

**PLEIAD**  
The Electra Province Newsletter  
Summer/Fall 2023

**ELECTRA PROVINCE PRESIDENT**

Greetings Dear Sisters of Electra Province,

It has been such a wonderful honor to serve as your President for this sorority year! I had so much fun seeing so many of your sweet faces at National Convention in Kansas City, MO in June, for the “Roaring 20’s”! I want to thank those you who have agreed to serve on a committee for our upcoming 92<sup>nd</sup> Conclave, “Come Celebrate with Us Rad Women” in Omaha, NE! In July, I enjoyed visiting the Kansas Kappa chapter for a summer chapter get together! Being a founding member of the Kansas Kappa Chapter, it felt like home again! I want to take this time and thank each and every one of you so very much for your continued support, love and help during my time as Electra Province President. I have enjoyed my time serving each of you. I care about each one of you so very much and please contact me at any time if you ever have a question, concern, or just need to talk and say, “Hello!”

Take care and I am looking forward to seeing you all soon in Omaha next month!

Mindy Neeley, Electra Province President



## ELECTRA PROVINCE VICE-PRESIDENT

As we move into late summer and early fall, I have noticed the honey bees are still hard at work gathering the supplies needed to survive the winter and the coming year. Which means that you still have time to find those women who are interested in our sisterhood. **BE THE ONE** to invite a lady into our glorious sisterhood. I have heard that we will have a large initiation at conclave which is amazing! I'm so proud of those sisters who were the **ONE** to invite a new sister into our glorious sisterhood. Remember, to just keep buzzing around those women who you know would be a great sister.

You all will be getting information from me very soon about the changes to initiation that the board decided at midyear. I hope these changes will help alleviate the stress of initiation for individual chapters. I'm so very excited for this year's conclave, **Come Celebrate RAD women.** As I'm a huge fan of women who walk all over the line in the sand, this makes me giddy with anticipation.

Hold High the Torch,

Gail Allen  
Electra Province Vice-President



## **ELECTRA PROVINCE EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR**

Sisters,

The radical women of the music industry have impacted lives and changed the world. I don't know about you, but I'm so excited to see the achievement contest entries this year. So far, some amazing women have been selected. I know everyone will do a great job sharing what their chapter has learned. If you haven't submitted your choice yet, please let me know by September 15. I really hope all chapters will put together some sort of presentation even if it isn't a fully rehearsed, costumed, or memorized performance. Our goal is to learn and to share what we learned.

Respectfully,

Candace Moore

Electra Province Educational Director

## ELECTRA PROVINCE RECORDING SECRETARY

Hello Sisters!

I hope that everyone is staying cool in this hot weather. There are a few days that I am not sure that I will make it from the car to the house before melting!

I want to thank all the Chapter Recording Secretaries for the minutes that have been forwarded to me. I have enjoyed reading what you are all doing, and your ideas have helped me find new things to learn and to enjoy. It is also the Province Recording Secretary's duty to forward your minutes to the various Province officers and I know that they do read them. **KEEP IT UP!!**

Maya Angelou said, "Each new hour holds new chances for new beginnings. The horizon leans forward offering you space to place new steps of change." Take a moment and reflect on what steps **YOU** are taking, as a Chapter and as a member of Delta Theta Chi sorority. What do you want to achieve or accomplish as a member of Delta Theta Chi and as a Chapter? Are you just dripping with women wanting to join us in all this heat or are you frozen in time like the harshest winter? What are your Chapter meetings like? What type of educational programs are being given? Are they tailored to keep the interest of members and prospective members? What types of socials are you holding? Most importantly, *ARE YOU MEETING IN PERSON* at least once a month? Everyone needs that social interaction now! Take those necessary steps needed to **GROW.**

I have made the personal decision to search for ways to improve myself and my Chapter. If I am not learning anything, then it is possible that my sisters are not learning either. Something is wrong and now is the time to take the steps for change. As Susan B. Anthony once said, "Wherever women gather together, failure is impossible."

Tammy Cocannouer

Electra Province Recording Secretary

## ELECTRA PROVINCE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY



Janelle Clark  
Electra Province  
Corresponding Secretary

Pleiad Article # \_\_\_\_\_ I am certain there are many who have written more Pleiad articles than me .

