

Alpha Kappa State Mourns the Loss of Past President Isobel Broadhurst



Isobel C. Broadhurst died September 16, 2015. She was initiated into Delta Kappa Gamma International, Kappa Chapter, April, 1970. She transferred to Beta Chapter when Kappa dissolved in 2008. She was a forty-five year member of the Society and served as president of both Kappa Chapter and Alpha Kappa State. Isobel assumed

leadership roles, including positions as officers and committee chairs on the local and state levels. She received the Alpha Kappa State Achievement Award in 1993.

Isobel attended Fairfield Public Schools and received her teaching degree from New Haven State Teachers' College (Southern Connecticut State University) and her master's degree from the University of Bridgeport. She remained committed to the importance of education throughout her lifetime.

(Continued on page 3)

Fall Conference Speaker on Autism Well Received



Dr. Beverly Levett Gerber

Members of Alpha Kappa State were treated to a double faceted focus at the 2015 Fall Conference. The day began with topic of Autism, followed by a leadership activity by AKS Leadership Development Committee Chair Roz Etra and members of the committee.

The keynote presentation was received with great appreciation as members made personal connections to stories shared by the renowned educator. Dr. Levett Gerber provided great insight into the world of

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Jottings from Joan

Sharing Our Vision—Paying it Forward



Well, here we are. After a balmy fall, the temperature is dropping. But do we let this stop us? No! New-Englanders are a hardy lot, and DKG women are stronger still. We will continue to do many wonderful and amazing things throughout the winter season.

Many DKG women worked together to bring us an outstanding Fall Conference. The guest speaker, Dr. Beverly Levett Gerber, spoke on *Understanding Students with Autism through Art*. With experience as an art educator, a special needs educator and as the parent of a son with Down Syndrome, she spoke on the history of special education and the fact that more is known today about the special education child. The arts are an integral part of helping students use their special skills and of meeting their needs. Dr. Gerber's presentation was thought-provoking and inspired much interest and many follow-up questions. **Roz Etra** and her Leadership Development Committee got everyone actively sharing ideas about leadership styles. As DKG members, we are all leaders. At state presidents' training this past summer, we learned about

leading from our seats. Everyone has something to share or a job to do. **Faye Ringel** gave a fascinating history of *The Star-Spangled Banner*. Who knew it started as a drinking song and had many versions before the one we know today?

I am hearing more about *Paying It Forward*. A recent article in the Hartford Courant told of a woman who set up 26 Days of Kindness in memory of the students and teachers who died at Sandy Hook. She bought lottery tickets to give to others and gave gifts of \$10 to pay for purchases. One person, on receiving the \$10 and finding the reason behind this, donated \$11 back. I recently attended Zeta Chapter's annual auction fundraiser. Every year the members donate items, bid on them and use the funds raised for various chapter needs and charities. This year the charity chosen was *Our Military Kids* through the *Wounded Warriors Project* relating to children of those in the service. The children might get a backpack or a week at summer camp. The chapter also collected money for Whitney, Whitney Center's newly adopted dog, who will become a therapy dog for people living at the Center.

Keep up the good work, everyone. Think about attending the International Convention in Nashville in July, 2016. Meanwhile, I hope you had an excellent holiday season.

Joan



The DKG Gallery of Fine Arts An online publication and display of DKG members' creative works.



Calling All DKG Members.....

The members of the DKG Arts and Humanities Jury invite you to submit your artistic works to be exhibited online in the Gallery of Fine Arts.

Visit the site at www.dkg.org for further information.
Next submission period: January 1 – February 1, 2016

AKS kudos to Suzanne Burr Monaco, Beta Chapter, and Theresa (Terry) Azoti, Zeta Chapter, whose works are displayed in the Gallery.

Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone, member of the DKG Arts and Humanities Jury



(Continued from page 1) *Isobel Broadhurst*

Mrs. Broadhurst began her teaching career in the Fairfield Public Schools in 1946, where she became a Lifetime Member of the Fairfield Education Association, and retired in 1990. Isobel received the Peg Griffin Award from the Fairfield Education Association and was voted "Teacher of the Year" by the Fairfield Jaycees.

