

40 Chapters Responded to the Lambda State Chapter Literacy Information Form

#1 Alpha

We are continuing to look for ways to support early readers in our area schools or perhaps at our local library during the summer. Members are interested in listening to children read and reading to children. We will also be asking our president to consider sharing her experiences as a storyteller at a future program.

7 members are currently pen pals with kindergarten and first grade classes at Davenport Elementary in Genoa, IL. We are hoping to meet them at the end of the school year.

Members will be asked at our next meeting to suggest names of educators who might be willing to speak to us about math instruction in the area schools/ Common Core. We are hoping to schedule speakers at both the elementary and secondary level.

#2 Beta

1. Members were encouraged to volunteer to help students who have reading needs. Bea Lowery tutored an adult student in English as a Second Language during the spring 2015 semester 2.
2. Members were encouraged to read *Life in a Jar* for the 2014 book talk and *The Aviator's Wife* for the 2015 book talk 3.
3. Money for books were donated to the Children's Home and Aid for their take home book project. In February 2016, members donated books and money for local schools with ELL programs.

#3 Gamma

1. Hosted a reading workshop for literacy/writing with CPDH credit available.
2. Purchased approximately 180 copies of requested literacy materials for two high school treatment learning centers. More to purchase in the near future.
3. A number of members participated in the book discussion from the "Lambda State Books for Convention" list.
4. Retired members volunteer work within the area school district tutoring reading, writing and math skills5. Plan to host a math workshop the 2016-2017 that will have CPHD credit available.

#4 Delta

The Literacy Committee will collect and distribute children's books for CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocates, and other local providers of social services for children.

Also the community will assist in organizing a small group discussion of a Lambda State convention reading selection to promote socialization among the members.

Additionally, the committee will collect money for international literacy causes, such as Books for Africa.

In our selection of books to donate, we will include some that promote writing.

In the Deltagram, along with each of the recommended books, we will include a summary of each book.

#6 Zeta

2015- chapter book study of YA titles about children with special needs

2016- chapter book study of YA titles with multicultural characters and topics.

Donating books from book studies to Lydia Urban Academy in Rockford.

Donating \$500.00 in children's books to Safe Families in Rockford to give to children in temporary home placements.

#8 Theta

Reading- Every month there is a report on at least one adult book. Finding books for new activities will be a challenge. We have people active in the ISLMA children's choice awards and do hear from them. The schools also have good libraries used by the students with the encouragement of teachers in addition to reading assignments.

Writing- Assignments are taken from books read with the students "writing" to characters in the books. This has worked well in several of the schools. Other writing comes from the reading activities.

#9 IOTA

Research into a book, that all interested members would read that could be combined with a field trip, such as reading a book on Hamilton, and then seeing the play in the fall when it comes to Chicago.

#13 NU

- Million Minutes- members track the number of minutes they read.

- Members participate in Peoria Reads scheduled activities: Nu's One Book-Book Club held a book discussion on the Peoria Reads selection *The Things They Carried*.

- Members share books through Used Book sale (fundraiser for International Projects)

- Nu member and author Helen Dunn presented a chapter program featuring her book, *The Life I Love*

- Members participated in Cultural Tales-Hispanic Americans during 4 presentations at Common Place for K-4th graders; members read 2 books at each presentation and plan related art/music/craft/snack activities. Each child receives 1 book at each presentation. Funding made possible by Lambda State Foundation stipend and Nu Chapter donations.

- Nu presented a Literacy Certificate to Look, It's My Book founder Janet Roth.

- Members have participated in classrooms, listening to children read.

- Good Reads are posted on the chapter website.

- Chapter promotes reading of Lambda State selection "It's Complicated" and *The Girl on the Train*.

- Members listened to a talk by Kristin McHugh, Executive Director of Peoria Area World Affairs Council, who spoke to Women's status in the World and specifically how literacy impacts the lives of people around the globe.

- Members are encouraged to add "Good Reads" to the backs of their evaluations of meetings that are then shared with Lambda State.

-Math activities correlating with Cultural Tales stories are a part of each presentation and have involved time, distance, calendar, measurement and counting.

#14 Xi

Each December Xi Chapter supports an annual book drive for homeless children in Champaign and Ford Counties. We work with our Regional Office of Education (in Rantoul) and Barnes and Noble.

