



# 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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Chapter Website:  
dkgthetaalpha.weebly.com

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

We had such a fun and wonderful meeting last month starting with Diana Stouffer's inspiration. Your First Vice Presidents Catie King and Leslie Valentincic brought us a great program and project with the "Tools for Teachers". Beverly Hagood enlighten us on "Education Then and Now." Dianna Stouffer shared some of her winning engagement and enrichment strategies. She had us in stitches! Concepcion Camargo, our Julia Crawford recipient, was presented with a tote bag of school supplies and a notebook of ideas. We also had our Area Coordinator, Cathy Crier in attendance. Thank you Ruth Kaun and your hostesses for the delicious goodies you provided.

On March 19, 2016, we will be back at Johns Elementary in Arlington where we will learn some yoga and Catie will tell us about DKG e-pals. You will also have an opportunity to update your Member profiles for International. Please mark your calendars for two very important events. Initiation will be held on April 3, 2016 at Marilyn Bishop's home and our 50th anniversary celebration will be April 16, 2016, at the Adolphus Hotel. The anniversary celebration will be a tea with a cost of \$35 each. Please plan to attend both events. Also, the Coordinating Council of Dallas County Spring Luncheon will be April 9, 2016, at the Lakewood Country Club at 11:00 a.m. The tickets are \$28.00. If you plan to attend either event send your money to Mary Myers. With the launch of the new DKG website in January, members must sign in to access member resources, register for events and order from the Society Store. In-order to sign in, you do not need to create a new account. Simply choose "Sign In" and use the six digit Member ID as the username (first six digits of publications labels or the number on the member ID card), and the default password, dkg2014society for the first log in. (The password may be changed after log in, if preferred). Brochures and Forms are only available in sets of five. Selecting a quantity of one (1) to add to the cart will actually add a total of 5 to the cart. For example, selecting 20/1 will add 100 to the cart and shipping/handling charges will apply to the total. Please use MasterCard or Visa for all purchases. Discover and American Express cards are no longer accepted.

In closing this is how I feel at this time with some quotes from [http://www.searchquotes.com/search/Best\\_Spring\\_Break/2/](http://www.searchquotes.com/search/Best_Spring_Break/2/).

Please hurry up spring break because I have mentally checked out of school. I need spring break. Not even to go to the beach or be with friends, but to relax and take a break from school. Ready for spring break...better yet I'm ready for summer! I will be "wishing you were here" while I enjoy my break in Mexico City!

Dianne McCorcle  
President

An Honorary Professional Society  
of Key Women Educators

# March Meeting Details

Yoga...who doesn't love yoga?!?! March is Nutrition month, and what better well to talk about health and nutrition than practicing some yoga moves! Lisa Rolfe, one of the main yoga teachers at Bikram Yoga of Arlington/Grapevine, will join us at the beginning of our meeting to teach us a little bit about Bikram Yoga and the benefits of it! She will present towards the beginning of meeting so please try and be as close to on time as possible!

In addition to our fantastic yoga, there is a business meeting planned which includes voting on reinstating Mary Ann Shupe as a reserve member. Marilyn Bishop will fill us in on the latest details for our 50th Anniversary at the Adolphus Hotel. We will be updating our Member Profile on the DKG International website at the meeting so please bring your DKG membership card to help with that process! Since Catie and I are facilitating this meeting, there is no TELLING what you will be in store for you! So wear your stretchy clothes and flip flops, and get ready to learn about how find that missing balance in our life with Lisa and Bikram Yoga!

I hope to see you there!

Leslie Valentincic  
Co-First Vice President

Meeting Date: March 19, 2016  
Meeting Location: Johns Elementary School  
1900 Sherry Street  
Arlington, TX 76010  
Meeting Time: 10:00 AM  
What to Bring: Any

# From Your A.C.

The Ides of March, St. Patrick's Day, Spring Break and Easter are upon us! How did they get here so fast? We need to slow down, but I don't think that is going to happen.

I hope you are continuing to make plans to be at the State Convention June 23-25!

Our Steering Committee meetings are rolling along and Judy Mezick, Mary Claire Welch and Charlotte Hyman have done a stupendous, wonderful job. You do not want to miss anything that is going to happen those 3 days in Frisco.

