



**Alpha Kappa State  
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society  
International**

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Summer 2016

## Spring Convention Highlights



Janet Patry, founder and director of Right2Thrive, began her presentation with a tribute to teachers – stating that they have the most influence in people’s lives and that they live for the moment when a student “gets it”. She presented an enthusiastic and inspiring history of the founding of this organization whose mission is to break the cycle of poverty through multi-generational empowerment and education. Janet shared photos and an enthusiastic dialogue outlining the development of her program. It started with twenty-two girls who were living in a Children’s Home in Nairobi because their families were in such poverty that they could not care for them or educate them.

Kenya is about the size of Texas. It is a hot bed of terror and extreme poverty, where most of the 18 million inhabitants live on \$1.90 a day. Two million orphans live on the streets or in orphan homes; women have no rights, no education and few skills. Many of the children have serious infections due to their living conditions.

The program, founded in 2009 as an American charitable organization, began by providing filtered, clean water; beds to sleep in instead of dirty mattresses; shoes and uniforms. Schools in Kenya are not free and few can afford to send their children. Learning to read and write is a challenge since many (42) tribes are represented, each with its own language.

Janet moved to Kenya to expand the program from just educating children to teaching skills and business awareness to the women. It works by empowering women, teaching them how to help themselves, develop self-esteem and then skills to generate income that will allow them to provide for their families and educate their children. All of these programs are free. They learn financial skills by playing Monopoly, learning to negotiate and buy and sell. Janet brought some of the jewelry and other items that these women and children made and was overwhelmed with the sales made at the convention.

Under Janet’s direction, over 1,800 women and children have received training, and two of the children are now in a University. She has brought in locals to build a relationship with the school and men to mentor the boys. During school breaks, Janet has seven of the children living with her. She hopes to use this model in other areas of the country. Her presentation was a very appropriate introduction to the talk that followed on the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals. It was an apt example of “paying it forward” and “the power of one”.

**Anita Satriano, Chair AKS Educational Impact Committee**



For more updated news and information  
check out the AKS website:  
[www.deltakappagamma.org/CT/](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/CT/)

### Focus on *Paying it Forward* at the 2016 Fall Conference!

**In this issue . . . .**

Page 2     **President’s Message  
Seven Purposes of DKG**  
Page 3     **Anti-Bullying Program  
Invitation to Serve AKS**  
Pages 4-6   **Around the Nutmeg State**

Page 7     **AKS 2016 Longevity Recognition**  
Pages 8-9   **AKS Achievers**  
Page 10-11   **Convention Photos**  
Page 12     **Dates to Remember  
AKS Non-Dues Revenue Fundraiser**



Jottings from Joan

Sharing Our Vision—Paying it Forward



Hello, Everyone,

Summer is finally here. Some summer vocabulary: easy-living, rest, rejuvenation, hot. With me, however, it seems to be just like when I was teaching. I breathe a sigh of relief, relax for a week and then I start thinking about how I can do better next year. Our AKS Leadership Conference is the first thing I am looking forward to. This is my chance to meet with the chapter presidents for the 2016-2018 biennium. Some of you already have had experience, and some of you are new to the office. In either case, this is another great opportunity to pay it forward. For everyone else attending the conference, it is an opportunity to meet others and share information in a relaxing environment. I hope to see many of you there.

My next big preparation comes with the International Convention in Nashville. I look forward to seeing some of you there. For this event, I am on the International Executive Board. I will be meeting with leaders, learn more about my role in my second year as state president and make decisions involving the new International Officers and changes to the International Constitution and Standing Rules. I am definitely looking forward to this and hopefully coming up for air at times to see some of the city.

Enjoy your summer. When September arrives, we will get together again and continue with great ideas and activities and, of course, keep *paying it forward* to our future members.