An active, long-time supporter of the Kennedy Center, Isobel served on the Board of Directors, twice serving as president of the Auxiliary Board, and served as the chair for several committees. She had also been a volunteer for the Kennedy Center Ten Pin Bowling League. Isobel was a staunch believer in developing religious programs for those with special needs and was instrumental in creating a program to train special needs youngsters for communion and confirmation. She developed a similar program at St. Pius Church in Fairfield, which is still in existence today. Isobel served on the Diocese of Bridgeport Advisory Board for Special Education. She was actively involved in the Special Olympics for forty-five years. In 1997 she was the co-creator of "A Day In The Sun" event, a special day for special people. She was honored to have the Kennedy Center's first group residence in Fairfield named "Broadhurst Manor." She was recognized by the Diocese of Bridgeport for twenty-five years of service and was also the recipient of the Sr. Margaret Mary DiGiacomo Award from the Diocese. Isobel also received the Evelyn Kennedy Volunteer Award. She was named "Volunteer of the Year" by the Conference of Women's Organizations of the Greater Bridgeport Area and named "Woman of the Year" by the Housatonic Council, Girl Scouts of America. Isobel was also honored with the Dot Larson Award for volunteer work with people with special needs from the Agape Society.

Isobel lived a full and rewarding life and made many contributions for which she will always be remembered. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Janis Isenberg, Beta Chapter President

Delta Kappa Gamma Collegial Exchange

- ◆ **The first issue of the new *Delta Kappa Gamma Collegial Exchange* arrived by mail to members at the end of November/early December.**
- ◆ **There is a great variety of articles of a personal and practical nature including classroom activities and DKG practices/programs.**
- ◆ **All DKG members are encouraged to submit articles. See page 3 of the *Collegial Exchange* for guidelines' submission or visit the *Editorial Board* page at www.dkg.org for further guidelines.**

"How exciting! A new publication has been born! This is the first time in 70 years that DKG is adding to its family of publications. The DKG NEWS began publication in 1934, and the Bulletin appeared in 1946. Each member now has the opportunity to have a bright new voice in the Collegial Exchange, which will reach a publication audience of 77,000 women educators throughout our 17 member countries."

**Lyn Schmid, EdD
2014-2016 DKG International President**



**Geraldine Johnson
Sixty-one Year Member of AKS**

Geraldine Johnson, Beta Chapter, died November 28th. She was initiated November 1, 1954 and remained an active member. Most recently she spoke at a Beta Chapter meeting where she stressed the importance of education and its role in her own educational career.

For four years Johnson rode the train traveling to New Haven Teacher's College (now Southern Connecticut State University) from which she graduated in 1940. She received her master's degree from New York University in 1959 and her sixth year degree from the University of Bridgeport in 1969.

Johnson began teaching in the Bridgeport elementary schools in 1944. In 1961, she became the city's first female black principal after finishing number one on the civil service exam. She served in that capacity first at Washington School and then Wheeler School. Eight years later she became the city's assistant superintendent in charge of developmental programs. The following year she began to oversee elementary school curriculum. She would also earn the distinction of becoming the city's first black assistant superintendent and finally superintendent of schools.

While teaching was her first love, Johnson also was an accomplished cellist and pianist. Those talents earned her a seat on the Connecticut Symphony. Johnson continued to entertain residents by playing the piano at Watermark's Health Center. She served on the State Board of Parole, was a lifelong member of the NAACP and served on the boards of Bridgeport Hospital, Golden Hill United Methodist Church, People's Bank, United Illuminating, Connecticut Educational Television, the YWCA, the University of Bridgeport, and ABCD. She was chosen as one of the state's most influential women by then Governor Ella Grasso and Connecticut Woman of the Year by the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. and received the Urban Service Award from the U.S. Office of Economic Activities.

Johnson retired as Bridgeport superintendent in 1981 and began a stint as director of the Council on Adolescent Pregnancy. But four years later she was back in the schools having been selected by Fairfield to serve as their interim superintendent. In 2008, Bridgeport named its new elementary school on Lexington Avenue after her.

Geraldine Johnson's life was one of learning, teaching, and inspiring. She led by example and impacted the lives of the many people she encountered. She will be missed and remembered with love and respect.

Janis Isenberg, Beta Chapter President



Fall Conference

(Continued from page 1)

students with autism and the importance of comprehensive programs for these children and adults. An emphasis was justified for the inclusion of visual and performing arts for these individuals with a common diagnosis, but varying strengths and needs. Members were especially interested in Dr. Gerber's unique educational background. She shared how her combination of training in special education and art education helped her to find creative ways to meet the needs of children with a variety of limitations in a variety of settings. She spoke about how she later took that passion for teaching in artistic ways one step further as she began to teach future educators at Southern Connecticut State University.

Dr. Gerber talked about the importance of thinking outside the box when doors are closed. She shared one story for overcoming obstacles that she never forgot. The story involved a university art teacher with no budget for a needed pottery wheel. He discovered he did have funds available for replacement parts...so he built his own wheel, part by part!

