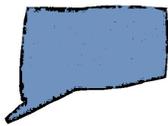


THE KEYNOTE



**Connecticut State Organization
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**

Volume 81, No. 3

Spring 2022

Pat Wilson Pheanious and Paula Mann-Agnew will speak about how history is tied to social justice today at the CTSO Convention



Pat Wilson Pheanious learned of ancestral roots going back to colonial Guilford, CT through the groundbreaking work of the Witness Stone Project (WSP) in 2017. Thanks to their impactful research she can now trace eleven generations of a uniquely American story which started in this state well before the American Revolution. Pat

was a founding WSP Board member, is currently board chair and has remained an active spokesperson for this program which has reached more than 4800 students in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Jersey.

Pat will reflect on the generations of her family that were found, the impact of that discovery and the critical importance of reclaiming for all children the history lost from their education. She will also discuss the Witness Stones Project's goals and impactful work with children and communities across Connecticut.

Pat Wilson Pheanious, a native of Eastern Connecticut, attended the University of Connecticut as an undergraduate then went on to earn graduate degrees from UConn in Law and Social Work. She became an attorney and started teaching social work and law-related courses at St. Joseph College in West Hartford. There

(Continued on page 3)

The CTSO Spring 2022 Convention will host Paula Mann-Agnew who is currently the Executive Director of Discovering Amistad. Ms. Mann-Agnew will speak to members about how the 1839 Amistad uprising and the subsequent landmark Supreme Court decision is presented to students and highlights themes of social justice.

Ms. Mann-Agnew holds a master's degree in Mental Health and a Post Graduate Certificate for Advanced Clinical Practice for Children and Adolescents. She additionally holds a certificate in leadership for Cultural Competency Training through the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. Paula is also certified in Advanced African-Centered Practice through the Black Association of Social Workers.

Ms. Mann-Agnew's higher education experience includes 17 years of adjunct professorship specializing in African American Studies and Culturally Responsive Clinical Practice. She has been a trainer in Culturally Responsive Practices for over 25 years.



Connecticut State Organization 83rd Spring Convention Saturday, April 30, 2022 Cascade, Hamden

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MAXIMIZE, MAINTAIN, MOTIVATE AND MENTOR OUR MEMBERS



Dear CTSO Sisters,

As we are enjoying the signs of Spring around us, we are also experiencing signs of new life within our homes, schools, communities, chapters and state organization! As the pandemic wanes, and we are given the freedom to venture out and choose whether or not to mask up, chapters are meeting in-person and plans for our April 30th CTSO in-person Spring Convention at the Cascade in Hamden are moving forward thanks to **First Vice-President Lenore Martinelli's** hard work!! We deserve a great celebration together as we attend our first in-person state event in over two years! I encourage you to attend! Cautiously, we are returning to our old practices; and, hopefully, this will be our new normal. I want to thank each of you for your flexibility, commitment and determination as we pivoted to maintain a strong organization, despite the obstacles. Optimistically, I have registered and made airline and hotel reservations to attend the DKG International Convention in New Orleans from July 12 –16 of 2022! I hope you will join us there! We will have a CTSO dinner on Thursday, July 14 or Friday, July 15.

Not only have these past years taught us how to weather the storm that is the pandemic, some of our inequities as a nation came to the surface including the “Me Too” and “Black Lives Matter” movements. As lives were lost due to COVID and our essential workers became the life line as we knew it – the grocers, the truckers, the mail carriers, factory and farm workers, and also at the forefront – our medical workers and teachers – could not stay at home. At this time we need to respect, honor and thank them for their dedication. We also need to learn from our history and mistakes so we do not repeat them as is happening with the unprovoked war on the innocent, strong and determined citizens of Ukraine. I pray for peace and their safety. At our Spring Convention, our speakers **Pat Wilson Pheanious** and **Paula Mann-Agnew**, will speak about how our history has impacted social justice today and how it is being taught in our schools.

By now your slate of new chapter officers for the 2022-2024 biennium is nearing completion! Congratulations and thank you to those members who will be serving as leaders! Please remember to complete Form 110 for the slate and form 87 for treasurers by May 15th. We will be holding a Leadership Training for new officers in June. We are trying to accommodate our active teachers, as well as retirees. More information and a registration form will arrive by e-mail. Thank you to **Roz Etra** and her committee for planning this important event and to our trainers for training our new officers!

We are also moving forward with our initiatives for this biennium. The Ad Hoc Fine Arts Committee, chaired by **Dr. Linda Paslov**, has made the recommendation to continue to investigate the possibility of sponsoring a Creative Arts event or retreat for our state or perhaps in collaboration with other New England state organizations. Thank you to everyone who serves on this committee.

CTSO Membership Chair Pam Aubin is in the process of collecting data from past and present leadership and chapter presidents, membership chairs and members for the survey portion of the Revitalization process. We will share the survey results with **DKG International President Becky Sadowski**, and she will assign us a DKG representative to review the data and develop a plan to increase our chapter membership, which will increase our state membership. It will also assist us in involving more of our members in leadership roles both within our chapters and state organization. Many thanks to the Revitalization Committee.

