



# Theta Alpha Chatter

An Honorary Professional Society of Key Women Educators  
Leading women educators impacting education worldwide

**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:  
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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**

## Message from the President

Have we as DKG members ever thought about how different our lives would be without Delta Kappa Gamma? I have. One of the most important differences that comes to mind is that I never would have met all of my priceless Theta Alpha sisters had I not become a member of this outstanding Society. The extraordinary personal and professional relationships that have developed during my membership in DKG will ever be lasting and unforgettable. Developing "genuine spiritual fellowship and lasting friendships" are truly key to keeping us committed to the Society!

During Theta Alpha's September meeting, Catie King, Second Vice President and Ceremonies Chairman, led the members in a Re-commitment Ceremony to remind us that "commitment" to the Seven Purposes of DKG is the key word to strengthen our Society.

In the Jan/Feb, 2013 DKG News Dr. Beverly Helms, 2012-2014 DKG International President, asked, "Is DKG worth it?" Have we recently taken a moment to consider how the many benefits of our membership in the Society enhance us as well as those who benefit from DKG's contributions in our local and global communities? Yes, DKG is positively worth it!!

Let us share what we value about DKG with someone who could become a prospective member of Theta Alpha. Let our enthusiasm for DKG exude to the point that that person could not resist becoming a part of this outstanding international Society for Key Women Educators! Bring your prospective member to Theta Alpha's October meeting so that she can witness the greatness and camaraderie of DKG!!

One of the benefits of DKG is funding global projects such as Schools for Africa. During our October program, Patti Belknap, TSO State Committee Member and Kristi John, Recording Secretary, will lead Theta Alpha in a fun-filled activity, the "Purse Project," to raise funds for Schools for Africa. Along with a purse you wish to recycle, be sure to bring your own purse filled with all sorts of interesting, unique items for this exciting activity! What an entertaining way to aid the Society's Global Awareness project!

To foster our awareness about where DKG fits in with Global Partnerships and how DKG members can continue to promote peace, International is encouraging all DKG members to attend the CTAUN Dallas Conference Saturday, 2 November 2013 at SMU, Hughes-Trigg Student Center, Dallas, TX. Our own Patti Belknap, TSO CTAUN Representative; Michelle Grandinetti, TSO Committee Member; and Kathy Nichols, TSO Committee Member, will help with the conference!

In recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness Month (October), Theta Alpha celebrates with its own breast cancer survivors, Ruth Kaun, Barbara McIntosh, and Linda Robards! Our love and roses go out to these three beautiful, courageous Sisters!

"If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten to belong to each other." Mother Teresa

I am confident that I WILL SEE all of you inspiring Theta Alpha Sisters Saturday, October 19, 2013 for a grand meeting...and bring a friend!!

Peace and blessings,  
Bev Hagood, Theta Alpha President

*Expand the Vision: Educate, Inspire, Encourage*

## Purse Personality

What does your purse say about you? What style are you be suited to?

If you have ever wondered about these questions...or even if you haven't come to our October meeting with your pursed FILLED with your essentials. In addition bring your gently used purses so that we can auction some of them and donate the rest to Family Place. Proceeds from the auction will be donated to Schools In Africa, one of our International DKG projects.

Patti and Kristi guarantee you will enjoy the fun, laughter, and prizes!

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**Don't forget to register for CTAUN DFW by October 19th. [www.ctaun.org](http://www.ctaun.org)**

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## October Meeting

The first six weeks of school has been completed and time is flying by once again. There are wonderful scents in the air: pumpkin, cider, etc.. Autumn has arrived! Please plan to join us for our monthly meeting on October 19, 2013 to welcome our T.H.A.T. recipients.

Date: October 19, 2013  
 Time: 10:00 a.m.  
 Place: Arcadia Park Branch Library  
 1301 N. Justin Ave.  
 Dallas, Texas  
 Inspiration: Jan Gentry  
 Agenda: Presentation of THAT grants;  
 Purse project  
 Hostesses: Epsilon Family (Jan Gentry,  
 Sandra King, Erica Campos,  
 Michelle Fernández, Aurora Torres)

Also, please save the date for our Christmas Tea which will be December 7, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at the Lavendou Restaurant.

