



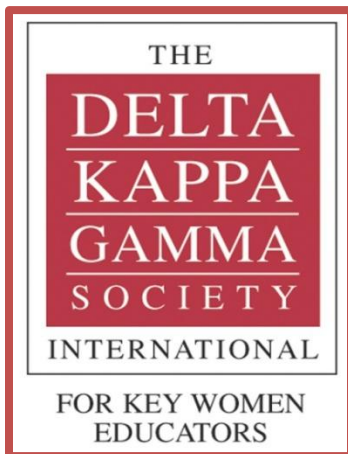
MA STATE ORGANIZATION of  
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

# Baystater

*Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide*

VOLUME 65 ISSUE 3

Winter 2023



CLAIRIFYING COMMENTS  
FROM CLAIRE



**Revitalization:** This has been my overall project for my biennium. We have moved on beyond where we got stuck trying to do it ourselves thanks to help from International (Lyn Schmid).

- I have lost count of the number of times this committee has met either in person or on Zoom, but it's a lot.
- We have developed and administered a chapter survey with nearly 100% of our active chapters having at least one response. I believe the survey is still open if you haven't yet completed it.
- We have initiated an online monthly book club, thanks to Diane Grady and Lynn Howard. It meets the second Tuesday of each month. Please join us as we have been having some wonderful conversations and reading some very compelling books.
- We are still trying to make Collegiate Membership a reality. We're slugging along thanks to Carol LaPolice.

As you can see, we have made some progress but we need more members to commit to helping us thrive and really make a difference to education in Massachusetts.

**Our Spring Convention is coming up May 5-6, 2023 in Plymouth** again (See p. 16 for the **REGISTRATION FORM**).

This is a one night event. We will be hosting the Northeast Regional Director who will lead one of our workshops and also address us on Friday evening after the Executive Board meeting. I am looking forward to a big turnout as we have some great workshops planned for Saturday. We will end after the luncheon on Saturday afternoon after we install our next Executive Board. Be sure to come and vote for your leadership team and get to know them before they assume their responsibilities on July 1, 2023.

On a sad note, our own Elvoid (Ellie) Mayers died on Feb. 5 at the age of 95. She is the third past state president we have lost in the past year. She was an exemplary DKG sister, one whom I will never forget. She presented within the state and at regional and international conferences and represented Massachusetts on the US Forum. She was a trailblazing educator who will be deeply missed by all of us who knew her.

CONTINUED on P. 3

## ALPHA UPSILON STATE 2021-2023

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

|                     |                   |                             |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| President           | Claire LaBonte    | cdlabonte@charter.net       |
| 1st. VP, Program    | Jillayne Flanders | jillayneflanders@gmail.com  |
| 2nd.VP, Leadership  | Dorothea Maynard  | dorotheamaynard20@gmail.com |
| Recording Sec.      | Gail Saccone      | gvsaccone@comcast.net       |
| Corresponding Sec   | Christine Bonci   | bonci228@comcast.net        |
| Treasurer           | Martha Cotton     | macotton@comcast.net        |
| Parliamentarian     | Dr. Anita Newman  | anitaneuman@comcast.net     |
| Executive Secretary | Linda Stewart     | lstewart564@gmail.com       |

### PROGRAM OF WORK

|                     |                   |                             |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| ECC Chair           | Jillayne Flanders | jillayneflanders@gmail.com  |
| Leadership Training | Dorothea Maynard  | dorotheamaynard20@gmail.com |
| Legislation         | Annette Shaw      | seventymill@yahoo.com       |

### SOCIETY BUSINESS

|                      |                   |                            |
|----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
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| By-Laws              | Bette Bridges     | babridges1@verizon.net     |
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| Finance              | Janet Wellock     | justmummy@yahoo.com        |
| Membership           | Marilyn Spedding  | GCS200@aol.com             |
| Necrology            | Gwen Miller       | gwenmill@comcast.net       |
| Nominations          | Lynn Howard       | lynnphoward82@comcast.net  |
| Research             | Kaaren Harrington | kaarenharrington@gmail.com |
| U.N. Liaison         | Dianne Swistak    | swisyd@icloud.com          |
| US Forum             | Carol LaPolice    | carol.lapolice@comcast.net |
| Web Manager          | Christine Bonci   | bonci228@comcast.net       |

### EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

|                          |                |                           |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Sara Chase Scholarship   | Sharon McArdle | samcardle@verizon.net     |
| Christa McAuliffe Grants | G'Tanya Small  | smallgt@gmail.com         |
| Golden Gift Leadership   | Donna Brown    | browndonnamarie@gmail.com |
| Golden Gift Fund         | Marge Burns    | mburns8@comcast.net       |
| Literacy Council         | Diana Grady    | badg2@verizon.net         |
| World Fellowship         |                |                           |



