



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
NC DKG North Carolina State Organization  
Delta Sigma Chapter  
Lincoln County  
Region X

*Delta Sigma*  
*LINC*

Volume 10, Issue 1

Ready, Set, Grow!

September 2019

## Ready, Set GROW!

By: Dr. Teresa H. Cowan, NC DKG President

I have often heard that growth for the sake of growth is counterproductive. I believe that wholeheartedly. But I also believe and have witnessed firsthand the quote by John O’Leary that “the only evidence of life is growth.” The 2019-2021 biennium theme, Ready, Set, GROW!, is my attempt in finding balance with these two statements.

Ready, Set, GROW! captures the value of DKG tradition while welcoming the need for adaptation as we move into the future. (The future that is already here!) I used to tell my students that if you are the same at the end of the year as you were at the beginning of the year then I have failed you. My role as an educator was to assist them in adapting to middle school in order to increase their likelihood for success. I was their agent of growth. Now I see my role as NC DKG President in the same regard.

DKG is at a pivotal crossroads as a Society. What do the next 90 years look like for DKG? Will there be another 85 years for NC DKG? Those are two questions or ones similar to them that are being posed across the Society. But I believe the bigger question for each of us as members is the following:

### “What are you willing to do for this Society?”

As your NC DKG President, I am willing to **GROW**. Are you willing to join me? Are you ready to **make adaptations to foster growth**? Are you willing to **accept adaptations to stimulate continued growth**? If the words of support and encouragement I have received of late are any indication, **I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE!** I believe the members of NC DKG are willing to **Ready, Set, GROW!** personally, professionally and as an organization.

NC DKG members, I challenge you to Ready, Set, GROW! With my challenge comes a few reminders: GROWth is not easy, it can be painful, and can often get pretty messy along the way. But for those willing to “get their hands dirty,” the harvest is rewarding.

Together we can cultivate, nurture, energize, and develop as we **Ready, Set, GROW!**



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## Message from Dr. Teresa Cowan, NC DKG President



### Are Your Hands Dirty Yet?

Since assuming the role of President, I have posed two difficult questions. First, “What are you willing to do for this Society?” and second, “Is it time for renovation of NC DKG?” Each question lends itself to growth either as

individuals or as a Society.

As committees start to take action, the Executive Board meeting approaches, chapter meetings begin, and convention planning is underway, I want to share how some have answered these questions and are “getting their hands dirty.”

“Renovation” efforts to modernize systems and utilize NC DKG structural framework

- Direct pay and workflow platforms for reimbursements (Finance Cmte)
- Wi-Fi to Headquarters (Headquarters Cmte)
- Strategies for distributing information (C&M Cmte and Related Personnel)

“GROW” efforts to cultivate, nurture, energize, and develop leadership and membership

- Induction ceremonies scheduled for the fall (You GROW, chapters!)
- Newsletters, brochures and marketing materials published (You GROW, chapters!)
- Members accepted committees, chair and convention roles (You GROW, girls!)
- Members pursue career changes and/or advancements (You GROW, girls!)

Once again I leave you with a question, “**Are your hands dirty yet?**”

## Executive Secretary Job Posting Soon

The position of NC DKG Executive Secretary will be posted soon for the 2020-2026 term, the Personnel Committee has announced.

This position requires a member with broad-based experience and knowledge of all levels of the Society. The current job description is under review so input from members is welcome.

The application and timeline for the selection process will be posted on the NC DKG webpage by mid-October. Watch the website and social media for announcements and more information.

Lynne Leatherwood, chair of the Personnel Committee, urges members to give thoughtful consideration to recruiting and nominating a worthy candidate for this position. Contact Lynne with questions at [Lynne.L Leatherwood@gmail.com](mailto:Lynne.L Leatherwood@gmail.com)

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## Have You Entered/Updated Your Profile

Information on the Delta Kappa Gamma Website? Please take the time to add your profile information to the Delta Kappa Gamma Website.

