



# Alpha Beta Bits

Delta Kappa Gamma International Society – Eta State, NC

VOLUME 15

ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2015

## 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

Happy New School Year! The opening of school is always so exciting – new colleagues and students join those we’ve worked with in the past. All of our activities that took a summer hiatus fill our schedules as we get back into the swing of things. Please be sure to put the **Alpha Beta Chapter Meeting on September 29th** on your calendars now. You won’t want to miss it!

A special welcome to our newest members, inducted in April 2015: Heather Anders, Gayle Barbour, Karen Collins, Jennifer Foy, Susan Jones, Carol Massenburg, Ana Milazzotto, Suzanne

Mitchell, Darla Peedin, Tracey Peedin Jones, Ann Pittman, Angela Proctor, Dr. Fran Riddick, LarKeycha Sheppard, Katie Speer, and Jean Stowers. Thank you for accepting the invitation to membership and for your commitment to education! In addition, a special welcome to Dr. Johna Faulconer, who has joined us by transfer of membership.

Your Alpha Beta leadership met this summer and made plans that we want you to embrace. Meetings will return to churches to ensure we have plenty of room for meals and activities. Our first

meeting, scheduled for **September 29th at Four Oaks Methodist Church**, will be a great start to our new year. I can hardly wait to see you all again! Our treasurer, Becky Kuszmaul, will be collecting dues (**\$80** for **active** membership; **\$33** for **reserve** membership), but will appreciate it if we mail them to her prior to the meeting. Her address is **2861 Yelverton Grove Road, Smithfield, NC 27577**. Early payment of dues will give Becky a chance to participate in our first meeting and ... **See Page 2.**

**Lorine Davis**

[lorinedavis@embarqmail.com](mailto:lorinedavis@embarqmail.com)



## Updating Chapter Rules

President Davis asked each committee chairman to meet with their committees to look over the chapter rules. She wants to make sure the rules reflect the wonderful work that is going on in our chapter.

What a great way to get the chapter looking closely at our accomplishments, as well as having us look at the things we can do to ensure we use our voices of influence to empower North Carolina Women Educators.



**Communications Committee**

**Pictured (L to R):** Mary Daughtry, Amy Stanley, Karen Creech, Chairman; Lorine Davis, President; and Karen Collins.



## Message From President (Cont.)

perhaps have a bit of time to fellowship. In addition to dues, it's time for our payment of our **North Carolina Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation pledges**. Those should be made out to: The North Carolina Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation, and **mailed to: Betty Marshall, Foundation Treasurer, 6212 Dresden Lane, Raleigh, NC 27612**. (If you've just joined DKG and wish to get in on the initial funding of our NC DKG Ed Foundation, you, too, can send a contribution.) Please note that you are Alpha Beta Chapter members on your checks!

Time is important to us all. At the executive board meeting we analyzed how we allocated time at our meetings last year and concluded that fund raising takes a lot of time. We will continue our Raffles, but limit the time we spend on them – our goal is to have 5 great items to give away at each meeting. We appreciate your generosity in the Raffles, as the funds have allowed us to increase our funds for projects and internal Chapter costs without an increase in dues. In addition to the Raffles, our Happy Dollars announcements will continue – but we'll share those at our tables during dinner.

I am in awe of the talents of our membership. In our Chapter we have some of the brightest multi-generational leaders involved in promoting professionalism and excellence in education. You wear the Key; you constantly share your knowledge, your enthusiasm, your commitment to education through your work and community involvement. In almost all of our contacts, we're recognized as educators, which means we represent the professional 24/7. You are the epitome of professional educational leaders. What does that mean? You are timely, thoughtful, fair, accurate, and knowledgeable. You work with others to make the world a better place. There are times when you are commanding and times when you build consensus. Your appearance is professional. And you are always learning, always growing, always improving. I am humbled to be your president.

Our red **Members Handbooks** have been **converted to Google Docs** and have been "shared" with everyone. If you don't have access, please send your email address and I'll add you. If you don't have email, please let me know & I'll get a copy printed for you! The handbooks have a plethora of DKG information: the Organization's international and state founders and presidents; current Eta State contacts and committees; our current membership, including photos; words to our Delta Kappa Gamma song; and a meeting schedule for 2015-2016. Please let me know if we have your information incorrect in the Member Handbook. In order for the Handbook to be a useful tool, it's imperative that the information be constantly updated. Thanks for your help with this! Oh, and if we haven't added a photo of you, please send a photo! (Note: you should have editing rights. You can update your information and add the photo yourself.)

2015-2016 will be a busy a year, but the tasks will be made lighter with the participation of all. Read the latest issue of **Eta State News** at <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/ESNSummer2015.pdf>. Consider attending the Eta State Convention on April 22-24, 2016 in Winston-Salem. Think about your areas of expertise and apply by January to be a presenter at the Convention. I'd love to have you join me! Download the DKG phone app and explore other professional opportunities available in North Carolina and with DKG International.

