



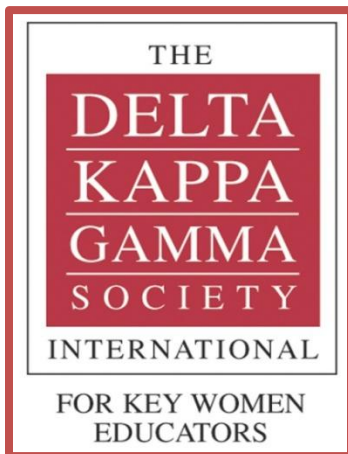
MA STATE ORGANIZATION of
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

Baystater

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

VOLUME 66 ISSUE 3

Spring 2024



PRESIDENT'S PONDERINGS

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 30, FROM
7:00-8:30 P.M. VIA ZOOM**

SAVE THE DATE:

**MAY 3RD-4TH
SPRING
CONFERENCE
HOTEL 1620
PLYMOUTH
REGISTRATION
ON PAGE 13**

Hello Sisters,

March can certainly come in like a lion, and with wind, snow, graupel, sleet, rain, and slush! I definitely prefer the gentle almost warm breezes, crocuses, daffodils, and tulips....

Here we are, looking at spring, rebirth, and new growth! That sounds like the common threads for DKG in Massachusetts. Since our Fall Conference in Franklin, we have seen some membership growth, but sadly, the closing of another Chapter. Sisters from Alpha Gamma have been welcomed into surrounding chapters, and our active member number stands at 402.

During our February Executive Board Meeting, the 21 of us present discussed ideas for meeting programs, fundraisers, community outreach, and new communities of educators to contact. To that end, I have opened invitations to our Spring Conference to my colleagues in the Early Education field.

Too often, public educators forget the remarkable care and neurological support that occurs with children from birth through age five, in their homes, and in their childcare settings. As principal of a school serving 350 pre-schoolers, kindergarteners, and first graders for 15 years, I had first-hand knowledge of the amazing learning and socialization that happens. We were committed to connecting with the childcare providers in our community, ensuring the transition to school was as worry-free as possible for our children and their families.

As you know, childcare comes in many forms: large centers like the YMCA, Brighter Beginnings, Head Start, and small family home based groups, as well as grandparents and neighbors. We call this a mixed delivery system, and I believe early care is often overlooked because it is usually such a short time need for families. But it is absolutely necessary.

JILL'S LETTER CONTINUES ON P. 3

ALPHA UPSILON STATE 2023-2025

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Literacy Council	Diana Grady	badg2@verizon.net
World Fellowship	*Needed	



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

I'd like to thank the following contributors to this issue: Sharon MacDonald (Alpha), Dianne Swistak (Alpha Eta), Margaret Sbordy (Alpha Gamma), Kaaren Harrington (Alpha Theta), Gail Pease and Michelle Hall (Alpha Mu), Carol LaPolice (Alpha), Ann Barone (Alpha), Irene Frango Falite (Epsilon), and Jo-Anne Butler (Eta).

Thank you all! Gail Saccone

JILL'S LETTER CONTINUED FROM P. 1

It is also personal. For the past year, I have assisted my daughter's family from 5:30-8:00 a.m. a few times a week. She and her husband are health care professionals, and work the night shift and early morning shift at two different hospitals. Grammie (me) drove 30 minutes to their home, got the girls up, dressed, fed, and ready for school and child care. There are literally no options for early morning coverage. I imagine many of you have similar stories with your children and grandchildren.

And so, it is time for DKG to make the effort to welcome Early Childhood educators into our network. Emily Taylor, from DESE, will present workshop sessions at our Spring Conference. She will offer information from DESE on their Family Engagement initiative and the Safe and Supportive Schools interventions. This work is not just for the early years, it affects children through high school.

