

Gamma Sigma Signal

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
ETA STATE REGION VI MOORE COUNTY, NC
GAMMA SIGMA CHAPTER
January 2015 VOL. 16 No. 3

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



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT



When: Tuesday, February 10, 2015

Where: MCS Central Office
5:30 pm
Covered Dish

Speaker: Dr. Grimesey, Superintendent of Schools

Invocation: Kate Faw

Make your reservation by February 6th to:

Anita Alpenfles* - 910-295-5533 or anita@ncmcs.org
Gladys Britt – 910-692-6664 or gbritt@embarqmail.com
Linda Bryant – 910-695-3353 or lsbryant@nc.rr.com

Editor: Nancy Collins
(910)-420-2873
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Please submit all items for the newsletter 4 weeks prior to the next meeting date.

International Website: www.dkg.org
Eta State Website: www.deltakappagamma.org/NC
Gamma Sigma Website: www.dkggammastigma.weebly.com
Gamma Sigma Email: dkggammastigma@gmail.com

President's Message

Nancy Simonette

I know you will all be looking forward to our next meeting with Dr. Grimesey and hearing his perspective on the future of our Moore County Schools. This would be a great meeting to invite a prospective member to join us and experience the fellowship and purpose of our organization firsthand. This will be our first “covered dish” dinner, and if the past is any indication, we are all in for a delicious meal.

The Christmas Bazaar was a great success this year. Congratulations to Pam Zell and all her able-bodied committee members for their hard work. I do think Pam has a great future as an auctioneer after she retires from teaching. Thanks to Kate Faw for arranging the entertainment that day – the performance of Union Pines Choir always sets just the right tone for the holidays. Please go to our DKG *certified* website to see all the wonderful pictures! A big thank you to Kate Faw again, for the website and the certification!

The Eta State Convention will be held in Chapel Hill this year and I am planning to attend, and I hope several of our members will also attend since the meeting is so close to home. I will have registration forms at the meeting.

We still need a volunteer to chair the Educational Initiative (New Teacher, Literacy, Numeracy, etc.) Committee. Please consider helping on this very important area of our Services Committees.

Looking forward to seeing each of you at our first meeting of the New Year.

Nancy Simonette, President
910-684-8215
nancysimonette@aol.com

Treasurer's Message

Annette Blue

Our final membership count for the 2014-2015 year is 53. We have 43 active members, 9 reserve members, and 1 honorary member. We lost a total of 8 members this year. Lucille Leeman passed away last spring. The following ladies either resigned or failed to pay dues: Ashlee Ciccone, Janet Deaton, Lisa Dunlap, Lynne Harward, Teresa Little, Mary Skidmore, and Mary Wicker.

Everyone had a wonderful time at our Christmas bazaar this year. We raised a total of \$1,757.50. Our half of that amount was \$878.75. Since then I have received \$100 in contributions toward our grant so our total money raised this year for our grant is \$978.75, which almost completely funds it.

Annette Blue, Treasurer
910-949-2934
blueannette@gmail.com

March 15 - Pledges for the 100 Challenge due to regional directors

April 3 - Deadline for early bird convention registration & Convention hotel registration deadline

April 21 – 5:30 pm Gamma Sigma Meeting at West Pine Elem. School – covered dish

April 24-26, 2015 - Eta State Convention theme “Dare to Lead.” – Chapel Hill Sheraton, Chapel Hill, NC

June 17-20, 2015 – ETA State Leadership Development Seminar - Raleigh, NC

July 15-18, 2015 – Southeast Regional Conference – Westin Savannah Resort and Spa, Savannah, GA
July 5 - 9, 2016 — DKG International Convention, Gaylord Opryland Resort, Nashville, TN



2015 Convention Project Announced

taken from ETA DATA-Jan. 2015

The Masonic Home for Children at Oxford (MHCO), located in Oxford, NC, will benefit from the generosity of Eta State members this year. The Convention Arrangements Committee has announced that donations to the home will be the convention project. MHCO’s goal is to help children who need a stable, caring and loving home. There are currently 53 residents, ranging from 3 years to

college age.

