

## KAPPA GAMMA PI NEWS

Leadership • Scholarship • Faith • Service

www.kappagammapi.org

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## We Stand Together

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." - Martin Luther King Jr.

Unity is something we desperately need in our world right now. The quote from Martin Luther King Jr. perfectly embodies how we need to be approaching life. There are a lot of heavy things happening and we cannot pretend to understand the burdens someone else is carrying. Our hearts are with all of our members who have been negatively impacted by the current unrest that is taking place in our country.

We all come from diverse backgrounds and have our own struggles to overcome. As an organization, we see our unique attributes as the most beautiful parts of us and they make us unique. We want our members to know our differences are something to be celebrated instead of critiqued. Our differences do not determine our value as a human being. The fact that we all come from varied backgrounds helps us to enrich the world in which we live. It is through our unique perspectives that we better society as a whole.

No matter your background or where you come from, you are accepted, valued and heard here at Kappa Gamma Pi. We hope and pray that one day we can come together as one people and not see divisions but instead see a diverse group of people who enrich and make the world a better place to live. §





Mark your calendars...

Kappa Gamma Pi National Convention

June 11 - 13, 2021

Embassy Suites-San Antonio, TX

At the 2019 Convention in Portland, the decision was made that the next convention would be held in Texas. Mark your calendars! Our 45th National Convention will be held at the Embassy Suites San Antonio Airport Hotel from June 11-12th, 2021. The Embassy Suites is an all-suite hotel that has conference rooms and has shuttle service available from the airport, and up to a three (3) mile radius, that will help accommodate our Convention attendees. The Embassy Suites has additional amenities including a breakfast buffet, gyms, pool, dining options, and so much more.

We would love to see everyone there! Our business meeting will take place on Friday June 11th. National Convention is your opportunity to be an active participant in the future of KGP. Your attendance is important to help determine the direction that we, as an organization, will be taking for the upcoming years. The two main purposes of our convention are to election the National Board of Directors and review and

See National Convention page 6

We encourage everyone to be involved in the National Convention! A major part of Convention work is making any adjustments to our Constitution that are required to keep up with the times. Suggestions for revisions can be submitted to our Executive Secretary to be considered by the committee. We encourage you to take part!

# **Our 2020 Cornaro Scholars**

The Cornaro Scholarship is a prestigious scholarship only available to Kappa members for use toward graduate expenses at an accredited university. The Cornaro Scholarship Committee selected two recipients this year: **Derrick C. Wood** (*Cabrini University, PA, '12*) and E**sther Apraku Bondzie** (*Notre Dame of Maryland University, MD, '16*).



Derrick C. Wood

Our first Cornaro Scholar for 2020 is Derrick C. Wood from Malvern, PA. He earned a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Drew University, a master's in chemistry education from the University of Pennsylvania, and a master's in education with a leadership emphasis from Cabrini University. Currently, Derrick is pursuing his

Ed. D from Cabrini University. His Doctoral Dissertation is titled "A Gender Focused Analysis of STEM Self-Concept Among Science Olympiad Participants" which addresses the lack of representation of females in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) majors and careers as well as its contributing factors. In March of 2020 he successfully defended the first three chapters of his dissertation. He is in the final stages of edits with his dissertation committee and plans on defending his thesis in the Fall of 2020.

Derrick has extensive volunteer work and leadership experience as he shared in his Cornaro application:

He is heavily involved in the Appalachia Service Project and his church. Derrick has had the opportunity to volunteer as a Crew Leader for the Appalachia Service Project since 2009. The project's goal is to make homes in the area warmer, safer, and drier which also serves as a vehicle to share his faith. Derrick volunteers a considerable amount of his time with his church, Grove Church. He chaired the team that rolled out the church's first Visioning process and oversaw its implementation. He has served as the Chair of the Board from 2011 until present. He has led the church's congregation through two senior pastor transitions and the organization of the Willow Creek Global Leadership Summit. Derrick serves as a leader behind the scenes through other church ministries

such as working with the Sound and Tech Ministries through trainings. He regularly invites new members to their team and mentors them so these ministries can flourish.

