



Alpha Beta Bits

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International – Eta State, NC

VOLUME 15

ISSUE 3

JANUARY 2016

DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 22 - 24
2016**

Eta State
Convention
Winston Salem, NC

**July 5-9
2015**

International Convention
Gaylord Opryland Resort
Nashville, TN

**April 28 - 30
2017**

Eta State
Convention
Wilmington, NC



ALPHA BETA CHAPTER OFFICERS

**Lorine Davis
President**

**Karen Parker
1st Vice President**

**Karen Creech
2nd Vice President**

**Mary Helen Sills
Secretary**

**Becky Kuszmaul
Treasurer**

Message from President Lorine Davis

The quiet of mornings at home brings out a contemplative nature in me. What a blessing it was to have a few quiet mornings after the hustle and bustle of Christmas! Visits and sharing with family and friends began with our November DKG meeting and continued for me through December 26th. I treasured the preparation times and the "together" times; they were intense and made the quiet time all the more special.

There were quite a few things that swirled in my mind in the quiet.

Family. Church. Work. Home organization always calls to me after the Christmas decorations come down. Health. I haven't done Resolutions since 1987 (or was it 1988?) when I quit smoking. As a dedicated smoker, I suppose realizing that goal made all others pale in comparison.

And Alpha Beta Chapter. I have President's Reports due in February. It's now "testing season", so by February, I should be able to work on them.

There are only two more meetings in "my" biennium. How can that be? I remember the fear that gripped me following installation as president – what was I thinking? Our next two meetings will include nominations for officers and instillation of new officers. Then I'll join the ranks of those courageous women who are called "past presidents". **See Page 2**

Lorine Davis

alphabetapreslorine@gmail.com



Living Legend Recipient

Alpha Beta is so proud to have one of our members, **Mary Cooper Sauls** receive the **Living Legend Award** this year.

Mary has had quite an outstanding career in JCS. She has received several other awards to include, *Clayton Chamber of Commerce Special Volunteer Award*, *Clayton Citizen of the Year*, *Clayton*

Primary Teacher of the Year in 1982; *First Humanistic Award at Clayton Primary*; *Enthusiasm and Effort for Excellence in Education Award in 2000*, and *Who's Who Among America's Teacher in 2006*.

I know you'll want to celebrate Mary for the positive impact she has had on JCS students.



Mary Cooper Sauls was presented the **Living Legend Award for 2015**.



Message From President (Cont.)

So, as president, have I done enough for Delta Kappa Gamma?

We've continued to meet. Remember last February's meeting that became elusive and wasn't held until March? I'm sure Karen Parker and Karen Creech were wrung out with the ever-changing logistics. Thanks to all of you who changed your plans over and over and were able to attend the meeting.

We've grown as a chapter. I am in awe at women who heeded the calling and have graced our organization with their time and talents in the past. An equally impressive group joined our ranks last April. This chapter can do anything it sets its mind to!

We've continued to lead in our schools, in our community, and in our State. Many of us still work in schools with students and/or staff members, striving daily to be the best professionals we can be. In addition, we support beginning teachers each year. We promote literacy by providing books for Harbor House to share with abused women and children. We recognize our members for their years of service, for their member excellence, and for their professional achievements. We remember those who have passed with one of the sweetest ceremonial tributes, yet personalize it so that there is no doubt of the individual professionalism of those remembered. We serve on DKG committees at the State level, providing leadership that furthers the goals of our organization. We are good stewards of our dues, supporting the work of the State and International levels of our organization.

But am I doing enough? Am I meeting the needs of you, the members of Alpha Beta Chapter? Am I meeting your expectations for leading a local level of an international organization? Do you feel encouraged as an educator? Do you feel honored as a member of DKG? Do you feel needed?

