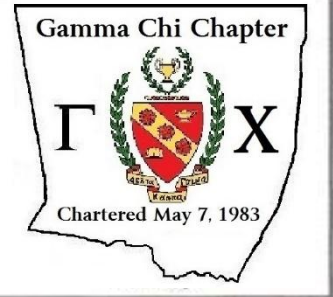




# Gamma Chi Newsletter

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



Volume XXXI, Issue 4

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

April/May/June 2026

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



### Greetings Gamma Chi Sisters!

Hello everyone. Can you believe that we will soon be having our May meeting? Our March gathering seems like it was just last week. As always, our Littleton group did an outstanding job of hosting. The Saint Patrick's

Day themed decorations were wonderful. The beautiful early blooming flowers at each table made each of us remember that spring was just around the corner. The soups, sandwiches, and salads were delicious, and the desserts—YUM! Thank you Littleton group for all you did to make our gathering a success. We also enjoyed having several members of our neighboring Alpha Kappa Chapter join us. Thank everyone for making them feel welcome.

Tamara Small, the manager of our local farmers market, presented a really great program about the market. I learned many new things about the history, programs and upcoming relocation and improvements. I can't wait for the market to reopen. I have information from the presentation for anyone who might be interested.

Please make sure to read the minutes from our business meeting if you were unable to attend in Littleton. Our committee chairs had a lot of important information to share with us concerning our chapter's ongoing activities. Thank you committees and chairs for your hard work.

As I write this, the DKG state convention is coming up in just a couple of weeks. I am proud to report that we will have nine of our chapter members representing Gamma Chi in New Bern. I

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



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## MEETING NOTICE



Thursday, May 14, 2026  
**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
114 Poplar Mount Road, Norlina, NC 27563

Dinner will consist of ham, pasta salad, marinated carrots, spinach salad, rolls and lemonade. Catered by Kim Hunt Boyd - Cost: \$15.00. (Make checks payable to Gamma Chi and write Meal in the memo line or please try to have the correct change.)

**Cut-Off Date: Wednesday, April 29<sup>th</sup> (must pay for meal after that date regardless of attendance)**

- 6:00 p.m. Social Hour
- 6:15 p.m. Presentation of Grants & Scholarship
- 6:30 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. Induction of New Members
- 7:15 p.m. Business Meeting
- 7:45 p.m. Installation of Officers

**Please respond to your Evite as soon as possible and no later than April 29<sup>th</sup>!**

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

(St. Paul's Group will need to bring items for the raffle.)

## BRING TO THE MEETING:

- ☞ Money to buy \$1 raffle tickets
- ☞ Turn in your money, stubs and unsold tickets for the afghan raffle. Drawing will be held. You do not have to be present to win. You can still purchase tickets up to the time of the drawing. Tickets are priced at \$3.00 each.
- ☞ Dues: \$85.00 for active members, \$45.00 for reserve members
- ☞ Completed Gamma Chi Member Excellence Award form at the end of the newsletter or click [here](#) for the form

## BIRTHDAY PRESENTS



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

## CONDOLENCES TO:

**Loree Harris** on the loss of her brother, J.D. Strickland, and **Nancy Tunstall** on the loss of her son, Marcus Tunstall. Please keep Loree, Nancy and their families in your thoughts and prayers.



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

wish that all of you could be there. We are expecting to receive several well deserved awards for our chapter. I will give those of you who are unable to attend more details at our upcoming meeting.





Our May meeting in Ridgeway is always such an important and celebratory time each year. I hope that I will see each of you there. Although I may not get the opportunity to speak with each of you at every meeting, I want you to know how much I admire and appreciate you. Your attendance at our meetings is so important. We miss you when you are not there to offer your wisdom and friendship. **YOU** make Gamma Chi forever strong!

In sisterhood,

[Sheila Robertson](#)



**TO:**

-  **Melanie Burnette** on her upcoming retirement on June 30.
-  **Diane Colin** on her upcoming retirement on May 24.
-  **Josie Myrick** on her upcoming 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 18.
-  **Nancy Tunstall** on her selection to the Board of Directors of the NC DKG Educational Foundation.

**MEET OUR NEW OFFICERS**

The following slate of officers for the 2026-2028 biennium have been approved. They will be installed at our May meeting.



