

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA NEWSLETTER

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN
EDUCATORS



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Gamma Shutter Art



Heather & Jan's workshops

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by Marilyn Grunewald, President DKG/VT

Dear DKG Sisters,

Life has been difficult for all of us during the last eight months. Covid 19 has affected each of us in different ways. I have had my own struggles, but I found ways to support myself and others. Calling friends and relatives and having deep conversations have become important to me. I speak to my daughter and son who live out of state every night. I called my California grandson who is at Northeastern and who could not go home for Thanksgiving. We spoke with him for an hour. I had a wonderful Conversation with Rita Corey President of Beta. I hold Rita in high esteem.

My work with DKG and the Governor's Institutes of Vermont has helped me focus on things other than the pandemic. It has given me a new sense of purpose for the volunteer work I do.

It has meant a lot to me to see the exciting activities happening across Vermont in spite of Covid 19. Chapters have successfully embraced the theme for this Biennium,

Communication, Collaboration and Community and have done it well. Community service projects continue to be important to us. ETA will distribute hats, gloves and mittens to local children, but collection and distribution will look different. Zoom meetings continue to be our prime means of communication. but chapters have been making sure members who are not able to attend a meeting receive any materials distributed.

This has been a troubling and unusual year for all of us, but we came together to support each other and to keep DKG alive and well and I sincerely thank you. There will be a light at the end of the tunnel and soon.

Please free to call me anytime with your questions or concerns, or even if you just need someone with whom to talk. 802-527-8237.

Be well, Safe and Happy. Happy Holidays to you and your families.

Best personal wishes.

Marilyn Grunewald
President,
DKG/VT

DKG Purposes

1. To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship
2. To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education
3. To advance the professional interest and position of women in education
4. To initiate, endorse, and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators
5. To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators
6. To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action
7. To inform the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues





DKG Fine Arts Fun

Marcia Barron



Many thanks go to Jan Danziger and Heather DeLeone who presented workshops for the DKG-VT "Fall into the Arts" Retreat 2020. Prior to the October zoom workshop a planning team consisting of Lian Brehm, Carol Barbagallo, Ann Bannister, Jan Danziger, Marilyn Grunewald and Marcia Barron collaborated to create this opportunity.

Interested members were able to choose from three workshops and join in on zoom. The morning went very smoothly and all who participated enjoyed their experiences in painting, drawing and sewing. Heather's son was a delight as he accompanied her and Jan's daughter, Kim, was helpful in setting up lighting and camera shots for Jan. I was delighted in the conversation and sharing that Jill Wilkins, Dianne Lamb, Carol Barbagallo and I had about the different masks and youtube videos available.



Jan's Workshop



Paula and Claire



Julie and Claire

The fine arts committee, headed by Lian Brehm, will meet again to discuss a possible spring zoom arts day and a fall retreat. We hope more members will join these fall 2020 participants: Donna Stone, Cassie Major, Mary Ann Riggie, Joan Kirchoff, Carol Barbagallo, Marilyn Grunewald, Jill Wilkins, Dianne Lamb, Donna Legare, and three presenters: Heather DeLeone, Jan Danziger and Marcia Barron.

Many thanks to Claire Reczek for her ideas and gifting of her old shutters for a Gamma chapter fine arts activity. Five members were able to join in a beautiful fall afternoon of painting and palavering. My friend and hairdresser, Julie Williams, joined to help with painting pointers and supplies. Betty Ann Laval brought snacks and painted sunflowers on her bright blue spray painted shutter. Lynn Ryan began to paint a beautiful red bow and changed her mind to create a delightful snowman. Paula Townsend painted her shutter orange and will use it for crafting both Halloween and Thanksgiving decorations. Claire Reczek painted a cute snowman prior to coming and added final details with Julie's advice. Julie guided me in painting holly and mistletoe designs on my red and gold shutter for a holiday card holder. After that fun afternoon Claire and I, with our husbands' help, created more snowmen and a garden angel. Claire shared her nice gifts with friends!



Lynn Ryan



Claire



Heather's Workshop



STATE CHAPTER NEWS



December's Report 2020

Gamma Chapter Executive Board

One highlight of the Fall was we held our November meeting in person. It was a treat to see everyone.

Gamma initiated 5 new members this fall. Jane Richards, Amanda Begin, Cara Shortle, Susan Hackett, and Dr. Jennifer Scott. Also, three DKG at large members joined, Martha Fleming, Claire Reczek, and Sally Kalinoski.

Welcome aboard!