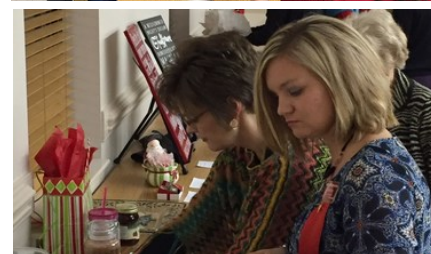
I have about three months left to meet your needs. I implore you to find a quiet moment to consider Alpha Beta Chapter and DKG. Call me (OK – after testing ends on January 15th would be best). Text me. Email me. Meet me for coffee one afternoon after school or on a Saturday. Share your needs, share your passions, share your ideas. Help me realize the potential of Alpha Beta Chapter. After all, it's your chapter, too! Still walking, Lorine

Show Me the Money

I'm pleased to announce we had a very successful **Show and Sell Program**. Thank you for providing such wonderful items for the sell.

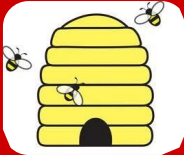
We were able to raise **\$527**. The raffle was a success also with **\$189** raised. The funds from the **Show and Sell** will benefit the **Alpha Beta Endowment** and raffle funds will be used to benefit several of our ongoing projects.

Remember if you would like to donate to the Alpha Beta Endowment Funds, you can complete the form at the back of your Alpha Beta Chapter red notebook.





Saving the Bees



Bees have many different jobs in the hive. Scientists have discovered when they change jobs in the hive, they change their brain chemistry. Here are some interesting facts about how the bee’s brain functions.

- ☑ One percent of all middle-aged bees become undertakers—a genetic brain pattern compels them to remove dead bees from the hive.
- ☑ Bees are hardwired to do certain jobs. Scout bees, which search for new sources of food, are wired for adventure.

- ☑ Soldier bees, discovered in 2012, work as security guards their whole life.
- ☑ But most amazingly, regular honeybees — which perform multiple jobs in their lifetime — will change their brain chemistry before taking up a new gig.

<http://mentalfloss.com/article/53691/13-fascinating-facts-about-bees>

DKGEF “Pays it Forward”



Did you know that the **DKG Educational Foundation (DKGEF)** “pays it forward” through educational projects and awards? A total of **\$18,133** was award in 2015. The 13 recipients representing seven states will be able to attend professional development activities to support individual educational goals such as conferences, national certification, and online courses. Three of the recipients were from the South East Region of North Carolina. Help us increase the number of NC recipients. To learn more, go to <http://www.dkgef.org/>.



Getting to Know You



Each newsletter is going to highlight Alpha Beta members who shared interesting facts about themselves so we can get to know each other a little better. Remember, if you didn’t get to share your facts, please email them to Karen Creech or bring them to the next meeting. Facts about our mystery member is featured below.

**WHO
AM
I ?**

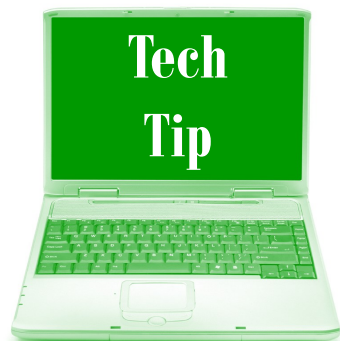
1. **I taught school for 34 years.**
2. **My husband and I have traveled to all 50 states.**
3. **I am recovering form several months of hear and lung problems, but I’m feeling better now.**
4. **I have two sons, two daughters-in-law, and four grandchildren.**



Find Name of Mystery Member on **Page 4.**



Tech Tip



Google Hangouts

<https://hangouts.google.com/>



Google Hangouts

There is a resource I have used for several years that seems to evolve and new features all are being added all of the time. You may know the resource as **Google Talk** or **Hangouts**. I am going to share several of the features I like best.