**President Sheila Robertson**

Inducted: May 2016  
Warrenton Group



**First Vice President Earline Clanton**

Inducted: July 2025  
Norlina Group



**Second Vice President Norma Retzlaff**

Inducted: October 1994  
St. Paul's Group



**Recording Secretary Melanie Burnette**

Inducted: October 2003  
St. Paul's Group



**Corresponding Secretary Evelyn Hall**

Inducted: May 2014  
Warrenton Group



**Treasurer Debra Clayton**

Inducted: May 2007  
St. Paul's Group



**Parliamentarian Nancy Tunstall**

Inducted: May 1999  
Norlina Group

**2026 GAMMA CHI GRANT & SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

*by Betsy Clark, Scholarship Committee Chair*

Our chapter should be proud of the selections they made for our 2026 grants-in-aid and professional development grants, and a scholarship.



**Macie Elyse Fleming** is completing her freshman year at East Carolina University, where she is an honor student. She enjoys babysitting primary-aged children. Macie desires a career in kindergarten, first grade or second grade classes where she will foster a climate where the child is more important than the student. She will be receiving a \$1,000 Gamma Chi Nancy Blankenship Grant-in-Aid.

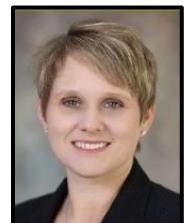
**Lucia Edwards** is married and has three children. She is completing her first semester at Vance-Granville Community College in the Associate Degree program. She is currently employed as a teaching assistant at Vaughan Elementary School. She desires to earn an Early Childhood degree and become the teacher who provides a "home" for children. She will be receiving a \$1,000 Gamma Chi Nancy Blankenship Grant-in-Aid.



**Kelsi L. Aycock** has completed her Associate Degree at Vance-Granville Community College and has entered the University of North Carolina Pembroke. She is employed as teaching assistant at Kerr-Vance Academy. She desires a career in kindergarten and first grade classrooms where she can be a kind, patient, creative teacher to students who struggle academically. She will be receiving a \$1,000 Gamma Chi Shirley White Grant-in-Aid.



**Sara Council**, a member of Gamma Chi, is married and has three children. She is the Director of Student Services for the Roanoke Rapids Graded School System. She graduated from Barton College in 2009 and began her Doctor of Nursing Practice at Western Carolina University in June 2025. She desires to advance school-based health initiatives that



address health disparities, improve access to care, and create sustainable funding models for school nursing services. She will be receiving a \$1,000 Josephine Myrick Member Scholarship.

Several members are recipients of Gamma Chi Nancy Blankenship Professional Development Grants. They will receive these grants to help defray the cost of attending the NC DKG Convention. They are Debra Clayton, Gail Coleman, Diane Colin, Sara Council, Evelyn Hall, Norma Retzlaff, Heather Sharp and Nancy Tunstall.

### 2026 GAMMA CHI NOMINEES FOR STATE AWARDS

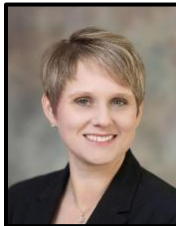
The Awards Committee is very excited to present the Gamma Chi members who have been nominated for NC DKG Awards to be given on April 19 at the NC DKG Convention.



**Gamma Chi Golden Key Award Nominee: Evelyn Hall.** Evelyn has served DKG faithfully for almost 12 years in many different roles. In that short period of time, she has worked tirelessly to promote its mission and purposes. At the chapter level, she has served two terms as president, and she has chaired the Nominations and Planning Committees. She has also served as corresponding secretary and recording secretary. On the state level, she has attended many conventions and has chaired the NC DKG Nominations Committee. On the international level, she was chosen to attend the 2018 Leadership Management Seminar held every two years in Austin, Texas. 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:

**Sara Council.** Although Sara has only been a DKG member since 2023, she has involved herself in the activities of the chapter. When asked, she took over the chair position of the Nominations Committee. She actively serves on the Hospitality and Planning Committees. She is a member of the NC DKG Educational Law and Policy Committee. Her professional accomplishments are numerous. Currently she is the Director of Student Services for Roanoke Rapids Graded Schools. Her community service is outstanding. She has begun her doctorate degree. All her preparation has honed her leadership skills not only to serve her chapter, but at the state level and beyond.