Dr. Gerber encouraged members to investigate resources available from the National Art Education Association and the Council for Exceptional Students. Through her involvement with both of these organizations, teachers across disciplines have come to benefit from professional development opportunities that were not previously available to them. With her influence, these organizations now provide teaching resources related to helping students with special needs in more artistic ways.

During a question and answer session, Dr. Gerber shared information regarding the Connecticut Center of Excellence on Autism Spectrum Disorders located at Southern Connecticut State University. Members were encouraged to contact Dr. Ruth Eren, director of the center, with any questions. Members were also directed to reference www.autismspeaks.org for resources and information.

Kathleen Lozinak
Omicron Chapter President



Dr. Beverly Gerber
with
AKS President
Joan Konareski

LEADERSHIP QUALITIES POEM

**Created from members' input at
Fall Conference**

- L** listens, learns, looks forward and leads with goals
- E** enthusiastic, empathizes, explores, engages, effective, explains, educates and is ever present
- A** assimilates, advances, available, adapts, authentic, advocates advances others' ideas and attributes credits to others
- D** delegates, dedicated, determined, dependable, daring and a decision-maker
- E** energetic, example, encouraging, excellent standards and evolving continually
- R** reliable, responsible, respected, role model, rapport, resourceful and respect for others
- S** self-starter, strategic, sensible, supportive, strong, smiles and sincere with others

Submitted by:
Carol Kraus, member
AKS Leadership Development Committee





Fall Conference



Ellen Festi, AKS Assistant Treasurer



AKS Executive Secretary
Linda Shea



AKS Immediate Past President
Terry Azoti



AKS First Vice President Pat O'Connell Buckley and
AKS President Joan Konaeski present award to
AKS Leadership Development Chair Roz Etra for
organizing the leadership activity



AKS Fine Arts Chair Faye Ringel explaining the
history of *The Star Spangled Banner*
through song



Theta Chapter President Ann Grosjean
displaying DKG notecards being sold for
AKS Non-Dues Revenue fundraiser



Members buying DKG shirts at Omicron Chapter
fundraiser



Alpha Kappa State Awards Recruitment Grants and High School Grants



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 2015 Fall Conference:

**\$500 Ida Seidel Grant to *Monika Szarwacki*
Eastern Connecticut State University
Early Childhood Education, Child Psychology**

**\$500 Flora Lister Grant to *Lauren Muller*
Western Connecticut State University
Mathematics**

**\$500 Vera Butler Grant to *Allison Touhy*
Central Connecticut State University
Elementary Education, English**

**\$500 Mary Mahoney Grant to *Erica Cruz*
University of Connecticut
Mathematics**

**\$500 Rheta A. Lange Grant to *Kayla Dickinson*
Southern Connecticut State University
Collaborative/Elementary Education, Special Education**

High School Grants

**\$750 Hannah C. Griswold Grant— *Gauri Verma, Wethersfield High School*
University of Connecticut**

**\$750 Elizabeth C. Sonier Grant— *Tricia Wong, Farmington High School*
University of Connecticut**

**\$750 Adelina “Lee” P. Formica Grant — *Kelsey Simeone, Newington High School*
Mount St. Mary College, Newburgh, NY**

**\$750 Margaret Rose Nielsen Grant — *Nicholas Lindholm, Stonington High School*
Sacred Heart University, CT**



**Member
Scholarship
Opportunities
Display Board**



Fall Conference Candid



AKS Past President Carol Kraus modeling DKG shirts for Omicron Chapter fundraiser



Members purchasing books to benefit AKS Non-Dues Revenue fundraiser



Omicron Chapter President Kathleen Lozinak introduces keynote speaker



Lambda Chapter member Joan Troccolo receives award for attending her first AKS conference



Founders' Ceremony conducted by Upsilon Chapter members



AKS Fall Conference VIP Hostess Vicki Braucci

The Keynote photos provided by Carolyn Downs, Alpha Kappa State Photographer

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.

**Kari Baransky
AKS Webmaster**

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



AROUND THE

ALPHA

This fall brought with it several activities that were both well attended and successful. The first of which was Alpha's first non-dues revenue fund raiser, a tag sale, held at the home of **Lucy Galasso**. Many members generously donated household items; and many members, as well as non-members, attended. The traditional Lord and Taylor's *Shop Smart Do Good* fundraiser for the chapter's book grant, coordinated by **Elinor Carr**, was also well supported by the membership. The Greenwich community along with Alpha members attended the chapter sponsored book talk at the Byram Shubert Library. Jim Shepard discussed his book, *The Book of Aron*, a fictional, first-person narrative from the point of view of a child during the Holocaust. On December 2nd members gathered at Diane's Books in Greenwich to listen to her book reviews and to support her angel tree which provides books to children in need. These events were arranged by **Ginny Gesh**. Lastly, Alpha Chapter sadly reports the death of one of its members, **Dena Phelps**, on September 22, 2015. Dena taught in the Greenwich school system for 38 years and was a recipient of the Distinguished Teacher Award.

