

# Lone Star News

Official Publication of the Texas State Organization



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## Jo Murphy nominee for 2017-2019 president

The Texas State Nominations Committee has selected nominees for state officers and elected personnel to present to the convention body in Houston.

The new nominees include **Dr. Jo Murphy**, Beta Zeta, (Fredericksburg-6), president; **Shalan Inmon**, Alpha Sigma, (Slayton-12), first vice-president; **Patti Belknap**, Theta Alpha, (Arlington-9), second vice-president; **Cindy Neander**, Kappa Theta, (Flower Mound-16), corresponding secretary; **Judy Mezick**, Iota Omega, (Plano-9), recording secretary.



Dr. Jo Murphy

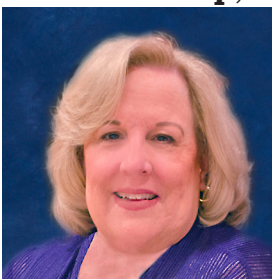
Presidential Nominee **Dr. Jo Murphy** is currently serving as State Leadership Seminar chair and member ex officio of the ASTEF Board of Directors. Previously she has served Texas State Organization (TSO) as corresponding secretary, first-vice president, personnel and scholarship committee chair as well as member on several committees including the special committee to rewrite TSO Bylaws and State Rules and write the Guidelines for State Personnel. Murphy was a 2005 participant in the State Leadership Seminar. She received the 2013 State Achievement Award and was honored with a scholarship named after her in 2006. Internationally, she served as the 2014-2016 chair of the Golden Gift Fund committee. In 2012 she participated in the Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar.

**Shalan Inmon**, nominee for first vice-president, presently serves as state recording secretary. Inmon has been Area 12 coordinator, State Leadership Seminar committee chair and 2014 Lubbock state convention chair. She recently served on the special committee to brainstorm, plan and implement TSO restructure. She was a participant in the 2005 State Leadership Seminar and received the 2014 State Achievement Award.



Shalan Inmon

**Patti Belknap**, nominee for second vice-president, presently serves



Patti Belknap

as first vice-president and chair of the Educational Excellence Committee. She is a member of LDCP as well as the TSO liaison to CTAUN. She recently agreed to chair a special committee to rewrite the state's Strategic Action Plan. Belknap has served as Area 9 coordinator, chair of ceremonies and archives and co-chair of the 2005 Dallas state convention. She was a participant in the 2001 State Leadership Seminar and received the State Achievement Award in 2013. Internationally, she is a member of the Educational Excellence Committee.

See nominees page 4

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## The Heart of the Society is its Members



Marilyn Gregory  
Texas State President  
2015-2017



As I think back as a student and remember what it was like going back to school from the summer break, I recall an element of excitement in renewing friendships and making new friends. Teachers would plan lessons to make sure learning came alive through engaging experiences. Sleep was impossible the night before school began. Coming to convention is somewhat like that.

State Convention has many activities for everyone. Friends, workshops, speakers, awards, business, food, music and even shopping are part of the experience. Every year it is a goal of mine to make at least five new friends, which is easy to do.

There will be CPE workshops for those who need credit, personal growth workshops with some highlighting health issues and Society workshops. Special speakers will inspire, encourage and enrich our lives. At the business session there are decisions to make to ensure our state business is conducted accurately and democratically.

The camaraderie experienced by members of the fantastic state choir as they practice and sing at several convention events brings many members back each year. Then there are the events themselves. Members relax and make new friends while enjoying the festive Birthday Luncheon with an entertaining speaker. They dress up for the elegant Founders' Banquet where new officers will glow with excitement as they are presented and installed.

This year members have the opportunity to gather in support of their chapter presidents as the presidents are presented to the convention attendees.

Why should you attend? Just like starting a new school year, members will experience and grow no matter how many times they go to convention. Once members attend and have memorable experiences, they want to return. I hope to see every member in Houston to make new memories.



*Houston, June 22-24, 2017*

# Hints and Tips from Headquarters

Leesa Cole & Cheryl Crawford  
Headquarters Staff



Thanks to all our chapter treasurers for their hard work collecting and submitting their dues this year. We are very close to completing the process. As the annual dues process draws to a close, the initiation and reporting of new members, as well as the reinstatement of members who are coming back into our organization, continues throughout the year.

Quick reminders about new initiates — when your chapter initiates new members . . .

- before April 1, send their names on a Form 18 with a check for their dues, scholarship fees, initiate fees, and initiate forms.
- after April 1, send their names on a Form 18 with their \$5 initiate fees and initiate forms.
- this spring, it is very important that you send their initiate forms and Form 18 to TSO Headquarters as soon as possible after their initiation. This will ensure that they get their publications throughout the summer, their membership numbers to enable them to register for convention, and to be on your 2017 printed forms from International.

