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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,

As I write this, I can feel that fall is in the air. It has been raining for several days now, and it is definitely cooler. However, by the time you read this, we might be having a sunny day close to 90 degrees! I sincerely hope that is not the case. November is here, and it's time for the crisp mornings and the cooler days. I am ready for them! I am also looking forward to Thanksgiving in a few weeks. What a wonderful time of the year!

Those of us who were able to attend the October meeting in Athens enjoyed getting to know some wonderful sisters in Area 1. Epsilon Epsilon chapter members were such gracious hostesses. We were also welcomed into the area by our area coordinator and members from her chapter in Tyler. Much information was exchanged, including updates on ASTEF, the state convention in Frisco, and the Area 1 workshop. Be sure to save the date for that, which will be July 30, 2016. We will want to be well represented at our first workshop in our new area.

Our meeting this month will be a special one. The program will be presented by Libby Horton, who will give us information about the Schools for Africa project. In addition, you will be asked to provide the name of an outstanding woman educator who would be a good potential member of Delta Kappa Gamma. Please be prepared to submit a name, along with contact information if you have it. We will follow up in the next few months with voting, invitations, orientation, and hopefully some more outstanding new members.

Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend our meeting this month. My daughter is running a half marathon (for some reason!) in Las Vegas (of all places!) on November 15th, and she asked us several months ago to meet her there and cheer her on. I think she realized she would not have to twist our arms very much to get us to agree! I truly do hate the timing of this, and I will certainly miss being at our meeting. However, I know that Barbara will quite capably lead you in my absence.

I hope you all are doing well and will plan to be in attendance at our November meeting. It promises to be a great one, and I seriously regret having to miss. I will be eager to hear all about it when I return.

Happy Thanksgiving to all of you!

—Janice



Mu Tau Meeting

Monday

November 16, 2015

4:45 PM

Tri-County Library, Mabank

Hostesses

Mindy Marder, chair;
Janice Beasley, Kathy Clardy, Judi Versace, Shawnn Oliver, Sherri Purselley

Meaningful Moments

Carol Voris

Program

Schools for Africa

Libby Horton

Prospective members' names submitted

Happy Thanksgiving!

Find us:

www.dkg.org

www.dkgtexas.org



Mu Tau calendar 2015-2016

November 16, 2015 “Schools for Africa,” Libby Horton; prospective members’ names submitted

December 14, 2015 “Christmas in DKG Countries,” Barbara Jedlicka; Nominations Committee report; Membership Committee report

January 18, 2016 Executive Board Meeting/Revised Chapter Rules

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

[This article is in support of the E(ducate) of TSO President Marilyn Gregory's HEART theme.]

Why Am I a Member of Delta Kappa Gamma?

By Jean Robinson, Chair of Mu Tau Membership Committee

In a recent five-year survey conducted by the International Membership Committee, the following data were collected on this question. The results:

Collegiality and **fellowship** ranked the highest. We appreciate the relationships we make through membership as well as projects, programs, and social activities. Lifelong friendships are made with our association through attending meetings, workshops, conventions, and events.

Honor of membership, **opportunities** for **professional growth** and **networking** attract us to DKG.

The Society’s publications are the most important means of staying informed about the Society, its activities, and its influence. We appreciate being always on top of what matters most and the creative ways of presenting the news. Have you read **Get Connected**? This publication is available through www.dkgtxas.org tab on the front page labeled My DKG; it provides information to access a member’s account, including a personal profile and contact data. Read all about us through the www.dkg.org, the **DKG News** and the **Bulletin**, also.

I am so proud to have access to so much through my membership in Delta Kappa Gamma!

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

Celebrate



Mu Tau Chapter Meeting

Delta Kappa Gamma

October 12, 2015

The Mu Tau chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma held a joint meeting with Epsilon Epsilon at Eastern Hills Church of Christ in Athens, Texas, on October 12, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Virginia Reeder, president of Epsilon Epsilon, following a time of fellowship. President Reeder welcomed Mu Tau members and visitors from other chapters including Area 1 Coordinator Kim Paetzel, Emma Jovan, and Ruth Hull.

Epsilon Epsilon Vice President Beth Heppington led us in a game of Welcome Bingo to help everyone get acquainted. After completing the game, we were given a chapter wellness survey. Reeder explained that membership seems to be a problem for many chapters, and the survey was to give some insight into what the needs are to remedy the problem.

