



# Alpha Beta Bits

Delta Kappa Gamma International Society – Eta State, NC

VOLUME 12

ISSUE 3

JANUARY 2013

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 26 - 28  
2013**

Eta State  
Convention  
Charlotte, NC

**July 10 - 13  
2013**

Southeast Regional  
Conference  
Kissimmee, FL

**July 28 - Aug. 1  
2014**

International  
Convention  
Indianapolis, IN



## ALPHA BETA CHAPTER OFFICERS

**Lynn Ragsdale**  
President

**Debra Avery**  
1st Vice President

**Jennifer Moore**  
2nd Vice President

**Glenda Toler**  
Secretary

**Becky Kuszmaul**  
Treasurer

## Message from President Lynn Ragsdale

Happy New Year 2013!  
Reflecting on 2012 makes me think about all the wonderful friends and family in my life and how blessed I am.

Last year was a difficult year with the loss of my mother. I will treasure the memories and lessons that will last a lifetime.

I am especially grateful for my wonderful DKG sisters. Whenever I have asked any of you to assist Alpha Beta, the answer has always been yes. Many of you have special gifts you

are willing to share and the leadership sincerely appreciates the time and effort you give to Alpha Beta. Thank you, thank you!

The Legislature starts session at the end of January. I hope you will try to attend any town meetings in your area and ask questions of your State Senator and Representative about issues of concern to you and your school, including retirement issues. The issue of tenure will be brought up once again according to news sources. I am including

the email addresses of the 2013 State Senators and Representatives in Johnston County for you to email and request that you be added to their mailing or email list. Please look on Legislative Updates, **Page 4**. Of course mention that you are a DKG member! We need to be heard at all levels of government.

It's exciting...**(See Page 2)**

**Lynn  
Ragsdale**

**lharloe@hotmail.com**  
**ail.com**



## Workshop Topics for Future PD

To carry on the legacy of one of our dearest and most beloved members, Sue Wood, we would like to provide professional development for our members. Sue was always thinking of ways we could continue to be life-long learners.

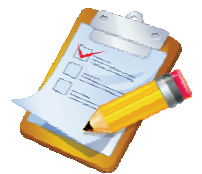
A workshop survey was shared at our November meeting. If you were unable to attend the meeting, you will find a copy of the survey on **Pages 10-11**.

We want to host a professional

development workshop on a topic of your choosing this upcoming year. All you need to do is let us know what topic(s) you are interested in and the most convenient day of the week and month you would like to attend the workshop.

All of the surveys will be tallied and the results will be shared at our April meeting. A copy of the survey will be sent to you by email.

You can complete the survey and email it back to Karen Creech or bring a copy of the survey to the February meeting. Thanks in advance for sharing the survey with your eBuddies.





# Message From President (Cont.)

we have thirteen prospective members and I appreciate all the nominations that were sent to Cathy Cox, our Membership Chairman. Many chapters are having problems with membership loss across the country. We are very fortunate to have so many potential new members!

Thanks for all you do to help make this Chapter the best it can be!

**Lynn Ragsdale - [lharloe@hotmail.com](mailto:lharloe@hotmail.com)**



## Alpha Beta Chapter Minutes

Please read the minutes from the last meeting before each meeting.

## Goodies Bags for New Teachers

### Friendly Reminder from Supporting New Educators Committee

Please remember to bring packs of "nabs" and single serving sized bottles of **Gatorade** to the February meeting.

There are **160 first year teachers** so any "extras" will be appreciated.



## Prospective New Members

Hope you are ready to cast your ballots. We are fortunate to have a large number of prospective new members to vote on at our February meeting. I know you are excited about the prospect of



welcoming some of Johnston County's most outstanding educators to join our Chapter.

Someone will stand up on behalf of each prospective candidate to share something personal about them before we vote. Thanks to Cathy Cox for organizing this.



## Getting to Know You



President Ragsdale shared an idea she found from another Chapter in region 3 that she thought would help us to get to know each other even better. At our last meeting we asked members to share three (3) interesting facts about themselves. If you didn't get to share your facts, please email them to Karen Creech or bring them to the next meeting. A mystery member will be featured in each newsletter.

