

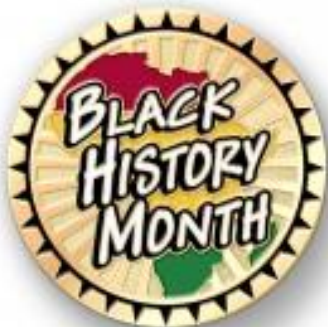


## Eta Epsilon Chapter Newsletter

Spring 2018

Editor: Anna Taylor and  
Bethany Pate

VOL. 8 ISSUE 2



### The Tuskegee Airmen

By Brooke Jennings

On February 28th, the Shelby-Hoover campus had a great turn out when we welcomed Reginald “Jekyll” Hyde and Sheila “PG” Hyde, brother and sister, who came to share their experience about warfare.

Reginald, call sign “Jekyll,” is a native of Moss Point, MS. Reginald graduated from Tuskegee University in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science in Biology and a minor in Chemistry. He is also a Distinguished Graduate from the University’s ROTC program. After graduation, Reginald attended Euro NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training in 1990, making him only the 3<sup>rd</sup> African American pilot to attend a school that graduated some 400 pilots per year since opening in 1973. During his career “Jekyll” has participated in five combat campaigns and flown over 100 combat missions in Iraq and Kuwait.

Sheila, call sign “PG”, is also a native from Moss Point, MS. She graduated as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Tuskegee University in Architecture and as an Army ROTC scholarship cadet in 1992. She attended flight school at Fort Rucker where she made the Commandant’s List (top 10%) and was allowed to choose her own helicopter; Sheila chose the OH-58D (Kiowa Warrior). She was one of the first women to fly the Kiowa Warrior, and the first African-American woman. Sheila is now retired after 25 years of military service, and she is a First Officer with United Parcel Service (UPS). The speakers went over the history of the Tuskegee airmen, their origin story, impacts the airmen made on America, legacies, and today’s meanings of their duty.

Sigma Kappa Delta thanks them for their service!!



Reginald Hyde and Shelia Hyde

### Jefferson State Community College

Jefferson State Community College follows equal opportunity admission policies and employment practices. College facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities.





## Justice and Revenge

By Jessi Wilbanks

On March 13, 2018 Moments of Curious Confabulations gathered yet again. The topic was "What's the difference between justice and revenge?" Discussion was held at 3:30 in the BDH building on the Jefferson campus. This event was hosted by Jefferson campus SKD officer Jessi Wilbanks. In an effort to maintain a calm and inviting atmosphere, lavender cookies, lemon and mint tea, and fruits were served. Attendees began by expressing their understandings of the meaning of justice and the meaning of revenge.

Once definitions had been established, the group began to discuss where the line of separation between justice and revenge resides. At that point in the discussion, opinions evolved from black and white, to gray as the dynamics of multiple perspectives were dissected. Through the power of peaceful open-minded discussion, individuals thought of new ways to theorize from new positions. As the discussion concluded, it appeared that when speaking in terms of justice, the goal being sought after, was peace.

## Red Mountain Reading Series

### Kick-off

By Katie Boyer

Katherine Webb-Hehn, a journalist, poet, and founder of the Nitty Gritty Magic City Reading Series, kicked off the first event of the 2018 Red Mountain Reading Series on February 22. Katherine met in a casual setting with a handful of students to take questions about writing professionally and to talk about her journey toward journalism. She discussed the choices she made that led her to her current position as Southern Politics Editor for *Scalawag* magazine. Later, in front of a larger crowd in an English classroom, Katherine presented a lecture on interview techniques. She covered each aspect of the interview process, from choosing a subject for a person-on-the-street interview to conducting more in-depth research for a longer article. She also talked about the importance of listening and mirroring body language, with an emphasis on putting people at ease. Katherine insists that everyone has a story to tell and said that getting to hear people's stories is one of her favorite parts of journalism. Near the end of the lecture, she read from a recent piece published in *Swalawag* and took questions from the audience.



Left to right: Brittney Pierce, Katherine Webb-Hehn, Jessi Wilbanks, and Clifford Watkins Jr.



## Movie Day

By Holli Holcomb

Sigma Kappa Delta hosted a movie during the afternoon on March 20, 2018, at 1:00 PM at the Pell City campus. Students came and enjoyed pizza and drinks while watching the movie *Thor: Ragnarok*. The movie was filled with action, excitement, and humor. After the movie, there were few requests for more movie nights and SKD is keeping that in mind and will have more in the future. Students learned more about SKD and were able to enjoy the movie and have a good time taking a break from their classes. We had several students attend, and hopefully, this will get the news out about future SKD events at Pell City. Looking forward to future events at Pell City.



