

Carolina Crier

Carolinas Region Newsletter

Phi Theta Kappa

Spring/Summer 2007

Issue 1

Alpha Epsilon Omicron Wins Most Distinguished Chapter at the 89th International Convention

The Alpha Epsilon Omicron chapter from Trident Technical College won the most prestigious award given to chapters by Phi Theta Kappa. This award is the Most Distinguished Chapter of all the chapters in Phi Theta Kappa.

There are currently over 1200 chapters in Phi Theta Kappa. To be considered for an award at International Convention, your chapter must submit Hallmark Awards Packets. These packets are then judged and the winners announced at the International Convention.

International Convention was held this year at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel and Convention Center in Nash-

ville, TN. There were almost 4000 Phi Theta Kappans in attendance. There were many amazing speakers such as Kevin Sharp, country music singer, Jehan Sedat, wife of the late Anwar Sedat, president of Egypt, Sue Smith of Keep America Beautiful, and Former Vice President of the United States, Al Gore. They all brought clear messages with them to the convention and everyone in attendance learned something from what they said.

International Convention is truly an amazing experience and I urge you all to attend next year's celebration in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania!



AEO members and advisors receive their award!

Congrats AEO! Job well done! All of us in the region congratulate you and look forward to another great year!

And congratulations to Chris Solomon for winning the Paragon Award for New Advisors!

Piedmont Technical College holds first book drive

The Omega Chi chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society at Piedmont Technical College partnered with Better World Books in May, for the first time, to support them in their mission to stamp out illiteracy in the

United States through the National Center for Family Literacy. Hard working students of Piedmont Tech provided collection boxes around campus for staff and students to drop off textbooks. In all, 34 boxes were filled with text-

books and shipped to Better World Books for the summer semester.

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Voice Your Vote with Alpha Lambda Beta!

The Technical College of the Lowcountry’s Alpha Lambda Beta Chapter, once again, demonstrated its commitment to the four Hallmarks of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society—Leadership, Scholarship, Service, and Fellowship—by gathering together during the Summer “Express Registration” event at the Technical College of the Lowcountry this past May for the purpose of voter registration.

Chapter members provided the opportunity for students, faculty, and college staff to either register to vote or update their current voter registration information through the “Voice Your Vote” program. “Voice Your

Vote” is one of the many public service initiatives of the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society.

The chapter, by supporting this initiative, demonstrated the value of taking a leadership role within the community by; educating citizens about the value of the “right to vote” and how it empowers each individual with a role in their own governance; provided a valuable service to the college and community by providing a convenient location to register to vote; finally, it participated in fellowship with other students, faculty, and members of the community by using this opportunity as a fundraiser selling hotdogs,

soda, chips, baked goods, etc.

Plans are currently in the works to provide the same opportunity at the Fall “Express” Registration.

Find out more about your Right to Vote, by visiting the following websites:

www.vote-smart.org/index.htm

www.fvap.gov/index.html

www.stateline.org

www.govtrack.us/congress

RCC Phi Theta Kappa Chapter Ends Year With Project Graduation, \$1500 Donation to Victory Junction

ASHEBORO (May 8, 2007) – Randolph Community College’s Phi Theta Kappa chapter, Beta Theta Rho, wrapped up a busy year of fundraising and community service activities this week with participation in Project Graduation...Feed a Body, Feed a Mind, an initiative designed to help alleviate hunger and illiteracy in our community. The students have been busy gathering books and canned foods to be given to several social service agencies.

Beta Theta Rho also just completed a fund-

raising drive which raised \$1,500 to be applied toward the campership of one child at the Victory Junction Gang Camp near Level Cross. A check was presented by Beta Theta Rho officers Sarah Nutt, Katie Jameson, Elizabeth Auler and Jutta Watkins to Judy Sanvitis, a representative of the Victory Junction Gang Camp, after the recent ΦΘΚ spring induction ceremonies.

The Camp was founded by Kyle and Pattie

“Children that attend Victory Junction would not otherwise be able to attend a camp because of their medical needs.”

