

Alpha Beta Bits

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

NC DKG North Carolina State Organization

VOLUME 20

ISSUE 4

MARCH 2021

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 24, 2020

Fall Executive Board Meeting, TBA in October Eta Data



NC DKG State Convention Virtual



International Conference, Portland, OR



ALPHA BETA CHAPTER OFFICERS

Trudy Farnell President

Mary Daughtry 1st Vice President

Angie Proctor 2nd Vice President

Heather Pennica Secretary

Becky Kuszmaul Treasurer

Message from President Trudy Farnel

Nancy Messonnier. Do recognize that you name? She is brilliant and as the director of CDC's National the Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases, she made news by stating dire а prediction. It was February 25, 2020 Dr. Messonnier was speaking of the Ċoronavirus (that's what we were still calling it) and her actual wording was, we "ought to be preparing for significant disruption to our lives." When I heard this statement a year ago, I gave it just a passing thought. After

all, we live in an area prone to hurricanes; but, flooding rivers and power outages did not seem to be the concern. Exactly what type of disruption was Nancy Messonnier talking about? How would that look? Never wildest my in imagination...

Fast forward. It is hard to believe that we have been in various stages of lockdown for a year. As I write, it is February 2021 and I am contemplating the words of another very smart and talented woman. Yep - I'm channeling my inner Dolly Parton and after a long dark night, I see the "light of a clear blue morning; I can see the light of a brand new day." So, Dolly, how does that look?

A new day is evident by the very positive news coverage Johnston County is receiving on the success of its vaccination clinics. I was surprised at the level of emotion I felt at Moderna receiving my vaccine at a drive thru at Johnston event Community College (JCC.) I was overwhelmed at the level of cooperation witnessed...See Page 2. Т

President Trudy Farnell 2020-2022



NC DKG Virtual Marketplace

NC DKG will be doing something even more innovative this year due to the Pandemic. In place of a vendor area at an inperson convention, the 2021 NC a Virtual Marketplace. Virtual The Marketplace will allow the members and quests to donate to convention projects. One project is the "Pass the House" to support

Also, you can bid on be open **April 23 - April** "Leadership Baskets" and **30**. The due date for all the NC DKG Educational Vendor Requests are Foundation auction items. March 25, 2021. Please Members and guest will direct all your questions be able to shop for to **Leslie Black**. **DKG** chapter fundraising items Convention will feature also. The good news is 100% of those proceeds will go directly to support projects. chapter Chapters wishing to participate in the Virtual Marketplace must fill out the **vendor form**. The Headquarters. Virtual Marketplace will



Message From President (Cont.)

as JCC staff, public health workers, law enforcement, and the National Guard worked together to make this huge endeavor successful. I was overjoyed (this is not hyperbole) when I read that two thousand public school staff were given their first doses just this week in our county. The Johnson and Johnson vaccine may be available as early as next week. Dolly may be on to something.

The need for a new day was so evident in the emails and texts I received from you after our February program on Self Care and Resilience. This past year has run us ragged and we forget that even the finest cars on the road don't go without an occasional stop for gas. Program presenter, Melissa Overton, convinced me that self care is not selfish. We all needed that.

In Delta Kappa Gamma, we will have a virtual state convention for a second year. But, even in its programs, it is clear that we are preparing for a brand new year where virtual will slowly and safely be replaced with face-to-face. There is an emphasis on leadership development at the chapter and committee level. Attendance at this event in April is in the reach of all members, both in terms of cost and time. I encourage you to go to <u>www.ncdkg.org</u> and consider the program titles. There may be something there that piques your interest.

In our own chapter, if there had been no pandemic, we would have had a wonderful induction program last May, we would have given attention to the election for Johnston County School Board in November, and I would have included an update on the exceptional developmental achievements of my first grandchild in every newsletter. We would probably have spent this past meeting considering new members. To our credit, we have stayed on track - reports have been submitted, committees have met, our Executive Committee Members have done their jobs. Still, it is hard to remain enthusiastic about a virtual existence when we are a group that has traditionally enjoyed the camaraderie of our meetings. Hopefully, in May, we can meet safely face-to-face.

