



KAPPA GAMMA PI NEWS

Leadership • Scholarship • Faith • Service

www.kappagammapi.org

Founded 1926

Winter 2018 • Volume 93 • Number 1



Art Is a Visual Vocabulary to Be Shared with Others

Virginia Maloof Cascarilla (Saint Mary's College, IN, '71) is an artist who lives in Bay Village, Ohio. She has taught at the Cleveland Institute of Art and her work (visit paintingsbycascarilla.com) is included in art collections throughout the United States.

In response to Kappa's request for information about members' October Service Challenge projects, she wrote: "My mission is to mentor people into translating their life experiences into visual poetry. Artists in Bloom is a ministry of inspiration and redemption. I teach a visual grammar and mentor people as they create visual music or poetry on canvas. Each painting validates and affirms our life.



Virginia Cascarilla

"Words may not be the best vehicle to express our Journey. Each work validates our transformation from broken to healing to whole. Artists in Bloom Ministry says 'yes' as we support one another to find mean-

ing and dignity through our artwork in a community of faith. Our ministry is open to individuals looking for a new voice.

"We do this by teaching and developing a visual grammar for every level artist, from beginner to advanced professional. Tuition is what one can afford to pay. People join us to learn to paint, to advance their skills and to develop authenticity. For others, it's an opportunity to recharge. For some, our community becomes a lifeline in a society that has left them without a positive identity.

"Engaging in the process of making art is at once healing and liberating. I teach strategies for 'seeing again for the first time' and an approach to one's work that encourages authenticity.

"Artists in Bloom Ministry helps one another find meaning and dignity through our journey with God, our work in community and support for one another."

See Art by Cascarilla Pages 6 and 8

Introducing KGP's New Eastern Regent: Damon Ceaser (Caldwell University, NJ, '10), Union, NJ

Damon Ceaser serves as Eastern Regent for Kappa Gamma Pi. Damon was inducted into KGP by Caldwell University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology in 2010. Since then, he has done graduate work in counseling and business administration.

Damon works with individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities and currently serves as chief executive officer for the Institute for Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, a New Jersey-based nonprofit organization he founded in 2015. He shared that his passion for lifelong service and learning is the driving force behind his working with people with disabilities as well as volunteering with KGP. Damon is married with two children and has a Labrador Retriever named Maxx.



Damon Ceaser

In January 2018, Damon was appointed to also fill the recently vacated role of III Vice President for Kappa until the 2019 National Convention.

Cincinnati Is the Next Destination for the KGP National Board

On July 27-28, 2018, KGP National Officers and Regents will gather for the annual National Board Meeting at Mount St. Joseph University in Cincinnati.

Updating the KGP Constitution

In preparation for this meeting, the *ad hoc* Constitution Revisions Committee is busy and seeking your input! Draft versions have been completed incorporating prior suggestions received and we are looking for yours!

Any and all suggestions are welcome and can be submitted to **Susan Jaros** at firstvp@kappagammapi.org. The text of the current KGP Constitution is available on the website at <https://kappagammapi.org/constitution>.

Embrace Kindness This Lent

From the Editor

Since 2009, I have worked with second- and third-graders preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist in my parish, Saint Ignatius Loyola, in Sacramento, California.

For some of my students, our classes are the first time they have heard about Lent or thought about sin. Explaining that sin is an action that separates us from God is a difficult concept for seven- and eight-year-olds. If you ask them to name a sin they have committed, you may get blank stares. They can, however, immediately cite numerous examples of when someone was unkind to them, and when they themselves were guilty of being unkind.

Kindness is basic. It is instantly understood and relatable. A meme I have seen numerous times online urges:

*Everyone you meet is fighting a battle
you know nothing about.
Be kind. Always.*

The Cornaro Corner

For the 2018 Cornaro Scholarship for Graduate Studies application, please go to our website at www.kappagammapi.org/cornaro-scholarship. A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document is also available on this webpage.

Please note that the deadline for receiving applications and letters of reference is April 20, 2018.

Exclusively for Kappas, the Cornaro Scholarship gives members the opportunity to advance their academic and professional careers with a scholarship towards a graduate or professional program. For 2018, one scholarship of \$7,500 will be awarded.

The success of this scholarship program depends on contributions by Kappas and friends. Since 1985, KGP has awarded \$231,520 in scholarships to 91 deserving Kappas!

All Cornaro Scholarship Fund contributions are tax deductible. Thank you to all who donate to the Cornaro Fund each year. We appreciate your generous support!



