



**Alpha Kappa State
DKG International Society for
Key Women Educators**

Volume 76, No. 3

Spring, 2017

**Patricia O’Connell Buckley
Nominated to Lead
Alpha Kappa State
for the 2017—2019 Biennium**



Pat has been a member of Theta Chapter since 1984 and has served her chapter as president, vice president and chair of many committees. As a founding member of the Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Committee, she has presented many workshops at chapter, state and international meetings.

She is currently the AKS first vice president and has served as chair of Educational Excellence, Non-Dues Revenue, Finance, U.S. Forum, Leadership Development and Professional Affairs Committees. Pat has received two state scholarships and is a 2009 recipient of the AKS Achievement Award.

Pat has attended and presented at many Regional

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**AKS Welcomes
DKG Northeast Regional Director
Carol Hughes
As Keynote Speaker
To Spring Convention**



It has been a tradition to have an International guest as keynote speaker at the AKS Spring Convention. This year **Carol Hughes** from Roanoke, Illinois, and 2016-18 Northeast Regional Director of DKG will be that person. At the International level, Carol has served on the Professional Affairs Committee, chaired Non-dues Revenue and is a graduate of the 2004 Leadership Management Seminar. She has been Illinois State president and first vice president. She chaired Professional Affairs, Personal Growth and Services and the 2008 International Convention Steering Committee, as well as Dates and Sites.

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SHARING OUR VISION: PAYING IT FORWARD

Alpha Kappa State 78th Spring Convention

Saturday, April 29th

Baci Grill—Rose Garden Room, Cromwell

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Jottings from Joan



Sharing Our Vision—Paying it Forward



Dear Sisters,
Happy spring! As my biennium is winding down, I would like to share some highlights with you. Our new website has been linked to International. **Emily Lozinak** has done a professional job. Please check it out and think about sharing your chapter information to the site.

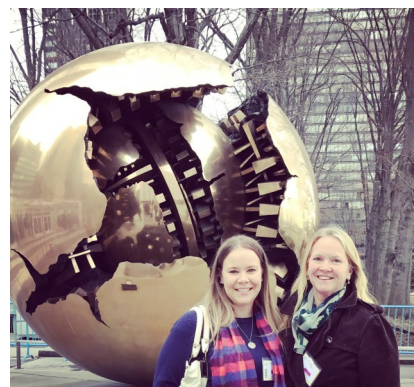
This year we have a CT member and one who moved to Florida who are celebrating 60 years as members of DKG. **Ruth Podgwaite** is the last remaining founder of my chapter, Lambda. **Dr. Virginia James**, also from Lambda and a past chapter and state president, has moved to Florida, but she still retains ties with her sisters in CT.

We recently had photos from two members chosen to be on the International Fine Arts Gallery website of the Arts and Humanities Jury. Hopefully, we will hear that many more of our artistic members out there will also submit their work to the Jury.

At our last State Executive Board meeting, members worked diligently to complete an update to our AKS Strategic Plan. Thank you for your hard work. A job well done! I look forward to seeing what else we will accomplish this spring.

Wishing you beautiful days ahead,
Joan

ALPHA KAPPA STATE ACHIEVERS



Emily Lozinak with her mom, **Dr. Kathleen Lozinak** (members of Omicron Chapter) at the 2017 CTAUN Conference

Emily Lozinak, Omicron Chapter, who serves as chapter treasurer and AKS webmistress, has been selected as the DKG (Non-Governmental Organization) NGO Youth Representative. Congratulations to Emily. AKS is proud of you!



Still Life: Masks

Theresa Azoti, Zeta Chapter, has been informed by DKG International that three of her photographs (*Still Life: Masks*, *Still Life: Floral* and *Still Life: Pears*) have been accepted for the DKG Gallery of Fine Arts new exhibition beginning on April 1st.

Congratulations to Terry from your AKS sisters!



ALPHA KAPPA STATE SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2017-2021 BIENNIUM



Kathleen Lozinak, Ed.D
Nominee for
First Vice President

Dr. Kathleen Lozinak is a professional educator in Stratford, where she serves as a grade four teacher, mentor and union building representative. She co-chairs the school climate committee and is active on the literacy, safety and sunshine committees. She is married to David, and they have five daughters and a growing number of grandbabies.

