

Lone Star News

Official Publication of Texas State Organization

Vol. 64, No. 2 The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ~ For Key Women Educators Winter 2010

ASTEFL Committee Continues Forward Moves



*Happy Holidays
Texas State Organization*



Pictured at International during an October meeting are ASTEF Committee members. Seated (l-r) Betty Vines and Jean Webb, chairman. Standing (l-r) are Evelyn Barron, Sandi Causey, Ruth Hull, Dr. Vicki Davis and Lee Bourg.

By Jean Webb, ASTEF Chairman

The ASTEF Committee (Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation) is excited about its assignment to investigate establishing a nonprofit foundation. Recently the committee met at International Headquarters in Austin for a two day personally funded retreat to discuss what ASTEF could mean to its members. There are many educational challenges in Texas and because ASTEF members represent all areas of the state,

ASTEFL can make a significant impact to uplift both educators and students. Once ASTEF is established and the resources are built, there are many areas in which funding may be provided. In addition to what is currently being done through the scholarship and leadership programs, there are other possibilities for which funding will be made available:

- educational materials and equipment
- professional speakers at conferences
- grants for attendance at professional growth seminars

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Sylvia Stern (l) and Mary Gordon Spence are set as keynote speakers for the TSO State Convention in McAllen, June 23-25, 2011. See story on page 14.

2009-2011 State Executive Committee

President Dr. Vicki Tigert Davis
Beta Lambda (17)

1st Vice President Marilyn Gregory
Epsilon Kappa (7)

2nd Vice President Nancy Newton
Iota Pi (10)

Recording Secretary Gail Herring
Zeta (8)

Corresponding Sec. Andi Kirby
Alpha Pi (17)

Parliamentarian Katherine Brightwell
Eta Psi (4)

Immed. Past President JoAnn Brooks
Iota Omega (9)

Exec. Secretary/Treas. Betty Vines
Kappa Delta (10)

Editor/Photographer Joanne Davis
Beta Zeta (6)

LoneStarNews@austin.rr.com



by **Dr. Vicki Davis**
2009-2011
Texas State President

I slept, and dreamed that life was beauty. I awoke and found that life was duty.
DUTY by Ellen Sturgis Hooper

Life: Beauty and Duty

Twelve women in Texas received a calling. This calling or duty is expressed in the Society's Mission Statement: DKG promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. The Song rings with *Women teachers to the calling....*

The reasons for this duty or mission are found in the seven purposes. These reasons, astutely adapted through the years, were very bold statements at the beginning of the Society. They tell members why to answer the call. Freely expressed, they are: to join women educators of the world in a feeling of close kinship, interests and outlook; to confer distinction on women; to advance the professional interest and status of women educators; to introduce, approve publicly and advocate desirable legislation relating to education and women educators; to permanently fund scholarships

and to give fellowships; to quicken the personal and professional growth of members and engage in suitable programs and projects; and to communicate with members so they are empowered to share in the global community.

What do members see resulting from these purposes? Ideally, what do members want to be? What is their vision? According to current leadership practices, successful organizations state their visions. DKG's Vision Statement is phrased as Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide.

To help get to this vision, a state organization biennial goal is set: Texas members will advance the mission of DKG and advocate its purposes by believing, engaging, learning and leading with diversity and enthusiasm. From the goal, a theme is extracted as Advance the Society: Believe, Engage, Learn, Lead. During this biennium, progress has been aided with a contemporary and spirited icon (Illustration); a simple acronym (BELL); leadership analysis of the state organization's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats; an updated strategic action plan; and willingness to implement change.

Much of what is known about DKG today goes back a life time. Is it relevant today?

The Millennium Development Goals of the Committee for Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN) help answer this question. These goals, in place through 2015, relate to unmet basic human survival needs, hunger and poverty; limited education for many, especially women; unequal rights for women including pay equity; unaddressed health issues, maternal health and childhood diseases; the lack of vital environmental conditions, pure and available drinking water; and the need to develop global partnerships.

Today, twelve thousand leading women educators in Texas, awakened to the needs of a new millennium, envision impacting education world wide. They focus on DKG's purposes. Joining others in 17 countries, they promote the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education---it is their duty. They find life is beauty.



Betty's Buzz

from Headquarters

By Betty Vines, Exec. Sec./Treas.

The Texas State Organization Headquarters in Dallas is always a busy place. Dues and fees to State

Headquarters continue to arrive daily. Treasurers have worked diligently to meet the challenge of getting the dues in by the deadline which was November 10. The mailbox has also been filled with yearbooks.

A special thanks to those "early bird" treasurers whose chapter dues were postmarked by November 1 and arrived at Headquarters by November 3.

Included are the following chapters--- **Gamma, Mu, Sigma, Alpha Alpha, Alpha Iota, Alpha Chi, Alpha Omega, Beta Zeta, Beta Theta, Beta Omicron, Beta Sigma, Beta Omega, Gamma Alpha, Gamma Kappa, Gamma Xi, Gamma Chi, Epsilon Gamma, Zeta Alpha, Zeta Delta, Zeta Kappa, Zeta Lambda, Eta Delta, Eta Epsilon, Eta Eta, Eta Pi, Eta Tau, Theta Alpha, Theta Kappa, Theta Lambda, Theta Omicron, Theta Tau, Theta Upsilon, Theta Psi, Iota Delta, Iota Pi, Iota Upsilon, Kappa Gamma, Kappa Epsilon, Kappa Kappa, Kappa Mu, Kappa Pi, Kappa Phi, Lambda Rho, Lambda Upsilon, Mu Alpha, Mu Iota, Mu Kappa, Mu Lambda, and Mu Pi.**

Chapters are continuing to initiate new members. After you initiate, please send the initiate forms along with their dues and fees. The initiation fee is \$10. The chapter keeps \$5 and sends \$5 to State to be shared with International. The form is most important because it provides the information for State and International to send communications such as the newsletters and bulletins to members. Chapters are also reinstating members. Forms for both initiates and reinstatements can be found on the International website.

