

# Lambda Ladies



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Editor: Clair Wiles

Lambda Chapter, Eugene, Oregon

## Congratulations to Karen Olsen

By Yvonne Fasold

Karen Olsen, 5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at McCornack Elementary School, has been selected as Oregon's History Teacher of the Year! Her award was presented by State Board of Education Vice-Chair Artemio Paz, during an all-school assembly. Karen received a \$1,000 check and history-related materials and resources for her school.

Karen does amazing projects with students. Every June, she takes a group of students and parents to experience history in Washington D.C. and the surrounding areas. Of course, this involves fundraising during the entire year and holding evening history seminars with the adults.

Karen, as a world-traveler with her mother Meribeth, uses those experiences, photos, and objects to intrigue and involve her students. When I visited her class recently, she started class by projecting a photo to stimulate student curiosity, observational skills, reasoning, writing and speaking. Students carefully examined the photo to figure out "Where in the World are You?" Each student wrote observations and hypotheses in their journals, then later shared with their classmates. Students "journey" the world during the course of the year.

"When I started teaching, I knew it wasn't enough to just teach the facts of history," Karen explained in an interview with The Register Guard. Curiosity, inquiries, projects, guests, objects, artifacts, documents, storytelling, photos, field trips, role plays, musicals and travel all excite students about learning history.

Karen, we are so proud of you. You are a gift to your students and community.



## Bags of Love

Our September meeting was held at the Bags of Love office. Darby Tracy shared the history of Bags of Love and her involvement with the project, which provides bags for children in transitional situations, such as being removed from a bad home situation and going into foster care. Director Jan Burch showed us examples of the bags and their contents. They can always use donations of time, money, clothing, sewing, and quilting. Contact Darby if you would like to help or volunteer.

## Sharpening Our Minds and Skills

By Debbi Eberle

Our October 20th meeting was held at Willamette High School in the Food Service wing. Lambda member Martha Humphreys demonstrated some of the technology she uses. In the classroom, she explained the uses for the document camera and gave us an example of using You Tube. The clip she showed us was a demonstration on proper (and safe!) knife usage. We all proceeded to the kitchen lab where she had a camera placed over the food prep area. Having a large TV screen eliminated the old routine of students climbing over each other to see what was happening. With all students able to see, this must certainly keep students involved. We all had an opportunity to use our new skills. We made vegetable stew in small groups as we practiced chopping, dicing, making planks and spinach chiffonade. The stew simmered during the meeting, and members enjoyed eating it afterwards!

**Mission Statement:** The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

## BICOASTAL GRANDMOTHER, Active Lambda Lady Jane Landrum

By Priscilla Ing

Since 2001, Jane Landrum has been an active member of Lambda Chapter. Her friendly smile and willingness to assist in any chapter project has made her one of our most recognizable Lambda Ladies.

The only thing that keeps Jane from a Delta Kappa Gamma meeting is her role as the bicoastal grandmother of 12 year old Marley, who lives in Junction City, and of almost 3 year old Presley, who lives in Maryland. Jane regularly attends Marley's athletic activities, band concerts, Battle of the Books, and other special events. She is also still a regular part of Marley's after-school schedule. Since little Presley was born almost three years ago in Maryland, Jane now visits the East Coast as often as special fares and earned air miles will take her. She has been present for birthdays, the beginning of childcare when Mom was at the end of maternity leave, and for Grandparents' Day at preschool just last month.

Jane likes us all to think that she is just a sweet, unassuming, semi-retired teacher. Her classroom experiences began in 1963, before she was married. Her formal teaching career slowed down when she began her own family. Daughter Amy was born in 1970, and son Wesley in 1974. Then the move from Maryland to Oregon in 1982, when her former husband accepted a job at the Lane County ESD, had Jane working hard to re-establish her family here in Eugene. Jane began teaching in the Eugene School District in 1985 after obtaining her Oregon credential. Here, Jane's reputation as a private tutor and flexible classroom teacher kept her working part-time until 2009. Jane's last teaching position was with 4j's Home Instruction Dept. where she worked with children in ill health and at the Bailey Hill Instructional Center. While the at-risk kids were an extreme challenge, working with terminally ill children was heart breaking. What a strong woman to have endured both situations.

Jane also likes us to believe that she is simply an average, but very ladylike, Delta Kappa Gamma member, who quietly attends most meetings. Did you know that she served on the Lane Coordinating Council as Lambda's at-large member? Do you remember when she said she was willing to co-president Lambda chapter for two years because she would stay in the background? Well, being the other half of that presidency, I know for a fact that she kept business on track, in order, and did lots of running around as the 'brains' of the presidency. Remember when Jane was our temporary treasurer while 'snowbird' Carol was out of town. That's when we found out about Jane's banking career back in Maryland. Now, Jane has stepped up to assist our current treasurer, Paula, in contacting members regarding unpaid dues. She took on the job no one else wanted! Did you see Jane take part in Lambda initiations? In the last four years, she has served on the Membership Committee and has helped formally welcome our new members. And as a regular Alpha Rho Convention attendee, her Lambda roommates can tell you that Jane even sleeps ladylike; not a snore to be heard!

So, when this bicoastal grandmother is home, I am proud and happy to call her neighbor, DKG/Lambda sister, and best of all, my friend.

**And we thank Jane for being willing to serve as our treasurer!**

**Are you willing to serve?**

The Nominations Committee is seeking members who are willing to serve as leaders for Lambda Chapter. Are you willing? Do you know of another Lambda Sister who is willing? Elected offices are President, Vice-President, and Secretary. Jane Landrum has graciously consented to be our new Treasurer. Paula is mentoring her this year. Thank you Paula, Jane, and all of our current officers!

