

# Lone Star News

Official Publication of the Texas State Organization



Vol 65, No. 2

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ~ Key Women Educators Winter 2011

## United Through Reading is 2012 unifying project

Lynda Anderson, Professional Growth and Services Chair

The United Through Reading Program will be the Unifying Project for the 2012 Las Colinas Convention.

The Personal Growth and Services Committee is sponsoring the project. Chapters and individuals are asked to bring new books to the convention along with writable DVD's in clear cases. The books along with a DVD of a separated parent recording the story will then be shipped to the children by United Through Reading's United Service Organization partner at Dallas Ft. Worth airport.



The United Through Reading website <http://www.unitedthroughreading.org> has book lists from which to choose appropriate books for the program.

With United States troops being deployed for lengthy amounts of time, the United Through Reading Military Program is helping ease the fear, uncertainty and anxiety felt by children in military families by providing them with opportunities for emotional connections that relieve the stress of separation.



Phone calls and Skype end when families hang up, but the recorded DVDs and books provided by United Through Reading are available to the children over and over. One mother explained that her daughter feels like her father is part of her every day because she still gets to read with him whenever she wants. She simply pops in a DVD. Another told of negative behavior by her son being reversed when he could see and hear his dad daily.

The concept of United Through Reading has proven to be a simple but effective way of keeping families connected. Texas State Organization will help make the connections.



**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS**



**2011-2013**

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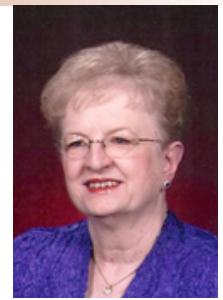
*If you have a penny  
and I have a penny  
and we exchange  
pennies, you still  
have one cent and I  
still have one cent.*

*But if you have an  
idea and I have  
an idea and we  
exchange ideas, you  
now have two ideas  
and I now have two  
ideas.*

*-Anonymous*

# Developing your possibilities

Joanne Davis  
2011-2013  
Texas State President



EXPLORE  
the  
Possibilities:

Let Our  
VISION  
Light the  
Way

In the last issue, I focused on sharing the light on the possibilities that lie ahead for Texas State Organization.

Now I ask you to look at exploring possibilities for yourself. You are obviously a dedicated teacher.

Someone saw something special in you because they nominated you for membership in the largest organized group of women educators in the world. You have talents and abilities that you may not have even imagined. What are you doing to develop them? Have you accepted a leadership role in your chapter? If not, why not?

I know if you are actively employed you face many stresses, but in many ways actively involving yourself in your chapter can be a diversion, and it will build your confidence and self-esteem as well as provide you with avenues of additional leadership training that the state offers. The one assurance that you have in accepting a responsibility in Delta Kappa Gamma is you are never alone in doing a job. There are always others who will assist you and help you. You have past chapter officers, your area coordinator, state chairmen and executive committee members who are available to help you with questions. Never be afraid to ask any of these for help.

When I think of what I have gained from my membership, I know there are many skills I have learned because of roles I have accepted within the Society. I would never have imagined back in 1978 when I was initiated that I could lead the planning of a state convention for 1200 people, publish a sixteen page newsletter available online and mailed twice a year to 11,000 + people, or speak to a group of more than 1000 people. I was a wife, mother of two young sons, a middle school English teacher. I was a dedicated educator busy with the roles I had in my life. But my membership opened up new doors for me. I had no idea of the possibilities I would discover as a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. Fortunately, I said yes when I was asked to be an officer. I found it invigorating and energizing. It didn't overwhelm me; it spurred me on to do new tasks. I am very fortunate that I am somewhat of a risk taker. I challenge you to be a risk taker also. The benefits are great. It can lead you to places you would never imagine.

Nominating committees throughout the state will be looking for officers for the coming biennium as we move into the new year. Take a risk and see the doors that can open for you by accepting leadership roles. Let others help you achieve all you can be as you let the beam light the way to new possibilities for you.

# Betty's Buzz

Betty Vines  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer



The Texas State Organization Headquarters in Dallas is always a busy place. There have been meetings, after meetings, after meetings! Dues and fees continue to arrive daily. Treasurers have worked diligently to meet the challenge of getting the dues in by the November 10th deadline. The mailbox has also been filled with yearbooks.

A special thanks to those "early bird" treasurers whose chapter dues were in our mail box by October 31. Included were Alpha Alpha, Alpha Omega, Beta Gamma, Beta Upsilon, Beta Sigma, Beta Theta, Beta Chi, Gamma Eta, Gamma Kappa, Gamma Xi, Delta Delta, Delta Kappa, Delta Upsilon, Delta Pi, Epsilon Psi, Zeta Delta, Eta Delta, Eta Eta, Eta Pi, Theta Omicron, Iota Sigma, Kappa Pi, Lambda Alpha, Lambda Sigma, Lambda Phi, and Mu Upsilon.