In planning our CTSO fall conference and spring convention, **First Vice President Lenore Martinelli** and I realized that it might be time to review our chapter responsibilities and “the red folders”. Our first step was to arrange with the Finance Board to have the programs and the Celebration of Life booklet printed professionally. We also received the go-ahead from the CTSO Executive Board to form an Ad Hoc committee to review and update the chapter responsibilities and folders. Lenore Martinelli will chair this committee. If you would like to serve on this committee, please contact Lenore at ridgereader@comcast.net.

Please savor this long-awaited Spring; and I look forward to seeing you at a chapter meeting, if invited (hint, hint), our Spring Convention, our Leadership Training in June and in New Orleans for the DKG International Convention!

Thank you for all you do!

With much appreciation,

Ann



What is CRT—Critical Race Theory?

In a Zoom meeting hosted by Omicron Chapter on February 28th, Ingrid Canady, Executive Director of Connecticut's State Education Resource Center (SERC), spoke to CTSO members about what is and is not Critical Race Theory (CRT). Members learned from Canady that CRT is an academic theory that comes from a legal foundation that looks at how the system perpetuates injustice and inequity. It is not a curriculum or program but a theory or concept. She stated that no public school in the state of CT teaches CRT. It is only studied by those in higher education who are preparing to become lawyers. However, it has made us rethink how we teach and is bringing about changes in curriculum.



Ingrid Canady

Many communities across the United States have seen controversy over the teaching of race issues in schools, and critics point to CRT claiming it is being taught to children and eliciting feelings of guilt and self-loathing among white students. As Canady explained, there are no public schools teaching CRT. Educators teach history-- they teach true events that happened. For years, students have complained that they have not gotten the full story when it comes to American history. These students, especially black, indigenous, and students of color, have seen history portraying white figures heroically, while seeing their own history telling a tale of people meant to suffer, surviving through abuse, and eventually, seamlessly moving into a supposedly equitable world where those abuses and sufferings no longer exist.

For the past 20 years, SERC has worked with the legislature to establish a state racially-conscious curriculum that includes Black and Latino studies. Ms. Canady shared the state resources where this curriculum is available, and information about how the course content has been piloted in several schools around Connecticut. Teachers more and more have been addressing these aspects of history that had been left out for so long, trying to include voices of those who had been marginalized. It can be difficult to teach this history, but it is important, Canady says. It is not to stoke anti-white or anti-American sentiment, but to tell the whole story of what happened in our history, to address the histories of all of the peoples who call the United States their home.

CTSO members logged off from this Zoom session with insights into what CRT actually is, a better understanding of how that definition compares to what those protesting the teaching of race in schools have to say about CRT and inspiration to teach for equity in our schools. For many, this event will be just the beginning of ongoing work to best support our students.

Patricia Block (President) and Jessica Block of Omicron Chapter

Continued from Page 1 (Pat Wilson Pheanious)

she founded the Center for Child Welfare Studies and was granted tenure in 1987. In 1988, Pat was drawn to public service in state government; and over the next 20 years she became Statewide Director of Protective Services at the Connecticut Department of Children and Youth Services and, subsequently, at the Department of Social Services. She was Director of Administrative Hearings and Appeals, then Administrator for the Hartford Region. Pat was appointed Commissioner of the Department of Social Services in 1999 (Roland/Rell Administrations), serving in that position until she retired

from the State in 2007. Pat became the Director of Human Services for the City and County of Denver, Colorado from 2008-2011. In November 2018 she was elected and served one term in the Connecticut General Assembly, becoming the first person of color to represent a rural, predominantly white district, in Connecticut (the towns of Ashford, Tolland and Willington). Pat is also a member of DKG, CTSO and Theta Chapter.

DKG MISSION STATEMENT

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



CT STATE ORGANIZATION ACHIEVERS

Loretta Teevan, Delta Chapter, will be honored posthumously on June 11th by the Bristol Historical Society. Loretta passed away on January 24th. She had taught Latin, French, Italian, English and mythology for over 40 years in the Bristol School System. Through the years Loretta collected and saved student essays (*I Meet Me or Freshman/Sophomore/Junior/or Four Years in Retrospect*). The Historical Society has obtained these essays and will present them to Loretta's former students who attend the celebration.

Jess Gregory, Beta Chapter, was nominated for a CSCU professorship. This is the highest honor that can be bestowed on a faculty member in the Connecticut State University system. She recently submitted her portfolio and is waiting to hear the outcome.



CTSO President, **Ann Grosjean** & Membership Chair, **Pam Aubin** attended the **DKG Legislative Forum** in Washington DC from March 5-8. Pictured (l. to r.) are **Patricia Woodley**, DKG Membership

Director, **Becky Sadowski**, DKG International President, **Pam, Ann, and Nita Scott**, DKG Executive Director.

An Opportunity to Serve Connecticut State



The CT State Organization of DKG has been fortunate to have capable leadership. Please consider being a part of the board for the 2023-2025 biennium. Our current **First Vice President, Lenore Martinelli** will be stepping up to serve as president.

We are looking for members to serve during the 2023-2025 biennium as **First Vice President, Second Vice President** and **Recording Secretary**. Please remember that permission of the person must be secured before her name is recommended for nomination.

