**ETA DATA ~ Updates for Chapter Presidents and Editors**

Vol. 10, No. 10  “Let’s Sparkle!”  April 15, 2019

**CONVENTION TIME IS ALMOST HERE! May 3-5, 2019**

**CROWNE PLAZA HICKORY ♦ CONVENTION SCHEDULE ONLINE**

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**Important Reminders for Presidents Regarding Convention**

As you pack your suitcase for convention, please review the following and pack them as well since extras will not be available at convention:

- A copy of the amendments proposals found on the Eta State website or have them available on your device.
- The minutes from the October Executive Board meeting held in Elon, sent in mid-March.
- The Strategic Plan proposed changes found on the Planning Committee’s webpage. (See page 3 for a summary.)

Once you are at the convention, pick up your registration packet prior to the opening of the Friday, 4:00 p.m. Executive Board meeting. The packet will have your convention program that includes agendas, committee reports, and other convention information.

Plan to come and enjoy great fellowship, hear wonderful music and speakers, learn something new at the workshops, explore special vendor offerings, and participate fully in the life of DKG Eta State!

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**Convention Hotel Filled, Alternate Hotels Suggested**

As is often the case as convention time draws near, the convention hotel is booked. Executive Secretary Dr. Barbara Perry-Sheldon said, “The Crowne Plaza Hickory gave us all their extra rooms but they are filled. It is a very busy weekend in Hickory with many competing events, such as a gymnastics competition.”

See page 2 for a list of other hotels in Hickory and the surrounding area. Dr. Perry-Sheldon also suggests checking hotel locator sites such as TripAdvisor or Expedia.

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**Mark the Dates**

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Apr. 15</td>
<td>Early bird registration ends for Eta State NC Convention</td>
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<td>May 1</td>
<td>Deadline for applications for Lucile Cornetet Individual PD Awards</td>
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<td>June 30</td>
<td>Chapter members’ dues deadline to chapter treasurers</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 1</td>
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<td>July 1</td>
<td>Filing of federal 990N form opens (due Nov. 15)</td>
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<td>July 10</td>
<td>Eta State News deadline</td>
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<td>July 15</td>
<td>Form 15 due from chapter treasurers to state</td>
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Also check the Eta State NC calendar online at [https://www.ncdkg.org/calendar.html](https://www.ncdkg.org/calendar.html).
Eta State NC Convention 2019
Celebrating 85 Years—Share the Sparkle!
Crowne Plaza Hickory, May 3-5

Convention Reminders

Treasurers
Chapter treasurers are encouraged to attend a special workshop at the state convention in Hickory to learn more about the electronic processing of dues that will begin July 1, 2019. Dues for the year 2019-2020 should be collected by June 30 and forwarded to International and to Eta State on or after July 1, 2019. International President Cathy Daugherty will lead the workshop, which will be held during the first workshop time at 1:00 p.m.

Presidents Take Note: Please share with your treasurer—she might not know if you don’t tell her!

Fund$ for Florence
Fund$ for Florence, our 2019 convention project, will benefit DKG member-teachers in counties declared natural disaster areas after Hurricane Florence. Members are asked to bring gift cards in any denomination. Place the gift cards in an envelope with the vendor and amount written on the outside. There will be a basket at the registration table to share the gift cards.

Send a Representative
Presidents Take Note: If you are unable to personally attend the Executive Board Meeting on Friday or the Saturday night banquet, it is important that you send a representative. Before the Executive Board Meeting on Friday and the banquet on Saturday, please let Executive Secretary Dr. Barbara Perry-Sheldon and your regional director know who that person will be.

Check the Convention Website


Educational Foundation Raffle Offers a Variety
The NC DKG Educational Foundation Raffle will be back at the 2019 Eta State NC Convention in Hickory! The raffle features a variety of items and price options. Tickets are available online through the Donate Today button. Use the message area to note for which items your tickets are purchased. Look for the raffle table Saturday to purchase tickets at the convention.

Items up for auction include a miniature pottery tea set, a Native American necklace and earrings, an antique rice winnowing basket, Biltmore House tickets, pottery, baskets, garden hooks, and more. Download a flyer to read about the items and pricing at http://www.ncdkgef.org/2019-raffle.html.