**Joan**



## ***The Seven Purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma***

***To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship;***

***To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education;***

***To advance the professional interest and position of women in education;***

***To initiate, endorse, and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators;***

***To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators;***

***To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action; and***

***To inform the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.***

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

**Terry Azoti  
Judy Cody  
Jeanne Morascini**

**Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone  
Nancy Roy**





## AKS Members Invited to Attend Student Anti-Bullying Program



Jeff Veley, a dynamic award-winning youth expert and international speaker, will spend a full day on September 12<sup>th</sup> at Windham Middle School in Willimantic. The program, entitled ***Making Friends and Dealing with Your Enemies***, will help combat school bullying and disruptive behaviors that adversely impact a school's learning environment. Jeff is the recipient of the Golden Rules

International Award from the Inter-Faith Peace Building Initiative, has appeared on television and is recognized by the United Nations as a World Peace Ambassador in 120 nations.

In the morning, Jeff will present three assemblies, one for each grade level 6, 7, and 8. He will interface with students working on strategies for responding to bullies in a positive non-escalating manner which builds personal self-reliance and self-esteem. He will address all types of intimidation including cyberbullying. Students will learn philosophies and techniques to improve safety factors in school and other surroundings.

In the afternoon, Jeff will meet with the entire staff to address their particular concerns regarding curriculum ideas, classroom management strategies and teaching modifications to help students dealing with social exclusion, physical contact, verbal insults, rumors and any other behaviors presented.

In the early evening, there will be an ice cream social for parents and students with fun activities that give them the opportunity to work together on skills presented in the morning. Parent concerns will also be addressed.

The program is being sponsored by the Windham Middle School PTO/ Windham Public Schools and Alpha Kappa State's Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Committee. The Curriculum of Hope has received grants from the Lester E. Foster and Phyllis M. Foster Foundation and the Jeffrey Ossen Family Foundation.

Interested AKS members are invited to attend the morning assemblies or the evening presentation. Please let Susan Moon of the Curriculum of Hope Committee know if you are interested in attending and if you will be attending in the morning or evening. Sue will get back to you with specific times. Contact Sue through her e-mail [sue@racespot.com](mailto:sue@racespot.com) or by phone 860-974-1398.



**Recipients of 25-Year Longevity Award:**  
(l. to r.) **Jacqueline Farrell, Iota; Geraldine Giaimo, Zeta; Joan Roczynski, Lambda, and Angela Stortz, Delta**



### 2016 AKS Longevity Awards

#### An Invitation to Serve Alpha Kappa State

The AKS Nominations Committee will be preparing a slate of officers for the 2017-2019 biennium for first vice-president, second vice-president and recording secretary. The committee is also accepting nominations for three candidates each for the finance committee and for the nominations committee to serve from 2017-2021. A nomination form, which can be found on the AKS website, needs to be filled out for each Candidate. Permission of the person must be secured before her name is recommended for nomination.

Nominations Committee members will be contacting chapter presidents. 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, 2016.

**Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone, AKS Nominations Chair**  
607 Juniper Court  
Oxford, CT 06478  
[spcdkg@comcast.net](mailto:spcdkg@comcast.net)



# AROUND THE

## ALPHA

Alpha's first non-dues revenue event, a tag sale, held at the home of **Lucy Galasso**, was by all accounts a success. Members had fun running and attending this fundraiser. Jim Shepard, the author of *Book of Aron*, held a book talk sponsored by Alpha Chapter. This event was well attended as this book is thought-provoking and is a best seller. **Ginny Gesh** arranged this event. Alpha's annual fundraiser, *Shop Smart: Do Good with Lord and Taylor* was once again profitable. **Elinor Carr** is the chairperson for this event, and it raises funds for the Virginia Obrig Book Grant Award.

Clarinda Higgins and William Armstrong Jr. discussed their book *Against the Current* at Alpha's spring meeting held at **Lucy Galasso's** house. This is a book about Mark Higgins, a young man inspired by Albert Schweitzer to live and do good in Africa. The annual banquet was held at which two new members were initiated along with the installation of officers. **Linnea Stenberg** will become president, and **Janess Coffina** will become vice-president. The winner of the Virginia Obrig Book Award was also announced.

## BETA

The Eunice Dennie Burr Chapter, National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, entertained members of Beta Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International on March 16<sup>th</sup> at the Old Fairfield Academy in Fairfield.

