

THE CONNECTICUT KEYNOTE



Alpha Kappa State
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society
International



Volume 72, No. 3

Spring, 2013



Theresa Azoti Selected to Lead Alpha Kappa State for the 2013—2015 Biennium

Theresa “Terry” Azoti, a member of Zeta Chapter since 1994, has served as chapter president, recording secretary, corresponding secretary and chair of several committees. On the state level, she is presently First Vice-President, Educational Excellence Committee chair and a member of the Strategic Action Plan Committee. Previously, Terry was AKS Membership chair, AKS World Fellowship chair and served on two Ad-Hoc Bylaws and Standing Rules revision committees. In addition, she was a workshop presenter at past Leadership Conferences and is a reviewer for *The Keynote*. Terry received the Alpha Kappa State Achievement Award in 2011. She has attended many state conferences and conventions.

Terry has attended all International Conventions since 2004 and Regional Conferences since 2005.

She holds B.S. and M.S. degrees and advanced graduate credits for Reading Consultant Certification from Southern Connecticut State University. She retired in 1996 from the East Haven Public Schools after thirty years as an elementary teacher, reading specialist and special education reading consultant. After retirement, she volunteered in the East Haven Schools for five years.

Terry is a member of The Garden Club of Orange and co-chair of its first newsletter. She is also a member of the Case Memorial Library Friends of the Library and served on its board for five years. She and her husband, Joe, have been married for fifty-two years and have two sons. Terry enjoys spending time with her granddaughter, Mariah, now a college graduate. Her favorite pastimes are reading, gardening and crafts. She has a passion for photographing flowers.

Alpha Kappa State 74th Spring Convention - April 27th *SHARING OUR VISION - STRENGTHENING OUR CHAPTERS*

Keynote Speaker: Jeanne Morascini *Visions of Strong Chapters Dance in My Head!*



Jeanne Morascini, Alpha Kappa State Past President, Chapter Ambassador, Curriculum of Hope Founder and Theta Chapter member, will be our Keynote Speaker. Her unconventional keynote presentation, *Visions of Strong Chapters Dance in My Head!*, supports the convention theme, *Sharing Our Vision, Strengthening Our Chapters*. It is designed to include the entire audience in exploring several topics that, together, have significant impact and influence on chapters.

Since every chapter is formed, developed and guided by its individual members, there will be fifteen minutes devoted to emphasis on YOU: the power and importance of each of you and how the choices you make and actions you take create a balance in your daily life. There will be suggestions for daily practices that help nurture you to be a confident and peaceful YOU so you

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A Message from Marnee



Sharing Our Vision—Strengthening Our Chapters



Our members are the life-blood of the Society. Our chapters keep that blood pumping. It is up to each and every one of us to promote a healthy environment for continued well-being and continued growth. How can we do that? We can promote that continued well-being and continued growth by strengthening our chapters.

Two excellent opportunities for learning more about strengthening your chapter are on the horizon. First, **Jeanne Morascini, Chapter Ambassador and Theta Chapter member**, will be presenting the keynote address entitled *Visions of Strong Chapters Dance in My Head!* Come to the spring convention on April 27th to learn more and to share ideas. Bring fellow chapter members so that all of us together can continue to strengthen our chapters. The Northeast Regional Conference will be held in Portland, Maine, this year. International is putting an emphasis on building chapter strength at this conference. It is within driving distance. Think: warm seaside air... delicious lobster... outlet shopping... opportunities for fun with friends, new and old.

How can **you** strengthen your chapter? Attend the Alpha Kappa State Spring Convention and the DKG Northeast Regional Conference to find out!

Marnee

Meet the new AKS Executive Board members. They will be completing the term ending June 30, 2013.

Ann Novotnik (Nu Chapter), Finance Committee
Kathleen Lozinak (Omicron Chapter) Educational Impact Committee Chair



Congratulations to the following chapters for achieving the 12 X 2012 Initiative!

- BETA** 14 new members
- DELTA** 13 new members
- ZETA** 17 new members
- NU** 12 new members

A new membership initiative will be announced at the June Executive Board meeting.

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

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Terry Azoti | Jeanne Morascini | Nancy Roy |
| Judy Cody | Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone | Marnee Straiton |



ALPHA KAPPA STATE SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2013-2015 BIENNIUM



Joan Konareski
Nominee for
First Vice-President

Joan has been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma for 25 years. She is presently Second Vice-President of Alpha Kappa State. As a member of Lambda Chapter, she served as recording secretary, vice-president and chapter president. On the state level, Joan served on the membership and finance committees, as state Bylaws chair and state Achievement Awards chair. Joan has attended two Regional Conferences and four International Conventions.

