



Reflections from Austin

# Alpha Lambda State News

## An Organization of Key Women Educators Worldwide

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of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

2018 DKG INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION AUSTIN

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Approximately 2000 key women educators from 17 different countries gathered on July 16-20 at the JW Marriott Hotel, Austin, TX. Vermont was well represented with 7 members attending. International Convention provides us with time to reconnect with friends from all over the world that we may not have seen for two years or longer. It's also a time for visiting the sites in the host city and enjoying their traditions. It is a time for practicing patience as you sit through debate over proposed amendments. And it is a time for personal and professional growth gleaned from



L to R (back) Carol Barbagallo, Ann Kalinoski, Mary Ann Riggie, Rita Corey (front) Marcia Barron, Janis Kiehle, Sue Green

the many workshops. Best of all, Convention is a time for inspiration. 2018 was no exception. Benjamin Zander, director of the Boston Philharmonic Orchestra and author of The Art of Possibility, spoke about the responsibility a leader has to "radiate possibilities"; to look outside the box of expectations and bring out vision in others. Nadia Lopez, author of The Bridge to Brilliance, inspired attendees to seek the

best in those we teach and lead. There were 122 proposed amendments with 5 withdrawn. Check [dkg.org](http://dkg.org) for amendments that passed. The name of our society did not change however an

amendment passed to present proposed amendments at every convention. {editor}





Benjamin Zander, Conductor of the Boston Philharmonic and co-author with Rosamunde Zander of The Art of Possibility, was the 2018 international convention speaker. He explored the possibilities found in leadership, optimism, and the arts and offered valuable insights regarding next steps for members and the organization as we explore our future.

## BATS

In Austin, Texas, a colony of Mexican free-tailed bats summers (they winter in Mexico) under the Congress Avenue Bridge ten blocks south of the Texas State Capitol. It is the largest urban colony in North America, with an estimated 1,500,000 bats. Each night they eat 10,000 to 30,000 lb (4,500 to 13,600 kg) of insects.

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

## Vermont DKG Members Reflections from Austin

Contributed by Carol Barbagallo, Gamma Chapter

Austin's 2018 DKG International Convention was filled with enthusiastic speakers, engaging workshops, daily blissful piano performances (Vermont's very own, Rita Corey, was opening night's pianist), delicious Texas beef at the Impacting Education Worldwide Luncheon, and addressing a myriad of amendment changes!

Uplifting keynote speaker, Nadia Lopez, author of A Bridge to Brilliance, chronicled how she began a school in Brooklyn, New York, and through her passion and hard work, changed the lives of her students, all living below the poverty level, resulting in a 98% graduation rate.

Stimulating is the word to describe The Art of Possibility's author, Benjamin Zander, conductor of the Boston Philharmonic, who masterfully engaged us with his music and "Distinguished possibilities!"

Texas pioneer women's tales of their journey and the trials they endured on their way to starting a new life in the Texas republic were vividly recreated by three of their descendants during a standing-room-only breakout session.

Impressive women educators from across the globe were engaged in animated conversations, trading family stories, program ideas, and personal email addresses.

Nocturnal activities included pontoon viewing of 1.5 million bats, enjoying savory barbecue and being entertained by talented up-and-coming bands, but the best nighttime activity was when seven Vermont sisters and two husbands enjoyed dinner, laughs, and camaraderie on a 104° evening in sizzling Austin!



In 2007, White Nose Syndrome hit bat colonies in Vermont and wiped out massive populations of little brown bats around the state. Today, as much as 90 percent of the population of little brown bats in the Northeast has died and the entire eastern side of Vermont "pretty much has no little brown bat colonies anymore, and they used to be everywhere; hundreds — thousands of bats in a colony." {Alyssa Bennett, VT Fish & Wildlife}

**The 2019 DKG International Conference Theme will be Global Awareness and is scheduled to take place July 30-August 1 in Mashantucket, CT**

# DKG

## More reflections from Austin



**Mary Ann Riggie's Special Memories from Austin:**  
 Experiencing the warmth and pride of our Texas hosts;  
 Interacting with DKG members from around the world;  
 1700 voices singing "Ode to Joy" in German directed by  
 Benjamin Zander;  
 Sighting Marion Thorpe's leaf at Headquarters;  
 Kayaking on the Colorado River

Attending this year's International Convention was delightful from start to finish. The highlight for me was meeting new people from around the world and creating deeper bonds with my Vermont sisters. On a personal level I experienced many precious moments. Mary Ann and Sue, my roommates and creators of laughter, took me to Sixth Street where we were entertained with music by the Piano Man. We toured some of the new buildings in Austin along Lady Bird Lake. Joe Barbagallo and Greg Kalinoski brought delightful perspectives and joy to our joint occasions including a boat trip organized by Carol to see One-Tailed Mexican Bats and our Vermont barbeque dinner at Ironworks. Sue introduced us to Rhonda and Regina of Texas. Rita, Ann, and Janis joined me on my professional journey. We sat together and were enthralled by two fabulous keynote speakers. We listened to commentary and votes on amendments and attended workshops and ten minute takeaways to name only a few of the many possibilities for growth. (Marcia Barron)



Above: Rita Corey at the piano in Austin

### My thoughts from the DKG International Convention Summer 2018 by Ann Kalinoski

We arrived in Austin to find the heat about the same as what we had left in VT. I Checked in with my husband and we went to see our room on the 23<sup>rd</sup> floor. We had time for a quick dinner before the opening night of Texas and the flag presentation but discovered the dining area had a 45 minute wait. We went to the bar to see what food we could find there. To my surprise, I discovered a Vermont DKG sister sitting at the corner of the bar, my first sister to meet at the convention: Sue Green of VT. Small world it is.

