

Vol. 61 No. 3

Fall 2005

Mississippi

October 15, 2005

ZETA DATA



Zeta State Members attend Southeast Conference in Williamsburg, VA



Stepping Ahead.....

by Lynn Holliday, President

It is an honor and privilege to serve as your Zeta State President. I had the opportunity to attend the Training for State Presidents at the Southeast Regional Conference in Williamsburg in July. That training reminded me what an awesome organization we have in relation to the opportunities that are afforded our members. Please take advantage of all the programs, scholarships and grants that are available through international as well as our state organization. We, as key educators, must take the incentive to mentor and guide the younger generation of teachers and instructors to develop their potential leadership and teaching skills.

During the Officer Training session this past June, your officer leadership team developed goals which we can hopefully attain through the participation of all the chapters in the state. Those goals are:

- Increase scholarship funds by 10 percent of endowment per year
- Each chapter shall have a NET gain of two members per each year of the biennium
- One hundred percent of the chapters shall have a representative at at least one meeting above the chapter level (state convention, district meeting, chapter leadership training, Leadership Management Seminar, Zeta State Executive Board Meeting)
- Following established guidelines, 100 percent of the chapters will establish and implement a mentoring program for new members

Lynn Holliday, President

- The Zeta State Leadership training will be attended by a minimum of 175 members, with EVERY chapter represented
- The Leadership Management Seminar will have 20 participants
- At least two members from Zeta State will apply for a Golden Gift stipend
- The final draft of the History of Zeta State: 1994-2004 shall be completed prior to the convening of the 2007 state convention

It is with great anticipation that we attain these goals so that more members will learn what the Society is beyond the chapter level. Attending events such as the Chapter Officers and Members Retreat, District Meetings, and the International Convention are but a few of the opportunities afforded the membership to learn and advance in teaching and learning new ideas for the educational arena today.

Please make use of the International and state websites in developing programs, acquiring information for scholarships and grants as well as, monitoring the day to day activities of this great organization.

Ladies, little did I know that we would face so many obstacles in the short time I have been your president. Katrina has made us more aware of our family, community and Delta Kappa Gamma Sisters' caring for one another. Our sisters from across the Southeast and nation have made efforts that are forthcoming to help in getting the lives of our members back to a sense of normality through care packages and donations large and small. Chapters not affected by the hurricane have been asked to adopt a chapter to give support and/or supplies of some nature to help in the mending process of restoring the classroom setting. Together, as our theme for the biennium indicates," Above and Beyond: Stepping Ahead in Leadership, Membership, and Mentorship," will we work together to make our Society stronger and more accessible for our members and the community where we live. In closing, I would like to share this poem which sums up the dedication our members strive to demonstrate in their daily lives at school and home.

Visit our ZETA STATE WEBSITE www.deltakappagamma.org/MS/

Deborah Duncan, Xi Chapter, is the webmaster for the site and she is doing an excellent job. Check the site regularly for state information, updates, forms of all kinds, ZETA DATA, and photos.

A Loving Teacher

Things our grown-up mind defies
Appear as giants in children's eyes.

A gentle touch upon her head
A simple word when kindly said.
Complete attention when she calls.

Her knowing you have given all.
Correcting in a loving way.
Instilling trust in what you say.

Making her believe unique
The tiny flaw upon her cheek.
Admiring old and faded dresses.
Reminding her we all make messes.
Words of comfort you've softly spoken
A promise you've made she knows won't be broken.

Your knowing her doll that was lost today
Is just as important as bills you can't pay.

Helping make her plans and schemes
Giving her hope and building her dreams.
All of this and so much more
Is in her mind forever stored.
They who touch her life awhile
Can either make or break that child.
Education is important, true,

But so much more, her faith in you.
You've weathered through the storm and strife;
You helped to build a small girl's life.
You're truly one to be admired.
For you gave more than was required.

by Pat McClain



Stepping Ahead with Leadership

By Virginia McGee Butler

On June 21, 2005, Delta Kappa Gamma members from across the state converged on Lake Tiak O'Khata for Zeta State Leadership Seminar. Key women teachers, accustomed to giving and doing for others, were in for a different kind of experience. Participants found their seats behind name plates decorated with butterflies. The tables lined with bowls of chocolate and other assorted goodies sat in a horseshoe shape. The arrangement would promote participation and abundant conversation that was soon to follow. The workshop kicked off with participants introducing their preassigned partner.

Lynn Holliday set the tone for the seminar by challenging attendees to set personal long-term and short-term goals. Coloring pictures of their brains to match their learning styles revealed a wide diversity in the group. More on that diversity was yet to come as Dr. Jimmy Richardson administered the Myers-Briggs personality test to be scored and brought back with an analysis the last day.

The second day began with members huffing and puffing through a fitness evaluation. Each test had an age-based rating of how well the exerciser did. The title of the session was "Shape Up or Ship Out." The Wall-Sit Test resembled a torture inflicted by a teacher on one member's husband when he broke classroom rules in the olden days. Some of the members might have decided to ship out at this point, but there was still chocolate on the table.

