



# Alpha Delta News

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Eta State/Region VII

Rockingham/Caswell Counties

Volume 61

MARCH 2015

Issue 3

## Teachers as Leaders

Together, We are Stronger, Committing, Collaborating, Celebrating  
85 Years and Beyond Advancing Key Women Educators for Life

## From Our President

Perhaps you watched the recent Oscars program and saw the Best Actor award go to Eddie Redmayne, who portrayed renowned physicist Stephen Hawking in *The Theory of Everything*. I have yet to see this critically acclaimed movie, but I did read an intriguing interview with Hawking recently. He was asked to name the quality that he would most like to see more of in humankind. His answer was **empathy**, the ability to feel as others feel, to put ourselves in their shoes, to understand and relate to others.

I think one of the reasons I have enjoyed teaching high school and college students so much is that, in nearly every class, I have had opportunities to teach empathy through literature and history. I have taught “humanities,” after all, focusing on the human condition. I must confess that I have been known to shed tears when reading a particularly moving play or story and even in discussing a compelling moment in human history. In fact, I think this **empathy** is exactly what teachers mean when they say they want to teach “the whole child” and not just convey knowledge, a set of facts, or how to take tests. **Empathy** is at

the heart of teaching and learning because it can create a positive environment of caring and hope—ideal for getting an education. This quality is probably not scientifically measurable, but is, nevertheless, essential in education.

Because of the “human” factor in education,  
*continued p. 2*

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students and teachers should not be judged on the limited basis of one test or evaluation. Neither should schools. This is why I was dismayed to view the recent list of “grades” for our local schools distributed by the NC Department of Public Instruction. All but four of the 25 schools in Rockingham County and all of the Caswell County schools got Cs and Ds. In Rockingham, there was one A and a single B, while one elementary school received an F. You can check the database here: [http://www.news-record.com/databases/school\\_performance/](http://www.news-record.com/databases/school_performance/)

How demoralizing for all involved in education here and elsewhere in the state! These “grades” do nothing to encourage, but only tear down our teachers and students. Critics have pointed out that not enough credit was given for growth and that the lower grades clearly correspond with low wealth schools and socioeconomic factors in the community. Yet, headlines all across NC report that public schools are mediocre or failing. Having spent more than three decades working as an educator, I do not believe this. I know that a school is much more than test scores. It is a

community where a positive atmosphere and **empathy** can make a real difference in human lives.

A video just produced by students at Dalton L. McMichael High School and posted on Principal Duane Whittaker's video blog is evidence of a vibrant school community where **empathy** is at work. I hope you all will watch the video and encourage others to do so.

<http://dmhsprincipalblog.weebly.com/mcmichael-students-a-day-in-the-life-video.html>

I am sure that similar efforts are going on in all of our schools. A video such as this can clearly show that, like McMichael, a school is much more than the letter grade it may have recently received. I wish schools all across NC would make similar videos. Then the public (and especially our state leaders) might get a truer picture of what our schools mean to students.

Debbie



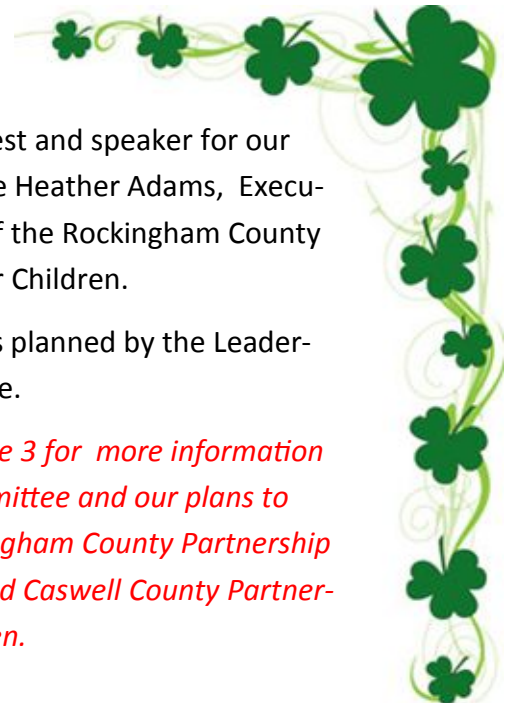
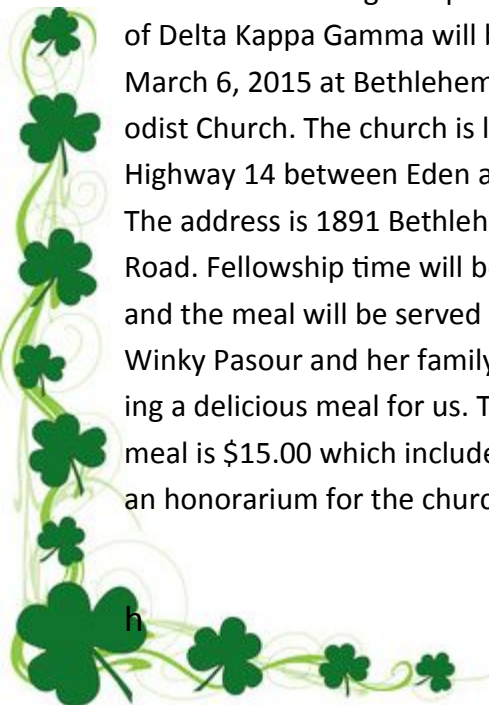
## March Meeting

