



# The Heartbeat of Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa

## by Terri Thompson

December 2025

Volume II

Issue 6

Can you believe in less than thirty days the year 2025 will be over? It has been a year of happiness with great accomplishments. There have been times of sadness with devastation from natural disasters. We in Alpha Delta Kappa have been successful in so many ways, but we still need improvement. As we take inventory, let us remember that we are a sisterhood trying to continue as a group working to helping those who we have pledged our support.

The holiday season has begun with our cities and towns coming alive with beautiful light displays, decorations and even parades to celebrate. Some areas have organized tours showcasing these displays. Many describe these happenings as "the most wonderful time of year." You can feel the excitement in the air with all this hustle and bustle. We often are in a hurry to buy gifts for family, friends, and the needy. Let us remember the real reason for the celebration as told in the Christmas story.

A well known song - "C is for the Christ Child" was written in 1949 by Jenny Lou Carson and Eddy Arnold. It tells the reason we celebrate December 25th.

**C** is for the Christ child born upon this day

**H** is for herald angels in the sky

**R's** for our Redeemer

**I** means Israel

**S** is for the star that shone so bright

**T** is for Three Wise Men, they who traveled far

**M** is for the manger where He lay

**A's** for all He stands for

**S** means shepherd's came

And that's why there's a Christmas Day!

And as we honor our traditions, let's remember to

"Focus on the Future" in Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa!

Terri   



**HOLIDAY BLESSINGS**

**2024-2026 Executive Board**

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<b>PRESIDENT-ELECT</b>	Pat Smith <a href="mailto:adkpjs97@gmail.com">adkpjs97@gmail.com</a> 706-975-1064
<b>VP FOR MEMBERSHIP</b>	Carolyn Pietkewicz <a href="mailto:clpietkewicz@gmail.com">clpietkewicz@gmail.com</a> 912-655-5400
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Lynn Fuller <a href="mailto:nanilynn62@gmail.com">nanilynn62@gmail.com</a> 706-464-0224
<b>TREASURER</b>	Lisa Tilley <a href="mailto:tilleylisa@bellsouth.net">tilleylisa@bellsouth.net</a> 678-361-5119
<b>CHAPLAIN</b>	Janet Robison <a href="mailto:robisonjanet@gmail.com">robisonjanet@gmail.com</a> 404-213-7813
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<b>HISTORIAN</b>	Melissa Blankenship <a href="mailto:melissab.betapi@gmail.com">melissab.betapi@gmail.com</a> 478-397-5396
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<b>IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT &amp; CO VPM</b>	Debbie Boswell <a href="mailto:debbieb.adk@gmail.com">debbieb.adk@gmail.com</a> 770-714-7444

# Membership News

**CONGRATULATIONS to 35 of our GEORGIA CHAPTERS for INITIATING NEW sisters in 2025!**

**Between January 6 and November 20, 2025  
59 Sisters were initiated !**

**As of today, we have a total of 1377 GA SISTERS.  
A final count will be in the January newsletter.**



**Who have you been talking to about AΔK?  
A GIFT of MEMBERSHIP may be a perfect gift !  
We have been gifted 2 memberships for the month of  
December and January. Look for the winners in February!**

**May each of you continue to enjoy this HOLIDAY SEASON  
as you celebrate with Family and FRIENDS...don't forget to  
SHARE YOUR LOVE and JOY of Sisterhood !**

**Carolyn and Debbie**

## Fraternity Education

It's the most wonderful time of the year! We are proud to bring this year to a close with our favorite sisters! We come to you with a fun Trivia game. Divide into 2 teams, each team will chime or ring in if they know the answer. The winning team could get a special prize or candy. This is a fun game to get up to date with Alpha Delta Kappa.

Thank you all for playing, and we hope you had as much fun as we did! As we close out this year, we want to wish each and every one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May your holidays be filled with joy, love, and lots of sweet moments. See you in the new year!