In a session with Carolyn Pittman on communication skills, participants learned that speaking and listening varied by areas of the country, the relationships of people in the conversation, and gender of the conversants. Well, to tell the truth, all those with husbands said they already knew the last one.

Betty Barrett took a serious turn giving legal suggestions from a woman's perspective. After covering rights for housing, education, employment, and children, she talked about decisions for their own final illnesses and death. Members sought consolation for those thoughts in the bowls of chocolate.

Looking good and behaving well were Betty Oswald's focus in "What's Your IQ (Image Quotient)?" She included etiquette for the internet and appropriate dress for our changing lifestyles.

Before supper, there was a "Walk with Sarah." A helpful hint: Don't be fooled by Sarah Smith's soft voice and gray hair. Those walkers foolish enough to keep her pace, including those several years her junior, returned to the starting point several yards behind her. She never broke a sweat!

Thursday brought Dr. Melinda Rush with health hints specifically for women on how to take care of ourselves. One piece of advice was to eat calcium chews spaced out through the day to prevent osteoporosis. This was a favorite hint because she ended with, "Yes, Virginia, they come in chocolate."

Lunch was prepared in our presence by Chef John Pelton. Who would have ever thought "heart-healthy" and "gourmet" would describe the same meal? And who would have ever thought it would be so tasty?

The afternoon began advice on finance for women by Starlett Barnett. It ended with a set of games to find out what we knew – or didn't know – about Delta Kappa Gamma.

Friday morning brought Dr. Richardson back to give us our personality profiles and some interesting thoughts on how each classification affected the way a person dealt with life. What fun it was to guess – and argue – over how we were classified.

Laced between all the learning were fun times led by Zeta State leadership, trips to the boundless buffet line at Lake Tiak O'Khata, and friendships that left members looking forward to the next gathering of Delta Kappa Gamma. And the bowls of chocolate never ran dry!

Stepping ahead with leadership was a unique experience. It was about growing and becoming our professional selves. Oddly enough, as the participants use this experience to become more confident, healthy, and proficient, they will become even better at giving back and doing for others.

Evelyn Barron Receives 2005 International Achievement Award

August 25, 2005, from the *ΔKG News*

The International Executive Board selected Evelyn Barron, 1998–2000 international president, to receive the Society's 2005 International Achievement Award. Jacklyn Cuppy, international president, presented the award July 22 at the 2005 Southeast Regional Conference in Williamsburg, Virginia.

The International Achievement Award, the Society's highest honor, is given annually to a member in recognition of distinguished service at the international level.

Currently Evelyn Barron serves on the ad hoc Lucile Cornetet Bequest Committee. In addition to serving as international president, she served as 2000–2002 chair of the ad hoc Focus 2000 Committee, as 1996–1998

international second vice president and chair of the ad hoc International Technology Committee, as 1994–1996 southeast regional director, and as 1990–1994 member and then chair of the International Finance Committee. She was employed as executive coordinator at International Headquarters in Austin, Texas, in 2001–2002. She is a member of Beta Chapter in Jackson, Mississippi.

Chapter News TidBits

Tau Chapter

Vickie Kelly, director of the Raymond Campus Learning Center and developmental programs and District curriculum coordinator of developmental programs at Hinds Community College, received the Henry Young Award for Outstanding Individual contribution to the National Association of Developmental Educators.

Eleanor Drake was honored at the September meeting of Tau chapter for volunteering to do the Tau yearbook since 1986. Since Eleanor decided this was her final year to do the yearbook, the chapter gave her a tray engraved with DKG and contributed to the Little-Winters grant-in-aid in her name.

Paula Ray, a member of Tau, was selected High School Teacher of the Year at Hillcrest Christian School in Jackson.

Alpha Gamma News

At the 2005 MAAE Arts Education Awards, **Althea Jerome** received the Exemplary Arts Service Award. The Spring 2005 issue of *ART Gulf Coast* magazine contains an article she wrote promoting arts education. The article, "Filling the Void" (the editor's title), emphasized the importance of honoring students' multiple intelligences and the role professional development plays in meeting the needs of all students. The magazine is "a quarterly review of art along the Gulf Coast" between Mobile and New Orleans. This is her second article for the magazine; the first article appeared in the Winter 2004 issue. She is in DC working at Kennedy Center.

Beta Chapter Lucile Cornetet Recipient

Congratulations to Beta chapter member, Ms. Sharon Wheeler, Jackson Public School's Power Academic and Performing Arts Complex Assistant Principal/Arts Coordinator. She is a recipient of the Lucile Cornetet Professional Development Award from the Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation. This \$1,600.00 award will permit Ms. Wheeler to attend the 23rd Annual Conference of the Network of Schools for the Advancement of Arts Education in Pittsburgh, PA in late October.

Looking for a program idea?

The books selected as winner and honorable mention of the 2005 Educator's Award will provide excellent material for chapter programs. *Wrong Turn on the Information Superhighway* by Dr. Bettina Fabos was selected by the Educator's Award Committee for the 2005 Educator's Award. The honorable mention book is *Looking Forward: An Optimist's Guide to Retirement* by Ellen Freudenheim.

