



## Connecticut State Organization DKG International Society for Key Women Educators

Volume 78 No. 4

Summer 2019



## HAPPY 80TH BIRTHDAY CONNECTICUT STATE ORGANIZATION

### 80<sup>th</sup> Spring Convention

#### Standing Room Only:

Over 80 members gathered to celebrate on May 4<sup>th</sup> at Casa Mia at the Hawthorne. Members bowed their heads in silence during a truly moving Ceremony of Remembrance. The names and biographies of 14 members who had passed away were read with great reverence. Many in attendance personally knew these wonderful women and were grateful for the opportunity to celebrate their lives in such a touching ceremony.

After a brief business meeting, **Connie Rensink, International Society Representative**, brought a thoughtful and well-received message for Connecticut members. Those in attendance commented on her well-planned and presented keynote.

The 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration was a huge success with chapter representatives providing amazing displays showcasing their chapters through the years. **Judy Cody** and her team did an outstanding job organizing and executing an informative and fun celebration.

Members were honored for longevity with pins and certificates. **Kathleen Lozinak, EdD.** and **Deborah Soresino** received the Alpha Kappa State Achievement Award.

The Installation of Officers was facilitated by **Terry Azoti** followed by closing remarks and a well-earned thank you to **President Pat O'Connell Buckley** and all the current executive board members.

*Kathleen Mary Lozinak, EdD.*  
Connecticut State Organization



#### Connecticut State Organization Past Presidents:

(front row l. to r.) **Terry Azoti** (Zeta) 2013-2015, **Jeanne Morascini** (Theta) 1993-1995, **Carol Kraus** (Theta) 2008-2011)

(back row l. to r.)

**Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone** (Beta) 2005-2007, **Dr. Jackie Abbott** (Rho) 1981-1983, **Joan Konareski** (Lambda) 2015-2017, **Nancy Roy** (Delta) 2003-2005, **Pat O'Connell-Buckley** (Theta) 2017-2019, **Judy Cody** (Zeta) 2001-2003 and **Marnee Straiton** (Iota) 2011-2013

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## Fellowship, Generosity and Advancement of Women Educators



Dear Connecticut State Organization Sisters,

The end of July is fast approaching. I am excited that we are hosting an International Conference here in Connecticut. Many of you have volunteered to help. Some of you have attended many conferences and conventions, and for some of you this will be a first. I became a member in 1984 and participated in my first regional conference in Hartford in the summer of 1985. I was part of the team that presented a workshop on the Peaceful Classroom. The Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Committee was still very new at the time.

I remember being impressed that members traveled so far to attend. I met the International President Jesse Simms. In fact, she attended our workshop. Even all those years ago, many members were retired teachers. They were still contributing so much to the field of education. I think it was one of the first times I realized that once you are a teacher, you are always a teacher.

Our conference this summer will bring members, some actively teaching and some retired, together from 17 countries around the world. We will learn more about the Native American Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, how a DKG project is helping schools in Africa, "meet" a teacher who believed in integration back in the 1830s, and how the United Nations is promoting the Sustainable Development Goals. We will hear from a speaker who is a survivor of the Holocaust, view children's art work about the meaning of peace and attend workshops on topics of global interest. Most importantly we will feel the friendship of fellow teachers. We will contemplate serious topics and enjoy fun activities together.

Thank you again for your support during my biennium. The Connecticut State Organization will be showcasing the best of Connecticut this summer. I feel proud to be a Connecticut member and to have had the privilege of serving as your state president.

*Yours in DKG,  
Pat*



**Jeanne Morascini, Founder of The Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World, celebrates her 90th birthday at the Spring Convention.**



# State Convention

## First-Timer's Perspective



The 80<sup>th</sup> Spring Convention of the Connecticut State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International was held on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, at Casa Mia at the Hawthorne in Berlin. While the annual gathering is now just a fond memory for me, it served as an introduction to the quality programming our society of women educators provides for its members.

As Beta Chapter President for just under one year, I was excited to attend my first spring convention. I had heard from my own chapter's past attendees many stories of baskets galore, camaraderie and traditions. I was not disappointed! The baskets were lovely and unique, my DKG sisters (some of whom I had not yet met) were extremely friendly, and the rituals were moving. Additionally, the presence of posters and artifacts to mark this special birthday provided me with an opportunity to learn more about the history of my own chapter, as well as the others within Connecticut.

Perhaps my favorite part of the event, however, was the singing of popular tunes from the eight decades our state organization, formerly known as Alpha Kappa State, has been in existence. This was quite a departure from the solemn Ceremony of Remembrance, which had occurred just a few hours prior. My DKG sisters marveled at how many of the songs they knew and sang with gusto! I could overhear commentary from neighboring tables as we turned the pages of our songbooks, excited at the lyrics that were begging to be warbled. In simple terms, we had a blast!

I look forward to attending future spring conventions, as well as other assemblies of my DKG sisters, in the years to come. I am proud of our organization and will continue to work diligently to bring more educators, with greater diversity of teaching experiences, into its membership rolls.

