



# THE CHIPS OF GRANITE

Beta Alpha State News—Vol. 2014, Issue 2—Aug. 2014

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International



## PEGGY GUILMETTE REMEMBERED

Margaret E. “Peggy” Guilmette, 79, of Holton Park, died after a sudden illness on April 27, 2014, at Weeks Medical Center, Lancaster, surrounded by her loving family.

Miss Guilmette was born in Lancaster on October 5, 1934, the daughter of Reynold and Margaret (Preston) Guilmette. She devoted her life to education and was a long time teacher and reading specialist. In 1956 she acquired her Bachelor of Education degree from Keene State College. She taught in several different grades in New Hampshire, Massachusetts and New York. From there she acquired a Master in Education from the University of Maine and took advanced reading courses from the NDEA Institute of Advanced Study in Reading, the University of New Hampshire and the University of Rhode Island. She was certified as a Reading Specialist in 1966.

Peggy was a reading specialist for the White Mountain Regional School District for many years and retired in 2001. She was very involved in many of the State of New Hampshire reading committees including the Granite State Council of International Reading, NEA, NHEA, WMEA, Frameworks and Language Arts Content Committee for state tests in grades 3, 6 and 10 and Treasurer for the North Country Reading Association. She served as a member, chairperson and co-chairperson in many of these organizations. She was also active in Delta Kappa Gamma, serving as president, secretary and chair for their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

After retirement she was a volunteer at Weeks Medical Center, Lancaster and the Lancaster School. Also Peggy was an avid fan of the Boston Red Sox.

Peggy was a devoted Communicant of the Gate of Heaven Parish, serving on the Parish Council, and was chairperson of CCD for three years. She was also a long time member of the Tabernacle Society.

Surviving family members include brothers Peter J. Guilmette Sr. of Greensboro, NC, and Richard Guilmette of Intervale, NH; sister Mary Fitch of Maidstone, VT; 11 nieces and nephews; and many great and great-great nieces and nephews.

Donations may be made in her memory to Colonel Town Recreation Department or the Gate of Heaven Tabernacle Society.

## CHAPTER WOMEN OF DISTINCTION HONORED AT SPRING CONFERENCE

Beta Alpha State presents the Founders’ Award every other year (odd years), but we are blessed with so many dedicated, creative and loyal women in our chapters that it was decided at the 2011 fall meeting to create a Woman of Distinction Chapter Achievement Award. This award is presented to a member from each chapter on the alternate years (even years) from the Founders’ Award.

The distinguished members are chosen by the chapter president, the chapter executive board, or by other methods the chapter may use. As with the Founders’ Award, the recipients’ names were kept confidential until the presentations at the Beta Alpha State Spring Conference at the Inn at Mills Falls in Meredith from March 20-22.

Meet Beta Alpha State’s 2014 Women of Distinction:

Maurine Henry, Alpha  
Marge Bruner, Beta  
Lynn Young, Gamma  
Pamela Read, Delta  
Linda Robillard, Epsilon  
Anne Nute, Eta  
Pamela Clark, Theta

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## ***PRESIDENT LANDRY'S GREETINGS***



June 6, 2014

The Summer Solstice approaches. The longest day of the year provides more daylight than any other. How is one to use that time? June is tremendously busy for me and my family: birthdays, anniversaries, graduation, recitals, sports events, outdoor work, and perhaps a trip or two or three. You know how it is. DKG members in Beta Alpha State fill their schedules with end of year meetings, elections, plans for chapter activities and conventions as we look to the future.

Thanks to all for getting the information and reports required by DKG International to me in a timely fashion. Several chapters have newly elected officers: they will depend on outgoing officers to guide them. Perhaps we should discuss the need for formal leadership training at the executive board meeting in August.

We have lost several of the women who laid the foundation for our state organization: Doris Barnes, Louise Gaiero, Rita Blakslee, Ruth Millar, and Margaret (Peg) Guilmette. We remember these women with gratitude for their educational, community, and organization contributions. We can best honor them by carrying on their good work.

My thanks go to all who participated in the Spring Conference at The Inn at Mill Falls, Meredith. Exceptional speakers and programs impressed Dr. Beverly Helms, DKG's International president. Read her column in the May-June issue of *DKG News*. She clearly understands the challenges facing our state and all others about the need to keep our organization relevant and attractive to all generations.

May the solstice provide the "light" to clearly see where we are going in the future. In ending, I think the late Maya Angelou said it well. "Success is liking yourself, liking what you do, and liking how you do it."

Elaine Landry  
President of Beta Alpha State

## **DR. HELMS WRITES OF HER VISIT TO BETA ALPHA STATE**

March 25, 2014

Dear Elaine,

Thanks again for the opportunity to visit with and get to know so many of the members in New Hampshire. I can't say enough about the trip to Meredith with Flora. She was gracious during the trip as well as at the convention. It is always nice when those who serve before us are there to lend a helping hand if needed.

