

Photos from Spring Convention 2022 in Bangor



First Timers L to R: Helen Morris (Beta), Julie Gomez (Zeta), Melinda Bosk (Epsilon), Linda Hawkins-Pelletier (Delta)
(Missing: Ali Stone and Monica Demers)



Music to our ears



Epsilon members at Spring Convention

Seated L to R: Georgene Coombs, Donna Kennison, Susan Stinchfield-Plaisted.
Standing L to R: Melanie Ruark, Mary Whitten, Rena Kearney, Elaine Hendrickson



Past Presidents
attending Spring Convention

Chapter News



Alpha

When Alpha Sisters gathered again in March, it was a joyous occasion. Clara Soule, annual card-making and love-filled bags of thoughtful gifts for those dearest to our hearts took place. Erika Mitchell was

our Hester Huff Grant-in-Aid Recipient and we received a letter of appreciation. We also had a program on "Bone Density and Radiation Exposure," by Faye Lique. She gave us information on the risks and the facts on Osteoporosis. Did you know that 80% of women are affected? We all need to consume at least 2,000 IU daily of vitamin D.

Many members attended Stretch Workshop and we learned a great deal from our Keynote speaker Elizabeth Hartford, a Clinical Social Worker and Certified Yoga Instructor from Woodstock, ME. She has written two children's books on teaching simple emotion regulation skills. We were able to purchase one of her books, *Bear in the Chair*.

In April, we had the Installation of Officers: Pres. Lisa Sawyer, 1st VP Joy Knowles, 2nd VP Rebecca Dauphinee, Secretary/Corresponding Kathy Pierce, Co Treasures Shirley Ellis & Diane Landean, and Parliamentarian Fawn Condon. Thank you, Fawn Condon, for your years of CO-Presidency. An Anniversary Celebration took place, and we are so grateful to all the members awarded. We also enjoyed entertainment from Matt Bishop, the director of the Bangor Historical Society. Alpha learned a great deal about the history of Bangor. You could tell how much Matt loves history. Finally, many of us attended Spring Convention to see our outgoing and incoming presidents honored. Alpha also received a certificate for donating to the Africa fund. We were all proud to witness Barbara Cloutier's joyous occasion for her 40-year DKG recognition from the MSO. Barbara's daughter, Jerry Lovely, was present to be part of this memorable moment. In May, we had an Induction Ceremony for our newest member, Cindy Moran. We also had a Founders Day presentation, A Necrology, and the Birthday Celebration of the Alpha Chapter as well. Our program speaker, Maryann Lanzikos, is the program director of the Bangor Public Library, Kids S.T.E.A.M. Program. Alpha sisters enjoyed her presentation. Lisa Sawyer and Diane Landean attended an informational Leadership training in Camden at the end of May.

Alpha ended the year with a Finance Committee meeting in June. A big thank you goes out to Shirley Ellis for opening her home and making arrangements for dinner in Old Town. The Executive Board approves the budget, programs/dates, and food bank recipients.

In closing, when you get six Alpha sisters together to fly off to Aruba for a fun-in-the-sun vacation, Watch out! Sheila went scuba diving, while others floated on noodles in the ocean and pool. All read books and walked on the sandy beach to soak up the sunshine. In the evenings on the Island, they ate at marvelous restaurants and enjoyed island life without cooking!

Beta chapter held our first planning meeting in 2 years and was lucky enough to have our beloved State President Mary Hyland and our close neighbors Eta chapter attending! We are looking forward to returning to in-person events and long-awaited ceremonies to celebrate all our members' accomplishments.

Delta was pleased to host the 2022 Spring Convention at the Bangor Hilton Garden Inn.

With all members pitching in, we were able to decorate the tables with original centerpieces made of local boughs, as well as provide plenty of food for the Hospitality Room. Members traveling to Bangor included Ali Stone, Rena Kearney, Carolyn Phelps, Betsy York, Linda Hawkins-Pelletier, Debbie Wright, Elaine Hendrickson, Julie Gardner, and Sherri Calhoun. President Ali Stone was given the Pink Zebra award from International Immediate Past President, Cathy Dougherty for her willingness to step forward to assume the chapter presidency early.