**Gamma Chi Beginning Teacher Award of Excellence Nominee: Robin Edwards.** Robin is in her third year of teaching. She teaches exceptional children in grades 6-8 at Chaloner Middle School in Roanoke Rapids. Prior to obtaining her certification, she was a teacher assistant. She loves children and cherishes the opportunities to help them learn and grow. She says, "Being a third year teacher and teaching in Special Education has taught me three things—resilience, humility, and grace."



### TREASURER'S REPORT

by Debra Clayton, Treasurer



At the March 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 monies received were \$126.00 for the afghan raffle; \$134.00 for GIRLS Fund, \$50.00 for the Scholarship Fund, \$15.00 for a meal reimbursement, and \$255.00 for dues.

If you have not paid your dues yet, **please remember to pay your dues by check or cash at the May meeting.** If you are unable to attend the meeting, you can mail a check to me at 573 Ridgeway-Warrenton Rd, Norlina, NC 27563. The entire amount of dues, \$85.00, **will be due on May 14<sup>th</sup>.** This is assuming that the dues will remain \$85.00. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the amount should remain at \$85.00. Also, if you are a reserve member, the dues should remain at \$45.00. Any questions can be directed to our treasurer, [Debra Clayton](#). Your cooperation and timely payment of dues will make my job so much easier! Members are professionals and are expected to pay their dues without reminders being sent out.



Thank You

### COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING COMMITTEE'S REPORT

by Nancy Tunstall, Communications & Marketing Committee Chair



The March/April issue of *DKG News* is now available online for members. Among other articles, the issue contains information about the upcoming 2026 DKG International Convention to be held in Aurora, Colorado, from June 30-July 4. This is a very important edition. Not only does it have news about the upcoming DKG Convention, it contains a draft of the DKG Bylaws which will be voted on at the convention. The idea behind the proposal is to create a document containing foundational information that is less likely to require frequent updates. Items currently included in the bylaws that are not included in the proposed draft would be moved to the *Guidelines for the Administration of Policies and Procedures* where they can be more easily updated. If passed, it will streamline the governing documents. 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 **August 10**.

## 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, April 29<sup>th</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.

### NC DKG SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

The current terms of NC DKG Executive Secretary and NC DKG Webmaster will end on June 30, 2027. The Personnel Committee has established a timeline for filling the positions:

- Revised job descriptions will be approved by the NC DKG Executive Board on April 17, 2026, at the NC DKG Convention in New Bern.
- Applications for the NC DKG Executive Secretary and NC DKG Webmaster positions will be posted May 1, 2026.
- Deadline for application submission will be August 1, 2026.
- Personnel Committee will interview the applicants during August.
- Personnel Committee will present a slate of Related Personnel to the Fall Executive Board for vote on September 12, 2026. Shadowing would begin after the meeting

### YOUR VOICE, YOUR VOTE MATTERS!



Election season is underway. Our choices will determine the future of our schools. Check out how to confirm your registration and voting options at [ELP-News-and-Resources](#). Stay informed on the latest state education legislation. See the Resource folder for how to sign up for weekly updates direct to your email. All chapter Educational Law & Policy chairs are welcome to participate in our planning meetings. Contact NC DKG Educational Law & Policy Chair [Malinda Pennington](#) to learn more. Also, since our member, [Sara Council](#), is serving on the NC DKG Educational Law & Policy Committee, feel free to contact her.

### UNICEF EVERY CHILD FUND



A proposal that will be coming forward from the Educational Excellence Committee at the International Convention is to

transition from the UNICEF GIRLS Fund to the UNICEF Every Child Fund to maximize global impact. The Every Child Fund supports education, health, protection, and opportunity for all children, including girls. More information about the UNICEF Every Child Fund is available [here](#). Additional information about the proposal can be found on page 10 of the Mar/Apr 2026 issue of [DKG News](#).

### TOO BUSY FOR LEADERSHIP!



How many times have we heard a member say, "I'm too busy, I don't have time?"

Have those been thoughts inside your head? Then ask yourself this question, why were you selected for

DKG membership? Why not your colleague? The answer is simple, someone saw leadership potential in you. And, you said yes! We want to help you find the time to be that leader.

We all know that life can get in the way of the things we want to do. So, how do some people manage to get things done while others can't find the time? Here are a few ideas that may help you find the time, even when you feel too busy.

