

THE CONNECTICUT



KEYNOTE

Alpha Kappa State
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society
International



Vol. 71 No. 2 Winter 2011—2012

Fall Conference Goes On Despite the Nor'easter! *Increasing Global Awareness*

**United Nations,
the Classroom and
You**



Grace M. Murphy

**Africaphilantropies:
Help a Child in Africa**



Leonille Kadambaya Zato Kadambaya

Community is Key

On November 5th, 2011, approximately 64 AKS members and guests attended the Fall Conference at the Courtyard by Marriott in Cromwell. 'Community' was the theme of the day. AKS sisters talked about surviving the storm, listened to Grace Murphy's and Zato and Leonille Kadambaya's presentations and danced with each other to *Ndakuvara*.

Grace M. Murphy, an active DKG member from Pi state New York, was our Keynote speaker focusing on our connection to the global community. She is DKG's Primary Non-Governmental Organization Representative to the Department of Public Information at the United Nations, as well as Vice Chair of the Committee on Teaching About the United Nations. She shared with us the UN's impact on education and the world in her presentation, *A Global Perspective: The United Nations, the Classroom and You*. She presented some alarming statistics about countries around the

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A Message from Marnee



Embracing the Vision and Creating the Future

The Honor of Membership

Someone noticed your work.

Someone noted your standards.

Someone believed in your potential.

Someone sought your association.

Someone sponsored your invitation.

Someone honored you.

Remember that person's confidence in you.

Take pride in your continuing membership.

Take every opportunity to honor your fellow members.

Hello Alpha Kappa State Sisters,

This very true description of the invitation to membership in The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International can be found in *Sustaining Pride in the Big Picture, A Reorientation Guide for all DKG Members* published by DKG. It says a great deal about our Society, our members and our future.

Now is the time for you to help us grow. All of us, each and every member, need to think carefully and sincerely about those key women educators who have not yet been called to membership in our outstanding Society. Look for prospective members in your schools, in your group of retired teachers in your community. Make a list; invite them to be a guest at a chapter meeting; help to provide an orientation and follow up by calling the prospective members and offering to answer questions. Membership is key to a vital and growing organization like DKG. As a member, you are the driving force behind that vitality and growth. Do your part. Now is the time for you to help us grow.

Marnee

Membership Is On the Move!



We're moving forward to accomplishing our 12 x12 initiative. Keep on seeking out those early career educators who might benefit from "seasoned" educator experience and from genuine fellowship and friendship. Let's make our "vision" another educator's vision.

Just a reminder and invitation to all Membership Chairs and any others interested that Membership chairs will meet after the January 21st Executive Board meeting to discuss the data from Members' Profiles and the new Orientation CD that will be distributed on that day. Hope to see you there.

**Date to remember from Membership
January 15, 2012**



**AKS Membership Banner
at Fall Conference**

Members' Profile Survey results are to be sent to Joan Krantz at fdkrantz@snet.net

Service Pin Information/Verification is to be sent to Barbara Ann Cavanaugh at bacav@optonline.net

Joan Krantz, AKS Membership Chair



Fall Conference

(Continued from page 1) *Community Is Key*

world and their need for assistance in dealing with lack of electricity, water and food and the climate's impact on sustainable development. Finding ways to ameliorate poverty, hunger and health issues is key to furthering the three pillars of the United Nations' work: peace, development and protection of human rights.

She also talked about the UN's Academic Impact Initiative which was launched in 2010 and designed to involve colleges and universities in activities that support the UN purposes. An awareness of the UN and its Millennium Development Goals will broaden the global perspective of academic communities and young people. Over 500 institutions from around the world are listed as members of the program.

By providing several examples of "Best Practices" to raise global awareness and many websites, Grace furthered our awareness and encouraged us as educators and active women to join or start grassroots organizations, to discuss issues with other organizations, to talk with family and, on a chapter level, to choose an issue, do some research and find ways to have a positive impact.

Mr. Zato Kadambaya and **Mrs. Leonille M. Kadambaya**, the second set of speakers, are founders of Africaphilantropies, Inc., a U.S. based non-profit organization. Their presentation, *Could African Culture Be Blamed for the Continent's Struggles?*, complemented Grace's presentation by outlining their personal connection to Africa and their efforts to finance and support African communities of Togo and Rwanda, their respective homelands. It is their mission to "address the problem of poverty, prosperity and socio-economic development by building the future one child at a time."