Joan taught in Cheshire at the third to sixth grade levels from 1969-2003. Now retired, she is a board member and long-range planning committee chair on the Wallingford Committee on Aging and also volunteers to help with fuel assistance applications.



Deborah Soresino
Nominee for
Second Vice-President

Deborah, a member of Iota Chapter for 13 years, has served as vice-president and membership chair. She is in her second term as chapter president. On the state level, she is currently a member of the Standing Rules Revision Committee.

Deborah has a B.S. from Skidmore College and a M.S. in Elementary Education from the University of Bridgeport. She taught grades two-four and worked as an elementary curriculum coordinator in Brookfield.

Deborah participated in the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program, teaching, for a year, in Wakefield, England. She completed the University of Connecticut Master Gardener Program after retiring and volunteers at the UConn Bethel Master Gardener Office and at the Gertrude Jekyll Garden at the Glebe House.



Sue Carpenter
Nominee for
Recording Secretary

Sue was inducted as a member of Tau chapter in 1987. She has served as recording secretary, vice-president, and president of her local chapter. She currently is the chair for her chapter's annual vendor fair scholarship fundraiser. At the state level, she has served as chair for the Personal and Professional Growth Committee and is currently chair of the Margaret H. Croft Honorary Fund. She has attended many Alpha Kappa State Conferences and Conventions. She has also attended a few summer leadership seminars. Sue attended the 2008 International Convention held in Chicago.

Sue has a B.S. degree in Special Education and her M.A. in Special Education with a concentration in Learning Disabilities from Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU). She received her elementary education certificate from St. Joseph's University and is currently working on her Literacy Specialist certificate at Southern Connecticut State University.

Sue has taught for the Regional School District #6 school system for the past 33 years. She has been a special education resource room teacher, a first grade teacher, a second grade teacher and a third grade teacher. She is currently a second grade teacher at the Warren School. Sue was Regional School District #6's nominee for Teacher of the Year in 2001. She is a member of the White Memorial's Education Committee and a member of the Litchfield Lion's Club.



Congratulations to Dr. Ruth Fincher Psi State Georgia

Dr. Ruth "Rhee" Fincher, daughter of the late AKS member Hannah Griswold of Epsilon Chapter, was recognized as the first Georgian and the first female physician to receive the Abraham Flexner Award. Established by the American Medical College in 1958, it recognizes extraordinary individual contributions to

medical schools and to the medical education community as a whole. The AAMC cited Rhee's three decades of leadership in guiding students and creating development opportunities in medical education for the faculty. Nationally, she helped found two groups to promote better clinical education.

Rhee retired in May as Vice Dean of Academic Affairs at Georgia Health Sciences University. AKS Connecticut extends its congratulations to Dr. Fincher.

Photo and article courtesy of Psi State News, Winter 2013 Edition



**ALPHA KAPPA STATE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
2013-2017 FINANCE COMMITTEE**



**Rose Marie Mikasauskas
Northwest Region**

Rose Marie has been a member of Delta Chapter for nine years. She serves as chapter treasurer and has participated in state leadership conferences/conventions.

Rose Marie has a B.A. in French from St. Joseph College, a M.A.T. in French from Fairfield University, a M.A. in Spanish from Central CT State University and a Sixth-Year Certification in Italian from Southern CT State University. She was the 2001 Watertown Teacher of the Year.



**Susan Moon
East Region**

Sue has been a member of Theta Chapter since 1994. She has served as chapter president, first vice-president and second vice-president. She is currently Theta Chapter's corresponding secretary. Sue is also an active member of the Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World committee. She has attended and presented workshops at state, regional and International conventions.

Sue is a retired Putnam elementary teacher. She is currently a Northeast CT volunteer coordinator for Heifer International.



**Ann Louise Novotnik
Southwest Region**

Ann has been a member of Nu Chapter since 2008. She is the current treasurer of Nu Chapter. Ann holds a BA (major: elementary education; minor: mathematics) from Trinity College, Washington DC, as well as a MBA from Sacred Heart University, Fairfield.

Ann has 23 years of teaching experience in both Washington DC and various Connecticut schools. She has been at Holmes Elementary School in Darien, CT for the last 16 years. Prior to this, Ann was an executive with Bloomingdale's & Federated Department Stores, in both personnel and operations management.

