



Delta Sigma LINC

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Chapter Prepares for 2016 Fashion Show!

Preparation for our sixth annual fashion show fundraiser has been in process for many months. I have had valuable input and assistance from Nelva Goodson and Cindy White. This division of labor has been most appreciated!

This year we will have a change of venue. The fellowship hall of First United Methodist Church will allow us to have a larger audience. We are planning for 30 tables with 7 guests at a table. This will mean we will all have to do our part to be sure all seats are filled! We will welcome back four previous vendors: Chico's, Hi Lites, Page Collectables, and Talbots. Joining us for the first time will be Tally Ho and Julie's from Gastonia. When you are contacted to model, please say yes! Although there are some changes about the fashion show, I am pleased that some areas of leadership have remained consistent. Jill Eaddy and Becky Heavner are heading up our food preparation. We are excited that Elaine Boysworth is assisting them.

Details will be shared at the February



Great crowd at the 2015 Fashion Show. Let's do even better this year!

meeting. Julie Tipton will join Dana Avery and Betsy Rinehardt with ticket distribution and money collection. Please plan to get your tickets at the February meeting. If you are unable to attend, please let one of them know **before the meeting** how many tickets you would like and make arrangements with them for pick up.

Thanks to Annette Geymont for heading up table decorations. She will be contacting people to assist her. Annette has always ironed the 15 tablecloths we used in previ-

ous years. We are looking for a volunteer or two for the additional 15 we will have this year. Let me know if you will iron these cloths.

We will use emails during the next several weeks to share planning details. We will present finalized plans at our Feb. 18 meeting as well as distribute tickets. This fashion show is our fundraiser to support our scholarship and beginning teacher support committees. Let's all be active participants and make this sixth fundraiser as successful as the past five!

On Jan. 25, the executive board voted to increase guest ticket prices to \$15.00. Member prices will remain at \$12.00. **EACH member** is expected to purchase her ticket and sell as many guest tickets as possible. For the first time we will incorporate some additional publicity methods that will be shared at the Feb. 18 meeting.

Wanda Lutz

Delta Sigma Receives Thanks for Assistance with Home Tour

In December Delta Sigma made a significant contribution of time and money to a very successful community service project. Twenty-six members donated 81 hours of their time to make the 2015 Holiday Tour of Historic Homes possible. The tour offered a rare opportunity to enter some of Lincolnton's finest historic homes and church facilities to experience the history and holiday decorations of these treasured structures. Delta Sigma members assisted by presenting the history of the rooms

within each house. Also, member Cindy White offered beautiful Christmas music on a baby grand piano in one of the homes. Other members made monetary donations to the organization.

The fundraising event was sponsored by Speak Up For Children (SUF), a non-profit group of community volunteers whose mission is to improve the lives of the abused and neglected children of Lincoln County. The organization accomplishes this by providing for the unmet needs of these foster children. With the profits from the fundrais-

er, SUFC will be able to offer to them more opportunities and material needs, hopefully providing some normalcy to their otherwise chaotic lives. Charles Bohlen, president of SUFC appreciated the hours of support given by Delta Sigma. "Delta Kappa Gamma played an integral role in the success of the Tour of Homes. Speak Up members are grateful for this partnership and Delta Kappa Gamma's commitment to the well-being of the foster children of Lincoln County. We could not have done it without them."

Jill Eaddy

A Message From Your President



Are you interested in a Cornetet Award? If so, the next deadline is February 1. If you have an idea for a great activity, ask Laurie Sellers for her advice in pursuing this very fine opportunity!

As I write this message to you, I am looking out my kitchen window at a winter wonderland. Most of you are probably "homebound," and maybe have a little extra time to catch your breath after the past busy months. Even though our last regular meeting was in November, we have participated in some very special events. In December, many of you served as guides for the Christmas tour of beautifully decorated homes and church. The tour benefited "Speak Up for Children," the community project that we support. In January, we had a fun filled afternoon beginning with packing gift bags for all the beginning teachers in Lincoln County. This was followed by a Yoga lesson and a meal of homemade soup and cornbread. So my hat goes off to you my Delta Sigma sisters for all the "extra" that you do to support education and children in Lincoln County and around the world.

