

THE CONNECTICUT KEYNOTE



Alpha Kappa State
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society
International



Volume 75 No. 1 Fall 2015

Alpha Kappa State Fall Conference Saturday, October 31, 2015

SHARING OUR VISION: PAYING IT FORWARD

Keynote Presentation

Understanding Students with Autism through Art: A Journey Together

Dr. Beverly Levett Gerber



Alpha Kappa State looks forward to an informative and timely keynote presentation by Beverly Levett Gerber at the Alpha Kappa State Fall Conference. Beverly Gerber is Professor Emerita of Special Education at Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU). Her professional background combines both special education and art education, and she has been an advocate of the arts for students with special needs for almost 50 years. She is co-editor with Doris Guay of *Reaching and Teaching Students with Special Needs through Art* (NAEA, 2006) and with Julia Kellman of *Understanding Students with Autism through Art* (NAEA, 2010). She has also given numerous state, national and international presentations about the value of the arts for students with special needs.

Dr. Gerber has been a frequent presenter at both the National Art Education Association (NAEA) and the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). She is a founding member and Past-President of NAEA's Special Needs Issues Group and wrote their bi-monthly *Special Needs* column in the *NAEA News* for six years. In 2007, the Special Needs Issues Group established the annual NAEA/CEC/VSA Beverly Levett Gerber Lifetime Achievement Award in her honor. In 2011, she was the recipient of NAEA's Lowenfeld Award for Lifetime Achievement in Art Education. Her acceptance speech, *Art Education and Special Education: A Promising Partnership*,

can be found on NAEA's website www.arteducators.org.

At CEC, Dr. Gerber has long been an arts advocate and serves as the "Arts and Special Education" representative on CEC's Convention Program Advisory Committee. She initiated a Special Interest Group for Teachers of the Arts and organized CEC's two pre-convention sessions devoted to the visual arts for students with special needs. In 2015, Beverly helped to establish a new CEC division, the Division of Visual and Performing Arts Education (DARTS), and now serves as its president.

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We look forward to seeing you at the 2015 Fall Conference on Oct. 31st.

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Jottings from Joan

Sharing Our Vision—Paying it Forward



Welcome to a new biennium. Some of you have been members for many bienniums, and some are just discovering the advantages of being a member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. To all of you, consider your role in DKG and what you can do to move DKG forward. When I knew I would need to pick a theme for my biennium, *Paying It Forward* was my first thought. A while back, I was in Staples when I heard someone offer a \$10 coupon to the woman in front of me. The surprised customer thanked her and then said, "I'll have to be nice to people today." I don't think this is true, but I do think that being paid forward makes you feel good and, hopefully, gives you an idea for paying forward to someone else. Related to DKG, I think paying it forward means that those of us with experience of any kind share it with those of us without. Maybe a long-time member can share some history. A long-time committee chair could help a new chair get started in her role. A member may bring a guest who isn't a member to the Fall Conference or Spring Convention. Let others see what DKG is

all about. Reach out to someone who has resigned from your chapter. On a survey from International 64-68% of resigned members said they were likely to reinstate if someone asked them.

This summer I attended State President's training at the Northeast Regional Conference in Baltimore. One theme from **International President Lyn Schmid** was bringing DKG into the 21st Century. It was a challenge for us, as well as food for thought. We discussed *change is in the wind* vs. *we've always done it this way*. Consider the question, "What's right for AKS?" and share your ideas with your chapter presidents or bring them to the state executive board meetings. I am a good listener. I am looking forward to meeting as many AKS members as I can in the next two years. It will be an honor.

*Happy fall,
Joan*

2016 Annual CTAUN Conference at the United Nations

Stewardship for a Sustainable World: Education in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)



The Committee for Teaching About the United Nations Conference is set for **Friday, January 22, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** You are invited to join your DKG sisters to learn how the United Nations is working to fight poverty and to secure governance that is transparent, accountable and inclusive of environmental concerns. After an overview of the global agenda, the morning panel will focus on the politics of food and hunger, global food security and sustainable production and consumption. In the afternoon, issues to be discussed will be water, energy use and the impact of ignoring climate change on our survival. For more information or to register visit teachun.org.

It is not enough to teach children how to read, write and count. Education has to cultivate mutual respect for others and the world in which we live, and help people forge more just, inclusive and peaceful societies

~~ UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon 12 June 2013

ΔΚΓ MISSION STATEMENT

Delta Kappa Gamma promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.



Take note . . .