Imagine almost 1,700 + women in a hall, sitting in chairs that were not made to fit everyone. We sure got close to some of our sisters that night. While it was a very pleasant ceremony, I could not wait to get up and move. Those 1,700 sisters also had to share the elevators to floors 1 to 24, the restrooms and the eateries. You did have to wait for the next elevator often, but it gave you time to meet & greet more of your sisters. It was always fun to see how many we could get on board, sort of like how many could you get in a phone booth.

My first session was **A Bucket full of Best Books about Bullying**. Many great books were shown and briefly explained. We were introduced to the idea of using the word "target" not "victim" when referring to the person being bullied. I am still unclear of how I feel about this. "Target" is an object of abuse. "Victim" is a person who suffers from destructive actions or injury from actions. The sense was that by renaming victims "targets", they would better withstand abuse. I am not sure at this point that it would matter, but I plan to look into it further. A few of the books on display were: Bully by Patricia Polacco, Chester Raccoon and the Big Bad Bully by Audrey Penn, One by Kathryn Otoshi, and Bullied: What Every Parent, Teacher and Kid Needs to Know about Ending the Cycle of Fear by Carrie Goldman.

Every Parent, Teacher and Kid Needs to Know about Ending the Cycle of Fear by

Ann Kalinoski cont. from page 3

Carrie Goldman.

The **I Don't Know How You Do It** session discussed how teachers are expected to provide services for our students who have trauma in their life, to help them get to a better space, while at the same time teach them what they need to know. Nowadays, many children who attend school have experienced differing degrees of trauma in their lives which impacts their ability to learn. Our support as teachers may help them stay in school each day.

**The Blue Eyed Doll: An Ambassador of Peace** session revealed that in 1927 over 2,000 dolls were sent to Japan to be given out in schools. which we practiced and sang at the end of the presentation. With the advent of WWII, many of the Emily dolls were destroyed. Only approximately 100 are left in Japan now. The 2015 DKG Peace Education Project was initiated to tell the story of the dolls and promote world peace and understanding. The DKG sisters from Japan brought thousands of cranes to share with a high school in the Austin area.

In the **Chapter President Summit** the role of the chapter president was reviewed. Strategies such as keeping in touch with members by phone, setting up committees by pairs, organizing a booth at an event to get more members were discussed. Developing a library to hold Chapter records and historical information was touched on.

While the general meetings were the “meat” of the convention, the “potatoes” were the break-out sessions and the “gravy” proved to be the trips the Vermont group took in and around Austin.

### **Janis Kiehle Beta Chapter President Austin Highlights**

The convention was a fun but exhausting time! The J.W. Marriott was a great place for the convention with all the rooms in one area of the hotel spread out over three floors. The Texas delegation were great hosts!

Here are some highlights for me:

#### **Global Awareness Forum: Teaching Tolerance and Promoting Peace**

I was particularly impressed by Mansi Mehta from UNICEF who spoke about their initiatives in this area including Schools for Africa, and peace building curriculums that have been developed for early childhood and teenagers

**Northeast Regional Breakfast:** Monies were collected for the Emergency Fund and all the state presidents from the Northeast were honored!!!

**Headquarters Tour:** Rita Corey and I were able to tour DKG Headquarters located in Austin! Each group that went was accompanied by a tour guide. We were very impressed with the space which contained lots of beautiful art work. We saw the plaque with all the International Achievement Awardees listed and found Alice Carrier's name.

**Celebration of Life Ceremony: Alice Carrier** was one of four women who were remembered with speeches for their service to DKG. I read a piece written by Linn Wilson and then added my own words about Alice. It was a beautiful, touching ceremony.

**Celebration Banquet:** The final event is always a banquet. The 150 member chorus performed and the gavel was passed from the former president, Carolyn Pittman to the new president of DKG, Cathy Daugherty. All the new members of the board were honored.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT - INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FROM AUSTIN TX. – Submitted by Susan M. Green, Vermont State Membership Chair**

The International Conference was an amazing experience of new knowledge, inspiration and new connections with our sisters all over the world. As membership chair, I was reminded that our concern for lack of new members was a concern across all of our chapters, states, and countries. Frankly, it was a validation that we were not the only ones struggling with this issue. Speaking as a teacher still in the field, I believe that we need to make ourselves more relevant; especially to the younger teachers, or we will no longer exist. My goal is to keep fighting to accomplish this. My favorite presenter was Dr. Nadia Lopez. She was so inspirational, we need more like her.

The workshops I attended were mostly about membership. I also took a workshop on teaching millennial students and one about



## Austin Reflections: Sue Green cont. from page 4

The workshops I attended were mostly about membership. I also took a workshop on teaching millennial students and one about the arts in education since I am a music teacher. I attended a membership “Think Tank” workshop where we gathered in small groups with a facilitator who started the discussion and took notes. Each group tackled a different question related to A. Keeping chapters viable or B. Attracting and retaining members. Another workshop focused on maintaining and building the chapter through technology. There was a lot of information with a lot of options to communicate. I walked away with a whole list of different ways to communicate quickly with your chapter. This workshop also included how to do surveys to find out what members are thinking. I am excited about the possibilities for this.

Technology can help cut down on the need for a lot of meetings. I will say that the chapters and states that have too many meetings in a year are feeling the negative impact. Our own chapter only has 4 general meetings a year and if members cannot make it, we let them know what is happening. Going to the International Convention was everything I hoped it would be and more. I made some amazing new friends from Texas. Thanks to technology, I can stay in touch and draw on their experience, knowledge and advice.



