

Connecticut State Organization
The Delta Kappa Gamma
Society International



Vol. 79 No. 2 Winter 2019-2020



Connecticut State
Organization
2019 Fall Conference

On November 2nd, sixty members attended the eightieth DKG CT State Organization Fall Conference at Wilcox Technical High School in Meriden. According to the evaluations, it was an “enjoyable day”, with “great company” and “great workshops”; and everyone enjoyed the “excellent breakfast”, which was “nice and hot and served on time”; and everyone “loved that it was over by noon”! The “great morning, which was interesting and informative” included a “selection of sessions” which featured a “good variety of retired and active teacher workshops”. Several members wrote about the workshops they attended so you could share in their learning. Their reflections follow this article. “This was a very worthwhile conference with learning impacting our lives.”

Following the breakfast buffet, **President Kathleen Lozinak** (Omicron) welcomed everyone and introduced our guests including the workshop presenters: **Jackie Abbott** (Rho), Cinnamon Adams, **Carol Beam** (Delta), Dr. David Bosso, **Judy Cody** (Zeta), **Sandy Mangan** (Tau-Upsilon Chapter) and **Mary Ellen Ulatowski** (Lambda). She also welcomed the Recruitment Grant recipients in attendance – Gina Masselli and Mary Heidtman.

Theta Chapter presented a wonderful Founders Tribute using photographs of each founder as masks while each charter member was introduced and some interesting facts about her life and career were shared. **Jeanne Morascini**, **Marie Desautels** and **Carol Kraus** created the presentation.

(Continued on page 3)

CT STATE ORGANIZATION
AWARDS
FOUR HIGH SCHOOL GRANTS
AND
SIX UNIVERSITY GRANTS

At the 2019 Fall Conference it was announced by **CSO Professional Affairs Chair Susan Carpenter** that ten grants would be awarded to high school and college/university students pursuing or planning to pursue a career in education. Each grant honors a distinguished member of Alpha Kappa State/CT State Organization. More information can be found on page seven of this issue.



Gina Masselli, Vera Butler Recruitment Grant recipient, with CSO Professional Affairs Chair Sue Carpenter



Mary Heidtman, Rheta Lange Recruitment Grant recipient with CSO Professional Affairs Chair Sue Carpenter

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LEADING WOMEN EDUCATORS IMPACTING EDUCATION WORLDWIDE

FROM THE MIDDLE



Hello Ladies,

Another Milestone, Another Season

The first conference of our biennium has come and gone. Presenters, chapter leaders and executive board members can accept our congratulations and heart-felt thanks, give themselves a pat on the back for a job well done and breathe a sigh of relief for a brief moment before we begin to plan for our spring convention. We are in the middle... of year one.

A giant thank you, and a big hug, goes out to **Dr. Ann Grosjean** for her efforts. She executed her role as Educational Excellence Chair flawlessly; communicating well with chapter leaders, presenters, caterers and site contacts with ease. Planning, shopping and organizing, all while balancing family and community responsibilities and an unexpected surgery that helped to keep things interesting. Thanks, Ann!

As I write this, preparations are underway for our holiday season and state level activities are a bit less stressful. This is, however, the busy season for chapters. Many are involved in community service activities and holiday celebrations. All are busy planning how to increase or maintain membership and meet the needs of our ever-changing pool of professional educators. Our continued thanks go out to our chapter leaders as they enter the middle of the second year of their biennium. It may be advisable to begin reflecting on your role going forward in your chapter and make plans for seeking out the leaders of the next biennium.

International is busy as well. The focus has shifted from regional conferences to our International Convention in Philadelphia. I would ask each of you to carefully consider not only attending in July but actively participating. Please submit a topic or an idea for a presentation to International by January 6th. The form is available on the DKG website. You are all so gifted in so many ways. That is why you were selected for DKG membership!

My 4th graders are in the process of creating a *Class Yellow Pages*. Of course I had to do a mini-lesson on what Yellow Pages were, as that is ancient history for nine year olds in 2019. I asked them to think of their areas of expertise, ways they could help their classmates, things they know and can do that might be of service to others. You might be surprised to know how important it is to know who can actually tie shoes, tell time on a clock face or read cursive! An especially high area of need this year is the competent desk organizer. I was the first to seek out this service!

My point, I would also love to learn from all of you. I would love a 45-minute session on using music to teach history, (I missed it in the fall!) or one on teachers in the National Guard. International members may like to learn more about community outreach programs in Connecticut or preschool and family support options for children in the inner city. Maybe you can share about the joys and challenges of raising grandchildren or transitioning from a K-12 setting to the university level. Each of you has a story to tell or a lesson to teach. This may be the summer to do it! I've presented at sessions with standing room only and others with less than ten people. Someone always gains something from my efforts, and isn't that why we became teachers!

Yes, there are those years when you are feeling a bit drained and you need to be the learner. We have all been there, but if you find yourself in a good place personally or professionally, consider sharing. I guarantee your efforts will be acknowledged by a grateful audience, whether your message reaches fifteen or fifty members. I look forward to learning from you and alongside you this summer in Philadelphia. Hope to see you all soon,

Kathleen

ΔΚΓ MISSION STATEMENT

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



Fall Conference

Workshops

(Continued from page 1) COS 2019 Fall Conference

Kathleen and the **Chair of Professional Affairs Susan Carpenter** (Tau-Epsilon) then presented the Connecticut State Organization Recruitment Grants. Four high school students received grants for college or university studies, and six college or university students received grants to continue their studies in the field of education. Two recipients, Gina Masselli and Mary Heidtman, were in attendance to accept their special honor and enjoyed attending the workshops! This year each female recipient also received a DKG Benefits of Membership pamphlet and an invitation to join Delta Kappa Gamma as collegiate members.