Let me remind you to make sure if you plan to attend that you order the hostess apparel for \$5.00 It is a beautiful pin that everyone will be wanting to have. It is totally different from any of the other hostess apparel I have seen. When you order the apparel, you need to sign up to be a hostess at the Birthday luncheon and /or the founder's Banquet.

Also, here is a reminder about the Unifying Project. Area 17-CASA and Area 9 - Hope's Supply Company. We will be collecting crayons, pencils, pens, wide-ruled notebook paper, new fleece blankets and new Teddy bears. These items will be distributed between the two Unifying project recipients. I would suggest that you go ahead and start collecting these items, so you don't have to do it all right before convention time.

I want to encourage you to go to the TSO website and read the Heartline's that our own Marilyn Nease from Delta Omicron is sharing with us. She is doing an awesome job with the information that you need to see about the convention. Thanks so much Marilyn!

Also, you need to get on Facebook and check out the DKG-TEXAS STATE ORGANIZATION page as well. We are all over the place with tons of information. It does not hurt to read the info several times. If you are like me, I need several reminders. Over 300 hundred ladies have checked out the page. Let's see if we can get up to 600 in the next few weeks!

I am looking forward to a great spring with different county luncheons and a few more meetings to attend!

Until next time!  
Cathy





**Delta Kappa Gamma  
Theta Alpha Chapter Minutes  
February 20, 2016**

The regular meeting of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, Theta Alpha Chapter was called to order at 10:20am. Dianna Stouffer gave the inspiration. Dianne McCorcle welcomed Cathy Criner, Area 9 coordinator, Concepcion Camargo, (attending UTA, interning at Sam Houston and Nichols Junior high in Arlington) Julia Crawford scholarship winner and gave a member update. The minutes will be filed as written.

Beverly Hagood, previous past President, discussed the book "A Mirthful Spirit" by Huntley and Thayer and highly recommended the members read it. Leslie Valentincic, Co-second Vice President, announced our project for the meeting, "Tools for Schools." She shared that having a "tool box" is great to have and after talking to newer teachers, she realized that we could help new teachers through sharing ideas that have helped in our classrooms. She thanked the members for helping the project become a success. Beverly discussed how schools have changed over the years. Many items that have changed are the amounts of testing, technology, and ways we entertain our students. There is less time and more content to teach. Dianna Stouffer shared some enrichment activities to use in the classroom to promote thinking. She shared ideas such as "One Minute Mysteries," logic problems, and deductive thinking problems that help students solve problems in a systematic way. Leslie and Catie shared with members what is in the bags for the new teachers. The bags included many teacher supplies, a binder with ideas, time fillers, book lists, and words of wisdom. In addition to the binders, members supplied chocolate, mints, markers, pens and a cute bag to put it all in!

Susie Branch gave an update on TRS. She reported that there is not much in information on who supports teacher and who to vote for. If you have information, please send to Michelle Granditnetti. Sandra King said that applications for scholarships need to be postmarked by March 1st, 2016. The scholarships will be announced at the DCCC luncheon. Ruth Kahn announced that the next meeting will be at Johns Elementary in Arlington, TX. Initiation will be on April 3rd, 2016. The May 21st meeting will be at First Presbyterian church in Dallas. Ruth is looking for members to bring food for these meetings.

Michelle Grandinetti thanked members for coming to orientation for new members at Mary Myers

home in Duncanville, TX. She discussed that it was successful and that we have eight prospective members who we are planning to initiate in April, 2016. She encouraged members to step outside of the box and continue to recommend prospective members. Dianne gave an update about the Chapter's Birthday celebration. Members must pay Mary Meyers or Marilyn Bishop by April 3rd, 2016. Also, she discussed the Spring CCDC luncheon. Members that want to sit together must pay together. The cost is \$28.00. The cost of the birthday celebration is \$35 for members.

The meeting adjourned at 12:32pm with the singing of the DKG song.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kristi John,  
Corresponding Secretary

Below: Michelle Grandinetti and Cathy Criner at Theta Alpha's February meeting.



Above: Dianna, Jan and Babs enjoying the February meeting.

