



November/December Newsletter 2020

Third Edition 2020 -2021

Greetings for the Seasons

The last two months of 2020 have been full. We have continued to have meetings following the guidelines for the pandemic. Several of our sisters are still self - isolating. We miss meeting together as a large group like we did a year ago. Our chapter lost two current members, Dana and Ellen, as well as a former past president, Genelle. They continue to be a part of our memories.

In thinking about 2020, one word came to mind. TURN. We had to TURN from all the familiar things in life to a life that TURNed upside down bringing confusion, apprehension, unrest, supply shortages, travel restrictions, cancelled meetings and gatherings, isolation, school closings, instruction via computer/ ZOOM....the list goes on. We have adjusted as our lives “turned on a dime”, to state an old phrase.

A song, made popular in the mid-60’s by The Byrds was *TURN, TURN, TURN (To Everything There is a Season)*. They sing about the seasons of our lives as stated in Ecclesiastes 3. You can click on the hyperlink to listen to the song.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xVOJla2vYx8>

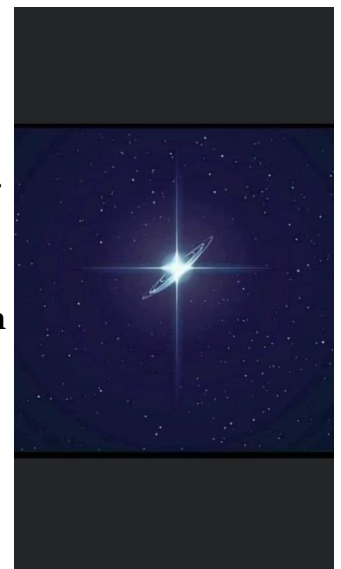
We will get through this season. Many are going to take their TURN to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Many will continue to isolate for health reasons. Many will continue to be cautious while others will go out into the community. Still, we are all moving forward.

Recently the *Christmas Star*, Saturn and Jupiter aligning, gave us a reason to look skyward and smile. (The history of the phenomenon officially dates back to the “Great Conjunction” of 1623, when Jupiter caught up to and passed Saturn in a race across the sky, according to NASA.) Continue to TURN to the future with hope. Check on one another. This pandemic season shall pass. It’s going to be OK.

Happy New Year!

Love and Blessings,

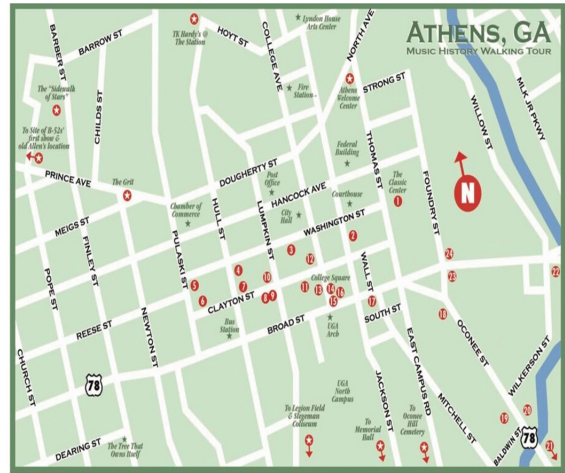
Diane



Walking Tour of Athens Music History

<https://www.athenswelcomecenter.com/musichistory>

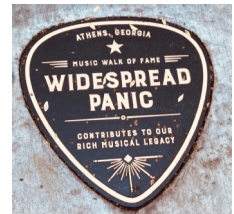
(L - R) Diane Lutz, Jane Kelly, Barbara McConnell, Freda Giles, Marta Patiño-Douce, Kaela Sweeney. Not pictured Karen Pavao, Kaela's mother & Diane's friend and Karen Maffei, Marta's friend.



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It was a beautiful, autumn day to be outside. Our self-guided tour, with the help of Freda, began at the Classic Center. We each had a handout that had a map and points of interest stops with descriptions of artists who frequented the places.

Plaques in the sidewalk also indicated tour stops.



