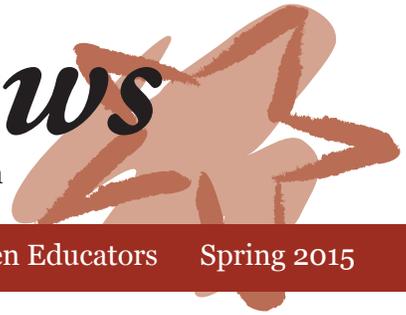


Lone Star News

Official Publication of the Texas State Organization



Vol 68, No. 3 The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ~ Key Women Educators Spring 2015

Marilyn Gregory nominated for 2015-2017 state president

The Texas State Nominations Committee met at the Headquarters Building in Dallas on Saturday, January 17, 2015, to select the nominees for state officers and elected personnel to present to the convention body in San Antonio in June.

The new nominees include **Marilyn Gregory**, Epsilon Kappa, (Austin-7), president; **Patti Belknap**, Theta Alpha, (Arlington-9), first vice-president; **Cookee Johnson**, Zeta Omicron (Lubbock-12), second vice-president; **Sandi Causey**, Epsilon Kappa (Austin-7), corresponding secretary; **Shalan Inmon**, Alpha Sigma (Slaton-12), recording secretary.



Marilyn Gregory

Presidential Nominee Marilyn Gregory has served Texas State Organization (TSO) as parliamentarian, first vice-president and recording secretary. During 2013-2014 she was chair of the Special Committee for Guidelines for State Personnel and is currently serving as consultant to the San Antonio State Convention. Gregory has participated in many changes established in the TSO Strategic Action Plan, the revision of the Texas State Bylaws and the creation of the Texas State Rules. She served as Area 7 Coordinator and received the 2004 Texas State Achievement Award as well as being a 1997 Texas State Leadership Seminar participant. Internationally, Gregory has served on the educational excellence committee, the Golden Gift Fund Committee and the personal growth and services committee. She attended the Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar as a participant in 2001.

Patti Belknap, nominee for first vice-president, is presently serving as TSO Liaison to CTAUN and is serving on the LOSP Committee. Belknap has been Area 9 Coordinator and chairman of TSO Ceremonies and Archives Committees. She was co-chairman for the Dallas 2005 Convention and served as a member of archives and communications committees. Currently she is a member of International Educators Award Committee. Belknap attended the Texas State Leadership Seminar in 2001 and received the Alpha State Achievement Award in 2013.

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Southwest Regional Director to speak in San Antonio



Beth Schieber

Beth Schieber, Southwest Regional Director (2014-2016) for The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, has 36 years service to the Society. This includes serving as chapter president and state organization president. She presently serves as state editor.

At the international level, she has served on various committees, including International Leadership Development Committee, Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar, constitution, communications, insurance, professional affairs and nominations, and chaired the ad hoc committee to investigate an arts and humanities jury. Beth received a Golden Gift Special Study Stipend in 1996 and attended the International Leadership/Management Seminar in 1990.

Besides getting to know TSO members, Schieber will deliver the DKG International update at the business meeting and present workshops on journaling and membership ideas that work.

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Expand the Vision: Educate, Inspire, Encourage



Educate • Inspire • Encourage

Nancy Newton
2013-2015
Texas State President



Pigs, Pigs, Pigs. WHY are we seeing PIGS?

When I became your state president, I felt the slight frustration shown by area coordinators and chapter presidents concerning the annual responsibility to produce a raffle basket for each state convention. I approached the Texas Executive Committee and ASTEF directors about the idea of giving chapters and ACs a break for one biennium. Thankfully, the two groups were agreeable.

The numerous baskets provided for the raffle in Lubbock were generously provided by the 18 ASTEF directors and a few friends. Thank you, directors, for stepping up and providing fantastic baskets for the 2014 convention. This year, in order to again "rest" our chapters and ACs, the idea of piggy banks visiting chapters across the state to collect donations was developed. It's been fun! This way of collecting money turned the fund raiser into a FUNd raiser! I hope you are enjoying seeing and learning about the artistic pig creations. At STAR recently, the pigs present were wrapped in a blanket! Several lounged in a pig pen at Area 4's workshop. Even a wanted poster for funding a pig was developed. The names alone makes one giggle; Petunia Pennywhistle, Princess Tess, Rosy Posy Pig and more. We can't wait to meet all of them at convention in San Antonio! You may bid on some of the more unusual ones, while others will be given as door prizes. A Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion will be named--the two pigs that raise the most money.

BUT, the important part is why we are doing this piggy bank promotion. The money collected is to fund chapter projects which qualify to receive ASTEF project stipends. Texas chapters support educational efforts in our state and make a difference in a multitude of ways. You know this from looking at Annie Boards, reading our Lone Star News and personal knowledge of your own chapter's efforts. ASTEF projects stipends support professional and personal growth of women educators in Texas and promote educational excellence for Texas students.

The basket raffle at our conventions averages \$13,000 to \$15,000 each year. Our Piggy Posse this year needs to bring in an equal amount of funds. Please give generously when a pig visits your chapter. Think how much you spend each year at convention on raffle tickets and tuck a similar amount into a ASTEF pig or two whenever/wherever you see them.

Your contributions to the Piggy Posse will directly underwrite the TSO-ASTEF projects. Please drop your loose change (or folding bills) into Jingles, Princess ASTEF or whichever pig visits you.

Betty's Buzz

Betty Vines
Executive Secretary/Treasurer



Spring is on its way and the busy time is upon us. It is time to update those "To Do" or "Reminder" lists. Please review the following items and take action if you need to do so.

- If your chapter has or will initiate new members before April 1, the initiate must pay 2014-15 state and international dues (\$60); scholarship fee (\$1 or \$.40); and the initiation fee (\$5.) All of this money is sent to TSO Headquarters in Dallas.
- If your chapter initiates new members after April 1, only the initiation fee is paid. Make it a priority to send the money and the initiate card (or form) attached to a Form 18 immediately after the initiation.
- **VERY IMPORTANT!** April 1 is the deadline for contributions to ASTEF, TSO and international funds in order to be recognized at convention. We check the postmark so you do not need to spend money sending them special delivery.
- Have you sent initiate cards or reinstatement cards for all of your new members? The information included on the card is the means by which the individual is entered into the Society database and receives all of the Society communications.
- Have you made another contact with members who did not pay dues this year? It is never too late to reinstate a member. The guidelines about dues are the same as for initiates in regard to April 1. There is no fee for reinstatement.
- Do you need certificates to honor those chapter members for 25 and 50 years of membership? The certificates may be ordered from State Headquarters. Call or email and they will be mailed to you for \$3 per 25-year certificate and \$5 per 50-year certificate (postage included).
- Have you checked the International website and read the wonderful publication, "Focus on Finance"?



Texas is well known as a large state, even in Delta Kappa Gamma. Because we are unique, we often customize items to specifically meet our needs. You are encouraged to always check the state website first for forms, deadlines, and other information. More and more forms are interactive and can be found either on the state or international website.

Chapter treasurers will be receiving more reminders from the State Finance Committee and from the State Headquarters.

Again, treasurers, you are wonderful. You are to be commended for being so positive, cooperative, and supportive. You really outdid yourself in completing the treasurer's report, filing the 990-N and submitting dues this year. Your dedication and efforts are greatly appreciated. Special plans are being made for you at convention in San Antonio; make your plans to attend.

At-A-Glance Deadlines

Mar 15	TSO Convention workshop proposals due
April 1	ASTEF Project application due Communication Award applications due Contributions to State Funds due Annie Award applications due LSN deadline
May 1	PACE applications due
June 25-27 28	86th Convention San Antonio LOSP for incoming state personnel
July 15-18	SW Regional Wichita, KS

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State officers nominated to lead TSO

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The nominee for second vice-president is Cookee Johnson. She currently serves as program and service projects chair. As chair she is in charge of the Annie Awards, unifying projects for annual convention, Early Educator promotions (SEE), and Schools for Africa promotions (SFA). Johnson served on the steering committee for the 2013 TSO Convention in Lubbock and has been an active member of the legislative as well as the constitution & by-laws committee. Cookee attended the leadership seminar in 2007 and the Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar in 2010.



Patti Belknap



Cookee Johnson

Sandi Causey is the nominee for corresponding secretary. Currently she is vice-president of finance and administration for ASTEF. Causey has served Alpha State as finance chairman 2007-2011 and in many other programs dealing with finance. In addition, she has served as chair of the state legislation committee. Other state committees have been a part of her busy history. Causey currently serves as chair of the International Finance Committee. She received the Texas State Achievement Award in 2012 and attended the Texas State Leadership Seminar in 1995.



Sandi Causey



Shalan Inmon

Shalan Inmon, nominee for recording secretary, served as chair of the 2013 TSO Convention in Lubbock. She was chair of leadership seminar committee in 2011 after attending the Texas State Leadership Seminar in 2005. Inmon served as Area 12 Coordinator in 2007-2009 and received the Texas State Achievement Award in 2014. Committees served have been nominations, membership, leadership seminar, and constitution & by-laws.

Members recommended for elected committees

The Texas State Organization Nominating Committee presented the following names for the finance committee: Nelle Gentry, Alpha Gamma-10; Susan Harmon, Zeta Xi-14; Laura Packard, Eta Tau-7.

Nominated to serve on the 2015-2017 nominations committee is chair and continuing member Emma Joven, Zeta Gamma-1. Other nominees to this committee are Karolyn Caldwell, Epsilon Upsilon-5; Ann Howard, Lambda Xi-13; Andi Kirby, Alpha Pi-17; Janet Mayo, Beta Epsilon-12; Diane Moose, Zeta Omega-3; Deborah Payne, Theta Epsilon-12; Dr. Barbara Derrick, Epsilon Sigma-3.

*Thank
You*

The 2013-2015 nominating committee included Donajean Caffey, chair, Alpha Sigma, (Lubbock-12); Janye Brainard, Kappa, (El Paso-15); Bobbie Brownlee, Lambda Pi (Grabury-10); Dr. Karen Duke, Alpha (Austin-7); Lou Hitt, Gamma Epsilon (Decatur-16); Barbara Johnston, Lambda Eta (Kerrville-5); Emma Joven, Zeta Gamma (Hideaway-1) and Nancy Lowry, Omega (Bangs-13).

Wright tapped for state parliamentarian

Pending election at the TSO Convention in San Antonio, Marilyn Gregory, nominee for state president, will appointed Kathryn Wright to serve as parliamentarian. Wright most recently served on the state finance committee. She was Area 3 Coordinator and has served as Texas State Corresponding Secretary, chaired communications and World Fellowship committees and served on numerous state committees. Wright was awarded the Texas State Achievement Award in 2002 and was a participant in the 2001 Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar. Wright was a member of the 2005 Southwest Regional Steering Committee and served on the 2006-2008 International Research Committee. She attended the 2009 Parliamentary Training Class in Chicago.



Kathryn Wright



CTAUN holds conference in Houston

Dr. Barbara Baethe, Global Awareness Chair
dr.baethe@earthlink.net

The Cultural Awareness: A Pathway to Peace Conference organized by the Committee on Teaching about the United Nations (CTAUN) will provide an opportunity for educators, community members and university students to gain knowledge of global partnerships in an increasingly interconnected world. Throughout the day on Saturday, April 11, 2015, there will be a keynote, panelists, breakout sessions and an International Student Cultural Fair that will share the commonalities of all cultures. Topics of interest will include ways of engaging students, human trafficking, sustainability of the environment, immigration issues, and connecting classrooms to the larger global viewpoint.

The event will take place at North American University in Houston, Texas, and the keynote speaker will be David Anthony, Chief of Policy Advocacy and Coordination Unit in UNICEF's Division of Data, Research and Policy. For additional information about the conference and registrations forms, check the TSO website, www.dkgtexas.org.

Archives committee wants chapter histories

Ann Schmidt, Achieves Committee Chair
anschmidt49@gmail.com

The archives committee congratulates Alpha Chi for being the first to turn in its chapter history this year.

All chapters are encouraged to turn in a chapter history whether it is for the last biennium or several back. Members should start with the easiest chapter history to write and add from there. Chapters may send the history to TSO Headquarters marked Attn.: Archives or to the Archives Chairman Ann Schmidt, 4107 Cimmaron Trail, Granbury, TX 76049. The **TSO website** has an easy to use outline under the committees, archives, Guidelines for Writing a Chapter History.

Please join the archives committee for the archives breakout session in San Antonio at the 86th Texas State Convention. A clutter-free chapter archives is within reach when chapters follow some simple steps. The breakout session, Get Organized, will help chapters to conquer archives storage problems and simplify chapter archives organization. The committee looks forward to seeing you in San Antonio.



ASTEF plans trip to Savannah

Join ASTEF for a Road Scholar program in Savannah, Georgia, October 11-16, 2015. The program will feature 5 nights at the Hilton Savannah DeSoto Historic District, 13 meals, 9 expert-led lectures, 4 field trips, 1 hands-on experience (interactive cooking class) and 3 performances, including a private recital of musical works by Savannah native Johnny Mercer.



The cost of the program (per person not including travel to Savannah) is \$1045 for double occupancy and \$1330 for single occupancy.

To enroll, call Road Scholar at 800.322.5315 and ask to enroll in Program #11376 – *Savannah's Rich Heritage, Remarkable History and Memorable Music* beginning October 11, 2015. Tell the person that you are part of the DKG/ASTEF group.

Invite your family, your chapter members, and your friends from far and wide to support ASTEF and travel with you to Savannah in October.

Convention schedule at a glance

Wednesday, June 24

9:30 a.m. ASTEF Board: Independence Room
 1:00 p.m. Texas Executive Committee: Monarch Suite
 12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Registration: pre-function area, 2nd Level, Grand Hyatt
 12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Unifying Project items accepted: pre-function area

Thursday, June 25

8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Vendors set up: Travis Rooms, 3rd Level
 8:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. Annie Boards/ASTEF Boards accepted: pre-function area, 3rd Level
 8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Registration: pre-function area, 2nd Level
 8:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Unifying Project items accepted: pre-function area, 2nd Level
 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal: Lone Star Ballroom, 2nd Level
 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Vendors, Annie, ASTEF Displays Open: 3rd Level; Optional choir rehearsal
 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m. Leadership Development of Chapter Presidents (LDCP): Lone Star Ballroom, 2nd Level
 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 2:15 p.m.-3:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions: **FIRST Timers** session at this hour
 3:15 p.m.-4:15 p.m. ACs meet with chapter presidents: various rooms, 2nd & 3rd levels
 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Come & Go, Leadership Seminar Reunion Tea: pre-function area, East of Lone Star Ballroom (ticketed)
 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 3:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal: Lone Star Ballroom
 4:30 p.m.-5:45 p.m. Necrology Rehearsal: join with choir
 4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Experience San Antonio: Dinner on your own
 6:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Flag Rehearsal: Lone Star Ballroom, 2nd level
 7:00 p.m. First General Meeting—Opening Session, **Dr. Joyce Teal**: Lone Star Ballroom, 2nd Level
 ASTEF Celebration: Lone Star Ballroom

Friday, June 26

8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Registration: pre-function area, 2nd Level
 8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Ceremony of Remembrance: Lone Star Ballroom
 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Vendors, Annie, ASTEF Displays: 3rd Level (closed during luncheon)
 9:15 a.m.-10:15 a.m. Breakout Sessions: **FIRST Timers** Repeat
 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal: Lone Star Ballroom
 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. Breakout Sessions
 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. **Dr. Joyce Teal** Breakout Session: Bonham A
 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Informal gathering for 50 and 50+ years members: San Jacinto Room, 2nd level
 12:15 p.m.-2:15 p.m. 86th Birthday Luncheon: Lone Star Ballroom (ticketed)
 2:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m. Vendors, Annie, ASTEF Displays: 3rd Level
 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. **Dr. Joyce Teal** Breakout Session: Bonham A
 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. "Your Pension; Your Health Care", **Tim Lee, Texas Retired Teachers Association**: Bonham B, 2nd level
 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. **NEW Treasurers** Meeting with Betty Vines: Bonham C **SEASONED Treasurers**: Bonham D
 3:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal: Lone Star Ballroom
 4:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Ceremonies Committee Rehearsal, with Choir: Lone Star Ballroom
 4:15 p.m.-5:15 p.m. "Your Pension; Your Health Care", **Tim Lee, TRTA**: Bonham B, 2nd level Repeat
 4:15 p.m.-5:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 4:15 p.m.-5:15 p.m. **Angie Ruffin** Breakout Session: Bonham E
 5:30 p.m.-6:45 p.m. Chapter President Presentation: Lone Star Ballroom
 Evening Experience San Antonio: Dinner on Your Own
 7:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m. State Personnel Dinner by invitation

Saturday, June 27

8:00 a.m.-Noon Registration: pre-function area, 2nd Level
 8:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. Second General Meeting—TSO Business Meeting; Lone Star Ballroom
 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. ASTEF Annual Meeting of Members: Lone Star Ballroom
 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Vendors, Annie, ASTEF Displays: 3rd Level
 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 2:15 p.m.-3:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 2:15 p.m.-3:15 p.m. **Angie Ruffin** Breakout Session: Bowie B
 3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 4:45 p.m.-5:45 p.m. Choir, Ceremonies & Installation Rehearsals: Lone Star Ballroom
 5:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Pick up Annies and ASTEF Boards: 3rd Level
 7:00 p.m. Banquet Lone Star Ballroom (ticketed)

Sunday, June 28

8:30 a.m.-late evening LOSP Leadership Orientation for 2015-2017 State Personnel

Pre-Party

San Antonio provides opportunities for fun and learning

Corlea Plowman, convention publicist
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Things you can do at the 2015 Convention in San Antonio:

1. Bring your chapter's prize-winning Annie Board.
2. Find a great necklace at a kiosk in Rivercenter Mall or at the convention vendors in the hotel Travis room.
3. Attend one of two sessions for First Timers.
4. Feel the solemn presence of those who died fighting at the Alamo.
5. Support your chapter president as she is presented to the convention.
6. Try at least three restaurants on the river walk; drink Shilo's root beer.
7. BYOFB: Bring Your Own Favorite Bag; help provide bags for newcomers.
8. Sing in the Texas State Chorus to bring fun and elegance to events.



Joyce Teal

Select more things from a schedule filled with outstanding breakout sessions incorporating exceptional speakers. Author, teacher, counselor and TX Epsilon member, Dr. Joyce Willard Teal will touch your hearts at the opening session Thursday evening and during Friday sessions.



Angie Ruffin

North Carolina 8th grade English Language Arts teacher Angie Ruffin, Gamma Lambda Chapter, makes convention audiences nearly roll on the floor with laughter. Her dialogue, "Still Teaching After All These Years," and her parody about technology, "God Help the Public School," will highlight the Birthday Luncheon. She will also present informative breakout sessions on Friday and Saturday.



Tim Lee

Known around the country as a passionate speaker and energetic leader, Tim Lee, Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA) Executive Director, began his career as an advocate for public education retirees in 1996 and took his position with TRTA in 2004. A strong advocate for protecting the defined benefit pension plan and other post-employment benefits, Lee will elucidate your pension and your health plan for you.

2014-2016 Southwest Regional Director Beth Schieber (Oklahoma) says, "I am passionate about both education and Delta Kappa Gamma because I believe that these fuel both the mind and the spirit." This National Board Certified and Advanced Placement English Teacher has served on the Oklahoma State School Boards Association. The international representative will focus on journaling and membership ideas during her scheduled times at the San Antonio Convention.

An overflow hotel has been contracted to help house members registering for convention rooms. That means that San Antonio is where TSO members will be found June 25-27. You will get to see your friends!

TSO leaders for 2015-2017 will be elected. That's important! President Nancy Newton likes to conduct meetings according to schedule, so attendees can experience the River Walk and San Antonio. Newton says, "That's important, too! We want to see you in San Antonio. We planned this convention for you."

Chapter committee chairs will have opportunities to attend sessions that will show them how to make their jobs easier and use tools available through TSO and international. Chapter presidents and treasurers will also have special information meetings.



River Walk. Photo courtesy of San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau.



ASTEF names top ten porkers

The Texas State Piggy Posse has been hard at work collecting funds for ASTEF projects. Pigs began “feeding” shortly after state convention and will continue to “feed” until early May.

Pigs were “weighed in” in December to check their progress. ASTEF is proud to announce that all pigs are healthy and doing well on their diet of pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and bills. However, some pigs have been hitting the “feed bag” a bit more than others.

ASTEF proudly announces the top ten pigs that have collected the most funds for ASTEF projects thus far. They include:

- Number 10 Penelope Pennywhistle (Andi Kirby)
- Number 9 Precious (Barbara Baethe)
- Number 8 Prissy Pig (Charlotte Nyman)
- Number 7 Babs (Carolyn Mashburn)
- Number 6 Princess Tess Secret (Katherine Reid)
- Number 5 Posy Rosy (Shirl Hawes)
- Number 4 Winner (Carol McMillan)
- Number 3 Petunia and her traveling companion
Little Red (Nancy Newton)
- Number 2 Miss Teffie (Betty Hill)



"Pigs in a Blanket" at the recent STAR retreat

and our

NUMBER 1 piggy is Jingles, who weighed in with \$549.12. Jingles’ pig handler is Natalie Eustace.

Huge thanks go to all pig handlers and to all who have “fed” the pigs. The push is on as we fatten up our pigs for the big weigh-in in May, so please continue to “feed” the little porkers.

During state convention we will crown the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion Piggy. You are encouraged to join in the fun as we strive to Impact Education by Impacting Educators.



Retreat receives accolades

On January 16-18, 2015, 70 DKG members and their guests gathered at Camp Allen in Navasota, Texas, to create crafts and produce beautiful works

of art. Workshops included opportunities to make cards, knit, create jewelry, write, sing, dance, and learn new ideas for photography and digital scrapbooks. The very first Texas creative arts retreat also welcomed three presenters from Illinois, who were instrumental in STAR’s success. The STAR experience is best described by one of the attendee: “I thoroughly enjoyed all the activities and the setting for our retreat was fantastic! From the workshops to fellowship at meals, drama entertainment, yoga, the S’mores and singing by the fire, everything was incredible. Love our DKG sisters who spent lots of time preparing, planning, organizing, and pulling everything together to create an ‘awesome’ weekend! You are very special and loved!” The only thing better than that is to attend STAR2, February 19-21, 2016, and find out for yourself. Look for the link on www.dkgtexas.org to register.



Risa McCann, Adela Navarro and Nancy Newton working on a project

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
MEMBER 2015-2016

*All
About
Membership*



Membership has different values

Cathy Criner, Membership Chair
cathycriner@yahoo.com

Members join Delta Kappa Gamma for a number of reasons, but not everyone values the same things. For this reason there is no simple solution to gaining or retaining members.

The membership committee has a means of determining benefits and experiences that our members value in their relationship with DKG. By knowing what they value and giving them what they value, we can retain our members and increase our membership.

This summer at the TSO Convention, the membership committee will share some ideas and new approaches to retaining and increasing our membership. Come to the workshop that the membership committee will host.

Honoring 50 and 50+ year members

The membership committee will be once again honoring 50 and 50+ members. Notify the committee of any members that qualify. Everyone will be invited to greet the honorees before the luncheon. They will be recognized at the luncheon.



LDCP: investigating member dropouts

Sandra Smith Bull, LDCP Chair
sandrasmithbull1972@gmail.com

Colin Powell has made the statement, "Bad news isn't like wine. It doesn't improve with age." Most of us are very tired of hearing bad news – the media is full of it. And one important reason we are all frustrated by bad news is that we feel powerless to do anything about it. Sometimes within DKG we admire our problems so long we forget that they won't improve in time and with enough conversation about them. The Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents Committee is going to offer in varied formats a way for chapter presidents to hear some bad news but even more important, facilitate moves that could really influence change and make a positive difference in DKG in Texas.

The International Society runs what is called The Dropped Member Survey. It is very interesting how many former members reply to the survey. It does contain some positive information. It also contains some very sad, in some cases, heart-breaking information about why women leave their membership in DKG behind. During the LDCP training in San Antonio, chapter presidents will get detailed information about exactly what the Dropped Member Survey reveals and then have the opportunity to share remedies for combating this bad news. For once chapter presidents can use knowledge to do something and not remain frustrated by their powerlessness. They will have the opportunity to put knowledge into action!

Presenters needed for San Antonio 2015

The personal & professional enrichment committee is seeking members to offer breakout sessions during the 86th Texas State Organization convention in San Antonio, Texas, June, 2015. Anyone interested in presenting a program should complete the interactive form on the state website and email the proposal to Cindy Neander, Personal and Professional Enrichment Chair, at neanderc@verizon.net.



Girls need encouragement in STEM

Sandra Bonner, Delta Pi
bonnerbiology@yahoo.com

During the past 50 or so years, women have made great strides in education and the workplace—even in historically male fields such as medicine, law, and business. In STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) fields, however, the gains have not been as impressive, particularly in engineering, computer science, and physics. A recent study, *Why So Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics*, sheds light on the reasons behind women's under representation in STEM. (www.aauw.org/learn/research/whysofew.cfm).

As a science educator for forty-five years, I have had a front row seat to the interplay of social and environmental factors that influence how females perceive science and math. I can personally attest to the fact that in my first job (an all-female academy), the students were reluctant to take science courses and felt that they would never use this information in everyday life. This was particularly true of girls in chemistry and physics courses. It was an uphill battle to get the students truly interested and enthused about science and, once interested, to actually consider a career in these fields.

So, why are there still so few women (compared to men) in engineering, computer science, and physics? According to the AAUW (American Association of University Women) research, girls' attainments and activity in math and science are molded by the environment around them. One finding shows that girls who believe that intelligence can expand with experience and learning tend to do better on math tests; these girls are also more likely to say they want to continue to study math in the future. By encouraging the idea that intelligence can expand, teachers and parents can encourage girls' achievements and interests in math and science.

Does the stereotype that boys are better than girls in math and science still affect girls today? Research profiled in the AAUW report shows that negative stereotypes about girls' abilities in math can indeed measurably lower girls' test performance. Researchers have also documented how stereotypes can lower girls' aspirations for science and engineering careers over time. By emphasizing that girls and boys achieve equally well in math and science, parents and teachers can encourage girls to assess their skills more accurately.

Another finding in the AAUW report was that preconception, often unconscious, limits women's progress in scientific and engineering fields. According to the research, most people associate science and math fields with "male" and humanities and arts fields with "female". Implicit bias is common, even among individuals who actively reject these stereotypes. Preconception not only affects individuals' attitudes toward others but may influence girls' and women's likelihood of cultivating their own interests in math and science as well. If women and men in science and engineering know that this bias exists, they can work to interrupt the unconscious thought processes that lead to it. It may also help women specifically to know that if they encounter social disapproval in their role as a computer scientist or physicist, it is likely not personal and there are ways to counteract it.

To diversify the STEM fields we must take a hard look at the stereotypes and biases that still pervade our culture. Encouraging more girls and women to enter these vital fields will require careful attention to the environment in our classrooms and workplaces and throughout our culture.

As women educators, we must not only encourage our female students to take math, physics, and engineering courses, we must also consider taking courses in these fields ourselves so that we can model the fact that women can achieve in all areas of STEM. Once we have the content mastery, as educators, we should consider teaching these courses.



PROJECTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Epsilon Kappa's mentoring project at work

Epsilon Kappa members were excited to receive an ASTEF project stipend for the 2014-2015 school year to be used to purchase STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) books for our mentees. After some research, we found a vendor (Booksource) that allowed us to purchase grade-level STEM classroom libraries (35 books) in both English and Spanish.

We divided the sets so that teachers received books to support the particular subject areas and language(s) they teach. Mentors distributed the STEM collections to the classrooms. Not only the teachers, but also the students reacted with great delight and enthusiasm when shown the titles. Since most of the teachers are teamed with other classes, additional students will be able to share these STEM books.

This support is truly affecting teachers and students in a positive way.



SEE mentor Hilda Diaz (right) presents the first set of STEM classroom library materials to new initiate and mentee Nancy Alaniz at the November 2014 Epsilon Kappa Chapter meeting

Mu Tau installs and stocks Little Free Libraries



Mu Tau Chapter members with one their newly-installed Little Free Libraries in Mabank, Texas.

ASTEF funds were used to pay for the two libraries to be constructed and registered with the Little Free Library organization. Each library was installed on December 6, 2014, in a low income neighborhood. The goal is to provide books and magazines for both children and adults. One location is outside a house owned by a church and used for after school, adult recovery and summer feeding programs. The other location is at the entrance to a low income neighborhood on the property of a local feed store. Mindy Marder states: "This has been an exciting endeavor for our chapter, and we are hopeful that it is helpful to many neighborhood residents."



Proposals for ASTEF Project Stipends Due April 1

The deadline for submitting an application for an ASTEF Project Stipend is April 1, 2015. Many creative projects were submitted and selected for funding in 2014. The application and guidelines for completion can be found on both the ASTEF website (www.astef.org) and in the Forms section of the TSO website (www.dkgtexas.org). Chapters, individuals or areas are encouraged to apply for a stipend before the April 1 deadline.

Recipients of ASTEF project stipends will be announced at the ASTEF Annual Meeting during the June 2015 convention in San Antonio!

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 Risa McCann between November 1, 2014 and January 31, 2015. They are reported by their chapter and place of residence at time of death.

Jenarie E. Alexander, Delta Epsilon-2, Nacogdoches
Barbara June Allen, Beta Eta-3, Houston
Elizabeth "Betsy" Anderson, Zeta Theta-9, Sherman
Rebecca Worman Baird, Kappa-15, El Paso
Dr. Natalie Carter Barraga, Epsilon Kappa-7, Austin
Margaret Briggs, Theta Zeta-3, Seabrook
Dr. Jeanne Callihan, Eta Beta-6, San Antonio
Alice Margaret Cameron, Epsilon Upsilon-5, McAllen
Frances Flora Champion, Eta Alpha-11, Ft. Worth
Mary L. Rucker Chessmore, Epsilon Nu-10, Ft. Worth
Esther Maurine Clements, Beta Beta-8, Burleson
Ima Jewell Cogburn, Theta Beta-6, Boerne
Martha Ray Cohen, Eta Pi-4, Victoria
Cleo Congrady, Delta Delta-4, Alvin
Lydia Lou Dodson, Theta Chi-10, Hurst
Barbara Ann Foster, Theta Mu-14, Odessa
Dr. Oneta Roberts Furr, Mu-13, Abilene
Dr. Pat Smith Gasperson, Alpha Zeta-17, Marshall
Margaret Anne Hays, Beta Theta-7, Bryan
Merle G. Johnson, Alpha Lambda-5, Kingsville
Jana S. Jones, Alpha Eta-1, Tyler
Wynona Lipsett, Tau-8, Mexia
Mary Kelly McConnell, Kappa Psi-9, Richardson
Elizabeth Betty Nelson, Delta Delta-4, Alvin
Dr. Patricia Nelson, Mu Pi-18, Cleveland
Marguerite Richter Nemky, Epsilon Beta-6, San Antonio
Edith Marie Pilley, Xi-7 Taylor
Jim Ann Taylor, Delta Gamma-7, Center
Carol Werner, Lambda Mu-13, Hamlin
Melba Wright, Epsilon Lambda-10, Ft. Worth



Joyce Sowell, Lambda Beta (San Antonio-6), was honored by the National Council of Negro Women, Inc. as a Texas Legend.

Amy Brown, Theta Nu (Marlin-8), was named TEA Region 12 counselor of the year.

Elizabeth Hensley, Eta Delta (Houston-3), was selected as a 2014 TALL (Texas Accelerated Library Leaders) Texan by the Texas Library Association's Leadership Development Committee.

Dr. Susan Szabo, Beta Lambda (Greenville-17), had her article "Assessment: Teacher Efficacy and Response to Intervention" included in the Winter 2015 issue of The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin.

Phyllis Michael, Beta (San Antonio-6), was honored as a Top Lady of Distinction by the River City Chapter of Top Ladies of Distinction, Inc.

Jeni Marsh, Iota Lambda (Arlington-10), won a technology grant in excess of \$10,000 through Arlington ISD.

Jan Raby, Eta Tau (Elgin-7), was honored in January by the Elgin Chamber of Commerce as Elgin's Most Worthy Citizen.

Phyllis Tindel, Zeta Gamma (Tyler-1), was honored as one of the top 2015 Women in Tyler.

Christie Bledsoe, Lambda (Belton-8), had her book review "The Best Education: A Review of Ripley's The Smartest Kids in the World" included in the Winter 2015 issue of The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin.

Dr. Elaine Thomas, Eta Zeta (Arlington-9), was honored with the Bayard H. Friedman Hero Award for Outstanding Fine Arts Administrator.

Dr. Lorena Zertuche, Zeta Tau (Houston-18), was honored as the 2014 National Assistant Principal of the Year for Texas by the National Association of Elementary School Principals.

TSO has a new website. It looks the same and has all of the information with which members are familiar. The address will be easier to remember and type:
www.dkgtexas.org Bookmark the new address and change it on chapter websites and newsletters.



Tish Mulkey

Mulkey retires from TSO Headquarters

Patricia “Tish” Mulkey, Executive Assistant at TSO Headquarters for the past 6½ years will retire June 30, 2015. Tish meticulously keeps records updated, answers the phone and interacts with state personnel, chapter members and especially the treasurers. She also handles the details for ASTEF, the Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation. She is president of her chapter Mu Beta, located in Area 9. Her husband recently retired from his veterinary practice, and she realized that it was time to spend more time with him. They plan to travel and enjoy sightseeing together. Betty Vines, TSO Executive Secretary/Treasurer said, “Tish is the ‘poster child’ for the ideal employee with so many positive characteristics such as dependability, loyalty, creativity, accuracy and optimism. As a team player, she accepts any challenge with a ‘we can’ attitude. Members are always greeted with warmth and a courteous offer of help and support. What a pleasure it is to work with her.” Mulkey’s expertise and grace will be greatly missed at TSO Headquarters!

Deadlines for communications awards nearing

Jeanette Rhyan, Communications and Publicity Chair
jrhyan78@gmail.com

Two important deadlines for chapters are April 1 and May 1. The application deadline for the Members in Print Award and Media Award is April 1. The applications can be found on the TSO website by clicking on Communications. Applications may be emailed or mailed to Jeanette Rhyan, 8800 Tyne Trail, TX 76118.

To be eligible for the Five Star Newsletter Award, a minimum of five copies of your chapter newsletter must be mailed to Jeanette Rhyan by May 1st. Don’t wait till the last minute to submit all five newsletters. If you have any questions, please contact Rhyan at jrhyan78@gmail.com.



Annies highlight goals and purposes of Society

Cookee Johnson, Programs & Service Projects Chair
acjohnson62@att.net

Last year in 2014, 103 chapters received the coveted Annie Award for outstanding chapter programs given at the annual TSO convention. This year, each chapter in the state is challenged to think about one program it feels best represents the goals and purposes of our Society and submit an Annie application for consideration. The official application can be found on the programs and service projects committee page located on the state website.

The 2015 application has been revised from last year. One change made to the application is how the program utilizes the international theme in its presentation to the chapter. For assistance in completing the application, members may click on the link “Hints for Writing a Successful Annie Application” which can also be found on the committee webpage. Applying for the Annie Award is one of the criteria for the PACE Award. Chapters are encouraged to create an Annie board with items such as pictures, items used in the program and even member comments about the program. Chapters should then bring the display of their winning program to convention.

Submissions must be sent via email to the programs and service projects chair Cookee Johnson, acjohnson62@att.net. Applications will not be accepted after the due date, April 1, 2015. At the 86th Texas State Convention in San Antonio, the committee will recognize outstanding chapters and winning programs, and the chapter name and title of the program will appear in the convention program.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Texas State Organization Convention San Antonio, Texas, June 25-27, 2015

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 8. Address registration questions to Sandi Causey at 512-892-0433 or crscausey@sbcglobal.net Mail completed form to: Sandi Causey, 6105 Oakclaire Drive, Austin, TX 78735. Please type or print plainly.

NAME _____

Title	Last	First	Middle Initial	Badge Name
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MAILING ADDRESS _____

Street Address or PO Box

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

Special Needs—Check all that apply.
 Diabetic Vegetarian Gluten-free Limited Mobility Hearing/Visually Impaired

Please check if you are the current president or will represent her at the Executive Board meeting:
 I will represent my chapter at the Executive Board meeting on Saturday, June 27, 2015.

Please check all that apply.
 2014-2016 Chapter President 1st State Convention Attendee Member 50 or 50+ Years
 Member less than 3 years National Board Certified 2014-2015 Doctoral Recipient

Indicate number of tickets you want for each function. Cost includes tax, gratuities and facility fee.

Registration Fee: (Choose one that applies.)	Cost	Number	Amount
2014-2016 Chapter President or representative attending Executive Board	\$ 0	_____	_____
All other members —postmarked on or before May 15	\$ 50	_____	_____
Late Registration—postmarked after May 15	\$ 75	_____	_____
Guest—Badge Name _____	\$ 5	_____	_____
Birthday Luncheon (FRI, June 26)	\$ 42	_____	_____
State Personnel Dinner —By Invitation (FRI, June 26)	\$ 40	_____	_____
Leadership Seminar Tea: Year attended LS _____ (THUR, June 25)	\$ 5	_____	_____
Presidents' and Founders' Banquet (SAT, June 27)	\$ 50	_____	_____
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			
Instrumentalist <input type="checkbox"/> Prelude <input type="checkbox"/> Postlude; <input type="checkbox"/> Piano <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____			

Contribution to ASTEF..... _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

CHECK—Payable to Texas State 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 Convention Registration Solutions, address above, and postmarked by May 26th. All cancellations, no matter when received, will be charged a \$15.00 processing fee.
 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.*

Marriott Rivercenter accepting reservations



Marriott Rivercenter Hotel is on the River Walk and is about two blocks from the Hyatt where the convention will be held.

To accommodate those who still need rooms for the **86th Texas State Organization Convention** in San Antonio **June 25-27, 2015**, the Marriott Rivercenter Hotel is accepting reservations at a special DKG rate.

Make reservations online at:

<https://aws.passkey.com/g/48233305>

The rate is \$139 a day for up to four guests in a room.

IMPORTANT: Chapters who made multiple reservations at the Hyatt should determine how many rooms will be needed for members and release those not needed now rather than in June when TSO could be penalized for not filling all of the rooms.

Tote bags needed for San Antonio

Because no totes are being ordered for San Antonio, every member needs to bring a bag from a past convention.

First timers will be given bags from past conventions. Help is needed from members to make this happen. Anyone having extra bags that they would like to share should contact Billinelle Currie at billinellecurrie@msn.com and indicate the number of bags they will bring to convention. Between 150-200 totes will be needed and only 28 bags have been committed.

Put SA-BYOFB in the subject line and be sure to include contact information of the person donating the bags.



When you pack for San Antonio, bring your own favorite bag from a past convention!

TSO Unifying Project gets ready for San Antonio 2015

Cooke Johnson, Programs & Service Projects Chair
acjohnson62@att.ne



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF SAN ANTONIO

As you begin to think about the warm sunshine, floating river boats, and smells of tacos and fajitas of San Antonio, don't forget to make plans to pack items for the Unifying Project. The recipient of our donations at the convention will be the Boys and Girls Club of San Antonio. Even though we will be in San Antonio in the summer, and not thinking about school, the staff at BGSA will be preparing for the new school year by gathering school supplies needed by the many boys and girls who attend the clubs throughout San Antonio. This is where we as members can lend a helping hand, and who better to know than teachers. We have been asked to bring school supplies of all kinds to San Antonio for elementary and secondary students. The request for supplies is almost endless, and what better way to celebrate education than to bring supplies we want students to have as they start a new year.

This is a list of some of those supplies: tissues, glue bottles or glue sticks, crayons, wide ruled notebook paper and notebooks, college ruled notebook paper and notebooks, rulers, colored pencils, ballpoint pens, highlighters, 3-ring binders, markers, #2 pencils, backpacks, pencil sharpeners, composition notebooks, graph paper, erasers, pocket folders with brads. Gift cards as well will be gladly accepted. Donations may be dropped off at the Unifying Project table near the registration table at the Grand Hyatt.



asked & answered

Q: How can I get to be a member of the ASTEF Board of Directors?

A: Members of the ASTEF Nominations Committee will prepare a slate of proposed new directors to be presented and voted on at the ASTEF Annual Meeting in San Antonio. Directors serve six-year terms. The committee is looking for people with skills and experience in these areas:

P.O. Box 443
San Augustine TX 75972

Return service
requested

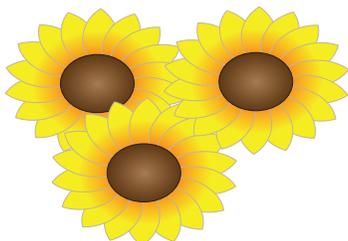
PRESORTED STANDARD
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PERMIT NO. 1574

- Fundraising
- Grant writing and administration
- Marketing/public relations
- Financial and program management
- Working with teams

If you'd like further information or would like to submit your name for consideration for the ASTEF Board, contact one of the members of the ASTEF Nominations Committee: Lee Bourg (leebourg@aol.com), Dr. Vicki Davis (vickitdavis43@gmail.com), or Dr. Marian Clinton (mclinton99@aol.com) by April 1.

SW Regional coming to Wichita, Kansas

Ah-some conference!
Ah-some fellowship!
Ah-some speakers!
Ah-some activities!
Ah-some workshops!



Experience the unique diversity of the Southwest and the fellowship of its members while you network and share ideas at the Hyatt Regency on July 22-25, 2015.



Job opening at Headquarters

Patricia "Tish" Mulkey will retire as the Executive Assistant at Texas State Headquarters effective June 30, 2015. Are you experienced with Microsoft Office, Excel and Quick Books accounting software? Would you like to work with wonderful people in a beautiful atmosphere? Spread the word. Interested people may contact Carolyn Miller at carolyntmiller@sbcglobal.net or 6 Queensview Court, Dallas, TX 75225.

Chapter installation scheduled for April

Nu Alpha chapter, sponsored by Alpha chapter, will be installed on April 12, 2015, at Austin Community College, 1555 Cypress Creek Road, Cedar Park, Texas. Members are welcome to be part of the event. If coming, RSVP to Cherry Guentzel, cherry.guentzel@leanderisd.org

