



First GACE Grant Awarded



Erika Andrews, a junior in Middle Grades Education at Clayton State University was awarded the first grant to assist with GACE testing. Being impressed with her persistence and dedication to her education, chapter members voted to increase the award from \$50 to \$100. Vice President Carol Bentley, who felt very strongly about helping Erika, matched the donation. Erika stated that she opened the envelope to find her \$200 check on Christmas day. What a fitting gift for a very deserving young lady.

Celebration of Champions Coming Soon!

We will need all hands-on deck for the Celebration of Champions on February 4th. The event will take place at the CCPS Performing Arts Center and set-up will begin at 5 p.m. Our featured speaker, Deron Hicks has confirmed, and Cindy Thompson has purchased pins for students on the winning teams. Members are needed for the following duties:

- purchasing refreshments
- setting up refreshments
- assisting the author before the event
- taking tickets
- selling/assisting the author sell books
- preparing names on sticky notes for the author
- taking photos for students as books are signed





Holiday Cheer

A great time was had by all at our chapter meeting on December first. We enjoyed a visit from our Area III Director Dianne Sharpe. Anita Thomaston shared the story behind the book and carol, "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" and led us in song. Cindy Thompson read "After the Fall" and asked questions for a round of friendly competition in a mock reading bowl. Socks were collected for families in need and \$54 was collected in the happy jar for schools in Liberia. The annual silent auction raised \$188 for scholarships.

Holiday Gifts



Alpha Iota spread Christmas cheer all over the state of Georgia as well as into the panhandle of Florida! December's service projects were to assist with Clark's Kids and to provide Christmas gifts to children in the Mexico Beach, Florida area. Clark's Kids is the Christmas project begun by WSB's own Clark Howard over 30 years



ago. Working with the Georgia Department of Children and Family Services, his goal is to provide Christmas presents to every foster child in the state of Georgia. Our sisters voted to donate \$100 to this worthy event. While we will never actually see the recipients' joy when opening Christmas gifts, our hearts know.

The second opportunity to spread cheer was a grassroots event. Hurricane Michael devastated the coastal community of Mexico Beach, leaving a

multitude of people without housing and the necessities of life. As a result of the damage done many families were faced with the realization that money for Christmas gifts would be nonexistent. Through a friend, Cindy Thompson was able to connect with Leah Keith who has ties to the Mexico Beach community. Leah was instrumental in spreading the word in the Fayette, Clayton and Henry County areas. Social media is many things, but in this instance, it was a God send. Alpha Iota voted to assist this worthy cause by donating \$200 in books for the children of the area. Thousands of people across the southeast donated toys, games, books, and bicycles resulting in a gymnasium loaded with Christmas cheer. As soon as the children of Mexico Beach were provided gifts, the group opened the event to other surrounding areas. Any books remaining were donated to the public library.

Alpha Iota chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, your hearts should be full!

Meeting Dates Changed

Members voted through a Google form for changes to fall meeting dates. The votes were unanimous to no longer meet in October, but instead the first Saturday in September. Everyone preferred Saturday morning, rather than an evening meeting. If the meeting date falls during the Labor Day weekend, the majority of members voted to schedule the meeting the second Saturday of September. This change was made to avoid fall festivals and attract new members earlier in the school year.

The second change was moving our December meeting to the first Saturday in November. Although it was not unanimous, the majority of members agreed it was a good idea to avoid meeting during the busy holiday season.

Fall Meeting Dates

September 7, 2019
November 2, 2019

Member News



Welcome to the world Luna Hazel, **Anita Thomaston's** new grandbaby! She was born January 4th at 12:40 am and weighed 7 pounds and 10 ounces. She is loved by her big sister, Stella Harper, who is five years old.



Cheryl Goff is proud as punch of her niece, Cassandra! She has worked so hard the last three years to earn her degree in physical therapy. She recently passed her licensing exam and is working at the VA hospital in Topeka, Kansas. She has set up her first apartment and got a wonderful surprise question from her boyfriend just a few days ago.



Mission Statement

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

DKG Online

Alpha Iota Website DKG International
Planning Document GA Psi State

Important Dates

January 26, 2019 - Chapter book reading bowl - **We need members** to sell tickets for the Celebration of Champions After Party on February 4th.

February 2, 2019 - Chapter Meeting and Pot Luck Lunch

February 4, 2019 - Reading Bowl Celebration and After Party at CCPS PAC, 6:30 pm,
Setup will begin at 5:00.

February 9, 2019 - Regional Reading Bowl Competition at Clayton State University, volunteers needed as timekeepers, scorekeepers, etc.

March 20, 2019 – Ferst Foundation Spring Luncheon

April 26 - 28, 2019 - Psi State Convention, Jekyll Island

May 4, 2019 - Chapter Meeting and Tour of Arts Clayton

May 21, 2019 - Pen Pal Reveal Parties

TBD – Summer Planning Meeting

June 27-29, 2019 - SE Regional Conference, Asheville, North Carolina

TBD – Prospective Member Tea

September 7, 2019 – Chapter Meeting

November 2, 2019 – Chapter Meeting