



# Keynotes for Chi

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## *Dear Chi Members,*

What joy it was to see so many of you at the Holiday Tea. I hope each of you were pleased with the entertainment, food, and fellowship. The tea pot we used was one given to me by a student which made it so suitable for the occasion.

It seems that many of us have had family health challenges. Hopefully, by March we will be healthy and back to having a fun and informative meeting at the Jamestown library. Julia Ebel will introduce our speaker, Shawn Rogers, director at the Mendenhall Homeplace. He is speaking on the development of education in Jamestown and High Point.

I really try to take care of my sheep. I had the two young ewes in the small stable to protect them from the rams. On a pretty day, I had all the sheep out of the barn area except the two young ewes. I let them go into the larger barn area so they could have more hay and run a little. When I returned to the barn, one of the sheep ran to me but the other one stood still. I went to her to check on the situation. She had wrapped her head into a hay tie and then twisted to try to get free and tightened the cord to the degree that if I had not return timely, she could have choked herself. I had to calm her to let me cut the cord so she could be free. I thought of our students having cords of learning challenges hurting them, and we have the challenge of finding what cord is bothering them and freeing them to learn. What an awesome but rewarding task we are trying to accomplish! Thank each of you in your teaching efforts in whatever situation you are working.

We value our Chi members.



**[Debbie Rosenquist, President](#)**

***Sending Birthday Greetings to:***

***March***  
**29 – Rhonda Hunt**

***April***  
**10 – Julia Ebel, Honorary**

**Treasurer’s Report**

Chi Treasurer's Report  
Figures as of January 16, 2024:

Community Checking	\$4,613.72
Business Money Rate Savings	\$1,322.95

**Nancy Tucker, Treasurer**



Don't forget to bring money for  
"Schools for Africa" &  
Bragging Rights  
to the March 12<sup>th</sup> meeting!

**Member News**

Congratulations to Christina Mayhand on her engagement over the Christmas Holiday.

February is the time to elect new Chi members, Nominee name(s), and contact information are due to the Membership Committee by Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup>. An election will be held by email in February.

Please forward nominee data to me by email, text, or phone. Include their name, mailing address, email, employer, position, cell and home phone, and sponsor.

Prospects who accept Chi’s invitation to membership will attend an orientation in March. Their induction ceremony will be part of our Spring Banquet in April.

Thank you for supporting Chi’s membership efforts.

**Betty Mayer, Chair**



**Global Awareness**

We have collected a total of \$60.00 to send to our Schools for Africa fund. We will continue to pass the hat at our meetings and accept donations as we celebrate your good news, bragging rights, or blessings. Thank you for your generous contributions.

**Rhonda Hunt, Chair**



## Scholarships and Grants

At our March meeting, we look forward to hearing reports from our mini-grant recipients: Amanda Thompson and Christina Mayhand. Look at the list of NCDKG Educational Grants below. Lots of opportunities! DKG has post-baccalaureate scholarships—submissions due by February 1!

**Kay Tucker, Chair**



## Christina Mayhand Received NCDKG Educational Grant

Christina used her grant funds to purchase some materials for the classroom that included: Lego Duplo containers, Brain Flakes, magnetic wands, wall strips, and wheel stoppers. Christina expressed her gratitude for this grant to improve her effectiveness as a STEM teacher in Guilford County.



## Explore the NC DKG Educational Foundation Grants

- [Continuing Education for Professional/Personal Growth](#)  
Educators statewide
- [Learning/Literacy Project Grant](#)  
Educators statewide
- Dr. Judith B. Carlson Endowment Grant  
Educators statewide supporting enrichment activities, travel, fieldtrips, outdoor education, and other experiential learning
- [Margaret Church Endowment Grant](#)  
Grades 4-12 educators statewide supporting leadership development
- Dr. Barbara Day – Dr. Mary M. Cauley Endowed Fund for International Study and Travel through Attendance at Professional Conferences and Conventions  
Educators statewide
- [Groves-Little Early Career Educator's Grant](#)  
Educators, 4 years or less experience, employed in NC public schools
  - McCall Gifted Education or Fine Arts Grant  
Educators statewide
- [Linda G. Richards Endowment Grant](#)  
NC public school female high school volleyball coaches
- Phyllis Frye Copeland Endowment  
Active educators in Catawba County for non-consumable materials for hands-on learning experiences
- [The Betsy and Fred Cranford Endowment](#)  
This grant is available to educators in Burke or Caldwell counties.
- [Simmons-Longest Endowment Grant](#)  
Active & retired NC DKG educators in Region VI for personal growth, leadership development and professional growth
- [Lynda Tamblyn Endowment Grant](#)  
Educators in Guilford County

