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Mississippi

# Zeta Data



January 18, 2015

## WELCOME, BECKY!

By Toni Cook



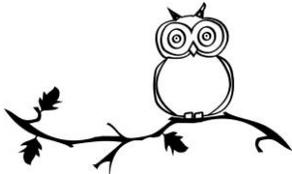
We are so excited to have Becky Sadowski, Southeast Regional Director, as our International Representative during the Zeta State Convention on April 10-11, 2015.

Becky is retired from the Shelby County School District. Before her retirement she had a wonderful career in education beginning as an elementary teacher for the gifted in the Memphis City Schools and ending as the Educational Consultant for Shelby County Schools. In between, she taught first and third grade students, became a lead teacher, and then became the Special Education Supervisor for the Memphis City Schools. Eighteen years later, she moved to Lambuth University where she was head of the School of Education and Instructor in Education. Next, Becky became the Special Education Specialist and then the Educational Consultant for the Shelby County Schools. She kept her ties with Lambuth University as an online instructor in education until she retired in 2010.

Becky is quick to acknowledge the influence Delta Kappa Gamma has had on her both professional and personally. She became a member in 1990 and has been active at all levels since. She served as Alpha Lambda Chapter President and Xi State President. Becky didn't stop there. She has been very active at the Regional level, as well. Serving on the SER Steering Committee (2001), giving the keynote speech (2005) and presenting workshops (2007, 2013) are just a few of the ways she has participated at the regional level. She attended Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar in 1999 and has been busy at the International level since. She has served on the International Executive Board (2003-2005), the Leadership Development Committee (2009-2012), and Membership Committee Chair (2012-2014). She is currently serving as Southeast Regional Director.

Although Delta Kappa Gamma is a very important part of her life, she is also involved in many facet of her community. She is a member of Jackson First United Methodist Church and is currently serving on the Staff/Parish Relations Committee. She is also a member of the University of Memphis Lambuth Campus Alumni Board. Becky resides in Brownsville, Tennessee with her husband, Bob and spends as much time as she can with her precious grandchildren.

Becky will present a workshop at the State Convention entitled "Leadership...Not a Spectator Sport!" Make plans now to come and meet our International Representative!



**DKG: Opportunity, Wisdom, Leadership**

Nancy Jay, Zeta State President

**Yoo-Hoo!** What an exciting time of year it is! 2015 brings a new calendar year along with new opportunities for Zeta State members to grow professionally and personally.

**Whooo's** planning to attend the Zeta State Convention (April 10-11) in Olive Branch? The Convention will provide opportunities for members to grow in wisdom and leadership by participating in the Pre-Convention Seminar at The Dixon Gallery and Gardens with lunch at the Historic Collierville Town Square in addition to enjoyable and exciting (DKG and Non-DKG) break out sessions. **Whooo** says learning can't be fun?

**Hoot, Hoot, Hooray!** The money owl will be at the Convention, too! Three (3) "First Timers" from each district will win \$100 to help with their convention expenses.

Now, this is something to "**Hoot**" about...

The DKG Southeast Regional Director, Becky Sadowski, will be our International guest and she will be leading the break out session, "Leadership...Not a Spectator Sport!"

And speaking of leadership opportunities....**Whooo's** your chapter sending to the Zeta State Leadership Management Seminar at Eagle Ridge June 14-17? One of the most refreshing and inspiring opportunities I have experienced as Zeta State President was being a part of the Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar in Austin, TX. I came away with a renewed spirit of our Society's seven purposes and a better sense of well-being. I know you'll feel refreshed and inspired by participating in the Zeta State LMS experience. Then off we go to the Southeast Regional Conference July 15-18, 2015. The Zeta State **Parliament** (of owls) will be winging its way to Savannah, GA. So, come and be a part of what's happening in our Society. **Whooo me?** Yes, YOU!

Let's **Be Wise!** Our membership in The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is a means for us, as teachers, to demonstrate our passion for continual learning in ways that include supporting new teachers and inspiring students to want to learn. We are **owl together** in our mission *to promote professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.*



In conclusion, a little humor...

