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

# The Mu Tauker

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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Texas State Organization

Area 1 Chapter 307 Mu Tau Chapter

Cedar Creek Lake Area

## 85 Years and Beyond: Advancing Key Women Educators for Life

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

### Barbara's Blog



Dear Mu Tau Sisters,

Summer has come and gone, and fall is upon us. The cooler weather has begun in the early mornings and the afternoon is hot, but the pumpkin spiced are filling our kitchens. I love the smell of cooking and the decorations for the coming holiday seasons.

Our September meeting was full of excitement. Our 17<sup>th</sup> Mu Tau birthday celebration was fantastic. Our decorations were set and a beautiful decorated red rose covered birthday cake, nuts, and delicious punch were served by our hostesses. We sang the birthday song and celebrated with all our members present. Our program was presented by Libby Horton. She presented our orientation and re-dedication to members of Mu Tau Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Our meeting this month will be a special one. It is the initiation of our new members. Don't miss the meeting to see our new members become a part of our great Society.

I hope you all are doing well and plan to attend the November meeting also. I promise it will be an exciting and informative meeting. June Groom from Forever Families will present the message about our upcoming project.

I hope you have a safe and happy Halloween.

HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!!!!! Boo!

Love to all,

—Barbara



Our ASTEF representative Jean Robinson has ASTEF pins for you to purchase: \$3.00 each. Remember, too, that Jean will pass the purse for your monetary contributions to ASTEF.



### Mu Tau Meeting

Monday

October 17, 2016

4:45 PM

Tri-County Library, Mabank

Hostesses: Jean Robinson, Cindy Clayburn, Keeley Barr, Sandy Weaver

### Meaningful Moments

Nancy McDonald

Program

Initiation

Who's Who

Dues are due! See page 2.



Find us:

[www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)

[www.dkgtexas.org](http://www.dkgtexas.org)



## Mu Tau calendar 2016-2017

- October 17, 2016** Initiation; Who's Who
- November 14, 2016** Forever Families, June Groom
- December 12, 2016** Gift Giving
- January 16, 2017** Executive Board Meeting
- February 13, 2017** ASTEF Giving Day; Love DKG; DKG Sweethearts
- March 20, 2017** Be Well, Be Strong, Be Safe
- April 17, 2016** My Heritage by Gloria Campos
- May 15, 2017** Celebrating the DKG Founders
- June 22-24, 2017** 88th Texas State Convention, Houston, Texas
- July 4-7, 2017** Southwest Regional Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii

Graphics not DKG are Microsoft and Broderbund. Photo by Libby Horton.



It's that time of year again—time to pay our dues! At the September meeting, we adopted our budget for 2016-17, and that included setting our dues at \$100 per year. Dues must be paid by October 31<sup>st</sup> in order to get the report and dues sent to the Texas State Organization. Many of you paid your dues at our September meeting, and I really appreciate that.

I will be available to collect dues at the October meeting as well, or you can mail me a check made out to Mu Tau. My mailing address is PO Box 1463, Mabank, TX 75147. If you prefer to make two different payments, you may pay \$60 in October and the remaining \$40 in February. If other arrangements need to be made, please let me know. Our chapter is always willing to work with members to make the dues process as painless as possible!

See you at the October meeting with your checkbook!

—Janice Sutton, Mu Tau Treasurer

## Mu Tau Executive Board 2016-2018

- President**  
Barbara Jedlicka
- First Vice President**  
Mindy Marder
- Second Vice President**  
Libby Horton
- Recording Secretary**  
Beverly Hart
- Corresponding Secretary**  
Sherri Purselley
- Treasurer**  
Janice Sutton
- Parliamentarian**  
Mary Ann Gregg
- Immediate Past President**  
Janice Sutton
- The Mu Tauker Editor**  
Lavonne Dennis



## Mu Tau Projects

- Little Free Libraries
- Boxtop\$ for Education
- Mu Tau Grant-in-Aid
- Schools for Africa
- SEE

## MU TAU CHAPTER MEETING

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

SEPTEMBER 19, 2016

The Mu Tau Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International held the first meeting of this biennium at the Mabank Tri-County Library. Mu Tau President Barbara Jedlicka called the meeting to order at 4:45 pm. Twenty-one members registered attendance. Recording Secretary Beverly Hart was in attendance. The May 16, 2016, chapter meeting minutes were approved as written in the Mu Tau Newsletter.

President Jedlicka shared information from the Delta Kappa Gamma State Convention held in Frisco, June, 2016, and the July Area 1 Workshop. Several Mu Tau members attended the convention: Barbara Jedlicka, Jean Robinson, Janice Sutton, Nancy McDonald, Libby Horton, Gaye Stegman, Mindy Marder, and Beverly Hart. Jean Robinson was recognized for her 50 years of membership in Delta Kappa Gamma. A nice reception was held during the convention to honor members with 50+ years of service to Delta Kappa Gamma. Several chapter members attended the June 22 initiation of Gloria Campos as a State Honorary member of Delta Kappa Gamma.