Reinstatements may be sent in at any time on Form 18 with dues, scholarship fees, and reinstatement form. There is no reinstatement fee.

April 1 is the deadline for convention recognition for chapter donations to ASTEF's Leadership, Scholarship and Projects funds, and the TSO Eula Lee Carter Fund. Each fund requires a separate contribution form and a separate check made out to ASTEF or Eula Lee Carter postmarked by April 1 and mailed to TSO Headquarters in Dallas. Donations to International funds have a separate form and must be sent to International Headquarters in Austin.

If your chapter plans to honor your 25 and 50 year members this spring, certificates are available from our office at the minimal cost of \$3 for the 25 year and \$5 for the 50 year certificate.

All the forms mentioned may be found on the DKG Texas website on the Treasurer's Page. We encourage you to check both the state and International website for updated information important to you. Additional information comes to you from the Finance Committee through the International publication *Focus on Finance*.

## At-A-Glance Deadlines

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| March 30 | Bylaws/State Rules changes  |
| April 1  | Contributions to State funds for convention recognition<br>Annie Award Applications<br>Nominations for members in print and media recognition<br>LSN deadline<br>ASTEF project applications |
| April 15 | Guidelines changes  |
| May 1    | Cornet Award applications<br>PACE application<br>5-Star newsletter award<br>All reports for convention program  |

## Committee Meetings

|             |                    |
|-------------|--------------------|
| March 4-5   | LOSP               |
| March 11    | Achievement Awards |
| March 18-19 | Scholarship        |
| March 30    | Personnel          |
| April 6-8   | Finance            |
| April 21-23 | ASTEF Board        |

## Highlights

|                     |     |
|---------------------|-----|
| Nominees            | 1,4 |
| Convention Schedule | 5   |
| Registration        | 6   |
| Hotel               | 7   |
| Member News         | 10  |
| Gold Piece          | 12  |
| LDPC                | 15  |
| UP                  | 15  |

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**MEMBERS:** Send address changes to International Headquarters: call, write, go online or email [mem@dkg.org](mailto:mem@dkg.org)

Nominees page 1

**Cindy Neander**, nominee for corresponding secretary, is currently a director of ASTEF and a member of the achievement award committee. Neander served as Area 16 coordinator. She was chair of the personal & professional enrichment committee, co-chair of the 2012 Las Colinas state convention and has co-chaired two chapter president presentations. She was a participant in the 2007 State Leadership Seminar and received the 2014 State Achievement Award.



Cindy Neander



Judy Mezick

**Judy Mezick**, nominee for recording secretary, was the 2016 Frisco convention chair and is currently serving as chair of a special committee to study the geographical lines for the 18 areas of TX. She has served as Area 9 coordinator, chair of ceremonies as well as a member of several committees. She served as the registrar for the 2005 state convention. She was a participant in the 2005 State Leadership Seminar and received the 2014 State Achievement Award. That same year she attended the Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar.

## Members nominated for elected committees

The Texas State Organization nominating committee presents the following names for the finance committee: **Terrie Cardwell**, Zeta Tau-19; **Judy Evans**, Alpha Sigma-12; **Lynda Jackson**, Alpha Chi-7.

Nominated to serve on the 2017-2019 nominations committee is chair and continuing member **Andi Kirby**, Alpha Pi-17. Other nominees to this committee are **Virginia Bowers**, Epsilon Delta-11; **Dr. Gloria Crum**, Epsilon Upsilon-5, **Sharon Daugherty**, Lambda Xi-13; **Carolyn Grantham**, Mu Kappa-15; **Carolyn Mashburn**, Mu Pi-18; **Carol McMillan**, Delta Gamma-1; **Jean Robinson**, Mu Tau-1.

## Moore selected as 2017-2019 parliamentarian



Bonnie Moore

Presidential nominee Dr. Jo Murphy will appoint Houston convention chair Bonnie Moore, Eta Delta-3, to serve as TSO parliamentarian pending election at the general session in June. Moore participated in the 2013 State Leadership Seminar. She has served on the state music and membership committees, as well as participating in both Area 3 and 4 as a workshop presenter. Moore was Greater Houston Area Coordinating Council chair and received the GHCC 2014 leadership award.

