



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

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

Barbara's Blog



Dear Mu Tau Sisters,

Spring break time! The time has changed, and we are having to prepare for the remainder



of the school year. Time for spring cleaning and time for new moves to take place. Our chapter is also making changes with new officers.

Our last month's meeting was **wild**. Libby gave us an exciting WILD program. It took us back to being kids. This environmental educational program was hands-on for us, and we learned to work together. Thank you, Libby, for providing a relaxing program so we could learn from each other. A special thanks goes to our hostesses, Robin Welch, Pam McBride, and Judy Vestal, for the refreshments provided for the meeting.

Don't miss our exciting program for this month. Our prospective members will have orientation to DKG membership by seeing The Big Picture, and we veteran members will have reorientation.

State Convention is in Waco, Texas, on June 14-16, 2018. Information is on the website at www.dkgtx.org. Plan to attend this convention.

I hope to see you at the meeting this month. Enjoy this spring weather. See you later.

Love,

Barbara



Mu Tau Meeting

Monday

March 19, 2018

4:45 PM

Tri-County Library

Hostesses: Barbara Jedlicka,
Jana Cox, Lavonne Dennis,
Janice Beasley

Meaningful Moments

Melinda Robertson

Program

Pride in the Big Picture



Find us: <http://dkgtxmutau.weebly.com>

Webmaster Pam McBride

www.dkg.org

www.dkgtx.org

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



Mu Tau calendar 2017-2018

March 19, 2018 Pride in the Big Picture

April 16, 2018 Initiation at FUMC, Mabank

May 14, 2018 Celebrating the DKG Founders

June 14-16, 2018 TSO Convention, Waco, Texas

July 16-20, 2018 International Convention, Austin, Texas

August 4, 2018 Area 1 Workshop, with AC Janice Sutton

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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

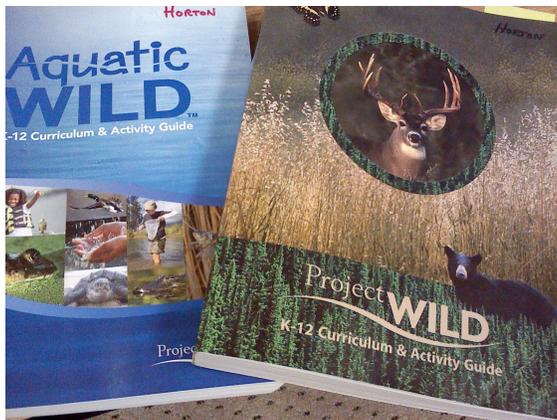
Mary Ann Gregg

Immediate Past President

Janice Sutton

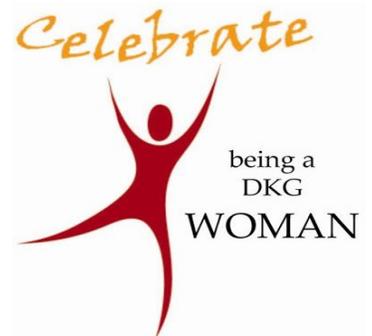
The Mu Tauker Editor

Lavonne Dennis



Libby and her WILD! Lesson in February—

She certainly knows how to teach a thing or two and make it wild fun! Who'd have thought to take a silly toy like Jenga and base an environment lesson on its structure! Way to go, teacher-girl! So much for that glass ceiling we hear about. You shattered it! No man could have done it better.



Mu Tau Projects

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

MU TAU CHAPTER MEETING
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

February 12, 2018

The Mu Tau Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma International held the February meeting at the Tri-County Library in Mabank, Texas. President Barbara Jedlicka called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm, after members were served refreshments. Sixteen chapter members registered attendance. Recording Secretary Beverly Hart was present. Mary Ann Gregg presented Meaningful Moments, quoting inspirations from Steve Jobs, Margaret Mead, and others, showing how different the 1970s viewpoint of women in science differs greatly from the present viewpoint of women in science fields.