I do hope you have enjoyed some of the Pleiad articles I have submitted. As I wind down my duties as Electra Province Corr. Secretary, I do hope you extend the courtesies – and more - to the new Secretary that you have shown me. The biggest undertaking of my duties is to keep the province Roster up-to-date. Please remember to submit changes in your chapter information to the secretary as well as to the N.E.S.T. I have enjoyed serving in the capacity as well on the Province Board. It has given me the opportunity to learn who each of you are – putting a name to a very lovely face.

This has been a very memorable year for many reasons - family deaths and family births. Sadness and Happiness. Heartaches and Blessings.

Continue to cherish and grow.

Fraternally and in sisterly love,  
Janelle Clark, E.P. Corr. Sec.

## **ELCTRA PROVINCE TREASURER**

From the office of Electra Province Treasurer

Sisters,

It's that time of year again with the 2023 Electra Conclave fast approaching, your dues will be coming due on September 15, 2023. I know that several chapters do not start meeting until September, so this should be your first order of business for the new sorority year. Dues are still \$30 per year. I would like to thank every chapter in advance for getting your dues in on time. As of the writing of this article, we will not be having a fundraiser at the 2023 Electra Conclave. I know a lot of you are appreciative of this as we all have plenty to do to prepare for Conclave.

In sisterly love,

Cathie Barber

Electra Province Treasurer

**ELECTRA PROVINCE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

Dear Sisters:

What an exciting time of year this year. It was a wild summer for me, with lots of trips to Oklahoma with many doctor appointments for my parents and myself. But fall has finally arrived, albeit not yet with cooler temperatures. School is back in session and everyone's health is improving. So now I find myself finishing up those tax returns I put on extension last spring and getting ready for conclave. I am excited to make a trip to Omaha to learn about all the Rad Women in our past and party with a few of our current ones. Conclave Rocks! Always the highlight of my year.

As for my term as, Immediate Past President there hasn't been too much for me to do. I am getting ready to help present the next Bettye Bielfeldt award winner her award at Saturday night's banquet. This is going to be a good one, so you all come! Additionally, I chaired the nominating committee for the 2023-2024 slate of officers. Thank you to all the sisters who have agreed to serve. It always makes life easier when sisters are willing and eager to help our sorority.

I look forward to seeing you all soon in Omaha and wish you cooler temperatures and safe travels.

Hold High the torch!

Teresa Carter

Immediate Past President

**ELECTRA PROVINCE NATIONAL TRUSTEE**

Electra Province National Trustee Report  
Cathie Barber, Kansas Beta

From the office of Electra Province Trustee

Thank you, sisters, for electing me to be your representative on the National Executive Council. Many of you that attended the 2023 National Convention in Kansas City, MO at the end of June saw me installed as Electra Province National Trustee. I will strive to do my best for you, my Electra sisters.

I would like to thank those that agreed to serve on a national committee:

- Constitution & Bylaws – Gail Allen, KS Kappa
- Education – Tammy Cocannouer, KS Beta
- History Book – Teresa Carter, KS Beta
- Literacy/Community Benefits – Janelle Clark, KS Alpha
- Membership – Diana Allen-Lewis, NE Zeta
- Pleiad – Eileen Neeley, MO Delta
- Scholarship – Bethany Hoffmeier, KS Kapa
- Website – Brenda Thompson, KS Beta

President Connie Cripe has already started communicating with the rest of the board as we have plans to meet once a month via Zoom. So if you have any questions you would like addressed by the NEC, please do not hesitate to reach out to me as your representative on the NEC to express your questions and/or concerns.

In sisterly love,  
Cathie Barber  
Electra Province Trustee

**ELECTRA PROVINCE SCHOLARSHIP TREASURER**



We had two applicants for the Electra Province Scholarship for the 2023-2024 Academic year. Both applicants were fully qualified and approved by the Electra Province Scholarship Committee.

Victoria Cocannouer, daughter of Tammy Cocannouer, Kansas Beta, is working on her BME in Music Education at University of Nebraska – Lincoln.