You can find more information about the home by going to www.mhc-oxford.org. Stories from the residents on each page will warm your heart. Watch for a list of needed supplies and possible donation items to be added to their website in early February. Convention attendees may donate items by bringing them to the registration area. The committee appreciates your support of this worthwhile project to support children in the community.

Have you Made Your Hotel Reservation Yet?

taken from ETA DATA-Jan. 2015

The 2015 Eta State Convention will be at the Sheraton Chapel Hill Hotel (One Europa Drive). Room reservations may be made by calling 919-969-2174 or 1-800-325-3535 or online at www.starwoodmeeting.com/StarGroups-Web/booking/reservation?id=1404261209&key=238EDA98. Be sure to mention DKG Eta State to get the \$119 plus taxes room rate. Don’t delay; reserve your room today!

Proposed Amendments, New Officer Nominations in *Eta State News*

taken from ETA DATA-Jan. 2015

Watch for your **last print edition** of *Eta State News* in your mailboxes and on the website soon. It will contain important convention information, including new officer nominations and proposed amendments to the *Eta State Standing Rules and Bylaws*. Read them carefully and be ready to give your president input before the vote on the proposed changes.



The new 3 M's of membership engagement

By Dr. Lyn Babb Schmid 2014-2016 International President – *taken from DKG News, Jan/Feb. 2015*

Sarah Sladek's book, *Knowing Y: Engage the Next Generation Now*, offers examples of organizations that have favorably turned the tide of membership by creating relevance in just one demographic. At first dismissing this as stereotyping, I discovered substantial data to indicate otherwise. Membership decline is not happening in the Boomer and Veteran generations, but associations are struggling to engage younger members. DKG peaked in 1991 at 166,000 members; today, 81,000 members. Surprising is the lack of response to change in our membership when it is our current leadership generation, Baby Boomers, who influenced significant waves of change.

Redefining "engagement"

Our organization must evolve with the rest of the world. Ignoring changing demographics risks becoming obsolete. Sladek's research on the next generation to move our Society forward, young women educators, has convinced me: we must redefine membership engagement in chapters, state organizations, and the international Society. We have always defined engaged members as those who pay dues, attend meetings, take leadership roles, or read the newsletters. Sladek's defines current membership engagement *as the emotional commitment the member has to the Society mission and Purposes*. Membership engagement has evolved into something that positively impacts the member, the Society, community, and field of education. Do we focus on recruiting without focusing on generating meaningful relationships and relevancy within chapters and state organizations?

Dropped members speak

From the DKG Survey of Dropped Members come heartbreaking quotes: "... thank you for noticing. I have been disappointed that there has been NO response from my local chapter. I thought they could have responded to my email in some way." "I just wish someone had asked me to DO something." "My main issue was my chapter. I never bonded with women there and they never opened the door to let me in. I really don't want to be a part of an organization and feel like an outsider." "Lack of welcome from other members, nothing explained, business carried on as if I knew exactly what was going on."

Hurdles to commitment

All members, especially younger ones, expect a significant return on investment: feedback, attention, guidance, and opportunity—all relationship-based. It is difficult to foster emotional commitment to DKG mission and Purposes when these hurdles stand in the way: • **Distrust**—Be transparent! Don't keep executive board meetings and decisions private. If you commit to doing something as a chapter, do it. • **Hierarchy**—Members must feel a part of the DKG community from day one. Keeping young members from participating simply because they have less workforce experience tells them that they are just dues payers. • **Offline**—Those under age 32 have never known a world without technology. If your chapter or state organization is not using updated technology, you aren't speaking the same language as young educators. • **Minimal Return on Investment (ROI)**—Insurance and member directories were once enough, but younger members expect great things in return for their time and resources, an emotional commitment to DKG mission and Purposes.

