

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Alpha Kappa - Florida

Mission Statement

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

Newsletter November/December, 2022 - Prepared by Connie Lewis

Website: <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/FL-alphakappa/index.html>

President's Message – Monica Hayes

Dear Sisters,

Thanks again to those of you who were able to attend our first General Meeting of the biennium. We had a good time and thoroughly enjoyed being together in the wonderful environment provided for us through the generosity of Ginny Densmore.

We were delighted to share time with our BBCC Chair, Melissa Martin. who drove an hour so that she could meet and spend time with us! Kudos to her.

The snacks were tasty, the conversations spirited, and Rhonda Work was delighted with the heft of the container filled with money for the World Fellowship Fund. We collected \$112.89 in coins and \$50 in bills.

Connie Lewis did an excellent job with her program presentation designed to ensure we all know how to access DKG's, and AK's websites and the valuable information contained therein. Kudos to Connie.

Two of our projects were highlighted, one continuing and one new. We continue to support the women of Lundquist Scholarship House through the Pack the Pantry program. In addition, a mentor program is being developed whereby AK members are encouraged to serve as mentors to the young women. For our new project, chapter members agreed to support two teachers and their classrooms in Englewood, Florida through donations of supplies and money. The classrooms were completely destroyed by Hurricane Ian.

Our year is off to a very good start, I think. I hope that many of you will join us for the holiday celebration scheduled for

December 12, 2022, 5 p.m., Business and Program Meeting, Holiday Gathering, Jo Anne Arnett's home, 2102 Lake Forest Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32303.

We have many fun, interesting, and informative events planned in the coming weeks and months. We will have more time with the Lundquist House Scholars, we will continue to collect books for the Early Learning Coalition to support its ability to provide books for the children they serve, and we will collect books for the correctional institutions. Based on your feedback from the survey that went out, we hope to schedule small group discussions on topics of interest to you. With the exquisite leadership of Ninamarie Sapuppo, Chair of the Educational Excellence Committee, who knows? Perhaps even more.

We look forward to seeing more of you at the upcoming events. Dates will be finalized at our November Executive Board Meeting and subsequently posted on our website.

Lastly, I want to say thank you again to the seasoned members who continue to reach out and support me, remind me, and advise me. I am sincerely grateful.



The BBCC Induction held September 18, at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church was a beautiful and successful event, welcoming new members and celebrating all members. State President Roxanne Berger shared a message of inspiration. Alpha Kappa inducted 8 new members.

**Dr. Monica Hayes,
President of Alpha Kappa Chapter
speaks to members and inductees. (right)**



State President Roxanne Berger, addressed members of the big bend chapters and inductees. We are grateful for her leadership and words of encouragement and direction for our programs moving forward into this new year.

Inductees and members listen as the ceremony is conducted by chapter officers. Each inductee signed the chapter book, received a rose and a certificate of membership upon completion of the ceremony.



Alpha Kappa Key Women Educators Make Us Proud!



Janie Register – Congratulations!

Alpha Kappa would like to congratulate Janie Register on her new position as Child Find, Parent & Family Services, and Gifted Specialist for the Florida Diagnostic Learning & Resources System (FDLRS) Miccosukee. In her new role Janie provides developmental screenings to children ages 3 to 5 years old, provides technical support to parents and families of students with disabilities, as well as supports districts in their efforts to provide gifted services to students.

FDLRS is a discretionary project of the Florida Department of Education (FLDOE) Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS). The FDLRS network includes 18 Associate Centers that serve all school districts in Florida. The four central functions of the Associate Center are Child Find, Parent & Family Services, Human Resource Development, and Technology.

The FDLRS Miccosukee Associate Center provides an array of instructional and technical support services to the Exceptional Student Educational programs in the school districts of FAMU Lab School, FSU Lab School, Gadsden, Jefferson, Leon, Taylor, and Wakulla. For additional information regarding FDLRS Miccosukee Associate Center, please visit our website: [Home - FDLRS Micco](#).

Allyson Watson – Congratulations! Named as Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Florida A&M University

President Robinson Announces Administrative Restructuring to Foster Operational Excellence

During the FAMU Board of Trustees retreat in August, we began discussing plans to enhance operational efficiency by adopting a new administrative structure that more effectively aligns our administrative talent with the University's strategic priorities and critical needs. After conducting a review of higher education best practices, and soliciting feedback from external education experts, I am pleased to announce our plans, which will help solidify our status as the nation's highest ranked public HBCU and support our aspirations to be recognized as a top 100 national public university. These changes include the establishment of a new Chief Operating Officer (COO) role, who will guide strategy for vice presidents and other senior administrators to improve outcomes on key performance indicators and achieve operational excellence.

