



Theta Alpha Chatter

Bridging Yesterday and Tomorrow!

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 19, 2017
September 16, 2017
October 21, 2017
November 18, 2017
December 9, 2017
January 20, 2018
February 17, 2018
March 17, 2018
April 21, 2018
May 19, 2018

Message from the President

The signs of autumn are all around us this harvest season, pumpkins, the State Fair of Texas, cooler weather, and of course fall decorations! Many of us are already thinking about the holidays being just around the corner. I hope you all are thinking about the Nov. auction and what you will bring to this fun gathering.

Our Oct.21st meeting will be held at the Church of Christ, 535 Clark Road in Cedar Hill. We will have morning refreshments provided by the Eta family at 9:30. Kristi John is in charge and will be getting in touch with Ruth, Elizabeth, and Patti Baker for their help. As a reminder, please bring any prospect cards that you have for new member recruitment. Oct. 12th we gave away 4 T.H.A.T. grants by personally presenting them to each teacher. Patti, Baudelia, and Mary were proud to give these very excited teachers their funds on behalf of our Theta Alpha chapter.

Looking toward next month, Nov. 18th, is the date of our annual auction. Please remember to bring friends and guests because the more the merrier! The funds we raise are important to our chapter so we can continue to award the Julia Crawford scholarship and the T.H.A.T grants.

See you Oct.21st and remember if you need transportation PLEASE call any member close to you, they will gladly come for you!

Mary Myers,
President

An Honorary Professional Society
of Key Women Educators

October Meeting Details

October starts the time of year that is one of my favorites! The weather starts to cool down (hopefully), long-sleeved clothes and jackets are needed, and we get closer and closer to Christmas (my favorite holiday.) This school year is just flying by and I think our October meeting will be the best one yet!

Do you go to your high school homecoming? If the answer is no, you are in luck! We are hosting Homecoming for our own former Theta Alpha members! Come and greet past members as they catch up with current Theta Alpha members as we enjoy a purse scavenger hunt and auction (bring gently used bags to auction) with the proceeds going to Schools for Africa! Bring your checks and make them out to UNICEF for this worthy cause. Jasmine will rave us with an amazing Inspiration, and Mary, Patti, and the rest of the T.H.A.T Award crew can share how presenting the T.H.A.T awards at the schools went. Can't wait to see you there!

I hope to see you there!

Leslie Valentincic,
Co-First Vice President

Meeting Date: October 21, 2017

Meeting Location: Cedar Hill Church of Christ
535 S. Clark Road
Cedar Hill, TX 75104

Meeting Time: 10:00 AM

What to Bring: A purse to auction off for Schools of Africa

Did You Know?

What is CTAUN? (Pronounced SeeTawn)

CTAUN = Conference for Teaching About the United Nations.

“CTAUN provides educators worldwide with opportunities to learn about the work of the United Nations and to incorporate this global awareness into curricula and school activities at all levels.” Through CTAUN educators worldwide have the opportunity to attend conferences about global issues and supplement lessons with curricula provided by CTAUN.

In the Texas State Organization CTAUN is part of the Global Awareness Committee which also includes Schools for Africa and the World Fellowship Committee.

For more information about CTAUN go their website. Just type in CTAUN.

Now You Know....

Legislative News

There will be constitutional amendments to the Texas constitution on the ballot in November. These are available on line for you to read and consider. Keep reading about those persons running for state senate and house. We need to have supporters of teachers and public education elected.

Hattie Hammer,
Legislative Chairman

Birthdays

October

17 - Allison Nichols
20 - Michelle Grandinetti
23 - Patti Belknap

November

2 - Mary Ann Shupe
17 - Dianne McCorcle
30 - Susie Branch



(clipart from Corel Draw x3)

THAT Grant Awardees

Name: Carolina Guio

Position: 1st grade teacher at Peach Elementary, Arlington ISD

Highlights: This is Carolina's second year teaching. Last year, she had to begin her first year of teaching in a teacher workroom because her actual classroom had no floors, paint, or furniture due to delays in construction. This year, she is starting off the year in her own classroom, but is still in need of books, math games, and bilingual language arts resources. In her essay, she concluded, "I know that this grant will help me build the classroom of my dreams and the one that my most precious students deserve."



