

Lone Star News

Official Publication of the Texas State Organization



Vol 74 No. 3

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ~ Key Women Educators

Spring 2021

Shalan Inmon nominee for TSO President 2021-2023

The Texas State Organization Nominations Committee has selected nominees for state officers, finance committee members and nominations committee members to present to the convention body in Denton.

The nominees include **Shalan Inmon**, Alpha Sigma (Slaton-12), president; **Bonnie Moore**, Eta Delta (Cypress-3), first vice president; **Michelle Grandinetti**, Theta Alpha (Dallas-9), second vice president; **Dr. Stacey Arnold**, Kappa Lambda (Georgetown-7), recording secretary; and **Charlotte Nyman**, Alpha Pi (Texarkana-14), corresponding secretary.



Shalan Inmon

Presidential nominee **Shalan Inmon** is currently serving TSO as the chair of the Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents (LDGP) Committee. Shalan has served TSO as an area coordinator, first vice president and recording secretary. She has been chair of the Educational Excellence Committee, Leadership Seminar Committee and the 2014 Lubbock Convention. Shalan participated in the 2005 Leadership Seminar and received the TSO Achievement Award in 2014. Her desire is to move the Society forward to meet the needs of key women educators of today and the future.



Bonnie Moore

Bonnie Moore is the nominee for first vice president. She has recently served TSO as second vice president, parliamentarian and convention chair. Bonnie was a participant in the 2013 Leadership Seminar and the 2018 Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar. Bonnie promises to continue to make a difference for TSO members by creating, innovating and strategically sharing activities, programs, projects and events in a myriad of formats to give our members value for their continuing loyalty and membership. Her passion is to make a positive difference for TSO and DKG.



Michelle Grandinetti

Michelle Grandinetti, nominee for second vice president, is currently serving as the TSO Global Awareness Committee chair. She has served as an area coordinator, has chaired the TSO Educational Excellence and Membership Committees, and she has participated in the TSO Leadership Seminar. In 2019, she received the TSO Achievement Award. Michelle has studied data and surveys related to membership changes and has gained insight into the problems and possible solutions. She says that the challenges will be to interrupt the disintegration of chapters and the loss of valuable chapter members while simultaneously encouraging healthy chapter growth.

2019-2021 TSO Contacts

President

Patti Belknap
Theta Alpha (9)
dkgtxpres@outlook.com

1st Vice

President
Judy Mezick
Kappa Gamma (7)
j.mezick@verizon.net

2nd Vice

President
Bonnie Moore
Eta Delta (3)
bonniedkgtso@gmail.com

Recording Secretary

Mandy Story
Iota Omicron (16)
mandydkg@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Emma Joven
Zeta Gamma (1)
jejoven2@att.net

Parliamentarian

Connie Rensink
Theta Chi (10)
connie.rensink@yahoo.com

Immediate Past President

Dr. Jo Murphy
Beta Zeta (6)
jomurphy981@gmail.com

ASTEFL President

Rhonda Posey
Iota Rho (2)
president@astef.org

Executive Secretary

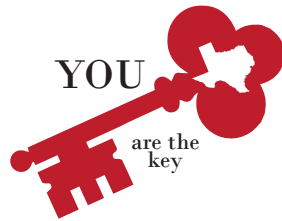
Leesa Cole
Delta Omicron (9)
tsosecretary29@gmail.com

Editor/ Photographer

Carol McMillan
Delta Gamma (1)
news.lonestar@gmail.com

Webmaster

Debbi Ball, Gamma Eta
Spur (12)
dkgtxas@gmail.com



Maintain hope for a brighter tomorrow

Patti Belknap
Texas State President
2019-2021



After every year, we look forward to the coming year with hope and optimism for better things to come. This year was no exception. While many make resolutions, others choose a particular word. The word for 2021 seems to be **hope**: four little letters with so much meaning for each of us. Alfred Tennyson said, “Hope smiles from the threshold of the year to come, whispering ‘it will be happier’....”

Hope can mean various things. It can be “a feeling of expectation and desire for a certain thing to happen.” Seeing friends and relatives, having face-to-face meetings, and resuming activities that bring pleasure may be some of the things for which we hope.

Hope can also be “A person or thing that may help or save someone.” Working educators bring hope to their students by being in the classroom with them or providing a smiling face on a computer. Chapter presidents bring hope to their chapters with their creative ways of keeping their members in contact with each other. Chapters are using technology in exciting ways. They are holding orientations and having Zoom induction ceremonies, with 142 new members inducted since July 1, 2020.

