

Kappa Kappa Iota Lambda State Kan Kan



Spring Issue 2019, 2nd Edition
Kathy Russell, publisher

From the desk of the President:

I can't believe I have completed two years as State President of Kappa Kappa Iota, Lambda State! The time has flown by! I want to express appreciation to all my Kappa Sisters for patience, help and support. I've had a lot in my personal life in the last few years and learned quickly what it means to have caring friends.

I have been so proud of the support we have provided to the Never Too Late Boys Home in Monticello. They have had lots of setbacks and are now "regrouping". We will need to work with John DeGarmo to see how we can continue to support this worthwhile endeavor. As Pat Matthews assumes the role of Lambda State president I know we will get more information on this project.

As I step down I want to ask everyone to continue to support Kappa and Pat Matthews as she assumes the responsibilities of leading our state. I pledge my support and any help I can give to her and all my sisters.

I look forward to seeing everyone in Fayetteville at the Spring Convention and in Cleveland for the National Convention.

Carol Hilburn

Lambda State President 2017-2019



KAPPA KAPPA IOTA Spring Convention

Saturday, April 27, 2019

11:00 a.m.

**Fayette Presbyterian Church,
791 Forrest Ave. (Hwy 92N)
Fayetteville, GA 30214**

Executive Committee meets at 10:15 a.m.

Lunch cost: \$20.00

RSVP by Monday, April 22nd

to

Carol Lunsford - clunsfor@bellsouth.net

or Text Carol - 404-803-2758



EMT, Christina Price, will be the keynote speaker. She is currently employed as an EMT, studying to become a paramedic, and has extensive knowledge of working with children in early education (day care, etc). Christina has taught Life Guarding skills to teens and is a single mother of a daughter with OCD, ADD, and now diagnosed with Dyslexia. She is excited about the opportunity to speak to us and plans on staying for the entire meeting.

From ATLANTA:

I-85S to Exit 64 – Jonesboro Road/Union City. Turn LEFT across freeway.
Turn RIGHT onto Peters Road (approximately 0.5 miles from Lester Road).
When Peters dead ends into Forrest Ave (Hwy 92), turn LEFT.
Go approximately 5 miles. Church is on the left just after passing
Graves Road on the right.



**EXCITING
NEWS!**

Never Too Late Home for Boys

(Copied from NTL Facebook post)

On March 20, 2019, the Never Too Late (*NTL*) home has been approved and licensed by the State of Georgia as a Transitional Living Program (*TLP*) Child Caring Institution.

In a January 2019, meeting with the Department of Family and Children Services (*DFACS*), *NTL* was requested to serve as a Transitional Living Program (*TLP*) Child Caring Institution. The need for transitional living programs in Georgia is acute and *NTL* was asked to help fulfill this need.

As a *TLP*, *NTL* would serve youth ages 16-21 as the boys transition from foster care to independent living. This required an adjustment to some of *NTL*'s services and policies, which has been completed in the last 90 days and approved by the state's Residential Child Care Licensing (*RCCL*), a part of Georgia's Department of Human Services.

A Transitional Living Program provides long-term residential services to homeless youth between the ages of 16 and 21. In Georgia, these youth come from the foster care programs and are identified as appropriate candidates for *TLP* services that include the following: • Safe, stable living accommodations • Basic life-skills building including consumer education, budgeting, housekeeping, food preparation, and parenting skills • Educational opportunities including vocational education • Job attainment services, such as career counseling and job placement • Physical health care, such as physicals, health assessments, and emergency treatment.

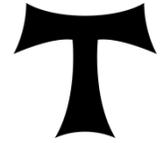
"We are very excited that *DFACS* wants us to adjust our services to become a *TLP*. This age fits well with our mission and purpose of preparing foster care youth with the skills to be productive adults," John and Kelly DeGarmo. John and Kelly, the founders of *NTL*, had the vision for Never Too Late in 2015 to create a loving home for children in foster care.

