



Alpha Beta Bits

Delta Kappa Gamma International Society– Eta State, NC

VOLUME 11

ISSUE 2

NOVEMBER 2011

DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 27-29
2012**

Eta State
Convention
Cary, NC

**July 24-28
2012**

International
Conference
New York, NY

**April 26-28
2013**

Eta State
Convention
Charlotte, NC



ALPHA BETA CHAPTER OFFICERS

Jennifer Swartz
President

Lorine Davis
1st Vice President

Karen Creech
2nd Vice President

Debra Avery
Secretary

Becky Kuszmaul
Treasurer

Message from President Jennifer Swartz

Can you believe it's December already? It wasn't until recently when the cold weather that came through that I realized that winter is here and that Christmas is just around the corner.

There's shopping and baking, gathering and fellowship, excited children and distracted students. Often I find that I fall prey to worries about many of the worldly concerns surrounding the holiday season and grow anxious as I worry that I won't get it all done.

Last week I heard a sermon address how our expectations shape

our experiences and how we find exactly that thing for which we look. Instead of expecting stress, we should expect joy. We should focus on this season of love and find joy in the traditions that bring us close together to celebrate the birth of Christ and His great love for us.

I am looking forward to joining all of you at our annual holiday brunch and Show and Sell this Saturday.

With the leadership of Peggy Jo Batten, Betty Ferrell, and Karen Parker, we will enjoy a beautiful program of music and fellowship as we raise money to

support our scholarship fund.

The same qualities that identified us for membership in this selective society keep our calendars filled with activities and can bring on those stressful feelings so often associated with the Christmas season.

Thank you for making Alpha Beta and its...

(Continued Page 2)



Technology Initiative

At the October business meeting, recently inducted member, Amy Stanley, presented the problem-based approach she is helping to implement in Johnston County Schools (JCS.) This approach is more about the process and what is learned along the way rather than the end product.

In JCS, technology is used as a tool for delivery, instead of the focus of the lesson. This is done by utilizing

Smartboards, slates, probes, student response systems, and tablets.

Teachers are doing great things with safe social networking resources such as Moodle, Edmodo, Gaggle and Google Docs.

Amy shared this JCS initiative impacts the way teachers are being evaluated, how professional learning communities operate, and places a focus on teachers as life-long learners.

We're fortunate to have Amy share the JCS initiatives. There are wonderful things going.



Message from President cont.

mission a priority this weekend. Please remember that we are blessed to have the opportunity to meet together to celebrate our friendships and our love of learning while supporting our future teachers and society members through our Show and Sell. Thanks in advance for all of your support.



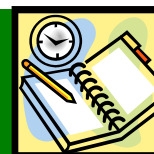
Merry Christmas!

Jennifer Swartz, President, swartzwoman@gmail.com

Eta State Bylaws



Legislative Survey



The **Eta State Bylaws and Rules** are posted on the Eta State Web site. The documents are posted as PDFs. The links to the bylaws and rules are listed below.

Eta State Bylaws Revised 2011 -

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/RevisedBylaws2011.pdf>

Eta State Standing Rules -

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/SRrev2011.pdf>

Draft "Checklist Chapter Rules -

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/rulesChecklist.pdf>

There has been a great response to the survey being conducted by the **Educational Law & Policy Committee**. The committee is interested in your feedback. The data taken from this survey will be used to frame conversations with members of the N.C. General Assembly.

If you have not taken the survey, please make sure you complete it by **December 31, 2011**. Please rank topics in order of concern to you (1 being the highest). If you have questions about the survey, please contact:

Lynn Ragsdale at: iharloe@hotmail.com.

To respond to the survey, please go to: <http://tinyurl.com/EtaStateLegislativeSurvey>



Mark Your Calendars



Don't forget to mark your calendar for the **Eta State Convention**. It is going to be held at Embassy Suites in Cary on **April 27-29, 2012**. Since the convention is in our region, Jennifer has volunteered the Alpha Beta Chapter to put together bags for all of the officers and special speakers. Mrs. Tyronna Hooker, the current NC Teacher of the Year will be a keynote speaker on Saturday.

