



Bridging
yesterday and tomorrow



The 4:15

Delta Omicron, Chapter 111, Dallas, Dallas County, Area 9, Texas State Organization, The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

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

Volume 61, Issue 4

Marylin Nease, editor

January 22, 2018

President's Message

By Lou McMillan, 2016-2018 Chapter President



It's hard to believe a new year is beginning, and we leave the old behind.

But, this is always an exciting time for me because I look forward to all the "new beginnings." And, especially to the ones in Delta Kappa Gamma.

However, looking back over 2017, I remember all the wonderful meetings we had in Delta Omicron and the

fabulous programs we heard. Thank you, **Barbara Clinton**, for providing such interesting and dynamic speakers.

Adding three beautiful and delightful new members this past year was also grand: **Jan Nance**, **Mai Giles**, and **Katherine Grogan**. And, another lovely lady, **Cindy Braley**, will officially become a member when she is initiated next month.

I recall, too, our fun times and informative meetings at state convention in Houston last June. In fact, the program Bonnie Moore will present on January 22 is a direct result of this Houston gathering.

And, a trip to Hawaii was a great event for **Maureen Baker**, **Leesa Cole**, **Carolyn Miller**, and me. I can certainly understand the meaning of "Aloha" in this gorgeous part of the world. Hawaiians really are some of the friendliest, most cordial people on Earth.

The President's Message continues on page 2.

Monday, January 22, 2018

Time and Agenda:

4:30 p.m. – Fellowship

5:00 p.m. – Program



Sherrie Negrete,
Social Arrangements Chair

January Hostesses: **Maureen Baker**,
Janet Cundiff, **Catherine Donahue**,
Elyse Griffin, [redacted]
Penni Lewis, **Rebecca Quigley**

Bonnie Moore, Program Presenter,
"Clued into Effective Communication"
(see page 2 for more about Bonnie)



Location:

Highland Park Presbyterian Church, Room H020
3821 University Blvd., Dallas 75205

Inside This Issue...

pp. 1-18, 22: Chapter News

pp. 19: Dallas County, Area 9 News

pp. 19-20: Texas State Organization News

pp. 20-21: SW Regional & International News

What to Bring?

Box Tops for Education coupons for Hillier project ♦ a prospective member ♦ fundraising books, CDs, DVDs, and other items (see page 5) ♦ fabric or \$8 for February program (see page 2). ♦

Delta Omicron's The 4:15*

Five-Star-Award/Seal-of-Merit Newsletter

To submit news, contact
Marylin Nease, editor

* Delta = the fourth letter of the Greek alphabet, and Omicron = the fifteenth letter; also, on a good day 4:15 = the time we leave school; best of all, on a really good day, 4:15 = the time we head to Delta Omicron; hence, *The 4:15* title for our chapter's newsletter. ☺

Chapter Website: <http://deltaomicrontexas.weebly.com/>

Chapter Webmaster: **Carolyn Power**

Chapter Webwatcher: **Marylin Nease**

Chapter Officers' News...

2016-2018 Executive Board:

President: **Lou McMillan**

Vice President, Programs / Service Projects: **Barbara Clinton**

Vice President, Membership: **Jaime Callahan**

Recording Secretary: **Susan Bell**

Corresponding Secretary: **Ashraf Mobh**

Treasurer: **Mary Gill**

Parliamentarian: **Kay Keeland**

Immediate Past President: **Mary White**

President Message continued...

Another highlight this past year was the festive Christmas party given by "the hostess with the mostest," **Elenora Asbury**. What a beautifully decorated home, and what scrumptious dishes!

Many other events occurred in DKG this past year. Please, forgive me if I omitted an event that you really enjoyed. Just let me know, and I will send an addendum in our next newsletter.

Finally, thank you to all the people who "keep this boat afloat"... **Marylin Nease, Leesa Cole, Margaret Thompson**, my executive board, the committee chairs, and, most importantly, YOU, the members, for without you all, there would be no Delta Omicron.

A very happy and blessed 2018 to each of you! ♦



Programs and Service Projects VP's Report

By *Barbara Clinton, Programs/Projects VP*

● January 22 Program

Bonnie Moore, TSO's 2017-2019 parliamentarian, will present our January 22 program, "Clued in on

Communication."

Bonnie describes her presentation as follows: "Are you an effective communicator with everyone you meet? Been in a tough situation where what you said didn't work?"

"This program will clue you in on your personal communication style, the styles of others, and the ways to make the most of communication with family, friends, and strangers.

