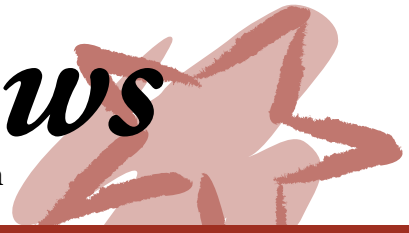


Lone Star News

Official Publication of the Texas State Organization



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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ~ Key Women Educators Fall 2012

Sharing Our Vision – Strengthening Our Society



International President
Dr. Beverly Helms

Dr. Beverly Helms took the challenges of membership head-on when she accepted the presidency of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. She suggested that we need to look at the organization as if we were seeing it for the first time.

Would we see an innovative and thriving organization being relevant in today's world or would we see a group dedicated to the customs and ideas of the past?

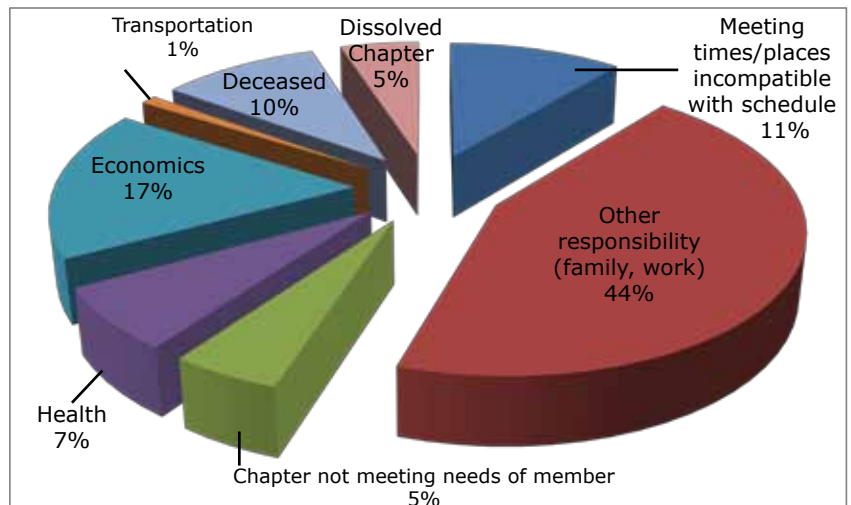
Women teachers today have more options than they had when the Society was founded. In order to compete for these women's time, energy and resources, we must have a clear vision of why we exist and what benefits we offer women teachers. Before we can attract and retain

new members, we must focus our attention on those we have. Are we connecting with them and meeting their needs?

In an online *Survey of Reasons for Dropped Membership*, collected this year, 44% cited family and professional reasons, 17% said economics, 11% indicated meeting times and sites not compatible, 5% said the chapter was not meeting their needs. Twenty-two percent of those responding said that the Society did not understand what they needed to be successful at that stage in their career.

The good news is that 70% of those responding to the survey said that if asked, they would reinstate their membership. When we welcome these members back, will they find new ideas and exciting challenges?

Chapters need to have an open discussion with members to find out what they want from the organization. Then the chapter can work together with all members to set goals and make changes to reach those goals.



Reasons for dropped membership in DKG 2011-1012. Of those responding to an online survey, 70% said they would reinstate if asked.

Dr. Helms has set a personal goal of communicating with every member of the Society. Her idea is that as we strengthen communication between members, those members will become more engaged. Engaged members strengthen the chapter. Strong chapters mean stronger states and a stronger international organization.

2011-2013

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*We cannot
hold a torch to
light another's
path without
brightening our
own.*

Ben Sethland

Focusing on membership

Joanne Davis
2011-2013
Texas State President



What an exciting summer for the Texas State Organization! We had over 1100 attending the state convention in Las Colinas and 129 traveled to New York City for the International Convention. Chapters have new leadership and International has new officers. It is a fresh start as we begin a new school year.

As we start this new year, I believe our major focus should be membership. We must initiate, reinstate, maintain, and energize our membership. The big question is how do we accomplish this. First, we must introduce DKG to qualified members. Invite them to meetings, offer CPE credits at meetings by planning programs that meet CPE criteria, develop projects that appeal to prospective members and publicize them. Survey our members for program and project ideas.

Second, consider having more than one initiation during the year. A fall initiation is great, but a second one in April, when initiates pay only the initiation fee and do not pay dues until the fall, might help your chapter strengthen its membership. All have had members drop during the past few years because of various situations. Sometimes situations change and former members would reinstate if asked. Some are under the misconception that once they resign they cannot come back. We need to make former members feel welcome and let them know that all it takes for them to come back is to pay this year's dues. Some chapters have had parties and invited all former members in an attempt to reconnect with them.

