

DELTA CHAPTER

FOR
KEY WOMEN
EDUCATORS

September 2011

May Highlights

Joan Krantz

Delta Chapter held its last meeting of the year on May 11th at Chippance Golf Club in Bristol, Connecticut. In addition to the business meeting, we initiated *Laura Dunn*, a retired teacher who spends some of her time visiting nursing homes with her therapy dog. We made additional progress toward the 12 x 12 membership initiative by voting to accept *Rita Caruso's* application for membership. She will be initiated in September 2011.



Another highlight of our last meeting was the inspirational talk by Christine Ieronimo, a Plymouth resident and author of *Drinking from Puddles aka Through Eva's Eyes*. She credited an aunt who died of cancer as her influence for wanting to make a difference in the lives of people and the primary force behind her adopting a little girl from Ethiopia. She talked about the joys of adopting Eva in 2008 and her overwhelming need to share Eva's Ethiopian experience with children and adults in America. Christine's strong passion about education and many suggestions from friends compelled her to write this story loosely based on Eva's life, *Drinking from Puddles*, or *Through Eva's Eyes*.

Christine read that story to a captive audience, and then followed up by reading a preliminary draft of her second book, *Sisters of the Heart*. Both books suggest themes of unconditional love and hope. She expects her first book to be in print by the end of 2012 and her second book soon after.

She is also a strong supporter of Woodland for Women Worldwide, a grassroots organization, co-founded by Delta member, *Deb Flaberty*. Christine has supported the causes of Woodland for Women Worldwide by attending the event and selling "Beads for Dreams."

Joan Krantz thanked Christine by giving her a Delta Kappa Gamma Society International bookmark as a keepsake to remind her that many women admire her courage and commitment to promote education of girls.



Laura Dunn and Kathy Lang share laughs before dinner.



Deb Flaberty and Lana Warren share teaching stories.



Lana Warren gives a Key Pin to new member, *Laura Dunn*.

Flo Goodman looks on, ready to give *Laura* a red rose.



Mary Jane Miller, Christine Ieronimo, and Joan Krantz pose after Christine's talk.

Save the dates

The planning committee worked hard this summer to design a year of exciting and inspirational meetings. Programs Committee members *Sondra Macdonald* and *Loretta Teevan* worked to book each venue and *Joan Krantz* and *Paulina Auclair* decided on our theme: *Rhythms of a Year*. Here are our meeting dates, locations and a brief meeting outline. Clip this section out and keep it by your calendar.

1: Anticipating New Rhythms

Saturday, October 1, 2011
Watertown High School Library

Program includes creating bags of supplies and "good ideas" from veteran teachers to new teachers.

2: Off Beat Creations

Saturday, December 3, 2011
(Snow date: December 10, 2011)
East Street Eatery, Wolcott

Paula DaSilva will speak about her efforts to help babies in Sri Lanka and we will cut, fold and stitch for that cause.

3: In Step with our Past

Thursday, March 22, 2012
(Snow date: March 29, 2012)
The Hills Restaurant, Waterbury

Program includes a visit from Marnee Straiton, AKS President, who "reorient" us for this biennium.

4: An Echo in Cadence

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

Program includes the initiation of new members and installation of new officers.

Also...

Nov 5 Fall Conference

April 28 Spring Convention
(both held at the Courtyard by Marriott, Cromwell)

Donation Challenge: 2,500 diapers!

The members of our chapter contribute in several ways at each meeting. In addition to the service projects, like those in our upcoming October and December meetings, members bring diapers and related supplies (like diaper cream and wipes) that are donated to the Greater Waterbury Diaper Bank. Last year, our chapter donated 2,108 diapers. The most diapers donated at any meeting was 752 at the December meeting. This year, let's break that record! Our goal is to donate 2,500 diapers (in sizes 4, 5, 6 especially) in addition to diaper cream and wipes.



May meeting by the numbers

- 1 new member initiated; welcome, *Laura Dunn!*
- 2 given recognition for achievements: *Lana Warren, June Legge*
- 9 containers of wipes donated to the Greater Waterbury Diaper Bank
- 32 Delta chapter members attended the meeting
- 92 dollars donated to the Greater Waterbury Diaper Bank
- 102 dollars donated to World Fellowship
- 132 dollars collected for the raffle that funds the Book Grant
- 291 diapers donated to the Greater Waterbury Diaper Bank

Did you know?

In addition to the wonderful benefits of fellowship and service that come with being a DKG member, you can contribute to the Society when you are shopping! When you shop through onecause.com, a small percentage (at no cost to the member) goes back to the Society.