Leadership roles at the district level include Elementary Representative to the District Coordinating Committee for TEAM and the Professional Development and Evaluation Committee. Dr. Lozinak co-chairs the Teacher of the Year Committee for Stratford and was selected Stratford's Teacher of the year in 2014, as well as The Friend of Education recipient in 2011. She also received the district Human Relations Award in 2007.

Kathleen serves St. Joseph Church in Shelton as a lector and Eucharistic Minister. She also volunteers her time to assist with the school advisory board.

Kathleen completed her doctorate at Capella University in 2016 with a degree in Educational Leadership. She focused her research on mentoring early career educators. Her findings were published in *The DKG Bulletin 2016 Volume 83-1*.

Kathleen is continuing her service as president of Omicron Chapter for another biennium. Previous leadership roles at the chapter level include program chair and first vice president.

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Lisa Hudkins
Nominee for
Second Vice President

Lisa has been a member of Upsilon Chapter for 29 years. She has served locally as program chair, secretary, vice-president and five terms as chapter president, which is her current position. On the state level, Lisa has served on the nominations committee and is currently serving on the ad-hoc committee to update AKS conference and convention format.

Lisa is a graduate of the University of St. Joseph with her B.A. and M.A. degrees in elementary education and special education. She has also completed an additional 30 credits with a major in technology in the classroom. Lisa has taught in Simsbury and Barkhamsted. She recently retired after 38 years in education.

Lisa and her husband Paul just celebrated their 41st anniversary this summer. Together they have two children. In their spare time they love to take long walks with their boxer puppy, Gracie, and volunteer at Trinita in New Hartford and Lourdes in Litchfield. She enjoys gardening and cooking, especially having dinner parties with family and friends. They love to travel, especially to Wyoming where they get to visit their son and hike among the Grand Tetons.

Lisa is currently employed by the University of Hartford as a university supervisor. She is also enrolled in a two-year internship program to become a Spiritual Director. In September, Lisa, Paul and their friends went on the trip of a lifetime to Italy!



Kimberly Albro
Nominee for
Recording Secretary

Kimberly was inducted as a member of Delta Kappa Gamma in Zeta Chapter in 2008. She has served as recording secretary for Alpha Kappa State during this last biennium. One of Kim's favorite events to attend is Zeta's annual charity auction held just before Thanksgiving each year! Kim attends Alpha Kappa State Conferences and Conventions and attended the 2012 and 2016 International Conventions in New York City and Nashville.

Kim received both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Education from the University of Connecticut. She also completed her Sixth Year Certificate in Educational Psychology and Gifted Education in UConn's Three Summers Program.

Kim has been teaching in urban education for 17 years and has enjoyed varied teaching experiences spanning grades four through nine. Her concentration has been in English language arts, but Kim also taught in the area of gifted education for nearly a decade. In 2013, Kim was named Teacher of the Year at The Dr. Joseph S. Renzulli Gifted and Talented Academy in Hartford. After two years coaching at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. School in Hartford, Kim is currently working as the Instructional Coach for The Environmental Sciences Magnet School at Mary Hooker in Hartford, where she provides curricular and instructional support to classroom teachers in grades pre-K through eight.

Outside of the classroom, Kim enjoys spending time with her family, traveling, dancing and taking photographs. She is also busy planning her wedding which will take place in Vermont this summer!



ALPHA KAPPA STATE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2017-2021 FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jean Ficke
Northwest Region

Millie Ramsey
East Region



Millie has been an active Theta member since 2009. She became the Theta treasurer in 2013, receiving her training from long-time AKS Treasurer Joan Haffey.

Millie began her teaching career in 1973 as a Special Education teacher in Bristol, CT. After her marriage in 1980, she moved to Columbia, CT, where she spent 20 years of her career as a teacher of kindergarten, first grade and special education. While working in Columbia, she was honored as Teacher of the Year and also served as CEA President. She retired from the Willimantic School District in 2012 after six years of teaching remedial reading.

Millie completed her teaching certification and Masters at CCSU after receiving a BA in Sociology. Additional graduate work was completed at the University of Connecticut and Albertus Magnus College.

Millie serves on several of Columbia's citizen advisory committees, serves as a Deacon at Columbia Congregational Church and gets her monthly "kid fix" by giving away books to students at Sweeney Elementary School who have met their monthly reading goal.

Ann Novotnik
Southwest Region



Ann is the current president of Nu Chapter and has been a member of DKG since 2008. She currently serves on the AKS Finance Committee and is a member on the Investment subcommittee.