Finally, hope is “Grounds for believing that something good may happen.” In a relatively short time, scientists developed a vaccine to help rid the world of this devastating pandemic, and many members are receiving their first doses. Hope for the end of this virus, hope for students returning to their classrooms, hope for chapter members returning to meetings and hope for a TSO Convention in Denton are all on the horizon. We see it coming. It is in our grasp. We can never give up hope for a brighter tomorrow.

What is your hope?

HOPE
will not be cancelled

WHAT'S NEW @ TSO HEADQUARTERS? Convention Plans



The **treasurer and finance breakout session** is previewed below and hints at which TSO HQ staff member lives in Denton. Can you figure it out?

Dues collecting: at the chapter level March-May, complete in June

Entering member data: April-June for...

- New inductees, transfers, reinstates
- Update contact information for continuing members

Budget planning: template to be shared for 2021-22 chapter budget

Orders to pay dues: mailed by June 30 to both International and TSO

Review chapter finances: timeline and checklist to be shared

April 1: contributions due for convention recognition to...

- ASTEF funds (scholarships, leadership or projects)
- TSO Eula Lee Carter Memorial Fund

Help is available from both TSO in Dallas and DKG International in Austin:

- websites: www.dkgtexas.org or www.dkg.org
- phone: 972-930-9945 Dallas or 512-478-5748 Austin
- email: tsotreas@gmail.com Deborah Thomas
tsosecretary29@gmail.com Leesa Cole
mem@dkg.org International Membership
- chat: with International via dkg.org

Did you figure it out? **Deborah Thomas, State Treasurer**, looks forward to seeing you at the breakout session in Denton.



Any member who has questions about the breakout session preview topics is encouraged to email Leesa Cole by March 30 to aid in the session planning. Names of members with questions will be entered in the next drawing.

Last edition's prize winners who answered questions about electronic payment systems information are **Ellen Laughlin** and **Jennifer Penny**, Pay Pal; **Ruth Hancock**, Venmo; and **Marilyn Bishop**, Zelle. Thank you to these treasurers for responding. Additional information about chapters using electronic payments will be coming soon.



1. Dues portal closes early March and reopens early April.
2. Keep Chapter Officer information current at TSO HQ.
3. Denton is the home of TWU and TSO Archives in the Blagg-Huey Library Women's Collection. Bring chapter items of historical importance to the convention and the Archives committee will take them to the library for storage.

Deadlines at a Glance

Mar 31	Bylaws/State Rules Changes/Proposals
April 1	Contributions to TSO Funds for Convention Recognition
	Programs & Proj Spotlight Submissions
	Members in Print & Media Recognition Award Nom
	LSN Submissions
May 1	Cornetet App
	Five-Star Newsletter
	All reports for Conv Program
	Expense Reports for State Prsnl
June 1	ASTEF Project Stipend End of Year Report -2019-2020 (extended) -2020-2021
17-19	TSO Denton Convention
30	2021-2022 Dues to Chapter Pres
	Last Day for 2019-2021 Biennium Fiscal Year Ends

Committee Meetings

LOSP	Mar 6-7
Scholarship	Mar 20-21
Finance	April 9-10
ASTEF	April 30, May 1-2

Texas State Headquarters
P.O. Box 797787
Dallas, TX 75379-7787
Dallas telephone: 972.930.9945
FAX: 972.447.0471
www.dkgtexas.org

International Headquarters
416 West 12th Street
Austin, Texas 78701
Austin telephone: 512.478.5748
www.dkg.org

MEMBERS: Send address changes to your chapter treasurer or go to www.dkg.org /MyDKG to make any changes in your information.

Nominees from page 1



Dr. Stacey Arnold

Dr. Stacey Arnold, the nominee for TSO Recording Secretary, is currently serving as the TSO Communications and Publicity Committee chair. She has served TSO as an area coordinator and attended the 2017 Leadership Seminar. Stacey has been a member of the Global Awareness Committee and received TSO scholarships for her doctorate at Texas A&M University.



Charlotte Nyman

Charlotte Nyman, the nominee for TSO Corresponding Secretary, was co-chair of the TSO Convention in Frisco and attended the Leadership Seminar in 2013. Charlotte was an area coordinator and is currently serving as an ASTEF Director. During the 2018 DKG International Convention in Austin, she served as a volunteer during registration, photography sessions and meals. Charlotte received the TSO Achievement Award in 2018.