Wrong Turn on the Information Superhighway examines issues related to the Internet. The Internet offers almost instant access to information through websites and search engines. However, this easy access comes with some problems. Dr. Fabos describes the pitfalls and dangers embedded in the information available on the Internet. To assist Internet users, especially educators, Dr. Fabos provides advice to help students and teachers look more critically at information provided by commercial search engines and sites; she discusses the importance of web criticism and evaluation. She identifies solutions as the best hope for educators as they assist their students in finding the accurate information they deserve on the information superhighway. This is a very readable book that will appeal to classroom teachers, librarians and everyday users of the Internet.

In *Looking Forward: An Optimist's Guide to Retirement* the author presents the optimist's view of retirement. Suitable for readers of all ages, this valuable resource suggests that "people can reap big dividends by investing in their future social, emotional and intellectual lives." Freudenheim suggests that "You can reinvent yourself in The Retirement Zone." Both books can be used in chapter meetings and shared among members.

would make for a lively chapter meeting topic, especially if it were combined with a demonstration. *Looking Forward: An Optimist's Guide to Retirement* also contains a wealth of activities and topics for chapter discussions. ■

Note: *Looking Forward: An Optimist's Guide to Retirement* is available to individuals or chapters at a 50 percent discount for orders of 10 or more copies by using only the special order form available at <http://www.lookingforward2.com/order.html>. Fax the order using the number on the form. Payment by credit card only. No orders fewer than 10 will be accepted. Shipping costs will be added. Delivery takes about three weeks.

Another Program Idea: Download Delta Kappa Gamma 101 Powerpoint Presentation

Delta Kappa Gamma 101 - This PowerPoint presentation is a fun way to let potential members know about our Society and to refresh member knowledge during regular orientation! Anyone should be able to download this file, but you must have Microsoft PowerPoint installed on your computer to open and view it.

Just Visit www.deltakappagamma.org, visit the Downloads page, and click on "other downloads."



Errata...

Gail Hammond received the Clytee Evans Scholarship (\$1,000) and Tina Scholtes received the Amanda Lowther Scholarship (\$2,000).

Above and Beyond: Stepping Ahead in Leadership, Membership and Mentorship

Make Your Plans Now To Attend The District Meetings:

Northern-March 4, 2006
Northeast Community College,
Booneville

Central-March 25, 2006
Northpark Church, Meridian

Southern-March 18, 2006
Mississippi Gulf Coast
Community College, Perkinston

- * Professional Growth
- * Food
- * Fellowship

We want all the chapters in each District to participate. This will be a special year for our meetings as we work to care for our "sisters". The District Directors will be contacting you as to how you can help.

Mark your calendar now and show your support.

Watch for the registration information from your chapter president and the upcoming Zeta Data

Make Members Matter

Identify prospective members from a variety of instructional settings. They must be professional educators currently employed to provide educational services at the time of their initiation.

Provide thorough orientation for new members. They will know what our Society has to offer and what is expected of members.

Membership

Membership in the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International shall be by invitation. Members initiated into the Society become members of chapters, state organizations, and the International Society. Recommendations for invitation to membership are submitted by members on the official Recommendation for Membership form. An individual is not a member until she has been initiated.

A broad cross section of educational interests should be represented in the membership of each chapter. Diversification of expertise, from preschool through university in both public and private schools, expands the perceptions of members. Active members shall be women who are employed in educational work at the time of their election and have had three or more years of experience as professional educators.

The Society's Seven Purposes

To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship.

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

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

To initiate, endorse, and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators.

To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to women educators from other countries.

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

To inform the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

September 15	Alpha	Columbus, Country Club
September 29	Kappa	Oxford
November 5	Gamma	Meridian
November 13	Tau	Jackson, Municipal Art Gallery
December 5	Alpha Omicron	Natchez
February 4	Hattiesburg	Southern Oaks
April 8	Alpha Zeta	Jones Co.
April 29	Alpha Upsilon	Diamondhead

Committee Meeting Dates

Oct. 22	Leadership Expansion Membership	10:00
	Share the Future District Directors	1:00
Oct. 29	Program of Work	10:00
	Personal Growth Music Legislative Research	1:00
Nov. 12	Professional Affairs Scholarship M.S.Harmon	1:00
Dec. 3	Communications	1:00
Dec. 10	World Fellowship	1:00
Jan 14	District Directors and Assistants History of Zeta State	1:00
Feb. 11	Scholarship M.S. Harmon Professional Affairs Finance Leadership Development	10:00 1:00

Zeta State Officers

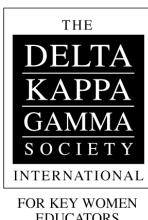
President: Lynn Holliday

1st Vice President: Jeanette Reinike2nd Vice President: Karen RhodesRecording Secretary:
Linda LightseyCorresponding Secretary:
Karen Fayard

Treasurer: Sarah Smith

Northern District Director:
Linda NorwoodAsst. Northern District Director:
Betty WilliamsCentral District Director:
Teri EdwardsAsst. Central District Director:
Nan JamesSouthern District Director:
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