

Lone Star News

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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International ~ Key Women Educators

Winter 2020

Denton TSO Convention 2021: Key to Possibilities

Liza Minnelli once said, *“I feel like there’s a world of possibilities out there,”* and the Denton Convention 2021 Steering Committee agrees. The Denton Convention will offer many possibilities for TSO attendees June 17-19, 2021. Committee members are hard at work planning the activities to be enjoyed next summer. If members sneak a peek through the keyhole to the convention, they will see many possibilities including:



- the **possibility** of gathering face-to-face with and hugging long-time friends. Members missed this experience last year and are eager to reunite with members from across the state.
- the **possibility** of viewing Society history housed in the TWU archives. Many other collections are found there as well, representing groups such as the Texas Women’s Hall of Fame, Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), and the Texas General Federation of Women’s Clubs. The Culinary History and Cookbooks collection — one of the largest culinary libraries in the nation — includes over 1,500 cookbooks. A major draw for visitors to the TWU library is the collection of Texas First Ladies Historic Costumes. Seventeen gowns are displayed on a rotating basis with information posted about the respective First Lady and the gown displayed.
- the **possibility** of attending interesting breakout sessions to learn new classroom techniques, expand technological skills or improve a personal trait or hobby.
- the **possibility** of learning more about technology. It is true that the pandemic being experienced by Americans has limited travel and many experiences, but members have learned from this lockdown. Members are now more open to technology and the possibilities that Zoom and other videoconferencing platforms offer that enable members to experience activities in a different way.
- the **possibility** to see the creativity in art at the Children’s Art Show and the Visual Art Display sponsored by Women in the Arts.
- the **possibility** of watching a dear friend be awarded the Golden Rose or Achievement Award recognizing members’ outstanding service to the Texas State Organization.
- the **possibility** of hearing outstanding speakers at the Opening Session, the Presidents and Founders Banquet, the Celebration Brunch and the ASTEF feature event.
- the **possibility** of having the winning bid in the ASTEF Silent Auction. Funds raised provide money for leadership development of DKG members, fund scholarships for fellow members to further their education or training, and promote projects initiated by fellow teachers to benefit the children of their community in an educational endeavor.
- the **possibility** of visiting areas in and around Denton while taking pictures with friends in front of the many murals scattered around the town.



The world is full of possibilities and so is the Denton TSO Convention. Make plans now to attend the Denton Convention 2021 to experience the many possibilities offered.

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Cherish the happy moments with friends and family

Patti Belknap
Texas State President
2019-2021



With autumn upon us, we think of all the things that typically happen during this time of year. Leaves change colors, and we begin to enjoy cooler temperatures. School is back in session, football games are being played, chapter meetings are attended, and we begin to make plans for celebrating Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Yes, the season has changed, and we have turned back the clocks, but nothing else is typical of past autumns. Working educators are teaching while wearing face masks and social distancing; many are still using Zoom to connect with those learning from home. Football game attendance is capped at 25%, chapters are meeting electronically or using a hybrid model, and families are finding new ways to celebrate without being face-to-face. While this may be different from what we are accustomed to doing, it is not devastating.

Writer and film director Jamie Paolinetti stated, "Limitations live only in our minds. But if we use our imaginations, our possibilities become limitless." Think of the possibilities that Zoom and other electronic platforms have offered us. We can still enjoy the things that mean a great deal to us but in new and different ways. We can connect with our chapters, have orientations and inductions of new members, or hold book clubs and family get-togethers without leaving our home. It is wonderful to belong to an organization that has been so creative in its approach to fulfilling the vision and Purposes of our Society in such new and different ways.

It is at this special time of year that we are reminded how thankful we are for the little things. We need to remember that our most cherished moments occur when we are with our families and friends. Regardless of how you connect this season, cherish each moment. May they be plentiful.

Quick TIP

Many applications are available on the TSO website for nominations to elected positions, appointment to committees, grants and awards. Members need to begin early and take time to read an application carefully. All questions should be answered thoroughly and completely, and any required letters of reference should be included. Deadlines are important.

WHAT'S NEW @ TSO HEADQUARTERS?



TSO HQ WANTS TO KNOW . . .

Are chapters using electronic payment systems?

TSO HQ is seeking information from chapters that use electronic payment systems (PayPal, Venmo, Zelle, CashApp, etc).