Third, as programs and projects for the new year are planned, make sure that they are relevant to the needs of the members. Our newer members are keenly interested in relevancy. Time is critical to all of us, and we want to make good use of it.

Membership must be the focus for the year. The I's have it: Invite, Initiate, Involve and Invigorate all members!



Betty's Buzz

Betty Vines
Executive Secretary/Treasurer



My! How time flies! At the state level, we are already into the second year of this biennium. For chapters, it is a new beginning with new officers.

Thanks to the treasurers who submitted the yearly report that was due July 15. It is always a goal to have 100% reporting so reminders continue to be sent. Reports such as this can now be submitted electronically. Occasionally since different kinds and ages of computers are being used, the computers do not always talk to each other. When that happens, we have to have a hard copy sent.

Dues collection should be well underway. We are in the process of getting more suggestions and tips on the website for you. Treasurers should have received their dues "packet" from international. If you have not, please check with the previous treasurer to see if she received it. If not, let us or international know. Be aware that the dues for state and international are the same as last year---no changes.

Last, but certainly not least, be reminded to file the 990-N for your chapter. If you are a new treasurer, please ask the past treasurer to help you with this. DO NOT ignore it or it will become the 990-N Nightmare for you and your chapter.



If you receive a letter regarding your filings from the IRS, DO NOT ignore it. Call us and we will get help for you. It is strongly recommended that one person in each chapter be designated to file this form with the IRS each year rather than changing each time a chapter changes treasurers. Keep a file of your receipts and all documentation.

May this be the best year ever for you and your chapter!



Cheryl Crawford

Excitement abounds here at headquarters because we have a new addition to our staff. Cheryl Crawford began as our administrative clerk on July 1. She brings great experience to our staff because of her varied experiences in our Society, especially as a chapter treasurer. She not only works at headquarters, but she is the currently chairman of the headquarters committee.

At-A-Glance Deadlines

July 1-15	Form 990 sent to IRS Submit Early!
Sept 22	CTAUN Austin, TX
Oct 1	Mini Grant Application
Oct 15	Leadership Seminar Applications
Nov 1	Members dropped for non-payment of dues Early Bird Yearbooks International Cornetet Seminar Award Application
Nov 6	Election Day
Nov 10	Chapter Treasurer Form 18 due to TSO Headquarters
Dec 1	Yearbooks due Golden Gift Special Stipend Application Ed Foundation project applications

Committees

Oct 6-7	Executive Committee
Nov 17 -18	Leadership Seminar Committee

Highlights

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Stipends awarded

Jean Webb, president, ASTEF board of directors
webbjeanh@sbcglobal.net

During the TSO Convention, ASTEF (Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation) presented six stipends totaling \$1,000 in recognition of outstanding chapter projects. Chapters across the state were encouraged to apply for support for their projects from ASTEF, TSO's new educational foundation. Congratulations to these six chapters and their outstanding projects.

Eta Omega, Area 4, has given over 6,000 books to young readers in the Brazosport Independent School District during the past four years through their Janice's Storybook Summer project.

Epsilon Kappa, Area 7, set up a mentoring program, Supporting Early Career Educators, that supports teachers in their first through third year of teaching.

Lambda Pi, Area 10, Books for Babies provides each newborn's family at Granbury Medical Center with an English or Spanish language book kit which includes a book, bib, bow, greeting card, and DKG label. Lambda Pi works with Friends of the Library and hospital staff to maintain an adequate supply of kits.

Zeta Epsilon, Area 11, plans and implements an interactive Women STEM-ulate Career Fair on one or more elementary campuses which focuses on multiple career opportunities for female students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Alpha Sigma, Area 12, Books for Gold Bold is a collaborative effort between Alpha Sigma and Scholastic Books. Chapter members work at the Scholastic Warehouse in Lubbock to earn credit for books for students at Post Elementary.

Mu Pi, Area 18, Empowering Classroom Teachers with Technology provides workshops for classroom teachers on meaningful and integral educational apps. Teachers learn by doing, create lessons appropriate for their assignments, and contribute to a website so other teachers can learn and apply these apps to their classrooms.

Chapters and individuals who have a project that meets the mission of ASTEF (found on the website) are encouraged to apply for 2013 stipends. The application form will be on the website after October 1 and the application deadline is April 1, 2013.



Darlene Bealmear and Jean Robinson, ASTEF director, are putting coins into the ASTEF lighthouse to produce light.

Having FUN while supporting ASTEF!



Ella Gauthier looking at treasures in the raffle area.



