

The 21st Century and Beyond

1982 - 1984

President	Mrs. Kay S. Tyndall
First Vice President	Mrs. Peggy Kennedy
Second Vice President	Mrs. Sebie Hewitt
Treasurer	Dr. Mary M. Cauley
Corresponding Secretary	Mrs. Susie Whitmore
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Juanna Winfree
Immediate Past President	Mrs. Marjorie K. Moore

New members were initiated at the October meeting of the 1982-1984 biennium. Retirees were presented brass bowls. It was also noted that past President Marjorie K. Moore had been selected to become the Region II Director. She announced that Region II would meet in Kinston in October 1983.

In December a report was given to the membership concerning attendance at meetings. It was decided that a member should assume the responsibility of the cost of the meal unless proper notification for absence was given to the contact person. Also, an ad hoc committee was appointed to study and devise methods of boosting attendance at meetings. At this time, Sigma members voted to include the cost of the Delta Kappa Gamma keypin in the initiation fee for new members.

Because of the rise in international dues, President Kay S. Tyndall announced dues for regular and reserve members would be increased in the amount of \$2.00 per person. In addition, each chapter member would be asked to contribute \$.80 per year during the 1980s to be donated to The Educational Foundation Thrust (TEFT).

At the October meeting in 1983, a motion was passed to present a \$500 scholarship to the Lenoir Community College Foundation and that interest from the savings certificate be added to the grant-in-aid allocation to complete the amount. Members agreed the recipient should be an aspiring female educator. Members were informed that a quilt square had been embroidered by a Sigma member for the Eta State Fiftieth Anniversary. Sigma members voted to bear the cost of sending the *Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin* to the Lenoir County Public Library and the Lenoir Community College Library.

1984 - 1986

President Dr. Mary M. Cauley
Immediate Past President Mrs. Kay S. Tyndall

The theme for the biennium was announced as Women Educators: Architects of the Future-- Developing Global Perspectives. During the October 1984 meeting, Dr. Patricia Stroud announced that Evelyn Dawn Jarman had been selected to receive the \$500 scholarship at Lenoir Community College. She also made the motion that all scholarships bear the name of a charter

member. It was voted by the membership that the first scholarship would be named for Mrs. Frances Phillips.

At the April 1985 meeting, Mrs. Phebe Emmons spoke to the group about the beginning of Sigma chapter and the roles of women who have made a difference through the years. The President congratulated Mrs. Patricia Tunstall, who was selected as Academically Gifted Teacher of the Year for Region II. It was announced that the Region II conference would be held in October 1985 and the Eta State Convention would be held at the Four Seasons Holiday Inn in Greensboro April 25-27, 1986.

In October, Dr. Patricia Stroud announced the recipient of the Frances Phillips Scholarship. Her name was Cheryl Fields. It was announced that a Leadership Development Seminar would be held in June 1986, the International Convention would be held in Indianapolis, Indiana, July 18-August 1, 1986, and the Southeast Regional Conference would be held in Richmond, Virginia in 1987.

Sigma Chapter agreed to help fund the regional conference. At the December meeting, it was announced that Mary Louise Smith had received a Terry Sanford Award and the Mrs. Dorothy Rigsbee and Mrs. Cleo Hinson were chosen as Teacher of the Year for the city and county schools, respectively.

1986 - 1988

President Mrs. Geraldine Simpson, Mrs. Glennie Casey, and Mrs. Cheryl M. Malone

Sigma Chapter held a dinner meeting at the Sheraton Hotel in October 1986. It was announced that the scholarship had been awarded to Mrs. Gale Noble. This scholarship was named in honor of Miss Merle Scott. Mrs. Martha May Kallam, a charter member, was granted reserve status.

At the December meeting, special congratulations were extended to Mrs. Marjorie Moore and Mrs. Dorothy Rigsbee for being named Teachers of the year.

During the 1986-1988 biennium, Sigma Chapter experienced three presidents. Occurring during the first year, Mrs. Geraldine Simpson resigned and relocated to Raleigh. She was followed by First Vice President, Mrs. Glennie Casey, who resigned and relocated to the western part of North Carolina. Fortunately for Sigma Chapter, Second Vice President Mrs. Cheryl Malone served faithfully for the remainder of the term. Mrs. Joyce Roach was named First Vice President and Mrs. Ellen Benton Second Vice President.

After discussion the membership voted to have the Professional Affairs Chairman write a letter to the State Legislature expressing the viewpoints of Sigma Chapter on certain legislation.

