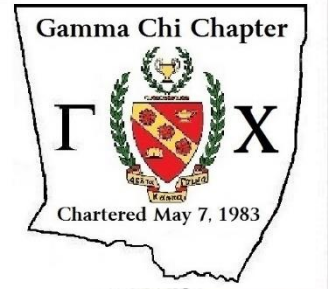




# Gamma Chi Newsletter

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



Volume XXX, Issue 3

Good Friends! Good Work! Good Times!  
Gamma Chi Forever Strong!

January/February/March 2025

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



### Greetings Gamma Chi Sisters!

I hope each of you had a wonderful holiday season. I know we started the season off right with our December meeting. It was wonderful seeing everyone, the food was delicious, the entertainment perfect (Thank you again Diane and Sallye), and the gift exchange and raffle items—it WAS like Christmas! Our regional director, Dr. Carol Maidon, wrote to say how much she enjoyed being a part of our Gamma Chi holiday celebration. She had a bit of trouble finding us because the I-85 exit sign for Wise has changed. Thank goodness she made it and gave a wonderful and informative talk about our upcoming convention. Thank you so much, Danylu and the Norlina group; you continue to outdo yourselves. Oh, I almost forgot “Santa.” I know that he certainly was good to me this year after I spoke with him at our dinner. I told him that all of you had been very good also. I hope it helped!

Our upcoming meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup> will be at the early beginning of spring. It is hard to believe, with snow on the ground as I write this, that spring is on the way. However, today the sun did not set at 5:00. The days are getting a little longer and soon the weather will begin to change yet again. Thank goodness we live here in North Carolina and are able to enjoy the seasons. Our March meeting should be amazing. I look forward to seeing all of you in Littleton. We have so much business to discuss and your input is important and valuable. I also understand that there will be a bit of Irish entertainment and from what I hear, it will be even better than last year. That is hard to imagine and something to look forward to! I will be bringing a little project for you to enjoy that has to do with “Luck.” We can all use more of that. The Littleton group does a wonderful job of

*(President’s Message - continued on Page 2)*



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## MEETING NOTICE

Thursday, March 6, 2025  
6:00 p.m. Gathering  
6:15 p.m. Dinner

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

Menu: soup, salad and dessert bar; Cost: \$15.00  
(Make checks payable to *Laura Kearney*)

Cut-Off Date: **Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**

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

6:45 p.m. Program:

**Irish-Themed Entertainment**

**by Jim Hogan, Diane Colin & Sallye Duncan**

7:15 p.m. Business Meeting

**Please respond to your Evite as soon as possible and no later than March 1!**

(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, **The GIRLS Fund**; to receive a tax deduction, make your check to UNICEF USA and on the memo line put: GIRLS Fund – NC Gamma Chi Chapter; see page 3 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, **Safe Alliance**, please bring a check made out to Safe Alliance (tax deductible)—see page 3 for details.






*(President's Message - continued from Page 1)*

hosting each year, and I am looking forward to enjoying their hospitality.

I look forward to seeing you at our meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup> in Littleton.

**Good friends! Good works! Good times! Gamma Chi, forever strong!**

In sisterhood,





  
  
[Sheila Robertson](#)

### 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!!!**

### CONGRATULATIONS TO:

-  **Brooke Callahan** on receiving a Bright Ideas education grant for "Calm Classrooms."
-  **Debra Clayton** on the birth of her granddaughter, Raelynn Rose King, to son Hamilton and his wife Anna King. Raelynn was born January 5 weighing 7 lb. 4 oz. and she was 19 inches long.
-  **Diane Colin** on receiving a Bright Ideas education grant for "Happy Jammin' Around the World."
-  **Chris Skinner** on receiving National Board Certification in Early Middle Childhood Literacy.



### TREASURER'S REPORT

by Debra Clayton, Treasurer



At the December meeting, \$72.00 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 \$132.00 for the afghan raffle and \$127.00 for the World Fellowship Fund. The Gamma Chi Scholarship Fund received \$3,000.00 from the Blankenship family and \$525.00 from members.

