



THE CHIPS OF GRANITE

Beta Alpha State News—Vol. 2014, Issue 1—Feb. 2014

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International



DKG INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT TO VISIT NH

Dr. Beverly Helms, DKG International President, will speak at Beta Alpha State's Spring Conference on Saturday, March 22, 2014, in Meredith, NH. Dr. Helms reminds us that registration for the 2014 DKG International Convention is now underway. Forms appear in the Jan/Feb 2014 *DKG News* or we can register online. Save July 28 through August 1, 2014, and head to Indianapolis, IN.

Dr. Helms received the 2010 International Achievement Award in honor of her years of service both at the state and international levels. From Florida, she served as Mu State President, Editor, Photographer, Parliamentarian, and in various other positions. Also she has been Southeast Regional Director, International Member-At-Large, and International Second Vice President. In addition, she chaired the International Communications Committee, served as a member of the International Leadership Development Committee, and assisted the Administrative Board in the development of a Strategic Action Plan, an Employee Handbook, and in updating the Administrative Policies Governing Headquarters.

We at Beta Alpha State are honored that Dr. Helms will be with us for our spring conference.

BAS SPRING CONFERENCE OFFERS FRIDAY WORKSHOPS 3-21-14

WORKSHOP 1 (9-10): WHY WOMEN'S STUDIES?

Historically women have been marginalized. Over the past hundred years women have fought for and secured many equal rights and opportunities under the law, but in our classrooms, women's stories and experiences are still relegated to the margins of our history textbooks. Female authors are all but ignored in required classroom novels only getting sprinkled into optional reading lists. In order to inspire young women to feel worthy of leadership positions and make improvements in gender equality throughout society, it is crucial that our students see, read, and study women's stories. Women's studies offers a foundation for young women and men to appreciate the revolutions that have previously occurred, as well as the tasks that lay ahead by critiquing global oppression of women and daring students to begin to tell a new story that includes an egalitarian future for us all.

PRESENTERS:

Krista Sullivan, age 21, is a graduate of the Keene High School class of 2010. Krista will graduate from Keene State College in May with degrees in Early Childhood Education and Women/Gender Studies. Throughout college she has done many activism projects that promote gender equality, such as educational outreach sessions at a women's prison, travel to Nicaragua, involvement in the recent Presidential election, and collaboration with local schools and non-profit organizations. At KSC she is a leader of Feminist Collective, a student organization, and also a founding member and president of Triota, a nationally recognized Women's Studies honors society. Krista and co-presenter Tina were recognized as an "Extraordinary Women of the Monadnock Region" in 2013 by the *Keene Sentinel*. Krista credits her exposure to women's studies at the high school level as a critical catalyst which has led to her current endeavors.

Tina McLaughlin, a former student of Elaine Landry, DKGs Beta Alpha State president, teaches the women's literature course pioneered by Elaine at Keene High School. In 2008 Tina established an annual Women's Empowerment workshop for KHS students to promote women in leadership and activism. Encouraging students to commit (continued on p. 8)

GREETINGS FROM PRESIDENT LANDRY



CHANGE CHALLENGES AND ENERGIZES US!

Are you warm yet? What an extraordinary winter we are enduring. In a way, endurance is the theme of this column.

One event which warmed the hearts and souls of your Beta Alpha State Executive Board was the January 20, 2014, meeting at Sheila Mable's home. The weather gods provided a pleasant day for travel, and the business meeting was followed by a delicious lunch prepared by Sheila. The meal ended with an apple cake dessert based on her grandmother's recipe. Sheila adapted the recipe a bit, and the result was enjoyed by all.

We, too, as DKG members are adapting to a changing world. International is becoming more and more dependent upon the Internet as a vehicle for collecting and disseminating information. In spite of my less than expert use of technology, I am learning and changing.

In the 1970s Alvin Toffler's *Future Shock* predicted that all would feel increasing degrees of stress at the rapidly changing state of technology. It would be difficult to adapt, to keep up with the changes. He also said, "Change is not merely necessary to life...it is life."

Here are some changes in our own state organization. Most of us had to download the required biennial report forms. Sometimes procedures worked, and sometimes they did not. If you, too, had problems, you may have turned to a savvy DKG member for assistance or contacted International for aid. The lesson here: Just ask...help will get us through. I was thrilled to receive all seven chapter presidents' biennial reports. Now I will collate the information for International. If you are responsible for completing other

forms, do your best and send them to the appropriate state chairs listed on page 8 of the BAS yearbook.

Plans have been completed for the 2014 spring meeting, *Traveling the Ever-Changing Paths of Education*, to be held at The Inn at Mill Falls, Meredith, NH, March 20-22. If you have not already done so, download the brochure from the BAS website. Send registrations by February 28 to Flora Sapsin. Share information with area educators and schools. There are programs relevant to all, and our International president, Dr. Beverly Helms will join us.

