

#### THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

GAMMA ETA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

**EPSILON STATE/SOUTHEAST DISTRICT** 

VOLUME 22 NUMBER 5, FEBRUARY 12, 2016

#### **FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Dear Gamma Eta Sisters,

For those of you still in schools, I'm sure you're feeling as though the year is whizzing by. It's hard to believe it's close to the end of the third quarter already. Mardi Gras and lent snuck up on us for sure. It's time for us to begin looking ahead to the Epsilon State Convention in Bossier City and election of new officers for the next biennium. Please make whatever donation you can to our First Timers' Theme Basket for the convention. You may have something for Bastille Day, Mardi Gras, etc. See Renee's notes on the following page. Funds raised from the baskets help to defray costs for first timers'. The deadline for the convention registration has now passed; therefore, if you plan to attend, you will now pay \$40 instead of \$15. Hotel rooms must be booked by February 26, in order to receive convention rates.

I will be wearing the new t-shirt designed for this year's state convention at our February meeting. Costs have risen and this is a way for host Northwest District to supplement the registration fees collected in order to have an excellent convention. If you would like to order a t-shirt, I will have the order form with me at our meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at Café Americain at 6 PM. The cost is \$20, and orders are due by March 1<sup>st</sup>. I will pick up t-shirts ordered at the convention and get them to you.

If you have anything to donate to the silent auction at the state convention to assist with operating expenses, a picture and description are to be sent to Judy Rongey at <u>judy.dkg@gmail.com</u>. If you are interested in singing in the choir at the convention, let me know, and I'll give you the details.

I am excited to announce, as did Margret later in this newsletter, that our chapter website has been certified. Congratulations to Margret for all of her hard work on the website and for trying to keep us up-to-date with technological advances. Don't forget to bring your gmail accounts to our February meeting.

I am pleased that Alpha Xi members will be joining us for our February meeting and Orphan Train book discussions. We will be joining them on April 11, 2016, to hear Mr. Dupree of the Orphan Train Museum.

The nominations committee will present the slate of officers at our meeting also.

And here's the best news of all – We anticipate receiving the Gold Key Chapter Certificate at the convention for the first time ever! Congratulations to all of you for helping to make this happen.

Mary Jane

1 <sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT	SECOND VICE PRESIDENT REPORTS ON "MEMBERSHIP"
CELEBRATING OUR FRENCH HERITAGE! One of the many delights at the Epsilon State Convention each year is getting to look over all the theme baskets cleverly- prepared by DKG chapters all over the state. This year, Gamma Eta has chosen "Celebrating Our French Heritage" as the theme for our basket. Items for the basket should be brought to the February chapter meeting. This year, space restrictions require all baskets to be actual baskets, so let's keep that in mind. So, mettez votre chapeau de pensée, and let's get our basket filled with some great items. Anything fleur de lis, Cajun, gay Paree if it's French, it will inspire our DKG sisters to say OUI! Renee	On February 16, 2016, at Café Americain in Baton Rouge, Gamma Eta will have as its program a review of immigration books by award winning author Joan Lowery Nixon. Included in the review will be a series of books she wrote about orphan children, mainly from New York City, who rode trains to all parts of the country in the late 1800's to early 1900's. Books being reviewed will be: OF HOPE, LAND OF DREAMS, A PLACE TO BELONG, A FAMILY APART and CAUGHT IN THE ACT. These books and others in her series, THE ORPHAN TRAIN ADVENTURES, can be used today to show development of immigration in the United States. Linda

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

ANNOUNCEMENTS	HAPPY BIRTHDAYS!!!!
Chapter Meeting: February 16, 2016 Time: 6:00 p.m.	FEBRUARY/MARCH
Where: Café Americain (Corner of Jefferson Hwy. & Lobdell) Program: Book Study (Alphi Xi will join us) Hostesses: Rita Patton/Carol Peltier	Glenda Lofton-3/27 Debbie Marchand-3/05 Christine Merchant-3/26

# > ON A PERSONAL NOTE...

"My wrist is much better. Diagnosed with a staph infection from second surgery. Have been on intravenous antibiotics for the past 5-6 weeks."

Catherine Brooks

From the Secretary	Treasurer's Note
meeting, you need to ensure that you have established a Gmail account for yourself. Please write your email	Our current membership is twenty-two after a few members were reinstated and a new member initiated. Those of you who attended the Baton Rouge
c c	Coordinating Council Christmas dinner will be reimbursed \$5 if you have not already received it. We
You can use this <u>link</u> to set up the account, and you can watch this 2010 <u>video</u> to help walk you through the process.	were not charged for the dessert, which was not served.
If you still have trouble, please call me at 225-931- 5009 OR email me at <u>fmatkinson@gmail.com</u> , and I will help you set up an account.	

## INTERNATIONAL/STATE FOCUS

Consider attending the DKG State Convention March 11-13, 2016, in Bossier City at the Hilton Garden Inn and the DKG International Convention July 4-9, 2016 in Nashville, Tennessee at the Gaylord Opryland Resort. Registration forms for the State Convention have been sent by email on several occasions. The deadline to avoid paying a penalty was February 11<sup>th</sup>. The program sounds terrific!

