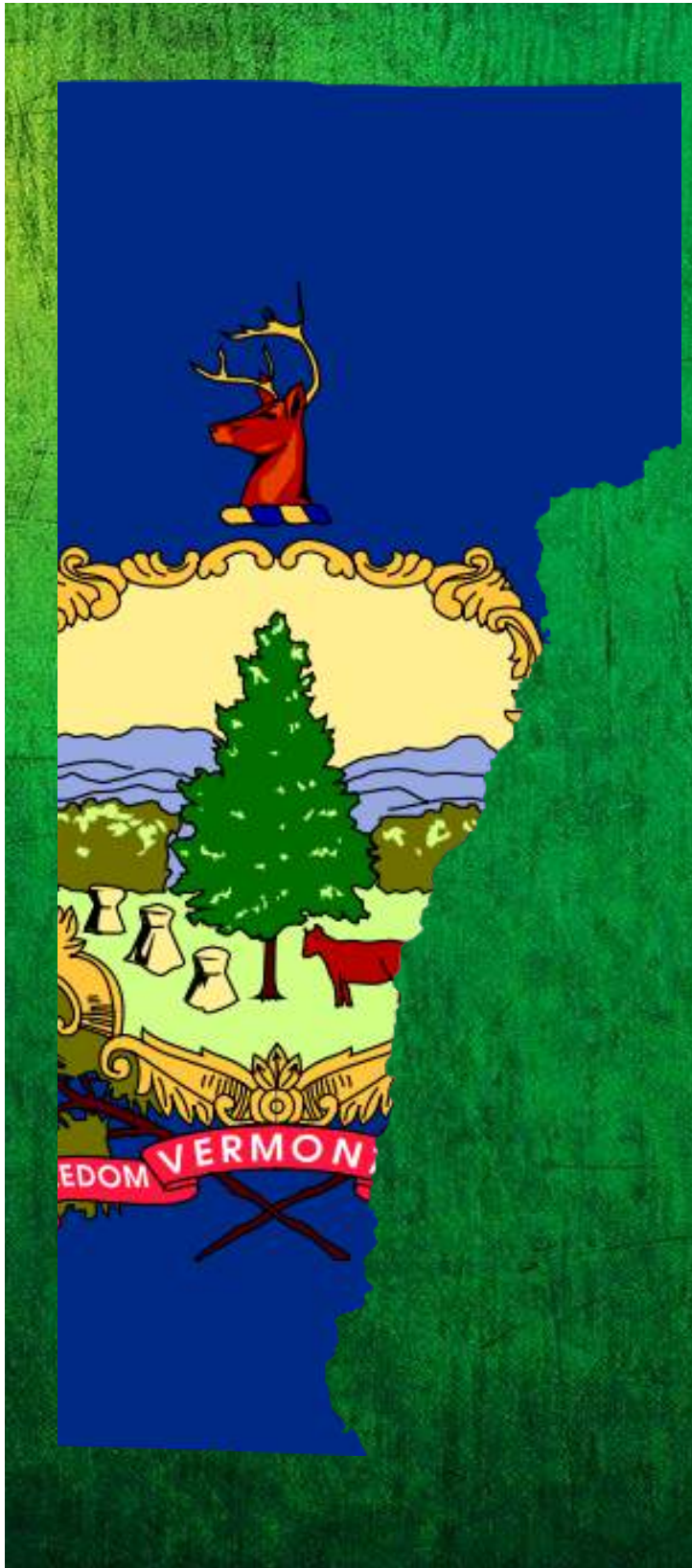


DELTA KAPPA GAMMA NEWSLETTER

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN
EDUCATORS



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My teacher gave
me the **BEST**
gift of all:

Believing
In Me!



Unique Teaching Resources

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

by Marilyn Grunewald, President DKG/VT

Dear DKG Sisters,
In March 2020 COVID-19 pandemic closed the PRE-12 schools. As a result, we had to make adjustments to our schedules and activities in an attempt to conduct business as usual. Regretfully, business as usual has not been always been possible. As I reflect on what is going on, I remember when schools closed for a few days because of the flu. Here we are in 2020 where schools closed in March and did not open again until September with hybrid schedules, virtual and face to face learning. Teachers have had to learn a completely different way of educating.

