2015 - 2017 Zeta State Officers

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Northern District Assistant Director ....................... Janet Conley
Central District Director .......................................... Janet Berg
Central District Assistant Director ......................... Betsy Sullivan
Southern District Director ...................................... Sarajane Smith
Southern District Assistant Director ....................... Sybil Wilner
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Zeta State Members
Southeast Regional Conference
Savannah, Georgia

Photograph is courtesy of Photographs by Jim, Floresville, Texas
We Can Do MAGIC in DKG!
Moving and Growing in Chapters
By Tracey Crawford

I’m ready for a little MAGIC in DKG! Aren’t you? Zeta State has been moving forward with membership and communication for several years now. After adding the SEE (Supporting Early-career Educators) project to our agenda last year, we are seeing many potential new sisters for Zeta State. Membership is so vital to sustaining DKG not only in MS, but in the world. We must continue to build up and support our own chapters and our chapter members. How can we move and grow if we continue to lose members? It is up to us. We are a huge group of talented and educated women; be proud and promote what DKG means to you, and what we can do for others.

In May, the executive team met at headquarters to refine the goals for the biennium and to discuss ways to implement them. Committee chairmen met in mid-August to review committee responsibilities and what their roles will be in carrying out the goals. The committees are meeting and implementing changes as they plan for the first year of this biennium. The district directors and assistant directors have met and set the place and date for each of the district meetings. They have great workshops planned so mark your calendars and make plans to attend. Our executive board meeting was very productive! Many of our members attended the Southeast Regional Conference in Savannah, GA. Lots of wonderful information was gathered by all who attended. Much of this will be shared with your chapter when you request your state visitor to attend your meeting.

The goals that I have set forth for this biennium are not so different from our past Zeta State presidents. We are moving forward in the direction we want to be; so why change what is positive? Membership diversity, Leadership Management Seminar, support of International Service Projects and the Zeta State Scholarship fund, state officer/chair visit, and a net increase of members are the five goals for us to accomplish.

I feel very privileged to be working with the ladies whom I will be involved with during this biennium. I am very humbled to be the one to help move and grow Zeta State. I will seek to represent you well at the regional, state, and international level. I especially want to give attention to our chapters. Lots of wonderful plans are in the works, and all I can say is, get ready for a magical year!

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
2016 Zeta State District Meetings
“We Can Do MAGIC in DKG!
Moving and Growing in Chapters”

NAME ___________________________ CHAPTER ___________________________
ADDRESS ____________________________ TELEPHONE ________________
CITY, STATE, ZIP ____________________________ EMAIL __________________________

Registration/Refreshments: 8:00 am - 9:00 am
Meetings/Luncheon: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Indicate which meeting you will be attending:

☐ Northern District (March 5, 2016), Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo
☐ Central District (March 12, 2016), Madison Central High School, Madison
☐ Southern District (April 9, 2016), Gateway United Methodist Church, Gulfport

Check if applicable:
☐ Chapter President ☐ State Committee Chairman
☐ State Officer ☐ Dietary Restriction
☐ Past State President ☐ Please Specify
☐ Attending First Time

Registration and Luncheon Fees: $30 before deadline/$40 after deadline

Northern District Deadline: postmarked February 19, 2016
Central District Deadline: postmarked February 26, 2016
Southern District Deadline: postmarked March 25, 2016

Make checks payable to: Delta Kappa Gamma Society – Zeta State District Meeting

Mail Registration Forms to:
NORTHERN DISTRICT
Cynthia Colburn
123 High Point Drive
Tupelo, MS 38801

CENTRAL DISTRICT
Sylvia Gamill
8431 Northeast Pines Drive
Meridian, MS 39305

SOUTHERN DISTRICT
Nadine Nicolls
18410 Bert Road
Saucier, MS 39574

Please indicate permission to use your photo in State Publications: ☐ Yes ☐ No
If you played any role in Zeta State’s participation in the International SEE Project during the 2013-2015 biennium, the numbers represent YOU and your efforts toward Supporting Early-career Educators. Can we do better? I believe we can!

Start now mentoring early-career educators in your area. Begin planting the seed by mentioning your District Meeting. Choose at least one EC E to invite, and sponsor her by paying her registration fee and bringing her to the meeting. Be sure to report it on Form 16!

You just never know how those seeds will grow. It’s like MAGIC!

Scholarships are a Great "Perk" of DKG Membership

By Aletta Sullivan

Zeta State and the DKG International Society offer members scholarships to further their education.