Our goal is to have 100% of our members registered. If you need help with this process, please ask for assistance. We have lots of tech-savvy members who will be glad to help.

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## Tech Tip

If you are on your computer and want to refresh the web page click the F5 key. The browser will update whatever page is active in your browser window. Examples of browsers: Edge, Google, and Firefox.



Dear Sisters,

As a result of International Convention, each state in the US is changing their state organization to

include the region in the title. Eta State is now NC DKG a rebranding of the name of our organization. I challenge everyone to try substituting NC DKG for Eta State. I try to catch myself but this name change will take some time of transition.

Teresa Cowen is our new NC Delta Kappa Gamma President. Her theme and motto "Ready, Set, Grow."

Sincerely,

Rhonda Kever Hager  
Delta Sigma President 2018-2020  
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course depending on your personal tax situation)

- Provides Members automatically to the NC Education Foundation due to being a DKG member
- Raise \$10,000 in contributions within 3 years to establish the Endowment
- Fund scholarships based on the interest-only
- Disperse monies given/raised must be above the \$10,000
- Permit NCDKG Education Foundation administers, manages, and disperses the grant funds
- Pay a 1% annual service fee

The was an excellent Information gathering session led by our NC DKG Board Chair. I am sorry that 100% of our members were unable to hear the presentation. I instructed the assembled members to discuss and explore this as a potential for providing a legacy for our organization. The limited endowment over time would generate revenue once established; which could potentially replace yearly large fundraising.

## **WHAT is a Limited Endowment and WHY might Delta Sigma want to establish one???**

*By Rhonda Hager*

Sheila Groves, Board Chair of the NC DKG Education Foundation board, presented information regarding chapter limited endowments to the foundation. Endowment Challenge stage for NCDKG.501 c (3). The endowment would allow our chapter to :

- Offers a tax-deductible deduction allowed for contributions to the Endowment (of

We missed several of you at the Planning Meeting but want to provide you with the information about NC Education Foundation so you can make an informed decision when we determine our direction for chapter's fundraising efforts. You can visit the NC Education Foundation website at

<http://www.ncdkgef.org/> OR ther facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NCDKGEF/>

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## RULES AND BYLAWS CHANGES

By Rhonda Hager

Due to changes at the International level our bylaws have been revamped. The following motion was made, seconded and approved at our July 22, 2019 at the Planning Meeting:: Delta Sigma Chapter rules shall be amended automatically by the Ad Hoc Rule Committee to comply with the Constitution, International Standing Rules, and the NC State Organization Bylaws and Standing Rules. Notice of automatic updates shall be published in the Fall Chapter Newsletter (or in other chapter publications). The Ad Hoc Rules Committee will review needed changes and make a recommendation to the Executive Board on September 9, 2019.

If approved, then The Delta Sigma chapter will consider the recommendation for approval at the September 23, 2019 meeting. Rules changes would be sent out to be read BEFORE the meeting.

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## New Grants Available This Year

Two new grants are available this year through the NC DKG Educational Foundation in addition to the grants for projects in Learning/Literacy and for conferences/travel opportunities to support education. September 30 is the deadline to apply for all of them.

The Groves-Little grant is for Early Career Educators, four years or less, in NC public schools, and the McCall grant is for Gifted Education or Fine Arts projects in NC. AP teachers may apply for the McCall grant to fund a classroom project. To learn more, visit the Foundation website and click on the Grants tab.

## Scholarship Opportunities

Advanced Degree Scholarship or Professional Development Scholarship contact Judy Shuford at judyshuford@bellsouth.net for an application due on March 13, 2020. Also, to apply for an International Scholarship, go to the website for an application. If you have any questions, please contact phyllish@dkg.org. Due February 1, 2020.

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## Professional Development Scholarship in Action

By Heather Myers

ELMS was honored to be re-designated as a Schools to Watch for the 5th time at the National Middle School Forum's Schools to Watch conference in Washington, DC this past June. Heather Myers is **grateful for the financial scholarship** that she received through Delta Gamma in order to attend the conference.