Area 1 Coordinator Kim Paetzel then spoke about the 2016 state convention to be held in Frisco. She said that convention organizers are planning many fun events including a “Night at the Ball Park”. Kim also informed us that the date for the 2016 Area 1 Workshop will be July 30th, and that they are presently searching for a location for the workshop.

Mu Tau president Janice Sutton expressed Mu Tau’s appreciation to Epsilon Epsilon for having us be a part of their meeting and for welcoming us to Area 1. Sutton presented bookmarks made by Mu Tau member Lavonne Dennis as tokens of our appreciation.

Jean Robinson, ASTEF board member and Mu Tau member, gave a heads up for this year’s ASTEF fundraiser. Robinson stated that this year donations to ASTEF will be made on Sunday, February 14th, which has been designated as ASTEF Giving Day. All members present received a cookie made by Mu Tau member Nancy McDonald as a reminder of ASTEF’s giving program. Linda Anderson, state chairman of finance and ASTEF board member, explained that members will be able to go online to make their donation.

Epsilon Epsilon president Reeder told of their chapter’s upcoming project of making cards to send to troops as a tribute to veterans. Reeder then gave a summary of the results of the survey taken at the beginning of the meeting. She shared that there was a consensus that members would like to have more projects outside the chapter. Reeder gave as an example Epsilon Epsilon’s involvement in Ruby’s Place, a women’s shelter. Other survey results showed members were in favor of mentoring programs, personal recruitment, and member-led projects.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22 p.m. by Epsilon Epsilon President Reeder.

Monica Fortenberry, recording secretary

Janice Sutton, president

Area One is located in east Texas with crystal clear lakes, rolling hills, and majestic forests. You will find many historic and cultural attractions here, from the two oldest cities in Texas, San Augustine and Nacogdoches, to Tyler, the Rose Capital of the World. Most Area One members think their area has some of the friendliest Delta Kappa Gamma women in the state.

—from Area 1 website



[Here's another article for the **E** of HEART of TSO President Marilyn Gregory's theme—so appropriate since the **cour** means heart.]



Encouragement

By Melody Stephenson, member of TSO Membership Committee

We all have been on the giving or receiving end of a gift, whether it is a birthday, holiday, or “just because” gift. Our society has placed so much pressure on the expectation of gift-giving that we feel obligated to give gifts that very often break our pocketbook. Often, though, the gifts that mean so much are not gifts that can be purchased.

Have you ever thought about the gift of encouragement? We all have the ability to be encouragers, but some people just have that innate ability to give hope and help others feel better with even the simplest act. We underestimate what power can be given with just a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, or even the smallest act of caring. If you have ever been on the receiving end of any of these “gifts,” you realize how important it is for us to reach out to each other even in the best of times.

I have had the pleasure and honor of being a part of a group of ladies that know how to give the gift of encouragement. These ladies are my DKG Mu Tau sisters! When I was going through some tough times with my health and the loss of my dad and my nephew, these ladies came through with such gifts of encouragement. They picked me up when I couldn't even pick up myself. Their kind words, cards, listening ears, and flowers are such treasures that I will never forget. Most of the time it was a kind word or hug that told me they cared. I am so blessed to be surrounded by such inspiring women who truly make a difference in our world.

The wonderful thing about the gift of encouragement is that you can give it anytime! Who will be on the receiving end of your gift of encouragement?

“How wonderful it is that nobody need to wait a single moment before starting to improve the world.” --Anne Frank

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TSO Info



Please note: The Fall 2015 issue of **Lone Star News** is available only online. You may read it and/or download it in pdf format or as an interactive doc if you have Flash (swf.)

The Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar is set for July 17-29, 2016, at the University of Texas at Austin. It is open to all members. *It's all about learning and leading.* Accepted applicants pay \$500.00 registration fee. Info is posted at www.dkg.org. Questions should be directed to Dr. Jo Murphy at jomurphy981@gmail.com.

The first issue of the new DKG publication **Collegial Exchange** is available this month. We have been eagerly awaiting this for exchange of ideas!

AND, one of the most exciting and provocative experiences offered to DKG members is **TEXAS ARTS RETREAT 2016: STAR 2**, to be at Camp Allen, Navasota, Texas, February 19-21, 2016. Anyone interested in doing art should pursue this!