**Trade favors** – when my kids were young a neighbor and I would trade days for babysitting each other's children giving each of us a day where we could do whatever we needed/wanted to do, even if it was just to be able to take a nap!

**Office time** – set aside a specific day and time when you will work on DKG tasks and stick to it. This has helped me so many times because it lets members know when I will be working on DKG items and gives them a suitable time to contact me.

**Organize** – how many years have you gotten out the holiday decorations and thought, if only I had them organized last year? I have that thought every year and then when I go to put them away, for a moment I think I will organize them, but I don't. I just put them away quickly which means I'm back to square one next year. Organization only takes extra time at the beginning. Once you are organized, so much time is saved. Try different organizational tools to see what works best for you.

**Build your confidence** – speak kindly to yourself and about yourself. I have students write positive messages about themselves and stick them on their mirror so each day they see them and say them. Positive messages to yourself might include; *I am worthy, I can do great things, and I will continue to be amazing.* Building confidence helps you stay motivated to get things done.

**Understand your real limits** – in mathematics real limits are values above and below a specific value. To know your real limits would be to have an expectation as to the amount of time a particular task might take and then plus and minus another amount of time. This is what you should put aside to complete the task. This could give you time to borrow if you find you didn't need as much as you thought. Oftentimes we underestimate the amount of time something will take so we are always behind. By having real limits, you would add in that buffer of additional time to the task at hand.

Shift your mindset – Leadership is a learning process. You don't have to know or do everything. You will continue to learn and grow on the job. Don't do it all. Good leaders share tasks to develop leaders.

Yield to your weaknesses and support your strengths – it's actually a strength to know your weaknesses. Find someone whose strength is your weakness and work together. Win-win!

*(Taken from the [DKGSI Blog](#), March 7, 2022.)*

### RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT - COMMUNITIES



Do you know that there are at least 25 different interest communities that members can join in My DKG? Log in to

[DKG.org](#) then click on MYDKG. From this page you can click on My Communities. "Click here to join a community" will take you to a list of communities. If you are interested in best practices using social media, there is a group for that. If you are interested in leading effective meetings, there is a group for that also. You might want to be part of increasing knowledge and awareness of global issues, join DKG Global Awareness.

Whatever your passion, a world of possibilities, opportunities, and resources exist within The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. Communities are one of the resources members can utilize as an opportunity to let your voice be heard and pursue passions.

*(Taken from the [DKGSI Blog](#), October 30, 2023.)*

### 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 and is very active in DKG.* 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 Works! Good Times!  
Gamma Chi Forever Strong!***

### DKG VISION STATEMENT

***Leading Women Educators  
Impacting Education Worldwide***

### DATES TO REMEMBER—DKG INTERNATIONAL

- May 1 Deadline for DKGIEF Cornet Individual Professional Development Awards (other deadline: November 1)
- May 11 DKG's Founders Day (DKG will be 97!)
- May 15 New chapter officers report due
- May 15 Deadline to submit to the *Bulletin: Journal*
- June 30-July 4 DKG International Convention, Gaylord Rockies, Aurora, Colorado
- 2028**
- July 4-8 DKG International Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

### DATES TO REMEMBER—NC DKG

- April 17-19 NC DKG Convention, New Bern, North Carolina (Region II host)
- May 1 Deadline to submit to the *NC DKG News*
- May 15 Chapter Officers Report due

### DATES TO REMEMBER—GAMMA CHI

- May 7 Gamma Chi's Founders Day (we'll be 42!)
- May 14 **4th Gamma Chi Meeting**, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ridgeway (St. Paul's Group hostesses)
- May 14 Dues due to Debra Clayton (\$85 Active, \$45 Reserve)
- August 10 Deadline to submit to the *Gamma Chi Newsletter*

### NC DKG VISION (VIEW) STATEMENT

***Voices of Influence Empowering  
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](#)



## GAMMA CHI CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES – MARCH 5, 2026

The Gamma Chi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, hosted by the Littleton Group, met at Littleton Baptist Church on March 5, 2026. As members arrived, they enjoyed a time of fellowship and took care of various financial responsibilities and opportunities, including dinner; raffle tickets; GIRLS Fund through UNICEF USA; and teddy bears to be donated to local Emergency Medical Services (EMS), Fire and Police Departments, and other organizations in support of the 2026 NC DKG Convention project.