Nominations are also open for 2023-2027 for three members each for the **Finance Committee** and the **Nominations Committee**. The responsibilities of each position can be found online at the Connecticut State website (dkgct.weebly.com) in the Bylaws and Standing Rules documents. The nomination form is also online on our website under Forms.

Let's keep our strong leadership going and choose to be a part of it in the next biennium. Be thinking now if you or members in your chapter are interested in serving in one of these positions. Nominating forms are due to the Nominations Committee Chair by **December 1, 2022**.

Patricia Piatek - CTSO Nominations Co-Chair
56 Clint Eldredge Road, Willington CT 06279
Patricia.piatek@charter.net

Nominations Committee Members:
Susan Nadeau Co-Chair (Rho)
Lillie Feierabend (Mu)
Kathleen Lozinak (Omicron)
Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone (Beta)

DKG@UN and CTAUN News

We keep hearing rumors that the UN might open up soon and wonder if we might be able to plan one of our annual conferences at headquarters! It is not a possibility yet, so we continue to sponsor webinars. Our most recent include:

Global Competency: Teaching and Learning in an Interconnected World which was held on December 7, 2021

Multilingualism—The New Global Competence Standard: Mother Language + 2 on February 21, 2022

SAVE THE DATE: Climate Change and Global Heating: What We Can Do Together to Restore our Broken Planet on April 22, 2022 (Earth Day) at 12:00 noon Eastern Time

To register for the April 22, 2022 Climate Change webinar or to view the recording or read notes for the other two, visit teachun.org

Watch for the next edition of the DKG@UN newsletter to be forwarded to you via e-mail.



REFLECTIONS FROM PAST ALPHA KAPPA STATE/CT STATE ORGANIZATION PRESIDENTS

Leadership Conferences



In the month of June, on the even years, and after our chapter presidents have been elected for their upcoming biennium, a Leadership Conference is held for those new presidents, officers, state executive members and specific committee chair positions. It is a time of excitement as they look forward to a new biennium, and perhaps with a slight case of anxiety as they learn more about the responsibilities of those new leadership positions in our Society.

New presidents come away with a plethora of information to help them on their way to successful chapter leadership, while treasurers and communications chairs, for example, learn important techniques and responsibilities to keep funds in order and important information passed on to chapter members. The conference offers inspirational speakers and mentorship to attendees from all over the state, as they join in fellowship with their sisters and take on new endeavors of leadership in Delta Kappa Gamma.

Chapter officers **please** plan to attend this day of fellowship and leadership training; it will be a day you will remember well during the years of your biennium and as you move forward in new and exciting leadership roles.

Judy Cody (Zeta)
Alpha Kappa State President 2001-2003

Reprinted from *The Keynote*, Spring 2020

Outstanding Service Award Recipient, Patricia Mason to be honored at Our Spring Convention!

Patricia Mason is the recipient of the 2022 Outstanding Service Award. She is a retired educator from the New Haven Public School System who specialized in reading instruction. For the past three years, she has volunteered multiple times per week with sixth grade students during English Language Arts and History Class at St. Martin dePorres Academy in New Haven. Pat is very dedicated and always does all things with a smile. She has been described as the quintessential teacher for the sixth graders. Using her experience as a reading specialist experience, Pat insists every student learn to read – and her positive attitude helps students learn to enjoy the process. Her contributions have been extremely valuable to the students, and this makes Pat most deserving of the Outstanding Service Award.

Anne Brandt (Zeta) Outstanding Service Award Committee Chair

Carylrae Clinge State President 2007-2008



Carylrae Clinge, Alpha Kappa State President from 2007 to 2008, entered into rest at the age of 85 on February 4th. She served our Society for many years in other roles at state level including First Vice President, Fine Arts Committee Chair, Archivist, and a member of several Ad Hoc Committees. At the chapter level she was an Epsilon Chapter President for two terms and held every chapter office, except treasurer. In 2007, she received the Alpha Kappa State Achievement Award for outstanding members. Carylrae attended many state and International conferences and conventions, singing in several choirs at International conventions.

Carylrae was born and lived in Illinois, before she resided in Connecticut. She served two terms as DKG chapter president prior to leaving Illinois. She retired as teacher/administrator in the middle school in Moline, Illinois. When she moved to Connecticut, she established the Early Childhood Learning Center in Glastonbury and subsequently retired from there also. In 1996, Carylrae was selected as the American Legion Teacher of the Year.

Carylrae will be remembered with fondness by our many members who served with her. May her memory be a blessing, and may she rest in peace.

Terry Azoti (Zeta) Alpha Kappa State President 2013-2015



AROUND

THE

BETA

Beta Chapter meetings have continued live on Zoom. **Jane Ferreira**, president and CEO of the Mercy Learning Center, updated members on programs that are available at the center at the December 9th meeting. Chapter members voted to support Mercy Learning Center for the 2021-2022 school year.

Sara Crooks, SEL (Social Emotional Learning) Coordinator, for the Ansonia public schools was the guest speaker for the January 18th meeting. She articulated the need for an emphasis on the social and emotional needs of students, parents, teachers and the community. This program teaches the skills of emotional intelligence: recognizing, understanding, labeling, expressing and regulating emotion.