**Knock, Knock.**

**Who's There?**

**Owl.**

**Owl who?**

**Owl be looking for you at the Convention!**

## **From Tracey Crawford, Zeta State 1st VP:**

Hope you have saved the date  
Because Convention is here!  
2015 and Zeta State,  
We want to hear you cheer!!

Nancy says, "OWL be seeing you!"  
and I hope you do appear.  
Whispering Pines is the place  
So pack all your DKG gear.

Great sessions are planned,  
Food and speakers galore.  
Now don't forget all of the-  
Awards, friends, and more!

Now, "Whoo's, sending in their registration?" I know I am!  
See you on April 10th!

# Zeta State Officer Nominees for 2015-2017

## Nominee for Zeta State President – Tracey Crawford, Alpha Chi Chapter



Tracey joined Alpha Chi Chapter in 2004 and has been an active member ever since. She is currently serving as Chapter Newsletter Editor. She has served as Vice-President and President. She attended Zeta State Leadership Management Seminar in 2007, and her chapter chose her as Woman of Distinction in 2009.

Tracey has served Zeta State on the state level in many ways. She was on the Membership Committee and chaired the Communications Committee in 2008. She served as Central Assistant District Director 2009 and as Central District Director 2011. She is currently serving as Zeta State First Vice-President and Educational Excellence Committee Chairman. She has enjoyed attending the different district meetings and state conventions through the years, and recently attended the

International Convention in Indiana this past summer.

Tracey has been teaching school for 23 years and is currently the librarian at Mendenhall Elementary School. She is a graduate of USM and received the Kaigler-Lamont Award from USM in 2014. Tracey has been married to Randy for 25 years and they have two daughters, Laurel, 19 and Christa, 15. They reside in Magee.

## Nominee for Zeta State First Vice President – Linda Hollingsworth, Pi Chapter



Linda has been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma since 1984. First initiated into Phi Chapter, she then transferred to Pi Chapter after moving to Central Mississippi. Serving and chairing numerous chapter committees, Linda has also held the offices of President, First and Second Vice President and Corresponding Secretary. She is a graduate of the 2003 Leadership Management Seminar and was Pi Chapter's Woman of Distinction in 2007. At present, Linda serves her chapter as the SEE Committee consultant.

Linda has been working at the state level since 2003. She has served and chaired the Music Committee and served on the 2005 Ad Hoc Katrina Relief Committee. She was Central Assistant District Director in '07-'09 and Central District Director in '09-'11. Linda is presently serving as Zeta

State Second Vice President. She is passionate about the International SEE Project which has led the state to adopt this as a project.

At the International level, Linda has served as Hostess for workshops, led the singing for the General Sessions and participated in skits for both Regional and International meetings. She has attended all Regional Conferences and two International Conventions; most recently the 2014 in Indianapolis. Linda has also been awarded a Cornetet award for \$1500, the Jubilee Award for \$1000 for "Concept Reading" Project and most recently \$1000 from the Educational Excellence committee for "Creating Readers for Life" project.

Linda has taught for 38 years and currently teaches 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade math at Simpson County Academy, where she even gets to teach her grandson, Seth. She is a graduate of MUW and received her Master's Degree from the University of Alabama. On a personal note, Linda has been married to John for 44 years and they reside in Mendenhall. They have two children and 4 grandchildren. She is very active in church, community and charitable activities.

## Nominee for Zeta State Second Vice President – Joanna Alston, Alpha Lambda Chapter



As a member of Alpha Lambda chapter, Joanna has served as President, First Vice President, and Corresponding Secretary. She has also served as member of the Music and Communications Committees and currently serves as member of Membership and Supporting Early-Career Educators (SEE) Committees. She is also Chair of the Nominations Committee. She was Alpha Lambda's Woman of Distinction in 2011.

An active participant in Zeta State, Joanna has served as Southern District Director and Music Representative on the Educational Excellence Committee and is a 2009 graduate of Leadership Management Seminar. Joanna regularly attends both regional and international meetings, has served as workshop facilitator, and participates in singing at all levels of the Society.

Joanna is in her thirteenth year as a Business and Office Technology Instructor at MGCCC—Jefferson Davis Campus and is a second-year doctoral student in the Adult Education program at The University of Southern Mississippi. She has previously taught at both the high school and middle school levels as well as at Pearl River Community College.

