



Theta Alpha Chatter

An Honorary Professional Society of Key Women Educators

Expand the Vision: Educate, Inspire, Encourage

Message from the President

The Delta Kappa
Gamma
Society International

Texas State
Organization

Theta Alpha Chapter
Chapter 193
Area IX
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
2013 - 2014

August 17, 2013
September 21, 2013
October 19, 2013
November 16, 2013
December 21, 2013
January 18, 2014
February 15, 2014
March 15, 2014
April 26, 2014
May 17, 2014

"There is no friend who has shared our morning days, no greeting like his welcome, no homage like his praise." (Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr.) Translate this quotation to embody our DKG sisters, and you have the core of our Theta Alpha Chapter. Our Theta Alpha friendships are truly endearing to all of us. WELCOME to all of you as we gather with smiles once again for the second year in the biennium, "Expanding the Vision by Educating, Inspiring, and Encouraging!"

Jan Gentry, Achievement Award Chairman, has graciously extended a warm WELCOME to our chapter by providing the venue for our August 17, 2013 meeting which will be at the Cedar Hill Church of Christ. Refreshments will be served at 9:50 a.m. and the meeting will begin promptly at 10:15 a.m.

Following Sandra King's inspirational, we will enjoy a "pictorial collage" of the 84th TSO Convention prepared by Catie King, Second Vice President. Marilyn Bishop and Mary Myers, co-Treasurers, will present the proposed budget for the ensuing year. First Vice President Dianne McCorcle then will enlighten the members about the proposed programs and projects for the year. Yes, the Board has been deep in thought concerning ideas about how we can continue to make Theta Alpha an outstanding chapter. Now all we need is the astute input from all of our aspiring members.

After your restful, relaxing, rejuvenating (although sweltering!) summer, I know that each of you will be eager to offer beneficial suggestions to the Board's proposals. The combined efforts of the Board and the members will enable Theta Alpha to reach out to the community and the world to help empower children, women, and families so that they can live fruitful, fulfilling lives. Therefore, come one and all!! Theta Alpha needs ALL of its fantastic members to be present August 17 for the final vote on the year's agenda. Let your voice be heard!

Theta Alpha is very proud of Catie King, Second Vice President, and Leslie

Valentincic, Corresponding Secretary, who represented Theta Alpha at Southwest Regional by presenting an outstanding workshop on how to recruit and retain early career teachers in DKG chapters. Unfortunately, I wasn't present to attend their quality workshop, but from what I've been told, many accolades were bestowed upon their efforts! Congratulations, Catie and Leslie!! Way to go, Girls!!

Our 2012-2014 International President, Dr. Beverly Helms, in the March/April DKG News challenged DKG chapters to seek creative and innovative solutions to the continued loss in membership. Even though Theta Alpha remains strong and committed, our chapter would like to be able to increase our membership for the sake of exposing young and seasoned women educators to the outstanding principles for which DKG stands. We want women educators to be a part of DKG so that they can educate, inspire and encourage along with the present membership.

Theta Alpha will be initiating a new member in October. If you know of an aspiring woman educator who can strengthen the Society, why not talk with her (use your "elevator speech") about joining our chapter so that she can become part of the "community of women educators who are making a difference impacting education worldwide?" Leslie Valentincic, Membership Chairman, can give you the applications forms for prospective members. Let's put on our thinking caps and see how Theta Alpha can attract new members: We have some wonderful meetings approaching—invite some interested teachers to see what a great Society DKG really is!

In closing, I would like to remind each of us to look on each new day as a special gift from our Creator. "Today will never happen again. Don't waste it with a false start or no start at all. (We) were not born to fail." (Og Mandino) Let's be "self-starters" for Delta Kappa Gamma! See ALL of you August 17!

Peace and blessings,
Bev Hagood, Theta Alpha Chapter President

Directions to August Meeting

From North Dallas: Take I-35E south to US-67 South. Take exit for Belt Line Road, then turn left. Turn right on to South Clark Road, then the Cedar Hill Church of Christ will be on the right hand side of the road.