## 2015-2017 Nominations Committee

The 2015-2017 nominating committee included: Diane Moose, Zeta Omega-3; Dr. Barbara Derrick, Epsilon Sigma-3; Andi Kirby, Alpha Pi-17; Janet Mayo, Beta Epsilon-12; Karolyn Caldwell, Epsilon Upsilon-5

Seated: Ann Howard, Lambda Xi-13; Emma Joven, chair, Zeta Gamma-1; Deborah Payne, Theta Epsilon-12



# Convention schedule at a glance

## Wednesday, June 21st

|                       |                                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 10:00 a.m.            | ASTEFL Board Meeting                 |
| 1:00 p.m.             | Texas Executive Committee            |
| 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. | Registration                         |
| 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. | Unifying Project – Registration area |
| 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. | Welcoming Reception                  |

## Thursday, June 22nd

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.   | Registration  |
| 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.   | Annie Boards/ASTEFL Boards accepted                 |
| 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.   | Unifying Project – Registration area                |
| 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  | Vendors set-up                                      |
| 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  | Area Coordinator meeting                            |
| 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  | Choir Rehearsal                                     |
| 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  | Vendors   |
| 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  | ASTEFL silent auction                               |
| 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  | Visual Arts and Archives Displays                   |
| 10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. | First Timers  |
| 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 p.m. | Box Lunch (ticketed)                                |
| 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.  | Leadership Development of Chapter Presidents (LDCP) |
| 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.   | Global Awareness Symposium                          |
| 5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.   | First Timers  |
| 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.   | Dinner on your own                                  |
| 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.   | Choir Rehearsal                                     |
| 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.   | Flag Rehearsal                                      |
| 7:00 p.m.               | Opening Session and Entertainment                   |

## Friday, June 23rd

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.   | Leadership Seminar Breakfast (ticketed) Registration & Unifying Project |
| 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.  | Registration & Unifying Project   |
| 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  | ASTEFL – Diva Doins' (ticketed)   |
| 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.  | Vendors   |
| 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.  | Visual Arts Display and Archives Display                                |
| 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.  | Breakout Sessions (including First Timers, repeat session)              |
| 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. | Men's Meeting - hosted by Spark Gregory                                 |
| 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 p.m. | Meet the 50 and 50+ members   |
| 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m. | Choir Rehearsal   |
| 12:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.  | 88th Birthday Celebration Luncheon (ticketed)                           |
| 2:15 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.   | Breakout Sessions   |
| 2:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.   | Necrology Practice  |
| 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.   | ASTEFL Silent Auction   |
| 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.   | Vendors and Visual Arts Display   |
| 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.   | Registration & Unifying Project   |
| 5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.   | Presentation of Chapter Presidents                                      |
| 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.   | State Personnel Dinner (ticketed)                                       |

## Saturday, June 24th

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.  | Choir Practice   |
| 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  | Necrology Service  |
| 9:00 a.m. - noon       | Registration & Unifying Project  |
| 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | TSO Business Session & ASTEFL Annual Meeting                               |
| 12:15 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. | Box Lunch (ticketed)   |
| 12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. | Visual Arts Display and Archives Display                                   |
| 12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. | Vendors  |
| 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.  | ACs with chapter presidents; current chairs with new state chairs          |
| 1:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.  | Breakout Sessions  |
| 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  | Pick-up Annie and ASTEFL Boards  |
| 4:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.  | Choir Rehearsal  |
| 7:00 p.m.              | Presidents and Founders Banquet with Installation of Officers - (ticketed) |



## Becky Sadowski international representative



Becky Sadowski

A member of the Society for 27 years, Becky Sadowski currently serves as DKG International Second Vice-President and Parliamentarian for the Tennessee State Organization. At the international level she has served as the 2014-2016 Southeast Regional Director and chair of the 2016 International Convention Steering Committee. Becky has also been a member of the International Golden Gift Fund Committee and chair of the Leadership Development and Membership Committees. She has also served as chapter president as well as the 2003-2005 Tennessee State Organization President.

Sadowski's DKG membership has provided many opportunities for personal and professional growth. She attended the Basic and Advanced Leadership Seminars in her state organization and is a graduate of the 1999 International Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar. Becky is a frequent breakout session presenter and speaker at all levels of the Society. She was a keynote speaker at the 2005 Southeast Regional Conference and has facilitated the Advanced Leadership Seminar four times in her home state of Tennessee.

Serving as a Special Education advocate has been Sadowski's passion. Her career includes serving as a classroom teacher, a reading specialist, a Lead Teacher for the Memphis City Schools, an Adjunct Professor at the University of Memphis, and a Special Education Specialist and Educational Consultant for Shelby County Schools, as well as Head of the School of Education at Lambuth University. She has served as the President of the Tennessee Association for the Gifted and was a Keynote Presenter at the Tennessee Legal Education Conference on Special Education. She received the Jo Patterson Award in Gifted Education in Tennessee in 1996.

Married to her college sweetheart for 47 years, Sadowski has two grown children and enjoys spending as much time as possible with her four granddaughters. She is active in her church as well as in her community.