The March meeting of Alpha Delta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma will be on Friday, March 6, 2015 at Bethlehem United Methodist Church. The church is located just off Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. The address is 1891 Bethlehem Church Road. Fellowship time will be at 6:00 p.m. and the meal will be served at 6:30 p.m. Winky Pasour and her family will be preparing a delicious meal for us. The price of the meal is \$15.00 which includes the meal and an honorarium for the church.

Our dinner guest and speaker for our meeting will be Heather Adams, Executive Director of the Rockingham County Partnership for Children.

Our program is planned by the Leadership Committee.

*Please see page 3 for more information from this committee and our plans to support Rockingham County Partnership for Children and Caswell County Partnership for Children.*



Times of Interest		March		Menu
Executive Board		Hostesses		Parmesan Crusted Chicken
5:45 p.m.		Rachel Scott, Chair		Green Beans
Fellowship Time		Donna Rawlins		Broccoli Salad
6:00 p.m.		Jennifer Jones		Fruit Salad
Dinner		Carol Summerlin		Yeast Rolls
6:30 p.m.				Assorted Desserts

## From Leadership Development Committee

One of our goals for this year was to work with someone from the *Rockingham County Partnership for Children (RCPC)* and *Caswell County Partnership for Children (CCPC)* to provide books for children. We will have Heather Adams from the RCPC as our speaker at our March meeting and are asking that you support their efforts and the efforts in Caswell County in one of two ways:

Rockingham County: Bring a book appropriate for a child of any age. These books will be placed in the *Borrowing Books Boxes* located throughout the county.

Rockingham and Caswell Counties: Bring a monetary gift that can be used to support their efforts. In Rockingham County we can provide a child with a book a month for five years for just \$125 through the *Dolly Parton Imagination Library*. For Caswell County our contribution could be used in the best way they see fit.

Because of the late notice we will extend the deadline for a donation of books until our May meeting in case you want to do this and do not have an opportunity to buy a book before our March meeting. Also, if we do not get enough money to support one child for five years through the *Dolly Parton Imagination Library* (\$125), we will want to request money from our treasury to make the total \$125. We will distribute money to the Caswell County organization in proportion to our membership or as directed by individual gifts from members. So if you want your monetary gift to go to Caswell County, please indicate when you make your donation.

One of our other goals is to participate in the *Rockingham Reads* program. Some of you have already done this. We are planning to meet at Elizabeth's Pizza in Wentworth at 5:45 pm on March 19 and then go together to the final panel discussion at RCC at 7 pm that evening. Please let Kay Diehl or Susan Thompson know if you plan to be with us for the supper.

Continue to accumulate points as outlined in our plan presented at the October meeting. If you need a copy of this, please let Susan know via email and she will send you a copy.

## Beginning Teacher Support

### Mini Grant

#### Beginning Teacher Support Committee

The application for our Beginning Teacher Support Mini-Grant has been released and we are looking forward to reading the teachers' proposals. The deadline for the application is March 15. Do you have contact with a beginning teacher (classroom teacher with 3 or fewer years of experience) who qualifies as an applicant for this grant? PLEASE encourage her/him to apply for the grant! Let's nurture and encourage our beginning teachers.