In May 2021 Early Educator Grant Recipient, Madison Leach, who teaches kindergarten at Fort Fairfield Elementary School, shared with us the books and other materials she purchased for her students with the grant money. In June, our new officers were installed: President Ali Stone, Vice President Elaine Hendrickson, Secretary Debbie Wright, Treasurer Betsy York, and Parliamentarian Rena Kearney. Past State President Dottie Martin retired at the end of June after 46 years in education. Robin Norsworthy ran the Beach 2 Beacon with her three daughters! A dream come true! Melissa Buck has been working on the MSAD #1 Elementary Math Committee to begin piloting a new math program for the district. Elaine Hendrickson and Sherri Calhoun attended Teacher Camp sponsored by the Katahdin Learning Project in June where they worked on a collaborative Climate Change Place-Based Project. Rena Kearney is now a member of the Aroostook RSVP Advisory Council. This is the Aroostook Retired & Senior Volunteer Program which is a part of the Aroostook Agency on Aging. Betsy York volunteered time weeding outdated books and cataloging new books with the new MSAD#20 librarian, Annette Thompson, (her latest retirement replacement). Delta is looking forward to a great new school year!



Sister Mary O'Donnell Emergency Homeless Shelter Donations update:

Delta Chapter would like to thank all of the Maine State DKG chapters and individuals who provided donations at the Spring Convention to the Sister Mary O'Donnell Homeless Shelter located in Presque Isle. This shelter serves all of Aroostook County which is geographically the largest county east of the Mississippi.

With your help, we were able to donate critical supplies such as toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, socks, and much more, along with a check for \$200 to the Shelter. Betsy York whose car was crammed with these items, Linda Hawkins-Pelletier, and Elaine Hendrickson delivered the donations after our meeting on May 3. Brad of the Homeless Shelter greeted us and thanked us for our wonderful contributions. Quoting Brad, "It is the generosity of people like you who help to keep us operational!" Thank you to all Maine DKG members for your wonderful contributions; they were deeply appreciated.

Epsilon Chapter accepted President Mary's challenge to be visible at a summer event, and had a great time doing it! Former chapter president, Jennifer Kirchoff, organized our contribution to the Maine Celtic Celebration in Belfast. When I say organized what I really mean is she dug through boxes of supplies not touched for two years, planned activities and purchased materials, made gallons of play dough, called just about every member to recruit volunteers, set up, took down, and even stored everything after the event. I'm exhausted just thinking about it! Our organization is certainly blessed to have Jenny as a member.

Speaking of blessings, several Epsilon members volunteered to help in the children's area and enjoyed the beautiful weather, happy little customers, and the opportunity to spend time with one another under our beautiful new Delta Kappa Gamma banner. We had a wide variety of activities for children, including face painting by one of our Grant in Aid recipients, Maylinda Boynton. Our craft kits were donated by Epsilon member Karen Craig-Foley and were a huge hit as well.



As always, I am honored to call these women my sisters and am so very thankful for everything they do to represent Delta Kappa Gamma and help Epsilon thrive.

Sarah Vail, President Epsilon Chapter

Gamma Chapter members enjoyed a busy and festive spring. In April, we sponsored a Make It-Take It workshop



organized by Melanie Ruark and led by Sharon Gallant. The Viles House was bustling with creativity as participants created a variety of books for saving and presenting student work. In May, we celebrated at our ANNUAL CELEBRATION TEA, held at the Viles House in Augusta. The event included many delicious treats provided by our members.



