

# The 4:15\*

Delta Omicron Chapter, #111, Dallas, Dallas County, Area 9, Texas State Organization, DKG Society International

**Mission Statement:** DKG Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

**Vision Statement:** Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide



Texas State Organization



Volume 64, Issue 5, January 11, 2021  
Marylin Nease, editor

\*The 4:15? Delta is the 4<sup>th</sup> letter of the Greek alphabet and Omicron is the 15<sup>th</sup>. On a good day, 4:15 is the time we leave school and head to a Delta Omicron meeting!



## President's Message

January 1, 2021

Dear Delta Omicron,

There is something special about January: 2021 brings new hopes and opportunities for all of us after a very trying year. There is an old saying: "Out with the old, in with the new."

I always try to have a New Year's resolution. Do you have one? Maybe you want to go on a diet or take up a new hobby. Is volunteering something that interests you? What about reading or traveling?

Our chapter will continue to ZOOM, which has been a wonderful tool to keep us in touch. Let's keep our virtual meetings going until we can safely meet in person.

I am so blessed to begin this New Year with ladies like you. May you have a wonderful, joyful year ahead!

*Katherine*

Pres/Katherine Grogan  
1<sup>st</sup> VPs/Elenora Asbury  
& Kathy Rodriguez  
2<sup>nd</sup> VPs/  
& Margaret  
Thompson  
Rec Sec/Margie Rohde  
Cor Sec/Susan Endicott  
Treas/Leesa Cole  
Parl/Julie Turnbow  
Im P Pres/Lou McMillan

Save these dates  
for our  
business/program  
meetings:

Jan. 11  
Feb. 15  
Mar. 8  
Apr. 24  
May 17

Chapter Website:

<https://deltaomicrontexas.weebly.com/>

Carolyn Power, Webmaster

Mon., Jan. 11, Zoom.  
4:30 p.m., fellowship. 5:00 p.m., meeting.  
Program: Ashraf Mobh presenting "Global Awareness: Aga Khan Foundation, Partnering with Communities in Asia and Africa to Improve Lives" (DKG Purposes 1, 3, 4, 6, 7)

## CHAPTER PROJECT NEWS

Thanks so much for your thoughtfulness and consideration for our teachers here at Vogel Alcove. You are awesome! – *A Vogel Alcove teacher*

I just wanted to send my gratitude for the thoughtful candy bag. It was much needed and very useful. 😊 --  
*Another Vogel Alcove teacher*

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS



Have you met a teacher this year – a grandchild’s teacher or a teacher in your neighborhood – whom you would like to introduce to our Delta Omicron chapter of DKG? The only way to get new members is through your enthusiasm about our organization!

*Make a contact.  
Share what DKG  
means to you.*

A separate attachment to this newsletter has a **Prospective Member card** for you to complete and email to Margaret if you have someone to invite to a meeting or field trip. It’s important to send the form back to Margaret Thompson at [margaretmccthompson@gmail.com](mailto:margaretmccthompson@gmail.com) so guests can be sent our Zoom link for our November meeting. Please consider helping in this way.

*Margaret Thompson*

### **Happy January Birthday!**

Sara Coleman, 9  
Sherri Allinder, 14

Shirley Kochman, 23  
Cindy Dominguez, 27



## Member Moments



### **Q. A favorite teaching moment?**

**A.** Of all the colorful and exciting Texas history events I enjoyed teaching, the Mier Expedition and the “drawing of the black beans” is my favorite.

During Sam Houston’s second term as President of the Republic of Texas, the new nation was invaded a second time by Mexican troops. In retaliation, a force of

Texans crossed the Rio Grande and attacked the town of Mier. Unfortunately, the Texans were captured and marched toward Mexico City.

