

THE CONNECTICUT



# KEYNOTE

Alpha Kappa State  
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society  
International



Vol. 72 No. 2 Winter 2012-2013



**Alpha Kappa State extends its condolences  
and offers of support to our sister educators,  
students and families of Sandy Hook School.**

Alpha Kappa State Members,

We have received many phone calls and emails of support from **DKG International President Beverly Helms, International Operating Services Manager** and **past AKS State President Phyllis Hickey, Northeast Regional Director Mary Lee Makinen**, as well as from several state organization presidents.

We are in the prayers of many. Look for more from me as time goes on. I am hoping to set up something where we in Connecticut can help directly. I will let you know as things move forward.

Please pass this information along to our DKG members and NE presidents. It is a difficult time for all. I have spent the weekend with my son and his family. Until this summer they lived in Sandy Hook and my grandchildren attended Sandy Hook Elementary School. My grandchildren's cousin was in one of the targeted classrooms. Thankfully, she was one of the few who survived. She had been out of the room in the bathroom in the hallway. My son and my grand-daughter spent last Halloween painting the faces of those lost in this terrible tragedy at her cousin's Halloween birthday party.

Thank you for your prayers. The community is in mourning, along with the country. The events are still too fresh for people to really come to grips with the overwhelming loss. Hearts are broken. Teachers in the town have asked that condolences and offers of support be sent via their local teachers' association web site. The address follows.

There is a link for this purpose on the home page: [www.aftct.org](http://www.aftct.org)

**Marnee Straiton**  
**Alpha Kappa State President**

**SPRING CONVENTION**  
**APRIL 27**  
**Courtyard by Marriott**  
**in Cromwell**

**Sharing Our Vision . . .**  
**Strengthening Our Chapters**

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## A Message from Marnee

## Sharing Our Vision—Strengthening Our Society



An important question was answered in the most recent issue of the *DKG NEWS*. THE QUESTION READS: "I KNOW OUR CHAPTER NEEDS TO RECRUIT YOUNGER MEMBERS, BUT WHEN WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO INITIATE YOUNGER EDUCATORS, THEY DON'T STAY. THEY HAVE YOUNG CHILDREN OF THEIR OWN AND MANY COMMITMENTS. WHAT CAN WE DO?" This has been a question raised many times throughout the Society and most definitely in Connecticut. The answers to the question were:

- ◆ We do not want to make them feel as if they need to choose.
- ◆ Encourage their commitments to their families.
- ◆ Let them know they have our support. Offer flexibility in membership.
- ◆ Remind them that DKG is what they are doing for themselves both personally and professionally.
- ◆ Encourage them to recognize the importance of taking time for themselves. Show them that the long term investment in DKG is a worthwhile expenditure of their valuable time.
- ◆ Let them know that the chapter will understand that they may not make every activity. Make them feel appreciated when they can attend.

Finally, **Becky Sadowski, DKG TN**, said, "We must understand the importance of being aware of the needs of our members. If we truly want to strengthen our Society, members must be willing to act on their right to have a voice and we, as DKG leaders, must be prepared to *listen* and *acknowledge* those voices."

In addition to the points above, please consider the following points when talking to those younger members or any member who may have left or may be thinking of leaving the Society.

- ◆ During the 2010-2012 biennium, \$1,673,333 in grants and scholarships was awarded on the local, state and International levels. DKG does make a difference to many.
- ◆ In less than one year, almost \$500,000 in combined time and monetary contributions were made to support early-career educators throughout the Society. DKG helps the beginning educator.
- ◆ 70% of the surveyed past members said they would reinstate at a later date if asked. Reach out. Past members may just need a little time to adjust to changes in their personal and professional lives.

Remember, our Society is active in supporting education on many levels. Primary to that focus is supporting the educators in our chapters. Take care of the individual members and the Society will grow in its ability to promote professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

*Marnee*

### Susan Nadeau appointed to AKS Nominating Committee

**Susan Nadeau, Rho Chapter**, has been appointed to the Alpha Kappa State Nominating Committee by **Alpha Kappa State President, Marnee Straiton**. Susan is replacing **Karen Stoudt, Rho Chapter**, who has resigned from her position on that committee. Susan will serve on the committee as a representative of the Eastern Region through 2015.

