



Alpha Beta Bits

Delta Kappa Gamma International Society – Eta State, NC

VOLUME 11

ISSUE 4

MARCH 2012

DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 27-29
2012**

Eta State
Convention
Cary, NC

**July 24-28
2012**

International
Conference
New York, NY

**April 26-28
2013**

Eta State
Convention
Charlotte, NC



ALPHA BETA CHAPTER OFFICERS

Jennifer Swartz
President

Lorine Davis
1st Vice President

Karen Creech
2nd Vice President

Debra Avery
Secretary

Becky Kuzmaul
Treasurer

Message from President Jennifer Swartz

Ladies, there is so much going on that I don't know where to start. Our next meeting is April 10th and our program will focus on two important events: installation of the Executive Board for 2012–2014 and a remembrance ceremony to honor Dr. Iris Scarborough. Our business will focus on the upcoming convention. Each chapter is providing a basket for the silent auction whose proceeds benefit the Eta State Leadership Fund. Our chapter is charged with putting together the bags for guest speakers and state officers while all

members in Region III are asked to serve as hostesses for the event. We need at least eight Alpha Beta members to hostess the event during Convention. Another way that Alpha Beta members will be able to serve their sisters at Convention is through providing goods in the hospitality room. Think about your favorite finger foods that you can share in Cary.

If you have not already submitted your convention registration, please make a commitment to attend. Serving as the host region and having the

opportunity to drive to Cary instead of across the state makes this a great time to enjoy Delta Kappa Gamma on a bigger scale... and close to home. Last year I participated in my first state convention and met many wonderful ladies who represent their chapters and communities through their service. I will be with you Sunday at the Remembrance Ceremony but will be with my daughter MacKenzie Saturday since she will be in two separate dance shows that same day. Last year I ...

Jennifer Swartz

swartzwoman@gmail.com



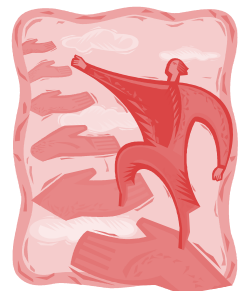
Supporting Beginning Teachers

The **Support for Early-Career Educators (SEE)** project was discussed at the DKG Administrative Board meeting in November 2011. The board endorsed the recommendation of the International Educational Excellence Committee to adopt the SEE as a DKG International Project.

The Board's endorsement is the first step to help ensure all chapters will support beginning teachers by approving SEE as a new international project.

The International Membership Committee thanks members, chapters, and state organizations for getting on board to support beginning educators. The Board's endorsement is only the first step in approving Support for Early Career Educators as a new international project.

DKG is encouraging members to come to New York City, July 2012, to show your support with a "yes" vote. For information regarding the International Convention, see Page 2.





Message From President cont.

burned up I-95 between Four Oaks and Rocky Mount to get back and forth for one recital performance.

Alpha Beta is blessed to have a new slate of officers who have agreed to serve our chapter as the executive committee. I am looking forward to the perspective they will bring to our organization's processes as we continue to improve the expectations of our chapter committees and their work. The **2012-2014 Officers: Lynn Ragsdale, President; Debra Avery, First Vice-President; Jenny Moore, Second Vice-President; Glenda Toler, Secretary; Becky Kuszmaul, Treasurer.** Each of them bring creativity, organization, and experience to their positions. I am looking forward to joining you as we install our new officers and make our final preparations for Convention.

Thank you so much for all of the kind words you have shared with me over the past two years as I have worked to uphold the office of president of our Alpha Beta Chapter. I cannot express how proud I feel to be included in our professional organization and how amazed I feel at times that you, who are leaders and mentors to so many, know my name. I am completely grateful to you for your support, your service, and your encouragement. Jennifer

Convention Embracing Technology

I think you are going to be impressed with the amount of technology that will be showcased at the International Convention in New York City. There will be computer labs set up for you to use during sessions. If you need to catch up on email, Facebook or just do some "Web surfing", the computer labs will schedule open times for your convenience.

If you bring your Smart phone, laptop or tablets such as the iPad, there will be interactive sessions for you to use Web 2.0 tools.

There will be a special challenge you can participate in using your Smart Phone called the QR Code Challenge Hunt. Your "Smart Phone" i.e. Apple, Android, etc., must have a QR Code reader in order to participate in the challenge.

