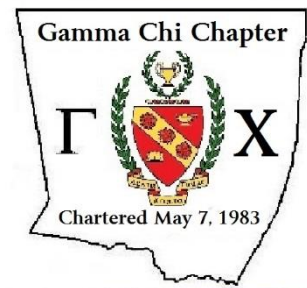


Gamma Chi Newsletter

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Eta State, North Carolina
Region III, Warren County



Volume XXI, Issue 3

February/March/April 2016



FROM THE PRESIDENT



Happy New Year Gamma Chi Sisters! We have already had a snow, so let's hope we will be able to meet on our scheduled meeting night, March 3. Again, we will meet at Robinson Ferry Restaurant in Warrenton (yum, yum!!!).

At our December meeting, only a few veteran members signed up to be mentors to our newest members. I will have the sign-up sheet again at this meeting. I hope that more of you will be mentors. All of you have so much to offer DKG!

To mix things up a bit at our March meeting, each table will have a number, and each member will draw a table number upon arrival. Hopefully, you will get to know more of your Gamma Chi sisters this way.

Let's not forget our afghan ticket money! Remember to sell or purchase your tickets to help promote our scholarship fund. Also, at that meeting we will hear from our scholarship committee—recommendations for our scholarship and grant-in-aid recipients, elect new officers for the 2016-2018 biennium, and vote on new members. Please be present at this important meeting.

Do not forget that the state convention will be in April in Winston Salem. Let's celebrate Gamma Chi at the convention by committing to attend. You will have the opportunity to collaborate with many other Delta Kappa Gamma sisters.

See you in March!

In sisterhood,

Debra W. Clayton

msdebrac@gmail.com / 252-257-6763 (h) / 252-213-6763 (c)

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MEETING NOTICE



Thursday, March 3, 2016
6:00 p.m. Social Hour
6:30 p.m. Dinner Meeting
Robinson Ferry Restaurant



Please be prepared to let your telephone network contact know your choice of **Two River Rub Chicken** or **Smoked Pork Loyn** accompanied with Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables, Bread & Butter, and Homemade Cobbler & Ice Cream. Note: the meal is gluten free except for the bread and cobbler. Cost: \$25.00 (includes tax and gratuity; make checks payable to Robinson Ferry or please try to have the correct amount). Use the Odom entrance—two steps up to get to the banquet room which is on the right after entering the building. (Note: you do not have to purchase dinner to attend the meeting. That is your choice. The program should begin shortly after 7:00 p.m.)

Cut-Off Date: Friday, February 26

Program Speaker:

Noel Robertson

Preservation Warrenton—"Preserving the Past for the Future"

The Telephone Network should call members for a meal count.

(The Warrenton Group will need to bring items for the raffle.)



BRING TO THE MEETING:

- ☞ Money to buy \$1 raffle tickets
- ☞ Contribution for the International project, **Schools for Africa**; to receive a tax deduction, make your check to U.S. Fund for UNICEF and on the memo line put: SFA, DKG – NC Gamma Chi Chapter; see page 5 for more information
- ☞ If you would like to pick up some afghan tickets for sale, they will be available at the March meeting. Many thanks to those who have already picked up tickets. Ticket money is due at the May meeting, but if you would like to turn it in early, you may do so at the March meeting. The drawing for the afghan will be held at the May meeting. At that time all sold ticket stubs, unsold tickets and money will be due.
- ☞ Box Tops and Labels for Education; will benefit the elementary schools and the middle school.
- ☞ If you would like to support the convention project, please bring books for school-age children, Barnes & Noble gift cards and bookmarks, or make a monetary contributions — see article on p. 5 for details.

BIRTHDAY PRESENTS

Members with February, March or April birthdays who attend the meeting will be recognized and will receive a present. *Don't miss your birthday meeting!!!*



PRESERVATION WARRENTON—

“PRESERVING THE PAST FOR THE FUTURE”



We are very pleased to have Noel Robertson as our program speaker who is the president of Preservation Warrenton.

Noel, now retired, was a teacher and principal. He has a great love for history and architecture. His program will be fascinating as well as interesting.

Preservation Warrenton was first formed in 1997. The purpose of the corporation is:

- To promote the restoration and preservation of historically significant buildings, grounds, gardens, and open spaces in Warrenton and Warren County,
- To assist the town and county in the preservation and restoration of historically and aesthetically significant sites, and
- To increase knowledge about, and appreciation of such places.