November 15 is the deadline for filing your chapter's 990-N. Has your chapter filed?

Chapters are commended for their generosity in giving grants-in-aid and scholarships. According to reports from chapter treasurers (2010 Form 15), chapters awarded 206 grants-in-aid for \$93,120 and 73 scholarships for \$20,075. This is in addition to the scholarships and grants awarded at the state level which totaled \$53,000.

You are always welcome to call or come to Headquarters. We are open from 10:00 AM until 5:30 PM Monday through Thursday. Special arrangements may be made to come at other times.



Betty Vines

Adkins Named Foundation Liaison

Carolyn Adkins, Past Texas State President, has been named by TSO President Dr. Vicki Davis as the Texas liaison to The Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation. In this position she will serve as a public relations person between the Board of Trustees of the Foundation and state organizations.

Communication is the primary responsibility of the position. She will be notifying Texas members of the many activities, awards, stipends, etc., that are available through the Foundation as well as celebrating the good work of the Foundation.

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209 Ellebracht
Fredericksburg, TX 78624

Highlights of the Fall Executive Committee Meeting

1. Reviewed recent International activities and noted the involvement of Texas members.
2. Reviewed Texas State Organization (TSO) progress including reports from the Waco State Convention.
3. Heard oral reports from executive committee members including reports from area activities and work of state committees and a thank you from International Executive Director Corlea Plowman.
4. Approved preliminary plans for the McAllen State Convention.
 - a. Recognized the contract between TSO and Convention Registration Solutions for the McAllen Convention.
 - b. Supported the use of Quick Books by the convention treasurer.
5. Followed up on prior state recommendations including the purchase of printers for headquarters and acknowledged its earlier endorsement of posting names of chapters that complete the Hundreds for Headquarters Campaign on the wall at Headquarters and the complete online posting of the Chapter President's Kit.
6. Completed items of new business:
 - a. Supported the progress of the ASTEF Special Committee reported by guest Jean Webb, chairman, and encouraged the committee to move forward in its investigation and plans for the implementation of the educational foundation for the TSO.
 - b. Supported the Headquarters Committee's plans for fund-raising activities to include a possible cruise with an interest survey distributed in the *Newsette*.
 - c. Supported initial plans for the development of the 2011-2013 TSO Budget as presented by guest Sandi Causey, Finance Committee Chairman. Barbara Rountree, member, was also present.
 - d. Reviewed and made suggestions to update the Strategic Action Plan.
 - e. Accepted (1) outside gift funding for a banner to be used at the Southwest Regional (design and production in progress) and (2) a new fax machine.
 - f. Noted that a financial audit of the organization's records is underway.
 - g. Directed the State President to consult a registered parliamentarian to review the revision of the official manual.
 - h. Agreed that the committee structure for TSO remain intact at this time.
 - i. Requested that an international representative be invited to the 2011 state convention and suggested persons to be invited.
 - j. Approved continuing investigations of



The TSO Executive Committee met in October at state headquarters in Dallas. Pictured above are seated (l-r) JoAnn Brooks, Dr. Vicki Davis and Betty Vines. Standing (l-r) are Andi Kirby, Nancy Newton, Marilyn Gregory and Joanne Davis. Not pictured are Gail Herring and Kay Brightwell.

Attention: Constitution and Bylaws Committees

By Janye Brainard, Constitution and Bylaws Chairman

You found them! Your Chapter Rules are not lost! Many chapters have located their chapter rules and have begun reviewing them. Congratulations.

The changes made to the Constitution went into effect immediately after the convention in Spokane.

The most obvious change was in membership. Another change is in Purpose 5 of the Society's Purposes. As you review your chapter rules, be sure they are in compliance with the Constitution. Both of these changes are on the state Web site.

There is a change also in the International committee structure. The chapter may align their committees as they wish.

A friendly reminder: The current PACE form requires that the chapter review its rules every three years. Now is a good time to do so. Please send your current rules to your area representative listed on the state Web site under Constitution Committee.

future convention sites (Austin, Lubbock, San Antonio and Dallas).

- k. Approved a unifying project (Texas Treasure Boxes) for the state convention to be developed by the Personal Growth and Services Committee.

- l. Approved proposal for a Mid-Winter Conference to be planned and implemented by Area 6 with no state funds. Approved offering CPE's under the organization's authority. Process for handling the CPE's to be determined by Professional Affairs Committee.

- m. Approved a \$50 registration fee for the 82nd State Convention, McAllen.

- n. Directed the Expansion Chairman to simplify FORM 15 chapter database and continue exploration for establishing new chapters.

McAllen Features Two Hotel Choices

Embassy Suites Hotel

1800 South Second Street, McAllen

Convention Headquarters

956.686.3000

DKG Rate: \$139 single or double standard suite plus taxes

Breakfast included--Complimentary parking--Transportation to Convention Center by city of McAllen--25% off at in-hotel Remington's Restaurant--

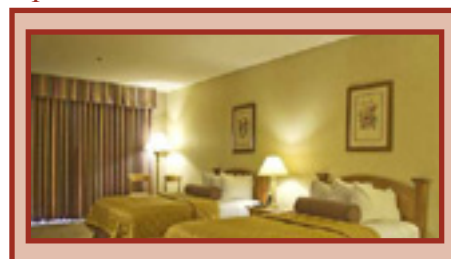
Complimentary beverages and snacks each evening--Monday-Saturday

CUT OFF DATE: 5/27/2011 Convention Dates: June 23-25, 2011

Online: mcallen.embassysuites.com
GROUP/CONVENTION CODE:
DKG



Embassy Suites at left. Embassy atrium above. Sample double room below.