Mr. Kadambaya focused on the cultural differences of Togo with western values. Since the Togans have no word for democracy, he feels they have no single national priority; and in contrast to individuals in the west, many Togans do not question status quo. Many remote villages remain satisfied with the minimum; therefore, the social and economic development stagnates. He believes change will happen because of "people on the ground." His organization and others can send financial aid but the goal is to educate people to help themselves.

Mrs. Kadambaya's presentation focused on how lives of Africans can be helped by addressing the issues of clean water, education, health care and food. She discussed lack of water purification and disease and the unavailability of education because wind and rain make teaching impossible in the weak existing structures. She also emphasized how their organization builds community among Africans by helping them build their own educational facilities and take pride in their achievements. Africaphilantropies, Inc.'s efforts have brought together communities by providing a centrally located water pump for a village where previously eleven or twelve year old girls would be charged with the duty of gathering water and were unable to attend school. With a more central location of water, girls now have greater educational opportunities.

Another effort of the Africaphilantropies, Inc. is the rural health care program funded in part by Day Kimball Hospital in CT that provides free ultrasound/mammography services. No one can be refused because he or she has no money. Whether the issue is water, education or health, the first goal is for individuals "on the ground" to identify the problems/issues. Africaphilantropies, Inc. sends both help to train others and money for such things as school supplies, building supplies and medicine.

The Kadambayas also hope to further the US/Africa Partnership Program. Already Norwich Free Academy has taken on a sister school in Sokode, Togo; and Westbrook Middle School has a sister school in Afouhou, Togo. Their future goals include: providing a second water pump by June 2012; sending more classroom supplies; working on a five year plan for building schools; helping farmers grow food and increasing awareness of issues.

Ms. Murphy's and the Kadambayas' presentations outlined the many difficulties of countries around the world that have far less than most Americans. Both emphasized that education is key to improving lives and broadening a global perspective.

When communities, large and small, care and organize their efforts, they make a difference in the lives of others. DKG's participation in the UN, Schools for Africa Project and World Fellowship, as well as its local efforts to raise awareness about such non-profits as Africaphilantropies, Inc., affirm that we are an organization with a vision to increase global awareness and better the world.

FUTHER INFORMATION ABOUT OUR SPEAKERS

Grace M. Murphy

Millennium Development Goals

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, etc.
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Develop a Global Partnership for Development

Websites for teaching a global perspective and for learning about the UN:

www.teachun.org

www.ctaun.org-- Best Practices in teaching

www.un.org/desa-- Economic and Social news

www.academicimpact.org-- college level

www.teachunicef.org

www.unfoundation.org- "Nothing but Net" and "Girl Up"

www.un.org/cyberschoolbus.org

www.unsystem.org- specific topics, site index

Mr. Zato Kadambaya and Mrs. Leonille M. Kadambaya

www.web.africa.ufl.edu

www.africaphilantropies.org



Fall Conference



Kim Albro, Zeta Chapter, with her display from a trip to Malawi, Africa, to build houses for Habitat for Humanity



Display from 2011 Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey, PA



LuAnn Coglisier and Delta Chapter scarf sale table



Zato and Leonille Kadambaya at Africaphilantropies display



Judy Cody and Zeta Chapter Society Pin holders



First Vice President Terry Azoti, Past President Carol Kraus and President Marnee Straiton

Be sure to visit the State and International websites for upcoming information on AKS and DKG news and activities:

www.deltakappagamma.org/CT/
www.dkg.org/



Alpha Kappa State Awards Recruitment Grants and High School Grants



Since 1951, Recruitment Grants have been awarded by Alpha Kappa State to female and male college/university students majoring in education. Each grant bears the name of a distinguished member of Alpha Kappa State and is assigned to the college or university with which the honored member had a close association. The following grants were announced at the 2011 Fall Conference:

\$500 Ida Seidel Grant to *Claire Fryer, a Sociology and Early Childhood Education Major Eastern Connecticut State University*

\$500 Flora Lister Grant to *Samantha Burrows, an Elementary Education Major Western Connecticut State University*

\$500 Mary Mahoney Grant to *Arianna Aquilino, an Elementary Education Major University of Connecticut*

\$500 Vera Butler Grant to *Carly Huffman, an Elementary Education Major Central Connecticut University*

