

Lone Star News

Official Publication of the Texas State Organization



Vol 73 No.2

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ~ Key Women Educators

Winter 2019

McAllen will host 91st TSO Convention

All Texas State Organizations members are invited to attend the 91st TSO Convention, June 17-19, 2020, in McAllen, Texas. McAllen welcomes everyone to the heart of the Rio Grande Valley.

This convention will be ushering in some changes from previous conventions. To help everyone celebrate Father's Day, the convention is scheduled from Wednesday through Friday. Members can either head home Saturday morning or can decide to bring the family to south Texas and celebrate Father's Day in the Valley.

The training of chapter presidents will take place over two days, Wednesday and Thursday, to allow presidents time to attend breakout sessions. The Steering Committee is working with the Personal/Professional Enrichment Committee to find a diverse group of interesting presenters to cover a wide range of topics for the breakout sessions which will take place all day Wednesday, Thursday and Friday with the exception of Friday morning during the TSO Business Meeting.

The dinner events will include the traditional Presidents and Founders Banquet on Thursday evening and a Birthday Fiesta at noon on Friday. Special gatherings are the Leadership Seminar Reception on Friday afternoon and the State Personnel Dinner Friday evening. All of these will be paid events. Members who are staying at the Embassy Suites have the opportunity to enjoy free live music Friday evening.

TSO women with 50 or more years of membership in DKG will be honored with a reception prior to the Birthday Fiesta and will be recognized at the luncheon.

The convention steering committee is working to secure a variety of local vendors and exhibitors. Chapters and individuals are encouraged to consider becoming vendors. The applications for commercial vendors, exhibitors, chapter vendors, and ads for the program will be on the convention website.



Registration for this exciting, tropical convention is in this issue of the Lone Star News along with registration for the Embassy Suites, the convention hotel.

The TSO website and the Convention Keys, the convention newsletter, will continue to have up-to-date information on the McAllen Convention, June 17-19, 2020.

2019-2021 TSO Contacts

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McAllen Convention is Coming!

Patti Belknap
Texas State President
2019-2021



Are YOU Ready?

Conventions allow for members to participate in the business of the organization, honor members for their achievements, learn about chapter responsibilities, attend breakout sessions appealing to specific interests, and bond with members from across our great state.

At the TSO annual convention in McAllen, members will experience a variety of activities. The TSO Business Meeting, the ASTEF Annual Meeting, a Celebration of Life, a Presidents and Founders Banquet and a Fiesta Birthday Luncheon provide the foundation for the three days. The training of the new presidents and other chapter leaders will help to prepare them for the coming biennium. Excitement is also in the air as ASTEF begins its 10th birthday celebration with an ASTEF Extravaganza.

The McAllen Convention Center is a gorgeous place with room for everything. After a short two minute walk from the hotel, the spacious facility allows multiple activities to take place simultaneously in one building.

In response to members' requests, the 2020 Convention will be offering more breakout sessions as well as repeating sessions key to chapter success, such as membership and programs/projects. Chapter presidents will note that their schedule will allow them to attend these sessions.

Let's Get Busy

The schedule at a glance, registration form and hotel registration link are included in this issue. Hotel registration is open. Check the Convention website at dkgtxas.org for more information. ConventionKeys, the most updated and informative source of news about the McAllen Convention, is available monthly on the website as well.

Now is the time to gather chapter members, mark calendars and prepare for a great convention in McAllen.

See YOU there!

Hints and Tips from Headquarters



What should be happening with chapters between now and dues collection in the spring?

Membership:

- Add members using the Dues Portal: enter data for those joining as a new member, transferring or reinstating as soon as payment and forms are received.
- Remember: The Dues Portal will close in early March to prepare for the 2020-2021 dues submissions.
- Also remember: March 1 is the snapshot date for membership.
- Update members' personal information via Member Management in the Dues Portal.
- Keep chapter leaders informed by sharing the most current membership roster found at Chapter Connect.
- Explore Chapter Connect and the Dues Portal to learn more of what can be done at each site and how they synchronize.
- Submit Form 6 in a timely manner to report the death of a member.

Convention recognition (deadline April 1):

Submit contributions to ASTEF for Scholarship, Leadership and Projects as well as to the TSO Eula Lee Carter Memorial Fund. Contribution forms are found on the Treasurer's Page of the DKG Texas website.

International & TSO:

- Send the Change in Treasurer form to both International and TSO if your chapter has a new treasurer or if the treasurer's information has changed. This is a new IRS requirement.
- Remember that March 15 is the deadline to submit new chapter officer lists for 2020-2022.

