



THE CHIPS OF GRANITE

Beta Alpha State News ~ Vol. 2016, Issue 2 ~ Aug. 2016

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ~ New Hampshire



ALPHA CHAPTER WELCOMES FIVE NEW MEMBERS

by Elaine Landry, Alpha

On April 5, 2016, Alpha Chapter initiated five educators. From left to right, they are **Patrice Campbell**, Library/Media Specialist at Monadnock Regional Middle/High School (MRMHS); **Mary Shepardson**, Life Skills Program Director and local Program Director for the Special Olympics at MRMHS; **Kathryn Schnare**, Special Education/Remediation Teacher at MRMHS; **Deborah Snyder**, recently retired Special Education teacher and Case Manager at MRMHS; and **Lynn Carey**, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment, as well as the Title I Director and Homeless Liaison for the Monadnock Regional School District. These details are only their current responsibilities. Their complete bios would fill pages!

SHEILA'S SOAPBOX:

PRESIDENT CHALLENGES MEMBERS TO ATTEND BAS FALL MEETING



I am excited about continuing my theme of remembering our veterans at Beta Alpha State's fall meeting on **Saturday, September 24, 2016**. We will meet at the **Wright Museum of WW II** on 77 Center Street in Wolfeboro. Our plan is to have a tailgate gathering (weather permitting) for coffee and goodies at 9:30 in the parking lot before going into the museum where no food is allowed. Our meeting will begin at **10 a.m.** with a self-paced tour of the museum to follow. The focus goes beyond the military with wonderful displays of our culture and daily life during the war. Make sure to see the brick honoring our own Helen Goodwin of Beta Chapter. We should be finished around **12:30 p.m.** so that you may have lunch your own.

My thanks go to Terry Thompson, Beta's president, for making all of the arrangements. Fill out the **registration form on Page 11** and send it to Terry with a **15 dollar check** payable to Beta Alpha State by **September 17**. I am asking each chapter to bring your usual attendees and add at least two or three members who have never attended a fall meeting. I would love to welcome 30 to 40 members at this meeting. Please accept my challenge. If you have any questions, call Terry at 802-457-3898.

Sheila Mable

TO HONOR WOMEN

by Ann M. Gaffney, Epsilon

As a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, I am, of course, familiar with our seven purposes. In fact, during the last biennium I asked my chapter to support the theme “Embracing the Seven Purposes.” I thought I understood the meaning of each of our purposes and was proud to be a part of an organization with such values and ideals. It’s not that I was wrong, but rather that my understanding was incomplete. At the 2016 International Convention in Nashville, I broadened my view of our second purpose: to honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.

Membership in the Society is, in and of itself, an honor. Thus, when I read our second purpose, I considered it fulfilled through the membership and initiation process. Through the act of accepting a woman for membership, we honored her. In my five days at International, however, I saw members honoring each other—in ways both formal and informal—expanding my understanding of our second purpose.

We honor the achievement of our members, and we do it in small but pervasive and powerful ways. When a member earns her doctoral degree, we honor her at our International Convention. I was honored at this convention for my degree and was pleased to be given cords to wear with my academic robes at future ceremonial events. In this way the organization formally honored me. Fellow members honored my achievement with comments and congratulations. This is one obvious way we honor those members receiving doctoral degrees. What surprised me most, however, was the way everyday conversations conveyed honor for this achievement. At all other conferences, one does not put her title on her nametag.

At International, however, those with doctoral degrees are encouraged to put her title on the name badge. After realizing this and adding the “Dr.” to my name tag, I was often called “Dr. Ann” during conversation or introductions. Similarly, Dr. Lynn Babb Schmidt, our outgoing International President, was referred to as “Dr. Lynn.” This use of the title with the first name, rather than the last, conveyed a sense of honor and yet intimacy. The title was not used to convey separation and status as it might when used in conjunction with a last name, but rather pride and familiarity as one has for a sister who has achieved something worth honoring.

Honor is conveyed for achievements other than degrees, as well. The wearing of pins representing membership and current or previous roles within the organization help us to honor our members for their current and past service to and leadership within DKG. The ways in which we encourage each other to take leadership roles honor those from whom we would like to learn. We honor each other’s milestones and achievements through the member updates in *CHIPS*. These small moments of honor are perhaps easily overlooked but are indicative of the ways in which we build up each other. I imagine that Dr. Annie Webb Blanton and the other founding members of our Society would be proud of the ways in which we not only honor members for achievements, but build

each other up and encourage the growth and development of members’ skills, taking pride in helping them reach those achievements.

