



Alpha Eta State DIGEST



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

VOLUME XLIX NUMBER 1

SOUTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 2005

Williamsburg Hosts SE Conference

Alpha Eta State Registers 71

By Janis Blocker, editor

“Moving Forward: Excellence in Action” was the theme of the Southeast Regional Conference held at the Williamsburg Marriott in Williamsburg, N.C. July 20-23 and attended by 71 from South Carolina.

How great it was to have Ruby Matthews, Helen Mullikin, Frances Murdock, Mary Kate Glasser, Ann Salter, Nell Cannon, Hermie Gaston, and Marianne Holland, past state presidents of Alpha Eta, in attendance along with incoming president Eunice Rowell.

The opening session opened with an impressive flag presentation by the immediate past presidents of each of the 11 states. Along with the presentation was a narration of the history of each state chapter. Mayor Jeanne Zeidler welcomed the members to Williamsburg with a key to the city. Members took advantage of that during free time as they added to the economic wealth of the area on their shopping sprees.

International President Jacklynn Cuppy of Canada addressed the conference at several sessions, always offering encouragement and praising excellence. Immediate past president Jean Gray spoke at several sessions as well.

At each of the four general sessions, keynote speakers addressed the conferees, the 11 states in the Southeast gave video presentations of “Moments of Excellence.” Naomi Palmer produced the video showing Alpha Eta State’s achievements during the past year.

One of the outstanding addresses came from Dr. Gwen Simmons, North Carolina president. She pulled no punches as she challenged the Society to face the future needs to find ways to keep the Society strong. Her remarks were thought-provoking and brought a standing ovation.

With 75 workshops scheduled, members had quite a variety. Muriel O’Tuel presented two workshops, “Seven Deadly Habits of Highly Miserable People” and

“The Five Sisters You Meet in Heaven,” and Margie Clary presented “Teaching Children Values Through Storytelling.” Janis Blocker, Nell Cannon, Hermie Gaston, Linda Heckle, and Marianne Holland were presiders at workshops.

At the luncheon, the generosity of the members added \$6350 to the Emergency Fund. Louisiana had the members dancing in the aisles with the New Orleans-style musical invitation to the next SE Regional in 2007.

The celebration banquet Saturday night was a fitting conclusion to the week of activities. Reminded that the “quality of life depends not on *how much* we put into life but *what* we put into it,” sisters from the Southeast joined hands to sing the Delta Kappa Gamma song before going their separate ways with promises to see one another again in 2007 at New Orleans.



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

THE DIGEST

Publication
of
ALPHA ETA STATE
of
THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

Published three times a year in
October, January, June

NEXT DEADLINE: DECEMBER 7

JANIS K. BLOCKER, EDITOR
20238 Augusta Hwy
Round O, SC 29474
Ph & fax: 843.835.2173
dajaview@lowcountry.com

Send address changes to:
Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int.
P.O. Box 1589
Austin, TX 78767-1589
or
promen@deltakappagamma.org
or
1.888.762.4685
or
use change of address form online
www.deltakappagamma.org

Alpha Eta State Headquarters
607 Maple Street
Columbia, SC 29205
803.256.3869
www.deltakappagamma.org/SC

DISTRICT WORKSHOPS

District 1.....March 25, 2006

District 2....May 6, 2006

District 3....April 1, 2006

District 4....April 22, 2006

District 5....April 29, 2006



NOTES

from

EUNICE



As I begin my biennium as your state president, I do so with a heart filled with gratitude and awe at the confidence you have placed in me. To serve as president of Alpha Eta State is certainly an humbling experience, and I will serve you with pride, dignity and professionalism.

I am so thankful to all who said "yes" to my call to fill positions as chairmen or committee members for the 2005-2007 biennium. I feel it is this willingness to serve that makes Delta Kappa Gamma so strong. I know our state is blessed with members who possess much experience and talent, and together we will accomplish our goals "one step at a time."

Attending the Southeast regional conference as your president was a great experience for me. Over 800 Delta Kappa Gamma members attended the conference, including 71 Alpha Eta State members. Marvella Easterling and Sims Lynn did a great job in setting up our South Carolina Drop-In, which was well attended.