Alpha Beta is *your* Chapter in *your* Delta Kappa Gamma Society International organization. Stay involved and reap the benefits of your membership. We continue to explore new paths to benefit children and professional women educators. Help us forge those paths. The future is ours!

Following in the footsteps of innovative educators, **Lorine**

## Educational Foundation Awarding Grants

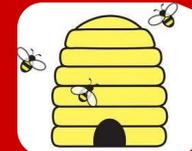


Exciting news from the **North Carolina Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation**, grants totaling \$1,000 will be awarded this spring. The grants will total up to a maximum of \$250 for each grant. Individuals, teams or chapters may apply.

Application forms and submission details are now online on the Foundation's new Website. Go to: <http://www.ncdkgef.org> under the **Grants tab**.



# Saving the Bees



Many of you may not know that my husband and I are taking a Beekeeping class at the Johnston County Agriculture Center. We are working on a Beekeeping Certification. This entails seven (7) three hour classes, a state written exam, and a hands-on exam. I have always been fascinated by honeybees. I have actually had two honeybee swarms to land in my yard. When I learned honeybees were becoming endangered, I knew I had to get involved and learn more.

One of the most important lessons I have learned in my class is it is important that I become an ambassador for the honeybees. I would love to have a short program next year on honeybees. In the meantime, I hope to give you a small glimpse into the magical world of honeybees by sharing some interesting facts so you'll want to learn more about them. **Karen Creech**

[http://www.utahcountybeekeepers.org/fun\\_facts.html](http://www.utahcountybeekeepers.org/fun_facts.html)

- ☑ There are three types of bees in the hive – **queen, worker and drone**.
- ☑ Honey bees' wings stroke **11,400 times per minute**, thus making their distinctive buzz.
- ☑ Honeybees are the only insect that **produce food for humans**.
- ☑ Honeybees are responsible for **pollinating approximately 80% of all fruit, vegetable and seed crops** in the U.S.
- ☑ **Honey** is the **ONLY** food that includes **all the substances necessary to sustain life, including water**.

## Endowment Recipient

**Lindsey Jennings** of Clayton, NC has been named the **2015 recipient** of the **Alpha Beta Chapter Endowment**. Jennings, the **daughter of Jeff and Lou Jennings**, is a 2015 graduate of **Corinth Holders High School**. She was chosen to receive the endowment based on her strong academic standing, her plans to become an educator, and her well-rounded activities in high school.

Jennings will major in elementary education at **Campbell University in Fall 2015**. She plans to return to Johnston County in four years and **"follow in the footsteps of the great teachers that once inspired me."**



Lorine Davis, Alpha Beta Chapter President (left) congratulating Lindsey Jennings (right) the recipient of the 2015 Alpha Beta Chapter Endowment.



## 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 was a cheerleader in college.**
- 2. I have completed two half marathons**
- 3. I have traveled to Italy.**



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



# Tech Tip



**Piktochart**

<http://piktochart.com/>

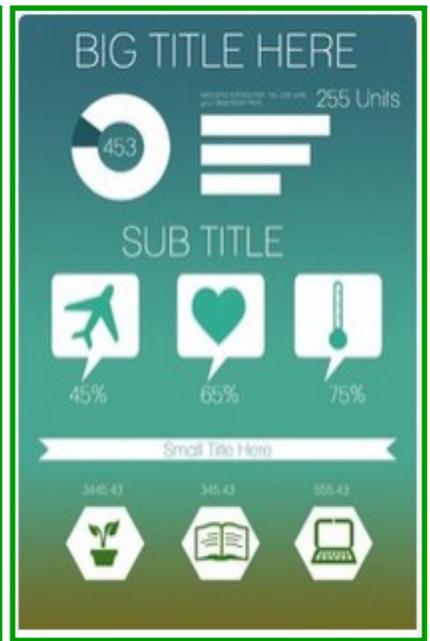


One of my favorite Web 2.0 tools is **Piktochart**. This tool will help you **design infographics**, a visual image such as a chart or diagram used to represent information or data. A well-designed infographic like the ones below can help you simplify a complicated subject or turn an otherwise boring subject into a captivating experience.

**Piktocharts provide templates** to create more than just infographs. You can design, posters, reports and presentations. Most of the templates are **FREE**, but you can purchase a **plan for \$15 a month** to access all of the templates.

Lots of resources are available to include a blog and video tutorials.

1. To create a FREE account, go to <http://piktochart.com> and click on **Sign Up!**
2. Next, preview and pick templates from the gallery. Select from a range of over **100 categorized templates**.
3. Customize your infographic using very intuitive editing tools. Choose from **over 1000 images** in the library or upload your own.
4. Make high resolution prints or share it online.
5. Link, embed, email or share it on social media.



