

## Chapter Birthday Ceremony

-Before the meeting have members dress as the charter members of the chapter. For example, if your chapter was founded in the 80's, dress as teachers would have during that decade.

-Decorate with party supplies from the appropriate decade. Make it fun!

-If you have charter members that still attend meetings, have them dress as administrators or make them special sashes or crowns to identify them as the chapter's founders. If you do not have any charter members, the ceremony can still be used by omitting this part.

-Ask other chapter members to share stories about why they decided to join Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and create the chapter. (If not charter members ask those members who have been members the longest.)

-Ask other members to share their stories of why they joined.

### Materials Needed:

A candle for each member present. Consider using battery-operated tealights. Cupcakes or Birthday cake for each member is needed.

To add to the festive theme and for a more formal approach use the following script adapted from Theta Alpha Chapter of the Texas State Organization. Other ideas and organization was comprised by Ceremonies Committee Member Emily Hoffman.

### Narrator:

Welcome to the \_\_\_\_\_ birthday celebration for the \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. We are so excited to have you here to celebrate with us.

We honor the \_\_\_\_ women who were vital stepping stones in making The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International one of the largest professional women's organizations in the world. (If no charter members, substitute the Founders here.)

We dress as our founding sisters to honor the changes made in education and our group as professionals. (OR "We dress in the decade of which our chapter was chartered.")

At this time let \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter remember the bold, brave, and courageous women who reached out to key women educators in the area by organizing the \_\_\_\_\_ chapter of Alpha State, Texas. (This can still be done even if there are none there or none are living. This information should be in your Chapter Yearbook.)

Let us continue to honor (Read the names of Charter Members) \_\_\_\_\_ with birthday wishes

(1st speaker)

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

On this special day, for your \_\_\_th year (example fifth year, sixth, etc.)

We members bring good wishes and birthday cheer-

Wishes of friendship and of loyalty,

Wishes of helpfulness in our Society.

(2nd speaker) Light the first candle (a good idea is to use battery-operated tea lights)

We wish you FRIENDSHIP:

Silver threads of delight in new friends meeting,

Golden cords of fellowship with longtime sisters,

And crimson bonds of unity in Delta Kappa Gamma.

We wish you FRIENDSHIP, threefold.

(3rd speaker) Light the second candle

We wish you LOYALTY:

Confidence in one another as key women educators,

The unwavering support of your sisters heeding,

And faithfulness to our calling and our purposes.

We wish you LOYALTY, threefold.

(1st speaker) Light the third candle

We wish you HELPFULNESS:

A sense of usefulness to the benefit of others

Assistance given and received for personal and professional growth,

And aid and guidance from the Master's hand in the service to youth.

We wish you HELPFULNESS, threefold.

These Society ideals to have and to hold

Are sent to \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter

As birthday wishes, three-fold.

As we light the candles on our birthday cake

Representing \_\_\_\_ years, (insert the number of years the chapter has existed.)

May we be reminded of that day

With hopes and dreams

That educators everywhere will continue to look

To the key women educators of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

As a symbol of excellence

And the light for the future of education.

At this time one representative from each table will please light the birthday candles that have been placed at everyone's seat. (You may consider putting these in cupcakes)

Birthday music is sung. (A favorite song many chapters enjoy is "This is the Birthday.")

and candles are blown out (If using tea lights- they are turned off).