

# The Key Update

Newsletter of Delta Chi Chapter, Wilkes County, NC  
 Region IX of Eta State, North Carolina

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## MerleFest Project Still Needs Workers

Thank you to those who

**April 27-30, 2017**



have already signed up to work at MerleFest. Our parking lot project nets

the chapter \$1500, which pays for our 20th Century Scholar through Communities in Schools and our grant-in-aid to a teacher assistant working on a teaching degree.

There are still open slots that need to be filled on Friday and Saturday nights. Working either time will earn you a free ticket into the festival that day.

Sharon Guenther will have the schedule at the April 10 meeting, or you may call her or email her to sign up. Her email is [spguenther@embarqmail.com](mailto:spguenther@embarqmail.com). Thank you in advance for supporting our MerleFest project!

## Next Meeting April 10 Paint Party and Planning

Everyone needs some fun and relaxation sometimes and our meeting in April is planned just for that!

Many sisters asked for a different kind of program and wanted a change. Our April meeting will have a business session to discuss our 50th Anniversary being planned for May (see below) and then we will be able to get creative.

Connie Ledford, art teacher at Millers Creek Elementary and owner of Connie's Creations, will guide us. We'll paint a pretty barn scene with flowers, just in time for spring. The cost is only \$15.00 and you'll leave with your very own canvas! (Please bring cash or check as she does not take debit or credit cards.)



We'll be meeting in the Stone Center, beginning at 4:30. The fellowship will be great! Please plan to attend. There will be canvases for everyone!

*Don't forget to bring copy paper for our BT support project and your donations to Hope Harbor Home, the convention project, and SAFE House. (see page 2)*



## Special Celebration for May Meeting

Delta Chi was chartered as Beta Eta Chapter in late 1966, so the 2016-17 year is our 50th Anniversary! Beta Eta was reorganized as Delta Chi in 2012.

To honor our charter members and celebrate our golden anniversary, we will be having a special reception during our next meeting, May 15. The officers need everyone's help in preparing and commemorating the big event. We will need members to be greeters for our guests, to create/make name tags, to help at the buffet and drink areas, to serve cake, and to help clean up, among other things.

We are inviting Eta State officers and area chapter presidents, our regional director, members from Alpha Gamma, our sponsoring chapter, and local Board of Education members and the superintendent.

To fund the anniversary celebration, we will be selling Rada knives. This is something everyone can do, even if you cannot make it to the meetings!

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## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Springtime means spring cleaning...time to open the doors and windows and let the fresh air in; time to clean out closets and drawers and rid your storage areas of unwanted and unneeded items. Another helpful "cleaning" is one of mind and body. Consider these "3 Ways to Unclutter Your Soul:"

- Take a stroll through the neighborhood or on the local walking track. Stretch out those muscles before you begin. There's nothing more refreshing than walking after being cooped up in the house all winter. Breathing in fresh air clears the mind and helps with productive thinking and reflection. It is even more fun when you bring a friend along!
- Listening to some music is very uplifting to me. I'm particularly fond of some easy listening like Michael Buble or Adele, Motown favorites, or even some soothing relaxation music. Pop on your favorite music and rustle up one of your favorite meals for the family or friends. Sing along or maybe enjoy a few dance moves while you listen!
- People who are grateful live much happier and fulfilling lives. Wake each day thinking about all you have to be thankful for. Remember the most memorable happy times you have had in your life. This is a combination sure to promote a great and positive day!

I hope you'll plan on coming out on April 10, to be part of our paint party with Connie's Creations. We are painting a beautiful barn scene with flowers just in time for spring. The cost is only \$15.00 and you'll leave with your very own canvas! Please bring cash or check as she does not take debit or credit cards. We'll be meeting in the Stone Center. The fellowship will be great!

We also have some important business to attend to and want the voice and participation of all our members. **YOU ARE NEEDED!** Please make every effort to attend.

Sincerely,  
Susan



## Rada Knife Sale

In order to fund our chapter's 50th Anniversary celebration, the chapter will hold a fund-raiser of selling Rada Cutlery. Rada knives are popular and make great gifts. Each member is being asked to take part in the sale by selling or purchasing 5 pieces. If you aren't able to come to the meeting, information will be mailed to you. Thank you in advance for supporting our fund-raiser and doing your part.



## Raffle Items, Brochure on Website, Online Ticket Purchase Available

The NC DKG Educational Foundation has received its first donation by a member for the raffle. Ann Demiter, Immediate Past-President of Alpha Nu Chapter, Burke and Caldwell counties, has donated a stunning red and white quilt in a beautiful "Floral Bouquet" pattern.



