

DELTA CHAPTER

FOR
KEY WOMEN
EDUCATORS

May 2012

March Highlights



Alpha Kappa State President Marnee Straiton and *Joan Krantz*, Delta Chapter President.



Rosemary Mikasauskas reads her treasurer's report while *Flo Goodman* takes the minutes for *Terry Doyle*, who couldn't be there.



Peg Goranson and *Jean Masotti* smile knowing the song cards are ready.

Sondra Macdonald,
Loretta Teevan and
Angela Stortz
celebrate the
wonderful spring-
like weather at
The Hills.



Service with a smile; so much good food to choose from.

Delta chapter member June Legge was asked to read the "Thought of the Day" at the March meeting. June's message was so well received that the chapter members asked if it could be reprinted in the newsletter. (From InspiringTeachers.com)



When God Created Teachers

On the 6th day, God created men and women. On the 7th day, he rested. Not so much to recuperate, but rather to prepare himself for the work he was going to do on the next day. For it was on that day-the 8th day-that God created the FIRST TEACHER.

This TEACHER, though taken from among men and women, had several significant modifications. In general, God made the TEACHER more durable than other men and women.

The TEACHER was made to arise at a very early hour and to go to bed no earlier than 11:30 p.m.- with no rest in between. The TEACHER had to be able to withstand being locked up in an air-tight classroom for six hours with thirty-five "monsters" on a rainy Monday. And the TEACHER had to be fit to correct 103 term papers over Easter vacation.

Yes, God made the TEACHER tough...but gentle too.

The TEACHER was equipped with soft hands to wipe away the tears of the neglected and lonely student...of those of the sixteen year old girl who was not asked to the prom.

And into the TEACHER God poured a generous amount of patience. Patience when a student asks to repeat the directions the TEACHER has just repeated for someone else. Patience when the kids forget their lunch money for the fourth day in a row. Patience when one-third of the class fails the test. Patience when the textbooks haven't arrived yet, and the semester starts tomorrow.

And God gave the TEACHER a heart slightly bigger than the average human heart. For the TEACHER's heart had to be big enough to love the kid who screams, "I hate this class-it's boring!" and to love the kid who runs out of the classroom at the end of the period without so much as a "goodbye", let alone a "thank you". And lastly, God gave the TEACHER an abundant supply of HOPE. For God knew that the TEACHER would always be hoping. Hoping that the kids would someday learn how to spell... hoping not to have lunchroom duty... hoping that Friday would come... hoping for a free day.... hoping for deliverance.

When God finished creating the TEACHER, he stepped back and admired the work of his hands. And God saw that the TEACHER was good. Very Good! And God smiled, for when he looked at the TEACHER, he saw into the future. He knew that the future is in the hands of the TEACHERS. And because God loves Teachers so much, on the 9th day God created "Snow Days."



Rita Caruso on the left and LuAnn Cogliser on the right brought along their Zumba partner and friend, Romanna Jakymec, as a guest.



Christine Comeau and Mary Ellen Harmon enjoy their dinner.



Josephine Radocchio, Laura Dunn and Joanne Brogis share dinner and stories.

President's Message

Dear Delta Sisters,

The Hills in Waterbury were alive in March and Chippens Hill at Chippanee Golf Club will be alive with six initiations and new officer installation in May.

Our March meeting at The Hills was certainly special. Marnee Straiton, Alpha Kappa State President, joined us as we viewed Delta Chapter's past and present in a powerpoint filled with pictures of members, places we've toured, speakers we've had and plenty of smiles. As Marnee pointed out, we are a "special" chapter because of our members' involvement at the state level but also because we care for and about each other.

Now that my two years of President have gone by, this is a time of reflection and I want to thank the entire chapter for the continued support during my biennium. Many among you deserve a special thanks for stepping up to accept leadership positions or volunteering for committees or some other extra duty. In alphabetical order: Paulina Auclair, Carol Beam, Stacie Broden, Joanne Brogis, Rita Caruso, Joanne Chenkus, LuAnn Cogliser, Terry Doyle, Laura Dunn, Sandy Genung, Flo Goodman, Peg Goranson, Monica Kreuzer Mary Lou Kuegler, Claudette LaFlamme, Kathleen Lang, June Legge, Sondra Macdonald, RoseMarie Mikasauskas, Mary Jane Miller, Carol Reeves, Nancy Roy, Colleen Spieler, Angela Stortz, Loretta Teevan, and Madalena Warren. You have helped to enrich our chapter. Please forgive me if I have forgotten someone. That list of special thanks involves more than half of our membership which means that our members work together to keep our chapter growing. I agree with Marnee, we ARE special.

