



ETA STATE NEWS

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Convention Guest Representing International

President Sheila Groves is pleased to announce Barbara Whiting, International Administrative Board member-at-large, will be Eta State’s guest at the NC convention. She is the 2016 nominee for International first vice-president. Barbara’s past professional experiences include 3-5 classroom teacher, special services program coordinator, grant writer, elementary school principal, and staff development consultant. She is “retired, but not tired!” Now volunteer projects, like Project Homeless Connect, World Without Genocide and Osher Lifelong



Learning Institute, fill Barbara’s days. Delta Kappa Gamma is also the recipient of much of her time and talents. She has served as Minnesota state president and currently serves as state leadership chair. Barbara has chaired both the International Educators Award and Leadership Development committees. She has presented more than 14 workshops at regional conferences and International conventions. In her “spare time,” Barbara enjoys reading (1-3 books weekly), traveling (5 continents, 45 states), biking, birding, photography, water aerobics, cooking, coffee, and learning something new every day! Make plans to attend convention and meet Barbara. Hear her International update at the Saturday morning General Session and don’t miss her breakout session Saturday afternoon!

Rising Star Recognition

In support of our state goal to inspire a new generation of leaders, and in honor of the 12 outstanding women who founded our Eta State NC organization, we will recognize 12 young women from across the state as Rising Stars. These ladies will be announced at the 2016 Convention Sunday Brunch.

The Eta State Rising Star Award is intended to recognize and encourage key women educators in their early years of active membership in NC Delta Kappa Gamma. These members demonstrate exceptional growth in education, leadership and contributions to the organization consistent with our Vision and Purposes. Rising Star nominees reflect the strong potential for successful leadership at the chapter and state levels and beyond.

Nomination requirements and guidelines are posted on the Eta State website Forms section. Submit forms to the Awards Committee by March 1. The Eta State Executive Committee and Awards Committee will collaborate on the selection of these young women.

President’s Reception: An Invitation from President Groves and Region IX

All convention attendees are invited to network and enjoy fellowship at a Presidents Reception before the Saturday evening banquet. Light hors d’oeuvres, punch will be served. There is no charge for this event but please indicate if you are attending on the convention registration form. Cash bar will be available.

Rules Committee Announces Proposed Changes to Standing Rules
<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/2016RulesProposal.pdf>

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**2015-2017 Eta State Theme:
Create the Future - Imagine, Inspire, Ignite**



Sheila V. Groves
Eta State President
2015-2017

When new state presidents from the southeast gathered in Savannah during the summer, we were introduced to the book *One Piece of Paper: The Simple Approach to Powerful, Personal Leadership* by Mike Figliuolo. Our class of newbies was encouraged to follow the model outlined in this book to identify what motivates us, how we might affect change, and how we will engage members.

Figliuolo's model includes the unique step of creating maxims reflecting personal leadership

beliefs. The process begins by answering questions and giving thought to passions, goals, and standards that define a personal leadership style. Several things became clearer to me during the process of answering those questions: I enjoy being part of group discussions, collaborating with others to create visions and solve problems. It's energizing to be part of a lively discussion with differing ideas and lots of questions that stretch thinking and change minds!

Now, let me share one of the maxims that emerged. People who know me best will not be surprised that the maxim turned out to be song lyrics from a tune popular in the early 70s: *Rock the boat, don't tip the boat over.* (Thank you Hues Corporation.) To me, that represents vocal members asking questions, getting involved. Bring your tough questions to the table (*rock the boat*), but be prepared to be part of the solution (*don't tip the boat over.*)

I hope you've seen the regular *Eta Data* article *Silence is Consent* by Parliamentarian Betty Marshall, RP. Each month this article concentrates on member responsibilities and options for participating in decision making. This information is designed to help members become comfortable with the terminology, etiquette, and basic business meeting procedures. Written from the participants' point of view, knowing what to say and do gives you the confidence to speak up, ask questions and exercise your voice!

NC Eta State leaders invite you to experience the energy of collaborating with outstanding women, the challenge of seeking solutions, and the satisfaction of making a difference. So, ask your questions, share your ideas and...

Create the future! *Sheila*

Mike Figliuolo will speak at the International Convention in Nashville, July 6, Wednesday morning General Session.

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Please insert Eta State in the subject line when sending an email to state officers.
Thanks!



Start Planning Now for Summer Officer Training

Presidents Take Note: New Chapter Officer Training (presidents, treasurers, membership chairs, Educational Excellence chairs) will be held in June at three locations across the state. As you select new chapter officers, please keep in mind the cities and dates and have your officers plan to attend. More details and registration forms will be available in early 2016.

- Wilson, Friday, June 24
- Asheboro, Saturday, June 25
- Black Mountain, Tuesday, June 28

Rules Committee

Emily Lucas, Chair

The Standing Rules proposed changes document is located on at the end of this newsletter and on the NC Eta State website. Chapters, please forward the file to your members with your notification of the availability of *Eta State News* on the website. Please print the document to send to members who do not have internet access.