Four members received certificates and a rose from Kathleen to honor their selections into the DKG Fall Gallery of Fine Arts. The DKG International Arts and Humanities Jury selects the artistic works of the entrants. **Dr. Linda Paslov** (Beta) with a poem (see page 14) was recognized at the conference. **Terry Azoti** (Zeta) with two photographs, **Judy Baxter** (Theta) with two photographs and **Linda Tracy** (Theta) with two pastels received their certificates and roses at a later date. You can view the Fall Gallery at the DKG.org website.

Our heartfelt thanks to the many CSO chapters and members who made this conference such a success! Alpha Chapter coordinated registration with **Jean DiVincenzo** collecting the RSVP's, workshop choices and checks and creating nametags and a spreadsheet of the above. **Linnea Stenberg** manned the table at the conference. **Shannon Karlowicz** edited the program for the first time with support from previous editor, **Deb Sorensino** (Zeta). Shannon did an outstanding job!

Margaret Festi (Rho) printed the programs, and **CSO Executive Secretary Linda Shea** (Theta) printed other materials. **CSO Treasurer Donna Chaney** (Zeta), handled all the finances for the Conference. Mu Chapter provided the roses. **Editor Carol Beam** featured the conference in The Keynote and reviewers **Jeanne Morascini** (Theta), **Terry Azoti** (Zeta), **Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone** (Beta) and **Pat O'Connell-Buckley** (Theta) reviewed the registration form and the program. **Photographer Laurie Mihalcik** (Omicron) took photographs of the day featured in this issue of the Keynote and on the CSO Website. **Communications Chair Emily Lozinak** (Omicron) shared the day on the state website and Facebook page, created the certificates for workshop facilitators and Arts winners and was a big help setting up and cleaning up. Thank you to workshop facilitators who stepped up to share their time and talents with us! Thanks to **President Kathleen** and **Immediate Past President Pat O'Connell Buckley** who guided me through the process for my first time. As CSO First Vice President, it was my responsibility to coordinate the conference; and I want to thank everyone who helped out in any way! We do more together! "Thank you for all of the hard work and planning. It was very well organized. It must have taken hours to coordinate all of those names and workshops." It takes a village...and state!

**Dr. Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean, Theta Chapter
CT State Organization First Vice-President**



President Kathleen Lozinak (right) and First Vice President Ann Cavanaugh-Grosjean (left) with 2019 CT State Organization Fall Conference workshop presenters



Fall Conference

Book Talk: *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jaime Ford

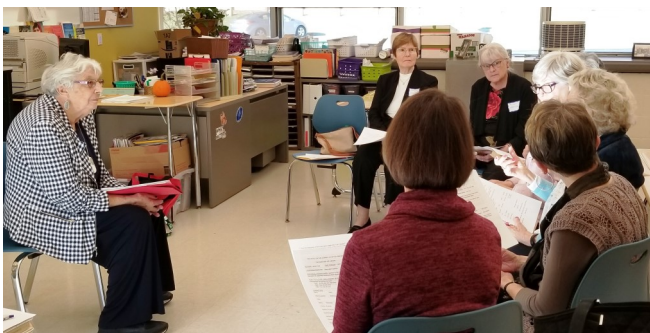
Facilitated by Dr. Jackie Abbott and
Judy Cody

Summarized by Anita Satriano (Theta)

The book, *The Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford was the topic of discussion in the session facilitated by **Jackie Abbott** and **Judy Cody**. It is a historical fiction dealing with the aftereffects of the bombing of Pearl Harbor and how the lives of the Japanese population living in the southwestern states were affected. The relocation of one hundred twenty thousand Japanese American citizens to internment camps away from the coast was a subject that was not taught in many schools. Many of the participants in the discussion group indicated that they did not learn of this event until they were adults.

Time periods in the book are 1942, 1945 and 1986 and center around the relationship of a Chinese boy and a Japanese girl who forge a bond of friendship in spite of the long-standing prejudices of their Old World ancestors. They are separated by the relocation of the Japanese family and hope that their relationship can be resumed in the future.

The book discussion was expertly led by Jackie and Judy who also gave information and suggestions for starting a successful book club. It was an interesting and very enlightening session.



