



# Alpha Eta State DIGEST



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

VOLUME XLIX NUMBER 3

SOUTH CAROLINA

MAY 2006

## Cannon Receives Achievement Award

Past State President 2003 - 2005

Nell Cannon, former state president, accepted the 26th Alpha Eta State Achievement Award from Dr. Eunice Rowell, state president, and Linda Heckle, executive secretary, at the State Executive Board meeting, March 18, 2006.

A member of the Society for 26 years, she has demonstrated exceptional leadership at the chapter, state, and international levels. On the chapter level, she has served as president and parliamentarian. She has also held chairman positions on audit, yearbook, finance, professional affairs, and personal growth committees. On the state level, Nell served as president of Alpha Eta State 2003 - 2005 as well as a former second vice president and secretary, chairman of convention arrangements, and District V director. She is currently serving on the International Personal Growth and Services Committee.

Nell has attended many Southeast Regional conferences and international conventions and has conducted workshops at both the regional and international. In addition, she attended the Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar at the University of Texas in 2001.

During her career as an educator, she served as a member of the Faculty Advisory Council, faculty representative on the School Improvement Council, district committees for writing standards, and representative to the Friends of Education Coalition.

Nell has been an active member of her community and continues to be involved since retirement. She has served on the School Board of Lexington and Richland District V. She served eight terms as a member of the Chapin Town Council.

She has been a member of the Environmental Planning Committee of Central Midlands Council of

Governments and a member of the Chapin Chamber of Commerce.

Actively involved in church work, she has served two terms on the Church Congregation Council. She is chairman of the church preschool committee, a member of the Handbell Choir, substitute organist, and choir director.



Nell Cannon receives the coveted State Achievement Award. Presenting the award were President Eunice Rowell and Executive Secretary Linda Heckle.

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

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## Personnel

The Personnel Committee will receive applications for the position of **executive secretary** until Dec. 1. The current term expires June 30, 2007, and the new term runs from July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2011. Qualifications are found in the *Bylaws and Standing Rules*. Application forms are on the state website or may be secured from Headquarters or from **Dr. Marianne Holland**, chair of the committee.



## NOTES from EUNICE in 2006



As the first year of the 2005-2007 biennium comes to an end, I owe each one of you a big "thank you" for everything you have done to make my first year as your Alpha Eta State President run smoothly. I appreciate your encouragement, your enthusiasm, and your hard work. It has been a challenging year for me but with your help, it has been a very successful and rewarding one.

The Alpha Eta State Executive Board Meeting at the Embassy Suites on March 18 was very good with approximately 80 members in attendance. We hope it was a learning experience for each of you as the business of the state organization was conducted. I would like to thank Leslie Michael for all of her hard work in making our meeting arrangements, including the planning of our meal. Also, a big thanks to Florence and Wanda Steele for taking charge of registration. Rho, Tau, and Alpha Sigma, the hostess chapters, did an outstanding job under the leadership of Cathy Hale, chairman.

We extend congratulations to Nell Cannon for receiving the state's highest honor, the Alpha Eta State Achievement Award. We welcomed and recognized the newest member of the Order of the Rose, Marvella Easterling. Congratulations are also in order to Amy Gillion, the recipient of the Alpha Eta State Founders Scholarship.

This is an exciting time of the year. Spring is in the air and most of us are ready for it. As of May 6, the state officers and I will have visited 47 of our 57 chapters. In addition to chapter visits, state officers, state committee chairmen, and committee members have attended and held workshops at district meetings. Districts 1 and 3 have already met, and we look forward to attending the meetings of the other three. The meetings thus far have been well attended. New chapter officers and committee chairmen have exhibited much enthusiasm and excitement over the opportunity to learn more about the work of the Society and seem so ready to begin their new responsibilities.

Quite a few of our Alpha Eta State members plan to attend the International Convention in San Diego this summer. I look forward to receiving an e-mail from you saying that you plan to attend. We hope to have a large number of "first-timers" at this convention. This is where we learn about Delta Kappa Gamma, its structure, and its methods of conducting business. It's a time to meet Delta Kappa Gamma members from all over the world. Take your family along and make it a real vacation.

Lots of wonderful things are planned for the 2006-2007 year. Mark your calendar now for the Alpha Eta State Leadership Challenge Seminar February 9 and 10, 2007, the state convention at the Embassy Suites on March 16 and 17, 2007, and the Regional Conference in New Orleans the latter part of June 2007. Take advantage of these opportunities where you and I will accomplish our goal of "Reaching for the Stars, One Step At A Time."