Michael Kalas, grandson of Marie Beuchat, Kansas Alpha, is starting on a degree in Mass Media with a Music minor at Washburn University

Congratulations to both of them!

Donations received in 2022-2023:

2022 Conclave donations = \$440

Electra Province in Memory of Joan Billings

Missouri Delta Chapter in Memory of Joan Billings

Chris Durbin in Memory of Joan Billings

Respectfully,

Cathie Barber  
Electra Province Scholarship Treasurer/Committee Chair

**ELECTRA PROVINCE 2023 NATIONAL CONVENTION CO-CHAIRS**

From the 2023 National Convention Co-Chairs

Sisters,

We can all now heave a sigh of relief as Electra Province has once again done a fantastic job of hosting the National Convention. Everyone did a fabulous job with their respective responsibilities. I would just like to say a special thanks to the following for being on the committee and/or primarily responsible for various facets of the weekend.

- Registration – Eileen Neeley, MO Delta
- Treasurer – Janelle Clark, KS Alpha
- Committee Representatives for all the chapters – Karen Marsh, KS Alpha/Trish Schmidt & Brenda Thompson, KS Beta/Vicki Lignitz & Gail Allen, KS Kappa/Eileen Neeley & Mindy Neeley, MO Delta/Diana Allen-Lewis, NE Zeta/Julia Ourecky, NE Eta
- Tours – Eileen Neeley/Cheryl Neeley, MO Delta
- Podium Floral Arrangement – Leslie Beers, KS Beta
- NEC Courtesies – Chris Durbin/Judy Hulbert, MO Delta
- NEC Liaison – Cheryl Neeley, Past Electra Province Trustee, MO Delta
- Our Transportation Specialists – Mark Neeley, MO Delta/Jimmy Carter, KS Beta/Bruce Rowan, CA Omicron/Chris Durbin, MO Delta
- Photographer's Assistant – Gail Allen, KS Kappa

I'm sure we forgot some people but thank you all anyway for helping make the weekend a success.

In sisterly love,  
Cathie Barber & Teresa Carter  
2023 National Convention Co-Chairs

**KANSAS ALPHA CHAPTER**

From KS Alpha – Janelle Clark reporting

Spring and Summer have been challenging for our chapter. Members continue to deal with health issues/concerns of their own and with family members. But we do have some joyous moments intertwined to lighten our spirits.

L to R: Pat Glidewell, Karen Swogger, Karen Marsh, Janelle Clark

We do strive to hold meetings it seems we do best when we lunch event. Some of those and art.



and do some social events each month, but incorporate our meeting during a social lunch dates incorporate literature, music,

Some members were able to hear Dan Mears (former mascot for the K.C. Chiefs) speak on how he works with organizations and ministries to bring aid to orphans and the poor around the world; attend a musical comedy (Something Rotten) at the Topeka Civic Theatre; tour the Designers' Showhouse that benefits children by supporting Child Care Awareness (registered trademark) of Eastern Kansas' mission.



This was the year Electra Province hosted the National Convention 'Roaring 20's' which kept our chapters very busy. Our chapter, along with the KS Kappa chapter' oversaw the Saturday luncheon. Karen Marsh helped spearhead the table decorations. The lunch was enjoyed by 90+ Sisters. We were 'educated' about the 'speakeasy' era and some 'very tasty drinks' that were popular during that time.

L to R: V Kay Foster, Janelle Clark

During the summer months we continue to reach out to our membership with phone calls, emails, and personal visits. Members are healing from their surgeries.

From (proud grandma) Kay Grant- my granddaughter(Freya) has spent a goodly part of the summer in the Academic Talent Development Program(in Berkely) building a hovercraft and hopefully learning some Physics. "She also qualified for her brown-stripe karate belt and won a 2<sup>nd</sup> place medal for her age group in a karate competition.

John & I were able to vacation with some friends in Arkansas. We traveled to Eureka Springs and Bentonville. We stayed in the 'haunted' 1886 Crescent Hotel – the only thing scary was when I looked in the mirror !! I feel a 'must see' are the Crystal Bridges in Bentonville, AK. In May, my mother met her 'maker'. She was 1 week 'shy' of celebrating her 101<sup>st</sup> birthday. She had a very fulfilled life. Thank you for all your caring thoughts and cards.

