CAROLINA CRIER
Issue 2 | December 2016
Phi Theta Kappa-Carolinas Region

RUN FOR OFFICE
Applications now available for RO & IO:
learn more

FROM YOUR REGIONAL OFFICERS:
Sammie's Experience

CHAPTER UPDATES
2016 Fall highlights

THE HOLIDAYS
Service project ideas

REGIONAL EVENTS
What's Next?

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays!
Reasons to Run for Office:

- Build on your leadership skills, work in a team, and organizational skills-officers plan and run events
- Further connect with your community-regional officers choose and promote the service project for their year in office
- Build on your public speaking skills-delivering speeches (part of election process and opportunities if elected), hosting workshops (if elected)
- Campaigning for office will strengthen your social skills, gives you experience, and builds your self confidence-no matter the outcome
- Opportunities for travel
- Encourage members to get involved in Phi Theta Kappa programs like Competitive Edge
- Resume worthy

*Applications for regional office and international office are now available. Be sure to review the qualifications, requirements if elected, and application deadlines. Then, go for it! You have everything to gain!
My Regional Officer Experience
Samantha Aviles, VP of NC

When I first decided to run for regional office, I was terrified. I didn't know whether I could even live up to what the position entailed. Being a leader for the region? Public speaking? Me? Thankfully I pushed aside my doubts and dove in head first. The campaigning process was stressful, but really fun.

After being elected I got better acquainted with my fellow ROs, and almost instantly made some of my newest lifelong friends. Unfortunately we have had some road bumps, but your 2016-2017 regional officer team pushed through it all.

On a personal level, I have met some amazing people and made lifelong memories this year. I know that if I wouldn't have faced my fears and ran, I would have missed out on all of that. You have all made this year the best year I could have ever imagined.

I want to thank you all for being my friends, my family, my inspiration when I felt like I was sinking. I will never forget my time as VP of North Carolina and all the position, and every one of you, have done to enrich my life.
OUR HIA PROJECT ON CAMPUS

BY MIKE MILLS, ALPHA ETA KAPPA CHAPTER PRESIDENT

On Thursday, November 17, the Alpha Eta Kappa chapter at Midlands Technical College in Columbia, SC, hosted a seminar on behalf of Lighthouse for Life. Lighthouse for Life is a nonprofit organization which focuses on helping survivors of human trafficking in our area.

The seminar was a great success, with over 30 people learning about the signs of trafficking and what can be done to prevent it and hopefully end it. The chapter is still raising funds for Lighthouse for Life. They are in the process of finishing a home built for survivors who are making the transition to everyday life.
Our Honors in Action Project
Beta Nu Upsilon chapter of Phi Theta Kappa
at Pitt Community College

The Beta Nu Upsilon chapter of PTK at Pitt Community College Honors in Action project this year promoted awareness for voter registration and illiteracy. Our honors program revolved around the Rights and Responsibilities in the Honors Program Guide. The idea of voter registration/ voter awareness goes hand in hand with American rights and responsibilities. A main consideration for this theme was the low amount of voter information available, and the statistics we gathered on illiteracy rates in our area. Our community had an illiteracy rate more than twice as high as the national average. We threw around a couple different ideas: a tolerance week, seminar series, reading partnership with the library, and reading days at a nursing home. Our chapter decided that an informing event on illiteracy and voting and issues facing voters was an appropriate answer to the questions raised by the theme. The objective was to inform the potential voters on the process of voting, illiteracy, and also to register potential voters.

We partnered with other Pitt Community College clubs, and some non-PCC affiliated organizations: Gamma Beta Phi of PCC, Next Level of PCC, the North Carolina Board of Elections, and Pitt County literacy volunteers. Elizabeth Chilcoat, and Shara Chilcoat were in charge of the research. We had multiple members take part in the event, from planning to hosting. The members involved with the event were Monica, Kurt, Angel, Daniel, and Chria.