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



November 15 is the deadline for filing your chapter's 990-N. Has your chapter filed? Instructions are on the website and help is just a phone call away. We must have 100% filing this year.

Chapters are to be commended for their generosity in giving grants-in-aid and scholarships. According to reports from chapter treasurers (2011 Form 15), chapters awarded 248 grants-in-aid for \$91,595.00 and 68 scholarships for \$16,862.00. This is in addition to the scholarships and grants awarded at the state level which totaled \$36,250.00.

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

## At-A-Glance

### Deadlines

- Dec 1 Yearbooks due  
Golden Gift applications due
- Feb1 Chapter reports due:  
President  
Necrology  
Finance  
Membership Program  
Scholarships  
World Fellowship
- Feb 1 Nominations for State Achievement Award, Golden Rose Award and Honorary Member
- Feb 1 LSN deadline

### Committees

- Feb 11-12 Leadership Seminar
- Jan 27-28 Revision Committee/State Bylaws

### Highlights

ASTEF	15
Bastrop	16
Educational Impact	9
Gold Piece	8
Hotel	14
International nominations	10
Member News	6,7
President	2
UP	1

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# las colinas

IRVING, TEXAS



CONVENTION CENTER

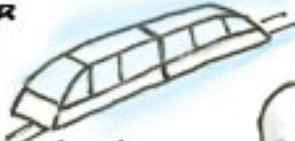
MUSTANGS AT WILLIAMS SQUARE



BIRDS FORT TRAILS PARK



FLOWER CLOCK



AREA PERSONAL TRANSPORT



MOKARA SPA



OMNI MANDALAY HOTEL



LOVE FIELD AIRPORT



DALLAS-FT WORTH AIRPORT

CLOCK TOWER



BELL TOWER

MANDALAY CANAL



GONDOLA ON LAKE CAROLYN



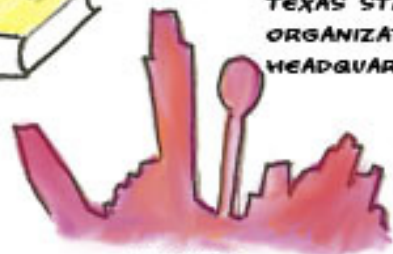
CONVENTION HOTEL AREA



UNIVERSITY OF DALLAS



TEXAS STATE ORGANIZATION HEADQUARTERS



DALLAS

## Lighting the way to chapter success

Shirl Hawes, LDCP Chair

By now your chapter nomination's committee is busy assembling a slate of officers for the next biennium. Rest assured all you wonderful women who say yes will receive all the help you need to be a successful chapter president.

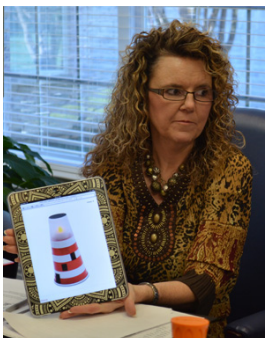


Shirl Hawes working with the LDCP committee to engage the presidents in their training.

Plan to attend the Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents session this

summer in Las Colinas on Thursday, June 21 from noon until 4 p.m.

The LDCP Committee has already started planning an exciting agenda for you that will include opportunities to share with your Area Coordinator and fellow chapter presidents. There will be a special section on using technology to navigate your way to success.



Shelly Redding, technology chairman, using the Internet to find training materials.

In addition to a very helpful monthly guide, new chapter presidents will receive strategies for involving chapter members, motivating attendance, and energizing meetings. Several online resources are being prepared to provide additional support. Explore the possibilities with us at LDCP as you confidently light the way to success for your chapter. Just say, "Yes!"



Sandy Borden, Mary Howington, Marilyn Nease and Carole Lowe

The Archives Committee wants your cook book effort, large or small, to become part of this culinary history. Contact Carole Lowe, Archives Chairman, [cslowe@verizon.net](mailto:cslowe@verizon.net)

## Collecting DKG Cookbooks

Carole Lowe, Archives Chair

It seems Delta Kappa Gamma members DO cook – or at least we share recipes and publish cook books for worthy causes.

The Alpha State Archives Committee is moving ahead with a project called "A Collection of DKG Cook Books". The call went out and you responded generously by donating cook books produced by your chapters.