President Sheila Robertson welcomed the membership and several special guests—members from the Alpha Kappa Chapter of Halifax County and Warren County Farmers Market Manager Tamara Small. Venue decorations followed the St. Patrick's Day theme of green and gold. Mary Catherine Harris gave thanks for the hearty meal prepared by several members of the Littleton Group. Attendees enjoyed a variety of soups, green salad with all the fixings, and various beverage choices. An array of mouth-watering desserts completed the meal. The attendees showed their appreciation with a heartfelt round of applause.

Following dinner, Market Manager Small gave a presentation on the Warren County Farmers Market. She told of the history, growth, and community impact of the market and how it supports local agriculture, strengthens the community, and expands food access. She recounted the various locations of the market over the years and shared that construction has begun on a permanent home of the market to open later this year. President Robertson presented her with tokens of appreciation after her presentation, including a red rose, a Gamma Chi bag, and a card stating that a donation will be made to the Warren County Farmers Market in her honor.

President Robertson called the business meeting to order. Recording Secretary Evelyn Hall reported that attendance constituted a quorum with twenty-five members and four guests present. Minutes of the last meeting, which were printed in the March 2026 *Gamma Chi Newsletter*, were approved as printed. Treasurer Debra Clayton reported a checking account balance of \$2,837.29, and a savings account balance of \$8,570.12. The report was approved.

Corresponding Secretary Gail Coleman reported sending Sympathy Cards to Loree Harris after the death of her brother, J.D. Strickland, and to Nancy Tunstall in the loss of her son, Marcus. She shared notes of appreciation received from NC DKG President Janie Webb who visited the chapter in December, from the NC DKG Educational Foundation for recent donations in honor of Janie Webb and Betsy Clark, and from DKGIEF for a December donation to the World Fellowship Fund. Representative Rodney Pierce of NC Legislative District 27 sent a letter congratulating the chapter for its newsletter excellence recognition. Nancy Tunstall had sent the chapter a card thanking the group for remembering her with expressions of sympathy in the death of her son, Marcus.

President Robertson recognized members who celebrate birthdays in January, February, and March with a gift of a natural pink quartz stone heart to place in a pocket or purse to help charge your energy. Robertson revealed Diane Colin as the Mystery Member for March. When Robertson asked for other recognitions, guest Sharon Frazier, who serves as the NC DKG Educational Foundation Board Chair, shared exciting news that Nancy Tunstall has been selected as the newest director of the Foundation.

President Sheila Robertson mentioned that she had prepared the President's Report for NC DKG. Also sent in was the Order of the Rose for chapter achievement and Gamma Chi's nominations for the Golden Key Award: Evelyn Hall, the Rising Star Award: Sara Council, and the Beginning Teacher Award of Excellence: Robin Edwards. The form for Communications Excellence has also been sent in. Robertson encouraged members to attend the 2026 NC DKG Convention, which is being held in historic New Bern at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel on April 17-19. Pride in Gamma Chi and fellowship with members from across the state make attending NC DKG conventions remarkable. Printed registration invoice forms for those planning to attend should be turned in to Treasurer Debra Clayton before leaving the meeting. Robertson also reminded members that the DKG International Conference is in Aurora, Colorado, from June 30-July 4. May 31 is the last day to take advantage of early-bird registration pricing. Finally, she noted that members should complete their Member Excellence Forms and bring them to the May meeting.

Several committees made reports,

**Awards:** Dr. Sylvia Alston, Chair, announced that the committee enthusiastically selected Robin Edwards as Gamma Chi's nominee for the NC DKG Beginning Teacher Award of Excellence. Edwards' name has been submitted by the chapter as a nominee for the NC DKG Beginning Teacher of Excellence to be awarded at the NC DKG State Convention in April.

**Educational Excellence:** In the absence of Committee Chair Aimee Anderson Cooper, Nancy Tunstall informed members about a new DKG International project to support girls in Africa through UNICEF's "Girls Initiative to Revitalize Learning and Success" (GIRLS) Fund. Through expanding educational access, improving educational quality, addressing

girls' wellbeing and supporting their empowerment, the GIRLS Fund prioritizes efforts that enable all girls to complete secondary education and develop the knowledge and skills they need for life and work. Members generously donated \$134 to this worthy project.