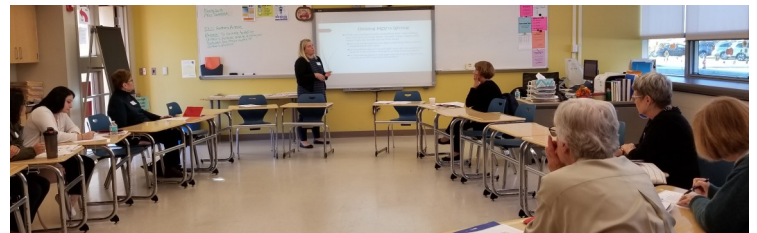
Workshop Summaries

Reading and Writing: *Making the Connection*

Facilitated by Sandy Mangan

Summarized by Kathleen Szczepanski (Zeta)

Sandy Mangan, an educator working with young children, spoke to members at the CSO Fall Conference. She offered great ideas to bring reading strategies to writing and vice versa. Sandy talked about the power of wordless picture books to engage children, showing how a person can write a book with no words. Using these materials as examples, children can create several covers and then choose one to write about. She gave many examples of what to draw in the pictures and what words to write such as drawing people acting and talking and adding action words and comments. Asking them to read their stories leads to having the children listen to what they wrote and to ask themselves if it sounds right; to look at what they wrote and to see and if it looks right. In this way the students stay active in the reading and writing connection in the beginning of the journey to learn to read and write.



Photographs by
Laurie Mihalcik
CT State Organization
Photographer



Fall Conference

Workshops Summaries

An American Folk Song Sampler from A to Z

Facilitated by **Mary Ellen Ulatowski**

Summarized by **Sue Moon (Theta)**

An American Folk Song Sampler from A to Z was a very informative and entertaining workshop presented by **Mary Ellen Ulatowski**. She engaged everyone in song, storytelling and movement. Mary Ellen first shared her knowledge of the history of folk songs. In the early 1900's Zoltan Kodaly, a Hungarian, started to collect folk songs from his homeland and surrounding countries. These songs had formerly been passed down in the oral tradition. Kodaly built a library of these songs and included movement.

In the 1960's, Sister Mary Alice from Holy Name University in Oakland California followed in the music tradition of Kodaly and started building a catalog of folk songs. These songs represent many varied cultures and purposes, such as work songs, lessons to be learned and the sharing of generational stories.

Next, Mary Ellen, shared her list of folk songs with titles from A to Z. (except for U and X!) She told us the story behind each song. We sang the verses and often did movements, dance or rhythms to accompany the song. We traveled from Acka Backa to Zudio. All this in 45 minutes!! It was an educational and enjoyable journey. These songs are appropriate for the classroom and for fun with any gathering of young and old.

Mary Ellen's resource information can be found at <http://kodaly.hnu.edu> The American Folk Song Collection.

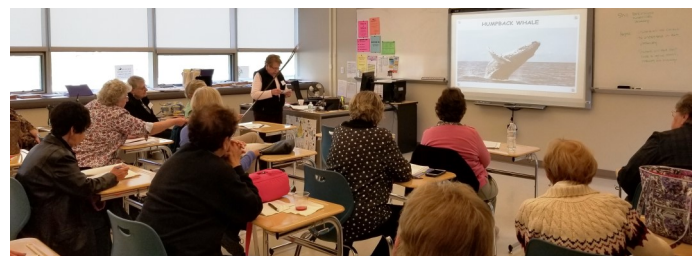
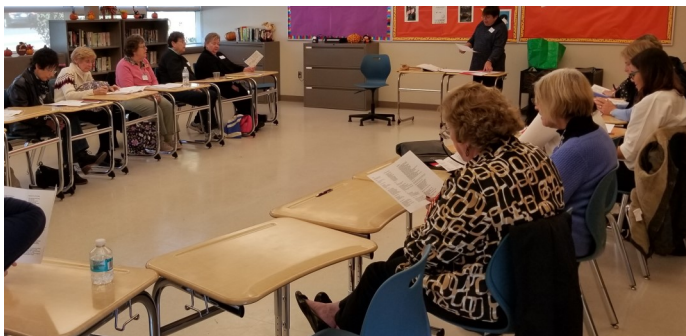
The Real Cape Cod- Beyond Seafood and Beaches

Facilitated by **Carol Beam**

Summarized by **Pat O'Connell Buckley (Theta)**

Attendees learned about some of the history, nature and science that is specific to Cape Cod, Massachusetts. The workshop was presented by **Carol Beam**. Before Carol retired, she taught gifted and talented education in Bristol and Torrington. Her students in Torrington became interested in the JASON Project, in which Robert Ballard takes teachers and scientists around the world to study and research in a variety of environments. Through the JASON curriculum and technology, students all over the world are able to follow the scientists and researchers and participate in the learning. Carol herself was selected by National Geographic to participate in the Alaska expedition one summer with the JASON Project.

Attempting to replicate Dr. Ballard's project, Carol would lead a group of middle school students to Cape Cod to research the environment, animals and history for four days each spring for fourteen years. She explained to workshop attendees that the students completed research about Cape Cod's geology, history, including early explorers and settlers, the whaling industry, the building of the Cape Cod Canal, shipwrecks, lighthouses and the birth of the Coast Guard. Carol shared many interesting facts that she and her students learned about the popular tourist area. The students worked hard on their projects, went way beyond seafood and beaches, and many of them became scientists. I am sure the attendees of this workshop will have a completely different view of the Cape the next time they visit!