Alpha Kappa State Outstanding Service Award

Alpha Kappa State Outstanding Service Awards are presented to outstanding community volunteers who, without thought of recompense, devote time, energy and caring attention to the children and youth of Connecticut. This award is presented to non-members of DKG. These awards are given at the Spring Convention in even-numbered years.

Outstanding Service Awards Nomination Form and Procedure:

- Nominations may be made by chapters or by individual chapter members.
- Complete the nomination form describing the nature of the nominee’s volunteer work.
- Include two letters of recommendation from chapter members, youth or community members who have knowledge of the nominee and his/her volunteer work.
- Submit the nomination form and additional documentation by snail mail to **Colleen Spieler, 960 Bunker Hill Ave., Waterbury, CT 06708. Forms are due by January 15, 2016.**

A suggested time line to help chapters meet the deadline for completing the Outstanding Service Award Form. . .


1. Discuss what the Outstanding Service Form is at your first meeting in September or October.
2. Assign the second vice president to oversee the follow-up for finding a person worthy of receiving the Outstanding Service Award in September or October.
3. Receive the nominations and letters of recommendation by your second meeting in November or December.

Suggested places where Outstanding Service Award nominees may be found:

- Easter Seals
- Churches
- Local libraries
- Town Hall
- Baby Bundlers
- Day Care Centers
- The Diaper Bank
- After-school programs
- Schools
- Children’s museums
- In-school volunteers
- Summer/children’s camp
- Literacy Programs
- Volunteer Music programs
- Child Advocates
- Mentoring
- Family shelters, i.e. St. Vincent DePaul

Mail the nomination forms and letters of recommendation to the Outstanding Service Award Committee Chair Colleen Spieler by January 15, 2016.

**Colleen Spieler, Chair
AKS Outstanding Service Award Committee**



Do you need money for professional development ?

The DKG Cornetet Professional Development Funds have what you need . . .

The funds can be used for conference/seminar expenses, national certification, online courses, workshops and other non-degree programs.

Available to members and non-members for up to \$2,000

There are three award cycles: February 1, May 1 and September 1

For more information go to www.dkgef.org



AROUND THE

ALPHA

Alpha Chapter was very busy this summer. The Ad Hoc Strategic Action Plan Committee comprised of 13 members worked over the summer in order to present a plan for approval at the chapter's first meeting to be held at the home of **Kate Saggese**. Two new positions have been added to Alpha's executive committee in light of the new initiatives: Outreach will extend itself to members who are unable to attend meetings, and Publicity will inform the community of Alpha's activities. This year marks the second year of **President Lucy Galasso's** biennium, so Alpha will be passing the torch to a new president. The executive committee met at the home of **Vice President Clare Harding** to plan for the coming year. One new endeavor, in addition to the regular activities, is a tag sale in hopes of raising non-dues revenue for the coming year. Already members are cleaning closets and setting items aside for this first-ever event. It will take place at the home of Lucy Galasso. At the 4:00 meeting on October 27th author Jim Shepard will discuss his book, *The Book of Aron*, at the Vyram Shubert Library in Greenwich. This book is about the holocaust as seen through the eyes of a child. This much-anticipated event was arranged by **Program Chair Ginny Gesh**. The book has been given very positive reviews, and all are welcome.

BETA

The final meeting of Beta chapter took place Wednesday, May 6, 2015, at Gusto's Restaurant in Milford, CT. Terry Azoti, Alpha Kappa State president, was Beta's invited guest. During the business portion of the meeting, three women educators were inducted into the chapter: **Kathleen Flanagan, Margaret Fedell, and Jeanne Malgioglio**. Kathleen teaches third grade at Jane Ryan Elementary School in Trumbull; Margaret is a special education teacher, also at Jane Ryan, and Jeanne teaches language arts at Madison Middle School.

Members continue to support our ongoing projects: Gail Karwoski opened her home in late April to members who wished to donate household items to *Helping Hands* of Bridgeport. The chapter continues to accept donations for *Schools for Africa* and *Early Career Educations*.

Congratulations to Beta chapter members who received their 40-year service pins: **Mary E. Connell, Isabel L. Trudeau, and Carolyn H. Miller**.

The recipient of the 2015 college tuition grant from BETA chapter is Colleen Oesterle who will be an Early Education/Early Childhood major at Southern Connecticut State University. Colleen has an outstanding academic record at Masuk High School in Monroe, CT. She has also participated in a wide range of activities during her high school career.

At our board meeting in June members elected to plan a summer brunch and a fall and spring dinner for the 2015-16 school year.

Educational excellence chairperson **Dr. Linda Paslov** will assume responsibility for the planning for an event in March TBD. The board anticipates another exciting year.

