

Kappa Kappa Iota

Lambda State Kan Kan

Fall Issue, 2023, 5th edition
Kathy Russell, Editor

From the desk of the President

Hello Fellow Kappas!

I hope you have each enjoyed a wonderful summer and was able to fill it with memorable activities. While I hate to see the days get shorter, I am looking forward to cooler weather and the leaves changing color. As grandchildren start another school year, my calendar has been full of Grandparent's Breakfasts, football, soccer and fall baseball games. This is also the time of year that organizations that I belong to start back up for a new year and I've attended several meetings of the Retired Educators, Georgia Association of Literacy Advocates, Ferst Foundation and of course Kappa!

A dozen of Lambda State members and Kappa Guys attended the National Convention in Baton Rouge in June. I believe I can speak for everyone and say that it was a very good convention and everyone had a wonderful time. I hope you will make plans now to attend the 2024 National Convention in Montgomery, Alabama next June 24th – 27th.

Our Fall Festival is coming up on October 14th, 2023 at the Oakleigh Historical House in Calhoun, GA. All members are welcome to come up to the north Georgia mountain area for our meeting and luncheon beginning at 11:00. On my way back from there last year I went through several small towns having fall activities, fairs, craft shows. Everyone could easily make a fun day of it visiting orchards, roadside farm stands, drive through the hills and look at the leaves, etc. I will just be returning from the state presidents' meeting in Tulsa and I'm sure will have important information to share with you.

Our Lambda state theme this year is: Kappas are difference makers! I'm sure as teachers and former teachers we can all think of a student or multiple students that we know we made an impact on in their lives. Sometimes we may never know the impact and other times we will be surprised to have a former student contact us to tell us the difference we have made in their life. We also make a difference in our philanthropic activities individually, as a chapter and on the state and national level. As Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, "The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have to make some difference that you have and lived and lived well." I hope you will discover ways that you make a difference to others this year.

See you all in Calhoun!

Anita Beasley
President Lambda State
Kappa Kappa Iota



Fall Festival

Saturday, October 14, 2023

Oakleigh

Gordon County Historical Society

335 S. Wall St., Calhoun, GA 30701



There is no entrance from the front. Put the address in your GPS, when you see the house's sign on your left, go past the house (and past fire station and Wells Fargo); turn left at next light (Hicks St.); then left at stop sign (Park Ave.). Go past Fire Dept., turn in next driveway (you will see a log cabin next to the drive).

Call Kathy Russell at 770-548-0270 if you need help.

*Executive Committee (elected officers) will meet at 10:30 a.m.;
lunch will begin at 11:00 a.m., followed by our program;
business meeting will begin at approximately 12:15 p.m.*



Lunch cost: \$15.00. Salad lunch with ham/turkey

RSVP by Oct. 10th: maryklr56@gmail.com or 770-548-0270 (text)



Items will be available for Raffle, bring \$\$\$ for tickets!



Lambda State at National Convention Baton Rouge, LA; June 26-30, 2023



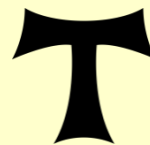
Front Row: Carol Lunsford, Janet Martin, Kathy Russell, Anita Beasley, Marcelle Bridgeman, Melinda Sams

Back Row: Carol Hilburn, Larry Eggerman, Ken Russell, Carolyn Wilkins, Jeff Bridgeman, Billy Sams



News from our Chapters

Tales from Tau



Tau Chapter Fundraiser: Chances will be available on the 14th for \$10 each.

Tau Chapter met at Calhoun High School Sept. 25th to learn about the Education Pathways offered to students. Program was presented by Beth Holcomb, Pathway Instructor and Casey Parker, CHS Principal.



Ken and Kathy Russell celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary with a family trip to Las Vegas, enjoying *Barry Manilow* and *America's Got Talent Super Stars* shows, a trip to Hoover Dam, and a bus ride around the city. Anniversary Dinner at *Giada's* was the culmination of the trip.