It has been an honor to be President of such a wonderful and committed group of women. In spite of and because of our diverse ages, interests and years of experience as educators and Delta Chapter members, we have developed unique and lasting relationships with each other. I think it's safe to say that every one of us would feel comfortable calling a Delta sister for advice, a favor, or a helping hand.

When we hold hands to sing the Delta Kappa Gamma song, we affirm our friendship; and when we sing the final lines, "With this faith in one another/We shall win for aye!" we echo a cadence that has sustained our chapter for 68 years. Let's move into the next biennium ready to work together as a strong team with many leaders. Thank you all.

My warmest regards,

Joan

Why not attend the Leadership Development Conference on JUNE 29th?

Where: The Coast Guard Academy

When: 8:30-12 AM

Registration forms and more info will be available at our May 16th meeting.

Help Wanted

If you want to feel more involved, we need someone to report on:

World Fellowship

Legislation

U.S. Forum

If you want to be part of a team, join another committee. Teamwork always makes a task easier.

Welcome, New Delta Sisters

At our March meeting, we voted in four new members; six new members will be initiated in May.



This is *Sybil Haggard Chamberlin's* third year of teaching mathematics. She taught for one year at Wilby High School in Waterbury and this is now her second year in at Torrington High School. Sybil received her BA in Music and Math from Connecticut College. Before teaching, Sybil travelled the world singing professionally for 13 years. In addition to teaching math, Sybil uses her performance skills to choreograph and co-direct the musicals at Torrington High school as well as advise Interact - the high school division of Rotary. While pursuing her Master's Degree, Sybil also sings in her church choir, and a jazz band.



Michele DeCesare is a Social Studies teacher at Kaynor Technical High School. She has a total of five years' experience as an educator. She has earned her BS in Education/History & Social Studies and is currently working towards her MS at Central Connecticut State University.

Michele was "Rookie of the Year" her first year at Kaynor Tech in 2006, and was nominated for Teacher of the Year in 2010 & 2011. She was Class Advisor to the Class of 2010, and currently advises the Class of 2014. Michele was also involved with curriculum development last summer. Additionally, she continues to be involved with Professional Development workshops on leadership, and is Vice-President of the Kaynor Tech Staff Club, also known in some schools as The Sunshine Club.

Within her community, Michele has been a fourth grade Catechism teacher for St. Maria Goretti Parish in Wolcott for the past 10 years.



Theresa DeCesare is a Math teacher for Kaynor Technical High School, with three years of service as a professional educator. She holds her BA in Mathematics and is currently attaining her MA in Education, expecting to be completed this year.

In her school, Theresa is involved with Professional Development workshops on leadership. She has been involved with the development of a new Algebra I curriculum, and has participated in an Algebra I pilot cohort for the new curriculum. She is actively involved with her school's athletic program as the Assistant Tennis Coach and as scorekeeper for the Girls' Volleyball and Basketball teams.

Theresa's community involvement includes making crafts for the Watertown Congregational Church Christmas Fair, and participating in the Kaynor Chorus.



Janet Galasso began her 6th year teaching Art. She is currently at Berlin High helping them expand their Digital Arts program where she also teaches Drawing and Pottery. Her previous teaching experience includes 5 years at Kaynor Tech. where she was Co-Advisor with *Michele DeCesare* for the Kaynor Class of 2011. She volunteers at Artwell Gallery in Torrington where she is a new Board Member. She joined the Berlin High Riding Redcoats - their Student/Teacher Bike Club and serves on the School Climate Committee at BHS. She received her Master's degree from the University of Bridgeport and her undergraduate degree from C.W. Post of New York.



Nicole Knott is the High School Library Media Specialist at Watertown High and has been an educator for seven years. She has organized multiple literacy events including Watertown Reads week & WHS Night at Borders. She has been published in both School Library Journal & School Library Monthly. Nicole has also been a presenter at the CECA's annual Tech Expo and Conference, and she hosts "First Fridays" at her school, which is an informal professional development held in the library monthly for teachers on a variety of topics. Nicole is currently completing her 6th year in School Administration, and works part-time as a preschool teacher for Kindercare, where she earned the "Spirit of Service" award. She is active in her community as an annual volunteer for St. Mary's Food Festival in Derby, and participates in American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and the American Lung Association's Climb of Your Life. She also serves as the recording secretary for town meetings in Seymour and has incorporated community service into her teaching through partnerships with The Giving Project of Milford and the Lion's Club.