Derrick volunteers his time professionally in his school district. He has served on the District Technology and Science Curriculum Standing committees and has helped to organize two annual events - the Battle at Valley Forge Science Olympiad Tournament and the T/E Fourth Grade Science Night. These events have opened the door for him to influence the education of students beyond his classroom and school.

He shared in his application his career successes thus far as well as his aspirations for the future. Derrick is highly skilled in science curriculum development, educational leadership, technical writing, educational technology, and analytical chemistry. He has been recognized for his innovative teaching methods, mentoring, and coaching throughout his career. Derrick was awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math & Science Teaching in 2015 by President Barack Obama. In addition, he has been acknowledged as a "Superstar in Chemistry Education" by Chemical & Engineering News. Currently he is content being a teacher; however, he feels he can have a greater impact by creating systemic changes in our education systems curriculums. In the future, he can see himself being a Science and Math Curriculum Supervisor for a school district. Derrick believes he can impact the quality of the education of children by teaching teachers how to better serve as educational leaders, after he completes his doctoral degree.

To give each Cornaro Scholar the proper recognition they deserve for their achievements, our second Scholar will be featured in the next issue of the newsletter. §



Derrick conducting a science experiment for his class.

# A Message from KGP's National President

A lot has changed since my last President's address. At that time clouds were heavy with the threat of snow and rain seeming to come every day in the Midwest. This seems like a lifetime ago now. The weather has since cleared up but the change in our country's events has been disheartening. The world we live in now is divided by a virus, racial tension and politics. It is overwhelming to take in the news reports each day. These are confusing and heartbreaking times.

The "stay home" recommendations have brought out the good and bad in people. Some nurses have found it difficult to work all day and come home to help their children with school work. Others have started working from their homes which has afforded them the opportunity to reconnect with their children and enjoy a little bit of "down time." Personally, I have been able to soak up every moment with my rescue animals. Once I return to my normal busy schedule I know they will have some separation anxiety. I currently have a Jack Russell Terrier named Shirley, and a cat named Fred. Shirley is a special needs dog, she is deaf and has other issues but we love her all the same. Fred has his own personality as most cats do. I have enjoyed my down time with them.

While this pandemic has afforded many of us time to reconnect to what is really important in life it has also caused a tremendous amount of economic turmoil. The unemployment rate is at an all-time high with businesses closing temporarily or for good. Colleges and universities have taken on a new way of doing business. Professors and personnel have had to adjust to the challenges of working from home and helping their students finish their education online.

Like many organizations, our financial outlook has been impacted by COVID-19. Our nominations are down this year as is the number of dues paying members. Colleges and universities were closed with some not having award ceremonies while others had virtual ceremonies. Many of our members have been unable to pay their dues because of the current economic environment. A special thank you to some of our members who have chosen to donate extra monies specifically for other members who cannot afford their dues at this time. You are our greatest blessing as are our dues paying members and the colleges and universities that continue to support Kappa. We understand not everyone is able to contribute in this way. We ask if you shop on Amazon to please consider using our AmazonSmile link when you shop. As a registered organization, Amazon will donate to KGP a percentage of your qualified purchases if your use our link. Using this link does not cost you anything. We appreciate the extra support, here is our link <a href="https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1752086">https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1752086</a>.

Lastly, plans for our 2021 convention are underway! It will be held at the Embassy Suites San Antonio Airport in San Antonio, TX from June 11-12. We will begin on June 11 with our business meeting. Our biennial convention is where the members in attendance set the goals, objectives and direction of Kappa for the next two years so your attendance is important. We will be discussing our Constitution and revisions will be discussed and voted on. Our Constitution is on our website and revision suggestions can be submitted to our Executive Secretary to pass on to the committee. After a day filled with interactive discussions which ultimately sets the path for Kappa's future, a fun activity will be scheduled for the evening. On June 12, the program will feature speakers and a wonderful banquet. Our biennial Faith and Service award will be given to someone who exemplifies the motto of Kappa. Convention is also where we nominate and vote for our Board of Directors. Our board consists of a President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, three Vice Presidents and four Regents plus several committees. Our board members have limited terms so we encourage you to take an active role in Kappa Gamma Pi as an organization. Please consider becoming an active participant by attending this convention. You can start making plans now to join us by booking your room. Visit kappagammapi.org for the link.

