**Spring Projects**

**Alpha Nu Tau Chapter, Wilson Community College, Wilson, NC**

This past spring, the Alpha Nu Tau Chapter of Wilson Community College participated in several projects. They put together and distributed Valentine candy and cards to residents at Longleaf Neuro-Medical Treatment Center in February, in which they have been partnering with all throughout the 2014-2015 school year. Members also provided the center with needed items for their general store. In addition, Alpha Nu Tau participated in a “Local Get Together” on April 19th with Phi Theta Kappa members from Nash, Edgecombe, and Pitt Community College. Students and Advisors were able to fellowship, play games, and share ideas with one another in a relaxed atmosphere. During their last service project, Alpha Nu Tau collected over 150 books that were donated to a local charter school. They look forward to more projects and fellowship in the near future. **Way to go!**
Defeating ALS with the “Most Team Spirit”  
Beta Epsilon Chi, James Sprunt Community College, Kenansville, NC

The Beta Epsilon Chi Chapter’s Honors in Action project started in efforts to bring awareness and raise money for the ALS Association and the Ice Bucket Challenge, in honor of senior Beta Epsilon Chi Advisor and Physical Education Instructor, Fostina Cooper, who was diagnosed with ALS in January of 2014. During the 2014-2015 school year, members worked tirelessly to organize Ice Bucket Challenges, sell T-shirts, and rally the student body. During this process, the chapter raised over $2000, sold over 275 “Fostina’s Fighters” T-shirts, and carried a delegation of 18 walkers to the Fayetteville Walk where 17 Ice Bucket Challenges were organized, all of which have been posted to YouTube, and have had over 1200 views. During the walk, the chapter received the award for “Most Team Spirit.”

Peter Carroll, President of the Beta Epsilon Chi Chapter, challenged all Phi Theta Kappa Officers during an Ice Bucket Challenge held on campus, to get involved. He stated: “I am glad I can help organize and participate in this project for Mrs. Fostina and other people affected with the ALS disease.”

Bringing People Together Through the Arts  
Beta Sigma Phi, Central Carolina Community College, Sanford, NC

This past year, the Beta Sigma Phi Chapter members at Central Carolina Community College in Sanford, NC, worked in conjunction with the CCCC Foundation, hosting a card-making project to promote community togetherness. The idea for the project stemmed from research gathered while completing their Honors in Action project, based on theme three: Quests of Human Expression. The research focused on art as a form of expression, and as a tool to bring people together. The event took place in the college’s welcome center. Community members were invited to attend and make cards for someone special, or donate a card. All donated cards were given to the local nursing homes. The event quickly became a huge success, with a great turnout! Parents shared in their children’s creativity, making cards alongside them.

Members of the Beta Sigma Phi Chapter were so impressed with the turnout; they have decided to make it an annual event. Congrats, CCCC!
The Carolina Crier

Issue #1

New Tradition Provides New Opportunities for Chapter
Beta Eta Pi, Central Carolina Technical College, Sumter, SC

The Beta Eta Pi Chapter of Central Carolina Technical College wanted to start a new tradition this past year, after attending the Carolinas Regional Conference. In the past, new officers had been voted on and named in a member meeting. However, this year, they tried something different. This year, they not only wanted to acknowledge new officers, but also thank the outgoing officers, and celebrate the year’s accomplishments. The solution: a New Officer/End of the Year Celebration. All members were invited to attend and bring a dish of their choosing. No formal planning, just a come and enjoy the fellowship! The entire chapter was blown away with the results, as three tables were filled with food, drinks, and desserts. They had so much participation that they even invited the college faculty and staff to join! After eating, members presented outgoing officers with gifts, initiated the new officers, and spent the rest of the evening enjoying everyone’s company. “You know anytime you put a group of Phi Theta Kappa students together, great things will happen!”

As the evening went on, members began commenting on the amazing food! Before members knew it, officers were proposing a cookbook idea. Members and officers then decided to have a summer fundraiser by asking all Beta Eta Pi members to submit their favorite recipes. Members intend to use those recipes to create their very first “Brain Food” cookbook! How awesome! As members have continued to work with this idea, they have realized how many talented and interesting students are not only submitting recipes, but also their own artwork to be included in each section of the cookbook.

