



Alpha Beta Bits

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
NC DKG North Carolina State Organization

Volume 21

Issue 1

September 2021

Dates to Remember

NC DKG State Convention
April 29-May 1, 2022
Asheville Crowne Plaza Resort

DKG International Convention
July 12-16, 2022
New Orleans, LA

NC DKG Convention
April 28-30, 2023
Greenville, NC

Alpha Beta Chapter Officers

Trudy Farnell
President

Mary Daughtry
1st Vice President

Angie Proctor
2nd Vice President

Heather Pennica
Secretary

Becky Kuszamaul
Treasurer

Message from our President

President
Trudy Farnell
2020-2022



It is clear to me that I will not have an opportunity during my tenure as President of Alpha Beta to write one of those energetic, "It's fall, y'all" newsletters (full disclosure - I cannot imagine under what circumstance I would actually say, "It's fall, y'all," but I think you get my drift). I know very few people who do not welcome the possibilities that come with crisp cooler September mornings and the start of a new school year.

Then there is COVID, I write with a sigh. Even though the pace is slow, I am convinced that we are moving in the right direction. Relative to DKG, our new NCDKG President, Beth Winstead, is a pragmatist with a clear understanding of what lies ahead. Several virtual meetings with her over the summer guide the newsletter I am penning now.

We may as well get to the hard news first. All organizations are adjusting to membership reductions as people simply reassess priorities after twenty months of a pandemic. Delta Kappa Gamma is no exception. Our chapter has lost some members, but we are holding steady at the moment. Secondly, we are still not out of the woods as it relates to the certainty of meeting spaces. Centenary United Methodist Church is our most promising location but church leadership is being cautious in giving a definite yes or no. As of last Thursday, a definite decision had not been made. I am hopeful that with the current increase in vaccinations, we will be able to meet there.

With tough news out of the way, I want to follow the lead of President Beth in adjusting our vision to include a DKG that is a leader in the post pandemic educational environment. To begin that adjustment, I would like to make three DKG Purpose driven observations.

[READ MORE PG 2](#)

Chapter Achievement

Throughout the year, our chapter is asked to share four (4) newsletters and keep an updated website. At the end of the year, each chapter submits the newsletters to be evaluated by a set of NC DKG criteria entitled, Communications Excellence Award and the chapter website is evaluated by criteria entitled, Standards for Society Website Compliance. Alpha Beta won the award and has the privilege to post the seal on the chapter newsletters, as well as the chapter website. I'm excited our chapter was one of two chapters in Region III to receive this communication excellence award. Thanks to Karen Creech for all her efforts to to make this possible. Pray for Amy Stanley as she takes on this new role.



Important Links

Our Website:
[deltakappagamma.org/
NC-alpha-beta/](http://deltakappagamma.org/NC-alpha-beta/)

NC Chapter Website:
www.ncdkg.org

International Website:
www.dkg.org

Message from our President (cont.)

Rekindle our relationships. The first DKG Purpose is to “unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship.” Alpha Beta is a social chapter. For many members, it is that aspect of our meetings that is of greatest value. Educators laughing and enjoying just getting together is important and I am grateful for the easy conversation and banter that characterizes our meetings.

Reevaluate our priorities - This was not my original word and resulted from the July meeting with President Beth. She wants us to do for our chapter what good teachers do at the beginning of each school year - assess what is working and toss out what is not. Often in my classes, I felt like my teaching took second place to other “stuff.” Beth encouraged us to look at our DKG Purposes and I realized that I sometimes forget that we exist to “advance the professional interest and position of women in education.” I get it - it IS about the children. They are why we are here. But, I feel stress over the coming school year and I’m retired. I remember that of all the high quality programs that First VP Mary Daughtry planned (Goal 6), it was the February meeting on self care that received the greatest response. What would happen if Alpha Beta made “professional self-care” a central service to our members? Just think about it.

