



# MOMENTS OF INTRIGUE AT 2025 CONCLAVE

ELECTRA PROVINCE PLEIAD

ISSUE NO.1 —★— NOVEMBER 2025



## ELECTRA PROVINCE PRESIDENT

Hello Sisters,

I want to thank you for your confidence in me to be your Province President for the coming year. I am humbled and excited to see what we can accomplish together this year. A few months ago, a dear friend gifted me a small notebook as a thank-you for something I did--something that, to me, didn't seem extraordinary. Yet, to those I served, it meant the world. On the cover of that notebook was this definition:

**Difference Maker [dif-er-uhns mey-ker] (noun):** Someone who transforms challenges into opportunities, turns obstacles into stepping stones, and inspires positive change. With an unwavering spirit and a heart fueled by passion, a Difference Maker stands out by making a lasting impact on others' lives. They believe that even small actions can create a ripple of change, and their commitment to kindness, innovations, and perseverance makes them a beacon of inspiration for those around them.

How can you be the Difference Maker for your Chapter--and for your Province? What kind of ripples are you? We have challenges ahead of us, and we need sisters who want to be Difference Makers--women who create stepping stones, no obstacles, for others to move forward. We need sisters who inspire positive change, who are open to new ideas, and who are willing to take risks. Sisters who encourage others to grow, to dream, and to become more than they are today. Sisters who refuse to remain stagnant or hold back the wave of progress. Remember, when you help others move forward, they'll pull you along with them.

This year's membership theme is: **“Mission Impossible: Be That Something Small That Becomes Something BIG!”** I'm intrigued and encouraged by all the enthusiasm and renewed energy since the National Convention and Conclave in October. Keep going! Do your part--however you can to help us move forward. No idea is too small or too big. It will take all of us, working together with passion and purpose, to continue our momentum. If you've lost some of that passion, take a moment to ask yourself why--and then take the first step to begin moving forward again. Remember: your ripple doesn't need to make a big splash to have an effect. Even a single drop can start the largest wave. That wave might inspire someone to begin their own journey. It might spark a sister to step into leadership or encourage another to learn something new, and the effect is endless--and we don't want to stop anyone's ripple.

Let's be kind, supportive, and understanding of one another, always looking for the best in our sisters. Find ways to be innovative. Combine your drop with those around you. Share your ripple with women seeking a sisterhood like ours. Positivity is the current in which innovation flows. As our ripples connect and grow throughout our Province, we can make a lasting impact--together.

Jane Goodall once said: “You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”. Let's all choose to be a Difference Maker  
In loving Sisterhood, Tammy Cocannouer, Electra Province President.



## 2025-2026 Electra Province Board:

**Left to Right:**

**President:** Tammy Coccenouer, KS Beta

**Vice President:** Cathie Barber, KS Beta

**Educational Director:** Julia Ourecky, NE Eta

**Recording Secretary:** Trish Schmidt, KS Beta

**Corresponding Secretary:** Janelle Clark, KS Alpha

**Treasurer:** Vicki Lignitz, KS Kappa

**Immediate Past President:** Cheryl Neeley, MO Delta



## 2025 Bettye Bielfeldt Award Recipient: **Mary Kreager, NE Zeta**

**Left to Right:**

Cindy Whiteley, KS Kappa, Mary Kreager, with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

## FUN FACT :

New Zealand was the first country to grant women the right to vote in 1893.

## ELECTRA PROVINCE VICE PRESIDENT

Sisters,

As your Electra Province Vice President, don't forget our "Mission: Possible!" We definitely need to be doing as much recruiting as possible. You don't have to have a rush to do this. Invite your friends to a meeting or a social event. Or, if you are volunteering somewhere in your community, talk about the women's organization you belong to (a.k.a. sorority). We definitely need to be a small part of something BIG!

Respectfully,  
Cathie Barber  
Electra Province Vice President

**MISSION:  
POSSIBLE**

# ELECTRA PROVINCE EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR

Hi Everyone!

I am excited to be your Electra Province Educational Director for a third year in a row! At the Electra Province Conclave in Omaha last month, five of the six Electra Province chapters brought their literature-based “Super Stories” to life on stage, and the Missouri Delta Chapter brought home the gold with their presentation about Vlakryie! This year's overarching Educational Contest theme is music, and I will be unveiling the exact theme shortly —keep an eye on your inboxes! I will also be sending out quarterly educational reports, as I have done the past two years. The theme for this year's reports will relate to the Educational Contest theme and provide ideas and additional fun tidbits. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns related to the Educational Contest, please feel free to reach out to me at [dtc.ep.edudir@gmail.com](mailto:dtc.ep.edudir@gmail.com). I kindly ask that only Educational Director-related emails be sent to that address, and other communications be sent to my personal inbox.