This just shows, you never know what will come from a Phi Theta Kappa gathering! The Beta Eta Pi chapter plans to make the New Officer Installation/End of the Year Celebration an annual event. Who knows what will happen next year…the possibilities are endless when you’re a Phi Theta Kappan!

Way To Go, Beta Eta Pi!

Phi Theta Kappa Mission:

"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."
Updates from the Alpha Omega Alumni Chapter
Alpha Omega Carolinas Region Alumni Association

Members of Phi Theta Kappa! This is an official update from your Alpha Omega Alumni Chapter!

“This year Alpha Omega had 32 people inducted as the “Class of 2015.” If you were at the convention, you know we had a wonderful ceremony in addition to the Girl Scout cookies!

We are now accepting applications for the Joan Keller Servant-Leader Scholarship. While you cannot apply for this if you are an alumni member, if you are still an active chapter member attending a two-year college in 2015-2016, you are welcome to apply. Sometimes, alumni members return to earn additional certificates or degrees, and of course, are thus eligible. Such members cannot just hold an office in the alumni chapter. They need to be active chapter members.

We will be electing new officers for the alumni chapter in March of 2016. We are looking forward to welcoming more inductees at the convention in March, although you can join any time during the year. Just visit our Facebook page and go to the Files page. You’ll find the downloadable application there. Send it in now, if you wish.

So, why should you join Alpha Omega (AΩ)? Why are we so eager to welcome you to the “Dark Side?” By now you’ve all heard about the four hallmarks of Phi Theta Kappa, Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Fellowship. We believe that joining AΩ gives you new opportunities to exemplify the four hallmarks. There is a reason we call it the Dark Side, or as Jonathan likes to think of it, the flip side of Phi Theta Kappa (ΦΘΚ). As alumni, we can look at the four hallmarks in reverse order to some extent: Fellowship, Service, Leadership and Scholarship.

- Fellowship - We have fun in AΩ because we get to fellowship with our fellow members, our home chapters, and all the chapters from our region.
- Service - In AΩ we exemplify service in all that we do for our region, our home chapters, and any other chapter that asks for assistance.
- Leadership - AΩ members sincerely hope that we lead our wonderful Carolinas Region by providing examples of servant-leadership. When Papa John and Beth ask for help, we are happy to do it, and at the same time, if we are aware of some opportunity, we will ask them first since they are the region’s leadership team.
- Scholarship – AΩ members help in any facet to ease the angst new members feel when facing the challenges of active membership. We can offer insights about juggling multiple demands: school, family, chapter officer position, and maintaining your high GPA. We’ve been there, and we’ve done that. Many of us still put “Scholarship First!” as we continue our academic dreams as four-year college students, or as master degree candidates. We are happy to share and support the learning experiences of all active members.

If none of the above is enough enticement for you to join the Dark Side when you graduate, then consider this final benefit. We have cookies. ‘Nuff said!”

- Jonathan Fignole and Pepe Zerda
  AΩ President and AΩ Advisor
With the summer having been in full swing in New Bern, there wasn’t much going on at Craven Community College. However, as the new semester has begun and is well on its way, Alpha Phi Nu has been experiencing some exciting new changes!

Craven Community College has gained a new President! Dr. Raymond Staats comes to Craven from the U.S. Army Cadet Command in Ft. Knox, KY. He is replacing Dr. Catherine Chew, this year’s recipient of the Michael Bennett award during Internationals, after her retirement this summer. Members are looking forward to continue success as a chapter under his guidance, as they did under Dr. Chew. Dr. Staats received his Ph.D. from Virginia Tech University.

On May 27, 2015, Alpha Phi Nu installed new officers for the 2015-2016 school year.

A special congratulations to Chapter President Serenia Fulcher, Vice-President of Scholarships, Crystal Henderson, Public Relations Officer, Don Perryman, and Student Government Association Chapter Representative, Bill Thompson. We have a few more officer positions that need to be filled, and are hoping to fill them this upcoming Fall once school is back in.

