



# Sigma Kappa Delta

THE NATIONAL ENGLISH HONOR SOCIETY FOR TWO-YEAR COLLEGES

## NEWS

Fall 2006

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY SIGMA KAPPA DELTA!

#### Greetings from the National President and the Executive Director

Sigma Kappa Delta Sponsors,

This year marks the 10th anniversary of Sigma Kappa Delta. We look forward to a year of celebration as we remember the great strides we have made as an organization and the numbers of students who have benefited from the creation of such an organization. However, this is not just a time for us to reflect on the past, but also to look forward. Great opportunities await us as we plan a new year focused on all the rewards which come from ΣΚΔ membership. Each year our organization grows, and as we look toward the next ten years, we are mindful of all we have achieved but realize there are even more exciting times ahead.

If your students are interested in publishing, encourage them to submit their essays, poems, and short stories for inclusion in the national literary magazine *Hedera helix*. If your students are interested in scholarship opportunities, encourage them to apply for one of the scholarships offered to ΣΚΔ members—the Academic/Service Scholarships of \$350 and the William C. Johnson Sigma Tau Delta Transfer Scholarship of \$500, awarded to an ΣΚΔ member majoring in English. If your students are interested in travel, encourage them to begin raising money now to attend the national Sigma Tau Delta/Sigma Kappa Delta conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, March 28-April 1, 2007. If your students are competitive, encourage them to enter their college's literary magazine in the ΣΚΔ literary magazine competition or to present a local project sponsored by their ΣΚΔ chapter to compete for the Chapter Activity Award.

Let me encourage you as sponsors to mark your calendars and start the fundraisers early in the fall semester to ensure that your students have the opportunity to experience the scholarship, camaraderie, and recognition offered by being an active member of ΣΚΔ. As your president, I look forward to working with you during the next year and hope to see you and your students in Pittsburgh in March. If I can be of any assistance, do not hesitate to call on me.

*Joan Reeves, President, Sigma Kappa Delta*



We have been successfully growing for ten years thanks to the many fine, hardworking sponsors, board members, and students.

The 10th anniversary celebration started with a special cake served to attendees of the Awards Banquet Luncheon held during the national conference in Portland, Oregon, this past spring. I encourage individual chapters to celebrate our anniversary at the local level with

some fun activity and let us know about your celebration so we can announce it in the weekly e-news.

The other important celebratory news is that we renamed the Sigma Tau Delta Transfer Scholarship for our dear friend and mentor, Dr. William C. Johnson. This was part of the festivities at the Awards Banquet Dinner on the last night of conference in Portland. The board members surprised Dr. Johnson with this announcement (note related article in this Newsletter).

This anniversary gives us all a time to reflect on our accomplishments and to look forward to the future. In retrospect, we have some made great strides in the past 10 years, including the following:

- Chartered 67 chapters
- Incorporated as a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization
- Established awards and scholarships
- Developed the national website
- Published national literary journal, *Hedera helix*
- Published an annual newsletter
- Created electronic forms/data
- Written a national history of our organization
- Started a weekly e-news letter

Looking forward, we know the secret to Sigma Kappa Delta's success is teamwork; ΣΚΔ at every level allows us to support each other in our continued search for knowledge. Many of you know this secret and have been reaping the benefits for years. To continue to grow, it is important for us to continue to be supportive of each other and to let others know our secret. We are living examples of the best of ΣΚΔ.

Please share your ideas and information with us at National Headquarters. We are here for you. I have great faith that our next 10 years will be even better as we will continue to grow stronger.

*Sheila H. Byrd, Executive Director*

## The Dr. William C. (Bil) Johnson Sigma Tau Delta Transfer Scholarship

If not for Dr. William (Bil) Johnson, English professor at Northwestern Illinois University and Executive Director of Sigma Tau Delta, there would be no Sigma Kappa Delta. In the fall of 1995, Bil brought a group of two-year college instructors together in Chicago to organize an English honor society for their students. This group chose the name Sigma Kappa Delta, which stands for Sincerity, Knowledge, and Design, for the new organization. Since that time, Bil has graciously given his time and efforts to help build ΣΚΔ into a strong and independent organization in its own right.