Please remember that at our March meeting, we will collect monies for UNICEF's "Girls Initiative to Revitalize Learning and Success" (GIRLS) Fund. This is a new DKG International project. Please read about it in the article on page 3. 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!



Thank You

### DUES PAYMENT PLAN

by Debra Clayton, Treasurer

Dues for the 2025-2026 fiscal year will be due no later than June 30. Our last meeting before the deadline is May 15. 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 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

1<sup>st</sup> payment - \$30.00 at the meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup>

2<sup>nd</sup> payment - \$30.00 mailed to me by April 6<sup>th</sup>

Final payment - \$25.00 at the meeting on May 15<sup>th</sup>

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 15<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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* has been posted to the DKG website. The main article highlights a service of the Leadership Discovery Centre that provides a platform where virtual sessions can be planned and hosted to provide opportunities for more members to participate. To view the publication, you must first login to the [DKG website](#) 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. Anyone 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 21**.

### 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 **Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>**. 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.

**NOW IS THE TIME TO REGISTER  
FOR THE NC DKG CONVENTION**



Registration is open for the 2025 NC DKG Convention scheduled for April 25-27. We have already reserved four rooms with 2 double beds each at the Hilton Charlotte University Place, Charlotte, pictured above.

It is approximately a three hour drive from Warren County, and it is just off of I 85 this side of Charlotte. 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 \$60.00 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 and a check made out to Gamma Chi for your food options (Continental Breakfast, Banquet, and/or Brunch, 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!

**2025 NC DKG CONVENTION PROJECT**



The 2025 NC DKG Convention Project is Safe Alliance, whose

mission is to provide hope and healing to those impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault.

Even if you are not attending the convention, you can still help out. Please bring donations to our March meeting to support this project. For a tax deduction, checks may be made out to *Safe Alliance* with the memo line reading *2025 NC DKG Convention Project*. These donations will be taken to the convention.

**THE GIRLS FUND**



Partnered with UNICEF USA since 1997, DKG is currently supporting educational access for girls in Africa through UNICEF's "Girls Initiative to Revitalize Learning and Success" (GIRLS) Fund.

Previously DKG supported the UNICEF Schools for Africa program for 12 years, raising over **\$600,000** to provide education to children in 21 priority countries. DKG has also supported [UNICEF education and literacy](#) programs in Central America, Gambia and Afghanistan, including raising over **\$200,000** for programs in Afghanistan.

Launched in response to the setbacks caused by COVID-19, the **GIRLS Fund** works to bolster girls' education in Africa. This fund provides flexible financial support to address critical barriers to girls' education and strengthen global expertise in this field. By focusing on secondary education, the **GIRLS Fund** aims to help all girls *complete their schooling, acquire essential life skills, and challenge harmful social norms.*

The **GIRLS Fund** addresses several key areas to improve girls' education. These aim to better understand and overcome barriers faced by out-of-school girls, expand access through various interventions, and improve learning pathways and quality of education. Additionally, the GIRLS Fund ensures schools provide a supportive environment for girls, addressing their overall well-being through health and nutrition services. The GIRLS Fund also drives advocacy and leadership, ensuring that governments and stakeholders are committed to accelerating educational outcomes for girls.

The initiative aims to:

- 1) **get a better understanding** of the current barriers and bottlenecks facing girls in Africa;
- 2) **address harmful social norms** that impede prosperity of girls;
- 3) **deploy technology** to accelerate results in girls' education;
- 4) **mount global advocacy and leadership** through a Global Platform; and
- 5) **develop a Technical Advisory Panel (TAP)** to tap into expertise on gender equality and women's empowerment and change the trajectory of learning and earning outcomes for girls and young women.

*Together, we can guarantee the next generation a better life than the last.*

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: *GIRLS, DKG – NC Gamma Chi Chapter*.