Discuss the changes with your chapter members and come prepared to provide input and vote at the NC Eta State Convention on April 22, 2016.

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/2016RulesProposal.pdf>

Mark The Dates

- March 1 Golden Key Award Nominations Due
- Rising Star Nominations Due
- Deadline for Newsletter Award
- March 15 Chapter Achievement Award Due
- March 23 Hotel Registration - Group Rate Ends
- March 31 Vendor Applications Due
- Program Ads Due
- April 10 *Eta State News* Deadline
- April 22-24 Eta State Convention in Winston-Salem

Next Eta State News Deadline:
April 10, 2016

Tribute to Chapter Presidents

Chapter Presidents will be honored during the state convention at the Saturday evening banquet. Chapter presidents and co-presidents, please submit a digital photo of yourself to State President Sheila Groves, svgeta97@gmail.com, by **February 15**. Along with your photo, include your name, the name and location of your chapter, and three words or short phrases describing your chapter. Example: Sue Smith, Beta Delta, Greensboro, "friendly, creative, collaborative."

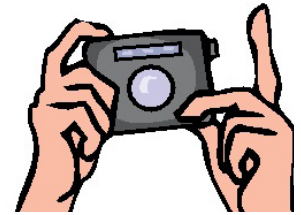


Photo specifications: Please send in JPG format, not GIF, PNG, or photos inserted in Word or Publisher files. The resolution should be a minimum of 96 pixels, and for best results photo size should be 5x7 inches.

Please submit a clear, crisp image of yourself, in the full frame, not a photo where you have been cropped from a group shot.



In Memoriam

~White Roses~

Name	Chapter	Date of Death
Jane Jordan Blevins	Gamma Tau	October 18, 2015
Ruth Underwood Campbell	Beta Lambda	January 14, 2015
Patricia Cuthrell	Pi	December 1, 2015
Bonnie Holiday Johnson	Alpha Kappa	September 6, 2015
Jane Debruhl Kirkman	Alpha Psi	November 7, 2015
Sarah Alexander Pearce	Beta Beta	April 30, 2015
Sue Miller Robinette	Gamma Mu	October 8, 2015

Reporting the Death of a Member

Chapter presidents are to report the death of a member immediately to International and to Eta State. The updated interactive report form (Form 6) is available at www.dkg.org under Forms. It may be completed online and sent to the Membership Services Administrator or mailed. A copy is to be sent to Eta State Treasurer, Ruth Bell Jones, rjonesdkg@gmail.com, Eta State Membership Chair, Carol Maidon, carol.maidon.dkg@gmail.com, and State President, Sheila Groves, svgeta97@gmail.com



Beginning Teacher Support Committee

Dr. Sherry R. Willis, Chair

The Beginning Teacher Support Committee (BTSC) met in October to begin planning for the 2015-2017 biennium. All five members of the committee along with Eta State President Shelia Groves attended.

The committee is recommending the following theme for this biennium: “Fan the Flame!” We know that love or passion for teaching and children was ignited within the hearts of many individuals that led them to become teachers. Whether it be a beginning teacher or a veteran teacher, it is important that these flames continue to grow and glow brightly. It is unfortunate that the state’s current educational climate does not adequately feed the fires that burn within teachers’ hearts. Many teachers feel less valued and less appreciated now than at any other time in history—we cannot afford to see those flames grow cold. We hope that chapters will work to “Fan the Flames” of care, enthusiasm and commitment that burn within the hearts of teachers by demonstrating much-needed support and encouragement.

After thoughtful discussion the following goals were established:

- Encourage chapters to recruit beginning teachers for membership
- Encourage chapters to provide information about DKG membership benefits to beginning teachers
- Share strategies for supporting/encouraging beginning teachers (0-4 years of experience) with all chapters
- Encourage chapters to expand support/encouragement to teachers with 5+ years of experience
- Update the Beginning Teacher Support Committee page on the Eta State website
- Work with other state committees to ensure support for beginning teachers
- Develop criteria for an Eta State Beginning Teacher Award to be given at the 2017 state convention.
- Continue the strategic action planning process

We will be asking chapters to share their ideas, projects, and activities that will be posted on the BTSC page of the Eta State website.

Look for another Make-It/Take-It Breakout Session presented by the Beginning Teacher Support Committee at the Eta State Convention in April! You will find ideas for gifts/goodies your chapter can make to express appreciation for teachers in your area!



Beginning Teacher Support Committee Members

Seated L-R Mary Beth Dailey, Beta Omicron; Tammy Albright, Delta Iota. Standing L-R Dr. Sherry Willis, Chairman, Alpha Nu; Rhonda Allen, Alpha Kappa; Dr. Cynthia Wooten, Beta Delta.

Finding our Future Leaders

The Nominations Committee would like to remind all members that nominations for 2017-2019 state officers are now open. The Nomination Form can be found on the Eta State (NC) website. Any member may submit a nomination for any of the state officer positions.