Sue has been a member of Rho Chapter since 2005. She has served on the Chapter Nominating Committee, Membership Committee, and is currently First-Vice President. Sue has 36 years experience as a Registered Nurse, 24 of which have been in school nursing. She received her Master's degree in Nursing in 2006 and is currently Nurse Coordinator for the South Windsor Public Schools. Sue serves on the Cadre of School Nurse Leaders. She recently presented in October 2012 at East Connecticut Conference Center on *Working with Children with Autism In the Health Room*.



## Alpha Kappa State Comes Together to Support Early-Career Educators



**Kathleen Lozinak with keynote speaker Kim Wachtelhausen**

It was a cool, crisp fall day as the sisters of Alpha Kappa State made their way into the 73<sup>rd</sup> annual Fall Conference. A feeling of energy and excitement set the tone for the day as everyone took their seats and readied themselves for the wonderful speakers and educators about to present.

The day began with Kim Wachtelhausen, our keynote speaker, who is a long time educator and currently works for the State Department of Education. Kim was a project leader for the Elementary BEST Program and has been an integral part in the transformation of that program into TEAM—the Teacher Education and Mentoring Program. Kim's presentation, *Launching and Supporting New Educators*, addressed many aspects of the TEAM Program for both new educators and mentor teachers and gave a greater understanding of the things today's new educators are experiencing.

Ms. Wachtelhausen led AKS members down a journey through the field of education, beginning all those years ago where a faculty of educators that was 80 -90% female taught in one-room multi-age schoolhouses. Kim stated that in 1912 drill and recitation was the practice, and teachers worked for a mere \$485 per year. The Code of Conduct at the time stated that teachers could not marry, had to remain home between the hours of 8 p.m. and 6 a.m., could not travel beyond the city limits without permission and were not allowed to loiter at the local ice cream shop.

It is nice to see that some things have changed in the field of education. However, according to Ms. Wachtelhausen, with an increase in salary, also came more accountability. Today, teachers have greater knowledge and more experience heading into the profession, but more is required of them as well. The current Code of Professional Conduct expects teachers to engage in professional

learning, and to nurture and respect all students. Beyond this, teachers are required to meet the demands and pressures of meeting the diverse learning needs of all students while preparing them for success in today's technologically driven world. Ms. Wachtelhausen states that it is important for us to realize that we cannot be everyone and everything to our students as we are only human, too. The expectation is not that we do this monumental task alone, but that we utilize the expertise of others. Technology, communication, collaboration and flexibility are all at the heart of today's education system. The challenge, then, is *how* do we create a culture of supportive colleagues who have the best interest of students at the center of our work? How do we work together to help our students continue to grow as learners and create an environment of culturally responsive education? This is where TEAM comes in.

According to Ms. Wachtelhausen, TEAM is in its third year of implementation and serves as a bridge from teacher preparation to professional practice. This is done through the process of committed mentor teachers assisting new educators.

As TEAM was created to replace the BEST program, it was important to connect the dots between the standards, the expectations of school administrators and personal learning goals. TEAM is designed to do just this. The mission of the TEAM Program is "to promote excellence, equity and high achievement for Connecticut students by engaging teachers in purposeful exploration of professional practice through guided support and personal reflection."

The design is a professional growth model aligned with five domains of the Common Core of teaching—the classroom environment, planning, instruction, assessment and professional responsibility—and assessed through the lens of student data. Content and skills are embedded within the program. Early educators address questions like "*How does it help me to know my students better?*" and there is flexibility within the program as educators decide for themselves which module to begin with. The program is also web-based.

There is a four-step process to each module: 1) explore a professional growth goal, 2) participate in professional growth activities, 3) try new learning in the classroom, 4) analyze the impact on student performance. Throughout the process, TEAM provides ongoing support and feedback through mentorship.

# Fall Conference



## Panel Discussion

Following Ms. Wachtelhausen's keynote presentation, three educators had the opportunity to share their experiences, as early educators and as participants in the TEAM program.

**Ashley Brandl**, a **Zeta** member and a third year teacher at a private school, shared her experiences as an early educator. Ashley recalled how excited she was for her first day of teaching. She had prepared all summer and was anxious to put a face to each of the names on the nametags she had prepared for her elementary class. She recalled that before the end of the day, however, she found herself in tears, as she realized that no student teaching or fieldwork had truly prepared her for what was to come in her teaching career.