As I walked through the corridors and gardens of the Opryland Resort during our International Convention, I was proud to be a member of an organization of so many distinguished and accomplished women. Membership in the Society is truly an honor, but being a part of a group of women who encourage me, support me, teach me, lift me up, and then honor and celebrate my achievements with me is both a humbling and invigorating experience. This is perhaps my biggest take-away from International: By honoring other members publicly and with consistency, we remind ourselves of all that we can achieve—both as individuals and together.

TRY A LITTLE SELFISHNESS

by Flora Sapsin, Epsilon

Did the title capture your attention? I hope so...and in a Delta Kappa Gamma publication at that. This summer at a fantastic National Association of Student Councils Conference, we state directors were confronted with some unsettling facts. We are losing educators at an alarming rate. Why?

As we DKG members are well aware, many of our most respected and influential educators are in fact women. And as women we have been balancing so many roles that we are exhausting ourselves and depleting our spirit. So I sat in Portland, Oregon, absolutely spellbound while we were chastised for our lack of selfishness!

If we fail to nourish our spirit, we will lack the energy to accomplish those goals we hold most dear. The solution? **MAKE TIME FOR YOU.** When Sheila asked us to write about the DKG International Convention, I hesitated, but in the end I took that leap of faith. For like many of you, before I actually set out for the airport, I was feeling stressed, guilty, and anxious about taking “personal time” from the summer. Fortunately, as my “roomie” and I chatted and confirmed our arrangements, anticipation began to replace anxiety. And then Nashville! Old friends, new friends, helpful workshops, and the best keynotes ever. Remember that I told you how I sat through an amazing lecture on selfishness? Now I understand why our speaker was paid \$30,000 for 90 minutes!

I don’t know how you are feeling at this moment, but I will confess—Nashville was affirmation for me. I wanted to support Beta Alpha State in every way I could. I took time to reflect, recommit, and reorganize. My classes will be amazed at what we accomplish. My husband is delighted with my restored spirit. As for me, I am already planning to practice selfishness as Windsor, Ontario, is calling to me!

**BAS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE
by MARCH 1, 2017, to Pam Clark. Check
our website or yearbook fillers for details.**

WE TOOK THE NEXT STEP

by Teri Cote, Sharon Lane, and Kathy Urso, Delta

We attended the 2016 Delta Kappa Gamma International Convention in Nashville, TN, last week. It was our first time to experience such a huge gathering. We have gone to Regional Conferences and enjoyed those, so this was our next step.

There were three very dynamic speakers we heard. Kai Kight is a violinist who uses his music to stimulate unique ideas from all who are lucky enough to see and hear him perform. Mike Figliuolo stressed personal growth, as well as taking care of oneself. Judith Viorst, a well-known children's author, entertained us with lessons about life, love, and growing older.

Several younger DKG members told personal stories of how they had become teachers and members. They expressed how much the DKG sisterhood has helped them grow and strengthen their professionalism and love of teaching.

Educators from all over the world shared educational practices; and we were able to network, gather ideas, and learn from the experiences of others.

LESSONS LEARNED FROM DKG CONVENTION

by Marna Ingerson, Delta

Rainforest Fairyland! That's what The Gaylord Opryland Hotel appears to be when first seen through the eyes of a grandmother of a five-year-old granddaughter who loves fairies! There are nine acres of lush gardens, topiaries, and calming fountains and falls to behold. Plenty of places for fairies to secret.

Well, instead of fairies, there were about 2,000 educators attending keynote speeches, break-out sessions, hot topic tables, and the Delta marketplace. The enormity of the hotel AND convention center, which felt miles away when rushing to the next program, was just that. We were given maps and greeted by hotel personnel to direct us to the correct corridors, elevators, bridges, and ballrooms.

The first keynote was a violinist named Kai Kight, who entered the hall from behind us, playing one of his compositions. He likened life to music and gave us many examples, especially one of looking for the special, unexpected note—the one you wouldn't insert because it hadn't yet been played. Step out of the box, play that note, dare to create something new. He honored us with more of his own music—a wonderful way to start a convention for those of us who are music lovers!