Changes are in the works to improve our yearbook. Maurine Henry, state webmaster, will provide tools and information at the spring business meeting. Also, we will vote on state bylaws changes necessitated by changes at the International level. Those of you planning to attend the DKG International Convention in Indianapolis in July will be asked to vote on the proposed slate of officers nominated for 2014-2016. Check the Jan/Feb issues of the *DKG News* in preparation for a vote. Your wishes will be relayed to International.

In our state chapters, this is election year. If you are asked to serve, please consider it an honor. If all contribute, a stronger state organization will result.

Yes, change is inevitable; it can be both challenging and demanding, but it can also be energizing.

My warmest wishes to all of you in 2014,

Elaine Landry
Beta Alpha State President

WHITE ROSES—IN MEMORY

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

Doris Barnes	Theta	4-13-13
Louise Gaiero	Gamma	7-15-13
Rita Blakslee	Delta	10-13-13
Ruth Millar	Beta	12-26-13



MAURINE HENRY FILLS STATE TREASURER'S JOB



President Elaine Landry is pleased to announce that Maurine Henry has been appointed treasurer of Beta Alpha State. "When you need to get something done, ask a busy individual. Maurine Henry personifies that soul. No matter how crazed her life becomes, she holds it all together and comes through beautifully," Elaine explained. "In addition, Maurine has experience as state treasurer for NH Jaycee Women, a much more complicated job than Beta Alpha State's treasury job; and she can computerize everything in a clear and efficient fashion."

Maurine has been a member of Alpha Chapter of DKG Beta Alpha State since May of 1997. After becoming a member, she has served as Second Vice President, First Vice President, and President. At the state level she also serves as Web Site Manager.

Maurine received her B.Ed and a M.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction from Keene State College. She has earned 30 credits beyond her master's with a focus in Behavior Management. She has been trained in Brain-Based Education and has been a presenter for several multi-district workshops. She also has published, "Skills Development with Mother Goose," an activity guide for kindergarten skills development.

In the 1980s Maurine was a parent trainer who worked with families of special needs students. In 1987, following two years teaching in a private kindergarten, she began teaching kindergarten at the Gilsum Elementary School. In 2006 she began teaching Art to grades K – 6, along with her kindergarten duties. In 2010 she piloted a full day kindergarten program for the Monadnock Regional School District. The program was adopted district-wide for the 2011-2012 school year. She is currently the lead teacher and kindergarten teacher at Mt. Caesar Elementary School in Swanzey, NH.

Maurine has been active with Special Olympics and US Jaycee Women. While a member of the US Jaycee Women, she held several positions including local president and state treasurer. When she isn't spending time teaching or having fun with her three grandchildren, two sons, daughter-in-law or husband Terry, she enjoys reading, crafting, and quilting.

MARTHA VERVILLE IS A WOMAN OF DISTINCTION

by Caroline Butler, Eta

Many of you know Martha Verville as the *Crazy Sock Lady* and the one with the beautiful hats. She has been a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for 41 years. Originally a member of GAMMA, she was a charter member when ETA Chapter was organized April 10, 1975.

She has held many chapter offices, including president. She is a past Beta Alpha State corresponding secretary and membership chair. She has attended several Northeast Regional and International Conventions. Wherever she goes, her vivacious personality draws others to her and invites conversation. She loves supporting others, especially those in the earlier stages of their careers.

Martha (aka Marnie) received the 2013 Volunteer of the Year Award from the Concord Visiting Nurse Association. Martha has been a Hospice volunteer for 15 years. The award is given each year in memory of Tony Lomantire, a long-time volunteer. Now Martha has a "Tony" award!

In the fall Martha joined in with over 5,000 participants walking 2.5 miles for Making Strides against Cancer in Concord. She has been a breast cancer survivor for two years but has been walking annually for six years. The event raised \$588,500 for the American Cancer Society.

ETA members thank Martha for all her contributions to the Society and to humanity. She is truly a woman of distinction!



Marnie Verville brings joy and support to all humanity.

CHAPTER CHATTER

ALPHA CHAPTER NEWS

Alpha Chapter members continue to volunteer at the Ashuelot River Park where they tend a garden and assist in spring and fall clean-up. Our work is greatly appreciated by the many visitors who stop by. We tell them all about DKG when the opportunity arises.

Ann Ayotte visited New York City for a surprise 70th birthday celebration in early November. Coming along for the adventure, in addition to her daughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren, were her brother and sister-in-law. Chilled champagne was waiting upon their arrival at the Trump International Hotel, where her room overlooked Central Park. Day 2 brought a carriage ride in the Park and tea at the Ritz. There were dinners at Bobby Flay's Bar, American and Aureole, as well as a wonderful pumpkin waffle with sour cream, strawberries, and honey at Sarabeth's for breakfast. The group saw *Newsies* on Broadway, did a bit of shopping, and walked through Times Square. Finally, the gift of a silver necklace from Tiffany's completed a wonderful and memorable weekend.