Ann holds a BA from Trinity College, Washington DC, as well as an MBA from Sacred Heart University in Fairfield. Ann has over 25 years of teaching experience in both Washington DC and various Connecticut schools. She is currently with the Darien Public Schools.

In addition to her teaching experience, Ann was an executive with Bloomingdales Federated Department Stores, in both personnel and operations management.

IN MEMORIAM



White Roses
"A moment to remember. . .
A lifetime to honor."



Janet Polinsky, Eta Chapter
Died: September 27, 2016

Janet Polinsky was initiated into Eta Chapter as an honorary member in November 1981. At that time she was a Connecticut State Representative.

Janet was a University of Connecticut graduate and earned a business administration certificate from Harvard Business School. She discovered politics in the 1970s and served on the Board of Education and Planning and Zoning Board in Waterford. She was elected and served eight consecutive terms as a legislator in the House of Representatives from 1977-1993. Janet was the Chairwoman of Appropriations and the first female Deputy Speaker of the House.

Those who worked with Janet remember her as compassionate, intellectually curious, and hilarious. She was appreciative of the dedicated colleagues with whom she worked, the close friends she made and her tangible accomplishments that improved the lives of others.

After two decades in public service, she retired to Florida. She embraced life and busied herself with power napping and sampling the entire Haagen-Dazs ice cream collection.

Her last few years were spent down the street from her daughter and grandchildren in Washington State. Eta's members were honored to know her.



**ALPHA KAPPA STATE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
2017-2021 NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

**Judi Weiner
East Region**

**Jacqui Farrell
Northwest Region**



Jacqui Farrell is currently the executive director of Literacy Volunteers on the Green for Litchfield and Fairfield counties. She holds ProLiteracy America certification as a tutor trainer and State of Connecticut Teacher Certification in the area of Teaching English to Adult Speakers of Other Languages.

Jacqui has been a member of DKG for 25 years and has served as second vice president, first vice president and president at the chapter level. She has also served on the AKS Finance Committee. She earned a B.A. in English from Annhurst College, an M.A.L.S. in American Studies from Wesleyan University, as well as a Sixth-Year Certificate in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Connecticut. She taught English in the New Milford Public Schools for 28 years and was assistant principal at Sarah Noble School for five years. After retiring, she taught at Immaculate High School in Danbury.

She has presented educational workshops at a National Council of Teachers of English Convention and at DKG International, including this past summer in Nashville.

**Marilyn Arvoy
Southwest Region**



Marilyn has been a member of DKG for 36 years serving as her chapter's vice president and president. On the State level, she has been a member of the Nominations Committee and has served as its chairperson. She has also been on the Outstanding Service Award Committee. Marilyn has attended state conventions and conferences and International Conventions.

Now retired from the New Canaan School System, she was an elementary classroom teacher in grades three, four and five and a resource teacher creating curriculum for kindergarten through grade four, as well as a library media specialist. She holds an undergraduate degree in elementary education from the University of Connecticut, a Master's degree in elementary education from Fairfield University, a Master's degree as a Media Specialist from the University of Bridgeport, and a Sixth Year Certificate in environmental studies from Fairfield University.



DKG Bulletin

Submissions for the next *DKG Bulletin: Journal* issue are due May 15th. The topic is "Generational Issues for Educators"-- but articles on all educational topics are welcome for each issue!

Send submissions to bulletin@dkg.org!
If you need assistance, feel free to contact editor Judy Merz at jrmerz@aol.com.

For more updated news and information, check out the new AKS website:

<http://dkgct.weebly.com>



ALPHA KAPPA STATE PROPOSED BYLAWS REVISIONS TO BE VOTED ON BY MEMBERSHIP APRIL 29, 2017

Marnee Straiton, AKS Bylaws and Standing Rules Committee Chair

The Bylaws Committee presents a motion to approve the following amendments to the Alpha Kappa State Bylaws (April 9, 2016). All have been recommended by an affirmative vote of the Alpha Kappa State Executive Board.

AKS Bylaws currently read:

ARTICLE IX COMMITTEES

Section A. Committee Structure

1. Standing Committees
 - a. Society Business
 - Archivist
 - Bylaws and Standing Rules
 - Communications
 - Finance
 - Historian
 - Leadership Development
 - Membership
 - Nominations
 - Non-Dues Revenue
 - Publications
 - Website

To remove: Publications and Website from the Standing Committee list

Rationale:

These two groups are currently working as sub-committees of the Communications Committee and are listed in the Standing Rules as members of the Communications Committee.