Personal connections were most important to our second general session speaker, Michael Figliuolo. This man

graduated from West Point, served, and joined big business with lots to offer. He spoke of how we might need to give 90%, instead of the usual thinking of meeting someone half way. He advised us to work with our members/employees from the ground up. Get to know them! Stay in touch with their reality. Challenge, inspire, have a clear vision that you can impart and get others to embrace. Lead a balanced life, set and maintain boundaries and perspective. Be authentic!

Dr. Cherie Ward delivered powerful poetry to music in the "85 Years and Beyond" portion of the third session. Her delivery was superb, and her words full of sparks and vitality.

Judith Viorst was the fourth general session speaker on "Life Lessons from under Eight till over Eighty." She, herself, being over eighty and married, connected with all of us in our aging and living with friends, husbands, etc. We were in stitches because of her humorous descriptions and use of prose and poetry that related to our everyday lives.

WE COULD DO THIS!

by Anne Nute, Eta

Librarians always try to go to workshops featuring books – it's in the job description. There were several great workshops on books at the DKG International Convention in Nashville.

One I particularly enjoyed was "**Good Reads You May Have Missed,**" presented by Mary Faye Carr, a retired librarian. She gave us a list of books she had enjoyed but that did not make the *New York Times* Book Lists. I thought I would pass two titles along to you.

Alexander, Tasha. *And Only to Deceive*. 2005. In Victorian London Lady Emily Ashton is begging to enjoy the new found freedom she has as a widow. She begins to have a better understanding of her late husband through his interest in Greek antiquities, the British Museum, and his journals. As she continues to defy her mother's restrictions and turn away potential suitors, she starts investigating forged antiquities. This is the first of the Lady Emily Mysteries.

Walker, Martin. *Bruno, Chief of Police*. 2008. Set in the Dordogne region of Southwest France, Bruno loves his small country town of St. Denis. He coaches rugby, never carries his gun, helps the local vendors avoid EU inspectors on market day, and is a gourmet cook. The peace is broken when an elderly Algerian man is found murdered. Multiple story lines carry the story along to a surprising conclusion.

Would you enjoy if we made this a *CHIPS* feature? Next *CHIPS* I would like to tell you about a couple of picture books that feature life lessons.

CHAPTER CHATTER

ALPHA CHAPTER NEWS

Nancy Ann Belsky had an art quilt display in June at the Apothecary window on Main Street in Keene.

Lynn Carey has accepted the position of Superintendent of the Frontier Regional School District, MA, beginning in July of 2016.

Cathryn Harvey began her biennium as president of Alpha Chapter in July.

Retirement did not last long for **Maurine Henry** as she is now supervising student teachers for Franklin Pierce College. While it is a part-time position, the opportunity to stay involved in the education process was just too tempting to reject.

Helen Ann Kelly, Chesterfield School, enjoyed having a wonderful methods student from Keene State College to work with the second grade. Also, the entire school prepared an Olympics program in advance of the 2016 summer games. Two days were used to share projects and displays throughout the school and to enable students to have their own games out of doors. "The collaborative efforts of the staff were amazing," says Helen Ann.

Bernadette Kuhn was the Exhibit Chairperson for the New Hampshire Teachers of Mathematics spring conference at Keene State College.

Jeannine Leclerc is finishing her Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies from New England College in curriculum and instruction. She did her Action Research on Mindfulness/Silence by introducing two minutes of silence to high school students. This is part of her essential question for the year: What skills for the 21st Century will students need to reduce stress and anxiety? The year-long self-care unit began in the first quarter as they worked on community building/self-confidence. The second quarter stressed meditation, and the third quarter concentrated on movement/yoga. During quarter four, students built an individual tool kit to assist them when they're in or out of school using the strategies learned throughout this year's participation. Students did multi-intelligences in each quarter and used all by the end of the year. Jeannine hopes to develop and implement mindfulness, self-care, and these techniques throughout the Monadnock Regional School District.

Carole Plaisted recently moved from Keene to Laconia to become a resident of the Taylor Community. She

grew up in Laconia, so it is a bit like going home. She looks forward to being involved in many of the activities provided. Alpha will miss her very much.

Talented **Mary Parker** has been hard at work as she made 12 infant sweaters for baby kits for mission donations sponsored by the Sullivan Congregational Church.

Peg Saunders and **Maurine Henry** attended the DKG International Convention in Nashville in July.

Angela Seaver and **Peg Saunders** visited **Sue Miller** in Sarasota, FL, this spring.