# DISTRICT WORKSHOPS

The District I meeting and Daughters of Delta Birthday Celebration were held on Saturday, March 25, 2006, at the Piedmont Club in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Hostess chapters were Eta, Alpha Mu, Beta Eta, and Beta Theta. Each of the 15 chapters in District One was represented. Eta led in attendance with 25 members and one visitor. Alpha Mu had 14 members attending, followed by Mu with 11. Remaining chapters with number of members attending were Delta, 3; Theta, 4; Lambda, 6; Sigma, 5; Tau, 3; Alpha Alpha, 3; Alpha Gamma, 5; Alpha Xi, 7; Alpha Pi, 6; Alpha Psi, 6; Beta Eta, 7; and Beta Theta, 5. Alpha Eta State officers included Dr. Eunice Rowell, president; Sims Lynn, 2nd vice president; Peggy Shealy, secretary; Donna Wiles, treasurer; Linda Heckle, executive secretary; and Nell Cannon, immediate past president. Other past state presidents attending were Dr. Marianne Holland, Ann Salter, and Hermie Gaston.

Martha Horton, District I director, welcomed members to the meeting. Dr. Rowell brought greetings from Alpha Eta State, and Dr. Marianne Holland, Alpha Xi, addressed the group on the subject of leadership development. Frances Wannamaker, Alpha Xi, informed members of the use of funds at Auld-Murdock Headquarters House; and Jenny Trombley, Theta president and recipient of a Cornetet Professional Development Award, discussed availability of state and international scholarships. Susan Burdine, Vicki Bishop, and Betty Farley, Alpha Mu members, entertained the group with a whimsical musical selection.

Following the opening session, incoming chapter officers and committee chairs assembled for their various workshops to learn of their duties and responsibilities for the 2006-2008 biennium. Workshops and presenters included presidents, Dr. Eunice Rowell; 1st vice presidents, Nell Cannon; secretaries, Peggy Shealy; treasurers and finance, Donna Wiles; Personal Growth and Services, Hermie Gaston; Professional Affairs, Dr. Carolyn Briscoe; World Fellowship, William Pamplin; Communications, Carol Vaughn and Diana Wright; Bylaws, Janet Agnew; Research, Dr. Jill Branyon; and Membership, Kaye Young.

At the conclusion of the morning's activities, members assembled for a time of food, fellowship, and fun as they celebrated the Daughters of Delta Birthday Celebration. Decorations, nametags, favors, and programs represented the theme for the day: "Reach For the Stars, One Step at A Time." Members enjoyed an elegant buffet meal as violin music, provided by Bonnie Mizzell, Beta Eta, filled the dining room. Following the meal, members were entertained with a musical program featuring songs related to the star theme and presented by Eta members Sally Summers and Wanda Steele, vocalists, and Jean Williams, pianist.

Dr. Rowell challenged chapters to continue their emphasis on the many facets of membership. When the birthday cake was brought in, members joined in singing the "Birthday Song." Members were excited and delighted as many received door prizes donated by each chapter in the district.

The festivities of the day concluded with the singing of "The Delta Kappa Gamma Song." Members departed, taking with them wonderful memories, new friendships, and an eagerness to embark on their responsibilities for the coming biennium.

## From your executive secretary. . .

Congratulations to all of the new chapter officers and committees for the 2006-2008 biennium. The District Directors have planned the workshops to train the new chapter officers and committees. Hopefully, you have taken advantage of this for the valuable information and fellowship with others in your district. Thanks to the directors and state officers and committees for providing these opportunities.

The state executive board meeting in March was well attended with business of the state conducted efficiently. It was a special time to honor Nell Cannon, the State Achievement Award winner; Amy Gillian, Founders Scholarship recipient; and Marvella Easterling, newest member of the Order of the Rose.

Chapter presidents, please remember to check these things before your biennium is over:

1. Send chapter achievement award report to President Dr. Eunice Rowell by June 1, 2006 deadline.
2. Review for any information or other reports due to international.
3. Send a picture and a short write-up about your new chapter president to Linda Heckle by June 1. You will receive a letter with suggested format for write-up.
4. Be sure your president's file is organized and ready to give to your new chapter president.

For all members, give some thought to serving on an international committee. Contact President Eunice Rowell or Executive Secretary Linda Heckle before June 1. The International Convention is in San Diego. Let me know if you plan to attend.

If I can help you in any way, please call (803-796-0892, home) or e-mail me (linda@echeck.com) Have a wonderful Spring.

