



The Key Update

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

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August, 2021

Meeting Dates for 2021-2022

2021

Tuesday, September 14

Monday, October 11

Monday, November 8

2022

Tuesday, March 1

Monday, April 11

Monday, May 9

Meetings will be held in the Board Room of Wilkes County Schools Central Services unless announced otherwise. Social time and refreshments will be from 4:00 to 4:30 p.m., with the business meeting starting at 4:30.

In-person attendance is planned (contingent upon virus protocols in place), and Zoom attendance will be offered again this year.

Tuesday, August 10

New Hires Luncheon Is This Week!

Delta Chi will continue its annual sponsorship of Wilkes County School's Academy for New Teacher Success (ANTS) by providing lunch, desserts, and chips on Tuesday, August 10.

The chapter will purchase subs again from Subway, and members are asked to bring individual bags of chips and desserts. (While it is not necessary for desserts to be individually wrapped this year, the line moves much more smoothly if they are.) Please take your donations to Central Services and leave them in the tub in the lobby. Don't forget to sign the donation sheet when you drop them off!

Co-presidents Tamarah Cornette and Elizabeth Thornton and Dr. Donna Cotton, Chief Academic Officer, will represent Delta Chi at the luncheon. Other members are welcome to assist with serving this year but are reminded that virus numbers are on the rise, and masks are strongly encouraged.

The ANTS luncheon kicks off our 2021-2022 DKG year. Plans are to continue our support of Nichols for Kids with donations for homeless/in-need students through the school social workers and support of the beginning teachers through donations and sharing each quarter. We will also provide awards to beginning teachers in the spring, grant-in-aids to teacher assistants working towards a teaching degree, and scholarships to members.

Volunteers Needed for MerleFest

MerleFest will be held this year on September 16-19 and we will need volunteers to man our parking lot. In exchange for working a four-hour shift, you will receive a free pass for entry that day.



Since we did not have a fundraiser last year, this will be a good opportunity to obtain funds to continue supporting a New Century Scholar and other projects.

Contact President [Tamarah](#) to sign up.

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Members Tapped for NC DKG Leadership Positions

Lori Holguin and **Linda Little** have been appointed by NC DKG President Beth Winstead as chairs of state committees.

Lori will lead the Leadership Development Committee. Lori has served on this committee for two years.

Linda will be chair of the Personnel Committee. Linda has served as chair of several state committees and was NC DKG President for 2011-2013.

Dr. Susan Blackburn will continue as Regional Director for Region IX, and **Susan Kuenzel** will continue as *NC Data* Editor and as a member of the state Communications and Marketing Committee.

Congratulations to these ladies and thank you for your leadership in NC DKG!

Susan B and **Lori** were part of NC DKG contingency at the International Conference in San Antonio, TX, in mid-July. Hear about their exciting trip at our September meeting!



New Roles for Members

Andrea Byers: I have an exciting summer with lots of changes. I will be taking on a new role as assistant principal at Wilkesboro Elementary School. As soon as we finish vacationing in Florida, it will be a busy school year. My oldest daughter will be starting the Early College High School as well, so great things are happening in our home.

Lori Holguin: I got a new job within the ESL department. I am now the lead ESL teacher and will be based at Central Services. I have been getting my office ready this summer. I have also been working to get all of the paperwork and documents ready for when school begins in August. Have a happy summer!

Heather Pardue: I have accepted a position with Elkin City Schools as an MTSS Specialist. I'll be K-12, but will spend most of my time at the elementary level. While I hated to say goodbye to my Wilkes County Schools family, I am excited (anxious and nervous!) about my new journey at Elkin City! I have certainly been greatly impacted by all of the strong women leaders in Wilkes and value everything I've learned from each and every one!

THE PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE



Greetings Sisters,

Whether you are working your regular hours, teaching summer school, retired, working a second job or taking time off to be with family, we hope you are enjoying the change of pace that comes with the summer months.

This issue of *The Key Update* has a lot of information to pass on to members. Several members have made exciting career changes. Our chapter is full of strong women educators and we are proud of any Delta Chi sister accepting a new challenge.

The Executive Committee met on June 1. It was a productive meeting where we were able to set dates, plan programs, decide on BT and Nichols for Kids collection dates and discuss numerous ideas to enhance meetings. Our first event will be the New Hire Luncheon on August 10. Please be sure to sign the sheet when you bring your donations! The cart is in the lobby of Central Services, ready for your goodies now.

May the remainder of your summer be filled with sunny days, good books, yummy cookouts, prolific gardens, relaxing vacations, and good times with friends and family!

See you soon!

Elizabeth and Tamarah

Member News

Martha Glass: I have no news...I am just staying home and watching the birds and the cats. Old age rules what you do!

