



Mississippi State Organization

# Delta Kappa Gamma Zeta Data



***ADAPT: Forward Moving Ever!***  
***Special Edition***

Due to the cancellation of both Northern and Southern District Meetings, Mississippi State Organization leadership decided to publish an edition of *Zeta Data* that is devoted entirely to the MSO business and chapter recognitions that would have been conducted and celebrated, respectively, at those meetings. We hope you enjoy our “ADAPT-ed” delivery in this unique Special Edition. Be sure to check out the MSO President’s message and MSO Birthday message at [www.zetastatedkg.org](http://www.zetastatedkg.org).

## ***Moment of Memory... Nancy Jay, Membership Chair***

You have left us a bit of yourself,  
The legacy to live as you lived.  
The ability to brave the storms  
And walk softly among the roses.  
Anonymous

We cherish the memories of our beloved sisters and their dedicated contributions to our Society.

Northern District- Virginia (Ginger) Josey Bush, Iota Chapter  
Leota Cardwell, Alpha Kappa Chapter  
Nona Eloise Davis Livingston, Upsilon Chapter

Central District- Linda McCluney Anglin, Tau Chapter  
Sharon Blackwell, Delta Chapter  
Mary Lee Livesay, Beta Chapter  
Dr. Iva McCants, Beta Chapter

Southern District- Dorris Breckenridge, Alpha Beta Chapter  
Doris Culumber, Zeta Chapter  
Sharon Jones, Sigma Chapter  
Hilda Owen, Sigma Chapter  
Phyllis Raymond, Psi Chapter  
Dr. Mary Elizabeth Stevens, Zeta Chapter  
Celeste Ward, Omega Chapter





## *President Update ... Joanna Alston, MSO President*

At the beginning of this biennium, I asked if you were ready to ADAPT. So now, at eight or so months in, I am asking a different question – Are you ADAPT-ing?

According to deertrail.us, “the first person to make a written record about raccoons was Christopher Columbus, after [they were] discovered by members of the expedition.” Raccoons are native to North America, but think how much North America has changed since the time of Christopher Columbus. Now think how much these raccoons have adapted since that time. So if DKG is on the cusp of its centennial birthday, would it not stand to reason that we have to do a little adapting, too?

So then, are you ADAPT-ing? Let me give you a quick review of what I have seen during my time as your president.

Chapters hosting and attending joint meetings

Use of our new name “Mississippi State Organization” by chapters, state officers, committee chairs, in chapters’ newsletters, *Zeta Data* articles, email communication, and our state website

Chapters embracing the idea of Collegiate members

Chapters encouraging participation beyond the chapter level

Members stepping out of their comfort zones to be “Forward Moving Ever”

Winning awards

Publishing articles in DKG publications

Stepping up in a myriad of ways when needed

All of this in less than nine months! Are you ADAPT-ing?? YES! Now, have I personally been there? For some, not all; but that’s not the point! The point is that YOU – each of you – have taken the theme for this biennium to heart and stepped out to maybe push yourself a little more this year. We have almost doubled the number of SEE hours in one year! That is ADAPT-ing! Way to go, MSO!

Y’all, let me encourage you – keep doing what you’re doing. Mississippi is actively developing a plan. We are actually implementing that plan. And we are doing it *together*.

Of course, we have lost a few along the way. However, we have also gained some. Following is a summary of our membership numbers as of December 30, 2019:

35 Chapters in 3 Districts

4 State Honorary Members, 16 Chapter Honorary Members

51 Reserve Members

920 Active Members

991 Total Members

When taking into account our Active and Reserve Members, we were actually down by just one member compared to the end of 2018. When we keep in mind that one chapter has officially dissolved since then and another entire chapter did not pay dues, I am encouraged by the fact that only one net member was lost from December 2018 to December 2019! I hope this tidbit encourages you as well!

In closing, I want to let you know a few of the action items from our Executive Board Meeting on February 22.

A revised 2019-2021 MSO budget was accepted.

A Grant in Aid was funded and awarded.