High School Grants

\$750 Hannah C. Griswold Grant— *Jessemar Robinson, Bulkeley High School, Hartford Education Major at Capital Community College in Hartford*

\$750 Elizabeth C. Sonier Grant— *Morgan Campbell, Hamden High School Music Education Major at the University of Maine at Orono*

\$750 Lee Formica Grant — *Carolyn Dobmeier, Rocky Hill High School Education Major at Syracuse University in New York*



(l. to r.) Alpha Kappa State Professional Affairs Chair Cindy Huppert,
2011 Ida Seidel Recruitment Grant recipient Claire Fryer and
Mrs. Fryer



AROUND THE

BETA

Beta Chapter's September meeting focused on "increasing members' personal and professional pride." A nutritional health specialist spoke about the necessity of maintaining a healthy diet and lifestyle to assist in better coping with the multiple stress-related issues and demands in our lives. Beta Chapter was also honored to have **AKS President Marnee Straiton** present at the meeting. Marnee presented long-time member **Margaret Nemec** with her Membership Award Pin for 51 years as a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. Members generously donated baby items for The Mercy Learning Center in Bridgeport. **Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone** and **Barbara Hilli** delivered the items to The Center. The November meeting was cancelled due to the severe storm damages and power outages throughout the area.

The chapter continues to try to maintain and "strengthen diversity, as well as assist in developing leaders in education" and to "focus on educational excellence." Members are encouraged to promote UN relationship by attending the annual CTAUN conference.

Several new members are early career educators aspiring to become professional leaders who want to impact the educational environment with creative strategies aimed at reaching as many students of different cultural backgrounds in their classrooms. **Susan Littlefield**, elementary teacher at Daniels Farm School in Trumbull, is an example of this. Susan has coordinated and directed Multi-Cultural Fairs at her school for the past several years. She is also a member of the Cultural Diversity Committee in the Trumbull Public School System, chaired by **Principal Jacqueline Norcel** of Frenchtown School.

Linda S. Paslov, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessments in the Trumbull School, is another example of the new educational leaders who are members of Beta Chapter. Linda is a former principal from a Stratford middle school and administrative leader in Bridgeport. Linda was initiated into Beta in 2011.

GAMMA

Appropriately, the October meeting was held on World Teachers Day. **President Jeanne Morascini** offered a thought from Paula Fox's book, *The Heart of a Teacher*.

The meeting was bittersweet. It was joyous as three new members were initiated: **Sarah Bennett**, **Rosemary Adams** and **Debra Lehman**. In addition, **Patricia Dean**, who is a current member, was also formally initiated. The ceremony was conducted by **Judy Pflum**, her last official act for the chapter, as Judy moved to Denver at the end of October to be near her family. As an expression of the chapter's deep appreciation for all her services over the decades, Judy was given roses and a gift card to Amazon. In addition, letters from members of AKS were read. All extended many thanks

and best wishes. **Barbara Dombrowski** and **Reggie Tate** shared special memories of Judy's leadership skills. There were many glistening eyes, but hearts were warmed by the love encompassing the room.

Regular business was conducted and reminders made about upcoming events, the need for a new slate of officers for the next biennium and the December deadline for names of potential Gamma members. Special attention was given to the format of the Gamma newsletter, *GAMMA GAZETTE*, edited by **AKS Executive Secretary Linda Shea**. In fact, **Communications Chair** and **past AKS President Judy Cody** sent a letter of commendation to Linda. The chapter's thanks were extended to Gamma member **Janis Sawicki** for hosting the meeting at Uncas School where she is principal.

DELTA

At the Delta Chapter meeting in December two new members were initiated. **Megan LaPorta** is a first-year teacher at Shelton High School. Megan holds her M.S. in Secondary Education: English. She was selected Student Teacher of the Year at the University of Bridgeport, where she was also the recipient of the Excellence in English Education Award. She finished the program with a 4.0 Graduate GPA. In addition, she was a presenter at the Connecticut Reading Association Conference in November. **Kelly Raimo** is an English Teacher at Watertown High School who has been teaching for nine years. Kelly holds a B.A. in English and is currently a member of many professional organizations, including the National Council for Teachers of English, Modern Language Association and the Trinity Club of Hartford through Trinity College. Her current professional activities involve the WHS Book Club, co-advisor of the Pseudo-Science Organization and advisor/instructor of Interdepartmental Publishing, which produces the school newsletter, *Indian Info*.