### Alpha Delta Book Corner

These winter months have been an opportunity for our members to spend some time reading. Here are some suggestions from our members: Kay Diehl - *Dogtripping* by David Rosenfelt, *Books 3-8 in the Andy Carpenter series* by David Rosenfelt, *Black Sands* by Colleen Coble, *Alaska Twilight* by Colleen Coble, *Dogs Aren't Men* by Dr. Billi Tiner, *John 3:16* by Nancy Moser, *Death of a Dog Whisperer* by Laurien Berenson, *Home* by Marilynne Robinson, *America* by Dinish D'Souza, *Blood Feud* by Edward Klein. Carol Holcomb - *Somewhere Safe with Somebody Good* by Jan Karon, *Gray Mountain* by John Grisham, *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd. Sharon Vaughan - *Wrapped in Rain* by Charles Martin....Donna Rawlins - *Stones from the*

## Member News

**Vanessa Richmond-Graves** has been slightly busy with volunteer work this past year and it is still ongoing. She was nominated for "Volunteer of the Year" sponsored by the Danville Regional Foundation in December 2014. In January 2015 she received "Woman of the Year Award" from the VA. Piedmont Chapter of American Business Woman Association and a *thank you card for volunteering in your community* from President Obama. On February 14, 2015, she was presented with a "Certificate of Recognition" from Mayor Sherman Saunders of Danville, Virginia for community, historic, and civic contributions to Danville and the Dan River Regions' quality of life during the annual Storytelling Festival. All honors recognized her past career as an educator, community activism, which has inspired pride, courage, social and economic progress that has seeped into her community. She has been humbled by the awards, but is still "plain-old Vanessa".....Congratulations to **Nell Rose** and husband, Bill, who will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. The happy couple will be honored with a reception at Bethlehem United Methodist Church on Sunday, April 19, 2015 from 2-4 pm. Nell invites all her Alpha Delta sisters to come celebrate. No gifts or cards--just your presence.

*River* by Ursula Hegi, *Empty Mansions: The Mysterious Life of Huguette Clark and the Spending of a Great American Fortune*, *The King of Lies* by John Hart, *Wings of a Dream* by Anne Matee, *Night Road* by Kristin Hannah.



How to survive the winter of 2015

## Happy Birthday



### March

Cathy Fleming - 4  
Virginia Sharrow - 21

### April

Allison Wright - 10  
Paige McCargo - 19

### May

Norma Williams - 6  
Nell Rose - 15  
Marguerite Holt - 19  
Susan Thompson - 31

# Delta Kappa Gamma

## Alpha Delta Chapter

December 5, 2014

The Alpha Delta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society met December 5, 2014 at the home of Brenda Atkins in Eden, North Carolina. Hostesses were Debbie Russell, Barbara Smith, Marguerite Holt, and Carolyn Lester. Twenty-five members attended. Brenda and her daughters provided a beautiful holiday setting with members contributing delicious finger foods.

President Debbie Russell conducted a brief business meeting. Treasure Sharon Vaughan reported a December 5, 2014 balance of \$7,828.66 with the Grant in Aid balance of \$3,151.58.

Membership: Cindy Sarwi reminded the group that new nominations for membership are due in February. The names will be presented at the March meeting.

Leadership Development: Susan Thompson reminded members to work on their service projects and be ready to report on their service in May. Carolyn Lester reported on the book selection for Rockingham Reads.

Scholarship: Patsy Snyder announced that Grant in Aid student applications are due in February.

Legislative: Nell Rose requested that members report the number of their legislative communications to Wanda Smith.

President Russell attended the Region VII Presidents Meeting in High Point. Also High Point University will be holding a North Carolina Authors/Writers Workshop.