Fall Conference

Incorporating Inquiry: Using the Question Formulation Technique to Enhance Student Engagement

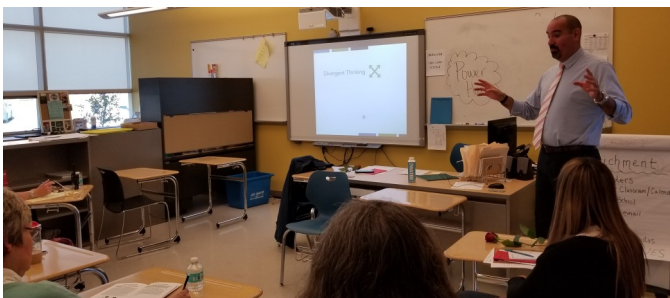
Facilitated by Dr. David Bosso

Summarized by Kimberly Albro McGee (Zeta)

The Connecticut Fall Conference included an interesting and informative workshop on questioning with Dr. David Bosso, Berlin High School social studies teacher and 2012 Connecticut Teacher of the Year. Dr. Bosso shared with the group that at a young age, children are curious and ask many questions, but as they grow older, questioning begins to diminish. By the time students hit middle school, they become less and less likely to ask questions in the classroom at all. It is important for us as educators to foster student questioning as a gateway to inquiry and more effective decision-making.

Dr. Bosso reviewed the inquiry cycle and its importance in shifting instruction to make it more student-centered, allowing students more active engagement and ownership over their own learning. Incorporating a method known as the Question Formulation Technique (or QFT), helps us to make “closed” questions more “open,” and to address essential questions that apply universally, regardless of time and space. The QFT allows educators to address deeper, more thought-provoking questions, and helps students through the progression of developing their questioning skills. More importantly, this prepares students to learn to ask better questions and to participate more effectively in society.

Dr. Bosso took the audience (which included everyone from pre-service teachers to retirees, teaching kindergarten through high school) through several authentic examples, and it proved to be useful for all participants in this diverse group. Think you might like to learn more about the QFT? Visit the Right Question Institute for more information at www.rightquestion.org.



Workshops Summaries

***Navigating Difficult Conversations?
We all have difficult conversations.
Let's talk more about how to effectively
navigate these challenging opportunities
in our everyday relationships.***

Facilitated by Cinnamon Adams

Summarized by Pam Aubin (Theta)

The presenter at the double session *Navigating Difficult Conversations*, Cinnamon Adams, brought a wealth of experience gleaned from her role in Student Affairs at the University of Connecticut. She is often called upon to help graduate students and faculty manage conflict.

Throughout the 90-minute session, Ms. Adams provided strategies and a planning template to guide participants in preparing for a difficult conversation in a variety of situations. Participants shared conversations that they would like to have.

The following factors were key to navigating a difficult conversation:

1. Recognizing what makes a difficult conversation
2. Preparing for a difficult conversation
3. Using a script/framework for planning
4. Managing emotions

During the session participants were asked to, “think back to any conversation that you have had (or avoided) that you considered difficult”. Specifically, we were asked to recall:

What the conversation was about?
What made it difficult?

This interactive session provided an opportunity for participants to use a planning template for a conversation we needed to have and to plan effectively for it.

As members planned for their conversation, Cinnamon asked them to consider the following:

What is my purpose in addressing this issue/
having this conversation?

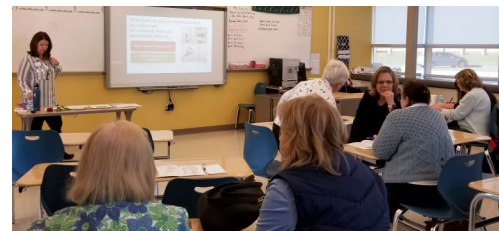
What will likely happen if I ignore the problem?
How is the problem affecting...?

Evaluate what issues are impacting the conflict/
problem?

Is the issue based on an event, pattern of
behavior, and /or a relationship?

Is it a process issue or a people issue?
How have I contributed to the problem?

How have others contributed?





Connecticut State Organization Awards Recruitment Grants and High School Grants

Since 1951, grants have been awarded by the Connecticut State Organization to female and male college/university students and high school seniors majoring in education. Each grant bears the name of a distinguished member of the Connecticut State Organization to the college or university with which the honored member had a close association. The following grants were announced at the 2019 Fall Conference:

\$500 Vera Butler Recruitment Grant to Gina Masselli
Central Connecticut State University
Elementary Education with a concentration in Math

\$500 Flora Lister Recruitment Grant to Nikole Travis
Western Connecticut State University
Secondary Education and Mathematics

\$500 Mary Mahoney Recruitment Grant to Kyre McBroom
University of Connecticut
Secondary Education and History

\$500 Ida Seidel Recruitment Grant to Alyssa Barry
Eastern Connecticut State University
Sociology and Early Childhood Education

\$500 Helen Moroney Recruitment to Jessica Maier
Southern Connecticut State University
Special Education/Elementary Education
Dual Certification

\$500 Rheta Lange Recruitment Grant to Mary Heidtman
Southern Connecticut State University
Special Education/Elementary Education
Dual Certification

High School Grants

\$750 Adelina "Lee" P. Formica Grant — Jack Naylor, Rockville High School, Vernon
Franklin Pierce University

\$750 Hannah C. Griswold Grant— Sheylian Berrios, Sound School, New Haven
University of Connecticut, Waterbury

\$750 Margaret Rose Nielsen Recruitment Grant—Jasmine Jones, Metropolitan Business Academy, New Haven
Albertus Magnus College

\$750 Elizabeth C. Sonier Grant — Nicholas Cavuoto, New Milford High School, New Milford
University of Connecticut

DKG International to Award 30 Scholarships to Members



Are you planning to pursue an advanced or doctoral degree? You are eligible to apply for a \$6,000 advanced degree scholarship or for a \$10,000 doctoral degree scholarship. The application and information can be found on the DKG website under the Forms link at the top of the Society's homepage. On the website, click on Forms and then click on Applications.