Bil has walked every step with ΣΚΔ, from helping write the constitution and by-laws to working with our Board of Directors, to always being available for guidance and problem-

solving. On his recommendation, ΣΚΔ members and sponsors are invited to join ΣΤΔ at their national conference each year and are allowed to submit papers for conference presentation. He has also made room on the conference agenda for ΣΚΔ to hold panels and to present awards at the banquet.

With much respect and gratitude, the ΣΚΔ Board of Directors has named the yearly transfer scholarship after Bil. The Dr. William C. Johnson Sigma Tau Delta Transfer Scholarship is presented each year to an ΣΚΔ member who is transferring to a four-year university or college and is seeking an English degree. Please see our website at [www.english2.org](http://www.english2.org) for details on applying for this prestigious award.



**Drs. Don Perkins and William Johnson with Kathryn Jones of Epsilon Alpha Chapter, recipient of the 2006 Dr. William Johnson Sigma Tau Delta Transfer Scholarship.**

## Tips for Chapter Fun, Growth, and Visibility

- Take pictures
- Start a scrapbook
- Use a bulletin board to display ΣΚΔ information, pictures, upcoming events, etc. Make it attractive.
- Have a Halloween (or other holiday) party
- Start a local website for your chapter
- Start a literary journal at your college
- Participate as a group at campus events
- Host a reception for GED students.
- Invite talented faculty/staff to meetings to share their talents... readings...music, etc.
- Boost vocabulary...post a new word a month around campus for all students to learn.



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## Outstanding Sigma Kappa Delta Members

**Tiana Shannon**, Delta Alpha Chapter  
Copiah-Lincoln Community College Hall of Fame

**Ashley Bearden**, Epsilon Alpha Chapter  
Northeast Alabama Community College  
All Alabama Academic Team

**Shevlyn Foutz**, Upsilon Alpha Chapter  
Seminole State College  
Geraldine Burns Award

**Karen Ross**, Omega Alpha Chapter  
Delaware Technical & Community College  
Profiled in March 2006 edition of *Community College Times* for work with textbook drive and international education

**Marty Kellum**, Theta Beta Chapter  
Calhoun Community College  
All Alabama Academic Team  
All American *USA Today* Academic First Team  
Calhoun Community College Top Ten Students

**Evelyn Houston**, Theta Beta Chapter  
Calhoun Community College  
Calhoun Community College Top Ten Students

**Daniel Garcia, Stephanie Plata, Cristina Krupala,**  
**Doug Verona**, Xi Beta Chapter  
Texas State Technical College, Harlington  
Panel Presentation at Sigma Tau Delta/Sigma Kappa Delta  
National Conference  
Portland, Oregon

**Cristina Krupala**, Xi Beta Chapter  
Texas State Technical College, Harlington  
Poetry Reading at Sigma Tau Delta/Sigma Kappa Delta  
National Conference  
Portland, Oregon

**Rho Beta Chapter**  
Fayetteville Technical Community College  
FTCC Top Club Award

**Karis King**, Sponsor, Rho Beta Chapter  
Fayetteville Technical Community College  
FTCC Top Advisor Award

**Bimpie Ayanwola**, Psi Beta Chapter  
Eastfield College  
Accepted into Pharmacy School at Texas Tech

**Lynda Herndon**, Psi Beta Chapter  
Eastfield College  
The National Scholars' Honor Society  
Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges

**Katherine Walton**, Psi Beta Chapter  
Eastfield College  
Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges

**Claire Verchot**, Psi Beta Chapter  
Eastfield College  
Coca-Cola Scholarship Recipient

**Gayland Sisk**, Psi Beta Chapter  
Eastfield College  
Outstanding Chapter Officer Award for Phi Theta Kappa  
International Honor Society

**Barbora Batokova**, Alpha Chapter  
Cottey College  
All American *USA Today* Academic Team  
Editor of School Newspaper and Yearbook

**Troy Dodge**, Lambda Beta Chapter  
McLennon Community College  
All American *USA Today* Academic Team

*\*Information provided by year-end reports*



## *Sponsors' Corner*

Strong and committed sponsors are vital to any active chapter of Sigma Kappa Delta. Share the fun by having two or more sponsors. The role of sponsor requires leadership skills and the ability to delegate. Sponsors as well as chapter officers must work together to achieve success.

