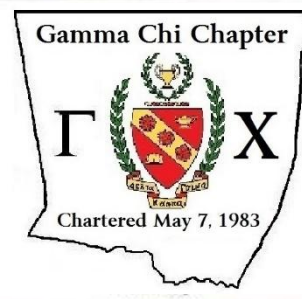




Gamma Chi Newsletter

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



Volume XXXII, Issue 1

2026-2028 Gamma Chi Theme

July/August/September 2026

Enriching the lives of educators through friendship, support and opportunity, and supporting Gamma Chi and its purposes with GRIT (Grace, Responsibility, Integrity, & Tenacity).

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Gamma Chi Sisters!



I am so thankful to the St. Paul's group for providing a wonderful setting for one of our most important meetings of the year. The May meeting is a beginning, a revival, and a celebration for our chapter. We welcomed new members, honored our young collegiate grant recipients, installed new officers (and a couple of old hats), and had a special birthday celebration. Thank you again, St Paul's group, for doing such an awesome job of hosting our chapter meeting.

Our Executive Board/Planning Committee meeting in July was extremely productive. I thank all of you who attended for your dedication and invaluable input. You ladies keep our chapter functioning smoothly. You truly serve DKG and Gamma Chi with GRIT. If you were unable to attend, please make sure to read over the minutes of the meeting to stay informed of changes in the Gamma Chi Strategic Plan and committee responsibilities.

Our September 3rd gathering in Warrenton will be here in no time, and we have many important items of business to discuss. We will also be honored with a visit from our new regional director, Sonya Kiser. She is an amazing motivational speaker, and I know you will enjoy hearing from her. I can't wait for her to meet our group. It is also time to honor our sisters for perfect attendance, milestones, and excellence. Don't forget to bring your donations for the New Teacher Bag Project. It is exciting to have so many new educators in our county this year. I look forward to seeing you there.

In sisterhood,

Sheila P. Robertson
[Sheila Robertson](#)



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MEETING NOTICE

Thursday, September 3, 2026

6:00 p.m. Gathering

6:15 p.m. Dinner

6:45 p.m. Program

Our Speaker:

NC DKG REGION III REGIONAL DIRECTOR SONYA KISER

7:00 p.m. Business Meeting

Warrenton Church of God Fellowship Hall

512 S Main St, Warrenton, NC 27589

Meal Cost: \$15.00; Meal Cut-Off Date: **Wednesday, August 26th**

(Catered by Hilda Cordell; Menu: garden salad, fried chicken, chopped BBQ, green beans, smashed potatoes, dinner rolls, cheesecake, pound cake and sweet tea.)

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

To reserve a meal, please respond to your Evite

as soon as possible and no later than August 26!

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

BRING TO THE MEETING:

- ☞ **New Teacher Bag items** that you signed up to bring (or send) or you may make a donation (for the SignUpGenius link, see p. 3)
- ☞ **Money** to buy \$1 raffle tickets (proceeds aid our contribution to the NC DKG Educational Foundation & local libraries)
- ☞ **Children's Books** for our Christmas project. Our goal is to collect at least 100 books. For more information, see page 4.

BIRTHDAY PRESENTS

Members with July, August or September birthdays who attend the meeting will be recognized and will receive a present.
Don't miss your birthday meeting!!!



CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Danylu Hundley on the birth of her granddaughter, Mabel Marie Hundley, to son William and his wife Caroline Hundley. Mabel was born on June 19th.



GUEST SPEAKER FOR SEPTEMBER



Sonya Kiser is our incoming Region III Director for 2026-2028. Sonya is a member of Alpha Beta Chapter in Johnston County, NC, and is serving her second biennium as chapter president. A member of DKG since 2013, Sonya currently serves at the state level as a member of the Rules Committee and as a

Parliamentary Giant.

For 30 years, 1994-2024, Sonya encouraged and loved the students of Johnston County Public Schools as a high school English teacher. Sonya taught students English I, II, IV, Theatre Arts, and AP English Literature and Composition. In 2007 Sonya was named the North Central Teacher of the Year and was a finalist in the North Carolina Teacher of the Year program. Sonya assisted other teachers as a digital coach, peer coach, mentor, and department chair over the course of her career. She also served as a School Improvement Team Chair, webmaster and social media liaison for several years before retirement in 2024.

In July 2026, Sonya celebrated her 35th year married to Chris Kiser. Chris, too, is a 30-year public teacher of elementary students, in music and K-5 classrooms. They have two sons and daughters-in-love. Both couples are expecting at this newsletter's press time! The first grand is due to arrive in mid-August, and the second grand will arrive in February!

Sonya writes, "I am so looking forward to meeting the DKG sisters of Gamma Chi in September! Our strength as key women educators is deepened when we make connections outside our immediate chapters." She will join us on September 3rd! Please be present to welcome Sonya to our meeting.

EXECUTIVE BOARD/PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETS

On Saturday afternoon, July 18, members of the Executive Board and Planning Committee met at the Warrenton Church of God Fellowship Hall to discuss plans for the upcoming biennium. Members attending the meeting were Dr. Sylvia Alston, Melanie Burnette, Earlene Clanton, Betsy Clark, Debra Clayton, Gail Coleman, Evelyn Hall, Mary Catherine Harris, President Sheila Robertson, Heather Sharp, Rachel Smith, Nancy Tunstall and Patricia Williamson.

Discussion included the Gamma Chi Strategic Plan, committee activities, and dates and programs for the upcoming meetings. Current projects will continue at the same level of funding as last year.

President Sheila provided attendees with a delicious brunch and drinks. A joyful work session was had by all.

TREASURER'S REPORT

by Debra Clayton, Treasurer



At the May meeting, \$73.00 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 \$202.00 for the afghan raffle, \$405.00 for the meal, \$100.00 for the Scholarship Fund, \$2,000.00 for dues \$24.25 for a key pin.

The Annual Report of the Treasurer for 2025-2026 (Form 15) was completed and sent in prior to the July 31 deadline to NC

DKG Treasurer Tonya Allison for compilation before being sent to International Headquarters. Also, the 990-N ePostcard was completed, filed and accepted by the IRS.

All bills for the 2025-2026 year were paid, with a balance of \$5,942.75 left in the checking account. A total of \$6,964.01 was paid for three grants-in-aid, seven professional development grants and one scholarship, leaving a balance of \$2,027.57 in the savings account. The financial records were audited, and the records were found to be in good order.