Reenergize our chapter - Whether we like it or not, the pandemic has changed education forever. We can either fight that change or make adjustments and use them as a launching pad to greater heights. At our summer Executive Committee meeting, we looked at each member, active and inactive, and assessed needs. We looked at each committee and spoke of the challenges of each one. We made three significant discoveries. The first was more a reminder than a discovery. The issue here continues to be technology. One of my challenges as President must be to connect with members who are not comfortable with technology based communication. If we want to rekindle relationships within our chapter, we all have to reevaluate what it will take to keep all of our Alpha Beta sisters involved. This should be a whole chapter approach. But as the President, simply put, I must do better. The second discovery was that our active membership consists considerably more of high school than elementary teachers. That is not worrisome, but it must be a factor going forward, especially with setting times of meetings, as elementary teachers end their day so much later than high school teachers do. The third discovery will take us into the future. Alpha Beta has really circled around Literacy and Beginning Teacher Support. That makes absolute sense and should remain. But, moving forward, there must be an intentionally cooperative relationship among Beginning Teacher Support, Membership, and Scholarship. This is crucial if we are to foster a service to educators and to provide the opportunities for professional growth that are outlined in our Purposes. It is equally important to intersect these three committees if we want to grow and strengthen our chapter. To that end, Mary Daughtry will kick off our first meeting with an outstanding program. Nothing will energize us more than hearing from Suzanne Sweat, the director of JoCo Teach at Smithfield Selma High School.

When we meet on September 28th, we will come together a little leaner, hopefully not a lot meaner, but surely more focused than we’ve ever been before. There are many loud and angry complaints about schools right now. Delta Kappa Gamma will render great service if we are the reasoned and experienced voice in public education. I hope to see you in September.

Alpha Beta Chapter Minutes/Treasurer's Report



Please read the minutes and treasurer's report before each meeting

September 28, 2021
December 7, 2021
February 22, 2022
May 5, 2022



Alpha Beta
2021-22 Chapter Meeting



Don't forget, you can donate to our **Alpha Beta Chapter Endowment Fund**. in honor and/or memory of one of our Sisters. You can find the form on the last page of this newsletter. Also included is the **Alpha Beta Chapter of DKG Expense Form**.

Beginning Teacher Support



The Beginning Teacher support committee shared goodies with our 1st year Beginning Teachers at their opening training at Selma Elementary on August 9.

The committee is working to establish DKG mentors for not only our Beginning Teachers in year 1, 2 and 3 but also for our current student teachers.

In case you didn't know Johnston County has over 100 student teachers from area Universities:

NC State University
Meredith University
Campbell University
East Carolina University
Barton College

More information about this mentor opportunity at the September meeting. We will also be sharing monthly treats to remind them we are supporting them in their journey. If you want to support either effort reach out to Heather Bryant.



Grant for Literacy

Follow up for Literacy Grant

The Literacy committee requested to offer 4 - \$250 grants to promote literacy in the classroom.

We had 2 applications in March 2020 before the pandemic created challenges. We have opportunity for 2 more and we need your help getting the word out.

We suggest the following ideas:

- Tell your teacher friends who might apply
- Share with your principal so they can put it in school communications
- Share on your own social media pages and tag teacher friends
- Talk it up with anyone who supports literacy

Here is the link to apply!
bit.ly/dkgliteracy



September Upcoming Program

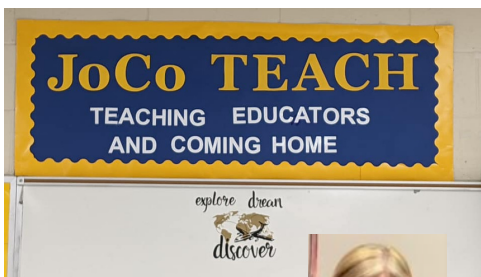
JoCo Teach will be presenting at our September meeting!

What is JoCoTeach?

JoCo Teach is a program for high school students interested in becoming teachers. It started in 2019 with just 9th grade and we've added a grade each year. The program which is hosted at SSS currently has 45 students.