Holiday Inn Express and Suites

1921 South 10th Street, McAllen

956.994.0505

DKG Negotiated Rates: \$109 Standard-\$139 Suite plus taxes-free local calls-

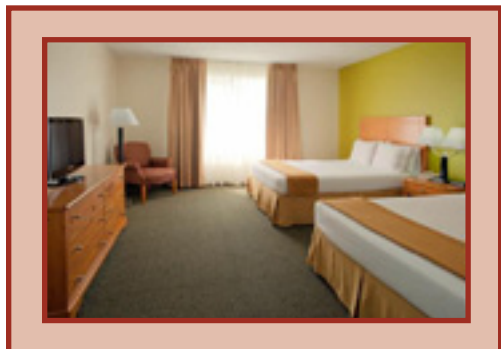
Breakfast included--Complimentary parking--Complimentary Happy Hour Reception Monday-Wednesday--

Complimentary transportation within a two mile radius from the hotel--On site 24 hour restaurant--Transportation to Convention Center by City of McAllen

CUT OFF DATE: 5/27/2011

Online: www.hiexpress.com/mcallentx
Go to right side BOOK THIS HOTEL
Go to check in for dates needed. Group Code: DKG

Convention Dates: June 23-25, 2011



Holiday Inn at right. Sample double room above.



Inviting Reinstatement



By Sandra Smith Bull
Membership Chairman

Your state organization membership committee and other members who made presentations about membership issues during the area workshops had exciting information to share about recent membership rule changes.

One area of change was in the process of reinstating members. The 2010 constitutional revision eliminated the need for a chapter vote in order to reinstate the member. This change followed one a few years ago which eliminated the reinstatement fee. Both changes were intended to make it easier for former members to become active members again.

There is an unspoken change of attitude about reinstatement – instead of reinstatement with a hint of disapproval for ever leaving the fold, there is an understanding that there are legitimate reasons why members must leave and a true joy when they can return. These women were once invited because someone wished to honor them for being key women educators; they were oriented to the Society and initiated. If circumstances changed for them to the extent that they had to resign, there should be no impediments to return. Indeed, we encourage chapters to solicit former members' return with the following approaches:

- Write personal notes to previous members, perhaps inviting them to a special chapter event or upcoming program
- Invite a previous member to participate in a chapter meeting – as a speaker, panel participant, book reviewer
- Encourage the original sponsor in the chapter to call or visit the former colleague
- Place fliers about ease of DKG reinstatement in faculty lounges and at district level meetings

The procedure for reinstatement is very simple. The former member states/writes a request for reinstatement to the chapter in which she wishes to affiliate. There is no reinstatement fee, but the chapter treasurer does fill out a reinstatement card for the member. If she reinstates between July 1 and April 1, she pays dues and fees. There is no initiation since a member is initiated into Delta Kappa Gamma only one time.

The member should be involved in the work of the chapter immediately! Inviting reinstatement is a positive investment in the future of DKG.

Chapter nominating committees should meet during the first year of the biennium to begin considering possible chapter officers. This will make the task of filling offices easier.

Achievement Award Nominees Sought

By Donajean Caffey
Achievement Awards Chairman

Wonderful! Amazing! Unexpected! Those words were heard at state convention in Waco when the Achievement and the Golden Rose Awards were presented.

Do you have a member in your chapter who is deserving of the Alpha State Achievement Award or the Golden Rose Award? Now is the time to gather information and make that special moment happen for her in 2011.

The State Achievement Award is designed to honor those who have been very active and have held leadership roles in the work of Texas State Organization.

The Golden Rose Award honors those who have contributed faithfully to the work of Alpha State Texas but do not, and probably will not, qualify for the State Achievement Award. This is your opportunity to honor and recognize the member who has made significant contributions to Texas State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society.

Prior to February 1, 2011, nominate any qualified member for either of these awards. Of course, part of the fun is to keep the nominations a secret from the nominee. The recipients will be announced at the Birthday Luncheon in McAllen.

Nomination forms and guidelines can be found at the Achievement Awards page on the TSO Web site. The criteria for these two awards are very specific. Your chapter president can assist you in locating the appropriate forms and guidelines.

Send the forms, complete with a photo of the nominee, to: Donajean Caffey, Achievement Awards Chairman; 701 Scott Place, Abilene, TX 79601.

Recommendations for state committee members are due to State Headquarters February 1. The form is posted online on the Texas Web site.

Joys of Reading Chapter Newsletters

By Shirl Hawes, Communications Chairman

Reading chapter newsletters is like opening a precious gift of ideas and inspiration. From motivational messages to powerful programs, I am learning how each chapter advances the Society. Every day when I open an envelope, I am impressed by all the creative ways chapters broadcast the buzz, conduct fundraisers and respond to changes.

One chapter broadcasts the buzz by affixing an address label with chapter contact information to copies of *The Bulletin* they display in the teacher's lounge. Many chapters answered the suggestion for "active" photos by showing their members in action at meetings or engaged in community projects. These photos highlight the chapter's story for every reader. Nominating a member who has published for a Member-in-Print award is an important way to broadcast the buzz. Chapters can also honor local newspapers for excellent educational coverage with a Key Award nomination. Both of these interactive applications are on the TSO Web site under the Communications link and are due by April 1, 2011.

In addition, I enjoy reading all the clever ideas for raising funds for chapter projects: Bunco or Bingo nights, cake or casserole raffles, or Books for a Buck sale (including used books, magazines, CDs, and DVDs). One chapter even sends home plastic DKG cups for each member to collect loose change throughout the year. If your chapter needs ideas for non-dues revenue or program topics, consider visiting the TSO chapter websites and reading their newsletters posted online.