It is so important that we are respectful and supportive of everyone working in our schools. Please support our educators by a phone call, text message, card, email and participating in EEC's Apple Project. Everyone actively working needs your support, even if you are there just to listen.

Our newsletter editor, Megan Boraski Quinn, asked us to respond to the following question, "During the last few months of living in this Covid-19 pandemic, what is the funniest thing that happened? Hardest? Unexpected?" The funniest- I was locked out of a meeting because someone's else's name appeared in the waiting room, not mine, hardest-to see young children wearing masks, unexpected-

was how quickly we were all able and willing to learn and use the platforms necessary to participate in virtual meetings and new learning. I have been impressed with the Ingenuity, creativity, leadership skills, and vision of our newly elected chapter presidents, the state executive committee, board and our members. My goal for my biennium is Communication, Collaboration, and Community. The world in which we are living in is uncertain, but DKG/Vermont has taken giant steps to ensure that the state and local chapters continue to move forward to keep our organization strong. It has been through improved communication through virtual meetings, leadership training this summer and the opportunity for our chapters to meet face to face when appropriate but still have virtual options. As much as I cannot wait for a time when we will meet face-to-face, actually embrace each other, and smile with lips not covered by masks.

I found that I have gotten to know so many more of you as a result of our many Zoom meetings. It has also opened the door for us to learn how we can use technology in new ways.

Even though nothing is normal and so many of the wonderful events were cancelled, we continue to move forward while learning to use platforms such as Zoom. For me, personally it has been amazing experience. We are learning and growing. Please continue to find new ways to meet and encourage one another, to have programs that are useful at this time, to increase membership, and to market DKG as a growing and beneficial society for key women educators. Keep Vermont Strong.

Warmest wishes,
Marilyn Grunewald, President
DKG/VT



Mission Statement

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

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

Educational Excellence Committee

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Have you driven around your community lately? Hopefully, you've seen this year's DKG VT's Educational Excellence Committee's (EEC) first statewide initiative: the big red apple. EEC members have been working diligently posting in house windows, store fronts, community bulletin boards, and local school buildings. These big red apples are thanking area faculty and staff for the monumental work they are doing during these unprecedented times. Some red apples have also been posted on chapter Facebook pages, personal Facebook and Instagram pages, Twitter, and also in local newspapers. Some chapters will be contacting radio stations and educational TV channels to discuss the initiative.

EEC's second initiative this year is to deliver notes of encouragement that may also include treats in September, December/January, and finally, again, in May to area educators.

This year, EEC's goal is to reach out to educators in our community and statewide letting them know how supportive and proud we are of all they are doing in person and remotely under extraordinary circumstances.

Now it's time to get in your car and enjoy the beauty of Vermont's autumn while on the lookout for DKG apples!

Carol Barbagallo
1st VP
EEC chair



PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

MAY
2021 CONVENTION

#1 New Section for Article XI

Section F Changes in the Bylaws and Standing Rules of DKG VT necessitated by amendments to the DKG International Constitution and/or Standing Rules shall be made by the DKG VT Rules Committee with the State President as an ex-officious member and then reported to members as soon as possible on our web site and in the next issue of our State Newsletter.

This proposed amendment was originally warned in *Fall 2019* Newsletter for action at Spring 2020 State Convention. COVID forced the cancellation of the 2020 Convention. The proposed amendment should be warned again in the mid-winter newsletter in preparation for action at the 2021 Convention.

The following new proposed amendments should also be warned in the mid-winter *Newsletter*.

#2 Bylaws Revision Article VIII

Section Revision C1f(5) conduct an induction service at the spring convention in ~~even-numbered years~~ upon request of at least one chapter.

#3 Standing Rules Revision

2.1 DKG Vermont may induct members at the spring convention in ~~even-numbered years~~, upon request of at least one chapter, unless authorized by the Executive Board to do otherwise. (4-28-12)





ETA CHAPTER NEWS

Donna Stone, ETA Contact Person/Secretary

ENCOURAGING THOUGHTFUL ACTION.