Diana Grady and Linda Stewart have done a wonderful job on organizing and scheduling our events for May 3rd and 4th in Plymouth. The registration and plans are included in this *Baystater*. We will have programs from Plimoth Patuxet, our own talented members, and support from the Illinois State DKG members.

During the past month, and coming up, I have had the pleasure of joining Alpha Theta Chapter for a meeting and author presentation by Ruth Weiner, I had a lovely potluck corned beef and cabbage dinner with Alpha Chapter, and I am looking forward to the 75th Birthday Celebration of ETA Chapter on April 6th. Please reach out if you are looking for one more person to attend your spring meetings!

Please keep in mind my charitable initiative for the biennium: supporting and donations to your Food Banks, all year! See you soon!

Your DKG Sister, *Jill Flanders* (jillayneflanders@gmail.com)

What is Leadership?

Submitted by Carol LaPolice, 2nd Vice-President

Back in the early 2000's the most heard characteristic of a leader in educational circles was someone who has the ability to be persuasive. Do you agree?

Having a clear vision, listening skills, the ability to inspire, delegate, and empower others along with integrity are qualities of a great leader. They are also qualities of great classroom educators, guidance counselors and other educational personnel. Taking these skills you already have and developing them further can help you achieve your professional and personal goals. Becoming a chapter officer or committee chairman is a way to hone these skills and develop the confidence to try new things.

Give it a go! There are members willing to help you achieve your goals!

A Chapter SMART Goal Idea

SEE (Supporting Early Career Educators)

Submitted by Carol LaPolice, Alpha Chapter

At our February MA ST Organization board meeting, I shared briefly the Alpha project that supports early career educators. A sample copy of Alpha's latest application requirements is on page 10. This can be adapted for chapters that are interested in a new worthwhile service project. Supporting Early Career Educators (SEE) will boost member participation, make your chapter visible to the educational community, and possibly attract future new members. This project fulfills our mission in promoting the professional growth of women educators and does not take too much time or funding to accomplish. More information can be found in the April edition of the Collegial Exchange that will be on the DKG website and available through the DKG 365 app. Also, an amendment proposal to the DKG Constitution, #78, can be found in the current edition of the DKG News, both on the dkg.org and the DKG 365 app. Since SEE is a named international project, but doesn't have "a home" the amendment #78 seeks to put it under the domain of the Educational Excellence Committee with the responsibility to help chapters participate in SEE.

If you read the article first you will understand the reasoning for the amendment proposal. If you want to know more, contact me! Carol LaPolice carol.lapolice@comcast.net

US Forum News

Submitted by Carol LaPolice, MA State Organization Representative

The seminar was held and more news will be forthcoming. Applications for the 2024-2026 US Forum Steering Committee positions are now available. Anyone may apply for the Northeast Representative to the Committee or as the Chairman of the Committee and are due no later than May 17, 2024. More information is available on the US Forum website [US Forum Elections-DKG US Forum](#). If you have questions on what is involved in being on the steering committee feel free to contact me, it is a very rewarding experience.

Carol LaPolice carol.lapolice@comcast.net

The Multi-State DKG Arts Retreat

Save the Date! August 7, 2024

The 2nd Multi-State DKG Fine Arts Retreat for CT-MA-RI

Planning has started for our second Arts Retreat Day.

We will meet in Hartford, Connecticut at the same venue as last summer.

The price will remain low, with additional costs associated with the workshops you select.

We are looking for presenters! Contact Lynn Howard (lynnphoward4@gmail.com) or Jill Flanders (jillayneflanders@gmail.com). Be prepared, we will be reaching out!



~~BAYSTATEMENTS~~

ALPHA ETA *Submitted by Dianne Swistak*

In October Alpha Eta hosted an afternoon of outdoor games at the home of Diane Green in Topsfield. We hoped to have our working members come and relax while trying their hand at Ladders, axe throwing, Corn Hole, and golf. Refreshments and chapter business were on the agenda as well, and we were fortunate to have nice weather.

