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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

85 Years and Beyond: Advancing Key Women Educators for Life

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

From the desk of the President

Dear Mu Tau Sisters,

Happy 2016! I hope the new year is off to a good start for each of you. With the holidays behind us, it's time for us once again to get together, catch up, and enjoy a wonderful chapter meeting.

Our executive board met in January to discuss some of the items that our chapter needs to be thinking about. The Texas State Organization has a new reporting process for the biennial reports, and I am happy to say that our reports were submitted on time. It is always a pleasure to report good things! We will be looking into revising our chapter rules in the near future, and we will be voting on new members and electing our new officers in February. Please make every effort to attend our remaining meetings for this year so you don't miss out on anything important.

Our program for the February meeting will be presented by Linda Robinson, who is a state honorary member as well as an honorary member of our own chapter (and, of course, Jean's daughter-in-law). Linda will be giving us information about the Honor Flights as we pay tribute to veterans this month. These programs are always such highlights, and I know you will want to be in attendance for this one. We will be honored to have some veterans in attendance as well.

Our February meeting will also include ASTEF's Day of Giving project. The ASTEF Board (including our own Jean Robinson) has designated February 14 as fund-raising day to help with their projects. Since our meeting is so close to that time, we will be discussing how we want to contribute to ASTEF. Because our Little Free Libraries were largely funded by an ASTEF grant, we know how important that money is!

So with 2016 well underway, we are ready to continue all the great things we have going in Mu Tau. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting on February 15th.

—Janice



Mu Tau Meeting

Monday

February 15, 2016

4:45 PM

Tri-County Library, Mabank

Hostesses: Beverly Hart, chair; Monica Fortenberry, Bickie Roberts, Judy Sullivan, Mary Ann Gregg, Carol Voris-Render

Meaningful Moments

Sherri Purselley

Program

We Love Our Veterans

Linda Robinson

Business

Vote on officers

Vote on new members

Presentation of revised chapter rules

Happy Valentine's Day!

Find us:

www.dkg.org

www.dkgtexas.org



Mu Tau calendar 2015-2016

February 15, 2016 “We Love Our Veterans,” Linda Robinson; vote on officers; vote on new members; revised Chapter Rules presented

March 21, 2016 Orientation; vote on revised chapter rules; “Reading Around the World”; International Book Review/Global Awareness

April 18, 2016 Initiation; Dinner at FUMC, Mabank

May 16, 2016 Installation; Founders Day, Jeanette Rhyan; Awards

June 23-25, 2016 87th State Convention, Frisco, Texas

July, 5-9, 2016 International Convention, Nashville, Tennessee

Graphics not DKG are Microsoft and Broderbund. RoughRiders logo is repeated from convention mail-out.

ABOUT GIVING

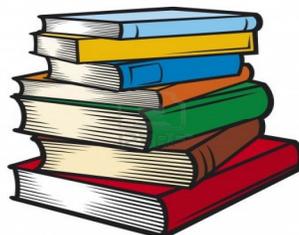
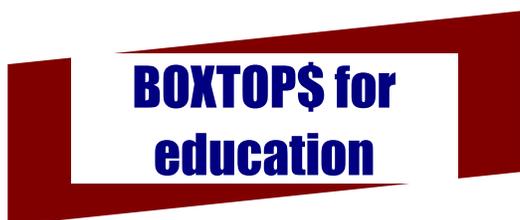
February 14 has been designated as Giving Day in Texas DKG in support of our Foundation: ASTEF.



DKG provides many ways for members to give in honor of or in memory of someone who is or has been a special part of our lives: World Fellowships, State and International Scholarships, local Grants-in-Aid, SEE, Schools for Africa, the Speaker’s Forum, ASTEF, and any branch of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

For a more complete list of giving opportunities, see the TSO website and/or the DKG International website for honoring someone special and supporting our Society’s programs and purposes.

Bring **USED** books to help stock Mu Tau’s Little Free Libraries at Northpark and Cherokee Shores!



Both the used books and the Boxtop\$ go to Mindy Marder. Boxtop\$ help our schools; books help our communities.

Mu Tau

Executive Board

2014-2016

President

Janice Sutton

First Vice President

Barbara Jedlicka

Second Vice President

DeAnna Thompson

Recording Secretary

Monica Fortenberry

Corresponding Secretary

Bickie Roberts

Treasurer

Beverly Hart

Parliamentarian

Nancy McDonald

Immediate Past President

Melody Stephenson

Mu Tau Projects

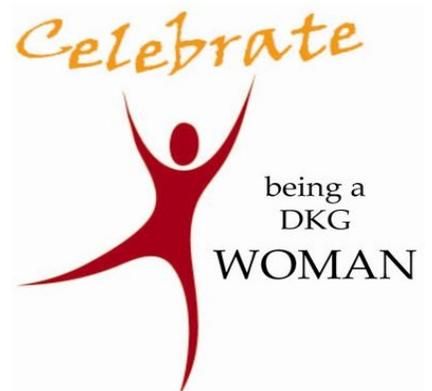
Little Free Libraries

Boxtop\$ for Education

Mu Tau Grant-in-Aid

Schools for Africa

Early Career Educators



MU TAU CHAPTER MEETING

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

DECEMBER 14, 2015

The regular meeting of the Mu Tau chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma was held at the Tri-County Library with fifteen members registering attendance. President Janice Sutton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The Meaningful Moment presented by Erin Cox was a lovely remembrance of the family memories held in a 3 x 5 recipe box that belonged to her grandmother.

