



THE CHIPS OF GRANITE
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE CHAPTER

Volume 2025 Issue 2

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President's Letter
Carol Hines



Welcome to the new biennium of DKG/NH. I am looking forward to getting to know all of you in the next two years. I have worked with many of you at the state board meetings and have gotten to meet many of you who attend the Fall and Spring conferences. I hope to meet most, if not all, of you at chapter meetings. Delta has graciously invited me to attend their first meeting in September and I am looking forward to being there. Beta has extended an invitation to the

entire board to attend their chapter meeting in October. This sounds like it will be a wonderful day. If you have attended Beta get-togethers in the past you know that the food is always amazing. I am looking forward to visiting with Epsilon, Eta, and Theta as well. Perhaps other chapters will consider doing something similar in the future. Our state has amazing sisters who have achieved so much and have such interesting stories to tell. Let's make the most of it.

I thought that it would be good to share some of my background with you. I have a BA in Kindergarten-Primary education, an MS in ED with a concentration in curriculum, and a Certificate of Advanced Study in

administration and supervision. I spent my entire public school career in the East Ramapo (NY) School District. My classroom experience is K-4 but most of those years were spent in grades 1 and 2. I became a student support services teacher and then an assistant principal. After retirement I worked at St. Thomas Aquinas College as a mentor to learning disabled students and then became the coordinator of the testing program.

I was the recipient of two NYS PTA awards for distinguished service to children.

I moved to NH in 2006 to be near my grandchildren. I have been active in my community volunteering at the library, the Colonial Theater, the Community Kitchen and the Keene SwampBats. I am a past president of the Cheshire County Retired Educators and past co-president of the Alpha chapter.

I enjoy reading, gardening, needlework and traveling. Time with my grandchildren is still a priority for me.

Merger of Gamma and Eta

By Caroline Butler

At the DKG NH State Executive Board August Meeting, the board voted to approve the merger of Gamma chapter with Eta chapter. Gamma voted in the winter to pursue either dissolving or merging with Eta. Sheila Knight, Gamma's president, called each of the members to seek their input. The decision was to merge with Eta. As of now two members will be continuing with Eta.

The other members, although not continuing at this time, can become state members as outlined in International rules. They also could return as an Eta member if they decide they would like to do this. Eta is thrilled to welcome Gamma members as we have worked together and had joint meetings for many years!

DKG New Hampshire Website

By Maurine Henry

Our state website is designed to be a useful tool for our members. When you visit our site you will find a list of officers, state committee chairs, dates and places for state, chapter, and international meetings. On the forms page you will be able to download guidelines for state awards and forms for applying for scholarships. In addition Chips of Granite is available for download. You can check out issues all the way back to April 2010.

I am in the process of updating the site with the 2025-26 information. I plan to also update the “Links to sites of educational interest” page to include some AI resources.

Clicking on the banner at the top of the page will take you to the international website.

[Beta Alpha State - Delta Kappa Gamma](#)

www.deltakappagamma.org/NH/index.html



NH Delta Kappa Gamma

Fall Meeting

Saturday, September 27, 2025

10:00 AM

The Woodman Museum

182 Central Avenue, Dover, NH

The Woodman Museum is dedicated to advance and develop passion for history, science, and the arts. To educate, excite, and inspire current and future generations about a changing nation by preserving and exhibiting objects of historic significance, decorative and fine art, and natural science that connect Dover and its citizens to the world. It was created in 1915 with a bequest of \$100,000 from philanthropist Annie Woodman to encourage her city's education in those three fields. The institute opened on July 26, 1916. Under the name of "Woodman Institute", the museum was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980

Please bring a nonperishable food to donate to “End 68 Hours of Hunger”

Click on [Donate - End 68 Hours of Hunger](https://www.end68hoursofhunger.org/donate/) (https://www.end68hoursofhunger.org/donate/) to get more information about the program.

As an added bonus there will be a Magical Makers Fair taking place on the museum grounds.

Cost: \$20.00

Coffee and Donuts will be available upon arrival.

Important Dates to Remember

State Fall Meeting

Saturday, September 27th 2025 @ The Woodman Museum, Dover NH

NH State Conference

April 16th-18th, 2026 @ The Common Man Inn and Spa, Plymouth NH

US Forum

National Legislative Seminar, March 8-11th, Alexandria, Virginia

DKG Convention

June 30th-July 4th, 2026 in Aurora, Colorado please contact Carol

Opportunities to Serve

Executive Board Secretary

Nanci Plimpton, our secretary, has resigned. We appreciate all of the meetings she attended and the accurate notes she generated. We wish her well as she looks to spend more time with her family. If you are interested in serving on the board as our secretary please contact your chapter president. Thank you for considering this opportunity.

