

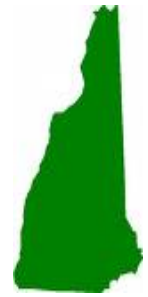


THE CHIPS OF GRANITE

April 2010

Beta Alpha State News

NH



MARY HEATH TO SPEAK AT SPRING CONFERENCE

Mary Sullivan Heath joined the Southern New Hampshire University's School of Education as Dean in 2009, with a commitment to students, teacher preparation and professional development. She will speak at Beta Alpha State's Spring Conference on "Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers."

Heath emphasizes the dynamic and critical role that teacher preparation programs play in preparing students for 21st Century experiences. She recognizes the importance and impact that effective teachers have on the lives of their students as facilitators of learning in a global environment.

Heath's own education is as extensive as her professional history. She graduated from Notre Dame in Manchester with a BA in Elementary Education and English. She went on to earn two master degrees, one in Special Education from Rivier College and the other in Occupational, Vocational-Technical and Adult Education from UNH. And in 1989 she earned a Certificate in Advanced Studies also from UNH.

(continued on p. 9)

INTRODUCING JENSI SOUDERS, NOMINEE FOR DKG PRESIDENT

In her professional circles, she's known as "Dr. Virginia Peck Souders." To her Xi State sisters, she is known simply as "Jensi." But, to the rest of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, it's very possible she may soon be known as "Madame President." Her nomination comes as her biennium as international first vice-president ends this summer at International Convention in Spokane, Washington.

. . . If you had told her 36 years ago, when she first joined DKG, she would one day lead this international organization, she probably would have laughed and said, "No way!" Yet, there were those across Tennessee who knew she could be counted on for her leadership and vision.

Her expertise and desire are really no surprise; after all, her blood runs DKG crimson. Her mother is a member, and Jensi refers to herself as a "Delta Kappa Gamma baby." Her pride in her mother's example, which continues to guide her, is evident as she talks about how important the Society has been to her and her mother. "You get involved and that leads to involvement beyond the state level. The more you are involved, the more you want to be involved," she explained. "Each opportunity to serve has been a personal and professional growth experience for me as I have learned more about the Society and about myself."

What will she be called to accomplish, if she is elected to this top spot? . . . "By 2020, I hope that our vision and mission have become commonly known in the field of education," she said, "and that our organization and members are recognized as the leaders in supporting women educators and educational excellence. I want to see our quality of membership, our excelling in developing educational leaders, and our strong networking across educational levels recognized and respected." And these goals extend beyond the boundaries of our own country to include educators through the world.

(Adapted from XI State News, Feb. 2010)



Greeting from President Flora Sapsin: *Dux Femina Facti!**

I am actually alone in my classroom pondering Vergil's words *Dux Femina Facti* and wondering if he had any clue how they would resonate through the millennia. We have come so far both as women and as educators! Yet there remains so much more for us to accomplish. I have always felt that one of the true advantages of education is the opportunity we are given to begin again. I well understand that you are among the world's busiest women, but spring is coming. Spring...a time of renewal. What does spring mean for you? Every spring brings a special gift for each of us—the Beta Alpha State Spring Conference.

This year the Executive Board is delighted to announce that we are returning to the Red Jacket Mountain View Resort in North Conway. If you have never visited this location, you are in for a rare treat. The site alone makes this conference a must. Add terrific food and amazing presenters, and you have a truly unique professional development opportunity.

So often in our overcrowded lives, we make room for all the essentials; yet, somehow we never consider ourselves essential. This spring take the time to reflect, recharge, and reconnect with fabulous women educators! Read the registration form carefully, and do be sure to **reply by APRIL 12**. The room block disappears after that date, and the cost will no longer be guaranteed. So call a friend, arrange to attend, and wait for spring. Now you have an extraordinary event to anticipate. Please do come; it won't be much fun without you!

