

Lone Star News

Official Publication of the Texas State Organization



Vol 70, No. 2 The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ~ Key Women Educators Winter 2016

Houston hosts 88th TSO Convention



The 2017 Texas State Organization Convention will be held in Houston on June 22-24. Members are invited to “Share your heart with Houston” at the Hyatt Regency Downtown where they will learn about DKG, connect with Society friends and experience the warmth of Houston.

Two new events are spotlighted at the convention this year. A Global Awareness Symposium will feature speakers, panel discussions and member activities related to the United Nations Global Goals. ASTEF’s Diva Doin’s is going to be an upbeat event featuring Ashley Dunn, a fashion diva who inspires women to be themselves. The fun and excitement will build in this ticketed event as TSO divas participate in diva exercises, buy raffle tickets for designer handbags worthy of a diva and look forward to special diva surprises.

TSO members have an opportunity to be highlighted in their own sessions again this year as they share their time, talent and expertise by engaging members in fun and informative breakout sessions. Organizers are especially looking for sessions that qualify for CPE credit. See page 6 for additional information.

For three interesting and stimulating days in Houston, members can look forward to rekindling friendships, conducting state business, supporting vendors and gathering new ideas. Anticipation will remain high through the last day when members will meet the newly installed state officers and congratulate TSO President Marilyn Gregory as she celebrates the accomplishments of the 2015-2017 biennium.

Hyatt’s location offers walkers opportunities downtown

Houston is a very large and busy city. For those who want to explore a part of Houston without getting in the traffic, there are walking options from the Hyatt Regency Downtown.



Shops in Houston Tunnel

The Hyatt Regency offers access to Houston’s “underground” through its lobby. The downtown Houston’s Tunnel System is 20 feet below Houston’s downtown streets and is more than six-miles long. Strolling in air conditioned space, members will find shops, restaurants and service retailers. It is open 6 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Those members who would rather stay above ground may walk around downtown Houston learning details about the city with the aid of an audio guide. Visit audisseyguides.com to download the free guide to an ipod or smart phone. Dan Workman, a Houston native, is an artist, musician and storyteller. He narrates the tour and wants to surprise listeners with a side of Houston that the casual tourist would never discover.



Discovery Green

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The Heart of the Society is its Members



Marilyn Gregory
Texas State President
2015-2017



The fifth goal of the biennium is “Teamwork: to work as members of a team to strengthen involvement in all levels of the Society.” Teamwork is essential to success. The concept of TEAM — Together Everyone Achieves More — is that the team works together for success. Team members listen to diverse opinions, learning and respecting others.

Legendary football coach Vince Lombardi, who coached the first two Super Bowl winners in NFL history, believed that the success of a team is dependent on every team member working toward a common goal. All team members, no matter how seemingly insignificant their responsibility, are valuable to the team’s overall success. As Helen Keller said, “Alone, we can do so little; together we can do so much.”

In the story “Lessons From The Geese,” Dr. Robert McNeish explains how when the geese migrate, they work as a team. They fly in a V-formation, which increases the flight efficiency by 71% compared to just one bird flying alone. When the lead goose gets tired, she goes to the end of the V-formation while another goose takes over as the leader. As they fly, they quack to encourage the ones in front to keep the same speed. This story shows how teamwork is essential for success, how it helps nurture and encourage a significant level of energy in the leader as well as in those with whom they fly — i.e., chapter members.

Through mentoring, encouraging leadership roles and working as a team, DKG chapter members help ensure that every member and the composite membership are priorities. Fostering leadership for the chapter entering the next biennium may begin with the action of only one but continues with the action of the whole. While “honking” or verbal reinforcement may encourage productivity and strengthen involvement in all levels of the Society, teamwork or sharing the work and lead roles shows respect for the skills, talents and resources of each member. In achieving the common goal, teamwork achieves the V-formation and bonds DKG members in support of the purposes of the entire Society.