Our ETA Chapter theme that we will continue to pursue this year is: "Encouraging Thoughtful Action" with a focus on "Wellness, Mindfulness and Well-Being" which we will incorporate into our meetings and activities. ETA sisters are always thinking of ways in which we show "Gratitude, Kindness and Wellness."

What's been happening in ETA? Well, a lot has been happening in ETA and it has been happening a little bit different than we may have planned! ETA Chapter is determined to **"keep calm and carry on"**! That is exactly what we are doing. Our membership remains strong and the ETA TEAM and ETA COMMITTEES continue to plan and help our chapter move forward. We keep calm, adapt, keep our emotions intact and think of the best ways to keep our membership involved in ETA and DKG VT projects.

We thought we would be presenting the **DKG VT, OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO EDUCATION AWARD** to Bennington Dentist, Dr. Loren Peck, at the 2020 DKG VT Spring Convention which was canceled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Well, ETA got busy and made plans to have

the award plaque mailed to us so we could go to his office and present the plaque to him. Dr. Peck came outside on the front steps of his dental office and we honored him with a few special words and gave him the plaque. We **keep calm and carry on!**

In August and September, the ETA TEAM and COMMITTEE CHAIRS met at the Bennington Deer Park and generated a few ideas to support the efforts of educators. One project is for our members to put a **red apple** in the front window of our homes to show that we support education. Our most recent **THANK YOU** project was tying **Thank You notes** to lollipops and delivering this message of thanks to the faculty, staff and administration in our fourteen area schools. We had lots of laughs tying the small thank you notes onto these mini-lollipops! We work together, **keep calm and carry on!**

ETA members are actively involved in the DKG Vermont Education Excellence Committee projects. We have placed the **APPLE THANK YOU posters** in the windows of ten Bennington businesses and the Main Street kiosk.

We have written and delivered several **Thank You** cards to faculty and staff in the fourteen Bennington Area Schools. We have a plan to also place the **APPLE THANK YOU poster** in the area schools, too. We received several smiles and "thumbs ups" for our efforts to thank educators and this made it that much easier to keep calm and carry on!

At our September ETA Meeting, a red rose was given to the ETA TEAM Members and COMMITTEE CHAIRS in attendance. We recognized the professional and personal growth of each other and took a few minutes to appreciate each other! We made positive comments about what we are all doing as we **keep calm and carry on** for ETA and DKG Vermont.



ETA Chapter News (cont.)

ETA TENTATIVE MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATES 2020 – 2021

All Meetings will begin with a Thought For The Day and Wellness Idea. All meetings will have an Attendance Prize

SOCIAL TIME 3:45 MEETINGS BEGIN AT 4PM

12/1/20 Old First Church Barn CHAIR: Linda Bush

PROGRAM: Holiday Basket Raffle Fundraiser and Winter Warmth Project

3/23/21 Second Congregational Church CHAIR: Cheryl King

PROGRAM: Vermont Reads Speaker/Book Discussion

5/19/21 Second Congregational Church CHAIR: Donna Stone

PROGRAM: Speaker – Laurie Sallisky, UCS Mentoring Program Coordinator.



Respectfully submitted,

Donna Stone

ETA Chapter Contact Person/Secretary

DKG Vermont Recording Secretary



Covid Questions

In order to stay connected with the DKG Vermont community each chapter was asked three questions that pertained to Covid-19 and our experiences. The questions were: what is the funniest thing that has happened during this pandemic, the hardest, and most unexpected. Answers from our members below:

Funniest?

I can't think of a lot of funny things that happened during this ongoing pandemic. But every once in a while something on facebook or online would make me chuckle. At Easter time I saw these colored eggs and they made me smile. I also sent this virtual quarantine cake to several friends who had birthdays recently.



Covid Questions cont.

Trying to figure out what day of the week it is. All the days seem alike.

Trying to figure out how to tie a 2 inch square of paper onto a lollipop with a 6 inch piece of ribbon.

Seeing the Facebook posts about the possibilities of school kids with masks: trading them with friends, dropping them in the toilet.

My changing hair color.

Wanting a mask to match my outfit!

Putting a mask on to run an errand and getting back home and hour later with it still on as I start a chore.



