



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

Sunday, February 5th, we had a wonderful orientation with six outstanding prospective members. If you were unable to attend I hope you will have a chance to meet all of them at initiation, April 9th, at Marilyn Bishop's home. They are very talented and will make a difference in Theta Alpha!

We are having good attendance at chapter meetings but are missing some of our favorite members. If you have been unable to attend recently please try to make it to the February meeting. If you need transportation or just want to carpool, please contact a member close to you and we will gladly come to pick you up or meet you. This meeting is important as Leslie and Catie are planning to conclude the Annie and have an informative program planned. It will be at Hattie's church.

The Beta family will be bringing breakfast goodies for us. Kendall Hasse is the coordinator and will be contacting her committee. The members of the committee are Baudelia Luna, Dianne McCorkle, Beverly Hagood, and Michelle Grandinetti.

April 1st is the Dallas County Coordinating Council luncheon. Baudelia is collecting money for this activity and tickets are \$30. We have had the invitation in the newsletters but I don't think we have told you about it at our meetings. Marilyn Gregory is joining us as guest speaker. The venue for this luncheon is Lakewood Country Club and we are in charge of the sign in table.

June 22nd to the 24th is our DKG convention in Houston. The Westin Galleria hotel is taking reservations and I do hope you have made yours. It sounds like a wonderful place with everything in close proximity to the hotel. Brenda Lozano sent me an email form for signing up to sell items at the convention. We will discuss any plans you may have for this at the upcoming meeting.

We received a wonderful legislative video presentation in newsbuds this week. If you were unable to view this message it's very informative and we'll done. Please try to watch it, as it affects all of us!

See you Saturday morning around 9:30. The meeting starts at 10:00.

Mary Myers,
President

An Honorary Professional Society
of Key Women Educators

February Meeting Details

It's this time of year that the stress level seems to go up a notch than in the Fall! With the STARR tests, field trips, and EOY tasks, the stress level of teachers seem to climb until you can reach summer vacation. Come join us at the February meeting to learn about Reflexology as a way to de-stress from a long day!

Jonnie Sue Bucek, a retired school nurse with AISD, will share her skill of using Reflexology to help teachers relax from a long day. Leslie will lead us in an ice breaker-inspiration that will leave us in stitches! We will also be presenting early educators with their "Recipes for Success" boxes and making connections for future mentoring opportunities. Since it's the meeting that focuses on our Annie Project, please come if you can. Your attendance helps Catie and I when we type up the Annie!

Hostesses: Delta Family - Babs Arnswald, Jasmine Slay, Jan Gentry, and Joan Huntley

I hope to see you there!

Leslie Valentincic,
Co-First Vice President

Meeting

Date: February 18, 2017

Meeting

Location: Our Redeemer Lutheran Church
4729 S Carrier Parkway
Grand Prairie, TX 75052

Meeting

Time: 10:00 AM

What to Bring: You! This is our Annie Project meeting. Guests have been invited, and it would be great if as many chapter members could attend as possible.

A Reflection of the CTAUN Conference

When you hear the word "refugee" what comes to mind? Boat people from the Viet Nam era or maybe Latin Americans fleeing their homes to settle in the Southwest part of the United States? Perhaps you think about the pictures you see on the news or Facebook of the many Syrians desperately looking for somewhere to go.

Refugees: The 21st Century Challenge was the title of the 18th Annual CTAUN (Committee on Teaching About the United Nations) Conference held at the UN in New York. More than 65 million people in this world are considered refugees, with over 21 million of those being forcibly displaced from their homes. Currently 51% are children under the age of 18.

At the conference we heard from speakers who shared these facts among many others. Did you know that the United States has accepted the smallest amount of refugees of any country in the world?

What spoke to me the most was the panel of student refugees who shared their stories. One young man said although he wanted desperately to attend school in the refugee camp it was often a choice between standing in line for food or going to the classes. Another explained that being resettled is not the end. Integration is very challenging. The student stories humanized the issue for me. They are real people who want the same things we do: food, water, an education, and most importantly a HOME.

At the conclusion of the conference a CTAUN Statement was read and adopted by the over 700 in attendance. This statement can be found under the DKG@UN tab. To find out more information about the conference and to get a complete summary visit ctaun.org.

