



Eta Epsilon Chapter Newsletter

Fall 2017

Editors: Bethany Pate
and Anna Taylor

VOL. 8 ISSUE 1

Find Your Place Day By Brooke Jennings

Sigma Kappa Delta made an appearance at Find Your Place day at the Shelby-Hoover Campus on September 18, 2017 at 11am-1pm. We had a table set up with our club trophy in the middle to show off and catch attention as the students walked by. On our table we had applications, information, bookmarks, pencils, water bottles, and t-shirts. As students walked by we passed out information about SKD, and any students who had questions about the club or wanted to join were directed to the information they needed. Overall Find Your Place day was very successful as far as getting the SKD name out to the student body and collecting interest in the club. The other campus locations held this event was St. Clair-Pell City on September 5th, Jefferson on September 6th, and Chilton-Clanton on September 7th. If you did not get to attend we hope to see you next year!



Constitution Day By Dianna Hyde

On September 19, 2017 at the Shelby-Hoover Campus, the JSCC Concert & Lecture Series held a Constitution Day panel on First Amendment rights, particularly the right of freedom of speech for Americans. On the heels of the 2016 presidential election, among the most antagonistic and divisive in modern memory, panelists from JSCC's History and Communication departments discussed the coarsening of political discourse, from its history of controlled contentiousness to its present "scorched earth" state. The effect of soundbite political coverage, the influence of arts and culture on standards of dialogue, and the impact of social media on shaping opinion and establishing coalitions were topics covered by the panel, with a brief but lively question-and-answer session with the audience to end the event.



Katie Boyer and Dianna Hyde



Sharon DeVaney-Lovinguth

Jefferson State Community College

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

Pioneer Con By Anna Taylor

Pioneer Con took place on October 18 at Shelby-Hoover Campus from 8am-4pm. This year's theme for Pioneer Con was "Seeking Freedom." Officers and sponsors had a table set up with check-in sheet, schedules, t-shirts, and Sigma Kappa Delta things on it. Since it was early there was coffee provided with snacks. Students were able to attend many panels where they were able to learn about different science fiction topics such as Literary Merit of Literature and Science fiction, Star Wars, Game of Thrones, Stranger Things, Mr. Robot, and more. These pannels were held by sponsers, students, keynote speaker Brian Parker, and faculty of Jefferson State Community College. Each panel was about fourty five minutes long with 1-4 presenters. At the end of each pannel students were able to ask questions for the pannelists. Later in the day at 1pm pizza was provided for everyone as students were gethering and preparing for trivia. We had seven teams playing trivia. Each team who won had a chance to get SKD bottle, shirt, and more. During this event we had a speaker Brian Parker who came and shared his experience as a writer and gave tips to students on how to become a writer or illustrator. Students also had a chance of winning few of his books. We also had a guest Erin Griffin Georgia who was the face painter. Students enjoyed getting their faces painted to get in Pioneer Con spirit. Everyone had a great time attending panels, playing trivia with pizza, getting their face painted, and getting to know keynote speaker Brian Parker. Thank you all for coming and making this event special. Everyone is welcome to come to next year's Pioneer Con and have fun!



From left to right: Holli Holcomb, Brooke Jennings, Kinya Perkins, Diane Hyde, Jamie King, Anna Taylor, Ashley Kitchens, and Katie Boyer.



SKD Officers Kinya Perkins and Brooke Jennings



Kinya Perkins, Erin Georgia, and Brooke Jennings



Brooke Jennings, Kinya Perkins, and Holli Holcomb



Brian Parker
Keynote speaker
Author and illustrator

A Visit from China By Ashley Kitchens

During this semester's International Education Week, JSCC was honored to have visiting guest lecturer Farong Zhu, from the Shandong Province in China, present several lectures at two of JSCC's campuses. On Monday, November 13, Zhu presented a discussion of Chinese culture at the Jefferson campus, and on Tuesday, November 14, she presented her research on Chinese elite poetry in comparison to Thoreau's Walden experience to an American literature class in Clanton. Zhu's current scholarship is on flapper literature, specifically works by Zelda Fitzgerald. After her visit with JSCC, she was able to work with Troy University's Kirk Kurnutt, F. Scott Fitzgerald scholar, to present a lecture in Troy on Friday of this week; this lecture consisted of a discussion of her translation of Zelda Fitzgerald's book *Save Me the Waltz* into Chinese. Zhu stayed at the home of one of the SKD sponsors and attended the Margaret Atwood event with the JSCC group. Sponsors Ashley Kitchens and Jamie King, along with SKD officer Holli Holcomb were also delighted to learn how to make homemade dumplings with Zhu before heading to see Atwood. Zhu's visit was truly a special academic and cultural experience.