The hardest part is loss of seeing family, friends, going out to beaches, pools, theaters, movies, parades, balloon fests, sports events, holiday celebrations. Our world seems to have stopped and what you used to have to look forward to have disappeared. You must work very hard as a retired person to keep a daily schedule, weekly schedule, exercise schedule, and learn to connect with others in different ways. It has taken a toll on my emotional and mental positivity when you can't see an end in sight.

My hardest was not being able to play games with my grandchildren.

Getting half way through the parking lot on Price Chopper and having to go back for my mask.

I did share moments with my kids that definitely kept us laughing and loving.

Seeing my students show up to their zoom sessions in their pajamas and their underwear!

Nothing funny has made a lasting impression on me - must be the secluded life!

Wearing a mask at a baseball game.

My funniest experience was planting a garden for the first time and overloading a 4 x 10 ft. raised garden with way too many plants: five pumpkins, three green beans, three tomato, two cucumber, five lettuce, and a myriad of carrots. It was a true jungle! Lots of green beans and cherry tomatoes, no pumpkins, and cucumber shaped like golf balls!

Hardest?

Having a baby amidst it all.

Not being able to visit a friend in the Nursing Home.

Having my daily Gym routine and Yoga interrupted at the beginning of this pandemic.

Not knowing how long COVID-19 will last.

Changes to daily routines outside of the home.

Sitting in a parking lot waiting for a call to go into an office. Guess it could be worse.

High levels of anxiety.

Constant use of hand sanitizer.

Covid Questions cont.

Worrying about family and friends and not being able to travel to see them.

Not being able to see my Mother in a nursing home.

The death of a beloved cousin in late spring.

Having to make the call to cancel the family reunion that my husband and I have hosted for 39 years on Labor Day weekend with cousins coming from the west and the south as well as New England states.

Dealing with "cabin fever".

Controlling eating habits/food intake.

So Hard to keep up with the unexpected ways of Covid-19.

Socializing by video.



Unexpected?

I did not think that the technology using Zoom for meetings, doctor's appointments, visiting friends and family, allowing schools, workplaces, television, the arts, news shows to function would be as successful as it has been. Thank goodness we have enough technological tools to make it work in a very many places. It was also unexpected how quickly people have adapted to so many new ways of doing things in such a short amount of time.

COVID-19 in general and everything that came with it. It's just ongoing.

The unexpected cancellation of so many events.

I still had my wedding. Planned it in 40 days. And it was beautiful!

No flour and bisquick in the stores.

Having to change my shopping routine.

Finding disinfectant supplies, hand sanitizer and toilet paper out of stock.

Online grocery shopping.

The only wardrobe items I've purchased are masks. I've spent quite a bit of time reading reviews of masks before purchasing.

Fixed healthier meals with fresh vegetables.

Realizing just how long this pandemic will last.

I don't hate teaching students through zoom! It's been a chance to be creative with my lessons, and learn more about technology.

My most unexpected was how much joy I found in simple pleasures every day despite the grim news.

Friend's Wedding date changed twice.

Becoming a Zoomer!

Covid Questions cont.

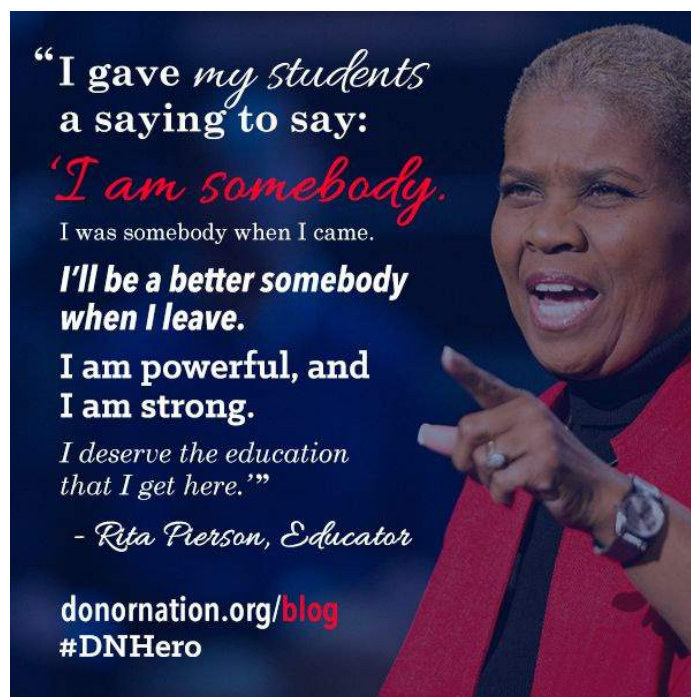
During the Covid Crisis I was able to spend more time with my family. While it was difficult missing out on vacations, traveling to see my mom and family, we made the best of it. We kayaked, biked, hiked and paddle boarded. I enjoyed all that Vermont has to offer.