Laura Solocins is in her sixth year teaching at Wolcott High School where she teaches chorus, theater, and theory and AP Music Theory. Laura is a WCSU graduate receiving her BS and MS in Music Education. She will begin studying for her Sixth Year degree next. Many of her students have been accepted into the CMEA Southern Region Honors Chorus, the CMEA All State Honors Chorus, and The MENC All Eastern Honors Chorus. Laura directs the musical theater program Wolcott that has also won several Seven Angel Halo Awards. Finally, Laura was named Teacher of the Year this year for the town of Wolcott.

Join Us at the International Convention

Wednesday, July 25

Iota Chapter has reserved a charter bus to New York City to provide a reasonably priced and convenient way to get to the Convention site. Our small chapter cannot fill the required seats. This trip can only run if members from other chapters are interested in taking this trip. The charter bus cost is \$38.00 including driver tip. Train, bus, or car into the city would be more expensive and more inconvenient after factoring in fares, taxis, and parking charges.

DKG members who have attended International Conventions in the past all tell us how wonderful these events are, and to “go if you ever get the chance”. With this year’s convention in our own backyard, we have an opportunity to gain an appreciation and understanding of all that our organization offers without the inconvenience and expense of getting into NYC.

We hope you are interested in joining us on the bus.
Additional details are on the flyer.

The day is yours to plan and might look something like this:

???? Cromwell I-91 Exit 21 * 5:30 Waterbury Exit 23 5:45 Southbury Exit 14 6:10 Danbury Exit 2	Board the coach bus at the large commuter lot located just off each of these exits on I-84. Bus has a “clean, fully stocked bathroom” and will deliver you to the Convention site.
7:50 Arrive at the Sheraton	Head to the registration desk to pick up program, name tag, and tote bag. Read the program to decide on an afternoon breakout session.
8:30	Attend General Session
Mid-day	Lunch is on your own. You could bring your lunch or go out with friends. Visit vendors and displays.
2:00 – 4:15	Attend breakout sessions. (Chapter president Jeanne Morascini will be one of the presenters)
Late afternoon	Attend Alpha Kappa State “get together”. (in beginning planning stages) Meet friends for a walk or an early dinner.
6:30	Depart NYC
Danbury Southbury 8:45 Waterbury	ETA Waterbury

* A stop east of Waterbury was not included in the quote, but, if there is enough interest, I can call. The company confirmed that the bus would travel this route to Waterbury.

IMPORTANT: If you are only going to the Convention if the bus trip runs, do not register until you receive confirmation.



Join us on the bus
to
Delta Kappa Gamma's International Convention
in
New York City

Enjoy a stress free day, traveling to New York City in the comfort of a charter bus, which delivers you to the Sheraton Hotel and Convention site. Stop by the registration desk to pick up your name tag, program, and tote bag and plan your day. You might want to attend the morning's General Session which is certain to have an outstanding speaker. Look through your program to decide on one or two break-out sessions to attend in the afternoon. Visit the vendors and displays. Lunch is on your own. End your day by joining your CT Alpha Kappa State sisters at a "get-together" in the very early planning stages or grab a bite before boarding the bus to return home.

Iota Chapter has reserved a charter bus, with bathroom. We cannot fill it alone and are hoping that there are DKG members from other chapters who would like to experience a day at an International Convention, without the hassle of finding your own way into the city. We need at least 32 members to be able to run this trip. We hope you

Date: Wednesday, July 25th
Cost: \$38.00 (includes driver's tip)
Important: Do not register until you have received confirmation of a seat on the bus.

Payment due: May 30, 2012

Bus Pick-up/ Drop Off Points
All are *commuter lots* off I-84
5:30 Waterbury Exit 23 Hamilton Ave.
5:45 Southbury Exit 14 Main St. S.
6:10 Danbury Exit 2 Route 6 (Trader Joe's Exit)
Bus departs from the NYC Sheraton at 6:30 PM.

++++
Checks will not be deposited until we have the 32 riders needed to run this trip at this cost. Members will be notified as soon as we know the trip has a commitment from 32 members. Checks will be non refundable unless a replacement is found. Checks will be returned if we are unable to run the trip.

Name: _____ Chapter: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Pick up location: _____ Waterbury _____ Southbury _____ Danbury

Directions to the commuter lots and additional details will be provided closer to the trip date.