Most of these cook books are chapter publications, some are gathered from newsletters, and some are Regional and State projects. Some are professionally published by cook book companies and others are in-house efforts. I haven't found any duplicated on purple mimeograph machines, but I bet they are out there!

Our special DKG Cook Book Collection will become a section of an extensive Culinary Library, one part of the Woman's Collection at Texas Woman's University in Denton.

Kim Johnson, Coordinator of Special Collections at TWU, says that we should not underestimate the value of these cook books. Those produced by organizations such as ours have been used to effect change for women over many years. The monies have allowed us to move our purposes forward.

These books are delightful, crammed with our favorite recipes from across the state and through the decades. Introductions mention using proceeds to better serve our profession and our communities. Introductions also mention the fellowship and friendship that became part of the gatherings where food and hospitality were present.



# Buildings named for members



Mary Agnes Lane,  
Lambda Phi-1

## **Mary Agnes Lane Gymnasium, East Side Elementary, Jacksonville, Texas**

Mary Agnes Lane grew up in Jacksonville and fulfilled her dream of becoming a teacher at 34. She taught second grade at East Side Elementary for 34 years. After she retired from public schools, she taught 18 more years at Jacksonville Christian School. At 83 she worked with the “latch-key” children in an after school program. Lane feels showing love to her students is important. When they come in they get a hug, and when they leave they get a hug; sometimes these are the only hugs they receive.

## **Holly Decker Library, Joe Wright Elementary School, Jacksonville, Texas**

Holly Decker has had the honor of teaching children for the past 27 years with 25 of them being in Jacksonville, Texas. As doors opened across the years of her career, she has had the opportunity to serve JISD in many ways: classroom teacher of kindergarten, second and third grade students, Reading Recovery teacher, dyslexia teacher, district dyslexia coordinator, and district literacy coach. Although she has worn many hats for the district, the greatest reward of all is giving the gift of literacy to the many children she has had the privilege to teach. Most of her years in JISD have been devoted to the children of Joe Wright Elementary.



Holly Decker,  
Lampda Phi-1

## **Macaria Gorena, Macaria de la Garza Gorena Elementary School, Edinburg, Texas**

Macaria Gorena was born in Mexico and immigrated to the US when she was five. She begin school in Edinburg without knowing English. She taught 47 years in Edinburg as a general classroom teacher, Spanish teacher, visiting teacher and special education teacher. Gorena’s number one message for the children at the school is that each must attend school daily and make education a priority. Her message for parents is that it is ultimately their responsibility to make sure their children are in school because parents are their children’s first teachers.



Macaria Gorena, Rho-5

## **Joyce and Wilson Folden Cafeteria, Joe Wright Elementary School, Jacksonville, Texas**

Joyce Folden grew up in Nacogdoches. She taught 30 years at Joe Wright Elementary, Jacksonville ISD. She taught fifth grade, second grade and G/T. Teaching preschoolers in Sunday School has been a priority for nearly five decades. Her goal has always been to serve God, honor her parents and give her best to teaching each child. Focusing on helping her students to reach their potential while developing life-long family friendships is still Folden’s passion. Hugs wherever she goes are valuable rewards.



Joyce Folden, Lamda Phi-1

## Member News



**Sherry Bell**, Alpha Gamma (Cleburne-1), was given a HERO Award by the "Score A Goal in the Classroom" program.

**Bonne Stroman**, Iota Chi (Weatherford-10), has been elected as the 2011-2012 District 25 Toastmasters Lieutenant Governor Education and Training.

**Linda Colman**, Alpha Phi (Yoakum-4), was chosen as one of the "Best in Texas Education" in the 2011 HEB Excellence in Education Awards. She and her school each received a check for \$1000.

**Diana Weise**, Alpha Phi (Yorktown-4), was elected president of the Texas Extension Association of Family Consumer Science. This organization has agents in each of the 254 counties.

**Dr. Jodi Pilgrim** and **Dr. Christie Bledsoe**, Lambda (Temple-8), had their article "Learning through Facebook: A Potential Tool for Educators" published in the Fall 2011 Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin.

**Evelyn Lee Primaeaux**, Gamma Nu (Baytown-3), is Goose Creek CISD's Elementary Teacher-of-the-Year and was chosen to attend the Mickelson Exxon Mobil Teachers Academy in Houston.

**Amy Lawrence**, Iota Iota (Denton-16), is the Lead Counselor at Guyer High School in Denton ISD and has been named Secondary School Counselor of the Year in Texas.