[Click here](#) — or email Leesa Cole, tsosecretary29@gmail.com — to share information and to be entered into this edition's random drawing or. Double-entries will be made for chapters that send How-To documents. Members must respond by 12/17/2020 to be entered into the drawing.



INQUIRING MINDS WANT TO KNOW . . .

Who won the last random drawing?

Drumroll please . . . Congratulations to Nancy Newton, Patti Belknap, Marylin Nease, Barbara Derrick, Susan Harmon, Denise Harris, Susie Nesmith and Emma Joven. These ladies received a sur-prize from the Fall Edition's random drawing question about HQ Staff.

[Click here to join Community](#)

How do I get timely information from International?

Join a DKG Community on the International website at My DKG. There are a variety of communities for chapter officers, leadership positions and professional/personal growth.

CHAPTER LEADERS WANT TO KNOW ABOUT . . .

MEMBERSHIP

Q: How do new members get a DKG membership card?

A: International is mailing cards to chapter treasurers for distribution to members with join dates from Feb. 1 - Sept. 30, 2020. These mailings will occur monthly as needed. Continuing members sign in to My DKG to print the card. (This info came from the DKG Chapter Treasurer's Community.)

Q: Is there guidance for inducting new members?

A. Induction ceremonies are held at the chapter's discretion. Membership in DKG begins when dues are paid to the chapter. Visit the DKG Texas website [Committees](#) page, then Membership or Ceremonies, or sign in to DKG International website and visit Resources for additional guidance. Chapters are conducting a variety of ceremonies via Zoom because of COVID-19 restrictions.

CHAPTER RECOGNITION

Q. What recognitions are available to chapters?

A. Chapters are recognized annually at TSO convention and in the program for:

- Membership growth or maintenance as listed in the Dues Portal by Feb. 28. The membership snapshot is taken annually on March 1.
- Contributions received by April 1 to TSO Eula Lee Carter Memorial Fund and ASTEF Scholarship, Leadership & Projects funds.
- Spotlight Programs received by April 1 to TSO Program & Projects Chair. Visit the committee page on the DKG Texas website for more information.



EVERYONE NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT . . .

DEADLINES

- Jan. 1: applications for TSO Elected Positions to TSO Nominations Committee Chair
- Feb. 1: applications for TSO Committee Member, Chair or AC to TSO HQ
- March 1: budget adjustment requests to TSO Finance Chair

Deadlines At A Glance

Jan 1	Nominations for 2021-2023 St Elected Positions
3	Int'l Ed Found Project App
15-17	STAR
31	ASTEF Mid-Year Reports
Feb 1	Cornet Application LSN Submissions State Achievement & Golden Rose Nominations Int'l Scholarship Applications App to serve as a committee member, chair or AC
15	CPE Conv Proposals
Mar 1	Membership Snapshot Convention Rpts State Personnel Budget Request to Finance Chair Scholarships and Mini Grant Applications ASTEF Aspiring Educator Bylaws/State Rules Changes/Proposals

Highlights

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Treasurer	3

Committee Meetings

Leadership Seminar (virtual)	Nov 14
Nominations	Jan 23-24
LOSP	Mar 6-7
Achievement Awards	Mar 13
Personnel	Mar 17
Scholarship	Mar 20

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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.

Embassy Suites open for reservations



[Embassy Suites by Hilton Denton Convention Center](#) is accepting reservations for the TSO Convention June 17-19, 2021.

The group code is DKG.

3100 Town Center Trail
Denton, Texas 76201, 844-684-9427

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

When a TSO representative negotiates with a hotel for a convention, she must “guesstimate” the number of attendees based on previous convention registrations and guarantee the number of rooms that will be needed. That number of rooms is the “block.” If all rooms in the block are not occupied by TSO members, the convention and/or TSO must pay for the rooms not used in the block.

For that reason, it is very important that the members making reservations reserve only the number of rooms they need at the time of the reservation; they can always add rooms later if needed. If unneeded rooms are cancelled at the last minute, the block is not filled and an attrition penalty is assessed. Members making reservations at other facilities do not help the convention “meet the block.”

Applications ready for breakout sessions

The Personal and Professional Enrichment (PPE) Committee is encouraging members to share their expertise and areas of interest with other members during the 2021 TSO Convention in Denton. The committee is looking for applications to present a breakout session for CPE Credit, Special Interest, or Society Business. The application can be found on the dkgtexas.org website on the PPE Committee page. Applicants may use the interactive pdf or print the application and mail it in. Applications are due by February 15, 2021.