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



**Feeling Festive,  
Annie and Karen  
State Fraternity Ed Co-Chairs**



# Educators are Heroes Membership Grant

2026 Winter/Spring Cohort



**Focus:** Celebrating educators and building relationships with potential members.

**Funds:** The funds for this grant will be given to chapters who are committed to having an event for potential members **prior to May 15, 2025**. Chapters chosen will receive a check of **\$75 to buy items for their event**. Funds for this grant will be sent **after chapter member(s) attend one of the Training Sessions**.

The International Membership Committee (IMC) encourages the use of the relationship-building conversations to help sisters find what potential educators might be looking for in membership. As part of this grant, chapter leaders will attend a training Session via Zoom to learn how to plan a social event that focuses on relationship-building and value. This training will also provide an opportunity to brainstorm ideas with leaders across our organization.

First priority for this grant will be given to those chapters who have not previously received the Educators Are Heroes Grant. All chapters are encouraged to apply!

## TIMELINE

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**January 9** - JotForm closes. Chapters will be notified of acceptance within one week.

**Training Session - Thursday, January 15 @ 6:30 pm CT or Thursday, January 22 @ 5:00 pm CT** At least one chapter member must attend at least one training. All interested chapter members are welcome to attend.

- Meeting agenda:
  - Tenets and value of relationship-building conversations
  - Planning for and executing a social event that focuses on relationship-building and values
  - Strategies for following up with potential members
- Checks will be sent out after the meeting and should arrive the week of February 2
- S/P/N leaders from the chapters involved are encouraged to attend

**Check-In Support Session 1 - Wednesday, March 25 @ 6:30 pm CT** - Material will be reviewed and chapters will have the opportunity to share their plans for a prospective member social, ask questions, and gather ideas from other chapters in the cohort.

**Check-In Support Session 2 - Sunday, April 19 @ 6:30 pm CT** - Chapters will share the status of their prospective member social, get questions answered, and gather ideas/support from other sisters.

**May 15** - Deadline to have the social event for prospective members

**Reflection Session - Wednesday, May 27 @ 6:30 pm CT** - One or more chapter members are asked to attend this event to share their experience and to gather ideas and insight from other chapters.

- Meeting agenda:
  - Chapters share about the prospective member social
  - Share successes and challenges
  - Strategies for implementing the New Member Onboarding process

**The 2026 Educators are Heroes Grant Application JotForm** can be found on the international website > Chapter Officers > Chapter Training Tools or by clicking the link below (must be signed into the website).  
<https://form.jotform.com/253155328587162>

Reach out to Kathy Beatty ([kathybeattyadk@gmail.com](mailto:kathybeattyadk@gmail.com))  
International Vice President for Membership, with questions.

# Altruism in Action



Beta Sigma Chapter created and filled bags with goodies for the patients at Park Place Nursing Home



Alpha Psi Chapter packing Operations Christmas Child boxes.



Tau Chapter created comfort bags for dialysis patients.



Beta Delta Chapter sisters made Christmas cards for the Towns County Nursing Home residents.



Fidelis Xi Chapter addressed Christmas cards for the residents at The Gables Assisted Living facility.



A Day of Delta Chapter sisters Friendsgiving, love, laughter, prayer and service at Nothing But the Truth



Look at these HEARTS for altruism projects!



Gamma Nu sisters presented the Boys and Girls Clubs of The Altamaha Area with Clorox wipes and paper towels. Then assisted the boys and girls with making cards to veterans thanking them for their service for Veterans Day.

## Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa Cares Altruistically

Thank you, Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa Sisters

for your donation to:

GA  $\Delta$ K Violets Team

2025 St. Jude Run / Walk

2025 Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa State Project to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital  
Because of your support, we raised \$1,735!

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is leading the way the world understands, treats and defeats childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases.

Altruism is the  of Alpha Delta Kappa!

I am looking forward to seeing the 2025-2026 Altruistic totals in the Spring. If you have questions as you gather the chapter's altruistic totals, please let me know. As soon as I have the information for our reporting, I'll contact your Chapters. Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa continues to excel in Altruism. Have a great Holiday Season, Sisters!