Please be present for this chance to learn more of our heritage here in Warren County.

WELCOME BACK!



Gamma Chi Chapter welcomes back former member *Donna Liles*. Donna was reinstated on January 4. She now serves as the EC Compliance Specialist for Warren County Schools. Donna was initiated on May 3, 2001.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- 🌸 *Brooke Comer* on her engagement to Robert (Robbie) Callahan Jr.
- 🌸 *Erin Simons*, an exceptional resource teacher, who spearheaded efforts to establish a program to allow educators at her school to develop stronger relationships with students and their parents through home visits. She and co-worker Lauren Konicki wrote a grant proposal and received a \$5,000 National Education Association Student Achievement Grant to enable them to establish a Home Visit Project at Vaughan Elementary School.
- 🌸 *Nancy Tunstall* (or sympathies) on being selected by Eta State President Sheila Groves to design the front and back cover for the Eta State Convention Program book. Also, she will be formatting the book and accepting and doing the layout for the ads in the program book.

CONDOLENCES TO:

Donna Liles on the loss of her mother-in-law, Linda “Lynn” Liles. Please keep Donna and her family in your thoughts and prayers.



LOSS OF A PAST MEMBER



Our former Gamma Chi sister, Louise Twitty, passed away on January 2, 2016. Louise spent 30 years in education with most of that time spent in Warren County. She became a member of Xi Chapter of DKG on October 16, 1971 and

was a charter member of Gamma Chi. She resigned on October 31, 2014, after 43 years of membership citing her poor eyesight as a contributing factor. She was 94 when she died. She was a remarkable, talented woman, and a very active member for many years. She will be sorely missed by all who knew her.

TREASURER'S REPORT

by Shirley White, Treasurer



At the December meeting, \$57.00 was collected from the meeting raffle which was used to help our local libraries.

A total of \$108.00 was collected for World Fellowship that night and \$5.00 at the previous meeting making a total of \$113.00. Prior to the meeting, \$250.00 was collected for the Gamma Chi Scholarship Fund. At the meeting, \$1,539.00 was received for the Scholarship Fund. This includes the \$1,000.00 given by the Blankenship Family in memory of their mother, Nancy Peete Blankenship. Since the meeting, a total of \$105.00 has been given to the Scholarship Fund. The sale of afghan raffle tickets yielded \$180.00. Finally, \$75.00 was turned in to go to International Funds.



COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY REPORT

by Nancy Tunstall, Communications & Publicity Chair



The January/ February issue of *DKG News* is online. Click [here](#) to see it. Print editions have already been mailed.

This edition contains some articles that are truly worth your attention. Among the many articles, you will read about are:

- Carolyn Pittman tops slate of 2016 DKG officials,
- Information and registration form for the July 5-9 International Convention in Nashville, Tennessee,
- Succession Planning for success by DKG President Dr. Lyn Babb Schmid, and
- Challenge to update member profiles unveiled.

Hot off the press is the online spring edition of *Eta State News*.



This edition is filled with convention information, including the registration form. Remember that it is no longer mailed and must be viewed online. To view it, click on the link:

<http://deltakappagamma.org/NC/ESNSpring2016.pdf>.

Finally, please submit articles and news to Editor [Nancy Tunstall](#) by April 11 for the next edition of the *Gamma Chi Newsletter*.

HOSPITALITY AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS REPORT

by Paula Aycock, Hospitality and Social Affairs Chair



Meal costs are to be paid at each meeting upon arrival. Members who are unable to attend after making a commitment to come must inform the Telephone Network Chair Nancy Tunstall, at nancytunstall@gmail.com or 252-456-2051 (h) by the cut-off date of **Friday, February 26th**. When this is not done, members will be expected to pay for the meal. Please send your payment by an attending member or

Continued on next page

have a friend pay for your meal (they could get you a carry-out meal if so desired). **The money is needed the night of the meeting so the caterer can be paid in full.** Thank you in advance.

A NEW APPROACH TO RECRUITMENT

by Dr. Carol Maidon, Eta State Membership Chair
with comments by Nancy Tunstall, Gamma Chi Membership Chair

In an effort to streamline the process of recruitment, the DKG International Society's Membership Committee has re-designed our recruitment process. It is similar to our existing process but no longer requires the Recommendation Form.