DELTA

Delta Chapter members met at **Paulina Auclair's** home to plan the upcoming year's events. The chapter's theme for the 2015-2016 year will be the *Year of the Selfie*, reflecting the trend of taking a picture of oneself and posting it to social media sites. The chapter's September newsletter features selfies of chapter members to tell the story of their summer vacations and time spent with family. The *selfie*, however, is about examining ways to strengthen ourselves, the chapter, relationships with each other, and among women worldwide.

The program for the September 23rd meeting held at Watertown High School was *The Year of the Selfie Discovering Yourself*. Dietician and personal trainer Kristen Ludwig spoke to the group about ways to prepare healthy lunches for those returning to the classroom this fall and ways to stay healthy in an active retirement. Members filled out a short bio form and were paired with another Delta sister. Selfies were taken of the 'selfie sisters' which will be included in the December newsletter. 'Selfie sisters' are encouraged to keep in touch with each other throughout the year by sending each other a quick note, meet for coffee, etc. They were also encouraged to work together to plan a raffle basket for the December meeting fundraiser. By pairing members who might not know each other well, it is hoped that the chapter will be strengthened.

EPSILON

Epsilon Chapter celebrates the retirement of member **Pamela Solnik**. Her "contagious...positive outlook" will be missed in the Wethersfield Schools. Colleague **Joanne Charbonneau** was also recognized for her leadership of fifth grade students in giving back to their community through social service projects.

On June 7th, members including **Dianna Wassenhove, Ann Marie Moore and Katie Nunn** (along with their families) met to do the *Autism Speaks Walk* in Hartford. On June 29th, members had their second annual Last Meeting at the beach home of **Carol Koladicz**. A short business meeting was followed by families and members enjoying the beach. Members in attendance included **Joanne Charbonneau, Judi Weiner, Kate Adams, Shannon Karlowicz, Katie Nunn and Ellen Murtha**.

Epsilon members will meet in late September to plan the upcoming year together.

ZETA

Summer activities for Zeta included a luncheon and wine tasting event at the Chamard Winery and Bistro in Clinton. A lovely luncheon and socialization on a warm summer's day was enjoyed by all! The calendar of events for the 2015-16 year was set. The first meeting of the year was held on September 17th at Ridge Road Elementary School in North Haven. Following a welcome back social time with refreshments provided by retired members, a short business meeting was held. Members attending the NERC in July shared their experiences in Baltimore.



NUTMEG STATE (continued)

Orientation for four candidates for membership was held following the meeting in preparation for their Initiation to be held October 22nd at the Bistro Mediterranean and Tapas Bar in East Haven.

Zeta members also look forward to the annual brunch and auction event to be held on November 21st. Family, friends and prospective members are invited to enjoy member **Elayne Canter** auctioning a great variety of member-donated items. Proceeds from the sales support Zeta's two grants, as well as a worthy project for a community agency also in need of support. The chapter also donates to the International World Fellowship Project, Schools for Africa endeavor and to the CT Food Bank.



Zeta Chapter members enjoying a day at Chamard Winery and Bistro

THETA

Theta started the new school year with its annual Welcome Back Picnic at the home of **Sharon Bartlett**. She and **Second Vice Co-President Anne Soracchi** created a wonderful atmosphere in which members visited and prepared for the upcoming year! Theta initiated and welcomed its newest member, **Andy Gendron**. Andy is a first grade teacher at Sweeney School in Windham.

The Spring Fling at Journey House in June was a huge success! **Kelly Putz** decorated cupcakes with the girls for the children at the Homeless Shelter. They decorated one to eat themselves, too! They each made a bracelet and received a Friendly's gift card and a cosmetic bag with lots of goodies donated by Theta

members. **Ann Chuk, Carol Lavigne, Sue Moon, Ann Soracchi, Sandy Popelieski, Ann Grosjean and Sharon Bartlett**, who organized the day, all had a wonderful time with the girls! Theta is also providing opportunities for the girls to enjoy the arts. **Linda Tracy's** acapella group, Take Note, donated monies from their spring concert to Journey House. **Sheila Clark** obtained tickets for three of the events at Jorgenson to enable groups of girls to enjoy the theater.

Theta was represented in style at the 2015 Northeast Regional in Baltimore! **Annette Murphy, Pat O'Connell Buckley, Anita Satriano, Sue Moon, Carol Kraus and Ann Grosjean** danced, sang, ate and learned together all while visiting with old friends and making new ones. Sean McComb, the 2014 National Teacher of the Year and **Cora Weiss**, who was initiated as an International Honorary Member at the Fall 2014 Alpha Kappa State Conference, were two of many wonderful speakers! Theta members enjoyed dinner with CT friends on Connecticut night!