Lent is a time for getting back to basics: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. In the midst of our always-on, non-stop, instant-gratification world, it's a time of simplicity, purification and self-denial, of setting aside our distractions and diversions.

The second expression of love, in Saint Paul's great hymn to love in his First Letter to the Corinthians, is kindness. "Love is patient. Love is kind."

During Lent, we reflect on the depths of our sin, and work to repent, in order that we might find Christ's path back to life. Practicing acts of kindness can help lead us to love and back to the right path. Embrace kindness this Lent.

May God bless you!

Do we have your email address?

If you have not been receiving emails from KGP, please send a quick email to **Judy Gelwicks**, KGP Membership Secretary, at membership@kappagammapi.org. Also, please be sure to add this email address as a contact in your



Address Book to ensure that messages from Kappa reach your inbox.

Want to Share Your Service Story?

What volunteer efforts do you devote talent, passion and hours to?

KGP's national service projects are alleviating hunger, promoting literacy and caring for the environment—but we invite you to share with other Kappas any volunteer endeavors you pursue. Please send us an email at service@kappagammapi.org or mail your information to the National Office.

We'll share more service stories in future *NEWS* issues and we encourage you to post notes about what you're doing on the Forum page when you visit our website at www.kappagammapi.org.

From the National President

Setting the Stage for an Action-packed 2018

Greetings, Kappas!

I hope this message finds you well.

A New Year and a Look at Where We Are

With the change in our calendar year, I find this a fitting time to reevaluate the concept of direction in our lives. What is driving us? What is leading us? What is informing the decisions and choices that we make in our day-to-day activities? Where do we see ourselves? The questions continue...

Such questions apply to one's personal life as much as they do to our organization as a whole. They challenge us to stop and breathe. To draw ourselves away from the chaos and redefine purpose and mission. To recommit ourselves.

Making Good Resolutions

The tradition of making New Year's resolutions dates back to 153 B.C.—Google is a knowledgeable search engine! Further reading of a HuffPost article by Carolyn Gregoire informed me that, "only 8 percent of people actually keep their New Year's resolutions. ... There are many reasons people can't stick to their resolutions. ... Setting overly ambitious and restrictive goals ... is one major cause of failure. While you might initially feel inspired and energized by setting blowout goals... the luster of these resolutions fades quickly when we realize how difficult they are to keep."

For a tradition that dates back to B.C., I find it discouraging that we haven't been more successful with mastering the practice of keeping our resolutions. Kappas, let's change this!

Instead of setting lofty goals this year, let's look to make a series of simple and attainable goals (or resolutions) to work on throughout the year. As I look to apply this mindset to serving as your National President, I think of our National Board and the work that we do. This year, I will challenge the Board to be a Board of action and a Board that furthers the ideals of Kappa Gamma Pi in all that we do. We will come together to share our talents and strengthen our connection with you as members and the relationships with our affiliates. We will identify what needs to be improved and pause to acknowledge accomplishments. We will meet deadlines, keep meetings and contribute our time willingly. We will all play our role and build each other up with supporting encouragement and energy.

Playing Your Part as a Kappa

Of you, I ask that you engage with other Kappas. I ask that you keep the National Office informed when you move, change jobs or experience other life events. I ask that you go back to your college or university and make connections with new Kappas. I ask that you plan to come to the 2019 Convention. I ask that you pay your dues and contribute to our Cornaro Scholarship Fund. I ask that you pray for the Board. I ask that you give back to your community with your time and talents. I ask that you act in kindness and love in all that you do.

Kappa Gamma Pi is a prestigious society full of amazing people. You are an amazing person capable of great things. Use this affirmation to motivate yourself into action. Make your own list of goals and brand this year a year of opportunity. Don't let minor setbacks or frustrations cause you to waiver from your path as you hold your National Board and yourself accountable to action.

Happy New Year, Kappas! 2018 is our year and I look forward to hearing from all of you as we grow together.

In Faith and Service,



Katie Pease

St. Catherine University,

St. Paul, MN, '10

Kappa Gamma Pi National

President

president@kappagammapi.org



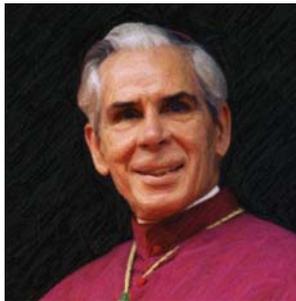
KGP Leadership Opportunity

We are searching for a Long Range Planning Chair to join our National Board. The Long Range Planning Committee provides oversight and guidance for the KGP National Office operation. LRP makes recommendations to the KGP National Board.