As a lifelong learner, she often refers to one of her favorite quotes from C.S. Lewis- *"You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."*



Westin Galleria

## Convention hotel changed to Westin Galleria

Our new convention hotel, the Westin Galleria, promises to be a great fit for the Texas State Organization. It is located in the Galleria Mall in the heart of Houston. Self-parking is free and it is steps away from incredible shopping experiences.

Rooms are \$139. The guest and conference rooms are in one location. Free WiFi is available in guest and conference rooms.

Reservations can be made at <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/>

### **Book/2F17AA.**

To make sure the hotel can accommodate every TSO member who wishes to stay at the Westin, each member should reserve **ONLY** the room she will be occupying. Booking more than one room causes problems in May and June with both space and hotel rate.



# ASTEF events part Houston's fun

## AUCTION

The ever-so-popular ASTEF silent auction is returning to convention with a new twist. This year the focus will be on Diva Style. Prizes will center on things loved by women and things that capture the diva in all of us.

Auction items will include jewelry, perfume, chocolate, gift cards for shopping, wine, handcrafted items by talented DKG members, and more. Values will range from \$25 to \$200 making bidding easier for all. The goal of the DIVA auction is to offer smaller items with more moderate prices.



Travel packages will once again be featured. Plans are underway for packages to Galveston/Houston, Austin, Waco, San Antonio, and some surprise locations to be announced. The ASTEF website, [www.astef.org](http://www.astef.org), will have updated information.

To help make the auction a huge success, ASTEF is asking for members' help by donating items for the Diva auction, travel packages, or larger items they feel would make great silent auction items. Items that are suitable for combination with other items are also greatly appreciated.

Members wanting to donate an item should contact Dr. Barbara Derrick, Vice President of Advancement, at [BLSDerrick@aol.com](mailto:BLSDerrick@aol.com); 409-789-1602; or 4214 Bolton Ave, Santa Fe, TX 77510.

## DIVA DOINS'

As members plan for convention, they should be sure to mark their calendar for Friday, June 23, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. to join ASTEF as the directors host the fabulous, fun-filled Diva Doins'. Registration is required and is a part of the convention registration form. All proceeds from this event go directly to ASTEF and are tax deductible.



Members who have dreamed of having a make-over by a professional stylist and designer could have their dreams come true at this year's convention. One member will be randomly selected to receive a professional make-over performed by Houston's professional stylist and designer Ashley Dunn. To be eligible, members must register for ASTEF's Diva Doins' event by the early bird registration deadline of May 1.

## ASTEF 2017-2018 project funds are available

Individuals, chapters and areas may make application for a project stipend to provide full or partial funding for a project that helps Texas students or educators. Members can find the guidelines and application forms for project stipends on the ASTEF website, [www.astef.org](http://www.astef.org), and make application by April 1, 2017.



Buddy Bench dedication at Challenger Elementary in Pearland. Building principals and Theta Zeta members were at the dedication of this ASTEF project.



## Singers encouraged to join the TSO choir

Singing in the choir is a wonderful opportunity to share the gift of music while making and renewing friendships! The TSO Houston Convention Registration Form in this issue can be used to join the choir and purchase the music. The choir will sing in the Birthday Luncheon, Necrology/Celebration of Life Service, and Presidents & Founders Banquet. Music will include a range of contemporary to Broadway tunes. Music will be distributed at rehearsals beginning Thursday, June 22. Participants are requested to bring a black three-ring binder, a pencil, and a highlighter. Dress will be colorful solids for the Birthday Luncheon, black for the Necrology/Celebration of Life Service and fancy dress of choice for the Banquet. Two CEU credits can be earned for participation in this major function of the convention.



Deb Acevedo-Tamminga directs TSO choir



Cynthia DeVies playing prelude

### Music for meetings available through Presidents' Kit

*SongBook VI* is no longer available for use because of copyright issues; however, TSO has been given permission to use six songs from the collection. Sheet music can be downloaded and used in meetings for the following songs:

*Aim High* by Gwen Yocom (achievement themes); *The Chosen One* by Wynona Lipsett (Founders, Initiation, Installation, Remembrance Ceremonies); *Come Sisters, Unite* by Wynona Lipsett (Birthday, Fellowship, Initiation Ceremonies); *Enter Our Company* by Sally McBride (initiation ceremonies); *Happy Birthday Delta Kappa Gamma* by Gwen Yocom; *Together We Aspire* by Gwen Yocom (inspirational and achievement themes)

The songs can be accessed through a secure file under Music in the presidents' kit ([dkgtexas.org](http://dkgtexas.org)). Chapter presidents have the password needed to access the file.