"Thinking, verbals, and nonverbals will be part of the skills, along with contextual listening, that will help you grow your communication skills."

Bonnie has over thirty-eight years of experience in leadership development, executive coaching, instructional design, and team dynamics in a diverse set of industries including corporate, nonprofit, and education.

She transitioned from education (where she taught multiple subjects and then served as an assistant principal, a principal, and a district-level administrator) to owning her own company.

Bonnie has been awarded the Distinguished Alumni Award from Michigan State University and Volunteer of the Year from the International and Houston Councils of the Blind.

She is a certified executive coach and has certifications in over twelve assessment tools and organizational systems.



Bonnie also serves on several nonprofit boards in officer positions in the Houston area, making a positive impact for individuals, families, and communities.

When not working and volunteering, Bonnie and her [redacted] like to travel, watch college sports, and enjoy the fine arts in Houston. ♦



Prepare in January for Our February 19 Program

Denise Barker will teach us how to make no-sew blankets at the February meeting.

She needs each member to purchase 1.5 yards of fleece fabric and bring it to the January meeting. Fleece can be purchased at Jo-Ann's, Hobby Lobby, or any other fabric store.

Or, you can choose to donate \$8.00 at the January meeting, and Denise will purchase fabric on your behalf.

The finished blankets will be given to residents at Stonefield Assisted Living and Memory Care Community in McKinney, where Denise currently works.

We sincerely hope everyone can participate in this worthy project! ♦

● 2017-2018 Meetings and Programs

Monday, September 18, 2017, 4:30/5 P.M., Highland Park Presbyterian Church, Alexander Chapel, Room 229 (east/Hillier School side of HPPC campus), Salad/Dessert Supper, **Members**, "Sharing Summer Activities." **Leesa Cole**, "DKG and You." (1,3,5,6)

Monday, October 16, 2017, 4:30/5 P.M., HPPC, Room H020 (basement), Representative Morgan Meyer, "TRS Care's Legislative Session Roller Coaster." (3,4,6,7)

Monday, November 13, 2017, 5 P.M., HPPC, "**Wanda Spoonmore**, "Why?" Church Parlor, Initiation Dinner. (1,2,3,6)

Saturday, December 9, 2017, 11 A.M.-1 P.M., Home of **Elenora Asbury**, "A Holiday Gathering." Bring a favorite Christmas ornament to tell about. (1,6)

Monday, January 22, 2018, 4:30/5 P.M., HPPC, Room H020, Bonnie Moore, "Clued into Effective Communication." (3,6)

Monday, February 19, 2018, 4:30/5 P.M., HPPC, Room H020, **Denise Barker**, "No-Sew Throws." (1,6)

Monday, March 19, 2018, 4:30/5 P.M., HPPC, Room H020, Dr. Irie Session, "New Friends, New Life - Human Trafficking in Texas." Also, Dr. Jo Murphy and Jennifer Bernabo. (6,7)

Saturday, April 7, 2018, 10:00 A.M., CCDC Spring Luncheon, Lakewood Country Club. Theme: "Valuing the Past—Embracing the Future."

Monday, May 21, 2018, 4:30/5 P.M., HPPC, Room H020, Observance of Society Founders Day and Chapter Birthday; **Marylin Nease**, "Interview of **Grace Delatour**." (1,2,3,6)

● 2017-2018 Service Projects

▶ CHAPTER:

•**All Hands on Deck for Hillier** –program (July 2014-July 2018) at Hillier School to support early-career educators, support students with diagnosed learning differences, and support the principal (August-May)

•**Denton State-supported Living Center** - donation of monetary gifts (December)

▶ TSO:

•**Week of Caring** - chapters statewide develop service projects in local communities (February, March)

•**Unifying Project** - project that serves needs of state convention community and unifies chapters across Texas in service (May, June)

▶ INTERNATIONAL:

•**Schools for Africa (SfA)**, a UNICEF and DKG international project (adopted in 2010) to "transform lives through education" on the African continent, with special focus on girls, orphans, and vulnerable children (October, November)

•**Support Early-career Educators (SEE)**, DKG international project (adopted in 2012) to strengthen the profession by empowering beginning teachers via mentoring and practical support from experienced teachers (August-May) ♦

Membership VP's Report

By Jaime Callahan, Membership VP



As we welcome in a new year, make sure to welcome our newest members: **Cindy Braley, Mai Gile, and Katherine Grogan!** We are excited that Cindy will be initiated during the February meeting.