Norma Walker attended the wedding of her granddaughter, a member of the United States Marine Corps, in San Diego. The newlyweds will reunite in Japan soon.



BETA CHAPTER NEWS

Anne Cragin played her flute in many concerts and parades this summer in the Upper Valley. She also played in the pit orchestra for the NCCT production of *The Secret Garden*. In addition, she and her husband, Jim, visited the Tuckers in Maine. They toured FDR's summer "cottage" on Campobello Island and also Acadia National Park.

Heather Oliver and **Lisa Torres** taught Field Ecology at the Shaker Museum in Enfield this summer. Both high school and junior high programs were offered. They were featured in the local newspaper, *The Valley News*.

Joan Tarleton gave a presentation to Harvest Hill residents in Lebanon, NH. At least 30 people attended the presentation on "The Aging Brain: It Might Be Amazing." She emphasized that the aging brain is still growing and making new neural connections and that there are things that we can do to protect what we have, so that we continue to be healthy, happy and productive. The presentation included an overview of how the brain works and how the brain may get into trouble.

Also covered was an explanation of the importance of the myelin sheath covering the axon. When this coating gets thin or breaks connection, then diseases such as dementia are more likely to arise. We need to make sure that this is nourished through our behavior. Two of the most important activities of which we fail are getting enough sleep and drinking enough water. These feed the brain and help it replenish after a full day of being busy. Another important thing is keeping the brain active with games, crosswords, jigsaw puzzles, reading, taking courses and challenging ourselves. We need to up the ante for each of these activities though. For instance, if you love to read and usually read murder mysteries, then change the genre and try something different. If you like doing crossword puzzles, find puzzles that are more challenging. "If we don't use it, we will lose it!" Joan reminds us.

Kathy Tucker and her husband visited Alaska the first two weeks in May. They went to Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Seward. "It was great to get back and see some old friends and acquaint ourselves with hiking in the mountains," she commented. "I was on sensory overload the entire time. Everything is so big!"

GAMMA CHAPTER NEWS

Barbara Cowan spent a week this summer painting on Appledore Island in the Isles of Shoals.

Joyce Griffin is proud of her talented daughter, Amy, who will be going to Europe to play in a band she has been affiliated with for several years.

Gamma Chapter presented **Jacki Hinton** with the Woman of Distinction Award at their May meeting since Jacki missed the Chapter Achievements Presentations at Beta Alpha State's Spring Conference. "We are so glad that Jacki is a part of our group and is always such a good friend," said Gamma President **Sheila Knight**.

Mert Moore and **Ruth Tuttle** are both doing well. They are still active in local events and always ready with their wonderful outlook on life.

Ann Smith went to San Francisco to see her daughter Shannon receive her doctorate degree and then returned home for a huge O'Leary family reunion. Ann now faces a knee replacement.

Charity Welch has moved south, accepting a new job. Gamma wishes her good luck and much happiness.

"The rest of Gamma carries on with volunteering, visiting dear friends and favorite places, and recovering from some health issues," according to **Sheila Knight**.

DELTA CHAPTER NEWS

We are all thrilled that our chapter president, **Marna Ingerson**, and our sisters from Errol, **Kathy Urso**, **Sharon Lane**, and **Terri Cote**, were able to attend the International Conventional in Nashville in July! We can't wait to hear of their adventures!

Delta Chapter held an Installation of Officers at our June Meeting. Our new officers are President, **Marna Ingerson**; First Vice President, **Judy Erickson**; and Second Vice President, **Wanda Merrill**. Also **Susan Ackerman**, **Mary Jolles**, **Barbara Baker**, and **Anne Morgan** have agreed to continue to serve Delta Chapter, and we are thankful for their previous years of devoted service to the chapter.

Susan Ackerman spent one month in France this summer. She attended a spiritual conference near the Pyrenees region and then explored the western coast of France. This experience will add many slides and information to the French course she teaches to adults.

Marsha Biron enjoyed the winter months in The Villages, Florida.

Joan Coats is enjoying her six grandchildren with one more due in October!

Ann Gray and her husband, Lindsay, are delighted to have two daughters who will be married in 2016—one in August and the other in October. Lindsay was the speaker for our June Delta meeting in Pittsburg. He spoke about the Indian Stream Republic. He had maps and artifacts to add to his informative presentation.