The program was the annual auction to raise money for the Grant in Aid scholarship. Rachel Scott did a great job as auctioneer. Much fun was had by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeryl Rice, Secretary



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS  
**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™**

TREASURER'S REPORT

Alpha Delta Chapter

December 5, 2014 - March 3, 2015

BALANCE: DECEMBER 5, 2014		\$7,828.66
INCOME:		
Dec. 5 Auction Receipts	\$1,704.00	
2 Additional Contributions	100.00	
Trsf. From Grant-in-Aid		
For Sara Bowen	500.00	
Interest Income (Dec.-Feb.)	<u>6.23</u>	
TOTAL INCOME		<u>\$2,310.23</u>
TOTAL AVAILABLE		\$10,138.89

EXPENSES		
Mailing	\$ 9.52	
Trsf. Half Dec. 5 Auction		
Receipts to GIA	852.00	
Sara Bowen - Final Payment		
2014 Grant-in-Aid	500.00	
Rockingham Co. Reading Assoc.	75.00	
Service Charges (Dec.-Feb.)	<u>3.00</u>	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ <u>1,439.52</u>
BALANCE: March 6, 2014		\$ 8,699.37

\*\*\*\*\*

GRANT-IN-AID

Balance: December 5, 2014		\$3,151.58
INCOME:		
1/2 Dec. 5 Auction	\$852.00	
Dividend Inc (Dec-Feb)	<u>6.76</u>	
	858.76	
EXPENSE:		
Transfer to Checking		
Final Pymt to Sara Bowen	<u>500.00</u>	
DIFFERENCE		<u>+358.76</u>
BALANCE: MARCH 6, 2015		\$3,510.34



**Collegial Exchange**, the name selected for the new magazine approved at the 2014 DKG convention, captures the spirit, form, and function of this addition to DKG publications. Whether working at the kindergarten or college level, in the classroom, administration, or support areas, or in non-educational settings, members of the Society are united by a genuine spiritual fellowship as **colleagues** within the field of education. Our ability to promote personal and professional growth and excellence in education depends on working together toward common goals in the spirit of collegiality—i.e., recognizing the value and potential of each member/colleague.

Proposed as a place for *reciprocal giving and receiving* of practical tips related to teaching and DKG, reviews of educational materials and technology, and personal reflections and creative work, the *Exchange* will encourage members of DKG to interact on key topics and initiatives. As a result of such interaction, personal, professional, and organizational **change** will be at the heart of the **Exchange**.

More than 75 members submitted a total of 171 suggestions. Fifteen top contenders were considered at length by the editorial board. The winning title was submitted by **Janye Brainard of Kappa Chapter in Alpha State Organization, Texas**. She will receive a complimentary registration for her regional conference.

Members are the key to the success of the **Collegial Exchange**. The first submission deadline will be **August 1, 2015**, and the first issue will reach members in November 2015. Unlike the journal, the magazine will not have predetermined themes. See the **Submission Grid for the Collegial Exchange** on the Editorial Board page (<https://www.dkg.org/editorial-board>) for specific descriptions of the kinds of articles that are encouraged.

## The 100 Challenge - Paying It Forward

Sheila Groves, Eta State First Vice President

Roses are red

Violets are blue

The Educational Foundation

Would like to thank you.....

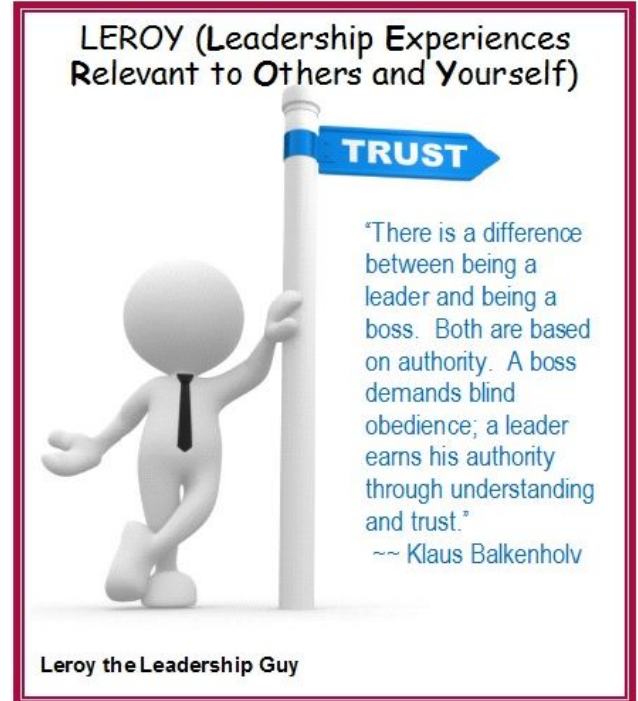
...for your response to The 100 Challenge! All 11 state regions have recorded pledges. The early February count is 480 pledges, \$7,565 promised by Eta State members to support future programs, projects, and scholarships. Imagine the difference you can make when your \$10 pledge is combined with others from across the state. The Foundation challenges all NC members to show your passion and support for the professional and personal development of women educators and excellence in education. Pay it forward with a \$10 pledge. The 100 Challenge Form is posted on the Eta State web site in the brochure. Pledges received before March 15 will be recognized at the state convention.