Renee Gentry: This summer has been very busy for my family. Travis, my husband, and Alex, our son, are working this summer at Boy Scout Camp Raven Knob. Hannah, our daughter, is taking summer classes at NCSU and working on campus at the poultry unit helping graduate students doing research. With everyone away for the summer, I have started a new hobby - quilting. So far I have completed a lap quilt and a twin size quilt. My next project is to make a full size quilt for Alex to celebrate earning his Eagle Scout Award last year. I've certainly learned a lot about sewing and what NOT to do and that patience is the key!

Heather B. Pardue: I've been enjoying my time at home with the twins...we swim, go to the park, weekly trips to the public library, have enjoyed the Dobson splash pad and have gone on a few family "adventures," as the twins call them. We had our yearly family beach trip scheduled for the last week in July...we headed to Oak Island with my parents.

Our Sympathies To ...

Sharon Guenther on the passing of her mother last week.



Sharon had sent news that her mother, who had just turned 87, had been hospitalized and in rehab, but she was back home in Greensboro. Sharon had been going to help stay with her at night.

Our thoughts are with you, Sharon.

Jane Joines: Max and I celebrated our anniversary with a Christian Tours trip to Macinac Island with our dear friends Brenda and Larry Anderson. The trip was scheduled last year for our 30th but had to cancel due to COVID. We had a great time seeing the beautiful state of Michigan. The beauty and experiences on the island and at The Grand Hotel will be cherished forever. We traveled through eight states and saw

*Special congratulations to **Laura Brooks** and her family on the birth of a baby boy on May 17. Laura said, "Collin Elijah Brooks makes my third little boy, and we are all so excited he's here!"*



three of the Great Lakes. We took an American Soo Locks tour along the border of Canada. The summer has also been filled with making memories with our grandchildren. We are so blessed!

Lois Bentley will be moving to Raleigh later this month to be closer to her children.

Pauletta Parker: I visited the Wilkes Literacy Summer SEEK (Summer Educational Enrichment for Kids) program during week 3 at the Escuelita facility in Country Square. Half of the children being served spoke only in Spanish. The teacher, teacher assistant, and Jean Hefner, Executive Director for Wilkes Literacy, worked with the children on letter recognition and phonics in the classroom setting. Outside activities and/or games were also centered on the same goals. It was awesome to observe the program and see first-hand the growth of the children in letter recognition and use of phonics. This year, the summer program was held for 4 weeks with the first 2 weeks held at the North Wilkesboro Housing Authority and the last 2 weeks at Escuelita. Hopefully, the program will extend out into the eastern part of Wilkes County in 2022.

The Escuelita facility had initially been part of CIS and I had been there as a volunteer to help get supplies organized for the opening of the facility and to see the children on the first day at the site. I took school supplies to be used by the SEEK program and other local agencies that now use the Escuelita facility.





President Beth Winstead has chosen three gold links on a red background, using the DKG colors, as her theme icon.

“Linking the Past, Present and Future”

By: Beth Winstead, 2021-2023 NC DKG President

Welcome to the 2021-2023 NC DKG biennium. My theme for the biennium is “Linking the Past, Present and Future.” I want us to remember to honor and celebrate all those women before us—the ones who founded DKG when it had to be done in secret, who led us through divisive times, who took the first steps into technology, and who helped keep us afloat when we had to dive into the deep end of the virtual world. One of the best ways we can honor those before us is to ensure that NC DKG thrives and continues to grow now and into the future. We must not only grow in membership but also cultivate the leaders of tomorrow.

This first year of my biennium I plan to focus on three main areas:

Membership — Recruit, Retain and Reinstate.

Are we being honest with those we recruit that DKG is a working organization?

Are we recognizing when a member might be in the stage of her life that she needs to be less active but have more support?

Are we reaching out to members we lost who might be ready to rejoin?

Fellowship — Each time we gather we need to celebrate. It is time to renew friendships and make new ones.

Self-Care — We each must take the time to care for ourselves physically and mentally.

I look forward to this adventure and ask each of you to join me.

Educational Foundation Grants— Where Wishes CAN Become Reality!

Do you have a chapter or classroom project you would like to do or a professional development event you would like to attend? The NC DKG Educational Foundation has announced that grant applications are available on the Foundation's website at <http://www.ncdkgef.org/>.



The fall deadline is **September 30, 2021**. These funds are available to members and non-members. The grants will be awarded on November 1, 2021. Please spread the word and submit those applications.

Two NC DKG Educational Foundation Grants include:

- Foundation Learning/Literacy
- Foundation Personal/Professional Growth



The [July/August DKG News](#) is available on the DKG website. Highlights include information on the two summer conferences that took place in July in Portland and San Antonio, articles from international committees, and Administrative Board actions from the May meeting.

