

# Alpha Upsilon Massachusetts

# Baystater

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

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

Volume 61, Number 1

Spring/Summer 2018

# **Alpha Upsilon Spring Conference**



Agnes Moynihan, NE Regional Director Guest Speaker with Bette Bridges



Jackie Trotta, Terry Maffeo, Helen Clark and G'Tanya Small





G'Tanya Small and Kit Dunlap announcing the Kentucky Derby 50/50

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## \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ **Attention all Chapter Treasurers!**

Congratulations on your new or continued position as Chapter Treasurer!

An email was sent out on May 28 with reminders on deadlines and forms completion for the new year.

Please remember to get your Chapter Annual Report and 990 tax filing confirmation to me by July 15th for 2017-2018. Thank you!

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# Are You Going??

#### Alpha Upsilon State 2018 Fall Workshop Southbridge September 28-29

## International

DKG International Conference	Austin, TX
July 16-20	
Northeast Regional	Foxwoods
July 29 - Aug 1, 2019	

# Thank you....

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those women who have contributed to this issue. Without your efforts there would not be a Baystater. Kristin Butler, Gail Saccone, Caroline Kiessling, Kathy Balakier, Mary Lou Francis, Jo-Anne Butler, Irene Falite, Carol LaPolice, Dorothea Maynard, Lynn Howard, and Bette Bridges.

### MA State Dinner at DKG Convention

Are you heading south to Austin, Texas in July for the DKG International Convention? If so, then I hope you'll join me at the MA State dinner on Thursday, July 19th at 6:00 p.m. We'll be dining at Uncle Julio's Restaurant. Please contact me at lynnphoward82@comcast.net or 781-901-9120 as soon as you can so I can give you more details about the dinner.

# Bette's Buzz

I have been sitting thinking about how lucky I am, both personally and professionally because of DKG. On a personal level, I have made some wonderful supportive, helpful friends. Friends who come to your side whenever there is a need. Most would think that I am talking about the women in my chapter, I am, but I am also referring to women I have met at State, Regional and International meetings and activities and the many new women I met throughout the State this year.

Last year I went by myself on the DKG sponsored Spain-Portugal trip. People kept telling how brave I was to go alone, but I felt very comfortable traveling by myself for the first time in 30 years. Why? Because of my involvement in DKG, I knew that if there was no one on the trip that I knew, there would someone who knew women I knew. And I was right on both counts. Of the 24 people on the trip, I was a friend with 2; I knew who 2 were and 3 more knew women with whom I am a friend. Needless to say, I never felt I was traveling alone, thanks to my decision to branch out of my chapter and get involved in all levels of DKG.

Professionally, wow, there are so many things I can point to. Number 1 is your decision to elect me a State officer and now serving as your State President. I have learned so much in these positions and am still learning on the job. I would not have been able to do this if my chapter had not had the faith in me to ask me to be their president. I didn't think I could do the job, I was told that they would be there to support me and the chapter was. Just like your chapter will support you when asked to do any kind of job. You are all key women educators! You are able to take a leadership position in your chapter. With support you can do anything!

On all levels, I have given several workshops. When you do a workshop, you learn as much as the people who attend. It is so rewarding. Every one of you has something to share. Submit a proposal to do a workshop on any level. Lynn Howard, our State EEC chair, is always looking for presenters. Contact her. It is a great "excuse" to attend a State meeting and see what it is all about.

I have been given 2 Golden Gifts on the International Level. One was to attend the Leadership-Management Seminar, 2 weeks that changed my life, where I learned so much about how to handle situations and gain confidence. The 2nd, a Special Study Stipend to represent DKG at the International Conference on Chemical Education in Brisbane, Australia. Now, you might say that I got these because I was a State Officer, you are very wrong. Both of these were awarded to me before I was a Chapter President. Any one can apply. Go for it!!

I have served on 5 International Committees, 3 before I became a State Officer. Anyone can apply; it is a great learning experience. Apply!

How was I able to have these great experiences and make wonderful friends? It was because I was willing to step outside my chapter and attend State, Regional and International conventions and meetings. You can have them too! I hope to see you at our Fall Workshop in September to start your personal and professional growth. Get involved, you'll get so much more out of DKG!!You, too, can feel lucky!

Please read about our very special keynote speaker at the Fall Workshop. Dr. Kathryn Clancy is a nationally recognized expert on Harassment especially Sexual Harassment. We are very lucky to have her accept our invitation. Let's give her a special DKG welcome and come to the Workshop to hear her.

