

# THE GAMMA GAMUT

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Gamma Quebec

- *DKG International Conference in Indianapolis*
- *Gamma Quebec May Convention Pix*
- *Our Talented Members*
- *Welcome Dr. Joe!*

## PRESIDENT'S NOTE



I cannot believe the first year of my presidency has come to an end. Our vision for this biennium was "Supporting Our Community; expanding our Skills". We achieved quite a bit during this first year:

We developed a Strategic Planning for my Biennium.

Our Gamma Province Quebec was involved in helping a school in Montreal for Autistic children, "Giant Steps".

We submitted the applications of seven McGill graduate students to the World Fellowship Grants Committee. Unfortunately we did not have a winner.

We sent money for Schools for Africa and helped support three students in Haiti.

We developed a new

website which is certified. We are now listed on the DKG International's website.

This summer has flown by as summers always seem to do. I'm sure we all made the most of this lovely season. I certainly kept busy, and one of my great summer experiences was attending the DKG International conference in Indianapolis. How energizing and interesting it is to meet and network with other key women educators from around the world. Educators from 17 countries got together in one room. It was astonishing to meet all these 1200 women, talk to them, and learn from them. This is a must for every member of DKG.

Another year is starting. We have many challenges, but our first priority must be to increase our membership. It is important that we work on motivating members to go out and ask friends to join us. One way is to invite potential members to meeting where we have the opportunity to explain

DKG; sometimes it takes too long to realize the benefits and tremendous opportunities there are for personal growth. Many opportunities exist for developing interests, travel and making friendships, not just at chapter level. Let us make this our challenge for the year: Let us invite new members and look for as many working educators as we can to bring to meetings.

I wish all of us a great year and good luck in our efforts in supporting our community and expanding our skills.

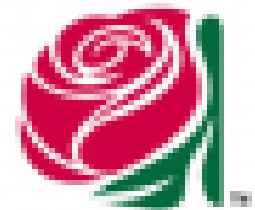
### Yocheved Sonenberg

President (2013-2015)  
Gamma Province,  
Quebec

Delta Kappa Gamma  
International Society

**"Sharing Our Vision;  
Strengthening Our  
Society."**

**"Supporting Our  
Community; expanding  
our Skills"**



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## THE GAMMA GAMUT

### International Convention – Indianapolis 2014

Rena Entus, Barb Angus and I attended the International convention this July. It was my first experience at a DKG convention. It was amazing to realize that we are members of a huge organization with so many smart and interesting women in the field of Education. On Sunday and Monday Rena and I attended the Executive meetings. Presidents from all over the world

*As a first time attendee, I came away feeling much better informed about the workings of DKG, and very proud to be a member of this esteemed organization.*

were there, as well as the executive secretaries.

The convention began on Monday evening. The opening session was streamed so non-attendees could watch it online.

It included the impressive flag processional, a welcome by the Mayor of Indianapolis, stories from the presidents of our oldest and youngest state organizations.

The motivating keynote speaker, Sarah Sladek, author of *The End of Membership as We Know It* and her newly released book, *Knowing Y: Engage the Next Generation Now* offered DKG members effective steps in attrac-

ting and retaining multi-generational members.

Indiana Night followed with singing and dancing. Other interesting workshops were offered on the next few days.

Ron Rosenberg gave us strategies on doubling our memory along with very amusing ideas on memorization techniques.

Dr. Ellen Kennedy presented the issue of human trafficking. She made us aware of the gravity of this problem.

The Canadian forum brought together all Canadian presidents. Each one presented an educational issue from their province. I spoke about the fact that there is no

freedom of choice in education in Quebec. I included our letter regarding the proposed charter of values. There was a great appreciation for the fact that we acted on this matter.

On Friday night we participated in a banquet, where Dr. Lyn Schmid was installed as the International President for the next biennium.

As a first time attendee, I came away feeling much better informed about the workings of DKG, and very proud to be a member of this esteemed organization.