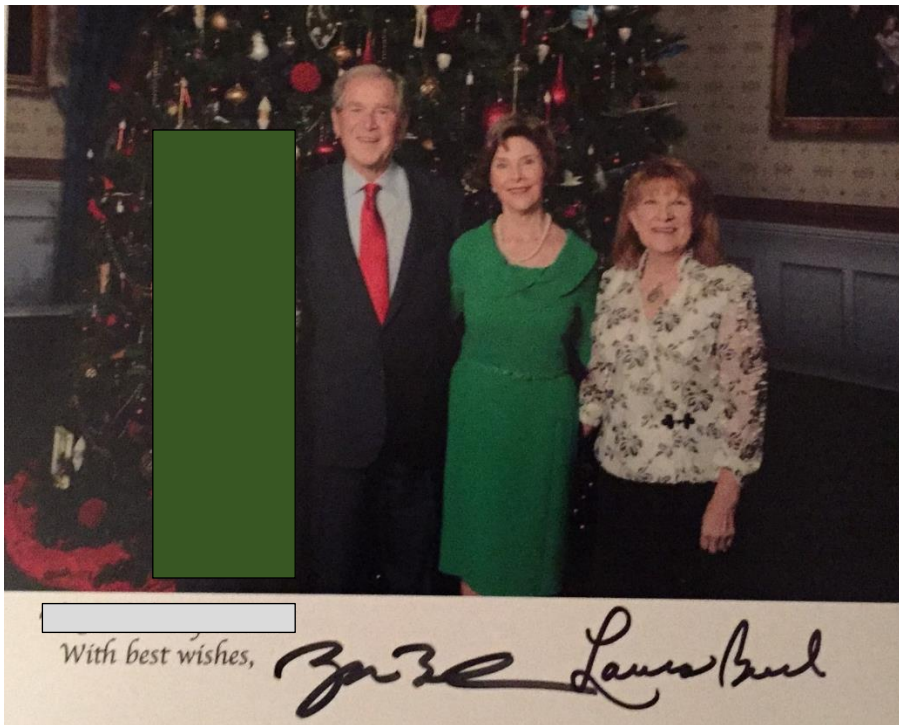
En route, orders arrived from Santa Anna that every tenth Texan was to be executed, the unfortunate victims to be selected by lottery. Blindfolded captives were to draw beans from a jar; those who drew white beans would live (to go to prison); those who drew black beans were to be shot without further delay.

Following the study of this incident, students reenacted the drawing of the beans, gaining deeper insight into the emotions and personal and political impact of this historical event.

**Q. A favorite DKG moment?**

**A.** Several years ago, Elizabeth Mayfield Jackson, daughter of Lou McMillan and Director of the Museum of the Big Bend located in Alpine, Texas, was the guest speaker at the DKG monthly meeting. Ms. Jackson's topic was the history of the Big Bend area of Texas.

At the conclusion of her presentation, Ms. Jackson asked, "What is the Big Bend?" I answered the question correctly: The Big Bend refers to the big bend in the waters of the Rio Grande River, which is located in the Mountains and Basins Region of Texas. I received a one-of-a-kind southwestern necklace.



**Q. A favorite personal moment?**

**A.** The setting for my favorite personal moment was a 2014 Christmas Party at the George W. Bush Presidential Center.

My sister, Beth Nichols Ballard (former Delta Omicron member and docent at the Presidential Center), and I were invited to this memorable Christmas Party. We were introduced to President and Mrs. Bush and were honored to be photographed with the President and First Lady.

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***Delta Omicron, Chapter Meeting Minutes, December 5, 2020***

Delta Omicron Chapter, Dallas, Texas, Texas State Organization, DKG International, met on Saturday, December 5, 2020, via Zoom.

**Attending were 13 members:** Margaret Arnold, Elenora Asbury, Barbara Clinton, Leesa Cole, Susan Endicott, Mary Carol Hughes, Penni Lewis, Carolyn Miller, Marilyn Nease, Carolyn Power, Margie Rohde, Margaret Thompson, and Jean Wallace.

**One guest attended:** children's minister at First Baptist in Richardson. She directs all programs for children from birth to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. She is very savvy about technology and develops creative programs to keep the children coming to Sunday School. received a degree in elementary education from Auburn.

### OPENING:

Marylin Nease, Communications and Publicity Chair and Area 9 AC, called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. Katherine Grogan, President, was unable to attend because of another meeting at the same time.