Congratulations were expressed to Mrs. Nora Ellen Darby upon her selection as Teacher of the Year for Kinston City Schools.

In February, Sigma Chapter conducted a memorial service honoring Mrs. Melba Hardy.

The final 1986-1988 biennium meeting ended with the installation of new officers. Afterwards the members enjoyed a descriptive slide program by Mrs. Ruth Walker on her trip to the Far East.

1988 - 1990

President Mrs. Joyce D. Roach
Immediate Past President Mrs. Cheryl M. Malone

The Sheraton Hotel was the setting for the October meeting beginning the 1988-1990 biennium. The highlight of the meeting was the candlelight initiation ceremony of five new members.

As a result of an Executive Board meeting, chapter goals for the biennium were presented to the membership. The goals were presented as follows: to update Sigma Chapter scrapbook, to review and update bylaws, to initiate a service project, and to publicize Delta Kappa Gamma in regards to its 60th Anniversary on May 11, 1989.

During the April 1989 meeting, a progress report was made concerning the goals. Some had been completed, and others continued in the action status.

A memorial service was held for Ms. Rowena Tull and Mrs. Frances Phillips prior to the initiation ceremony of six new members.

In order for Sigma Chapter to have control over the criteria, the Scholarship Committee recommended that a fund for students be set up at Lenoir Community rather than make contributions to the Education Foundation. This recommendation was approved.

It was noted at the December meeting that Miss Merle Scott, Dr. Mary Cauley, and Mrs. Peggy Kennedy were honored at the Region II meeting. The Professional Affairs Committee invited a panel of representative who spoke on "Promises for the Future." The panel members included the following: Mr. Ron Baker, Industrial Development; Mr. Dale Knape, Kinston Neuse Corporation and Chairman of the Lenoir County Manufacturing Association; Mr. Al Register, Support Manager at DuPont; and Mr. Jim Godfrey, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce. The panel discussion centered on issues concerning ways business and education could support one another to improve the quality of the workforce and life in Kinston and Lenoir County.

The April meeting of the 1988-1990 biennium was held at Westminster Methodist Church. Dr. Mary Cauley presented an informative program on Cooperative Education. The meeting was concluded with an installation of new officers for the 1990-1992 biennium.

1990 – 1992

President Mrs. Ellen R. Benton
Immediate Past President Mrs. Joyce D. Roach

1992 - 1994

**President Mrs. Steva H. Bledsoe
Immediate Past President Mrs. Ellen R. Benton**

1994 - 1996

**President Mrs. Judith L. Rochelle
Immediate Past President Mrs. Steva H. Bledsoe**

1996 - 1998

**President Mrs. Margaret K. Burchette
Immediate Past President Mrs. Judith L. Rochelle**

1998 - 2000

**President Mrs. Brenda Canup
Immediate Past President Mrs. Margaret K. Burchette**

2000 - 2002

**President Mrs. Patricia Casey
Immediate Past President Mrs. Brenda Canup**

2002 - 2004

**President Mrs. Penny Dawson
Parliamentarian Dr. Mary M. Cauley
Immediate Past President Mrs. Patricia Casey**

President Penny Dawson announced at the October 2002 meeting that the executive board had approved the appointment of Mary Spence as Treasurer, due to the resignation of Lib Baker. Permanent magnetic nametags were offered for order. Member were encouraged to attend the state convention to be held in Greenville April 25-27, 2003, and also the Southeast Regional Conference in Raleigh July14-19, 2003. A committee was appointed to help with the Greenville convention. Members were asked to donate items of local interest to fill goody bags for convention attendees. Linda Little, Regional Director was the guest speaker at the December 2002 meeting.

A February 2003 breakfast and bazaar were held at Carraway's Restaurant with \$577 raised going to the scholarship fund. It was decided to award two scholarships to daughters of Sigma members.

A memorial service honoring Mrs. Mary Douglass Smith Irving was held at the April 2003 meeting. Orientation and initiation of three new members: Theresa Hardy, Millicent Sanderson, and Paul Boldt were held at the December meeting along with a Christmas bazaar. It was decided for members to begin contributing 12 books per year instead of 8 since there have not been enough books to meet the demand each year. Penny Dawson and Mary Cauley attended the state convention and Southeast Regional Conference during the summer and gave reports from each.

