



# The Heartbeat of Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa

## by Terri Thompson

October 2025

Volume II

Issue 4

October is a very special month for Alpha Delta Kappa members. We celebrate our outstanding organization by honoring our four founding sisters - Agnes Shipman Robertson, Marie Neal, Hattie Poppino, and Marion Southall.



These dedicated women educators with vision and purpose saw a need to recognize and support the professional efforts of outstanding women educators by establishing our organization. They wanted to strengthen the commitment to education, promote leadership and educational excellence and spread altruism throughout the world.

In honor of AΔK month, seven families' expenses will be fully provided by the generous donation from Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa to the "Sponsor-a-Week" program this first full week in October at the Ronald McDonald House in Macon. What an honor for GA AΔK to support one of the state's altruistic projects this month. Serving and supporting others brings joy to us all.

And as we honor our traditions, let's remember to "Focus on the Future" in Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa!

*Terri* ❤️ 🍀 🍁



### 2024-2026 Executive Board

#### PRESIDENT

**Terri Thompson**

[tlsthompson27@gmail.com](mailto:tlsthompson27@gmail.com)

478-224-1287

#### PRESIDENT-ELECT

**Pat Smith**

[adkps97@gmail.com](mailto:adkps97@gmail.com)

706-975-1064

#### VP FOR MEMBERSHIP

**Carolyn Pietkewicz**

[clpietkewicz@gmail.com](mailto:clpietkewicz@gmail.com)

912-655-5400

#### SECRETARY

**Lynn Fuller**

[nanilynn62@gmail.com](mailto:nanilynn62@gmail.com)

706-464-0224

#### TREASURER

**Lisa Tilley**

[tilleylisa@bellsouth.net](mailto:tilleylisa@bellsouth.net)

678-361-5119

#### CHAPLAIN

**Janet Robison**

[robisonjanet@gmail.com](mailto:robisonjanet@gmail.com)

404-213-7813

#### VP FOR SCHOLARSHIP

**Kellie Hubbard**

[kelliehubbardadk@gmail.com](mailto:kelliehubbardadk@gmail.com)

706-957-0751

#### HISTORIAN

**Melissa Blankenship**

[melissab.betapi@gmail.com](mailto:melissab.betapi@gmail.com)

478-397-5396

#### SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

**Sharon Collins**

[sharcoll44@gmail.com](mailto:sharcoll44@gmail.com)

404-277-8984

#### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT & CO VPM

**Debbie Boswell**

[debbieb.adk@gmail.com](mailto:debbieb.adk@gmail.com)

770-714-7444



## **June 1, 2025-May 31, 2026 Membership CAMPAIGN**

**Membership is the lifeblood of our organization and our Georgia Membership Campaign is developed not only to increase membership throughout Georgia, but to encourage current and new members to attend Conventions and Conferences.**

**6 ways to be a winner and winners will be announced at our  
Georgia State Convention in May 2026!**

### **FOR INDIVIDUAL SISTERS**

**1. The name of each NEW, TRANSFERRED or REINSTATED Member and FIRST TIMER attending the 2026 GA State Convention will be entered into a drawing. The winner will receive \$100 towards State Convention expenses in 2026.**

**2. The name of each SPONSOR of a New or Reinstated Member attending the 2026 GA State Convention will be entered into a drawing each time that they serve as a sponsor for a member. Following a drawing at the 2026 GA State Convention, the winner will receive \$100 towards State Convention expenses in 2026.**

### **FOR CHAPTERS and DISTRICTS**

**3. The name of each Chapter will be entered into a drawing once for each NEW or REINSTATED Member. A donation of \$100 will be made to the Scholarship Fund of the winning chapter.**

**4. The name of each Chapter will be entered into a drawing once for each NEW or REINSTATED Member. The winning chapter will receive \$100 towards State Convention or Gulf Conference expenses in 2026.**