All positions are two years in length and include President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and Secretary. Consider those who have shown leadership excellence and submit a nomination in 2016.

<http://deltakappagamma.org/NC/> Click on Committees information & Chairs, click on Nominations, then the link to the form.

~ NOTICE ~

An updated Leadership Directory will be issued in February. Send any changes to suebetatau@comporium.net

Imagine the fellowship, information, and inspiration!

Join me at the 2016 Eta State NC Convention in Winston-Salem, April 22-24!

See you there! Sheila



What Does It Cost to Own a Home?

By Judith B. Carlson, Past Eta State President

With very real concern I share my thoughts concerning our Eta State Headquarters. The critical issue is that the funding to maintain the house is inadequate. If this issue is not addressed immediately, with a plan to sustain our headquarters, we are in jeopardy of losing what we took great pride in accomplishing.

During my biennium as state president, we matched funds from a very generous offer from Pauline Longest, who envisioned a state headquarters. A home was sought in the geographic center of our state. Asheboro became the site and in 1999, the fulfillment of an eight-year dream was celebrated with the dedication of the Eta State Headquarters home. This facility has become a vital part of our organization and houses the Society records, supplies, office equipment and portraits of past presidents. It is a gathering place for committee meetings, workshops, activities, and events. Chapters in the proximity of Asheboro often use the headquarters for their meetings.

Our membership, through chapter contributions and the ‘passing of the wooden houses’ at convention, does offer modest financial support, but that support is insufficient to maintain our home. We are fortunate to have local chapter women ably manage the needs of the house, and significant improvements have been made. Our headquarters is supported through gifts, memorials, and investments.



With home ownership, we enjoy privileges and responsibilities. There are improvements to headquarters we would like to implement. However, these warrant additional costs that we are unable to manage currently. One important need is WiFi for members to use during meetings. Our headquarters is an investment that we must protect and maintain to assure its increased value.

What Can We Do?

Let’s come together to solve complex problems. Let’s make a contribution to sustain our headquarters. I challenge members to contribute in memory of someone or honor of someone. I challenge chapters to create some incentives that will inspire chapter members to take ownership. I challenge Regional Directors and Chapter Presidents to add this to your many other ‘priorities’ and to network and lead members to create a solution to this very real concern. Sometimes we just need to lay out the reality on the table and take the time to strategize feasible solutions, take pride in what we have accomplished, then celebrate the win.

Are you up to the task, taken on as a challenge? The plight of sustaining our headquarters is timely and serious. Let’s collaborate and do our part, because we belong.

Mary Pickett of Alpha Upsilon Chapter in Asheboro is chair of the Eta State Headquarters Committee. She would be grateful and pleased to hear from you. marpck1@aol.com

Thank you.

*“To be rooted is perhaps the most important and least recognized need of the human soul.”
~ Simone Weil, French Philosopher*

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
North Carolina State Organization
Suzanne Roberts, Editor
suebetatau@comporium.net

Eta State News

A publication of Eta State – North Carolina
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Published quarterly

Next Deadlines: April 10, July 10

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

NOTICES:

Send address and email changes IMMEDIATELY to your chapter treasurer and to International Office.
A change form is available on www.dkg.org
Don't miss a single DKG publication!

All photos used in this issue were submitted to the editor for use in Eta State News.

Headquarters painting on page 1 used with permission of Dianne Garner, Alpha Epsilon

Proofers for this issue are: Sheila Groves, Sylvia Eaglin, Susan Kuenzel, and Judy Gruebmeier.

Mark Your Calendar

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



NC Eta State Convention 2016

CEUs and Eta State Convention ****New Procedure for Members****

**North Carolina State Convention 2016
Winston-Salem, NC
Region IX Hosting**

**Marriott Hotel
Deadline for group rates ends on
March 23 - Reserve today!
April 22-24, 2016**

2016 Convention Website

Find full convention coverage here:

<http://dkgnc2016convention.weebly.com/>

Convention Deadlines:

January 25	Breakout session applications due
March 1	Golden Key Award Nomination due
March 1	Rising Star nominations due
March 1	Newsletter submissions due
March 15	Chapter Achievement Award due
March 23	Group room rate at Marriott ends
March 31	Vendor applications and program ads due
April 1	Early Convention Registration ends
April 22-24	Come to convention! Bring donations for Dreams and Kitestrings.

Convention Project

Region IX has chosen to collaborate with **Dreams and Kitestrings of Wilkes County** for our 2016 Convention Project.

Dreams and Kitestrings provides financial assistance to students and teachers, funds classroom grants and sponsors educational events, such as author visits and free sports camps. It is a volunteer-lead non-profit, with all donations going directly to support projects.



The mission of **Dreams and Kitestrings** is to provide women and children the wings to soar by giving financial assistance to help achieve their educational, athletic, and career aspirations.

In 2016 Dreams and Kitestrings will focus on literacy and leadership, with their theme borrowed from

For several years, Eta State has provided forms on which teachers are requesting a form and desiring CEU credit for attendance would list the sessions attended and have the presenters sign and receive an attendance form. This form was then submitted to the local district to request CEU credit.