* "A woman's in charge" (Vergil, *Aeneid*)

Beta Alpha State Spring Conference Red Jacket, N. Conway, NH May 6—May 8, 2010

The Changing World of Education
Some ABC'S for Successful Educators
"Not your mother's ABC'S"

Staff Development Workshops, Friday, May 7, 2010

Autism
Bullying
Curriculum changes in science
and
So you want to be a teacher

Session 1: 10 a.m.—Preparing Tomorrow's Teachers
Presenter: Mary Sullivan Heath, Dean
School of Education
Southern New Hampshire University

Session 2: 11 a.m.—Bully Proof, a nationwide anti-bullying curriculum with bullying prevention and strategies for coping

Presenter: Mandi Silk, Education and
Outreach Coordinator in Keene
Monadnock Center for Violence Prevention

Lunch: 12 noon

Session 3: 1 p.m.—Autism
"When you have met one person with
Autism, you have met one person with
Autism."
from *An Introduction to the Autism Spectrum*

Presenter: Holly Blais, M. Ed.
FLEX Program Case Coordinator
Londonderry High School
Holly's special interests within the field
include supporting adolescents with ASD,
providing support to families, and developing
her skills as an Applied Behavior Analyst.

Session 4: 2 p.m.—Changing the Science Curriculum
Exciting and innovative programs are in the
works for NH's science teachers and their
students.
Presenters: Staff of New Hampshire's
Project Learning Tree.

CHAPTER CHATTER

ALPHA CHAPTER NEWS:

Four Alpha sisters and their spouses found a great way to escape from winter in NH. **Nancy Belsky, Elaine Landry, Martha Marsette, and Angela Seaver** spent a week in January at the Hotel Gran Bahia Principe on the island of Jamaica between Montego Bay and Ocho Rios. They enjoyed mountain biking, river rafting, and sight seeing along the coast where Christopher Columbus in 1494 met with the preeminent Taino leader known as the caique of Xamayca. The vacation was an excellent way to break up the cold and dark New England season.

The teachers at Central Elementary School in Bellows Falls, VT, are learning to implement "Six Traits Writing." As a literary coach, **Judy Durand** is helping to facilitate this process. She recently received her Reading Specialist Endorsement.

Deidre McPartlin, co-author of *Early Sprouts: Cultivating Healthy Food Choices in Young Children*, announced that the US Surgeon General has bestowed a Community Champion Award to the Early Sprouts program for "its commitment to building partnerships and implementing programs to help kids stay active, encourage kids' healthy eating habits, and promote healthy choices." She presented a program on healthy eating habits for children at Alpha's October meeting.

Mary Parker, Alpha's treasurer, has completed work on the history of the Sullivan United Congregational Church after two years of a loving labor. The resulting book with beautiful photos lets the townspeople know the story of how the church building was developed. Mary and her late husband were instrumental in the addition project.

Carole Plaisted took a scenic foliage flight over the Monadnock Region in October. The day was perfect, the pilot wonderful, and the entire adventure was awesome! Carole has some magnificent photos to prove it.

Peggy Saunders spent a September weekend at "Becoming an Outdoors Woman." She learned about dehydrating foods for camping, field dressing quail and fish, and shooting a muzzleloader rifle. The weekend was sponsored by NH Fish and Game.

Patricia Small has been invited to be an incorporator for Prospect Place, an assisted living home for seniors in Keene. She will thoroughly enjoy helping the staff and elderly at the home, where **Elaine Landry** serves on the board of directors.

Under the direction of **Angela Seaver**, a member of the Keene Pops Chorus, Alpha members serenaded residents at two local elder care facilities in December. This annual project brings seasonal joy to both singers and residents who join in the caroling.

What's the
buzz?



BETA CHAPTER NEWS:

Beta Chapter is involved once again with David's House making quilts. This year, instead of baby quilts, we were requested to make bigger lap quilts for older children. We now have seven quilts in varying stages of completion, but they should be done soon.

Beta Chapter initiated two new members this fall—**Elise Foxall and Joan Tarleton**. Beta Chapter is very fortunate to have both of these women educators as members.

Elise currently teaches language arts at the Richmond Middle School in Hanover. Prior to teaching in Hanover, Elise spent many years teaching overseas in Jakarta, Quito, and New Delhi. In addition to language arts, Elise has taught Spanish and math.

Joan currently teaches US History and Honors Psychology at Woodstock Union High School in Woodstock, VT. She has also taught at Contoocook Valley Regional High School. Joan has taught world history, Asian history, American government, and Vermont history. In 2001 Joan was the University of Vermont Teacher of the Year for Middle and High School.

Lisa Torres spoke at Theta's October meeting on her trip to help the people of El Salvador. (*Read Lisa's story on page 7.*)

GAMMA CHAPTER NEWS:

Gamma Chapter members survived the winter winds, falling trees and power outages and now look forward to springtime.

