

GAMMA CHI CHAPTER MINUTES—OCTOBER 6, 2011

The Gamma Chi Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International met on Thursday, October 6, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at Littleton Baptist Church in Littleton, NC. Before the meal, Nancy Tunstall, president, welcomed everyone and Lynn Meyers gave the blessing. The delicious meal was prepared by Robert Harris. During the meal President Tunstall circulated the picture permission form for the website and newspaper and the Eta State permission form for the publications.

After the meal Nancy Tunstall called the meeting to order at ~7:20 p.m. There were 32 members present. The members repeated the Collect and sang the DKG song accompanied by Laura Kearney on the piano.

Minutes were approved as written.

Shirley White, treasurer, reported a savings balance of \$1,854.36 and a checking balance of \$597.30. Members had received a copy of the Treasurer's Report electronically prior to the meeting. The report was received and filed.

Jeffrey Evans, corresponding secretary, reported *regrets* from Mary Austell, Ginny Bernard, Kristen Boyd, Elaine Coleman, Martha Overby, Karen Paynter, Crystal Brantley and Donna Smith. She read a thank you note from Nancy Tunstall for the rose that she received at the May meeting. Other thank you notes were read from Anna Fishel for the Memorial programs of DKG services for her mother, Rachael Ricks; the Loraine Porter family for the flowers and donations; and Catherine and Richard Blankenship in appreciation of the Gamma Chi Chapter and what it meant to their mother, Nancy Blankenship.

Retirees Lou Ann Bender, Sallye Duncan, Loree Harris and Betty Ann Shearin were presented a red rose from our president. Louise Twitty and Jean White, both reserve members, were recognized for their 40 years of service to Delta Kappa Gamma. Other members were recognized for years of service with certificates as follows: Mary Catherine Harris (30 years), Crystal Brantley and Danylu Hundley (25 years), Laura Kearney (20 years), Mary Ann Johnson (15 years), Jill Coleman and Loree Harris (10 years) and Karen Paynter (5 years). Those with birthdays in August, September and October were recognized. Ten members were recognized for the Gamma Chi Member Excellence Award: Mary Austell, Harriet Banzet, Ginny Bernard, Kristen Boyd, Loree Harris, Danylu Hundley, Ann Kilian, Connie King, Shirley White and Nancy Tunstall. Each member was presented a certificate and rose pin for her achievement. Congratulations were extended to Trina Paynter and Raegan Ross on new additions to their families and to Sharon West for becoming a grandmother. Professional congratulations were extended to Michelle Stallings for her promotion to principal at KIPP Gaston College Preparatory and to Melanie Burnette for her added responsibilities with her job: Director of Exceptional Children, Academically and Intellectually Gifted, and English as a Second Language.

The recording secretary gave the report from the Executive Board:

- The budgets and dues
- Our participation in next spring's Eta State Convention
- Using the May meeting for an annual Memorial Service if needed
- Our progress on the 2010-2012 Chapter Action Plan
- The 2011-2012 Gamma Chi Member Excellence Award
- Changes to Standing Rules
- The recommended program from International called THAT-Teachers Helping Another Teacher
- Renaming the 2012 Scholarship and Grant-in-Aid to the Nancy Blankenship Scholarship and Grant-in-Aid
- The Eta State Fall Executive Board Meeting
- The new pre-approved expense form.

The Executive Board made a motion that the chapter set the May meeting to hold Memorial Services if needed. Motion carried. The Executive Board made a motion that the 2012 scholarship and grant-in-aid be renamed to the 2012 Nancy Blankenship Scholarship and Grant-in-Aid due to the generous gift of \$1,000.00 from Catherine and Richard Blankenship in the memory of their mother. Motion carried.

Special Reports

President Tunstall gave a brief report on the Eta State Executive Board meeting which she attended on September 17 at Elon College. Maggie Shupe and Debra Clayton gave a special report on their experience at the Eta State Leadership Development Seminar that they attended in June at Peace College.

Committee Reports

Finance: Pat Riethmeier presented the proposed budget which would involve an increase in active members' dues by \$5 to a total of \$80 and an increase in reserve members dues by \$3 to a total of \$35. The committee made a motion that we accept the budget as presented. Motion carried.

Membership: Melanie Burnette entertained a motion that we select up to five new members. Motion made, seconded and carried. Melanie Burnette has the biographical data sheets if anyone needs to update their sheet.

