chorus, and **Kathy Raisch**, **Christie Wilson**, **Hilary Toerner**, **Marcia Wood**, and **Kathy Durig** performed in the Durufle *Requiem*



at the Dayton Westminster Presbyterian Church Lenten Vespers in March. **Susan Carlock** continues her award-winning piano studio and her active service with the Ohio Federation of Music Clubs, and she and **Linda Snyder** both serve as reviewers for the Dayton Foundation, evaluating applications for the Madonna Goss Scholarship in music. Chapter patron **Brandon George** (former student of member Virginia Miller) will perform with the Imani Winds in its fall concert tour.

## BETA

**Delta Iota** (*Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan*) The chapter held several closed musicales with many members performing at each. At their annual retreat they featured a large jar called “Warm and Fuzzies” in which members wrote nice little notes for one another. Also during their retreat, they discussed their chapter’s timeline and budget and also played games and chatted about life. During audition season, they made a bi-fold board, which created a lot of attention and questions about Delta Omicron.



**Zeta Alpha** (*Detroit, Michigan*) Due to the pandemic, regular chapter meetings had to be cancelled, but their meetings continued via Zoom, and individual members kept extremely busy. **Nannette Meyette** was an adjudicator for the audition season of the National Guild of Piano

Teachers, judging in Taipei, Taiwan. **Mary Anne Pillette** submitted artwork called “Pretty Potted Plants” to Lakeside Club of St. Clair Shores. She also participated in MSU Detroit Adult Bands Concert and with several groups to which she belongs, including Tuesday Musicle of Detroit, the MSU Community Band of Detroit and the Detroit Concert Choir. **Mary Chisholm** performed in An Afternoon of Christmas Music with the New Baltimore Interfaith Choir. She also hosted their Christmas tea in which she shared her family’s tradition of “the singing gingerbread.”

## DELTA

**Zeta Eta** (*Bloomington-Normal, Illinois*) Members continue to be very busy and musically involved in their communities. In the fall, students of **Fern Noth** presented their Christmas Piano Recital. **Navana Ahrends** and her grandson Russell gave programs at two nursing homes on Christmas morning. Navanna also played Advent Services at her church and at three other churches and plays each month at Evenglow Lodge, a senior citizen residential facility, and at the Good Samaritan Home. She played for Lenten services until the pandemic shut-down. She serves on the residents’ council for Accolade Nursing and Rehab Center, and on January 1 she began as Area 1 Region and Director for Illinois Retired Teachers’ Asociation. Navana and **Colleen Rapp** serve as music co-chairs on the state board for Alpha Delta Kappa, an honorary organization for women educators. **Sharon Lundy** played for church services, as did **Lou Ann Fillingham** and **Judy Mathieson**. **Mary Selk** conducts Golden Notes, a female vocal ensemble composed of Westminster residents. There was also a special mention of Mary in the Spring 2020 edition of Illinois Wesleyan University Magazine. Marilyn Musick presented children’s choirs performances at the Evangelical Free Church in Bloomington and accompanied her husband at the Christmas Eve service there.

## GAMMA

**Zeta Zeta** (*Denver, Colorado*) member **Catherine Zanotti** organized an interest meeting with students at Metropolitan State University in Denver to determine if there was enough interest to start a Delta Omicron

chapter there. Founders' Day was celebrated with "Tea and Boutique" at the home of **Caroline Mallory**. Included was their annual boutique. Their celebration included a concert with **Grace Asquith, Ginger Hedrick, Susan Clark, Tanya Wier, Donna Levene** and **Catherine Zanotti** performing. In February, the chapter presented an American Music Program for residents of Springbrooke Retirement Community. Performers included Zeta Zeta patroness **Kathy Henkel**, who flew in from Los Angeles, **Megan Bunes, Karen Harris, Ruth Elaine Schram, Susan Clark, Judie Eidson, Tanya Wier, Catherine Zanotti, Kat Wagner, Grace Asquith** and **Ginger Hedrick**. **Judie Eidson** organized a trip for members and friends to see Live From the Met's production of *Porgy and Bess*. They met for breakfast before the performance. **Grace Asquith** of Chamber Ensemble con Grazia, director and performer, presented "A Virtual Art Show" with the Broomfield Council on the Arts and Humanities, which was posted on YouTube April 10. She also participated in the Third Annual Composers Competition (for students) as a founding member of Rocky Mountain Composers. There were 9 student composers, one of which Grace accompanied. **Judie Eidson**, organizer and singer for Opera Fanciers presented three Friday night performances at Balfour, Springbrooke and Heritage Retirement Communities in December, January, and February.