A block of rooms have been reserved at the Embassy Suites. If you are interested in making a room reservation, go to the Eta State Convention Reservation Web site at: <http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/>

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



Legislative Update

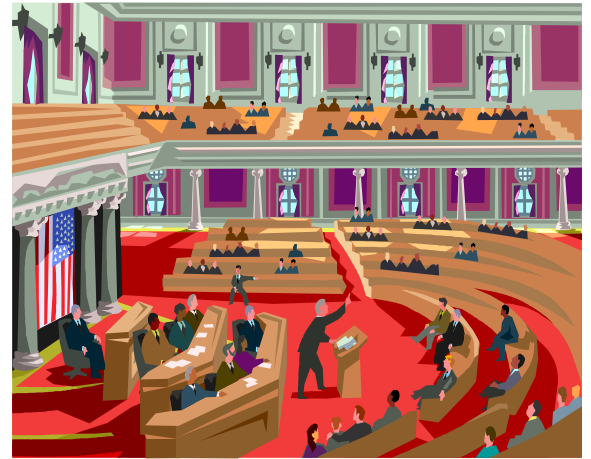
Eta State Legislative
Coordinator

Lynn Ragsdale

November 2011

There is not much going on at the General Assembly except the report regarding redistricting (at bottom) so I'm including some federal issues that might be of interest to DKG members.

"Reaffirming 'In God We Trust' as the official motto of the United States and supporting and encouraging the public display of the national motto in all public buildings, public schools, and other government institutions" (**H Con Res 13**) - **Passed on Nov 1, 2011 in a vote of 396 to 9 with 2 indicating present, and 26 not voting.**



All NC Representatives voted for the Resolution except Rep. Melvin L. Watt (D-12th) who answered "present." Only two Congressmen answered "present" the other one was Keith Ellison (D-MN).

"Modify Income Calculation for Eligibility for Certain Health Programs" (HR 2576) - The bill considers "Social Security benefits when determining eligibility for government health care programs." [Megavote] The 2010 health care law (Obamacare) does not consider social security payments when determining eligibility. **The vote on Oct 27, 2011 was 262 to 157 with 14 not voting.**

NC Representatives voting for the bill: Renee Ellmers (R-2nd), Walter B. Jones (R-3rd), Virginia Foxx (R-5th), Howard Coble (R-6th), Mike McIntyre (D-7th), Sue Myrick (R-9th), Patrick T. Mc Henry (R-10th), and Heath Shuler (D-11th).

North Carolina General Assembly

1. "Joint Statement on Justice Department's Approval of Redistricting Maps" - On Nov 1, 2011 a press release from the President Pro Tem's Office (Senator Berger) stated that the Department of Justice had "pre-cleared North Carolina's 2011 State Senate, State House, and Congressional redistricting maps. This is the first time in 30 years all three plans have been pre-cleared by the Justice Department during the initial 60-day review period."

If you have not completed your **DKG Legislative Survey** please go to: <http://tinyurl.com/EtaStateLegislativeSurvey>



Official Web site Seal

Our Alpha Beta Chapter Web site now has the 2011-12 official seal. Each Chapter Web site must pass a set of criteria in order to get the official seal. Check it out at our Chapter Web site: <http://deltakappagamma.org/NC-alphabeta/index.htm>





Literacy Committee



The Literacy Committee would like to invite each of you to donate books or money toward the purchase of new books. The books will be donated to a school library in Johnston Co.

The Literacy Committees' purpose is to promote reading in our communities. Donations may be brought to our December meeting or mailed to: **Jennifer S. Moore, 1114 Chestnut Drive, Smithfield, NC 27577.**



50/50 Raffle



The 50/50 raffle was such a success at our last meeting, we have decided to bring it back for our December meeting.

We raised \$154 and voted to use the funds to support the Literacy Committee. Let's see if we can raise even more.

You will have a chance to win several different prizes, including \$25 gift certificates to local restaurants and a pair of small diamond earrings from Evans Jewelers'. If you want to bring something to raffle, please let Karen Creech know before the December meeting.

So bring a handful of your dollar bills for a chance to win one or more prizes. We know you had fun last time helping to raise money for one of many worthy projects.



Show and Sell



It's that time of year when we get to share some of our favorite things to sell at our Show and Sell. You don't have to bring anything fancy. It can be homemade goods such as pickles, freshly baked brownies, or pies. Jewelry and craft items are always good sellers as well.

The Show and Sell event is our biggest fundraiser of the year to support our scholarship fund. To date we have collected \$1,960. For the past 3 years, Frank Holding has matched our funds up to \$2,500.

We are so close to our goal of \$540 so it is going to be important that everyone participate in the silent auction. Remember, as the bids increase, the funds in our endowment fund grow to benefit the college students we support through our scholarship.