Houston, June 22-24, 2017

Hints and Tips from Headquarters

Leesa Cole & Cheryl Crawford
Headquarters Staff



Now that treasurers, collaborating with the president and members of the chapter, have collected dues, sent in Forms 18 and 18A, and filed the 990N, it is time to celebrate a successful beginning to a new year. Let this success continue by engaging all members in moving the chapter forward.

- Encourage members to go to the International website to check their Member Profile. They can update their information online. They will need their membership number and the password for the website from their chapter president. It is important that addresses are correct in order to avoid returned mail fees.
- Contact former members and encourage them to reinstate. It is never too late. A call from a chapter member letting them know that you care about them often encourages them to return to your chapter. There is no reinstatement fee and forms are found on the International website. Just send in a reinstatement form with a Form 18 and their dues.
- Identify outstanding teachers and personally invite them to join. The initiation fee is \$10. The chapter keeps \$5 and sends \$5 to State to be shared with International. Completing the Initiate Form (it's online) is also important because it provides the information for State and International to send communications such as the newsletters and bulletins. Just send in the Initiate Card with a Form 18, their dues and the initiation fee as soon after initiation as you can.
- Work with members who have moved to another city. Help them find a chapter in their new location. Tell them to complete a transfer request form. Transferring to a local chapter is a good way to become acquainted with other DKG members in the community. The headquarters staff as well as the Area Coordinator can help members with the transfer process.

Thanks for all you do for Delta Kappa Gamma. If you haven't sent in your dues, please be aware that we also have a deadline and your dues information is vital to that report. The TSO headquarters staff is always happy to help. The Treasurer's Page, on the TSO website, also has helpful information.

The TSO website, www.dkgtexas.org, and the DKG website, www.dkg.org, have specific information covering the organizations. Spend time and learn to use these great resources.

At-A-Glance Deadlines

Nov 15	IRS Form 990-N
Dec 1	Yearbooks due
Jan 1	Nominations for State Elected Personnel
Jan 3	Int'l Ed Foundation Project Application
Jan 31	ASTEFL mid-year reports for funded projects
Feb 1	Int'l Scholarship Application Necrology Form to state chair Ch Pres Report to St Pres State Honorary member app State Achievement & Golden Rose nominations Recommendations for St Committee appointments LSN deadline
March 1	Convention Reports from St Comm Budget Request to Finance Com St Annual Reports to Int'l St Scholarship & Mini-Grant App

Committee Meetings

Nov 12-13	Leadership Seminar
March 4-5	LOSP

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Hyatt Regency
downtown Houston

Hotel reservations open in January

The Hyatt Regency Hotel in the heart of downtown Houston is getting ready to welcome all DKG members. The beautiful venue is the center of the TSO Convention and gives members a place to stay and attend events. Beautifully appointed guest rooms with coffee makers and refrigerators will be a refuge after a busy day of learning and sharing.

The link to reserve a hotel room will be available on the TSO website on January 2, 2017. Please reserve a room early so that the convention committee can make sure everyone has a place at the Hyatt. In order to make sure the hotel can accommodate every TSO member who wishes to stay at the Hyatt, 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.

Applications online for state committees and area coordinators

Now is the time for members wanting to get more involved in TSO and serve on a state committee or be an area coordinator in 2017-2019 to apply for a position. An interactive “TSO Application for State Committee and AC Appointments” form is on **dkgtexas.org** under Deadlines and Forms. Forms must be completed and sent to headquarters by the February 1, 2017 deadline.



ASTEF donations tax deductible

As the new year approaches, many of us begin to think about our annual income tax returns. “Will I owe Uncle Sam and how much will he take?” One way to help your tax return is through charitable donations to non-profit organizations. Remember that ASTEF is the charitable arm of TSO and donations are tax deductible.