Among those who President Robinson selected is our own Alpha Kappa sister Allyson Watson, Ph.D. Currently she is dean of the College of Education, and will assume the role of interim provost and vice President for Academic Affairs. Watson will be responsible for overseeing all matters pertaining to the University's academic programs, activities, and support services. This appointment is effective immediately.

From: FAMUINFO famuinfor@famuedu



Short Bio

Allyson L. Watson, Ph.D. serves as Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University. Dr. Watson has focused her research on innovation in education, STEM in urban education, women and faculty of color in higher education, and urban school and university partnerships.

She is a full professor and tenured graduate faculty with substantial teaching and research experience in educational research, advanced educational measurements and statistics, public school relations, and instructional strategies. Dr. Watson spent over 20 years teaching and leading in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Her work in north Tulsa shaped her passion for encouraging teachers to include accurate history within culturally responsive pedagogy.

Congratulations to Allyson for all her achievements. Her complete bio can be found on our website at <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/FL-alphakappa/KeyWomen.html> . She is truly a key woman educator. We are so proud of her achievements and contributions to education.

Chapter Meeting – Ginny Densmore’s Home – October 29, 2022

Connie Lewis, our Communications Director and Webmaster, presented an outstanding program, on how to access the AK chapter and DKG websites. She went through each page of our website, highlighting entries and topics. She demonstrated how to use links to find specific sites. Connie encouraged the members to bookmark the website link. During her presentation, she called on members to provide additional information. Rhonda Work explained that members needed their membership number to access the DKG website and that she had all



the membership numbers if anyone needed their number. Stacy Thompson talked about the AK educators’ wish list which is linked to our site and encouraged members to support our sisters. Ninamarie Sapuppo reported that the goals of the Educational Excellence Committee are to encourage programs that relate to our society’s purposes, to reduce attrition of teachers, and to expand support of teachers the first five years. Members were reminded to save and contribute their loose change for the World Fellowship Fund.

If you missed the meeting, please go to our website (address is at the top of this newsletter). All information about our chapter and links to State and International are there. If you have suggestions for additions to the website, please let Connie know.



The meeting was well attended. Melissa Martin, the BBCC chair was a guest and we were so glad she could attend. She is pictured here with our President, Monica Hayes. Other members pictured are June Townsend, Ragina Daniels, and Jo Anne Arnette (upper right). Our host Ginny Densmore is pictured with Josephine Sondossi in the second smaller image. Thank you, Ginny for inviting us into your lovely home.

Thanks to all who brought books to support our ELC project.



Chapter Projects

**Visit with Ladies of the SSF
Lundquist House-November 5
Nancy Watson**



We had a fabulously fun day at the Lundquist House today! They are so sweet and appreciative of what we have done as their champions! We delivered a 15-piece set of cookware that they requested; they were delighted. They lovingly pointed out the can opener on the counter that we delivered earlier in the semester. One of the business managers said the can opener was a prized possession!

We had lots of food, nine AK members, two mini seminars, and lots of socializing. It was a beautiful fall day perfect for our outdoor get together.

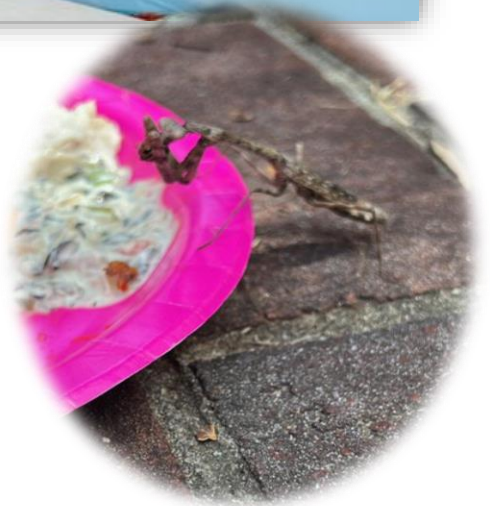
Six of the girls are anxious to find a mentor. So far none of those that were present (all but five residents were in attendance) have been contacted by an AK member. We need to get busy and establish mentors for these students.