We do see the light of a new day, but it is important that we remain vigilant. This horrid disease is still with us: we are not in full sunshine yet and our optimism must be laced with caution. Still great progress is being made and that's a good thing as our children have lost time and our teaching colleagues have steep hills to climb. When the new day finally arrives, **we will be needed**. I am confident that we will be ready.~ <u>Trudy Farnell</u>





Don't forget, you can donate to our **Alpha Beta Chapter Endowment Fund** in honor and/or memory of one of our Sisters. See form on **Page 12**. Also, see a copy of the **NC Alpha Beta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Expense Form** on **Page 13**.

Time Well Spent During Quarentine

Did we anticipate the impact the Pandemic would have on our lives? I don't believe I fully expected every thing that has happened since last year this time. A lot of us still find ourselves at home quarantined from all the people we love and the things we love to do. The good news is some really remarkable things have happened to brighten this otherwise dreary time in our lives. One of our Sister, **Mary Nell Lee Ferguson**, has decided to spend this time writing a book. She says she doesn't believe that she is a very good writer, but the drive to write is her grandchildren. She wants them to know where they came from and she thinks she can provide them with that knowledge by sharing stories of



her childhood. Mary Nell had a very fulfilling professional career. She was a wonderful teacher and principal. After retiring from Johnston County Schools, she continued to worked with other school systems by sharing her experience and expertise. She loved her school family and being on a schedule, but now finds herself at home with a lot of time on her hands. She said that she has always shared her childhood memories with her grandchildren verbally and began to realize all those wonderful memories may be lost in time if they are not written down. Her book is going to be entitled, *Mirrors of a Southern Girl*. The setting will be in the 40s and 50s in Smithfield, NC, where she grew up. One of her chapters is entitled, "The Switching Tree." She shared the story she told her oldest granddaughter about her father switching her legs because of something she had done wrong. Her granddaughter asked if he switched them back. We both giggled as she shared that story because we knew her grandchildren grew up being disciplined using time out. They never experienced a switching. She is going to publish the book on her own and hopes anyone who grew up in Smithfield during that same time frame may enjoy reminiscing as they read her book. I can't wait to for her to release it. She says she thinks it is really close to being complete. Good luck, Mary Nell.

Reflecting on our Membership

Check out the article on Page 8, where International President Sadowski shares that she believes the key to successfully building relationships among chapter members is to take time to share our stories about the value of our membership. Several ways President Sadowki believes members can share their stories, include sharing in our chapter newsletter. So I reached out to one of our Sisters, Lynn Ragsdale, and asked her to reflect on her experience as a DKG Sister and its value to her. Lynn shared that she was first inducted as a DKG member in Houston, TX. The high school where she taught had its own chapter. The chapter's mission was to identify the brightest students who would become future educators. Lynn shared this was very important to her personally and the chapter's mission matched her quest to make the teaching profession the best it could be. Her chapter provided a scholarship to help make that possible. Soon, Lynn found herself moving to teach in a community college in Mississippi where she was able to move her membership. She wanted to continue to find the brightest students to become educators, but she also wanted educators to become active in assuring legislators were more aware of the needs of



Lynn Ragsdale

educators. Lynn became more politically active at the state and federal level. She was a lobbyist for several groups and realized the influence educators had if only they used their voice to be heard. Four years later, Lynn found herself in NC. She transferred her membership to our chapter and soon represented us as president. In this new role, she was able to work more closely with NC DKG. She began as a member of the U.S. Forum committee and then she suggested a committee to focus on legislative issues and the Educational Law and Policy Committee was created. As part of the outreach of that committee, she began to visit chapters to help empower DKG Sisters to find their voice. She believes that DKG has some of the best and brightest educators and wants to continue to help them realize that we have the power to influence legislators who make decisions impacting education every day. As I talked with Lynn, I still heard the passion in her voice. She believes that DKG still holds true to her values. What I think she wants most is to see her Sisters to continue being involved in making education the best it can be. Lynn meets with NC legislators to ensure they know about DKG and what issues are important to us. Thanks to Lynn taking time to share what DKG means to her.

