

# Beta Delta News

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
 Region VII, Eta State, North Carolina, Beta Delta Chapter, Greensboro, NC

Volume 33 Issue 1

Voices of Influence Empowering North Carolina Women Educators  
 "Create the Future - Imagine, Inspire, Ignite"

September, 2015

**Happy, Happy  
 Fall  
 Beginnings!!  
 See you at the  
 October 5th  
 Meeting - Lone Star  
 Steak House - High  
 Point Rd. - 5:00 p.m.**

## President's Message from Diane Howdeshell



Dear Beta Delta Sisters:

The 2015-2016 year for Beta Delta will be fantastic. We have stellar leadership at the Eta State level and magnificent leadership and outstanding members at the chapter level. To begin the year off with a bang, Region VII is hosting a women's author event. We have scheduled fourteen women authors to come and talk about their books, which will be sold on site through Guilford Technical Community College Bookstore (cash or check only). The event is on Saturday, October 3, at the Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown Campus-Medlin Center-Jamestown, NC. The event is scheduled to start at 10:00 a.m. and end at 2:00 p.m. Included in the newsletter is a flyer announcing the event and the featured authors. We are accepting canned food or used books for backpack programs for public schools in Guilford County. The event is free and open to the public.

Sheila Groves, Eta State President, and her team of State officers presented an outstanding program for the Executive Board on Saturday, September 12, at Elon University. Presidents were encouraged to galvanize their members to imagine, to inspire, and to ignite their passion within Beta Delta to help move Delta Kappa Gamma forward. Presidents were given a list of Educational Excellence Goals and activities that any Beta Delta Committee Chair could use within her committee - not just Educational Excellence. The list will be provided to members at our October 5th meeting.

Another exciting piece of news we received at the Executive Board Meeting is that the North Carolina DKG Educational Foundation is open for business. For 2015-2016, the Board will offer \$1,000 in grants amounting to \$250 each. The deadline for applications is November 15. Recipients will be notified by February 15, 2016. Grants are available in two categories:

- 1.) Continuing Education for Professional/Personal Growth
  - 2.) Projects to Advance Learning or Literacy in a classroom, school, or community setting.
- Forms are available from the Foundation website ([www.ncdkgef.org](http://www.ncdkgef.org))

The next Beta Delta Meeting is Monday, October 5, at 5:00 p.m. at the Lone Star Steak House on High Point Road. The Executive Board felt it was important to use this meeting for committee chairs and their members to meet, ask questions, plan, their activities to complete the year. We have new reports coming out that will be distributed at the meeting and must be completed by February 1. In an earlier email, committee chairs were asked to contact their members by telephone and encourage them to attend the October 5th meeting.

Finally, I want to thank everyone who has volunteered to help Sue Faulk Fields with food during her chemo treatments. Your thoughts and prayers are much appreciated by Sue, and she is thankful for all we do for her. Continue to uphold her in your prayers and thoughts.

In Sisterhood,  
*Diane Howdeshell*  
 President

### Inside this issue:

Member News!	2
Important Dates and Beginning Teacher	3
More Member News!!	4-6
US Forum Connection	7
Member News!!!!	8-9
Committee information	10
Legislative Updates and Message from President Sheila.	11
International News	12-13

Send us your Beta Delta News!!

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## Member News!

Congratulations to **Dr. Janis Antonek** and **Dr. Mary Lynn Redmond**, who were selected for participation in the Leadership Initiative for Language Learning



sponsored by American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The institute was held on the campus of The Ohio State University,

July 21-23, 2015. During the week, participants learned about effective core teaching practices in the world language classroom. The 100+ participants, largely classroom teachers, came from throughout the United States to learn about best teaching practices, to work on "next steps" for incorporating the principles in their own classrooms, and to network. **Mary Lynn**, the immediate Past President of ACTFL, was part of the planning committee and played an integral role in making this institute a reality. **Janis** was able to participate thanks to having received the **Anna Joyce Reardon Scholarship** from Beta Delta. Both **Mary Lynn** and **Janis** report that the institute was very effective and meaningful to participants, and either would be happy to share information and resources with interested Beta Delta members.

