Strengthen our Wings: Rediscover, Revitalize, Restructure from Zeta State President Karen Fayard

I hope that all of you who are actively teaching had a great start to this new school year! I know that those of you who are retired always have a great start to any school year. The officers and committee chairmen met at our new headquarters in Byram, August 18th, to make our plans for this final year of the biennium. Zeta State will be very busy this year especially with planning the state convention. Although Isaac put a “damper” on things for some of us, Zeta State did not let it hamper our work. Saturday, September 8th, our convention chairman, registrar, and treasurer met on the Coast at the Courtyard Marriott with the executive secretary, first vice president, and me, to make preliminary plans for the state convention, April 5-6, 2013. We are very excited about hosting the convention in Gulfport and have great plans for you. I hope everyone has marked their calendars for this event.

“Revitalizing” our chapters through the initiation of new members is essential to the growth of the Society at all levels. The Constitution says, “An active member shall be a woman who is employed as a professional educator at the time of her election or has been retired from an educational position” (International Constitution Article III Section B number 2). The interpretation of professional educator is left to the chapter. It is important that your new members be orientated before initiation and mentored after initiation! Look at the demographics of your chapter and fill the voids. One of the goals for this biennium is that each chapter have a net increase of four members. Let’s keep our current members and bring in at least four new ones. Bring those new members to convention!

The international Educational Excellence Committee’s (EEC) motion at the 2012 international convention, to make “Support for Early-Career Educators” a second international project in addition to “Schools for Africa” passed. 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 involved in some form of mentoring for a number of years. It 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 have a “Support of Early-Career Educators” project. Start small and let it grow!

It is important that chapters continue to support the international projects. Another Zeta State goal 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 am pleased that so many state officers, committee chairmen and past presidents were invited to visit chapters last year. If your chapter has not had a visit, please contact me, and I will help get you a visitor. Remember this is any easy point to earn on the way to achieving Honor Chapter status.

Karen on the Beach in front of the Courtyard Marriott, Gulfport

1ST VICE PRESIDENTS TRAINING
from Toni Cook
Thirty newly elected first vice presidents met during June at Zeta State Leadership Training and received information to carry out their responsibilities over the next biennium. Duties were discussed, restructuring was explained, chapter rules were reviewed and programs/projects were explored. Whew! A lot was covered. The two most important areas covered were honor chapter criteria and yearbook criteria. Everyone left with a notebook and lots of ideas to share when planning the upcoming year.

Zeta State Convention Planning Has Begun! from Toni Cook
The Educational Excellence Committee is working hard to create a fabulous pre-convention, wonderful workshop sessions, and beautiful music for all. Please make plans to join us April 5th & 6th on the gorgeous Gulf Coast and experience “genuine spiritual fellowship” with key women educators across the state.

Don’t forget to send your yearbooks in by December 1st!!

June 2012 in Brandon!
from Janis McCoy

Over 120 chapter officers gathered at Stonebridge Elementary School in mid-June to take advantage of the Chapter Leader’s Retreat. This year’s officer training was a departure from previous sessions, and seems to have been a success.
Zeta State Officers and Committees provided training for Chapter presidents and treasurers and sessions for leaders over membership and communications. The Retreat began Friday night with dessert and an overview; with training session on Saturday.

A special thanks goes to Linda Hollingsworth for finding this wonderful location, making arrangements for food, and favors for participants.

Now the Leadership Development Committee is in the process of making plans for State Convention and making arrangements for the Leadership Management Seminar to be conducted in June, 2013. The Committee will be meeting in October to set the date and site and making program adjustments for the Leadership Seminar.

“Singing friends are forever friends.” from Joanna Alston

These are the words 2010-2012 International Music Representative Pat Taylor used to greet us at our first chorus rehearsal in New York. How very true! I've been singing for 30 years and have experienced this in my own life but never put it into words. Music creates a bond that stays with us, and it's one of the things that really drew me to DKG. Aside from church, where does one go in the 21st Century to find groups who make music a regular part of their gatherings? I haven't found many.