## Projects

The LEAP book collection has collected approximately 40 books so far. If you want to donate a book or buy one and send to my address, that will help our drive. February 20 is the deadline for donations. On **February 21**, you are invited to my home for a light lunch and a work session. We will be categorizing the books by grade level and organizing the Family Justice Center children's activity bags. Please let me know if you would like to be a part of this fellowship and service by February 15. Many thanks if you have already contributed books! Please consider a donation for this worthy community project that supports literacy for the children of High Point!

**Phyllis McCoy, Chair**



### Editorial: “Fellowship is Key”

I hope you all were able to read December 23 The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin Collegial Exchange Volume 90-2. I was drawn to the article “Want Members? Want to Keep Them? Include Fellowship!” on pages 15-17 authored by Marilyn Nease. A quote from the article reads **“Recruiting members is vital to all chapters. However, it is important that we not only recruit members but also retain those members—and fellowship is key!”** hit a note with me. It seems that our meetings of the past were so full of business to be attended to that quite often we forgot the “fellowship” part.

DKG International has certainly tried to do its part to appeal to the everyday school teacher member. It has created many workshops at conferences and conventions **“to unite women educators . . . in . . . fellowship,”** one of the founders’ purposes for beginning this organization. DKG International has stressed supporting teachers at many levels including mental health and the physical wellbeing of our members. One goal to support our leading women educators is fellowship which involves

sharing our experiences, our classroom programs, our knowledge of different topics, and our concern and care for one another.

NCDKG is doing its part in meeting the needs of the members. In her speech at the High Point Coordinating Council banquet last April 12, 2023, now state president, Hilda Parler hit home on her vision that we must not only work on recruiting and recognizing our members to show their worth, but even more importantly to retain our members through fellowship. Hilda Parler recommended that we have opportunities to get to know each other. At the 2023 NCDKG State Convention, Hilda reiterated the same sentiment.

When Chi president Debbie Rosenquist took office, she saw the need to provide ample time at meetings to socialize and to get to know one another. Debbie acted on her goals.

Thanks go to our leaders for recognizing the importance of fellowship in a proactive manner.



Mary Ann Hart, *Keynotes* editor

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## **Message from Debbie about the April 2024 Convention**

The state DKG meeting is in Durham on April 26, 27, and 28. It should be full of interesting workshops and fun activities. There will be a Friday evening meal at 7:15, sessions on Saturday, and a brunch with awards given on Sunday from 8:30AM to 12:00PM. You have the option to just go for a day if you choose. It is so close that a day trip is doable. Our vendor form has been sent for approval. Chi has a procedure for supporting three first time convention attendees with \$20. More about that later. See the article below about convention details.

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### **Only Five (Three Months now) Months Until Convention 2024!** **Nikki Steckroth, Convention Chair** *NC DKG News Winter 2023*

Have you cleared your calendar yet for the 2024 NC DKG State Convention in Durham? Find your yellow highlighter. Get some emoji stickers. Circle the weekend of April 26-28 in red. Your getaway will take you to the center of the state (sort of) to the Sheraton Imperial Hotel in Research Triangle Park. Officers, the Executive Board, and the Convention Committee are continuing to tweak the schedule and add new activities and events to ensure that you have a great time! Yes, important state work of the Society will take place, scholarships will be awarded, and chapter recognitions will be front and center – along with other annual business events. But Friday night is shaping up to be a celebration you won't want to miss, and the Sunday brunch will have a much different agenda than at previous conventions. Hmmm. Intrigued? The nine chapters in Region III are tasked with coordinating the logistics of the event. The job of the convention chair is to make volunteering and participation easy for all members of any chapter who want to jump in and help make this convention one that everyone will certainly remember. You will see volunteer signups on the registration form when it becomes available, but you are encouraged to reach out to Volunteer Coordinator Dr. Carol Maidon or Convention Chairperson Nikki Steckroth at any time if you have questions or just can't wait to volunteer. If you have never attended an event beyond the chapter level, this is a great opportunity for you to experience the broader scope of DKG. Your new perspective will make you even prouder to be a member of this great organization. See you in Durham.

