

## **EUFORIA**

### **EDITION NO.39**

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#### **Regional Director's Report**

Dear European Members,

It is hard to believe that my two-year term of office is almost over! I would like to thank everyone for giving me the opportunity to represent you on the Administrative Board, where I hope I have spoken on behalf of you all. The opportunity to travel and to meet so many of you personally has been an irreplaceable pleasure. I hope that through discussion and first-hand knowledge I have been able to gain the fullest possible picture of how DKG in Europe is developing and thriving.

My travels this year began in early March, when I went to Tallinn to speak at the Estonian state conference. Later in the month, I was able to act as the Society representative at the GB conference, where I gave the International Greetings and news from Headquarters. In early April, I visited Turku for the second time to attend the Finland state conference and enjoyed spending time with



members, both formally and informally. Later in the month, my husband and I travelled to Oslo to help Norway celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of membership of DKG, where we both thoroughly enjoyed the 'official' event as well as visiting the top of the ski-jump on the following morning. In May I flew to Michigan and attended the state convention in Kalamazoo, where I gave presentations, a workshop and the farewell comments. I'm attaching a photo showing a fabulous piece of artwork based on the DKG logo which was presented to me and now has pride of place in my study (on the left is Olive Horning, State president of Michigan). The travelling came to an end in Germany, where my husband and I spent a few days in Berlin as well as attending the state conference in Leipzig. My task was to review the European Conference hosted in Baden-Baden last year.

The warmth of every welcome and opportunities to meet new members, or get to know others better, have been highlights everywhere I have gone.

I do hope that I will see many of you in New York in July and I look forward to meeting you in Amsterdam next year for the next European Regional Conference. It only remains for me to wish

good luck to our nominated Regional Director for 2012-14, Marika Heimbach. I know that she can count on your support and good wishes for the busy period ahead!

Kate York



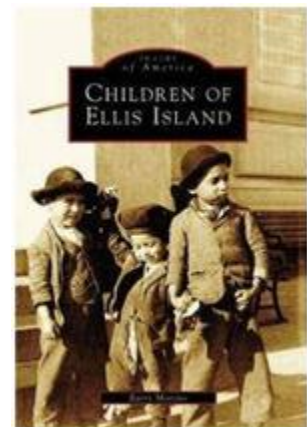
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL  
EMBRACING OUR VISION • DESIGNING OUR FUTURE  
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European Regional Director Kate York and the European forum members are looking forward very much to seeing as many of you as possible at the DKG International Convention in New York City. There you should not miss the following programme:

### **The European Breakfast speaker in New York: Barry Moreno, July 27th**



We are delighted to announce that we have managed to secure an absolutely top-rate speaker for the European Breakfast in New York, on Friday 27 July. He is **Barry Moreno**, author, historian and freelance speaker. He is based at the reference library at the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island Immigration Museum in New York City. He knows just about all there is to know about the history of people from Europe when they arrived at Ellis Island, on their way to a new life in the USA. If you Google his name, you will see for yourself how many books Barry has written! One particularly interesting is: *Children of Ellis Island*".



So please sign-up for the breakfast and encourage other members to do the same so that we have a good audience to hear Barry speak to us. If you're going to New York, this is something not to be missed!

**The European Forum meeting will be held in Lenox Ballroom on 3:15-5:15 p.m. on Friday, July 27th. The Agenda and Booklet will be published soon. Welcome to join us!**

Looking forward to seeing you all in New York,

Eija Paukkuri, Chair of the DKG European Forum 2010-2012

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**PS. The registration is open. Remember to sign up for the European breakfast at 7.15 to 9.15 a.m. and European Forum Meeting at 3.15 to 5.15 p.m. on July 27<sup>th</sup>!**

<http://www.dkg.org/site/c.meJMIOOwErH/b.6511935/k.BE53/Home.htm>

## **Great Britain**

**SHEILA AND HER CONFERENCE GROUP ARRANGE A SUPERB WEEKEND**

A warm welcome at the Friars, Aylesford awaited DKG participants following clear travelling



instructions from Kathy and Sheila plus a last minute diversion via Eccles on account of bridge repairs in the centre of Aylesford. First impressions of the venue revealed a well-stocked pond with a variety of wild fowl, blue anemones and daffodils under trees soon to burst into leaf and many delightful corners and pathways to explore. An attractive map on the wall opposite Reception indicated where these paths might lead. The view from our own particular accommodation looked across a quadrangle of grass, surrounded by mainly older buildings, where one of the doors

opposite opened into the refectory. We had ample places to store clothes in our room - even the choice of four beds - and heavy doors over which wisteria was shortly due to flower.

As we wandered into a hidden garden sheltered by a thick hedge, we joined our colleagues on the benches and were warned that the birds, disliking red and purple colours, had pecked at our state president's leg. A hard, painful lesson and next morning I did not linger, but hurried past the pond on my way to my car to collect something from the conveniently large car park. A strong smell of fox was evident and reminded me that I had heard anxious screeches from the ducks and geese in the night.