BETA

Beta Chapter held its first meeting October 7th at Riverview Bistro in Stratford. Three new members were initiated: **Nicole Zgradden**, daughter of **Nancy Yarmosh**, Beta membership chair, a kindergarten teacher at the Six to Six Magnet School in Bridgeport; **Robyn Proto**, the assistant principal at the Six to Six Magnet School, and **Valerie Forshaw**, the principal at Madison Middle School in Trumbull.

Two Beta members died recently: **Isobel Broadhurst**, sister of **Barbara-Ann Cavanaugh**, and **Geraldine Johnson**, a sixty-one year member and former Bridgeport Superintendent of Schools.

Several members volunteered to investigate fundraisers for the chapter: one suggestion is A "Tealess" Tea Party: Every member of the chapter receives a teabag and a request for donations to support the scholarship fund. **Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone**, **Nancy Yarmosh**, **Karol Fleegal** and **Donna Seidell** volunteered to work on this project. **Jennifer Alves** is exploring the idea of getting an appraiser to come to a meeting and appraise members 'treasures' for a fee. Other ideas to explore are wine tasting and presentations by various speakers.

On March 16th, **Linda Paslov**, educational excellence chair, has planned a tour of Old Fairfield Academy for Beta Chapter members. The final meeting will take place in June, 2016. Members have an exciting year ahead.

GAMMA

At the July breakfast meeting, Gamma Chapter set an outline of meetings for the coming year. Various members volunteered to make the special arrangements needed for each meeting. As a result, at the chapter's mid-October meeting, the plans were confirmed and normal business matters were reviewed. In addition, **President Janis Sawicki** and **Roz Etra** announced the various local fundraising events for October that members might support to make the greater Norwich community aware of DKG. Eileen Akers made a special appeal for the Lions' Club. Eileen informed members that not only are the Lions collecting eyeglasses; but they are also collecting toiletries for the homeless and stuffed animals for children, especially young ones, who may need to ride in an ambulance and who would appreciate being comforted by a furry friend.

The highlight of the October meeting was a video presentation by **Leonille Kadambaya**, who with her husband, founded Africaphilanthropies nearly a decade ago. Leonille and her family spent several weeks in Africa this past summer viewing firsthand the positive results of their past efforts, especially in the areas of health and education. In 2012, Africaphilanthropies was presented with the UCONN Provost Award for Excellence in Outreach and Public Engagement. The before and after shots were striking and heartwarming. Gamma Chapter members decided that the Africa project deserves their support. An ad hoc committee was formed to set specific goals for Gamma that will link us to the foundation's goals.

Finally, it is worthy of note to say that Gamma, in an attempt to make the chapter more visible to colleagues, held a meeting for the first time in Jewett City at the Griswold Middle School where members were graciously welcomed. At the December meeting members got an update on the Africa clean water project, and seasonal music was provided by Norwich Free Academy students.

DELTA

Delta Chapter met at Fairview Farm in Harwinton for the annual Holiday Brunch. Following the business meeting, members bid on a variety of beautifully decorated baskets put together by the chapter's 'selfie sisters' in keeping with this year's theme *The Year of the Selfie: Discovering Yourself*. This project raised approximately \$570 toward Delta's Annual Book Grant.

Members were entertained with Christmas music by a group of grades 6-8 singers from Swift Middle School in Watertown. The students are directed by Anna Jedd (a prospective Delta member) and Dan Buchner, both music instructors at Swift Middle School.

Get well wishes are extended to **AKS Past President Nancy Roy**, as she recuperates from knee replacement surgery, and to **AKS Outstanding Service Award Chair Colleen Spieler**, recovering from a broken wrist.



NUTMEG STATE



Swift Middle School students perform Christmas music for Delta Chapter members

EPSILON

Epsilon had its first meeting in October and a Christmas meeting at the home of **Ann Marie Moore**. There was almost 100% attendance. Members donated toys to Mercy Housing and Shelter in Hartford, which works to empower homeless persons to become independent, so they may live and work with dignity and respect.

