

# Psi State News

Fall, 2007



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Thirty-five Psi State members traveled by various modes to New Orleans to immerse themselves in Mardi Gras spirit and enjoy the Southeast Regional Conference. Wednesday night the Louisiana sisters transported attendees to Mardi Gras World across the river where everyone got beads and a taste of participating in a parade.

The opening session on Thursday began with the beautiful flag ceremony. Dr. Sally Karioth regaled all with stories of her background in teaching and nursing. The first drawing for the Emergency Fund was held. The afternoon was devoted to the Info Fair and wonderful workshops. Thursday night was the Georgia at Mulate's. Much conversation and fellowship took place as everyone enjoyed a meal.

### Friday's

Dr. Barbara Day, In-President, who spoke Initiatives as outlined April issue of the In-News. The celebration gave everyone an opportunity to hear Stephanie Pace

Ph.D. speak about her Educator's Award book, *The Power to Transform*. Linda McCrary worked hard at the auction to raise a great amount for the Emergency Fund. More workshops followed.

Saturday's third general session gave the opportunity to hear Terry Dozier, Ed.D. speak about *Turning Good Teachers into Great Leaders*. She had many good ideas to share. There were more drawings for the Emergency Fund. Jackie Mann read her original poem (see Peach Bytes).

The finale was the Presidents Banquet with Hanna passing the baton to Patti. Our last speaker was Eloise Litz who encouraged us to *Soar Like an Eagle*. The chorus performed and the flags were retired to close the conference.

Ask any of the following members for their favorite thing about our conference in New Orleans: Adah McCormack, Ann Boswell, Ann Wilburn, Anne Edwards, Billie Walker, Constance Castro, Corinne Daniel, Deborah Pearson, Diana Wieberg, Gail Ford, Hanna Fowler, Jackie Mann, Jeanne Stroebel, Joan Cordell, Joanne NeSmith, Jo Hicks, LeAnna Walton, Jean Barber, Mary Landrum, Mary Wellborn, Mavis Johnson, Melissa Collins, Meredith Rogers, Miriam Murray, Patti Newman, Peggy McCall, Phyllis Hart, Sally Adams, Seleta London, Sheila Hawthorne, Susan Huff, Sylvia Brown, Vera Rusek, Wanda McLaughlin, Page Loyd.



Photograph courtesy of Photographs by Jim

speaker was international about her Key in the March/International luncheon opportunity to Marshall,



## **Are you anchored by the Seven Pur- poses?**



### **Points from Patti –**

I hope all of you have had a wonderful summer. As your new Psi State President, I have been very busy this summer preparing for the biennium and participating in various Delta Kappa Gamma events. I am also very excited and honored to be serving the members of Psi State and representing Georgia.

By the time you read this, Psi State will have hosted the first Psi State Leadership Institute on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Psi State members voted at the state convention to conduct annual Leadership Institutes that are designed to “provide intensive training in the roles, duties, and responsibilities of Psi State leadership positions; instill a deeper understanding of the work of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International for all members through chapter leaders; and develop effective leadership skills for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.” I hope that this will become an annual event which all of our members look forward to attending so they can learn more about our Society and how they can become better members of Delta Kappa Gamma.

The theme I have chosen for the biennium is “Anchored By the Seven Purposes”. As we have “Lived the Seven Purposes” for the past biennium, I hope that during the next two years we will take time to focus on the seven purposes of our Society and that each of us will ask what we are doing to support the Society. We should reexamine the seven purposes and resolve to put them into practice as often as possible. We must, also, take action to strengthen our Society by working to strengthen our chapters. To paraphrase an old saying: “Our Society is only as strong as its weakest chapter.” Our Society cannot remain viable unless our chapters are actively putting the seven purposes into practice.

A major goal for this biennium will be to develop the Psi State Strategic Action Plan. With the Society Strategic Action Plan as our guide, we can envision where we want to be in future years and develop the map that will guide us to our destination. By incorporating the Key Initiatives proposed last year by Dr. Barbara Day, International President, we will be well on the way to strengthening our chapters as well as the Society as a whole.

Other goals that I have set include encouraging chapters to participate in one or more service projects during the biennium. Many chapters are already doing this, but I believe that we can have 100% participation in worthy projects.

