



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
2015 - 2016

August 15, 2015
September 19, 2015
October 17, 2015
November 21, 2015
December 12, 2015
January 16, 2016
February 20, 2016
March 19, 2016
April 18, 2016
May 21, 2016

 Message from the President 

Happy New Year!

I pray that you all had a blessed Christmas season and enjoyed time with family and friends. Once again we welcome a new year full of possibilities and opportunities. I hope your New Year resolutions include being an active member of DKG and putting the monthly Theta Alpha meetings on your agenda. You have the opportunity to attend and assist at the DKG state convention which will be in Frisco in June 23-25, 2016. Details will be forthcoming on Theta Alpha's role with this convention soon

This month's meeting will be Saturday, January 16, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, 4729 South Carrier Parkway, Grand Prairie, Texas 75052. We will have a Ceremony of Remembrance in honor of Marsha Pool. Please plan to attend as we bid farewell to our long time member. Also please bring any greeting cards you wish to donate, plus one children's book for our St. Jude Hospital project.

I want to thank Patti Belknap for opening her home to us and hosting our wonderful Christmas social. Our gracious host welcomed us into her lovely home and we all had a wonderful time. Lots of love and laughter was shared, especially during the ornament exchange (stealing!) Thank you to Ruth Kaun for coordinating meal details

“Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right.”
Oprah Winfrey

Dianne McCorcle,
President

An Honorary Professional Society
of Key Women Educators

January Meeting Details

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season spent with family and friends. At our January meeting, Patti will share the books the International Educator's Award Committee read last year. There will also be a Ceremony of Remembrance for Marsha Pool. Last but not least, our tech moment will be presented on spreadsheets.

Catie and I will share with you our plans for the Feb meeting, which is the meeting focused around the Annie Award. We will give you a heads up on what has been done so far and what needs to be done before next month's meeting.

I hope to see you there!

Meeting Date: January 16, 2016

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

Meeting Time: 10:00 AM

What to Bring: Any type of Christmas/Birthday cards that are NOT: Hallmark, Disney, or American Greetings. We just need the front picture part of the card if you want to tear them off before you come to the meeting. The cards will be mailed to St. Jude to contribute to their "Recycle Card" program.

We are also collecting books of all ages and languages to donate to Family Resource Libraries.

You can also visit the Leisure Wish List:
https://www.childrens.com/wps/wcm/connect/03159249-af98-4d31-88ee-e70b10b5b070/2015_Leisure_Wish_List.pdf?MOD=AJPERES

or the

Spanish Wish List:
https://www.childrens.com/wps/wcm/connect/c93ab6d7-5cc4-4da9-ae29-644ba2155b34/2015_Leisure_WishList_Spanish.pdf?MOD=AJPERES

Leslie Valentincic
Co-First Vice President

New Members!

I am very excited to let all of you know that by a unanimous decision we will be inviting 26 prospective members to our Orientation Tea on Sunday, February 7, at 2:00pm. Mary Myers has kindly agreed to host in her home. Her address is 302 Oakwood, Duncanville, 75137. It is very important that as many of you as possible attend as we share all that Delta Kappa Gamma has to offer and what a wonderful chapter Theta Alpha is.

We will begin with snacks and a short "getting to know you" activity, then discuss "Pride in the Big Picture", and conclude with filling out new member forms. DKG has suggested that we try and have one on one interaction with prospective members so you can see why it is vital that YOU are there! Hopefully by our January 16th meeting I will have lots of RSVP's and can share more information with you.

Thanks to all of you who have embraced the new recruitment plan and submitted names of prospective members. It is because of you that Theta Alpha will grow and prosper!

Patti Belknap
Recruitment Plan Chair

More information about St. Jude's Card Recycling Program:

<https://stjudesranch.org/about-us/recycled-card-program/1&attdepth=0&n=9869277>

Birthdays

January

1-Cathen Jones
11-Joan Huntley

February

6-Betty Morgan



(clipart from Corel Draw x3)

From Your A.C.

Happy New Year! May 2016 be an outstanding year for each and everyone of you.

Let's talk about what's going on in our Area. Frisco Chapter - Nu Delta: There will be another meeting on Saturday, January 16th to continue working on the establishment of this new chapter in our area. I hope each one of you can catch the excitement that this brings to our area! As far as I know, there has never been a chartering of a chapter at a convention. This is history in the making! Whoop! Whoop!

Wylie Chapter - Nu Gamma: There will be two informational meetings in Wylie. One will be on Thursday night, January 21st and then one on Sunday, January 24th! If you know of someone in the Wylie area that is teaching and needs to be a part of DKG, please let us know! This is another exciting adventure we are on! This chapter will be chartered on Sunday, May 1st.

