



## **Saturday Evening Banquet Keynote Speaker**

**Jeannette Zúñiga**, was born in Costa Rica, a tropical country in Central America, which is characterized by its nature, peace, and cordiality. She has been happily married for more than forty-seven years and has two daughters, two sons, and four grandchildren.

Jeannette graduated from the University of Costa Rica, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts, a degree in Education, English, Arts and Law. She also has a major in Arts and Teaching Education. Retired from public schools, she has a wide experience in the field of education, enriching her knowledge in this field for more than twenty-five years serving as a teacher in all levels of education. In 2002 she received, with honors, her Degree in Law at the University of Costa Rica.

Jeannette first taught Spanish lessons to adults at the Language Institute of Costa Rica where she had the opportunity to teach her native language to missionaries who would later work in the Latin American countries. After this important task, she worked as an elementary teacher and a high school teacher in the fields of English and Arts. Jeannette remembers her first job in education as “one of her most joyful, rewarding, and unforgettable life experiences”.

As a Delta Kappa Gamma member, she was initiated in Beta Chapter in 1984. She has served as chapter president, state president, executive secretary, and in many other positions of leadership. She has also served as chair on many state committees. She received an International Stipend to develop the project "Values in Costa Rica Education" and she is one of the proud recipients of the International Scholarship Eula Lee Carter.

At the international level, Jeannette served as Latin American Area Representative during the 2002-2004 biennium and Member at Large from 2010-2014. She is currently the Second Vice President of DKG and credited for promoting and organizing the expansion of DKG into Panama. She says, “Serving as a DKG member for more than thirty years at all Society levels has proven to be specially rewarding and enriching to me”.

As an artist, Jeannette has won national prizes and contests with her watercolor paintings. She has had exhibitions in famous art galleries in her country. Some of her paintings are in private collections in Costa Rica, the United States of America, South America, Dominican Republic, and Teheran.