#### **Nominee for Zeta State Recording Secretary – Stephanie Jones, Alpha Lambda Chapter**



Stephanie has been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma since 2005. As a member of Alpha Lambda chapter she has served as President and Corresponding Secretary, and is currently serving as First Vice President. She has also served as member of the Membership and Chapter Rules Committee, as well as Chair of the Research and Nominations Committees. She currently serves as a member of the Nominations, Chapter Rules, and S.E.E. Committees, as well as Chair of the Educational Excellence Committee. She was Alpha Lambda's Woman of Distinction in 2013.

At the State level, Stephanie has been a member of the Membership Committee and the Communications & Publicity Committee. She served as the Registrar/Treasurer for the Southern District Meeting in 2014. She attended the Leadership Management Seminar in 2009. Stephanie has attended several Regional Conferences and International Conventions since she joined the Society and has served as a workshop facilitator.

Stephanie has a B.S. in Biological Sciences from the University of Alabama at Birmingham and an M.S. in Biological Sciences from the University of South Alabama. She taught Biology and Anatomy and Physiology for twelve years at MGCCC-Jackson County Campus. She is currently retired due to disability, but continues to participate actively in the Society.

#### **Nominee for Northern District Director – Janice Garrett, Eta Chapter**



Janice has been a member of Eta Chapter since 2004. She served on many chapter committees and has chaired the following committees: Bylaws, Professional Affairs, Personal Growth and Services, Educational Excellence and Nominations. She served as First Vice-President in 2008 and served as President in 2010. She attended Zeta State Leadership Management Seminar in 2011 and was chosen Woman of Distinction in 2012.

At the state level, Janice served on the Membership Committee in 2011 and as Northern Assistant District Director in 2013.

Janice is currently retired after working in the public school forum for 28 years. She held media specialist positions on both elementary and high school levels, worked as reference librarian at Mississippi State University, and law librarian with local Tupelo firm. She developed libraries in industrial plants and Northeast MS Daily Journal. She also conducted workshops for public librarians and school media specialists.

#### **Nominee for Northern Assistant District Director – Janet Conley, Alpha Delta Chapter**



Janet currently serves as counselor at the Senatobia/Tate County OLC (alternative school for K-12 students with behavior problems as well as GED students from both school districts). She is a National Board Certified Counselor and National Board Certified School Counselor.

Janet earned a B.S. in Home Economics Education from MSCW, M.Ed. in Counselor Education from Mississippi State and Ed.S. in Counselor Education from Ole Miss. She is in her fourth-sixth year in education and has been a classroom teacher, school psychologist and/or school counselor in Florida, Indiana, and Mississippi.

Janet was initiated into DKG October, 1989 in Florida and served on several committees, was second vice president and chapter treasurer. Since returning home to Mississippi in 2001, she has been an active member of Alpha Delta Chapter serving on various committees and as first vice president. She is currently yearbook editor and serving her third biennium as chapter president.

For Zeta State, Janet has served on Professional Affairs, 2007; Scholarship, 2009; By-Laws and Standing Rules, 2011; and currently chairs the By-Laws and Standing Rules Committee. She is a 2011 Leadership Management Seminar graduate and has attended district, state and regional conferences.

#### **Nominee for Central District Director – Janet Berg, Gamma Chapter**



A member of Delta Kappa Gamma for 15 years, Janet has served on various chapter committees, served as Communications Chairman, and was chapter treasurer for several years. Currently, she is serving a second biennium as Gamma Chapter President. In 2011, she was named Gamma Chapter's Woman of Distinction.

In 2009, Janet established the [www.gammachapter.net](http://www.gammachapter.net) website to keep members informed through technology. In addition to serving her chapter as webmaster, she publishes *GammaGrams*, Gamma Chapter's newsletter.

She has presented programs at her local chapter, at meetings in Zeta State's three districts, and at Zeta State Convention. Janet continues to serve on the Mary Stuart Harmon Scholarship Board of Trustees, and she has served as Zeta State Convention Registration Chairman for the last four biennia.

Janet has attended three International Conventions—Toronto, San Diego, and New York City.

