

Delta Sigma Welcomes New Teachers

Seventeen beginning teachers in Lincoln County Schools benefited from the experience and expertise of chapter members on September 6, 2016 at their first BT1 monthly meeting. Assistant Superintendent Aaron Allen welcomed everyone and thanked Delta Sigma members for our continued interest in nurturing and mentoring first year teachers.



Laurie Sellers and Katie Crocker facilitated the session by involving everyone in two “get acquainted” activities. Laurie then introduced a panel of chapter members that included Samantha Campbell, Katie Crocker, Rhonda Hager, Kesha Ruppe, and Darla Stines. Panel members shared their best advice for first year teachers that included the areas of curriculum planning, classroom management, and ways to seek support. The panel also involved new teachers in a question and answer session.



Each new teacher received a “crate” of gifts and supplies to assist them during the first year of teaching. Delta Sigma members will continue to mentor these new teachers throughout the year. We currently have a teacher at NLMS and another at St. James needing a mentor. Please contact Laurie Sellers if you are willing to nurture one of these beginning teachers.

“Fan the Flames” of New Teachers

At last year's Eta State convention, many chapters contributed great ideas about how their chapter is "Fanning the Flames" to keep the enthusiasm and love for teaching burning brightly in the hearts of beginning teachers. These ideas have been compiled and are available on the new Eta State website. Locate the pdf document on the Beginning Teacher Support Committee page. The first suggestion in this document came from Delta Sigma! In addition, the Eta State Beginning Teacher Support Committee is developing criteria for recognizing an outstanding Beginning Teacher at the Eta State Convention next spring. Stay tuned as details are finalized. Keep Fanning those Flames!



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Chapter dues will remain \$89.00 for 2016-17. See committee notes on page 5 for additional details.

A Message from Your President



“Create the Future – Imagine, Inspire, Ignite”

As I reflect on these challenging words from Eta State, I think of their relevance to so much of our world today. As we watched in awe the Olympic athletes in Rio, I thought of the young

athletes they inspire. Likewise, those of you returning to the classroom will inspire students to imagine what they can achieve through education.

I am thankful for those educators who continue to inspire and support me through Delta Kappa Gamma. I follow a President who gave much time, thought, and effort to her role. Thank you, Edwina for leading Delta Sigma the past two years and for working with me as we transition to our new biennium.

I am honored to serve as your President for the 2016-2018 biennium. The goals set forth by the Executive Board and approved at our July 18th planning meeting will guide our efforts to imagine ways to inspire not only our students and fellow educators but also to ignite necessary changes to improve public education.

Delta Sigma sisters, you inspired me with your support at our summer planning meeting. New committees met and made plans to engage our members in meaningful programs and projects for the upcoming year. Working together, we plan to inspire and support our beginning teachers while seeking ways to serve children in our community. Plans include Kennan’s program in September to inform us on the poverty in our schools and community, the membership committee’s update of our profiles and instruction on new member nominations, and our newsletter editor’s plan to publish professional development opportunities and scholarships to support participation.

While attending Officer Training in Black Mountain in June, I listened as Eta State President, Sheila Groves described the awards available for presentation at the convention next April. With each description, I thought of a Delta Sigma sister who deserved such an award. We have an amazing group of women educators who truly imagine, inspire, and ignite the future of education in Lincoln County. I look forward to seeing each of you at our September 22nd meeting. Please plan to arrive early

to pay dues, update contact information, and enjoy a time of fellowship.

Best wishes for a successful beginning,
Libby Fletcher
mimifletchx5@gmail.com
704-735-8758



Delta Sigma Goals Approved for 2016-2018

The following goals for the new biennium were approved at the July 18, 2016 meeting:

- **To support to the best of our abilities the goals and programs of Eta State and Delta Kappa Gamma International through our committee work and programs**
- **To vigorously advocate legislation that supports public education and educators**
- **To strengthen and deepen the sense of fellowship among our members**
- **To support and nurture beginning teachers and future educators in Lincoln County Schools**

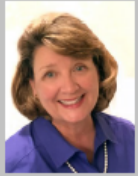
New Officers Lead in the 2016-2018 Biennium





New officers for the Delta Sigma Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma were installed on May 5, 2016. New officers are as follows: President – Libby Fletcher, Vice President – Rhonda Hager, Secretary – Tammy Price, and Treasurer – Kellie Goins. Past President Edwina Beam will guide our new officers as they lead us to “imagine, inspire, and ignite” our passion to reach the goals of our chapter and Eta State to create a bright future for women educators!


