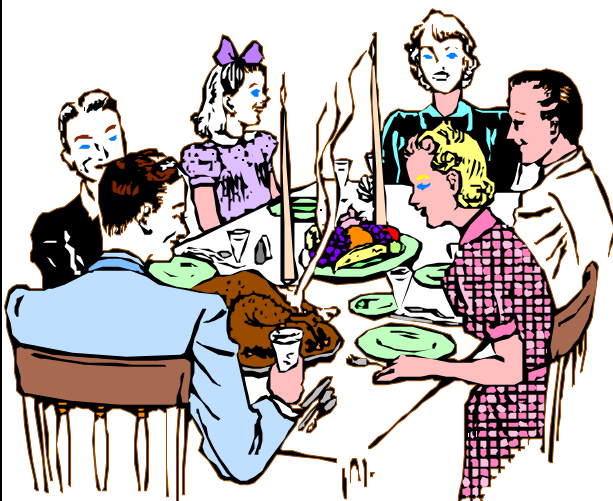


Mission Statement

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

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April 18, 2011

Libby Hill Seafood

4:30 Social Time

5:00-6:15 Meeting

6:15 Dutch Treat Dinner

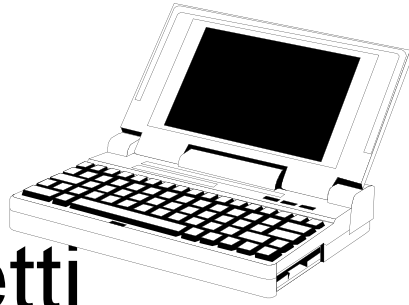
“What’s Going On In Our Legislature?”
Dr. Ric Vandett
Director Southwest Educational Alliance
(former Hickory superintendent)

* * * * *

Our own Lorene Painter has reached a milestone! She has been a DKG member for 50 years. She was initiated on April 16, 1961, as a member of Nu Chapter. She received a letter from Jensi Souders, International President, ***“You have maintained your membership for five decades, few people have such dedication and loyalty. We congratulate you on this amazing accomplishment.”*** The members of Gamma Phi also join Jensi in congratulating Lorene. May you have many more years.



Bytes from Betti



Dear Ladies of Gamma Phi,
Spring has finally come to the Catawba Valley! How welcome is the warmth of sunshine and how the flowers lift our spirits after the dreary clouds of winter. Even the sniffles of hay fever cannot keep a song from our hears. It could not come at a better time. For in the spring we are sometimes a little weary and need encouragement to finish the task before us. I know these things about you. You have worked very hard. You have dreamed success for children who could not dream one for themselves. You have set a path of tiny steps of achievement and coaxed even reluctant children forward on it. You have gently pushed those who needed pushing and maybe even kicked a few who needed it! You have nurtured and supported and laughed and cried with those around you. You strengthen your schools, your families and your chapter by being women of character and action. It's just who you are and what you do. We in Gamma Phi are proud to call you sisters.

I think that with all organizations involving busy women, there is a fear that might be expressed this way: *If I go to a meeting then I will have to do something.* Ladies, there is nothing more that has to be done! Only your presence is needed! Your encouragement is needed! And, in return, you will receive. This year our theme, from George Bernard Shaw, has been (to find) *"true joy in life - being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one."* As members of Gamma Phi we are making a difference in our community and state. We make a difference to every child we reach with a book or book bag. We make a difference to every scholarship recipient.

Come to Libby Hill to celebrate the influence we have made in the community and Lorene Painter's 50 years in DKG!! Betti Kirkman

828-322-3032 bkirkman@charter.net

March Minutes

Gamma Phi Chapter met on Saturday, March 5, 2011, at the First Methodist Church in Conover, N. C. Twenty-nine members were present. After the meeting was called to order, a short portion of the video "Schools For Africa" was viewed. Minutes of the November 20, 2010 meeting was accepted with a correction - 39 in attendance. Treasurer Janet Hassing presented the three page treasurer's report which was accepted. Member updates and concerns were given and the Brag Basket announcements were made. Debbie Cormack read a moving tribute to Mozelle Pruitt, mother of Nellie Pruitt. Mozelle had been voted on as an honorary member of Gamma Phi, but did not live long enough to be initiated into the chapter.

The Scholarship Committee met on Feb. 26, 2011 to restructure the percentages of where the auction money goes. Each member present was given a copy of the detailed report.

Nellie Pruitt was voted on as an N. C. Woman of Influence by the Gamma Phi Chapter, previously, without her knowledge. She was given an outstanding tribute. We are proud of the exceptional contributions she has made to DKG since her initiation in 1973!

The ballot for new members was given to each member by Janet Stiles. After voting, all were accepted. These new members are **Jean Bailey, Erin Johnson, Ellen Fountain, Julia Hudson, Deborah Wakefield, Cui Ping, and Sharon Bryant.**

Barbara Piekarski announced the teleconference to be held on March 26, 2011 at Wilkes Community College.

