

## THE ACHIEVER

### OFFICER SPOTLIGHT

#### Bethany McKinney, National Secretary.



Bethany is a senior Agriculture business management major at Eastern Kentucky University. She will graduate in May 2018 and plans to work towards achieving a job in the USDA. In her four years at Eastern, she has made the Dean's List at ECU, was elected DTA National Secretary and ECU DTA Secretary, and earned the state title of "High Individual for KY FFA Nursery Landscape" in 2013 (Silver Rating at National Level). Bethany's three favorite things are frogs, the color green, and chocolate. She uses the words 'kind, honest, and reserved' as the words used to describe her most. These three qualities are most prevalent in her interests. Whether she's playing piano, involved in church activities, or spending time with friends and family, Bethany is always kind hearted with the best of intentions

Words to Live By: "Only you can control your future"

-Dr. Seuss

### KEEPING UP WITH THE OFFICERS

Kara Campbell, Eastern VP, has spent the past few months contacting schools in her region recruiting them to become more active and join us at national convention. She has reached out to Austin Peay, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Middle Tennessee State University, Ferum College, and Virginia Tech.

## ACROSS THE NATION

**Sam Houston State University:** 46/88 active members present at November 7 meeting. 56/88 active members present at the November 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. 90/126 active members were present at the February meeting. The following took place at both meeting:

1. Christmas fundraiser for soldiers.
2. Committee reports
3. Homecoming recognition.
4. Service project
5. Gave out new member certificates
6. Chapter T-shirts
7. Graduation cords
8. Inducted 53 new members.

**Tennessee Tech University:** 36/51 active members were present at the November meeting. The following took place at both meetings:

1. T-shirts to new members
2. Talked about national convention
3. Collected Toys for Tots

**Northwest Missouri State University:** 27/30 active member's present at November meeting. 22/30 active members were present at February meeting. The following took place during both meetings:

1. Donated goods basket to silent auction in their Agriculture department.
2. New initiates paid dues.
3. Guest Speaker: how to preserve, network, and prepare for the futures.

**Eastern Kentucky University:** 14/20 active members were present at the December meeting. 13/20 active members were present at the January meeting. The following took place during both meetings:

1. Christmas party / potluck at advisors house.
2. Added members to Social and service committees.
3. Formed apparel committee
4. Planned Candy Gram valentines' fundraiser
5. Informed / Recruited members for national convention.

Don't forget to submit your chapter's Form40s after every meeting, please! Be sure to include your university name in the subject line.

Sydney Kleinert, President

**Contact Information:**

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## NATIONAL CONVENTION 2017

**Message from DONALD KENNEDY, Arkansas State.**

58th Annual DTA National Convention  
March 30 - April 1, 2017  
Registration Information

The registration fee for the DTA National Convention is \$100 per person, payable no later than March 3, 2017. After March 3rd the fee will increase to \$140 per person. The early payment incentive is offered in hopes that it will encourage you to register as soon as possible to help us with planning the convention.

The registration fee will cover the following: National convention long sleeve t-shirt, The Pack Shack service project, Catfish and chicken fry, Tour admissions including: Johnny Cash Boyhood Home: Historic Dyess Colony, Southern Tenant Farmers Museum and Riceland Foods, Lunch during the tour, and the Convention banquet.

**Dress for the convention is business casual.** An official group photograph will be taken at a cost of \$15. Photographs of your chapter delegation can also be taken at a cost of \$15. Photographs will be 8" x 10" (color, glossy). Pictures will be mailed out as soon as possible after the convention. Orders for photos must be placed in advance and paid for as part of your registration.

The registration form is posted on the dta website. ([www.nationaldta.weebly.com](http://www.nationaldta.weebly.com)) Please save the completed form and email it to [dkennedy@astate.edu](mailto:dkennedy@astate.edu)<<mailto:dkennedy@astate.edu>>.

Please enter the following information:

1. List the names and shirt sizes of each person in your delegation so your name tag and convention t-shirt will be available upon check in at the convention.
2. Please note the type and number of photographs being ordered.
3. Please include an address where you want your pictures mailed.

Please send your check (made payable to DTA) to:

**Dr. Bud Kennedy**  
**Arkansas State University**  
**College of Agriculture and Technology**  
**P.O. BOX 1080**  
**State University, AR 72467**

We look forward to seeing you in Jonesboro!

Hotel Information:

We have blocked a total of 30 rooms at Comfort Suites (five 1 King Bedroom Suites, and twenty-five 2 Queen Beds Suites). All of the rooms are non-smoking and include complimentary breakfast. The rooms have been reserved at a group rate of \$105 a night plus tax.

**DEADLINE FOR THE CONFERENCE RATE IS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15th.**