## Newsletters need more pop or visual interest

Many websites including Pinterest offer ideas and templates for newsletters. These templates can be used in conjunction with Microsoft and Apple products to customize chapter newsletter formats. Colors, images, borders and many other formats can add some visual interest or "pop" to the chapter's publication. Editors might try to incorporate content in a creative manner to fill the full 8.5 X11 page. Getting members' involvement in writing articles, inspirations and other ideas of interest to the chapter will keep them included and the chapter informed and invigorated.



### Communication award forms and criteria on Communications and Publicity webpage

- Members in Print Award (Application due April 1, 2017)
- Media Recognition Award (Application due April 1, 2017)
- Five Star Newsletter Award (All newsletters due May 1, 2017)
- Seal of Merit Award (All newsletters due May 1, 2017)

Chapters can earn a bonus distinction for their Five Star Newsletter. This bonus award will be given out at the 2017 Texas State Convention in Houston. The Seal of Merit Award will be given to the chapter newsletters that exceed the standards for the Five Star Newsletters. A rubric is on the communications committee webpage of [www.dkgtexas.org](http://www.dkgtexas.org).

# 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 Candy Carroll between November 1, 2016 and January 31, 2017. They are reported by their chapter with place of residence at time of death using Form 6, Report of the Death of a Member, found at [www.dkgtxas.org](http://www.dkgtxas.org) under Committees, Necrology.*

Gloria May Fiedler, Delta Gamma-1, Timpson  
 Harriet Sue Carter, Delta Gamma-1, Shelbyville  
 Frankie Celeste Smith, Alpha Eta-1, Tyler  
 Bernadene Foster Prater, Alpha Eta-1, Tyler  
 Jacquelyn Ann Himel, Theta Zeta-3, Houston  
 Nancy J. Irle, Theta Zeta-3, Friendswood  
 Dollie Thelma Franz, Delta Lambda-4, Victoria  
 Connie Sue Moehler, Epsilon Pi-4, Port Lavaca  
 Anita Rhae Moore, Epsilon Pi-4, Port Lavaca  
 Patsy Walker, Epsilon Pi-4, Port Lavaca  
 Lois Mae Adams, Beta Pi-5, New Braunfels  
 Syble Lois Gilcrease, Epsilon Phi-5, Weslaco  
 Esther Garcia, Theta Beta-6, San Antonio  
 Patricia Ann Ashorn, Gamma Omega-7, Sealy  
 Marilyn Glaze Hoster, Lambda-8, Temple  
 Kathryn Louise Estep, Beta Nu-8, Marlin  
 Deborah Le Johnston, Mu Mu-9, Plano  
 Toya Rike Thompson, Eta Zeta-9, Bulverde  
 Lolu Winitaker, Kappa Eta-11, Amarillo  
 Norma Morrison, Gamma Eta-12, Irving  
 Doris Killam, Alpha Beta-13, San Antonio  
 R. Ann Andrews, Zeta Xi-14, Tulsa, OK  
 Johnnie McGraw, Gamma Epsilon-16, Runaway Bay  
 Anna Marie Garcia, Alpha Phi-17, Nordheim  
 Sarah Louise Woolrich, Eta Chi-18, Houston

**Member  
News**



**Sylvia Ramirez Reyna, Ph.D.**, Kappa Beta (San Antonio-7) was given Image de San Antonio's "Outstanding Woman Role Model" award.

**Delna Bryan**, Delta Pi (Dallas-9), is the new president of NEA-Dallas. This is a full time position.

**Dr. Stephanie Andrews** and **Brenda Stubbs**, Mu Pi (Houston-18), were selected for Faculty Excellence Awards for Lone Star College – Kingwood.

**Courtney O'Neal**, Delta Xi (Canyon-11), was the recipient of the "Fathers Add Value Step Up & Step In Educators Award" and was appointed "Goodwill Ambassador for the Golden Rule" by the Interfaith Peace-Building Initiative.

**Sholonda Adams**, Kappa Mu (Longview-17) is chair of Partners in Prevention which was named 2016 Citizen of the Year in Longview by the *Longview News Journal*.

Requested through the International Speakers Fund (ISF), **Corlea Plowman**, Theta Kappa (San Antonio-7), will visit Calgary, Alberta, Canada, in June where she will conduct leadership training and discuss how DKG helps current and future leaders with programs, training and meetings.

**Evalonia Barrett Bolton**, Kappa Mu (Longview-17), was honored at the Longview Unity Luncheon with a Unity Award for her significant contributions to fostering social harmony and understanding in the Longview community through her involvement in numerous community organizations.

Published in the 2016, Volume 83-2 issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Collegial Exchange*:

- Susan Szabo, Beta Lambda (Greenville-17), "Advice to a Beginning Teacher: meeting the Challenges of Teaching."
- Ulna Ratley, Kappa Delta (Bedford-10), photo "Tiger Swallowtail Butterfly."