Remember all donations to the Educational Foundation fund grant opportunities for teachers.

Alternate Hotel Sites Suggested
With the Crowne Plaza Hickory being filled, Dr. Barbara Perry-Sheldon, Executive Secretary, lists these other Hickory hotels to call about rooms: La Quinta, Holiday Inn Express, Hampton Inn, Fairfield Inn, Courtyard, Best Western, Comfort Inn, Hilton Garden Inn, and Sleep Inn.

Nearby Cities (less than 25 miles away):
Lincolnton: Hampton Inn and a Quality Inn (about 23 miles)
Morganton: Hampton Inn, Sleep Inn (about 23 miles)
Lenoir: Comfort Inn, Days Inn (about 20 miles)

Dr. Perry-Sheldon also suggests checking out hotel locator sites such as TripAdvisor, Expedia or your favorite one. She also said, “You could just do a Google search for the town’s name and hotels. These type searches let you check prices, ratings, location, etc., for many hotels very quickly, at once. I do hope this suggestion is helpful to you. I look forward to seeing you at convention.”

ELP Invites You to Their Workshop
Members of the Educational Law & Policy Committee are preparing an informative and interactive workshop for Saturday afternoon at the Eta State NC Convention in Hickory on May 4. Susan Phipps, chair, extends an invitation to all members to come learn more in-depth information about some of the educational issues contained in Eta State NC’s 2019 White Paper on Legislative Priorities. Susan said, “Come find out how and why it is so important to champion these issues with lawmakers to improve public education throughout our state. Never forget: We are the voice for our students! Hope to see you there.”
Rules … on the Mend
By: Tammy Cullom, Chair, Rules Committee

Our committee sends a big thank you to chapter presidents for forwarding the Bylaws and Standing Rules amendments document to all of your chapter members. We hope that chapter members are discussing these amendments and giving you feedback. Presidents will be voting on the amendments at the Executive Board Meeting on Friday afternoon, May 3, in Hickory. The general membership will be voting at the Saturday morning Business Meeting.

There are many wonderful workshops being offered at the convention. Consider sending someone from your chapter to our workshop from 3:20-4:20 in the Hampton Room. The Rules Committee members will be talking more in depth about changes at the state level and how they will affect your chapter rules. A checklist of necessary revisions will be discussed and distributed.

Suggested Changes to Eta State NC Strategic Plan Shared

The Planning Committee has proposed some revisions to the Eta State NC Strategic Plan based on a review of the current DKG International plan and on conversations with state leaders. Overall, the committee found that the Eta State NC current plan meets the needs of our organization effectively.

The changes include adding a subsection under the leadership development goal to “Train leaders to advocate for educational law and policy.” The Rationale is that advocacy with elected officials has been an on-going and vital part of Eta State’s work in North Carolina. The Educational Law and Policy Committee conducts trips to the General Assembly each year and encourages members to work with local officials. Training is an important component in this vital work.

To recognize members who work in settings other than school systems, the committee recommends adding the words “or other educational settings” to the subsection about press releases.

The committee also recommends adding a new goal related to building resources. It would read: “Goal 5: Build Resources. A. Encourage support of the NC DKG Educational Foundation so grant opportunities for members will grow, and B. Seek and share resources that support the needs of the Society.”

The current Strategic Plan and the proposed plan if the amendments are accepted can be found on the Planning Committee page of the Eta State NC website. A separate document including the rationale for each change may be found on the same page.

Dr. Elaine Jenkins (bjenkins4@earthlink.net), chair of the Planning Committee, welcomes questions or comments regarding the proposed changes.

Timing of Dues Reminder

As summer is quickly approaching, Ruth Jones, Eta State NC Treasurer, shared these reminders about the new schedule of dues payments:

- Inductees in April and May pay dues for 2019-2020
- Inductees in April or May should be paying the full amount of dues along with the induction fee. These dues will be for the 2019-2020 year. This is the time when payment is being made by other members, and all dues will be sent to Eta State NC and International in July.

Training on the new electronic method of transmitting these dues will be provided at the state convention in Hickory. Chapter treasurers should take their laptops to the convention.