General reminders:

- Collect a scholarship fee for each member and an inductee fee for new members. Find the TSO Fees Form on the Treasurer's Page of the DKG Texas website. This form and the fees must be submitted with each dues order.
- Collect dues for 2020-2021 during March – May, mark members as paid, and place a membership order before June 30.
- Join a DKG Community to stay informed and connected. Timely topics for treasurers and chapter leaders as well as personal interest topics for all members are covered. Communities are found at My DKG.

At-A-Glance Deadlines

Dec 1	Expense Rpt/ Travel Log St Personnel TSO yrbooks Int'l LMS app
Jan 3	Int'l Ed Fndn Project app
Jan 17-19	STAR
31	ASTEF mid-yr proj reports
Feb 1	Cornetet Int'l Scholarship app State honorary member app Chapter pres report to st president St Achievement and Golden Rose nominations LSN deadline
15	CPE convention proposals due
March 1	St scholarships & mini grants Pres Kit letter Convention repts to TSO pres Budget adjust request to Finance Chr ASTEF Aspiring Ed App Membership Snap Shot
15	List of officers to HQ TSO Guideline changes

Committee Meetings

March 14	Achievement Award
18	Personnel
21-22	Scholarship

Texas State Headquarters
P.O. Box 797787
Dallas, TX 75379-7787
Dallas telephone: 972.930.9945
FAX: 972.447.0471
www.dkgtxas.org

International Headquarters
416 West 12th Street
Austin, Texas 78701
Austin telephone: 512-478-5748
www.dkg.org

MEMBERS: Send address changes to your chapter treasurer or go to www.dkg.org /MyDKG to make any changes in your information.

**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Texas State Organization Convention
McAllen, June 17-19, 2020**

All members must register. Please use one form per member. Only one form is necessary for a member with a guest. To avoid late fee, registration must be postmarked on or before May 15th. No meals may be ordered after June 1st. Address registration questions to Terrie Cardwell at 713-208-4923 or tcardwell003@comcast.net. Mail completed form to Terrie Cardwell, 2738 Fontana Dr., Houston, TX 77043 or email to tcardwell003@comcast.net if submitting electronically. Please type or print clearly.

NAME _____
 Title Last First Middle Initial Badge Name

MAILING ADDRESS _____
 Street Address or PO Box

City State Zip Chapter Area
Email address (for a receipt) _____ **Daytime Phone** _____

Special Needs—Check all that apply. For special situations, email or phone Terrie Cardwell.
 Diabetic Vegetarian Gluten-free Limited Mobility Hearing/Visually Impaired

Please check all that apply.
 2018-2020 Current Chapter President 2020-2022 Incoming Chapter President
 1st State Convention Attendee Member for 50 or 50+ Years

Indicate number of tickets you need for each function. Cost includes tax, service charge and facility fee.

Registration Fee: (Choose one that applies.)	Cost	Number	Amount
2020-2022 Chapter President or <i>Chapter Representative attending LDCP</i>	\$ 0	_____	_____
All other member registration — postmarked on or before May 15	\$ 50	_____	_____
Late Registration: postmarked after May 15 *(No charge for chapter president or chapter representative)	\$ 75	_____	_____
Guest's name for Guest Badge _____	\$ 5	_____	_____
Sack Lunch (Wed, June 17) <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> Veggie Sandwich	\$ 19	_____	_____
ASTEF Extravaganza —proceeds to benefit ASTEF (Thurs., June 18) <i>tax deductible</i>	\$ 25	_____	_____
Sack Lunch (Thurs., June 18) <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey <input type="checkbox"/> Ham <input type="checkbox"/> Veggie Sandwich	\$ 19	_____	_____
Presidents & Founders Banquet (Thurs., June 18)	\$ 42	_____	_____
Birthday Luncheon (Fri., June 19)	\$ 35	_____	_____
Leadership Seminar Social: Year attended LS _____ (Fri., June 19)	\$ 21	_____	_____
State Personnel Dinner <i>by invitation only</i> (Fri., June 19)	\$ 27	_____	_____
Continuing Professional Education Credit (CPE)	\$ 20	_____	_____
Chorus Music—Chorus Participants Only	\$ 15	_____	_____
Voice Part Requested: <input type="checkbox"/> Soprano I <input type="checkbox"/> Soprano II <input type="checkbox"/> Alto I would be interested in playing <input type="checkbox"/> prelude <input type="checkbox"/> postlude			

Donate NOW to ASTEF'S 10th Birthday Challenge: Become an ASTEF Decade Donor *tax deductible*..... _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____
 CHECK (Payable to Texas State Organization Convention Fund) OR MasterCard VISA
 Cardholder's Name _____ Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____
 Cardholder's Billing Address: _____ 3-digit Sec. Code _____

Cancellation requests must be made in writing to Terrie Cardwell, 2738 Fontana Dr., Houston, TX 77043 and postmarked by May 23rd. There is a \$15 cancellation processing fee; no refunds after May 23.