### CHAPTER PRESIDENTS 2022-2024

#### AREA I

|             |                       |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| Kappa       | Donna Brown (Contact) |
| Theta       | Peggy Trudell         |
| Alpha Beta  | Louise O'Brien        |
| Alpha Theta | Kaaren Harrington     |

#### AREA II

|             |                                    |
|-------------|------------------------------------|
| Alpha Gamma | Tammy Edmonds and Beth Clark       |
| Alpha Mu    | Susan Apteker and Kristine Beaudet |

#### AREA III

|              |                                   |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| Eta          | Jo-Anne Butler and Tove Bendiksen |
| Zeta         | Audrey Smith (Contact)            |
| Alpha Lambda | Ellen Driscoll                    |

#### AREA IV

|               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| Alpha         | Elaine Karalekas |
| Alpha Epsilon | Lindsay Skelton  |

#### AREA V

|            |                |
|------------|----------------|
| Alpha Iota | Nanci Flaherty |
| Alpha Zeta | Gail Saccone   |

#### AREA VI

|           |                         |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| Epsilon   | Irene Frangos Falite    |
| Alpha Eta | Diane Swistak (Contact) |

### EDITOR'S CORNER

*The Baystater email address is:*

[baystaterma@gmail.com](mailto:baystaterma@gmail.com)

*I'd like to thank the following contributors to this issue: Lynn Howard (Alpha Iota), G'Tanya Small (Alpha Iota), Carol LaPolice (Alpha), Gail Pease (Alpha Mu), Irene Falite (Epsilon), Dianne Swistak (Alpha Eta), Margaret Sbordy (Alpha Gamma), Kaaren Harrington (Alpha Theta), and Jill Flanders (Alpha Epsilon). THANK YOU! Gail Saccone*

It has been an honor being your State Organization President for the past 2 years. I've visited many chapters, some more than once. I have gotten to know many amazing women and the work they do for education. I am honored to call all of you Sister.

I am still available for your Spring meetings, whether in person or online. Just contact me with the details of where and when. I just love pressing the flesh even when masked and gloved!

I am again inviting all of you to join me in helping to feed the hungry. It is a one month project that can be done in any month. Food banks/kitchens/pantries, etc. are usually short of food in the "off months," the non-holiday months, so perhaps we can help there. I am asking each chapter to adopt one final month to collect the foods listed on the calendar which is posted in the Baystater. When the month is done donate whatever was collected to a local food bank, pantry, cupboard, family, or any organization that helps feed the hungry. Pandemic food subsidies will stop in May and the need for donations will go up. Our children can't learn if they aren't fueled. And our families and seniors often need a helping hand. An alternative to food was suggested to me and I like the idea, so I am sharing it with you. Instead of food, do a fundraiser and donate the proceeds to a local food pantry. They have connections to get what they need that is not often donated (like meats, vegetable, fruit, dairy) to go along with what they give out.

See you all in Plymouth!

Your DKG Sister,

CLAIRE [cdlabonte@charter.net](mailto:cdlabonte@charter.net)

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## **DKG SPRING CONFERENCE**

### **May 5 and 6, 2023 1620 Hotel, Plymouth MA**

Join us in Plymouth at the start of the merry month of May!

#### **“REVITALIZING OURSELVES AND OUR PROFESSION”**



Keynote Speaker, Gena M. Rotas, LICSW will provide her insights for developing a balance between your personal growth and professional responsibilities in a mindful manner. With over 29 years of diverse experiences in clinical social work, Ms Rotas has focused on Mindful and Compassionate Life Coaching. She is the author of Love You: Small Changes to Quiet the Gremlins and Tame Those Unhealthy Habits, Behaviors, and Addictions.

Our other presenters for the Spring Conference will be DKG Mother-Daughter pairs, speaking on how DKG has enhanced their professional and personal growth, and how different generations have utilized the network of Key Women Educators to their benefit.

Details to come, but the workshops will be running at 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 6, 2023.

**REGISTRATION FORM ON PAGE 16**

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## **MA STATE ORGANIZATION REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE**

*Submitted by Lynn Howard, Committee Chair (Alpha Iota)*

A Revitalization meeting was held on December 15th to review what we've been working on and to see if anyone had any new ideas. The next Zoom Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7: 00 p.m.** All members are invited to attend to share their ideas and get involved with our revitalization to help us to continue to promote personal and professional growth of women educators and excellence in education. Here are some of the things that have been happening and discussed at the meetings.

- **Social Media**

- Jennifer Hoffer (Theta Chapter) has been helping us to increase our presence on Facebook (FB) by encouraging people to post things often. She is hoping to start a "Get to Know the State Officers" FB interview in the near future.