With all of these changes, it is also our pleasure to welcome back Mrs. Kate Amerson as our chapter advisor of Alpha Phi Nu along with Mr. Brian Kmec. Ms. Sarah Hughson is no longer an advisor of Alpha Phi Nu due to her acceptance of a position at the University of Akron, Ohio. We wish Ms. Hughson many successes in her future, and look forward to the continued success of Alpha Phi Nu under the new advisors!
Updates From the Alpha Omicron Delta Chapter  
Alpha Omicron Delta, Alamance Community College, Graham, NC

On May 29th, 2015, the officers of Alpha Omicron Delta met with Dr. Gatewood, Alamance Community College’s President, to talk about possible college projects. The past couple of years, members have passed out brochures during the first day of classes and helped new students acclimate. This year, Alpha Omicron Delta, will be doing the same project. As well as helping new students during the first days of school, they decided to help with orientation. During that meeting, other ideas for bettering Alamance Community College were mentioned, as well as staggering release times for early release days, having more advertisement, and getting the teachers to mention advising month more often around campus. Way to go, guys!

Updates From the Alpha Chi Sigma Chapter  
Alpha Chi Sigma, Cape Fear Community College, Wilmington, NC

This summer, the Alpha Chi Sigma Chapter at Cape Fear Community College, worked hard to prepare for the upcoming events of the fall. Meetings were held every 2 weeks to bounce ideas for Honors in Action and College Project. New officers worked hard to create a mental picture of something relevant to the community in which they could benefit. According to a vast amount of requests by student body, the community, and college leaders, Alpha Chi Sigma members decided to host a “Mental Illness Stigma Forum,” in collaboration with NAMI, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, located on campus.

Throughout the project, members hope to inform the student body and community members about the mentally ill. In addition, officers worked tirelessly during the summer to begin creating a regional service project. Members came up with an idea called: “Operation GoPack,” throughout this project, members will collect donations from businesses, and locals within the community to put together packs for those living on the streets, or between homeless shelters. Members hope to provide the over 7,000 homeless in the community with basic necessities to ease their stress. In collaboration with the Habitat for Humanity and the Salvation Army, the Alpha Chi Sigma chapter is well on their way towards reaching their goal of 75 GoPacks, which will then be distributed to all homeless shelters in the Wilmington Area.
Updates From the Beta Zeta Theta Chapter
Beta Zeta Theta, Johnston Community College, Smithfield, NC

This year, the Beta Zeta Theta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa inducted 85 new members into the society. Wow! The chapter continued the activities from years previous as well as adding a couple new editions: the “Throwback Thursday Dance Social” and the “Welcome Back Wednesday” College Project.

The first annual dance social was themed Throwback Thursday everyone had a roaring good time. This event included a DJ, a costume contest, food, and a photo booth. Members plan to continue this event again next year and invite the entire Carolinas Region.

For their College project, they hosted Welcome Back Wednesday. They got the idea from Megan Giles at the Regional Conference in March. The college had already started to contact former students to increase retention and was glad for our chapter’s help on the matter. Members contacted all former students close to graduation by robo call, postcards, and/or email, providing detailed information about the event. Many different departments on campus collaborated including admissions, advising, financial aid, foundation office, business office, and student services. One of the students who was reached by phone, found out all she needed was one accounting class to graduate and another student that came to the event found out she only needed one more semester to graduate. This event was a success and JCC has decided to continue on with the event on a smaller scale every Wednesday during the summer.

ENGAGE Leadership Awards
Alpha Upsilon Theta, Piedmont Community College

Winners of the ENGAGE awards were announced at the Inaugural Engagement Symposium on April 28, 2015 at the Violet T. Frith Fine Arts Center on Averett’s Campus. Special congrats to Robin McLean who won the 2015 ENGAGE award for a PCC faculty member. Jeanean Bustamante and Lisa Fowler won the 2015 ENGAGE award for PCC students. Lisa and Jeanean are officers in the Alpha Upsilon Theta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. The winners were presented with plaques for their hard work in the community and engaging others to get involved in projects and initiatives to improve the Caswell County Community.

