



Connecticut State Organization DKG International Society for Key Women Educators

Volume 80 No. 1

Fall 2020



Join us on Zoom for the 2020 DKG Connecticut State Organization Fall Conference!

On November 7, 2020, members will gather together once again in cyber space via Zoom for our 82nd DKG CT State Organization Fall Conference. Since the future status of Covid-19 cannot be determined at this time, it has been decided to take an abundance of caution and meet online.

To facilitate this process, there will be two keynote speakers: **Kathleen Stauffer**, the CEO of *ARC of Eastern CT* will address professional development and **Lani Rosen-Gallagher**, of *Full of Joy Yoga*, will address personal growth. The CT State Organization Recruitment Grants will be presented to deserving students at that time.

Please look for an e-mail in October which will contain the Zoom link for the conference as well as attachments for the program and other documents. The good news is there is no need to pre-register or pay for a meal. Members will also not have to travel! The meeting will be from 9:00 a.m. until about noon. If you have any questions, please contact **Ann Grosjean** acgrosjean@gmail.com or call 860-429-6152.

Please join us for this special time together!

First Vice-President Ann Grosjean

**Connecticut State Organization
2020 Virtual Fall Conference**

Saturday, November 7th



LEADING to EXCELLENCE

What Does It Take to Be Excellent?
Do we ever unwittingly sabotage ourselves, preventing success in projects big and small? Can we learn to think more constructively as leaders? What does excellence look like, and what are the steps that can get us – and the teams we lead – to attainment?

Kathleen Stauffer, Chief Executive Officer of The Arc Eastern Connecticut has created, reinvented and managed more than a dozen brands in her career. Having led numerous companies and teams in both the for-profit and nonprofit sectors, she will discuss why success and excellence can be so elusive – and why they don't have to

(Continued on page 10)



Have Some Fun and Personal Growth with Lani

For the personal growth portion of DKG CT State Organization Fall Conference on November 7th, members will welcome Lani Rosen-Gallagher whose yoga classes have been very popular at previous state conferences! Although much of her

experience has been working directly with children, she enjoys and feels it is important to teach adults yoga also!

Recognizing that children need balance and focus in their lives, Lani first incorporated yoga into her daily schedule while teaching first grade in Coney Island, Brooklyn, New York. She received her 200-hour certification

(Continued on page 10)

In this issue

Page 2 **President's Message**
Page 3 **Nominations Committee
Coming in Winter Keynote**
Pages 4-6 **In Memoriam**
Page 7 **In Memoriam**
 United Nations / CTAUN
Pages 8-9 **Around the Nutmeg State**

Page 10
Page 11
Pages 12-13
Page 14
Page 15
Page 16

Virtual Fall Conference Speakers (continued)
Overview: Virtual Spring Convention
2020 Virtual Spring Convention Recap
Leadership Training: Educational Excellence
Leadership Conference Breakout Sessions
Dates to Remember



LEADING WOMEN EDUCATORS IMPACTING EDUCATION WORLDWIDE



From the Middle—

Many people like “To-Do Lists.” We like to check off or cross out things we have accomplished. I have actually been caught adding recently completed activities to my list just so I could cross them out and document the achievement. In June, I created my annual summer to-do list and though I looked at it almost daily, not one item on the list was ever really brought to fruition. Seriously, zero done! Does this mean I wasted my summer? Sat around for ten weeks doing nothing? No.

The issue was that everything on the list required the completion of multiple other tasks in order to even begin what I set out to do. One example: I had some sewing I needed to do. First, I needed to clean off my desk so I could set up my sewing machine. But before that, I needed to reorganize my file cabinets and book cases so I could clean off my desk, but that involved emptying them out so I could rework my shelving and filing systems, which needed to be done so I could incorporate all the teaching materials I needed to bring home from school. It reminds me of the book, *If You Give Mouse a Cookie*. (Look it up. It’s a good one!)

So as I enter year two, the middle of my biennium, the “To Do List” I created at my leadership training in Iceland is far from complete, but we are making some round-about progress. (International Convention ...distant but done...check; State Convention...modified but done...check; Leadership Conference, later than expected but well-received... check) Collegiate Member Recruitment Ad Hoc Committee...hmmm it exists, but we need more members and it hasn’t met!

We were energized by the happenings at the International Convention when **Dolly Parton**, a long time hero of mine, accepted an invitation to Honorary Membership for her work with the Imagination Library; and **Helen Popovich, DKG International Parliamentarian**, was chosen as the recipient of the International Achievement Award spotlighting the many avenues of service available in DKG.

As a state, we held our Convention virtually. **Dr. Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean** and her committee organized an amazing event, but what stands out for me from that day was the Celebration of Life. **Lenore Martinelli, Sandra Gammons** and **Pat O’Connell Buckley** beautifully shared the legacy of our sisters who had passed. The immense impact each of those members has had on their own piece of the world is amazing to me. The memories of our departed sisters truly are a blessing.

The Leadership Seminar was also impressive with **Roz Etra** at the helm assisted by **Communications Chair** (and **Zoom Master**) **Emily DelPiano**. The efficiency and flexibility exhibited by all presenters and participants demonstrates that this is most certainly an organization of outstanding professional educators.

I ask each of you to please consider recommending a respected colleague, longtime friend, or teacher-hero that you believe is deserving of membership in this great organization. Personally invite them to join us. Grant them the honor of calling them a sister to all who have gone before us and a chance to walk alongside the leaders of the future. (Promote increased membership...check!)

I have so much more to do and so little time to do it. I thank you all again for your patience with me and with each other. Continue to reach out and keep those connections strong.

Be safe. Stay amazing!

Kathleen

Be sure to check out the CT
State Organization website.

The site includes
information on chapters,
newsletters, forms and
important links.

**SPECIAL THANKS to
Emily DelPiano, Webmaster.**

<http://dkgct.weebly.com>



Announcement!

The Connecticut State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

An Important Date...December 1, 2020

When we met in the fall of 2019, December 2020 seemed a long way off, but here it is September, 2020 and we are hoping to fill a slate of officers and nominations and finance committees by December 1, 2020.

The Nominations Committee is accepting names of candidates for the 2021 – 2023 biennium for first vice-president, second vice-president and recording secretary. The first vice-president shall automatically succeed to the presidency at the completion of the president's term. Although the nominations remain open, our current second vice-president is willing to serve again.