- Anyone that is on FB is encouraged to become a member of our State FB group if you aren't already a member of the group. Now we need members of the group to post things about chapter events, things happening in your classrooms etc. Also post things for professional and personal growth of our members (resources for active educators, books you'd recommend, articles about education etc.). It also helps if people like posts on our FB page and share DKG posts and information on your personal page too.
- **Chapter Surveys**
  - Seven chapters sent out the Google survey online and one chapter did a paper version at a Chapter Meeting. We had about 115 people take the survey. Alpha Chapter had the most responses.
  - In January Claire sent out the survey to the chapters that had not sent it out yet. She is now working on analyzing the data and will be sending reports to the Chapter Presidents.
  - **Claire has put the survey results together in a series of pie charts. The pie charts are on p. 13-15.**
- **Collegiate Member recruitment (and new member recruitment)**
  - Carol LaPolice (Alpha Chapter) had a meeting in December with the Education Department Chair at Westfield State University (WSU) to present DKG and discuss the possibility of doing an event to present DKG to students at WSU
  - Then Carol and I met to discuss the meeting and talk about what we can do to reach potential collegiate members. Gail Saccone (Alpha Zeta) and I are looking into connections we have to see if a meeting can be set up with someone at Bridgewater State University (BSU), Curry College or UMass-Boston.
  - We would like to set up a committee to work on developing a plan to host two workshops with a keynote speaker and a couple of workshops (9-12 on a Saturday). We're thinking of having one in western MA and one in eastern MA. Then we would like to apply for a Cornet Award (Nov. 10th deadline-event after Dec. 10th) to help fund the workshops. Possible topics: SEL and Mental Health (educators and students), Artificial Intelligence, Teaching with an Antiracist Lens. Depending on scheduling we could possibly coordinate one around our 2024 Spring Convention. Please let me know if you would like to help with this.
- **Virtual Book Group**
  - We have 19 people who have signed up to be part of the Virtual Book Group.
  - We have held three meetings. In December we discussed the book *Dark Tide* by Stephen Puleo and then in January we discussed "Giver of Stars". At our February meeting we discussed the book "The Personal Librarian". We meet on the 2nd Monday each month at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. Please email me at [lynnphoward4@gmail.com](mailto:lynnphoward4@gmail.com) if you're interested in joining and I'll send you the link and the book list for the next several months.
- **Virtual Speaker Series**
  - We are hoping to start a monthly speaker series to present professional and personal growth webinars. If you have a presentation you'd like to share, know someone who would be great, or have a topic that you think would interest people send me an email at [lynnphoward4@gmail.com](mailto:lynnphoward4@gmail.com)

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## **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE: NOMINEES FOR STATE OFFICERS**

*Submitted by Lynn Howard, Committee Chair*

**MEET THE MA STATE ORGANIZATION of DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL NOMINEES FOR STATE OFFICERS (2023-2025):**

### **JILL FLANDERS    Candidate for President**



Jill Flanders has been a proud member of Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Hampshire and Franklin Counties since 1993. She was invited into the organization by Dorothy Swain, whom she had the pleasure of teaching with at Davenport School in Chesterfield in 1979. Jill holds her BA, MEd, and CAGS from UMass/Amherst, and was a paraprofessional in Amherst, a 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade teacher in Chesterfield and Goshen MA from 1977-1988. She was the elementary principal of Hadley Elementary School from 1988-2000, and principal of Plains School in South Hadley 2000-2015. Jill was selected the MA Principal of the Year in 2010, and a National Distinguished Principal 2010-2011.



As a member of DKG, Jill has been President of her chapter for multiple years, and also treasurer and Secretary. Jill has served as 1st Vice President, EEC Chair, And on the literacy Committee at the state level. She presented at the International Convention in Boston in 2001, and has provided a variety of workshops at the state and local level.

Although now “retired,” Jill is the Deputy Executive Director for the Center for Educational Improvement, and co-author of Young Children, Antiracism, and Mindful School Communities, due to be released in December, 2023 by Solution Tree. Jill has served on the Board of Directors for her church, MESPA, NAESP, MAECTE, MAAEYC, Girl Scouts of Western Mass, and Easter Seals. She consults with EEC, DESE, and DHE in MA. But her most important love and work are with her three daughters (an OTA, a 2nd grade teacher, and an ICU RN) and her four grandchildren: Becc-Anne, Noah, Alina, and Elise.