The Paul Gwin Unit 47 of American Legion won multiple trophies and certificates at the state convention in July. **Dr. Joann Meadows** is an active member and Public Relations and Poppy chair. Bella-Kate Caudle, Joann's granddaughter, was named Department of Georgia "Miss Poppy" at the Auxiliary Conference in June and finished in the top four at the national convention.

Carolyn Wilkins spoke to Theta Chapter on Sept. 9th in Dunwoody. The topic was "Georgia's Early Literacy Act."

Barbara Cousins: *I live at an assisted living facility in Cartersville, Ga. We had an art show of some paintings each had done in our activities here. I won 2nd Place.*



Theta News



Theta had their first meeting for this year on Saturday, September 9th at Brenda Toebben's house. The theme was "Taco" about Education. We were excited to have Carolyn Wilkins, from Tau and a national officer, visit with us to tell us about the new standards that are being implemented this year and next in the state of Georgia. It was a very informative discussion and helped us to stay up to date on what is going on in education in Georgia. We ended the meeting with a taco bar and churro cupcakes.

Theta members, **Anita Beasley** and **Carol Hilburn**, attended the Kappa National Convention in Baton Rouge, LA in June this past summer. While both could agree that it was HOT, they had a very good time and ate some wonderful meals in and outside of the convention.

Anita Beasley has set a goal to visit as many National Parks as possible. She was able to visit Death Valley last spring and found it to be very cold in March! With the recent flooding last month and the closing on Death Valley due to the damage, she is so glad that she was able to see it before the disastrous damage done to it that has made the NPS close the park indefinitely. She and her husband, Wayne, flew out to California in early June to assist their son with his move back to Colorado. While packing they were able to take some side trips to Pinnacle National Park and drive along the Pebble Beach coastline drive. Along the way, they made a short trip to Joshua Tree National Park and Kolob Canyon/Zion National Park. This gave her three new National Parks in 2023 for a total of 34 out of 63 completed. It wasn't just all sightseeing though as they experienced two different tire blow outs on their son's RV on different sides, different days driving through the Mojave Desert. But they made it back to Colorado, safe and sound.



CAROL HILBURN: *During my youngest grandchildren's Fall Break my daughter (Cassie), Son in Law (James), Kennedy (12) and Andrew (11) visited Orlando. We make this trip often since we enjoy the Fountains Resort there. We spent a lot of time in the 3 pools that are available. We play games like UNO Flip and Farkle and play for hours when the pools close due to rain or in the evenings after dinner. We went to Disney Springs for lunch at the T-Rex Restaurant and then to Cirque de Soleil. Luckily we parked right outside of the show so we could get out and to the car easily.*

I have been working with a group called Nothing but the Truth. This group is out of Jonesboro Baptist Church and prepare bags of food for children (mostly homeless) to take home over the weekends. They serve 6 local schools. We have been working hard to have a Duck Derby to raise funds. We have gone to local Splash parties (wonderful music events) and a 5K race to provide an opportunity to purchase ducks. Our race was on Saturday, September 30 at Joy Lake in Morrow. I am very excited to see how this works!

I am looking forward to the next few months as I prepare to go on trips to Orlando, Nashville (Christmas), Biloxi, Gatlinburg and Charleston. Since I don't see any trips to the mountains I may have to get started on planning at least one more.





Loretta Vail: We took our grandson, Ian, to Chicago for a five day visit for 10th birthday. We are in front of Buckingham Fountain in Grant Park, at the top of the Sears Tower as a storm was rolling-in, and at Harry Caray's to celebrate Tom's birthday with his Michigan family. We also enjoyed Legoland, visits to Field Museum to see "Sue" (TRex), the Shadd Aquarium and the Planetarium, plus lots of great eating in downtown Chicago.

