



Alpha Eta State DIGEST



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

VOLUME XLVII, NUMBER 1

SOUTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 2004

International Convention 2004

Thirty represent Alpha Eta State

By Sims Lynn, Gamma

“Diamonds Are a Girl’s Best Friend” was shown time and time again in the celebration of “FROM THE SPARKLE OF THE PAST TO THE BRILLIANCE OF THE FUTURE” at the International 2004 Diamond Jubilee Convention! The hospitality of sisters from Tau State was outstanding. No matter how simple or complex the situation may have been, a Tau sister was always there to help.

Meetings usually began and ended in a timely fashion because of the excellent presiding skills of International President Jean Gray. As the flags of the Society and the fourteen member countries were presented, everyone was given an opportunity to display patriotism for their individual countries.

Minnesota Night was refreshing as Chief Ann Beers of the Minnesota State Patrol welcomed members and guests to Minnesota with praise for educators and humorous advice to “stay safe.” Native dancing presented by four members of the Heart of the Earth Drum and Dance Club and songs and dances from Croatia, Bulgaria, and Russia provided by members of the Ethnic Dance Theater produced threads of the tapestry woven for all in attendance.

The Celebration Luncheon and the Presidents’ Banquet afforded opportunities to meet and learn from women in other countries and states. It was especially meaningful to talk with Ria Bleeker from the Netherlands. Delta Kappa Gamma sisters from states such as Montana, Oregon, and Georgia were also appreciated.

Keynote speaker Lt. General Claudia Kennedy, United States Army (Retired), quickened thoughts and emotions with her subject, “Leadership: It’s Who You Are, Not a Job Title.” With much poise and grace, she shared her ascent to become the first and only woman to achieve the rank of three-star general in the United States Army.

The South Carolina Reception for President Nell Cannon was very well attended as many sisters from other states and countries came to enjoy a time of fun and fellowship. The true meaning of being a Delta Kappa Gamma sister was so evident.

The Jubilee Moments woven throughout the convention added much delight and humor. Alma Holston, Olivia Huggins, and Catherine Spragins blended their voices as part of the wonderful sound of the Diamond Jubilee International Chorus! It was magnificent! Muriel O’Tuel’s presentation, “The Five Sisters You Meet in Heaven” had “standing-room-only” attendance. Many tours and trips were provided, and, of course, a visit to The Mall of America allowed those who would dare “to shop ‘til you drop!”

At this 75th International, “Diamonds Are a Girl’s Best Friend” rang true as sisters celebrated “FROM THE SPARKLE OF THE PAST TO THE BRILLIANCE OF THE FUTURE.”



Alpha Eta State Sisters at International Convention

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

THE DIGEST

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SILENT AUCTION at STATE CONVENTION

Begin making plans for your chapter's basket. Proceeds from the auction will help defray expenses from the Leadership Challenge Seminar.

From the editor. . .

The Digest is on the web.
Go to www.geocities.com/scalphaeta
to read it online.

KEY NOTES



from
NELL

PROUD OF THE PAST COMMITTED TO THE FUTURE



"From the Sparkle of the Past to the Brilliance of the Future," the theme of the 2004 International Convention in Minneapolis, certainly lived up to expectations. In celebration of 75 years of the Society's existence, the Diamond Jubilee was a dazzler, featuring one exciting event after another. Over 2,200 Delta Kappa Gamma members, including 30 Alpha Eta State members, were delighted with the convention. Read the articles that Sims Lynn and Catherine Spragins wrote about their impressions of the convention.

Linda Heckle and I attended the Executive Board meetings. Muriel O'Tuel presented a standing-room-only workshop. Ann Salter, member of the International Expansion Committee, presented a workshop with her committee. Catherine Spragins, Alma Holston, and Olivia Huggins sang in the chorus, which made the 75th Anniversary Celebration on Friday evening especially memorable. Several selections were written by Delta Kappa Gamma members especially for this celebration.

The South Carolina Drop-In was very special. So many of our friends from all over the world came by to visit with us. Thanks to Alma Holston and Linda Heckle for their efforts in arranging this drop-in and to Sims Lynn, Carol Vaughn, and Leslie Ann Michael for the decorations.

The Southeast Breakfast was another special time, providing an opportunity to visit with our sisters from the Southeast and to learn about the activities in our neighboring states. Linda Heckle and Eunice Rowell decorated the tables. I appreciate their help.

Alpha Eta State members were recognized. Dr. Marianne Holland and Sarah Sprague received 75th Anniversary Stipends. Naomi Palmer received a grant from the Educational Foundation. Dr. Geneva Ann Turner and Dr. Linda P. Hawkins were recognized for receiving their doctoral degrees during the last biennium.

Returning home, I turned my attention toward this last year of the biennium. Scheduling chapter visits has been challenging. .

Plans for the Leadership Challenge Seminar (February 4-5, 2005) are exciting. Plan for at least one representative from your chapter to attend this opportunity to refine her leadership skills.

The Alpha Eta State Executive Committee will meet March 18, 2005, and the Alpha Eta State Convention is scheduled for March 19.. Put these dates on your calendar now. The details about the convention will be coming to you.

Delta Kappa Gamma has a 75-year legacy celebrated at the Diamond Jubilee Convention. This was a time to acknowledge and affirm the power and opportunities of our International Society. Our Seven Purposes keep us focused, and our Mission Statement sets our goals. International President Jacklynn Cuppy has challenged us to be in search of excellence. As an educational leader, you can begin in your school, your community, your chapter, and your state organization. When you see or hear of something or someone outstanding, who is in search of excellence, congratulate that person and tell about this accomplishment.