Shop at retail stores such as

Amazon and Barnes and Noble
Container Store and Pottery Barn
J. Crew and Nordstrom

Travel and hotel benefits

Sheraton Hotels and Resorts and Radisson Hotels
United Airlines and Enterprise Rent-a-Car

Welcome, new Delta sisters

Lana Warren



Laura Dunn was initiated at our May meeting at Chippanee Golf Club. Laura is a retired elementary (K-8) teacher from Region #6, serving 32 years as an educator.

She has served as Chair of Professional Development for her region, has presented math workshops for teachers of 5th-6th graders, and has served as a consultant for Creative Publications for math. Additionally, she was selected Region #6 Teacher of the Year in 1997 and has served in her association as a Building Representative.

Laura's community activities include serving as President of the Milton Women's Club, Clerk for the Milton Congregational Church, and Rental Agent for Milton Public Hall. In addition, as a member of the Delta Pet Therapy Society, she is the owner/trainer of a Therapy Dog. She and her dog visit two nursing homes weekly to provide comfort and companionship to seniors in her area.



Rita Caruso was introduced at our May meeting and will be initiated at our first meeting for the 2011-12 year to be held on October 1. She is retired from the Litchfield School System, serving 35 ½ years as a business teacher.

She has served as Department Chair for the Business Department, as President of Connecticut Business Education Association, and she formed the Advisory Committee with local business leaders in Litchfield. She was awarded Teacher of the Year of her district, and has been the recipient of the

Celebration of Excellence Award, as well as two yearbook dedications.

Rita is also active in her community volunteering with the Torrington Area Health District.

From the Curriculum of Hope...

Jeanne Morascini

Remember as you plan of the new school year to include ways to promote respect, civility, effective communication and personal responsibility. React to problems with calm patience. Seek input from students and create a non-judgmental supportive forum encouraging open dialogue. Use cooperative learning groups to foster group thoughtful decision making. Teach problem solving skills, then make the connection to peaceful conflict resolution using the same model. Build a classroom sense of caring community. Then expand the communal caring to outside the classroom to include others less fortunate. Adopt a project, local or global, with an obtainable goal that your students can work toward. Promote pride in having helped to improve the quality of life for others.

Raffle Raises Revenue

Joanne Chenkus

First prize: A one year membership to Delta!

How can we continue to *fund* our book grant in a *fun* way and keep the cost for our members to a minimum? In the past, we have raised money through silent auctions, sales of items in themed baskets, holiday crafts and baked goods. Every year our members generously contribute their time, effort and creativity into providing items for the sales. When we consider that our members often purchase items and load baskets with goodies to be sold at the fund raiser, and in addition, purchase a basket or other item at a sale during the meeting, this can be very costly. We would like to keep the cost to a minimum and at the same time offer a chance to win a great prize.

Delta Chapter has decided to continue to sell raffle tickets at each meeting as a way to raise \$500 for our annual book grant. Purchasing raffle tickets for prizes such as gift cards and certificates at each meeting would be an easy and more cost effective way of funding the grant.

If 40 members purchased an arm's length of tickets for \$5.00 at each meeting, the chapter would raise \$200 at each and \$800 for the whole year. Subtract from this the cost to purchase 4 \$75.00 raffle items, and the result is \$500.00 net profit, just enough to fund the book grant.

Our first raffle prize at the October meeting will be a one year membership to Delta, valued at \$75.00!

President's Message

Reflections on DKG Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey, PA

Hello Delta Sisters,

Another summer has passed and so we cycle into a new school year with so many exciting things to prepare for both inside and outside of the classroom. New students. New curricula. New hobbies. New friends. New travels. Maybe even thoughts about inviting someone new to a chapter meeting. In designing our future, we need to consider our past, so our theme is *Rhythms of a Year*.

After much discussion, twelve Delta sisters planned our program for the year with emphasis on the two International initiatives: "Schools for Africa" and "Early Career Educators" as well as programs that will have us work together toward a common purpose to help those in need and another where we will revisit our chapter's past and share stories. Each program is designed to sharpen our own vision and take the pulse of who we are so we can set goals and develop a plan.

In addition to gathering with Delta sisters at the planning meeting, I was lucky enough to attend the Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey, PA. It was a "sweet" meeting place for 800 DKG women to be inspired and share spiritual fellowship and our vision about DKG. Over and over again, the message was clear: a vision gives purpose to our lives and with a positive attitude, persistence, and passion, that vision can become a reality. I attended leadership workshops, membership training workshops, and business meetings; but I was most impressed with the many keynote speakers, all women who had a vision to improve themselves and/or to shape women leaders.