Ashley said that with no grade-level partner and always having to reinvent the wheel on her own, it would be great to have someone with whom to share ideas. She would be appreciative of a classroom volunteer that could help with centers and work with the students in her classroom, or even offer support via phone or email. Ashley said that having another first grade teacher to talk to and having someone who understands what she is going through would be a real benefit to her. Without a mentor, Ashley says those first days and weeks were difficult and challenging as she learned new curriculum and the logistics of the school without any real guidance. Ashley says that if she had access to the TEAM program as a new educator in public schools do, it would be a great benefit to receive guidance and support and to help her grow as an educator.

**Sara Anderson**, an **Alpha** member and a high school science, chemistry and forensics teacher in Stamford, is in her fourth year of teaching. She went through the TEAM program with two different mentors, one who was her former Latin teacher with whom she had a great working relationship and the second, a chemistry teacher. Sara said that she really saw the benefit of having a mentor in her same teaching discipline. She felt that having a mentor was crucial to helping her get to know the school she was in and to learning the basics and the logistics of how the school runs. She also has had a "built-in" mentor in one of her DKG sisters, and she believes that buddying up with someone in a similar content area or grade level would be a great way to build a mentorship within Delta Kappa Gamma.

**Paulina Auclair**, a **Delta** member, is an 11<sup>th</sup> year English teacher who is now serving as the mentor to a colleague in her building. Paulina went through the BEST program herself and said that she sees the differences between the BEST and TEAM programs first hand. She feels that the three-day formal training she received to become a mentor has been very helpful to her and prepared her for communicating with and guiding her mentee through the TEAM process. Paulina said that in addition, being a mentor has helped her own teaching and that she has learned a lot from her Mentee, as well. Paulina said that mentors have to know that they aren't going to be 'everything' to their mentee teachers, but that they need to be able to create a relationship with them and lead them in the right direction to get help from others as needed.

**Kimberly Albro, Zeta Chapter**



**Panelists: (l.-r.) Sara Anderson, Moderator Kathleen Lozinak, Ashley Brandl and Paulina Auclair**





## Fall Conference

### Laughter: Fine Arts Presentation



Presenter Trevor Smith and  
Pat Piatek (Rho)

### AKS Sisters Socializing



Linda Shea (Gamma) and Cindy Huppert (Alpha)

### Educational Totes for Early Career Educators



Cheryl Purnell (Rho) and  
Sara Anderson (Alpha) with tote



Cheryl Purnell (Rho) and  
Ashley Brandl (Zeta) with tote



## Alpha Kappa State Awards Recruitment Grants and High School Grants

**Fall Conference**

Since 1951, Recruitment Grants have been awarded by Alpha Kappa State to female and male college/university students majoring in education. Each grant bears the name of a distinguished member of Alpha Kappa State and is assigned to the college or university with which the honored member had a close association. The following grants were announced at the 2012 Fall Conference:

**\$500 Ida Seidel Grant to *Suzanne Slater, Psychology of Child and Youth and Certification in Early Childhood Education, Double Major Eastern Connecticut State University***

**\$500 Flora Lister Grant to *Sara O'Donnell, Elementary Education and Mathematics, Double Major Western Connecticut State University***

**\$500 Mary Mahoney Grant to *Joseph Williamson, Social Studies Education Major University of Connecticut***

**\$500 Vera Butler Grant to *Ann Song, History Education Major Central Connecticut State University***

**\$500 Helen Maroney Grant to *Natali Kniha, Collaborative Elementary/Special Education and Sociology, Double Major Southern Connecticut State University***

**\$500 Rheta A. Lange Grant to *Jessica Esposito, Elementary Education and Psychology, Double Major Southern Connecticut State University***

### **High School Grants**

**\$750 Hannah C. Griswold Grant— *Peggy Chen, Norwich Free Academy English Education Major at New York University***

**\$750 Elizabeth C. Sonier Grant— *Michael Petit, St. Paul Catholic High School, Bristol Music Education Major at Ithaca College***

**\$750 Adelina "Lee" P. Formica Grant — *Sean Ryan Chmielewski, East Lyme High School Physical Education Major at Eastern Connecticut State University***



**Sean Chmielewski,  
recipient of the  
Lee Formica Grant,  
with his mom**



**Suzanne Slater,  
recipient of the  
Ida Seidel Grant**





## Fall Conference Candid



**Be sure to check out the AKS website.** The updated site includes new features, e.g. committee reports, photo slide shows, and a Facebook presence, as well as current AKS information, newsletters, documents and important links.