The theme of the 2005-2007 Alpha Eta State biennium is "Reaching for the Stars one step at a time." While I realize that we are confronted with many issues and challenges, we have the knowledge and expertise to overcome. One of my goals for this biennium is to keep you informed. To facilitate this goal, state officers, district directors, chapter presidents, committee chairmen, and committee members were invited to attend the Fall Workshop in August. We were overwhelmed with the number in attendance and the enthusiasm of those who attended. With this kind of enthusiasm, we came away from the workshop realizing that our theme would become a reality. Membership is another goal that all chapters need to adopt.

To strengthen our chapters and our society, I offer these challenges for the biennium:

- Increase your membership by 25%
- Increase each member's knowledge of the Society
- Be willing to serve your chapter as an officer or committee member
- Mentor new members
- Make chapter programs interactive
- Support your chapter projects
- Encourage attendance of officers and committee chairmen to the state meetings, regional conferences, and international conventions
- Show pride by wearing your key pin to all professional meetings
- Strive to make the Society visible in your community
- Invite a state officer to visit your chapter

I am currently in the process of scheduling chapter visits. Please get your request in at your earliest convenience.

As I end my very first Alpha Eta State president's column, I challenge you to join me in "Reaching for the Stars one step at a time."

ALPHA ETA STATE GOALS

2005 - 2007

1. Strengthen chapters by providing assistance, direction, and re-direction. Assistance for chapters is available from state officers, committee chairmen, and district directors.
2. Promote visibility and credibility of Delta Kappa Gamma chapters and individual members as ambassadors for education and true experts in educational issues by recognizing accomplishments of chapter members and community contributors to education and by engaging in chapter projects that will make a positive impact on the community.
3. Keep members informed of current pending legislation and be proactive to affect legislation through involvement by using the legislative network to inform chapters of state and federal legislative issues.
4. Emphasize attracting and keeping outstanding young women, both in the Society and in the profession, by mentoring new teachers and new chapter members.

From your treasurer . . .

It was delightful to see many of you at the Fall Workshop. Even though I officially became your new treasurer in July, I am currently in transition since the books are being audited. We are paying bills and sending reports to International as scheduled.

Total contributions for July 1, 2004 - June 30, 2005:

\$7374.40: Headquarters
16.50: Founders
85.00: Mary Eva Hite
50.00: Marguerite Thompson
670.00: Florence Steele

Contributions since July 1, 2005:

Headquarters: from Alpha Alpha
Mary Eva Hite: from Eta in memory of Victoria Kerr

REMINDER: Chapter dues should be sent to me by November 10 or earlier, if possible. The completed Form 18 listing active and reserve members with amounts paid by each name should accompany the check and the "date form completed" should be filled in at the top right of the form. Please do not use ditto marks or an arrowed line.

Anyone who has not paid dues by the October 31 deadline is to be dropped from the chapter membership. Please complete the "summary by chapter treasurer" at the bottom of the form.

Donna Wiles
1328 Whippoorwill Dr.
West Columbia, SC 29169
DonnaBullWiles@aol.com

From your executive secretary. . .

Alpha Eta State has gotten off to a good start this year. In July more than 70 members braved the heat of the summer for a rewarding time at the Southeast Regional Conference in Williamsburg, Virginia. Members represented South Carolina very well through their attendance and participation in the work of the conference. And many were first-timers.

The workshop in August for chapter presidents and new state committees was well attended. Thanks to Harriet Wilson, Beta Beta member and Leaphart Elementary School principal, for making the school available for the workshop.

These are reminders for everyone:

1. Your chapter dues must be paid by October 31, 2005.
2. If your name or address changes, send that information to International and to me. You may use e-mail communication to do this.
3. Make plans to have a good representation at your district meeting this spring. The district meeting dates are listed elsewhere in this issue.
4. New chapter officers for 2006-2008 must be elected by March 1, 2006, and reported to me by March 10. You will receive more information about this.
5. If your chapter would like to schedule a meeting or a visit to the Auld-Murdock State Headquarters at 607 Maple Street in Columbia, let me know. I would love to greet you there.

Make this year your best yet! If you have any questions or need any help, please let me know. Together, we can find an answer.

Linda Heckle
803-796-0892
linda@eheck.com





I n M E M O R I A M

Chapter presidents have reported the deaths of four members of Alpha Eta State of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Diane Taylor, president of Alpha Theta, reported the death of **Mary Clary Austin**, on March 13, 2005. Initiated into Rho chapter in 1952, she was also a charter member of Alpha Theta. She served as a faithful member of these chapters for 53 years. A teacher for 37 years, she was also a member of Daughters of the American Revolution and Daughters of the Confederacy.