Congratulations to Beta Delta's **Dr. Jewell Cooper**.



The University of North Carolina at Greensboro School of Education (SOE) Interim Dean Randy Penfield announced Dr. Jewell Cooper as the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Student Services. Dr. Cooper, who has

worked in higher education for 28 years and has been involved in teacher education for the past 25, will begin her new role on August 1st.

Dr. Cooper has been a member of the Department of Teacher Education and Higher Education (TEHE). Prior to her time at UNCG, she was a faculty member at Bennett College for Women in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction for 9 years. She also has experience in the classroom as a former middle school language arts teacher in North Carolina, Michigan, and Tennessee.

At UNCG, Dr. Cooper teaches undergraduates, as well as master's and doctoral students. She also conducts professional development locally, regionally, and nationally on educational issues related to equity education. Her work has an emphasis on community-based learning in teacher education, teacher development, and culturally relevant and responsive pedagogy.

The winner of the 2003 SOE Teaching Excellence Award and the 2004 University Teaching Excellence Award, Dr. Cooper currently serves as the Associate Chair of the TEHE department, the Coordinator of Secondary Teacher Education Program, and the Co-Director of the UNCG/Ben L. Smith Professional Development School Partnership.

She has co-authored the book, *Developing Critical Cultural Competency: A Guide for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Educators*, and has published book chapters and peer-reviewed journal articles in national and international journals.

Congratulations once again to Dr. Cooper. To read the full article please copy and paste:

<http://soe.uncg.edu/dr-jewell-cooper-named-associate-dean/>

**International Web Site:**  
**www.dkg.org**

**Eta State Web Site:**  
**www.deltakappagamma.org/**  
**NC**

**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.**

### Beta Delta Beginning Teacher Project

Ann Pember reports that our Beginning Teacher Project will again be based at Hampton Elementary where our own Deb Paul is the Curriculum Coordinator. She would like to remind the members to fill out the volunteer form on the Guilford County Schools web site and wait for approval by the school system before going to Hampton. Members should then check in with Deb to sign up as a tutor, reading buddy, or an assistant to make copies or teaching materials. In addition, members may bring teaching supplies to meetings. (Get your shopping bag and go!) Materials needed include copy paper, card stock, Expo dry erase markers, glue sticks, tissues, and hand sanitizer. Thanks to the school for allowing us again to help them. Thanks to you for supporting them.



## Important Dates

### Beta Delta Meetings, Seminars and Conventions

**October 3, 2015 (Saturday)**  
**DKG Region VII - Women Authors' Event - 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon**

GTCC Jamestown Campus Medlin Center  
Jamestown, NC

**October 5, 2015 (Monday)**  
**Beta Delta Quarterly Meeting - 5:00 p.m.**

LoneStar Steak House, High Point Road,  
Greensboro, NC

**December 5, 2015 (Saturday)**  
**Beta Delta Annual Brunch and Auction - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

Sedgefield Country Club  
Greensboro, NC

**February, 2016**  
**Beta Delta Quarterly Meeting - 5:00 p.m. - Location - TBA**

**March 13-16, 2016 (Sunday-Wednesday)**  
**DKG US Forum National Legislative Seminar**  
Holiday Inn, National Airport, Crystal City 2650 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Arlington, VA 22202  
(703) 684-7200

**April 22-24, 2016 (Friday - Sunday)**  
**Eta State Convention**

Winston-Salem Marriott  
725 Cherry Street, Winston-Salem, NC (Region IX)  
Call now toll free 877-888-9762 for reservations.  
Ask for the Delta Kappa Gamma discount.

**July 5-9, 2016 (Tuesday-Saturday)**  
**2016 International Convention**

Gaylord Opryland Resort  
Nashville, TN

**April 28 - 30, 2017 (Friday - Sunday)**  
**Eta State Convention**

Wilmington, NC (Region IV)

## More Member News!!

**Lots of fun for Alice Hill and her family!**

She hosted visits from her two daughters Page and Britt and her four grandchildren, for 10 days during the month



of July. They counted among their activities a great puppet show (The Princess and the Frog) at the Benjamin Parkway Library, by Beta Delta member **Tammy Miller**, who is extremely talented and "adorable" as the puppeteer. According to Alice, the grandchildren were enthralled. They went to see the movie "Minions" and also attended a sing-a-long of the movie "Grease" with lyrics shown on the screen.