The accommodations at the Mills Inn were wonderful as was the dinner on Thursday night with you, Flora, Peggy, Joanne, Anne, Maureen, and Marna. Peg is delightful, not only because she bears my aunt's name, but she seems to thoroughly enjoy life.

The session on Friday, if continued, should attract actively employed educators, as well as non-members. I am delighted you are inviting Tina to membership in your chapter. Her workshop was excellent and timely. Karen was most informative in sharing her knowledge and very helpful with the technology. I thoroughly enjoyed Sheila's presentation and am delighted that her daughter is on the road to recovery.

On Saturday Brenda coordinated a beautiful tribute to members who are no longer with us, and I had a great opportunity to see your excellent leadership skills as you moved through the business session. Having 100% of your chapters in attendance is a plus.

One of the best experiences as a Society representative is to meet the members who are in attendance. The group was small enough to be able to personally interact with many. It would take too long to list everyone; but suffice it to say, having an opportunity to congratulate Helen for her 50 years in DKG, hearing the poems of Martha (who wears amazing socks), teaching several of your members to use Twitter, and observing your recognition of distinguished women at the luncheon were all memorable experiences.

A special thanks for the Maple recipe book and the ornament and for Barbara Mee, who returned me safely to Manchester airport. She and Jane Fowler made the trip seem as if it were only a few minutes.



*Beverly Helms catches snowflakes.*

I look forward to seeing those of you from New Hampshire who will be in Indianapolis. Until then, know that I appreciate everything you and the members of NH state organization are doing and will continue to do in sharing your vision and strengthening our Society.

Beverly Helms, Ed.D  
2012-2014 International President

## DELTA MOURNS PASSING OF PEGGY GUILMETTE

by Marna Ingerson, Delta

Delta Chapter was founded on May 11, 1929, and Peggy Guilmette will be remembered as being an exemplar of DKG's purposes: *to advance professional interest and the position of women in education; to unite women educators of the world in spiritual fellowship; to stimulate personal and professional growth, and to honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.*

We all know that Peggy Guilmette loved her family, her church involvement, volunteering at the hospital, the Red Sox, and teaching. She taught for 45 years and was very dedicated to improving all areas of language arts. She organized Literacy Day. She organized Young Authors and Read across America. She was the state chairman for Newspapers in Education. She received a special recognition from the New England Reading Association in 1991. She certainly evidenced serving with distinction and furthering education, representing our district and our state.

We know she also loved Delta Kappa Gamma. Peggy was invited to join DKG's Delta Chapter in 1957—the NH Chapter that includes members from Pittsburg through Woodsville. She told me how two teachers came to her dad's home one evening and invited her to join—more like told her she HAD to join. It would be a perfect fit for her. Her dad supported her decision and told her how proud her mom would have been. In fact, we have her pin to pass on to a niece who plans to join DKG in the future.

From that time on, Peggy gave her all to Delta, serving on many committees such as Literacy, World Fellowship, Programs, Membership, Grant-in-Aid, Research, Professional Affairs, and Publicity. She was Parliamentarian and Chapter President. She went on to the state level and served on World Fellowship, Professional Growth and Services, and By-laws Committees. She became Recording Secretary and served as the New Hampshire State President. She received Beta Alpha State's Founders' Award in 2009 and donated that award to Delta Chapter's grant-in-aid or scholarship fund.

Peggy traveled all over for NH state meetings and attended some regional and international meetings where she established warm and lasting friendships with local, state, and international members. She certainly shared a spiritual fellowship.

We are still in shock. Delta Kappa Gamma lost a valuable and dedicated sister. She will be greatly missed.

## WHITE ROSES—IN MEMORY

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

**Margaret "Peggy" Guilmette, Delta**



## NURSING HOME VOLUNTEERS SAVOR TIME WITH RESIDENTS

by Ed Pierce, *The Laconia Citizen*, 3-28-14

As volunteer Tiffany Dube of Theta Chapter—DKG passes out musical instruments during an activity for residents of the Belknap County Nursing Home, Shirley Burdette sat slumped in her wheelchair with her eyes closed through a good portion of a presentation about Easter.

But when Dube placed a rattle in Burdette's hands and the first notes of Kool and the Gang's "Celebration" began to sound, the elderly woman sat up, smiled and swayed along with the music.

For Dube, experiences like that are why she has volunteered to lead the "Reminisce" activity every month for the past five years at the nursing home.

"I look forward to each visit," Dube said. "It brings tears to my eyes to see residents who come alive during the activity. I try to get them thinking and to keep their minds active."

"Lois Plimpton of Laconia had started doing this presentation there called 'Reminisce,' which reminds the residents of old times and gets them to share their memories," Dube said. "I was teaching at Woodland Heights School then and would bring my students to the nursing home. They would interview residents and write their biographies. I saw what Lois was doing and wanted to be a part of that."

