



Connecticut State Organization
The Delta Kappa Gamma
Society International



Vol. 81 No. 2 Winter 2021-2022



Incorporating Peace Concepts and Climate Change into our Classrooms

This is the title of *A Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World's* newest project. Although the pandemic has changed many plans and activities, we believe that this plan will enable us to assist beginning teachers. We want to support new educators in incorporating these most important topics into their curriculum. It is designed to involve our entire state organization and encourage new members.

We are asking each chapter to identify a newer teacher in their chapter area who would benefit from some supplemental resources. This teacher would not have to be a DKG member. We encourage you to reach out to non-members. Our committee will be providing a book about climate change, *Climate Action* by Seymour Simon, a gift card to purchase another book of their choice for their classroom and some lists of additional books and resources. We hope that this teacher will share the resources and books with other teachers in her grade level or school.

You could tap the currently teaching members of your chapter to try to identify a teacher that would benefit from the additional resources and book. When you have connected with and shared information about the project with a teacher, please send their name, school, grade level and email address to Sue Moon at sue@racespot.com. If you are able to identify someone by Jan. 31st, we would be most appreciative. We will give/ mail you the resources and the classroom book; and you will, in person, pass this along to the teacher by March 1, 2022. We are hoping the teachers will use the materials during the spring of 2022.

We will be sending more information to each chapter president after the holidays. For more information contact any committee member or **Chairperson Sue Moon**.

Reflections on the 2021 Fall Conference



Do some of you remember Continuing Educational Units (CEU's)? Teachers in Connecticut were required to earn 9 units in a 5-year period. This was done by taking graduate courses or attending workshops and conferences. Districts were required to offer a certain number of workshops each year for their staff members.

I was fortunate to work in a district with a wonderful curriculum director. Twice a year she would put together an entire day of varied workshops that were interesting, informative and worth-while. Where did she find all the presenters? They were staff members from within our own district!

Our November Fall Conference brought me back over 20 years to when it was hard to decide which workshop to take. Our presenters came from within our organization. I have only had positive feedback about the sessions. The two I attended were great.

I was impressed not only with the content of the workshops, but also with the presenters themselves. It was obvious in the two I attended that these women knew their material and were enthusiastic about it. (Anyone who can excite me about poetry and computer technology is to be admired!) It was also obvious that there had been a lot of preparation including timing the content to 45 minutes. Brava to each of our presenters.

I am going to repeat what I have said before—DKG women are the best!

Lenore Martinelli
CTSO First Vice-President &
Educational Excellence Chair

In this issue

Page 2 President's Message
Page 3-4 Fall Conference Workshop Summaries
Page 5 2022 DKG International Convention Communications and Marketing Training
Page 6 Recruitment and High School Grants

Page 7 In Memoriam
Page 8-10 Around the Nutmeg State
Page 11 State Members selected for DKG Gallery of Fine Arts
Page 12 Poem by Dr. Linda Paslov
Dates to Remember



INSPIRATIONS FROM ANN IMPACTING EDUCATION WORLDWIDE



Dear CTSO Sisters,

Happy New Year to you and yours! I hope you enjoyed the holidays with your family and friends and are feeling refreshed. The year 2021 was an improved version of 2020 - so here's hoping that 2022 will be the year that will return us to normal. There is much we have learned through this time of pandemic and good that we can retain – cutting global warming by holding some meetings on Zoom or working from home a few days a week.

Others, we have learned are best in person – family time together; children attending school interacting with their teachers and peers; attending a concert, play or game; worshipping at a church, synagogue or mosque; playing with children and grandchildren; travelling to visit family or for vacations; and attending a DKG meeting, conference or convention! Fortunately, we were able to maintain our fellowship during this unusual time!

What can we learn from this experience to improve our involvement in DKG International, our state organization and our chapters? Just like our home lives, it is all about the people! How can we best enjoy our time together? Hopefully, on April 30, 2022, we can gather together at

Cascade, a wedding venue in Hamden for our Spring Convention and celebrate this long-awaited reunion in person! In the meantime, we will hold our February 12, 2022, Executive Board Meeting on Zoom to avoid any nasty weather and for COVID safety. Thanks to **Educational Excellence Chair Lenore Martinelli** whose incredible creative organization and people skills made it possible for us to hold our CTSO Fall Fine Arts Conference on Zoom. This year we even included workshops in Breakout Rooms thanks to **Communications Chair** and **Zoom Master Emily DelPiano**. We are also so appreciative of all of our members who conducted workshops! You can read about their exciting workshops in this edition. We were also able to conduct our business as usual. **Susan Carpenter**, on behalf of the Professional Affairs Committee, presented grants to deserving high school and university students. **Iota Chapter** presented an enjoyable Founders Ceremony. A big thank you to everyone who made the conference such a success.