**WHO  
AM  
I ?**

1. **Mother of three (3) children ages 19, 14, 11 and one foster son and daughter-in-law.**
2. **"K-Ma" to my one foster granddaughter.**
3. **Live in a house built in 1880.**



Find Name of Mystery Member on **Page 6.**



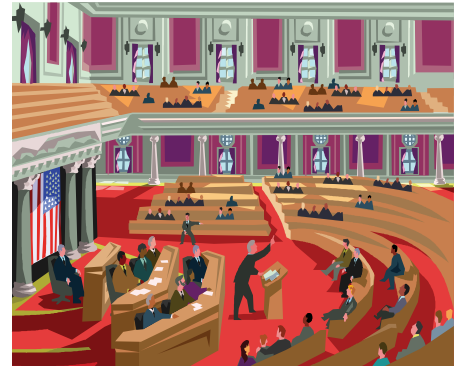
# Legislative Update

Eta State Legislative  
Coordinator  
**Lynn Ragsdale**

There is no legislative information to report this month, but Lynn has provided the email addresses for the Johnston County 2013 State Senators and Representatives as seen below.

Please email your representatives and request to be added to their mailing list or email listserv. Don't forget to mention you are a DKG member! As Lynn has shared, we need to be heard at all levels of government.

If you have questions regarding legislative information, please feel free to contact Lynn Ragsdale at: [lharloe@hotmail.com](mailto:lharloe@hotmail.com).



<p><b>State Senate</b> <b>10th Senate District</b> (2-year term)</p>	<p><b>Brent Jackson (R)</b> 2905 Ernest Williams Road Autryville, NC 28318 910-567-2202 <a href="mailto:Brent.Jackson@ncleg.net">Brent.Jackson@ncleg.net</a></p>
<p><b>State Senate</b> <b>11th Senate District</b> (2-year term)</p>	<p><b>Buck Newton (R)</b> NC Senate 300 N. Salisbury Street, Room 410 Raleigh, NC 27603-5925 919-715-3030 <a href="mailto:Buck.Newton@ncleg.net">Buck.Newton@ncleg.net</a></p>
<p><b>State Senate</b> <b>12th Senate District</b> (2-year term)</p>	<p><b>Ronald Rabin (R)</b> 383 Falling Water Road Spring Lake, NC 28390 910-489-4699 <a href="mailto:Ron.Rabin@ncleg.net">Ron.Rabin@ncleg.net</a></p>
<p><b>State House</b> <b>22nd House District</b> (2-year term)</p>	<p><b>William Brisson (D)</b> P.O. Box 531 Dublin, NC 28332 910-862-7007 <a href="mailto:William.Brisson@ncleg.net">William.Brisson@ncleg.net</a></p>
<p><b>State House</b> <b>26th House District</b> (2-year term)</p>	<p><b>N. Leo Daughtry (R)</b> P.O. Box 1264 Smithfield, NC 27577 919-934-5013 <a href="mailto:Leo.Daughtry@ncleg.net">Leo.Daughtry@ncleg.net</a></p>
<p><b>State House</b> <b>28th House District</b> (2-year term)</p>	<p><b>James H. Langdon, Jr. (R)</b> 300 N. Salisbury St., Rm. 503 Raleigh, NC 27603 919-733-5849 919-733-3113 (fax) <a href="mailto:James.Langdon@ncleg.net">James.Langdon@ncleg.net</a></p>



# News From DKG President

As Dr. Helms and her committee prepare for the 2014 International Convention in Indianapolis, they are interested in knowing what features and attributes of DKG are most valued by its members. Some of the responses include:



**Dr. Beverly Helms**  
**International President**  
**2012-2014**

- Genuine spiritual fellowship and lasting friendships
- Scholarships
- Leadership development and mentoring
- Networking
- Global affiliation
- World fellowships
- Funding for projects
- Professional development
- Opportunities to publish, make presentations, conduct workshops, attend outstanding seminars, conferences, and conventions
- Ability to make a difference worldwide
- Promotion of the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education

As she collected this data, Dr. Helms began to ask some very intriguing questions. Have you thought about the difference your life would be without DKG? Is DKG worth it?

She believes her membership in our Society completely changed her life. I think that is a very powerful statement. Can we look at the value we believe our International Society and our Chapter have in our lives and make the same statement?

I hope all of our members will be able to make a list of the things most valued about our International Society and our Chapter. If you were asked to make a list, how many of the things listed above would be on your list? Would you have something on your list that is not found above?

Both Dr. Helms and President Little would like for us to look closely at our organization and exam why our membership has dropped.

To read about how one state organization grew with a 10 minute phone call, check out **Dr. Helms' Blog** at: [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org). Click on, **Read Dr. Beverly Helms' Blog**.

