

Gamma Chi Newsletter

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



Volume XXVIII, Issue 3

The Ever-Widening Circle of Delta Kappa Gamma!

January/February/March 2023



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope your New Year has started out healthy and happy. I do want to take just a moment to tell you how much I appreciate the cards, messages, and telephone calls after our December meeting. Unbeknownst to me, at the

end of the meeting I started to have a gall bladder attack which I thought was a heart attack and ended up in Nash General Hospital for surgery on the 2nd. I have recovered which was made easier with your thoughts and prayers! Thank you!

Between our March meeting and May meeting, we hope to have a large delegation of members attending our state convention in Greenville. We have members who are doing workshops for this convention. In addition, we will be installing new state officers. I enjoy looking at the candidates and getting to know them. This level of leadership can make decisions that affect what we do at the local chapter level. Certainly, the outcome of that state meeting will be highlighted at our May meeting. Next year, our Region III will be hosting the state convention in Durham. We will be expected to step up and assist. What better way than attending a convention so we can effectively do our part as a chapter? It would be great for lots of our members to experience the state convention. Remember, registration, room and travel are paid for by our chapter. Who knows, we may even hear another dynamic "Rock Your Day" speaker.

At the local level, for our March Meeting, I encourage you to call someone who is attending and offer to drive or ride with them. You will find that you will get to know them better as you share a car ride. Better yet, call a member who has not been to a meeting lately and invite them to ride and attend the meeting with you. I believe in women solidarity as it is supportive, understanding, empathetic and compassionate. And often, if you are headed in the wrong direction, they care enough to tell you the truth. As we grow professionally and personally, we all need that solidarity. For me, it has been a part of my life since becoming a member in 1985. The connections enrich life and last a lifetime. In order to facilitate that, we are publishing a list of members who respond "yes" they are attending. This meeting and only this meeting, with the help of the Littleton group, we will allow members to attend who did not sign up to come to the meeting if you will let us know 24 hours ahead of the March 2nd date. So, call your chapter friend that did not sign up, get her in the car and meet us at Littleton Baptist Church for some of the best food from some of the best cooks around.

(President's Message - continued on Page 2)



MEETING NOTICE

Thursday, March 2, 2023 Littleton Baptist Church Fellowship Hall 104 Mosby Ave., Littleton, NC 27850 6:00 p.m. Gathering



::00 p.m. Gathering 6:15 p.m. Dinner

Menu: "Preacher's Chicken," potatoes, green beans, & dessert
Prepared by the Littleton Group, Cost: \$15.00

(Make checks payable to Sylvia Alston)

Cut-Off Date: Sunday, February 26
te: you do not have to purchase ding

(Note: you do not have to purchase dinner to attend the meeting. That is your choice.) 6:45 p.m. Program:

WHAT ARE YOU NOT GETTING FROM GAMMA CHI, DKG?

7:00 p.m. Business Meeting

Please respond to your Evite as soon as possible and no later than February 26!

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





BRING TO THE MEETING

- Money to buy \$1 raffle tickets
- Prospect Cards to nominate worthy key women educators
- Contribution for the International project, Schools for Africa; to receive a tax deduction, make your check to UNICEF USA and on the memo line put: SFA, DKG NC Gamma Chi Chapter; see page 4 for more information
- If you would like to pick up some \$3.00 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.
- If you would like to support the convention project, Food Bank of the Albemarle, see page 4 for details.

Inside Contents			
Gamma Chi News2-3			
NC DKG News3-4			
DKG News4-5			
Mystery Member5			
Visions/Themes/Websites5			
Dates to Remember (International, NC DKG, Gamma Chi)			
Gamma Chi Chapter December Minutes6-7			
Member Prospect Cards8			

(President's Message – continued from Page 1)

I am sure you will find the program informative and interesting; I promise to have you out by 8 p.m. Our program will have two features, "Meet a Member" and "Individual Chapter Member Input."