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### **TOPICS OF INTEREST**

- Southeast District Meeting-9/24/2016 in Ponchatoula. Put in your calendar now.
- \* Web Site is approved. See more details in Margret's articles.
- \* Pay attention to President's Message for our Key Chapter Status.
- If you have not already done so, establish a Gmail account to access the website.
- \* New Officer's Training on 6/4/2016 in Pineville.
- I<sup>st</sup> Timer Basket Items needed to reflect theme of "Celebrating our French Heritage."

## **EDITOR'S EDICTS**

Wow! This is one more busy month. It started with Ground Hog Day, then Mardi Gras, Lent, Valentine's Day, for me February is birthday month for both of my adult children, Chapter Meetings for most chapters, time to get those books read in preparation for our meeting, announcement of nominees for Gamma Eta Officers to serve for the next two years, President's Day, and last, but not least, time to continue to count our abundance of blessings bestowed on a daily basis. Take care everyone and hope to see you on the 16<sup>th</sup> at Café Americain.

**Barbara Verdin-Newsletter Editor** 

barbaraverdin@att.net

# Gamma Eta's website is official!!

We are official! The website for our chapter, www.gammaetaepsilondkg.com

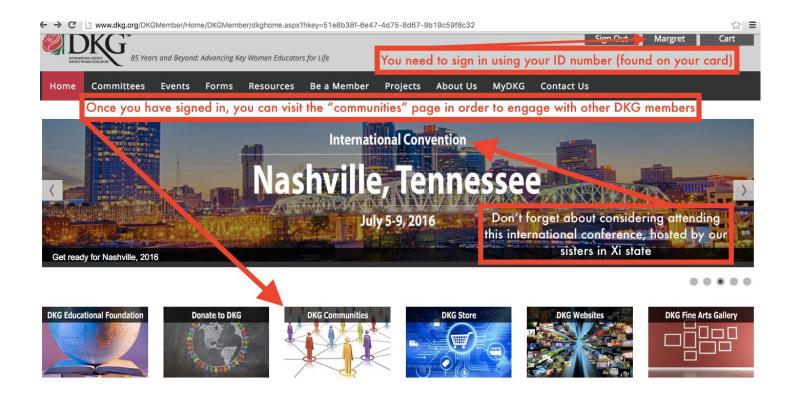
(to remember the address, think our chapter, our state, and then dkg), is up and running, and we have been approved by International. There are still many edits to make, pictures to add, elements to refine, but we are officially a certified website. A special thanks to Mary Jane, Renee, Linda, Katie, Carol, Barbara, and Debbie Marchand for their help and guidance through the process.



# International's new website

With the redesign of the International website of DKG, there are many great new features that afford us an opportunity to engage with other DKG members.

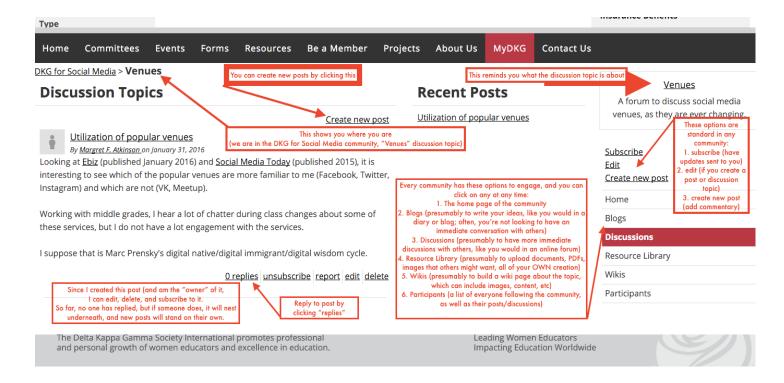
I have created several screen shots that will hopefully walk you through one of the fun elements of the redesign.



#### Communities

This list of communities can be expanded based on our needs, but these communities are a great start to engaging with others. Just click on a community and "follow" it.

Name	Description
DKG Book Club	A DKG Community for members interested in reading and reviewing books.
DKG Collaborative Communities	An online community dedicated to professional collaboration among DKG members where educators can share ideas, strategies, research and best practices.
DKG Communications & Publicity	A community dedicated to sharing ideas for communicating and publicizing DKG.
DKG for Social Media	A DKG community where members can explore venues, best practices and ethics in the world of social media.
DKG Home Life	A DKG community where members can share ideas for the home: recipes, do-it-yourself projects, home design, gardening, and all matters of the home.
DKG in Canada	A community for members in Canada
DKG Membership Forum	A DKG forum where members can share strategies and tips for growing membership in chapters and state organizations.
DKG Mentoring	A community dedicated to mentoring among DKG members.
DKG Travels	A community for DKG members interested in sharing travel experiences and opportunities.
DKG with a focus on the Arts	A DKG forum for discussion about music, art, photography, and creative writing.



"Communities" is only one of the great new features of the new website for International. Gamma Eta will continue to provide leadership in use and engagement of the website.