Verna Blanton, president of Alpha Rho, reported the death of **Martha Barton Rooke** on July 29, 2005. Initiated into the chapter in 1990, she served as first vice president and on many committees. She taught in the English Department at James Island High School in Charleston, S.C. She was the coordinator of a program for at-risk middle school students to help them with transition to high school.

Myra Soderlund, president of Eta, reported the death of **Victoria Howie Kerr** on July 31, 2005. Initiated into Eta in 1952, she served as first vice president. A teacher for 40 years, she taught in Spartanburg #7 for the majority of her career. Active in many civic organizations, she made generous contributions to churches, colleges, charities, and organizations. She was 102 years old.

Bonnie Bridges, president of Alpha Pi, reported the death of **Katherine Rebecca Heard McGraw** on August 4, 2005. Initiated into Pi of Psi State, Georgia, in 1948 as a charter member, she transferred to Alpha Pi in 1990. She had 42 years of experience as a teacher and principal in Colquitt County, Pavo, and Moultrie, Georgia. She was Teacher of the Year in the Moultrie schools.

These dedicated members of Alpha Eta State will be missed. Their many years of membership and service are an inspiration.

Chapter presidents are asked to send copies of Form 6, "Report of the Death of a Member," to the international executive coordinator, state president, state treasurer, state Membership Committee chairman, and retain one copy in chapter files. In addition, chapter presidents should send a one-page biography to the state Membership Committee chairman to be included in the Alpha Eta State Memory Book displayed at each state convention prior to the Ceremony of Remembrance. The biography should include information about personal background, contributions to education, contributions to Delta Kappa Gamma, and participation in the Society. The one-page biography may be mailed unfolded or e-mailed to:

Dianne Steelman
1242 Roscoe Rd.
Lexington, SC 29073-8597
dsteelman@lexington1.net

From the PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

The assistant executive secretary and the assistant treasurer of Alpha Eta State must be elected in 2006. Applications to apply for these positions are on the Alpha Eta State website or may be secured from Linda Heckle, executive secretary, or Dr. Marianne Holland, chairman of Personnel Committee.

Qualifications and duties of the assistant executive secretary are found on pages 25-26 of the *2003 Bylaws and Standing Rules of Alpha Eta State*. The qualifications and duties of the assistant treasurer are found on pages 27-28 of the same document.

Applications should be post-marked on or before December 1, 2005 to:

Dr. Marianne Holland
622 E. Cedar Rock Street,
Pickens, SC 29671

**NATIONAL
LEGISLATIVE
SEMINAR**



March 19 -22, 2006
Washington, DC

The seminar, sponsored by Delta Kappa Gamma's US Forum, is dedicated to being an advocate for children by implementing actions and improvement in the lives of women and children through education..

Complete information is available at www.deltakappagamma.org/US-Forum/nat-leg.htm or contact International Headquarters

Beta Eta Aids Educator

By Diana Wright, Beta Eta

When Heid Hawkins, a math teacher in Mtwara, Tanzania, expressed concern about the scarcity of teaching materials, Beta Eta chapter of Spartanburg came to the rescue. The members answered her plea for workbooks, white board and markers, manipulatives, rulers, and compasses.

Heidi, a graduate of Boiling Springs High School, USC Spartanburg, and the College of Charleston, is a Peace Corps volunteer through December 2005.

Beta Eta members sold handmade baskets to raise funds to enable her to buy teaching necessities for her classroom rather than donating the actual materials, as she recognizes her needs far better than members could.

Heidi returned to Spartanburg for a visit in December 2004 after having spent more than a year in Africa. When she again left the United States on New Year's Day, she took with her a portion of the profits from the fundraiser and now enjoys a more positive semester with supplies at hand. Both she and her students are grateful for support from Heidi's "home."

"Visual aids are fun and the students love them, so I have been using them heavily," Heidi reported in her online journal. "I have also created a poster in each of my classes to track student participation. The thought of getting a sticker by their names has inspired them to answer/ask questions more often."

"I have used the monies to purchase pens, pencils and rulers for the students; correction fluid; dry-erase posters, markers and erasers; and posters that present numerous mathematical concepts," Heidi reported in an e-mail message to the chapter. "I also used some of the monies to reward my A and B students from last year with a tea party, to pay the postage for my students' pen pal letters to students at Charleston County School of the Arts, and to sponsor an International Women's Day assembly in which we explored the life of Nobel Peace Prize winner Wangari Maathai and copied her efforts through planting 30 trees around the school campus. My counterpart and I are in the process of planning future activities in health education and AIDS awareness, and your gift will be used toward those, as well."