With our Delta Kappa Gamma year flying by, we have two more important and interesting chapter meetings, February 18th and May 5th. Don't forget state convention in Winston Salem, April 22-24, and the International Convention in Nashville, July 5-9. More information about these follows inside the newsletter, so please take note and read carefully. I hope that you will mark your own calendar so that you can participate.

Our fashion show, the event that has become a tradition in Lincoln County, will be on April 9th, First Methodist Church. Again, more information about this can be found in the newsletter. However, I encourage each of you to take some time if possible to be involved and be present on the day of the

show. Yes, it requires much planning, hard work, and commitment, but it is well worth the effort. You will enjoy the fashions as well as getting to know better many of your Delta Sigma "sisters."

Let me thank each of you for what you have done and do for Delta Sigma for making our chapter so amazing and successful. You are an outstanding group of women educators!!! Stay warm, enjoy the changes this weather has made in your schedule, and remember someone said that variety is the spice of life.

Edwina Beam, Delta Sigma President 2014-2016
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Jill Eaddy Is Lincoln County Woman of the Year!



Delta Sigma is very proud to claim the 2015 Lincoln County Woman of the Year as one of its very own! Jill Eaddy received this prestigious honor at the Chamber of Commerce Banquet on November 19, 2015.

While Jill is well known in Lincolnton for her time as a councilwoman, she is also highly regarded as a leader in the educational community. With 33 years working for

the school system, teaching at Battleground Elementary School, West Lincoln Middle School and Lincolnton Middle School before becoming the county's Director of Exceptional Children in 1997, Jill has followed her passion to advocate for children.

She has served as advisor to the Student Advisory Council and also spent time on the Lincolnton

Planning Board. Jill is a guardian ad litem responsible for representing the county's foster care children. It was a former foster child who nominated her for the honor. Her passion for this group of children continued as she joined others in creating the Speak Up For Children Foundation in 2012, an organization which Delta Sigma has enthusiastically supported.

Congratulations, Jill, on this very well-deserved honor!

DELTA SIGMA COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MEMBERSHIP The Membership Committee has been so excited to see our new members jump-in and take part in so many ways! Whether it was presenting a program, being an active participant in her committee, or helping with the New Teachers projects, we are proud of you! We recognize you for your dedication as we all strive for excellence in the teaching profession.

Donna Jolley

FINANCE The Finance Committee is very proud to have one of our own members presenting the program at the next meeting. Jane Morton will be educating us on celiac disease and treating us to some gluten-free sweets. You will not want to miss this informative presentation! Wanda Lutz will also be discussing the fashion show and tickets will be distributed. Don't miss out on the opportunity to learn how you can do your part in our largest fundraiser of the year. The Finance Committee would love to see 100% of our ladies in attendance! The meeting will be held on February 18, at 5:00 pm, at Boger City Methodist Church. Refreshments will be served and the cost is \$3.00. **Wendy Mosteller**

PROGRAM The Program Committee hopes you are enjoying our 2015-2016 programs showcasing our members' passions and knowledge. We appreciate Dr. Sherry Hoyle updating us on school issues in Lincoln County at our September meeting. Newly inducted member Kristen Reynolds shared pictures and stories of her African mission trip. Kristen focused on the schools she visited on her trip which was a beautiful introduction for Gayle Reid's Schools for Africa presentation.

At our February meeting, Jane Morton will bring us "Celiac 201". Many of you may remember Jane's presentation on her personal knowledge and struggle with celiac disease ("Celiac 101"). She will update us with the latest on gluten-free living. In addition, Wanda Lutz and the fashion show team need all hands on deck to plan this major event.

I want to thank my committee members Jill Eaddy, Brenda Kinney, Wanda Lutz, and Sara Miller for helping to provide supper for our January informal gathering. What a great gathering of Delta Sigma sisters we had to begin the new year! We enjoyed fellowship, packing gifts for beginning teachers, and learning some relaxation techniques with Linda Goodson's yoga session. Thanks to all who made the time to attend the event! **Libby Fletcher**

BEGINNING TEACHER Thanks again to all of our members who assisted with our mid-year Beginning Teacher Project! **Laurie Sellers**

SCHOLARSHIP The applications for a grant-in-aid for a high school senior and The Most Promising Young Educator have been delivered to the schools. Members received my email with the applications for professional development and advanced degree about two weeks ago. Members: please take advantage of these opportunities. *Our intent is to assist our members!* **Edwina Beam**



The January chapter work session was a big success. Dozens of members turned out to assist the Beginning Teacher Committee with a beautiful mid-year gift for all first year teachers. The afternoon concluded with a yoga session which was much enjoyed and punctuated with lots of giggles!

