



Alpha Beta Bits

Delta Kappa Gamma International Society – Eta State, NC

VOLUME 13

ISSUE 4

MARCH 2014

DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 25 - 27
2014**

Eta State
Convention
Greenville, NC

**July 28 - Aug. 1
2014**

International
Convention
Indianapolis, IN

**April 24 - 26
2015**

Eta State
Convention
Chapel Hill, NC



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

Alpha Beta Sisters,
This will be my last message as President of Alpha Beta. It has been an honor and a pleasure to be your Chapter President for the last two years.

Sometimes we come to meetings and get excited but may not get involved. We never get to know our members very well, especially in a Chapter as large as ours, unless we work to get to know one another.

As an outsider moving in nine years ago, DKG was my first real

chance to meet new people. But as President of Alpha Beta, I found it a challenge to get to know everyone and I realize now what I had missed in past years.

We have a caring group of professional women with such leadership capacity. Working with such intelligent, innovative, and creative women has made my job as Chapter President so much easier, and I want to thank my committee chairman for that.

Our new slate of

officers has been presented, and we are most fortunate to have excellent leadership for the next two years.

Of course, I hope they will continue to emphasize legislative involvement by our members, as that is my passion. Thank you for allowing me the privilege to serve you as President of Alpha Beta.

**Lynn
Ragsdale**

lharloe@hotmail.com



A Glimpse into the Past

At our February meeting we honored members of our Chapter who have been a member of DKG for 40+ years. I'm sad to share several of our members were not able to attend the meeting because of health issues. That did not keep us from celebrating their great accomplishment.

I think it is incredible to be able to say you have been a member of an organization for that many years. I sure hope we are able to instill this kind of dedication

and devotion in our students.

Our President spent time in the Heritage Center in Smithfield, NC looking through the scrapbooks we have on loan at the center. She said she enjoyed looking through all of the photos and being able to take a short glimpse into the past. We showcased several pictures of the members we celebrated.



**Margaret Walker
Initiated in 1958**

A Glimpse into the Past (Cont.)



Mary Sauls – 41 Years



Bess Ragsdale – 41 Years



Ann Parrish – 41 Years



Dorothy Driver– 43 Years



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. Enjoys swimming.
2. Once ran over Gary Player at a golf tournament.
3. Wishes she could sing.
4. Loves to sit and people watch at the mall.



Find name of "Mystery Member" on Page 4.

A Glimpse into the Past (Cont.)



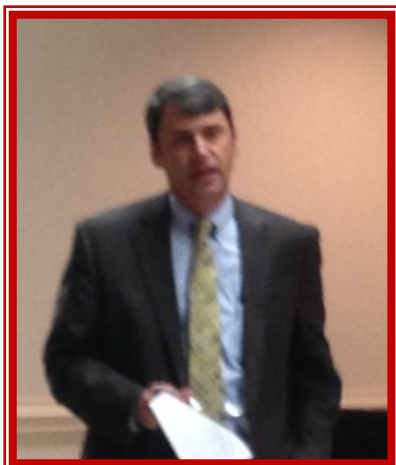
Freddie Creech – 45 Years



Eloise Bonds – 50 Years



Ramona Cash – 51 Years



Dr. Ed Croom
JCS Superintendent



Pat Taylor
Eta State President



Debra Avery
1st Vice President



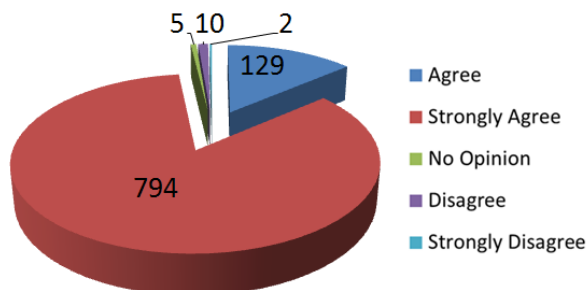
Eta State Survey Results

In October 2013, the **Eta State Educational Law and Policy Committee** developed a survey in an effort to determine DKG members' views on selected legislative issues. Members were given until **Nov. 20th** to complete the survey. There was low response to the survey so the deadline was extended to **Dec. 30th**. The survey results have been tallied and the Eta State Educational Law and Policy Committee met to discuss the results. It was decided the results of this survey will be shared and another survey will be sent out to ask for more participation.

