



"MU STATE MUSE"



Volume 12, Issue 1

2023-2024
Mu State Executive Committee

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Email: madeline.lisa.03@gmail.com

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CALL TO FALL WORKSHOP

This is your **official call** to the **Mu State Fall Workshop** to be held on **August 25-August 26, 2023, at the Geno's Family Restaurant, 681 MS-HWY 4 in Booneville, MS.**



The **Gamma** chapter is looking forward to hosting the upcoming Fall Workshop. Highlights from the National Convention 2023 will be shared and we as a State will be updating our Strategic Plan, touring the Geno Antique Farm Museum and the Joe Curlee General Store Museum along with Local Chapter Presidents training.

The tour of the museum which is next to the restaurant will count as a personal development activity for members. (Make sure to dress comfortably and have your walking shoes ready). Gamma looks forward to seeing you at our upcoming Fall Workshop as "Kappas Sea the Treasures in Life!"

The **Executive Committee meeting** for Mu State Executive Officers, Mu State Standing Committee Chairs, and Mu State Past State Presidents will be **Friday, August 25**, beginning with a meal at 6 pm at the **Little Blackland Church, 307 County Road 7301, Booneville, MS, 38829** (event venue owned by members Patsy Johnson and Mitzy Johnson-Mills).

On **Saturday, August 26**, the **Fall Workshop** will be held at **Geno's Family Restaurant**. Registration is at 9:30 am (includes continental breakfast) and the Fall Workshop **begins at 10 am** and concludes by 2:30 pm.



Kent & Betty Gale Geno

You are in for a treat/treasure touring the Geno Antique Farm Museum and the Joe Curlee General Store Museum as one of our upcoming highlights for this year's Fall Workshop. Kent and Betty Gale Geno, owners, are looking forward to meeting with the Mu State Kappas for this museum is a labor of love for the Geno family. From the local newspaper, it stated "Green Acres may have been the place to be but now the Geno Farm Museum and Event Center is the place to be for all things on farming and if farming and farm equipment can't satisfy the quest for knowledge of how life was lived in days gone by, just step back around the corner and back in time to the Old Joe Curlee Store Museum. It was originally located in downtown Rienzi and opened in 1906. It allows a person to walk into an old timey General Store, packed full of items necessary for people who worked and lived on the farm." Several local schools have brought students on field trips to experience this back in time era. Our appetites will start with Fall Workshop being at their local restaurant, Geno's Family Restaurant, where some of the items spill over from the museum.

“HIGHLIGHTS OF NATIONAL CONVENTION”



National President Phyllis Thomas



MS Delegates: (front row-l-r): Katherine Bumgarner (Rho), Mitzy J. Mills (Beta), Donna Geno (Gamma), Beth Byrd (Gamma). Back Row (l-r): Olivia Sansing (Beta), Kappa Guy John Mills, Diann Carter (Beta), and Pegan Carter (Beta).

There were 190 attendees at the National Kappa Kappa Iota 74th Annual Convention in Baton Rouge, LA from June 26-29, 2023. Of the 190 attendees, there were 19 out of 21 states represented. Mississippi was represented by **Beta Members** Olivia Sansing, Mitzy Johnson-Mills, Diann Carter, Pegan Carter and **Gamma members** 2023-2024 Mu State President, Donna Geno and 2023-2024 President Elect, Beth Byrd, who were among the 117 voting delegates at the “**Radiate the Kappa Spirit!**” convention. National President Phyllis Thomas presided.

During the business session, items reported were as follows:

- **36,994** empathy items were reported for the 2022-2023 year.
- National Philanthropic Report consisted of **\$2,573,445.40** total monies or monetary value donated with **149,777.8** total hours volunteered. The Kempe Center which is a center for prevention and treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect located in Denver, CO was included in the donations. Each chapter of Mu State is encouraged to support programs that provide shelter and counseling for victims of abuse and neglect. For future contributions, checks can be made payable to Kempe Children’s Foundation and mailed to National Headquarters.
- Regional Membership Award was given to Alpha State/OK (Region 7).
- Special recognition with states with Net Gain were Theta/Alabama, Omicron/Iowa, and Alpha Alpha/Kentucky.
- Mu State Kappa member Penny Mansell (Beta) was recognized as one of the Incentive Award Winners who recruited the most new/reinstated members with 13 new members.
- Mu State Kappa member Mitzy Johnson-Mills (Beta) was among sixteen Kappa’s recognized as a V.I.P. Award Winner.
- Mu State Kappa member Mitzy Johnson-Mills (Beta) participated in the Kappa Chorus.
- K Dollars collected was in the amount of \$2,858.00.
- Mississippi is on the rotation schedule for a visit from the National President Kathy Smith in 2023-2024.
- Scholarships presented at Thursday’s night Annual Banquet were as follows: Abigail Tointon (non-Kappa member) from Papillion, NE, was awarded a \$2,000.00 Educational Grant; Greg Lavergne, (non-Kappa member) from Waver, AL, was awarded a \$2,000.00 Educational Grant; Amanda Bennett, Kappa member, from Universal City, TX, was awarded \$2,000.00 from the Past State Presidents and Sara Sunderman Scholarship, Carolyn Wilkins, Kappa member, from Jasper, GA, was awarded \$2,500.00 from the Mable Caldwell and Ruth Foster McClain Scholarships.