At the February 25th Zoom meeting Beta Chapter member **Dr. Deresa Scott** presented a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) program for responsive teaching practices and what teachers are already doing to ensure and encourage equity. **Jordan Salerno**, Beta's first collegiate member, was inducted into the chapter.



Jordan Salerno

Beta's next chapter meeting will be March 16th on Zoom.

ZETA

Zeta Chapter is pleased to have conducted meetings via Zoom these past few months, along with e-mailing a President's monthly message to members. Members look forward to holding in-person meetings in April and May.

Member **Claudia Grantham** will speak at the April meeting about her travels in Africa, as well as visits to other continents. In May, member **Kim McGee** shares her experiences from Breathe for Change 200-Hour Digital Wellness, SEL Yoga Teacher Training for Educators. Kim's involvement with this program was assisted by the CTSO Camilla Maiewski \$1,000 Scholarship awarded to her last year. Members look forward to these two in-person meetings and to other social programs being planned when sisters can gather to enjoy a special event in the New Haven area community.

Another backpack with books was delivered to the Friends Center in New Haven, Zeta's Community Outreach Partner. Friends Center is an early childhood education center with two New Haven locations. The

books, selected by the staff, are available for the children to borrow and share with their family. They are age-appropriate and follow a theme. The school includes an explanation sheet in each backpack giving parents suggestions on how to approach the theme selected.

The Zeta Grant Committee is in the process of contacting area schools with information about our Zeta Memorial Grant of \$1,000 offered to a high school senior interested in pursuing education as major in a four-year college or university.

Plans focusing on increasing, maintaining and strengthening membership within Zeta Chapter are well underway. DKG application forms along with monthly newsletters are being sent to members to encourage and assist them in inviting colleagues, retirees, newly graduated education majors and other qualified professionals to join in sisterhood.

Zeta Chapter once again offers congratulations to **Terry Azoti** for having two more of her photographs accepted into the DKG Fine Arts Gallery.

THETA

"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift" delivery of their homemade casseroles, baked goods and cold cuts. With an adjustment in the delivery schedule to the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Willimantic, Theta Chapter continues to support a range of specific needs within the chapter's region. Covenant Soup Kitchen was the recipient of a prepared dinner and cash donations to purchase fresh ingredients on February 5th, where over 118 individuals enjoyed a hot meal. Left-over casseroles were frozen for future use. **Theta's Soup Kitchen Chair Margaret Daly** has made use of the app, "volunteersignup.org", which streamlines and organizes the work of coordinating donations that meet the needs of the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Willimantic. In addition to the Covenant Soup Kitchen, three area soup kitchens were the recipients of funds collected from Theta's "No Bake, Bake Sale" on November 12th.

Theta members continue to dedicate time and generosity to Journey House girls during the holiday season. In the fall, girls received "goodie bags" prepared by **Sharon Bartlett**; and during December, members assembled holiday boxes which contained an assortment of small gifts of coloring books, fancy pens, scarves and mittens, sweet treats, socks, slippers and their favorite Bath and Body Works items for the girls. As usual, the feedback from Journey House staff was positive and reported that there were exclamations of delight in the treats and treasures the girls received from Theta. The chapter's 15-year tradition of support for Journey House continues to thrive.

Theta's Books for Siblings program made another delivery of books for the siblings of new babies at Backus Hospital in Norwich. Along with bookmarks and name plates, over 50 new books were provided for



NUTMEG

STATE

the siblings and gently used books were made available in the Family Waiting Room.

Once again, **Theta's Chair of Professional Affairs Linda Tracy** has started the process of sending information to high school guidance departments for Theta region high schools regarding the application process for high school grants. The territory has expanded dramatically since Theta absorbed the Gamma region.

The chapter's Nominations Committee has already recruited a full slate of members to fill all the positions for the 2022-2024 Biennium. Theta will be in good hands as they move forward.

MU

Mu Chapter hosted its in-person Holiday Social on December 15th. It was wonderful to share goodies, a delicious punch and holiday cheer together once again. The Executive Board met on February 15th, via Zoom to plan the rest of the year.

On March 22nd, members will meet at BeanZ in Avon for a dinner/meeting. Both the meal and the speaker will be from BeanZ, "an inclusive coffee cafe with the mission to employ and improve the lives of people with and without intellectual and developmental disabilities." Mu looks forward to learning about this important community resource.

The annual Grant Awards Dinner is scheduled for May 25th, again, in person. Members will gather to hear about, and from, two remarkable young people as they share their hopes, dreams and commitment to a better world for all. That meeting will begin with an Installation of Officers, as **Ann Atwood** is welcomed as the next president of Mu....Congratulations, Ann. Mu member **Janet Wade** will also be honored on celebrating 50 years of membership. Congratulations, Janet! What a fitting meeting this will be as members recognize the threads of excellence by welcoming the new, honoring the present and celebrating a life of giving.



(l. to r.) Lillie Feierabend, Pam Beach, Shelley Lloyd, Ann Newbury, Laurie Burrill, Pat Faulkner and Barbara Beaudin.