**\*Begin to make plans now to go to NCDKG State Convention, April 26-28. Watch for more information and registration forms at [ncdkg.org](http://ncdkg.org)!**

## **Chi Chapter Minutes**

September 26, 2023, Life on Lexington,  
620 E. Lexington Avenue, High Point at 5:00 PM  
President: Deborah Rosenquist  
Vice-President: Susan Fleenor  
Secretary: Mary Ann Hart  
Treasurer: Nancy Tucker

**Members Present:** L. Millen, A. Harris, C. Mayhand, K. Smith, S. Hedrick, M. Alley, B. Hodge, S. Martz, S. Fleenor, J. Flynn, C. Robinson, S. Horney, R. Hunt, W. Kitley, M. Wade, T. Owens, E. Newsome, A. Thompson, C. Thomas, K. Winklosky, R. Myers, B. Mayer, K. Tucker, D. Rosenquist, M. Hart, L. Chandler P. McCoy

We had food and fellowship from 5:00-5:30 followed by **President Rosenquist** sending out a welcome to all and especially to our speaker, Dr. Whitney Oakley, Superintendent of Guilford County Schools; Tracey Lewis, a member of Alpha Theta (Surry County) and Chief Communications Officer for Guilford County; Mary Pickett, Region VII Director; and Mary Bogest, feature writer for High Point Enterprise. Janet Flynn introduced her guest, Dr. Dian Carr.

**Phyllis McCoy** shared a reading for the invocation.

**Betty Mayer** introduced Chi's new members: Susan Howard Hedrick, a former Chi president, was reinstated and is mentored by Kay Tucker; Sue Horney is a newly retired lower grade teacher from Westchester Country Day School and is mentored by Pat Sams; Wendy Kitley, a former member of Beta Xi and third grade teacher at Southwest Elementary, was reinstated in Chi Chapter. She is mentored by Betsy Hodge; Christina Mayhand, Stem teacher at Guilford Elementary, is mentored by Betty Mayer; Emily Newsome, student at HPU and our 2023 Alice Armfield grant winner is mentored by Mary Ann Hart. A gift box of assorted fudge candies was presented to each new member. **Sue Horney** led the singing of "Happy Birthday" to Emily Newsome for her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday!

**Dr. Whitney Oakley, Superintendent of Guilford County Schools**, spoke to the successes and challenges of the 50<sup>th</sup> largest school system in the nation. The system serves 68,000 PK-12 students and 10,000 employees at 126 schools. Successful programs that Dr. Oakley wants to continue are Early College at Guilford; Guilford STEM College at A&T; High Dosage Tutoring for about 11,500 students involved in

300,000 sessions that resulted in higher math growth for grades 6-12 when compared to the state scores; Learning Hubs that have resulted in high attendance and better graduation rates; and involving the community at large to tutor in our schools. A federal mental health grant of \$3.7 million will be a part of the effort to eventually have school-based clinics in all Title I schools. Twelve new tactics for safety strategies have been implemented. Plans to upgrade or build new schools are being acted on through the recent \$2 million bond being passed. Dr. Oakley praised the commitment of the community. To better support the principals, teachers and students, the system is now organized into new school zones. Also, a satellite central office for the county will be at Congdon Yards as a nod to the High Point community support for public education. Al Johnson has been hired as the full time coordinator. Guilford County has its challenges with 23 out of 25 Title I schools having universal free lunch, a smaller percentage of college educated parents and more concentrated poverty in the system than found in comparable school systems in our state. Dr. Oakley remains committed to making sure our students grow and succeed and that we maximize resources for students. **President Rosenquist** presented Dr. Oakley our thanks with a gift basket.

