



THE CHIPS OF GRANITE

August 2011

Beta Alpha State News

NH



MARY PARKER RECEIVES 2011 FOUNDERS' AWARD

by Elaine Landry, Alpha Chapter

Mary Parker, Sullivan resident and Alpha Chapter member, was honored on Saturday, April 2, 2011, as the recipient of the Beta Alpha State Founders' Award. This award was created to honor a current member of the state who has furthered the purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in a significant way. The ceremony took place at the spring conference held at the Common Man Inn and Restaurant in Claremont, New Hampshire.

A member of DKG since 1978, Mary graduated from the Elliot Community School of Nursing in Keene and later earned a Bachelor's degree from Keene State College. She began her school nursing career in the Monadnock Regional School District, serving both elementary and high school students. In 1970 she transferred to Keene Junior High School as the school nurse and became the School Nurse Teacher Supervisor for the Keene School District from 1973-1990. During this time she promoted elementary health education and wellness programs for the staff.

Among other professional activities, Mary served on the Executive Board of the NH School Nurses' Association, was active in Home Health Care and Community Services, and was the school health liaison to Keene community agencies.

As a member of the local Alpha Chapter, she was twice chapter president, served as recording secretary, and has held the position of treasurer for several years. At the state level, she was Beta Alpha State's corresponding secretary.

Mary was honored by the American Cancer Society for an anti-smoking education program and locally for writing *The History of School Health in Keene*. In 1988 she was named New Hampshire's School Nurse of the Year.

For many years Mary served as Sullivan's town treasurer and is a trustee and friend of the Sullivan Public Library. She recently completed a book cataloging the history of the Sullivan Congregational Church. She has also served as corresponding secretary for the Cheshire County Retired Educators' Association.

The Founders' Award presentation stated:

We salute you, Mary Parker, as an outstanding member of our Society. You have demonstrated a complete understanding of the Purposes of our Society and have enriched the Beta Alpha State with your many accomplishments. You have a keen interest in the education of children, have a rich educational background, and have brought honor to our profession. By honoring you today, we honor the memories of the Founders of Beta Alpha State and provide a continuing awareness of the history of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

"I am very honored by this award," said a surprised Mary.

"We are very proud of you and for all that you do," replied Alpha Chapter members.



Peggy Guilmette congratulates Mary Parker on receiving the 2011 Founders' Award at the spring conference.

GREETINGS FROM FLORA:



Photographs by Jim, 2008

EMBRACING OUR VISION: DESIGNING OUR FUTURE

Occasionally...just occasionally life interferes with our plans. Just such an occurrence happened this summer that forced me to rethink my plans, my schedule, and my life. Please be of good cheer because I am living proof that forced reflection can indeed be a good thing!

Here I was at the Northeast Regional Conference with a broken hand, but I was with six amazing women from New Hampshire who served to remind me of why our state is extraordinary. We had a fabulous time and share many memories of Hershey, the "sweetest place on earth." And may I add that I just may have been cured of my desire for chocolate. Wouldn't that be a good thing?

So refreshed, restored, re-energized, I have a fabulous opening to what promises to be a fantastic year. We are going to "Reach for the Stars" as our fall program will indeed take place at the planetarium. Do not miss this unique opportunity to enjoy the renovated facility in a very special celebratory year. The program will begin with a business meeting at 9 o'clock, so reserve Saturday, September 24, to celebrate your membership in DKG. The executive board has great plans for our biennium; but frankly, we cannot succeed without you. Please come and help embrace our vision and design our future. I look forward to seeing you all in Concord.

Carpe Diem!
Flora

DATES TO REMEMBER

Saturday, September 24, 2011
BETA ALPHA STATE FALL MEETING
"Reach for the Stars"
McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, Concord
9 a.m. to noon

Sunday, January 15, 2012
Scholarship Application Deadline

Saturday, January 21, 2012 (or Jan. 28, snow date)
EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, March 29-31, 2012
BAS SPRING CONFERENCE
Place: TBA
Hostess: Delta

RED ROSES

Karen LeDuc, Alpha
Phyllis Marinoff, Alpha
Cathleen Puffer, Alpha
Sharon Wilson, Alpha

Constance Lanseigne, Epsilon

Donna-Marie Gamlin, Theta
Judith Rogato, Theta

WHITE ROSES

Amy Brown, Theta



CHAPTER CHATTER

ALPHA CHAPTER NEWS

Ann Ayotte and **Carole Plaisted** were invited to attend the Keene State College Emeriti Faculty Dinner in June. Both are retired from Wheelock School, the former Laboratory School for Keene State.