## Tech Tip

Artsonia is an online gallery for student artwork, lesson plans for teachers and so much more! Artsonia is the world's largest kids' art museum with over 31 million pieces of student artwork on display. Uploading images of 2- or 3-D artwork is free and helps boost the self-esteem of students seeing their work online! Friends and family members of the students can view the artwork, join fan clubs and leave personal comments for the artists. Families can purchase custom keepsakes with their child's artwork (mugs, t-shirts, mouse pads, coasters, note cards and more), and schools earn 15% of the purchases! Participation is completely free for teachers, students, and schools. In addition, there are over 5,000 lesson plans online, created by teachers, searchable by keywords, media, subject or grade level. The museum is open for students in grades pre-school through high school and is not just for art teachers! Check it out today at <http://www.artsonia.com/>.



## LEROY (Leadership Experiences Relevant to Others and Yourself)



## Convention Dates

**April 24-26, 2015** - Eta State Convention, Chapel Hill Sheraton, Chapel Hill (Region V)

**June 17-20, 2015** - Eta State Leadership Development Seminar, Raleigh, NC

**July 15-18, 2015** - Southeast Regional Conference, West Harbor Resort, Savannah, GA

**April 22 -24, 2016** - Eta State Convention, Winston Salem, NC (Region IX)

## Opinions Count

The International Non-dues Revenue Committee needs input from each member on a brief insurance survey. Please complete the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5FWQ3LY> by April 15, 2015.



### Communications Committee

Alpha Delta Newsletter

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Alpha Delta Web Site:

<http://ncalphadelta.weebly.com/>

Paige McCargo - Site Manager



## A Message From President Pat



*Everyone is passionate about something! My husband is passionate about helping people who are experiencing hard times. Whatever our passions are, it seems they are usually part of who we are and are easy to put into action to share with others.*

*In visiting chapters this past year and a half, I have found that different members have different passions. Most are passionate about their membership in DKG. Others are passionate about mentoring future leaders. Some are passionate about supporting beginning teachers! Some are passionate about completing the Eta State Chapter Achievement Award form!*

*If we are passionate about mentoring future leaders, the result of sharing our passion for leadership may result in future leaders who wish to have the same passion that we have shared. If our passion is our membership in the Society, the result of sharing our passion may be that non-members will see and know more about the Society and may want to become a part of the network of key women educators worldwide.*

*Some opportunities for putting our passion into action in Delta Kappa Gamma are:*

*1. The soon to be newly elected Eta State President will be calling on some of you to share your passions and skills by serving state committees for the 2015-2017 biennium!*

*2.*

*3. We can plan to attend the state convention in April and/or the Southeast Regional Conference in Savannah, Georgia this summer and network with others as we listen to them share their passion and we share our passion with others (whether it be through talking with others, selling our crafts, presenting a break-out session about our passion).*

*4.*

*5. We can write an article for the DKG Bulletin about our passion.*

*6.*

*7. We can use our voices of influence to give input into the state's governing documents at the state convention in April!*

*8.*

*9. If your passion is music (and I must admit that music is one of my passions), you can contact Kiki Neale, Eta State Music Representative, and let her know you are willing to perform at the state convention in April. Her contact info is: lesneales@yahoo.com*

*10.*

*11. We can write a letter to our legislator or visit or call him or her to voice our passion about a topic in education. We never know what makes a difference to a legislator, which, in turn, may help impact education in a positive way!*

*12.*

*13. We can pledge to the Eta State Educational Foundation, support Schools for Africa, Beginning Teacher Support, World Fellowship, and the International Emergency Fund; just to name a few outlets for our passions.*

*14.*

*The month of February is an opportune time to share our love and passion for Delta Kappa Gamma, in the form of actions, with non-members and with members in Eta State and on each level of the Society. We can, as our international president, Lyn Schmid says, "Pick a passion!" Pick a passion and share it! One person's passion may be another person's stepping-stone to success! Together, we are stronger!*