



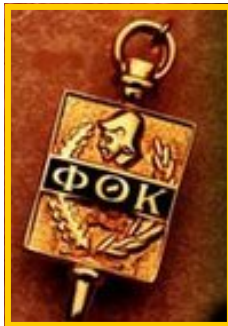
Carolina Crier



Carolinas Regional Newsletter



New Year, New Semester ARE YOU READY CAROLINAS REGION



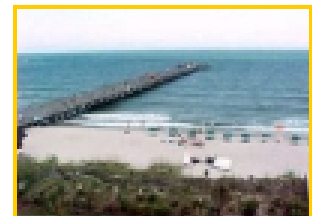
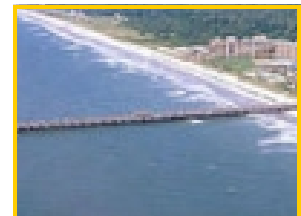
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I do not know about everyone else, but I was ready to see 2009 fade into history. 2010 is a new decade, a new year, and a new semester to look forward to. I hope everyone had a great winter break! I know everyone made a smooth transition into the new semester and the New Year. Time has come to start thinking about the Regional Convention. As you all know the Regional Convention will be on March 12-14, 2010 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. I am excited to think about all the wonderful banners that each chapter would choose to display at the hotel in March. It is the 2010 Birthday Bash: Celebrating 35 Years of Excellence in the Carolinas theme.

Everyone needs to get those creative minds working to come up with the best banner and display it proudly on your hotel balcony! I am also excited about electing new regional officers! If you have not turned in your paperwork to run for an office you need to do so right away. Those of you who will be graduating this year do not forget to fill out your alumni registration form so that you are included in the Alumni Induction Ceremony at the convention. I hope to see each one of you at

the convention. Best of luck with the banners and good luck writing the hallmarks!!



Historical Landmark Preservation

Honor Topic:
**The Paradox of Progress:
Losing our Educational Roots**
Rosenwald School
Denmark, South Carolina
The Alpha Epsilon Psi Chapter members discovered the last standing Rosenwald School at the college front gate (Built in 1932 to educate Black Americans) funded

by Julius Rosenwald, President of Sears, and promoted by B. T. Washington during Black History Month in Bamberg County. The chapter decided to save this historical treasure of history. The Chapter is developing a partnership with Bamberg African American Genealogical Society and National Preservation Trust. The

chapter donated towards a cover to protect the structure from the holes in the roof.



Coletta Stroman,
President
Alpha Epsilon Psi Chapter



Embracing the Hallmarks!

October 2, 2009 four members of the Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Phi Theta Kappa chapter volunteered to work with K-2nd grade students at the Concord Boys and Girls Club of America. The chapter committed to the event through the SGA club lottery process, and the students were excited to tie the honors topic (environmental focus) into the activities with the students. Project Lead and RCCC Early Childhood Education major Hillary Overcash created a lesson plan based on the collaborative feedback provided by each project team member. The children learned about the three R's through the presentation, classroom discussion and hands on activities. Under the direction of the team, the students created "creatures" made from recycled egg cartons that will grow "grass hair." The children also named their creatures and wrote stories about his/ her character.

"The children were amazing. We all had a lot of fun watching them make their projects" stated Hillary Overcash. Furthermore, Overcash offered, "The children were en-

gaged in the topic and many of the children already had some great ideas about recycling, so we were able to expand on this knowledge. The children were really happy to have a project to take home. It was something that will continue to be a learning experience as the seeds grow. I loved seeing the joy on their faces as they each created something unique."

The team members were rewarded for their time with smiles and great thank you's from each of the three groups. It was a situation where in giving, we truly did receive. The team encourages others interested in giving time to work with children to contact the Boys and Girls Club of America. Project Team: Mary Rouille, Hillary Overcash, Stephanie Woodward, Shannon Woodward.

To learn more about the Boys and Girls Club of America, please visit www.bgca.org. More pictures on page four.



" I loved seeing the joy on their faces as they each created something unique."

Hillary Overcash

Induction of New Members and Officers

On November 30, 2009, the Alpha Alpha Delta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College celebrated the induction of twenty new members during the Fall Induction Ceremony. There have since been six more inductees, bringing the current on-campus total to 109 members. The installation of new officers took place during the ceremony. The new officers include President – Caryn Taylor; VP of Scholarship - Donna Bair; VP of Leadership – Daniella Fridie; VP of Service – Stephanie Huggins; VP of Fellowship – Beverly Odom; VP of Communication – Lewis Kennerly, Jr.; and Recording Secretary – Tammy Haines. This new group of leaders is excited to be officers of the Alpha Alpha Delta chapter and all members are looking forward to the book drive scheduled for January 2010.

-Lewis Kennerly, Jr.



