

Highlights:

- *International conference: Austin, Texas, July 16-20, 2018 + ArtsCan Circle*
- *New Programs 2018-2019*
- *Comedy Night!*

President's Note: Barb Angus



You cannot expect anything to change if you repeatedly do the same thing. DKG International directly addressed this problem at our International Conference in Austin this past July. As our membership declines, and our financial resources shrink, to continue on the same path would only serve to reduce our organization's impact and influence on education world-wide.

At the July 2018 Conference, members debated and voted on 149 amendments submitted by members in order to simplify and modernize our constitution. These proposed changes were part of an effort to retain members and

attract new ones. The 1926 founder of DKG, Annie Webb Blanton, was farsighted in her thinking. "Be progressive," she wrote. "Keep up with the moving world while not discarding what in the old has value. But, don't cling to the old when its worth has passed."

It was a grueling task to listen to reasoned discussion on each amendment before voting. This was accomplished section by section over the five days of the conference. Most amendments passed, others did not. You will soon receive information from International regarding the revised constitution and standing rules. The one amendment likely to have the most impact on our chapters is the one which welcomes student teachers (in the last two years of their program) as Associate Members. We look forward to

working with them and benefiting from their youth and enthusiasm.

DKG Quebec will follow the direction of DKG International as we strive to improve our services to educators.

In the upcoming year, we are going to do some things quite differently. For many years our evening programs have featured a guest speaker and a buffet dinner. The speakers stimulate the personal and professional growth of our members and the monies raised from our buffets fund our scholarships and teacher grants. This year we've added an additional fundraiser, an evening of entertainment for members, their family and friends at the Comedy Nest on September 22nd. Let's start the year with a good laugh!

(Continued on page 2....)



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President's Note

In April we plan to extend our professional development mandate. A full day wellness symposium focusing on work/life balance will be presented to the greater Montreal educational community. "This is Your Day" will be open to all educators whether DKG members or not. Our aim is to increase our visibility in the educational community and to invite participants to join DKG Quebec. The symposium will include stimulating speakers, fun interactive sessions, and just plain self-pampering in a relaxing venue, exactly what is needed by April of the school year. Stay tuned for more details.

Throughout our careers as educa-

tors we have been continually challenged by change. We have constantly sought to improve our teaching and the learning environment for students. Now, as DKG members, we are challenged to meet the demands imposed by the declining membership in our organization. More changes will ultimately be necessary. I am very confident, however, that our members in Quebec and members internationally are up to the task. We will continue to be "leading women educators impacting education world-wide."

Barb Angus, President, 2017-2019

DKG Quebec



Dare to Kindle Growth



*Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education World
Wide*

Report on DKG International Conference in Austin

By Rena Entus

This week I was with someone who asked me about our DKG International and Regional Conventions, and what we did there. She is a librarian in Toronto and had also just come back from a convention.

I told her that DKG members could choose to attend workshops that deal with personal interest and growth topics, professional development topics, or topics relating to DKG. All this is aside from doing "business" and meeting up with great and interesting women. This year I attended the sessions for treasurers and membership.

I explained that one had the opportunity to hear keynote presentations and speakers (from women and men) at the general sessions, and at some luncheons surrounded by super women. This year we were privileged to hear from Benjamin Zander (The Art of Possibility) and Nadia Lopez (The Bridge to Brilliance).

Both were excellent speakers and have done wonderful inspirational work. It is worth Googling them and looking for YouTube videos. There are many! Here are just 2: just ctrl-click to view them. I have the **Art of Possibility** and am happy to lend it out. Unfortunately Nadia's book was sold out. I will get it.

Nadia Lopez: https://www.ted.com/talks/nadia_lopez_why_open_a_school_to_close_a_prison

Benjamin Zander: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r9LCwI5iErE>

Comedy Evening Saturday, September 22

By Catherine Bannan Sidorenko

The Educational Excellence Committee met at the beginning of June to draft a dynamic, diverse and educational program for the coming year. Our goal is to have at least one popular speaker, who could draw a large audience to support our fund raising efforts. Last year, several meetings were cancelled, and regrettably we have had several key members resign. With decreased membership, it is difficult to generate funds from our monthly meetings and we are finding it challenging to cook for these dinners.

The idea of having a comedian, as a speaker, was thought to be a great

way to put a smile on our faces as we start a new school year. However, booking a comedian is not easy to do. Luckily, Montreal has a wonderful comedy club, **Comedy Nest**, located in the old Forum on Ste Catherine Street. The owners, David Acer and Phil Schuchat, comedians themselves, sponsor **Comedy for a Cause**. This is a wonderful opportunity for DKG Quebec: all we have to do is sell tickets and show up.