DKG International is moving forward planning the 2022 International Convention in New Orleans from [July 12 -16, 2022](#). It will be held at the Sheraton Hotel on Canal Street in the heart of the city. Visit the International website (dkg.org) to view DKG International President, [Becky Sadowski welcoming you](#) to the Big Easy! If you would like to see more of the area, Go Ahead Travel is offering a [tour from July 17 – 21 from New Orleans to Memphis](#). Before we know it, it will be time to register on the DKG website for the Convention and reserve a hotel room. Perhaps we can even gather for our CTSO Night dinner. We have so much to look forward to! Would you like to present a workshop? The [Presentation Proposal Form](#) is due by January 7, 2022, and can be found on the website. If you are presenting, you can apply for a stipend from the CTSO towards your trip. You can also sign up to be a [vendor or exhibitor](#) on the website. I hope to see you all there! *Laissez le bon temps rouler!*

Finally, how do we nurture this fellowship within our chapter? Our chapters are the heart of our organization. Chapter members become lifelong friends while they learn together, perform service projects in their communities, assist local schools and offer grants to high school and/or university students. Not only have our chapters continued to do their good works; but in many cases, they have done more to meet the extra need created by the pandemic. Meeting by Zoom has not only enabled chapters to continue to meet on a regular basis, but often included members from out of state or those unable to physically leave their homes. For active teachers, eliminating the travel to/from a meeting might enable them to attend – without a babysitter! One chapter had so much fun with a cocktail party meeting that they continued to get together on Zoom every Saturday night! Although hybrid meetings can be difficult to manage, they allow the best of both worlds. Many chapters braved fall and spring outdoor “garden parties” to enable them to meet in person! Please be on the lookout for new members to nominate to keep the heart of our organization beating strong!

Please invite me to attend a chapter meeting on Zoom or in person. I hope to see you at a chapter meeting, our February 12, 2022 Zoom Executive Board Meeting and at our April 30, 2022 Spring Convention.

I wish you the very best in this new year!

With much appreciation,

Ann



Fall Conference

WWII Through Story and Song Presented by Mary Ellen Ulatowski, Lambda Chapter President

This workshop gave a short history of WWII. It featured songs of the era that helped to illustrate the mood of America at the time, such as optimism after the Depression (Sunny Side of the Street), sadness over devastation in Europe (Last Time I Saw Paris), push for buying bonds and stamps (Buy A Bond) and patriotism (What America Means to Me, God Bless America). The breakout concluded with Mary Ellen expressing the hope that history will not repeat itself and that peace will prevail throughout the world.

**Summarized by Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone,
Beta Chapter**

Writing Stories We Should Share and Some We Probably Shouldn't Presented by Dr. Kathleen Lozinak Omicron Chapter

Kathleen began by sharing her philosophy of writing. When we were in school, most of us learned to write by following the same prompt and then received corrections. Her belief is that the most important aspect of the writing process is sharing.

Kathleen shared many creative examples of "writing starters", followed by generating a list (gathering) and then sharing one sentence. For example: list your favorite people, and think of stories you might want to tell about one or more of them. Then share: "One person I might want to write about is _____. The story I'd like to tell is ____ (one sentence)."

She also shared strategies for memoir writing. Kathleen suggested starting with thinking of emotions that are unusual for you. Then tell about times that you felt these emotions and include lessons that you learned. Another example was to write about the first (or last) time you did something. Include both positive and negative experiences.

Kathleen concluded by sharing more examples of gathering strategies. To name a few: stories that happened to you that you wished turned out differently, stories that you wish were written, stories that have an important theme or life lesson.

The participants in Kathleen's workshop enjoyed the interactive format and were eager to pursue writing using some of the many strategies that she shared.

