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***“Strengthen Your Wings” at an Upcoming District Meeting***

*Teri Edwards, Second Vice President*

The dates have been set and locations secured for the upcoming 2012 Zeta State District Meetings. Your District Directors and Assistant District Directors have been working hard to put together a slate of outstanding presenters and programs that promise to be the best yet! You will not want to miss this opportunity. So, mark your calendars now and get your registration forms in for the 2012 District Meetings:

Southern District – March 3, 2012 (First Baptist Church, Moss Point)  
Moss Point First Baptist Church, 4807 Main St, Moss Point, MS 39563

Northern District – March 10, 2012 (First Methodist Church, Hernando)  
Hernando United Methodist Church 1890 Mt. Pleasant Hernando, MS 38632

Central District – March 24, 2012 (Brandon High School, Brandon)  
Brandon High School, 3090 Mississippi 18, Brandon MS 39042-8242

## Rediscover Delta Kappa Gamma



### President Karen Fayard

It is important that we keep our members. Rediscovering Delta Kappa Gamma will remind all members of why they are a part of this organization. The first step in rediscovering is recommitment. Every chapter should have a recommitment ceremony. It reminds us of the meaning of the mission statement and the purposes of the Society and why we accepted the invitation of membership. International has a new Recommitment Program that is fantastic. I urge all chapters to use it sometime during the biennium. It can be found on the International web site and Karen Rhodes, Zeta State Membership Chairman, has a copy that she will be happy to share with all of the chapters. Another way to rediscover our Society is to attend our district meeting this spring. The workshops of district meetings focus on the business of the Society. Not only will you learn or relearn about the work of Delta Kappa Gamma, but you will enjoy the genuine spiritual fellowship!

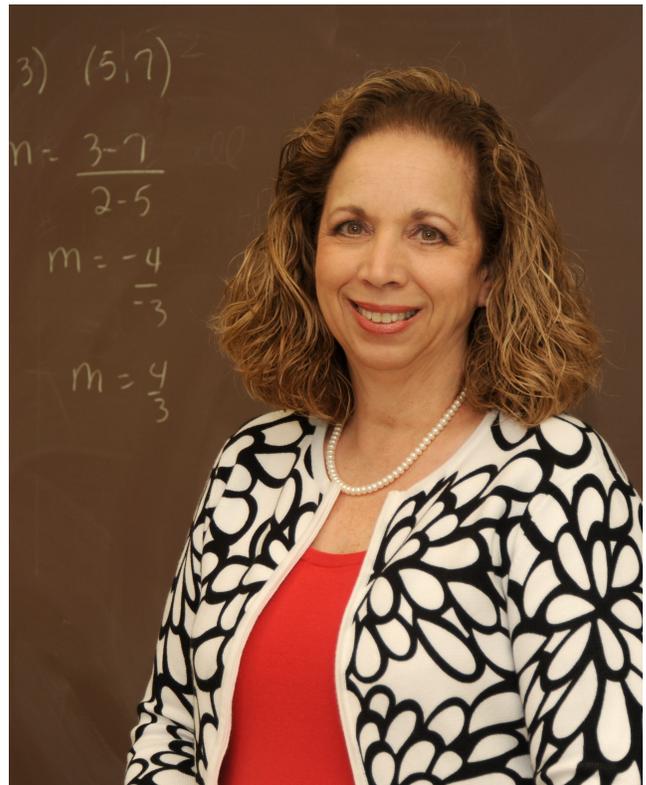
Chapter nomination committees should be actively recruiting members to accept positions on the chapter executive team. Members should not be hesitant in accepting a leadership position at the chapter level! You were invited to membership because of your excellence in teaching and your potential for leadership. The Leadership Development Committee has been working diligently on a "Chapter Leaders Training Retreat" to prepare new officers for their roles. The retreat will be held in Brandon June 8<sup>th</sup> and June 9<sup>th</sup>. I urge you not turn down an opportunity to serve Delta Kappa Gamma. Leading a chapter is not the job of one person; it is a team effort. It is a very rewarding experience.

The international Educational Excellence Committee (EEC) is going to present a motion at the 2012 international convention to make "Support for Early-Career Educators" a second international project in addition to "Schools for Africa." As you all know, many teachers leave the profession within the first few years. The Society recognizes the seriousness of this loss of

educators. Many Zeta State chapters have been participating in a mentoring program project for a number of years. Assisting an early-career educator is a great community service project and helps our Society become better known in the educational community. It would be wonderful if all the chapters would implement a "Support of Early-Career Educators" project. Start small and let it grow!

It is important that chapters support the international projects. One of our Zeta State goals is that each chapter contribute to "Schools for Africa" during the biennium. Please send your chapter contribution to Sarah Smith, and she in turn will send it to international. This will allow the state to have an accurate list for recognition of chapters participating in the project. If your chapter members have not seen the video about the project, please show it! Small contributions do big things!