**Nominations:** Chair Sara Council presented a motion to elect the following slate of officers for the 2026-2028 biennium: Sheila Robertson for President, Earlene Clanton for First Vice-President, Norma Retzlaff for Second Vice-President, and Evelyn Hall for Corresponding Secretary. The motion passed. On April 6, an email motion was distributed to members requesting an email reply vote of yes or no to nominate Melanie Burnette for Recording Secretary. The motion passed. Officers will be installed at the May meeting.

**Scholarship:** Chair Betsy Clark made a motion to approve Lucia Edwards and Macie Elysse Fleming for a \$1,000 Nancy Blankenship Grant-in-Aid; Kelsi Aycock for a \$1,000 Shirley White Grant-in-Aid; and Sara Council for a \$1,000 Josie Myrick Scholarship to pursue her doctorate degree. The committee motion carried.

**Afghan:** Chair Danylu Hundley reported \$126.00 collected from raffle ticket sales. She reminded members that all monies and tickets are due at the May 14 meeting.

There were no other committee reports.

There was no unfinished business.

In new business, Sheila Robertson announced to members that we will need to set up our committee structure before the new biennium begins in July. She encouraged members to review Gamma Chi's chapter rules posted on our website to view details on each committee's duties. Each active member is asked to serve on at least one committee that interests her. A sign-up notice will be distributed before the next meeting for members to note their selections.

President Sheila Robertson reminded members of the awarding of grants and scholarships as well as new officer installations to be held at the May meeting. As she reminded members that children's books for the downtown Warrenton Holiday Santa House may be brought to any meeting, Danylu Hundley mentioned the need for several jolly elves on the night of the Warrenton Christmas Parade to help Santa with book distribution. Earlene Clanton, Norma Retzlaff, and Heather Sharp volunteered to assist.

President Robertson adjourned the meeting after extending well wishes for a lucky St. Patrick's Day and Happy Easter to all attendees.

The Littleton Group conducted the raffle with numerous members taking home prizes.

Respectfully submitted,  
Evelyn Hall, Recording Secretary

**Active Members Present:** Teresa Abbott, Dr. Sylvia Alston, Ginny Bernard, Earlene Clanton, Betsy Clark, Debra Clayton, Gail Coleman, Diane Colin, Sara Council, Robin Edwards, Evelyn Hall, Linda Hall, Loree Harris, Mary Catherine Harris, Brenda Holloman, Danylu Hundley, Katy Jones, Laura Kearney, Norma Retzlaff, Sheila Robertson, Heather Sharp, Rachel Smith, Nancy Tunstall, and Patricia Williamson

**Active Members Absent:** Kirby Alston, Diana Bobbitt, Crystal Brantley, Katrinka Brewer, Melanie Burnette, Brooke Callahan, Elaine Coleman, Jill Coleman, Aimee Anderson Cooper, Sallye Duncan, Renee Mizelle, Jenny O'Meara, Chris Skinner, and Kathy Stewart

**Honorary Member Present:** Josephine Myrick

**Guests Present:** Debbie Blackwelder, Sharon Frazier, Norah Moore, and Tamara Small

Use this form to keep a track of your attendance, participation, financial contributions, networking, and lifelong learning as a Gamma Chi member between September 4, 2025 and May 14, 2026. The goal is to earn 150 or more points. For those with 150+ points, submit your completed form to Dr. Sylvia Alston, Awards Committee chair, on May 14, 2026 or shortly thereafter. Recognition will consist of presentation of a certificate and pin at the September 3, 2026, meeting and notification of the award to the member's supervisor, if requested. Members achieving this award will have their picture taken for a newspaper article and the Gamma Chi website.

**Member's Attendance:**

- \_\_\_\_ 1. Attend the following meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> meeting on September 4, 2025; 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting on December 4, 2025; 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting on March 5, 2026; and 4<sup>th</sup> meeting on May 14, 2026. (5 pts. each meeting, 20 pts. maximum)
- \_\_\_\_ 2. Attend one or more days of the 2026 NC DKG Convention in New Bern on Friday-Sunday, April 17-19, 2025. (10 pts.)