By your attendance at this event, you grant permission to be filmed, videotaped, audio taped or photographed by any means, and you grant full use of your likeness, voice and words without compensation.

Convention hotel open for reservations



Embassy Suites
800 Convention Center Blvd.
McAllen, Texas 78501
1-956-688-8329

The Embassy Suites by Hilton is open for members to reserve rooms for the McAllen Convention. A block of rooms has been reserved for June 14, 2020 - June 22, 2020. The special room rate of \$134 will be available until May 22 or until the group block is sold out, whichever comes first.

Here is a shortened link to hotel reservations:

<https://tinyurl.com/y22s4zdz>

Click on the link or copy and paste it into the url line of the browser.

Important information about hotel reservations:

When a TSO representative negotiates with a hotel for a convention, she must “guesstimate” the number of attendees based on previous convention registrations and guarantee the number of rooms that will be needed. That number of rooms is the “block.” If all rooms in the block are not occupied by TSO members, the convention and/or TSO must pay for the rooms not used in the block.

For that reason, it is very important that the members making reservations only reserve the number of rooms they know they need at the time of the reservation; they can always add rooms later if needed. If unneeded rooms are cancelled at the last minute, the block is not filled and an attrition penalty is assessed. Members making reservations outside the reservation block do not help the convention “meet the block.”

ASTE F Stewardship Campaign launched

ASTE F is sponsoring a “Tree of Gratitude” Stewardship Giving Campaign November 1 through December 10, 2019. During this campaign, ASTEF members will be able to express gratitude for the influence others have had on their lives, both personally and professionally. Those making donations by December 10, 2019 will see the Tree of Gratitude grow and grow as beautiful leaves are added to adorn the special tree. Members may keep an eye on the ASTEF website as the progressive leafing of the Tree of Gratitude develops. A list of those being honored will also be available on the ASTEF website at the end of the campaign.



Tree of Gratitude



The levels of giving are \$101.00+ Legacy Level, \$100.00 Thankful Level, \$50.00 Admiration Level, and \$25.00 Appreciation Level. The Tree of Gratitude contribution form must be mailed with any donation. This form can be found on the ASTEF website located at www.astef.org. The form must include the first name and first initial of the last name of the person being honored. Completed forms are to be mailed to ASTEF, P.O. Box 797787, Dallas, TX 75379. All donations are tax deductible.



Committees seek member involvement

ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Chapters with members who have gone above and beyond in the service of education and DKG in particular have the opportunity to express appreciation for those members and their service by nominating them for one of two DKG Texas achievement awards: the Texas State Achievement Award and the Golden Rose Award. The deadline for award nominations is February 1. Complete information on award requirements may be found on the Achievement Award Committee page of dkgtexas.org. The nomination outlines are on the committee page and also on the Deadlines/Forms page. Members may contact Achievement Award Committee Chair Diane Moose with questions at dianemoose@yahoo.com.



LEGISLATION

Both Active and Retired teachers may be impacted by the Federal Windfall Elimination Program (WEP). Everyone needs to stay informed. Recently, Tim Lee visited Washington, D.C. to discuss the two current reform bills being presented this session. Representative Kevin Brady (The Woodlands) and Representative Richard Neal (Massachusetts) have introduced similar bills requesting reform and relief from the WEP. HR 4540 and HR 3939 both request a new formula for computing. This is the time for members to contact their Washington D.C. Congressional Representative by calling, emailing, or letter writing. For members to stay informed, they may subscribe to *Inside Line*, the free online newsletter. Subscribing is done by going to TRTA.org and clicking the link. Whether a member is active or retired, the *Inside Line* will provide valuable information for everyone. Staying legislatively aware and involved is one of the seven purposes of DKG.



STRATEGIC PLAN OF ACTION (SPA)

State officers, *select* state committee chairs and all ACs are responsible for helping achieve the goals for the TSO Strategic Plan of Action. A SPA Committee member will contact each responsible person in January to discuss progress of chapters' and state's activities.



MUSIC

The TSO chorus is an exciting and inviting group that everyone is welcome to join. Keys on the piano are used to make beautiful sounds, and "YOU ARE THE KEY" that is needed in the TSO Chorus. Singing in the chorus is a wonderful opportunity to share the gift of music while making and renewing friendships. The TSO Convention Registration Form in this issue can be used to join the choir, provide preludes and postludes for meetings, and purchase music. The chorus will sing during the Birthday Luncheon, Necrology/Celebration of Life Service, and the Presidents & Founders Banquet.



MEMBERSHIP

COLLEGIATE MEMBERS

The newest classification of membership in the Texas State Organization (TSO) is Collegiate. These women are in college classrooms/programs in Teacher Education Departments across the state. Colleges and departments of teacher education are preparing teacher candidates at many state and private universities. The Higher Education Coordinating Board in online research shows over 66 such university departments. This is just one search. A conservative estimate of the actual number of these students who are women and in their last two years of their programs is plus or minus 2,500 candidates.