An additional goal that I have set builds on the Key Initiative of “Collaborative Connections” which calls for each chapter to create supportive connections that offer support to new teachers. In addition to supporting new teachers, I believe that we need to support our new members. By providing additional support to these members, we are ensuring the future of our Society.

I am looking forward to working with you during this biennium. As we begin to chart our course for the next two years, let us keep our sights focused on the seven purposes that anchor our Society. With the seven purposes to anchor us, we can weather any challenges that lie ahead.

Fall, 2007

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August 3, 2007

Dear Members of Psi State Organization:

Thirty-six of your members helped make our 2007 Southeast Regional Conference a resounding success by their attendance and participation! More than 600 members and guests were professionally enriched through the pre-conference leadership seminars, the pre-conference Cornetet *Sell Your Success!* seminar, 62 professional and personal interest workshops on five different thematic strands, the U.S. Forum, and five speakers at three general sessions and the two conference meal functions.

Your members were very visible in the conference program: Dr. Hanna Fowler and Dr. Patti Newman participated in the Flag Ceremony and the Presidents' Banquet Procession, and facilitated workshop sessions; Patti also presented your state's *Story of Wisdom and Passion*; Page Loyd was the Creative Arts Coordinator for the conference, led group singing, and helped present the 2008 Convention invitation; Jo Hicks and Billie Walker exhibited in the Info Fair; Jackie Mann wrote and presented an original poem for the closing of the conference; and Anne Edwards, Wanda McLaughlin, Missy Collins, Jean Barber, Corinne Daniel, and Vera Rusek facilitated workshops.

I am very grateful to all of you. I am, also, thankful that you invited me to attend your dinner at Mullatte's, where I had an opportunity to spend quality time with you and to thank you personally for your contributions. The food was excellent, and the company more so.

Thank you for your commitment, by your attendance, to supporting our sisters in Louisiana and the city of New Orleans. I know that you will share your experiences with Psi State members who were unable to attend and let them know what a wonderful conference and city they missed. I, also, am confident that you will share the knowledge you gained with members at the chapter, district and state levels as you share the wisdom and passion you brought home with you from the conference. Thank you, also, for your continuing support of the International Emergency Fund through your donations and purchasing of cookbooks.

Your outgoing president, Hanna Fowler, receives my appreciation for support and cooperation. Your 2007-2009 state officers have a wealth of knowledge and support from all your retiring officers and from all of us at the international level. You know that I am just a phone call or email away and within easy driving distance of Georgia! Let me hear from you.

I look forward to seeing those 36 members and more at our international convention next summer in Chicago.

In great appreciation,

Jensi Souders

Southeast Regional Director



Fall, 2007



Photograph courtesy of Photographs by Jim



On these pages you will find glimpses of the fun in New Orleans. How many do you recognize? Can you spot the sisters who are NOT from Georgia?

Dear Psi State Members,

On behalf of Linda McCrary and myself, I would like to thank all of you who participated in our collection of money for the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Emergency Fund. Thanks to those who contributed items for the raffle or contributed money for the fund by buying raffle tickets, joining in our auction and by dropping money in the collection bags. We never would have been able to pull it all together without your help. You know who you are and so do we. If I tried to name everyone, I would be sure to leave someone out. Just know that because of you, Southeast Regional Director Jensi Souders was able to hand a check in the amount of \$8809 to Corlea Plowman at the Presidents' Banquet in New Orleans. Thanks to you our sisters devastated by natural disasters will find a helping hand through the Emergency Fund.

God bless all of you,

Vera Jo Henegar, Co-chair

SE Regional Conference Emergency Fund Collection



We love our groupies!!!



