

THE DELTA KAPPA
GAMMA SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL

NORTH CAROLINA
ETA STATE
ORGANIZATION

DELTA SIGMA
CHAPTER
LINCOLN COUNTY

REGION X

Delta Sigma LINC

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 1

AUGUST, 2015

PLEASE NOTE!

Chapter dues will remain \$89 for 2015-16. See committee notes on page 2 for more details.

Sept. 1 deadline for Lucile Cornetet Award for Professional Development Application.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

A Message from your President	2
Committee Announcements	2
Message from President Sheila Groves	3
Laurie Sellers Attends National Literacy Convention	4
State/International Calendar	4
Member News & Sustaining Pride in the Big Picture	5
Chapter Calendar	6

Preparation Begins for 2015 New Teacher Breakfast

We are continuing our direct impact on Lincoln County Schools by providing our new teachers a breakfast on August 12th and mentoring them throughout their first year. The breakfast will be held at Lincoln Middle School from 7:30 -8:30, followed by a panel discussion and question answer session from 8:30-9:00. Each new teacher will receive a goody bag of gifts/supplies to help them begin their first year of teaching. If you have not already done so please e-mail Laurie Sellers at lsellers@lincoln.k12.nc.us to let her know if you are able to at



Picture from 2014 event

tend. If you have anything you would like to contribute to the gift bags please let Judy Shuford know at judyshuord@bellsouth.net. In addition to welcoming our new teachers you will also have the opportunity to meet them face to face and sign up to mentor one of our **23 new teachers. If you know someone whom you would like to mentor or if you**

have a preference for schools, please let me know by email or at the breakfast.

“Our world needs less gurus, and more teachers. Gurus are about helping themselves become successful. Teachers are about helping others become successful.” Joseph C. Kunz Jr. We have the opportunity to help, guide, and inspire these new teachers to help students not only this year but for years to come. Thank you for your dedication to such an important ministry.

Laurie Sellers
Beginning Teacher Chair

Speak Up For Children Offers Members Opportunities for Service

Speak Up for Children (SUFC), last year’s Delta Sigma community project, is still working hard to assist with the financial needs of children in the Lincoln County foster care system. We have offered tutoring, summer camps, day care fees, summer activity fees, prom dresses, clothing and other personal items and more to our children in an effort to normalize their lives and give them a chance for a brighter future. The generous donations from Delta Sigma were very helpful in helping us meet our mission. We thank you for all your contributions.

SUFC has also taken on a very large project which will benefit the children and their families as they work toward reunification. We are building a playground next to DSS where the children can meet with their families for supervised visits and also a place where children can play while waiting for placement when they are first

taken into care. As of now, those children are taken from their parents by a social worker and a police officer and taken to DSS where they generally have to wait in an office or in a small visitation room while suitable placement is found for them. We are trying to make this process a little less traumatizing for the kids.



The playground is being built by volunteers, but a lot of money is still required to pay for materials and equipment. Here is where we can use Delta Sigma’s manpower if the organization decides to select SUFC as their commu-

nity project for 2015-16. Rather than taking donations from DKG members, we would ask for you to volunteer some time.

To raise the needed money, SUFC is holding a Glow Run on Sept. 24th. This is a fun activity for young children and adults alike. If you would like to help with this event (i.e. put together packets, give out t shirts, help with registration etc.), contact Jill Eaddy. Also, on the weekend of December 12th, SUFC will sponsor a Holiday Tour of Homes. We are not sure yet which evening during this weekend that it will be held, but we will need volunteers at the homes to take up tickets and possibly monitor rooms.

If Delta Sigma decides to select Speak Up for Children as their community service project again this year, help in these projects would be greatly appreciated.

Jill Eaddy



DKG has partnered with Go Ahead Tours to take DKG members on a fun, educational tour of England, Scotland, and Ireland in mid-July, 2016. The 12-day itinerary is on-line at <http://dkgtoursite.com>, along with an enticing slide show of points of interest along the way. Learn more at <http://www.goaheadtours.com/dkgwebinars>.



©Leonid * illustrationsOf.com/228532

A Message From Your President

Wow! Even though many of you have been on vacation and are getting ready to “go back to school”, your Delta Sigma committees have been busy getting ready for 2015-2016. In 2014, when I said that I would be your president, I told Elaine Jenkins that the most difficult thing for me to do would be to write this article. As a freshman at Winthrop College (now University), I remember staying up most of the night trying to write a one page theme. The words just do not flow. So please read this newsletter carefully for your executive committee has met and made some great recommendations. Mark your calendars accordingly.