Delta Kappa Gamma is an international society of key women educators who promote personal and professional growth and excellence in education. We want to make our Society and the accomplishments of the members known to everyone.

The key to the future is **YOU!**



U. S. FORUM

Congressional Bills to Women's Health

By Naomi Palmer

The US Forum session at the International Convention in July emphasized issues important to women. Women's health educator, Gillian Sanson and grassroots political activist, Sue Shaw spoke on women's issues.

Leading the international list of speakers was Sanson, women's health educator, author, and researcher. Sanson described in detail her research relating to osteoporosis. *The Myth of Osteoporosis* has received international attention from the medical profession. Sanson, a native of New Zealand, tells a compelling story of her daughter's journey with the diagnosis of osteoporosis at the age of sixteen. Sanson's quest for information and knowledge after the 1994 diagnosis unearthed many myths regarding osteoporosis.

"It's amazing what we will do for our children," Sanson reported when questioned about her extensive research.

Her research has guided the medical profession and researchers to rethink methods of diagnoses of osteoporosis. Her book gives readers of the graying community information to ponder with the treatment of osteoporosis.

While changes come slowly, medical issues were not the only concerns of Delta Kappa Gamma women. Sue Shaw, grassroots political activist, has concentrated on eliminating Government Pension Offset(GOP)/Windfall Elimination Provision(WEP).

With her 37 years as a teacher, Shaw was shocked to learn that she would not be getting Social Security benefits earned through her work history nor was she eligible for spousal or widow benefits from her husband. There are 17 states in the United States that do not match Social Security contributions; therefore, the educators do not receive SS benefits.

A current bill in the US House of Representative (HR594) and Senate bill (S349) would repeal off-sets. Shaw urges all Delta Kappa Gamma members to call and write their congressional members to support these bills. Currently, the National Education Association has information on its website explaining the bills and the Congressional contact information. Shaw further explained that GPO affects more women and WEP affects more men. Express support by contacting Congressional members.

The theme of the US Forum can be summarized by a quote from Marion Wright Elderman: "If you don't like the way the world is, you change it. You have an obligation to change it. You just do it one step at a time."

From your executive secretary...

The 2004-2006 biennium for Alpha Eta State is off to a busy start! New chapter officers and committees have met for planning, and many chapters have had their first meeting of the year.

A few reminders of things which are important:

1. Pay your dues no later than October 31. A member must be dropped from chapter roll if dues are not paid by then.
2. Recommendations for nominations for state officers for the 2005-2007 biennium should be sent to chairman of Nominations Committee, Margaret Mitchum, by November 1.
3. Chapter yearbooks are due to First Vice President Alma Holston by October 1.
4. The Leadership Challenge Seminar is February 4-5, 2005. Read the information in this issue. Consider participating. It will be well worth your time.
5. Chapter presidents, keep up with your Alpha Eta State calendar and use the Chapter Achievement Award form as a guide as you plan programs and activities.
6. It is not too early to be thinking of the Alpha Eta State Convention in March and the Southeast Regional Conference in July 2005 and making plans to attend.

The Anniversary Celebration at the International Convention this July was all that we imagined it would be and much more. The convention articles in this issue give you a wonderful glimpse of the excitement of the celebration and the events of the week.

If I can help you, please call me at home (803-796-0892) or email (linda@heck.com). I look forward to hearing from you.

Linda Heckle

Convention Highlights



International President Jean Gray



Zeta members at a General Session



Alpha Eta State President Nell Cannon



Florence Steele at luncheon



Barbara Day of North Carolina, President Jean Gray of Maryland, and Darlene Hyman of South Carolina



Executive Secretary Linda Heckle at Jubilee Banquet

Convention Highlights



TOP:

First-timers Mary Redfearn and Catherine Spraggins

MIDDLE:

First-timers Olivia Huggins and Ann Bragdon

BOTTOM:

Muriel O'Tuel leading her standing-room-only workshop.

A First-Timer's Perspective

Country Mouse Goes to Big City for Diamond Jubilee

By Catherine Spraggins, Alpha Psi

I am a small-town girl, but for five days in July I quickly learned how to be a city lady in Minneapolis. Joining over 2,000 Delta Kappa Gamma sisters from across the U.S. and around the world, I was filled with awe and wonder at my first International Convention. How could a previous or future one ever compare to the 75th Diamond Jubilee Celebration? My journal captures my emotions - wow, huge, thrilling, warm, friendly, busy, exciting, inspiring, colorful, exhausting, touching, dignified, unforgettable. I started and ended the days with a song in my heart and tears in my eyes, never having been part of such a magnificent gathering. Words cannot describe the experience, but I will hit some highlights and pray that dozens of my South Carolina sisters will start planning and saving NOW to attend the next International Convention-- in San Diego, 2006.

The first meeting of the convention opened with the pageantry of flags, presented by presidents from the 14 member countries, followed by numerous welcomes and "Jubilee Moments." The wonderful Jubilee Moments were creative, ten-minute video presentations from many chapters of the Society, focusing on every aspect imaginable, often through drama or song. At every official meeting or banquet, we were treated to more Jubilee Moments - heartwarming!

Minnesota Night Tuesday evening royally welcomed us to the culturally diverse state and to the convention. We never lacked for assistance from the blue T-shirt sisters of Minnesota--from the airport to hotel to Convention Center to workshops to general sessions - their smiling presence was there with ready answers and helping hands.