We are looking for three members to serve 2021 – 2025 on the Nominations Committee, one from each region. The regions are: SW (Alpha, Beta, Nu, Omicron, Zeta), NW (Iota, Tau-Upsilon, Delta, Lambda, Mu) and E (Theta, Rho, Eta, Epsilon).

Although nominations remain open, at this point we do have three members, one from each region, willing to serve on the Finance Committee for the 2021- 2025 term.

The responsibilities of each position can be found online on the Connecticut State website (dkgct.weebly.com) in the Bylaws and Standing Rules documents. The Nominations Form is also online on our website under Forms.

Nomination forms are due electronically or by mail by December 1, 2020 to

Marilyn Arvoy, Connecticut State Organization Nominations Chair

**350 Delavan Ave
Greenwich, CT. 06830
(203) 531- 8874
marvoy@hotmail.com**

Nominations Committee Chair Marilyn Arvoy

Committee Members: **Joanne Brogis, Sandra Petrucelli Carbone, Jacqueline Farrell, Patricia Piatek, Judy Weiner**

Coming in Next Keynote

Please check winter edition of the online Keynote for information on important amendments to the Connecticut State Bylaws. These amendments will be voted upon at the Spring Convention on April 24, 2021.

State Organization Bylaws Committee Chair Terry Azoti

**Visit the DKG and Connecticut State
Organization websites!**

**www.dkg.org
<http://dkgct.weebly.com>**



IN MEMORIAM

White Roses

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

Carol A. Sarabun, Ed.D., Alpha Chapter

Died: January 1, 2020



Dr. Carol Sarabun was initiated into Alpha Chapter on June 1, 1981. As an active member, she served and supported the professional, educational and social events of the chapter for thirty-nine years. Carol also designed and implemented a program at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility where she involved her DKG sisters in training inmates on how to read and engage their children with literature. She was an inspiration to all who knew her as she exemplified the principles of Delta Kappa Gamma.

In 1968, Carol received her B.S. in Elementary Education from Millersville State College, PA. She went on to attain an M.S. in Curriculum and Teaching from Teachers College, Columbia University, and her Administrator Certification, in 1980, from Bank Street College of Education. In 1991, Carol was awarded a prestigious Ed.D. degree from Teachers College Columbia University.

Carol had a fulfilling tenure in the Greenwich Public Schools for 35 years where she taught grades five and six, Gifted and Talented, and later became a Staff Development Associate. She began her administrative career in 1981 as assistant principal, then went on to become principal of New Lebanon School and Hamilton Ave. Magnet School. She was an Adjunct Professor in the School of Education Educational Leadership Department of the University of Bridgeport and The University of Connecticut Stamford until her retirement. Throughout her career Carol was recognized as a consummate professional who made a significant impact on student learning through her efforts to foster collaboration and excellence in teaching.

Carol engaged in numerous professional opportunities at the local, state, national and international levels and shared her expertise as a valued mentor to teachers and administrators. She was a speaker and trainer for many in-service programs for public school districts throughout Connecticut and served as a consultant on local boards and statewide educational teams. Her contributions at the CT State Department of Education included the development of the BEST Program, The Connecticut Competencies and the Teacher Portfolio Design. She also served as chair of the Yale Preschool Education Program at Quinnipiac University. In addition to many professional affiliations, she served as past president of the Elementary and Middle School Principals' Association where she was a nominee and finalist for the National Distinguished Principal Program.

Carol MacLenathen, Iota Chapter

Died: January 4, 2020



Carol was inducted into Iota Chapter on April 1, 1972, and was a forty-seven year member of DKG. She served on several committees and was an active participant in many meetings.

After graduating from Danbury High School in 1945, Carol received her Bachelor's degree from Danbury State Teachers College, a Master's degree from Columbia University and a Sixth Year diploma from the University of Connecticut in 1973. She served as a teacher in the West Hartford School District and later became the Assistant Principal at The Cider Mill School and Wilton High School in Wilton, CT. Carol loved her students and staff and was highly regarded by her school community.

She was an active member of several professional organizations including the Northern Fairfield County Retired Teachers Association and social organizations, such as the Women's Club of Danbury/New Fairfield. Carol volunteered for the Danbury Probation Department, as well as the Danbury School District. She was a lifelong member of the Central Christian Church.

As a young, independent woman Carol traveled across the United States and throughout post-World War II Europe. She went on an extended African safari where her lifelong passion for wildlife began.

Carol was the last living descendent of the Mansfield family, who had resided in Danbury prior to being burned out by the British in 1777. She will be missed by her family and friends.



Elinor H. Carr, Alpha Chapter
Died: March 3, 2020



Elinor Carr was a member of Alpha Chapter and was inducted on March 1, 1989. Elinor was an officer on the executive board of Alpha. She was the chairperson of its major fund raiser, The Virginia Obrig Memorial Book Grant and was the co-chair of the Sunshine Committee. She was also a member of the Strategic Action Committee of Alpha Chapter. Elinor did a presentation on Greek women to the chapter at an annual banquet.

Elinor graduated from St. John's University in 1953 where she completed her undergraduate work. She obtained her Master's in Education at Fairfield University. She studied Greek in the summers of 1986 and 1987 at Bowdoin College under a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In the fall of 1987-88, she studied Greek at Hunter College and obtained further grants to Harvard and Tufts.

Elinor taught English at Greenwich High School. She co-founded an inter-disciplinary Honors Humanities course, *Shapers of the World*. Students received English credit while studying literature, history and philosophy. There were corresponding courses in Art History and Music History. The focus was on making connections among the various disciplines. She also taught Greek as an independent study course, was a tutor for many years, founded the Greenwich High School Poetry Society and initiated a yearly poetry contest, open to all students.

Elinor was very involved for many years in the Greenwich Arts Council. She will be fondly remembered by many for her compassion, wit and genuine love of life.

Every June, she wrote a letter to her graduating seniors. She often included a delicious nugget line from Tennyson's *Ulysses*, "I am a part of all that I have met." To quote Elinor, "Well, those young people have become part of me, and I let them know it. I have become that part of them which is young and refreshing and optimistic – and I thank them for this. I have become that part of them which is tender and vulnerable and in need of someone to say "You'll make it." And from me, I pray, they have taken a thirst for learning and wisdom – a sense of the beauty of life - and its tragedy. I pray, too, they have become that part of me which is corny and fun-loving and grabbing every second of life joyously, gratefully - drinking it "to the lees."