Petty, in honor of their son Adam. It is a year-round camp that serves children, ages 7 to 15, with a variety of health issues. The camp operates solely on donations. Children that attend Victory Junction

RCC continued:

would not otherwise be able to attend a camp because of their medical needs.

In addition, Beta Theta Rho members recently participated in a campus beautification project in conjunction with RCC’s groundskeepers. The students helped plant flowers and spruce up the plaza area between the Learning Resource Center and the Student Services Center.

Phi Theta Kappa is the only internationally acclaimed honor society serving two-year institutions that offer associate degree programs. It is the largest academic honor society in the world with approximately 90,000 members inducted annually.

Picture: Ann Cox and Katie Jameson plant some geraniums on the Asheboro Campus!



Alpha Omega Psi proves hard work brings results!

The Alpha Omega Psi Chapter at South Piedmont Community College has been busy! During our Spring semester, we were able to induct 50 students into our chapter. This was a new school record, over triple the previous one. Our chapter was also involved in Relay for Life where we contributed over \$500 to the project and the school as a whole raised over \$8000. At graduation, we collected children's books and canned goods for Project Graduation.

We contributed over 140 food items and over 100 books to Anson and Union counties.

In June, our newly elected officers participated in a new officer's orientation to better our abilities to serve our chapter. The newly elected officers are Donna Mizok, President; Michael Spencer, Vice President of Scholarship; Heather Gaither, Vice President of Leadership; Robin Helms, Vice President of Service; Meghan Moree, Vice President

of Fellowship; Rhonda Timberlake, Secretary/Recording Officer; and Gail Jacobs, Treasurer.

In the Fall semester, our Operation Green Project to beautify our campus as well as several other projects will be in full swing!



Alpha Omega Psi is on their way to becoming a 5 star chapter!

Officer's Academy a big success!

On June 1-2, 2007, the Carolinas Region joined together at Spartanburg Methodist College in Spartanburg, SC for an Officer's Academy & Advisor's Retreat.

The short weekend retreat was highlighted with presentations to help obtain 5 star status within your chapter and also how to have an award winning year with the 4 hallmarks, Scholarship,

Leadership, Service, and Fellowship.

Pepe Zerda, Brenda Oxford, Joan Keller, and Cindy Hermann were on hand to inform us in preparing Yearbooks, as well as help with our Hallmark Packets.

All Phi Theta Kappans in attendance were very open to new ideas as well as sharing their own. Sharing ideas spawns new ideas which can be spectacular. In Pepe's words, "Don't reinvent the wheel!"

"All Phi Theta Kappans in attendance were very open to new ideas as well as sharing their own."

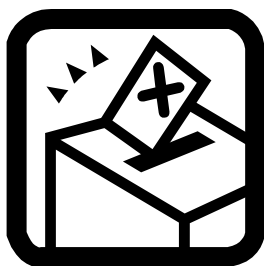
New Regional Officers Elected at Regional Convention

At the Regional Convention held in March in Greenville, SC, 4 new regional officers were elected. The new officer team is:

President: Heather Dallas

NC VP: Michelle Rogers

SC VP: Traci Trouton-Burr



Delegates voted for the officers

Secretary: Kristie Yutzy

The Regional President, Heather Dallas, has started a Yahoo Message Board for the region so we all will be able to post ideas and ask any questions.

The Regional Officers are looking to have a great year with all the chap-

ters in the region. Kristie Yutzy, Carolinas Region Secretary, said, "We can all excel as outstanding chapters, and our fellowship as a region makes it easier to implement projects that effects the entire area. I look for this to be a great year!"

The Carolinas Region currently has 76 chapters, with chapters in North Carolina, and chapters in South Carolina.

The House that Love Built

Imagine having a kitchen large enough for several families to cook in at once, two industrial-size stoves, two dishwashers, two refrigerators, three washing machines, three dryers, eighteen bedrooms, and twenty bathrooms. Now, imagine the amount of food and necessities needed to keep such a place properly stocked at all times.