Last year the committee received over 80 applications to present a PPE breakout session. This year, because time and space will be limited, members need to send in applications as early as possible to share their talents with others during a breakout session.

Music adds enthusiasm and beauty to convention



Everyone is invited to join the TSO chorus for the 2021 TSO Convention and be a part of an energetic and inviting group of ladies. Singing in the chorus is a wonderful opportunity to share the gift of music while making and renewing friendships. Interested members may indicate on the TSO Convention Registration Form their desire to join the chorus, provide preludes and postludes for meetings, and purchase the music. Music will include a range from contemporary to Broadway tunes.

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
Childrens Art Gallery: Visual Arts
10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. Breakout Sessions
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 Session
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. 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. Unifying Project items accepted
8:30 a.m. - 9:30a.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
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 Session
2:30 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Breakout Session
3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. Breakout Session
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



MEMBER FUNDING SOURCES

SCHOLARSHIPS

Who is the DKG Texas State Organization (TSO) key woman educator? She is a woman who is motivated to make a difference and one who chooses to apply to attend a professional conference, university course, or professional workshop to better her skills.

TSO provides funds for undergraduate work, doctoral programs, adult learning and mini grants for special projects.

Money is available; members need to read the guidelines and submit an application online to scholarship@astef.org by March 1, 2021.

Applications are located on the TSO website www.dkgtexas.org by scrolling in the upper left hand corner menu to Scholarship Applications. Members must make sure to carefully follow the guidelines and eligibility criteria. This is key!

EULA LEE CARTER

Earlier in the year, The Eula Lee Carter Memorial Fund Committee selected two Latin American members to receive \$750.00 scholarships. One of the requirements is that all checks sent have to be made in the name of the recipient. In the past, these recipients usually have a family member or a friend in the United States with a bank account where they can go to cash their check. However, due to the coronavirus, this avenue was closed to them. Many do not have bank accounts and other avenues are not safe for sending. One of the recipients, Karen Martinez Lieras, was able to cash her check before the border was closed. The other recipient, Rosa María Bañaga Castro, was not. She tried several ways but finally gave up and decided to forfeit her scholarship. The ELC Committee also tried, but like Rosa María, was unable to deliver. Committee members will be looking forward to accepting applications when this problem is eliminated.

ASTEF

The 2021-2022 Project Stipend Application and Guidelines are available on the ASTEF website, www.astef.org under the tab Forms. Individuals, chapters, coordinating councils or areas are eligible to apply. Please note the application has been redesigned and divided into two categories: NEW and RETURNING applicants. The NEW form is for a chapter that has never received funding. The RETURNING form is for a chapter that previously received funding. All applications are due by April 1, 2021. Questions concerning the application process or funding may be directed to projects@astef.org.

All the projects support the ASTEF mission, which is to provide funding for activities that support professional and personal growth of women educators in Texas and to provide educational excellence for Texas students.



INTERNATIONAL

The DKG Society International offers three funding opportunities through the DKG International Educators Foundation:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| • Cornetet Professional Development | November 1, May 1 |
| • Scholarships for graduate studies | February 1 |
| • Education Project Grants | January 3 |

Applications for communication awards due

Chapters who have members who will be published during the 2020-21 year or have a local newspaper that does an excellent job of covering chapter news or general education news can be nominated for the Member in Print Award or the Media Recognition Award. The Communications & Publicity Committee will recognize recipients of the Member in Print Award and Media Recognition Awards at the TSO Convention in Denton. The deadline to submit nominations for both awards is April 1, 2021. The nomination forms can be found on the Communications & Publicity Committee page on the TSO website.



Programs and Projects Committee call for submissions

This year, the Programs and Service Projects Committee is asking each chapter to share at least one of its programs or service projects with the TSO organization. The chapter may choose to select a program, project or both. Pictures will not be submitted with the write-up. Forms for the 2020-2021 submission will be made available in the near future under the [Deadlines and Forms](#) page on the [TSO website](#). This form will be an interactive document that will be due by April 1, 2021.



The Programs and Service Projects webpage has pictures and descriptions of many of the wonderful programs and service projects completed both this biennium and in past biennia. A document containing ideas for virtual programs and projects is on the [committee webpage](#).