**Quorum** was established. **Minutes** from the March 28, 2023, meeting were approved and filed after a motion from Kathy Smith and a second from Betsy Hodge.

**President Rosenquist** presented the Chi Strategic Goals. Susan Martz made a motion to accept, Rhonda Hunt seconded, and the goals were unanimously approved.

**President Rosenquist** led the Chapter Collect. **Susan Martz** led the Delta Kappa Gamma Song.

**Membership Committee: Betty Mayer, chair**, announced that the Giannos 3<sup>rd</sup> Fun Friday in October would be cancelled because of the work for the fundraiser on October 21. Betty asked members to take a pencil and a Chi DKG brochure to recruit new members for Chi. More pencils and brochures are available from Betty if needed. Betty will send out an email about orders for new badges. She asked those

who needed to purchase a new badge to pay for it at the Holiday Tea in December. A Jewelry Box Pin Swap Program will now allow members, on a voluntary basis, to trade in a pin such as a "Years of Service" pin when there is an upgrade. The hope is to save members some expense.

**Impacting Personal and Professional Pride: Betsy Hodge, chair,** praised the work that Nancy Tucker has done for Chi for the past 20 years and noted that Nancy was our first Member Spotlight submission for the September newsletter. Nancy is stepping down as treasurer at the end of this year. Let Betsy know if you are interested in taking over this treasurer's position. Betsy asked those who have a submission for the Spring Arts Gallery to find the February 15 guidelines on the International website. There are many genres of art available for submissions. If there are any honors, awards, or classroom news items you want to share, let Betsy know about it. Chi wants to celebrate You!

**Global Awareness: Rhonda Hunt, chair,** announced the replacement fundraiser for Water Bottles for Africa. "Bragging Rights" at \$2 a brag can be shared at meetings and through a written submission as a new feature of *Keynotes* newsletter publications. This way, members who were not able to attend the in-person meeting can have her brag published. Also, Rhonda will "Pass the Hat for Schools of Africa" at each meeting for this effort. Brags for this meeting included Debbie's lamb winning in a show at the fair and her granddaughter at age 10 proved that she could flip a lamb for sheering and hooves trimming, Susan Martz is downsizing, Susan Hedrick and her husband volunteer at Northwood as part of our superintendent's initiative to get volunteers, and Sylvia wanted all to know that things are going well with her and Gayle. Submit your write-up to Rhonda who will send an edited copy to Mary Ann Hart for publication.

**Scholarships and Grants: Kay Tucker, chair,** announced guidelines for grants through Chi. Kay said that the committee can give different amounts and as much as possible to any one applicant. An interested member must send a request for an application to Kay Tucker by email. October 24 is the due date. Recipients will be announced at the Holiday Tea in December. Kay, also, provided a hard copy of grants and scholarships available at the state and international level. Members can access this information on websites at DKG International and ncdkg.org.

**Leadership Development: Susan Sumpter, chair,** is in the hospital. President Rosenquist encouraged members to submit articles to the DKG Bulletin at [dkgbulletin.org](http://dkgbulletin.org). Our president has submitted an article. We wish Susan Chi's best.

**Projects: Phyllis McCoy and Teresa Owens, co-chairs,** announced that the HPU Mentor/Mentee program will continue, and mentors were invited to specific programs. Teresa Owens will keep the mentor group informed of events. Phyllis announced that the collection of books for High Point L.E.A.P.'s Five Little Free Libraries will end February 21 with a work session at her house to sort the books into age appropriate categories. At the same time, Family Justice Center Activity Bags for Children will be filled. Activity bags entertain the children of parents having counseling at the center. Phyllis encouraged members to order books and to have them shipped to her home if that would be easier to do. Books at all levels K-12 are welcome but books are especially needed for middle schoolers. A group of children from the High Point L.E.A.P. after-school tutoring program dropped in to say thanks to Chi for helping. Claire invited members to bring their families to Hype's (Rockers' mascot) Trick-or-Treat Event to be a part of LEAP's and High Point Rockers' Book-A-Treat at Truist Stadium, High Point, on October 27. This is a free event with treats and activities. To date, Claire said L.E.A.P. had given out 2,000 books for the literacy campaign to bring books to children who cannot buy books. She thanked Chi Chapter for its donations.