We had samples of artists' music to enjoy along the way.

1. Jerry Lee Lewis - *Rocking Pneumonia and the Boogey Woogey Flu*

<https://youtu.be/TJKVYwjDahQ>

R.E.M. - *Losing My Religion* <https://youtu.be/oL2T-I-zTvI>

Willie Nelson - *Always on My Mind* <https://youtu.be/R7fi89ZovoY>

3. Red Hot Chili Peppers - *Under The Bridge* <https://youtu.be/NUVTkxixDwA>

5. Salt-N-Pepa - *Push It* <https://youtu.be/vCadcBR95oU>

6. R.E.M. - *Man On The Moon* <https://youtu.be/tOzUZDL5ngs>

7. The B-52's *Love Shack* <https://youtu.be/aCUofOCiZo4>

Jimmy Buffet: *Margaritaville* <https://youtu.be/CICf8xoLyG8>

10. R.E.M - *Shiny Happy People* <https://youtu.be/JpOQoLZQPc>

Lunch at South Kitchen (outside) at the end of the Tour.

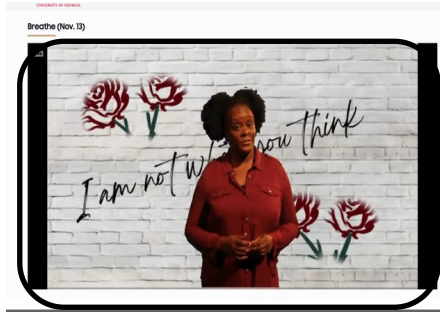
Around the table L to R: Jane Kelly, Virginia Macagnoni, Rebecca Weaver, Freda Giles, Barbara McConnell, Diane Lutz



Breathe: a Performance for Its Time

By Dr. Freda S. Giles

This year of the pandemic has proved devastating for the theatre. Theatre is immediate, live, and in need of the presence and response of an audience. Just as COVID-19 deprives its victims of oxygen, institutions like the theatre are being deprived of the elements that keep them alive. But most theatres have decided that the show must go on somehow;



there are Zoom performances, video presentations of past productions, and presentations on YouTube, Facebook and other platforms. Though those things are not the same, they remind us of how great the theatre can be and keep alive the hope that it will return as soon as possible.

In this spirit, the University of Georgia found a way to continue its yearly Spotlight on the Arts Festival, and I was honored to be asked to direct an original production on behalf of the department of theatre and film studies. I thought about two of the major issues we must confront during this time, the Black Lives Matter movement and the COVID-19 pandemic and arrived at the concept for *Breathe*. I decided that there would be three parts: the first, “Shortness of Breath,” would follow a kind of docudrama format, using real words from real people as the source of monologues and dialogues; the second, “Combat Breath,” would be creative responses from the script writer, Angela Hall, and the actors; the third, “Breathe,” would be a combination of the two, with an attempt to end on a realistic note of hope.

It was a difficult process. As a director, I am accustomed to working in a room with actors. The actors and I had to rehearse on Zoom. They did a wonderful job of creating without physical contact. We could not perform in a theatre with sets, so we videotaped performances in front of a green screen and our video production team provided backgrounds later. We pre-recorded the music and added it in toward the end of the process. Even when the actors came to UGA to film their roles, they could not work together and social distancing was strictly maintained. Only the actor unmasked during taping. We did do some filming outdoors that worked really well, but there was not enough time to do more. More time to assemble the production would have been greatly appreciated.

However, the show did go on, streamed for two weekends starting on November 5, 2020. I am deeply grateful to our cast of eight actors, our stage management team, our designers and costumers and our media team. We received good feedback for the show, and I would like to close with a comment from an audience member: “. . . we really thought it was a moving and timely effort addressing poignant issues of the day.”