After our first session with a talk from Father Michael Manning after supper, we learned more of the long history of The Friars which helped us to appreciate and negotiate cobbled paths and hidden doorways on our way back from the Conference Centre. We mused on how the original inhabitants, pilgrims, private owners through the ages and Carmelite friars in the 21<sup>st</sup> century might reconcile the peace of reflection so close to a noisy motorway. It was good to meet other weekend residents and hear their sung graces resonating in the refectory before meals.

I had previously visited The Friars for a children's activity day. Bishop Nazir Ali, the previous Bishop of Rochester entertained my youngest grandson with a rope from the tug-of-war, when Joe was just beginning to walk. A memorable picture! The open-air chapel was then in use and was full of interesting presentations. This year our members enjoyed our own activities including singing and dancing. When we had a spare moment on Sunday before the boat ride from Allington to Maidstone, we had time to wander into the extensive grounds, enjoy the magnificent magnolia and admire pottery, wall sculptures and paintings. A delightful venue, justifying a further visit, staying a little longer and relying once more on gorgeous spring sunshine. Thank you everyone.



**Mary Wardrop** (Gamma Chapter)

### **'Generating Enthusiasm for Music in Primary Schools.'**

After serving 25 years in the Scots Guards as a bandsman, his army career taking him all over the world introducing him to many different genres of music, Aidan Scahill began training as a primary school teacher. He has resisted becoming a music specialist because he appreciates the bond between teacher and children that can develop over the school year, an experience which has also lead him to recognise the many benefits music can bring to other areas of education. Aspects of music are present in many other subjects, its presence within literacy, numeracy and science can reinforce learning. SEN children may access learning more easily having had experience with music.

Our first participation exercise was to join in a call/response exchange – an example of behaviour management which many teachers would be grateful to have in their class discipline toolbox. Aidan agreed that music is difficult because it has so many elements (rhythm, pitch, tone, dynamics etc), but bringing music into the classroom needn't rely on keyboard skills. Aidan always starts with rhythm. Some of us took part in a demonstration of how hitting a long length of broomstick with a shorter one can give an experience of different beats – in our case, a very tricky five/four one. We saw a video of three young men using their bodies as percussion instruments, an amazing example of individual and group syncopation.

Boys need targeting – they are of the opinion that music is for girls. They respond well to call and response chants used in physical training, rugby songs and football chants. It is also useful to be aware that many pop tunes are based on a classical structure – we listened to a track which was recognised as having the same chord progression as Pachelbel's Canon.



Aidan's talk was a personal view of music in primary schools. His wide experience of music from all over the world has led him to feel that some elements of his training were limiting, and could lead towards pupils having a negative attitude towards music in the classroom.

However, there was a positive feeling amongst Aidan's audience that our education system

is greatly enhanced by having such an enthusiastic teacher who communicates such enjoyment with learning which I'm sure is greatly appreciated by his pupils - especially the boys.

## Talks for the London Wetland Centre in The Netherlands

### Unity Harvey 2011/2012

When Kitty Kruijswijk van de Woude , a DKG member in The Netherlands, asked me to talk about the London Wetland Centre to groups of the Netherland - England Society in her country, I felt it would be like "taking coals to Newcastle." I had attended a Power Point course in 2002, but had not used it since. "Do talk," I was told, "Visit next year so you have time to make a presentation. We'll pay your fares and accommodation but at least five groups must request you." So I took pictures, enlisted the help of my son for technology and requested special pictures from friends at the LWC. Seven groups requested talks, so I visited twice to present to them all. Everyone was so kind. I was met, fed, put on trains, chauffeured around and accommodated in homes or hotels so that I had no worries. I just enjoyed meeting all the people. I was entertained; shown historical places and a falconry museum. I climbed a bell tower and explored old NATO headquarters in caves. I even had shopping time too.

I needn't have worried about the content of my talks. Most of the people knew roughly what I did before I volunteered at the LWC. I briefly described the world shortage of fresh water and some ways in which flooding problems can be alleviated. I concentrated on telling them about our work protecting, promoting and preserving Wetlands and all the biodiversity in it, explaining how we can make a difference as individuals. Many people wanted to visit the LWC themselves after seeing my presentation. Most importantly, I was able to show them pictures of beautiful wild creatures and plants that they might look for and nurture in their own surroundings. On the last night one lady come up to me and said, "We are rich, we are rich!" Another said "You delight in small things. You have taught me to look." What more could I want? I would recommend anyone to talk for the Netherland - England Society if they get the chance.

Thank you Kitty and thank you DKG Society for enabling this opportunity.

## Finland

In Zeta chapter of Finland we have celebrated our member Heli Piikilä who was honoured with the title of the National Study Counsellor for the year 2012. Heli has been a member of Zeta chapter since 1990 and is the Immediate Past State President of Finland. She was nominated at the suggestion of the Union of Guidance Counsellors. The award is given to a counsellor who has shown excellence in her profession. Heli has worked both at the National and International levels and she has also chaired the Guidance Counsellors' Union. We know you will all join us in congratulating Heli on her achievement. **Eija Paukkuri, Chair of European Forum 2010-2012.**



**Heli Piikilä**

Best wishes to everyone for an enjoyable summer break after a hard year's work and good wishes in particular to all members from the European Region who will be attending the International Convention in New York next month. Have a wonderful trip and come back with lots of inspiration for your chapter, state and region for the coming Biennium.

**Joan Carroll, Editor**