**Anita Pfluger  
AKS Webmistress**





# AROUND THE

## ALPHA

Alpha Chapter was well represented at Alpha Kappa State's 73<sup>rd</sup> conference in Cromwell, **Chapter President Lucy Galasso, Sara Anderson, Marilyn Arvoy and AKS Professional Affairs Chairperson Cindy Huppert** attended. **Sara Anderson** was on the panel where she discussed her experiences as an early career educator. **Cindy Huppert** very elegantly presented the Lee Formica Grant to Sean Ryan Chmielewski and the Ida Seidel Recruitment Grant to Suzanne Slater.

At the October 22nd meeting, necessity items were collected for the Nathaniel Witherell Nursing Home and were delivered shortly after by **Nancy Wolf and Lucy Galasso**. Alpha Chapter's annual Lord and Taylor Fundraiser was an overwhelming success this year due to the efforts of **Chair Elinor Carr, Clare Harding, Car Westbrook and Mary Ruth Allen**. All funds are used to support Alpha's book awards to college/university students.

Alpha members were invited to attend the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Tellabration, storytelling for adults, on November 17th. **Judy Petersen**, the chapter's very own storyteller, helped to host the event along with **Sherry Andre, Lucy Galasso, Nancy Wolf, Mary Ruth Allen and Linnea Stenberg** attended this yearly event.

The December meeting was held at Diane's Books in Greenwich, CT. It is an evening of book reviews and an opportunity to purchase books for deserving students from Greenwich elementary schools through the Angel Tree Project.

A new activity for this chapter has been named the Facebook Project, not the internet kind, but the printed word kind. At the regular business meetings a member will highlight her educational accomplishments and her current endeavors and enter her story along with a photo into the Alpha Facebook. This is an attempt for members, especially the new members, to get to know each other and for members to celebrate their accomplishments. Everyone is excited about this!



(l. to r.) **Claire Harding (Alpha Chapter), AKS President Marnee Straiton and Alpha Chapter President Lucy Galasso**

## BETA

Beta Chapter's second meeting took place at Frenchtown School in Trumbull on November 28<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Dina M. Barnaby, from Women's Obstetrics and Gynecology, Trumbull, spoke to members about women's breast and bone health, a topic that is important to every woman. Members had the opportunity to interact with Dr. Barnaby and ask questions.

The next meeting will take place on March 19th at the Trumbull Public Library. Dr. Jennifer Vienneau will speak about building a school in Mali, Africa. Dr. Vienneau is the Social Studies Department Head at Bunnell High School in Stratford, CT. From 2007-2012, she served as adviser to Bunnell High School's chapter of Building with Books (now known as BuildOn). In June, 2008, Dr. Vienneau traveled to Mali as part of a school building trek. She lived with a host family for two weeks, learning about their culture and daily lives, while helping to build a school in the village of Sokela. Her positive experience led to another trek to Nicaragua in February, 2010. The trip to Mali was an eye-opening experience, and she shares it with her high school students when discussing Africa in World Studies or United States foreign involvement in United States history. She encourages students to go beyond their comfort zone and take advantage of every opportunity that allows them to learn first-hand about life outside the United States.

Beta's **Second Vice-President Vivian Manzione** is president of *Friends of Square One Theatre Company* in Stratford, CT. The chapter is looking into a group trip to the theatre in the spring. Members are also talking about forming a book club.

A chapter goal is to work on developing strategies to attract new members, while recognizing current long-standing members who will receive certificates at the May meeting. Beta holds a raffle at each meeting to support the chapter's yearly Beta Grant awarded to an area high school student planning to enter the field of education. On-going discussions regarding how to support the Schools for Africa project continue.

