



KAPPA GAMMA PI NEWS

Leadership • Scholarship • Faith • Service

www.kappagammapi.org



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Fall 2020 • Volume 97 • Number 4

Elvia Aguilar to give Convention Address

We are happy to announce the keynote address for our National Convention will be given by Elvia Aguilar from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Elvia's keynote address topic will be "God is in Control: Embracing Change and Transformation." She will discuss how our faith teaches us to remain focused on God in times of uncertainty and how we can stay true to our calling for a life of faith and service when there is so much change around us.



Elvia Aguilar

Elvia is from McAllen, Texas graduated from Baylor University with a Bachelor's degree in Journalism. In 2017, she earned her Master's in Public Administration from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Elvia credits her parents for showing her how to prioritize the things that matter the most - God, family and friends, and service to our community.

Elvia's career has been centered on public service. Her career has led her to be a journalist, a public relations consultant, a marketing director and the assistant director of alumni relations for a university.

Currently she serves as the Assistant Director of Alumni Relations at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and she oversees the Austin, Houston and San Antonio Islander Alumni Chapters and the Islander Mentorship Program. Her job is to keep the family of Islanders connected with the Island University. Elvia

See Convention Speaker page 6

Modern Ways to Engage



The pandemic has changed a lot this year and while we are able to do a lot more than we could earlier this year it is important to be cautious and there are still some instances where in person meetings are not practical. Do not forget the importance of community and talking to the most important people in your lives.

We have seen how resilient and creative people are during quarantine from virtual concerts, church services, Easter dinner, catching up with friends and so much more. Though some things have returned to "normal" we encourage you to continue to connect to KGP, family, friends, and your community through email, phone calls, Zoom meetings, Facetime, letters, and every other means of communication. §



Register now to join us virtually for **KGP's 45th National Convention** June 11 & 12, 2021. It's free for dues-paying members!

A Zoom link will be sent upon registration.

To Register: kappagammapi.org or mail your registration form in the enclosed envelope! You can also include your dues payment.



Name

Address

Cell Phone Number

Email

Chapter Affiliation

At-large Delegate (anyone not affiliated to, or in the area of, a chapter)

Please check if you've been a Kappa member for 50 or more years

Mail your registration form, and/or your dues, to:

Kappa Gamma Pi
1651 Kingsway Ct., Ste. E Trenton,
MI 48183

To pay your dues online, visit
<https://engage.kappagammapi.org>

KGP 45th BIENNIAL NATIONAL CONVENTION REGISTRATION

*****Event link will be available as the date gets closer*****

Due to the uncertain times, we have decided to hold our biennial convention virtually instead of in-person.

To gain access, registration is required. This will be **FREE** to all Lifetime Members and current dues paying members. \$75 fee for non-dues paying members (access to both days)

“Embracing Change and Transformation”

Friday, June 11, 2021 - 9a - 1:30p EDT

National Business Meeting

We will be covering Constitution changes, officer nominations, the treasurer’s report and the Cornaro Scholarships- just to name a few. A finalized agenda will be provided prior to meeting.

Saturday, June 12, 2021 - 9a - 1p EDT

Welcome, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance & Introductions

- Keynote Address: Elvia Aguilar, *Assistant Director of Alumni Relations at Texan A & M University, Corpus Christi*
“God is in Control: Embracing Change and Transformation” Our faith teaches us to remain focused on God in times of uncertainty or chaos. How can we stay true to our calling for a life of faith and service when there is so much change around us?
- Presentation of 2021 Faith and Service Award plus remarks by Faith and Service Award recipient
- “Why We Believe Fake News and Other Things”, Patricia B. Kubistal, Ph.D.
- Kappa Tribute: Join us for a special salute to our deceased Kappas
- Kappa Sharing
- Announcement of 2023 Convention Site

An Invitation from the National President: Please join us for the 45th KGP National Convention - Virtually!

