

## Season's Greetings

### Member Applause – **Anne Black**

Anne Black taught at the Marvin Pittman Laboratory School at Georgia Southern University before coming to the FSU Demonstration School (Florida High) where she taught for 25

years. She retired after 34 years in the classroom, then worked 26 years for the Florida Legislature, totaling 60 years in the workplace. She was Teacher of the Year in the Appling County Georgia school system in 1959. In 1973 she co-authored *Florida: Its Heritage and Horizons*, Trend House, which was revised in 1983 by Buchan Publications and was a state-adopted textbook for Florida fourth graders. She has been a member of Alpha Kappa Chapter since 1961 and was honored for 50 years in Delta Kappa Gamma. For many years she served as AK Treasurer. She served as president of the Half-Century Club at Mercer University in 2002-2003 and has taught Sunday School for 63 years. For the last 56 years, she has served as a deacon and on various committees at East Hill Baptist Church. In addition, she has traveled in all 50 states and on five continents, some trips she organized and represented both the domestic and world-wide agencies.



**Orientation Program** – Rhonda Work and Connie Lewis prepared a Powerpoint presentation to introduce Alpha Kappa invitees to the Society. The presentation has been linked to the AK website and is available for use by all Big Bend Chapters. This year we had eight women who have accepted membership in our chapter and were initiated on Nov. 5, 2016. Congratulations to **Dawn James**, our membership chair, for her great work in communicating with the members to recruit these women. We have not had this many initiates in many, many years.

**New Members** – We welcome the following women to our chapter:

- Nikki Abels – Retired ESE Teacher and Adjunct College Professor
- Kim Baxley – Pre K Teacher at DeSoto Trail Elementary
- Patricia Casey – FSUS High School Mathematics Teacher

- Dr. Monica Hayes – Author, FAMU Instruction/Coordinator, Intensive English in Continuing Education
- Dr. Felecia Jackson – FSU Associate Professor and Area Coordinator for Media and Communication Studies, School of Communication.
- Gia Kenon – First Grade Teacher at Kate Sullivan Elementary
- Janine Schwall – Retired Teacher
- Amanda Womble Thai – ESE Teacher Chiles High School

**Mentorship Program.** Current members of Alpha Kappa have volunteered to serve as mentors to beginning teachers or teachers new to their school/university. They will provide guidance and support to these teachers in their first year at their respective schools. A big “thank you” to all who are participating and to those who have given the chapter feedback on the work they are doing.

**The Florida DKG Educational Foundation**, “Educator Express”. It is a non-profit corporation that provides funding for activities that support professional and personal growth of women educators in the state of Florida and promotes educational excellence for Florida students. If you need funds for professional development and travel, check the website at [www.fldkgef.org](http://www.fldkgef.org) for more information.

### Upcoming Chapter Events

- Tuesday, December 6, 2016, 5:30 p.m., Holiday Fellowship - AK members bring new or used books to be donated to the [Early Learning Coalition](#), (Jo Anne Arnett's home)
- Saturday, Feb. 18 2017, - 10:30 a.m. - Legislative Meeting, Place TBA
- Saturday, April 8, 2017, 11:00 a.m. Program Presenter: Delores Hudson on Bridging the Gap, Delores Hudson's home. (Members bring a brunch item).
- Saturday, May 20 2017, Founders' Day Luncheon
- July 2017, 11:00 a.m. Summer Social
- Spring, 2018, District I Meeting

Happy Holidays

May each of you have a wonderful holiday season. Be safe if you are traveling, remember those who are less fortunate, and revel in the company of your family and friends.