## GAMMA

In mid-October Gamma Chapter met in the Atrium of the Slater Museum on the Norwich Free Academy campus. The meeting was long and involved many business issues, but members took a halftime break when MaryAnne Hall, a docent of the museum, conducted a tour of the recently renovated museum and art gallery. Slater now has an elevator which allows access to everyone. A special stop was the Converse Art Gallery where a Lincoln exhibit is currently being featured in anticipation of ceremonies being held in January 2013 in downtown Norwich to commemorate the Emancipation Proclamation.





# NUTMEG STATE

The meeting began when **Roz Etra** offered the Thought for the Day and continued as we focused on the yeoman work **Vicky Baker** has done to prepare for the Chapter's full review of the standing rules of the organization. First and foremost, a clear mission statement must be written that reflects what Gamma truly is as an organization. A subcommittee will draft a portion of all items that need consideration, and the full membership will edit and revise as needed at each meeting held throughout the year. In terms of outreach, members voted to make a donation of \$100 to the Haitian Health Foundation which is based in Norwich and has an outstanding record of decades of work in Haiti. Gamma also decided to continue a subscription to the *Curriculum of Hope* and offered our congratulations to **Leonille Kadambaya** for her recent article in that publication. To gain greater recognition in the Norwich area, the chapter voted to become a sponsor of the Norwich Arts Center Band. As they perform throughout the year Gamma's name will appear in their program.

Before the meeting adjourned, **President Reggie Tate** offered thanks to the refreshment committee (**Sue Danilowicz, Karen D'Auria, Mary Ellen Giard, and Elaine Porter**), and solicited a member for the State Achievement Awards Committee (**Barbara Domrowski**).

Finally, in keeping with the holiday season, the December meeting featured **Faye Ringel**, who talked about the medieval and modern traditions of yuletide, as well as leading a sing-along.

## DELTA

Delta Chapter members gathered at The Hills in Waterbury on December 8<sup>th</sup> for the annual Holiday Get-Together. The theme for the meeting was *Caring for the Community*. This was certainly accomplished when a record number of teddy bears were collected for the Waterbury Police Activity League (PAL), as well as a car-load of canned goods for the Torrington chapter of FISH. Following a delicious buffet lunch, new member **Janet Galasso** led members in creating holiday tree ornaments from used Christmas cards. The ornaments were donated to The Pines at Bristol Nursing Home. **Mel Harmon** shared greetings from **Chris Comeau**, who is teaching at a school in China this semester. The meeting concluded with the singing of Christmas carols led by **Peg Goranson**.

## ZETA

Zeta chapter welcomed three new members at the annual Initiation dinner meeting October 17<sup>th</sup>: **Carol L Altieri, Rosalie Ann Amato and Karen Shinkman**. Zeta was also proud to have the chapter's early educator member **Ashley Brandl** serve as a panelist at the 73rd Fall Conference.

The chapter held its annual worthy project/grant fund auction on Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> in the function room at the Whitney Center, a continuing care retirement community in Hamden. Long-time member, **Elayne Canter**, returned in her role as auctioneer. She annually delights the audience with her clever and humorous format of 'selling' the many donated baskets, food items, hand-made crafts, jewelry and other holiday goodies. Nearly half of proceeds go to Zeta's two established grants: the Marguerite McKay Grant and the Zeta Memorial Grant. Most of the remaining proceeds are donated to a chapter selected worthy project in the New Haven area. This year's choice was Family Centered Services of Connecticut. Raffle items also earned money for International endeavors: **World Fellowship** and **Schools for Africa**. Money was also collected for the CT Food Bank. Sincere thanks to the **many** Zeta members who helped make this annual event another success.

Chapter members will meet informally in January to discuss future plans to support early career educators (S.E.E.) in the area. The annual Zeta Birthday Luncheon will be held in March.

## IOTA

Iota Chapter celebrated its 55<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 27<sup>th</sup>. Hopkins Inn has been a favorite meeting location for several years, so it was the ideal location for our meeting. Material from Iota's history was on display, including the original signed charter. Iota Chapter celebrates every five years and remembers past members. **Claire Geddes**, the only surviving charter member, was included in this year's remembrance. When we played Iota Trivia, members discovered that half of the members at the meeting had served as chapter president, and that two of the members present had been active in DKG for 50 years or more.