The December chapter minutes were approved as written in the February Mu Tauker Newsletter. Libby Horton is to send out an updated contact information to membership. Jean Robinson reminded members to keep updated on state and international convention news, as changes are proposed for the convention to be shortened this year.

Since Janice had a commitment conflict due to her responsibilities as Area 1 Coordinator, Beverly Hart reported an oral and written treasury report prepared by Treasurer Janice Sutton. The chapter treasury balance is \$1,204.03 to date.

Libby Horton, Membership Committee Chair, presented six prospective chapter member nominees to be voted on by secret ballot. The nominees, Sharon Babovec, Sheila Lewis, Adrienne McDonald, Cassie Munden, Hillary Strum, and Karlie Sutton were approved to be invited to chapter membership.

Lavonne Dennis, Nominations Committee Chair, presented the slate of officers recommended for the Mu Tau Chapter 2018-2020 biennium. After discussion, Libby Horton moved to accept the slate of officers as presented. Jean Robinson seconded the motion, and it passed by acclamation.

The new slate presented was: President—Monica Fortenberry; 1st Vice President—Mary Ann Gregg; 2nd Vice President—Mindy Marder; Recording Secretary—Judy Vestal; Corresponding Secretary—Melody Stephenson; Nominations Committee—Melody Stephenson, chair; Kathy Clardy, Barbara Jedlicka.

Jean Robinson opened the discussion for a meeting place and caterer for the April chapter meeting. Jean will check into possible locations and report to members the necessary information. Jean reported that a donation was made to ASTEF from Mu Tau Chapter, and that Treasurer Janice Sutton had received a thank-you note for Mu Tau's generous contribution. Jean shared information for a future fundraiser for ASTEF held online for bids on three choices for exciting trips. Libby Horton made a motion for Mu Tau Chapter to donate \$100 from the chapter treasury as an ASTEF contribution. Melody Stephenson seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Libby Horton presented an interesting program, "Being Wild." Libby has been working in conjunction with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Science Department since 2013, promoting environment education to all ages of children and adults through the state's Project Wild Programs. As our planet grows more crowded every day, natural and wild places are rapidly diminishing, and so is the wildlife. Project Wild explores how people can understand wildlife and habitat and make decisions to use natural resources wisely. The program is correlated to the TEKS and is available to classroom teachers of pre-k through 12, special teachers, and educators in museums, zoos, and nature centers. Libby presented a hands-on, interactive program using Jenga blocks to demonstrate how a healthy eco system is greatly impacted by man, nature, and man's respect for nature. More information is available on the Texas Parks and Wildlife and Project Wild Program websites.

Monica Fortenberry updated members on our chapter's project of supporting Forever Families, which is currently providing support for seven women and their children. The Christmas gifts provided by Mu Tau members' contributions were very much appreciated. The next chapter project support will be for Mother's Day. Monica and Melody continue to provide classes and projects on Mondays for the children and mothers. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated.

President Jedlicka reminded members to register for the Delta Kappa Gamma International and State Conventions this summer. She announced that our new chapter webmaster is Pam McBride.

Hostesses Robin Welch, Pam McBride, and Judy Vestal were recognized for providing delicious refreshments for the meeting.

President Jedlicka adjourned the meeting at 6:15 pm with the singing of the Delta Kappa Gamma Song.