Dr. Paula deSilva, Coordinator
Haitian Health Ministry

Delta members were especially generous at this holiday meeting. Members continue to 'fill the cradle' with diapers, wipes, cream and monetary donations. In addition, many brought items for the guest speaker's Mothers and Babies Sewing Project for the Haitian Health Foundation. Dr. Paula deSilva, Coordinator for the project, spoke about the conditions in Haiti and how any and all help is



NUTMEG STATE

appreciated. She showed the hand-sewn diapers, baby's Christening gowns (or burial gowns, as so many die before the age of one) and mothers' maternity dresses which groups of adults and children all over Connecticut are making. The members of Delta then broke into groups to help cut and sort patterns which would later be sewn.

EPSILON

Members of Epsilon Chapter gathered at Chuck's Restaurant in Rocky Hill on October 13th for the first chapter meeting. The special guest, **AKS President Marnee Straiton**, complimented Epsilon chapter for its continued dedication to DKG and encouraged the chapter to grow its membership. Several members, along with **Epsilon member** and **Past AKS President Carylae Clinge**, attended and enjoyed meeting Marnee and exchanging school, work and family news.

Special congratulations to

Kate Adams on the birth of her son

Katie Cognata as she anticipates the arrival of twin daughters in January

Ann-Marie Discenza on the announcement of her marriage

Another rose was given to **Dianna Wassenhove** for her selection to the AKS Finance Committee and the Strategic Action Planning Committee.

Epsilon members enjoyed their annual Holiday Meeting. It was held at the home of **Pamela Solnik** on December 1st.

ZETA

Zeta Chapter proudly initiated twelve new members at its annual Initiation meeting/buffet on October 19th at Pompeo's Restaurant in Branford. It was a pleasure to use the new initiation ceremony recently sent from International. Following the ceremony, sponsors introduced their candidates to the membership; and the initiates shared biographical information. This was a great way for members to get to know all of the initiates in a personal manner. (see photo).

On November 19th, Zeta held the annual charity auction/brunch at Cascade in Hamden. **Elayne Canter**, Zeta member, served as auctioneer for the many donated items. When sold, they netted nearly \$2,000. Half the proceeds go for Zeta's two scholarship grants, and most of the remainder went to three local charities which were selected by members. They include Family Read in Hamden (teaching parents to assist their children in comprehension skills), St. Martin de Porres Academy in New Haven (a tuition free middle school for under-served students in New Haven) and Leeway, Inc. (a facility providing inpatient and palliative care to AIDS patients to enhance their quality of life).

Raffles earned \$96 for World Fellowship and \$161 for Africaphilantropies, Inc. Donations for CT Food Bank to-

talled \$188. Toiletries and various supplies were collected for **Life Haven** and **Leeway, Inc.**

Thanks go out to **Elayne Canter**, to all who donated items to be sold and to the members and their guests who enthusiastically bid on and bought the wide variety of donated items. The success of this annual event continues to inspire chapter members each and every year. Zeta now looks forward to its Birthday Luncheon meeting March 10th.



Zeta's initiates (l. to r.)

Rosina Hurley, Elizabeth Meoli, Carole Franceschet, Rosemary Berton, Ashley Brandl, Carol Penney, Diane Wilson, Michelina Fazzino, Judy Drenzek, Anne Murphy, Cheryl Coppa, Jessica Giampietro

THETA

Theta Chapter has been busy this year and is off to a great start. The August picnic seems so far away right now! In October, members enjoyed an international day as it was so close to United Nations Day. Members brought an ethnic dish to share for the potluck lunch. What a feast all enjoyed!! Prior to lunch, several members had volunteered to share a few pieces of information about one of Delta Kappa Gamma's member countries. Everyone in attendance found the information to be very informative. Members are hoping to have a meeting with an international flair now every fall.

Theta members filled stockings for the thirteen girls at Journey House. These stockings were presented to the girls in time for the holidays. Extra funds collected will be used to buy gift cards for the girls for Valentine's Day.

In January, Theta members will gather to celebrate books and the love of reading. **Faye Ringel, State Fine Arts Chair**, will be in attendance to make a special presentation. Members will be bringing books for a 'Book Swap' and will also be bringing books for our 'Books to Babies' project at Windham Hospital. This BYOL (Bring Your Own Lunch) event promises to be a fun day.

