

# DELTA CHAPTER

FOR  
KEY WOMEN  
EDUCATORS

March 2012

## December Highlights



*Carol Beam, Colleen Spieler and Kelly Raimo lay out patterns for diapers. Dr. Paula daSilva spoke and organized our diaper making effort for babies in Haiti.*



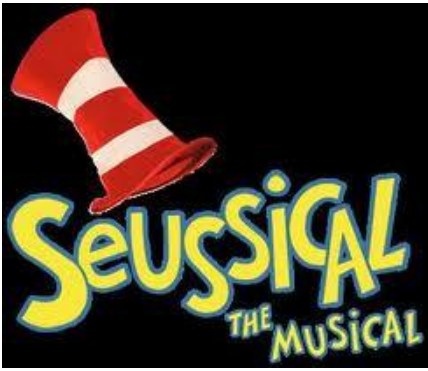
Baby clothes and lots of material, batting, buttons, ribbon and seam binding donated by members to Dr. Paula deSilva's efforts, *Mothers and Babies Sewing Project for the Haitian Health Foundation*. She spoke about her seventeen year effort to make diapers, changing pads that can be used as beds, maternity dresses for the women, Christening gowns, and caps from donated fabric.



*Theresa DeCesare, Michele DeCesare and Janet Galasso, guests, share school stories before the meeting.*



*Carol Beam and Dr. Paula deSilva enjoy a cup of coffee before we got to work tracing patterns, cutting, and folding material for diapers and beds.*



## Two Delta Chapter Sisters help *Seussical* Succeed at WHS

Why not attend the opening night of *Seussical* at Watertown High School after our meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup>? *Joanne Chenkus* will use her talent and passion for theater to serve as Producer and Assistant Director. *Linda Bartholomeo* created all the backdrops for this fun filled show.

The show opens March 22, 2012 at 7:30 and runs through Saturday night.

## March Meeting Raffle

You'll want to enter the raffle at our March meeting: it's for two tickets to see *Gypsy* at the Warner Theater in Torrington in May, along with a \$20.00 gift card to Backstage Restaurant. What a great prize!

### Fill the Cradle

Don't forget to bring diapers, diaper wipes and toiletries to our meeting to help area young mothers.



Two guests follow behind *Loretta Teevan* and *Claudette LaFlamme*.



*Mildred Reed, Ora Massaro, and Jean Massotti* enjoy lunch.



Left to right: *Terry Doyle, Christine Comeau, and Mary Ellen Harmon*.



*Angela Stortz* holding a bed made by Dr. Paula deSilva.

# President's Message

Happy New Year and warm winter greetings to all of you,

**A**s we move into mid-winter, afternoons stay light longer and mornings sound and smell more like spring. Maybe that's just my imagination or wishful thinking. For me, winter is time for thinking and indolence while spring ignites energy and inspires stories. So I'm asking that you to take some time to think about stories to bring to our March meeting. The program manual from the DKG website includes a chapter titled, **Passion for Storying Around**. It lists the many reasons why and how stories affect the way we live.

“The Importance of Stories:

- we build close relationships through stories
- our lives revolve around common stories
- stories help us organize information
- stories encourage people to make judgments among competing ideas
- we store and arrange memories through stories
- stories can be persuasive
- stories make a strong point quickly
- stories confirm the listener's values
- stories invoke an image with which the listener can identify.”

And stories are just plain fun. During our March meeting we will keep in step with our past as we venture into a new season of DKG and we'll share stories as part of our program. We will also welcome our guest, AKS President, Marnee Straiton, who will speak about how we can “sustain pride in the big picture” of DKG.

Spring IS a time of renewal. Hope to see you there and to listen to your stories.

Warmest regards,

*Joan*

## Honor Our Heritage, Our Professional Development, Our Stories

*Stories live in your blood and bones, follow the seasons and light candles on the darkest night—every storyteller knows she or he is also a teacher...*  
—Patti Davis

### ***Honor Our Heritage: Woman to Woman***

Identify a woman in your past who gave you a quality that has helped to make you a special person. Share your story with other chapter members.

### ***Honor Our Professional Development***

Identify a professional event in your life that was meaningful. Share the story of how it changed your professional life with chapter members.

*People are hungry for stories. It's part of our very being. Storytelling is a form of history, of immortality too. It goes from one generation to another.*  
—Studs Terkel

Here is one of my stories:

*I remember my second grade teacher, Mrs. North, who was tall, stately, and ever so patient. She encouraged me to watch for and listen to birds. She suggested that I save the bird cards that were attached to Arm and Hammer baking soda boxes. I still have some of those cards and still love to watch birds. When I was quite ill in second grade, she visited me at home and brought a bird card to add to my collection. She nourished my love of nature.*



# Don't Miss the Alpha Kappa State 73<sup>rd</sup> Spring Convention

Saturday, April 28, 2012  
Courtyard by Marriott  
Cromwell, CT

After the *Ceremony of Life* and the business meeting, Alice Carrier, International First Vice President and International Guest, will deliver the Keynote speech: *International Update: Early-Career Educators in the Spotlight*. We'll also be getting a sneak preview of the International Convention being held in NYC July 24-29.