The TSO Executive Board recently voted to begin a planned recruitment of these women. A special committee has been formed with Immediate Past President Dr. Jo Murphy as chair. This committee will begin holding meetings, distributing literature, and reaching out to various sources of media to find future teachers who meet the qualifications for collegiate members. Others appointed to this committee are President Patti Belknap, Second Vice President Bonnie Moore, and Executive Secretary Cheryl Crawford. Any member can be a part of this committee to work with these prospective members in her area.

All current TSO chapters/members who live where there is a college or university preparing candidates for teacher certification may assist the special committee as “university partners.” The partners will work with Dr. Murphy, President Belknap, Ms. Moore and ES Crawford to identify, gain access to and reach out to university students in the area where the students live and/or attend school. Many of these partners work for and/or serve on development boards and with alumni groups at these universities. In this capacity, the university partners can help to identify women in the final years of their programs and give them information about the advantages and benefits of becoming a DKG Collegiate Member.

Any member interested in being a partner in her area or with her alumni university may contact Dr. Jo Murphy at jomurphy981@gmail.com or Cheryl Crawford at alphasttx@sbcglobal.net. A collegiate member can count her years as a collegiate member toward a scholarship for graduate work upon certification and becoming an active member in a TSO chapter. TSO 3-hour, 6-hour and 9-hour scholarships require 2 years of membership.

STATE HONORARY MEMBERS

Any member or chapter of the Society may submit a name for State Honorary Membership if the nominee meets these criteria:

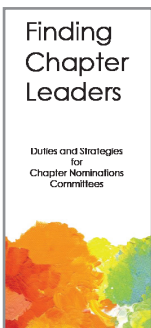
- She is not eligible for active membership.
- She has rendered notable service to education or to women.
- She has rendered service of statewide significance.

To nominate a woman for this honor, a member must email the nominee’s name, address, phone number and email address with her current position, title and employer to Kim Paetzel, Membership Committee Chair, at kim_hank@yahoo.com. The submission must include a brief biography of the nominee’s professional accomplishments and information supporting the nomination. Submission is due by February 1, 2020.



NOMINATIONS

This is the time to find the next group of leaders to take local chapters into the future. Key qualified, forward thinking, energetic women exist in every chapter. Otherwise, these women would not have been sought out for DKG membership. Officer positions to serve for the 2020-2022 biennium depend on individual chapter rules, but might include president, first vice president, second vice president, recording secretary and corresponding secretary. Elected committee positions such as nominations also might be needed.



Local Chapter Nominations Committees need not be afraid to ask busy women. Also, they might consider the idea of pairs or teams of women sharing the duties of a specific office. Because change in leadership is good for chapters, the state nominations committee wants to help. Two publications on the Nominations Committee page of the TSO website are recommended:

- Chapter Nominations Committee Checklists
- Nominations Committee Brochure

Now is the time to recruit the next chapter leaders.

PERSONAL & PROFESSIONAL ENRICHMENT (PPE)

The PPE committee is looking for members who have:

- Taught someone how to work their phone, computer or other electronic device
- Taught someone how to use social media or email
- Taught someone how to crochet, cross-stitch, play a game, cook, draw, paint, mold, or anything working with their hands
- Taught professional development for teachers, staff, personnel, church members, DKG members or someone else
- Taught a workshop, program, presentation, course or class
- Taught a DKG member how to be a good committee chair for their chapter
- Taught a student
- Ever taught...

Any member who has taught anything is qualified to present a Personal and Professional Enrichment (PPE) or Continuing Professional Education (CPE) breakout session at the McAllen Convention. DKG members need other members to share their expertise. The application is on the committee page of the state website, www.dkgtexas.org.



WOMEN IN THE ARTS (WIA)

WIA is calling all artists to get ready now for the Visual Arts Display at the convention in McAllen this summer. All members may enter one or more pieces for display in the TSO Gallery. The WIA Committee accepts any type of fine arts and crafts, including such projects as photography, painting, literary arts, needlework, pottery, and sculpture. The application form to display artwork is located on the WIA page, the Deadlines and Forms page, and the Convention page. The applications are due by April 15th. The TSO gallery is an opportunity for Texas members to display their best and most creative endeavors. It is also a wonderful opportunity for members to visit the gallery. Viewing beautiful art reduces stress, alleviates anxiety, strengthens the brain, and creates a physical sense of joy.



PROGRAMS AND SERVICE PROJECTS

This year the Programs and Service Project Committee is asking chapters to share at least one of their programs, service projects or both with the TSO organization. The due date for submission of programs and/or service projects is April 1, 2020.