During general sessions, words of wisdom were shared by several keynote speakers, including Dr. Crystal Kuykendall, mother, teacher, author, attorney and motivational speaker. She challenged us to "Triumph with Daily CPR"--a consistent display of caring for our students, patience and persistence as we teach, and resilience and rebounding from the rough times in life.

I greatly increased my knowledge of work of the international committees and staff. It was exciting to chat with sisters from Finland, Norway, Canada and the Netherlands as I had visions of attending conventions in their homelands.

Would you believe Dr. Annie Webb Blandon, our founder, returned from the past to join us at the Diamond Jubilee, dressed in her proper academic attire of sensible black shoes, dark long-sleeved dress, hat and gloves? It was delightful to chat with her as I asked permission to take her photograph.

For me, the highlight of this convention was singing in the International Diamond Jubilee Chorus. Have you ever sung with 250 women in a convention hall holding over 2,000 people? Awesome! Rehearsals at 6:30 am and 6:45 pm several days prepared us for singing at the Jubilee Banquet and Service of Remembrance, both dignified and beautiful occasions. Several pieces were written by members in the chorus and continue to dance through my head.

I have only touched on a few aspects of my being a first-timer at International. One needs to be there to know what it is like. My Alpha Psi chapter in Clemson assisted me with expenses, and every penny I spent of my own was worth it and then some. Consider it your privilege, your duty, your reward and your enriching choice to attend the next International Convention! See you there!

Scholarship Recipient

FROM THE PAST

By Marianne Holland, Research chairman

Dr. Jane Doug Hyatt, who recently retired from a curriculum position with the USC School of Medicine, says that the Alpha Eta State Mary Eva Hite Scholarship came at a very important time in her life. Her husband was retiring from his job, and two of their children were in college.

Dr. Hyatt's professional career included teaching at the middle school level in Richland District One, teaching high school social studies at Spring Valley High School, serving as an administrative assistant at Spring Valley, and curriculum advisor for the USC School of Medicine. Dr. Hyatt provided leadership and guidance for the establishment of an Educational Foundation at Spring Valley, providing much assistance to teachers and students.

Dr. Hyatt also received an international scholarship and earned a degree from the University of South Carolina in 1992. She urges all Alpha Eta State members working on advanced degrees to consider applying for a state or international scholarship.

Needs of PERSONNEL

By Marianne Holland, chairman

Members need to be thinking about the election of a treasurer in 2005. The term of the present treasurer expires in 2005.

Applications for the 2005-2009 term for state treasurer will be accepted until December 1, 2004. The forms may be downloaded from the Alpha Eta State website or secured from the office of Linda Heckle, executive secretary, or from Marianne Holland, 622 E. Cedar Rock St., Pickens 29671.

Qualifications for this position include the ability to manage Alpha Eta State budget/funds and generally oversee the investments of the state organization, working with the Finance Committee

DEADLINE: December 1, 2004

Who's Your Nominee?

By Margaret Mitchum, chairman

Members are encouraged to submit recommendations for these officers for the 2005-2007 biennium: president, first vice president, second vice president, 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 and can be obtained from Margaret Mitchum, chairman, or Linda Heckle, executive secretary. Contact Mitchum at 803-772-9389 or 803-951-8770 or jmmitchum@aol.com

Mail nominations to
Margaret B. Mitchum
506 Lewisham Court
Columbia, SC 29210

DEADLINE: November 1, 2004

CAN YOU USE \$750, \$1000, or \$2500?

Alpha Eta State members who have been active for at least three years and are doing graduate work in an accredited college or university are eligible for a scholarship.

Consider applying for the Mary Eva Hite Scholarship (\$1000 - \$2500), Founders' Scholarship (\$750), or the Marguerite G. Thompson Scholarship (\$750).

A few reminders:

1. Plan ahead
2. Download the application from the Alpha Eta State Website or request a form from the State Scholarship Committee.
3. Complete the application.
4. Include evidence of educational progress: a transcript from a college or university
5. Document all chapter and state participation
6. Enclose letters of recommendation
7. Mail application to the chairman

Scholarship Committee:

Mary B. Redfearn, Chairman
District III, Omicron
Jenny Trombley, District I, Theta
Amelia Stone, District II, Beta Zeta
Cindy Duryea, District IV, Chi
Jane Crawford, District V, Rho

MEMBERSHIP

By Hermie Gaston, chairman

Lt. Gen. Claudia Kennedy (Ret.), one of the major speakers at the International Convention, was the first woman promoted to three-star general in the US Army.

"Giving a few words of advice is easy; actually mentoring, guiding a younger person over a long period of his or her career is a significant, time-consuming task that only the busy senior officer or executive can choose to do," writes General Kennedy in her book, *Generally Speaking*.

Ponder that and then apply it to mentoring in your chapter.

The Distinguished Service Awards Program

The Personal Growth and Services Committee of Alpha Eta State established the program in 2002 to give tangible meaning to the following Delta Kappa Gamma purposes:

PURPOSE II: To honor women who have given, or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.

PURPOSE III: To advance the professional interest and position of women in education.

PURPOSE VI: To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.

The committee recognized the service of chapter members in 2003 and has been working on the awards to be given on a state level as well. There are three types of awards to be given, similar to those given on a chapter level. The state awards are for distinguished service, and the chapter awards are for outstanding service.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO ALPHA ETA STATE

The nominee must have served or be currently serving in a leadership role in her chapter and in two or more capacities at the state level. The nominee must have demonstrated commitment to the Society at all levels by regular attendance.