When Plimpton passed away in 2009, Dube and a group of other Delta Kappa Gamma members, including Nancy Gibbons, Beverly Jones and Ann Hart, took up the mantle of volunteering to give Reminisce presentations to nursing home residents.

Dube said the Reminisce program is all about engaging the residents through auditory, sensory and interactive experiences during an hour each month.

This day, she read and displayed a picture book called "The Eggcellent Mama Hen" to an assembled group and asked questions about what residents recalled the most about Easter.

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# CHAPTER CHATTER

## ALPHA CHAPTER NEWS

Alpha Chapter held its third annual artisan raffle with many hand-made prizes created by members. Almost \$700 was raised to support our college student book grants and other projects.

Many Alpha members take part in a service project coordinated by the Cheshire County Retired Educators' Association. Each year a CCREA member reads aloud in every second grade classroom in Cheshire County. This year there are 46 classes! The books are then donated to the classroom library. The price of hardcover books has been rising each year, and members were worried about how we would continue the project. **Jeannette Gardner**, Alpha member, decided to pursue additional funding. She contacted the Elm City Rotary Club of Keene, which generously agreed to donate \$500 each year toward the purchase of the books. The book selected this year is Inga Moore's *Captain Cat*. We are proud to have many Alpha members participating in this worthwhile project.

**Cathy Harvey**, founding member of the Chesterfield Public School Foundation, reports that their annual auction fundraiser garnered over \$12,000. The money is used for special activity grants for Chesterfield School.

**Maurine Henry** has found that she isn't busy enough! In April she decided to open a "Teachers Pay Teachers" store where she has put many of the games and activities that she has developed for use in her classroom. The store's name is Mrs. H's Kindergarten.

**Janet Horton** recently presented a fascinating program on teaching abroad. She spent several years teaching mathematics in Poland, India, and Russia in American schools that are attended by students from many cultures. Her experiences led many Alpha members to think about like possibilities for themselves. What a way to see the world. Janet reports that she visited 28 countries while taking part in this program.

**Elaine Landry** and her husband traveled to Alaska in May. Also Elaine, **Maurine Henry**, and **Peg Saunders** attended DKG's International Convention in Indianapolis in July.

**Susan Miller** spent a wonderful week visiting friends who have been teaching for two years at an American school in Taiwan. From there, she and husband Ted (recently retired from Keene State's geography dept.), headed off to China. After spending three days in Shanghai, they set

off on a one week cruise down the Yangtse River to the Three Gorges. The first stop was a K-8 school, where the students were waiting for them. What fun! They were playing musical instruments and singing loudly. In their classrooms, students recited stories and poems in Chinese and English. In turn, Sue and Ted taught them some songs and verses. Viking Cruise provides support for these schools as they are not allowed to take money out of China. The tour continued through the locks, then to Xian to see the Terra Cotta Warriors. The last part of the trip was a stop in Beijing.

Talented **Mary Parker** spent the long winter making a woven Swedish afghan in the pine tree pattern. She shared her project with us at our April meeting, and members were awed by her handiwork. Mary's nephew is to be the lucky recipient of her lovely work.

Alpha welcomes **Pam Sanders** from Rhode Island's Epsilon Chapter. Pam looks forward to working in Alpha Chapter and says moving to the area has been an "exciting adventure."

**Angela Seaver** participated in the Keene Pops Concert, held in April at Keene's Colonial Theater. Songs featuring patriotic American themes were presented, to the delight of the audience. Angela continues to develop her lovely soprano voice via voice lessons at Keene State College.



## BETA CHAPTER NEWS

**Helen Goodwin** finds Harvest Hill Retirement Center a great place to live. She directs the HHS chorus, heads up a history studies program, plays Scrabble, and does lots more. She advises you to stay active and keep that brain busy. Not bad advice coming from one who will be 93 in the fall!

Helen has more copies of her book, *Memories of One Who Served* available for purchase. The book tells of her experiences in New Guinea and the Philippines during WW II. The cost is \$23.00, including mailing. If interested, please give her a call at 727-9641 or email her at [HelenGoodwin@comcast.net](mailto:HelenGoodwin@comcast.net).

**Midge Jorgensen** retired this year. Midge had taught pre-first and first grade over the years and retired from a first grade position at Canaan Elementary School. She will be missed!

**Ann Silverstein** retired after over 30 years as a Reading Specialist. She welcomed a new granddaughter in February and looks forward to spending lots of time with family and friends. She also looks forward to some new adventures.

**Kathy Tucker** and her husband took a trip in April to Ajo, AZ, to visit in-laws. They had never been to the desert of the Southwest before and found a different kind of beauty in the desert cacti, which were just beginning to bloom.

## GAMMA CHAPTER NEWS

Gamma presented the Woman of Distinction Award to **Lynn Young** at our May meeting. Our first recipient **Betty Gilman**, presented the award and a rose to Lynn, as both were unable to attend the state meeting in Meredith.