For at least 19 of the past 20 years, Jean Robinson has judged of pies at the State Fair of Texas. Now, the truth comes out—at least part of it. It really is a tough job, but someone must do it! So, why not our sweet Jean?

My Day as a Pie Judge

By Jean Robinson

“So bye, bye, Miss American Pie,
Drove my Chevy to the levee but the levee was dry,”

I sing as I drive to the State Fair, wondering what category of pie I will be asked to judge. I do hope it is nut pies. Am I crazy? Think of my cholesterol spike!

I check in at 10:00 a.m. and meet the other judges. Kevin is an upscale antiques dealer, Sarah a free-lance writer for *The Dallas Morning News*, and Joe, newly fired from his job but “looking forward to finding another,” will be at my table. We learn we will be tasting NUT pies, yay!

We will judge on the following: “presentation” (it needs to look as if it could be a cover on *Southern Living*); uniqueness of the recipe (not too much liquor, please); taste (does it compare to Elizabeth Paschall’s pies?); texture (runny or brick thick); and crust (gooshy or flaky.) We have 31 pies to taste, so Joe and Sarah will judge 15, and Kevin and I will do 16. We eat only 1 or 2 bites of each numbered pie, read the recipe, then cleanse the palate with cheese or dill pickles. Kevin and I accomplish our work, tasting a variety of chocolate chips, different nuts, and traditional pecan (some good, some questionable), and trying not to say something unforgiving as the pie bakers are sitting across from us and are very good at reading lips. We score the numbered pies separately, but after tallying our score sheets, agree on a 1st and 2nd place; then we taste Sarah and Joe’s 1st and 2nd picks. Everyone decides our 1 and 2 are best, and we turn in the winning numbers to the servers. Our next job is to decide the Best of Show. To do this, we must taste the 1st place winner of all the seven categories. We have chocolate, cream, buttermilk, berry, chess, lemon, and nut to taste this time. I choose the lemon chess, write the number on a small square of paper as my favorite and wait to see the winner. Hooray! We had only some agreeing on one pie. The announcer comes to the microphone to introduce the judges, then each category 4th place honorable mention, 3rd place white ribbon, 2nd place red ribbon, then 1st place blue ribbon, and lastly, the Best of Show winner. The big winner is Lemon Chess pie. Loud applause, screams and dances are rendered; then it is over. Ah, at last, I can have what I really enjoy most about this prestigious job at the State Fair of Texas--standing in line for a Fletcher’s Corny Dog!

No Mu Tau birthdays in November??

Guess we’ll have to eat all the cake! No candles to blow out. Dig in, sisters!

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



Bring names of prospective members.

Consider your part in supporting SEE.

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

**BOXTOP\$ for
education**





AND BEYOND!

This is one of those things that if you don't go there, you will NEVER know what you may be missing. Visit The Delta Kappa Gamma Society's webpages and find MANY reasons to be proud of being a Delta Kappa Gamma woman/key woman teacher and to be inspired by sisters that you may never meet otherwise. Play with this website as you might play visiting Facebook following friends—or search and find what you may want or need to know.

Everything you might want to know about the Society itself is there, from when and where this international sisterhood began in May, 1929, to the history of its music; from necessary forms to be submitted for anything you might wish to accomplish in the Society to helpful advice for doing it; from the list of names of women who started it all to the lists and pictures of the women who are in charge of it now; from ideas for programs to ideas for travel from here to Europe; from ways to improve the chapters to ways to help improve the world; from visions to visuals; from creative photography and painting to imaginative prose and poetry, words and pictures to inspire you and to move your heart. (Can you believe we have a Gallery of Fine Arts?!) Do go play in the traffic of Delta Kappa Gamma on the internet! **It is beyond AMAZING**, I promise! You will feel big and little at the same time, filled with pride in being a part of something so wonderful and filled with humbleness to see yourself as part of something so grand in design, to be *one* among thousands of women around the world. With your keypin over your heart, welcome the world of DKG International there.

You can follow on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and rss.

DKG News has been delayed in mailing due to the floods that happened in Austin Halloween Eve. It will be mailed, but if you cannot wait, you can download it: **2015_News_Nov-Dec.pdf**.