Linda Heckle



# CHAPTER NEWS and TIDBITS

## ALPHA OMEGA

by Zelda Oates

The chapter recognized and honored the Abbeville County Teachers of the Year at the March meeting held at the Heritage House in Abbeville. Dr. Ivan Randolph, superintendent of Abbeville County School District, was the speaker. Teachers of the Year who attended were Jennifer Smith, Long Cane Elementary; Crystal Dunlap, Abbeville High; Angie Cook, Wright Middle; Rebecca Hall, Cherokee Trail Elementary; and Rebekah Parnell, John C. Calhoun Elementary. Rebecca Hall was also named District Teacher of the Year. Margaret Jameson, chairman of Professional Affairs, coordinated the event. The hostesses served a smorgasbord of desserts following the program.

Representative Paul Agnew provided a legislative update on current legislation related to education at the April meeting. President Sandra Gettys and the Legislative Committee were in charge of the arrangements.



**Jennifer Smith, Crystal Dunlap, Angie Cook, Rebecca Hall, and Rebekah Parnell are Teachers of the Year in Abbeville County.**

## MU

By Diane Smith

Stephanie Bettis and Carol Gallman have received National Board Certification. Page McCraw, director of the Cherokee Technology Center, is already board certified. Carol teaches at Gaffney High with 21 years experience. Stephanie has 17 years experience in AP and Honors chemistry and biology.

## ALPHA PSI

By Joyce Christenbury

Members have been stretching this year. No, they are not participating in an exercise program, but they are stretching themselves by the programs they have had, the projects they have sponsored, and the training members have received.

The September meeting offered Star-Studded Tax Tips provided by a chapter member Ethel Pettigrew, a scholarship fundraiser where members bought chances to select pieces of genuine Williamsburg salt-glazed pottery, and the opportunity to donate school supplies for the Clemson Child Development Center and Helping Hands as well as sharing quarters for headquarters.

In November another chapter member, Nancy Linvill, presented a program on Project Read, designed to help children reach their potential and stretch as well, and Sims Lynn visited with us. Our project for November was collecting supplies for Safe Harbor II, a shelter for abused women and children.

The new year brought another member-presented program, Teaching Spanish Through Music. Member Paula Heusinkveld and her husband Jorge Medina have recently recorded a CD of Spanish songs for children, designed to help them learn Spanish. In addition to bringing quarters for Headquarters, members also brought supplies needed to run the headquarters house in Columbia.

In February members celebrated the month of love with a special Valentine Dinner at a local Clemson restaurant. New officers were elected for the 2006-2008 biennium, and an outstanding teacher was elected to membership.

March found seven members attending the District I Workshop learning how to run the chapter. One of our members, Carolyn Briscoe, presented the workshop on Professional Affairs.

A brunch in April ended the year of stretching, learning, and sharing as new officers were installed and a new member initiated. Members brought clean, empty pill bottles to be given to the Clemson Free Medical Clinic. The chapter collected good used books to add to the collection for an end-of-the-year book sale with proceeds going to Headquarters.

## BETA ALPHA

By Jane Benton

Beta Alpha hosted the joint dinner meeting of the Daughters of Iota on March 6 in Manning. Alpha Kappa and Iota chapters from Sumter joined Beta Alpha for this bi-annual meeting. A total of 82 from the three chapters attended.

Eunice Rowell, state president, and Amelia Stone, District II director, were special guests. President Rowell gave an overview of the work of Alpha Eta State and asked that chapters work on involvement of all members in chapter activities at local and state levels.

Director Stone gave information about the workshop scheduled for May 6 in Camden and urged all officers and committee chairmen to attend.

Officers for the new biennium were installed at the April meeting.



**Jane Benton, chapter president, and special guests State President Eunice Rowell and District II Director Amelia Stone attended the joint dinner meeting of three chapters.**

## DELTA

By Barbara Rodal

Cathy Parrish, music teacher at Bethel Elementary, was named 2005 Educator of the Year by the Mauldin Rotary Club. She was honored at a banquet with a plaque "Honoring the Very Best."

Cathy and her chorus had presented a program of Christmas selections for the December meeting, showcasing her talents and dedication.

New officers for the 2006-2008 biennium are Linda Mills, president; Carroll Luck, vice president; Ranelle Hughes, secretary; and Yvette Kinlaw, treasurer.

# CHAPTER NEWS and TIDBITS

## TAU

By Frances Rish

Elayne Finkelstein was recently featured in the newspaper *City People* for her volunteer service at Pendleton Place.

Finkelstein had to retire from the classroom after two heart surgeries, so to give her the "kid fix" she missed after 25 years in the classroom, she became a volunteer at Pendleton Place though her church, the Lutheran Church of Our Savior. She volunteers weekly, helping them with homework, reading stories, or playing games. She has involved Tau in providing school supplies for the children and remembering them at Christmas and birthdays.