Dr. J. Genelle Morain

March 3, 1928 - February 18, 2020

Past President of Beta Sigma Chapter



Genelle attended Simpson College, Indianola, Iowa where she pursued her interests in languages, literature, debate, and theatre. At a debate meeting she met her husband, Claude Morain. Genelle's education career spanned 50 years, teaching over 9,000 students. She started teaching in Cherokee, Iowa. During the summers, she studied folklore in the Masters Degree program at Indiana University. She obtained a Fulbright scholarship to study the language and culture in Tours, France. Genelle completed her PhD in Education at Ohio State University. She came to UGA in the fall of 1968. There she taught the methodology of language education, developed techniques in adult learning, published numerous articles, ran a summer language institute, developed curriculums around world cultures and their humor, cross-cultural understanding, kinesics and non verbal communication, and international folklore.

Genelle was the recipient of many awards. Some are the honorific *The Aderhold Distinguished Professor for Life*; The Athens Georgia Business & Professional Women's Club: *Woman of the Year Golden Award* and was a UGA Founder's Day speaker.

Genelle was a gourmet cook, had a delightful sense of humor and an accomplished poet. She is survived by a daughter, Michelle and son Brent and their families, a brother, and many friends. She leaves behind a wealth of good memories from family, friends, and colleagues.

Barbara McConnell: *I first met Genelle while working as a secretary in the Language Education Department in 1976-77. I was completing my teacher certification requirements. Genelle was not one of my 5 assigned professors, but I remember her smile and kindness. Fast forward to the early 2000's when I was initiated into Beta Sigma. There she was- still with the bright smile and twinkle in her eye. But, now, I would have the chance to know her on a different level. Not only did I have the chance to experience her storytelling first hand, but also was able to enjoy her baking skills. Ah - the bread she would bake! Scones were a personal favorite. We will miss her terribly in Beta Sigma, but the memories will last a lifetime.*

Carolyn Howell: *Dr. Genelle Morain was our professor, mentor and friend. Kline, my husband, and I both loved her dearly and held her in such high esteem. Dr. Morain influenced the lives of so many Foreign Language teachers who studied at the University of Georgia. She was an exceptional teacher of methodology. She also offered outstanding classes in Folklore and shared her knowledge at state and national conferences. In 2002 we took a memorable trip with her to Prague along with Jane and Paul Kelly, France Boney and Debbie Dietzler who planned the trip at UGA.*



There are **5 members of Beta Sigma** in this photo.

Bottom row: (l to r) Dr. Paul Kelly, Carolyn Howell, Jane Kelly. Second row: France Boney, Dr. Nash Boney, Genelle Morain, Dr. Kline Howell, Anita Picas, and a student teacher.

Jane Kelly: *Up until Genelle left Athens she and I were members of UGA Ramsey Center's 6:15 a.m. ! Hydrobics class. We were more than a half-century older than the college age students. But Genelle could water run across the pool as well as they could. Everyone loved her. For part of a "cool down" after cardiac exercise, our instructor would often have us give ourselves a big stretching hug. Genelle would make everyone laugh when she would follow the directions, give herself a big hug, and exclaim, "Oh, I love you, Genelle." Even today the Cedar Creek neighborhood directory reprints Genelle's 20 line poem "Walking the Creek." She tells of neighbors she meets on those long walks with her dog and visualizes what they see as they go. A few lines are:*

**Our avian neighbors--from hummers to hawks,
Will furnish sweet music (and occasional squawks).
You'll see blossoming bushes and flowering trees.
Honeysuckle and lilac will float on the breeze.**

Genelle was the only professor I took classes with who was so loved that the whole class felt depressed when the course ended.

Dr. Ny Riavo Voarintsoa (Voary): *I am new to DKG, but although you are no longer among us, I'd like to say thank you for being an empowerment to women and for encouraging their education. Your initiative has great impact to many girls/women all around the world, such as myself.*



Ellen Louise (Speck) Stoll

June 8, 1953 ~ December 16, 2020 (age 67)

Ellen Louise Speck Stoll was released from her human bonds and passed into the arms of her Lord on December 16th, 2020. She was preceded in death by her parents Stephen Johnson Speck and Dorothy Jane Harvey Speck. She is survived by her husband, Kevin John Stoll, and three children; Carrie Beth Stoll Finney (Jeffrey Finney), Michael Travis Stoll (Kristi Marie Stoll) and Amy Marie Stoll McClure (Justin McClure). She is also survived by two sisters; Marcia Jane Speck McDonald (Steven McDonald) and Anne Christine Speck Lee (Gregory Lee), and six grandchildren; Ansley Marie McClure, Kayden Briggs Stoll, John Benjamin Finney, Baleigh Jane McClure, Kellen Bennett Stoll, and Joshua Albert Finney.