Penny Bodwell and **Meryl Roy** spent time in beautiful but chilly Florida this winter.

Elizabeth Gailey hosted Gamma's Christmas lunch and meeting at her home in Newcastle.

Betty Gilman recently traveled to China (following in Meryl's footsteps) on a Chamber of Commerce sponsored trip.

Joyce Griffin visited Aruba this winter and enjoyed the blue skies and sunshine.

Priscilla Jenness recovered from a bad ankle break and is now back to "running the town of Rye."

Sheila Knight and her parakeets stayed with friends for two days during the recent wind storm and power outage.

Myrtle Moore continues to be active in St. John's choir and thrift shop.

Ann Smith visited family in Vermont, and later she and her husband went on a cruise to the Caribbean from NYC. She had a chance to swim with the dolphins.

Ruth Tuttle has returned home after a fall, a broken hip and a long stay in rehab.



DELTA CHAPTER NEWS:

Linda Bennion is in her 25th year of teaching and has another student teacher. This will be her third student teacher. Also, Linda and her family will be traveling to Rome in April!

Joan deVillafane spent the Thanksgiving holiday with her children in Gardner, MA, and Brattleboro, VT. She keeps very busy quilting, sewing to make Hospice Memory Bears, and is a Hospice volunteer worker.

Virginia Flint went to California in January with her daughter Judy.

Peggy Guilmette helped with the annual Book Fair at the Lancaster School and still volunteers at the Weeks Hospital on a weekly basis.

Delta Chapter is very proud of **Tina Mooney**, who was initiated into Delta Chapter when she was a para-educator at the Whitefield School. Tina was awarded her bachelor's degree after many nights and weekends of study. She student taught with and was mentored by **Linda Bennion** and also did some long term subbing for Linda. She is currently a second grade teacher at the Whitefield School. And she beams with joy when talking about her new granddaughter!

Anne Morgan, Grand Representative of South Dakota in NH, Order of Eastern Star, traveled to South Dakota in October to attend South Dakota's Grand Chapter. She was made an Honorary Member of South Dakota's 2009 Grand Chapter. Anne then traveled to Hermosa, South Dakota, with her counterpart, Diane Bishop, Grand Representative of New Hampshire in South Dakota. Diane treated Anne to a tour of Custer State Park, Crazy Horse Memorial, Mount Rushmore and surrounding areas.

Pam Read and her husband Ted "hit the road" again in September and traveled to Chincoteague Island in Virginia. Their daughter Kristin and husband Mike accompanied them. "We biked through the many paths in The Assateague Island National Seashore, enjoyed a few days at the beach, loved kayaking from Chincoteague to Assateague, and had an up close and personal encounter with the beautiful and magnificent wild ponies. We were amazed to see them drink the salt water of the Atlantic," Pam said.

When Pam was a second grade teacher at the Whitefield School, she introduced her children to the books written by Marguerite Henry. The books, modified for second and third grade readers, included *Misty of Chincoteague* and *The King of the Wind*. On Chincoteague Pam saw The Pony Penning Place where the auction is held each July, a bronze statue of Misty, and Misty herself, who passed away at 26 and was stuffed for the local museum.

In November Pam and Ted flew to Las Vegas to attend an Enduro Cross Race. They were able to meet the National Champion, Taddy Blazusiak of Poland, and enjoyed the sights and sound of Vegas, especially the Singing Fountains at the Bellagio.

Christine Smith enjoyed being with family at Christmas. She got her Masters in Reading and was the Reading Specialist at the Lancaster School. She missed the classroom, however, and recently went back to being a classroom teacher.

Delta Chapter celebrated the 90th Birthday of **Barbara Stimson** at their December Christmas Meeting. Barbara has been a member of Delta Chapter for 42 years. She highly recommends The Senior Center Bone Builders Program to keep one young and agile.

DELTA NEWS *(continued from p. 4)*

Other members turning 90 this year were **Ginny Flint**, who has been a member for 38 years, and **Ruth Harris**, who has been a member for 50 years and is a founding member of Delta Chapter. **Amelia Morse**, another founding member, celebrated her one hundred and fourth birthday this summer.

