



Gamma Sigma Signal

Gamma Sigma Region VI Moore County, North Carolina
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International NC DKG
Volume 22 | Issue 4 | April 2023



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

Vision Statement: *Leading Women Educators, Impacting Education Worldwide*

Editor: [Gina Matthews](#)

President's Message

Happy Spring to everyone! It is hard to believe that our fourth Gamma Sigma meeting will be on Tuesday, April 11 at 5:30 in the Board Room of Moore County Schools. This has been a fast first year of our biennium, and Linda and I are pleased with our chapter's enthusiasm and growth. How exciting it will be as two of our members, Trisha Cox and Bridget Johnson present our program titled, "Who Helps the State Departments of Education? We Do!" They will share how they are helping State Departments of Education in the Southeast in seven states. We are proud of these ladies and their dedication to helping teachers in other states.

As Membership Chair, Becky Oldham will lead the induction of four new members. We welcome back Jeannette Shaw, who is reinstating her membership in DKG. It is wonderful that Gamma Sigma is continuing to grow.

In April, Linda and I will represent Gamma Sigma at the 2023 NC DKG Convention in Greenville, NC. Our keynote speaker will be Trish Woodley, who has served as the DKG International Membership Director since 2018.

Linda and I appreciate all our members and look forward to ways Gamma Sigma can continue to support educators. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at our April 11 meeting!

Blessings,

Wanda & Linda

Next Meeting Information

Date: Tuesday, April 11, 2023

Executive Board Meeting @ 5pm

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Moore County Schools Board Room
5277 US-15 Carthage, NC 28327

Inspiration: Judy Heffner

Speaker: "Who Helps the State Departments of Education? We Do!" Our own Trisha Cox and Bridget Johnson, representatives for Regional Comprehensive Centers; Trisha serves FL, MS, AL, and LA. Bridget serves NC, SC, and GA.

Induction of New Members

Cost of Meal: \$14

Members can pay cash or write a check to Gamma Sigma to cover the cost of a meal.

Hostesses: Libby Carter, Nancy Collins, Deborah Wilson, and Robin Calcutt

Thursday, April 6 Deadline to RSVP to Libby Carter
Libby Carter carter.libby@gmail.com cell 910-603-0690

Chapter Officers:

Co-Presidents:

[Linda Bryant](#) & [Wanda Sweeney](#)

Vice President for Programs: [Elaine Sills](#)

Vice President for Membership: [Rebecca Oldham](#)

Treasurer: [Dr. Bridget Johnson](#)

Recording Secretary: [Dr. Judy Heffner](#)

Parliamentarian: [Cathy Harpster](#)

Corresponding Secretary: [Gina Matthews](#)

Calendar

April 11 at 5:30 - Central Office Board Room

April 28-30 -NC DKG Convention, Greenville

Sept. 12 at 5:30 - Central Office Board Room

Dec. 2-Holiday Bazaar Fundraiser/Luncheon at 8:30 a.m. Pine Needles Resort

2024

Feb 13 at 5:30 - Central Office Board Room

April 16 at 5:30 - Central Office Board Room

State Officers:

President: [Beth Winstead](#)

First Vice President: [Hilda Parler](#)

Second Vice President: [Tammy Cullom](#)

Secretary: [Patty Higgins](#)

Immediate Past President: Dr. Teresa Cowan

Related Personnel

Treasurer: Leslie Black

Parliamentarian: Betty Marshall

Editor: Carol Bostian

Executive secretary: Elizabeth Miars

Webmaster: Deb Christensen

Chapter Project

[Tambra Place](#)

Gamma Sigma wants to thank our member, Tina Ganis for her service as the vice chair of this nonprofit that provides transitional housing for some homeless individuals. Moore County already has a Tambra Place for young women and soon homeless young men will have the same opportunity to live in a safe haven for a period of time. The new home in the Eastwood Community will house up to four young men and a resident adviser.

Tina is responsible for the wonderful article that was printed on the front page of "The Pilot" on March 19. Now others in our community will know of these two homes for young homeless women and men. Tambra Place is named in honor of Tambra Chamberlain, who works with Moore County Schools with children who are homeless.

Tambra Place residents are between the ages of 18 to 24 and can stay in the home until they are 25. Tambra Place provides resources –health, education, welfare, counseling, and social skills. These youth are independent and self-sufficient, but due to age and lack of resources are experiencing homelessness. At our April 11 meeting, we are asking members to donate household items for the new young men's transitional home.

Please bring your donations to the meeting for Tambra Place for Young Men.

Suggestions for donations:

All paper products, kitchen supplies, cleaning supplies, packaged soups, sauces, pasta, gas cards to get to work, gift cards for groceries

Thanks for helping these homeless young men in our community!