Mark the Dates

Aug. 10	Delta Chi Chapter ANTS luncheon
Aug. 15-Sept. 15	Arts & Humanities Gallery submission window open
Aug. 23	ASK Time for chapter presidents
Sept. 14	Delta Chi Chapter Meeting
Sept. 15	Nominations due for international offices or elected committees
Sept. 18	NC DKG Fall Executive Board meeting, Greensboro
Sept. 27	ASK Time for chapter presidents
Sept. 30	NC DKG Educational Foundation Grants applications due
Sept. 30	Deadline to enter dues into portal to avoid members being dropped

Delta Chi Facebook page:

[facebook.com/deltachichapter](https://www.facebook.com/deltachichapter)

Delta Chi website:

<https://deltachinc.weebly.com/>

For comments or questions regarding *The Key Update*, please contact Editor [Susan Kuenzel](#) or one of the co-presidents: [Tamarah Cornette](#), [Elizabeth Thornton](#)

Members Note: The DKG calendar right will give you a biennium at a glance so you can plan! It gives both International and NC DKG dates. (Our chapter meeting dates are on page 1.) Highlight deadlines that you are interested in, such as scholarship due dates and submission deadlines for grants and scholarships. We hope some of our chapter members will submit work to the Arts and Humanities Gallery this year!

NCDKGEF Project

Celebrate a Teacher — Honoring Heroes

This past year our teachers have been asked to be more creative, inventive, and resourceful than ever before. These teachers have in turn met this task with creativity, innovative ideas, and dedication.



Beginning August 1, the Educational Foundation would like to celebrate these teachers with a statewide campaign to honor these heroes. Each contribution to the NC DKG

Educational Foundation will honor an inspirational teacher and help to support grants for learning programs, classroom projects, and professional development.

Directions, donation forms, and celebration certificates can be found below and on the Foundation website- www.ncdkgef.org.

[Honoring Heroes Information and Donation form 2021.pdf](#)
[Celebrate a Teacher Honoring Heroes certificate-2021.pdf](#)

The above news appeared in the NC Educational Foundation newsletter *In A Nutshell*, sent out by email last week. Did you receive it? If not, please let [Susan K](#) know so she can send your email address to the Foundation. Their newsletter goes out to every member who has an email on file with International.

Annual Calendar 2021-2022

2021

- July 1 Beginning of new DKG year (new NC DKG biennium)
- July 15 Form 15 due from chapters to state treasurer
- July 26 ASK Time for chapter presidents
- Aug. 1 *Bulletin: Collegial Exchange* submissions due
- Aug. 1 *NC DKG News* deadline
- Aug. 15-Sept. 15 Arts & Humanities Gallery submission window open
- Aug. 23 ASK Time for chapter presidents
- Sept. 15 International Speaker applications due
- Sept. 15 Nominations for International Officers and Elected Committees due
- Sept. 18 NC DKG Fall Executive Board Meeting, Greensboro
- Sept. 27 ASK Time for chapter presidents
- Sept. 30 NC DKG Educational Foundation Grants applications due
- Sept. 30 Deadline to enter dues into portal to avoid members being dropped
- Oct. 1 *Bulletin: Journal* submissions due
- Oct. 1 Proposed amendments to DKG *Constitution* and *International Standing Rules* due
- Oct. 25 ASK Time for chapter presidents
- Oct. 27 NC DKG Founders Day
- Nov. 1 Cornet Individual and Seminar PD Awards applications due
- Nov. 1 *NC DKG News* deadline
- Nov. 15 990-N ePostcard deadline to IRS
- Nov. 22 ASK Time for chapter presidents
- Dec. 15 Chapter directory due to regional director
- Dec. 15 *Bulletin: Collegial Exchange* submissions due



2022

- Jan. 15-Feb. 15 Arts & Humanities Gallery submission window open
- Jan. 24 ASK Time for chapter presidents
- Jan. 31 NC DKG Educational Foundation Grants applications due
- Feb. 1 Chapter President Annual Report due
- Feb. 1 Scholarship applications due for NC DKG & DKG International
- Feb. 1 *NC DKG News* deadline
- Feb. 28 ASK Time for chapter presidents
- Mar. 1 Chapter Achievement, Golden Key, Rising Star, and Beginning Teacher Awards nominations due
- Mar. 1 Newsletter Excellence, Website Excellence and Communications Excellence Awards requirements due
- Mar. 1 *Bulletin: Journal* submissions due
- Mar. 1 DKGIEF Project applications due
- Mar. 28 ASK Time for chapter presidents
- Apr. 25 ASK Time for chapter presidents (tentative)
- Apr. 29-May 1 NC DKG Convention, Asheville
- Apr. 30 Dissertation Recognition due to International
- May 1 Cornet Individual PD Awards applications due
- May 1 *NC DKG News* deadline
- May 11 DKG Founders Day
- May 15 *Bulletin: Journal* submissions due
- May 15 New Chapter Officers Report due
- May 23 ASK Time for chapter presidents
- June 30 Membership dues due to chapter treasurers
- July 12-16 International Convention, New Orleans, LA



April 28-30, 2023 NC DKG Convention, Greenville NC