Penni Lewis, **Music**, presented **the inspiration: the story behind the carol "Silent Night."** In 1818 a roving band decided to reenact the story of St. Nicholas. As the organ in the church was not working, they



planned to do the enactment in a nearby home. Afterward, Joseph Mohr, the assistant pastor at the church involved, walked to his house and saw a Christmas-like scene in the fields. The scene reminded him of a poem that he had written previously about the angels announcing the birth of Jesus. He converted the poem to a song. Then he asked the organist to compose music to go with the lyrics. As it was nearly Christmas Day, the organist hurriedly composed music on his guitar. Later when a repairman came to fix the organ, he played the song on the organ. He liked the song so much that the repairman took the song to two nearby

villages. Two families performed the song, and it became popular from then on in Europe. Twenty years later "Silent Night" came to America. In 1863 a publisher finally printed "Silent Night." The song is now sung in 30 different languages.

Marylin played a recording of "Silent Night" with a choir.

### BUSINESS:

Carolyn Miller, **Chair of the Coordinating Council of Dallas County**, and Carolyn Power, **Global Awareness**, and discussed the chapter's annual **December Project, Denton State-Supported Living Center**.

Carolyn Miller stated that for many years the only state school for people with developmental disabilities existed in Austin. In 1960 some families started a fund to build the Denton School. There are now 13 schools in Texas besides the ones in Austin and Denton. Half of the residents are in wheelchairs or power chairs, and the average age of residents is middle-fifties. The residents remain somewhat forgotten people in that all extras beyond housing, food, and so forth come from donations. Because of COVID-19 restrictions, the residents cannot have visitors, which is especially hard for them. These people do not have the intellectual capacity to understand why no visitors can come to see them.

Carolyn Power stated that members can donate several ways. Members can donate directly online to DSSLC using the link: <https://www.vscdenton.org/donate-online>. They can also write a check to Volunteer Services Council, DSSLC and mail it to Volunteer Services Council

For DSSLC  
P.O. Box 368  
Denton, TX 76202-0368

Leesa Cole, Treasurer, suggested that members put Delta Kappa Gamma in the memo-line so the Society gets credit for the donation. Members can also write a check to Delta Omicron, and Leesa will combine all the donations into one check and send it to Volunteer Services Council. If members send a



check directly to Volunteer Services Council, they will receive a tax-deductible receipt from VSC. Members can also donate directly to a specific individual by going to the website. WBAP radio will conduct a fundraiser for the center over several days.

Margaret Thompson, **Membership** Co-Vice President, announced that she had invited to an orientation meeting to be held in December. She also invited to join the others at the meeting.



**PROGRAM:**

Members **informally shared ornaments**, most of which were handmade, **Christmas traditions** they developed for their families, and other items and stories related to Christmas.

**Marylin Nease** shared her Christmas pins and said her favorite was handmade by a family friend in 1992.

**Carolyn Miller** showed a hand-painted, wooden nativity scene/jigsaw puzzle.

**Elenora Asbury** remembered her father's tie that played "Jingle Bells" and showed an ornament made from his tie.



**Leesa Cole** showed an ornament Liza Leggett had made for her, and Leesa said she decorates only with ornaments that she has received as gifts.

**Margaret Thompson** shared and showed several Christmas mugs from her collection.

**Penni Lewis** remembered as an adult spray-painting green a silver artificial Christmas tree from her childhood because she was allergic to live trees. She also recalled the time a Christmas tree beside the choir area at Park Cities Baptist caught fire because someone had decided to use live candles on the tree!

*Such a good meeting with a highly cherished group of ladies. --Leesa Cole*

**Susan Endicott** talked about her collection of Santas and said that she still believes in Santa Claus. Carolyn Miller remembered the details of the story Susan referenced: a child spent the \$10 her parents had given her on a coat for a needy child in her class at school. The coat had actually cost \$19.95, but the salesperson gave the child the coat for \$10. The coat was a perfect fit for her classmate.

**Margie Rohde** told of attending midnight mass with her family and then of her family opening all their gifts after the mass.

**Margaret Arnold** displayed lovely stockings she made years ago for her husband, their adopted daughter, and their son.