## Alpha State Remembers

*We mourn the passing and celebrate the lives of those cherished members of the Society whose deaths have been reported to Texas Necrology Chair Carolyn Rigsby between August 15, 2011 and November 1, 2011. They are reported by their chapter and place of residence at time of death.*

Nelda Montejano, Beta (San Antonio-6)  
 Blanche G. Aldrete, Chapter Honorary, Beta (San Antonio-6)  
 Mildred Caroline Dunaway Delta Beta (Uvalde-6)  
 Sammie J. Henry, Delta Delta (Alvin-4)  
 Kaaren V. Sullivan, Delta Epsilon (Woodville-2)  
 Virginia Ruth Harris, Epsilon Beta (Fair Oaks Ranch-6)  
 Roberta Bain, Epsilon Eta (Midland-14)  
 Sara Frances Cason, Epsilon Eta (Midland-14)  
 Margaret A. Gibbs, Theta Alpha, (Arlington-9)  
 Marjorie Jones, Theta Nu (Tyler-1)  
 Arla Ray Tyson, Kappa Upsilon (Lancaster-9)  
 Merle Dickinson, Kappa Psi (Mesquite-9)

**Kathleen Melston**, Lambda Upsilon (Rockwall-10), was awarded a lifetime Achievement Award from the Northeast Texas Library System.

**Evalonia Bolton**, Kappa Mu (Longview-18), was inducted into the Longview Symphony Hall of Fame.

**Evelyn Lord**, Eta Mu (Beaumont-2), was named one of the top 28 women of Southeast Texas by VIP magazine.

**Mary Burns Michael**, Beta (San Antonio-6), was named by the River City Top Ladies of Distinction as their 2011 Top Lady of the Year.

**Katherine Cass**, Alpha Delta (Paris-17), was selected as the Texas Rural Education Association Teacher of the Year for 2011. She was the Keynote Speaker at the TRE Summer Conference.

**Rose Mary Neshyba**, Alphi Pi (Atlanta-17), is one of 26 superintendents to be selected for the 2011 class of the Lamar University Superintendent Academy.

**Karen Hernandez**, Beta Upsilon (Cisco-10), spent 17 days this summer honing her math and science skills through the Texas Quality Grant of Measurement.



# Partnerships build HOPE

Connie Rensink (Theta Chi-10)

Secretary General Kofi Annan said “It is not in the United Nations that the Millennium Development Goals will be achieved. They have to be achieved in each country by the joint efforts of the governments and the people”.

When I found out I was going to be a part of a Fulbright – Hays Project Abroad to India for the month of July, I began sharing my news with friends. While a few answered with “Wow, how wonderful”, more often than not the response was “Why? Why would you want to go there and what will you do?”. The group assignment was to look at India’s progress towards the Millennium Development Goals and write curriculum to teach the goals at home. For myself I wanted to personally witness what an emerging country is like instead of experiencing it vicariously through an article or documentary.

So, was it all I expected it to be? It was so much more. It’s another world - the vibrancy of color and sound and scent and volume of people will overwhelm your senses. The sheer contrasts of progress and regression and absolute poverty and extreme wealth are appalling. The logistical roadblocks to development are heart wrenching. But are there any solutions? Yes.

I visited slum schools, an HIV/AIDS home for children, a night shelter for street boys and women in dirt poor villages. The common shiny thread that wove through these encounters was HOPE. The organizations that are making the most impact are those that work with the people ‘on the ground’ in their environment. They aren’t handing out answers. They build partnerships with the community and seek their input and resources to help them find strategies that will meet their specific needs and become self sufficient in the process. It’s not about working for people, it’s about working with people. But how can we help?

I traveled a side of India that most Indians never see. Yes, we can support the work being done with money and mobilization. But we need to ‘see’ that side of life where we live too. We need to find a way to make a difference in our communities and then teach our kids to do the same. When we teach our youth compassion at home, we empower them to grow into adults who know it is possible to change the world.

Adopted by world leaders in the year 2000 and set to be achieved by 2015, the Millennium Development Goals provide concrete, numerical benchmarks for tackling extreme poverty in its many dimensions.

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Achieve universal primary education
- Promote gender equality and empower women
- Reduce child mortality
- Improve maternal health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- Ensure environmental sustainability
- Develop a global partnership for development



## Educational Impact



## Bringing education to the children

Krista Wallace, Executive Director Doulos Discovery School

In the central mountains of the Dominican Republic sits Doulos Discovery School (<http://www.doulosdiscovery.org>), a gem bringing education to the poorest children in the city of Jarabacoa.

The school was founded in 2002 through the vision of Krista and Chad Wallace. The Wallaces, graduates of Texas A & M, moved to the Dominican Republic in 1995 as developers of high adventure camps with Young Life ministries. After seeing hundreds of children without a proper education, they dreamed of starting a non-profit private Christian school working to “equip and educate servant leaders in the Dominican Republic.”

