



Alpha Eta State DIGEST



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

VOLUME LII NUMBER 1

SOUTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 2009

Little Rock Hosts SE Conference

Alpha Eta State Registers 17

By Janis Blocker, editor

“Activate Your Vision” was the theme of the Southeast Regional Conference held at the Peabody Hotel in Little Rock, Arkansas, July 15-18, and attended by 481 members, including 17 from South Carolina.

The Arkansans offered a great opening night adventure with a private tour of the William Jefferson Clinton Presidential Library and Museum.

The next day everyone got down to serious business with the first of the three general sessions. The presentation of the flags was most impressive with Sims Lynn and Marvella Easterling bearing the state flag..

The members from the 11 southeastern states were warmly welcomed by Southeast Regional Director Cathy Daugherty of Virginia. International President Dr. Carolyn Rants addressed the conference.

Each day the Peabody ducks made their twice daily procession in and out of their “private” pond in the hotel.

A strong emphasis for each general session was the “Green Moment.” Speakers presented ways that everyone can become more conscientious about saving the environment. Before the week was over, members were already putting into practice the three “R’s”: reduce, reuse, and recycle. In keeping with the “green” theme, each attendee received a tote bag made of recycled material. An astonishing fact members learned is that the average person generates about 3.5 pounds of waste per day.

Heifer International is located in Little Rock. Many visited the facilities and contributed toward the organization that helps families in 128 countries move toward self-reliance. The conference presented a monetary gift to Heifer in honor of each of the speakers.

A highlight of the conference was that through the generosity of the 11 states, the Emergency Fund received \$25,252. So many of the members in the Southeast have been recipients of these funds after losses from floods and hurricanes.

The celebration banquet Saturday night was a fitting conclusion to the week of activities. Alpha Eta State members saw Marvella Easterling assume the leadership for the 2009-2011 biennium. She was escorted by Sims Lynn, past state president.

The 2011 conference will be held in Louisville, Kentucky. Dr. Rants reminded all members to activate their vision and to be open to new ideas as chapters set goals and objectives for the biennium. After a full week of workshops and fellowship, the conference concluded with a spirited singing of the Delta Kappa Gamma song with promises to see one another again in Louisville.



In This Issue

Message from President . . .	2
Message from Ex. Sec.	3
Chapter News	4
Fall Workshop	5
SE Regional Scenes	6
Reflections of a First-Timer .	7

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

2009-2011 Officers and Staff

President: Marvella Easterling
1st Vice President: Martha Horton
2nd Vice President: Linda Navorska
Secretary: Sandy Bryson
Treasurer: Donna Wiles
Ass't Treas.: Amanda Cruse
Executive Secretary: Linda Heckle
Ass't Exec. Sec.: Regina Spell
Parliamentarian: Janis Blocker
Immediate Past President: Sims Lynn
DIGEST Editor: Janis Blocker
Webmaster: Rae Beth Fultz

DISTRICT WORKSHOPS

District 1.... May 22, 2010

District 2.... May 15, 2010

District 3.... March 20, 2010

District 4.... April 24, 2010

District 5.... April 17, 2010

FROM THE EDITOR AND WEBMASTER. . .

The Digest is on the website at www.geocities.com/scalpheta

**Believe!
Imagine!
Dream!**

with
MARVELLA



An incredible journey began on April 19, 1980, when I was initiated into Alpha Beta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. That journey continued as a chapter member mentored me as I served as chapter president and encouraged me to attend state conventions, regional conferences, and international conventions. Friendships have been made throughout the state, the country, and other countries.

The journey continued at the conference in Little Rock. If you weren't there, you missed a wonderful conference filled with fantastic workshops, exciting speakers, delicious food, marvelous singing, and fabulous shopping opportunities! Oh, and ducks in a row! At the conference we learned about:

- Prehistoric prozac
- Elevator speeches
- The correct pronunciation of Arkansas
- Using doubt to our advantage
- Going green
- The new logo using DKG (can you believe?)
- E-mail being for old people

I was so inspired by the "green" theme at the conference that it has become our state project. Each chapter is challenged to "go green" this biennium. Use your imagination as your chapter decides how best to reduce, reuse, and recycle. Then let us hear from you through articles published in the *Digest*.

"To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe," said Anatole France. So let's work together to accomplish the following goals this biennium:

- Strengthen chapters
- Inform members of education legislation
- "Enlighten" members of our heritage

BELIEVE in the society.

IMAGINE the society growing.

DREAM of the possibilities.

**From your
treasurer . . .**

Many thanks to all of you hard-working chapter treasurers. I appreciate so much your accuracy and efficiency in mailing in your reports.