**Welcome to our New AKS Members -
reported as of January 28, 2013**



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

GAMMA

- Leonille Kadambaya - Plainfield**
- Cynthia Pisowloski - Canterbury**
- Marilyn Lowney - Lebanon**

NU

- Kristy L. Gorman - Westport**

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

Visit our Web site at
www.dkg.org for the latest
news and information





ALPHA KAPPA STATE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2013-2017 NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE



Patty Faulkner
Northwest Region

Patty has been a member of Alpha Kappa State for 22 years. She is the president of Mu Chapter and has served as chapter vice-president. Patty has also served as first vice-president and program chair of Delta Chapter. On the state level, she has served on the Nominations Committee since 2009. Patty attends state conferences and conventions. She has also attended the CTAUN Conference in New York City and the 2012 International Convention. She is a retired elementary teacher.

Patty holds a B.S. in Education from Lesley College, a M.S. in Education from Central CT State University and a M.L.S. in Library Science from Southern CT State University. In 1978, she was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to study in Poland.



Margaret Festi
East Region

Margaret has been a member of Rho Chapter since 2005. She has served as the chapter recording secretary since 2008. On the state level, Margaret has been a member of the Nominations Committee since 2009. She was a reading consultant at Wapping Elementary School in South Windsor and retired from that position in 2008.

She served on many district committees including Faculty Advisory Council and Elementary Literacy. She also provided professional development in literacy at her school. In addition to being a Reading Consultant, Margaret taught first, second and fifth grades. She retired with over 30 years' teaching experience. She also attended the Northeast Regional Delta Kappa Gamma Conference in 2009 in Burlington, Vermont.



Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone
Southwest Region

Sandra, a member of Beta Chapter for 24 years, served as chapter president, first vice-president and was on several committees. She is presently on Beta's finance and world fellowship committees. On the state level, Sandra has served as president and first vice-president. She was a member of the Membership Committee, the Ad Hoc Committee to draw up the Dr. Virginia S. James Arts Presentation Fund and the committee to revise the AKS Bylaws and Standing Rules. She is presently the chair of the Nominations Committee.

Since 2000, Sandra has attended most International conventions and regional conferences. She presently serves on the International Educators' Award Committee.

Sandra is active in several retired teacher organizations. She serves as corresponding secretary for the Greater Bridgeport Retired Teachers' Organization and on the finance board of the Greater Bridgeport Retired Teachers' Fund, Inc.



Alpha Kappa State Connecticut Welcomes Our New DKG State: Alpha Chapter of Japan

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International founded its 80th state organization on October 14, 2012, in Kochi, Japan, on the island of Shikoku. Approximately 60 Japanese women educators became members of the Society's more than 90,000 members worldwide. Japan represents the first Asian nation in the organization and the 18th country.

International President Beverly Helms conducted ceremonies for the initiation of members, founding of the new state organization and installation of the state organization officers. **Dr. Fusa Nakagawa, Japan state organization president**, installed Alpha Chapter and its officers. The founding of Japan was honored by Governor Neil Abercrombie, Mayor Peter Carlisle and a host of other Japanese legislators who appreciate educational excellence and progress. Governor Masano Ozaki and Mayor Seiya Okazaki of Kochi Prefecture were also present to applaud the women educators initiated into the Society. Congratulations to Alpha Chapter of Japan!



ALPHA KAPPA STATE PROPOSED BYLAWS REVISIONS TO BE VOTED ON BY MEMBERSHIP APRIL 27, 2013

Judy Salemme, AKS Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee Chair

The Bylaws Committee presents a motion to approve the following amendments to the Alpha Kappa State Bylaws (April 30, 2011). All have been recommended by an affirmative vote of the Alpha Kappa State Executive Board.

ARTICLE VIII EXECUTIVE BOARD, SECTION A. STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD, 1.

The voting members of the Executive Board shall be the elected officers, the past state presidents, the standing committee chairs, elected committee members and the chapter presidents (one vote per chapter). The treasurer, assistant treasurer, executive secretary and the parliamentarian shall be ex-officio members, without vote.

Proposed Change:

The voting members of the Executive Board shall be the elected officers, the immediate past state president, the standing committee chairs, and elected committee members. Each chapter is also entitled to two votes on the Executive Board. The chapter president casts one vote. The additional chapter vote is cast by a second member of the chapter. The state offices of treasurer, assistant treasurer, executive secretary, and the parliamentarian shall be ex-officio members, without vote.