**5. The Chapter with the largest percentage increase in membership will receive \$100 donation for their chapter.**

**6. The District with the largest percentage increase in membership will receive \$100 donation for their district.**

### **CHAPTER NEEDS ASSESMENT 2025-2026 UPDATE**

**THANK YOU to those who have responded to the questions below.**

**If by chance you have not responded, Carolyn and I would love to hear from you!**

**Our Regional Meeting has been postponed so still time to be included in our spreadsheet!**

- What are you most proud of in the first year of the biennium with your chapter?**
- What is the progression towards reaching each of the 2024-2026 goals?**
- Does the chapter need to revise any of the goals?**
- Are there other goals that the chapter will work on this coming year?**

**What support might your chapter need from your Membership Team?**

**ENJOY the days ahead as the weather seems to be saying ....**

**FAMILY GATHERINGS, FALL FESTIVALS, LITTLE ONES Trick or Treating and WE HOPE YOU CAN  
MAKE A FEW DISTRICT MEETINGS...CHECK OUT THE DATES IN THIS NEWSLETTER!**

**Remember your Membership Team is only a text, email or call away...**

**Debbie and Carolyn**



## Altruism in Action



Beta Chapter sisters making blankets for Tri-District's Linus Project



Alpha Sigma Chapter sisters busy making blankets for Tri-District's Linus Project

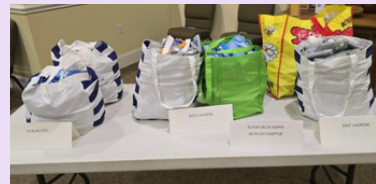


Alpha Eta Chapter sisters showing off their blankets they made for Tri-District's Linus Project



Beta Sigma member Karen Webster showing off her blanket she made for Tri-District's Linus Project.

Look at these HEARTS for altruism projects!



Beta Chi Chapter members packed toiletry items for the local highschools



Beta Upsilon ALZ Walk raised \$1,571



## Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa Cares Altruistically

Why do we support St. Jude Children's Research Hospital? The KIDS! Thank you for supporting the lifesaving work that is happening at St. Jude today. When you click donate, you are helping to ensure families can spend quality time with their child... not worrying about a bill for treatment, travel, housing, or food.

Violets to my Alpha Delta Kappa Sisters....Thank you, Sisters! Our total so far is **\$1,590**. We have met and surpassed our goal of \$1,000. That is Amazing! But you able to continue to donate via the link below until November 30th. Let's see if we can reach \$2,000.

Here's the link to our **Alpha Delta Kappa Violets** page.  
[https://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/Walk/Walk?team\\_id=321359&pg=team&fr\\_id=160944](https://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/Walk/Walk?team_id=321359&pg=team&fr_id=160944)

You can make a donation to a team member or make a general donation to our **GA ADK Violets Team**.

Remember, our 2026 Altruistic year began March 1, 2025, and will end February 28, 2026. Record the hours and monetary donations. Check with your chapter Altruistic Chairman to record your information on her end of the year Altruistic report.

With a HEART for Altruism! Carol



St. Jude walk/run Top Teams for Alpha Delta Kappa 2025 Campaign!	
GA ADK Violets	\$1,295.00
Alpha Delta Kappa Margaret Davidson/Donna Vengone	\$1,186.31
Virginia ADK	\$1,085.00
ADK 19th Alpha Alpha	\$970.00
19th ADK Beta Theta	\$220.00
Alpha Delta Kappa Catherine/Chris	\$185.00
Alpha Delta Kappa Illinois	\$100.00
Phoenix ADK Alpha Alpha	\$155.00

Join A Team HERE!

Don't forget to send pictures of your altruistic endeavors to me ([carolsroe54@gmail.com](mailto:carolsroe54@gmail.com)), State Historian Melissa ([melissab.betapi@gmail.com](mailto:melissab.betapi@gmail.com)) and President Terri ([tlsthompson27@gmail.com](mailto:tlsthompson27@gmail.com)).

# Alpha Delta Kappa Month

Greetings sisters and Happy Alpha Delta Kappa Month!

October is AΔK Founders Celebration month. We take this time to not only celebrate the four ladies who brought this whole organization into existence but reflect on what an impact it has made on all our lives as well as countless women worldwide. Some of us are second generation sisters as we have mothers and aunts who are AΔK sisters. Some of us are the first generation, but have shared the sisterhood with our own sisters, cousins, daughters and nieces continuing the legacy of AΔK. Remembering where we come from helps us provide a path to the future for the ladies - young and seasoned that come after us. We must always decide to stretch a hand out to those not only in our profession, but those in our classrooms who need to be ensured of the opportunity to grow, learn, and thrive as equal members of the communities in which we live. We will continue to exist.