Please send your nominations to Nancy Johnson, chair, by January 5, 2012. You may also give your ideas to any committee member: Bev Emmons, Carolyn Rayborn, Debbi Eberle or Yvonne Fasold.

## Members in the Spotlight

**Yvonne and Dennis Fasold** recently visited several historical sites in the Austin, Texas area. The LBJ Museum and Library brings alive the turmoil of the sixties: Civil Rights Movement, Viet Nam War, and the assassination of President Kennedy. During President Johnson's administration, numerous bills were passed in support of education, civil rights, and the environment.

The National Museum of the Pacific War, in nearby Fredericksburg, is an extensive, interactive journey through World War II battles in the Pacific. Dennis's father Jesse Fasold, former Oregon Superintendent of Public Instruction, served with the Marines in the Pacific during WW II, so the museum touched our hearts. We spent five emotional, inspiring hours there—and could have spent more, but the museum hours ended.

### **Rosie the Riveter**

Congratulations to our own **Dr. Yvonne Fasold** who was elected in June as national secretary for the American Rosie the Riveter Association. Yvonne and her sisters are "Rosebuds" who joined ARRA because their mother is a Rosie who worked as a welder in a Tacoma shipyard during WWII. You may be eligible to join, if your mother worked in the war effort. For example, I know that Fern Neiminen worked in a munitions factory. Who else?? The purpose of ARRA is to honor and remember the women who ventured into new occupational roles and did so much for their country during WWII.

### **Northwest Regional Conference**

**Carolyn Rayborn** represented Lambda Chapter at the Northwest Regional Conference in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Carolyn rarely misses a state, regional or international meeting. She enjoys tours of the area, the fellowship of DKG sisters from around the world, learning at workshops and singing with the International Chorus. Thank you, Carolyn, for being a dedicated DKG member!

### **Barbara and her Sister Judi Travel with KVAL Chief Meteorologist Seth Wayne**

During a local weather report in June we heard Seth talking about being the host on a Norwegian cruise from New York to the Canadian Maritime Provinces, Portland, ME and back to Eugene. We followed up with a contact to Holiday Vacations in Wisconsin. We were delighted to join 52 other KVAL 13 viewers and began our tour on September 22 departing Eugene at 6:05 AM. First overnight was New York City. Having our own meteorologist along seemed to be good luck except for the first and last day of the trip.

On our Friday in New York, for our visit to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, it rained 2½ inches. We walked in the rain to The Broadway Theatre to see "Sister Act" in the evening. On Saturday morning it was a city tour to see the Twin Tower Memorial site, all the New York boroughs, with a running commentary by our guide pointing out significant sites. We ended on the pier to board the Norwegian Jewel—sailing at 4 PM.

After a day of sailing, under blue skies and sunshine, we docked at Sydney, Nova Scotia in 70 degree weather. We were thanked by the locals for bringing the warmest weather of the summer. Did you know that Alexander Graham Bell and his deaf wife, Mabel, lived and died in Sydney? Alexander was hired by Mabel's father to teach her to communicate and all of his patents were registered in her name.

Next we sailed to Halifax, Nova Scotia's Capital, and closest major port to the Titanic's sinking. A bus ride to Peggy's Cove, a working fishing village, was spectacular and a visit to Fairview Lawn Cemetery that contains 121 graves of Titanic victims was educational.

St. Johns, New Brunswick, was our last Canadian Port. The weather continued to be sunny and tour guides were sorry the leaves were not changing color because there had not been a good freeze yet! After a bus ride around the town and countryside we arrived at the Bay of Fundy where the extreme high and low tides cause the St. Johns river to reverse its flow into the sea. Fantastic views.

Our final port of call was Portland, ME where again it rained all day!

It was so cloudy and dreary that we could not see Walker's point or the buildings there from the road out of Kennebunkport. It was a good day for eating CHOWDA at a Kennebunk café or even have a LOBSTA.

On October 1st we were sailing by the Statue Of Liberty and back into New York City. Next time you want to travel with good sunny blue skies YOU should travel with your own local weatherman.

## Projects!

Remember, you may bring items to any meeting for the Monroe Middle School Food Pantry or the Highway 99 Shelter.



## Upcoming Events!

### Come to Initiation of new members in November!

Bring your sweat suits (or money) for Headstart children and your check to pay for the December luncheon.

Thursday, Nov. 17 at 4:30 p.m.

Joan Cavin's home at 1683 Victorian Way

### Holiday Luncheon

Saturday, Dec. 10 at 11:30 a.m.

Shadow Hills Country Club, 92512 River Road, Junction City

Program: The Songspinnners (Carolyn Rayborn is a member)

Cookie Exchange: Bring some; take some; buy some

Entrée Choices:

Chicken parmesan with roasted red potatoes and vegetable

London broil w/ mashed sweet potatoes and vegetable

Vegetarian pasta

Each meal will also include tossed salad w/cranberry vinaigrette dressing, artisan rolls, and cheesecake for dessert. Coffee, tea, iced tea and water will be available. Please give your choice of entrée and your check for \$17.00 to our treasurer by November 28<sup>th</sup>.

### Alpha Rho State Convention

#### "Sustaining Excellence in Education"

Eugene Hilton, April 20-22, 2012

Great speakers and workshops! Come enjoy, learn, and help. PDUs available. Colleagues welcome.

Friday night presentation will be open to the public, but space is limited, so sign up early!

"Gabe and Izzy - America's Voice for the Bullied" (see [gabeandizzy.com](http://gabeandizzy.com) for info.)

<http://youtu.be/Y8bT42IQtGY>

Saturday morning's keynote speaker will be Dr. Nancy Golden, Springfield Superintendent and Gov. Kitzhaber's education advisor.

Have you seen the great logo designed by Karen Olsen's student? It's in [The Trail](#).



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