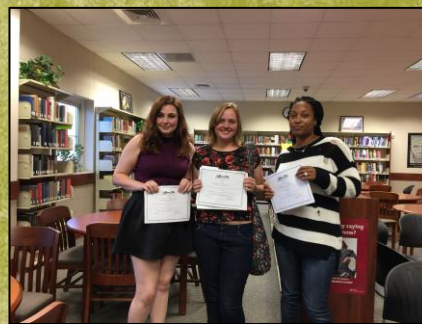


Sponsor
Ashley
Kitchens,
Farong Zhu
and Sponsor
Jamie King

POETRY SLAM

By Holli Holcomb

The Pell City Campus put on our annual poetry slam on November 16, 2017. Sigma Kappa Delta helped to sponsor part of the event; the poetry slam was led by English teacher Jacob Melvin. We had quite a few participants and even more who came to watch and listen to some fantastic poems. We had a few laughs, some emotional poems, and some pizza for lunch. The winners each received a gift card and cash prize for their winning piece. In third place we had LaRonica Pointer, in second place was Della Braxton, and in first place was Sarah Johnson. All of the participants were wonderful and we are so glad to have had such a great turn out.



Poetry Slam Winners:
Della Braxton 2nd place, Sarah Johnson 1st place, and Laronica Pointer 3rd place.



English teacher Jacob Melvin who led the poetry Slam and the students of Jeff State

Solve the Riddle

By Bethany Pate

Solve the Riddle was held on October 17th, 2017 at the Chilton-Clanton campus. The officers of Sigma Kappa Delta, Bethany Pate and Anna Taylor, had a table set up in the lobby from 12-2p.m. This table had our big trophy in the middle of it with SKD prizes and candy all around it. Our prizes were SKD t-shirts, pencils, candy, stickers, water bottles, and brownies. The table was bright and colorful and caught many student's attention. Many students were able to participate in between classes and had a lot of fun. Each participant had a chance of drawing a riddle from a jar to win prize. If a participant wanted to win a special prize of t-shirt or a brownie, they had to answer a total of three riddles. Many students could not refuse the good smelling brownies and decided to answer three instead of one. When each student had a difficult time with the riddle, we would give them a clue to help them out. It was almost like playing charades. Everyone had a great time of riddle solving and meeting new students. Hoping to see you guys at the next Clanton event.



Students trying to guess the riddle by helping each other



SKD officers Bethany Pate and Anna Taylor



Students won brownies after solving handful of riddles

A Very Harry Potter Halloween By Anna Taylor

A Very Harry Potter Halloween was presented on October 31 at the Clanton Campus. This event was from 1pm-4pm and it occurred in the library. This event was for the whole campus. During this time we had a Harry Potter movie playing in the lobby all day to get students into Halloween spirit. We also had food, scavenger hunt, trivia, and announcement of costume and pumpkin carving winners. The day before Halloween, the Clanton campus was decorated by students and faculty of Jeff State. On the Halloween day Clanton Campus was full of Harry Potter and other costumes that made the campus colorful and more cheery. We even had a Sigma Kappa Delta officer, Brooke Jennings, who came from Shelby-Hoover campus and she won our costume contest. We had many students who could not participate in the fun activities because of classes but they still came to get food and earn about what was going on around them. When it came time for the scavenger hunt we had student with instructions of items they needed to find. Students could work by themselves or in a group. The scavenger items were hidden inside and then we had rocks hidden outside that were painted with Harry Potter related things on them. The winners were those who found the most items. Overall, it was a great time for everyone and it made Clanton campus closer. Thank you all who came and I hope that you all had fun.