**MYSTERY MEMBER**

by Nancy Tunstall, Editor

Here is the hint for this newsletter’s mystery member. *She has the distinction of being born on Valentine’s Day. She has held educational positions in Warren, Vance and Franklin Counties. She has attended many state conventions and she is very active in DKG, both in the chapter and at the state level.* 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**

**2023-2025 NC DKG THEME**  
*Recruit! Retain! Recognize!*  
**NC DKG Forever Strong!**

**2024-2026 GAMMA CHI THEME**  
*Good Friends! Good Work! Good Times!*  
**Gamma Chi Forever Strong!**

**DKG VISION STATEMENT**  
*Leading Women Educators*  
**Impacting Education Worldwide**

**NC DKG VISION (VIEW) STATEMENT**  
*Voices of Influence Empowering*  
**North Carolina Women Educators**

Please submit events, celebrations, recognitions and news to:  
 Editor/Webmaster: [Nancy Tunstall](#)



<b>DATES TO REMEMBER—DKG INTERNATIONAL</b>	
March 1	Deadline to submit to the <i>Bulletin: Journal</i>
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 95!)
May 15	Deadline to submit to the <i>Bulletin: Journal</i>
July 29-Aug. 2	DKG International Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana
<b>2026</b>	
June 30-July 4	DKG International Convention, Gaylord Rockies, Aurora, Colorado

<b>DATES TO REMEMBER—NC DKG</b>	
March 1	ROSE, Golden Key, Rising Star, Beginning Teacher and Communications Excellence forms due
March 21-23	NC DKG Leadership Seminar, Asheboro, NC
April 25-27	NC DKG Convention, Hilton Charlotte University Place, Charlotte, NC
May 1	Deadline to submit to the <i>NC DKG News</i>

<b>DATES TO REMEMBER—GAMMA CHI</b>	
March 6	<b>3rd Gamma Chi Meeting</b> , Littleton Baptist Church. Littleton (Littleton Group hostesses)
April 21	Deadline to submit to the <i>Gamma Chi Newsletter</i>
May 7	Gamma Chi’s Founders Day (we’ll be 42!)
May 15	<b>4th Gamma Chi Meeting</b> , St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Ridgeway (St. Paul’s Group hostesses)
May 15	Dues due to Debra Clayton (\$85 Active, \$45 Reserve)

**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/>



## **GAMMA CHI CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 5, 2024**

The Gamma Chi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, hosted by the Norlina Group, met at Wise Baptist Church Fellowship Hall on December 5, 2024. Members socialized and took care of various financial responsibilities prior to the tasty meal. President Sheila Robertson distributed a handout with pictorial representations of 24 Christmas songs as a challenge for members to complete, with prizes for best results. Mary Catherine Harris offered a blessing before dinner was served. The Women of Wise Baptist Church catered a dinner of pork, chicken, cranberry salad, mashed potatoes, string beans, deviled eggs, rolls, desserts and beverages. Members gave them an appreciative round of applause for the delicious dinner.

After dinner, entertainment was provided by members Diane Colin on flute and Sallye Duncan on the keyboard. The talented duo presented a Christmas medley of beautiful selections. President Robertson presented each one with a rose in appreciation of the musical program.

Following the musical interlude, President Robertson introduced guest speaker Dr. Carol Maidon who currently serves as NC DKG Region III Director. Dr. Maidon brought greetings from the state organization and encouraged members to make plans to attend the upcoming state convention in April 2025 in Charlotte. She mentioned that the convention has been revamped to offer more fun ways for members to socialize and connect. After the remarks, Robertson presented Dr. Maidon with a red rose of appreciation and a card stating that the chapter was donating to the NC DKG Educational Foundation in her honor.

More fun ensued with the "Nice Santa" exchange of holiday gifts brought by the members. A jingling of Christmas bells was heard, signaling the approach and entrance of Santa Claus (Steve Young). Santa distributed a gift to each member and wished everyone a Merry Christmas before taking his leave.

President Robertson called the meeting to order. Recording Secretary Evelyn Hall stated that the 28 members present constituted a quorum. There was one guest in attendance. The minutes of the September meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter. Treasurer Debra Clayton reported a checking account balance of \$2,471.19 and a savings account balance of \$6,248.02. The report was approved.