Sue Miller is really enjoying retirement. Summer means flying to Curacao where she and husband Ted spend seven weeks relaxing, touring, beaching, and scuba diving. They have met many people of many nationalities and have made many friends. Upon returning to the States this summer, they spent two weeks on Block Island, where they visited the Historical Society and took several Greenaway walks. Sue says this family vacation spot is highly recommended for its "quaintness and peacefulness."

Norma Walker was on the Planning Committee for The Walk to End Alzheimer's, which was held at Keene State Campus on Sept. 21. Norma continues to organize luncheons around the state for the Keene State College Golden Circle, a group of KSC alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago. This was the seventeenth year that the luncheons have been held. One special gathering was a guided boat ride on Squam Lake, which was enjoyed by all.



BETA CHAPTER NEWS

Anne Cragin will be playing in a concert with the Upper Valley Community Band. The concert is called "An Ode to Winter" and they are partnering with Vital Communities. She is also having fun playing racket ball and pickle ball.

Grace Fraser is ending her three year term as Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum in Warner, NH. During her time, the board purchased the land, buildings, and collections with the help of a major anonymous donation. The annual October gala auction has become a destination, and the Director and Curator have made remarkable strides in creating a professional, respected institution recognized nationally.

Helen Goodwin's book, *Memories of One Who Served*, is now in two Women's War Museums. One museum is in Richmond, VA, and the other is in Washington, DC. Her niece's husband is now working on getting it listed in the Library of Congress. The book will also go into the Wright Museum in Wolfeboro in the spring. In addition, Helen would like folks to know that despite the problems she has had with her heart, she is doing very well.

Susan Mellow has been a Library Trustee in Grantham for 10 years and is now the chairperson. She also has a new grandson, William James Millar-Liam, born on October 5, 2013, in Truckee, CA.

Ruth Millar passed away December 26, 2013, at the age of 84. She had been an active member of Beta Chapter since January 1972. She had taught elementary school for 38 years in Franklin, Littleton and Plymouth and was dearly loved by her students, friends and family.

Ann Silverstein attended the Library for All Conference in Providence, RI.

Kathy Tucker, her husband, and a few friends took another cross-country train trip last fall. "The main purpose of the trip was to visit the Grand Canyon. We were some of the 'lucky' ones who were not able to get into the park due to the government shut down!" Kathy said. "Maybe, next time!"

GAMMA CHAPTER NEWS

Penny Bodwell is a snowbird again in Florida.

Barbara Cowan and Bill Childs—both retired art educators—will have a variety of prints on exhibit at the Just Our Chickens Gallery in Kittery, ME.

Betty Gilman helped host Christine Peni, a teacher from Africa. Members of Gamma joined the ladies of the North Church in Portsmouth for a tea and presentation by Peni. (See article on p. 10.)

Joyce Griffin will return to her favorite spot in Aruba for a winter break.

Jacki Hinton and **Meryl Roy** spent almost two weeks in Tuscany, Italy. These two artistic ladies came back ready to create masterpieces.

Priscilla Jenness went to Tuscany with her family last fall.

Sheila Knight is once again collaborating with Royaline Edwards on a play. Royaline is writing the script, and Sheila is doing the scenery for a second grade production in Elliot, ME. They worked together about five years ago on a children's book entitled "A Ribbon for Sammy."

Ann Smith serves on the Hodson Brook Restoration Advisory Board, which works with the city of Portsmouth, Pease Air Force Base and the state of NH to ensure clean water.

Ruth Tuttle fell while retrieving her mail and broke her wrist. We know Ruth will do her rehab exercises well.

Gamma members look forward to having a joint meeting and dinner on March 11 with Eta Chapter to focus on membership efforts.

DELTA CHAPTER NEWS

In December many Delta members created soft and colorful hats, mittens, and scarves, which were donated to a local thrift shop. They were offered to clients for little to no cost.

Susan Ackerman has been teaching courses on The Quest for Inner Peace, Principles and Practices, to adults in Lancaster. The response has been gratifying to her. She also spent time caregiving for our own **Anne Morgan**, who had a knee operation this fall. Anne is doing well and plans to have the second knee done in January.

Barbara Baker continues to fulfill one of our chapter goals of caring for one another. She visits members who often do not have email, giving them chapter and state news. She also helps them with surveys, which keeps the chapter updated on members' personal information and professional growth. "It is our hope that doing so will help us maintain close connections with each other," she said.

Marsha Biron and husband spent two weeks this fall enjoying the Southwest, including visits to Hoover Dam, The Grand Canyon, Sedona, and Palm West, CA "I stuck my feet in the Pacific for the first time!" she exclaimed. "The weather was perfect and the trip, a wonderful way to start my retirement."

Sharon Cormier and her husband have "flown" south! They purchased a Florida home last year and were anxious to escape the ice and snow, as well as to work on their new acquisition.

Mel Gray and her husband are also "snowbirds," having left for The Villages in Florida in early fall. They looked forward to the pool and golf courses.