President Jedlicka shared recognitions Mu Tau Chapter received at state convention: Mu Tau Newsletter—5-STAR Newsletter, Editor Lavonne Dennis; Exemplary Yearbook (including Early Bird Award)--DeAnna Smith; Tudor Rose Award--Chapters increasing total membership during the year; ASTEF Chapter donations--Scholarship Honors, Leadership Journeyers, Projects Groundbreakers. Jean Robinson and Janice Sutton were listed as individual contributors to ASTEF.

The informative Area I Workshop in Tyler, July 30, was attended by nine Mu Tau Chapter members: Barbara Jedlicka, Janice Sutton, Nancy McDonald, Jean Robinson, Libby Horton, Lavonne Dennis, Mindy Marder, DeAnna Smith, and Beverly Hart.

Meaningful Moments for the September chapter meeting was shared by Jean Robinson. “The First Day of Class” and “Birthdays,” by DKG Poet Laureate Jayne Brainard emphasized the concerns and aspirations for new and experienced teachers during each new school year. Jean stated this is a good time for members to practice our mission to reach out to new teachers with our “hearts and hands.” Jean shared Mu Tau’s 17<sup>th</sup> birthday is a time to celebrate and contemplate, a time to remember our founders, and a time to celebrate and appreciate our sisters.

Janice Sutton, chapter treasurer, reported a treasury balance of \$131.74. The Scholarship Fund balance was reported as \$614.07.

Finance Committee Chair Nancy McDonald presented the proposed budget for 2016-2017. After discussion, Mindy Marder made the motion to accept the proposed budget. Libby Horton seconded the motion and the budget was approved by members.

Libby Horton presented our informational program, “A Meaningful & Marvelous Way to Orientation/Reorientation” (M&M.) After Libby shared facts about our organization and its benefits, members were divided into groups with Charter Members as group leaders. Using the M&Ms candy and their colors, Mu Tau members were guided through questions about our society’s history, purposes, and important facts.

Mu Tau Chapter celebrated its 17<sup>th</sup> birthday by standing, holding hands, singing the birthday song and the Delta Kappa Gamma Song, before enjoying birthday cake, punch, and nuts provided by the Executive Board as hostesses.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm by President Barbara Jedlicka.

Beverly Hart, recording secretary

Barbara Jedlicka, president



## European Travels

by Sherri Purselle

I had a very blessed opportunity to visit Europe this summer. I stayed with my son Seth, who is serving in the Air Force and stationed in Germany. It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! I was even able to check off something on my bucket list! While there for two weeks, we were able to experience a lot of local culture, beautiful scenery, amazing food, and extraordinary architecture. We traveled by car on the Autobahn, speed train, and bus. We traveled through Germany, France, and Austria. We had some great adventures and some not so great ones. I realized I could survive **without** air conditioning and **with** lots of anxiety medicine and Dramamine!

As far as local culture goes, I got to meet Seth's landlords, a very sweet elderly German couple who invited me into their home and were very hospitable! I am thankful that they care and look after my son! Karen could speak English but has to translate for her husband. One morning they were out in the garden behind the house speaking German, laughing, and gathering fruit. All the while the church bells were ringing in the background, the breeze was gently blowing through our open windows, and the birds were singing. It was a beautiful day in a quaint little German village. Down the street in either direction I found two places with my favorite delicious foods. One was a bakery, yum! The other was a pizzeria with very large portions of great Italian food.

We explored lots of castles. The prettiest by far was the Neuschwanstein Castle that Walt Disney used as a model for Cinderella's Castle. My favorite to explore was the ruins of Burg Lichtenberg. While there, we had free reign to explore the grounds, climb the tower (all 135 steps), take lots of photos, and luckily without reservations, we had a delicious and beautiful outdoor dinner.

My favorite experience and bucket list part of the trip was making it to Paris to see the Eiffel Tower at night. While there we had a delicious authentic French dinner just down the street from the Tower. Listening to everyone speak French was lovely. We spent the night in a questionable hotel, but I felt safe with my two sons for bodyguards.

The most relaxing part of the trip was when we stayed at the luxurious Eidelweiss Resort. My boys went mountain climbing in the Alps while I lounged around for the day, literally! I was able to read a book, take a **long, hot bath**, eat some delicious chocolate, explore the grounds, and do some shopping.

If you ever plan to visit Europe, I have a few tips that might come in handy: Get lots of coin currency because it costs to use the bathrooms everywhere you go! Be sure to have good, comfortable walking shoes; you will log in lots of miles walking everywhere. If you get motion sick, roundabouts and the Autobahn are not your friend! Experience everything, visit with everyone, and take nothing for granted!