## International Education Foundation

The International Educational Foundation will celebrate its **50th Birthday** in 2014.

If you want to add to the celebration, members are encouraged to contribute in one or more ways:



1. Become a **Miracle Maker** by contributing \$500 over five years.
2. **Light a candle** on the celebration cake by contributing \$50.
3. Honor or memorialize someone special by contributing any amount.

All gifts of money fund projects that benefit education and children around the world.



# News From Eta State President

President Linda Little shares on her official President's Web page that she has been thinking about all of the things she has scheduled on her calendar for this new year. One of her top priorities is to spend time visiting each Chapter. We have been fortunate to have President Little visit our Chapter.

She also has been thinking about the many committee meetings she is fortunate to attend as our State President. The commitment she has witnessed from the committee chairs has been very rewarding for her and she believes seeing the committees in action has validated for her that our State Action Plan is truly a "living document."

Lastly, she shares there may be blank dates on her calendar and ours, but she wants us to use these blank dates to **reflect, renew, and re-commit** to those projects, programs, and activities that will enhance our personal and professional growth.

I would like to challenge each of our members to look at your calendar for the month of February and take President Little's advice. Start by just finding one blank day on your calendar. Then schedule that day to either reflect on your personal or professional life. Decide the steps you can implement this year that would enhance either your personal or professional growth. As part of your reflection, ask yourself what can your Chapter do to help add value to the steps you choose to take.

To access the Linda Little's official President's Web page go to: <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/Presidents%20page.htm>.



**Linda Little**  
**Eta State President**  
**2011-2013**



# Eta State Convention 2013

The 79th Eta State Convention is **April 26-28, 2013** and is being hosted at the University Hilton in Charlotte, NC. The theme for the convention is "**Transforming Our Traditions.**" President Little and her committee came up with this theme after reading a couple of key words in a sentence from [Delta Kappa Gamma in North Carolina](#): **appeal, purposes, programs, high standards, and devotion of its members.** She notes, to "transform" means to change and the challenge before us is to determine what in the old has value and what of the old needs to be transformed.

One of the focus areas of the conference will be to highlight those members who for one reason or another dropped their DKG membership and have now reinstated. President Little has asked DKG members to:

1. Take time to look at the dropped-member roster in our Chapter.
2. Decide on the strategies we will put into place to invite them to return.
3. Take a look at our Chapter's practices and determine if there are procedures, processes, or protocols that enhance the appeal of our purposes, programs, high standards, and devotion of our members.
4. Take time to determine which of these has lost "its worth" and may even be a barrier to our taking in younger leading women educators.

It is as if President Little was reading our minds. I know this has been a conversation we have already begun. Let's take this challenge and begin looking at how we can bring back former members.



Project by Jen

<http://www.projectsbyJen.com>

## Shorten URLs

It is a fact we need to admit, Web site addresses are getting LONGER and LONGER. And the longer they get, the more chance there is for:

- A. The Web site not to work when clicked on, and
- B. The chance of a mistype which leads to a wrong Web site.

But, several Web sites now provide a way for you to take a very long URL and "small" it down and even personalize it. Several of the Web resources will be highlighted below.

1. The first Web tool is <http://tinyurl.com>. With the Tiny URL tool, you can paste the Web site address and click on **Make Tiny URL** or you can glance down and create a custom URL. For instance, my Facebook URL using this tool would be <http://tinyurl.com/as9oeir> or using the 2nd option it would be customized for my Web site — [PBJFBpage](#).
2. The second Web site is <http://goo.gl/>. Once you open the Web page, you just paste in the URL you wish to shorten and click on, shorten URL. Look to the right for your shortened Web site. One nice thing about this Web tool is if you already have a Google account, it will allow you to see statistics about the use of the shortened URL. Log into your Google account. Next, go to <http://goo.gl/>, pasted in your long URL, then shorten it. Goo.gl will now keep a record of the small URL and also show you details. Goo.gl also creates a QR Code, but I'll show you that with another Web site.
3. Finally, check out <http://is.gd/>. Like the other examples, this is super easy Web tool to use, but it goes one more step. It allows you to create a QR Code which holds your shortened URL.



Here is my Facebook page via a QR Code.

**Enjoy Shortening Your URLs!**

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## Change 4 Literacy

The Literacy Committee would like to remind everyone to bring any extra change to put in the collection jar.

The funds collected will go toward the **Johnson Co. Partnership for Children** or **Mother Read**.