This year Eta State will provide a general certificate of attendance to all those attending the convention. The planning committee for the convention believes this will continue to allow credit to be earned if approved by the teacher's local school district. 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 another documentation is needed.

In 2011 the General Assembly reduced the number of renewal credits required for a standard professional license from 15 units. Those licenses that expire June 30, 2016, or later require 8 CEUs for K-8 licensure areas to be distributed as three content units, three literacy units, and two general units. All others have to earn three content units and five general units. Expired licenses continue to require 15 units for reinstatement.

*According to the DPI website "activities accepted for renewal credit include college credits documented by a transcript, local in-service course or workshops certified by the district and *classes and workshops approved by an LEA with documentation of completion provided by the agency sponsoring the activity.*"

a Margaret Fuller quote "Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader." Two of the projects being supported are Little Free Libraries, which provides enough books to set up classroom libraries in elementary schools across the county and the Book Fair Project, which provides funding for impoverished children to select and purchase books at their school book fairs.

DKG members can help by donating books for school-age children, Barnes & Noble gift cards, bookmarks, and monetary contributions. Checks should be made out to **Dreams and Kitestrings**. If you wish to donate to a specific project, you may note Little Free Libraries or Book Fair Project on the bottom of your check. Dreams and Kitestrings is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charity.

*Read more about Dreams and Kitestrings at
<http://www.dreamsandkitestrings.org/>*



**NC Eta State
Convention 2016**

**CONVENTION 2016
Reminders**

Pre-Convention Announcement

Region IX is planning a Personal Growth pre-convention outing. Watch for details in the February 15 edition of Eta Data!

Convention Ad Form and Vendor Form

Convention Ad Form

<http://dkgnc2016convention.weebly.com/program-ads.html>

Vendor Forms

<http://dkgnc2016convention.weebly.com/vendor-info.html>

Marriott deadline for group rate of \$119.00 ends March 23. Register ASAP.

Early Bird Convention Registration must be postmarked by April 1.

Registration for meals must be received by April 15. Hotel requirement.

***Fellowship,
information,
inspiration!***

***Join me at the
2016 Eta State NC
Convention in
Winston-Salem,
April 22-24!
See you there! sheila***



The Winston-Salem State University Choir is the oldest student organization on the campus of Winston-Salem State University. There is evidence to prove that the institution of the choir predates the Department of Music, of which it is now a part. The University Choir is now under the leadership and baton of Maestra D'Walla Simmons Burke. This accomplished choir has won many accolades and awards.

It was one of the only university choirs from North Carolina's 16 state institutions invited to perform during the festivities of the inauguration of former Governor James B. Hunt. This choir has been an ambassador for the university both nationally and internationally. The WSSU Choir is well sought after for its moving renditions of major choral works, spirituals, and world music.

The Convention Committee is pleased to announce this choir will sing on Friday night at the opening session.



***Marcia Payne Wooten
Handbell Musician***

Marcia is a member of Beta Delta Chapter in Greensboro. She is the Director of Choral and Handbell Music and co-pianist at Union Grove United Methodist Church in Union Grove, NC.

Marcia will ring the bells at the Sunday morning Ceremony of Remembrance



State Leadership Changes

Dr. Elaine Jenkins has stepped down as the chairman of the Educational Law and Policy Committee as she is running for county commission in Lincoln County. Elaine will remain on the committee and Susan Phipps will take over as chair. Ellen Gragg will replace Susan as Nominations Committee chair.

Sonia Foster is stepping aside as Leadership Development chair to assume increased professional and family responsibilities. Linda Little has accepted that role.

Please change Regional Director Carolyn Vincent's email address to cccv@aol.com

A new Leadership Directory reflecting these changes will be sent out in February.

A selection of workshops is scheduled on April 23, 2016, at the Winston Salem Marriott that will enrich all DKG sisters. Participants will enjoy presentations highlighting Technology, Teaching and Learning, Personal Growth, and Society Work. Some of the informative workshops topics at our 82nd state convention are: Make and Take: Ideas for supporting Teachers; N.C. Legislative Update; "App"solutely Useful Apps for your Classroom; Keep it Clean; Creating Needle Felted Jewelry, and Celebrating Sisters.

A complete list of breakout sessions will be posted on the state web site prior to convention. Professional Development Credit for your attendance and participation in convention activities is available. Please make plans now to join our DKG sisters from across North Carolina for an afternoon of learning that will impact personal and professional growth and

Create the Future of Eta State!

2016 Eta State Convention

Proposed Amendments to Eta State Standing Rules

The 2015-2017 Eta State Rules Committee has prepared proposed standing rules amendments for each member to study before the state convention. Consider the implications of the proposed changes and discuss them with your chapter president. As a member of the state Executive Board, your chapter president will help decide whether to recommend or not recommend adoption of each proposal. The Rules Committee Chairperson will present the Executive Board's position on each proposal to the membership session before the membership's decision *to adopt* or *not to adopt* proposed amendments.