Summarized by Linnea Stenberg, Alpha Chapter

Workshop Summaries

A Peek into Your Past Presented by Lena Paslov, Beta Chapter

In the fall conference workshop, a *Peek into Your Past*, Lena Paslov, a member of Beta Chapter, led DKG participants on an organized path of creating our own personal book of family history. Along the way, she shared fascinating examples of her father's family tree dating back to Russia. Her first step was collecting data from family members and data bases like Ancestry.Com. Next she organized the data by storing older documents and saving information digitally.

Finally, she displayed the narratives and pictures using a template and the program *BookWright* as a guide. All participants were very impressed with Lena's accomplishment and were inspired to research their own family trees.

Summarized by Sandy Gammons, Iota Chapter

Book Talk: *Lost Roses* Moderated by Jackie Abbott Rho Chapter

Jackie Abbott, book talk presenter, kept attendees well-engaged with discussion of the novel, *Lost Roses*, by Martha Hall Kelly. Jackie opened the session with a brief virtual tour of the Bellamy-Ferriday House, one of the settings in this World War I novel. Today this home is a museum located in Bethlehem, CT. We also "visited" the garden where the Katharina Zeimet rose, carried by Sofya Streshnayva from Russia to Paris to Long Island, NY, continues to grow today.

Thoughtful questions led participants into the examination of the courage and perseverance demonstrated throughout the novel by the three women at its center. Lively discussion followed.

At the end of the session, Jackie asked how each one of us would rate the book. It was unanimous-Great! And that's how we rated our presenter, Jackie Abbott!

Summarized by Carole Franceschet, Zeta Chapter





Fall Conference

Workshop Summaries

Sing a (Virtual) New Song Workshop Presented by Allison Fay Beta Chapter

Attending concerts of choral music since March of 2020 and Covid was curtailed greatly. Diehard musicians and fans managed to find a way around this situation by turning to technology. The *Sing a (Virtual) New Song* workshop presented by Allison Fay, a highly sought-after classical soprano, conductor, accompanist, voice teacher and vocal coach, taught us how these virtual concerts were made.

Allison gave us a brief history of virtual choirs. The concept was invented by composer and conductor [Eric Whitacre](#) a decade or so ago. His first virtual choir was featured in a [viral 2011 TED Talk](#), and recently he released Virtual Choir 6, with a mind-boggling 17,572 singers from 129 countries across the world performing [Sing Gently as One](#).

Allison defined a virtual choir as one formed by both young and old, whose members do not meet physically but who work together online from separate places to create musical experiences through the use of technology and various social media. Many instructional "how to" videos can be found online along with downloadable apps that exist to assist you like *Audacity*, *Garage Band* and *We Video*. The director must clearly make the steps and expectations known to each participant in the very beginning. Allison explained to us in detail the necessary steps:

- Create a lead track, a guide track, and a video guide;
- Send all the materials to each participant including a long list of specific instructions which must include the submission date;
- Collect the singers' recordings checking and recording in a list as each is received;
- Edit and mix audio tracks followed by editing the video tracks;
- Combine audio and video parts and export the project as an mp4 file;
- At this point the video can be uploaded to YouTube or streaming media of your choice.
- Sit back and enjoy your creation!

We were treated to her virtual concert which featured the sixteen-member choir of the First Congregational Church of Stratford singing Mozart's *Ave Verum Corpus!* What a pleasure it was to sit back and enjoy this beautiful rendition of a truly inspiring work of art. Kudos to you, Allison, for a spectacular virtual performance and thank you for sharing your work and expertise with us – a delightfully informative presentation at a conference dedicated to the Arts!

Summarized by Helen Scully, Omicron Chapter

The Family Memory Project Presented by Dr. Kathleen Lozinak Omicron Chapter

Dr. Lozinak conducted this workshop which focused on simple strategies we can use to get family members, who may be struggling with memory issues, to recall and share events, thoughts, and feelings from their past. With only 30-40 minutes per week, we can gather stories from years ago and discover new and interesting things about our loved ones.

It was suggested that we use a recording device to capture these memories for future generations and help prompt responses when necessary. Also, don't take one-word answers. Use phrases like "can you tell me more about..." or "how did you feel then" to elicit more detailed stories.