You might ask yourself why you would want to download a QR Reader to your phone. A QR Code reader will allow you to retrieve information stored in the QR

Code. Email addresses, contact information, Web site addresses are examples of information found in a QR Code. Even though the QR Code looks like a collection of dots, lines and boxes, it holds specific information the reader will retrieve and store in your phone. You can retrieve the information when you need it.

We now have a QR Code on our Web site. If you want to find out when our next meeting is, you can store the Chapter Web site in your "Smart Phone" and retrieve it instead of having to boot up your computer.

Check out the QR Code seen above. This is the QR Code posted on our Web site. To get more information and a better understanding on QR Codes, go to: <http://searchengineland.com/what-is-a-qr-code-and-why-do-you-need-one-27588>



QR Code containing URL for Alpha Beta Chapter Web site.



<http://www.twitter.com>

Look for the **Twitter "Meet & Greet"** event at the convention.

If you are an avid Twitter user, you will have an opportunity to connect with DKG colleagues attending the International Convention in New York City. The good news is you don't have to attend the convention in order to follow what is happening at the convention. All you need to do is use the hash tag, **#dkgcon** to connect and you can follow all of the "Tweets."

If this is all "greek" to you, don't worry, there are a lot of members who have not jumped on the Twitter "train." It's not too late. I bet you can find help by asking your teenager, a grand child, or even the teacher at your school who seems to be able to keep up with all of this technology.



Eta State Convention



As you know, the Eta State Convention is being held in Cary **April 27 - 29, 2012**. Since the convention is being held in our region, Jennifer would like to make sure we have representation from our Chapter at the convention.

To make it easy for you to sign up to volunteer at the convention, Connie Woody is providing a resource to track volunteers using a resource is called, **Sign Up Genius**.

To access the **Sign Up Genius** and sign up to volunteer as a hostess, go to: www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0D44AEAA2EA31-convention. As you are signing up, there are a few things to remember:

1. Use the password: **etastate**.
2. Make sure you include our chapter name in the comment section.
3. Sign up with your first and last name, chapter name, phone number, and email.
4. Sign up for as many events as you can, even if it means going in this site more than once.

If you sign up for a time but something comes up and you cannot serve, then you must find your own replacement. Also, report to the Hostess Registration at least 15 minutes before your time to pick up your packet and/or final instructions.

If you have any questions regarding the **Sign Up Genius** resource, please contact **Connie C. Woody** at rwoody3@nc.rr.com

DKG Membership Status



There have been several requests for information regarding membership. As a DKG member you have 3 different classifications of membership: **Active**, **Reserved** and **Honorary**.

1. **Active** - Members employed in educational work and 3 plus years of experience or have been retired for no more than 2 years. Member contributes to committee work, votes, shares in financing chapter activities, and may hold office. Active members can't be granted Honorary status. (**Constitution, III. B. 1**)
2. **Reserved**— A formerly active member who is unable to meet requirements of active membership because of physical disability or geographical location. Status must be granted by majority vote of chapter. Eligible for all privileges except holding office. Reserve status is permanent if dues are paid. (**Constitution, III. B. 2**)
3. **Honorary** - Members not eligible for active membership who have rendered notable service to education and are elected to honorary membership in recognition of such service. (**Constitution, III. B. 3**)

For more details go to: <http://www.dkg.org/atf/cf/%7B70E631E4-44B9-4D36-AE7D-D12E4520FAB3%7D/LPCDHANDBOOK%205%20MEMBERSHIP.PDF>

2010-12 International Vision Statement

*Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education Worldwide*

2010-12 Theme

*Embracing Our Vision
Designing Our Future*

2011-13 Eta State Theme

Embracing Our Vision Designing our Future
Lead Serve Impact

“One of the indications of a strong chapter is strong communication with all members...”

Dr. Jeni Sounders

How can we improve our communication to make sure we are reaching our members one-on-one ?



Legislative Update

Eta State Legislative
Coordinator
Lynn Ragsdale

March 2012

There is not much state news as the Legislature is having committee meetings now. Below is some federal news. I'm going to be in Washington D.C. this month for the DKG Legislative Affairs Conference. I will bring back any federal issues I think will impact NC teachers.

