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INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

The Rose

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

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December 2015

In this issue:

- President Shelia's Message
- State & International News
- Chapter News
- Member Recognition
- President Amy's Christmas Message
- Dedra's Tech Tips
- Dates to Remember
- Social Media Links

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



**2015-2017 Eta State
President Shelia Groves**

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Holiday Greetings and Thanks

It's the most wonderful time of the year! Chapter projects are in full swing. Our contributions provide a safe environment and hope for educating girls and boys in 13 of the poorest countries in Africa. Volunteer time, materials, and encouragement keep beginning teachers in the classroom. Collaboration with other community organizations improves the quality of education in our local schools.

We enjoy that special kind of DKG fellowship at our holiday meetings and fundraisers. We celebrate accomplishments and get inspired to reach future goals. Adding to our good cheer, we welcome new members who share our passion for empowering women and promoting educational excellence. As I reflect on our many NC DKG accomplishments, I want to thank all the dedicated members of Eta State who have worked hard to make a difference in the lives of women and children in NC and around the world. We have many things to celebrate this year!

Wishing all of Eta State a holiday season filled with peace and joy, happiness and laughter, hope and love.

Sheila -

DKG International Fine Arts Galley Growing strong.

Twenty-nine artists from 15 state organizations are featured in the fall exhibit of the DKG Gallery of Fine Arts. The exhibit includes crafts (an art quilt and a hooked rug), essays, mixed media, paintings (oil and watercolor), photographs and poems. As more members become acquainted with the DKG online gallery, more and more submissions are being received. Readers are encouraged to go to dkg.org – fine arts gallery to view members' creative efforts. The next submission period is January 1-February 1, 2016.

Breakout Sessions Proposal Deadline is Jan. 25

Eta State 1st Vice President Connie Savell is excited about the good breakout session proposals that are coming to her for the 2016 Eta State Convention on April 22-24. The deadline to submit proposals is January 25, 2016.

The four strands for breakout session topics will be Technology, Teaching & Learning, Personal Growth, and DKG Society. A proposal form is posted on the Eta State website at <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/2016WorkshopForm.pdf>.

For more information, contact 1st VP Connie at mcdpm59@gmail.com, (704)-477-0450, or 206 North Roxford Road, Kings Mountain, NC 28086.



The Winter issue of Eta State News now available online [Eta State News](#)
The December Issue of International Newsletter [DKG News](#)

Region XI Fall Retreat- North Windy Ridge Intermediate School, North Buncombe County



Hostess for the day Dr. Teresa Holt Cowan of Buncombe County did an amazing job as she checked in with everyone to take photos and make sure everything was running smoothly. Bonnie Golden, our regional director was recuperating from knee replacement surgery and missed the event which she planned with the chapter presidents. The food and entertainment were wonderful and a great day was had by all. Alpha Iota was well represented at the session by our President Amy Hobbs , Dedra Davis who presented a workshop and Suzi Cabe, Katherine Parker, Julie Norcross, and Karen Norton who each attended sessions.

Convention Hotel Registration Hints for Easier Check-In and Check-Out

Hotel registration is going well for the 2016 Eta State Convention in Winston- Salem, April 22-24. Members who have not made reservations yet are encouraged to do so soon. Eta State Executive Secretary Dr. Barbara Perry-Sheldon offers these hints to making the check-in and check-out process during convention time go more smoothly.

“When members make reservations, it will help at check-in and check-out if they state who their roommates are and even give both credit cards,” said Dr. Perry-Sheldon. “Also, it always saves time to monitor one's room for billing errors during the convention rather than waiting until checkout on Sunday when everyone is trying to checkout. Corrections, if needed, can be made daily; then fast checkout can be done. It is also important to realize that when everyone arrives to check in at 3 p.m., any hotel staff and those handling parking will be busy. Convention planners are working with the Marriott to try to make everyone's experience as positive as possible.” Reservation info for the Marriott is on the Eta State website convention page at <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/2016Convention.html>

Rooms are \$119, single or double, plus taxes. Deadline for the group rate is March 22, and as in the past, rooms will go fast, so register early. There is a charge for parking in the city deck.



Christmas Auction & Raffle

We surpassed our \$2500 goal for the day-with \$2391 raised from the silent and live auctions! Our raffle raised \$180, for a total of \$2571! Our final \$1000 commitment to the Hospice House will be donated.

Right : Lovely “mystery prize” donated and made by member Vivian Johnson. The winner of the raffled quilt was Gail Debnam. Pictured holding the quilt is guest of Dr. Barbara Capps, Becky Harwood. Becky purchased the ticket for Gail who could not make the meeting. Becky also donated a beautiful slumped glass dish and snowman to the auction. President Amy Hobbs was the lucky bidder to receive the Snowman.



Left: Susan Jones, Leslie Beaster and Vivian Johnson enjoying a bit of down time after all the excitement of the auction. The lovely Lambuth Inn at Lake Junaluska was once again our setting for our annual Christmas Auction luncheon meeting.

Nominations for Foundation Board and Committees Being Accepted

The invitation is still open for applications and recommendations for service on the NC DKG Educational Foundation board and committees by Eta State members for the next term beginning July, 2016.