Changes consist of “the past state presidents” to **the immediate past state president**, adding **Each chapter is also entitled to two votes on the Executive Board. The chapter president casts one vote. The additional chapter vote is cast by a second member of the chapter** and inserting the words **state offices of** before treasurer.

Rationale:

1. For voting balance purposes only the immediate past state president, not all past state presidents, will have a vote and each chapter will have an additional vote.
2. Giving chapters an additional vote will give chapter members stronger voices in determining the direction of Alpha Kappa State’s policies and procedures.
3. The word state is inserted before the word treasurer for clarification purposes.

ARTICLE VIII EXECUTIVE BOARD, SECTION A. STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD, 1.

Proposed Change:

The voting members of the Executive Board shall be the elected officers, the immediate past state president, the standing committee chairs, elected committee members, and state members of International Committees for the length of their term on those committees. Each chapter is also entitled to two votes on the Executive Board. The chapter president casts one vote. The additional chapter vote is cast by a second member of the chapter. The state offices of treasurer, assistant treasurer, executive secretary, and the parliamentarian shall be ex-officio members, without vote.

Change consists of adding to the first sentence: state members of International Committees for the length of their term on those committees.

Rationale:

1. The Executive Board voted positively for a change in this article at the September 8, 2012 meeting. The Executive Board voted for increasing balance in voting at the Executive Board meetings.
 2. In the past, International committee members have also belonged to state committees (such as chairs, past presidents and elected committees) and have had a vote.
 3. Currently one International committee member is not a voting member as the wording stands now. I don’t believe this has ever happened before.
 4. International committee members represent the state and region at International meetings.
 5. The added wording would allow that member and future International committee members to vote at state Executive Board meetings.
-



ARTICLE IX, COMMITTEES, SECTION D RELATED PERSONNEL
All past Alpha Kappa State Presidents shall be considered Chapter Ambassadors.

Proposed change:

Past Alpha Kappa State Presidents **who choose to participate** shall be considered Chapter Ambassadors.

Change consists of deleting the word **All** and adding the phrase **who choose to participate**.

Rationale:

This amendment will change the intent and wording in the Alpha Kappa State ByLaws so it is consistent with the Alpha Kappa State Standing Rules.

ARTICLE X ACTIVITIES, SECTION C. SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

By Adding:

2. The Dr. Virginia S. James Arts Presentation Fund shall be maintained by voluntary contributions and monies from other sources as may be determined by the Executive Board.

Rationale:

Adds a footprint to the Bylaws and maintains a transparency of these funds.



The Bylaws Committee presents a motion to approve the following amendments to the Alpha Kappa State Standing Rules (April 30, 2011). All have been recommended by an affirmative vote of the Alpha Kappa State Executive Board.

II. DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES, B. SOCIETY MISSION AND PURPOSES, 5

Add: The committee shall manage the Dr. Virginia S. James Arts Presentation Fund. The committee recommends expenditures according to approved guidelines.

To read:

5. Fine Arts: The committee shall initiate and develop programs in the Arts and assist the chapters as appropriate. The committee shall also provide music at state meetings. The committee shall manage the Dr. Virginia S. James Arts Presentation Fund. The committee recommends expenditures according to approved guidelines.

Rationale:

Adds a footprint to the Standing Rules and maintains a transparency of these funds. Published guidelines of the Virginia S. James Arts Presentation Fund are to be added to the Fine Arts responsibility folder.

II. DUTIES OF STANDING COMMITTEES, C. RELATED PERSONNEL

Chapter Ambassadors: The Chapter Ambassadors shall consist of all Past Alpha Kappa State Presidents.

Proposed change:

Chapter Ambassadors: **The Chapter Ambassadors shall consist of Past Alpha Kappa State Presidents who choose to participate.**

Change consists of deleting the word **all** and adding the phrase **who choose to participate**.

Rationale:

At this time, not **all** Past Alpha Kappa State Presidents are Chapter Ambassadors. Some Past Alpha Kappa State Presidents may not choose to participate, and they deserve the option of choice. This amendment allows for choice.



The Bylaws Committee presents a motion to approve the following amendments to the Alpha Kappa State By-laws and Standing Rules (April 30, 2011). All have been recommended by an affirmative vote of the Alpha Kappa State Executive Board.

Motion: To remove the CEU Committee from all portions of the Alpha Kappa State Bylaws and Standing Rules.