 **IT IS TIME TO PAY DUES!** 

DUES FOR ACTIVE MEMBERS ARE \$82 AND RESERVE MEMBERS ARE \$27. IF ANYONE HAS QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS, THEY ARE WELCOME TO CHECK IN WITH BRIDGET JOHNSON.

Member Spotlight

Muse of the Arts: Elaine Sills



Delta Kappa Gamma and Gamma Sigma are celebrating the golden jubilee of our member, Elaine Morgan Sills. Elaine joined DKG in 1973 as a member of PHI Chapter. Elaine's family was a family of educators with her parents, an aunt, and a cousin all being teachers. Elaine's older sister, Mary Alice Wicker was a media specialist at Carthage Elementary and joined DKG in 1972. How special that both their lives were dedicated to education in Moore County.

Elaine received her Bachelor of Music and Master of Music Degrees from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. For nineteen years, Elaine was the music educator at the middle and elementary schools in Aberdeen. As an itinerant music teacher, she taught at all the schools in the Moore County System except for Pinecrest.

During Elaine's first year of teaching, she met and married Milton Sills who was also a teacher. Milton was a former principal at Aberdeen Elementary School and later served as the coordinator of staff development for Moore County Schools. For the past year Elaine and Milton's son, Morgan, has served as the Executive Producer for the Judson Theatre Company, NYC at Sandhills Community College.

Elaine was the Music specialist K – 12 Music and Choral for both Moore County and Hoke County Schools. She taught students majoring in music as an adjunct professor at Saint Andrews Presbyterian College and Gardner Webb University. In 1990, Elaine was the founder of the NCMEA Elementary Honors Chorus and served as the chair from 1990 – 1999.

From an article in "The Pilot" in January 21, 1991 titled "In A New Role As Muse of the Arts," Elaine's new position was the arts educator for the 11 county Region 4 of the State Department of Public Instruction. Her entire life has been as an advocate for the visual arts, dance, music, and theater arts in the schools.

We honor Elaine for her service to our community by serving on the boards of the Moore County Arts Council, Friends of Weymouth, the Moore County Historical Society, Moore County Choral Society, and the NC Symphony. Elaine is an honorary life member of Brownson Presbyterian Women where she has also served as an elder and choir member.

Elaine, your Gamma Sigma sisters thank you for your passion to provide arts education in public schools to equip all students to develop all their potentials. You were part of that foundation for the strong arts programs that Moore County Schools provides for all students. You are our Muse and inspiration for the Arts in our schools and county. We celebrate your 50 years of membership in DKG Gamma Sigma and your willingness to serve as our First Vice President for Programs on the Executive Board!

State News

Explore the New DKG Website

The DKG website has undergone a comprehensive redesign. The result is a new, cleaner, easier-to-use design! Check it out at <https://www.dkg.org>. Members will continue to log in with the same ID and password used for the previous site. NC DKG Immediate Past President, Dr. Teresa Cowan, was chair of the international Communications and Marketing Committee when the redesign was conceived and begun. She worked closely with Headquarters technology staff and others to bring the new site to fruition. Teresa said, "Our goal was to achieve a website that was user-focused and user-friendly (for members and nonmembers) while creating a site with a more modern feel. Thus far, it has received positive feedback, and it continues to be tweaked as needed. Members are encouraged to offer their feedback and to provide suggestions or point out glitches as they discover them." After logging in, the green bar across the top allows for quick access to your MyDKG account by clicking on your name. Icons give easy access to DKG Facebook, the DKG Art Gallery, DKGSi blogs, and the DKG YouTube channel. Take a few minutes to log in to the member side and check out the new user-focused and user-friendly design. Be sure to update and share your profile in the secure directory while you are there!

Delta Sigma Gives to Adult Protective Services

Delta Sigma President, Kennan Eaddy

In each county in North Carolina, the Department of Social Services is mandated to provide Adult Protective Services. This service is designed to protect the disabled adult who is abused, neglected, exploited, and in need of protection as defined by North Carolina state law. In December, Delta Sigma (Region X, Lincoln) members elected to provide holiday gifts for these "senior angels." Some items provided were blankets, gripper socks, soft snacks, sweat-suits or warm zip-up hoodies, large print word searches, crossword puzzles, adult coloring books, good quality lotion, body wash, and shampoo. All gifts were dropped off to DSS Adult Department social workers. Eighteen Delta Sigma members participated in this project, coordinated by member Jill Eaddy.

[Click here for step-by-step instructions](#) on how to recreate this service project for your chapter.