The month of July, 89 years ago, KS Alpha Chapter was founded. We celebrated in August with an outing to Atchison, KS to tour the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum. We found the tour enlightening about her life and her aviation adventures. The Museum is proudly owned by the Ninety-Nines: International Organization of Women Pilots.



L to R: Karen Marsh, Karen Swogger



L to R: Janelle Clark, V. Kay Foster

All Ks Alpha Sisters wish you a very enjoyable summer.

## KANSAS BETA CHAPTER

Summer Pleiad Article  
Kansas Beta Chapter

The Kansas Beta Chapter is so excited to welcome two new sisters. On August 22, 2023, the Kansas Beta Chapter gathered at the home of Trish Schmidt to pledge two new sisters. Joining the sisterhood were Karrisona Schmidt little sister of Trish Schmidt. Karrisona is also the daughter in law of Trish. She has two children and is married to Trish's son Micheal. Also joining us is Kim Garcia new little sister of Tammy Cocannouer. Kim is the next-door neighbor of Tammy Cocannouer and was initially a speaker for one of the chapter's programs a couple of years ago. Since then, she has joined us at multiple meetings and events, until we got to the point of forgetting to introduce her as a guest, because she had just become one of us. This just made it official.

Making the event even more special was having sister and Past National President Gracene Sims join us for the evening's events. Gracene, who turned 91 this past June is the most "seasoned" member of the Kansas Beta chapter. We took photos with her and our newest members. It was such a fun evening. The pledging ceremony was followed by heavy hors d'oeuvres, wine and lots of picture taking, visiting and hugs.

Gracene asked that we put a "THANK YOU" from her in the Pleiad to all the sisters who have been sending her letters and cards. She so enjoys getting them. It makes her feel so good to be remembered by everyone and she just loves hearing from sisters from all over.

The KS Beta's are not done recruiting new members and we hope to have at least one more new member later in the year. We have multiple social events planned over the course of this sorority year including a haunted event at Halloween and a chapter favorite to a Christmas play at a local playhouse. Of course, we will be inviting rushees and anyone else who wants to join us from out of town to come party with us!

We are also planning a chapter trip to Tulsa on September 17<sup>th</sup> to assist in conducting an initiation ceremony for the Oklahoma Alpha Chapter. Kansas Beta sisters will join the Alpha Chapter for Sunday lunch and then participate in conducting the ceremony. What a fun trip we are planning. We hope to share about this in the next National Pleiad.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at the 2023 Electra Province Conclave.

First Picture of 5 is 5 generations of sisterhood  
Teresa Carter Big Sister of  
Brenda Thomspson who is big sister of  
Cathie Barber who is big sister of  
Trish Schmidt who is the new big sister of  
Karrissa Schmidt new pledge.

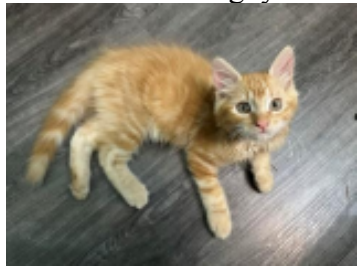
Second Picture is  
New Pledges Karrissa Schmidt and Kim Garcia with our most seasoned memeber Past National  
President Gracene Sims

Last picture is  
Big Sister Trish Schmdit with her new little sister Karrissa Schmidt  
New Pledge Kim Garcia with her big sister Tammy Cocannouer.