The deadline for applying is February 1, 2020.

www.dkg.org



AROUND THE

ALPHA

Alpha Chapter had an enjoyable variety of fall meetings and events thanks to **Program Chair Judy Petersen**. A welcome back meeting was held on September 24th at which members enjoyed catching up and sharing plans for 2019-20.

The chapter hosted an author talk open to the community on October 24th. Local author Patricia Chadwick shared her memoir *Little Sister: A Memoir* about growing up in a draconian sect founded by a soon-to-be excommunicated Catholic priest. The November 19th meeting included *Travel Shares*, in which members related highlights of memorable trips. **Joanne Zammit, Rita Baker** and **Janess Coffina** talked about their travels to Australia/New Zealand, Croatia and Greece.

The chapter's December 4th activity was held at Diane's Books, a local independent bookstore. Owner Diane Garrett shared her favorite new books for adults and children. Members then had dinner at a nearby restaurant.



Beta Chapter's new members: (l. to r.) Dr. Patricia Anekwe, Joanna Najarian-Garb, Dr. Jani Pallis, Dr. Jess Gregory, Dr. Jenn Sinal Swingler, Deborah Mongillo and Angela Swanepoel

BETA

Beta Chapter's first meeting of the 2019-2020 school year was held October 2nd at Baingan Indian Cuisine of Shelton. At that time, seven new members were inducted: **Patricia Anekwe** (Retired Director, Central Magnet High School, Bridgeport), **Angela Swanepoel** (Math department chair, Bunnell High School Stratford; Adjunct Professor at Quinnipiac University), **Joanna Najarian-Garb** (9-12 Literacy Coordinator, Stratford Public Schools), **Deborah Mongillo** (Hairdressing and Cosmetology Instructor, Bullard Havens Technical High School, Bridgeport), **Dr. Jani Pallis** (Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of Bridgeport), **Dr. Jennifer Sinal Swingler** (Director of Secondary Literacy and Learning, Fairfield; Adjunct Professor at University of Bridgeport and Southern Connecticut State University) and **Dr. Jess Gregory** (Associate Professor of Educational Leadership, Southern Connecticut State University). The chapter also welcomed four prospective members.

In addition to her numerous awards, **Beta Chapter President Dr. Linda Paslov** announced that her poem *My Delta Kappa Gamma* (see page 14) has been accepted for the DKG Fall Gallery. Linda was honored at the CSO Fall Conference.

Beta Chapter is supporting Luis Munoz Marin School in Bridgeport. Members have been generous with both monetary and specific school supplies.

The next chapter meeting will be held mid-January at the Monroe Library at which time members will be engaged in a winter craft activity and spend time familiarizing themselves with the updated DKG website.



Beta Chapter's Induction Team: (l. to r.) Vivian Manzione, Linda Paslov, Nancy Yarmosh, and Karol Flegal.

DELTA

Delta Chapter held its holiday meeting on November 30th at Fairview Farm in Harwinton. The program *Celebrating 300 Years of Connecticut's Remarkable Women* featured Liz Krebs, Education Manager from the CT Women's Hall of Fame. Founded in 1994 in Hartford, Conn., the Hall today stands as the state's premier source for Connecticut women's history with 121 Inductees. These women's lives and accomplishments are celebrated and documented through a wide spectrum of innovative statewide programs offered free of charge to Connecticut citizens.

A delicious brunch was served. The annual artistically designed basket raffle was held to raise money for the chapter book grant.



NUTMEG STATE



Delta Chapter's December speaker: Liz Krebs, Education Manager from the CT Women's Hall of Fame.

EPSILON

Epsilon Chapter awarded a \$500 grant to an Eastern Connecticut State University student. The chapter also donated \$250 to the Boys & Girls Club of Hartford.

Epsilon is in the process of partnering with the First Academy Daycare to ensure that they have Professional Development, Academic Reviews and Evaluations throughout the school year.

Thank you to our CT State Organization sisters for an outstanding Northeast Regional Conference at Foxwoods Resort & Casino held on July 30, 31 and August 1, 2019.

Epsilon Chapter members met on October 19th at the Goodwin House in Hartford.

ZETA

Zeta members were pleased to induct two outstanding members into the chapter on October 17th, at Bellini's Restaurant in North Haven. **Joan Lathrop** is a retired chemistry and forensic science teacher from Stamford. She volunteers with the Kids Backpack program, with the CT Food Bank and is a gallery guide at the Maritime Center in Norwalk. **Kelly O'Leary** is the principal of St. Martin de Porres Academy in New Haven. She is active in several educational organizations and enjoys skiing in her spare time.

On November 23rd, Zeta members held their annual brunch and auction at the Aces Offices in Hamden. **Albina Cannavaciolo** served as member auctioneer for the many gifts brought by members and their guests to auction off. Approximately \$2,200 was earned. Zeta's two educational grants (the Marguerite McKay Grant and the Zeta Memorial Grant) will each receive about \$546. The 2019 Worthy Project, Horns for Kids, will receive \$874. Horns for Kids is a non-profit program in CT where donated funds help to refurbish gently

used musical instruments that are then sent to various schools and distributed to students interested in learning to play an instrument but are unable to pay for such on their own. Gently used instruments may also be donated. Ticket sales for two special drawings brought in \$182 for World Fellowship and \$320 for the CT Diaper Bank.