I think you would agree, our ultimate goal is for the scholarship fund to become self supporting so we don't have to worry about whether or not we have enough money every year for our scholarships. Thanks in advance for supporting the Show and Sell.





Lights, Action, Camera



Dr. Jensi Souders is looking for short videos from sharp, well-speaking one- to-five year Delta Kappa Gamma members. She would like for these members to give a one-minute, enthusiastic and sincere speech on why they value their membership.

Dr. Souders plans to use these videos as examples of *Designing our Future* and share will be shared at the International Convention in New York City , NY, July 24-28, 2012.

If you are interested in making a 1 minute video and need some help, please let Karen Creech know. If you would like to make your own video, you can send the DVD to: Dr. Jensi Souders at HQ, P.O. Box 1589, Austin, TX, 78767-1589.



The deadline for sending the DVD is **January 1, 2012**. Make sure you include your name, chapter, and state organization, but **NOT** in the video.

Souders' team will select as many videos as possible to include throughout the international convention. It would be great to have Alpha Beta Chapter members highlighted.



Facebook

Just a friendly reminder for anyone who enjoys communicating via Facebook, you can join us by searching for **Alpha Beta Society International**. Amy Stanley will be sending out information to our Facebook page. We know there are a lot of Facebook Fans in our chapter ,so contact Amy with your questions at: thestanley4@gmail.com.

2010-12 International Vision Statement

*Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education Worldwide*

2010-12 Theme

*Embracing Our Vision
Designing Our Future*

2011-13 Eta State Theme

Embracing Our Vision Designing our Future

Lead Serve Impact



Good News Travels Fast

Linda Little, Eta State President, read the article in our November issue regarding the JCC Library room being dedicated to Anne Ogburn. She suggested the information be shared in the Eta State Newsletter (ESN.)

Information was sent to the ESN editor, Sue Roberts. She said she would make sure the information was shared.

Please keep a check at the Eta State Web site for the next ESN to see the information highlighting Anne.

To access the **Eta State Web site** go to: <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/Communications2members%20page.htm>.

Image taken from <http://www.kcparent.com/NewsletterSignup.aspx>



Recruiting Members

It is time for us to begin thinking about recruiting new members. New recruiting materials are being used by Chapters across the DKG organization with exciting results.



The materials include a *Pride in the Big Picture Orientation CD PowerPoint* and the accompanying brochure.

Pride in the Big Picture is available from International for \$5.00. A sample letter to invite future members to the orientation is included in the packet.



Challenge From State President

*“Leading Women
Educators Impacting
Education Worldwide”*

President, Linda Little believes it is important we are by **Leading, Serving, and Impacting**. She says we don't need just any women, we need **“leading women;”** and not just any women in any profession, but **“leading women educators.”**

“Impacting” means we are **“producing change”** or **“having an effect”** on an event or an idea. She wants us to think about how Eta State fits into the big picture of the International Society even though **“worldwide”** covers a lot of territory. Sometimes this territory is beyond our community, our county, and even beyond our state.

It is important we think about how you can fit into the **BIG** picture to make our vision a reality. She wants to challenge us, personally, our chapter, and our state organization to **embrace, design, lead, serve, and impact** to make a difference for education worldwide. **Are you ready to take on the challenge?**



Linda Little
*Eta State President
2011-13*

Read the article in its entirety at the Eta State News —<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/ESNFall2011.pdf>

Official Project of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Schools for Africa Project



For a detailed map of the countries, go to:

[http://
www.internetworldstats.
com/africa.htm](http://www.internetworldstats.com/africa.htm)

There are six countries taking part in the project, **Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa and Zimbabwe**. In September of 2009, **Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Ethiopia and Madagascar** were added. Below is a list of projects completed through the Schools for Africa Project.

- **SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION — Phase 1** — Over 1,000 schools at cost of \$14,000 each, fully furnished were built. (165,550 MXN). Schools offer a safe, protective environment where children can learn and play.
- **CLEAN WATER and SANITATION FACILITIES** — \$4,800 (56,227.2 MXN) will provide a safe water point at a school site. Without separate sanitation facilities for boys and girls, most girls stop coming to school at puberty.
- **SCHOOL-IN-A-BOX KITS** — \$250 (2928.5 MXN) provides a school-in-a-box kit containing learning materials to 80 school children. This amount also includes transportation costs for getting the materials to the site. These kits are used generally where there are no schools or where schools are being constructed or renovated.
- **TEACHER TRAINING** — \$125 (1464.25 MXN) provides 3 days of training for teachers, ultimately benefiting about 1,200 children.
- **SCHOOL SUPPLIES** — \$45 (527.13 MXN) will give 10 children the supplies and learning materials they need.
- **LEARNER KITS** — \$10 (117.14 MXN) provides one student a learning kit which contains a book bag, stationery, mini atlas, and math tables.

