

# Alpha Lambda State News

An Organization Of Key Women Educators Worldwide

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of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

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## Ann S. White State Achievement Award Honoree

It is difficult to surprise the chair of a committee with the award she is in charge of . . . but that it just what the DKG Alpha Lambda State Achievement Award Committee managed to do!

The State Achievement Award is for one women, chosen annually to recognize an individual who excels in service to others. The Eta Chapter sisters of Ann White cited her "considerate thoughtful awareness of anyone who might need a supportive friend." They note she is "always willing to help" and that she is an "imaginative chapter member who has created wonderful Founder's Day ceremonies for Eta Chapter." The honor continues "It is Ann's quiet way of getting things done that is most admired . . . her work in the background of events where success indicates Ann had a hand in it. And, Ann has a magic purse with most anything another might need on the spur of the moment. Ann is devoted to DKG, and that is one of the many reasons she received this award. Thank you, Ann, for making a difference in our Delta Kappa Gamma Society."

Behind the scenes the committee had conspired to explain to Ann that no nominations had been received this year, so no award would be given. Instead, the committee quietly arranged the honor



be given to Ann, a strong nominee from the 2016 group who had modestly removed her own name from consideration one year ago.

Ann S. White was initiated into Eta Chapter of DKG in 1987. She has been recognized as Eta's 2007 Woman of Distinction, and she has been honored in her community with the 2013 Grange Award for Public Service. Ann has attended many state conferences, and was present at both the Burlington, VT and Portland, ME Northeast Regional Conferences. She has chaired numerous Eta chapter committees, including World Fellowship, Professional Affairs, Little Dresses for Africa, chapter Programs and Music. Ann was Eta Chapter's co-president for two terms, actively serving on the Executive Board.

Introduce yourself to Ann at a DKG event. She is a terrific friend to have, and she is a model for what each of us can do and can be in this society.

On behalf of the state officers and executive board, we congratulate Ann S. White on her well-deserved recognition as our 2017 State Achievement Award recipient.

-JH

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## Educational Excellence Committee Notes

The Role of NGO's, U.S. Forum and CTAUN

Dear DKG Sisters,

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer. As always, it has gone too quickly; now school begins, and Vermont's lovely foliage will soon explode in color.

I began my summer by attending the Northeast Regional Conference in Windsor, Ontario with Pres. Marcia Barron, and sisters Linn Wilson, Janis Kiehle, Ann Kalinoski and Rita Corey. This was my second regional conference; at each I have learned new ways in which we can influence education worldwide. In formal conference sessions and through individual, informal opportunities I have met some remarkable women. Sessions I attended included: -The DKG Foundation, -Overcoming Stress and Thriving as a Family Caregiver, -So You Want to Write a Book?, -Google Apps and DKG, and -Protecting the Great Lakes (Native Walkers). I want to thank both Alpha Lambda and Zeta chapter for their financial assistance which supported a portion of my travel to Ontario on your behalf.

The DKG work that impresses me the most is our role at the United Nations as a Non-Governmental Organization, an NGO. This fulfills DKG purpose #7 "To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that the members may participate effectively in a world society." Since 1997 DKG has supported UNICEF's work around the globe. Presently we support Schools for Africa which helps the most disadvantaged children on that continent obtain a quality education. Most of the society's NGO representatives are involved with the Committee on Teaching about the United Nations (CTAUN), an organization made up of representatives from a variety of NGO's with an interest in education. CTAUN provides educators opportunities to learn about the UN and its work. Through events and resources available on the website, CTAUN assists teachers in efforts to incorporate global awareness into classroom curricula and activities.

Also the U.S. Forum supports non-partisan federal legislation in the interests of education and educators. It provides US members of DKG with important information on pending issues and legislator contact numbers to enable more efficient advocacy. If you share these interests, consider traveling to Washington, DC March 18-21, 2018 to begin to participate in Forum work or April 6, 2018 to New York City when the focus is "Stepping Up to Protect the World's Children" -- to be held at the UN Headquarters.

I highly recommend that you attend state, regional and international conferences. These larger groups of DKG members really expand your sense of who and what comprises DKG. You will have a broader sense of what we can contribute at the local level when you see examples of the projects and programs of others. Every state, regional and national conference has added to my personal and professional growth, helping me prepare for the role of president in the next biennium. In summer 2018 Austin, TX beckons all members to the 2018 International DKG Convention. Let's have a strong showing of Vermonters "deep in the heart of Texas" next summer. There you will see the international reach of DKG first-hand, and come home with new friendships and mentors from within the society, and from around the world.

