



## *The Communique*

*Texas State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International*

*“Leading Women Educators, Impacting Educators Worldwide”*

*Winter, Issue 2*

### *About this issue*

Greetings to all Chapter Editors and Presidents,

Thanks for the warm welcome back last quarter! We’re keeping this one crisp and useful—plug-and-play ideas-- you can drop straight into your next chapter newsletter.

This marks the second edition of *The Communique*, provided to you by the TSO Communication and Publicity Committee. We hope that you enjoyed reading the first issue and found the information helpful.

It is our goal to share ideas on what to put in a newsletter, how to get members to read it, considerations on how to spread the word of your chapter, the area, the state, and even international. Other ideas will be shared on how the newsletter can help promote a healthy chapter by providing ideas to try for your chapter’s health.

We invite you to share your best tips and samples with us so that we may feature them in upcoming communication to the 200+ chapter editors. Please send ideas to: Dr. Barbara Derrick-[communicationsptso@gmail.com](mailto:communicationsptso@gmail.com) or [BLSDerrick@aol.com](mailto:BLSDerrick@aol.com). We would love to feature you!

Thank you for all you do to keep members informed and connected—your work matters!

### *Have you ever considered that your newsletter is a way to Educate?*

Newsletters are an excellent way to keep everyone in your chapter, including reserve members, informed and educated about what is happening at the local, state, and international levels of DKG. You can include items such as chapter projects, upcoming meetings, and updates about

events that have taken place at state or international conventions and conferences, including the U.S. Forum National Legislative Seminar, which is coming up this March.

Your newsletter can be customized to meet the needs of your chapter, whether it aims to inform and educate members or provide a platform for sharing and discussing issues that affect the chapter. A well-designed newsletter can be a valuable tool for maintaining your chapter's relevance.

### *Ideas to Share*

#### "Find-It & Win!"

Hide a small winter icon ❄️ in your newsletter and link it to a TSO fact (e.g., a state initiative or resource). Ask members to email the fact for a drawing at the next meeting. Low-cost prizes: \$5 gift cards, homemade bookmark, or "front-row parking" at the meeting. This keeps folks reading every section—and learning state resources along the way.

#### Quick Columns that Spark Engagement

Rotate one of these short, "skimmable" pieces each month:

- 60-Second Book/Nugget (one quote + 2-sentence takeaway)
- Member Travel Postcard (1 photo + 3 bullet highlights)
- Project Pulse (1 photo + "What we need next" list)
- Budget Peek (one tiny chart or "Where your \$10 went" box)

These keep your newsletter varied and readable without adding editor workload.

- Calendar at a Glance: Feb–Apr meetings, service days, and deadlines in one line each. An example is below.

#### Calendar at a Glance (February–April 2026)

Month	Event	Notes
February	Valentine Service Project	Collect classroom supplies for local schools
March	Spring Meeting	Share nominations and scholarship info
April	Founders Day Celebration	Honor members and reflect on service

## *Suggested Item to Feature This Quarter*

### The President's Message—With a Twist

Invite your Chapter President to write 1–2 short paragraphs (goal update + what's ahead) and add a single "Member Action" button (e.g., "Bring 2 canned items," "RSVP by Feb 10," "Nominate a sister"). This keeps it personal and actionable. Consider pairing it with a one-line quote from State President Dr. Stacey Arnold to connect the chapter to state.

## *Have you ever considered?*

### Newsletters Can Bring Members Together

One of the many "jobs" a newsletter does is to inform members. But did you know that through this information bonds can be formed? The members in Area 1 have done just this with Theta Nu's Pop-Ups. The article below, written by Sharon Gullett, describes this exciting idea. Perhaps your chapter, a few chapters nearby, or area might want to consider this idea. Wouldn't that make a wonderful addition to any newsletter?



### **Theta Nu Pop-Ups**

How often have you thought about attending a lecture, art exhibit, cultural event, or a movie and didn't do it because you'd have to go alone?

To remedy this situation, last year Theta Nu began a new activity named Theta Nu Pop-Ups. So, what's a Pop-Up?

A pop-up is a surprise event designed to encourage chapter members and guests to participate in a cultural, educational, or entertainment activity as a one-time event. It's like a food truck...here right now and gone in a couple of hours.

The idea is to announce an unexpected meet-up time and location somewhere in town and invite all chapter members to come. The meet-up place is at a cultural or entertainment location that's free or inexpensive. The day and time are selected and announced far in advance, but the location is not revealed until a few days before the event. Like a food truck...here right now and quickly disappears.

The guidelines for the Pop-ups are simple. One or two members plan the calendar for the year. At the beginning of each month, a graphic is sent to the newsletter editor announcing the day and the time (but not the location). Then on the Sunday before the event, all members are sent the Location. The general rule is if 2 members come, we'll have a great time together, but the more the merrier. Of course, guests are always welcome. There are no registration lists, no "remember" phone calls. Only one email or text a month in addition to the chapter newsletter.

Theta Nu started the Pop-Ups as a chapter activity just for us, but we've expanded it to the two other chapters in our area. A real positive for the expansion has been that we've become better acquainted with our sisters from another mother/chapter. :-)

Within the last year, we've attended a high school play, the Goodman-LeGrand Museum, the Historic Homes Tour in Tyler, the Tyler Art Museum, learned about adult services at the Tyler Public Library, browsed the Bluebird Antique Mall and the new Painted Tree Boutique, and listened to a Christmas Hand Bells noon-time concert. There are different activities for each month; the one happening in February 2026 will be lots of indoor fun for a group of "mature" women. I can't wait!

Image. Jack in the Box. <https://bit.ly/3ERsfOs>

### *Helping Hand, Please*

#### A Favor/Reminder

The committee has a favor to ask. We read and track every newsletter we receive as well as TSO President Dr. Arnold, LSN Editor Connie Hernandez, Area Mentors, and your Area Coordinator. To help us make this task a bit easier, please be sure to **INCLUDE YOUR AREA** in the **subject line** of the email you use when sending us the newsletter. This is a huge help and will keep us from overlooking your great newsletter.

#### Resource

Don't forget to check-out the committee's webpage. Go to the Committee tab, click on Society Business and the committee is the fourth one listed. The webpage has information you will find handy as you work for your chapter.

#### Thank you!

Thank you for all you do to promote your chapter and to keep your members informed. It is not an easy task sometimes and it may seem like no one is reading but they are! Your work is valuable and we **THANK YOU** for all **YOU** do! Here's to a great 2026!

#### Sharing

Don't forget to share your ideas and ways to enhance chapter newsletters with the other editors in the State. Send me your ideas so we can share in the next Communique and/or on the webpage. Send to Dr. Barbara Derrick at [BLSDerrick@aol.com](mailto:BLSDerrick@aol.com) We can't wait to see your ideas!