EPSILON CHAPTER NEWS:

Jane Fowler was part of a grant writing team, representing first grade at Chester Academy, for the ARRA grant (The America Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009). The purpose was to obtain technology for classrooms for the 21st Century classroom technology model. "Our school was awarded \$150,000 for this grant!" Jane reported. "As a result, I now have in my classroom an interactive whiteboard, a ceiling mounted projector, and a document camera, all connected to a new laptop. I also received a student response system, called Quizdom, which the students can each use to respond to questions that are presented on the interactive whiteboard. It all connects to the internet, which allows unlimited resources and software to enhance lesson presentation and student engagement."

Ann Gaffney gave birth to a healthy baby boy.

Barbara Mee is taking nine travelers on a week-long trip to Greece during the last week of April. They will spend a few nights in Athens and the Napflio area and one day cruising the islands. Plans are also in the works for April 2011, with the destination being Edinburgh and Dublin. Contact her if you are interested as her tours are limited to 19 to 20 people.

Susan Trammell's son Alexander will soon graduate from Bishop Guertin High School and head off to college.

ETA CHAPTER NEWS:

Caroline Butler traveled to China in March visiting Beijing and Shanghai. This trip was offered through the Exeter and Somersworth Chambers of Commerce.

Sandy Crockett has an exchange student from Beijing, China, living with her. She is a sophomore at Somersworth High School. Sandy is enjoying learning more about the Chinese culture and cooking. Her daughter, Jessie Crockett, will have her first novel published on August 15, 2010. Look for *Live Free or Die* at your local bookstore.

Evelyn Moulton visited Wyoming in February and met her new granddaughter. Evelyn had a wonderful trip and took many photos!



Marnie Verville and Anne Nute of Eta Chapter hosted the Beta Alpha State Fall Conference in Keene last September.

Dianne Mros will be retiring in June after 30 years of teaching. She has been a reading specialist in Somersworth for the past 20 years. Her plans include following the activities of her grandchildren. She intends to teach Tai Chi and Reiki in her retirement.

Anne Nute is in the middle of a major update to the library computer system at Gilford Elementary School. This work will result in significant improvements district-wide.

Martha (Marnie) Verville and her husband John traveled to the Baltic Sea and visited several Baltic Capitals—Copenhagen, Tallinn, St. Petersburg, Helsinki, and Stockholm. A river cruise is planned for April and May on the Three Rivers in Europe: the Danube, the Rhine, and the Main. They will stop in many interesting small towns along the way.

Martha's granddaughter, Deidre, a University of Vermont student, is spending her junior year in Tokyo. Martha can't wait to hear all about her exciting experience.

THETA CHAPTER NEWS:

Tiffany Dube just recently completed her Master's Degree in Education with a concentration in Integrated Arts. She was also in the Educational Theatre Collaborative (ETC)

(continued on p. 6)

production of *Godspell*. “It’s a partnership with Plymouth State University and the community to promote theatre,” explained Tiffany. “Dr. Patricia Lindberg has been the director of these productions for the last 16 years. Anyone is welcome to audition. There are cast members from the ages five to seventy-five that participate. The rehearsals run all through the month of January with seven performances at the end of the month. It was a great learning experience for me, and I had the opportunity to meet many amazing people. I would recommend this to anyone!” Tiffany added.

Pam Forbes’s son-in-law Eric has left for Afghanistan for his second tour in the Middle East. Her daughter and grandson are close by so Pam spends much time with them.

Sheila Mable and her husband traveled to Scottsdale, Arizona, in February to visit friends and relatives. Side trips to Sedona, Prescott, and Tucson, as well as to Arizona Opry in Apache Junction, were the highlights of the visit.

Taffy McGuigan has been caring for her husband who recently had knee replacement surgery and complications after surgery.

Brenda Walker’s job description has changed for the time being. “My job has been divided between supporting my classroom and supporting the middle school special education staff while our coordinator is out on maternity leave.”

Rachel Young is enjoying traveling with her trailer in Florida and on to Texas even though it’s been cooler than usual. “But we are not complaining because we have not seen snow or ice, and we’re enjoying our sightseeing,” said Rachel.

Theta Members Remember Lois

“Lois Plimpton was the person who recommended and sponsored my joining Delta Kappa Gamma. I thought of her as a mentor. Her example of strength, hard work, organization, dedication and enthusiasm were ideals that I always strive to live up to. She was a wonderful role model. She has left big shoes to fill. I believe her greatest legacy is for those of us left behind to carry on her example and to keep Theta Chapter and Beta Alpha State strong and viable for years to come.”