DKG Prospect Cards – members submit to the membership chair names of recommended educators via a prospect card (card lists name address, email, employer, position, and phone of the recruit and name of the sponsor—see example on page 10). The cards may be turned in at any meeting. The Membership chair compiles a list to present to members at the March meeting, and a vote is taken. It is not necessary to contact the nominees before the recommendation process occurs; members are trusted to nominate deserving women to our society.

Letter of Invitation to Orientation – the membership chair would send the invitation. It should be special and personal highlighting that she has been chosen for membership in our prestigious society based on her stellar qualities, include a brief description of DKG, emphasize the honor of membership, and request an RSVP for the orientation meeting.

Assign a “buddy” to attendees – a current member (sponsor) should be assigned to each prospective member who wishes to join. They could later become the mentor.

Orientation – provide a social time for sponsors and prospective members to meet, present *Pride in the Big Picture* slide show, provide time for sponsors to answer questions at the conclusion of the hour-long meeting, and ask them to make a decision to accept or decline the invitation.

Chapter Member Application Form - this form would be filled out by the prospective member at the end of the orientation if she accepted the invitation. It would provide information about the prospective member, serves as the Form 11 – Recommendation for Membership, *which is no longer needed*, and serves as a commitment from the prospective member.

Initiation – invite the prospective member with an Initiation Letter to attend the initiation ceremony. Plan ahead and order all the needed supplies.

More information about this plan is found on the DKG website under Membership Committee. A sample and actual DKG Prospect Card is found on page 10.

The main difference in this plan and our current practice is that the sponsor would not have to fill out a Recommendation Form (just a Prospect Card) or talk to the candidate prior to filling out a Prospect Card (she could speak with the prospect if desired). Members would be encouraged to choose those women whom they really want in our chapter—assume nothing would prevent them from saying yes. Don't eliminate them because you “assume” they might say no. Let them decide for themselves. If we agree to this plan, it would go into effect at our October 2016 meeting.



NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

by Melanie Burnette, Nominations Chair

The Nominations Committee presents the following slate of officers for the Gamma Chi Chapter for the 2016-2018 biennium:

President: **Debra Clayton**

First Vice President: **Patricia Williamson**

Second Vice President: **Loree Harris**

Recording Secretary: **Mary Catherine Harris**

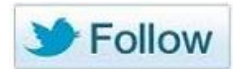
Corresponding Secretary: **Aimee Anderson**

These positions will be voted on at the upcoming meeting.



Eta State President Sheila Groves

[@SheilaVGroves1](#)



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EtaState/>



svgeta97@gmail.com



SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT...

Happy New Year!

Traditionally the beginning of each year is a time for looking back at the past, and more importantly, looking forward to the coming year. It's a time to reflect on the changes we want to make and to resolve to follow through on each of those changes. As you ponder your resolutions for 2016, think of a few things you can do to strengthen your membership in Delta Kappa Gamma.

- 🌹 **Stay connected** – attend chapter meetings, read publications, browse social media
- 🌹 **Network beyond the chapter** – attend state convention in Winston-Salem, April 22-24
- 🌹 **Learn more about the Society** – explore state and international websites
- 🌹 **Promote Society Purposes** – support chapter and state projects
- 🌹 **Share your enthusiasm for the work of DKG** – be a positive voice
- 🌹 **Be part of the team** – volunteer for a committee or special chapter assignment

Make some resolutions for a healthier, happier 2016 - lose weight, exercise more, eat healthier and don't forget to make some DKG Resolutions!

Sheila

NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE ETA STATE CONVENTION



“Create the Future: Imagine” will be the theme for the 2016 Eta State Convention to be held April 22-24 in Winston-Salem at the Winston-Salem Marriott.

Be among the first to register for this year's convention. The registration form is now on the convention website in both Word and PDF formats. Early bird deadline is April 1.

Banquet and brunch meal ticket deadline is April 15 (hotel deadline). Materials may not be available to persons who register after April 1 or on-site.

Continued on next page

Mail your registration form to Convention Treasurer Chris Waters by April 1.

Contact Convention Registrar Carolyn Coram with any questions at etastateregistrar2016@gmail.com.

