

# Gamma Sigma Signal

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL  
ETA STATE          REGION VI          MOORE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
GAMMA SIGMA CHAPTER  
January, 2018          VOL. 17 No. 4

*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

**Saturday, February 10, 2018 9 AM**

**Program: Coffee and Donuts with the ARTs!**  
**Kim Fielder-Jones, Theatre Director,**  
**North Moore High School**

**Location: Pinecrest High School Auditorium**

**Invocation: Julia Loving**

**Hostess: Lydia Conard**  
**RSVP 673-3471 or [lydiawconard@nc.rr.com](mailto:lydiawconard@nc.rr.com)**  
**By Wed., Feb. 7**



**Editor: Robyn Lam**  
**295-0068**  
**[robynlam@gmail.com](mailto:robynlam@gmail.com)**

Please submit all items for the newsletter 4 weeks prior to the next meeting date.

**International Website: [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)**  
**Eta State Website: [www.ncdkg.org](http://www.ncdkg.org)**  
**Gamma Sigma Website: [www.dkggammasiswa.weebly.com](http://www.dkggammasiswa.weebly.com)**  
**Gamma Sigma Email: <mailto:dkggammasiswa@gmail.com>**



## **President's Message**

**Betty Wells Brown**

**Gamma Sigma Sisters,**

**I hope you are having some time to enjoy the snow, but staying warm. As I write this article for the newsletter, our area has experienced over five inches of snow and another week of below freezing weather! BRRRR! Hello**

**I will have a report at our Saturday, February 10th meeting from the Planning Committee for the Eta State Convention. I'll want your approval to donate \$25 for the Hospitality Suite. We'll need to get a basket of "goodies" to donate for the raffle. (We want to have Moore County well represented.)**

**Come join us at Pinecrest High School Auditorium (Robert E. Lee) on February 10th at 9 AM for coffee and donuts with the ARTs! We'll have Director Kim Fielder-Jones, from North Moore High School to share about her experiences at regional and state festivals. This group will be competing at the Southeastern Theater Conference in Mobile, AL in March. Several other areas of the ARTS will be represented, too.**

**Remember, we will be asking you to volunteer your time as an officer for Gamma Sigma.**

**Please be willing to "SAY YES."**

**Help share our meeting time and place with other Gamma Sigma members. Let's hope the weather cooperates. ☺**

**Betty Wells Brown**  
**[ncbelle.spnc@gmail.com](mailto:ncbelle.spnc@gmail.com)**  
**910-280-8079**





MINUTES

Chapter Mtg.

Dec.2, 2017

The Delta Rho chapter joined the Gamma Sigma chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma in convening at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 2, 2017, at the Pinehurst Members' Club. Twenty-two members of Gamma Sigma out of a membership of 40 members (34 active members, one honorary member and five reserve members), 27 members of Delta Rho and two guests were in attendance.

The beginning of the meeting provided time for "shopping" at the bazaar with proceeds targeted to fund student scholarships. After Delta Rho President Patricia Pemberton welcomed everyone, the Eta State President, Connie Savell, provided a state perspective for Delta Kappa Gamma. The state theme for the biennium is "Let's Sparkle."



Delta Rho member Linda Truitt shared an invocation. Then, Delta Rho member Kathy Adams Parker introduced her mother, Kathryn Adams, who provided inspiration from her recently discovered love for writing. Delta Rho members then led a holiday carol singalong.

Each chapter then held its individual business meeting. During Gamma Sigma's business meeting, members unanimously approved the minutes of the September meeting as printed in the newsletter.


During the business meeting, Treasurer Annette Blue presented the treasurer's report .

Kate Faw indicated that there will be changes to the programs for both the February 10 and April 10, 2018 meetings. Members should be on the lookout for communication both about program and location of those meetings, which should be forthcoming soon after the start of the new year.

President Betty Wells Brown reminded members of the upcoming State meeting in Charlotte. Gamma Sigma will be providing a gift basket.