OMICRON

Omicron Chapter held a get together in December for a holiday dinner at Brookside Inn located in Oxford. Eleven members attended and enjoyed good company, good food, good cheer and a holiday grab bag. Members were so happy to be able to see each other in person!

The spring meeting was held on Zoom on February 28th. Guest speaker Ingrid Canady, Executive Director of the State Education Resource Center (SERC), spoke on the topic of Critical Race Theory (CRT). A former teacher, Canady joined SERC in 2003, helping to facilitate SERC's journey to confront the realities of systemic racism and its impact in today's classrooms. Since then, Ms. Canady has been an advocate for unmasking these hidden biases and creating a sense of urgency to address the culturally, racially, ethnically and linguistically diverse needs of all of Connecticut's students. Members from all CTSO chapters were invited, and many joined in to hear this dynamic speaker.

Omicron Chapter and CTSO grant applications have been sent to schools in the area. Omicron chapter offers two \$500 scholarships annually. **Scholarship Chair Debbie Ruderman** and her committee will be reviewing applications after the April 10th deadline.

Committees are currently being formed to make plans for our annual end of year dinner in May. Officers for the 2022-2024 biennium will be installed, as well as induction for new members.



(l. to r.) Patty Benner, Laurie Mihalcik and Marie Meresko



(l. to r.) Daria Ploski, President Patty Block, Debbie Ruderman, Joan Giardina and Pat Chaghatzbanian



AROUND THE NUTMEG STATE

(Continued)

OMICRON (Continued)



(l. to r.) **Kathleen Lozinak, Annette Frank and Kathy Kiley**

RHO

Rho Chapter met Feb. 22nd via Zoom for a business meeting. Since learning of the Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World's Early Educators Climate Change Initiative, Rho has decided to provide two of our members currently teaching elementary grades the same children's book and packet provided by the Curriculum of Hope Initiative. Rho is happy to acknowledge the challenges these active teachers have faced with a gift to use in their classrooms.

The spring meeting will be in person April 19th at South Windsor Public Library. It will include a craft program creating torn paper collage note cards as a tie in to our Eric Carle theme. Rho members are looking forward to attending the Spring April 30th CTSO Convention where two of our members will be recognized with longevity awards.

DKG 2022 International Convention July 12-15

One of the most exciting things that will happen this year is the 2022 DKG International Convention in New Orleans. You simply have to be there to experience the thrill of it all! Remember, during the Convention we will vote on Society business, install new officers, meet new members, and so much more. Don't forget that we are meeting in a city rich in culture and cuisine. Wow, so much to do and see!

This Convention will be a time to make new friends and reconnect with ones we've met in the past. Let's get ready to gather in person and share a cup of coffee and a beignet!

Join us at the 2022 International Convention in New Orleans: it will be a great time for learning, collaborating, networking and being with friends.



CT State Organization Annual Spring Convention Fundraiser

Proceeds to support
The Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Committee and
Scholarship Grants recommended by the Finance Committee

**Saturday, April 30, 2022
Cascade, Hamden, CT**

- ◆ Prize basket items donated by each chapter
- ◆ Fundraiser tickets purchased at chapter meetings and on April 30th at the Convention
- ◆ **Cost of tickets: \$1.00 each or six (6) for \$5.00**



Connecticut State Organization Seeking Nominees for State Honorary Members

All chapter members are reminded that the CT State Organization Membership Committee is seeking nominations for new state honorary members to be inducted at the November 2022 Fall Conference.

"An honorary member shall be a woman not eligible for active membership who has rendered notable service to education or to women, and is elected to honorary membership in recognition of such service."

(Constitution, Updated 1 /2020, Article III, Section 3)

International Standing Rules, Updated 9/19, 3.31 clarify "service" as being of statewide significance for a State Honorary Member.

The State Honorary Membership form, obtainable from each chapter, is the same form as Chapter Membership. The form needs to be completed and submitted to **CT State Honorary Membership Chair, Jeanne Morascini by June 30, 2022**. Please email to jemora@aol.com or mail to: Jeanne Morascini, 55 John E. Horton Blvd. Apt. 202, Hebron, CT 06248. If there are any questions, please contact Jeanne at 860-228-9293.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Jeanne Morascini (Theta)
CT State Organization Honorary Membership Chair



Connecticut State Organization

CTSO Membership Committee News: The DKG Revitalization Process begins!

All chapter presidents and designated membership chairs were invited to attend a meeting to begin the CTSO Revitalization Plan Survey. **Membership Committee Chair Pam Aubin** reviewed that the purpose of the meeting was to complete the DKG Revitalization Survey as the CTSO seeks to retain and increase membership in DKG. The group was reminded that participation in this survey related to **CTSO President Ann Grosjean's** theme for the 2021-2023 biennium to *Maximize, Maintain, Motivate and Mentor our Members*. Members reviewed the data shared in the agenda, along with a discussion of historical trends. Members discussed the challenges that the COVID pandemic has presented in terms of recruitment and opportunities to discuss membership with new members considering the workload and changing expectations of current teachers and lack of access to teachers due to remote learning.

Each chapter representative had an opportunity to share insight into the challenges and successes chapters have had with recruitment of new members. The group discussed chapters that have experienced few, if any, new members over the past five years; however, some had recruited many collegiate members and others inducted new members.