It's inspiring to read how quickly chapters respond to changes. When we were asked by International to include the DKG Vision Statement (Leading women educators impacting education worldwide) on chapter communications, many chapters immediately added the statement to their newsletters. When International President

Continued on page 12

Members Receive Honors

Mary Ann Hotaling and Karen Renee Johnson, Mu Kappa (15-El Paso), were among the Top Ten Teachers of the Year in El Paso ISD.

Mary Lively, Iota Upsilon (8-Comanche), was named Teacher

of the Year by the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Comanche. She was honored at the Comanche Chamber Banquet. Lively has been teaching high school math in Comanche for 19 years.

Marci Peschke, Delta Rho, (9-Dallas), has signed a contract with Capstone Books to write four more books. That will make a total of 16 books in print when these are published.

Dixie Haag, Mu Chi, (Floresville -6), was selected as a finalist in HEB's Excellence in Education Award. Haag is an English teacher in Floresville.

Dr. Lola O. Norris, Alpha Nu (5-Laredo), received her PhD in Hispanic studies from Texas A&M in College Station. She specialized in Spanish Golden Age Literature and Spanish linguistics.

Ann Hamblin, Kappa Eta (11-Amarillo), has been nominated for the Minnie Stevens Piper Award at Amarillo College. The Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation honors ten professors in Texas each academic year for outstanding academic, scientific and scholarly achievement and for their dedication to the teaching profession. Amarillo College participates in the nomination process by submitting the name of one outstanding full-time faculty member each year.

Janice Evers, Alpha Gamma (10-Cleburne), was honored by the Cleburne ISD School Board by naming the team school, which she started, the Janice Evers Team School. Evers is a retired assistant superintendent in the district.

Brenda McDaniel, Mu Upsilon (2-Evadale), is the new superintendent of schools in Evadale ISD. She is also treasurer of her chapter.

Bradley Sue Howell, Eta Zeta (9-Dallas), was honored with a story in the *Dallas Morning News* recently. The story recounted her career involvement at Woodrow Wilson High School and the many hats she has worn since 1951 when she graduated from the school. She retired after 25 years as librarian in 2006. Since that time she has volunteered three days a week in the school's office. In 1989, she pushed for the 1928 structure to gain historical status. Woodrow now has Dallas landmark status and Texas historic certification. Her hard work on the effort was recognized in 1999 when Howell was inducted into the Woodrow Wilson Hall of Fame.

May Dell Jenks and Christina Borgstedte, Lambda Tau (18-Katy), were chosen to participate on the Rachel Ray Show in an Best Apple Pie contest. The mother-daughter team shared their experience in a chapter program and gave chapter members copies of their recipe.



Members Attend Workshops Across Texas

WOW!

**Attendance Statistics: 2,100
Chapters Represented: 263 of 283**



President Dr. Vicki Davis (standing) addresses the audience of Area 10 leaders during the Fort Worth Saturday session.



Kay Brightwell, Parliamentarian, addresses Area 13 members during the area workshop in Abilene.



Area 16 Coordinator Dee Ann Archer (standing) talks with chapter presidents during workshop in Decatur.



Nancy Newton, 2nd Vice President and state representative to Area 12, works with chapter presidents in Lubbock.



Patti Belknap, Area 9 Coordinator (second from right) poses with her Area 9 presidents during the area workshop in Dallas.



Dr. Vicki Davis speaks at opening of Area 6 Workshop in San Antonio. AC Paula Moore is seated at right.

All Areas CELEBRATE Being a DKG Woman



Nancy Newton, 2nd Vice President (l), examines a sea shell wind chime gift from Area 5, presented by AC Barbara Strop at the session in Brownsville.



Area 18 members gathered for a reception on Friday night before the workshop in Houston. Pictured (l-r) are two culinary arts students involved in the preparation; Pat Osborne; AC Chris Morrison; Susie Schmidt, member and culinary arts teacher; culinary student and Nancy Frankel.



WOW!

Preparing for an opening activity in Area 14 in Midland are (l-r) Carol Horton, AC Jody Braswell and Pam Hicks.



Area 1 members show enthusiasm during the area workshop in San Augustine.

Below left: Area 11 members have refreshments during workshop in Amarillo. Below right: Area 4 AC Beverly Richard shows off her 1969 going away suit, made by Richard. She wore the suit many times during her first year of teaching kindergarten. Times have changed. The Area 4 Workshop was held in Lake Jackson.



Chapter Finance Feedback Requested

By Sandi Causey, Finance Chairman

Last week I received a most welcome e-mail from the treasurer of Theta Lambda chapter. Using the graphs available on the TSO Web site link to finance, Theta Lambda members discussed chapter and state finances and the anticipated dues increase at a chapter meeting. From this discussion came the e-mail. In it the chapter acknowledged the need for an increase in dues but was cautious about the amount of increase that would be acceptable to them. The e-mail included the rationale for the limit the chapter wanted to see put on the dues increase.

Where does your chapter stand on the anticipated dues increase? Have you set aside some chapter meeting time to discuss TSO finances?