Elinor was always conscious of the profound responsibility she had as *Teacher*. That is a title she bore with a sense of respect and obligation.

Judith Bielizna, Iota Chapter
Died: April 13, 2020



Judy was inducted into Iota Chapter on November 1, 1976 and was a forty-three year member of DKG. She was an active member and served as secretary in the 1970's.

Judy graduated from Western Connecticut State University with a B.S. in 1959, an M.S. in 1973 and a 6th Year in 1976. Over the course of thirty-three years she taught third through sixth grade and eighth grade math in New Fairfield. As a dedicated teacher, she truly earned the nickname *Mother Math* from her eighth grade students. She was a co-operating teacher and mentored student teachers from Western Connecticut and Bridgeport University. She was also a mentor for the Best Program.

Judy loved sports. She was a dedicated follower of the UConn men and women's basketball teams and attended many Danbury High School baseball and basketball games. She herself was an avid golfer.

Judy was known as a straight shooter, who called it the way she saw it. She was very smart with a keen sense of humor. As a dedicated single parent, she never missed a ball game, musical performance or school play when one of her children was involved. She will be missed by her family and friends.

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

Terry Azoti
Judy Cody
Ann Grosjean

Kathleen Lozinak
Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone
Nancy Roy



IN MEMORIAM (Continued)

Mary Roberts, Iota Chapter **Died: April 2, 2020**



Mary was inducted into Iota Chapter on December 1, 1963, and was a fifty-six year member of DKG. She served as Iota president and on the legislative committee. On the state level, she was on the membership and world fellowship committees and attended many conventions.

Mary received her B.S. from Framingham State Teachers College and M.S. from Danbury State Teachers College. In addition to teaching many years at Hill and Plain School in New Milford, she also taught at the Burnham School in Bridgewater and the New Preston School in Washington. She cared deeply about each student and was loved by each one. Mary was active in the New Milford Education Association and served in many capacities.

Mary believed strongly in serving her community and was active in many organizations. She was a member of the Palm Rebecca Lodge for seventy years, a member of the Daughters of American Revolution, director of the New Milford VNA, registrar of voters and served on the Bridgewater Scholarship Committee. In 2012, she was awarded the Community Service Award by the Rotary Club.

Mary had an infectious, energetic spirit and a way of making people feel special and honored. Being an avid sports fan, she loved to watch her grandchildren play in sports. She enjoyed playing cards, especially Bridge. Mary will be deeply missed by all fortunate enough to have known her.

Virginia Francois, Theta Chapter **Died: April 19, 2020**



Virginia was initiated into Theta Chapter in 1980. She was a forty-year member at the time of her passing. Known as Ginnie to her Theta sisters, she served on several committees, notably membership and program.

Teaching was her passion and her life work. She taught kindergarten at Storrs Grammar School and later at Northwest Elementary in Storrs. Even in retirement, she supervised student teachers for Eastern Connecticut State University.

Ginnie also loved to travel and to spend summers with family at their cottage in the Thimble Islands.

Her memory will be cherished not only by her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren, but also by her lifelong friends from school and by her Theta sisters.

Lola Guglietta, Mu Chapter **July 10, 2020**



Lola was initiated into Mu Chapter on Nov. 1, 1975. During her forty-five years of membership, she held various positions, including chapter president.

She graduated from Michigan State College in 1944 and then moved to Hartford. During World War II, Lola worked for Hamilton Standard doing mathematical calculations and volunteered to help soldiers blinded in the war who were recovering at Old Farms School. Her interest in flying brought her to meet her future husband, Francis Guglietta, a partner in Hartford Aviation at Brainard School. They were married in 1948, after which Lola remained home to raise her four sons and remained very active in the Lake Garda community. Her activism started with the concern for school bus safety. With her 8mm camera, she filmed the processes of loading

and unloading school buses and presented her findings to the Farmington Board of Education, which resulted in important improvements in school bus safety.

In 1962, she began her teaching career at West District School in Farmington, first as a substitute teacher and later as a second and third grade teacher until she retired in 1994. After her retirement, she began to pursue her lifelong interest in art. She received an Associate's degree in Fine Arts from Tunxis Community College and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from the University of Hartford. She spent her retirement years painting and sculpturing. As **Jeanne Morascini** wrote, "Lola was a lovely, reassuring woman. Her art reflected her personality." She spent her winters in retirement at her Mesa, Arizona, home. Lola will be missed by her family and friends and remembered for the many ways she touched their lives.



Linda Coppola, Omicron Chapter
Died: August 20, 2020



Linda Coppola was initiated into Omicron Chapter on March 17, 1980. She was chapter president for two years and helped establish Omicron's scholarship program. She then served on the scholarship selection committee for many years, as well as a number of other committees. Most recently, while still on the scholarship committee, she was helping to organize Omicron's 50th anniversary celebration.

Linda earned her B.S. in elementary education from Southern CT State University in 1973 and continued her education to receive an M.S. in Reading from the University of Bridgeport in 1976. After teaching a number of years, she returned to school and earned her 6th Year degree in Education Leadership in 1999 from Southern CT State University.

Upon graduating with her B.S., Linda was hired to teach in Derby. From 1973 – 2004 she taught preschool, kindergarten, first, second and third grades. She was named Teacher of the Year in 1993 and in 2004 and became the principal of Bradley Elementary School, also in Derby. After retiring from the public schools in 2010, she took on the position of principal at St. Mary-St. Michael School in Derby and retired once again in 2017. During her time as principal at St. Mary-St. Michael School she had an article published on *How to Turn Around a Catholic Elementary School*.

Linda was very involved in St. Mary's Church and volunteered countless hours. Aside from being the treasurer of the summer festival for thirty years, she was a member of the Parish Council and the St. Mary's Ladies' Guild and was also a lector and a Eucharistic Minister. But her community interests extended beyond the church. She volunteered at the CT Food Bank, was a reading tutor with Literacy Volunteers and volunteered time at the Derby Neck Library.

In addition to being awarded Teacher of the Year, Linda won a number of other awards. These include the HOPES award (Help Our Parish Elementary Schools) in 1993, Women Who Make a Difference in the Valley Award in 2001, the Mary Lou Cook Award in 2012; and in 2018 she received the Spirit of St. Mary-St. Michael School Award for making a major difference in the lives of her students. Always cheerful and willing to roll up her sleeves to help, Linda was a very caring, giving person; and she will be greatly missed.