For all convention details, visit the new Convention Website at: <http://dkgnc2016convention.weebly.com/>.

LEROY (Leadership Experiences Relevant to Others and Yourself)

I have my registration form and hotel reservations made for the April 22-24, 2016 Eta State Convention. I hope you have completed your forms. My list of "hidden leaders" continues to grow and I am so excited to learn what you have been doing as a "Key Woman Educator." Let's share!

LEROY the Leadership Guy

CONVENTION PROJECT ANNOUNCED



soar by giving financial assistance to help achieve their educational, athletic, and career aspirations.

Dreams and Kitestrings provides financial assistance to students and teachers, funds classroom grants and sponsors educational events, such as author visits and free sports camps. It is a volunteer-lead non-profit, with all donations going directly to support projects.

In 2016 Dreams and Kitestrings will focus on literacy and leadership, with their theme borrowed from a Margaret Fuller quote "Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader." Two of the projects being supported are Little Free Libraries, which provides enough books to set up classroom libraries in elementary schools across the county, and the Book Fair Project, which provides funding for impoverished children to select and purchase books at school book fairs.

DKG members can help by **donating books for school-age children, Barnes & Noble gift cards and bookmarks, and/or making monetary contributions.** Checks should be made out to Dreams and Kitestrings. If you wish to donate to a specific project you may note Little Free Libraries or Book Fair Project on the bottom of your check. Dreams and Kitestrings is a 501(c)(3) tax

exempt charity.

Read more about Dreams and Kitestrings at: <http://www.dreamsandkitestrings.org/>.



NEW AT THE CONVENTION

Everyone is invited to network and enjoy fellowship at a Presidents Reception of light hors d'oeuvres and punch before the Saturday evening banquet. There is no charge for this event but please indicate if you are attending on the convention registration form. A cash bar will be available.

CHANGES MADE IN CEU CREDITS

In keeping with DPI and local school districts' policies for receiving approval for renewal credits, this year Eta State will provide a general certificate of attendance to those attending the convention. A teacher desiring CEU credit for attending the convention will need to confer with her local district for approval to count attendance as a CEU credit and to learn if other documentation is needed.

FOUNDATION TO PRESENT SESSIONS AT CONVENTION



With another grant application period opening soon, the NCDKG Educational Foundation will offer members several opportunities at the convention to learn more about Foundation grants – how to apply for them and how to help them grow. Hope to see you there!

SOME OTHER CONVENTION NOTES

by Nancy Tunstall

Gamma Chi would like for some of our members, especially our newer members, who have never experienced an Eta State Convention, to go this year. The registration cost ranges from \$74.00 to \$86.00 depending on the entrée choice for the banquet. If financial assistance is needed, click [here](#) to apply for a Gamma Chi Professional Development Grant. We already have two rooms reserved. It is definitely a worthwhile weekend! The networking alone could prove to be of great value to you, not to mention the genuine spiritual fellowship. Please contact Nancy Tunstall for more information if you are interested in going.



A new **Rising Star** recognition at the convention this year will be given to 12 young women from across the state to recognize and encourage key women educators in their early years of active membership in NC DKG. The Rising Star nominees will reflect strong potential for successful leadership at the chapter and state levels and beyond. Our own **Debra Clayton** will be nominated for this recognition. We are very hopeful that she will be selected. Also, we hope that **Mary Austell** will receive the Golden Key Award.

Finally, we hope that we will be the lucky chapter to win a \$50.00 Walmart gift card to be used for Beginning Teacher Support. We will submit an activity page with a description of our Teacher Bag Project, and perhaps it will be the lucky one drawn from a collection box.

The First General Session will begin on Friday evening, April 22 around 7:30. The highlight of that session will be the individual

Continued on next page

and chapter awards. Our chapter should be receiving the Excellent Chapter Achievement Award and the Newsletter and Website Excellence Awards.

The Second General Session will be Saturday morning with Eta State business conducted. Saturday afternoon will be chocked full of fun and interesting workshops.

Finally, the convention will conclude Sunday morning with A Celebration of Life Ceremony for those members who passed during the previous year (including our own Jeffrey Evans, Melba Johnston and Edwina Rooker), the Birthday Brunch and the Rising Star recognitions.