Dr. Gloria Crum, leadership seminar chair and ex-officio director of ASTEF, and Lee Bourg, vp of programs for ASTEF, kissing the ASTEF frog and TSO toad to find their prince charming.

Exceeding standards in chapter newsletters

Karolyn Caldwell, communication chair
kbellrc@hotmail.com

The TSO Communications Committee has announced a new distinction to be awarded to chapter newsletters in 2012-2013. It is a Seal of Merit, which will be added to the certificates of Five Star Newsletters in recognition of those publications that clearly exceed the standards for outstanding newsletters. The Five Star award is designed to recognize chapters which use newsletters to promote the professional image and reputation of the Society as well as a vehicle to stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and the health of the chapter.



Members of the communications committee may nominate newsletters from their respective areas that meet the Seal of Merit criteria, and the state chair may nominate at large. The seal will be awarded upon consensus of the committee. Consideration for both the Five Star Award and the Seal of Merit began with newsletters submitted after July 1, 2012.

Chapter newsletter editors and communications chairmen are encouraged to refer to the Guidelines for an Outstanding Newsletter and the Seal of Merit criteria posted online at the state website in the list of resources on the communications committee page.



Think about elections and the issues

Suzanne Bathe, legislative chair
suzanne.bathe@sbcglobal.net

This year begins a new biennium for each chapter. As the chapter starts to plan meetings for the upcoming year, make sure that one of the first program topics is legislation. Two of our purposes as a Society are:

- To initiate, endorse and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators.
- To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

Election day is about three months away. Now is the perfect time to reach out to your senator and representative. Some of them are in the heat of the battle to be re-elected. Who are their competitors? Schedule a meeting to go and meet with them, or better yet invite them to one of your chapter meetings. If you are close to a sister chapter, you might even want to hold a joint meeting for this event. Now is the time to get to know your legislators and share with them what you are facing as an educator, both active and retired. Why not open your meeting to all educators in your area? If you establish a great relationship with them now, when you visit with them later in the session, they will remember you and be open to hearing your opinions.



Members of the legislative committee at the letter writing booth in Las Colinas include Wynonna Lipsett, Suzanne Bathe, Ruthie Estes and Emma Jean Tanner.

Members working and sharing in the Texas State Organization



The scholarship committee awarded \$57,000 in scholarships this year. Committee members are Linda Schulz, Carolyn Waller, scholarship chairman Dr. Barbara Derrick, State President Joanne Davis, Rene Pittman. Back Row: Dr. Stephanie Doyen, Executive Secretary Betty Vines, Cindy Neander and Dr. Marlene Zipperlen.



Dr. Carolyn Underwood, professional affairs chair, Cindy Ellege, professional affairs committee member and Evelyn Wilson, session presenter. Session handouts are posted on the TSO website.



Cheryl Crafword, headquarters chair; Dr. Jeni Souders, international president and Carole Lowe, archives chair, were the first of over 60 members to take a tour of TSO headquarters in Dallas.



The 2012 State Achievement Award was presented to Annora Ables, Rhonda Posey, Dr. Sandra Weeks, Carol McMillan and Natalie Eustace.



The 2012 Golden Rose Award was presented to Martha Kirgan, Ellen Buchhorn, Gretchen Dupnik, Mary McCown and Evelyn Wilson.



TSO scholarship #48 is named the Jean Hefner Webb and Ines Garcia Scholarship.



Music committee: Wynona Lipsett, accompanist; Deborah Payne, director; Linda Hale; Martha Kirgan; Melody Drinkard; Glenda Black; Elsie Couch; Marilyn Anderson; Geralann Barnes; Patricia Bumpus; Sharon Kraus; Patti Oefelein and Nila Mair

Chapters earn PACE

TSO president, Joanne Davis awarded 22 chapters the President's Award for Chapter Excellence for 2011-2012. An additional 38 chapters received honorable mention. Chapters earn points toward this coveted award by their work in the areas of chapter leadership, programs and projects, dynamics, publicity and contributions.