The proposed amendments to *Eta State Standing Rules* are intended to clarify existing standing rules and to ensure alignment with the *International Constitution* and the *Eta State Bylaws*.

Please use the link to download the 2016 Proposed Amendments to *Eta State Standing Rules*. Bring your copy of the Proposed Changes with you to the Eta State Convention.

Rules Committee members are listed below. If you have questions, feel free to contact the chairperson or a member of the committee.

Emily Lucas, Chairman, Delta Rho; 919-775-9320; emilyflucas0703@gmail.com

Joyce Brigman, Beta Tau, mjbrigma@uncc.edu

Margaret Church, Alpha Nu, mchurch1248@bellsouth.net

Emily Weigel, Alpha Psi, emilyweigel1973@yahoo.com

Sheila Groves, Eta State President, Beta Delta, svgeta97@gmail.com

Betty Marshall, RP, Parliamentarian, Gamma Theta, bettymarshall6751@gmail.com

The Proposed Changes are in a separate document on the Eta State website. Please click on the link on the website and print the document to take to convention.

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/2016RulesProposal.pdf>

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FORM

Due to Convention Treasurer by April 1, 2016

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL – ETA STATE NC CONVENTION

April 22-April 24, 2016

Marriott, 425 North Cherry Street, Winston-Salem, North Carolina 27101

Hotel Reservations - Call **1-336-725-3500** or **1-877-888-9762**. Request **Delta Kappa Gamma group rate**. Rooms are \$119+tax for double or king. Rate will be in effect until March 22, 2016 and cannot be guaranteed after that date. Additional fee for parking deck.

Convention Registration- Mail completed registration form and check made payable to *Eta State Convention* to:
Chris Waters, Convention Treasurer – 420 Marshall View Court, Winston-Salem NC 27101.

NO REFUNDS from Eta State after April 1, 2016.

Everyone must register, including those who are assisting during the convention.

Use one form for each person. Please type or print.

Title (Circle one): Dr., Miss, Ms, Mrs. _____
Last Name
First Name
Middle Initial

Preference for Name Tag _____

Mailing Address _____
Street
City
State
Zip Code

Email Address _____ Phone No. _____

Chapter Name: _____ Region _____ Year Initiated _____

Check all boxes that apply. Current state officers and/or current state committee members, please include position held.

State Officer	<input type="checkbox"/>	State Committee	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other Position	<input type="checkbox"/>	Regional Director	<input type="checkbox"/>	Past State President	<input type="checkbox"/>	State Honorary Member	<input type="checkbox"/>
Position Held:											
Chapter President	<input type="checkbox"/>	Guest	<input type="checkbox"/>	NBCT	<input type="checkbox"/>	Retired	<input type="checkbox"/>	Active in Education	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Current Teacher of the Year	<input type="checkbox"/>	40+ Year Member	<input type="checkbox"/>	Beginning Teacher (0-4 years)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wish to Participate in Convention Choir	<input type="checkbox"/>	Attending First Convention	<input type="checkbox"/>		

Registration Fee:

Postmarked by April 1, 2016	\$25.00	\$ _____
Postmarked by April 1, 2016 (one day)	\$15.00	\$ _____
Postmarked after April 1, 2016 or on site	\$35.00	\$ _____

Saturday, April 23 **Presidents Reception before banquet** (Everyone invited. No charge.): here _____

Banquet Honoring Chapter Presidents (Select One): here for Gluten free _____

A. Rigatoni Primavera (vegetarian)	\$25.00	\$ _____
B. Herbed Chicken Breast	\$32.00	\$ _____
C. Herbed Salmon Filet	\$37.00	\$ _____

Sunday, April 24 **Sunday Brunch** \$24.00 \$ _____

(All meals include gratuity and tax.) **TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED** \$ _____

Banquet and Brunch meal tickets CANNOT be sold after Friday, April 15 (hotel deadline.)

Materials may not be available to persons who register after Friday, April 1 or on site.

Questions about registration: Contact Carolyn Coram, Convention Registrar, etastateregistrar2016@gmail.com

Questions about payments: Contact Chris Waters, Convention Treasurer, waterscs@gmail.com



Nu Chapter Honors Milestone Membership

By Amanda Moose, President of Nu Chapter

Nu Chapter in Catawba County met to honor their members with milestone years of service. Members were treated to a breakfast in their honor and were then escorted by former students or colleagues as they were pinned and received certificates along with a red rose.

Nu Chapter owes its strong traditions and foundations to these amazing women and the work they have done for DKG. Congratulations to each and everyone.



L-R Brenda Eckard, Vivian Estep, and Patricia Gibson all with 45 years of service. Irene Craig, Betty Sherrill, and Myra Warren with 35 years of service. Phyllis Parsons and Betty Blackburn with 30 years of service, and Linda Fisher with 20 years of service. Not pictured are Florence Gallimore and Claudia McLean, who each had 35 years of service.