September's meeting was held outside at the Godnick Center in Rutland, with the option to attend virtually. Thomas Donahue from BROCC (Bennington Rutland Opportunity Council) on Responding to the Needs of the Community during the Pandemic and Economic Downturn.

October's meeting was held at the Proctor Pittsford Country Club. The theme was the ABC's of Composting. Lisa Boerner, our EEC chairperson with her committee created a beautiful card. Members in attendance signed the card which was sent to 23 Rutland County Schools.

In December individual cards will be sent to all staff members at Rutland City Intermediate School.

Teacher Scholarship Committee awarded a \$300 stipend to Savannah Crowther, student teacher, at Barstow Elementary for the fall semester.

Peace and Joy to all.

Paula Townsend



Gamma Initiation

Gamma Initiation



December's Report 2020

Beta Chapter Executive Board

On November 23rd, the officers of Beta Chapter met to plan for the rest of the year. Given the uncertainty of the pandemic, we had a great conversation about ways to meet virtually, including online museum visits, watching a movie together virtually and hosting a Zoom cocktail hour. We talked about hosting a drive-by parade to connect with some members who are homebound. Our treasurer reported that in spite of the Covid restrictions, we were able to make a generous donation to the World Fellowship Fund.

We will meet again early in the new year to finalize our Spring meeting plans.

Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season!

Rita Corey



Beta Zoom Meeting

Mission Statement

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



STATE CHAPTER NEWS (CONT.)



ETA CHAPTER NEWS for DKG VT

Donna Stone, ETA Chapter TEAM Contact Person/Secretary

The DKG Vermont theme for this Biennium is **Communication, Collaboration and Community**. **ETA Chapter** has incorporated this theme into our meetings and projects. Our chapter communication is strong. We use email, phone tree, mail, personal phone calls, Facebook and our quarterly ETA NEWS LINK newsletter to remind our members about events, ETA TEAM and ETA Committee meeting places, dates and times, notes from ETA TEAM meetings, and project information, etc.

ETA Chapter stays positive and continues to support education and our local educators. We delivered bags of **STARMINTS FOR EDUCATORS** in the Bennington area schools to honor them during **AMERICAN EDUCATION WEEK**. We shared this idea with all DKG VT Chapters and posted it on our DKG VT Facebook site under ETA NEWS.



ETA Chapter promotes on-going projects that actively engage our members. A recent use of our phone tree, mail and email, was to inform our members about our annual **WINTER WARMTH PROJECT**. ETA will collect donations of hats, scarves, mittens and socks for our local school children a little differently this year due to the Covid -19 pandemic and not being able to hold our December Holiday Tea meeting. During the first week of December, an ETA member will place a box on the front porch of her home for ETA members to bring their donations there and place them in the box. Members were also given the option to make a monetary donation in the form of a check to send to our ETA Treasurer. Once the **Winter Warmth** donations are received, the ETA Team will deliver the hats, scarves, mittens and socks to local schools in the Bennington region. We have made strong communications with ETA members and hope to have a very successful **WINTER WARMTH PROJECT** this year!

ETA CHAPTER is all about Communication, Collaboration and Community while Encouraging Thoughtful Action! HAPPY HOLIDAYS from ETA CHAPTER!



ZETA CHAPTER NEWS

Jill Wilkens, President

Zeta's October 10th meeting was held in a barn on the property of Lisa Besso in Enosburg Falls. Our meeting included a presentation about composting as well as a Teacup Auction. About 10 of our members were able to attend. Once the meeting concluded, Lisa took us on a tour of her property. The included picture was taken on our walk. What a lovely day it was!

State Chapter News (cont.)

DELTA CHAPTER NEWS

Cassie Major

After our Delta Chapter President, Cassie Major called everyone to determine how comfortable they would feel having a face to face meeting, about a third of our members attended our fall meeting at the Steak House in Berlin. On the program was a discussion of how our sisters are all surviving COVID. We were so busy enjoying each others company that we forgot to share classroom survival /horror stories (it was Halloween after all). As an activity, we wrote encouraging notes to classroom teachers then attached them with ribbon to Tootsie Roll Pops. These were sent to local schools to be given to the staff. We were able earlier this fall to provide support bags of treats to 15 different area schools.



An historic moment occurred when Marilyn Wallace's very last set of minutes were read. We honored our stalwart recording secretary with many thanks of gratitude for her service of over 30 years! Caroline Pellon presented her with a bouquet of flowers. What will we do without you, Marilyn! Several members have stepped up to take minutes at future meetings, so we can truly say it will take more than one woman to fill your shoes!! We're thankful that you are still willing to serve as our historian.