PTK members were taught to network by finding on-campus and off-campus emails to collaborate with special guests. A brief session was held to teach members how to fill out voter registration forms, how to find one’s ballot, and the special care needed to register a voter. The Pitt Community College Honors in Action project promoted awareness for voter registration and illiteracy. (We provided books, paper, pencils, and other supplies to the literacy volunteers). There were approximately 110 attendees and we registered 13 voters. They were informed on literacy and different issues on campus by multiple different groups.
Fall 2016 at Beta Sigma Phi
By Rogelio Salvador, Chapter President

This has been such an exciting fall semester for the Beta Sigma Phi chapter! Our work on the Honors in Action, College, and Regional projects have helped strengthen our relations with the community at Central Carolina Community College. For the Honors in Action project, our chapter has focused on renewable energy and the impacts that it can have towards society. In an attempt to raise awareness about renewable energy, our chapter has invited a guest from the Central Electric Membership Cooperative to speak to us all about this emerging technology.

For the College Project, our chapter has decided to give back to the faculty at our campus for all of their hard work by providing them with goodie bags, composed of candy and key-chains that were all made by our chapter.

For the Regional Purse Project, our chapter held a donation drive and were able to collect many purses and items that will all be donated to the local Haven in Sanford, NC, which provides services for victims of abuse and violence. The donations will be given to the Haven a week prior to Thanksgiving Day. We held a small informal induction ceremony on October 28th. The first week of December, we will once again participate in the annual Christmas Tree Lighting at CCCC helping children make Christmas cards for their parents. These activities are all in addition to attending the regional Honors Institute at Mars Hill University in July and the Regional Leadership Conference at Davidson Community College in November. The excitement continues as the semester ends because our chapter has plans of continuing to be active in our school and community for the upcoming spring semester!
Fall 2016 at Beta Sigma Phi

By Rogelio Salvador, Chapter President
Fall 2016 at Beta Sigma Phi

By Rogelio Salvador, Chapter President
Go Alpha Chi Sigma!

Alpha Chi Sigma Chapter of Cape Fear Community College has continuously endeavored to set the bar for excellence and achievement this Fall. During the third week of September, our school celebrated Phi Theta Kappa week to increase our visibility and promote our chapter. During this time, students who became eligible for Phi Theta Kappa were “tapped” in class by supporting faculty. The friendly faces of our officers manned a booth in an area of high traffic throughout the week to provide our student body with information regarding our chapter and Phi Theta Kappa as a whole.

On the last Friday of October, Alpha Chi Sigma Chapter was proud to induct 50 new members during an exceptionally moving ceremony. We were honored to have the support of Dr. Amanda Lee, President of Cape Fear Community College, as well as our Keynote Speaker Melissa Singler, the VP for Academic Affairs and Workforce Development.

We are delighted to have our new members and we look forward to enjoying to all the shared opportunities that they bring with them.

After months of planning, Alpha Chi Sigma held a vigorous debate on the 3rd of November. Our topic of discussion was the United States’ role as a global policing power, including the rights and responsibilities inherent in that role. We were pleased to have the support of Gregory Arey, CFCC’s Social and Behavioral Sciences Department Chair, as well as several other faculty members from a variety of disciplines. The debate was an enlightening opportunity to hear different perspectives on a controversial subject, including the thoughts of some of our student veterans.
Go Alpha Chi Sigma!

During the first weekend of November, 100% of the Alpha Chi Sigma officer team attended the Regional Leadership Conference as one of the Host Chapters. Several of our officers and our chapter advisor lead workshops throughout the weekend. It was a pleasure to be able to reunite with our colleagues and friends from around the Carolinas Region while enriching our leadership skills.

Over the next few weeks, we look forward to engaging in some creative fundraising activities during the Annual Riverfest in Historic Downtown Wilmington, NC. We will also be serving our community by volunteering with the Salvation Army during their Thanksgiving Drive, and we plan to enjoy some much-needed fellowship during our holiday party!
The Officers and members of Wake Technical Community College’s chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, Beta Alpha Zeta, have been very busy! We’ve had many activities already this fall semester. During awareness week, we promoted PTK by displaying a booth at Facts and Snacks on campus, where students could come and learn more about our chapter. At this event, members wore our newly designed PTK-BAZ t-shirts and buttons to raise our visibility on campus. We also held a successful Krispy Kreme fundraiser during awareness week as well.