Alpha Omega Chapter Celebrates Christmas

When Alpha Omega Chapter met at Bath Christian Church on Thursday evening, there was a particular call for celebration in addition to the annual Christmas party. The chapter members welcomed back into its possession the Alpha Omega quilt, completed in 1986 as a fundraiser for a state project. Then-president Virginia Ayscue purchased the quilt from the raffle winner and had the quilt in her possession at the time of her death. This fall Pat Bellar of Hickory (Virginia’s daughter) contacted Alpha Omega President Betty Cochran about giving the quilt to the chapter. It is a most welcome gift!

Several of the members who made the counted cross stitch squares back in 1985-86 were on hand as members admired the quilt and thanked Pat Bellar for her gift. The quilt features squares depicting buildings, occupations, and common items found in Beaufort and

Hyde counties. Various other squares display the NC state symbols. June Wallace, Nancy Hill, and Margaret Ann Woolard are current members who made squares in 1986. Angela Robbins Sawyer, who as a high school student, helped her grandmother, “Mama Dot” Tankard, make several of the squares.

Members and their guests shared a covered dish meal and brought gifts for Operation Santa Claus. Special guest Pam Pippin provided a program of song and inspiration.



L-R Pat Bellar, daughter of charter member Virginia Ayscue and Betty Cochran, President of Alpha Omega Chapter.

Some of the original stitchers.



L-R Nancy Hill, Angela Robbins Sawyer, granddaughter of chapter member, Dot Tankard, and Margaret Ann Woolard

Gamma Sigma Sponsors RIF Distribution at Robbins Elementary

Submitted by Peggy Onley, Literacy Committee Chair of Gamma Sigma Chapter

Every student at Robbins Elementary School participated in two weeklong Reading Is Fundamental (RIF) celebrations this fall. Book purchases were made possible by a \$3,800 RIF grant awarded to the Gamma Sigma Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International Society. The RIF grant was part of their Macy’s 2015 Book Smart Campaign.

continued on next page



Gamma Sigma RIF Distribution continued



*Robbins Elementary Students
select RIF books*

Marlana Evans, the media coordinator at Robbins Elementary, purchased a wide variety of books and displayed them in the school library for children to explore and then select the books they wanted.

Each student was able to select a total of 5 books.

Students picked the books based on their interests. They were delighted to write their names in the books, and they were encouraged to start building their library at home. After selecting their books, they wrote thank-you notes to RIF. Common themes in the notes include “I love RIF,” “I love the books,” and “I love you RIF people.”

Founded in 1966, RIF is the oldest and largest childrens and family nonprofit literacy organization in the United States. Some of the goals of the RIF program are to deliver free books to children who need them, to motivate children to read, and to foster a habit of lifelong reading. “We try to help students recognize that while reading is fundamental, it is also fun,” says Peggy Olney, Literacy Committee Chairman of Gamma Sigma, which has partnered with RIF since 2002 and has sponsored RIF book distributions at Robbins Elementary School since 2006.

**Send member and chapter
achievements to
Sue Roberts, Editor
suebetatau@comporium.net**

Region VII Earns Notice in DKG News

When Region VII was planning the Women Authors in Print event, they did not know the article published in the Winter 2015 *Eta State News* would attract the attention of Dr. Jensi Souders, Editor of the International publication, *DKG News*. Dr. Souders contacted Regional Director, Dr. Barbara Leonard, for permission to use the idea in the *DKG News* “What’s Working” in the January/February 2016 edition of *DKG News*.

Congratulations to all of the chapters in Region VII for this innovative idea and for attracting international attention to the Region and Eta State NC. The latest issue of *DKG News* was delivered to mailboxes and can be found at the following link:

http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Publications/NEWS-Print_Issue.aspx

Have you made a room reservation at the Marriott?

***Help us meet our DKG block by
making your reservation TODAY!***

April 22-24, 2016



Don't be left out in the driveway!

<http://dkgnc2016convention.weebly.com/>
Click on Hotel



Alpha Gamma (Region IX, Avery and Watauga)

Avery High Social Studies Teacher **Teresa Shadoin** recently attended a National Endowment for Humanities *Landmarks of American History and Culture* Summer Workshop. Selected as one of 64 teachers across the country to be a NEH Summer Scholar, Teresa studied at Ford's Theater where she explored the end of the Civil War, the Lincoln assassination, its aftermath, Reconstruction and Lincoln's legacy.

Alpha Upsilon (Region VII, Randolph) Karen

Buhrman, President of Alpha Upsilon Chapter, is the recipient of a Bright Ideas education grant awarded by Randolph Electric Membership Corporation. She received \$1,700 for an innovative project for Agape Christian Academy. The funds will be used for "The Bee Cause," a national nonprofit program to put observation honey bee hives at schools. According to the report in the *Courier-Tribune*, the Agape students will work with local high school students, the NC Zoo and the local soup kitchen to educate others about the benefit of vegetation pollination in our ecosystem. Special congratulations to Karen for her award.