Checks made payable to: Iota Chapter, DKG

Mail to: Deborah Brownell

Questions: dbrownell@charter.net

323 Upper Grassy Hill Rd.

203 263-0832

Woodbury, CT 06798

March by the numbers

- 2 guests in attendance
- 2 containers of wipes donated to the Greater Waterbury Diaper Bank
- 4 new members voted on
- 22 pounds of toiletries donated Safe Haven
- 26 Delta chapter members attended the meeting
- 30 dollars collected for early career educators, or THAT
- 70 slides in the PowerPoint presentation of Delta Chapter members, meetings and fellowship
- 105 dollars donated to World Fellowship
- 118 dollars collected for the raffle that funds the Book Grant
- 707 diapers donated to the Greater Waterbury Diaper Bank

From Marnee Straiton

Embracing the Vision... Creating the Future
Focal Points of the Upcoming Biennium

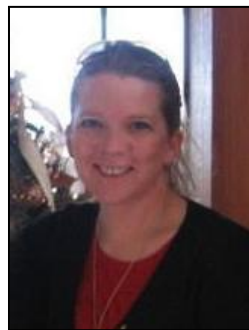
- To develop and begin implementation of an Alpha Kappa State Strategic Action Plan
- To Strengthen chapters through growth, diversity, and building a strong lattice of leadership
- To support early career educators, making DKG a leader in this endeavor
- To promote School for Africa
- To encourage programs that
 - increase members' personal and professional pride
 - focus on educational excellence
 - promote the DKG/UN relationship
 - increase global awareness
 - impact education law and policy

Slate of New Officers

- PresidentMary Jane Miller
- First Vice PresidentMonica Kreuzer
- Second Vice President..Paulina Auclair
- Recording SecretaryMary Lou Kuegler



Mary Jane Miller



Monica Kreuzer



Paulina Auclair



Mary Lou Kuegler

Minutes for the March 22, 2012 meeting of Delta Chapter

The meeting was held at The Hills in Waterbury, Connecticut.

President Joan Krantz called the meeting to order at 4:40 P.M. Joan Krantz introduced Marnee Straiton, AKS President, and Stephanie Gronda. LuAnn Cogliser introduced the guest that she and Rita Caruso invited, Romanna Jakymec.

June Legge read the thought for the day, "When God Created Teachers."

Secretary- Terry Doyle- absent so Flo Goodman took minutes-Minutes were accepted with one correction, under Fine Arts, it should have said, "Nancy Roy forgot the song cards at her house so group sing was canceled, not Peg Goranson misplaced ..." Corresponding Secretary- Received a sympathy note from Marnee Straiton, Alpha Kappa State President, about our Delta sister, Dorothy French; and a letter from Paula DaSilva thanking us for our donations of clothes, material, etc and also for the time we donated to help make diapers and beds for Haiti.

Treasurer- Rose Marie Mikasauskas reported a balance in the checkbook of \$1,347.56 and that the scarf sale was very helpful to our treasury. Rose Marie made a motion to spend \$80 to purchase eight \$10 Barnes and Noble gift cards and have a drawing at our May meeting to be distributed to early career educators in attendance. Nancy Roy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Report of Officers

President- Joan Krantz- introduced Marnee Straiton, AKS President for 2011-2013, who joined us for this meeting and spoke about her "Focal Points for the Upcoming Biennium" and how our Chapter is one of the most enthusiastic chapters and growing in numbers, and that we have so many of our members participating at the State level. She handed out a sheet about the focal points, and stated that we are doing it all. Yeah, Delta Chapter!!

Joan thanked Paulina for another great newsletter and LuAnn for going through the files and scanning some old pictures for our program tonight and Carol Beam for tweaking the final powerpoint. She also thanked Joanne Brogic for volunteering to help out with the flag ceremony at the convention, April 28th, but she could use one other person to help position the flags in their stands as she organizes the line up. She stated that it would come up again under Old Business. Some other things needed for the Convention: a raffle item to bring to the Convention and raffle tickets for the Convention are \$1.00 for one; 6 for \$5.00.

She discussed the Educators Conference "Pathways to Global Understanding," July 1, 2013, She that Anita Satriano gave her a survey for our members to fill out and she gave out copies that we can complete. If you have any thoughts, about the following four topics: Environmental Sustainability/Resource Preservation, Human Rights/Human needs, Education- the role of educators, Altruism/opportunities, please jot them down and she'll bring them to the Executive Board meeting on Saturday. They are looking for ideas for a BIG GUN Keynote and people who can speak about the above topics as well as arts in the form of interdisciplinary student production. They are looking for volunteers to work on putting together the conference.

Joan mentioned that we have four new applicants that we will vote on tonight. The nominations for officers are as follows: President: Mary Jane Miller, First VP: Monica Kreuzer, Second VP: Paulina Auclair, Recording Secretary: Mary Lou Kuegler, Treasurer: Rosemary Miskasauskas, Membership: Lana Warren. Joan stated that we still need some committee members.

