

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

Volume 33 Issue 2

Voices of Influence Empowering North Carolina Women Educators "Create the Future - Imagine, Inspire, Ignite" January, 2016

Happy, Happy <u>New</u> <u>Year!!</u> <u>See you at the</u> <u>February 2nd</u> <u>Meeting - UNCG -</u> <u>School of Education</u> <u>Building - 5:00 p.m.</u>

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Send us your Beta Delta News!!

c/o Diane Howdeshell, President dhowdy62@gmail.com (336) 687-1496

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## **President's Message from Diane Howdeshell**

Dear Beta Delta Sisters:

Happy New Year! As we enter 2016, we have many opportunities in our organization to support one another: volunteer in our schools, and to create, to imagine, and to inspire our fellow teachers and DKG members. I hope you will consider the many ways we can be of service through Beta Delta to benefit the community of our fellow sisters.

We have several important dates and deadlines approaching. Please consider presenting a program during a breakout session at the 2016 Eta State Convention in Winston-Salem. Proposals are due January 25. The information is located on the North Carolina Eta State Website. Also, if you are considering attaining the Beta Delta Chapter Membership Award, the form must be in by March 1st. Please mail the form to Diane Howdeshell, 507 Valleybrook Drive, Jamestown, NC 27282.

Ashley Velazquez has completed a fantastic scholarship web page to add to the Beta Delta website. Anyone considering a scholarship can visit the page, complete the information, and apply to the Scholarship Committee. Thank you, Ashley.

We are in an election year, and soon, we will vote to elect a President in the primaries for each party to run for office. Remember that the North Carolina General Assembly moved the

primary voting date to March 15. Mark your calendars. Encourage everyone you know to vote. Further, during the last session of the General Assembly, several of the legislators wanted to pass sharing public tax dollars with charter schools. The bill did not pass, but will be taken up again when they convene in March or April. Another important education issue facing North Carolina Public Schools is the movement to place a recovery school district (ASD) in North Carolina. More information will follow in the Legislative Report in the newsletter. I will send out a notice to everyone who would like to gather at my home to write letters to our representatives about educational issues that are important to Beta Delta.

Finally, please remember Jennifer Kunka and her family. Her mother passed away a few days ago, and please remember her in your thoughts and prayers. We love you, Jennifer.

In Sisterhood,

Diane Howdeshell

President

## **Member News!**

History in the making! **Dr. Janis Antonek, Dr. Jane T. Mitchell and Marcia Payne Wooten**, are shown here in a classroom at UNCG, in December of 2015, representing the Foreign Language Education Pro-

gram at UNCG from 1958 - 2016. Jane was the Foreign Language Program Coordinator with a joint appointment in the School of Education and Romance Languages from 1958 until her retirement in 1996. Janis taught at UNCG from 1996 until 2006 with a joint appointment, also in the SOE and Romance Languages. She now teaches at the Middle College at UNCG, and also in the Languages, Literatures and Cultures department at UNCG.



Marcia came to UNCG as the FL Education Program Coordinator in 2007 and will be retiring in May.

Janis and Marcia collaborated in teaching the FL Methods class this past fall semester and invited Jane to the last class, in which the licensure students presented their final, culturally-oriented Power-Point presentations. After some 20 years in retirement, Jane thoroughly enjoyed meeting some exceptional 21st century teacher candidate college students, and a wonderful, intergenerational, educational experience was had by all.

Elaine McRae shares with us:

For those of you who have not heard, **Jenn Kunka's** mother passed away on January 8. She posted the following on Facebook:

"Your prayers and support have meant the world to my family and me over the past three weeks. Today, Kay Parry-Hill, my mother, passed away. For those of you who knew her, I know that you have wonderful stories about her that I will want to hear. She was generous and nurturing to her family, her friends, and the many children for whom she was a second mother. She was my wise, loving, and beautiful mama; my best friend and my moral compass. She had an amazing laugh and she loved to sing. I can't imagine a world without her.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the White Memorial Presbyterian Church Music Fund, Transitions LifeCare of Wake County, and Backpack Buddies of the Inter-Faith Food Shuttle." For cards, Jenn's address is:

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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.

Please see more **"Thank you,** Beta Delta", on page 4.



# **Important Dates**

## Beta Delta Meetings, Seminars and Conventions

#### January 24, 2016 (Sunday) Beta Delta Executive Board Meeting - 2:30 p.m. Home of Melissa Harrelson

Greensboro, NC

## **February 2, 2016 (Tuesday) Beta Delta Quarterly Meeting - 5:00 p.m.** University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Teacher Resource Center, Room 302 School of Education Building (1300 Spring Garden Street) Greensboro, NC (Park in the Oakland Parking deck, beside YumYum's and take the ticket to get in. You will be given a voucher to exit the deck so parking will be free of charge.)

## March 1, 2016 (Tuesday)

# Beta Delta Individual Chapter Achievement Award due.

Mail to: Diane Howdeshell, 507 Valleybrook Drive, Jamestown, NC 27282.

## 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!!

#### Message from the Eta State President (our own Sheila)

Something to think about...

Happy New Year! Traditionally the beginning of each year is a time for looking back at the past, and more importantly, looking forward to the coming year. It's a time to reflect on the changes we want to make and to resolve to follow through on each of those changes. As you ponder your resolutions for 2016, think of a few things you can do to strengthen your membership in Delta Kappa Gamma.

**Stay connected** – attend chapter meetings, read publications, browse social media ·

**Network beyond the chapter** – attend state convention in Winston-Salem, April 22-24 ·

Learn more about the Society – explore state and international web sites ·

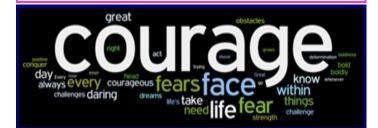
**Promote Society Purposes** – support chapter and state projects -

Share your enthusiasm for the work of DKG – be a positive voice ·

**Be part of the team** – volunteer for a committee or special chapter assignment

Make some resolutions for a healthier, happier 2016 - lose weight, exercise more, eat healthier and don't forget to make some DKG Resolutions!

Sheila



#### Thank you, Beta Delta!

#### From Ann Pember:

I received a thank you note for the chapter thanking us for the donations we gave the Hampton Elementary School first grade teachers at the Christmas brunch. Miss Price wrote, "We are so incredibly thankful for all you do,": Mrs. Potts wrote, "Thank you so much for the wonderful and thoughtful gifts,"; Ms. Tuttle wrote, "Thank you from the bottom of our hearts,"; Ms. Scott, the principal, wrote, "Thank you so much! We are very thankful and grateful for all you do." The caption on the card says, "You rock!" as indeed you do.



Happy Birthday to You !!

<u>January</u>

Melissa Harrelson (13th) Sharon Page (19th) Sheila Groves (21st) Dian Howdeshell (30th)

#### **February**

Cathy Wallen (2nd) Evie Derrickson (7th) Ann P. Pember (10th) Mary Pendergraft (14th) Anne Houseman (19th) Barbara Levin (21st) <u>March</u>

Drcoll (3rd) Jennifer Kunka (8th) Leisa Huddleston (11th) Jane Tucker Mitchell (5th) Mary Lynn Redmond (15th) Marcia Payne Wooten (15th)

#### Convention News! Registration Now Open!

Be among the first to register for this year's convention in Winston-Salem. The registration form is now on the convention webpage in both Word and PDF formats. Early bird deadline is April 1. Banquet and brunch meal ticket deadline is April 15 (hotel deadline). Materials may not be available to persons who register after April 1 or on-site. Everyone must register, including ones assisting during the convention. Mail your registration form to Convention Treasurer Chris Waters by April 1. Contact Convention Registrar Carolyn Coram with any questions at <u>etastateregistrar2016@gmail.com</u>.

#### **More About the Convention Project**

In 2016 Dreams and Kitestrings will focus on literacy and leadership, with their theme borrowed from a Margaret Fuller quote "Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader." Two of the projects being supported are Little Free Libraries, which provides enough books to set up classroom libraries in elementary schools across the county, and the Book Fair Project, which provides funding for impoverished children to select and purchase books at school book fairs. DKG members can help by donating books for schoolage children, Barnes & Noble gift cards, and bookmarks, and making monetary contributions. Checks should be made out to Dreams and Kitestrings. If you wish to donate to a specific project you may note Little Free Libraries or Book Fair Project on the bottom of your check. Dreams and Kitestrings is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charity. Read more about Dreams and Kitestrings at <u>http://www.dreamsandkitestrings.org/.</u>

#### **Make Hotel Reservations Now!**

Information for making room reservations at the convention hotel, the Marriott, is under the Hotel link at <u>http://dkgnc2016conven-</u>tion.weebly.com/hotel.html</u>. Rooms are \$119, single or double, plus taxes. Deadline for the group rate is March 22, and as in the past, rooms will go fast, so register early. There is a separate charge for parking in the city deck.

#### **New This Year: President's Reception**

Everyone is invited to network and enjoy fellowship at a President's Reception of light hors d'oeuvres and punch before the Saturday evening banquet. There is no charge for this event, but please indicate if you are attending on the convention registration form. A cash bar will be available.

#### Important!!! Changes Made in CEU Credits!

In keeping with DPI and local school districts' policies for receiving approval for renewal credits, this year Eta State will provide a general certificate of attendance to those attending the convention. A teacher desiring CEU credit for attending the convention will need to confer with her local district for approval to count attendance as a CEU credit and to learn if other documentation is needed.

#### And Even More Member News!!!

#### December 5th Brunch and Auction - a Success and Fun for Everyone!!

On December 5th, Beta Delta celebrated with their annual Brunch and Auction at Sedgefield Country

Club. The members appeared to enjoy themselves immensely.



Can you name all your Beta Delta sisters?

More sisters having fun and catching up on the latest!





Janis Antonek, Liliana Jordanov, and Ashley Veláquez are networking (and cheesing) by the Christmas tree.

Betty McNairy (initiated in 1965) and Lois Edinger (initiated in 1953) share a moment. Oh, the changes they have seen and the stories they can tell!



#### The End in Member News!!!!

Vandy Chum, an invited guest enjoys her first Beta Delta Brunch and Auction.





Lois Edinger, invited guest Myra Aderholdt, Donna Ray, Elaine McRae and Sharon Page socialize during all the festivities. If you haven't been to the Brunch/Auction in a while, make plans for 2016. It's always fun and a great way to revitalize friendships and make new friends with prospective members.

#### Elaine McRae shares a note from Sue Fields:

On Monday (Jan. 18) I have a CT scan to see how I am progressing with the Opdivo. I will learn the results Thursday (Jan 21). Please pray that the cancer has continued to shrink and is not spreading. I appreciate everyone's thoughts and prayers.

Love to all,

Sue Field

Elaine has also provided us with Sue's address.

Cards can be sent to: Sue Field 9 Rocking Court Greensboro, NC 27405

#### One last reminder!!

February 2, 2016 (Tuesday)

#### Beta Delta Quarterly Meeting - 5:00 p.m.

University of North Carolina at Greensboro Teacher Resource Center, Room 302 School of Education Building (1300 Spring Garden Street) Greensboro, NC (Park in the Oakland Parking deck, beside YumYum's and take the ticket to get in. You will be given a voucher to exit the deck so parking will be free of charge.)

We will have a short business meeting, dinner on campus a guided tour of the TRC facilities.

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

A January 2, 2016, story published in newspapers across the country by the Associated Press outlined efforts by school districts nationwide to provide affordable housing for teachers whose salaries are often insufficient to pay for clean, safe housing. With a shortage of teachers growing in both urban and rural areas, local officials are seeking solutions to attract and keep good teachers. One of those solutions is to provide access to apartments that meet the needs of middle income workers. You can find this report at http://www.wral.com/cities-look-atsubsidized-housing-to-stem-teacher-shortages/15210703/. As we approach another election season, DKG members need to make themselves aware not only of the problems teachers are facing in other parts of the country, but the creative solutions that are out there as well! Spring will offer us another opportunity to communicate with legislators. Let's make sure that we have lots of facts and perspectives to offer them.

#### New DKG Website Launched!

<u>Www.dkg.org</u> has a new look! A small DKG logo and menu bar across the top give way to a large, scrolling swipe of pictures with links to items of interest, such as the 2016 Convention in Nashville, pictured above. More graphics on the next row are quick links to the DKG store, Educational Foundation, Fine Arts Gallery, Communities, and more. This website features password protected areas so that members can securely be a part of the DKG social network and have more control of their Society information. Members can update their own password after initially signing in, can update their profile information to keep their records current with International (on the MyDKG tab), and can join "communities" to connect with other members and enjoy online discussions on topics of interest with others. Registration for Society events will now be done through the Member Profile. For example, registration for the International Convention in Nashville this summer is now available when a member is signed in. Check out the new site. There is much to see and do!

#### **Communities Are Big Part of Social Network**

One of the exciting features of the new DKG website is the ability to network with members around the world through **Communities**, which focus on a variety of topics. Members may join as many as they would like. Currently the following Communities are available: DKG Book Club, DKG Collaborative Communities (for sharing about subject areas and job issues), DKG Communications & Publicity, DKG for Social Media, DKG in Canada, DKG Members in the Home, DKG Membership Forum, DKG Mentoring, DKG Travels, and DKG with a focus on the Arts. Pick your passion and join the discussions today!

#### Signing in to Password-Protected Areas

To sign in, each member needs her membership number, found on her membership card or readily available from the chapter treasurer. The membership number is the user name. The default password is not published for security reasons, but chapter presidents received it in their most recent Presidents' Page newsletter and state officers have it to share. Members may also contact Society Headquarters at 512-478- 5748 for help.

#### U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #140, December, 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 <u>Bedenbaugh.Angela@gmail.com</u>. 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

## EDUCATION BILL SIGNED INTO LAW

[acronyms: NCLB = No Child Left Behind; ESEA = Elementary and Secondary Education Act; ESSA = Every Student Succeeds Act]

The new education bill which was passed and signed into law is now being referred to as ESSA. It will not take effect until the 2017-18 school year. Any state waivers which were granted under NCLB will expire August 1, 2016. The 2016-17 school year will be transitional between NCLB and ESSA as states develop policies to comply with the new law. Major issues which the new law addresses are testing and accountability, teacher evaluation, grants and fiscal accountability. The Congressional Record summary of the bill follows.

"The bill provides states with increased flexibility and responsibility for developing accountability systems, deciding how federally required tests should be weighed, selecting additional measures of student and school performance, and implementing teacher evaluation systems.

It includes grants for providing language instruction educational programs, improving low-performing schools, and developing programs for American Indian and Alaska Native students. The bill provides rural school districts with increased flexibility in using federal funding. It also revises the Impact Aid formula.

The bill requires school districts to consult stakeholders in planning and implementing programs to improve student safety, health, well-being, and academic achievement.

It combines two existing charter school programs into one program that includes grants for high-quality charter schools, facilities financing assistance, and replication and expansion.

The bill provides states with flexibility in meeting maintenance of effort requirements for state and local education funding to supplement federal assistance.

The bill prohibits the Department of Education from imposing certain requirements on states or school districts seeking waivers from federal laws.

It provides that ESEA dollars may be used to improve early childhood education programs and specifies requirements to ensure that homeless youth have access to all services provided by the states and school districts."

(Remember that this bill sets forth policies; however, the funding to implement these policies will be determined by the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee and possibly a joint committee to resolve differences in the bills from the two bodies.)

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

FORUM WEB SITE: http://www.usforumdkg.org/

#### White House <u>1-202-456-1111</u>

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

For more articles from the December issue go to: http://www.usforumdkg.org/us-forum-connection.html

# Beta Delta Legislative Report Leisa Huddleston and Diane Howdeshell Bills to Watch in the NC General Assembly

# > Taxpayer Protection Act,

## ○ Senate Bill 607

## > AN ACT TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF NORTH CAROLINA TO PROIVDE FOR TAXPAYER PROTECTIONS THAT LIMIT THE GROWTH OF STATE SPENDING, ESTABLISH A STATE EMERGENCY SAVINGS RESERVE FUND, AND REDUCE THE MAXIMUM OF THE INCOME TAX RATE TO FIVE PERCENT FROM TEN PERCENT

- Senate sponsors want to make it a constitutional amendment in the November 2016 election to curb government spending
- Place a cap on personal net income tax at 5%
- Configure spending from population growth and (inflation) Consumer Price index from receipts from the previous three years
- o Establishment of Emergency Savings Reserve Fund
  - Will require a 2/3 majority of votes in the GA to spend money
  - Establish a reserve fund equal to twelve and one-half percent of the amount appropriated from the General Fund
  - As of this writing, the constitutional amendment will read on the voter ballot
    - The question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be... "[FOR] or [AGAINST]"

The Taxpayer Protection Act to the North Carolina Constitution that would limit the growth of State spending to inflation plus population growth, establish and require yearly deposits in an Emergency Savings Reserve Fund in the State Treasury, and reduce the maximum allowable income tax rate in North Carolina from ten percent (10% to five percent (5%)."

The Difference between a 527 and 501 (c) (4) Source: IVN.us Author, Kelly Petty

At our October meeting, some of you wanted to know the difference between the above tax-exempt status organizations and how these organizations, along with Super PACS use the IRS rules to influence legislation and determine how policy is established with their money and particular candidates in local, state, and national elections. Here are the differences.

527	501 ( c ) (4)
Definition: Tax-exempt status designated for political organiza- tions defined by the IRS as "a party, committee, as- sociation, fund, or other organization organized and operated primarily for the purpose of directly or indirectly accepting contributions or making expen- ditures, or both, for an exempt function."	Definition: Tax-exempt status created as part of the Tariff Act of 1913, which set aside tax-exemptions for "civic and commercial" organizations at the behest of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce.
Super PACS are the big brother of political action committees.	
IRS RULES FOR OPERATING	IRS RULES FOR OPERATING
Must report donor list and contributions of do- nors	• Can raise an unlimited amount of funds
• Super PACS who apply for 527 exempt- statuses know their donor list is public informa- tion.	• They do not have to disclose donor list
• Given greater freedom to engage in election activities and an unlimited funding potential.	• Known as "dark money"
	• Prohibited from actively engaging in politics as its primary function.
	<ul> <li>501 (c) (4) entities must do two of the following activities to keep their exempt-status.</li> <li>1.) Civic leagues or organizations not organized for profit but operated exclusively for the promotion of social welfare.</li> <li>2.) Local associations of employees,</li> <li>The membership is limited to the employees of a designated person or persons in a particular municipality and the net earnings of which are devoted exclusively to charitable, educational, or recreational purposes.</li> </ul>

We hope the above information about how political money is funded to political parties will help you understand the problem facing the politics in the United States. Since the United States Supreme Court ruled that Citizens United can be viewed as a person—not a corporation—millions of dollars from millionaires and billionaires are infusing state, regional, and national politics. Much of this money is in the name of "school reform."