Heidi and the staff and students sent a Swahili message to the chapter: "Wapendwa, Asante sana kwa vitu vizuri. Tutavitumia sana. Zawadi hizi zitatusaidia kufundisha, kujifunza na kusoma zaidi. Tunashukuru kabisa! Wanafunzi na Walimu wa Shule ya Sekondari ya Wasichana Mtwara" [Translation: Our Dear Friends, Thank you very much for the wonderful things. We will greatly use them. These gifts will help us better teach, learn and study. We are completely grateful! Students and Teachers of Mtwara Girls School]

A future leader of Tanzania may be clay in Heidi's hand right now, just as leaders around the globe have been influenced by their teachers.



Heidi Hawkins, a teacher in Tanzania, with her math students and some of their new supplies.

HEADQUARTERS BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETS

By Catherine Spraggins, chairman

The Auld-Murdock Headquarters Board of Trustees held its annual meeting in Columbia, September 10, with 15 present. For nearly three hours lively discussion ensued on matters relating to "Our House" - expenses for regular upkeep of the house and grounds, repairs, pest control, utilities, insurance, security system, budget, bank accounts, and continuing need for contributions.

Homeowners know that bills increase every year, true also for the Headquarters house. "Quarters for Headquarters," honoraria, memorials, and gifts to acknowledge special days or special accomplishments of fellow sisters all help to keep "Our House" safe, sturdy, and attractive.

Much of the ongoing needs at "Our House" fall upon the shoulders of Linda Heckle, the capable executive secretary. On any given day she may be dealing with a tree blown down in the yard, a leaky faucet, a broken window, a visit from the Terminex man, or purchasing and preparing snacks for a state meeting. Although these time-consuming activities hardly come under the job description for a Delta Kappa Gamma state executive secretary, Linda does them willingly and frequently!

ALMA HOLSTON

has been named to the
"Circle of Honor"
for a contribution of \$500
to Headquarters

THANK YOU

The family of Mary Gravely Holland deeply appreciates the many cards, e-mails, memorials, and flowers sent following her death in April. You truly are a band of caring sisters.

Marianne, Jim and Mary Holland,
Katie Holland

CHAPTER NEWS and TIDBITS

ALPHA DELTA

By Anne Beckham

Francie Markham was speaker at the spring banquet. She has been very active in the settlement of the Bantus in Columbia.

Margaret Edwards received the Distinguished Service to Alpha Eta State award at the state convention. Margaret's sister, Louise McLeod, also a member of the chapter, died recently. The chapter offers its condolences to Margaret.

Kelly Lilly Beck has received National Board Certification. She and her husband are also the proud parents of a baby boy.

Robin Cope was married in July

Leslie Michael, Betty Lilly, Judy Medlin, and Kathy Carter attended the SE Regional in Williamsburg.

Kathy Carter received the 2005 - 2006 Distinguished Alumni Award from the USC School of Education.

Happy Henry and her mother, who recently celebrated her 100th birthday, were honored by Palmetto Richland Health Hospital for hundreds of hours of volunteer work.

ALPHA ETA

By Jane Cauthen

The chapter closed out the year with a look to its past. Those who have been members of the Society the longest were honored: Ruby Fricks, 51 years; Ruth Woodruff, 43; Ellen MacLaughlin, 41; Mary Anderson, 40; Eliza Stone, 39; and Jo Creason, 36. A total of 250 years of service!

The chapter honored Phyllis Perdue, chapter treasurer, and Jeanne Palyok-Keen, past president, for their service to the chapter.

The chapter now looks to the future with seven meetings and a variety of programs planned for the new year. The year will begin with a September breakfast social where five nominees will be introduced to the membership.

Goals for the year include school mentoring, increased membership, and recognition of future educators.

ALPHA OMEGA

By Zelda Oates

The chapter honored the Abbeville County Teachers of the Year at the April/May meeting. After a humorous motivational speaker and refreshments, President Sandra Gettys presented each honoree with a red rose and a small gift.



Abbeville County Teachers of the Year are Gail Hawthorne, Cherokee Trail Elementary; Caroline Calvert, Abbeville High; Paula Weis, Wright Middle; David Whitmire, Long Cane Elementary; and Shane Bradley, Dixie High.