Gamma Theta (Region III, Wake)

Congratulations to **Jenny Taylor** and **Becky Byrd** on successfully renewing their National Board Certification.

Gamma Kappa (Region VI, Cumberland, Ft.

Bragg and Hoke) Congratulations to **Dr. Gwen Simmons**, International Parliamentarian, for having her article, "DKG a Sorority? Yes...But So Much More!" published in Volume 82-2 issue of *The Collegial Exchange*.



Be sure to read all of the articles in the beautiful new publication of DKG that was mailed to every member.

Delta Nu (Region VII, Randolph) Marcelle

Powell is honored to be featured as a NCDPI **Teacher Spotlights** - Math 1 Teacher.

Beta Tau Member Leads STEM Teams to Victory

Stephanie Coggins coaches 13 middle-schoolers and nine high-schoolers as a National STEM League coach. She is in her third year of coaching the middle school students, and they are heading to national competitions for the third time after being regionally ranked first and nationally third two years in a row. The middle school team just won second place at regionals in



Stephanie Coggins, left, with the Hough High School National STEM League team in October. This photo was featured on the CMS website on December 3, 2015.

October, which earned them a bid to Nationals in Miami this May. Additionally, Stephanie continues to coach her students who moved to Hough High School, and as a first-year team they placed first at regionals also earning them a bid to Nationals in Miami. These teams work collaboratively to problem solve and compete in events like data driven design, marketing, and community outreach.

Beta Tau Chapter awarded two successive Beginning Teacher Grants to Stephanie to help her teams purchase extra equipment and help with entry fees for the program.

The program was first sponsored by NASCAR but is now sponsored by the US Army. Stephanie trained when she was a second-year seventh-grade science teacher at Bailey Middle School in Charlotte, NC.

Stephanie graduated from UNCC in 2011 with an MAT. She started her first year in the Principals Fellows program in 2015. She will graduate in 2017 with an MSA and be qualified to move into administration. She is awaiting her placement for the intern portion of her program next year.

Beta Tau members are proud to call Stephanie one of our own! Congratulations to you, Stephanie.

Delta Beta Member Introduces Daughter's New Book

Submitted by Betty Eidenier



Delores and Bridget Simpson

Delta Beta member **Delores Simpson** gave a well-received book talk on a new book, *A Distance Running Guide for Africa American Girls*, by her daughter Bridget Simpson, who has completed marathons and distance

runs in all fifty states. This how-to guide and advice on attitude are geared toward teenage girls who want to improve their health. Delores Simpson is a past president and past Communication & Publicity Committee Chair of Delta Beta.



Kingston's Kreatures

Submitted by Rendy King, Delta Zeta Chapter

A 7-year-old's dream to bring cheer to others comes to life with the help of his grandmother. Kingston Haynes is a little boy with a big heart.

With the help of his Nana, Rendy King, he is the founder and chief designer of a line of stuffed toy pillows known as Kingston's Kreatures, the chief purpose of which is to "help people smile and feel safe" when they are sick or feeling down.

The toy-making venture began this past summer when Kingston was in Bible school and saw a video about a family that made stuffed animals to give to sick children in their neighborhood. Kingston came home and told Nana about what he saw. "Can we do that too?" he asked.

King asked him to sketch a design of what he wanted his stuffed animal to look like, and King took the idea from the sketch and got to work. She had a collection of fabric scraps and polyfill and was able to create an almost exact replica of Kingston's original sketch.

After making a couple for family and getting a positive reception from everyone who saw them, they knew they wanted to make more. The first one went to a friend who had done a favor for Kingston. Six months later, King and Kingston have collaborated to make more than 300 Kingston's Kreatures. They have given them to friends who need some cheer and shipped them as far away as Utah, Nevada, and Minnesota.

Kingston's Kreatures are not for sale. King and Kingston give them away in hopes of spreading joy, not making money. But when people see them, they are often inspired to give. King and Kingston had a fund of \$1,500 from donations. At Kingston's suggestion, they used that money to purchase gifts for children who

were in the Children's Hospital of The Kings Daughters in Virginia this past Christmas. Kingston says "it feels really good" to give the Kreatures to other people.

Meanwhile, King, who retired after 30 years of teaching in Dare County Schools, is running with it. While Kingston is at school, she sews the bodies, arms, and legs. Kingston and his mom and dad, Lori and Nigel Haynes, help with the tedious task of stuffing the arms and legs. He then does a hug test on every single one to make sure they are just right. "They're always perfect," he says in his sweet little voice.

The only consistent factor, she says, is they pocket on the back. "For stuff that you want to put in there that you don't want to show the doctor," Kingston says. Each one also comes with a tag explaining the mission. "I'm sorry you aren't well. I hope this Kreature makes you feel better! Give it a squeeze, tell it what's wrong or just look at it and smile. I made it just for you. Your friend, Kingston."

King says the best part for her has been seeing her grandson so interested in helping others. "He just had this brainstorm on his own, and I'm glad that I can help him carry out that dream," she says. "It's been a good project for us, and we enjoy doing it together."