Left: Janice Kiehle in Austin

### **Chapter Presidents**

Alpha: Ann Kalinoski  
Beta: Janis Kiehle  
Delta: Cassie Major  
Epsilon: Nancy James  
Eta: Donna Stone  
Gamma: Paula Townsend  
Zeta: Kathy Bennett

### **Executive Board 2018-19**

President: Marcia Barron, Gamma  
First Vice President: Marilyn Grunewald, Zeta  
Second Vice President: Carol Barbagallo, Gamma  
Recording Secretary: Mary Ann Riggie, Epsilon  
Corresponding Secretary: Pat Lane, Delta  
Treasurer: Ann Bannister, Gamma  
Parliamentarian: Jo Ann Clark, Epsilon  
Editor: Ruth Anne Barker, Gamma  
Webmaster: Claire Reczek, At Large

### **REPORTING DEATH OF A MEMBER**

Chapter presidents are reminded to report the death of a member immediately to International and to Vermont State. The interactive report form (Form 6) can be found at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) under Forms. Complete Form 6 online and email or mail a copy to:

Membership Services Administrator:  
Trish Woodley [mem@dkg.org](mailto:mem@dkg.org)  
Vermont State Treasurer: Ann Bannister  
[annbannister@comcast.net](mailto:annbannister@comcast.net)  
Vermont State Membership Chair: Susan Green  
[sgreen114@comcast.net](mailto:sgreen114@comcast.net)  
Vermont State President: Marcia Barron  
[barron55@comcast.net](mailto:barron55@comcast.net)



**Jan Hughes** began as newsletter editor in Fall 2015, and completed her final newsletter in Spring 2018. The section includes her thoughts about the experience presented to the Executive Board at their meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018

“Personally, I want to say how thankful I am to have had the opportunity to be the Alpha Lambda newsletter editor. I like to choose hard things to do – so that I make myself grow. This has been a hard thing, which I have enjoyed doing for our members. Like all hard tasks, it was not without challenges. It was also not without mistakes. Forgive me the mistakes, please. I did meet my goal—growing my abilities in a new task. I look forward to finding a new role, possibly on the Executive Board, to continue to serve our organization at the state level.” - jeh

### **State Presidents from the Northeast Region**

At the Regional Breakfast in Austin, the Northeast Regional state presidents were recognized. My connection to this group of outstanding women is a result of being elected to serve as president of DKG Vermont. It is my distinct honor to be a part of this group with talented professionals, dedicated to DKG, and willing to serve in leadership. Friends for a lifetime.

## “Thoughts from the President” Marcia Barron



To my dear sisters in Delta Kappa Gamma: What does it mean to you to be a part of this International organization? For 45 years I have been married to a firefighter who is a proud member of the brotherhood of firefighters. During those years he was both a professional and a volunteer fireman and I was able to observe from the outside what this means to the people involved.

For 18 years I have been a member of DKG and I am now a proud member of a sisterhood which provides me with a sense of purpose, a feeling of belonging, and many opportunities to grow personally and professionally.

When I go to my chapter meetings I get to communicate with local women, learn about local endeavors in education and in the community, and to share in the fellowship of women teachers. My world is enlarged and enhanced by our meetings, programs, and projects.

When I attend the state executive board meetings I meet more women from across the state and find we are unique individuals with a common interest and many similar experiences. We have a bond because of these differences and similarities. My world continues to broaden, my joy amplified.

When I attend Regional conferences or International conventions the sense of all that I feel on the local and state level expands exponentially. My heart is filled with pride, love, and delight.

It is my true desire that all women who want to experience this be able to share in our DKG sisterhood. It is in our hands to invite women teachers to this wonderful opportunity which binds us to our profession and gives us connections well into retirement.

Let us look for younger, new members in the teaching profession and give them permission to participate as best they can while they try to balance family, work, and personal needs. Let us look to invite former members to come to an upcoming chapter meeting or help with a project. Let them know we would be thrilled to have them return, that their commitment and dedication to education is valued. Sometimes all it takes is for us to show our interest in them.

It is quick and easy to reinstate membership. Go to the DKG website, [dkg.org](http://dkg.org). Find the form under "Forms", "Membership", "Form 83 Reinstalled Member Form". It can be completed online and sent electronically. Once paying dues to the treasurer, she's a member again!!! So, my dear sisters, please examine your heart and find the time to share this wonderful organization which impacts education, women, and children worldwide. Let us share it with as many other fabulous women as we can.

## Message from the First Vice President Marilyn Grunewald

Dear DKG Sisters,

I hope everyone has enjoyed the summer with their families and friends. As always, it goes too quickly. I love the summer even when its hot and humid like this summer.

It was my intent to attend the International Conference in Austin, Texas, but my CA Daughter travelled East with her three boys during this time and we had a surprise visit from my ME Son and his twins to celebrate our birthdays. Lee's was in July and mine in August

I highly recommend that you attend state, regional and international conferences. As a result of my attendance, I grew both personally and professionally.

As first Vice President, I chair the Educational Excellence committee. Below please find the three major goals for our Society

### Goals for 2016 - 2018

#### A. Empowering women through leadership opportunities

1. Empower leaders to impact policy and people worldwide.
2. Validate and support members' passions and talents to lead.
3. Inspire, mentor and strengthen members' growth as Leaders.