Chapter leaders agreed that questions from the survey that were pertinent to chapters should be distributed to chapter presidents. Each chapter president was asked to discuss the survey questions at their next meeting and provide one written response from each chapter president. The completed Chapter Surveys will be sent to **Pam Aubin** (pamaubin@gmail.com) for inclusion in the survey.

CTSO Leadership will convene as a subcommittee to answer several questions identified by the CTSO Membership Chair. Responses from both chapter presidents and CTSO leadership will be inserted into the document.

The CTSO Membership Committee will meet after all surveys have been completed and all responses are compiled in a draft survey for review by the Committee for approval prior to submission to DKG International. The Committee expects to complete the survey for submission by April 15, 2022. This summative document will be submitted to DKG International and reviewed to assist in guiding the CTSO Revitalization process as we move forward.

Pam Aubin (Theta)
CTSO Membership Committee Chair

CTSO Fine Arts Committee News

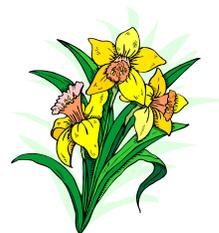
The Fine Arts Retreat Exploration Ad Hoc Committee, whose task was to explore the possibility of instituting an annual CTSO Fine Arts Retreat, as well as make recommendations regarding the specific details of such an event, was recently reinstated. The Ad Hoc Committee members in attendance at a January 26, 2022 Zoom meeting—**Lenore Martinelli, Mary Ellen Ulatowski, Roz Etra, and Linda Paslov**—as well as **CTSO President Ann Grosjean**, reviewed the Fine Arts Notes from February 3, 2021. They then reflected on the November 6, 2021 CTSO Fall Fine Arts Conference and provided both feedback and thoughts on the event, which consisted of seven presentations attended by 39 participating members. Informal reviews indicated that the attendees enjoyed their sessions, and would enjoy attending a Fine Arts themed event in the future.

The Ad Hoc Committee members agreed that a CTSO Fine Arts Retreat should be explored further, perhaps alternating this event with the Leadership Conference in upcoming years. The potential to hold an in-person, regional event in collaboration with one or two other New England states was discussed as a preferable alternative to planning this as a CTSO only event.

Please stay tuned for more updates in the future. If you would like to become a member of the Fine Arts Retreat Exploration Ad Hoc Committee, of which **Carol Kraus** is also a member, please contact **Linda Paslov** at dr.paslov@gmail.com.

In other news, Kevin Kiley, the entertainer for our April 25, 2020 CTSO Virtual State Convention, had one of his original songs included in a Hallmark movie that premiered this past November, *Christmas on the Carousel*. Kevin's single, "Christmas Wish," which was released in December 2020, can be heard at <https://fanlink.to/KKXMAS>. The movie was filmed in and around Hartford, including at the New England Carousel Museum in Bristol and Bushnell Park.

Linda S. Paslov, Ed.D. (Beta)





IN MEMORIAM

White Roses

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

Frances Baratz, Eta Chapter

Died: November 1, 2021



Frances (Fran) passed away on November 1, 2021, at the age of 102. She was a devoted member of Eta Chapter since 1968 and was a past chapter president. Fran graduated from Connecticut College in 1940 and the University of Connecticut in 1961 with a Master's Degree in Education. She taught home economics at Clark Lane Junior High in Waterford from 1960 to 1981.

Fran was an active member in many organizations, as well as a volunteer at museum, libraries and the Lawrence and Memorial Hospital. She was a life-long traveler and enjoyed trips throughout Europe, Asia, plus the United States, as well as South America and the Caribbean, with more than 30 Elderhostels to her credit. She quietly visited nursing homes and transported many residents to and from local events.

She was known for her upbeat and energetic manner viewing life's challenges with enthusiasm. Fran will be missed by her Eta Chapter sisters.

Betty Brennan, Theta Chapter

Died: November 1, 2021



Betty C. Brennan a Lifetime Member of Theta Chapter, passed away at the age of 95, with her family by her side on November 1, 2021. Betty was inducted into the Theta Chapter on May 2, 1975. Betty was known as a warm, willing member of Theta Chapter, who always greeted members with a smile on her face. In her spare time, Betty loved quilting. In fact, she contributed to Theta fundraisers by donating quilts that she made by hand. Betty was known to be involved in Theta's effort to support the Danielson Soup Kitchen which served the community of Danielson and Killingly where she resided.

Betty graduated from Killingly High School in 1944 and received her Bachelor of Science degree from Connecticut Teachers College, New Britain in 1948. After graduating from college, Betty taught at Terryville High School, but her heart and family was in her hometown of Killingly, CT and when offered a business department teaching position at Killingly High School, it was her dream fulfilled. Betty taught in Killingly High School for 39 happy years.

As Business Department Head, Betty worked tirelessly throughout the year, to keep the Killingly High School Business Department ahead of its time. Her prolific grant writing, all summer, every summer, enabled Killingly High School to have a premier Business Department. Consequently, her students received prestigious employment directly out of high school. Betty was a leader at the state level in Business Education by serving on the State of Connecticut

Advisory Board-Business and Office Education and was the Chairperson for Public Relations Committee.