I look forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming district meetings so that together we can rediscover and strengthen the joys of our membership.



*Karen Fayard, Zeta State President*

## **Welcome new Members!**

- Mary Beth Wentworth, Alpha Omicron
- Sondra Adams, Alpha Upsilon
- Allison Downing, Alpha Gamma
- Mary McCraine, Chi
- Morgan Abraham, Chi
- Stephanie Wilson, Chi
- Nancy Hicks, Chi
- Heather McKenzie, Theta
- Beth McKay, Pi
- Janet Armour, Eta
- Ahsaki Games, Eta
- Denise Hodge, Eta
- Yolanda Randle, Eta
- Lavern Fowler, Alpha Iota

## **In Memoriam**

- Virginia Carmichael, Gamma
- Eva Nicholson, Chi
- Anna Mae Williams, Delta
- Wilma Ponder, Alpha Chi
- Elizabeth Stormo, Eta
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## **Congratulations!**

- Denise Hodge, Eta, National Board Recertification
- Anita McGraw, Eta, Doctorate
- Allison Downing, Alpha Gamma, Doctorate
- Edye Skibbe, Pi, National Board Recertification
- Betsy Sullivan, Pi, Doctorate
- Gail Hammond, Pi, Doctorate
- Kim Brown, Gamma, National Board Certification
- Sondra Adams, Alpha Upsilon, National Board Recertification
- Lady Bruce, Alpha Upsilon, National Board Recertification

Eta Chapter member Kim Fandel was selected as Tupelo Public School District Teacher of the Year on Tuesday. This follows her being one of five Mississippi educators recently recognized by the Mississippi Hall of Master Teachers ceremony at Mississippi University for Women.

Mrs. Fandel has represented the Tupelo Public School district on many levels - locally, state wide, regionally, nationally and internationally. She has been a part of teams who presented and trained teachers and assistant teachers during staff development workshops. She has presented research papers at regional early childhood conferences and was a part of a literacy delegation in Beijing, China. Mrs. Fandel continues to contribute to the professional development of novice teachers as well as to share with colleagues. She has supervised student interns, mentored new teachers and teachers working to achieve National Board Certification.

Eta Chapter is extremely proud to have members who serve both their schools and their communities.

## **Omega shares...**

Grant-in-Aid Awarded Omega's Grant-in-Aid recipient, Kacie Kirkland, is a junior elementary education major at MSU. She was unable to attend because of recently having a baby. Congratulations, Kacie!

Numeracy and Literacy Project One of Omega's projects was completed at our Nov. meeting, when Celeste presented Pam Smith, Lawrence County High School librarian with a copy of the book, Flight from Monticello.

## **Rosenwald Foundation**

One of Omega's goals was to locate the Rosenwald Foundation funded school in Jeff Davis, Lawrence, and Walthall counties. These schools provided African-American children with the opportunity to learn to read and write. Our community project is to donate one hundred dollars to the Prentiss Institute which is being renovated into a museum.

## **Alpha Iota and "Two Can Read"**

Alpha Iota chapter in West Point joined with the

local Bryan Library, Excel by 5, and West Point Career and Technology Early Childhood Education class in December to launch the Two Can Read preschool reading program.

Two Can Read, with its colorful toucan as its playful symbol, is a joint effort to engage parents and preschool children in a year-long program that will provide free books and encourage reading at home. The creative literacy project grew out of a perceived need and many brainstorming sessions among members of the Alpha Iota Chapter.

Preschool children and their parents participating in the program receive free books and a small milk chug in which they collect coins. The child brings back his collected change each time to receive a new book. The collected change supplements the purchase of additional books to be given to children each time they attend.

### **Alpha Upsilon pays it forward...**

In August of 2005 over three fourths of our chapter was effected by Hurricane Katrina. We have NEVER forgotten the generosity shown to us by complete strangers. As a result, we have done many "pay it forward" projects to other victims of loss from Galveston to the September 11th Project in Shanksville, PA. Just days after our December meeting, I mailed two packages containing 31 gift towel packets to Dr. Dorothy Kerzel, Professor of Mathematics, at Mississippi University for Women. She delivered our chapter's "pay it forward" gifts to Smithville, MS. These gift towels contained notes and monetary gifts for the April 2011 tornado victims. Our chapter also collected food items and books for the Hancock County Food Pantry in October.

### **Fund-raising Ideas from Alpha Theta**

Our best fundraiser ever !!! it's quick-it's easy-it's a "no-brainer". For the past two years our chapter has held a silent auction just among our members. Each member is asked to bring at least 1 auction item that is new, gently used, or a re-gift item. For 30 minutes prior to our meeting, each member has a chance to view the items and write their bid.