President Sutton asked that we add to the November minutes that numerous attempts were made to contact Annette McKee and Nettie Holland before they were removed from the membership rolls. Minutes were then approved as corrected. The treasurer's report was presented by Beverly Hart showing a balance of \$1,242.13.

Committee reports were made including the report that our chapter received an Early Bird Certificate for our yearbook because DeAnna Thompson submitted it early. Members were asked to check their information to see if it is correct, and to notify DeAnna if there is anything that needs to be corrected. Our chapter also received the Exemplary Yearbook Award, so congratulations to DeAnna for her outstanding work on our chapter yearbook.

Membership Committee chairman Jean Robinson passed out a list of prospective members, and we discussed their experience and attributes. Voting for new members will take place at the February meeting.

The Nominations Committee presented the slate of prospective new officers which are: President - Barbara Jedlicka; 1st Vice President – Mindy Marder; 2nd Vice President – Libby Horton; Recording Secretary – Beverly Hart; and Corresponding Secretary – Sherri Purselley. We will vote for officers at the February meeting.

Newsletter editor Lavonne Dennis asked members to please submit articles on reflection of DKG and our heritage as part of DKG. Articles should be submitted to Lavonne by February 1st.

Barbara Jedlicka introduced our December program "Christmas in DKG Countries" by sharing examples of how important food is to our culture. Barbara then asked each member to explain the memories that go with the food that she brought and what it means to her. The foods were delicious, and the memories attached to them delightful. It was a special time of sharing and a most enjoyable program.

The meeting was then adjourned by President Sutton with the singing of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas".

Monica Fortenberry, recording secretary

Janice Sutton, president



In keeping with our practice of responding to TSO President Marilyn Gregory's theme HEART, February's THE MU TAUKEK focuses on the **R for Reflection** (to reflect our heritage as we advance the Society) with member-written articles. Some of the articles are by very new members; others by long-time DKG sisters.



Reflection



Reflect our Heritage—Advance the Society

by Janice Sutton

How does Mu Tau reflect our heritage as we advance the Society? As I think about this question, I first think of the heritage we have. Our Mu Tau chapter is one of the younger ones in Texas, having been the last chapter chartered in the last millennium (in September 1999). Those of us who were charter members realized that there are numerous outstanding educators in our area who were being overlooked for membership by other chapters. In order to reach out to those ladies and to create a more local group for those of us who were already members, Mu Tau was born! During the 16 plus years of our existence, we have been a vital, active, and visible group in our communities and around the state. We have always been represented at our area workshops and state conventions, and, more often than not, at regional conferences and international conventions. We understand the meaning of sisterhood and the rich and wonderful history of the Society.

As a result of that awesome inheritance, Mu Tau continues to advance the ideals of Delta Kappa Gamma through our participation at all levels of the Society. In addition, we seek out ways to serve our communities and promote education. We enjoy enlightening and enjoyable programs at our meetings. Our meaningful moments are thought-provoking and entertaining. Thanks to so many outstanding leaders in our chapter, we have adopted projects that benefit our communities, schools, educators, and students. We benefit from the friendships, support, and fellowship we enjoy with each other. We continue to work, plan, and discuss ways our chapter can grow and make a difference in people's lives. Each of us plays a unique part in the way our local chapter carries out the purposes and adheres to the mission of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. I know that we will continue to do so for many years.

Reflection

by Monica Fortenberry

Reflection can be a very healthy and productive tool as it helps us to evaluate and set goals to make improvements. In reflecting on how I as a member and Mu Tau as a chapter reflect the purpose of DKG, I reviewed the purposes of our society.

One purpose is to bring recognition and respect to teachers, and I remember feeling so honored to be invited to be a member of Mu Tau and feeling affirmed for my work as an educator.

Another purpose is to unite women educators in a genuine spiritual fellowship, which includes helping fellow educators in times of need, such as when we sent donations to Van, and are planning to help Red Oak teachers.

Another purpose of DKG is to impact education worldwide. I think Mu Tau has had some very worthwhile projects, such as our USO book donations to deployed soldiers to read and record for their children, our Little Free Libraries, and the Schools for Africa program.