The dues for 2026-2027 have been paid and sent to NC DKG and DKG International. With Diana Bobbitt resigning and Diane Colin transferring to the Alpha Nu Chapter in Cabarrus County, we have a total of 46 members (36 active, 9 reserve, 1 honorary). The 2026-2027 proposed budgets, based on 46 members, is attached to the newsletter. The budgets will be presented for approval at our September 3rd meeting.

At the September meeting when paying by check, please write **separate checks** with the **correct amount** for the meal, beginning teacher items, etc. It will make the bookkeeping so much easier!



AFGHAN COMMITTEE REPORT

by Danylu Hundley, Afghan Committee Chair

This is the meeting when we will launch our annual Gamma Chi Afghan Raffle campaign in support of our Scholarship Fund. Many thanks to Josie Myrick, Dr. Sylvia Alston's mother, who makes the afghans, Sylvia, who provides the yarn, and to our members who have "accepted the challenge" to promote the Afghan raffle, enabling the chapter to present fifteen additional grants and scholarships to non-members and members who are pursuing higher degrees in education since the inception of the raffle in late 2011. Please plan to pick up your raffle tickets at the meeting. They will be printed in batches of six. The afghan will be raffled off at our May meeting. Teresa Abbott was our lucky winner for the 2025-2026 year. Sold tickets and money may be turned in at the December and/or March meetings and *must* be turned in at the May meeting along with unsold tickets. Tickets will sell for \$3.00. If you prefer not to sell them, please buy them for yourself or loved ones—you may win!



AWARDS AT OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING

by Dr. Sylvia Alston, Awards Committee Chair

At the September 3rd meeting, the Awards Committee will certainly be fulfilling the second DKG Purpose: "To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education." We will be awarding pins and certificates to members for milestones, member excellence, and perfect attendance. We had the most members to receive the member excellence award (14) and the perfect attendance award (19) that we have ever had—*way to go!* In the interest of

time, those receiving the awards will pick up their certificate and pin when they pay for their meal. A group picture of each category will be taken later in the meeting. If you are a recipient, please come to the meeting to receive your award and have your picture taken. Below is a list of the recipients:



Milestones: Mary Catherine Harris (45 yrs.), Crystal Brantley (40 yrs.), Danylu Hundley (40 yrs.), Laura Kearney (35 yrs.), Jill Coleman (25 yrs.), Loree Harris (25 yrs.), Karen Paynter (20 yrs.), and Sheila Robertson (10 yrs.).



Member Excellence: Dr. Sylvia Alston, Earlene Clanton, Betsy Clark, Debra Clayton, Gail Coleman, Diane Colin, Sara Council, Evelyn Hall, Loree Harris, Mary Catherine Harris, Danylu Hundley, Norma Retzlaff, Sheila Robertson, and Nancy Tunstall



Perfect Attendance: Dr. Sylvia Alston, Earlene Clanton, Betsy Clark, Debra Clayton, Gail Coleman, Diane Colin, Sara Council, Evelyn Hall, Linda Hall, Loree Harris, Mary Catherine Harris, Danylu Hundley, Katy Jones, Josie Myrick, Norma Retzlaff, Sheila Robertson, Heather Sharp, Nancy Tunstall and Patricia Williamson

Congratulations to all the recipients. Please review the Member Excellence Form for the 2026-2027 year located on pages 17-18. Activities will begin at this meeting. Also, perfect attendance will begin with this meeting. As an added bonus for those who have perfect attendance at all four meetings, your name will be placed in a box for a drawing prior to our September 2027 meeting. The lucky member whose name is drawn will be notified and receive their September meal at no charge to them. Please don't miss a meeting! This year's free meal recipient is **Nancy Tunstall**.



Finally, the Awards Committee will present the Gamma Chi Golden Key and the Gamma Chi Rising Star Awards. These two will be our nominees for the NC DKG Golden Key and NC DKG Rising Star Awards which will be presented at the 2027 NC DKG Convention. Our own Nancy Tunstall, Shirley White, Mary Austell, Mary Catherine Harris, Dr. Sylvia Alston, Debra Clayton and **Evelyn Hall** (2026) are past recipients of the Golden Key Award; and Debra Clayton, Ashley Barnette, Evelyn Hall, Betsy Clark, Sheila Robertson and **Sara Council** (2026) have received the Rising Star Award. We would like to see more of our members receive these awards at next year's state convention.

BEGINNING TEACHER SUPPORT COMMITTEE'S REPORT

by Sheila Robertson, Beginning Teacher Support Committee Chair



Many thanks to everyone for their generosity in signing up for items for the New Teacher Bag Project. If you haven't signed up yet, just click on this link: [SignUpGenius](#). Please remember to bring or send these items to the September 3rd meeting.

Also, please be thinking of ways that we can support our new teachers throughout the year. Any suggestions will be appreciated.

The bags will be delivered during American Education Week, November 16-20. You will be notified by email of the time and place of the bag stuffing. Everyone is invited to join our committee members for the New Teacher Bag Stuffing. Please join us in fellowship as we stuff the bags!

COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING COMMITTEE'S REPORT

by Nancy Tunstall, Communications & Marketing Committee Chair



The July/August issue of *DKG News* is now available online for members. Among other articles, the issue contains information about the 2026 DKG International Convention that was held in Aurora, Colorado, from June 30-July 4. Much was accomplished at DKG Convention, especially adopting a comprehensive revision to the governing documents in the form of International Bylaws. Members also elected International officers and participated in international forums. In other news, the names of those receiving scholarships (one from North Carolina) were listed along with those who were recognized for completing their doctoral studies (three from North Carolina). 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 **November 9**.

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, August 26th**. When this is not done, members will be expected to pay for the meal. Please send your payment by an attending member or have a friend pay for your meal (she could get you a carry-out meal if so desired). **The money is needed the night of the meeting so the caterer can be paid in full.** Also, you are welcome to bring prospective members as guests, but you will be responsible for paying for their meals. Thank you in advance.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE'S REPORT

by Patricia Williamson, Membership Committee Chair

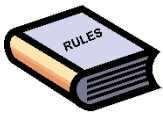
Please take a moment to look around not just at your school, but in any area where instruction is being performed, and observe the outstanding educators who would truly be an asset to our chapter and to DKG. According to our Purpose 2, we are supposed *"To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education."* One of the ways that we can carry out this purpose is to invite them to become members of the prestigious organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. According to our chapter rules, the requirement for active membership is, *"An active member shares in financing chapter activities, participates in chapter programs and projects, contributes to committee work and may hold an office. An active member shall be a woman who is employed as a professional educator or who has retired from an educational position."*

Member Prospect Cards are easy to fill out and are included at the end of this newsletter and on our website. Please fill out one or more cards and then bring them with you to the meeting and turn them in. Once we find out if they are interested in joining, we will invite them to an orientation session where they can make a decision to join DKG if they so desire.