## LAMBDA

Lambda Chapter held its September "Welcome Back" meeting at Serafino's in Wallingford. The chapter was thrilled to have **AKS President Marnee Straiton** as a guest speaker. The October meeting was held at Cheshire Academy. State representatives, Mary Fritz and Mary Mushinsky, spoke about educational reform in the state of Connecticut. Ten sisters came together in December for a cookie swap and sing-along. Fifty dollars were raised to help fund the chapter's high school grants.

## MU

Mu Chapter's October meeting had to be cancelled because of Storm Sandy. In December, Mu chapter members collected gift cards, clothing and wrapping paper for the residents of St. Mary Home in West Hartford. Residents at St. Mary Home include the elderly, the homeless and the disabled.



# AROUND THE NUTMEG STATE (cont.)

## NU

Nu Chapter is pleased to welcome new member, **Kristy Gorman**. Kristy is a teacher at Middlesex Middle School in Darien. **Sister Carol Ann Nawracaj** welcomed Nu Chapter members at the Villa Maria Education Center to have Kristy's initiation and a holiday celebration on December 18th. Members also collected books and supplies for a school impacted by Superstorm Sandy.

The chapter is saddened to report the passing of long-time member **Gertrude Stull Berman**. She was a loyal member for many years and will be dearly missed.

## OMICRON

Omicron Chapter was unable to hold its September meeting because the speaker had to cancel and will reschedule in the spring. The October meeting had to be cancelled when Storm Sandy arrived and is re-scheduled for late January.

The chapter was finally able to come together in December for the holiday meeting. Although the number of members attending was smaller than usual, the group managed to brainstorm ideas to rebuild the chapter. All enjoyed a lovely buffet at Tavern 1757 in Seymour and then raffled off baskets to raise money to send girls to Girl's State. Gift cards were collected to give to The Birmingham group to help battered women.

## RHO

Twenty Rho Chapter members met on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Wood-n-Tap Restaurant in Vernon for a dinner meeting and guest presentation from Rochelle Ripley of Hawkwing, a Lakota/Sioux Reservation Nonprofit. Rochelle is founder and president of Hawkwing which she operates from a warehouse in Glastonbury. She encourages groups to donate new children and adult clothes, toys, books and nonperishable food items for a Winter Giveaway that she delivers in mid-December to the reservation. Another Giveaway is held in the summer. Rochelle is continuously looking for new or nearly new items to bring to the reservation. Rho will be participating in Hawkwing as a service project this biennium.

The second meeting was held on Oct. 14th when two of Rho members; **Sue Nadeau** and daughter, Jennifer Vechinsky, presented a program on "Working with Children With Autism." Sue is the Wapping School Nurse and Nurse Coordinator for the South Windsor Public Schools and Jennie is a Special Education Teacher in the Intensive Preschool Program at Eli Terry School in South Windsor.

## UPSILON

At the October meeting of Upsilon Chapter, officers were installed: **President Lisa Hudkins, Treasurer Karen Hicks** and **Secretary/Communications Chair Tricia Wu**. The following members were honored and presented with certificates recognizing 30 years of membership: **Leona Mangione, Cynthia Prelli, Julie Sullivan** and **Pauline Fancher**. The chapter also welcomed **Alpha Kappa State Membership Chair Joan Krantz**, who presented an inspirational program on renewal.

The December meeting was held at the Susan B. Anthony Project in Torrington where members were given a tour and the Project's services were described. As part of the chapter's service project, members brought needed items; and the chapter made a financial contribution.



**Be part of the  
Spring Convention  
Fine Arts exhibit  
Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>**

ATTENTION,  
TALENTED MEMBERS OF AKS:

You are invited to exhibit your paintings, drawings, etchings, watercolors and/or photographs at the AKS Spring Convention on April 27th.

Any member can exhibit at this event, even if you are not able to attend. Simply send your items with a chapter sister who will be attending! Framed and unframed items can be sent; they should be small enough to fit comfortably on a tabletop.

**MaryEllen Ulatowski** will be chairing this event. If you would be willing to share your talents, please contact MaryEllen at [mulatowski75@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mulatowski75@sbcglobal.net).