**Dr. Linda Paslov**  
Beta Chapter President



**25-year pin recipients: (l to r) Mary Ellen Ulatowski (Lambda), Barbara Schroeter (Beta), Janis Sawicki (Theta), Susan Moon (Theta), Terry Azoti (Zeta) and Linda Amarante (Zeta)**



## IN MEMORIAM



### *White Roses*

*"Every good life leaves behind the fiber of it interwoven forever in the work of the world."*

#### **Jean McLean, Eta Chapter February 10, 2018**



Jean was a lifelong resident of Old Lyme. A graduate of the University of Connecticut, she spent her career teaching elementary school, briefly in Old Lyme and then for many years in the East Lyme School District.

She was the kind of member any chapter would love to have, always cheerful, kind, helpful and sincere. She possessed the qualities for which every teacher strives. Jean was a member of Eta Chapter for 44 years. She may have only missed four meetings in the last 10 years. When speaking to her, you knew she was a devoted and caring teacher.

After her retirement, she enjoyed spending time with her friends and family and going for daily walks. She was active at the Lymes' Senior Center and enjoyed a variety of activities there, especially her painting classes. She was a member of the Ladies Benevolent Society of the First Congregational Church and a dedicated volunteer at its annual White Elephant Sale. She was also a longtime league bowler. Jean loved to remember friends and family with cards and gifts on holidays and special occasions and was always devoted to the care and well-being of her cats. She was quite proud of her Irish heritage and kept in touch with family in Ireland and around the U.S.

She is survived by her two nieces, Lizabeth McLean Haas and Marcia McLean, and their families. She also leaves behind many dear friends who will miss her cheery enthusiasm and genteel personality and were there for her until she passed.

#### **Mary Skelton, Nu Chapter December 1, 2018**



Mary was 93 when she passed away in December. She was a charter member of Nu Chapter, (initiated 4/1/59) and a life member of Alpha Kappa State since 2014. Mary was extremely proud of her DKG membership and a loyal friend to her Nu sisters. She proudly served as Nu chapter president and participated in a variety of local and state committees/activities. Mary also attended several regional conferences and International conventions.

Mary was raised in Darien, where she lived most of her life. She taught English at the middle school in Darien for 30 years; the same middle school she went to as a student. Mary was a faithful member of Noroton Presbyterian Church where she participated in a variety of volunteer activities, such as the soup kitchen, and her long-term role as Parish Visitor. Mary had a beautiful singing voice and was a long-standing member of the church choir. She will be greatly missed by all her Nu sisters. She truly was an inspiration to all of us.

#### **Clare Harding, Alpha Chapter February 8, 2019**



Clare was inducted into Alpha Chapter on May 24, 2011. She served as First Vice President from 2012 to 2015 and recently chaired Alpha's Sunshine Committee.

Following her high school graduation, Clare was a nun for 14 years and taught math in Bronx, NY; Fall River, MA and College Park, MD. She exited the convent in 1971, and was a guidance counselor at Greenwich High School for 40 years, including seven years at two of GHS's alternative programs. Until the time of her death, Clare volunteered as a guidance counselor at Stamford Academy, a charter school. She touched and impacted the lives of many. Claire had an incredibly active and full social calendar, believed life was meant to be lived with a positive attitude and cherishing time celebrated with family and friends. She will be greatly missed by her Alpha Chapter sisters.



*IN MEMORIAM*



*White Roses*

*“Every good life leaves behind the fiber of it interwoven forever in the work of the world.”*

**Helen T. Molloy, Mu Chapter  
March 2, 2019**

Helen was inducted into Mu Chapter on November 6, 1969. During her 50 years of membership, she held various chapter offices.

She received both her bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Teachers College of Connecticut (now CCSU). She then taught in the West Hartford School System for 45 years.

Helen had many outside interests. She was a lifelong lover of travel and skiing. She was a member of the Catholic Graduates’ Club and a founding member of the Killington Ski Club. Post retirement, she volunteered at the UConn Extension, answering phone calls about gardening.

It was fitting that Helen died on International Women’s Day, for she was truly a Renaissance woman. She was an inspiration to all.

**Gwendolyn R. Johnson, Beta Chapter  
May 19, 2019**



Gwendolyn (“Gwen”) was inducted into Beta Chapter on April 29, 1976. She was a 43-year member at the time of her passing. Members affectionately recall her energy and positive spirit as she participated in the work of the chapter.

Gwen earned a Bachelor’s Degree in French and History from Saint Augustine College in Raleigh, North Carolina, and later earned her Master’s Degree in French from the University of Chicago. She received her sixth-year professional certification from Fairfield University.

She worked as a French teacher at Central High School in Bridgeport, ultimately becoming the Foreign Language Department Chair for the Board of Education. Her former students always speak highly of her, relaying stories of her compassion, patience and (sometimes) tough love. They reminisce about their life-altering trips to France, organized by Madame Johnson, as foreign exchange students, as well as the stories she told them about the history of the African American community in Bridgeport.