Bylaws and Rules Committee reviews chapter rules

During the last year of this biennium, chapters need to check to see if their chapter rules are up-to-date. Chapter rules must be reviewed by the Bylaws and Rules Committee every two years to make sure they align with the International Constitution and the State Bylaws and Rules. They are also extremely useful to chapter officers and members in determining what to do when questions arise.



Chapters that had their rules certified during the 2017-19 biennium will not have many, if any, changes to make unless they have changed some of their own chapter procedures. Chapters that have not updated their rules since the 2018 DKG International Convention need to incorporate changes made at that time into their chapter rules right away.

Chapters that are unsure of the status of their rules should contact chair Janice Sutton at jsutton1015@embarqmail.com.

Helpful information, including the names of each area representative on the TSO Bylaws and Rules Committee, is available on the TSO website. All the committee members are ready and willing to help.

SPA calling

During the month of January 2021, members of the Strategic Plan of Action Committee will be telephoning specific state officers, chairs and ACs to learn how each has been able to fulfill their specific responsibilities this year. Be prepared, review your responsibilities and look forward to your brief phone interview.



ASTEFL seeking qualified board members



WE WANT YOU!

The ASTEF Board of Directors is made up of members from across Texas. Members serve for a total of six years and are elected at the Annual Meeting of Members held during TSO State Convention. New directors will be elected in June 2021. Members can “pay it forward” by sharing their time and talents with ASTEF. WE WANT YOU!

The Board needs people with a variety of skill-sets. A few are grant writer; grant administrator; non-profit board or school district foundation board member; promoter; advertiser; finance and budget specialist; technology master, fundraiser, people person; hard worker; regular ASTEF donor and contributor; and people willing to give of their time and talents. WE WANT YOU!

The ASTEF Director Application is posted on the [ASTEFL website](#) under Forms. Dr. Barbara Derrick, Nelle Gentry and Janie Wigley are members of the nominations committee and are willing to answer any questions about the position. A Frequently Asked Question (FAQ) document will be added to the website soon. WE WANT YOU!



ASTEFL seeking nominations for 2021 Advocate for Education

The ASTEF Board of Directors is seeking nominations for the next ASTEF Advocate for Education. This prestigious award will be given at the 2021 TSO Convention in Denton.

The ASTEF Advocate for Education Award recognizes a woman in Texas who is an avid supporter of education. This woman has made a significant commitment to education and has positively impacted education at the state, regional or local level through her support of education and through the financial contributions made to the many areas of education. This person is NOT a current educator.



Anyone who has knowledge of a deserving recipient is encouraged to study the nomination guidelines and to complete the nomination form. These documents can be found under the Forms tab on the ASTEF website, www.astef.org. For more information or to submit a completed nomination form, please contact the ASTEF Vice President of Programs at projects@astef.org.



STAR 2021 ready for January 15-17, 2021

Camp Allen has continued to host groups, and STAR leaders will be working with the camp directors to ensure that everyone is collaboratively following the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines. A top priority is the safety of each participant. During that weekend, there is only one other group scheduled to be on the campus. That group is much smaller than the TSO group. Food Service has been changed to keep campers safe, and tables in the dining hall are spread out and will seat only four to each table. Following the CDC guidelines, STAR leaders are working to ensure that masks are worn, hand sanitizer used, temperatures are checked, social distancing is maintained, and regular sanitation of crafting tools, restrooms, classrooms, guest rooms and common areas is followed. Organizers are reevaluating the schedule to reduce class sizes for social distancing and still accommodate the same number of participants. (Possibly repeating classes.)

Members interested in coming to STAR may check the TSO website for a registration form and updated information.

Members support ASTEF in 2019-2020

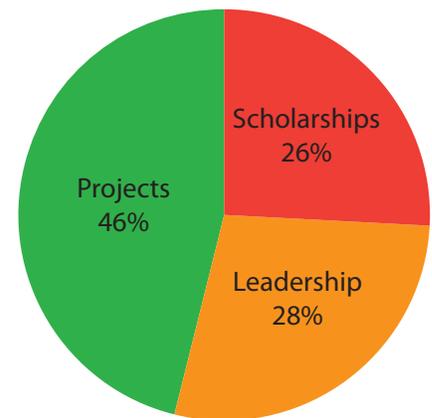
The ASTEF Board of Directors thanks members for their continued contributions that help make dreams come true.