Alpha Alpha Iota Cleans the Catawba

During an officers' meeting of the Alpha Alpha Iota chapter of Phi Theta Kappa in February, different ideas for projects for the coming year were being discussed and we were looking for something that would have an impact on our community. It was mentioned that our local waterway, the Catawba River, was declared the "Most Endangered River in the USA" by American Rivers in 2008. The biggest threats to the Catawba were (and are) development along its banks which created erosion and runoff which would include trash coming out of Charlotte North Carolina via Sugar Creek; a major tributary. Home to the endangered Rocky-Shoals Spider Lily, the Catawba has a diverse mix of flora and fauna in need of protection. The Catawba is also used as a water source for both North and South Carolina which makes it all the more important it's taken care of. Everyone agreed that this was a vital need and began to organize an event simply titled River Cleanup.

With the idea of the River Cleanup set in place, to clean up as much trash as humanly possible along our 24-mile

stretch of the Catawba River, members started making calls to gather support for the cleanup. Members from 10 different organizations helped, including members from Katawba Valley Land Trust, Catawba RiverKeepers, South Carolina Department of Natural Resources, South Carolina State Parks, The Friends of Landsford Canal, Upstate Geocachers Club, Catawba Cruisers Paddling Club, Sun City Canoe and Kayak Club, York County Cultural and Heritage Museum, and obviously the Alpha Alpha Iota chapter of Phi Theta Kappa.

At this point, we'd like to recognize that Sun City is an active seniors development along the Catawba River, and we were shocked and proud of the fact that their community jumped in and gave 100% towards cleaning the river. They realized that the development that they lived in had an impact on the River, and by the end, they came to see it as "their River" which is exactly what we wished would happen: bring someone who was considered an enemy and making them an ally to help protect the Catawba. So while developments are almost always blamed

for bad things happening on the river, it was encouraging to see a development step forward to help the river instead. The plan to clean up the river consisted of having 3 different groups clean up our 24-mile stretch of the Catawba River simultaneously which would allow each group to concentrate on their section and clean it well while also allowing us to clean a large section of the river in a single day. By the end of the River Cleanup, 50 volunteers pulled approximately 3000 lb of trash out of the Catawba River and it made quite an impact on everyone involved. Every volunteer came away with the same conclusion: this was not something that could be done once and then forgotten about. This type of event needed to be done on a regular basis, and every single person we talked to told me that when we arranged the next cleanup, they would help again. It opened our eyes to the fact that our River is in need of help, and it inspired all of us to be advocates for our beautiful river that is in danger of being destroyed by human hands.

Cameron Shook



Catawba River was declared the "Most Endangered River in the USA"

Local Charities Appreciate Donations of School Supplies

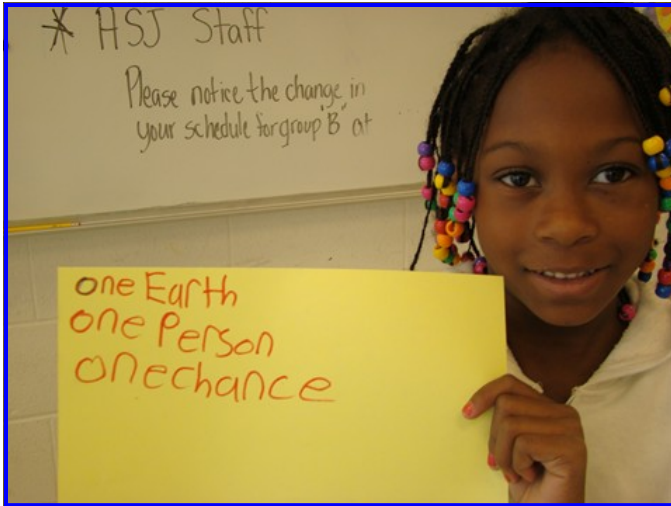
Pictures on page 4

November 13, 2009

Dropping off donations brings out the inner Santa in a person. My inner Santa recently awakened when I had the honor of distributing school supplies to several Upstate education partners. My first stop was West Pelzer Elementary School, in West Pelzer, SC. With the recent closing of Pelzer Elementary, West Pelzer Elementary enrollment went from 350 to almost 500 students and they are now a Title I school. The Alpha Zeta Sigma chapter of Phi Theta Kappa collected and donated seven boxes of pens, pencils, book bags, notebooks, crayons, scissors, glue, and other necessary school supplies and brought them to the school in early October. Inner Santa's next stop was over to the Anderson District 1 & 2 Adult Education facility to introduce myself, drop off two boxes of pens on behalf of Phi Theta Kappa, and offer our assistance whenever needed. Ms. Charon Lee was very appreciative of our gesture and promised to keep us in mind as the school expanded their services to the community. Next stop was the Frazee Dream Center, where they have an amazing after school program. We brought three boxes of markers, crayons, glue, and other craft supplies to them. The center greatly appreciated the donation! Our next stop was a visit to the Phillis Wheatley Center right around the corner from Greenville Technical College's Barton campus. This center is where Phi Theta Kappa and Rotaract members participate in the Rotary's Read to Me program. We dropped off one very large box of supplies to them. They offered our members very heartfelt thanks for the enormous donation! One of the children noticed the large box of supplies. The little one peeked inside as she squealed, "It is just like Christmas!" The excitement on the face of that child and the squeal heard around the center gave these Phi Theta Kappa members a reward they will never forget. My inner Santa would have to agree!

Marnie Eve Schwartz

Embracing the Hallmarks Pictures



School Supply Pictures