Corresponding Secretary Gail Coleman had sent sympathy cards to members of the Blankenship family after the death of their family member, Lucy Menefee. She also read a note of thanks from Jenny O'Meara for the card she received after the loss of her mother-in-law. Nancy Tunstall shared correspondence from Richard Blankenship and reported the receipt of the Blankenship Family's annual donation of \$3,000.00 in honor of Richard and Catherine's mother Nancy Blankenship to Gamma Chi's Scholarship Fund.

President Robertson recognized October, November, and December birthdays with a gift choice of adult coloring book or various word find, puzzles, along with sharpened, colored pencils. She also announced that the Mystery Member is Loree Harris.

Sheila Robertson's President's Report encouraged members to plan to attend and be involved in the NC DKG Convention in Charlotte on April 25 – 27, 2025.

Beginning Teacher Support Chair Norma Retzlaff reported that the chapter prepared and delivered gift bags to 20 new teachers in the Warren County Schools system during American Education Week in November. Each teacher received three bags of supplies. She also indicated that additional school supplies are available for incoming teachers as more new employees are hired.

Membership Committee Chair Jenny O'Meara reported that an informational session and social to share chapter details for potential new members will be held on January 14, 2025. The goal is to recruit six new members.

Scholarship Committee Chair Betsy Clark encouraged members pursuing graduate studies to apply for the Gamma Chi Scholarship, as well as those offered by NC DKG and DKG. Deadlines are January 18 and February 1, respectively. She also encouraged members who had not already done so to complete contribution forms and honor or memorialize someone with a contribution to the scholarship fund. Completed forms should be directed to Debra Clayton, Treasurer. Chair Clark reported that \$475 was collected during the meeting.

World Fellowship Representative Loree Harris joyfully announced that members contributed \$122.00 to the World Fellowship Fund.

Afghan Committee Chair Danylu Hundley reported \$132.00 collected from raffle ticket sales.

President Robertson asked for reports on sick and reserve members. Donna Liles, with knee and back pain, Melanie Burnette, with back pain, and Rachel Smith, were mentioned.

There was no unfinished business.

During new business, Nancy Tunstall brought up the 2025 NC DKG Convention April 25-27 in Charlotte. She suggested members bring a donation to support the convention project, Safe Alliance, an organization in the Charlotte area that provides hope and healing to those impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault, to the March meeting. She asked for a show of hands of those planning to attend and suggested reserving at least three rooms and that Gamma Chi Professional Development grants be used to help with registration, room, and gas costs. She encouraged members to present a workshop at the convention and noted that the proposal deadline, via Google form, is February 15.

President Robertson adjourned the meeting after wishing a happy holiday season to all in attendance.

Danylu Hundley and Norlina group members conducted the raffle and distributed numerous gifts to fortunate ticket holders.

Respectfully submitted,  
Evelyn Hall, Recording Secretary

**Active Members Present:** Teresa Abbott, Kirby Alston, Dr. Sylvia Alston, Ginny Bernard, Crystal Brantley, Katrinka Brewer, Betsy Clark, Debra Clayton, Gail Coleman, Diane Colin, Aimee Anderson Cooper, Sara Council, Sallye Duncan, Robin Edwards, Shannon Fuller, Evelyn Hall, Linda Hall, Loree Harris, Mary Catherine Harris, Danylu Hundley, Katy Jones, Renee Mizelle, Jenny O’Meara, Norma Retzlaff, Sheila Robertson, Nancy Tunstall, and Patricia Williamson

**Active Members Absent:** Diana Bobbitt, Melanie Burnette, Brooke Callahan, Elaine Coleman, Jill Coleman, Brenda Holloman, Laura Kearney, Donna Liles, Pattie Rodwell, Chris Skinner, Rachel Smith, Michele Stallings and Kathy Stewart

**Honorary Member Present:** Josephine Myrick

**Guest Present:** Dr. Carol Maidon

## DKG Prospect Card

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

## DKG Prospect Card

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_