IOTA



Iota members enjoying the beautiful day in Stonington, as they plan for the coming year.

MU



Mu Chapter members working on Books for Babies project

During the summer Mu sisters gathered at the home of **Pam Beach** to wrap 1,180 books for babies. The Books for Babies program is a long-standing Mu



Around the Nutmeg State (cont.)

tradition. Two books are wrapped along with a letter explaining Delta Kappa Gamma and the Mu program, as well as explaining to parents how important it is to read to their children starting right from infancy. Books are delivered to the Hospital of Central Connecticut; and each time a baby is born, a mother is presented with a package. The Hospital of Central Connecticut is very happy with our program. **Bev Kibbe**, chair of the event is always grateful for the book donations and cash donations to purchase books. This year, 590 packages were made available for new babies.

OMICRON

In July, several Omicron Chapter members attended the Northeast Regional Conference in Baltimore.

President Kathleen Lozinak spoke at one of the breakout sessions titled *Ask Not What DKG Can Do For You... Okay Ask!*

On September 23rd, Omicron Chapter held a Fall Orientation and Social for prospective new members. Those in attendance also sampled and discussed wine and food pairings.

Later in the fall, the chapter will hold a paint night at Kokopelli School of Art and Music in Seymour.

Omicron Chapter will be selling DKG apparel at the Fall Conference.

RHO

Rho Chapter members met in July to plan the 2015-16 meetings. The year will begin with a dinner meeting on Sept. 29th at Angellino's Restaurant in Vernon. **Ellen Festi**, the 2015 South Windsor Teacher of the Year, will be recognized at this dinner. The November meeting will be a program on Brain Gym by Carrie Holman, a Mansfield Middle School teacher. This program includes movement exercises to improve focus, memory and attention for students and adults. In January, Rho members have been invited by Theta Chapter to an author presentation and look forward to the authors' presenting a reading from their books on historical fiction for middle school age students. A March craft meeting/workshop has been scheduled where members will work on a craft of their choice or a chapter project. Rho anticipates ending the year with its annual May potluck dinner at Crandall Pond Lodge in Tolland. To increase membership, former members are invited to any of these meetings. Members are also encouraged to bring guests to the meeting who may be interested in joining Delta Kappa Gamma.

UPSILON

The chapter's first annual spring banquet was held in June at DaCapo's Restaurant in Litchfield. This summer marked the 105th birthday of member **Pauline Fancher**. Chapter members are planning a Bunco Night for November 6th at 5:30 pm at The Barkhamsted Elementary School (Ripley Hill Road) with door prizes and a silent auction. Proceeds from this event provide a scholarship to a graduating senior from one of the area high schools. All DKG sisters are welcome to attend this fun event (\$20 entry fee).



AKS Leadership Conference June 24, 2016 Central Connecticut State University

The AKS Leadership Conference will be welcomed to CCSU by Dr. Kristine Larsen, Professor of Physics and Earth Sciences, and director of the Copernicus Planetarium. This outstanding leader in science education is an alumna of Central, earning her Master's and PhD in Physics from UConn. She is known for breaking barriers against women in scientific fields and between the sciences and the humanities. She teaches astronomy through Tolkien and Harry Potter. She has taught at Central since 1989, where her specialties include Astrophysics, History of Astronomy, Women in Science, Science and Society, and Public Outreach.

Her leadership in science education won Dr. Larsen a "sky high honor" from the Northeast Region of the Astronomical League. She was given their Walter Scott Houston Award in 2013 for her "distinguished legacy of creative work in astronomy education" at CCSU, according to an article in the New Britain Herald.

Dr. Larsen will present a planetarium show designed for DKG members and guests after lunch at the conference.

Save the date ! Bring the family!
Roz Etra
AKS Leadership Development Chair





Delta Kappa Gamma Society International 2015 Northeast Regional Conference



Bottom Row (l.—r.) **Joan Konareski, Sue Moon, Pat O’Connell Buckley, Donna Chaney, Deb Soresino, Carol Kraus and Terry Azoti**
Second Row (l.—r.) **Annette Murphy, Emily Lozinak and Kathleen Lozinak**
Third Row (l. to r.) **Anita Satriano, Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone and Marnee Straiton**
Back Row (l. to r.) **Arlene Clancy, Ann Grosjean, Anne Brandt and Lynn Pastore**

Missing from picture is **Margaret Hrabchak**.