**Beta Chapter's Educational Excellence Chair Dr. Linda S. Paslov**, who also serves as the Eunice Dennie Burr DAR Chapter Regent, presided over the Beta Chapter meeting, then led members on a tour of the 1804 building. At this "historic" March meeting, Paslov promoted DAR as a women's service organization supporting the tenets of education, patriotism and historical preservation. A recent project which demonstrates the realization of these tenets is the 2014 renovation of the schoolroom on the Old Academy's second floor, which was originally set up as such during the Bicentennial. It boasts period mannequins in costumes from the era to "help our Academy visitors better visualize an 1840's-era classroom and the learning and activities that took place within its four walls."

In 1802, Fairfield resident (and DAR chapter namesake) Eunice Dennie Burr, widow of patriot Thaddeus Burr, along with 42 others, founded the Fairfield Academy so that their sons could enter Yale to become ministers, merchants and sea captains, and their daughters (at Eunice's insistence) could receive a classical education. They bought shares at a cost of \$5 each. The tuition for students, typically aged 10 to 16, was \$4.50 for a 12-week session. The Academy ceased to exist around 1884 and was repurposed. Slated for demolition in 1920, the DAR chapter saved it and has had full use of it since.

Morris W. Lyon, one of the Academy's esteemed teachers, created the first Fairfield Memorial Library on the first floor of the Old Academy December 27, 1876. The library owned 677 volumes. "Our Eunice Dennie Burr chapter, which

was organized in 1894, carries out the important mission of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution here on the local level," said Paslov, "and we are excited to demonstrate the vibrancy and contributions of today's DAR by serving our local community as Daughters have been doing throughout the nation for 125 years. She added, "We are extremely pleased to collaborate with other societies of worldwide renown, such as Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, that both celebrate and support women, as well as recognize the important work that we do."

The final meeting of the current school year took place on June 21<sup>st</sup> at Aldario's in Milford. Installation of new officers for the 2016-18 biennium took place, and several new members were initiated.



**Beta Chapter members tour 1804 Old Fairfield Academy**

## GAMMA

In a program arranged by **Faye Ringel** and **Roz Etra**, Gamma Chapter members met for a dinner meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup> at the Yantic River Inn. The guest was Julie Menders, Adult Program Librarian at Otis Library in Norwich. Julie provided information about a traveling exhibit from the Smithsonian Institute which will arrive in Norwich this coming January. Otis is one of 19 public libraries that have been selected to host the exhibition entitled *Exploring Human Origins: What does it mean to be human?* Gamma has been invited to become involved in the preparation for the exhibit and for the presentation of the material. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide community service. Sadly, the meeting began with a moment of silence in memory of Michael Aaron Nelson, **Elaine Porter's** recently deceased son. Elaine took the opportunity to appeal to all present to have regular colonoscopies.

President Janis Sawicki opened the May meeting by thanking all members for the help they have given her during the past two years. As a token of her



# NUTMEG STATE

appreciation, she presented everyone with a Gerbera Daisy. After an enthusiastic review of the AKS Spring Conference for those who could not attend, Janis encouraged members to attend the AKS Leadership Conference to be held in June at Central Connecticut State University in the Copernican Planetarium where the director, Dr. Kristine Larsen, will give the main talk.

**Gerry Transue**, who has knitted hats for cancer survivors in two patterns, is donating them to Gamma Chapter to sell at the fall conference as a fundraiser. To Celebrate Teacher Appreciation Day, **Sue Danilowicz** made little goodie bags for each of her Gamma sisters. Once again, she and **Karen D'Auria** arranged for the meeting's refreshments. They were delicious! Finally officers for the new biennium were elected. They are **President Leonille Kadambaya**, **First Vice President Faye Ringel**, **Second Vice President Roz Etra** and **Recording Secretary Linda Shea**. The new officers will be installed at the beginning of the next meeting. **Penny Walczak** reported that our May tray favors for patients at Backus Hospital were assembled by her Business Club at Norwich Free Academy. The kids were happy to do this as part of their community service and it certainly was a help to us. Gamma scheduled a workshop meeting in mid-June to work out the details for next year's meetings which will begin in the fall.