Reminder: 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 ([tlthompson27@gmail.com](mailto:tlthompson27@gmail.com)).

With a HEART for Altruism, Carol Roe, State Altruistic Chairman



# Treasurer News

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



As you know, all members may now go online and pay the **\$40 International dues** at [alphadeltakappa.org](http://alphadeltakappa.org). International has fixed the issue with the online payment.

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

Let me know if you have any questions!

<b>January 1</b>	Chapter Roster Payment Record	Chapter Treasurer	1. Copy to Lisa Tilley 2. Copy to State President Terri Thompson
<b>January 1</b>	Pay ITE Scholarship Contribution to International	Chapter Treasurer	Pay online at International website
<b>January 1</b>	GA 103: State Dues and Courtesy Form	Chapter Treasurer	Lisa Tilley
<b>January 1</b>	GA 102: State Scholarship Assessment Form	Chapter Treasurer	State VP for Scholarships Kellie Hubbard
<b>January 1</b>	District Dues – District Forms	Chapter Treasurer	Your District Treasurer
<b>June 30</b>	Chapter Financial Summary	Chapter Treasurer	International
	D-1: Annual Cash Flow Statement	District Treasurer	Email verification to Lisa Tilley  Lisa Tilley

## Reminder

**Chapter Treasurers - Remember to send a copy of your chapter roster to State Treasurer Lisa Tilley and a copy to State President Terri Thompson by January 1 either via email or USPS.**

Chapter Roster



## DISASTER RELIEF



Alpha Delta Kappa has always been a very generous organization by helping our own sisters as well as others when they are in need. Hurricane Melissa struck Jamaica causing catastrophic damage. Jamaica President Carlene Williams-Heath sent a message to the Gulf Presidents saying she was alive and blessed. She did lose the roof of her home which flooded. See pictures above. She only asked for prayers. The Gulf Region is gathering information from Headquarters regarding relief efforts in the works. More information will be coming. You can send donations marked for Jamaica to our state treasurer. Thank you to those who have already made donations.

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.

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)



# Alpha Delta Kappa Month Celebrations

## Happy Holidays Sisters!

I have so enjoyed reading about all the cool things you all did in October to celebrate this wonderful organization we belong to and the 4 ladies that were instrumental in bringing it to life. Sisters have been involved in a plethora of altruistic projects giving to our local schools, local libraries, and to classrooms of sisters who are still actively teaching. It is truly heartwarming to see all that you all do to make a difference in the lives of our sisters, our students, and our communities. Several chapters made their hometown newspapers as commissioners declared October to be Alpha Delta Kappa Month. The photos below are just a sample of what we have received. Look for these and many more to appear on our State Facebook page soon. Note: Your AAK Month Report while due November 15th is not considered late if received by midnight on December 1st.

You can still email it to me at [leigh2870@hotmail.com](mailto:leigh2870@hotmail.com) or put in the mail to me. See last month's newsletter for my address or ask a sister - shout out to *Rhon Sheffield* for helping another sister with my contact information. As always, late is better than never! Keep up the good work ladies

Shannon Cole

AAK Month Chairman



Sigma Chapter donated a book to Thomason-McDuffie County library.



GA Phi giving out treats as part of their AAK Month



Several chapters received recognitions from their local county commissioners for Alpha Delta Kappa Month including Alpha Tau, Beta Rho, Beta Phi and Sigma.



Augusta District sisters presented *To Tell the Truth: Agnes Shipman Robertson from Alpha Delta Kappa, please stand up.*



Beta Phi Chapter sisters also dressed as our Founders for their meeting.



Lambda Chapter members toured a local preschool delivering hand soap and Kleenex for the classrooms. They also donated pumpkins for their fall festival.



Alpha Epsilon Chapter shared goodies with middle school.



Town County Commissioner signed a proclamation for Beta Delta Chapter's AAK Month celebration.