**Mary Carol Hughes** talked about Santa Lucia Day traditions, as she is of Swedish heritage. The oldest daughter always gets to play Santa Lucia and to deliver sweet breads to family members. The family also sings Christmas carols on Santa Lucia Day.

**Barbara Clinton** grew up on a farm living with many brothers and sisters and her father. She remembers giving small gifts to family members and how much enjoyment she got from giving these little gifts.

married on December 19, so the Christmas season reminds her of her engagement and marriage. Friends gave the couple a party at which they gave them ornaments.



**Carolyn Power** wears a "Santa Noel" necklace given her by . Mary was a member of our chapter and teacher at HPISD's University Park Elementary who also did some missionary work. She died in a flash flood in 1995 and has a garden dedicated to her at University Park Elementary. Carolyn remembers Mary as always dressing up as Pièr Noël at Christmas. (photo: Leesa C, Elenora A)

Everyone enjoyed sharing their sweet memories and their traditions. The sharing produced emotions ranging from group laughter to happy tears, and the responses flowed back and forth between these feel-good emotions.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Susan Endicott, **Corresponding Secretary**, stated that she had no member cares and concerns to share.

Members briefly discussed sending a thank-you note or donation to Vogel Alcove for the program last month. Marilyn Nease suggested that this idea be discussed with Katherine Grogan.

Two meetings were announced, **the January chapter meeting** on January 11 at 5:00 p.m., and the **Executive Board meeting** on January 23 at 10:30 a.m. Marilyn suggested that members might want to join the January 11 meeting at 4:30 p.m. for social time.

## CLOSING:

Marilyn played "The DKG Song" and displayed its lyrics. The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.



*Margie Rohde*  
Recording Secretary

## Treasurer's Report, December 30, 2020



**Bank balance as of 12/30/2020 is \$5,243.41**  
Area 9's portion of this balance is \$717.02  
Delta Omicron's portion is \$4,526.39

**Income Dec. - none**

**Expenses Dec. -** Budgeted: Chapter fees to Cora McFarland Scholarship (*card below*)

**Anticipated income Jan. -** Budgeted: none

### Anticipated expenses Jan. -

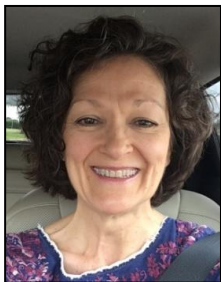
- Budgeted: Reimbursement to Corresponding Secretary
- Annual contributions to ASTEF (Scholarship, Leadership, Projects), TSO's Eula Lee Carter Memorial Fund, and International Funds

*Leesa Cole*



Dear Katherine,  
Thank you so much  
to  
Delta Omicron  
for your donation to the  
Cora McFarland Scholarship.  
Your donation helps fund  
our area DKG key women  
educators with scholarships  
for advanced degrees &  
certifications which leads  
to increased opportunities for  
our members.  
Thank you,  
Linda McFarland Chair

## Scholarship Committee



### **TSO Scholarships & ASTEF Grant Available: Applications due March 1, 2021**

TSO offers a variety of scholarships for members. Applications and information are available on the TSO website: [State Scholarship Applications](#)

ASTEF offers the **Aspiring Educator Grant** to non-members working toward a Texas certification in education. Any DKG member can sponsor an aspiring educator. Find more information and applications on the ASTEF website: [ASTEF forms](#)

Please reach out to someone on the **Delta Omicron scholarship committee** with your questions: Chair: Leesa Cole; Members: Sherri Allinder, Delores Bates, Katrina

Hallman, Ashraf Mobh.

Interested members can also talk with **current members who have received a state scholarship**. Their testimonials follow.

## TESTIMONIALS from Current Delta Omicron Recipients of TSO Scholarships



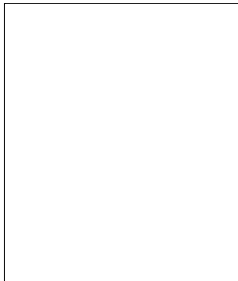
**Kay Keeland, inducted 2001, recipient 2015**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship?**

**A.** In 2015 I was so fortunate to receive a scholarship from TSO to attend an educational trip organized by Orphan Outreach to Guatemala to work, teach, and support orphans. This was a dream come true for me. I not only worked with the orphans, but also learned about the country and then came back and shared my experience with chapter members by presenting a global-awareness program. I am forever grateful.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** Receiving a state scholarship is a great way to grow educationally and then to share the impact it will have on you with others.