In Faith and Service,

Susan (Sue) Smith Jaros Lourdes University, Ohio, '90 Kappa Gamma Pi National President president@kappagammapi.org



Photographed is Susan Jaros and her Jack Russell Terrier, Shirley and cat, Fred.

## **Light in the Darkness**

COVID-19 has caused a lot of things to change for many of us as we have never experienced a global pandemic. Some of us may know someone who had COVID-19 and many of us have found ourselves spending a lot more time in our homes. Being in our homes for such long periods of time certainly starts to make you a little stir crazy. Many of our members started some incredible projects and volunteering their time to bring some light and happiness to their homes and communities in these uncertain times.

Cecelia Young Joseph's College - Patchogue, NY, '20) has been utilizing the skills she learned while pursuing her Bachelor's in Studio Art to complete several projects and pieces of art during this time. She has been creating masks sewn by hand and original artworks for take home kits for the Pinot's Palette franchise in Bayshore, NY. During this time, she has been creating extensive paintings and crafts to share on social media to spread some optimism.

Hanna Gerke RN (Georgian Court University, NJ, '99) started volunteering with her local YMCA at their food distribution location during the pandemic in April.

Lorraine McLaughlin (Marygrove College, MI, '48) has cleaned every drawer and closet in her house. During this time, she has gone through several sanitizing bottles and has participated in "Happy Hour" with her friends.



Cecelia Young



One of Cecelia's paintings



Hanna Gerke RN

Patrinia Grayson (University of Detroit Mercy, MI, '20) has completed several projects including painting the majority of the rooms in her home and her gardens. Patrinia shared pictures of one of her gardens with us.

Thank you so much to everyone who shared the projects and things they have been doing to pass the time in quarantine. A global pandemic has not slowed our members down



from bringing a smile to people's faces and working to make a positive difference in people's lives. §

# Service Challenge

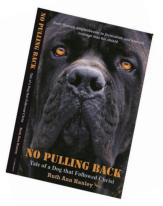


Service is a cornerstone of the work Kappa does. As an organization, in October of each year we issue a service challenge where we challenge you to positively impact your community with your talents and skills. We would love to see and share your service projects in October and beyond. Please email us at <a href="mailto:newseditor@kappagammapi.org">newseditor@kappagammapi.org</a> so we can share the incredible work you all are doing!

#### **NO PULLING BACK**

By Ruth Ann Hanley (Mount St. Joseph University, OH, '56)

Prior to the pandemic one of our members, Ruth Ann Hanley, had written a book called *No Pulling Back*. Ruth's inspiration for the book stemmed from when she was in Catholic grade school at St. Monica in Cincinnati and the students loved to play vocabulary games. One of their favorite words was seren-



dipity which they understood to mean the occurrence of an unplanned and fortunate discovery. This is exactly what happened with her historic fiction, *No Pulling Back*. The book is the story of a dog's slow path to virtue. Yes, a vicious amphitheater dog – a dog that learns to love Jesus and to protect the most vulnerable and lonely. According to teachers, the book successfully pulls students deeper into the story of Jesus.

When she initially wrote the book, she did not plan on creating an electronic version of the book. She realized there were some students who were unable to turn the pages or hold a physical book so the digital version came to be for the students who needed it. Because of the pandemic, the book's manner of presentation is changing to meet the challenge of empty classrooms. Now Ruth is able to offer the digital format to teachers to send to their students who are forced to work from home.