She and her husband live at Taylors. One daughter is an interior designer and the other is a photographer in New York city.



**Elaine Finkelstein, a volunteer at Pendleton Place, taught 6th grade science for 25 years.**

The chapter was saddened by the death of Sandra Ground. She had served Tau as president in 1996 - 1998.

Eva Amsen from the Netherlands is a World Fellowship recipient adopted by the chapter.

Betty Hadden and Terri Dew presented the January program on math and science, reporting that 114 math and science coaches are in the 45 school districts., assisting 2400 teachers.

Ellen Walker, retired principal and past president of Tau, is critiquing my books. I have just completed my 11th book. This one is dedicated to my adopted Chinese granddaughter. The next will be dedicated to my adopted granddaughter born in Guatemala.

## BETA GAMMA

By Julia Johnson

Cathy Bouras and Jewel Timmons were initiated early in the year. Susan Jenkins was welcomed as a transfer member. Kristi Austin joined in October.

An auction conducted by William Ann Pamplin, chairman of World Fellowship, raised \$677.60 to fund community projects and mini-grants. Four members received \$100 grants to fund classroom projects. As part of the Dictionary Project, third graders at Hannah Pamplico Elementary are supplied with dictionaries.

The John Calvin Presbyterian Church Handbell Choir performed at a catered dinner in December when thank-you notes from the Pamplico children were shared.

Members collected school supplies for local shelters and children moving into the area from Mississippi and Louisiana.

The April meeting was a joint one with Psi. Dr. Muriel O'Tuel was guest speaker.



Charlotte Munn presents dictionaries to 3rd graders at Pamplico Elementary.

## ALPHA

By Carol Vaughn

Felicia Roberson and Gladys Cureton were initiated in April. The new officers will be installed at the next meeting.

Alpha is the first South Carolina chapter to have a website linked to the state website. The chapter challenges others to create websites.

The Alpha Award, a grant-in-aid, will be awarded to a female college student who is a rising senior planning to become a classroom teacher. The award will be made at the September meeting.

## BETA

By Pat Johnson

Theresa Johnson hosted a tea at her home on March 14 to honor Tabitha Mack, a Charleston Southern University teacher candidate, the grand-in-aid recipient.

According to her professors, "Tabitha is a caring and creative teacher candidate. In spite of obstacles including poverty, seizures, and a broken family, she continues to pursue her dream to become a teacher."

She served as president of the Future Teachers Society and will be an excellent role model for other young African-American teachers.

Carol Drowota is out-going president of Beta. Linda Gooding will be the new president.



**President Carol Drowota presents the grand-in-aid to Tabitha Mack, a teacher candidate at Charleston**

## ALPHA GAMMA

By Sandy Bryson

Gwen Bolt, reading specialist at Greenview Elementary, has published two verb raps cited in Marcia Tate's new book *Reading and Language Arts Worksheets Don't Grow Dendrites: 20 Literacy Strategies That Engage the Brain*.

Susan Baskin-Jones attended the Learning and Brain Conference at Harvard October 27-29. Sponsored by the National Science Foundation, the program is to bring millions of dollars to the field of neuroscience in the classroom. The conference brought together neuroscientists and educators to exchange ideas and experiences. Baskin-Jones teaches at the Greenville County Gifted Center.

# CHAPTER NEWS and TIDBITS

## ALPHA ETA

By Jane Cauthen

The spring meeting centered on "Corridor of Shame: the Neglect of South Carolina's Rural Schools." The 58-minute documentary, produced and directed by Columbia Public Relations Executive Bud Ferillo, originally aired on ETV in May 2005.

The documentary chronicles the school funding dispute that began in 1993 when 36 districts filed suit against the state. The showing was followed by a question-and-answer period with Gigi Dawson, who has worked with the State Department of Education, Chambers of Commerce, and health facilities in the region. She presented a comprehensive view of the challenge facing all of the state in providing educational equity in the I-95 corridor.

The April meeting was a dinner at the Palmetto Club with Dr. Falcia Harvey, whose subject was the PACE Program. Janet Bush, Richland Northeast High School, was initiated. The newly installed officers are Ellen Parker, president; Barbara Thomson, first vice president; Tori Thomas, second vice president; Carol McAlpin, recording secretary; Susan Brant, corresponding secretary; and Barbara Guzior, treasurer.

The chapter takes pride in support of service projects for Children's Garden, Sistercare, Teacher Cadets in Richland School District II, and the Afghanistan Teacher Project through UNICEF.