You can make a tax deductible donation through Pay Pal by using the Donate Now button located on the ASTEF website, **www.astef.org**. You can mail a contribution into headquarters by using the contribution form located on the website. Contributions may be designated for scholarships, leadership or projects by checking one of these boxes on the form.

You can also choose to honor someone or give in memory of someone by completing that section of the contribution form. Because the person or family will receive an acknowledgment, be sure to include their address when completing the form. Pay Pal currently cannot be used for memorials or honorariums.



Any contribution of \$25 or more will be recognized in this summer’s convention program. So help take the sting out of your tax return and promote scholarships, leadership and projects through your generous donation.

Musical experiences planned for Houston

Deb Acevedo-Tamminga, Music Chair

The 2015-2017 TSO Music Committee will provide musical experiences for the TSO Houston Convention. The committee is selecting music with unison, two and three parts to add special heartfelt moments for the choir to sing at the Birthday Luncheon, Necrology Service and Founders' Banquet.



Registration for those wishing to sing in the choir will be included on the general registration form in the spring edition of the *Lone Star News*.

Music for your meetings available through Presidents' Kit

DKG no longer allows Song Book VI to be used because of copyright issues; however, TSO has been given permission to use four songs from the collection. Sheet music can be downloaded and used in meetings for the following songs: "Enter Our Company" by Sally McBride (initiation ceremonies); "Together We Aspire" by Gwen Yocom (inspirational and achievement themes); "Aim High" by Gwen Yocom (achievement theme); "Happy Birthday Delta Kappa Gamma" by Gwen Yocom.

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

ASTEF stipend and grant applications online for 2017

The mission of ASTEF is to provide funding for activities that support professional and personal growth of women educators in Texas and to promote educational excellence for Texas students. Applications are now online that will provide stipends and grants to achieve these goals for students and educators.

PROJECTS

The 2016-2017 ASTEF project stipends have been awarded and those projects are being implemented across Texas already. It is now time to begin planning for the 2017-2018 project proposals. Stipends may be given for continuing or new projects planned and carried out by a TSO area, a chapter or an individual. The projects should meet the ASTEF Mission of making an impact on Texas women educators or Texas students. The application forms are available on the ASTEF website and will be due on April 1, 2017.

ASPIRING EDUCATOR

The Aspiring Educator grants are available to women who are planning to enter the field of education as a career. They may be at the beginning of their coursework or approaching the end of the required college classes. ASTEF has funds to help with the cost of those classes. Find the application forms on the ASTEF website and begin the process of collecting the information to complete the packet. TSO members, please recommend this grant opportunity to women who are taking those college classes to become educators. The application packet is due March 1, 2017.



Presenters needed for Houston in 2017

Dr. Stephanie Cockrell Andrews, Personal and Professional Enrichment Chair

Members are encouraged to submit a proposal to present a breakout session at convention this summer in Houston. The postmark deadline is February 17, 2017. An application is posted on the TSO Personal & Professional Enrichment Committee website. Breakout sessions are one hour in length and are either for Continuing Professional Education (CPE), Personal Development Interests or Society Business. More proposals for CPE hours are needed. See the website for more details:

www.dkgtxas.org/personal-and-professional-enrichment-committee.html

Breakout Session Proposal 88th Texas State Convention Houston, Texas -- June 22 - 24, 2017

Postmark Deadline: February 17, 2017

Select the type of Breakout Session (mark one):

Continuing Professional Education (CPE): educational programs that meet State Board of Education (SBOE) guidelines that "are related to or enhance the professional knowledge and skills of the educator."

Personal Development Interests (PDI)

Society Business (SB)

Presenter information (use name of primary presenter responsible for contacting all other presenters):

Name: _____ Email: _____

Title of Breakout Session: _____

Description (50 words or less):

Credentials: _____

Chapter: _____ Area: _____ Chapter President?: Yes No

Co-presenter Information (if applicable):

Chapter: _____ Area: _____ Chapter President?: Yes No

Equipment Needs: Presenters are responsible for providing their own audiovisual equipment! However, some projectors may possibly be available in the properties room if requested in advance when submitting proposal. Wi-Fi may or may not be available.