Our chapter membership begins the project in September via our chapter's list serve and at meetings. Members participate by: contributing books, cash donations and working at Barnes and Noble during the DKG/ROE Homeless Children's book drive.

In November, Barnes and Noble sets aside a special date where a portion of sales goes toward Xi's Literacy Project. Barnes and Noble also had books set aside which can be purchased for the children/

In December, a special Holiday dinner is provided for homeless children and their families at which books are gifted. Many community volunteers and middle school students help with the evening. In December 2015, books and monetary contributions from Xi Chapter totaled approximately \$1,300. Our Regional Office of Education said that the Holiday event would not be possible with Xi's contribution.

One of our community PEO groups has asked to join in supporting this worthy project.

Co-Presidents Dr. Kathy Arnold and Barbara Ragheb: "Gloria Rainer, who chairs Xi's Literacy Committee Project, has done so for a number of years. It has grown into a fabulous community project under her lovely and capable leadership!"

Xi Chapter Book Chats- Each summer our literacy committee selects four books and 'book chat' dates for the coming year. The selected books are a mixture of fiction and non-fiction. Through our newsletter, "Ink drops," members receive a book synopsis and the book chat dates and venue. Additionally, synopsis sheets are available at our meetings. Prior to a book chat date the discussion leader shares an inviting summary at our meeting.

#18 Sigma

Reading a book and reporting on it at one of our meetings.
We volunteer to work with children with math and reading issues in the schools.

#21 Phi

Members will continue to donate new or gently used books to a variety of places. This past year members donated over 150 books to area schools, public libraries, an orphanage near Nairobi Kenya and to a book fair. The funds raised were allocated to a local hospital.

Our main focus this biennium has been our math project. We did not participate in any writing activities. We completed our Kindergarten math project in November. We donated math kits to 52 teachers, representing 15 schools. The kits include a book "Math Candy," manipulatives and 4 activities that were matched to the state standards.

#22 Chi

Members are involved in reading to Head Start classes and helping with public library activities in the communities represented. A book review is given at each chapter meeting. Reading the books chosen by the Literacy Committee is encouraged. A Program was given on the book "Slum Dogs."

We are planning a writing workshop for students at the local library presented by DKG members. We will then submit some of the writing for next year's literacy recognition program at convention.

We participated with the White Hall Township Library in implementing the Bedtime Math Program. Books related to math are encouraged for purchase and use in programming.

#23 Psi

Read to children and provide instruction in basic and advanced literacy education by offering courses at local junior college.

Volunteer in adult education programs, donate materials and provide stipends to new teachers. Newspaper articles detailing activities.

Increase membership in order to provide more resources and better communication between the learning community and the chapter.

#26 Alpha Beta

Our chapter supports and has supported three different literacy projects at the local, state and international level. We generate our money through book sales and DVD sales within our members

#28 Alpha Delta

Our chapter has planned professional activities that integrate the purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma. Partnerships have been developed with local agencies in the community and professional organizations. Members have been encouraged to partner with new teachers as mentors by President Cindy Roder. Books and educational materials have been collected and donated to the Oncology Treasure Chest and Alliance Advocacy. Our chapter will use the book Ties That Bind for our book talk.

Alpha Delta strives to provide members with current trends in activities, especially in STEM. Members collect written materials from students for State Convention. Journals and writing materials are donated to Pediatric Oncology Treasure Chest and Alliance Advocacy.

Members are encouraged to participate in training sessions offered at leadership conferences and workshops focused on STEM activities. Alpha Delta member Luba Johnson CPS Science Citywide Chairperson recruits members to be science fair judges, volunteers and assist in her duties. Liane Tryo, webmaster maintains frequent communication with members through the internet at alphadelta-il.weebly.com and updates at chapter meetings. President Roder has moved the chapter to a high level of technology for all members.

#30 Alpha Zeta

Alpha Zeta members assist in local elementary schools by volunteering to listen to students read and reading books to classrooms. They also assist teachers by preparing materials for use in reading centers and materials for Book Bags that are sent home for School/Home Activities with parents.

Alpha Zeta members assist in writing and math activities in the same manner as they do with the reading. In addition, Fall, 2015 member Cara Gatchel received 2 grants for use in the Pre-Engineering classes at Riverton High School. One of these grants was from the Illinois Retired Teachers Foundation for use in purchasing STEM Challenge Kits to enable these students to experience hands on, problem solving, and project based activities in the engineering areas of Solar Car Design, Hydroelectric Power, Geothermal Generation, Battery Output and Roller Coaster Design. She also was the recipient of a Fall, 2015 Lambda State Foundation Special Studies Grant to be used to purchase digital scales to assess truss forces when building bridges the students will enter in the Capitol Area Professional Engineers Bridge Design Contest that is held each Spring.