Our scholarship this year went to Portsmouth High School senior Rachael Merchant. She will be attending Keene State University in the fall.

As the host chapter, Gamma is getting ready for the BAS Spring Conference to be held in Portsmouth. **Ann Douglas, Ann Smith, Jackie Hinton, Meryl Roy** and all are planning to create many wonderful favors and raffle items.

## DELTA CHAPTER NEWS

Delta Chapter's June meeting was held at the lovely home of **Jean Colby**. We met on her back porch which afforded a fantastic view of rural Vermont pastures. The installation of officers for the biennium took place, as well as a service of remembrance for **Peggy Guilmette**. Delta members are still in shock over the loss of such a devoted member of their group. They also want to thank the many ladies from other chapters who traveled to attend Peggy's services.

**Audrey DiMaria** and husband are in Australia to attend a wedding and visit with family. They will return in August.

**Joanne Hennessey** is teaching quilting at her local quilt shop. One class is a block-of-the-month for twelve months that she is teaching with another quilter. She is also teaching a free-motion class that will run for six months.

**Marna Ingerson** and husband recently traveled to Connecticut to attend a dance program by Derek and Julianne Hough called *MOVE*. Some may know that both have been featured on *Dancing with the Stars*. Marna reports that it was a fast-paced, well choreographed show! Now, the Ingersons are looking forward to a family week with all of their children and grandchildren at the lake, including local children and daughters and their families from Washington State and Michigan.

**Sharon Lane** and her husband of Errol took a trip to Copenhagen, Denmark, and Kirchdorf, Germany, in July. They took the "Errol" grandsons, Jacob and Benjamin Lane!

**Wanda Merrill** spent time with her grandchildren, Daemon (age 6) and Alyvia (age 5) this summer. They enjoyed trips to the beach, Santa's Village, and Clark's Trading Post. She also led the Summer Recreation Program in Pittsburg, which entailed several outdoor activities of hiking, biking, fitness, and fun!

The Lancaster Historical Society recently published *LANCASTER*, a collection of photographs of Lancaster from the early 1800's through the 1964 Bicentennial. This book was compiled by Delta member, **Anne Morgan**, along with Robert Hunt, a local teacher.

This is a year of many milestones in the lives of Ted and **Pam Read**. Pam turned 70 at the end of March and they will celebrate their 50th Anniversary on August 22. They wanted to celebrate with their family at the church in Center Sandwich, NH, where it all began; but their grandson Teddy IV, who graduated from Littleton High in June, will be headed out to Ohio to college. So they decided to go off for a few days around the date of their 50th.

Pam and Ted also have a new toy hauler. It is a camper that allows them to bring their Can Am Spyder with them when they are on vacation in Maine or wherever they decide to camp. They can use the Spyder to explore in the immediate area of the campground. In June they went on a cruise with some close friends who have never cruised before.

And, of course, the highlight as far as Delta is concerned was Pam's surprise of being awarded the Distinguished Woman of the Year for Delta Chapter. "My husband Ted just happened to attend the meeting because of the guest speaker and the day's topic, so that made it extra special for me," Pam said.

**Christine Smith** and husband are delighted to have a new three room tent and "real" bed with which they did lots of camping this summer.

**Barbara Stimson's** granddaughter, husband, and mom were with Barb in June. Adrienne is back from teaching in Ketchikan, where she was invited to attend a Delta meeting! Next year she plans to teach in Oregon.

Delta Chapter presented their 2014 Grant-in-Aid to Sacha Bays of Bethlehem. Sacha graduated from Profile High School and will be majoring in the field of education in a New England college. Members of the chapter are very grateful to the ladies on the Grant-in-Aid Committee for their hard work.



## EPSILON CHAPTER NEWS

Epsilon Chapter is pleased to announce that incoming Chapter president **Ann Gaffney** (pictured above) has earned her doctorate in Educational Leadership and Learning from Rivier University in Nashua. Ann successfully defended her dissertation *Change in Teachers' Pedagogical Beliefs through Learning Elementary Mathematics Content* on April 4, 2014. Ann provided professional development to elementary teachers in mathematics content from the Common Core Standards and examined the teachers' changes in beliefs about what makes a quality mathematics lesson. The completion and defense of Ann's dissertation marked the end of a six year journey that has been supported in part by scholarships and well-wishes from fellow DKG members.

Epsilon chapter is mourning the moving of **Simone Duven** to the Ft. Worth, TX, area as her husband transferred with Fidelity. She is thrilled to have been hired by the Birdville ISD and will be teaching at Richland High School. However, as is typical of DKG women, **Rachel Papen** and **Beth Talbott** stepped up to fill in officer positions as needed.