The following PACE chapter winners are listed with the name of the chapter president (2011-2012):

- Area 3: Gamma Nu, Margaret Ehlig
- Area 4: Epsilon Omega, Kay Danziger,
Gamma Omicron, Jan Anderson
- Area 5: Rho, Elva Villarreal,
Epsilon Upsilon, Lee Bourg
- Area 6: Delta Beta, Janice McWhorter,
Beta Zeta, Tammy Vitek
- Area 7: Gamma Omega, Mary Keienburg,
Alpha Chi, Carol Young,
Nu, Evelyn Barrett,
Epsilon Kappa, Kim Thonhoff,
Theta Kappa, Pat Villeneuve
- Area 8: Tau, Alicia Smith
- Area 9: Gamma Beta, Linda Puster
- Area 10: Lambda Pi, Suzan Watson,
Iota Pi, Cindy Drumm
- Area 12: Theta Epsilon, Deborah Payne
- Area 13: Lambda Xi, Sharon Daugherty
- Area 14: Zeta Xi, Lois Templeton
- Area 16: Gamma Epsilon, Carol Donovan
- Area 18: Mu Pi, Risa McCann,
Zeta Tau, Sandra Schneider



PACE winners for 2011-2012

Nominations sought

Linda Somervill, nominations chair
lesomervill@charter.net

Leadership is what we train for; its what DKG does best. Now it's time to nominate the leaders of leaders for the 2013-2015 biennium. The TSO Nominations Committee invites your nomination submissions.



The deadline for submissions is January 1, 2013.

Only official nomination forms should be submitted. Either electronic or print submissions are acceptable.

In addition to the president, first vice-president, second vice-president, recording secretary and corresponding secretary, TSO will elect two members of the finance committee, two members of the Eula Lee Carter Memorial Fund Committee and seven members of the nominations committee.

Consult the TSO Bylaws and the TSO Official Manual for complete information about the qualifications and duties of each officer and committee member. Begin the nomination process early and obtain the necessary letter of endorsement from the chapter executive board.

The official nomination form is available now on the TSO website. Forms should be returned to TSO nominations committee Chair Linda Somervill: email to lesomervill@charter.net or regular post to 319 N. Travis St., Granbury, TX 76048.

TSO Unifying Project successfully completed

Lynda Anderson, personal growth and services chair

andersonlm52@sbcglobal.net

Personal Growth and Services Committee along with the USO volunteers would like to thank the Las Colinas 2012 Convention attendees for the books, DVD's, cases and money that were donated to the United Through Reading Program. The Unifying Project was a huge success. The final count was 2,982 books, 1,928 DVD's, 1,999 cases and \$325.00.



Lynne James (Delta Theta), Pam Fredeck (USO), Linda Robinson (USO) and Stacey Arnold (Delta Theta) exchanging information about the United Service Organization.



Lynda Anderson, personal growth and services chair, Tudy Giordano, USO volunteer and Linda Robinson, USO volunteer coordinator.

USO picked up books to disperse at DFW airport center. They made several pickups of all the items donated.

The United Service Organization is a nonprofit, congressionally chartered, private organization that relies on individuals, organizations and corporations to support its activities. The USO is not part of the U.S. government, but is recognized by the Department of Defense, Congress and President of the United States, who serves as Honorary Chairman of the USO.

The 2013 Unifying Project will be announced this fall.

DKG Week of Caring announced for March 2013

Personal Growth and Services Committee has been sharing the designated week for DKG Week of Caring. Mark your calendars for the week of March 3-9, 2013.

The vision for the Week of Caring is for each chapter to select a project or projects to help in their communities; i.e. volunteer to read in a classroom, take muffins to the workroom, send notes to the new teachers that the first year is nearly over, visit an assisted living community where a retired member lives, send a care package to a soldier or take items to the local shelter. Other ideas can be found on the International website, www.dkg.org educational excellence committee page. They are promoting Schools for Africa Project, Support Early-Career Educators (SEE) and other programs.

Several chapters have already responded that they are going to be doing something for the first responders in their areas (firemen) with cookies, bottled water and other needs.

When the week is up we ask that you share your information with the Chairman of the Personal Growth and Services Committee Lynda Anderson at andersonlm52@sbcglobal.net We will collect the data and share at the convention in Austin.

The goal is to let your community know that DKG Cares and we can impact the state with our acts of kindness and service.

Austin Promises a “Capitol” Convention in 2013

Elizabeth Polk, convention chair

epolk@austinisd.org



A Capitol Convention

Plans are underway for an exciting 84th Texas State Convention slated for Austin June 20-22, 2013. Reserve this date so you can “Explore the Possibilities” and let your vision light the way to Central Texas where you can celebrate, collaborate and communicate with your friends and sisters in Delta Kappa Gamma.

Members of the Steering Committee are planning a Kick-off meeting on September 29 at the Austin Renaissance when hotel staff will lead TSO President Joanne Davis and other guests on a tour of the convention site. Attending will be

the TSO Executive Committee, State and convention committee chairmen, and presidents and leaders of Area 6 and 7 chapters. Members of the Steering Committee planning the event are Elizabeth Polk, convention chairman; Sandra Morales and Pam Atkins, convention co-chairmen; Kathryn Wright, registrar; Laura Packard, treasurer; Carol Daniels, secretary; Joan Hester, Area 7 coordinator; and consultants, Catherine Davis and Diane Moose. This Kick-Off event will give attendees a better understanding of their responsibilities during the convention as well as a clearer vision of the hotel facilities and offerings of Austin as the convention city.