## **DOROTHEA MAYNARD    Candidate for First Vice-President**



2013 - Induction into DKG Alpha Theta chapter

2013 - Chapter Recording Secretary

2014-2019 attended Spring Conference; accepted President Kay’s request of Executive Secretary

2015-20- Chapter President

2020 – 2023 State2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President

International – 2022 DKG Ignite

In the 80s, Dorothea was a Seekonk Special Ed Para for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Special Needs. She is a nationally certified RAINBOW Facilitator assisting children through the stages of grief. Dorothea holds degrees in Thanatology (grief education) and Psychology and attended the Buzzards Bay Writing Project Summer Teaching Institute at UMASS

Dartmouth. She became an Assoc. Director assisting with Summer Institutes. Dorothea wrote a grant through BBWP to facilitate an after-school writing group for fourth and

fifth graders attending the Alfred J. Gomes School in New Bedford. The J.B. Fernandes Memorial Trust approved the grant and, the students were able to participate in two eight-week sessions. Dorothea and her husband Russ, an Elementary PE teacher and poet, facilitated the program. As a retired MA licensed Real Estate Broker and licensed MA Real Estate Instructor, Dorothea is aware of the difficulty in keeping adult learners engaged. She was invited to participate in the 2022 International DKG Ignite and came back even more excited about what can be achieved through DKG.

## **CAROL LAPOLICE    Candidate for Second Vice-President**



Invited to join DKG in 2005, I accepted because DKG has so many opportunities to grow both professionally and personally. After holding a variety of offices and chairmanships I became President of Alpha Chapter in 2014-2016. I currently serve as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President, newsletter and educational issues chair. Other positions I’ve held include MA State Organization Treasurer and Northeast Representative to the US Forum Steering Committee. I serve as the MA State US Forum Representative and work on the Revitalization Committee presently. These experiences have given me a solid working knowledge of DKG on all levels. I understand the needs of our state organization and enjoy working with our members. In the position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice - President I will collaborate with my colleagues to provide president training and support the executive board in the 2023-2025 biennium with vision and zeal.

## SHARON MACDONALD Candidate for Recording Secretary



Sharon retired in 2021 after a very satisfying career as a guidance counselor in the Springfield Public Schools. During her tenure there, she served as the department chair in three different schools and designed successful model summer “catch up programs” for her inner city students. Prior to that she taught Physical Education/Health for twenty-six years in Wilbraham where she resides with her family. She brought the DARE program to Wilbraham, designed a now annual weekly Health Fair program for students and designed their first elementary adaptive physical education program. Sharon was invited to join the Alpha Chapter of DKG in 2016 after she completed her doctorate in Educational Leadership and Supervision. Within her first year of membership, she accepted the role of Second Vice-President and worked her way up through the positions. She then served for almost four consecutive years as their Chapter President. She is currently the chair of their Grants in Aid and Tag Sale Committees.

## CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

We do not have a nominee currently for Corresponding Secretary. We will take nominations from the floor at the Convention in May. The Corresponding Secretary will attend the State Meetings, collect and then distribute the reports for the State meetings, and send out any correspondence as delegated to her by the President.

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## U.S FORUM

*Submitted by Carol LaPolice ~MA State US Forum Representative*

Interesting updates and links to articles on education, children and women’s issues may be found at the US Forum facebook page submitted by Bev Johns, our Northeast Rep. Here are some shares I’ve summarized from her newsletter to state representatives:

In the State of the Union Address President Biden urged Congress to pass his plan for free preschool education and two years of community college education.

Chair Virginia Foxx held the American Education in Crisis meeting of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce. Among issues addressed were protection of parental rights, modernize school buildings to be healthy and safe, eliminating inequities in education, teacher shortages, accountability of stimulus funding, and making needs of disabled students a priority and a concern of promotion of ideology over academic instruction. (You can subscribe to this committee’s hearings on you tube).

“[Protecting Health Care for All Patients Act \(H.R. 485\)](#). This bill bans the use of Quality-Adjusted Life Years (QALYs). QALYs are a measure used to prioritize patient care. They put a lesser value on drugs and treatments that extend the lives of people with disabilities as compared to the lives of people without disabilities or chronic illnesses.”

Valerie C Williams, Director of the Education Department’s Office of Special Education Programs, wrote a blog post with guidelines for school districts to reduce the number of times students with disabilities are removed from their classes due to behavior.

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From your MA Rep MAKING HEADLINES NOW AND THINGS TO PONDER

A bill to increase teacher salaries to a minimum of \$60,000 titled the American Teacher Act was introduced in Congress on December 14, 2022. The authors plan to reintroduce the bill in this new session and momentum is gaining due to the teacher shortage. This bill is not a mandate for states, but it gives an incentive to states to increase the base pay of educators to a minimum of \$60,000 through grants from the federal government.

The bill also provides money for a national campaign to increase awareness of the value of teachers, encourage career selection as an educator by high school and college students, and increase diversity of the teaching population. The definition of “teacher” is critical to the wording of the bill as some states have “eased certification requirements or dropped requirements that teachers receive a bachelor’s degree,” according to an article in Edweek, online, January 26, 2023.