Julia Ourecky



## **FUN FACT:**

Windshield wipers were invented by a woman named Mary Anderson in 1903.

## **ELECTRA PROVINCE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**

Congratulations to our newly Elected Province Board Members.

What an honor to be elected to serve as a representative for Electra Province. It was an extra honor to have our National President, Linda Colton, and Taygeta Trustee, Jeanne Reid, perform the installation ceremony. Talk about women of intrigue!

As the Electra Province Corresponding Secretary, I would like the opportunity to communicate with each chapter's corresponding secretary to hear about the who, what, when, and where events within their chapter. I would like to share, with permission, such information with other Electra Province chapters.

I may ask the corresponding secretary for a chapter report on the who, what, when, where, and why. Be prepared.

Please let me know if anyone is in need of a “special” email, card, or phone call for any reason.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janelle Clark  
Electra Province Corresponding Secretary

# ELECTRA PROVINCE TREASURER

Note from your Treasurer:

Thank you for the generosity in supplementing the 20205-2026 Electra Province Treasury! The results from the purse raffle, the dessert auction, and the sale of the DTC pens exceeded my expectations. The grad total came to \$892!

Now that Halloween is in the books (Any candy left?), we look forward to the Holiday Season. Many of you will be traveling for Thanksgiving and/or Christmas to spend time with family and friends.

Here's an Irish blessing for my Sisters!

Troubles Be Less, and Your Blessings Be More, and Nothing but Happiness Come Through Your Door.

In Sisterly Love,  
Vicki Lignitz  
Kansas Kappa Chapter  
Electra Province Treasurer



## FUN FACT:

Valentina Tereshkova was the first woman  
in space in 1963

## KANSAS ALPHA CHAPTER

Conclave 2025 was hosted by the Electra Province NE Eta Chapter in October 2025. The weekend provided many moments of intrigue for me from the moment Sister Vicki drove us from Topeka, KS, to Omaha, NE. The drive on Hwy 75 was smooth, the weather was calm, the scenery displayed corn fields waiting to be harvested, and our delightful conversations were filled with sorority business and laughter. Driving through the city of Omaha seemed familiar, as it reminded me of the city of Topeka, until we were on the route to our destination of the Cmabria Hotel in downtown Omaha, NE. It was then that I found myself intrigued by the architecture of the building, which is displayed with various designed fille with diverse, colorful art. It was unfortunate that I was unable to truly embrace the culture this city has to offer. Another moment of intrigue at Conclave was the ingenuity of the NE Eta Sisters in providing and displaying props and backdrops for photo opportunities that tied into the Conclave Theme, "Get Your Game On". There was much intrigue all weekend long that involved "Sisters" from all Electra Province Chapters and "Sisters" from Texas, Oklahoma, and Oregon that provided us with social and educational opportunities, ideas for philanthropy projects, music, literature, and the arts.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janelle Clark  
KS Alpha Chapter  
Chapter President

# KANSAS BETA CHAPTER



## Intriguing Moments and Characters at Electra Conclave

On Friday afternoon, October 10<sup>th</sup>, late in the day, after checking into the lovely Omaha hotel, all the Kansas Beta sisters received a mysterious dark green envelope. The envelope, made of the finest linen paper, was addressed with gold ink and reeked of wealth, power, and mystery. Upon opening the tightly sealed sachet, Trish Schmidt, Karrissa Schmidt, Cindi Cook, Leslie Beers, Cathie Barber, Holly Weber, Teresa Carter, and Tammy Cocannouer each found an engraved invitation to a formal dinner party the subsequent evening. The invitation was from the reclusive Mr. Boddy and was to begin promptly at 5:15 pm with a cocktail hour. Dinner was to be served at 6 o'clock sharp. Everyone was totally taken aback by the surprise invitation. It is well known that Mr. Boddy cloisters himself away in his secluded mansion and avoids outside intrusion. His extreme wealth and devoted staff make his appearance in public very rare indeed.

The hours between the delivery of the intriguing invitation and arrival at Mr. Boddy's reception hall passed with much excitement. The Kansas Beta sisters attended powerful business meetings, listened to enlightening speakers, with some sisters even worked on clandestine assignments. Finally, the time arrived.