"Serving *TLP* youth is a great fit for Monticello. We have the educational avenues, life skills advisors and job placement training opportunities that are exactly what these young men will need." David Dyer, *NTL* Board of Director.

The next step is for *NTL* to be approved by Georgia's Office of Provider Management (*OPM*). We have applied for approval and our file is being reviewed.



News from our Chapters



Tales from Tau

- Congratulations to **Dr. Rebecca Owen** (Cohort 16) for her presentation on "Expectancies and Values in the Middle: Relationships Between Rural Young Adolescents' Motivation and Reading Performances" presented at the Georgia Counsel of Teachers of English 2019 Conference! (from UWG Facebook post)

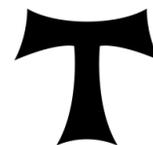


- Congratulations to the 2019 School Improvement Dissertation of the Year Award recipient, **Dr. Rebecca Owen**! Under the direction of Dr. Yan Yang, her dissertation, "Exploring the Relationship Between Rural Young Adolescents' Expectancy-Values in Reading and their Reading Performance" investigated a critical issue and has valuable practical applications in the field of school improvement. With reading education being a vital part of American school system, school improvement inevitably includes providing educators with better training on reading education in K-12 school systems, particularly in rural schools that need more support. Dr. Owen's dissertation sheds a different light on reading education, calling attention to a motivational approach to reading, investigating rural adolescents reading performance and their expectancy and value beliefs in this important subject, and studying the relationship between their motivational beliefs and their reading performance. (from UWG Facebook post)

- She will graduate in May with her **Ed.D. in School Improvement** from The University of West Georgia.



- **Ken and Kathy Russell** spent Spring Break in New York City. It was hard to tell if Kathy was more excited for her first visit to NYC, or Ken to be showing it to her. Visits to tourist attractions included Statue of Liberty/Ellis Island, 9-11 Museum, Empire State Building, Times Square and The Metropolitan Museum of Art. Good food was found at Piccolo Angolo's, John's Pizzeria, and Ellen's Stardust Diner. Two excellent Broadway shows, *Come from Away* and *Beautiful*, rounded out the experience.
- **Kathy** has served as president of Calhoun-Gordon Co. Retired Educators Association this year and will be representing the Unit at the GREA Convention in Augusta, May 7-9.



- **Janet Martin** earned a Master Gardener Certification through the University of Georgia three Years ago. Now, she is working with Bartow County Farm Bureau to develop curriculum and teacher lesson plans for teaching Agriculture in the classroom- grades K- 2. This Educational Toolbox Program will cover the Five Georgia Grown Crops that start with the letter “P”: Poultry, Peanuts, Pecans, Peaches, and Pulpwood (Pine Trees). The Toolbox’s Teacher Lesson Plans will be designed to connect local experiences in Agriculture & Food, (LEAF) to the four components of STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.



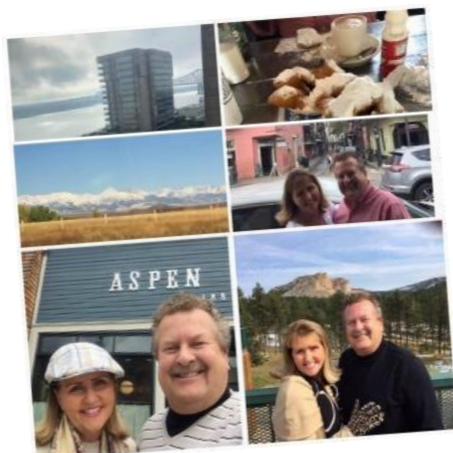
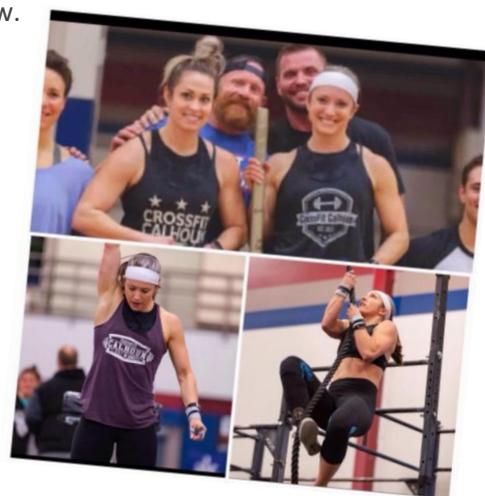
Reva Utz’s mother, **Evelyn Jones**, turned 90 on September 22, 2018. Reva hosted a drop-in birthday celebration at her church. 85 guests were in attendance, including a few Kappa friends.

