



Theta Alpha Chatter

The Heart of the Society is its Members

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

The Delta Kappa
Gamma
Society International

Texas State Organization

Theta Alpha Chapter
Chapter 193
Area 9
Dallas County

The Delta Kappa Gamma
Society International
promotes professional and
personal growth of women
educators and excellence in
education.

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Theta Alpha Chapter
Meeting Dates
2016 - 2017

August 20, 2016
September 17, 2016
October 15, 2016
November 19, 2016
December 10, 2016
January 21, 2017
February 18, 2017
March 18, 2017
April 22, 2017
May 20, 2017

Message from the President

April is full of DKG activities. We had 12 members attend the CCDC luncheon at Lakewood Country Club. Kendall was given the Cora McFarland Scholarship and Michelle received her 25 year membership certificate. Congratulations to both of you! We watched proudly as Patti presented Michelle Goldstack the Friend of Education award. She was nominated by the Chapter and was most deserving of this honor.

Sunday, April 9th, we held initiation for four new members. These ladies are exceptional teachers in their respective fields. They are all very talented and a wonderful addition to our chapter.

On April 22nd, our regular monthly meeting will be held at Spring Creek BBQ in Desoto (Duncanville). The meeting won't begin until 11 a.m. and we will not have breakfast goodies as we will be having lunch. Janette Rhyan is our guest speaker and I know we are in for a treat. We will celebrate our 51st birthday and have nominations for the Achievement Award.

June is just around the corner and this means the convention is fast approaching. I'm sure if you're planning to attend that you've made reservations and completed the registration. If not, May 16th is the postmark date with May 17th as late registration. There is a luxury bus available that travels from Dallas to Houston. If you're interested I have the information from Pam Ponnors or you can contact her at ixdeltapi@gmail.com.

I hope everyone had a beautiful Easter/Passover with friends and family. I'll see you Saturday at 11 a.m..

Mary Myers,
President

An Honorary Professional Society
of Key Women Educators

April Meeting Details

Do we have an exciting meeting for you in April! Jeanette Rhyan, from Theta Chi in Area 10, will help us celebrate Theta Alpha's 51st birthday with her famous "Baking a DKG Birthday Cake" program. Kristi will lead us in an inspiration, and we will honor our birthday by donating birthday boxes to Hope Supply Co, formerly known as Captain Hope's Kids. Michelle sent out a previous newsbuds email with a flyer to help you when choosing items for your box. Also, if you haven't already filled out the program survey and social events survey, please do so. It helps Catie and I plan for the following year!

I hope to see you there!

Leslie Valentincic
Co-First Vice President

Meeting Date: April 22, 2017

Meeting Location: Spring Creek BBQ
2827 Wheatland Rd.
Dallas, TX 75237

Meeting Time: 11:00 AM

What to Bring: Birthday Boxes and most importantly, yourself! (See page 5-6 for suggestions and information about the birthday boxes.)

Legislative Update

Please keep contacting your representatives about your concerns for funding for TRS-Care. We also need to be sure that they know we want to keep our current defined benefits pension fund.

Be sure to read carefully Tim Lee's recent update on TRS-Care.

State legislature closes the end of May,

There is also need to keep up with what is happening in Washington.

We need to be heard -- and we need to have all educators voice their opinions.

Please read *INSIDE LINE* from Tim Lee about Senate Bill 788 about changes to TRS-CARE and write you senator about your opinion. Don't get *INSIDE LINE* – go to TRTA website or Google Senate Bill 788.

Hattie M. Hammer,
Legislative Representative

Resistbot

On your cell phone text "Resist" to 50409 or go to resistbot.io on your computer.

How does it work?

Resistbot turns your text messages into daily letters to Congress — in the simplest and easiest way possible. Our research shows that form letters are totally ignored by Congress. Only original, unique messages count. But they don't have to be complicated or fancy. Just a few sentences from a real-life voter gets their attention. Don't worry about typos or mistakes, that just further shows you're a real person. Check it out!