## DELTA

Delta Chapter's March meeting was held at the Manor Inn in Southington. The program featured two speakers. **Past AKS President Nancy Roy** shared her experiences from a recent trip to Cuba. She was there for five days, where she met with educators and entertainers, saw musical and theatrical performances given by children as young as four years old and visited a five-star resort previously built for Canadian and European tourists. She noted that visiting Cuba was like stepping back in time for about 50 years; Cuba was beautiful, but in disrepair. **Delta's First-Vice President Paulina Auclair's** niece Nell, spoke about working for the Peace Corps in Benin, West Africa. Nell worked as an Environmental Action Volunteer in Benin and was mainly involved in programs to benefit women and children. She shared information about her animal-raising projects (with goats, chickens and bees) and a community garden project. While in Benin, Nell organized a Goat Bank to help women to gain a sustainable source of income. Delta members donated 150 seed packets for the community garden project and voted to make a \$100 contribution to the Kpakpa-Agbagoule School.

The May meeting was held at Verdi at Western Hills in Waterbury. Installation of officers was held. **Professional Affairs Chair Claudette Laflamme** announced that Watertown High School senior, Andrea Pannoni, was the recipient of the Delta Book Grant.

## ZETA

Zeta Chapter had its final meeting of the year, the annual Sundae Social on June 1<sup>st</sup>, at the Whitney Center in Hamden. Members brought a variety of appetizers, and 'make your own sundaes' was enjoyed later in the afternoon. The Zeta Memorial Grant was presented to Kimberly Sullivan, a senior at the Sound School in New Haven. Kim, who strives to become a music teacher in a neighborhood school, is the first student representative to serve on the New Haven Board of Education. She is associated with the instrumental program at Yale School of Music and participated in a first, 'a petting zoo of Instruments' where musical instruments were introduced to young people in neighborhood schools interested in taking up an instrument. Zeta members were delighted to be entertained by Kim's trumpet solos!

Bios for five new candidates for membership were presented. They will be orientated in September and initiated at the annual Initiation dinner meeting in mid-October. New officers for the 2016-2018 biennium were installed. They are **President Lenore Martinelli**, **First Vice President Margaret Hrabchak**, **Second Vice President Kathleen Szczepanski**, **Corresponding Secretary Kathleen Peters-Durrigan** and **Recording Secretary Donna Chaney**. **Treasurer Claudia Grantham** has agreed to continue her position for this next biennium. Books were exchanged for summer reading. Many thanks to the outgoing officers for their many contributions to chapter activities during the 2014-2016 biennium.

## THETA

Theta Chapter had a busy spring! In March chapter members gathered at the new Ballard Puppet Museum in Downtown Storrs for a tour. The guide gave us a very informative history of puppetry with vivid examples of each stage displayed in the showcases. All enjoyed the displays of more recent shows with the puppets, stages and props.

At the end of April, Theta prepared its second meal at the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Willimantic. The chapter is grateful for the girls from Journey House, who made several of the casseroles for the meal. Over 100 meals were served that day!

As this biennium comes to a close, it is time to thank everyone who has worked so hard to make the chapter as vibrant as it is. Many will continue as officers and committee chairs for the next two years. Special thanks to **Jane Schreiber** and **Anne Soracchi**, who have teamed as our second vice-presidents, as well as the 'hostesses with the mostest'! For the past several years, they have taken the reservations and arrived early to transform the meeting places. Thanks also to **Kelly Putz**, who has done a great job as recording secretary! They will be missed serving in these roles.

At the June Banquet, four new members were initiated. **Carole Norrish** is a retired consumer and family studies and science teacher from Mansfield, who



## AROUND THE NUTMEG STATE (continued)

has also worked with young parents in Willimantic. She is a member of Altrusa International. **Margaret Daly** is a middle school math teacher at St. Mary/St. Joseph School in Willimantic, as well as being a Eucharistic Minister. **Jill Hill** is a reading tutor at Sweeney School in Willimantic and a ten-year president of the PTO and Parent of the Year for both Sweeney School and Windham Middle School. **Donna Cawley** recently retired from Eastern Connecticut State University, where she was a speech pathologist for 34 years. She is a member of the St. Joseph's Women's Group

Theta Chapter installed its new and 'not so new' officers' at the June 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. A Ceremony of Life was held. Members collected donated items for the Summer Splash to be held with the chapter's Journey House sisters.