The artist who created the digital format of the book has taken it a step further so teachers can receive the book as an e-mail file and can send multiple chapters at a time to their students. The teachers are even able to see if the assignment have been completed and there is a workbook available online. There is a lesson plan called CONNECTIONS available online which challenges students to connect episodes given to them from Mark's Gospel to episodes in the dog's journey.

Before the pandemic, 11 schools presented the book in classrooms with a book for each student. During this time, Ruth has made the decision to make all of the electronic programming available to teachers of intermediate grades to use without charge through the remainder of 2020. The remote learning option has brought four new schools in 2020 for a total of 15. The book has now been featured in 14 regional Catholic papers, 15 Catholic schools, eight Catholic parishes, 289 public libraries, and Catholic Radio. §

#### 19 for 19

By Edee La Framboise Joppich (Marygrove College, MI, '53)

Edee La Framboise Joppich is an award-winning artist with many accolades to her name including numerous one-person exhibits, paintings in regional and national exhibits, countless best of shows, first place awards and so much more. Her works have been published in several books and magazines. While being sequestered for three months she has completed 19 paintings. These works were not a goal



Edee La Framboise Joppich

but came to be when she was given the gift of time to work in her studio.

Edee explains: "One painting led to the next. Often two or three were developing simultaneously. I continually asked the Holy Spirit for help, and decision making become more fluid and easy. The mixed media, collage paintings convey emotion and feeling without a literal story or theme. Some lift the spirit by the use of bright colors and active lines and movement. Others reflect quiet, introspective moods with colors that are muted but not somber.



One of the piece in the "Sequestered Series"

The first three paintings are rich and dramatic in blacks and golds on stretched canvas, 30" x 40". The 19th work is the smallest in the group so far. There may be more paintings in the "Sequestered Series." Three large white canvases beckon me back to my studio!"

Eventually Edee will return to her schedule teaching at the Visual Art Association of Livonia and conducting workshops around Michigan. She will share her CO-VID-19 "Sequestered Series" at the studio open house in October in West Bloomfield, Michigan. §

## Support Kappa!

If you are an Amazon shopper we ask that you please consider defaulting to <a href="mailto:smile.amazon.com">smile.amazon.com</a> when you shop and selecting KGP as your charity of choice. By using Kappa's special link - <a href="https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1752086">https://smile.amazon.com/ch/22-1752086</a> - a percentage of qualified purchases will be donated to KGP. Shopping through Kappa's special link does not cost you anything.

We ask you to consider shopping on Amazon through Kappa's special link to help support our organization with purchases you would already be making!

## We Want to Hear from You!



We would love to hear from you! Engage with us online through KGP's Engage and Facebook. We know COVID-19 has changed how we approach our day to day activities but we can still connect to each other online.

Tell us about your career, your achievements, your volunteer projects - whatever you would like to share with other Kappas.

You can submit articles and photos for the NEWS by sending an email to the <a href="mailto:newseditor@kappagammapi.org">newseditor@kappagammapi.org</a>. You can also submit announcements and notes for posting on Kappa's Facebook page by emailing <a href="mailto:kgp@kappagammapi.org">kgp@kappagammapi.org</a>.§

## Have you paid your dues?

Your national dues can be paid in two ways: fill out the form included on the back of this issue of the *NEWS* or pay your dues through the website.

**Thank you** to those who have already renewed their financial support for Kappa and those who have made a gifts to the Cornaro Scholarship Fund.

We appreciate your generosity!

## National Convention from page 1

modify our Constitution. In addition, we will have fun activities planned, a program featuring guest speakers and an evening banquet.

We encourage everyone to consider getting involved in



The River Walk

Kappa on the National level by pursuing a position as a member of our Board of Directors. More details on the National Convention to come!

To provide a little background of the area hosting



The Alamo

our 2021 National Convention, San Antonio is the second most populated city in Texas and is a town with a rich heritage. The city was named by a Portuguese priest on a Span-

ish expedition in 1691. Some notable locations include The Alamo, the River Walk and HemisFair Park's 750 foot Tower of the Americas that overlooks the city. The Alamo is the location where Texans fought for their independence from Mexico in 1836. San Antonio is also the location of the famous River Walk which is a promenade lined with cafes and shops. We hope you will consider joining us in immersing ourselves in the history and culture of this incredible city.