Reva continues to travel the state to sing with the *Jubalheirs*, part of the GA Baptist praise and proclamation women’s group. Her husband sings with the men’s group, the *Sons of Jubal*, and they travel together. They took a trip March 20th to Saint Simon’s Island, which they used as home base for his concert in Waycross and her concert in Brunswick. Both groups sang and ministered to full churches as they lifted their voices in praise and worship.

She also continues to direct the Calhoun Community Chorus. In November they presented two concerts on the theme of Amazing Grace to sold out crowds. The most recent concerts were April 5 and 6, “Rockin’ the Memories” with music of the 60s and 70s.

Reva’s oldest son, **Justin**, became engaged on his birthday in February. She is thrilled to be gaining three delightful granddaughters and a sweet daughter-in-law.

Reva’s daughter, **Caroline Stephens**, is finishing 10 years of teaching and one year as head of Assistive Technology for Gordon County. She also competes in CrossFit with her team. They won first place at the Three Rivers Throwdown competition in January.



In October, **Jennifer and Steve Thomason** visited Mt. Rushmore/Yellowstone/Tetons, Rockies & lots more in CO/MT/WY/SD/ID; literally watched bear/elk/buffalo roam /deer & antelope play. Incredible; the wide Open Ranges were beautiful! Trips to North Carolina and New Orleans have completed our winter activities. We enjoy the relaxing scenic views living on Lake Lanier and the concerts just a short jaunt from there. *(from Steve’s FB page)*



- **Nina Matthews**, granddaughter of **Pat and Tom Matthews**, competed in the 4-H Archery Competition in Perry. This was the largest archery competition the Georgia 4-H has ever had. Nina is also active in Beta Club, Bell Choir, and Girl Scouts.
- Congratulations to **Kay**, daughter of **Ann Jones**, who was married on December 1, 2018, to **Marlon Stargill** in a small family ceremony.
- **Gayle Ragsdale** and husband enjoyed the fall by attending the UGA football games with their grandsons and friends.
- **Loretta and Tom Vail** arrived in Denver on Christmas morning to watch their grandchildren open presents. Santa was a most cooperative fellow and waited to arrive at Ian and Ivy's home while we were driving from Denver to Colorado Springs. What a great fellow, Santa is.

View of Pike's Peak from their home.



Picture of Ian and Ivy playing with a new iPad.



February brought **Tom and Loretta** to Florida to spend time with her Snowbird brother and wife from Iowa. We had fun exploring and doing new things near the Everglades. A journey to Orlando was next where we spent three days at Disney with Ian and Ivy. Ivy was terrified of Pluto, but not Nana and Pop-Pop.



Anita Beasley recently went on a National Park road trip that included 12 National Parks, a state park and a few noteworthy side trips. She along with her son, Chad, visited The Great Sand Dunes, Mesa Verde, Arches, Canyonlands, Capital Reef, Bryce, Zion, the Grand Canyon, Petrified Forest, Saguaro, Hot Springs and Mammoth Cave National Parks. They also visited Dead Horse Point State Park, Horseshoe Bend, Antelope Canyon and the Meteor Crater. They were joined at various times by her husband, Wayne, and several grandchildren. While there was something about each location that they liked, their favorites were the Needles section of Canyonlands, the remote Cathedral Valley in Capital Reef, the Angel's Landing hike in Zion and the surreal landscape in Antelope Canyon. They hope to start making an annual National Park road trip to enjoy family time together and see the country.