Members named as Teachers of the Year and members earning National Board Certification are cause for celebration.

The chapter ends the year with 33 members, a full slate of offices, and all committee chairs filled for the new biennium.

## ETA

By Myra Southerlund

The key issue for the fall meeting was "Our Past Revisited" with a target topic of "Clothes of the Past." An historian modeled the dress of the 1800s.

The Piedmont Club was the site of the January luncheon meeting for Eta and her three daughter chapters who were entertained by the members of the Dorman High Concert Chorus. The theme "Reach for the Stars, One Step at a Time" prompted the idea for our "stars" to be the retired teachers who continue to volunteer in the schools. The gift and recognition were a surprise and honor to each "star."

The chapter co-hosted the District I workshop at the Piedmont Club. The workshop under the leadership of Martha Horton, District I director, was well attended by members of 15 chapters representing seven counties.

The year will conclude with a dinner meeting to install new officers, to welcome transfer member Peggy Ann Corbett, and to complete the yearly projects.

Special recognition came to Julia M. Swedenburg in a letter from Delta Kappa Gamma International, congratulating her for being a member of the Society for 50 years. Her speech to the chapter touched the hearts of each member present.

She was initiated on January 1, 1954. In 1979 she retired from Spartanburg School District #6, where she had served as a classroom and music teacher. She enjoys living in Spartanburg during the warmer seasons and in Florida during the winter. She continues to be active in the chapter.



**Julie Swedenburg has been a member of the Society for 52 years.**

## BETA ZETA

By Jackie DeWitt

Three special guest speakers were at the March meeting at the Western Sizzlin' in Lugoff. Eunice Rowell, state president, shared state news with the chapter. She commended the chapter for their attendance and dedication. She recognized Amelia Stone, District II director, for her work in that capacity.

Stone reminded members of the May 6 district workshop, which she will conduct. She asked for volunteers to assist with several duties to ensure a smooth-running workshop. Beta Zeta is proud of her leadership.

Representative Laurie Funderburke from Kershaw County enlightened the membership with the numerous bills that affect education. She gave a comprehensive overview of the legislation. She recognized a number of the members as her former teachers and thanked them for the outstanding contributions they have made to the students of Kershaw County.

## PSI

By Ann Bragdon

The chapter has had a productive year beginning with a program celebrating the Diamond Jubilee.

In October a local student shared her experiences as an International Ambassador to several European countries with other U.S. students. A special project of the chapter was a book exchange to raise money for Headquarters.

Anne Rodgers Tomlinson Chandler, a well-known area musician and former student of two Psi members, brought her High School Girls Quartet for an outstanding program of Christmas music in December. The annual silent auction was held to fund the Francis Marion University Scholarship.

The February program was the "Basics of Silk Flower Arranging." The project of the month consisted of collecting materials for at-risk students.

District III workshop was held April 1st at Royall Elementary School in Florence, directed by Joyce Moore, district director.

The last meeting with Beta Gamma will have Dr. Muriel O'Tuel as guest speaker.



## ALPHA PI REMEMBERS

**Margaret Elaine Blair**, president of Alpha Pi 1998-2000, was called into the nearer presence of God on January 19. A member since 1982, Margaret not only served her own chapter in various offices and committees, but she also served the Coordinating council as secretary when the council was active in the Greenville area.

During the last biennium, she was District I director for Alpha Eta State. As president of Alpha Pi, she introduced the chapter to its first silent auction and soup supper, now a traditional fundraiser for the grant-in-aid. She also established an emergency savings account for the chapter. She attended state and international conventions as a representative from the chapter.

She fought a quick but valiant battle with ALS disease and graciously welcomed her Delta Kappa Gamma sisters into her hospital room right up to the end of her life.



**MARGARET BLAIR**



**ETHEL HEATH**

**Ethel Heath** transferred into Alpha Pi in 2002, a time when the small chapter was having difficulty getting a president. Perla Belle Stowe told the members that they must convince their newest member to become president because of her experience as president of her former chapter in North Augusta, where she had been initiated in the Society in 1967.

Reluctant to accept because she did not want to appear to be the new person who had decided to take over, Ethel was installed in September 2002. She saw the needs and went to work. Her great strength as a leader was her ability to make everyone feel needed. She called members just to find out how they were doing and to encourage them.

She died at the age of 89 with her Bible and her Sunday School book open. She had prepared her lesson to teach the next morning at a ladies' Bible class at Pelham Road Baptist. She had served as chapter president at the age of 85, a fact that came as a shock to members when they read her obituary. She was an active member of the executive board until the end. A leader who led by example, she never stopped serving others until the hour of her death.