**Sharon Page** spent several weeks in Albuquerque, NM with her four grandchildren - 3 grand girls and this 5 month old cutie, Benjy. As you can see, he is an early reader.



**Marcia Payne Wooten** and her daughter **Kerry Wooten Mitchell** (married to **Daniel Mitchell**, **Jane Mitchell's** grandson) were in Spain from June 29 - July 11, completing the last 70 miles of the Camino de Santiago de Compostela. The Camino is a 500 mile pilgrimage that extends roughly from the French/Spanish border across the north of Spain. The actual trekking took place from July 1 - 8 and the group covered 10-12 miles per day through some of the most beautiful country imaginable. Here they are on day 7, (right) entering the city of Santiago de Compostela, with the destination being the Cathedral.



Kerry, Marcia and other members of the hiking group (college roommates of Marcia) are passing by Castro de Castromaior, a Celtic settlement dating from around 6000 years ago. A wonderful time was had by all. If perchance sometime, you have a few hours, ask Marcia and she will tell you all about it.

**Elaine McRae** states the besides having an exciting time at the DKG Southeast Regional Convention in Savannah with Sheila, The Wyndham Golf Tournament "in my backyard" in August was certainly a highlight of my summer.....complete with newspaper coverage!



From **Mary Sharpe:**

The biggest news for me is that Gary & I celebrated our 50th anniversary on Aug. 28, 2015.



As well, I celebrated my 70th birthday 5 days earlier - Where did the years go??? The family gathered for a fun & crazy day celebrating both occasions with our first selfie!

To top off the celebration we added a 3 month old golden retriever, Abby, to our family - What were we thinking!!!



## And Even More Member News!!!

**Christina Adams Purgason** shares a photo of Ava Claire and Arden Grace, who were born on May 12. They certainly have grown since we saw their first picture (Beta Delta News - Volume 32, Issue 4, Summer 2015) and Christina reports that they have been so much "Summer Fun".



**Claire Driscoll** shares that she and her family of 4 spent a lot of time at their pool in Sherwood. Her sons are ages 2 and 5 so it was the perfect place for them. It certainly looks like it! Keeping it cool, in the pool (with an unidentified photo-bomber).



Beta Delta Chapter Officers and Committee Chairpersons met at the home of President **Diane Howdeshell** on August 1, 2015.

Please notice, that our special visitor, Clyde, son of **Jenn Kunka** joined us for the meeting. (l-r, clockwise) - **Leisa Huddleston**, **Mary Sharpe**, **Dori Caligiure**, **Jenn Kunka** and **Clyde**, **Sharon Page**, **Diane Howdeshell**, **Elaine McRae** and **Melissa Harrelson**. **Marcia Payne Wooten** took the photograph. Much was accomplished regarding the planning of Beta Delta's yearly activities. Looking forward to seeing you at the October 5th meeting.



## U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #140, August, 2015

- This publication is intended for your information about issues important to education, women and children. How you choose to use the information included here is up to you.

This free newsletter is sponsored by the United States Forum of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is an organization of leading women educators with over 80,000 members. Delta Kappa Gamma members wishing to subscribe to this FREE newsletter should send a request to [Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com](mailto:Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com). We urge you to share this newsletter with other interested individuals who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma or members who do not subscribe to this publication.

### IN THIS ISSUE

- **SOCIAL SECURITY EXPANSION**
- **EDUCATION PROGRAM FUNDING**
- **EDUCATION TAX RELIEF**
- **DEALING WITH ROBOCALLS**

#### **Social Security Expansion**

The Social Security Expansion Act (S.743) would, among other things, use the Consumer Price Index to calculate cost of living increases in Social Security payments, extend the tax on earners making more than \$250,000 annually, increase the amount paid on lifetime low earners based on years in the workforce. If this legislation passes, some of its provisions would not take effect until 2021.