After teaching in Meridian and Lauderdale County Public Schools, Janet is joyfully retired and pursuing various activities of interest, including certification as a forklift driver and basic carpentry.

#### **Nominee for Central Assistant District Director - Dr. Betsy Sullivan, Pi Chapter**



Betsy has been an active member of the DKG for more than 20 years. She has served as corresponding secretary, first vice-president and president of Pi Chapter, as well as chairing many of the chapter committees.

On the state level Betsy has served as assistant central district director, nominations committee member and chair, communications chair, and research committee representative. Betsy received all three state scholarships and the international scholarship as she pursued her doctorate degree.

She currently teaches at Madison Central High School in Madison, MS, and is an adjunct instructor at Mississippi College.

#### **Nominee for Southern District Director – Sarajane Smith, Psi Chapter**



Sarajane has been a member of Psi Chapter since 1985. She has held many offices in her chapter. She has served as Yearbook Editor, Second Vice-President, and two terms as Chapter President.

On the state level, Sarajane has served on the Zeta State Standing Rules and Bylaws Committee and the Scholarship Committee. She is currently serving as Southern Assistant District Director.

Sarajane retired after spending 33 years in elementary education. She now volunteers at the church food pantry and works with children at her church. Sarajane enjoys traveling, bird watching, and Delta Kappa Gamma.

## **Nominee for Southern Assistant District Director – Sybil Wilner, Alpha Nu**



Sybil became a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in 2006. She has served as president and treasurer of her local chapter, Alpha Nu. She is currently serving as Zeta State Recording Secretary.

At the state level, Sybil has served on the Membership committee and has presented at the Southern District Meeting to promote membership in Delta Kappa Gamma. She considers herself an organized, hard-working, and self-motivated member of Delta Kappa Gamma who puts forth great effort into strengthening the organization.

Sybil has been an educator in the Pascagoula School District for the past 28 years. She received her teaching degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and is a National Board Certified teacher. She has been awarded recognition from her school, district, state, and community for achievements such as: District Teacher of the Year, First Class Teacher for Mississippi, American Legion Educator for Mississippi, and Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year.

Family is very important to Sybil. She has been married to Ron Wilner for 35 years. Ron and she live in the Hurley community in Jackson County. They have a son, Andrew, a daughter-in-law, Leanna, and two beautiful grandchildren, Alec and Ali.

## **Zeta State Nominations Committee for 2015-2017**

### **Southern District – Bettie Fore, Alpha Beta**

Bettie was initiated into Alpha Delta Chapter in 1996, served as president, and chosen as Woman of Distinction. At the present she is serving her second term as president of Alpha Beta Chapter. She attended Zeta State Leadership Management Seminar in 2001.

On the state level she has served on and chaired Zeta State Standing Rules and Bylaws Committee and the Finance Committee. She is presently serving as the Professional Affairs Representative on the Educational Excellence Committee.

Bettie was a classroom teacher for 15 years and a high school librarian for 21. Now she is happily retired!!

### **Central District – Carol Rigby, Chi Chapter**

Carol S. Rigby has been an active member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Chi Chapter, and Zeta state since 1990. She has served on the communications, finance, by-laws, research, nominations, and membership committees within her chapter, and was President of Chi Chapter for the 1996-1998 biennium. She was selected as Chi Chapter's Woman of Distinction in 1999 and 2013. At the state level, Carol was a member of the 1997 Zeta State Leadership Management Seminar. She has served on the state finance, Leadership Development and Share the Future committee. During 1997-1999 she was the Central District Director. She has attended all Northern and Southern District meetings from 1997-2011, and all Central District meeting 1997 to present, and all Zeta State conventions since 1992. During the 1999-2001 Biennium she served as first Vice-president of Zeta state, and 2001-2003 served as the Zeta state President.

At the Regional and International levels, Carol has attended all southeast regional conferences and International conventions since 1995. In July of 1999, she participated in the Golden Gift leadership Management seminar in Austin. Carol served on the International Expansion committee, during the 2000-2002 biennium, and the Golden Gift Fund International committee for 2002-2004. During the biennium, 2004-2006 she served as the chair of the Golden Gift Fund committee.