DKG @ the UN (United Nations) and CTAUN (Committee on Teaching About the United Nations) Update

Like everything else, both DKG@UN and CTAUN have undergone many changes due to COVID-19. CTAUN was very fortunate to be able to conduct their 2020 conference, *War No More*, at the United Nations in person on February 28th! It was very well attended and you can see the entire day in two parts at <http://webtv.un.org/> and enter CTAUN in the Search Box at the top. You can always find a wealth of information about UN related topics at www.teachun.org.

The CTAUN committee is now meeting via Zoom. We realize that an in-person conference as we know it is impossible for next year (2021), so we are exploring the idea of online webinars. We are focusing on two major issues- *misinformation* and the *indigenous*. How COVID-19 has affected the United Nations is also being looked into and what the many UN agencies are doing in response to help the world's people.

The planning committees for each topic have examined these issues and resources through our research and network of speakers at the UN along with other experts. The webinars may be offered by the end of this year or next year.

Since the United Nations Headquarters has been closed, there are no briefings offered in person for the DKG NGO representatives to attend. We have been able to attend several virtual seminars so the DKG@UN News has continued to be published four times a year. DKG@UN Issue #52 will be out soon, so watch for it in your e-mail as it is forwarded via your chapter president.

We will keep you posted when we have more definitive information to share.

DKG@UN Representative Ann Grosjean
Member CTAUN Committee



AROUND THE

ALPHA

Alpha Chapter has elected the following officers for the 2020-2022 biennium:

Co-Presidents Sara Anderson and Karen Nagy, First Vice-President Jean DiVincenzo, Treasurer Virginia (Ginny) Rose and Recording Secretary Caralliene (Car) Westbrook.

BETA

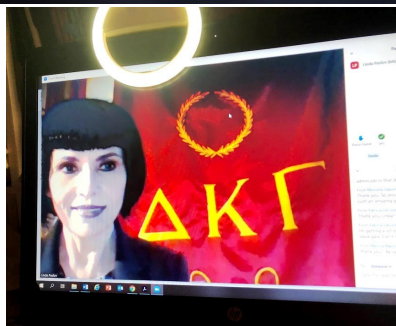
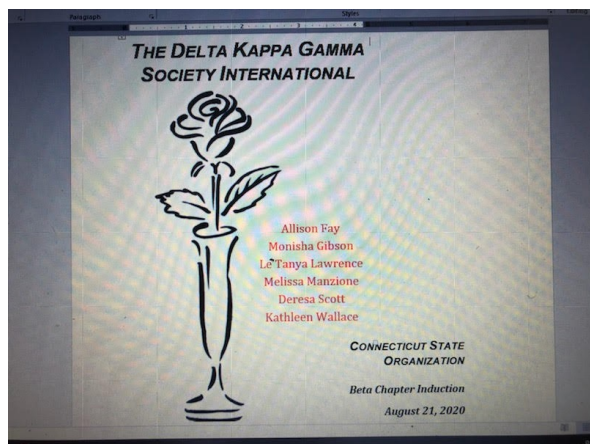
Beta Chapter held its final meeting of the 2019-20 school year on ZOOM, Friday, August 21st. The following educators were inducted:

Monisha Gibson (Founder and Director of Maritime Odyssey Preschool in Norwalk), **Le'Tanya Lawrence** (Education Consultant at SERC: State Education Resource Center), **Allison Fay** (voice teacher and coach, in addition to being an opera singer/soloist), **Melissa Manzione** (business teacher in New Haven), **Kathleen Wallace** (Adjunct Professor at Norwalk Community College and University of Bridgeport; former principal) and **Deresa Scott** (Bilingual Education Coordinator at Booker T. Washington Academy).

The slate of officers for the next biennium was unanimously accepted:

President Linda Paslov, First Vice-President Janis Isenberg, Second Vice-President Vivian Manzione, Corresponding Secretary Chandra Maxwell, Treasurer Karol Fleegal, Recording Secretary Barbara Schroeter, Membership Chair Nancy Yarmosh and Educational Excellence Chair Pat DeCoster.

Beta Chapter Virtual Induction



DELTA

The following members were elected to serve as chapter officers for the 2020-2022 biennium:

President Coleen Spieler, Treasurer Rosemarie Mikasauskas, Recording Secretary Mary Lou Kuegler and Corresponding Secretary Rita Caruso.

EPSILON

Epsilon Chapter has elected the following officers for the 2020-2022 biennium:

President Janie Pertiilar, Treasurer Yvonne Coachman-Francis and Recording Secretary Brenda Monroe-Fitzpatrick.

ZETA

Zeta Chapter held a ZOOM executive board meeting August 14th, with new **Chapter Co-Presidents Lynn Pastore and Carole Franceschet presiding.** New officers, committee chairs and past presidents attended. There were several alternative plans for meetings to discuss considering COVID restrictions in place. The annual September Welcome Back meeting was held for full membership via ZOOM on Thursday, September 24th. The guest speaker was Allyx Schiavone, Director of the Friends Center for Children in New Haven. The Center was the recipient of the Worthy Project funds earned at Zeta's annual auction fundraiser in November 2018. Allyx shared with members how the funds were used and how follow-up book donations from Zeta have supported the children and their parents at the center.

Co-Presidents Pastore and Franceschet were proud to announce that a full slate of officers and committee chairs are in place for the upcoming biennium.

Co-Presidents Carole Franceschet and Lynn Pastore, First Vice-President Rosina Hurley, Co-Second Vice-Presidents Kathleen Szczepanski and Nancy Tingley, Treasurer Claudia Grantham, Co-Recording Secretaries Tina Corrado and Margaret Hrabchak and Corresponding Secretary Kathleen Peters-Durrigan

Zeta's heartfelt congratulations to long-standing chapter member **Donna Chaney** for her many years of service to the Connecticut State Organization as both assistant treasurer and treasurer for many years. She will assume her role as assistant treasurer for the state organization for the coming biennium.

ETA

Eta Chapter has elected the following officers for the 2020-2022 biennium:

President Marlene (Terry) Ziegler, First Vice-President Alice Neuman, Treasurer Sue Chojnacki, Recording Secretary Sue Chojnacki and Corresponding Secretary Mary Sullivan.