Spring is coming so spring into action for Gamma Chi and NC DKG. $\label{eq:decomposition}$



Dr. Sylvia Alston



TO:

- Diane Colin on being awarded a Halifax EMC Bright Ideas education grant for her project "Keep the Music Going" at Vaughan Elementary School.
- Sallye Duncan on her daughter, Charla Duncan, being honored by the Business North Carolina publication as a 2022 Trailblazer. Charla is the Warren County Community & Economic Development Director.
- Danylu Hundley on the birth of her grandson, Russell Eugene Hundley, to her son William and wife Caroline. Russell was born on December 1, 2022, weighing 7 lbs. 15 oz. and was 21 inches long.
- Renee Mizelle and Susan Whitley on being awarded a Halifax EMC Bright Ideas education grant for their project "Jump Start to STEM" at Littleton Academy.
- **Erin Riggan** and her husband Ryan on the birth of their twins, Peyton Mary Riggan and Aiden Ray Riggan. They were born October 22nd. Peyton weighed 5 lbs. 9 oz., and was 17 3/8 inches long and Aiden weighed 5 lbs. 7 oz. and was 17 7/8 inches long. Their big sister's name is McKinley Maeve Riggan.



BIRTHDAY PRESENTS

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

CONDOLENCES TO:

Michele Stallings on the loss of her great aunt, Marian Democko Dzurnak. Please keep Michele and her family in your thoughts and prayers.



TREASURER'S REPORT

by Shirley White, Treasurer



At the December meeting, \$77.00 was collected from the meeting raffle; this will be used to help our local libraries and the NC DKG Educational Foundation. Other monies received were \$140.00 for the afghan raffle, \$140.00 for World Fellowship

and \$2,539.00 for the Scholarship Fund (\$2,000.00 of that was from the Blankenship family).

Please remember that March is our usual time to collect for **Schools for Africa**. Checks should be made out to Gamma Chi-DKG or if you prefer a tax deduction, make the check out to UNICEF USA and in the memo line put Schools for Africa. You can mail a check to me if you are unable to attend the meeting. Please do not send cash through the mail. Thank you!

At the March meeting when paying by check, please write separate checks with the correct amount for the meal, Schools for Africa, etc. It will make the bookkeeping so much easier!



DUES PAYMENT PLAN

by Shirley White, Treasurer

Dues for the 2023-2024 fiscal year will be due no later than June 30. Our last meeting before the deadline is May 18. I would like to collect dues by that night.

Gamma Chi members who prefer to make payments on their dues rather than pay the full amount at our May meeting will need to begin payments at our March 2nd meeting.

For making payments, the following plan should be followed (*there will be no reminders*):

1st payment - \$30.00 at the meeting on March 2nd

2nd payment - \$30.00 mailed to me by April 18th

Final payment - \$25.00 at the meeting on May 18th

For those who do not care to take advantage of the payment plan, the entire amount of dues, \$85.00, will be due on May 18th at the fourth meeting. This is assuming that the dues will remain \$85.00. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the amount should remain at \$85.00. Any questions can be directed to our treasurer, Shirley White, at shirleylenawhite-@gmail.com. The April payment may be sent to Shirley at 1957 US Highway 1 N, Norlina, NC 27563. Your cooperation and timely payment of dues will make my job so much easier! Also, if you are a reserve member, the dues should remain at \$45.00.

COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING COMMITTEE'S REPORT

by Nancy Tunstall, Communications & Marketing Committee Chair



The January/February issue of *DKG News* is online. The main article focuses on the three international conferences planned for this summer in Detroit, Michigan; Phoenix, Arizona; and Tampere, Finland. "Moving Forward with Vitality, Relevance, and Sustainability in Our Changing World" will be the theme in all three. Other news includes several updates in columns from President Debbie LeBlanc and Executive Director Nita Scott, lists of World Fellowship recipients and Society representatives, and major actions of the Administrative Board at their November 2022 meeting. You can open it as a flipbook or download it as a pdf file by clicking here. Remember you must sign in to view it. Members will no longer receive this

publication by mail. It is released every other month.