During our time in San Antonio, we may visit Our Lady of the Lake University, which is known locally as "The Lake." "The Lake" is a Catholic University founded in 1895 by the Sisters of the Congregation of Divine Providence, a religious order that started in Lorraine, France, during the 18th century. The members of the Congregation arrived in the Austin area in 1866 and then in Castroville in 1868. Our Lady of the Lake University became a Kappa affiliate in 1936.§

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

# **History Corner**



Rev. Francis V. Corcoran, CM, Ph. D., S.T.D.

Kappa Gamma Pi has very a rich history and was founded June 30, 1926, in Louisville, KY. During this time, it was a rarity for women to graduate from college. The organization started with two presiding officers, Rev. Francis V. Corcoran, CM, Ph. D., S.T.D. and Sister Josephine Rosaire Rea, SC, Dean of the College of Mount St. Vincent, NY, who formed a com-

mittee of five deans of Catholic women's colleges. The committee called the Conference of Catholic Colleges for Women of the National Catholic Educational Association, would establish the standards for a distinguished society specifically for women where they

could positively influence their communities.

KGP became the first organization that allowed women to acknowledge their academic and leadership achievements. In order to be elected to membership an individual must



Sister Josephine Rosaire Rea, SC

have a history of leadership in extracurricular activities and high academic scholarship. When inducted into the organization, members are asked to make a commitment of continued faith and service.

The first group of Kappas was elected from the classes of 1927 to 1929 by 29 affiliated charter colleges. At the first National Congress in 1929 at Seton Hill, located in College, PA, 29 affiliated colleges and 346 elected members adopted the name of Kappa Gamma Pi to represent the first letters of the Greek words meaning "Catholic Women Leaders." The group also chose Faith and Service as their motto and organized on the national and local levels. §



**Dorothy Engels Klock** (*College of New Rochelle, NY '30*) 1941-1947 KGP National President

"As Kappas, we cannot sit back and merely accept passively what goes on about us. In accepting Kappa membership, we took upon ourselves the obligation which is the corollary of the honor. That is an obligation to serve according to our individual lights." (KGP NEWS June '45)

# In Loving Memory

In memoriam...

- Barbara Carter Daley (Mary Manse College, OH, '58)
- LouElla Jackson (Barat College of DePaul University, IL, '89)
- Ann M. Trivisonno (Barat College of DePaul University, IL, '55)
- Carrie M. Holland (Notre Dame of Maryland University, MD, '86)
- Rita Coupe (Benedictine College, IL, '51)
- Charity Ann Downs (Georgian Court University, NI, '66)
- Anne F. Raiche (D'Youville College, NY, '49)

If you know of anyone who has passed on please let the National Office know via email at <a href="mailto:admin@kappagammapi.org.">admin@kappagammapi.org.</a>§

## **KGP National Board**

• NATIONAL OFFICERS •

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I VICE PRESIDENT **Renae Rainman** (Our Lady of the Lake
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PLAINS Henrietta Okoro, HHCJ (College of Saint Mary, NE '12), Pearland, TX, plains@kappagammapi.org

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Summer 2020

#### KAPPA GAMMA PI NATIONAL DUES PAYMENT FORM

To renew your financial support for Kappa, please complete the form below, photocopy or mail this section (including your name and address information printed above) with your check made payable to KAPPA GAMMA PI to 1651 Kingsway Court, Suite E, Trenton, MI 48183-1959. Your dues payment via credit card can also be made online at www.kappagammapi.org.

National Dues for the June 1, 2020 - May 31, 20	021 fiscal year US \$50 or Lifetime Dues Payment US \$750.
Cornaro Scholarship Donation	_ Total Enclosed
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What has your nomination to KGP meant to you? Tell us about your volunteer endeavors and call to service.	