**Rachel Papen** was initiated into Epsilon chapter. Rachel is currently a sixth grade teacher of Science at Londonderry Middle School. She received her Bachelor of Science Degree from Antioch University. She has participated in many LMS committees and is an active member of the NH Science Teachers' Association. Rachel has earned respect from supervisors and colleagues alike at LMS. She continues to be familiar with professional research and is eager to contribute to any "team" she is on. We welcome Rachel to Delta Kappa Gamma!

**Barbara Mee** and her husband went to Niagara Falls on the way to Indianapolis for the DKG International Convention. "This was the first real road trip Bill and I have done," Barbara said as they are usually "destination people."

## ETA CHAPTER NEWS

**Diane Gray** is enjoying retirement with husband John while spending time at their camp in Pittsburg, NH.

**Evelyn Moulton** and her husband Richard traveled to Wyoming in April where they visited family. She retired this year from Kingswood Regional High School after 30 years and looks forward to more traveling.

**Dianne Mros** visited New York City during April vacation. She went to the Winter Garden Theatre to see *Rocky*. She also attended the *Wendy Williams* show and walked through the High Line Park in Manhattan.

**Martha Verville** and husband John enjoyed a River Cruise on the Seine River in France. After touring Paris for two days, including a night cruise on the Seine in Paris, they embarked to cruise north. They visited Givency (Monet's Garden), Honfleur, and Rauen. In Normandy they saw the American Cemetery, the German bunkers, the beaches, and the cliffs. What a wonderful, interesting and fun trip with many sights to see and great food to eat! Where will they travel next?

## THETA CHAPTER NEWS

Theta's officers for 2014-2016 include **Ruth Conwell**, President; **Karen Goss**, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; **Tiffany Dube**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; **Nanci Plimpton**, Recording Secretary; **Nancy Gibbons**, Corresponding Secretary; **Donna-Marie Gamlin**, Treasurer; **Brenda Walker**, Parliamentarian.

**Pam Clark** is back for her seventh season at Squam Lakes Natural Science Center. "Come visit me. There are some new exhibits," she says. Also her daughter and granddaughter are living with her this summer.

**Ruth Conwell** and her husband hosted their second Kentucky Derby Party with "Ruthie's Trivia Contest" being proclaimed as "worse than a math test!"

In May **Tiffany Dube** chaperoned Guy Taylor (a local barber for 48 years) of Plymouth, NH, on a trip to Washington, DC, as part of the Honor Flight, New England. "The Rumney American Legion sponsored my trip by donating \$400.00 for expenses," she explained, "while the program is free to all WWII veterans or any disabled veterans."



**Priscilla Fletcher** and her husband look forward to visits from their son and daughter from New Zealand and son and daughter from Vermont. “Family gatherings are fun!” she says.

**Donna-Marie Gamlin** is a proud mama! “My son, James Segedy, defended his doctorate dissertation in May. He has developed new educational software and has a job creating this product for the army.”

This spring **Nancy Gibbon** went to Fenway Park to see a Red Sox game—the first one in 20 years. “It is a fun ball park,” she exclaimed. She was joined by several children and grandchildren.

Her twin granddaughters received scholarships from Theta three years ago. Today Amy and Brenna Cass are about to enter their senior years at the University of Pennsylvania and Boston College, respectively. Amy spent the first semester this year studying Arabic and Middle Eastern cultures in Aman, Jordan. She is doing an internship in Washington, DC, this summer at the State Department. Brenna was in Chile from January to July, studying the Spanish language, plus arts, poetry and literature at the University of Santiago. She lived with a host family during that time.

**Karen Goss** retired in June from Elm Street School after 30 years of teaching in Laconia and a total of 34 years teaching. “I will continue to work as my youngest daughter graduated from Winnisquam High School in June and will go to NHTI in the fall.”

**Ann Hart** is participating in the GOT LUNCH program in Laconia. “This organization,” she explains, “recognizes youngsters receiving free or reduced-price lunches during the school year, by providing them with free lunches all summer. Many wonderful volunteers come together to organize, bag and deliver the food to children’s homes.”

“Our campground, Paugus Bay Campground, opened in May and all of our children are now involved,” **Donna Houle** announced. “That means Bert and I can get away to Maine more often...I hope.”

**Sheila Mable** was honored by Karner Blue Toastmasters in Concord as “Mentor of the Year.”

**Deb Moynihan** was glad to have some “get-a-ways” this past winter. “We enjoyed golf in FL, a trip to Washington, DC, a trip to San Francisco, and visits to our son and family in Chicago,” she explained. Now she is enjoying the warm weather and golf in NH.

**Karen Sullivan** and her husband Tim went to some concerts in Boston in the spring—Cher, Paul Simon and Sting.

**Brenda Walker** had a total knee replacement on August 4 after she and **Sheila Mable** attended the DKG International Convention in Indianapolis.

**Rachel Young** reports that she and her husband had their usual winter traveling around Florida and Georgia with their trailer. “This summer we have been to Guadeloupe in the French West Indies for a week with our entire family. During July we hosted grandchildren for a month, which kept us busy transporting them to day camps at Prescott Farm, sailing camp in Gilford, visits with cousins, one camping trip, walks to the lake, and games at home.”

