**The Ellen Walker Professional Enhancement Award**

The Ellen Walker Professional Enhancement Award is awarded to a member who participated in professional development to enhance her skills or develop assets for her school or system in the previous year. The award carries a reimbursement of $350 that were spent during June 1, 2020 through May 31, 2021. The reimbursement can not be related to DKG travel or academic pursuits.

The Ellen Walker Professional Enhancement Award is named in honor of one of the founding/charter members of Beta State, now known as Alabama State DKG. She was reputed to be an excellent teacher and later principal of Gorgas Elementary School in Tuscaloosa. Her list of achievements and honors is lengthy including founding chapters of two professional organizations in Alabama and being named the 1967 Tuscaloosa Citizen of the Year. In Beta State, Ms. Walker served as State President, Executive Secretary, state editor, and Chapter President. She was an executive board member for the state until 1991. After Gorgas School, Ms. Walker worked for the Tuscaloosa County Board of Education in many responsibilities until retirement in 1969 in the position of Attendance Supervisor.

This award is named in honor of Ms. Walker with the contribution of $10,000 for an endowed scholarship, the interest of which may be awarded to an Alabama DKG member to help with expenses related to professional development. To be considered by the Scholarship, Professional Enhancement, and World Fellowship Committee for the Ellen Walker Professional Enhancement Award, a DKG Alabama State member, active three or more years, may submit the following items by June 15th:

1. A letter from the applicant introducing herself and the enhancement experience in which she participated (one page or less);

2. Any pertinent information about the workshop, seminar, elder hostel, convention, and/or study/travel. Such documentation might be copies of a registration form, program outline, or other description of the experience;

3. Proof of attendance and completion of the experience such as name on a participation group, certificate of participation copy, copy of receipt of registration, or copies of photos from the event;

4. A record of the expenses of the experience, with any receipts attached if available, to meet or exceed $350 which is the maximum amount of the award;

5. Requests for consideration may be mailed or emailed to Judy Hill, Chairperson. Chairperson Hill will be responsible for communicating the application materials to the Committee. Please submit items so that they are received by June 15, 2021. The award will be announced at the Fall Board Meeting; and

6. Contact information for Judy Hill is 115 Hidden Circle, Rainbow City, AL 35906, jlhill1974@gmail.com, 256-390-0930.