Elizabeth Polk, Austin convention chairman, and Janie Molonado.



Honoring, Learning, Leading

Four Texas members attended the 2012 Leadership/Management Seminar (LMS) at the McCombs School of Business, University of Texas, Austin, on July 1-July 14, 2012. This intense educational training was taught by world-renown experts in their field. Here are reflections of these Texas leaders on the time they spent in Austin this summer:

Cathy Criner, Alpha Alpha (Ennis-9): “How exciting to take what we learned and use it! All I can say is that I am going to have to watch out because I may not recognize myself after I get going.”

Dr. Linda Eller, Epsilon Kappa (Austin-7): “Meeting so many wonderful women from all around the world was empowering and inspiring.”

Dr. Jo Murphy, Iota Iota (Denton-16): “I believe in myself and the impact I can have on the lives of others. It is just all very empowering!”

Connie Rensink, Theta Chi, (North Richland Hills-10): “The gift of this time to grow together as we were challenged to personally reflect on many different facets of leadership is one I will value forever.”



GOLD PIECE

Becoming a voice for education

Marie Gonzales, Kappa Lambda-7

As I was hurrying to my first session at the Alpha State Convention in June, I passed a legislative letter-writing station. A woman flagged me down to offer help with drafting a letter to my state representative, an offer I politely declined. I sincerely hope she didn't mistake my declination as a lack of interest in the legislative process, as I quite agree that input from professional educators is imperative to producing quality legislation. And I frequently voice my opinion on a wide range of educational issues to my representative, although I do not need to write to him to do so – my current state representative is also my husband.

One of our Society purposes is to support education legislation. Many of us feel dwarfed by the legislative process, convinced our voice is too small to be heard on the grand stage that is Texas government. This is simply not the case. The Texas legislature is made up of 181 men and women who were elected to represent their communities in the legislative process. These folks are as diverse as the different regions of Texas they serve, and their professions vary widely as well. Not one of them can possibly arrive at the capitol an expert on every state issue. They must research issues and proposed legislation. Input from educators can only further edify them.

Do you know that the official title for a State Representative is "The Honorable?" The word "politician" often has a negative connotation, but I believe serving the state of Texas in this capacity truly is honorable. Each legislator has participated in the election process, an action I can only describe as extraordinarily brave. Most have contributed personal monies to the campaign process and made him or herself available to answer questions about a wide array of state issues. Many have withstood attacks on their character because contrary to popular belief, most citizens are swayed by negative campaigning. Each state legislator has made the decision to sacrifice time away from their families and their professions to participate in the lawmaking process, often with very little financial compensation. They are honorable people who are working hard to do what they think is right, and the only way they can adequately represent you is if you write a letter, make an appointment, send an email or speak at a committee hearing.

November elections are just around the corner. Campaigns can be confusing, and it may be difficult to determine which candidate best represents you. Take the time to review your representative's voting record on educational legislation, and allow that to inform your vote. Remember your voice is important, both on Election Day and beyond.

Focusing on Program of Works

Natalie Eustace, program chair
NENotes@aol.com

CONGRATULATIONS Texas chapters! Ninety-five chapters earned the coveted "Annie Award" for an outstanding program or project during our state convention in Las Colinas. Annie display boards created an idea resource as members took notes and pictures for their chapters. Representatives from each winning chapter are pictured on the Alpha State Web Site where DKG members can also view a list of all the Annie winning program titles and the names of their chapters to contact for more detailed information as needed.

Members successfully trained through Program of Work training where they learned more about each of the seven POW committees. Then they explored many of this year's successful programs presented by enthusiastic chapter members. Question and answer time made us all more knowledgeable about possibilities to explore in the new year. Area Workshops have continued this exploration.

Chapters are now planning this year's programs remembering the following:

- Set your chapter's plans in motion for Supporting Early-Career Educators.
- Survey your members as soon as possible to discover what types of programs they would most likely attend. Then "plan it and they will come."
- Create a warm, caring environment for both members and guests at all meetings.
- Select a program or project and submit an Annie Application (with display board photo) by the April 1 deadline.



Need some help with chapter programs? Adapt an idea from these Annie Award winners:

Lambda Sigma-Area 4: "What Happens to Delta Kappa Gamma if a Piece of its Puzzle is Missing?"