H.R.3989 & H.R. 3990: Student Success Act (3989) & Encouraging Innovation and Effective Teachers Act (3990)

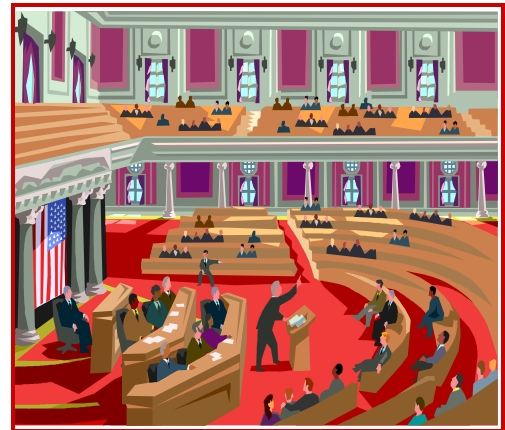
Sponsor: Rep Kline, John [MN-2] (Introduced 2/9/2012) Co-sponsors (10)

Latest Major Action: 2/28/2012 House Committee/ Subcommittee Actions. Status: Ordered to be Reported (Amended).

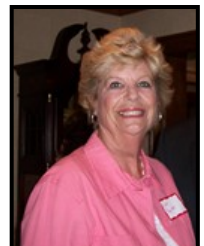
Summary: The **Student Success Act (H.R. 3989)** and the **Encouraging Innovation and Effective Teachers Act (3990)** are designed to enhance school accountability, improve flexibility, and support more effective teachers in the classroom. Search HR 3989 or 3990 at <http://thomas.loc.gov/home/thomas.php>

Commentary: In late February the U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce, chaired by Rep. John Kline (R-MN), marked up the Student Success Act (H.R. 3989) and the Encouraging Innovation and Effective Teachers Act (H.R. 3990). No Child Left Behind was signed into law ten years ago. This legislation focused on the performance of individual students and schools. Since becoming law a debate has raged over whether the law resulted in the improvements in the classroom it had promised. The House Committee on Education and the Workforce has held 11 hearings to discuss a better way forward for the elementary and secondary education system. Experts from dozens of states shared stories on the challenges facing state school districts, testifying that the current law is overly rigid and has restrictive funding mechanisms.

For info, go to the **Education and the Workforce Committee Web page** at: <http://edworkforce.house.gov/News/DocumentSingle.aspx?DocumentID=281753>



If you have questions regarding legislative information, please feel free to contact Lynn at lharloe@hotmail.com.



DKG & Eta State on Facebook

Both DKG and Eta State have Facebook pages. To access the Official **DKG Facebook** page, go to: <https://www.facebook.com/dkgorg>.

To access the **Eta State Facebook** page, go to <http://www.facebook.com/groups/49714507394/>

Be one of the Alpha Beta Chapter members who joins the conversation. Lots of valuable information is always being shared.

Amendments Up For Vote



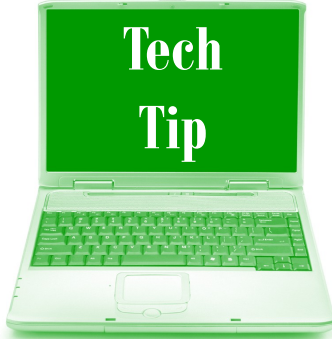
Please check out the **DKG News** for the list of amendments that will be up for consideration. The proposals will be submitted to the 2012 International Convention in New York City.

It is important for us as Alpha Beta Chapter members to give thoughtful consideration to these proposals. This is an important responsibility that will ultimately shape the Society's policies. Look for amendments in the **DKG Newsletter Page 3**.

Visit our Chapter Facebook page at: <http://www.facebook.com>. Search for Alpha Beta Society International.



Tech Tip



www.random.org

Amy Stanley found a very valuable resource entitled, **Projects by Jen** and she has shared it with Johnston County teachers. Amy thought you might benefit from this valuable resource so she contacted Jennifer Wagner who developed this resource. Jennifer has given us permission to post tips from her monthly newsletter. To learn more about this valuable Web resource go to: <http://www.jenuinetech.com/>. Below is an excerpt from her latest newsletter on a resource entitled, **Random**.