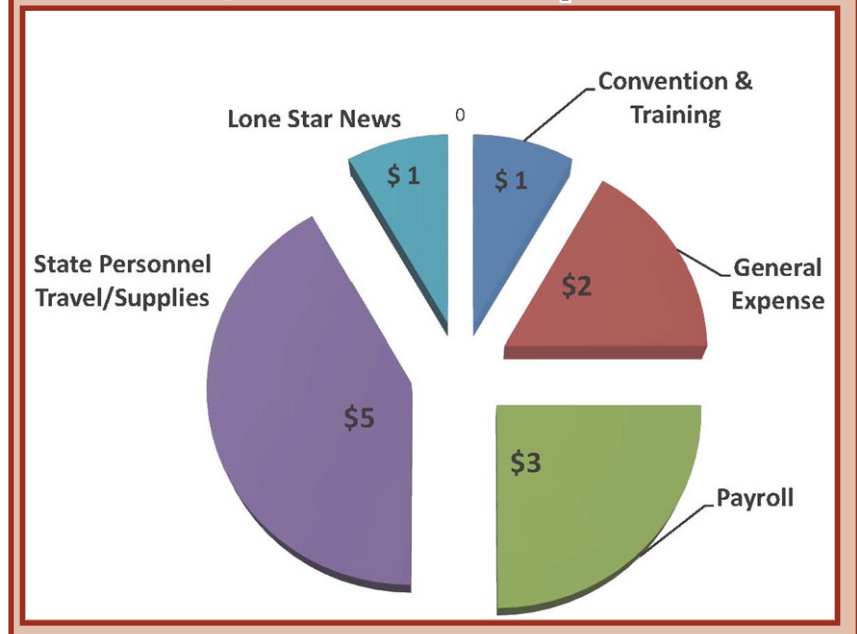
In January, the Finance Committee will begin gathering information needed to prepare the 2011-2013 budget. From this information and membership numbers we will build a dues increase to fund the budget. Will the information we consider include input from your chapter? WE ARE COUNTING ON IT!

At the right you will find one of the graphs available on the TSO Web site that could spark a discussion of TSO finances. Give your chapter members this opportunity so their opinion can be considered during the budget process. The Finance Committee is just one "click" away at magnificentmom@sbcglobal.net MAKE SURE YOUR CHAPTER IS HEARD!

REMINDER

Capitol Rally February 3, 2011
Information should be sent to sallfred@yahoo.com if planning to attend.
See form on page 9 in Fall LSN online.

How Your \$12 State Dues Is Spent



Money Matters

By Sandi Causey, Finance Chairman



If my experience and strengths lie in the area of finance, how can I become a member of the state Finance Committee? Each biennium two members are selected by the state Nominations Committee to serve for four years on the Finance Committee. To submit her name a member can go to the TSO Web site, click on the "Deadlines and Forms" link, scroll to the bottom and click on "Elected Committee Nomination Form" then print and complete the form and submit it by January 1st.

At the end of each biennium, the Finance Committee itself selects a chairman from the two members continuing on the committee to complete their four year term. If you have had experience with other organizations in the managing of finances and believe you can contribute to TSO as a member of the Finance Committee, we need you.

Nominations for 2011-2013 Officers Needed by January 1

Nominations for 2011-2013 elected committees and officers are due by January 1, 2011. The forms are online and interactive. Details about qualifications and duties may be found under Resources on the Web site.

Apply online by going to the TSO Web site, choosing Nominations Committee and selecting the appropriate interactive form. Email the form electronically to corleap@satx.rr.com Mail hard copies to Corlea S. Plowman, 612 East College Street, Seguin, TX 78155.

Elected officers are President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. Elected committees are Finance, Eula Lee Carter and Nominations.

Fitting the Pieces Together

By Judy Miller

This year I have given my fourth graders a challenge. On a card table in my classroom is a 1,000 piece puzzle with pictures of puppies sitting in different backgrounds. After three weeks of work it looks like a multi-pane window with five panes intact and the rest under construction.

What prompted me to this challenge? Last summer I took a class in learning theories taught by a wonderful teacher. She conducted our class the way she wanted us to conduct our classes. It was a dream experience in continuing education!

While the instructional activities were wonderful, it was the puzzle that she poured out on the table on the first day of class that proved magical. Nine of us gathered around that table at break time, before and after class. We were nervous, exhausted, and stretched to our limits. We had very little common history.

Avid puzzle fans started first, turning pieces over and building the border. Throughout the week, other members of the class gained interest. By the end of the week, everyone had played a part in completing the puzzle, but more importantly, we had become friends.

As we were working, our professor stood nearby commenting on how working a puzzle was similar to learning: establishing boundaries, looking for patterns, and searching for just the right information. We were learning about learning while growing in community.

So how does all of this help us think about Delta Kappa Gamma? As a society of key women educators, we work to improve the quality of education. The best way to achieve our goal is to get teachers talking to other teachers. Within the organization, women are inspired and encouraged to grow, but we must also turn our eyes outward. How can our society become a key force in changing education? One important way is by mentoring new teachers. A jigsaw puzzle analogy may help guide our thinking.

When my class first started working on the puzzle, students kept saying, "I'm not sure the table is big enough." There were so many unconnected pieces taking up so much space, but as the puzzle took shape, the student's concerns vanished. There was more than enough room.

For new teachers, the disconnected pieces of their day and year look overwhelming, but a friendly hand and a welcoming smile give them hope that the pieces will eventually fit. A mentoring relationship is like customized in-service; teachers receive the information they need at the point where they can put it into practice.

Another benefit I have noticed about working the puzzle in my class is that it gives students a common goal around which to focus their interactions, alleviating some of the interpersonal anxieties that can occur in a classroom. Teachers face many demands, and often frustrations

breed discontent. At those moments, new teachers watch our example more than ask our advice. Watching how we stay focused on the big picture and manage our emotions helps the new teacher understand how best to handle their difficulties.

Finally, having a puzzle in my classroom has been good for me. At the end of a long day, I sit down for a few minutes and work on the puzzle. When I do, I am reminded of how much like a puzzle my classroom is with pieces of information, a variety of students and a number of different teaching strategies to connect them all. Minutes later, I return to my other responsibilities refreshed by my new perspective.

Mentoring others can be refreshing as well. We gain from seeing their perspective. A young teacher asked me to sit in her room while she talked through her grades on a particularly difficult test. I was still struggling with those same papers, but after talking with her, I found the solution to my own grading dilemma. What a bonus!