April Showers—Got Your Umbrella?
By: Dr. Teresa Cowan, Eta State NC First VP, EEC Chair

Metaphorically speaking, the month of April is showering Eta State NC members with a deluge of information in preparation for May flowers—in this case the Eta State NC 2019 Convention is blooming in early May. This month EEC of Eta State NC encourages you to Empower, Engage and Create umbrellas of protection as you implement strategies to prepare your members for convention.

- Empower: Publish convention deadlines, links and costs for easy access.
- Engage: Book a chapter room to share; plan a carpool road trip; bring a chapter member to convention.
- Create: Design convention posts in newsletter, on chapter website and on social media pages.

Headquarters Pavers Have Arrived!

The Pave the Way project for pavers at Headquarters raised $15,000 for the Headquarters Fund. The pavers have arrived and once the weather starts to cooperate with the contractor, the job will begin.

The well issues at Headquarters are under control. “We have water!” The Headquarters Committee thanks Mary Beth White, local contact, for juggling contractors and plumbers and for keeping everyone informed. The new well was dug at a cost of $6,510 and was paid for from funds on hand.
I am so excited that in just a few weeks we will be in Hickory for the 85th Eta State Birthday Celebration.

- Region X has planned a fabulous convention for you.
- Eta State NC will conduct the business of our Society throughout the weekend.
- Cathy Daugherty, our International President, is the featured banquet speaker.
- Leslie Barger, the Music Representative, has planned some beautiful music for us to enjoy.
- The Freedom High School Chamber Singers and the South Caldwell HS Jazz Ensemble will perform.
- The Awards, Beginning Teacher Support, Communications & Publicity, and Scholarship Committees will recognize members and chapters.
- Elizabeth Miers has scheduled informative workshops.
- The Membership Committee will provide a meaningful Ceremony of Remembrance to celebrate the lives of our beloved sisters.
- The NC DKG Educational Foundation will conduct their annual meeting.
- Dr. Teresa Cowan has planned an exciting 85th Birthday Celebration Brunch.

Don’t forget to make a copy of the proposed rules changes, the Strategic Plan, and the September Minutes! We will not be providing any copies at the meeting. Remember to bring your Gift Cards for Fund$ for Florence.

You will not want to miss our annual convention so pack your bags and join us in Hickory! I hope to see you May 3-5, 2019!

Keep Sparkling!  
Connie Phifer Savell  
Eta State NC President  
2017-2019

Notable Women Recognition at Convention’s Birthday Brunch

Chapter presidents were notified last week that all the women nominated for recognition as Notable Women as part of the 85th birthday celebration will be recognized at the Sunday Birthday Brunch in a multimedia presentation and listed in the convention program.

In the letter, President Connie stated, “Please know Eta State has not budgeted for any expenses to be paid for these honorees. We are proud of their accomplishments but unfortunately we cannot fund their attendance. I would like to encourage chapters to pay for their meal as a way of recognizing very deserving members. Please remember they will need to register as well. This is like the Rising Star and Golden Key recognitions.”

New GoAhead DKG Tours Announced

The GoAhead Tours sponsored by DKG have been popular with members and friends. New tours have been announced for late 2019 and 2020.

Spend a long weekend in Santa Fe August 29-September 1, 2019. Take in the cultural vibrancy and natural beauty of New Mexico’s capital city with local guides and sightseeing tours.

Explore the rainforests, volcanoes, and wildlife of Costa Rica December 28, 2019, to January 5, 2020. “From misty cloud forests and lush jungles to volcanic landscapes and sun-kissed beaches, there’s so much to love about this Central American hot spot.”

Enjoy San Francisco and the Wine Country of California October 9-14, 2020. This tour includes four wine tastings, two guided sightseeing tours, visits to wineries in Sonoma and Napa Valley, the Golden Gate Bridge, the Mission District, and a cooking class in Berkeley.

International Conference Early Bird Registration Ends Soon

Early bird registration for the Arts and Humanities Conference to be held in Asheville, June 27-29, 2019, will end May 30, so register soon.

Log in to the member side of the DKG website, click on the Events tab, next on the Asheville photo, and then on the Register button (left one). Specific steps will guide you through the registration process. You will be able to see your registration info and print a receipt from your MyDKG profile.

Hints to Editors: Please continue to share information about the International Conference so Eta State NC members are informed and excited about hosting this major event. Let’s show NC’s Sparkle!