The Bylaws Committee presents a motion to approve the following amendments to the Alpha Kappa State Bylaws (April 9, 2016).

Bylaws Currently Read:

Article IX, Section A, 1, b. Society Mission and Purposes, Educational Excellence: Personal Growth and Services and

Article IX, Section A, 3, a. Appointed Committees, The following state committees shall be appointed by the president:
Personal Growth and Services

By Removing:

Personal Growth and Services in both sections

Rationale:

*To conform with International governing documents
International has eliminated this committee*

The Bylaws Committee presents a motion to approve the following amendments to the Alpha Kappa State Standing Rules (April 9, 2016).

Standing Rules Currently Read:

II, B, 9. Personal Growth and Services: Assist in developing and implementing programs designed to enrich the lives of members.

By Removing:

Personal Growth and Services [with description and renumbering]

Rationale:

*To conform with International governing documents
International has eliminated this committee*



(Continued from page 1) Patricia O'Connell Buckley
 Conferences and International Conventions. She has served on the International Educational Excellence and Finance Committees and is currently Chair of the International Finance Committee. Pat attended the Golden Gift Leadership Seminar in 1993, the Golden Gift Renaissance Program in 2008 and received a Golden Gift Special Stipend in 2005 for the Curriculum of Hope Committee Resource Guide.

She retired from the Mansfield Public Schools in 2009 where she taught first and second grades, Title I and kindergarten and held leadership positions in the Mansfield Education Association and the Connecticut Education Association. Pat lives in Vernon with her husband and one of their three daughters.

Pat looks forward to the future and growth of Alpha Kappa State. She envisions a strong Delta Kappa Gamma that continues to provide opportunities for women educators. She sees us making an impact on our legislature and educational programs. Pat would like to see the many projects and investments of AKS continue and increase. In her role as president of AKS, she hopes we will continue to make an impact on women and education here in Connecticut and worldwide.

(Continued from page 3) Dr. Kathleen Lozinak

Currently at the state level, she serves as co-chair of Non-dues Revenue Committee and is a member of Leadership and Educational Impact Committees. During the last biennium, she was the chair of the Educational Impact Committee, helping to arrange conference and convention speakers and programs.

Kathleen was a Golden Gift participant at the 2016 Leadership and Management Seminar and a recipient of the Delta Kappa Gamma Alida Park International Scholarship. She has presented workshops on a variety of topics for Delta Kappa Gamma in Portland, Baltimore and Nashville.

(Continued from page 1) Carol Hughes

Currently Carol serves on the board of Lambda State Foundation for Educational Studies. During her fifty years in DKG, she has belonged to four chapters where she was a chapter president and involved with numerous committees. In her years of teaching, Carol has experience at the elementary, middle and high school levels, as well as teaching several courses at the college level. She has also had leadership roles in her work in the community and church. Alpha Kappa State members look forward to having Northeast Regional Director Carol Hughes as our International guest at the 2017 AKS Spring Convention!

**Anita Satriano, Chair
 AKS Educational Impact**



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

Terry Azoti	Pat O'Connell Buckley
Judy Cody	Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone
Jeanne Morascini	Nancy Roy



70 Years of World Fellowships Impact Education Worldwide

The World Fellowship Program began at the 1946 National Convention in San Francisco. Four German women educators received funds from Delta Kappa Gamma to spend eight weeks of study and visitation in Sweden in the spring of 1948.

In 1952, the World Fellowship Program began an alliance with UNESCO to provide special help for Korean women. From an initial award of \$2,500 in 1960, based on \$11,528 in contributions, the program has grown through the 2016–2017 academic year to impressive totals:

- \$91,200 awarded for the 2016-2017 academic year
- 21 awards of \$4,000 each
- 9 extensions of \$800 each
- 941 women in 122 countries awarded \$3,433,100 since 1960
- \$3,944,876.30 in contributions and bequests (through June 2016)

This program relies on contributions and bequests from members. When searching for a cause to support, consider donating to the World Fellowship Fund. Donations to the fund are tax deductible in the U.S. and some other countries.

Check out the World Fellowship page at www.dkg.org for a booklet of the 2016-2017 recipients.



AROUND THE

GAMMA

Theta Chapter hosted Rho and Gamma Chapters at a meeting on Martin Luther King Day, held at the Willington Library. Four members from Gamma attended, socializing with their AKS sisters, holding separate business meetings and considering questions related to geographical re-organization and strengths and weaknesses of chapters.