DISTINGUISHED CAREER/PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

The nominee must be a member of Alpha Eta State and must have developed an innovative educational activity that has impacted the profession and is recognized as an example for other educators

DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE

The nominee must reside in South Carolina, but she does not have to be a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. The nominee must have made, or be making, an outstanding contribution in any public service arena as a volunteer or as a professional in business, industry, government, social service or fine arts.

The nomination procedures follow:

Members are encouraged to become actively involved in nominating outstanding women deserving recognition. The Chapter Executive Board or three members who know her must endorse all nominees.

The completed nomination form(s), supporting material, and the proper endorsement are to be mailed to:

Janet Weathers, chairman
Personal Growth and Services
669 Castle Pinckney Drive
Charleston, SC 29412
(843) 795-2264
FAX: (843) 795-4694
Email: janweathers@aol.com

All forms must be postmarked no later than December 15. The forms were handed out at the District Workshops in the spring and summer. Additional forms may be obtained from the Personal Growth and Services Committee member in your district. We also hope to have the forms available on the state web site soon. As a committee we are excited to be able to recognize those members in Alpha Eta State who contribute so much to education, our state organization and the communities in South Carolina. Chapters may nominate for one, two, or three of the awards but do not need to submit a nominee for all three to be considered. The Personal Growth and Services state committee will decide on the three awardees--one for each category.

At the March 2005 State Convention, the three awardees will be presented with a gold rose charm and a certificate. The Distinguished Service Awards will be awarded at the state convention each biennium. The Outstanding Chapter Service Awards awardees will be printed in the fall issue of *The Digest* and on a special program handed out at the Executive Board Meeting in the even numbered years when state convention is not held.

If these are any questions, please contact Personal Growth and Services Committee Chairman Janet Weathers at the above address. Let's recognize those who make South Carolina a great place to live!

ALPHA



Retired social studies coordinator. State webmaster. Initiated 1987.

Carol Vaughn

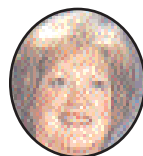
BETA



Professor of English, Charleston Southern University. Initiated 1984.

Carol Drowota

GAMMA



Early Childhood educator at Clover for 18 years. Initiated 1991.

Linda Walker

RHO



Curriculum coordinator at Reuben Elem. Initiated 1992

Gina Mays

EPSILON



Retired counselor of jr. high school. Volunteer of Year. Initiated 1976.

Imogean Kelley

ZETA



Colleton County Elem. Curriculum Facilitator. Initiated 1986.

Nancy Carter

ETA



Teacher at Dorman High School. Former Teacher of the Year. Initiated 1998.

Myra Soderlund

THETA



Science teacher at Westside High School, Anderson. Initiated 1997.

Jenny Trombley

ALPHA KAPPA



Curriculum Coordinator at Pocalla Springs Elem, Sumter

Allison Morehouse

KAPPA



Social studies teacher at Edisto High, Cordova. Initiated 1995.

Mary Claire Grogan

MU



Media specialist, Gaffney High School. Initiated 1997.

Kathleen Sarratt

NU



Retired after 40 years as an English teacher. Initiated 1998.

Carolyn Thomas

LAMBDA



First grade teacher at Wellford Elem. Initiated 1998.

Amy Kinard

OMICRON



Retired after 32 years K4 - 1st grade. Initiated 1973.

Mary Redfearn

PI



Music specialist at McDonald Elem. Church organist. Initiated 2000.

Olivia Huggins

BETA ALPHA



Retired science, chemistry and workshop leader. Initiated 1993.

Jane Benton

TAU



Teacher of 5th grade at Sara Collins Elem. Initiated 1999.

Cathy Hale

BETA THETA



Retired elementary teacher. Initiated 1994.

Elaine Gilmore

PHI



Counselor, Strom Thurmond Career Center, Johnston. Initiated 1992.

Patricia H. Bryan

BETA IOTA



English teacher, now stay-at-home mom. Initiated 2003

Celeste Harris

PSI



Retired 3rd grade teacher, Lake City. Initiated 1996.

Ann Bragdon

ALPHA BETA



Special Needs teacher at McColl Middle. Initiated 1996.

Lynn Covington

ALPHA GAMMA



Elementary teacher, media clerk. Initiated 1996.

Sandy Bryson

BETA ETA



ELA teacher, Chesnee Middle. Initiated 1997.

Diana Wright

ALPHA EPSILON



1st grade teacher, Pineview Elem. Initiated 2000.

Allison Lyles Jeffcoat

BETA EPSILON



Teacher at St. James High School for 31 years. Initiated 1998

Rhonda Thompson

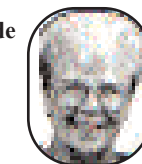
ALPHA ETA



Retired Eng. teacher at Brooklyn-Cayce High.

Jane Cauthen

ALPHA THETA



Retired math teacher, Lexington. Initiated 1979.

Diane Taylor

ALPHA IOTA



Retired science teacher.

Initiated 1988

Pearl Young

ALPHA MU



Retired from Spartanburg Tech. College.

Initiated 1980.

Sandra Powell

ALPHA NU



Guidance counselor, Bamberg-Ehrhardt High.

Initiated 1998.

Runelle Weeks

ALPHA XI



Retired 2004 after 30 years.

Initiated 1988.

Linda Hawkins

BETA ZETA



Retired ass't principal, Leslie Stover School.