Members nominated for elected committees

The Texas State Organization Nominations Committee presents the following names for the finance committee: **Ellen Laughlin**, Beta Eta-3; **Sharon McDougle**, Gamma Eta-12; **Pamela Phillips**, Epsilon Alpha-10.

Nominated to serve on the 2021-2023 nominations committee is chair and continuing member **Kerry James**, Alpha Pi-17. Other nominees to this committee are **Julie Eisenhauer**, Zeta Tau-18; **Janice Harsch**, Zeta Zeta-11; **Carolyn Keck**, Mu Sigma Chapter-3; **Genia Klein**, Xi-7; **Ann Mahan**, Lambda-8; **Risa McCann**, Mu Pi-18; **Frances Ziegenhal**, Alpha Iota-4.

Mandy Story selected as state parliamentarian

Presidential nominee Shalan Inmon will appoint **Mandy Story** to serve as TSO Parliamentarian for 2021-2023. Mandy recently served as TSO Recording Secretary, chair of the communication and publicity committee and chair of the bylaws and rules committee. She has served as an area coordinator and participated in the 2011 TSO Leadership Seminar and the 2014 DKG Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar.



Mandy Story

Plans on hold for Houston Weekender due to COVID

The 5th annual ASTEF Weekender in Houston, Texas, currently scheduled for April 16-18, 2021, has been canceled. Because of the rising number of COVID-19 cases in Harris County, increasing restrictions issued for Harris County residents and the recent identification of the more contagious strain of the virus in Harris County, the ASTEF Weekender Committee decided that canceling the event is the safest choice to protect participants.



The Weekender Committee anticipates the vaccines becoming more readily available will allow the organizers to plan for a trip in the fall of 2021. Updated details will appear in the *Lone Star News* and on the ASTEF website.



Cynthia Moore representing DKG in Denton

Cynthia Moore was born in Saskatchewan, Canada. She began teaching skiing lessons to children and adults at a local ski resort in Saskatchewan and was also a Canadian Ski Patrol member. Following this teaching experience, Cynthia enrolled in a newly-created Arts Education Program. She became a teacher of visual arts, drama and social studies in high school. Later she continued her career as an eighth-grade elementary teacher and principal.



Cynthia Moore

The DKG International Representative to Texas says that serving on International committees has been an opportunity to meet, work and share passions and ideas with DKG members throughout the Society. She has served on the International Membership Committee, the Educational Excellence Committee as both a member and as chair, and she was a 2018-2020 DKG International Speakers Fund speaker. Currently, Cynthia serves as DKG International Member-at-Large. She is on the Society Strategic Plan Committee, chair of the International Speakers Fund Committee and chair of the DKG Alberta Constitution – Bylaws/Rules Committee.

Cynthia is a Yoga Alliance Certified yoga teacher and Relax and Renew© Restorative Yoga Trainer. She currently teaches yoga classes virtually from Kimberley, BC. Cynthia has also taught yoga at corporate events in Tofino, BC; Fernie, BC; and Regina, SK. She is also a short-term instructor for the Rocky Mountain International Student Program (RMISP) in Kimberley, Cranbrook and Invermere, BC. She is involved in many local organizations as a volunteer and enjoys skiing, hiking, kayaking, cycling, gardening, drawing, photography, and reading while living in a picturesque mountain town in the East Kootenays region of British Columbia, Canada.

Speakers highlight ticketed events at convention

ASTEF EXTRAVANGANZA **TICKETED EVENT**



Johnny Quinn

The Extravaganza will be held immediately after the ASTEF Annual Meeting on Friday, June 18, from 11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. The highlight of the event will be the opportunity to hear from **Johnny Quinn**, a former Olympian. Quinn competed in the sport of bobsled at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. He is also a former professional football player, spending time with the NFL's Buffalo Bills, Green Bay Packers and the Saskatchewan Roughriders of the CFL. He will entertain, energize and empower ASTEF event attendees with his action-packed message.



BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON **TICKETED EVENT**



Chris Coladonato

When people join and become members of organizations, they want to feel connected to something greater than themselves. Whether it's to other human beings, a purpose or a cause they believe in, human beings are essentially social in nature and are wired to be connected.

If that is the case, then why do member organizations often find membership declining or a lack of engagement? **Chris Coladonato** will have a conversation about what it means to be connected and how each person can leverage the power of connectedness to take her leadership and chapter to the next level.