In December a change of plans brought members to the Sea Festival of Trees in Salisbury, which we had visited years earlier. In the past two of our members had won trees. Unfortunately this year illness and other issues caused a number of attendees to cancel. It was a small group that toured the festival and enjoyed dinner at a nearby restaurant.

Alpha Eta's next meeting is in Salem for a tour of the House of Seven Gables.



EPSILON *Submitted by Irene Frangos Falite, Chapter President*

Hello Sisters,

Wow! March already! We hope you are excited for spring and the holidays that will be celebrated soon. Love listening to the birds chirping already.

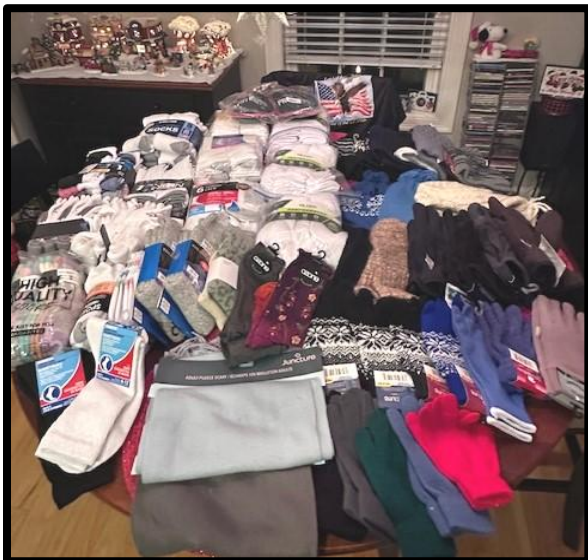
Our Chapter had a lovely Holiday Celebration on December 6th at the Century House in Peabody, Ma. We enjoyed a festive evening with great conversation, laughter, and a delicious dinner followed by a Gift Card swap. Oh the places we can go....

We also celebrated Anne Mannheim for being a member for 40 years! Congratulations Anne!!

Our annual white socks, hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, and slippers were well-received and most appreciated by My Brother's Table in Lynn, Ma. A big Thank You to our Sisters for purchasing these items. They distributed them as needed when they arrived for their meals. Feels so good to help others!

Plans are in the works for this spring to gather and share our adventures these past few months.

Wishing you a warm and pleasant spring and holiday season.



ALPHA MU *Submitted by Gail Pease and Michelle Hall (photos)*

It always seems like such a long time between our December Gathering until our March one!!! And I would believe that others felt the same way given the attendance on March 13 at Williams Restaurant in Gardner!!! Thirty Alpha Mu Sisters and five of six invited guests enjoyed a delicious country buffet! Contributions for our CLIC Court boxes as well as items for children at Joanna's Closet (an outreach of Valuing Our Children for the families of the Athol/Orange area) and Western MA Dress for Success were numerous. Alpha Mu is sponsoring a "Pop Up" event at the end of April for women in this area who may be anticipating returning to the work force to receive free clothing and accessories. This is in cooperation with the WMDFS. We also had a book swap that many members contributed to and many found something new to read in exchange! Christine Bonci led a beautiful Remembrance of Caroline Kieger, who was an active member of Delta Kappa Gamma for 51 years. Co-President, Sue Hunt-Apteker, shared an excerpt from the book "Finders Keepers" (2004) that is just as relevant today in 2024 regarding education! \$132 was raised by our raffle of two Gift Cards to Williams Restaurant which is our fundraising for our annual award to a graduating female Senior from one of the several area school districts that our members have an affiliation with. The restaurant is always generous in donating one of those Gift Cards! Quabbin School District sisters are making the award this year. Treasurer, Ann Hyer reported that our treasury is healthy! She reminded us that our dues will need to be paid by June 1, 2024! Co-President, Kristine Beaudet shared correspondences from several sisters.