Mu State Kappas present gift to National President Phyllis Thomas at the National President’s Reception “Fun in the Sun”

"HIGHLIGHTS OF NATIONAL CONVENTION"(CONTINUED)



On Sunday, June 25, 2023, Kappa Guy John Mills chauffeured Beta members Mitzy Johnson-Mills, Olivia Sansing and Gamma members Beth Byrd and Donna Geno to the National Convention in Baton Rouge, LA, by way of Laurel, MS. Immediate Past State President Mitzy decided Mu State Kappas needed their own Pre-Tour. They enjoyed lunch at Lee's Coffee and Tea Room, toured the Laurel Mercantile store, Scent Library and Scotsman Company. Then, they drove through the area where many of the homes from the HGTV show *Hometown* were renovated.



The first official convention tour began on Monday, June 26th, where Kappas enjoyed touring the Antebellum Plantations- the Myrtles, the most haunted house in the US, and Rosedown, the most intact plantation complex in the South. The next tour was to Houmas House which included dinner. Walking shoes were needed to enjoy the beautiful gardens and tour the house that is considered *The Crown Jewel of Louisiana's River Road*. The history of the house was most interesting and allowed the Kappas to

experience the life on a sugarcane plantation in the 1800's and the Dixie Cafe on the grounds served the best Cajun cuisine. Many more tours were offered, but ask Olivia about those. Olivia enjoyed all the tours that were offered.



Dianne Clark was the inspiring keynote speaker during the First General Assembly. Dianne is the Executive Director for Sci-Port Discovery Center in Shreveport, LA. Sci-Port is a connector for over 200 STEM-related business partners and organizations, housing an Innovation Center which provides training opportunities for ten school districts in Louisiana with a major focus on community engagement and inclusion.



During the Tuesday's Annual Luncheon, Kappa presented the Books and Bears to Sid Bowden of the Baton Rouge Children's Advocacy Center. Sid was overwhelmed with Kappa's generosity with the presentation of the Books and Bears.



The 2023-2024 National Kappa Kappa Iota Executive Officers were installed at the National Convention's Annual Banquet along with the 2023-2024 State Presidents.

Kappa National Executive Committee for 2023-2024

- **President:**
Kathy Smith
(Alabama)
- **President-Elect:**
Carolyn Garretson
(Texas)
- **First Vice President:**
Brenda Hope
(North Carolina)
- **Second Vice President:**
Carolyn Wilkins
(Georgia)
- **Recording Secretary:**
Dana Terrell
(Oklahoma)
- **Immediate Past President:**
Phyllis Thomas
(Louisiana)
- **Parliamentarian:**
Chris Hockert
(Tennessee)

National Theme:

Kappas "sea" the beauty in life.



Mu State Theme:

Kappas Sea the Treasures in Life



National Kappa website:

www.nationalkappakappaiota.org

Executive Director:
Teri Poreda

Fall Workshop 2023 Registration Form (Please Print)

Name _____

Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

E-Mail _____

Local Chapter _____

Check All That Apply:

Mu State Executive Committee _____

Past State President _____ Year Served _____

Mu State Standing Committee Chair _____

Local Chapter President _____

Local Chapter President-Elect _____

Local Chapter 1st VP _____

Local Chapter 2nd VP _____

Local Chapter Secretary _____

Local Chapter Treasurer _____

Local Chapter Immediate Past President/Empathy _____

Local Chapter Member _____

Local Campus/Collegiate Member _____

First Time Member Attendee _____

- **Please check appropriate response to assist with meal planning of Friday night's "Mu State Executive Committee Meeting"** (Little Blackland Church, 307 County Road 7301, Booneville, MS)
☐ Yes, I plan to attend ☐ No, I do not plan to attend

- **Saturday Only Registration: \$40**
 Lunch will be plated, please mark your main entrée choice below
 (Select only one)
☐ Chicken OR ☐ Hamburger Steak

- **Both Friday and Saturday Registration: \$35**

TOTAL REGISTRATION FEE ENCLOSED \$ _____

- **Five hotel rooms have been allotted for Mu State Kappas at the Super 8 Hotel, 110 Hospitality Ave. HWY 145, Booneville, MS, 38829. Reservations can be made directly to the hotel by calling 662-720-1688 no later than Friday, August 5th.**

Single room occupancy: King \$85.00

Double room occupancy: \$95.00

(Complimentary breakfast is available at the hotel.)

(Make sure to state you are with Kappa)

**2023-2024 Mu State Special Project
McCarty Pottery Nutmeg
Clam Shell Bowl**



This clam shell is 9" x 11". This piece of pottery has a lot of white sprinkling which makes it particularly interesting. It could hold about 3 cups of dip nicely or fruit/chips of your choice. Each piece of McCarty's work is unique and none look alike. Chair, Karen Lott, will be selling tickets at the Fall Workshop. Just drop off your completed entry tickets with money to Karen at the Special Projects table. Also, tickets are enclosed in this newsletter. You may mail your entry tickets along with check payable to Mu State KKI to Karen Lott, Special Projects Chair, P.O. Box 382, Booneville, MS 38829.



**Mail completed registration form
and payment promptly by
Wednesday, August 16th, 2023.**

**Make checks payable to: Gamma
Send check and completed form to:
Teresa Green
100 Glenwood Dr.
Booneville, MS 38829**

Questions? Contact Donna Geno via
e-mail at dgeno1972@gmail.com or
cell (662-720-0661)