CHAPTER RULES COMMITTEE'S REPORT

by Norma Retzlaff, Chapter Rules Committee Chair



The Chapter Rules Committee would like to propose amending **Article VIII Committees C. Duties of Committees 3. Social Affairs & Remembrances b. Remembrance Committee** section of the *Gamma Chi Chapter Rules* based on the continual rising cost of stamps.

The proposed revision to the Gamma Chi Chapter Rules can be found at the end of the newsletter on page 19. We will vote on the revision at the September meeting.

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR CHILDREN'S BOOK(S)

Last Christmas we donated books that were distributed by Santa at the Warren County Santa House, Courthouse Square. We are now bringing books to each meeting in order to accumulate enough books. Not only do we need pre-school books, but we also need books for older children. The books do not need to be Christmas books, and books for any age through about fifth grade are perfect!



Please remember to bring a book(s)!



OUR CHAPTER'S AWARDS

RECEIVED AT THE 2026 NC DKG CONVENTION



In recognition of exemplary leadership in promoting chapter participation in the activities of the Society, Gamma Chi Chapter received the NC DKG **Order of the Rose Award**—the highest level of chapter achievement.

For accomplishments in producing a quality newsletter, maintaining an updated website, producing a chapter brochure and using social media to greatly enhance chapter communications, Gamma Chi Chapter received the **NC DKG Communications Excellence Award**.



OUR GOLDEN KEY RECIPIENT



Evelyn Hall was awarded the Golden Key Award for Region III at the NC DKG Convention. Region III includes Warren, Vance, Franklin, Johnston and Wake Counties. She received a certificate and the Golden Key pin.

From all NC DKG members in the nine chapters in Region III, Evelyn was selected for this honor. She was identified by her peers as a member who works in the background getting things done without personal glory or gain for herself, and one who is dedicated to fulfilling the purposes of this great organization of women educators. The Golden Key Award is the highest honor bestowed on a NC DKG chapter member.

Evelyn was cited as a dedicated, committed, hardworking, and energetic leader who interacts positively with everyone she encounters. Among other things, she has served as chapter president for two bienniums, recording secretary, nominations chair, and corresponding secretary.

Evelyn is the seventh Gamma Chi member to receive this honor. Nancy Tunstall received it in 2012, Shirley White in 2014, Mary Austell in 2017, Mary Catherine Harris in 2020, Dr. Sylvia Alston in 2022 and Debra Clayton in 2023. We are proud of all of our Golden Key recipients!

OUR RISING STAR RECIPIENT



Sara Council was one of eleven women statewide to be awarded the Rising Star Award at the NC DKG Convention. She received a certificate and the Rising Star pin.



The Rising Star Award is given to women in their early years of DKG membership, six years or less. These members demonstrate strong potential for successful leadership at the chapter and state levels and beyond.

When Sara joined our chapter in 2023, she hit the ground running. Her attendance and participation have been phenomenal! She soon became involved in committee work and chairs the Nominations Committee.

Sara is the sixth Gamma Chi member to receive this honor. Debra Clayton received it in 2016, Ashley Barnette in 2017, Evelyn Hall in 2019, Betsy Clark in 2022 and Sheila Robertson in 2023. We are proud of all of our Rising Star recipients!

LOOKING FOR LEADERS!



The NC DKG Nominations Committee is seeking those who have energy, strength and passion to consider being nominated for an office for the 2027-29 biennium. Every DKG member is a leader. NC DKG needs your leadership.

Consider the opportunity to share your gifts in one of the following positions:

- NC DKG President
- NC DKG First Vice President
- NC DKG Second Vice President
- Recording Secretary

The application will soon be available on the NC DKG website and must be submitted by November 1. Officers will be installed at the convention in April 2027.

Questions? Direct them to [Judith B. Carlson](#), Chair of the Nominations Committee.

COULD YOU USE \$500 OR \$1,000?



The Board of the NC DKG Educational Foundation continues to work diligently to fulfill its purpose of supporting learning and literacy projects and the professional development of NC educators. The deadline for the Foundation grants is **September 30, 2026**. If you miss this deadline, grants will also be accepted through January 31. For more information about these grants

and an application, click [here](#). Here is a summary of available grants:

Educational Foundation grant opportunities for learning and/or literacy projects and for continuing education are now available. Grants of up to \$500 will be awarded in early November.

The Maxine and Don McCall Educational Endowment funds the McCall Gifted Education or Fine Arts grants. This grant is available for teachers of gifted students and teachers in the fine arts. This endowment will award two \$1,000 grants.

The Margaret Church Endowment supports Leadership Development. This endowment makes it possible for teachers to attend personal leadership development classes or conferences, purchase leadership development instructional materials, or attend leadership development training for grades K-12 initiatives. This endowment will award up to \$1,000.

There will be other grants available in the spring. Information will be forthcoming.

(Just as a side note, Diane Colin applied and received two \$1,000 NC DKG Educational Foundation Grants which enabled her to purchase tall drums and guitars for Vaughan Elementary School's Global Arts Program. Also, applying for one of these grants earns our chapter points on our ROSE Award. Please let Nancy Tunstall know if you do apply. Thanks!)

NC DKG SHINES AT INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION!

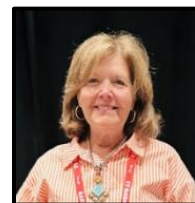
The 2026 DKG International Convention was an extra exciting event for two of our NC DKG sisters, Dr. Teresa Cowan (Alpha Psi), Past NC DKG State President, and Elizabeth Miars (Theta), current NC DKG Executive Secretary. Both women were awarded for their love of and efforts on behalf of their chapters, NC DKG, and DKG International. Both women demonstrate leadership qualities which were recognized at this year's event.



Dr. Teresa Cowan was elected DKG International Second Vice President at this year's convention. She was installed on Saturday, July 4, 2026, at the President's Banquet: DKG Society Dinner Event, Officers' Installation and Recommitment Ceremony.

We recognize that with Teresa's love of DKG and her willingness to always serve the Society in any way that she is asked, that she will fulfill the duties of the office with grace and enthusiasm.

