

Beta Chapter - Fall 2013

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA



A Message from our President

September 2013

I'm very pleased to have completed the first year of a two-year biennium as BETA's president and to begin the second year of my biennium still standing on two feet. Many thanks to Jo-Anne Kershaw and my very able Board for helping me accomplish that feat. Happily, I experienced my first summer of the last three without having foot surgery.

Our first meeting will take place at *Stanziale's Restaurant, 595 Main Street in Stratford, Wednesday, Oct. 2nd at 4:30 pm*. We've been there before; it's easy to find with ample parking and good food. We will initiate Patti Sorrentino-Galello into our chapter at the meeting. Our speaker will be Lisa Acerbo, author and teacher at Trumbull High School. Her first book, *Apocalipstick* takes place in a post-apocalyptic world occupied by zombies and a group of outsiders called the "others." Her main character is also caught in a love triangle. Acerbo's first foray into fiction came out Aug. 1, published by Eternal Press. Going into her sixth year as a high school teacher, she has also read all the popular young adult novels her students read, like *Twilight* and *The Hunger Games*. She says her book fits into the "new adult" category, for older teens and people in their 20s. BETA's executive board voted to ask members to bring nonperishable food for the Trumbull Food Bank to this meeting.

Our second meeting will be at *Frenchtown School, Wednesday, November 20th*. Our speaker will be Debbie Gilbert Taylor, artist and nutritionist. Ms. Gilbert always knew she was an artist, but it took decades to give herself permission to call herself one. Art played an important but secondary role in her life until recently. Inspired by nature and curiosity, Debbie observes and uses color, form and texture to inform her work. She gravitates toward the dimensional and often uses sculptural elements in her mixed media projects. Ms. Gilbert has exhibited in juried shows at the Barnum Museum, the SPAG Gallery, The Gallery of Contemporary Art at Sacred Heart University, Ridgefield Guild of Artists, Housatonic Museum of Art and the Bromfield Gallery in Boston, among others. She has been awarded prizes for ink drawings and photographs and a piece is included in the Town of Stratford's art collection. Debbie has also been commissioned for photos in Positive People Magazine, for the cover of "The Best 10 Minute Plays for 3 or more Actors, 2008 edition," and for a generational themed sculpture at the Jewish Community Center of Greater New Haven. Ms. Gilbert founded the Stratford Arts Guild in 2006 and currently serves as the Corresponding Secretary of the Women's Caucus for Art. She is also a member of the Connecticut Sculpture Society and the Valley Arts Council. A native New Yorker, Debbie moved to Connecticut in 1983 and resides in Stratford CT with her husband Jim. Her son Jared recently graduated from Emerson College in Boston and works for the Disney Channel in LA. Her son David attends the University of New Haven and studies music business.

Our third meeting is *Wednesday, March 19, 2014 (snow date March 26), and it too will be held at Frenchtown*. Our speaker will be Jolene Mullen, genealogist & CTDAR Officer. Jolene Mullen is a professional researcher specializing in lineage research for heritage societies. She works in Connecticut and the eastern counties of New York, in the New York and Connecticut state libraries/archives, and other repositories and states as necessary. Her book, *Connecticut's Town Meeting Records during the American Revolution*, was published in 2011. She is currently working on Rhode Island town meeting records during the revolution and a prosopography of a Washington County, NY, cemetery. She will discuss research methodology, record groups (genealogical data to look for and where to find them) and useful internet sites (both subscription and free). Jolene Mullen is a member of the Connecticut Professional Genealogists Council and the Association of Professional Genealogists.

Please keep these dates, especially if you do not have email. Sometimes changes are made, and there is insufficient time to notify those who do not have email so please find a 'buddy' who can keep you informed. I have also included the following dates:

[AK State Annual Fall Conference](#)

Sat., November 2, 2013

Cromwell

[AK State Spring Convention](#)

[75th Birthday Celebration!](#)

Sat., April 26, 2014, Cromwell

[CTAUN Conference](#)

Friday, Jan. 31, 2014

New York, NY

[International Convention](#)

[Indianapolis, Indiana](#)

July 28-Aug. 1, 2014

We are going to publish an updated directory of BETA members. When you send in your dues, please include any information that may have changed since our last directory was published two years ago.