The LRP Chair is appointed by the National President. Three to five committee members are selected by the Chair in consultation with the National President. The committee meets twice annually with National Office staff. The National President serves as an *ex officio* member. Financial matters and National Office operations are the primary concerns addressed by this committee, together with public relations and strategic planning.

If you are interested in serving in this role, please contact Katie at president@kappagammapi.org.

Honoring Archbishop Fulton Sheen: A Layperson's Work toward Canonization



Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen

by **Lo Anne Mayer** (Caldwell University, NJ, '84), former Board member of the Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen Foundation and President of the Advisory Council.

Questions or comments? lamayer@msn.com

Archbishop Sheen celebrated Mass on a bitterly cold Ash Wednesday in 1974, at Christ the King Church in New Vernon, NJ. My mother invited me to go with her. I loved his

inspiring book, *The Life of Christ*, but hearing his sermon in person that evening was mesmerizing! We met briefly after Mass and Bishop Sheen asked me for my address so he could send gifts to our family. That was the beginning of our friendship, which included many conversations, visits and the baptism of our son, Michael, by Bishop Sheen at Corpus Christi Church in Chatham, NJ, on Sept. 1, 1975. As the mother of six children, our conversations would often turn to what our children were being taught in school and why the Second Vatican Council made so many changes. I thought our relationship ended December 13, 1979, when I attended his funeral at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City.

Little did I realize that our relationship would continue to this day. In the '80s, I was contacted by Lynn Knapp, who asked if I would be interested in working on the canonization of Archbishop Fulton Sheen. Enough time had passed since his death for me to reflect on all I had learned from Archbishop Sheen when he was alive. By then I knew he was more than a holy man. He was a saint! I enthusiastically agreed to work with Lynn for the next two years. Suddenly our endeavors were shut down. Disappointed, I went back to raising my children.

In 1999, I was contacted by Gregg Ladd, who was trying to get the canonization going. Gregg lived in Chicago, so most of our work was done on the phone until we had our first official meeting of the Archbishop Fulton Sheen Foundation at the Madison Hotel in Madison, NJ, in 2000. We met with Fr. Andrew J. Apostoli, C.F.R., the postulator, along with the Most Rev. Joseph N. Perry, Msgr. Richard Soseman, Msgr. Stanley L. Deptula and a dozen other laymen and women, including Joan Cunningham, Bishop Sheen's niece. Unlike most canonization endeavors, we had no order of nuns or priests to help with the details needed to promote a Cause. Most of us were laymen and women. All of us were convinced that our beloved Bishop was a saint!

The activity of the Sheen Foundation really began to function smoothly in 2002 with the help of the Most Rev. Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C. Msgr. Soseman took depositions from those of us who knew Bishop Sheen and could testify about his holiness. Fr. Andrew began to give inspiring talks all over the country and on EWTN. My husband, Ray, and I helped him make his first video about the Cause in our living room. All of the books Bishop Sheen wrote were gathered with the help of the 55 Advisory Council members whom I recruited to help the Foundation spread the news about the Cause. These dedicated volunteers helped to raise awareness of the Cause and encourage people to pray for its success. Soon we realized that there were organizations like ours in other parts of the world. The Cause became a global endeavor!

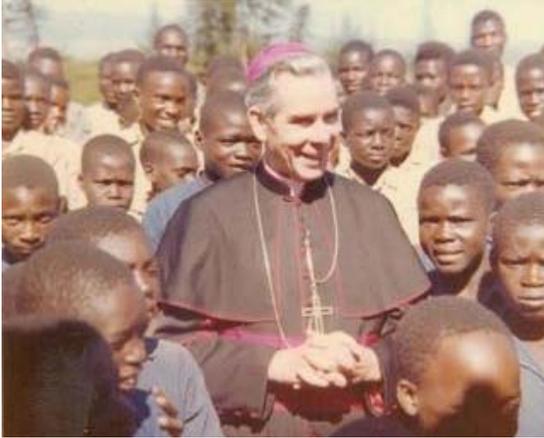
Serving on the Board of the Archbishop Sheen Foundation was an honor and a privilege. It was also frustrating and exhausting. Everything Archbishop Sheen wrote, spoke or televised had to be found and investigated by the Sacred Congregation for Saints in Rome. Bishop Jenky often remarked, "If you want to be a saint, don't write." Archbishop Sheen wrote more than 60 books and countless periodicals and speeches. However, witnessing the grueling process the Church goes through to proclaim anyone a saint was awe-inspiring. We all worked very hard. Many members of the Archbishop Sheen Foundation suffered extreme personal suffering: Ray and I had a grandson diagnosed with autism and another one with neuroblastoma, not to mention the death of my mother and the death of our daughter. Clearly, the devil does not want this to happen!