Convention schedule at a glance

Tuesday, June 15th

12:00 p.m. Prepare convention bags

Wednesday, June 16th

1:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. TSO Executive Committee Meeting
 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration
 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. ASTEF Board of Directors Meeting
 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Children's Art Gallery
 8:00 p.m. Leadership Seminar Ice Cream Social

Thursday, June 17th

8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Registration, Unifying Project items accepted
 10:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Vendors; ASTEF Displays, Children's Art Gallery, Visual Arts
 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Breakout Sessions
 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Chorus Rehearsal
 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. AC Training
 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Breakout Sessions
 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. Box Lunches Available
 12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. LDCP Training
 12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Treasurers Training
 2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. First Timers Session
 3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Tim Lee, TRTA Executive Director
 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Chorus Rehearsal
 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Flag and Chorus Rehearsal
 5:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m. State Personnel Dinner
 7:00 p.m. Opening Session

Friday, June 18th

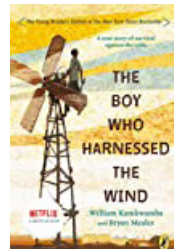
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Registration, Unifying Project items accepted
 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. TSO Business Meeting
 9:45 a.m. - 10:45 p.m. ASTEF Annual Meeting
 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. ASTEF Event
 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Breakout Sessions
 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Vendors; ASTEF Displays, Children's Art Gallery, Visual Arts
 12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. Box Lunches
 12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Programs & Projects
 12:30 p.m. - 1:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. Membership Session
 1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. Breakout Sessions
 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Chorus Rehearsal
 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Installation Rehearsal
 6:45 p.m. Line Up for Procession
 7:00 p.m. Presidents and Founders Banquet and Installation

Saturday, June 19th

7:30 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. Chorus Rehearsal
 8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Celebration of Life
 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. 50+ Member Reception
 10:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Celebration Brunch

Project stipends vary in creativity and need

Although the TSO Convention did not take place as initially planned in McAllen, that did not stop ASTEF Projects Committee from working hard to select deserving projects. The ASTEF Projects Committee awarded nearly \$33,000 in project stipend grants to 30 deserving chapters or individuals. The 2020-2021 recipients of ASTEF Project Stipends vary in their creativity and project need. The Beta Lambda chapter used ASTEF funds to purchase STEM reading materials that support the math and science curriculum. Kappa Upsilon's project was preparing to mentor new teachers in the district. Although Covid-19 has delayed the implementation of this and other projects in the state, chapters are hopeful they will complete their projects in the spring.



Projects vary in design from one chapter to the next. Some chapters developed projects that reinforce literacy, language arts skills or poetry in young children or middle schoolers by providing books or math materials for needy students and their families. Other projects support early career educators, teacher retention, student success and in-school tutoring. Additional projects support an anti-bullying campaign, garden-based learning and an after-school outreach program for disadvantaged students. All projects reinforce ASTEF's mission to provide funding for activities that support women educators' professional and personal growth in Texas and promote educational excellence for Texas students. The 2021-2022 Project Stipend Application and Guidelines are available on the ASTEF website www.astef.org. The application form is due on April 1, 2021.



Proposed Amendment to TSO Governing Documents

The Bylaws and Rules Committee presents for consideration by members this proposed amendment to the Texas State Organization governing documents.

Proposal 1. State Rules – 9.11 n.

Which now reads:

9.11 n. The Strategic Plan of Action Committee will monitor the measurable plan of action determined for the state. The committee will consist of no fewer than four (4) members with the chair being a current state officer. Members will be appointed for five (5) years, with one (1) member appointed at the beginning of one biennium and two (2) appointed at the beginning of the next biennium. An evaluation of progress will be held every five (5) years, beginning in 2022.

Be amended as follows

- In the second sentence, **add a period after the word “members” and strike the words “with the chair being a current state officer.”**

If adopted would read:

9.11 n. The Strategic Plan of Action Committee will monitor the measurable plan of action determined for the state. The committee will consist of no fewer than four (4) members. Members will be appointed for five (5) years, with one (1) member appointed at the beginning of one biennium and two (2) appointed at the beginning of the next biennium. An evaluation of progress will be held every five (5) years, beginning in 2022.

Rationale: The qualifications of who should be chair belong in the State Guidelines, not in State Rules. Removal will also allow for more flexibility in chairmanship.

Financial Impact: None

Proposed by: Strategic Plan of Action Committee

Endorsed by: Executive Committee

ASTEFL projects funded by member donations



ONLINE AUCTION

The ASTEF Online Auction is returning to Denton. The auction will begin one week before the start of the TSO Convention in Denton and end on Friday, June 18, 2021. Bidders will have the opportunity to view the auction items at the convention, but all bids must be online.