Dianne McCorcle  
 Program of Work



## Global Partnerships

The Committee for Teaching about the United Nations (CTAUN) exists to provide opportunities for educators and concerned citizens to learn, understand and appreciate the work of the UN, and to incorporate global awareness into curricula and school activities at all levels.

This one day workshop will be filled with information that will educate, inspire, and encourage you to learn about global issues, sustainability, and global partnerships in an increasingly interconnected world. Come learn how you, your students, your chapter, and your community can become involved.

CTAUN DFW - Saturday, November 2, 2013, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
 Southern Methodist University, Dallas

## From Your A.C.



Happy October everyone! Fall is finally here and the fun begins – Halloween, carnivals, State Fair of Texas, craft shows, more craft shows and cooler weather. It just can't get much better than this. Your chapter agendas are in full swing by now and you have just completed the Annie Calling endeavor to reinstate members. Thank you for the work you did on this project and please do not let this be the end of your efforts to encourage resigned members to rejoin your great chapters. Remind them what a “treat” it is to be a member of your group.

DKG Question: What is the Eula Lee Carter Memorial Fund?

Membership Idea: Remember that membership can be extended to educators in any profession.

Have a fun October!  
 Michelle Grandinetti  
 Area 9 Coordinator  
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## Delta Kappa Gamma Theta Alpha Chapter Minutes September 21, 2013

The regular meeting of the Theta Alpha chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International was called to order at 10:40am by Beverly Hagood, President. The recording secretary, Kristi John, was present and recorded the minutes. Inspiration was given by Patti Belknap, Parliamentarian, as she read "The Peace Book" by Todd Parr in honor of National Peace Day. Beverly Hagood welcomed 21 members. Members reported on others who were unable to attend. The August minutes were approved as printed and will be filed. Members also welcomed Kendall Hasse as she reinstated her membership with Delta Kappa Gamma International.

Leslie Valentincic, Corresponding Secretary, reported on membership for the chapter and reported we had a quorum. She also read a card from Mary Ann Shupe, stating her resignation due to her move to Oklahoma. Mary Myers, Co-Treasurer, reported on dues for the chapter, and stated she would need them by the end of October. Dianne McCorcle, First Vice President, reported on the Holiday Tea that will be held on December 7th, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. at the Lavendou Restaurant. Catie King, Second Vice-President, reported to the members about the new brochure. She also gave each member a small card with all of the meeting dates to share. Members then voted on changing the cover of the chapter's yearbook and Sandra King volunteered to create the artwork.

Michelle Grandinetti, Area Nine Coordinator and Chairman of Personal Growth Committee, encouraged members to visit the state website and then register for the CTAUN conference in Dallas, Texas. She then read a sample from a magazine about why people belong to organizations. She encouraged members to express the importance of teaching children about family history. Catie King then presented a book talk on "Touch the Top of the World" by Eric Weihenmayer.

Our program was presented by Patti Belknap, Parliamentarian and Texas Liaison to CTAUN (Committee to Teaching about the United Nations) about the upcoming conference in Dallas, Texas. Patti encouraged all members to register and attend the conference in Dallas, Texas on November 2nd, 2013 at SMU (Southern Methodist University).

Music was presented by Babs Arnsward. Members sang "Let There Be Peace on Earth" by Harry Connick, Jr. and then members recommitted to the chapter with Catie King through the recommitment ceremony. Patti Belknap then reported on the program for the next meeting followed by door prizes by Leslie Valentincic. The meeting adjourned at 12:20p.m by singing the DKG song.

Kristi John,  
Recording Secretary



## Membership

Hello Everyone! In case you missed the last meeting, we had a great turnout! Door prizes were given, chocolate was eaten, and like always, lots of laughter! I am thrilled to announce that we reinstated Kendall Hasse as a new member of Theta Alpha! Kendall had previously been a member of Eta Zeta before having to resign do to location and meeting times, but we are elated to welcome her back to Delta Kappa Gamma and a new addition to Theta Alpha!