Please check out the Gamma Chi website by clicking http://deltakappagamma.org/NC-gammachi/. Check out the homepage and look under the calendar to see who is having a birthday. Also, important DKG events are listed in the calendar for the entire year. The updated Gamma Chi Yearbook and Chapter Rules have been posted. Because of the personal information, the picture directory is not posted. Anybody not receiving their copy by email should request a copy.

Our committee would like to encourage everyone, especially committee chairs, to submit news and/or articles to Nancy Tunstall, editor, for publication in the next *Gamma Chi Newsletter*. The submission deadline for the next newsletter will be *April 11*.

HOSPITALITY & SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE'S REPORT

by Debra Clayton, Hospitality and Social Affairs Committee Chair



Meal costs are to be paid at each meeting upon arrival. Members who are unable to attend after responding "yes" to their evite must inform Communications &

Marketing Chair Nancy Tunstall by the cut-off date of Sunday, 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 have a friend pay for your meal (she 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. Also, you are welcome to bring prospective members as guests, but you will be responsible for paying for their meals. Thank you in advance.

GAMMA CHI WELCOMES GLOBAL TEACHERS



Warren County Schools recently obtained eight new global teachers. Gamma Chi Chapter members presented them with goodie bags. Pictured to the left are Gamma Chi members Norma

Retzlaff and Gail Coleman (left) and Kirby Alston and Sheila Robertson (right) presenting Mariam Boyd Elementary

School's two new global teachers, Mitchel Alburo and Louie Olita (middle) who are from the Philippines, with goodie bags.

Pictured to the right is the second car load of linens, towels, pots & pans, dishes, etc. delivered to the two Pilipino teachers who arrived after Christmas with no housing, no furniture, etc.



MANY THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS

by Danylu Hundley

Due to the generosity of our members, 86 pre-school books were collected at our December meeting. These books were delivered to the state licensed daycare centers of The Learning Garden of Norlina, Noah's Ark Preschool of Norlina and New

Beginnings Childcare of Warrenton. Here you can see how much enjoyment these books are bringing to the children.



The Learning Garden



Noah's Ark Preschool



New Beginnings Childcare

Now is the Time to Register For The NC DKG Convention



Registration is open for the 2023 NC DKG Convention scheduled for April 28-30 in Greenville. We have already reserved four rooms with double beds at the Holiday Inn Greenville, pictured at the right. Registration for the

convention is being done online using the Google Form found by clicking <u>here</u>. The form is very simple to fill out. Your Registration Invoice will then be sent to the email address that you provided. You will need to print out a copy of it.

Here are the directions for those who plan to attend the convention:

- Fill out the Google registration form and submit it. (Note: we are in Region III. The registration fee is \$45.00 plus whatever food options you prefer. Please leave the donations at zero since each member has already contributed \$3.00 to the Headquarters Fund (if you wish to make a further contribution, you may do so at the convention); as a chapter we have already contributed to the NC DKG Educational Foundation and we will take up checks or cash to support the convention project at our March meeting. Click the Mail Check option.)
- Bring your printed Registration Invoice to the March meeting.
- Give it to Shirley White so that she can write one check to cover the registrations.
- The first eight members to do so will be ensured a room. We will use Gamma Chi Professional Development grants to cover the expense.

We hope that you will be among the members who attend the convention!

GAMMA CHI REPRESENTED AT THE CONVENTION



Entertainment for Saturday, April 29, at the NC DKG Convention will be students from the Littleton Academy Drum Circle in Lit-

tleton. Their teacher and our member, Diane Colin, received funds from the Maxine and Don McCall Grant from the NC DKG Educational Foundation to purchase and upgrade drums. The Drum Circle will play Native American, African, and Caribbean music.

Also representing Gamma Chi will be Sheila Robertson, who has proposed doing a workshop on Saturday afternoon entitled "Recycled Art." We are proud of both of these members!