#### **Education Program Funding**

The five week summer break for Congress ends September 8. When members return there will be only 10 "work days" before the 2016 fiscal year budget should take effect. The problem is that a deal raising education funding which was negotiated in 2013 expires at the end of September 2015. Both budget bills currently pending in the House and the Senate would cut education spending. As one might expect the two bills do not agree, and the House bill would cut almost twice as much funding as the Senate bill. A continuing resolution could be passed which would continue spending at the current levels or Congress could put together some sort of temporary spending allocation. If there is no budget agreement, as seems likely, most education funding would continue with two exceptions. The two programs which could be negatively impacted if no agreement is reached are Head Start and Impact Aid. These programs would not get any money until a budget is agreed upon. In that case the programs would have to borrow money to operate thus paying interest on the borrowed funds which would decrease money for the programs. Impact Aid monies go to schools on military bases and Native American reservations. This affects about 1,250 school districts.

#### **Education Tax Relief**

There are currently two bills which could provide tax relief for educators. The Educator Tax Relief Act of 2015 (H.R.2940) would make professional development expenses tax deductible. The Tax Relief Extension Act of 2015 (S.1946) has been introduced; however, no summary of the provisions in the bill are available at this time. The bill would extend tax deductions for educators which expired in 2014.

#### **Dealing with Robocalls**

More and more telephone customers are being plagued with unwanted robocalls. There are several devices which block incoming robocalls. One of those rated well by Consumer Reports is Nomorobo which is free; however, it is not available everywhere. You can find information about this at <https://www.nomorobo.com/>. If this service is not available in your area, the site provides toll free numbers that you can call. It is to your advantage to call the number/s provided; because that will motivate your provider to install the free service in your area. (When you complain it ties up their paid operators, so it is to the company's economic advantage to put in the robocall blocking service and allow the paid operators to take care of customers with other problems.)

**Continued on page 10**

**Member News that doesn't stop!!****Summer Fun!!**

**Stephanie Kurttis** and UNCG colleague **Teresa Little** presented at the EDULEARN International Education and Technology Conference in Barcelona Spain from July 6 through July 8. Here they are pictured in front of the cathedral called "La Sagrada Familia" a work by Spanish architect Antoni Gaudí (from which is derived our English word "gaudy").

**Stephanie** says that they had a GREAT time and



that she would love to go back!!! Their presentation was on the Makerspace project that they had gotten funded this past year through the UNCG School of Education Teacher Quality Improvement

grant. The project was called Family WORKS and it was a joint entrepreneurial experience with middle school students, their families, teachers, community members and SOE faculty. The conference provided a day long tour of the highlights of Barcelona, including a visit to the 1992 Olympic ring and village, the port on the Mediterranean, several of Gaudí's buildings, a tour of the medieval center of the city, and shopping on Las Ramblas.

**Congratulations to Diane Howdeshell!!**

She has continued her weight-loss journey and has lost a total of 43 lbs. She worked with dietitian Deborah Rosenquest to achieve this remarkable goal. We wish Diane more success as she continues her healthy lifestyle.

It does seem that Spain was the place to be this summer as **Alice Hill's** daughter Page Pelphrey, who lives in Connecticut, led a student group from her school to the city of Santiago de Compostela.

**Congratulations to Amanda Hagen!**

She has taken a new position teaching 3rd grade at Irving Park Elementary School this year. We hope that the start of the school year has been happy and successful.

**Congratulations to Dori Caligiure and family!**

New Baby Caligiure is due on February 25th, 2016.



**Energizer Member News - It just keeps going!!!**

**Ann Pember** traveled to the Baltics and Iceland during the summer. She left Raleigh with 3 other people on July 24 and returned Aug. 11 boarding in Stockholm the Viking Star, a beautiful new ship, with 900 total passengers. The adventure included Stockholm, Helsinki, and St. Petersburg until its losing motors and spending 5 days in Tallin, Estonia, 3 days in Bergen, Norway, before going on to Iceland.