COVID 19 has presented many challenges these past few months, some have been very hard however, I would like to share the unexpected. The unexpected was the number of Gamma sisters that attended either in person or virtually our first two Chapter meetings. Both were held outside, members brought their own chairs, wore masks, and we had a good WIFI connection, yeah! It amazed me that it all worked, really worked! It was refreshing a new venue to consider when planning future meetings when Mr. COVID has hit the road. Though it did get a little chilly outside in mid-September - it was the best. To Gamma sisters, thank you, for your flexibility, imagination, time, spirit, and most of all your support for each other - Bravo to the unexpected!



BONUS!!! THANKFUL

*Everyday I get up very **THANKFUL** that I'm healthy and able to be independent; able to survive without the added stress that many have been dealing with throughout this Pandemic. I'm so glad I can walk outside every day which is my biggest "outlet."*



Letter from the Editor

Hello DKG Sisters! I am Meg Boraski Quinn and I am the new newsletter editor! I am a Speech-Language Pathologist in Brattleboro, and have been a member of the DKG Beta Chapter for the past five years! I am very excited to be your new editor. Please reach out to me with any newsletter related questions. Cheers!

Boraskim431@gmail.com

Fine Arts Retreat

Dear DKG VT members,

Our state Fine Arts committee invites you to join in a Zoom "Fall into the Arts" Retreat. We have three offerings from which you may join any or all. The date is **Saturday, October 24, 2020**. The times are **9-10, 10:30 -11:30** and **12-1**. We are hoping to see you and enjoy each others' company virtually while creating works of art!

Session 1: *Mindful Radial Resist Painting* presented by Heather DeLeone, **(a suggestion: collect and trace a leaf or two onto card stock to cut out for this workshop or fall cookie cutters)**

Session 2: *Pencil Drawing Techniques* with Plant Subject presented by Jan Danziger,
Session 3: *Sewing a pleated mask* with Marcia Barron.

Please RSVP to Marcia Barron (marciabarron28@gmail.com) by October 14. You will then be sent an email with the link to the zoom session. The zoom session will be set up from 8:30 until 1:30 and you may join at any time. You may choose to participate in any or all of the sessions at will.

Ask a friend to join. Just send their email address so we can send the link. Looking forward to seeing you soon.

Marcia Barron



Beta CHAPTER NEWS

Rita Corey, Beta President



Beta chapter had their first meeting on Wednesday, September 9th, at Karen Duggan's house.

Eight members attended and had a great time on Karen's deck. We began with a "Surprise" Wedding Shower for fellow member and new Newsletter chair, Megan Boraski. Megan got married on Saturday, September 19th at her parents' home in Massachusetts. Congratulations, Megan!

We also shared our meeting on ZOOM with Janis Kiehle, our outgoing President. She

and her husband have moved to Florida. They live on the same street as her sister! Best Wishes, Janis!

We installed our two new officers, Rita Corey as President and Mary Ann Runge as Vice-President. Congratulations!

For our social concern, members brought women's hygiene products to give to our local organization, Groundworks. We conducted our business meeting, approved our budget and discussed future meetings and events.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 20th at Karen Duggan's house. We will be taking a virtual tour of the Louvre! We will also bring baked goods to donate to a local food pantry, Brigid's Kitchen, here in Brattleboro.

Best Wishes to everyone. Enjoy this beautiful Fall weather!