- **August 12** - Beginning Teacher Breakfast
- **August 12**- Orientation of Initiates with Mentors
- **By September 11**, send me your pledge for the “100 Challenge.”

- **September 29th** – Our First Meeting of the new year with Initiation of New Members, presentation by Dr. Sherry Hoyle about “School Issues,” the adoption of our 2015-2016 budget and the adoption of a community/service project.

We are never too old to learn and be inspired. At my grandson’s high school graduation in Falls Church, VA, the speaker was a current senior writer for *Sports Illustrated*, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Rutgers and a member of the National Hockey Hall of Fame. To the graduates, he recommended First, “ASK QUESTIONS.” So I am passing this on to you as a member of DKG. Ask questions of us - your seasoned members, of anyone on the state level – they are more than willing to inform, and of members on the international level for the expert answers. The DKG and Eta State websites are both very helpful

and informative. Just go to the websites. The other recommendation was “To BE Bold.” His illustration was simple “Do not continue to go to the same restaurant and order the same meal.” This struck home with me. So I challenge each of you to be BOLD. Apply for those scholarships/grants in aid offered on the local, state, or international level; submit articles to our publications; attend conferences, state conventions, international conventions, seminars, or whatever. You have our support!!!

I am excited for our Delta Sigma chapter in 2015-16. As we grow, learn and share, we will become stronger, more effective and beneficial not only to our members, but to Lincoln County Schools as well.

Take care,
Edwina R. Beam, President
jbeam@charter.net
704-735-1219

COMMITTEE NOTES

Program Committee (Libby Fletcher, Chair): The program committee looks forward not only to initiating our new sisters, but also to hearing from Dr. Sherry Hoyle at our September 29th meeting. Dr. Hoyle will update our chapter on current issues for Lincoln County Schools.

As we begin a new year, we want to do our best to stay in touch with each other. Please check your information in the yearbook and send Libby Fletcher (pjlfletcher@bellsouth.net) any corrections or updates.

Finance Committee (Wendy Mosteller, Chair): The Finance is very pleased to announce that the dues will remain at \$89. Please be prepared to pay your dues at the September 29th meeting or by the October 1st deadline. If you would like to pay in installments, of if your dues will not be paid by the deadline, please contact treasurer, Kellie Goins at 704 736-9518 ASAP. Dues may be mailed to Kellie’s home address also at 559 Alf Hoover Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092. Please consider delivery time when mailing, and **please do not use** the school courier system. Thank you for your cooperation!

“A New Biennium! A New Adventure!”

I am honored to be your Eta State President. I stand on the strong shoulders of all my NC sisters who encouraged, inspired, and even gave me a little push from time to time. I'm delighted to serve along with First Vice-President Connie Savell, Second Vice-President Sharon Frazier, and Secretary Hilda Parlér. A new biennium! A new adventure!

It's exciting to be a NC Delta Kappa Gamma member today. I am proud to belong to an organization that values the contributions of women in all roles of society, an organization that promotes self-knowledge and awareness, an organization that encourages networking and genuine fellowship. NC Delta Kappa Gamma meetings and events not only offer opportunities for personal and professional growth, but they generate meaningful relationships. Our recent state convention and Leadership Development Seminar provided time for members to share information and ideas, to laugh and to enjoy conversations. A highlight for me at both events was the opportunity to talk with some of our youngest members: engaging, informed, and uninhibited. How refreshing!

Dynamic programs and projects offer ways for us to make a difference in our communities, our state, and to reach far beyond, to impact the global society. Our many service-oriented opportunities feed children and families, provide support for women's shelters, and put books and educational materials in the hands of students. Recent emphasis on beginning teacher support has moved beyond collecting supplies to include mentoring and counseling to help teachers deal with today's classroom challenges.

There's no shortage of complicated legislative issues in NC. Valuable updates and explanations of proposed legislation are available to all members. It's empowering! We are taking more proactive steps - inviting local and state officials into our classrooms and chapter meetings, writing letters, and visiting legislators. We are using our *voices of influence*.

In this biennium we will continue to *live* the Purposes of our Society, seeking new ways to support women, children, and excellence in education.

I challenge you to **imagine** what we can do as active members of a community seeking solutions to problems that hinder the growth of positive educational programs.

I challenge you to **inspire** others to join us in the work that will support the wellbeing of our children, the advancement of our schools, and the growth of women leaders.