The TSO Scholarship Committee met in March 2019 and the following scholarships were awarded: three doctoral scholarships, four \$2000 scholarships, three \$1500 scholarships, one \$1000 scholarship, seven Life-Long Learner and four Mini-Grants. Funds were distributed to the recipients from July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020. The final amount awarded from the Scholarship Fund was \$45,261.16.

ASTEF awarded Project Stipends to TSO chapters and individuals at the 2019 Arlington Convention. There were 30 awards for chapters, and the actual amount expended was \$30,867.08.

The Leadership Seminar Committee met in November 2019 to begin preparation for the 30 fortunate TSO members to be chosen for the 2021 Leadership class.

Contributions to ASTEF
2019-2020



These awards were possible because of members' charitable donations to these funds. The following monies were received to each fund: Scholarship — \$13,834.69, Leadership — \$14,750.13, and Projects — \$24,169.00.

Dreams continue through giving opportunities

1 ASTEF ONLINE AUCTION

ASTEF will start 2021 with an On-line Auction in February. Over a 10-day period, members will have the opportunity to place online bids on popular items such as fabulous jewelry, beautiful clothing and designer handbags. Something new this year is a Golden Ticket. A limited number of Golden Tickets will be sold. These tickets will give the holder a chance to win a significant prize.

As always, ASTEF is accepting donations for this very important auction. Members who have something they wish to add to the auction may contact the Vice-President of Advancement at advancement@astef.org. The more items ASTEF offers, the more money will be raised to support the ASTEF mission of providing funding for activities that support professional and personal growth of women educators in Texas promoting educational excellence for Texas students.



This auction will be open not only to TSO/ASTEF members, but to nonmembers as well. Additional details will be posted on the ASTEF website at www.astef.org and through ASTEF Constant Contacts beginning in January.

ASTEFL Giving from p 10

2 END-OF-YEAR DONATIONS

As the new year approaches, many members begin to think about their annual income tax returns. “Will I owe Uncle Sam and how much will he take?” One way to help a tax return is through charitable donations to non-profit organizations.

ASTEFL is the charitable arm of TSO and donations are tax deductible. Members may make either a tax deductible donation to the Project Fund through PayPal by using the Donate Now button located on the ASTEF website, www.astef.org, or mail a contribution into headquarters by using the contribution form located on the ASTEF website. Contributions may be designated for scholarships, leadership, or projects by checking one of these boxes on the form.



Members can also choose to honor someone or give in memory of someone by completing that section of the contribution form. Because the person or family will receive an acknowledgment, be sure to include their address when completing the form. PayPal currently cannot be used for memorials or honorariums. Any contribution of \$25 or more will be recognized in this summer’s convention program.



3 MONTHLY RECURRING GIVING

ASTEFL has a new option for giving. Members can now set up a recurring monthly donation to ASTEF through the [ASTEFL website](http://www.astef.org). There are significant benefits to the donor, and it is an option for all members.

Why would using this method be beneficial? It is convenient. It is easy and will take only a few minutes. The yellow “Donate” button on the [Donate Now](http://www.astef.org) webpage of www.astef.org will allow members to set up a monthly giving option through PayPal or a credit card.

By setting up monthly recurring giving, ASTEF members can feel good about supporting ASTEF year-round without the hassle of continuously visiting the website or physically writing a check and completing a form in order to donate. There are no checks to mail. The hassle is eliminated, and the distribution of payments across the year makes the commitment more manageable. Just think...\$5 a month = \$60 a year, \$10 a month = \$120 a year, \$20 a month = \$240 a year, \$25 a month = \$300 a year. A little at a time really adds up.



At this time, all recurring monthly donations will go to the ASTEF Project Fund. Donations to Scholarship and Leadership Funds must be made through contribution forms with the name of the fund designated.



Because of the pandemic, an extended time frame for individuals and chapters has been given to Project Stipend recipients for 2019-2020 to complete their projects. End of Year Reports for 2019-2020 are due by June 1, 2021. Send completed report to projects@astef.org.