Workshop members were asked to share stories from their past as examples of how to proceed with these walks down memory lane. Some of the prompts used were:

- "Tell me the earliest memory you have."
- "Can you tell me about some places where you used to spend a lot of time?"
- "When were you super happy... or very angry... or excited... or sad..."
- "Tell me some places where you've visited."
- "What are some objects that were really important to you growing up?"
- "What events stand out from your past?"

Remember to take good notes, record when possible and prompt for details to allow their tales to unfold. Enjoy your loved ones while you still have them and help preserve their stories. It only takes a little time to listen.

Summarized by Pat Block, Omicron Chapter President

Is there anything sweeter than crisp rhyme and meter?

**Presented by Dr. Linda Paslov
Beta Chapter President**

Dr. Paslov managed to show us that writing poetry is within reach of each one of us. She did this by giving us tools, but especially by sharing her own enthusiasm and love of writing poetry.

Dr. Paslov took participants through a quick review of common rhyme patterns and poetic meter. She provided examples and encouraged us to come up with examples. We each selected a favorite song and identified the pattern and meter.

She guided us through a website (rhymezone.com) that aids writers in finding rhyme words, alternate words and words with different beats. We had time to write and share a short poem of 4 lines. Finally, we were encouraged to write and submit our work to the DKG Fine Arts Gallery.

Summarized by Lenore Martinelli, Zeta Chapter



JOIN US AT THE 2022 DKG INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

It's the New Year and many are already making plans for 2022. One of the most exciting things that will happen in the new year is the 2022 International Convention in New Orleans from July 12 - 16!

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.

Be sure to mark your calendars now so that you are ready to experience all that the International Convention has to offer!! Registration and Hotel Reservations open soon at dkg.org!

News from DKG@UN and CTAUN (Committee on Teaching about the United Nations)

CTAUN presented their fourth webinar in December. The link for this one hour webinar ***Global Competence: Teaching and Learning in an Interconnected World*** will be sent to you when it is available.



UN Video – [Don't Choose Extinction](#)



Communications and Marketing Training

In Fall 2020, the International Communications and Marketing Committee conducted a survey for all members. In response to that survey, the C&M Committee is taking a different approach to training. They are offering virtual C&M Modules and Regional Roundtables.

As DKG members, we are all responsible for communicating and marketing our Society. The modules are designed to provide members with tools that enable them to market our organization through personalization, DKG media (publications, websites, social media, etc.), and the use of effective strategies.

The C&M modules are open to all members and are conducted through Zoom. Two of the modules were held in the Fall of 2021. Two more modules will be held this Winter.

Module #1 – October 16, 2021 – *Capitalizing on the DKG Brand*

Module #2 – November 20, 2021 – *Enhancing Communication Tools...*

Newsletters, Websites, Brochures

Module #3 – January 29, 2022 - @ 11:00 CST (12:00 EST) - *Maximizing Social Media... Digital Newsletters, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter*

Module #4 – March 5, 2022 – @ 11:00 CST (12:00 EST) - *Copyright, Fair Use, and Public Domain - Information for All*

The first two modules can be viewed by going to the DKG member website > Committees > Communications and Marketing > C&M Modules. The connection to Zoom for the next two modules will be on the rotator on the DKG member website. The modules are one hour long and feature a panel discussion of each topic.

The roundtables are a chance for regional webmasters, editors and C&M state organization leaders to share current practices and express needs for future information. Each roundtable is scheduled and hosted by the regional representative to the International C&M Committee. The International Committee hopes this new approach to training will be accessible to more members and more focused on the needs of state organizations.

**Pat O'Connell Buckley, Theta Chapter
Northeast Regional Representative on the
International Communications and Marketing
Committee**



Fall Conference

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 2021 Fall Conference by **CTSO Chair of Professional Affairs Susan Carpenter**.