#31 Alpha Eta

The Literacy Committee has encouraged the donations of reading materials (magazines and books) for distribution at two women's shelters in our area, as well as children's books, puzzles and games.

The books selected for discussion at the state convention were promoted at each chapter meeting with informative handouts about each author and their book.

#34 Alpha Kappa

In December, we give books for ages 0-18 years to the Women's Center in Carbondale. We also support literacy work by recognizing literacy volunteers in our 5 county area each year.

#35 Alpha Lambda

Members are encouraged to bring books to each meeting and give money for books to Pekin Public Library for the Children's Department.

#36 Alpha Mu

We give books to all new parents at the local hospital. We call this program "Catch Them in the Cradle."

A few of our teachers judge Young Authors and volunteer in the classroom to read with students.

We have teachers that volunteer with students to practice math facts.

#37 Alpha Nu

Continue collecting new and gently used books for Carman Buckner Elementary School in Waukegan. In addition, school supplies have also been donated for the school's positive

incentive behavior program and a teacher received a grant through Alpha Nu.
http://www.wps60.org/District/News/4172-Carman-Buckner_Receive-Ukulele-Grant.html

Continue having members volunteer to teach reading to at risk K-2 students through Reading Power in North Chicago Schools.

Members continue volunteering with ELL students at Highwood, IL. Middle School Students-tutoring in writing, language and reading.

Continue offering to supply math manipulatives, math picture books, and/or math games to Carman Buckner K-5 School in Waukegan. Alpha Nu has “adopted” this school and looks forward to supporting the students in a variety of literacy needs. Supplies will be collected throughout the year.

#41 Alpha Rho

Good Reads: The Butterfly and the Violin by Kristy Cambron
A More Perfect Union by Ben Carson, MD

#42 Alpha Sigma

We had a book shower for one of our chapter members, for her classroom library.

We had book talks and then a book exchange at one of our meetings.

We hope to have a book discussion of one of the 2016 Convention books.

We went to see the play, “October Sky.”

We will be collecting books for The Sadie Waterford Assessment and Therapy Center (ages 7-13).

We are asking members to prepare for the Literary Arts Recognition Program at Convention 2017.

#44 Alpha Upsilon

We are planning to begin donating books and magazines to area nursing home libraries and residents. Our chapter has met with some obstacles this year as we attempted to launch some literacy projects. In the past, we had donated books to medical offices and hospital waiting rooms. Those offices no longer accept donations in an effort to keep those areas germ-free (especially during flu season.) We had also hoped to help with the purchases of GED study materials for the residents of a shelter for abused women. However, due to the state financial situation, that shelter may not remain open. So-we are exploring other possibilities for literacy projects.

#45 Alpha Phi

Expansion of literacy projects to include foreign language books (French/Spanish) and all materials (timelines, reading/math activities) translated.

We have developed math activity rack cards to be placed at county health departments ages birth-2, 2-4 and 4-6 in three languages.

#46 Alpha Chi

On December 9, members of Alpha Chi Chapter gathered at the home of Jill Althage to fill "holiday bags" for children associated with Between Friends, an organization serving survivors of family violence.

The Chapter has funded the purchase of school supplies, treats and toys which members filled into holiday gift bags.

The bags also included Chapter books for the children to read. Then some of the members delivered the gifts to the Rogers Park office of Between Friends in time for the holiday party attended by 50 children and their families. The staff were delighted to receive these and told us later how much joy the children showed upon receiving them.

At the September 6, 2014 Alpha Chi meeting, the program included a book discussion. Alpha Chi member Judy Hanley who is a retired English teacher, introduced us to the novel Me Before You by JoJo Moyes. At the November 7, 2015 Alpha Chi meeting, the program also included a book discussion. Alpha Chi member Jane Wagoner who is also a retired College English teacher, introduced us to the novel The Wedding by Dorothy West.