**Delta Kappa Gamma
Theta Alpha Chapter Minutes
March 18, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Theta Alpha Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International was called to order at 10:15am. Sarah McMurrugh gave the inspiration and shared information about Miah Angelou and a poem called "Continue." Catie King asked everyone to complete the survey that was emailed to everyone. There were two surveys that members needed to complete. Mary Myers, President, gave a member update. The February minutes were accepted as written and will be filed. Baudelia Luna, Co-Treasurer, gave an update on the CCDC Spring Luncheon. She stated that 13 members paid to go. Susie Branch thanked everyone for the "Get Well" wishes sent to her after her surgery.

Hattie Hammer gave a Legislation update. She shared a letter outline that members could sign to send to the state representative to support teachers. Patti Belknap, TSO First Vice President, encouraged all teachers still teaching to consider retirement benefits and to speak up about keeping those benefits. Baudelia Luna said there will be a TRTA Rally on March 29th, 2017. Melissa Hamilton, shared information about "Resist Bot" to reach out to your state representative. Members text 50409 and in the message you type "Resist" and the system will give you directions.

Mary shared that the Spring Luncheon is on April 1st. Our chapter offered to bring something for the silent auction. The money will go directly to the Cora McFarland Scholarship Fund. Melissa Hamilton offered to shop for the item and bring it to someone attending the luncheon. Patti Belknap made a motion to take \$30 from the budget to spend on the item for the luncheon. Joan Huntley seconded the motion. The members voted and agreed to the \$30 budget for the silent auction item.

Leslie Valentincic, Co-First Vice President, talked about the "Friends of Education" nominee Michelle Goldsak. She told members how much Michelle supports the students, parents, and faculty. Mary asked for volunteers to help check in at the luncheon. Mary also asked for volunteers to make some finger foods for the initiation on April 9th at Marilyn Bishop's home.

Leslie Valentincic introduced our guest speaker, Connie Resnick, TSO Global Awareness Chairman and International Membership Chairman. She spoke with us about CTAUN (Committee on Teaching about the United Nations). She spoke about why she enjoyed teaching and how CTAUN and teaching work for the same purpose. To

read about what they do at the UN, the consultants write newsletters to inform people about how they can help and get involved (www.ctaun.org). The next CTAUN conference is on April 8th in Edmond, OK. There is no registration fee. Members that attend will learn about CTAUN and the issues they work to support. She shared stories about people she has met working with CTAUN. Connie also shared that refugees go through a very long process to become citizens. It currently takes 3-4 years. She gave several ideas to help refugees in our area. She mentioned www.dallas-una.org/committee-on-refugees to find places to volunteer to help refugees. She also talked about www.schoolsforafrica.org to hear stories about students that have been helped by this organization. The Keynote speaker during the Global Awareness Symposium at the TSO Convention will be a guest from Germany. This will be on Thursday, June 22nd, 2017 from 2-5pm. Connie also shared that there will be an on-site project during convention. "Global Awareness doesn't always mean International," Connie said. We can all do our part to help this cause here, at home.

Baudelia Luna shared an envelope for donations toward Schools for Africa. Patti Belknap also mentioned that Song Book six is no longer to be used. There are only a few songs that members are allowed to sing. Members wanting a song book are asked to make a donation to the chapter for a book. Linda Robards announced the winners for the member questionnaire. Mary Myers thanked the hostess committee.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45am by singing the DKG song.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristi John, Recording Secretary

Birthdays

April

- 15 - Kristi John
- 16 - Jan Gentry
- 17 - Dianna Stouffer

May

- 2 - Mary Myers
- 7 - Michelle Goltzman
- 13 - Beverly Hagood
- 19 - Mary Wright
- 24 - Baudelia Luna



(clipart from Corel Draw x3)

From Your A.C.

Spring has sprung!