#### B. Engaging educators in purposeful programs & projects

1. Provide resources for local programs to involve members in policy discussions on education.
2. Impact educator retention through support for Early Career and all educators
3. Collaborate with DKG Forums to empower members in impacting educational legislation, policy and pedagogy

#### C. Creating global involvement

1. Encourage programs/activities that advance increased awareness of and involvement in changing global issues
2. Promote participation in DKG/UN relationship, including but not limited to the Schools for Africa project.
3. Collaborate with educational, governmental and social agencies to promote literacy, cultural, and social integration of refugees and migrants.

As first Vice President, I plan to hold several teleconferences through Free Conferencecalling.com with my committee made up of all of the local first Vice Presidents to plan and share both local and statewide ideas. President Marsha Barron and I are learning to use ZOOM, a teleconferencing tool in hopes of holding our winter board meeting on Zoom. Looking forward to our work together and learning about the projects you are working on. I also plan to open up the discussion again about developing a resource manual with my committee. I am looking forward to moving this project forward.



VT DKG President Marcia Barron (center) presents check to Puerto Rico DKG State President Evelyn Lugo Morales (left) and Rosa Delia Fernandez (right)



### White Roses of Remembrance

As we celebrate new members, we also mourn the loss of members who have passed away in recent months. Their lives will forever be reflected in our hearts.



### **Helen Conger Perkins In Memorium (by Sue Carney)**

Helen Conger Perkins was born in Richford on February 7, 1920 and died in Morrisville on June 23, 2018 at the age of 98. She lived the majority of her life in Johnson and was a beloved teacher at Johnson Elementary School for many years. She also taught in Berkshire, Richford and other area schools. Helen was the kind of teacher that every parent wanted for his/her child. She was kind, funny, and each child knew that s/he was very special. Helen will be missed in the community. She always had a smile, a warm greeting, and her laugh was contagious. Helen was a 35 year member of DKG and exemplified the values of our organization. She was an endearing example to all who knew her.

## Puerto Rico

July 25, 2018

Dear Delta Kappa Gamma Sisters:

Please receive warm greetings from Puerto Rico. As State President, I would like to thank each one at Delta Kappa Gamma International. When Hurricane Maria touched land, no one was aware of the enormous damage it would leave behind. Delta Kappa Gamma Puerto Rico (would) like to extend our most deep appreciation and gratitude to our sisters who promptly responded by calls, text messages and emails and were concerned about our needs. Headquarters was extremely responsive in taking care of our members in Puerto Rico. The emergency fund was sent to all our sisters with major damages and we are thankful that we did not lose any of our members because our dues were covered by caring ladies that understood where the priorities were set. We call you all our DKG angels.

For Rosa Delia Fernandez and me, it meant so much to thank personally these wonderful sisters that encouraged their organization members to share as a helping hand to our projects of assisting in various schools from our Beta Chapter in Cayey and Delta Chapter in Carolina. Our DKG Angels have not only shipped school supplies and other materials that we will distribute among the schools in August when classes begin but have also given us financial support to cover the loss of equipment in the schools. We all appreciate your support.

There were so many emotional moments during the International convention because we met with our DKG angels and we were able to thank them personally. On the other hand, we made contact to partner with various state organizations that want to continue giving us a hand with the schools and help our students and teachers to have a balanced school year after all the turmoil Puerto Rico has gone through especially our children and seniors. Thank you all for being there when we most needed help.

Our project consisted of (furnishing) kindergarten classrooms with material and resources such as: cardboard, construction paper, kids aprons, pencils and crayons for kindergarten students, paper and ink cartridges for photocopiers, rubber squares for kindergarten classroom floor areas, notebooks, name tags, water paint and Play-Doh, among other items. Whatever is donated will be more than appreciated.

Our special thanks to Carolyn Pittmann, Barbara Devenport, Marcia Barron, Karen Duke, Rosemary Morrow, Angela Bedenbaugh, Phyllis Hickey, Aggie Moynihan, and MaryLee Makinen, among many other sisters that Rosa and I met during the convention. Thank so much on behalf of our sisters in Puerto Rico.

Gracias, Evelyn Lugo Morales; Puerto Rico State President

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International For Key Women Educators  
**WOMAN OF DISTINCTION AWARDS SPRING 2018**

**Muriel M. Baker, Zeta Chapter (right)**

Muriel (Maylo) has served on several committees for Zeta including: Professional Affairs, Personal Growth and Membership. She has held the office of Second Vice-President, First Vice-President and President (2014-2016). We highly endorse Maylo to receive the Woman of Distinction Award for her contributions to Delta Kappa Gamma - Zeta Chapter, her 38 years teaching and her generous character.



**Diane Blodgett, Delta Chapter (no picture)**

Diane is a dedicated member of Delta Chapter. She is currently serving as Corresponding Secretary and Chair of the Nominations Committee. She takes these responsibilities very seriously and is always willing to step forward and help when needed. Delta Chapter recognizes Diane for her positive attitude and caring attention to members with this Woman of Distinction Award.

**Jeanne Laughton and Barb Miller, Epsilon Chapter (no picture)**

Both Jeanne Laughton and Barb Miller are dedicated Epsilon Chapter members. Barb served Epsilon as Recording Secretary for numerous years. Currently, she is our Corresponding Secretary. Jeanne Laughton is serving as Epsilon Chapter's Recording Secretary. Both women are faithful to their offices, Epsilon Chapter and Delta Kappa Gamma.

**Norma McShane, Eta Chapter (right)**

Norma McShane is now retired from a career of many years as a teacher, librarian, and administrator in southern Vermont. She became a member of ETA Chapter in 1974, always willing to do her part. ETA Chapter relies on her thoughtful leadership and her readiness to serve in any way she can, often bringing laughter into the group. ETA sisters appreciate her as our Woman of Distinction.



