



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Gamma Chi!

Did anyone make resolutions this past New Year, January 1, 2024? If so, have you broken any of those resolutions yet? I hope one of your resolutions that you will not break is to be at our Gamma Chi quarterly meetings. If you missed our Christmas meeting, just know that Sheila Robertson had the most fun of any of us there!

Hallelujah, Hallelujah! I heard today that we have members applying to take advantage of the opportunities of financial assistance with graduate programs, National Board Certification or student projects. Ladies, there are opportunities on the local, state, and national levels. Please check out all the NC DKG Education Foundation grant opportunities. What do you want to do? We will support you, if you don't know how to apply, ask. We can help!

There are many opportunities coming up to be involved in Gamma Chi. The first opportunity is our meeting on Thursday, March 7, at Littleton Baptist Church. Joining us will be Hilda Parlér, our NC DKG president. We look forward to her presence. She will be sharing all the new exciting and different things that are going to happen at our April state convention. It will surely be one to remember.

However, I think I am most looking forward to our main program—the music presentation of our fantastic duo, Diane Colin and Sallye Duncan. I hear through very good sources that they have something very special lined up for us. We want to make them very happy. They will when they see your smiling face at the meeting. Don't disappoint them by not being present.

My commitment to you remains the same! I will be respectful of your time by starting on time and ending on time.

(President's Message - continued on Page 2)



INSIDE CONTENTS

Gamma Chi News.....	2-3
NC DKG News.....	4
DKG News	4-5
Mystery Member	6
Visions/Themes/Websites	6
Dates to Remember (International, NC DKG, Gamma Chi).....	6
Gamma Chi Chapter December Minutes	7-8
Member Prospect Cards	9



MEETING NOTICE

Thursday, March 7, 2024

6:00 p.m. Gathering

6:15 p.m. Dinner



Littleton Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
104 Mosby Ave., Littleton, NC 27850

Cost: \$15.00

(Make checks payable to *Laura Kearney*)

Cut-Off Date: **Wednesday, February 28th**

(Note: you do not have to purchase dinner to attend the meeting. That is your choice.)

6:45 p.m. Program:

Music Presentation by Diane Colin & Sallye Duncan

7:00 p.m. **Comments by NC DKG President Hilda Parlér**

7:15 p.m. Business Meeting

Please respond to your Evite as soon

as possible and no later than February 28!

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



BRING TO THE MEETING:

- ☞ Money to buy \$1 raffle tickets
- ☞ Item for our convention basket for the silent auction at the convention; see page 4 for details
- ☞ 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 U.S. Fund for UNICEF 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, **Durham Rescue Mission**, please bring a check made out to Durham Rescue Center—see page 4 for details.

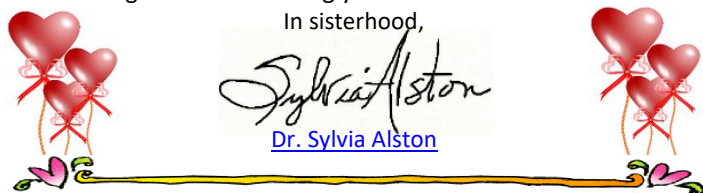


(President's Message - continued from Page 1)


So far, we have had no meetings beyond 8 p.m. and some have even ended a few minutes before the 8 p.m. hour. Our business will be taken care of efficiently and effectively. Please make a resolution and commit to being with us for our meeting in Littleton, March 7th, and every meeting.

Our sisterhood is about supporting all—especially those who are involved in training, educating and supporting educational development in whatever field your career led you. Look around you and see the women who are training, doing in-service in their company or industry and invite them to join this wonderful organization. Think about the young people going off to college and if they are planning to enter any field related to education, make sure they apply for our scholarship opportunities.

Looking forward to seeing you on March 7th in Littleton.



CONGRATULATIONS TO:

 **Brooke Callahan** on receiving a Bright Ideas grant from Halifax EMC for her project entitled "Calm Classes." Brooke is a Pre K-5 counselor at Vaughtan Elementary School.



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:

Aimee Cooper on the loss of her father, Danny R. Davis, and **Ashley Barnette** on the loss of her mother-in-law, Bettie Rudd Barnette. Please keep Aimee, Ashley and their families in your thoughts and prayers.