And now a question: Are you fully participating in your DKG membership benefits?

From *Lone Star News*, Winter 2017 edition, page 6: "Are you fully utilizing all that membership in Delta Kappa Gamma has to offer? Take a moment to answer the following questions; hopefully your answers will all be 'yes.' If not, then consider this a call to action to turn the 'no' into a 'yes.'"

- "1. Have you applied for and participated in TSO Leadership Training seminar weekend?"
- "2. Have you applied for and participated in DKG International Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar?"
- "3. Have you applied for and received a DKG or TSO scholarship or mini-grant?"
- "4. Do you visit the TSO and International websites frequently?"
- "5. Do you read your chapter newsletter, *Lone Star News*,



Bulletin, Collegial Exchange and DKG News cover to cover?"

- "6. Are you a part of a DKG online community?"

- "7. Do you use social media to connect with DKG members?"
- "8. Do you utilize the group discounts and shopping features that DKG has to offer?"
- "9. Do you attend chapter meetings, TSO State Conventions, DKG Regional Conferences and DKG International Conventions?"
- "10. Do you read the DKG Blog written by Annie Webb Blanton?"

I look forward to seeing you at the January meeting! ♦

Recording Secretary's Report

Minutes, November 13, 2017

By Susan Bell, Recording Secretary



Editor's note: Susan's minutes are on page 22 of this newsletter. ♦



Treasurer's Report

By Mary Gill, Treasurer

Our bank account balance on January 10 was around \$3,400.

From what was collected at our December holiday brunch, I sent \$120 to the Denton State Supported Living Center. That completes one

of our chapter's projects for this year. ♦

Chapter Committee News...

Business

Communications Committee

By Marilyn Nease, Chair

● **Editor's Note:** Periodically *The 4:15* will feature articles of special interest to members. These articles will be about the Society, the chapter, professional issues, women's issues, and human interests.

This month's article is a human interest one. This personal essay is part nine in an ongoing series exploring the impact of one family member's illness on the family as a whole.

One and All

By Marilyn Nease, Editor



Part 9: October 21, 2017 Past, Present, Future

Mid-afternoon, I have a lull in customers. Ready for a break, I stand up from the cashier's table and look out the living room window. I spot my youngest sister standing in the

back of a pickup.

She has climbed onto the bed of the truck, and I watch, mouth open, as she rearranges her purchases for the trip home. She's in charge as she pushes, pulls, lifts, and wraps treasures until she's satisfied they'll be safe. From the ground beside the truck, I secure the cargo with rope.

That she has arrived at all today was a happy surprise because she has been in treatment for lung cancer for almost a year. She has days that are good and days that are not, so whether she could make the three-hour trip across Oklahoma to our cousin's estate sale had been uncertain.

Not only did she drive from east-central Oklahoma to southwest Oklahoma, but also she insisted on a detour to check on our older sister who's been ill. Only then did she and I continue their journey to assist our cousin with the sale and to shop. My sister and I had arrived from Texas two nights earlier to help at her parents' house.

My job has been to man the cashier's table. When I need to leave my post to help a customer find something, she takes over as cashier. As a bank administrator and a former mayor and restaurant owner, she's at ease with customers, money, and record keeping. Her energy holds despite the day's demands.

Part of what motivates her is shopping for memories. When she wanders the house, she sees an item here and there that reminds her of our grandparents or our uncle and aunt. For several years, she has lived in the house our parents lived in for 30 years, the house we four sisters now hold in trust for the next generations. Residing in the family home and being mother to our family's ranch manager, she sees herself as the link between generations past, present, and future.

What has she lovingly secured in the back of the pickup?

Our grandmother's sewing machine, the one powered by a foot on a treadle, the one that sewed clothes and quilts for generations.

A white metal crib from our grandparents' home. Next spring, she'll put the rescued crib in her yard, add garden soil, and plant flowers. She'll watch new life grow, just as our grandparents and parents watched us grow.

A water color of flowers her mother painted. Our aunt's artwork will serve as a reminder of the generation before us, as well as our shared love of nature.

And so on. She'll preserve these memories and record our family heritage for the next generations, who will decide in their own turn what to do with memories.

Today, she remembers, lives, and looks to the future.

To be continued... ♦



December 16, 2017

Chapter Committee News...

Society Mission and Purposes



Scholarship Committee

By Leesa Cole, Chair

Plan Ahead for Scholarships!

DKG is dedicated to the continued success and growth of its members and is ready to award

funding for members (and some non-members) who meet the requirements of the applications.

