



Gamma Sigma Signal

Gamma Sigma Region VI Moore County, North Carolina
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International NC DKG
Volume 22 | Issue 3 | February 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

Greetings and Happy New Year to you all! 2023 will be a good one for Gamma Sigma, beginning with our first meeting on February 21 at 5:30 in the boardroom at Moore County Central Office. We are delighted to have Joyce Rheeling, a talented writer and actor, as our speaker. If you have met Joyce, you know how interesting and how much fun she is. She will tell her story: "How Teachers Changed My Life."

Our December bazaar/luncheon was a great success. Many thanks to all of you who supported this fundraiser through your monetary donations and gifts that were raffled. Together with our sister chapter, Delta Rho from Lee County, we raised \$2,264. That gives each chapter \$1,132, of which \$1,000 will be used for our recruitment grant-in-aid to a high school senior planning to major in education.

Please be thinking of teachers and/or administrators whom you would like to nominate for membership in Gamma Sigma. We are blessed with superb members now, and we would welcome other outstanding educators to join us. We will vote on prospective members at our February meeting.

All the best,

Linda & Wanda

Next Meeting Information

Date: Tuesday, February 21, 2023

Time: 5:30 pm

Place: Moore County Central Office

Inspiration: Wanda Sweeney

Hostess: Nancy Simonette, Elaina Aponte, Anita Alpenfels, Tricia Cox

RSVP: [to Nancy Simonette](#) by **Feb 16** click the link to email her or call 910-684-8215

Cost of meal: \$14

Things to bring: Something to brag about and a \$1 for each brag for the Brag Basket!

Speaker: Joyce Rheeling, telling her story, "How Teachers Changed My Life."



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

Feb 21 at 4:30-Executive Board Meeting

Feb. 21 at 5:30 - Central Office Board Room

April 11 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

International World Fellowship

At each of our meetings, the Brag Basket is passed to support World Fellowship. It is amazing that through June 30, 2021 that \$4,158,974.75 has been contributed to help women educators from other countries attend universities in the US and Canada to obtain their PhD's.

Awards Given in 2021 – 2022

- 19 \$4,000 awards
- 4 \$2,000 extensions
- 2 \$1,000 extensions

Total of \$83,500 to 25 women in 23 countries

We are proud to support women throughout the world as they obtain advanced degrees.



Treasurers Report

Treasurer's Report 2022-2023 (for the period 11/1/22-1/28/23)		
Balance		\$1,746.08
Income		
	Donations towards membership directory (3)	\$230.48
	WorldFellowship from 12/3/22	\$30.50
	Educational Excellence & Project from 12/3/22	\$30.50
	Member Dues	\$0.00
	Bazaar Earnings (Gamma Sigma & Delta Rho) for Recruitment in Aid	\$2,264.00
	Donation towards Recruitment in Aid (1)	\$25.00
	Total income	\$2,555.48
Expenses		
	Honorarium to Rotary - chk #124	\$100.00
	Membership Directory Reimbursement - chk #125	\$337.01
	Bazaar bill @ Pinewild - chk# 151	\$632.72
	Bazaar Earnings to Delta Rho for Recruitment in Aid	\$1,132.00
	Total expenses	\$2,101.73
Ending Balance		\$2,199.83
Submitted by	Bridget Johnson, Treasurer	

State Officers:

President: [Beth Windstead](#)
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



★ ★ ★ Members should pick up their Directories if they were not at the December meeting! ★ ★ ★

Member Spotlight

Elaina Aponte

For the month of February, we think of LOVE! During her teaching career, Elaina has shared her love with all her students. In high school, she thought that she would like to become a physical therapist. After working in a group home for special needs adults during high school, her plans changed and her passion was to become a special education teacher.

Elaina is a graduate of East Carolina University where she earned her Bachelor of Science with a concentration in Learning Disabilities and Master of Arts in Special Education. For 17 years, she was the lead special education teacher at the Sandhills Children's Center. We congratulate her for her desire to work with children of all ages and abilities. While teaching in West Pine Elementary School, Gamma Sigma held a meeting in Elaina's classroom where she also had a sensory room for her students. We observed her gardening and other projects. At Elise Middle School, she uses real life experiences to teach her students about managing money. In 2021, she wrote a grant to fund a trip to the Immersive Van Gogh Exhibit in Charlotte, which was an amazing trip for all. She values her students and makes learning fun!

While teaching at both the elementary and middle schools, Elaina's passion has been "reverse inclusion." The general education population students are invited into her classroom to learn and work alongside students with varied abilities. As a result, there has been a growth of acceptance and empathy from both populations.

In 2020, Elaina was selected as the Moore County Schools Teacher for 2020. This has opened doors for her to attend meetings at the state level and serve as a member of the State Leadership Council.