In August I went on a five day Lodge-based hike in the Olympic National Park in Washington with 11 other wonderful people guided by two of the greatest REI guides. Our Lodge was on Crescent Lake, a glacier formed lake that was very deep and cold. It is one of the most beautiful lakes I have ever seen. how God formed that perfect spot for the sunrise and sunset!



Look



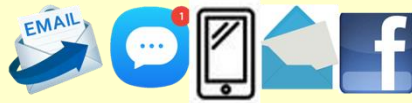
I took my granddaughter, Catherine, to an alpaca - llama birthday party. It was as much fun for me as it was for her.

Tom joined me for a ballgame in Denver at the Coors Field to watch the Braves and the Rockies. We won!!!!

And I was there to see my grandchildren start 3rd and 5th grade.

It was a wonderful summer with visits from a special friend and my sister.

Mu Crew News



M



Paulette Bass is excited! She is now receiving therapy to enable her to walk and not use a wheelchair anymore. She hopes to use her walker completely. During the springtime freak freeze that burst the fire system sprinklers in her room she lost her TV, diabetic shoes, her private lock box, and much of her clothing. She stated her teddy bear collection was also ruined. Her shoes have been replaced. She turned 77 years of age on her last birthday and was excited to receive birthday cards from Kappas across the nation. She is in a new room.

Her address is: *Paulette Bass*
Room 707B 110 Brandywine BLVD.
Fayetteville, GA 30214



Lori Burks is very excited. Her leg is completely healed. She can now stand to take a shower. A full shower. She no longer must take a sit-down bath. She can even wash her hair standing up in the shower. Congratulation cards about her recovery might be a good idea.





Mu Chapter member **Dr. Barbara D. Culp** is branching out from writing Words of Wisdom for educators, parents, principals, students, superintendents, and the community. Currently she is working on another book. This one will be her ninth one. It is a fictional contemporary novel. The title as it stands today is "How Much to Be MY Friend?" It is about some of the issues teenagers are facing today with mental health.

Member **Evelyn Davidson**, her husband Mark and his sister took a ROAD Trip this summer visiting the 5 National Parks of UTAH, with a side trip on the way home to the GRAND Canyon. Once returning home both Evelyn and Mark succumbed to their exhaustion both becoming ill. Mark has recovered and is back at work with the JROTC at Wylie East High School, Wylie, Texas. Mark is a former member of Mu Chapter. Evelyn, however, tested positive for COVID and is recovering at home. Anyone wishing to send them Thinking of You cards can send them to their home address:



Evelyn and Mark Davidson 918 Morningside Trail Murphy, TX 75094



Member **Kathy Asher Crocker Paridon** participates in many road races and 5K races. She ran in the July 4, 2023 Atlanta Peachtree Road Race and in the 2023 Labor Day 5K sponsored by The Avenue in Peachtree City, Georgia.



Kathy traveled to her other home in Ohio throughout the summer to visit with her mother Shirley Asher, PSP of Phi State, Ohio.

From May 1, 2023, to May 16, 2023 **Carol Lunsford** visited England, Ireland, and Scotland while cruising with Norwegian Cruise lines. She toured the Tower of London before the coronation of King Charles. Most of the Crown Jewels were held for the coronation. Her tour began with a visit to Edinburgh, Scotland. While there she visited the Rosslyn Chapel founded in 1446 by Sir William St Clair. She has stories to tell about that visit. Another long walk from the bus to the chapel. The tour of Scotland included "henges" predating Stonehenge and Skara Brae a pre-historic village uncovered as the result of a severe storm in the Orkney Islands. The tours to Ireland included Trinity College in Dublin to view the Book of Kells, the Blarney Stone, and the Giant's Causeway. (a UNESCO Heritage site).