It can't get any better than this...oh wait a minute it sure can! THE STATE CONVENTION IN FRISCO! Ladies, please sign up for the Friday night, DKG night with the Frisco RoughRiders! You go to the TSO website and there it is on the main page. You must order your tickets by February 1st if you want to enter the door prize drawings! There will be gift cards given away every 30 minutes during the game. If you have never been to a minor league baseball game, they are so much fun. It's worth every penny!

Also, please remember there are deadlines coming up! The following are due by February 1st

- Chapter Presidents Report
- Chapter Necrology Report
- TSO Achievement Award Nomination
- Golden Rose Award Nomination

You can find all the forms on the TSO website. Your chapter president is very excited this year because their report will be filled out as one report and not many!

I can not say it enough...PLEASE, PLEASE GET YOUR RESERVATIONS IN FOR THE CONVENTION. We are so lucky to have another convention in our "own backyard!"

You are truly amazing women and I am loving getting to meet you and discover so many wonderful things about Area 9. Keep on being that wonderful role model that you are!

Until next time,

Cathy Criner
Area 9 Coordinator



Hotel Information

Embassy Suites by Hilton

7600 John Q. Hammons Drive
Frisco, TX 75034
972-712-7200
1-800-Embassy (toll free)

87th TSO Convention
June 23-25, 2016

Register now at:

http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/D/DALFSES-DKG-20160621/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Points to remember in making reservations:

- When using the online link, enter the group code DKG.
- May 31, 2016, is the deadline for the special rates of \$135 plus taxes (king suite) and \$145 plus taxes (double suite), as well as the deadline for TSO to meet our guaranteed block. Rates are good for up to four people per room.
- Reserve only the number of rooms that you need. You must give the names of all the persons who will be staying in the rooms you reserve. Guests will be allowed to make only one reservation per guest name.
- Complimentary made-to-order breakfast, manager's reception in the evenings, full-range fitness center, spa, indoor pool, free shuttle service within three miles, and attached conference center are among the amenities.

If the Embassy Suites by Hilton becomes filled, an additional hotel will be added. Watch the TSO website for new hotel information.



Delta Kappa Gamma Theta Alpha Chapter Minutes November 21, 2015

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International – Theta Alpha Chapter was called to order by Dianne McCorcle, Chapter President, at 10:15 am Saturday, November 21st, 2015 in Dallas, Texas at the Royal Lane Baptist Church. A quorum was reached with twenty-seven members and guests in attendance. Jan Gentry led the inspiration.

Sandra King, Scholarship Chairwoman, and Patti Belknap, TSO 1st Vice-President, presented the Julia Crawford and T.H.A.T. awards. Concepcion Camargo received the Julia Crawford scholarship; she is getting her teaching degree from UTA and is doing her teaching practicum at Sam Houston High School and Nichols Junior High in Arlington ISD. She is also an AVID tutor at Carter Junior High and Sam Houston High School. Amber Hudson received the T.H.A.T. award. She works at Newman International Academy in Cedar Hill and it is her first year to teach. Minutes stand with one minor correction of spelling.

Ann Wyatt, Yearbook Chairman, gave us our chapter yearbooks and told us we received the “Early Bird” Award for our yearbook and an “Exemplary” Award.

Leslie Valentincic, Co-1st Vice President, reviewed our January service project. Please look at old Christmas cards to donate. Hallmark, Disney, and American Greetings may not be donated. Children's books are going to be collected as well.

Patti Belknap told us about the December 12 Christmas Tea; it will be at Patti's house and will be changed to a brunch at 10:00 am with mimosas. Bring an ornament for an ornament exchange and bring a food item. The list went around for communication.

Marilyn Bishop, Co-Treasurer, made the motion that Baudelia Luna be added to our checking account to sign for checks. Also, that Donna Lucas is removed as she is no longer a member. Patti Belknap seconded the motion. The chapter took a vote and the motion was carried.

Upcoming dates to remember: Make reservations at the Embassy Suites hotel for the DKG State conference (in Frisco this year – June 23-25th conference; March 1 is the deadline for the Cora McFarland scholarships (applications must be postmarked by this date).

Meeting adjourned at 10:50 am to begin the Annual Silent Auction to raise money for scholarships.

Respectfully submitted,

Kendall Hasse,
Recording Secretary.



**87th TSO
Convention
June 23-25, 2016**

For more information please go to:
<http://dkgtexas2016convention.weebly.com/>

Transforming Lives Through Education

(The facts about Schools for Africa, the Official Project of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, were taken from the Schools for Africa Newsette.)