The Alpha Delta Kappa month information can be found page 25 of the GA Policies and Procedure Manual (Rev. 6/14/24) and the form to submit is on page 57 or linked on our website under Members>AΔK Month. Note: Your AΔK Month Report is due November 15<sup>th</sup> each year of the biennium and is considered late if not received by December 1<sup>st</sup>. You can email it to me at [leigh2870@hotmail.com](mailto:leigh2870@hotmail.com) or put in the USPS to: Shannon Cole, 502 W Fort St, Chatsworth, GA 30705. Send any photos you all snap to me and the State Historian Melissa Blankenship. Cannot wait to see what you all have been up to. Clap, Clap, & Snaps!

You can email me, text (706-280-5462), or put a hard copy photograph in the mail. Please don't send color printer copies they don't hold up really well, especially if folded. Hate to have someone's head look creased. If you text candid images or a jpg of the form to me, be sure to include your Name and Chapter Name in the body of the text so I can make sure the chapter gets credit for the submission.

You can find a list of the AΔK Chairman duties on page 18, should you contemplate putting your name in the hat to serve in this position next biennium. A list of ideas for Founder's Day programs, like Coyne & Foster's Founder's Fortune Teller Tales that my chapter, GA Alpha Upsilon did as hosting chapter during Covid Fall District Zoom is available on the International website.

Shannon Cole  
AΔK Month Chairman

## Fraternity Education

It is founders' month for Alpha Delta Kappa. We hope that things are getting back into the groove for everyone in their school year. We thought it would be so fun to share a skit about founders' day with your chapter this month to tie in our founders more.

To access this fun skit go directly to our state website Fraternity Education page (under Members) where we have posted a copy here: <https://gaalphadeltakappa.org/fraternity-education/>



Pumpkin spice and everything nice,  
Annie and Karen  
State Fraternity Ed Co-Chairs







## Treasurer News

Lisa Tilley  
State Treasurer  
[tilleylisa@bellsouth.net](mailto:tilleylisa@bellsouth.net)



As you know, the deadline for the chapter **990-n** is **October 15**. Many thanks to those who have already submitted their verifications to me. Also, please remember the **November 1 deadline for budgets**. All members may now go online and pay the **\$40 International dues** at [alphadeltakappa.org](http://alphadeltakappa.org).

**As chapter treasurers, please also remember to pay the chapter \$20 ITE fee.**

Let me know if you have any questions!



DUE DATE	FORM	TREASURER RESPONSIBLE	SEND TO
October 15	990-N (IRS e-postcard)	Chapter Treasurer	IRS and a copy to Lisa Tilley
November 1	Chapter Budget	Chapter Treasurer	Lisa Tilley
	District Budget	District Treasurer	Lisa Tilley
January 1	Chapter Roster Payment Record	Chapter Treasurer	1. Copy to Lisa Tilley 2. Copy to State President Terri Thompson
January 1	Pay ITE Scholarship Contribution to International	Chapter Treasurer	Pay online at International website
January 1	GA 103: State Dues and Courtesy Form	Chapter Treasurer	Lisa Tilley
January 1	GA 102: State Scholarship Assessment Form	Chapter Treasurer	State VP for Scholarships Kellie Hubbard
January 1	District Dues - District Forms	Chapter Treasurer	Your District Treasurer
June 30	Chapter Financial Summary	Chapter Treasurer	International
	D-1: Annual Cash Flow Statement	District Treasurer	Email verification to Lisa Tilley



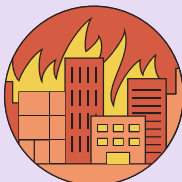
## Disaster

The Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa Executive Board established the Disaster Relief Committee to assist sisters who have been affected by natural disasters. The committee has the task to raise funds for our sisters in need. The fund is here to help in times of need. Of course, we encourage you to donate to this worthy cause, but we also encourage you to ask for help when you need it!! There will be a Disaster Relief table at all the district meetings this fall and spring. Once again, we will be accepting donations for chances on the Foldie Travel and Crossbody Bags that will be given away at the state convention next May. Thank you to Sherry McKie from Alpha Epsilon Chapter for donation the Foldie Travel and Crossbody Bags. In addition, there will be some travel size toiletries in the bag when the winner claims her prize next May.