## ΔΚΓ MISSION STATEMENT

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





*IN MEMORIAM*  
*White Roses*  
*"A moment to remember. . .*  
*A lifetime to honor."*



**Eva Loew, Honorary Member Theta Chapter**  
**May 10, 2012**

Eva Loew was initiated into Theta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in 1972, as an honorary member. Eva's profound lifelong education began formally in 1927 with her primary education at Deutsche Oberschule, Berlin. She completed her secondary education at St Paul's School for Girls, London, England.

Receiving her United States Visa in 1939, Eva helped establish and raise "Hyde Farmlands" out of the Virginia soil. This was a farm for German-Jewish refugees to firmly root their feet and their loyalty for America. Under United States Naturalization Laws, Eva was granted citizenship in December 1941.

In 1942, Eva completed her studies at Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan; and in 1945, she completed her Registered Nurse's training at the Harper Hospital School of Nursing. Throughout this training and the end of WWII, Eva cared for returning wounded servicemen at Percy Jones Army Hospital, Battlecreek, Michigan. She was an Army Cadet Nurse and gave lifelong service to the American Red Cross.

Eva had a tireless, lifelong devotion to Hampton. This not only included decades of service as a member of the Hampton Board of Education but also where she and her husband raised their six children. She was an inspiration to those in Theta Chapter who knew her.

**Anita Vogel Sklarsky, Honorary Member Beta Chapter**  
**November 30, 2012**

Anita Vogel Sklarsky was initiated into Beta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in 1954 as an honorary member.

She was a graduate of Smith College in 1939 where she was elected to the National Science Honor Society, Sigma Xi, and chosen for the Honor Societies of Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and Poetry. In 1949, she was one of the founders of the Citizens Committee for the Improvement of the Bridgeport Public Schools. She held the position of president of that organization for five years.

In addition to membership in Delta Kappa Gamma, Beta Chapter, Anita served on the Bridgeport Board of Education for 16 years. She developed adult job training programs in New Haven, CT and in New York City. She also was the co-founder of the UJA/Federation of Eastern Fairfield County Community Clothes Closet now located at Family Services in Woodfield.

Although Anita was not engaged in teaching, she was definitely interested in the welfare of teachers and the school children. She was fearless in her defense of the standards necessary to bring about better schools, better educational advantages and improvement in American education. She is not only a loss to Beta Chapter but to many teachers who never had the opportunity to know her.



## **Welcome to our New AKS Members- reported as of November 21, 2012**



**Congratulations to all the new members!  
We look forward to your energy and enthusiasm.**

### **Alpha**

Barbara Holden- New Haven

### **Beta**

Lisa Ryan- Milford

### **Delta**

Laura Solocius- Wolcott

### **Zeta**

Carol L. Altieri-Madison  
Rosalie Ann Amato-New Haven  
Karen Shinkman-East Haven

### **Theta**

Nicole Jaser- Enfield  
Karen Anger- Mansfield

### **Lambda**

Anne Lita Sharnick- Southington.  
Linda Rankin- Wallingford

## **AND LET'S REMEMBER AND HONOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARDEES 2012-2013**

### **Beta**

Claire E. Fulcher - 58 years  
Anna B. Hogan - 54 years  
Geraldine Johnson - 58 years  
Evelyn P. Merwin - 46 years  
Margaret B. Nemec - 52 years  
Emily F. Zeller - 54 years

### **Zeta**

Georgene M Hayes - 44 years

### **Iota**

Mary N. Hatzis - 49 years

### **Mu**

Alma J. Collins - 57 years  
Anne E. Rosetta- 47 years  
Alta M. Saunders - 66 years

**The 12 X 12 Initiative ended December 31, 2012...**

**Those chapters that achieved the goal will be given certificates at the January Executive Board meeting and  
announced at the Spring Convention for their accomplishment!**

**Congratulations to all new members!**





## Membership News

### ***Be Part of the Plan: Set a Goal, Communicate that Goal and GROW!***

The 12 X 12 Initiative ended as of December 30, 2012. And with the end of one initiative, we need to create a new plan. Let's **communicate** about what will work for **each** chapter.