Zeta State offers two scholarships:
Claytie Evans - $1000 (member three years)
Amanda Lowther - $2000 (member five years)

For Forms Visit: http://www.zetastatedkg.org/scholarships.html

DKG International offers thirty (30) $6,000 (U.S.) international scholarships to members for study at the master’s degree level and $10,000 (U.S.) for work at the doctorate level.

View the Society Website: http://www.dkg.org

The application packets are available July 1 and are due February 1, for both Zeta State and DKG International Scholarships.

As educators, we continually attend professional development conferences. When is the last time you attended a conference whose entire mission was for you to focus on you? Eighteen current and retired DKG educators convened at Eagle Ridge Conference Center in Raymond, MS, June 14-17 to get to know each other, learn from experts, and reflect on the many dimensions of leadership. Emphasis throughout the conference was on our personal and professional growth.

The DKG Leadership Management Seminar began with each participant using personal treasures brought from home to explain things that are important to her. Pictures of family, shells from beach trips, and a wee bear from a honeymoon twenty years ago were among the items shared.

Dr. Jimmy Richardson continued the emphasis on the personal growth as we took the Myers-Briggs questionnaire designed to understand how one perceives and interacts with the world.

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Another highlight was Hind’s Community College’s Gay Saxm’s humorous and motivating session on goal setting. Karen Fayard’s qualities of a leader helped us to remember to forget about ourselves and focus on our group’s needs and goals. With Nancy Jay, we took a look at what our appearance and what our aura may say about the image that we unwittingly offer to others. We gained “hands on” experience in “style” by playing with paper dolls. Etiquette in the workplace with Jean Ricks rounded out the image session.

Betty Barrett’s legal session addressed issues unique to women, including leases, wills, and health care decisions. Miller Faulk from the Attorney General’s Office prepared us to understand details of fraud and identity theft.

Unique to LMS was the special emphasis on women’s health issues with Mickie Griffith-Auty. Sara Smith’s “shape up or ship out” and learning to line dance with Sharon Langley and Janice Puckett got us on our feet!

Wearing DKG hats and pedometers, we “walked the talk.”

The 2015 DKG Leadership Management Seminar leaders offered new insights and resources. Participants developed lasting friendships and plans for balancing the professional and personal dimensions of life.
This committee is dedicated to the work of the EEC and wants to see each Zeta State Chapter endorse the DKG projects to “Promote Schools for Africa,” “SEE: Support Early-career Educators,” and to advance excellence in education! We can do this by focusing on these International projects, our chapter service projects and others that promote the aspects of EEC, and the mission of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Chapter Presidents Reminder
It is time to activate your chapter nominations committee! The committee should begin the search for the next chapter leadership team now.

Membership
By Reba Greer

August 22, 2015, Sylvia Haver magically appeared and handed off a carefully culled and strategically organized Red Bag, whose contents will guide us in meeting President Tracey Crawford’s goal of recruiting at least three new members per Zeta State chapter in the 2015-2017 Biennium. Stacy Baudoine, Lauren Carpenter, Lauren Olson, Jan Stuckey, Chris Wall, Selma Wells, Sylvia Haver, and Reba Greer will review membership data and explore exciting DKG recruitment innovations. We welcome the opportunity to develop strategies for recruiting, supporting, and retaining members. Contact Reba Greer at rbtrr@maxxsouth.net if you have suggestions or considerations for the Membership Committee.

DKG Members Unveil Plaques on Founders’ Graves
By Sandra Mckiermon

Now that the graves of all Zeta State Founders have been located, the 2013-2015 Zeta State Research Representative, Betsy Sullivan, Zeta State officers, and representatives of the Order of the Magnolia gathered at the Greenwood Cemetery in Jackson, MS. They unveiled the first two DKG plaques affixed to the graves of founders Amanda Lane Lowther and Laura R. Lester. A brief ceremony written by Eva Guice and Sandra Mckiermon was presented. Each Zeta State member placed a red silk rose on each of the graves. Plans are being made to continue these ceremonies at each of the graves of the other founders. If you would like to join in with us on this project, just let us know.

Send in Your Chapter Newsletters!
By Fonda Dickinson

Greetings! The duties of the Communication and Publicity Committee are to receive and review chapter newsletters. In order to be recognized at district meetings and state conventions, chapters must submit at least two newsletters per year to the committee. We also assist with proofreading the Zeta Data and promoting Society publicity. Please contact the members of our committee if we can assist you by conducting a workshop on newsletters and chapter websites. I look forward to reading about the work of your chapter as I receive your chapter newsletters.