We will be meeting in May at Barber's Crossing North in Sterling. We will be voting on new members that evening. The May meeting for Alpha MU will include induction of new members, our award to this year's senior and celebrating our 45th Anniversary!! There will be a Book Basket Raffle and donation items for all of the same recipients mentioned at our March meeting will be appreciated!



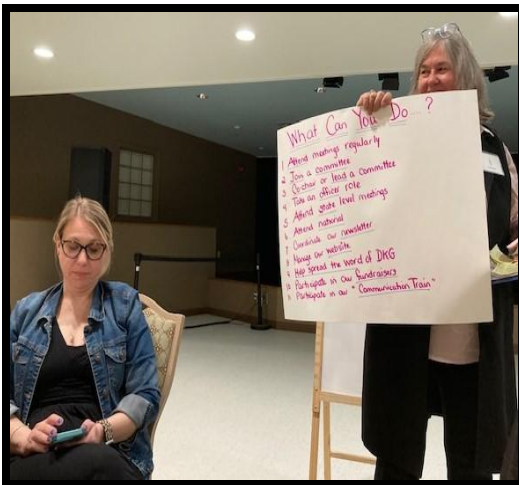
ALPHA Submitted by Sharon MacDonald and Ann Barone

The Alpha Chapter meeting on March 14, 2024 included a program by Dr. Ann Barone and Dr. Sharon MacDonald. Using data from the State's Organizational Health Survey conducted by Carol LaPolice in the spring, they drew several conclusions applicable to Alpha Chapter. Using these concepts, they explored the topic of *What does our chapter need to be effective* with members at the meeting.

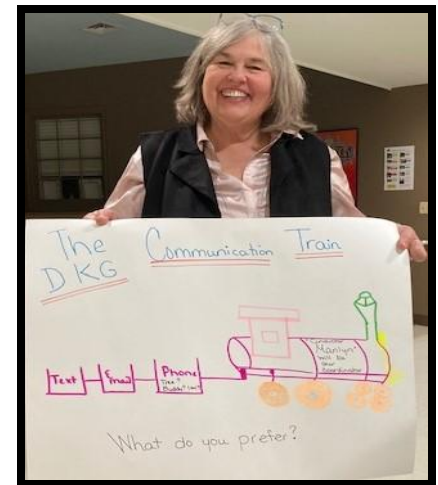
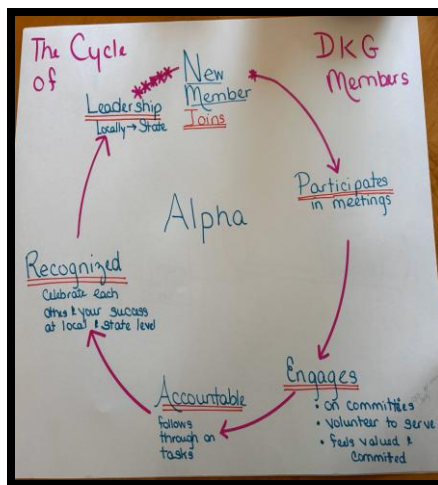
Questions for discussion began with "What brought you here today?" and "What brings you to our meetings?" Then Dr. Ann and Dr. Sharon presented a graphic they developed called "The Cycle of DKG Members." Using the model, they shared some of their basic conclusions for the Alpha Chapter from the survey. Members then identified actions that they could take, individually and collectively, to become more effective.

A quick look at the results suggests that fellowship, fun and food bring members to meetings. A more effective chapter includes all active members participating in meetings, engaged in the committee work of the chapter, being held accountable for following through on assigned tasks, being recognized, and celebrating their successes.

Dr. Ann and Dr. Sharon will review the ideas collected at the meeting and share the findings at the next Executive Board. These results will then be used to develop a Strategic Plan for the next biennium.