### IOTA

Iota Chapter started off the spring by thinking about summer. Father/daughter educators Greg and Kayli Midwinter shared a PowerPoint presentation about Kids Alive International and training teachers in the Dominican Republic. The presentation was informative and enlightening. These dedicated educators spend two weeks of their summer vacation helping Dominican teachers learn new strategies. Kids Alive is a highly-rated charity that runs several high quality homes and schools for some of the world's poorest children.

At the March meeting, Iota member **Carol Kelly** presented the new slate of officers for the 2016-2018 biennium. They are **President Sandy Gammons**, **First Vice President Jacqui Farrell**, **Second Vice President Ellie Coffey** and **Secretary Nina Shimer**. They were installed on May 25<sup>th</sup> at **Past AKS President Marnee Straiton's** house. That night, chapter members also held their annual auction and potluck dinner. The proceeds of the auction go towards the High School Book Grant and Graduate Program Scholarship. This year, two High School Book Grants were awarded. The students were from Newtown High School and Henry Abbott Tech in Danbury. Iota will also be awarding a grant for graduate work.

The annual summer meeting will be held. Iota members will be relaxing on a deck in Stonington planning events for the next year of fun and service!

### MU

Mu Chapter ended the year by awarding a \$1,000 scholarship to graduating high school senior, Ms. Jenna Budney. Jenna has successfully earned a weighted GPA of 90 at Farmington High School while overcoming severe speech disfluency. She has studied dance for 16 years and has been teaching ballet to 4-11 year olds for the past five years. She loves history and will be studying secondary history education in the 5-year master's program at Loyola University in Maryland.

The chapter collected and donated toiletries which were delivered by **Ann Newbury** to Interval House, a domestic violence service near Hartford. She noted that

there was a very generous amount donated by Mu Chapter, and it was greatly appreciated by those at Interval House.

On June 15<sup>th</sup>, eighteen Mu Chapter members met at **Pam Beach's** home to wrap children's books for new parents. These books are donated to the Ferdinand Sauer MD Family BirthPlace at the Hospital of Central Connecticut in New Britain, CT. Members began wrapping at 10:00 a.m. and finished at noon. The wrapping extravaganza culminated in a delicious potluck luncheon. Yum!

On June 16<sup>th</sup>, **Bev Kibbe** delivered 1,278 books to the hospital, wrapped in packages of two, 639 packages. Each package includes a letter to the parents from Mu Chapter explaining the importance of reading to their baby and the skills that are developed when reading to their child. The staff was thrilled with the thoughtful gifts and couldn't wait to present them to new parents. Again, the head of the Family BirthPlace, Carolyn Rossi, asked to have the books wrapped individually. Her thinking is that if the books were wrapped individually, they would reach almost all the new parents in one year. This suggestion will be proposed to the chapter in September.

The Birthing Center delivers approximately 1,500 babies a year, and Mu's books last about six months. Carolyn Rossi has invited the chapter members to tour Family BirthPlace sometime this summer.

### OMICRON

In February, Omicron Chapter met to explore the new DKG website. **Emily Lozinak** led the exploration.

In March, chapter members met at the Ansonia site of the Lower Naugatuck Valley Boys & Girls Club. Members were given a tour by two middle school students who attend the after-school program there.

On May 12<sup>th</sup>, the chapter met at Tavern 1757 in Oxford for the initiation of two new members. They are Diana Cuevas-Davis, who services community pre-schools through Skane School in Bridgeport, and Judith Joss, a Kindergarten teacher at Nichols School in Stratford.