The challenge for Delta Kappa Gamma members is clear. We can improve education by getting teachers talking to other teachers, but we must be willing to assist new teachers in assembling the pieces of their teaching puzzle. In the process, we will gain new friends and find valuable members for our organization.

Judy Miller, Zeta Gamma (1-Tyler), is president of her chapter. She is the recipient of a \$1500 Texas State scholarship to work on her master's degree at Covenant College in Lookout Mountain, Georgia. She teaches fourth grade at Grace Community School in Tyler.



Gold Piece

Texas Treasure Boxes Are UP Project for McAllen

A Texas Treasure Box? What is that? It's what's UP at the 82nd State Convention in McAllen. After reading about the many worthwhile projects being completed by the 283 chapters in Texas, members will combine efforts as a whole in the second state Unifying Project (UP)! Last year's sharing and collecting of gently used books was a highlight at the Birthday Luncheon. This year's project will be different, leaving gifts for the chronically ill children in the Valley.

As teachers we are definitely in tune with the importance of play in a child's life. When that child is confined to limited space and undergoing extreme measures to eradicate an illness, play becomes even more important. As educators we promote reading to enhance the child's total well being and to provide special diversion for young patients and their families as the child receives chemotherapy and other medical treatments.

Members are asked to bring to the state convention a shoebox size plastic box filled with goodies to occupy a chronically ill child while in the hospital and to enhance the child's learning. Items to be included are small gifts, toys, cards and games. All boxes should contain a book (English or Spanish). For ease in delivery, each box should be labeled with the child's age, gender and language.

The contributions will be called **Texas Treasure Boxes** filled with the items mentioned above but also with lots of well wishes, hope and love. Chapters may wish to contribute as a whole or individually.

Please encourage members to leave a treasure for these children. Internet search shows that children in the hospitals in the McAllen geographic area have not yet received help from similar projects such as the Jared Box Project. The Personal Growth and Services Committee, Lou Hitt, chairman, will help collect and display boxes prior to distributing them to the respective health centers in the Valley.

ASTEFL...

Continued from page 1

sponsored by other organizations

- assessing and meeting needs of early entry educators
- support for educational research projects, individual study, or attendance at educational conferences
- programs developed by members to improve the education of Texas students

The possibilities to make an impact on the educational environment in Texas through ASTEF projects are extensive. It will take member participation both in developing projects that are pedagogically sound and supporting ASTEF financially. Projects administered by ASTEF will be supported by contributions, fundraising activities and grants. ASTEF can make a difference to Texas educators and students!



Janice Cummings, Waco-McLennan County librarian, (l) accepts approximately 250 books from Dr. Jewel Lockridge from the Unifying Project (UP) of the Waco Convention, making about 1250 gently used books re-purposed as a result of the state project emphasizing going green, literacy and giving back to the community that hosted the state convention.

Joys of Reading ...

Continued from page 7

Dr. Jensi Souders suggested we adopt a common focus to guide our chapter action plans and projects in order for the Society to achieve global recognition, chapters began discussing in their newsletters ways to have an immediate impact on education: giving recruitment grants for college seniors enrolled in education programs, awarding classroom grants to early career teachers, providing welcome baskets (with DKG brochures) to encourage novice teachers. Some chapters included links for instructions and an application for the TSO Aspiring Educator Award. This award is for non-member women who are seeking an education degree. They must be recommended by a TSO/DKG member. Instructions for this award are on the TSO Web site under State Scholarships.

It is an honor for me to read your chapter newsletters and get a glimpse into the story of your chapter. I applaud all your hard work to keep your chapter members informed as you advance the Society through excellent communication.



Joan Hester, Alpha president, (l) congratulates Beth Cotner (center) with the Golden Rose Award at the Alpha chapter meeting in September. State President Dr. Vicki Davis (r) presented the award to Cotner, active member since 1961.

Mid-Winter Professional Development Conference

This is an invitation to participate in a special event to be held from 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM on January 29, 2011, at the Region 20 Education Service Center in San Antonio. Registration is open to all educators. Participants will receive 3 CPE credit hours.

Sessions to be offered include: *The Future of Texas Depends on Recovery*, **Mary Jo McLaughlin, Frances Fair and ACE Students**; *Grant Writing: What to Do and What Not to Do*, **Shirley Owens**; *Creating Better Communication Highways*, **Joanne Davis**; *Movement Development & Folk Dancing Fun*, **Katherine Johns**; *Multilingual Employees in a Global Society*, **Debbie Callihan and Jeanne Callihan**; *Guidelines for Effective Communication with Legislators*, **Sallie Frederick**; *Free Web Tools for the Classroom*, **Shirley Owens**; *Help! Where Can I Find a Desk?* **Sue Whitten**; *Writing Connections*, **Jeanette Pierce**; *Our Voices, Our Lives: Twenty Holocaust Survivors Remember*, **Jeanette Pierce**; *Terrific Science Connections Right in Your Community*, **Discovery Channel Representatives**.

For more information, contact: **Paula Moore, Area 6 Coordinator, gthumbpaula@yahoo.com**

Send payment and registration information to the following address by 01/10/2011: **Scotta Williams, 3027 Split Circle Road, Bulverde, TX 78213-2226**

Make checks payable to: **Beta Tau**
Registration Fee Schedule

Postmarked by 01/10/2011:	DKG Members:	\$20
	Non-members:	\$25
On site 01/29/2010:	DKG Members:	\$35
	Non-members:	\$40

Opportunities Available For Society Scholarships

By Inés García, Scholarship Chairman

It is the time of the year to think about, plan and act on receiving a Texas State Organization (TSO) Scholarship. There are so many possibilities and opportunities for members to receive funds for furthering their education and fulfilling the Society's purposes. Winners of scholarships last year are posted online. The deadline for applying for a 2011 TSO Scholarship is March 1, 2011.