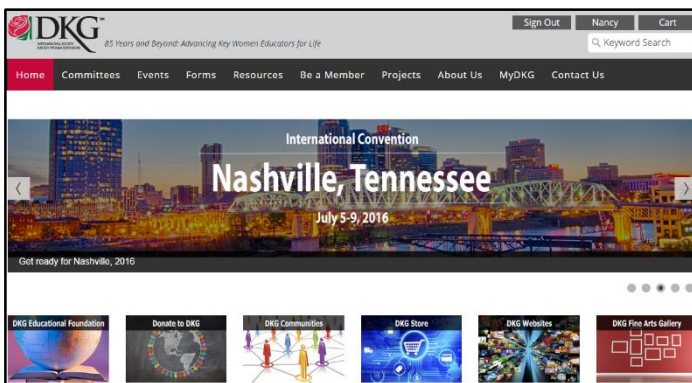
So much will be going on at the convention—never a dull moment!!! Come be a part of the excitement. You will be glad that you did!

TUNSTALL'S ROLES AT THE CONVENTION

As Eta State Communications & Publicity chairman, Nancy Tunstall will take part in the Friday night Awards Program. She will be announcing the Eta State chapters who are recipients of the Newsletter Excellence Award and/or the Website Excellence Award. She and her committee read all the newsletters sent in from across the state, and score them based on a rubric which is posted on the Eta State website. There must be at least four newsletters per year with an average score of at least 80% to qualify for the Newsletter Excellence Award. To receive the Website Excellence Award, a chapter's website must receive certification from DKG International.

Also, Tunstall has submitted a proposal for a breakout session at the upcoming state convention. The title of her session will be *Newsletters, Links & Paint—Useful Tips*. It will be included in the Technology strand. Tunstall's proposal is designed mainly for editors and will endeavor to share useful tips that she has developed over the last ten years to help enhance newsletters, demonstrate techniques to ensure successful links, and illustrate the fine-tuning capabilities of Paint when using graphics. Final decisions for breakout session proposals will be made in February. We wish Nancy good luck and are confident her proposal will be accepted.

NEW DKG WEBSITE LAUNCHED



The DKG website, <http://www.dkg.org/>, has a new look! A small DKG logo and menu bar across the top give way to a large, scrolling swipe of pictures with links to items of interest, such as the 2016 Convention in Nashville, pictured above. More graphics on the next row are quick links to the DKG store, Educational Foundation, Fine Arts Gallery, Communities, and more. This website features password protected areas so that members can securely be a part of the DKG social network and have more control of their Society information. Members can update their

own password after initially signing in, can update their profile information to keep their records current with International (on the MyDKG tab), and can join “communities” to connect with other members and enjoy online discussions on topics of interest with others. Registration for Society events will now be done through the Member Profile. For example, registration for the International Convention in Nashville this summer is now available when a member is signed in. Check out the new site. There is much to see and do!

SIGNING IN TO PASSWORD-PROTECTED AREAS

One of the biggest changes the new DKG website brings is that certain areas are password protected. These areas include Forms and Resources.

To sign in, each member needs her membership number, found on her membership card or readily available from the chapter treasurer. The membership number is the user name. The default password is not published for security reasons. Please contact Nancy Tunstall if you need either one of those. Once signed in with a password, members will have full access to the website. Enjoy!

COMMUNITIES ARE BIG PART OF SOCIAL NETWORK



One of the exciting features of the new DKG website is the ability to network with members around the world through Communities, which focus on a variety of topics. Members may join as many as they

would like.

Currently the following Communities are available: DKG Book Club, DKG Collaborative Communities (for sharing about subject areas and job issues), DKG Communications & Publicity, DKG for Social Media, DKG in Canada, DKG Members in the Home, DKG Membership Forum, DKG Mentoring, DKG Travels, and DKG with a focus on the Arts. Pick your passion and join the discussions today



Schools for Africa became the Society's first official international project in 2010. Members have donated, as of July 2015 over \$292,000 to the project from 2010-2015. Currently the project works with 13 countries in sub-Saharan Africa including Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Sierra Leone and Guinea Bissau. The SFA mission involves providing access to quality basic education for children, focusing on girls, orphans and other vulnerable youngsters. UNICEF works through this project with governments, local authorities, communities and other partners to:

- Foster community participation in school management

Continued on next page

- Build and improve classroom buildings and equipment
- Create safe and protective environments where children can learn and play (CFS, Child-Friendly School programs)
- Provide access to clean water and separate sanitation facilities for boys and girls in schools
- Supply exercise books, pens, proper furniture and other school and sports materials
- Train teachers to provide children with quality education and basic life skills
- Educate children about proper hygiene and HIV prevention: this knowledge is passed on to siblings, parents, and the community at large
- Provide other interventions, including but not limited to health check-ups, immunization and scholarships
- Insure a stimulating start in life to children below age five

According to UNICEF's most recent annual report on the Schools for Africa project, major gains have been made in:

- Early childhood development
- Access and retention to quality primary basic education
- Non-formal education
- HIV prevention in schools
- Education in emergencies

The March meeting is our annual designated meeting to collect monies for this worthy project. *You can make a difference!* Please donate generously to help transform families, communities—and perhaps countries. Your gift of education is the chance of a better life. For a tax deductible donation, make your check to U.S. Fund for UNICEF and on the memo line put: SFA, DKG – NC Gamma Chi Chapter.

TECH TIP—BEST TEACHING TIPS!

Bring the classroom to life with interactive mobile presentations that teachers create and customize themselves by using **Nearpod**, located at the website, <http://www.nearpod.com/>.

With Nearpod you can:

- Create or download interactive multimedia presentations
- Share your interactive lesson and control the student's activity
- Your students interact and submit response through any mobile device or PC/MAC
- Monitor and measure student results on an individual and aggregate basis

You can also visit this link for [How It Works](#)



MYSTERY MEMBER

Here is the hint for this newsletter's mystery member. *She is one of our newer members. She was selected as the Warren County Schools' 2015-2016 Teacher of the Year. Recently, she helped her school obtain a \$5,000 grant to start a Home Visit Project. Who is she?*

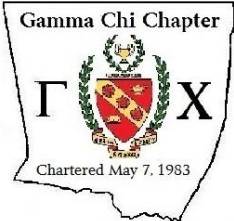
Hopefully, this is an easy one since you will not be able to find the answer online because she is not yet listed in our members' biographies. The name of our mystery member will be revealed at the meeting.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR CONVENTION PROGRAM

by Nancy Tunstall

This year our chapter's advertisement for the convention program book will honor our 2014-2015 Member Excellence Award recipients. You can see a copy of it below.

Not only chapters can place ads, but also individuals or businesses may place ads. March 15 is the deadline for submitting ads. I am arranging the ads for the convention book this year and I have begun to receive ads. If you would be interested in placing an ad, see me. The prices range from \$25 for ¼ page to \$150 for a full page.



Region III Γ X *Warren County*

Gamma Chi Chapter

2013-2015 Presidential Chapter Achievement Award Recipient

Honors Its Member Excellence Award Recipients



(left to right) Nancy Tunstall, Mary Austell, Ann Killian, Harriet Banzet, Shirley White and President Debra Clayton (not pictured: Coree Harrts)



DKG VISION STATEMENT
*Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education Worldwide*

ETA STATE VISION (VIEW)
*Voices of Influence Empowering
North Carolina Women Educators*

2014-2016 INTERNATIONAL THEME
*85 Years and Beyond:
Advancing Key Women Educators for Life*

2015-2017 ETA STATE THEME
“Create the Future—Imagine, Inspire, Ignite”

2014-2016 GAMMA CHI THEME
*Key Women Educators—
Committing, Collaborating, Celebrating!*

DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 3 3rd Gamma Chi Meeting, Robinson Ferry Restaurant, Warrenton
- March 13-16 National Legislative Seminar, Arlington, VA; information about the forum can be found [here](#)
- April 1 Deadline for early-bird registration for the Eta State Convention; registration form found [here](#)
- April 10 Deadline to submit news for the *Eta State News*
- April 11 Deadline to submit news for the *Gamma Chi Newsletter*
- April 22-24 Eta State Convention, Winston-Salem Marriott, Winston-Salem, NC (Region IX)
- May 1 Lucile Cornet Award for Professional Development Application due; <http://www.dkgef.org/awards.html>
- May 1 Deadline for Journal submissions to the *Bulletin*
- May 5 4th Gamma Chi Meeting, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ridgeway
- July 5-9 DKG International Convention, Gaylord Opryland Resort, Nashville, TN
- August 1 2017 Deadline for articles for *Collegial Exchange*
- April 28-30 Eta State Convention, The Hilton Wilmington Riverside, Wilmington, NC (Region IV)

Check them out often!