Members were saddened over the loss of charter member Miss Ella Merle Scott, and a special memorial service was held in her honor at the February 2004 meeting. A change in the bank accounts was made to maintain \$1000 in the checking account for budget and the remainder in the share account for grants in aid. Due to the amount of money donated by Miss Scott's heirs, an endowment fund of \$43,000 in Miss E. Merle Scott's honor was set up through Wachovia Securities, in order to award two \$500 grants in aid each year from the interest earned from the principal.

A memorial service was held for Virginia Mayo, Lucile Edwards, and Nancy Wilkie at the April 2004 meeting. Five grants in aid were awarded to former recipients from Kinston High School: Erin Dawson, Kristin Hill, and Katie Benton, daughters of Sigma members; Veronica Simpson from South Lenoir; and Brittany White, a student at East Carolina University. New officers were installed. Penny Dawson, Janice Floyd and Mary Cauley attended the April 2004 convention in Chapel Hill.

2004 - 2006

President
First Vice President
Second Vice President
Treasurer
Recording Secretary
Parliamentarian
Immediate Past President

Mrs. Janice Floyd
Mrs. Ann Laws
Mrs. Kelly Jarman
Mrs. Steva Bledsoe
Mrs. Mary Louise Smith
Dr. Mary M. Cauley
Mrs. Penny Dawson

The 2004-2006 committee leadership consisted of the following: Mellany Davis, Finance; Diane Lynch, Membership; Kim Hazelgrove, Nominations; Kathy Pollock, U.S Forum Liaison; Kelly Jarman, Program; Robin Roberson, Personal Growth & Services; Mary Hardy, Professional Affairs; Brenda Owens, Research; Julie Lee, Communications; Jane Maloney, Scholarship; Cheryl Malone, World Fellowships, and Marjorie Moore, Music.

The first meeting of the biennium was an executive board meeting on July 26, 2004. President Janice Floyd shared her vision of Sigma Chapter as a professional chapter uniting in genuine friendship to support their role as women educators. She explained that her goals for the

biennium were to increase membership, improve attendance and motivate members to get to know each other better. Job descriptions and materials were transferred from past chairmen to new committee chairmen with the understanding that committees should actively work together.

An initiation ceremony was held for Pamela Taylor at the October meeting. Grant-in-aid recipients Erin Dawson and Katy Benton spoke to the group about their educational experiences. Chairman of Scholarship Committee, Jane Maloney, gave updates on other grant-in-aid recipients. Past President Penny Dawson gave a report on the state convention, and Mary Cauley gave a report on the International Convention in Minneapolis. She spoke about the Society's contribution to UNICEF for teachers in Afghanistan. A motion was made and carried to provide Mary with \$200 to help with expenses to that convention.

The 2004 Christmas bazaar was held at the Kinston Country Club. Ann Laws arranged the silent auction, which is usually a successful fundraiser for grants-in-aid. The North Lenoir Chorus under the direction of Marin Kennedy, a Sigma member, entertained Sigma Chapter. A motion was made and carried to donate \$50 to the North Lenoir music department. Dot Miller, a member of Sigma Chapter for 35 years, was honored for her 85th birthday.

Sigma met in February of 2005 at Lenoir Memorial Hospital. It was bitter cold outside but quite inviting in the new Wellness Center. Brenda Canup who coordinated the program, introduced the speaker and tour guide. At this meeting the motion was made and carried to give priority to undergraduate students to receive grants-in-aid. Members were encouraged by Chairman Mary Hardy to continue to bring books for the Literacy project.

A Ceremony of Remembrance for Agnes Freeman was conducted in April by Mary Sharpe Owens. Diane Lynch presented the eight members recommended for membership. The names of five students selected to receive grants-in-aid were presented, and a unanimous vote in the affirmative was received to award the five grants-in-aid. President Floyd and Julie Lee published the newsletter, and Julie began investigating a chapter website. Kelly Jarman led the chapter in a lively game of "Getting to Know You." Steva Bledsoe agreed to represent the chapter at the state convention in Winston-Salem in April 2005.

Amy Hillard, Carol Watson, Elizabeth Owens, Danielle Parrish, Jo Parrot, Becky Whittington, and Kathy Worthington were inducted in October 2005. Katy Benton, Erin Dawson, Kristen Hill, Brittany Croom and Shannon Owens were announced as grant-in-aid recipients. A total of \$100 was donated to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts. A total of \$50 per meeting was designated by the finance committee for hostess needs. Mary Cauley, a member of the international editorial board, encouraged members to submit written work for the quarterly journal.

Sharon Kimrey was inducted into Sigma Chapter in December of 2005. Sarah Pollock was granted reserve member status.