An outline of the letters Delta Kappa Gamma or chapter name are drawn on a large poster with markings where pieces fit, much like a jigsaw puzzle. As members arrive at the meeting, each one locates their own puzzle piece upon which is printed their name plus office or committee. They then place their puzzle piece on the matching location of the large puzzle poster.

Theta Tau-Area 14: "International Potluck Dinner"

Each member prepared one item of food from the seventeen DKG member countries. They then shared information about each country, even creating dinner placemats with the country's flag on one side and interesting facts to share on the other.

Iota Psi-Area 2: "Great Getaways and Road Trips with Flat Annie"

Each member was given a blank cardboard outline of Annie that she decorated and then planned Annie's travels to suit her personality and abilities. Many members would not be traveling on long trips, but they could take Annie anywhere they were going - whether it was football games, club meetings, doctor's appointments, etc. Presentation of Annie was left up to members' creative ideas, thinking and taste. Members were very much involved, excited and truly amazed by the presentations of "Traveling Annies."



Area 2: Sherilyn Goodman (Eta) and Justine White (Iota Psi) present the Necrology Ceremony.



Area 4: Jean Merka (Alpha Iota) and Debra Mahlmann (Alpha Iota) picking up registration materials.



Area 5: Area members listening to a presentation on the research committee's role in the chapter.



Area 6: Beta Tau members Gloria Morales, Dorothy Bankhead, Paula Moore and Dawn Moreno at the opening session.



Area 7: Dr. Rosemary Morrow (Alpha) sharing program ideas with members.



Area 10: Shelly Samuels (Alpha Gamma) and Susan Wilson (Epsilon Nu.)

Area Workshops August 4 & 11



Area 14: Kathy Landrum (Zeta Xi) receiving recognition from Jennifer Askey (Theta Mu) for World Fellowship fund raising.



Area 15: Mu Kappa members Becky Avery, Rebecca Roy and Karen Burmeister enjoying lunch.



Area 17: Jan Riley (Kappa Mu) and Evalonia Barrett Bolton (Kappa Mu) prior to the closing session.

Classroom partners make a difference

Deanie Knight, Theta Kappa-7

What does a retired teacher, absent from the classroom and perhaps missing it, do when she learns there are “on duty” teachers who could use some help?

She helps, of course.

In Seguin, some of Theta Kappa chapter’s retired members have answered this call to duty through a program started by their DKG chapter. The plan was to become a classroom partner for a current teacher, and so far the response has been very favorable.

One success story from a first grade teacher about her retired partner reads like a commercial for Master Card...

44 students to read with...

44 individual reading assessments...

Different reading levels to meet needs, sight words to learn...

Having Pat Villeneuve helping you ...Priceless!

Theta Kappa’s past president, Pat Villeneuve, works with two different classrooms and one of her passions is reading. She reports it is so great to see children develop a love of reading. She even learned some things from the third graders when they presented their bio poems about a famous person.

“It is a win-win situation for them and me,” she said.

Two retirees chose to help in the elementary libraries. Their duties included helping students find a book they want to read, re-shelving books, cataloging and processing all the new books. This project includes putting AR test stickers on the books which teachers say is a huge help.

One librarian remarked about her retired partner: “Her presence in the library is so uplifting. The days she comes are always bright; the kids can tell that she is interested in them when she visits with them and they always respond to her in a positive way. I can tell that she was a master teacher.”

A retired first grade teacher said she has a new respect for kindergarten teachers because it has been a real challenge getting those little ones to listen while she reads.

Being called back into the classroom after retirement is certainly a challenge, but the volunteers have answered the call, and the resulting partnerships are gifts for everyone involved.

Theta Kappa’s classroom partners volunteered more than 225 hours during the 2011-12 school year. They hope to increase that number this fall.



Retired teacher Diane Gesick (left) and her teaching partner Patricia Bischoll discussing strategies to help Patricia’s 5th graders.

Alpha State Remembers

We mourn the passing and celebrate the lives of those cherished members of the Society whose deaths have been reported to Texas Necrology Chair Carolyn Rigsby between April 1, 2012 and August 15, 2012. They are reported by their chapter, area and place of residence at time of death.