GAMMA CHI WEBSITE:

<http://deltakappagamma.org/NC-gammachi/>

ETA STATE WEBSITE:

<http://deltakappagamma.org/NC/>

DKG WEBSITE:

<https://www.dkg.org/>

Please submit articles to:

Editor/Webmaster: Nancy Tunstall
Contact: nancytunstall@gmail.com / 252-456-2051 (h)

Wishing you a



and a



Next issue: More about Gaylord Opryland Resort, Nashville, TN



GAMMA CHI CHAPTER MINUTES – DECEMBER 3, 2015

The Gamma Chi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International met at Norlina United Methodist Church in Norlina on Thursday, December 3, 2015. A social hour began at 6:00 p.m.

President Debra Clayton recognized Melanie Burnette, who offered a blessing after which members enjoyed a meal prepared by women of the church.

Following the meal, President Clayton introduced member Diane Colin who presented a program on various woodwind instruments. She told of her musical background, and then gave a brief history of woodwinds. She first demonstrated the Native American cedar flute which had a beautiful, rich tone. She then talked about Renaissance recorders and demonstrated a wooden one and a plastic one. She stated that each culture has some sort of “flute.” She concluded with the traditional silver flute and a “sing-along” of contemporary and traditional Christmas songs. Her entertaining presentation was received with much applause.

President Clayton then called the business session to order. Nancy Tunstall, acting for Recording Secretary Mary Catherine Harris, reported that we had a quorum. The minutes of the October 1, 2015 meeting were approved.

Treasurer Shirley White presented the treasurer’s report, which showed a checking balance of \$2,230.18 and a savings balance of \$3,779.07. The report was filed for audit. She reported that she turned in the Chapter Dues and Fees Report on November 6, and the chapter has 53 active members and 9 reserve members for a total of 62 members.

Corresponding Secretary Sallye Duncan reported that she had sent sympathy cards to Nancy Tunstall on the death of her brother, Anna Brickey on the death of her husband and Mary Alice Elkins on the death of her sister, member Edwina Rooker. She and Danylu Hundley reported on the regrets from members who were unable to attend the meeting. Sallye mentioned that member Karen Paynter had asked for prayers for her father, A.P. Holtzmann, who needs 24/7 care.

Nancy Tunstall read a letter that she had received from Richard Blankenship announcing that he and his sister Catherine Blankenship have again given the Gamma Chi Scholarship Fund \$1,000.00 to honor the memory of their mother, Nancy Peete Blankenship, who was a long time member of Gamma Chi.

The president recognized members with birthdays in November, December, and January and passed around a basket with an Almond Joy candy bar for each celebrant. She presented each member with a key and read the attached card: “As a Gamma Chi member, you are the ‘key’ to help ‘unlock’ our chapter potential! You are the motivation, the ‘push,’ the vision, and the action to ‘unlock’ the possibilities for our state and DKG!” She revealed Diane Colin to be the Mystery Member.

In her President’s Report, President Clayton stated that she would like for Gamma Chi members to mentor younger members. The mentor would get to know the newer member, contact the member if she misses a meeting, introduce them to other members, and support them in their membership. Debra put a signup sheet at the back of the room for members to volunteer to be mentors. She also stated that at the next meeting members would take a table number and sit at that table in order to have an opportunity to get to learn more about members they might not know.

The president then asked Nancy Tunstall to update members of the progress of our Chapter Achievement Award form. Nancy explained that in past years, 500 points were needed to reach the Superior Level of achievement, and the top five chapters reaching the Superior level received the President’s Award. Gamma Chi has received the President’s Award for the past three years. This year chapters must have 600 points to reach the Superior level. At the present time, it appears that our chapter will fall short of that amount, but will qualify for the Excellent level. The scoring period runs from March 1 to March 1 of each year so it seems unlikely that we will be able to do enough this time to reach the Superior level. Nancy pointed out some of the things on which we need to begin work: invite new members so that we could have a net increase in membership, improve attendance at meetings, members publish on an educational website, members present a workshop at the Eta State Convention, members apply for state and international scholarships and professional development grants, members contribute to state and international funds, and the chapter invite state/local officials to attend/speak at chapter meetings. After mentioning the one about local officials speaking, Nancy invited member Lynne Lassiter, a member of the Warren County Board of Education, to speak. Lynne told of attending the out-of-state wedding

of her son and meeting a man who works for IBM who, when told where Lynne was from, mentioned that he knew one of our teachers, Cicelia Aguilar, who now teaches at Northside K-8 School, and has been very instrumental in the STEM program. Nancy suggested that Ms. Aguilar should be recommended for membership in DKG.