It takes an operation of this magnitude to care for the families who reside in the Ronald McDonald House of Eastern North Carolina, which is located

in Greenville, NC. The Ronald McDonald House of Eastern NC provides the comforts of home so that families can focus on the most important aspect of their life: the health and well-being of their child.

Here is where Upsilon Chi provided a helping hand. For *Project Graduation... Feed A Body... Feed A Mind*, the members of Upsilon Chi collected non-perishable food items; toiletries; and children's books for the Ronald McDonald House of Eastern NC, which

~Wayne Community College

provides lodging for the families of seriously ill children who are receiving medical treatment at the University Health System of Eastern Carolina Children's Hospital.

Project Graduation is a service project that presents chapters an opportunity to reach out and truly touch the lives of others in a positive and uplifting way. As an honor society and a service-oriented society, chapters help to provide assistance and support and to be supportive of efforts here at home and abroad.

The House that Love Built, con't.

A simple math equation: Carolinas Region = Support.



- Share your time
- Use your talents
- Pass the word
- Persuade others
- Open your heart
- Recognize a need
- Thank others and yourself

"Project Graduation is a service project that presents chapters an opportunity to reach out and truly touch the lives of others in a positive and uplifting way."

Beta Zeta Lambda Kicks Year Off with Great Start!

Beta Zeta Lambda of McDowell Technical Community College, in Marion, NC has started the year off with a bang!

Members of the honor society have already done many projects this calendar year, including service oriented projects.



This time of year is good for helping with yardwork.

Recently, the chapter, along with Keep America Beautiful, helped to clean the yard of a student at MTCC.

They have also participated in the biannual Lake James Cleanup, which is a big service to the community, and delivered food and books to the

Friendship Home for Women and Children.

Beta Zeta Lambda would also like to announce that their advisor, Beverly Watts, received the award for Distinguished Chapter Advisor at the Regional Convention in March. We couldn't do it without her! We love you Ms. Watts!

Phi Theta Kappa Students Win State Academic Awards

Edgecombe Community College (ECC) students Anna Wilson and Tracy Pender have received the 2007 North Carolina Community College Academic Excellence Award.

Anna Wilson, a human services technology major from Scotland Neck, maintains a 3.8 GPA. She has served as president of Alpha Omega Nu, the ECC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the college's student honorary society, since 2005. Wilson serves as an ECC Student Ambassador, vice president of the Human Services Organization, and student representative on the ECC Library Advisory Committee. She is active in the Student Gov-

ernment Association and is a peer tutor to other ECC students. She also is a volunteer with My Sister's House and a Gold Wing Road Rider's Association member (a fundraiser for Down East Children's Hospital and the Ronald McDonald House).

After graduating from ECC, Wilson hopes to pursue a bachelor's degree in social work at Barton College. "My biggest regret is that I didn't get an education 30 years ago," she says. "The faculty and staff at ECC have gone above and beyond to help me be successful, especially Tony Rook, my adviser and chair of the human services technology program. When you have someone who be-

lieves in you, it makes a difference."

Tracy Pender, a human services technology major from Rocky Mount, maintains a 3.6 GPA. She is president of the Human Services Organization and secretary of ECC's chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. She is an ECC Student Ambassador and is active in the Student Government Association. Pender is a volunteer with



Anna Wilson and Tracy Pender win Academic Awards

Academic Awards, con't.

My Sister's House and the Citizens Together Advocacy Group. In August 2007, she will begin classes toward a bachelor's degree in social work at Barton College. "I've enjoyed my time at ECC," she says. "My instructors have been wonderful."

Students who are active in the academic community and who have completed the most hours with the highest GPA are nominated for the Academic Excellence Award, which recognizes scholarship among the nearly 800,000 students in North Caro-

lina's community college system. "Tracy and Anna are completely immersed in their academic environment," said Tamara Frank-Pourvady, a Phi Theta Kappa advisor. "Very few students are getting as much from their college experience as these two are."

Two students from each of the state's 58 community colleges are chosen to receive the award each year. Winners were honored during a special statewide luncheon in Raleigh on April 27. Students received a lapel pin, engraved plaque, and coffee mug.