A mother daughter team





*Dear Rose,*

*I know that there are many changes with every biennium. Can you tell me what, if any, changes have taken place with Psi State Membership?*

*Meredith*

*Dear Meredith,*

*I am so glad you asked. Necrology has been merged under the Membership committee. Please send a copy of any Form 6 reports to the Membership chairman because there is **no longer a Necrology chairman**. The new Psi State Membership Chairman is Missy Collins and her email is [missycol-lins333@gmail.com](mailto:missycol-lins333@gmail.com). Please send these forms as soon as possible at the time of death.*

*Thanks,*

*Rose*

*Dear Rose,*

*What is the membership explosion campaign all about?*

*Marilyn*

*Dear Marilyn,*

*The Membership Explosion is about getting new, younger members. Any chapter who gets 8 members in the two year period will be recognized. The second part of the recognition comes when at least 4 of the new members have 10 years or less teaching experience.*

*Thanks,*

*Rose*

**Chapters who have met the Membership Explosion are:**

**Alpha Alpha, Alpha Kappa, Alpha Lambda\*, Alpha Phi\*, Alpha Theta, Beta Beta\*, Beta Sigma, Delta Alpha\*, Gamma Chi\*, Gamma Epsilon, Gamma Eta, Gamma Nu\*, Gamma Omicron, Gamma Upsilon, Kappa\*, Mu, Omicron**

**\* has met both parts of the Membership Explosion**

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## **S.O.S. “Support Our Sisters” and Anchor the Seven Purposes**

by Peggy McCall  
Psi State Program of Work Chairman

During this new and exciting biennium, we will be “anchoring the seven purposes” as our new state president, Patti Newman, has requested. After attending the South East Regional Conference in New Orleans, it became clear to our contingency that our sisters in Louisiana still need our help. After much discussion and collaboration with our Louisiana sisters, we will be unveiling a new project at the fall executive board meeting.

Support Our Sisters (or S.O.S.) will enable chapters to adopt individual Society members that have lost their entire classroom contents. Many teachers have received student supplies and texts, but have nothing in the way of units of study, bulletin board materials, and other teacher made or bought items. We are talking about teachers that were completely wiped out!

Stay tuned for details on how individual chapters can adopt a Louisiana sister. The details will be disseminated at the fall board meeting and sent out to all chapter presidents. We hope your chapter will help us anchor purpose one, “to unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship” by supporting our sisters that still need us!

Do you ever feel that you’re out there all alone in the hinterlands? When Maestro Robert Shaw was asked why he continued to toil in the hinterlands (Atlanta) his reply was: “I’m making a difference in my yard of space and inch of time.”

What are you doing with your yard of space and inch of time?

### **White roses**

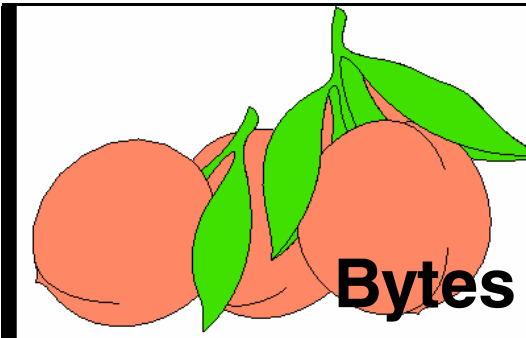
Ruth Davenport, Beta Rho

Sarah Shootes, Alpha Epsilon

Genelda McClain, Alpha Theta

Bess Crittenden, Xi





During the 2007-2009 biennium, Peach Bytes will emphasize news from individual chapter and/or members. All 6 districts will be included in some way during the biennium. Please contact your District Director or Psi State Editor to share.

## Society Conferences

New Orleans, LA was the site this year  
For the Southeastern Regional conference  
For Delta Kappa Gamma Sisters  
Who were all "revved" and in gear!

Oh, I am so proud I attended the week of events.  
The hours flew by in meetings and workshops  
And for the information I received  
It made my time well spent.

For many a year I stayed home all cozy and content.  
I really did not understand the fuss over a "conference"  
Or the reason why  
So many of our sisters even went!

It did not take but once to attend a regional event  
And I knew right away  
Exactly what our sisters had meant!

Our society purposes each were fulfilled  
Beginning with "unite" and ending with "inform".  
I could now understand them better  
For in me the purposes were instilled.

Make time to learn your society and all it can do  
Attend just one conference  
Is my suggestion to you.

Life is too short to stay home and wonder "just why"  
When you can find out for yourself  
But.....ONLY if you try!

Unite, Honor, Advance, Initiate,  
Endow, Stimulate and Inform  
Are the seven purposes key words  
I can now "Live" and "Anchor"  
And let the works of our society be seen and heard.

Gail Ford  
Alpha Omega, District VI

This issue of Peach Bytes includes reflections from some Psi State members who traveled to New Orleans for the Southeast Regional conference. Each of the six districts is represented in some way.