From East Dallas: Take I-20 West toward Fort Worth. Take Exit 46B toward US-67 South, Cleburne. Take exit for Belt Line Road, then turn left. Turn right on to South Clark Road, then the Cedar Hill Church of Christ will be on the right hand side of the road.

From Arlington: Take I-20 East toward Duncanville. Take exit for US-67 South toward Cleburne. Take exit for Belt Line Road, then turn left. Turn right on to South Clark Road, then the Cedar Hill Church of Christ will be on the right hand side of the road.

Family Update



Marilyn Bishop—Gamma Family (September 21, 2013) Susie Branch, Carolyn Johnson, Virginia Long, Claudia McBride, Mary Ann Shupe.

Dianna McCorcle—Epsilon (October 19, 2013) Jan Gentry, Sandra King, Erica Campos, Michelle Fernandez, Aurora Torres.

Mary Myers—Delta Family (November 16, 2013) Joan Huntley, Donna Lucas, Debra Rangel, Anita Rangel, Marsha Pool.

Leslie Valentincic—Theta Family (January 18, 2014) Patti Belknap, Michelle Grandinetti, Ruth Kaun, Betty Morgan.

Catie King—Alpha Family (March 15, 2014) Janet Roark, Ann Wyatt, Cathen Jones, Minthia Nelson, Babs Arnswald.

Beverly Hagood—Beta Family (April 26, 2014) Hattie Hammer, Barbara McIntosh, Kathy Nichols, Baudelia Luna, Dianna Stouffer.

Kristi John-Eta Family (May 17, 2014) Becky Folmar, Linda Robards, Cecilia Gomez-Horridge, Barbara McIntosh.

Our Year Ahead

It is that time of the year for us to gather once again as a chapter and begin our new year. Our first meeting for the 2013-2014 year will be held at the Cedar Hill Church of Christ at 535 South Clark Road, Cedar Hill, Texas on Saturday, August 17, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

Please look over the list of this year's meetings included in this newsletter, and I urge all members to attend the meeting so you can give your input and suggestions for what is planned for this year. At this meeting you will have the opportunity to sign up for the monthly inspirations. Please be on the look out for candidates for the THAT grant-in-aids for new teachers. Included in this newsletter is the application for this grant.

Theta Alpha will continue to use the Greek format for the refreshment committees. The Greek Families list is also included. Theta Alpha's Executive Board will be the hostesses and will provide the refreshments for the August meeting. Sandra King will give us the inspiration. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone once again.

Dianne McCorcle,
Program of Work

Congratulations to Theta Alpha

Our chapter won the following awards at the State Convention:

- Pace Award (President's Award for Chapter Excellence)
 - Annie Award for outstanding program
 - Recognition: Eula Lee Carter Memorial Fund contributing chapter
 - Recognition: Certified Chapter Website
 - Communication Award: Five Star Newsletter
 - Recognition: Exemplary Yearbook and Early Bird Award
- Membership Award- Tudor Rose Award (increased membership 2012-2013)
 - Chapter donations to scholarships: Scholarship
- Double Honors and Honors for more than ten years
 - Chapter donations to Leadership: Leadership
 - Trailblazer (chapter donations to leadership)
- Chapter donations to Projects: Project Builders (chapter donations to projects)

Finally, our very own, Patti Belknap, received the State Achievement Award!





**Delta Kappa Gamma
Theta Alpha Chapter Minutes
May 18, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Theta Alpha chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International was called to order at 10:20am by Beverly Hagood, President. The recording secretary, Kristi John, was present and recorded the minutes. Inspiration was given by Donna Lucas read from a book "What the Door Mouse Said" by Amy Gash.

Beverly Hagood welcomed 20 members and one guest. Members reported on others who were unable to attend. The April minutes were approved as corrected and will be filed. Buddy of the month was announced by Dianna Stouffer as Sandra King.

Leslie Valentincic, Corresponding Secretary, reported on membership for the month and congratulated 17 members for their perfect attendance during the year. Jan Gentry then continued by announcing the Theta Alpha Achievement Award given to Leslie Valentincic, Theta Alpha Crystal Apple Award given to Diana Stouffer, Special Award and recognition (Golden Apple Award) given to Carolyn Johnson, and the Professional Recognition given to Leslie Valentincic. Kathy Nichols was also recognized for her upcoming retirement.