Yocheved Sonenberg, President, Gamma Province

### CANADIANS TAKE INDIANAPOLIS



Rena Entus, Yocheved Sonenberg and Barb Angus in Indianapolis at DKG International Convention in July 2014



### Things to remember:

#### September

- ◆ Download the list for the 2014 – 2016 International Administrative Board members from the Society website.
- ◆ Send your state organization officers the names and email addresses of each chapter counterpart. Invite them to a chapter event.
- ◆ Get ready for dues collection: contact members who have been unavailable or absent. Call and ask if everything is alright.

#### October

- ◆ Post application deadlines:
  - ◆ February 1, 2015, international scholarships;
  - ◆ January 3, 2015, Educational Foundation project grants;
  - ◆ February 1, 2015, Lucille Cornet professional development awards.
- ◆ Share international committee newsletters with appropriate chapter members. Find them on the Society website in the Library.
- ◆ U.S. chapters: file the IRS Form 990 by November 15, 2014.
- ◆ Deadline for paying dues and fees: October 31, 2014.

# Members stay connected at international convention

Members who were not able to attend the international convention in Indianapolis could still enjoy the excitement of the week by keeping an eye on the Society website and social media. The opening session, including the flag procession and keynote presentation, was live streamed through a link on the Society website. Headline news from the convention dominated the home page every day throughout the week providing the most up-to-date information about the week's events and convention actions.

For members with smartphones and tablets, the DKG app provided a mobile, interactive convention program. Members received notifications of updated information, were reminded that "favorite" sessions are about to begin, and even accessed workshop materials.

Participants and headquarters staff kept members connected through Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. Photos were posted throughout the convention on the DKG Facebook page and on Instagram. Followers of DKG on Twitter enjoyed up-to-the-minute information about convention activities.

Have your chapter members downloaded the DKG application yet? Go to <http://bit.ly/DKGapp> for links to download. The app will continue to provide access to information about DKG activities and events. Have you found DKG on Facebook to connect with other members around the globe? If you tweet about chapter events, remember to use the hashtag #dkgsi. DKG members can connect professionally through LinkedIn. They may "pin" interests and ideas with Pinterest.

Members, when surveyed, indicate that the personal relationships and professional connections are a valued benefit of membership. Digital and social media can be a great way to bring members from all around the world together!

## Follow us

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/dkgorg](http://www.facebook.com/dkgorg)

Twitter: @blanton29

Instagram: @dkg\_austin

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/delta-kappa-gamma-society-international](http://www.linkedin.com/company/delta-kappa-gamma-society-international)

Pinterest: [www.pinterest.com/DKGS/](http://www.pinterest.com/DKGS/)



### Are You Ready Yet?

The beginning of a new school year is a perfect time to invite key women in your community to join DKG. Get ready for initiation now!

- Order supplies like membership certificates and new member kits.
- Download the *Pride in the Big Picture* orientation presentation.
- Use orientation to remind members about the value of membership.

Find these items and more in the Library and the Store at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org).

## Contact Society Headquarters

**Mailing address**  
P.O. Box 1589, Austin, TX 78767-1589

**Street address**  
416 W. 12th Street, Austin, TX 78701

**Telephone**  
512.478.5748

**Toll-free telephone (Canada, U.S.)**  
888.762.4685

**FAX**  
512.478.3961

**FAX (Information Services Department)**  
512.474.2494

[www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)

**Presidents' Page**  
[nitas@dkg.org](mailto:nitas@dkg.org)

**Executive Services Department**  
[societexec@dkg.org](mailto:societexec@dkg.org)

**Operation Services Department**  
[societoper@dkg.org](mailto:societoper@dkg.org)

**Information Services Department**  
[soceditr@dkg.org](mailto:soceditr@dkg.org)

**Membership Services Department**  
[mem@dkg.org](mailto:mem@dkg.org)

**Order Department**  
[dkgstore@dkg.org](mailto:dkgstore@dkg.org)



The above is an excerpt from the Presidents' Page, a publication of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Newsletter for Chapter Presidents