Initiated 1992.

Jackie DeWitt

ALPHA PI



Retired teacher of 31 years at Eastside High.

Initiated 1982.

Bonnie Bridges

ALPHA RHO



Retired 1st grade teacher, Stiles Point Elem.

Initiated 1970.

Verna Blanton

ALPHA SIGMA



Teacher at Summerville Elem. Former Teacher of the Year.

Catherine Suarez

ALPHA TAU



Teacher at Oak Grove Elem, Lexington.

Initiated 1996.

Debbie Poole

ALPHA UPSILON



Retired teacher at Harbison West Elem., Columbia.

Initiated 1973.

Jane Mueller

ALPHA PHI



Retired elem teacher, Moncks Corner.

Initiated 1990.

Maxine Tanner

ALPHA CHI



Retired elem. teacher, Varnville.

Initiated 2000.

Martha Platts

ALPHA PSI



Retired from nursing faculty, Tri-County Tech. College

Initiated 1987

Catherine Spragins

ALPHA OMEGA



Retired elem teacher, Cherokee Trail Elem., Abbeville.

Initiated 1994.

Sandra Gettys

BETA DELTA



5th grade teacher, Redcliffe Elem. Initiated 1987.

Bea Crawford

BETA GAMMA



Reading Recovery teacher, Wallace Gregg Elem. Initiated 1992.

Julia Johnson

DELTA: Felicia Robbins
Administrator of St.Paul's Christian School in Mauldin.

IOTA: Susan Keefe
Sumer School District for 28 years. Initiated 1992.

XI: Sally Mims
West Lee Elem for 26 years. Initiated 1994.

SIGMA: Debby Greene
English teacher at Union High School. Initiated 1988.

UPSILON
Barbara Partin

CHI: Kathy Newman
Retired from Special Education Dept at Southern Conn. State U. Initiated 1983.

OMEGA
Shannon Munn

ALPHA ALPHA
Linda McElrath

ALPHA DELTA:
Leslie Ann Michael
Retired elementary teacher, Richland School District. Initiated 1989.

ALPHA ZETA

Gwen Gore

ALPHA LAMBDA
Nan Carmichael

ALPHA OMICRON
Connie Leverett

BETA BETA
Dale Cogan
Second grade teacher, Bethel-Hanberry Elem, Richland School Dist. Initiated 1994.

CHAPTER NEWS and TIDBITS

ALPHA DELTA

By Anne Beckham

New officers for the 2004-2006 biennium are Leslie Michael, president; Robin Cope, 1st vice president; Kelly Lilly, 2nd vice president; Judy Medlin, secretary; Anne Beckham, corresponding secretary; and Martha Goff, treasurer.

The newest member of the chapter is Dana Hutto. Dana works at USC Columbia with the South Carolina Science Council.

Leslie Michael attended the International Convention in Minnesota in July.

Martha Goff is the new assistant principal for instruction at White Knoll Elementary School in Lexington.

ALPHA ETA

By Jane Cauthen

The chapter kicked off the new year with an informal breakfast Saturday, September 18. The program was presented by Jeanne Palyok, founder of FACES, Foreign Academic and Cultural Exchange Services. She has brought over 200 foreign teachers to the US to teach for a period of three years. Teachers from Great Britain, Ghana, and Romania discussed their teaching experiences in the state.

The chapter continues to sponsor "Diaper Day" by collecting diapers for the Somali Bantu families resettled in Columbia. Several members, including past president Francie Markham, continue volunteer work with the Bantu.

TAU

By Frances Rish

Cathy Hale, incoming president, was among three Greenville County teachers named state finalists for the 2004 Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching. Cathy teaches science to fifth graders at Sara Collins Elementary.

Becky Lauder has assumed a new position as instructional coach at Blythe Elementary.

BETA ALPHA

By Jane Benton

For four years, the chapter and the Manning Rotary Club have co-sponsored "The Dictionary Project," a nationwide project started by Mary French in Charleston. This year 538 dictionaries were presented to third graders in public and private schools across Clarendon County. Sue Jordan chaired the project with assistance from six chapter members and numerous Rotarians. The looks on the faces of the children were priceless, but members were equally excited about the question and enthusiasm shown by the third graders.

Lynette Barrineau, a Walker Gamble Elementary teacher, was awarded a \$500 scholarship from the chapter to pursue her master's degree in education. She is attending Francis Marion University in Florence.

Denise Jones, a teacher of the gifted and talented at Manning Elementary, had a banner year. She was named school and district "Teacher of the Year," received National Board certification, and welcomed her first child, a son.

Martha Wright, vice president, has spent many hours during the summer helping prepare for the opening of a Montessori pre-school at St. Matthias Episcopal Church in Summerton. Martha is a retired administrator who transferred to the chapter from Maryland. She brings a wealth of knowledge and energy to the chapter.

Officers and chairmen met in July for a planning luncheon at the home of Jane Benton, president.



Third graders display the dictionaries contributed by Beta Alpha and the Rotarians.

ZETA

By Janis Blocker

The chapter closed out the year with the annual breakfast meeting held at the home of Janis Blocker with 25 in attendance.

The officers for the new biennium were installed. The members commended Miriam Humphries, outgoing president, for her service to the chapter. Miriam presented the gavel to Nancy Carter, newly elected president.

Kristen Carter, a graduate of Colleton Preparatory Academy in Walterboro and recipient of the Grant-in-Aid of \$900, was a guest at the meeting. Kristen will pursue a degree in elementary education at the University of South Carolina, Columbia.