ZETA

Zeta Chapter held its annual Holiday Brunch and Auction on Saturday, November 21st, at the Whitney Center in Hamden with nearly 70 members/guests attending. It is a favorite event for the chapter bringing out many to share in the charity project that delights all with the auctioneering talents and humor of member **Elayne Canter**. Nearly \$2200 was earned to be shared with Zeta's two scholarship grants and this year's worthy project choice, **Our Military Kids, Inc.**, a branch of **Wounded Warriors**. Needy children of our military can receive a grant for up to \$500 to participate in physical activities, fine arts projects or for tutoring. Zeta Chapter members were happy to send **Our Military Kids** \$866 of grant money. Each of the two grants, the **Zeta Memorial Grant** and the **Marguerite McKay Memorial Grant**, received \$541.50. Tickets were sold for prizes to be won for International initiatives. i.e. **World Fellowship** (\$170) and **Schools for Africa** (\$164). \$155 was also collected for the **CT Food Bank**. As always, thanks to the many members who brought such a wide variety of items to be auctioned off and to those members and guests who helped Zeta Chapter earn over \$2000 of funds for the deserving charities. Thanks also to the committee and to the many volunteers who made the event a happy and successful one.

Well wishes were offered to **AKS Sunshine Chair Linda Amarante** who is recovering from recent heart surgery. Congratulations were extended to **Dorothy Logan** who was recently elected to the North Haven Board of Education and to newly initiated member, **Tina Corrado**. Tina is a long-time teacher at Notre Dame High School in West Haven, where she teaches foreign languages and biology. She is also an instructor of foreign languages at Albertus Magnus College in New Haven. Tina serves on the board of directors of the Italian American Historical Society of Connecticut and has won several teaching awards. Members look forward to an early March birthday meeting when three more new members will be initiated.

THETA

Theta Chapter's fall meeting was held at the Eastern Connecticut State University Center for Early Childhood Education on October 20th. Niloufar Rezai, the director, spoke to the group about how the center operates and the research that is being conducted. Members also enjoyed a tour of the impressive building and classrooms. Thank you to Theta member, **Ann Gruenberg**, who recently retired from ECSU and helped plan the event and welcomed members.

In November, the girls at Journey House spent an exciting evening decorating cupcakes for the first **JH Cupcake Wars**. **Kelly Putz** and **Sharon Bartlett** brought a professional cake decorator to JH to judge the girls' entries, and prizes were awarded. Even staff got into the act with their own entries. It was a creative and fun night! Pairs of Theta members are now busily preparing their goody stuffed stockings which will be given to the girls at Journey House for the holidays. Several members attended the Madrigal Dinner at Tolland High School on December 11th with Theta member, **Linda Tracy**, the choral director. The chapter mourns the loss of two of Theta sisters who passed away this fall – **Ellen Lathrop** on October 6th and **Ruth Russian** on November 15th.

IOTA

Iota Chapter held its annual fall dinner at the picturesque Hopkins Inn on Saturday, October 3rd. The guest of honor was **Alpha Kappa State President Joan Konareski**. Joan urged members to participate at the state level. Another honored guest was Alyse Hivac, recipient of the Iota Graduate Program Grant. Alyse is a fifth-grade teacher at King Street Intermediate School in Danbury. She is a previous winner of the Flora Lister grant from AKS.

On December 10th, Iota Chapter members convened at Italia Mia in New Milford for some holiday cheer. Sandy Brenner, a coordinator from Reading Partners, talked about this program, which Iota has selected as its service project for 2015-2016. As in the past, members donated wonderful holiday gifts for the annual raffle in support of the Iota Book Grants.



AROUND THE NUTMEG STATE

(continued)

MU

This fall has been busy for the sisters of Mu Chapter. In September, the sisters held a potluck dinner, followed by Diana Goode, executive director of Gifts of Love and the Simsbury Community Farm, who spoke to the membership. Gifts of Love is located in Avon. The organization's mission is to help the working poor in the Greater Hartford area who don't qualify for public assistance by offering them the basics such as food, rent, utilities, clothing, linens, furniture and medicine. DKG members brought a large quantity of items to donate to Gifts of Love.

In November, **Nora Goeler**, a Mu Chapter sister, instructed members on how to paint. A wonderful painting class took place at Avon Middle School, and each sister was able to bring home a finished painting suitable for framing! Sisters **Nancy Methot**, **Carolyn Hallifax**, and **Alberta Culley** created a stunning wreath to be exhibited at the 2015 Festival of Trees at the Wadsworth Athenaeum. Each year Mu Chapter donates a wreath to the Festival.