**Jane Sarno, Gamma Chapter (left)**

Jane has been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma since her initiation in 1977. Currently she serves as a committee member of the newly created student teacher award given by Gamma chapter. Previously Jane has held numerous positions: recording secretary, finance chair, treasurer, publicity and co-chair of the 1990 state convention. Be it committee work, curriculum development, presentations, or publications, Jane impresses those around her with boundless energy, positive attitude, demanding expectations of herself and others, tied together in a gift of gentle spirit and true caring.



**Donna Stone Eta Chapter (right) (Presenter: Dianne Lamb)**

Donna Stone has been an elementary school educator in Bennington for over 40 years. She became a member of ETA in 2012 and contributes greatly to our chapter. She served as vice-president for two years and now serves as recording secretary. Donna Stone also agreed to be a member of our administrative ETA Team. For the past two years, she has acted as the contact person for ETA Team, calling and leading meetings, setting agendas, and attending state meetings. She is a thoughtful, efficient leader with a great sense of humor. ETA Chapter is pleased to salute her as a Woman of Distinction.



**The 2018 Vermont Alpha Lambda State Achievement Award** was given to Claire Reczek in recognition of her distinguished and outstanding service to both Alpha Lambda State and her own Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International Society. A member for 34 years, she is a true professional. As an educator, Claire served as Elementary and Secondary Reading Specialist and Coordinator in her district. Over the course of her teaching career, she received the following awards: Outstanding Bennington Rutland Supervisory Union Teacher 1991 and in 1995: Outstanding Vermont Teacher. In her Chapter she served as an Executive Board Member, Communication Chair, Personal Development Chair, member of the Initiation Committee and receiving the Women of Distinction Award in 2005. In 2004, she Co-chaired the Alpha Lambda Spring Convention at which time she created a slide presentation about Vermont's Alpha Lambda State Founders which she later distributed to all DKG Chapters in Vermont. Claire also was the recipient of 2 Enrichment Grants. One grant helped to fund a trip to Italy and Greece in 1996 resulting in a slide show she presented to local schools. The second grant funded the development of a State Technology Committee in 1997-99 that resulted in the development of the Alpha Lambda's State Web Site which Claire continues to run as Web Master. In this capacity, she keeps current with the new technology required to maintain the website and fulfill international DKG requirements while organizing and disseminating Vermont DKG news and events. She is a Delta Kappa Gamma Woman Educator.

Below: Claire Reczek holding the 2018 Alpha Lambda State Achievement Award presented at the State Convention in Rutland on April 28th.



**Outstanding Service to Education Award**  
**Leatrice Potter, Plainfield, VT (above)**

**The Outstanding Service to Education Award** recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to education without thought of recompense. The person cannot be a licensed teacher or a member of Delta Kappa Gamma.

The winner for 2018 was Leatrice Potter of East Montpelier, nominated by Marilyn Wallace of Delta Chapter. Leatrice had been a "teacher's aide" at Twinfield Elementary in the 1980s, grades 1-5. When the elementary school moved to the new wing attached to Twinfield High School, she remained as a "para" for grades 1 and 2. Her own children had attended the school, so she was well known to teachers and staff. When the school bought a popcorn machine, Leatrice and a friend made popcorn to sell at school on Fridays. After retiring from her para position, she returned to the school as a "lunch lady", and at age 80, she is still there, and walks to school three miles each way whenever possible. This impressed the students at the school and they noticed she picked up trash along the way and even helped clean the school. They love her smile and know she cares for them. The kids nominated her to be a WCAX Super Senior. Leatrice is also active in her hometown and local church communities. We are proud to recognize her for her outstanding service to education in Plainfield and all of Vermont.

### A FEW ITEMS OF INTEREST

At the end of July International released the finalized amendments to the International Constitution and Standing Rules as adopted at the Austin International Convention.

**Sandra Wells**, reminds everyone to go to the DKG Educational Foundation site to download information or applications for the 2019-2020 grants plus professional development, individual or group awards. This is a wonderful resource for some important education work!

**The Nominating Committee** will be talking with chapter presidents and present state officers for suggestions and recommendations of members who would make great officers. They have begun the recruitment process and will attempt to have broad representation from all Vermont Chapters. Their goal is to have a slate available before the holiday season arrives!

A movement is underfoot to allow, if it is practical, **Executive Board meetings to be conducted utilizing electronic** communications as long as members present may simultaneously hear one another and participate during the meeting. The Executive Board will review Zoom technology at their fall meeting.

**Pat Lane** hopes you will remember to send her names of your chapter members who could use a note of cheer, congratulations, best wishes, etc.

**The Alpha Lambda Achievement Award** is presented to a member of DKG who has given distinguished and outstanding service to Alpha Lambda State and has promoted the purposes of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. It is granted annually at the State's Spring Convention. Your Chapter should consider a nominee and submit the nomination by March 1, 2019. The nominee cannot be a current Alpha Lambda State officer.

## DKG STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE: Baker Street Irregulars to the Rescue!

Twenty-five sisters from across the state attended the 2018 Vermont State Leadership workshop held on July 25 at the Maples in Rutland. The meeting was spearheaded by our leadership committee: Nancy James, Maggie Rafter, Donna Stone and Carol Barbagallo. The following piece was contributed by 2nd Vice President, Carol Barbagallo.