**Perla Belle Boggs Stowe** cherished Delta Kappa Gamma. As long as she was able, she was determined that her chapter would be run "the Delta Kappa Gamma way." In an interview conducted by Margaret Blair, Perla Belle stated that the hardest work that she had ever done for the Society was also her "favorite job." She had "organized four of the five chapters in Greenville County."

In 1958 she organized Tau chapter and went into it as a charter member. She served that chapter as treasurer for 18 years. In 1965 she and Elfrieda Cole, with the help of others, organized Alpha Alpha. In 1969 she organized Alpha Gamma, and her final expansion contribution was Alpha Pi, where she was a faithful member until her death.

As long as she could, she represented her chapter at state, regional, and international meetings and conventions.

She was initiated into Delta chapter November 1949. "It was impressed upon me from the beginning when I accepted the invitation to join Delta that with the honor came duty," she said. Never did she shirk that duty. Her legacy will live on through the chapters that she helped to create.



**PERLA BELLE STOWE**

## ATTENTION! ATTENTION! ATTENTION!



“Reach for the Stars” by contributing to your house, the Auld-Murdock Headquarters, for the biennium 2005-2007. Funds of \$200 per year from each chapter will meet the necessary challenge of operating expenses. Recognition will be given to each chapter that meets the challenge to “Reach for the Stars.”



In order to familiarize members with the operations of Auld-Murdock Headquarters House, the committee has prepared the following summary of the annual expenditures:

Utilities	\$ 3,240
Insurance	3,000
Yard maintenance	550
House maintenance	
Maid service	200
Repairs/replacements	1,500
H/AC	200
Pest control	450
Security System	360
Miscellaneous	1,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 10,500</b>

The Board adopted \$10,500 for the 2006-07 budget. Your continued support in meeting these budget needs will be greatly appreciated.

Frances Wannamaker, chair  
P.O. Box 123  
Pickens, SC 29671  
864-878-4654

## THANK YOU, Alpha Delta and Alpha Psi

These chapters “showered” the Alpha Eta State Headquarters with practical gifts of kitchen items, bathroom necessities, office supplies, and more. A big “thank you” to members of both chapters. Leslie Michael is president of Alpha Delta, and Catherine Spragins is Alpha Psi president.

## THE ORDER OF THE ROSE

Frances Murdock	Janie Gaskin
Hester Medlen	Julia Wood
Gertrude Chavis	Ann Salter
Darlene Hyman	Nell Cannon
Hermie Gaston	Ellen Walker
Helen Mullikin	Sybil Bagwell
Margaret Edwards	Lillian Jenkins
Marvella Easterling	

### Easterling Inducted into Order of the Rose

Marvella Easterling, first vice president of Alpha Eta State, is the newest member to be inducted into the Order of the Rose. A member of Alpha Beta since 1981, she has served as president for three terms. At the state level she has served as secretary and on four state committees. She attended the Leadership/Management Seminar in 1992 in Austin. She most recently served as District III director.

With a bachelor’s and master’s from Ball State University, she earned an additional 30 hours at Winthrop. She teaches second grade at Bennettsville Primary School.

Her community activities include membership in the Marlboro Players. She also serves on the Marlboro Area Arts Council.

In Thomas Memorial Baptist Church, she is a Sunday School teacher and a deacon.

She resides in Bennettsville.



Marvella Easterling is the newest inductee in the Order of the Rose.

## Gillion Receives Founders Scholarship

Amy Gillion, Epsilon, received the Founders Scholarship to achieve her masters degree in education with a focus on elementary reading and literacy from Walden University's on-line program. She is a Push-in Literacy Teacher for Mathews Elementary in Greenwood District #50.

Gillion was chosen the Piedmont Council's Distinguished Reading Teacher for the school for the 2001-2002 term. That same year she was spotlighted in Lander University's President's Report for helping implement a successful volunteer program at Mathews Elementary.

She served on the Piedmont Reading Council from 2002-2005 and was member of the International Reading Association from 2003-2005. She is Teacher of the Year for her school.

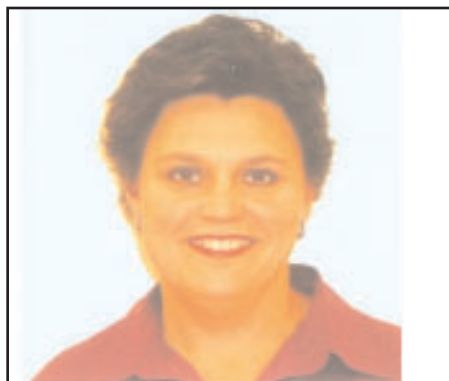
Initiated into Epsilon in 2002, she has served as parliamentarian, member of the Research Committee, second vice president, and first vice president. She currently serves on the Alpha Eta State Communication Committee.