Faculty and students of Jefferson State



Anna Taylor and Ashley Kitchens finding what group they belong to by biting the cupcake and finding a color in it



Scavenger hunt items



Ashley Kitchens and Brooke Jennings

At home with F.Scott and Zelda Fitzgerald

By Ashley Kitchens

If you have not yet been to the Fitzgerald museum in the heart of Montgomery, AL, you need to tour the beautiful Fitzgerald home. I had the honor of taking our visiting Chinese scholar, Farong Zhu, to this museum and home for her stay during her Troy University seminars on November 16-17. The home, where F. Scott and Zelda lived for several months during 1931 and 1932, is now open to visitors, Fitzgerald fans, students, and anyone who loves the worlds of history and literature. Inside the home, the layout features a chronological selection of writing, art, letters, memorabilia, and the like based on the works and lives of both Fitzgeralds. What was even more interesting is that the upstairs of the museum-home has two spacious suites, one in which scholar Zhu was able to spend her remaining nights in Alabama. The suites featured the historic high ceilings and hardwood floors with antique furniture overlooking the beautifully manicured yard. Needless to say, as a scholar of Zelda Fitzgerald, Zhu was delighted to be staying in the actual home where Zelda once resided. It was a truly memorable experience and I encourage all to take a beautiful day and go to Montgomery to step back into history.



Entrance to the museum



Information about home of Fitzgerald



Quote by Zelda Fitzgerald

Pioneer Day By Kinya Perkins

Pioneer Day was September 29, 2017 at the Jefferson campus. Pioneer Day was a celebration of Jefferson State 52nd anniversary. This event included food, music, and the Amazing Race. Amazing Race practiced team building and created camaraderie as a Jeff State family. The Amazing Race had a series of activities including a station I was able to partake in called the Bubble whip. The purpose of the game was to engage in team spirit by cheering on your teammates as they were competing. So how do you play? There were six plates located around the table for each team member. On that plate was a piece of bubble gum hidden in two scoops of whipped cream. In order to get the bubble gum everyone needed to have their hands behind their back, and only use their mouth to find the bubble gum. Once the gum was found, two people from the team needed to blow one bubble each before time was called. Whoever had the lowest time out of all the groups plus team spirit won! After the games there was lunch served by culinary, dance offs, and even a frozen challenge. Which included a frozen T-Shirt in a cooler. Whoever was able to unfold the frozen T-shirt and put it on a team member won! This event was full of laughter and excitement to watch everyone run around and use their team spirit by working together as a team to win.



Clanton Team "Queen Peaches"



Kinya Perkins working a booth



One of the teams working hard trying to find the worm

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)

An Evening With Margaret Atwood By Ashley Kitchens

On the evening of Tuesday, November 14, 2017 several SKD sponsors and officers, JSCC college instructors, and a visiting guest lecturer to JSCC from China attended an entertaining and intellectual presentation by author Margaret Atwood at the historic Bama Theater in downtown Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Atwood was interviewed by a local news columnist and delighted the audience with both her wit and several readings from her novels. Atwood's works have come to the spotlight once again recently with the HULU series adaptation of *A Handmaid's Tale* and the Netflix series adaptation of *Alias Grace*. Atwood read from both of these works and her newest release of *Hag-Seed*, a retelling of Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. The audience was also delighted to listen to Atwood's sarcastic take on the recent political scandals in Alabama and on the Presidential election of 2016. She concluded her take on politics by telling the audience that what she sees is that the United States is resilient and its people will continue to take what they are given and continue to persevere. At the conclusion of the evening, Atwood stayed to sign copies of books for upwards of two hours. As an onlooker of this event, it seemed that Atwood successfully empowered the students, instructors, and community alike to tell their stories. For the JSCC faculty, students, and visiting lecturer, this evening led to discussions of Atwood and her works as well as the state of English reading and writing on the drive home; this was truly a sign of a successful evening.



From left to right: Officer Holli Holcomb, Instructor Mary Kaiser, Farong Zhu, and Sponsor Dianna Hyde

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.
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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)