Ellen's greatest love in life was her children and grandchildren, as well as the hundreds of children she taught in private preschools and the Clarke County PreK program. Nothing brought her greater joy than to watch "her kids" grow and learn. She had great faith in God and shared this with many, either through Vacation Bible School, Youth Group, Bible Study, or simply how she lived her life. Ellen and Kevin celebrated 47 years of marriage this year. A small private ceremony for family and close friends was held on December 19th, 2020 at Lord and Stephens East.

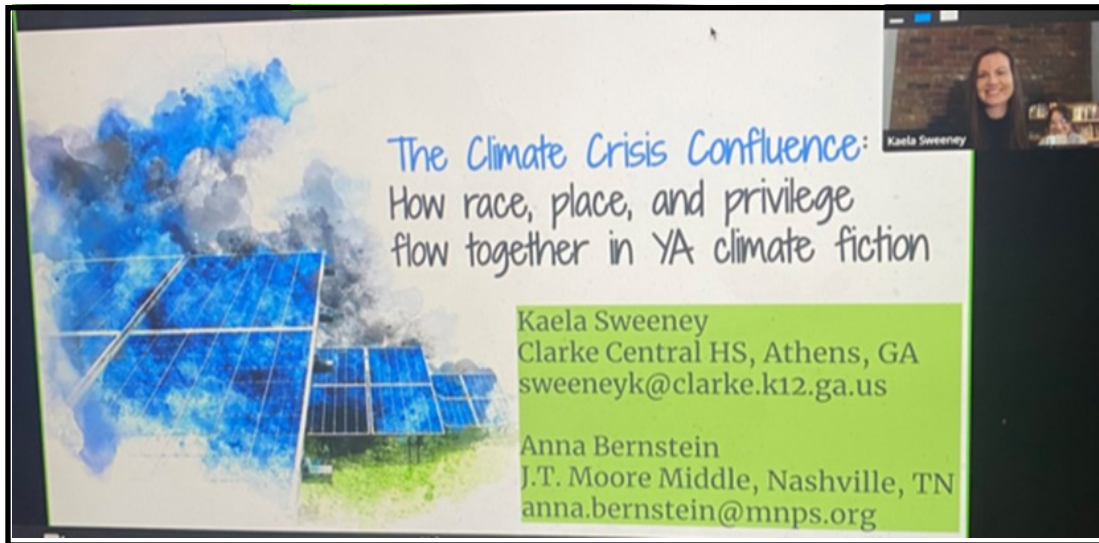
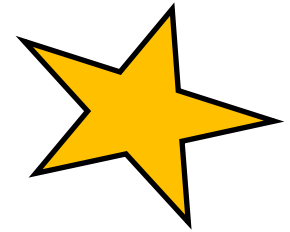
Our dear sister, Ellen Stoll, passed away unexpectedly, on December 16. Born in 1953, Ellen is survived by her devoted husband of 47 years, Kevin, 2 daughters and a son and their spouses, along with 6 grandchildren. As educators, we seem to gravitate to a particular area that we love. Ellen's favorite was the world of the four year old. After teaching in preschool for a number of years, she moved to pre-k in the Clarke County School District. To hear her describe "her children" was all one needed to know how much she treasured watching them grow and learn. Ellen's greatest love, however, was for her family. She shared her strong faith in God through Vacation Bible School, youth groups, Bible Study and simply by how she lived her life. The light of Christ shone through everything Ellen said and did. We will miss her in Beta Sigma. Barbara McConnell