Here are a few reminders for chapter treasurers:

OCTOBER 31: Last day to collect dues from chapter members.

Please get help from your fellow officers to contact members who have not paid before this date.

NOVEMBER 10: Chapter treasurers send Form 18 to state treasurer (as last year; please send \$50 per ACTIVE member and \$23 per RESERVE member plus scholarship fees for each member). Please date your form at the top and summarize every thing at the bottom of the FIRST page.

NOVEMBER 15: Deadline to complete IRS Form 990 (ONLINE ONLY...there is no paper form). Instructions were shared at the state leadership workshop (same as last year) in August.

Because of the small number of contributions to state funds since the last update, these will be added to our list in the next issue of the *Digest*.

Donna Wiles
803-796-1529
donnabullwiles@aol.com

ATTENTION

Although the Headquarters Building Fund is not challenging chapters to raise money for ongoing expenses, the committee hopes that chapters will continue to make contributions. A wonderful way to recognize members celebrating 10, 20, 25, or 30 years in the Society is to make a contribution in their honor. A chapter may want to honor a member with induction into the Order of the Rose with a \$1000 contribution.

Catherine Spragins, chair
864-654-5476
cathyspragins@bellsouth.net

**From your
executive secretary. . .**

A new biennium has begun for Alpha Eta State! Congratulations to the new state officers and state committees. All of us offer you our help and support. We also thank those of you who served at the state level for the past two years.

The State Workshop held in Columbia this past August was well attended by the chapter presidents and new state committees and state officers. The presidents were given information important for this year's work, and the committees which met set goals and made plans for the biennium.

Some things to remember:

- Pay your dues by October 31.
- Attend your chapter meetings. The Society holds many opportunities for members.
- Work on increasing chapter membership. Chapters are renewed with the interest and enthusiasm new members bring.
- Plan now to attend your district meeting in the spring. The dates are listed in this *Digest* issue. Put the date for your meeting on your calendar now.
- It's not too early to consider going to the International Convention at Spokane, Washington, July 2010. You might want to make it a family vacation.
- Chapter presidents, check your Schedule of Events calendar regularly to keep up with necessary things to be done.

During this year the international Constitution Committee and the ad hoc Constitution Revision Committee will be working on suggestions and recommendations for the revision of the Constitution. Be aware that the document to be presented, discussed, and voted upon at the 2010 international convention will be printed for all members to review in the March/April issue of the *NEWS*.

Have you explored the information available to members at the Society website? A quote from the Educator Edge page says "Helping Educators find the Professional Development Opportunities they need to hone their professional skills." Or have you looked at the Leadership Suite? You can earn a total of 20 hours of professional development for certificate renewal.

And if you are asked to name some benefits of membership, how many can you list? Again the website can help; just scroll to the "Benefits of Membership" page where you will find many that you knew and some you may not have thought about!

Do you have your "elevator speech"--that brief statement describing DKG to those who may not know who we are? Go to the international website and find "Create a BUZZ: Tip of the month." The October 2008 issue has examples. Other BUZZ issues have great ideas for programs, membership, and publicity for your chapter activities.

If you do not have access to the Internet, get someone in your chapter to tell you about the information just mentioned. It will be interesting for both of you!

Have a wonderful year in Delta Kappa Gamma. If I can help you in any way, please contact me.

Linda Heckle
803-796-0892
linda@heckle.biz

ANNOUNCEMENT

The position of treasurer comes up for appointment in 2010. The Personnel Committee would like interested persons to apply before December 15. Applications are on the Alpha Eta State website or can be requested by e-mail to Dr. Doris B. Matthews, chair of Personnel (dorisbmatthews@bellsouth.net).

CHAPTER NEWS and TIDBITS

THETA

By Jenny Trombley

Julie Jarriel was the recipient of the grant given to an Anderson County senior girl enrolled in a college or university to study education. Julie's essay began with a list of "school supplies" she wanted for Christmas when she was in 4th grade so that she could be like her teacher. Julie is a graduate of Hanna High School and is enrolled at Furman University.



Elizabeth Herron and President Rhonda Arnold present Julie Jarriel with a grant to pursue a degree in education.

CHI

By Cindy Duryea

Carole Ingram, treasurer of the chapter, was recently awarded the "Middle School Principal of the Year" by the S.C. Association of School Administrators. She is now in the running for National Middle School Principal of the year.



Carole Ingram is the S.C. Middle School Principal of the Year.

ALPHA PSI

By Joyce Christenbury

Utilizing the international theme, "Activate Your Vision" as well as the state theme "Believe, Imagine, Dream" along with the going-green emphasis, the executive board has planned a calendar of programs and projects to activate members' vision in a wide variety of areas.