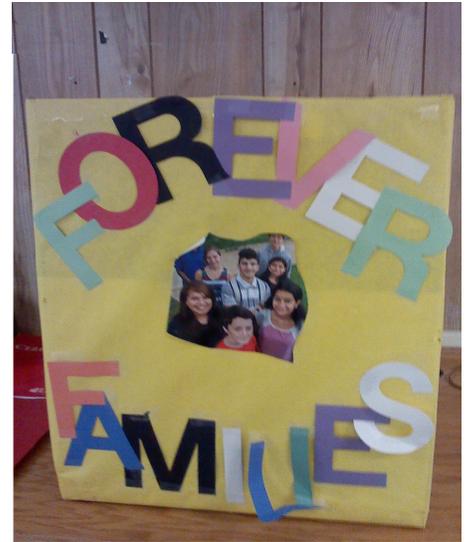
Beverly Hart, recording secretary

Barbara Jedlicka, president

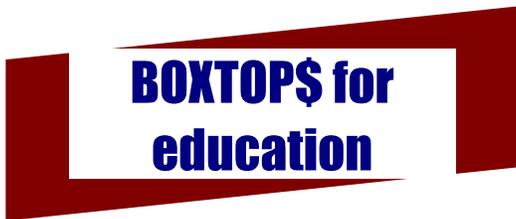




Mary Ann Gregg delivers her heartfelt message in Meaningful Moments in February.



Remember to bring your donations for Forever Families, money for the purchase of clothes appropriate for job interviews, and items that must be replenished in day-to-day living with mothers and children of ages 0-7.



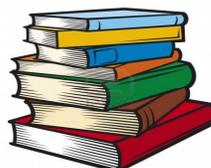
Note: Boxtop\$ help our schools help our kids. Save these coupons and bring them to Sherri Purselley.



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



Bring the books to Mindy Marder; reading helps people in our communities to become better readers and perhaps better citizens.



Dealing with a Strong-Willed Ninety-Year-Old Father

by Monica Fortenberry

Bill Thompson, AKA Dad, grew up during the Depression, when times were tough. Thin and short in stature, he had to be tough and scrappy to make it in the streets of his Brooklyn, NY, neighborhood. This toughness he developed as a boy, as well as his stubbornness, served him well throughout his life. It helped him survive being injured by a Japanese grenade in the Philippines during WW II and spending more than a year recovering in army hospitals, among other things.

Fast forward to 1995, and my dad is widowed at age 70. He decides to move to the Austin area at age 75. Dad has always had a “lead foot,” and driving with him is really scary now as he speeds along the winding Hill Country roads. Once when we had a family gathering and needed to take two cars to a restaurant, he complained to my siblings in the car with him about me driving too slow because I wasn’t keeping up with him. I kept hoping he would slow down with age, but that was wishful thinking.

Dad had seven children, ten grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren, and loved visiting them. He was out-of-town so often that some of his friends at church called him “The Traveling Man.” He was still making road trips all over the state to see us in his 80s. So that we wouldn’t worry about him being on the roads, I finally persuaded him to let me come and get him when he came to visit us, and I would take him with me to visit other family members.

As he turned ninety, he was still driving, and still living on his own. My siblings and I knew how fiercely independent he was, and we also knew that he wanted to remain in his own home. Finally, after being pestered by my husband and oldest daughter, I started looking at some Senior Living places in our area. When I tried to get him to go look at some, he simply said, “I’m not ready for that yet,” and that was the end of that.

A few weeks shy of his 91st birthday, Dad fell and broke his hip. My last visit with him was the weekend before Christmas. He was lucid, telling stories and joking like his old self. Amazingly he was released to rehab a few days before Christmas. Dad finally realized he wasn’t going to be able to live on his own any longer, and though we offered, he didn’t want to move in with any of us because he loved his church and wanted to stay in the area. He wasn’t looking forward to it, but he agreed to move to an assisted-living facility.

On Christmas Eve, he had a sudden relapse and was rushed back to the hospital. The paramedics tried to cheer him up by telling him that there were some really cute nurses on duty that day, and Dad, with his usual sense of humor, asked if maybe they could have a party. Shortly after arriving at the hospital, he took a turn for the worse, and he died early Christmas morning. Instead of being sad that he died on Christmas Day, I thought what a wonderful day to enter heaven. I also felt it was an answer to prayer because Dad was able to get his wish to be able to live at home until the end.