While at the conference, Mrs. Myers co-presented a presentation on how culture and climate positively impact student achievement at ELMS and met with representatives from U.S. House member Patrick McHenry's office to invite them to the school and discuss current legislative issues affecting middle schools today.

ELMS originally received designation in 2004 under Mrs. Diana Carpenter, also a Delta Gamma member. Being designated requires a staff survey under the Schools to Watch rubric (see NCMLE site below), a lengthy essay/application process & data review, and site visit from education leaders around the state to assess how the rubric and essay application are being faithfully implemented in the 5 Schools to Watch areas:

1. **Academically Excellent:** These schools challenge all students to use their minds well.
2. **Developmentally Responsive:** These schools are sensitive to the unique developmental challenges of early adolescence.
3. **Socially Equitable:** These schools are democratic and fair, providing every student with high-quality teachers, resources, and supports.
4. **Organizationally Structured and Supported:** These schools share a vision and promote a learning community of practice.

Every 3 years, ELMS has been re-evaluated using the same process and has achieved redesignation for the 5th time this year! There are around 400 Schools to Watch across the nation with less than 10 receiving a 5th redesignation across the country.

## **Speak Up For Children**

**By Jill Eaddy**

Speak Up For Children, Inc. is pleased to announce that again this year Delta Sigma will assist the non-profit with the upcoming Holiday Tour of Homes. The tour will be held on Friday, December 13, 2019, from 4:00 pm until 9:00 pm. The Delta Sigma volunteers make the tour possible by greeting guest and monitoring the rooms to which they are assigned. They can sign up for one shift and take the rest of the time to visit the other homes on the tour.

As Christmas nears, the rich architecture and charm of Lincolnton will be showcased in this tour which will feature four lovely private homes and a historic church, all uniquely decorated for Christmas. Visitors will tour the Rudisill-Elmore-House Home, the Burris-Downey Property, the Brooks Loft, the Hopkins-Tallent Home and the historic First Methodist Church.

This Holiday Tour of Homes offers a rare opportunity to enter some of Lincolnton's finest private homes and historic church facilities. Visitors will experience the architecture, furnishings and holiday decorations that make these treasured sites unique. These properties help preserve the character and charm of historic Lincolnton. The tour is self-guided. Guests may visit any of the sites in any order at their own pace during the time allotted. Parking will be available near each of the homes.

Each year dozens of Lincoln County's children are removed from their homes and placed under the Department of Social Services (DSS) custody as a result of abuse or neglect. Each child is assigned a volunteer advocate by the court called a Guardian ad Litem (GAL). In Lincoln County GALs advocate for over 120 children at any one time. These children often have many unmet needs such as clothes, shoes and help with school related activities and opportunities that are available to other children.



*Burris Downey Property*

Speak Up For Children (SUFC), organized by the GALs, is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization registered in North Carolina. SUFC raises funds and solicits in-kind donations to provide opportunities

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and to fill unmet material needs for these children, thus providing hope and a sense of normalcy in their disrupted lives. We also support the Guardian ad Litem program by assisting in volunteer recruitment and on-going training. Proceeds from this tour will go directly to provide for the foster children of Lincoln County.

Delta Sigma members can help by signing up to volunteer at a tour site and also by getting the word out about the event. Tell your friends and neighbors and share it on social media. Please check out our Facebook page, Speak Up For Children, and look under the "Events" section. From there, you can share the event to your timeline and invite your friends. Also, visit our website at [speakupforchildren.us](http://speakupforchildren.us). Tickets can be purchased on the website starting October 1st. Delta Sigma's help and support are greatly appreciated!