Donations to the CT Food Bank were \$182. Zeta Chapter receives \$218 toward expenses. This event is very special to our chapter members which gives us pleasure to be able to donate to others during this holiday season. Many thanks to those members who worked on the committee to organize and arrange for the event, coordinate the Worthy Project nominations and to Zeta's treasurer for her work recording and organizing fund results.



Dorothy Martino, a member of Zeta Chapter since 1962 models one of the handmade knit caps which were auctioned at the November event.

THETA

Theta's September meeting, held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Windham Center, featured **Ann Gruenberg** and **Linda Tracy** who facilitated an engaging and rejuvenating stress management session. **Jane Moynihan** was the hostess for the evening and treated members to her delicious quiches.

At the CSO 80th Fall Conference on November 2nd, Theta presented a notable Founders' Tribute written and prepared by Carol Kraus and Jeanne Morascini. Many Theta members were in attendance to help with the presentation.

Theta had several events during December:

- a *Just For Fun* social and cookie swap at the home of Theta's First Vice President Pam Aubin
- two pre-Christmas visits to Journey House planned by **Sharon Bartlett** - one on December 10th to help the girls make holiday mugs to give as gifts and the other on December 23rd featured a graham cracker ginger bread house contest. Both were great fun.

Theta's next meeting will be in January and the soup kitchen February 1st. From our chapter to yours, *Best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.*

LAMBDA

Members of Lambda Chapter met for their second general meeting on Wednesday, November 13th at Cheshire Academy. **Communications Chair Laura Longacre** discussed Cheshire Academy's involvement in the International Baccalaureate® (IB) Program. This curriculum strives to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and



AROUND

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caring young people who are motivated to succeed. It is hoped that students will use their emerging insights in order to help build a better world through intercultural understanding and respect.

Members brought a myriad of non-perishable food and personal hygiene items which were donated to Masters' Manna in Wallingford. Master's Manna, Inc. is a faith-based not-for-profit organization established in Wallingford to serve homeless, near homeless, low to moderate income families and individuals living in the greater Wallingford/Meriden area. Its mission is to help these individuals obtain essential needs.

MU

Mu Chapter's October meeting's program was led by member **Nora Hillman**, art teacher at Avon Middle School. Nora succeeded in making Mu members feel like true artists. Thanks to Nora for her encouragement and expertise!

At Mu's November meeting, member **Janet Schwartz** spoke about the article in the Sunday *Hartford Courant*, 11-21-19, regarding the baseball player Johnny "Schoolboy" Taylor, who was a star in the Negro League in Hartford but was barred from the then segregated Major Leagues. Hartford residents will be voting on whether to honor him as one of the best baseball players in Hartford of his era by naming a ball field in Colt Park after him. His daughter is Mu member **Lynnette Grande**. Mu members voted for Janet to send a letter to Lynnette from Mu expressing the chapter's support for this honor. For the evening's program, **Patty Faulkner** introduced Matthew Carbray, a financial planner from Ridgeline Financial Partners in Avon, who was a very knowledgeable and dynamic speaker.

Thanks to **Nancy Methot**, **Alberta Culley**, and **Carolyn Hallifax** for making the wreath donated in Mu's name to the Wadsworth Atheneum's annual Festival of Trees.



Mu Chapter Paint Party meeting:

Top Row: Carolyn Hallifax, Nora Hillman, Anne Lippincott, Linda Caraher, Shelley Lloyd, Linda Perosino, Sue King

Bottom: Alberta Culley Jan Schley, Ann Atwood
Photo by Lillie Feierabend

OMICRON

In September, Omicron Chapter held its annual Fall Social at the HOPS Company in Derby. Several prospective new members were also there. **President Helen Scully** presented a thank you gift to **Kathleen Lozinak** for her past four years as chapter president.

A business meeting was held in October at Derby Neck Library to finalize plans for future events. A 35-year pin was presented to **Joan Giardina** by **President Helen Scully**. Members enjoyed a wonderful buffet dinner made by **Joan Giardina** and **Pat Chaghatzbanian**.

Also in October, Omicron Chapter held its very first Scholarship Fundraiser Bingo Night at the Catholic War Veterans Hall in Derby. There was a large turnout, and it was a huge success. Prize baskets were made and donated by Omicron members.

RHO

Rho Chapter was pleased to begin its 40th year on Oct. 2nd with a dinner meeting and induction ceremony in the Friends Room of the South Windsor Public Library. **Nancy Wyman**, former Lt. Gov. and current Chairman of the CT Democratic Party, was inducted into Rho as an Honorary Member. Nancy exemplifies the fourth purpose of Delta Kappa Gamma; "To initiate, endorse and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and women educators." Her experiences serving on the Tolland Board of Education, as a State Representative and the first female State of Connecticut Comptroller demonstrate this purpose. Nancy's talk describing life and her political journey was informative and entertaining. She was most appreciative of being inducted into a society of women educators and expressed her thanks for everything educators do daily to improve the lives of students.

Six members of Rho attended the Nov. 2nd CSO Fall State Conference. Rho member **Jackie Abbott** co-facilitated a book discussion with **Judy Cody** on the novel *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*.