As your first vice-president I chair the Educational Excellence committee. I will be holding several teleconferences using FreeConferencecalling.com to provide our Vermont Educational Excellence Committee an opportunity to share ideas and set our state level goals. Three major goals have been established for our society for 2016-2018:

- A. Empowering women through leadership opportunities
- B. Engaging educators in purposeful programs and projects
- C. Creating global involvement

I am eagerly looking forward to our work together. Best regards to all -

Marilyn Grunewald  
First Vice President



### **Alpha Lambda Officers 2017-2019**

**Marcia Barron  
President**

**Marilyn Grunewald  
First Vice President**

**Carol Barbagallo  
Second Vice President**

**Mary Ann Riggie  
Recording Secretary**

**Pat Lane  
Corresponding Secretary**

## Thoughts From Your President

My presidency began after the election on April 29, 2017. My work and thoughts about the job began on the ride home from Bennington as I reflected on the collaboration and inspiration evidenced by Eta chapter's planning and organization. For me, as I saw an energized group of women determined to get the work of the Society accomplished in their unique way, I began to consider how we can re-energize Vermont's Alpha Lambda Society to keep it alive and vibrant.

My first step was to fill vacancies in the committees and chairs. I used email and phone communication. The task is 99% complete as of this article. If you would be interested in joining the work of a committee, please reach out to me, to those on the nominating committee, or to your chapter president. We are communicating regularly.



My next step was to represent you at the Northeast Regional Conference in Windsor, Ontario. The travel to Windsor took the efforts of both myself and your first vice president Marilyn Grunewald since a few difficulties were encountered -- but it was well worth it! Last year I had attended the International Convention in Nashville, Tennessee and enjoyed many growth experiences. This year was all about professional development. I enjoyed every minute, saw fabulously talented and dedicated women at every meeting, and headed for home feeling personally rewarded by this society.

I have returned enthused to begin, filled with much information and many ideas. The theme for my biennium is **"Re-e-vitalize: through membership and action."** What I picture is Vermont DKG membership growing in numbers, while, most importantly, growing in relevance for each member thereby increasing vitality. The E's stand for excitement and enthusiasm toward attending meetings, being actively involved, and sparking new ideas for projects. Long-time members, newer initiated members, retired members, and actively teaching members comprise our chapters -- and each has potential for personal renewal and growth, along with opportunities to participate in personally meaningful ways. Because I witnessed this energy at the Spring Convention, I am sure member relevance in programs and action, and growth in membership, are attainable goals.

Please come along together.

*Marcia Barron*

### Member information reminders via dkg.org

Use your member number and the password dkg2014society for access. Click **MyDKG**, then **MyAccount**, and use the pencil icon to make changes, and save. You can increase your member benefits through using the web access.

Please remember to keep an accurate email address on file with your chapter and in the state membership records.



## Meet Your New Officers

**Marcia Barron** has been in DKG since 2000; she seldom misses a regional or international conference where she eagerly gathers resources and ideas to bring home to Vermont. A former elementary and middle school physical education teacher, Marcia is committed to educational excellence, health and fitness. A Gamma sister, Marcia stepped up to chapter leadership as their vice president 2002-2004, then as chapter president 2004-2006. She is state president 2017-2019.

**Marilyn Grunewald** was an early career special educator and English teacher whose later career included various roles in administration. Marilyn has served as superintendent and as an adjunct professor at five Vermont colleges and universities! Marilyn actively advocates within her community in retirement, and is instrumental in women's leadership role development in Franklin County. She has been in DKG since 1992, and is a Zeta member. Marilyn is first vice president.

**Carol Barbagallo**, second vice president, taught elementary school for 35 years. A past recipient of the State Achievement Award, and our exiting state Membership chair, we count on Carol's loving attention to detail and deep passion for Alpha Lambda state. Our own Vermont "side tour arranger" at many conferences, she knows great restaurants and how to get a group in to the World Trade Center Memorial. A member of Gamma chapter since 1988, Carol will be assisting our new state Membership chair to take on her role.

**Mary Ann Riggie** uses the word tranquility in her email address, and that is so apt! She is a model of quiet resolve, a collaborative spirit and a thoughtful friend. She presently serves as Recording Secretary and some-time parliamentarian at Executive Board meetings. Mary Ann has been a teacher, educator and school administrator for 42 years. She is an Epsilon chapter member, and a DKG member since 1976.