#50 Beta Beta

1. 18 members of our chapter boxed up the entire library of St. Lawrence O'Toole School in Matteson, IL after it was closed by the Archdiocese. All of the books were transported to elementary and middle schools in the Posen-Robins District.
2. Over 1000 books from a reading educator who is moving to Europe have been shared with Beta Beta Chapter teachers in several different schools where these materials will continue to serve students.
3. Chapter members donated 100 books for babies and toddlers at our February meeting. These will become libraries of young mothers being served by St. Monica's in Indiana.
4. At Garfield Elementary School, Chicago Heights, IL. Foundation grant money was used to purchase Book of the Month selections that were read by teachers of all grade levels to their classes, followed by age appropriate activities and projects that were displayed in the building where other classes could study them.
5. At Robins Junior High, science students conducted their first hands on dissection, complete with lab reports, in which student wrote about and explained their findings in the Foundation funded Squid Project. The dissection equipment and squid were purchased via a Lambda State Foundation grant.

#52 Encourage members to read selected books for Lambda State Convention. Planning for a book shower.

#53 Beta Epsilon

For each year of the biennium, our chapter has sponsored a project called "Cover Up and Read." This project provides handmade fleece blankets (made by our chapter members) and books to K to Grade 1 students in our area. During the 14-15 year, 5 classrooms were chosen from 4 different schools and over 125 students were presented a book and a blanket from The Cat in the Hat (who also read the story) and chapter members. Students used the books and blankets for a variety of activities that were outlined by their teachers in their applications. Students took the blankets and books home at the end of the year. The 2014-2015 project was partially funded by a grant from Lambda State Foundation for Educational Studies, Inc. and Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. a positive by product of this project was that a great

deal of interest in our chapter was created as we visited schools and new members were added to our chapter as a result.

Because this project was such a success, we decided to repeat the project again during the 15-16 year. We will again be presenting books and blankets to 6 classrooms from 6 different schools (three school districts and a not-public) and over 150 students. The chapter is funding the 2015-2016 entirely.

The project listed above also support writing activities as many of the teacher's outline reading and writing activities in their applications.

#64 Beta Pi

Our chapter continues its support of the donation of board books to Baby Talk, a local organization that promotes literacy activities to young families.

During our first meeting of the year, the Literacy Committee provided a list of good reads and led a brief book talk about the two books recommended for the Lambda State Convention.

Our chapter Literacy Committee will host a book discussion program for members about a recommended title as well as lead a discussion of other good books that members are reading.

#65 Beta Rho

Our chapter, Beta Rho, brought Amy Logan, a local author to the Bonnie McBeth Learning Center. We also provided books for each classroom, and books for the library at the Learning Center and each of the five outreach classrooms. We were able to do this with the help of a Foundation for Educational Studies stipend received in May 2015.

With the help of their teachers, the students at the Bonnie McBeth Learning Center compiled a book of how the book, A Girl with a C.A.P.E impacted their classrooms.

The second book by the author, A Girl with a C.A.P.E. and her bag of pennies included a bag of pennies, and told how pennies could be important when found or given away.

One member is presenting best practices to her grandchild's teacher to help with math facts and problem-solving in their second grade classroom. Equation dice and try-a-tiles are the two activities.

#69 Beta Phi

Book Angels (we work with a local bookstore and local schools to identify students in need and purchase books for them yearly around Christmas time)

Chapter Book Club (meets 4 times/year. Read, discuss, and select books.

Volunteer at Members' Literacy Events (District Family Reading Night, Illinois Reads Launch)

Member's students participated in writing display at Convention 2015.

Chapter planned and hosted Math Literacy Night at Tate Woods School.

Another Mat Lit Night is planned for spring 2016 (Members of the chapter planned and facilitated stations focused on math activities during Math Literacy Night, Participants learned how to facilitate math literacy activities at home. Additionally, families were given resources to take home and use. That allows students access to continued work with math concepts.

#73 Gamma Alpha

1. Family Reading Nights- 9 week course teaching literacy strategies and skills to families and students.
2. Holding 200 book reading challenge
3. Thematic writing activities incorporating non-fiction books and written story responses.
4. Family Math night-teachers taught families and gave manipulatives to students to practice math games at home.

#75 Gamma Gamma

1. Book exchange at monthly chapter meetings: Members bring books that they are finished reading for others to take. Books that remain are donated to the local library for the Friends of the Library Book Sale.
2. Book reviews for the chapter newsletter: Members are invited to write a short review of a book that they have read and submit to the chapter newsletter.
3. A Literacy Award is presented annually to a member of the community that has provided exemplary service in literacy instruction and/or experiences. The recipient does not have to be a certified teacher. Award recipients have included a public librarian and a religious educator that led an inter-faith book discussion. The recipient is honored at our annual Spring Celebration dinner with a certificate and a small gift.
4. Members are encouraged to participate in any technology training that is available at local continuing education programs.