Email completed form saved as lastname firstname presentationtitle to:
Dr. Stephanie Cockrell Andrews at stephanie.r.andrews@lonestar.edu



ASTEF Giving Day sets \$15,000 goal

Last year ASTEF held its first ever Giving Day event. The event nearly reached the goal of \$10,000! This year Giving Day is back with an even larger goal: \$15,000. Save the date, Valentine's Day, February 14, 2017.

What a wonderful way to help fund the work of ASTEF including the Aspiring Educator Awards and chapter, area, and/or individual projects. For a list of project stipends visit the website at www.astef.org to see what last year's funds made possible. Valentine's Day is the perfect day to open your hearts as ASTEF impacts women educators and students across Texas. All donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



ASTEFL Galveston Weekender a trip to remember



In October, fifty-four ASTEF members and guests enjoyed a fun-filled weekend in historic Galveston as a part of the ASTEF Travelers Program's first ASTEF Weekender. The event began on Friday evening with a welcome dinner and a visit from the famous pirate Jean Lafitte who wooed the gathering with his version of his infamous history. Unfortunately, he did not divulge the location of his famous hidden treasure.



Weekenders on stage at The Grand 1894 Opera House

Saturday was a jam-packed day of fun with tours to The Grand 1894 Opera House, Moody Mansion, Rosenberg Library and Galleries, the viewing of the Historical Society's Gateway to the South movie, a harbor tour complete with multiple sightings of dolphins and a visit to the Strand, where the quarterly Art Walk was taking place. Saturday also included a special treat with lunch served in the Moody Mansion ballroom.

On Sunday morning the group boarded a tour bus to see many Galveston attractions. Some of the most popular sights were the tree carvings which were done after Hurricane Ike, the restored homes known as the Broadway Beauties and University of Texas Medical Branch. The trip concluded with the travelers sharing their favorite adventure, story, moment or learning experience. Cost of the trip included a small contribution to ASTEF, but the true winner of the event was the fulfillment of DKG's purpose of "genuine spiritual fellowship."

Plans are underway for the next ASTEF Weekender to be held in 2017. If you or your area would like to be a part of this exciting new program, please contact Dr. Barbara Derrick, Vice President of Advancement, at BLSDDerrick@aol.com.

Time to think about Annie programs and applications

Chris Morrison, Program & Service Projects Chair

Programs are a key component of DKG meetings. Chapters have an opportunity to spotlight their best program for 2016-2017. The application for the 2017 Annie Award for Outstanding Program is on the TSO website on the Programs and Service Projects Committee page along with instructions that will help chapters to have a better entry. Applications are evaluated by members of the committee in five categories: how well the form was filled out in general; relationship to Society Purposes; involvement of members; impact of the program; creativity and innovation that make this program exceptional. Having quality programs and service projects doesn't happen by accident, and they help the chapter to thrive and attract new members.



The application this year is an interactive Word document. Hopefully this form will be easier to fill in and save work. Committee members are ready to answer any questions you might have about the application. Deadline for submission is April 1, 2017.

Diva Doin's a special event in Houston



An exciting part of the Houston Convention this summer will be a special ticketed event: ASTEF's Diva Doin's. This will be a fabulous, fun-filled, make-up and shake-up event. Members will want to plan on Friday morning from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. to let their inner Diva come out as ASTEF ramps up the fun of this special event.

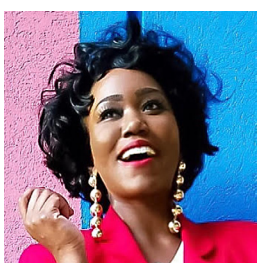
This high energy, fun event features stylist and designer Ashley Dunn. Dunn will inspire everyone with her story and her drive for success. She will also share design tips and even provide a makeover for a TSO member complete with hair and makeup. The lucky member will be randomly chosen from all early bird registrations. Convention registration must be made before May 1 to be eligible.