Students at Pell City campus enjoying the *Thor: Ragnarok* movie



## Evening of Performance and Wingspan Premier

By Dianna Hyde

On Monday evening, January 29, 2018, the JSCC community was immersed in the arts as the Speech Team and contributors to *Wingspan*, the Jefferson State literary and arts magazine, collaborated on an Evening of Performance. Members of the Speech Team, which is sponsored and coached by Dr. Janice Ralya, debuted their new competition pieces, each assuming the voice and persona of someone dealing with pain, injustice, or uncertainty. Each vignette left the audience rapt. The audience was equally appreciative of the work of the *Wingspan* contributors at the magazine's unveiling.

*Wingspan*, assembled and edited by faculty sponsor Katie Boyer, features original art, photography, poetry, short fiction, and personal essays. Several contributors read their poetry and short fiction, demonstrating the collective talent of our campus community. For more information on the Jefferson State Speech Team, including membership requirements and benefits, contact [jralya@jeffersonstate.edu](mailto:jralya@jeffersonstate.edu). For more information on contributing to *Wingspan*, contact Katie Boyer at [kboyer@jeffersonstate.edu](mailto:kboyer@jeffersonstate.edu).



## The Induction Ceremony

By Kinya Perkins

The Induction Ceremony was held at the Clanton Campus on April 10, 2018. It was such an honor for all officers and sponsors to induct 103 members.

The evening started off with all officers being there at 5:30pm to be able to set up the stage and refreshment area. Inductees from Clanton, Pell City, Jefferson along with Shelby arrived around 6-6:30pm. They were welcomed by all the officers and sponsors by playing a little game to allow them to begin to get to know each other and to make them feel a little at ease about walking across stage.

Once everyone had arrived, inductees lined up in the order that their name would be called on stage as they received their scrolls. All officers from all locations were required to speak on behalf of all the new members. Information presented included a little history on the Jefferson State chapter, what to expect as a new member, along with saying the SKD Pledge which made everything official.

When everything was official, new members were able to come join us for refreshments in the Exhibition Hall and had the opportunity to

personally ask each officer any questions that they may have had along with how they could become officers. I was very pleased to know how many people wanted to know about the different scholarship opportunities and how do they move to the next level of becoming an officer. I am very pleased to welcome all new members to SKD.



The Induction Ceremony began with lighting of candles



SKD Officers Kinya Perkins and Brooke Jennings



Reception after the Induction Ceremony



## Valentine's Day

By Anna Taylor

Valentine's Day was celebrated on Clanton Campus on February 13 at the library. Valentine's Day is important and Sigma Kappa Delta wanted to remember this day with snacks like cupcakes, candy, and heart shaped brownies. The table full of snacks was set up from morning until afternoon for students and faculty to come and enjoy them. On the table there were also SKD water bottles, t-shirts, and pencils. These items were free of charge for those who were interested. The Valentine's day table gathered students' attention and few questions were asked about SKD. Small things like snacks are opening doors of communication for the students and helping them get involved. Hope you all enjoyed the snacks.



Valentine snack table at Clanton Campus

## Black History Month

By Holli Holcomb

At Pell City, Sigma Kappa Delta celebrated Black History Month by making a timeline of some of the best authors in African American history, giving students a look at some of the works that they created and information about their life. The timeline consisted of authors and poets such as Maya Angelou, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Tracy K. Smith (Poet Laureate), Toni Morrison, and many more.

This exhibit was displayed in our library for a few weeks where students and faculty could have a chance to look and learn about some of these authors. It was a pleasure being able to conduct the research on these authors and learn how they have contributed to our history with their creative and wonderful works. We greatly appreciate all who stopped by the library to learn about these authors. SKD hopes that students and faculty were able to learn and take something from this timeline.



Timeline of African American authors at the Pell City library



## New Experiences: Presenting Papers at a Professional Conference

By Ashley Kitchens

On February 23, 2018, members of SKD and SKD campus sponsors traveled to the ACETA (Association of College English Teachers of Alabama) Annual Convention held at Troy University's campus in Troy, Alabama. SKD member Carly Niswander and SKD member and officer Anna Taylor, who attended the convention, had previously submitted a proposal for a breakout session topic and were chosen as the only community college student speakers to present a topic at the convention.

The two students and sponsors Ashley Kitchens and Jamie King attended the opening ceremony where a winning instructor paper on pedagogy in the classroom was presented and a winning student paper on literary analysis was presented before the group attended other breakout sessions. When it came time for their session, Carly and Anna presented their findings on women's experience in the Holocaust as it was represented in Ilona Karmel's novel *An Estate of Memory*. The two students had previously written a research paper on the topic

and combined their efforts to put together a proposal and ultimately the presentation for ACETA. Each student chose a different female character to discuss from the novel to look at the character's strength and experience in the Holocaust. Even though the novel is a work of fiction, the presentation of the female experience is one that is not seen often, and Carly and Anna illuminated the extra hardships being female (and one character being female and pregnant) could be in a concentration camp.