Look for more chapter happenings in the issues to come.



Janie Smallwood, past state president, with her daughters on the occasion of her 80th birthday.



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## Wisdom to Share Passion to Care

What does Delta Kappa Gamma mean to you?

I know what it means to me.

A close-knit group of sisters who are wearers of our key.

With such wisdom they are blessed, always willing to share,

Concern that's far reaching, with its unending passion of care.

Leadership seminars, convention presentations, no matter the task

Sisters always ready to support or take the lead should they be asked.

A tiny seed of wisdom deep in the heart of one,

Coupled with a passion of care from peers our society was begun.

What does Delta Kappa Gamma mean to you?

I know what it means to me.

Members with talents diverse and galore,

Music, leadership, art, more, more, and more.

Now successful in careers that before were only open to men,

Before a teacher was courageous enough to help change to begin,

Wise enough to know that women should not have to face job discrimination,

Smart enough to realize that women should not be deprived political office affiliation,

Women working on the same level as men but receiving less pay,

Teachers who married and had to resign positions that very same day.

A teacher with wisdom and a passion of care,

In 1929 in Austin began changes women now enjoy in places far away from there.

What does Delta Kappa Gamma mean to you?

I know what it means to me.

A society that was chartered ever so long ago

That has affected more lives that I will ever know,

Scholarships for women wise enough to know the importance of education,

Fellowships for those who care enough for learning to leave their own nation,

Emergency funds ready before a natural disaster because of our passion of care,

A genuine spiritual fellowship that I enjoy every day no matter where,

Whether at chapter, district, state, regional, or an international affair,

Even on my computer, at my mailbox, or simply greeting a sister out somewhere.

I know what Delta Kappa Gamma means to you?

Because I know what it means to me,

A very special gift for which we will ever thankful be,

A treasure in an envelop that was our invitation,

A check of riches all our own given at our initiation,

A society that we must honor and secure with a passion of care,

Accept our responsibility, and any wisdom we possess be always willing to share.

A legacy to us was left and we must pass it on,

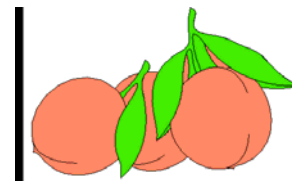
For wisdom to share and passion to care in our society must forever be well known.

Seven purposes of wisdom form the basis for needed change,

But genuine spiritual fellowship will always be the same.

Jackie Mann,

Delta Chapter, District IV



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## **“NEW ORLEANS OR BUST!!**

Hotel reservations were made. Registration fees were paid. Clothes were ready to pack. I was leaving on Monday for the 2007 SE Regional.

As the new president of Alpha Omicron, I ventured “out of the chapter” to my first SE Regional in Mobile in 1993. Since then, I have had the opportunity to attend every regional conference except one. (I didn’t get to Charleston in 1995 because I had just returned from the Golden Gift Seminar in Austin.) I was looking forward to another great SE Regional in New Orleans, but plans quickly changed. I WAS BUSTED!!

I wish I could have been at SE Regional to share a special time of fellowship with my Delta Kappa Gamma sisters; to attend the professional development workshops; to visit with my Golden Gift classmates; to hear the excellent keynote speakers; to walk down Bourbon Street; to participate in the “Sell Your Success” pre-convention seminar; to have coffee and beignets at Café du Monde; to buy new materials at the Society Info Fair; to tour the areas devastated by Katrina; to participate in the U.S. Forum; to make new friends at the Celebration Luncheon and Banquet; to sit on a bench overlooking the Mississippi River; to see the Society at work in the general sessions; to support Patti and Hanna in their new positions. Yes, I wish I could have been there, but I have no regrets.

You see, I love Delta Kappa Gamma and New Orleans, too. But my family comes first!

I want to thank those of you who “missed me” at SE Regional. Please continue to pray for my family (and all farm families) during this time of extreme drought.

Jo Davis  
Alpha Omicron, V

## **Immediate Bonding**

On the bus ride from Mardi Gras World in New Orleans, Page was asked to find a substitute for a facilitator for a workshop. She looked at me. Wow! I said “yes”. That was the best yes I have said in a long time. This experience became one of the many highlights of the conference for me.