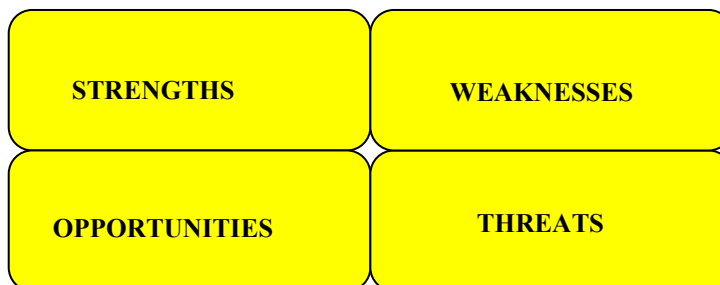
Has your chapter thought about SWOT? ( Please reference the Spring Keynote of 2012). An Analysis of SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) will help each chapter reflect on the present and plan for the future.

Here's an example of an analysis taken from the DKG website:

<b>Strengths:</b>	Dedicated leadership. Relatively small geographical footprint for the group. Growing number of members who use technology.
<b>Weaknesses:</b>	Repetitive programming. High cost of meeting space.
<b>Opportunities:</b>	New DKG Network. Possible public meeting spaces in new civic center.
<b>Threats:</b>	Local Educators' Association has strong programming. Area has many opportunities for entertainment that members may prefer.

From this analysis, one might conclude that two ways to "hold" members might be to strengthen programming and find a place that is relatively central in the geographical areas so that members will be more interested in attending and more able to attend. Technologically adept members may use the DKG Network to build a stronger connection among members and/or to send reminders of meetings. Leaders might approach the local educators' association to learn about and perhaps adopt/adapt some of their most productive programs and/or to cosponsor a major program. Leaders could also investigate the availability and cost of space in the new civic center.

This example demonstrates that SWOT analysis can also lead to productive outcomes through **matching** or **converting**.



**Matching** involves finding advantages by matching strengths to opportunities. The relatively small geographical footprint for the group makes the use of public space in a new civic center more feasible.

**Converting** involves turning weaknesses or threats into strengths or opportunities. By working with the successful Local Educators' Association, the chapter can turn the threat posed by that group into an opportunity for improving their own programs.

### **Rules for SWOT Analysis**

- Be realistic about the strengths and weaknesses of your organization when conducting **SWOT** analysis.
- **SWOT** analysis should distinguish between where your organization is today, and where it could be in the future.
- **SWOT** should always be specific. Avoid grey areas.
- Always apply **SWOT** in relation to your competition, i.e. better than or worse than your competition.
- Keep your **SWOT** short and simple. Avoid complexity and over-analysis.

**SWOT** is subjective. (Marketing Teacher, 2011)

**Joan Krantz**

### **Reminder from Membership**

Please send any changes of members' information to Joan Krantz at [fdkrantz@snet.net](mailto:fdkrantz@snet.net) so that members receive mailings from International.



The **Educational Foundation** will be 50 years old in 2014. Members may add to the celebration by contributing in several ways:  
 Become a Miracle Maker by contributing \$500 over five years.  
 Light a candle on the celebration cake by contributing \$50.  
 Honoring or memorializing someone special by contributing any amount.  
 Those gifts of money fund projects that benefit education and children around the world.  
 Go to [dkgef.org](http://dkgef.org) to find out more.



**Make plans now to attend the**  
**2013**  
**Northeast Regional Conference**  
**Portland, Maine**  
**July 24-27, 2013**



Check out all the details and deadlines at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)

Make your reservations online at the Holiday Inn by the Bay or The Best Western Merry Manor Inn starting March 1, 2013

Check the DKG website and the March/April issue of the *DKG NEWS* for details.

**Alpha Kappa State Dates to Remember**  
**Sharing our Vision—**  
**Strengthening our Society**

**March 16, 2013**

**Snow Date: March 23, 2013**  
**Alpha Kappa State Executive Board Meeting**  
**Griffin Room, Meriden Public Library**

**April 27, 2013**

**Alpha Kappa State Spring Convention**  
**Courtyard by Marriott (Cromwell)**

**June 8, 2013**

**Alpha Kappa State Executive Board Meeting**  
**Griffin Room, Meriden Public Library**

**July 24-27, 2013**

**Northeast Regional Conference (Portland, ME)**

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

If you are unable to access the internet, please contact your chapter president.

**Keynote Deadlines are February 25, 2013**  
**May 27, 2013**

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