**Beginning Teacher Support: Carla Thomas, chair,** announced that three new beginning teachers from Thomasville Middle and Carolina Christian Academy will receive gift cards.

**Fund Raising: Susan Fleenor, chair,** announced that Chi will host a spaghetti dinner, \$10 a ticket, at the home of Nancy Spurgeon. In case of inclement weather, the event will take place at Life on Lexington, 620 East Lexington Avenue, High Point. Members will supply makings for spaghetti, salad, desserts, and drinks. Cornhole and other games will be available for guests. More information to come.

**Hospitality: Lyn Chandler, chair,** is helping with the fund raisers. Thanks were given to Lyn and her committee for serving a beautiful table of food before our meeting began.

**Education Law and Policy:** Amanda Thompson, chair, stressed the need for all members to stay aware of what is going on at our state legislature. She noted the need to raise teacher pay and to provide more support for the teacher and student in the classroom. Amanda entered a wonderful review and link in our last newsletter to politicized issues affecting our teachers and students.

**Finance Report:** Nancy Tucker, treasurer, asked President Rosenquist to present the current report as seen here. Martha Alley made a motion to accept the budget as previously given to all members and approve the financial report as was published in the September Keynotes. Susan Fleenor seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**Old Business:**

An electronic survey through Survey Monkey overseen by Anne Sheffield for the Executive Board, was 31 to 4 to amend Chi Chapter rules to be in line with International rules regarding when induction ceremonies take place. Note that the new wording is in bold print. The change in our rule will read: **“In addition to any other Chi induction ceremony during the year,** an induction ceremony for new members of the three chapters shall be held at the spring banquet, under the direction of the Coordinating Council Chairman. An individual becomes a member of the Society when she pays her dues.” Christina Mayhand called for its approval with Kay Tucker seconding the proposal. The vote was unanimous to approve the change.

**New Business:**

The Executive Board asked Mary Ann Hart to propose that \$5.00 be added to Collegiate dues since only International and the NC DKG received monies for a Collegiate member. This means that a collegiate member would pay \$20 to International, \$5 to the state and \$5 to Chi. That \$5 will help bolster the Chi budget. Christina Mayhand made the motion to accept, and Betty Mayer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**Announcements:** President Rosenquist announced that \$20 for the Holiday Tea should be sent to Nancy Tucker by November 1, 2023.

**President Rosenquist** adjourned the meeting at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Ann Hart



**Lyn Chandler, Chi Star Chef at Spaghetti Supper**



**Nancy Spurgeon, Jim and Betty Mayer**



**Phyllis McCoy ready to eat**



## Upcoming Chi Meetings

Wednesday, February 21  
@1 PM  
Phyllis McCoy's home  
Work Session and Lunch

Saturday, February 24  
@1 PM  
Chi Executive Board Meeting  
Debbie Rosenquist home

Tuesday, March 12, 2024  
@5:30 PM  
Jamestown Public Library  
Speaker: Shawn Rogers, Director of Mendenhall  
Homeplace  
End-of-year Reports and Recognitions

Fun Friday Lunch  
March 15, 2024  
@11:30 AM  
Giannos on Eastchester Drive

Tuesday, April 9, 2024  
@5:30 PM  
High Point Coordinating Council Banquet  
River Landing Golf Clubhouse

Saturday, May 4, 2024  
@1:00 PM  
Debbie Rosenquist Farm, Family Social with  
Lambs

## DKG and NC DKG Dates to Remember

February 15, 2025  
Art Gallery Submissions Due

April 26-28, 2024  
NC DKG Convention  
Sheraton Imperial Hotel  
Research Triangle Park  
Durham, NC

July 9-13, 2024  
DKG 2024 International Convention  
Gaylord National Resort &  
Convention Center, National Harbor, Maryland

## LINKS

[DKG International Website](#)

[NC DKG Website](#)

[Chi Website](#)



## Keynotes Submissions 2023-2024 NEW DATES!

Deadlines:	Publication Dates:
February 27	March 5
March 26	April 2
April 23	April 30

Mary Ann Hart, editor