The September program will "Activate Your Green Vision" with Lisa Wagner from the South Carolina Botanical Gardens. Lisa works with the children's programming there. "Going Green" takes on a personal meaning when members reduce, reuse, and recycle by bringing gently used clothing and household items to the September meeting to be given to the Tamasee DAR Thrift Store in Salem.

A highlight of last year was awarding a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior from Seneca High School in May. Janice Beckett, the recipient, will use the scholarship at the University of South Carolina Upstate to major in secondary education.

Counting shoes??? That is what members are doing prior to the first meeting. Each member will donate ten cents per pair of shoes in her closet to World Fellowship. If some of the shoes are no longer worn, members have the opportunity to reduce clutter in their closets and recycle the shoes by donating them to the thrift shop project for purchase and reuse by others.

ZETA

By Janis Blocker

The chapter ended the year with the annual picnic at the home of Janis Blocker. At that meeting Iesha Burns, the recipient of the \$1000 grant-in-aid, and her mother were special guests.



President Gloria Valentine offers congratulations to Iesha Burns.

ALPHA KAPPA

By Renee Mathews

Two new members will be received at the October 12 meeting at Special Teas on Main in Sumter. This totals 13 new members since April 2008. The chapter provided four grants for \$500 in 2008 and three \$350 grants in 2009.

The chapter conducts annual clothing drives for the emergency closets for use by school nurses. A new service project is a holiday outreach to chapter members residing in assisted living and nursing facilities.

Programs for the year will include presentations by local horticulturalists, international teachers from area schools, ad updates from school psychologists.

The chapter continues to improve with use of e-mail notices for meetings, annual pre-payment for meals, and electronic yearbooks.

Membership will be emphasized with a goal of increasing the current membership from 51 to 60.

LAMBDA

By Amy Kinard

At the annual initiation luncheon held last spring at the Piedmont Club in Spartanburg, three members were inducted and a fourth one at the final meeting of the year.

Susan Freeman, charter member of the chapter, was recognized for leadership abilities demonstrated by writing and receiving a grant from the Society. Entitled "Reading Relief 2008," the grant provided funding for the purchase of technology in her exceptional-needs classroom to teach high school students the life skills of cooking. The tools enable the students to read and hear the recipes and the steps involved in food preparation. She applied again and received the grant for 2009.

Samantha Smigel, a Byrnes High School coed, is the recipient of a \$500 grant-in-aid. She is attending Winthrop University. Since the chapter was established in 2003, awarding a grant was a goal now realized.

FALL WORKSHOP



SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

PHI, ETA, ALPHA PI, CHI, NU, PSI, BETA DELTA, LAMBDA, ALPHA UPSILON, MU, DELTA, BETA BETA, ALPHA THETA, PI, ALPHA BETA, BETA GAMMA



State President Marvella Easterling speaks to the group before the presentation of the awards.



OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

BETA KAPPA, OMICRON, SIGMA, ALPHA IOTA, ALPHA XI, BETA ETA, ALPHA EPSILON, ALPHA PSI, TAU, ALPHA KAPPA, ALPHA TAU, ALPHA MU, UPSILON, XI, ZETA



Catherine Spragins sells a S.C. pin to Sims Lynn, past state president. All proceeds of state items go to the Headquarters Fund.



EXCELLENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

ALPHA OMICRON, ALPHA GAMMA, KAPPA, ALPHA LAMBDA, ALPHA PHI, ALPHA



Nell Cannon, a past state president, and Fontaine Knox look over the list of committees.

SE REGIONAL SCENES



Reflections of a First-Timer

By Dr. Nancy Amundson, Alpha Upsilon

I've always considered myself to be pretty "well-versed" on the workings of Delta Kappa Gamma. After all, I've been a member since 1977, have served as president and vice-president of my chapter, and have been relatively active on the state level, most recently as a district director. My recent trip to the Southeast Regional Conference in Little Rock proved, however, that there are always new "lines" to learn and "verses" to sing.

From the very beginning I was impressed with the collegiality of the group. It was apparent that many attendees were regulars and had become good friends. I stood in line at one event "chit chatting" with those around me, only to find out later I had just been in deep conversation with a past international president.

The workshops were varied and extremely informative - every bit as good as any professional development session I have attended in my career. (I've been to my share of local, state and even national educational workshops in the last 39 years!) There was something for everyone - from society business to topics of interest for educational practitioners to self-improvement. One session focused on making a family cookbook with one's students as an interdisciplinary activity. I'm putting what I learned to use as my cousin and I are now developing a family cookbook for our relatives.