From 1992-2014, Carol served as Headmaster of Copiah Academy, a 3K-12 grade independent school in Gallman, Mississippi, with over 850 students. She has been in education since 1971. Carol is the first woman to have served on the Academy Activities Commission and the only woman to serve as its president.

Carol participated in two educational delegations aboard to Moscow and St. Petersburg in 2013 and to Finland in 2014. After retiring from Copiah in 2014, Carol has enjoyed traveling and beginning her consulting business, RSLORAC, LLC.

### **Northern District – Claire Craig, Alpha Iota**

Claire has been an active member of Alpha Iota since she joined Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. She has served on many committees and held several offices including President from 2010-2014. She was chosen as Woman of Distinction in 2013.

She has been active at the state level, as well, most recently serving as Personal Growth and Services Representative on the Education Excellence Committee for the 2011-2013 biennium, where she was in charge of the Woman of Distinction recognition program at State Convention.

Before retiring, Claire was an educator for 28 years. She began her career as a High School English and ended it as an Assistant Principal.

## **Zeta State Convention**

### **Break-out Sessions Agenda 2014**

#### **DKG sessions:**

- SEE Project- Linda Hollingsworth
- International Speaker- Becky Sadowski
- Parent's Campaign- Nancy Loome
- Google Docs- Betsy Sullivan/ Aleta Sullivan

#### **Non- DKG sessions:**

- MS Tourism- Paige Hunt (will have a speaker for us)
- Internet Copyright/Hold Harmless- Rachel Cannady (MSU Librarian)
- MEMA- Greg Flynn
- "Forbidden, Hidden, Forgotten"- Women Soldiers of the Civil War- Shelby Harriel

## **Preconvention Activities!**

We invite you to join us on April 10, 2015 for the preconvention activities. In the comfort of a nice coach we will be taken to the Dixon Museum. You will have the opportunity to see many different things. Then on to lunch in a place that has many really cute shops! You will want to check them out. We will be back in time for the Presidents update. All of this for only \$65.  
Bettie Fore Professional Affairs Rep.

## Convention 2015 “First Timers”

It is important that members go beyond the chapter level to learn what our organization is really about. In an effort to encourage members to do that, the Headquarters Committee designated part of the proceeds from the silent auction at the district meetings be used to encourage first timers to participate in the 2015 state convention. For “First Timers” to be eligible for the drawing they should be aware of the following criteria:

- The “first timer” block is marked on the registration form
- The “first timer” must be present to win
- The drawing will take place at the Banquet
- 3 “first timers” from each district will be drawn
- Each “first timer’s” name that is drawn will receive \$100

As members of the Headquarters Committee we hope that this will encourage each of you who have not attended a convention before to attend and participate in the sessions, workshops, and meal functions. Make your hotel reservations early, attend the Pre-Convention seminar and enjoy the shopping in the nearby areas.

Lynn Holliday, Headquarters Committee Chair

## *Zeta State Bulletin Board*

The bulletin board features four notices:

- ZETA STATE SCHOLARSHIP**  
OWL bet there is at least one member in your chapter that is furthering her education. Zeta State has scholarships available to help. If she has been a member for five years, she can apply for the Amanda Lowther Scholarship in the amount of two thousand dollars. If she has been a member for three years, she can apply for the Clytee Evans Scholarship in the amount of one thousand dollars. Scholarship information (look under Committees-Scholarships) and application (under Forms-Form 20) can be downloaded from the Zeta State Website ([www.zetastatedkg.org](http://www.zetastatedkg.org)).  
Deadline: February 1st !!!!!
- Zeta State Achievement Award Recommendation Form (Form1)**  
Due by February 1, 2015.  
Submit the recommendation form to:  
[tedwards@lauderdale.k12.ms.us](mailto:tedwards@lauderdale.k12.ms.us)  
OR  
Teri Edwards, Awards Committee Chairman  
166 Dees Road  
Meridian, MS 39301  
The Zeta State Achievement Award will be presented at the Zeta State Convention.
- Please be sure and send in the necrology report for all deaths from February 1, 2014 until present so that we can properly honor your deceased members at our state convention.**
- Please be sure and send in the necrology report for all deaths from February 1, 2014 until present so that we can properly honor your deceased members at our state convention.**