In February of 2006 Kelly Jarman introduced the speaker that spoke on crime and ways to stay safe. The slate of officers was presented by Kim Hazelgrove, and the slate was accepted. Members were excited by the door prizes presented by hostess Kim Gay.

In April 2006 the last meeting of the biennium was held at LaGrange Christian Church. A moving tribute to Sue Bottoms was given by Steva Bledsoe and Diane Lynch. Katy Benton, Kristen Hill, Shannon Owens, Chelsea Cullen, and Tabitha Harper were named grant-in-aid recipients for 2006-2007. Retirement bowls were presented to Steva Bledsoe, Janice Floyd, and Mary Southerland. New officers were installed for the 2006 – 2008 biennium. Outgoing president Janice Floyd passed the gavel to incoming President Brenda Owens.

2006 – 2008

President	Mrs. Brenda Owens
First Vice President	Mrs. Paula Boldt
Second Vice President	Mrs. Kelly Jarman
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Jill Croom
Immediate Past President	Mrs. Janice Floyd

The 2006-2008 biennium started with an executive board meeting on August 17, 2006, at Institute Methodist Church.

The first meeting was on October 12, 2006, at Kinston Country Club. Mary Riddick and Frances Herring were inducted into the Society.

The second meeting and annual bazaar was held on December 7, 2006. Bazaar proceeds amounted to \$773 for the Chapter's student grants-in-aid. Judy Harrison, Kristie Brennan, and Christel Perry were inducted into the Chapter.

On February 1, 2007, Sigma chapter met at the Country Club. A program about new school projects was presented by Mrs. Connie Mintz.

A meeting was held in April 2007 at which Felecia Pressley presented a program on pre-kindergarten programs available throughout the County. The Scholarship Committee presented five students: Katie Benton, Shannon Owens, Chelsea Cullen, Morgan Jarman and Emily Brown to receive the \$500 grants-in-aid.

During the October 4, 2007, meeting, Megan Saint-Amand, Carla Batchelor, Ginger Harrison, and Henrietta Shepherd were inducted into the Society. The new Delta Kappa Gamma Society initiates were read and interest was expressed in working on "Support New Teachers on Collaborative Connections." A new committee was established to help new teachers.

The December 13, 2007, meeting bazaar raised \$910 for the grants-in-aid for future teachers.

Two speakers from Lenoir Community College (LCC) spoke on the Early College Program at the February 2, 2008 meeting.

At the April 3, 2008 meeting, a Ceremony of Remembrance was given in memory of Polly Oettinger by Nora Ellen Darby. Polly's son Melvin and his wife attended. Liz Rhue, District II Regional Director, also attended. Grants-in-aid were awarded to Chelsea Cullen, Emily Brown,

Mary Kathryn Howard, Morgan Jarman, and Shannon Owens. The officers for the new biennium were installed. Pam Heath, Brenda Owens and Dr. Mary Cauley attended the convention in Hickory, N.C. in April. A Treasured Rose Power Point was created in honor of Dr. Mary Cauley.

2008 – 2010

President
First Vice President
Second Vice President
Recording Secretary
Immediate Past President

Mrs. Pam Heath
Mrs. Paula Boldt
Mrs. Ellen Benton
Mrs. Mary Margaret Keith
Mrs. Brenda Owens

Pam Heath opened the October 2, 2008, meeting at the Kinston County Club. Julie Lee, Kim Hazelgrove, and Ellen Benton presented a program in which each new teacher in the Lenoir County Public Schools would be adopted by a member and presented with a \$5 gift certificate from BoJangles, as well as an accompanying letter. They also presented a Delta Kappa Gamma Trivia Game.

The December 11, 2008, meeting was held at the Folded Napkin in downtown Kinston. The annual Christmas auction was held.

Angie Jarman spoke at the February 2009 meeting. She was Lenoir County Public Schools Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Wanda Jordan from “The Gate” was the guest speaker at the April 2, 2009, meeting. She spoke on how “The Gate” served children in east Kinston.

The December 3, 2009, meeting was held at the Folded Napkin and the Christmas auction was held.

The February 4, 2010, meeting hosted a visit from Betty LaRoux, District II Director. Ellen Benton presented a program on Delta Kappa Gamma purposes and how the chapter is meeting those purposes. The new slate of officers was introduced.

In April 2010 grants-in-aid were awarded to Emily Brown and Coley Ledford. The new officers were installed for 2010-2012.

