

**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Alpha Kappa of Mu State
Mission Statement**
**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional
and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.**
Newsletter - February, 2018
Prepared by Connie Lewis

Member Applause – Candace Gautney



Candace Gautney lives in Tallahassee with her husband, Chris, who is also in the education field. He currently teaches 8th grade Social Studies at Griffin Middle School. They are parents to a wonderful 8 year old girl, Rylee, who is a third grader in Leon County Schools. Candace serves as the Testing Coordinator for Godby High School in Tallahassee. She is a wearer of many hats. Not only does she serve as the Testing Coordinator, but also as the Business Partner Coordinator, Volunteer Coordinator, Mentor Coordinator, and National Honor Society Sponsor for Godby High. She actively engages the students she loves as an academic advisor while serving as part of the guidance department.

Candace graduated with her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education from Florida State University in 2004, and began her teaching career at Ruediger Elementary school as a 5th grade teacher. This is the school where she also completed her internship. Throughout her nine years at Ruediger, she taught 5th grade and 3rd grade, departmentalized, self-contained, and teaming. Candace decided to pursue her Master's Degree in Educational Leadership, hoping to eventually move into a position in administration at one of the local Leon County Schools. She achieved this dream in 2013, when she graduated from St. Leo University.

After her tenure at Ruediger, she moved into a district position where she served nine different elementary schools as the Gifted and Talented Science Teacher in Title I. She traveled from school to school serving the gifted and talented population through hands on science instruction. This was the first time a program such as this was put in place in Leon County. Before this program, Title I schools did not have individualized gifted services, and the identified gifted and talented students were only serviced by their classroom teachers. She is very proud to have been part of the team that made this vision a reality.

Two years after helping to start the Gifted and Talented program in Title I, Candace accepted her current position at Godby High School. Serving the students at Godby has been a blessing. Many of the students currently in attendance at the school were taught by Candace as elementary students at Ruediger, and many more have been taught by her husband in middle school. The bond she is able to have with these students is unmatched. Candace Gautney was named 2017-2018 Teacher of the Year for Godby High School, and was a Top 5 Finalist for Leon County. Candace has been a member of Alpha Kappa since 2014.



Congratulations Dr. Felecia Jordan-Jackson for being awarded the Transformation through Teaching award. This program at FSU was established through the Spiritual Life Project to honor full-time faculty that have had an intellectual, inspirational, and integrative impact on the lives of their students.



Felecia is an Associate Professor in the School of Communications. She has been a member of Alpha Kappa since 2016.

Congratulations - Alpha Kappa Officers 2018-2020

President: Nancy Watson

Recording Secretary: Nikki Abels

President Elect: Delores Hudson

Corresponding Secretary: Melissa Olson

Vice President: Gale Workman

Treasurer: Rhonda Work

Alpha Kappa Contributes. . .

World Fellowship

The chapter meeting, December 7, 2017 focused on World Fellowship meeting. Gale Workman conducted the fund raiser for the World Fellowship. There were many wonderful gifts donated by the members. There was \$170.00 made on the fund raiser. Way to go Sisters!

Good news! Our DKG World Fellowship scholar, **Dr. Joannie Bewa**, will attend our Legislative meeting on **Saturday, Jan. 27**. Please welcome Dr. Bewa, **10 a.m.-noon, at the eastside branch of the public library**.



Joannie Bewa, M.D., is a physician from Benin, Africa, and a public health graduate research assistant and Fulbright scholar at the University of South Florida. She holds a doctorate in medicine and is a master of public health candidate at USF.



Early Learning Coalition Program "My First Books" –

Wow! Our book collection this year was 262 books thanks in large part to Sandy Byars, a new transfer member, who contributed 119 books. We have our work cut out for us next year. Thanks to those who delivered the books – Monica Hayes, Nancy Watson, Rhonda Work, and Gale Workman. Others in the photo are ELC staffers.

Lundquist Scholarship House, FSU campus "Pack the Pantry" – On December 5th members of the Alpha Kappa made their 3rd delivery to the scholarship house we support by providing supplies for them. The girls look forward to the visits and to the restocking of their staples. Thanks to Nancy Watson, Susan Womble, and Rhonda Work for making this delivery. We appreciate you!



District 1 Conference hosted in Tallahassee, March 2-3, 2018 - You have received the registration materials and the form to be a workshop presenter. We want Alpha Kappa to be well represented at the conference. We need your participation.

The District I meeting, hosted in Tallahassee is scheduled for March 3, 2018 at Augusta Raa Middle School. There will be Friday night activities as well as the Saturday conference.

- Theme: "Teachers are the Artists of Human Potential" which is from an essay by the 2016 National Teacher of the Year, Shanna Peebles.
- Each chapter will be asked to bring a display.
- There will be workshops for presidents and treasurers.
- A peace mural with participation by all attendee will be designed.
- Possible workshops – technology, music, arts, Tai Chi, etc.
- Baskets not to exceed \$25 will be donated by each chapter, preferably something associated with creativity.

Donna Heald, District I Director, has appointed a committee to assist with the planning. The BBCC presidents were encouraged to participate in the planning. Local chapter members will be asked if they can house any attendees from the western Panhandle on the Friday night of the meeting. Please send all suggestions to Donna at dhealdfl@aol.com

Upcoming Chapter Events

- March 2 - 3, 2018 - District 1 Meeting, Tallahassee - Augusta Raa Middle School.
- April 14, 2018 - Pack the Pantry, arrangements TBD. Topic: Scholarship House.
- May 19, 2018 - Joint Founders' Day Luncheon, arrangements TBD.
- July, 2018 - Summer Luncheon, arrangements TBD.