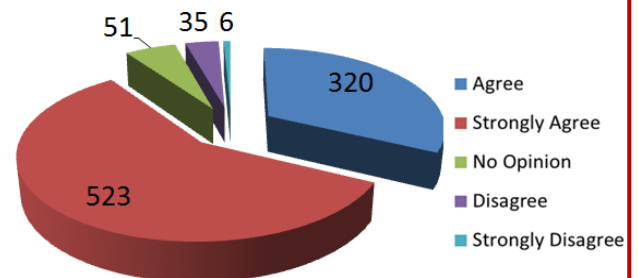
Each chapter president will receive a copy of the first set of results to share with their members. This was a very small sample of DKG members who completed the survey. Less than 1000 members responded. The new survey will have the exact same questions and will come out the first of March. Members who completed the first survey will not need to complete the new survey. It is only for members who were unable to participate the first time the survey was shared.

The results of the first survey are found on **pages 2-4**. There were 14 questions members were asked to respond to choosing from the following responses: agree, strongly agree, no opinion, disagree, strongly disagree. If you have questions regarding the survey, please feel free to contact **Elaine Jenkins** at bjenkins4@earthlink.net.

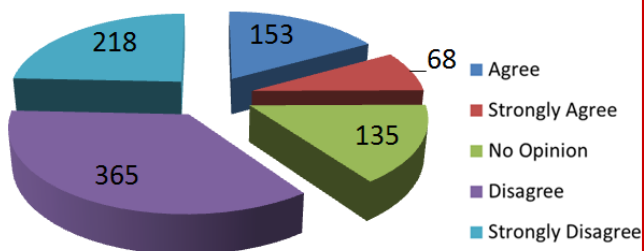
1. A legislative priority should be to increase all teachers' salaries each consecutive year beginning in 2014 until they reach the national average.



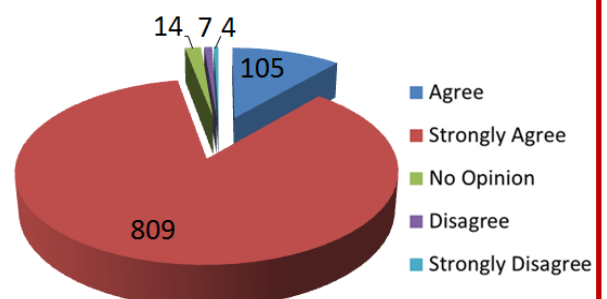
2. To combat attrition in the first three years, beginning teachers should receive a pay increase in year three.



3. N.C. should improve teacher compensation by developing a merit pay system.



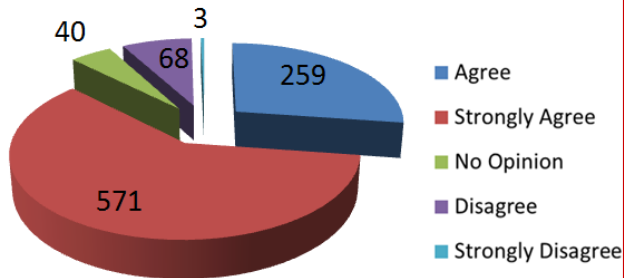
4. N.C. should reinstate additional pay for graduate degrees.



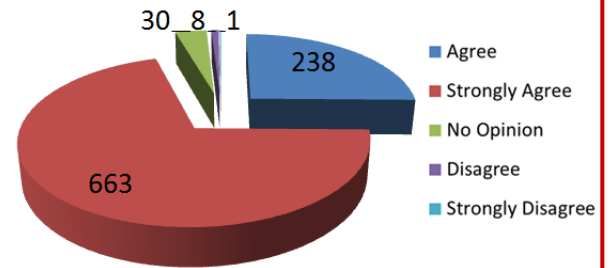
Did you guess right? The "Mystery Member" highlighted on **Page 2** is **Karen Hicks**.

Eta State Survey Results (Cont.)

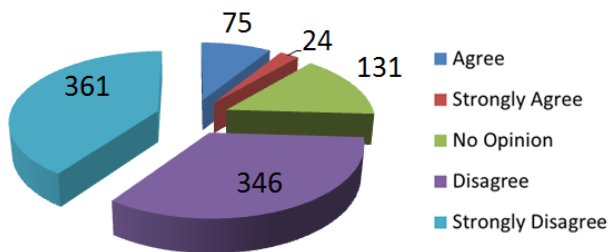
5. N.C. should provide a full-time teacher assistant for all classrooms in grades K-3.