Under-35-Group with DKG President Dr. Lyn B. Schmid
(AKS member, Emily Lozinak, second from left)



Joan Konareski and Terry Azoti at Presentation of State Presidents on Opening Night.

“Photograph(s) are courtesy of Photographs by Jim, Floresville, Texas”



Northeast Regional Highlights

First Timers Gathering

Members attending the Northeast Regional Conference for the first time met Wednesday night, July 8th, before Maryland Night. We were quickly introduced to Dr. Lynn Babb Schmid, International President, before she was whisked away. Presiding over the session were Lou Ann Schrader, PA, Carol Herzog, IN, and Sara Sweeney, WV.

Lou Ann and Carol focused on tips for getting the most out of the conference. We were advised to get involved – attend as many sessions and gatherings as possible! Little tips such as planning out your days and taking notes were helpful.

Following this brief information session, the majority of the gathering was spent on a brand new idea created by Dr. Kay Clawson, NE Regional Director, and Sara Sweeney. They envisioned the very first DKG Flash Mob, which was to occur during Maryland Night. For those of you who are unaware of what a flash mob entails, here is a quick summation. During an event, a signal is given at which time the participants get up and do some sort of performance. At the conclusion, you go back to what you were doing as if nothing happened. Our flash mob consisted of a dance, which Sara titled the *DKG Shuffle*. We performed our flash mob at the beginning of Maryland Night while Dr. Clawson was welcoming attendees. Despite my aversion to dancing, it was a wonderful experience.

**Emily Lozinak, Omicron Chapter
AKS Non-Dues Revenue Chair**



**First-Timers
at
Northeast
Regional
Conference**

“Photograph is courtesy of Photographs by Jim, Floresville, Texas”

THREE GENERATIONS OF EDUCATORS CELEBRATE 86 YEARS OF DKG AT THE 2015 NER CONFERENCE

Grandmother **Arlene Clancy**, daughter **Kathleen Lozinak** and granddaughter **Emily Lozinak**, members of Omicron Chapter, recently joined with women educators and outstanding speakers at the Northeast Regional Conference in Baltimore, Maryland.

The five-day event included outstanding presentations by women educators from around the world. According to Emily Lozinak, her membership in DKG encourages her to grow and develop her skills as a professional educator in a global society. She says, “Most recently, I was offered an opportunity to travel to Austin, Texas, to meet with teachers from around the world to discuss how DKG can best meet the needs of young educators in an ever-changing world.” Arlene Clancy, a former chapter president and a thirty-year member commented, “Attending DKG regional conferences helps to instill pride in the profession and makes me eager to continue with the important work of educating children.”

Keynote speaker, Sean McComb, National Teacher of the Year, was especially well-received by the women’s group. He shared great stories about his time as a student and the work he does as an educator. Sean currently teaches and coordinates a program for Baltimore students called *Advancement Via Individual Determination*. In addition to the professional development presented, local attractions in Baltimore offered participants a variety of sight-seeing activities, including the chance to experience the city and a thriving cultural scene.

Omicron Chapter President Kathleen Lozinak



Northeast Regional Highlights



AKS members at Presidents' Dinner



Jackie Thomas (PA) and Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone at the DKG Arts & Humanities Jury Info Fair Table



Carol Kraus and Anita Satriano



Marnee Straiton, Margaret Hrabchak and Lynn Pastore



IN MEMORIAM



White Roses

"Every good life leaves behind the fiber of it interwoven forever in the work of the world."

**Marilyn V. Spence, Nu Chapter
May 2, 2015**

Marilyn V. Spence was initiated into Nu Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma in April 1965. She was an active member for fifty years and served on several Nu Chapter committees.

Marilyn began her teaching career in Vermont and Massachusetts before returning home to Norwalk, Connecticut, to teach at the Norwalk High School. She then became an original faculty member at Brien McMahon High School where she remained for 27 years, capping her career as Social Studies Department chairwoman and leader of a team teaching program. During retirement, Marilyn remained active as an instructor at the University of Bridgeport and assumed a position as a State Assessor of Beginning Teachers for the CT State Department of Education. Marilyn also served as an observer of student teachers. Her name was added to the Norwalk Teacher Honor Roll in 2004.

