

# THE CHIPS OF GRANITE

## FALL 2019 NEWSLETTER

### THE NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE CHAPTER OF DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

Volume 2019, Issue 2

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#### ANNE'S ANSWERS

Traveling is a wonderful learning experience. My husband and I had the great good fortune to visit South America this past spring on a Road Scholar trip. On April 10<sup>th</sup> I was standing in Machu Picchu, a place I never thought I would actually see! We experienced so many perspectives of Peru; from the big city of Lima and its colonial roots to the ancient capital of Cusco. But we most enjoyed experiencing the Peruvian culture and people. Our tour guides shared with us explanations of the education format they and their children experience. The introduction of languages comes early as the language used at home may not be the Spanish used for instruction at school. English is started in elementary school – wow, a 10 year old child could be learning their third language!

After a fantastic week in Peru we went to join our daughter in Quito, Ecuador. She has been teaching at Academia Cotopaxi in Quito for two years. The private school is large, instructing grades k through 12 students of a diverse background. Her experience teaching English to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders was fantastic. We all whisked off to the Galapagos Island for a very unique wildlife adventure. We chose to stay on the islands instead of on a cruise ship. The experience was wonderful and very hot! The Galapagos islands are on the equator, somehow that surprised us. We went swimming with the sea turtles – my, they are big and so calm. We explored the Darwin Center and saw the giant tortoises and learned of the conservation efforts on the land and in the marine preserve. Overall a very wonderful and mind broadening trip which we were fortunate to experience.



# Global Awareness Conference Mashantucket CT. July 30 to Aug. 1, 2019

There were 5 representatives of New Hampshire at this year's Global Awareness Conference: Anne Nute, Flora Sapsin, Terry Thompson, Maurine Henry, and Peggy Saunders. The key note speakers were extremely interesting.

On Tuesday, we learned about Prudence Crandall, a teacher and activist who lived and worked in Connecticut in the 1800s. In a reenactment by Donna Dufrensne, Prudence informed us about the school she ran for girls and how she chose to admit a young black woman to the school. She told us about the trials she faced for her decisions and how she addressed them. On Wednesday we heard from Marion Blumenthal Lazan, a holocaust survivor, with her mission to educate the world to the importance of respect, tolerance, and acceptance of all people she described what it was like to be placed in the concentration camps of WWII in Nazi Germany from a very personal view. She had documented her life in a book, *Four Perfect Pebbles: A HOLOCAUST STORY*. Thursday, the Mashantucket Pequot Nation welcomed us with Native American Inter-Tribal songs and dance.

During this conference, NH participated in its first vendor fair at an international conference. We were successful in this endeavor raising \$550.00. After expenses for the table space (\$75.00), card printing (\$98.00), and credit card processing (\$7.49), we made a net profit of \$369.51 for the state treasury. We have 57 packages of are cards remaining and when those are all sold we will be able to add \$285.00 to the profit column.



Mashantucket Pequot Nation Inter-tribal song and dance.

## CHAPTER NEWS

### Alpha Chapter

Congratulations to Jeannine Leclerc who became engaged to Francis Romeo on December 1<sup>st</sup>. She is also proud of her nephew. He is graduating from high school and entering the US Army.

Peggy Saunders and her husband went to Pinkham Notch for President's Day weekend for an AMC Mountains and Music weekend. They stayed at Joe Dodge Lodge. The activities included an orchestra, a chorus and many small groups playing classical music. Peg had opportunities to play both clarinet and piano and found time for snowshoeing.

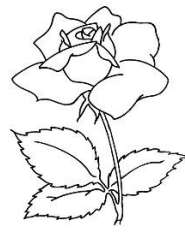
Helen Ann Kelly helped prepare for HAPPINESS Day at Chesterfield School. She and a student's mom put up three wall displays for happiness notes that students would write with their buddies on Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Notes would be posted and students would receive rubber bracelets and / or smiley face lollipops! It was a great way to promote kindness and positivity. #HAPPY ACTS was the title of the displays.

Joanne Stroshine is happy to announce that her grandson Jonathan Routhier, Jr., has been accepted to West Point for the coming year.

Alpha's April chapter meeting featured instructors and elementary students from the New Hampshire Dance Institute. They demonstrated how dance can be used to support curriculum goals in a non-traditional manner. This program is the result of Jacques d' Amboise's dream to bring New York City's National Dance Institute to students and educators. The program concluded with a beautifully moving dance between Alpha president Jeannette Gardner and granddaughter

### WHITE ROSES

Josephine LaChance, 1922 – 2019 Delta Chapter



## **Beta Chapter**

Ann Silverstein returned from her winter in Venice, Florida in early May. While there, she volunteered for a program called "Love in a Backpack" which provides weekend healthy snacks to elementary age children in nearby Sarasota County. It is administrated through All Faith's Foodbank. She also did a 5K walk to help fund this program.