Patti Belknap,
TSO CTAUN Representative



**Delta Kappa Gamma
Theta Alpha Chapter Minutes
January 21, 2016**

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International – Theta Alpha Chapter was called to order by Mary Myers, Chapter President, at 10:10 a.m. Saturday, January 21st, 2017 in Dallas, Texas at Arcadia Park Library. Michelle Grandinetti, TSO Membership Chairperson, led the inspiration. Mary gave a member update and a quorum was reached with 16 members in attendance. Michelle Grandinetti, TSO Membership Chairperson, introduced our guest and member updates were held. Minutes were approved as in the newsletter with corrections to the October minutes to add the presentation / recognition for cancer awareness month and whom in our chapter has been affected by cancer.

Baudelia Luna, co-Treasurer, stated we raised \$1200 from our auction. Michelle shared two correspondences; one from our Area 9 Coordinator, Cathy Criner?, who thanked us for inviting her to our auction and expressed how much fun she had with our chapter; the second from Mary Ann Shupe with an update on life in Oklahoma.

New member orientation will be at Linda Robard's house on February 5th at 2 pm. Katherine Nichols gave out prizes to see if we could guess the chapter member according to her interests mentioned. Who knew our Chapter President loves NASCAR?!!

Hattie Hammer provided a legislative report on politics and addressed supporting public education. She urged members to see how TRS affects them, write letters, and make phone calls to politicians.

Kendall Hasse, 2nd Vice President, let members know about the Cora McFarland Scholarship deadline coming up March 1.

Mary talked about the State Convention in Houston, June 22-24. Hotel reservations are now open at the Westin Galleria Hotel.

Beverly Hagood invited everyone to the Global Awareness Symposium on June 22nd in Houston from 2-5 pm. Speakers will include Cathy

Daugherty, our DKG UN representative, breakout sessions, and Maria Katharina Heimbach, from Germany, brought to us with the DKG International Speakers Fund. Connie Resnick? in March will talk to us more about Global Awareness.

Baudelia Luna let us know we can buy tickets now for the Dallas Coordinating Luncheon at the Lakewood Country Club on April 1st, at 10:00 a.m. Tickets are \$30. Our chapter will be helping collect tickets at the door this year.

Catie King, co-1st Vice President, presented on Google and showed us the DKG website at www.dkg.org. She also gave directions for the recipes/classroom's tips cards for our Annie project. Be sure to take the survey in Google regarding programs.

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm after singing the Delta Kappa Gamma song.

Respectfully submitted by:

Kendall Hasse,
Second Vice President

Birthdays

February

- 6 - Betty Morgan
- 12 - Sarah McMurrough
- 28 - Elizabeth Paletz

March

- 3 - Babs Arnswald
- 5 - Ann Wyatt
- 12 - Janet Roark
- 17 - Kendall Hasse



(clipart from Corel Draw x3)

From Your A.C.

Hello sisters!

It is the month of Valentines and love! It is also the month we look at our hearts! President Marilyn Gregory's theme the Heart of our Society is it Members comes to the forefront. I love her theme because as I have traveled around to all our Area 9 chapters the last year and a half, I have seen the theme at work. You are the heartbeat and our chapters are strong and healthy because you, the members are the beats of your chapter. Whatever the size of your meetings, you are connecting with each other and I hope that you are really getting to know all the heartbeats in your chapter.

Now, as we look ahead to February, your President's Report is due. Some of the chapters executive boards get together and help their president to get it ready to send in. It is a really important report to get in. The Necrology Report is also important to get in if you have had a member pass away.

In March, you want to make sure that you begin to look at the different funds you are going to support as a chapter. Each chapter chooses who and what funds you want to help out.

Also, in April we will be looking at the different Coordinating Councils having their luncheons. Make sure you get to go to the luncheons because we get to connect with other chapters and hear from different "heartbeats".

Remember that our state convention is in Houston and you want to get your room reservations in. All the information is located on our website. The dates are June 22-24, so start saving your money for a fun, educational time in Houston.