NUTMEG STATE

THETA

The following members will serve as officers for Theta Chapter during the 2020-2022 biennium:
President Pamela Aubin, Second Vice-President Jane Moynihan, Treasurer Millie Ramsey, Recording Secretary Pat O'Connell-Buckley and Corresponding Secretary Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean.

IOTA

Iota Chapter met at Hurlburt Park in Roxbury on August 17th to induct the new slate of officers and plan for the 2020-2021 year. The new executive board includes **President Jacqueline Farrell, Co- First Vice Presidents Deborah Soresino and Sandra Gammons, Second Vice President Eleanor Coffey, Recording Secretary Nina Shimer and Treasurer Marnee Straiton.**

Another outdoors socially distanced, masked meeting is being planned for the fall. After this, members will meet via ZOOM. Four members virtually attended the International Convention and the CSO spring convention. Iota may use sessions from those conventions for the Zoom meetings.

LAMBDA

The following is the slate of officers for Lambda Chapter for the 2020-2022 biennium:
President Mary Ellen Ulatowski, First Vice-President Joan Roczynski, Treasurer Kari Baransky, Recording Secretary Susan Mattingly and Corresponding Secretary Johanne Walworth.

MU

The following members were elected to serve as chapter officers for Mu Chapter during the 2020-2022 biennium:
President Lillie Feierabend, First Vice-President Ann Atwood, Second Vice-President Patricia Faulkner, Treasurer Ann Newbury, Recording Secretary Janice Schley and Corresponding Secretary Shelley Lloyd.

OMICRON

Omicron Chapter held its summer executive board meeting on ZOOM. Due to the current pandemic, several of the chapter's traditional meetings have either been cancelled or postponed. The fall social has been cancelled, as well as the Annual Holiday Brunch held at the Kellogg Environmental Center in December since they are closed until further notice. Members are looking into virtual fundraising ideas as the basket raffle at the brunch has always been Omicron's main fundraiser for the scholarship fund. Omicron's 50th Anniversary which was scheduled for October has been postponed until May 2021.

Speakers are planned for the October and November ZOOM meetings. Beverly E. Lewis, an Herbalist and Ellen M. Lewis, M.D., a Naturopathic doctor will do the presentations.

Two Omicron members retired in June. **Patty Benner**

retired after teaching for 36 years from The Skane School in Bridgeport. **Debbie Ruderman** retired from Mead School in Ansonia after teaching for 43 years. The chapter members wish them good health and happiness in their retirement.

Sadly, the chapter lost a beloved 40 year Omicron sister on August 20th. **Linda Coppola** was to receive her 40 year pin at the 50th Anniversary celebration. She was a loyal and dedicated member who most recently was active on the history committee for the 50th Anniversary. She will be greatly missed, but her spirit will always remain.

Three new members are being welcomed to Omicron Chapter. **Susan McDonald** teaches art at Emmett O'Brien Technical High School in Ansonia. **Morgan Rohr** has been teaching for 10 years and teaches English at Woodland Regional High School in Beacon Falls. Lastly, **Tina Blaskewicz** has been teaching for 25 years and is a Special Education teacher at Bunnell High School in Stratford. An induction ceremony is being planned in the spring.

The following 2020-2022 biennium Omicron Chapter officers were elected:

President Patricia Block, First Vice-President Deborah Ruderman, Treasurer Emily DelPiano, Recording Secretary Marie Maresko and Corresponding Secretary Laurie Mihalcik.

RHO

Rho Chapter has elected the following slate of officers for the 2020-2022 biennium:

Co-Presidents Margaret Festi and Karen Newcomb, First Vice-President Susan Nadeau, Treasurer Ellen Festi and Recording Secretary Patricia Piatek.

TAU UPSILON

The following members will serve Tau Upsilon Chapter during the 2020-2022 biennium:

Co-Presidents Judy Ludwig and Holly Torrant, Treasurer Karen Hicks, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary Robin Moresi.



Leading to Excellence (Continued from page 1)
be:

- How do you build an excellent team?
- How do you create a plan for success?

Discover the ideas, processes and strategies that lead to strong performance, concepts that will guide you and your team to transformation and ever-higher levels of achievement.

A graduate of Point Park University in Pittsburgh with a B.S. degree in Journalism & Communication and a Russian language minor, Stauffer worked as a journalist, photojournalist, editor and publisher for 30 years before advancing to division and then magazine group president & publisher for Bayard Presse (France) in the United States. In 2009, Kathleen joined The Arc New London County leading several mergers and establishing The Arc Eastern Connecticut, a \$20 million nonprofit recognized for its excellence.

She holds a Master of Public Administration degree with a certificate in Human Resources Management from the University of New Haven and is author/co-author of *Womansport: The Women's Sports Bible* (Athletic Achievements); *Facing Life's Challenges* (Sheed & Ward); and, *Padre Pio: An Intimate Portrait of a Saint Through the Eyes of His Friends* (Twenty-Third Publications). Kathleen currently is writing her fourth book, which explores organizational transformation and the attainment of excellence.

Kathleen's involvement in local, state and national public policy includes serving as co-chair of the Human Services Coordinating Council for the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG) and an appointment to the Governor's Cabinet on Nonprofit Health and Human Services. She serves on The Arc US Board of Directors and is a past member of the National Conference of Executives of The Arc (NCE) Steering Committee and past-president of The Norwich Rotary Club. In 2011, she won NCE's Rising Star Award and in 2014 was named Executive Director of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut. In 2018, she received the NCE Chair's Leadership Award. Connecticut State members look forward to hear about team-building from Kathleen.

**CT State Organization First Vice-President
Ann Grosjean**

Have Some Fun and Personal Growth with Lani
(Continued from page 1)

from the Nosara Yoga Institute in Nosara, Costa Rica. Then, building on her extensive experience with young children, she went on to be certified by Next Generation Yoga in NYC & Kenya, the Radiant Child Yoga Program, Street Yoga, Circus Yoga, Baby Om, Mindful Schools and United We Om Karma Yoga Teacher Trainings.

In 2004, Lani founded/created Full of Joy Yoga in San Francisco. Over the next four years, she taught yoga to children in preschools, yoga studios, homes, homeless shelters and after-school programs all over the Bay Area. In 2007, she relocated to Connecticut, bringing her expertise to the East Coast.