At the end of January, Theta will be sponsoring the Soup Kitchen at St. Paul's in Willimantic. Members do this twice a year and the meal is always well received.



AROUND THE NUTMEG STATE (Continued)

IOTA

Iota members met at the Hopkins Inn this fall. This meeting is always well attended with members knowing they will enjoy a delicious meal at a beautiful location overlooking Lake Waramaug.

The December meeting was held at Rocco's Restaurant in Brookfield. At this meeting the guests/speakers were representatives of the two organizations that Iota is supporting this year. The first was Kevin's Community Center, located in Bethel, which is a clinic for adults established in memory of Dr. Taweh's son, Kevin, who died in an accidental swing accident at home. Iota members are making contributions to Kevin's Corner, an area set aside for children of patients. Iota members are also bringing diapers to meetings to support Baby Bundles, located in New Milford. The coordinator of this program has informed members that the need is greater than ever in these financial times.

Iota has been making efforts to recruit and retain membership. Potential members have been invited to and have attended meetings. Current members contacted members who had resigned in recent years to find out if they would like to be reinstated. Calls were made to locate current members who were "lost", and updates were made to addresses, emails and phone numbers which had changed in the last year. Unfortunately, the chapter membership did drop slightly; but the drop would have been more dramatic without the efforts taken by individual members.

Iota may be small, but it continues to be a chapter with a high percentage of members remaining actively involved. The Finance Committee met this fall to make changes which will ensure the chapter's ability to continue funding the two chapter grants. The Standing Rules Committee is in place. Most impressive was the fact that over one third of the membership was involved in some way with Alpha Kappa State Fall Conference: helping with registration responsibilities in the days before the Conference, attending the Conference or both. Unfortunately, Hurricane Irene prevented some members from attending this wonderful Conference.

OMICRON

Omicron's first meeting of the 2011/2012 school year was held at the headquarters of the Birmingham group in Ansonia. The presentation included information on the organization's new initiative for mental health. Birming-

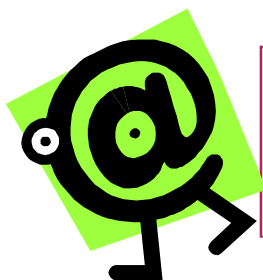
ham has long been a provider of services to people in the valley community in need of a wide variety of other health services, substance abuse counseling and victims of domestic violence.

The annual Christmas brunch was held on December 3rd at the Kellogg Mansion. Each year at this meeting, Omicron includes a collection of various gift cards to be distributed to residents of Antoinette's House, the residence for victims of domestic abuse. Last December's gift was \$750. A special meeting to release the findings of the nominating committee preceded the regular meeting. Baskets were raffled to benefit the Girls State program which Omicron has been involved in for many years. High school junior girls are selected by guidance counselors and teachers and recommended to the American Legion Auxiliary in the five valley towns, and tuition assistance is provided by the chapter and by some grant money from the Valley Community Foundation.

RHO

Rho Chapter started the year with a dinner meeting on October 5th at Angelino's Restaurant in Vernon. 26 members and two guests attended. **Catherine Schaffer**, a thirty-year DKG member and reviewer for *The Keynote* for many years, was honored for her 90th birthday with a shower of birthday cards, a rose and a cake. The November meeting at the South Windsor Public Library was a jewelry/beading workshop where 13 members and three guests enjoyed creating beaded jewelry under the direction of Sandy Merrill of East Longmeadow, Massachusetts. Everyone left with at least one piece of beaded jewelry. Several enjoyed making holiday gifts for family and friends.

The January meeting will be a book discussion of *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. At this meeting members will also enjoy a sampling of Tastefully Simple products presented by **Rho member Jennifer Nadeau**, a Tastefully Simple Consultant, who will donate her portion of products sold to the Rho fundraising committee. As a community service project, a donation of non-perishable food items has been collected at each meeting for the food banks that make up the Rho district.



Coming soon!

Watch for the new AKS website. The updated site will include new features, e.g. committee reports, photo slide shows, and a Facebook presence, as well as current AKS information, newsletters and documents.



IN MEMORIAM

White Roses

"Every good life leaves behind the fiber of it interwoven forever in the work of the world."