A Message from Sheila Groves

Eta State NC President Sheila Groves



[@SheilaVGroves1](https://www.facebook.com/groups/EtaState/)  Follow

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EtaState/> 

svgeta97@gmail.com 

Something to think about...

Eta State NC appreciates the time, the talent, and the dedication of those who work to improve the lives of students and women through educational excellence, leadership opportunities, and community service. The state organization will celebrate the contributions of some of these outstanding women at the 2017 convention in Wilmington. Consider recommending someone from your chapter or community for one of these Eta State NC awards. Applications are available on the state web site.

The Founders Award recognizes a NC woman who has made outstanding contributions to the improvement of human life through education, research, and/or service. She may or may not be a member of DKG but her actions are far reaching and support our vision.

The Golden Key Award honors members who have made significant contributions to DKG at the chapter level, often behind the scenes without glory or personal gain.

The Rising Star Award will be given again this year to women in their early years of DKG membership, nine years or less. These members demonstrate strong potential for successful leadership at the chapter and state levels and beyond.

Do you know someone who deserves this recognition?

sheila

Sustaining Pride in the Big Picture

(Part 5 –Conclusion of Series)

Submitted by Edwina Beam

INSIGNIA Each member has a *key pin* that she may wear wherever and whenever she chooses. Wearing the pin at all DKG meetings is encouraged. The *Cup* is for scholarship, and the *Laurel Leaves* signify achievement. The *Crest* contains elements for which we are known – the *Lamp* for knowledge, the *Laurel Leaves* for achievement, the *Open Book* for scholarship, and the *Roses* for the Society. Modern Logos: The red rose is designed for the 21st century to indicate that we meet the needs of modern women educators. “*DKG*” are the letters of our official name and stress that we are a professional organization not a social one. The words “*International Society for Key Women Educators*” helps place us as a global organization, not limited to one country.

TRADITION and CHANGE provide a richness and comfort to many members even as we move forward in the 21st century. While none of the traditions are obligatory, many members feel in them a part of what makes for chapter success. The *Delta Kappa Gamma Song* is often the most visible “*tie that binds*” us together. *Celebration of Life* pays tribute to newly deceased members in “genuine spiritual fellowship” recognizing their service to education and to the society. *Initiation and Installation Ceremonies* provide visual and moving symbols of change and new beginnings. *Birthday Celebrations* for chapters, state organizations and the international society are encouraged. Finally, *Social Events* offer additional opportunities to network and foster the genuine spiritual fellowship for which we are known. While they should not outweigh the professional purpose of the organization, they do bind us together in friendship.

The Educational Foundation is a tax exempt philanthropic organization that supports and encourages intercultural understanding and educational excellence by awarding education and project grants, and individual professional development awards. The Foundation awards in excess of \$200,000 each year.

The DKG Supporting Corporation with 501c (3) IRS status, allows you to make tax-free donations to any of the Society funds under its umbrella. Our vision and mission encompass the world.

REJOICE and Celebrate!!! You are a member of an organization that makes a difference in the lives of so many.

DKG International Convention

Women from around the world participated in numerous general and breakout sessions at the Delta Kappa Gamma International Convention in Nashville July 5-9 at the Gaylord Opryland Resort. Over 40 members of Eta State NC members attended. Two of the highlights for Eta State members included the introduction of the keynote speaker Mike Figliulo by Eta State President Sheila Groves during the second General Session and the recognition of *Eta Data* Editor Susan Kuenzel, Region IX, as the Eta State NC Star of the Southeast at the Regional Breakfast, The next International Convention will be July 16-20, 2018 in Austin Texas, birthplace of Delta Kappa Gamma!

Scholarship and Award Winners

At the May chapter meeting, Delta Sigma awarded three Future Educator Scholarships, of \$1000 each, to high school seniors in the Lincoln County school district. The scholarship recipients were Erin Atkinson (UNC-G), Ellen Carpenter (WCU) and Kaitlyn Blackburn (UNC-Charlotte). As Gayle Reid, Scholarship/Awards Committee Chair, noted, "It is exciting to see that our chapter has grown to support three scholarships instead of the one awarded just six years ago." Delta Sigma members Edwina Beam, Jill Eaddy, and Libby Fletcher attended award ceremonies at East Lincoln, Lincolnton, and North Lincoln High to also recognize our award recipients at their own school sites.