\$500 Vera Butler Recruitment Grant to Melanie Michaud
Central Connecticut State University
K—12 Art Education Major

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

\$500 Mary Mahoney Recruitment Grant to Angela Chen
University of Connecticut
Secondary Education and History

\$500 Ida Seidel Recruitment Grant to Richard Gumpart
Eastern Connecticut State University
Secondary Education and English

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

\$500 Rheta Lange Recruitment Grant to Tammy Michel
Southern Connecticut State University
Secondary Education and History and Social Studies

High School Grants

\$750 Adelina “Lee” P. Formica Grant — Shannon Crockwell, Manchester High School
Eastern Connecticut State University

\$750 Hannah C. Griswold Grant— Dominic Ponce, Orville H. Platt High School, Meriden
Quinnipiac University

\$750 Margaret Rose Nielsen Recruitment Grant—Emily Deskus, RHAM High School, Hebron
Endicott College

\$750 Elizabeth C. Sonier Grant — Caroline Shadman, North Branford High School
The 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, 2022.



IN MEMORIAM
White Roses
"A moment to remember. . ."



Mary Anne Porto, Zeta Chapter

Mary Anne Porto, often called "Mar" by friends and family, passed away on Friday, October 1, 2021. She was born, grew up and educated in New Haven. She was a graduate of Sacred Heart Academy and St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing, receiving her RN as Valedictorian of her class.

Mar was a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Southern Connecticut State University. She earned National Board Certification in School Nursing in 1997. Mary Anne served as head nurse in the Pediatrics Department at Yale New Haven Hospital and later as the School Nurse at Sacred Heart Academy. She completed her career employed for 18 years as school nurse at Clintonville Elementary School in North Haven.

In 2017 Mar was awarded the School Nurse "Advocate of the Year" award. She was a member of the Executive Board of the Association of School Nurses of CT, an active member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Zeta Chapter, a Shubert Theater volunteer

and an avid reader.

Mary Anne enjoyed Cape Cod summers visiting her young grandchildren and spending winters in Florida with her husband, Frank. Her strength and spirit for living will be remembered and admired by her Zeta Chapter sisters and all who knew her.

Dorothy Joan Martino, Zeta Chapter



Zeta Sister, Dorothy Joan Martino, passed away on October 30, 2021 after a brief illness. She was 88 years old.

Dorothy was a lifetime resident of Woodbridge, where she was active in a variety of town organizations, as well as an active member of Assumption Parish. She sang at the Basilica in Rome with her church choir. She received the Woodbridge Living Legend Award in 2018.

Dorothy graduated from Hillhouse High School in New Haven, New Haven State Teachers College and earned a 6th year degree from Fairfield University. She taught in New Haven schools for forty years, primarily at Edgewood School where she taught math and science in grades 4-6. She had also taught at Banton School where our beloved past Zeta member Marguerite McKay was her principal. It was Peg who introduced her to Delta Kappa Gamma and encouraged her to join. Dorothy's dedication to education in New Haven led to the renaming of the library at Edgewood School to the Dorothy J. Martino Library.

She was an active sixty-year member of DKG and held a variety of positions in Zeta Chapter. One thing she will always be remembered for in Zeta was being a model at the annual fundraising auction. She gracefully modeled handmade sweaters, scarves and hats to the enjoyment of the audience. Dorothy enjoyed reading, travel and singing.

Dorothy will be dearly missed by her Zeta Chapter sisters!



AROUND THE

ALPHA

Alpha Chapter began the year with an in-person meeting that included a new member induction. It was wonderful to be with each other, share great food and have interesting conversations.

For the October Book Share, members were back to a Zoom meeting. However, this allowed those who are not local to interact and share what they are reading and/or doing. Alpha was fortunate to be able to include **Ann Grosjean** and **Lenore Martinelli** in the group.

The chapter's annual outing to Diane's Books occurred on November 30th. It is by far the favorite chapter meeting each year. **Diane Garrett**, an honorary member, discussed new books and old favorites. Members purchased books from her *Angel Tree*, and the books are distributed to children in the Title 1 schools. Everyone ends up with a plethora of books to read during the cold winter months.

BETA

It has been a very busy three months for Beta Chapter members. The following individuals received recognition:

- **Dr. Linda Paslov**, chapter president, and **Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone** had works of art accepted to the DKG Fine Arts Gallery.
- Three chapter members presented at the Fall Conference: **Allison Fay**, **Lena Paslov** and **Dr. Linda Paslov**.



Dr. Lawrence

- **Dr. LèTanya Lawrence**, Districtwide Supervisor of Special Education for the Bridges Program, New Britain High School, presented a paper at the North Eastern Educational Resource Association: *Understanding Induction and K-12 Black Educators*.

• **Kathleen Wallace** presented at NERA with a poster presentation titled *edTPA Perspectives: Connecticut's Novice Teachers Reflect*. She will present this paper in a discussion format in New Orleans in March, 2022, as well as a NERA group paper presentation with **Nancy DeJarnette**, and **Judy Moeller** titled: *Impact of the edTPA on teacher candidates' perceptions of preparedness to teach*. The three also had a paper accepted at *American Journal of Educational Research and Reviews* (AJERR).

Beta Chapter members met on December 9th via Zoom. Jane Ferreira, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Mercy Learning Center in Bridgeport was the speaker. Beta chapter will be supporting The Mercy Learning Center throughout the year.

DELTA

Delta Chapter held its first in-person meeting on September 25th at Mangia's in Watertown. A moment of silence was observed for **Sandra Genung** and **Ora Massaro**, both former chapter presidents, who passed away recently. **Dr. Janet Parlato**, principal at Watertown High School, was inducted into Delta Chapter.

In October, members were invited to the home of **Mildred Reed**, a lifetime member of DKG, for a Fall Fling.

The holiday meeting was held at Fairview Farm Golf Course in Burlington. Fifteen members attended and put together Christmas bags filled with soaps, candles, candy, small stuffed animals, etc. which will be brought to chapter home-bound members.



Delta Chapter members enjoy holiday get-together

ZETA

On October 21st, Zeta Chapter held a meeting via Zoom at which time the lives of two of members who had recently passed away were celebrated. **Toni Cartisano** delivered a moving eulogy for **Jeannette Palluzzi**, and **Claudia Grantham** gave an equally touching one for **Mary Anne Porto**. Both tributes captured the essence of these beloved women who will be sorely missed.

First Vice President Rosina Hurley presented the Longevity Awards to the following members: 60 years, **Dorothy Martino**; 30 years, **Linda Jensen**; 25 years, **Evelyn Barese**, **Dolores Butcher**, **Marlene Casey**, **Mary-Ellen Coloski** and **Dorothy Logan**; 15 years, **Penny Conti**, **Diane Dow**, **Lynn Pastore**, and **Jeri Ripkin**; 10 years, **Micheline Fazzino**, **Carole Franceschet**, **Rosina Hurley**, **Anne Muphy**, and **Diane Wilson**; 5 years, **Lucinda Kramer** and **Elinore Mulligan**. **Zeta's 60 year recipient Dorothy Martino** shared some of her special



Dorothy Martino

memories of joining DKG and of events that meant so much to her over the years. Members will treasure those recollections, as Dorothy passed away shortly after that meeting.

Due to COVID, Zeta decided not to hold its annual fund raiser November auction but is looking forward to the Birthday celebration on April 9th and the annual Sundae Social to be



NUTMEG STATE

held May 4th. In the meantime, **Second Vice President Nancy Tingley** will plan some social events during the winter months that will be held either virtually or in person. Her first event was arranging for a guided tour of *The Nativity Story - Art of the Creche* at the Blessed Michael McGivney Pilgrimage Center in New Haven on January 7th.

THETA

Theta sisters held their final social event of 2021 at the Fall Fest, hosted by **Jane Moynihan** outdoors in her beautiful new barn! The décor and the tempting apple desserts and donuts were enjoyed along with warm mulled cider. During the meeting, homebound members were able to be involved via Zoom, while those attending in person were able to share ideas, discuss and vote on agenda items. Members were able to learn more about book selection for the Theta Chapter Books for Siblings Program since the age-range is now much broader.

Theta service has been a priority. On October 30, 2021, members prepared casseroles and desserts for the Covenant Soup Kitchen in Willimantic where 170 people enjoyed a hot meal with enough casseroles left over to assist with another meal. Members usually prepare one meal a year, but due to COVID, three meals were enjoyably prepared this year!

Theta members are proud to announce that the works of Theta members **Linda Tracy** and **Judith Baxter's** photographs were honored by the DKG Arts and Humanities Jury for the 2021 International Fall Gallery of Fine Arts.

Theta Chapter mourns the loss of DKG lifetime member **Betty Brennan** of South Killingly, who passed on November 1, 2021. Betty was awarded the DKG Lifetime Member award in 2019 at Theta Chapter's annual banquet. A donation to the National Autism Foundation will be made by Theta Chapter in her honor. Betty's warmth and kind smile will be missed.

