**Delta Kappa Gamma, TN State**

**Iota Chapter News**

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*Joy Branham, Editor*

Chapter website*:* [*http://iotaxistateweeblycom.weebly.com/*](http://iotaxistateweeblycom.weebly.com/)

Iota Facebook: [*https://www.facebook.com/groups/173164679376911/*](https://www.facebook.com/groups/173164679376911/)

**The mission of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is to promote professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.**

***President’s Corner***

Dear Iota Sisters,

It certainly has been a long, hot summer. Hope you all have been keeping cool and were able to rest.

This Delta variant of Covid-19 has taken a toll on people recently. My mother succumbed to Covid on August 16; her caretaker had it, too, but was able to overcome it. Many people we know have had the virus, hopefully they have all recuperated.

Soon we will have our first meeting of the DKG year. That will be a **picnic** where we will be able to display our culinary skills by bringing a covered dish to share. We may have to consider Zoom meetings again, even though most of us have been fully vaccinated.

Looking forward to seeing everyone again.

***LaMerle Francisco***

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**Iota Chapter Officers 2020-2022**

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Corresponding SECRETARY Cathy Anderson

TREASURER Beth Gilbert

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WEBMASTER Brenda Moriarty

**Our sincere love**

**and sympathy to**

**LaMerle on the death**

**of her mother. Take**

**strength from the hands reaching out to you, dear one.**

***Next meeting 5:00 PM, Thursday, September at Eastman Shelter #9--***

This is a covered dish picnic like we used to have in the days before disaster hit! 

Our speakers will be **David and Brenda Fox**, longtime volunteers at Bays Mountain Park. David has set up a website with the history and “prehistory” of the park! Take a look: <http://www.baysmountainhistory.org/>

Bring a covered dish. Iota group picture will be made. Please bring *classroom supplies and teacher treats* for new teacher baskets.  
**Hostess Group # 3**will be in charge of drinks, ice, paper products and presenting the inspiration.

**Due to COVID-19, we must disinfect site before and after use.** (Help will be appreciated!)

***Highlights of Our April Meeting—***

* Catered picnic at Bays Mt. Large turnout!
* Sarah Wells from *Friends in Need Healthcare* spoke about their ministry to the uninsured and underinsured.
* Items brought for Safe House.

***From Personal Growth and Professional Development—***

Due to all the controversy involving masking/not masking for students for the 2012-22 school year some information for teachers can be found in an article entitled **“Guidance for Covid-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools.”** This includes suggestions from the CDC with guidance for Covid-19 safety protocols as a priority for reopening classrooms.   It is sponsored by The NEA Foundation.  To read this article go to  [www.chalkbeat.org/2021/7/9/22570068/new-cdc-guidance-schools-masks](http://www.chalkbeat.org/2021/7/9/22570068/new-cdc-guidance-schools-masks).

***Summer Events—***

**Planning meeting:** Several members met at The Courtyard in Kingsport to set up our meetings and events for this year. Lots of good ideas! We’ll keep you posted!

**Tennessee State Convention:** Held this year at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in Nashville instead of at Sewanee because of scheduling problems in this time of Covid. It was a shorter convention, but still valuable. Attended by Joy Branham, Lisa Holt, and Joan Holt, **Order of the Rose Winner!**