A special recognition ceremony was also held on the PCC’s Caswell campus to honor recipients. Congrats!
This summer I wanted to provide my support to a cause I thought was making a difference in peoples lives. I didn’t have to go very far to find inspiration for my project. My older brother William has been an inspiration to many people in our community. He will never say it himself, but his efforts have been helping people to change their lives. William works as a substance abuse counselor where is primary goal is to help other achieve and maintain sobriety, just as he has. He will talk to anyone seeking help, freely and genuinely. His openness and honesty as a speaker is what causes his spectators to gravitate to his presentations. William conveys information to his audience in a down to earth way that is easy to understand. He uses his own personal life stories and experiences to relate to his audience on a level that lets them know he is just like them. His realistic, and often humorous approach keeps the audience engaged and attentive to his message of sobriety.

William’s passion and commitment is what attracted me to want to be a part of his mission helping others. I felt that his message should be allowed to touch more people whether they are struggling with addiction or know someone who is. Although his is very passionate about his life’s work, William still likes to keep things simple. In fact, he applies this philosophy of simplicity across most facets of his life. However, having the opportunity to help more people, by speaking to more people, simply made sense. This wouldn’t be a huge change, because his enthusiasm is the same for 1 or 100 people. The audience size doesn’t matter; it is the message of hope that he wants to instill in each and every person that is willing to listen. So, this summer, and going forward, I will be assisting him with achieving public platforms in which to deliver his message. Through all of his substance abuse training, he still believes that the most direct method, is also the most effective. Anyone who has heard him speak may have heard him repeat a saying that has been attributed to John C. Maxwell and Theodore Roosevelt. It goes: “People don’t care how much you know, until they know how much you care.” It is obvious he cares about people, and that is the best place to start.

For support with addiction or substance abuse information contact:
Deepbromc12@gmail.com
To arrange speaking engagements contact: Therealtruth2k13@gmail.com

“My First Nerd Nation Experience”
Kelly Botoulas, Alpha Nu Sigma, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Conway, SC

Attending my first International Convention (NerdNation) was an incredible experience. San Antonio offered so much in the way of history, scenery, and amazing food. It is now one of my favorite cities. Our trip began Thursday morning with touring The Alamo, then off to El Mercado for shopping and lunch at Mi Tierra. This year’s speakers were amazing. John Legend was, well, legendary. His message of perservance and love of education was as beautiful as his songs. Malcom Gladwell was hysterical and a little scary. I still ponder the ethical consequences of Dr. Michio Kaku’s vision of the future of medicine. Friday evening we enjoyed fellowship with our chapter during an amazing dinner at Texas Land & Cattle. If you ever have the chance, try the smoke sirloin, trust me, it will change your life. Then a nice leisurely stroll along the famed River Walk. Saturday’s Awards Gala was a mind-blowing event. You don’t really know what it feels like to be in a room with 4,000 other nerds until it happens. The energy in that room was overwhelming. The feeling of accepting awards in front of so many people was humbling and yet so motivating. The profound joy I felt cheering for my fellow Carolinas Region members was intense. We are a pretty great group. I’m proud of all of us and can’t wait to see what we accomplish this year!
Randolph Community College Maintains 5 Star Status and Receives 5 Awards

It’s been a busy year for Beta Theta Rho, RCC’s chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. In addition to regular campus activities, several members also attended the 2015 Phi Theta Kappa Carolinas Regional Convention in Wilmington, NC, from March 20-22. This year’s theme was *Pirates of the Carolinas: Study Hard! Nerds Tell No Tales!* There, they joined 29 other Phi Theta Kappa chapters from throughout North and South Carolina to learn more about the importance of being a member and how to better serve their communities through opportunities such as the Honors in Action Projects.