Re-retiring is **Nancy Belsky**, who is leaving the adjunct staff of KSC's math department.

Several Alpha Chapter members took part in the annual Cheshire County Retired Educators' Association project, Reading in the Schools. An attempt is made to visit every second grade class in the county on a day in May where a book selected by CCREA is read to the class by a retired educator. The book is then presented to the class. This year's book was *Lousy, Rotten, Stinkin' Grapes*, a spoof of an Aesop's Fable, written by Margie Palatini. Alpha participants were **Nancy Belsky, Claire Costin, Jeanette Gardner, Elaine Landry, Lucinda Lowell, Martha Marsette, Peg Saunders, and Deborah Schofield.**

Claire Costin also attended KSC's Emeriti Faculty Dinner as the guest of her husband, David E. Costin, who hosted the event. In addition, the Costins are excited to announce that they have become great-grandparents. "Grandson Kyle has brought us sweet, tiny Halley Rae Ann, who is living with her mom and dad in Grantham, NH," Claire announced.

Congratulations go to **Cheryl Kahn**, who is retiring from the Monadnock Regional School District, where she has currently been serving as President of the Monadnock District Educators' Association.

Helen Ann Kelly attended a two-day SDE workshop in Manchester with five colleagues from the Kindergarten, First and Second Grade Team at Chesterfield School. The team gained a great deal of knowledge and had fun going out to dinner and shopping, too!

Cathleen Puffer reports that her son will be married in the fall. Chapter member **Lucinda Lowell** has offered to make 40 invitations for the bridal shower in September.

See feature articles about Alpha members **Mary Parker** and **Norma Walker** on pp. 1 and 8.

Alpha is pleased to welcome five new chapter members in 2010-2011:

Julie Dutton, a Surry resident, joined Alpha in the fall. Currently an adjunct faculty member in Keene State College's foreign language department, she has been a French teacher for years, many of them at Saint Joseph's Regional School in Keene.

Karen LeDuc, Westmoreland, received her Bachelor of Education degree from KSC in 1971 and has taught elementary grades K-4 throughout the Monadnock region until accepting the position of Supervisor of Student Teaching at KSC from 1986 until 2008. Her academic service includes supporting interns from Antioch University New England and being on gifted and talented committees from 1998 to 2008. Karen is also a member of Kappa Delta Pi National Honor Society in Education.

Phyllis Marinoff, currently an instructional assistant in the Monadnock Regional School District, holds a Master of Arts in College and University Administration. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Community Co-Op and as Assistant Director of the Long Island University Student Activities. Phyllis has worked as a tutor for community education, as a secretary of the Keene High School Band Boosters, and as a Sunday School Teacher in Great Neck, NY.

Cathleen Puffer, Keene, received her Bachelor of Education degree in Elementary Education in 1970. She is currently retired from the Winchester School District (NH) after many years of teaching.

Sharon Wilson, Keene, teaches French at Monadnock Regional High School, where she also coordinates exchange visits between students in France, Montreal, and Quebec. She is also the advisor to the French Club at MRHS and belongs to her church choir.

CREATE A BUZZ!



BETA CHAPTER NEWS

Helen Benham, Anne Dontonville, Jan Kulig, and Susan Mellow completed a graduate level course Using Children's Literature in Independent Reading Programs. This course addressed a growing number of students who are illiterate. They can read but don't like to and also don't choose to do so.

Also **Helen Benham** took a trip to southern Spain in April. She saw 44 new species of birds and used her limited Spanish to communicate with the people. She may also be sitting on a committee in NH that will be setting standards and scores for the Praxis.