Announcements were made about the approaching June TSO Convention in Austin and in July the Southwest Regional Conference in Branson, Missouri. Members were then encouraged to complete the meeting survey to help in planning meetings for the following year.

The chapter's program for May then began and was called "The Miracle of Flowers," presented by the ceremonies committee; Catie King, Baudelia Luna and Beverly Hagood. The chapter celebrated and honored the Founders of the chapter. Music was provided by Mary Ann Shupe.

Leslie Valentincic then read the ticket numbers for door prizes. A thank you was extended to the Gamma Family for the refreshments and Sandra King for arranging the location.

The meeting adjourned with the singing of the DKG song at approximately 12:30pm, led by Mary Ann Shupe.

Kristi John, Recording Secretary

Membership

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a great summer, and is ready to think about how they can attract new members to Theta Alpha and our Delta Kappa Gamma Society! At the convention in Austin, I was able to attend a wonderful Membership training given by Connie Rensick and came back with some great ideas to bring in new members. I know retired teachers feel like it is harder for them to recruit since they are no longer in an educational setting day in and day out, but I received several great ideas to help with this area. One of those ideas is to talk to their former school and see if there are any new teachers that need help making copies, laminating, or mentoring in a certain subject area. See how many new teachers are in the school, what they teach, and make a survival bag of sorts with Advil, stickers, and chocolate with a DKG brochure! I would be happy to give you some, once they are updated! If you have any other ideas, I would love to hear them!

Thank you to Marilynn Bishop who has already provided some door prizes for this year. I still have a small supply of door prizes left over, but you can never have too many! If you run across anything that you think would make a great door prize, please bring them or I will come and get them!

Leslie Valentincic,
Corresponding Secretary

Dues

Dues for Theta Alpha members will be \$90 if paid during the month of August. Members also have the option to split payments into two \$45 payments in August and September. Please send your check to Mary Myers, 302 Oakwood, Duncanville, TX, 75137 or pay at the August 17th meeting. Dues paid in September will be \$100 and dues paid in October will be \$110. Reserve dues will remain at \$7.00.

Mary Myers, Treasurer

News Buds

Don't forget to send good news, bad news, happy news, sad news, or just any news that needs to be shared between newsletters to Michelle Grandinetti at mrgrand@mindspring.com.

From Your A.C.

Greetings Area 9!!! I am so proud to introduce myself as your Area Coordinator for 2013-2015. I have met your presidents and I look forward to meeting each of you when I visit your chapter. I am prepared to have a great time, meet some great people, and probably gain a few pounds. My goal is to communicate with you through your newsletter each month. I will share ideas that I have collected that hopefully will be useful to you and your chapter. I will also be testing your knowledge about DKG. Each month I will be posing a few trivia questions about the Society to be answered in the following newsletter. Something fun to keep you updated and informed. (Your final exam will be given at the Area Workshop!!) We are going to have a great year, so let's get started!!

Society question:

1. What is the non-profit fund raising entity that assists TSO in fulfilling its purposes? (Hint: 5 letters)
2. What do the letters stand for?

About Membership:

Did you know that 70% of dropped members would reinstate if asked. Go ask!!!

Have a super coool August!

Michelle Grandinetti

Area IX Coordinator

mrgrand@mindspring.com



Tour of International Headquarters

I had the pleasure to tour The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Headquarters. What an amazing place to visit! It is just like taking a tour of a museum, except in this museum people are working. It is the international headquarters of our organization. I got to meet some of the people I had called to get supplies, member information and send reports to these past years (ie: Corlea Plowman, Executive Director working diligently, Irene Morale and Gloria Morales) Everyone took time from there busy day to show, explain and answer questions from our tour group. If you are in Austin, DKG International Headquarters is a great place to visit.
Baudelia Luna

Yearbook Updates

Please email any contact information changes for the yearbook to Ann Wyatt, at annw045@gmail.com. You may also give them to Beverly Hagood or Baudelia Luna at the August meeting.