On a hot July day, Sherlock Holmes and Watson traveled to the DKG Leadership Conference in Rutland, Vermont. They had been retained by President Marcia Barron to help locate Vermont women with leadership qualities! The Baker Street Irregulars came to the rescue with suggestions for identifying women with strong character and determination, vision, and a positive attitude. Furthermore, these women should be great communicators; involved in programs at the chapter level and beyond; and be willing to take responsibility for the success of the organization. The Irregulars also recommended that these leaders have a passion for serving her chapter, Vermont DKG, and Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ...and have a sense of humor!!! President Marcia Barron looked around the room and found 24 such leaders! Each woman in attendance having these qualities! Since the Baker Street Irregulars helped Marcia find the leaders, the president spoke to all assembled about her vision of revitalizing Vermont DKG through membership and action.

Following Marcia's comments, attendees gathered in small committees to learn more about their respective positions within the organization. Joan Kirchoff spoke to presidents about inspiring positive fellowship within their chapters; Ann Bannister told the treasurers that there will be changes in the way dues are collected; Scholarship Chairs were inspired by Lorna Johnson to encourage members to apply for state and international scholarships. Those who weren't involved in these meetings met with Marcia who lauded the DKG International Convention in Austin, Texas, and encouraged our membership to travel to Foxwoods in Connecticut next summer for the Northeast Regional Conference, July 30 to August 1, 2019.

After a short break, Marilyn Grunewald, first vice president, discussed the Educational Excellence Committee and promoted collaborating statewide with chapter projects and programs. Claire Reczek, our webmaster, showed members how to navigate the International and chapter websites. The morning ended with six excited members going home with door prizes!

Each of you reading this is also a leader in Vermont DKG. You took the initiative and the time to read this article which only helps to strengthen your knowledge and commitment for this society. As the Baker Street Irregulars suggested each DKG sister has the skills to be a leader in Vermont DKG, but it takes your willingness to step forward within your chapter to get started. Won't you step up today and prove the Baker Street Irregulars correct, that all members have qualities to be leaders!

Many current Vermont DKG leaders gave informative accounts of their specialty. The Baker Street Irregulars entertained us by searching for leaders. To the entire assembly: President Marcia Barron spoke about her vision of revitalizing Vermont DKG through membership and action; First vice president Marilyn Grunewald spoke about programs and projects; and Claire Reczek showed members how to navigate the international and state websites. In small breakout sessions: scholarship information was explained by Lorna Johnson; presidents received a wealth of information from former state president Joan Kirchoff; Ann Bannister explained to chapter treasurers some of the new changes in dues recording; and Marcia related tales of the Austin International Convention. Six happy attendees went home with great door prizes!



Sherlock, Watson and the Baker Street Irregulars:  
(l-r: Maggie Rafter, Nancy James, Ann Bannister, Caroline Pellon Paula Townsend, Donna Stone, Joan Kirchoff, Mary Ann Riggie)

### KEEP UP WITH EVERYTHING

Visit the Vermont DKG State Website at <https://alphalambdavn.weebly.com/> Website Contact Name: Claire Reczek [reczekc@comcast.net](mailto:reczekc@comcast.net) or you can visit the International Website [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) to access our website that way. The Alpha Lambda State news is now available online at our state website. You may also choose how you would like to receive the Vermont DKG newsletter by contacting your Chapter president. WRITE FOR THE NEWSLETTER Research, write and share ideas in The ALPHA LAMBDA STATE NEWS Editor: Ruth Anne Barker [rawesthill@gmail.com](mailto:rawesthill@gmail.com) Cell:802-558-7388/Landline with am: 802-446-2932

# CHAPTER NEWS

**ALPHA Chapter** has had its first meeting for the New Year. We met at Ethan Allen Homestead for a “Bring Your Own Lunch”. The meeting was a chance to share summer events and vote on the budget which includes the purchase of painting aprons for schools in Puerto Rico in addition to the dues for the year. Calendars were passed out with our yearly schedule of events. Our next meeting will feature our own sister Beth Evan who will describe teaching English Language Learners and present a look at the web page she created for us. This is a pot luck dinner. We have a busy year planned ahead: our own sister Maida Townsend will be speaking to us about the legislature; “Sewing at Sally’s”, “Tea at Caroline’s” where we will be listening to the VT teacher of the year; a briefing on human trafficking; our annual May dinner and our new favorite: chocolate tasting.

The Marion Brown Thorpe scholarship is in great shape, so if you know of someone who in the fall of next year will be doing their student teaching; have them write and submit to us an essay on why we should give them \$1,000.00. We accept applications from male as well as female students.

**BETA Chapter** had a very busy planning meeting on August 6, 2018. Our agenda included working on our budget, committee assignments, fundraising ideas, and planning for our upcoming meetings. We began the year in September with a short business meeting and installation of our officers. The October meeting will focus on membership. We will host a reception and an informational meeting about Delta Kappa Gamma for invited guests. We are developing our own slide show that incorporates pictures of our work and information about the society. We will conclude with a short business meeting at the end. Between November and February we are planning some events to keep connected with our members. We hope to have a fundraiser for our book project; plan a trip to see “The Nutcracker” either in Keene or Northampton; and have a Saturday brunch at a local restaurant in January. In March we will have a program by Maggie Cassidy on the Guardian Ad Litem program held at the local high school. Our May meeting will be at Brigid’s Kitchen, an organization that serves meals to those in need. It is operated by St. Michael’s Catholic Church. We will tour the newly renovated facility. Our business meeting will be at the end of the tour.