The fun won't stop there as Inner Studios will get everyone up and moving with an interactive Stiletto Heel dance demonstration.

The event will include a Diva Silent Auction with items designed for a diva ranging from \$25 to \$200 in value.

A designer handbag raffle will also take place with winners selecting from among seven designer bags with a surprise amount of currency inside ranging from a \$1 bill to a \$100 bill.

More fun and surprises are planned for the big event. Members should check the box on their registration form so that they won't miss out. Proceeds will benefit the work of ASTEF, the TSO Foundation.



Ashley Dunn

Ashley Dunn to speak at Diva Doin's event

Ashley Dunn has been noted for her work as a designer, stylist, philanthropist, entrepreneur and her eagerness to unite and encourage women. She has been featured in Black Enterprise as "1 of 10 Female Icons in Fashion." Her clothes collection has been applauded by numerous news outlets, and she is currently the go-to fashion girl for television segments emphasizing trends and being stylish on a budget.

Dunn was named "Stylist of the Year 2014" in Houston, as well as being named "Top 100 Young Professionals" in Houston.

A fixture at New York Fashion Week, Dunn is always ahead of current and future trends. She is fueled by her love and respect of fashion and continues to push the envelope with her clients. She recognizes her call to fashion, and whether it's mentoring an up and coming stylist, giving back to the community or lending expert advice to designers or styling clients, Dunn continues to emerge as a strong force in the fashion industry.

Her goal is to uplift and empower women and young girls through her work in the fashion industry. She wants her work as both stylist and designer to show the various aspects of all women but also to serve as a platform to encourage women to be themselves.





Texas members serve on International Committees

TSO has members who serve on international committees that support the work of Delta Kappa Gamma in all member states.

Connie Rensink – Membership Chair

Charged with responsibilities related to membership, this committee will study and make recommendations related to membership issues. The committee will present training sessions for state organization membership chairs, recommend women for international honorary membership and present the international necrology ceremony.

Rachel Gasperson – Expansion Chair

The responsibilities of the Expansion Committee are to initiate and sponsor units of the Society in countries where no organization of the Society currently exists and to support and strengthen state organizations who may need assistance in growth.

Patti Belknap – Educational Excellence member

This committee promotes programs and projects for excellence in education. It identifies long-term and short-term programs and projects that focus upon topics adopted by the Society. The committee's intent is to support programs of action that promote the personal well-being, intellectual growth, and global awareness of women educators; encourage a focus on the arts at international conventions, regional conferences and state organization conventions; and develop strategies that will enable chapters to encourage members to become leaders.

Joanne Davis – Nominations member

The International Nominations Committee is responsible for naming at least one nominee for each position on the Administrative Board, elected committees and the Educational Foundation Board of Trustees.

Vicki Davis – Eunah Temple Holden Leadership Fund member

This committee, named in accordance with the will of Eunah Temple Holden, administers the fund income after Executive Board approval of recommended projects. They recommend specific uses of the interest earned on the fund to the Executive Board for authorization.

Natalie Eustace – Arts & Humanities Jury member

The Arts & Humanities Jury is entrusted with the coordination and fulfillment of The DKG Gallery of Fine Arts, an online publication and display of DKG members' creative works. The online gallery includes literary efforts; two and three dimensional art; performance art; photography; and crafts.

Marcia Kirkland – Scholarship member

This committee is charged with annually awarding up to thirty (30) \$6,000 (U.S.) international scholarships to members for study at the master's degree and \$10,000 (U.S.) for work at the doctorate level.

JoAnn Brooks, Laura Packard and **Joan Hester** – 2018 International Convention Chair and Co-Chairs

This committee will coordinate and oversee the 2018 DKG convention in Austin.

