



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS  
**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™**

GA State

Alpha Iota Chapter

October 2019

## Fall Kickoff

The 2019-2021 biennium got off to a fabulous start with the Executive Board and Membership Meeting on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Guest Debra Davis, Secretary Anita Thomaston, and President Cheryl Goff carpooled to Macon and enjoyed the day of sisterhood. Dr. Mary Clement spoke about mentoring and informative meetings took place for chapter presidents, committees, and districts. We raised \$348 for the leadership fund. Webmaster Lynn Skinner highlighted areas of the new GSO website and the new concept of a mini-hostel was unveiled. The very creative convention committee announced that the GSO convention will take place in Columbus on April 16-18, 2021.



Guest and now new member, Debra Davis stated “At my first meeting, I was inspired, motivated and encouraged to see the phenomenal bond of sisterhood throughout the state of Georgia.”



## Surprise, Surprise!

Our first collegiate member, Maureen Keillor was surprised with a \$500 scholarship for her studies in Media at the University of West Georgia. She was serving as a substitute for the Media Specialist at Callaway Elementary School, when the award was presented to her on the school's morning news show.



# In Remembrance



Donna Marie Allen McDonald

September 4, 1949 – September 18, 2019

Initiation Date: 5-3-03



Norma (Joyce) England

November 30, 1930 – September 7, 2019

Initiation Date: 6-15-68



## Honoring Those Who Serve

Every year, Operation Gratitude sends more than 300,000 individually addressed Care Packages to military personnel overseas, their families in the United States, first responders, new recruits, veterans, wounded heroes and their care givers. At our November 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter meeting we will make cards and collect items from their wish list. Please remember that items must be new, unopened, and have a shelf life of 6 months from the date of receipt by the organization.



### WISH LIST

- All Purpose Wipes (Single & 30ct Packs or Less)
- Batteries ("AA" and/or "AAA")
- Deodorant (Travel Size, non-aerosol)
- Drink Mix (Individual Serving Packets)
- Gum
- Hand Warmers
- Jerky (Individual Bags)
- Lip Balm
- Pencils (Mechanical preferred)
- Playing Cards
- Powder (Travel Size)
- Puzzle Books (7"x10" preferred size)
- Sewing Kits (Travel size)
- Socks (Black Crew Length)
- Sunscreen (Travel Size, non-aerosol)
- Handmade With Love Items
  - ◆ Cool Ties
  - ◆ Knit or Crocheted Hats and Scarves
  - ◆ Paracord Survival Bracelets

# Cindy's Died & Went to Pimento Cheese Heaven

Yield: 3 ½ cups

6 ounces cream cheese (I use the lower fat version)

½ cup Vermont extra sharp white cheddar cheese, grated

¾ cup sharp cheddar cheese, grated

1 cup Monterrey jack cheese, grated

½ cup mayonnaise (**DUKES!!!** I use the low fat version.)

1 teaspoon red wine vinegar

4 ounces pimentos, chopped

½ teaspoon onion powder

½ teaspoon garlic powder

½ teaspoon paprika

1 dash hot sauce (or more)

Fresh ground black pepper, to taste

Using a mixer, beat cream cheese until soft. Add the remaining ingredients and beat until creamy and combined. Cover and refrigerate for an hour.

## Leadership Seminar I

**Who:** Any Member!

**What:** A weekend packed with personal growth opportunities!

**When:** June, 5-7, 2020

**Where:** Macon, Georgia

**Why:** To grow the leader in you!

**Application:**

<https://tinyurl.com/LeadershipI2020>

Questions: Chair, Dr. Patija Rountree ~ [patiacroutree@gmail.com](mailto:patiacroutree@gmail.com)

## Alpha Iota Chapter Meeting

**November 2, 2019**

9:30 - 10:00 Social

10:00 - Meeting

11:45 - Lunch

~ Christmas Card Workshop

~ Premier Design Jewelry Sales

~ Donations to

Operation Gratitude

**Lunch Reservations**

**Due by Thursday,**

**October 17**

## Dates to Remember

October 25-26

Mini-Delta Hostel, Dahlonega

November 9

Boutique Sale at First Baptist Church of Jonesboro

Jan. 15 – Feb.15

Fine Arts Gallery Submissions Accepted

January 15

Boylston Foundation Applications Due

February 1

Joint Meeting with Gamma Alpha & Gamma Psi

April 17-18

Spring Leadership Institute & Executive Board Meeting

May 2

The Power of Sisterhood Luncheon



## Back to School Chapter Meeting



We had a grand time at our September 7<sup>th</sup> chapter meeting. Dr. Stacy Black was inducted as our newest member.