I learned things I never knew about the society. Somehow I wasn't aware of the Educator's Award for outstanding books written by women. I purchased a copy of the latest winner, *Engaging the Disengaged: How Schools Can Help Struggling Students Succeed*, to circulate among the members of my chapter. I discovered ways the Society stays involved in legislation related to educational and women's issues through U. S. Forum, something I've agreed to learn more about and chair for our state organization. And it was gratifying to see efforts to make the world a better place for our future students through an emphasis on being GREEN - our new, favorite color.

In the past, I've preached constantly to chapter members that "you don't really have a full appreciation for what this Society does until you get involved on the state level." After attending the Southeast Regional Conference, I'll add a second verse: "and the regional level"; by this time next year, I hope to add verse three: "international."



Dr. Nancy Amundson and Becky Whilden, Lambda, attended the Southeast Regional Conference for the first time. Not pictured is Rae Beth Fultz, Kappa, another first-timer.

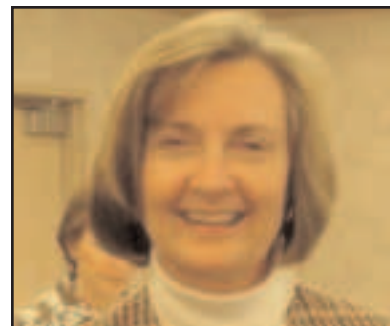
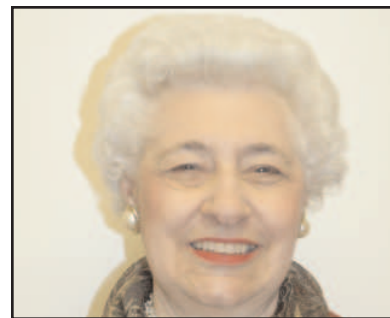
KUDOS

South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, Inc. (SCICU) announced its fourth annual "Excellence in Teaching" awards at a banquet held last spring in Columbia. The award recognizes faculty from twenty independent institutions of higher learning for their scholarship and for their skill, commitment, and dedication to classroom teaching.

Dr. Marianne Holland, program coordinator and professor for music education at North Greenville University, was one of the recipients chosen for the award for 2009. Dr. Holland of Pickens has started her fifteenth year of teaching at NGU. She teaches piano, music methods courses for music education majors, and supervises music education student teachers. She also serves as the organizing president for Beta Kappa Chapter of Alpha Eta State, The Delta Kappa Gamma Society.

These awards coincide with Independent Higher Education Week as proclaimed by Governor Mark Sanford and recognized by Concurrent Resolution of the South Carolina Senate and House of Representatives.

Susan Poss is the 2009 recipient of SCC's "Faculty of the Year-Peer" award based on nominations submitted by the SCC faculty. Susan holds a master's degree in education in mathematics from Clemson and a bachelor's degree in religion/mathematics from Wake Forest. This award came about because of her new role as coordinator of Teacher Education, which involves working closely with USC Upstate's School of Education. This program aims at making student transfer from SCC to USC Upstate as smooth as possible. "I have enjoyed most the privilege of working closely with these students in the advisory role," she said.



**Dr. Marianne Holland (top)
Susan Poss (bottom)**

THE DIGEST

Publication
of
ALPHA ETA STATE
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INT.
607 Maple Street
Columbia, SC 29205
Ph.: 803-256-3869

PRSTD STD
Non Profit
US Postage
PAID

DEADLINES: Dec. 11, Apr. 11,
Sept. 11

Janis K. Blocker, editor
20238 Augusta Hwy
Round O, SC 29474
dajaview@lowcountry.com
Ph. & fax: 843-835-2173

Website: www.geocities.com/scalphaeta
Rae Beth Fultz, webmaster

ALL ADDRESS CHANGES
Use "change of address" form online at
www.deltakappagamma.net or send to
Delta Kappa Gamma Society Int.
P.O. Box 1589
Austin, TX 78767-1589
Ph.: 1-888-762-4685

GOING
GREEN

Last year Americans went through 50 BILLION PLASTIC WATER BOTTLES! What a waste! Fill your own reusable water bottle at home and carry it with you on every trip from your house.

DO YOU

- E** mail only to those to whom the message pertains?
- M**ake a point of responding to messages promptly?
- A**lways use spell/grammar check before sending?
- I**nclude a *signature* with full name, telephone number, etc., in your message?
- L**ose people with your subject headings? Are they clear?

WELCOME, PANAMA!

Panama will become the 17th country in the Society in November. Dr. Carolyn Rants, international president, and Mary Lee Makinen, Expansion Committee chair, will conduct the installation ceremony in Panama City, Friday, Nov. 27.

DATES TO REMEMBER

OCTOBER 31:

DUES due

DECEMBER 11:

Deadline for *Digest*

DECEMBER 15:

Applications for treasurer