Jensi Souders, our International DKG President, said it best. "Every member is a leader." Jensi also said, "Sometimes we lead from the front, sometimes from the side and sometimes from the rear." As I listened, I realized that leading is about listening, risk taking, stepping back, asking hard questions, recognizing when change is needed, moving ahead, being flexible and so much more. The Delta women I know show these characteristics in varying degrees; we each lead in different ways, too, so we continually work together as a team of leaders.

Yes, DKG is at a crossroads on the international, state, and chapter levels. Membership is declining and members hesitate to step into leadership positions, and I appreciate that reality. I challenge to you to keep our Delta Chapter as strong as it has been for nearly 60 years. There are many Delta Chapter women who lead in our schools and our communities. There are many who lead from the front, the side, or the rear and that is why our chapter is thriving. We are strong women, and we need to encourage other key women educators to join our ranks to add their strength and talents.

Let's work together this year to renew our personal commitment to Delta Chapter, retain members, ask former members to reinstate their membership, and recruit early career educators. Let's march into the future making lots of noise. Leaders in the front will shout, "let's get going"; leaders from the rear will push, "move, move, move;" and leaders from the side will help keep the march steady. New rhythms will give us energy; old rhythms will give us comfort and echo as sustained cadences that remind us of who we have been and who we are. We *are* all women educators with influence. Let's keep beat with the future. Let's be leaders and pursue our vision.

I am looking forward to *Rhythms of a Year*.

Warm regards,

Joan

Delta Chapter Supports New Teachers

At our October meeting, members will assemble bags of supplies to be given to new teachers. Please bring the following supplies to our meeting:

Pencils	Crayons	Folders	Scissors
Pens	Markers	Erasers	Staplers/staples
Post its	Paper clips	Notepads	Blank CDs
Highlighters	Binder clips	Hand sanitizer	Notecards

Gift cards to Staples or Good Ideas

Along with those supplies, our chapter members will provide words of wisdom or their best pieces of advice to support new teachers. This advice should be techniques and strategies used by teachers to foster student success and might fall into the categories of classroom management, instruction, planning or assessment. We'll include that advice in the supply bag to give to a new teacher. To help you prepare to dispense your advice, here is a model from *Joan Krantz* and a blank form for you to fill out and bring to the meeting.

From *Joan Krantz*:

Area: Classroom Management

Goal: Establish clear, concise rules and enforce rules consistently. Keep it simple.

Suggestion: Create a poster of three rules. Post and refer to the rules as appropriate in delivery of the lessons. For at least 30 of my 35 years teaching I used these rules:

1. Cooperation
2. Commitment
3. Kindness

At the beginning of the year, students and I developed a definition for each word and gave examples what behaviors would model the words in the classroom.

Reminders + Reinforcement = Rules that work.

Here's one for you to fill out as you plan what you'll write:

From (your name) _____

Area: Classroom Management, Planning, Instruction, Assessment, Other

Goal: _____

Suggestion:

Minutes of May 11, 2011 meeting of the Delta Chapter

The meeting of Delta was held at the Chippanee Golf Club in Bristol. Thirty-one members attended. The meeting began at 4:15. President, Joan Krantz, welcomed the members with a “summer good wishes” treat of chocolate that was at each member’s place. Linda Bartholomeo introduced her guest, Janet Bloemker.

Luann Cogliser read the thought for the day.

Joan Krantz was presented with a President Pin; Laura Dunn was initiated as a new member of the chapter.

Secretary – Terry Doyle – Joanne Chenkus moved to approve the minutes with a second from Sondra Macdonald. The motion carried. The president is going to check Robert’s Rules of Order to see if a motion is necessary for acceptance of the minutes.

Corresponding Secretary – Mary McVerry – As Mary was absent, Terry Doyle read thank you notes from Maryssa Brogis, expressing gratitude for her book award and from Nancy Cappella, thanking the chapter for its donation to “Are You Dense, Inc.”

Treasurer- Rose Marie Mikasauskas reported a successful year with a balance in the checking account of \$1,692.50 and commended the members for their efforts

Report of Officers

President – Joan Krantz thanked Paulina Auclair for her stellar work on the newsletter. She applauded the membership for its strong attendance of 12 members, the second highest in chapter attendance, at the Spring Convention. She thanked Paulina, Rosemary, and Joanne for helping with the convention raffle and LuAnn for taking the pictures for the Extra Edition of the Newsletter. She asked members to remember Nancy Roy’s brother in their thoughts and prayers; he is suffering with a brain tumor. Joan formed a committee to review the chapter’s By-Laws to ensure that they comply with the new state Standing Rules and By-laws. Joanne Chenkus and Colleen Spieler will assist her. Joan announced that the summer planning meeting will be held either the last week in June or the first week in July. She invited all interested members to attend or to email programming ideas. Joan announced that the state has changed the name of the Program Committee to Educational Excellence. She announced that the membership had donated 1,827 diapers, over \$200.00, and 14 containers of wipes throughout the year.