Headquartered in Jackson, Miss., Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society in American higher education with 1,280 chapters on college campuses in all 50 of the United States, Canada, Germany, the Republic of Palau, Peru, The Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the British Virgin Islands, the United Arab Emirates and U.S. territorial possessions. More than 2.5 million students have been inducted since its founding in 1918, with approximately 135,000 students inducted annually. The Carolinas Region has 84 chapters in the states of North Carolina and South Carolina.

One of the hallmarks of Phi Theta Kappa is service, and in keeping with that, Beta Theta Rho members were actively involved in the community during 2014.

Phi Theta Kappa members volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club, Habitat for Humanity, Deep River Campground, and First Methodist Church, to name a few. Volunteers went to the Boys and Girls Club on October 1st for a painting project. The children were given pots for painting and t-shirts for decorating. In addition to the painting and decorating projects, on October 15th members went with the children for a Fishing 101 Presentation with the Boys and Girls Club. On this trip the children were taught how to fish and were allowed to make their own cane poles. October 16th the youth from the Boys and Girls club were taken to Deep River Campgrounds and given the opportunity to fish. On Nov. 22nd Phi Theta Kappa members worked on a house with Habitat for Humanity.

They assisted with landscaping and small projects pertaining to the house that was being built. Phi Theta Kappa members also assisted in serving meals to the less fortunate alongside the First Methodist Church (Randleman).

Randolph Community College had three attendants at the conference; Mr. Clark Adams, Advisor; Donna Burleson, President; and Emma Lambirth, Vice President. “I had a great time with our officers as we celebrated the achievements of the 2014 officer team. The officers also got to learn more about the College Project and Honors in Action project, as well as become more familiar with what Phi Theta Kappa is all about,” stated Mr. Adams. Emma mentioned, “I had a great time at the conference, the seminars were very helpful and informational. It felt as if we were a big family of Phi Theta Kappans. The campus was gorgeous and the host chapter went out of their way to make everyone feel welcomed and wanted.”
The President of Phi Theta Kappa gave a very inspiring speech that I will carry with me for a long time.” Donna Burleson also attended and stated, “It was a wonderful opportunity and honor to be able to attend the Phi Theta Kappa Carolinas Regional Convention. The Cape Fear Community College is a beautiful campus, located in Wilmington, North Carolina. The theme for the convention was “Pirates of the Carolinas: Study Hard! Nerds Tell No Tales!”

Our host chapter, Alpha Chi Sigma, did a wonderful job of making everyone feel welcome. The weekend was packed with exciting events. One of the most enjoyable events was the tour of the CFCC Research Vessel, the “Cape Hatteras” at CFCC dock. The seminars and presentations were very informative. Attending the convention gave me an opportunity to meet members from other chapters and learn more about Phi Theta Kappa.”

During the Awards Banquet, Beta Theta Rho received its Five-Star Chapter award, making this the 13th year in a row. The Five Star level is the highest level that a chapter can obtain, and it encourages excellence and recognizes progress in the attainment of goals set by the chapter.

Beta Theta Rho also received five other awards as a group: Distinguished Chapter Officer Team, Distinguished Honors in Action Project Theme 3: Quests of Human Expression, Award of Excellence: Theme 2: Ideas and Ideologies as Frontiers, Carolinas Region Honors in Action Program, Carolinas Region Award of Excellence for Outstanding Participation in the Carolinas Region Service Program: Connecting The Carolinas Through Service, and Carolinas Region Communications Award.

One member of RCC’s local chapter, Beta Theta Rho, was also honored with an award. Katherine Craven received Honorable Mention for the Distinguished Chapter Member award. Katherine was also inducted into the Carolinas Region Hall of Honor.

The 2014 Beta Theta Rho officer team consisted of: Danielle McNeill, President; Tommy Smith, Vice President; Rebecca Pell, Treasurer; Elena Carleo, Public Relations; and Joy Miller, Secretary.