We wish you a very successful 2025-2026 year ahead!!

In Sisterhood,

Jewel Hendrix  
Disaster Relief Co-Chairman  
[jewel3adk@gmail.com](mailto:jewel3adk@gmail.com)



Angela Hobby  
Disaster Relief Co-Chairman  
[aghobby1@comcast.net](mailto:aghobby1@comcast.net)



## Relief





## Excellence in Education Procedure

Time is drawing nigh to nominate a Georgia sister for the Excellence in Education Award. Who in your chapter meets the qualifications to be our next EiE recipient? Take just a minute to nominate someone. The individual must be an active educator (employed) at the time of nomination and at the time the award is presented. The nomination can be made by an AΔK member or oneself. The nominator should reach out to ensure the sister is interested in applying. If she is, write up to 250 words about the nominee's worthiness and her contributions to education. The nominee has until **November 1<sup>st</sup>** to complete the application. I feel certain there are sisters in Georgia who would be happy to review a letter of nomination or an application. Just say the word.

If you have questions, please reach out to me  
at [sbonifay72@att.net](mailto:sbonifay72@att.net) or (229) 416-6195.

Suzi Bonifay--GA EIE Chair



<https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/program/Excellence2027>

**Nomination Deadline  
November 1st**





# Let's Celebrate

## Congratulations Sisters!

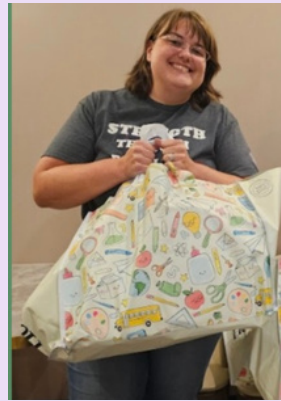


**LAUREN O'NEIL**  
CEDAR RIDGE  
ELEMENTARY

Omicron Chapter member Lauren O'Neil Top 5 Finalist for Columbia Co. Teacher of the Year



Alpha Chapter member Emily Snipes' new position of Assistant Principal at St. John Neumann Regional Catholic School



Alpha Chapter supported their sisters who are actively teaching with "Wish List Goody Bags" full of supplies.



Iota Chapter members Judged art submission at the Gwinnett County Fair.



Congratulations to Pippy Rogers for being the Top Participant for ADK raising \$18,740, GA Gamma Delta Chapter for being #6 Participant raising \$4,675 & GA AΔK for finishing as the #2 Team raising \$35,329 for ALZ the Longest Day!

Congratulations to Georgia's Newest **Golden** Sister - Alpha Delta Chapter's Judy Slaton



Alpha Iota Chapter member April Aldridge was selected as the GACIS Deborah White Distinguished Service Award recipient

Iota donations to educational program Parwana



Lambda Chapter members deliver supplies to Tattnell Square Academy Lower School



Alpha Tau Chapter held a BBQ fundraiser for their chapter.

Alpha Eta Chapter sisters supplied hygiene kits for Change the World Day at local UMC



**WORLD Teacher's DAY**  
October 4th

Fidelis Xi Chapter members stuffed treat bags for the Ark Family Preservation Center's annual golf tournament.



Gamma Epsilon Chapter members made peppers for St. Jude

Chi Chapter help a surprise wedding shower for member Erin Neal





# Save the Date

2026 Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa  
State Convention

May 1-3, 2026

Atlanta Marriott Perimeter Center  
Atlanta, Georgia



Mark your calendars now!  
More information coming soon!