## Help Wanted!

As the 1st Vice President of Alpha Upsilon State I am the chair of the Educational Excellence Committee (EEC). The EEC is responsible for setting up the workshops and speakers for our two state meetings in September and May. The goals of the EEC are: (1) Creating global involvement, (2) Engaging educators in purposeful programs and projects and (3) Empowering women through leadership opportunities. To achieve these goals, I need your help!

Do you have a something that you and/or your colleagues have done that has been successful in your school or classroom that you would be willing to share with others? Do you have a hobby or interest in something that you would be willing to present at a state meeting? Have you heard a speaker recently that you think other would be interested in hearing? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then I need you to contact me at lynnphoward82@comcast.net or 781-901-9120. I am looking for ideas for workshops and presenters for the workshops that would interest active and retired educators, all ideas are welcome! Thank you! Lynn Howard

## Christa McAuliffe Funds Put to Good Use

I am honored to have received a scholarship from the Christa McAuliffe Fund that allowed me to attend the 2-day Social Thinking Conference. The first day covered Teaching Social Thinking in the Preschool and Early Elementary Years. For the past few years, I have implemented the original curriculum of The Incredible Flexible You (designed for ages 4-7) throughout my preschool, in whole group language lessons with both typically developing peers and children with special needs. I have found that most of the students are able to grasp these abstract concepts and put them into action as they learn about themselves, about others, and the dynamics of working and sharing space together. The first concepts: Thinking Thoughts and Feeling Feelings, Following the Group Plan, Thinking with your Eyes, Keeping your Body in the Group, and Whole Body Listening were covered again more in depth and extension activities were provided (websites, books, video clips, and games).

On day 2, the conference was titled What's Play Got To Do With Classroom Learning. The long awaited second volume of The Incredible Flexible You, re-



Kristin Butler with G'Tanya Small receiving her Christa McAuliffe award

named We Thinkers!, was introduced, as well as a new play scale and review of the importance of play in early childhood development. The 5 new concepts of volume 2 are more complex and focus on teaching and building self-regulation (executive functioning skills) with children: Hidden Rules and Expected and Unexpected

Behavior, Making Smart Guesses, Flexible and Stuck Thinking, Size of the Problem (including feelings and reactions) and Sharing an Imagination. These concepts were introduced and discussed while keeping in mind the incredible importance of play. Research has found that interactive and pretend play are the avenue through which young children practice and perfect their social thinking, social skills and problem solving abilities. However, there are many children who don't grasp what "play" is all about, especially children with delays in certain developmental areas (joint attention, central coherence, theory of mind and social executive functioning). Play is a complex skills with many hidden rules and expectations and for these children, play can be a struggle and playing with others is not often fun for them. The Social Thinking Team developed the GPS Scale (Group Collaboration, Play and Problem Solving Scale). They introduced and explained the 5 levels of play on the scale, introduced the observation tools, discussed their ties to RTI, IEPs and the common core, and included differentiated play activities, all within the context of the newest Social Thinking concepts mentioned above.

I thoroughly enjoyed every moment of this conference and the presenter, Nancy Tarshis, was incredibly knowledgeable and presented this complex material with humor and passion, real-life experiences, successes and failures. I was overwhelmed with the wealth of information, but I am so excited to introduce these new storybooks and activities to my students, as well as implement the GPS Scale and share with my colleagues! Thank you again for awarding me this honor!

## Photo Album

Visit the Alpha Upsilon Web Site to see the complete album of photos from the Spring conference in Plymouth MA.

https://alupsma.weebly.com/ Click on the More button to get the pull down menu. Select Photo Gallery then the 2018 Spring Conference. Enjoy!

#### **DKG Scholarship Funds**

Update on the Recommendations from the Ad Hoc DKG Scholarship Fund Committee.

Thank you to those who participated in the survey. The recommendations were presented to the membership at the May 5 Spring Convention. It was approved that item 1, the recipient requirement for the Sara E Chase Scholarship be reduced to one year of membership with the amendment added "with the Chapter President's approval."

After some discussion and no motions on the remaining recommendations, they were tabled for further study and discussion.

They are:

2. Establish a state university grant-in-aid for full time or continuing education women students in education and education related degree programs. One award per year in the amount of \$500.00 yearly as funding remains available. Funding could later be maintained in the amount of \$500.00 yearly through the annual scholarship fees collected dependent upon membership numbers remaining stable.