It's Time for Some Self-Care

Once again, our **1st Vice President, Mary Daughtry**, provided an engaging speaker for our meeting. Our guest speaker was Melissa Godwin Overton. She is a trainer with MedicalTraining.me, an Illuminated Training Certified John Maxwell Trainer, speaker and coach. She began her presentation with an inspiring quote by Eleanor Roosevelt, "We do not have to become heroes overnight. Just a step at a time, meeting each thing that comes up...discovering we have the strength to stare it down." She also shared the definition of self-care as the practice of taking an active role in protecting one's own well-being and happiness, in particular during periods of stress. The essences of her talk with us covered these important points:

- * Importance for self-care
- Relevance of the ABCDE Approach by Dr. Albert Ellis
- * Setting healthy boundaries

Analyzing our boundaries

* Refreshing

*

* Understanding our needs

*

* Renewing our spirit

Finding Grace

* Establishing boundaries * Determining our plan

At the end of Melissa's presentation, she shared a <u>Self-Care Assessment Worksheet</u> and invited us to take the assessment. We enjoyed having Melissa share her expertise with us. If you were unable to attend our meeting, review the recorded meeting that will be sent out soon. Then take a few minutes to complete the self-care worksheet.

Self-Care Assessment Worksheet







Tech Tip





Google Classroom Google Classroom Roadmap (blog.google)

Google Classroom - What's Next?

Google Classroom is a free and easy tool helping teachers manage and assess student progress, while enhancing connections with student from school, home, or on the go. The **Google Classroom** has been helping teachers build stronger connections with students. This allows teachers time to focus on the things that made them want to teach in the first place. **Google Classroom** is giving teachers a sneak peek into new features coming to Classroom over the next year. This sneak peek will highlight the things teachers will have access to in the **Google Classroom** to include additional tools and more controls to features that help students learn from anywhere. This will help to simplify workflow for teachers. To read more details, go to https://edu.google.com/products/classroom/.

- ✓ Use favorite EdTech Tools and Content with Classroom - Teachers will be able to choose their favorite EdTech tools and assign it to students directly inside the Google Classroom — all without extra logins.
- ✓ Analyze Classroom Activity Logs -Teachers will be able to schedule exports of Classroom audit logs to get engagement insights.
 ★ text formatting — including bold, italics, underline and bullets.
 ★ Keep Learning While Offline - Students will be able to start their work offline, review
- ✓ **Track Student Engagement** Teachers will be able to see into which students are engaged and which are falling behind.

- ✓ Improved Grading on Mobile Devices Teachers will be able to continue using mobile devices to give feedback on the go.
- ✓ Rich Text Formatting Teachers and students will soon be able to customize Classroom assignments and posts using rich text formatting — including bold, italics, underline and bullets.
- ✓ Keep Learning While Offline Students will be able to start their work offline, review assignments, open Drive attachments, and write assignments in Google Docs — all without an internet connection.



NC DKG 2021 Convention Project

Region XI has chosen a project for the 2021 NC DKG Convention. The project is entitled, **Knickers for New Life (KFNL).** The challenge the **Knickers for New Life** project faces is thousands of girls in Uganda miss a week of school every month because they do not have access to basic sanitary products. Many girls are forced to quit school. If these girls do not receive an education, they are faced with a life of poverty, disease, HIV, child marriage/teen pregnancy and are at greater risk for human trafficking. The results are life-long. Region XI choose KFNL as the convention project because it reinforces DKG's partnership with Schools for Africa, which is celebrating the 10th anniversary. Members will be ask to consider donating



\$35 to help meet the needs of a girl in a Ugandan school for a year. The good news is 100% of the donations to KFNL will go to the non-profit ministry. To learn more about this project, go to **www.knickersfornewlife.org**. Donations to the convention project can be made in the Virtual Marketplace during the convention.



Taking Time to Relax

If you are able to attend the NC DKG 2021 Virtual Conference, you are in for a special treat. There will be a special session much like an experience at the "spa". It will be featured Saturday in the afternoon as part of the convention plans. You will be able to relax with friends in this special afternoon "spa" session. The session is entitled, "Rejuvenating the Leader within for Inspiring the Leader in Others." The session will be presented by the Leadership Development Committee. It will take place from noon to 5:30 p.m. and "will be limited to an intimate number to enhance participation." For specific information to participate in this leadership event, go to the convention registration form for the virtual NC DKG Convention. Contact Carolyn Coram for additional details or questions.