Members heard from Kristina Elias-Starron from QCRR (Quiet Corner Refugee Resettlement) which is taking the lead in welcoming and caring for Syrian refugee families in Northeastern Connecticut. Gamma Chapter is inviting Rho and Theta to attend a dinner meeting in Norwich, featuring Dr. Rebecca Pincus of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy's Center for Arctic Study and Policy. The meeting will be held in May, date to be determined.

Gamma members have responded to the call from Norwich community organizations. In January, members provided volunteer service to the Haitian Health Foundation and to Otis Library, which requested survey-takers for the major exhibit *Exploring Human Origins*. Otis is the only library in Connecticut to host this Smithsonian traveling exhibit.

DELTA

Delta Chapter's March meeting was held at the Waverly in Cheshire. The program included reliving the chapter's history by going through the scrapbooks which documented the many activities, programs and members' contributions to both the chapter and their communities.

The May 9th meeting will feature Jahana Hayes, the 2016 National Teacher of the Year. Ms Hayes is a history teacher at John F. Kennedy School in Waterbury for whom "being a teacher is a privilege and an opportunity to transform lives and foster a sense of social responsibility in the next generation." All AKS members, as well as potential members, are invited to join Delta members. Please contact **Delta Chapter President Paulina Auclair** at paulinaauclair@gmail.com.

ZETA

Zeta Chapter members cheerfully greeted one another at Giulios Pizza Restaurant in North Haven on March 11th, as this was the first meeting since Zeta's successful holiday auction in late November. It was the annual birthday celebration. Speakers for the day were five Zeta members who attended the CTAUN conference at the United Nations on January 27th. **Lynn Pastore** shared issues of the U.N. and refugees. **Linda Amarante** explained the vetting process. **Nicki Dakis** told of her experiences as a CTAUN committee member and her volunteer services. **Carolyn Downs** gave an outcome statement, and **President Lenore Martinelli** shared notable quotes from the speakers of the day. This was an enlightening summary of the CTAUN conference for 2017 and enjoyed by all in attendance.

President Martinelli held an executive board meeting in early February at which all Zeta members were invited to discuss plans for the remainder of the year, suggestions/plans for future meetings and to update policies and procedures of chapter business. Zeta Chapter members are pleased that communications of meetings, committee work, AKS state and International activities, business and news are being sent to them on a regular basis, along with news of members who may need a message of kindness and support along the way.

Zeta Chapter hopes to have a good showing of members attend the AKS Spring Convention on April 29th in Cromwell! Zeta Chapter, staying strong!!

THETA

Theta's January meeting was most enlightening. Dr. Kristina Elias, from QCRR (Quiet Corner Refugee Resettlement), spoke about the refugee resettlement program in Connecticut. It was especially interesting, because she paralleled the story of a recently resettled family in northeast Connecticut with her own experience as a refugee from Eastern Europe coming to America as a child. Theta members enjoyed the company of eight Rho members and four Gamma members. Theta looks forward to attending presentations at their spring meetings. The three chapters were once one chapter so it is always fun to reunite!

Nicer clothing was collected to donate to the Malala Fund after having read her book, *I Am Malala*. They will be sold, and the money will be used to support education for girls around the world. The postage is free if you contact the fund with the weight of your box for a mailing label. Contact them at coach@schoola.com.

Members continued their learning about refugees when eight chapter members, **Karen Anger, Sharon Bartlett, Donna Cawley, Karen DiBala, Margaret Daly, Ann Grosjean, Sue Moon and Millie Ramsey** attended the CTAUN Conference, *Refugees: The 21st Century Challenge*, at the United Nations on January 27th. Those in attendance learned about the global picture of refugees around the world and how they become refugees and are vetted for resettlement at the international and national level before they arrive in a local community. Members also enjoyed *The Great Comet* on Broadway!

The meal that was prepared and served at the Covenant Soup Kitchen the last Saturday of January was very well received by close to one hundred people. Thanks to **Monique Brown**, who coordinated the project and to her many helpers who made casseroles and desserts; helped serve the meal and made cash donations. Theta is quite a team!



NUTMEG STATE

LAMBDA

2016 was a busy year for Lambda chapter. Programming for general meetings included Jim Deveau's musical presentation of Irish music; the awarding of a \$500 grant to Lauren Votto, a Cheshire High School senior; Tammy Raccio's presentation on parental involvement in the education process and Ann Farrell's informative talk about Elder Law.