Suzanne Sweat, our speaker, is in her 20th year of teaching and has been the coordinator of JoCo Teach for three years.

Bonus raffle tickets if you email where you have recently seen Mrs. Sweat on TV. Email Amy Stanley with your answers: thestanley4@gmail.com



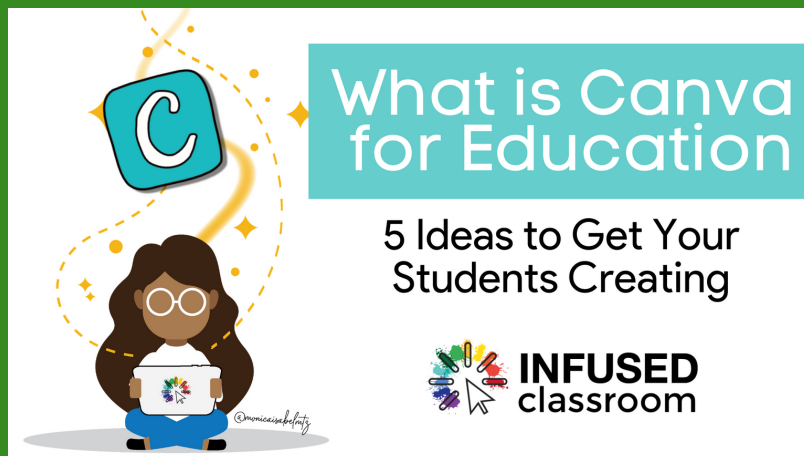
Tech Tip - Canva

What is Canva for education you ask?

In the companies own words "An amazingly simple graphic design tool, now Free for students and teachers.

Canva turns students into creators not just consumers. Students will be able to create graphics that show learning, , infographics of ideas from class, collaborate on projects and much more.

- 75 million+ premium stock photos, videos and graphics free-to-use
- 420,000+ templates
- 3,000+ fonts
- Publish assignments and activities for your students
- Access your content from Google Drive, Dropbox and Folders
- Bring your designs to life with Bitmoji, Giphy and YouTube
- Share your designs to Google Classroom, Microsoft Teams and Remind.



Borrowed from Holly Clark

First Step: Sign up for Canva for Education

This one step will help change your students into digital creators!

Canva is very easy to use. A teacher simply signs up with their school email account and submits something to prove they are in fact a teacher. Then once approved, teachers can begin to invite students to their class easily through Google Classroom or by email if using a different LMS.

Then you can add assignments and see all student creations in one place instead of clicking on each assignment in Google Classroom!

5 Ideas to Get Your Started with Canva for Education

1. Think-Pic-Share

I like to think of the things I ask students to do on Canva as a "Think – Pic – Share."

Think – First, ask students to think about what they learned and find a way to summarize it. Being succinct and articulate is a very important 21st century skill and NOT one students do very well on their own. Teaching the art of concise writing – that is still able to catch the readers attention – is not easy. Learning how to do this is extremely valuable in today's 140 character world.

Pic – Next, find a picture (at this point teach about creative commons) that is a good graphical summarization of what was learned. This is also a skill students don't do well on their own. They want to choose crazy pictures that are not pleasing to the eye, or pictures that are not simple enough for a textual overlay.

Share – In my opinion, this is the most important step. Gone are the days where students turn in work that it is only seen by the teacher, graded and then returned. When students share their creations on something like a Padlet or Flipgrid – the extended learning begins to take place. Once they are done and have shared their work...they look to see what others have turned in. Students will compare their designs with the other students and begin thinking about their thinking – or better yet thinking about their learning. It is a step we can not devalue – because it helps with metacognition and deeper understanding.

2. Use Canva for Education for Quick Reflections

Canva can be used as a quick reflection tool. What about a six word summary about what was just learned. I use it to teach thinking strategies like this one...an idea I garnered from Making Thinking Visible by Ron Ritchhart, You can use any of the thinking routines from this book and have them ready to go inside your assignments area - students can then quickly pick one they wish to use to unpack their thinking.