MEET OUR NC DKG PRESIDENT

Our guest for this meeting will be our 2023-2025 NC DKG president, Hilda Alston Parlér. Hilda, a member of Gamma Theta (Region III, Wake), was inducted into DKG in 2010. She was Gamma Tau's (Franklin County) president and recording secretary and chaired the Awards and Communications & Marketing committees. Hilda also served on Gamma Theta's Nominations Committee. She served as NC DKG recording secretary, second vice president and first vice president. Hilda served on the Awards and Minutes Approval committees at the state level and as a member of the NC DKG Educational Foundation Board of Directors.



Hilda Parlér

She lives in Louisburg and is retired from teaching middle school mathematics for 28 years in private and public schools and as a curriculum specialist. Hilda serves on the State Charter

Schools Advisory Board and is a founder and Board President of two charter schools.

She was elected Clubwoman of the Year and has served as president, second vice president, and secretary for the Wake Forest Woman's Club. She is a 2021 Wake Forest Black History Month Honoree for her community service. Please make every effort to be at the meeting and welcome Hilda to the Gamma Chi Chapter.

2024 GAMMA CHI NOMINEES FOR STATE AWARDS

The Awards Committee is very excited to present the Gamma Chi members who have been nominated for NC DKG Awards to be given on April 28 at the NC DKG Convention. The categories are Golden Key, Rising Star, and Beginning Teacher.



Gamma Chi Golden Key Award Nominee:

Norma Retzlaff. Norma has served DKG faithfully for almost 30 years in many different roles. During that time, she has worked tirelessly to promote its mission and purposes. As chair of the Beginning Teacher Support Committee, she works diligently to support our county's beginning teachers. She organizes our New Teacher Bag Project each year, making sure that all needed items are available at the bag stuffing and making sure that all bags are delivered to the county's new teachers. She treasures her membership in DKG, expressed in her regular attendance, enjoyment of her Gamma Chi Sisters, and willingness to help out in any position or situation. She is one of our most dedicated members.

Gamma Chi Rising Star Award Nominee:

Gail Coleman. Although Gail has only been a DKG member since 2018, she has involved herself in the activities of the chapter. When asked, she took over the chair position of the St. Paul's Hospitality Group Committee. She actively serves on the Beginning Teacher Support Committee. Last year she attended her first NC DKG Convention and assisted a workshop presenter. She is a quick study with excellent leadership skills.



Gamma Chi Beginning Teacher Award of

Excellence Nominee: Robin Edwards. Robin received our Josephine Myrick Grant-in-Aid three times while completing her teaching degree. While receiving the grant, she became a collegiate member of Gamma Chi. This year she began her teaching career as a Grade 4 Teacher



at Mariam Boyd Elementary School. About her first year of teaching she states, "Being a teacher is a lot more work than I anticipated it would be. During this time I have learned that perseverance is the key to getting through this first year of teaching." She further states, "As a beginning teacher, it is a little unclear why you deal with the chaos, until you see a child have the "aha" look. Then it is all worth it."

We are very proud of our three nominees for awards at the upcoming NC DKG Convention. The awards will be presented on April 28th at the Sunday Brunch. We hope that many of our members will be in attendance to encourage our nominees. Whether they are chosen or not, we know how deserving they are of these awards.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS DISTRIBUTED



Forty very age-appropriate books that were brought to our December meeting by our members were distributed to The Sugar N Spice Preschool by Danylu Hundley. They were very appreciative of our donation.

OUR NEW TREASURER



Due to health concerns, Shirley White has resigned as our treasurer after 40+ years of serving in this position. She has turned over her duties to her daughter, Debra Clayton, who has hit the ground running. Debra is a natural for this position with her business background. She has been a dedicated member of Gamma Chi for almost 17 years. She has held many positions over the years serving and chairing several committees including chairing the Finance Committee. She served as our president for two terms. She was one of the first members from across the state to be selected to receive the NC DKG Rising Star Award and she recently received the NC DKG Golden Key Award. Our financial matters could not be in better hands!