Training others to teach yoga to children is one of Lani's passions, as she realizes she can reach many more children by sharing her skills and talents with other adults. Since 2006, she has organized and led her Full of Joy Yoga Kids Yoga Teacher Trainings as well as her Mindful Yoga Breaks workshops for parents, teachers, and yogis all over the country. Her main goal is to get yoga & mindfulness into every school! She is also the creator of the Mindful Yoga Breaks Anchor Breath poster and card deck to go with her Mindful Yoga Breaks curriculum.

Lani is always striving to improve the lives and futures of children, helping them laugh, love and grow. Connecticut State Organization members look forward to laughing, loving and growing with her at the conference in November!

To find more about Lani: fullofjoyyoga.com and mindfultyogabreaks.org

**CT State Organization First Vice-President
Ann Grosjean**



Connecting to the Connecticut State 2020 Virtual Fall Conference

Members will receive an e-mail Invitation which will have the link to join the meeting. The ZOOM link can be used on your computer, Smart phone or tablet (Ipad). Before the Conference, be sure to check your computer to be sure that it has a camera. There is also a telephone link you can use to join by phone. Check-in time will be from 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. when **Emily DelPiano (Lozinak)**, our communications chair and Zoom Master, will admit each member. After you are admitted, please enter your chapter name into the Poll and sign in on CHAT (bottom of screen) with your name and chapter. This will serve as our record of attendance. Please check with your chapter president or communications chair if you have any questions



2020 Virtual DKG Connecticut State Organization Spring Convention

On June 27, members held the first ever DKG Connecticut State Organization Spring Convention on ZOOM! The April 25th meeting, originally scheduled in person at the Bacci Grill in Cromwell, was cancelled when the Coronavirus closed down the state as all sheltered at home. With creativity and much cooperation among the planning committee and presenters, a very successful convention was held and accomplished all of the goals. Thanks to Connecticut State Communications Chair, **Emily DelPiano (Lozinak)**, the best Zoom master ever, who made it work!

The convention opened with a welcome from **President Kathleen Lozinak**. **Lenore Martinelli** led the moving Celebration of Life Ceremony, with the help of **Pat O'Connell Buckley**, and **Sandra Gammons** who commemorated state members who passed during the past year. President Kathleen placed a white rose in the vase for each member as they were remembered. Each chapter and family will receive a printed copy of the Celebration of Life Booklet. The creation of the book was a collaborative effort between Sandra, Lenore and the editor **Ellen Festi**.

The business meeting was called to order. The flag ceremony and chapter attendance were combined with chapter flags displayed while **Recording Secretary Kim Albro McGee** shared the number of members present from each chapter. The total number of members present was about 55 members. **Terry Azoti** presented a motion to accept the convention rules. Kim then presented her Secretary's Report. **Treasurer Donna Chaney** presented her last Treasurer's Report as she retires from this position after serving our state for so many years! President Lozinak thanked her and told her about her gift which she received in the mail. Members welcomed **Ellen Festi** who will be the new State Treasurer. **Finance Committee Chair Ann Novotnik** presented the finance report and the proposed budget with three motions. **Sue Carpenter** then presented motions for the students selected by the Professional Affairs committee to receive college grants at the fall conference.

Deborah Caruso, a longtime volunteer for the Girl Scouts, was presented the Outstanding Service Award by **Lenore Martinelli**, who nominated her for this honor. She was then selected by the Outstanding Service Award committee, chaired by **Anne Brandt**. Deborah has made a difference in the lives of hundreds of girls through her service to the organization and living the Girl Scout Way. Deborah then addressed the members and shared her story. A donation was sent to the Girl Scouts in her honor.

Membership Committee Longevity Chair Pat O'Connell Buckley presented, by mail, a twenty-five year pin to **Ellen Murtha** (Epsilon), thirty year pins to **Janess Coffina** (Alpha) and **Brenda Monroe-Fitzpatrick** (Epsilon), and forty year pins to **Dolores Molinari** (Alpha), **Barbara-Ann Cavanaugh** (Beta), **Ora Massaro** (Delta) and **Nancy Roy** (Delta). Congratulations to all!

Educational Impact Chair Pam Aubin introduced the Keynote speaker, the 2019 CT Teacher of the Year **Sheena Graham**. She shared stories from her 38-year career as a music educator and her challenges as a woman and teacher of color and inspired members to be true to themselves. Finally, she shared a music video inspired by the virus which she created with the other 2019 Teachers of the Year. She received an honorarium in appreciation of her presentation.

Members then enjoyed a musical presentation by **Allison Fay** (piano), **Kathryn Wilson** (voice) and **Kevin Kiley** (voice). They were introduced by **Linda Paslov**, Allison's proud mother and Fine Arts Chair! They performed several Broadway and classical songs and captivated their audience especially now that all theaters are shuttered!

Finally, Kathleen shared her closing remarks; and **Roz Etra** led all with the DKG song. Chapters may want to consider showing Sheena Graham's or Allison Fay and Kevin Kiley's presentations as a program for a chapter meeting. Also, each member received all of the Convention documents (the Convention Program, the Celebration of Life booklet, all of the motions, the finance committee report and budgets and the nominations for the grants to be presented at the fall conference) attached to the convention invitation e-mail. You may print any that you would like. The CT State Organization and each chapter will receive printed copies of the Program and the Celebration of Life from **Executive Secretary Linda Shea** by mail for their archives. Each chapter will also receive a copy of the Celebration of Life booklet for each deceased member who was honored that day for their family. Holding meetings on Zoom for now is another way the spread of COVID-19 can be stopped.

DKG CT State Organization First Vice-President Ann Grosjean

ΔΚΓ MISSION STATEMENT

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



2020 Virtual Spring Convention

President Dr. Kathleen Lozinak

**Connecticut State Organization
81st Spring Convention**

June 27, 2020

For the Roll Call Poll:
You **MUST ANSWER BOTH** questions in order to submit. Choose "other" for question 1 if chapter is not listed. If chapter was listed in question 1, choose "other" for question 2.

If you are not familiar with zoom take a minute to explore the zoom functions on your device* (most importantly the chat and raise hand features). Please stay in **SPEAKER MODE**, not gallery mode.