Omicron honored a graduating senior from Platt Tech, who will be an education major at UConn. A \$500 grant was presented on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

### RHO

Rho Chapter was very happy to have eight members attending the Spring AKS Convention. Those attending enjoyed the speakers, luncheon and raffles. Two members, **Maxine Schortman** and **Jean Lobaugh**, were recognized for 40 years of membership. It was great to have Maxine attend her first convention and receive her pin in person. Jean's pin and certificate were delivered to her. Rho is also celebrating **Ellen Festi** being awarded an International Scholarship for her graduate program at University of St. Joseph. Congratulations, Ellen! Rho held two spring fundraising events. One was on May 20<sup>th</sup> at Friendly's in Manchester, and the second was at Sweet Frog Yogurt on June 10<sup>th</sup>, also in Manchester. Rho's final meeting was held on May 24<sup>th</sup> at Crandall Pond Lodge in Tolland where members enjoyed the annual potluck dinner, teacup raffle, book swap and installation of 2016-2018 officers.



# Alpha Kappa State Honoring Our Members 2016 Longevity Recognition

Congratulations to the following Alpha Kappa State members

### 50 years

Virginia Loch, *Beta*  
Marcia Crocker, *Mu*

Ray Dilieto, *Nu*  
Marion Jewell, *Nu*

### 40 years

Elizabeth Allcroft, *Delta*  
Josephine Radocchio, *Delta*  
Rosa Jennings, *Epsilon*  
Albina Cannavaciolo, *Zeta*  
Marjorie Jackson, *Eta*  
Judith Kierys, *Eta*

Judith Bielizna, *Iota*  
Mary Chaffee, *Iota*  
Barbara Beaudin, *Mu*  
Jean Lobaugh, *Rho*  
Maxine Schortman, *Rho*

### 30 years

Loretta Teevan, *Delta*  
Judith Cody, *Zeta*  
Joan Venditto, *Zeta*

Jacqueline Farrell, *Iota*  
Ann Hines, *Iota*  
Patricia Faulkner, *Mu*

### 25 years

Florence Goodman, *Delta*  
Sandra Hudon, *Delta*  
Angela Stortz, *Delta*  
Leslie Casanova, *Zeta*  
Geraldine Giaimo, *Zeta*  
Ann Chuk, *Theta*

Lisa Young, *Theta*  
Maureen O'Connor, *Lambda*  
Linda Rankin, *Lambda*  
Joan Roczynski, *Lambda*  
Johanne Walworth, *Lambda*  
Jean Chappell, *Nu*



**Marion Jewell, 50-Year  
Longevity Award  
Recipient**



**40-Year Longevity Award  
Recipients:  
Maxine Schortman and  
Albina Cannavaciolo**



**30-year Longevity Award Recipients:  
(l. to r.) Loretta Teevan, Patricia Faulkner,  
Judith Cody and Joan Venditto**



## ALPHA KAPPA STATE ACHIEVERS

### Terry Azoti, Zeta Chapter

**Immediate Past AKS President Terry Azoti** has three of her photographs selected to be on the online DKG International Fine Arts Gallery this past May. Terry's entries were titled *Peaceful Lillies*, *Pincushion Protea* and *Neck 'n Neck*. They can be found at [http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/DKG\\_Gallery\\_of\\_Fine\\_Arts.aspx](http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/DKG_Gallery_of_Fine_Arts.aspx).

### Alicia Clapp, Zeta Chapter

**Alicia Clapp** was honored by the dedication of the newly renovated North Haven ACES Mill Road school playground in her honor. Alicia served on the ACES Governing Board for 20 years, retiring last year. In earlier years, she taught Kindergarten in the room leading onto that playground.

### Dr. Kathleen Lozinak, Omicron Chapter

**Omicron Chapter President Kathleen Lozinak** recently completed her Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership through Capella University.

### Terry Ziegler, Eta Chapter

On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, **Eta Chapter President Terry Ziegler** received the Connecticut Library Association's Edith B. Nettleton Award, which recognizes outstanding volunteer service to a library. The award ceremony was held during the 2016 Connecticut Library Association Annual Conference at the Connecticut Convention Center in Hartford.