We are already into the last two months of the year 2020. If I have learned anything this year, it is that nothing is set in stone - even things we thought would never waver. During heartfelt discussions with the members of the National Board, we voted to hold the 45th Biennial Kappa Gamma Pi Convention virtually. Please look at our schedule of events printed in this issue of the *KGP NEWS*. Some agenda items are incorporated in our National Business Meeting, while others will take place on our Convention Day. It will be affordable for all members to join us throughout the country; however, registration is still required. This convention will be our opportunity to come together (albeit on a computer screen or iPad), to foster friendships and to renew our personal commitment to faith and service.

In the last few issues of this newsletter, I have used different photos of myself to express what makes me tick - so that you can get to know me. In one of these photos I was on my bicycle. I have completed many 30-mile tours and hope to bike the Boroughs of New York next year. In another photo I was with my pets. My husband and my rescue animals are my family.

With this issue, you see me in my career as a nurse practitioner. I prepare our military for annual assessments, either before deployment or post-deployment. It is an honor to serve these men and women and also to serve our patients in the private sector.

This year has been exhausting for everyone. Although these past months have not been graceful, we have survived, and perhaps even thrived, despite the circumstances.

I would like to quote Catherine McAuley, foundress of the Sisters of Mercy. She once said, *"the simplest and most practical lesson I know...is to resolve to be good today - but better tomorrow."* It's a wise reminder.

In Faith and Service,

Susan (Sue) Smith Jaros

Lourdes University, Ohio, '90

Kappa Gamma Pi National President

president@kappagammapi.org



Sue Jaros working with our military.

Connect with Us!

We want to connect with you! As an organization we are making strides to connect our members together. KGP has an all new website for our members to interact with each other. We encourage you to engage through KGP Engage and follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn.



We Want to Hear What You are Doing!



We would love to hear from you about the exciting things happening in your lives!

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 newseditor@kappagammapi.org. You can also submit announcements and notes for posting on Kappa's Facebook page by emailing kgp@kappagammapi.org.

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*) who was featured in the previous issue and **Esther Apraku Bondzie** (*Notre Dame of Maryland University, MD, '16*).



Esther Apraku Bondzie

Esther Apraku Bondzie earned her undergraduate degree from *Notre Dame of Maryland University, MD* in 2016. She has chosen to continue her education at the William F. Connell School of Nursing's Doctor of Nursing Practice program for her nurse practitioner training. The program has a reputation for

leadership in the field of nursing and a curriculum to ensure students are competent leaders in the nursing field. She plans on completing an advanced degree in Health Informatics and Analytics following her training as a Nurse Practitioner.

In her scholarship application Esther shared her career aspirations and personal goals:

Her desire to be a nurse practitioner came from watching her aunt deal with the complications of Type II diabetes. She fulfilled the role of a caretaker for her aunt helping with personal grooming, diet, and hospital visits. On many doctors' visits Esther could see the toll the long hours of waiting took on her aunt in the short-staffed hospitals. Her concern was that excellent care could be masked by a lack of skilled professionals to provide care. Through this experience Esther decided to pursue a career in medicine.

Today more than ever it is apparent the role our healthcare industry plays in serving communities through selfless care, innovative research, curiosity, and creativity. Esther's goal is to serve her patients, lead and support initiatives to improve access to healthcare, especially for women and marginalized communities as well as to collaborate on research that translates to scientific discoveries to improve health care delivery and therapy.

Esther shared her extensive volunteer work and leadership experience in her Cornaro application. Servant leadership is a mantra she strives to embody. She understands this type of leadership has the potential to drive real change and impact the lives of the individuals she serves.

Esther has been volunteering with the Boston Living Center (BLC) since 2015. At BLC she provides support services for individuals who are living with HIV/AIDS. Each shift is rewarding as it helps to provide context for the scientific research she does testing vaccine strategies against infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, ZIKA and most recently COVID-19. Esther's hope is that in the near future patients can benefit from discoveries from the scientific experiments to eradicate HIV.

In addition, Esther has volunteered with the African Bridge Network (ABN) for the past 18 months to support skilled immigrants in the Greater Boston Area. She helps to facilitate Orientation Workshops for recent immigrants to discuss career development goals and help them connect with other professionals in their field. She currently is coordinating ABN's Professional mentoring program, which is designed to pair young mentees with skilled mentors to help them define and reach their personal and career goals.