Registration forms for the Spring Convention will be available at our March meeting or you can find them on the AKS website:

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/CT/>

In addition to the usual raffle held to support AKS Recruitment Grants and the Curriculum of Hope, there will be a special raffle of a quilt made with some fabric from the 30's to support the Margaret H. Croft Fund. Advance sales tickets will be available at our March meeting.



*Joanne Chenkus greets her two guests.*



*Joan Krantz (center) welcomes two new members, Kelly Raimo (left) and Megan LaPorta (right).*

## Delta Chapter Volunteers Needed at Spring Convention

Delta Chapter has been assigned the responsibility of the "Flag Ceremony" at our Spring Convention on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Marriott in Cromwell. Our responsibilities are clearly outlined in a red folder provided by AKS. One set of responsibilities has to do with **PRIOR TO THE CONVENTION**. I will take care of those. The second set of responsibilities has to do with **DAY OF THE CONVENTION**. The following is an abbreviated version.

1. Someone to set up the flags approximately 30 minutes before registration.
2. Someone to meet with chapter presidents or their representatives fifteen minutes before the meeting outside the banquet room and review the procedure, hand out the flags, and review order of the procession line. (This person will have received a copy of the directions via email prior to the convention.)

Please see Joan Krantz if you are willing to fulfill this job.

## Standing Rules Update

The Executive Board met on January 13<sup>th</sup> to discuss Article 2.2 of the Standing Rules as presented at the December meeting. That Article reads: “Names of candidates for membership shall be presented throughout the year at meetings and shall be voted upon at the next general meeting following approved procedures.”

The discussion resulted in our agreeing to attach a Membership Policies and Procedures list to our Standing Rules. See below.

We will discuss and vote on our Standing Rules at the March meeting. Thanks to all of you who either sent or phoned your input.

### Delta Chapter: Membership Policies and Procedures

1. A completed form 11 must be used to nominate a potential member.
2. Nominating members are encouraged to talk to the potential nominee about the organization, their experiences in the society, and the responsibilities of membership.
3. Active membership classification is as follows:

Active members shall be women who are employed as professional educators at the time of election or who are retired from an educational position. Active members shall participate in the activities of the Society.

4. Candidates for membership will be included by name in the agenda when voting is scheduled. Any non-member who is present during that portion of a meeting where nomination and voting is to take place shall be asked to leave during the process.
5. Candidates shall be voted upon orally during a chapter meeting.
6. Initiations shall be held twice a year, or as needed.

## Grants Available for High School Students

Don't forget to encourage high school students to apply for the Delta Chapter Book Grant, the Elizabeth Sonier Grant (music education), the Hannah Griswold Grant (minority senior majoring in Education) and the Lee Formica Grant (education major). All applications and information are available at the guidance offices of local high schools.

## December by the numbers

- 1 speaker: Dr. Paula deSilva
- 2 sisters initiated; welcome, *Megan LaPorta* and *Kelly Raimo!*
- 2 new members voted on
- 5 dollars collected for the Waterbury Diaper Bank
- 7 guests at our meeting
- 25 dollars collected for Early Career Educators
- 25 cut cloth diapers for Haiti
- 30 batting for beds for children in Haiti
- 31 diapers collected to donate to the Waterbury Diaper Bank
- 38 women attending the meeting
- 115 dollars raised by the silent auction
- 117 dollars raised by the raffle
- 235 total dollars raised by *LmAnn Cogliser's* scarf sales, including at the Tau Chapter vendor fair

## Minutes of the December 3, 2011 meeting of the Delta Chapter

The meeting was held at the East Street Eatery (Farmingbury Golf Course), Wolcott.

The meeting began at 10:30 with the initiation of Kelly Raimo and Megan LaPorta as new Delta Members.

Joan Krantz welcomed all guests. Nancy Roy introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Paula deSilva; Joan reintroduced Michele DeCesare, Theresa DeCesare and Nicole Knott; Paulina Auclair introduced Jessica Godbout; Joanna Chenkus introduced Sybil Chamberlin, Laura Solocius, and Janet Galasso.

Joan asked for a moment of silence in memory of Dorothy French who died on October 13, 2011. Kathy Lang and Joan Krantz attended the memorial service. Kathy Lang received the memory rose honoring Dorothy. Kathy gave a moving tribute to French's life achievements. A copy of the memorial material was made available to all members.