Mary Jolles announced that her daughter, Dr. Diane Jolles, has recently accepted a position as Assistant Professor at Plymouth State University in the Science Department. Dr. Jolles received her Doctorate in Botany from Claremont Graduate University. She will be teaching biology and botany at PSU for the 2016-2017 year,

Josephine LaChance recently celebrated her 94th birthday!

Karen LaRoche enjoyed visiting with her son, his wife, and three granddaughters for two weeks this summer. It was his last stay north for three years as he is being stationed in Italy. "Guess I need to get my passport in proper shape for future travels abroad," Karen said. "After major remodeling last summer, I am looking forward to a much more relaxed 'vacation' this summer." Karen picked up her five-year-old granddaughter in Boston in late July. Sammy stayed for two and a half weeks. Who out there thinks Karen's summer was as relaxed as she planned!? Of course, she is thrilled!

(continued on p.6)

DELTA CHAPTER NEWS *(continued from p. 5)*

A necrology was held to remember our departed sisters, **Muriel Manghue** and **Annie Forts**. Their Delta sisters sent a monetary donation to their favorite charities.

“It was with sadness that I read in *New Hampshire Sunday News* that our Delta honorary member and dear friend **Annie Forts**, 49, of Meredith passed away on May 26,” announced **Pat McLean**. “Annie inspired us with her initiative to start the Annie Forts UP Syndrome Fund to raise money to provide enrichment opportunities to people with Downs Syndrome and to help support individuals interested in pursuing a career in Special Education. She raised over \$325,000 toward her goal of \$1M. We were fortunate to have had her touch our lives.”



This is how we will remember Annie.

Pat McLean has fully retired as an educator in the White Mountains Regional School District, concluding a 43-year career serving as a teacher, reading specialist, and administrator.

Wanda Merrill continued as a Summer Rec Director in Pittsburg again this year. “The program consists of crafts, art activities, hiking, many other outdoor activities and games,” she explained. “We had fun kayaking, paddle boating, swimming, and attending a play at the Colebrook School put on by the Patchwork Players. We also visited the nursing home to participate in bowling and have fun with some of the residents there.” Wanda also attended the her son, Luke, and Danielle’s wedding in July.

Kaye Moren became a grandmother in April when her daughter had a baby girl. “I plan to spend time being ‘Nana’ to Emma Jane,” Kaye said.

Delta’s Literacy Committee is working on a new project making book bags for local preschools! **Dianne Mumbley**, who will be initiated into Delta Chapter in September as an honorary, set this project in motion. Dianne has donated book bags with “stuffies” to classrooms of Delta members! The bags even match the theme of the book and stuffy! We are excited to do some books, bags, and stuffies! Our other project “Remembering Veterans and Their Families through

Literacy” will be resubmitted again in the fall as we found that we can ask for less money!

Karen Pariseau spent three July weeks doing summer school in Stewartstown. She, along with **Kaye Moren** and **Wanda Merrill**, also worked this summer on Understanding by Design (UbD), a curriculum program for SAU 7. “We three also spent time in Maine together before starting the 2016-2017 school year,” Karen said.

Pam Read and her husband Ted were planning on camping and riding their Spyder in PEI ! However, there was a slight glitch in their plans when Ted went over the handle bars on his dirt bike and fractured his left tibia. He was in a boot for six weeks and proved to be a very impatient patient! Motocross has been a big family hobby for many years! This was not the “first rodeo” for Pam!

Also, Pam and Ted are very proud of their youngest grandson, Tommy Read, who graduated third in his class from Littleton High School and will attend UNH in the fall majoring in zoology! His brother Teddy is a senior at the University of Northwestern Ohio, majoring in High Performance Automotive!

Kathy Urso and husband, Wayne, are expecting their first grandchild in September. Their son Jim and his wife, Heather, are living in Massachusetts where Kathy expects to be spending many weekends with her new granddaughter!

ETA CHAPTER NEWS

Caroline Butler and **Martha Verville Sheehy** welcomed and enjoyed family from Texas, Maine, and Vermont in July and August at Caroline’s home on Lake Winnepesaukee.

Dianne Mros traveled to Indianapolis over Memorial Day weekend to attend the 100th Running of the Indy 500 mile race at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Great fun!

Anne Nute, who serves as BAS recording secretary, attended the DKG International Convention in Nashville.