Ellen was inducted into DKG - Beta Sigma 3 1/2 years ago. She was always willing to help on a committee and share her great smile. Even through several medical challenges, she had a positive attitude. Ellen was an asset to our chapter. We will miss her.
Diane Lutz

I was always taken by her great spirits in the face of adversity. She was a great example of resilience and optimism. Marta Patiño-Douce

Congratulations

Kaela Sweeney
National Council of Teachers of English
Presenter November 2020



ATHENS, GEORGIA- Every November, the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) hosts a convention for secondary and post-secondary English teachers to share and learn from each other. For educators, conventions like these offer opportunities for reflection, change, and connection with other talented teachers across the country. The proposal process for NCTE’s convention involves a short written proposal based on a given theme for the year. Any English educator, regardless of their experience level or school, can submit a proposal. The theme for this year’s virtual NCTE convention was “Confluencia! Songs of Ourselves.” The goal of the virtual convention was to come together to “read, write, speak, listen, and view with curiosity.”

Kaela Sweeney, a member of the Beta Sigma chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society in Georgia presented at the virtual NCTE conference on November 22, 2020 with her colleague, Anna Bernstein. Their presentation focused on teaching climate fiction in the English language arts classroom. Entitled, “The Climate Crisis Confluence: How race, place, and privilege flow together in Young Adult climate fiction,” their session focused on using young adult climate fiction to empower students to use literacy as a tool for change in their communities. Much of the work they did with their students was focused on student action in the Nashville, TN community. Through the teaching of climate fiction with lenses of race, place and privilege, students learned to analyze how the climate crisis does and will impact the lived experiences of humanity in fiction and non-fiction. Students were empowered to use storytelling as a tool to engage with their communities.

Kaela Sweeney has been teaching English for six years. After receiving her Masters of Education from Vanderbilt’s Peabody College, she taught middle school and high school English in Metro Nashville Public Schools in Tennessee. She currently teaches American Literature at Clarke Central High School in Athens, GA. In the classroom, she is constantly looking for ways to connect her student’s learning to action they can take in their immediate communities. She presented her student’s success with getting a wide variety of readers on their online news site at the Tennessee High School Press Association’s Fall Workshop in 2018. In the spring of 2019’s Middle Tennessee Writing Project conference, she presented about using debate strategies to improve student writing.

Kaela encourages all educators to share their strategies and success with others through local, state, and national conventions. English educators who are interested in presenting at next year’s NCTE convention, “Equity, Justice, and Antiracist Teaching,” can submit their proposals [here](#) by January 13, 2021.



NOVEMBER

PECANS!

Seven cases - 168 one pound bags arrived.

Mammoth pecans!

Our scholarship fund increased from this sale. We sold out in one day. Next year we'll take more orders... ahead of time.

Brown Butter Pecan Cookies

1 cup Schermer Pecan Halves chopped and roasted, plus extra halves to top each cookie

2 sticks salted butter, room temperature

3/4 cup dark brown sugar

1/3 cup granulated sugar

2 eggs

1 tbsp vanilla extract

2 1/4 cup all-purpose flour

1 tsp baking soda

2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips

1 cup dried cranberries



1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a skillet over medium heat, melt one stick of butter and allow it to brown lightly until it smells toasted.

2. Beat together the remaining 1 stick of butter, cooled brown butter, brown sugar and granulated sugar until combined. Beat in the eggs and vanilla until creamy. Add flour and baking soda. Once combined stir in chocolate chips, pecans and cranberries.

3. Spoon the dough onto a prepared baking sheet and bake for 8-10 minutes. A couple of minutes before removing from the oven, top with a pecan half and finish baking.

4. Allow to cool for 5 minutes and enjoy!

Thank you to all who sold or purchased pecans!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS



Carolyn Ashley with new granddaughter, Ashlyn Charlene Sharp, born 11/7/20. Parents are Joy and Kevin Sharp.

The little one lives in Jefferson, so Carolyn can hold her often.