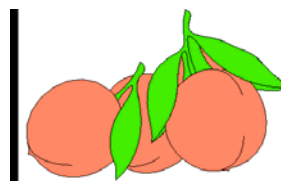
The workshop, “Soul Songs: Doors to Poetry”, was presented by Carmen Falls Redding from North Carolina. When she walked in the door of the workshop, our eyes met and I felt the great charm of this lovely Delta Kappa Gamma sister. Her charisma was fantastic and our bonding was immediate.

Carmen’s presentation was wonderful. She was so clever in getting positive responses from the participants. They truly left the workshop feeling renewed and with a desire to be a better teacher of poetry. The participants carried with them new ways of teaching or they were reinforced in the methods they had been using.

This was an experience in bonding with a special person and a renewal of the true feeling of how Delta Kappa Gamma spans over time and distance. I hope that Carmen and I meet in person again because I know that we will still feel like sisters.

Carmen Redding is a special person and I know she loves children and Delta Kappa Gamma. Only at the banquet did I learn that she is the incoming president of North Carolina, Eta State. I am thankful for that experience of immediate bonding. One of the reasons that this bonding can happen so quickly is the common purposes and goals which we share in this society.

Anne Edwards,  
Eta, IV



Why do I love attending our SE conferences? Is it because I am able to meet and become friends with outstanding educators from other areas of our nation? Is it the knowledge that even before I attend I will hear inspirational speakers and leaders who will challenge my thinking and feeling about important issues? Could it be my desire for travel and adventure to a beautiful location of our country where I am able to experience the history, culture, and especially the wonderful food of the area?

Our recent New Orleans SE conference provided the opportunities for new friendships, inspiration, travel, and adventure. In the midst of all the offerings at this conference we also discovered new ideas for personal growth and information to develop and expand excellence in our local chapters.

I am deeply grateful for all I have been given through each regional conference I have attended.

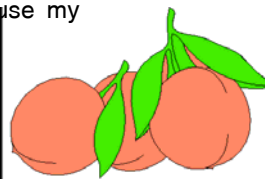
Ann Boswell,  
Iota, I

Mary Frances Wellborn, Shelia Hawthorne, Jean Barber and I traveled to New Orleans by car together for SE Regional and we had a great time. It was amazing that the gals from Louisiana could pull this all together after seeing the devastation from Katrina. I personally thought that the best speaker was Dr. Sally Karniok from Florida at Thursday morning's general session. She was awesome. She had you laughing one minute and crying the next. The banquet on Friday at noon was great. We were not able to stay for the banquet on Saturday night. The hotel was very nice and everyone there was very cordial. It was good to be able to see old friends again and make new friends there.

Ann Wilburn  
Gamma Omega II

"Let the good times roll" in New Orleans was a success. Southeast Regional Director Dr. Jensi Souders, Conference Chair Christal Robbins, the conference steering committee and all Epsilon State Organization members really did an outstanding job of seeing that the conference was great and that everyone who attended learned much. The people in NO were so grateful that we had come. They expressed that to us everywhere we went. The Riverside Hilton, where the conference was held, and everything in the French Quarters was operating again. Some businesses had not reopened, but many of them had signs that they would reopen soon. We acquired a new appreciation for the people of the area and what they had experienced after we took the Katrina tour. Wednesday evening the group was transported across the Mississippi River to Blaine Kern's Mardi Gras World for Louisiana Night. The conference has some outstanding speakers. The workshops were many, as usual. Among the ones that I attended were two excellent ones that Muril O'Toole had. I, also, attended one on chair exercises. President Barbara Day informed us with her speech. The speaker at the Birthday Luncheon was the winner of the Educator's Award book. Meetings like this are always like reunions for me. I see people who have become my friends throughout the Society. I enjoyed being with all the people who were state presidents when I served Psi State 2001-2003. Our group of presidents had everyone present at the Presidents' luncheon. My husband represented me at the Georgia dinner because my group of presidents had dinner together at the same time.

Sylvia D. Brown  
Alpha Rho, II



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## Important Dates

March 3, 2008 District II meeting

March 29, 2008 District III meeting

April 5, 2008 District IV meeting

April 19, 2008 District I meeting

April 26, 2008 District VI meeting

May 5, 2008 District IV meeting

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