(Note: this idea eliminates the need for another scholarship committee to process applications at the college level. Financial aid offices can do this more effectively).

- 3. Establish one university as the recipient of the grant-in-aid through discussion at the May meeting with consideration of Bridgewater State University as the most mentioned in the comments.
- 4. Establish Presenters' Awards to New England Regional Conferences and International Conventions, 2 members to attend in the amount of \$400.00 each as funding remains available. This will cover approximately the registration fee and one night's accommodation. Members will be able to apply more than once, however precedence for awards goes to first time presenters.
- 5. Establish a Life Long Enrichment Award for Retirees to take a course, go to a conference or workshop to pursue personal and/or professional growth. Two awards annually at \$300.00 each as funding remains available.
- 6. Two non-retired members and two retired members who have never attended the Northeast Regional Conference or the International Convention will be eligible for registration fee reimbursement (4@\$200.00 each) yearly as funding remains available.
- 7. Grants-in-Aid to Families for attaining graduate education to further professional growth to a daughter, grand-daughter, or niece. It was commented that some chapters give high school grants and to keep it to females as in our mission statement: The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. One grant in the amount of \$500.00 yearly as funding remains available. A committee will be established to create the application and publicize its availability, choose the recipient and publicize the awarding of the grant.

A projected fund use spreadsheet was created accordingly.

These ideas were the result of a survey of New England Regional State Treasurers in addition to members' input and survey results.

If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Carol LaPolice at carol.lapolice@comcast.net. We will revisit these recommendations at the September meeting. We need your help to start using these funds for the good of our mission!

Special thanks go to Jo-Anne Butler, G'Tanya Small, Linda Stewart, and Natalie Januskiewicz for serving as committee members this past year.



# Area I Meeting

The Area 1 meeting was held on Thursday October 12 at the Chateau Norton. Its picturesque location on the water makes this restaurant an ideal meeting place. The assigned responsibilities were carried out by each chapter as follows. Host Chapter—Theta; Registration---Alpha Theta; Entertainment and Invocation---Alpha Beta; Centerpieces—Alpha Kappa; and Programs----Kappa. While waiting for the program to begin, the approximately 36 members in attendance enjoyed socializing with each other and buying raffle tickets to try to win one of the attractive baskets provided by the five chapters of Area 1.

Kit Dunlap, President of Alpha Theta, introduced State President Bette Bridges who brought greetings from Alpha Upsilon State. Bette talked about some of the joys of membership in Delta Kappa Gamma. She mentioned the number of scholarships available to members and urged people to apply as often there are too few applicants for the available funds. She also discussed the Emergency Fund which offers \$500 tax deductible to sisters who have experienced a natural disaster such as a hurricane, flooding, earthquake, wild-fire etc. She also mentioned that the Friend of Education Award has been reinstated.

Bette also talked about the Holocaust Stamps Project which has been in existence since 2009. The project began as an enrichment activity in a fifth grade classroom at the Foxborough Regional Charter School. The students and staff have sought donations of cancelled postage stamps in a quest to visually represent and honor the memories of the 11,000,000 people who were subjected to evil acts and death during Hitler's regime. The students use the stamps to create artwork depicting the events of the Holocaust about which they are learning. There is also a goal to collect 1.5 million more stamps to represent the children who died in the Holocaust. By collecting and using stamps in this way, the students hope to combat bullying, intolerance, discrimination and prejudice. It is Bette's hope that members will become interested in helping with this project.

At the conclusion of her remarks, Bette had the honor of presenting the Area 1 Achievement Award. This year's recipient was Elizabeth (Beth) Fisk of Alpha Beta. She was truly surprised and honored to receive this prestigious award. Her sisters in Alpha Beta and her sisters and former colleagues in Theta know that this award is well deserved!

Following the Invocation given by Helen McGarry, everyone enjoyed the delicious meal which was a choice of Italian Combo, Broiled Marinated Chicken or Broiled Scrod. While dessert was being enjoyed, Addie Johnson, President of Alpha Beta, introduced the evening's speaker, Jeanne LaRock. She is a Nurse Practitioner at South Coast Health in Mattapoisett and is also the daughter of Alpha Beta member Louise O'Brien.

Jeanne discussed several issues regarding women's health, especially focusing on the screenings she believes that all women need to have. They are listed here in the order presented: Mammogram, Pap Smear, Bone Density, Skin Cancer Check, Blood Pressure Check, Cholesterol, Diabetes, Colonoscopy, and Immunizations such as flu shot, pneumonia shots, Shingles shot etc. As Jeanne named each screening she presented pertinent and up-to-date information about each one, including why she believed in its importance. She was a very interesting, enthusiastic speaker and we enjoyed hearing and learning more about the important topic of Women's Health.