I challenge you to **ignite** a passion for programs and initiatives that will meet the goals of Delta Kappa Gamma and keep us *forward moving ever!*

Let's... **Create the future!**
Sheila



Sheila Groves
Eta State President
2015-17

***It's Complicated: The Social Lives of Networked Teens* is the 2015 winning book selected by the Educators Award Committee (of DKG International). The author, danah boyd (her preferred spelling), is a Microsoft principal researcher and Fellow at Harvard University's Berkman Center of Internet and Society. The book gives parents, teachers, social workers, policy makers, medical people, and others a valuable and perhaps rare insight into the lives of teens from the teens' own perspective.**

(Taken from DKG News)

Education Law and Policy Committee Recommendation

The N.C. House and Senate have offered two very different versions of the state budget for the next two years. While both budgets have issues for which Eta State has some concerns, **the House Budget is much closer to the priorities which members of Eta State have identified.**

Note the proposed percentage increase in funds from each chamber of the legislature to the three major areas of education:

	House	Senate
K-12	6.40%+	2.18%+
Community College	3.74%+	.20%+
UNC System	5.26%+	2.56%+

The House version raises beginning teacher pay to \$35,000 and calls for a 2% salary increase for certified educators at each tier along with 2% for non-certified employees. It also calls for a 2% cost of living raise for retirees. The House version maintains the current level of teacher assistants.

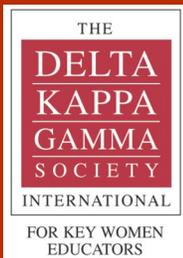
The Senate version includes pay raises for teachers but concentrates those raises in teachers in the early years. This version eliminates 8,500 teacher assistants over the next two years with a plan to hire more teachers in the lower grades and reduce the pupil teacher ratio. The Senate also proposes to eliminate medical insurance for educators and state employees hired after January 1, 2016 when they retire and until after they qualify for Medicare.

There are a number of other differences in the two budget proposals which you may want to research. Because the differences are significant, budget negotiations could be long, making local hiring decisions problematic. **I encourage you to contact your legislators to support the House version.**

Elaine Jenkins
Eta State EL&P Committee Chair



Laurie Sellars meets Shaquille O'Neal at the International Literacy Reading Association



Edwina Beam President
704 735-1219
jbeam@charter.net

Elaine Jenkins, Editor
704 483-1374
bjenkins4@earthlink.net

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

Laurie Sellers Uses DKG Award to Attend National Literacy Conference

I was extremely fortunate to be awarded the Lucile Cornet Professional Development Award this spring. I attended the International Literacy Association conference (formerly known as International Reading Association) in St. Louis July 17-20. This was the first time that they offered the conference during the summer, so getting a substitute and time off from work was not an issue! I am a member of the ILA, and faithfully read their publication, The Reading Teacher but having the opportunity to meet and learn from world renowned experts like Fountas and Pinnell, Jan Richardson, Maria Walther, Donald Bear, Tim Rasinsky and other reading specialists was so inspiring. I had the opportunity to hear Shaquille O'Neal speak about the importance of quality teachers, reaching all learners,

connecting with students and then I was one of the 100 conference attendees to meet him and receive a signed copy of his children's book, Little Shaq. Although some sessions were selling programs, consistently hearing about good solid teaching of reading and writing was eminent. Closing the literacy gap at all ages is crucial. Literacy is our civil right, and unfortunately there are 800 million individuals worldwide who cannot read or write; 126 million of those are children! Research proves there is a direct correlation between literacy and poverty, crime and even early mortality. We also know that those who are literate are more likely to vote, be involved in their communities, and seek medical help for themselves and their families. The ability to read, write, and communicate connects people to one another and empowers

them to achieve things they never thought possible. Communication and connection are the basis of who we are and how we live together and interact with the world. We need to work together as researchers, professors, teachers, professionals, and leaders to reduce if not eliminate illiteracy. I feel very fortunate that as we became our own chapter, we have had a direct impact on the first year teachers, and future teachers here in Lincoln County. Whether or not you are a mentor to one of the new teachers this year or in the past, your support for our committee is amazing and truly is making a difference. Please take advantage of this wonderful scholarship to attend a workshop or conference that interests or will inspire you.

Laurie Sellers

STATE AND INTERNATIONAL CALENDAR

EVENT	DATE	PLACE
Eta State Convention	April 22-24, 2016	Winston Salem, NC (Region IX)
DKG International Convention	July 5-9, 2016	Gaylord Opryland Resort Nashville, TN
Eta State Convention	April 28-30, 2017	Wilmington, NC (Region IV)

CHAPTER MEMBER NEWS!