I recently learned of the deaths of two of our members: Evelyn Merwin and Claire Fullcher.

If anyone can provide information about these two women, I would appreciate your contacting me so I can include it in the necrology report. May their memories be for a blessing.

I look forward to seeing you Oct. 2 at Stanziale's.

Janis Isenberg

Beta Chapter Chatter



News From the Northeast Regional Conference Portland, Maine.

Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone

Approximately 630 members were in attendance at the 2013 Regional Conference. Pre-conference training was held for incoming state presidents, secretaries, treasurers, membership chairs, editors and webmasters. Beta's own Anita Pfluger, Alpha Kappa State Webmaster, attended webmaster training.

I attended the NER Conference as the Northeast representative of the Educators Award Committee. As a committee member I announced the 2013 award-winning book Exit: The Endings That Set Us Free

written by Dr. Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot. In addition, I presented a workshop and table at the Society Info Fair featuring the award-winning book and five "must reads" selected by our committee. Attendees were reminded to prepare for the next International Convention to be held in Indianapolis, Indiana. Members were encouraged to propose amendments to the 2010 Constitution and International Standing Rules. Whether or not to adopt an electronic voting process will be discussed at the 2014 International Convention. Plan to attend and exercise your right to vote on this and other issues that will be presented. Benefits of attending events beyond the chapter level:

Meet members from other states and countries network for professional and personal growth. Learn more about DKG I learned that Dr. Vera Butler of Beta Chapter was the first Northeast Regional Director! (1946 - 1950)

From the

Greater Bridgeport Retired Teachers Association : *from Lynnette Baroni*

Mary Lou Ballingham has retired from the Stratford Public Schools. She taught full-day kindergarten at Second Hill Lane Elementary School for many years.

Meet your 2012-2014 Beta Chapter Board Members:

President Janis Isenberg j.v.isenberg@snet.net

1st Vice President Stacy Weinstein WeinsteS@trumbullps.org

2nd Vice President Vivian Manzione vgmanzione@snet.net

Recording Secretary Margaret Hull HullM@trumbullps.org

Corresponding Secretary Diane Strever StreverD@trumbullps.org

Treasurer Karol Fleegal fleegalk@trumbullps.org

Committee Chairs:

Curriculum of Hope Mary Makoski, Chair MakoskiM@trumbullps.org

Judy Atwood AtwoodJ@trumbullps.org

Michelle Cretella cretellm@trumbullps.org

Paula Martins MartinsP@trumbullps.org

Finance Gloria Francesconi 16 Plymouth Ave., Trumbull, CT 06611

Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone spcdkg@comcast.net

Fine Arts Mary Beth Connell mryecnn@aol.com

Membership Pat Grosso nurseryp26@aol.com

Betty Sue George georgeb@trumbullps.org

Newsletter - Suzanne Burr Monaco missburr@yahoo.com

Parliamentarian - Trudi Black trudib@aol.com

Educational Excellence - Linda Paslov, Chair dr.paslov@gmail.com

Susan Littlefield LittlefS@trumbullps.org

Nancy Yarmosh yarmoshn@trumbullps.org

Scholarship Gail Karwoski gailkarwoski@aol.com

Sunshine Carolyn Dzurka 61 Arcadia Ave., Bridgeport, CT 06604

United Nations Barbara Orser barbaraschroeter@gmail.com

World Fellowship Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone spcdkg@comcast.net

Save the Date

Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2013

4:30 pm

Stanziale's Restaurant,
595 Main Street in Stratford

AK State Fall Conference

Sat. November 2, 2013

Cromwell

Wednesday, November 20, 2013

Frenchtown School

CTAUN Conference –UN

Fri., January 31, 2014

NYC

Wednesday, March 19, 2014

(snowdate March 26)

Frenchtown School

**AK State Spring Convention
DKG 75th Birthday Celebration!**

Sat., April 26, 2014

Cromwell

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Initiation Meeting & Dinner

(place TBD)

International Convention

Indianapolis, Indiana,

July 28-Aug. 1, 2014



From Anita Pfluger:



Our spring project, ***Books for Beardsley***, was a highly successful endeavor resulting in the donation of more than two dozen new picture books to Bridgeport's Beardsley School Library. **Anita Pfluger** suggested the project at the spring dinner meeting and prepared a recommended book list. **Jo Anne Kershaw** not only collected funds from Beta members but also arranged for Linda's Story Time in Monroe to purchase said books. There were smiles all around when the books were presented to Beardsley's librarian, Theresa Welch.

The children were especially thrilled to receive *Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons*, the newest in a series by Eric Litwin; Pete the Cat is a very popular character! Several new picture book biographies were added to the collection, e.g. *Something to Prove: The Great Satchel Paige vs. Rookie Joe DiMaggio*, which tells the story of the first meeting in 1936 between African American baseball pitcher Satchel Paige and Joe DiMaggio when he was a hot prospect at the beginning of his baseball career; *A Nation's Hope: The Story of Boxing Legend Joe Louis*, and *Tom Thumb, the Remarkable True Story of a Man in Miniature*.

Beta members initially agreed to this project at the spring dinner meeting. Happily, the executive board will agree to continue this venture during the 2013-14 school year.

Carolyn Dickens will be moving to Texas soon. I am happy to announce that **Karol Fleegal** will take over as the Treasurer of our organization. We thank Carolyn for her YEARS of service and wish her happiness in her new home.

Dues: Dues are collected in September and must be paid by October 10, 2013 to be in good standing. Dues are \$76 and \$39 for reserve members and will not increase again this year. We cannot complete an updated directory until we have all pertinent information and DUES.

Name _____

Address _____ City _____

Zip code _____ Tel. _____ Email (print) _____

Dues: _____ \$76 Active Membership _____ \$39 Reserve Membership _____ \$29 Dinner

Please note: You are reserve ONLY if you are physically unable to attend meetings. Otherwise you are an active member.

Please write two separate checks, one for the dinner and one for the dues! (One obviously if you cannot make the dinner) made out to BETA chapter DKG and mail to: ***Karol Fleegal, 22 Wendover Road, Trumbull, CT 06611***

Dinner Meeting Information

Date: Wednesday, October 2nd meeting @ Stanziale's Restaurant, 595 Main Street, Stratford, CT

Time: 4:00 pm Appetizer: Cheese & Crackers CASH BAR

\$29.00 PP (INCLUDES TAX & TIP)

Menu:

Chicken Piccata	Stuffed sole	Penne a la vodka
Roasted Potatoes	Mixed Veggies - Zucchini, Squash, Carrots	
Salad (House, Ranch dressing)	Rolls & Butter	
Coffee & Tea		
Fudge Roll for Dessert		

Raffle Baskets

We will have a raffle basket(s) which Stacy Weinstein and Margaret Hull are coordinating. Each Trumbull teacher should plan on donating \$5 toward the creation of those baskets. A schedule for the rest of the year will be forthcoming. If necessary, I will send periodic emails. If you do not have email, perhaps you could buddy-up so we can keep our mailing costs down to a minimum.

Directions to Stanziale's

From I-95 Northbound (Bridgeport/NYC): Take exit 30.

Take the ramp toward SIKORSKY MEMORIAL AIRPORT.

Turn SLIGHT RIGHT onto LORDSHIP BLVD/CT-113 (Drive 1 mile).

Stay STRAIGHT to go onto ACCESS RD. (Drive .9 mile.)

Turn RIGHT onto MAIN ST/CT-113 (Drive .1 mile.) Stanziale's Restaurant is on the right side.

From I-95 Southbound (New Haven): Take EXIT 32 toward WEST BROAD ST/STRATFORD (drive .2 miles).

Turn SLIGHT LEFT onto LINDEN AVE.

Turn LEFT onto W BROAD ST. Pass through 1 roundabout (drive .2 miles).

Turn RIGHT onto MAIN ST/CT-113 (drive 1.4 miles). Stanziale's Restaurant is on the right side.

Special Thanks to...

A special thanks to Suzanne Burr Monaco for doing our newsletters.

Newsletter items submitted for this issue: Anita Pfluger, Sandy Petrucelli-Carbone, and Vivian Manzione.

Jo-Anne Kershaw for always being available to proof and reproof the newsletter for us!