—Pam Clark

“Lois was just amazing! Thanks to her, I became a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, and she was responsible for helping me make the connection with the Belknap County Nursing Home. Over the years my students have learned so much from visiting and performing for the residents. I would see some of my students many years later, and they would always ask me if I remember going to the nursing home with them. They didn’t mention anything that I did

with them in class but always remembered working with the residents. What an impact this project had on my students. I hope to be able to continue the work with the Intergenerational Program that Lois started. I will always remember what an inspiring woman and educator she was.”

—Tiffany Dube

“Lois always had to take a motorized scooter when we went to DKG conventions. She practiced the steering, the speed, and the control around the room and in and out of the corridors. When confident, she ‘hit the hallways’ to and from the various meeting sections. Adults and kids alike seemed to respect her speed and zig-zags as they often ducked to the sidelines!

“One day she entered the elevator and pinned me to the back of the elevator wall, and with no escape I was begging her to back up. That did not seem to be in her repertoire of skills. Thusly, the crowded elevator patrons pulled her scooter back to release my leg. I had to pack my leg in ice the rest of the week! And to this day I have an indent to prove being run over by a friend on a scooter!

“Lois was the person who began the volunteer group at the Belknap County Nursing Home that later became one of Theta Chapter’s project. Her father was a resident there, and her many visits made her aware of the need to bring a little joy to those confined there. It began with a little sing-a-long and some friendly talk and later developed into a session called Reminisce.

“Volunteers brought in articles from the past—old toys, old kitchen items, and gardening tools—which encouraged many people to participate. Talking brought a friendship among the residents and gave them a sharing that had meaning to them. In addition, the volunteers hired musicians, singers and artists to perform and bring great joy to all involved.

“The most long term joy that was shared by both the residents and their family members were the stories residents told to members of the team of volunteers. Family members truly valued having these stories told by their loved ones. Theta members printed and assembled each story in book form and then read them aloud to the group of residents. The joy of hearing their stories brought smiles and such comments as ‘Oh, that is my story’ or ‘I lived that.’

“These books also gave the volunteers an opportunity to involve school children who had lessons in writing, page breaks, and appropriate illustrations. The children drew the illustrations for these books. All of this because of my dear friend and Theta sister, Lois Plimpton.”

—Taffy McGuigan

(continued on p. 7)



“I encourage all members of Theta to attend the Spring Conference and to honor Lois, who gave to Theta without hesitation. Lois was a friend, mentor, and supporter to all members of DKG, whether members of Theta or other chapters. We need to be together to extend our final farewells to Lois and to support each other as we say goodbye.”

—Brenda Walker

“I will always remember Lois as a ‘can-do’ person. I didn’t teach with her, but I remember that in retirement she was energetic and committed to education. She was the energy and organizer for many activities in Theta, for the Retired Teachers’ Breakfast as Hart’s Turkey Farm Restaurant each September, and for the Retired Teachers Mentoring program for Laconia.”

—Rachel Young

SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED IN MEMORY OF LOIS PLIMPTON

by Joan Cormier, Executive Director
of Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation

If Beta Alpha State members wish to donate to scholarship fund in memory of Lois Plimpton, who died on December 17, 2009, here is the address: Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation / P.O Box 7312/ Gilford, 03247.

It is especially fitting that the memory of this great lady, who was loved and respected as a teacher for 28 years, would be perpetuated by furthering the educational goals of our local students.

Lois had a big heart, high standards, and a deep commitment to children and the values of education. Ever the dedicated educator, even after her retirement in 1993, she continued to support educational activities, offering her expertise and support to staff and administration. She was also active in many educational trade organizations and was recognized for her outstanding leadership and the honor she brought to the teaching profession.

It was obvious from the attendance at her service that this special woman won the love and respect of so many people of all ages. She didn’t restrict her involvement only to educational organizations but brought her outstanding leadership skills to many worthwhile community programs, benefitting all ages—from senior citizens to troubled youths.