The Most Promising Young Educator Award winners were North Lincoln High School Spanish teacher Mariah Richards and Courtney Hilburn, a third grade teacher at Battleground Elementary School. Each of these recipients received a \$250 award.

Rhonda Hager received the Professional Development Award of \$250 and plans to use these funds to attend a conference on educational leadership sponsored by ASCD this fall.

In June, the Delta Sigma Chapter was honored to present scholarship and award winners to members of the Lincoln County Board of Education for recognition at the Board's monthly meeting. This opportunity also provided public recognition for our chapter's efforts to support educators in the district.

Congratulations to each of these outstanding award recipients!



*Mariah Richards and Gayle Reid
Board of Education Meeting – June, 2016*

Erin Atkinson



Ellen Carpenter



Mariah Richards



Courtney Hilburn

2016 Eta State NC Convention Delta Sigma Highlights

Edwina Beam, Jill Eaddy, Kennan Eaddy, and Laurie Sellers represented Delta Sigma at the Eta State NC Convention held in Winston-Salem in April, 2016 and attended various breakout sessions highlighting the themes of Technology, Teaching and Learning, Personal Growth, and Society at Work. Furthermore, Kennan Eaddy served as one of the presenters for the "NC Legislative Update" session.

As Edwina shared during our May meeting, she was honored to accept the 2016 recognitions for our chapter.

- Newsletter "Excellence" Award,
- Website "Excellence" Award
- Chapter Achievement Award of "Excellence"

Hats off to Jenny Dellinger and Elaine Jenkins for their hard work and efforts on our publication and to Edwina Beam for her tireless leadership and guidance. Congratulations to all members for the effort and dedication required to be deemed a Chapter of "Excellence" by our colleagues across the state.

Make plans now to attend or present next year at the state convention April 28-30, 2017 in Wilmington, NC at the Hilton Wilmington Riverside Hotel.

Chapter Member News

Congratulations to **Betsy Rinehardt Laws** who was married on June 4th in Tennessee. Betsy also completed a master's degree in special education specializing in intellectual disabilities, emotional behavior disorders, and learning disabilities. In addition, she completed her certificate in autism. What a busy lady!

Dana Ayers successfully defended her dissertation on July 21st to complete requirements for her doctoral degree in Educational Leadership. Congratulations Dr. Ayers!

Congratulations to **Jane Morton**. Her first grandchild, Issac Owen Smith, was born August 15th.

On August 11th, the Soil and Water Conservation District recognized the Huss family as the Conservation Farm Family of the Year. **Melanie Huss** is the wife of Doug Huss. This type of recognition requires family commitment!

Congratulations to **Annette Geymont's** granddaughter, Carson Warlick, a rising junior at West Lincoln High School. Carson was a member of the NC 2A Western Region Softball Championship and State Runner-Up Team. She was also awarded the NC Farm Bureau 2A Western Sportsmanship Award and named to the NC High School Coaches Association All-State 2A Softball Team.

Jennifer Carroll is now Assistant Principal at Battleground Elementary and G.E. Massey Elementary. Congratulations and best wishes for a smooth transition!

Congratulations to **Frankie Beam** on the birth of her granddaughter, Allie True Specht, on September 12th.

Jenny Dellinger, West Lincoln Middle School, was recognized as the 2015-2016 Media Coordinator of the Year for Lincoln County Schools. Congratulations!

Linda Yoder and **Jane Morton** retired from Lincoln County Schools last year and are now enjoying their first year of retirement. Thank you for your service to students, the district, community, and the profession!

Upcoming Conference Dates

2016 NC English Teachers Conference – October 7-8
2016 Elementary School Conference – October 16-18
2016 State Science Conference – October 20-21
2016 State Math Conference – October 27-28



Reminder

Be sure to register to vote, if you are not already registered, and VOTE for pro-education candidates in November! Let your voice be heard.