The instructions for the submission will be posted on the Programs and Service Project Committee webpage. All documents received will be published and stored on the TSO website by categories. This will be a great resource of ideas for the development of future chapter programs.

A collection of program ideas shown at the Waco Convention in 2018 and a collection of service projects shown at the Arlington Convention in 2019 are posted on the Programs and Service Project Committee webpage on www.dkgtexas.org.



GLOBAL AWARENESS

World Fellowship is an international program that provides grants to women in non-DKG countries to study in the United States or Canada. The education received through these universities enables these women to return to their countries with the skills and knowledge they need to better serve their communities. Furthermore, the recipients have the opportunity to gain cultural experiences that educate others about the United States and Canada while also promoting the Purposes and goals of the Society. Communities are stronger when women are well-educated and when they are given opportunities to apply their knowledge and skills in endeavors that improve, develop and educate. Delta Kappa Gamma has been at the forefront of those efforts that promote and encourage women to “participate effectively in a world society.” Through the support of its members these efforts will continue aiding the aspirations of women who seek to improve their parts of the world.



Juanita from Columbia

On the DKG website, the World Fellowship brochure and flyer explain the history of the grants and list the current recipients. To appreciate the value of these grants, members may read the stories of several of the recipients. They can be found on the DKG website home page in the DKG blogs link. Videos of the recipients are also accessible from the DKG website, www.dkg.org. To view the videos, select Resources, select videos/PowerPoints/templates, then select videos again.

YEARBOOKS

In the process of reviewing and judging chapter yearbooks, Yearbook Committee members noticed that some chapters are still using the P.O. Box address for DKG International in Austin. This P.O. Box is no longer in use. Chapters should inform their membership that 416 W 12th St, Austin, TX, 78701-1817 is the correct address for International Headquarters.



Convention schedule at a glance

Tuesday, June 16th

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration
 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. WIA Children's Art Exhibit and reception
 7:00 p.m. TSO Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 17th

8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. ASTEF Board Meeting
 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Set up Vendors; Accept ASTEF Displays
 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration
 8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Unifying Project items accepted -Visual Arts accepted
 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Vendors open; ASTEF Displays; Children's Art Gallery
 Visual Arts
 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Breakout Session I
 11:00 a.m. AC Training
 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Breakout Session II
 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Sack Lunches Available
 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. Breakout Session III
 Membership I
 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Programs & Projects I
 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Breakout Session IV
 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. LDCP Session I
 2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m. Breakout Session V
 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. First Timers Session
 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. Breakout Session VI
 4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Breakout Session VII
 6:00 p.m. Dinner on Your Own
 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Flag Rehearsal
 7:00 p.m. Opening Session

Thursday, June 18th

8:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration; Unifying Project items accepted
 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. ASTEF Annual Meeting
 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Vendors; ASTEF Displays; Children's Art Gallery
 Visual Arts
 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. ASTEF Extravaganza
 10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. Breakout Session VIII
 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Breakout Session IX
 12:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Sack Lunch
 12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Membership II
 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. LDCP Session II
 1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. Breakout Session X
 2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Breakout Session XI
 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Chapter Treasurers meet with State Treasurer
 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. Breakout Session XII
 6:30 p.m. Reception
 6:45 p.m. Line up for Procession
 7:00 p.m. Presidents and Founders Banquet

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Convention schedule at a glance

Schedule from page 10

Friday, June 19th

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Celebration of Life
9:15 a.m.	TSO Business Meeting
11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	Reception for members with 50(+) years of DKG membership
12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Fiesta Birthday Luncheon
2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Vendors/ASTEFL Displays
2:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Tim Lee
2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Membership III
2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Programs & Projects II
2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Breakout Session XIII
3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Breakout Session XIV
3:45 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.	Leadership Seminar Social Event
6:00 p.m.	Dinner on your own
6:30 p.m.	State Personnel Dinner

Preliminary

Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation celebrates ASTEFL MILESTONE APPROACHES

On September 17, 2020, ASTEFL will be celebrating yet another milestone in its brief history. On this date, ten years ago, ASTEFL was approved as a Texas corporation. The ASTEFL Board of Directors and others are gearing up for a year long celebration to mark ASTEFL's 10th Birthday. The ASTEFL website, www.astef.org, will have upcoming announcements, birthday videos and other information leading up to the kickoff Birthday Party to be held on Opening Night of the TSO 2020 McAllen Convention. The celebration will conclude during the TSO Denton Convention in 2021.



All members are invited to celebrate ASTEFL: A Decade of Making Dreams Come True.

"DECADE DONOR" INITIATIVE

Each year as members send in their convention registration forms, many choose to donate to ASTEFL, "OUR" Foundation. The Board appreciates these funds very much and thanks all who have donated in the past.