Name: Ghandy Estrada Helle

Position: 4th grade teacher at Knox Elementary, Arlington ISD

Highlights: Ghandy is a first year teacher! She is hoping to use her grant money to purchase math manipulatives such as 12-sided dice, fraction dice, and behavior incentives for her students. She noted, "Positive behavior benefits both the students and teacher, as it gives them more time for instruction versus using that time making corrections."



Name: Leigh Poage

Position: Art teacher (K-6) at Knox Elementary, Arlington ISD

Highlights: Leigh is also a first year teacher! She hopes to purchase additional art supplies that will enable her students to explore a wide variety of mediums and art techniques. In her essay, Leigh explained, "The daily amount of consumables in an art room is staggering." She knows the value in art education and even hopes to start an after school art club on her campus to provide her students with more time for visual arts.



Name: Annaliese Wink

Position: Speech Language Pathologist at Knox Elementary & Rankin Elementary, Arlington ISD

Highlights: This will be Annaliese's third year as a speech language pathologist. She serves and advocates for students with communication disorders each day. Her work includes the assessment, treatment, and case management of children with a wide variety of speech and language deficits. "I would use the award to create more visual materials to target speech and language. It is my vision to create thematic units that address a variety of different skills," she mentioned. She is currently financing this project with her own money to help students achieve their IEP goals and communicate successfully.





Delta Kappa Gamma Theta Alpha Chapter Minutes September 16, 2017

The regular meeting of the Theta Alpha Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International as called to order and began at 10:11am. Beverly Hagood gave the inspiration. Mary Myers, President, welcomed everyone and asked for member updates. Members shared updates about members that were unable to attend today. We have a quorum, and the minutes have been approved as written and will be filed. Marilyn Bishop, co-Treasurer gave an update on the account balance of \$1,448.01 as of September 1st, 2017. Sarah McMurrugh, Corresponding Secretary updated the member on the greeting card membership.

Badelia Luna announced that Hattie Hammer is our 2016-2017 Achievement Award winner. Hattie was unable to attend the May meeting so the award was presented to her today. Linda Robards, Membership Chairman asked members for member's profiles and prospect cards. Sarah McMurrugh gave an update on the THAT Grant. She has received three applications. Catie King, co-First Vice President and Patti Belknap, TSO Second Vice president gave an update on DKG Homecoming. Catie announced that the Purse Auction proceeds for the October meeting will go to Schools for Africa.

Kathy Nichols, Leslie Valenticic, Patti Belknap, Michelle Grandinetti shared memories of Barbara "Babs" Arnswald and Cathen Jones, both Theta Alpha Chapter members whom recently passed away. Members also shared memories of both beautiful women. Members closed the memorial with the reading of a song "A Hymn of Promise."

A motion was made by Michelle Grandinetti to allow Dianna Stouffer to go on temporary Reserve status and was seconded by Patti Belknap. Members voted to grant Dianna Stouffer temporary Reserve membership status.

Michelle Grandinetti gave an update on ways to help Hurricane Harvey victims in South Texas through "Member to Member" support. Michelle has received 19 names of members who have been affected by the storm. She is helping those members pay their dues by matching encouragers to help. She also spoke about Campus Helping Hands, schools in the affected area are matched with Schools in unaffected to adopt and support that school. If you are interested to helping, please contact Michelle. Patti shared with members present the reason

for not just waving dues of members that were affected. Other members spoke about how important it is to help this situation.

Leslie introduced Rob Jones from the Summit to present our program about health and wellness. Members completed several stretching moves and exercises. Rob suggested several exercises that we can do easily at home. He said nutrition is key. Sleep is the second most important. Finally, add physical activity. He also encouraged us to be accountable with what you eat and write it down. To get on the Power 10 email rob@power10fit.com. [Check out Grand Prairie Parks and Recreation to find out more about The Summit.](#)

Michelle Grandinetti and Patti Belknap shared a presentation from of memories from Southwest Regional conference. She shared some pictures and information about meetings they attended.

The meeting adjourned at 12:50pm after singing the DKG song.

Submitted Respectfully,

Kristi John,
Recording Secretary



Budelia Luna
presenting
Hattie Hammer
the 2016-2017
Achievement
Award.

From Our A.C.

Happy October, Everyone!