First Vice President –Mary Jane Miller shared information on the Northeast Regional Conference held in Hershey, PA from July 20-23, 2011. She asked members to visit the DKG website for specific details and applications. Joan Krantz and Carol Reeves will be attending.

Second Vice President – Monica Kreuzer told of a geo-caching location she was planning to visit after the meeting. She gave the responses to two of the questions answered by the chapter members to help early educators. The questions were on makeup work issues and daily assessment procedures. Monica suggested that program ideas be gleaned from ideas from other chapters’ websites.

Standing Committee Reports

Educational Excellence – Angela Stortz, Flo Goodman - Angela spoke of the good relationship she had had working with Flo Goodman over the years. She reminded members that Sondra Macdonald and Loretta Teevan will be co-chairs next year. She thanked the Executive Committee for brainstorming ideas with them and asked that members reply by deadline dates to accommodate restaurant timelines.

Membership –Lana Warren reported on the progress of Membership Initiative – 12 x 2012 saying that we have four new members toward our goal of twelve with another member to be initiated in the fall. Lana Warren moved to hold a membership acceptance vote by a show of hands. The motion passed unanimously. **Rita Caruso** was accepted as a new member. Joan announced that she would hold another orientation meeting for new members during the summer.

Parliamentarian – June Legge, Mary Lou Kuegler No report

Fine Arts – Peg Goranson No report

Legislation – Carol Wakefield No report

Professional Affairs – Claudette LaFlamme No report

Historian – LuAnn Cogliser has the archival scrapbooks and will create an accurate history of the chapter's activities beginning with the Biennium of President Joan Krantz. She asked members to submit newspaper articles, program/agendas, photos and other mementoes that could be included.

Finance – Rose Marie Mikasauskas No report

Nominations – Joanne Chenkus No report

Communications – Paulina Auclair shared a draft of the trifold designed to provide information on the Delta chapter with school personnel. She will send the draft to all members for their editing suggestions. She together with Joan, Mary Jane, and Monica will finalize the trifold before the fall. She was praised for her efforts.

Scholarship – June Legge No report.

World Fellowship & International Fund – Sondra Macdonald highlighted the lives of three women who have changed significantly the lives of others. The amount collected was \$102; the yearly total is \$366.

Curriculum of Hope – Colleen Spieler, Deborah Flaherty – Deborah read several short peace poems written by children and gave information about the Committee for Teaching about the United Nations' Conference held in January. She recommended the book *Half the Sky* and websites dedicated to women's equality. She mentioned the statistic that when helped women give back 90%; whereas, men give 23 to 30%.

Old Business None

New Business – After discussion, the chapter voted on the motion made by Angela Stortz, seconded by Sondra Macdonald not to support the 2017 Northeast Regional Conference for the same reasons given on the last vote, November 2009. New information included the data that only 10% of state members attended the last spring convention. The motion passed unanimously.

Joan suggested we recognize members whom we wish to honor for personal and professional achievement. She began by honoring Lana Warren for her work on the Senior Project Committee at Woodland Regional High School. Lana has made several presentations to other school and to NEASC. Joan asked that we think about this for the next meeting and in the future so we can recognize individuals' achievements.

LuAnn Cogliser offered to donate "one skein scarves" that she knits to be sold at the state fall conference in November with the funds going to the chapter's book award. Joan will ask the state president if this would be acceptable.

Colleen Spieler announced her mother, June Legge's retirement and the awards she received: the Sportsmen Club Hall of Fame and Gold Circle awards.

Respectfully submitted by **Terry Doyle**

Following the meeting, Christine Ieronimo spoke on her adoption experience and her upcoming book, *Drinking from Puddles*.