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 August 15, 2020 and November 1, 2020. 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.dkgtexas.org under Committees - Necrology.
 CH = Chapter Honorary

Joyce Van Houten, Beta Omicron- 3, Houston
 Alma Zamora, Epsilon Upsilon- 5, McAllen
 Wilma Fischer, Beta- 6, Canon City
 Barbara Israel, Iota Beta- 6, San Antonio
 Dolores Ortiz, Theta Beta- 6, San Antonio
 Barbara Helen Braden, Epsilon Kappa- 7, Austin (CH)
 Mary Jordan, Zeta- 8, Waco
 Dr. Laura Muckelroy, Delta Pi- 9, Dallas
 Fredona Baker, Epsilon Nu- 10, Arlington
 Annie Sue Inmon, Delta Xi- 11, Pilot Point
 Cheryl Ann Edgington, Alpha Beta- 13, San Angelo
 Lisa Galvan-Franco, Theta Mu- 14, Odessa
 Molly Hull, Iota- 16, Denton
 Patricia Peacock, Iota- 16, Denton
 Grace Grady, Zeta Sigma- 16, Paris
 Jocelyn Jones, Beta Psi- 17, Bonham



Billie Ebersole, Theta Chi (Grapevine-10), was inducted into the Grapevine-Colleyville KSD Walk of Honor.

Included in the 2020, Volume 86-4 issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin* (Collegial Exchange):

- **Tia Agan**, Alpha Beta (San Angelo-13), and **Tami Knight**, Alpha Beta (San Angelo-13), article “The Impact of Educators.”
- **Priscilla Humay**, Nu Alpha (Liberty Hill-5), colored pencil drawing “Matanzas Sky No.5.”

Susan Stackfleth, Theta Chi (Bedford-10), received a PTA Capital Improvement Grant to purchase materials to increase comprehension and critical thinking skills in reading through the use of depth and complexity, and a SAGE GT Educator Grant Award to attend the J Taylor Depth and Complexity Conference to learn to use the materials.

Susan Nye, Alpha Chi (Kingsland-7), received the Excellence in Education Award from the Marble Falls Education Foundation.

Tonda Frady, Nu (Wimberly-7), was honored by Wimberley Valley Radio and State Farm Insurance for her outstanding community contributions through volunteering.

Elizabeth Brown, Theta Beta (San Antonio-6), received the Cornet Award to attend the Council for Exceptional Children Conference 2020.

Liz Gill, Kappa Chi (Baytown-2), and her husband had a street named after them in Mont Belvieu, Texas.

Debbie Ball, Gamma Eta (Spur-12), is the new TSO Webmaster.

Included in the 2020, Volume 86-5 issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin* (Journal.)

- **Fran Mahaffey**, Delta Pi (Plano-9), has an article “Google Docs in Elementary Gifted Education.”

Included in the 2020, Volume 87-1 issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin* (Journal.)

- **Robin Lock**, Kappa Iota (Lubbock-12), article “Providing Behavior Analytic Supports and Services: A Unique Approach to Rural Service Delivery.”
- **Gencie Houy**, Alpha Sigma (Lubbock-12), article “Adulting 101: Real Skills for Real Life—A Critical Science-Based Course in the Texas Tech University Family and Consumer Sciences Education Program.”



arts & humanities

Eight Texas members will have works displayed in the DKG Fine Arts Gallery.

- **Genia Klein**, Xi (Pflugerville-7), crocheted blanket, “Gypsy Wheel”
- **Jeanette Rhyan**, Theta Chi (Ft. Worth-10), writing, “The Hired Hand” and photograph, “After the Rain”
- **Janet Tyner**, Zeta Gamma (Tyler-1), photographs, “Sun Kissed” and “Nature Bedazzled”
- **Janie Wigley**, Gamma Eta (Crosbyton-12), photographs, “I Spy With My Little Eye” and “Bluebonnets”
- **Marilyn Gregory**, Epsilon Kappa (Austin-7), photograph, “Buttermilk Falls”
- **Marylin Nease**, Delta Omicron (Dallas-9), writing, “Always an Adventure” and “Roadkill and Lifesavers”
- **Patricia Woodley**, Xi (Bastrop-7), photograph, “Pollination in Isolation”
- **Ulana Ratley**, Kappa Delta (Bedford-10), watercolor art, “Pear Trio” and “Iceland Poppies”



Arts-related programs are a fun way to involve everyone during a

Zoom call. By providing a supply list or script ahead of time, all members can participate from home. They can join in a choral reading, a craft project, or learn napkin-folding and hula. Pinterest or Google have easy activities with readily available supplies. Involving all members is key to a successful virtual meeting.