"Tracy and Anna are completely immersed in their academic environment."
-Tamara Frank-Pourvady

Regional Calendar 2007

Carolinas Region Honors Institute:

July 13-15, 2007
Louisburg College,
Louisburg, NC



We hope to see you all at the Regional Events!

Carolinas Region Leadership Conference:

Sept. 14-16, 2007
Trident Technical College,
Charleston, SC

Carolinas Region Fall Fellowship Family Campout:

Oct. 19-21, 2007
Camp McCall, Bostic, NC

2008 Carolinas Regional Convention :

TBA

Alpha Zeta Sigma not afraid to get dirty to help!

The Alpha Zeta Sigma Chapter, in conjunction with Keep America Beautiful and Adopt A Highway, has adopted a two-mile stretch of highway at the Brashier Campus of Greenville Technical College in Simpsonville, SC. The officers and members have picked up a total of 270 pounds of trash to date, and expect to have their sign installed this month.

The chapter members have also planted the second phase of their garden on the Greer Campus in a project called, "Operation: Meditation." The members, in cooperation with the faculty and staff at the campus, planted azaleas and

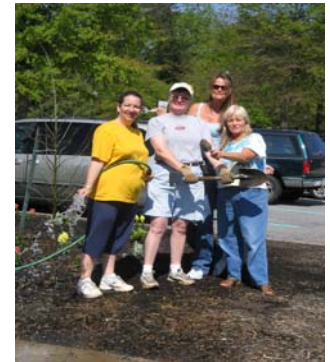


perennials in a vacant spot by the parking lot.

Starting in July, Alpha Zeta Sigma Chapter

will begin their annual event, "Project Back-to-School." Every fall the members collect and distribute school supplies for elementary-aged school children throughout the Upstate of South Carolina. This year the chapter hopes to

break last year's collection of 2500 pieces.



Regional Officers Head to Wheaton, IL for Honors Institute

The Carolinas Regional Officers had a great time during their recent trip to the 40th Annual International Honors Institute and Leadership Conference at Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois, located close to Chicago, Illinois.

The weekend of June 16-18, members

kicked off the Leadership Conference for Regional Officers where they attended workshops headed by the 2007 International Officer Team, Garon Tate, Jennifer Stanford, and Brandy McNeil. These workshops covered such topics as: Goal Setting, How to Reach Your Regional Goals, Membership Enhancement, and How to Increase Regional/Chapter in-

"Having the opportunity to be a part of the Honors Institute was a life changing experience, one I will never forget."

involvement.

Beginning on the afternoon of June 18, the Regional Officers were joined by Chapter Officers and members from all over the United

Regional Officers to Wheaton, con't.

States for the 40th Annual International Honors Institute.

Phi Theta Kappans were thrilled to be able to participate in lectures by prominent professionals such as: Ralph Begleiter, Professor of Political Science and



30 year broadcast veteran of CNN,

Monika Byrd, International Headquarters staff member and former Professor of American History, and Chapmyn Spoken Word Drama Team who performed a dynamic theatrical survey

of the crisis in Darfur. This theatrical performance was made even more meaningful due to the fact that Division III International Vice President, Mahmedein Mahmedein, is a native of the Darfur region in the Sudan. Mahmedein wore his native dress during the general session, and his words of peace

International Honor's Institute Con't.

and humility were a powerful ending to the performance.

On Thursday, the group was treated to "Chicago Day," where they had an opportunity to explore all that Chicago has to offer. The day was spent sight-seeing, eating, enjoying the sites from open double-decker buses, trolleys and some brave souls even rode in Chicago city cabs!

Heather Dallas, Carolinas Region President, stated that, "Chicago was an incredible experience. We had an opportunity to bond with other Phi Theta Kappans, and we garnered a vast amount of information to bring back to our region and our chapters."

Traci Trouton-Burr, Carolinas Region South Carolina Vice President said,

"Having the opportunity to be a part of the Honors Institute was a life-changing experience; one I will never forget. I made new friends and we learned so much about the Honors Study Topic."



Fall Fellowship Campout-Fun For the Whole Family!