### Mu Tau October birthdays

**Mindy Marder, 10/27**

**Janice Sutton, 10/15**

**Jean Robinson, 10/16**

**Happy birthdays—and many more!**

**Your birthstone is opal or tourmaline; your flower the calendula or cosmos—all beautiful, like you.**

**The world is yours. Enjoy!**

**Mu Tau Chapter is 17 years old!**

**Happy birthday!**



## What Is Shared Inquiry?

By Judy Sullivan

The Great Books Foundation, a non-profit organization, was founded by Mortimer Adler and Robert Hutchins in Chicago, Illinois, in 1947. Adler and Hutchins developed a method of discussing literature called Shared Inquiry. Rooted in the Socratic Method, Shared Inquiry is an active and group effort to search for answers to questions of meaning about a text. This method of learning promotes deeper thinking through reading, discussion, and writing.

Shared Inquiry is unique in its focus on high quality text and the participation of a trained leader who helps participants arrive at their own well-reasoned understanding of the text. There is a variety of ways to implement Great Books programs, but Shared Inquiry always involves:

**Questions:** At the heart of Shared Inquiry are interpretive questions--questions that have more than one answer that can be supported with evidence from the text. But all types of questions play a central role in the search of meaning in a text.

**Close Reading:** Before the discussion, everyone carefully reads the selection two times. During the discussion, students examine the text even more closely. Note-taking prompts students to respond to the text as they read it. By focused reading of specific passages, the participant develops greater comprehension of the text.

**Collaboration:** The leader poses genuine questions and asks for students' help in finding answers. Students share questions and explain and clarify their ideas. They also connect related ideas and agree or disagree constructively. This collaboration allows the leader and the students to gain insight and understanding at a level impossible to achieve alone.

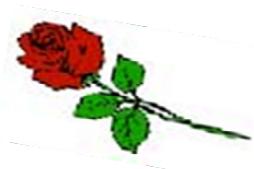
**Reflective and Critical Thinking:** Shared Inquiry is a reflective process. When students think reflectively, they compare and contrast ideas. They judge whether evidence is relevant. Each student considers all ideas and evidence presented during discussion to arrive at an individual conclusion. Students further explore ideas generated in discussion through writing.

After teaching 30 years in the public school system, I retired and started a new career spanning 16 years as a National Trainer for The Foundation. It has been an honor and a privilege to introduce the Shared Inquiry method to thousands of classroom teachers across the United States.

(Information from *Shared Inquiry Essentials, 2014:2-3* used with permission from the Foundation.)

Please sign the **Publicity Release Form** as it is passed around at the meeting, and return it to Lavonne Dennis. Thanks!

VP/Membership Chair Libby Horton asks that you remember to bring your nominations for membership. Fill out the card and hand it to her at the meeting—or mail it to her. Either way, we know that YOU know some teachers who would be great members of Delta Kappa Gamma. Think roses.



Prospect Card
Name
Address
Email
Employer
Position
Phone
Sponsor

**Urgent reminder:** The deadline for applying for Leadership Seminar 2017 is **THIS** Saturday, October 15! Go to the TSO website to complete and enter your application.

**Act now** to apply for this exciting, informative weekend of learning, sharing, and becoming more effective in all areas of your life.

It happens only every two years, so don't pass up this opportunity.

Date: February 17-19, 2017, in the DFW area. Jean Robinson and Janice Sutton have both been there and done that and will be happy to tell you what an extraordinary experience it is.

## There's just something about October!

Adopt a Shelter Dog Month

American Pharmacist Month

Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Clergy Appreciation Month

Cookie Month

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Lupus Awareness Month

National Diabetes Month

National Pizza Month

National Vegetarian Month

National Popcorn Popping Month

Sarcastic Month

Seafood Month

Also, October has **these days**, thank goodness.

Name Your Car Day, 2

Do Something Nice Day, 5

National Kale Day, 5

World Teacher's Day, 5

World Smile Day, 7

National Gumbo Day, 12

Take Your Teddy Bear to Work Day, 12

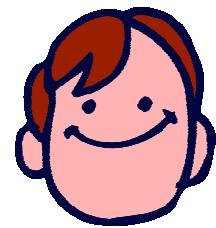
National Dessert Day, 14

World Egg Day, 14

Dictionary Day, 16

Wear Something Gaudy Day, 17

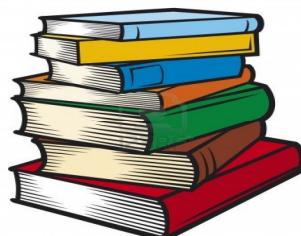
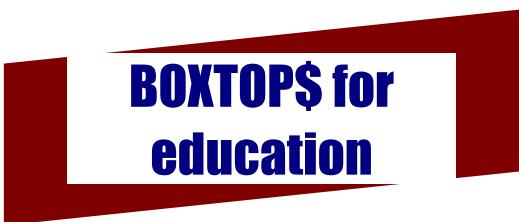
National Nut Day, 22



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

Reminder for the creative

**Spectacular Texas Arts Retreat** is set for January 13-15, 2017. Deadline for registering for this fabulous opportunity for the creative is January 1, 2017. A deposit of \$100.00 NOW will hold your place. The final payment of \$125.00 is due by November 15, 2016. After that date the registration fee goes up to \$250.00. See the TSO webpage and go to [STAR 2017 Registration Form](#). This STAR shines at Camp Allen, Navasota, Texas.



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