Mu Chapter members with their paintings



Mu Chapter member **Carolyn Hallifax** with wreath for the Wadsworth Atheneum's Festival of Trees

NU

Nu Chapter presented its Book Awards in June to five area high school students. This year's book was titled *The Compound Effect*. Several Nu members had enjoyed reading and discussing the book at their first 'book club' earlier in the year and found it to be an inspiration and "award worthy"! One of Nu's members, **Debi Boccanfuso**, was honored in early June when she was inducted into the Brien McMahon High School Hall of Fame. Several members took advantage of the summer months with some exciting travel experiences. **Eileen Kinahan** won the award for traveling the farthest, having ventured to Australia!

Nu Chapter held its fall meeting in early October at **Carleen Wood's** home. It was the perfect chance to reconnect and catch up with each other after the summer break. **Sr. Carol Ann** and **Karen Curth** both shared stories, pictures and mementos from their trips to Washington DC for the Papal Visit in September. Karen and her husband were able to attend the Mass at Catholic University. Sr. Carol Ann was honored as a guest of Senator Richard Blumenthal for the welcome ceremony and the meeting with Pope Francis and President Barack Obama at the White House in the Rose Garden. Both ladies truly had the experience of a lifetime!

RHO

Rho held its first meeting on Sept. 29th at Angellino's Restaurant in Vernon. Nineteen members were in attendance, including long-time members, **Jackie Abbott**, **Barbara Dean**, **Jil LaRiviere** and **Jean Lobaugh**. The October meeting was a program from Brain Gym trainers, Carrie Holman and Sharon Cline. These women are both middle school teachers in Mansfield. They have been using Brain Gym movements to improve focus, memory and attention with their special education students for several years. Those in attendance all enjoyed the exercises and took away a packet of exercises to review and practice on their own or with their students.



IN MEMORIAM
White Roses
“A moment to remember. . .
A lifetime to honor.”



Elizabeth C. Riley, Tau Chapter
April 15, 2015

Known as Betty to her Tau sisters, Elizabeth was a charter member who helped form Tau Chapter in 1980. Betty served as chapter president and on various committees at the chapter level. Betty was a proud member of Delta Kappa Gamma and was very instrumental in encouraging many newer members of the teaching profession to join the organization. Although Betty never held an office at the state level, she loved attending and participating in conferences and conventions with her Tau sisters. Betty was an active member of her chapter until she could no longer attend meetings due to declining health.

Betty attended Boston University and was awarded a master's degree with special honors as the outstanding education school graduate. Betty was also Regional School District #6 Teacher of the Year and was an outstanding reading teacher and reading consultant who was always willing to share her in-depth knowledge of literacy at local and state reading conferences.

Betty spent more than thirty years as a teacher and reading specialist in Region #6 schools, including Warren, Morris, and Goshen elementary schools. Before her tenure in Regional School District #6, she was a classroom teacher in the Boston, MA area.

Betty was a member of the Morris Congregational Church, where she was one of the principal singers in the choir. She also started the youth choir and youth fellowship. Of course, being a literacy specialist, Betty was also involved in the local libraries in the towns of Warren, Morris, and Goshen volunteering her time to present programs to help parents learn about the important aspects of literacy. She loved to integrate her two passions, literacy and singing, and was always willing to help parents, students and colleagues in any way possible. She will be remembered for her passion for helping those less fortunate. She will be dearly missed by her family, her many colleagues and her friends.

Dena Phelps, Alpha Chapter
September 22, 2015

Dena was initiated into Alpha Chapter in May 1989. She was an active member until her illness.

In 1963, she received her BA in psychology from Clark University. She received her Master's degrees in guidance and counseling and American Studies at Fairfield University.

Dena taught in the Greenwich school system for thirty-eight years, primarily fifth grade. She was a recipient of the Distinguished Teacher Award.

She was active as a member of the Greenwich Education Association, serving as a member of the negotiating team and as a building representative. She was always an advocate for students and teachers. Upon retirement Dena was a daily, as well as a long-term, substitute teacher. She was actively involved in the Greenwich Reading Champions program and volunteered in Stamford at an after-school program. She also volunteered at the Nathaniel Witherell Nursing Home. Dena was well loved by her Alpha sisters, her students and family.

Rose Worobel, Honorary Member of Epsilon Chapter
September 26, 2015

Rose Worobel was an Honorary Member of Epsilon Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma. She was initiated on June 3, 1999.

Rose was born in Hartford on July 10, 1920 and died at Jefferson House, Newington. She attended Lawrence Street School and Bulkeley High School in Hartford. She graduated from Bates College in 1942 with a BS in math and physics. In 1959, she received her MS from the Hartford Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Graduate Center and became employed at Hamilton Standard as an engineering aide upon completing courses at Penn State in 1943.