The following committee reports were given:

- **Beginning Teacher Support Committee** – Chair Mary Austell reported that really nice bags were packed for the new teachers in the Warren County School System on November 16 and were delivered to the schools during American Education Week. She stated plans to remember the teachers at Christmas, and Ann Kilian would be in charge of that project. She reminded members to complete their T.H.A.T. volunteer forms and turn them in at this meeting.
- **Finance Committee** – Chair Tracey Neal presented the adjusted budget for 2015-2016 reflecting the change in membership to 53 active and 9 reserve members. Shirley White pointed out two mistakes in the Adjusted Budget for the Checking Account. Since three members have passed away, under Special Expenses the amount transferred to Scholarship Fund should be \$75 instead of \$50. Under Special Projects, it should read Advertisement in the 2016, not 2014, Eta State Convention Program. With those corrections, a motion from the committee was made for the adoption of the adjusted budgets. The motion was passed.
- **Membership Committee** – Chair Nancy Tunstall reported that LaTrenda Hawkins, Alice Jefferson, Gwen Kilian, and Louise Mitchum had requested resignation from membership and that Paige Lamberson had requested temporary reserve status in Gamma Chi Chapter. After listing their reasons, Nancy made a motion from the committee to honor these requests, which was passed. She reminded members to take recommendation forms for recommending prospective members.
- **Scholarship Committee** – Chair Aimee Anderson reported that she had reached out to all three high school counselors with grant-in-aid forms, and reminded members of the scholarship forms. Also, it was mentioned that the grant-in-aid forms could be used by any female working to obtain a degree in education. She then turned the Scholarship report over to Scholarship Committee member Shirley White. In consultation with the other Scholarship Committee member, Jill Coleman, the committee made the motion that Aimee Anderson be given a professional development grant for \$195 to apply to the cost of taking the National Counselor Exam (NCE). The motion passed and congratulations were extended to Aimee.
- **World Fellowship Committee** – Chair Loree Harris implored members who had not given to World Fellowship to give. With her encouragement, \$108.00 was given.
- **Rules Committee** – Chair Loree Harris stated that the committee would be meeting in January to update the Chapter Rules. Members were asked to take time to read over the rules which can be found online at our website, and make suggestions for changes by the second week in January.
- **Afghan Committee** – Chair Danylu Hundley stated that the afghan raffle was started in 2012 to raise money to give an additional scholarship or grant-in-aid. Although we have averaged over \$500 each year, last year the amount raised was slightly under \$500. She encouraged members to sell enough tickets to reach the \$500 goal each year.
- **Nominations Committee** – Chair Melanie Burnette had good news to report. All of the officers except for corresponding secretary agreed to serve in the same position and continue their work for the next biennium. The corresponding secretary has served for the last two bienniums and according to the rules can only serve for two consecutive bienniums. Melanie asked for a volunteer for that position.

There were no reports on reserve members or those with sickness. There was no unfinished or new business. Mary Brodie Raiford thanked everyone who brought books to be used in a county effort to carry out Toys for Tots since Warren County was not included in that initiative. She mentioned various sites where other items could be dropped off.

President Clayton wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year before she adjourned the meeting. The raffle followed adjournment.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Tunstall for Mary Catherine Harris, Recording Secretary

DKG Prospect Card (sample)

Name Jane Doe

Address 123 Learn Street, Warrenton NC 27589

E-mail janedoe@gmail.com

Employer Warren County Schools

Position 1st Grade Teacher

Phone 252-123-4567

Sponsor Dr. Lyn Schmid

DKG Prospect Card

Name _____

Address _____

E-mail _____

Employer _____

Position _____

Phone _____

Sponsor _____