DKG: Opportunity, Wisdom, Leadership

The 2014 Zeta State District Meetings
from Linda Hollingsworth

DKG: Opportunity, Wisdom, Leadership…the biennium theme set by our Zeta State President, Nancy Jay, speaks to all of us in different ways! Separately, each word of this phrase is powerful and strong, conjuring up various meanings but for this biennium theme……these words could mean….. “Step out, take a chance, do something new, get involved, break out of the mold, open the door to opportunities, become a leader, be wise…………”!

In the next month, the Zeta State District Meetings for the Northern, Southern and Central districts will begin across our state! Within these meetings are opportunities for wisdom and leadership to grow. It is a time to “see” our DKG Mission Statement in action……..“promoting the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education”!

The first step......make the decision to join your district in this “gathering”. Fill out that registration form and send it in to the district registrar….today! You have now made the most important step toward the “opportunities” that await you at the district meetings. Make sure that you bring along with you those brand new members to their very first district meeting!

From the moment you step into the registration area, it is alive with the joy of seeing sisters you may have not seen in awhile…time for some “ole time fellowship, howdy-ing and hugging”….! Maybe take a little time to browse the Share the Future auction items, pick up some refreshments and find a seat just in time to be a part of the General Session.

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The 2014 Zeta State District Meetings will set the stage for a wonderful International Project …”SEE: Supporting Early Career Educators”. We are part of a challenging career and retaining quality teachers is an issue both here and across the world. We want to be a part of encouraging new teachers to stay in the field and to not leave it after a short time. SEE encourages members/chapters to be in support of early career educators in a variety of creative ways. We are asking that each chapter sponsor at least one young educator for their district meeting. Get that Registration form filled out, pay their registration fee and bring them to the meeting. During the General Session, each young woman will be recognized by name and her sponsoring chapter. Now, you don’t want your chapter be left out, so do your part to start, really start, the SEE project within your own chapter. Sponsoring will get you started! There will be SEE information available to each chapter president at each district meeting.

The Chapters “shine” in the General Session! The Chapter roll call always is an exciting time because the members from each chapter are represented by the number in attendance. It is always fun to see which chapter can bring the most members! Short reports are given by the State Committees and chapters are honored for their hard work and accomplishments throughout the year. The General Session sets the stage for an informative and inspiring day of opportunities!

Informative sessions are Opportunities to learn new things, they give us the Wisdom to know we can grow and provide Leadership to others. There are two concurrent session groups scheduled for after the General Session…..4 in each group. Non-Society sessions are always a surprise and a “potpourri” of information from one to the next! The “fun” is in the choosing that ONE session to attend during the first group. The opportunity for growth and learning is present, as well as, new ideas and resource people for chapter programs….down the road! The Society sessions are always informative that help us to create better chapters and give us the wisdom for what we can do to improve.

After the sessions…….gathering together for the Celebration Luncheon is probably the ”sweetest ” time of the day…..the beautiful tables, the joy of watching everyone gather, one by one, visiting with one another, reminiscing….the coming together as one purposeful group….with one mission! Within this time, we will share a wonderful meal, listen and “glean” from our state president, learn which chapters are Honor Chapters, share a moment of memory for those no longer with us and stand together with one voice singing, “The Delta Kappa Gamma Song” ……. something amazing to behold!

We are a professional honor society for women educators, a sisterhood, we have a mission…..call it what you want …the coming together of Delta Kappa Gamma members is a celebration of who we are, what we do and what we stand for and believe! Yes, the Opportunities are numerous, the Wisdom of the group is amazing and the Leadership quality abounds for us to see what we CAN be and DO! Step out…move outside your local chapter and be a participant in this special day……be present at YOUR district meeting! “OWL” see you there!
President's Message...
from Nancy Jay,
Zeta State President

It’s 2014 and I welcome you to a new year with Opportunities in our Society to grow in Wisdom and Leadership. The District Meetings are approaching and I hope you are making plans to attend and take advantage of the sessions being presented. Zeta State’s 2nd Vice President, District Directors, and Assistant District Directors are in the process of finalizing details to make these meetings the best ever! Special thanks go to Linda Hollingsworth, Angie Quinn, Janice Garrett, Carol Walker, Sue Keen, Joanna Alston, and Sarajane Smith.

At each of the District Meetings, I will be presenting the session, As the SAP Rises, which will address developing/revising chapter level Strategic Action Plans (SAP). Just as the SAP of a tree is helpful for the continued life of the tree, the SAP of each chapter is helpful for the continued life of the chapter; and membership plays a most important role in the Strategic Action Plan.

As you know, my #1 Zeta State goal is “Each chapter shall consider membership diversity in recruiting new members.” One way to enhance this goal is to think about factors that represent each chapter’s membership composition i.e. ages of members, race, culture, subject areas taught, early-career educators, retired teachers, educational levels such as pre-school, kindergarten, elementary, middle school, junior high, high school, college, administrators, coaches, teachers of the arts and technology, home-school educators, on-line educators, and school support personnel. All lead to a better appreciation of the contributions that diversity brings to our Society. I encourage Zeta State chapters to strive to be representative of all aspects of education and all inclusive in their membership. Indeed, membership plays an important role as DKG positively impacts education throughout Mississippi and the world.