Nevertheless, Archbishop Sheen was declared Servant of God in 2002 and Venerable in 2012. Our grandson received a blessing from Monsignor Hilary Franco at the tomb of Archbishop Sheen at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York with the zucchetto and cross worn by our beloved Bishop. Graham was cured, we believe, by Archbishop Sheen's intercession. He is now 16 years old and recently took Fulton Sheen as his saint's name at his Confirmation. His sponsor was Monsignor Franco! Our family has been greatly blessed!

However, the Cause ground to a halt when Bishop Jenky demanded that the remains of Archbishop Sheen

See Archbishop Sheen Page 5

Archbishop Sheen *from Page 4*



Archbishop Sheen, who served as national director in the U.S. of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, on a mission trip to Africa.

be moved to his diocese of Peoria, Illinois. Cardinal Dolan declined. Archbishop Sheen's remains are still in St. Patrick's Cathedral, and the Cause is at a standstill. This is heartbreaking for those who worked on the Cause, and for the millions of people around the world who believe Archbishop Sheen should be canonized.

To this day, the Cause sits on the desk of the Sacred Canonization of Saints awaiting peace between these two clerics. People all over the world pray daily that Archbishop Sheen will be declared a saint. The world needs him to be declared a saint. His words are still prophetic. His work is still timely. His television shows from the '50s are still inspiring souls on EWTN. People who pray for his intercession are still receiving favors. His powerful intercession with God for health and healing is known by millions, myself included. Perhaps you have a favor that needs Archbishop Sheen's help. There were 12 "alleged miracles" that were evaluated to be sent to Rome before the final two were selected. Be assured of his intercession as you pray for his Cause.

Join millions in this daily prayer, written by Fr. Andrew J. Apostoli, C.F.R.

Heavenly Father, source of all holiness. You raise up within the Church of every age men and women who serve with heroic love and dedication. You have blessed Your Church through the life and ministry of your faithful servant, Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen. He has written and spoken well of your Divine Son, Jesus Christ, and was a true instrument of the Holy Spirit in touching the hearts of countless people. If it be according to Your Will, for the honor and glory of the Most Holy Trinity and for the salvation of souls, we ask You to move the Church to proclaim him a saint. We ask this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Imprimatur Most Rev. Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C.

Kappa Mail



Thank you for your emails and notes on dues envelopes about your call to service and what your nomination to Kappa has meant to you.

Judith Saeger (Cardinal Stritch University, WI, '95), Mequon, WI: "It made me realize that serving others is very important; I felt honored to be recognized. I have done volunteer work at our church, including Family Promise for homeless families in our county."

Geraldine Biggs McGrath (Mount Saint Mary's University, CA, '51), Granada Hills, CA: "In 2014 I retired from 60 years of music ministry at St. John de la Salle Church in Granada Hills. The Kappa motto of Faith & Service endures!"

Patricia Shannon Jones (Notre Dame of Maryland, MD, '00), Towson, MD: "As a result of my nomination, I keep my call as a servant leader in high regard. I minister to immigrants (both documented and undocumented), asylees, detainees and those facing deportation."

Patricia Carstensen Bercher (Mary Manse College, OH, '49), Toledo, OH: "Good friends. Cooperation in service projects. Inspiration."

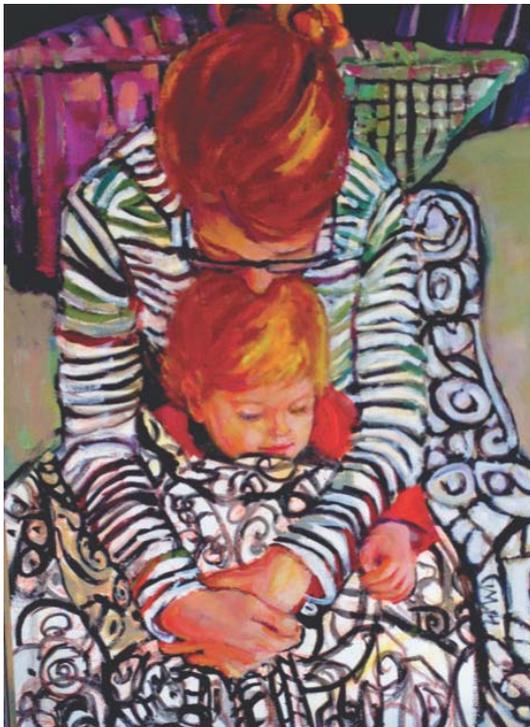
Marie DeMeester Meehan (Saint Mary's College, IN, '55), Virginia Beach, VA: "I am very proud/humbled to have been nominated by my college, Saint Mary's, and have tried to live up to Kappa's principles. I taught for 31 years and raised five honorable, merciful, unselfish children who have tried to better the lives of others. (Respect life and the truth!)"