Zeta's officers: Nancy Carter, Barbara Steele, Louise Rogers, Becky Strickland, Paula Polk

THETA DELTA

By Carol U. Garrett

The chapter hosted the fall meeting at Cumberland Village, a retirement community. Since many members have aging parents or are themselves aging, a tour of the facility would be beneficial. The business meeting was held in the conference room. The facility provided a delightful luncheon. Two of the residents had connections with Delta Kappa Gamma: the mother of one was a member of the Society and another was a member in another state.

Bonnie Hayes, presented a program focusing on the use of assistive technology in special-needs areas in the schools and community.

The chapter plans to hold meetings at other retirement settings.

CHAPTER NEWS and TIDBITS

PSI

By Ann Bragdon

Alpha Eta State President Nell Cannon was guest speaker at the September meeting. She talked about the honor of membership, things going on at the state level, scholarships available, and other items of interest including upcoming dates of Society happenings. She also presented the 2004 Chapter Achievement Award with a rating of superior.

During the "Member Moments" segment, Dr. Linda Hawkins was recognized for being honored at the 2004 International Convention in July in Minneapolis, along with others receiving doctorates during the last biennium.

Ann Bragdon brought remarks about the convention and the 75th Diamond Jubilee celebration.

For the September chapter project, members brought items for first-time teachers. A number of bags were filled with useful items to present to the teachers in several area schools.

Other projects planned for the new year include a silent auction in December to benefit the Francis Marion University Scholarship Fund.

Members will bring materials for at-risk students for the February project.

ALPHA RHO

By Verna Blanton

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the chapter. The first meeting for the year was a brunch at James Island Presbyterian Church on Saturday, September 18.

Some of the special projects planned are "My Sister's House," "Ronald McDonald House," the donation of children's books, and a Grant-In-Aid for

Virginia Ward is the recipient of the Fulbright Memorial Fund. She is one of 600 American educators who will teach abroad. She will teach in Japan from November 14 - December 5 and will stay in the private home of a Japanese family.

The objective of the program is to promote positive relations between the US and other countries. wserve her

ALPHA BETA

By Betty Souther

Martha Sanders retired with 28 years of experience. During her entire career, she taught at Bennettsville Primary School, teaching first and second grades. She is now employed at Washington Park Elementary School in Laurinburg, North Carolina, as a third grade teacher.

Amanda Reingardt, an education major at Clemson, is the 2004 recipient of the Carol Anne Covington Education Grant.

The chapter is delighted to welcome new members Stacey Freeman, Wendy McIntyre, Cathy Sweatt, Bonnie Stillwell, and Jo Barfield. The new members were initiated at the September meeting.

Marvella Easterling attended the International Convention.

BETA IOTA



Beta Iota is one of the two new chapters organized in May. Celeste Harris will serve as president of this chapter in the Hartsville area.

ALPHA OMICRON



Alpha Omicron is one of the two new chapters organized in May. Connie Leverett will serve as president of this chapter in the Charleston area.

ALPHA MU

By Margaret Dunn

Dr. Laura Jones, recent past president, participated in a mentoring workshop at the the international convention in Minneapolis. Her degree is in mentoring educators and was achieved in part by an Alpha Eta State scholarship.



Laura Jones

Nancy Yown and Amy Goodwin were recognized as "Teacher of the Year" at their schools. Nancy teaches at Anderson Mill Elementary in Roebuck, and Amy teaches English and journalism at Landrum High School.

Jane Haynes, the chapter's first president, continues to champion education and learning for students. She was recently featured in the *Spartanburg Herald-Journal* because of her role as a mentor to Brandi McJimpsey. Brandi, a recent graduate of Spartanburg High School, had a 4.7 GPA and is certified as a nursing assistant in geriatrics. Jane used her love of reading, a love shared by Brandi, to encourage this young woman since she was a sixth grader.



Brandi and mentor, Jane Haynes

Mary Sonksen, teacher and administrator of the blind in Iowa and Minnesota, has been an educator at the SC School for the Deaf and Blind for over 20 years. She has been appointed by Gov. Sanford to represent the 4th Congressional District on the state Committee for the Blind.

KUDOS

Parker Named Pickens County Teacher of the Year

Lethea Parker, an 8th-grade math teacher at Gettys Middle School in Easley, was named "Teacher of the Year" for Pickens County. As a county winner, she will compete for the state Teacher of the Year honors.

In an interview with the Easley Bureau, Lethea recalled those teachers who had made such an indelible impression on her life and call to teaching. Her philosophy is that students "need to know they can depend on their teacher."

"If you start with their heart, knowledge will come," she said. Teaching to her is about "providing a climate in the classroom that invites and motivates students to learn."

Testimony from former students and colleagues attest to her compassionate spirit and concern for all students, rich or poor, smart or struggling, positive or discouraged.

"I strive every day to make my classroom a place where students want to come and learn. I strive to make my classroom a place that all students, regardless of ability level, will reach success," she said.

Lethea has been a member of Alpha Xi since 1955. She currently serves as corresponding secretary.

She received a bachelor's in elementary education from Winthrop in 1971 and a master's of education from Clemson in 1971. A teacher for 33 years, she has taught the last 24 years at Gettys Middle, previously known as Easley Junior High.

She is a member of the state organization for teachers of math and the Palmetto State Teachers Association. A recipient of many honors, she was awarded the WYFF Golden Apple in 1994 and was Teacher of the Year in 1986-87 and 1992-93 in addition to this year.