Elizabeth Miars received the recognition of being North Carolina's Star of the Southeast. She was announced as the North Carolina recipient by NC DKG State President, Janie Webb, at the Southeast Regional Breakfast on Thursday, July 2. Elizabeth always puts DKG at the forefront, no matter what the task and does so without calling attention to herself.



Both key women educators are deserving of the honors bestowed upon them. Please let them know how excited you are that they have been recognized for their willingness to serve all levels of the Society, the state organization and their chapters.

Congratulations Teresa and Elizabeth!

We are so proud of you!



SHOW OFF YOUR TALENT NOW!

The Arts & Humanities Jury of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG) will be accepting entries from August 15 through September 15 into the Fall 2026 DKG Gallery of Fine Arts, an online gallery of works of art and letters. The Fall 2026 Gallery works will be available for viewing [here](#) late this fall. The works will stay up in the Gallery for six months, after which they will be archived. Several of our members have had their work on display in the past.



To view the Spring 2026 Gallery, click [here](#). The following statement explains its purpose: *The approved Policy Statement of the Arts & Humanities Jury has at its core the following explanation: "The online Arts & Humanities Gallery shall be maintained so that members of DKG may display their creative arts...and all may enjoy, respect and learn more about excellence in arts and crafts." Visit the gallery often and take advantage of these artistic and creative "gifts to the world."*

There are four categories for submission. They are:

- **Visual** including photography, 2D art, 3D art, AI art, and digital art
- **Video** including dramatics, film making, dance and one-act play
- **Writing** including essay, poetry and short story
- **Music** including original composition and oratory

Documents to help you with your submission are found [here](#). Rubrics listed will give you the guidelines. It is easy to submit. Any of our members who have submitted their work will be glad to assist you. These members include Brooke Callahan, Aimee Cooper, Sheila Robertson and Nancy Tunstall.

(Just as a side note, submitting an item earns our chapter points on our Order of the Rose form. Please let Nancy Tunstall know if you do submit. Thanks!)

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR DKG SCHOLARSHIPS



Scholarship applications are available beginning July 1 for members pursuing advanced degrees and are due by February 1, 2027. Begin planning now since applications call for transcripts, letters of recommendation, status of program documentation, and the completed application form.

As many as 31 scholarships are awarded each year to members pursuing advanced degrees. Check the [DKG website](#) for more information.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATIONS



DKG will be turning 100 on May 11, 2029. Here are some ways you and our chapter can celebrate!

Centennial Membership Campaign—100 by 100: Support our state organization in achieving Centennial State Organization recognition by welcoming 100 new or reinstated members by May 1, 2029. As part of DKG's 100th anniversary celebration, this initiative offers a meaningful way to grow and strengthen our community of educators as we move forward together.

EEC Chapter Impact: Highlight the outstanding work of your chapter by completing a brief survey. Your input helps showcase the meaningful difference DKG members make every day. Share your chapter's story by clicking [here](#).

Centennial Celebration Campaign Fund: Commemorate 100 years of DKG impact through a meaningful gift. A contribution of \$19.29 honors our century of inspiring members while helping support the future of the Society. Contribute at [dkg.org](#) → Events → Centennial Celebration → Contribute.

MYSTERY MEMBER

by Nancy Tunstall, Editor



Here is the hint for this newsletter's mystery member. *Originally from the southeastern part of our state, marriage brought her to Warrenton, the hometown of her husband. She feels that her most successful accomplishment has been her two daughters who both became career educators. 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

2025-2027 NC DKG THEME

**Leading with GRIT:
Grace, Responsibility, Integrity, Tenacity**

2026-2028 GAMMA CHI THEME

Enriching the lives of educators through friendship, support, and opportunity, and supporting Gamma Chi and its purposes with GRIT (Grace, Responsibility, Integrity, & Tenacity)

DKG VISION STATEMENT

**Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education Worldwide**

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](#)

CALENDARS FOR THE YEAR

DATES TO REMEMBER—DKG INTERNATIONAL

- Aug. 15-
Sept. 15 Submission period to submit your artistic works to the Fall DKG Gallery of Fine Arts
- September 1 Deadline for International Speaker Fund application
- October 1 Deadline to submit to the *Bulletin: Journal*
- November 1 Deadline for DKGIEF Cornetet Individual Professional Development Awards (other deadline: May 1)
- November 1 Deadline for DKGIEF Cornetet Seminar Professional Development application
- December 15 Deadline to submit to the *Bulletin: Collegial Exchange*

2027

- Jan. 15-
Feb. 15 Submission period to submit your artistic works to the Spring DKG Gallery of Fine Arts
- February 1 Deadline for scholarship applications to DKG International; \$6,000 for master's, \$10,000 for doctor's
- March 1 Deadline to submit to the *Bulletin: Journal*
- March 1 DKGIEF educational 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 98!)
- May 15 Deadline to submit to the *Bulletin: Journal*

2028

- July 4-8 DKG International Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

2029

- June 25-28 DKG International Centennial Conference, Austin, Texas

DATES TO REMEMBER—NC DKG

- September 12 NC DKG Fall Executive Board Meeting, Randolph Community College, Asheboro
- September 30 NC DKG Educational Foundation Grants application due (see page 5)
- October 10 Tee It Up for Teachers golf tournament
- October 27 NC DKG Founders Day (NC DKG will be 92!)
- November 1 Deadline to submit to the *NC DKG News*
- December 15 Chapter directory due to regional director
- 2027**
- January 31 NC DKG Educational Foundation Grants application due
- February 1 Chapter president annual report due
- February 1 NC DKG Scholarship application due
- February 1 Deadline to submit to the *NC DKG News*
- March 1 ROSE, Golden Key, Rising Star, Beginning Teacher and Communications Excellence forms due
- April 9-11 NC DKG Convention, Burlington, NC (Region V host)
- May 1 Deadline to submit to the *NC DKG News*

DATES TO REMEMBER—GAMMA CHI

- September 3 **1st Gamma Chi Meeting**, Warrenton Church of God, Warrenton (Warrenton Group Hostesses)
- November 9 Deadline to submit to the *Gamma Chi Newsletter*
- December 1 **2nd Gamma Chi Meeting**, Wise Baptist Church, Wise (Norlina Group hostesses)
- 2027**
- January 19 Deadline for scholarship applications to Gamma Chi; also, deadline for grant-in-aid applications to Gamma Chi
- February 6 Deadline to submit to the *Gamma Chi Newsletter*
- March 4 **3rd Gamma Chi Meeting**, Littleton Baptist Church, Littleton (Littleton Group hostesses)
- April 17 Deadline to submit to the *Gamma Chi Newsletter*
- May 7 Gamma Chi's Founders Day (we'll be 44!)
- May 13 **4th Gamma Chi Meeting**, St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ridgeway (St. Paul's Group hostesses)
- May 13 Dues due to Treasurer Debra Clayton (\$85 Active, \$45 Reserve)



GAMMA CHI CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES – MAY 14, 2026

The Gamma Chi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, hosted by the St. Paul's Group, met at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on May 14, 2026. As they arrived, members and guests enjoyed social interactions. Chapter members also took care of various financial and record-keeping responsibilities, including dinner, raffle tickets, scholarship memorials, and annual dues payments.