**Pat Lane** is a gem as our corresponding secretary! A past president of Delta chapter she has represented Vermont in NYC, Portland and Indianapolis, and remembers thoughtful, engaging and fun facts from each of those events. If you have needed a card to cheer you through one of life's challenges you know Pat's skill at having the right thing to say, at the right time. Pat taught in Michigan and Vermont; her teaching roles included elementary teacher and speech assistant. She joined Delta chapter of DKG in 2008. ##



*Pat Lane, Mary Ann Riggie, Carol Barbagallo, Marilyn Grunewald and Marcia Barron following their installation as officers.*

## New Nominating Committee Members

Caroline Pellon has been a DKG member since 1981, and has served the organization in many roles. As past state treasurer, she has many years' experience on the state executive board. Presently she is Delta chapter's president. She was an elementary teacher for 36 years.

Nancy James is an Epsilon chapter member, and its current president. A kindergarten teacher with 38 years of experience, she is also a professor of education at Northern VT University at Lyndon, and has held roles as an early childhood consultant and presenter. Nancy models her chapter theme "Kindness" in all that she does. Nancy has been a member since 1989.

Rita Corey is a former music teacher with 34 years of experience in Connecticut and Vermont. Accomplished on piano and organ, Rita's broad smile welcomes all, especially those who participate in state choruses at spring meetings. Rita joined DKG in 2008, and is a Beta chapter member residing in Keene, NH. ##

*Alpha Lambda state honored Alice Carrier for her love of DKG, for her many state and national leadership roles and for her mentorship with a donation of \$430 to the Educational Foundation.*



## Chapters Chime In

### Alpha

Following a June meeting to set programs and activities, a group met at Sally K's home in July for a wonderful day sewing dresses. We used a raglan sleeve pattern this time, and created 8 dresses that day. These are headed to Guatemala in February, hand delivered by a Lyndonville team of volunteers. Last spring a variety of school supplies, dresses, dolls and skirts were donated to honor our chapter president Mary Calder who passed away in March. At our Sept. meeting Rev. Dan Thompson will share details of the orphanage and the children we assisted.

An August picnic at the Ethan Allen Homestead in the Intervale of Burlington was a day to relax and reconnect, prior to the reopening of area schools.

Early October offers the chance to meet with DKG Foliage Tour travelers here in our region. Plans are still evolving for this. Later in October, Alpha hosts snacks at the I-89 rest stops to fundraise for the Marion B. Thorpe Scholarship which we award annually in the spring.

### Gamma

Gamma met at Grace Church in Rutland, which will be the location of the spring convention--a busy component of our work year!

At 82 members strong, Gamma chapter holds a catered breakfast to support active teachers right before they head out to prepare classrooms for the opening of schools.

Karen Nawn-Fahey, a Rutland HS math teacher, will chair Soup Bowls for Hunger this coming spring--with a goal to involve both community members and students. Last year this raised in excess of \$14,000!

### Eta

Virginia Ray and her Educational Excellence Committee have presented a "Bright Spots" program for Eta Chapter in Bennington for the last four years. They were looking for bright spots to celebrate in education when school days seem so full of challenges. They

*cont'd p.6*

### Epsilon

Ruth Marie White Whitcomb, a charter member of Epsilon in 1964, passed away this summer at 100 years of age. Mrs. Hope Lund, also of Epsilon, passed away at 96. These lovely ladies will be missed.

Epsilon held their June meeting at Joan Kirchoff's country home. A business meeting preceded remarks shared by guest speaker Michelle Gilman, former Epsilon scholarship recipient. The title of her talk was "Children's Integrated Services/Early Intervention" covered efforts in local communities in the past 10 years. Bag lunches and fellowship were enjoyed in the sunshine where we were surrounded by cows and nature at its finest. Some members moved inside where planning continued to establish Epsilon's 2017-2018 calendar.



*Dresses headed to Guatemala from Vermont, sewn by Alpha and Gamma members*

### Beta

Three from Beta were present in Windsor at the NE regional conference this summer--Linn W, Rita C and Janis K. The trio enjoyed their 24th floor room and its terrific view when recovering from a busy schedule of workshops, speakers and walking tours.

Beta Chapter held their summer planning meeting, created their budget and organized programs for the coming year. The year kicks off Sept. 20th with a tour of the new NECCA (circus arts) building, with a program about their future plans. Then members gather for a potluck meal hosted by a one of our own.