TORRES THANKS BETA ALPHA STATE FOR GRANT

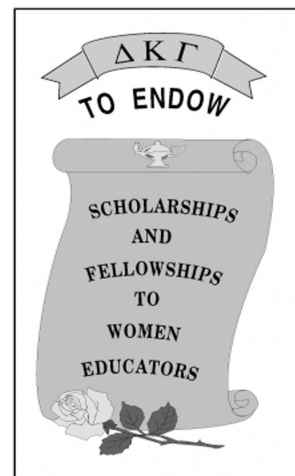
by Lisa Torres, Beta Chapter

Thanks in part to a generous grant from Delta Kappa Gamma, I was able to travel to El Salvador last summer. I stayed in the Volunteer House run by Mike and Susie Jenkins for Epilogos in the town of San Jose’ Villanueva. I was shocked by the extremes of wealth and poverty I encountered in this Central American country. The majority of the people are shockingly poor, living in homes made of mud and bamboo or cardboard or concrete, without a safe water supply and often without electricity. Even in our volunteer house, we had running water only three hours a day, and it was grossly contaminated with bacteria.

While I was there, I was able to visit with science teachers in three schools in order to help them develop hands on science activities for their students with the materials they had available. These dedicated teachers work double shifts for low pay. They have no training in hands-on-science. Although they have degrees in science, they never had the opportunity to do laboratory work themselves during their training. Some of the schools have basic laboratories built by volunteers, but the equipment and supplies are extremely limited. I gave them a few simple materials and some well-illustrated books with examples of hands-on science activities that can be done with simple, readily available materials. I also took 100 kits for testing water for bacteria, so they can monitor the safety of the school’s water supply, and so that students can test their water supplies as well.

I will be going back this summer. With my chemistry students at Lebanon High School, the support of my church, and help from my DKG sisters, I will purchase and ship science equipment to the science laboratory at the high school in San Jose Villanueva, where teachers are struggling to teach hands-on science to classes of 40 students with only a few test tubes and beakers. I am writing a simple laboratory manual with 20 experiments that students can do with the materials supplied. The manual will be translated into Spanish by the Spanish V students at LHS.

While in El Salvador, I plan to work with teachers to demonstrate laboratory safety protocols and the proper use of the equipment. Because teachers are working double shifts, I will probably do this by teaching demonstration lessons with students there.





Pictured above: Dr. David White, Professor of Children's Literature at Keene State College, spoke at Beta Alpha State's Fall Conference on "What's New in Children's Literature for Today's Students." DKG members enjoyed his speech and the walking tour of the Children's Literature Art Gallery at Rhoades Hall.

CALL FOR SPOKANE HOTEL RATES

Check out these great hotel rates for the DKG International Convention on July 20-24, 2010, in Spokane, WA. The prices below do not include tax and fees. Make reservations by phone only and request the DKG group rate when you call!

Red Lion Hotel at the Park

Single/Double \$121.95

1-800-733-5466

About 1 ½ blocks from the Convention Center

Double Tree Hotel

Single/Double \$122

1-800-222-TREE (8733)

Connected to the Convention Center

Davenport Hotel and Towers

Single/Double \$149

1-800-899-1482

6-7 blocks from Convention Center
with bus transport schedule

TONJA GILMORE HELPS IMPROVE LIVES IN TIBET

by Robert Blechl
Caledonia-Record Writer

The people who captivated her and the opportunity to make a difference are taking her back to Tibet.

To chronicle her month in Tibet, Tonja Gilmore will give a presentation and slide show at 7 p.m. April 6 at the Lancaster Public Library.

And in July, she will visit the country for a second time, helping to improve the health of the friends she has made and helping to grow a school dedicated to improving the lives of rural Tibetans.

"I heard about Munsel School at a friend's birthday party," said Gilmore, a self-employed occupational therapist who works in Vermont schools and specializes in children with disabilities. "I met two women there who knew a monk and heard about his opening a school for the children of his tribe. I wanted to get involved and help them build greenhouses to grow vegetables for better nutrition. It snowballed from there."

In June she met Khenpo Gawang, a Tibetan monk who co-founded the Munsel School three years ago with a fellow monk during his annual teaching visit to the Karne Choling Buddhist center in Barnet. "We had a discussion about medical ideas for the program," she said. "At that time he asked me to go to Tibet and be a medical director for his people."

In September, accompanied by Jerry Monigan, a retired editor from the *Wall Street Journal*, and Collin O'Neil, a photographer from Calais, VT, she made her first journey.

There, 15,000 feet above sea level, they lived with a nomadic tribe of 500 Tibetans in a small village in the Quingai province.

"I took Jiffy Pop and deflated beach balls with me," she said. "They never had popcorn, and the kids don't have any toys at all."

Meals consisted mainly of barley flour mixed with rancid butter. "You pour tea on top of that and make a dough ball," she said. "That's their staple food."