Sigma Chapter provided sweet and salty treats for the faculty & staff of local elementary school.

## October recognized as International Alpha Delta Kappa Month in Spalding

BY LARRY STANFORD  
STAFF REPORTER  
LARRYSTANFORD@GWINN.DAILYNEWS.COM

GRIMM — The Spalding County Board of Commissioners recognized October 2025 as International Alpha Delta Kappa Month at their Oct. 6 meeting.

Alpha Delta Kappa was founded in 1947 to recognize and support the professional efforts of outstanding women educators. District 1 Commissioner Gwen Flinn-Taylor read the proclamation, which states in part:

"Whereas, women in education constitute a great portion of the nation's workforce and are constantly striving to serve their communities and nation in educational, cultural, and charitable programs leading to har-



Members of the Spalding County chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa stand with the county commissioners as commissioner Clay Davis holds the proclamation.

ing with time and resources, to strengthen the education profession through commitment to diversity and inclusion, and value each person for

"Now, therefore, be it



Alpha Pi Chapter toured and left treats at a local primary school where two members teach.

# Let's Celebrate

## Congratulations Sisters!

Lori Carnine from Alpha Rho was recognized by the local VFW for her school Citizenship Education Award



Beta Chi Chapter member  
Tina Meeks - Oconee Fall Line  
Technical College 2026  
Outstanding Adult Education  
Teacher of the Year



Alpha Psi Chapter - "Be the Light"  
Distinguished Program Recognition  
in the Violet Level



Happy 90<sup>th</sup>  
Birthday  
Carolyn Turner  
Alpha Delta  
Chapter sister



Beta Xi Chapter sisters  
celebrated Veterans's Day  
with "Keeping Our History  
Alive" and touring museum  
at Eagle Station



Welcome to Beta Rho Chapter's  
newest sister -Stephanie Cooper  
to GA Alpha Delta Kappa!



Theta Chapter  
Linda Sumpter



Alpha Beta Chapter  
Kathy Fry  
Gayle Denmark



Way to Go Suzi Bonifay from Alpha Iota Chapter! She shared her breast cancer message with AΔK International to help spread the importance of early detection.



AWESOME  
Alpha  
Delta  
Kappa ALZ  
Walk  
Teams!



### Top 10 New Walk Teams for 2025

Intuitive	\$162,795
Deloitte	\$160,202
Together Making Changes	\$158,977
Benchmark	\$144,180
Cedarhurst Senior Living	\$80,441
Senior Helpers	\$62,001
QTS	\$55,180
Interim Healthcare	\$52,858
Alpha Delta Kappa	\$34,721
Siemens - Healthineers	\$29,315

New!



Congratulations Pippy Rogers for  
being recognized AIM's  
(Alzheimer's Impact Movement)  
December Advocate of the Month

WALK END  
ALZHEIMER'S  
PROUD  
NATIONAL TEAM

# Georgia Scholarship Opportunities

by VP for Scholarships Kellie Hubbard

Deadlines are fast approaching.

## State Scholarship

- Golden Isles District Chapters should have the 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

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



## International Opportunities & Deadlines



Deadline January 31st

Deadline February 15th



Deadline February 15th

# November District Meetings

## Athens District



## Dalton District





Mark  
your  
Calendar



2026 Georgia Alpha Delta Kappa State Convention  
May 1-3, 2026

“A Timeless Tradition: GA AΔK’s Pearls and Violets Celebration!”  
at the Atlanta Marriott Perimeter Center



Gulf/South Central Regional Conference



July 20-22, 2026  
at the JW Marriott  
614 Canal Street  
New Orleans, Louisiana



# International Teacher Scholars 2025-2026

Join the Zoom on January 24, 2026

Enjoy the panel discussion as these extraordinary women respond to questions about their culture, education and goals.

Look for the Zoom link from Headquarters early January.