Nominations: Elaine Coleman was not present to give her report. President Tunstall reported that a nomination form for officers is available online at our new website. President Tunstall would like to start working with the upcoming president to make for a smooth transition. The only way that she will consider being president again is if the first vice-president and second vice-president would agree to move up. This would make for a smoother transition within the organization.

Program: Katy Jones reported that President Tunstall will show us our new website. We will have a guest speaker at the December meeting.

Personal Growth and Services: Connie King reported that the Box Tops and Labels for Education collected tonight will go to Northside Elementary School.

Research: Harriet Banzet has the birth and death information for all of our departed sisters except Emily Burt Person. She needs help in finding this information.

Literacy: Mary Brodie Raiford reported that her committee wants everyone to bring children's books to the next meeting since that is the only collection time.

Professional Affairs: No report.

Music: President Tunstall reported that she has secured the *DKG Songbook VI* for us.

Scholarship: Mary Ann Johnson reported that the 2012 scholarship and grant-in-aid will be called the Nancy Blankenship Scholarship and Grant-in-Aid. The application forms are available online at our website. Applications will be due by February 1. Recipients will be voted on at the March meeting. The recipients will be invited to our May meeting for the presentations. At the December meeting, money will be collected for the Scholarship Fund. Members were encouraged to think about their honorariums and memorials for the December meeting. Also, members should apply for International and State Scholarships by February 1.

World Fellowship: Ann Kilian reported that at the December meeting the committee will be collecting \$2.00 - \$3.00 from each member.

Communications: President Tunstall reported that our website is up and running. The deadline for the December newsletter is November 4.

Hospitality: Paula Aycock stated that the December meeting will be held at the Norlina United Methodist Church. She thanked the Littleton group for hosting the October meeting. She also thanked the Telephone Network for calling the members and for the members responding to them.

Remembrance: Brenda Holloman and Danylu Hundley are sending birthday cards to everyone and Shirley White is sending Christmas cards to reserve members.

Memorial: In the absence of Elaine Coleman, Nancy Tunstall reported that \$175.00 was spent in June for memorial books for our five deceased members from last year. The books were placed in the Warren County Memorial Library.

Standing Rules: Jill Coleman reported that the name, Standing Rules, must be changed to Chapter Rules. The committee made a motion to adopt the changes to the Standing Rules as sent to the members prior to the meeting. Motion carried.

New Teacher Bags: Mary Brodie Raiford reported that there are 26 new teachers in the county. We will assemble goodie bags for them on Saturday, November 12 at 10:00 at the Parish House of Emmanuel Episcopal Church for distribution on Monday, November 14 during American Education Week.

History: Mary Catherine Harris reported that the history is a work-in-progress. Photos of our presidents by biennium will be included in the history.

2012 Eta State Convention Planning: Connie King reported that the convention will be April 27-29 in Cary at the Embassy Suites. We will need to provide a basket filled with goodies for the silent auction. Our basket theme will be Treasures from Warren County. Members are expected to bring their items to the December meeting. We will also need a basket. The basket will need to be arranged for the auction. We will need members to help man the silent auction tables which is our convention responsibility.

Visits/Sick/Other

Nancy Tunstall and Shirley White visited Melba Johnston, Edith Allen, Louise Twitty and Nell White. Laura Kearney talked with Betsy Brown's husband. Connie King visited Edith Allen as did Ann Kilian. Ginny Bernard had foot surgery. Karen Paynter's mother-in-law passed away.

New Business

Sylvia Alston donated an afghan made by her mother, Josephine Myrick. Motion made by Debra Clayton to graciously accept the afghan and set up a committee to determine the raffle ticket price and set guidelines for how to spend money from the sale of the tickets. Loree Harris seconded the motion. Motion passed. The committee is composed of Chairperson Danylu Hundley, Sylvia Alston, Loree Harris, Shirley White and Nancy Tunstall, ex officio. The committee will report back at the December meeting.

After the business session, President Tunstall showed the membership the Gamma Chi website that she has worked so diligently on. The members were all in great admiration and appreciation of the President's hard work.

The raffle was held and we collected \$52.00 for the Scholarship Fund. Nancy Tunstall thanked Laura Kearney and the Littleton group for hosting the meeting. Our next meeting will be December 1 at the Norlina United Methodist Church. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Debra W. Clayton, Recording Secretary