**DELTA Chapter** held our annual tea at the Berlin Church. As usual the ladies contributed a wonderful variety of sandwiches and desserts. We held our silent auction which netted a total of \$95.00. Three of our members presented their skit performed at the state meeting in April. It was especially heartwarming for many of the members as they did know these two founders of our chapter. Our Linbrook Scholarship Fund was established by the chapter in honor of these “sisters”. We discussed the up-coming April ’19 State Convention and chose the theme “Change and Growth” symbolized by the butterfly. This reflects the changes within the Delta Society Organization and hopefully the growth of our own state organization. We discussed where we should hold the convention. The committee will research this. We are looking forward to seeing you all at the convention on Sat. April 28th, 2019. In August we had the annual picnic at the Four Corner School. We installed our new officers as we were unable to do this in April. Afterwards, we had great conversation with each member discussing what they had been doing over the summer. We were saddened to learn we will be losing two members. One will be moving out of state, and the other is due to illness. They both will be missed. Our next scheduled meeting is in October.

**EPSILON Chapter’s** theme for this biennium is “Together, we can MAKE IT HAPPEN!”

Each of our meetings will incorporate this theme as we address the purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma. Following are the ways we have and will “Make it Happen!” at each Epsilon Chapter Meeting: in August we “Made it Happen!” by previewing the new Epsilon Chapter Program Book, and becoming informed about the 2018 DKG National Convention.

In September we “Made it Happen!” by honoring our experienced Epsilon Chapter Sisters.

In October we plan to “Make it Happen!” for our Earth by learning about the “Art of Composting” with Eric Paris.

In December we will “Make it Happen!” by creating Achievement Awards to be presented at the end of the school-year to first year teachers in Epsilon Chapter’s local schools.

In April, we will “Make it Happen!” by learning about “Sensory Processing” from Helene Gallagher.

In May “Make it Happen!” will be about enjoying “Musical Melodies in May”.

In June “Make it Happen!” will culminate with a “Make & Take” activity led by Jo Ann Clark.

## FORUM FACEBOOK PAGE LINK

For those of you desiring discussion of legislative topics there is a U. S. Forum Facebook page online at <http://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>

FORUM WEB SITE: <http://www.usforumdkg.org/>

# CHAPTER NEWS CONT.



Donna Stone (left) and Linda Moxley (right) flank the ETA Booth at the Welcome Back teachers day at MAUHS on August 28th (Editor's note: Great Idea!)

**ETA Chapter** Summer has faded away and our beautiful Fall season is upon us. There are still many days of good weather to enjoy! ETA Chapter has been very busy spreading our theme - **ENCOURAGING THOUGHTFUL ACTION**. We are devoted to education but our success depends entirely on active membership and participation. Our ETA meetings for the year 2018-2019 will be all about thoughtfulness, wellness and mindfulness.

Our most recent ETA activity was on August 28, 2018 when ETA members set up an ETA Booth at the WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL gathering for teachers in the Southwest Vermont Supervisory Union. We displayed our ETA Banner and our ETA tri-fold "ALL ABOUT ETA and DKG". We had handouts with DKG information and directed teachers to view our web site. We had a DKG/ETA NEW MEMBER Information sign-up sheet and now have 10 teachers interested in receiving more DKG membership information. These teachers have also been invited to our September 25, 2018 meeting to come and see what we are all about. ETA Chapter wishes you all a great year in DKG!

**Gamma Chapter** strives to offer diverse venues, and stimulating topics and guest speakers when planning their six meetings. We ask and listen to our members' input and suggestions. Here are a few of this year's venues and programs we're offering. We'll visit a local carving studio, The MINT a makerspace, and an art studio where our guest speaker will be local artist Peter Hunt-ton. We consider costs and work to keep them to a minimum amount. Finally, our social concerns for the past number of years have been to sponsor Soup Bowls for Hunger and teachers' scholarship. We think it's time to consider other possible organizations and needs in our community to support.

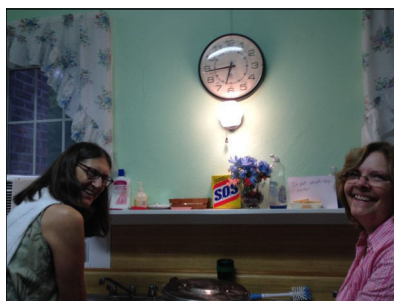
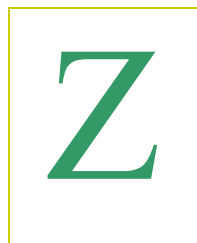
Gamma membership photo taken at Spring Conference



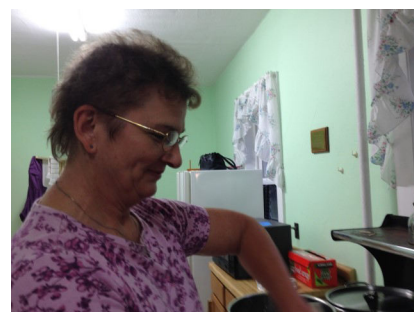
**ZETA Chapter** had our first meeting of the year at the United Methodist Church in Richford. We had a short presentation on preventing memory loss through diet, exercise, social interaction, and ongoing learning. There were 15 members at the meeting and overall we feel we are all on the right track in at least some of these categories. As we discussed the continuing changes in scientific dietary advice, Anne Ouellette suggested sticking to red wine and dark chocolate is probably a good plan!!



Donations we brought to the meeting for Samaritan House in St. Albans.



Above: Lyn Laugher and Jill Wilkens helping with clean up.



Candice Fortier (above) who cooked us a complete meal of chicken and biscuits, squash, mashed potatoes, coleslaw, beets, and three types of homemade pie, with no help!!