Anyone interested in donating items to this auction may contact Advancement Vice President Cindy Drumm at advancement@astef.org or Rhonda Posey at president.astef@gmail.com. Donations made in support of ASTEF are greatly appreciated.

Auctions items include original art, collectibles, jewelry, handbags, vacation packages and more.



DECADE DONOR

Last year ASTEF challenged the members to raise \$10,000 for the Tenth Birthday. Everyone who contributed any amount to ASTEF would become a Decade Donor from \$1 and up. Those giving were to receive a special Decade Donor Ribbon for their name badges. Without the McAllen Convention, many members still gave. However, ASTEF did not meet its goal of \$10,000.

As members are completing their registration forms for the Denton Convention, they may still consider donating. Those giving now will also become a Decade Donor, along with those who contributed last year. All who donate will receive this special Decade Donor ribbon.



CUMULATIVE DONOR

On September 17, 2020, ASTEF reached a milestone as the foundation turned ten years old. ASTEF has accomplished many milestones through Scholarship, Leadership and Projects for members, non-members, chapters and communities.

ASTEFL honored Cumulative Donors who had given \$500 or more from 2010 to September 1, 2020, with a unique pin.

Any member reaching \$500 by June 1, 2021, will receive the pin during the Denton Convention. To determine the amount a member needs to reach this level, she may call the TSO office for her total contributions.

“A Decade of Making Dreams Come True.”

ASTEFL seeking enthusiastic board members

Every two years, the ASTEF Board of Directors elects new directors for a six-year term. The terms are staggered because directors rotate off the Board of Directors when their term expires. The ASTEF Nominations Committee is currently accepting applications.



The Board of Directors needs people who are willing to give their time and talents and have a passion for ASTEF’s work.

The application form and a Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) document is on the ASTEF website, www.astef.org, under FORMS. Applications should reach ASTEF Nomination Committee Chair, Dr. Barbara Derrick, no later than April 15, 2021.



Texas State Organization Remembers

We mourn the passing and celebrate the lives of those cherished members of the Society whose deaths have been reported to the Texas Necrology Chair, Rhonda Hall, between November 1, 2020 and February 1, 2021. 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.

Shirley Wright, Epsilon Psi-3, Spring
Bettye Glenn, Theta Sigma-3, Houston
Grace Esther Thompson, Theta Kappa-7, Seguin
Arlene Burges, Xi-7, Round Rock
Marcella Schoener, Xi-7, Taylor
Judy Gottschalk, Lambda-8, Temple
Dorothy Spencer Bates, Kappa Beta-9, Helena
Frankie Ann Meek, Iota Lambda-10, Kennedale
Minta Wilson, Eta Alpha-11, Perryton
Barbara Elliott, Alpha Sigma-12, Lubbock
Kristie Storms, Alpha Sigma-12, Lubbock
Melinda "Lindy" Stafford, Gamma Eta-12, Matador
Jennifer Askew, Theta Mu-14, Odessa
Amalia Gonzales, Theta Mu-14, Odessa
Lynne Chandler, Theta Mu-14, Odessa
Patricia Ainsworth, Alpha Delta-17, Cooper
Carolyn Waller, Texas State Chapter, Albany

Janet Pennock, Theta Beta (San Antonio-6), will be honored as Volunteer of the Year at the San Antonio Women's Federation Luncheon in January, 2022.

Ronnecia Rocio, Delta Pi (Plano-9), published a new book entitled *Analyzing Lived-Experiences: A Step-By-Step Guide to the Scientific Phenomenological Analysis*.

2021 Unifying Project



CASA of Denton County is the recipient of the 2021 TSO Unifying Project.

Court Appointed Special Advocates' mission is to provide trained community volunteers to advocate for the best interest of abused and neglected children and to promote community awareness about child abuse issues.

Each summer CASA does a campaign for gift cards for the children to use for back-to-school clothes, toiletry items, as well as birthday gifts, tickets to movie theaters, restaurants, and sporting events.

Gift cards from Walmart or Target were specified as the types of cards needed from TSO members.

Member News



Lambda Alpha Chapter (Spring Branch-18) received a Spring Branch ISD Good Neighbor Designation for 2020 in appreciation for the activities and services members organized to support the Spring Branch students, teachers and schools.

Frances Mahaffey, Delta Pi (Plano-9), had an article, "Promoting the Home-School Connection during Crisis Teaching", included in *Teaching, Technology, and Teacher Education during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Stories from the Field*, published by the Association for the Advancement of Computing in Education.