Carol Hilburn:

- The most exciting thing happening in my life recently is that my Oldest grandson got his driver's license. It was a long, hard process with several visits to the DMV. He went six times before being able to take the test. Something was always missing. But finally, with the whole family involved he is now a licensed driver.
- The last day of August I was lucky enough to have surgery for a torn Meniscus. Not a difficult surgery but I continue to have pain in that knee. Recently I was told the issue was not in my knee but hip. I will be checking into this problem this spring.

- In November of 2018 I visited Chattanooga with my daughter, son-in-law and 4 grandchildren. So fun to go to Ruby Falls, Look Out Mountain and ride the Incline with kids (including son-in-law) who have never been there before.
- We also went to the Great Wolf Lodge in LaGrange in November. Great indoor water park. I found it difficult to keep up with 6 and 7 year olds in that environment.
- In December Helen Ray and I went to Cherokee, NC. We do enjoy visiting the casino but really enjoyed just getting away and visiting and laughing with each other for a few days.
- In January I went on a bus trip to Biloxi with several old friends. Lots of fun until the storms developed on the way home.
- As a part of Christmas my daughter took me to brunch and then to the movies to see "White Christmas" on the big screen. Of course, I had seen the movie many times but the grands had not. Such fun.
- February Break I hung out with the family again. We visited Decatur for lunch, visit to a favorite bookstore and ice cream. The next day we went to the Atlanta Aquarium (another first for some of the grands).



- From the first week in February until mid April I work as an AARP Volunteer to help seniors with filing taxes.
- For the last year I have been working with the other members of the Georgia Reading Association Board in the transition to becoming Georgia Association of Literacy Advocates (GALA). I never realized how much was involved in changing the name of an organization. There is still lots to be done to get GALA up and running and of benefit to Georgia teachers.



Iota News

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Iota Chapter has been busy this year. They donated personal items to the Baldwin High School Care Closet; donated back packs and made blankets to be given to children when removed from their home by the Baldwin County Sheriff's department. Donations were made to the Kemp Center and to Never Too Late Boys home. Iota is preparing treats for Teacher Appreciation week.

KAPPA KAPPA IOTA DONATION



Contributed photo

Kappa Kappa Iota, the oldest educators organization in the United States, recently donated handmade and bought blankets as well as bears and bookbags to the Baldwin County Sheriff's Department. The donations were for officers to use in situations where small children are involved. The blankets and bears will give the children comfort in stressful situations and the bookbags give them a way to collect their personal items. Pictured are Beth Pettigrew and Sherri Zant, members of Kappa Kappa Iota, Sheriff Bill Massee and various members of the department.



Mama Elsie: Elsie recently had two small surgeries and is recovering very nicely. She keeps busy cooking for Marcelle and Jeff. When she's not visiting one of her doctors, she enjoys visiting friends. She continues to enjoy her church family who are so good to her.

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Marcelle Bridgeman: Marcelle recently visited London and Paris with her daughter, Sara, and granddaughter, Ava. This was Ava's first trip to Europe. They took the Chunnel (the tunnel under the English Channel) from London to Paris. When Marcelle is not traveling, she is enjoying her grandchildren. Her son, Clark, and his wife and two small sons are building a house next to hers. She and Jeff continue to go to grandson Jacob's baseball ballgames. He plays travel ball with the Rattlers. She and grandson Jeremy do WWII research between games. Jeremy is becoming quite the WWII scholar (he's 10).

Sandy Fountain: Sandy and her husband, Mike, visited friends in Scottsdale, AZ. While there they were able to attend a Chicago Cubs spring training game and go on a fun Segway tour of old Scottsdale.