This is an occasion for us to bring along family and friends for an entertaining evening. This will give us a head start on supporting our two McGill Scholarships and support

student and teacher grants at our local schools. The headliner will be **Jenny Zingrino**, an American comedian, singer and actress with supporting roles in films *Fifty Shades of Black* and *Bad Santa 2*, and as seen on *Conan* and *Just for Laughs*. Doors open at 7:15, show time is 8 pm. Tickets \$20 can be reserved by contacting Rena at renaentus@bell.net. In addition, we will have a 50/50 draw (1 for \$5 or 3 for \$10) to top up our fundraising efforts. It is possible to purchase light refreshments at the club. Looking forward to seeing you there!

A DKG QUEBEC EVENT



A NIGHT OF ENTERTAINMENT & FUN!

8:00 p.m. SHOWTIME

7:15 p.m. DOORS OPEN

STARRING
JENNY
ZIGRINO

Comedy Nest
2313 Sainte-Catherine H3N 1N2

Reserve your tickets NOW!
Contact Rena Entus - DKG Quebec

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

the nest
comedy



Quebec

Barb Angus President 2017 -2019



DKG Quebec 2018-19 Meeting dates & Program

2018

Sat, Sept 22nd **New! Comedy Nest Evening**, special fundraiser

Tues, Oct 23rd **Fleeing the Hijab**, Sima Goel, Author

Mon Nov 12th **Women & Quebec Politics**, Kathleen Weil, MNA,
Notre-Dame-de-Grâce, (to be confirmed)

or

Global Citizens of Kindness Project, Nathalie Malhamé

Thurs Dec 13th **Walking the Camino de Santiago**, Shân Evans
and Penny Stewart

2019

Thurs Feb 21st **``Makerspace`` Activities**, LEARN Quebec,

Mon Mar 18th **Women`s Healthy Heart Initiative**, Wendy Wray, MUHC

Tues Apr 16th **Young Adult Literature**, Lori Weber, Author

Sat May 18th **Conference and Annual General Meeting**

PLEASE ENTER THESE DATES IN YOUR CALENDARS!

DKG International Conference at Austin, Texas

Daily Tidbits

By Anne Marie Gitto Laurin

Day 1: Sunday, July 15

We (Barb, Diane, Rena and I, Sylvie joined us on Wednesday) gathered at Trudeau Airport in Dorval at 3:00 a.m. for our 5:45 a.m. flight to Philadelphia, then onto Austin later that morning. Believe it or not, the airport was packed with people at that time of day!

We arrived in Austin in style, with a Mercedes SUV awaiting us (cheaper to pool our resources than individual shuttle tickets). We checked in and rested until dinner time where we ate at the hotel restaurant (we were too pooped to venture far). But we did walk to the corner after our meal, and discovered a general store called "The Royal Blue Cafe" where we stocked up on breakfast items and goodies.



Day 2: Monday, July 16

Rena and I had breakfast in our rooms, then took an organized shuttle to DKG International Headquarters which is housed in a residential area of Austin. Headquarters sits in a refurbished home with a courtyard and huge drawing room that has a lot of the original furnishings

owned by Annie Webb Blanton, our founding member.

The tour lasted almost two hours as we went from room to room examining various artifacts and art work. For example,



the main entryway, or foyer, has a ceiling to floor tapestry made by one of our founding members, and various pieces of art are on display as gifts to DKG International in appreciation.

After the tour and lunch, Rena, Diane and I took a walk around the hotel. Just at the corner was a taco stand that serves breakfast. But to our surprise, the little taco stand extended the length of the building with an art gallery that promotes local artists. It is called "La Pena". They hold poetry readings and have musical nights as well. The owner's sister, who was minding the store, told us that a few years back, they were the tallest building (two stories high), but now they are dwarfed by high rises that are crop-

ping up at an alarming rate. Still, it's good for business, as all the construction workers come in for their meals: breakfast, lunch and snacks. The economy is booming with high tech companies moving in and high rise condos are needed to house the hipsters moving into the neighbourhoods.



As we kept walking, we met Joan Wolfe, our Area Representative for Canada (ARC), and Aggie Moynihan, Acting Regional Director for the North East. We promised to attend their party hosted by Ontario on the following evening.

But "Les Girls" had other plans for this evening: bat-watching: yes, it's a spectator sport in Austin and a big tourist attraction. Dozens of people lined the bridge near the hotel to watch the bats emerge just after sunset. Frankly, I was a bit freaked out and didn't enjoy the experience at all, but everyone seemed ecstatic to see the little critters fly off in all directions... there are 1.5 million bats that nest in the crevices under the bridge. Good news: there are no mos-

THE GAMMA GAMUT

quitoes in Austin! Bad news: I wouldn't swim in the water!