Martha Lel Hawkins, Alpha (7), Austin
Judge Mary Pearl Williams, Alpha (7), Austin
Sharron "Sheri" Butler Owens, Lambda (8), Temple
Dr. Colleen Durrington, Mu (13), Abilene
Frances Herman, Mu (13), Abilene
Dot Z. Miller, Nu (7), Schulenburg
Marjorie Beaumont Quick, Xi (7), Round Rock
Mary Lynn Marsh, Pi (11), Amarillo
Frances Ann Dornbusch, Rho (5), Edinburg
Katherine E. Brothers, Alpha Gamma (10), Burleson
Dorothy Rose Williams, Alpha Zeta (17), Marshall
Alta A. Harper, Alpha Eta (1), Tyler
Juanita C. Aguilar, Alpha Nu (5), Laredo
Barbara Agnes Johnson, Alpha Chi (7), Fredericksburg
Linda Andersen, Beta Eta (3), Bellaire
Grace H. Clark, Beta Nu (8), Harker Heights
Norma Jo Shelton, Beta Phi (10), Arlington
Josephine Brown, Gamma Alpha (8), Katy
Lela Ruth Hollman, Gamma Omicron (4), Kenedy
Carol Stauzenberger, Gamma Pi (6), Pearsall
Alma Gonzalez, Gamma Rho (6), Eagle Pass
Laura Elise Rodriguez, Gamma Rho (6), Eagle Pass
Beverly Ann Hermann, Gamma Omega (7), Brenham
Anna H. Bingham Lykos, Delta Zeta (1), Liberty
Sandra Hightower, Delta Rho (9), Balch Springs
Nan Marie Porter, Delta Rho (9), Dallas
Maxine Tubbs Lingwall, Epsilon Kappa (7), Austin
Mary Juanita Wheeler, Epsilon Psi (3), Baytown
Ermine Pearce Barrick, Zeta Alpha (4), Ft. Worth
Elaine Sammons, Eta Sigma (8), Waco
B. Brenda Bennett, Theta Beta (6), San Antonio
Theo A. Wagner, Theta Gamma (5), Corpus Christi
Ella Louise Sherron, Theta Zeta (3), Baytown
Mary Nell Brown, Theta Lambda (18), Houston
Dr. Dorothy Scott, Theta Nu (1), Tyler
Marylon B. Huml, Theta Phi (17), Tyler
May Campbell, Theta Psi (2), Santa Fe
Mary Ann Goin, Iota Iota (16), Denton

Dr. Sylvia R. Reyna, Kappa Beta (San Antonio-6), has been selected Chief of School Leadership for Dallas ISD.

Jeanie Murphy, Beta (San Antonio-6), completed a Doctorate of Business Administration (DBA) from the University of Phoenix.

Billie Stevenson, Lambda Upsilon (Rockwall-9), had an elementary school named in her honor.

Agnes Wright, Kappa Beta (San Antonio-6), was given the Graceann Durr Humanitarian Service Award by Methodist Healthcare Systems.

Teresa Toliver, Kappa Kappa (Stafford-18), received a Cornet Professional Development Award to attend the Career Tech VISION, ACTE in Atlanta, GA.

Kay Smith, Alpha Lambda (Kingsville-5), received a TTIPS (Texas Title I Priority Schools) grant to work on her doctorate.

Karen Rodriguez, Lambda Alpha (Houston-18), earned her doctorate in Educational Administration from Texas A&M University.

Sue Hanke Laird, Eta Zeta (Dallas-9), received a Cora McFarland Scholarship awarded by the Dallas County Coordinating Council.

Anita Pilling, Lambda Lambda (The Woodlands-18), received a grant from the World Affairs Council of Houston to travel to Sri Lanka.

Sandra King, Theta Alpha (Forney-9), was selected by the Texas Library Association to be part of the 2012 TALL Texas Leadership Institute.

Shirley Sisk, Mu Iota (Dayton-2), applied for a Texas Support for Homeless Education Program grant for her district. Dayton ISD has been selected as a site to receive funding for three years to support students that have been identified as homeless.

Jan Tekel, Eta Mu (Beaumont-2), received an award for being an outstanding teacher from the Wayne Reaud Foundation.

Member
News



Nikita Russell, Iota Pi (Mansfield-10), was named a Texas National Distinguished Principal finalist by the Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association.

Member News continued

Katherine Reid, Theta Sigma (Houston-3), was inducted into the Director's Circle of the Endowed Scholarship Society at Baylor University. She was also one of 25 persons invited this year to be part of the Patient and Family Advisory Council for the Methodist Hospital System in Houston.

Judy Patterson, Beta Eta (Pasadena-3), was given the "Achieve More" award by Pasadena ISD for being instrumental in contributing to student success.

Karen Rodriguez, Lambda Alpha (Houston-18), earned her doctorate in Educational Administration from Texas A&M University.

Marcia Stevens, Eta Mu (Beaumont 2), was named one of the 2012 Pioneering Women of Beaumont for her outstanding contributions to the community.

Janice Trahan, Alpha Omega (Nederland-2), was awarded a 2012 Excellence in Education Award from the Beaumont Foundation. She also received a grant for innovative strategies from the Port Arthur Public School Foundation.