Arlene Sakovich Wilkinson (Salve Regina University, RI, '74), Fredericksburg, VA: "Service is embedded in my life. Recently 'retired,' I am now directing our church's Gardens Committee and enriching our parish with beautiful surroundings on nearly a city block. When not involved in that, I am a Eucharistic minister at a nearby hospital. I also love to quilt and share my creations with Project Linus as well as Prayers and Squares in my parish. Quilts and blankets together with the prayers bring much comfort to those who receive them and I am also touched by what this does for them."

Lena L. Lucietto (Dominican University, IL, '53), New Orleans, LA: "It has kept me centered on what matters in life—to think of others first and serve them in whatever way is possible."

To Ruth A. Racine (Mount Saint Mary's University, CA, '99), Roy, WA: Congratulations on your promotion to Lieutenant Colonel. We are happy to hear of your safe return from your deployment to Kuwait last year.

Art by Cascarilla *from Page 1*



Virginia Cascarilla contributes to Project ALS through her greeting card line, Nora's Collectible Cards. Manufactured and distributed from Ohio, profits from each holiday card go to help fund research for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease. This painting was used by Project ALS for their 2017 holiday card.



"Most of us are unaware that our cultural conditioning, our perceptions, are influenced by the media today. We live and are immersed in the digital age. INSTANT EVERYTHING," wrote Virginia.

"We come to believe that everything is equally important. When one designs a canvas, it's important to know that the bottom of the canvas has more weight and therefore more significance in your painting.

"Where to place one's attention in a painting is similar to designing one's life. The edges of the canvas, like the edges of our lives, want less attention. This is a difficult concept for all of us. We've been conditioned to believe that we can have it all, all the time. We know this is false, but we do become disaffected when its truth is borne out in our lives. Knowing when to let go of false or insipid information is important in our paintings and in our spiritual/soul life." §

Wanted: Your Stories and Photos!

Doing a service project? Having dinner with other Kappas? Going on vacation? Let us know! We invite members and chapters to send photos and share about their activities, gatherings and outings as Kappas.

Susan Oser (Madonna University, MI, '00), Westland, MI, Kappa's new Facebook administrator, and **Anne Dunlap-Kahren** (Holy Names University, CA, '88), Sacramento, CA, *NEWS* editor, welcome your submissions. Please email newseditor@kappagammapi.org.

A Few More Notes

- We invite you to share a Lenten reflection for possible publication in the *NEWS* or on KGP's Facebook page. Please email your reflection to service@kappagammapi.org.
- This is the time of year when most affiliates begin processing nominations for KGP. If you would like to serve as an affiliate liaison for Kappa, please reach out to thirdvp@kappagammapi.org.
- Last but not least, we invite members to consider sponsoring a Saint Catherine Medal at their *alma mater* or another Kappa affiliate nearby. Please contact kgp@kappagammapi.org for more information. Thank you!



San Francisco East Bay Chapter News

San Francisco East Bay Kappas lunched together at Holy Names University in Oakland, CA, on January 27. Upcoming events for the chapter include a Lenten Day of Renewal on March 8 and a performance of *West Side Story* on April 22. At right, L-R: **Iris Leonard Davey** (Holy Names University '62) **Kathleen Gallagher Dunlap** (Holy Names '60) **Deborah Ferry** (Notre Dame de Namur University, CA, '89), **Betty Jean Bloom Hopkins** (Holy Names '61) and **Sheryl Springer** (Holy Names '99). *Photo courtesy of Deborah Ferry.*



Show Your Kappa Pride!

The perfect gift for your favorite Kappa – or yourself! A custom online store has been designed for Kappa Gamma Pi.

Check out www.greekgear.com/kappagammapi.html to shop for apparel, mugs and backpacks with the KGP logo and look for more products and color options coming soon.



Reminder: Have you paid your dues?