Above: Jen Domainque
and Ann Barone



Above: Ann Barone
Below: Karen Amato, Anita
Magnini



ALPHA THETA *Submitted by Kaaren Harrington, Chapter President*



Alpha Theta Chapter met at Bailey's Surf N Turf in Wareham, March 11th for their annual literacy meeting. We were pleased to have as our guest President Jill Flanders who brought greetings from the state. Author and friend Ruth Weiner was the presenter. Ruth talked about her novels *Veronica Recycled* and *The Mahjong Mavens of Boca Raton*. The latter was presented at the book festival in St. Louis in November and was our choice for the state book club where she graciously zoomed in to talk with us. Ruth's most recent book *Milli Finds Her Bench* will be released shortly. Members had a good time listening to Ruth and laughing as she described choosing her characters, taught us some Yiddish and told about some of the ins and outs of publishing. We ended with a Q & A followed by a book sale and signing.

THE DKG-MA VIRTUAL BOOK CLUB

~Upcoming Books~

Submitted by Lynn Howard and Diana Grady

The DKG-MA Virtual Book Group has continued to meet each month having lively discussions about the books they've read. The group is open to all members. We don't take attendance so don't worry if you can't join us every month. If you see a book that interests you feel free to join the discussion! We usually meet by Zoom on the second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. If you want to join us send me an email at lynnphoward4@gmail.com if you aren't already on the mailing list for the Book Group. I'll send you the Zoom link. Here are the books and dates for the upcoming meetings:

- **April 8th: State of Terror** by Hilary Clinton and Louise Penny
- **May 1st: The Music of Bees** by Eileen Garvin* She will be speaking at the Sharon One Book, One Town Reads Together event on April 20th. <https://onebookonetown.org/>
- **June 10th: Overboard** by Sara Paretsky
- **July 8th: A Woman of No Importance: Untold Story of WWII's Most Dangerous Spy** by Virginia Hall.
- **August 12th: Tom Lake** by Anne Patch



WHITE ROSE MEMORIAM

~A life that touches others goes on forever~

JOAN PARKS

State President 1977-1979



Joan had the longest membership in the MASO. She was a member of Eta Chapter for 62 years. She was also the longest living president whose term was 47 years ago. Joan is pictured here with current President Jill Flanders at a ceremony in which Joan was honored for her long-term service to DKG. Joan died on February 14, 2024.

MARGARET FARRELL

57 Year Kappa Member. Margaret passed away on January 23, 2024

KATHLEEN REMMES

41 Year Epsilon Member. Kathleen was inducted on December 8, 1982. She passed away in February, 2024.

CAROLINE KEIGER

Caroline was originally initiated in NY in 1973. She became a member of Alpha Nu when she moved to MA and then a member of Alpha Mu when Alpha Nu dissolved. Caroline passed away on February 2, 2024.

~SAMPLE~



DKG Society International ~ Massachusetts New Teacher Grant

Are you a new teacher:

- ~ with three years or less of teaching experience?
- ~ who would like to improve family and community engagement?
- ~ developing plans for a new routine or space in your classroom and need supplies to Implement it?
- ~ building a safe, motivating learning environment?
- ~ who wants to provide families with access to resources and academic knowledge?
- ~ with ideas or projects that just simply need supplies?

Apply for the New Teacher Grant, and you could be awarded \$500 for your project. Complete an application and return by mail or email by

If awarded, you will receive your grant at a Delta Kappa Gamma chapter meeting, where you will be asked to share a few words about your project. It is understood that the award recipient will grant DKG a media consent release form for publication.

Your application should include your name, address, phone number, email, current working position, school, grade and a detailed description (300 words or less) telling how you would use your grant to help your students this school year.

Return your completed application by _____ to:

**JOIN US AT THE SPRING CONVENTION
IN HISTORIC PLYMOUTH
MAY 3 AND 4**

Friday night: 7:00 to 8:30 - Presentation from the Plimoth Patuxet Museum



www.plimoth.org

"What does it really mean to walk a mile in someone else's shoes? Explore the lives of 17th-century women through the eyes of Mayflower passenger Susanna White Winslow and discuss how living history provides new insight into their joys, sorrows, and challenges."