As the meeting adjourned, members enjoyed brunch as Delta Rho members led the awarding of bazaar raffle items.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anita W. Alpenfels  
Recording Secretary

an. 26—Workshop proposals for 2017 Eta State NC Convention due	
<b>February 1</b> - Scholarship Applications due for both Eta State and DKG International	
<b>February 1</b> - Lucile Cornetet Award for Professional Development Applications due	
<b>April 10</b> —Meeting at MCS Central Office— 5:30 pm — Finger Foods (last names N-Z)	
<b>April 27-29</b> - Eta State Convention, Hilton Charlotte University Place, Charlotte, NC (we are hostesses)	
<b>July 16-20</b> – DKG International Convention, Austin, Texas	





## Treasurer's Report

Annette Blue

910-949-2934

blueannette@gmail.com

**Balance**      **September 12, 2017**      **\$2,863.33**

Receivables:

Literacy donation	60.00
Dues	2553.00
Headquarters fund	52.00
World Fellowship	16.00
Donation	<u>82.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2763.00</b>

**\$5,626.33**

Disbursements:

Printing	27.48
Dues	2,024.00
Public Education Fdn of Moore County	<u>100.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,151.48</b>

**Balance**      **December 2, 2017**      **\$3,474.85**

Membership: Active 34, Reserve 5, Honorary 1

Receivables:

Bazaar	1000.00
Dues	240.00
Headquarters fund	6.00
Scholarship donations	145.00
Meals	<u>20.00</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1411.00</b>

Disbursements:      Meals      596.67

**Balance January 18, 2018**      **\$4,289.18**

## *Helping Hands—Eta State Convention Project*

The chapters of Region VI have chosen *Hurricane Matthew Aftermath* as their Outreach Project for the 2018 Eta State NC Convention. Your helping hands will aid children and their families recovering from the devastation they are still feeling over a year later.

Doris Littlejohn, Convention Chair, explained about the project. “Citizens from Robeson County, part of Region VI, suffered the greatest devastation. Presently, most of the families have returned to their homes and have attempted to make their transition back to normalcy. Yet for others the move back to their



residences has been

a very slow and grueling process. Some of the families moving back to their homes are experiencing difficulties and are trying to provide the basic necessities to survive. This project will assist displaced families in Robeson County with some of the relief they need. Items such as appliances, furniture, and bedding are big needs.

Region VI will be working closely with United Way of Robeson County to make sure all children and their families obtain the items they need. Contributions are desired and will be appreciated.”

Donations to the Hurricane Matthew Aftermath project can be given in the form of a gift card, certified check, money order, or any other guaranteed currency monetary gift. The committee asks that no cash be given.

Checks and money orders may be written to United Way of Robeson County with reference to the Eta State NC Convention Project. If there are any questions, Doris Littlejohn, Convention Chair, invites you to contact her at [dalittlejohn1@bellsouth.net](mailto:dalittlejohn1@bellsouth.net) or leave a message at 910-276-8468.

# Politics Is Not a “Dirty Word”



Educational Law & Policy Committee

Susan Phipps, Chair

The Eta State NC Educational Law & Policy Committee reminds all members that practically every aspect of public education in North Carolina is ultimately determined by the NC General Assembly. Our Senators and Representatives hold the purse strings, oversee the State Board of Education, appoint members of the UNC Board of Governors and create legislation that controls much of what we can do in our classrooms and what our local Boards of Education or Boards of Trustees can or cannot do. Therefore, **it behooves all of us who care deeply about the quality of our schools, the success of our students, and the future of our state to share our wealth of knowledge about our schools, Pre-K through graduate school, with lawmakers in Raleigh.** Help them understand the ramifications of their actions when developing school guidelines and requirements. After all, very, very few of them are certified educators, yet they make decisions at every turn that directly impact classrooms and administrations across the state. Help them understand the practical consequences of certain actions. Let's all get to know our representatives in Raleigh. Visit them when they are at home during recesses and keep their Raleigh contact information close by. Share the expertise and opinions about education that you possess whenever you can, especially when they are considering legislation related to education or our students. If we develop respectful associations, lawmakers will learn to value our opinions at critical moments in the lawmaking process. **Let us become valuable guides as legislation is created.** Go to [www.ncleg.net](http://www.ncleg.net) to find the NC General Assembly website. Make it one of your “favorites” so you can access it quickly. Click on “Who Represents Me?” near the top of the web page to find your Senator and Representative's contact information. Send them an introductory email to let them know that education is most important to you and that you will be contacting them as educational legislation is considered. Once again, you are the teacher who can help them understand.