The Fall Fellowship Campout, which is held at Camp McCall in Bostic, NC is a great opportunity for the families of Phi Theta Kappans to get together!

During the fun-filled weekend, there will be many opportunities to hike, see the waterfalls, fish, visit the surrounding areas, or just lounge around. This event is unlike any other Phi Theta Kappa event in that we just fellowship the entire time! Last year was so much fun, with treasure



hunts for the kids and hiking trips to the waterfall. You can choose to stay in a tent or stay in one of the cabins.

Come reenergize yourself with fellowship and fun during this great weekend in the mountains!

"Come reenergize yourself with fellowship and fun during this great weekend in the mountains!"

Alpha Epsilon Psi member Rochelle Link named New Century Scholar

Rochelle Link was recently named South Carolina's New Century Scholar by the South Carolina Technical College System for receiving the highest All-USA Academic team application score in the State of South Carolina. She was among 24 students to be named to the Phi Theta Kappa South Carolina All-State Academic Team. The students named were selected for this honor on the basis of academic performance, leadership accomplishments, and service to their colleges and to their local communities.

Less than one percent of America's six million two-year college students have distinguished themselves with this superior level of academic achievement and service to their colleges and communities.



During the ceremony, Rochelle received a gold medallion, a certificate for scholarly achievements, the Governor's Proclamation, and The Concurrent Resolution from the South Carolina House of Representatives.

As South Carolina's New Century Scholar, Rochelle received a \$2,000 scholarship and represented Denmark Technical College and South Carolina in opening ceremonies at the American Association of Community Colleges Convention, which was held on April 25, 2007 in Tampa, Florida. Rochelle served as Vice-President of Scholarship. She was the recipient of the College President Award, Alpha Epsilon Psi Scholarship and the LIFE Scholarship. Her major is in the Human Service Associate Degree Program.

Congratulations, Rochelle!

Rochelle Link was named SC New Century Scholar



Carolinas Region

Phi Theta Kappa

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www.hgtc.edu/phithetakappa

● Phi Theta Kappa is the International Honor Society of the Two Year College

“The Purpose of Phi Theta Kappa shall be to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students. To achieve this purpose, Phi Theta Kappa shall provide opportunity for the development of leadership and service, for an intellectual climate for exchange of ideas and ideals, for lively fellowship for scholars, and for stimulation of interest in continuing academic excellence.”

To have an article included in the Carolina Crier, please send articles to the Carolinas Region Secretary, Kristie Yutzy, at kristie_yutzy@yahoo.com and John Sharpe at john.sharpe@hgtc.edu

Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College Working to Become 5 Star!

Alpha Alpha Delta chapter of Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College has a new surge of activity after a period of idleness. Enthusiastic new advisors and officers can be thanked for Alpha Alpha Delta's renewal. Our advisors are Ann Foley and Connie Hoffman. The new officers are President Tia Hill, VP of Communications Rachel Arrington, VP of Service Theresa Bonaparte, VP of Scholarship Debra Cardell, VP of Fellowship Louise Edmonds, and VP of Leadership Angie Fogle. The chapter began its revival by volunteering for the in local Rose Festival through Orangeburg Athletic Club in May. The Rose Festival events that we worked with were the Orangeburg Athletic Club Chess Tournament and Weight Lifting

Contest. Alpha Alpha Delta members Tia Hill, Debra Cardell, and Louise Edmonds had an interesting day with middle age to six year old chess players and gentlemen that could lift as much as 510 pounds!

Our most recent activity was a trip to the Regional Officer's Retreat hosted by Spartanburg Methodist College. Officers had a wonderfully informative and fun time. Participating officers had the opportunity to meet the Regional Officers, the Regional Coordinator John Sharpe, and experienced alumni of Phi Theta Kappa.

After the Officer's Retreat, Alpha Alpha Delta is ready to soar! In the future, we look forward to becoming a five

star chapter. We have already achieved the Pinnacle Award and are excited to accomplish even more. Our next activity will be the Carolinas Regional Honors Institute in July.



Orangeburg Calhoun Technical College Officers with Regional Coordinator John Sharpe and Lil' Otis!