If you are interested, you should get a Scholarships Brochure and read about all of the different types of scholarships that are available. There are scholarships that assist members who are earning college credits, but there are others that are available for Road Scholar, formerly Elderhostel, continuing education, research, conferences and other non-traditional types of professional development activities. There is also a grant opportunity for women who aspire to become educators; these women can apply under the sponsorship of a TSO member.

Applications are available from the following: Chapter Scholarship Chairmen; TSO Scholarship Chairman Inés García, 512-444-5643, garines@sbcglobal.net or Mrs. Betty Vines, Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Texas State Organization, P.O. Box 797787, Dallas, TX 75379-7787, alphastatetexas.org

Calling for Workshop Proposals

The interactive form for submitting proposals for workshops at the McAllen Convention, June 23-25, 2011, is located on the Professional Affairs Committee page on the TSO Web site at www.alphastatetexas.org
Deadline for submitting: March 1, 2011
Requested topics for workshops: science, reading, math, positive behavior supports, special needs population in the general education setting. Other topics will also be considered.

Contact Lynda Anderson at andersonlm52@sbcglobal.net for more information.

Opportunity to Visit Headquarters

By Jeanie Stiles, Headquarters Committee Chairman

Have you thought about spending a day in Dallas? You can shop at the Galleria or North Park, visit the Women’s Museum at Fair Park, **and** visit Texas State Headquarters. We would love to see you there! Office hours are Monday thru Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. If these times do not work for you, call Betty Vines at 972-930-9945 and arrangements can be made for tours with volunteers.

This is our **last** year of the *Hundreds for Headquarters* campaign. **All** chapters that made the extra effort to meet the challenge by donating \$500 over a five year period to the Headquarters Fund will be recognized. The names of chapters completing the *Hundreds for Headquarters* campaign will be posted on the wall in the Headquarters building. If you are not sure if your chapter has met the *Hundreds for Headquarters* campaign challenge, click on the big red checkmark on the front page of the Texas State Web site.

If you have any questions regarding donations, please contact me at stiles@prodigy.com Donation deadline is April 1, 2011. Please “do your best” to meet the *Hundreds for Headquarters* campaign challenge. It would be **AWESOME** to have the name of every chapter in Texas listed as completing *Hundreds for Headquarters*!

CONGRATULATIONS to the 11 chapters whose names have been added recently to the list of chapters completing the *Hundreds for Headquarters* campaign challenge!

Alpha Xi, Alpha Pi, Gamma Epsilon, Gamma Upsilon, Gamma Phi, Gamma Chi, Epsilon Alpha, Eta Alpha, Theta Theta, Mu Zeta, and Mu Rho.

Stern and Spence Announced as McAllen Meeting Speakers

Once again the TSO State Convention will feature outstanding keynote speakers during the conference set for McAllen on June 23-25, 2011.

Sylvia Stern, a well-known consultant, coaches professionals to maximize their full potential by “re-imagining” both internally and externally. A native Texan who lives in Austin, she is a member of Leadership Texas, the Association of Image Consultants International and the Austin Speakers Network. She will be the keynote speaker on Friday morning of the convention. The topic for her address is “That is Not What I Said: Men and Women in Conversation.” She will also present two workshop sessions on Friday afternoon on “Image Matters.”

Mary Gordon Spence delivers engaging and entertaining presentations to audiences. Born into a family of teachers, she always keeps an eye on ways to enhance public education. Her topic for her address is “Finding Magic in the Mundane,” also the title of one of her books. Her latest book is *CASH SITS AROUND*. Known for her unique Texas voice and commentaries that appear regularly in the *Austin American Statesman*, she delivers humorous, yet insightful presentations that shower the audience with affection and joy. And she is really, really funny.

VISUAL ARTS GALLERY PLANNED FOR MCALLEN CONVENTION

Members are invited to apply by **March 15, 2011**, to be part of the visual arts gallery at state convention in McAllen. The exhibit will be one day, Friday, June 24, 2011, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm. The exhibit is an opportunity for Texas members to display their best and most creative endeavors. Art will be only on display and not for sale. The artist is responsible for displaying her art, as well as setting up and taking down. If you are interested in sharing your art, please complete the following information and return it to **Bobbye Lefner, 4405 Park Bend, Harlingen, TX 78552** by the deadline. Number of displays will be determined by the available space.

Name: _____

Chapter: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Contact Number: _____

Description of Art for Display: _____

Please include a photo of the art to be displayed.

Need a Great Program Idea?

Katherine Reed, Research Chairman

Thank you to **Lynda McQuaid, Kappa Pi (1-Tyler)** for this excellent program suggestion utilizing research.

The program was titled, "Can You Believe This?" The purpose was to investigate histories of superstitions (old wives' tales), colloquialisms, and Old Folk remedies. The program facilitators shared some old customs and how some originated. Members had an opportunity then to complete colloquialisms (phrases and idioms) by matching the beginning of the saying with the ending. The matched cards were given to teachers to use in their figurative language units. The research came from facilitators and members who shared their own remedies from childhood and quotes from parents and grandparents. This program brought back memories for all. One of the most amusing moments came when the superstition was told, "Whoever goes to sleep first on the wedding night will be the first to die." All the members started trying to remember who went to sleep first! This program was a lot of fun.

Committee Updates -

Remember to take advantage of the many resources available on our state website.

January, 2011 – Expect a new resource on our state Web site – An updated listing of all of the buildings and facilities in Texas named for state DKG members. The list is impressive! Additional facilities to be listed may be sent to Katherine Reid, 106 Ravenhead Dr., Houston, TX 77034 or emailed to klreid2@comcast.net by December 31, for the January update.