Though Gwen was a contributing member of many organizations (Afro American Educators; Jack and Jill of America; Theta Tau Omega Chapter, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; Links Incorporated), her passion was working with the Bridgeport Boys Choir, which she organized in 1985 with her late husband James. The choir’s purpose was to provide options and alternatives for young men at risk. Over the years, she supported the choir through many tireless fundraising activities. As a testament to Gwen’s commitment, the choir continues to remain steadfast to this day.

Gwen was respected, loved and an inspiration to so many in countless ways. She will be fondly remembered by her Beta Chapter sisters.

**A special thank you to the reviewers for *The Keynote*:**



Terry Azoti  
Judy Cody  
Dr. Kathleen Lozinak  
Jeanne Morascini

Patricia O’Connell Buckley  
Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone  
Nancy Roy



# AROUND THE

## ALPHA

Alpha Chapter had a busy spring with several activities. Three members (**Sara Anderson, Jean DiVincenzo, Linnea Stenberg**) attended the CTAUN Conference on the theme of *Climate Change*. The March chapter meeting included Pam Dougherty, a speaker from the CT Women's Hall of Fame, which was formed 25 years ago to honor the achievements of CT women. You are encouraged to visit their website: <https://www.cwhf.org/> for lesson plans and other educational resources. Chapters are encouraged to invite a speaker from CT Women's Hall of Fame to a meeting.

Four Alpha members (**Marilyn Arvoy, Maura O'Connor, Judy Petersen and Linnea Stenberg**) offered a literacy activity at a local after-school program. They selected books donated by the Friends of Byram Shubert Library at their June book sale and then taught the third graders to read to the first graders. The students received their books to take home. Alpha was proud to offer this community outreach activity which supports DKG's priority on literacy.

## BETA

Beta Chapter held a meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> at Frenchtown Elementary School in Trumbull. David Weitzman, Educational Psychologist and Psychotherapist and clinical social worker for Trumbull Public Schools, provided a presentation titled: *Feeding the Right Wolf, The Stress That Divides Us: Cultivating the Practice of Compassionate Responses to Self and Others*. After a brief centering activity, David then discussed the causes of stress and the many effects that stress can have on our minds, bodies and all areas of our lives. He shared some strategies utilizing compassion and empathy for reducing and managing stress.

## DELTA

Delta Chapter held its final meeting of the year on May 8<sup>th</sup> at Fairview Farm Golf Course in Harwinton. **Luisa Cumbo** was inducted into the Chapter.

Members were honored to award the 2019 Chapter Book Grant to Sydney Janice Lauer, a senior at Naugatuck High School. Sydney ranks 11<sup>th</sup> out of 237 students. She is a member of the National Honor Society and the Spanish Honor Society. She participates in a number of extra-curricular activities, such as theater and the school newspaper. She is actively involved in her community and church. Sydney aspires to be an English educator and to use her passion for writing as a way to reach others. She enjoys creating fictional stories. Her creative talents will serve her well as an English teacher.

Members congratulated **Past Chapter President Paulina Auclair** who has been elected to the position of Connecticut State Organization Second Vice President, as well as being the recipient of a Camilla Maiewski Scholarship Award.

## EPSILON

Epsilon's \$500 grant will be awarded to a senior from Hartford Public High School. The chapter also donated \$250

to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Hartford to provide summer projects for students in the greater Hartford community. Epsilon will continue our project of Empowering Young Women to Become Math and Science Majors throughout the year.

Congratulations to our Alpha Kappa State Slate of officers for 2019-2021: **President Dr. Kathleen Lozinak, First Vice President Dr. Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean, Second Vice President Paulina Auclair and Recording Secretary Kimberly McGee.**

Epsilon Chapter held its end of the year meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup> at the Goodwin House in Hartford. Members discussed up-coming events for 2019, and dues for 2019-20 were collected.

Epsilon is excited about participating in the International Conference on Global Awareness at Foxwoods Resort and Casino. Members' spouses and loved ones have been invited to attend the evening events.

## ZETA

Zeta Chapter had its final meeting of the year on June 5<sup>th</sup> at Ashlar Village in Wallingford. It was the chapter's annual Sundae Social meeting when members bring appetizers, and at the conclusion of the meeting sundaes are served with great variety of toppings provided by executive board members.

A moving Ceremony of Remembrance ceremony was conducted in memory of **Elayne Canter** who passed away November 25, 2018. **Terry Azoti and Carolyn Downs** were recognized for their photographs selected to be on display with DKG International gallery! Discussion of registering for the International Conference: Global Awareness this summer at Foxwoods was held and questions answered. Members were encouraged to attend if possible and to volunteer as well. Connecticut members are lucky to have a conference in their own back yard – an opportunity to get the flavor of an International event!

