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The Rose

Newsletter of the Alpha Iota Chapter, Eta State, North Carolina The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

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Region XI

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Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Haywood, Jackson, Macon, and Swain Counties

Eta State President Pat Taylor's challenge



The Theme for the 2013-2015 biennium is "Together, We Are Stronger-Committing, Collaborating and Celebrating!"

In this months newsletter, I will share an excerpt from President Pat Taylor's most recent message. In each of our remaining newsletters I will share another passage. Each one will focus on one of the "three ships" which she refers to in her message. As we begin the 2013-2014 school year this month the first ship tells us to Mentor Members. Please read the following passage from President Pat. "This biennium, there will be three ships sailing in Eta State. The first ship is "The Eta State Membership." The destination will be to commit to continue to support beginning teachers and to remember teachers needing our support due to loss of assistants or placement in new curriculum areas. This

ship's theme (Eta State's 2013-2015 state project) is "Mentoring Members (M&Ms)." A suggestion in supporting this theme is to form a "Mentoring Members" team in your chapter to assess the needs and skills of beginning teachers, chapter members, and other women educators needing assistance and offer volunteer time, tutoring, and/or caring notes. Another suggestion is to offer childcare for chapter members and potential members to allow them to attend meetings. You may find teenagers for this service by collaborating with churches in your community or high schools offering teens credit for community service. Don't forget to voice your own needs! You may want to plan chapter programs that highlight the skills and/or generational diversity of chapter members. Send me your digital pictures of activities showing chapter members in action as they "mentor members." The pictures will be shown on a screen during the 2014 Eta State Convention in Greenville, NC. At the Eta State Executive Board meeting on September 14, 2013 at Elon, the ship's crew, the Eta State Membership Committee, will be presenting more ideas for promoting membership."

Member walks for Relay for Life in Jackson County

Dr. Barbara Capps has been a member of many worthwhile organizations during her lifetime as a distinguished educator. This June she was part of a very important team. She walked in the Jackson County Relay for Life Walk. Since 2007 Dr. Capps has been a member of this group that does not take anything for granted. 90 % of the "Life is Good Girls and Guys" Relay for

Life team is comprised of cancer survivors. Annually, each team member raises a minimum of \$100. They band together to find fun and creative ways each year to raise the much needed funds. Since Dr. Capps has been a member, the team has raised over \$25,000 for the project. The team recently received an award for Outstanding recruitment.



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- President Pat Taylor
- Members help community locally and statewide
- International Scholarship information
- President Julie's message
- Social Media links

IMPORTANT DATES

Sept. 7th -Alpha Iota meeting at Shoebooties in Murphy.

April 25 – 27, 2014

Eta State Convention, Greenville Hilton, Greenville, NC

July 28 – August 1, 2014 International Convention, JW Marriott, Indianapolis, IN

DKG

Society International

Alpha Iota member helps to "Fill the Bus!" in Macon County

Congratulations to Kathryn Parker and Amy Hobbs on their recent retirements!



"Once a teacher, always a teacher!" was how Sue Ann Reisdorph explained her recent participation in gathering school supplies for those in need for Macon County Schools. Macon County Schools and Macon Program for Progress asked the public to help fill buses to the brim recently with school supplies. The annual "Fill the Bus" campaign took place in the parking lots of the Westgate Plaza, Franklin Plaza and the new shopping center just off Dowdle Mountain on Commons Drive. Photo/Linda Mathias Franklin Press

NC has benefitted from International Emergency Funds

President Pat Taylor wanted to share how your contributions helped locally. "Some of you may know that many of our Eta State sisters that reside in Catawba, Lincoln, and Gaston counties have suffered flood damage this past week. I received a call from a member in Catawba County reporting that the home of one of their members was completely flooded. I gave her the information to share with the member for completing an "Emergency Fund" application from international. I then wrote a note to the international president informing her that the application was on its way. Only a couple days after the member received word that the application was being processed, we received word a check was on the way to her!

If you know of any Eta State sisters who have experienced loss due to the recent flooding, please let me know. The application calls for the president's permission to submit the application. It warms my heart, and I know it warms yours also, to know that Delta Kappa Gamma is able to help its members in this way! Another example of "genuine spiritual fellowship" at work! I did it on behalf of Eta State, so you did it too! Together, we are stronger!"

International Scholarship Applications Now Available

DKG international has been granted the status of a non-governmental organization (NGO) affiliated with the United Nations.

New applications became available July 1 for the 29 annual and two biennial scholarships available to DKG members from International. Encourage your members to begin their application process now so they will have time to complete the application and secure letters of recommendations, transcripts and program

documentation. See more in the newly posted Scholarship brochure found at: http:// www.dkg.org/sites/default/ files/files-for-download/ International%20Scholarships% 202013.pdf

- 30 International Scholarships, \$6,000 for Masters level work and \$10,000 for doctoral work, are available annually.
- Visit the Society Website http://www.dkg.org for Scholarship qualifications, scholarship packet, and scholarship application process.
- Click on Committees at the top of the page. Then listed under the category Society Mission and Purposes is Scholarships. Click on Scholarships for information.

President's Message -Julie Norcross

Greetings Alpha Iota Sisters!

For many of us working in K-12 schools, this has been the first day for students (August 26th). I think I need a nap! These first days can be exhausting. There are always many things to accomplish in these first days. The students need to learn all about their new teacher, classroom



and classmates. The teachers need to learn all about their new students' learning styles and personalities. Each year on the first day of school, I read a story titled <u>First Day Jitters</u>, by Julie Danneberg. The story begins with the main character Sarah refusing to go to school. She is nervous about her first day at a new school. The kids always think she is a student, like them. At the end they find out that Sarah is a teacher who is nervous about her first day at a new school! It is fun to see their reactions when they realize that teachers get nervous on the first day too! As I said earlier, these first days, and even weeks, can be exhausting. However, on the flip side, we get to meet an entirely new bunch of kids and see them grow and learn so much! I think this is why we do what we do, no matter the grade/course you teach/taught.

As this school year is beginning, so is our year in Alpha Iota chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma. Over the summer, the Executive Board met and some wonderful plans have been made. We are excited! Our chapter is only as strong as our members. It is important for us to attend and participate to the fullest extent that we are able. Please plan to attend as many of our meetings as possible. When you can't be there, know that you are missed.

I am looking forward to our first meeting, September 7th at Shoebooties in Murphy. Hope to see many of you there. My wish is that your summer has been one of growth; whether it be personal, professional or both. Now, let this new year begin! Remember to encourage and mentor new teachers along the way.

Julie Norcross, President

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