We had a discussion about providing grant money to support the purchase of books for the daughter of our "remembering others" adopted refugee family who is attending Central Vermont Community College.

The newly revised edition of our annual yearbook was passed out to members in attendance and arrangements made to get one to those not present. WE'LL BE CROSSING OUR FINGERS, HOPING, our upcoming meetings can be held as scheduled. The January meeting will have a presentation about the Reading to End Racism program reading stories to children. Several members had missed seeing the following ad. Susan Koch, Public Relations Chair, designed and placed in the local newspapers - The World, The Times Argus and The Reader - at the beginning of the school year.

Several members had missed seeing the following ad. Susan Koch, Public Relations Chair, designed and placed in the local newspapers - The World, The Times Argus and The Reader - at the beginning of the school year. Delta Chapter's newspaper ad of support.



DKG International Educators: Grant applications

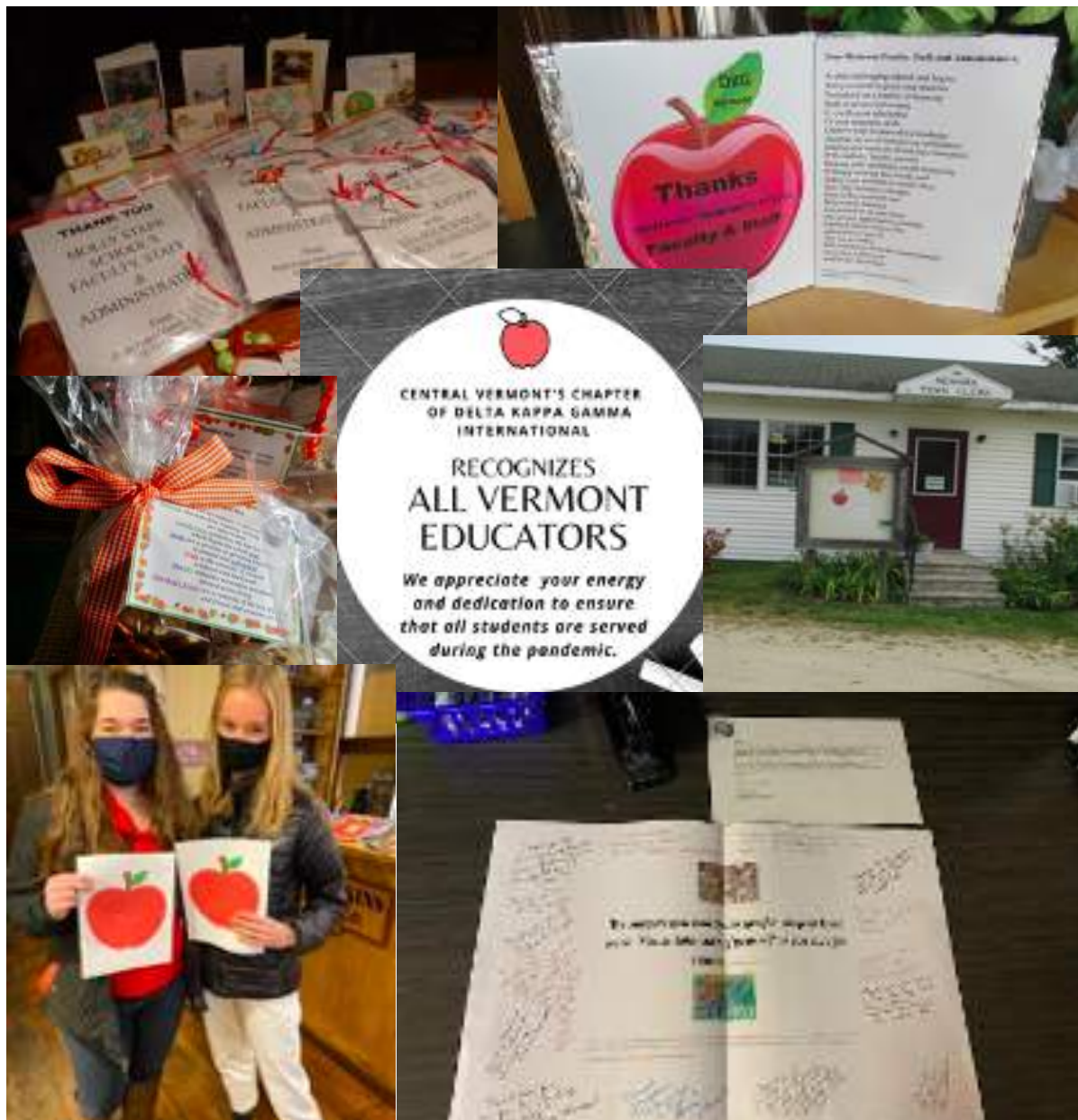


The Delta Kappa Gamma International Educators Foundation supports effective educational projects, the educational and charitable activities of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, and professional growth of educators worldwide. Generous donations from DKG chapters, members and friends make these project grants possible. Any project leader may apply. Applicants need not be members of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. Please see the link below. (Copy and paste into your browser.) Due date for application submission is January 3, 2021.