## Let's Celebrate

Have you received an **award**, **National Board Certification**, a **grant** or any **other recognition** for your work and/or service?

If so, let's share this great news. Send information to **Karen Crech** for submission to **Eta State News!**



Did you guess right? The Mystery Member highlighted on **Page 2** is **Karen Parker**.

# Jan. – June Birthdays



A special **“Birthday Wish”** from your Alpha Beta Sisters

January	February	March
Carolyn Riddick – 1	Mary Helen Sills - 26	Dorothy Harris -17
Debra Avery – 4		Allette Hale - 19
Joyce Matthews –13		Jean Simmons - 20
Cathy Cox –16		Renee Oliver - 28
Eve Creech – 17		Marlene Sanders - 30
Jennifer Swartz –27		
Ann Parrish – 28		
Glenda Hales – 31		



April	May	June
Freddie Creech – 1	Camille Boone – 6	Amy Stanley – 8
Bess Ragsdale – 14	Denise Luper – 7	Noela Sue Woodall – 9
Frances Warren – 14	Rose Walker – 11	Tucker Twisdale – 19
Olive Cooke – 16	Mary Sauls – 12	Peggy Batten – 19
Pama Kirby – 24	Jennifer Moore – 13	Lynn Ragsdale – 25
	Karen Hicks – 17	
	Sybil Edwards – 18	
	Lorine Davis – 23	

**SPECIAL NOTE:** If you have a birthday in the months listed above and you do not see your name in the list, please contact Karen at [karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov](mailto:karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov). She will make sure you are included in the list.

# Purpose and Mission



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

**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



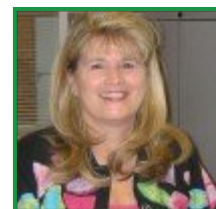
We have several members or their family members who are not doing well. I know they will appreciate you keeping them in your thoughts and prayers.

Susan Auman	Bess Ragsdale
Barbara Barnes	Margaret Walker
Dorothy Driver	

If you would like to add someone to this list, please contact Karen at:  
[karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov](mailto:karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov)



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**, at  
[karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov](mailto:karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov)





# Alpha Beta Chapter Survey for Professional Development Workshop

**First and Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete the survey below. Check all of the choices that are applicable.**

**1. I am interested in participating in a workshop conducted by my Alpha Beta Chapter.**

- Yes
- No

**2. The time of day most convenient for me to participate in a workshop is:**

- 4:00 pm
- 5:00 pm
- 6:00 pm
- 7:00 pm
- Other Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. The day(s) most convenient for me to participate in a workshop is: (Choose all that apply.)**

- Monday
- Tuesday
- Wednesday
- Thursday
- Friday
- Saturday
- Sunday
- All of the above

**4. I would be able to attend the workshop at the Workforce Development Center on Best Wood Drive in Clayton, NC.**

- Yes
- No

**5. The month(s) most convenient for me to participate in a workshop is: (Choose all that apply.)**

- |                                   |                                |                               |                                 |                                    |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> January  | <input type="checkbox"/> March | <input type="checkbox"/> May  | <input type="checkbox"/> July   | <input type="checkbox"/> September | <input type="checkbox"/> November |
| <input type="checkbox"/> February | <input type="checkbox"/> April | <input type="checkbox"/> June | <input type="checkbox"/> August | <input type="checkbox"/> October   | <input type="checkbox"/> December |

**6. From the topics listed below, choose all of the workshops you would like to have provided by your Alpha Beta Chapter.**

- Beginning Facebook – Learn how to create a Facebook account.
- Intermediate Facebook – Learn how to customize your Facebook account.
- Beginning Google Docs – Learn how to create documents i.e. Word document, spreadsheet, PowerPoint, and upload existing documents to Google Docs.
- Intermediate Google Docs – Learn how to customize existing Google Docs.
- Beginning G-Mail Account – Learn how to create a G-mail email account.
- Intermediate G-Mail Account - Learn how to send and open attachments, photos, PDFs, etc.
- Making the Most of the Internet – Learn how to conduct better searches and find valuable resources.

**7. List any additional topics you would like to have a workshop conducted by your Alpha Beta Chapter below.**

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**Thanks in advance for taking the time to complete the survey. Your input is greatly appreciated.**

Please send this survey to Karen Creech at:  
[karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov](mailto:karen.creech@ncpublicschools.gov) or bring to the February meeting.