US Department of Education Secretary, Miguel Cardona, recently shared his vision for education titled “Raise the Bar: Lead the World.” It also included addressing the teacher shortage. Other focus areas are student mental health, dual college enrollment starting in 11th grade and career pathways, and a push for multilingual language programs. For educators: better professional learning, opportunities for teacher status such as master teacher leaders, free advanced learning opportunities for qualified teachers, and districts and states making teacher salaries competitive is part of the vision. These programs won’t be mandated, grants will be available to implement the vision. See <https://www.ed.gov/> for the transcript in its

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## **CHRISTA MCAULIFFE LIVING MEMORIAL FUND**

*Submitted by G’tanya Small ~Chairperson*

Now that COVID is over...well sort of

Now that we are starting to come out from under the veil of COVID. There are more and more in-person meetings taking place. It’s time to get back out there ladies! Is there a conference, workshop, or convention that you have been eyeing and would like to attend. If so, the Christa McAuliffe Living Memorial Fund would like to help. Whether the event is near or far, teaching related or of personal interests we can help.

It’s easy to apply, go to [alupsma.weebly.com](http://alupsma.weebly.com) . Click on the “hamburger icon” in the upper left corner. Click on the Christa McAuliffe link. There you will find the link to download the application. Follow the directions for submission. The committee will review your application. If approved, you will be notified regarding the amount of your reimbursement award.

Recently, the committee has been able to award more than 75% of the requested amount. The committee determines the amount of the reimbursement based on how much money there is in the fund and the number of applicants. The 2022 Christa McAuliffe Living Memorial Fund recipient, Meghan Aycock, received 75% of the amount she requested in order to attend the ATIA Conference in Orlando, FL. There she learned about new technologies to support the visually impaired students she teaches.

Once you complete the application process, go to your chosen event...ENJOY! Upon your return submit receipts, write an article for the Baystater about your adventure and attend a Massachusetts State Organization DKG meeting to accept your award. If you would like to share what you learned with others, we would love to have you present at a DKG state meeting. Your name and expertise will be entered into our state speakers bureau database as someone that could possibly conduct a workshop session in the future.

So, find a topic that you would like to know more about and fill out the application today.

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## **~~BAYSTATEMENTS~~**

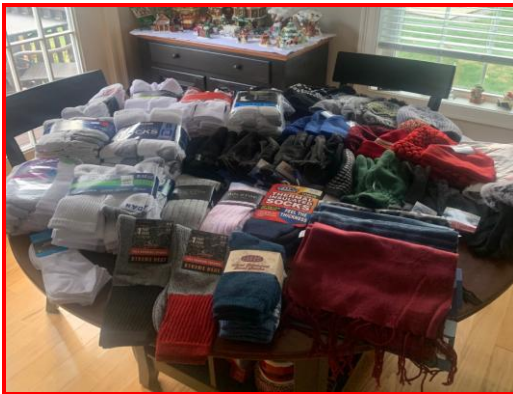
**ALPHA MU** *Submitted by Gail Pease*

Alpha MU met in September at Hunt’s Place at North Spec Pond in New Salem. Our guest speakers were from Dress For Success in Springfield MA. The photo included shows the donations collected at our October meeting recently at The Black Crow in Athol, MA. Sue Hunt Apteker recently delivered the donations which we will continue to collect items for. We were also given the opportunity to sign up for continuing support for our sisters who are currently teaching through our “Fairy Godmother” program. Our retired members show support and appreciation to those who are actively involved in a school setting with simple gifts, notes/ cards of appreciation and encouragement or similar ways to say “Good job! Thank you”! Some choose to include the teaching sister’s staff as well!



## **EPSILON** *Submitted by Irene Falite, Chapter President*

Hello Sisters....we hope you are enjoying this interesting winter and look forward to signs of spring emerging. Our Chapter had a lovely Holiday Celebration on Sunday, December 4th at the festive Hawthorne Hotel. A nice luncheon with a few talented Sisters selling homemade items, goodie treat bags for each were given out, a raffle for table decorations, and great conversations made for a great day. Once again our white socks, hats, gloves, mittens, scarves drive was a huge success. My Brother's Table in Lynn, Mass. was so appreciative with our donations and will distribute them, so that people can stay warm. A huge thank you to all of our Epsilon Sisters! Scholarship applications were sent to many of our area high schools in January. The Committee will choose the best all around candidate who will be entering college to pursue an Education degree. Thank you to all the Committee members as they proceed with the process in their selection. We will award and honor the Scholarship recipient in May at our Scholarship Dinner Meeting. We are also planning a Wine Tasting evening this spring with more information to follow.