The three M's of membership

Membership must be meaningful, motivational and memorable. Stop approaching growth from a recruitment position; instead, identify ways to inspire and include members. Focus on members' chapter meeting experience, giving them the opportunity to make a difference. Address the challenges your members, especially young members, face in their work. Are we serious about making our Society a meaningful, motivational and memorable place for key women educators of the future? I hope so.

The 100 Challenge Continues

By: Dr. Mary Cauley, Foundation Board Member - taken from ETA DATA-Jan. 2015


The 100 Challenge continues into 2015. The goal is to collect 100 pledges of at least \$10 from each of the 11 Eta State regions. Currently, we are at the half-way point in reaching this goal in collections, according to the pledges that have been submitted. We encourage chapter presidents to continue to accept pledges and to send the pledges to their regional director as they receive them. We anticipate receiving all pledges from the 100 Challenge by the March 15, 2015 deadline. Again, the Foundation Board extends its sincere appreciation to all past and future supporters, thanking you for your commitment to launching this dream.

Read more about the 100 Challenge in the next Eta State News.

LEROY (Leadership Experiences Relevant to Others and Yourself

This is a brief summary of an article on the need for leaders to be trustworthy. Mentioned to assist in building trust are:

1. Don't over commit and do keep your promises
2. Admit your mistakes
3. Get feedback (Positive or Negative)
4. Share credit and acknowledge the contributions of others
5. Share information
6. Get to know people, develop relationships
7. Make sure your message is consistent
8. Be a straight-shooter



I get a newsletter called "Management and Leadership Expert" and will share ideas from it with you.

HAVE A GREAT NEW YEAR! Leroy the Leadership

Delta Kappa Gamma Society Gamma Sigma Meeting Notes

December 6, 2014
Pinehurst Members Club

The Gamma Sigma Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International held its annual bazaar/luncheon December 6, 2014 at the Pinehurst Members Club. Gamma Sigma was joined by Delta Rho at this event to raise money for both chapters' scholarship awards for high school seniors who will major in education.

A great variety of items were contributed for raffle and sale, and members enjoyed shopping during the first hour. Afterward, the Union Pines High School Chorus, led by Mrs. Cathy McCanless, entertained us with holiday music.

The two chapters moved to their individual business meetings, and Gamma Sigma president, Nancy Simonette, called our meeting to order. Jane McPhaul presented the invocation for Player McPhaul who had to leave early.

Minutes from the September meeting were unanimously approved. Annette Blue provided copies of the treasurer's report, and she announced that our present role includes 43 active members, 9 reserve members, and 1 honorary member.

Corresponding secretary Nancy Collins was absent, but Nancy Simonette shared a note she had received from Eta State president, Pat Taylor, thanking us for her visit to our September brunch.

Co-First Vice President Kate Faw announced that the chapter Directories had been updated and were available for members to pick up. She also stated that Debbie Favinger is in the process of updating yearbooks as well. New pages for that will be sent electronically to members.

Second Vice President Jen Fayad encouraged members to be thinking of potential new members for our chapter. She also announced that the final draft of the phone tree will be sent through email in January. Wanda Sweeney requested an updated roll, and Annette Blue agreed to send that by email, as well.

The Brag Basket was passed for Literacy, followed by another basket for World Fellowship.

Nancy asked members to take Directories to members who were absent; otherwise, the Directories will be mailed.

Nancy announced that we will need a replacement for Tandra Chamberlain to chair the New Teacher Gifts and Educational Initiative.

She also reminded members of the Eta State's 100 Challenge and encouraged each member to pledge \$10. The final report for the project is due March 15. More information about the Challenge can be found at Eta State's website.

Nancy thanked the Bazaar committee for the fine job they did setting up and distributing items won in the raffle.

Gladys Britt, Personal Service chair, reminded us to let her know if any member becomes ill or is in the hospital. She reported that Lorna Clack had received a red rose belatedly.

Our next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2015 at the Moore County Schools Central Office. Guest speaker will be our new superintendent, Dr. Grimesey. Hostesses will be Anita Alpenfels, Gladys Britt, and Linda Bryant. Invocation will be given by Kate Faw.

The meeting was adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,