The following officers were installed for the 2022-24 biennium:

- *President Rachelle Tome
- *First Vice President Sunny Mullen
- *Second Vice President Melanie Ruark
- *Treasurer (also Immediate Past President) Nancy Ruark
- *Secretary for Communications Betty Morrell
- *Parliamentarian Peggy Barrett



We welcomed several special guests and special awards, honors, and appreciation was noted for the following women:

- * Honorary Membership to Gamma Chapter, DKG: Patsy West, presented by Nancy Ruark
- * Appreciation for Leadership in Professional Development: to Sharon Gallant, honored by Melanie Ruark



- *Distinguished Member of Gamma: Sunny Mullen



The day also included gifts, grab-bags, and other door prizes as well as a sack full of surprises for Gamma members from Nancy Grover.

Gamma was saddened by the passing of our dear member, Jane Robertson. Her caring personality and impact on DKG will be missed by all. We hope to honor her with our necrology and remembrance service at our September meeting on Sept. 22nd, at the Viles Estate in Augusta. If you have stories about Jane you would like to share please send them to Nancy Ruark via email.

Kappa held their planning meeting in May and programs for 2022-2023 will include a “Trip to Tanzania,” an AARP “Fraud Watch” presentation, auctions to raise funds for scholarships, and a Book Share. We will use one month’s program time for committee meetings and update membership records.

Our members have been busy with the usual summer activities and time with family and friends. Mary Whitten attended the DKG International Convention in New Orleans and was installed as a member of the International Finance Committee. Mary Jane Meader attended the centennial celebration parade in Dover-Foxcroft. Her grandmother (Maude Stanhope) was the original bride in the 1922 ceremony that united the two towns. She and her husband recently learned Thomas College is naming the new Athletics Hall of Fame room after them. Lora Downing continues to volunteer as the team leader for the Essentials Closet at Waterville First Congregational Church open 6 days a month and serves 200+ households by providing essential personal care and household products. June Nickerson-Hovey, Barbara Robbins, and Pam Partridge are volunteering at Lakewood Theater again this season. If you saw *The Drowsy Chaperone*, June had a hand in red monkey suits, literally.

M^U The chapter executive board met this summer to discuss this year’s agenda and programs. Our Co-Presidents, Crystal Ward and Jean Roy presided. We will continue with our successful Holiday Fair in which we made over 2600.00 dollars to help with a scholarship for those seniors entering the field of education. This project was chaired by Sue Cornelius and Adriann Tucker. All members participated with various themed tables. The fair will be on Saturday, November 5 th. In addition, we donated gift cards to needy families through Loaves and Fishes.

Since the fall of 2020, Mary Rider makes a variety of chocolate candies and selling them to friends on Facebook. She makes peanut butter cups, Needham, peppermint patties, cremes, and cherry chocolates. She donates all profits to a different charitable cause each month. She raised money for Lung Cancer Foundation, Alzheimer’s Assoc., American Heart Assoc., Parkinson’s Disease, American Diabetes Assoc., Lou Gehrig Disease, and Prostate Cancer, among others. She, occasionally, offers knitted goods that she and her daughter make and includes the profits from those to her charity. She usually makes about \$200 per month for these causes.

We will participate in the Festival of the Trees at the Kora Temple Shrine in November. We have a tree depicting educational supplies that are supplied by our members including gift cards, backpacks, pencils, pens, paper, etc. This committee is chaired by Crystal Ward.

Mu Chapter’s Read to Me Program was able to contribute about 650 books to three local public preschool programs over the last school year. The preschool teachers used the books as a part of their classroom instruction. At the end of each month, every student was able to take home one of the books to create their home library and encourage family literacy.

By the end of the school year, students had received 7-8 books for their very own bookshelves! As the new school year approaches, Mu Chapter is exploring ideas to extend family literacy beyond our preschool programs. We are working to connect with the local Boys and Girls Club After School Program by providing books for their small lending library. These books will provide additional reading materials for elementary children in the Lewiston- Auburn area. Additionally, the Read to Me Committee is working to develop a connection with the local Senior Center to create a Lending Library Box for members of the community. Even though these new avenues for supporting literacy may seem a stretch for an early literacy program, supporting literacy in all age groups meets our original goals of helping families to build reading capacity and foster the love of reading. We are excited about the new school year and all of the wonderful opportunities to read a good book!