Pictures (clockwise from top left):
(1) Nelva Goodson and Frankie Beam finish up one package while Gayle Reid and Annette Geymont catch up in the corner.

(2) Pat Carpenter, Frankie Beam, Donna Jolley, and Brenda Kinney work on the assembly line while Judy Shuford and Judy Jones take a quick break.

(3) When they were all finished, the packages were beautiful!

(4) Melanie Huss and Elaine Boysworth were just glad to be there!



State Convention in Winston-Salem

"If we valued children, we would focus on the big picture instead of insisting that the bottom line is the only view. We would ensure our own children's future safety and happiness by addressing the very real needs of other people's children now—the children who will grow up to be our children's citizen companions. We'd put our shoulder to the wheel instead of shrugging with resignation, do the heavy lifting now instead of throwing up our hands— if we valued children."

Kay McSpadden
Charlotte Observer
Jan. 30, 2016



"Leadership is an opportunity to serve. It is not a trumpet call to self importance."

J. Donald Walters

Be among the first to register for this year's state convention in Winston-Salem. The registration form is now on the convention webpage in both Word and PDF formats. Early bird deadline is April 2.

- Banquet and brunch meal ticket deadline is April 15 (hotel deadline). Materials may not be available to persons who register after April 1 or on-site. Everyone must register, including those assisting during the convention.
- Mail your registration form to Convention Treasurer Chris Waters by April 1. Contact Convention Registrar Carolyn Coram with any questions at etastateregistrar2016@gmail.com.

Members should also be aware that a change has been made in the CEU process:

In keeping with DPI and local school districts' policies for receiving approval for renewal credits, this year Eta State will provide a general certificate of attendance to those attending the convention. A teacher desiring CEU credit for attending the convention will need to confer with her local district for approval to count attendance as a CEU credit and to learn if other documentation is needed.

New Convention Website at:
<http://dkgnc2016convention.weebly.com/>

Sustaining Pride in the Big Picture (Part 3)

Let us review the different DKG memberships:

ACTIVE: A woman employed as a professional educator at the time of election or has been retired from an education position—An active member participates, as she is able, in chapter programs and projects, contributes to committee work, votes, shares in financing chapter activities, pays dues in a timely manner and may hold office.

RESERVE: Active members who by reason of geographical location or physical disability are no longer able to regularly attend chapter meetings are eligible to reserve membership upon request and granted by majority vote of the chapter. Retirement or inability to attend meetings is not valid reasons for reserve status, and a reserve member can be restored to active membership. She has all the privileges

of membership except that of holding office and has no obligations except payment of dues and the scholarship fee.

HONORARY: A woman not eligible for active membership, but who has rendered notable service to education or to women, is eligible for honorary membership. Active and retired educators are not eligible. This can be granted on the chapter, state or international level. She is a guest in attendance, may participate in all activities except that of holding office, and she may serve as parliamentarian.

TRANSFER: A member in good standing may transfer from one chapter to another upon application to International Headquarters and upon completing the necessary forms. Interna-

tional Headquarters sends an Official Notice of Transfer to the transferring member, the presidents and treasurers of the sending and receiving chapters and to the state organization treasurer. A member never makes a payment to a chapter to which she does not officially belong and is not initiated again.

REINSTATEMENT: Upon request a former member can be reinstated with no chapter or geographical restrictions on reinstatement. There is no chapter vote or fee. The proper forms must be completed, but because she has been a member somewhere previously, her membership qualifications are not in question.

For more detailed information, refer to "Sustaining Pride in the Future" on the DKG website or contact your membership chair, Donna Jolley.

Something to Think About .

Happy New Year!