## OMICRON

**Gamma Pi** (*Moravian College, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania*) chapter presented several open musicales. Several members presented a choir concert at St. Paul Lutheran Church for their music service. The chapter created a FaceBook page and a chapter Instagram page. Members gave ceramic painted pumpkins and candy bags to children at the local children's hospital. The day before break they joined with Sinfonia for a Thanksgiving dinner and invited other music students to attend. Members created D.O. tie-dye t-shirts.

## *Surviving COVID-19: Suggestions from Zeta Eta*

*Editor's note: Navana Ahrends from Zeta Eta Alumni chapter decided to take a little poll among the members as to what they were doing while being shut in. She added in at the end of their publicity report as a special section for our enjoyment! Thought we'd pass it on.*

### Surviving Covid-19 2020

#### (Subtitle: What Am I Doing or What Have I Done to Cope)

**Char Fesler:** Since quarantine started, she has cleaned out cabinets and drawers and done some general pitching and re-arranging. She has done exercise workouts at home instead of going to her Zumba classes. Char has been working on five or six pieces, maybe about six to seven hours a week. Shopping online, trips to the store, walking the dogs, cooing, watching TV, reading, talking on the phone...Char says life is full and good! She thrives in captivity.

**Lou Anne Fillinham:** Participated in the First Christian Church (Bloomington) virtual Easter service, playing the hymn "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" and the "Toccata from Symphony No 5" by Charles-Marie Widor. She said it was an odd and memorable experience performing with no one in the pews.

**Sharon Lunday:** Sang hymns and Mass parts, (Entrance hymn, Gloria, Responsorial Psalm, Alleluia, Offertory hymn, the Lord's Prayer, Holy, Holy, Holy, Great Amen, Lamb of God, Recessional hymn) and all the sung responses when attending virtually. She also sang a hymn during Evening Prayers each day. Sharon says she also belts out popular tunes when they bubble up. And her flute and organ get tickled from time to time also.

**Judy Mathieson:** Trying to sort through 30 years of accumulated junk and teaching materials. She has also been meeting with her private students and giving lessons on Zoom.

**Marilyn Musick:** Hasn't done anything different other than church being online and recording the hymns on Thursday nights.

**Fern Noth:** No St. Patrick's recital, no "end of school" recital, no piano lessons. Hasn't been to church, but has been vocalizing and playing the piano! Taking the time to clean closets and mow the yard – takes a good four hours for a second time mowing, in between rains. She and her husband put on John Phillip Sousa marches and walk to the music on days when it's too cold to walk outside. And they sing along with the hymns on Sunday when church is online.

**Colleen Rapp:** Colleen said, "As members of Delta Omicron, we music educators/performers have had to come up with creative ways of sharing our music." She is practicing her clarinet to play for a virtual worship service in the near future with Navana Ahrends, her accompanist. They will be social distancing as they practice their selections. She is also looking forward to playing clarinet trios (in person) with Zeta Eta members, Judy Mathieson and Kathy Schulz. On Sunday mornings she and her husband sing loudly with their church's virtual worship service via YouTube. She will also be giving private clarinet lessons via Zoom. Colleen says, "I feel the need to share my talent with others during these trying times. I feel so much empathy for all our students who are trying to learn during this pandemic. I think how it would be for me if I were still teaching music during these times. My hat goes off to all the educators who are having to teach online, and to the students who are trying to learn the best way they can."

**Kay Sire:** Kay joined family members to celebrate the 40th birthday of a friend from church. They stood on the curb in front of her house and sang "Happy Birthday" with, in harmony, of course! She is also enjoying her daughter's voice lessons online. Joanna is home from Wheaton College after spring break. She is sophomore music education major. Her husband has been working at home and is able to accompany her whenever she needed a pianist. The whole family has enjoyed their church's worship services on Sunday mornings. On Easter Kay sent ecards to many friends. The card had "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" recorded on it and she says the singing was pretty good.