## Visual arts wanted for Houston



Members are invited to display their creative works in the visual arts exhibit in Houston. See the convention website for details including the deadline and registration form.

## Annie Award for outstanding program deadline April 1



The Texas State Organization Annie Award recognizes outstanding chapter programs each year. The deadline for emailing Annie submissions is April 1. The TSO website has an application for this year's submission. Because it is an interactive Word document, members may type directly on the form and save it as a Word document. Chapters should include information about their best program for 2016-2017. The Instructions for Completing the Annie Application 2017 are very important and may be found on the Programs & Service Projects Committee page. They include tips to have a better entry.

## DKG Gallery of Fine Art needs Texans' works

The DKG Fine Arts Gallery can be accessed on the front page of the DKG website, [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org). The gallery includes poetry, short stories, photography, 2 & 3D art, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, music, textiles, crafts and so much more. All of these highlighted works are done by DKG members around the world.



Currently two Texas members have their work displayed. Texas members are very creative, and the Gallery needs the work of more Texans. The deadline for the next submission is August 1, 2017. During the submission period, forms will be available in the Forms area under Applications.

## Membership in Delta Kappa Gamma is a total experience

During an orientation, potential members learn the history and purposes of the organization and the many opportunities available to them with membership. Through this introduction new members learn about scholarships, leadership and professional development, as well as the extensive work of the Society in local, state and international communities. What should also be apparent to these new members is that this organization maintains an atmosphere of support, encouragement and guidance from women who are not only colleagues but life-long friends. With this foundation, a new member can identify the appealing aspects of Delta Kappa Gamma.

Members will find importance in continuing to deepen their DKG knowledge and reflect on the personal impact of membership in the organization and in their chapter. Newsletters, programs, speakers, workshops and conventions introduce or reintroduce the numerous facets of Delta Kappa Gamma and the influence of chapter membership. Ice breakers and games at chapter meetings provide opportunities to share memories and experiences which highlight the personal value of a membership. With these opportunities members recognize that not only are they the "Heart of DKG" but that DKG is in their hearts.



Experiencing the fun of a vigorous chapter, recognizing the personal value of membership, and understanding the impact of the Society encourage the desire to enjoy a life-long membership in Delta Kappa Gamma and inspire an eagerness to share those opportunities with a new member who will enjoy the same life-long experiences.

# In the Footsteps of Leon Gaspard

Dr. Elena Ivanova, Theta

## GOLD PIECE



I am an educator, but my career path had twists and turns. Born and raised in the city of Leningrad, which today is Saint Petersburg, Russia, I graduated from the Leningrad State University with a degree in the English language and literature. However, I did not want to

be a school teacher. Instead, I offered my services at the Russian Museum, the second largest art museum in Leningrad, to translate English-language publications on Russian art. It was in the galleries of this venerable institution that I discovered my calling. I decided to become a museum educator.

As a museum educator, I worked in both Russia and the United States. It was a fascinating experience to explore how the learning happens in the museum setting and to design methods to foster this process. Then my career took another turn. During my employment at the Stark Museum of Art in Orange, Texas, I came across an artist of a Russian-American background with a French name, Leon Gaspard.

Born in 1882 in Vitebsk (today's Republic of Belarus), he lived for 10 years in Paris before emigrating to the United States in 1915 where he settled in Taos, New Mexico. Acclaimed as one of the finest artists of the American Southwest, he painted colorful scenes of fairs and festivals, horse rides through snow-covered woods and psychologically nuanced portraits.

I was interested in learning more about this exceptional artist and found out, to my surprise, that only one monograph, *Leon Gaspard* by Frank Waters, was published in 1964 and reprinted, with some revisions, in 1981. This book left me with more questions than answers. I have a fairly decent knowledge of Russian history, which was one of the courses I took at the Leningrad University, and some things did not make sense. In fact, the book struck me as a collection of anecdotes which the artist told about himself.

I saw my challenge. As a native Russian speaker, with a passable knowledge of French, I was perfectly equipped to tackle the mystery of Gaspard's life. I began by exploring the archives in the United States, especially the artist's papers at the Archives of American Art in Washington, D.C. The French online source Gallica provided important information about the artist's life in Paris. However, I needed to go to the artist's birthplace, Belarus (which was a part of Russia when Gaspard was born), in hope of uncovering his origins.

Last fall, I traveled to Minsk, the capital of Belarus, to continue my search at the archives and libraries. My dual citizenship (American and Russian) made it easier to cross the borders without applying for a visa. Thanks to the grant provided by TSO, I was able to spend three weeks in Minsk where I combed through numerous hand-written documents from the late 19th - early 20th century at the State Historical Archive. I also found a number of rare publications at the National Library of Belarus which enabled me to get a better understanding of life in the Russian province at the time when the future artist was coming of age.