Committee Notes/Announcements

Finance Committee (Darla Stines): Dues will remain at \$89.00 this year. They will be collected at the September 22nd meeting. To meet deadlines for state and international, dues need to be collected by October 1st. Delta Sigma will once again offer a payment plan. Please contact Kellie Goins or Darla Stines ASAP if you need a payment form. Dues may be mailed to Kellie's home address at 559 Alf Hoover Road, Lincolnton, NC 28092.

Communication/Publicity Committee (Pat Carpenter): The communication/publicity committee is updating the pictorial directory. Please contact Jenny Dellinger if any of your contact information has changed. The committee will be hosting the September meeting and Kennan Eaddy will present a program on poverty in our community.

Rules Revision Committee (Edwina Beam): Many thanks to the following ladies who have agreed to serve on an ad hoc committee to review our standing rules: Edwina Beam, chair; Jill Eaddy, Wanda Lutz, Wendy Mosteller and Kelly Withrow. The purpose of the committee is to revise and amend our Delta Sigma rules to be in compliance with changes made on the state and international level. Within these changes, we may want to add or delete items which would be unique to our chapter. You can read our standing rules on our Delta Sigma website <http://deltasigmanc.weebly.com>.

Beginning Teacher Support Committee (Laurie Sellers): On August 31st Laurie Sellers was joined by Annette Geymont, Nelva Goodson, Katie Crocker, and Libby Fletcher to pack "crates" for the beginning teacher gift. Ladies, your hard work is greatly appreciated! Thank you to those already signed up to mentor a new teacher. Please record your time and expenditures from your work with your beginning teacher on a THAT form. These forms should be sent to Kesha Ruppe this year.

Irina Ushakova Visits Region X

Submitted by Rhonda Hager



On August 8, 2016, Edwina Beam, Libby Fletcher, and Rhonda Hager traveled to Morganton, NC to meet with fellow DKG members from Region X and hear speaker Irina Ushakova from Turkmenistan. The event was hosted by the Alpha Nu Chapter and our sisters were

greeted by Amy Vaughn who was Rhonda Hager's former college roommate. We do live in a small world!

Amy shared her experiences with hosting Irina through a National Program called Project TEA (Teaching Excellence and Achievement Program). This exchange program is supported and sponsored by the US Cultural Affairs department. It gives foreign educators an opportunity to visit in the US and US educators the opportunity to visit other countries to gain insight into education programs and systems around the world. Amy has been privileged to work with Irina since 2012 to support teachers in her country. Alpha Nu adopted Irina as an honorary sister and has been assisting her in various ways.

The country of Turkmenistan is north of Iran and Afghanistan, and it is government controlled. Teachers must buy all their own school supplies for students and use their own money to contribute to whatever the government instructs the teachers to do. For example, teachers are required to make personal monetary contributions to the Red Cross, but Irina had no idea what the Red Cross organization did. In addition, the government purchased SMART boards for "show" to the citizens; however, there are no computers for teachers, no funds for replacement bulbs or repairs, and no training for teachers. Therefore, the technology often goes unused. Teacher leaders like Irina work with the US to secure materials and funds to provide a quality education for their students. This is risky work. Irina and others must be creative in order to get materials into the teachers' hands.

Amy had the opportunity to visit Irina in Turkmenistan. She witnessed citizens live in fear of the Turkmenistan government who censors their personal mail and communications. Furthermore, the government confiscates materials and supplies from individuals going in and out of the country. Irina's visa has been pulled on several occasions and she was not allowed to

travel. On one occasion, Irina was traveling to the US to see her daughter graduate from college and the government did not allow her to leave. Unfortunately, she missed this special day with her daughter.

Region X sisters were moved by hearing this amazing educator speak and share about universal education issues. If you would like to learn more about Project TEA, you can access the following website:

<https://exchanges.state.gov/non-us/program/teaching-excellence-and-achievement-program>.

Members Visit General Assembly

Submitted by Elaine Jenkins

On June 21st, Kennan Eaddy and Elaine Jenkins met other DKG members from around the state at the North Carolina General Assembly in Raleigh. The purpose of the visit was to meet with legislators to share our Eta State's priorities. Both Jason Saine and David Curtis were unavailable to meet, so Kennan and Elaine joined other members in conversation with their representatives.



The reception to the DKG presentations was generally warm. At the time of this visit, the budget had not been finalized, but most legislators hinted at a possible increase in pay for teachers. There was also significant discussion on the issue of poverty in schools, and Kennan offered some insights into research on the effects of poverty on children.