Welcome to Alpha Iota!

Dana Black, nutrition specialist and coach, spoke to us about a healthy diet. She was very informative and quite entertaining.

We collected coats for the Safe Center at Banneker High School, which Deborah delivered to her school. Lunch was a potluck of yummy salads, soups, and desserts.



## A Moment with Martha

In Honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, 2019

My teaching career began in 1990, when I was almost 44 years old! For the next 25 years, I taught Middle School Spanish, French, Latin and ESOL. During the latter years, my students and I celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month by learning about famous Hispanic individuals who had influenced American culture in some way. I'm sure we all can name a few famous Hispanic authors, such as Julia Alvarez, Sandra Cisneros and Gary Soto. Artists such as Salvador Dali and Diego Rivera influenced art trends throughout the world, while many travelers have enjoyed the Basilica de la Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, designed by Antoni Gaudi. Cesar Chavez, Sonia Sotomayor and astronaut Ellen Ochoa forever will be remembered for their impact in the United States.

So, as I consider the question "Which Latinos have had an impact on my life?", my answer would have to be, "My Hispanic students". My first teaching assignment was at Pointe South Middle School. A newly arrived, petite, virtually speechless Mexican 7th grader was placed in my Spanish class. I helped her as much as I could – we did reverse Spanish class – she was a very dedicated student, and ultimately, we became friends. She invited my daughter and I to her home, a sparsely furnished apartment, to eat the best tamales I ever have tasted! Her mother was kind, quiet, and gracious. Now Linda is a medical doctor in Canada, where she lives with her husband.

Years later, at Lovejoy Middle School, I had my first experience with a large number of illegal Central American immigrants. Many lived in a nearby Mobile Home Park, where some of the boys were in gangs.



Our faithful SRO followed the school bus there, to make sure the students arrived home safely. I made another friend, Diana, whose mother I interviewed in their home for an ESOL class assignment. We stayed in contact for years and I gave Diana's mother English lessons. The family fled Mexico running through the desert – a mother and her three daughters – to join the father of the family, who had been working for a few years to save money to send home and provide a way for the rest of his family to join him.

Also at Lovejoy Middle School, another young girl, Anabel, had a lasting impression on me, writing a story about the bravery of her parents, who had arrived in the US before her children's births, riding in the bed of an airless, enclosed and cramped truck. I had to ask her if the story was real, which of course, it was. They came here so that their children would have the benefits of American citizenship. After she left for high school, I encountered her once again, serving as an intern in a nearby bank, at the age of 16! She was determined to be successful in school and to make her parents proud of her, which I knew they were.

Finally, at Kendrick Middle School, many Hispanic students and their stories touched my life. They, too, lived in mobile home parks, some in deplorable conditions. One young woman now is a coordinator of a family religious education program at my church. She had hoped to be a doctor, but her college career came to an end when her mother was tragically killed in a car accident. Ms. Hernandez stayed home to care for her two younger sisters and her father, all of whom were devastated over their mother's sudden death. Another sweet girl told me her home had no heat, and so she and her three siblings snuggled together on one mattress to keep warm at night. This concerned me, but the father was embarrassed and too proud to accept any assistance. When students were asked if they had done anything special over the summer, Maria told us how she, her mom and siblings walked through the woods next to the mobile home park, enjoying a cool breeze, some Wildflowers and a few frogs that they saw. The last time I saw her, she was walking to Jonesboro High School, as her father was afraid for her to go to the school in their district; she could not accept a ride from me...

These are just a few of my Hispanic students who still inspire me as I remember them. Never did I experience such situations as they faced: having a hard-working parent incarcerated, facing poverty on a daily basis, being mocked and even attacked for their cultural background, turning their lights off at night and hiding on the floor of their meager homes while "La migra" (immigration authorities) pounded on the doors in the mobile home park. Their strong devotion to their families, their religious faith, and their loyalty to their friends had a lasting impact on me. They braved and continue to endure much adversity, hoping for a better life in this country with an abundance of resources.



## **Mission Statement**

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