President Sheila Robertson welcomed the membership and special guests.

Before the meal, President Robertson facilitated the presentation of certificates to recipients of Scholarship Committee awards. Chair Betsy Clark assisted Richard Blankenship in recognizing Lucia Edwards and Macie Fleming as the Nancy Blankenship Grant-in-Aid recipients. Nancy Blankenship Professional Development Grants were awarded to members Debra Clayton, Gail Coleman, Sara Council, Evelyn Hall, Norma Retzlaff, Heather Sharp, and Nancy Tunstall to aid their attendance at the NC DKG Convention in April. The chair also assisted Josephine Myrick as she recognized member Sara Council as recipient of the Josephine Myrick Scholarship. Sara is currently nearing completion of her doctoral degree. The Shirley H. White Grant-in-Aid recipient is Kelsi Aycock who was unable to attend. Debra Clayton will personally present the award to her at a later time.

A blessing for the meal was offered by Mary Catherine Harris, and President Robertson invited guests to head the line for dinner. Kim Hunt Boyd catered a delicious meal consisting of ham, pasta salad, marinated carrots, spinach salad, rolls, and beverages. Dr. Sylvia Alston provided tasty, decorated cupcakes for dessert to celebrate Josephine Myrick on her upcoming 100th birthday. Everyone joined in to congratulate her with a round of applause and to sing "Happy Birthday to You" in her honor.

After dinner, all members gathered for a group photo that will be used in new brochures and marketing materials.

Before the business meeting was called to order, an Induction Ceremony was held to welcome Earlene Clanton and Heather Sharp into chapter membership. Current members offered hearty congratulations and continuing support to them. Each new member was presented with a name tag, key pin, and a red rose.

President Robertson called the Gamma Chi Chapter meeting to order. Recording Secretary Evelyn Hall reported that attendance constituted a quorum with 28 members and four guests present. Minutes of the last meeting, which were printed in the May 2026 *Gamma Chi Newsletter*, were approved as printed. Treasurer Debra Clayton reported May 14 balances of \$795.75 in the checking account and \$8,748.94 in the savings account. The report was approved and will be filed for audit.

Corresponding Secretary Gail Coleman reported that no correspondence was sent or received.

President Robertson presented a natural pink quartz stone heart to place in your pocket or purse to help charge your energy to members celebrating birthdays in April, May, and June. She recognized retiring members Melanie Burnette and Diane Colin. Finally, she revealed the May Mystery Member as Debra Clayton.

In her President's Report, Robertson shared details from the recent NC DKG Convention. The chapter received the prestigious Order of the Rose Award, the highest award for chapter achievement, as well as the Communications Excellence Award. Sara Council received the Rising Star Award, and Evelyn Hall received the Golden Key Award. Robertson offered special thanks to Nancy Tunstall for all her hard work compiling data and submitting applications for consideration of each of the awards. President Robertson reminded members that they would soon receive a SignUpGenius email to sign up for related personnel and committees on which they would like to serve. Robertson also reminded officers, committee chairs, and related personnel of the upcoming Planning/Executive Board meeting to be held on July 18 at 10 a.m. at the Warrenton Church of God Fellowship Hall in Warrenton. Attendance is very important. Members who brought Gamma Chi Member Excellence forms were directed to place them in the appropriate folder; those who did not bring them were instructed to send them to Dr. Sylvia Alston or Nancy Tunstall. Awards will be presented at the September meeting.

President Robertson then called for committee reports.

Afghan: Chair Danylu Hundley reported \$562 was collected from raffle ticket sales. Josephine Myrick, who crocheted the Afghan, drew Teresa Abbott's ticket stub as the winner of her lovely creation.

Finance: Chair Nancy Tunstall made a motion to approve the recommended annual dues of \$85 for active members and \$45 for reserve members. The motion was approved.

Membership: Chair Dr. Sylvia Alston made a motion to accept the resignation of reserve member Connie King. The motion was approved.

President Sheila Robertson asked for reports on reserve members and sick members. It was shared that the husband of Robin Edwards was recently hospitalized, and Melanie Burnette's son is not feeling well.

Linda Hall displayed scrapbooks of memorabilia from Vance County's Xi Chapter (now dissolved and the chapter from which Gamma Chi originated). They were donated by the family of former Xi Chapter President Beth Arner and were entrusted to Chapter Historian, Mary Catherine Harris, for safekeeping.

There was no unfinished business.

There was no new business.

Sheila Robertson recognized the upcoming 100th birthday of Josephine Myrick by presenting her with a vase filled with ten red roses, one for each decade of her life, from the chapter.

Robertson called for retiring and incoming officers to come forward. Nominations Chair Sara Council conducted the installation ceremony. She presented red roses to retiring officer Corresponding Secretary Gail Coleman.

Officers installed for the 2026-2028 biennium are President Sheila Robertson, First Vice President Earlene Clanton, Second Vice President Norma Retzlaff, Recording Secretary Melanie Burnette (in absentia), Corresponding Secretary Evelyn Hall, Treasurer Debra Clayton, and Parliamentarian Nancy Tunstall. Each new officer was presented with a red rose.

President Robertson thanked Debra Clayton and the St. Paul's Group for their hard work, and the membership gave them a round of applause. She adjourned the meeting and wished everyone a happy summer.