Ann Wyatt,
Yearbook Chairman

Birthdays

August

16 - Carolyn Johnson

September

12 - Virginia Long

22 - Ruth Kaun

24 - Linda Robards

27 - Catie King



Celebrating the Theta Alpha Chatter Editors

Dianna Stouffer, Theta Alpha Chatter newsletter editor, has decided that it is time for her to do a little traveling without any worries of deadlines. Therefore, she is taking a "sabbatical" as editor of Theta Alpha's newsletter. Theta Alpha members wish to extend their deepest gratitude to Dianna for her devotion and dedication to keeping Theta Alpha members thoroughly informed about the news pertaining to all levels of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. Theta Alpha sends bouquets of roses to Dianna for fulfilling her responsibility over and beyond what was ever required of the position. DIANNA, THETA ALPHA MEMBERS THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOMS OF THEIR HEARTS!! Kristi John, Recording Secretary, has graciously consented to take on the monumental position of the Theta Alpha newsletter editor. Kristi has a graphic arts design minor and presently is working on an advanced level of certification in technology. Theta Alpha thanks you, Kristi, for being willing to use your fine skills to enhance the chapter. Roses to Kristi for so willingly accepting the job as Theta Alpha's newsletter editor!

Theta Alpha's recent past newsletter editors have been Louise King, Catie King, and Dianne McCorcle. The chapter is most grateful to all of its members who had the courage and fortitude to say, "Yes," to accepting the overwhelming position as Theta Alpha's newsletter editor. Anybody who has walked in their shoes knows about the time and effort that are expended in producing the outstanding newsletter that Theta Alpha always has had. This legacy will continue because of the devoted members with which Theta Alpha is blessed!

Bev Hagood,
Theta Alpha President



RECAP: Theta Alpha May, 2013 Meeting (Lest We Forget)

Thanks to all of you wonderful Theta Alpha sisters who were able to attend the May meeting. (Those of you who were unable to attend were sorely missed!) Sandra King did a superb job setting up the beautiful room at the Dallas Ferguson Branch Library for the final meeting of the year. It was the perfect room for the Founders Day Celebration. For the Founders Day Celebration Baudelia Luna, Past President, had the portraits of our 12 Founders and two honorary founders reproduced, mounted, and displayed for all the members to view. (Thank you, Baudelia, for doing such a professional job!)

Theta Alpha was transported back to May 11, 1929 as Patti Belknap, TSO Ceremonies Chairman; Bev Hagood, Theta Alpha President; Hattie Hammer, Legislative Chairman; Kristi John, Recording Secretary; Catie King, Second Vice President; Sandra King, Personal Growth Chairman; and Leslie Valentincic, Corresponding Secretary, shared highlights about and quotes from each of Delta Kappa Gamma's original founders. Mary Ann Shupe, Music Chairman, led the members in a song that celebrated Delta Kappa Gamma's genesis. Reviewing the lives of our founders who represent strength, courage, and fortitude reinforced what an honor it is to be a member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

At the meeting honors were bestowed on three of our outstanding members as the dedicated Achievement Awards Committee-Jan Gentry, Susie Branch, and Carolyn Johnson-announced the recipients. Leslie Valentincic received the 2013 Theta Alpha Achievement Award for her conscientious efforts in bringing in new members and for her dedication to her position as Membership Chairman.

Dianna Stouffer received the special Theta Alpha Crystal Apple Award for her continued guiding leadership in the annual Theta Alpha project over the past two years. Carolyn Johnson was honored with a Golden Apple for her 50-year membership in Delta Kappa Gamma.

How proud we are of our three sisters who have followed in the footsteps of our original founders!! Roses to Leslie, Dianna, and Carolyn!

Many thanks to Marilyn Bishop, co-Treasurer, who coordinated the refreshments with the help of the Gamma Family. The luscious morals were provided by Susie Branch, Carolyn Johnson, Virginia Long, Claudia McBride, and Mary Ann Shupe. Baudelia Luna provided the tasty DKG Birthday Cake. Thank you so much, Gamma Family.

Honoring our DKG Founders and honoring our own Theta Alpha Sisters made for a very joyous celebration for Theta Alpha's final meeting of the year!