Our BAZ family has been hard at work and dedicated to this year’s goal of becoming a five-star chapter. We have continued to work on both our college and Honors in Action projects. We have picked subjects that we are both enthusiastic about and that are challenging as well. We are excited to share these projects with our PTK family when they are completed.
Updates from Wake Technical Community College

We have continued to increase our chapter’s involvement and visibility both on campus and in the community. We had overwhelming participation for The Purse Project that was held on all of our campuses. The Purse Project was our Regional project where we collected gently used purses and bags, toiletries and other useful items to then be donated to a local women’s shelter. The interest was so high that we even extended our deadline two weeks! We continue to care for a local lake trail here in Raleigh. BAZ partnered with the Adopt-A-Trail program last year and has since been proud to call this section of trail our own. It is a great opportunity for members to fellowship with one another while also giving back to our community.

PTK-BAZ held our new member orientations in October. We were happy to see the excitement that our new members showed and their interest in becoming active members of our chapter. Our Induction Ceremony was held in November and it was a wonderful event as always. The members and their families were very proud of their accomplishments and enjoyed learning more about PTK. We are excited to continue sharing the wonderful things that PTK-BAZ has to offer with our members, fellow students and our community!
Updates from Wake Technical Community College
Stuffing Trucks and Warming Hearts
Alpha Alpha Iota

Members of Alpha Alpha Iota at York Technical College in Rock Hill, SC showed up and showed out for our “Stuff the Truck” event. The event was to collect items for the Carolina’s Region Purse Project.

Members collected purses and personal items all day from other chapter members as well as from the student body, the York Tech faculty and staff, and individuals from the community.
Our goal was to fill the bed of a Ford F-150 pick-up truck. While the bed of the truck was not overflowing at the end of the day, the event was an incredible success. People showed up with trunks full of donations. Students who did not even know about the event prior to seeing us in the parking lot left and came back with items they purchased in order to be able to contribute. The majority of the bed was filled and later donated at the Honors Institute in Mars Hill, NC.

However, the greater success was not the amount of collected donations. The success was hearing so many people’s testimonies of perseverance. Donors told about having been homeless and escaping abusive situations. The experience was heartening and humbling for the chapter members who were receiving the donations. Alpha Alpha Iota was honored to accept donations from such amazing people and to be able offer small comforts to the clients of the Purse Project.
The Alpha Phi Nu chapter has been hard at work on several projects over the past several months. From our 99th chapter anniversary celebration, to our both our College Project and HIA project, it has been one heck of a ride so far. The team has been meshing really well and we’ve gotten a lot accomplished.

On the trip back from NerdNation, the idea was pitched to coordinate with the 99th Brewery for our 99th anniversary. Randy Riggs, a farmer, donated a pig and several others donated time to help out. Alpha Phi Nu had a solid group turnout with our officer team, several members, advisors, alumni, and even one of our honorary members. It seemed like everyone had a blast. The event was so successful, that we are already planning our 100th anniversary event.
Group 1's Experience During the Leadership Conference

Carolinas Region Leadership Conference was held at Davidson County Community College in Lexington, North Carolina last November 11 - 13, 2016. This conference was about learning how to do an Honors in Action (HIA) Project as well as a College Project in one day. On Friday night, Dan Houghtaling, gave a lecture about leadership. Afterwards, the Carolinas region was divided into groups and did a team building exercise. On Saturday, the fun and learning began.
Group 1's Experience During the Leadership Conference

This year’s Honors in Action topic is How the World Works: Global Perspectives. Group 1 had Theme 1: Myth and Reality. All members in group one never experienced writing a HIA Project or a College Project before, so after introductions and explaining the process of the activity, team members were split into two groups. They started brainstorming ideas for their HIA project and College project respectively. While each group were discussing their plans about the projects, Heather Dougherty was in charge of their calendar. She had to coordinate with both groups, so that the calendar had the same dates and events in their write ups.

The HIA Group were off to a good start. Everyone seemed to be interested in one topic. Each member had a specific job to do. The team leader of HIA Group, Jennifer Liebelt, made sure their group was organized. Meanwhile, the College Project Group had some trouble on deciding what their college project should be about. The College Project Leader, Noel Martinez, spoke with Jobel Barcoma who is the Group Leader of Group 1 and Sarah Shannon- Mohamed who is an alumna. Afterwards, their group was back on track. The President of the mock chapter was Gary Kellum. He was in charge of making sure that everyone was doing their part. Their goal was to be a Five-Star Chapter.
Group 1's Experience During the Leadership Conference

In the end, each group finished their write ups on time. As the Group Leader of Group 1, I would like to say that I am very proud of my group. It was their first time making a HIA Project and College Project, but I saw the teamwork, leadership, and the drive to be a Five-Star Chapter. I asked some members about their experience and here's what they say:

Gary Kellum (President): “I'd say it was a unique perspective. It also was an eye-opening experience to what chapter presidents actually should do. If I learned any one thing, I'd say it's that the chapter president needs to split time evenly between both projects to better understand the chapter's progress in both.”