## ITE Scholars Evolving Together



### 2026 ITE Webinar

Join us to share insights from our Scholar Panel

January 24, 2026

3:00 pm (CST)

via ZOOM



Emma Alfaro-Martinez  
El Salvador



Thembisile Buthelezi  
South Africa



Meri Kadagidze  
Georgia



Shehneela Naz  
Bangladesh



Sangsupa Penrach  
Thailand



Hengly Te  
Cambodia



Nondumiso Thango  
South Africa

**Purpose:** The International Teacher Education Program provides scholars from countries outside the United States the following opportunities:

- To study for a master's degree in a field of education in United States universities and colleges
- To learn about the philosophy of education, methods, and materials of instruction in the United States
- To share their experiences with people both in the United States and abroad.



# Highlights of the Marietta District

Alpha Alpha Chapter  
"Better Together"

Alpha Sigma Chapter  
"Making Connections"

Beta Omicron Chapter  
"Shining Our Light  
for Their Journey"



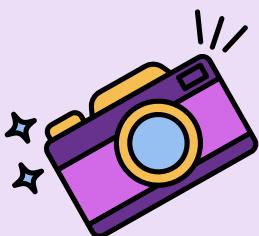
Alpha Pi Chapter  
"Timeless Lessons for the Future"

Beta Epsilon Chapter  
"Making Connections in Our  
Community and Sisterhood"

Fidelis Lambda Chapter  
"Bridging Connections through  
Outreach, Opportunities and Outings"

## Do You Know?

- 1) The 2025 International Excellence in Education recipient Dawn Hudson is from the Marietta District.
- 2) The Marietta District is one third of the Tri-Districts of Metro Atlanta.
- 3) The Marietta District has one member on the State Executive Board - State Chaplain Janet Robison from Beta Epsilon Chapter and two members on the State Advisory Council - State Telecommunications Chairman Dawn Hudson from Beta Epsilon and Marietta District Chairman Sheila Miller from Alpha Sigma Chapter.
- 4) The Marietta District co-hosted the 2022 GA State Convention.
- 5) The Marietta District stretches East of Atlanta to the Alabama border.



## 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)

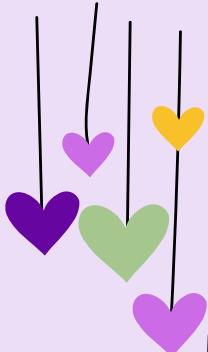
## Chaplain's Corner

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

Immediate Past State President Debbie Boswell's husband Richard's passing

State Fraternity Education Co-Chairman Annie Brindle's mother Faye's passing

Atlanta District Chairman Marian Sorensen - recovery from surgery

Augusta District Chairman Lynn Cato's mother's - upcoming surgery

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

Sisters in Chapters who have lost sisters to the Omega Chapter

Omicron Chapter sister Jane Ellen Lackman - Omega Chapter

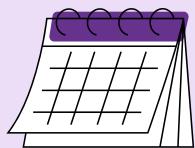
Sigma Chapter sister Pat Carr - Omega Chapter

Beta Rho Chapter sister Anne H. Parker

“Do what you love, love what you do, and with all your heart give yourself to it.” - Roy T. Bennett



## Important Dates



December 7                    "Gathering Together" a Zoom for all!

January 1                    International, State, District & Chapter Dues, ITE and Fees Deadline

January 24                    *Kappan* Submissions Deadline (March publication)

GA District Chairman / Chairman-Elect Meeting - Zoom

ITE Virtual Gathering

January 31                    Regional Professional Development Scholarship Application Deadline

International Dues Submitted Online or Postmark after January 31 will incur a \$5 per member late fee

February 7                    Heart of Georgia Spring District Meeting - Cochran

February 15                    Agnes Robertson Global Outreach (ARGO) Scholarship Application Deadline

February 21                    Fine Arts Grant Application Deadline

February 28                    Albany Spring District Meeting - Cordele

                                  Golden Isles Spring District Meeting - Statesboro

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



Kay Spriggs  
Gulf Region President  
kayspriggs1530@gmail.com