2010 - 2012

President
First Vice President
Second Vice President
Treasurer
Recording Secretary
Parliamentarian
Immediate Past President

Mrs. Frances Herring
Mrs. Diane Lynch
Mrs. Kim Hazelgrove
Mrs. Carla Bachelor
Mrs. Robin Roberson
Dr. Mary M. Cauley
Mrs. Pam Heath

The 2010-2012 biennium began with an executive board meeting in July of 2010 at the Kinston Country Club's Gold Room. The first meeting was held on October 7, 2010, at the Kinston Country Club (KCC). LeAnne Benson, Christel Carlyle, Cynthia Faulkner, Melissa Lynch, Mary Beth Moye and Susan Hines were inducted into the Society.

The second meeting and annual bazaar were held on December 2, 2010. The Bazaar raised \$1,094.00 for the grant-in-aid recruitment grant.

On February 3, 2011, Sigma Chapter met at the Kinston Country Club and received a presentation from Mrs. Phyllis West, deputy under the N. C. Superintendent, Dr. June Atkinson. She spoke to the Sigma Chapter about the current state of the budget in Raleigh and the dreadful outcome to our public schools. She encouraged the Chapter members to be leaders and to become politically involved. Dr. Mary Cauley was also nominated for the "Woman of Influence" award, which she later received at the state level. The Sigma Chapter also watched a video introducing the Schools for Africa project.

The April 7, 2011, meeting began with a tour of Mother Earth Brewery in downtown Kinston. Members learned about this new business that had recently opened in Kinston. After the tour, the Chapter convened at the Folded Napkin for a dinner meeting. The Scholarship Committee presented two renewal grants-in-aid to Lindsey Nicole Floyd and Coley Blair Ledford and awarded a new grant-in-aid to Lauren Renee herring, each in the amount of \$500.

During the October 13, 2011, meeting the following educators were inducted in to Sigma Chapter: Holly Ball, Coleman Becton, Katy Benton, Kellan Bryant, Maggie Haberny, Kristin Hill, Wendy Piro, Felicia Presley, Amanda Price, Stephanie Radford, Candice Raines, Willette Strickland, Emily Sugg, and Sherry Williams. Rosalie Bissette, Regional Director for Region II, was welcomed at this meeting as well. Sigma Chapter supported the recommendation of Penny Dawson, as the next Regional Director for the 2012-2014 biennium.

The December 2, 2011, meeting raised \$1,073.00 for the grant-in-aid recruitment grant.

The February 9, 2012, meeting had a very special guest, Mrs. Linda Little, Eta State President. The slate of officers for the next biennium was presented by Ellen Benton. The slate was approved. A Ceremony of Remembrance was held at Gordon Street Christian Church to remember Margaret Burchette and Patricia Casey. Margaret's husband and son attended the ceremony. A reception followed in the fellowship hall. The officers for the new biennium were installed during the business meeting.

2012 - 2014

President	Mrs. Diane Lynch
First Vice President	Mrs. Kim Hazelgrove
Second Vice President	Mrs. Gina Hill
Treasurer	Mrs. Carla Batchelor
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Robin Roberson
Parliamentarian	Dr. Mary M. Cauley
Immediate Past President	Mrs. Frances Herring

Committee chairs were the following: Educational Excellence: Kim Hazelgrove and Ellen Benton, Co-Chairs for Educational Excellence; Penny Dawson, Membership; Melissa Lynch, Communications and Publicity; Jill Croom, Grant-in-Aid (Recruitment Grant); Frances Herring, Finance; LeAnne Benson, Nominations; and Dr. Mary Cauley, Rules.

2014 - 2016

President	Mrs. Kim Hazelgrove
First Vice President	Mrs. Gina Hill
Second Vice President	Mrs. Mary Riddick
Treasurer	Mrs. Carla Bachelor
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Robin Roberson
Parliamentarian	Dr. Mary M. Cauley
Immediate Past President	Mrs. Diane Lynch

2016 - 2018

President	Mrs. Mary Riddick
First Vice President	Mrs. Gina Hill
Second Vice President	Mrs. Wendy Piro
Treasurer	Mrs. Carla Bachelor
Recording Secretary	Mrs. Mallory Houghton
Parliamentarian	Dr. Mary M. Cauley
Immediate Past President	Mrs. Kim Hazelgrove

Early in the 2016-2018 biennium, President Riddick called a meeting of the Sigma Chapter Executive Board and committee chairmen to plan the work of the biennium. On September 22, 2016, she presided over a “new member orientation meeting,” at which five women who would be initiated at the October meeting were in attendance.