Here are some guidelines to help you keep your chapter running smoothly:

- (1) Supervise the activities of the organization and assist in the planning and coordination of activities;
- (2) Provide continuity for the organization to ensure consistency of purpose and activities from year to year;
- (3) Ensure the maintenance of accurate and complete records and minutes of the organization, including submitting the yearly report to national;
- (4) Provide guidance and interpretation in the area of administrative policies and decisions;
- (5) Delegate responsibilities to members to provide them experience in leadership and commitment;
- (6) Work with and supervise the work of chapter officers closely;
- (7) Report on the progress and needs of the organization to the national office;
- (8) Report any change/addition in sponsor information to national office.

## **Plan to Attend!**

**2007**

## **Sigma Tau Delta/Sigma Kappa Delta Convention**

### **International Convention**

**March 28 - April 1, 2007**

**Hilton Pittsburgh  
600 Commonwealth Place  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**



### **Hotel Description**

The Hilton Pittsburgh is located In the Heart of the city, with spectacular views of the Three Rivers, Point State Park, and the city skyline. It is within walking distance to PNC Park, Heinz Field, theatres, museums, shopping, restaurants, and convention center, and is one-half block from the subway.

Conference opportunities include the following:

- Panel Discussions
- Paper Presentations
- Scholarships
- Awards
- Hearing and meeting famous authors
- Book signings
- Writing workshops
- Networking

For registration information and convention details, see our website at [www.english2.org](http://www.english2.org), Sigma Tau Delta's website at [www.english.org](http://www.english.org), or contact the Sigma Kappa Delta national office at [skd@calhoun.edu](mailto:skd@calhoun.edu).



# How to Get to Pittsburgh!

Review conference details frequently at [www.english.org](http://www.english.org) and [www.english2.org](http://www.english2.org).

Plan early and share conference details with members.

Hold easy fundraisers for use to offset the costs of attendance. For example, the chapter may pay for a portion of the cost of the conference for members who participate in the fundraisers. How much the chapter can help out depends on the state of your local treasury.

Have members pay non-refundable deposits before buying plane tickets and booking rooms. This lessens the chance of them backing out at the last minute.

Sponsors should collect all monies and book plane tickets and registrations together.

Although you register through Sigma Tau Delta, our four-year college sister organization, you must also let Sigma Kappa Delta know that you plan to attend. Sigma Kappa Delta plans some activities separate from  $\Sigma\tau\Delta$ , and we want to be sure to include everyone.

**How One Chapter Does It:** Theta Beta Chapter at Calhoun Community College has had huge campus yard sales, used book sales at festivals, and sold Chic-Fil-A sandwiches weekly on campus. Members who participate in these fundraisers earn part of the profits toward conference expenses. For example, last year, members put up a deposit of \$200 before tickets and registration were paid, and the chapter was able to pay the balance per qualified member (i.e., those who helped fund raise) toward those costs. Five members were able to attend the conference in Portland last spring, thanks to their early fundraising efforts. Some sponsors bring one student; some bring several. No group is too small.

Sponsors can often obtain professional development funds to pay for the cost of attending the national conference. See what your school can do to help you get there.

Leftover profits should be saved for next year's conference and/or used for local chapter activities. The national office recommends working toward building your local treasury so there will always be money available for chapter needs.



## *Hedera helix* *Writing Contest*

*Open to all Sigma Kappa Delta members currently enrolled in two-year colleges.*

We welcome submissions of quality writing in the following categories:

- Poetry
- Personal Essay
- Short Fiction
- Literary Analysis with no secondary sources

Benefits:

- Cash Awards
- Publication Opportunities
- National Honor Society
- National Recognition for you, your  $\Sigma\kappa\Delta$  chapter, and your college

For complete submission guidelines, go to [www.english2.org](http://www.english2.org)  
**POSTMARK DEADLINE:**  
**NOVEMBER 30, 2006**



# Housekeeping

Allow three weeks for orders to be filled.

Please DATE ALL CORRESPONDENCE and supply all requested information.

The national office cannot accept individual checks from prospective members. Please collect all monies and send one check with your requests for memberships and/or merchandise.