Thirty-year longevity awards were given to **Jeannette Palluzzi and Cynthia Schneider**, and twenty-five year awards went to **Linda Amarante and Terry Azoti.**

A new chapter project called Zeta Friends is being initiated. Members have researched and listed appropriate books in several categories for the Friends Pre-School in New Haven. Zeta Chapter will purchase books and book bags and fill them for the students to take home.

The \$1,000 Marguerite McKay Grant was awarded to Nicole Gilson, Orange Public Schools science coach, to pursue a teacher specialist 6th Year Certification at Southern Connecticut State University.

## THETA

Theta Chapter's highly anticipated meeting of April 10<sup>th</sup> with Phyllis Hickey from International did not disappoint. She came with a wealth of knowledge about members' opportunities through DKG. The CT State



# NUTMEG STATE

Organization's Spring Convention saw many Theta members busy with the fundraiser. **Susan Moon** and **Janis Sawicki** were honored with 25 year pins. **Janet Pagoni** received a 30 year pin. Theta's **Dr. Ann Grosjean** was inducted as CT State's First Vice President. Theta's end of the year banquet on June 6<sup>th</sup> was held at Hank's Restaurant in Brooklyn. **Betty Brennan** was recognized for receiving DKG's Life Membership Award.

**Roberta Schwane** was inducted into Theta Chapter that evening also. Roberta was a visiting nurse and supervisor from 1976-1990. Her duties included serving as the school nurse at Horace Porter School in Columbia and teaching sex education there. She taught childbirth classes at Manchester Hospital in the mid 80's. From 1990-2014, she was a Nurse Case Manager at Windham Hospital and taught sex education.

Many Theta members are at work finalizing some aspect of the International Conference at Foxwoods July 30- August 1, 2019, and are looking forward to meeting many DKG sisters from around the world. Theta's next meeting will be held in late August—a relaxing picnic.



**Betty Brennan, recipient of DKG Lifetime Award with her daughter and granddaughters**

## MU

At the March meeting of Mu Chapter it was announced that a new **Beverly Kibbe Grant** would be awarded each year to a high school senior who is planning to study in the field of education. The second part of the meeting consisted of a Tai Chi demonstration. Mu's final meeting of the year was a special night, as members celebrated the future of education and wonderfully qualified young people. **President Carolyn Hallifax** welcomed members and guests, Martin Kibbe and two area high school seniors, Natalia Gallagher of Farmington and Madelyn Wilson of Granby. Natalia and Madelyn are both excellent students with impressive resumes who will be furthering their education with goals of careers in education. **Mu's Grant Chairman Sally Swanson** awarded the chapter's annual Grant of \$1,000 to Natalia. The second \$1,000 Grant is new this year and has been established in memory of **Bev Kibbe**, an extraordinary kindergarten teacher with a love of literacy who chaired our Books for Babies program for many years. Sadly Bev passed away last year after a long illness. After a moving tribute by

**Shelley Lloyd**, this new grant was presented to Madelyn by Bev's husband, Martin.

**Vice President Lillie Feierabend** shared some reflections on the chapter's 2018-2019 year. She reviewed the great variety of member-generated programs: Book Sharing, Salvation Army's Bloom Initiative (a program that works with survivors of sex and labor trafficking), a Tai Chi demonstration and mini class, as well as the Grant Award program, all enhanced by the great participation of members.

The final activity of the year will be the annual Books for Babies wrap to be held in June. Close to 1,200 books will be wrapped in packages of two on June 21<sup>st</sup> at **Pam Beach's** home before being delivered to the Hospital of Central Connecticut. Books will be given to parents of newborns to encourage literacy by sharing and reading books with children starting at an early age.



**Mu Chapter Grant Awards: (l. to r.) President Carolyn Hallifax, Natalia Gallagher, Martin Kibbe, Madelyn Wilson and Grant Chair Sally Swanson**

## RHO

Rho Chapter had two very successful meetings this spring. In March members met in **Shannon Piatek's** fourth grade classroom at the Horace Porter School in Columbia. Shannon demonstrated the technology used in her classroom. The Smart Board was voted the most interesting item by members present. **Sue Nadeau** brought a mug mat quilt activity and also utilized the Smart Board to instruct members on how to finish the mug mat at home. Most retired teachers were in awe of this technology and its multiple uses in the classroom. The final meeting of the year was a pot luck dinner meeting at the South Windsor Public Library. It was a pleasure to have former Rho members in attendance who are anticipating rejoining Delta Kappa Gamma. Rho held a successful teacup auction and raffle for the White Flower Farm gift card Rho won at the Connecticut State Convention. The Costume/Vintage Jewelry fund raiser committee has collected lots of jewelry and met in June to organize the chapter's display for the sale at the Marketplace at the International Global Awareness Conf. on Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>, which many Rho members are looking forward to attending.