DKGIEF Ambassador Program

This new initiative seeks to build a network of members who will serve as advocates and liaisons in helping to promote the mission and vision of DKGIEF. The ambassadors will meet quarterly via Zoom. More information is available on the website. If you are interested please contact Carol Hines

Chapter Membership Brochure

At our Spring DKG meeting in March 2025, I presented a brochure I had developed for Alpha Chapter to use in publicizing our organization. I offered to create brochures for each chapter. That offer still stands. If you would like me to create one for your chapter I will need a list of your chapter's activities, and a few pictures (jpg.) I have your list of officers from working on the membership book. After I receive the information, I will create the brochure and send you a PDF for your approval. Printing of the brochure will be up to each chapter.

Alpha has used their brochure on several occasions, including, placing on the registration table at our local Retired Educators meeting, posting

Benefits of Membership

Members are empowered with new knowledge and professional development targeted towards reaching their full potential.

Membership benefits include:

- leadership training
- scholarship grants
- networking opportunities
- professional journal, newsletter and other publications for members
- insurance offerings and group discounts

DKG members are women educators from 17 countries impacting education worldwide.

Purposes of DKG International

To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship.

To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.

To advance the professional interest and position of women in education.

To initiate, endorse and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators.

To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators.

To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.

To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

Alpha Chapter
New Hampshire State
Delta Kappa Gamma
Society International

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Alpha Chapter serves women in Cheshire County. The Chapter was chartered on April 9, 1949 and serves active and retired women in many fields of education.

Alpha Chapter is one of 7 DKG chapters in New Hampshire.

In addition to local meetings members have the opportunity to attend state and international meetings.

- Fall meeting offers the opportunity to learn about various points of interest throughout the state
- The spring meeting is a 2 day conference with speakers of educational interest
- 3 to 4 day international conferences are held during the summer months. These conferences offer workshops and leadership training to members

What we do—

- Hold 6 scheduled meetings during the year.
- Hold informal gatherings for crafting, chatting, and socializing throughout the year.
- Award grants to individuals in the field of education.
- Donate to area food pantries.
- Donate time to care for a garden space at Ashcroft River Park.
- Donate items to Keene Kids Collaborative for their holiday shopping projects.
- Care for area nursing homes during the holidays.
- Conduct fundraising activities including: furnishing books for the Hanaford Book Bin, yard sales, raffles, and vending crafts at the NH DKG State meeting.

Contact Us

- President: Jeanne Strachine jstr9@aol.com
- Vice President: Maurine Henry mh@maurineh.com
- Secretary: Elaine Lindy elin@elaine.com
- Treasurer: Bernadette Kahn bhk@0145@gmail.com

State Website: www.deltakappagamma.org/NH

it on the “Book Bin” at Hannafords (our yearly fundraiser), and inserting it into letters congratulating local new retirees.

If you would like a copy of Alpha's brochure I would be happy to send it to you.

You can send or request information from me at: mo@maurineh.com

Delta Kappa Gamma International Society Conference, 2025

By: Terry Thompson

A Local Celebrity



Carol Hines, Maurine Henry, and Terry Thompson attended the DKG

Leadership Training and the DKG International Conference in New Orleans July 29-August 2. The day and a half State Organization Leadership Training (SOLT) session provided us with many new ideas, suggestions, and planning sessions to aid us at the state level for the next biennium. Also, we had an opportunity to meet in smaller groups with members from other states and countries who hold the same office. Carol attended the workshop for state presidents, Maurine worked with the state treasurers, and Terry joined the Membership Chairs. These training sessions helped us focus on our New Hampshire State needs and answered many of our questions.

We had an afternoon open between the SOLT sessions and the opening of the conference. We took this opportunity to visit the WWII Museum in New Orleans. To see it all, we would have needed 2 – 3 days; however, we were able to visit two of the six buildings. We found the exhibits interactive and informative; it was definitely a learning experience.

The conference began with a dynamic inspirational speaker, Merlyna Valentine, an elementary teacher and principal who experienced a life-threatening medical issue. After two years of rehab, she was welcomed back to her school by her students and staff and continued her duties for 10 more years as a quadriplegic.

Breakout sessions and Passion Projects followed the Introductory General Session covering a variety of DKG topics. These included workshops for early career educators, DKG projects, Facebook and Web Design, Rebuilding DKG, UN Resources, Second Century DKG, Empowering Girls, and many more.



<Out on the Town

Cruising the Mississippi>



One of the positive outcomes of attending a DKG Conference is making connections with other DKG members from other states and throughout the world. I particularly enjoyed meeting women from Finland and Norway and discussing their education systems and how they differ from the US. We also had several opportunities to socialize with our northeast neighbors. Eleven of us from NH, VT, Maine, and NJ went out to dinner together and sampled some of New Orleans famous food. Terry joined the VT, NJ, and Maine folks on an evening cruise on a river boat. Lots of New Orleans music and great food.