## Volume 66 Number 2 Fall 2018

Message from President Marcia Barron at the Executive Board meeting held September 22, 2018 in Rutland.

### Welcome to the Board

As president of Vermont State, it is my sincere pleasure to meet, know, and work with a group of amazing women. My first challenge in May 2018 was to enlist members' assistance serving on the executive board. Last year's team consisted of former members and new recruits. My goal was and is to have a completely filled slate of chairs and committee members who attend meetings and do the work of the society to meet members' needs.

I would like to now announce new members to this DKG leadership position.

Lois Michaud, Epsilon, has agreed to assist two other Epsilon members, Mary Ann Riggie and Jo Ann Clark, along with Barb O'Neil, Eta, on the Rules committee. They will be working diligently for the next few years with changes to state bylaws and chapter standing rules in order to comply with the amendment changes that occurred this summer.

Nancy James, Epsilon, was asked to chair the World Fellowship committee when her chapter presidency ended. Interestingly, she not only agreed to sit as chair, she has been elected to continue as president of Epsilon for another biennium. Her committee includes Deb Dauphinais, Gamma, and Ann White, Eta

Ruth Anne Barker, Gamma, has graciously accepted the task of newsletter editor. We have met to discuss the task and I worry not that it will be a fabulous document for all to read. All members of Vermont State DKG may assist in presenting news to Ruth Anne. Please send article or picture or news to rawesthill@gmail.com.

Carolyn Hazen has agreed to serve as co-chair of the history committee with Maryann McDonough. Susan Farrell rounds out the team of Gamma members who will keep track of our state minutes and historical artifacts.

Janis Kiehle, Beta, graciously volunteered to serve on the Achievement award committee with Ann White, chair, and Linda Mullin, Gamma.

Cheryl King, Eta, was asked to serve on the nominations committee and also kindly volunteered. Welcome to the team of Dianne Lamb, Eta, Ann Ouellette, Zeta, Rita Corey, Beta, and Nancy James, Epsilon. Your work will begin soon!

**THANK YOU, ALL. I LOOK FORWARD TO A FABULOUS YEAR!!**

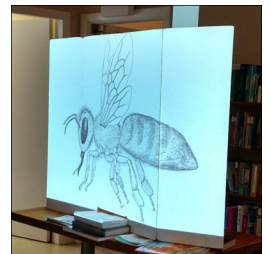
### Notes from the 2018 Arts Retreat "Butterflies and Flower"

held on Saturday, September 15, 2018

Susan Sawyer an artist-naturalist from South Woodbury, VT was the guest speaker at this year's event. Susan has been a freelance artist and teacher for over thirty years and since 1996 has been a member of the faculty of the Adult Degree Program of Vermont College, where she advises studies in Art and Natural Science. She also worked for the Vermont Institute of Natural Science for thirteen years as an educator, naturalist, and illustrator. Her particular interests include plants, insects, and all kinds of wet places – vernal pools, fens, bogs, and beaver meadows – and making art that reflects her love of nature. She's insatiably curious, loves a puzzle, thinks observation and imagination are the beginning of both science and art, and believes in having lots of fun while learning about the natural world. Susan earned a BA in Graphics and Natural History from New College, Sarasota, Florida and a Master of Fine Arts in visual art from Vermont College. She also holds a Diploma in Botanical Art from the Society of Botanical Artists in London. "My practice as an artist has changed over the years from printmaking to many years of making abstract art quilts, to my current work on paper, using watercolor, pencil, ink and silverpoint. Most of my work is of the details of the natural world. I'm interested in making pictures, often very close-up, of native plants and invertebrates." Susan informed us. Workshops included making painted bird houses and miniature painting of butterflies. Thanks to Jan Danziger for her invaluable leadership of this project.



Sawyer's quilts (left and artwork (right) Below participants and finished products of some of our talented participants who **EXCEEDED THE STANDARD**



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POB 102  
Wallingford, VT (802) 446-2932  
Email: rawesthill@gmail.com  
(please e-mail pictures in .jpg format)  
**Vermont Website:**  
<https://alphalambdavt.weebly.com/>

Mailing Address:

### **SOME IMPORTANT CHANGES**

**At the International Convention in Austin, several changes concerning membership occurred.**

1. We now use the word "induct" rather than the word "initiate". (Constitution III.A.1&2)
2. A new member becomes a member of the International Society in addition to a state organization and/or a chapter. (Constitution III.A.1)
3. An individual becomes a member of the Society when she pays her dues rather than when she is inducted. (Constitution III.A.1.&2)
4. The requirement of being initiated within one year of paying dues is no longer valid. (Standing Rules 3.01)
5. Membership is open not only to active and retired educators but also to anyone who has ever taught. (Constitution III.B.1)
6. Add "Member Emerita" to the types of membership (active, reserve, and honorary). Chapters may apply for Emerita status for members who have served the Society for fifty years or more. Members granted this status shall not pay dues or receive any publications. However, they will be eligible for recognition/remembrance at all levels of the Society. (Constitution III.B.4)
7. Add "Collegiate Members" to the types of membership. Collegiate members must be in last two years of undergraduate work or have graduate standing. When a collegiate member starts her career as a paid educator, she will pay active member dues and become an active member. If a collegiate member does not pursue a career in education or drops from an educational degree program, her membership expires. International dues will be \$20. A collegiate member may participate in all activities of the Society except holding an elected office. (Constitution III.B.4, Standing Rules 3.4 and 4.11)
8. Chapters may select candidates for members by the method determined by the chapter. However, the method must be established by the chapter rules. (Constitution III.C.1)