Dressed in wardrobes befitting the sophisticated occasion, the Kansas Beta sisters entered Mr. Boddy's well-appointed hall. Many carried their hand-engraved invitation, in case there might be a question of whether their name would be included on the guest list. However, each one was admitted without question by the butler, Wadsworth, who for some reason had a lead pipe stashed down in his highly polished black boots. Slightly odd, the sisters thought.

When the doors opened, the entrance hall was filled with people in splendid apparel. The sisters were treated to the sight of women and men dressed in hues of color shimmering with sparkle. Upon entering, most of the KS Beta sisters choose at least one cocktail or other adult beverage served by the host's accommodating staff.

While sipping and mingling, several intriguing men and women circulated though the crowd. One was a man named Colonel Mustard. He was appropriately attired in a striking mustard yellow dinner jacket with coat with formal black tuxedo trousers. However, when he turned to address a new arrival, a small rope was seen dangling from his hip pocket. Odd?

Then the sisters met an eye-catching woman. She introduced herself as Mrs. Peacock. Wearing a stunning peacock blue dress with a matching pill box hat that rivaled that of any worn by First Lady Jackie O. The KS Beta sisters were shocked when she dropped her blue beaded Louis Vuitton handbag and a slightly dented gold candlestick spilled with the rest of the contents. Odder still? After that rather embarrassing incident they were introduced to a statuesque Professor wearing the most appealing plum colored suit. She was an interesting conversationalist. It was learned she was a nursing professor at Washburn University located in Topeka, Kansas. However, from her tall slender pants pocket, tucked neatly beneath the form fitted suit coat was clearly the outline of a revolver. Why the sisters wondered would anyone need to be armed at a dinner party? Could this be even more odd?



## FUN FACT:

As of 2025, actress Helen Hayes remains the only woman to have won an Emmy, a Grammy, an Oscar, and a Tony.

## KANSAS BETA CONTINUED..

Then much to the KS Beta sisters surprise they greeted at the bar by a lovely rather young-looking woman in a black tuxedo with an elegant scarlet dress shirt and tie. The deep red of her shirt played well with her curly black hair and the red danced off the sparkle in her laughing eyes. She had a small dagger in her hand that she quickly slid into the pocket of her elegant tux jacket as we approached. It was hard to miss the small knife blade cut on her hand as she ordered a martini – shaken, not stirred. The small drip of blood from her cut went unnoticed on her scarlet shirt. Can this get even more odd? Finally, with just a few moments before being escorted in for dinner the sisters met a woman who was originally thought to be a member of Mr. Boddy's staff. However, she was dressed so elegantly in a sparkling black and silver evening dress that it became clear that Mrs. White was more than staff, she was in fact the wife of Mr. Boddy. However, the sisters wondered why she had not taken his name upon marriage. And even more odd, why had they just seen her stash a lead pipe behind the massive bar? Very, very odd.

At the strike of 6 the guest entered the beautifully appointed dining room only to discover that Mr. Boddy had been murder. The police were called. The suspects, not already in the room, were escorted in by local detectives. Opening a list of clues on suspects and murder weapons, prepared by the Omaha Police Department and the Nebraska Bureau of Investigation, the tables of guests scrambled to work out who, where and how our host had been murdered. Just as the first table was about to solve the diabolic crime the room was plunged into darkness.....

Later that evening several sisters returned to the scene of the crime to see if they could learn anything new. But the location had been scrubbed clean. No trace of the incident was visible. Instead, sisters and other guests were clad in tee shirts, pajamas and casual clothing playing board games and visiting as nothing out of the ordinary had transpired earlier in the evening. However, the KS Beta sisters noted that several of the players looked suspiciously like several of the suspects identified by Omaha's finest.

Will we ever know who killed Mr. Boddy? Will we ever know how he was murdered? Will we ever know why he was murdered? Probably not. But we do know the KS Beta sisters had a titillating weekend with many intriguing women. And we know they will be back next year in Ottawa with the same suspects!

## KANSAS KAPPA CHAPTER

Mary Kreager, receiving the Bettye Bielfeldt award, was Kansas Kappa's moment of intrigue at Conclave. I was in the hotel lobby when Mary arrived for the Saturday night banquet. Her face was filled with expectation as she maneuvered her motorized wheelchair through the multitude of Sisters wanting to greet her! I was seated where I could watch Mary's many expressions as the letter of her nomination was read by Sister Gail Allen. Sister Janelle Clark was last year's recipient; however, she was too emotional to read the letter. All eyes were on Mary as she was unaware of her family gathering behind in the Oracle room doorway. My head on a swivel as I kept glancing back to watch their expressions as the nomination was read. The admiration and love on their faces were priceless! Thanks to Sister Cindy Whiteley for reaching out to Mary's family, making this special event happen!