Meeting locations this year will include Newfane and Springfield. Beta's bake sale project will be Oct. 28th and work continues on our book project. ##



Eta, cont'd from p.5

asked school leaders to nominate educators for the Bright Spots Award. At its inception in 2014 early career educators were the focus. In 2015 the emphasis was STEM in the classroom. The Arts were added in 2016, so it was a STEAM award that year. Our 2017 4th Annual Bright Spots STEM/STEAM Award was presented to PreK-Grade1 / Early Education teachers. Annually we have honored 7-10 teachers at an Eta Chapter ceremony with local press coverage. Honorees could invite guests to be on hand when the chapter presented each a certificate and a red rose. ##



### Exploring Color in Art 13th Annual Women in the Arts Retreat!

- When: November 18th, 9 a.m to 3 p.m.
- Where: Twin Valley Senior Center  
Route 2  
E. Montpelier, VT
- What: Two workshops plus a guest speaker and presenter lead you through experiments and activities exploring color.
- Who: DKG members, their guests/potential members and members of the public.
- Bring: A potluck item to share for lunch.

RSVP or questions to [ljdanziger@aol.com](mailto:ljdanziger@aol.com)

Volunteers are needed for coffee, lunch, post-lunch clean-up and site clean-up.

Let Jan D. know if you can help with any one of these tasks.



Photo credit: Derek Carson  
*The Bennington Banner*

### Women of Distinction

Spring 2017 awards for Women of Distinction honored two "bright spots" here in Vermont.

**Marlene (Molly) Burke** was a 26 year member of DKG, who truly brightened DKG events. Her sense of humor and knowledge of parliamentary procedure were renowned. Gamma chapter, and the executive board, will especially miss Molly.

**Jessica Gulley-Ward** is a 7 year DKG member, and a second generation member, too. Jessica led the planning for the Bennington Spring Convention. Eta proudly nominated her as a Woman of Distinction for her many efforts in that planning.

### A White Rose Recognizes Their Passing

Statewide we lost many members to death this last year. The Service of Remembrance honored this group of talented, funny, hard-working and inspirational women on April 29, 2017.

Marlene (Molly) Burke	Gamma
Mary Calder	Alpha
Alice Carrier	Beta
Marilyn Childs	Delta
Hope Lund	Epsilon
Ruth Mattison	Eta
Jean McVeigh	Gamma
Grace Morrissey	Alpha
R. Marion Taylor	Zeta
Marion B. Thorpe	Alpha



# ALASKAN GLACIER CRUISE

with DKG



## 11 DAYS | AUGUST 29, 2018

Starting from \$2,899

Cruise out of Seattle to discover classic gold rush towns and spectacular seascapes. Alaska will thrill you with its winding waterways, towering glaciers and rushing waterfalls, all within camera-shot of the ship's deck. Keep your eyes peeled and you're likely to spot an array of whale species breaching in the waves. After a week on the water, return to civilization in Victoria, beloved for its blooming gardens and mild weather.

*Your tour includes guided sightseeing, handpicked hotels, local cuisine and more.*

### GROUP COORDINATOR CONTACT:

Carolyn Rants

Group Number: 67954919

712.274.0183 | [carolyn@rants.net](mailto:carolyn@rants.net)

*Enroll before December 1, 2017. Pricing is subject to change after this date.*

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Alpha Lambda State Newsletter  
Jan E. Hughes, Editor  
jeh8719@gmail.com  
75 Pine Tree Terrace  
So. Burlington, VT 05403

Address changes to:  
Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
P.O. Box 1589  
Austin, TX 78767-1589

### Upcoming Events, Meetings and Opportunities

#### 2017

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| Sept. 23   | Fall Executive Board meeting; Seward's Restaurant<br>9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rutland, VT                                     |
| Oct. 8 & 9 | DKG Foliage tour visits Burlington and Montpelier VT  |
| Oct. 30    | Annual dues deadline  |
| Nov. 18    | <b>Women in the Arts Retreat</b> returns--Hope to see you at this FREE event!<br>9 a.m. to 3 p.m. E. Montpelier, VT   |
| Nov. 30    | Alaskan cruise travel reservation deadline for DKG members/spouses/relatives<br>Prices subject to change Dec. 1, 2017 |

#### 2018

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Feb. 3                  | Winter Executive Board meeting; Seward's Restaurant<br>9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rutland, VT   |
| Feb. 15                 | Newsletter deadline for Spring issue  |
| April 27                | Executive Board/Dinner Friday evening; Rutland, VT  |
| April 28                | <b>Alpha Lambda Spring Convention</b> ; Rutland, VT<br>Registration forms available early April   |
| July 16 - 20            | <b>DKG 2018 International Convention</b> - Austin, TX<br>Watch the web for further information <a href="http://dkginternational.org">dkginternational.org</a> |
| Aug. 29<br>thru Sept. 8 | DKG Alaskan Cruise - Departure from Seattle, WA   |