As I reflect on my personal contributions as a member, I feel I can do more to make our chapter better. I want our members and local teachers to feel Mu Tau is relevant, worthwhile, and is something they want to be a part of because we are impacting education and our community.

I feel so blessed to have been a part of such a rewarding profession. I also know how challenging teaching can be, so I hope that we as a chapter can create and implement programs to encourage and affirm our local teachers who are still in the trenches everyday.

Our country is in critical need of good educators because as we all know education is the foundation of a society. Let's all do our part to fulfill the purposes of DKG by being active members of Mu Tau, getting involved in our ongoing programs, and helping create new meaningful programs to benefit our local educators, schools, and community.

More reflections . . .

Reflection is even more important today in our fast-paced society. When are we to think, plan, resolve, and reassess if we don't take the time to reflect? As more and more is demanded of our fellow educators and their time becomes such a precious commodity, the support from Mu Tau is even more critical. Whether it is through fellowship, words of encouragement, much-deserved thank you's, or additional resources, Mu Tau is, and has always been, on the forefront to assist educators. That valuable love and support is even more crucial now!

—Gaye Stegman

Mu Tau has always done an excellent job to enhance our chapter and Delta Kappa Gamma. Our programs have been very informative. Our members are willing to do whatever is asked of them. We continually strive to do a better job for our chapter and the Society. I am very honored to be part of such a vital and wonderful organization.

—Nancy McDonald

My Mu Tau Reflection

by Libby Horton

I have been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma Mu Tau Chapter since 2000. Therefore, I have been a member for going on ONLY sixteen years. For many of the first few years, Mu Tau was spoken of as the NEW chapter in the state. I attended state TSO conventions and DKG members I met would say, "Oh, that's Jean's chapter." WOW! I was and am so honored that our chapter has a distinction because of the outstanding accomplishments of our members. Jean is not the only one who stands out at the state level, for we have many members who have invested themselves in DKG.

Now don't get me wrong. I thoroughly enjoy our local chapter meetings and being involved in the projects that we do. However, I believe that being involved beyond the local chapter is what MAKES the difference in knowing the impact of Delta Kappa Gamma International. Our Society is a worldwide influence in education and on humanity.

Those of you who know me know that I believe in investing in people internationally, and DKG does that. I have friends who having left Mu Tau tell me that they just "didn't get it!" I tell you all: invest beyond the local chapter level, and you'll have a better understanding of the Society and how it WORKS across the world. Delta Kappa Gamma is so worthwhile, and I thank the members who selected me to become a part of this amazing group.

Reflections

by Sherri Purselley

So my thoughts to ponder were "How do we reflect our heritage as we advance our Society?"

The first definition that comes to my mind for *reflect* is "to think deeply and carefully about our past." As a DKG member, I then thought of some words that might have described the Founders of our past. Words like: *intelligent, independent, courageous, inspiring, leaders, and role models*. All of these words would be used to describe any truly professional employee.

The second definition of *reflect* is "to cast back, send back or throw back." Of course this brings to mind a reflection. For all of us as ladies, we know too well what a reflection of ourselves looks like! Now, though, think in terms of an employee as a teacher. Is your reflection **professional**?

When we combine these two definitions, I think we get the answer to our question. If we want to advance our Society (DKG), we have to take on and **reflect** the characteristics of our founders. We have to be **intelligent** women who do our jobs well and are known as master teachers. We need to be **independent** and willing to do our own thing while working cooperatively with a group. We have to be **courageous** enough to do or teach something different, to share new or creative ideas, and to think outside the box. We need to **inspire** others with positive comments that build people up. We need to be **leaders** at school by serving on committees or being the first to complete tasks. We need to be **role models** that set good examples and mentor to young and old.

By doing these things, we will set ourselves apart as professionals, and we will be recognized as DKG women. We will be noticed for the good deeds and innovative ways we are reaching out to children and educators. Others will want to join our Society and be a part of something that is changing and moving the education system along in a positive way.

Our Founders left us a heritage of great qualities that we should all aspire to attain. The Society was founded to promote professional and personal growth.

We CAN advance our society IF we **reflect our heritage!**



Mu Tau birthdays in February

Libby Horton, 2/8

DeAnna Thompson, 2/25

**Happy birthday, sweet Sisters! Blow out those
candles and get to the cake!**



Remember that we review the changes in our chapter rules. Please read and consider what the changes may mean for Mu Tau as DKG members.

Consider your part in supporting SEE.

Remember that we feed the pig for Mu Tau's grant-in-aid. Bring cash.

TSO Convention news

Frisco is very proud of what they have to offer for the TSO convention. Who can blame them? We should all be there. So, since hotel rooms are always booked very quickly, The Mu Tauker includes here the info about the **convention hotel**. Other convention information will come to you in additional files attached.

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.