Esther is very involved in her local church. She helps coordinate events by utilizing her creative skills to publicize events on social media platforms. In addition, she leads worship and praises during church services as a member of the church choir.

Esther shared in her application that as a KGP inductee she knew she had been charged with the responsibility to do and be more for her community by serving others. She continues to volunteer at BLC to provide for persons living with HIV/AIDS. It is her goal to truly live out KGP's mission of faith and service and diligently apply herself to do for others as she would want done for herself. §



Help Wanted: Cornaro Scholarship

In the age of technology, COVID, and today's fast paced world, it is often hard to find time to care for one's self, let alone serve others. However, if you really stop to think about it, serving others not only *benefits those who are served*, it also benefits those *who* serve. Service to others nourishes the soul in an exceptional way. Service to others is rarely regretted. Serving as a Cornaro Scholarship Judge is a short-term, time limited opportunity to get involved and serve your fellow Kappas!

In 2021 *you* have an opportunity to serve your fellow Kappas as a judge on the Cornaro Scholarship Committee. The committee consists of a chair and judges who review the Cornaro Scholarship applications to ultimately select the scholarship recipients. This is very important work! Feedback from judges include statements such as, "I felt truly honored to review such outstanding applications," "I wish we could award a scholarship to all of these outstanding candidates," "I am humbled reading about these accomplishments and goals," and "what incredible Kappas we have!"

If you are a past recipient of the Cornaro Scholarship, here is your opportunity to use your unique experience to help select a new recipient!

What is required to be on the Cornaro Scholarship Committee?

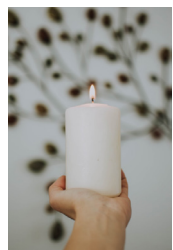
- You must be a dues paying member of Kappa Gamma Pi,
- Be fair minded and objective,
- Be willing to give 8-10 hours of your time between April 20, 2021 - May 31, 2021,
- And importantly, have a computer with email and internet to access scholarship files (dropbox, Excel or equivalent, and PDF files).

How will you know what to do?

- Comprehensive instructions are provided by the Cornaro Scholarship Committee chair.
- The Cornaro Scholarship Committee Chair is always available via phone and email to answer questions or assist as needed.

How do I sign up?

- Send an e-mail to Kappa Gamma Pi Second Vice President, Betsy Shortle at Cornaro@KappaGammaPi.org.
- Please submit your request to Betsy by February 1, 2021!



Cornaro Scholarship Fund Contributions September - November 2020

In memoriam...

Doris Gibson Simonis (Ursuline College, OH, '52), sister of Barbara Gibson Gustafson (Saint John College, MD, '55).

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.

KGP National Board

• NATIONAL OFFICERS •

- PRESIDENT **Susan Jaros** (Lourdes University, OH, '90),
Rossford OH, president@kappagammapi.org
- I VICE PRESIDENT **Renae Rainman** (Our Lady of the Lake University, TX, '04), Houston, TX, firstvp@kappagammapi.org
- II VICE PRESIDENT **Betsy Shortle** (Ursuline College, OH, '98),
North Myrtle Beach, SC, cornaro@kappagammapi.org
- III VICE PRESIDENT **Alene Finn Griffin** (Mount Saint Mary's University, CA, '66), Modesto, CA,
thirdvp@kappagammapi.org
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recordingsec@kappagammapi.org
- TREASURER **Anne F. Simon** (D'Youville College, NY, '94),
Buffalo, NY, treasurer@kappagammapi.org
- PAST PRESIDENT **Katie Pease** (St. Catherine University, MN, '10), St. Paul, MN, pastpresident@kappagammapi.org

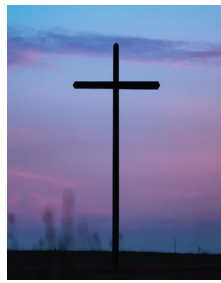
• REGENTS •

- EASTERN **Liz Navitsky** (Misericordia University, PA, '01),
Pottsville, PA, eastern@kappagammapi.org
- MISSISSIPPI **Catherine Wright-Volante** (Madonna University, MI, '05), Taylor, MI, mississippi@kappagammapi.org
- PLAINS **Henrietta Okoro**, HHCJ (College of Saint Mary, NE '12),
Pearland, TX, plains@kappagammapi.org

In Loving Memory

In memoriam...