What was the result of my research? I certainly have accumulated enough information for my book. I don't want to reveal my discoveries now and steal my own thunder, but I can say this: the facts I have gathered will completely overturn the existing assumptions about Leon Gaspard as a man and an artist and will present his legacy in a new light.



Leon Gaspard (1882-1964)  
**To the Christmas Fiesta**  
1953-1956, gouache on paper mounted on  
paperboard  
24.25 x 36 inches  
Stark Museum of Art, Orange, Texas 31 .26. 6

# Members need to review chapter rules

As the TSO biennium winds down, it is imperative that members look over their chapter rules and make sure the TSO Bylaws and Rules Committee has a copy on file. Article V, Section B, of the Texas State Bylaws requires chapters to submit their rules to the state for review each biennium, which will end June 30.

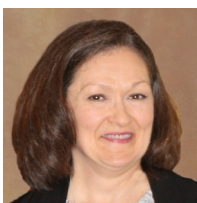
How does this affect each chapter?

- If a chapter submitted rules during the 2013-2015 biennium and they were certified by the state bylaws and rules committee with no corrections needed, then that chapter's rules are still certified because there were no changes made to the state and international rules that would directly affect chapter rules. The TSO Bylaws and Rules Committee is in the process of sending those chapters a certificate confirming their rules are good through the biennium.
- If a chapter submitted rules and received feedback concerning additional information about corrections that needed to be made prior to re-submitting them in the 2015-2017 biennium, please make those changes and submit a new copy to the chapter's area representative on the TSO Bylaws and Rules Committee.
- If a chapter has not updated rules in the last several years, there is no better time to dig in and update. The TSO Bylaws and Rules Committee page on the TSO website has several resources to assist chapter members in revising, updating, or even creating a new chapter rules document.

Thanks to the hard work of the previous committees, there are two documents on our committee page that can save chapters hours of hard work. The 2016 Model Chapter Rules is a template including everything needed in a good chapter rules document. The work is done for the chapter; all that must be done is personalize it. This is especially handy if the chapter rules are very outdated and a fresh start may be the best solution. There is also a Chapter Rules checklist on the page that lists everything that must be included in your rules for certification.

Each area has a representative on the TSO Bylaws and Rules Committee who is more than willing to assist or answer questions about chapter rules. Chapter rules certification is a requirement for the PACE award.

## Leesa Cole accepts TSO treasurer position



Leesa Cole

The TSO Personnel Committee is pleased to announce the appointment of Leesa Cole, Delta Omicron-9, to the position of TSO Treasurer. Leesa has served as executive assistant at TSO Headquarters for the past two years. Since the retirement of Betty Vines, she has stepped in, with a willing spirit and positive attitude, and assumed most of the duties required of this position and performed them efficiently. Her efforts during this period are appreciated. The knowledge she gained during this interim period gave her the confidence she needed to apply for the position.

Early in her teaching career, Leesa taught second and third grades, then moved into the library. In 2003, she was named Teacher of the Year by her colleagues. Over the years, she became adept in technology and shared her expertise in presentations to adults and students.

# Symposium scheduled for Houston

The Global Awareness Committee invites members to attend the TSO Global Awareness Symposium on Thursday afternoon, June 22, 2017, at the beginning of the Texas State Convention. The symposium will include speakers, a panel and breakout sessions about current global issues. Members will also participate in an onsite action project.



Marika Heimbach

The committee is excited to announce that Maria Katharina (Marika) Heimbach has been approved to be a keynote speaker through the International Speakers Fund (ISF). Heimbach has been state president of Germany twice and became a founding member of the Delta chapter there. She has also served on several International committees. She is retired after 40 years in the classroom teaching different grades and subjects. During her tenure she coordinated the German American Partnership Program between KGS Rastede and Plattsburgh High School in upstate New York. Marika is not a stranger to Texas. When her fiancé Hans was sent to Texas on a military assignment in 1970, they married and lived in Texas for a year where their first daughter was born.

Marika will present Friendship Across Borders and a breakout session about the Peace Education Program. She will present other workshops on Friday and Saturday about her country and her chapter. She is excited to reconnect with and make new Delta Kappa Gamma friends.



Cathy Daugherty

Cathy Daugherty currently serves the Society as chair of the 2016-2018 International Constitution Committee, member of the 2016-2018 Constitutional Interpretation Committee, a DKG/NGO (ECOSOC) representative to the United Nations, Virginia State Parliamentarian and her chapter's website designer/webmaster. She received the International Achievement Award in 2016. Daugherty was point-person for the Schools for Africa project from its official adoption at the 2010 International Convention through July 2014, authoring all issues of the SFA Newsette.