Naturally, some items are more popular and the bidding wars begin. Bids close when the meeting begins, and the winners of the items are announced at the closing. This is fun, exciting, and sometimes humorous, and it is 100% profit. In 2010 we made over \$700, and 2011 we made over \$500. I'd say that's a pretty good profit for 30 minutes ! The only preparation for this auction is bid sheets with pencils that are placed on the display tables.

Examples of popular items:

- New jackets or sweaters given in the wrong size-never worn
- Homemade cakes, brownies, and canned goods.
- Frozen venison and frozen homegrown vegetables
- Plant cuttings
- Accent lamps
- Paintings

### **Alpha Gamma's Althea Jerome, Mississippi Arts Commission for the Arts in Education Governor's Award**

Congratulations to our own Althea Jerome for being selected by the Mississippi Arts Commission for the Arts in Education Governor's Award. The long form that is well worth reading is on the commission's website, but I think we already know the truth of the final sentence. "Althea is extremely driven in her work as a teaching artist and brings great

enthusiasm to the goal of providing high-quality arts education experiences to the students of our state.”

### **Alpha Theta members!**

Carol Rawlings, McComb's First Lady and a retired educator, has been appointed McComb Excel By 5 Chairman. The Excel By 5 program is an initiative to recognize McComb as a Certified Child Friendly Community, and it focuses on children from birth through 5 years of age. This program requires 2 years in order to be certified and provides support to the children and their parents using various resources. Carol will coordinate the educational aspects and community support through involvement in the program.

Delores Feldman, member of Alpha Theta, is presently serving as the Judges Credentials Coordinator for The Garden Clubs of Mississippi. She is responsible for the education of the judges who serve throughout the state at various shows for The Garden Clubs of Mississippi. Mrs. Feldman, a retired teacher, is the owner of Holmes Stationers and Teacher Supply Store in the Summit/McComb area.

Ganeath Brewer, President of Alpha Theta Chapter, is serving her third year as President of the Summit Historical Society. Under her presidency, the organization moved and rehabilitated the 1907 Liberty-White Railroad Depot of the Holmesville community which had been abandoned since the late 1920's. The depot now sits next to the railroad tracks in Summit, MS and serves as a town museum, a meeting hall, and a showplace for art shows, book signings, and children's activities. Book signings by Curtis Wilkie, author of *The Fall of the House of Zeus*, and Susan Haltom, co author of *One Writer's Garden: Eudora Welty's Home Place*, have been featured at the restored depot. This project was possible through a grant from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History.

### **Beta Chapter**

On Saturday, October 1, the Beta Chapter of DKG participated in the Northside Elementary School Carnival in Clinton, MS. Beta set up a table at the carnival where a representative of the Clinton Police Department handed out fingerprinting packets to parents. While the parents visited with the policeman, the children were able to draw a ticket to win either a book or a bookmark. Over 100 books donated by the members of Beta and 200 bookmarks were given away that day! Members assisting at the carnival were Ann McFarland, Ruthie Stevenson, Claudia Steele (along with 2 of her MC students), and Sylvia Haver. It was a fun way to share our love for literacy with the students.

### **Attention: Past Leadership Management Seminar Participants**

If you have attended Zeta State Leadership Management Seminar, please stop by the LMS Table located near Registration at your District Meeting. We would like to give a special recognition to all past participants and request your help in helping us promote the 2013 Leadership Management Seminar. Make plans now to attend your District Meeting!



LMS 2011 Graduates L-R: Ganeath Brewer, Janet Conley, Janice Garrett, Linda Necaize, Susan Necaize, Debra Rogers, Marsha Shaddock, Vickie Walsh, Cathy Kemp (not pictured)

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
**Zeta State District Meetings**  
*Strengthen Our Wings: Rediscover, Revitalize, Restructure*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

Indicate which meeting you will be attending:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Southern District (March 3, 2012), First Baptist Church, Moss Point  
\_\_\_\_\_ Northern District (March 10, 2012), Hernando United Methodist Church, Hernando  
\_\_\_\_\_ Central District (March 24, 2012), Brandon High School, Brandon

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

Southern District Deadline: postmarked February 17, 2012

Northern District Deadline: postmarked February 24, 2012

Central District Deadline: postmarked March 9, 2012

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

Mail Registration Forms to:

<u>Northern District</u>	<u>Southern District</u>	<u>Central District</u>
Janet Conley	Sydney Fletcher	Cynthia Keith
6390 Hwy 305	1203 Lake Ave.	P.O. Box 182
Coldwater, MS 38618	Pascagoula, MS 39567	Magee, MS 39111

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\_\_\_\_\_ No