Marna Ingerson and her husband are living in the "wilds" of Vermont on Maidstone Lake. They are in the process of selling their Whitefield, NH, home. Their new phone number is 802-676-2635. Their email remains the same.

Karen LaRoche has started teaching Adult Education courses at her high school, White Mountains Regional. All Career and Technical teachers are promoting their programs to the public in order to create more community understanding and support.

Joan deVillafane, proud grandmother, is thrilled to welcome a new member to her family. Her second great-grandson, Ezra, was born on September 14, 2013, and is, of course, perfect! Also, her only granddaughter, Lisa, graduated from high school in June 2013 and has been very busy fulfilling her goal of a nursing career with continuing education.

EPSILON CHAPTER NEWS

During December and January at the Whistler House Museum of Art in Lowell, MA, **Connie Lanseigne-Case** had an encaustic (hot wax) and collage painting titled "Marigolds in Yellow and Brown" in the members' juried exhibition. Her artworks have been in the members' shows for six years.

Gladys Nicoll, former member of Epsilon Chapter, died at the age of 96 on October 15, 2013, after a long period of declining health. She taught physical education and later third and fourth grades in Chester, Derry and Salem elementary schools until retirement in 1973. She served her community of Chester in many capacities: Scout leader, 4-H leader, church leader, and planter of trees and shrubs. She was proudest of establishing the Chester Natural Area and of being inducted into the Pinkerton Academy Hall of Fame.

ETA CHAPTER NEWS

Caroline Butler visited Washington, DC, with her grandchildren.

Sandy Crockett, **Caroline Butler**, and 16 Somersworth staff members attended the NHASCD conference in January presented by Lucy Calkins. Sandy is the reading specialist at Maple Wood School, and Caroline is the Title I Project Manager.

Dianne Mros is teaching Tai Chi for Health & Relaxation in the spring for the Marshwood Adult & Community Education in South Berwick, ME.

In February **Dianne Mros**, **Jacque Puk**, and **Sandy Crockett** vacationed in Florida.

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ETA NEWS *(continued from p. 5)*

Anne Nute attended the National Conference of School Librarians in Connecticut for four days in November. This professionally enriching experience has advanced her work as the media specialist at Gilford Elementary School.

Martha Verville and her husband John will be heading to the beaches of Normandy in mid-April while enjoying a river cruise on the Seine.

THETA CHAPTER NEWS

Pam Clark visited her daughter and granddaughter for Thanksgiving in the Chicago area. Pam had fun with Maddison, who practiced her ABCs with “Gammy.” Then Pam will travel in March to Florida to visit friends for a few weeks.

Ruth Conwell is so excited about her new venture. “I have opened a quilt shop, Conwell Corners,” she explained. “It is a small, working shop that is open weekends and upon request. Quality fabric, lessons, retreats, kits, and advice are available! The first weekend retreat was on MLK weekend and was attended by advanced and beginning quilters. A great time was had by all. DKG sisters would be most welcome, so get three of your friends together and call for an open date. You won’t be disappointed!”

Also Ruth coaches the Pembroke Academy Math Team, which has a record 56 members. The team raised over \$2,200 for a 50/50 raffle in which the winner correctly guessed the first day after Thanksgiving that PA’s classes would be cancelled due to inclement weather. “It was SNOW fun!” Ruth said.

Tiffany Dube is a program assistant at PSU and works with students who are majoring in elementary education. She thanks Theta Chapter for donating funds to help pay for Annie Forts to speak to the students during their special education class. An inspiring speaker, Annie talks about her “Up-Syndrome,” rather than her Down Syndrome.

Priscilla Fletcher is looking forward to getting back to work at Squam Lakes Natural Science Center. Meanwhile, she has visited Florida and taken a “cruise to warm weather.”

Kathy Lacroix is going to Italy in May and on a Baltic Cruise in August. “**Yvonne Crocker** of Beta Chapter is going to be my roommate for that trip, and I look forward to getting to know her better,” said Kathy.

THETA AIDS ELM ST. SCHOOL

by Donna-Marie Gamlin, Theta

This ESSence of Giving event could be called the gift that keeps on giving. First, members of the Elm Street School community in Laconia, NH, donated more than 1,000 new and used items. As donations were dropped off, it was common to hear the person donating say, “I can just imagine someone getting this as a gift and feeling pleased.”

Brenda Walker and Donna-Marie Gamlin of Theta’s DKG met with a few volunteers on three separate Saturdays to sort, catalogue, and store donated items before converting the school’s gym into what looked like a department store.

Then on the morning of December 7, several more Theta members joined the shopping and wrapping stations. As students arrived at the school, they wrote their family members names on a shopping slip. There was no cost to enjoy this event. Donation jars were placed near the entrance with the foreknowledge that all donations were to be given to the food pantry. The shopping slips were then given to the students’ personal shoppers who brought them into the gym and helped them to choose gifts.

When all the gifts were chosen, students went to a wrapping station where volunteers wrapped the gifts. While students shopped, parents were treated to coffee and baked goods in the school library. The students left anticipating the smiles their gifts would leave on their loved ones’ hearts.