- **Frankie Beam:** My husband and I spent 17 days in Fort Collins, Colorado this summer. We rode the Royal Gorge Route Railroad along the Arkansas River, glided 1,200 feet above the river in the aerial gondolas, and rode across one of the world's highest suspension bridges in Canon City. We enjoyed the beautiful snow capped Mountains on our drive to Estes Park. One Saturday was spent in Greeley for a short time in the Greeley Stampede Park. The main purpose of our trip was to spend daily time with our grandchildren while they were in the U.S.
- Congratulations to Jason and **Ashlyn (Weaver) Sigmon** who are expecting a baby girl in late October.
- Congratulations to Rondel and **Becky Burke** who recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary!
- **Renee Smith's** son is out of the hospital after a one-month stay. He is getting better and back to work at UMAR.
- **Renee Smith** and her daughter traveled to Los Angeles in July to attend the Global Youth Summit in conjunction with Global World Games. They are part of the Leadership Team for the U.S.-China exchange. They share ideas and communication to promote unity and inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities within their countries.

SUSTAINING PRIDE IN THE BIG PICTURE

Before our new members are initiated on September 29th, they will attend an orientation session entitled "Pride in the Big Picture;" however, it is important that we as members "reorient" ourselves to the Society. A continuing theme for reorientation is the honor of belonging to an organization that stands for excellence in many ways. There is an honor in membership. Someone noticed your works, noted your standards, believed in your potential, sought your association, sponsored your invitation and honored you. So remember that person's confidence in you. Take pride in your continuing membership, and take every opportunity to honor your fellow members. An opportunity to join and be nurtured by such a group—that is the honor. Underlying "genuine spiritual fellowship" is the unconditional commitment of how DKG members respect and support one another. Our effort is to create an ideal environment where every member is treasured for who she is and to encourage her to become all that she can be.

The **mission** of DKG is: **To promote professional and personal growth of women educators in education.** What does this mean, and what does

it indicate for you as members, and activities of our chapter? We encourage life-long learning, risk taking, and self-examination. This mandates that our chapter support excellence in all realms of educational practices.

The **vision** statement of DKG: **Leading women educators impacting education worldwide** describes where we are now and where we want to be in the future. Every educator is a leader and you can lead from any chair.

The seven **purposes** of DKG are as follows:

1. To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship
2. To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education
3. To advance the professional interest and position of women in education
4. To initiate, endorse and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and women educators
5. To endorse scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in

pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators

6. To stimulate the personal and professional growth of women educators and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action
7. To inform members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

Look for more "reorientation" information in the next newsletter. We look forward to welcoming our new members and to interacting with all our members in 2015-2016.

Edwina Beam



DELTA SIGMA 2015-16 CALENDAR

Meeting	Date	Place	Time	Responsible Committee	Program Title (Subject)
Executive Board	May 18	Homestead Grill	4:00 pm.	Executive	
Planning Meeting	June 10	County Board Room	4:30 p.m.	President, Members, (Program and Rules Refreshments)	
August New Teacher Event	August 12 Breakfast	Lincolnton Middle School	7:30-9:00 a.m.	Beginning Teacher Support	Panel Discussion/ Meet Beginning Teachers
September Initiation	Sept. 29	Boger City United Methodist Church	6:00 p.m. (Meal)	Membership Committee	School Issues Dr. Sherry Hoyle Initiation of new members
November	Nov.12	Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Building	5:00 p.m. Refreshments	Communications/ Publicity	Schools for Africa Presentation
Prepare Universal Bag / Informal Get Together	Jan. 14, 2016	S. Ray Lowder School/ TBA	4:00 p.m./ 5:00 p.m.	Beginning Teacher Support and All Members/Program and Fine Arts	Fun and Fellowship
Executive Board Meeting	Jan. 25, 2016	Edwina's Home	4:30 p.m.	Executive Committee	Business and a Light Meal (Soup and Sandwiches)
February	Feb. 18	Boger City United Methodist Church	5:00 p.m. Refreshments	Finance	Wanda Lutz Plans for the Fashion Show
April Fashion Show	April 9	TBA	Friday 3:00-6:00 (preparation) Saturday 9:00-2:00	Wanda Lutz, Ch. Cindy White, Nelva Goodson and All Members	
May Scholarships	May 5	Boger City United Methodist Church	6:00 p.m. Meal	Scholarship Educational Law & Policy	Recognize Scholarship Winners. Invite state leaders Installation of new officers
Planning Meeting Spring/Summer 2016	TBA			President and Members	
Prepare Universal Bag	April/May 2016			Beginning Teacher Support (All Members)	

Each committee should include the following items as they plan a meeting:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Select someone to do the greeting 2. Select someone to do the invocation 3. Make arrangements for meal/snacks 4. Plan a "get to know you" activity | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Provide decorations and printed program 6. Send info on meeting to Frankie Beam to notify members 7. Select someone to collect food money at meeting |
|--|---|