During the holiday season members prepared holiday gift boxes for the Journey House girls. The girls are always excited by the assortment of adult coloring books, fancy pens, lotions, lip balm, shower gel, nail care and makeup, as well as warm, cozy socks, warm winter hats, scarves and mittens. Although Theta members are still unable to meet directly with the girls, they want them to know they are thinking of them during the holiday season.

Theta and Rho members will be joining together at the Willington Library on January 17, 2022 at 1:00 to discuss the books by Martha Hall Kelly: *Lilac Girls*, *Lost Roses* and *Sunflower Sisters*.

MU

Mu's first meeting took place on October 14th, via Zoom, with its much-loved Book Talk. Members shared their favorite reads from not one, but two, years. Mu boasts a dedicated reading bunch; between us, we covered 32 books! A few birthdays were celebrated and heartfelt thanks was given to **Jan Schley** for her years of

dedicated service as Mu's Recording Secretary. **Laurie Burrill** was welcomed as she takes over this important position. As luck would have it, October 14th was also the 63rd birthday of Mu....to the day! Members celebrated Jan and Mu at the Holiday Social on December 15th to share holiday cheer and spirit.

The spring meeting is scheduled for a nearby bistro which will provide the dinner, as well as the speaker. Mu's Grant Awards Dinner Meeting is also scheduled to be in person to celebrate grant recipients. Members always look forward to meeting these remarkable young people who share their hopes and dreams and commitment to a better world for all.

Mu wishes all DKG sisters a hopeful and joyous year to come.

OMICRON

Plans for Omicron's Annual Holiday Brunch had to be changed because the Kellogg Environmental Center is unavailable due to renovations. Members still wanted to get together and met on December 9th at Brookside Inn for a holiday dinner. Tours of the Osbourne Homestead are still available.

At a recent business meeting held on ZOOM, **President Pat Block** shared information from the break-out sessions she attended at the State Fall Conference. Committees were formed to plan for upcoming chapter elections as well as the end of year dinner in May.

A spring meeting will be held via ZOOM. The guest speaker will be Ingrid Canady, Executive Director of SERC. The topic will be *Critical Race Theory*. Omicron member **Jessica Block** has attended several professional development workshops given by Ingrid and contacted her about speaking to our chapter in the spring. She is an impassioned speaker and inspires educators to teach for equity.



RHO

On Nov. 17th Rho Chapter met to discuss the children's author Eric Carle, as well as to recognize and share his children's books. Rho member **Judy Thayer** provided the most interesting connections and information on Carle. When she was teaching first grade, her students did an author study and wrote questions to Eric Carle

(l to r) Judy Thayer, Ethel Himes and Eric Carle. This photo was taken in the winter of 1990 at Picture Book Studios in front of the banners that children had decorated.



AROUND THE NUTMEG STATE

regarding his books. Through his publisher, Picture Book Studio, their questions were answered when a sales representative from Picture Book Studio came to their classroom and delivered Eric Carle's answers. Judy's first graders were big fans of his books.

Through this connection, Judy was invited to judge banners that were decorated by children at the Picture Books Studio in MA. Judy also attended an International Reading Association Conference in CA where Eric Carle was also in attendance. She shared what a kind, generous man Eric Carle was and how much students she taught enjoyed his books. In the tributes that were printed after his death on March 23, 2021 at age 91, it was mentioned that up until a few years ago Carle was still answering mail from his readers. Rho members enjoyed sharing their favorite Eric Carle books and appreciated the Carle items Judy shared at the meeting. Rho is planning a trip to his museum, The Art of the Picture Book in Amherst, MA, this spring. Members are looking forward to this experience.

TAU-UPSILON

Tau-Upsilon held its annual Holiday Fair on Saturday, November 13th. Once again, it was member,

Susan Carpenter, that led the charge.

Tau-Upsilon would like to recognize Sue for her dedication to this fundraiser. Each year, she is on the front line, doing the leg work for this event. She contacts vendors, communicates with the Litchfield Firehouse to be sure we are following the current guidelines, publicizes the event and is the point person for any communication. She also organizes all of

Sue Carpenter

of the members, so that the responsibilities are divided during the day of the event.