“OWL” be looking for you at the District Meetings.
Northern District Meeting ~ March 1, 2014
Blue Mountain College
Blue Mountain, Mississippi

1. Workshop Sessions:
   Society Sessions
   As the SAP Rises
   Blueprint for Developing Chapter Leaders
   Leadership Committee
   Membership Committee
   Registration Deadline is February 15th!

2. Southern District Meeting ~ March 15, 2014
   *Cafeteria and Math & Computer Science Building
   MGCCC/Jefferson Davis Campus
   Gulfport, Mississippi

   Workshop Sessions:
   Society Sessions
   As the SAP Rises
   Blueprint for Developing Chapter Leaders
   Leadership Committee
   Membership Committee
   Non-Society Sessions
   Bow Making!
   Get in touch with your creative side by making bows. You'll be surprised by how easily it can be done! Supplies will be provided. Limit of 20 participants.
Heart Healthy Families: Get Cooking and Get Moving ...Learn how we as women can influence our families’ heart health through both meals and exercise. Secrets from a Registered Nurse!

Making Special Candles
Learn to make special candles using vellum printed with a design. The vellum is bonded to the candle and embellished, making the candle a personalized craft. These can be used to commemorate weddings, birthdays, and other special occasions. They also make great gifts if personalized with monograms, pictures, poems, etc. Supplies will be provided. Limit of 20 participants.

Oral History
What is it?
Why is it important to us?
Come and learn the how, what, and why from an expert in the field.

Registration Deadline is March 1st!

CENTRAL DISTRICT MEETING ~ April 5, 2014
*Anderson Hall
Hinds CC Nursing & Allied Health Center
Jackson, Mississippi

Workshop Sessions:

Society Sessions
As the SAP Rises
Blueprint for Developing Chapter Leaders
Leadership Committee
Membership Committee

Non-Society Sessions
Mind, Body, Medicine

This presentation provides an introduction to the impact of mind/ body interactions on physiologic resilience. The focus is on integrating self-care management interventions into the traditional medical treatment plan. At the end of the session you will be able to define Mind Body Medicine and demonstrate the relaxation response, relaxing breathing, mindful breathing, mindful walking, and mindful eating.

Landscape Ideas and Tips

What is the latest hot topic in residential landscape design? What plants are tried and true? What are new plant ideas for the garden? Martha Hill will share these ideas and others that will make your landscape POP this spring!

Emergency Preparedness

Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will give a presentation on emergency preparedness and what you can do at the individual, family and community levels. The presentation will cover all the hazards we face in Mississippi and what the counties, the state and the federal government can provide in disasters.

Flannery O'Connor: In Her Own Words

“Flannery O'Connor: In Her Own Words” weaves the gems of O'Connor’s nonfiction prose into a dramatic monologue that touches many of her favorite topics and invites the audience to visit with Mary Flannery and hear her opinions as only she can deliver them.

Registration Deadline is March 22nd!
The Headquarters Committee needs your HELP!

As most of you know the Headquarters Committee normally sponsors a SILENT AUCTION at
the meetings above the chapter level. In the past, monies from these auctions have been used to
help with Headquarters expenses or with other activities of Zeta State. This year part of these
funds will be used to help with registration for first timers at the state convention. Drawings
will be conducted at the conclusion of the convention to see who the lucky first timers are. Please
help us make this a successful and fun project for all our members by your involvement and
support at the birthday luncheon at the district meetings when the auctions are conducted. The
First Timers must be present to win at the state convention. In order for this to be successful
we are asking that members participate in the auctions as well as encourage first timers to attend
meetings above the chapter level. Tickets for the auction can be purchased at the meetings
during registration: $1.00 for 1 ticket, $10.00 for 11 tickets, and $20.00 for 22 tickets during
registration. See you at the District Meetings!

RED ROSE AWARD

Reminder! Please make sure all required materials from your RED ROSE AWARD recipient are
submitted for chapter recognition at the District meetings to the Headquarters Committee Chair, Lynn
Holliday. Previously a memo was sent to the chapter presidents with the necessary requirements for
selecting the non-member recipient. Please remember the deadline for submission is February 1.

New design Red Rose pins will also be available for $10.00 at each of the District meetings for future
Red Rose Award presentations. Please make your chapter check out to Zeta State, memo Red Rose pin,
if you are interested in purchasing a pin(s) at registration. Pins can also be purchased anytime by
contacting Lynn Holliday, Headquarters Committee Chair.
We need to support.................
The International Project....
“SEE: Support Early-career Educators”

What is in it for us ........the Strengthening of our Society, teachers supporting teachers, passing on the positive side of education, and more! We want to support these early-career educators with 5 or less years of experience.....many teachers leave after the first year, or soon thereafter because of lack of support......even among their peer teachers.

What can we do as DKG Educators! Get them before the damage is done!

We want our 3 District Meetings to be the “launching pad” to finding EC Educators!

We are asking each CHAPTER to bring 1 early-career educator to their District Meeting! Just think.... if each Chapter in our state brings one young teacher, how many lives that will touch for DKG and the future of education!

Chapter Presidents....You are the “key”!

We enlist you to get your chapter behind this and seek out an early career educator in your area to bring...

Fill out their Registration form....pay the fee for them and bring them.

They will have a special recognition at this meeting, receive a small token and meet the greatest educators in the world!

Even if you aren’t having a chapter meeting before your District Meeting....your can plan this by emails!!!! So, do your part for DKG, your chapter and these educators! Don’t be left out....fulfill an International Project!
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
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