https://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/DKGIEF/Funds/Educational_Projects/DKGIEF_Educational_Projects.aspx



E-EEC's E-Exceptional C-Contributions Supporting Teachers



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

1. December 18, 3 pm, Executive Board Officers Meeting
2. December, January, encouraging notes to teachers
3. January 15, Executive Officers Meeting
4. February 6, 2021, Winter Board Meeting
5. Women in the Arts Retreat date and Place to be announced
6. May, encouraging notes to teachers
7. April 30, Executive Board Meeting
8. May 1, 2020, Saturday Spring convention





Book Titles for Winter Reading



Book titles were submitted by DKG VT members for winter reading selections. Happy Reading!



- **Bring Jade Home** - Michelle Caffrey (True story of the dog, Jade, lost in Yellowstone.)
- **The Book of Two Ways** - Jodi Picoult (Novel about the choices that alter the course of our lives.)
- **The Return** - Nicholas Sparks (Injured Navy doctor and two women whose secrets change the course of his life. book of two ways)
- **The Noel Letter** - Richard Paul Evans (Letters lead to a Christmas revelation about the healing miracle of hope and forgiveness.)
- **As Bright as Heaven** - Susan Meissner
- **Sarah's Key** - Tatiana De Rosnay
- **Becoming** - Michelle Obama (is the memoir of former United States first lady Michelle Obama, published in 2018. Described by the author as a deeply personal experience, the book talks about her roots and how she found her voice, as well as her time in the White House, her public health campaign, and her role as a mother.) also available in audio.)
- **The Brass Verdict** - Michael Connelly
- **America's First Daughter** - Laura Kaye and Stephanie Dray (from the viewpoint of Thomas Jefferson's daughter Patsy, this gives a detailed look at the roles of and issues surrounding women in the colonial era.)
- **White Rage** - Carol Anderson PhD (If you want to know why the Republicans are challenging Joe Biden's win, read . You will be filled with a lot of different emotions)
- **The Making of a Racist** - Charles B. Dew (a history professor at Williams College where my son and daughter-in-law teach.)
- **The Boys in the Boat** - Daniel James (Nine Americans and Their Epic Quest for Gold at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Brown, also available in audio.)
- **The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society** - Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows, (also available in audio. is a historical novel about a remarkable tale of the island of Guernsey during the German Occupation, and of a society as extraordinary as its name.)
- Anything in the series by Louise Penny. She writes mystery novels set in the Canadian province of Quebec centered on the work of francophone Chief Inspector Armand Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec. Thanks to Pat Lane for turning me on to her.
- **Raising a Rare Girl**: Heather Lanier. (She is a poet and creative nonfiction professor (and also a Vermont author), who "grapples with motherhood and the meaning of life in this memoir of raising her developmentally challenged daughter.)
- **Happiness is an Option**, Dr. Lynda Ulrich. (My good friend Dr. Lynda Ulrich is the author of Happiness is an Option. Dr. Lynda is the founder of "Ever Widening Circles", a media company on a mission to change the negative dialogue about our times. In her book she shares her remarkable life experiences, where how she has learned how we can see ourselves, not as a victim of Internet's Chaos, but as the solution.)
- **Confession Club**- Elizabeth Berg
- **Dragonfly**- Leila Meacham
- **City of Girls**- Elizabeth Gilbert
- **Wishing and Hoping**: Wally Lamb
- **A Promised Land**-Obama
- **Pachinko**- Min Jin Lee
- **American Dirt** -Jeanine Cummins
- **Eventide& Plainsong**: Kent Haruf
- **Olive Kitteridge** and **Olive Again**- Elizabeth Strout. (Olive is this indomitable MS Math teacher who struggles with relationships but has a really good heart. She had one son and is trying to maintain a healthy relationship with him. Many layers, really good for older readers especially women!)
- **Caste**: Isabelle Wilkerson. (Isabelle Wilkerson in Caste has written a very provocative and thought-provoking book that makes a pretty convincing case that there is an unspoken caste system in America that influences people's lives and behavior. This caste system has a disproportionately large impact on African Americans)
- **Before We Were Yours** - Lisa Wingate