## NH MEMBERS ATTENDED DKG INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

by Brenda Walker, Theta

Maurine Henry, Sheila Mable, Barbara Mee, Flora Sapsin, Peggy Saunders, and Brenda Walker joined Elaine Landry in Indianapolis for five fantastic days of collaboration, learning, and sightseeing. Well, six of us found some time for visiting the city while our Beta Alpha State President Elaine was busy with meetings each day!

Three keynote speakers spoke to a group of 1200+ DKG International members on different, relevant topics. Sarah Sladek spoke about effective ways to attract and retain multigenerational members while Ron Rosenberg gave us secrets to double our memory. Our third topic was extremely disturbing to hear. DKG member Dr. Ellen Kennedy spoke about human trafficking. Americans are naive to think this is a problem only in other countries when, in fact, the US is the hot spot for receiving the victims of trafficking for sex, domestic labor and organ harvesting.

The general meetings dealt with society business. There were 30 proposed amendments to the Constitution and to the International Standing Rules. The motions, discussions and debates were very arduous at times. In addition, the convention offered over 75 Breakout Sessions on current educational topics and society business, such as “Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide,” “Music and Children’s Literature,” “Get on the Fast Track to Leadership,” “Seven Tips to Strengthen Chapters,” and “Kids on Drugs.”

Dr. Beverly Helms served her final days as our International President. New Hampshire is still very thankful to her for her presentation at our BAS Spring Conference in Meredith and for her service to us as president. At the close of the convention, Dr. Lyn Schmid from Pennsylvania was installed as DKG’s new International President for 2014-2016.

## 2014 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION

(continued from p.1)

### ALPHA'S MAURINE HENRY



Maurine Henry is Alpha Chapter's 2014 Woman of Distinction. She is currently Beta Alpha State's treasurer and webmaster. Since her initiation into DKG in 1997, she has served Alpha Chapter as second vice president, first vice president, and then president for two terms. In addition, she was responsible for inviting several of our current members to join. We have appreciated her creativity in designing favors and making booklets for meetings. Her other talents include sewing, quilting, and many other crafts, including making quilts with her kindergarten classes. She seems always to have time to help her friends, enjoy her grandchildren, support Special Olympics, and face the hurdles of life bravely and with optimism. And she is not even retired yet!

### BETA'S MARGE BRUNER



Beta Chapter names **Marge Bruner** as its Woman of Distinction for 2014. Marge received her B.S. degree from Boston University in math and science in 1934. She also trained in the medical field and was a registered medical

technologist for many years. In 1956 she started teaching math and science to fifth and sixth graders at the Conant School in Concord. After retiring in 1976, she wrote a booklet on using the metric system in the classroom and gave state-wide workshops using measurement activities.

Marge became a member of Beta Chapter in 1975 and served as chapter program chair, treasurer, vice-president, and president. She also served as state treasurer and was on the state legislative committee. Besides being active in DKG, Marge was an active member serving many offices in NHRTA and Eastern Star. In addition she was involved in AARP, promoting women's health issues.

Marge turned 101 last November and is the same age as Fenway Park. That is a distinction in itself!

### GAMMA'S LYNN YOUNG



*Betty Gilman (R) presents the award to Lynn Young (L).*

For all the countless "behind the scenes" activities, ideas, and supportive participation, Gamma Chapter recognizes Lynn Young as their 2014 Woman of Distinction. Lynn began teaching after graduating from Barrington College. She taught fourth grade in RI before she and her husband moved to Portsmouth-Kittery, where they taught at Pease Air Force Base.

After a hiatus and her son starting first grade, Lynn became head teacher and co-director of the Agape Nursery School. In her retirement she is now an special grandmother to Noah and Morgan. She also continues to be active in her church with the food pantry, Tuesday luncheon, and Sunday evening bible study group. In addition, she loves the Maine's wild beauty near her camp on Wilson Pond in Greenville.

Lynn has served many roles for Gamma Chapter: second and first vice president, scholarship chair, and coordinator of many events and the telephone tree. In addition, she has attended state and regional conferences.



## DELTA'S PAMELA READ



Pam Read, Delta Chapter's 2014 Woman of Distinction, has served Delta well for many years. She participated on several committees and held offices at the chapter level, including president. She was vice president for Beta Alpha State and attended multiple state meetings and conferences. She had a special interest in Delta's Literacy Committee and was instrumental in its outcomes, such as providing large print books, CDs, tapes, and tape and CD players to nursing homes. She was particularly effective in communicating with her chapter sisters, spending lots of time contacting members, sending notes and emails.