The chapter presented Alpha Eta State President Eunice Rowell with a crystal bowl with flowers at the meeting at the Heritage House in Abbeville. The chapter is proud of the accomplishments of Eunice, a member and past president of the chapter.



Chapter President Sandra Gettys presents Alpha Eta State President Eunice Rowell with a gift from the chapter.

ALPHA MU

By Margaret Dunn

Hattie Haulbrook, charter member and past president of the chapter, was recently honored by the Mental Health Association of South Carolina. She has been named Volunteer of the Year, one of eight statewide awards presented annually. She invested more than 500 hours in preparing a fundraiser, the Mind Ball.

A member of the Association of the Piedmont for less than two years, she undertook the development and planning of the first major fundraiser, bringing in over \$40,000.

The event, held at the Marriott at Renaissance Park in downtown Spartanburg included a dinner, dance, and silent auction.



Hattie Haulbrook

Betty Griffin, a charter member and past president of the chapter, was honored recently at the United Methodist Annual Conference at Wofford College. She received the Francis Ashbury Award for Fostering Higher Education. She was a member of the faculty at Spartanburg Methodist College for 32 years.

According to the *Spartanburg Herald Journal*, Betty is known as an outspoken advocate of women, Native Americans, and education.

Also an ordained minister, she is involved in an interdenominational worship group STAR (Sacred Traditions and Rituals).

She also received the A.V. Huff, Sr. Award for outstanding contributions to education.

CHAPTER NEWS and TIDBITS

ALPHA RHO

By Verna Blanton

The chapter celebrated its 25th birthday on April 3 at the Harbor View Restaurant at the Riverview Motel in Charleston. Ten past presidents, receiving red roses, were recognized for their contributions to the Society. Jean Bentley and Helen Brown, deceased past presidents, were remembered during the service.

Linda Heckle, Alpha Eta State executive secretary, presented the 25-year pin to these six charter members: Elizabeth Castleberry, Verna Blanton, Margie Clary, Susan King, Virginia Ward, and Toula Williams. Although not charter members, Phyllis Lewis and Candice Hardin received 25-year pins, too.

Members enjoyed hearing the history of the chapter as compiled by Margie Clary. The scrapbooks of the past gave many memories and laughs.

Five new members were initiated at the end of the celebration.

President Verna Blanton, Marilyn Muckenfuss, and Margie Clary attended the SE Regional Conference in July at Williamsburg. Margie was a presenter of a workshop entitled "Teaching Values Through Storytelling."

ALPHA PI

By Bonnie Bridges

Chapter Mourns Loss

Catherine Rebecca Heard McGraw would have been 97 years old on August 26. After being ill for three months, she died on August 4.

Bonnie Bridges, chapter president, and Ethel Heath, immediate past president, had arranged to deliver gifts from the chapter on August 4. The early birthday gifts arrived just hours too late.

Becca Peavy, daughter of Mrs. McGraw and also a member and past president, accepted the red rose and the 50-year pin with rose guard in memory of her mother. Mrs. McGraw had been a member of the Society for 57 years.

A charter member of Pi chapter of Psi State, she transferred to Alpha Pi in 1990, when she came to live with Becca and her husband Ed. She spent 42 years as a teacher/principal in Georgia Schools.

In retirement she remained a vibrant and active participant in church and civic organizations.

The chapter mourns her loss and will remember her fondly each time the lovely white cloth she donated is spread for the initiation ceremonies.

Chapter Celebrates Founder's Birthday

Perla Belle Stowe, founder of Alpha Pi, celebrated her 97th birthday August 8. Members of the chapter went to Rolling Green Retirement Village, where she resides, to help her celebrate.

She received the traditional red rose and the 50-year pin with a rose guard attached to represent the seven additional years above the fifty.

Her love for the Society was evident as she accepted her pin and a birthday cake that said, "Delta Kappa Gamma wishes Perla Belle a Happy Birthday."

The chapter expressed their love, admiration, and respect for the lady responsible for its founding and who has remained faithful throughout 57 years of membership.



Perla Belle Stowe, founder of Alpha Pi, celebrated her 97th birthday August 8. She has been a member of the Society for 57 years.

ALPHA XI

By William Pamplin

It was a first for the chapter. Two initiations were held in one day on April 19. Sherri Herd, Phyllis Venable, and Vickie McKinney were initiated at 4 pm in order for them to honor a mandatory school commitment.