The KGP national dues billing envelope was enclosed in the August/Sept *NEWS*, and our website now offers the convenience of paying your dues online.

Thank you to those who have already renewed their financial support for Kappa—we appreciate your generosity!

We are especially **grateful** to the Kappa who made a \$5,000 gift to help us close our budget shortfall.

We also **appreciate** all those who have made gifts to support the Cornaro Scholarship Fund!

Are You Moving?

Send address form to KAPPA GAMMA PI, 7250 Overcliff Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45233-1038 or email membership@kappagammapi.org

NAME _____

MEMBER NUMBER (above name on printed address) _____

OLD ADDRESS _____

NEW ADDRESS _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

PREVIOUS NAME _____

ALMA MATER/CLASS YEAR _____

Contributions to Kappa Gamma Pi

December 2017- January 2018

In memoriam ...

Rita L. Bosh, mother of former National Board officer Teresa Bosh (Madonna University, MI, '94), Allen Park, MI

Leslie W. Lessard, husband of Sherry Martin Lessard (Seattle University, WA, '73), Eugene, OR

Your contribution in celebration of a special anniversary or jubilee or in memory of a deceased person is appreciated. Please send donations to the KGP National Office. A letter acknowledging your gift will be sent to the honoree or to the family of the deceased.

Kappa Gamma Pi does not share email addresses or sell its mailing list to any other organization or vendor.

KAPPA GAMMA PI NEWS



7250 Overcliff Road
Cincinnati, OH 45233-1038
USA

Return service requested

Printed on
recycled paper



Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Cleveland, Ohio
Permit No. 2521

KAPPA GAMMA PI NATIONAL OFFICE

7250 Overcliff Road
Cincinnati, OH 45233-1038

PHONE: 504-495-7884
FAX: 305-718-9362
EMAIL: kgp@kappagammapi.org
WEBSITE: www.kappagammapi.org

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JAMIE ASHER
kgp@kappagammapi.org

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY JUDY GELWICKS
membership@kappagammapi.org

KAPPA GAMMA PI NEWS EDITOR ANNE DUNLAP-KAHREN
NEWSeditor@kappagammapi.org

Follow KGP on  

WINTER 2018

• NATIONAL OFFICERS •

PRESIDENT **Katie Pease** (St. Catherine University, MN, '10),
St. Paul, MN, president@kappagammapi.org
I VICE PRESIDENT **Susan Jaros** (Lourdes University, OH, '90),
Rossford, OH, firstvp@kappagammapi.org
II VICE PRESIDENT **Betsy Shortle** (Ursuline College, OH, '88),
North Myrtle Beach, SC, cornaro@kappagammapi.org
III VICE PRESIDENT (temporary appointment) **Damon Ceaser** (Caldwell
University, NJ, '10), Union, NJ, thirdvp@kappagammapi.org
RECORDING SECRETARY *Contact the National Office.*
TREASURER **Ed Hosmer** (Madonna University, MI, '02), Winston
Salem, NC, treasurer@kappagammapi.org
PAST PRESIDENT **Kelly Haden** (University of Holy Cross, LA,
'98), Metairie, LA, pastpresident@kappagammapi.org

• REGENTS •

EASTERN **Damon Ceaser** (Caldwell University, NJ, '10), Union, NJ
eastern@kappagammapi.org
MISSISSIPPI *Contact the National Office.*
PLAINS **Renae Oswald** (Our Lady of the Lake University, TX, '04),
Houston, TX, plains@kappagammapi.org
WESTERN **Jani MacGregor-Medeiros** (Holy Names University, CA,
'83), Covington, WA, western@kappagammapi.org

For current contact information for Chapter Presidents and Area Contacts,
please see the CONTACT page on www.kappagammapi.org or contact the
National Office.

In this NEWS . . .

- **National Board Profile** — Introducing our new Eastern Regent
- **October Service Challenge** — More stories from members
- **KGP Constitution** — Please send your suggestions for revisions
- **Wishing you a peaceful and prayerful Lent**



Virginia Maloof Cascarilla (Saint Mary's College, IN, '71) is an artist based in Ohio. Through her ministry, Artists in Bloom, she teaches others to translate their life experiences into art. She says, "Artists in Bloom Ministry teaches people the grammar to engage in image making and become connected with others in a supported community and create art. Our objective is to fill a void that our secular world has created by giving people a new language, a new means of expression that is purposeful and autobiographical. Making art is deeply spiritual and satisfying." Check out artistsinbloom.com and see Virginia's portfolio at paintingsbycascarilla.com.