One of our goals for this year was to recruit some new members to hopefully have Initiation in October; however, the prospective members we had in mind were unable to join at this time. We can still have Initiation at any point in the year so there is still plenty of time! Where can YOU find prospective members to invite to meetings? Maybe it's making suggestions to those who are still teaching, inviting someone from church who is a teacher, or stalking someone in the checkout line with a cart full of crayons or pencils...who know a teacher when you see one! Strike up a conversation...you never know what you will find out!

Leslie Valentincic  
Corresponding Secretary



## News Buds

Sympathies to Linda Robards and her family for the loss of her brother. Sad for us-Mary Ann Shupe will be leaving Theta Alpha to become a Sooner fan. We are really going to miss her.



Bouquets of roses to all of the participants who made September's meeting informative and interesting! Patti Belknap, DKG Texas Liaison to CTAUN, made us eager to attend the CTAUN Conference in November by presenting pertinent information about DKG's new emphasis on collaborating with non-governmental organizations such as the United Nations. Catie King, Second Vice President, delighted the members with a Book Talk on Touch the Top of the World by Eric Weihenmayer. Catie also led the members in a Re-commitment Ceremony that reminded Theta Alpha of the "Core Values" of DKG and of how commitment to the Society is the key to the strength of DKG. Michelle Grandinetti, Area IX Coordinator, brought the members up to date on the Stillwell Retirement Home and informed Theta Alpha that World Fellowship would be collecting our "least coins" at each meeting. The total collections will be sent to Stillwell at the end of the biennium.

Thank you to Sandra King for procuring the meeting venue and for making it possible for each member to receive the book, Can You See Me? By Karen Holt. Theta Alpha appreciated the handy "refrigerator cards" that Cattie King prepared for each member. Let us not forget our Gamma Family who provided the mouth-watering refreshments: Marilyn Bishop, Chairman; Susie Branch; Carolyn Johnson; Virginia Long; Claudia McBride; and Bev Hagood. Thank you to Babs Arnsward for leading us in our music.

Kudos to Patti Belknap, Marilyn Bishop, Michelle Grandinetti, Catie King, Sandra King, Baudelia Luna, Janet Roark, and Ann Wyatt for offering to contact our "dropped members" for TSO's "Annie Calling."

Theta Alpha joyously welcomes Kendall Hasse who remembers as a Delta Kappa Gamma member from another chapter. We are overjoyed that Kendall is now officially a member of the Theta Alpha family!! WELCOME, KENDALL!!

## Birthdays

### October

20 - Michelle Grandinetti  
23 - Patti Belknap

### November

2 - Mary Ann Shupe  
15 - Claudia McBride  
17 - Dianne McCorcle  
30 - Susie Branch



## Important Upcoming Dates:

- Texas Association for Literacy Education (TALE)- October 12, 2013 2nd Annual Conference, Texas State University- San Marcos Campus in Round Rock, Texas - [www.texasreaders.org](http://www.texasreaders.org)
- CTAUN DFW - SMU Campus, Dallas November 2, 2013 Register at: [www.ctaun.org](http://www.ctaun.org)

## WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BENEFITS OF DKG?

Below are some responses that international committee members gave when asked to share what they valued about DKG (DKG News, Jan/Feb 2013).

Theta Alpha can use these responses to help jog other personal responses whenever sharing the benefits of DKG with prospective members.

- genuine spiritual fellowship and lasting friendships
- scholarships
- leadership development and mentoring
- networking
- global affiliation
- world fellowships
- funding for projects
- professional development
- opportunities to publish, make presentations, conduct workshops, attend outstanding seminars, conferences and conventions
- ability to make a difference in local communities and worldwide
- promotion of the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education



## Have you thought about how different your life would be without DKG?

Please be sure to download The Lone Star on [alphastatetexas.org](http://alphastatetexas.org) for important updates from the 84th TSO Convention. Theta Alpha stays informed!!