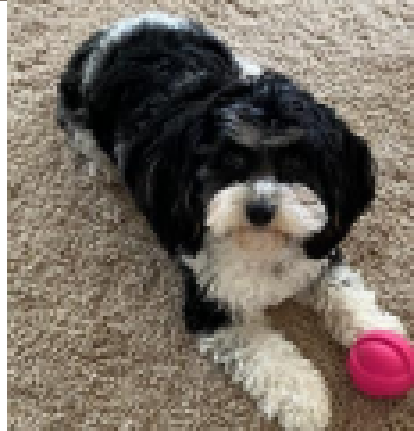
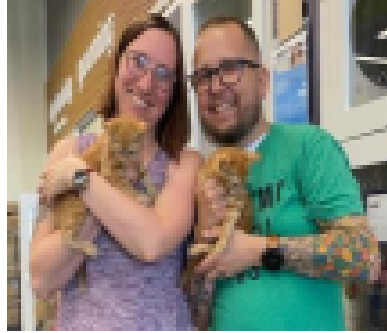
## KANSAS KAPPA CHAPTER

The Kansas Kappa Chapter lived by this anonymous quote this summer – “ We travel not to escape life, but for life not to escape us”. All of us went on some kind of adventure this summer. Some just came back home to Kansas, some went states away, and some of us got our passports stamped in another country. The Kappas kept in touch through zoom and text when we couldn't meet in person. All of us had such a good time this summer enjoying the spoils of what a beautiful country we live in. Gail Allen, KS Kappa and her guy Bill did a 2800-mile trip through 9 states and 1 country in 7 days from Kansas up to Niagara Falls, through Canada and back down from Michigan Gail also got a new kitten named Rum Tum Tiger. Aka Rummy Maria Gunselman and her wife Kristin traveled to South Dakota and Minnesota as their delayed honeymoon and 1st year anniversary! They travelled to several State parks, stopped at Mount Rushmore, saw buffalo herds, and went to Corn Palace! They are expecting their first grandchild this winter! CONGRATS!!!! Debby Gunselman and her husband Terry, road tripped to Casper Wyoming for a reunion of descendants of the 11th Kansas Calvary. They stopped at the Battle of the Red Buttes building and took a picture where Terry's Great-Great grandfather also took a picture back in 1865. They did some sightseeing of different sites around Casper. Candace Moore, and her family road tripped to Branson. They went to Silver Dollar City, theater production of Ester, and White water park. They were very busy with summer sports for Connor and Caelyn. Bethany and her husband went on vacation to Eureka Springs, Arkansas! They stayed in a cabin and thoroughly enjoyed the view and the local diners. They also got two new kittens named Ingrid and Astrid this summer. Vicki Lignitz travelled to Southeast Kansas and visited Big Brutus in West Mineral, KS and then travelled to western Nebraska to see her family and Big Brother who turned 90! She also travelled to Cancun, Mexico for her nieces wedding(all of us were VERY jealous of Cancun!) Ann Bell and her husband David watched their son David graduate from high school in May. She made her yearly trip back to Scotland to see her Mom and Family this summer. Cindy Whiteley and her Husband drove across state lines to come to our National convention this June but are saving their vacation miles for their big trip to FRANCE in October! Cindy has been working on her quilting, painting, playing with her doggo Willow, and hanging out with her best guy Don this summer.









## MISSOURI DELTA CHAPTER

Beginning in 2021 the MO Deltas continued to celebrate our Founder's Day but we did not invite guests for a few years. This 2023 we decided to extend invitations to all Electra Chapters to join us in March. We were very pleased to have out-of-town guests, and one husband (Mark Neeley). We hope that this coming March (a tentative date of March 9<sup>th</sup>) more Electra Sisters can join us.

Our Chapter had a lot of fun working on the projects we volunteered for and were asked to help with for National Convention in June. I think all Chapters can be very proud of the success of that weekend, under the guidance of Co-Chairs Cathie Barber and Teresa Carter. But, isn't it nice to now sit back and relax, and enjoy the conventions to be held in the other Provinces for the next few years. I think Teresa Carter should get her "savings plan" started again, so Electra has a good showing when we are in San Diego in 2025!

MO Delta holds chapter meetings through the summer, and we take off the months of January and February. We feel that getting to a meeting in hot weather is a lot easier than trying to get around in the ice and snow for a meeting. Therefore, we have been holding meetings all this summer, including getting in some educational programs. We are working on a community service project of collecting school supplies that our two teachers, Eileen and Mindy, need for their classrooms.

The fall months will probably find our chapter Sisters working hard on getting ready for Conclave in Omaha. We are working on our entry for the Achievement Contest. We will try to have scheduled meetings for rehearsal, but if we do as we have done in the past, our first run-through will be in Omaha, late Friday night!!!

