



# Theta Alpha Chatter

*Expand the Vision: Educate, Inspire, Encourage*

Leading women educators impacting education worldwide



## 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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**Chapter Website:  
dkgthetaalpha.weebly.com**

**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**

Welcome to our new year, 2014! How incredibly swiftly the old year has swept past us! As we ponder the past, may our successes, as well as our stumbles, be our guiding lights for the ensuing year. Theta Alpha still has a quarter of the biennium left to Expand the Vision by Educating, Inspiring, and Encouraging our members and prospective members. January's meeting, January 18, 2014 is the perfect meeting for inviting a prospective new member.

Since January is Poverty Awareness Month, our own Kathy Nichols will share a very timely presentation concerning the impact that poverty has on children and their education, among other aspects of their precious lives. Kathy is one of the 2013 recipients of the Area IX Cora McFarland Scholarships which funded her attending this pertinent workshop on how poverty influences the lives of children and their families. (It is not too late to apply for a Cora McFarland Scholarship! See Sandra King for applications.)

We are delighted to have Kathy enlighten us about what she gleaned from the workshop concerning an extremely vital social issue that constantly is before us. No matter how much we wish that it would go away, we must not ignore the fact that, unfortunately, poverty is widespread among us. How can we as a Society, chapter, and individual aid in alleviating this problem that our fellowmen encounter? We'll see

everyone at the January meeting (with a guest) to hear what Kathy has to offer!

Concerning social issues, Desmond Tutu's thought empowers, as well as encourages, us as a Society of dedicated educators: "Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world." Together as a Society we can "overwhelm the world," thanks to our founder, Annie Webb Blanton, who set the Seven Principles before us. Beverly Helms, DKG International President, says that the "power of one"-one little bit of good- can make a difference. Happy New Year! as we each consider what our "little bit of good" will be for the coming year so that our Society can "overwhelm the world!!"

It seems as if it has been forever since we Theta Alpha sisters have seen each other, especially since the weather and illnesses deprived some of us from attending the Holiday Tea. I'm sure that all who were able to attend the French high tea had a splendid time socializing and exchanging ornaments!

The November meeting was a wonderful success with 32 members and guests present for Theta Alpha's Annual Silent and Live Auctions. Theta Alpha netted over \$1200.00 for our Julia Crawford Grant-in-Aid, annual project, and chapter donations. The members were pleased to be able to present our Grant-in-Aid recipient, Jennifer Silva, with a \$500.00 Grant-in-Aid for the 2013-

**An Honorary Professional Society of Key Women Educators**

From Your A.C.



I recently became curious about the history of New Year's resolutions, so I investigated the topic via several online resources.

Apparently the tradition goes as far back as the Babylonian period. The Babylonians were very practical in their promises to return borrowed items and pay off debts.

In Roman times the resolutions were made to the god Janus, who was the god of beginnings and endings; thus, January became the first month of the year. Resolutions to this deity promised good conduct in the new year.

In modern times most resolutions are about self-improvement, health, money, and organization.

I like the Babylonian idea of returning borrowed items, so I came up with my own borrowed-item list to work on:

- Return a smile with a smile.
Return a compliment with a thank-you.
Return a positive with a positive.
Return a good idea with another good idea.
Return kindness with kindness.
Return understanding with understanding.

Whatever your goals are for 2014, I hope that it is full of all that is positive, fun and beautiful. Happy New Year, Area 9!

Michelle Grandinetti
Area 9 Coordinator
mrgrand@mindspring.com

Important Upcoming Dates:

Watch for an upcoming email concerning the February Project!

Field Trip: Devout Dallas (Rosemary Rumbley)
April 15, 2014 at 6:30pm
1st Presbyterian Church, Dallas

President's Message Continued:

2014 year. Thank you to all who make this Julia Crawford Grant-in-Aid a reality by contributing your beautiful craft items and/or tasty pastries to the auctions... and, of course, thank you for your purchases. What a gala time we always have trying to outbid one another and supporting the meaningful causes of our Theta Alpha Chapter! That's what our Society is all about!