Delta Chapter Meeting
Saturday, October 1, 2011

Watertown High School
324 French Street
Watertown, CT 06795

AGENDA

- 10:15 Arrival and Fellowship -- Fill the Cradle with Diapers, wipes, diaper cream or donations, toiletries
10:30 Initiation of Rita Caruso
10:45 *Thought for the Day* Stacie Broden
"Creating Pride in the Big Picture" Mary Jane Miller

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 ** see above
Second Vice President Monica Kruezer, Web Mistress
Standing Committee Reports
Program Sondra Macdonald, Loretta Teevan
Membership Lana Warren
Parliamentarian June Legge, Mary Lou Kuegler
Fine Arts Peg Goranson
Legislation Caroline Wakefield
Personal Growth & Services
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
New Business
Changes to By-Laws
November Conference/Spring Convention
11:30 Lunch
12:30 "Good Ideas" and Bags

Delta October 1, 2011 Meeting

Watertown High School
324 French Street
Watertown, CT 06795
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Program: Initiation, "School from Africa" DVD, Bags and "Good Ideas" for Early Career Educators

Box Lunch Menu will be provided by Chubba's

- 1 Sandwiches served on choice of: 6"hard roll, multigrain bread, whole wheat breach, plain wrap
- 2 Choose any or all of: lettuce, tomato, sweet peppers, Provolone, American, Swiss, Cheddar cheese
- 3 Choice of two: chips, pickles, coleslaw
- 4 Choose one: roast beef, chicken salad, tuna salad, chicken cutlet, ham, turkey breast
- 5 Choose one: water, Chubba's iced tea, or assorted bottled drinks

Box Lunch will also include cookies

COST: \$11.50

Bring donation for Diaper Bank, toiletries for Safe Haven, teacher supplies for back to school bags.
Send checks payable to **Delta** no later than September 18, 2011 to:

Sondra Macdonald, 178 Hunters Lane, Newington, CT 06111
or call her at (860) 878.6941

DIRECTIONS to Watertown High School:

From South, East, or West: On I-84 take Exit 20 (Route 8 North). On Route 8, take Exit 35 (Route 73 North, a left exit). Stay on 73 into Watertown to the intersection of Route 63 (there is a Carvel at this intersection). Bear right at the light onto Route 63 North (Main St.). Just past the firehouse turn right onto French St. Continue up the hill past the police station. At the top of the hill is the high school entrance on the right.

From North: Route 8 South toward Waterbury. Take Exit 37 toward CT-262 / Watertown. Turn right onto Echo Lake Rd. Turn left onto Buckingham St. Turn right onto French St. The high school entrance is on left at the top of the hill.

NAME and email: _____

Circle one from each category except where indicated. Cost \$11.50

- 1 Sandwiches served on choice of 6"hard roll, multigrain bread, whole wheat breach, plain wrap
- 2 Choose any or all of: lettuce, tomato, sweet peppers, Provolone, American, Swiss, Cheddar cheese
- 3 Choice of two: chips, pickles, coleslaw
- 4 Choose one: roast beef, chicken salad, tuna salad, chicken cutlet, ham, turkey breast
- 5 Choose one: water, Chubba's iced tea, or assorted bottled drinks

Box Lunch will also include cookies

_____ I cannot attend the meeting, but am enclosing a donation for "The Greater Waterbury Diaper Bank" or supplies for early career educators.

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

Send checks payable to **Delta** no later than September 18, 2011 to:

Sondra Macdonald, 178 Hunters Lane, Newington, CT 06111
or call her at (860) 878.6941

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
Delta CHAPTER
DUES 2011-2012

Please fill out the following dues statement. Return by **October 20, 2011** with check payable to: **Delta** and mail to:

Rose Marie Mikasauskas PO Box 929 Middlebury, CT 06762

Active Members (includes initiates):

Dues \$75.00 (Chapter \$12.00; State \$22.00; International \$40.00; Scholarship \$1.00)

Active Member Total **\$75.00** _____

Reserve Members:

Dues \$28.00

Reserve Member Total **\$28.00** _____

The following are State and International Initiatives; donations are appreciated, but optional:

Alpha Kappa Gamma State Recruitment Grants \$1.00 _____

Rheta A. Lange Recruitment Grant (State): \$500.00 grant, given to a Junior majoring in Education
at Southern Connecticut State University \$1.00 _____

Margaret H. Croft Honorary Fund (State): Honors Alpha Kappa State members.
Used for publication of approved materials written by Alpha Kappa State members and
for awards or loans to qualified members \$1.00 _____

World Fellowships (International): Awards for women educators, not members of the Society,
from foreign countries to study in the U.S. and Canada..... \$1.00 _____

Emergency Fund (International): Used for assistance to members for catastrophic disasters..... \$1.00 _____

Golden Gift Fund (International): Sponsors leadership conferences \$1.00 _____

Curriculum of Hope Fund (State): Promotes peace education \$1.00 _____

Schools for Africa (International): Promotes educational initiatives in Africa \$1.00 _____

Total of Check..... _____

Name _____

Address _____

email address _____

phone _____

date/check # _____