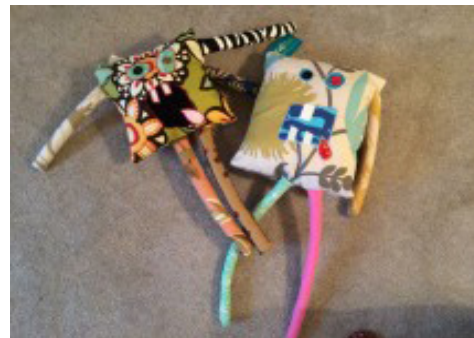
"The best part is that I get to share it with people," says Kingston, who was 8 in December. "It makes me feel good." "He's a pretty special little boy," adds King. "Not that I'm biased."

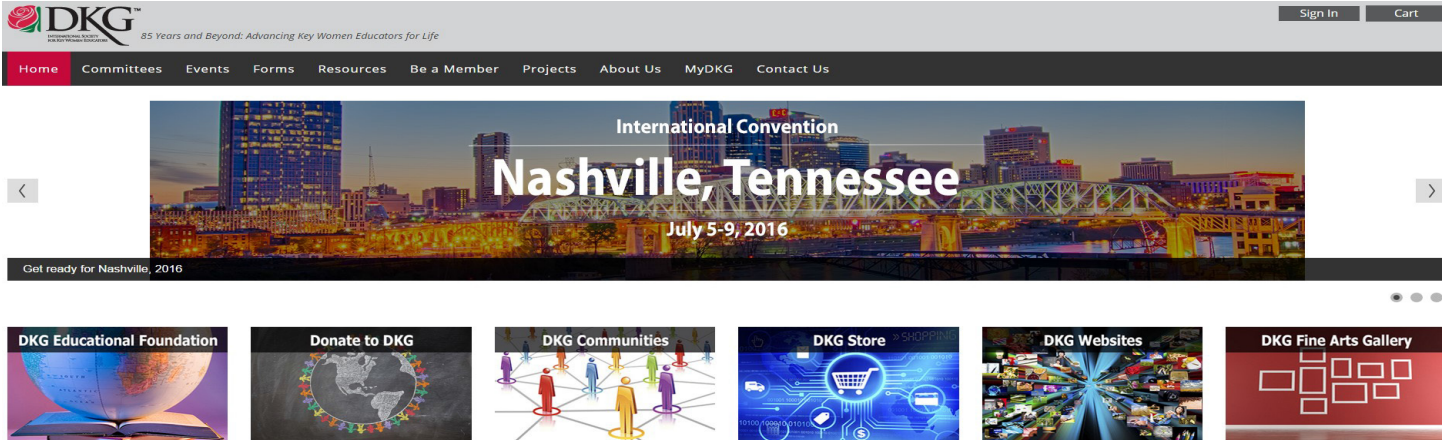
Want to help?

If you know someone who needs a Kingston's Kreatures pillow or if you would like to donate to the cause, you can message King via Facebook (search Kingston's Kreatures) or email King.

kingstonskreatures@hotmail.com. If you would like to donate materials to be used in Kingston's Kreatures, please bring them to Rendy King at convention.

*Excerpted from an Article by Molly Harrison published in *Coast OBX* online magazine.





**International Convention
 Nashville, Tennessee
 July 5-9, 2016**

Hotel and Convention Registration is open.

Go to *dkg.org* then click on Events and then Convention

You must be registered on the member portal to gain access to the convention registrations.

Why Wait??

Gallery of Fine Arts

Congratulations to two North Carolina DKG members who have artwork displayed in the November DKG Gallery of Fine Arts: Grace Carol Bomer, Alpha Phi Chapter, two mixed media pieces and Judy Williard, Zeta Chapter, an oil painting.

See these three pieces and the other selections by following link:

http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/DKG_Gallery_of_Fine_Arts.aspx

Amazon Smile Gives Back to DKG

Remember as you shop on Amazon, you can earn 0.5% of your eligible purchase price for DKG Supporting Corporation by shopping at smile.amazon.com—same Amazon, same deals, but DKG benefits too.

DKG Redesigned Website

The redesigned DKG website is now online and ready for members to access. Members will sign in using the “Sign In” area on the home page.

Enter your member ID as the username, and the default password has been made available through chapter and state organization presidents. For security reasons, the password is *not published* in *DKG News* or on the website. Members can contact their chapter president or Society Headquarters for assistance. Through the member portal, members can create a profile, allow other members to connect with them electronically, change the personal contact information in the Society headquarters database (international but not state organization), and engage in social and professional communities. Following safety protocol, the member portal is the new directory. It is important to keep your personal information up-to-date with the Membership Department so you can receive electronic messages from your friends and international officers. In addition, North Carolina members need to notify the State President, State Secretary, State Treasurer and *Eta Data* Editor, Susan Kuenzel, and chapter treasurer of changes to personal contact information.

Bright Idea!

Register on the member portal, register for the International Convention and State Convention NOW!