Diane Moose retires as webmaster



Diane Moose

Diane Moose is retiring as DKG Texas Webmaster. When she began her journey, Texas had little more than a presence on the internet. She slowly began to experiment and add information that members wanted and needed. As she evolved in her skills, she created a very usable interface that members find easy to navigate. She is often a speaker and panelist at international conventions and conferences on how to help members in the Society create a professional and user-friendly website. As DKG International Communications Committee Chair, she helped to create guidelines for state websites. Many members throughout Texas and the Society have attended one of her Weebly workshops. Her influence will be felt in DKG even in her retirement.

Women in Arts

Jenny Harrison, Iota Upsilon

Camera leads to relaxation and success

I suppose photography was in the cards. I remember begging my mom to buy me a camera in kindergarten. When she did, I could hardly put it down. My sisters affectionately nicknamed me Kodak Karla.

The years passed and somewhere down the line my childhood hobby fell by the wayside.

When I was in my late 50’s, my husband noticed how much I loved viewing and photographing the amazing sunsets on a hill from my front porch. With long hours involved in my line of work, he lovingly suggested a hobby. When I mentioned photography, he was more than willing to buy a quality camera to support some well-deserved relaxation.



To my surprise and delight, after a year of photographing



nature, I started to receive multiple photo orders. When I formally established a business, the name Front Porch Photography by Jenny seemed to be the perfect choice.

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Unplug, de-stress and survive the school year!

Amanda Daniels, Nu Delta

During this unknown time in the pandemic and seeing day in and day out the ever changing news on Covid, I, like most, sought solace in Netflix, social media, online shopping and then the constant battle of gauging the healthy versus unhealthy food and lifestyle choices. I was checked out, burnt out and felt stuck. Was I really fueling my brain and body with what it needed, or was I just trying to become numb to what's going on around me?

In today's world, we as teachers are under more pressure than we have ever been before. We are making history in this very moment in education. The superhero strength we use to help build this new structure for how education will be viewed for the rest of our lives and future students is mind blowing. Your nerves are probably like mine, off the charts with the never ending to do list. School districts and state agencies are putting pressure on us to be an in person teacher as well as virtual educator. The endless Google Meetings, Zoom calls, emails, new platforms and virtual professional developments can all be a bit overwhelming. My phone and computer are now my new accessories. There is non-stop information overload. The boundaries of work/life balance are so blurred they've become nonexistent. The self doubt that can come with being a teacher is at an all time high. The hows, whys, and can I really make this work are firing off from all directions.

My epiphany came during a self-reflecting moment of trying to plan for virtual and in person instruction. I felt as if I was losing what my purpose was and what brought me joy. I was breaking down just like my two year old daughter does when she is frustrated — all because I could not see if anything was making a difference. Then I had to do a gut check and reflect on what means the most to me. If you are like me and need structure in an unstructured time, here are the steps I took to unplug and start being more present for myself.

- Using an app timer to see when and what is consuming your time. I started placing timers on my social media apps to limit my screen consumption. I am still working on this!
- Setting one very simple goal I wanted to accomplish for that day such as putting away one load of laundry. Small celebrations bring me happiness in my day.
- Journaling three things that bring me joy every morning allows me to start my day on a positive thought. This definitely has helped me realize that I am not like anyone else and my classroom or teaching is going to be the best for me.
- Moving my body 30 minutes a day is important. Many of the self-help gurus have said moving your body changes your mindset. I started taking that to heart every morning when I am working out. Every moment helps me release the stress I have built up. Every movement restores my patience and clears my head.

Taking these steps to unplug and find my happiness has helped me realize that I can have my own form of structure in an unstructured time. Unplugging will help your mindset and you will feel more productive in your day. Take time to try these few steps to help you when you're starting to feel overwhelmed and everything is spinning out of control. It's the simple things that will help keep you sane during the school year.

More of Amanda Daniels' tips on teaching and surviving can be found in her virtual presentation for the DKG Philadelphia Convention called "Survival Kit To Teaching, In Person & Virtually."

The YouTube link is:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xqq7RkIh60xQez85vddb3Q-TallztS7q/view>

TSO Nominations Committee accepting applications

The Nominations Committee meets in January to select a slate of Texas State Officers and members of the Finance Committee and Nominations Committee.