Martha (Marnie) Verville and her husband, John, took a 10-day bus tour this spring through PA, WV, and Ohio. They toured Marietta, the Northwest Territory of long ago. They also visited the US Air Force Museum near Dayton and then went to Cincinnati. Lastly they visited the Ohio Amish Country. Marnie met up with her friend Nancy during this trip. “We had a good time remembering the 45 first graders we taught in one room at Milton Mills. Nancy was also a member of Eta Chapter then,” Marnie said. “It was a wonderful trip.”

Travel with a small group to experience LONDON and surrounds from April 22-29, 2017. Email Barbara Mee of Epsilon for details. Early bird specials end 10-31-16.

THETA CHAPTER NEWS

Pam Clark and her granddaughter Maddison spent part of the summer together. Pam also is involved in planning for Laconia's 125th anniversary in 2018.

Marilyn Coffin often hears from her son and his wife who live in France. "My son and his wife sent us pictures of the Tour d' France passing right in front of their house in St. Antonin. They also sent us pictures of Bastille Day fireworks and celebrations in their neighboring village. Their celebration was dampened, though, by the tragedy in Nice."

Pam Forbes announced that her first granddaughter was born in February. "Hayley Jeanne has three older brothers and is very spoiled," Pam added.

In the past five years **Donna-Marie Gamlin** has added four classroom iPads (acquired yearly at workshops) with educational apps to her curriculum. "Next I added STEM, and last year my first grade students enrolled in an online 20-hour coding course. This year I plan to seek out a grant to acquire four interactive applications. Teaching is changing as quickly as our cell phones!" she responded.

Nancy Gibbons became a great grandmother in April when her grandson Brian and his wife had a baby girl.

"I have survived another tax season in my tax business," **Karen Goss** announced. "Now I get to spend more time with my husband, my daughters and my dear grandson!"

Ann Hart is working again with the Laconia's Got Lunch! Program. "Besides bagging weekly lunches for families in need," she explained, "we include a literacy piece, as well. I love the enthusiasm of the many volunteers."

Bev Jones had a great summer while attending a family wedding in Seattle, (WA), relaxing at Wells Beach in ME, and traveling to Yarmouth, MA.

In April **Ruth Puleo** came home from a warm Florida winter to three cold weeks here in NH. "During the winter I took some fun art classes and enjoyed the company of lots of visiting friends and relatives," Ruth said. "The winter always flies by when we are there!"

Karen Sullivan's daughter Lindsay moved to MA to start a new job in theatrical production.

Kathy van Engelen recently went on a whale watch out of Gloucester, MA. "It was absolutely thrilling to see the whales," Kathy said. In June she went to Washington, DC, for a tour of the Capitol given by Senator Shaheen's office and later toured other buildings and monuments in the area.

Pat Webster has recovered from her fall and rehab stint at Genesis. She and her husband Roger attended the wedding of their granddaughter Robyn and also got to meet their three-month-old great grandson Byron in April.

Rachel Young spent another winter in Florida and North Carolina. "We had a good winter visiting family and friends, but as always it's good to home," said Rachel.

In early July **Brenda Walker, Ruth Conwell, and Sheila Mable** attended the DKG International Convention in Nashville, along with 10 other DKG members from NH,

WRITERS' CORNER

WHISPER by Martha (Marnie) Verville, Eta

In the dark of night
Lying quietly in my bed, I heard
A soft, almost silent, breathing.
I turned and looked, but
You were not there.
I listened more intently now
And heard the breath again—
I reached out but
You were not there.
And then I heard you
Like a gentle breeze in the night
Your soft whisper, "I love you,"
And I knew that you were there.

THE YUCCA by Martha (Marnie) Verville, Eta

The Yucca had never bloomed.
Planted years ago by Bill
Fertilized-transplanted-talked to-fussed over-
Treated with tenderness and gentle care,
But it never bloomed.
Green spikey leaves grew greener every year
Lifting upward toward the sky
Shining in the sun
But never a bud nor a bloom.
Bill died in April.
The Yucca lived on,
And in July, up from the center,
Glorious in the sun, White bell-like flowers
Reaching toward the sky and heaven—
Bill's Yucca is in bloom.

Note: Marnie wrote these two poems in memory of her late husband, Bill Verville, who died in 1997. She really heard his voice in the night, and the yucca bloomed until she moved in 2006.

DKG CHAPTERS HONOR WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

Alpha Chapter honors Joanne Stroshine as their 2016 Woman of Distinction. Joanne received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Keene State College. She received the Sprague Drenan Alumni Award for her support and dedication to the college's Alumni Association.