Active in the community, she is a Sunday School teacher, a member of the "Relay for Life" team at Arial Baptist Church, and chairman for the neighborhood drives of the American Kidney Association and the American Heart Association.



Holland is Recipient of Jubilee Grant

Dr. Marianne Holland, member of Alpha Xi, received one of the \$1000 grants for the 75th anniversary of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International celebration. The award was announced in *The Delta Kappa Gamma News* in June, and recognition was given to the 75 recipients at the International Convention in Minneapolis.

Holland submitted a proposal for the presentation of four or more Teddy Bear Concerts for upstate students in South Carolina. A study guide will be developed by Holland and sent to all participating schools. The concerts will include handbells, the mighty "organ," the piano, vocal/choral students, and ensembles such as brass, woodwind, strings, and percussion. Some concerts will be held at the college while others will be presented in the public and private schools in the area.

North Greenville College music faculty and students will be a part of this exciting concert series for elementary school students.

Article Published

Dr. Marianne Holland and Dr. Charlotte Lindsey had an article published in the Spring 2004 Bulletin of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

The title of the article was "Creating an Electronic Portfolio as an Aid to Student Teaching and Job Interviews."

Holland is professor/chair for Music Education at North Greenville College, Tigerville.

Lindsey is Director of Teacher Education for Southern Wesleyan University, Central.

Holland is a member of Alpha Xi, and Lindsey is a new member of Beta Eta.

International Emergency Fund

The International Emergency Fund was created in 1948 to assist member who sustain major losses from natural disasters--floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, and other catastrophic disasters. The gifts are in the amount of \$500 each.

Voluntary contributions and interest fund the project. Traditionally, voluntary donations are made during regional conferences and during regional breakfasts at international conventions.

Chapter presidents give the names of victims of disasters to the state president, who notifies International of the need.

ATTENTION!

If you would like to be an international speaker, contact your state president for an application.

**Deadline for information to be sent to International:
NOVEMBER 1, 2004.**



IN MEMORIAM

"They loved and brought a bit of beauty, love, and faith; and now their lives will ever be reflected in our hearts."

---Anonymous



Francis Muckenfuss, first principal of Summerville Elementary

Frances Lide Muckenfuss, the first president of Alpha Sigma Chapter, died May 20, 2004, at the Presbyterian Home in Summerville, SC. Initiated into Zeta Chapter on May 1, 1950, she transferred to Alpha Sigma as a charter member on May 2, 1981. The chapter's Grant-in_aid Fund was established in her honor.

She was born January 9, 1915, in Elloree, a daughter of the late Allan F. Lide and Lillian Brissenden Lide. After graduating from Elloree High School and Winthrop College, she received a master's degree from Western Carolina University. From 1948 to 1975 she was the first principal of Summerville Elementary School. A life member of the Parent Teacher Association, she was a former member of the SC Elementary School Administrators Association and the National Association of Elementary Principals. In Summerville Presbyterian Church, she was a member and an elder.

She is survived by one son, DaCosta Muckenfuss, Jr., and his wife Neil of Rock Hill; one grandson, Sean D. Muckenfuss and wife Shannon of Tega Cay; and a great-grandson, Ryan DaCosta Muckenfuss, also of Tega Cay. She was preceded in death by her husband DaCosta Muckenfuss, Sr.

Mrs. Muckenfuss had a written statement of beliefs, which were read at the funeral service on May 23, 2004, at the Summerville Presbyterian Church. A few of those statements follow:

What I Believe

I believe each of us is a living soul, created by God, placed on earth with a definite purpose for our sojourn here, and granted salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

I believe each person has been given certain abilities and talents with which to carry out God's plan and the choice to accept or reject this plan. The worthwhile things we do are accomplished by the Holy Spirit working through us.

I believe that each day we are given another chance to be better than we were the day before, and that failure is no disgrace, but that the disgrace is in never trying.

I believe in the power of prayer--that every prayer is answered, not always as I would like it but always as God sees fit and knows best for me and for His plan for my life.

I believe that work is a blessing, not a curse, and that anything worth doing is worth doing as well as one can.

Hester Summers Medlen, 92, died August 27, 2004, at her residence following a long illness. Well known in Conway as an educator, she was a leader in the community and the Kingston Presbyterian Church.

Born October 17, 1911 in Cameron, South Carolina, to Dr. S.J. Summers and Hester Keener Summers, she was the youngest of eleven children. She was the last surviving member of her immediate family.

She graduated from Columbia College in 1932 and began a 40-year career as an educator in Florence County. In 1935, she married the late Fredrick Woodrow Medlen, and the couple spent many years as managers of the Austin Charles Hotel in Conway before making their home on their farm on Highway 501.

She served as a classroom teacher and a principal in several schools. A member of the SC Education Association, she served as state president in 1954. She also served as state president of the SC Classroom Teachers Association. A speaker for the Education Association, she served in Washington, DC, on two White House Commissions under President Eisenhower. She retired at age 62, having missed only 17 days in 40 years.

Following retirement, she and her husband operated The Flower shop in Conway. Columbia College, her alma mater, recognized her with a citation in 1988. Horry County gave her the Community Service Award for outstanding service to Conway and Horry counties.

A member of Delta Kappa Gamma since 1946, she served as president of Nu chapter and of Alpha Eta State. She was honored with membership in the "Order of the Rose" for more than 50 years of service to the Society.