Virginia Macagnoni celebrated her 93rd birthday a couple days early with Beta Sigma sisters at Hilltop Grille on December 2nd.

DECEMBER 4th



DECEMBER 13th

Mary Jim Combs-Tate celebrated her 87th birthday by Beta Sigma sisters giving her a surprise “lawn birthday party” at her home.



Both Virginia and Mary Jim are very active and vital members. They both have worked hard to keep the chapter involved in community, state, and chapter activities. Both are young at heart.



December 5th Beta Sigma Gathering

(Between birthday celebrations!)

Carolyn Howell graciously opened her lovely home for a brief holiday gathering. While the group was small, Carolyn's home was very festive and the joy of the season filled the air. Thank you Carolyn.

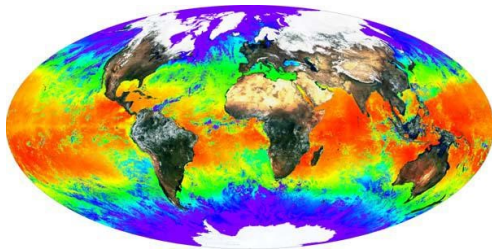


Carolyn's pretty decorations throughout her home set the stage for the holidays.



Do you have your $\beta\Sigma$ mask? Diane's sister, Lou, made the masks for our chapter. Wear the rose side or flip it over and wear the embroidered side out. Masks are free.

Let Diane know if you need a mask!



AGI Offers Award for K-8 Earth Science Teaching

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — The American Geosciences Institute (AGI) invites science educators to enter its upcoming award competition, the 2021 Edward C. Roy Jr. Award for Excellence in K-8 Earth Science Teaching.

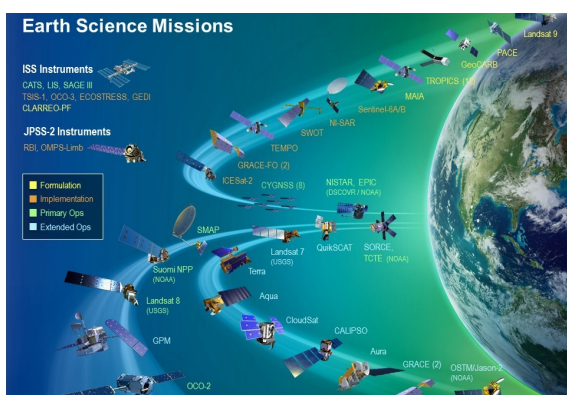
Given annually, this award is presented to one teacher of students ranging from kindergarten through grade eight in the United States or Key stages 1-3 in the United Kingdom. The award recognizes leadership and innovation in Earth science education.

Entrants are asked to submit an application packet including a curriculum vitae or resume, letters of recommendation, an essay, and an exemplary Earth system science lesson plan, preferably that they have implemented in their instruction. Submissions are stronger if they address current trends in Earth science education, which this year may include ways that the teacher has effectively adapted instruction to address pandemic conditions, though this is not required.

The winner of the Roy Award will receive a monetary prize of \$2,500 and a travel grant of up to \$1,000 to attend the upcoming National Science Teaching Association National Conference in Chicago, April 8-11, 2021. To be eligible, applications must be submitted by January 20, 2021.

The award is given in honor of Dr. Edward C. Roy Jr., a strong and dedicated supporter of Earth science education. For more information on requirements, application procedures, and deadlines, please visit <https://www.americangeosciences.org/education/awards/roy> and/or view a brief webcast at <https://www.earthsciweek.org/webcasts/EdRoy>. Questions may be directed to awards@americangeosciences.org.

Thank you Marta for sharing this award information.





A new international relationship has been established between the Geological Society of Madagascar and the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, Beta Sigma Chapter in Athens, Georgia, USA



On Saturday October 24, 2020 at 10:00 am EST, President and Founder of the Geological Society of Madagascar (GSM), Dr. Ny Riavo G. Voarintsoa was inducted into Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, Beta Sigma Chapter in Athens, Georgia, USA. The virtual induction, via Zoom, had fourteen $\beta\Sigma$ chapter members present, including current president, Diane Lutz and Voary's sponsor, Dr. Marta Patiño-Douce, immediate past president of $\beta\Sigma$.