**Pat Weer:** Pat's piano is situated in a large bow of windows at the front of her home. She was playing one day recently and was just finishing up. She turned to leave and discovered a young mom and her daughter standing on the porch. They had heard me and decided to be an audience of two. I played an extra piece for them, they clapped, I bowed,

and they continued their walk. A VERY mini concert!

**Navana Ahrends:** Navana says her Lenten and Easter music went unused which was very sad for her. She did play a funeral in April which she said was very different with only ten people there. Several of her meetings and unit visits with IRTA were cancelled including a memorial service that she and Colleen Rapp were to play for. However, she is thinking about writing words and music to a theme for the memorial service for convention and said she must make that a priority soon.



Paul Lawrence, husband of member Trish Lawrence though has been retired for some time but continues to teach weekly lessons to his percussion students. Last Memorial Day, dressed in a kilt, he and a bagpiper led a parade of wreath-layers and speakers from Cleveland's downtown airport terminal to the U.S.S. Cod submarine docked at the East 9th Street pier. Last fall he played with the Al Koran Shrine Band in a concert for the residents at the Ohio Veterans' Home in Sandusky, Ohio.

Paul is currently performing with a praise band, accompanying the children's program for Mothers' Day and also sings with the Grateful Praise choir that provides choral music monthly at churches not having their own choir.

This is Paul's 34th year as the director of the Hillcrest Concert Band.



The band performs weekly in the summer as well as during December. Last December he formed, rehearsed and directed a brass quartet for Christmas and Easter services at a church in Chesterland, Ohio.

Zeta Sigma Alumni Chapter recognizes Paul as an "OD" (old dear) and admires him for his service to the community, and to their chapter.



## Individual Honors

*Edited by, Kelsey Brown, Omicron Alpha*

### ALPHA NORTH

**Delta Upsilon** (*Kent State University, Kent, Ohio*) member **Jacob Palmer** received the annual scholarship given by **Zeta Sigma Alumni Chapter** (*Cleveland, Ohio*). Jacob is a social work major with a minor in music. He participates in marching band, symphony band, percussion ensemble and the steel pan ensemble. He will also serve as **Delta Upsilon**'s next president. **Emily Hoff** received the annual scholarship from **Zeta Omicron Chapter** (*Kent, Ohio*). Emily is a music education major with a vocal emphasis. Emily served as publicity chair this past year and will be 1st vice president in the fall. Seniors **Montana Hollis** and **Zachary Young** both presented their senior recitals. **Ezekiel Paulowski** was prepared to present his when the pandemic closed the school. However, he did premier at piece online for the 50th Anniversary of May 4. It was called "Tape Music from Kent State," and used audio recordings captured from the event in 1970.

**Janine Tiffe** is the director of the Kent State University African Ensemble, which has performed at the Kent Free Library for Black History Month, the African Community Association's 25th Annual Scholarship Gala, and for the Grand Opening of the Pride of African Exhibit at the Akron Zoo. She also performed with Kent State's Percussion Ensemble at the Ohio Music Educators Association in January, 2020.



She assisted the Tau Beta Sigma chapter facilitate a "Fun with Music" outreach for a local Girl Scout troop. The African Ensemble gave a demonstration-workshop at Davey Elementary for Black History Month, and the ensemble also provided KSU's all-star band dinner with a demonstration-workshop. In partnership with a Kent State colleague, Dr. Tiffe was awarded a grant from the Les Paul Foundation to develop college level classroom materials for circulation by their foundation. She was faculty advisor for a collaborative project in which a fashion and conducting student developed female conductor's attire. She also presented a paper titled "Out in the Country: Youth Identities and Acceptance in the Licking County 4-H Band" at the Society for Ethnomusicology annual national meeting. Dr. Tiffe is currently a member of the *Zeta Omicron* chapter and was initiated into the Mu chapter in 1997.