Richard N. Fuller, a lifelong educator, board of education member, and community leader (who passed away in 2011), wrote a letter to the Norwalk Hour upon Marilyn's induction into the Norwalk Honor Roll... *After more than 50 years, I still remember a teacher, who took a risk, allowing a young project kid to take over her class to teach the students about "Civil War Battle Strategies" which inspired me to go to college and become a lifelong educator. This teacher could have easily ignored my request and went on with her lessons, instead, she took a risk and inspired a life's work and for this, I will be forever grateful. Thank you, Ms. Spence.*

ALPHA KAPPA STATE ACHIEVER

Congratulations to **Ellen Festi**, a member of Rho Chapter and AKS assistant treasurer, on being selected as South Windsor's 2015 Teacher of the Year. Ellen began her career as a secondary business education teacher in 2008. She is presently pursuing a second Master's Degree in Curriculum & Instruction at the University of St. Joseph with the help of an AKS Scholarship. In addition, Ellen began serving as an adjunct professor in General Studies at Goodwin College in East Hartford in 2014.



The 2016 Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar

The Golden Gift Fund was established in 1979 to commemorate DKG's 50th anniversary. The responsibility of the Golden Gift Fund Committee is to conduct a Leadership Management Seminar financed by interest from investments and contributions. The seminar is held in early July of even-numbered years on the campus of The University of Texas at Austin. The next seminar will be held from July 18-29, 2016.

The Leadership Management Seminar is an intense residential learning experience taught by world-renowned experts in the fields of leadership, management and communications. Any member who has belonged to DKG for at least three years may apply. Each applicant must receive a referral from her chapter president or immediate past chapter president. Applications and referral forms are available on the DKG website (www.dkg.org). The deadline for applying is December 1, 2015.

The successful applicants pay a registration fee of \$500. The Golden Gift Fund pays the remaining expenses of approximately \$7,500 for tuition, full-board lodging, round-trip travel and teaching materials.



A Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World



Congratulations to

The Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Committee which was founded 30 years ago and through total commitment from its committee members, has presented keynote addresses, workshops or exhibits at DKG International Conventions and Regional Conferences, as well as State Conventions in Vermont, Massachusetts and Connecticut. A major achievement has been the continuous publication of a Newsletter three times annually for all those years. It now reaches thousands of readers in 22 countries mainly through our DKG network of membership and the many other peace organizations around the world. CT Chapter Presidents receive a pdf version of the Newsletter and have been forwarding it to chapter members.

The mission of this committee is focused on peace education topics of promoting critical thinking, conflict resolution and cooperative learning skills, environmental sustainability and human rights celebrating diversity of the world population. As we all strive to maintain hope for a more peaceful world, let's all keep our eyes on the prize!

Thank you to all committee members:

Jeanne Morascini, Founder; Jackie Abbott and Pat O'Connell Buckley charter members; Sue Moon, Chair; Anita Satriano, Immediate Past Chair; Jan McKusick, Newsletter Editor; Linda Shea, Subscription Manager; Carol Kraus, Lisa Young, Joyce Apsel, and new members Karen Dibala and Ann Tucker.

Jeanne Morascini, Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Founder

Your AKS sisters are proud of you!

News from AKS Communications Committee

Collegial Exchange: new publication from DKG

.....first issue to reach members in November!

Packed with reviews of educational and technology materials, creative art and ideas, as well as discussions of key issues and initiatives. Be watching for this new publication from International!

Congratulations to **Jacqueline Farrell**, Iota Chapter, for having her submitted article selected for the **DKG Bulletin - Summer 2015—Literacy Volunteer Organizations: Providing Alternative Education to Adults.**

Judy Cody, Chair

A special thank you to the reviewers for *The Keynote*:
 Terry Azoti Joan Konareski Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone
 Judy Cody Jeanne Morascini Nancy Roy





(Continued from page 1) Dr. Beverly Gerber

At SCSU, Dr. Gerber serves as a member of the Board of Directors for Connecticut's Center for Excellence in Autism. She helped to establish the Artism program at SCSU for college-age students on the autism spectrum and, with Megan Rudne Hoffecker, is involved in Artism's teaching, arts research and professional presentations. The topic of Dr. Gerber's presentation at the Fall Conference will be *Understanding Students with Autism through Art: A Journey Together*. Dr. Gerber will share stories, as an art educator, special educator, and parent of a son with Down's syndrome, that parallel and reflect special education's historical journey. Students on the spectrum demonstrate special skills and needs, and individualized educational programs including art education are meeting those skills.

**Pat O'Connell Buckley,
AKS First Vice President**

Membership

This information was included in the materials presented to State Membership Chairs at the Northeast Regional Conference in Baltimore. Every chapter can look through this list and identify areas of strength. Make your chapter stronger this year by concentrating on improving a few areas of weakness.