# Georgia Scholarship Opportunities

by VP for Scholarships Kellie Hubbard

## State Scholarship Timeline

- By October 31 - Golden Isles District Chapters should receive application & directions
- Feb. 1, 2026 - Applications & documents due to chapters from applicants
- March 1, 2026 - Completed application & documents due to VP for Scholarship
- April 2026 - Scholarship committee will approve applications & recommend winners to State Executive Board for approval.
- May/June 2026 - Awards will be mailed

## Past State Presidents' Scholarship Timeline

- Scholarship applications available now on the state website
- Feb. 1, 2026 - Deadline for applications to be submitted to the VP for Scholarship



## Ethel Kerlin Ward Scholarship

- Awarded every biennium to the GA Excellence in Education recipient
- Only funded by donations
- Deadline - November 1, 2025

A great way to celebrate Alpha Delta Kappa Month is to make a donation to the EKW Scholarship in memory of an Omega sister, in honor of an active sister, or just for altruism

## International Opportunities & Deadlines

For Members of AΔK

Deadline October 15th

For Non-Members of AΔK

Deadline November 15th



# Candidate Qualifications

## Leadership at the Next Level

### Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa Needs You!

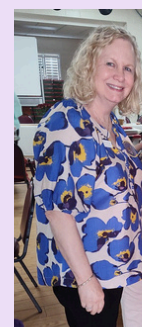
As we are now into the second year of this biennium, we begin to prepare for the future. At every level in Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa, the executive officers will be changing and filled with new leadership in 2026. As educators, we have developed leadership skills that could enhance our organization. We have opportunities to share our leadership skills to continue to build Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa to new heights. Please take this opportunity to offer for an officer position on the State Board. Is this the time for you to share you skills and experiences to advance our special organization? Yes it is!!!

The deadline to apply is February 14, 2026.

You may receive a candidate application from  
Donna Smith, [dsmithlong@gmail.com](mailto:dsmithlong@gmail.com)  
or at the following link [www.gaalphadeltakappa.org/](http://www.gaalphadeltakappa.org/)

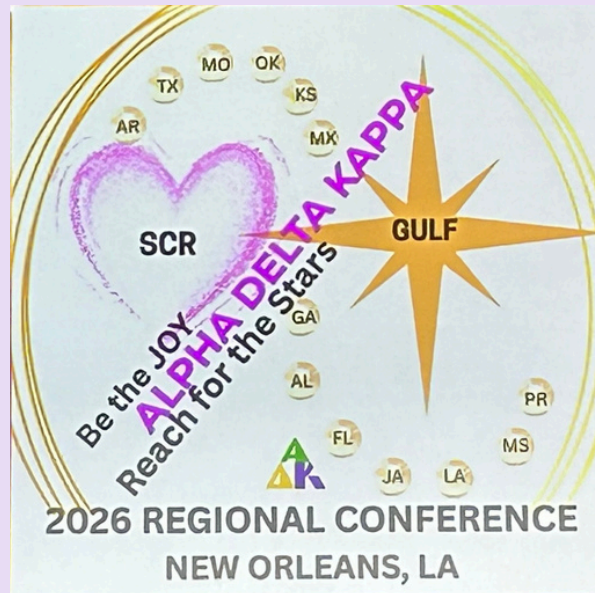


### Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa Executive Board / Advisory Council Meeting September 20<sup>th</sup>





# Gulf/South Central Regional Conference Survey



Gulf President Kay Spriggs is working on the joint Gulf/South Central Regional Conference in New Orleans next summer.

Please help her out by taking this short survey by October 10th!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSedQf-yREXEIRSosQQecptBB3xj85nZX1s6ua7B59P1K0gnuA/viewform?usp=header>



# Highlights of the Albany District

*"A Timeless Legacy of Excellence"*

*Alpha Theta Chapter  
"Continuing the Legacy"*

*Alpha Iota Chapter  
"The Time is Now"*

A Timeless Legacy  
Of Excellence



*Alpha Rho Chapter  
"Rooted in Tradition,  
Growing into the Future"*

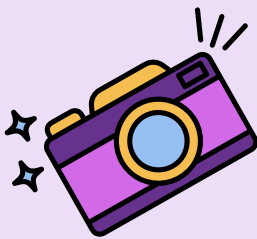
*Beta Rho Chapter  
"Learning, Growing,  
Sharing, Serving"*