Currently, Doulos has 250 students in preschool through high school, with half of its students on scholarships. Providing a US level of education to the very poor has pushed Doulos to find creative ways to fund their school. All students pay tuition on a sliding scale, based on their earned family income. North American teachers and staff raise full support (US \$20,000 per year) and commit for a minimum of two years. Sponsors from the US commit \$100 per month to pay the tuition of sponsored students. Work teams serve the school through the continuous work of maintenance and expansion on the campus.



Delta Kappa Gamma has provided grant money for several expedition projects at Doulos. The first was providing a grant for 6th graders to explore the Caribbean, the coral reef, and the sea life beneath the waters. Many of the students had never ventured to the open water even though some had lived in the Dominican Republic all of their lives.



Another Delta Kappa Gamma grant was used to purchase backpacks for the 8th grade expedition to Pico Duarte, the highest mountain in the Caribbean. This is an annual week-long leadership expedition where students are tested in the extreme conditions of the mountain. The students carry everything in their backpacks for the week.

Gamma-1) went with a team to help. The chapter will always be connected to Doulos not only because of Krista and her mother, but because of the interest the chapter has with the school.

Krista Wallace, who is a virtual member of Zeta Gamma Chapter, Texas, is the executive director of the school and is assisted by Chad Wallace who also supervises Spirit Mountain Coffee Farm (<http://spiritmountaincoffee.com>) which is owned by the Wallaces and provides income for the school. U.S. mission teams offer support by building new classrooms, renovating existing ones and helping the teachers as needed.

Zeta Gamma became involved with Doulos when Krista's mother, Carol Ann Adams, and Ruth Hull (Zeta



Zeta Gamma helped provide supplies when Haiti had the earthquake. Doulos high school students assisted medical personnel in Haiti by translating for the English speaking doctors into French or Spanish. They also took food, clothing, and funds collected by the children.



The 2011 Alpha State Chorus members spent many hours in rehearsal while others were relaxing or sleeping. The result was a rewarding experience for the chorus members and beautiful performances for conference attendees in McAllen.

## Singing is fun

Deborah Payne, Chair Music Committee

The state music committee needs voices from all 18 Areas to participate in the 83rd Texas State Organization Convention at Las Colinas! The goal is to have 83+ members participating in the 2012 choir.

By singing in the choir, members will get to be a part of an exciting and rewarding adventure.

Look for the pre-registration in the Spring Lone Star News. Updated information will be on the music committee page of the state website after January.

Special note: Instrumentalists are also needed. Please contact Deborah Payne, State Music Chair: [payne.deborah@gmail.com](mailto:payne.deborah@gmail.com)

# TSO members nominated for international positions

## International First Vice President



Dr. Barbara Baethe  
Epsilon Omega  
(Richmond-4)

Dr. Barbara Baethe is the nominee for First Vice President of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. Currently the Southwest Regional Director, Baethe has been actively involved in Society roles, conferences, committees and workshops. She has served on nine state organization committees, as first vice president, second vice president and area coordinator. Internationally, she has been a member of five committees; attended 17 regional conferences and 10 international conventions. She has been a workshop presenter for international, regional, state and area workshops.

## Finance Committee (2012-2016)

Sandi Causey is the nominee for The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Finance Committee for a four-year term. As Finance Chair for the Texas State Organization during a time of transition from one executive secretary to another, she was responsible for recommending and setting up the new accounting system. Additionally, when it became necessary to request a dues increase in the state, she offered members very clear rationale. During her educational career, she was an elementary principal, responsible for preparing and administering the school budget. In 2011, she attended all five regional conferences. She attended four regional conferences in 2009 and has attended two international conventions.



Sandi Causey  
Epsilon Kappa  
(Austin-7)



## Enjoy 20 minutes of relaxation in Las Colinas

The old world charm of the Omni Mandalay is continued in the gondola rides on Lake Carolyn in Las Colinas.

### Join the fun and experience the singing gondoliers.

Friday, June 22, 2012 8:00-10:00 pm

\$7 per person if purchased by March 1, 2012  
\$10 per person if purchased after March 1, 2012  
Reserve your spot now!

For more information or to reserve your spot, please contact Robyn Rucker (Kappa Theta) at [ruckergondola@gmail.com](mailto:ruckergondola@gmail.com)



# Nominations sought

Mary Jo Lovingier, Achievement Award Chair

Calling all chapter presidents and all chapter Achievement Award chairmen! It is time to finish up those nominations for Alpha State Achievement Award and Alpha State Golden Rose Award because the deadline to file nominations is February 1, 2012.