The Clytee Evans Scholarship was funded and awarded.

The MSO Emergency Fund award was increased from \$200 to \$250.

Lynn Holliday, MSO Treasurer, and Linda Lightsey, MSO Executive Secretary, were re-elected for 2020-2024.

The date and location for our 2021 MSO Convention were approved—April 16-17, 2021, at the Courtyard by Marriott in Gulfport.

Mississippi State Organization is Forward Moving Ever—together. We are ADAPT-ing—together. And who would have ever thought that we would be #AloneTogether?? This was not part of my District Meeting message, but my prayers are always with each of you, especially in times such as these. I hope you enjoy this special edition of *Zeta Data* and find comfort in the fact that you are thought of, prayed for, and loved in this extraordinary sisterhood called “DKG.”

## ***Birthday Wish... Janice Garrett, MSO 1st Vice President***



On Tuesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, Mississippi State Organization, Delta Kappa Gamma, will celebrate its 86<sup>th</sup> birthday. Wow, 86 years of dedication to impacting education state and worldwide, serving others during emergencies and times of joy and grief, fellowshipping with one another, providing scholarships and all the time staying positive through changes in leadership and policies.

You might ask what does the number 86 mean in terms of DKG and our state organization. For starters, AffinityNumerology.com describes the number 86 as being an expression of personal freedom and curiosity with a generous dose of realism and idealism. 86 is realist, efficient with a tendency to build institutions with long-term potential to benefit communities. Realistic, efficient, idealist, community-minded, acknowledgment of the reality of situations is reminiscent of our biennium theme of *ADAPT: Forward Moving Ever* as we the members actively develop a plan together to continue growth in our state organization.

Angelnumber.org also describes 86 as being powerful with a strong personality and character. When the vibration of the 8 in this mixture becomes active, one can expect to find opportunities for both achievement and professional success. The number 86 is also described as always being ready to work hard, to face challenges, and to not be afraid of taking risks. Perhaps Mississippi State Organization has not yet met all the challenges of change and taking risks, but hopefully we are ready for anything! We, Mississippi State Organization, are just as ready for challenges and risks as 86-year-old Mary Ann Wakefield was up to the challenge of sinking a 94-foot putt in front of the Ole Miss basketball spectators and winning a new car.

86 years ago, in Mississippi, thirteen women educators were invited to form the sixth state organization of Delta Kappa Gamma International. Dr. Annie Webb Blanton thankfully realized the value of adding Mississippi and its educators to her vision for impacting education worldwide. What a loss for us all had these women educators not accepted her invitation and challenge.

So, in this 86th year of Mississippi State Organization, will you accept the challenge of making a difference in your chapter by taking a leader position, attending your first International conference, participating in Chapter Leaders Retreat, or even conducting a program for your chapter. In order to move forward and continue the growth of our wonderful state organization, we must all accept the challenges, take the risks, adapt to whatever situation comes our way, and keep our Mississippi State Organization going strong!

## ***Red Rose Awards... Chris Wall, Professional Affairs***

The Red Rose Award honors a woman who is a non-member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, who resides and/or works in the chapter area and whose accomplishments have benefited education and the status of women in education leadership. This award is a very prestigious one and provides an opportunity to recognize outstanding women leaders who have put education at the forefront of their community endeavors. We appreciate their tenacity, time and efforts to value and promote excellence in education.

As State Professional Affairs Representative, I am honored and delighted to announce that 30 of 35 chapters responded and/or selected and recognized Red Rose Award recipients.

In the **Northern District**, the following 10 chapters presented 2020 Red Rose Awards: Alpha, Eta, Iota, Upsilon, Phi, Alpha Delta, Alpha Iota, Alpha Kappa, Alpha Phi, and Alpha Psi.

In the **Central District**, the following 10 chapters presented 2020 Red Rose Awards: Beta, Delta, Gamma, Theta, Lambda, Xi, Pi, Rho, Tau, and Alpha Chi.