Kathryn McColskey, Stephanie Lackey, Toni Johnson, Bess Hall, Susan Dockery, and Alicia Clinger were initiated at 6 pm at the regular meeting.

The chapter held the annual May Tea on May 17 to recognize the outstanding 8th graders from the four middle schools in Pickens County and the Grant-in-Aid recipient.

President Linda Hawkins presented an engraved plate and flowers to these outstanding 8th graders: Kara Murrell, Dacusville Middle; Sarah Hendricks, Gettys Middle; Meghan King, Liberty Middle; and Melle Morgan, Pickens Middle. President Hawkins encouraged them to strive to do their best as they move into high school.

Megan Green, a graduating senior from Liberty High School, received the annual Grant-in-Aid of \$750. She will use the money to pursue a degree in the field of education.



President Linda Hawkins and First Vice President Nell Hodge conduct the initiation ceremony.

SE REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



Eight past state presidents

FALL WORKSHOP



President Eunice Rowell presides.

SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT

Eta, Alpha Omega, Alpha Rho, Beta Eta, Psi, Theta, Lambda, Alpha Mu, Beta Gamma, Alpha Sigma, Mu, Alpha Psi, Beta Zeta, Alpha, Chi, Alpha Xi, Kappa, Beta Delta, Alpha Pi, Alpha Beta, Alpha Upsilon



DISTRICT DIRECTORS

Martha Horton, District I; Amelia Stone, District II; Joyce Moore, District III; Sims Lynn, 2nd vicepresident and district coordinator; Diane Taylor, District V.



OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

Beta Theta, Alpha Iota, Beta Epsilon, Beta Iota, Pi, Epsilon, Alpha Epsilon, Zeta, Alpha Kappa, Omicron, Kappa, Phi, Iota, Tau, Beta Beta, Alpha Tau, Alpha Theta, Alpha Phi, Beta Alpha, Alpha Lambda, Rho, Alpha Gamma, Alpha Delta, Upsilon



EXCELLENT ACHIEVEMENT
Delta, Alpha Chi, Nu, Sigma

Reflections of a First-Timer

"And a Good Time Was Had by All"

By Diana Wright, Beta Eta

Here's a fact: half the fun of attending a conference of 778 Delta Kappa Gamma members is traveling TO the conference with a van-load of 8 members. What a rare breed of women populate this organization! Conversation, punctuated by bursts of giggles, never waned for the hours on end it took to weave the way through several states and - ahem - several changes of navigational decisions. The travelers shared their stories of lives touched by hilarity, despair, and everything in between. The van left Spartanburg filled with acquaintances and strangers bridging a 30-year age span, but it returned a few days later full of friends.

Sure, getting there was fun, but that wasn't the end of the camaraderie. To everyone who has never enjoyed the blessing of rooming with Helen Mullikin and Frances Murdock - well, what a delightful experience that was! Their decades of friendship, both personal and professional, and their memories of seemingly countless Society experiences combined to create priceless delightful vignettes. Sandra Powell and I felt as though we had won the roommate lottery!

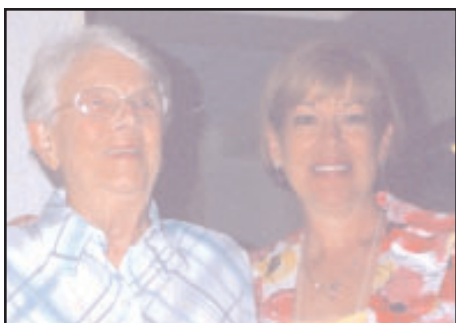
It also helps to arrive on the scene (the Williamsburg Marriott, in this case) as a "newby" with experienced conference attendees. They led the way to the registration tables, where the Virginia conference hosts had materials all laid out. It is amazing how smoothly matters can run even when hundreds of members from eleven states (plus a few visitors from outside the Southeast Region) converge within mere hours.

The moniker "conference" sounds like pure business, but there was also time for play - both planned (i.e., Virginia Night) and spontaneous. There was New Orleans jazz punctuated by plastic beads and doubloons (gotta go there in 2007!), and there were semi-formal gowns gracing a gourmet celebration. There was time for relaxation and time to put on the Ritz, time to enjoy old friends and time to make new ones, time to celebrate one's state organization, and time to applaud other states' achievements. There was time for the state IPP's (immediate past presidents) to breathe relieved sighs as they yielded their duties and time for incoming state presidents to square their shoulders to carry on the good work; the pageantry of the flag ceremony featured Nell Cannon proudly carrying in our state flag to begin the conference and Eunice Rowell, carrying it out.