Alpha State strives to recognize members who have given outstanding service to Delta Kappa Gamma at the state level by awarding either the Alpha State Achievement Award or the Golden Rose Award. It is the responsibility of the State Achievement Awards Committee to review completed nominations and to select the recipients for each award.



In order to qualify for the Alpha State Achievement Award, a member must have served as a chapter president and have completed two or more leadership roles at the state level.

The Golden Rose Award is designated for those members who are not eligible for the Alpha State Achievement Award but have given years of service at the state level through workshop participation, committee work and attendance at Delta Kappa Gamma conventions.



A good way to remember the difference in the Golden Rose Award and the State Achievement Award is that Golden Rose members have served more behind the scenes and have not held the state leadership positions required for the Achievement Award.

After the chapter's nominee is chosen and the paperwork is completed, the chapter's executive board must endorse the choice in a letter to the State Achievement Award Committee. It is also helpful to have a letter from a past state president as well as others who know the record of the nominee or have been mentored by the nominee.

For the forms to nominate a member for the Alpha State Achievement Award or the Golden Rose Award, go to **[www.alphastatetexas.org](http://www.alphastatetexas.org)** and look under the Achievement Award Committee.



## Visual arts exhibit planned for 2012

Members are invited to apply by March 15, 2012, to be part of the visual arts exhibit at state convention in Las Colinas. The exhibit will be one day, Friday, June 22, 2012, 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. The exhibit is an opportunity for Texas members to display their best and most creative endeavors. The space is very limited. Art will be only on display and not for sale. The artist is responsible for displaying, setting up and taking down her art. Only tables will be provided at the convention. If you are interested in sharing your art, please complete the following information and return it to Susan Mayo by the deadline. The number of displays will be determined by the available space.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Description:

Please include a photo of the art to be displayed.

Mail to:  
Susan Mayo, Iota Omicron  
2337 Barnett Rd.  
Wichita Falls, 76130

or  
email to:  
**[srmayo@mac.com](mailto:srmayo@mac.com)**



# Participate in CPE credit and breakout sessions

Dr. Carolyn Underwood Professional Affairs Chair

Delta Kappa Gamma has been certified by the State Board for Educator Certification (SBEC) as a provider of Continuing Education Credit (CPE) for teachers. Outstanding programs are being presented at chapter meetings and Delta Kappa Gamma has been authorized to give CPE credit for these programs as long as the programs follow the SBEC guidelines.

Information on how to apply for approval to give CPE credit at chapter meetings may be found on the TSO Professional Affairs website. Chapters that have had a program approved to give CPE credit may give CPE credit to their members and prospective members that attend. The program must be a minimum of thirty minutes to one hour in length and there is a \$5.00 charge per attendee receiving CPE credit.

As chapters experience exceptional programs, please encourage the presenter(s) to apply to give the program at a "breakout" session during the 83rd State Convention. Applications are due March 1, 2012. Breakout sessions will be a minimum of one hour in length.

### Breakout (Workshop) Proposal

83rd Texas State Convention  
Las Colinas (Irving, Texas) June 21-23, 2012

Postmark Deadline: March 1, 2012

Select the type of Breakout session:

- Continuing Professional Education (CPE)
- Personal Development Interests (PDI)
- Society Business (SB)

Presenter: \_\_\_\_\_

Credentials: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter President:  Yes  No Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Email: \_\_\_\_\_ \*\*Most Important

Title of Breakout Session (workshop) \_\_\_\_\_

Brief Description:

Co-Presenter:  Yes Chapter President:  Yes

Chapter \_\_\_\_\_ Area: \_\_\_\_\_

Credentials: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Presenters are responsible for providing their own AV equipment**

Return to:

Dr. Carolyn Underwood, Professional Affairs Chair

#3 Roberts Avenue

McKinney, Texas 75069

[cyounderwood@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cyounderwood@sbcglobal.net)

(Interactive form is available on the TSO website)



## Explore Research

Barbara Johnston, Research Chair

Let our vision spread across Texas as you include research in your chapter programs. Continue the search for current and past members who are authors of published books or have been honored by public buildings bearing their name.

The beginning of the year is a great time to update your chapter's history and make plans to showcase members throughout the year. Consider oral history as a means to preserve the career experiences and DKG involvement of your members. Questionnaires are an excellent way to collect data on members' interests. This information will be helpful in planning and executing interesting programs.

## Keeping Time



Big Ben is the nickname for the great bell and the tower clock in the Palace of Westminster

in London. The clock was completed in 1858.