TREASURER'S REPORT

by Debra Clayton, Treasurer



At the December meeting, \$67.00 was collected from the meeting raffle; this will be used to help our local libraries and the NC DKG Educational Foundation. Other money received was \$180.00 for the afghan raffle; \$32.00, a gift card and some clothes for the Angel Tree; and \$150.85 for the World Fellowship Fund. The Gamma Chi Scholarship Fund received \$2,000.00 from the Blankenship family and \$719.00 from members.

Please remember that March is our usual time to collect for Schools for Africa. You can mail a check to me at 573 Ridgeway-Warrenton Rd., Norlina, NC 27563 if you are unable to attend the meeting. Please do not send cash through the mail. Thank you!



DUES PAYMENT PLAN

by Debra Clayton, Treasurer

Dues for the 2024-2025 fiscal year will be due no later than June 30. Our last meeting before the deadline is May 16. I would like to collect dues on 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 7 meeting.

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

1st payment - \$30.00 at the meeting on March 7th

2nd payment - \$30.00 mailed to me by April 7th

Final payment - \$25.00 at the meeting on May 16th

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 16th at the fourth meeting. This is assuming that the dues will remain \$85.00. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the amount should remain \$85.00. Any questions can be directed to our treasurer, Debra Clayton, at msdebrac@gmail.com. The April payment may be sent to Debra at 573 Ridgeway Warrenton Rd, 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 now available online for members. Among other articles, the January/February 2024 issue of *DKG News* contains the bios of candidates for the 2024-2026 biennium, tips on using the dkg.org sitemap and search bar, and a list of the 2023-2024 World Fellowship recipients. To view the publication, you must first login to the [DKG website](http://dkg.org) and then click [here](#).

Please check out the updated Gamma Chi website by clicking <http://deltakappagamma.org/NC-gammachi/>. View the home page 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 has been posted. Because of the personal information, the picture directory is not posted. Anybody not receiving her copy by email should request a copy from [Nancy Tunstall](#).

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 23**.

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 invite must inform Communications & Marketing Chair [Nancy Tunstall](#) by the cut-off date of **Wednesday, February 28th**. 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.

REGION III IS HOSTING THE CONVENTION



Our region, Region III, will be hosting the NC DKG Convention this year. We last hosted the convention in 2012. Region III includes nine chapters in Warren, Vance, Franklin, Wake and Johnston Counties. Each chapter in Region III will be responsible for a specific task(s). Gamma Chi is in charge of the silent auction consisting of baskets from each chapter. Each chapter is charged with creating a basket(s) filled with items contributed by chapter members. The proceeds of the silent auction goes to the Pauline Longest Leadership Development Fund and helps NC DKG provide a Leadership Seminar for members every other year.

It will be our duty to display the baskets and keep a watchful eye on the baskets. When they are not on display, we will need to place the baskets in a secure location that will be locked. ***Those members who go to the convention will need to check Silent Auction Baskets under Volunteer Opportunities when filling out your registration form.***



Pictured to the left are our two baskets from the 2012 state convention. You will be asked to bring an item(s) for our 2024 basket. In 2012, we had so many items that we ended up with two baskets. One of the baskets was entitled "A Taste of Warren County" and the other basket "Treasures from Warren County." The baskets contained a variety of items such as books by Warren County authors, books about Warren County, items made in Warren County, Warren County cookbooks, homemade foods such as pickles and jellies, and many other items. What unique item will you bring?

NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER FOR THE NC DKG CONVENTION



Registration is open for the 2024 NC DKG Convention scheduled for April 26-28. We have already reserved four rooms with 2 queen beds each at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel Raleigh-Durham Airport at Research Triangle Park, pictured above. It is approximately a one hour drive from Warren County. Registration for the convention is being done online using the Google Form found by clicking [here](#). 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.

The chapter plans to pay the registration and hotel fees for the attendees. However, food and transportation costs should be paid by the attendees unless this is your first state convention. In that case all your expenses will be paid by the chapter.

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.) You will need to know the year you were

inducted (the year is on your picture directory or email [Nancy Tunstall](#) to find out). The registration fee is \$45.00 (\$35.00 for beginning teachers) 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 and a check made out to Gamma Chi for your food options (Banquet, \$50.00; Brunch, \$30.00, if so desired).
- At the meeting give your registration invoice and check to Treasurer Debra Clayton so that she can write one check to cover all 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 hotel and registration expenses.