In visiting with Dad’s neighbors before his service, sharing stories about him and talking about his tendency to speed, they told us that he had gotten a speeding ticket a few months before, which none of us had known, because he sure wasn’t going to tell us about it. They also told us that a few weeks before he broke his hip, they had left church at the same time as Dad, and he beat them home! So right up until the end of his life, he was still telling stories and joking, and he was still a hot-rodder at the age of 90! I can only hope that I will enjoy my twilight years as much as he did, have as much energy as he did, and bring as much joy to other people as he did.



Mu Tau March birthdays

Mary Ann Gregg, 3/4

Shela Koskelin, 3/4

Robin Welch, 3/30

BJ Williams, 3/24



Happy birthday, Mu Tau Sisters, and many more! Celebrate! Have some cake!

TSO



89th Texas State Convention

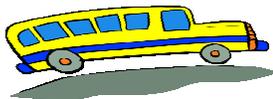
Waco Convention Center, Waco, Texas
June 14-16, 2018

Mu Tau will help with the Executive Board General Business Committee meeting. Libby will chair our group and assign our duties.

HOW ABOUT IT, MU TAU? CAN WE FILL THAT WACO-BOUND BUS? OK, CARS'LL DO! OR BIKES. OR HARLEYS. MAYBE NOT HORSES.



DKG



The 2018 DKG International Convention will be held in Austin, Texas, July 16-20, 2018, at the new JW Marriott Austin.

Members interested in helping with this convention should contact Convention Chair JoAnn Brooks at joannbrooks@verizon.net.

You are not going to believe it till you see for yourself!

Check out the websites for DKG International and DKG Texas. Seeing what other creative women teachers in this group are doing will make you fall in love all over again with this truly astonishing Society—and fill your throat with a lump **knowing that you were selected to be a participant in it.** Lucky you, lucky us.

Put each site in your computer's Bookmarks and **browse** away!

*Indeed, **CELEBRATE** being a DKG Woman!*

Unforgettables

by Nancy McDonald

Through my years of teaching, I have certainly met some *interesting* students. I have encountered many who have blessed me with some very funny moments. My dear mother told me I should write down all of my experiences. Unfortunately, I didn't listen to my mother and have forgotten many of them. However, there are a few I will never forget.

One such student was a very happy, very blonde young girl with a slight speech problem. Her hair was very straight and fine, which made it difficult to keep out of her eyes so she could see. We battled this problem daily, especially during reading. One major speech problem was that her "k" sound was always a "t" sound. We worked hard on this every day, but we seemed to make little progress. To my surprise, she came in one day with a new hair style. I told her she looked really pretty, to which she responded, "I got a hair tut! I have turls, too!" To this day when I go to my hair salon, I always think of her hair tut!

Another time while out on the playground, a student came up to me with two utility balls. He told me he was playing with one and found the other. At the same time, another student was telling me some students were fussing and about to fight. As a concerned teacher trying to prevent a problem, I asked if it was a boy or girl, to which the student with the utility balls replied, "I don't know. How do you tell the difference?" I forgot about the possible fight and tried to contain my laughter.

Recently, I have been working at one of the elementary schools. While I was standing in the hall with my teacher face and stance, a second grade girl walked up to me and quietly said, "I know who you are." I responded by saying, "You do? Who am I?" With a very serious and confident look on her face, she replied, "You are the principal's boss!" I very quickly said, "Yes, I am." Of course, I hurried down the hall to inform the principal of my new position.

Since retirement, I have realized how much I miss the students. They always gave me a reason to laugh. When I go to the salon for a hair appointment, I snicker as I know I will get a hair "tut," but no "turls." I watch family play at my house and remember the girl-or-boy ball story. At school the other day the same little girl informed her friends that the principal's boss was back.

I wish I could remember more of the funny things my students have said. They helped make my teaching experience so enjoyable. I have learned a good lesson, though. I really should have listened to my mother!