Okay, Sisters! It's convention time again! It's not too early to begin gathering your duds for and thoughts about the 85th TSO Convention June 19-21, 2014 in Lubbock, TX. We are going to "Paint the Town Red and Gold!" Also, for those of you who can attend the 2014 International Convention, the Race is on for Indianapolis, Indiana July 28-August 1, 2014. Please download the Lone Star News for further details.

Let us keep Patti Belknap in our thoughts and prayers as she travels to New York January 31, 2014 for the CTAUN Seminar. Patti is the TSO liaison to the United Nations for The DKG Society International.

Peace and blessings-
Bev Hagood,
Theta Alpha President

Birthdays

December

- 10 - Marilyn Bishop
15 - Debra Rangel

January

- 1-Cathen Jones
11-Joan Huntley



## January Meeting Details

Happy New Year everyone! Once again we have new resolutions for this brand new year. I hope everyone has resolved to attend all Theta Alpha meetings (maybe even including convention for this year). I couldn't say it any better than Beverly Hagood:

“Theta Alpha has so much to celebrate as a chapter, especially the manner in which the members give of themselves as caring, devoted Sisters to the Society. With hearts filled with hope and enthusiasm to take on another year, may we, as members of Theta Alpha, recommit with zeal and zest to the principles of the Society as we continue with the forthcoming meetings and annual projects.”

Our next meeting:

**Saturday, January 18, 2014**

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Place:** Our Redeemer Lutheran Church  
4729 South Carrier Parkway  
Grand Prairie, Texas 75052

**Agenda:** Kathy Nichols will speak on Poverty in support of Poverty Awareness Month; Book Talk by Donna Lucas; Officers elections; finalizing project. Members donate children's books for project.

**Hostesses:** Theta Family (Leslie Valentincic, Patti Belknap, Michelle Grandinetti, and Ruth Kaun)

Please bring the hygiene boxes for Captain Hope's Kids and the children's books for next month's project. Details for February's project will be finalized at January's meeting.

Our rescheduled Holiday Tea at the Lavendou Restaurant was well attended and we all had a wonderful time. The food and tea was very tasty, plus the room was spacious. Thank you Ruth Kaun for conducting our ornament exchange (no one punched anyone out for stealing their ornament!!).

Dianne McCorcle  
Program of Work



## TSO State, Area IX, and International Scholarships

Reminders:

\*Please check the [alphastatetexas.org/scholarships](http://alphastatetexas.org/scholarships) for a complete list of the scholarships that TSO offers its members. Listed below are some of the scholarships which might interest you at this time. The deadline for the applications is March 1, 2014.

\*The Aspiring Educator Award (500-\$1000) is designed to aid women, not members of The DKG Society International, who aspire to enter the field of education by taking college hours toward certification or a degree in education. Applicants must be recommended by a Society member.

\*TSO Maetha Griffin Weatherly Educational Travel.

\*TSO Mini Grant- This grant is for a scholarship that would aid in paying for workshops and conferences that have the potential to enhance one's professional skills.

\*Don't forget the Area IX Cora McFarland Scholarship! Sandra King will have scholarship applications available at the January meeting.

\*Other DKG scholarships that are available to the membership are posted on the International website: <https://www.dkg.org>.



Donna Lucas opening up an ornament at the annual Holiday Tea.



## Delta Kappa Gamma Theta Alpha Chapter Minutes November 16, 2013

The regular meeting of the Theta Alpha chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International was called to order at 10:30am by Beverly Haygood, President. The recording secretary, Kristi John, was present and recorded the minutes. Inspiration was given by Marilyn Bishop, Co-Treasurer.

Beverly Haygood welcomed 32 members and several guests. Members reported on others who were unable to attend. The October minutes were approved as printed and will be filed.