Plans and instructions were given for Eta State Convention - April 29 - May 1 in Rocky Mount. Our chapter will be selling "Celebration lights". Members will meet to decorate the bottles. Lorene Painter, Nancy Arndt, and Dolores Setzer have been appointed as the Archives Committee. They will be meeting to go through old records and decide what needs to be kept and what to purge.

All have been invited to come to a book club meeting on Friday, April 1, 2011 from 400 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at South Caldwell High School. The book being read is *Three Cups of Tea.*

(Minutes continued)

Willie Harrison of Nu Chapter discussed one of their projects, "Relay for Life" on June 3 & 4, and asked that Gamma Phi join them.

The Gamma Phi meeting adjourned to join Nu Chapter for a joint meeting and lunch.

The Ceremony of Remembrance included tributes to *Jane Sigmon* by Jackie Hendricks (Gamma Phi), To *Nellie Bowman* by Brenda Eckard, and to *Ruby Carpenter* by Phyllis Parsons (Nu).

Guest speaker was Ellen Midkiff, an Eta State World Fellowship committee member and Region 7 Director. She gave much information and handouts on World Fellowship.

The joint meeting ended with a delicious salad luncheon hosted by Nu Chapter.

Respectfully submitted, Jackie Hendricks, Sec.

Gamma Phi Book Club

Amy Krum, 2nd VP had the first meeting of the Gamma Phi Book Club. They discussed *Three Cups of Tea*. They decided to read *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova for the next title. They will meet on Tuesday, May 3rd at 6:00 at Barnes and Noble in Hickory. They will choose the next title then.



Eta State Happenings

The Eta State Convention will be held April 29 - May 1 at Rocky Mount. Pres. Betti has been asking for people to go to stay in our room. Spring break has made it difficult for members to leave family activities to attend the convention. Easter coming so late has changed lots of activities. Maybe next year it will be easier for members to attend. I will not be able to attend because of church responsibilities.

At the convention there will be constitution discussion, Schools for Africa, International guest, Eta State Women of Influence, state scholarship winners, new officers elected (2011-2013), shop for items (celebration lights), attend Ceremony of Remembrance, have wonderful fellowship with other members across the state.

Women of Influence

I am very humbled by the nomination of Woman of Influence for Gamma Phi Chapter. It has been my pleasure to serve the chapter since being initiated into Nu Chapter on April 7, 1973. Many changes have occurred and the chapter has advanced through all of them. Lorene Painter has set a standard for all of us --- 50 years.

International Happenings

Schools for Africa. This idea goes along with the Book Club first book - *Three Cups of Tea*. That book took place in Pakistan, but the need for schools was just as strong there. Check out the DKG website for more information.

Toms Shoes. When you buy a pair of shoes, the company will donate a pair. Diane Creasman's husband (she is the president of Nu Chapter) is manager of Libba's and Benjamin's store in Viewmont. Libba's has Toms Shoes and they are reasonably priced. They're canvas casual shoes.

Southeast Regional Conference. Since the International Convention was held last year in Spokane, this is the year for the regional conference. It will be held in Louisville, Kentucky, July 13-16. I'm making plans to attend. This is close enough so that my roommate and I plan to drive. Info is in the last issue of **DKG News**. There is a schedule, registration form, list of tours. See you there.



Attendance

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
March	27	35	29	30	29
April	29	27	41	32	
Orientation	10	10	N/A	27	
September	32	31	23	38	
November	45	47	38	39	

OFFICERS

President - Betti Kirkman
President - Amelia Mitchell - 1st Vice
President - Amy Krum - 2nd Vice
Secretary - Jackie Hendricks
Treasurer - Janet Hassing

Newsletter - Nellie Pruitt



Meeting Dates

September 28, 2010, Libby Hill Seafood on HWY #70, 5 - 7
November 20, 2010, Christ Lutheran Church, Hickory, 9 till ----
March 5, 2011, First United Methodist Church, Conover, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
April 18, 2011, Libby Hill Seafood on HWY # 70, 4 - 7 (includes dinner)
Eta State Convention - April 29 - May 1 - Rocky Mount, NC
Southeast Regional Conference - July 13 - 16, Louisville, KY
September 19, 2011, First Baptist Church, Hickory, Initiation, Dinner 4:30 - 6:30

Legislative Issues

Barbara Piekarsky has been keeping us informed on the issues for education and health care that are being debated in the Legislature. There will be a day for teachers to gather in Raleigh. You will receive info on that by email. We know that there is a money shortage, but we hope that teachers will not pay a bigger price for that shortage. Please keep informed and contact members of the Legislature to encourage them to stand firm for education.

Professional Development Day

Have had no info from anyone who attended the video conferencing seminar. Sounded like a great idea and hoped to have some personal reports about the sessions. Let us know if you attended and Tina can send out your report.