This past weekend I spent some time with some quilting friends of mine making this cute skeleton wall hanging. This particular quilting group is made up of friends from the Dallas area and the Houston area who meet up halfway between the two cities several times a year to catch up, laugh, and work on quilting projects. While we work on our projects, we share our stories and lives with each other. As you can imagine this weekend, Hurricane Harvey was the main topic of discussion and stories were told on how my Houston friends survived the rain.

Each story was unique and different. Some stories were heroic in how a school and a principal opened up their doors to become a shelter for families. The power of what we as educators do is amazing because this campus kicked the Red Cross out because they could not control the chaos while the teachers and educators had it all resolved within an hour. Some stories had us laughing over double because of our families antics during the storm. Our hearts broke hearing about people losing their homes, businesses, and jobs because of the weather. Do you know what it is like to walk through your house filled with all of your belongs soaked through with sewer water? One friend talked about how she searched and searched to try to find something to save...trying to hold on the hope that she and her family could find one thing. The exciting thing was that the city was starting to pick up the debris after the storm. Just the thought that I would have to stare at my decomposing things by the side of the road for over a month and be constantly reminded of what I have lost.

While I was not impacted personally by Hurricane Harvey, I was impacted by hail storms a year or two ago, probably like many of you were. The DKG funds were there for me. Now it is my time to step up and take care of my DKG sisters.

Area nine is the largest population with the largest number of chapters in the state of Texas. I challenge each of you and your chapters to help me give assistance to our DKG sisters are struggling in the southeast area. Currently, we have over 60 members

who need help in the Member to Member initiate. If you can not adopt a single person yourself then consider passing the hat at a chapter meeting to adopt a member as a chapter project (\$80). Everyone at a chapter could write a note of encouragement or sign a card for the member. We are creative and out of the box thinkers so let's think about how we can help our own members.

Jennifer Bernabo,
Area Coordinator

Keep the Change!

When I decided I needed to do something to manage my finances better, I knew I needed to find a way to allow for the occasional splurge purchase without messing up my budget. I'd heard about people choosing a type of bill they wouldn't use, however I didn't think I could manage to remove any denomination of bill with the cash allowance I'd allowed myself, so I chose a coin. I chose dimes. They are small, so I could hold more of them in the coin jar I found. It didn't feel like a sacrifice to take them out of my weekly money, and they add up quickly. If I could stick to my budget and save all my dimes, then I could splurge using only the amount of the dimes I'd saved.










Each evening I'd remove all dimes from my purse and put them in a jar until I'd saved enough to spend on something not in my weekly budget. After a couple weeks I started spending them when I joined my co-workers for "\$2 tacos on Tuesday for teachers." Some of them found my savings plan amusing, so they would bring their dimes and trade them with me for quarters which helped my dime savings add up a little more quickly. By the time the taco restaurant stopped having that offer, saving dimes was a habit, so I just changed what I could spend them on. Now I save all the coins I haven't spent by the end of the week; the amount I save in dimes is still used for going out to eat with friends and the rest is for my savings account. I'll admit it is a slow way to save, but it's simple, manageable and it is working, so for now I'll keep at it.

Catie King, Co - First Vice President

LETTER OF INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING A CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE AT MY MEMORIAL SERVICE AND MY DELTA KAPPA GAMMA JEWELRY

Ceremony of Remembrance: The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International has a remembrance ceremony for memorial services. The ceremony may take place during a memorial service or at a graveside service.

Delta Kappa Gamma Jewelry: Delta Kappa Gamma members are encouraged to discuss the dispensation of their Delta Kappa Gamma jewelry with their families. The information below may be helpful.

 <p>Member Keypin</p>	<p>Chapter President Barpin</p> 	 <p>Chapter Achievement Award Guard</p>
 <p>Leadership Award Pin</p>	 <p>State Achievement Award Guard</p>	 <p>Golden Rose Award Pin</p>
 <p>5-70 yr Membership Pin</p>	 <p>State President Barpin</p>	 <p>International Achievement Award Pin</p>

Other Delta Kappa Gamma Jewelry as listed: _____

To Family and Friends:

I have circled the illustration(s) of the Delta Kappa Gamma jewelry that I have worn with pride. When I can no longer wear it, please return it to

_____ My chapter: _____ (Contact TSO for chapter president)

_____ The Texas State Organization

Contact TSO at PO Box 797787, Dallas, TX 75379 or call 972-930-9945

I Do Do Not (circle one) request a ceremony of remembrance at my memorial service.

Signed _____ Date _____