**Member's Participation:**

- \_\_\_\_ 3. Wear your keypin to each of the regular meetings. (5 pts. each meeting, 20 pts. maximum)
- \_\_\_\_ 4. Recommend a worthy candidate(s) for membership using a Prospect Card available at meetings or online. (5 pts. each)
- \_\_\_\_ 5. Serve as an officer. (10 pts.)
- \_\_\_\_ 6. Serve as a committee chair. (10 pts.)
- \_\_\_\_ 7. Actively serve on a committee. (5 pts. each committee, 15 pts. maximum) List the committee(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_ 8. Present a program at a Gamma Chi meeting. (10 pts.)  
List title and date of program: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_ 9. Present a workshop/program at the NC DKG Convention or other DKG meeting outside of Gamma Chi. (20 pts.) List title, date, and location of session/program: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_ 10. Apply or be nominated for a Delta Kappa Gamma award at the state or international level. (20 pts.)  
List name of award: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_ 11. Submit or update your biographical sketch by December 4, 2025. (10 pts.) (Contact Nancy Tunstall for info and/or help)
- \_\_\_\_ 12. Bring an item for the raffle when it is your group's turn. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_\_ 13. Participate when it is your group's turn to be hostesses for the meeting. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_\_ 14. Bring an item(s) or donation to the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting on September 4, 2025 for the New Teacher Bag project. (10 pts.)
- \_\_\_\_ 15. Bring a children's book(s) to a meeting. (5 pts. each meeting, 20 pts. maximum)
- \_\_\_\_ 16. Apply for a scholarship: Gamma Chi Scholarship (deadline: Jan. 19, 2026), NC DKG Scholarship (deadline: Feb. 1, 2026) and/or 2026 International Scholarship (deadline: Feb. 1, 2026). All forms are online—check our website. (5 pts. each, 15 pts. maximum)
- \_\_\_\_ 17. Apply for a Gamma Chi Professional Development grant. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_\_ 18. Respond ***promptly*** to your Evite to indicate if you are attending a meeting or not. (5 pts. each meeting, maximum 20 pts.)
- \_\_\_\_ 19. Serve on a NC DKG committee. (10 pts.)

**Member's Financial Contribution:**

- \_\_\_\_ 20. Pay Membership Dues by 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting on May 14, 2026. Dues must be paid by June 30. (20 pts.)
- \_\_\_\_ 21. Contribute at least \$25 to our Scholarship Fund. Should be made at the December meeting, but a contribution may be made at any time. Contribution form is on our website. (10 pts. for each multiple of \$25 contributed throughout the year, no maximum)
- \_\_\_\_ 22. Sell at least 6 Afghan Raffle tickets with money turned in by May 14, 2026. (10 pts. for each set of 6 tickets sold, no maximum)
- \_\_\_\_ 23. Make a contribution to World Fellowship at the December meeting. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_\_ 24. Make a contribution to GIRLS (Girls Initiative to Revitalize Learning and Success) at the March meeting. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_\_ 25. Make a contribution by February 1, 2026 to a DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF) Fund—Cornet Award, Educational Projects, Educators Award, Emergency, Eunah Temple Holden (ETH) Leadership, Golden Gift, International Speakers, or Scholarship. You may make your check payable to Gamma Chi Chapter or, since these fund donations are tax deductible, make payable to DKG. In either case, specify on the Memo line of your check the fund to which you are contributing. Give your check to Debra Clayton, Treasurer. Checks will be mailed to International Headquarters as a batch to give our chapter credit. A brief description of each fund is provided at the end of this form. (5 pts. each, 40 pts. maximum)
- \_\_\_\_ 26. Make a contribution to the NC DKG Scholarship Fund by February 1, 2026. Make check payable to Gamma Chi Chapter and on the Memo line write "NC DKG Scholarship" or make the check to NC DKG – Scholarship Fund. Give the check to Debra Clayton, Treasurer, who will mail the contributions as a batch from our chapter. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_\_ 27. Make a contribution to the NC DKG Leadership Development Fund by February 1, 2026. Make check payable to Gamma Chi Chapter and on the Memo line write "NC DKG Leadership Development Fund" or make the check to NC DKG –

Leadership Development Fund. Give the check to Debra Clayton, Treasurer, who will mail the contributions as a batch from our chapter. (5 pts.)

- \_\_\_ 28. Make a contribution to the NC DKG Educational Foundation by February 1, 2026. Make check payable to Gamma Chi or, since these fund donations are tax deductible, make payable to NC DKG Educational Foundation and on the Memo line write "NCDKGEF." Give the check to Debra Clayton, Treasurer, who will mail the contributions as a batch from our chapter. (5 pts.)