Thank you for using our electronic forms!!!! This technological wonder cuts down on misspelling of names and allows us to get items to you quicker.

REMEMBER...if you don't enter, you can't win. Enter all contests!!! See [www.english2.edu](http://www.english2.edu) for details.

ΣΚΔ is THE place to applaud member accomplishments. Let the national office know of outstanding member or chapter successes.

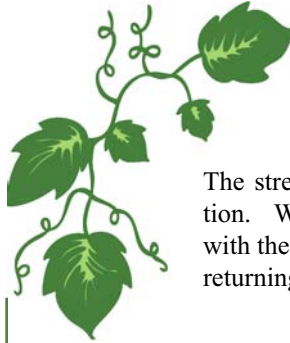
Set a deadline for turning in membership fees. You may have a few stragglers, but you will receive the bulk of your memberships on time, making your job easier.

It is important to induct members as soon as they become eligible for membership so they can reap the benefits of ΣΚΔ. Consequently, many chapters induct new members during each semester of the academic year. Some even have summer inductions. We urge you to open membership early in the semester.

Hold induction services at least once a year. Guidelines for induction are in the handbook on our website.

Remember that sponsors as well as other faculty and administrators may join and show chapter support by displaying their membership certificates.

Thanks for being such outstanding sponsors. We appreciate the hard work you do!



# Ivy Chapters

The strength of an organization lies in communication and participation. We appreciate the following chapters' efforts to communicate with the national office by completing national requirements, including returning their year-end reports.

## Alpha Chapter

Cottey College

Sponsors: Dr. Don Perkins, Trisha Stubblefield

## Delta Alpha Chapter

Copiah-Lincoln Community College

Sponsors: Glenda Silverii, Pam Reid

## Epsilon Alpha Chapter

Northeast Alabama Community College

Sponsor: Joan Reeves

## Nu Alpha Chapter

Bladen Community College

Sponsors: Felisa L. Williams, Ella Jo Sellers, Twyla Davis

## Tau Alpha Chapter

Grayson County College

Sponsor: Dr. Richard Davis

## Upsilon Alpha Chapter

Seminole State College

Sponsor: Jessica Isaacs

## Omega Alpha Chapter

Delaware Technical & Community College

Sponsor: Jeanette Lonia

## Beta Beta Chapter

Spartanburg Methodist College

Sponsor: Dr. John R. Williams

## Delta Beta Chapter

Florida Community College at Jacksonville

Sponsors: Marian Beaman, Christopher Twiggs

## Theta Beta Chapter

Calhoun Community College

Sponsors: Jill Chadwick, Leigh Ann Rhea

## Lambda Beta Chapter

McLennan Community College

Sponsors: Dr. Carl Lowe, Jim McKeown

## Xi Beta Chapter

Texas State Technical College, Harlingen

Sponsor: Janie Santoy, Nicki Cone

## Rho Beta Chapter

Fayetteville Technical Community College

Sponsor: Karis King

## Tau Beta Chapter

Central Texas College

Sponsors: Anna R. Holston, Mary Simpson

## Phi Beta Chapter

Amarillo College

Sponsor: Rebecca Easton

## Psi Beta Chapter

Eastfield College

Sponsors: Taunya Dixon, Elaine Cho, John Emery

## Beta Gamma Chapter

York Technical College

Sponsors: Cindy Mayfield, Martin Grant

## Epsilon Gamma Chapter

Luzerne County Community College

Sponsor: Bob Kroll

## Theta Gamma Chapter

Blinn College, Bryan Campus

Sponsor: Lea Williamson

## Iota Gamma Chapter

Heartland Community College

Sponsors: Robert Mawyer, Tom O. McCulley

## Lambda Gamma Chapter

Northwest Arkansas Community College

Sponsor: Dr. Audley Hall

## Mu Gamma Chapter

University of Wisconsin Marshfield/Wood County

Sponsor: Dr. John Pruitt

## Psi Gamma Chapter

Tyler Junior College

Sponsor: Dr. Linda Gary



# Start a Literary Journal

(Some say “journal”; some say “magazine.” It’s all the same.)

Generate interest by talking positively to students and faculty about getting involved.

Do not limit entries to  $\Sigma\text{K}\Delta$  members; include all current students at your college. Some colleges also welcome submissions from faculty and staff, as well.