To download the application/recommendation form “Invitation for Foundation Board Service,” go to the Foundation website at www.ncdkgef.org. Click on “Leadership,” then click on “Click here to download the application/recommendation form.” Print the form and complete it, then send it to the chair of the Nominations Committee of the Board. (Name and address are on the bottom of the form, or the completed form may be scanned and submitted electronically on or before the February 1 deadline to cauleym_2000@yahoo.com.)

Hurry! February 1st will be here before we know it. Please consider Board service, as we work together to grow the Foundation.



Beginning Teacher Support



Jackson County

On December 10, 2015 the Alpha Iota representatives from Jackson County spent the afternoon with first year teachers in Jackson County. Members pictured are: Dr. Kim Elliott, Kathryn Kantz, Dr. Beth Tyson Lofquist, Rebecca Ensley and Mary Brogan. Members shared their educational story with the beginning teachers and had conversations while enjoying refreshments provided by our members. Alpha Iota members also distributed survival kits to each new teacher. It was a wonderful afternoon with collaboration from WCU partners and our JCS Elementary Director, Laura Dills, and Secondary Director, Jason Watson.

Cherokee County –Teacher survival kits were provided for 23 first year teachers in Cherokee County at the November meeting of CCS Beginning Teachers. This is the second year Cherokee County members have hosted a Beginning Teacher Shower where new teachers were gifted with refreshments, door prizes, materials and goodies. Winning door prizes are, L-R Cristen Cameron Clonts, Colton Stewart, Kayla Sprinkles, Avery Gibson, Cynthia Postell and Natalee Palmer. Also pictures are Cherokee County Alpha Iota members of DKG -Barbara El-Khouri, Lana Parker and Dedra Davis who presented to the teachers.



A huge thank you to everyone for providing the supplies and to Crystal White from Robbinsville High for collecting materials from everyone and creating & organizing the “Survival Kits” for the nearly 100 first year teachers in our seven county region. Each county will be honoring its beginning teachers either before or after the holidays.





Sisters, I hope this holiday season finds all of you happy and healthy as you anticipate time with family and a much needed break from school. As we celebrate Christmas, let us be reminded of the blessings of joy, peace, hope, and faith which the Savior's birth brought into the world. It is indeed a busy time of year, but may we all find time for some quiet reflection as we look back on 2015 and look ahead into the new year. A new year brings new opportunities, both personally and professionally. I hope that we will all seek ways to further promote the ideals of Delta Kappa Gamma through our service in Alpha Iota Chapter. I look forward to our continued fellowship in 2016.

As Dickens' Tiny Tim said, "*A Merry Christmas to us all; God bless us, every one!*"

Fraternally,

Amy



A Tribute to Our Rising Star, Dedra Davis

Written & contributed by Amy Hobbs

There once was a child to whom the words "You can't" were spoken. She told herself, "I think I can, I believe I can, I know I can!" And she did. The years passed, and with her can-do attitude, she achieved much. She became a successful teacher. Someone noticed her work, noted her standards, and believed in her potential. She was asked to join the Delta Kappa Gamma Society of Women Educators. She thought she could, and she did. After being initiated into Alpha Iota Chapter, she realized she had gifts and talents that she could contribute. Her chapter was trying to transition to online communication, and needed someone to edit and distribute an online newsletter and to create a website for the chapter. She thought she could, and she did. Both the newsletter and website have consistently received high awards from Eta State. She was pursuing a graduate degree and believed she might receive a scholarship from the Society, and she did. Because of her outstanding work in the classroom and in her chapter, she was given other opportunities at all levels of Delta Kappa Gamma, presenting at Eta State, Southeast Regional and International levels. She has just been named by the Eta State President as our state liaison to the International Jury of Humanities and Fine Arts. All of these honors have come about because, with each challenge and opportunity, she thought she could, and she did. In nine years of membership, she has accomplished much, and Alpha Iota Chapter, as well as the Society as a whole, is richer because Dedra Davis has always believed in herself and exhibited a can-do attitude. She is OUR rising star. She thinks she can, and she does.

Amy Hobbs, President 2015

Dedra's Tech Tips

From DKG's International Communications and Publicity Committee's December edition of [*Get Connected*](#) Informs members of DKG Member Portal

When the Society completes revision of the website next year, members will sign in using a "Sign In" area on the home page. Through the member portal, members can create a profile, allow other members to connect with them electronically, change personal contact information in the Society headquarters database (international but not state organization), and engage in social and professional communities.

https://www.dkg.org/sites/default/files/files-for-download/2015_CandP_Newsletter_NovDec.pdf



Winter Executive Board Meeting (*officers and committee chairs*) will meet **Saturday, January 16, at 11:45 at Pasqualino's Restaurant in Bryson City.** We will conduct our business and order lunch off the menu. Snow date is 1/23.

Alpha Iota Meeting Calendar 2015-2016

March 5, 2016 - Macon County : The Boiler Room 10:00

May 14, 2016 - Jackson County : WCU Student Center 10:00

Mark the Dates

Jan. 3, 2016 DKG Educational Foundation project applications due

Feb. 1 Biennial Reports due

April 22 - 24 Eta State Convention, Winston-Salem, NC (Region IX)

July 5-9 International Convention, Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center, Nashville, Tennessee

April 28 - 30, 2017 — Eta State Convention, Wilmington, NC (Region IV)

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Eta State, The Delta Kappa Gamma International Group