Rationale: Changes were made to the state professional development requirements effective July 1, 2012. At that time each local or regional board of education and approved special education programs, shall make available a program of professional development to certified employees.



AROUND THE

ALPHA

Alpha Chapter President Lucy Galasso and **Elinor Carr** attended this year's CTAUN conference in January. Information gathered at the conference will be shared at the April meeting. Alpha Chapter is activities. **Barbara Hertz**, program chairperson, has arranged for an eBook program at the Greenwich Library. Members will learn how to download eBooks onto their personal eReaders. At the upcoming April 8th business meeting **Joanne Zammit** will present a power point presentation of her recent visit to Madagascar. At this year's AKS spring convention Alpha members **Carolyn Gilbert, Marilyn Maxwell, Lurline McLaughlin LaPolla, Caralliene Westbrook, Ruth Wilson** and **Joanne Zammit** will be awarded Alpha Kappa State service pins. Alpha's annual banquet will be held in May where new members will be initiated and book grants awarded. These grants are supported by the Lord and Taylor Fundraiser.

BETA

Beta Chapter's fourth and final meeting of the current school year will be held at Riverview Restaurant (across from the Dock Shopping Center) in Stratford on May 15th at which time names of prospective members will be presented. The chapter has been working hard to increase membership, and current members have been asked to invite colleagues to attend this event. The speaker for this meeting will be Kristin Ann Record, CT 2011 Teacher of the Year and physics teacher at Bunnell High School in Stratford.

Barbara Schroeter, Beta Chapter immediate past president and chairperson of the United Nations forum for the chapter, attended the CTAUN Conference in New York City, January 18th. The title of the conference was *Advancing Social Justice: The Role of Educators*. Barbara presented a brief overview at the March meeting and related that the conference was very engaging and educational.

The chapter's board meeting will be held at the end of the school year to discuss plans for the 2013-2014 school year. The focus will be to continue with timely speakers/programs for meetings, establish fundraising goals and decide on outreach projects.

GAMMA

The highlight of the early December meeting held in the Frank Center at the Norwich Free Academy was the initiation of two new members: **Leonille Kadambaya** and **Cynthia Pisowloski**. The ceremony was conducted by **Elaine Porter**. She was aided by several Gamma members. Leonille is a teacher in Groton and Cindy teaches in Canterbury. At the conclusion of the ceremony, the membership went through a receiving line to offer personal congratulations and a warm

welcome to our two new sisters who are outstanding educators. In addition, Gamma offers special kudos to Leonille, who, along with her husband Zato, was presented the 2012 Provost Award for Excellence in Public Engagement from UCONN.

An important presentation during the business meeting was the first report by the Standing Rules Revision Committee (**Eileen Akers, Vicki Baker, and Reggie Tate**). Chapter members reviewed the work on the first three articles and offered suggestions for revision. The committee will next meet in January. The membership expressed its thanks for this tedious, but important work.

As members enjoyed the snacks so carefully coordinated by **Sue Danilowicz** and **Karen D'Auria**, Gamma member **Dr. Faye Ringel** entertained with the history of holiday music. With words and song she presented an abbreviated talk but promised more history in the future. Did you know that before 1825 Christmas celebrations were illegal in Connecticut?

In January, **President Reggie Tate** and **Barb Dombrowski** attended the AKS Executive Board meeting in Meriden. In March, members look forward to a talk by Captain Dr. Anne Flammang on Art and Education.

DELTA

Delta Chapter members met on March 16th at Juniper's Restaurant in Middlebury. Following the business meeting, Barbara Martensen from Barbel Fitness Studio spoke to the group about 'Health and Wellness for Women.' Members brought cancelled stamps for the Church World Hunger project, as well as religious holiday cards for the Haiti project. **Carol Beam, Janice Sambuco, Mildred Reed** and **Elizabeth Zaharek** will be honored at the AKS Spring Convention for their years of service.

EPSILON

Six members of Epsilon Chapter attended the Fall Conference: **Katie Nunn, Ann Marie Moore, Carylrae Clinge, Joanne Charbonneau, Diana Wassenhove** and **Ellen Murtha**. During the break at the conference, a short chapter executive board meeting was held by Epsilon's new president, **Katie Nunn**, to discuss plans for the new biennium.

One project that was started immediately was a collection of aluminum can top tabs in order to support the Shriners Hospital in Springfield, MA. Payton, who is a six year-old boy from Enfield and a student in the preschool that **Diana Wassenhove** directs, was a patient for several months at Shriners. Containers to collect the tabs have been placed in five of the schools of Epsilon members.