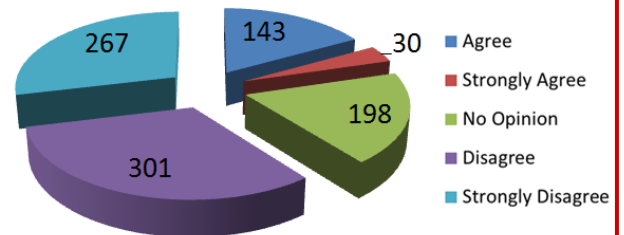
6. N.C. should reinstate 2012-13 class size requirements.



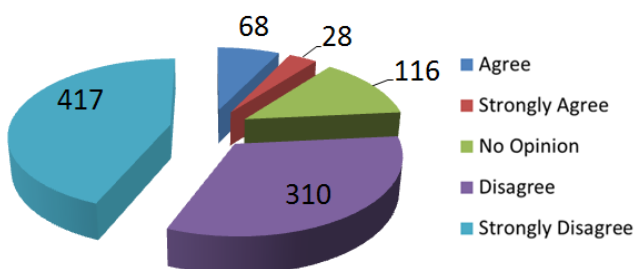
7. N.C. should provide vouchers for private education for students living below the poverty level.



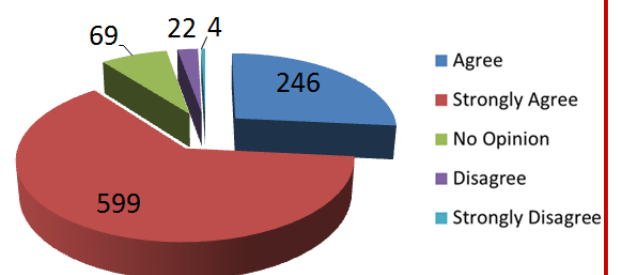
8. N.C. should provide vouchers for students enrolled in Exceptional Children's programs.



9. N.C. should provide vouchers for any student living in N.C.



10. N.C. should reinstate the Teaching Fellows Program.



Fund Raisers



The total amount collected from the raffle was **\$216** and this money will be applied to the **Leadership funds**.

Money collected for **"Change for Literacy"** was **\$53.80**. Thanks for supporting both of these fundraisers.

All About Building Relationships

This past July a group of our Alpha Beta Sisters got together for a social outing at the Pottery Camp in Clayton. I was unable to attend, but everyone I talked to who attended shared how much fun they had being together.

I have been thinking about organizing another outing and I got an idea while at the NC State Fairgrounds over the weekend. I had the pleasure of meeting Barbara Friedman who has a booth with the most incredible selection of beads. I inquired if she offered classes and she does. She will host outings at the place of our choosing or she can host the outing at her booth at the fairgrounds on a Sat. or Sun. A complete bracelet is \$19.00. This includes 13 beads of your choice and several styles of bracelets to choose from.



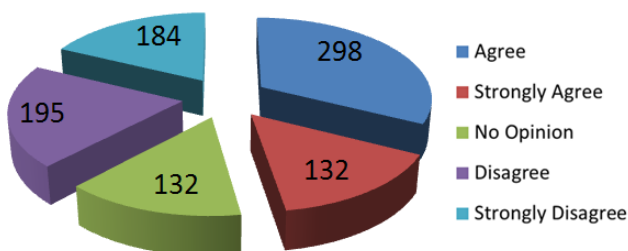
She had so many pretty bracelets on display that I couldn't pass up the chance to create a bracelet while I was there. Boy, am I pleased with the bracelet. I have created more bead bracelets than I should admit to, and the quality of these beads are as good if not better than the beads I have purchased on my own.

If you are not really into bead bracelets, think about making the bracelet for a birthday or Christmas gift. I want this outing to be more about the fellowship than about making the bracelet.

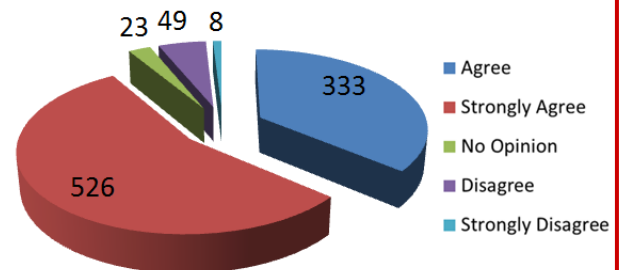
I will send out a survey to determine who is interested in participating. I will be glad to organize this outing.

Eta State Survey Results (Cont.)

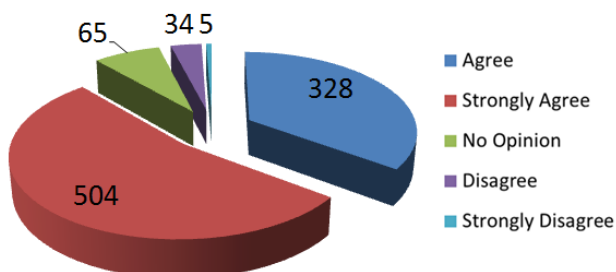
11. I approve of 1-4 year contracts for teachers.