- Ann E. Sullivan (*Albertus Magnus College, CT, '06*)
- Ann Murphy Hildreth (*Mount St. Joseph University, OH, '49*)
- Betty Piecuch Bieber (*Mount St. Joseph University, OH, '14*)
- Doris Gibson Simonis (*Ursuline College, OH, '52*)
- Eileen M. Conway (*Mount St. Joseph University, OH, '47*)
- Mary Arapoff McEwen (*Emmanuel College, MA, '59*)
- Peggy Sullivan (*Clarke University, IA, '50*)



If you know of anyone who has passed on please let the National Office know via email at admin@kappagammapi.org.

Convention Speaker from page 1

is always on the lookout for ways to build bridges to connect current students to the more than 50,000 Islander Alumni.

Previously, Elvia worked as the director of brand managment for Visit Corpus Christi where she managed the branding strategies for the organization. She directed the creation of digital billboards and marketing collateral. She has also worked as a journalist for the *Corpus Christi Caller-Times*, *San Antonio Express-News* and the *Brownsville Herald*.

In addition, Elvia has served on various community boards including the Council of Alcohol and Drug Abuse-Coastal Bend, the American Advertising Federation-Corpus Christi, the Corpus Christi Caller-Times Hispanic Advisory Committee, The Hispanic Women’s Network of Texas and the United Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee. She currently is a member of Leadership Corpus Christi Class ‘49.

While our upcoming National Convention will look different than it has in the past we look forward to interacting with our members in a new way and bringing quality speakers.§

“Delight yourself in the Lord, and He will give You the desires of your Heart.”

Psalm 37:4

REPORT OF THE NATIONAL TREASURER PROFIT & LOSS

Statement of Income, Expenses and Net Assets for the Fiscal Year Ended May 31, 2020

INCOME

Member Dues.....	\$25,925.00
Nomination Fees.....	\$29,830.00
Convention/National Board.....	\$3,612.00
Sale of Promotional Items.....	\$9,397.00
Other Income.....	\$152.26
Scholarship Donations.....	\$7,456.00
TOTAL INCOME.....	\$76,372.26

EXPENSES

Convention/National Board.....	\$9,011.17
Scholarship Awards.....	\$7,500.00
Promotional Item Purchases.....	\$1,706.07
Publication (Editor, printing, postage).....	\$8,254.89
National Office Expenses.....	\$6,256.05
Website.....	\$11,496.00
Professional and Bank Fees.....	\$4,293.97
National Office Staff.....	\$48,424.32
Miscellaneous Expenses.....	\$5,827.97
TOTAL EXPENSES.....	\$102,770.44
Net Ordinary Income Loss.....	\$26,398.18
OTHER FY 2019-20 INCOME HELD IN ESCROW	
Lifetime Dues.....	\$350.00
Investment Income.....	\$7,295.39
Total FY 19-20 Income in Escrow.....	\$7,645.39
TOTAL NET INCOME.....	(\$18,752.79)

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS

Current Assets	
General Fund Checking.....	\$31,035.34
Money Market – Restricted.....	\$43,968.80
Accounts Receivable.....	\$3,596.00
Petty Cash.....	\$200.00
Other Current Assets.....	\$2,905.89
Total Current Assets.....	\$81,706.03
Other Assets	
Investments–Securities.....	\$125,715.99
Total Other Assets.....	\$125,715.99
Total Assets.....	\$207,422.02

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Payroll Liabilities.....	\$1,189.58
Deferred Lifetime Dues Revenue.....	\$4,850.00
Fund Balance – Prior Year.....	\$235,225.04
Loss on Investments.....	(\$15,057.54)
Net Income – FY 2019-20.....	(\$18,752.79)
Net Assets.....	\$207,454.29
Less Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable.....	(\$32.27)
Total Net Assets.....	\$207,422.02
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS.....	\$207,422.02

2019-2020 SAINT CATHERINE MEDAL RECIPIENTS



The Saint Catherine Medal for Student Achievement was awarded to the following students at KGP-affiliated colleges and universities during the 2019-2020 academic year. Presentation is made to a student who has achieved special recognition, served the college in an extraordinary manner or has the best record of progressive achievement.