Helen Goodwin published *Tales of Enfield*, a book of stories told by her mother. The book is dedicated to the 250th celebration of Enfield's charter. On Saturday, July 2, Helen coordinated a visitation at the one-room Lockhaven School in conjunction with that celebration. Some Beta members helped with the programs.

Jan Kulig's older daughter, Sarah, a 2009 Smith College graduate, will be attending graduate school at Lesley University in Cambridge, MA, beginning in the fall. Jan's younger daughter, Rachel, graduated from Stonehill College in Brockton, MA, in May with a degree in sociology.

Joan Tarleton completed a certificate in Neurodevelopment Teaching offered by The Center for School Success through Plymouth University.

Lisa Torres sent a class set of chemistry lab equipment to El Salvador in February. She went in July to work with science teachers in the village of San Jose Villanueva in developing a lab curriculum for chemistry.

GAMMA CHAPTER NEWS

President **Sheila Knight** reports the following: "We enjoyed our picnic at New Castle Commons during the time of the Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey. We thought of our Beta Alpha sisters who were busy there... and eating chocolate!

"We shared antiques that we have: photos, chairs, china, samplers, jewelry and Victorian children. In addition, we caught up on the news and learned we were busy with a variety of activities: art projects, exhibits, thrift shops, food pantries, historic preservation, household projects, summer weddings, and visits with children and grandchildren.

"We look forward to hosting Beta Alpha State's fall meeting in September. See you there."



Delta Chapter and their guests enjoyed meeting at The Balsams.

DELTA CHAPTER NEWS

Delta Chapter members welcomed special guests from Theta and Eta Chapters at their June 30th meeting at The Balsams in Dixville Notch. A social was held prior to the business meeting during which 20-year pins were awarded to **Joan deVillafane** and **Joanne Hennessey**. Also 25-year pins were awarded to **Barbara Baker, Pamela Read,** and **Judy Millan** while 40-year pins were given to **Rita Blakslee** and **Mary Young**.

An initiation was held, welcoming new members **Audrey DiMaria** and **Jacqueline Quintal**. Audrey has worked for more than 25 years in art therapy with emotionally disturbed children. She lives in Washington and Lisbon. Jacky lives in Milan and was a teaching principal in religious education. "We are sure that these two ladies will bring fresh and exciting ideas to our chapter!" said President **Marna Ingerson**.

Following the initiation, our 2012 grant-in-aid winner was announced: Jessica Davis from Lisbon will receive a check for \$750.00 after the completion of her first semester. She will be attending Eastern Nazarene College as an Elementary Education major.

Our giant raffle to support our grant-in-aid was held before the scrumptious buffet. Sharing this lovely location is always a special time for Delta ladies and their guests!

Judy Erickson started teaching in Massachusetts in 1975 and then moved to New Hampshire where she resumed teaching in 1988. This year Judy retired and was thrilled to receive the Amelia B. Morse Award for Excellence in Teaching.

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Delta's Finance/Executive Committees met for a potluck brunch and business meeting at President **Marna Ingerson's** house in Whitefield on Friday, July 22, devising an exciting finance plans.

Next year's **Tri-Chapter (Beta, Delta, & Theta) meeting**, scheduled for April 28, 2012, may have a change of venue as Delta hostesses are investigating what The Common Man in Plymouth would offer us for space and lunch.

Peggy Guilmette travelled with Barbara Mee to attend the Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey, PA, in late July.

EPSILON CHAPTER NEWS

Learn about **Anne Gaffney's** scholarships on p. 10.

In July **Barbara Mee** drove to the Northeast Regional in Hershey, PA, taking Ann Gaffney of Epsilon, Peggy Guilmette of Delta, and Anne Nute of Eta with her. Barbara serves on the Educators Award Committee, "which is charged with the responsibility of selecting an appropriate book as winner of the annual Educators Award."

Barbara also traveled to Aruba in July and is planning an eight-day educational tour of Salzburg and Venice for April 2012. See her for details if interested.

Winnie Schmidt is a new member in NH Epsilon, transferring from northern Maine. She writes: "I am a retired teacher who needed something to do that was interesting but not a real job. I found it and would like to share it with others who might be looking for something. Manchester has a large community of immigrants/refugees who need to learn the English language. I volunteer at the Holy Family Learning Center on the west side of Manchester, helping adult learners from Nepal learn our language. The commitment is two hours a day, two days a week. The people who volunteer, as well as the students, are wonderful people. The group I worked with this year consisted of men and women in their mid 50s who have never had the opportunity to attend school because they have been in refugee camps for nearly 20 years after fleeing Bhutan because of civil rights denial. They want to learn, to get jobs, and to become US citizens."

ETA CHAPTER NEWS

Martha "Marnie" Verville attended Delta's June meeting at The Balsams in Dixville Notch. She and her husband enjoyed the resort an extra day.

Anne Nute travelled with Barbara Mee to the Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey, PA, in late July.

THETA CHAPTER NEWS



Doris Barnes, our honorary member pictured above, celebrated her 100th birthday on March 16, 2011. She enjoyed a party with 60 of her friends and colleagues. She reflected back on her 80 years of teaching, including 12 years as a tutor and attributed her longevity and energy to "her good diet, good genes, and inner spirit."

Pat Bolduc has been busy. She and her husband Bob attended their twin granddaughters' first communion this spring. On Memorial Day Pat and Bob, along with their daughters Mimi and Michelle and their families visited Story Land and stayed at the Fox Ridge Hotel for the fifth year in a row. Also Pat helped plan her 50th Boston State College reunion, which she attended in June.

Pam Clark had a great time visiting her daughter and granddaughter in Florida in late April for Maddison's second birthday.

Pam Clark and **Sheila Mable** attended the Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey, PA, in July. "We thank Theta Chapter for the financial help given to us for the flight expenses," they said.

Marilyn Coffin, **Julie Swain** and **Lori Thompson** attended the "Arts Alive 2011—Art Teachers' Conference" at the Belknap Mill in Laconia. "Creative Bookmaking was the theme, and the variety of examples of 3-D books completed by NH art educators was outstanding," said Marilyn.

Ruth Conwell and her husband Scott enjoyed part of their April vacation in Pennsylvania. In addition, she served as chair of the Math Department at Cardigan Mountain School's Summer Session. "And my daughter Tara Kohnke graduated from the US Army Basic Training on June 17," Ruth announced proudly.

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THETA (continued from p. 5)

Tiffany Dube has taken on a part-time job as Publicity Director for the Kearsarge Arts Theatre Company. "We are a non-profit summer camp for kids located in N. Sutton at the Kearsarge Regional High School. During a four-week intensive summer program, young people (4-18) developed their talents in theatre, dance, music and the visual arts, with a staff of over 40 dedicated professional artists and educators." This year the students put on *Les Miserables* and *Peter Pan*.

Priscilla Fletcher and her husband Wayne went on a two-week cruise to Hawaii this spring. "The weather was delightful and the activities on the ship certainly kept us busy!" Priscilla said.

Rebecca Frame enjoyed several vacations: "a road trip to Minnesota in May, one to an island off the coast of Maine in July, and one right here in the Lakes Region in August," she explained. She also will travel to Hawaii in October. "Retirement is fun!" she added.

MEET THE NER CONFERENCE GOERS

(Front to Back) Beta Alpha State president Flora Sapsin, Anne Nute, Barbara Mee, Ann Gaffney, Sheila Mable, Pam Clark and Peggy Guilmette represented New Hampshire at the Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey, PA, in July. At the US Forum Ann Gaffney initiated a motion that supported Social Security in its current form. The motion passed unanimously.

(NER pictures on pp. 6 and 11 came from Photographs by Jim.)



Theta Chapter welcomes two new members: **Donna-Marie Gamlin** and **Judi Rogato**. Donna-Marie is a K-12 reading/writing specialist who teaches first grade in Laconia and is a presenter for the Plymouth Writing Project. Judi is a Title I tutor in Concord and is a presenter of True Colors.

Nancy Gibbons had a busy June going to graduations and a wedding. Her twin granddaughters graduated from Laconia High. Her grandson got married in Newport, RI; and her granddaughter in Virginia graduated from Chantilly High.

Karen Goss's oldest daughter, Kylie, graduated from Win-nisquam High School in January and walked with her class in June.