All you have to do is apply!

Scholarships are available from International, Texas State Organization (TSO), Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation (ASTEF, TSO's foundation), the Coordinating Council of Dallas County (CCDC), and Delta Omicron.

Contact **Leesa Cole**, Delta Omicron's scholarship committee chair, for more information or assistance. Or, contact one our chapter's recent awardees for inspiration.

Deadlines to Apply:

February 1, 2018

International Scholarships for graduate or doctoral studies. Selected by the international scholarship committee.

March 1, 2018

- **TSO's Scholarships** (seven different scholarships) for university hours, travel with an educational purpose, staff development, or personal / professional enrichment . Selected by the TSO scholarship committee. Recent chapter recipients: **Elyse Griffin, Kay Keeland, Jamie Callahan.**
- **CCDC's Cora McFarland Scholarship** for an advanced degree, a certification, a project, or special study. Selected by the Cora McFarland scholarship committee. Recent recipients: **Leesa Cole, Elyse Griffin, Jaime Callahan.**
- **ASTEF's Aspiring Educator Award** for a non-member, not currently degreed or certified, wishing to pursue a teaching certificate. Selected by the ASTEF programs and projects committee.

April 1, 2018

- **Delta Omicron Chapter's Scholarship** for a chapter member attending a seminar, taking a mini-course, or pursuing another educational opportunity. Selected by the chapter's scholarship committee. Recent recipients: **Melanie Rudebeck, Kay Keeland, Jaime Callahan.**
- **Delta Omicron's Grant-in-Aid** for a non-member teacher who is working on her master's degree and is a prospective member. Selected by the chapter's personal and professional enrichment committee. ♦



Legislation Committee

By [Redacted] Chair

Mark Your Calendar! Vote!

The most important election for educators and public schools is here.

The Texas Legislature did not want to fund healthcare for retired or active teachers, so they gave us high deductibles and low benefits. This will be worse next year.

Next, they want our defined benefit pension, which has \$143 billion dollars in it.

We can no longer sit at home and do nothing. This is what these politicians want.

We must stand together and vote to make sure we get the ones who are against public schools and educators out of office.

Most of us have bachelor, master, and doctorate degrees, and we worked hard to obtain these. DON'T LET AUSTIN TAKE THIS AWAY FROM US

AND TREAT US LIKE SECOND CLASS CITIZENS.

WE HAVE GOT TO VOTE in the primary. ELECTIONS ARE WON IN THE PRIMARY!

EARLY VOTING: Tues., Feb. 20 - Fri., Mar. 2
PRIMARY ELECTION: Tues., Mar. 6 ♦



Chapter Committee News...

Special

Fundraising Committee

By Wanda Spoonmore, Chair

Dollar Fundraising Event

At our January meeting, let's have an "On the Table Sale" instead of a garage sale.

How will the sale work?

Everything on the table is \$1.00 per item.

Bring books, DVDs, CDs, or any other item for which you feel someone would be willing to pay \$1.00 per item.

Bring more than one item; buy more than one item.

100% of the proceeds will go to the TSO ASTEF fund.

ASTEF funds scholarships, projects, and leadership events.

This is a good time to pass on items you no longer want but feel others might find useful. ♦



Hillier Project Committee

● After-school Tutoring



✓ *Lou's Wednesdays at Hillier*

Lou McMillan reports, "This past Wednesday, January 10, 2018, I went to my tutoring session at Hillier for the first time in 2018.

I had two of my students from last year and a new student. All three reported a fun and relaxing holiday and were ready to "plunge" into a New Year!

All of the students were prepared and ready to go. They each had chosen a new book to read, and each read for 20-25 minutes aloud. They each have a book they read at home with their parents for the same amount of time.

Two of my tutees are reading books from The Harry Potter series! I told them how impressed I am for their choice. They are pushing themselves to reach a higher level of skill in their reading! I congratulated them and told them they should be very proud of themselves!

All children need to hear how well they are doing whenever they attempt to raise their level of reading, but students with a learning difference...even more so!

We are off to a good start this New Year! ♦



✓ *Marylin's Tuesdays at Hillier*

Who: Marylin Nease

What: Volunteering as an after-school tutor for our chapter project

Where: The Hillier School, HPPC

When: Nov., Dec., Jan. Tuesdays

Why: Helping kids learn to read better, and having fun doing it. Best part: The things they say!

How: Spending 20-30 minutes with each child each week.