Headquarters Update

The Austin City Planning Commission voted on two critical decisions: the historic designation for the DKG property was denied, and a recommendation for Downtown Mixed Use (DMU) rezoning was approved without any conditional overlays, such as height restrictions. The demolition permit was approved and we will await the approval of the DMU rezoning by the Austin City Council. Within the next few months, more information regarding these and other next steps will be made available as soon as possible. The potential future sites for a new headquarters in the Austin area will be considered by the Administrative Board. This begins the process into the final stages. It is critical that feedback comes from members and staff. You can contact NC DKG President Dr. Teresa H. Cowan with questions.

Staying Even More Connected

There are so many publications developed by DKG that will keep you connected to the international members. To access any of the following resources, go to the **DKG Website**.



DKG 2021 Conferences Survey

DKG would like to get your input as plans are being made for the international conferences. We do not if know а face-to-face conference will be possible or if members will feel comfortable to attend faceto-face. Your input is valued. То access the survey, sign in to the **DKG** Website with vour username and password.

2021 International Conferences Survey

Please indicate your preference for participating in July knowing what you know at this point in time:

- I usually attend conferences and plan to attend in person this summer
- I do not usually attend conferences but plan to attend this summer in person
- I usually attend conferences and prefer/must attend virtually this summer
- I do not usually attend conferences but would like to attend virtually this summer

Additional Comments/Concerns

Your answer

DKG International President

In her **DKG News** message, **International President, Becky Sadowski** begins with a quote from the book, **The Will to Govern Well**, by Tecker, Meyer, Wintz, and Crouch. The quote she chooses to share is, "Associations will need to focus on things that members believe are important and report on progress in a timely manner." This quote has her wondering if we have ever paused to think about why we value our DKG membership. She believes chapters are learning that this topic can create a discussion that reveals so much about the "health" of our chapter. She believes we are discovering that each of us identifies somewhat different reasons for becoming a DKG member and those differences reflect the fact that all Society members are not the same and that they have different needs and interests. She does not believe that Delta Kappa Gamma is a "one size fits all" organization. She thinks that we are leaders with various strengths and passions, and we value the opportunity to share these as active participants who strive to make an impact in our communities and in the world.



organization. She believes that DKG members would agree that rebuilding and re-energizing begins in our chapters. A key to success can be to build relationships among chapter members. She wonders if the best way to accomplish this is to take time to share our stories about the value of our membership. Several ways President Sadowki believes members can share their stories include:

M highlighting responses in the our chapter newsletter, and/or

Setting aside time in chapter meetings for members to share.

She also shares that longtime members may discover that their reason for joining DKG is not the same as the reason they retain their membership. A beginning teacher may be seeking opportunities for quality professional development programs or networking with other teachers. The now-retired member may be interested in mentoring other teachers or becoming more involved in chapter projects in the community. New members bring their own ideas and perspectives that will be important to consider. Something else she thinks is important to consider is making sure newer members get to interactive with to other chapter members who share their same interests. This may help to build member connections.

Reflecting on members' stories can provide chapter leaders with insight regarding what things members value and believe to be important. Using this information to plan programs and projects can be a strong factor in increasing member engagement. At the same time, she wants us to continue to explore other ways to ensure that our organization remains dedicated to our purposes while offering a relevant experience for our members.

To access more details, go to the **DKG Website**.

DKG AROUND THE WEBImage: Decomposition of the bulletin: Collegial Exchange in print, right
from your mailbox—or online in Flipbook format.Read the Bulletin: Journal online in Flipbook format.

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Becky Sadowski 2020-2022 International President

Mar. - August Birthdays



A special "Birthday Wish" from your Alpha Beta Sisters

March	April	May
Darlin Peedin - 9	Frances Warren - 14	Terry Dickens - I
Carol Massenburg - 12	Olive Cooke - 16	Trudy Farnell - 8
Angie Proctor - 14		Jennifer Moore - 13
Renee Wiggs - 28		Sybil Edwards - 18
Marlene Sanders - 30		Lorine Davis - 23



June	July	August
Amy Stanley - 8	Stacy Holloman - I	Debbie Woodruff - I
Noela Sue Woodall - 9	Paula Bullock - 5	Ann Brown - 2
Kathy Hamilton - 13	Ann Carper - 15	Melissa Finch - 3
Tucker Twisdale - 19	Edna Luper - 20	Mary Fred Daughtry - 25
Lynn Ragsdale - 25	Amy Creed - 21	

*SPECIAL NOTE : If you have a birthday in the months listed above and you do not see your name on the list, please contact Karen Creech. She will make sure you are included on the list.

