

A Bouquet of Founders
Houston TSO Co7nvention
June 24, 2017

First Speaker:

There is nothing quite as special as receiving a beautiful bouquet composed of a dozen roses. Fortunately, we in Delta Kappa Gamma have been the recipients of a beautiful bouquet of our own special roses...our Founders.

Second Speaker:



The first rose in our bouquet is the American Beauty rose with its rich depth of color. Annie Webb Blanton had a depth of wisdom and thought when she decided to invite others to join her in 1929 in founding a new society for women educators.

Third Speaker:



The festive pink and white rose epitomizes the fun-loving spirit of Mamie Sue Bastian. She loved the fun of the birthday celebration, but she also was adept in working with officials to establish policies for women educators.

Fourth Speaker:



Let's add the yellow rose for Ruby Cole. This rose is as dear to Texans as she was to San Antonio because of her work in education and her civic contributions.

Fifth Speaker:



The Peace Rose is a perfect choice for Mabel Grizzard. She became a Founder in a compromise with her sister regarding which one would travel to Austin and which would stay at home to care for their mother. Together, she and her sister organized a chapter in their area of Texas.

Sixth Speaker:



Anna Hiss could be described as a vivacious and energetic woman just as the red and yellow rose adds such a vivacious and energetic touch to our bouquet.

Seventh Speaker:



The first Society treasurer, Ray King, took care of the early funds for the Society. Her financial acuity was an asset to the Society just as the bright coral rose adds something special to the bouquet.

Eighth Speaker:



The delicate pink rose is our addition for Sue King. Even though her health was quite delicate, she was a strong proponent for the Society and its purposes.

Ninth Speaker:



Helen Koch had a brilliant understanding of both psychology and the piano. A rose with only one color could not be her flower; it has to be the variegated pink and white with petals of diverse shades.

Tenth Speaker:



As she traveled with her husband in search of the folk songs of America, Ruby Terrill Lomax must have seen a variety of roses and native flowers. We can add the native yellow rose to our bouquet.

Eleventh Speaker:



Cora Merriman Martin had known tragedy in her young life, but refused to let grief control her future. She sought healing through education and guiding the learning of children. Her contributions to education were golden.

Twelfth Speaker:



Strength and conviction are words that describe Lalla Odom as she worked for the Society and for the status of women teachers. Just as the pink rose is strong in its color and structure, she was strong in standing firmly for what was right.

Thirteenth Speaker:



Lela Lee Williams stands out in Texas education because of her stand for teachers in Dallas and for her leading a statewide organization as its first female classroom teacher president. Her rose, with its feathery petals of alternating colors, also stands out in our bouquet.

Fourteenth Speaker:

It is said that the scent of the roses remains long after the petals have fallen. Truly the lasting contributions of our Founders remain with us as a tribute to their leadership in forming our Society. Enjoy the bouquet we have been given.