

Future Teachers and Early Career Educators Are Awarded Grants

by Carol Hughes, Roanoke

On May 5 at Edinger's Filling Station in Pontiac, Alpha Beta Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International awarded two \$200 grants to students who plan to become teachers and four \$100 grants to early career educators for purchasing curriculum materials and classroom supplies.

Marylee Harms (Fairbury) and Karen Harms (Fairbury), Co-Chairs of Professional Affairs, presented two \$200 grants to Janessa Knapp, senior from Prairie Central High School, who plans to become an elementary teacher, and Hayley Schlabowske, senior from Dwight Township High School, who wants to be a chemistry teacher.

Membership Chair Louann Harms (Fairbury) introduced Kelsey Wenger who teaches second grade at Prairie Central Elementary and will purchase supplies for her monthly STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) challenges. Others who will be given the grants at a later meeting are Tiffany Wyse –Fisher, who teaches art at Eureka Middle School; Jill Rocke, social studies, at Eureka Middle School; and Kathleen Irvin, English, at Eureka High School.



Members who participated in the Lambda State Convention on April 20-22 in Lombard included Chapter President Barbara Baumann (Minonk), State Music Chair Elaine Cunningham (Minonk), Carol Hoffman (Fairbury), Carol Hughes (Roanoke), Karen Harms, and Nancy Wier (Eureka).

Members discussed some of the 122 amendments to the International *Constitution* and *Standing Rules* that will be voted on at the 2018 International Convention in Austin in July.

Literacy Chair Jan Masching (Dwight) announced that the board books that were collected for the Aunt Mary's Storybook Project



will be given to the Logan Correctional Center in Lincoln and the Pontiac Correctional Center.

Officers for the 2018-2020 biennium were installed: President: Nancy Wier, Co-1st Vice Presidents: Marylee Harms and Karen Harms, 2nd Vice President: Lou Ann Jacobs (Normal), Secretary: Lila McCulley (Minonk), and Corresponding Secretary: Kate Walter (Cullom).



A Leadership Training for chapter leaders will be held at Ottawa High School on June 9. Louann Harms passed out bags of classroom supplies to share with teachers who are not members of DKG.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, September, at Edinger's Filling Station when goals for the biennium will be shared along with playing the game "Are You Smarter than a Fifth Grader?"

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG) is an honor society that promotes the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. The Society has chapters in 17 countries and serves 70,000 members by providing scholarships, awarding grants for projects, leadership training, mentoring, and global networking opportunities for women. For more information, visit the website at www.dkg.org or call Carol Hughes at 309-923-7370.



Pictured in photos: Janessa Knapp and Hayley Schlabowske, (middle) each received a \$200 grant to become teachers from Marylee Harms (left) and Karen Harms (right).

Kelsey Wenger (left) receives an early career educator grant of \$100 from Louann Harms.