Members' donations included money to the grant fund, books for the "Read to Grow Program and items for the oncology patients in the West Haven Veterans' Hospital. The chapter finished the year with its annual sing-along fundraiser at the home of **Nancy Maynard**.

The members of the Executive Board continue to work for the chapter and are really unsung heroes. **Vice President Joan Roczynski** has hosted board meetings, carried books to the hospital, manned the registration table at the AKS spring convention and is always ready to serve. **Kari Baransky** continues to awe as Lambda treasurer. She receives all membership dues, fills out countless forms for DKG, as well as the federal government, issues checks for bills incurred by the chapter and prepares the proposed annual budget. **Ann Sharnick** has provided the chapter with well-written minutes of our meetings and is now sharing membership duties. **Sue Mattingly** has been a conscientious and meticulous membership chair. She has now assumed the duties of recording secretary. **Johanne Walworth** has been a faithful corresponding secretary and has taken notes of meetings whenever needed. In addition, she has graciously hosted both executive board and general meetings in her beautiful home. **Nancy Maynard** and **Kathy Hanisko** excel in their roles as co-chairs of the Grant Committee. They send out recruitment letters, review all the applications, choose the recipients, compose beautiful presentations and donate small gifts to accompany the grants. Nancy hosts Lambda's annual holiday sing-along and grant fundraiser in her gorgeous home. **Communications chair Laura Longacre** continues to publish the wonderful chapter newsletters (no easy task when you are a busy high school teacher). **Publicity Chair Sandy Conway** photographs events and strives to have chapter news published in the local paper. In addition, she is instrumental in arranging many of the sites for the dinner meetings.

Although Lambda is a small chapter, it is well represented at the state level. **Joan Konareski** serves as AKS state president. **Kari Baransky** is the chair of the state scholarship committee. **Joan Troccolo** works on the honorary membership committee. **Laura Longacre** is a part of the state longevity committee. As a member of the state executive board, **Mary Ellen Ulatowski** attends the state meetings and brings back the pertinent information to the chapter.

Joyce O'Dea is officially now a Life Member of DKG. Joyce has been a member of Lambda for over 35 years. The chapter is grateful for her many contributions.

Lambda is also pleased that member, **Ruth Podgwaite**, will be recognized for sixty years of membership in DKG. Ruth's signature is on Lambda's charter, dated December, 1957. The determination of those charter members paved the way for sixty years of fellowship, growth and service within Lambda Chapter.

NU

Several Nu members have had exciting life/career changes since last spring. **First Vice President Rita Ferri** retired as principal of Hindley Elementary School in Darien and is now enjoying well-deserved time with her family and grandchildren, as well as a new endeavor teaching at Western Connecticut State University. **Scholarship Chair Debi Boccanfuso** retired as principal of Middlesex Middle School in Darien, only to take on the challenge of becoming principal at St. Augustine Academy in Bridgeport! Both Debi and Rita have the distinct honor of having led their respective schools to achieve Blue Ribbon status! **Nu Chapter Treasurer Karen Curth** retired from her fourth grade teaching assignment at Holmes School in Darien and is constantly on the go and traveling. **Sr. Carol Ann Nawracaj**, former head of school at Villa Maria (a full-time school for children with learning disabilities) changed roles and is now the Director of Mission Advancement and Alumni Outreach at Villa Maria. All of these ladies are incredible women/educators and were honored at separate events this past spring/summer. Nu Chapter is so proud to have them as sisters!

Other chapter member news includes **Katy Gale** running in the Hartford Marathon this past fall. **Carleen Wood's** son Dominick was awarded one of the AKS recruitment grants last spring, as he pursues a career as a music teacher!

Sadly, Nu lost another sister in December. **Ray DiLieto**, an AKS Life Member who received her 50 year pin last spring, passed away. Ray had an incredible love of DKG and cherished her membership. She will certainly be missed by all.

Nu Chapter executive board kicked off this past year at a planning meeting at the home of **Rita Ferri** in October. **Nu Past President Eileen Kinahan** and **Treasurer Karen Curth** were able to join **President Ann Novotnik** at the AKS Fall Conference in November. A Holiday Get-Together/Gift Exchange was held in December. January brought a group of Nu members together to see the newly released (and inspiring) movie, *Hidden Figures*, followed by a social night out. Spring promises to be a busy time...with plans being made for several upcoming events!



AROUND THE NUTMEG STATE (CONT.)

(Continued from page 9)

OMICRON

Omicron's Annual Holiday Tea was a huge success. The basket raffle provided over \$500 for the High School Grant fund to be awarded this spring to a valley high school senior girl pursuing a degree in education.

Omicron Chapter was well-represented at the CTAUN Conference on January 7th. Participants included **Gina Boxleitner, Patty Benner, Diana Davis, Kathleen Lozinak, Emily Lozinak, Carmela Marachi** and **Deb Ruderman**.



Omicron Members at CTAUN Conference (l. to r.) Carmela Marachi, Patty Benner and Diana Davis

RHO

Rho Chapter will host an *Evening with Eastern Connecticut State University's President Dr. Elsa Nunez*. The event will be held in the Johnson Room of the J. Eugene Smith Library on the campus of Eastern Connecticut State University.

The program will begin at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 5th, with light refreshments and social time. Dr. Nunez will speak at 5:30 p.m. She will be discussing her book, *Hanging Out and Hanging On: From the Projects to the Campus*, as well as the Dual College Initiative Program. Following the program, Rho Chapter members will induct a Chapter Honorary Member.

All AKS members are invited to attend. RSVP required by March 31st. Please respond to **Dot Shackway** at 860-872-3553.

UPSILON

Upsilon Chapter had a busy, as well as an entertaining fall. In October, members went to the Colebrook Historical Society and were led on a tour of this beautiful house. There happened to be a local artist juried show on display. Members enjoyed looking at all the talent from this unique small town, as well as the history of the town that was on display. Afterwards, members walked across the street to the Colebrook General Store for supper and conversation.

After Thanksgiving, members attended the Festival of Trees that is set up at Valerie Manor in Torrington. This is sponsored by The Arc of Litchfield County in Torrington, as well. LARC was founded by families 50 years ago to support loved ones with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It was enjoyable walking around looking at the trees and the items up for auction.

This year Upsilon Chapter sponsored three children through the Connecticut Education Association (CEA) Holiday Bear Care Package project. Members worked in three teams and shopped for specific requested items for each of these children. It was a very rewarding experience to give back during this holiday season. All of the packages were then delivered to the children's school.

Reminder to all Chapters!

There will be the Annual Fundraiser at the Spring Convention. It will be similar to ones held in the past. Each chapter will be responsible for sending a gift basket, afghan, gift certificate or the like to the Spring Convention.

These items need not be expensive, but rather appealing and fun to win. We would also hope that individual chapters will collect money from their non-attending members for purchase of tickets at the Convention. The funds collected will be donated at 25% to The Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World, as established in the CT Bylaws (Article X, C. 1. b). The remaining 75% is earmarked for one of our AKS grants that is in need of funding support, as specifically recommended by the AKS Finance Committee and voted on at the Convention.

**Joan Konareski
AKS President**



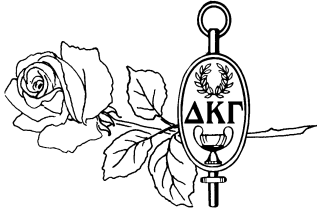
ALPHA KAPPA STATE 78th SPRING CONVENTION

Saturday, April 29, 2017

Baci Grill – Rose Garden Room

134 Berlin Road, Cromwell, CT Phone: 860-613-2224

SHARING OUR VISION: PAYING IT FORWARD *Increasing Global Awareness*



8:00 – 8:45 a.m.	Registration, Continental Breakfast, State Fundraiser Sales
8:45 – 9:15 a.m.	Ceremony of Life
9:15 – 9:45 a.m.	Introductions, Welcome, Flag Ceremony
9:45 – 10:45 a.m.	Thought for the Day, Business Meeting
10:45 – 11:00 a.m.	Break and State Fundraiser Sales
11:00 – 12:00 noon	International Guest: Carol Hughes, Northeast Regional Director
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch, Birthday/ Founders Celebration, State Fundraiser
1:00 – 1:30 p.m.	Honoring Our Members: Longevity Pin Recipients
1:30 – 2:00 p.m.	Achievement Awards
2:00 – 2:30 p.m.	Installation of 2017-2019 AKS Officers
2:30 – 2:45 p.m.	Closing Remarks, The Delta Kappa Gamma Song

REGISTRATION FOR THE CONVENTION

Please send form below with meal choice(s) and check made out to: Delta Kappa Gamma, Alpha Kappa State

Mail to:

Carolyn Hallifax

36 Fawnbrook Lane

Simsbury, CT 06070

(860) 651-0152 carolynandted@comcast.net

DIRECTIONS TO BACI GRILL

Traveling North or South: I-91 North or South to Exit 21.