First Vice President- Mary Jane Miller- discussed senior teachers helping younger teachers, but now younger teachers can also help senior teachers, especially with technology. Thus our relationship is symbiotic.

Second Vice President- Monica Kreuzer- absent.

Standing Committee Reports

Educational Excellence (Program)- Sondra Macdonald and Loretta Teevan- Joan thanked them for our wonderful meeting place and meal.

Membership- Lana Warren- absent so Flo Goodman read the information about the four new applicants we would be voting on tonight. They are: Sybil Haggard Chamberlin, Janet Galasso, Laura Solocius, and Nicole Knott.

Parliamentarian- June Legge, Mary Lou Kuegler- No report

Fine Arts- Peg Goranson- We have music sheets and will sing.

Legislation- Carol Wakefield- No report.

Professional Affairs- Claudette LaFlamme- Reported that Molly Szcucka from Torrington High School is our scholarship recipient.

Historian- LuAnn Cogliser- No report

Finance- Rose Marie Mikasauskas- No report

Nominations- Joanne Chenkus- Not present, but it was reported that we will be voting on our new slate which is in place, but we still need some committee member positions filled.

Communications- Paulina Auclair- No report

Scholarship- June Legge- No report, but she stated that she has a basket all ready for the State Spring Convention.

World Fellowship and International Fund- Sondra MacDonald- discussed the how fortunate we are to have clean drinking water, but children in China, Africa and Haiti do not, so we will collect the money for these children. We collected: \$105.

Curriculum of Hope- Colleen Spieler, Deborah Flaherty- left newsletters on the tables and discussed facts about bullying found in the newsletter. Flo stated that she bought newsletters this year for several teachers that she taught with since she is retired and no longer uses it and hoped they would enjoy it as much as she did.

Old Business: Standing Rules needed clarification- article 2.2. We discussed and voted on our Membership Policies and Procedures article 2.2. Number 5 states; "we shall vote for candidates orally during a chapter meeting." The motion was made by Josephine Radocchio and seconded by Joanne Brogis. Motion passed and will be added to our Standing Rules. We also voted on the four new members and they were all voted in and will be initiated at our May meeting along with two other members. We discussed causes we want to fund and ideas are as follows: Joan felt Haiti is worthwhile; Loretta Teevan felt water/wells with Curriculum of Hope/environmental is important. We will keep adding ideas for summer planners to decide. Spring Convention: Nancy Roy said she would help Joanne Brogis with the Flag Ceremony.

Following the Meeting- We watched a great slide show that everyone enjoyed. Thanks, LuAnn and Carol Beam!!

Respectfully submitted by Flo Goodman (notetaker for Terry Doyle)

Delta May 16, 2012 Meeting
Chippanee Golf Club
6 Marsh Road
Bristol, CT 06410
4:15 – 7:00 P.M.



Program: Six new members will be initiated and officers for 2012-2014 will be installed.

Menu

Appetizer: Mixed Field Greens w/ house dressing

Entrees: Choose 1

1. Penne Pasta & Grilled Shrimp with organic baby spinach & fresh mozzarella tossed in a tomato ala vodka sauce
2. Herb Parmesan Crusted Chicken breast w/plum tomato and pesto cream
3. Pan Roasted Filet of Salmon with herb mustard aioli

Vegetable and Starches: Seasonal Medley and Rice Pilaf

Dessert: Chocolate mousse with fresh berries

All dinner entrees include warm rolls, coffee, tea.

COST: \$29.00 (includes tax and gratuity)

Bring donation for Great Waterbury Diaper Bank, Inc.

Send checks payable to Delta no later than May 2, 2012 to:

Sondra Macdonald, 178 Hunters Lane, Newington, CT 06111

email address: sonnymac@cox.net; phone: 860-878-6941

DIRECTIONS:

From Route 8, take Route 6 (Terryville Rd.) east to Hill Street. Take left on Hill St. Follow for 1.4 miles and take a left onto Marsh Road. Golf Club is on the right.

From Bristol, take Route 6 (Terryville Rd.) west to Hill Street. Take right on Hill St. Follow for 1.4 miles and take a left onto Marsh Road. Golf Club is on the right.

NAME: _____

I will attend and have chosen one meal choice below.

_____ Penne Pasta & Grilled Shrimp

_____ Breast of Herb Parmesan Crusted Chicken

_____ Pan Roasted Fillet of Salmon

_____ I cannot attend the meeting, but am enclosing a donation for “The Greater Waterbury Diaper Bank” and/or “Early Career Educators.”

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