Every shopper and wrapper has already committed to returning next year. The event touched their hearts as well. No money was needed to run the event since all items were donated. The leftover gifts were given to the community for St. Vincent De Paul, and more than \$200 was given to the local food pantry.

ANNE MORGAN COMPILES HISTORIC IMAGES

by Barbara Baker, Delta

Lancaster, NH marks its 250th anniversary with celebratory events planned throughout this year. One achievement is the publication of *The Images of America: Lancaster*. This pictorial history came together through the efforts of Anne Morgan, the Historical Society and Arcadia Publishing.

Anne is a New Hampshire native and Delta sister. She came to Lancaster in 1967 to teach home economics to students in the seven and eight grades at old Lancaster School. After retiring, she followed her interest in antiques and collectables by opening a business. This effort led to interests in the homes, lives, and artifacts of early settlers.

Anne’s life-long interest in photography naturally gravitated to the collection at Lancaster’s Wilder-Holton Museum. Thinking that the residents would be interested in the photographs, she began compiling the best images. During 2013 she worked assiduously assembling pictures and prints. She was looking for an image of a “Snow Roller.” Being unsuccessful, she put the word out to the community. Sure enough, David Hill had a picture of one on his office wall. It took some creativity on Anne’s part to prepare it for copying.

“We hope this collection of photographs will awaken memories in our older citizens and create a greater interest in Lancaster’s history by its younger generation,” Anne said.

Anne is an active member in the Historical Society. She has held various offices, including president, and is presently assistant treasurer. A book signing will be held later at the Holton House. *Congratulations, Anne!*

NEW HAMPSHIRE MOURNS THE LOSS OF DORIS BARNES

Doris Barnes, 102, of Laconia, passed away on April 13, 2013, at Laconia Genesis Eldercare Center. Born in Maine on March 16, 1911, she was the daughter of Elbridge and Maude Carpenter. Doris was raised in Houlton and attended Aroostook State Normal School, in Presque Isle, ME. She earned an associate's degree in education while there.

In the late 30s and early 40s she started her career as an educator in Barnstead, NH, at a one-room school on Beauty Hill. She married and moved to Alton, NH, where she took a job as a teaching principal during and after WWII. She then went on to take a position as an elementary principal in Farmington, NH. Later Doris went to Keene State College, where she earned her bachelor's degree in education. Throughout the 50s she taught elementary and junior high, all subjects, in the Portland (ME) area.

In the 60s she earned her master's degree in education from the University of Maine and took a position as a guidance counselor at Spaulding High School in Rochester, NH. Throughout the 70s and 80s she earned certification and credits in testing, administration, and reading from the University of NH, Durham; became a certified career counselor; and was a guidance counselor at Memorial Middle School in Laconia. Throughout the 1990s and on, she worked at Dover High School and later in Gilford as the ISS (in school suspension) coordinator. Though she retired from teaching at age 80, she continued as a tutor students over the next 20 years.

Doris was a member of many teacher and state education associations. She served as president/charter member of the Alpha Delta Kappa (Maine). In later years she worked on the committee to create and maintain the NH State Education Awards known as the "Eddies." She was honored with an award named for her as a retired educator who continued involvement in education in New Hampshire. In addition she was an honorary member of Theta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma.



Over the years Doris kept in touch with many former students, inviting them to play cards and celebrate her birthdays. Those who knew her enjoyed her company and were amazed at her boundless energy.

~WRITERS' CORNER~

MEMORIES OF PIPES

by Barbara Baker, Delta

The night temps plummeted to -27° , giving us the bother of broken kitchen pipes. My morning was spent in repetitions of slogging up water, wringing out towels in the spin cycle, and getting them back on the floor. Our plumber, Jim, (Yes, we've had his services before!) spent the day repairing, refitting and welding elbows and copper pipes.

My husband supervised this project, from the comfort of a dining room chair. "Sorry I can't do more to help," he lamented.

"I'm going to work on the computer," I mumbled and then escaped, trying to shun the thought of repair bills. Pipes, Pipes, Pipes. The self-indulgence of pipe dreams came to mind. I remembered the harmless musings of us kids on a grassy hill, making cloud pictures, imagining the future, and inventing happy ending stories.

I associate my grandpa with his smoking pipe. He relaxed before dinner with his pipe and paper. His tobacco was Prince Albert in a can. The aroma was sweet and comforting. I felt closest to Grandpa then, he with his paper, and I with my book.

Aunt Rita made the best frosting. I was about 10 years old and it was my cousin Susan's birthday. The cake was on the kitchen counter ready to be frosted.

"Can I help?" I pleaded, wanting to learn the recipe.

"Sure. You work here," Aunt Rita said, placing the recipe between us. The last thing I did was put some frosting in a bag. Then she showed me how to make ridges around the edge. I finished making the ridges, which Aunt Rita called piping.