**inducted 1976, recipient 1994**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship?**

**A.** During 1994, I was attending East Texas State University, which is now called Texas A&M at Commerce, working on certification as an Educational Diagnostician. I did not have a background in special education, so I had additional classes to take.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** It was difficult to teach all day and go to school at night. Plus, I was single and trying to manage finances on my own. Marilyn Nease encouraged me to apply for the TSO scholarship, and I did. When I won, I was excited because I knew the tuition for one of my courses had been paid. Thank you, TSO!



**Dr. Jaime Callahan, inducted 2014, recipient 2017 and 2018**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship(s)?**

**A.** I was a recipient of two TSO scholarships, and I used them both to offset tuition costs related to obtaining my doctoral degree.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** Having the opportunity to apply for and receive two state scholarships was such a big help as I worked through the process of earning my doctorate. The path to a doctoral degree is difficult enough without having to worry about cost, and our household decided to pay in full each semester, as opposed to taking out a loan. Having the funds from the TSO scholarships made the process a little less stressful.

I highly encourage anyone interested in pursuing higher levels of education or experience to apply for a TSO scholarship. I hope our members consider applying this year!



**Dr. Elyse Griffin, inducted 2010, recipient 2014 and 2015**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship?**

**A.** I used my TSO scholarship to work on my EdD in Educational Leadership. I thoroughly enjoyed learning and researching with my cohort.



**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** The process of applying was exciting. You are given the opportunity to share about your goals and dreams with sisters who are eager to help you succeed. Mentors from our own Delta Omicron Chapter were happy to assist along the way, so don't hesitate to apply!



**Shirley Kochman, inducted 1963, recipient 1974**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship?**

**A.** I took courses in psychology to better prepare myself as a school counselor.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** The scholarship was very helpful. I learned a lot and met many interesting people in my field. I was eager to learn so that I could help children through my work as a counselor.

Scholarship money is available. Members should take advantage of this opportunity. All members contribute to state scholarships through their membership dues, and many members contribute to ASTEF fundraising for state scholarships so that members can apply and receive financial assistance for their studies.

*Leesa Cole*

**14 Chapters in Dallas County:**

Delta Omicron	Iota Nu
Delta Pi	Kappa Phi
Delta Rho	Kappa Psi
Delta Tau	Kappa Upsilon
Epsilon	Lambda Theta
Eta Eta	Mu Omicron
Eta Zeta	Theta Alpha

**Dallas County Coordinating Council  
CORA MCFARLAND SCHOLARSHIP**

**✓History and Purpose:**

The Cora McFarland Scholarship

- was created by the Dallas County Chapters of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International to benefit members of chapters within Dallas County and
- is awarded annually to members of the Society to enhance the fulfillment of DKG's fifth purpose, "to endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study."

**✓Eligibility:**

**Long-term scholarship (up to \$3,000) applicants**

- must have been a Dallas County DKG member for three full years from date of induction,
- must be pursuing a doctoral degree, and
- may receive a long-term scholarship once while working toward a doctoral degree.

**Short-term scholarship (up to \$1,000) applicants**

- must have been a Dallas County DKG member for at least one full year from date of induction;
- must be working for credit toward
  - an advanced degree,
  - certification, or
  - a field-of-study course, workshops, conferences, conventions, or special projects;
- must use the money for these purposes for tuition, fees, and/or supplies (no travel expenses);

- must indicate a direct link between what she is planning to do and who will benefit; and
- may apply for a short-term scholarship no more than twice in a three-year period.

#### **An applicant for a long-term or a short-term scholarship**

- should be an active participant in Delta Kappa Gamma through such things as attendance at chapter meetings, service through committees, elected offices, chapter projects, and attendance at workshops, conferences, and conventions; and
- is expected to remain an active, contributing member of DKG Society International.