Terry, a retired music teacher, has volunteered for 14 years for Groton Public Library and delivers books, movies, magazines and other library materials twice a week, every week, to people in Groton, Mystic and Noank who can't leave their homes. She makes 50 deliveries and covers almost 90 miles a month.

"If dropping off and retrieving library materials were all Ms. Ziegler did, then I might not have cause to write this letter," wrote Kimmerle Balentine, children's librarian and Homebound Delivery Service coordinator for Groton Public Library. "But it is the human connection and the heart that she brings to the Homebound Delivery Service that sets her apart from other volunteers."

Letters supporting Terry arrived at the library as handwritten and typed notes from patrons suffering from arthritis, cerebral palsy, other medical conditions and residents in wheelchairs, unable to drive or caring for elderly parents.

"She always makes time to chat with me and is interested in my well-being," wrote Mary K. Smith, 91. "Terry does not realize it, but she makes my day."

Terry noted that "it should be the library" getting the award, though she's glad to see its program honored. Her mother, Lee Ziegler, worked for the library for 25 years and delivered books to senior living centers for many years, Terry said. When she started volunteering, she began doing what her mother had done.

"It's funny how it's come full circle," Terry Ziegler said.

According to Library Director Betty Anne Reiter, Terry even brings treats for the dogs at her stops, sends cards to patrons in the hospital and spends time visiting and listening as she makes her rounds.

"This is my first year in the program," wrote Christine Hall, who formerly worked with Ziegler's mother. Hall receives books every other week and said she feels less isolated with Ziegler's visits. "I truly appreciate Terry's selfless service and I bet her mom is proud."

On one visit, she met a woman's daughter who had cancer. "My daughter died last year and Terry purchased a book in memory of Julie and donated the book to the library — what a wonderful person," Kathryn Shroyer wrote in a hand-written note to Groton Public Library.

Over the years, Ziegler lost some of the patrons she visited and wanted to make sure they were remembered. So, as part of her volunteer work, she created a "book plate memorial program." Now, when someone she visits passes away, she buys a book they would have liked, places a nameplate inside in their memory and donates the book to the library.

Terry also expanded the Homebound Delivery Service program by going to senior living facility open houses and telling residents about the service.

"People ask me if I consider Terry a friend," wrote Heather Davis, who said she's been getting visits for years. "No, I consider her a sister!"





**ALPHA KAPPA STATE  
ACHIEVERS**

**Nancy Zorena, Beta Chapter**



**Nancy Zorena**, a member of Beta Chapter, has been selected as Monroe’s Citizen of the Year and was recognized officially at a town council meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Steve Vavrek, the first selectman whose office administers the award, said Zorena’s volunteerism and commitment to Monroe has been “extraordinarily far-reaching and compelling, setting a standard that is inspirational for all of us.”

Zorena’s 42 years as a volunteer with the historical society cover two terms as president extending for more than 12 years. She has been pivotal in preserving three iconic buildings that are part of Monroe’s historic legacy — the Bearsdsley Homestead (circa 1780), the Meeting House (circa 1811) and the East Village Schoolhouse (circa 1790) — and conserving the society’s collection of antiquities and artifacts, everything from farm implements to 19th century clothing to native American Indian arrowheads.

A “Hands on History” one-room schoolhouse which she helped establish in 1986 to give schoolchildren the learning experience of the Colonial classroom has been replicated by historical societies across Connecticut. In Monroe, the model has evolved into a camp that has continued for 25 summers.

In a teaching career spanning 35 years, Zorena taught at every one of Monroe’s public primary schools and was Monroe’s Public School Teacher of the Year in 1988-89 and the recipient of the Monroe Rotary Club’s Service and Self Award in 2012.

She is a member of the Friends of the Edith Wheeler Memorial Library, worked with the Monroe Junior Women’s Club to help create the Chalk Hill Nature Trail and served as a mentor to Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts dedicated to Eagle Scout recognition and Gold Awards.

**AKS Members Selected to Attend the DKG Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar**

**Theta Chapter President Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean** and **Omicron Chapter President Dr. Kathleen Lozinak** have been selected by DKG International, as two of only 30 members selected, to participate in the 2016 Leadership Management Seminar. The program will take place at the University of Texas in Austin from July 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>.