**Omicron Alpha** (*Otterbein University, Westerville, Ohio*) member **Madison Hookfin** performed her senior recital. Madison was also awarded the Grabill-Shackson Award from Otterbein's music department. Member and senior **Kathryn Butler** was ready to perform her recital when the school closed due to the pandemic. Member and senior **Kelsey Brown** was awarded the William H. and Alta B. Arbogast Music Prize. Member **Alec Arnett** was awarded the Thelma Zellner Memoiral Choral Music Award. Member **Zachary Collins** was awarded the Shackson Memorial Music Education Endowed Award. Member **Matthew Boles** was awarded the Olive S. Cook '24 Memorial Endowed Award. Members **Sidney Conn** and **Lindsay Cooperrider** were awarded the Paula Peters Memorial Endowed Award.

### BETA

**Zeta Alpha** (*Detroit, Michigan*) member **Kristin Pagels** was one of three Chapter Advisors of the Year selected this year. **Nannette Meyette** is listed in the Piano Guild's Hall of Fame.

### DELTA

Life member **Kathleen Murray** (*Sigma, Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois*) is president of Whitman College in Walla Walla,

Washington and has had her contract renewed for another five years. Her presidency has included development and implementation of five strategic priorities: increasing access and affordability; enhancing diversity, equity and inclusion innovating curriculum; connecting to life after Whitman; and celebrating location and the construction of two campus buildings. Prior to her time at Whitman, Kathleen served as provost and dean of the faculty at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minnesota.

### Members-at-Large

**Jan Ziglar Eunice** (*Delta Phi*, 1986-*Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama*) is a retired public Early Childhood Educator with the Eufaula City Board of Education. She currently performs as a flute soloist for the community and also plays in the Tri-State Community Orchestra in Dothan, Alabama. She assists in flute clinics in the Auburn area with Professor of Music Emerita Dr. Karen Garrison and volunteers with the Eufaula City Middle School Band. Jan is a life member of Delta Omicron.



HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to **Janet Gross**! She is receiving an MMEA Award of Excellence. She will be receiving the Rosemary & James Walters Service Award. This award is to recognize an individual who has made a significant contribution to the Maryland Music Education Association.



### *Pearls of Delta Omicron:* *A Conversation with Dorothy Rankin* *by, Virginia Miller*

*Editor's Note: Zeta Chi member Virginia Miller was visiting Dottie and graciously did our "Pearls of D.O." interview with her. Virginia used to take Dottie to Zeta Chi meetings, even after Dottie was 100 years old! Dottie always wanted to go and would get upset when other members of the chapter didn't come to meetings! Her smile is as big as all outdoors. Dottie loves her D.O. sisters and her sisters love her. What an inspiration she is to all of us. She and Phyllis Conrad traveled together many years to meetings and conferences. She spent many, many years compiling Zeta Chi chapter scrapbooks and kept them in her apartment until they were placed in the Wright State University's archives.*

Dottie was born in Greenville, Ohio in 1916. Her mother started Dottie with piano lessons before she was in the first grade. She also played trumpet in elementary school and tried several instruments.

***Where did you go to college?***

I went to Ohio State, but I'm not sure why.

***What was life like back then?***

That was a long time ago!

***What can you remember about Delta Omicron?***

I'm not sure what interested me in Delta Omicron, but I joined Chi chapter in 1949. I was a voice and music education major. I don't remember being an officer in Chi chapter. I joined Zeta Chi Alumni Chapter and served 2 terms as their president. I was scrapbook chair for many years and also served as Alpha South Province President for many years. I traveled to DO functions all over with Phyllis Conrad (International Past President).

Dottie also taught in Japan, which she said wasn't anything great, but judging by all the pictures and objects she had in her apartment from Japan, she must have liked it. Toward the end of her career she sold books for Allyn Bacon.

Virginia noted that Dottie loved her flowers. She was a member of the Garden Club in Centerville for many years. Her back patio area was full of potted plants and flower beds. She even planted areas for other apartments near hers. She had a real green thumb!

As for now, Dottie lives a very independent life in an assisted living facility in Greenville, Ohio. She mentioned that she loves animals and watches Animal Channel a lot.

Dottie turned 104 years old on May 3. If you would like to send her belated greetings, I'm sure she would be pleased. Her address is:

Dorothy Rankin  
Brethren Retirement Community  
Room 617 Rosewood Hall  
750 Chestnut Street  
Greenville, OH 45331

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

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