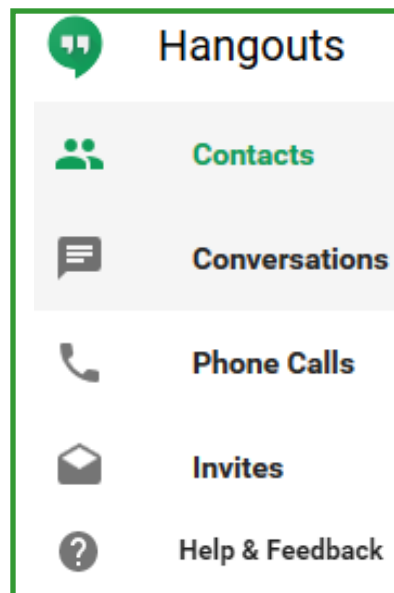
First, you need a Gmail account to use this resource. If you already have a Gmail account, Hangouts is a feature available as part of your email account.

In Hangouts you can **message a friend or start a group conversation**. You can have a one-on-one conversation or

include all your friends in a group chat for up to 10 people. Include photos, maps, emoji, stickers, and GIFs in your chats as well.

Another feature is being able to connect anytime with voice and video calls. **Turn any conversation into a free video call with just one tap.** Talk one-on-one or invite friends for a group call with up to 10 people. **Stay in sync across your devices.** You can sync your chats from device to device and keep the conversation going wherever you are. **Keep in touch with friends** using many of the different smart phones and the web. Listed below are the steps to get you started.

1. Go to: <http://gmail.com>.
2. Next, login to your **Gmail** account, or create a new account.
3. Then, go to: <https://hangouts.google.com/>
4. Next, click on the **Google Hangouts Menu (upper left corner.)** A dropdown list of features will appear.
5. At the bottom of the list, click on the **Help & Feedback** icon.
6. There you will find tutorials on how to get started with Hangouts.



Get started with Hangouts



What you need to get started on Hangouts

- A Gmail Account - <http://www.gmail.com>
- Access your computer's mic and camera
- Internet Explorer, Firefox browsers**

- **Send Hangouts messages**
- **Make video calls or phone calls**
- **Send text messages**
- **Share photos, locations, and stickers**

Did you guess right? The **Mystery Member** highlighted on **Page 3** is **Dorothy Driver**.

Visit our **Chapter Facebook page** at: <http://www.facebook.com>. Search for **Alpha Beta Society International**.



Eta State Convention

Let's get ready for the **Eta State Convention** being held in **Winston-Salem, April 22-24, 2016**. Eta State Executive Secretary Dr. Barbara Perry-Sheldon says hotel registrations are going well. She would like to encourage members who have not made reservations yet to do so soon. She has a few hints to offer in the checklist below that will help make the check-in and check-out process during convention time go more smoothly:

- First, when making a reservation, if you have a roommate, state who your roommates is and even give both credit cards if possible.
- Next, to save time, monitor your room for billing errors during the convention rather than waiting until checkout on Sunday when everyone is trying to checkout.
- If a correction is needed, it can be made daily so fast checkout can be done.
- Remember a lot of members will arrive to check in at 3 p.m. so any hotel staff and those handling parking will be busy.
- Convention planners are working with the Marriott to try to make everyone's experience as positive as possible, and following these tips will help.

Reservation information for the Marriott is on the Eta State website convention page at: <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/2016Convention.html>.

Rooms are **\$119, single or double, plus taxes**. Deadline for the group rate is **March 22nd**, and as in the past, rooms will go fast, so register early. Be prepared to pay for parking in the city deck. A little pre-planning for the conference will go a long way.



Call for Proposals

Eta State's 1st Vice President, Connie Savell, is excited about the good breakout session proposals that are coming to her for the 2016 Eta State Convention on April 22-24. The deadline to submit proposals is **January 25, 2016**.

There are **four strands** for breakout session topics:

- * **Technology,**
- * **Teaching & Learning,**
- * **Personal Growth, and**
- * **DKG Society.**

If you are interested in presenting at the conference, a proposal form is posted at <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/2016WorkshopForm.pdf> or contact 1st VP Connie Savell at mcdpm59@gmail.com.