Donna Houle, Nancy Gibbons, Ruth Conwell, Brenda Walker, Pam Clark and **Sheila Mable** attend the BAS Spring Conference in Claremont, NH, at The Common Man. At the Service of Remembrance, Ruth paid tribute to her mom Kathryn Carlson while Brenda and Nancy paid tribute to Taffy McGuigan.

Bev Jones enjoyed a trip to Palm Desert, CA, in March to attend the BNP Paribas Tennis Open at Indian Wells.

This fall **Sheila Mable** will be teaching College Composition II at Southern NH University on Saturdays. The focus will be on argumentative writing.

Gerna Magnusson, Pam Clark, Kathy Lacroix, Sheila Mable, Nancy McCall (and guest), and **Brenda Walker** went to Delta's June meeting at The Balsams. They enjoyed the meeting, initiation, the BIG raffle, and the buffet lunch.

"My daughter Jenna graduated from Radford University (VA) and will spend a year attending graduate school at the University of Auckland in New Zealand," **Judi Rogato** announced.

Karen Sullivan's daughter Lindsay is living in Richmond, VT, and is working for a theatrical production company.

"Southwick School won a contest to have author/illustrator Jan Brett come for a day to promote her new book and encourage literacy and the arts," said **Julie Swain**. "My classes participated in creating three large 3-D murals for that event."

Brenda Walker was named as a runner-up in a local favorite teacher contest, sponsored by stations WERZ and KISS and by People's United Bank. Each teacher received a scholarship to award to one student from Sylvan Learning Center for each winning teacher's classroom and a gift card from People's United Bank to purchase classroom supplies.



Kelly Budd saved the day at Beta Alpha State's Spring Conference in Claremont, NH, during a snow storm.

BETA ALPHA STATE SURVIVES APRIL FOOLS' DAY

by Elaine Landry, Alpha Chapter

(With apologies to T. S. Eliot)

*April is the cruellest month, breeding
Lilacs out of the dead land, mixing
Memory and desire, stirring
Dull roots with spring...SNOW!*

Yes, Mother Nature's cruel April 1st storm tested the patience and improvisational talents of attendees at Beta Alpha State's Spring Conference in Claremont, NH.

As program planner for the event, I suffered some moments of panic as one by one our keynote speakers became either snowbound or ill and canceled out. Just one of four Friday speakers appeared.

The one, fortunately, was Kelly Budd, Keene High School's librarian and media specialist. Kelly is a long-time friend and colleague who has more energy and charisma than 20 people combined. Two days before the conference, I expressed my weather concerns to her since I knew that the key presenter Malcolm Smith, New Hampshire state bullying program specialist, would have to drive from Durham. In her usual generous manner, Kelly offered to tote her anti-bullying program materials from Keene. The SAU #29 staff had benefited from Dr. Smith's presentation last fall. Thanks to Kelly, we had a "just-in-case" plan.

At 10:00 AM on Friday, Kelly's informative program began. Members learned how technology can connect students to state and local libraries, how many books can be stored on small devices, how reluctant readers can be aided by downloads from text books to computers, and how data bases can be used by many students at the same time. There was much more, but we could see how technology is impacting traditional library use.

After a brief interlude, it was time for the anti-bullying program--presented by Kelly Budd! She explained that she, Fran Colton (a DKG member), and Rachel Summe (KHS House Administrator) were on a committee to bring the state-mandated anti-bullying law into the high school.

A major focus in 2010-2011 was to participate in a One Book-One Read program in which all students met in small advisory groups to read and discuss selected segments of an anti-bullying theme-based novel--in this case, Jodi Picoult's *Nineteen Minutes*, a controversial story. Thus parents were informed of the program before it was initiated. The staff was informed and trained, and while results were not perfect, Kelly stated that attitudinal changes among students had occurred. Jodi Picoult and John Halligan, the father of Ryan Halligan, a tragic bullying victim, addressed student assemblies. Their charge to students: "It is up to individuals to apologize to those that they have hurt."

The connection to *Nineteen Minutes* was now clear. The result? Bystanders reported negative behaviors found online, and students have come to understand that change begins with them. *A Teaching Tolerance* website can be located at the Keene High School website. There you can find a list of references and resources, including a film free to schools, "Bullied: A Student, a School, and a Case that Made History."