Avila University, Kansas City, MO

Isabelle G. Fox

Barry University, Miami Shores, FL

Anastasiia Samokhvalova

Antonio Rodriguez

Calumet College of St. Joseph, Whiting, IN

Edmund Beazley

Jill Elizabeth Kruger

Chestnut Hill College, Philadelphia, PA

Tiffany Kirby

M. Kirby Cooper

Clarke University, Dubuque, IA

Kierstin Adams

College of Saint Mary, Omaha, NE

Chloe Jensen

Dominican University, River Forest, IL

Carlos Benitez

Elms College, Chicopee, MA

Victoria Ruth Wanko

Fontbonne University, St. Louis, MO

Maria Isabel Torres

Georgian Court University, Lakewood, NJ

Kayla Rodriguez

Holy Names University, Oakland, CA

Nereida Martinez Lopez

Immaculata University, Immaculata, PA

Lynn Krieger

Lourdes University, Sylvania, OH

Shannon White

Marywood University, Scranton, PA

Ann Heyen

Notre Dame College, South Euclid, OH

Alana Norris

Notre Dame of Maryland University,
Baltimore, MD

Madeline Hagan

Hannah Woodworth

Jonathan Michael Desmaris

Jessie L Willingham

Emily R Pepin

Zeinab Koosej

Our Lady of the Lake University, San Antonio,
TX

Kimberly Flores

Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College, Saint Mary of
the Woods, IN

Allison Mauk

Julie Snyder

St. Catherine University, Minneapolis, MN

Olivioia Dunn

University of Mary, Bismark, ND

Matthew Gallegos

Abby Hill

University of San Diego, San Diego, CA

Amy Marie Inkrott

University of the Incarnate Word, San Antonio,
TX

Marissa Watters

Travis Quillin

Camille Guerre

Anna Faryniarz

Renee Muniz

Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, OH

Hannah Hottinger

Jordan Herrmann

Nominations to KGP and the award of the Saint Catherine Medal were a little bit different and that difference is reflected in the number of nominees and medal recipients. While the number of recipients are fewer than normal we still would like to recognize all of our Saint Catherine Medal recipients.

KGP affiliates have awarded the Saint Catherine Medal since 1956. Medals may be given on both undergraduate and graduate levels. Institutions may award medals for different schools or divisions.

If your college is not included on this list, please contact the KGP National Office for information. You may sponsor the award at your own *alma mater* or at any other affiliate. Four Kappas currently sponsor the medal at their *alma maters*, and KGP sponsors this award at the colleges of deceased KGP National Presidents.

Medals may be ordered only from KGP. Bronze, gold plate, sterling silver or gold-filled medals are available.

KAPPA GAMMA PI NEWS



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KAPPA GAMMA PI NATIONAL OFFICE

1651 Kingsway Court, Suite E
Trenton, MI 48183-1959

PHONE: 734-393-1222
EMAIL: kgp@kappagammapi.org
WEBSITE: www.kappagammapi.org

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY MICHELLE CHESNEY
kgp@kappagammapi.org
KGP NEWS EDITOR MADISON DENTON
NEWSeditor@kappagammapi.org

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Fall 2020

Reminder: Have You Paid Your Dues? 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, 2021 fiscal year US \$50 or Lifetime Dues Payment US \$750.

Cornaro Scholarship Donation _____ Total Enclosed _____

Credit/debit card number _____ Security Code _____

Expiration date _____ Name as it appears on card _____

Please indicate any name or address changes here. To ensure that you receive KGP emails and the eNEWS, please provide your email address.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

What has your nomination to KGP meant to you? Tell us about your volunteer endeavors and call to service.