Happy Valentines and Heart Month! ♥

Until next time,
Cathy



ASTE F

February is ASTEF Giving month. As you know our Foundation gives thousands of dollars every year to fund chapter projects. They can't do that without donations from you, the members of TSO. Michelle and I were each given a special red clutch purse to collect donations in. We have not brought them every month and constantly asked for donations. So...this is your chance to give! The red purses will be at the February meeting. Please be generous.

Patti Belknap,
Parliamentarian

Sierra's Low-fat Ranch Dressing

1 heaping teaspoon of Hidden Valley Ranch Buttermilk Recipe (almost the whole packet)

1/2 Cup of plain nonfat Greek yogurt

1/2 cup of fat free sour cream

1/2 cup buttermilk

1/4 teaspoon of pepper

1/4 teaspoon of cayenne pepper or paprika

1/8 teaspoon of garlic powder

1/8 teaspoon of onion powder

Place all ingredients in a bowl, whisk well. refrigerate for a couple hours before serving to allow the flavors to blend. Store in an air tight container.

Good News to Start 2017

2017 brings good tidings for the Texas State Organization Convention. Our first choice in hotels, the Westin Galleria, has agreed to be the host hotel for our 2017 Texas State Organization. The Westin Galleria is located in the beautiful Galleria Mall in the heart of Houston. The Steering Committee is overjoyed to have the Westin Galleria join our team.

All of the convention meeting areas and guest rooms will be in one location. Each room comes complete with a Keurig Coffee Maker and Starbucks Coffee. Free WiFi is available in the guest and conference rooms. There are numerous restaurants and a large food court available in the Galleria. Self-parking is free. If attendees choose, they may stay in one location the entire convention.

Registration is available online beginning January 2, 2017. To register, please copy and paste the following link in your browser:

<https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/2F17AA>
Please make single room reservations. This allows the hotel to keep a correct count and have rooms for everyone.
(Heartline, 2017)

2017 Texas State Organization Unifying Project

The Unifying Project for the 2017 Texas State Organization is Child Advocates. For over 30 years Child Advocates has helped over 22,800 children who are victims of severe child abuse, neglect, and abandonment.

They have grown from a staff of three volunteers to over 5,000. While the impact of these dedicated volunteers has been life-saving to each child they have reached, there are still more children who live with the trauma of severe abuse, neglect, and abandonment.

The news media, social media, and broadcast news cast a light on the horrors of child abuse and neglect. For every story seen or read, Child

Advocates is there to comfort and support the innocent victims. A court appointed Child Advocate gives the child a voice in courtrooms and schools and work with the foster families.

In addition to volunteers, Child Advocates is in need of supplies. These supplies help the children begin a life without fear and experience the love of others. As Delta Kappa Gamma members, we can embrace these children by donating items from the list at the end of this newsletter. Please help bring roses and sunshine into the lives of the most vulnerable.
(Heartline, 2017)

2017 Unifying Project Child Advocates Needs for DKG – TSO June Convention

Gift cards to:

- * Target
- * Amazon
- * Wal-Mart
- * Visa/MasterCard
- * Amazon
- * Office Depot
- * Costco/Sam's

Younger Children:

- * Children's Books
- * Coloring Books and Crayons
- * Stuffed Animals
- * Action Figures
- * Educational Toys
- * Educational Games
- * Art Sets

Preteen and Teen Girl:

- * Manicure set, Nail file, nail polish
- * Hand cream or lotion, Lip gloss or bath wash
- * Decorative t-shirts or Cute socks
- * Books, journals, colorful pens
- * Small Purse, wallet

Preteen and Teen Boy:

- * Manicure set
- * AXE shaving cream or deodorant
- * Comb/Brush
- * Decorative t-shirts or Socks
- * Books, journals
- * Keychain or Wallet

SAVE THE DATE

for the

Annual Coordinating Council of Dallas County Luncheon

The cost of the Luncheon ticket will be \$30.00.

The Menu choice:

Tomato and Mozzarella Salad, Fresh Baby Spinach, Pesto Dressing

Chicken Parmesan, Angel Hair Pasta, Buttered Broccoli

Chocolate Mousse Cake

I'm A Fool

For

DKG!

Please plan to spend your April Fool's Day with us!

April 1, 2017

10 o'clock in the morning

Lakewood Country Club

Dallas, Texas

Details to follow