Tibetans raise yaks for milk and for transporting goods and burn yak dung for heating fuel.

When asked how long their village has been there, Gilmore said they replied, "Forever."

"We have so much in this country and we don't realize it until you go somewhere and see people who only have the clothes on their backs and their tents and they're being forced to give that up," Gilmore explained.

Rural Tibetans are being pushed off their ancestral grazing lands. "Currently, the area is swarming with Chinese soldiers, who've been there since the Tibetan New Year on Feb. 25," she added.

(continued on p. 12)

Ready for a Vote:

BETA ALPHA STATE PROPOSES CHANGES TO FOUR BYLAWS



The Bylaws Committee has been updating wording to comply with International. Members will vote on the following at the May 8, 2010, Conference Business Meeting.

I. Recommendation September 26, 2009

On behalf of the Bylaws Committee, I recommend that the words "Financial Review Committee" be substituted for "Audit Committee."

Article IX Committees, Section 3 Duties of Committees
Part H, Page 14

Rationale:

BAS does not meet the financial requirement for an audit. Therefore, it can maintain its financial records with an annual financial review.

Proposed by: Barbara Baker, Ch. of the Bylaws Committee

II. Recommendation September 26, 2009

On behalf of the Bylaws Committee,
I recommend that the following be changed from:

"Audit the Treasurer's report annually following the close of the fiscal year on June 30."

to

"Make a Financial Review of the Treasurer's records annually following the close of the fiscal year on June 30."

Article IX Committees, Section 3 Duties of Committees
Part H, Number 2, Page 14

Rationale:

To follow the change of the name to the Financial Review Committee.

Proposed by: Barbara Baker, Ch. of the Bylaws Committee

III. Recommendation September 26, 2009

On behalf of the Bylaws Committee, I recommend the following change:

"Beta Alpha State members voted on May 8, 2008, to change the amount of each chapter's donation from twenty five dollars (\$25.00) to thirty dollars (\$30.00) each biennium for the Founders' Award recipient."

Policies and Recommendations, Number 8, Page 22

Rationale:

To reflect the change voted by members at the State Conference in May 8, 2008.

Proposed by: Barbara Baker, Ch. of the Bylaws Committee

IV. Recommendation September 26, 2009

On behalf of the Bylaws Committee, I recommend the following changed from:

"All proposed amendments shall have been approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Executive Board before being submitted to the convention."

to

"All proposed amendments shall be approved by a majority of those Executive Board members present at the executive board meetings before being presented to membership at a conference.

Article XII Parliamentary Authority, Section 3, Page 21

Rationale: To facilitate the continuity of business necessary for the members of BAS. This was suggested by the International Bylaws Review Committee.

Proposed by: Margaret Guilmette, Bylaws Committee Member

HEATH *(continued from p. 1)*

With over 39 years in education, she has served in many capacities. She was an elementary school teacher, a learning disability specialist at the high school level, a federal program manager, an assistant superintendent of schools, and a grant writer. She also served as a technical research consultant with RMC Research Corporation for the U.S. Department of Education and as Executive Director of NH Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

In addition, Mary was appointed Deputy Commissioner for the New Hampshire Department of Education by Governor John Lynch and worked in that role with Education Commissioner Lyonel B. Tracy from 2005 to 2009.



RED ROSES

Welcome new members:

Elise Foxall, Beta
Joan Tarleton, Beta

WHITE ROSES

*We will pay tribute to these members
at the Spring Service of Remembrance:*

Muriel Manson, Gamma
Janet Cochrane, Theta
Lois Plimpton, Theta

VISIT BETA ALPHA WEBSITE

by Maurine Henry, Alpha Chapter, State Webmaster

Our state website has several links from the home page. These links include the following: State Officers, Committees, Chapter Officers, Society Meetings, Chapter Meetings, Mission & Purpose, Links, Creating The Buzz, Tips, Forms, and Publications.

When you visit the links page, you will find a variety of links that can aid you in the classroom. If you know of any helpful links that should be added to the list, please let me know and I will gladly add them. I would like to make our website a valuable tool for our members to use.

The Chapter Meetings page has all of the chapter meetings, which are listed in the red book, posted by chapter. If your chapter changes a date or location, just let me know and I will gladly change it on the website.

The Publications page now has *Chips of Granite*, as well as links to International publications. You will also find State Meeting brochures on this page.