The site of the Helsinki picture was the Sibelius memorial. (L)

Ann also says that Iceland has a dramatic landscape like the moon, with moss, waterfalls, geysers and lagoons. (R)



**Kim Pemberton** celebrated the "Legal Birthday" of her twins Brianna & Deonte at Wrightsville Beach.

Wow, 21 years old-[Noted by their fingers in the photo]-Can you believe it?



After an unexpected fall on Labor Day, while out walking her dog in the Sunset Hills neighborhood, **Jane Mitchell** is at home and on the mend. There are no broken bones, but a torn muscle in her hand/arm. Three weeks of physical therapy were mandated by the doctor. We wish her the speediest of recoveries.

**Beta Delta Brunch and Auction - December 5th**

Be sure to start hunting up your items to bring to the auction. Stay tuned for more info - AND remember to send your dues to Elaine McRae at : 3518 Old Onslow Road, Greensboro, NC 27407

**Member News, etc.****Continued from page 7**

There are devices which block robocalls that can be purchased through Amazon. These are

Digitone Call Blocker Plus (\$110) 18 of 24 reviewers gave it a positive rating.

HQTelecom.com Landline Call Blocker (\$59) six of thirteen reviewers gave it a positive rating.

Sentry Dual Mode Call Blocker (\$59) 27 reviewers gave it a positive rating; 28 reviewers gave it a negative rating

For a more detailed account of all aspects of robocalls, consult out the September 2015 issue of Consumer Reports which is probably available at your local library.

**FORUM WEB SITE** <http://www.usforumdkg.org/>

**White House 1-202-456-1111**

FIVE CONSTITUENT CONTACTS WILL CAUSE A LEGISLATOR TO PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO A GIVEN ISSUE.

**Happy Birthday to You !!****September**

Jewell Cooper (5th)

Cynthia Wooten (26th)

**October**

Sue Field (3rd)

Amanda Hagen (11th)

Dori Caligiure (21st)

Gayle Manahan (22nd)

Donna Harper (31st)

**November**

Claire Driscoll (3rd)

Alice Hill (4th)

Kinshasa Hill (4th)

Helen Medlin (4th)

Helen Killacky (11th)

**December**

Betty Jean McNairy (3rd)

Anita Lawson (16th)

Elaine McRae (18th)

Amy Williamsen (31st)

**Committees, Committees! Remember your reports!**

Beta Delta Committee Reports are due February 1st to Eta State.

- President's Report
- Necrology Annual Report
- Communications and Publicity Committee Biennial Report
- Educational Excellence/ Program Committee Biennial Report
- Finance Committee Biennial Report
- Membership Committee Biennial Report
- Scholarship Committee Biennial Report
- World Fellowship Biennial Report

Hope that you can be at the meeting for food, fun, fellowship and inFORMation.



## Teacher Career Status Ruling

By: Dr. Elaine Jenkins, Chair, Educational Law and Policy Committee

On June 2, the NC Court of Appeals issued its ruling regarding teacher career status. The court, which consists of a three-judge panel, ruled that the 2013 legislation to end teacher tenure was unconstitutional. What is especially interesting in this ruling to me were the words of Judge Linda Stephens who wrote in the court's majority opinion that for four decades, career status (or tenure) governing teacher and principal employment contracts "have been a fundamental part of the bargain" that so many teachers across NC "accepted when they decided to defer the pursuit of potentially more lucrative professions, as well as the opportunity to work in states that offer better financial compensation to members of their own profession, in order to accept employment in our public schools." Judge Stephens' words echo the comments that I have heard from DKG members across the state. State lawmakers must think carefully not only about the salary offered to college graduates to teach, but in addition, they must consider the very demanding and emotional nature of teaching that often scares potential candidates away. There are lots of opportunities for bright, articulate young people to pursue in the business world where they are often encouraged to be risk takers. Risk taking in the classroom can be another story. This ruling ought to spark a conversation across the state about the nature of teaching in public schools and why the ruling matters. If our state cannot offer employment in public schools that inspires confidence in those closest to the students, we will continue to see the exodus of bright young candidates to the jobs that pay more money with far fewer headaches! (Information for this article came from The Charlotte Observer, June 3, 2015.)