Our First General Assembly began with Texas Night! We were greeted at the door by Annie Webb Blanton, a DKG Texas member dressed in a beautiful period costume: lace collar, white gloves and hat which was "de rigour" in those days.



We were introduced to our executive directors and staff and later there was dancing by a great band.



Day 3 Tuesday, July 17

The next day, the Second General Assembly started at 8:00 a.m. We had a lot of ground to cover as we went through every amendment to the constitution and standing rules. And we did get through most of them throughout the week, thanks to the hard work of Carolyn Pittman and her efficient, calm and very patient executive staff.



"Impacting Education Worldwide" was the theme of the Luncheon. We each sat at different tables, so we met new friends. The food was delicious! The rest of the afternoon, we had breakout sessions and 10-minute takeaways which are condensed sessions.



Barb was busy attending Presidents' sessions, so we didn't see too much of her during this time. But we made up for it when we did get together!

Day 4 Wednesday, July 18

The Third General Assembly started at 7:00 a.m. as we went through more amendments.

Benjamin Zander, conductor and educator, was our guest speaker. See Rena's article for further details on this remarkable educator.

I took a one-hour bus tour of Austin. As I sat on the upper level, slathered in sun-tan lotion and a straw hat, I had a bird's eye view of Austin's residential areas, the University of Texas in Austin, (the size of their stadium is huge and a bigger one is being built in the near future!) and the downtown core. The tour gave me a sense of direction of where all the really cool tourist areas were, and we did visit most of them.



Sylvie gave two workshops, and they were huge successes! People kept coming up to her afterwards to say how much they appreciated her sessions. It was great to see!



SEPTEMBER 2018

Everyone attended individual break-out sessions and 10-minute breakaways. I attended Google docs, a session on Autism, and the Webmaster's information session, and a session on learning to let go of clutter to name but a few.

That evening, Ontario hosted Ontario Night, as they do every year. We met Betty Rose, our new Area Representative for Canada (ARC), and many members from Ontario, New Brunswick, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia.



Day 5 Thursday, July 19

Today we started at 6:45 for our N.E. Regional Breakfast. Aggie Moynihan hosted the event where she thanked everyone for their help and participation during her term. She thanked the Presi-



dents of each state, and she introduced the new N.E. Regional Director.

The rest of the day was spent in break out sessions and takeaways.

The Market Place was open Wednesday and Thursday. There were many vendors selling beautiful items.

Day 6 Friday, July 20

Friday morning at 7:00 am we were back in session for the Celebration of Life Ceremony. Marianne Davis was mentioned in the booklet displaying the names of our Sisters who have passed. It was a solemn and very respectful ceremony as Carolyn Pittman, our International President, placed white roses among the red ones in a huge crystal vase.



In the afternoon, we had our Canadian Forum presided by Joan Wolf, our Area Representative for Canada, and we were formally introduced to Betty Rose, our new Area Rep. for Canada.



I presented our Canadian Project. It was very well received and voted in favour, 42-2. **ArtsCan Circle** will be our new Canadian Project! (see pages 9-11)

Joan thanked all of the Canadian Presidents for their support.



That evening was our Celebration Banquet. The Installation ceremony was held where our new International President, Cathy Daugherty, was installed.



It was an intensive week filled with hard work, lots of learning and teaching, and most of all, a lot of laughter.

We met a lot of old friends, made new friends, supported each other, hugged each other and laughed until we had tears in our eyes.

And then it was time to come home: Goodbye, Austin!

(See more photos on page 8)

I encourage everyone to go to the N.E. Regional in Connecticut next July 30-August 1, 2019. Book off the dates now! It is close enough to drive down and it will be an experience of a lifetime!