Trips were not over for Carol after the cruise. She attended the Kappa Kappa Iota National Convention in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

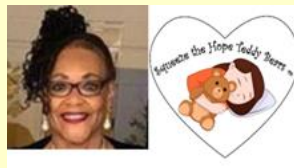




While at home Carol volunteers in her community by working in the local food bank, packing backpacks for the local Backpack Buddy program serving the local elementary school. Community volunteers provide plastic bags and the food to fill the bags. The last packing filled 155 backpacks.



PRESS RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 30, 2023



Coming soon, Mu Chapter member, **C. Joyce Farrar-Rosemon** will release her new children's book:



Description:

Charlie, newly diagnosed with cancer, struggles to understand the meaning and the effect it will have on his life. Caleb the Cancer-Fighting Bear offers hope to Charlie and his family by providing coloring and interactive activities that explain cancer and encourage Charlie to relax and become a cancer warrior. Great coloring activities for kids, teens, and adults are included.

About Squeeze the Hope Teddy Bears®

Caleb, the protagonist in the book, is a musical bear with audible affirmations designed to relax cancer warriors. He is a member of the Squeeze the Hope Teddy Bears® family for individuals experiencing cancer, depression, illness, and trauma. The bears are available in English, Spanish, and Ukrainian versions. They can be purchase separately or along with Joyce's book at www.hopetedybears.com. The book should hit the market sometime in late November.

About the Author

C. Joyce Farrar-Rosemon, BA, MSW, Ed.S, is a retired psychotherapist and educator who has worked extensively with children, providing play and child therapy, as well as individual, couples, and family therapy with adults. Her book is based on this work and psychological research on the beneficial effects of play, music, and art therapy. Joyce spends her time writing, speaking, and hand-making Squeeze the Hope Teddy Bears®.



Jan Anderson's stove died, but all was not lost. While waiting for a new one to be delivered, Jan dusted off her Insta pot and learned how to cook some delicious meals.

Connie Granade is the proud great-grandmama of baby girl Harper Alex Davis. She was born Friday, September 8 and weighed 7.5 lbs and was 20 inches long. Mama Morgan and Daddy Conner are so proud as is Connie and the rest of the family.

Beth Pettigrew and her husband, David went on an American River Cruise in June. They saw Mt. Saint Helen, Multnomah Falls, Cape Disappointment, and Fort Clatsop where Lewis and Clark overwintered in 1806. The Columbia River Gorge was beautiful. They also visited Tybee Island and Savannah, Georgia in September. Beth and David are also expecting grandchildren #7 and #8 in March (twins). Parents are Tess and Charlie Strickland.

Syd Trawick's mother, Miss Trudy, celebrated her 96th birthday on September 11. Miss Trudy celebrated with a pool party at her house. Lots of grands and great grands were there to help her celebrate. Way to go Miss Trudy!

Marcelle Bridgeman and her mother, **Elsie Clark**, had a terrible August. Elsie fell in her yard on August 11. She rolled 10 to 12 feet down a hill and her head landed on a rock. She was taken by ambulance to the Macon hospital where she spent 24 hours. The result of the fall was three brain bleeds, all the skin scraped off her left arm but no broken bones. After a week at home she began showing signs of pressure building up on her brain. She traveled to the Augusta University Hospital by helicopter. She stayed in Augusta for five days. It was touch and go there for a while but after coming home she improved daily and is now back in the kitchen making jelly. There is a reason her family refers to her as "the tough old buzzard".

Our own Lassie episode! When Elsie Clark fell, her grandson's dog, Milly, knew she shouldn't be lying in the yard. Milly took off running to Marcelle Bridgeman's house. Meanwhile, Elsie came to long enough to reach in her pocket to get her cell phone to call Marcelle. Marcelle met Milly in the road between the two houses and Marcelle could tell Milly was very agitated, running back and forth and then she took off to Elsie's house. Marcelle followed and Milly took her to where Elsie was lying at the side of the house. Milly stayed right beside Elsie and Marcelle until the ambulance got there. Milly is a three year old Australian Blue Heeler and the family hero.