A big thanks to our own Stacy Thompson for a great mini seminar on budgeting and to Nancy Watson for a mini seminar on grocery shopping!

We are looking forward to two more meeting with the ladies next semester. If you have not yet had a chance to get to know these ladies, please try to attend one or both of our spring meetings. Those dates will be set soon.



And there was an additional guest who joined us. Nikki Abels placed her plate on the tile near the outdoor pit. If you look closely, you can see a Praying Mantis checking out the meal. Not pictured, is a fly that landed on the plate too, and quickly became the Mantis's dessert. What fun!



Lundquist Ladies Interested in Being Mentored (Fall 2022)

Name	Major	Contact Information
Jeanna Louis	Psychology and Criminology	jeanalouis2836@gmail.com (407)223-2992
Rebeckah Anestin	Information, Communication, Technology	Rebeckah.anestin@gmail.com (754)281-4550
Karina Portillo	Social Work and Criminology	karinaportillo2384@gmail.com (904)323-5352
Veronica Velez	Exercise Physiology	veronic100603@gmail.com (352)433-3894
Kayla Costume	Finance and Management Information Systems	kac21n@fsu.edu (305)713-5801
Jazmen Skinner	Food and Nutrition Science	jskinner904@gmail.com (904)930-8344

Note: If you would like to be a mentor to one or more of the above residents, please contact them to learn more about their interests and needs. Please send Nancy Watson an email at: mrswatsonsclass@gmail.com to let me know that you will serve as a mentor and the student that you will mentor. This is a great opportunity to provide support and information for a resident. Many of these students are first in their family to attend a college or university, so they would love to benefit from your experiences!

DKG Hurricane Ian Classroom Project Englewood Elementary School Nancy Rosenbaum

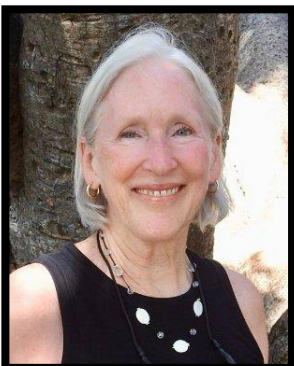
Thank you to those who have already reached out with enthusiasm in making donations to Englewood Elementary School in Englewood, Florida. Much of the school was damaged and many teachers lost everything that was in their classrooms. Additionally, monetary contributions have already been made at the Alpha Kappa meeting



held October 29. THANK YOU! Please contact Nancy Rosenbaum for further information. **Below is a list of items needed urgently. The list is also on the AK website.**

There have been a few questions/suggestions that sisters have reached out with so I would like to address them here. In an effort to keep this information organized, I will bullet items below. **Blue text is internet links so be sure to click on them!**

- **Grades** - While there were two destroyed classrooms, all the classrooms in the school have taken some impact. The school serves K-5 students, and items that will assist these ages are appropriate.
- **Books** - Teachers are requesting classroom books (picture books, chapter books, etc). Gently loved books are acceptable and appreciated.
- **Manipulatives** - K-5 gently used manipulatives are also welcome!
- **Shipping Items** - If you would like to order materials and ship them directly to the school, please use the following mailing address: *Englewood Elementary School, c/o Chrissie Yager, PTA President, 150 N. McCall Road, Englewood, Florida 34223.*
- **Sending Items with Me** - I will be headed to Englewood on **November 10th** and again around **December 17th**. My schedule is a bit packed right now so it is difficult for me to pick up items from sisters BUT you are more than welcome to coordinate a drop-off with me. Please reach out to me if you would like to drop off supplies at my house and I will share my address and phone number.
- **School Supplies Needed** - The following is a Sign-Up Genius for a list of suggested "school supplies" that are needed. There are LARGE quantities being requested as the items will be used in many classrooms but will also be used to replenish supplies for students who lost supplies when damage occurred to their homes. Smaller quantities are requested if they are a request of a specific teacher. Items will be updated on the list as requests are made by teachers. [Englewood Elementary School Supply Donation List](#)
- **Looking to make a LARGER donation?** The school has been keeping/updating an Amazon Wish List and a Wal-Mart Wish List for bigger items. They can be viewed here: [Amazon Wish List](#) & [Wal-Mart Wish List](#)
- **Outside Involvement** - Some of you have reached out to me asking if outside clubs/organizations/etc can be involved in this collection. YES, the school can use all the help they can get! Please feel free to share this information with your networks.