Atop the UT Tower in Austin is a gold faced

clock that keeps the entire campus running on schedule. The clock was installed in 1936.



The flower clock at Las Colinas was inspired by the outdoor floral clocks in the beautiful gardens of Europe. Construction for the flower clock began in 1981. The flowers are changed four times a year to provide a constant array of color.

## "Autobiographies of Texas Presidents 1991-2011" is ready for Las Colinas

Have we got an opportunity for Society members! What could be better than to have a new book to take home from Alpha State convention--one that you can get personally autographed by the people covered in the book?

You may not have had the opportunity to serve with these leaders, and even if you have, you probably did not hear much about their early life or childhood capers. However, it's all in the book! These PSPs have written with flair and with humor, revealing much about themselves, and the intertwining of events and experiences that had a lifetime effect on their professional careers.

Who are these leaders whose autobiographies appear in this new book? They are the ten women who have served as TSO presidents from July 1, 1999, to June 30, 2011. In order of service as a state president, they are:

- Ruth Johnson (1991-1993)
- Dr. Dolores Akins (1993-1995)
- Sandy Whitney (1995-1997)
- Dr. Mary Ann Waldon (1997-1999)
- Juanita Harmon (1999-2001)
- Sheryl Minick (2001-2003)
- Carolyn Adkins (2003-2005)
- Catherine Davis (2005-2007)
- JoAnn Brooks (2007-2009)
- Dr. Vicki Davis (2009-2011).



In McAllen Juanita Harmon and Catherine Davis, past Texas state presidents, had people sign up to show interest in the "Autobiographies of Texas Presidents 1991-2011". These books are ready to be printed, but the number of books printed will be determined by pre order sales. Order yours today.

### Order form for "Autobiographies of Texas State Presidents 1991-2011"

A limited number of books will printed. There will not be a second printing. They will be distributed during the 2012 Las Colinas Convention. To order your copy, please include the number you are purchasing plus your contact information. If you are unable to attend convention, please indicate who has permission to pick it up or include \$5 per book for postage.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_ AREA \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Number of Books purchased @ \$18.00 per book  
 Please check appropriate box.  I will pick up my book(s) at Las Colinas Convention  
 My book(s) will be picked up by \_\_\_\_\_  
 I am enclosing \$5 per book for mailing.

Total enclosed for (Number) \_\_\_\_\_ books@ \$18 per book \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 If mailing is requested (Number) \_\_\_\_\_ books@ \$5 per book \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
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Make the check to:  
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 Mail this form with check to:  
 Texas State Organization  
 PO Box 797787  
 Dallas, TX 75379

# Omni Mandalay Hotel at Las Colinas

83rd TSO Convention Headquarters  
June 21-23, 2012



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Register now.:

**<http://omnihotels.com/FindAHotel/DallasMandalay/MeetingFacilities/DeltaKappaGammaSociety6.aspx>**

Convention dates June 21-23, 2012

Deadline for the special rate of \$139 plus taxes per room is May 29, 2012. The special rate applies 3 days prior and 3 days past the convention days. Rooms have king-sized beds or two deluxe double beds.

On site valet and complimentary self parking at the hotel.



Points to remember in making reservations:

1. Reserve only the number of rooms that you will need.
2. The cut off deadline is May 29, 2012 for TSO to get credit for rooms and meet our guaranteed block.
3. Pre-Convention activities include Wednesday day tours and evening party.
4. LDGP Training for incoming chapter presidents begins at noon on Thursday.



Patterned after the exotic charm of a Burmese city, the Omni Mandalay Hotel has the elegance of a luxurious hotel with an Asian distinction.

**In house restaurants, outdoor heated swimming pool, fully equipped 24 hour fitness center, a full service spa and Starbucks.**



**DKG members will enjoy a discount of 15% at the Mokara Salon and Spa.**





# UT Anyone?

Barbara Derrick, Scholarships Chair

At a time when very few women had a formal education, our founders had the vision of financially supporting women who wanted to further their education. Their vision is well documented as it serves as one of our seven purposes.

But did you know they set up an endowment at University of Texas? Today some 82 years later this endowment remains at UT and is very strong. But there is a problem with this endowment.

Unlike other scholarships that do not stipulate where a member pursues her education, scholarships from this endowment specify a member must be attending University of Texas or one of its branches. This can include any University of Texas branch such as UT San Antonio, UT Dallas, UT Tyler, and other UT system schools.

In the past few years, use of this endowment has been very low.

The scholarship committee would like to urge you if you are attending or plan to attend a UT system school or UT, PLEASE APPLY! We know our founders would not be pleased to know that this fund they worked so hard to build is not being used. Scholarship guidelines and applications are available on [www.alphastatetexas.org](http://www.alphastatetexas.org) and are due by March 1, 2012. Let's see if we can award a record number of UT scholarships this year.

## Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation

Jean Webb, president, ASTEF Board of Directors



The ASTEF Board of Directors met in Dallas on September 19-20. It was an exciting time as the directors brainstormed the many possibilities associated with TSO having an educational foundation.

ASTEF is the fund raising and fund distributing arm of TSO. All members are encouraged to be knowledgeable about the many opportunities ASTEF offers its members. The main components of ASTEF are Scholarships, Leadership, and Projects.



**SCHOLARSHIPS** – Members have been granted scholarships for over 50 years.

**LEADERSHIP** – In the early 1990's the Leadership Seminar was begun to give members additional leadership skills.

**PROJECTS** – Beginning in January 2012, ASTEF will accept applications from members/

chapters that would like monetary assistance for projects they are planning.

The PROJECTS application will be found on the TSO website under ASTEF in January. The first stipends for PROJECTS will be presented at the 2012 State Convention.

How can members help build the ASTEF funds?

- Become a Founding Donor with a contribution of \$50 or more before April 1, 2012
- Become a Friend with a contribution of less than \$50 before April 1, 2012
- Contribute items and buy tickets for raffle items at state conventions

Donations may be mailed to Alpha State Headquarters. Checks should be made out to ASTEF.

Since the raffle benefits PROJECTS, that money enables ASTEF to present stipends to chapters/members in the very first year of the educational foundation.

# Fire victims receive Emergency Fund aid

Sandra Smith Bull, Texas State Organization Corresponding Secretary

I live in Bastrop County. Since I am basically a city girl, my transition to the country has been bumpy; my husband loves everything about it. Any perils facing my adopted locale were the farthest thing from my mind on the afternoon of Sunday, September 4, 2011, when my neighbor's phone call awoke me from a nap with the news that a bad fire had started in the county and a small one was burning in our neighborhood. We'd better prepare to evacuate, he said, matter-of-factly. Evacuate! What does that mean? What do we take? How do we prepare? Little did I realize that thousands of my fellow residents were dealing with exactly the same questions at the same moment as had many other Texans over most of our state during this treacherous summer and fall of drought and imminent fire danger.

I did not see the gigantic smoke plume and raging flames until Monday. It was a horrifying sight I will never forget. Thousands were evacuated and in Bastrop County alone over 1,600 residences and 30 businesses were burned down before the multiple fires were under control. That doesn't count all the smoke damage and other damages, some caused by lack of electricity over an extended period. Almost immediately I was contacted by DKG members from around Texas and from other states asking the status of Mu Rho and Beta Theta members and also asking what they could do to help. Communication was very difficult and often frustrating. Current Area 7 Coordinator Joan Hester and immediate past AC Sandra Morales helped President Joanne Davis identify victims as quickly as possible.

A benefit of DKG membership that most of us take for granted but don't truly understand is the Emergency Fund gift. We don't understand it until we are in the position to qualify for it and the \$500 is in our hands. I'll never forget a note from a Katrina victim that I received, "Not a word yet from FEMA, and my insurance company is still taking information, but I have already received the check from Delta Kappa Gamma, even though I have no mailbox and no phone."

You understand then that we help each other – it is just what we do. We find out where our sisters are, what their damages were and how they can receive mail. We make sure the chapter president knows so that she can contact the state organization president who contacts Society Headquarters. Staff at Headquarters makes Emergency funding a priority over anything else so that in some cases the check goes out the same day the request comes in.

Any member who sustains property damage due to natural causes is eligible. \$500 is not a lot of money, but it can mean a lot to a family who has lost everything. It is just what we do - like chapters from all over central Texas bringing school supplies and clothing to Bastrop. I was very humbled when I delivered clothing to one Mu Rho member who lost everything. Wilda Vasquez told me her story of that horrible Sunday afternoon, and I realized as she shared that the reason that she and her husband had so little time was that they called every neighbor they could think of before the smoke was so thick they had to hurry to beat the flames. It is just what we do.

Bastrop County will never be the same people say. Maybe that is true. The magnificent pines that are truly "lost" now will grow back for other generations to enjoy. The trees that still stand will be appreciated more than ever and the wildlife will return. But neighbors will look at neighbors in new and renewed ways. Gratitude to firefighters, emergency personnel and volunteers will be expressed. What really counts in life will be pondered more deeply and even a city girl can develop a new appreciation for the terrifying power of nature and the ever surprising well-spring of the generosity that is inherent in human nature.



Site of Wilda Vasquez's home in Bastrop