## Why World Fellowship? One Recipient's Story....

Aalam is a World Fellowship Recipient from Afghanistan. Her personal essay in her application is both inspiring and enlightening. Think of her struggles to receive an education and whether, if we were in her shoes, we would persevere. Read what this amazing young lady has to say.

### Personal Essay of Aalam

The desire to seek gender equality in my society comes from the grim experiences of my own life. I went through the depressing days of misogynist Taliban rule, forceful immigration, living in a different culture, repeated resettlements, and continued struggles in a strongly men-favoring society at the time when I was growing up. These experiences have shaped my person, my passion, and my objectives in life to focus on the study of politics and gender.

The first ugly experience of discrimination came my way when I was in grade 2. The Taliban had taken control of the town after defeating the forces loyal to the Northern Alliance. We were all in the classroom when the head mistress entered our classroom horrified and in urgency. Her face was pale and she looked terrified. She called our teacher close to her and said something in her ears silently. While leaving the classroom, she asked our teacher to bring all the students to the basement quickly. Our teacher instructed us to leave everything behind and exit the classroom. We did not know what was going on but suddenly there were some horrifying sounds from the outside.

We ran into the underground. The teacher announced with fear that Taliban had attacked and they had captured the city. We were terrified. Most of us were crying. We stayed in there for more than 3 hours when, finally, the head mistress asked us to leave the school immediately. We left school and that translated as the last

day of school for girls until the removal of Taliban in 2002.

Further turmoil following the Taliban take-over forced my family to immigrate to Pakistan. In Pakistan, as soon as I found the chance to go to school, I did. I completed my elementary school when my family decided to return to Afghanistan in 2002 following the establishment of the new government and system.

The older I grew, the higher I got in my education, and the more discrimination was directed at me. After taking Kankoor exam (University Entrance Exam), I succeeded to enter Kabul Polytechnic University to continue my education in 2010. After enrollment, I did not find the environment at the university constructive but rather disturbing. It was exacerbated by the gender discrimination directed at me by my male university fellows. The boys from Badakhshan particularly would look down upon me because of my sex. In their opinion, I was dishonoring them because of being away from my home and studying together with boys at the university. In fact, after a few days at the university, I encountered a boy who came to me to warn me that I had to be careful while socializing with boys of other provinces because my behavior would 'dishonor' him and other boys from Badakhshan. He said they made Nilofar quit university. Like me, Nilofar was from Badakhshan. She had started the university one year before I did. She was the only girl in her class but the boys from Badakhshan warned her not to talk to any of her male classmates particularly from other province(s). She could not study with her classmates. Even her classmates would not talk to her because they had been warned by the Badakhshani boys. She could not overcome all the stresses, so she finally quit.

I did not want to face Nilofar's fate, so I decided to stay and face the challenges. However, their warnings never stopped coming. In the meantime, I kept looking for opportunities to continue my education in a friendlier environment. Therefore, before starting my second year at Kabul Polytechnic, I availed myself of the opportunity to go to the American University of Central Asia (AUCA) in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan on a fully funded scholarship to continue my undergraduate education there.

*This blog post comes from the DKG International Facebook page where you can find many interesting posts.*