Ann Silverstein and her husband, Jeff are hosting two college age baseball players this summer. The students will be playing for The Upper Valley Nighthawks. The team plays all over New England and their home base is White River Junction.

Ann Silverstein also has a 10-day cruise to Cuba planned for December. She is hoping that our ever-changing government rules on that doesn't nix her trip plans aboard Oceania's Insignia. We can't wait to hear the details after that trip!

Anne Cragin received a bouquet of flowers after playing in the Brandenburg Concerto #4 at the Lebanon Opera House in April.

Joan Tarlton is still doing the pastoral, full time, at the Bridgewater Community Church/UCC. After having the boiler blow and gallons of oil and water went through the kitchen and dining area, services were moved to the Grange Hall. Services returned to the sanctuary for Palm Sunday and Easter services. Her daughter, Melissa, is getting married on Father's Day weekend, with the reception at the house...busy lady!!

Terry Thompson visited her sister in Durham, NC in mid- April. She visited numerous gardens and plant nurseries to get a taste of spring before it made its way to the North Country.

Kathy Tucker visited her sister in VA the first week in May. Her sister was in the throes of packing to move to Virginia's Northern Neck. Kathy also enjoyed spring time in the south!

## **Gamma Chapter**

Each summer the members of Gamma gather for a picnic in a local park. On July 24<sup>th</sup> we gathered at Fort Stark in New Castle. Thanks to Bobbie Lippemeier who volunteers at this fascinating state historic site, we were given a private presentation and tour of the Ordnance Machine Shop Museum by Mrs. Carol White, one of the original developers of the museum. The museum displays military artifacts, photos and maps from WWI and WWII. In addition to a beach and picnic area, one might take a self-guided walk of the fort which was first built to protect the colonists and remained active through WWII. However, the eight Gamma members and 2 guests decided to take shelter from the heat in the museum for lunch and updates on the coming fall events.

In honor of Jacki Hinton's granddaughter, who was in the NICU at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Hospital for three months, Gamma Chapter has decided to make book bags to be given to families at the hospital. We will make book bags and purchase children's books for each bag and include a description of ways to develop beginning literacy habits. We anticipate that 25 bags will be ready for delivery by our October meeting.

### Delta Chapter

The following members are recognized for their service to Delta Chapter, Beta Alpha State and DKG International: Joanne Hennessey 30 years, Judy Erickson 20 years, Cheryl Meehan 15 years, Wanda Merrill and Karen Pariseau 10 years, Patricia McLure 5 years. Congratulations! **Allen and I (Joan Coats)** recently celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary with our three children and their families (which includes seven grandchildren, ages two and a half to eleven years old). For us, they could not have planned anything better! This is how the story goes:

During the Christmas Holiday, our children casually mentioned that almost half a century had passed since we exchanged our wedding vows. And we casually responded that a backyard toast would suit us just fine with the hopes that they all could be there to raise a glass of "lemonade" as a "cheers" celebration.

So, un-beknown to us, they began planning! At the end of May, we were presented with a padded portfolio telling us to reserve July 1-3. They had booked a "vacation house" in Franconia Notch for us all. They were well aware that Allen and I had spent several days on our honeymoon touring the sights of the area, later sharing the attractions with them as children. Since the Notch was special to us all, the three of them were also anxious to share the beautiful landmarks with their own families.

So off we headed early on the morning of July 1. During our stay, we walked to the top of the Flume Gorge, enjoyed a ride up the Canon Mountain Tramway, visited the "Old Man in the Mountain" historic site, spent hours at Clark's Trading Post (had a hilarious, soaking wet time on the water boats!), hiked the trails to the Basin, viewed the Indian Head and walked to the cabin where we stayed 50 years ago.

They continued to grace us with surprises at the "vacation house": a cake decorated with the bride and groom topper that was on our wedding cake 50 years ago (and was also on my parents' wedding cake), a toast with our wedding glasses, cookies decorated with "50", t-shirts with "Coats" on the front and "50" on the back (we had a rainbow wedding: the girls wore different color pastel dresses and the boys wore black suits so the girls t-shirts were white with different pastel colored sleeves and the boys t-shirts were white with black sleeves) and rainbow colored flowers on our bed at the "vacation house". The grand finale was an emotional video sharing well-wishes from family and friends.