DKG – VT Meeting – ZOOM
SEPTEMBER 12, 2020 8:30AM -11:10AM
ZOOM Meeting Minutes

Submitted by Donna Stone, Recording Secretary

ATTENDANCE: Marilyn Grunewald, Marcia Barron, Mary Ann Riggie, Donna Stone, Carol Barbagallo, Ann Bannister, Megan Boraski, Cassie Major, Lian Brehn, Lorna Johnson, Barb O'Neil, Nancy James, Carol Hickey, Claire Reczek, Martha Fleming, Sue Green, Paula Townsend, Sandy Blodgett

ATTENDANCE: taken using ZOOM Gallery. 18 members present.

WELCOME/GROUP ACTIVITY: Ann asked, "What is one trip you would like to take once the Covid – 19 restrictions have ended?" Please email your response to Marilyn. Some shared: Visit family in CA, GA, FL, CT, TX, AZ. Visit Ireland, Mexico, Guatemala, Cruise the Danube, Australia, Sicily, US National Parks, and go to the Ocean.

CALL TO ORDER: 8:50AM - Marilyn asked if there was anything to add to the meeting agenda. Donna asked the Communication be added.

Claire made a motion to accept the agenda with one correction.

Martha seconded. Passed unanimously.

TIME KEEPER – Sue Green

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY – Barb O'Neil

Topic : Optimism leads to Achievement

Poem: Love lights more fires than Hate extinguishes.

Author: Ellen Wheeler Wilcox

RECORDING SECRETARY – Donna Stone • Three people to review the minutes – Megan, Marcia. Cassie and send to Marilyn, too.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – Barb O'Neil

Since May 5, 2020 she has sent 1 Thinking of You card, 2 Sympathy cards, 1 Congratulations card. We received 4 Thank You cards.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ann Bannister

Healthy balance, mainly due to no Spring Convention or International Convention expenses in 2020.

Available funds: Checking: \$8353.91 Fund Reserve \$3896.78

CHAPTER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS: See attached September 2020 Reports that were received by September 12. Donna will send out other Chapter/Committee reports as she receives them. Mary Ann proposed a challenge for the APPLE THANK YOU POSTERS: Let's see if we can get a poster placed in all 4 corners of VT.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICITY – Megan Boraski, Claire Reczek

DKG – VT Meeting – ZOOM (cont.)

DKG-VT NEWSLETTER – Megan

Send chapter information for Newsletter to Megan by September 25, 2020.

Newsletter published the 2nd week of October, 2020

October Newsletter will include: updates, chapter plans, member spotlights, member responses to the following: During the last few months of living in this Covid-19 pandemic, what is the funniest thing that happened? Hardest? Unexpected?

Make sure your current email address is accurate.

As of today – DKG VT Web site is current with Officer and Committee information.

Mary Ann suggested that in the future all Officer and Committee information be sent to her by August 31. It is the duty of the 2nd VP to have this information current and accurate. Discussed having a DKG VT Facebook page. Megan, Claire and Nancy will be on this Facebook ad hoc committee and will report back.

FINANCE – Jill Wilkens (absent)

No report

Ann stated that the DKG accounts had been audited and reconciled.

Continued discussion from the August Zoom meeting of the \$1.00 from member dues to DKG

VT Scholarship. Mary Ann, Lorna and Ann will meet and come up with clarification of the \$1.00 extra in dues/members.

Memorial Scholarship is totally funded. Last used in 1997.

Mary Ann will frame our scholarship question(s) to International and then contact the International Parliamentarian.

HISTORIAN – Mary Ann McDonough (absent)

No Report.

Marilyn will contact Mary Ann by phone to double check with her about chairing this committee and her membership status.

LEADERSHIP – Mary Ann Riggie

MEMBERSHIP – Sue Green

A couple of members have dropped out but otherwise our number of members remains the same. She is working with Chapter Treasurer's to keep her membership list current.

NOMINATIONS – Cheryl King (absent)

Marilyn stated that nominations need to start this Fall.

Committee needs one more member and is an elected position.

Mary Ann will check the Rules and let Marilyn know if she can appoint a member to the Nominations Committee

DKG – VT Meeting – ZOOM (cont.)

EEC – Carol Barbagallo

Carol sent excellent EE Program guidelines for the current projects to each Chapter/Education Committee Chair(s).