In preparation for ASTEFL's 10th Birthday, ASTEFL directors are asking members to continue to give or consider giving toward a statewide goal of \$10,000. A gift to ASTEFL will earn a donor the title of "Decade Donor." Members may help support ASTEFL with a special donation made on their registration form, by completing a donation form located on the ASTEFL website, www.astef.org, or by using the Donate Now button also located on the website.

Each donation means a deserving project can be awarded, a scholarship will be granted, an aspiring educator will be supported and members will be given leadership opportunities. Members who donate help make dreams come true for members, non-members, Texas educators, children and students.



Alpha State Remembers

We mourn the passing and celebrate the lives of those cherished members of the Society whose deaths have been reported to the Texas Necrology Chair, Rhonda Hall, between August 16, 2019, and November 1, 2019. They are reported by their chapter and place of residence at the time of death using Form 6, Report of the Death of a Member, found at www.dkgtxas.org under Committees - Necrology.

Margret Smith, Delta Theta-2, Houston
Ellen Katheryn Thornton, Iota Rho-2, Groves
Kathryn Janes, Zeta Mu-3, Houston
Ruth Green, Alpha Pi- 4, Texarkana
Emma Gloria Ventura, Zeta Rho-5, Raymondville
Angie Smith, Beta Zeta- 6, Blanco
Mary Louise Rieber, Kappa Beta-6, San Antonio
Hope M. Kitterman, Alpha Psi-7, Luling
Bonnie Jean Stoner, Eta Zeta- 9, Dallas
Eva Marie Nieto, Lambda Upsilon-9, Rockwall
Carolyn Page Broughton, Beta Upsilon-10, Flatonia
Opal K. Little, Beta Upsilon-10, Eastland
Lois L. Marshall, Beta Upsilon-10, Eastland
Jean Louise Baggerly, Epsilon Nu-10, Fort Worth
Norman Nell Faubion, Theta Omicron-13, San Angelo
Patricia Ann Smith, Epsilon Eta-14, Midland

Member
News



Dr. Betty Iles, Mu Upsilon (Lumberton-2), was honored with an exhibition of her paintings at the Ice House Museum & Cultural Center in Silsbee, Texas.

Minnie Abrego-Sanchez, Kappa Beta (San Antonio-6), was recently appointed to the Port of San Antonio Board of Directors.

Alison Hayer, Iota Omega (Paris-17), received a 2019 Texas Foreign Language Association Excellence in Teaching Award.

Cathy McMahan, Theta Epsilon (Leveland-12), was recognized as Region 17 Secondary Teacher of the Year.

Dora Rodriguez, Rho (Alamo-5), received her doctorate from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley.

Caitln Surman, Beta Theta (La Grange-7), was recognized as Giddings ISD 2018-2019 Teacher of the Year.

Lezil Collins, Iota (Hickory Creek-16), was secondary Teacher of the Year for 2019 for Lake Dallas ISD.

Vicki Sellers, Gamma Eta (Ralls-12), and **Path Hightower**, Gamma Eta (Spur-12), received mini grants from the Community Foundation of West Texas for their classroom projects.

Re’Genna Gamblin, Omega (Bangs-13), was recently profiled in the *Brownwood Bulletin* for her diverse teaching skills.

Sue Harris, Theta (Orange-2), won first place in the watercolor division at The Gallery on the Lake juried art show in Lake Charles.

Alicia Smith, Tau (Fairfield-8), was recently featured in *The Voice* for helping to rejuvenate the Freestone County RTA.

Katrina King, Delta Kappa (Conroe-18), was named Teacher of the Year for Willis ISD and for ATPE Region 6.

arts&humanities

Texas members have works displayed in the DKG Fine Arts Gallery.

- **Patricia Woodley**, Xi (Cedar Creek-7), has a photograph, “Snowfall at the Meeting House.”
- **Connie Rensink**, Theta Chi, (North Richland Hills-10), has two photographs, “Blossom Within” and “Sunset Serenity.”
- **Ulana Ratley**, Kappa Delta (Bedford-10), has two-dimensional art, “Misty Diamond Lamppost” and “Old Chicken Coop.”
- **Jeanette Rhyan**, Theta Chi (Ft Worth-10), has two literary works, “The Perfect Dress” and “Road Trip.”

Dr. Karen Duke, Alpha (Austin-7), was nominated to serve on the DKG International Nominations Committee 2020-2024.

Sandi Causey, Epsilon Kappa (Austin-7), has been nominated for Trustee of the DKG Educational Foundation 2020-2026.

ReShanta Stewart, Xi (Pflugerville-7), was featured on the DKG website home page in Member Spotlight.

Aspiring Educator fulfilling dream

Kim Morris is a paraprofessional in the elementary library at Henrietta Elementary School in Henrietta ISD. Kim is completing her bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies at Stephen F. Austin State University while working fulltime and raising her family.