"Ever so often, we need a simple online tool that just helps with randomness. Whether it is to randomly pick a student number, flip a coin, or roll the dice, we need something quick, simple, and free. That is why I like **RANDOM.org**. it is simple, and it is free.

Once you go to Random.org, you will see that their most popular "tool" is on the upper right, the True Random Number Generator.

Ways to use this tool:

I use it when randomly picking winner for prizes I pass out every once and a while. You might use it to randomly pick a student from your classroom.

All you do is put the total number of people involved or objects. I put 1 and 50 and then hit Generate. And I got the number 42.

My favorite tool on this page is the Dice Roller. Follow the link for the spreadsheet I have created: <http://www.box.com/s/gzaez7tlhv965vmx5n6h>

Have your students set the dice to 3 (to use with this worksheet) and then roll the dice. They write each die number into the square and then add the numbers up.

You can make your own worksheet and change it from addition to subtraction or multiplication. And you can also set the dice number higher or lower based on your student's skills. And this is a very easy program to use on your Interactive White Board.

It is simple, it is easy...and it is random math practice. Your students will enjoy it.

I also enjoy the Coin Flipper option. This is a very easy way to introduce your students to probability. Learning.com has put together a lesson plan with worksheets which can be found at: <http://www.learning.com/pdfs/et/activity-35-cointoss.pdf>.

Free to adapt it to your student's level.

There are many other free services at random.org, plus a few that cost. Also, some tools you can embed in your Blog, Wiki, or Web site. Enjoy!" Jennifer Wagner



DialMyCalls continues to benefit us as an electronic communication tool. As you know, I can create a recording and set a schedule for the message to be sent to your phone.

The recording can be sent in an email as well. I just discovered I also can send the link of the DialMyCalls recording to our Alpha Beta Society International Facebook Web page - <http://www.facebook.com/?sk=welcome#!/profile.php?id=100002906351070>.

If you have access to our Facebook page, please check out the DialMyCalls message posted there. To access the DialMyCalls message you can go to: <http://www.dialmycalls.com/s/C1WD56Y>. We will continue to try innovative ways to communicate with you using the different ways you like to receive information.

Mar.-Aug. Birthdays



A special **“Birthday Wish”** from your Alpha Beta Sisters

March	April	May
Dorothy Harris – 17	Freddie Creech – 1	Camille Boone – 6
Allette Hale – 19	Bess Ragsdale – 14	Denise Luper – 7
Jean Simmons – 20	Frances Warren – 14	Rose Walker – 11
Sue Wood – 20	Olive Cooke – 16	Mary Sauls – 12
Renee Oliver – 28	Pama Kirby – 24	Jennifer Moore – 13
Thelma Harris – 30		Karen Hicks – 17
Maylene Sanders – 30		Sybil Edwards - 18
		Lorine Davis – 23



June	July	August
Amy Stanley – 8	Vivia Creech – 7	Debbie Woodruff – 1
Noela Sue Woodall – 9	Ann Carper – 15	Cynthia Toudle – 5
Tucker Twisdale – 19	Edna Luper – 20	Iris Scarborough – 9
Peggy Batten – 19	Helen Ellerbe – 22	Mary Fred Daughtry – 25
Lynn Ragsdale – 25		

SPECIAL NOTE: If you have a birthday in the months listed above and you do not see your name in the list, please contact Karen at karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov. She will make sure you are included in the list.

Purpose and Mission



The Delta Kappa
Gamma Society
International

promotes professional and
personal growth of women
educators and excellence in
education.

Alpha Beta Chapter
Organized April 19, 1952

TO UNITE women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship.

TO HONOR women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.

TO ADVANCE the professional interest and position of women in education.

TO INITIATE, ENDORSE, AND SUPPORT desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators.

TO ENDOW scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators.

TO STIMULATE the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.



Thoughts and Prayers



We have several members who are not doing well. I know they will appreciate you keeping them in your thoughts and prayers.

Barbara Barnes

Bess Ragsdale

Dorothy Driver

Margaret Walker

Iris Scarborough's Family

Sue Wood

If you would like to add someone to this list, please contact Karen at karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov



If you have an idea for an article or information you would like to see added to the newsletter, please contact the editor, **Karen Creech**, at karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov