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## Recognition, Awards ,and Celebrations of Members

Please share joyous and celebratory news with our members, email your news to the editor, Jennifer Luper([jenniferluper@att.net](mailto:jenniferluper@att.net))

### Awards:

**Jenny Dellinger**— A member of the team from West Lincoln Middle School who received the inaugural L3 (Lincoln Learning Leaders) grant of \$35,000. The elementary, middle, and high school winning teams will meet throughout the year, visiting media centers that have made major renovations to bring their spaces to into the 21st century, and formulating the plans to do the same in our own media centers.

**Jennifer Luper**—Received National Future Business Leaders of America Recognition at the San Antonio, TX, Conference where she was awarded NC Adviser of the Year in the United States Parade and Showcase of States.

### Celebrations:

**Rhonda Hager's** son Ben Hager graduated from UNCC in May 2019 with a degree in Engineering concentration on Construction Management. He is now **gainfully employed** full time as Project Manager for D and M Concrete Construction Contracting.

**Rhonda Hager's** daughter, Alyssa Hager, spent 6 weeks (May 15-June 22) in a Study Aboard program on Operations and Human Resources in China. The program highlights included being in a setting rich with human resources and widely known as the world's leading manufacturing center, China is the perfect place for students to experience business globally. While studying these topics, students participate in several company visits to manufacturing facilities and corporate headquarters to gain insight into "doing business in China." Students also participate in a seminar series featuring local business faculty and corporate leaders. In addition to this business focused immersion into doing business in China, students live in Shanghai and visit Hangzhou, the tea capital of China, and the Great Wall in Beijing to gain a rich cultural understanding of China.

**Kesha Ruppe's** new addition to her family of **Marshall Charles Ruppe** who was born on September 9, 2019 with a weight of 8 lbs. 12 ounces and 21.5 inches long. Kesha and husband Matt, Marshall, and his brother Mason are all doing well. Congratulations, Kesha!



### Mission Statement:

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

### DKG International Vision:

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

### NC DKG Vision:

Voices of Influence Empowering NC Women Educators

### Delta Sigma LINC Submissions

Send to newsletter editor submissions of member news, committee briefs and articles for inclusion in the October 25, 2019

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## Delta Sigma Calendar

| EVENT   | DATE                      | TIME           | LOCATION                    |
|---|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>Dinner Meeting: (Ed. Law &amp; Policy and Membership Committees)</i> | <b>September 23, 2019</b> | <b>6:00 PM</b> | Boger City Methodist Church |
| <i>Meeting (Communication Committee)</i>                                | <b>November 14, 2019</b>  | <b>4:00 PM</b> | Boger City Methodist Church |
| <i>Tour of Homes</i>  | <b>December 13, 2019</b>  | <b>Shift</b>   | Tour of Homes Locations     |
| <i>Executive Board Meeting</i>  | <b>January 9, 2020</b>    | <b>4:00 PM</b> | Boger City Methodist Church |
| <i>Informal Gathering Meeting (Programs &amp; Fine Arts Committee)</i>  | <b>January 27, 2020</b>   | <b>4:00 PM</b> | Boger City Methodist Church |
| <i>Meeting (Finance)</i>  | <b>February 13, 2020</b>  | <b>4:00 PM</b> | Boger City Methodist Church |
| <i>Meeting (Scholarship and Beginning Teachers)</i>                     | <b>April 23, 2020</b>     | <b>6:00 PM</b> | Boger City Methodist Church |

## State and International Calendar

| EVENT                    | DATE              | LOCATION         |
|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| NC DKG Convention        | May 1-3, 2020     | Greensboro, NC   |
| International Convention | July 7-11, 2020   | Philadelphia, PA |
| NC DKG Convention        | April 23-25, 2021 | Asheville, NC    |
| International Convention | June 10-18, 2022  | New Orleans, LA  |

## Important Web Links for Chapter Members

International Website: <https://www.dkg.org>

NC DKG Website: [www.ncdkg.org](http://www.ncdkg.org)

Delta Sigma Website: <http://deltasigmanc.weebly.com>

September Eta Data: <https://bit.ly/2mbb2Y3>