Projects include the APPLE THANK YOU poster to area school's Faculty and Staff.

Poster to be placed in a local business and/or schools

Send Thank you cards to educators/schools in your area.

Share your educational support ideas with Carol. We want to show our support to all educators for their hard work during these extraordinary times.

Donna shared that ETA has tied a small Thank You note on a lollipop. Bags of lollipops and Thank You cards will be delivered to the 14 schools in the Bennington area. Photo of this EE project is on the ETA page of the DKG Web site.

KINDNESS ART Project will continue the same as last year when it was interrupted with the closing of schools in March 2020. Chapters should send pictures to Claire for publication on website.

Carol suggested local chapters also use newspaper, tv, radio, as possible.

FINE ARTS – Lian Brehn

Next Committee Meeting will be held on September 26, 2020 to finalize the plans for the “Fall into the Arts” Workshops to be held via Zoom on October 24 at the Senior Center in Plainfield, VT.

Date and times of workshops will be confirmed and emailed to Chapter presidents who in turn will email their members.

Possible Arts Retreat October 23, 2021 at the Senior Center in Plainfield, VT.

WORLD FELLOWSHIP – Marcia Barron

Sent \$287 to the International World Fellowship Fund.

Six members stated that they sent a card to recipients of the World Fellowship fund.

US FORMER LIAISON - Cheryl Hooker (absent)

No report

EDUCATION FOUNDATION LIAISON -Martha Fleming

Money available to individual and groups of people.

Suggested use: Virtual teaching opportunities. (ex: historical sites)

November 1, 2020 deadline to apply.

OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO EDUCATION- Nancy James

Nancy is the new chair for this committee. Thanks Nancy!

Even numbered years.

STATE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS – Ann White (absent)

No report

DKG – VT Meeting – ZOOM (cont.)

OLD BUSINESS

Mary Ann suggested that each Chapter President survey their members to see if they would use virtual/ZOOM for the 2021 Convention.

NEW BUSINESS

CHAPTER ZOOM MEETINGS –

Marcia sent Carol the Calendar of Chapter Meeting dates/times. Please check this attached calendar for accuracy. Make any calendar changes with Marcia.

Chapter Presidents will let Marcia know a week ahead of time to schedule a ZOOM MEETING. The meeting link will be sent to Chapter Presidents who will then send the meeting link to their membership and Marilyn.

Each Chapter will choose a Zoom Meeting host to admit members, recognize who wants to speak, and close out zoom by using the “end the meeting” tab.

COMMUNICATION-

When given a deadline to send reports for a meeting to the recording secretary, the recording secretary will wait a day after the deadline before sending all reports in one document out to Officers/Committees. Any reports received after the deadline will be sent out as a second document the day before the meeting.

Please make sure you email address is correct and current.

PLANNING-

What is the role of DKG Vermont?

How can we support chapters/membership?

Would you like to see more communication with the other DKG VT Chapters?

By September 18, 2020, email to Marilyn your answers to the above questions.

The answers will be shared at the September 18, 2020 Exec. Board Meeting.

Discussion related to the questions:

State be a liaison between state and International DKG.

Continue with DKG traditions - ex. Song and induction ceremonies.

Coordinate projects like the EEC is doing.

Organize a ZOOM Meeting for all Chapter Presidents.

One main focus for a meeting.

ZOOM MEETING adjourned at 11:10AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Stone

DKG – VT Recording Secretary

September 12, 2020



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

1. September 12, 2020, Fall Board meeting, 14, 2019
2. Executive Officers Meeting, Friday September 18, 3:00 pm
3. September 25, Newsletters information To Megan Boraski
4. September 30, encouraging notes to teachers
5. October 22, Chapter Presidents' Zoom meeting, at 5 pm.
6. December 18, 3 pm, Executive Board Officers Meeting
7. December, January, encouraging notes to teachers
8. January 15, Executive Officers Meeting
9. February 6, 2021, Winter Board Meeting
10. Women in the Arts Retreat date and Place to be announced
11. May, encouraging notes to teachers
12. April 30, Executive Board Meeting
13. May 1, 2020, Saturday Spring convention