Rose worked in aeronautics and retired in 1977 as a Senior Analytical Engineer. She was the first recipient of the SAE Manley Award and a member of the AIAA Society of Women Engineers. In 1950, Rose was appointed by Gov. Ella Grasso to serve as a public member of the State Board of TV and Radio Engineers. As a member of the Zonta Club of greater Hartford, she conducted travelogues, career talks and essay contests at the Barnard Brown School in Hartford.

Rose especially enjoyed working with young children and designed a new book for the American School for the Deaf, with many of her own photographs. The book was used for teaching and assessing general knowledge. Epsilon Chapter is very proud of the many accomplishments of this special woman.



IN MEMORIAM

White Roses

*"A moment to remember. . .
A lifetime to honor."*



Ellen W. Lathrop, Theta Chapter October 6, 2015

Ellen was initiated into Theta Chapter on May 1, 1975. She was actively involved in chapter activities and meetings. She was a graduate of Windham High School. She received her BA from Eastern Connecticut State University and her MA from UConn.

Ellen was a resident of Lebanon for more than 60 years. She is fondly remembered by her superintendent and many students at Lebanon Elementary School where she taught for over 21 years.

Throughout her life, Ellen was an active member of many organizations including Mystic Seaport, the Willimantic Textile Museum, the CT Genealogical Society, the Lebanon Historical Society and animal rescues. She also sat on the Lebanon Library Board and was active in her church, The First Congregational Church of Lebanon.

Early in her career Ellen worked in public relations and modelled at Saks Fifth Avenue in New York City. She then moved to Connecticut and was a model and personal shopper at G. Fox & Co. Each person who spoke at her memorial service referred to her as "a proper lady" – a woman of refined or gentle manners and social distinction. She was ahead of her time – an intelligent empowered woman! She enjoyed playing golf and played all over the world! She was also quite competitive at croquet and was referred to as the "Scrabble Queen"! She will be missed by all who knew her!

Ruth Zenchoff Russian, Theta Chapter November 21, 2015

Ruth was initiated into Theta Chapter on April 1, 1970. Ruth served as chapter historian and a member of the program, scholarship and social fellowship expansion committees. She actively participated in chapter activities and later in life she made sure she had a ride to meetings – especially the big event – the June Banquet! She often helped with providing a Saturday meal at the Soup Kitchen and was especially focused on the group's annual contributions to Journey House, part of Natchaug Hospital's program for teenage girls, where at Christmas time each girl receives a stocking!

Ruth graduated from Windham High School and then from Willimantic State Teachers' College, now known as Eastern CT State University. She became a teacher and taught 28 years at Natchaug School, thirteen of those years in grade three. Ruth became a pioneer in teaching non-English speaking primary students. She was part of a committee to establish guidelines for Levels of Accomplishment to evaluate progress of non-English speaking students. Ruth remained an ESL teacher for several years distinguishing herself as a teacher who was always alert to identifying student problems then able to seek effective solutions. She helped to set up science guidelines for grades two and three as a member of the Science Curriculum Committee

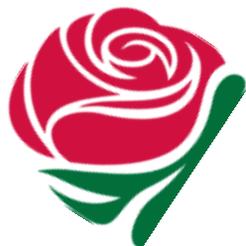
In addition to Delta Kappa Gamma, Ruth was also a member of CEA and active in the WEA as a building representative. She was a member of the Retired Teachers Association, Columbia Seniors, Life Member of Hadassah and Temple B'Nai Israel. Ruth was also an avid golfer, as well as being a bingo, mahjongg and bridge player. She enjoyed travel and cruising and visited the Canadian Rockies and Montreal. She was a wonderful friend and will be greatly missed!

ΔΚΓ MISSION STATEMENT

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



Welcome to our New and Reinstated AKS members Reported as of November 30, 2015



We look forward to your energy and enthusiasm.

Beta: Initiated October 2015

**Valerie Forshaw-Trumbull
Robyn Dagenais Proto-Stratford
Nicole M. Zgradden-Stratford
Gwendolyn Johnson (Reinstated)**

Zeta: Initiated September 2015

**Dawn Hoskin (Reinstated)
Tina Corrado-North Haven
Jamie French-Beacon Falls
Kathleen Peters-Durrigan-Ansonia
Maria Rivera-East Haven
Dr. Linda Tuzzio (Transfer from Mu Chapter)**

Eta: Initiated June 2015

Anne Rudge-Pinkham-Niantic

Theta: Initiated June 2015

**Andrea Gendron-Lebanon
Carol A. LaVigne-Tolland
Lisa P. Shaw-Coventry
Anne S. Tucker-North Windham**

Mu: November 2015

Janet Wade (transfer from Upsilon Chapter, Maine)

Omicron: Initiated June 2015

**Diane M. Toscano-Shelton
Judy Joss (Reinstated)**



Membership News

The following list of responsibilities is taken from the International Training for State Membership Chairs 2015. Many of these responsibilities have been identified as chapter membership strategies in the AKS Strategic Action Plan (AKS SAP). Chapters are encouraged to discuss these strategies and to determine those that are already established practices of your chapter and those that could be implemented.