At end of exit turn right onto CT-372W. Restaurant is .2 miles on the right.

Parking is at front and side of restaurant. Additional parking is in the lot behind restaurant.

Handicap ramps are located at both sides of the restaurant.

There are stairs at the back of the restaurant that lead directly into the Rose Garden Room.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE APRIL 14, 2017

Name: _____ Chapter: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Continental Breakfast served 8:00 – 8:45 a.m. Includes; muffins, bagels, juices, and brewed coffee and teas.

Check your choice(s) below for lunch:

<input type="checkbox"/> Chicken Florentine – egg battered and sautéed with lemon and sherry wine, topped with seasoned spinach, pesto crème sauce over penne	\$36.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Petite Sirloin - mashed potato, vegetable medley, house demi glaze	\$39.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Cider Glazed Grilled Salmon – roasted potato, vegetable medley	\$38.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Vegetarian – Pasta Primavera – spinach, fennel, leeks, carrots, and red onion in a pesto creme sauce	\$33.00

(All entrees include: Salad, Rustic Italian Bread, Birthday Cake, Coffee/Tea)

IF YOU HAVE ANY FOOD ALLERGIES, PLEASE INDICATE: _____

CONVENTION COSTS:	Registration fee per person	\$ 5.00
	Late fee (Postmarked after 4/14/17)	\$ 5.00
Guest Name/s: _____	Food Cost/s (see item/s checked above)	_____
Choice _____	GRAND TOTAL	+ _____

PHOTO RELEASE: By your attendance at this event you are granting permission to be filmed, videotaped, audiotaped, or photographed by any means and are granting full use of your likeness, voice, and words without compensation.

Check here, if this is your first Alpha Kappa State Convention. _____



SAVE THE DATES
2017

Saturday, April 29, 2017
Alpha Kappa State Spring Convention
Baci Grill (Cromwell)

Saturday, June 6, 2017
Alpha Kappa State Executive Board Meeting
Griffin Room, Meriden Public Library

July 12—14, 2017
Northeast Regional Conference
Caesar's Resort and Convention Center
Windsor, Ontario, Canada

**THE CONNECTICUT
KEYNOTE**

Alpha Kappa State
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Carol Beam, Editor

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NEXT KEYNOTE DEADLINES:

May 27, 2017
September 2, 2017

Send information to
Carol Beam
267 Ivy Drive
Bristol, CT 06010-3308
or e-mail to <d.w.beam@snet.net>



**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International invites YOU to
the 2017 Northeast Regional Conference
in Windsor, Ontario, Canada
July 12th—14th**



Join your DKG sisters from the northeast at the 2017 Regional Conference to be held in Windsor, Ontario, Canada. Experience Canada's 150th birthday at the DKG Northeast Regional Conference. Special events will include Mounties, a choir and First Nation children at State Night. Two pre-conference seminars are planned to feature Canada's and the United States' shared history on July 12th. The two seminars are *The Underground Railway* and *Indigenous Peoples of the 21st Century*. Attendees may select one of the two offerings.

Mike Stevens, a harmonica player, who has used his musical talents to teach the Inuit peoples of the Arctic will perform and share his experiences. He has played more than 300 times at the Grand Ole Opry. In 1999, Mike and a number of other musicians, accompanied by journalists flew to Goose Bay, Labrador. That visit rocked Mike's world and ignited a desire in him to connect with the children in these isolated Aboriginal villages through music and art. He realized the kids who lived there were, and still are, largely out of sight, left behind and he wanted to bring hope and inspiration to their everyday life. A film crew from the tour had also come to the community and coming across this incredible scene, captured it, effectively starting an international conversation about the state of Innu settlements. This astonishing footage is available on Mike's website and is also the focal point for a documentary about his journey, *A Walk in My Dream*, that was shown on the CBC Documentary Channel.

Check out the March/April *DKG News* for more details on the Northeast Regional Conference. Information about the break-out sessions and ten-minute takeaways, as well as places to visit while attending the conference, will be provided. Visit the DKG website at www.dkg.org.