Dianne McCorcle and Bev Hagood,
Program of Work

August 17, 20123

Time: 10:00 a.m.
 Place: Cedar Hill Church of Christ
 535 South Clark Road
 Cedar Hill, Texas 75104
 Agenda: Members discuss and approve plans and projects for the ensuing year.
 Inspiration: Sandra King
 Hostesses: Executive Board: Beverly Hagood, Dianne McCorcle, Catie King, Kristi John, Leslie Valentincic, Patti Belknap, Baudelia Luna, Marilyn Bishop and Mary Myers.

September 21, 2013

Time: 10:00 a.m.
 Place: Renner Frankford Public Library
 6400 Frankford Road
 Dallas, Texas 75252
 Agenda: Patti Belknap will present information on CTAUN & the International Day of Peace; Book Talk by Catie King; Members to bring a book for a book exchange.
 Hostesses: Gamma Family

October 19, 2013

Time: 10:00 a.m.
 Place: Arcadia Park Branch Library
 1301 N. Justin Ave.
 Dallas, Texas
 Agenda: Fall Initiation; presentation of THAT grants; Purse project (TBA)
 Hostesses: Epsilon Family

November 16, 2013

Time: 10:00 a.m.
 Place: The Meridian
 2522 Fort Worth Ave.,
 Dallas, Texas
 Agenda: Auction; presentation of Theta Alpha's Julia Crawford Grant-in-Aid; nominations committee meeting.
 Hostesses: Delta Family

December 2013

Holiday Tea TBA
 Agenda: Ornament exchange: hygiene boxes for Captain Hope's Kids

January 18, 2014

Time: 10:00 a.m.
 Place: Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
 4729 South Carrier Parkway

Grand Prairie, Texas 75052
 Agenda: Book Talk by Mary Ann Shupe; Officers elections; finalizing project. Members donate children's books for project
 Hostesses: Theta Family

February 15, 2014

Time: TBD
 Project:

March 15, 2014

Time: 10:00 a.m.
 Place: The Meridian
 2522 Fort Worth Ave.,
 Dallas, Texas
 Agenda: Music recital and spiritual renewal; Book talk by Donna Lucas; nominations for Achievement award
 Hostesses: Alpha Family

April 5, 2014—Spring Brunch

Time: 10:00 a.m.
 Place: Brookhaven Country Club
 3333 Golfing Green Dr
 Farmers Branch, Texas

April 15, 2014

Time: 6:30 p.m.
 Place: First Presbyterian Church of Dallas
 1835 Young Street
 Dallas, Texas
 Program: Devout Dallas with Rosemary Rumbley

April 26, 2014***date change***

Time: 10:00 a.m.
 Place: First Presbyterian Church of Dallas
 1835 Young Street
 Dallas, Texas
 Agenda: Initiation; Theta Alpha celebrates birthdays of chapter and DGK; Voting for Achievement Award.
 Hostesses: Beta Family

May 18, 2013

Time: 10:00 a.m.
 Place: White Rock Hill Public Library
 9150 Ferguson Road.
 Dallas, Texas
 Agenda: Celebrating Founders Day; Achievement Award; Attendance Awards
 Hostesses: Eta Family



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
Texas State Organization

The Theta Alpha Chapter of Delta Kappa Society International, an honor organization of women educators, would like to help provide needed resources for your classroom. As a new educator we realize that often time's school districts do not provide all the extras you would like to provide for your students.

Please take the time to fill out the enclosed application and let us know what you would do with a \$100.00 grant for educational supplies. We will award this grant at our Theta Alpha Chapter meeting on Saturday, October 19, 2013.

You may mail or email the application to:

Dianne McCorcle
504 Wendy Lane
Desoto, Texas 75115
mmccorcle@sbcglobal.net

Please respond by October 1, 2013



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
Texas State Organization

Application For New Teacher Grant-in-Aid

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Name of School and District: _____

Number of years you have taught: _____

Attach a 1-page explanation of what you would do if you were given a \$100.00 gift card to _____.

(Please include where you would like the gift card to be purchased)