Kim Morris

This future teacher was encouraged to apply for the Aspiring Educator award by her supervisor, Iota Omicron member Mandy Story. The money awarded has gone toward tuition and books for the semester as she works to complete her degree in the spring of 2020.



Cheryl Crawford, TSO Executive Secretary, has announced her retirement effective June 30, 2020. Anyone interested in an interesting and fulfilling retirement job, working in a lovely environment with professional, hardworking DKG co-workers, is invited to contact TSO Personnel Chair Susie Nesmith at snesmith@gcecisp.com for further information.

Aspiring Educator Applications online

The 2020-2021 Aspiring Educator Grant Guidelines and Application are now available on the ASTEF website on the forms page. Collegiate members as well as non-member women who are pursuing a bachelor's degree in education and/or a Texas teacher certification are eligible to apply for the ASTEF Aspiring Educator Grant. Applicants may apply for a 3-hour award, a 6-hour award, or a one-time award to earn alternative teacher certification in Texas. All applicants must be sponsored by a member of DKG. March 1, 2020, is the deadline to submit the application for the Aspiring Educator Grant.



For the second year, in order to assure accessibility to all, the Spectacular Texas Arts Retreat (STAR) will post its registration form on the TSO website beginning on January 1, 2020. No experience is required. This event is open to adult women who are friends of DKG members, too. STAR is a weekend of fellowship, fun, creativity, crafts and art instruction at Camp Allen in Navasota, TX.

Project Stipend Application online

The 2020-2021 Project Stipend Application Guide is now available on the ASTEF website. If chapters, members, coordinating councils or areas have a project that benefits Texas educators and/or students, they may now apply for an ASTEF Project Stipend to help fund the project. The application, guidelines and detailed instructions are on the ASTEF website, <http://www.astef.org>. Once on the ASTEF website, click on Forms tab at the top of the page. In 2019, ASTEF awarded \$39,560 in Arlington at the TSO Convention. The application is due April 1, 2020.





Me a Super Hero? No Way!

Risa McCann, Mu Pi

It has been said that ordinary people can do extraordinary things; I am proof that the saying is true. In April, 2019, I was able to donate my left kidney to Suzanne, a friend of 28 years. Our sons, who are now 32-years old, met in first grade when they were both 6 years old. Our families have grown very close throughout the years.

Our journey to donation started in September, 2018, when the nephrologist told Suzanne that it was time for either a transplant or dialysis because she was in renal failure. I quickly volunteered to be tested to see if I could be her donor. The thought of her life on dialysis or her health being further compromised made the decision quick and easy for me. My immediate family was in full support of the donation because of their love for Suzanne and her family.

Over the next few months of the testing process, the overall health of both of my elderly parents rapidly declined. The kidney donation to my friend became important to me as I watched my parents' lives fade. I felt a sense of balance between loss and life. They both passed away within 17 days of each other in March, 2019. For me, the donation was a way to help my parents' legacy of love continue. The kidney donation was done April 30, 2019, on Suzanne's mother's 90th birthday. She personally thanked me just prior to surgery for giving her the best birthday present she would ever receive. With a healthy kidney from a living donor, Suzanne's life expectancy has been dramatically improved. I am happy to report at this time we are both doing wonderfully. The return of her health is a blessing to my heart and her laughter has been music to my ears.

The transplant team provided a wealth of information for me and answered all of my questions as well. I was overwhelmed when I realized that my kidney donation would actually help two people, both my recipient, Suzanne, and the next person on the deceased organ waiting list. There is no cut-off age for living organ donation. The true issue is health of the donor and the functioning level of the organ. Most seniors could qualify for donation if they are free from cardio-vascular disease, diabetes, cancer or other major health conditions. The current statistics indicate that only one in three people who go on the transplant list receives a kidney. Those who do not receive an organ either die or become too unhealthy to remain eligible.

At this time there are 79,000 people on the national transplant waiting list. Kidneys from living donors generally function better and last longer than kidneys from a deceased donor. The average wait time to receive a deceased donor kidney in Texas is 5 – 6 years.

Today 95% of Americans are in favor of organ donation, but only 58% are registered donors. As a registered organ donor, I hope that upon my death my organs will be usable to others so their lives can continue. The oldest living kidney donor in the US is Frank Dewhurst. He is 84 and his recipient, a neighbor, is 74. Their surgery preceded ours at Houston Methodist Hospital. To me, he is a Super Hero.