She moved to Charlotte, NC, transferring her DKG membership and serving as president of the Beta Sigma Chapter. While there, she taught at two high schools and also served as office manager of the Pi Kappa National Fraternity Headquarters.

After returning to NH, Joanne taught English at Monadnock Regional High School until retirement in 2013. Now she is supervising student teachers for Franklin Pierce University in Keene.

Joanne served as Alpha's president from 2014-16. She has also chaired many committees, including the membership committee. She works tirelessly to help members grow professionally by hosting enlightening guests and speakers. She invites new members and assists with orientation. She participates in such chapter events as singing at nursing homes, gardening for local parks, and making cards for veterans. Finally, she informs members of innovative educational happenings by inviting instructors to discuss common core, growing food hydroponically, and other important topics.

Beta Chapter honors Yvonne Crocker as their 2016 Woman of Distinction. Yvonne has been a member of DKG and Beta Chapter since 1981. She has served as state president and 2nd vice president, as well as recording secretary. In addition, she was chapter president for two terms. She has been a tremendous help to incoming chapter presidents and has been the "glue" that has held Beta Chapter together for many years.

Yvonne earned two Bachelor degrees – one in Humanities, specializing in languages, and one in Secondary Education. She also earned two Master degrees – one in Developing Programming and Individual Instruction and one in the Education of Gifted and Talented. She also completed her course work toward a doctorate in administration.

Yvonne spent most of her teaching career in the Concord area, specializing in foreign languages, especially German. She was chosen Outstanding Foreign Language Teacher of the Year in 1990. She established an exchange program in 1979 with Wegbery, West Germany, taking groups of 26+ students for a month's stay with host families. That endeavor, itself, deserves an award!



Caroline Butler, Sheila Mable, Joanne Stroshine and Joanne deVillafane (back to front) received Chapter Achievement Awards at the Mt. Washington Resort.

Gamma Chapter honors Jacki Hinton as their 2016 Woman of Distinction. Jacki, a native of CT, taught in the lower grades at Pease Air Force Base and later at Dondero School in Portsmouth. She received her master's degree from Lesley College. Her classes always excelled with innovative projects that allowed each child to be challenged and acquire a strong learning foundation.

Jacki has contributed to Gamma with a genuine interest in all projects and activities. She has served on many chapter committees and as treasurer and is currently recording secretary. Through her creative flair, she has shared paintings and beautiful needlework used for Beta Alpha State baskets and favors. Many state members have the pleasure of owning some of Jackie's paintings. A talented lady, a wife of an air force veteran with their last assignment at Pease Air Force Base, and an active grandmother, she is a special member of Gamma Chapter.



President Sheila Knight of Gamma Chapter presented the Achievement Award to Jacki Hinton at their May meeting.

Delta Chapter honors Joan deVillafane as their 2016 Woman of Distinction. She joined Delta Chapter in 1988. As a school nurse at the White Mountains Regional High School, she initiated vision and hearing assessments for pre-school students and served on Governor Sununu's Council on Chem. Free Graduation. In 1994 she was named the NH Nurse of the Year and also received the EDDY for Excellence in Education. She was the first school nurse to receive this award.

Joan has faithfully hosted and attended meetings and has served on several chapter committees. As a member of the Finance Committee, her strategies and ideas have helped maintain our annual programs. She learned from her experiences as First Vice President, Second Vice President, and Recording Secretary. Joan has contributed her quilting skill by donating items to support our biennial Grant-In-Aid Raffle. She has extended the spirit of our DKG Promises to her community activities by sewing Hospice Bears for client families and by being a Hospice volunteer.

Joan is a "Delta Treasure." Her sense of humor is infectious. She listens and offers support to fellow caregivers. Her "How can I help?" and "What can I do?" enable our initiatives to move forward. Congratulations, Joan!

Epsilon Chapter honors Barbara Williams as their 2016 Woman of Distinction. Barbara is the consummate Delta Kappa Gamma member, but much of her participation is in ways that may not be visible to others on the outside. She is often in the background helping the chapter in those small, often overlooked ways. She is a gracious hostess, volunteering her classroom space for chapter meetings and going above and beyond to make sure members feel comfortable and welcome. She shows kindness to all and is generous with her time, her expertise, her creativity, and her handiwork. She is present and engaged in so many ways, small and large, and has helped many members feel that they are a valuable part of the group. We hope this award helps her to see how much we recognize and appreciate her!