Heather Dougherty (In-Charge of Calendar): “My experience was awesome since it was my first HIA class. I learned how important it is to have a secured calendar and to make sure you have all your information on it so that everyone in the chapter will know what's going on.”

Noel Martinez (College Project Group Leader): “I had a great experience. My team had great chemistry and we all seemed to easily agree on most topics. I would definitely work with the same group again. I learned many things during the practice college and HIA project, but the most important thing that I learned was how to go about in preparing the write ups and how they are graded.”
Group 1's Experience During the Leadership Conference

Group 1 working together on their HIA and college project
RCC Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Inducts 69
New Members
Written by Nicholas LaPlant, Phi Theta Kappa Public Relations Officer

Beta Theta Rho, the local Five Star Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Randolph Community College, welcomed 69 new members during its Fall Induction Ceremony on Saturday, November 5, in the R. Alton Cox Learning Resources Center auditorium on the Asheboro Campus.

Zeno Phu, Beta Theta Rho treasurer, led the Pledge of Allegiance while Lilith Ward, secretary, presented the invocation.

Clark Adams, RCC English/Communication instructor and one of the chapter advisors, welcomed the crowd and explained the mission and purpose of Phi Theta Kappa, noting the four hallmarks of Phi Theta Kappa: leadership, fellowship, scholarship, and service.

“Each one of you has gone over and above what has been required of you here at RCC” Adams told students. “You set the standard for other students to follow and we’re proud of you.” In his welcome message, Adams recognized college employees, administration, other Phi Theta Kappa advisors for their support.

Wendell Haselden, an RCC and Phi Theta Kappa alumnus, was the alumni speaker. He attended RCC from 2009 to 2010 where he became a member of the college’s chapter of Phi Theta Kappa in Spring 2010. He received his Associate in Applied Science degree in Funeral Service Education in 2012 from Fayetteville Technical Community College, a collaborative program with Randolph Community College. Haselden resides in Lexington, North Carolina and is a licensed funeral director and embalmer at Davidson Funeral Home of Lexington.

In his address, he explained how after he was laid-off from his job of over 30 years, he attended RCC and received a first class education where he received assistance from his instructors and developed as a student. Haselden encouraged the new inductees to have a positive attitude, stay focused, and express gratitude. “Does this choice of lifestyle sound like a person an employer would like to hire? A happy person, a positive person, a focused person, a committed and confident person, a healthy person?” Haselden asked.
The keynote speaker was Dr. Robert S. Shackleford Jr., president of Randolph Community College. Shackleford spoke to students about the importance of hard work by referencing an interview with the famous UCLA basketball coach John Wooden. In the interview, Wooden was asked who his favorite player he ever coached was to which Wooden gave a surprising answer. It was not the famous Kareem Abdul-Jabbar or Bill Walton, but it instead was Curtis Rowe.

Shackleford explained that according to Wooden, it was not the number of points that his players scored, or the number of rebounds the players had, but it was how hard they worked that made the difference. Shackleford expressed to the new members how hard work and dedication leads to success.

Next came a special presentation by the Director of Transfer Recruitment and Special Events for Salem College, Ms. Jennifer Chapman, and the Admissions and Enrollment Coordinator/Academic Advisor for Salem College, Ms. Anne Donovan. Each new Phi Theta Kappa member was presented with a special scholarship letter and certificate from Salem College, exclusively for Phi Theta Kappa members.