A member of North Side Baptist Church in Greenwood, she has served as a drummer in the Praise Band for nine years. She has served as recreational director for Vacation Bible School.

On the Project Love ministry for underprivileged children, she has coordinated the Christmas stocking project, served on the Shake and Shine Camp committee, and as a chaperone for the camp.

Married to Gary Gillion, a high school math teacher in Greenwood, she is mother to seven-year-old twin girls. She is past president and vice president of the Greenwood Mother of Twins Club. She has been a volunteer for the American Heart Association and United Way and the drummer for the group *Proclaim*.

Gillion plans to share current reading and literacy strategies with chapter members through programs focused on best practices in balanced literacy and technology.



**Amy Gillion received the Founders Scholarship for work on a masters degree.**

## Briscoe Recognized for Service

Dr. Carolyn Briscoe has been recognized for outstanding service in church and community activities through the annual Shirley C. Bethea Volunteer Award. She was featured in an article in *The South Carolina United Methodist Advocate*.

She has served her church as president of the United Methodist Women, as a member of the administrative board, and on the council. A lay member delegate to the annual conference for 24 years, she also served as delegate to the General Conference in 1988, 1992, 1996, 2000. At the conference of 1996, she served as chairman.

A Sunday School teacher, Bible study and retreat leader, Briscoe continues to seek ways to minister to others and serve the church.

Community spirited, Briscoe delivers Meals on Wheels, participates in Helping Hands, and volunteers at the Collins Children's Home. Even though retired from the education profession, she remains an active role model by hosting student leaders of Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society for teacher-education students.

A Clemson University faculty retired, she is president of Alpha Psi.



**Carolyn Briscoe is recipient of the Shirley C. Bethea volunteer award.**

# Joint China-USA Education Summit

Jenny Trombley Funded by Cornetet Award

At the end of the school year last spring, I received a letter inviting me to travel as a member of the Science Education Delegation to the Joint China-USA Education Summit in Beijing China. I found out later that this invitation came about as a result of National Board Certification and participation in state and national science and educational organizations. The Summit was being organized by the People-to-People Ambassador Programs, developed by President Eisenhower.

"President Eisenhower believed that ordinary citizens of different nations, if able to communicate directly, would solve their differences and find a way to live in peace. This simple thought-that people can make the difference where government cannot-is People to People's foundation. He believed that if people could visit each others' homes, attend their schools, and see their places of worship, then the misunderstandings, misperceptions, and resulting suspicions-which were making war a viable option-would disappear. He wanted people to know and understand that while we are all very different, our values, goals, and day-to-day issues are very much the same." ([www.ambassadorprograms.org](http://www.ambassadorprograms.org))

Since I had to provide my own funding, I thought about the Cornetet Award, the new scholarship developed for educational conferences. Encouraged by my Delta Kappa sisters, I applied and was very excited when notified that I had been awarded the maximum sum available for my trip!

In December, I traveled to Beijing where I was part of approximately 100 educators from all over the United States. What an amazing experience to meet so many talented and exciting people. We were able to learn much about our subjects and education from each other.

The Summit was held at Beijing Normal University, which is one of the top teacher training universities in China. There we met our subject counterparts and held meetings where we shared triumphs and challenges in the classroom. They taught in different schools in different areas of China. It is amazing that people are more alike than different. As part of the Summit, we also traveled to schools in and around Beijing and were able to meet with teachers in a forum to discuss their educational system and also their day-to-day routine. In addition, we toured the school and sat in on classes of our subject area. We ate lunch in the cafeteria and talked to the students during lunch. Again, I saw how alike students are everywhere! In the evenings, we participated in several cultural activities such as a state dinner at the People's Hall that included their equivalent of Secretary of Education. We were entertained by musicians playing traditional stringed instruments and also by groups of teachers singing songs that Chinese children typically would sing in some of the elementary classes. We also saw a Kung Fu show, ate at many wonderful restaurants, and got to tour the Forbidden City, Tiananmen Square, the Great Wall of China, and a silk factory. During this time, I carried my Delta Kappa Gamma bag with the Delta Kappa Gamma luggage tag attached and had several of the US delegates tell me that they were also members in their state. I have shared with you just a brief overview of my experience in China. If you have any other questions, or would like to hear more about this trip, please contact me at [jennytrombley@anderson5.net](mailto:jennytrombley@anderson5.net).