Eta Chapter honors Caroline Butler as their 2016 Woman of Distinction. Caroline graduated from Plymouth State and went on to earn her graduate degree in Early Childhood from the University of NH. She first taught at Keene State College Lab School and later was building principal at Farmington Elementary and at Maple Wood Elementary in Somersworth from which she retired in 2012. She then became the Title I Director and grant writer for SAU 56 and promises to retire in 2017! Through her public school positions, she has been a mentor to many educators and students.

Over 35 years ago, friends and family prompted Caroline to become a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. Collegiality and service have been key factors of her active membership. She has recommended other educators for society membership, has graciously hosted many chapter meetings, and served as

as president of Eta. Currently, she is our Recording Secretary and the chairperson of our Professional Affairs/Research Committee. Eta appreciates her dedication to our chapter and is pleased to acknowledge Caroline for this distinguished honor.

Theta Chapter honors Sheila Mable as their 2016 Woman of Distinction. She stepped up to the plate at a time when she was needed the most. As chapter president two terms, she provided the leadership that was lost with the deaths of Lois Plimpton and Taffy McGuigan. Sheila gives and gives. She has hosted chapter and state executive board meetings at her home, acted as a guide for new Theta officers, and remains our communication chair while serving as state president and editor of *CHIPS*. In addition, she has made many presentations at the chapter, state, regional and national levels since her initiation in 1981.

Sheila earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Vermont. She retired in 2014 after 51 years teaching high school and college English. During her career and retirement, she has been honored as Vermont Teacher of the Year, Outstanding Speech Educator of the Northeast, Karner Blue Toastmasters' Mentor of the Year, and NH Department of Environmental Services' 2015 Volunteer of the Year for coordinating the Speechcraft Program for seven quarters.

SNIPPETS:

ABOUT DKG CONVENTION & NASHVILLE

Ruth Conwell: "There is no doubt that attending the DKG International Convention in Nashville was one of the most wonderful trips of my lifetime. Such events make DKG come alive!"

Maurine Henry: "I had the pleasure of traveling to and from Nashville with Peggy Saunders and Ruth Conwell. What a wonderful opportunity for discussions on a variety of topics including family, hobbies and, of course, DKG."

Barbara Mee: "The workshops, info sessions, marketplace, general sessions, meeting friends, learning, keynote speakers, sharing, busy...There aren't enough adjectives to describe the fun of an International convention."

Peggy Saunders: "Maurine, Ruth and I made a trip to downtown Nashville, walked around, and had a guided tour in a horse-drawn carriage. I have found the members at DKG conventions to be very positive people, contributing to the whole positive experience."

Brenda Walker: "We were reminded that our chapters are the heart of DKG by defeating a motion to allow members to drop chapter membership and belong only to the State and International organizations."



2016 BAS SPRING CONFERENCE -- MOUNT WASHINGTON RESORT



*Photos by
Barbara Mee, Betty Gilman
& Ann Gaffney*



Four photos courtesy of Music City Live and one courtesy of Marna Ingerson.

~2016 DKG INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION IN NASHVILLE~

Cut here

Beta Alpha State Fall Meeting Registration

Saturday, September 24, 2016

**Wright Museum of WW II
7 Center Street, Wolfboro, NH
10 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**

Name: _____

Chapter: _____

Email: _____

Phone No. _____

Please send a check for **\$15.00** payable to **Beta Alpha State** with this registration form by **September 17, 2016**, to **Terry Thompson, 720 Vermont Route 12, Hartland, VT 05048.**

*Those we love and lose are always connected
by heartstrings into infinity. ~Terri Guillemets*

WHITE ROSES—IN MEMORY



Our Delta Sisters:

Annie Forts d. 5/26/16

Muriel Manghue d. 5/7/16

IMPORTANT DATES

2016:

- 9/1 State Treasurer—Form 16 due
- 9/1 Fall DKG Art Gallery Submissions
- 9/24 BAS Fall Meeting—Saturday
- 10/31 Chapter Treasurers—2016 dues
- 11/15 State Treasurer—File 990 due

2017:

- 2/1 International Scholarship App. due
- 2/3 CHIPS deadline
- 2/11 BAS Executive Board Meeting
- 3/1 Applications to BAS Scholarships
- 3/1 Nominations for Founders Award
- 3/30-4/1 BAS Spring Conference
Sheraton, Portsmouth



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proofreader, Rachel Young, for helping with this issue.*

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