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## **ALPHA THETA** *Submitted by Kaaren Harrington, Chapter President*

Our chapter has a former member, Janice Infante returning. She was a member from 1984 until she moved to Florida in 2014. Having come home she has rejoined our chapter.

The end of January we had our annual retiree luncheon at LaFlamiglia in Taunton. Our next meeting will be Bailey's Surf N Surf in Wareham on March 21st. We welcome all in the area to join us.

You may contact Kaaren Harrington at [kaarenharrington@gmail.com](mailto:kaarenharrington@gmail.com) for more information about the luncheon and our guest speaker.



## **ALPHA ETA** *Submitted by Diane Swistak*



During the fall Alpha Eta had our first meeting at the home of Deb Wescott in Hamilton. After taking care of chapter business, members helped themselves to snacks and pizza and settled in for “movie night.” We watched “Hocus Pocus 2” in recognition of Halloween.

December provided two opportunities for members to meet prior to the holiday rush. On December 1, several chapter members gathered to tour the Parade of Trees in Danvers and then go to dinner if they wished. Others met at the home of Diane Pendergast on December 2. After refreshments and chapter business the members and guests created boxwood trees under the direction of Donna-Marie Ryan, who had introduced us to this activity in 2021. It was a fun-filled afternoon, and we all went home with an early Christmas decoration.

March plans include a travelogue / test, “Where in the World is Alpha Eta?” Slides from travel adventures will need to be identified. Members can enjoy a virtual tour and test their knowledge of landmarks and geography at the same time.

Alpha Eta continues with our literacy project and in November delivered books to Bernadette Roy for her pre-K class. Each student got a book and also a hat and mittens for the cold months.

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## **ALPHA ZETA** *Submitted by Gail Saccone, Chapter President*

Alpha Zeta held their annual Holiday Social at the Fairview Restaurant in Marshfield on December 7<sup>th</sup>. We always have a lot of fun with a grab of holiday gifts. Everyone brought mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves that were donated to the Marge Crispin Center in Braintree for needy families. We really appreciated being together in person after such a long time!



Front: Debbie Gill, Joan Brides, Pat Butler, Ava Grimason, Jeanne Ivas, Caroline LaCroix  
Back: Cathy Abely, Kathy Kelly, Gail Laffer, Joan Garity, Gail Saccone

## **ALPHA GAMMA** Submitted by Margaret Sbordy



JoAnn Dall, Co-President Beth Clark, Co-1<sup>st</sup> VP Dawn Quigley, Carolyn Porter (supporter of DKG)



Co-Presidents Tammy Edmonds and Beth Clark with new member Denise Campiglio; Recording Sect. Kevinetta with new member Anna Mendes-O'Leary

On Thursday, October 13th, Alpha Gamma Chapter welcomed two new members to Delta Kappa Gamma International. Our new members are Denise Campiglio and Anna Mendes-O'Leary. Welcome, sisters!

Alpha Gamma once again contributed a tree to the annual Festival of Giving Trees in Southbridge. Members met to make ornaments on November 28th. We then had members donate even more time setting the tree up at LaSalle Hall for the Festival! Our theme was Holidays Around the World. Members also contributed gift cards and books to be given away to the lucky winner of our tree!

In other news, our members gathered for a lovely dinner meeting at Cohasse Country Club in Southbridge on December 7th. An evening of fellowship and holiday cheer was enjoyed by all!

And finally, Alpha Gamma continues to share a love for learning, even into retirement! On Wednesday, February 1st, 5 retired members of Alpha Gamma Chapter gathered to read to the Head Start students in Southbridge, as part of World Read Aloud Day. The DKG members, pictured below, attended this wonderful event and shared their love of reading with eager students. Well done, ladies!

Our chapter has plans to return to the Southbridge Head Start to read with students again in honor of Dr. Seuss' birthday on March 2nd.





**ALPHA** Submitted by Carol LaPolice

Alpha held our December 7, 2022 event at the Storowton Tavern, West Springfield. We were entertained by 4<sup>th</sup> grade students from Robinson School, Agawam under the direction of Music Educator, Paul Sawyer. Paul runs the Music Matters program that 750 students take part in. Alpha Chapter gave a donation to the program.