NUTMEG STATE

On December 28th, the chapter's holiday meeting was held at the home of **Joanne Charbonneau** in Wethersfield. Members donated new unwrapped toys, and the chapter made a monetary donation to benefit Mercy Housing and Shelter in Hartford. Members caught up over lunch and dessert and, also, participated in a friendly gift swap. In an effort to make meetings more accessible to members, babysitting was provided. Tom Nunn, husband of Katie Nunn, played with two of the children in attendance during the business meeting. He was such a good sport that he allowed the girls to play "beauty shop" and put his hair into barrettes.

Ellen Murtha and **Katie Nunn** represented the chapter at the AKS January 12th executive board meeting. Katie distributed presale tickets for the upcoming raffle at the Spring Convention, as the raffle is Epsilon's responsibility this spring.

On February 7th, the Epsilon executive board meeting was held at the home of **Ellen Murtha**. Plans were made for the March 14th chapter meeting at the home of **Arlene Lastrina**. Future meetings and membership ideas were discussed.

ZETA

Zeta Chapter held its birthday luncheon at Serafino's Restaurant in Wallingford on Saturday, March 2nd. It was a pleasure to have several guests, including early educators, who may soon be interested in becoming members of Delta Kappa Gamma. Other educators, both retired and presently holding positions in area schools, also joined for the celebratory events. Highlights included presenting Service Awards to most of the 17 members who are 5, 10, 15, 20 or 30 year members of Delta Kappa Gamma and Zeta Chapter. Three members who will be acknowledged at the Spring Convention for their 30 years service are **Rita Landino**, **Julia Nicesfaro**, and **Frances Pagliaro**.

Members were especially pleased to award the chapter's very first Life Membership Award to reserve member **Georgene Hayes** who joined Zeta Chapter in 1968. She is a proud 45-year member, now 92 years old, and residing in Hancock, New Hampshire, near her son John and his family. Her younger son Raymond, and his wife Barbara, were on hand to accept the award in Georgene's behalf. They shared photos and stories of her early years teaching in New Jersey and later in Hamden, CT, as an art teacher. A very special day for those attending the March 2nd birthday celebration meeting!! Zeta members look forward to having a large turnout for the Spring Convention when chapter member **Terry Azoti** will be installed as AKS President for the 2013 - 2015 biennium.

THETA

On January 21st Theta Chapter held its annual *Theta Chapter Loves to Read* at the Willington Public Library. The meeting began with a moment of silence for **Leslie Kirschenbaum**, a member and friend who passed away in December.

Catherine Wade shared a thank you from the Journey House staff for the Christmas stockings chapter members prepared for each girl. **Kelly Putz** has been volunteering there monthly. **Susan Salesses** and **Judy Baxter** prepared Valentine cards with gift cards for each girl to Claire's. **Monique Brown** reported that the January Soup Kitchen meal was a success and thanked all who helped out. **Jane Moynihan** has mailed out information about Theta's No Bake Bake Sale fundraiser with return envelopes. **Linda Tracy** and **Leslie Neal** notified the high schools in the area about the high school grants. **Ann Chuk** reported that the chapter has given over 6,000 books since 1995 to families of babies born at Windham Hospital! Thank you for the books donated at the *Theta Loves to Read* meeting. Chapter members were all saddened about the losses at Sandy Hook and decided that Theta would give \$100 to the Victoria Leigh Soto Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund through **Ann Chuk's** June 9th benefit to be held in Woodstock.

The guest speaker was storyteller, Carolyn Stearns, from the Mansfield area who entertained with several delightful and educational stories. Members enjoyed getting to know Carolyn and sharing the books which were brought to swap over lunch.

Theta members are looking forward to the next meeting on April 1st at the Discovery Depot. The program will be to learn different ways to use scarves and to accessorize! Members also look forward to hearing Theta's own **Jeanne Morascini** as the keynote speaker at the AKS Convention on April 27th.

Lambda

Lambda Chapter held its January 17th birthday dinner at Gaetano's Tavern on the Green in Wallingford. Following dinner, the Vivace Singers (ten young women from Lyman Hall High School) performed under the direction of member, **Jane Haffner**. In addition to prepared pieces, the group taught a Japanese round to the membership. They also performed the piece, *Birthday Roses*, written by Lambda veteran, **Dr. Virginia James**. Virginia was thrilled to hear a rendition of the piece she wrote so many years ago.