## THE GAMMA GAMUT

### MAY 3, 2014 GAMMA QUEBEC CONVENTION PIX



Huguette Drouin introduces our International Speakers Fund (ISF) guest, Dr. Ambar C. Arjona de Garcia



Frema Engel thanks Dr. Ambar C. Arjona de Garcia who spoke to us about learning disabilities in young children and the obstacles they face



Monica Ochoa, who updated us on International news, is thanked by Valerie Delacretaz



Yocheved Sonenberg thanks Rena Entus, Rose Szasz and Cathy Sidorendo for their dedication to Gamma Province



Bev Townsend is honoured with Achievement Award for website



Tami Brewster spoke about Apple's educational technology in schools



Tami Brewster is thanked by her mentor, Beverly Townsend



Bev demonstrates Gamma's new website features.



Maria Tucci, left, pays tribute to Nancy Meakin and Erika Sebalt, right, pays tribute to Betty Monahan in our White Rose ceremony commemorating our dearly departed sisters.



## Inspirational DKG May, 3, 2014 by Beryl Ball

Last year, my minister, Shawn's twenty-ish nephew was in Montreal from Nova Scotia. During his visit, he asked his uncle to drop him off at Holt Renfrew. When he rejoined Shawn, the nephew showed him a very expensive gold chain. Uncle commented upon the extravagance to be told "**YOLLO! : You Only Live Life Once!**"

Recently in The Montreal Gazette, there was an article about a billionaire divorcee who has a \$15,000 Chanel jacket in her 1600 piece wardrobe; a wardrobe in which each gown costs \$76,000 to \$608,000 Canadian dollars. This expat Lebanese woman living in Paris told the reporter she never wears the same dress twice, and sometimes she never even wears the outfit she orders. Her wardrobe would be enough to bankrupt a small country or to help thousands of the people in the Middle East who are living in dreadful refugee camps.

### YOLLO!

Yes, we live our lives only once, but does that life have to be about blatant extravagances? Shouldn't it be about how well we live our lives?

Most of us enjoy having a comfortable home, looking our best, and admiring beautiful things. But, does our fine china sit gathering dust in a cupboard, or do we invite a friend over to have a cup of tea in our Doulton or our Wedgewood?

If we have sterling silver flatware, does it live in a bank vault where it is just another possession, or do we use it when family and friends come to dinner? Is good china just filling space in our homes, or is it a part of family celebrations?

### YOLLO!

We only live life once, so do we use that time to make life better for others? When was the last time we made soup or cookies for a house-bound friend? Have we visited a sick friend lately?

Have we offered to drive someone to the doctor or to do her shopping?

I cannot believe that in the greater scheme of things, by whatever religious beliefs we have or don't have, that our



*Beryl Ball reads her Inspirational*

purpose in life is for self-indulgence. I feel strongly that there has to be more to life than that!

### YOLLO!

We only live life once, so what can we do to make life better for others?

In Gamma Province of DKG, our members have devoted themselves to wonderful causes:

We have gathered books to encourage children to read and to get their parents to read to them.

We have walked to support research into a cure for cancer.

Many of our members have worked with children who have learning difficulties.

We have raised funds to support the school attendance of several children in Haiti. We sell tickets for the raffle of a Haitian quilt to continue that support.

Gamma Province may be a few in members, but we are strong supporters of education locally.

We have raised funds for two scholarships in Education at McGill University to honour Dr. Mildred Burns and Dr. Sarah Paltiel; as well, we support teach-

ers of French and encourage students in adult education.

**YOLLO!** You Only Live Life Once.

With the timeless effort and wonderful leadership of one of our members, we have worked hard to have McGill accredited as a university for World Fellowship grants. These International World Fellowship grants have helped thousands of women around the world gain post-graduate degrees to allow them to improve the quality of life in their home countries. These women have made great sacrifices to obtain their education.

As an international association, DKG has dedicated itself to promoting education for women, to encouraging professional improvement through seminars and scholarships, and to supporting legislation in the fields of education and women's rights. In Montreal, we are associated with the Montreal Council of Women which has presented a number of petitions to Provincial and Federal governments in the fields of women and children welfare.