Randolph Community College’s Phi Theta Kappa faculty advisors are Waymon Martin, department head for Business Administration; Melissa Earlwine, Developmental Mathematics instructor; Clark Adams, English instructor; and Dorothy Hans, English instructor. RCC’s Beta Theta Rho chapter was chartered in 1999.
JOIN PHI THETA KAPPA:
By: Samantha Mathison, Alpha Epsilon Omicron, Trident Technical College, Charleston, SC

Phi Theta Kappa is an organization that could be vital to the success of your future. Not only is it the largest student organization at Trident Technical College (TTC), but it’s also full of opportunities that are too good to turn down. There are thirty-seven million dollars available in scholarships for Phi Theta Kappa members. Student loans seem to loom over all of us these days as we try to find a way to pay for the ever-growing expenses of higher education. By joining Phi Theta Kappa, you could find a new path that will help you steer clear of future debt. For example, Sara Oswald, a South Carolina native, was able to transfer to Harvard from Midlands Technical College with a full-ride scholarship all thanks to Phi Theta Kappa. The opportunities truly are endless. Come see what being part of an honor society can do for you!

To join Phi Theta Kappa you are required to have at least a 3.5 GPA. If you think you’re up for it and would like to see where Phi Theta Kappa could take you, contact one of the Phi Theta Kappa advisors listed below and fill out an application today. Currently only paper applications can be submitted. You can ask an advisor for an application or find them posted on the doors of 100/109, 200/121 or 200/128.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chris Soloman</td>
<td>200/128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daryl Milligan</td>
<td>200/121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brenda Oxford</td>
<td>100/109</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For group updates and events, make sure to check out the Facebook page: Trident Technical College, Phi Theta Kappa. When you join Phi Theta Kappa’s Alpha Epsilon Omicron chapter here at TTC, you’re not just adding it as an additional note on your resume; you’re providing yourself the opportunity to be a part of service leadership in our community and even beyond. Come join us today!
**FALL DATES/DEADLINES TO REMEMBER:**

October 16-18, 2015  
**Carolinas Region Fall Fellowship Family Campout**  
Camp McCall  
Bostic, North Carolina

October 16, 2015  
**Carolinas Region Leadership Conference Registrations and Fees Due**  
Regular Registration Fee of $75.00 per person due.

October 18, 2015  
**Carolinas Region Leadership Conference Hotel Reservation Deadline**  
Hotel reservations at the Hampton Inn New Bern must be made by this date to get the special group rate. (On October 19, 2015 the room block will be removed and reservations will be taken on a space available/rate available basis only)

October 29, 2015  
**Carolinas Region Joan Keller Scholarship Application Deadline**  
Completed applications must be received in their entirety at Carolinas Regional Alumni Advisor’s office, Ms. Pepe Zerda, no later than 8 p.m., Thursday, October 29, 2015. Entries received thereafter will be disqualified. Candidates will receive an email confirmation upon receipt of application.

October 30, 2015  
**Carolinas Region Leadership Conference Late Registrations and Fees Due**  
Late registrations with fees of $100.00 per person are due.  
**No Registrations Accepted after this Date**

October 30, 2015  
**Oberndorf Scholarship Applications Due**  
(final day to submit applications for the Oberndorf Lifeline to Completion Scholarship)

October 30, 2015  
**GEICO Master’s Degree Scholarship Applications Due**  
(final day to submit applications for the GEICO Pathway to Completion Master’s Degree Scholarship)

November 3, 2015  
**Honors Case Study Challenge Entries Due**

November 13-15, 2015  
**Carolinas Region Leadership Conference**  
Craven Community College & Hampton Inn New Bern  
New Bern, North Carolina

November 19, 2015  
**Phi Theta Kappa Founders Day**

December 1, 2015  
**Fall Scholarship Application Closes**

December 9, 2015  
**Administrator Hallmark Award Entries Due**

*If you would like to have an article published in the next Carolinas Region Newsletter please send your articles via e-mail as a Word attachment to the Regional Secretary, Megan Lambert at mnlambert542@mail.cfcc.edu and to the Regional Coordinator, John Sharpe at john.sharpe@hgtc.edu. We would love to hear what types of projects and events our chapters from the Carolinas have been involved with and share them with the rest of the region!*