Innovative, enthusiastic women are needed for elected officers to serve TSO during 2021-2023. These include president, first vice president, second vice president, recording secretary and corresponding secretary. Applications and information for applicants are located on the TSO Nomination Committee webpage of www.dkgtexas.org. More information about duties may be found in the *Guidelines for State Personnel* under Resources on the website.

In addition, two committees are elected. Six new members are sought for the Finance Committee and seven new members for the Nominations Committee.

All applications to elected positions and questions are sent to Carolyn Mashburn, TSO Nominations Chair: carolynmashburn44@gmail.com.

Applications online for state committees and area coordinators

The new TSO President will select members to be area coordinators, state committee members and committee chairs. Any member interested in becoming more involved in TSO and working on the state level may apply for a position. The TSO State Personnel Application is located on www.dkgtexas.org under Deadlines/Forms. This application must be completed and sent to TSO Headquarters by February 1, 2021.



Achievement Awards honor members for service

The Achievement Award Committee is accepting nominations of eligible members for either the Golden Rose Award or the Texas State Organization Achievement Award. The Achievement Award is for those who have been a chapter president and completed two or more leadership roles at the state level, a workshop leader and have good attendance at area, state, regional and international meetings. The Golden Rose Award is designated for those members who are not eligible for the TSO Achievement Award, but they have given years of service at the chapter, area and state level through workshop participation, committee work and attendance at Texas State Organization conventions.



Applications for the awards are available on both the [Deadlines and Forms](#) page of the TSO website and the [Achievement Award Committee](#) page. The deadline is February 1, 2021, but the committee encourages chapters to begin completing a nomination outline early as only complete and thorough nominations are considered. The applications are sent to Diane Moose, Achievement Awards Chair: dianemoose@yahoo.com.

Chapters may also recognize outstanding members within the chapter with a chapter achievement award. For full Achievement Award Committee information, please view the committee's [slide show](#).

INTERNATIONAL



Becky Sadowski
DKG International
President 2020-2022

Involvement an opportunity for positive contribution

Becky Sadowski, Tennessee, is the 2020-2022 DKG International President. In her acceptance speech, Sadowski said that she would be focusing on members because the strength of DKG lies within each member.

She noted all women bring different gifts and talents when they become members of DKG. That diversity is part of the strength of DKG. There are many benefits for members, but there are responsibilities as well. One of these is helping other members identify their unique passion in DKG, their schools and their communities, and then offering them encouragement and support. Most individuals would probably agree that when they are pursuing a passion, they find themselves more engaged and focused on making a difference. Members view their involvement less as a task and more as an opportunity to make a contribution that will have a positive impact.



DKG Emergency Fund provides needed assistance

The International Emergency Fund provides monetary assistance to members who sustain major losses due to natural disasters. Each member receives a \$500.00 check from DKG International. From July 1, 2020, to October 19, 2020, assistance to members — many of whom are Texas residents — totaled \$26,000. Recipients have shared that this assistance not only provided basic needs such as food and shelter for their families until other means became available, but also helped rebuild their homes. Contributions from members at state and international conventions help replenish the funds distributed, but because of convention cancellations this much needed resource was not available. As natural disasters continue to plague the country many more DKG members will need the support that this fund provides.

Donations made to the Emergency Fund will guarantee that money will be available when needed. To donate online to the Emergency Fund, members must sign in to dkg.org and click Donate Now on the home page. To donate by mail, members must download and complete Form 43.



San Antonio site of 2021 DKG International Conference

Many exciting activities await Society members as they walk along the Riverwalk and attend



Riverwalk: San Antonio, Texas

the International Conference of Delta Kappa Gamma on July 21-25, 2021, at the San Antonio Marriott River Center. DKG Regional Directors Candace Martin and Debbie LeBlanc are co-chairs, and they have many educational and fun activities planned for members to celebrate the theme: DKG: Opportunities, Contributions, Impact.

A preconference event is being planned for Wednesday, July 21. On July 22, there will be an evening happy hour and social as a great way for all members to get reacquainted after the pandemic. On July 23, there will be a general session, breakout sessions, an impact luncheon and the popular marketplace. That evening everyone will have time to celebrate a night with friends in San Antonio.

Saturday will find attendees enjoying a general session, breakout sessions, a US Forum session, and an evening dinner.

Dr. Jo Murphy and Joan Hester are co-chairs for the host state of Texas. They will be reaching out to Texas members to help welcome DKG women to San Antonio in 2021.