**AKS 2016 International Workshop Presenters**

**Patricia O’Connell Buckley, Theta, *Let Technology Lighten the Load of Financial Accounting***  
(International Finance Committee)

**Jacqueline Farrell, Iota, *Adult Literacy: An International Challenge***

**Emily Lozinak, Omicron, *Professionally Branding Yourself on Social Media*, by DKGnext! with Sara Sweeney**  
(West Virginia)

**Dr. Kathleen Lozinak, Omicron, *Ed.D. in Leadership and Management from Capella University: Insights from a Survivor***

**Sandra Petruccelli-Carbone, Beta, *DKG Artists Dialogue: Empowering Women***  
(International Arts & Humanities Jury)

Your AKS sisters are proud of you!



# Spring Convention Photos



**Registration Table:**  
Joan Roczynski and  
Laura Longacre,  
Lambda Chapter



**Right2Thrive Fundraiser:** Kustawi is a line of handbags and jewelry made by graduates of the free Handcraft classes who are working towards becoming an independent cooperative in Kenya. Items can be purchased online at <http://www.right2thrive.org/>



**AKS Rose Note Cards**  
Non-Dues Revenue Fundraiser



**United Nations' information display table**



**DKG / AKS Mixed Bag Design** Non-Dues Revenue Fundraiser



**Flag Ceremony**



## Spring Convention Photos



**AKS Convention First-Timers:  
Maxine Schortman, Rho; Kathleen Peters-Durrigan, Zeta; Lenore Martinelli, Zeta, and Sara Gutis, Epsilon**



**AKS Finance Committee Chair  
Rosemarie Mikasauskas**



# AKS 77th Birthday



# Ceremony of Remembrance



**Alpha Kappa State**

***Sharing Our Vision:  
Paying It Forward***

**Dates to Remember**

July 5-9, 2016

*International Convention*  
Nashville, Tennessee

Saturday, September 17, 2016

*Alpha Kappa State Board Meeting*  
Griffin Room, Meriden Public Library

Saturday, November 5, 2016

*AKS Fall Conference*  
Baci Grill, Cromwell

Friday, January 27, 2017

*CTAUN Conference*  
(Committee on Teaching About  
The United Nations)  
United Nations, New York City

Saturday, February 4, 2017

**Snow Date: Saturday, February 11, 2017**  
*Alpha Kappa State Board Meeting*  
Griffin Room, Meriden Public Library

Saturday, April 29, 2017

*AKS Spring Convention*  
Baci Grill, Cromwell

Saturday, June 3, 2017

*Alpha Kappa State Board Meeting*  
Griffin Room, Meriden Public Library

**Alpha Kappa State Fall Conference**  
**Saturday, November 5, 2016**  
**Baci Grill**  
**Cromwell**



**AKS Non-Dues Revenue Fundraiser**

The AKS Non-Dues Revenue Committee has set up a Mixed Bag Design Fundraiser. This is an online fundraiser that we will run until **July 31<sup>st</sup>**. AKS gets 40% profit from all orders!! Anyone can place an order (DKG members, friends, family, coworkers, etc. ) increasing the potential for a larger profit. We're counting on you to get the word out to make this a success, so share with everyone you know!

Go to [www.mixedbagdesigns.com](http://www.mixedbagdesigns.com).

Make sure our ID#526826 is at the top of the website before shopping. Orders will be shipped directly to you. Shipping is free on any order \$75 or more.

Any questions, please contact **Emily Lozinak** at [elozinak@yahoo.com](mailto:elozinak@yahoo.com) (203-526-5879).

**Photography for *The Keynote*  
contributed by**

**Alpha Kappa State Photographer  
Carolyn Downs**

**NEXT KEYNOTE DEADLINES:**

September 1, 2016  
December 1, 2016

Send information to Carol Beam  
267 Ivy Drive  
Bristol, CT 06010-3308

or e-mail to [<d.w.beam@snet.net>](mailto:d.w.beam@snet.net)

**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*