Shalonda Adams, Kappa Mu (Longview-17), received the City of Longview's 2021 Unity Honors Award for her work in bringing young people together and allowing them to work on projects that take away their differences.

TSO Executive Assistant position open

The TSO Personnel Committee is accepting applications for the position of TSO Executive Assistant. The person who accepts this position will become a member of the team at TSO Headquarters in Dallas that takes care of the business of TSO and ASTEF while supporting state personnel in their work and assisting members as needed.

The executive assistant’s skills include knowledge of the Society and operational tasks such as answering phones, sorting mail and responding to members. She also needs experience with word processing and Excel spreadsheets.

Anyone who finds joy in completing tasks, meeting deadlines and speaking with members will fit this job. Applications are on the TSO website at www.dkgtxas.org.



TSO honors members at Birthday Luncheon



Members celebrating fifty or more years in DKG who want to be honored at the Birthday Luncheon in Denton should mark the “Member for 50 or 50+ Years” on the registration form.

Example of how it appears on the registration form:

Please check all that apply.

2020-2022 Chapter President 1st State Convention Attendee Member for 50 or 50+ Years



Women in Arts

Mary Griffin, Alpha Theta

Mastering the yarn leads to crocheting success

I attended STAR for the first time in 2017. I signed up for crocheting a patch for nursing mothers who had babies in ICU. Since I had crocheted in the mid 70’s I figured I could pick up this old skill again in a snap. WRONG! I was all thumbs. My patch was a mess. I added stitches, dropped stitches; I was a failure at crochet. When I reported to my chapter on my experience, I showed them everything I had made, including the wretched little crochet piece. One of the members laughed and challenged me by saying, “Mary, don’t let the yarn overcome you!”

That’s all I needed. I bought some yarn, looked up crochet on YouTube and the rest is history. I have been a crocheting maniac ever since. I’ve made Koozies for water bottles, soda cans and coffee cups. I made fingerless gloves for all the women in my family. I made baby blankets, shawls, caps, beanies and shrugs for my friends.



Coastal Birds crocheted for McAllen

I had mastered the yarn.



Crocheted Cacti

For Christmas in 2018, my husband gave me a booklet on making different crocheted cacti, including crocheting dirt. Well, I was hooked on making miniature cacti for my friends who kill live plants.

DKG ceremonies and protocol important to chapters



TSO Ceremonies Committee offers these tips:

- Delta Kappa Gamma ceremonies are designed to educate members, involve chapter members, be unique and dignified, honor DKG traditions, raise awareness and celebrate being a DKG member.
- DKG protocol refers primarily to the value placed on courtesy, appreciation, promptness, avoidance of confusion, evidence of planning and emphasis on beauty.

Deadlines ahead for communication committee awards

Each year, the Communications & Publicity Committee recognizes members who have published books, chapters in books, in professional journals or a series of articles related to education with the Member in Print Award. The committee also recognizes newspapers that provide outstanding education news coverage and local chapter news with Media Recognition Awards. For any member who has published or any newspaper deserving of recognition, the deadline to submit nomination forms for both awards is April 1, 2021. Members may find the documents on the Communications & Publicity Committee page on the TSO website.



The Communications & Publicity Committee will acknowledge all chapters that publish at least five newsletters between July 1 and May 1 with a 5 Star Newsletter certificate. The state committee chair must receive all chapter newsletters by May 1, 2021, to qualify for recognition at the TSO Convention in Denton.

Members making a difference one member at a time

The fall of 2020 continued to bring uncertainty, distance and discomfort to TSO members and chapters. In-person meetings were few. Zooming became the norm but was not comfortable for all. Caring for one another continued as a focus of the Texas State Organization in multiple ways. In doing this, members and the TSO Executive Committee found out that caring about others, feeling valued and making memories were three of the main reasons TSO members joined and remained a part of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

In October and November, TSO held meetings with over 90 chapters from all 18 areas. Leaders asked chapters to continue to care about others, make potential members feel valued and help them make memories as part of their chapter. What happened because of these meetings? These TSO chapters are already making a difference. So far, they have identified over 200 potential members they plan to recruit, engage, and induct in the next six months. Several chapters now have a “make a difference one member at a time” plan for 2021.



These chapters are looking for potential members in all kinds of places. They are asking what potential members want in an organization and share how DKG can meet those needs. Membership is now the responsibility of EVERYONE, not just the membership chair or the president.