First Vice-President Dr. Ann Grosjean Cavanaugh

**Connecticut State Organization
81st Spring Convention**

June 27, 2020

For the Roll Call Poll:
You **MUST ANSWER BOTH** questions in order to submit. Choose "other" for question 1 if chapter is not listed. If chapter was listed in question 1, choose "other" for question 2.

If you are not familiar with zoom take a minute to explore the zoom functions on your device* (most importantly the chat and raise hand features). Please stay in **SPEAKER MODE**, not gallery mode.

**Deborah Caruso,
2020 Outstanding Service Award**

Fine Arts Chair Dr. Linda Paslov

**Fine Arts Performers
Kathryn Wilson and Kevin Kiley**



2019 CT Teacher of the Year, Sheena Graham's Inspiring Keynote



Connecticut State Organization members were privileged to have the 2019 Teacher of the Year, Sheena Graham, a performing arts teacher for thirty-nine years at Warren Harding High School in Bridgeport as the keynote speaker at the 2020 Virtual Spring Convention. She is proud to work with her students, staff, as a mentor and with her community. She has written and produced songs, plays and digital productions. She and her students have performed at the Kennedy Center and at the White House for First Lady Michelle Obama, Dr. Jill Biden and the wives of the governors. She has many other honors and accolades which were listed in the program and the Keynote Spring edition.

She stated that she stands with DKG to honor our focus on our young people despite the chaos due to Covid-19. She taught from home from March 13th along with teachers all over CT. Sheena told the story of how her teachers influenced her life. She was born during the blizzard of 1961, the fourth daughter when her father had hoped for a son, so she refers to her story as 'Born an Inconvenience'. She grew up in a culturally-divided town; and when she attended kindergarten, her teacher confirmed this perception of herself with her actions. Although Sheena was an excellent student, her teacher made her feel unenthusiastic about school. She learned that by doing her work and remaining invisible, her teacher would leave her alone. Her fifth-grade teacher changed that! She was her superwoman who accepted her, would not give up on her and genuinely cared for her. She enjoyed reading the poems and pictures Sheena drew instead of playing with children at recess. Here are excerpts of her poetic thoughts which conveyed her feelings at that time:

I like to dream.

I like to think there's a world in which I am going places.

I like to think the only thing that will hold me back is when I don't have the true ability to go forward.

I see a world in which love is colorblind and true feelings never have to be hidden.

In my world, friendship can be gained from anyone or anything, be he or she, human or not.

Each friendship is as valuable as the one before.

But ... I am still dreaming.

For within my world, I am allowed to be me.

Here I am free to do anything and everything.

And love, somebody loves me... loves me.

Now accepted and free to feel, the next memorable stage was her senior high school English class. Her first-ever Afro-American teacher in a class where she was the only minority student, really pushed and challenged her. Sheena thought she was being treated unfairly and differently, so she shared this with her teacher who told her that life is not always going to be fair, that fair would not always be equal and that there would be times when she would have to work twice as hard to be seen as equal. She took these lessons to heart and makes sure that her students never feel invisible and always feel accepted and that they are challenged. Sheena referred to the song *Shattered but I'm Not Broken* by Yolanda and shared that she had many shattering experiences in her life – her aunt was murdered, her father died of cancer, her sister died of a hit and run, her youngest brother passed away and her mother suffered from dementia – but she is not broken. Her faith and doing what she loves, music, writing and fulfilling her responsibilities, saved her.

We need to be sensitive to our students' shattering experiences. Life as a woman is challenging – as a single mom, a married woman or a divorced woman. Life is challenging when you are sure of yourself and then damaged, have lost focus and looking for the next step and trying to erase the ink of failure.

As she began to teach from home and awaiting a Covid test result, she was reminded that while we are waiting, there are so many things to be thankful for. She wrote a song, *While We Wait, May Love Continue to Exist*, which she produced with her fifty-seven fellow 2019 State Teachers of the Year, including the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, U.S. Virgin Islands and the Department of Defense Education Activity. She shared this video in closing. Sheena is truly an inspiration to all.

CT State Organization First Vice-President Ann Grosjean



Leadership Training: Educational Excellence Training

Ten members gathered together in a breakout room on Zoom at the DKG CT State Organization Leadership Training on August 18th to learn about the DKG International Educational Excellence Committee (EEC). This committee is charged with providing relevant programs and projects for state and chapter members to inspire leadership and grow membership. Our own **Emily DelPiano** is the northeast representative to the International EEC, and she and the committee created an excellent EEC training video which was viewed as a group. Feel free to watch this yourself or with fellow members.

The chapter and state strategic plans should be taken into consideration when planning projects and programs. EEC surveyed state chairs and found that the priorities are leadership, support for early educators, building programs and projects, the United Nations and CTAUN, Schools for Africa, and legislation. Since leadership was at the top of the list, they created a separate video about leadership. Again, please watch if this speaks to you!

Legislation at the local, state and national level are encouraged by the US Forum. They send out a newsletter, have a presence on Facebook and in better times, a March Legislative Seminar in even numbered years in Washington. Schools for Africa is a partnership between DKG and UNICEF that started in 2010. In 2019, then **DKG President Cathy Daugherty** visited schools in Africa. Our contributions are making a difference from birth to college. Cathy made a video which can be used as a chapter program. Other resources include Schools for Africa BINGO, newsletters, fact sheets and videos. UNICEF also has many resources on their website.

DKG was granted NGO status at United Nations in 1995. Eight members attend briefings at the UN to learn about education and human rights and to share with members via DKG@UN News and workshops at conferences and conventions. Everyone can watch the briefings at webtv.un.org.

CTAUN (Committee on Teaching about the United Nations) is made up of most of the DKG@UN reps and other NGOs who sponsor a conference each year, in good times. They also have a CTAUN website with resources and summaries about the conferences from the past 20 years.

Supporting Early Career Educators Teachers is another focus, especially during this time of Covid-19. Offer comfort and support. Create a survey of what they need and provide it.

Programs and Projects have been affected by Covid-19. Will groups be comfortable gathering? Shall we use electronic platforms like Zoom for meetings? Retired members could reach out to teachers – read and record a story for their students. Take a virtual tour or field trip and discuss. Work on art and submit to DKG Gallery. Discuss a book, video or Ted Talk. Meditation or Yoga can be relaxing. Explore new places using Google Earth. Virtually visit parks, museums, art galleries or performances.