Everyone was able to return to the farm to indulge in pony rides, mucking stalls, fishing, gathering chicken eggs, enjoying gator rides, playing games, etc. We count our blessings over and over for faith, family, friends, love, laughter, health and memories.

**Susan Ackerman** has begun taking individual students both nearby and by phone long distance for her Astrology and French classes. She has also begun a new chapter of singing and playing music, an equally delightful part of her life.

**Mary Jolles** held the drawing for our Quilt raffle at our June meeting. The quilt was won by John Strasburger from Windham, NH, who will send it on to his daughter. Thank you to all Delta members who sold tickets, and Beta Alpha State members who purchased them.

**Judy Erickson** presented her trip to Scotland at the June meeting of Delta Chapter. She and her son Zak took a twelve-day, self-drive tour in October 2018. There definitely was a learning curve when it came to driving those narrow roads on the left side!



Her slides showed the highlights of their travels from Edinburgh to the Highlands, Isle of Skye and more. Lots of castles and bagpipes and what's under those kilts? OH MY!

Their focus was to visit historical and ancient sites. Judy is a big fan of writer Diana Gabaldon and the 'Outlander' series. She greatly enjoyed visiting some of the film locations from seasons 1-4.

One of her fondest memories was visiting Clava Cairns in the highlands near Inverness. It is an ancient burial ground dating back to the Bronze Age; about 4,000 years old. The mounds and standing stones are in a mysterious wooded glen. They visited this sacred place in the late afternoon with the glow of a setting sun. It was magical. The next trip for Judy is Egypt scheduled for October 2020.

**Ann Gray** was pleased to have been able to attend the Beta Alpha State Spring Meeting in Meredith. She felt it was a very positive experience and came away with lots of great ideas to transfer to her classes at the Pittsburg School library.

Ann has just returned from spending a week at the family beach house in York Beach, Maine. The home was built by her great-grandfather back in 1904 and has been in the family ever since. She was happy to be able to share the week with her three daughters and their families. Back at home, she has been helping her husband to get the hay crop in along with their son and his family.

**Butch and Sharon Lane** traveled with their daughter Heather and her husband John, and their two children, Cameron and Annika, to Paris, France and on to Normandy, for a total of 9 days. Butch had an uncle he never knew, who died July 5, 1944, shortly after D-Day 75 years ago. William H. Hooper's gravesite is in the American Cemetery. It is a beautiful, peaceful place, overlooking Omaha Beach. We also walked along Utah Beach where Annika and I collected shells from the water. There are small flags hung from poles all along the places we drove in Normandy, with photos of Americans killed, and their names. Thank You notes are found everywhere! Very touching.

We stayed in the town of Bayeux and that town was full of character. They are known for the Bayeux Tapestry which was made around 1077. It is a tapestry of 58 scenes embroidered to tell the story of William the Conqueror.

Paris was wonderful as well. Having studied French in high school and college, I had heard of many famous places, never thinking I might one day see some of them. La Sainte-Chapelle is one famous church we toured with magnificent stained glass windows each depicting a book of the Bible! We stayed in the Latin Quarter, and walked a lot. We also took busses, taxis, and trains. We crossed the Seine River numerous times and could see the Notre Dame Cathedral. The Eiffel Tower is stunning and we went right to the top. Paris is enormous! We had a 2-hour tour of the Louvre with an excellent guide, Cedric. Heather, Butch, and I went to Reims and toured the chalk caves where Ruinart wine and champagne is still made (1729) and decided we really like Blanc de Blancs. It is sold here in the states! Many lovely outdoor snacks and dinners were had along streets. Delicious breads. Such a wonderful time!

**Wanda Merrill** (soon to be McGuire) and Christopher McGuire will be married on August 10, 2019 at The Glen. It will be a lakeside ceremony. Wanda will be escorted down the aisle by her father, Paul Wright. Susan Ackerman will perform the ceremony. Family and friends will gather for this special occasion. A few Delta sisters will be attending, Karen Pariseau, Kaye Moren, and Sharon Lane. Chris and Wanda will make their home in Bloomfield, Vt.

Wanda (Merrill) McGuire is also pleased announced that her son, Luke Merrill got inducted into the NHTI Athletic Hall of Fame. There will be a ceremony September 20<sup>th</sup> to honor his induction.

**Judy Erickson** created bangle bracelets to be sold at the Global Awareness Conference in CT. The State table theme was "Everything's Coming Up Roses".



The bangle bracelets have rose charms. Each bracelet was also embellished with additional charms, sea glass, crystals, and pearls. Thank you to Maurine Henry for helping to sell them at the State table. Half of the proceeds from these bracelets go towards our state raising.