International News:

Making an Impact

For the 2022–2023 year, the Foundation awarded \$42,200 to new and renewal projects. Generous donations from DKG chapters, members, and friends make these project grants possible. For more information on Educational Projects, application forms, and list of recent projects funded, go to [DKG.org](https://www.dkg.org) > DKGIEF > Funds > Educational Projects.

Of special note: This year, DKGIEF was awarded a grant from the Marian Apteckar Foundation. A portion of this grant must fund special education projects. Please help the Foundation reach out to teachers who work with special needs children and encourage them to apply for project funds to use in their classrooms. The Board of Directors sincerely thanks our donors for their generosity and continued support. If you are not a donor, please consider joining us in our mission to educate the world. Visit the DKGIEF website to explore your options. The generosity of donors is WHY we can educate the world through our Educational Projects Award.



Important Websites

Gamma Sigma Email: dkggammasigma@gmail.com
Gamma Sigma website: <https://dkggammasigma.weebly.com/>
NC DKG Website: <https://www.ncdkg.org/>
International Website: <https://www.dkg.org/>



Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's Report 2022-2023 (for the period 1/28/23-3/22/23)		
Balance		\$2,199.83
Income		
	WorldFellowship from 2/21/23	\$29.50
	Educational Excellence & Project from 2/21/23	\$29.50
	Member Dues	\$27.00
	Member dinner payment	\$376.00
	Total income	\$462.00
Expenses		
	Honorarium to J.Reehling - chk #157	\$100.00
	Name Tag Reimbursements - ck#156	\$29.96
	Reimbursement for Dinner from 2/21 Meeting - ck#155	\$267.45
	Total expenses	\$397.41
Ending Balance		\$2,264.42
Submitted by	Bridget Johnson, Treasurer	

Secretary Minutes or Summary



Gamma Sigma Agenda

February 21, 2023

MCS Central Office Board Room

Present: Bridget Johnson, Robin Lam, Linda Bryant, Elaina Aponte, Brenda Coronato, Becky Oldham, Stephanie Mills, Lorna Clack, Milton Sills, Wanda Sweeney, Cathy, Nancy, and Anita Alpensfel, Lydia Conard, Judy Heffner, Elaina Aponte, Lorna Clack, Jeanette Shaw, Robin Calcutt, Christine Ganis, Cathy Harpster, Andrea Judge, Gina Matthews, Mabel Rivera, Nancy Simonette, Sara Webster

Linda Bryant welcomed everyone and encourage everyone to pick up their directory if they have not done so thus far. Judy Heffner took the remaining directories and delivered them to their owner.

Elaine Sills introduced Jeanette Shaw as she is going to be reinstated as member.

Wanda Sweeney opened up Elaina Aponte's presentation to the group by celebrated Elaina's reverse inclusion instructional practice within her classroom at Elise Middle School. Elaina was the 2020 teacher of the year for Moore County Schools. Elaina talked about Go Global NC – as she is fund raising for a trip to Chili with other educators this summer. Elaina also spoke about her students' tour of the Van Gogh art exhibit in Charlotte. She received a grant to make this trip possible. Reach out to Elaina if you would like to contribute to her trip to Chili.

Elaine Sills introduced Joyce Rheeling as our special speaker for the evening. Joyce is an actor and writer. She spoke about “How Teachers Changed My Life.” She named her “best” teachers and their impact on her learning and life. She elicited many laughs from our group of educators.

Cathy Harpster shared an inspiring story to lead into our delicious meal.

Nancy Simonette, Tricia Cox, Anita Alpenfels, Elaina Aponte were responsible for our delicious dinner that was prepared by Fresh Market.

Wanda Sweeney presented the agenda for approval followed by the presentation of the minutes of our December meeting and treasurer’s report for approval.

Reports of Officers and Standing Committees

Report of the Executive Board Meeting Judy Heffner

Directory Linda Bryant

Wanda Sweeney reported that the funds collected from the Brag Basket adds to the World Fellowship fund.

Linda Bryant reported that the Holiday Bazaar made over \$2,000.00, which was split evenly with our sister organization/co-sponsor.

Treasurer's Report Bridget Johnson

Passing of Brag Basket Becky Oldham

Unfinished Business Linda Bryant

New Business

Committees Linda Bryant

Educational Excellence Committee Becky Oldham

Introduction of Prospective Members Becky Oldham

Vote on Prospective Members by Ballot

Brenda Coronato spoke about the upcoming Battle of the Books competition to be held at West Pine Elementary and the need for volunteers on 3/17/23.

Lorna Clack reported that she is working with a book company in designing curriculum for language arts.

Is there anything else that needs to come before the membership? No response

Adjournment

Next Meeting Tuesday, April 11, 2023 5:30 pm Moore County Schools Board Room