**The possibilities are endless.**



## Raffles Funds

The **Executive Committee** decided to ask members to contribute any loose change, happy dollars or money you would spend on food donations i.e Supporting Beginning Teachers project to **RAFFLES**.

The funds collected from the raffles will be used towards Alpha Beta projects. There will be **five (5)** really nice items to bid on at each meeting. So bring your dollar bills and let the fun begin.

## Alpha Beta Chapter Minutes/Treasurer's Report



**Please read the minutes and Treasurer's Report before each meeting.**



# News From Eta State President

We are so fortunate to have a talented slate of Eta State Officers. President Shelia Groves wants us to know she is honored to be our Eta State President. She believes she will be standing on the strong shoulders of all her NC sisters who encouraged, inspired, and even gave her a little push from time to time.

She is delighted to serve along with **First Vice-President Connie Savell**, **Second Vice-President Sharon Frazier**, and **Secretary Hilda Parker** with the start of a new biennium as well as a new adventure! She wants to challenge us to:

1. **Imagine** what we can do as active members of a community seeking solutions to problems that hinder the growth of positive educational programs.
2. **Inspire** others to join us in the work that will support the wellbeing of our children, the advancement of our schools, and the growth of women leaders.
3. **Ignite** a passion for programs and initiatives that will meet the goals of Delta Kappa Gamma and keep us *forward moving ever!*

I know that all of you will agree with President Growers who says she is so proud to belong to an organization that values the contributions of women in all roles of society, an organization that promotes self-knowledge and awareness, an organization that encourages networking and genuine fellowship. I believe we are up for her challenges. Together let's, "**Create the Future: Imagine, Inspire and Ignite.**"



## 2015-17 Eta State Officers

**Pictured (L to R): Shelia Groves, President; Connie Savell, First Vice President; Sharon Frazier, Second Vice President; and Hilda Parker, Recording Secretary.**

# DKG International President



In Dr. Schmid's article in the **DKG News**, she shared a quote from Sarah Sladek's book, **Knowing Y: Engage the Next Generation Now**. She said as she reflected on the quote it made her think about how DKG can recruit and serve this largest-ever population demographic of educators. As part of her workshops she asks several questions. Several of the answers she got really intrigued her since there was a large number of Generation Y educators attending the workshop. I think you will be intrigued, but not too surprised by some of their answers.

**What would the ideal association experience be?** Opportunities to be involved without being shoved into upper leadership early, camaraderie, ideas for improving my performance in the classroom from more veterans, peer support and networking.

**What is your go-to method of getting communication? How do you like to communicate with others?** Texting, Facebook, email, Instagram, Twitter, old fashioned phone calls to hear emotion is nice, Google Hangouts, a mixture of face-to-face and virtual meetings.

**What adjective would you use to describe DKG as a professional association?** Traditional, at times antiquated, supportive, transforming, inclusive, positive caring, timeless, classy, classic, warm and fuzzy.

As I reflect on these questions, I wonder what the answers would look like if we surveyed our members. Would we be surprised if our chapter was considered antiquated at times? Dr. Schmid says, "We teachers taught them how to collaborate and love being part of the social media global conversation." I want to ask, Are we meeting the needs and expectations of ALL of our members to include Generation Y? **Something to ponder!**



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

**Follow Blog At:**

<http://lynschmid.bl.ogspot.com/>



# Sept. – Feb. Birthdays

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

September	October	November
Mary Nell Ferguson – 4	Glenda Toler - 4	Karen Parker - 2
Ramona Cash – 5	Mary Ann Lee – 22	Janice White - 5
Dorothy Driver – 6	Karen Creech – 22	Denise Byrd - 9
Becky Kuszmaul – 11	Terri Sessoms – 25	Eloise Bonds - 1
Jennifer Bare – 18		LarKeysha Sheppard - 11
Carol Blakely – 19		Barbara Barnes - 14
Mary Helen Wyatt – 23		Ana Lucia Milazzotto - 18
Laura Faye Canaday – 24		Sonya Kiser - 28
Betty Ferrell – 28		



December	January	February
Margaret Lee Walker - 6	Carolyn Riddick - 1	Suzanne Mitchell - 12
Ann Pittman - 6	Joyce Matthews - 13	Gayle Barbour - 21
Abby Salas - 15	Cathy Cox - 16	Mary Helen Sills - 26
Martha Bradshaw - 27	Jennifer Swartz - 27	Jean Stowers - 26
Johna Faulconer - 29	Ann Parrish - 28	
	Glenda Hales - 31	

**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.

Barbara Barnes	Maylene Sanders
Laura Faye Canaday	Margaret Walker
Bess Ragsdale	Mary Helen Wyatt

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)