Following Kelly's presentation, we had an open afternoon with no speaker. It was then that Jennifer Brockett, general manager of The Common Man, offered her services. [See p. 10.] The inn and restaurant are on the site of a beautifully converted old mill building. Jennifer provided a lecture and film presentation detailing Claremont's loss of industry and the subsequent rebirth of the mill complex--as lesson with which most New Hampshire educators can identify. As I thanked Jennifer for her help, she said, "And I wasn't even supposed to be on duty today!"

Perhaps we can connect this Beta Alpha State Spring Conference with the theme of *serendipity*, "the faculty or phenomenon of finding valuable or agreeable things not sought for." Thus, a meeting made up of changed plans, generous substitutes, and the gift of extra time shared with delightful companions provided a memorable event.



KEENE STATE HONORS ALPHA'S NORMA WALKER

(from the 21st Annual Outstanding Women of NH Awards Program)

Norma Wright Walker '51, alumna of Keene Teachers College and friend to all alumni of this institution, is an ambassador of good will and good news about Keene State College and its long history. Norma has maintained her own strong connection to the college while working steadily to cement heartfelt loyalties among other alumni. It's Norma who has almost single-handedly created the Golden Circle—open to all alumni who graduated more than 50 years ago—and made it the vibrant and active group it is today. We can often find Norma in the Alumni Center, pitching in on alumni events and activities and doing what she does best—bringing people together. The Golden Circle luncheons she started in 1997 now number above 100, each one organized and graciously presided over by Norma.

Norma grew up on a farm in Hancock, NH, and went to Keene Teachers College, where she made lasting friendships; starred in volleyball, softball, basketball, and field hockey; and graduated into a career in elementary education. She taught reading at several schools in the Monadnock region, including a stint at Wheelock School (her dream job), and received her master's degree from Keene in 1959. A champion of literacy, she taught KSC students how to teach reading.

Norma "retired" in 1985. She established the Norma Walker Scholarship Endowment to advance reading awareness. And she became Keene State's most avid alumni

volunteer, serving on the alumni board and communicating with alums in her friendly, steadfast way.

For years Norma has been collecting memories from her Golden Circle Members— anecdotes, poignant stories, and funny recollections of student days. She makes sure each alumnus feels valued and connected. She would be the first to agree that our history is, indeed, our strength. We honor Norma today for her generous spirit, her kindness, and her wisdom.

IS IT A SCHOLARSHIP OR A GRANT-IN-AID?

by Barbara Baker, Delta Chapter, Bylaws Chair

There are two DKG Purposes that support our educational endeavors.

“To advance the professional interest and position of women in education.”

“To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to women educators from other countries.”

Each chapter may elect to support its members in furthering educational pursuits. It may also decide to support women, who are not members of DKG.

A *Scholarship* provides support for a chapter member. The chapter is responsible for establishing criteria, guidelines for applying, rules for selection, and the amount of the scholarship. These items shall be reflected in the Chapter Rules document.

A *Grant-In-Aid* may be awarded to a non-member. In this case, the chapter is also responsible for the criteria, guidelines for applying, selection procedures, and the monetary amount awarded. This information must also be included in the Chapter Rules document.

Chapter members may elect to have a Scholarship and/or a Grant-In-Aid. Members may vote to have neither. Chapters may amend the criteria, guidelines, selection process, or amount of the award by vote of its members. All changes are then reflected in the Chapter Rules.

ED. FOUNDATION LIAISONS AT WORK

by Barbara Baker, Delta Chapter

The Educational Foundation Liaison is a new position, created to promote the work of the DKG Foundation at the state level. I encourage members perusing Master or Doctorate degrees, chapters requiring grants to begin/continue/conclude community activities, members needing assistance planning conferences or seeking on-line courses to go to dkg.org to view these opportunities.

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LIASONS AT WORK *(continued from p. 8)*

As of June 2011, 35% of the state organization Educational Foundation Liaisons and Trustees responded to a survey highlighting the activities of liaisons during the past year.