An active member of Kingston Presbyterian Church, she taught Sunday School and Bible classes for 37 years. An elder, she was the first woman to serve as clerk of Session, the governing body.

She deeded property on Highway 501 so that the Conway Christian School could become a reality. She has deeded the majority of her property to the Presbyterian Home of SC for the purpose of building a retirement home in Conway. That dream should become a reality in the near future.

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD TO BE PRESENTED IN MARCH

The 24th annual Alpha Eta State Achievement Award will be presented at the state convention in March 2005. On the face of the gold medallion is the inscription: "Alpha Eta State Achievement Award." The recipient's name and the year are on the back. The following criteria are used to determine eligibility:

1. Only active members who have made outstanding contributions to education and are presently rendering exceptionally fine service to the Society at the state level
2. A minimum of five years of active membership
3. No previous recipient
4. No state president during her term of office

All nominations will be evaluated by the committee. Summaries of eligible nominees' information will be presented to the Executive Board members, who will choose the recipient.

Please complete the form and mail it to Molly Bain by December 1, 2004.

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

RECOMMENDATION FOR THE ALPHA ETA STATE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

1. Name of member recommended _____

2. Address of member recommended _____

3. Present professional position of person recommended _____

4. Membership in Delta Kappa Gamma Society International _____
Chapter _____ State _____ Total number of years _____

5. Statement of Achievements of Candidate

A. Chapter officers held: _____
Notable work: _____

B. State offices held: _____
Notable work: _____

C. Regional: _____

D International: _____

6. Professional Experiences and Honors: _____

7. Community and/or organizational service : _____

Recommended by: Chapter _____
President: _____
Individual; _____

Please send the nomination by December 1, 2004 to: Mrs. Molly Bain
103 Hillshire Ct.
Columbia, SC 29212

Alpha Eta State Leadership Challenge Seminar

Feb 4 - 5, 2005

Alpha Eta State will hold its Leadership Challenge Seminar on Feb. 4 and 5, 2005 at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Columbia, SC. This special event taking place every other year is a tradition established in the early 1990's. Each chapter is encouraged to send at least one member and to underwrite the cost. More than one member from a chapter is encouraged.

This seminar will feature outstanding speakers, including Dr. Jensi Souders from Tennessee and Kathy Whitmire from Walhalla, who will tackle current educational issues with vigor and expertise. A registration form is provided. Chapters are encouraged to complete and mail as soon as possible to guarantee a place. The deadline for the registration form and check is December 1, 2004.

The seminar is planned with classroom teachers in mind so that they can carry the knowledge gained directly into the classroom.



Dr. Jensi Souders

Alpha Eta State Leadership Challenge Seminar Registration

Fri., February 4 (4-5 pm regis.) & Sat., Feb. 5, 2005 (concludes at 4:30 pm)

Ramada Plaza Hotel - I-77 at 8105 Two Notch Rd. - Columbia, SC

Phone: (803) 736-5600 Fax: (830) 736-1241 www.columbiaramadaplazahotel.com

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: () _____ E-mail: _____

Chapter name : _____

Current office, if any: _____ Prior offices, if any: _____

Other professional activities: _____

Current educational position and place: _____

Reason(s) for attending this seminar: _____

How do you see this seminar benefiting you, your chapter, and your community?

Hobby / gift : _____

Roommate (if you have a preference): _____

Please send this registration form and a check for \$85 (made out to Alpha Eta State) to Francie Markham 3819 Bloomwood Rd. Columbia, SC 29205. Add \$15 to the above price for a single room. The deadline is Wed., Dec. 1, 2004. Please encourage your chapter to help defray the cost or to pay fully for all attendees; add \$15 to the above price if you want a single room. The numbers are limited, so postmark date may have to be used. This form is your hotel reservation and all meals are included. E-mail Francie at britlit@sc.rr.com with any questions or suggestions.

Thank you, Lamba

Lamba chapter “showered” Headquarters with practical gifts of kitchen items, bathroom necessities, office supplies, and more. It was party time opening all the wonderful “presents.”

GET WELL SOON

Dr. Ruby Matthews, former state and international president, has undergone spinal surgery again. This operation follows one only three months ago. Keep her in your prayers.

REMINDER TO CHAPTER TREASURERS

Annual membership dues and fees are due no larger than October 31. The chapter treasurer should use Form 18 and forward to the state treasurer no later than November 10. All checks should be made payable to Alpha Eta State and forwarded to Dr. Eunice Rowell, 108 Devon Court, Greenwood, SC 29649. Any questions should be directed to the treasurer at eunice8@earthlink.net or 864-223-8921.

Please note treasurer’s new email address: eunice8@earthlink.net

CORRECTION:

In the May issue of *The Digest*, the “In Memoriam” tribute to Janie Gaskin had one error. Mrs. Gaskin received the “Order of the Rose” by a donation from two individuals, not from the members of Alpha XI. The editor regrets the error.

NEXT DEADLINE:

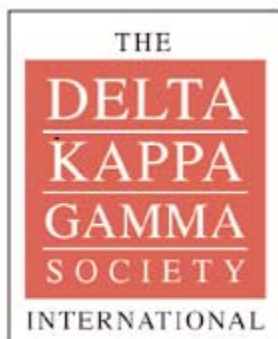
DECEMBER 10

Southeast Regional
Williamsburg, Virginia
July 2005

THE ALPHA ETA STATE DIGEST

Janis K. Blocker, editor

20238 Augusta Hwy
Round O, SC 29474



FOR KEY WOMEN
EDUCATORS