Rising Star



Eta State and DKG International are teaming together to announce a new award. They want us to be on the lookout for **"The Rising Star"** in our chapter. The recipient of this award will be someone in her early years of membership, who has shown excitement and enthusiasm for our Alpha Beta Chapter. Be thinking of who you would like to nominate for this award. More information will be coming soon!

**"Create the Future
Imagine, Inspire, Ignite"**



News From Eta State President

President Groves believes this is the most wonderful time of the year! She knows chapter projects are in full swing and our contributions are providing a safe environment and hope for educating girls and boys in 13 of the poorest countries in Africa.

Something very important to her is making sure we help to keep our beginning teachers in the classroom. This can be done, she believes, by volunteering our time, materials, and encouragement to beginning teachers.

Collaboration with other community organizations is important to her also because she sees the power collaboration holds for improving the quality of education in our local schools.

She feels there is a very special kind of DKG fellowship that happens at our holiday meetings and fundraisers. She knows we celebrate accomplishments

and get inspired to reach future goals as well as welcome our new members who share our passion for empowering women and promoting educational excellence.

President Groves wants to thank all the dedicated members of Eta State who have worked hard to make a difference in the lives of women and children in NC and around the world. We have many things to celebrate this year! She wants to wish all of Eta State a holiday season filled with peace and joy, happiness and laughter, hope and love.



**President
Sheila Groves
2015-2017**

DKG International President



In the **DKG News**, there was an article entitled, **Build Tomorrow Leaders Today**. The article stated that the state of education and organizations is always evolving. As I was thinking about our upcoming nomination of officers I thought this article had a lot of information we should ponder.

First, rather than relying on or seeking one specific skill set, we must develop people with the expertise to lead and the courage and vision to shed the old and embrace the new as conditions require.

Second, leadership development requires three sets of activities: opportunities for members to learn from other members, natural exposure to the full range of Society activities, and formal training programs. The leadership development process is never finished.

Third, the need for the right leader at the right time remains constant throughout the Society. In order to assess whether you have the right leaders in the right positions and to identify the next generation of leaders in your chapter, we should ask ourselves the following questions:

- How many members have been developed into leadership roles?
- Who models potential through her actions, skills, and expressed interests?
- Who shows an ability to lead even if not in a position of power?

Who comes to mind when you ask these questions? We need to nurture them.



**Dr. Lyn Babb
Schmid
International
President
2014-2016**

Follow Her Blog at:

<http://lynschmid.blogspot.com/>



Jan. – June Birthdays

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

January	February	March
Carolyn Riddick - 1	Suzanne Mitchell - 12	Allette Hale - 19
Joyce Matthews - 13	Gayle Barbour - 21	Renee Wiggs - 28
Cathy Cox - 16	Jean Stowers - 26	Marlene Sanders - 30
Jennifer Swartz - 27	Mary Helen Sills - 26	
Ann Parrish - 28		
Glenda Hales - 31		



April	May	June
Freddie Creech - 1	Terry Dickens - 1	Sandy Smith - 1
Bess Ragsdale - 14	Denise Luper - 7	Amy Stanley - 8
Frances Warren - 14	Trudy Farnell - 8	Noela Sue Woodall - 9
Olive Cooke - 16	Rose Walker - 11	Kathy Hamilton - 13
Yvette Davis - 27	Mary Sauls - 12	Peggy Batten - 19
	Jennifer Moore - 13	Tucker Twisdale - 19
	Karen Hicks - 17	Lynn Ragsdale - 25
	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. 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.

Barbara Barnes	Freddie Creech	Maylene Sanders
Laura Faye Canaday	Glenda Hales	Margaret Walker
Betty Ferrell	Bess Ragsdale	Mary Helen Wyatt

If you would like to add someone to this list, please contact Karen at: 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