Rita Caruso read the Thought for the Day.

**Secretary – Terry Doyle** – The minutes were accepted with the following corrections: under **Corresponding Secretary** “scholarship money” changes to “book award”; under **Scholarship** “three years” changed to “two years”.

**Treasurer- Rose Marie Mikasauskas** reported the check book balance as \$765.18 saying that money will be needed to cover expenses.

### *Report of Officers*

**President – Joan Krantz** thanked Paulina Auclair for her fine newsletter; LuAnn Cogliser for her book grant donation of \$210 raised by the selling of her scarves and Loretta Teevan and Sondra MacDonald for making the arrangements for the meeting. Joan asked members to submit photo permission slip and to submit the member survey information if not completed yet. She stated that the fall conference on “Raising Global Awareness” was well attended. Five Delta chapter members attended: Colleen, Carol, LuAnn, Noreen and Joan as well as two soon-to-be members, Theresa DeCesare and Michele DeCesare. She asked that members check the “Keynote” for interesting web site suggestions.

**First Vice President –Mary Jane Miller**, furthered “Pride in the Big Picture” by reintroducing **THAT** (Teachers Helping Another Teacher) and asked that members write down examples of how they had helped new teachers. These suggestions will be compiled and sent to the state and to the national organizations.

**Second Vice President – Monica Kreuzer** announced the dates for the International Conference as the last full week in July, 2012. Bonnie Davis will speak on Professional Development. Registration has begun, however, speakers are not set and members have an opportunity to submit forms if they wish to present.

### *Standing Committee Reports*

**Educational Excellence –Sondra Macdonald and Loretta Teevan** – the next meeting will be at “The Hills” in Waterbury.

**Membership –Lana Warren** announced that the chapter needs five new members by December 2012 saying that we are doing quite well. Theresa DeCesare and Michelle DeCesare were voted in as new members and will be initiated in March 2012.

**Parliamentarian – June Legge, Mary Lou Kuegler** - n/r

**Fine Arts – Peg Goranson** had misplaced the words handouts so the group singing was canceled.

**Professional Affairs – Claudette LaFlamme** announced that book award applications would be available at the end of February and asked that members encourage students to apply.

**Historian – LuAnn Cogliser** n/r

**Finance – Rose Marie Mikasauskas** has yet to set a meeting day for the committee.

**Nominations – Joanne Chenkus** asked members to consider assuming leadership roles. Joan Krantz added that the executive board members work as a team.

## **Communications – Paulina Auclair- n/r**

**Scholarship – June Legge** – In June’s absence, Joanne Chenkus reminded members who have been active for at least two years to apply for the \$700 scholarship. The forms are available on the internet. As State Chairperson, she has yet to receive any applications.

**World Fellowship & International Fund – Sondra MacDonald** – postponed until the Old Business portion of the meeting.

**U.S. Forum** –Joan Krantz will send out information to the members.

**Curriculum of Hope – Colleen Spieler, Deborah Flaherty** – Colleen announced the fall conference presented many issues of concern around the world. One issue selected was water and lack of clean potable water. She asked that members interested in this issue see her. Joan expressed her concern that we are spreading ourselves too thin addressing multiple areas. Angela Stortz suggested that we reassess our charitable efforts. This issue will be discussed at the summer meeting with suggestions from membership-at-large during “old business” portions of the next two meetings. As a point of information, the chapter has no financial obligations excluding the book award. Rose Marie Mikasauskas stated that members have donated funds that can be used at the chapter’s discretion; she would report the amount available at the next meeting.

## **Old Business**

### **Standing Rules revision (see attached)**

Joan reviewed the changes that are required to align with the state Standing Rules. All members have handouts with the changes highlighted.

Exceptions:

Article II

Following review that included the potential embarrassment for a member candidate being present for a vote of rejection and a question of the number of meetings dedicated to installation, Carol Beam moved that “we table the discussion regarding Article II of the Delta Chapter Standing Rules until the March meeting. Nancy Roy seconded. The motion passed.

Article III,

3.2. black highlighted section replaced with “and voted on by the majority of those present”.

3.3 add “31” after October.

Article IV

4.1 add Treasurer

4.5 change “June” to “July”

The vote of approval for the changes will take place in March.

**World Fellowship & International Fund – Sondra MacDonald** – After discussion, it was decided that the Executive Committee at its January meeting would decide on the use of the money collected by the fund at each meeting as well as the donations received by those not attending.

Colleen Spieler asked members to nominate individuals or organizations for the Achievement Award. They must volunteer their time to help children to further their education. The deadline is February. No DKG member is eligible. Possible candidates could be school volunteers.

## **New Business –**

Joan asked members to consider volunteering for the Flag ceremony for the April 28, 2012 spring conference.