ASTEF seeking nominees for Advocate for Education Award

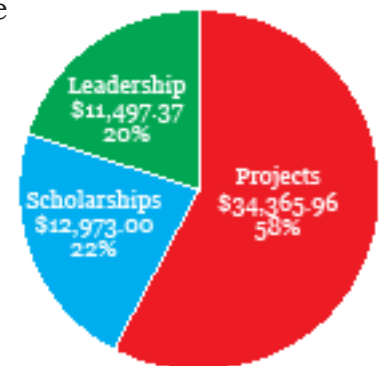
The ASTEF Board of Directors is requesting nominations for the ASTEF Advocate for Education Award. This award recognizes a deserving woman in Texas who is an avid supporter of education and has made significant contributions in education through service and/or financial assistance although not a current educator. The Advocate for Education Award will be presented at TSO Convention in McAllen. Outstanding previous award recipients were Erin Steele in 2017, Jane Bounds in 2018 and Pat Hardy in 2019. The Guidelines and Nomination Form are on the ASTEF website listed under Forms. Members wanting to submit names may email the ASTEF Vice President of Programs at projects@astef.org for additional information.



Members make a difference with contributions

ASTEF is pleased to report the funds contributed to Projects, Leadership and Scholarship for the 2018-2019 year. These funds are used to make a difference in the lives of Texas students and teachers.

In various fundraising projects, a net profit of \$21,388.68 (unaudited) was made. This was a result of Arlington Convention ASTEF events, Pass the Hat at TSO 2018 Area Workshops, Giving Tuesday, Kroger and Randall's Rewards programs and the College Station Weekender. A major part of ASTEF's fundraising effort was at the Arlington Convention. Convention events alone raised \$10,111.95 (unaudited). ASTEF thanks members for coming by the ASTEF displays at Convention, for bidding on auction items, for playing money raising games and for attending *ASTEF Salutes*.



DKG - TSO Contributions 2018-2019 (unaudited)

Travelers enjoy Galveston Weekender



The Fourth Annual ASTEF Weekender to Scientific Galveston was attended by 47 members and guests. Travelers came from as far away as Lubbock and as close as Dickinson. Highlights of the Weekender included exclusive tours to Old Red, a University of Texas Medical Branch building which dates back to the 1800s, and a visit to the Texas A&M at Galveston campus. Other highlights were the Aquarium Pyramid at Moody Gardens, the Ocean Star Oil Rig Museum, an

Historic Harbor Tour, and Dolphin Watch Boat Ride. The weekend was a time of learning, fun and fellowship — all while supporting ASTEF. Members may learn more about the 4th ASTEF Weekender by visiting the ASTEF website, www.astef.org.



SCHOLARSHIPS

My name is Kendall Hasse, and Delta Kappa Gamma has provided several scholarships to help advance my career and educational opportunities over a seventeen-year period since joining in 2000. DKG has helped pay for a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction, a Master's degree in Leadership and now my doctoral degree.

How did you get that many scholarships?

With TSO scholarships, a member can apply more than once. She can apply for two years, then wait for a year, then apply again. For example, I applied in 2017 for the TSO Doctoral Scholarship for \$7500, then in 2018, I applied for the DKG International Scholarship for \$10,000, and in 2019, I repeated the TSO Doctoral Scholarship for \$7500. An individual needs to be a DKG member for 3 years before applying for a scholarship. By planning my doctoral scholarships in that order, I received large scholarships for three straight years.

How does a member begin the process?

For any member thinking about applying for TSO scholarships, now is the time to start planning. First, the applicant should think about ordering a transcript from the university she is attending if she is applying for the doctoral scholarship. Next, she needs to start talking to her references and ask for a letter of recommendation early. She should try to give her references at least 2-4 weeks to write the letter. TSO scholarships need only two letters of reference. The doctoral scholarship asks for three: 1) chapter president, 2) immediate supervisor, and 3) a character reference. If she starts in December – January, then she will have all her letters and transcript by February. As a courtesy, the member should be sure to write thank you notes to all her references after they give her the letter.

Any specific advice?

The applicant should take a Saturday in February, find a comfortable location and camp out to type up the scholarship application. She needs to plan for about 4-5 hours to type it all up and put all the letters plus transcript together to mail in. Keeping a copy is a smart idea; the member might decide to apply again, and she will have most of the information already typed. Copy and paste is the applicant's friend.

What about service to the organization and educational goals?

If a member is not already participating in leadership opportunities, she can start volunteering to participate at chapter meetings, ask to be on committees, volunteer to be an officer, work on chapter projects, attend workshops, conferences and conventions. She can also submit an application to present at workshops, conferences and conventions. A member needs to begin thinking about her educational and DKG goals such as her purpose of study and future DKG involvement. If she starts thinking about applying now, she will be ahead of the game and ready to submit her application by the March 1st deadline.



Any last thoughts?

I hope interested members apply for a TSO scholarship. These scholarships are funded through member scholarship fees and generous gifts to TSO and ASTEF. DKG scholarships can unlock immeasurable opportunities that will help members and their families.