### YOLLO!

Yes, we only live life once, but isn't it wonderful that we have a chance to do so? We are much indebted to women like those in DKG who have helped improve the quality of life for so many others.

One year I spoke to you about being able to look at yourself in the mirror each morning.

This year I would like to close with some words from William Penn:

*I expect to pass through this life but one. If therefore, there be any kindness I can show, or any good thing I can do to my fellow being, let me do it now and not defer or neglect it, as I shall not pass this way again.*

### YOLLO!

## THE GAMMA GAMUT

### KUDOS TO OUR MEMBERS



Szasz, Rose SCA  
Laval, Québec  
Pottery market San Miguel  
46 x 35 cm / 18 x 14 po



I am glad to announce that The Canadian Watercolour Society awarded Rose Szasz the silver medal at this year's exhibition in Ville St-Laurent.

Congratulations from all of us!

### DANDELION BY DR. MILDRED L. BURNS



If I were a dandelion  
And you hacked me out of the earth  
With your sharpest spade or hoe,  
I'd sign and urge the last small root  
To suck new life from earth's rich water,  
To struggle boldly for the light  
And send my golden face to smile upon you once again.

And if you pluck my whited head  
And blow my graying locks into the wind,  
I'll hide a secret smile  
And watch a thousand seeds take root abroad.

So if you think that old one there  
Does no longer sing, or laugh, or love: beware.

Look over your shoulder,  
And watch where you plant those boots of yours.  
I am behind, before, around you.  
I am dandelion.



### BRAVO, RENA!

Hard to believe, but Rena Entus celebrated a milestone birthday this year! As a result, she added turquoise and pink streaks to her golden locks to mark the occasion, and to mark her commitment to her Weekend to End Women's Cancers benefitting the Segal Cancer Centre at the Jewish General Hospital.

Rena asked that friends, family, and sister members donate any amount they wished as long as it contained the number, 75! Contributions went to the Jewish General Hospital to fight women's cancers.





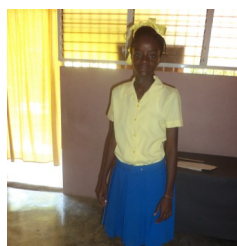
## HAITI WIN WIN WIN!

Stephanie Registre



We have been supporting students in Haiti since 2011, after the devastating earthquake hit Port-au-Prince, the capital. Here is how we help: not only by giving education, but also by helping to build self-esteem. From awkward teens to confident

Adeline Merilus

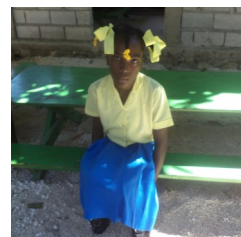


young women, Sister Cadet, the Principal of the school we support, takes her students under her wing and guides them along year after year.

Stephanie Registre is now in grade 11, Adeline Merilus in grade 10 and Lournna Jerome is in grade 8.

Haiti Peace Quilts which is a non-profit organization supports the professional sector of the school, as a co-op for quilt making. Monies collected helped to purchase the quilt which in turn supports

Lournna Jerome



the school. And money from the raffle now goes toward supporting our three students: WIN-WIN-WIN.

Thank you to all members, friends and family who donated towards the raffle, and made it possible for Gamma Quebec to support these students one more year.



Haiti Peace Quilt entitled *Poverty is not Their Fault*

## WELCOME DR. JOE SCHWARCZ



Please join us Monday, October 20, 2014 for an evening with Dr. Schwarcz who will speak on *Sense, Nonsense and Science*.