In the **Southern District** Chapter, the following 9 chapters presented 2020 Red Rose Awards: Zeta, Sigma, Psi, Omega, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Gamma, Alpha Theta, Alpha Xi, and Alpha Upsilon.

Gratitude and appreciation must be expressed to our chapter presidents and professional affairs representatives for the outstanding work they have done to promote education as a worthy profession and recognize extraordinary women who are dedicated to educating Mississippi children.

## ***Grant-in-Aid Winner... Chris Wall, Professional Affairs***

It is my honor to announce the 2020 Zeta State Grant-in-Aid Award recipient as Anna Brooke Davis! Anna is currently attending the University of Mississippi and is pursuing a major in Elementary Education. She has a GPA of 3.85. Anna also attended Copiah-Lincoln Community College where she held various leadership positions, including Vice-President of Membership in Phi Theta Kappa and was a Student Government Association officer. At Ole Miss, Anna is a School of Education ambassador and was on the Chancellor's List. She continues to serve as a volunteer for several organizations and church activities. For hobbies, she loves to play softball and create/paint pottery.

Anna Brooke Davis was recommended for the 2020 Zeta State Grant-in-Aid Award by Alpha Theta Chapter in the Southern District. Julia Boyd, President of Alpha Theta, stated that "Anna is an extraordinary young woman who loves children and will become an outstanding educator."

Congratulations to Anna Brooke Davis and Alpha Theta Chapter!



## ***Grant-in-Aid Awards... Chris Wall, Professional Affairs***

The Zeta State Grant-in-Aid Award is presented annually to a female resident of Mississippi who will be an incoming senior for the upcoming fall semester after the award is presented. She exhibits an aptitude for and desire to pursue a career in the field of education. The recipient is awarded \$750.00. Each applicant's ratings are based upon criteria set forth in the *Zeta State Grant-in-Aid Award Guidelines*. It is the Educational Excellence Committee who serves as the reviewers of the applications using a rubric provided in the Zeta State Grant-in-Aid Award Application to determine the award winner.

Eight Zeta State Grant-in-Aid applications were submitted for 2020! Those chapters were: **Northern District** – Eta, Alpha Iota, and Alpha Psi; **Central District** – Beta, Gamma and Pi; and in the **Southern District** Alpha Gamma and Alpha Theta.

If a chapter provided a Grant-in-Aid award, but did not recommend their recipient for the state award, the chapter submitted a Grant-in-Aid Report (Form 11) to document their effort in order to meet honor chapter criteria requirements. 21 out of 35 chapters submitted Grant-in-Aid Reports. Those chapters were: **Northern District** – Alpha, Eta, Iota, Upsilon, Alpha Delta, Alpha Iota, Alpha Kappa, Alpha Phi and Alpha Psi; **Central District** – Beta, Gamma, Theta, Lambda, Pi, and Beta Alpha; and in the **Southern District** Sigma, Psi, Alpha Gamma, Alpha Theta, Alpha Rho, and Alpha Upsilon. Congratulations, ladies!

## ***SEE Educators... Lady Anne Bruce, SEE Representative***

### SUPPORT OF EARLY CAREER EDUCATORS AT AN ALL TIME HIGH

Congratulations to all our Mississippi State Organization Chapters who volunteered to mentor, assist, and encourage our Early Career Educators. Ninety-two percent of MSO Chapters documented volunteer hours this year, with a state total of 9,800 hours. Our records indicate the number of volunteer hours continues to increase!

The Northern District logged 3,449 hours with Eta Chapter recording the most hours. The Central District recorded 975 hours with Xi Chapter leading the district. The Southern District submitted the most volunteer hours for a total of 5,376 hours! Two Southern District chapters played a significant role in our success. The largest total was submitted by Alpha Upsilon Chapter with Alpha Gamma Chapter in a close finish.