Traditionally the beginning of each year is a time for looking back at the past, and more importantly, looking forward to the coming year. It's a time to reflect on the changes we want to make and to resolve to follow through on each of those changes. As you ponder your resolutions for 2016, think of a few things you can do to strengthen your membership in Delta Kappa Gamma.

- **Stay connected** – attend chapter meetings, read publications, browse social media
- **Network beyond the chapter** – attend state convention in Winston-Salem, April 22-24

- **Learn more about the Society** – explore state and international web sites
- **Promote Society Purposes** – support chapter and state projects
- **Share your enthusiasm for the work of DKG** – be a positive voice
- **Be part of the team** – volunteer for a committee or special chapter assignment

Make some resolutions for a healthier, happier 2016 - lose weight, exercise more, eat healthier and don't forget to make some DKG Resolutions!

Sheila



Sheila Groves
Eta State
President

CHAPTER MEMBER NEWS: What's Happening?

- Kay Wilson will be having knee replacement surgery on February 9. Please keep her in your prayers. In happier news, Kay's grandson, Andrew, was married in Raleigh on January 30th! The bride is Megan Knox.
- Rhonda Harrill will be welcoming a new grandson whose name is Beau!
- Suzanne Peeler's husband, Steve, is recovering from surgery to amputate a finger.
- *From Susan McConnell:* Gary and I enjoyed a 2 week trip in November to Portugal and Spain. Our host for the trip was our former church organist Daniel Hannemann. We saw many beautiful gardens palaces, cathedrals, small villages and a LOT of olive trees. On our last few days we visited the area in Barcelona where Columbus sailed from and we also saw the Church of the Holy Family which has been under construction for over 100 years. They hope to have it completed by 2029. We had a great time.
- Donna Jolley has a new grandson, Cole Abram Lawing, born December 30 to Amy and Derek Lawing.
- Laurie Sellers has won another Bright Ideas Grant extending her creative work with Lego robotics. Her partner in this grant proposal from S. Ray Lowder was Emily Evans.

Author Judith Viorst Will Speak at Convention in Nashville

Author of the well-known children's book *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, Judith Viorst will speak at the 2016 International Convention.

Viorst writes in many different areas: science books, children's picture books, adult fiction and non-fiction, poetry for children and adults and musicals.

Her most recent book for adults is *Wait For Me, And Other Poems About the Irritations and Consolations of a Long Marriage* (Simon & Schuster, October 2015); and for children, *What Are You Glad About? What Are You Mad About? Poems For When a Person Needs a Poem* (Atheneum/Caitlyn Dlouhy Books, February 2016).

A graduate of Rutgers University and the Washington Psychoanalytic Institute, Viorst lives in Washington, D.C. She and her husband have three sons and seven grandchildren.





Delta Sigma Chapter

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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)

Teacher Salary & Benefits Examined Across the Country

A January 2, 2016 story published in newspapers across the country by the Associated Press outlined efforts by school districts across the country to provide affordable housing for teachers whose salaries are often insufficient to pay for clean, safe housing. With a shortage of teachers growing in both urban and rural areas, local officials are seeking solutions to attract and keep good teachers. One of those solutions is to provide access to that meet the needs of middle income workers.

You can find this report at: <http://www.wral.com/cities-look-at-subsidized-housing-to-stem-teacher-shortages/15210703/>. As we approach another election season, DKG members need to make themselves aware not only of the problems teachers are facing in other parts of the country, but the creative solutions that are out there as well! The spring will offer us another opportunity to communicate with legislators. Let's make sure that we have lots of facts and perspectives to offer them.

By the way, if you are interested in reading an excellent writer's work whose concern for schools is the result of years as a very fine classroom teacher, read Kay McSpadden's articles that are published one Saturday per month in the *Charlotte Observer*. Her article published in the Jan. 30 edition is powerful! (See the quote box on page 4)

Elaine Jenkins
Eta State Education Law & Policy Com.

CHAPTER CALENDAR 2016					
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 Fashion Show Jane Morton Celiac 201
April Fashion Show	April 9	First United Methodist Church	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	TBA	TBA	President and Members	TBA
Prepare Universal Bag	April/May 2016	TBA	TBA	Beginning Teacher Support (All Members)	TBA