Our reach is far and wide - a note to Nancy Rosenbaum from Jennie Rollins, an AK member who lives in El Dorado Hills, California

Reading your note about Englewood School brought back many memories. I lived in Englewood, FL from 1951 to 1966. My first three years of school were at Englewood School. My mother, Doris Brown, (a DKG member from 1933 in Alabama) taught at Englewood School during those years in both the classroom and music for the entire school. I recall dancing a Maypole Celebration on the playground complete with a hand cranked Victrola for the music!

My father, retired Lt Cmdr USN TR Brown, was on the Sarasota County School Board and made many efforts to see Englewood School was not forgotten. Englewood was a very small town in the

early fifties (no stop lights yet) and often bypassed as travelers stayed on US41 from Sarasota through Venice and on to points south.

Growing up on Lemon Bay, directly across from Manasota Key Barrier Island, we experienced hurricanes through the years and learned to deal with no electricity for many, many days. Luckily, we had our own well and windmill supplying water for us and our cows. Salt water came up to our home which was set back quite deeply; terrazzo floors were never damaged and our kerosene lanterns always ready! When Dave and I purchased our lot at Shell Point, near Tallahassee in 1979, homes were required to build upon 8-foot pilings; when sold in 2005, pilings were specified at 20 feet!

Thank you for helping Englewood School and teachers. Donating toward this effort is going to help make their jobs so much easier.

Alpha Kappa Educators: Amazon Wish Lists



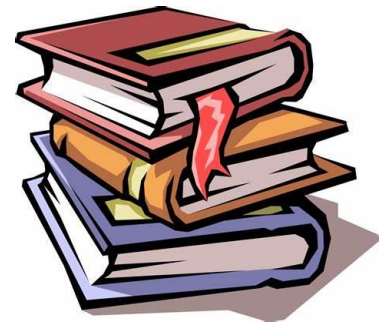
It is not too late to add your wish list if you have one! Just go to our chapter Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/DKGFLAlphaKappa>

Add your wish list to the comments for the post regarding **Amazon Wish Lists**.

For those wishing to contribute to one or more of our members, go to the link above and click on comments to see the list. For questions, contact Nancy Rosenbaum. (Her email is on the membership list)

Materials for the State Prison Library

Charles Huber, the Prison Library Administrator, will receive materials at any time. There are a wide variety of subject material needed. [Guidelines for Selecting Prison Books](#) are specified at this link. Nikki Abels will collect the materials and deliver them. You can also bring books to our next meeting, December 12th.



Other Alpha Kappa Projects – can be found on our webpage at <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/FL-alphakappa/Events.html>



Dear Rhonda and Members of Alpha Kappa,

Thank you so much for your generous \$300.00 contribution to the DKG Florida Emergency Relief Fund. To date, I have issued 52 relief checks, and the thank you notes I have received are both heartwarming and heartbreaking. The recipients are so thankful that their DKG sisters are thinking of them. Your receipt is attached for your records. I am humbled by your generosity.

Beverly Stagg, Florida State Treasurer
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

The AK Executive Board is convening this month to plan meetings and other activities for next year. We hope to see all of you at the Holiday Gathering on December 12.

Calendar of Events

- **July 12, 2022, 11 a.m. - 1:30 Summer Social at Railroad Craft House**
- **July 12 - 16, 2022 DKG International Convention, Sheraton, New Orleans, Louisiana.**
- **September 1, 2022 Applications will be available for 2023 Awards & Grants**
- **September 18, 2022, 1:30 p.m. BCC Induction, (AK responsible for chairing, speaker, and staffing the welcome table) St. Stephens Luthern's Church, 2198 N Meridian Rd, Tallahassee, FL 32303**
- **September 23-24, 2022, Florida State Organization's Fall Executive Board Meeting & Workshops, Orlando Marriott, Lake Mary. Book rooms early.**
- **October 29, 2022, 10:00 a.m. Business and Program Meeting, Ginny Densmore's home, 9713 Waters Meet Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32312**
- **November TBA Meeting with Lundquist House Ladies**
- **December 12, 2022, 5 p.m., Business and Program Meeting, Holiday Gathering, Jo Anne Arnett's home, 2102 Lake Forest Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32303**
- **February 1, 2023 Awards & Grant Application Deadline**
- **April 2023 Award & Grant Recipients notified**

FALL