The report follows:

- 97% of those that responded had communicated with their state organization and chapters about the work of the Foundation. They did this by sending email messages to chapter presidents, publishing articles in the state organization newsletters and on Web sites, and giving updates and reports at conventions, district/area meetings and executive board meetings. One liaison developed a folder of opportunities offered by the foundation and sent it to members upon request. Another liaison added Educational Foundation application deadlines to the state organization calendar.
- 90% of the respondents notified members about the Educational Foundation activities, awards, stipends, etc. and encouraged them to apply. In addition to using email, Web sites and newsletters, liaisons presented workshops at meetings and spoke personally with members at chapter visits.
- 48% of those that responded recognized recipients at a state meeting this year. (Not every liaison had a current recipient from her state organization this year.) They recognized recipients with certificates at award luncheons, presented red roses, placed photos of recipients in state newsletters, and asked awardees to present workshops at a state organization meeting/convention. The Teacher to Teacher: Alaska to El Salvador project presentation, found on the DKG Web site, was shown at a convention.
- 83% of the respondents had looked at the new Educational Foundation pages on the Society Web site. Two answered, "Not yet, but I will."

Information packets will be available from your Chapter President, or you may contact me directly at bbaker08@wildblue.net. The DKG International home page has a link to educational awards and stipends, as does their link to Beta Alpha NH. **The opportunity is yours!**

TRY THE MEETING WIZARD

by Maurine Henry, Alpha Chapter

Are you having trouble setting times for meetings? Do you have a group with a variety of schedules to work around? I have found a site that may be helpful to you – meetingwizard.com. This site allows you to offer a variety of dates to your members. They receive an e-mail with a link to Meeting Wizard. The site lists the possible dates for a meeting, and they check off the dates that they are

available. After Wizard tallies the votes, you can choose the date that is suitable for the most number of people. Once you choose the date, Meeting Wizard notifies your members of the meeting date and will even send a reminder to them if needed.

The most difficult part of the process is putting in all the e-mail addresses. I found that I could copy and paste each members address onto the site using my address book. I was not able to load a group of names; they had to be done individually. However, once the names are loaded into your address book on the site, you are set to send meeting queries again and again.

The best part – it's free!



KATHY LACROIX CONTINUES HER GLOBETROTTING

In mid-April Kathy Lacroix of Theta Chapter went on a nine-day Tulip River Cruise that started and ended in Amsterdam but also went into Belgium. It started with a visit to the Rijksmuseum--the Dutch National Museum in Amsterdam--to view Rembrandt's famous collection "The Masterpieces."

"In Arnhem we toured an open-air museum showing life from the 1700's up to 1970 (similar to our Sturbridge Village)," Kathy said. "Having a chance to tour the Deltaworks Project and see firsthand how the Dutch have pushed back the sea and created more farm land was truly amazing. After a devastating flood in the 50's, they started to create a system of dams and dikes to ensure both more farm land and to make it safe since much of their land is below sea level."

She also toured Ghent, Bruges and beautiful Antwerp in Belgium. "The highlight of the whole trip for me was twofold," she said, "I loved the morning stop in Kinderdijk, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where we took a canal ride to view Holland's largest concentration of windmills and actually went inside one that depicted how a family would have lived there. The main purpose of my going on this trip, though, came when we spent the afternoon at the world-famous Keukenhof Gardens that spanned more than 70 acres where there were more than seven million tulips and other flowers on exhibit."

And in August Kathy travelled to Alaska.



THANKS, JENNIFER!

Thanks, Jennifer Brockett, general manager of The Common Man in Claremont, for offering your services to fill in for absent speakers at our spring conference.

BENNION REPORTS ON GRADUATE WORK

by Linda Bennion, Delta Chapter

I am proud to tell you about my graduate work. I have to credit The Tillotson Foundation and my family for giving me the recognition and support that encouraged me to get going on my degree.

When the Tillotson Foundation selected me as one of its fellows in 2010, this recognition helped me to overcome long standing self-doubt and take the risk to go back to school. I was so scared to go back into the role of student. But as I've worked through on-line and in-person classes, each of my teachers has commented on my work ethic.