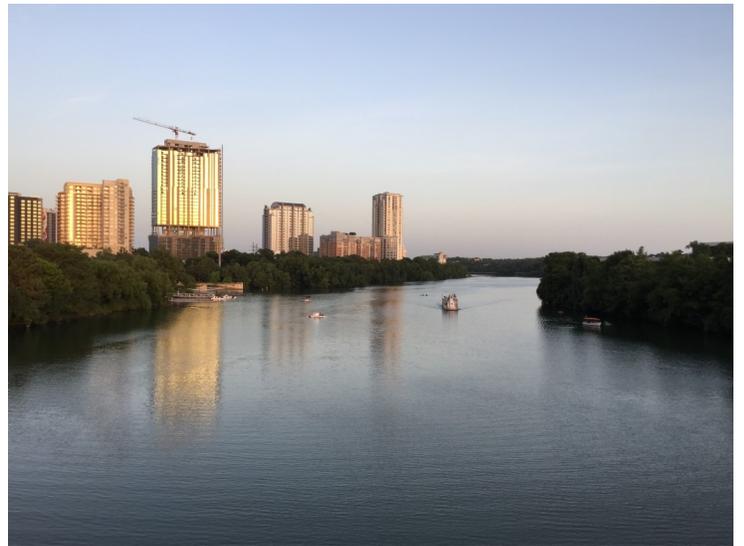
THE GAMMA GAMUT



In the Market Place in Austin, **We Drum for Good** is a small community of hand drummers of all levels who love to learn, play and celebrate joyful rhythms on beautiful drums. They give free performances at charitable events and reasonable rates for private events where the money is donated to local non-profit organizations. They are based in Austin, Texas.



Anne Marie presented the ArtsCan Circle Canadian Project proposal



Austin at sunset above and right



Barb Angus at N.E. Regional Breakfast



Diane with two Past Area Reps for Canada: Donna-Faye Madhosingh and Joan



Iron Cactus for TexMex , Cooper's for mixed grills , Mama Fu's for oriental food and finally Osteria Pronto for best Italian food!

ARTSCAN Circle Project Proposal at the 2018 Canadian Forum

By Anne Marie Gitto Laurin for DKG Quebec

Mike Stevens, founder of the ARTSCAN Circle had a life changing experience after visiting the northern Labrador community of Sheshathiu. With time, the community changed for the better: teachers graduated and returned to the community to give back; a recording studio was built and students were able to interview their Elders and carry on the oral tradition that could otherwise have been lost. The film, *A Walk in My Dream*, tells the story of how Mike Stevens was touched by a few children in a high suicide rate community and how the community came to be changed in turn by Mike's dedication through music.

You can view his story here, just Ctrl-click on this link: <https://vimeo.com/68487020> Sheshatshiu Sheshatshiu

Mike Stevens, an harmonica virtuoso, asks for new or used instruments to be donated to isolated communities in the far north. His organization also needs artists and musicians as volunteer teachers. He also accepts air miles to supplement the cost of flying north, a costly business.

[Note: Rena Entus has agreed to collect used instruments for us to ship to Toronto]

Where: To name just a few communities that ArtsCan Circle touched:

In October 2017, ArtsCan Circle will be returning to the community Pikangikum to hold a week-long music and artist workshop in the Eenochokey Birchsitck School. ArtsCan Circle has also travelled to Fort Albany and At-tawapiskat with Metis Fiddlers Danton Delbaere-Sawchuk, Nicholas Delbaere-Sawchuk and Dancer/Storyteller Nicole Fougère. In Fort Albany they facilitated arts workshops at the local primary and secondary school: Peetabeck Academy.

In December 2016 ArtsCan Circle travelled to Pikangikum with muralist Michael Cywink and a team of digital artists from Sesqui, a company dedicated to developing immersive virtual reality experiences that help us see Canada in new and inspiring ways.



Together with more than sixty learners, Michael helped to create a mural for the wall of the local Community Centre. The team from Sesqui documented the creative process digitally and will launch an animated sharing the mural win 2017



When you guys are here, it's like a different flavor, and it tastes yummy!" said community member Gabriel, aged five years, as he danced like an eagle, turtle, and polar bear and learned musical skills during an ArtsCan Circle workshop.

(Continued on p. 11)

ARTSCAN CIRCLE

BREATHE IN THE WORLD. BREATHE OUT THE MUSIC-SUMMER 2018



CONTINUING THE MISSION IN 2018

ArtsCan Circle is a registered charity that brings artists and Indigenous youth together in an exploration of creativity.

Indigenous youth are our country's fastest-growing demographic, and ArtsCan Circle collaborates with participating communities to help provide access & connection between the arts in creative workshops. The workshops involve a variety of mixed artforms and practice and they're GROWING! There is a lot much talent up north in the stories of youth...we provide space to listen & explore.