At the conclusion of Jeanne's remarks raffle tickets were drawn to determine the winner of each basket donated by the chapters. There were seven baskets in all as Theta and Alpha Beta had enough donations to make two baskets. The money raised helped to defray some of the evening's expenses. The lovely centerpieces were also distributed at this time. Each winner went home happy and everyone present said that evening was very successful. We are looking forward to the 2018 Area Meeting.



Holocaust Stamps Project



Helen McGarry: Recognition for 50+ yrs. in Delta Kappa Gamma International



Marge Burns: Past State President with 50+ yrs in Delta Kappa Gamma



Pam Larson with Linda Stewart receiving her Sara E. Chase Scholarship (\$2500 toward her CAGS)

Pat Butler, Detra Towle, Joan Brides, Pam Larson, Mary Eppich, Louise Scott, Gail Laffer, and Gail Saccone from Alpha Zeta in the Hat Parade

# Baystatements

#### Eta

May 17th, 2018 marked the last meeting of the 2016-2018 biennium for ETA Chapter. Held at Century House in Acushnet, it was a great evening! At the initiation ceremony that night new members Valerie Alves, Kathleen Bessette, Jacquelineann (Annie) DiRienzo, Carolyn Dubois, Katelyn Fitzsimmons, and Susan Rodrick were welcomed. Elizabeth Reis also participated in the ceremony. Michelle Ferreira, although unable to attend, was included in a vote for acceptance of the new DKG ETA Chapter members. In addition, the Chapter was honored to have two women reinstate their membership: Jane Carreiro and Sheila Koot. The meeting also included the installation of a new Slate of Officers



2018 Initiates to Eta Chapter



Eta Chapter Installs New Officers Kim Fortin, incoming 2nd Vice President; Amy Gracia, incoming Co-President; Monica Landis, incoming Recording Secretary

## **Epsilon**

Happy Spring Sisters. We hope you are enjoying this weather and all the beautiful signs of spring.

We had our Spring Meeting, dinner by Panera Bread and a complimentary wine tasting at Total Wine Co. on April 11th. So much fun having dinner there and sampling the different red and white wines altogether. A nice venue to try out. We hope to go again.



Step Up for Colleen 5K took place on Sunday, May 6th. A group of us proudly walked in honor of Colleen Ritzer. A truly wonderful tribute to her memory. Each year the funds raised support the Colleen E. Ritzer Scholarship Fund to help future teachers obtain a college degree. Since its inception in October 2013, the scholarship fund has awarded over \$138,000 in college scholarships to 39 future teachers. Our Chapter's last year's Scholarship recipient was also awarded one of the scholarships. We were very proud of her accomplishments.



# Baystatements

## Epsilon con't

On May 30th, we will be having our Scholarship Dinner Meeting at Carraba's Italian Grille in Peabody. We will be awarding a Scholarship to a High School Senior who will be attending college to pursue an education degree. We are excited and look forward to meeting her. Our Chapter will end the year with a dinner celebration at the Hawthorne Inn in Salem. We wish everyone a warm and sunny summer filled with relaxation and fun.



#### Eta con't

for 2018-2020.

Joan Pepin conducted a Necrology Service honoring the memory of Veronica Carter, Charlotte Fellman and Kathleen Roberts, Eta Chapter members who passed away this past year. It was a lovely tribute. In addition, Janet Ratcliffe and Gladys Gaj were each presented with a red rose in honor of their many decades of membership and service to ETA Chapter. Treasurer Jo-Anne Butler also presented outgoing President Dr. Mary Louise Francis with a dozen red roses from the Chapter.

Dr. Francis, in the final remarks of her biennium, indicated that it had been an honor and a privilege to serve as ETA Chapter President during the past two years. Her thanks goes out to the 2016-2018 Board Members/ Officers, Dr. Ann Koczera, Amy Gracia, Kim Fortin, Doreen Denault, and Janet Ratcliffe, as well as to Jo-Anne Butler, whose dedication to DKG is exceptional. Dr. Francis indicated her confidence in AmyGracia and Jo-Anne Butler as Co-Presidents in the upcoming biennium, supported by the new Slate of Officers. She also referred to the recent Alpha Upsilon State Conference held in Plymouth in early May at which she and Amy had an opportunity to connect on various matters related to DKG as the Chapter transitions.