#### **✓ To Apply:**

##### **The long-term scholarship applicant must submit**

- completed application [Application](#)
- official current transcript of all graduate-level work indicating courses and grades. If applicant is working on dissertation only, an evaluation by the applicant's major professor must be included.
- three current letters of recommendation as to character, personality, ability, and scholarship. These must include (1) a major professor in your graduate work, (2) the president of your Delta Kappa Gamma chapter, and (3) an individual familiar with the quality of your professional skill.
- required documents in one envelope postmarked by **March 1, 2021**

##### **The short-term applicant must submit**

- completed application [Application](#)
- current original transcript or grade report for graduate work or certification, or a completed registration form for conferences and special study
- three current letters of recommendation as to character, personality, ability, and scholarship. These must include (1) the president of your Delta Kappa Gamma chapter, (2) a supervisor or principal, and (3) an individual familiar with the quality of your professional skill.
- required documents in one envelope postmarked by **March 1, 2021**

#### **✓ All applicants are required to**

- participate in an interview on **March 27, 2021** (virtually via Zoom, time TBD), and
- attend the Coordinating Council of Dallas County luncheon to receive their scholarship on **April 24, 2021**. (tickets are purchased from Delta Omicron in the spring).

#### **✓ Distribution of Funds and Documentation**

- **Long-term scholarship recipients** will receive half of the stipend at the Coordinating Council of Dallas County Luncheon. The remainder will be awarded after a transcript or grade report of completed course work and a current End of Study Report are sent to the CCDC's Cora McFarland Scholarship Coordinator.
- **Short-term scholarship recipients** will receive stipends at the Coordinating Council of Dallas County Luncheon and must complete a current year End of Study Report and mail the form to the scholarship coordinator on completion of the work.

**Note:** Please contact Jaime Callahan if you have questions regarding the application process -  
Jaime represents Delta Omicron on the Cora McFarland Scholarship Committee.

*Testimonials follow.*

## TESTIMONIALS from Current Delta Omicron Recipients of CCDC's Cora McFarland Scholarship



**Dr. Jaime Callahan, inducted 2014, recipient 2016 and 2017**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship(s)?**

**A.** I was a recipient of two Cora McFarland Scholarships, and I used them both to offset tuition costs related to obtaining my doctoral degree.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** Having the opportunity to apply for and receive the Cora McFarland scholarships was such a big help as I worked through the process of earning my doctorate. The path to a doctoral degree is difficult enough without having to worry about cost, and our household decided to pay in full each semester, as opposed to taking out a loan. Having the funds from the Cora McFarland Scholarship made the process a little less stressful.

I highly encourage anyone interested in pursuing higher levels of education or experience to apply for the Cora McFarland Scholarship. The interview process was pleasant and gave the scholarship committee a chance to get to know me and I to know them. They were delightful and supportive and made the entire process easy! I hope our members consider applying this year!



**Marylin Nease, inducted 1983, recipient 2009 and 2010**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship(s)?**

**A.** I was teaching a literary magazine class and attended scholastic journalism conferences, one year in Phoenix, AZ, and the next in Portland, OR. I took away ideas and skills to use with my students and in our school's literary arts magazine.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** I don't recall that completing the application itself was difficult or easy—just that I needed to follow the steps and submit it on time.

I do remember the interview—a circle of interested, supportive committee members from the 14 Dallas County chapters, meeting in a member's home. They wanted to know all about my school's literary magazine, and I happily, proudly passed around copies of our latest edition and told them all about my students/staff and the magazine's birth, finances, published students and faculty, audience, and impact.

I also remember the two CCDC luncheons when the leader called my name and I walked forward to receive my scholarships. Affirmation by "key women educators" feels great!



**Susan Endicott, inducted 1996, recipient 2002**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship?**

**A.** I used the money to complete my certification in Educational Diagnostician.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** At one point I thought of getting out of the classroom and into testing. But after I had the certificate, Highland Park ISD let me transfer into regular education (since I had that double major), and I began to teach 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at Armstrong. It all worked out for the best, and I still used my knowledge because I had special needs children every year until I retired. All bonuses for me!