The Forms page is where you will find scholarship forms, new member forms, and other state forms. If your chapter has a form specific to a chapter's needs, I can post these as well. You will see two Alpha forms links already on this page. Just send me the information at mhenry@mrsd.org, and I will post it as soon as I am able. Our state address is <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NH/index.html>

2010 DATES TO REMEMBER

April 12	Registration Deadline for Spring Conference
May 6- 8	Beta Alpha Spring Conference
May 15	New Officers Report Form due to State
June 1	Red Fillers due to Elaine Landry of Alpha Chapter with a disc and soft copy
July 1	CHIPS Deadline for News
July 20 -24	DKG International Convention in Spokane, WA
August <u>TBA</u>	Beta Alpha State Executive Board Meeting
September 27	DKG State Fall Conference

CRAFT NIGHT FEATURES NEW PROJECT AT SPRING CONFERENCE

This year you will have the opportunity to make an embossed velvet scarf during our spring conference craft activities on Friday evening, May 7, 2010. The cost of materials for the scarf will be \$8.00. Since the material will be cut and partially sewn prior to conference, I will need to know how many people will be making them. Please let me know and/or indicate on your registration form that you would like a scarf prepared for you.

Maurine Henry – mhenry@mrsd.org, (603) 357-3305





**Delta Kappa Gamma International
Beta Alpha Spring Convention
Red Jacket, North Conway, NH
Thurs., May 6—Sat., May 8, 2010**

One Day Package: \$50.00

Check: ___ Friday ___ Saturday

Includes: Breakfast, Lunch, All Taxes, Gratuities, and Registration

Two Day Package: \$100.00

Includes Breakfast and Lunch Friday & Saturday, All Taxes, Gratuities, and Registration

1 Night Package: \$205.00 (single) \$155.00 (double-per person)

Includes Friday Night Guestroom Accommodation, Breakfast Saturday Morning, Friday Night Dinner, Lunch Friday & Saturday, All Taxes, Gratuities, and Registration

2 Night Package: \$325.00 (single) \$220.00 (double-per person)

Includes Thursday & Friday Night Guestroom Accommodation, Breakfast Friday & Saturday Morning, Friday Night Dinner, Lunch Friday & Saturday, All Taxes, Gratuities, and Registration

—————[Cut here.]—————

Name: _____ Chapter: _____

Email: _____ Phone Number: _____

Package Requested: _____

Name of Roommate (if applicable) _____

Please note any dietary or facility or material needs: _____

Please send a check made payable to **Beta Alpha State** with this registration form by **April 12** 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 **School:** 432-6941 ext. 2780 /

Home: 673-9023 / **Cell:** 566-4196 / or **E Mail** fsapsin@londonderry.org



GILMORE IN TIBET *(continued from p. 8)*

March 10 marked the 50th anniversary of an unsuccessful Tibetan uprising against Chinese rule. She said Chinese soldiers have been maintaining a heavy presence in Tibet in preparation for any potential revolt and are arresting anyone who's protesting. "Tibetans have to keep a low profile and only go out of the house when they have to for fear of being hauled into prison," she explained. "The whole country is affected."

Many Tibetans are being pressured to leave their native lands and move into cities, she said, where they are encountering cleanliness and sanitation problems they never before had to deal with. To counter that, Gilmore will help teach basic sanitation practices.

And because of substandard nutrition, many more suffer from ailments. Some conditions are all too common. "We knew about the mother-infant mortality rate before, but we didn't know about the arthritis and cataracts," she said.

Gilmore is hoping to recruit doctors and dentists to go back with her. She was also asked by a Tibetan physician, who is training apprentices, to help with the teaching and to help incorporate Western medical practices into traditional Tibetan practices.

Before her return in July, she intends to gain new knowledge to bring back to Tibet. "I'm studying midwifery. So, I have a few more skills," she said. "The woman and infant mortality rate is high, one of the highest in the world."

Gilmore first became involved with humanitarian efforts on a Sioux Indian reservation in South Dakota where she grew up. There, her father, Howard, worked as a gynecologist to help reduce the mother-infant mortality rate.

Gilmore would like to return to Tibet at least once a year. "I have never met a more peaceful, kind and gracious group of people," she said. "They are so appreciative of every little thing we did for them, and I'm very grateful for the opportunity to do what little I can for them."

For more information, visit www.munselschool.org.

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Editor's note: *Tonja Gilmore is a member of Delta Chapter and lives in Lunenburg, VT.*



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