**Birthdays**

**March**

- 3 - Babs Arnswald
- 5 - Ann Wyatt
- 12 - Janet Roark

**April**

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



(clipart from Corel Draw x3)



# Election 2016

## Primaries are over -- Now What?

You know which candidates will be on the November ballot. You need to contact them to know they are committed to your issues. Some questions to ask are:

- Do you support a defined benefits plan for all current and future TRS retirees?
- Do you support providing reasonable, affordable healthcare for TRS retirees?
- What will you do as my legislator to ensure that the TRS Fund and TRS-Care are preserved and improved?!

You can report back any responses you receive either positive or negative to TRTA at [info@trta.org](mailto:info@trta.org) or to your professional organization.

Be sure to be involved and informed.

Hattie Hammer,  
Legislative Committee



Left: Theta Alpha Members enjoying Dianna Stouffer's presentation. Below: Leslie and Catie presenting Concepcion Camargo, Julia Crawford recipient with a tote full of goodies.



Left: Theta Alpha members enjoying a number game presented by Dianna Stouffer.



## 87<sup>th</sup> TSO Convention June 23-25, 2016

For more information please go to:  
<http://dkgtxas2016convention.weebly.com/>

## 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](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.

## Additional Convention Information

### *Hotels and Amenities*

The 2016 Frisco Convention has three hotels. First is the convention hotel: Embassy Suites by Hilton, and the Frisco Conference Center is attached to it. Next are the two overflow hotels directly north across the street from the Frisco Conference Center: Hilton Garden Inn and HYATT house.

**Wow!** By mid-January TSO members had reserved all of the Embassy Suites by Hilton's DKG block of rooms! If you still need to reserve a room, rest assured that amenities at the three hotels are similar, such as complimentary hot breakfast, Wi-Fi, and shuttle service within a designated area. And, prices are the same at \$135 for a king suite and \$145 for a double queen suite.

**A heads-up for the overflow hotels:** If you need to reserve a room for Wednesday night and/or if you prefer a tub to a shower, you will probably want to make your reservation at HYATT house. Just indicate your preference for a tub under "Special Request." (**See p. 2 for hotel registration info**)

Whichever hotel you choose, you'll enjoy your stay, and you'll enjoy the 2016 TSO Convention in Frisco!

#### *For More Information:*

- ✓ Check the TSO website regularly at <http://www.dkgtxas.org/>
- ✓ Check Facebook's DKG-TSO page often at <https://www.facebook.com/tso.deltakappagama/>
- ✓ Contact Janet Burgess, Frisco Convention registrar, at [jbursesstx@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbursesstx@sbcglobal.net)

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Heartline, Issue 5  
Editor: Marilyn Nease

## *Convention Website*

**Who?** For all TSO members!

**What?** The convention website is the official place, along with Lone Star News, to learn all about our TSO Convention in Frisco, June 23-25!

**Where?** Online at <http://www.dkgtxas.org/>

**When?** Visit the website regularly!

**Why?** So you'll be in on the latest info!

**How?** Follow the link <http://www.dkgtxas.org/>

### *And, It's as Easy as 1, 2, 3....*

**(1)** When the TSO home page appears, look for **The Convention Website Is Here!** You'll find the convention logo, a quick **intro**, and two **links: Convention Website** (which, clicked on, will lead you to all things convention) and **Visit Frisco Video** (which is an exciting, two-minute look at what Frisco offers visitors).

**(2) Also** on the home page, look for **Are You Ready for Some Baseball?**

There you'll find a quick **intro** to our Friday night event, a RoughRiders logo, and two **links: HERE** (which takes you to Friday night baseball game details and ticket info), and **RoughRiders Video** (which is a fast-paced six minutes about Teddy Roosevelt and the Frisco RoughRiders).

**(3)** Click on **Convention Website**.

When the page opens, you'll find **links to Lodging (hotels, including phone numbers, web addresses, and registration codes for the overflow hotels), Resources** (breakout proposal form, visual arts application, graphics, vendor and ad forms), and **Schedule**. You'll also see **links to the Frisco video and RoughRiders video**. Plus, you'll find **links to Registration (hotels, visual arts, Friday night/RoughRiders), and Heartline** (convention newsletters).

**Thanks, Diane Moose,**  
TSO webmaster,  
for creating and updating  
our convention website