Check out all the raffle items at <http://www.ncdkgef.org/raffle.html>. There is a **brochure** online to download and share with members and friends. **Online purchase of tickets** is now available through the website also, with step by step directions. Supporting the raffle and other Foundation projects helps provide funding for grants.

## Andrea to Share

Delta Chi member Andrea Byers has been awarded grants both years and will be a part of Foundation's session on successful grant writing on Saturday afternoon at the convention. Andrea will be recognized during the Annual Meeting of the Foundation on Saturday morning and will share about her grant "Legos & Robots, Oh My!"



Your support of the raffle and the Major Campaign of the Educational Foundation will help provide more grants. Hopefully more of our members will apply and be awarded grants.

## Our Sympathies To...

**Billie Jo Scott** on the passing of her father in March, 2017.



## Congratulations To...

**Pat Mazza** on the birth of her grandson Rockford Watson Mazza.

**Adina Watkins** on renewing her National Boards.



# Member News

**Linda Little:** Craig and I took a 12-day excursion which included a "grandchild trip" to New Orleans, a 52nd wedding anniversary to Williamsburg, a return trip to New Bern, and back home to Wilkesboro. Between eating beignets, handling an alligator, and strolling down historic streets, our excursion was tiring but exciting!

**Sharron Huffman:** I will be leaving on April 15th for a week long mission trip to Weslaco, TX and Progreso, Mexico. During the day, we will begin the process of putting a roof on a Church in Progreso, which will be completed by our church in June. In the evenings, we will be doing backyard Bible Clubs through our missionary's church. Once I get home, I will be attending a 3-day school board conference in Raleigh.

**Sandra McLean:** I'd like to say I've been on a bunch of fabulous trips, but I haven't. I'll have to just tell you like I tell my husband, Tony...I can't account for my time or my money! I'm a dance mom to one of my cousins two days a week, I spend a good deal of time with my mom whose health is not as good as I'd like. I am on a couple of food teams at my church, and I still spend a fair amount of time running to the beach and back. I did just get back from a Mission Trip to Red Springs, NC. Our team worked on a house in Lumberton that was flooded during Hurricane Matthew. The homeowner, Tammy, has been displaced since Sept. but should be able to move back in soon. It was a rewarding experience. I'll have to say I'm a pretty good hand at installing underlayment for floating floors!

**Jane Joines and Brenda Anderson** and their husbands have just returned from a fun in Key West. "We did a lot of walking, shopping, touring and eating! It was a wonderful trip!"

**Etta Idol:** Sharon sent this report on behalf of Etta: As you know she has had a hip replacement but has gotten along beautifully and honestly unless someone told you, you would never know!! She can walk about 1/2 mile or more per day with ease. She is back on the go and has been to President Carter's library and the aquarium in Atlanta, to Tupelo, MS with her grandson and his family, and enjoyed the family birthday party of her 9 year old great granddaughter. She will be celebrating her 95th birthday June 9th and is serving as THE flower girl for her granddaughter's wedding—she plans to wear her mob dress she wore 45 years ago at my wedding! No joke!

**Sharon Guenther:** I have been sticking pretty close to home lately due to knee problems. I will be having a left knee replacement in early June. My grandbabies are growing up on me, but still highlight my life everyday. They are such a joy. My mother continues to heal after my dad's death. She amazes me with her strength. Thanks for your sweet phone calls, cards and prayers.

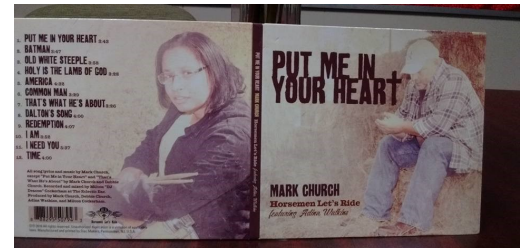
**Carol Pardue:** Carol had that virus going around, was in the hospital for dehydration and a bladder infection. Don is doing some better; a therapist is coming once a week. Donna retired and is helping out.

**Jeannie Jernigan** was too far away to come to our March meeting—she was in Italy! She and Jack enjoyed the sites, history and culture of Venice, Florence and Rome.

**Tina Higgins Johnson:** To say my life has changed would be a grave understatement. After nine months of marriage, I believe that I now completely understand the demands of balancing career and family. I am truly blessed to have a loving, supportive husband and two amazing children that want nothing more from me than to tuck them in each night. Life is great in the Johnson household! Our biggest obstacle is, "What is for dinner?" and we typically serve healthy portions of "I don't know, I don't care, and whatever." The other nights of the week, I'm typically at a high school sporting event having pizza, and my family is on their own. We are in the process of building our home near my parents and my brother's family in Mountain View. To say that I'm excited is another understatement. I never knew how much work was involved with building. The footers have been poured, and we are hopeful to move in around Christmas. Thank you to all my Delta Chi sisters that have loved, supported, and checked on me throughout the past few months, and any additional ideas for dinner would be greatly appreciated. Side note: I'm grateful for my Delta Chi cookbook that I use on Saturdays and Sundays.