Congratulations to each member of TSO who already has identified a potential member to bring into their chapter. **Individual members are the Key. Each can make a difference one member at a time.** By sharing the joy, value, and friendship of DKG, the potential new member wins, members win and TSO wins. Every member can be a part of this winning momentum. She needs to find a potential member (or 2 or 3) and tell them about DKG. She can invite them to a chapter meeting, Zoom or event, share memories and make new memories with them. Individuals make a difference one member at a time.

Training for chapter presidents scheduled for Denton

The 92nd Annual Texas State Convention in Denton will be a busy and exciting time for chapter presidents. The Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents (LDPC) workshop is Thursday, June 17, from 12:30-2:00 p.m. Participants will review the first year of the biennium, have a question and answer time, and have time to network with their area coordinator. Workshops throughout the convention will support the work of leading a chapter. On Friday morning, presidents will represent their chapters and vote on Texas State Organization's business at the general session. The LDPC committee urges chapter presidents to make travel plans soon. TSO pays for convention registration for each president or her representative to show appreciation for her dedicated service to DKG.

Q&A

Chapters share ideas about programs and projects

It is time for chapters to decide which program and/or service project they would like to spotlight this year. Once again, the Program and Service Projects committee encourages all chapters to submit a program and/or a service project to share with the entire TSO. A chapter may offer one of each.

The year 2020 has been a year like no other, and the committee is eager to hear all about the creative programs and service projects that have taken place within chapters. These can be about virtual or face-to-face topics.

The goal of this activity is to provide chapters with numerous ideas for programs and service projects. For this to be successful, all chapters need to participate. No consent forms are required this year because the committee is not accepting photographs. The Chapter Spotlight form is available on the TSO website under deadlines and forms. There is also a link on the Programs & Service Projects Committee page on the TSO website. Members may download the form, complete it, attach the completed form to an email and send it to Lyates0509@aol.com by April 1, 2021.

The committee requests a separate form for each program and service project submitted. Members may contact Linda Yates with questions. All submissions will be recognized in the Denton DKG Convention Program



Yearbooks creatively organize information for members

The TSO Yearbook Committee would like to thank each chapter's yearbook chair and committee members for the yearbook submissions during 2019-2021 biennium. These people opened a window into the chapters and allowed the TSO Yearbook Committee to see the varied and unique approaches each chapter developed in achieving the seven purposes of DKG. The creativity, dedication and innovative approaches to keeping the chapters informed during the current and ever-changing landscapes were outstanding. Yearbook committee members are a key to their chapter communications.

YEARBOOKS



92nd TSO Convention
June 17- 19, 2021



I Want to Teach the World to Sing

Hilary Strum, Mu Tau

"What do you teach?"

"6th-12th grade Choir."

"Really?! I was in choir!"

Soon another joins in with, "I was in band! I played the trumpet."

This is one of my very favorite things about introducing what I teach. No matter where I am or what scenario surrounds me, people tell me about their participation in musical ensembles or their favorite music. Big or small, they feel the need to tell me about years of marching or the little church Christmas play they participated in during the 3rd grade. It never fails and will forever fascinate me.

Why is this so interesting? I wholeheartedly believe that each person who shares her experiences is stating her role in the community that music creates. From a choir kid to a Parrothead, a garage rocker to a classical violinist or a "Spotify-listening" driver to a lip-syncing Mo-Town fan, music is an integral part of our lives and culture. Music accompanies celebrations like weddings, baptisms and birthday parties. It attends funerals, movies, farewells, and graduations. Music brings tears, floods memories, stirs emotions, and creates connections. It holds laughter, creates adrenaline, soothes heartbreak and inspires tackling chores. Even the most viewed sports event, the Super Bowl, is enhanced with musical performances.

I saw music in action while my grandmother was dying from brain cancer. Her final few days were cloudy and speechless as the disease began to eat away her words, thoughts, personality and expression. As her final days drew near, I had the honor of sitting with her, fighting back tears and recalling memories. During my last visit with Nan, my mother begged me to sing to her our favorite hymn, "There's Just Something About that Name." I began that first refrain just to hear that sweet, weak voice joining me as I entered the chorus. My Nan, who had lain silent for days, was singing with all of her strength. Tears fell and melodies grew as nurses and surrounding family members joined. Together we were singing; we were a community of harmony and praise. I saw unity as we were making music as one.

What are you doing to engage in the community music creates? Are you listening to music as you drive the backroads? Are you playing those oldies while you fold laundry? Are you singing or playing in a church ensemble? Have you been reciting nursery rhymes or children's songs to your grandchildren? Are you creating a musical escape for some of those tears to fall? Have you explored some local performances?