I hope that you will consider using your singing talents and other musical abilities at our upcoming Zeta State Convention. We will once again have a chorus singing at the Presidents' Banquet as well as other opportunities for members to participate. Please feel free to email me at joanna.alston@gmail.com with your name and other contact information; I would enjoy the chance to discuss your musical contribution and the possibility of sharing it with Zeta State!

Delta Kappa Gamma is special for many reasons, one of them being its integration of music into the core of the Society. Let’s become ‘forever friends’ through DKG music!

**BEDENBAUGH REPRESENTS USA**

Dr. Angela O. Bedenbaugh of Zeta State represented the United States in a panel discussion which contrasted education in the U.S. with education in Iceland and Costa Rica. One big difference was that the unified systems in Iceland and Costa Rica allow changes to take place more rapidly because those nations lack the layers of control which exist in the U.S. Instead of control of schools being divided between the federal government, state government, district boards and the state departments of education there is one national government which makes education decisions. In Iceland the minister of education for the nation is a Delta Kappa Gamma member and individual teachers have much more influence on curriculum and textbook selection. The Icelandic member of the panel concluded "maybe smaller is better."
During the discussion, questions about charter schools in the U.S. was raised by an Alabama member. Dr. Bedenbaugh was subsequently contacted by members from North Carolina and Georgia about charter schools. The complexity of issues raised by having charter schools ranged from the effect on state teacher retirement funds to selection of students (the charter can refuse to take special needs students) to effect on school district funding. Districts with bonded indebtedness would have reduced revenue to pay off the bonds.

U.S. FORUM MAKES POWERPOINT PRESENTATION MATERIALS AVAILABLE FOR CHAPTER AND STATE MEETINGS

Speakers at the U. S. Forum’s National Legislative Seminar agreed to allow their prepared PowerPoint presentations to be used at other meetings. The speakers whose prepared PowerPoint presentations are available represented AARP, the American Heart Association (AHA), the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare (NCPSSM), the National Women’s History Museum, American Association of University Women, the Education Trust, Reading Is Fundamental, and She Should Run/Women’s Campaign Fund. Anyone wishing to review and or use any of these presentations should contact Dr. Angela Bedenbaugh by email at Angela.Bedenbaugh@usm.edu or by letter to 63 Suggs Road, Hattiesburg, MS 39402.

Additionally, the National Women’s History Museum website www.NWHM.org contains several packaged programs as well as program suggestions which lend themselves to use at chapter meetings. The online exhibits could be used for programs as well as the teaching materials and historical information under the tab “Education and Resources.”

TO: Zeta State Chapters
FROM: Nancy Jay, Awards Committee
RE: Achievement Award Recommendation (Form 1)
DATE: February 1, 2013
Scholarships Available!!!
from Rosemary Woullard

Zeta State has money available for the Clytee Evans $1000 dollar scholarship and the Amanda Lowther $2,000 scholarship. Delta kappa Gamma members may apply for one or both scholarships with separate applications submitted for each. Applicants must have been members for three years to receive the Clytee Evans Scholarship and five years to receive the Amanda Lowther scholarship.

Applicants are asked to apply online; the forms are readily available on the Zeta State Website. The completed forms are to be sent by email to Zeta State Scholarship Chairman, Rosemary Woullard at jewel@bellsouth.net. Have all reference letters sent to Rosemary Woullard at 3202 Fernway Drive, Hattiesburg, MS, 39401.

From the History Committee...

At the Central District Meeting Carol Walker, chair of the History Committee, reported that the History of Zeta State, 1934 - 2009, had been sent to the publisher. One hundred books were ordered. She reported that the books would be distributed at the Leadership Conference in June. She also thanked her committee Joyce Calcote, Nancy Lockhart, and Martha Underhill for their hard work on the book. A special thank you was given to Eva Guice, the consultant, for compiling and typing the book. There would not have been a history book without her.

