The Mission of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and Psi Chapter is to promote professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. A note from Mary Anne: Greetings on a cold snowy day!! Epsilon State Convention is fast approaching and Psi Chapter has some important duties. See the information below.

At our February meeting we will vote on prospective new members. Have you recommended someone? If not take a minute to do so and let Sherry know.

Also coming up is a new biennium and the nominations committee will be compiling a new slate of officers. The vote new officers will be at the March meeting. Please be open and willing if asked to serve.

This has been an exciting, busy and probably a year filled with anxiety both for you as a teacher, a mom, grandmother, etc., as well as a Psi Chapter member. I hope that you will make every effort to attend our remaining meetings and the Epsilon State Convention in Pineville

Epsilon State Convention

If you haven't registered for this event, do so today. Central District and Psi Chapter has a vital part in the meetings success.

Your responsibilities:

- 1. Register and attend; the form is attached
- 2. Provide a door prize for \$10 or less—bring to February meeting.
- Attend the Saturday night banquet—Psi along with Beta Kappa of Natchitoches have to decorate and put out door prizes.
- Contribute items (Possibly Football or Louisiana related) or money for "The Blind Side" Theme Basket—Bring to February Meeting



Important Dates

Meeting — COA—Feb. 13 Early Career Educators— Team 3 Hostesses— Hostess -Zwolle

Meeting — COA— Mar 13 Orientation of new members Hostesses—Officers

Epsilon State Convention— March 14-16, 2013, Pineville

Founder's Day April 10— COA— 6PM Initiation of new members and Installation of Officers Hostesses-Many 1

June 7—New Chapter Officers Leadership Seminar at Pineville Convention Center

Congratulations to Lea Ann upon the birth of Dale Allen Fisher III (Trip) in July.

Epsilon State would like to deliver the Deltion Newsletter to you by email. You can select your preferred method of delivery by registering on the state website: http://epsilonstatedkg.wordpress.com/deltion/ If you have already done this, you don't have to do it again.

Key Chapter—Going for the Gold!!!

Don't forget to bring a non-perishable item for COA's Emergency Food Closet. This food is given to any one over 18 who has an immediate food need.

A note from Sherry concerning membership: *If you would like to recommend someone for membership, a membership form is attached or you may contact me at 318-315-3393.*Start thinking about possible prospects and let's get their information collected. I am happy to help gather the information needed for the recommendation forms. We would like to keep the recommendations private until after we vote on Feb. 13 to invite them to join our *Psi chapter.* Please mail your recommendation for membership to Sherry Fulton ASAP —365 Bayshore Drive, Many, LA 71449 or email to fulton@sabine,k12.la.us.

We were challenged at Central District Meeting to recruit, retain, and reinstate members. An active member shall be a woman who is employed as a professional educator at the time of her election or has been retired from an educational position. There is no requirement for amount of service as a professional educator in advance of the invitation. Former members who wish to be reinstated only have to pay their dues and scholarship fee at the time of re-instatement. So ask a former member to reinstate. (no vote has to be taken by the chapter).

Psi Chapter to Host 2014 Central District Meeting

Psi Chapter will host the 2014 Central District Meeting on **October 18.** Mark this date on your calendar as this is a big event and it will take all of our members to make it a success. Please take note of the following list of committees and let me know on which committee you would like to serve. If you are interested in chairing one of the committees, let me know about that, also.

- Treasurer and Name Tags
- Registration Table & Greeters
- Decorations & Favors
- Breakfast Foods
- Door Prizes
- Program & Entertainment

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation!

Yvonne Busby Phone: 256-2645 e-mail: yvonne@cp-tel.net

Happy Birthday!

Joanie Dahlem Jan 9
Rebecca Loupe Jan. 15
Mary Gregory Jan 20
Mable Ross Feb 4
Magda McCormick Feb 20
Rita Cole Feb. 22
Kathryn Vaughn Feb 24



Schools for Africa is a partnership among UNICEF, the Nelson Mandela Foundation, and the Hamburg Society that is helping more and more girls and boys get a quality education. By providing funds to support this critical program, The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International — a professional organization of women educators and a longstanding U.S. Fund for UNICEF partner — is helping to secure a brighter future for Africa's children.

We can make a difference .To donate or learn more about Schools for Africa, please visit unicefusa.org/dkg.

2013 Educators Book Award — EXIT, The Endings that Set Us Free by Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot This well-written book has universal appeal, offers excellent references and has a selected sources section." Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot explores ways people leave one thing and move on to the next; how humans anticipate, define, and reflect on departures. As educators, we are involved in the exits of our students and colleagues. *EXIT* finds wisdom and perspective in the possibility of moving on and marks the start of a new conversation. A committee member commented, "This is a book I could read countless times. I had difficulty putting it down." All of us must maneuver our own "exits" during our lifetimes, and in our varied roles, we must also support our students, children, friends, relatives, colleagues, neighbors, and even strangers through their own exits as they sashay or stumble toward new beginnings. **EXIT** gives you courage to move on with purpose and dignity and to pursue your dreams.

Other selections from the Educators Award Committee:

Born to rise: A story of Children and Teachers Reaching Their Highest Potential by Deborah Kenny 17 Women Who Shook the World: Learning the Secrets for Embracing high Effective Lives by Preethi Burkholder The Teachers' Lounge (Uncensored): A Funny, Edgy, Poignant Look at Life in the Classroom by Kelly Flynn Love, Life and Elephants: An African Love Story by Dame Daphne Sheldrick

I Hope I Join the Band: Narrative, Affiliation, and Antiracist Rhetoric by Frankie Condon