The St. Paul's Group conducted the raffle with numerous members taking home a nice prize.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Hall, Recording Secretary

Active Members Present: Dr. Sylvia Alston, Ginny Bernard, Crystal Brantley, Earlene Clanton, Betsy Clark, Debra Clayton, Gail Coleman, Jill Coleman, Diane Colin, Sara Council, Sallye Duncan, Evelyn Hall, Linda Hall, Loree Harris, Mary Catherine Harris, Brenda Holloman, Danylu Hundley, Katy Jones, Laura Kearney, Renee Mizelle, Norma Retzlaff, Sheila Robertson, Heather Sharp, Chris Skinner, Rachel Smith, Nancy Tunstall, and Patricia Williamson

Active Members Absent: Teresa Abbott, Kirby Alston, Diana Bobbitt, Katrinka Brewer, Melanie Burnette, Brooke Callahan, Elaine Coleman, Aimee Anderson Cooper, Robin Edwards, Jenny O'Meara, and Kathy Stewart

Honorary Member Present: Josephine Myrick

Guests Present: Richard Blankenship, Lucia Edwards, Caroline Fleming, and Macie Fleming

Gamma Chi Chapter
2026-2028 Biennium Executive Board/Planning Committee Meeting
July 18, 2026

The Executive Board/Planning Committee for the Gamma Chi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International met Saturday, July 18, 2026, at the Warrenton Church of God. A delicious brunch was provided by Sheila Robertson, president.

President Robertson opened the meeting, and the members began by reviewing the 2026-2028 Strategic Plan. The team agreed to update our chapter theme to match the NC DKG theme, "Leading with GRIT: Grace, Responsibility, Integrity, Tenacity." Our Gamma Chi theme will be *Enriching the lives of educators through friendship, support, and opportunity, and supporting Gamma Chi and its purposes with GRIT (Grace, Responsibility, Integrity, & Tenacity).*

The following adjustments were made to the proposed strategic plan.

- Goal 1:
 - ✧ Remove Action 1.5 regarding time management at meetings as we are successful with this.
 - ✧ Remove Action 1.4 recognizing perfect attendance since it is already stated in Goal 2.3.
- Goal 2:
 - ✧ Action 2.4—Add Beginning Teacher Award to the list of awards since we are already recognizing a member when available.
- Goal 3:
 - ✧ Action 3.5—Add a new item that states "Use opportunities to promote interest in joining our chapter." This will be the responsibility of the Beginning Teacher Support and Membership Committees. Ideas for locations for promotional materials include The Acorn and Warren County Farmer's Market.
- Goal 4:
 - ✧ Action 4.1 needs to be eliminated because the Leadership Development Seminar is no longer available.
 - ✧ Action 4.2 was changed to leadership training for president, treasurer, first vice president, and membership chair. (This will be the new Action 4.1) President Robertson shared there is a push from the state president for Leadership Training among members.
 - ✧ The members agreed to create a Leadership Succession Training under Goal 4. (Nominations Committee)
 - ✧ The members also agreed to add a new goal (new 4.5) which states "Develop an organized file of meeting scripts and notes from training to pass on to the next president." (President)

President Robertson encouraged Committee Chairs to meet and collaborate with their respective committee members to set their goals for the next biennium.

The following committees provided reports during the meeting:

Awards: Chair Sylvia Alston shared that this year there will be 8 Milestone Awards, 14 Member Excellence Awards, and 19 awards for perfect attendance. To save time, the committee will continue to list names on a poster and call each award group forward for a picture at the meeting. By drawing, Nancy Tunstall was the recipient of a free meal at the September Meeting.

Beginning Teacher Support: Norma Retzlaff will remain on this committee but is stepping down as chair due to health issues. President Robertson is taking this on and has reached out to educators at different levels to see what is most needed. The list of supplies has been adjusted, and all items are available at Dollar Tree. It is too early to determine the number needed as positions are still being filled. The Planning Committee agreed by consensus that we will need to include Warren YES teachers.

Scholarship: Chair Betsy Clark proposed a clarification to the current scholarship procedures. Moving forward, reference letters must include at least one educator, and no references should be family members. The proposal was accepted.

Educational Excellence: Earlene Clanton and Nancy Tunstall reviewed the schedule and programs for the next biennium.

Date	Location	Program
September 3, 2026	Warrenton Church of God	Region III Director and Awards
December 1, 2026 (note change in day to Tuesday)	Wise Baptist Church	Steve Young—Singing Santa, Gift Exchange: Nice Santa—\$10 gift
March 4, 2027	Littleton Baptist Church	Regional Director (if we are unable to secure her in September) OR presentation on Person's Ordinary, Vote on Scholarships
May 13, 2027	St. Paul's Lutheran Church	New member inductions, Presentation of Scholarships/Grants
September 2, 2027	Warrenton Church of God	New President or First Vice President by Zoom or Google
December 7, 2027	Wise Baptist Church	Christmas songs and gift exchange
March 2, 2028	Littleton Baptist Church	Reorientation Program: Why are we here/history of organization/our purposes
May 11, 2028	St. Paul's Lutheran Church	Presentation of Scholarships/Grants, Induction of New Members or Diamond Dot Painting, Installation of new officers

Educational Law and Policy: Loree Harris will continue as chair. Sara Council from our chapter is on the state committee.

Membership: Chair Patricia Williamson shared that Diana Bobbitt requested resignation from the chapter. Diane Colin requested a transfer due to her move. Kathy Stewart will be dropped as of October 1st if she doesn't transfer to another chapter. At this point, Gamma Chi is down to a total of 45 members. The committee will provide Member Prospect Cards at every meeting and focus on recruiting our scholarship recipients. It was noted that one of the Burroughs Wellcome Teachers is in Warren County, and that would be another great prospect for membership.

Music/Fine Arts: No one was present for this committee, but the Planning Committee continues to recommend learning some of the new songs in the Delta Kappa Gamma Songbook.

Communications and Marketing: Nancy Tunstall will continue to chair this committee.

Finance: Treasurer Debra Clayton shared development of the budget is still in process. Due to rising costs, we will need to be cognizant of the number of people attending the state convention this year.

Hospitality: No report

Remembrance: The Executive Board/Planning Committee agreed to eliminate the numerous cards that are being sent due to the high price of postage. If a member dies, the chapter will provide a meal to the family, and a red rose will be sent to the funeral home. Memorial Services will continue to be held.

Gamma Chi Memorials: Books will continue to be purchased for the libraries in remembrance of a member.

Afghan Committee: This will continue into the next biennium.

With committee reports complete, the Executive Board/Planning Committee agreed by consensus that all other projects will remain the same.