## CT STATE ORGANIZATION ACHIEVERS

### Congratulations to Our Connecticut Members!

The Arts and Humanities Jury has selected the artistic works of **four** Connecticut Members for the International Spring Gallery of Fine Arts, an online gallery of works of art and letters. Congratulations for their artistic endeavors go to **Terry Azoti (Zeta)** with two photo entries accepted: *Guarding Buckingham Palace* and *Lean on Me* and to **Judy Baxter (Theta)** with two photo entries accepted: *Painted Lady* and *Long Live the Pollinators!*. We also look forward to seeing **Carolyn Downs' (Zeta)** two photos: *Don't You Dare* and *Peek-A-Boo*, as well as **Linda Tracy's (Theta)** pastel paintings: *Lavender Fields Forever* and *The Rose*.

Members are invited to view the entire gallery. Go to the Art Gallery on the bottom of the Home page on the International website [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org). All Connecticut members are encouraged to submit their creative work to the Fall Gallery during the next submission period from August 15 – September 15, 2019. The categories include photography, crafts, literary efforts, and two-and three-dimensional art. Guidelines can be found online in the ART Gallery. Congratulations again to our CT Members on their achievements!



**Terry Azoti, Zeta Chapter**, gained national recognition from the National Garden Clubs, Inc., for her photo entitled *Tornado* in the category of Climate Change: Altered Reality Using Creative Techniques.

The competition featured images of the environment of the Americas and received 225 entries from the United States, South America and Central America. Terry's photo was one of 24 entries selected to be exhibited in print, power point and YouTube format at the National Garden Clubs' annual convention in Biloxi, Mississippi.

NOTE FROM TERRY: This is a shot of a vase of orange lilies taken in multiple exposures so I could get the look of movement and then turned vertically to represent the title of the photo, **Tornado**.

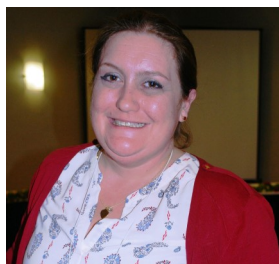


**Dr. Linda S. Pavlov, Beta Chapter President**, was presented the *Emerging Leader Award* at the Connecticut ACE Women's Network annual awards dinner. The theme of this year's dinner was *Celebrating Women in Higher Education*. Linda is Director of Administrative Operations and Chair of two Educational Leadership programs at the University of Bridgeport.

Dr. Paslov has made great strides in research to encourage girls' interest and achievement in mathematics and engineering. As a middle school principal, she integrated a hands-on engineering-themed program into her school to investigate and assess girls' attitudes towards, and achievement in, mathematics.

The Emerging Leader Award honors a woman with at least five years of professional experience in higher education who has been a leader in the development and/or operation of an office, program, or service that has significantly advanced women's learning and development in the State of Connecticut. Sponsored by the Connecticut ACE Women's Network, the award recognizes a leader who plans and implements programs that create opportunities for women and who advances membership of women in professional organizations.

"I encourage women to join, and then lead, professional organizations that make a difference in the educational experiences of teachers and students," said Paslov. "I am pleased that I have been able to positively affect the careers of women in multiple settings throughout my career in education."



**Ellen Festi, CT State Organization Assistant Treasurer, Rho Chapter**, is the recipient of a \$2,000 DKG Cornetet Individual Professional Award. Ellen plans to use the award in Cooperative Work Experience coursework.

Through DKG International Cornetet Awards, financial support is given to individual educators to encourage their participation in professional development opportunities through approved professional development providers such as colleges, universities and professional organizations other than The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. As of February 2019, over \$721,111 has been granted as Individual Professional Development Awards.





### CONNECTICUT STATE ORGANIZATION SPRING CONVENTION/80<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



**Kim McGee, Recording Secretary**



**Donna Chaney, Treasurer**



**Eileen Kinahan, Nu Chapter  
Flag Ceremony**



**Colleen Spieler, Delta Chapter  
Ceremony of Remembrance**



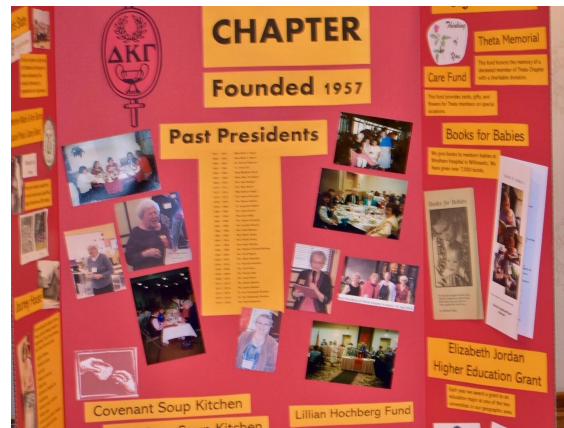
**Carrie Fiske, Iota Chapter  
Ceremony of Remembrance**