**Leesa Cole, inducted 1990, recipient 2013 and 2014**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship?**

**A.** I received two Cora McFarland scholarships when I thought I was transitioning into a different area in education. I knew I was at a crossroads . . . ready to do something different before I retired completely. I took online courses through the University of North Texas to add a technology/leadership focused certificate to my resume. The courses were fascinating, and the financial assistance was invaluable.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** As in everything related to DKG, the support from colleagues, chapter sisters, fellow educators, and Cora McFarland committee members was superb. I received fantastic letters of recommendation, practical advice, and a lot of positive vibes.

Once the application is accepted, there is an interview with the committee, and the first one was initially quite daunting -- a room full of ladies to ask me questions. But just a few questions quelled all my anxiousness because it was clear that the questions were yet another form of support from fellow educators.

The cherry on top was the warm recognition and support at the Coordinating Council of Dallas County luncheon, where the committee awarded the scholarship.



**Dr. Elyse Griffin, inducted 2010, recipient 2013 and 2014**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship?**

**A.** I used my two Cora McFarland scholarships to work on my EdD in Educational Leadership. I thoroughly enjoyed learning and researching with my cohort.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** The process of applying was exciting. You are given the opportunity to share about your goals and dreams with sisters who are eager to help you succeed. Mentors from our own Delta Omicron Chapter were happy to assist along the way, so don't hesitate to apply!



**Mary Gill, inducted 1992, recipient 2002**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship?**

**A.** At that time in my teaching career, I had a growing interest in better serving the gifted children I would be encountering in my future classes so I took a course on teaching the gifted.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** When I applied for the Cora McFarland scholarship, upon arriving for my interview, I was slightly nervous. I soon found out that was completely not necessary! The interview process was very pleasant, mainly inquiring about my goals in using the scholarship.

It was a blessing to have received the scholarship, and the knowledge I gained from the course serves me well as I continue tutoring and teaching.





**Carolyn Power, inducted 1991, recipient 1998**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship?**

**A.** When my DKG friends found out I was taking classes at TWU in order to get my Mid-Management Certification, they encouraged me to request a Cora McFarland Scholarship.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** I remember spending a Saturday morning talking with the DKG women who served on the committee granting scholarships. There were several of us applying who found ourselves sitting in the hallway of someone's home, so I wasn't the only one feeling a little nervous. My turn came, and I explained why I was seeking this additional certification and how I would use it. They asked several questions about my experiences in Delta Omicron Chapter. Then finally, one woman asked me why I had asked for \$500. I explained that it would help cover the cost of classes and that it would be very helpful. She asked if I would like to receive \$1,000 instead. I replied yes, and later they informed me that I had been granted \$1,000.

That summer term I took my most challenging class, Educational Law. I had always worked hard and gotten A's, but I worked myself to death to be sure I got an A in that class since DKG was paying for it. I remember writing the committee a thank-you note and including proof of passing those classes.

I took the Texas State test and was certified in 2000. This allowed me to be the HPISD Summer School Principal for struggling readers and to simultaneously train teachers new to the district who would be teaching language arts in the elementary schools. As Summer School Principal, I followed in the footsteps of Delta Omicron's Dr. Billie Grissom and Elenora Asbury. Nancy Johnson and I did the new teacher training component for several years. Joan Webb also taught classes in this program. I am extremely grateful for this scholarship and once had the opportunity to sit in as a committee member granting a scholarship to Elyse Griffin.



**Grace Delatour, inducted 1974, recipient 2002**

**Q. How did you use your scholarship?**

**A.** With the Cora McFarland Scholarship of \$1,000 I attended the McDonald Observatory Astronomy Elderhostel Course at the Davis Mountain Educational Center sponsored by the University of Texas at Austin. Classes were held morning, afternoon and night from April 28 to May 3, 2002. The study consisted of the universe with special focus on our solar system and our galaxy, the Milky Way.

**Q. What do you want prospective applicants to know about your scholarship experience?**

**A.** Through the study of Spectroscopy, we learned about the sun's spectrum on our planets and stars. It reveals temperature, chemical elements, surface features, atmosphere, mass, size, speed of space, and distances. Using the reflecting 16-inch, 30-inch and 36-inch telescopes, we viewed planets, moons, galaxies, clusters of galaxies, and super clusters, some as far away as 50 million light years. We had observation tours with detailed explanations of design and function of the 84-inch, 107-inch and 432-inch (Hobby-Eberly) telescopes.