As my daughter, Kelsey, saw me working late into the night on course work this year, she said, "Mama, why don't you double up on your courses, so that we can graduate together." So I've completed six classes and am taking two this summer. Then I'll have only one class left, plus my capstone project.

I've found my voice, stretched my thinking, and feel more confident in my interactions with my students, parents and colleagues as I've worked my way through my courses.

I hope to graduate in May 2012 with a self-designed major in education, and I would love to teach undergraduate students how to use trade books to teach content area skills through project-based learning. Instead of impacting student teachers one at a time, I'll be able to reach multiple potential teachers at one time!

My mentors--Marilyn, Pam and Jean B--taught me so much more than my undergraduate classes did. I hope that I can continue to give back in small ways in my school and in larger ways when I take the next step as I become a teacher of teachers.

GAFFNEY RECEIVES SCHOLARSHIPS

Ann Gaffney of Epsilon Chapter received the Keene Founders' Scholarship, a \$750.00 award, given annually by Beta Alpha State for advanced study. She is also one of 26 women to receive a scholarship from DKG International. She was awarded the Carolyn Guss Scholarship, a \$6,000.00 scholarship to be used for graduate study.

Ann teaches mathematics and coordinates programming for gifted students at Londonderry Middle School. She is pursuing a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership and Learning at Rivier College with a particular focus on mathematics education. She is currently in the midst of comprehensive exams and writing her dissertation proposal. "The kind thoughts and calming advice from my sisters in Epsilon Chapter and around the state," said Ann, "help me to keep everything in perspective as I try to balance work, family, and graduate study."

WHY NOT APPLY?

Beta Alpha State has two different awards available to further the professional goals of its members. Applications for these awards are available at the Beta Alpha State meeting in September. The application is also available on-line.

The Beta Alpha State Scholarship

- Beta Alpha New Hampshire members, may apply for these award.
- Applicants must be active contributing members of the Society, for at least three years.
- Members wishing to further their professional growth may apply for this award.
- The intended use of the scholarship includes educational travel, course work, conferences, Elderhostel, or other educational endeavors acceptable to the Scholarship Committee.
- Scholarships of five hundred dollars (\$500.00) each shall be available annually.

The Keene Founders' Scholarship Endowment

Vivian Rockwood, a Beta Alpha State Founder, established this scholarship in 1993.

- Applicants must be active contributing members of the society, for at least three years.
- The recipient must be engaged in advanced degree work in the field of Education.
- Scholarships of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) each shall be awarded annually.
- Selection of a recipient shall be based on the established criteria of the Scholarship Committee.



Kate Campbell Stevenson, speaker at the NER Conference, plays the part of pilot and explorer Louise Boyd in "HERstory."

International president JenSI Souders joins in the music and dance during Pennsylvania Night at the Hershey Lodge.



PICTURES BELOW DOCUMENT BETA ALPHA STATE SPRING CONFERENCE



~BAS Spring Conference pictures were taken by Maurine Henry, Sheila Knight and Sheila Mable~

2010 BAS FALL WORKSHOP

McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center
2 Institute Drive, Concord, NH
Saturday, September 24, 2011

Time: 9 a.m. to Noon
Host: Gamma
Program: "Reach for the Stars"
Cost: \$25.00 (registration & \$10.00 lunch voucher)

Make check payable to Beta Alpha State.
Send registration form and money to:

Mrs. Flora Sapsin
Londonderry High School
295 Mammoth Road
Londonderry, NH 03053

Registration deadline: September 15, 2011

*Education is the most powerful weapon which
you can use to change the world.*

--Nelson Mandela

2011 BAS Fall Workshop Registration

McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center
2 Institute Drive, Concord, NH
Saturday, September 24, 2011

Name: _____

Chapter: _____ Phone #: _____

E-mail: _____

Please send a **\$25 check** made payable to Beta Alpha State
with this registration form by **September 15, 2011**, to:

Mrs. Flora A. Sapsin
Londonderry High School
295 Mammoth Road
Londonderry, NH 03053

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Flora at

Cell: 566-4196
School: 432-6941 ext. 2780
E-mail: fsapsin@londonderry.org

BETA ALPHA STATE

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Members, please send any change of address to Delta Kappa
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