**WHITE ROSE MEMORIAM**  
~A life that touches others goes on forever~

|                     | <b>2022-23</b>   | <b>Joined</b>   | <b>Died</b>       |
|---------------------|--|-----------------|-------------------|
| <i>ALPHA THETA</i>  | <i>Ellen Bollweg</i>                                     | <i>5/1/1984</i> | <i>12/20/2022</i> |
| <i>ALPHA LAMBDA</i> | <i>Patricia Cullen</i>                                   | <i>5/1/1999</i> | <i>10/24/2022</i> |
| <i>ALPHA MU</i>     | <i>Dianna Rogers</i><br><i>(moved to Florida)</i>        | <i>?</i>        | <i>12/20/2022</i> |
| <i>ALPHA MU</i>     | <i>Linda Kirousis</i><br><i>(active until last year)</i> | <i>5/1/2002</i> | <i>1/14/2023</i>  |

**~~ELVOID (ELLIE) MAYERS~~**



Ellie Mayers, a retired teacher in the Rockland schools for over 40 years, passed away on February 5, 2023. She was a member of the executive board of the Massachusetts Teachers Association and president of the Plymouth County Educational Association (1981-1982). She was an active member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and was president of Alpha Upsilon State from 1981-1983. After becoming the first full-time Black teacher for Rockland schools, she was a mentor to many students, teachers, and other educators. Ellie was a recipient of numerous awards and acknowledgements, including the MTA Martin Luther King Jr. Award in Human Relations in 1981.

***Sharing My Memory of Ellie Mayers* by G'Tanya Small**

I was a newer member of Delta Kappa Gamma, transitioning from only attending my local chapter meetings to attending state meetings. It was nice to see somebody there that looked like me, and sitting at the head table no less! That was Ellie. She acknowledged my presence with that look and nod that we do. It says, I see you, I got you, you are safe, and you belong here.

I got to know Ellie as well as you could during busy conferences. I would be sure to always seek her out at the meeting. When she was no longer able to attend state meetings, I missed her and will miss her. She would share inspirational anecdotes about teaching, being an administrator, and family. Even though I have not met her family, I could feel the love. They were her pride and joy.

Ellie was a true mentor. She gently encouraged me to assume leadership roles within the organization. Her example of kindness and goodness will stay with me. Perhaps, just perhaps I can use Ellie's example for the next person that walks into a state meeting that looks like me.

Well done Ellie, well done. Rest in peace.

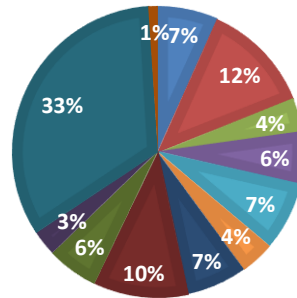


## MA DKG Chapter Membership Survey Report

Claire LaBonte put together statewide charts of your answers to the survey. Question #3 was an open ended question, so those answers are not included. Your chapter's answers are available to your chapter leadership. This should be a good jumping off point for chapter discussions.

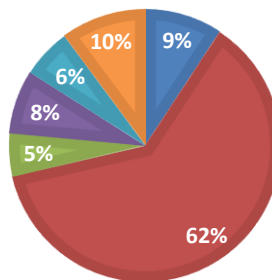
### TOTAL RESPONSES BY CHAPTER

■ Theta   ■ Eta   ■ Epsilon   ■ Alpha Theta   ■ Alpha Mu   ■ Alpha Lambda  
 ■ Alpha Iota   ■ Alpha Gamma   ■ Alpha Eta   ■ Alpha Epsilon   ■ Alpha   ■ Alpha Beta



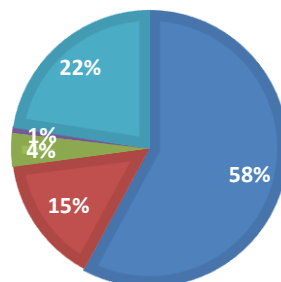
### #1 LIST YOUR PREFERENCE TO RECEIVE DKG CHAPTER AND STATE ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

■ Text   ■ Email   ■ Phone   ■ USPS   ■ Chapter Website   ■ MASO Website



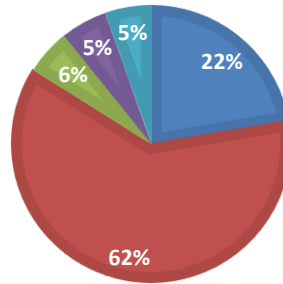
### #2 LIST THE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS YOU USE MOST OFTEN

■ Facebook   ■ Instagram   ■ Twitter   ■ Tiktok   ■ None



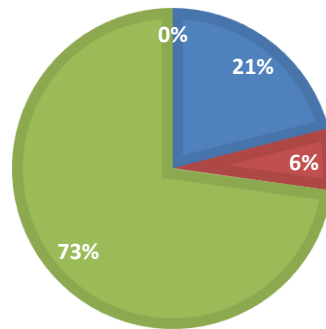
#### #4 ORDER YOUR PREFERENCE FOR CHAPTER MEETING TIMES

After School Weekday Evenings Saturday Mornings Saturday Afternoons Other



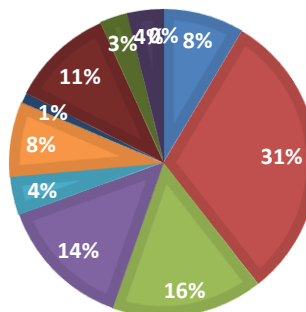
#### #5 WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT PROFESSIONAL STATUS?