"What are you sewing on that hem?" I asked Aunt Mary. She made wonderful clothes. This time she was finishing a dress for my cousin Jeannie. She was adding piping to the hem. My mom called it Ric-Rac, but Aunt Mary said it was piping. I remember that she made my First Communion veil with satin ribbon trim.

My mum loved to read. Two of my favorite stories were "The Pied Piper" and "The Trumpeter of Krakow." I could retell them from memory. Her bookcase was filled, and my sisters and I had a bookcase in our bedroom. On a rainy summer day, with nothing to do but read, we decided to play "Library." We took down all the books we could reach from my mother's bookcase. We spent the afternoon numbering each book and then putting them all back in alphabetical order.

"Do you think she'll know?" my sister Carol worried.

Being the oldest, I assured her, "It will be okay."

If my mother knew, and I'm sure she did, she never said a word. I like to think she was as proud of us as we were of ourselves.

By now my frustration has abated. I cherish these memories that helped put today's broken kitchen pipes in perspective.

FRIDAY WORKSHOPS *(continued from p.1)*

to raising awareness through feminist activism, she supervises student-run “Equal Pay” bake sales and screenings of award-winning feminist films to raise money for the New England Coalition against Trafficking, Global Grassroots, and the Malala Fund. Tina’s goal is a day when women’s literature and women’s studies courses are not needed because women and men’s stories are truly integrated into all of our classrooms and media; but until then, she is passionate about getting women’s voices heard.



Krista Sullivan



Tina McLaughlin

WORKSHOP 2 (10:15-11:15):

The Common Core of Waste

America is addicted to garbage. Waste is one of our country’s greatest contributions to the global economy. With 5% of the world’s population, America accounts for 25% of the world’s waste. As the school districts in America begin implementing the Common Core State Standards, the exploration of waste management easily ignites a learning experience that is “relevant to the real world.” This workshop will reveal how teaching students to stop wasting can also satisfy a few of the English Language Arts and Mathematical standards as outlined by the Common Core. *With American students fully prepared for the future, our communities will be best positioned to compete successfully in the global economy (www.corestandards.org).* Is there a happy ending to the story of America’s trash addiction?

PRESENTER:

Cindy Sterling Clark, Keene State College Faculty

WORKSHOP 3 (12:45-1:45):

Common Core and Text Complexity

The Common Core State Standards are calling for an increase in reading levels and rigor for students. What truly makes a text difficult for students? This workshop will focus on how to

look beyond Lexile levels and the suggested book list of the CCSS. How do we judge the difficulty level of books or texts? How do we take the reader into account? Come learn some interesting facts about the “classics” that we deem so difficult and some of the new adolescent literature available to today’s students. What are the new challenges facing teachers and students in the world of standards-based reading?

PRESENTER:

Melanie Ruark, State President for Alpha Psi State, ME, is an English/history teacher at Hancock County Technical Center in Ellsworth, ME. In her 20-plus years of education, she has served Maine students as a teacher of special education, alternative education, high school English, adjunct faculty for the College of Education for the University of Maine, and Literacy Coach/ Specialist. She is a graduate of the Maine Literacy Partnership, University of Maine’s first cohort for Literacy Coach Training for grades 7-12. Melanie holds her Bachelor’s degree in Special Education and Elementary Education from Gordon College, a Master’s in Literacy and Special Education from the University of Maine.



Cindy Clark



Melanie Ruark

WORKSHOP 4 (2-3 PM): Poetry Activities That Work

This is an interactive workshop that will help us and our students to understand and enjoy poetry. Come prepared to read aloud, to examine different formats and approaches, and to appreciate poems written by students and adults.

PRESENTER:

Inducted into Delta Kappa Gamma in 1981, **Sheila Mable** moved from VT to NH in 2005 and joined Theta Chapter. She has served as president of Theta and currently serves as editor of *Chips of Granite*, Beta Alpha State’s newsletter.

Sheila has taught for 51 years, 43 of which were in VT at the high school and university levels. She especially loved teaching composition, public speaking, and poetry. She also enjoyed coaching speech teams and serving as *Mountain Review* editor. Now, after moving to Penacook with her husband, she is an adjunct instructor at Southern New Hampshire University.

RITA BLAKSLEE LIVED A LIFE OF SHARING

Rita (Falkenham) Blakslee passed away on October 13, 2013, after a short period of declining health. She was born in Gilman, VT, to Josephine and Oriel Falkenham but lived most of her 87 years in Dalton NH.

In June of 1948, she graduated from Plymouth Teachers College and married her husband of 58 years, Charles Blakslee, who predeceased her in 2006. Together they rescued the house on the Blakslee homestead and welcomed family and friends to their home to stay or to gather. And they did! The home on the mountain was where lives have been shared and memories have been made for five generations.

Rita taught business education at Littleton High School, Whitefield High School, White Mts. Regional High School, and Groveton High School. As teacher, as chairperson, as curriculum developer, as the teacher who embraced technology, she sent many high school graduates on to employment and careers in associated fields. Right through the last days of her life, she enjoyed hearing, "Because of you, I have a career/employment." "You made a difference in my world."