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

2024 NC DKG CONVENTION PROJECT



The 2024 NC DKG Convention Project is the Durham Rescue Mission, NC's oldest and largest long-term homeless shelter, providing food, clothing, permanent supportive housing, vocational training, Biblical counseling, job placement, education, accountability and much more for hundreds of broken men, women and children of Durham, Chapel Hill and Raleigh. The mission offers a solution to homelessness and addiction that goes beyond just meeting basic needs.

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 *Durham Rescue Mission* with the memo line reading *2024 NC DKG Convention Project*. These donations will be taken to the convention.

SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVE FOR CONVENTION



Peggy Jonas
Finance Director

Our NC DKG's Society Representative at the spring convention will be Peggy Jonas, the Finance Director at DKG headquarters in Austin, Texas. She will be our speaker on Saturday evening and do a session on Saturday afternoon. She will bring greetings and an update from international.

SCHOOLS FOR AFRICA



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

ANNOUNCING THE BURSTING THE BUBBLE CAMPAIGN



What does this bubble graphic represent?

Why should DKG members have a thorough knowledge of this graphic?

How can this knowledge impact the future of DKG?

The 'Bursting the Bubble' campaign is a multi-month marketing campaign designed to showcase opportunities through DKG. Each circle (bubble) in the graphic represents an opportunity or benefit of membership in the Society. The campaign will take a deep dive into each bubble and will include multimedia resources for marketing DKG within and beyond the Society.

Watch for the first "bursting the bubble" feature on or about March 1 and then twice a month to follow as the campaign intentionally bursts the bubbles of opportunities through DKG.

(Taken from the [DKGSI Blog](#), February 1, 2024.)



EMPOWERING EDUCATORS: WHY ATTEND THE 2024 DKG INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION?



NC delegates at the 2012 DKG International Convention in NY attended by our members Nancy Tunstall (circled in red, left) and Shirley White (circled in red, right)

Registration and schedule information is being finalized now for the 2024 DKG International Convention which will take place July 9th-13th in National Harbor, Maryland. Convention attendees will enjoy the lovely accommodations at the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center. Members choosing air travel will find Reagan Washington National Airport closest to this venue.

Knowing location and date details is important, but why should our members consider taking time and spending money to attend? This is a question that has been voiced by members during discussions with DKG Leadership. While being cognizant of the concerns, it is important to note that there is a long list of reasons why our members should make attending an International Convention a priority. The first reason comes in the last sentence. We are an international organization and the best way to accomplish business is by bringing members from around the globe together. DKG promotes and uses technology to provide virtual meeting opportunities, but that never compares to having people in one room together. For those that have attended an International event, they will share stories of seeing old friends, who were met solely by attending a conference or convention.

In even numbered years, such as 2024, elections and constitutional amendments will be voted upon. Currently, only convention attendees are able to vote. Without members in attendance, important decisions are made by a small percentage of members. Our leadership, our goals, possibly even our name are determined by those "in the room."

Well known speakers, along with many of our colleagues, present information on a plethora of topics. For new educators, retired educators, and everyone in between, there are opportunities for personal and professional growth.

As a final encouragement to consider, DKG is about our past, our present and our future. Our founders and early members understood that bringing members together was good for the organization and because of that we grew. Presently, we have about 50,000 women who believe that membership in DKG is good for education. Our members are making a difference in the lives of women and children around the world. Active involvement at the Chapter, State and International levels will secure our future so that DKG can continue to maintain our seven purposes for key women educators in the years and hopefully decades to come.

(Taken from the [DKGSI Blog](#), January 23, 2024.)

MYSTERY MEMBER

by Nancy Tunstall, Editor



Here is the hint for this newsletter's mystery member. *While operating her own business, she was approached by the Warren County High School principal to apply for a vacancy and was hired. Thus, her teaching career began! She has since moved up to an administrative position. She is very active in DKG and has received state awards. 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](mailto:Nancy.Tunstall@dkg.org) 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

2023-2025 NC DKG THEME

Recruit! Retain! Recognize!
NC DKG Forever Strong!