**Member's Networking and Lifelong Learning:**

- \_\_\_ 29. Visit, call and/or write a reserve member. (5 pts. each, 20 pts. maximum)  
List reserve member(s) contacted: \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 30. Tell your colleagues about DKG and Gamma Chi Chapter along with its projects. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 31. Check out from Nancy Tunstall and read *Our Heritage—Volume I, Volume II, and/or Volume III*. (5 pts. per volume, maximum 15 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 32. Visit and peruse our website at least four times at: [www.deltakappagamma.org/NC-gammachi](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC-gammachi). (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 33. Using the link found on Gamma Chi website, visit and peruse the DKG website at least four times. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 34. Using the link found on Gamma Chi website, visit and peruse the NC DKG website at least four times. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 35. Using the link found on Gamma Chi website, visit and peruse the DKGIEF page (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 36. Using the link found on Gamma Chi website, visit and peruse the NC DKG Educational Foundation website. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 37. Using the link found on Gamma Chi website, visit and peruse the US FORUM website. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 38. Using the link found on Gamma Chi website, visit and peruse the DKG Facebook page. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 39. Using the link found on Gamma Chi website, visit and peruse the NC DKG Facebook page. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 40. Read the Chapter Rules found online at our website. (5 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 41. Read the Gamma Chi Chapter History 1983-2012 and/or 2012-Present found on our website. (5 pts., maximum 10 pts.)
- \_\_\_ 42. Check out from Nancy Tunstall and read *Delta Kappa Gamma in North Carolina, DKG in NC 1989-1997, DKG in NC 1997-2007, , and/or DKG in NC 2007-2017*. (5 pts. per volume, maximum 20 pts.)

According to my calculations, I have earned \_\_\_ points.

Signature of Member \_\_\_\_\_

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**Descriptions of DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF) Funds:**

**Cornet Award** –Cornet funds are available for professional development for individuals (applications due November 1 & May 1) and for educational seminars (applications due November 1).

**Educational Projects** – Any educator may apply for project grants. Projects must meet one or more of the following: (1) Support and encourage intercultural understanding, (2) Encourage standards of excellence in education, and (3) Assist and cooperate with schools, colleges, universities and other persons, organizations, trust funds or foundations in support encouragement and improvement of education. (Applications due March 1)

**Educators Award** – Selected women authors receive cash awards for non-fiction writing impacting education.

**Emergency Fund** – Members who sustain major losses from floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, earthquakes, wild fires and other natural disasters may be recommended by their chapter and state organization president to receive a \$500 Emergency Fund Award.

**ETH Leadership Fund** – Supports superb speakers for international meetings and other leadership events.

**Golden Gift Fund** – Provides for a member to attend a one-week leadership/management training seminar usually held in early July at the Red McCombs School of Business, University of Texas, at Austin in even numbered years (now called DKG Ignite).

**International Speakers Fund** – The purpose of ISF is to facilitate exchange of Society speakers among member countries and help unite women educators of the world. The ISF committee considers requests for ISF speakers from state organizations twice annually. We have an ISF at our NC DKG Convention each spring. (Applications due September 15.)

**World Fellowship Fund** – Assists women from around the world to attend graduate school in the U.S. or Canada.

**Scholarship Fund** – Members may apply for a \$6,000 scholarship to assist them with their graduate studies (\$10,000 for doctoral studies). (Applications due February 1.)

## DKG Prospect Card

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

## DKG Prospect Card

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_

# Gamma Chi Leading with GRIT

**Our 2024-2026 Officers have led with  
Grace, Responsibility, Integrity & Tenacity**



*From left, President Sheila Robertson, First Vice President Aimee Cooper, Second Vice President Norma Retzlaff, Recording Secretary Evelyn Hall, Corresponding Secretary Gail Coleman, Treasurer Debra Clayton and Parliamentarian Nancy Tunstall*

**Gamma Chi 2024-2026 Theme:  
Good Friends! Good Works! Good Times!  
Gamma Chi Forever Strong!**

**Gamma Chi Chapter, Warren County, Region III**

Gamma Chi Ad for the 2026 NC DKG Convention Program Book