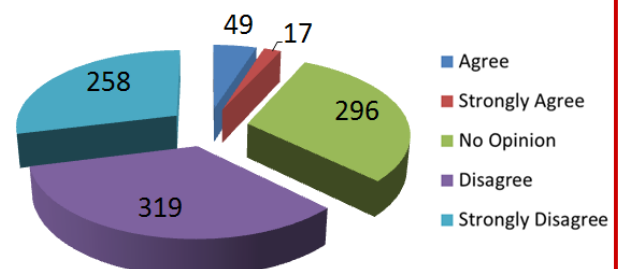
12. N.C. should reduce standardized testing.



13. N.C. academic and behavioral standards should be consistent for any school receiving state funds.



14. I approve of the new state system for "grading schools."



2014 International Convention

If you are up for an adventure, you will want to start making plans to attend the **2014 International Convention** in **Indianapolis, Indiana** on **July 28, 2014 - August 1, 2014**.

The DKG convention committee has made a lot of arrangements so you will be able to experience



history, arts, jazz, and even Nascar while in Indianapolis. Some of the tours include: **"Love of Art"** at the Indianapolis Arts Center, **"Salute to History"** at a historical mansion, **"Wine and all that Jazz"** at the Chateau Thomas Winery, and the **"Brickyard 400 NASCAR Spring Cup Race."**

Let's not forget the time and effort that has gone into the planning of some outstanding sessions and convention speakers. Dr. Ron Rosenburg has been chosen as a keynote speaker. His keynote is entitled, **"Hidden Secrets to Doubling your Memory."** He will reveal memory secrets.

This promises to be an outstanding convention. If you would like to have more details, go to <https://www.dkg.org/content/2014-international-convention>.

Reprinted from DKG Web site—www.dkg.org



Education Foundation

The Education Foundation will celebrate its 50th year in 2014. Members are celebrating the anniversary by **"Giving to Educate the World."** Every named candle on the birthday cake represents a contribution of \$50.

As part of the Educational Foundation's 50th anniversary there will be **50 \$1,000 grants** for educational projects that will be presented at the 2014 International Convention in Indianapolis. For more information about projects, awards or the 2014 Seminar in Purposeful Living, go to: www.dkgef.org.

If you would like to donate to the **Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation**, go to: <https://www.dkg.org/content/donate-educational-foundation>.

Where is Your Voice?



The **International Membership Committee** wants to remind each member that you have a voice—not just chapter or state leaders. The membership committee listened to concerns and successes members shared during workshops and conference trainings in 2013 and has compiled the data. This data will help to shape the committee planning for the second year of the biennium.

If you want to continue to have your voice heard, you can participate in the **Members-in-Action** group on the DKG Network at: <https://www.dkg.org/groups/members-in-action>.

The membership committee would like to encourage you to contact your regional representative for assistance when needed.

Visit our Chapter Web site at: <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC-alphabeta/index.htm>

Jan. – June Birthdays



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

| January | February | March |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Carolyn Riddick - 1 | Mary Helen Sills - 26 | Sabrina Dees - 2 |
| Debra Avery - 4 | | Allette Hale - 19 |
| Joyce Matthews - 13 | | Renee Wiggs - 28 |
| Cathy Cox - 16 | | Maylene Sanders - 30 |
| Eve Creech - 17 | | |
| Jennifer Swartz - 27 | | |
| Ann Parrish - 28 | | |
| Glenda Hales - 31 | | |

| April | May | June |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Freddie Creech - 1 | Terri Dickens - 1 | Sandy Smith - 1 |
| Bess Ragsdale - 14 | Camille Boone - 6 | Amy Stanley - 8 |
| Frances Warren - 14 | Denise Luper - 7 | Noela Sue Woodall - 9 |
| Olive Cooke - 16 | Trudy Farnell - 8 | Kathy Hamilton - 13 |
| Yvette Davis - 27 | Rose Walker - 11 | Tucker Twisdale - 19 |
| | Mary Sauls - 12 | Peggy Batten - 19 |
| | 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. 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.

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Peggy Batten | Dorothy Driver | Bess Ragsdale |
| Vivia Creech | Joyce Matthews | Margaret Walker |
| Laura Faye Canaday | Leona Parrish | Rose Walker |

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