Actively employed/Full Time Actively employed/Part Time/Adjunct/Consultant Retired



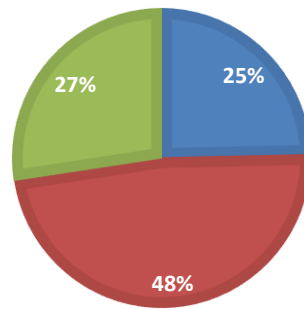
#### #6 IN WHICH AREAS DO YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE AS AN EDUCATOR?

Pre-K Elementary Middle School High School  
Higher Education Administration Counselor Special Education  
Technology Other



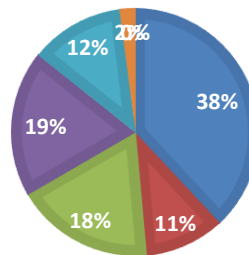
### #7 WHAT IS YOUR REFERENCE FOR MEETING FORMAT?

Zoom In-Person Combination of Both



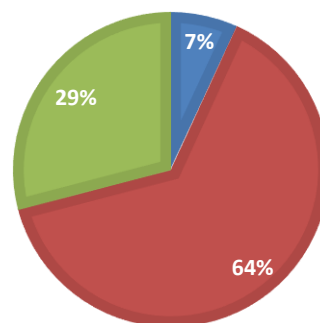
### #8 WHAT ARE YOUR PREFERENCES FOR WORKSHOP TOPICS?

Educational Arts and Crafts Community Service  
Entertainment Wellness/Personal Growth Legislative Forums  
Other



### #9 ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROVIDED BY THE MA STATE ORGANIZATION OF DKG SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL?

Yes No Perhaps in the future



**SPRING CONFERENCE ♦ MA STATE ORGANIZATION, DKG ♦ SPRING 2023**

**Friday-Sunday: May 5 - May 6, 2023**

**Member & Guest Registration Form**

**Hotel 1620 at Plymouth Harbor 180 Water Street, Plymouth, MA 02360 508-747-4900**

**SPECIAL Room Rate: Standard Room (2 Queen) \$169.00, plus \$20 destination fee: \$189 per night.**

**Discount Deadline Date: APRIL 12, 2023**

**For Reservations Call: 508-747-4900 specify our Room Block: MA State Organization of DKG Society International  
or ONLINE: [www.hotel1620.com](http://www.hotel1620.com) Use Promocode: DKG2023**

**Hotel Food Order Deadline: Friday, April 21, 2023. Please register early.\***

***To minimize confusion and errors, one person per registration form, please. Non-member guests are welcome; all fees apply. Please complete a separate registration form for your guest and indicate your name as their host.***

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Your Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ or ☐ I am a Guest. State Office/Committee Position (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_**

**Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Check if applicable: ☐ Yes, I am a member & this is my first state meeting. (FREE REGISTRATION!)**

**☐ I require accommodated seating due to a physical impairment. \***

**☐ I require accommodated seating due to a hearing and/or visual impairment. \***

**☐ I require a gluten-free meal. ☐ I require a vegetarian meal. ☐ I require a special diet meal**

**\*Accommodations will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis by receipt of registration date. Please call Linda if you have extenuating circumstances. All information will be held in confidence.**

**1. ☐ Early Bird Registration Received by 4/1/22 \$45.00**  
**or**

**2. ☐ Registration \$55.00**

**3. Friday Night, May 5 included with registration**

**Harvest Fresh Vegetable Crudit  Display**

**Imported & Domestic Cheese Display, Assorted Crackers & Breads.**

**Saturday, May 6**

**4. ☐ Plymouth Breakfast Buffet: Juices, Fruit Salad, Oatmeal w/Topping, Scrambled Eggs, Smoked Bacon, Vermont Maple Sausage, Home Fried Potatoes, Assorted Breakfast Pastries, Coffee, and Assorted Teas. \$33.00**

**5. ☐ Red Rose Luncheon: Marinated, Grilled Chicken Breast with Herb Butter, Tossed Salad, Chef's Selection of Potato and Vegetable of the Day, Rolls and Butter, Dessert (Chocolate Cake), Coffee and Assorted Teas. GF \$33.00**

**TOTAL ORDER \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

***Note: All meals include service fees as well as applicable local and state taxes.***

**Send registration and check payable to: MA State Organization, Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int'l**

**Mail to: Linda Stewart, PO Box 564, Hyannis Port, MA 02647 ♦ **Call 508-725-5442 if registering after 4/20/2023\*****