Betty was recognized for her hard work, instructional excellence, positive attitude and professionalism in education. Betty received the Award for Excellence in the Classroom from the Administrative Management Society of Connecticut. In 1985, Betty was named Killingly High School's first Teacher of the Year Award. An event honoring Betty included hundreds of students, past and present, who gathered to honor and provide testimony to the positive attributes of Betty, a teacher they loved and revered.

In 2019, Betty was honored with a Lifetime Membership to DKG International accompanied by her daughter and granddaughters at the annual Theta banquet. Her Theta sisters gathered to congratulate her in achieving such an honor.

Betty was a devoted mother and grandmother. Betty would tell anyone that the best part of her life was raising her children and enjoying her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She loved working in her garden and passed that on to her three children. Betty will be dearly missed by family, colleagues, former students and her Theta sisters.



IN MEMORIAM

White Roses

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



Edith Gelt Prague, Theta Chapter Died: December 16, 2021



State Senator Edith Gelt Prague, was inducted as an Honorary Chapter Member into Theta Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma in January 1985. At the time of Edith's induction, she had been elected State Representative from the 8th district in the Connecticut House of Representatives serving from 1982-1990. She was subsequently elected as a State Senator from 1995-2013. As a compassionate lawmaker, Edith listened to all and was visible throughout the State of Connecticut and the communities she represented. She would attend regional meetings of the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CABE) where area legislators, Boards of Education and Superintendents would share needs and successes with area legislators. Edith would listen carefully and respond with a clear and honest answer. Senator Prague would attend local board budget committee meetings to better understand the consequences of reduced state funding on city and town education budgets.

Edith received a Bachelor of Science degree from Eastern Connecticut State College and a Master of Social Work from the University of Connecticut School of Social Work.

She began her teaching career as a long-term substitute from 1965-1972 subsequently completing two years of teaching at Illing Jr. High School in Manchester and East Hartford High School while completing her MSW. Edith served as a member of the Columbia Board of Education for five years.

In addition, to her commitment to education, Edith was well-known as a staunch advocate for senior citizens, including retired teachers. Edith was employed as a medical social worker for five years and wrote a weekly column “Medicare Mailbox” for local newspapers such as the *Willimantic Chronicle*, *Norwich Bulletin* and the *Torrington Register*. One day a week, Edith provided Medicare Counseling at the McSweeney Senior Center. Edith was appointed the Connecticut Commissioner on Aging. She referred to herself as a “social worker with power”.

Former Theta President and Alpha Kappa State President Jeanne Morascini wrote in her nomination the following, “Edith is a caring person. She is interested in all people: young and old, black, and white, quiet and noisy, rich and poor. She has a wide background of general information and has the ability to impart information in concise, clear and interesting ways.” Edith was liked for her patient ability to listen and her contagious enthusiasm for life. Most importantly, Edith fought to protect the rights of people to be treated with fairness, dignity and respect and never gave up on a cause she believed in.

Loretta Teevan, Delta Chapter Died: January 24, 2022



Loretta Rae Teevan passed away January 24th following a long illness. She was initiated into Delta Chapter in December, 1986.

Loretta was a well-respected member of the community and beloved by her former students. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree in Latin from St. Joseph College in West Hartford. She later completed her Master's Degree in Latin at Trinity College in Hartford and then completed coursework for her certification to teach French and Italian at Central Connecticut State University in New Britain.

As a tribute to her dedication and commitment to education and her students, Loretta was named Bristol's Teacher of the Year 1988-89. She retired in 1998 after a career of 43 years and kept in touch with many of her former students right up to the time of her passing. Throughout her teaching career, she was a member of the Classical Association of Connecticut, the Classical Association of New England and the American Classical League.

After retiring, she traveled internationally acquiring new friends each trip. Loretta volunteered at the Meals for Neighbors Soup Kitchen at the Zion Lutheran Church. She was known for being honest and forthright, a woman of great faith and one with a strong connection to her Irish and French-Canadian heritages. She was intelligent and quick to respond, standing out in a crowd with her wit and wry sayings for every scenario, such as “Everything will be fine if you just put on lipstick,” and “With the help of God and three Irish cops...”

As a member of Delta Chapter, Loretta was membership chair for two biennia and served on the chapter membership and program committees, as well as on the state membership committee. She will be missed by her Delta sisters and the Bristol community.



IN MEMORIAM

White Roses

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

Caroline Wakefield, Delta Chapter

Died: January 19, 2022



Caroline Wakefield died on January 19, 2022 (two weeks shy of her 101st birthday). She was initiated into Delta Chapter in November, 1957.

She was a graduate of the College of St. Elizabeth and taught school for 31 years, first at Williams Memorial Institute in New London, then at Milford High School. She retired from Housatonic Valley Regional High School in Falls Village.

Caroline also served as a High Sheriff for the State of Connecticut and was a communicant of Sacred Heart Church in Southbury. She was a member of the Council of Catholic Women at St. John the Evangelist Church, as well as being a member of the College of St. Elizabeth Alumni, the Daughters of Isabella, Friends of the Library and the League of Women Voters. She was a past chairwoman of the Falls Village Democratic Town Committee.