HALF WAY INTO 2018 - HERE'S WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED

- Partnered with Music Canada on the **3 R's Program** to **RESCUE** damaged instruments from Ontario's schools/communities, **RESTORE** them to working order, and **REUNITE** them with young people. ArtsCan Circle will support & conduct outreach with MusiCounts, The Coalition for Music Education & Companies in Ontario 's and stakeholders of the Ontario Fire Service.
- Worked with three artists on a Pow Wow in Pikangikum to celebrate **National Indigenous Peoples Day - June 21**. Celebrated **National Indigenous Peoples Month (June)** with a new **#artsCAN & #artscanU** campaign asking Staff what the day means and also what the arts means to them?. We'll continue asking **U what the arts means to U** - let's start a conversation?
- **We've relaunched our YouTube channel 'ArtsCan Circle' head HERE <https://bit.ly/2nzSgHb> SUBSCRIBE & see our curated playlists showing how we started to our work in action today!**
- Held the successful Toronto Island Extravaganza Fundraiser with special performances from **Mary Walsh, Rick Mercer, Bob Rae, Mike Stevens & Friends, Twin Flames & Joseph Boyden**.
- We've created a Spotify account to share songs from our workshops - take a listen at ArtsCan Circle.
- Improved relationships with communities **guiding our programming** - they're asking for different artforms & **we're delivering**. This diversification included break dancing, audio and song recording, sculpture making, LOGIC software training, regalia making and Pow Wow traditional dancing techniques.
- Conducted creative workshops in **Attawapiskat - March | Fort Albany - April | Pikangikum - June**
- New Integrated Artist Facilitator Packs & Training guided and guided by the **7 Grandfather Teachings**.
- Natuashish community needed some instruments to learn on while we're not in the community, so we shipped a **brand new digital piano with weighted keyboard, 3 Electric Guitars, 2 Amplifiers and 2 acoustic guitars**.
- Grateful to receive donations from various events throughout the country. **Thank you to everyone who donated!**

SEEING THE CHANGE

We are encouraging our youth to seek out music development programs at The Folk Music Ontario Conference to help develop their musical careers.

OUR NEXT CHAPTER

Natuashish | Gjoa Haven | Pikangikum
Attawapiskat | Fort Albany

GET IN TOUCH / FIND US



E: operationsmanager@artscancircle.org
Centre for Social Innovation, 585 Dundas St E. 3rd Fl.
ON, Toronto M5A 2B7 | P: 905 36 9117

WANT TO GET INVOLVED...

- **Donate to us online, cheques or cash if you wish - every dollar makes a difference!**
- Sponsor a Workshop Trip or a Programming to a particular community
- Sponsor 1 Artist on a trip or 3 x Artists in a community
- Host/Sponsor a Fundraiser
- Donate sales from a fundraiser/event or initiative to us
- Participate on a trip (Artists Facilitators)
- Donate a musical instrument(s) | Purchase new instruments/equipment

FOLLOW US    

(Continued from p. 9)

ARTSCAN Circle's Story

ArtsCan Circle is a registered charity dedicated to linking creative artists with indigenous youth in northern indigenous communities.

ArtsCan Circle, founded in 2002, was inspired by the work of Mike Stevens, a multi-talented harmonica player who began by travelling to communities in Labrador to share his music with youth. On these visits, Mike has distributed hundreds of harmonicas to help his young listeners discover music for themselves.

ArtsCan Circle now sends teams of indigenous and non-indigenous musicians and artists to engage children and youth in northern indigenous communities in creative art workshops. Our mission is to teach new skills, promote self-esteem and crea-

tive self-expression. ArtsCan Circle visits the communities of Pikangikum, Fort Albany, Attawapiskat and Gjoa Haven. In the past, ArtsCan Circle has held workshops at Sheshatshiu, Misheegogamang, Wabaseemong, Eabametoong and Kugluktuk.



ArtsCan has visited the following communities to date:

- Gjoa Haven
- Pikangikum
- Fort Albany
- Attawapiskat
- Sheshatshiu
- Dokis
- La Seul
- Sioux Lookout
- Misheegogamang
- Wabaseemong

Mildred's Corner

By Dr. Mildred L. Burns



Everyone must take as much responsibility as possible to support and sustain DKG Quebec. Every act contributes to making our membership stronger, and in turn, making our State

stronger. Seemingly minor tasks are important to the unity and cohesion of our group. Every member should serve in some way. For example, Erika (Sebaldt) has been keeping record of attendance for many years. No one has to tell her to do it, but she does it every time. Rena (Entus) serves in thousands of ways, from keeping stock of the paraphernalia of what is needed for each meeting, setting the tables, clearing away after a meeting, as well as once serving as President, sitting on

committees and writing a monthly news column on our members (QUEBEC QUERIES TIDBITS & THOUGHTS).

Members should serve on committees to ensure the stability and continuity of DKG Quebec. Not everyone has to be an Officer, but bringing in new members, for example, is important. But also making sure new members get involved and continue as contributing members.