This visit underscored the value in candid conversation with decision-makers. With so much at stake for the state's children, DKG members need to express their concerns professionally but firmly! Please see Kennan or Elaine if you are interested in participating in the future.



Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

FACTS FROM INTERNATIONAL

- For the biennium just ending, International gave \$182,000 in scholarships and \$174,000 was given for World Fellowship.
- Videos of speakers at the Nashville Conference are posted on the International website.

ETA STATE VISION:
 “Voices of Influence
 Empowering NC Women
 Educators”

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Delta Sigma
 Fashion Show
 Saturday, May 6, 2017

Libby Fletcher, President
mimifletchx5@gmail.com
 704-735-8758

Elaine Boysworth, Editor
seboysworth@gmail.com
 704-827-9379

Grant Submissions Due September 30th



It is not too late to apply for a Foundation Grant! Have new students that you need different materials for than any year before? Have a great project idea for your chapter but no funds to implement it? Consider applying for an Educational Foundation grant! Grants will be offered in the Professional/Personal Growth category and the Learning/Literacy category. Proposal Forms are posted on the Foundation website at <http://www.ncdkgef.org/> under the Grants tab. Submit proposals though email to the Grants Review Committee Chair as listed on the form. They must be received no later than **September 30, 2016**. Announcement of grant recipients will be made by November 20, 2016.

State and International Calendar

EVENT	DATE	LOCATION
Eta State Convention	April 28-30, 2017	Wilmington, NC (Region IV)
Eta State Leadership Development Seminar	June 23-25, 2017	Asheboro, NC
Southeast Regional Conference	July 19-22, 2017	Myrtle Beach, SC
Eta State Convention	April 27-28, 2018	Charlotte NC (Region VII)
DKG International Convention	July 16-20, 2018	Austin, TX

We're on the Web!

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

(NEW!) Eta State Website: www.ncdkg.org

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

Eta Data:

<http://www.ncdkg.org/uploads/8/0/8/5/80859646/etadatasept2016.pdf>

Scholarships Available

If you are pursuing your masters or doctoral degree, you may be eligible to apply for a Delta Kappa Gamma International Scholarship or an Eta State Scholarship. Details and the application form for International can be found at: <http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Forms/Applications.aspx> Information on the Eta State Scholarship can be accessed at <http://deltakappagamma.org/NC/scholarship.htm>. Applications for both scholarships are due by February 1, 2017.

Delta Sigma Calendar 2016-2017

Meeting	Date	Place	Time	Responsible Committee	Program Title (Subject)
Executive Board	May 23	BCUMC Library	4:30 p.m.	Executive Board	
Planning Meeting	July 18	County Board Room	4:00 p.m.	President, Members, (Executive Board Refreshments)	
New Teacher Event	Sept. 6	County Board Room	3:30 p.m.	Beginning Teacher Support (All Members)	Panel Discussion/ Meet New Teachers
September Meeting	Sept. 22	Boger City UMC Fellowship Hall	6:00 p.m. (Meal)	Communications/ Publicity	Poverty in Our Community Kennan Eaddy
November Meeting	Nov. 17	Boger City UMC Fellowship Hall	4:00 p.m. (Snacks)	Finance	School for Africa Presentation/ Membership Presentation and Update
Prepare Universal Bag & Informal Get Together	Jan. 19, 2017	Emmanuel Lutheran Fellowship Hall	4:00 p.m. (Snacks)	Beginning Teacher Support and Program/ Fine Arts	Law & Order Self-Defense
Executive Board Meeting	Jan. 23	BCUMC Library	4:30 p.m.	Executive Board	Business and Reports
February Meeting	Feb. 23	Faith Building Emmanuel Lutheran	4:00 p.m. (Snacks)	Membership	Public Official/ Fashion Show
April Meeting Scholarship/ Awards	April 6	Boger City UMC Fellowship Hall	6:00 p.m. (Meal)	Scholarship Educational Law and Policy	Recognize Scholarship Winners/ Invite Eta State Representative
May Fashion Show	May 5 May 6	First UMC Fellowship Hall	Friday 3-6 Preparation/ Saturday 9-2	Cindy White, Nelva Goodson, Donna Jolley and All Members	
Planning Meeting Spring/Summer 2017	TBD	TBD	TBD	President and Members	

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

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.
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 the meeting,