The History Committee is hosting an Autograph Party at the Zeta State Convention in Gulfport. Please bring your History of Zeta State, 1934 -2009, to the convention and have it signed by all of the presidents of Zeta State who are in attendance. Out of the 100 books ordered, there are only 11 left to buy.
The history is a hardback 300+ page book of Zeta State history—including material from the previously published 50 year history and the 10 year supplements plus additional material including pictures from the past. The publication price is $25 per book. 
To order your copy now: Send form below with your check for $25 made out to Zeta State. Please put History in the Memo line.

NAME__________________________________

ADDRESS_______________________________

_______________________________________

E-MAIL ADDRESS________________________

_______Number of Copies of
    ZETA STATE HISTORY 1934-2009
_______Total Amount enclosed

An e-mail confirmation will be sent to you when order is received.

Send form and check to:

Carol Walker
3 Wigeon Lane
Raymond, MS  39154

Clytee Evans Scholarship awarded

At the Southern District meeting on March 3,2012, the recipient for the Clytee Evans Scholarship was announced. The recipient is Dana Walker Ladner from Psi Chapter. While working as an assistant teacher for Harrison County Schools, Dana completed Gulf Coast Community College and William Carey University. She also had three young sons at this time.

She was initiated in 2008 to Psi Chapter. She has been very active in her chapter, holding several offices, attending meetings, and presented a program at the January meeting.

Now Dana is pursuing her masters in education from William Carey University while she is teaching first grade at Lizana Elementary. Dana is very deserving and a dedicated Delta Kappa Gamma member.

submitted by Sarajane Smith
for of the Zeta State Scholarship Committee
International Scholarship Recipients Tonya Lawrence and Angie Quinn!

We are so pleased to announce that the following members from your state received a $6000 2012-2013 DKG International Scholarship each for graduate study.

Tonya Lawrence, Beta Alpha, the Lettie P. Trefz Scholarship
Angela Quinn, Alpha Psi, the A. Margaret Boyd Scholarship

Tonya Lawrence, Beta Alpha

Angie Quinn, Alpha Psi

Debbie Rogers and Grant-in-Aid recipient
Grant-in-Aid

Chapters: It is time to consider sponsoring a current junior education major to apply for Zeta State’s 2013 Grant-in-Aid! The Grant-in-Aid is $500 paid directly to the winner’s educational institution. To be eligible, a candidate must have been awarded a chapter Grant-in-Aid. The application process is outlined on Form 9. The process includes completing an application, securing letters of recommendation, a letter of recommendation from the sponsoring chapter’s president, a college transcript to verify incoming senior status, and an essay. Applications will be due to Professional Affairs Chair, Debbie Rogers, in early February. The winner will be recognized at our state convention in April.

Errata: On page 4 of Zeta Data – January Issue, Stacy Reeves is a member of Alpha Gamma. Page 3, Allison Downing is listed as new and then receiving a scholarship right below it - the scholarship is correct. The new member should have been her sister Lauren Hutto.
## Southern District

### Honor Chapters

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see photos of the chapter awards at this link:
https://plus.google.com/photos/111101932830545629353/albums/5777629635905318657?authkey=CLmVsoPg_7KbyQE
2011 - 2013 Zeta State Officers

President ................................................................. Karen Fayard
First Vice President .................................................... Toni Cook
Second Vice President .................................................. Teri Edwards
Recording Secretary .................................................... Deborah Cain
Treasurer ................................................................. Sarah Smith
Executive Secretary ..................................................... Linda Lightsey
Parliamentarian .......................................................... Jean Ricks
Immediate Past President .............................................. Cynthia Colburn
Northern District Director ........................................... Marsha Shaddock
Asst. Northern District Director ..................................... Angie Quinn
Central District Director ............................................... Tracey Crawford
Asst. Central District Director ........................................ Chris Wall
Southern District Director ............................................ Marsha Cummings
Asst. Southern District Director ..................................... Sara Hardin
Zeta State WebMaster .................................................. Erin Fortenberry
Zeta Data Editor ......................................................... Aleta Sullivan

aleta@peoplepc.com