Northern– Alpha, Eta, Iota, Upsilon, Alpha Delta, Alpha Iota, Alpha Kappa, Alpha Phi, & Alpha Psi

Central– Beta, Gamma, Delta, Theta, Lambda, Xi, Pi, Rho, Tau, Alpha Chi, Beta Alpha

Southern– Zeta, Sigma, Psi, Omega, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Beta, Alpha Gamma, Alpha Theta, Alpha Lambda, Alpha Xi, Alpha Rho, Alpha Upsilon

In addition to support, MSO would like to recognize the following Early Career Educators and Collegiate members who registered to attend a district meeting. From the Central District Meeting: ECEs are Crystal Graves, Alpha Chi Chapter, and Lori Ann Hollingsworth, Delta Chapter. Collegiate member is Ashley Orr (MSU, Meridian campus), Rho Chapter. From the Southern District Meeting: The ECE is Patricia Musgrove, Psi Chapter. Congratulations and thank you for your continued support of our Early Career Educators.

## ***Newsletter Awards... Derricka Thomas, Communications***

Communication is one of the most essential and important components of any organization or event. Delta Kappa Gamma International organization places great emphasis on the need and importance of communicating with each chapter throughout our organization. The Mississippi State Organization has answered the call and at least 95% of our chapters are recipients of the MSO Newsletter Awards. As the chairperson of the MSO Communication Committee, it is an honor to spotlight each chapter that is committed to keeping its members aware of pertinent events, deadlines, educational resources, and so much more. The Communication Committee salutes each chapter listed below for your creativity and effective efforts. Listed below you will find each chapter by district that earned the MSO 2020 Newsletter Award. We wish each of you safety, resources and love during these challenging times.

Northern: Alpha Delta, Alpha Iota, Alpha Kappa, Alpha Tau, Alpha Phi, Alpha Psi, Eta, Iota, Upsilon, Phi

Central: Alpha Chi, Beta, Beta Alpha, Delta, Gamma, Lambda, Pi, Rho, Theta, Xi

Southern: Alpha Alpha, Alpha Beta, Alpha Gamma, Alpha Theta, Alpha Lambda, Alpha Rho, Alpha Upsilon, Alpha Xi, Omega, Psi, Zeta

## ***Yearbook Awards... Janice Garrett, 1st Vice President***

It was my privilege this biennium to receive and evaluate chapter yearbooks. In doing so, my knowledge and appreciation of chapters and the important work being done for DKG and our state organization has grown tremendously. Out of 35 chapters, 29 yearbooks were received for consideration for the chapter yearbook award.

I am so proud to announce that all 29 yearbooks received the award. Yearbook editors, you all did a great job in the production of chapter yearbooks! Congratulations!

I hope you will join us on June 6 for Chapter Leader Retreat training for first vice presidents and yearbook editors. Hope to see you soon!

Northern District: Alpha, Eta, Iota, Upsilon, Alpha Delta, Alpha Iota, Alpha Kappa, Alpha Phi, Alpha Psi, and Beta Beta

Central District: Beta, Gamma, Delta, Theta, Xi, Pi, Rho, Tau, and Beta Alpha

Southern District: Zeta, Sigma, Psi, Omega, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Gamma, Alpha Theta, Alpha Lambda, Alpha Rho, and Alpha Upsilon



## Suggestions for 2021 MSO Convention

Northern                  Central                  Southern

(please circle or underline your district)

DKG Sessions (please give specific Society areas that you would like to see addressed at convention)

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Non-Societal Sessions (please be specific as to the kinds of session topics that you would like to see addressed at convention)

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Please email your completed form to Sybil Wilner  
(EEC Research Rep) [swilner.DKG@gmail.com](mailto:swilner.DKG@gmail.com)

Thank you!

## ***Scholarship... Cynthia Colburn, Scholarship***

What a pleasure it is for the MSO State Scholarship Committee to announce the 2020 Clytee Evans Scholarship recipient. **Lindsey Winn**, an educator at Pisgah High School will receive the \$1,000.00 scholarship based on her winning application and stellar recommendations from DKG sisters as well as school leadership.

Lindsey is described by her peers and school administrators as diligent in her work, designs and implements Professional Development for her school and school district. She has served on numerous district committees as well as community advisory boards. Her efforts came in the form of several monthly Teacher of the Month awards and ultimately district Teacher of the Year 2015-2016.