Lambda members are looking forward to a fourth general meeting on April 2nd at Roger Sherman School in Meriden. A representative from the Hope Center will be addressing the group. Members will be bringing gifts for the babies who are benefitting from the center. In addition, there will be voting on the chapter budget and Standing Rules changes.



(Continued from page 1) Jeanne Morascini

can bring those qualities to benefit your chapter as well as your family, school and community.

Jeanne's focus extends to include YOUR vision of a strong chapter. An opportunity will be provided for each attendee to be heard regarding chapter strengths and weaknesses. What practices would you like to keep and what might you prefer to eliminate or cut down? What can be changed to help each member feel more connected, more comfortable in voicing opinions and ideas and more valued as a member? Many of you have thoughts to contribute, so be sure to bring them along.

There will be suggested steps to take, as needed, to strengthen your chapter. Steps will be generic in nature, so easily modified to fit every chapter. Those who are in a strong chapter will be encouraged to share their successful methods of maintaining that dynamic of cohesiveness, fellowship and commitment to Delta Kappa Gamma.

The overall intent of this shared experience is to broaden thinking and becoming open to changes; recognizing individual strengths; increasing awareness of attitudes and noting each member's impact on the dynamics of a chapter. It is anticipated that your chapter members' creativity will bring this information to a higher level as you use it in your chapter to stimulate new commitment to chapter success.

Since there is limited time allotted, you will be involved in a fast-paced presentation. You may even become a bit breathless as we move through material because nothing will be covered in-depth! Instead, you will receive a packet of information that will include material presented plus much more! There will be a disc of the power point for each chapter president that you may choose to use at a chapter meeting. Information gleaned from attendees will be posted for your referral and discussion among yourselves during a break before lunch. A composite of all the comments will be sent to chapter presidents a short time after the Convention.

Consider joining us for a fun-filled participatory exploration of an important serious topic!

NEXT KEYNOTE DEADLINE:
May 20, 2013

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

Reminder to all Chapters!!

There will be a Fundraiser at the Spring Convention. It will be similar to ones held in the past. Each chapter will be responsible for sending an item, such as a gift basket, afghan, gift certificate or the like to the Spring Convention. These items need not be expensive, but rather appealing and fun to win. I hope that many Society members will attend the Convention and have fun supporting the Fundraiser. We would also hope that individual chapters will collect money from their non-attending members for purchase of raffle tickets at the Convention. The funds collected will go to support the Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Committee and the Scholarship/Grants, as recommended by the Finance Committee.

Marnee Straiton
Alpha Kappa State President

Participate in the Convention Art Exhibit

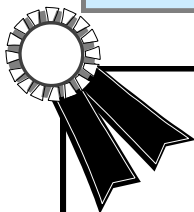


Alpha Kappa State will be having an informal art exhibit during the break at our Spring Convention on April 27th at the Courtyard by Marriott in Cromwell. Members are invited to exhibit paintings, drawings, etchings, watercolors or photographs. These pieces can be framed or unframed and will be displayed on table tops. Members unable to attend the convention can send artwork with a fellow chapter member.

During the Convention artwork can be stored in the closet. Exhibitors will leave the main meeting room ten minutes before the midday break in order to set up the exhibits. All artwork must be removed from the display tables once the viewing time is over.

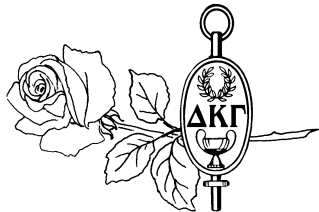
Please e-mail the following information to Mary Ellen Ulatowski (mulatowski75@sbcglobal.net) prior to the event: the member's name, the medium and the chapter. This will be used for exhibit signage, as well as certificates for the participants. Thank you so much for your help and cooperation.

Mary Ellen Ulatowski
AKS Fine Arts Committee



CHAPTER NEWSLETTER AWARDS

The annual Alpha Kappa State Chapter Newsletter Awards will be presented at the 2013 Spring Convention on April 27th. Chapter presidents or editors must submit a current copy of their newsletter to **Judy Cody, Communications Chair**. It can be mailed to Judy at 1450 Tuttle Avenue; Wallingford, CT 06492-3321 by April 18th or brought to the Convention prior to the judging on Saturday morning.