Have you traveled up and down I-45 or I-35 lately? The bluebonnets are out! Of course in Ennis, we have a great celebration for the bluebonnet season. Come on down to Ennis on April 7-9 and enjoy the festivities that Ennis offers during the Bluebonnet Festival. You are welcome anytime to drive down and go out to see all the bluebonnets. We have had a mild winter, so we are not sure if the flowers will be as lush as they were last year! Come on down anyway and stop in to say "Hi"!

Registration is up on the website, so get ready to fill out your form and join us in Houston for a fun time as we fellowship, as we network and as we attend great breakout sessions! I always love to learn something new at the breakout sessions! I am looking forward to seeing you in Houston!

Then there is the trip to Hawaii, as our sisters there get ready for us to come. It should be a great time of seeing sights we have not seen before, taking in the hospitality of our sisters from Hawaii and attending sessions at Southwest Regional.

Saturday, April 1st is the CCDC luncheon at Lakewood Country Club. The luncheon is always a great way to catch up and fellowship with our sisters in the Dallas Area. Hope to see you there!

It is hard to believe that my tenure as Area 9 Coordinator is almost over. I have enjoyed every minute of being there for you if you have had a question or if a need arose. I have enjoyed visiting every chapter and getting to meet the heart of the society. I hope that you will continue to send me your very informative newsletters as it has been a delight to read them.

Next month I will share who the next coordinator will be and trust me you will love her! We have such wonderful women in Area 9! What an exciting group of members we have to continue to lead us on, forward and upward!

Until next time,
Cathy



Left: Marilyn Bishop and her sister at initiation April 9th, 2017.

Below: Theta Alpha's new initiates: VaLois Hounsel, Trisha Loftin, Mia Luna, and Patricia Baker.



Left: Mary Myers, President, presenting Kendall Hasse with the Cora McFarland Scholarship.

Below: Patti Belknap and the Friend of Education Awardee, Michelle Goldsak.



Below: Theta Alpha sisters enjoying the CCDC Luncheon on April 1st, 2017.





Hope-in-a-Box Hygiene Box

Hope Supply Co. serves the critical needs of homeless children living in shelters in North Texas. The Hope-in-a-Box program is a great opportunity for you to make a difference in the lives of these children by providing hygiene items in personal boxes of hope.

General Guidelines

1. Place items in a shoebox, plastic container or Ziploc or other bag.
2. Each box should be gender and age appropriate for the recipient.
Example: Boy or Girl 4-6 yr, 7-10 yr, 11-12 yr, teens

Hygiene Box for Girls

A box containing age-appropriate toiletries

Toothbrush/Toothpaste/Mouthwash	Feminine hygiene products
Deodorant/Soap/Lotion	African American hair products
Shampoo/Conditioner	Combs/Brushes
Makeup/Lip Balm	Hair accessories

Hygiene Box for Boys

A box containing age-appropriate toiletries

Toothbrush/Toothpaste/Mouthwash	African American hair products
Deodorant/Soap	Combs/Brushes/Hair gel
Shampoo/Conditioner	Lip balm
Body spray	Lotion



Hope Supply Co. serves the critical needs of homeless children in North Texas by providing them with life’s essentials. Hope in a Box is a great opportunity for you to make a difference and give a gift of hope to a homeless child. Your Birthday Boxes will bring joy to many local children.

General Guidelines:

1. All items must either be placed in a shoebox or plastic container
2. Each box must be decorated/wrapped in a way that allows the box to be opened while wrapped
3. Boxes should be geared to a gender and age range for the recipient
 - For example: (2-4 yr, 4-6 yr, 6-10 yr, 10-15 yr, teens)
4. Items for the box should total at least \$15
5. Please indicate clearly on the outside whether box is appropriate for a girl or boy, and the age range*



Birthday Box Ideas

A gift-wrapped shoebox filled with small gifts, and special surprises for a child who is celebrating their birthday:

Deck of Cards, Jump Rope, Art Supplies, Small Book	Fun Kids Soaps, bubble bath
Barbie Dolls, Hot Wheel Cars	Hair Accessories (ribbons, scrunchies, etc)
Play Dough, Bouncy Balls, Bubbles	Handmade Card/Picture

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