Mildred Elizabeth Linden, Mu Chapter

July 12, 2011

Mildred "Lindy" Linden was initiated into Mu Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma in 1964. She was a faithful member who willingly shared her enthusiasm, energy and sense of humor for teaching with her colleagues. Mildred served as Recording Secretary from 1968-1970 and also filled the role of Membership Chair from 1970-1972.

She graduated from New Haven State Teachers' College with a Bachelor of Science degree and received her Master of Science degree from the University of Connecticut. Mildred taught at the elementary level for 35 years, four years in Stratford and 31 years in West Hartford. She was a primary coordinating teacher in West Hartford where she was instrumental in curriculum development and the development of primary procedures for evaluating pupil progress. She earned the respect of students, parents, colleagues and administrators for her dedication and leadership in the educational field.

After retiring in 1977, Mildred pursued her second career as a volunteer at Hartford Hospital where she gave 38,396 hours while meeting the needs of patients and piloting programs for volunteer orientation. She served as President of the hospital Auxiliary from 1986-1988. Under her leadership, the Auxiliary pledged \$500,000 for an Intensive Care Unit for the hospital. During her tenure, Mildred also served as chairperson for the hospital auxiliaries of Connecticut representing the state at national meetings.

People who met Mildred at any point in her life recall her wonderful sense of humor that caused her to laugh heartily, eyes crinkling and twinkling. She also exuded a calm reassurance whether working with a student or a patient. According to her closest friends, Mildred loved her early morning walks and viewed them as the perfect way to appreciate all the gifts God had bestowed upon her.

Dorothy C. French, Delta Chapter

October 13, 2011

Dorothy C. French was initiated into Delta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma in 1971. She held various offices which included Second Vice President from 1984-1986, President from 1986-1988 and Parliamentarian from 1990-1992. She served on the committees of Personal Growth and Services from 1978-1980, Communications from 1982-1984 and Nominations Chair from 1988-1990. She was also a hostess in 1973 at the state level.

Dot was a lifelong resident of Litchfield. The superintendent of Litchfield noted that Dot showed promise as an educator at an early age. He paid for her college education at Danbury State Teachers' College if she would return to Litchfield to teach. She remained a teacher in the Litchfield Public Schools for 38 years teaching at the elementary level before becoming a Reading Consultant. Her Master of Arts degrees were from Western CT State University and the University of Connecticut.

In addition to her Delta membership, Dot was a member of the Litchfield Woman's Club and Litchfield Scholarship Committee, past National President of the Reading Research Council; and she enjoyed attending the University of Notre Dame Center for Continuing Education for Reading Conferences.

After retiring in 1987, she was retained as a proof reader for Scott Foresman and Houghton Mifflin, education book publishing companies. She also helped in the founding of monthly luncheons for the retired teachers of Litchfield. Dot will be remembered by her family, friends and Delta sisters for her energy, enthusiasm and sincerity.

Dr. Ann Marie Curran, Charter Member Theta Chapter

October 19, 2011

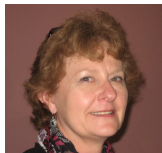
Dr. Ann Marie Curran was initiated into Theta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma in 1957 and was a charter member. She was a lifelong resident of Willimantic. Dr. Curran briefly taught at William Hall High School in West Hartford.

She earned a Master degree in Mathematics from the University of Connecticut, a fellowship at Bowdoin College and a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Connecticut. She was a Professor of Mathematics at Eastern Connecticut State University from 1958 until her retirement in 1986. Dr. Curran was active in several professional and civic organizations that included the American Association of University Women, the Women's Clubs of Willimantic and Storrs, AAUP's Emeritus Society, for which she served a term as President and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

In addition to her love of travel that took her around the world many times, Dr. Curran also had a passion for opera. She generously gave to many arts organizations. Those who knew her will remember her for her friendship, fairness, generosity and her wonderful sense of humor. Her presence will be missed at Theta's Chapter meetings.



Kathleen Lozinak's (Omicron Chapter) 4th grade class participated in the Curriculum of Hope Anti-bullying campaign and had one of their letters published in the fall issue of *Curriculum of Hope for a Peaceful World Newsletter*.