→→→ **Tues., Nov. 7, 2017**

NOVEMBER!

Tutee #1 - 5th Grader

Frankly, I'd Rather Spin Myself a New Name! The Story of Rumpelstiltskin As Told by Rumpelstiltskin

Alba Series: The Plan

Tam Has a Nap

Jed's Bag

Honestly, Red Riding Hood Was Rotten: The Story of Little Red Riding Hood As Told by the Wolf

Tutee #2 - 4th Grader

Seriously, Cinderella Is So Annoying! The Story of Cinderella As Told by the Wicked Stepmother



Made Me Smile:

(1) When I arrived, I saw the school was having a book fair.

I said to my first tutee: I saw the book fair set up downstairs. Did you go? How was it?

Tutee: I didn't have any money.

I: Oh, well, not having money for the book fair wasn't fun, was it? Do you go to the library? Do you have a library card? You

can get books for free there.

Tutee, looking puzzled: No.

I: Well, let me show you mine and tell you how to get books for free!

And, I pull out my Dallas Public Library card, show it to her, and tell her all her mother needs to do to get a card is show her driver's license at the library's help desk. I tell her when my sisters and I were her age, our mother took us to the public library in our town in Oklahoma every two weeks. On each trip, we returned the books we'd read and walked out with a new supply of books. Magic! Free! ☺

(2) My first tutee was reading her fifth book and was aware her 30 minutes of reading were almost up, but when the timer sounded, she kept right on reading the final six pages of her Red Riding Hood story. ☺

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→→→ **Tues., Nov. 14, 2017**

Tutee #1 - 4th Grader

The Day the Crayons Came Home



Moment of Joy:

My first tutee is in his second year at Hillier. Last year we read together once, maybe twice. Today is our first time to read this year. I hear that he now uses phonics to decipher unknown words and that he has grown in his reading. ☺

Tutee #2 - 5th Grader

Really, Rapunzel Needed a Haircut! The Story of Rapunzel As Told by Dame Gothel

Frankly, I Never Wanted to Kiss Anybody! The Story of the Frog Prince As Told by the Frog

Is It Matt?

Tam Has a Nap

Sim and the Bat



Good Insights:

(1) After she reads, I ask my tutee which of today's retold fairy tales she likes better.

She: This one, she says, *pointing to the Frog*

Prince book.

Me: Why?

She: It's funnier.

We talk about the two books. She's right, and I like her thinking.

(2) She reads *Sim and the Bat*. We talk about the book.

I ask her: Why can Sim hit the ball with the pan but not the bat?

She: The bat's heavier.

I: Well, the picture does make it look like Sim might have trouble picking up the bat. Is there another reason a frying pan might work better than a bat when Sim tries to hit the ball?

I ask her to pretend my arm is a bat and to pretend she's throwing a ball at my arm/bat. She does. We talk about the narrow surface an arm/bat has to strike a ball. I ask her to pretend her notebook is a frying pan, and I hold it up while she pretends to throw a ball and I pretend to strike the ball with my notebook/frying pan. We talk about the pan's larger surface for striking a ball compared to a bat's surface. She considers weight

and dimensions now, and she discovers a new way of looking at Sim and the Bat.

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→→→Tues., Nov. 28, 2017

Tutee #1 - 5th Grader

A Dog Called Kitty

Tutee #2 - 6th Grader

Diary of a Wimpy Kid Series: Third Wheel



Moments of Joy:

(1) After my first tutee and I take turns reading the first 2 ½ chapters in Bill Wallace’s book, we are both surprised when our 30 minutes are up. I ask

my tutee if she’d like to take the book with her to read at home or if she wants me to bring it back next time. She answers immediately, “Take it home with me!” And after a short pause, she adds, “Thank you!”

(2) My second tutee has read many of the Wimpy Kid books, and we enjoy laughing at the antics and tone in *Third Wheel*. My tutee relates to the sibling interactions and humor. This is our fourth year to read together, and we laugh easily together.

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→→→Tues., Dec. 5, 2017

DECEMBER!

Tutee #1 - 5th Grader

A Dog Called Kitty

Tutee #2 - 3rd Grader

Rescue Series: Dark Times



Made Me Smile:

(1) When my second tutee arrives for his turn, my first tutee excitedly tells him about *A Dog Called Kitty*. She finishes with, “I love this book!”

(2) When we finish this final book in the adventure series dedicated to saving apples threatened by disease, my second tutee tells me about the shrink ray needed to stop the bugs. Only one seed is left, he says, to save all the apples “in the whole world”!