Saturday, May 4

1. Discover ways to make our strategic plan a successful commitment.

A speaker from the Illinois State Organization will share how their plan has addressed the needs of their chapters.

- How to connect with early career educators
- Programs that support both retired and current teachers
- Activities that prove the efficacy of belonging to an organization for women educators
- Outreach to other member organizations

2. DESE Initiatives: Safe and Supportive Schools and Family Engagement PK-12
Presenter- Emily Taylor, DESE Early Learning Team

3. Kit Dunlap (Alpha Theta) will present an interactive workshop, "Private Eye Investigations."

"Brings out the gifted in everyone." — Joseph Renzulli, Director, The National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented

"It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see." Henry David Thoreau

4. Jessica Lupien (Alpha Theta) will present on "Advocating for a Correct Diagnosis and Effective Treatment: How to recognize and prevent some logical errors in medical practice"

AGENDA FOR SPRING CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, May 4, 2024

7:00 – Registration

7:00 - 8:00 – Breakfast

8:00 – 8:45 – Convocation: President's Report
Celebration of Life

8:50 – 9:50 – Guest Speaker - DKG: Illinois State Organization
"Planning for Success"

9:50 – 10:15 – Break/Checkout

10:15 – 11:15 – DESE Initiatives: Safe and Supportive Schools and Family Engagement
PK-12 Presenter- Emily Taylor, DESE Early Learning Team

11:30 – 12:15 – Workshop – Kit Dunlap (Alpha Theta) – Private Eye Investigations:
"Brings out the gifted in everyone." — Joseph Renzulli, Director, The National Research
Center on the Gifted and Talented

It's not what you look at that matters, it's what you see. Henry David Thoreau

12:25 – 1:10 – Workshop – Jessica Lupien (Alpha Theta) – "Advocating for a Correct
Diagnosis and Effective Treatment: How to recognize and prevent some logical errors
in medical practice"

1:15– Congratulations and Rejuvenation

1:30 – Luncheon

SPRING CONFERENCE ♦ MA STATE ORGANIZATION, DKG ♦ SPRING 2024

Friday-Sunday: May 3 - May 4, 2024

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) \$189.00, plus \$0 destination fee: \$189 per night.

Discount Deadline Date: APRIL 15, 2023

For Reservations Call: 508-747-4900 specify our Room Block: MA State Organization of DKG Society International.

or ONLINE: www.hotel1620.com Use Promocode: MASTA240503-185221

*Hotel Food Order Deadline: Friday, April 19, 2023. Please register early.**

To minimize confusion and errors, one person per registration form, 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/Chapter Position (if any) _____

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, 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 4/14/24 Please Don't Delay** **\$45.00**

OR

2. ☐ Registration (after 4/14) **\$55.00**

3. Friday Night, May 3 included with registration

7:00 pm – 8:00 pm Plimoth Patuxet Museums presentation

Imported & Domestic Cheese Display, Fresh Fruit, Assorted Crackers & Breads.

Coffee/Tea Service Friday evening and during Saturday Mid-morning Break.

Saturday, May 4

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: Lemon Chicken with Capers, Tossed Salad, Chef's Selection of Potato and Vegetable of the Day, Rolls and Butter, Dessert (Deep Dish Apple Pie), Coffee and Assorted Teas. GF **\$33.00**

TOTAL ORDER \$ _____

6. ☐ Guided tour of the Grist Mill in Plymouth Harbor at 3:00 on Saturday. Cost \$9.00 per person

Please indicate your planned interest to participate by checking the box. **Payment to tour guide at time of tour.**

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 International

♦ Mail to: Linda Stewart, PO Box 564, Hyannis Port, MA 02647 ♦

Text message 508-725-5442 or email lstewart564@gmail.com if registering after 4/19/2024* (No calls please)