Joyce Bucciantini and her husband, Carl, won the annual AARP Community Service Award for 2021. This award is given to those who make a difference in the lives of others. One nominator stated, "They inspire you to do your best."

Rachel Nadeau and her family built a greenhouse in Lewiston "born out of Covid" and all the family loves to garden. Family members had roles in building this project from finances to finding discount lumber to contracting. This article appeared in the Lewiston Sun Journal. In the Spring, we honored members for years of membership from 25 years of service to 50 years of service. Well done, MU sisters!

We inducted three new members in May: Angela DeLorme, Renee Davis, and Ronnie Paradis. Past State Presidents assisted with the induction ceremony at the end-of-the-year banquet.

Venise and Maureen attended the International Conference in New Orleans in July.

Submitted by Maureen Downs



N^u Irene Hawes is the curator of the Matthews Museum of Maine Heritage located on the Union Fairgrounds. To get the word out about DKG, she displayed bookmarks and pamphlets about Delta Kappa Gamma there during the Union Fair and open hours during July and August. At least one educator visiting the museum commented about how she did not know about the organization until seeing that display.

Irene Hawes has received a 2022 Affiliate Leadership Award, posted in The Clarion, the newsletter for Maine Education Retired. This is to honor her many years of service, some as a 4-H Club leader, member of the Board of the Knox-Lincoln County Cooperative Extension Service, a leader with Boy and Girl Scouts, and in other organizations over the years.

~ Susan Vaughan, Nu Chapter Corresponding Secretary

Sigma Chapter put on a tea in April for our fellow teachers at Sebago Elem. School to show them how much we appreciate all they have done through these last two years. In May we met at Stevens Brook Elem. School and received a wonderful watercolor art class from local artist Donna Kantor.

We learned various techniques and also how a frame makes even an amateur's attempts look professional. Finally, in June we traveled to the Maine Mineral Museum in Bethel. If you haven't been, we would highly recommend it. We then had lunch and planned our upcoming year.

Theta had a busy spring. Several of our members have been volunteering at the Community Closet, a thrift store that provides many services to those in need. It houses a small food pantry, gives away books at no cost, collects Christmas gifts for children, holds back-to-school events, and provides essentials to victims of fire and other dire situations.

On Wednesday, April 20 we celebrated our chapter's birthday. We discussed details about an upcoming outing and future meetings. After having a productive work session to update our Bylaws, we enjoyed a potluck supper and birthday cake.

In May, we met for a book chat. Each member brought one or more books that she had recently read to discuss and recommend. Among the titles discussed was *The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes. This historical novel tells the story of a woman who delivered books on horseback "...through the mountains of Kentucky and beyond as part of Eleanor Roosevelt's new traveling library..." (Amazon description)

On Saturday, June 18, Theta carpoled to Columbia Falls for a guided tour of the Wreaths Across America Museum conducted by Lambda's Nancy Willey. The museum houses a huge collection of military memorabilia and displays from various wars. It also tells the story of the Wreaths Across America program. We were pleased that several Lambda members joined us. We also got a tour of the hospitality house next door where Gold Star families and veterans may stay at no cost. Each room is decorated in the period of a particular war, such as World War II, and the house has been beautifully restored. We were fortunate to be able to explore the house since it is not normally open to the public.

After lunch, Nancy gave a presentation about the historic Epping Baseline Road which was used for triangulation to make more accurate maps for navigation. Nancy then led a caravan of us on a tour of the actual road in Cherryfield. The road was built in the middle 1800s, and it is the only one that survives of the six built on the eastern seaboard. It was a fascinating outing!

On Thursday, July 21, Theta met on Judy Bragg's deck to plan their meetings for the upcoming year. Judy prepared a wonderful lunch with a variety of icy beverages, and Diane Bonney made a delightful "Melt in your Mouth" blueberry cake. We are grateful that Judy and Bob Bragg opened up their lovely home to us once again. 7 out of our 10 members were in attendance.