"Music is an outburst of the soul." I encourage you to embrace it, fill your day-to-day with it and come along side the community it creates.

"All throughout our lives,/in our joys and our strife,/we can more than just survive, /we can fill the world with song!

We were made to sing/to a world of suffering, /it's the gift we each can bring, /we can fill the world with song!" (Music and lyrics by Ken Berg)

Exploring resources for global education



Many educators assume that global education requires hours of preparation and planning and the accumulation of materials to help students appreciate cultural similarities and differences. This might be true in some cases, but these lessons can be as simple as using a hula hoop, a food item, or a picture of a pyramid. This summer, at the Denton Convention, the Global Awareness Committee will explore global education examples that are simple, easy and fun. The committee requests activities, books, games, materials, or lessons that demonstrate cultural commonalities and differences from TSO members. Global education can occur in the gym, math classes, English language arts, science, social studies, the cafeteria and the playground. With contributions from TSO creative members, this session should be fun. Members may share ideas with Michelle Grandinetti, Global Awareness Chair, mrgrose2014@gmail.com.

CTAUN conference on indigenous peoples



CTAUN
Committee on Teaching
About the United Nations

January 24 was the United Nations International Day of Education. On this day, 2021, the Conference for Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN) held a webinar: *United Nations and Indigenous Peoples: Advocating for Education*. The webinar's focus was to explain the United Nations' efforts to educate about the world's indigenous peoples, their tragic histories, contributions, and advancements, and present the United Nations' actions to improve conditions for the 476 million indigenous in the world. For all educators and non-educators, this is a must-see event. The webinar explains how indigenous peoples' knowledge and wisdom preserve the natural environment while simultaneously developing it for all stakeholders' benefit. Interviews describe the historical and current mistreatment and misunderstanding of indigenous people across the world. The webinar concludes with recommendations to advance the restoration of "reconciliation" and offers resources for interested and concerned individuals to explore. To view the webinar, members may go to TeachUN.org. This moving and informative webinar will inspire and educate viewers interested in advancing the rich heritage of the indigenous peoples of the world.

Members encouraged to join the fun and sing

Singing is fun! DKG members are encouraged to join other members from around the state to sing in the TSO Chorus for the upcoming 2021 TSO Convention in Denton, Texas. Complete the TSO Convention Registration Form to join the choir, to provide preludes or postludes for meetings, and to purchase the music. Any interested members should mark their preferences on the registration form, and the TSO Music Chair will contact those members indicating interest. The chorus will sing during the Birthday Luncheon, Necrology/Celebration of Life Service and the Presidents and Founders Banquet. Musical selections will include a range from contemporary to Broadway tunes with one arrangement using sign language. Members will not want to miss an opportunity to sing with a group of fantastic ladies.



INTERNATIONAL

2021 International Conference in need of volunteers

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is holding a conference in San Antonio, Texas, July 22-24, 2021. TSO will have an opportunity to play hostess to

P.O. Box 443
San Augustine TX 75972

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AUSTIN, TX
PERMIT NO. 1574

this unique gathering. All members are invited to attend, assist and participate in welcoming DKG members to our great state. Many volunteers are needed.



Dancers at Arneson River Theater

Members may view the specifics about being a volunteer by going to dkg.org and clicking on Events and then on the banner for the San Antonio Conference. Those interested in volunteering may scroll to the Schedule at a Glance, and to the

right of the schedule is a place for volunteer sign-up and chorus sign-up.

Jobs listed for volunteers are door monitor, table hostess, hotel greeter, airport greeter, general session page, international president's page, guest speaker page, breakout session page, conference info/lost & found/local attractions, registration/goodie bag assistant and properties room attendant. Other jobs may come up as well; members need to let the planners know they are available by submitting this form. Kay Stuart is the volunteer coordinator, and any questions may be directed to her through email or by telephone. Both options are listed on the sign-up sheet.

Assistance from TSO members will significantly impact this conference's success and the hundreds of women who will be in attendance.

Room reservations are open for San Antonio conference

Information about the DKG International Conference in San Antonio is available on the DKG website, dkg.org. Schedules have been made, and Texans are volunteering to help make this conference a success. For members considering attending, hotel reservations are now open.



San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter

A deposit equal to one night's stay is required to hold each individual reservation. The deposit will be refunded in full to any guest who cancels the reservation before 3 days (72 hours) prior to the day of arrival.

DKG International Conference
July 22, 2021 - July 24, 2021

San Antonio Marriott Rivercenter
101 Bowie Street, San Antonio, TX 78205