2023 NC DKG Convention Project

The 2023 NC DKG Convention Project is collecting food and monetary funds for the Food Bank of the Albemarle located in Elizabeth City. The Food Bank of the Albemarle helps fight



hunger and poverty in northeast NC. Even if you are not attending the convention, you can still help out. Donations will be taken up at our March meeting in support of this project. If you would like a tax deduction, checks

may be made out to Food Bank of the Albemarle with the memo line reading 2023 NC DKG Convention Project. These donations will be taken to the convention.

SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVE FOR CONVENTION



DKG Membership Director Patricia "Trish" Woodley will be NC DKG's Society Representative at the spring convention. Trish joined the DKG staff in 2018. She will be our speaker on Saturday evening and do a session or two on Saturday afternoon. She will bring energy to a membership focus.

UPCOMING LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The NC DKG Leadership Committee is planning a miniconference overnight event on March 25-26, 2023, at the Caraway Conference Center in Sophia, NC (near Asheboro). This opportunity is geared towards emerging chapter leaders and those interested in taking their skills to the state and international levels. This unique opportunity happens every other year, so plan to take advantage of it in 2023!

Registration ends soon. The deadline to apply and make payment is February 28, 2023. Interested members may use a Gamma Chi Professional Development Grant to help with the finances. Check the NC DKG website for more information.

SCHOOLS FOR AFRICA



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG) adopted Schools for Africa as our first official international project 2010. Schools for Africa

(SFA) is a partnership between UNICEF, the Nelson Mandela Foundation, and Peter Krämer Stiftung. Schools for Africa helps the most disadvantaged children in Africa to get a quality education, focusing on girls, orphans, and other vulnerable youngsters. Currently the project works with 21 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. Schools for Africa has reached more than 30 million children.

With support from the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and others, the SFA Program is achieving the following results:

- Reaching over 30 million children
- Improving access to quality basic education through inclusive and healthy schools; gender-sensitive education; qualified teacher and child-centered pedagogy; and safe schools.
- Promoting greater involvement of communities in children's early learning and well-being through parental
- Increasing access to and quality of informal learning programs and education for children in emergencies.
- Using an equity strategy to increase education rates for girls, rural and urban poor, ethnic minorities and children with disabilities.

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 payable to UNICEF USA and on the memo line put: SFA, DKG – NC Gamma Chi Chapter.

DKG Launches New Website



DKG recently launched a redesigned website. Varied committee members listen-

ed to the concerns of our members and responded by using

that information to build a much more user-friendly platform for us. The new site is engaging, informative, and much simpler to navigate.

Need help navigating the website? View the full navigation and some helpful tips by clicking the sitemap on the homepage.

MYSTERY MEMBER

by Nancy Tunstall, Editor



Here is the hint for this newsletter's mystery member. She grew up as a "preacher's kid." She has served as a teacher and a principal. She has been selected as Teacher and Principal of the Year. She has been recognized as an Outstanding Young Educator by the Jaycees. Even after retirement, she continues to be a leader in

education. She is very active in the community and in her church.

Who is she? The name of our mystery member will be revealed at the meeting. Please complete your biographical sketch for an opportunity to be our Mystery Member. Contact Nancy Tunstall for information about completing your biographical sketch.

DKG MISSION STATEMENT

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education



2021-2023 NC DKG THEME

Linking the Past, Present and Future



2022-2024 GAMMA CHI THEME

The Ever Widening Circle of Delta Kappa Gamma!

DKG VISION STATEMENT

Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education Worldwide

NC DKG VISION (VIEW)

<u>Voices of Influence Empowering</u> North Carolina Women Educators

Check them out often! GAMMA CHI WEBSITE:

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

NC DKG WEBSITE:

http://www.ncdkg.org/

DKG WEBSITE:

http://www.dkg.org/

Please submit events, celebrations, recognitions and news to:

Editor/Webmaster: Nancy Tunstall

DATES TO REMEMBER—DKG INTERNATIONAL

March 1	Deadline to submit to the Bulletin: Journal			
March 1	DKGIEF project applications due			
May 1	Deadline for DKGIEF Cornetet Individual			
	Professional Development Awards (other			
	deadline: November 1)			
May 11	DKG's Founders Day (DKG will be 94!)			
May 15	Deadline to submit to the Bulletin: Journal			
July 11-16	DKG Conference, Detroit, Michigan			
July 18-22	DKG Conference, Phoenix, Arizona			
July 26-29	DKG Conference, Tampere, Finland			
2024				
July 9-13	DKG International Convention, National			
	Harbor, Maryland (Gaylord National, D.C.			
	Area)			
2026				
June 30-July 4	DKG International Convention, Aurora,			

DATES TO REMEMBER—NC DKG

Colorado (Gaylord Rockies)

DATES TO REMEMBER—NC DRG					
February 28	Deadline to apply for the NC DKG				
	Leadership Development Seminar (see				
	page 4)				
March 1	ROSE, Golden Key, Rising Star, and				
	Communications Excellence forms due				
April 28-30	NC DKG Convention, Greenville, NC				
May 1	Deadline to submit to the NC DKG News				
2024					
April 26-28	NC DKG Convention, Sheraton Imperial,				
	Durham, NC; Region III will be hostesses				

DATES TO REMEMBER—GAMMA CHI

DATES TO REMEMBER—GAMMA CHI				
March 1	Submission deadline for ROSE, Commun-			
	ications Excellence, Golden Key, and Rising			
	Star forms			
March 2	3rd Gamma Chi Meeting, Littleton Baptist			
	Church. Littleton (Littleton Group host-			
	esses)			
April 24	Deadline to submit to the Gamma Chi			
·	Newsletter			
May 7	Gamma Chi's Founders Day (we'll be 40!)			
May 18	4th Gamma Chi Meeting, St. Paul's			
, i	Lutheran Church, Ridgeway (St. Paul's			
	Group hostesses)			
May 18	Dues due to Shirley White (\$85 Active, \$45			
., -	Reserve)			



GAMMA CHI CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 1, 2022

The Gamma Chi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, hosted by the Norlina Group, met at the Norlina United Methodist Church on December 1, 2022. As members assembled, they viewed a slide show of the DKG International Convention, which President Alston attended in New Orleans in the summer. Members mingled as they donated books for area pre-schools and day care sites, contributed to the World Fellowship project, made donations to Gamma Chi's Scholarship fund, and purchased raffle tickets.

Dr. Sylvia Alston welcomed members and one guest.

The ladies enjoyed a meal of roast beef, baked chicken, potato casserole, string beans, butter beans, candied carrots, deviled eggs, rolls, and assorted pies and beverages. Norlina United Methodist Church Circle 4 prepared and served the delicious meal. The membership applauded their efforts.

President Dr. Sylvia Alston introduced the guest speaker, Tiffany Long, director of NC DKG Region III. Tiffany is a member of Wake County's Gamma Eta Chapter and is employed by Johnston County Schools as Assistant Principal at Smithfield-Selma High School. She left the classroom two years ago after acceptance into NC Principal Fellows Consortium 26. She encouraged the membership to network and lean on each other, to take time to breathe, and to be kind to self. Tiffany presented an abbreviated version of Eric Cork's "Alphabet of Education" using the letters of Gamma: G – Go the extra mile for kids; A – Act to make a difference; and M – Make the most of each day, which is a blessing. The chapter honored her with a \$50.00 contribution to NC DKG Educational Foundation, a poinsettia, and handmade gifts for her baby, who is due in January.

The president called the meeting to order. Betsy Clark, recording secretary, reported that 23 active members were in attendance, constituting a quorum. Minutes of the September 1, 2022, meeting were approved as printed in the chapter newsletter. Treasurer Shirley White presented her report with the checking account balance of \$4,798.55 on December 1, 2022. The savings account balance totaled \$3,417.71. The report was approved.