Jenny Trombley worked with chemistry and physics teachers in the Chinese Science Delegation.

## LUCILLE CORNETET AWARD for Professional Development

The Educational Foundation has announced the Cornetet Award for Professional Development. This award is for individual educators for the purpose of participating in professional seminars, lecture series, national certification, on-line course, workshops, and other non-degree programs that hone professional skills.

In addition, the awards may fund such things as travel, lodging, meals, substitutes, and/or registration fees.

The criteria for applying for this award can be found on the Delta Kappa Gamma International website at [www.deltakappagamma.org](http://www.deltakappagamma.org).

## ODDS AND ENDS

### Table Decorations for a Good Cause

Carolyn Pittman, Southeast Regional Director, says the table decorations at the Southeast Regional Breakfast may not be "pretty," but they will be "beautiful" to those in need. Each region is decorating its breakfast tables with collections of toiletry items for a women's shelter.

Pittman sends the following message to all states in the Southeast region: "As you begin packing to go to the International Convention in San Diego, you are asked to pack some extra toiletry items (shampoo, deodorant, brush, comb, toothpaste, toothbrush, lotion, shower gel, hairspray, etc.). The items will be collected by Chi State (California) members who will get them to a local women's shelter.

While states in the Southeast region are collecting toiletry items, other regions will collect small stuffed toys, children's underwear, books, and mittens.

### Join Us on the Web

The state Communications Committee hopes to get many chapters to build websites linked to the Alpha Eta State website. It is not a difficult thing to do!

Be sure to send someone from your chapter to the communication workshop at the district meeting. So far only one chapter has a website linked to the state website. That should be changing soon. Be among the first to start the site.

Just think of all the information you could disseminate on your chapter website. You could put your newsletter online, have information showing meeting dates, special programs, officers and committee chairmen, and many other items. If you take pictures at the meetings, you can put them on the site for others to see.

Specific guidelines must be followed. Be sure to check out the PowerPoint presentation found on the PowerPoints link in the menu on the left-hand side of the homepage of the state website - [www.geocities.com/scalphaeta](http://www.geocities.com/scalphaeta). That should help the chapters get started. For questions or to meet with the state webmaster, contact Carol Vaughn, 803-783-6279, [dvisretired@yahoo.com](mailto:dvisretired@yahoo.com).

## NOMINATIONS

Members are encouraged to submit recommendations for these officers for 2007-2009 biennium: president, first vice president, second vice president, secretary, district directors, and Nominating Committee. For criteria and guidelines, refer to the *Alpha Eta State Standing Rules*.

The official Recommendation Form for Nominations must be used. A form may be obtained from the state website --[www.geocities.com/scalphaeta](http://www.geocities.com/scalphaeta) - or from executive secretary Linda Heckle - [linda@ehc.com](mailto:linda@ehc.com) - or at 803-796-0892.

Mail completed nomination forms to  
Roberta Senn  
5150 Cross Anchor Road  
Enoree, SC 29335

**DEADLINE: November 1, 2006**

### REMEMBER THESE DATES

#### JUNE 1:

Chapter Achievement Award report to state president  
Picture and bio of 2006-2008 chapter presidents to Linda Heckle, executive secretary

#### JULY 15:

Form 15, Annual Report of chapter treasurers due to Donna Wiles, state treasurer

#### JULY 19-22:

International Convention  
San Diego, California

#### SEPTEMBER 7:

*Digest* materials to Janis Blocker for October issue

#### OCTOBER 1:

6 copies of yearbook to Marvella Easterling, first vice president

#### OCTOBER 31:

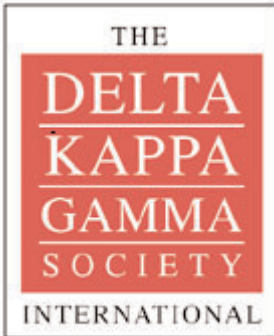
Last day to collect dues from members

# THE ALPHA ETA STATE DIGEST

Janis K. Blocker, editor

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**THANK YOU** for the Alpha Eta State Achievement Award presented at the Executive Board Meeting on March 18. It is indeed an honor, and I feel privileged to follow in the footsteps of previous recipients who are my mentors and friends.

The honor is shared with the many sisters who gave their ideas, energy, and time to making the 2003-2005 biennium a success--the officers, committee chairmen, committee members, chapter presidents, and all others who helped. I particularly thank the members of my chapter, Alpha Upsilon, for their encouragement, support, and willingness to step in and help when needed. I will wear the medallion with pride and gratitude.

*Janis K. Blocker*