ALPHA KAPPA STATE 74th SPRING CONVENTION

Saturday, April 27, 2013
Courtyard by Marriott
4 Sebeth Drive, Cromwell, CT 06416
Phone: 860-635-1001

SHARING OUR VISION - STRENGTHENING OUR CHAPTERS

7:45 a.m.	Registration, Coffee, and Fundraiser Sales
8:30-9:00 a.m.	Ceremony of Life (Waterford Room)
9:10-9:25 a.m.	Introductions, Welcome, Flag Ceremony
9:25-10:15 a.m.	Business Meeting
10:15-10:30 a.m.	Break, Fundraiser Sales
10:30-11:30 a.m.	Jeanne Morascini, Theta Chapter: <i>Visions of Strong Chapters Dance in My Head!</i>
11:30-12:15 p.m.	Break, Fundraiser Sales and Members' Fine Arts Exhibit
12:15-1:15 p.m.	Lunch and Birthday Celebration
1:15-1:40 p.m.	Installation of 2013-2015 Alpha Kappa State Officers
1:40-2:00 p.m.	Achievement Awards
2:00-2:20 p.m.	Honoring Our Members
2:20-2:35 p.m.	Newsletter Awards and Fundraiser Recipients
2:35-2:45 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: Patricia Faulkner, 7 Wellington Drive, Farmington. CT 06032
Phone: (860) 679-9313 Email: pattyfaulkner@sbcglobal.net

DIRECTIONS TO COURTYARD BY MARRIOTT

Traveling North or South: I-91 North or South to Exit 21, turn right at end of exit.
Continue straight, turning right at the Burger King onto Sebeth 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 APRIL 13, 2013****

Name: _____ Chapter: _____
Phone: _____ Email address _____

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

Check your choice(s) below:

- ___ Maple Glazed Salmon, Pan Seared Filet with Maple Glaze \$32.00
- ___ Chicken Milanese with Parmesan Breading and White Wine Sauce \$30.00
- ___ Pasta Primavera with Parmesan Cream Sauce \$29.00

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

IF YOU HAVE ANY FOOD ALLERGIES, PLEASE INDICATE HERE: _____

CONFERENCE COSTS: Registration Fee/s: (\$5.00 per person) \$ _____

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

Additional Guests names may be listed on reverse side. GRAND TOTAL \$ _____
Conference Registration Fee should be included for each guest.

PLEASE CHECK: I will be receiving a service pin award ___ YES ___ NO



SAVE THE DATES

2013—2014

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)
Holiday Inn by the Bay**

July 28—August 1, 2014

**DKG International Convention
Indianapolis, Indiana
JW Marriott**

**Photography for *The Keynote*
contributed by
Carolyn Downs
Alpha Kappa State Photographer**

THE CONNECTICUT KEYNOTE

Alpha Kappa State
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Carol Beam, Editor

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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International invites YOU to the 2013 Northeast Regional Conference in Portland, Maine July 24th—27th

What a great opportunity—Portland, ME, is only 178 miles from Hartford, CT!! The Northeast Regional Conference at the Holiday Inn by the Bay is full of exciting adventures. Walk to shops along the bay or enjoy tantalizing seafood restaurants; inhale the fresh bay air while taking advantage of the Green Tree Tours. The hotel offers free and ample parking, and free Wi-Fi.

Best Western Merry Manor, a second hotel, has been established as part of the block party. The hotel offers free parking and Wi-Fi. Buses will bring you back and forth to the Holiday Inn by the Bay for conference events.

Maine Night on Wednesday, July 24th, will welcome members to Portland and serve as the grand opening to the conference. The evening offers entertainment and a glimpse of Maine hospitality. Features include good old Maine humor and David Mallet, one of the best-known singer/songwriters. Relax, take a deep breath and enjoy Maine the way life should be. Browse the vendors and come to the Info Fair. Choose from a variety of 'tours' - Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens and Lunch; Lobster Bake and Tour of House Island, an authentic Civil War fort; Maine State Theatre's performance of *Gypsy* and a dinner reception; Portland's Sea Dogs' baseball game (Red Sox Triple A affiliate) and fireworks.

Learn how to share our vision and strengthen our Society. Find your inner moose with 'Ida,' the alter-ego of writer and performer Susan Poulin; and garner tips to handle the stressors of busy lives with Sherene McHenry, the daughter of a DKG member. Learn *How Social Technologies are Changing our World—and Changing Us*. The conference offers a variety of breakout sessions which are diverse, exciting and motivating.

All the information you need is on the DKG website. Register by July 9th to avoid additional fees. No meal tickets will be sold after this date.