On Dec. 7th Rho Chapter held its second fundraiser with a sale of Costume/Vintage Jewelry at the Storrs Congregational Church's Christmas Bazaar. Thank you to all the state members who donated to the jewelry collection.

In March, Rho will be hosting an evening with children's book author, Jeanne Zulick Ferruolo. Jeanne will speak on her young adult novel, *Ruby in the Sky*. This book was one of eight selected by the Washington Post's KidsPost Summer Book Club to support the theme of "Making a Difference." Further information will be emailed to chapter presidents in February to invite interested CSO members to this meeting.



STATE



Rho Chapter initiation of Chapter Honorary Member Nancy Wyman
(l. to r.) **Dottie Shackway, Chapter President Margaret Festi, Pat Piatek and Nancy Wyman.**



A Call for Officers and Committee Members from the Nominations Committee

Would you like to serve in the next biennium or know someone you think would be a great asset for our Connecticut State Organization?

The Nominations Committee is seeking candidates to fill officer positions for the 2021–2023 biennium. Our current **First Vice President Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean** will move up to the presidency in the next biennium. We are looking for members to serve as first vice president, second vice president and recording secretary.

Nominations are also open for 2021–2025 for three members for the Finance Committee and three members for the Nominations Committee.

The responsibilities of each position can be found online in the Connecticut State website (dkgct.weebly.com) Go to Menu, About Us, Bylaws and Standing Rules documents. The nominations form is also online on the CSO website under Forms.

Nominations Committee Chair **Marilyn Arvoy**
Committee Members: **Joanne Brogis, Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone, Jacqueline Farrell, Patricia Piatek and Judy Weiner**

IMPROVE CHAPTER IDENTITY

The heart of the Society is the chapter and its members. Your chapter must frequently assess member interests, needs and wants and align those to the mission, vision and purposes of the Society. The next step is to involve members in planning and providing meetings and programs that consistently support the specific results of your assessment. Evaluate your members' satisfaction. Then, adjust and let your chapter's personality develop. The enthusiasm of your members will be a magnet to potential members. Let's make the DKG brand meaningful, beginning at the chapter level.

MEMBERS MAKE THE DKG BRAND

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society has all the elements of a good brand: a mission, a vision, a logo, purposes, a web presence and approximately 62,000 members in 17 countries. Good branding includes all these elements; however, the key to having a recognizable brand is the reputation of the Society in fulfilling the promises of the vision, mission and purposes. When that occurs, educators recognize DKG as the Society that will promote their professional and personal growth and excellence in education. We members have the charge of making our brand recognizable by key women educators worldwide.

Adapted from the November/December 2019 issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Get Connected*.

Lenore Martinelli, CSO Membership Chair



The Empowered to Lead Symposium

The **Empowered to Lead Symposium**, an annual event hosted by the Connecticut Teacher of the Year Council, is Connecticut's premier educational conference. E2Lead provides opportunities for teacher-leaders, administrators and other educators to articulate and enhance their collective power, expertise and experience. This transformative event includes inspiring keynote and luncheon speakers; multiple networking opportunities; and interactive sessions that promote the sharing of ideas and resources, innovative strategies and solutions, and collaborative discourse and practices geared toward elevating our profession.

Thursday, April 20th 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.
Mohegan Sun Convention Center

For more information, go to the 2020 Empowered to Lead Symposium website.



REFLECTIONS FROM PAST ALPHA KAPPA STATE/CT STATE ORGANIZATION PRESIDENTS

Connecticut State Organization Finances



I've always believed that when you understand the finances of an organization, you understand the organization. It may seem to most that finances and budgets are not the most glamorous part of the organization. But no organization should or can function without a budget. The budget helps Connecticut State Organization reach its goals and needs each year.

Our state organization is a non-profit organization that operates primarily for the benefit of our members. Each year, our state treasurer files documentation of our income and status to the IRS. We are not required to pay state or federal income tax. We provide programs and projects to members and award scholarships.

Each year, Connecticut State Organization develops a budget for operations. The Finance Committee develops and presents the budget. They seek input from the state organization officers and committee chairs. The Committee looks at the estimated income for the coming year. The Executive Board endorses the budget and the membership approves it at the annual Spring Convention. The budget is based on funds that are available to be used over the fiscal year. Delta Kappa Gamma governing documents also require each state that doesn't have a building, to have an available fund reserve that is not less than one year's operating budget. This is there for emergency purposes and is used only with the approval of the Executive Board.

Membership drives the budget. The Finance Committee tries to work closely with state officers and committee chairs and, especially, the Membership Committee. When our membership decreases, our budget must decrease. However, as you know, doing business costs more each year. Some of the ways we have tried to reduce our budget is by publishing the KEYNOTE newsletter on-line twice a year, reducing the subsidies for conferences and conventions and reducing the stipends for some officers. We also try to make our Fall Conference and the Spring Convention events pay for themselves.

One of the most exciting moves that CSO has made recently is to invest money from our funds. We are hopeful that in a few years the gains from the investments will be able to help balance our operating budget. So far, our investments are doing well, but we need to look at the long term to see valuable returns.