Sherri Zant: Sherri and her husband visited the Ark Encounter and attended the Mid America truck show in Kentucky. They, also, attended the Timothy-Barnabus Pastors and Wives Conference at the Ritz Carlton.



Syd Trawick: The Syd Trawick goat farm continues to grow. Billy, Beau, and Blossom are the newest additions to the herd. Syd is Iota's favorite goat farmer!! *(stock photos, not Syd's goats)*



Connie Granade: Connie and Wayne enjoy spending time with their grandchildren. They have recently developed a renewed love for school lunches. They had forgotten how good school pizza can be when you are sharing it with their seven year old granddaughter, Jasmine, who thinks it is delicious. They, also, enjoy attending track meets to see their grandsons Adam and Sam pole vault and run. Their grandson, Joseph, will be graduating from medical school in May. Their granddaughter, Morgan, has recently received a promotion. She is making her way in the business world. Grandchildren keep their lives full of fun and surprises.

Kappa News

Hopefully we will have an update on Wanda Culpepper at our Spring Convention.

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Mu Crew News

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- **Dr. Barbara D. Culp** continues her writing of educational resource books. Her latest is for School Instructional Leaders. Designed and created to better assess teachers' strengths and weaknesses as they go through the annual evaluation process. Titled *The Art of Appraisal: Effective Tools and Streamlined Processes to Boost Teacher Performance*. Available in paperback, hardback, and Ebook from rowman.com or amazon.com.
- Mu Chapter welcomed three members during 2018-2019. **Evelyn Davidson** (taught nursing); **Ora Gilmore** (Dutchtown High School Math Instructor) and **Thais Mills** (Fayette County School Bus Driver)
- **Carol Lunsford** thanks everyone who sent cards of encouragement during her recovery from pneumonia and healing of her fractured right shoulder joint. She's back to typing and driving.
- Lambda State President, **Carol Hilburn**, visited Mu Chapter's February meeting. Theta member **Anita Beasley** visited also.
- **Paulette Bass** celebrated her 73rd birthday with her Mu Chapter members by hosting Mu Chapter's March meeting at the nursing home where she resides. Cupcakes and ice cream cups topped off the meeting.
- For the 2nd year, **Carol Lunsford** served as the Women's Retreat Chair for the Presbyterian Women in the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. Theta member **Loretta Vail** and **Never Too Late Home for Boys** founder Dr. John DeGarmo were two of the workshop presenters.

Omega Chapter

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Emma Sue Waddell Pierce, 71, of Calhoun, passed away Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at her home. She was born in Fleming-Neon, KY on April 2, 1947, daughter of the late Thomas Benson and Hazel B. Breeding Waddell. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her siblings, Paul Waddell, Samuel Waddell, James Waddell, Nina Frances Waddell, and Mary Mullins and her husband Tom; a brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Ted and Johnnie Greeson; and three beloved sisters-in-law, Marie Waddell, Rhea Waddell, and Haley Waddell.

Emma had resided in Gordon County for 47 years, moving here from Fleming-Neon, KY. She taught school for over 38 years at Belwood Elementary and Red Bud Elementary. Emma was a member of Antioch Baptist Church.

She leaves behind her husband of 41 years, Charles Ronald Pierce; her son, Kevin Andrew Pierce; brothers, Bobby Waddell of Detroit, MI, Sherman Waddell of Martinez, CA, Thomas Waddell of Viper, KY, and Billy Waddell of Fleming-Neon, KY; sisters, her identical twin, Betty Lou Conaway and her husband Loyd of Calhoun, and Brenda K. Awad and her husband Alex of Eugene, OR; and a sister-in-law, Donna Waddell of Nippa, KY. A host of nieces, nephews, friends, and loving children she taught, also survive.

Emma was a Charter Member of Tau Chapter, Lambda State, Kappa Kappa Iota