After a week of study, I had a greater understanding and appreciation for astronomers.

**Additional Delta Omicron recipients you can contact for their experiences:**

Dr. Dawna Walsh, 2000; Nancy Johnson, 2004; Melanie Rudebeck, 2004, 2005.

*Dr. Jaime Callahan*

## **Personal Updates**



**Leesa Cole** shares, “My husband and I contracted COVID-19 in early Nov., but we both had mild cases and recovered without a trip to the hospital. There was a large outbreak at his school, which had to close for a week in Nov., so it was inevitable that it came home with him.

“Hoping to help those who aren’t recovering as well as I did, I am now a regular blood donor and will continue to donate as long as my COVID antibodies are present.

“We stayed in Dallas for the holidays--only the third time in my life that I wasn't with my family, but it was a good holiday nonetheless because my thinking is that doing things differently provides an opportunity for a reset and new experiences.”

## **On Zooming...**



**Elenora Asbury** shares,

“I’ve realized during Zoom meetings that I’ve gotten to know others in DKG better through Zoom, better than ever before.

“It was so easy at our prior face-to-face meetings to gravitate to those we knew and then sit with them, not having spoken to most of the ladies at our meetings.

“Sometimes I’m feeling ‘Zoomed out,’ but I do think the sharing times have in many ways been the best part of our meetings. I’ve also been helped by seeing on the Zoom screen the names with the people’s faces since my memory isn’t as sharp as I’d like!

“Zoom has been a true blessing during these crazy times.”



**Marilyn Nease** reports,

“I love our fellowship times on Zoom and getting to know each other better by taking turns sharing something personal on a topic!

“I’m a Zoom fan. I had never used it before COVID-19, but I’m so appreciative of how it’s kept me connected with family and friends. I’ve wondered several times whether we might not have been much more isolated from one another during this pandemic, like in the old days of pre-technology--without Zoom.

“When everyone gets to take turns sharing something important to her, that’s extra special. I firmly believe fellowship is what keeps us together in DKG. I know the fellowship is my favorite part and what keeps me coming back, month after month and year after year.”

**What are your thoughts about Zoom?**



## **TEXAS STATE ORGANIZATION** <https://www.dkgtxas.org/>



### **Call for TSO Future Leaders**

Interested in serving on a TSO committee as a member or a Chair? How about being an Area Coordinator?

TSO needs YOU! Fill out the application and submit it by Feb. 1, 2021.

[TSO State Personnel Application](#)

### **TSO Newsletter**

Winter 2020 Lone Star News

### **Alpha State Texas Education Foundation (ASTE F) – Scholarship, Leadership, Projects Leadership Seminar**



[Individual ASTEF Contribution Form](#)

[Chapter or Group ASTEF Contribution Form](#)

[ASTE F Information for Yearbook](#) (What is ASTEF?)

### **2021 TSO 92nd Convention - Denton**



**92nd Texas State Organization** convention will be held in Denton, Texas. Activities will begin with the Children's Art Show and Leadership Seminar Reunions on Wednesday evening, June 16, and will conclude with the Celebration Brunch on Saturday, June 19.

Read all about the upcoming convention in the convention newsletter *The Key*.

[The Key, Volume 3](#)

[2021 Convention Website](#)

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## **INTERNATIONAL** <https://www.dkg.org/>

### **Conventions/Conferences**

Virtual Convention, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 7-10, 2020

[Convention's Digital Highlights](#)

Portland, Oregon, **July 7-10, 2021**

San Antonio, Texas, **July 21-24, 2021**

Tampere, Finland, **July 28-31, 2021**

<b>Photos:</b>	Leesa Cole, Mary Gill, Elyse Griffin, Katherine Grogan, Penni Lewis, Marylin Nease, Pixabay. <b>Graphic Art:</b> TSO, DKG, Vogel Alcove, Pixabay.
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