Information taken from the **SCHOOLS FOR AFRICA: Big Game Safari PowerPoint**. For additional information go to: http://www.dkg.org/site/c.meJMIOQwErH/b.6118587/k.7FE7/Schools_for_Africa_Project.htm.

Click on: **Schools for Africa Safari-Latin America and United States**



Eta State Awards



The Eta State Awards Committee will recognize 2 awards at the 2012 Eta State Convention for excellence by individuals and chapters.

Presidential Chapter Achievement Award - This award recognizes chapters for distinctive, excellent, and superior achievement. I know you believe we have an outstanding chapter worthy of this award. We could be one of 5 chapters presented this award. The form must be completed and sent to the respective regional director no later than **March 15, 2012** to be considered.

Golden Key Award - This is a new and very prestigious award. One member from each of the 11 regions who have made significant contributions to Delta Kappa Gamma will be presented this award. The member must be active at various levels of the Society to include community involvement, involvement in other organizations, and involvement in education. I know we have several Alpha Beta members who should be nominated for this award. Nomination forms must be postmarked or emailed no later than **March 1, 2012**.

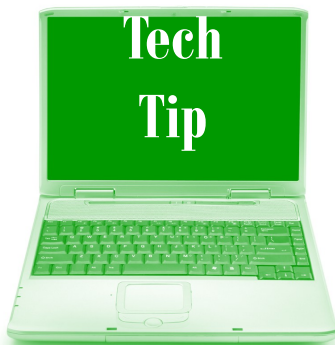
More detailed information about each of these awards can be found on the **Eta State Web site** at - <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/Awards.htm>



Tech Tip



I noticed in the latest copy of the DKG News a section dedicated to a technology tip. I thought it would be a great new addition to our newsletter. I have asked Amy Stanley to be responsible for sharing a technology tip with you. I hope you find this new section helpful.



If you are in the classroom, you are hearing a lot about the Common Core Standards. These standards are research and evidence-based as well as internationally benchmarked. These standards will help to define the knowledge and skills students need to succeed in the career path they select whether it is workforce training or academic college courses.

Amy has discovered a set of informational guides provided by the National PTA. She believes these guides would be beneficial to teachers as well and has them posted on the Johnston County Web site. The guides will help to provide a better understanding of the Common Core Standards. The resource is divided by grade level.

Common Core Standards
<http://www.corestandards.org/>

Common Core and State Essential Standards
<http://www.dpi.state.nc.us/acre/standards/>

For you super savvy tech users, you can download a Common Core App for your iPhone, iPad , or Android. To access this valuable resource, you can go to : <http://johnston.k12.nc.us/education/components/layout/default.php?sectiondetailid=140901>

Nov. – Apr. Birthdays



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

| November | December | January |
|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Karen Parker – 2 | Susan Auman – 5 | Carolyn Riddick – 1 |
| Janice White – 5 | Margaret Lee Walker – 6 | Sandra Boyette – 2 |
| Eloise Bonds – 11 | Leona Parrish – 10 | Debra Avery – 4 |
| Barbara Barnes – 14 | Abby Salas – 15 | Joyce Matthews – 13 |
| | Martha Bradshaw – 27 | Cathy Cox – 16 |
| | | Eve Creech – 17 |
| | | Jennifer Swartz – 27 |
| | | Ann Parrish – 28 |
| | | Glenda Hales – 31 |

| February | March | April |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Mary Helen Sills – 26 | Dorothy Harris – 17 | Freddie Creech – 1 |
| | Allette Hale – 19 | Bess Ragsdale – 14 |
| | Jean Simmons – 20 | Frances Warren – 14 |
| | Sue Wood – 20 | Olive Cooke – 16 |
| | Renee Oliver – 28 | Pama Kirby – 24 |
| | Thelma Harris – 30 | |
| | Maylene Sanders – 30 | |

SPECIAL NOTE: If you have a birthday in August–January and you do not see your name in the list, please contact Karen Creech. 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.



Thoughts and Prayers



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

Barbara Barnes

Cynthia Toudle

Dorothy Driver

Margaret Walker

Iris Scarborough

Sue Wood

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