Carly and Anna worked together for several weeks after classes in the campus library to prepare for the event and both said submitting the proposal and actually presenting pushed

them outside of their comfort zone. Even though they said they felt out of their element, the presentation was received well by the attendees of the breakout session. Several instructors were very interested in the novel and Carly and Anna fielded questions about their experience with the book after their presentation. After the evening's sessions, Carly and Anna and the sponsors took in the sights of the Troy campus.



Presenters Carly Niswander and Anna Taylor outside Hawkins Hall at the ACETA conference

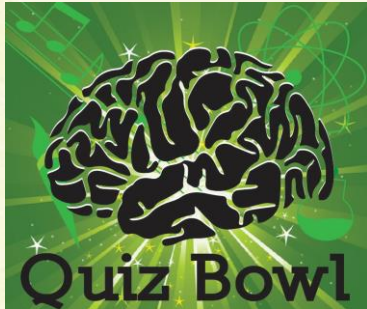


Attendees top to bottom: Sponsor Jamie King, officer Anna Taylor, member Carly Niswander, and sponsor Ashley Kitchens attending the opening ceremony




Working Hard: L to R: Carly Niswander and Anna Taylor prepare weeks before their presentation





## Black History Quiz Bowl

By Dianna Hyde

In honor of Black History Month, the JSCC Black History Committee and Sigma Kappa Delta co-hosted a Black History Quiz Bowl on Thursday afternoon, February 15. Three rounds of vigorous competition, emceed by Dr. Vanessa LeBlanc, director of the Physical Therapy Assistant program, tested participants' knowledge of African American contributions to our collective American history. African American artists, scientists, academics, religious leaders, freedom and justice seekers, politicians, and entertainers were celebrated during an afternoon of pizza, prizes, and fellowship. Come join in the fun and the knowledge at our next Quiz Bowl event! 



## Two to Tango

By Jessi Wilbanks



Stories of love, laughter, intelligent discussion and bonding through words, filled the night for a discussion group called Moments of Curious Confabulations. M.O.C.C., an extension of SKD, was formed and designed by Jefferson campus officer Jessi Wilbanks. Discussions are held monthly either on campus or at a planned event and are set around various topics.

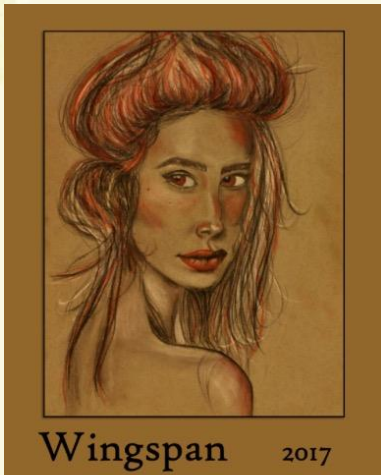
On the evening of February 12, Moments of Curious Confabulations attended "Two to Tango" at downtown Birmingham's Arc Stories. The experience was one of a kind as the audience sat closely together in the cozy Avon Theatre and listened to everyday people share their personal stories about love. Each story gave insight to the vast differences in approach and perceptions surrounding love.

After, Moments of Curious Confabulations met at Slice Pizza for discussion on the topic of perception. Attendees took turns describing how they perceive their reality, how their perceptions developed, and how their perception has changed over the course of time and adventures through life. The discussion led to a bond among sisters from different ages, walks of life, and talents. As ideas and theories were shared between one another, new thoughts and understandings were born in each of us. Even when the special night came to an end, the creative wheels of our thoughts continued to turn.



**Wingspan is now available online  
at:**

**[https://issuu.com/jeffersonstate3/  
docs/wingspan\\_17-  
18\\_single\\_pages](https://issuu.com/jeffersonstate3/docs/wingspan_17-18_single_pages)**



**Do you have an item to share with  
your fellow members?  
Do you want to be an active member  
of SKD, but do not know where to  
start?**

**Contact us for further information.  
[skd@jeffersonstate.edu](mailto:skd@jeffersonstate.edu)**

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([@jeffersonstateskd](#))**

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SKD”**

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**Check out our Facebook page for  
reminders of upcoming events!  
(Jefferson State SKD)**

**Our website is also available for those  
who are interested for National  
Convention or want more information  
about available scholarships.**

**([English2.org](http://English2.org))**

**Check out our Facebook page for  
reminders of upcoming events!  
(Jefferson State SKD)**

**Do you have an item of interest to share with your  
fellow members? Do you want to be an active  
member of SKD, but do not know where to start?  
Contact us for further information.  
([skd@jeffstateonline.com](mailto:skd@jeffstateonline.com))**