Other Business Discussed:

- Mentor to new members: The Executive Board/Planning Committee agreed that once a new member is inducted, they should be assigned a mentor as they acclimate to the chapter. The recommendation is that the person who submitted their recommendation should fill this role.
- President Robertson asked if any committees needed supplies. None are needed at this time.
- Nancy Tunstall shared she has a copy of the Order of the Rose Award. It is a very long application process, but it is available if anyone would like to review it.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 12:09 PM. Evelyn Hall won the door prize provided by President Robertson.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie B. Burnette

Recording Secretary

Executive Board/Planning Committee Members Present: Dr. Sylvia Alston, Melanie Burnette, Earlene Clanton, Betsy Clark, Debra Clayton, Gail Coleman, Evelyn Hall, Mary Catherine Harris, Sheila Robertson, Heather Sharp, Rachel Smith, Nancy Tunstall, and Patricia Williamson

**Proposed Gamma Chi Chapter Strategic Plan
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
2026-2028 Biennium**

DKG Purposes

1. **To unite women educators** of the world in genuine spiritual fellowship.
2. **To honor women educators** who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.
3. **To advance** the professional interest and position of women in education.
4. **To initiate, endorse, and support** desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and women educators.
5. **To endow scholarships** to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators.
6. **To stimulate** the personal and professional growth of women educators and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.
7. **To inform** the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

DKG Mission Statement

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

DKG Vision Statement

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

2026-2028 Gamma Chi Chapter Theme

Enriching the lives of educators through friendship, support, and opportunity, and supporting Gamma Chi and its purposes with GRIT (Grace, Responsibility, Integrity, & Tenacity).

Planning Process and Measurement

The Gamma Chi Strategic Plan for the 2026-2028 biennium will be designed to implement the seven purposes and the mission of the Society. The Planning Committee will develop, review and monitor the plan. At the end of the biennium, the Planning Committee will determine all actions to be either **accomplished**, **in progress**, **incomplete** or **deleted**. Actions planned for and completed are reported **accomplished**. Those initiated but not fully implemented are reported **in progress**. Actions that require more time or a new direction are reported **incomplete**. Discontinued actions will be reported **deleted**.

Goals:

1. **To encourage our members to actively attend meetings**
 - Action 1.1:** Continue to promote the Gamma Chi Member Excellence Award. (Awards Committee)
 - Action 1.2:** Provide interesting and informative programs. (Planning Committee and EEC)
 - Action 1.3:** At each meeting, continue to recognize the birthdays of members for that meeting. (President)
 - Action 1.6.** Provide mentoring of new member. (Experienced members)

2. To honor our members

Action 2.1: Continue to recognize members who have been members for multiples of five years. (Awards Committee)

Action 2.2: Continue to write biographical sketches suitable for use as tributes for each member. (Membership Committee)

Action 2.3: Recognize members who have perfect attendance at all four meetings each year. (Awards Committee)

Action 2.4: Recognize a chapter leader and a potential chapter leader by selecting members for the Gamma Chi Golden Key Award, the Gamma Chi Rising Star Award, and Beginning Teacher Award. These three members will be nominated for the respected awards at the state level. (Awards Committee)

3. To increase membership

Action 3.1: Encourage selection of diverse candidates for membership; for example consider age, ethnicity, variety of careers/education work, etc. (Membership Committee)

Action 3.2: Promote the benefits of membership: networking, scholarships for graduate study, professional development grants, spiritual fellowship, professional opportunities and leadership development. (Membership Committee, Scholarship Committee)

Action 3.3: Seek members for reinstatement by contacting former members. (Membership Committee)

Action 3.4: Encourage members to discuss membership responsibilities with prospective members prior to nominating them. (Membership Committee) (Members may invite a prospective member to be their guest at a meeting at the member's expense.)

Action 3.5: Use opportunities to promote interest in joining our chapter. (Beginning Teacher Support and Membership Committees) (Ideas for locations for promotional materials include The Acorn and the Warren County Farmer's Market.)

4. To encourage members to assume leadership roles

Action 4.1: Provide financial assistance for those attending the Leadership Training for president, first vice president (EEC), treasurer and membership chair. (Scholarship Committee—Gamma Chi Professional Development Grant)

Action 4.2: Encourage committee chairs to mentor and train younger committee members to move up to a leadership position. (Committee chairs)

Action 4.3: Encourage members to attend the NC DKG Convention and the DKG International Convention. (President and Communications & Marketing Committee)

Action 4.4: Create a Leadership Succession Training. (Nominations Committee)

Action 4.5: Develop an organized file of meeting scripts and notes from training to pass on to the next president (President)

5. To preserve the rich history of the Gamma Chi Chapter

Action 5.1: Continue to make electronic copies of minutes, newsletters and any other important documents. (Communications and Marketing Committee)

Action 5.2: Continue to write a brief history of each biennium. (Historian)

Action 5.3: Continue to keep a scrapbook of newspaper articles, chapter certificates and anything else of relevance to members' and/or the chapter's accomplishments. (Historian)

Action 5.4: Maintain a historical record of scholarship and grant-in-aid recipients, amount given and the date of the award. (Scholarship Committee, Historian)

Action 5.5: Consolidate storage of archived materials, determine if any of these materials may be discarded and maintain a list of the items. (President and Executive Board)

Gamma Chi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
2026-2027 Proposed Budget for Checking Account (starting 07/01/26)