Topic choices abounded throughout the conference program guide. The general sessions were well planned, and the speakers offered thought-provoking addresses. Their words, carefully chosen for the edification of their sisters, encouraged assessing our organization's effectiveness and considering the need to change and grow, while lauding the quality of perseverance. Being in the same room with one's Society heroes--chapter, state, and international leaders from the present and the past--is an elevating experience. Goodness, there was learning and thinking taking place in the midst of all the enjoyment! But then, of course, Delta Kappa Gamma's "key women educators" are adept at leading the field to make education both effective and electric.

It was easy to decide which general sessions to attend, since each one operated as a lone event. But, oh, what difficulty arose with being forced to schedule workshops and focus groups. South Carolinians can be proud of the presentations from our own Jill Branyon, Muriel O'Tuel, Margie Clary, Nell Cannon, and Karen Luhrs. Scheduling break-outs was almost like matriculating, trying to fit the many tempting topics into too-few time slots. There is wisdom, though, in leaving the seeker wanting more.

And more is exactly what this no-longer-a-first-timer plans to reach for in future conference opportunities: the luscious juxtaposition of familiar faces among strangers (but not for long), of light-hearted banter peppering deep thought, and of unfamiliar geography with the feel of home. The rich conference experience beckons like an addiction. One first-timer will be happy among the old-hats next time when a Southeast Regional Conference calls her name.



Frances Murdock, a past state president and old-timer, and **Diana Wright**, a first-timer.



Ann Salter, Elaine Gilmore, Pearl Young, Helen Mullikin, Diana Wright, Frances Murdock, Leslie Michael, and Betty Lilly. Not pictured: Sandra Powell

ALPHA ETA STATE SCHOLARSHIPS

MARY EVA HITE

For candidates pursuing a doctoral or educational specialist degree

\$1000 - \$2500

MARGUERITE G. THOMPSON

For candidates pursuing a master's degree or pursuing graduate work for certification and/or professional advancement

\$750

FITZGERALD-GAILLARD FOUNDERS

For candidates pursuing a master's degree or pursuing graduate work for certification and/or professional advancement

\$750

Applications deadline for all state scholarships is February 1 and must be sent to the state Scholarships Committee chairman:

Mary Redfearn
119 Green St.
Chesterfield, SC 29709-1202

Minimum requirements for state scholarships:

1. Must have three years of active membership
2. Must be working on or beyond the master's degree
3. Must meet reasonable standards of health, scholarship, and professional services
4. Importance attached to contributions to Delta Kappa Gamma and other organizations

Download the application from the Alpha Eta State website or request a form from the committee chairman.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International offers 28 annual scholarships for candidates pursuing a doctoral degree in the amount of \$5000. The application deadline is February 1 to International Headquarters. The minimum requirements for international scholarships:

1. Must have five years of active membership
2. Must have completed the master's degree
3. Must be accepted, enrolled, and pursuing a doctoral degree in a nationally accredited institution
4. Must provide evidence of active participation and leadership in the Society
5. Must demonstrate excellence in scholarship
6. Must provide evidence of service to the community
7. Must not have received an international scholarship previously from the Society

THE ALPHA ETA STATE DIGEST

Janis K. Blocker, editor

20238 Augusta Hwy
Round O, SC 29474

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ALPHA ETA STATE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

July 1, 2005

Active: 2,154
Reserve: 194
Honorary: 14
Res. Life: 1
TOTAL: 2,373

FALL WORKSHOP 2005

Attendance

All officers
All district directors
44 chapter presidents
41 committee members
11 other members

DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER 31:

DUES Due

DECEMBER 1:

Nominations for Achievement
Award due

DECEMBER 7:

DEADLINE for January
issue of *The Digest*

ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

If a member or a chapter wishes to nominate someone for the Alpha Eta State Achievement Award, the nominations must be postmarked no later than December 1, 2005. Nominations should be sent to:

Pam Walker, chairman
217 Markham Rd.
Columbia, SC 29229

STATE BUDGET REQUESTS

**Any 2005-06 budget requests
must be postmarked no later
than December 1, 2005, to:**
Eunice Rowell
136 Orchard Park Dr.
Greenwood, SC 29649