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 August 15 and October 15, 2016. They are reported by their chapter and place of residence at time of death using Form 6, Report of the Death of a Member, found at www.dkgtxas.org under Committees, Necrology.

Leslie Joan Roper, Alpha Omega-1, Port Arthur
Dr. Mary Elizabeth Gutermuth, Upsilon-2, Huntsville
Dolores Cone Clark, Beta Omicron-3, Stafford
Beverly Rich, Zeta Omega-3, Pasadena
Dr. Eleanor Ann Dyer, Epsilon Omega-4, Bryan
Geraldine Walker Miller, Lambda-8, Temple
Pamela Ann Pittard, Theta Theta-10, Bedford
Christine Sherill Wiginton, Mu Gamma-14, Midland



Gamma Beta, (Collin County-9), received Exemplary Dedication to the Preservation of and Education about Collin County recognition at the Tenth Annual Collin County Historical Commission's Preservation Celebration and Awards Ceremony.

Jan Davis, Iota Upsilon (Commanche-8), received recognition as "Lady Rodder of the Year" through her involvement with the Lone Star Street Rod Association.

Cara Skinner, Epsilon Psi (Baytown-3), wrote *General Houston's Little Spy* which won 3rd place in the 2016 Will Rogers Medallion Award. The award recognizes excellence and accuracy in the book's reflection of Western Americana.

Published in the 2016, Volume 83-1 issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin: Journal*:

- **Jaime Collahan**, Delta Omicron (Dallas-9), "Encouraging Retention of New Teachers Through Mentoring Strategies."
- **Pamela Ponnors**, Delta Pi (Plano-9), "Beyond the Classroom Walls: Technology Infusion Advancing Science Education."

Elyse Griffin, Delta Omicron (Richardson-9), earned her doctorate in Educational Leadership K-12 from Dallas Baptist University.

Carol Grimm, Nu (San Marcos-7), was inducted into the San Marcos Women's Hall of Fame for her volunteerism and leadership in the community.

arts & humanities

Exhibited in the *DKG Arts & Humanities Gallery* beginning November 1:

- **Marylin Nease**, Delta Omicron (Dallas-9), Essay — "Watching and Learning: A Story for My Sister Linda on Her 70th Birthday."
- **Beth Pesek**, Alphi Pi (Texarkana-17), Craft/Mosaic — "Blooming on the Farm."
- **Jeanette Rhyan**, Theta Chi (Fort Worth-10), Short Story — "Who Needs Kindergarten."



June 22-24, 2017

New members need opportunities and encouragement

Cooke Johnson, 2nd Vice President

Change is happening all around us. We have elected a new U.S. President, holidays will be here before we know it and even the weather brings its challenges.

Initiating a new member into a chapter is one of the most exciting changes because of the many opportunities this new member brings with her. The initiate is excited about the heritage of DKG, service to community, projects for purpose, and programs for inspiration and information. When she is invited to join a chapter, she will look to all members for support, mentoring, encouragement, nurture and acceptance. She will come with new ideas, creative suggestions, enthusiasm and boundless energy. This new member knows that contributing to the chapter is the "I Will" attitude, and she is ready to step up to the expectation of being asked to take on various responsibilities.

Our challenge as the established member is to accept our new members with the same excitement we felt when we became the new member.

Change is a good thing, and in DKG change in membership is opportunity for growth, renewed commitments and moments of sheer excitement about the future of our Society. Members are the heart of our Society, and we can grow our Society with the anticipation and excitement of our initiates.



Nominations committee seeks recommendations

Emma Joven, Nominations Chair

The deadline for submitting recommendations for TSO leadership positions to the nominations committee is January 1, 2017. Qualified, forward thinking, energetic women are sought now for elected officer positions to serve during the 2017-2019 biennium. These include president, first vice president, second vice president, recording secretary and corresponding secretary. Elected committee positions include finance and nominations.

nominations committee
recording secretary
future
president
opportunity
elected
finance committee
leadership
1st vice president
Nominations
corresponding secretary
2nd vice president

Qualifications and duties for the elected positions may be found in *Guidelines for State Personnel* located under Resources on the TSO website, www.dkgtexas.org.