Joan acknowledged the excellent article, “Scratching the Surface” that appeared in the School/Art Magazine and was written by Linda Bartholomeo, a Delta chapter member.

## **The meeting was adjourned at 11:45**

Respectfully submitted by **Terry Doyle**.

Following the meeting, speaker Dr. Paula deSilva spoke about the conditions in Haiti and led the chapter in sewing for mothers and children in need.

## Delta Chapter Meeting

Thursday, March 22

The Hills Restaurant

Park Road

Waterbury, CT

### AGENDA

4:15 Arrival and Fellowship

4:30 *Thought for the Day*

Speaker

Mildred Reed and Megan LaPorta

Marnee Straiton, AKS President 2011-2013

### Meeting

Approval of Minutes

Secretary

Terry Doyle

Correspondence

Corresponding Secretary

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer

Rose Marie Mikasauskas

Report of Officers

President

Joan Krantz

First Vice President

Mary Jane Miller

Second Vice President

Monica Kreuzer, Web Mistress

Standing Committee Reports

Program

Sondra Macdonald, Loretta Teevan

Membership

Lana Warren

Parliamentarian

June Legge, Mary Lou Kuegler

Fine Arts

Peg Goranson

Legislation

Professional Affairs

Claudette LaFlamme

Historian

LuAnn Cogliser

Finance

Rose Marie Mikasauskas

Nominations

Joanne Chenkus

Communications

Paulina Auclair

Scholarship

June Legge

World Fellowship &

International Funds

Sondra MacDonald

U.S. Forum

Curriculum of Hope

Colleen Spieler/Deborah Flaherty

Old Business

Standing Rules Revision

Chapter Causes/Donations

Workers for Convention-Flags

New Business

Vote on New Member

Honoring Ourselves and Each Other

Educator's Conference: Pathways to Global Understanding

5:30 Dinner with background slide show and "Storying Around"



**Delta Chapter March Meeting**  
**Wednesday, March 22, 2012 Meeting (snow date: March 29)**  
**Theme: In Step With Our Past**  
**Speaker: Marnee Straiton, AKS President 2011-2013**  
**4:30 – 7:00 P.M.**



**Buffet Menu:** Fresh baked rolls, tossed garden salad, rice pilaf, tri-colored vegetable medley, oven roasted potatoes, farfalle alla vodka, eggplant rollatini, chicken francaise, sole stuffed with broccoli & crabmeat mousse, pork loin.

4:15 Hospitality  
4:30 Meeting  
5:30 Buffet  
6:15 Speaker/ Dessert

**The Hills**

660 Park Road  
Waterbury, CT  
Cost: \$28.00

**DIRECTIONS:**

**From Southern Connecticut:** Follow Route 8 North towards Waterbury, take Exit 33 onto I-84 West. Take Exit 17 off of I-84 West. At the first light, take a right onto Route 63 North. At the first light, turn right onto Park Road. Take a left at the first stop sign, The Hills Restaurant is at the top of the hill on the left.

**From Northern Connecticut:** Follow Route 8 South towards Waterbury, take Exit 33 onto I-84 West. Take Exit 18 off of I-84 West (it's the first exit). The exit splits, bear left at the fork in the exit ramp. Continue straight through the traffic light onto Park Road. Follow Park Road until you reach the Western Hills Golf Course. Turn right into golf course and The Hills Restaurant is at the top of the hill on the left.

**From Eastern Connecticut:** Follow I-84 West. Take Exit 18, the exit splits, bear left at the fork in the exit ramp. Continue straight through the traffic light onto Park Road. Follow Park Road until you reach the Western Hills Golf Course. Turn right into golf course and The Hills Restaurant is at the top of the hill on the left.

**From Western Connecticut:** Follow I-84 East to Exit 17. At the bottom of the exit, turn left onto Route 63. Follow Route 63 until you come to the 3rd traffic light and make a right turn onto Park Road. Follow Park Road to stop sign. Take a left at the first stop sign. The Hills Restaurant is on your left at the top of driveway

**Send checks payable to Delta no later than March 15<sup>th</sup>** to: Sondra Macdonald at 178 Hunters Lane, Newington, CT 06111  
If there is a problem email Sondra at [sonnymac@cox.net](mailto:sonnymac@cox.net) or call 860-878-6941

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I will attend. Check for \$28.00 is enclosed.

\_\_\_\_\_ I cannot attend the meeting, but am including a donation to support “Early Career Educators”, “ Schools for Africa”, or “The Greater Waterbury Diaper Bank”.

\_\_\_\_\_ I cannot attend the meeting, but I would like to purchase a raffle ticket(s) for \$ 1.00 / ticket or an arm’s length for \$5.00 and have included that in my check.