The chapter began this fundraiser more than one decade ago with eight vendors. Sue has worked each year to make this a successful event for the group. We were not sure what to expect this year with COVID and were thrilled that it was a huge success. There were 28 vendors, and it raised \$2,000.

The money raised is given as book grants to area students who are interested in pursuing a career in education. Each year, a total of \$1,500 is given to three different students who are seniors in area high schools.

Thank you, Sue, for all you do to make this a success each year.



Tau-Upsilon member Holly Torrant (selling maple syrup) with her father, Wayne Jenkins (selling oil paintings)



Member Gail Berglund doing some shopping.



Be sure to check out the **CTSO website**. The site includes features including current state information, newsletters, documents and important links. **THANKS to Emily DePiano, CTSO Webmaster.**

<http://dkgct.weebly.com>



CONNECTICUT STATE ORGANIZATION ACHIEVERS



**Terry Azoti's
First Responder
and
Heavenly Hydrangea**



**Dr. Linda Paslov's
Who Are Ewe?
and
A Trip Down
Mem'ry Lane
On page 14**

Congratulations to Five Connecticut Members!

The Arts and Humanities Jury has selected the artistic works of **five Connecticut Members** for the 2021 International Fall Gallery of Fine Arts, an online gallery of works of art and letters. Congratulations for their artistic endeavors go to **Theresa Azoti** (Zeta) with her photo entries *First Responder* and *Heavenly Hydrangea* and to **Dr. Linda Paslov** (Beta) for her poem *A Trip Down Mem'ry Lane* and photograph *Who Are Ewe?*. Congratulations also go to **Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone** (Beta) whose photo entries *Artful Arrangement* and *Scattered Sunflowers* will be displayed, along with **Linda Tracy's** (Theta) 2-D art *The End of Summer* and **Judith Baxter's** (Theta) photograph *Grizzly Bear in the Tetons*.

Members are invited to view the entire gallery by going to the Home page on the International DKG website [here](#). Work will be displayed for six months.

All Connecticut members are encouraged to submit their creative work to the **Spring** Gallery during the next submission period from January 15 – February 15, 2022. 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**



**Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone's
Scattered Sunflowers
and Artful Arrangement**



**Linda Tracy's
The End of
The Summer**



**Judith Baxter's
Grizzly Bear in
the Tetons**



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

**A Trip Down Mem'ry Lane
by Linda S. Paslov**

How many of us cherish that trip down Mem'ry Lane
Where some reflections flourish, while others sometimes wane?
I walk that pathway often, when senses are aroused
And recollections soften—in my soul, where they are housed.

The smell of minty school paste, the sound of joyful play
The salty, cheesy aftertaste of lunch on pizza day.
The feel of nubby knee socks on crisp and cool fall morns
The sight of colored sidewalks: from these are mem'ries borne.

When I became a teacher, I'd sometimes reminisce
Of all that school had featured and what I'd surely miss.
I knew these days were numbered, as forward I'd move on
But nostalgia, unencumbered, remembrances did spawn.

The smell of mimeoed worksheets, the sound of scraping chalk
The sinful taste of smuggled treats and coffee round the clock.
The feel of knees on desk drawers and stockings being torn
The sight of melting snow on floors: from these are mem'ries borne.

Leadership then beckoned me, and so I was compelled
To have a sort of reckoning with attitudes I'd held.
I led in schools and districts, then left for higher ed.
Through it all, my gaze transfixed on work that lay ahead.

The smell of fresh, clean classrooms, the sound of glee declared
The taste of snacks in staffrooms, which you baked and shared.
The feel of pride in showing commitment you have sworn
The sight of "family" growing: from these are mem'ries borne.

→ Don't
FORGET!

**Connecticut State
Organization
Dates to Remember**

**Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education Worldwide**

Saturday, February 12, 2022

9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

CTSO Executive Board Meeting
On Zoom

Saturday, April 30, 2022

9:30 a.m.

CTSO State Convention
Cascade, Hamden CT

**June, 2022 (Date to be determined)
State Leadership Conference**

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

**Terry Azoti
Judy Cody
Kathleen Lozinak
Lenore Martinelli
Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone**

Co-Editors:

**Carol Beam
Ann Grosjean**