Checking Account				
Balance Brought Forward July 1, 2026				<u>\$ 5,942.75</u>
Estimated Receipts:				
Dues:				
International	36 @ \$40.00	Active	\$	1,440.00
	9 @ \$20.00	Reserve	\$	180.00
State	36 @ \$15.00	Active	\$	540.00
	9 @ \$2.00	Reserve	\$	18.00
Chapter	36 @ \$30.00	Active	\$	2,010.00
	9 @ \$23.00	Reserve	\$	207.00
Pins and Ribbons	5 @ \$27.00		\$	135.00
World Fellowship, Emergency Fund and other International Funds			\$	200.00
Girls Initiative to Revitalize Learning and Success (Girls' education in Africa)			\$	100.00
NC DKG Funds			\$	50.00
NC DKG Educational foundation			\$	50.00
Meetings Raffles (4 @ \$50.00)			\$	200.00
Total Estimated Receipts				<u>\$ 5,130.00</u>
Total Available for Budgeting				<u><u>\$ 11,072.75</u></u>
Estimated Expenses:				
Dues and Fees				
Dues:				
International	36 @ \$40.00	Active	\$	1,440.00
	9 @ \$20.00	Reserve	\$	180.00
State	36 @ \$15.00	Active	\$	540.00
	9 @ \$2.00	Reserve	\$	18.00
NC DKG Scholarship Fees	45 @ \$0.20		\$	9.00
Gamma Chi Scholarship Fees	45 @ \$0.80		\$	36.00
Total Dues and Fees Disbursed				<u>\$ 2,223.00</u>
Operating Expenses:				
President's Expenses: Conventions, Workshops				\$ 800.00
Webpace Rental for One Year				\$ 36.00
Total Operating Expenses				<u>\$ 836.00</u>
Meeting Expenses:				
Induction (Dinner, Roses)				\$ 110.00
Pins and Ribbons (Recouped by inductees)				\$ 135.00
Memorial Service (Meals for family members)				\$ 60.00
Gifts and Flowers				\$ 200.00
Stationery and Supplies				\$ 75.00
Postage				\$ 50.00
Total Meeting Expenses				<u>\$ 630.00</u>
Special Expenses				
Memorial Expenses (\$50 transferred to Scholarship Fund; Bud Vase to homes)				\$ 75.00
Brochures				\$ 200.00
Total Special Expenses				<u>\$ 275.00</u>
Contributions:				
State Funds - Headquarters - 44 @ \$3.00 (\$132); Scholarship (\$25); Leadership Development Fund (\$25); NC DKG Educational Foundation (\$50) (Last three recouped by members)				\$ 232.00
International Funds - World Fellowship (\$100); Emergency Fund (\$50)				\$ 200.00
Other International funds (\$50); (recouped by members)				
Total Contributions				<u>\$ 432.00</u>
Special Projects				
Warren County Memorial Library (recouped by raffle)				\$ 75.00
Littleton Library (recouped by raffle)				\$ 50.00
New Teacher Bag Project				\$ 100.00
Girls Initiative to Revitalize Learning and Success (Girls' education in Africa)				\$ 100.00
American Cancer Society (Relay for Life)				\$ 50.00
Recognitions (Pins for Member Excellence, Pins for Milestones, Perfect Attendance Pins, Birthday Gifts, etc.)				\$ 300.00
Advertisement in 2027 NC DKG Convention Program				\$ 150.00
Total Special Projects				<u>\$ 825.00</u>
Total Estimated Expenses				<u>\$ 5,221.00</u>
Estimated Balance June 30, 2027				<u><u>\$ 5,851.75</u></u>
Budget is based on \$85.00 per Active Member and \$45.00 per Reserve.				

Gamma Chi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
2026-2027 Proposed Budget for Savings Account (starting 07/01/26)

Savings Account

Balance Brought Forward August 1, 2026 \$ 2,027.57

Estimated Income:

Scholarship/Grants - Honorariums/Memorials/Afghan Raffle \$ 5,000.00

Scholarship Fee 45 @ \$0.80 \$ 36.00

Total Estimated Income \$ 5,036.00

Total Estimated Income for 2026-2027 \$ 7,063.57

Disbursements:

Scholarship 1 @ \$1,000.00 \$ 1,000.00

Grants-in-Aid 3 @ \$1,000.00 \$ 3,000.00

Professional Development Grants \$ 1,000.00

Grant-in-Aid Recipients' Meals plus Guests \$ 60.00

Presenters' Meals \$ 30.00

Total Disbursements \$ 5,090.00

Estimated Balance June 30, 2027 \$ 1,973.57

Use this form to keep a track of your attendance, participation, financial contributions, networking, and lifelong learning as a Gamma Chi member between September 3, 2026 and May 13, 2027. 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 13, 2027 or shortly thereafter. Recognition will consist of presentation of a certificate and pin at the September 2, 2027, 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: 1st meeting on September 3, 2026; 2nd meeting on December 1, 2026; 3rd meeting on March 4, 2027; and 4th meeting on May 13, 2027. (5 pts. each meeting, 20 pts. maximum)
- ____ 2. Attend one or more days of the 2027 NC DKG Convention in Burlington on Friday-Sunday, April 9-11, 2027. (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 1, 2026. (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 1st meeting on September 3, 2026 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, 2027), NC DKG Scholarship (deadline: Feb. 1, 2027) and/or 2027 International Scholarship (deadline: Feb. 1, 2027). 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 4th Meeting on May 13, 2027. 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 13, 2027. (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, 2027 to a DKG International Educators Foundation (DKGIEF) Fund—Cornetet 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, 2027. 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, 2027. 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, 2027. 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. (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 _____

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.)

Proposed Amendment

Article VIII Committees

Now reads:

C. Duties of Committees

3. Social Affairs and Remembrances Committees

b. Remembrance Committee

- (1) Shall update the Remembrance Guidelines as needed.
- (2) Shall send birthday cards to the members.
- (3) Shall send cards to the reserve members at Christmas and Easter.

The Chapter Rules Committee under the direction of the Executive Board and Planning Committee proposes eliminating the sending of cards due to the continual increase in the cost of stamps. If approved, b. **Remembrance Committee** would read:

C. Duties of Committees

3. Social Affairs and Remembrances Committees

b. Remembrance Committee

Shall update the Remembrance Guidelines as needed.

For your information, here are the Remembrance Guidelines:

Remembrance Guidelines

A. Death of a Member

1. A red rose will be sent by the treasurer to the house.
2. A card will be sent by the corresponding secretary to the family.
3. Twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) will be transferred from checking to the Scholarship Fund.
4. The Hospitality Committee from the appropriate group will respond as the situation warrants.
5. Individual members may contribute to the Scholarship Fund at any time.
6. There will be an announcement in the newsletter.
7. Notify the family about the NC DKG Convention Ceremony of Remembrance service.
8. Notify the family about the Gamma Chi Memorial Service.
9. The Gamma Chi Memorials Committee will place a book(s) in the Warren County Memorial Library as a memorial to deceased members of the Gamma Chi Chapter.

B. Death of Immediate Family Member (Spouse, Child, Parent, Sister, Brother)

1. A card from the corresponding secretary will be sent from the chapter to the family.
2. The Hospitality Committee from the appropriate group will respond as situation warrants.
3. Individual members may contribute to the Scholarship Fund at any time.
4. There will be an announcement in the newsletter.

C. Retirement

1. Retiree will be presented a red rose by the president for the chapter.
2. An announcement will be in the newsletter.

D. Special Occasions/Honors (Graduate/Advanced Degrees Completed, Weddings, Babies)

1. Recognition will be given by the president at the meeting.
2. An announcement will be in the newsletter.

E. Contributions to the Scholarship Fund – Individual members may give an honorarium or memorial at any time for anyone.

DKG Prospect Card

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Employer _____

Position _____

Phone _____

Sponsor _____

DKG Prospect Card

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Employer _____

Position _____

Phone _____

Sponsor _____