Mildred's first "Selfie" with Anne Marie and Bev



Area Representative Canada News

DKG – Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide



Members select our 2018-2020 Canadian Project at the Canada Forum – July 20, 2018

Welcome to **ARC News**, Canada 2018-2020. The focus of this issue is to share our new Canadian Project, **ArtsCan Circle**, with state organization and chapter presidents. Our new ‘made in Canada’ project for 2018–2020 received overwhelming support at the Canadian Forum in July, held at the 2018 International Convention in Austin. From the three excellent proposals submitted, Canadian attendees enthusiastically endorsed the ArtsCan Circle proposal, initiated by DKG Quebec. Website: www.artscancircle.ca

Provincial and chapter presidents will soon be sharing information about the project. Included with this newsletter please note the following:

* Power point presentation, ArtsCan Circle, presented by Anne Marie Gitto-Laurin (QC) at the Forum

* The ArtsCan Circle proposal to Canadian members; a news update dated September 2018

* A video link to *A Walk in My Dreams* with Mike Stevens, creator of ArtsCan Circle. Click on the link to view Mike’s inspiring story. <https://vimeo.com/68487020> Sheshatshiu Sheshatshi

Suggested timeline for introducing the project and collection of funds:

September, October, November, 2018

- Chapter Presidents and program chairs are encouraged to share the ArtsCan Circle power point presentation during a chapter meeting (September/October 2018).
- Chapter Treasurers are requested to collect voluntary donations of \$5.00 or more per member. Creativity is greatly encouraged in raising funds. All monies received for the project are to be accounted for by the chapter treasurers.

November 30, 2018 – Deadline for Chapter Treasurers to send monies from donations received to the State Organization Treasurer. Please send the total amount on ONE CHEQUE. Treasurers please write ‘**ArtsCan Circle**’ and **your chapter name** on the memo line.

December 15, 2018 – Deadline for State Organization Treasurers to send monies from all chapter donations received to: The DKG Quebec State Organization Treasurer. Please send the total amount received on ONE CHEQUE. State Organization Treasurers please write ‘**ArtsCan Circle**’ and **the name of your province** on the memo line.

State Organization Treasurers, please send cheques to:

DKG Quebec

c/o E. Kleinfeld, Treasurer

ArtsCan Circle Project Co-Ordinator, 2018-2020: Anne Marie Gitto-Laurin, DKG Quebec

- Serves as a liaison between ArtsCan Circle and Canadian members
- Provides communication and regular updates related to ArtsCan Circle activities
- Provides a written report for the Canadian Forum at the NE and NW Regional Conferences, July 2019

- May be asked to provide updates for use by state organization websites.

ArtsCan Circle Project Treasurer, 2018-2020:

E. Kleinfeld – DKG Quebec

- Receives Project monies from the state organization treasurers
- Sends Project proceeds from all Canadian state organizations to ArtsCan Circle
- Provides a financial update for the Area Representative Canada by January 2019 re monies received to date. The proceeds raised for ArtsCan Circle will be shared with all Canadian members.
- Provides an accounting of monies received and provides a financial statement for the Canadian Forum at the Northeast and Northwest Regional Conferences, July 2019.

I'd love to hear from you—if you have any questions, please email me at bettyrose@shaw.ca

Betty

Dear Rena, [et al]

A great deal of change has occurred in my life since October 16, 2017. I ended up with septic arthritis which led to amputating part of the index finger. Thank God for the excellent care I received at the Jewish General Hospital. It was rough for Peter to see me in this condition. On June 27, 2018 he retired and the next day we moved to Ontario. Now we live in an adapted home next door to my sister in Woodbridge which is located in Toronto. We needed to be near family for more caregiving.

Rena reported that Maria will stay on as a reserve member of our group.



N.B. If you would like to drop Maria a note, please contact Rena or Anne Marie for her address.

Maria Mastracchio-Lafontaine was a French Immersion teacher from Merton Elementary School.

Until recently, Maria was very active in raising funds toward the study of multiple sclerosis at the Montreal Neurological Institute. She has fought long and hard to build awareness of this disease and teaching people how to live with it and helping families cope while offering support. We wish Maria and her husband, Peter, best wishes in their move to Ontario..

DARE TO KINDLE GROWTH (DKG)

This is our vision for the biennium, bequeathed to us by one of our oldest members, Dr. Mildred Burns. Mildred has never stopped kindling her own growth as a professor, an author and a person. She kindled the growth of her students for years and that of her DKG Sisters. Now, ninety-seven and in frail health, she remains quietly in the background, but she hasn't stopped encouraging us to always move forward. Who can talk with Mildred and not leave inspired to do more. She firmly believes that each of us has more growth in us and, more importantly, she convinces us to never stop growing.