May, 2011 – This is the expected date on which an updated listing of our state Honorary Members and their personal bios will be available on our state Web site. We know you will enjoy reading the fascinating facts about these wonderful famous ladies.

Alpha State Remembers

We mourn the passing and celebrate the lives of these cherished members of the Society.

Names of members whose deaths have been reported to Texas Necrology Chairman Eileen Pink, 6947 Misty Meadow Court, Fort Worth, TX 76133, between August 15, 2010, and November 1, 2010, their chapter and residence at time of death.



In Loving Memory

Mrs. Shirley Faulk Enos, Alpha (7-Austin)
Mrs. Lettie Jane Cook, Alpha Rho (8-Blooming Grove)
Ms. Beatrice Kasper, Alpha Phi (4-Shiner)
Mrs. Ruth Shipley Engel, Alpha Chi (7-Horseshoe Bay)
Miss Bernadette Edith Janda, Beth Theta (7-Round Top)
Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Reader Richmond, Gamma Omicron (4-Beeville)
Dr. Blanche Phillips, Delta Epsilon (2-Woodville)
Mrs. Helen Eisert, Delta Nu (15-El Paso)
Mrs. Sandra Lee Kemper, Delta Omicron (9-Dallas)
Mrs. Marion Parr Light, Delta Omicron (9-Dallas)
Mrs. Elsie Wilson, Epsilon Delta (11-Sudan)
Ms. DeEtta Love Sayers, Epsilon Kappa (7-Austin)
Mrs. Sybil Lou Davis, Eta Zeta (9-Kountze)
Mrs. Helen Gene Delozier Woodard, Eta Eta (9-Dallas)
Mrs. Sara Quintanilla Reyes, Eta Tau (7-Austin)
Mrs. Mary Shannon Facemire, Iota Epsilon (18-Spring)
Miss Ellen Webb Massengill, Iota Eta (11-Littlefield)
Ms. Mildred Wilkening, Kappa Pi (1-Tyler)
Mrs. Calva Holland, Kappa Sigma (10-Breckenridge)
Mrs. Dale Phippen, Kappa Sigma (10-Cisco)
Mrs. Florence Rogers Frank, Kappa Tau (5-Alice)
Mrs. Mary Clark, Kappa Phi (9-Carrollton)
Mrs. Martha Burney Robinson, Lambda Pi (10-Granbury) Chapter Honorary
Mrs. Mary E. Loughran, Theta Alpha (9-Duncanville)
Mrs. LuJean Looper, Theta Kappa (7-Sequin)
Mrs. Connie Martin Atmar, Mu Upsilon (2-Buna)



MUSICIANS: Natalie Eustace, Music Chairman, wants you to perform at the state convention in McAllen. Please contact her at NENotes@aol.com Phone: 432-559-7082

Why Shoes?

By Sandra Smith Bull

Delta Kappa Gamma celebrated the Shoe-in Challenge in Spokane – a way to gain, retain and diversify our membership. The more we found out about the mission of TOMS, the more we wanted to be a part of what they do. Our affiliation with TOMS Shoes developed from our respect for the TOMS story and the realization that we have shared goals including helping to make children’s lives better around the world.

Did you know that many children in developing countries grow up barefoot? Whether at play, doing chores or going to school, these children are at risk:

- A leading cause of disease in developing countries is soil-transmitted diseases, which can penetrate the skin through bare feet. Wearing shoes can help prevent these diseases, and the long-term physical and cognitive harm they cause.
- Wearing shoes also prevents feet from getting cuts and sores. Not only are these injuries painful; but they also are dangerous when wounds become infected.
- Many times children can’t attend school barefoot because shoes are a required part of their uniform. If they don’t have shoes, they don’t go to school. If they don’t receive an education, they don’t have the opportunity to realize their potential.

The TOMS Story

In 2006, American traveler Blake Mycoskie befriended children in Argentina and found they had no shoes to protect their feet. Wanting to help, he created TOMS Shoes, a company that would match every pair of shoes purchased with a pair of new shoes given to a child in need. **One For One.** Blake returned to Argentina with a group of family, friends and staff later that year with 10,000 pairs of shoes made possible by TOMS customers.

As of September 2010, TOMS has given



This group of Texas members plus a few spouses attended the Educational Foundation’s Seminar in Purposeful Living in Tacoma, Washington, before the International Convention in Spokane in July.

CTAUN Schedules Austin Conference

By Marilyn Gregory

CTAUN, The Committee on Teaching About the United Nations, is having a Conference in Austin! Delta Kappa Gamma International and Austin Coordinating Council are partnering with the United Nations to help present this conference. The theme is “Global-Local Partnerships for the 21st Century: A UN Connection” with the emphasis on looking at global issues and how we can incorporate them locally.

Guest speakers from the United Nations will join with local experts in content-rich presentations. There will be keynote addresses, panel discussions, and workshops with topics of social justice, sustainability, and current educational trends. An Info Fair will have resource materials which will help you make practical and relevant connections to school curriculum. Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 2, 2011, from 9AM-4PM. Join Delta Kappa Gamma members, fellow educators and concerned citizens at the Lady Bird Johnson Auditorium, University of Texas, Austin, for this day of professional and personal growth. Registration will begin in January 2011. For more details on the conference and how to register, go to www.teachun.org

over one million pairs of new shoes to children in need through giving partners around the world.

Be a part of **One for One!** Make a difference in the life of a child! When you order shoes from the TOMS web site (www.toms.com) enter the code DKGSI in the discount code box. You will receive a wonderful pair of casual shoes, and a needy child somewhere in a developing country will also receive a pair. In addition, the Educational Foundation will receive a percentage of the sale to be used in their funding of projects. **One For One!**