Our state organization is certainly not the richest state organization in Delta Kappa Gamma, but we are able to provide many opportunities and programs for our members and distribute grants to non-members. We are doing well and are able to be an active organization "impacting education" in our state. We have many members who are interested in the financial workings of our state organization. We can take pride in the fact that we have and continue to make wise financial decisions.

Pat O'Connell Buckley
Connecticut State Organization President, 2017-2019

Why DKG ?



When I was first invited by Jeanne Morascini to join Delta Kappa Gamma, I felt extremely honored and I still feel the same way today.

Our Mission promoting professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education touched a part of me that needed to be supported within a larger group (I am sorry that we don't sing the little jingle that one of our past International Fine Arts Chairs composed more often).

Our seven purposes form the basis of how we implement our mission. The beginning verbs in each purpose: **UNITE, HONOR, ADVANCE, INITIATE, ENDORSE AND SUPPORT, ENDOW, STIMULATE AND INFORM** are to me why we are part of this organization. It is empowering to me to be part of a movement leading educators and education through genuine fellowship so that we may participate effectively in a world society.

Carol Kraus, Theta
Alpha Kappa State President 2009-2011



CONNECTICUT STATE ORGANIZATION ACHIEVERS



Congratulations to Four Connecticut Members!

The Arts and Humanities Jury has selected the artistic works of **four** Connecticut Members for the International Fall Gallery of Fine Arts, an online gallery of works of art and letters. Congratulations for their artistic endeavors go to **Terry Azoti** (Zeta), **Judy Baxter** (Theta), **Dr. Linda Paslov** (Beta) and **Linda Tracy** (Theta).

Terry Azoti had two color photographs entries accepted: *Impermanence #1* and *Impermanence #2*. **Judy Baxter** also had two color photos accepted: *Chrysalis* and *Released*. Please take time to read **Dr. Linda Paslov's** poetry submission entitled *My Delta Kappa Gamma* (page 14) and look for **Linda Tracy's** pastel paintings entitled *Autumn Ablaze* and *Free to Roam* on the DKG website (Art Gallery).

Members are invited to view the entire gallery on the home page of the International website www.dkg.org. All Connecticut members are encouraged to submit their creative work to the Spring Gallery during the next submission period from January 15 - February 15, 2020. The categories include photography, crafts, literary efforts and two-and three-dimensional art. Guidelines can be found online in the ART Gallery.

Congratulations again to our CT Members on their achievements!

**Judith Baxter, Theta Chapter
CT State Liaison DKG Fine Arts Gallery**



At the 2019 Fall Conference, Judy Cody (Zeta) shares information about the Alpha Kappa State/CT State Organization historical notebooks which contain biographical reports on the state's founders, past presidents, honorary members and Achievement Award recipients.

Get Inspired

Meet successful women that are on the same path. Learn how they overcame obstacles on their way to success. Experiencing DKG at the International level will change how you see the Society.

Make Invaluable Connections

Meet people from all over the world. You could meet your new best friend, future business partner or have a conversation that sparks a real change in your life.

Explore

Philadelphia has something for everyone and our hotel is close to it all. Historic sites such as Independence Hall, The Liberty Bell and the Philadelphia Museum of Art (run the 'Rocky' steps!) are just steps from the hotel.

**MAKE YOUR
PLANS NOW
TO ATTEND!**



CSO President Kathleen Lozinak presents award to Dr. Linda Paslov whose poem *My Delta Kappa Gamma* has been accepted into the DKG Fall Gallery.



**Poem by Dr. Linda Paslov (Beta)
Accepted for Publication in the
Online DKG Fine Arts Gallery**

My Delta Kappa Gamma

Delta Kappa Gamma:
Three letters that are Greek
What these letters stand for
The words below do speak.

DKG's a union
Of women in the roles
Of educating others
And nurturing their souls.

DKG's a platform
For sharing what we do
So an understanding
Of teaching may ensue.

DKG's a chorus
Of females who do sing
Of equity for sisters
Into careers we bring.

DKG's a pairing
Of women with fine grants
Essential to ensure that
This learning does advance.

DKG's a marriage:
A blessing of the bond
Of one with one's career
In classrooms and beyond.

DKG's a cheer squad!
Those ladies everywhere
Who are educators
Deserve much more fanfare.

DKG's a voice for
Those who cannot speak:
The students who will gain
From laws that fairness seek.

DKG's a guardian
To those in membership
Who've chosen a career
That values scholarship.

Delta Kappa Gamma:
These letters symbolize
A grand society
And honor realized.

The Keynote is published four times per year.

Only the Spring and Fall issues are sent by U.S. Mail.

The Summer and Winter issues are
ONLY published on the CT State Organization website and
e-mailed to members.

Present and past issues are available on the website

<http://dkgct.weebly.com>

If you are unable to access the internet, please contact your
chapter president.

Keynote Deadlines are

Spring issue: March 1, 2020

Summer issue: May 27, 2020

Send information to Carol Beam
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A special thank you to the reviewers
for *The Keynote*:

Terry Azoti	Kathleen Lozinak
Ann Cavanaugh Grosjean	Jean Morascini
Judy Cody	Sandra Petrucelli- Carbone

**Connecticut State Organization
Dates to Remember**

**Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education Worldwide**

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

**Connecticut State Organization
Executive Board Meeting
Meriden Public Library**

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

**State Convention
Baci Grill, Cromwell**

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

**→ DON'T
FORGET!**