Here's how to add a green flag to every chapter's list. To accomplish *Society Membership Information is current*, toss out the old membership brochures titled *One & All* and *You & Me*. Replace them with the new colorful and informative brochure called *A Journey for Life*. A copy was given to all chapter presidents at the Fall Executive Board Meeting, and additional copies can be ordered from DKG. Also, review the guidelines for membership written in your Chapter Standing Rules and in the Go To Guide, and you have a green flag. If you have any questions about eligibility for reserve membership or reinstating members or eligibility for membership, don't hesitate to contact someone who can answer your questions.

Green Flags Indicating a Healthy Chapter

- ◆ Strong Leadership
- ◆ Positive Leadership
- ◆ Delegates
- ◆ Attendance at chapter meetings is good
- ◆ Member count is greater than 20
- ◆ Majority of the members are actively working
- ◆ State reports are completed in a timely manner
- ◆ Form 990 with the IRS completed on time
- ◆ Knowledgeable of the Society
- ◆ Society Membership Information is current
- ◆ Newsletter is informative
- ◆ Yearbook is accurate
- ◆ Programs reflect interests of members
- ◆ Inspiration and Motivation
- ◆ Communication with state organization is evident

**Deborah Soresino,
AKS Membership Chair**



Got Books?

Bring Books...

Buy Books!!

The new or gently used **Buck-a-Book Sale** will be held again at the Alpha Kappa State Fall Conference. Bring books that you have enjoyed, to be bought and read by others. Then purchase books for you to read or give as gifts. The Non-Dues Revenue Committee collected the new or gently used books at the September Executive Board Meeting and will collect at the Fall Conference.

We will collect children's, adult, fiction, non-fiction, and cookbooks.

Books will cost either
\$.50 or \$1.

All proceeds go to the Available Fund to help balance the AKS budget.

**Alpha Kappa State
mourns the loss of
Past President Isobel Broadhurst
September 16, 2015**

**Isobel served as AKS president
1989-1991.**

**AKS sisters send their sympathies to
Isobel's family and friends.**

More information in next issue



ALPHA KAPPA STATE 76th FALL CONFERENCE

Saturday, October 31, 2015

Courtyard by Marriott

4 Sebethe Drive, Cromwell, CT 06416 Phone: 860-635-1001



SHARING OUR VISION: PAYING IT FORWARD

8:15 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions
9:15-10:15 a.m.	Keynote: Dr. Beverly Gerber, SCSU: <i>Understanding Students with Autism Through Art: A Journey Together</i>
10:15-10:30 a.m.	Break
10:30-11:00 a.m.	Leadership Development Committee: <i>The Best Leaders Never Stop Learning</i>
11:00-11:15 a.m.	Founders Ceremony
11:15 a.m.-12:00 noon	Break, Chapter Sales, and Non-Dues Revenue Fundraiser: Books and Note Cards Sale
12:00-1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00-1:30 p.m.	Fine Arts Presentation
1:30-1:45 p.m.	Alpha Kappa State Recruitment Grants
1:45-2:00 p.m.	Closing Remarks and <i>The Delta Kappa Gamma Song</i>

REGISTRATION FOR THE CONVENTION

Please send form below with meal choice(s) and check made out to:

Delta Kappa Gamma, Alpha Kappa State

Mail to:

Barbara-Ann Cavanaugh, Beta Chapter
14 Reimer Rd., Westport, CT 06880
bacav@optonline.net

DIRECTIONS TO COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT

Traveling North or South: I-91 North or South to Exit 21, turn right at end of exit. Turn right just before Burger King onto Sebethe Drive. Hotel is on the right.

From New York City/Bridgeport: I-95 to I-91 North to Exit 21. Follow directions above.

Parking is at front, side and back of hotel.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE OCTOBER 16, 2015

Name: _____ Chapter: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

COFFEE and TEA available from 7:30-9:30 a.m. (no breakfast available)

Check your choice(s) below:

<input type="checkbox"/> Almond and Coconut Encrusted Tilapia with Mango Pineapple Salsa	\$35.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Marsala Sautéed with Mushrooms in a Light Wine Sauce	\$32.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Pasta Primavera with Fresh Vegetables & Parmesan Cream Sauce	\$31.00

(All entrees include: Garden Salad, Seasonal Vegetables, Fresh Rolls, Dessert, Coffee/Tea)

IF YOU HAVE ANY FOOD ALLERGIES, PLEASE INDICATE: _____

CONFERENCE COSTS: Registration fee per person \$ 5.00

Late fee (Postmarked after 10/16/2015) \$ 5.00

Guest Name/s: _____ Lunch Cost/s (see item/s checked above) + _____

Choice _____ GRAND TOTAL _____

PHOTO RELEASE: By your attendance at this event you are granting permission to be filmed, videotaped, audiotaped, or photographed by any means and are granting full use of your likeness, voice, and words without compensation.