3. Use Canva for Education for The Great Hook

Get kids excited about an upcoming unit – I like to use Canva to send out some kind of clue or hook using the Remind app or on Google Classroom. Sending out secret messages really helps to get the excitement going before a unit even begins.

4. Use Canva for Education for Collaborative Designing

Students can share a Canva with another student – and together they can work to make it better. It might be smart to make each Canva go through one other "student editors" or "Co-creators" eyes before being published.

5. Use Canva for Education for Six Word Summaries

Have students create six word summaries for chapters and ideas. Here students choose six words to summarize a person, event or idea. More on this strategy in The Google Infused Classroom.

No matter how you use it, Canva can be a great way to get kids thinking, using their voice and sharing their work!

Message from NC DKG President, Beth Winstead

Does your chapter have the “twisties?”



The Olympics have taught us a lot of things, including the word “twisties” and how it affects gymnasts. In case you have missed this, the twisties are when gymnasts lose their focus and cannot perform their routines because they get lost in the air; their brains twist up their routines. It is very dangerous for gymnasts because they could land wrong and cause serious injury or death.

So, you say, ok Beth, what does this have to do with chapters? Has your chapter gotten discombobulated in all the stress of the past couple of years? The continuous questions of face-to-face, with or without masks, inside or outside, zoom or another virtual platform seem to have taken the forefront of our minds.

Your chapter may need to do as the gymnasts do to recover from the twisties – go back to the basics. Review the seven Purposes of DKG. This is a good way to remind our members why we exist. Find a time to have some fellowship together either in a meeting or outside of a meeting just for fun. Lastly, remember some members may still be hesitant to attend meetings if you cannot have a virtual option. Be sure to have some way to connect to those members so they feel a part of your chapter.

This year will still have challenges, but let’s all work together to strengthen your chapter and keep the DKG community strong.

President Beth

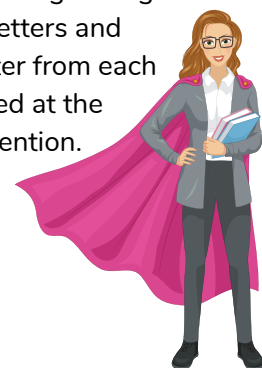
Do you know a Hero?

Honoring Heroes Certificates Ready to Print with Donation

Teachers have gone above and beyond the last couple of years and are preparing to go back into classrooms and educational settings this month. Their dedication is inspiring and needs to be recognized!

The NC DKG Educational Foundation invites you to honor educators—females and males, members and non-members—through the **Honoring Heroes project**. You can “Celebrate a Teacher” and support the Educational Foundation too! The donation forms and celebration certificates are online, ready to print. You may mail checks or donate online. Instructions are on the form found at <https://www.ncdkgef.org/honoring-heroes.html>.

Chapters will be recognized for their contributions with a badge designed for display on newsletters and websites. One chapter from each region will be honored at the 2022 NC DKG Convention.



International News

Japan Charters Its Second Chapter

Japan State Organization has chartered its second chapter, according to the DKG Facebook page. In addition to the photo below, there are several other pictures that show their enthusiasm and pride. International representatives participated via Zoom.



Check it out at <https://www.facebook.com/dkgorg/>.

DKG has chapters in 17 countries. Japan is part of the Southwest Region. Log in to read more about the regions and countries under the About Us tab on the DKG website.

You are encouraged to add the international and state DKG Facebook pages to your social media so you may fully recognize the scope of belonging to an international organization.