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)

Voices of Influence Empowering
North Carolina Women Educators

Please submit events, celebrations, recognitions and news to:

Editor/Webmaster: [Nancy Tunstall](mailto:Nancy.Tunstall@dkg.org)



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/>

DATES TO REMEMBER—DKG INTERNATIONAL

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| May 1 | Deadline for DKGIEF Cornetet Individual Professional Development Awards (other deadline: November 1) |
| May 11 | DKG's Founders Day (DKG will be 95!) |
| May 15 | New chapter officers report due |
| May 15 | Deadline to submit to the <i>Bulletin: Journal</i> |
| July 9-13 | DKG International Convention, Gaylord National, National Harbor, Maryland |
| 2026 | |
| June 30-July 4 | DKG International Convention, Gaylord Rockies, Aurora, Colorado |

DATES TO REMEMBER—NC DKG

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| April 26-28 | NC DKG Convention, Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Durham, NC (hosted by Region III) |
| May 1 | Deadline to submit to the <i>NC DKG News</i> |

DATES TO REMEMBER—GAMMA CHI

- | | |
|----------|--|
| March 7 | 3rd Gamma Chi Meeting , Littleton Baptist Church. Littleton (Littleton Group hostesses) |
| April 23 | Deadline to submit to the <i>Gamma Chi Newsletter</i> |
| May 7 | Gamma Chi's Founders Day (we'll be 41!) |
| May 16 | 4th Gamma Chi Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ridgeway (St. Paul's Group hostesses) |
| May 16 | Dues due to Debra Clayton (\$85 Active, \$45 Reserve) |



GAMMA CHI CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 7, 2023

The Gamma Chi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, hosted by the Norlina Group, met at Wise Baptist Church on December 7, 2023. As members arrived, they mingled and took care of various responsibilities. Before the membership enjoyed dinner, President, Dr. Sylvia Alston returned thanks with an inspirational prayer and blessing. The delicious meal was prepared by women of Wise Baptist Church. Members applauded the meal of pork tenderloin with Marsala sauce, chicken tenderloins, creamed potatoes, string beans, congealed cranberry pecan salad, deviled eggs, pickled figs, rolls, iced tea, coffee, coconut cake, and chocolate mocha cake.

Following the meal, President Dr. Sylvia Alston explained the rules of the meeting's program, Dirty Santa/Chinese Gift Exchange. The membership laughed and cried as gifts were chosen, opened, stolen, stolen again and again and finally claimed as one's own.

President Alston called the meeting to order, and Recording Secretary Betsy Clark reported a quorum with 24 members present. One guest was in attendance. Minutes of the September 7, 2023, meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter. Debra Clayton presented the treasurer's report due to the absence of Shirley White. The report of a checking account balance of \$5,033.78 and a savings account balance of \$2,954.09 was approved.

Corresponding Secretary Evelyn Hall reported sending the following cards since the last meeting. A Thinking of You card was sent to Sharon West in the last days of her illness and a sympathy card was sent to her husband, Scott West, and family following her death. Sympathy cards were sent to Loree Harris on the death of her sister-in-law, Audrey Johnston, to Michele Stallings on the death of her father-in-law, Robert Stallings, and to Aimee Cooper on the death of her father, Danny Davis. Receiving Thinking of You and Get Well cards were Shirley White who suffers chronic pain, Josephine Myrick who recently had a heart procedure in the hospital, and Katrinka Brewer who has had back surgery. Nancy Tunstall read correspondence from Richard Blankenship and reported the receipt of the Blankenship's annual donation of \$2,000.00 in honor of Richard and Catherine's mother Nancy Blankenship to Gamma Chi's Scholarship Fund.

During recognitions, President Alston presented birthday tokens to members born in October, November, and December. Dr. Alston was the mystery member. She also gave special recognition to members who are active educators: Kirby Alston, Ashley Barnette, Lisa Bender, Kristen Boyd, Melanie Burnette, Brooke Callahan, Debra Clayton, Emmy Coleman, Gail Coleman, Jill Coleman, Diane Colin, Sara Council, Sallye Duncan, Robin Edwards, Shannon Fuller, Renee Mizelle, Tracy Neal, Jenny O'Meara, Trina Paynter, Norma Retzlaff, Sheila Robertson, Pattie Rodwell, Chris Skinner, Rachel Smith, Michele Stallings, Hailey Stroud, and Patricia Williamson. Each received a note pad and a Pay Day candy bar.