Purpose and Mission





The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

promotes professional and

personal growth of women

educators and excellence in

education.

Vision Statement: Leading Women Educators, Impacting Education Worldwide

Alpha Beta Chapter Organized April 19, 1952 **TO UNITE** women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship.

TO HONOR women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.

TO ADVANCE the professional interest and position of women in education.

TO INITIATE, ENDORSE, AND SUPPORT desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators.

TO ENDOW scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators.

TO STIMULATE the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.

TO INFORM the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.



Thoughts and Prayers



We have several members or their family members who are not doing well. I know they will appreciate you keeping them in your thoughts and prayers.

Barbara Barnes	Sybil Edwards	Maylene Sanders
Laura Faye Canaday	Betty Ferrell	
Ramona Cash	Glenda Hales	

If you would like to add someone to this list, please contact Karen Creech.



If you have an idea for an article or information you would like to see added to the newsletter, please contact the editor, **Karen Creech**.



Dates to Remember

2021

DKG INTERNATIONAL

2021

- March 1 Deadline to submit to the Bulletin: Journal
- May 1 Deadline for applications for Lucile Cornetet Individual Professional Development Awards (other deadlines: Feb. 1 & Sept. 1)
- May 11 DKG's Founders Day (DKG will be 92!)
- May 15 Deadline to submit to the Bulletin: Journal
- July 7-10 International Conference, Portland, OR
- July 21-24 International Conference, San Antonio, TX
- July 28-31 International Conference, Tampere, Finland

2022

July12-16 - DKG International Convention, New Orleans, Louisiana

March 1 - Deadline to submit Chapter Achievement form, Rising Star and Golden Key nomination

NC DKG

- April 23-25 NC DKG State Convention, Crowne Plaza, Asheville, NC
- May 1 Deadline to submit to the NC DKG News



DKG wants to provide members assistance in navigating some aspects of the internet. To help members be aware of scams and spam, DKG provides online safety and security tips. This helpful information and tutorials will help members to remain in touch while social distancing. The tips cover topics to include email scams, fraud to watch out for and phone scams. If additional resources are needed, DKG provides links to <u>www.EFF.org</u> and <u>www.FCC.gov</u>. To read more details, go to <u>DKG</u> <u>Home</u> » <u>Resources</u> » Tech Tools | Safety Tips.

Contribution NCCF Alpha Beta Teacher Recruitment Endowment Fund

Contributor's Name:	
Date:	Amt. of Contribution:
Contribution in memory or ho	onor of :
Person to be Notified of Cont Address:	ribution:
If mailing contribution, send t Rebecca Kuszmaul (See Chapter Notebool	
(To be completed by Treasur	rer)
Date Contribution Received: Contributor's Check Number	
Date Mailed to NCCF: Treasurer's Signature:	AB Check Number:

NC Alpha Beta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Expense Form

Date:	Member Submitting:	
ATTACH IN	IVOICE/RECEIPT OF EXPI	ENDITURES TO THIS FORM
Reason for expenditures: Committee Awards: Beginning Teacher Suppo	Amount	
Biography Communication Historian(Scrapbook) Leadership	Nominations, Installations)	
	Lodging Registration Meals Travel	
Scholarship Annie Blanton Scholarship Social (Flowers, Gifts, Me	p eting Expenses)	
Supplies Miscellaneous TOTA	AL	
Check Written To? Address (if applicable)		
Check to be returned: dire If check is returned to reques Member's Signature	ectly to individual or mailed stor directly, complete this section whe	d to vendor? en member receives the check. Date:
(To be completed by Treasur Receipts attached?Y Approved by President:	rer) ′ESNO Date Paid: Treasurer's Signature:	Check #: