

Lone Star News

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Patti Belknap nominee for TSO President 2019-2021

The Texas State Nominations Committee has selected nominees for state officers and elected personnel to present to the convention body in Arlington.

The nominees include **Patti Belknap**, Theta Alpha (Area 9, Arlington), President; **Judy Mezick**, Kappa Gamma (Area 7, College Station), First Vice President; **Bonnie Moore**, Eta Delta (Area 3, Houston), Second Vice President; **Mandy Story**, Iota Omicron (Area 16, Henrietta), Recording Secretary; **Emma Joven**, Zeta Gamma (Area 1, Hideaway), Corresponding Secretary.



Patti Belknap

Presidential Nominee **Patti Belknap** is currently serving as TSO Second Vice President, chair of Strategic Plan of Action Committee, member of Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents, steering committee member for Arlington Convention and mentor for Areas 1,9 and 17. On the International level, Patti is a member of Non-dues Revenue Committee and former member of Educational Excellence Committee and Educators Book Award Committee. Patti has served as Area 9 Coordinator, ceremonies and archives chair, and co-chair of the 2005 Dallas state convention. She was a participant in the 2001 State Leadership Seminar and received a State Achievement Award in 2013. She said, “I want to lead with a servant’s heart always remembering it’s not the role of president—but the goal of making a difference for the Texas State Organization.”

Judy Mezick, nominee for first vice-president, presently serves as state recording secretary. She was the chair of the 2016 Frisco convention and has served as chair of ceremonies as well as member of several state committees. She has served as Area 9 Coordinator, was a participant in the 2005 State Leadership Seminar and received the 2014 State Achievement Award. She attended the Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar in 2014.



Judy Mezick

Bonnie Moore, nominee for second vice-president is currently serving as TSO Parliamentarian and serves on the Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents committee. She has served on the State Membership and Music Committees and was chair of the Houston 2017 State Convention. Bonnie was a participant in the 2013 State Leadership Seminar and the 2018 Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar. She has served as the Greater Houston Area Coordinating Council Chair and as a STAR presenter.



Bonnie Moore

See Nominees page 4

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Really Strong Bridges



Dr. Jo Murphy
Texas State President
2017-2019



In October another bridge in Central Texas washed away during a flood. Watching this happen live on the television screen was very scary. Why did it happen? Why was the force of the water great enough in those few short hours to pull away the undergirding, the structural components of the bridge that had been designed and built to stand over time? What came to mind is whether the bridge was as well built as the engineers and inspectors thought that it was. Or, were there things they should have seen as wear and tear of the structure that could have been repaired and that would have kept this from happening? One thing for sure is that it was an unexpected event and the effects were felt by those living in that area for more than just a few days after the flood. The cost of replacing the bridge, the people who were displaced and the ones who have had to drive a longer and less direct route to get to work and home, is a direct change in lives.

Building bridges in TSO has been a passion for many members this biennium. It was taken very seriously by the Executive Committee as they planned and made decisions. The idea of building bridges and making changes came together for TSO when the international DKG organization had members consider over 100 amendments to the Constitution of the organization last summer at the International Convention in Austin.

Simple research on why bridges collapse produces varied answers. Design flaws and natural causes are the two most prevalent reasons. There is always an element of surprise when a bridge collapses or “fails.”

The best thing for members to remember as we consider “bridges” that we have put in place, built or re-structured is that most often the failure of a bridge comes from “overloading” the structure. Design guidance for real bridges is constantly revised and risk is reduced. Can that be done with our virtual bridges? Yes, we must be vigilant about assessing the bridge condition, and that would mean looking at why the bridge needed to be put in place. Also, are there other places we need a bridge to get us to where we want to go? Do we need other bridges that can take the load off members and chapters and make them stronger? Diagnostic tools have been put in the hands of chapter leaders. The Strategic Plan of Action (SPA) is a document/tool to continue to use and measure growth of chapters. Let us be vigilant in keeping members, chapters and new structures strong and growing. We are moving in the right direction.

Hints and Tips from Headquarters



Q: What dues need to be paid by which deadline?

A: 1: 2018-19 membership

January - March - New members pay ½ dues to International & State plus the inductee fee and scholarship fee. Send money and appropriate forms to TSO HQ no later than April 15.

For dollar amount details refer to the Dues & Fees Chart (2018 update) on the Treasurer's page of the TSO website.

April 15 & May 1 - TSO will take a membership snapshot from the International database on May 1 to determine chapters that have maintained or increased membership for recognition at the Arlington convention. To ensure that new members are included in this snapshot forms and dues must be sent to TSO HQ by April 15.

A: 2: 2019-20 membership (this process will be followed going forward)

April - June - Members pay dues to chapter treasurers.

July - August - Chapter treasurers, using the new online dues reporting system, will submit membership data and pay dues to International and TSO separately.

Q: When do I learn how to use the new online dues system?

A: To prepare for training, chapter treasurers must access Chapter Connect from the International member website. Need help with access? Visit the TSO website/Treasurer's page for help documents or contact TSO Headquarters.

- International will provide training for the online dues system this spring in the form of digital presentations that will be found on the DKG member website under Resources/Presentations.
- A breakout session will be offered at the Arlington convention in June with more details coming in the next *LSN*.
- TSO HQ staff will provide phone help and additional training to supplement International's training materials.
- Check your email inbox often for updates on training opportunities.

Q: Is there an easy way to see the changes that need to be implemented at the chapter level?

A: Sign in to the DKG website, go to Resources/Society Documents/ Constitution & ISR to find "Actions" documents for the Constitution and International Standing Rules.

Q: Which deadlines haven't changed?

A: April 1 - Deadline for TSO HQ to receive donations to the ASTEF funds and the Eula Lee Carter Memorial Fund for convention recognition. Donation forms with instructions for chapters and for individuals are found on the Treasurer's page of the TSO website.

At-A-Glance Deadlines

Mar 1	Convention reports from ST Personnel CPE Convention Proposals Budget requests to Finance Comm chair State Annual Scholarship & Mini Grant Apps
30	Bylaws/State Rule changes
April 1	Contributions to state funds for convention recognition Member in Print & media recognition Annie PPT
May 1	Cornetet Award for Prof Dev 5-Star Newsletter Award
2	All reports for convention program

Highlights

ASTEF	5,7,11
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Committee Meetings

Mar 2-3	LOSP Achievement Awards
9	
14	Personnel Scholarship
16-17	
April 11-13	Finance
26-28	ASTEF Board

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MEMBERS: Send address changes to International Headquarters: call, write, go online or email
www.dkg.org

Nominees from page 1

Mandy Story, nominee for Recording Secretary, is currently the chair of the TSO Communication and Publicity Committee. She has served as Area 16 Coordinator, chair of the TSO Bylaws and Rules Committee, served on the State Leadership Committee, and participated in the 2009 State Leadership Seminar and the 2014 Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar.



Mandy Story

Emma Joven, nominee for Corresponding Secretary, is currently chair of the TSO Bylaws and Rules Committee. She has served as Nominations Committee Chair, Area 9 Coordinator, 76th Alpha State Convention Chair and chair of Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents. Emma has been a member of the Achievement Award Committee and the Membership Committee. Emma received the 2006 Alpha State Achievement Award and participated in the 1992 Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar.



Emma Joven

Members nominated for elected committees

The Texas State Organization Nominating Committee presents the following names for the finance committee: **Susan Harmon**, Zeta Xi-14; **Ella Gauthier**, Theta Sigma-3; **Sallie Frederick**, Beta-6.

Nominated to serve on the 2019-2021 nominations committee is chair and continuing member **Carolyn Mashburn**, Mu Pi-18. Other nominees to this committee are **Cathy Criner**, Alpha Alpha-9; **Joan Eubanks**, Lambda Sigma-4; **Kerry James**, Alpha Pi-17; **Brenda Pearson**, Mu Pi-18; **René Pittman**, Zeta Delta-11; **Lori Shontz**, Epsilon Phi-5; **Jeanie Stiles**, Epsilon Gamma-17.

Rensink selected as state parliamentarian



Connie Rensink

Presidential nominee Patti Belknap will appoint **Connie Rensink**, Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents Chair and International Member-at-Large, to serve as TSO parliamentarian pending election at the general session in June. Rensink has served as Area 10 Coordinator, International Membership Chair and participated in the 2012 Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar.

2017-2019 Texas State Nominations Committee

Back: Carolyn Mashburn, Mu Pi-18; Virginia Bowers, Epsilon Delta-11; Sharon Daugherty, Lambda Xi-13; Dr. Gloria Crum, Epsilon Upsilon-5;
Front: Andi Kirby, Alpha Pi-17, chair; Carolyn Grantham, Mu Kappa-15; Jean Robinson, Mu Tau-1; Carol McMillan, Delta Gamma-1



ASTEFL provides entertaining opportunities

ASTEFL will once again be very visible during the TSO State Convention this summer in Arlington. As always, project stipends will be awarded, and fundraisers will be a featured event. Members should know that without these fundraisers, the awarding of project stipends would not be possible. The funds generated from fundraisers held during the year are used to support scholarships, leadership and projects for Texas educators and students. What members may not know is that the majority of the funds used are raised during the TSO convention every year.



ASTEFL will have ten extraordinary gift baskets for a silent auction. These baskets will be filled with numerous gift cards to entice bidding and will certainly bring a big smile to the ten lucky winners.

TSO chapters and individuals are asked to donate gift cards to create the auction baskets. The cards should be sent to Lou Hitt, PO Box 1773, Decatur, TX 76234 by March 22, 2019.



An online silent auction will be held during convention. Convention attendees will be able to bid on numerous auction items that will include special donations. The auction will begin one week before the convention and end on Saturday, June 22, 2019. Bidders will also have the opportunity to view the auction items at the convention, but all bids must be online. Expect to see travel adventures, artwork, jewelry, purses, collectibles, an American Girl Doll and much more.



ASTEFL SALUTES is a ticketed event to be held on Friday, June 21, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. The registration form has ticket information.

The highlight of this event will be international motivational speaker and former US Army Black Hawk pilot and Warrant Officer for the United States Army, Elizabeth McCormick.

Members will hear the real-life inspirational stories of overcoming obstacles as Elizabeth became a Black Hawk pilot, a position normally held exclusively by men. She will speak to members about "YOU. In the PILOT Seat." Elizabeth inspires, informs, and provides practical methods to empower each person to "take her life and career to the next level."



The Heads and Tails games will be back during ASTEFL SALUTES. Members who have purchased tickets will be asked to stand and select either "heads" or "tails" by putting their hands on their heads or their tails. A coin is flipped and those whose choice matches the coin flip get to stay standing and everyone else sits down. This continues until one player is standing.



Members will have an option of purchasing an arms length of tickets for \$5 to win a chance at a free registration for the McAllen Convention in 2020.



Convention schedule at a glance

Wednesday, June 19th

10:00 a.m.	TSO Executive Committee
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Registration
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Unifying Project - Registration Area
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Gallery Walk - Children's Art Display
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Welcoming Reception for children and their parents
6:00 p.m.	ASTEFL Board Meeting

Thursday, June 20th

8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Registration
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	ASTEFL Project Boards accepted
8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Unifying Project - Registration area
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Vendors set-up
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Area Coordinator meeting
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	Chorus Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Women the Arts - Children's Art Display
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Vendors open
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	ASTEFL silent auction
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Visual Arts and Archives Displays
10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.	First Timers
11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Box Lunch (ticketed)
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents (LDLCP)
2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Break-out sessions
5:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.	First Timers
5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Dinner on your own
5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Chorus Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Flag Rehearsal
6:45 p.m.	Line up for Processional
7:00 p.m.	Opening Session and Entertainment

Friday, June 21st

7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Leadership Seminar Breakfast (ticketed)
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Registration
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Unifying Project
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Women the Arts- Children's Art Display
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	ASTEFL Salutes - paid event
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Vendors
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Visual Arts Display and Archives Display
9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Breakout Sessions
11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.	Meet the 50 and 50+ year members
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Chorus Rehearsal
11:45 a.m.	Line up for Processional
12:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	90th Birthday Celebration Luncheon (ticketed)
2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Breakout Sessions
2:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Necrology Practice
2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Vendors
2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Visual Arts Display & Archives Display
2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Women the Arts- Children's Art Display
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	ASTEFL Silent Auction
5:15 p.m.	Presidents in seats
5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Presentation of Chapter Presidents
7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	State Personnel Dinner (ticketed)

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Convention schedule at a glance

Schedule from page 6

Saturday, June 22nd

7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.	Chorus Practice
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.	Necrology Service
9:00 a.m. - noon	Registration & Unifying Project
9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	TSO Business Session & ASTEF Annual Meeting
12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.	Box Lunch (ticketed)
12:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Visual Arts Display and Archives Display
12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Vendors
1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	ACs with chapter presidents; current chairs with new state chairs
1:00 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.	Breakout Sessions
3:00 p.m.	Pick up all Arts Displays & Archive Displays
3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	ASTEF Project Board Display
4:00 p.m.	Pick up ASTEF Project Board Displays
4:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Chorus Rehearsal
4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Practice for Installation of Officers
6:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.	New Officer reception
6:40 p.m.	Line-up for Processional
7:00 p.m.	Presidents and Founders Banquet - (ticketed) Installation of Officers

Preliminary

ASTEF project grants support a variety of initiatives

The 2018-2019 recipients of ASTEF Project Stipends support professional and personal development of teachers and other educators and/or promote excellence for Texas students in a variety of creative ways. Many of the projects strive to increase literacy, reading, and math skills for students, especially young children, while other projects focus on meeting emotional and physical needs of disadvantaged children. Through their projects, chapters encourage creative writing among students; partner with a grief support center for children and families who lost a loved one; incorporate health and nutrition into hands-on outdoor gardening; support homeless children and teens; and provide literacy bags and books for preschool children, as well as books and benches for school age children that promote kindness, empathy and friendship among students.



Other chapters provide much-needed educational and organizational materials for their early-career educators; distribute classroom supplies and mentor early-career educators; adopt an entire grade to mentor the teachers and provide an educational field trip for students; collaborate with local universities to build relationships and offer support to early educators; recognize the accomplishments of new teachers and their value to the profession by delivering one-to-one emotional and financial support; and provide encouraging notes and small gifts throughout the year to relieve stress for teachers as well as volunteering in the classroom to provide hands-on support.



The ASTEF Board of Directors encourages all chapters to be among these innovators and apply for a Project Stipend. Applications are due April 1, 2019. The 2019-2020 Project Stipend Application Guide and Application are available on the ASTEF Forms page at <https://www.astef.org/forms.html>.



Convention programs will have personal ads

The Arlington Convention program will have advertisement space for sale.



- | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Non-DKG individuals or groups | DKG individuals, groups or chapters |
| • ¼ page ad is \$150 | • ¼ page ad is \$75 |
| • ½ page ad is \$300 | • ½ page ad is \$150 |
| • 1 page ad is \$500 | • 1 page ad is \$250 |

Advertisements are an opportunity for individuals, groups and chapters to say thank you, honor members or celebrate special chapter accomplishments. Members and chapters may combine ad space and pay for it with an individual or combined payment. The application form to request ad space is on the 2019 Convention link from the TSO website. A limited number of spaces are available. Deadline is April 15, 2019.

Casa of Tarrant County 2019 Unifying Project

CASA of Tarrant County will be accepting donations from chapters across the state. The donations will be distributed to all CASA programs in the counties that make up Area 10.

CASA is an acronym for Court Appointed Special Advocates. They have been advocating for children in Tarrant County for 35 years by focusing on young children that are victims of neglect and abuse. CASA works with the child welfare system and becomes an integral part of advocating for children who have no one else to help them. According to the latest statistics in Texas, Tarrant County has the third highest number of confirmed victims of child abuse and/or neglect in Texas.



Here are some ways you and your chapter can help:

- **Gift Cards to:**
Target, Amazon, Walmart and Visa/Mastercard
- **Younger Children:**
Children's books, coloring books, action figures, educational toys/games and art sets
- **Preteen and Teen Girls:**
Manicure sets, nail files, nail polish, hand cream, lotion, lip gloss, bath wash, books, journals, colorful pens and small purse/wallet
- **Preteen and Teen Boys:**
AXE shaving cream, deodorant, comb, brush, books, journals, key chain and wallet

Fifty+ year members honored at convention

Members who are celebrating fifty or more years of membership in DKG and want to be honored at the Birthday Luncheon in Arlington need to read the registration form carefully. The form has a place to check that a person who has been a member for 50 or 50+ years will be attending the convention. This will tell the membership committee those members who will be recognized.

Example of how it appears on registration form:

Please check all that apply.

2018-2020 Chapter President

1st State Convention Attendee

Member for 50 or 50+ Years



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 René Pittman between November 1, 2018, and February 1, 2019. They are reported by their chapter and place of residence at the time of death using Form 6, Report of the Death of a Member, found at www.dkgtxas.org under Committees, Necrology. SH = State Honorary

Rivers Harrison Lodge, Beta Omicron-3, Houston
Margaret Robin, Beta Omicron-3, Houston
Wanda Marie Duncan, Delta Delta-4, Cypress
Mary Jo Kinghorn, Eta Pi-4, Victoria
Beverly A. Joseph, Eta Omega-4, Clute
Yolanda Rios Barrera, Beta Pi-5, San Diego
Delma Palacios, Beta Pi-5, Alice
Martha Fanning, Iota Beta-6, San Antonio
EdWinnie McWhirter, Gamma Upsilon-6, Hondo
Kathryn Nicholson-Vickers, Iota Beta-6, San Antonio
Nancy Lambert Lewis, Lambda Iota-7, Austin
Margaret Nell Starnes Olson, Xi-7, Thrall
Bettye E. Cooke, Eta Zeta-9, San Antonio
Therle D. Hill, Kappa Psi-9, Dallas
Billie Ruth Moore, Zeta Theta-9, Spring
Judge Mary Lou Robinson, Zeta Delta-11, Amarillo (SH)
Mary Ann Leveridge, Alpha Iota-14, East Barnard (SH)
Dorothy Atkins, Kappa Theta-16, Highland Village
Dr. Grace J. Harrington, Zeta Tau-18, Houston
Wana Hickey, Iota Epsilon-18, Spring



Grace Alonso, Alpha Mu (Brownsville-5), had her article “Lighting up a Forgotten History” published in the 2019, Volume 85-2 issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin Collegial Exchange*.

Candis Hicks and Mary Frances Owens†, Alpha Beta (San Angelo-13), were honored as Women of Distinction who made an impact on San Angelo and the Girl Scouts.

Becky Rinehart, Eta Omega (Lake Jackson-4), is the director of education at Associate Builders and Contractors and was featured on the cover of *Gulf Coast Giants*.

Beverly Funk, Eta Eta (Dallas-9), received an award from Project Transformation of Dallas for her volunteer work.

Drue Brown, Alpha Mu (Brownsville-5), was elected to the Brownsville School Board.

Form 6, *Death of a Member*, important for recognition

The Necrology Committee recognizes and honors deceased members. Form 2 is no longer required by TSO. Form 6, **Death of a Member**, is still required for the member to be honored at the state convention and her name listed in *The Lone Star News*. Form 6 is sent to:

- DKG Membership Services Administrator, mem@dkg.org
- Leesa Cole, TSO Treasurer tsotreas@sbcglobal.net
- René Pittman, TSO Necrology Chair renepittman4@gmail.com



TSO Necrology Committee in Waco

4th row (top)- Neesa Frost; 3rd row-Betty Sue Walters, Lou Bown, Ann Schmidt, Dianne McCorcle, Barbara Rountree; 2nd row-Barbara ten Brink, René Pittman (chair), Nancy Darnell; 1st row-Mary-Ethelyn Bosarge, Lisa Williams, Robin Metting

Gamma Zeta inducts first collegiate member

Gamma Zeta Chapter, Stephenville (Area 10) had the privilege on Monday, December 3, 2018, of inducting the first college member in Texas.

A student at Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Sara Heinrichs is a Theater Education Major. Sara graduated from Hico High School in 2017 after a very busy



and rewarding high school career including being valedictorian of her class. At Howard Payne, Sara has been in several plays, while maintaining a 4.0 GPA every semester, placing her on the Dean's List.

Gamma Zeta is proud to add this creative, talented young woman to their membership and is excited to have Sara's energy and enthusiasm in their chapter. Her mother, Kathryn Heinrichs is also a member of Zeta Gamma. She is very proud to have her daughter, a third generation educator, to carry on the family tradition of being involved in professional organizations that strengthen education.

Nancy Newton, Kathryn Heinrichs, Sara Heinrichs, Shelly Samuels (AC-10), Nelle Gentry.

STAR celebrates 5th year



Over the MLK weekend, the Spectacular Texas Arts Retreat celebrated its 5th anniversary with a record attendance of 112. Saturday night



Mary Ann Waldon

festivities honored Mary Ann Waldon's 90th birthday. A very surprised Queen Mary Ann received a robe, crown, scepter and roses from her loyal STAR subjects and was entertained with songs, a drama, dances and s'mores around a campfire. At STAR, participants can choose to draw, paint, crochet, dance, sing or perform. Classes include fiber, silk and canvas art, paper folding, wire sculpture and much more. Registration for 2020 STAR is

available using the form on the TSO website dkgtexas.org.



Betty Vines & Cheryl Crawford

ASTEFL Business Meeting full of excitement

The Annual ASTEF Business Meeting will be held immediately following the TSO Business Meeting on Saturday, June 22, in Arlington. Highlights of the meeting include the announcement and presentation of the Third Annual ASTEF Advocate for Education, the announcement of the 2019-2021 ASTEF officers, the election of ASTEF Directors Class of 2019, and the much-anticipated awarding of the ASTEF Project Stipends given to deserving chapters, areas, or individuals. At the conclusion of the meeting one lucky winner will be awarded a special door prize. Come be a part of YOUR FOUNDATION.





GOLD PIECE

She watches me

Angela Barton, Mu Tau

This past year has been very unusual for me. I finished my doctoral degree, struggled with infertility and was promoted to a central office position from being a principal all within the same year. As I was preparing for fertility treatments, doctors said not to begin or end college or change jobs because of all of the strain it would put on my body. Yet, I did it all and wouldn't change a thing. It was stress, but I think having so much going on actually helped because I couldn't get too anxious about any one thing that was happening.

As I thought about writing this, the words that kept coming to mind were "She watches me." My husband and I have been married now for 15 years, and it took some time before we were able to have our first child, Hunter Elizabeth. We both are very driven people who are typically successful in whatever we do because of our work ethic. When we struggled to have a child, I think we always knew we would be successful at that as well because we knew that we would do whatever it took to make our family complete. I remember the day I got the news that IVF was the only option. I sat in my car crying and telling my husband about it on the phone. He never hesitated. He said, "We are going to do it." I thought, "How in the world can I do this?" Not only was it physically and emotionally challenging, but also it was very expensive. I'm so glad we did it! As Hunter watches my every move, I think about being brave and being a strong person for her to look up to. That's very important to me.

The past year has been a challenging but rewarding one for me in so many ways. For the past five years I worked towards reaching my goal of obtaining a doctoral degree. Balancing work, home and college was demanding, but it was very doable. I scheduled time for myself to do my college work a couple of nights a week and then one day on the weekend. When getting a doctoral degree, there isn't anyone who holds your hand, so I had to stay really focused and hold myself accountable. In the end, as I look back, I have very fond memories of the time I spent on this degree, and I know that I did it for myself. I didn't complete it to get a better job, to be called "Doctor," or for any other reason. I did it because I looked up to a professor I had in college and knew that I wanted to be like her one day. On the day of graduation, a "Doctor" gave a speech that I will never forget. He talked about being humble. I thought it was very fitting and perfect. School was never easy for me. I've always had to work hard for what I have, and this was no different, which makes it especially rewarding in the end.

A year ago my husband and I vacationed to New York. While walking through Times Square, I told him when we had a child that it would be an interesting place to take her when she was older. He said he thought we should take her when she was young so that she could know all of the opportunities out in the world. From someone who has worked very hard for everything he has, that made an impression on me. Yes, of course, I want my child to know she can do anything. I am very aware of Hunter's watching my every move, and I want her to see and know that she can do anything if she works hard. That's why it was important to me to finish my doctoral degree. That's why it was important for me to do IVF to have a child. I want to be the parent who says, "Wow, congratulations! You must have really worked hard on that." She watches me!

Committees prepare for Arlington

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICITY COMMITTEE



Has a chapter member been published this school year? Is there a newspaper, television program or other media outlet in the chapter area that provides excellent coverage of local DKG news as well as educational issues? Now is the time to nominate for the Member in Print Award as well as the Media Recognition. Applications are available online on the Communications and Publicity Committee webpage. The deadline to submit nominations is April 1. Recipients will be recognized during the Opening Session of the 90th Annual

TSO Convention in June in Arlington.

A big thanks to chapter newsletter editors for submitting their issues in a timely manner. May 1 is the postmark deadline to send in at least 5 newsletters for the 2018-2019 school year and earn the 5 Star Award for your chapter. Remember, hard copies **MUST** be sent to the TSO President, the Lone Star News editor and the Communications and Publicity Chair. Electronic or hard copies may be sent to the chapter area coordinator, area representative on the Communications and Publicity Committee and the TSO mentor for the chapter. All names, addresses, and emails are included in each issue of "The Communique," the newsletter of the Communications and Publicity Committee. Each newsletter editor and/or president should be receiving these through the area committee representatives. Those editors and presidents who have not received the publications may email **mandydkg@gmail.com** or look in the Publications section of the TSO website for all the issues. Each issue contains important information to include in chapter newsletters.

The rubric for 5 Star Newsletter consideration is also posted on the committee webpage. Nothing has changed for the 2018-2019 year, but this is a valuable checklist to make sure each element is included in the chapter newsletters.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FOR CHAPTER PRESIDENTS



The 90th Annual Texas State Convention in Arlington will be a busy and exciting time for chapter presidents. The Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents (LDCP) workshop, held Thursday June 20th from 12:00-1:30 p.m., will highlight best practices, share new tools and provide a Q&A discussion with state officers. Workshops throughout the convention will support the work of leading

a chapter. The Presidents Presentation on Friday evening is a special time to recognize their leadership. On Saturday morning, presidents will represent chapters, voting on the business of Texas State Organization at the general session. That afternoon they will meet with their new Area Coordinators. The LDCP Committee urges chapter presidents to make travel plans soon. Convention registration is paid for each president or their representative to show TSO's appreciation for their dedicated service to DKG.

LEADERSHIP ORIENTATION FOR STATE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE



Training for 2019-2021 state officers, state committee chairs and area coordinators will be held Monday, July 22 - Tuesday, July 23, 2019, at the Sheraton Arlington Hotel, Arlington, Texas. During this time they will receive information, explore resources and experience support as they begin their service to TSO. Area coordinators will stay for further training through Wednesday afternoon.

MUSIC COMMITTEE



To build friendships through music is why DKG members around the world love to sing in the chorus at their conventions. What a great privilege and joy to have many Texas State Chorus members singing in the International Chorus in Austin last summer. Several of those members

were past music chairs. Texas members also enjoyed meeting and singing with the 2017 Southwest Regional Music Director. That's how bridges are built around the world.

Any member interested in joining the chorus at Arlington must include the chorus on her registration form. Links to hear the music will be sent to members following registration.

All the wonderful pianists who would like to treat members to a Prelude and/or Postlude need to mark their preferences on the registration form. The chair of the Music Committee will get in touch with those members indicating interest.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICE PROJECTS COMMITTEE



Chapter projects are a valuable contribution to communities. They provide resources or services that might be difficult or impossible to attain without the assistance of generous groups like TSO chapters. Projects are valuable to the chapter itself. Projects that engage members in the preparation and delivery of the service or goods supply opportunities for members to interact, communicate and build relationships. All of these are vital activities that maintain a healthy chapter.

Chapters may share their projects through a project slideshow presentation to be shown at the Arlington Convention. The deadline to submit a slideshow presentation for the Annie Extravaganza is April 1, 2019. All Annie Projects will be shown prior to the large group events during the convention. Instructions and templates may be found on the Deadlines and Forms page of the TSO website under the April 1 due date. They may also be found on the Programs and Service Projects webpage. If members have any questions or need assistance please contact Michelle Grandinetti, Programs and Service Projects Committee Chair.

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RESEARCH COMMITTEE

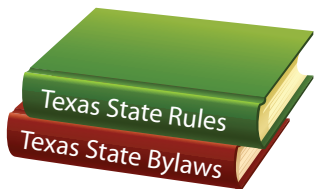


The Research Committee is still seeking participants in the Ages and Stages Survey, which can be found on the TSO webpage. This information will guide the committee in serving the membership.

This committee will again be in charge of convention evaluations at the TSO Convention in Arlington. There will be a hard copy, which can be completed and submitted at the convention, and a link for those who prefer to use technology. It is very important that evaluations are completed; they help with planning for future meetings and conventions. The voices of members need to be heard.

Several TSO members have been published this year. A form on the Research Committee webpage allows members to submit information to add their name and publication to the state author listing.

BYLAWS AND RULES COMMITTEE

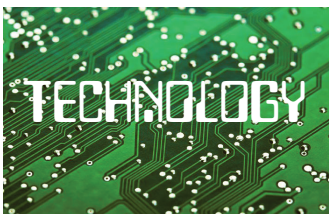


The Bylaws and Rules committee members are ready to answer your questions and receive your revised chapter rules. As chapters are implementing approved changes to the International Constitution and International Standing Rules, Emma Joven, chair of the committee, thanks all chapters for their hard work in this endeavor.

A clarification was made recently to the 2018 Model Chapter Rules regarding chapter annual dues and the fiscal year. Members may view the revised 2019 Model Chapter Rules on the TSO website on the Bylaws and Rules committee page. Completed revised chapter rules should be sent to the area members serving on the committee. Emma Joven can be reached directly at jejoven2@att.net.

Revisions to the Texas State Bylaws and Texas State Rules will be voted on at the TSO Convention. Proposed changes will be published in the summer edition of LSN.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE



Tech safety is important for all users. Members will want to be careful as they navigate through emails, Facebook, searches and texts. Clicking on the wrong link can launch a virus or malware. Members suspicious of an unexpected email from a bank or credit card company might not want to open the email. Instead they may go directly to the website by typing in the URL or call the number on

the back of the card.

Dangerous links can also be sent by text. Hackers can impersonate companies like Microsoft, Netflix, Chase, Dropbox and others. Phishing is the practice of tricking a person into revealing personal information, such as passwords and credit card information.

Members should be wary of the fun quizzes on Facebook as the questions might reveal answers to often used security questions like the name of your first pet, favorite food or childhood friend. When in doubt, members might want to be cautious and save themselves time, headaches and money later.

DKG International Conference on Technology in Costa Mesa

The International Conference on Technology is July 17-20, 2019, in Costa Mesa, California. There will be wonderful speakers, over 55 DKG and technology workshop sessions, chorus performances, forums, member entertainment, delicious meals and plenty of networking.

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San Augustine TX 75972

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Pre-conference events for all members will include Katie Salen Tekinbas, Department of Informatics from UC Irvine, as the guest speaker; lunch; and technology centers for members to experience different aspects of technology. Registration for the pre-conference event is on the conference registration form.



Katie Salen Tekinbas

A special California Couture Event



Crystal Washington

will feature member makeovers and a panel of experts on improving the professional appearance of each participant. Crystal Washington, futurist, will talk at the 90th Birthday Luncheon about future trends in technology, ways technology can help educators, and effects on the way children learn. She will also do a workshop on apps to help with DKG and the classroom. Her presentation is funded by the Eunah Temple Holden Leadership Fund.

The Saturday morning breakfast will feature member entertainment as well as a chorus, under the direction of Deb Acevedo-Tamminga. The chorus will be performing two songs at the Birthday Luncheon and two songs at the Banquet. The conference is paying for the music so that members may come and enjoy singing with Deb.

While in Costa Mesa, California, members may enjoy a trip to Disneyland, shop at the huge South Coast Plaza shopping mall, take a boat ride to watch dolphins in Newport Beach, enjoy museums or see the Phantom of the Opera Broadway production at the Segerstrom Center for the Arts. There is something for everyone to experience at the conference and in Costa Mesa.



Registration for the convention, hotel, chorus and play tickets are all on the dkg.org website under Costa Mesa, California.

International Conference: Technology
Costa Mesa, California
July 17-20, 2019

Marilyn Gregory, Southwest Regional Director