Have a chapter brainstorming session or contest to name the journal. Avoid conflict by accepting ideas and having a sponsor/faculty committee make the final choice.

Decide on writing categories to be included. The national writing contest accepts entries in personal essay, poetry, short fiction, and literary analysis (with no secondary sources).

Provide short, clearly written instructions. We request that names be omitted from the manuscripts submitted for judging. We require a cover page with name, title of work, category, etc. on it. See the website, [www.english2.org](http://www.english2.org), for national writing guidelines.

Submissions may be written exclusively for the journal or may be from class assignments.

Set a deadline for submissions. Allow plenty of time for judges to return writings.

You may want to provide some basic guidelines for the judges. Make it easy on them.

Announce the writings accepted for publication. Publish *all quality* writings.

Design a cover and layout. You may have students who can do this, or your school’s graphic design artist may be able to help.

Expect your journal to be thin at first. It will grow larger year by year. Quality is what counts.

Edit! Edit! Edit!! Then, edit some more!

Print a *sensible* number of copies. Make sure to give a complimentary copy to each student published. You may or may not want to charge a nominal fee for others.

Submit your journal to the national literary journal contest! See the deadline at [www.english2.org](http://www.english2.org).

## 2006 National Conference Winners

Portland, Oregon  
March 29 – April 2, 2006

### Literary Journal Award

*Unbound*  
Rho Beta Chapter  
Fayetteville Technical Community College  
Karis King, Sponsor

### Chapter Activity Award

Theta Beta Chapter  
Calhoun Community College  
Jill Chadwick & Leigh Ann Rhea,  
Sponsors

### Academic and Service Scholarship Awards

Ashley Bearden  
Epsilon Alpha Chapter  
Northeast Alabama Community College

Sue Ellen Barber  
Rho Beta Chapter  
Fayetteville Technical Community College

### Transfer Scholarship

Kathryn Jones  
Epsilon Alpha Chapter  
Northeast Alabama Community College

### Hedera helix Writing Contest

Poetry~ Marty Kellum  
Theta Beta Chapter  
Calhoun Community College

Personal Narrative ~ Evelyn Houston  
Theta Beta Chapter  
Calhoun Community College

Short Story~ Amanda Hosey  
Phi Alpha Chapter  
Bevill State Community College

Literary Analysis~Marty Kellum  
Theta Beta Chapter  
Calhoun Community College



*One of the benefits of the year-end report is to help the national office share ideas with other chapters. Some of the activities reported are listed below.*

## **Chapter Activities**

Poetry Readings  
Reading Programs with local grade schools  
Reading to senior citizens  
Writing competition for area middle and high schools  
Sponsoring the college literary magazine/journal  
Christmas Charity Drives  
Literacy Programs  
Medieval Fair  
Book Festival  
Collected Books to Send to Literacy Programs  
Thanksgiving Parade participation  
Student Government Activities  
Trips to Famous Authors' Homes  
Hike/Picnic  
Shakespeare Festival  
Sponsor/Co-Sponsor Campus Writers' Conference  
Attended Nearby Writers' Conferences  
Attended National Conference  
Started Local ΣΚΔ Websites  
Books-For-Baghdad  
Children's Book Drive  
Joy to Read Program at Local Elementary Schools  
Pizza Party for Potential New Members  
BACCHUS Club's Mock Cocktail Contest  
Toy Drive for Orphanage  
Needs Drive for Katrina Victims  
Attended Campus Cultural Events Together  
Holiday Reading Program  
Women's Poetry Seminar  
Easter Baskets for Foster Children  
Raffles (Epsilon Gamma reports a HUGE SUCCESS!)  
ΣΚΔ Night Out  
Book Exchanges  
Celebrate the Birthday of a Famous Person (ex: a famous author)  
Coffee Klatch  
Contact Sponsors of Neighboring ΣΚΔ Chapters, Make Friends,  
and Share Ideas

\*All activities are not limited to members only. If you hold an activity that will benefit the entire college/community, invite them, too.

## **Chapter Fundraising Ideas**

Car Wash

Cookie Sale

T-Shirt Sales

Campus Food Sales

Bake Sales

Battle of the Bands

Community Donations

Yard Sale