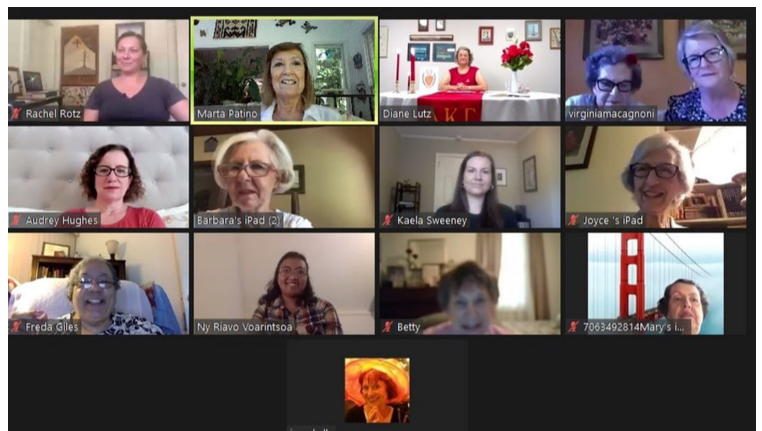
Dr. Ny Riavo Voarintsoa (Voary) is an alumnus of the Department of Geology of the University of Georgia, where she was the lab coordinator of an Environmental Geology class in the fall of 2013 and 2014. This was an introductory geology class for non-geology majors, led by Dr. Marta Patiño-Douce (Marta). The professional relationship and friendship between Voary and Marta has continued. They've exchanged emails to check on each other. Early in February 2020, Voary organized a fundraising event on the GoFundMe platform to support an Outreach Activity by the Geological Society of Madagascar at a local high school, Lycée J.J. Rabearivelo in Antananarivo Madagascar. Voary mentored nine highly motivated GSM members to lead the outreach activity. While Voary and Marta exchanged emails, Marta invited Voary to investigate DKG. This was an excellent initiative from Marta. Voary is delighted to be in a society of world-wide women educators.

Please click on this link to see the entire article that is on the Geological Society of Madagascar site:

<https://geosocietymada.weebly.com/gsm-dkg.html>



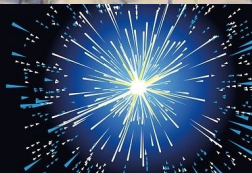
Voary and Marta at the Department of Geology at UGA after Voary's graduation.



Beta Sigma members at Voary's ZOOM induction.

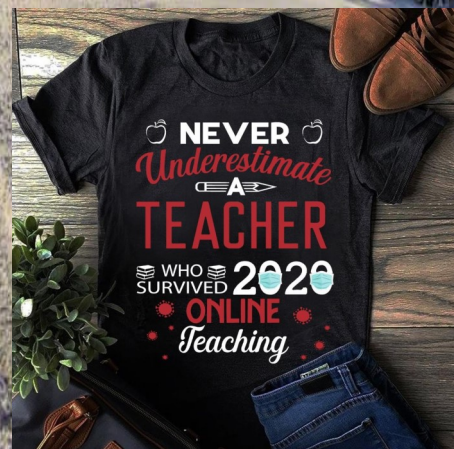
DOWN THE ROAD... Looking ahead

Happy
New Year



GSO Deadlines

January 3	2021-2022 Boylston grant applications due; Mid-Year Report due for 2020-2021 grants
January 3	DKGEF project application due
January 30	Virtual district meetings
January 31	GSO Achievement, Legacy, & Rosebud applications due
February 1	GSO Officer/Committee Chair reports due
February 1	Scholarship applications due to DKG International and GSO
February 1	GSO Outstanding Chapter Program Award application due
February 1	DKGEF Cornet CIPD application due



Keep Up The Good Work!