*Fidelis Alpha Chapter*

*"Bridge Builders. Future Makers. That is what we are."*

## Do You Know?

- 1) GA AΔK 2025 Member Service Award recipient is  
*Deborah Williams from Alpha Iota Chapter.*
- 2) *The Albany District has only one district meeting each year in the spring.*
- 3) *The Albany District will co-host with the state the 2030 state convention.*
- 4) *The Albany District stretches from Cordele to Bainbridge.*
- 5) *The Albany District has six members on the State Advisory Council -  
District Co-Chairmen Jennifer Abercrombie & Angie Wilkerson from Alpha Theta  
Chapter, State Budget & Finance Committee Chairman Kathy Varner, State Excellence  
in Education Committee Chairman Suzi Bonifay, and State World Understanding  
Committee Chairman Ruth Rennick - all from Alpha Iota Chapter and  
State Music Chairman Lori Carnine from Alpha Rho Chapter.*



## Historian Melissa Blankenship



Please submit photos of your chapter meetings, events, and altruism projects!



By Text  
478-397-5396



By Email  
[melissab.betapi@gmail.com](mailto:melissab.betapi@gmail.com)



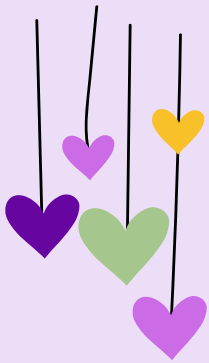
## *Chaplain's Corner*

*by State Chaplain Janet Robison*

When a member of your chapter joins the Omega Chapter please send the following information to me and your district chairman:

Omega Sister's Name, Photo  
Chapter and District Name  
Date of when she joined the Omega Chapter  
A link for her obituary

Thank you!



## Heart Strings of Love and Care

State Altruism Committee Chairman and Beta Chi sister  
Carol Roe - fall / knee / back / heart cath Oct 10th

State World Understanding Committee Chairman and Alpha Iota sister  
Ruth Rennick - recovering from broken arm

Dalton District Co-Chairman & Beta Upsilon sister Mary Jones - recovering at home

Gamma Epsilon sister Lea Mazzucco - rehab recovery from stroke #fightleafight

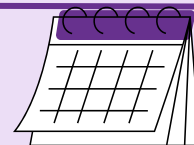
Sisters in Chapters who have lost sisters to the Omega Chapter  
Alpha Chapter sister Peg Ziegler - Omega Chapter



"Love is shown more in deeds than in words."

Saint Ignatius

## Important Dates



Month of October  
October 1

### Alpha Delta Kappa Month

GA 101 Chapter Calendar of Meetings Form for 2025-2026 Due to  
State President Terri Thompson - Cornucopia requirement  
Classroom Grant Deadline

Regional Officer Candidates Application Opens  
Kappan submissions Deadline for December publication

October 4

World Teacher Day

October 10

Gulf/South Central Regional Survey Deadline

October 11

Columbus District Fall Meeting - LaGrange

October 15

990-N IRS E-Postcard Deadline - Online submission to IRS

Regional Mini Fall Scholarship Application Deadline

Chapter Needs Assessment (CNA) Reflection Conversations to State

October 18

Tri-District Fall Meeting (Atlanta, Decatur, & Marietta) - Griffin

October 25

Augusta District Fall Meeting - Augusta

November 1

Chapter and District Budgets Due to State Treasurer Lisa Tilley

Excellence in Education Award Nominations Deadline

Athens District Fall Meeting - Gainesville

November 8

Dalton District Fall Meeting - Rock Springs

November 15

GA Alpha Delta Kappa Month Report Deadline to State Chairman



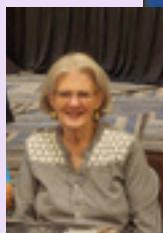
### GA AΔK Shirts

If you would like to order a purple shirt,  
please email Immediate Past State President  
Debbie Boswell [debbieb.adk@gmail.com](mailto:debbieb.adk@gmail.com)

All money will be donated to the  
Ronald McDonald Houses of Georgia.



Conway Blankenship  
International President  
[conwayadk@gmail.com](mailto:conwayadk@gmail.com)



Kay Spriggs  
Gulf Region President  
[kayspriggs1530@gmail.com](mailto:kayspriggs1530@gmail.com)