Dr. Alston encouraged members to participate in the NC DKG Convention. Our region is hosting the event in Durham April 26-28. Gamma Chi is responsible for the silent auction baskets provided by the Region III chapters.

President Alston called for committee reports.

Beginning Teacher Support Committee Chair Norma Retzlaff reported that the Global Teachers continue to express their gratitude for Gamma Chi's support. During American Education Week in November, the committee distributed twenty bags to beginning teachers. Supplies are on hand for six or seven bags for incoming teachers as they are hired.

Nominations Committee Chair Ashley Barnette was absent. A slate of officers for 2024-26 biennium will be presented at the March 2024 meeting. Nancy Tunstall encouraged members to find the Recommendation Form on the Gamma Chi website and sign on to be an officer or to recommend another member.

Scholarship Committee Chair Betsy Clark encouraged members to fill out contribution forms and honor or memorialize someone with a contribution to the scholarship fund. She reported that she already has an applicant for the member scholarship and has two likely applicants for grants-in-aid. Active educators are needed on the committee.

World Fellowship Representative Loree Harris joyfully announced that members contributed \$150.85 to the World Fellowship Fund.

Membership Committee Chair Aimee Cooper presented Teresa Abbott, recommended by Sheila Robertson, as a new member candidate. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept Teresa Abbott as a Gamma Chi member.

Sallye Duncan, reporting for the Music Committee, said that Diane Colin had a schedule conflict and could not attend the meeting. She promised a seasonal music program at the March meeting.

Afghan Committee Chair Danylu Hundley reported \$315.00 collected from raffle ticket sales. She encouraged members to sell enough tickets to raise sufficient funds to cover the \$1,000.00 member scholarship.

President Alston asked for reports on sick and reserved members. Josephine Myrick, recovering after a heart procedure, Kay Beaver and Katrinka Brewer, recuperating from surgeries, and Shirley White, with pancreatitis, were mentioned.

During new business Nancy Tunstall brought up the 2024 NC DKG Convention April 26-28 in Durham. She suggested members bring a donation to support the convention project, Durham Rescue Mission, to the March meeting. She asked for a show of hands of those planning to attend and suggested reserving at least three rooms, maybe four. She encouraged members to do a workshop at the convention. Proposals are due February 15. Dr. Alston asked that Gamma Chi be well-represented at the convention.

Danylu Hundley and the Norlina Group conducted the raffle, distributing various items to lucky winners.

After calling for a round of applause for the Norlina Group's work and hosting duties and closing with inspirational thoughts about the Christmas season, President Alston adjourned the meeting.

Active Members Present: Sylvia Alston, Mary Austell, Ginny Bernard, Melanie Burnette, Betsy Clark, Debra Clayton, Gail Coleman, Aimee Cooper, Sara Council, Sallye Duncan, Evelyn Hall, Linda Hall, Loree Harris, Danylu Hundley, Katy Jones, Donna Liles, Renee Mizelle, Norma Retzlaff, Sheila Robertson, Pattie Rodwell, Chris Skinner, Rachel Smith, Kathy Stewart, and Nancy Tunstall

Active Members Absent: Kirby Alston, Ashley Barnette, Kay Beaver, Lisa Bender, Diana Bobbitt, Crystal Brantley, Katrinka Brewer, Brooke Callahan, Elaine Coleman, Jill Coleman, Diane Colin, Shannon Fuller, Mary Catherine Harris, Brenda Holloman, Laura Kearney, Tracy Neal, Jenny O'Meara, Michele Stallings, Shirley White, and Patricia Williamson

Collegiate Member Present: Robin Edwards

Collegiate Member Absent: Hailey Stroud

Guest Present: Teresa Abbott

Respectfully Submitted,
Betsy Clark, Recording Secretary

DKG Prospect Card

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Employer _____

Position _____

Phone _____

Sponsor _____

DKG Prospect Card

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Employer _____

Position _____

Phone _____

Sponsor _____