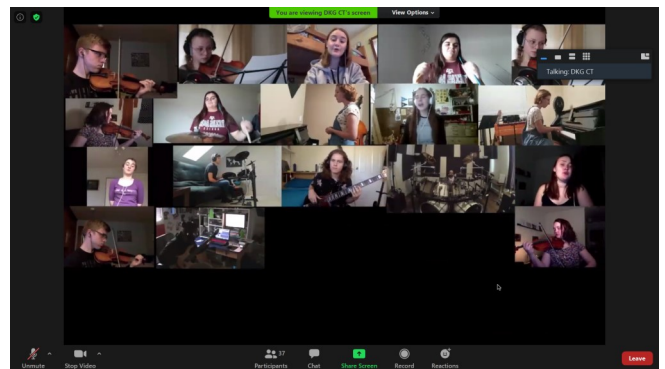
Celebrate successes at the state or chapter level after self-analyses and acknowledge the people who made it happen. Resources on DKG.ORG under programs and projects has a list of ideas for chapter programs. Member input and surveys yield great ideas. Check out other state websites.

Thanks to Emily for her informative video about EEC. I hope you will visit it and also the leadership video. Have a wonderful year of programs and projects with your chapter!

DKG CT State Organization EEC Chair Ann Grosjean



CT State Organization Leadership
Development Chair
Roz Etra



A Song of Hope: Musicians from around the globe perform to raise hope during COVID-19.

This video can be found at
<https://youtu.be/mkbDJda24xl>



Leadership Conference: President's Breakout Session

Connecticut State Organization President Kathleen led a very helpful and informative Chapter President's Breakout session. She reminded participants that

Leadership is about what you help others accomplish, not what you accomplish.

We can accomplish this by modeling leadership:

We are encouraged to become involved at the state level, and to encourage other board members, as well.

We can better facilitate our chapter to meet all of the Purposes, especially #7: *To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.*

Looking at just the verbs from Kathleen's list of "responsibilities," shows how proactive and service oriented our position can be. We are called to *Represent, Preside, Direct, Complete, Serve, Invite, Attend*. They are meaningful, intentional and explicit.

Have a theme or personal goal to help guide you through your biennium (next two years)

Small things make a big difference; A sample of chapter offerings:

*Fund to help members remain in the chapter if it is difficult for them to pay their dues.

*Fund for members who would like to attend a state conference.

*Send small thoughts (masks, hard candies, sanitizer, cards, books, etc.) to members who are isolated.

*Members visit members, outside.

*Members call members to check in.

Kathleen took participants through both the International and State websites and shared "Hidden Treasurers."

There is so much information, all helpful and useful.

International Website (dkg.org)

Connecticut State Organization (dkgct.weebly.com)

Good ideas as we enter this season:

*Take members through the International and State websites at a chapter meeting. Share what we learned and help members become familiar with their features.

*Contact high schools about grant opportunities (link on the state website).

*To ensure efficient, orderly and productive meetings (especially for larger chapters), and also protect the right of every member to speak and be heard, consider using parliamentary procedures: Roberts Rules.

*Use Survey Monkey to invite members to decide on opportunities for this year. Take time to consider all Facets: Indoor or outdoor? Acceptable number of participants? Member's comfort level? Mask? Social distancing? Comfort level with and accessibility to Zoom? Be sure to ask for member's comments and opinions.

*Make business cards for board members. Logos can be found under Resources at dkg.org:

Mu Chapter President Lillie Feierabend

Membership Training Breakout

The Membership Training Breakout session was led by **Membership Chair Lenore Martinelli, Past Membership Chair Paulina Auclair and Longevity Chair Pat O'Connell Buckley.**

Pat talked about ideas for recruiting and retaining members. She discussed the many reasons that people join including the honor of membership, the opportunities for professional development and networking and the financial benefits. She emphasized the importance of chapters holding orientation for new members and encouraged membership chairs to check out the "Chapter Tools" under Resources on the DKG website.

Retaining members and keeping them involved is an important part of the membership chair's responsibilities. Surveying members, asking members to participate in chapter activities and holding different kinds of meetings were a few of the ideas. The group discussed the importance of keeping information on each member up to date. Some chapters use the Form 82 available from International and some chapters use an index card.

Many chapters are joining with other chapters to hold joint meetings. Some chapters are holding social meetings where little or no business is taken care of.

Paulina informed the chairs about the new category of membership called Collegiate Membership. It is open to undergraduate students in their last two years as an education major and graduate students in an education program. One of the chairs mentioned that most colleges now require teacher candidates to join a professional organization while in the program. Collegiate members bring diversity and youth to chapters. They may participate in all chapter activities, except holding office.

Lenore covered necrology and the importance of completing Form 6 when a member passes so that DKG can honor and respect her in death as she was honored and respected for her membership and achievements in life.

Finding a way to have members complete Form 82 (the form formerly known as form 85) makes the completion of Form 6 a much easier task. Lenore reminded attendees that many older members move after retirement so it becomes important to have the name and address of a close family member or friend.

Past Connecticut State Organization President Pat O'Connell Buckley



Connecticut State Organization
Dates to Remember
2020–2021

Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education Worldwide

November 7, 2020
Connecticut State Organization
Virtual Fall Conference
Zoom

February 20, 2021
(Snow Date: February 27, 2021)
Connecticut State Organization
Executive Board Meeting
Meriden Library (tentative)

April 24, 2021
Connecticut State Organization
Spring Convention

June 5, 2021
Connecticut State Organization
Executive Board Meeting
Meriden Library

THE CONNECTICUT
KEYNOTE

Connecticut State Organization
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society
International
Carol Beam, Editor
267 Ivy Drive
Bristol, CT 06010-3308

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 11
WINSTED, CT

DKG International Conferences
(formerly Regional Conferences)



July 7-10, 2021
Portland Oregon

July 21-24, 2021
San Antonio Texas

July 28-31, 2021
Tampere, Finland



DKG International Conventions

July 12-16, 2022
Sheraton—New Orleans, Louisiana

Summer of 2024
Gaylord National, D.C. area
National Harbor, Maryland

Summer of 2026
Gaylord Rockies—Aurora, Colorado

Mission Statement

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



Vision Statement

*Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education Worldwide*

NEXT KEYNOTE DEADLINES:

December 1, 2020
February 28, 2021

Send information to
Carol Beam
beamc267@gmail.com