Her style in conducting meetings included clever humor, making meetings most enjoyable. She was a compassionate and knowledgeable mentor for the next president. Because of Pam's close connection with her Downs Syndrome friend, our chapter had a special member, Annie Forts, who taught us about "Up Syndrome"—a positive outlook and understanding of Downs. Pam Read deserves to be recognized for her talents, her professionalism, and her dedication to Delta Kappa Gamma.

## EPSILON'S LINDA ROBILLARD

Epsilon Chapter is very proud to honor Linda Robillard with the Woman of Distinction Award for 2014. Linda was inducted into the Epsilon Chapter over 35 years ago at a time when initiates wore gowns and long gloves! Her loyalty to our chapter and Delta Kappa Gamma is legendary. She has been, in her words, our "faithful treasurer" for over 25 years. She carries out her treasurer duties with perfection. She is always a positive, cheerful, willing, and loyal presence at all chapter meetings. We all appreciate her dedication and service to Epsilon.

Linda earned her bachelor's degree from Northeastern and her master's degree from the University of New Hampshire. She taught in the Derry school system (at South Range, Floyd, and East Derry) for most of her career in the Readiness Program and in first grade. She was instrumental in NH in the promoting the Readiness movement. She retired in 2000.

Linda is married to her college sweetheart and soon they will celebrate their 51<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary.

## ETA'S ANNE NUTE



Eta Chapter is proud to recognize Anne Nute as our 2014 Woman of Distinction. Anne joined Delta Kappa Gamma while she was employed as the K-12 media specialist in Farmington. She currently works at Gilford Elementary School as the media specialist and has attended the National Conference of School Librarians.

Anne has served several terms as chapter president and is our longstanding treasurer. Beta Alpha State also knows the value of her service as the state recording secretary and a member of the BAS Executive Board. She has attended several DKG Northeast Regional and International Conventions. We appreciate Anne's high level of commitment to fulfilling the purposes of our society, especially for her continued dedication to Eta Chapter.

## THETA'S PAMELA CLARK



*(continued on p. 10)*

## 2014 WOMEN OF DISTINCTION THETA'S PAM CLARK

(continued from p. 9)

All members of Delta Kappa Gamma are women of distinction. However, in Theta there is one woman who needs to be recognized for outstanding leadership. She is Pamela Clark. No one knows Laconia's history better than she does. She is intellectually curious and naturally driven by her interest in keeping abreast of changes in the community. While she has retired from her formal teaching position, she continues to educate the citizens of Laconia about issues in the community. She recently stopped teaching adult education but continues to teach by working at the Holderness Science Center. She is the secretary of the area's retired teachers' association, as well as serving as Theta's first vice president, program chair, scholarship chair and yard sale organizer for many years. This woman also serves on the Beta Alpha State Executive Board as the state scholarship chair.

Pam Clark is most deserving of our chapter's Woman of Distinction award. She works without hesitation for our chapter and never backs down from a challenge. Theta is grateful to you, Pam.

### ~WRITERS' CORNER~

## HOUSE FOR SALE

by Sheila Mable, Theta

During our two-hour trip back to Williston, VT, I struggled to get control of my emotions. Not once did I look at or talk to my husband Duane. Instead, I stared out the car window at the blurring scenery. *Why am I so upset?* I wondered. *We've been gone for a whole year. We have a new home.*

Yet I couldn't get our old home out of my mind. At least we wouldn't have to travel to Weathersfield every weekend to check our house that had been empty for almost a year. How I hated going back to the house that echoed so loudly it almost made me sick. And so my husband often made the trip alone.

It seemed just yesterday when I had received a job offer in South Burlington. I wasn't sure, however, if Duane could make the move even though I thought I could. "I'm ready for the change," he had said. I was excited but surprised at his answer because he had built and cared so much of our little estate.

There he had invested 22 years of his life, ideas, hard work and sweat. He built the garage, the tool shed, the porch, and the half bath. He installed the pool, remodeled the kitchen, added on the living room, and finished off the basement. Also he planted a tree every year and laid the two long straight stone walls that lined our driveway. Duane basically did the work while I enjoyed the results.

Our first house carried with it so many good memories, most of which centered around the children when they were little. We will never forget Marc's learning to ride his bike in our driveway; Angela's pool-side birthday parties; both kids selling vegetables and lemonade from a card table stand; the whole family delighting in the view of Mt. Ascutney and in the visits from foxes, fawns, and red-tailed hawks. Other warm memories include family reunions, faculty parties, and Marc and Cindy's wedding reception held under a big top tent in our large driveway. The Mable home was the only place in the neighborhood that could, or dared, to host 100 people at one time.

As the children became teenagers, the memories of our home and family were not so kind. Often we wished we could erase those times that we fought over forgotten homework, starved cats, messy rooms, missed curfews, and hidden pot. Often we wondered if we would make it as a family. But we grew strong in those broken places and remained a unit. Our understanding and love were cemented all within the perimeters of the little yellow ranch home on the eight acres that had become ours with payments, hard work, tears and laughter.