In her lifetime she was an active member of the Dalton community. She was a member of the school board, superintendant of the Sunday school and faithful member of the Congregational Church, a member of the Ladies Aid Society, a member of the Grange, auditor for the town of Dalton, a board member of Weeks Memorial Hospital, champion for the building of the Dalton Elementary School and White Mts. Regional High School. She was also a gatherer of her childhood/high school friends and a gatherer and supporter of the class of 1948 and the alumni association of Plymouth State College. And for over 40 years, she was a sister to so many wonderful women in Delta Kappa Gamma Society.

She was mother to Charlotte (and Jack) Nelson of Manchester, NH; Allen (and Evie) Blakslee of Dalton; and Peter (and Dianne) Blakslee of Littleton, NH. She was "Grammie" to all of their five children and "Aunt Rita" to her many nieces, nephews and cousins. For many, she made her home their home. For several decades she hosted the annual Blakslee Christmas Eve gathering and pancake and Blakslee syrup suppers on Sundays!

DELTA PAYS TRIBUTE TO "AUNT RITA"

by Marna Ingerson, Delta

Rita Blakslee, fondly known as Aunt Rita to many Delta members, was asked to join Delta Kappa Gamma in 1959. She served Delta Kappa Gamma Delta Chapter loyally for all those years. She was treasurer for seventeen years! She attended meetings locally, which meant with Delta members from Pittsburg to Woodsville. She generously participated in food pantry and goods for soldier drives, scholarship and grant-in-aid campaigns, and "silent auctions," which helped fund our community service activities. Aunt Rita enjoyed bidding and listening to us outbid each other during those auctions.

She attended state meetings and conferences which helped keep her abreast of current trends and practices in education and state retirement. She often roomed with her good friend, Ruth Harris, who passed away last year. They had such a good time reminiscing about their teaching experiences and about DKG and the many years when hats and gloves were required!

I particularly enjoyed the times that Aunt Rita and I would ride together to and from Delta meetings. We often were accompanied by Sharon Cormier and Joan deVillafane. There was lots of laughter on those rides. Aunt Rita and I would chuckle or laugh out loud as Joan and Sharon told jokes or hilarious stories or teased each other. We decided that we needed to be the calm, composed ones. Our compatriots certainly weren't! On one such occasion, Aunt Rita, Sharon, and I decided to stop at the Dalton Cemetery to walk and find her husband's grave, as well as those of other Blakslee relatives. It was a beautiful sunny day with a slight breeze. Aunt Rita said she found it restful and pretty with a big pine tree swaying in the breeze. Each time we arrived at her home part way up Dalton Mountain, she would offer us books which she kept in the entry for all to share. The Blakslee Farm was always open and welcoming to all due to Aunt Rita's graciousness.

In 2012 Aunt Rita was awarded a Distinguished Woman Award for Delta Chapter. We thank Rita Blakslee for sharing her wisdom and knowledge, her compassion, and her leadership. She made a real difference in Delta Chapter.

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PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORLD FELLOWSHIP FUND

by Margaret Guilmette, Delta, BAS Committee Chair

The International World Fellowship Fund awards monetary support to non-member women educators who are not citizens or residents of the USA or Canada.

The World Fellowship Committee selects women educators applying for study in the USA and Canada by using dossiers supplied by the Institute of International Education.

The DKG International World Fellowship Report for 2012-2013 submitted for Beta Alpha NH indicated that Beta Alpha State contributed \$50. Alpha and Delta chapters' combined total was \$92.12. Thus, our total contribution from NH was \$142.12.

Contributions from state organizations, chapters, and individual members support the work of The World Fellowship Committee. The amount of the donation is at your discretion.

Consider making a contribution to the International World Fellowship Fund by completing Form 43 and attaching your donation. Form 43 is available at www.dkg.org. Click on *Forms*. Send donations to DKG Society International, PO Box 1589, Austin, TX 78767-1589.



Christine Peni and Betty Gilman enjoy their friendship and learning about their different cultures.

ZIMBABWE MEETS NEW HAMPSHIRE

by Betty Gilman, Gamma Chapter

Christine Peni visited Portsmouth, NH, from Marondera, Zimbabwe, last October. Eleven other delegates were among the visitors to our state. Forty-four United Church of Christ (UCC) Zimbabwe churches are Ukama Partners with UCC churches in New Hampshire, many of whom hosted these delegates. The partnership between North Church of Portsmouth UCC and Marondera Church began in January 2010, and this visit put a friendly face to a relatively new relationship.

In August of 2010, I went to Zimbabwe and stayed with Christine Peni while in Marondera. This was the beginning of a friendship and ongoing communication between us women educators and UCC members. Christine is a high school teacher for sewing and English. As a member of Marondera Church, she is elected to be the Ukama chairperson and vice deacon of her church. She is a mother of two lovely young women, both of whom are in college, one in Zimbabwe and one here in Atlanta, Georgia.