Members with fifty or more years who attended 83rd TSO Convention in Las Colinas

Dolly Benson (50), Zeta Xi; **Ernestine Carson** (50), Delta Beta; **Grace Brandenburg** (50), Kappa Upsilon; **Myrtice Larson** (62), Beta Phi; **Ruth Hull** (52), Zeta Gamma; **Dr. Aleene Van de Grift** (55), Delta Tau; **Gloria Goodsell** (51), Zeta Gamma

Achieving National Board certification

Shirl Hawes, LDCCP chair
shirlhawes@gmail.com

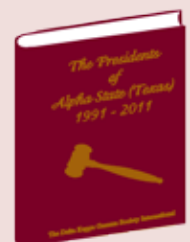
For the first time, members with National Board certification were recognized at the 2012 International Convention in New York and at the 2012 TSO Convention in Las Colinas. The following members from Texas hold National Board Certification:

Julie Comardo, Kappa Kappa-18; **Robin Gattis**, Eta Zeta-9; **Shirl Hawes**, Kappa Kappa-18; **Lori Jagdisch**, Epsilon Kappa-7; **Deborah Keenan**, Epsilon Kappa-7; **Pam Kelly**, Epsilon Kappa-7; **Shirley Kochman**, Delta Omicron-9; **Joanie Marshall**, Xi-7; **Kimberly Mouser**, Mu Pi-18; **Barbara Wilson**, Epsilon Kappa-7

National Board certification is an opportunity for outstanding professional development culminating in an advanced teaching credential. Candidates must hold a bachelor's degree and have 3 years of teaching experience to qualify. Candidates complete 10 assessments in their certification area showing what they know (content knowledge) and what they are able to do (teaching practice). Two of these assessments require a video segment of classroom interactions with students. Another assessment features a family component and acknowledges teacher accomplishments outside the classroom. The final six assessments are administered at computer-based testing centers. Candidates have 30 minutes per question to demonstrate their expertise on standards specific to their certification area.

Teachers who complete the requirements show considerable improvement in teaching practice and leadership skills. Their students make higher gains on achievement tests. The certificate is portable from state to state and often includes financial incentives. Once certified, teachers meet the definition of "highly qualified teacher" under NCLB.

If you didn't get a copy of "The Presidents of Alpha State (Texas) 1911-2011," a few copies still remain. The order form is available from www.alphastatetexas.org



Supporting DKG initiatives



Schools for Africa

The vision of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is to impact education worldwide. In 2010 the Society adopted Schools for Africa as its first official international project.



Supporting UNICEF's work with governments, local authorities, communities and other partners, DKG is helping more and more girls and boys get a quality education.

Information and outstanding resources are available on the library tab of www.dkg.org Included are newsettes highlighting different countries that are part of the Schools for Africa program, a PowerPoint presentation on the program for chapter meetings and information on how to give money to the program and what the money buys.

Support Early-Career Educators



Education is a challenging career, and retaining quality teachers is an issue worldwide. Veteran teachers are retiring, and new teachers are leaving the profession at high rates.

The educational excellence committee recommended at the New York convention that Delta Kappa Gamma officially adopt the **Support Early-career Educator** initiative. S.E.E. encourages members and chapters to be creative in support of early-career educators with a variety of strategies such as:

- Being available to support with phone calls and visits
- Helping with lesson plans and bulletin board ideas.
- Offering advice on classroom management and parent-teacher relations.
- Providing support in any way that is appropriate and practical.

For more information, click on the committee tab of www.dkg.org

Have you ever received an email with an attachment to find that you could not open the attachment? Have you ever sent an email with an attachment and the response was that the recipient could not open your attachment?

The solution lies in creating a Portable Document Format. Basically, if you are sending or receiving a document via email, you should have it in a PDF so that it can be viewed by all. This is a great tool since it allows everyone to view the document no matter what software was used to create it, how old your computer is or what your technology skill level is.

If you receive a document attached to an email that you are unable to view because the letters PDF appear at the end of the attachment name, you should go to <http://get.adobe.com/reader/otherversions/> to download Adobe Acrobat onto your computer. (This is the link for both a Mac and a PC.) This will allow you to view any PDF document.

If you would like to send a document attached to an email that everyone can read no matter what type of computer or software they have, you should go to <http://www.cutepdf.com/Products/CutePDF/writer.asp> and select "Free Download" on the left side of the screen. You can now save a document as a PDF by selecting "Print" on your computer after completing your document. You will see "CutePDF" as a printer choice. Selecting this will convert your document to a PDF. Then attach it to your email.