## Educational Law and Policy Committee

Do you enjoy research? Are you interested in North Carolina legislative issues? Would you like to be on a taskforce that does not meet except through email? Do you like an environment working from home? Then, Dr. Jenkins, Eta State Educational Law and Policy Chair, needs you. She is setting up task forces across the state to research top legislative issues that are important to chapters. Once the information is compiled, a task force researcher will be assigned to research the legislative issue most important to Delta Kappa Gamma members . Come to the meeting October 5, to find out more. . .



### Sheila Groves - Eta State President 2015 -2017

Sheila's message on the DKG President's Page is too long to print here and too inspiring to miss. Just copy and paste to read her full message. Sheila, Beta Delta is so proud of you!

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NC/Presidents%20page.htm>

**International News!!****Honorary Member**

On behalf of the Europe State Presidents there is the suggestion to The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, International Administrative Board, International Membership Committee, that Malala Yousafzai will be considered as an Honorary Member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Rationale: Malala Yousafzai is the student who was shot because she wanted to go to school.

Malala, (born July 12, 1997) is a Pakistani student and education activist. She is known for her activism for girls and women’s rights, especially for being allowed to go to school. Yousafzai is originally from the town of Mingora in the Swat District. She was a victim of a gunshot attack in October 2012. Yousafzai is the youngest person to have won the Nobel Peace Prize. She was awarded the prize in October 2014. She was then 17 years of age.



In 2009, at age 11, many people got to know her through a weblog of the BBC News’ Urdu language service. The BBC published translated writing about her life under Taliban rule. On 9 October 2012, Yousafzai was shot in the head and neck in an assassination attempt by Atta, a Taliban gunman. She was given emergency treatment in Pakistan and then moved to England for more medical treatment.

On 3 January 2013, Yousafzai was discharged from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham to continue to recover at her family's temporary home in the West Midlands. She had two five-hour long operations on 2 February 2013. She had a titanium implant put over the hole in her skull and a cochlear implant so she could hear again. In May 2012 David Trumble, an award-winning artist, made a cartoon of Yousafzai as a Disney princess as part of a drawing of other feminist icons that he had made into princesses that was in the Huffington Post.

On 12 July 2013, at age 16, she made a speech at headquarters of the United Nations stressing the right of education for all and for human rights and peace and non-violence against terrorism and intolerance citing the proverb: "the pen is mightier than the sword". She was nominated for the 2013 Nobel Peace Prize. She has won a lot of prizes. She is the 2013 recipient of the Sakharov Prize. She was one of the winners of Glamour magazine's Women of the Year. Lady Gaga, who was also a winner and was on the month's cover, said that Yousafzai should have been on November's cover of Glamour instead of her.

**Continued on page 13**

## International News!!

## Continued from page 12

In October she met President Obama, Michelle Obama and their daughter Malia in the Oval Office. The Taliban have said that they still want to assassinate Yousafzai. In October 2013 a book about her life "I am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban" was published, with her help. The book was banned in Pakistani private schools.

On 27 November 2013 Yousafzai was given the GG2 Hammer Award at the GG2 (Garavi Gujarat) Leadership Awards 2013. Yousafzai was chosen by TIME magazine as a candidate for 2013's Person of the Year. She was nominated for the World's Children's Prize for the Rights of the Child in 2014. In 2014 Yousafzai has won Nobel Peace Prize and will be given a Doctor of Civil Law degree by the University of King's College.

Malala Yousafzai is bold, humble and devoted to education! Knowledge she claims is the best way of fighting violence. The means are actually very simple: A Child, a Book, a Pen and a Teacher! If Malala accept to be an honorary member she would be a great role model for all its members and in particular for young teachers!

The photo is with [CC BY 2.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/) licence.

*Editor's note: I had almost finished with the newsletter and needed one article of international note. I found this article on the DKG International site under the International Forums>European Forum>Latest News>Honorary Member link. Here is the link to copy and paste if you would like to explore the European Forum site: <http://dkgeurope.org/> This article has a publication date of Wednesday, August 26, 2015, so I have no word on whether Malala has accepted the invitation to be an Honorary Member.*