Applications which are located under Deadlines/Forms may be e-mailed to jejoven2@att.net or sent by hard copy to Emma Joven, Nominations Chair, 1114 Lake Cross Rd., Hideaway, TX 75771.

Applications for the Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation Board of Directors are now available on-line at www.astef.org. TSO members with experience or training in non-profit budgeting/finance, organizational fundraising, grant-writing and/or marketing are encouraged to apply. The ASTEF Board of Directors is a working board whose directors work as a whole, and in small groups, to raise, manage and distribute funds according to the mission statement and by-laws of the foundation.





GOLD PIECE Lessons learned through DKG

Lori Shontz, Epsilon Phi

A woman that taught with me for several years was asked to take on a leadership position at school. She declined saying she was a worker, and she would much rather follow than lead. I stole the line from her and used it for years, because like her, I would rather follow than lead. Tell me what to do and I'll do it. Show me where you want me to go and I will follow. I considered myself a great worker.

Then along came Delta Kappa Gamma. My attitude did not change right away. I even joined DKG as a worker. The librarian at school and good friend told me about a society of Key Women Educators to which she belonged and said that I needed to join. She told me when and where the first meeting was being held and that I was to go to it. The following month I was initiated into the Society and did whatever was asked of me.

The following year, my friend became president ... "Lori, I need an editor for the chapter newsletter." No problem, I can do that. Just tell me what needs to be in it. Two years after that, "Lori, we need a recording secretary." No problem, I can do that. Just tell me what to write. After another two years, "Lori, we need you to be president." What! Me? It was then I realized that I was not just a worker following her leader, but a worker who was being groomed to be the next leader. These ladies saw something in me that I did not know existed. I served two terms as chapter president, attended Leadership Seminar, worked as a member of three different state committees and was an area coordinator.

My sisters in Epsilon Phi have encouraged me every step of my journey through the Society. They lifted me up, confident that they were making the right choice. I am not here today because I was born to lead. No, I am here because some crafty women in Weslaco looked at me and said, "This one has potential." At the next chapter meeting, look around. Is there someone with potential who needs a little encouragement to become the leader we knew she could be when we asked her to join? Perhaps you are that worker that everyone believes can be a leader.

You were invited into membership of this Society because someone saw the possibilities in you. Embrace the fact that you can become a leader and find where your leadership qualities can take you.

Achievement Award nominations due

Dr. Barbara Baethe, Achievement Award Chair

Napoleon Hill said, "Great achievement is usually born of great sacrifice and is never the result of selfishness." If you have members in your chapter who are eligible for the Texas State Achievement Award or the Golden Rose Award who have sacrificed their time, talents and energy for their chapters, TSO and the International Society, consider nominating them for one of the two awards to be announced at the Texas State Convention in Houston. Please visit the TSO website and click on Committees and find the Achievement Award webpage. There you will find the guidelines for each of these awards. Service on the ASTEF Board as an officer or Director has been added to the list of leadership positions for the Achievement Award. This group unselfishly makes tremendous sacrifices of time to enrich our members, schools and projects.



SHHH...
It's
confidential

Follow the outline on www.dkgtxas.org when submitting your nomination. Remember, a photo is needed for both award submissions, preferably a digital wallet size head shot, as well as a letter of endorsement by the chapter Executive Board. February 1 is the deadline for submitting your nominations. Nominations for these two awards are kept confidential

until they are announced at convention. Mail your nominations to Dr. Barbara Baethe, State Achievement Award Chair, P. O. Box 717, Richmond, Texas 77406. If you have any questions or concerns, please email the chair at dr.baethe@earthlink.net or phone 281.798.1631.