**Terry Ziegler, Eta Chapter  
Ceremony of Remembrance**



**Beta Chapter display**



**Theta Chapter display**



# CONNECTICUT STATE ORGANIZATION 2019 Longevity Award Pin Recipients

Congratulations to the following Connecticut State Organization members

### 50 years

Margaret Smith, *Alpha*  
Marianne Lacey, *Lambda*  
Helen Molloy, *Mu*

### 40 years

Geraldine Petrizzi-Pongonis, *Alpha*  
Christine Comeau, *Delta*  
Shirley Gillis, *Eta*  
Malta Bailey, *Rho*  
Barbara Dean, *Rho*  
Nancy Johndrow, *Rho*

### 30 years

Elinor Carr, *Alpha*  
Janet Kaminski, *Alpha*  
Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone, *Beta*  
Janie Pertillar, *Epsilon*  
Jeannette Palluzzi, *Zeta*  
Cynthia Schneider, *Zeta*  
Janet Lee Pagoni, *Theta*  
Judy Villa, *Lambda*  
Rosalita McNamee, *Nu*

### 25 years

Cindy Huppert, *Alpha*  
Barbara F. Schroeter, *Beta*  
Linda Amarante, *Zeta*  
Theresa Azoti, *Zeta*  
Susan Moon, *Theta*  
Janis Sawicki, *Theta*  
Mary Ellen Ulatowski, *Lambda*  
Nancy Methot, *Mu*

**State Honorary Member Pauline Kezer - 25 years**



**30-year members:  
Sandra Petrucelli-  
Carbone, Beta,  
and Jeannette  
Palluzzi, Zeta**



**40-year members:  
Barbara Dean, Rho,  
and Malta Bailey,  
Rho**



# ALPHA KAPPA STATE 80TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

## AKS 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration at Spring Convention May 4, 2019

As chair of the ad hoc committee for the Alpha Kappa State 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday, I wish to thank all the Connecticut State Organization chapters for their outstanding contributions in the form of display boards, scrapbooks, photo albums and other media projects shared at the Spring Convention. It was probably the most all-encompassing and inclusive demonstration of chapter history I have seen in over 30 years of attending state conventions.

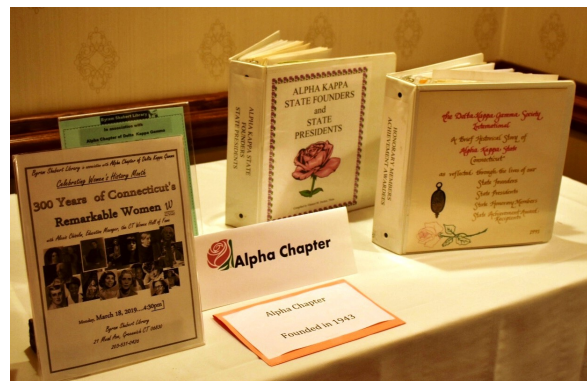
Special thanks goes to Fine Arts Chair Linda Tracy for her impressive selection of songs for attendees to sing representative of the last eight decades. It was great fun watching attendees as they joined in song to some their favorite tunes from the past! Our lists of eight decade facts were prepared by and announced by several Zeta members along with myself and, hopefully, provided attendees with a wide variety of memories that had not crossed their mind in some time but were pleasant to recall on this special day.

The outstanding AKS data fact sheet created by Communications Chair, Emily Lozinak, gave a wonderful history of the founding of the chapters as well as the leadership of both the state and local chapters over eighty years. To those who did attend the Spring Convention, I hope you will share this history data sheet with your chapter members who were not with us on this memorable day.

Thanks also to Pat and Kathleen for their support and assistance when needed during the planning stages for this 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday event. And finally, thanks to all chapter reps who helped make sure that their chapter table demonstrations were completed and delivered for display. Please be sure to share these treasures with your own members and prospective members as well.

Here's to AKS and its 80-year history!

**Judy Cody, Zeta Chapter  
Ad Hoc Chair, 80th Birthday Celebration**





## Keynote Speaker, Connie Rensink, DKG Member-at-Large, Shared News from Austin



Connie Rensink, DKG International Member At Large, was the keynote speaker at the CT State Organization Spring Convention and 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration. In her introductory remarks, she said she was not only here to share the news from Delta Kappa Gamma International in Austin, but to listen to what we as members feel about our organization and how it can better meet the needs of the members. When new ideas are being discussed at International, there is an empty chair at the table for Maria Member; and the committee always thinks about the impact change will have on members. Here is the news Connie shared from DKG Headquarters in Austin:

- The DKG.org website has everything you need to know about Delta Kappa Gamma. There is a chat feature available from 9 – 5 Monday through Friday to answer any questions.
- The DKG app can be added to your smart phone. It has the same information as the website and easy access to conference details.
- The DKG News is now only available in a digitized format. It can be read using flip to flip pages and it is also in pdf format to allow printing. It created a significant savings in the budget to eliminate the paper copies including the 25% which were undeliverable and returned in the mail. Be sure your e-mail address is up to date!
- Connie asked if anyone has had their artwork published in the Arts and Humanities Gallery. Several members raised their hands. She then asked how many members were artists or photographers. Many more members raised their hands. She suggested that the published artists share the easy submission process with the aspiring artists. She used this technique often to remind members to encourage and share the opportunities that DKG has to offer with one another.
- DKG state leaders will have training in Iceland and Iowa as part of the International Conferences this summer.
- The focus of the Expansion Committee will be changed to help states form new chapters.
- The Leadership Management Seminar is being redefined. Members wishing to grow as a leader may apply to attend a training in Austin at the University of Texas Business School. Consider applying and taking this time for yourself! She acknowledged those members who have attended, **Pat O'Connell Buckley, Carol Kraus, Sandy Petrucelli-Carbone, Dr. Kathleen Lozinak and Dr. Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean, Dr. Jacqueline Abbott and Joan Lee**. She invited interested members to ask them for assistance with the application process. The next class will be in the summer of 2020, and applications will be due in the fall of 2019.
- The Emergency Fund has been busy with so many fires and floods, and many members have welcomed the \$500 check, usually one of the first to arrive after a disaster. Between July 1, 2018 and February 8, 2019, \$59,000 was given to members and \$52,000 was donated by members. This generosity is what the society is all about.
- DKG has a partnership with Go Ahead Travel to sponsor a trip to Costa Rica from December 28, 2019 to January 3, 2020. Connie, who will be the DKG Ambassador, encourages everyone to sign up by May 15 and if we have enough members, they will provide a private tour.
- Connie pointed out that **Pat O'Connell Buckley** is a member of the International Finance Board, **Emily Lozinak** is a member of the Educational Excellence Committee, and **Ann Grosjean** is a DKG@UN Representative. She encouraged members to get involved internationally to bring information back to the state and to share state initiatives with International.
- The Education Foundation has professional development grants available to members and non-members. The Curriculum of Hope and Books for Dreams are two Connecticut groups who have benefited from these grants.
- In 1951, CT member **Vera Butler** received the International Achievement Award; and in 1985, **Jeanne Morascini** founded the Curriculum of Hope. Connecticut has much to celebrate with eighty years of friendship, fellowship and support for one another. Connecticut is a beacon of women working together! What can DKG do for you?

Connie then shared her personal DKG journey. Once she was inducted into her chapter in Texas as an elementary school teacher, she jumped in body first and attended her first state convention, where she saw the big picture of the Society. She found women who supported her personally and professionally. There were grants and scholarships available and strong impact on the local community. She received her Reading Degree with help from an international scholarship. She attended the DKG Leadership Management Seminar to extend her leadership skills.

*(Continued on page 14)*



## CONNECTICUT STATE ORGANIZATION 2019 ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS



### Dr. Kathleen Lozinak

On May 28, 1997, Kathleen was inducted into Omicron Chapter of the Connecticut State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

#### Chapter Achievements

Program Committee Chair	2008-2010
High School Grant Co-Chair, Member	2009-2017
Co-President	2010-2012
President	2014-2018

#### State Achievements

Educational Impact Committee Chair	2013-2017
Leadership Development Committee	2014-2018
Educational Excellence Committee	2015-2017
Non-Dues Revenue Comm. Co-Chair	2015-2017
First Vice President	2017-Present

#### International Achievements

2012	Preconference full day workshop for New York International Convention
2013	Presented breakout session in Portland, Maine, on <i>Mentoring Across Generations</i>
2015	Presented breakout session <i>What DKG Can Do For You</i> at Baltimore Regional Conference
2016	Thesis published in <i>DKG Bulletin</i> Presented breakout session <i>Capella Ed. Doctorate</i> Topic session on <i>Influence of Mentor Pairing</i> at Nashville Convention Attended Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar in Austin, Texas
2017	Attended full day training for Educational Excellence Chair at Myrtle Beach Regional Conf.
2018	Attended International Convention in Austin, TX Member of the Regional Conference Steering Committee

Kathleen has been an active member of our organization at the local, state and international levels. She has maintained all of the above accomplishments while actively teaching in the Stratford Public Schools for over 20 years. Kathleen is the mother of five children and has many grandchildren. Three generations of her family are members of Omicron Chapter—**Kathleen, Arlene Clancy** (her mother) and **Emily Lozinak** (her daughter). Kathleen is an exceptional woman who maintains a positive, vivacious attitude. She has served our organization with distinction.