Linda Bartholomeo (Delta Chapter) was honored to have her article "Scratching the Surface" published in the October 2011 issue of *School Arts* magazine. The article was based on how to motivate students in a Still Life art class. (Photo provided by **LuAnne Coglisier, Delta Chapter**)

Coming to the 2012 Spring Convention



Thanks to the generosity of **Zeta member, Joan Davies**, the log cabin comforter begun in the 1940's by **Helen Sheldrick, past AKS Keynote Editor**, and completed in the spring of 2003 can be yours! The vintage pieced and tied comforter is a generous 48" x 48", perfect as a twin bedspread or an ample lap throw (to keep warm on those long winter nights).

The hand-pieced 'log cabins' are surrounded by red fabric; the reverse is a wonderful cream color. Some of the fabric dates from the 1930's; therefore, special care may be needed when cleaning.

In a special raffle to benefit the *Margaret H. Croft Fund*, the comforter will be available April 28th at the 2012 AKS Spring Convention. The Margaret H. Croft Fund committee is in charge of the details. More information will follow.

A special thank you to the reviewers for *The Keynote*:



**Terry Azoti
Judy Cody
Jo-Anne Kershaw**

**Jeanne Morascini
Sandra Petrucelli-Carbone**

**Nancy Roy
Marnee Straiton**





Fall Conference

Fine Arts Presentation Led by Patricia O'Connell Buckley

In less than half an hour, Fall Conference participants enjoyed a cultural experience that increased their global awareness of African music and dance. **Patricia O'Connell Buckley** of Theta Chapter, Northeast Regional Member on the International Educational Excellence Committee, taught the dance movements to an African song, *Ndakuvara*. The song, by Oliver Mtukudzi, an internationally-famous musician from Zimbabwe, features an infectious tune and irresistible beat. Soon, almost all Conference participants were on their feet waving colorful scarves in unison and moving to that beat. Especially notable was **Jeanne Morascini, President of both Gamma and Mu**, showing off her graceful Zumba moves.



Jeanne Morascini



Pat O'Connell Buckley

For those who want to recreate the experience, the song is available on a Putumayo CD *Vhunze Moto* (2002) and in many locations on YouTube.

Faye Ringel, Alpha Kappa State Fine Arts Chair



Susan Salesses at CEU table



Faye Ringel and Roz Etra



Joan Krantz and Eleanor Decker

*The Keynote photos provided by
Carolyn Downs,
Alpha Kappa State Photographer*



Welcome New AKS Members

Gamma

Rosemary Adams, Norwich
Sara Jean Bennett, Glastonbury
Debra Lehman, Norwich

Delta

Rita Caruso, Thomaston
Megan LaPorta, Shelton
Kelly Raimo, Watertown

Zeta

Ashley Brandl, Hamden
Rosemary Burton, Hamden
Cheryl Coppa, North Haven
Judy Drenzek, Orange
Micheline Fazzino, Branford
Carole Franceschet, North Haven
Jessica Giampietro, New Haven
Rosina Hurley, Branford
Elizabeth Meoli, Guilford
Anne Murphy, North Haven
Carol Penney, New Haven
Diane Wilson, Cheshire
Ellen Maust, Wallingford (reinstated)

Iota

Jacqueline M. Farrell, New Milford (transferred)
Eileen Kessler, Danbury (transferred)
Dr. Joanne M. Lillis, New Milford (transferred)

Lambda

Kari Bransky, North Haven
Lisa Jarvis, Meriden
Jane Thurston Malone, Wallingford (reinstated)
Gail McCormack, Wallingford (reinstated)

Nu

Natasha Torre, Stratford
Elizabeth Wenzel, Southport



Congratulations to all new members!

We look forward to the energy and enthusiasm you will bring to AKS.

**Please note that the names of new initiates listed above are as reported to our
AKS State Treasurer, Donna Chaney.**



**2012-2014 Incoming Chapter Presidents, Treasurers,
Membership Chairs, Educational Impact/Program Chairs,
Communication Chairs. . . .**

**The Alpha Kappa State Leadership Conference
is scheduled for
Friday, June 29th
U. S. Coast Guard Academy
New London, Connecticut**

A large blue oval graphic with a white starburst pattern around the perimeter. Inside the oval, a white rectangular box contains the text: "SPRING CONVENTION", "APRIL 28th", "at the Courtyard by Marriott", "in Cromwell", and "Featuring an International Guest".

SPRING CONVENTION
APRIL 28th
at the Courtyard by Marriott
in Cromwell
Featuring an International Guest

Send information to Carol Beam
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