The 2026 DKG International Convention will be at the Gaylord Resort outside of Denver, Colorado. You might consider attending.

Chapter News

Alpha

Alpha has held two coffee socials this summer. Carol Hines and Helen Ann Kelly shared their homes for this popular get-together. Coffee was great and so was the food.

Peggy Saunders and her husband are moving into a retirement community in Keene. The move is scheduled for mid October.



Beta



As Terry Thompson steps down after 4 years of responsibilities as DKG/ NH State President, she is finding lots to do at home. In between rainstorms, she has been down-sizing and rebuilding her 12+ flower gardens focusing on perennials and reducing the number of plants that require harvesting and extensive care. She and her husband, Roger, have reduced the size of their vegetable garden by a third focusing mostly on Roger's two favorites: corn and potatoes and Terry's favorite: vine crops. We will see what the summer brings.

Terry will be joined Carol Hines and Maurine Henry at the DKG International Conference and training session in New Orleans at the end of July. In addition, she will be going to Durham, NC in September to help her sister and brother-in-law move to a community from their home in Durham.

Terry and Roger will be hosting family gatherings in July and August at their home in Meredith and a September gathering in Vermont.

Members of Beta Chapter were very busy this spring.

In March, we met to make our favors for the tri-chapter meeting in April. These were decorated note pads. We also collected personal care items for Mascoma High School and we put together teacher appreciation baskets to be delivered to schools in the Concord area. These baskets contained, candy, pencils, pens, and other items that teachers could use.

Also in March, some of us attended the State Spring Conference. Once more, it was a great meeting with wonderful and interesting speakers.

In April, we hosted the tri-chapter meeting for Delta, Theta and Beta chapters. Our speaker was Lindsay Webb, a wildlife educator from the State of New Hampshire Fish and Game Department. She was an awesome speaker and so informative about what is going on with New Hampshire's wildlife.

In May, we had a surprise baby shower for Heather Oliver – her second! We really did surprise her. We also finalized our programs and their dates for next year and updated information for the filler.

A lot of members were getting a bit tired of all the rain this spring. It didn't help gardens, which had a lot of green, but not many flowers, buds or produce.

Francine Lozeau spent Easter in Granada, Spain visiting a young family who packed up their NH life to live in Spain for a few years. She reports that it was terrifying and exciting to travel alone, but she had a wonderful trip and hopes to do it again next year. Highlights included: 1. My friends live at the highest point in the Albaicin, a quaint, old city district with a labyrinth of narrow cobblestone streets and alleys and stacked white-washed residences all on a steep hillside. 2. Semana Santa (Holy Week) nighttime processions called Pasos. (Google it!) We followed one of the processions which ended at the Alhambra at midnight! 3. Nightly magnificent sunsets overlooking the Alhambra and

the Sierra Nevada Mountain range. 4. Walking to another hilly area called Sacramonte which is famous for cave dwellings built into the hillside and then continuing on to walk a bit on the Camino de Santiago. 5. And most special was spending time with my friends and their sweet children Emma, Claire, William and Sophie.

Delta

Pam Read has had a very busy summer with the weddings of two of her grandchildren. Her middle grandson, Teddy Read IV married Sammi Daniels on August 16th at the height of Pam's property in Bethlehem with a reception following in Twin Mt.

Caitlin Bouchard, Pam's oldest and only granddaughter, married Mathew Jeralds on August 22nd with a reception the following day in Pittsburg NH. Matt is the son of another Delta member, Tammy Jeralds.

The date was a special one for Pam as she and Ted were married on that day in 1964 and it would have been their 61st anniversary, unfortunately, Ted passed away in March of 2024. Pam had the pleasure of officiating at their marriage at the request of Matt.

Caitlin's brother is on deployment with the Army in Korea and will not be returning home to his base in Colorado Springs until next February. However, his wife and son Greyson Theodore, were able to fly home for the festivities.

Of course two back-to-back wedding showers preceded the nuptials in July!

Pam, her daughter Kristin, and Matt and Caitlin attended the Recycled Percussion Show in Laconia at the CAKE Theatre with a dinner at Fratellos in Lakeport. Ted would have liked the dinner, but maybe not so much the show, but it was a good diversion for the rest of the family.

Susan Ackerman

Just in case I hadn't written about my current life, here it is again.

Susan Ackerman spends her days between sending out daily writings about finding hope in this new time, giving Astrological Counseling readings and playing music for the residents of local rehabilitation places in Whitefield and Lancaster, NH. It is a joy to see their spirits lifted from the music.

From Wanda McGuire: It has been a busy busy summer!

Delta sisters Kaye Moren, and Mary Jolles, and I have been doing some hiking and are hoping to do more! We hiked the Kilkenny Ridge Trail in Stark and Covill Mountain in Pittsburg.