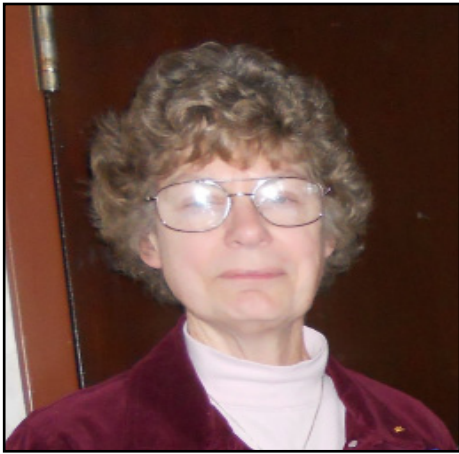
Before we went to the bank that morning to sign the papers, we had stopped in Weathersfield. Duane and I walked around our old house and grounds in silence. I finally went to the car and sat by myself while he took one last walk to the porch he had built just before we moved. There he sat on the steps for several minutes and looked out over Mt. Ascutney.

At the bank we signed the papers. With all formalities taken care of, we handed over the keys and said goodbye to the new owners. "I know the house meant a lot to you," said Mr. Picerno.

With that I could no longer hold back the tears. I sobbed. Duane and I had lost a friend, a part of us, a part of our past.



Source: 3.bp.Blogspot.com



## BETA ELECTS THOMPSON

Beta Chapter elected Terry Thompson (*pictured above*) to be their next president. Terry became a member of the Beta Chapter in 2009. She was a science teacher at the Richmond Middle School in Hanover, NH, for 36 years (1972-2008). During her last eight years at the Richmond School, Terry was also a part time administrator. Her duties included staff and student scheduling, as well as staff representative and coordinator for the construction and move to the new Frances C. Richmond Middle School building.

Terry attended Nashua High School, received a BS in teaching (biology), a MST (geology) at the University

of Vermont, and a MEd in Health Education at Plymouth State College. In 1987 Terry was the recipient of The Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics for the State of New Hampshire.

## NURSING HOME VOLUNTEERS

*(continued from p. 3)*

Dube walked in and out of the audience with a microphone while sharing answers and giving everyone an opportunity to speak.

She led residents as they unscrambled Easter anagrams and colored Easter Bunny art with crayons. Residents also got to shout out answers to Bible trivia questions and played an Easter bingo game, with winners awarded shiny window decorations for their rooms.

Before wrapping up her presentation, Dube passed out an array of musical instruments to the residents — rattles, drums, cowbells, maracas and tambourines — and played Easter gospel music before finishing with two 1970s hits — “Celebration” and “We are Family” by the Pointer Sisters. Many residents sang, danced and played along with their instruments from their wheelchairs.

“I just had a wonderful time,” said resident Millie Chapman. “It was great and it’s a lot of fun every time she comes to visit us.”

Dube, who now teaches at Plymouth State University, said her volunteer experience has changed her attitude about nursing homes. “People make the assumption that it’s a place to go to die,” she said. “What I’ve found is that it’s a place to go for those who want to continue living.”

Delta Kappa Gamma International

### Beta Alpha State Fall Meeting

Saturday, September 20, 2014

### Mariposa Museum

26 Main Street, Peterborough, NH 03458

Hostess Chapter: Beta

\$10 fee includes registration and museum program fee

(Lunch on your own following the program)

The program: “*The World of Chocolate!*”

-----Cut Here-----

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send a check for \$10.00 to Beta Alpha State with this registration form by **September 12, 2014**, to **Elaine Landry**, 61 Queens Road, Keene, NH 03431.





**MEET DIANNE MROS, ETA'S PRESIDENT**

Dianne Mros is the current president of Eta, ready to serve her second biennium. She received her BS in Elementary Education from Plymouth State College and M.Ed in Reading from UNH. She also earned certifications in Special Education and Learning and Language Disabilities from Notre Dame College.

Dianne spent ten years as a second and third grade teacher at Memorial Drive School in Farmington. For 20 years, she was a reading consultant and special educator in the Somersworth elementary schools. She is currently a part-time reading specialist at John Powers School.

In addition, Dianne is certified as a reiki master/teacher and tai chi for health instructor. She teaches tai chi classes through the Marshwood Adult Ed Program. She and her friend Ruth Ashley, COTA, have a practice called Reiki Bliss. They have presented wellness workshops for many organizations including SLC, NEA NH ESP, NHAHPERD, NEA, NHSTA and SES.

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**DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Sept. 20, 2014**      **BAS Fall Meeting**  
Mariposa Museum Peterborough
- Jan. 19, 2015**      **BAS Ex. Board Meeting—TBA**
- Apr. 10-11, 2015**      **BAS Spring Conference**  
Portsmouth, Sheraton Hotel
- July 8-11, 2015**      **Northeast Regional Conference**  
Baltimore, MD

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**BETA ALPHA STATE-NH**

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International



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