Nancy Tunstall, substituting for Corresponding Secretary Evelyn Hall, reported cards sent to Erin Riggan (birth of twins), Donna Liles and Sallye Duncan (births of grandchildren), Norma Retzlaff (illness), Janis Meek and Michele Stallings (deaths of family members), Lou Ann Bender (50th wedding anniversary), Nancy Tunstall (inclusion of photographs in the Fall DKG Art Gallery), and Sallye Duncan (recognition of daughter as Trailblazer). Nancy read a letter from Richard Blankenship, dated November 25, 2022, honoring his and Catherine's mother on her 100th birthdate. He included the family's annual \$2,000 memoriam for the chapter's scholarship funds.

Member recognitions by the president included October, November, and December birthdays, with each receiving a handmade dish cloth. She identified the Mystery Member as Laura Kearney, and the group applauded Shirley White for her 63rd wedding anniversary.

In her president's report, Dr. Alston encouraged members to be more aware of the opportunities afforded by the NC DKG Education Foundation. She emphasized the wide range of grant opportunities, including funds for cook book projects, weather stations, professional development, funding for graduate studies, tickets for students to attend cultural events, music instruments, and books for students to take home and keep.

President Alston called for committee reports.

Beginning Teacher Support: Gail Coleman on behalf of Norma Retzlaff reported that the chapter prepared and delivered 35 gift bags to new teachers in the Warren County system during American Education Week and that there are supplies to fill bags as more new employees are hired.

Membership: Aimee Cooper encouraged members to invite female educators in various fields to our next meeting, echoing a sentiment of President Alston. Alston presented Sara Council as a new member prospect. The membership voted to accept the recommendation. A date for Sara to meet for induction procedures will be scheduled.

Scholarship: Betsy Clark reported that at least two of the current grant-in-aid recipients will reapply for 2023. There is possibility of a third for graduate school. One Warren Early College senior plans to apply. All public schools in Warren County and Vance County have information through the guidance offices. She reminded members that there are scholarship and professional development funds available for them.

World Fellowship: Loree Harris passed the basket to increase the donations to this very worthy project of Gamma Chi. The total collected was \$140.00.

Raffle: Danylu Hundley reported that distributed tickets were \$50.00 short of the goal. Loree Harris covered the deficit.

There was no unfinished business.

When President Alston called for new business, Nancy Tunstall encouraged members to attend the 2023 NC DKG State Convention in Greenville on April 28-30, 2023. A motion was made, seconded and approved that Gamma Chi Professional Development Grants be used to cover the registration, hotel and travel expenses of attendees. She and Shirley gave instructions for registering. Nancy also encouraged members to present sessions at the convention. The deadline for applying is February 15. There is a link in the state newsletter. Members should consider the NC DKG Leadership Seminar on March 23-26, 2023. Find a link in state publications. The seminar is limited to 30 participants, first come, first served.

The Norlina Group held the raffle with numerous winners of bountiful gift bags.

President Alston adjourned the meeting.

Respectively submitted, Betsy Clark, Recording Secretary

Active Members Present: Sylvia Alston, Mary Austell, Ginny Bernard, Diana Bobbitt, Crystal Brantley, Betsy Clark, Debra Clayton, Gail Coleman, Diane Colin, Aimee Cooper, Sallye Duncan, Linda Hall, Loree Harris, Mary Catherine Harris, Danylu Hundley, Jenny O'Meara, Sheila Robertson, Pattie Rodwell, Rachel Smith, Michele Stallings, Nancy Tunstall, Shirley White, and Patricia Williamson

Active Members Absent: Kirby Alston, Ashley Barnette, Kay Beaver, Lisa Bender, Kristen Boyd, Katrinka Brewer, Melanie Burnette, Brooke Callahan, Elaine Coleman, Jill Coleman, Shannon Fuller, Evelyn Hall, Brenda Holloman, Katy Jones, Laura Kearney, Donna Liles, Renee Mizelle, Tracy Neal, Norma Retzlaff, Chris Skinner, and Kathy Stewart

Reserve Member Present: Paula Aycock

Collegiate Member Present: Robin Edwards

Honorary Member Present: Josephine Myrick

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