President Francis said that as her biennium comes to a close, she looks forward to the new biennium with Amy and Jo-Anne at the helm. It sounds as though ETA Chapter has some exciting things to look forward to!

#### Alpha

Alpha Chapter has been very busy these past few months. Our March meeting was held at the Agawam Senior Center. Our retirees served a delicious dinner with desserts provided by our working members. Our dear Alpha DKG sister, Maureen Kellman, was our guest speaker. Maureen's topic was Live a Happier, Healthier Life, in which she shared mindful meditation. April brought us closer to spring after a few winter snowstorms. Three of our DKG sisters attended a delightful evening of Culture and Cocktails: Festival of Flowers at the Springfield Museums. The DKG sisters viewed spectacular floral arrangements inspired by objects throughout the art, history and science museums. They even made their own floral arrangements!



Carol LaPolice and Josey Stolotto

Now on to our May State Conference in Plymouth. We enjoyed workshops, a guest speaker from Ontario, Canada, as well as a Kentucky Derby hat parade, banquet and necrology service.



Bette Bridges, Agnes Moynihan, and Kathy Balakier

# Kathryn Clancy Speaks in September

Dr. Kathryn Clancy is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Illinois. Clancy runs an intersectional feminist biology lab with the goal of understanding how modern environments influence women and gender minority reproductive physiology, health, and well-being. Clancy's main field sites are the Mogielica Human Ecology Study Site in rural Poland, where she has worked since 2002, and the Girls Adventures in Math, Engineering, and Science (GAMES) summer camp in Urbana, Illinois, a longitudinal research project in its fifth year.

Clancy's critical research on the culture of science has also received widespread attention. She and her colleagues have revealed the widespread prevalence of sexual harassment and assault in the field sciences, astronomy, and planetary science, as well as the ways in which sexual harassment drives women from their careers. She serves on the National Academy of Sciences Committee to Address Sexual Harassment in the Sciences, and their report will be out in June. Clancy was named one of Nature's "10 most influential scientists" in 2013. Much of her public intellectual work takes place online, with a popular Twitter feed at @KateClancy, a

website and blog at www.kateclancy.com, writing for various science and news outlets from Scientific American to The Daily Beast, and Period Podcast, a podcast about women's health in its second season. She has two daughters, two pets, and a roller derby addiction. Attend the DKG Fall Workshop, September 29, to hear Katie speak.





Kentucky Derby Hat Parade



Dr. Mary Louise Francis, outgoing President, and Amy Gracia, incoming

Co-President

Kaaren Harrington, Kit Dunlap, and Marilyn Spedding. Kit won the 50/50 prize.! Hmmm Congratulations!

> Can you identify these five stylish women? The year is 1987. The month is May. The location is the Marine Surplus Supply store in P-Town.



Alpha Upsilon State

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

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#### Next Deadline is

October 1, 2018



A small issue will be going out with the Fall Workshop Information and Registration as well as news from the International Convention in Austin, Texas.

#### **CHAPTERS 2018-2020 PRESIDENTS**

**ALPHA** KATHLEEN BALAKIER **BETA CARRIE GIBBONS EPSILON** IRENE FRANGOS FALITE ZETA **BRANDY JACKSON** ETA JO-ANNE BUTLER & AMY GRACIA MARY GRINAVIC & NANCI CARROLL THETA **KAPPA** DONNA BROWN (CONTACT) **UPSILON** MICHELLE GLYNNE ALPHA ALPHA ZITA DANNA ADDIE COLLINS JOHNSON **ALPHA BETA ALPHA GAMMA** NANCY CODERRE **ALPHA EPSILON** JILLAYNE FLANDERS ALPHA ZETA PAMELA LARSON **ALPHA ETA** JEANNE O'HERN **ALPHA THETA** DOROTHEA MAYNARD **ALPHA IOTA** JILLIAN SCEPPA-ETIENNE ALPHA KAPPA DONNA ROGERS (?) ALPHA LAMBDA MICHELLE MONTROND CHERYL DERR **ALPHA MU** 

Thank you to all of you who have stepped forward as Chapter Presidents for the 2018-20 Biennium.

# The Purposes of the Society are:



- 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 interest of education and of women educators:
- 5. To **endow** scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to women educators from other countries;
- 6. To **stimulate** the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action;
- 7. To **inform** the membership of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.