Dates to Remember

Dates from NC DKG





- Aug. 15-Sept. 15** Arts & Humanities Gallery submission window open
- Aug. 21** Transition Meeting in Asheboro for new NC DKG leaders
- Aug. 23** ASK Time for chapter presidents
- Sept. 10** Deadline to register for the NC DKG Fall Executive Board meeting
- Sept. 15** International Speaker recommendation due
- Sept. 15** Nominations due for international offices or elected committees
- Sept. 18** NC DKG Fall Executive Board meeting, Greensboro
- Sept. 27** ASK Time for chapter presidents
- Sept. 30** NC DKG Educational Foundation Grants applications due
- Sept. 30** Deadline to enter dues into portal to avoid members being dropped
- Oct. 1** Bulletin: Journal submissions due
- Oct. 1** Proposed amendments to DKG Constitution and International Standing Rules due
- Oct. 25** ASK Time for chapter presidents
- Oct. 27** NC DKG Founders Day
- Nov. 1** Cornetet Individual and Seminar PD Awards applications due

Dates from DKG International

July 12-16, 2022 International Convention, New Orleans, LA



Chapter Birthdays

 September	 October	 November	 December
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 - Mary Nell Ferguson• 5 - Ramona Cash• 11 - Becky Kuszmaul• 18 - Jennifer Bare• 24 - Laura Faye Canaday• 27 - Heather Pennica• 28 - Betty Ferrell	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 - Glenda Toler• 22 - Karen Creech• 22 - Mary Ann Lee• 25 - Terri Sessoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 - Karen Parker• 5 - Janice White• 9 - Denise Byrd• 11- LarKeysha Sheppard• 14 - Barbara Barnes• 18 -Ashley Radford• 28 - Sonya Kiser	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 - Jenny Batten-Wiley• 2 - Lynda Sutton• 15 - Abby Salas• 29 - Johna Faulconer

Purpose and Mission



The Delta Kappa
Gamma Society
International

promotes professional and
personal growth of women
educators and excellence in
education.

Vision Statement: *Leading Women
Educators, Impacting Education
Worldwide*

**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

Laura Faye Canaday

Ramona Cash

Sybil Edwards

Betty Ferrell

Glenda Hales

Maylene Sanders

If you would like to add someone to this list, please contact
Amy Stanley.



If you have an idea for an article or information, you would like to see added to the newsletter, please contact the editor, Amy Stanley



Contribution
NCCF Alpha Beta Teacher Recruitment Endowment Fund

Contributor's Name: _____

Date: _____ Amt. of Contribution: _____

Contribution in memory or honor of :

Person to be Notified of Contribution: _____

Address: _____

If mailing contribution, send to Treasurer:
 Rebecca Kuszmaul
 (See Chapter Notebook for Address)

 (To be completed by Treasurer)

Date Contribution Received: _____

Contributor's Check Number _____

Date Mailed to NCCF: _____ AB Check Number: _____

Treasurer's Signature: _____

NC Alpha Beta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma
Expense Form

Date: _____ Member Submitting: _____

ATTACH INVOICE/RECEIPT OF EXPENDITURES TO THIS FORM

Reason for expenditures:

Committee	Amount
Awards: _____	
Beginning Teacher Support _____	_____
_____	_____
Biography _____	_____
Communication _____	_____
Historian(Scrapbook) _____	_____
Leadership _____	_____
Literacy _____	_____
Membership (Orientation, Nominations, Installations) _____	_____
Necrology/Remembrance _____	_____
President's Expenses: Lodging _____	_____
Registration _____	_____
Meals _____	_____
Travel _____	_____
Scholarship _____	_____
Annie Blanton Scholarship _____	_____
Social (Flowers, Gifts, Meeting Expenses) _____	_____
_____	_____
Supplies _____	_____
Miscellaneous _____	_____
TOTAL _____	_____

Check Written To? _____

Address (if applicable) _____

Check to be returned: directly to individual _____ or mailed to vendor _____?

If check is returned to requestor directly, complete this section when member receives the check.

Member's Signature _____ Date: _____

(To be completed by Treasurer)

Receipts attached? _____ YES _____ NO Date Paid: _____ Check #: _____

Approved by President: _____ Treasurer's Signature: _____