A Delta Kappa Gamma inductee in 2016, Lindsey jumped in with both feet in Beta Alpha Chapter. She has served as 1st Vice President and undertook the leadership as chapter president when Beta Alpha was facing dissolution. Our recipient has participated in Leadership Management Seminar, Chapter Leaders Retreat, district and state meetings. At the state level she has been recognized for Chapter Newsletters and SEE involvement. Within the chapter she has focused on recruitment and retention incorporating many creative techniques such as Candy Grams and supply baskets for new teachers. Under her leadership, Beta Alpha is showing positive signs of growth, renewed interest and enthusiasm for members. Congratulations to Lindsey Winn, MSO's Clytee Evans 2020 Recipient.



## ***Honor Chapters Recognized...***

### **Betsy Sullivan, Leadership Development**

Your Leadership Development Committee (LDC) announces the chapters that achieved Honor Chapter status for this biennium. Though we were only able to announce Central District chapters, we want to congratulate all of you who worked so hard within your chapters. The following chapters received the Honor Chapter designation:

Northern District: Eta, Upsilon, Alpha Delta, Alpha Iota, Alpha Phi, Alpha Psi, and Beta Beta

Central District: Beta, Gamma, Pi, Rho, Theta, Tau, Xi, Alpha Chi, and Beta Alpha

Southern District: Psi, Sigma, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Beta, Alpha Gamma, Alpha Lambda, Alpha Theta, Alpha Rho, and Alpha Upsilon

What a privilege to read about the accomplishments and honor all of these amazing chapters in our state! Congratulations to each of you.

## *Chapter Service Projects...*

### **Dorie Kisner, Personal Growth & Services**

Over the last few months Mississippi State Organization chapters have been participated in service projects to help their schools and communities. I am so proud of the work you have done in Mississippi. These are a few projects that have impacted our state:

- Supplied books to public school libraries
- Donated soaps and air fresheners to place in faculty restrooms at local schools
- Collaborated with the local Construction Technology students and created a *Little Free Library* for our town
- Collected feminine products and distributed to local junior high and high school teachers
- Packed bags with essential teacher products and delivered to area schools

Thirty-three out of thirty-five chapters submitted the Chapter Service Project report by the February 1st deadline.

Congratulations to the following chapters:

**Northern District** - Alpha, Eta, Iota, Upsilon, Phi, Alpha Delta, Alpha Iota, Alpha Kappa, Alpha Phi, Alpha Psi, Beta Beta

**Central District** - Beta, Gamma, Delta, Theta, Lambda, Xi, Pi, Rho, Tau, Alpha Chi

**Southern District** - Zeta, Sigma, Psi, Omega, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Beta, Alpha Gamma, Alpha Theta, Alpha Lambda, Alpha Xi, Alpha Rho, Alpha Upsilon

## *DKG Gallery of Fine Arts Recognition*



The Arts and Humanities Jury thanks **Lindsay Griffin**, Alpha Chi Chapter for being among the DKG Gallery of Fine Arts entrants of the January 15 – February 15, 2020 submission period. Her photography “Make a Wish” entry has been accepted into of the DKG Gallery of Fine Arts.



## 2019-2021 Mississippi State Officers

President.....	Dr. Joanna Alston
1st Vice President.....	Janice Garrett
2nd Vice President.....	Carol Walker
Recording Secretary.....	Dr. Jenetta Waddell
Treasurer.....	Lynn Holliday
Executive Secretary.....	Linda Lightsey
Parliamentarian.....	Jean Ricks
Immediate Past President.....	Linda Hollingsworth
Northern District Director.....	Dr. Dorothy Prestwich
Northern District Assistant Director.....	Neelie Owen
Central District Director.....	Cindy Alsworth Jones
Central District Assistant Director.....	Fonda Dickinson
Southern District Director.....	Nadine Nicholls
Southern District Assistant Director.....	Jackie Wintruba
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