In Sisterly Love,  
Vicki Lignitz, Kansas Kappa Chapter

# MISSOURI DELTA CHAPTER



Sisters: Judy Hurlbert, Cheryl Neeley, Mindy Neeley, Eileen Neeley, Christine Durbin, and Kristy Moreland  
Many, many thanks to the Sisters of NE Eta for an enjoyable Conclave weekend. It was fun and I found it “intriguing”. One meaning of intrigue is “to plot secretly or underhandedly.” I thought this was happening to me when I couldn’t find the hotel’s front entrance on 14<sup>th</sup> Street. Who knew that what I considered the back of the building was actually the front entrance?! That was a well-kept secret. Another meaning of intrigue is “to excite the interest or curiosity of”. I was curious about the stickers we were asked to put on our name badges. I thought perhaps on Sunday, the NE Eta Sisters would announce the hidden meaning of each sticker, offering a small insight into different personalities. I guess I was wrong about that. It was very interesting during the Saturday night banquet that each table had a mystery to solve before they could get in line for dinner! I certainly enjoyed everyone at my table taking a clue and trying to get it solved because we were all hungry! Yes, the NE Eta Sisters did provide intrigue.  
Chris Durbin.

Missouri Delta Chapter President

## NEBRASKA ETA CHAPTER

The Nebraska Eta Chapter is finally resting after hosting the 2025 Electra Province Conclave last month. We enjoyed watching everyone “get their game on” throughout the weekend. We especially loved Nathaniel’s comic art presentation during Lunchopoly, solving the riddle of whodummit at Mr. Boddy’s Dinner Party, having some friendly competition during both trivia and game nights, and coloring crowns during the Pretty Pretty Princess Breakfast; but the two biggest highlights for our chapter were initiating two new sisters on Friday night, Allison and Tiffany.

Just two short weeks later, our chapter hosted its annual Pumpkin Carving Party. This event is always used as a recruitment opportunity, and we were excited to have two outside guests attend, as well as Paula’s grandchildren, one of Izzy’s brothers, and two members of Missouri Delta.



### Conclave Initiation:

Big Sister Paula Kohrt behind Little Sister Allison Atterberry and Big Sister Mariah Kohrt behind Little Sister Tiffany Agee



### Conclave Group:

**Back**, L to R: Paula Kohrt, Mariah Kohrt, Kevin Mohr, Bob Cohn, Julia Ourecky, Deb Ourecky, Teresa Silence, Julie Livingston

**Front**, L to R: Allison Atterberry, Tiffany Agee, Izzy Adcock



## ELECTRA PROVINCE NATIONAL TRUSTEE

Sisters,

As your National Trustee, I hope that all of you are looking forward to a wonderful holiday season! Your NEC is here to serve you! If there is anything we can do for you, please let me know. The NEC has been busy traveling. First, from the National, which was very successful, and now to all the fall conventions and conclave. I feel that our Nebraska Eta chapter did an awesome job putting on this year's Conclave and want to give them a very BIG thank you. I was unable to attend Alcyone's convention this year, but attended Celaeno's Open Fall Board, and intend to attend Taygeta's Convention in November (which will probably be history by the time this is printed, since it is only 1.5 weeks away as I type this. I highly encourage everyone to get out there and Recruit, Recruit, Recruit! Don't forget, if you need any changes to the DTC Website, please submit your request to Gail Allen, who will forward it on to me. Hopefully, every chapter submitted an article to the National Pleiad also! See everyone next year, I hope!

Respectfully,  
Cathie Barber  
Electra Province Trustee



### **FUN FACT :**

Grace Brewster Hopper was an American computer scientist, mathematician, and US Navy rear admiral. She laid the groundwork for the modern computer programming that is still used today.

### **NOTE FROM EDITOR:**

Thank you to EVERYONE who took the time to write an article for November's Electra Province Pleiad. The next Pleiad's theme is Women of Intrigue in your life, and will be due to me no later than Monday, March 9, 2026. Send all email submissions to [shortpeanut1@yahoo.com](mailto:shortpeanut1@yahoo.com). I will send a reminder a week before it is due, like I did for this November's issue.