### Deborah Soresino

In 2000, Deborah was inducted into Iota Chapter of the Connecticut State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

#### Chapter Achievements

Membership Chair	2004-2006
Vice President	2006-2010
President	2010-2014
Standing Rules Member/Chair	2012-2016
Grant Committee Member	2014-2018

#### State Achievements

AKS Second Vice President	2013-2015
Achievement Award Chair	2013-2015
Bylaws Committee Member	2013-2017
Program Editor	2013-2018
Membership Committee Chair	2015-2017
Ad Hoc Strategic Planning Committee	2017-2018

#### International Achievements

Attended International Conventions	2010-2016
Attended Regional Conferences	2011-2015
Attended CTAUN Conference	2014 and 2015
Planned and arranged for bus transportation from CT to International Convention in New York City	2017

Deborah has been an active member of our society at the chapter, state and international levels. As a member of Iota Chapter, Deborah spearheaded the by-laws revisions and maintenance. Deborah steps up often at her chapter level to host chapter planning meetings at her seaside condo and often mentors new officers. She has committed to long-term positions as program editor and on the state bylaws committee. Deborah is a highly professional woman who is organized, conscientious and dedicated to the principles of DKG.

**ΔΚΓ MISSION STATEMENT**  
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.



(Continued from page 12) *Connie Rensink*

When she was eighteen years old, she had visited the United Nations and discovered her passion for peace and humanity. Attending her first CTAUN Conference changed the trajectory of her teaching and created a desire to live in New York City. With the help of a Lucille Cornetet Award from the Educational Foundation, she attended the Global Ed Forum where she learned about the Global Competence Certificate (GCC). She completed the Teachers College GCC through World Savvy and the Asia Society with Texas state grants including a visit to Ecuador. Realizing that she wanted to impact more than one classroom, she left the classroom and became an educational consultant for World Savvy. She is now a DKG@UN Representative at the United Nations and a member of the CTAUN Committee.

She continues to be an active member of the Texas State Organization, where she serves as the webmaster of her chapter and Leadership Development of Chapter Presidents Committee Chair for the state. She has had many other leadership roles within the state. At the International level, she is presently the International Member at Large, the International Speakers Fund Committee Chair and serves on the International Strategic Planning Committee.

Everyone really enjoyed and learned from Connie's presentation. She hopes that it will lead to more member involvement at the chapter, state and International level and that each member will take full advantage of everything that DKG has to offer to nurture her own personal and professional growth!

**Dr. Ann Grosjean, First Vice President  
CT State Organization**



**President Pat O'Connell Buckley lighting  
candles**



### **The Connecticut State Organization Honored to Have a DKG Sister From Germany at the Convention/80<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration**

**Marika Heimbach** joined members of the Connecticut State Organization to help celebrate the chapter's 80th birthday in May. She is a Germany State Organization Past President and a Past European Regional Director. Marika is also a Charter member of the Germany State Organization. She is a Golden Gift Leadership recipient and was in the same class as **Carol Kraus**. She loved her visit to our 80th birthday celebration and being among so many friends.

Marika presented a symbolic candle to **President Pat O'Connell Buckley**. She related to Connecticut State members the story behind the candle. "When I was state president, a candle was presented to me by **Dorothy Haley** from Great Britain. She was my dear friend and mentor. The light signifies warmth, life, love, friendship and hope for peace. Ever since then, I gave a candle light when I visited state organizations."



**Jeanne Morascini, Founder  
Curriculum of Hope for a  
Peaceful World**



(l to r) **Dr. Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean,  
Marika Heimbach and  
Dr. Kathleen Lozinak**



**Connecticut State Organization**

**Dates to Remember**

July 30 - August 1, 2019  
DKG International Conference  
Global Awareness  
Foxwoods Resort and Casino  
Mashatucket, CT

Saturday, September 14, 2019  
9:30 a.m.

Connecticut State Organization  
Executive Board Meeting  
Meriden Public Library

Saturday, November 2, 2019  
Connecticut State Organization  
77th Fall Conference  
Wilcox Technical High School (tentative)  
Meriden

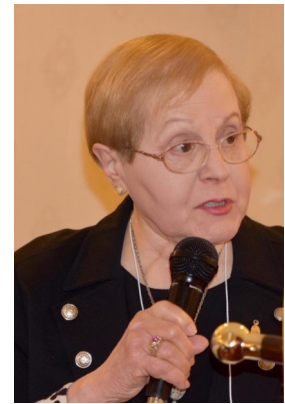
Saturday, March 21, 2020  
9:30 a.m.

Connecticut State Organization  
Executive Board Meeting  
Meriden Public Library

Saturday, April 25, 2020  
9:30 a.m.

State Convention  
Baci Grill, Cromwell

June, 2020 (Date to be determined)  
State Leadership Conference



**NEXT KEYNOTE DEADLINES:**

September 1, 2019  
December 1, 2019

Send information to

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d.w.beam@snet.net

**Photography for this issue of  
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Zeta Chapter**

**and  
Connecticut State Organization  
Webmaster  
Emily Lozinak, Omicron Chapter**

**THANK YOU !!!**

**ALL MEMBERS, FAMILY AND FRIENDS**



**PLEASE JOIN US AT THE DKG  
INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE  
GLOBAL AWARENESS  
AT**

**FOXWOODS RESORT/CASINO**

**JULY 30—AUGUST 1  
2019**

**INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT  
www.dkg.org**