Identify, invite, and inspire

- Emphasize diversity in member selection particularly in under-represented categories including educators in non-traditional settings. (AKS SAP)
- Build future membership by inviting prospective members to Society functions. (AKS SAP)
- Reach out, welcome, support and involve new members to help them establish themselves within the chapter. (AKS SAP)
- Assign each new member a "mentor" who will guide and support them particularly at local and state meetings. (AKS SAP)
- Invite former members to Society functions. (AKS SAP)

Re-inspire, re-affirm chapter members and re-build chapter membership rolls

- Honor 5, 10, 15, and 20 year members. (AKS SAP)
- Recognize all 25, 30, 40, 50 and 60 year members at a chapter meeting and distribute certificates and pins to those members who were not present at Spring State Convention. (AKS SAP)
- Reinstate dropped members at least once a biennium. (AKS SAP)
- Include at least one team-building activity at each chapter meeting. (AKS SAP)
- Create a measurable plan to nurture new members and revise as deemed necessary. (AKS SAP)
- Plan and implement an effective orientation for prospective members. (AKS SAP)

Track and document members' involvement

- Collect information and statistics dealing with membership and compile the data into a usable format. (AKS SAP)

Problem-solve membership issues

- Research reasons why individuals become members and remain members or discontinue their membership. (AKS SAP)
- Create at least one measurable goal to regain members per biennium such as reaching out by sending letters or making phone calls to former members. (AKS SAP)

Seek support when chapter is in distress

Celebrate members' accomplishments

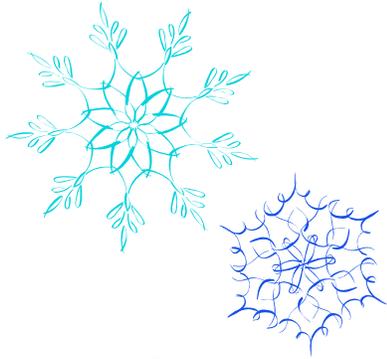
- Build relationships to support one another, to provide fellowship at meetings and to celebrate the accomplishments of members. (AKS SAP)
- Reach out to members to share their unique talents and experiences. (AKS SAP)

Honor deceased members' devotion to education and the Society

Deborah Soresino,
AKS Membership Chair

Reminder from Membership

Please send any changes of members' information to Deb Soresino at dsoresino@gmail.com so that members continue to receive mailings from AKS and DKG International.



**Make plans now to attend the
DKG International Convention
Nashville, Tennessee
July 5—9, 2016**

You won't want to miss the Society's International Convention in Nashville at the fabulous Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center. Join your DKG sisters in 'Music City' for a blend of education and entertainment!

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



 A special thank you to the reviewers for *The Keynote*:


Terry Azoti
Judy Cody
Jeanne Morascini

Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone
Nancy Roy

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

Saturday, January 9, 2016
Snow Date: January 30, 2016
Alpha Kappa State Executive Board Meeting
Griffin Room, Meriden Public Library

Friday, January 22, 2016
Conference on Teaching About the United Nations
(CTAUN)
United Nations (New York City)

Saturday, March 12, 2016
Snow Date: March 19, 2016
Alpha Kappa State Executive Board Meeting
Griffin Room, Meriden Public Library

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

Saturday, April 9, 2016
Alpha Kappa State Spring Convention
Courtyard by Marriott (Cromwell)

Friday, June 24, 2016
Alpha Kappa State Leadership Conference
Central CT State University (New Britain)

July 5—9, 2016
DKG International Convention
Nashville, Tennessee

The Keynote is published four times per year.
Only the Spring and Fall issues are sent by U.S. Mail.

The Summer and Winter issues are ONLY published on the AKS website and e-mailed to members.

Present and past issues are available on the website
<http://deltakappagamma.org/CT/>
If you are unable to access the internet, please contact your chapter president.

Keynote Deadlines are **February 1, 2016**
Please note date change due to Convention date change

Summer issue deadline: **May 27, 2016**

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