While Christine was here in New Hampshire, she did a presentation to Gamma Chapter members, along with the women of North Church, and gave sermons on two Sundays. In addition, she did a presentation on Zimbabwean culture during a statewide Ukama Fair in Manchester.

Her touring time covered the coastlines of NH and southern Maine, including her first time experiences to walk in the ocean, to eat lobster, and to stop on the shoreline of Lake Winnepesaukee. All the delegation members had the opportunity to tour the White Mountains, spending an overnight

at the UCC Horton Center (the NHUCC summer camp). They also toured the lovely Mt. Washington Hotel and the city of Concord. Meeting with the Governor was in stark contrast to government in Zimbabwe.

We learn so much more from one another when face time is real time. These visits have brought together very different churches, peoples and individuals onto common ground that is blessed.

VOLUNTEER TO FILL A VOID!

by Brenda Walker, Theta

Retirement didn't work for me the first time so what is the difference with my retirement this time? Donna-Marie Gamlin's first grade classroom is filling a huge void in my life. Yes, I am working and volunteering in Rochester at the middle school, but my Thursdays are sacred to me. Thursdays are spent in the first grade at Elm Street School in Lakeport. Being able to work in Donna-Marie's classroom is supplying me with a purpose and enjoyment. Having just retired from an administrative position, I had forgotten how these little ones can surprise you. Selfish, you bet! I have 21 beautiful little children to work with and watch as they make huge gains academically. And I don't have any work to bring home!

Volunteering is important to education even more now than ever. We expect our young ones to learn so much in such a short time, but our current teachers aren't given the help they need to provide the differentiated teaching due to budget constraints. Please consider getting out there in a classroom if you are not already doing so. The rewards are so meaningful to the volunteer, and the time means so much to the children.

KUDOS, HELEN GOODWIN!

DKG Society International recently recognized Helen Goodwin for her 50 years of membership. Helen has been an active member of Beta Chapter since 1964. She has served on various chapter and state committees--the state research and communication committees, to name a couple; and she served as president of Beta Chapter for three different terms. Also she was responsible for Beta's service project of making quilts for David's House. Because of her long-term dedication and service, she received the chapter's Woman of Distinction Award in 2012.

Congratulations go to Helen for her 50 years with DKG!

If there be a truer measure of a man than by what he does, it must be by what he gives.

~ Robert South



Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Beta Alpha State Spring Conference

Traveling the Ever-Changing Paths of Education

**The Inn at Mill Falls
Meredith, NH 03253**

Thursday, March 20—Saturday, March 22, 2014

Day Package: \$ 60.00/day

Includes Registration, Breakfast, Lunch, All Taxes and Gratuities

Select one or both: ___ Friday ___ Saturday

1 Night Package:

Includes Registration, Friday Night Guestroom Accommodations, Breakfast Friday & Saturday, Lunch Friday & Saturday, a \$20.00 Credit toward Friday Dinner, All Taxes and Gratuities

The cost per person: Single room \$ 225.00
 Double room \$ 175.00

2 Night Package:

Includes Registration, Thursday & Friday Night Guestroom Accommodations, Breakfast Friday & Saturday, Lunch Friday & Saturday, a \$20.00 Credit toward Friday Dinner, All Taxes and Gratuities

The cost per person: Single room \$ 350.00
 Double room \$ 225.00

-----*Cut Here*-----

Name: _____

Chapter: _____

Package & Day(s): _____

Cost: _____

Email: _____

Phone #: _____

Roommate's Name (if one): _____

Dietary/facility needs: _____

Please send a check made payable to **Beta Alpha State** with this registration form by February 28, 2014, to **Flora Sapsin**, Londonderry High School, 295 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, NH 03053. (If questions or concerns, call Flora at 603-292-5980 or 603-432-6941 ext. 2000 or 2002.)

**BAS SPRING CONFERENCE
SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE**

Saturday, March 22, 2014:

7:30-8:45	Breakfast
8-8:45	Registration
9-9:45	Service of Remembrance
10:00	Business Meeting
12:00	March of Chapter Presidents, Lunch Chapter Awards: Women of Distinction
1:00	Speaker: Dr. Beverly Helms, DKG Society International President
2:00	Adjournment

DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday-Saturday, March 20-22, 2014
BAS SPRING CONFERENCE
Inn at Mill Falls, Meredith
Host Chapter: Alpha

Sunday, June 1, 2014
Filler Updates due to Karen LaRoche

Thursday, July 1, 2014
CHIPS deadline for news

Wednesday-Saturday, July 28-Aug. 1, 2014
DKG International Convention
JW Marriott, Indianapolis

Thursday, August 7, 2014
BAS Ex. Board Meeting
PSU, Concord, 10 AM

Saturday, Sept. 20, 2014
Place: Audubon, Concord
(tentative date & program)
Host Chapter: Beta



BETA ALPHA STATE

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International



Sheila Mable, *CHIPS* Editor
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