When I look back on the past year, I can see how we have grown as individual members and as a provincial organization. We initiated ten new members. Eight members took on new leadership roles: two chapter presidents, a chapter treasurer, recording secretary, executive secretary, parliamentarian, Vice President and President. One member took on the chairmanship of an additional committee; she now chairs our Educational Excellence Committee and our Scholarship/World Fellowship. All eight are busy women but willing to take on extra work and new responsibilities to make DKG successful.

Five members applied for and received an Educational Foundation Grant, completed a project and reported to the Foundation and to their peers in DKG Quebec and their schools.

Two members served as International Speakers. Our Professional Development Committee has begun

the planning for a full day Symposium on Teacher Wellness open to one and all from Quebec's Educational Community. Hard work and long hours are put in by all. One member submitted a proposal for a new Canadian Project and taught herself how to do a Power Point presentation in order to sell it. You are witnessing growth!

Other members have grown in their professional or personal lives. Some have shared this growth with their DKG Sisters, for others it is known only to themselves. But growth, in whatever form, kindles more growth.

Not that we haven't had our challenges! We certainly have: retaining members is a big one.

A huge thanks to all the members of DKG Quebec for their commitment to our vision: **Dare to Kindle Growth!**

Barb Angus, President, 2018-2019
DKG Quebec





A CURRICULUM OF
HOPE FOR A PEACEFUL
WORLD

A Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Newsletter

VOLUME XXXII
ISSUE 11
FALL 2018

BACK TO SCHOOL EDITION

Editor's Message

Before I could give it a name, I noticed it. Not just on the news, but it had begun to creep into places I didn't expect—like my school. Then, when I finally began my summer vacation, I happened to catch Dr. Helen Fisher of The Kinsey Institute on a morning news show. She was discussing incivility, which is definitely the right word to explain what I have been observing. Incivility is defined as rude or unsociable speech or behavior. Dr. Fisher was explaining what happens in the brain to make incivility and anger contagious, and how once the rules of civility are broken, incivility becomes a social contagion. You can see her interview at <https://tvclip.biz/video/dVVIXOS7NDU/where-s-the-civility-in-america-how-rude-behavior-is-contagious.html>. An article in the Washington Post by William Wan shares additional research that corroborates the conclusion that we are fighting a battle with rudeness, and that exposure to rude behavior causes rude reactions. https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/speaking-of-science/wp/2018/06/26/when-we-fight-fire-with-fire-rudeness-can-be-as-contagious-as-common-cold-research-shows/?utm_term=.711104369a80.

Yes, by the end of the school year, there seemed to be an increase in rudeness by students and their parents. We were experiencing deeply concerning behaviors such as profanity, insulting words, and poor decision making. It was something that had definitely not been the norm, and I don't want it to become the norm.

Society is certainly changing. Children (and adults) are exposed to behaviors that would have been inconceivable in previous generations. Vulgarity, violence and vitriol are on the news, on the internet, in video games, and are even demonstrated by politicians. Social media has created a place where anonymity has led to a lack of responsibility and a lack of connection. Boundaries and standards for behavior are becoming blurry.

The opposite of incivility is respect, empathy, self-awareness and self-control. Civility recognizes that we are all human and enables us to live peacefully and productively. Whether this be in a classroom, a school, a neighborhood, a community or in the larger world, we must not lose sight of our responsibility to model, teach and expect civility. Children reflect what they see and hear in their environment. If they do not see civility, they will not know it.

If we envision and are striving for a better world, we have to have this conversation. We need to recognize that incivility cannot be allowed to spread. We must learn to use restraint and return to an understanding of, and a belief in, the importance and value of civility for the common good, above our own self-interests and feelings of entitlement. There are resources, opportunities, and inspirations in this newsletter to help you to get that job done.

The power of the common good was recently demonstrated in the rescue of the boys from the cave in Thailand. Let us use the momentum of that remarkable event to recognize what can happen when people come together with empathy, hope, energy, and action. This is the world we envision for our children and the world we must continue to work toward. Let us persist in our mission to influence the world around us in a quest for restored civility.

Janice McKusick
Editor

*"I get a choice every time I have to open my mouth: that it can be with civility
and dignity and grace - or not.*

Dana Perino



THE GAMMA GAMUT



Get Connected!

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

September/October 2018

Website Compliance

In order to remain linked to the international website, DKG chapter and state organization webmasters must reassert compliance with Society standards at the beginning of each international biennium. The deadline to submit Form 72 is October 31, 2018.

Forms and basic directions for compliance may be found at <http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Forms/Website.aspx>

Further Information

Additional information about the compliance process may be found under the **Tools** tab on the DKG website. Click on *Tools* and then on *Communication Tools*.