**Kaye Lamb:** Things this winter have revolved mostly around sickness, injuries and taking care of others. My sweet Mother fell at a family birthday party and broke her wrist. Her wrist went in a cast immediately and for the next eight weeks she was unable to do much for herself. She stayed with us to minimize the driving and make it easier to care for her. She handled it beautifully, except for getting really tired of the cast. She couldn't wait to get it off this past Tuesday. Despite the mild winter weather, we have been hit hard by the flu with everyone but me getting it when all was said and done. With all that behind me, I'm anxious for spring to bring health and healing!

**Adina Watkins:** The band Adina plays drums with, Horsemen Let's Ride, has recently released their newest CD "Put Me in Your Heart" on iTunes, CDbaby and it is also being played on iHeart Radio and Spotify.



**Sandra Burchette** was one of two middle school principals to present last month to the Rotary Club about "The Leader in Me—Taking the Lead in Middle School." The Leader in Me is a leadership program and is being implemented in all four Wilkes County middle schools this year. Sandra is principal at East Wilkes Middle School.

**If you know of an illness or death or a celebration of a member, please share it with us. Kaye Lamb ([kavelamb77@yahoo.com](mailto:kavelamb77@yahoo.com)) is sending cards so let her or President Susan know when someone needs remembering!**





## Bring Items for Convention Project to April Meeting

Hope Harbor Home is the Eta State convention project this year. Hope Harbor Home is Brunswick County's only program offering around-the-clock response to victims of domestic violence and their children.

They have provided a variety of items on their wish list, such as school supplies, craft materials, feminine products, paper products and gift cards.

The complete list can be found on the convention webpage at [http://www.ncdkg.org/uploads/8/0/8/5/80859646/hope\\_harbor\\_home\\_info\\_and\\_wish\\_list.pdf](http://www.ncdkg.org/uploads/8/0/8/5/80859646/hope_harbor_home_info_and_wish_list.pdf).



We will have a collection box available at the April 10 meeting or you may bring your items by the Central Office and give them to Susan Blackburn by April 21.

We also decided at the March meeting to bring items for our local SAFE House as well so bring two!

## Southeast Regional to be Held in Myrtle Beach, SC

What a great opportunity to attend an International event—the Southeast Regional will be held in nearby Myrtle Beach this summer, July 19-22, 2017.

Registration materials are [online](#) on the DKG website under the Events tab. The registration form is on the left under the registration graphic.



The schedule for SER is now online. Check out the speakers and times for the sessions, 10-minute takeaways, and activities. Susan Kuenzel, Delta Chi first vice-president and a member of the International Communications and Publicity Committee, will present a 10-minute takeaway on Friday and a full session on Saturday.

Plan to attend with the conference so close to home!

## Grant Applications Due May 1

Applications for the Lucile Cornet Award for Professional Development—Individual will be due May 1, 2017. This money can be used for conferences, seminars, national certifications (but not renewals) or any non-degree seeking programs. Learn more on the [DKG Educational Foundation website](#).



## Mark the Dates for Chapter, State and International Events

<b>April 10</b>	<b>Delta Chi Chapter meeting, Board of Education, Stone Center, 4:30 p.m.</b>
Apr. 28-30	Eta State NC Convention, The Hilton Wilmington Riverside, Wilmington, NC
May 1	Deadline for <a href="#">applications</a> for Lucile Cornet Individual Professional Development Awards
May 11	Founders Day
<b>May 15</b>	<b>50th Anniversary Celebration of Delta Chi Chapter, May meeting, BOE, 4:30 p.m.</b>
Jun. 23-25	Eta State NC Leadership Development Seminar, Caraway Conference Center, Asheboro
July 19-22	Southeast Regional Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC



Read more Eta State news at <http://www.ncdkg.org/>

### Mission Statement

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

### Delta Chi Chapter 2016 – 2018 Officers

President: [Dr. Susan Blackburn](#)

1<sup>st</sup> V-P/Newsletter: [Susan Kuenzel](#)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President: [Andrea Byers](#)

Recording Secretary: [Elizabeth Thornton](#)

Treasurer: [Jenny Cockrell](#)

Past President: [Dr. Donna Cotton](#)