Some of us plan to meet in August to FINALLY! (after a few years) finish up the revision of our Bylaws.

Upcoming plans include a joint meeting with the BPW (Business and Professional Women) and the AAUW (American Association of University Women) to hear a speaker on "Girl Power and Gender Equity." We also will be preparing welcome mugs for new teachers and organizing a spring resource fair for them.



Z eta

The chapter had a very busy Spring with members attending the State Convention in Bangor and getting our Back to School project ready to be distributed to area schools for starting students. At our April meeting, we held an election of officers with the following sisters taking responsibility for the next 2 years of the Chapter. After this meeting member,

Shirley Jackson gave a quilt presentation, sharing the beautiful quilts she has made.

Officers 2022-2024 for Zeta Chapter



Co-Presidents Julie Gomez and JoAnn Nickerson
1st Vice Toni Hamlin
Treasurer Adele Charity
Secretary / Corresponding Secretary Joan Deans
Membership Chair Donna Kennison
Parliamentarian Brenda Sturdivant

We held our May meeting at the South Paris Fire Station with the Ladies Auxiliary serving us a delicious dinner. Installation of Officers was held and we had a puzzle and book exchange following the meeting. Any

leftover books were given to the South Paris Library for their book sale.

We are continuing our Welcome to School books program where every entering kindergartener in the Oxford Hills and Bethel region receives a new book from Zeta Chapter.

2022 Fall Workshop Registration Form
October 14-15, 2022 U-Maine Hutchinson Center, Belfast
“Renew, Respond, Relate – and Resolve!”

For needed workshop details, please refer to the article titled “Ready for Fall Workshop?”

Name: _____ Chapter: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 E-mail: _____ (crucial for potential virtual components)

Please check all that apply:

_____ Maine State Officer _____ Chapter Officer
 _____ Maine State Committee Chair Which chapter office do you hold? _____
 _____ First Timer to Fall Workshop (lunch is free) _____ Presenter (lunch/registration is free)
 _____ Guest (will need to pay lunch/registration) In-person Registration Fee **\$25.00** _____
 Virtual Registration Fee **\$10.00** _____
 _____ Please check here if you **plan** to walk on the Belfast trails Friday, Oct. 14 at 4:00 P.M.

Executive Board Dinner - Friday, Oct. 14, 2022, Please choose your entrée.

_____ Haddock
 _____ Chicken Marsala
 _____ Stuffed Pepper (wild grains, black beans, veggies w/marinara) vegetarian & gluten-free
 All entrees include Caesar salad, garlic red skin mashed potato, honey glazed baby carrots,
 Lemon Dream dessert & tea/lemonade. **\$26.00** _____

Luncheon – Saturday, Oct. 15, 2022 The lunch buffet will include
 assorted wraps, soup, chips, assorted cookies & tea/lemonade. **\$18.00** _____

TOTAL registration \$ _____

Tax and gratuity for all meals are being paid through the Roberta Rogers Fund. If you have any food allergies, please contact Mary Hyland by **Sept. 28, 2022**. mishyland@gmail.com

Registration Deadline: Sept. 28, 2022 Please make check payable to Maine S.O. DKG and mail/email registration form to Nancy Ruark, 121 Little Boyd Lake Rd., Orneville Twp., ME 04463 nancyruark12@gmail.com (207) 629-8822

Sessions will be filled on a first-come basis. Once they are filled, you will be contacted to choose a different one. Presenters have invested considerable time and effort into planning for your participation. Please enthusiastically sign up and please kindly show up. Please use this key to indicate your session preferences. This will allow you to 1) submit just one page to the registrar, and 2) keep the other pages for reference. Just enter the letter that corresponds to the session you wish to attend. Thank you so much.

Session I. _____ Session II. _____ Session III. _____

Meet the 2022 APAA Recipient
Maureen Downs