Once you have reviewed the standards checklist and ensured that your website is in compliance, complete Form 72 and email it to Society headquarters at compliance@dkg.org by the deadline.

Members of the Communications and Marketing Committee will review all first-time websites and provide feedback. Webmasters who are renewing their sites may also request a courtesy review by a member of the C&M Committee.

Once Form 72 is received, personnel at Society headquarters will link your website to the international website and send you a seal of compliance. Post the seal at the bottom of your website!



Communication overload!

If you are a regular smartphone user, you must have noticed some changes in your daily behavior after you began using the device. Perhaps you find yourself cringing at the dulcet tones of your smartphone's message notifications? Using technology tools such as computers and smartphones and engaging in social media can be very stressful, and you may experience communication overload.

Communication overload occurs when you have multiple, simultaneous modes of interaction going on. It exists when you're flooded with just too many emails, phone calls, texts, instant messages, and social media updates. (news.team.biz) With a demand for immediate communications, expanding social media, and rapidly changing technologies, communication overload is becoming a very real and increasingly common issue.

Of course, although using technology tools can be very stressful, doing so is also very useful. For example, researchers (repository.up.ac.za) have shown that, in project management, email communication assists in building and maintaining project team relationships, even with occasional conflict. Furthermore, in spite of the often disruptive nature of emails and resulting stress, emails contribute to task efficiency and effectiveness. The key is to manage communication well!

Below are several tips to stop communication overload!



Tips to stop communication overload

- ✓ Check your emails at set intervals throughout the day.
- ✓ Create folders in your inbox to prioritize important information.
- ✓ Turn off social media notifications when you are working.
- ✓ Choose your communication channels wisely.
- ✓ Select the time and place to turn off the smartphone and the computer for a few hours. (<https://www.aib.edu.au>)

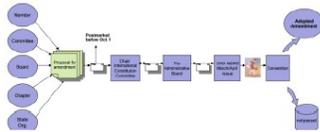




Get Connected!

Constitution Proposals

Members at all levels are being asked to simplify and reorganize the Society’s governing documents. The Communications and Publicity Committee has completed our initial proposals to focus our committee’s work on allowing for greater flexibility while expanding the concept of publicity to that of marketing. Proposed changes to Article VIII, Section B include a committee name change to “Communications and Marketing,” with roles of promoting effective communication and marketing, recommending editorial policy, and training editors and webmasters with today’s technology tools. If these proposals are approved by members in 2018, we are excited to see the future benefits these changes will guide.



How to Propose

If you have an idea to enhance how members would benefit by adopting new ideas, why not propose? Two resources are available to get you thinking and help you propose a change: the [Constitution Committee section of the DKG Blog](#) and the [Constitution Committee Webpage](#). Form 44 (due Oct. 1st) is a one-page document to start the process. Take the first step: have a discussion in your state or chapter.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Jul/August 2017

DKG’s App: Smartphone Tools

Do you have the DKG app? It is free by going to the “store” for your device. Download the app by searching for “delta kappa gamma society international,” and then watch the instructional webinar, *This App’s for You*, linked from the DKG website home page and available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xQqiFC4CApE>. Tools on the home page of the app will inspire and connect you to all things DKG and include direct links to announcements, *DKG News* articles and other publications, member and project spotlights, blogs, and social media. The “My DKG” tab is a direct link to your profile and membership information, receipts for conferences and conventions, and the membership directory.

If you are attending a regional convention, you can select your site under “events” and look at the daily schedule, speakers, and breakout sessions. When you see an event on the schedule or a breakout session you want to attend, click on a star at the right and “Set Reminder” which will appear in the “My Schedule” part of the app. Start planning now: No need to wait for the printed program; you already have it available through the DKG app.

You will find more tools when you select “More” from the home page. The “Postcard” lets you take, save, and share a picture with a DKG-related logo. The “DKG store” links you to DKG materials. Check out the link to the many helpful “Videos” and webinars posted to the DKG YouTube Channel. If you need help understanding how to use “My DKG” and update your member information, a video is linked right inside the app. You will also find “Contact Us” and a “QR Scanner” that lets you link to resources found on the Internet. This app is for you! Spread the word and help others learn about this powerful tool.



QR Codes Link to Convention Materials

During regional conventions this year, look for QR Codes in the program. A QR Code is a quick response code used in education, marketing, and now by DKG to link you to presentation materials and other information found on the Internet. International committees have provided links to their materials for members to find easily following the presentation. Using QR Codes lowers expenses for the Society by reducing paper copies and the shipping of those copies to each of the five regional locations. The C&P committee has a [QR Code blog page](#) to help you learn more about how QR codes work and how to use them as an educator and lifelong learner.





DKG International

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