Special committee searching for missing piece to headquarters team



Are you retired or considering retiring at the end of this school year? TSO invites you to join the amazing, capable staff that works at TSO state headquarters in Dallas as they take care of the business of TSO and its foundation. Join the staff as they support state personnel in their work and assist members as needed.

Applications are now being accepted for the following two positions: Executive Secretary and Treasurer. Splitting the position of Executive Secretary/Treasurer allows for shared responsibility of overseeing the work of TSO. The position of Treasurer allows for the flexibility of working on-site, telecommuting or a combination of the two.

If you even think you might like to work for TSO in one of these positions, we urge you to apply and come talk with us – explore the job more fully in an interview. You just might be the person for the job. Applications and general information pages for each position can be found on the TSO website at www.dkgtxas.org.



Jo Agee-Housler and Elvira Barrera visiting in Area 6.

Marcia Kirkland and Evelyn Barron with Carolyn Pittman, International President in Area 7.



Barbara Yount having a fun time in Area 10.



Area Workshops



K Dee Anderson blowing Marilyn's hearts in Area 12.



Patti Peil, Bev Burger & Connie Butler celebrating the life of members in Area 13.



Area 17 attendees celebrating in front of Eiffel Tower in Paris.

Bobbie Harris receiving 50+ membership certificate from AC Pat Bumpus in Area 18.



85 Years and Beyond...

Jean Gray, Past DKG International President and Parliamentarian
address given in Nashville 2016

There was a birth on May 11, 1929 ... the birth of a Society. From the beginning, the central goal of this new Society has been giving support and providing a platform for action to women educators throughout their lives.

This newborn grew slowly ... as might be expected; its personality became more defined as the years passed. It has now served, and been served by, tens of thousands of devoted women educators. Presently, its membership encompasses six generations of women educators... six generations upon which it depends for its continued existence.

Now think about that fact ... six generations each of which some believe to be uniquely and clearly definable by the year of each member's birth. Yet, each must work together with no one being expendable if the Society is to have a viable future; A CONTINUING CHALLENGE? ... Yes! But not really an impossible one. We know from our history that the Society has faced this same dilemma about every twenty years.

It is significant to notice that during each of these periods of adjustment to the effects of a new generation of members, the same lessons are there for us to relearn and for each new generation to learn:

- First, vital to our existence is the maintenance of an inclusive atmosphere that acknowledges the value of every member. Every member has a need to feel an integral part of the whole.
- Second, growth and commitment are the products of participation.
- Third, there is no "one size" or "one style" of organization that will ever fit all. But, there is space for offering a variety from which every member may find inclusion, purpose, challenge, accomplishment and satisfaction.
- Fourth, the standards each member of the Society pledges to uphold are not a comfortable fit for every woman educator. However, where this pledge is taken to heart, members become members for life. Losing just one of these members is a serious Societal loss.

Throughout its eighty-seven year history as changes have needed to be made, the Society has looked to members covering all generations, all levels of participation and experience to identify and suggest areas for change — realizing all the time that only those with a reasonable participation history in the Society are in a position to feel the effect of any fundamental change.

As you depart from this convention, carry with you ...

- The sounds, thoughts and memories that have triggered deep feelings that continually bring broad smiles or even tears.
- Perhaps your memories will include a hug, a song, the shared wisdom of a speaker, a performance, joint efforts, difficult decisions, new insights or just the feeling ignited from sitting among such a large group of like-minded women ... such memories frequently renew recognition of what it is that has always bound Delta Kappa Gamma members together.

Above all, remember that Delta Kappa Gamma has no history independent of its members. Your history, how you are or were viewed by your students, colleagues and parents ... your community and Society activities ... all that you feel in your heart is Delta Kappa Gamma's history.

Allow me to thank you for being a part of the Society's first 87 productive years and for your future involvement ... it simply cannot end with us.

It cannot!