Elaina is interested in traveling to Chile this summer with GoGlobal NC. She will learn strategies to use when working with her students. She is planning to take seeds from her classroom to students in Chile. She will then bring back seeds for classrooms in Moore County. Training will be held in the spring and in June, the group will travel to Chile. Elaina is raising the \$6500 for the cost for her trip.

Elaina is also a busy mom. Austin is now working at home to earn money to pay for flight school. Anya is a freshman at North Moore and is captain of her swim team.

Gamma Sigma is proud of Elaina and all her accomplishments. We celebrate Elaina for her dedication to education and belief that every student is special.



State News

NC DKG Convention Registration and Hotel

Registrations for the 2023 NC DKG Convention are coming in, and plans are being finalized for the Greenville event to be held April 28-30. Early registration is open until April 9. The fee increases \$10 after that date, and meal tickets and materials are not guaranteed. Hotel registration is available through the Holiday Inn website but is easiest made with a phone call to the hotel at 252-355-8300 during normal business hours. Mention the code DKG for the group rate.

Networking with DKG - “Inside International”

DKG Executive Secretary Nita Scott announced “Inside International,” an opportunity for every member to network with DKG leaders, in her column in the Nov/Dec DKG News. This Zoom meeting will be held on the first Tuesday of every month. Times alternate each month — 12:30 p.m. CT and 5:30 p.m. CT — to accommodate time zone differences. Members may participate in conversations with Headquarters staff, 2022-2024 International Administrative Board and international committee members, and sisters from around the world. The next Zoom will be on December 6 at 5:30 p.m. CT. The link for each “Inside International” will be posted on the home page of the DKG website.

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/>

International News

World Fellowship Awards: DKG Impacts Education Worldwide

The 2022–2024 International World Fellowship Committee proudly announces the awards for 2022–2023 in support of international graduate students from countries that are not members of DKG. The diverse group includes outstanding women from numerous disciplines and from various countries. International students apply through the Fulbright program to continue their master’s or doctoral studies abroad. Once admitted for graduate programs at universities in the United States or Canada, they can apply for consideration for a DKG World Fellowship. The process in Canada is administered by members affiliated with the following universities: Alberta, Calgary, Windsor, Toronto, Manitoba, McGill, Regina, Queens, and Brandon. The DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF) manages the generous contributions of members, state organizations, chapters, and friends that support its mission and purposes for more international graduate students to receive the World Fellowship Awards. The 2022–2024 International World Fellowship Committee is honored to make it possible for recipients to advance in their studies as they pursue personal and academic success. The list of 2022–2023 recipients on page 14 illustrates just one way DKG impacts education worldwide!

Membership

Fellow members, it is time to nominate educators for membership for our spring induction. Please [click on the link](#) for the prospect form for your nominations. You can return these forms to me by email or snail mail by our February meeting. There are so many great educators in Moore County that work hard to serve our students and families. Remember when you were nominated:

- Someone noticed your work.
- Someone noted your standards.
- Someone believed in your potential.
- Someone sought your association.
- Someone sponsored your invitation.
- Someone honored you.

Remember that person’s confidence in you. With your help, we can continue to grow our chapter.

Minutes

December 3, 2022 |9:30 am| Pine Needles Lodge

Welcome: Linda Bryant and Wanda Sweeney

Members Present: Gamma Sigma and Delta Rho for a joint fundraiser. This is an annual event held each December with the two groups splitting the net profit.

Michele Bennett was a guest of Judy Heffner and will be inducted in the Spring. Michele is the principal at Vass Lakeview Elementary School.

Holiday Bazaar Fundraiser - Linda Bryant spoke about the proceeds benefiting the Recruitment in Aide Scholarship.

Adoption of Agenda and Approval of the Minutes were without exception.

Report of Officers and Standing Committee:

- Directories given to members by Linda Bryant. Linda did a beautiful job creating our Membership directories while saving the chapter money.
- Wanda Sweeney reminded members of the phone tree that was given out at the September 2022 meeting.
- Becky Oldham gave a report on the success and appreciation of the donations of food for Restart Schools Project. The restart schools are very appreciative of the support for their students and staff.
- Wanda Sweeney updated the chapter on World Fellowship and Linda Bryant reported on chapter rules updates.
- Becky Oldham updated the chapter on membership numbers and participation as 4 new members were inducted in September. Our chapter is seeing a growth in membership.

Treasurer's Report was given by Becky Oldham as Bridget Johnson was unable to attend.

Brag Basket was started by Becky Oldham.

Inspiration was given by Nancy Collins.

Linda Bryant worked with Pine Needles to ensure a delicious lunch was enjoyed by all. The raffling of various gift items took place at the conclusion of lunch.

Adjournment: Next meeting on February 21, 2022 at the central office board room in Carthage.