Suzanne Rohrbaugh, vice president of instructional services, presided over the ceremony and inducted the new members. Student officers of the local chapter played key roles in the ceremony. Jahmina Ollison, president, told the audience about the significance of the carnation as a symbol of Phi Theta Kappa and led the new inductees in the Phi Theta Kappa pledge. Taylor Maness, the vice president, handed out the carnations to the inductees, while Nicholas LaPlant, the public relations officer, was in charge of the membership book. Phi Theta Kappa members Joshua Castro and Cason Conder served as ushers. Students and their guests were invited to enjoy light refreshments and fellowship provided by Phi Theta Kappa advisor Melissa Earlwine in the Armadillo Cafe following the induction. Waymon Martin (department head, Business Administration) and Dorothy Hans (English/Reading instructor) are also Phi Theta Kappa advisors.
RCC Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Inducts 69 New Members

Written by Nicholas LaPlant, Phi Theta Kappa Public Relations Officer

Established in 1918, Phi Theta Kappa is the only international honor society serving two-year institutions. It recognizes the academic achievement and integrity of students enrolled in associate degree programs. Students who are invited to join Phi Theta Kappa must have completed 12 credit hours and must possess a grade point average of 3.5 or higher.

Beta Theta Rho, Randolph Community College’s chapter, was chartered on November 1, 1999 and over 3,300 students have been inducted in the past 17 years. RCC’s chapter has maintained Five Star status for 13 consecutive years. The Five Star status recognizes chapters that have met a higher standard of quality programming and have completed every requirement set forth by Phi Theta Kappa to reach the highest star level.
RCC Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society Inducts 69 New Members

Written by Nicholas LaPlant, Phi Theta Kappa Public Relations Officer

Students (identified by hometowns) who were inducted on November 5 include the following:

Archdale: Grace Davis Harrell, Davindra Rammani
Asheboro: Gabriel Arellano, Elizabeth Aviles Hernandez, Lauren Christine Baugh, Samantha Marie Capers, Sandra Frye Collinson, Macy Lane Daniel, Tiffany Jordan Dunn, Leslie Alondra Estrada, Jason Albert Eubanks, Seth Andrew Gibson, Amanda Lynn Hall, Ashley Nicole Hancock, Megan Renee Hardin, Cassandra Reid Hicks, Char L. Holsworth, James Steinreed Jones, Tammy Lynn Jones, Kaylee Addison Lineberry, Laramie Lucas Lipman, Sabrina Selena Michelle Lucas, Jennifer Anne Mraz, Robert Osler Norton, Rachel Christine Osborne, Sandra Cristina Ramirez-Saldana, Paul Douglas Sanders, Jr., Ashley Lane Shackleford, Bridget Tori Swaney, Molly Ann Teel, Amiya Ja’lyn Terry, Trew Barrett Williamson
Denton: Alexandria Lynne Caison, Anna Wilson Hedrick, Cynthia Creed Hunt
Eagle Springs: Bryant Timothy West
East Bend: Richard Benton Whittington, Jr.
Franklinville: Hayley Alyssa Cole
Lexington: Haley Lynette Parrish
Liberty: Dennie Faye Hill, Brooklyn Joelle Langley, Kayla Mariah Martin, Cindy Tinoco-Perez
Pleasant Garden: Lisa Kay Brown
Ramseur: Brian Campos Vasquez, Patricia Hunt Craven, Santiago Tzintzun Perez, Lydia Ann Siler
Seagrove: Mildred Ann Lundy, Camille Alexandra Smith
Sophia: Lauren Madison McHenry
Staley: Sierra Faith Price
Star: Brianna Nicole Coble, Erin Kristen Maness
Thomasville: James Larry Johnson, Jason Tiler Martin, Felicia Ann Tolani, Sherry Ann Underwood
Trinity: Nicholas Ryan Jarrett, Miranda Renee Lowe, Jackie McDowell, Kaitlin Marie Smith
Tis' the season to be jolly! Here are some service project ideas for the holiday season:

- Offer a gift wrapping service & donate the money to a local charity
- Donate gently used stuffed animals to a local firehouse, police station, or hospital for children
- Organize a coat collection-contact your local shelter to find out what sizes are needed
- Contact a tree farm about donating Christmas trees to nursing homes, hospitals, or families that cannot afford them
- Volunteer at a local nursing home
- Volunteer at a soup kitchen
Upcoming Regional Events

March 10-12, 2017
Carolinas Regional Convention
DoubleTree by Hilton, Durham, NC

*Please refer to the Carolinas Region Website for a complete list of dates and deadlines
www.carolinascregion.org
Carolina Crier

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*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, Angela Jackson at jacksongamecocks01@yahoo.com and to the Regional Coordinator, John Sharpe at john.sharpe@hgtc.edu.