**Place:** E.M.S.B  
6000 Fielding Avenue  
**Time:** 5:30 – 6:30 **light supper:** [McVicar Room](#)

**Author:** 7:00 p.m. - [in the Lawrence Patterson Room](#)  
**COST:** - [for DKG members: 15.00\\$](#)  
- [for non-members: 20.00\\$](#)

**R.S.V.P:** Erika Sebaldt - [erika.sebaldt@bell.net](mailto:erika.sebaldt@bell.net) or 514-489-2760  
or - [renaentus@bell.net](mailto:renaentus@bell.net)

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**THE GAMMA GAMUT**

**DKG Program-Speaker Schedule 2014-15**

**Tuesday, September 16**

Homecoming at Judy's

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**Monday, October 20** (Fund raiser for Scholarship Fund)

Dr. Joe Schwarcz, Director McGill University, Office for Science and Society

**Sense, Nonsense and Science**

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**Thursday, November 13** (Fund raiser)

**New Teacher Panel Discussion** (Participants: TBA)

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**Tuesday, December 9** Holiday Celebration

Rhonda Amsel, Psychology Professor, McGill University

**Amazing Therapy Dogs**

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**Thursday, January 15**

Heidi Vormer, Artist

**Life with Autism and Art**

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**Monday, February 9** (World Fellowship Evening)

Dominique Trudeau, Head, Educational Programs, McCord Museum

**McCord Museum: Sharing Our Memories and History**

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**Tuesday, March 17**

Tara Wheeler, Teacher

**The Role of the Resource Teacher**

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**Thursday, April 23**

Judy Labow, Teacher

**The Namuwongo Project**

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**Monday, May 4** (Display of member artefacts & photos)

Barb Angus

**Writing Family History**





# EEC.news

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Volume 1, Number 5

July/August 2014

*Sharing the Vision of Educational Excellence*

## SFA 2012-2014



The Schools for Africa project now encompasses 13 sub-Saharan countries with the addition of Sierra Leone and Guinea-Bissau in June 2013. Look on the Society website for new *SFA Newsletters* focusing on each of these countries.

**Funds contributed 2012-2014:**  
US\$116,804.00

## SEE 2012-2014



Members throughout the Society embrace the Supporting Early-career Educators project in a variety of ways. The top three types of support reported for the 2012-14 biennium included:

1. Collection of supplies and gift cards for early-career educators
2. One-to-one mentoring and support in classroom situations
3. Welcome bags for new educators at start of school (with DKG materials inserted)

**Chapters reporting support for the SEE project:** 1159/64.46%

**Approximate number of hours spent on SEE during 2012-2014:** 52,654.75

## EEC Biennial Update

This summer marks the midpoint of the 2013-2015 state organization biennium and the start of a new biennium for chapters. Just as educators use midterms and exams to evaluate the progress of students, DKG committees use reports to determine where chapters and state organizations are in embracing goals, ideas and materials developed for their use. The EEC 2012-2014 Biennial Report submitted in March provides evidence of what chapters and state organizations are doing to support Educational Excellence across the Society. Here's info the reports yielded:

(Percentages noted throughout this issue indicate % of total chapters reporting.)

### Goal 1: Advance excellence in education

Components of this goal receiving the most recognition by chapters included:

- Programs promoting educational excellence (80.3%)
- "Hot Topics" in education (68.08%)
- Programs supporting the SEE project (65.75%)

Based on these results, areas of focus for strategic planning might include:

- Programs/activities impacting educational law and policy
- Programs addressing pedagogical research

### Goal 2: Empower women

Components of this goal receiving the most recognition by chapters included:

- Personal growth of women/life-long learning (85.01%)
- Professional pride (72.41%)
- Arts, music and the humanities (71.8%)

Based on these results, an area of focus for strategic planning might include community leadership.

### Goal 3: Increase global awareness

The component under this goal receiving the most recognition by chapters was:

- Programs/activities designed to increase global awareness (56.5%)

Based on these results, areas of focus for strategic planning might include:

- Programs/activities focusing on the DKG/UN relationship
- Programs that inform and support the Schools for Africa (SFA) project

State organizations and chapters can use this information as it applies to their situations to continue what works and address areas where more work may be needed.



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# The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

**GAMMA PROVINCE QUEBEC**

Email: [dkgque@gmail.com](mailto:dkgque@gmail.com)

We're on the Web  
[gammaquebecWeebly.com](http://gammaquebecWeebly.com)

Supporting our community;  
Expanding our skills