As a member of Delta Chapter, Caroline served as recording secretary for two biennia, as well as serving on the professional affairs, personal growth and services and Pioneer Women and Research committees. She will be missed by her Delta sisters.

CTSO Members Selected for Inclusion in the Fall 2021 Art Gallery

Terry Azoti (Zeta)
Judy Baxter (Theta)
Linda Paslov (Beta)

Photographs *Heavenly Hydrangea* and *First Responder*
Photograph *Grizzly Bear in the Tetons*
Poem *A Trip Down Mem'ry Lane*
Photograph *Who are Ewe?*

Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone (Beta)
Linda Tracy (Theta)

Photographs *Artful Arrangement* and *Scattered Sunflowers*
Pastel Drawing *The End of Summer*

Congratulations to these members!

Calling All Members for the Lucile Cornet Professional Development Award Applications Due May 1

The DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF) sponsors the Lucile Cornet Individual Award for Professional Development. The award is granted to educators for participation in professional seminars, workshops, lecture series, on-line courses and other non-degree program opportunities that relate specifically to an applicant's professional aspirations and/or current educational assignment. The award may pay for registration fees and conference-related materials, travel, lodging, food, substitute teacher, if not provided by the district and other expenses necessary for participation in the professional development activities. The award may **not** be used for: 1) attendance at Society-sponsored events, 2) college or university courses leading to the completion of a degree program or 3) reimbursement of expenses for activities already completed.

Guidelines for application timing is for activities occurring between July 1 and December 31, 2022 apply no later than May 1, 2022. Notification of acceptance or non-acceptance will be made approximately one month following the deadline. The application can be found at www.dkg.org by clicking **DKGIEF** on the menu bar. Submissions are to the Foundation Specialist at lcpd@dkg.org, electronically as email attachments. Connecticut members have applied and received this award over the years.

Terry Azoti (Zeta) CTSO International Funds Committee Chair



Promoting the Personal and Professional Growth of Women Educators
Connecticut State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
83rd SPRING CONVENTION
Saturday, April 30, 2022
Cascade Fine Catering, 480 Sherman Avenue, Hamden, CT 06514

- 8:30-9:00 a.m. Registration, Continental Breakfast, State Fundraiser Sales
- 9:00-9:15 a.m. Celebration of Life
- 9:15-10:15 a.m. Introductions, Welcome, Flag Ceremony, Thought for the Day, Business Meeting
- 10:15-10:30 a.m. Break and State Fundraiser
- 10:30-11:15 a.m. *Discovering Amistad* with Paula Mann-Agnew
- 11:15-12:00 a.m. *Witness Stones* with Pat Wilson-Pheanious
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch and State Fundraiser
- 12:45-1:00 p.m. Birthday Celebration
- 1:00-1:30 p.m. Longevity Awards and Outstanding Service Award
- 1:30-2:00 p.m. Fundraiser, Closing Remarks, The Delta Kappa Gamma Song

Proof of Vaccination and Masks will be required!

REGISTRATION FOR THE CONVENTION

Please send form below with check made out to:
Delta Kappa Gamma, Connecticut State Organization
Mail to: Carole Franceschet
121 Simpson Ave., Wallingford, CT 06492
mte9903@comcast.net; 203-626-5432

Directions: From Hartford—91S to exit 10 (Hamden); *exit right at end of expressway onto Whitney Ave./CT 10; left onto Sherman Ave. Cascades in on the left.
From southeast or southwest—take 95 to 91 north; exit 10 (Hamden); *to Cascade.

Name: _____ Chapter: _____

Phone: Home: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

Continental Breakfast served 8:30-9:00 a.m.

Breakfast includes: fruit, mini muffins, croissants, coffee, tea

Luncheon: House salad, choice of chicken parmigiana or eggplant parmigiana over penne, birthday cake

Luncheon choice: Chicken Parmesan _____ Eggplant Parmesan _____

If you have any FOOD ALLERGIES, please indicate: _____

Convention Costs:	Registration fee <u>per person</u>	\$5.00
	Late fee (Postmarked after 4/15/22)	\$5.00
	Food Costs	+ \$45.00

Guest Name/s: _____ 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.



Connecticut State Organization
Dates to Remember
2022

Maximize, Maintain, Motivate and Mentor our Membership

Saturday, April 30, 2022
8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
CTSO Spring Convention
Cascade, Hamden

June, 2022
State Leadership Conference

July 12 - 16, 2022
DKG International Convention
New Orleans, LA



Please note:
All events are subject to cancellation if the federal or state government issues a need to cancel. Notification will be issued by CTSO President Ann Grosjean.

THE CONNECTICUT KEYNOTE

The Connecticut State Organization
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Ann Grosjean, Editor
11 Birch Meadow Lane
Willington, CT 06279

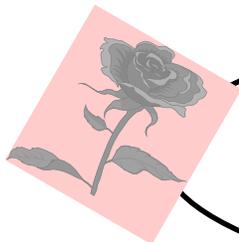
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NEXT KEYNOTE DEADLINES:

Summer issue: **June 1, 2022**
Fall issue: **September 1, 2022**

Send information to **Ann Grosjean**
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