Leslie Valentincic, Corresponding Secretary, was present and reported there is a quorum. Leslie also read several items of correspondence. Dianne McCorcle presented the winner of the chapters Julia Crawford Grant-in-Aid to Jennifer Silva, a student at Dallas Baptist University.

Beverly Hagood reported on the upcoming February project. The theme will be similar to last year, however, the chapter will also include a Native American Theme and the centers will be called "campfires." Members were encouraged to have an activity and a brief description by the January meeting.

Michelle Grandinetti, Area IX Coordinator, reported on the area business, and encouraged our chapter to keep working toward the greater good, and not to give up. Beverly Hagood then reported that Sandra King has been selected to become the Cora McFarland Scholarship Committee Representative for Theta Alpha. Also, the chapter sent accolades to the yearbook committee: Ann Wyatt, Joan Huntley and Janet Roark. The chapter was reminded about two upcoming events, the Tea at Lavendou's on December 7th, 2013 and the field trip on April 15th, 2014 to a program called "Devout Dallas."

Music was presented by Babs Arnsward. Thanks were given to the refreshment committee: Baudelia Luna, Dianna Stouffer, Hattie Hammer, Barbara

McIntosh, Kathy Nichols, and Beverly Hagood. Thanks to Babs Arnsward for making the arrangements to use her beautiful church. The meeting adjourned by singing the DKG song at 11:35am. The program for the month, Theta Alpha's Silent and Live Auction followed the business meeting. Thanks were given to the auctioneers, Debra Rangel and Donna Lucas, for encouraging everyone to open up their pocketbooks for a great cause. The Auction was completed at 1:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted  
Kristi John, Recording Secretary

Leslie Valentincic, Debra Rangel and  
Donna Lucas at the annual Holiday Tea.



Right:  
Sandra  
King  
at the  
Holiday  
Tea.



Below: Janet Roark opening her ornament at the  
ornament  
exchange  
during the  
Tea.



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International has several generous scholarships available to its members. There are scholarships available for graduate studies, continuing adult education, and educational travel.

Scholarship	Award Amount	Funding for:	Due Date (postmarked)
Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation's 50th Anniversary Awards  (for more information: <a href="http://www.dkgef.org/">http://www.dkgef.org/</a> )	\$1000	classroom, school or community projects involving learners in an educational environment.	November 15, 2013
TSO 3 Hour Graduate/Undergraduate Scholarship	\$500/year	graduate studies	March 1, 2014
TSO 6Hour Graduate/Undergraduate Scholarship	\$1000/year	graduate studies	March 1, 2014
TSO 9 Hour Graduate/Undergraduate Scholarship	\$1500/year	graduate studies	March 1, 2014
TSO Adult Education Scholarship	\$500 per member	3 hours of undergraduate/graduate studies or lifelong learning opportunity such as Road Scholar	March 1, 2014
Texas State Organization Doctoral Scholarship	\$5000	9 hours towards doctorate	March 1, 2014
TSO Maetha Griffin Weatherby Educational Travel Scholarship	\$1000 per member	support travel for educational pursuits	March 1, 2014
TSO Mini-Grants	\$500	non-traditional types of professional development activities	March 1, 2014
TSO 3 hour Aspiring Educator Grant	\$500 (four year limit to receive grant)	encouraging prospective women educators	March 1, 2014
TSO 6 hour Aspiring Educator Grant	\$1000 (four year limit to receive grant)	encouraging prospective women educators	March 1, 2014
Emergency Fund Assistance (for more information: <a href="https://www.dkg.org/content/emergency-fund-assistance-request">https://www.dkg.org/content/emergency-fund-assistance-request</a> )	\$500	members who sustain major losses from floods, tornadoes, or other natural catastrophic disasters.	
DKG International Scholarship	\$6000 \$10,000	Graduate / Doctoral studies	February 1, 2014