It has been an honor for our Chapter to have Cheryl Neeley represent Electra as National Trustee these past four years. We are looking forward to seeing Cheryl back on the National Executive Council in two years. It has also been an honor for our Chapter this past year to have Mindy Neeley serve as Electra Province President. We were deeply saddened when we learned that our Sister Joan Billing had passed away. Joan's nieces and nephews knew how much Delta Theta Chi meant to her, and they were very respectful when turning over to us her mementos that she had collected from various conclaves and conventions throughout her years of membership. She was a dear MO Alpha Sister, and a very dear MO Delta Sister.

We look forward to seeing everyone in October for Conclave.

Your MO DELTA SISTERS



## NEBRASKA ETA CHAPTER

The Nebraska Eta chapter this year has been enjoying meeting in person for programs held by individual sisters as well as meeting over Zoom for our business meetings. So far this year we have held a Charcuterie making program hosted by Mariah, a game night hosted by Alma, a plant propagation class hosted by Izzy, as well as our annual picnic by the lake hosted by Teresa. We were also lucky enough to meet outside of our regularly scheduled programming to plan and build our display for the National Convention Saturday night banquet. Two of our sisters had the pleasure of traveling to Kansas City for National this year, one for the first time. We are very much looking forward these coming months to our annual pumpkin carving party and Christmas calendar exchange and craft night.



## NEBRASKA ZETA CHAPTER

Greetings from the Nebraska Zeta Chapter,

We hope everyone is staying cool during this hot, hot weather! The Zetas are busy planning the Electra Province Conclave to be held in Omaha on Oct 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. So many details to handle but we are so excited to host and are hoping many of our DTC sisters are making plans to attend. During March, April, May and June we went to brunch several times, held regular business meetings when possible and enjoyed a fun new movie "Book Club Two". We also elected new Officers in June.

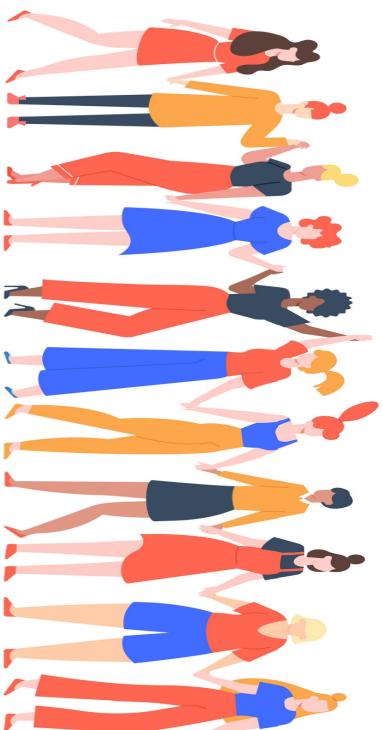
The Zeta Chapter does not meet in July so everyone had a chance to travel, spend time with Grandchildren, garden, read and just enjoy life. Of course, our Conclave chairs, Kathie Garrean and Mary Kreager were working on Conclave plans all summer... Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!

On August 12<sup>th</sup>, the Chapter celebrated our 38th Founder's Day with a lunch at a local steak house. Unfortunately, our President, Mary Kreager fell at home and was not able to attend. Thankfully, she has recovered quickly.

As I finish this report, a summer thunder storm is passing through the area, so maybe this will turn our weather around a little and cooler days are ahead. Remember to "Hold High the Torch" of Delta Theta Chi and let's all find those new members.

Diana Allen-Lewis, Secretary  
Nebraska Zeta Chapter

# RAD WOMEN



2023 Electra Province Conclave

**October 6, 7, 8, 2023**

**OMAHA, NEBRASKA  
OCTOBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 7<sup>TH</sup>, 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

Courtyard Marriott Bellevue at Beardmore Ever

3730 Raynor Parkway

Bellevue, NE 66123

Reservations at 402-408-5300 or [www.marriott.com](http://www.marriott.com)

Room rate \$129 per night King or \$139 Double

Registration form coming soon.

**SEE YOU ALL SOON IN OCTOBER!!!!**