I have also been attending some of my oldest granddaughter's softball games. She is a pitcher on a traveling softball team. We have been to Tewksbury Mass. and heading to Taunton Mass. this weekend. We stay at my son's house so I get to spend time with him, his wife and my younger grandchildren.

Kaye Moren, Karen, and I enjoyed a trip to Old Orchard Beach for a couple of nights in June! We stayed at the Abellona right on the beach and had awesome weather! We also had our husbands join us for a get-a-way to Boothbay Harbor Maine for a couple nights! We enjoyed a boat trip to Cabbage Island for a delicious lobster dinner!

Karen Pariseau and I just joined a yoga class which is being held outdoors at First Connecticut Lake!

I am looking forward to joining the Delta sisters for a day out on Thursday, July 24th, at the Weathervane Theatre!



I have enjoyed spending time with my grandchildren this summer. They are teaching me how to golf and I have them out kayaking! My younger grandchildren keep me hopping too! They love the outdoors so we are playing hide and seek, going for walks, playing in the pool, etc. I am hoping to take them to Santa's Village or Storyland before the summer is over! I am looking forward to more summer adventures before heading back to school in September.

Judy Erickson and her husband Bob spent two great weeks in Oregon in July visiting both her son's Jacob and Zachary. They stayed with Zak in the Portland area and visited Jake in Sweet Home on Father's Day. It was a much needed visit and full of many great memories. Zak and family will fly to New England in October for a Fall visit. We are counting the days.



Eta

Eta is celebrating 50 years in 2025! Since April of 1975, our chapter has strived to uphold the DKG spirit and give to our community and fellow members. Eta continues to seek ways to support educators and students alike. Please help us celebrate with kind acts of giving. We are hosting the gathering, September 27th, at the Woodman Museum in Dover (see attached sign up and information) and ask that participants kindly bring a food item suitable for our local schools' End 68 hours of hunger drive or food pantry items such as soups, canned chicken or tuna, granola bars, snack pack crackers, fruit cups. We will have a donation box at the meeting location for your items. Thank you so much!

Caroline Butler worked at the Strafford Learning Center preschool program at Oyster River High School in Durham from January through June, two mornings a week. She enjoyed being with the adorable three-

year-olds and the highly dedicated staff. Such fun! Caroline was recently elected as Treasurer for the New Hampshire Farm Museum in Milton. She is a member of the Board of Trustees and



was pleased to attend the Greater Rochester Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner in June. The NH Farm Museum was honored as the 2025 Nonprofit Business of the Year! People of all ages enjoy the many offerings provided by the farm. Many school field trips provide students with an understanding of rural farm life. The current project is to relocate the Plummer's Ridge Schoolhouse to the Farm Museum grounds. This historic schoolhouse is one of the last in the state and will be preserved for generations to come.

Thank you to Caroline for hosting our annual Cinco De Mayo celebration at her lake house. Always fun and festive!

Ruth just completed her 31st year as a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant and is working on a school therapy micro credential from NBCOT, the National OT Certification Board. She works in two school districts for Strafford Learning Center and is active in the Wellness and Professional Development Committees. Her book group is currently reading The Last List of Mabel Beaumont by Laura Pearson.

Dianne continues to lead Tai Chi classes for Marshwood Adult Education and Dover Senior Center. Dianne and Ruth also enjoy going to library talks and just recently enjoyed another presentation by Aleksander Petakov, a filmmaker and adventurer chronicling Bigfoot encounters in New Hampshire. Are you a believer??



Ruth and Dianne recently visited the Maine Botanical Gardens in Boothbay for a little “green therapy”. The gardens cover more than 300 acres of gardens and natural spaces, from the Native Butterfly and Moth House to the Children’s Garden, Rhododendron and Perennial Gardens. We searched for the trolls and fairy houses and had an adventure!

On their annual trek to the Indy 500, Ruth and Dianne found this - another Eta Chapter!!! And they got to watch the first annual Oscar Meyer Weiner Races! You read that correctly, Weiner (Mobile) races!



Congratulations to Anne Nute for the Founders’ Award at the Spring Conference. A big thank you to her for her dedication to Eta, DKG NH and beyond!

Anne is busy with the Ladies of the Lake Quilters’ Guild. You might see her at the Sandwich Fair selling raffle tickets this fall. During the summer, Anne and her husband Jon are taking a trip up the mighty Mississippi River with a couple of days in New Orleans. Let the good times roll!

Jean, Diane Grey and Norma all continue as members of Eta and help us celebrate our Golden Anniversary. They are busy with family and enjoying the summer. We may have others joining in soon, stay tuned!
See you in September!

Live in the Sunshine,

Swim in the Sea,

Drink in the wild air!

- Ralph Waldo Emerson