#79 Gamma Eta

- a. Children's Literacy- Gamma Eta has been awarded a grant from the Lambda State Foundation for Educational Studies, Inc. Together with funding from chapter members and the Foundation, books were purchased for our first BIRTHDAY BOOKS project. The project will be implemented in Du Page School District 45's (Villa Park) Stevenson School. Villa Park conducts an evening Family Literacy Program. The parents in the program will be learning English skills while the children are attending their own class which is a typically run pre-school that emphasizes literature and English language skills. Some Spanish support will be given when needed. Gamma Eta's part of this project is designed to celebrate reading and to celebrate the individual student. Age and reading level appropriate books will be given to the students that are part of the Family Literacy Program.. Special thanks to our grant writers Dr. Linda Vlasak and Dian Ruiz who made it possible for Gamma Eta to receive the above mentioned grant from the Lambda State Foundation.
- b. Adult Literacy- Gamma Eta has conducted a Book Share activity. Members were asked to bring a book to share with the chapter. The ladies gave summaries about the book/books they chose to discuss with the group. People who brought books exchanged them with other members of the chapter. A list of the books with the authors was created and shared with Gamma Eta. Pam Hoehl and Jennifer Cooper later e-mailed the book lists recommended to them for use by our chapter members.
- c. Adult Literacy- Gamma Eta member Arlene Dovichi will be holding a book discussion as part of the 2016 Lambda State Convention in April. The title of the book is The Girl on the Train

by Paula Hawkins. Those members of Gamma Eta who will be attending the convention are urged to read the book and attend Arlene's book discussion.

- d. Writing- Gamma Eta is a small group of women educators that enjoys the close relationships we have with other members of our chapter. In an effort to keep up with some of our members who are reserve or live a great distance away and cannot attend meetings, we decided to recognize each other's birthdays by sending birthday greetings. This would not only involve sending a card but also writing a personal message card recipient. A special greeting from a special Gamma Eta sister helps emphasize the importance of each member of our society to then bother members of the group.
- e. Math- During the last biennium, Gamma Eta's math goal was to collect and distribute math games to The Chicago Children's Center of Cicero/Berwyn. The games went specifically to the Clyde Center where one of our members, Bina Habibi, is the EHS 11 and Pre-School director. Another member, Dr. Elizabeth Landerholm and her husband went to the center and presented a math workshop using the purchased math materials. a workshop was presented by Dr. Landerholm and Wayne Landerholm on March 13, 2015.
- f. Math- Gamma Eta - Our goal this biennium is to continue working with the Children's Center. Dr. Landerholm and Wayne Landerholm have graciously offered to organize and present another math workshop. This will be completed during this biennium.

#85 Gamma Nu

We are exploring the idea of creating a Little Free Library in our county. We are gathering cost and construction information to explore the feasibility of the project. It was quite a coincidence to read about a similar project in Iowa in the DKG news.

#89 Gamma Rho

We collected over 100 new children's books for the local food pantry for Christmas. During one of our meetings we shared our favorite reads, adult or childrens.-a list was generated to share.

#92 Gamma Upsilon

Our chapter members are volunteering in two of our Kindergartens in a two school systems, listening to and helping the students read. We are picking out and purchasing library books for children to read while at doctor's office.

We purchased scientific calculators for children living at the children's home to use at school during math.

93 Gamma Phi

Each year our chapter has a book talk. Members are asked to read the selected book and the program is a discussion lead by two members. Our chapter also collects slightly used magazines to be available at the station for Amtrak riders to enjoy. Our committee is working on selecting a community member to receive a literacy advocate award to be presented at one of our spring meetings.

Members are being asked to collect writings from their classrooms and of their grandchildren to be displayed at the state convention in April. Our March meeting will give all our members a chance to read and enjoy the writings and activities.

#99 Delta Gamma

1. Collecting new/used books and distribute to a new teacher.
2. Mentoring in schools or volunteering in schools.

#101 Delta Epsilon

We gave a book to each Kindergarten student in the public and private schools. We donate sets of books to 4th and 6th grade libraries. We have a book club.