Check here, if this is your first Alpha Kappa State Conference. _____



Save

**2015—2017
Alpha Kappa State
Executive Board**

President Joan Konareski: jannak16@gmail.com
First Vice-President Pat O'Connell Buckley: buckpc@comcast.net
Second Vice-President Lisa Hudkins: 627huds@gmail.com
Recording Secretary Kimberly Albro: kimalbro99@yahoo.com
Executive Secretary Linda Shea: hshea@snet.net
Treasurer Donna Chaney: deweyx2dbc@snet.net
Assistant Treasurer Ellen Festi: festi316@yahoo.com
Immediate Past President Theresa Azoti: tazoti@optonline.net
Parliamentarian Mary Janeczek: mjaneczek204@yahoo.com

**Chairs of Standing Committees
Society Business**

Archivist Carylrae Clinge: carylclinge@att.net
Bylaws and Standing Rules Marnee Straiton:
marnees48@yahoo.com
Communications Judy Cody: YDOC37@aol.com
Finance Rosemary Mikasauskas: rmassimo@snet.net
Historian Lynn Pastore: craigpastore@sbcglobal.net
Leadership Development Roz Etra: roz620@aol.com
Membership Deborah Soresino: dsoresino@gmail.com
Nominations Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone: spcdkg@comcast.net
Non-Dues Revenue Emily Lozinak: elozinak@yahoo.com

Society Mission and Purposes

Educational Excellence Pat O'Connell Buckley: buckpc@comcast.net
Achievement Awards Lisa Hudkins: 627huds@gmail.com
Curriculum of Hope Sue Moon: sue@racespot.com
Educational Impact Anita Satriano: agsinbl87@comcast.net
Fine Arts Faye Ringel: fayeringel@hotmail.com
International Funds Judy Salemme: jagbklyn@yahoo.com
Legislation/U.S. Forum Mary-Ellen Coloski: mecoloski@aol.com
Margaret Croft Honorary Fund Sandra Gammons:
shgamm@gmail.com
Outstanding Service Award Colleen Spieler: cspieler@sbcglobal.net
Professional Affairs Carol Kraus: Yveskraus@earthlink.net
Scholarships Kari Baransky: Kbaransky1@gmail.com
Sunshine Linda Amarante: lamarante74@gmail.com

Ad Hoc Committees

Investment Committee Marnee Straiton: marnees48@yahoo.com
Tax Exempt Status Ann Novotnik: anovotnik@gmail.com

International Committees

Finance Patricia O'Connell Buckley: buckpc@comcast.net
Arts & Humanities Jury Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone:
spcdkg@comcast.net
International Speakers' Fund Carol Kraus: yveskraus@earthlink.net

NGO/United Nations

AKS Representative Ann Grosjean: acgrosjean@gmail.com

Communications

Photographer Carolyn Downs: downscar@snet.net
Publications Carol Beam: d.w.beam@snet.net
Website Judy Ludwig: judyludwig@mac.com

NEXT KEYNOTE DEADLINE: December 1, 2015
SPRING 2016 KEYNOTE DEADLINE: February 28, 2016

Send information to Carol Beam
 267 Ivy Drive; Bristol, CT 06010-3308
 or e-mail to <d.w.beam@snet.net>

**THE CONNECTICUT
KEYNOTE**

Alpha Kappa State
 The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
 Carol Beam, Editor
 267 Ivy Drive
 Bristol, CT 06010-3308

**Alpha Kappa State Dates to Remember
Sharing Our Vision -
Paying It Forward**

Saturday, October 31, 2015

AKS 76th Fall Conference
 Courtyard by Marriott
 4 Sebeth Dr., Cromwell

Saturday, January 9, 2016

Snow Date: January 23, 2016

AKS Executive Board Meeting
 Griffin Room, Meriden Public Library

January 22, 2016

Conference on Teaching About the United Nations
 (CTAUN)
 United Nations (New York)

March 12, 2016

Snow Date: March 19, 2016

AKS Executive Board Meeting
 Griffin Room, Meriden Public Library

April 23, 2016

AKS 77th Spring Convention
 Courtyard by Marriott (Cromwell)

June 24, 2016

AKS Leadership Conference
 Central CT State University
 New Britain