



## ATC Spotlight

### Alpha Beta Gamma students assist “Books for Keeps” program



Members of the Chi Zeta chapter of the Alpha Beta Gamma International Business Honor Society spent Jan. 21 helping with Books for Keeps, a program designed to help elementary school students, especially low-income children, maintain their reading skills over the summer. Alpha Beta Gamma members, along with faculty adviser John Haley, processed hundreds of donated books by inspecting, categorizing, and packing them in preparation for book distribution in May.

Since many of the kids in Clarke County do not have access to quality books over the summer, when they return to school in the fall, they experience a drop-off in their educational abilities. The goal of Books for Keeps is to place books in children's homes and END the “summer slide” in Athens.

In May, just before the end of the school year, Books for Keeps volunteers deliver books to all elementary schools in the county and allow each student to select 12 books to take with them for summer reading.

Starting Wednesday, Feb. 1, Alpha Beta Gamma students will be conducting a book drive on campus to collect children's books for the Books for Keep program. Over the next few months they also will be participating in several more work days to process the donated books and will assist Melaney Smith, executive director of the program, in distributing the books in May.

**Photo caption:** Alpha Beta Gamma members who participated in the Books for Keeps sorting included, L-R , John Haley (ABG faculty adviser), Wayne Martin, Jerry Hampton, Charlotte Van Eman, Caroline Holland, Rob Van Eman, Judy Berman, and Suzie Berman.

[Click here for more information.](#)

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