As well-informed Theta Alpha Chapter members we all are very aware that one of the official projects of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is Schools for Africa. Occasionally, we do need to be updated about the history, the focus, and the significance of this worthy project which DKG has entrusted to its members to support with generous contributions and meaningful programs for fund-raising ideas.

At Theta Alpha's January meeting we are delighted to have TSO's First Vice-President (and Theta Alpha's long-time member), Patti Belknap present a fund-raising program for Schools for Africa. During 2015 Belknap served as a member of DKG's Educational Excellence Committee at the international level. She read numerous books written by aspiring women authors in order to help select one of the books for DKG's Educational Excellence Book Award. Belknap will present an overview of the book selected for the award and will briefly acquaint Theta Alpha members with some of the other books submitted for consideration for the award. What a wonderful way to be informed about how women authors are making a difference in our world!!

Upon completion of Belknap's presentation, the books which she shared with the members will be available for auction. The highest bidder will not only receive a book that will inspire the fortunate reader, but also will be filled with satisfaction for contributing to a most worth-while cause. Now, you can't beat that "two fer," can you?!

Now, let us consider an overview of the Schools for Africa Project:

□ Schools for Africa is a campaign founded in 2004 by UNICEF, the Nelson Mandela Foundation, and Hamburg Society for the Promotion of Democracy and International Law to promote education for children in Africa.

□ At the 2010 International Convention DKG voted to make Schools for Africa its first official international project.

□ Originally the six African nations that were part of the project were Angola, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Africa, and Zimbabwe. In 2009 Niger, Burkina Faso, Mali, Ethiopia, and Madagascar were added; Sierra Leone and Guinea Bissau were added in 2013.

• Monetary donations using the form designed by UNICEF for DKG members support the project. UNICEF cannot accept material donations, such as school supplies or books for this project.

It depends upon the various needs of the children in the countries being served as to how the funds are used. Some ways in which donations might be used include the following:

- Building or rehabilitating schools
- Providing clean water and separate sanitation facilities for boys and girls
- Supplying books, pens, furniture, and other school and sports materials.

Schools for Africa!! What a fantastic project for DKG and for teachers throughout the world! Let us as people and teachers dedicated to promoting peace, education, and dreams rally to this very special and endearing cause to help children realize their potentials and desires to become meaningful, productive, outstanding citizens in their countries. Through our donations (and prayers) let us help students in Africa realize their dreams of an education.

Peace,

Bev Hagood,
Member of TSO Global Awareness Committee

TSO, are you ready for some baseball?

Reserve your Friday night tickets; send in your money *NOW!*
Everyone will be at the ballpark, including State Personnel Dinner attendees. Be part of this momentous occasion! *Join us for...*



Delta Kappa Gamma Night at the Ballpark

A fun fellowship time for DKG sisters and their families and friends—fun for all ages!

- ❖ Friday, June 24, 7:05pm? Frisco RoughRiders vs. Corpus Christi Hooks. Gates open? 6:00pm.
- ❖ Frisco RoughRiders? Texas Rangers' Double-A affiliate!
- ❖ Dr Pepper Ballpark? Across the street from the convention hotel! **The ballpark?** Handicap accessible!
Seating? Marked with DKG signage. Comfortable with gentle June breezes and ceiling fans!
- ❖ Attire? Wear red please—casual wear with capris acceptable!
- ❖ Family and friends? Invited and welcome!
- ❖ Extra fun for children? McAfee playground and State Fair Way (games, inflatables, and food) located in the left-field corner!
- ❖ Included in the ticket price? All-you-can-eat food/beverages including beer and wine for 2 ½ hours! A program and a limited-edition RoughRiders souvenir!
- ❖ State Personnel Dinner? Same price ticket but upstairs on the Party Deck!
- ❖ Throwing out the first pitch? Marilyn Gregory, TSO president!
- ❖ Singing the national anthem? Deb Acevedo-Tamminga, TSO music chair!
- ❖ Recognition for DKG? Yes, with signage in our seating area, with announcements before ceremonial pitch and national anthem, and on video board!
- ❖ After the game? "Frisco's Best" fireworks show!



Order tickets by February 1 to enter door-prize drawing!
Also, gift-card drawings during the game for those present!

Print Name _____

Email _____

Cell Phone _____ Chapter _____

Number of tickets _____ X \$39 = TOTAL \$ _____

Make checks payable to **Alpha State Texas Convention Fund** Cost: adult or child/\$39; 2 & under/free
Mail reservation form and check to Tish Mulkey, 2312 Northcrest Dr., Plano, TX 75075.