Daugherty recently retired from her part-time position as Latin instructor and supervisor of Latin student teachers at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia. She retired from Hanover County Public Schools in 2007 where she served as both teacher and supervisor for World Languages.

Cathy will speak on DKG at the UN, give an overview of the Global Goals and present a breakout session on DKG Global initiatives. She is looking forward to attending a Texas convention.



## Bluebonnet Bash coming to Hawaii in July

A Bluebonnet Bash to bring Texans together for food and fellowship is being planned for the Southwest Regional Conference in Honolulu. Details will be announced later.

**Fact:** The lava-based soils and abundant rains in Hawaii would easily cause the bluebonnet plant to flourish and become an invasive plant to Hawaii's native horticulture.

## Chapter presidents spotlighted in Houston



All chapter presidents will want to attend the second session of Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents (LDCP) in Houston this summer. Q & A, discussion areas and other participant involvement techniques will keep the topics relevant.

Another important part of the convention for chapter presidents will be their presentation by areas. This tradition dates to the Society's beginning when each chapter president carried a red votive candle in a small brass holder as she walked on stage to present her chapter report to Dr. Annie Webb Blanton.

Fire safety has cancelled the candles. Time and growth have dictated that more than 250 presidents cannot give 10-minute reports in one evening.

The Presentation of Presidents, directed by the LDCP Committee, is an opportunity for TSO to recognize and applaud the women who have guided the chapters for the past two years. Corlea Plowman, committee chair, encourages presidents to wear something "comfortable and a little dressy...but not motorcycle sassy." She adds, "Long dresses



2013-2015 Area Coordinator Deborah Payne and the presidents of Area 12

and four-inch heels are not required, unless presidents have them and love to wear them." Additional information will be sent to presidents by the LDCP Committee.

## Child Advocates of Harris County is 2017 Unifying Project

To unify all members and chapters in one cause during the state convention, each respective convention steering committee chooses a local charitable focus. In appreciation for the hospitality of the geographic location of the convention, the convention steering committee has chosen Child Advocates, Inc. as its 2017 Unifying Project. Child Advocates, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization that is Harris County's Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program. They help children who are victims of severe child abuse, neglect and abandonment. They are asking for supplies for all ages.

Gift cards to:

Target, Amazon, Wal-Mart, Visa/MasterCard, Office Depot and Costco/Sam's

For younger children:

Childrens' books, coloring books and crayons, stuffed animals, action figures, educational toys, educational games, art sets

For preteen and teen girl:

Manicure set, nail file, nail polish, hand cream or lotion, lip gloss or bath wash, decorative t-shirts or cute socks, books, journals, colorful pens, small purse, wallet

For preteen and teen boy:

Manicure set, AXE shaving cream or deodorant, comb/brush, decorative t-shirts or socks, books, journals, keychain, wallet

# Chapters work on organizing files

The Archives Committee is getting ready for the archives session at the TSO Convention in Houston. The Committee would like member input into what help is still needed by chapters to get their files organized and chapter histories completed.

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San Augustine TX 75972

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In the upcoming months, each chapter will receive a copy of the most recent report of chapter yearbooks and chapter histories. The Archives Committee and some other volunteers are going to take pictures of everything a chapter has in its archives box. Hopefully, this will help fill in some needed information to complete any missing chapter histories. Our goal is to pass out the photos on flash drives at the convention. This summer the committee will continue to give certificates to chapters that complete at least one new history. Members can email,

mail or bring a copy of a new chapter history to Deborah Thomas at the convention in Houston. If you have any questions, please contact Deborah Thomas, [djttx72@live.com](mailto:djttx72@live.com).

## Kroger shopping benefits ASTEF

Help is needed by ASTEF for members doing some or all of their grocery shopping at Kroger or Ralph's. By signing up for a rewards card or connecting a current card to ASTEF, each time a member shops she will be earning funds for ASTEF which in turn will mean more funds for scholarships, leadership events and projects.



Card holders still receive all the benefits of the program including fuel points, senior citizen discounts, weekly discounts and a weekly non-advertised email with special discounts and coupons just for card holders. The process is easy and takes less than 5 minutes. Step-by-step directions are located on the ASTEF website: [www.astef.org](http://www.astef.org). This is an easy way to earn funds with little to no work; after all, we all have to eat!

For members who have already signed up and shopped their neighborhood Kroger or Ralph's grocery store this past fall, the ASTEF board thanks you. ASTEF received a check for the first quarter which will help provide money for scholarships, leadership, and projects.

Anyone can help support ASTEF by connecting their Kroger card. Please help spread the word to family, friends and co-workers asking them to connect their card to Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation Number 99982.

Members who have successfully connected a card will notice a message at the bottom of their receipt which will read: "Thank you for supporting ASTEF."