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→→→Tues., Dec. 12, 2017

Tutee #1 - 5th Grader

I Acted Like a Beast! The Story of Beauty and the Beast As Told by the Beast

Bear Feels Sick

Too Many Dogs



Made Me Smile:

(1) My tutee’s copy of *Bear Feels Sick* came from Chick fil a. Great idea to include a book with a meal!

(2) When we record in the reading log how many pages my tutee read, we do math: 33+34+8. She adds 3+4 on her fingers

and gets 7. I hold up 8 of my fingers so she can add my 8 to her 7 to get 15. I tell her to carry the 1. She needs only her fingers, not mine also, to add 3+3+1=7. She discovers she read 75 pages.

Tutee #2 - 4th Grader

Naughty Little Monkeys



Made Me Smile:

This tutee loves the illustrations as much as the text. The art and the words pair perfectly.

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→→→Tues., Dec. 19, 2017

Tutee #1 - 5th Grader

Seriously, Snow White Was So Forgetful! The Story of Snow White As Told by the Dwarves

A Dog Called Kitty



Made Me Smile:

I ask: Which do you like more: reading a familiar book or reading a new book?

Tutee: A familiar book.

I: Why?

Tutee: Because I know it’s funny.

I: That’s a good reason!

Tutee #2 - 3rd Grader

A Dog Called Kitty



Made Me Smile:

My tutee tells me about the *Magic Tree House* series and how much she enjoys the books. I love that she has favorite books!

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→→→Tues., Jan. 9, 2018

JANUARY!

Tutee #1 - 5th Grader

A Dog Called Kitty



Made Me Happy:

This tutee brings her copy of Bill Wallace’s book, and we read chapter 4. When the timer sounds, we are surprised. We have half a page left in the chapter. She wants me to read it before we stop!

Tutee #2 - 4th Grader

Rabbit



Made Me Smile:

We learn lots about kinds of rabbits and their care. She has a rabbit at home and is eager to learn and share. I tell her about my older sister raising rabbits for a 4-H project when she was a child.

Tutee #3 - 3rd Grader

Aqualicious



Made Me Smile and Laugh:

This clever, creative book about Pinkalicious, her brother, and their parents in a beach adventure with a merminnie mermaid is a delight! Its colorful illustrations add to our fun!



Today's Bonus:

When I'm in the study hall waiting for my next tutee, I spot a tutee I've worked with for four years reading one of the *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* books to himself! Oh, joy! ♦

Chapter Members' News...

Professional

By Marilyn Nease



Part 1:

On November 13, I taught **Sherrie Negrete's** ESL class at Brookhaven College. The class was part of a non-credit course for students for whom English is a second language; their goal is to work their way into a for-credit English class. Sherrie asked me to teach her students how to organize an essay.

The fourteen students' ages ranged from 20s to 60s. Their careers varied from a teacher to an engineer to a medical doctor to a businessman to a beginning college student. They came to the United States from India, Vietnam, Mexico, China, Syria, Jordan, and other countries around the world.

They were eager to improve their speaking, reading, and writing of English and were working diligently with Sherrie to do so. I admire and respect their commitment to the challenge!

Part 2:

My love of writing continues.

As you know, I've been writing essays now and then about my sister [redacted] journey with cancer—and the journey my other two sisters and I are taking alongside her. Three of these essays—"Sister Talk," "Unexpected Gifts," and "Planting Memories"—are published in the DKG Fall 2017 online Gallery of Fine Arts: [DKG Gallery of Fine Arts](#)

By the way, the next deadline for DKG members to submit their original writing, photos, artwork, and other art forms is February 1, 2018. The same link (given in previous paragraph) will take you to the info you need to submit your work.

In addition, my poem "Plum Trees" is published in the 2017 edition of *Pony Express(ions)*, which is the online literary journal for Southern Methodist University's Graduate Liberal Studies Program. <https://smuponyexpressions.wordpress.com/> ♦



Chapter Members' News...



Personal

Mary Gill reports, "I will not be at our January meeting. My mom and I will be in Florida visiting family! "I will see you in February."

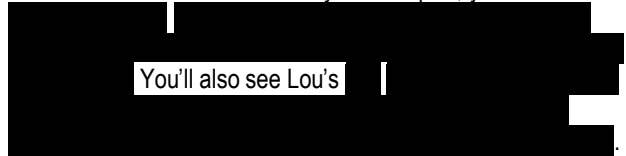
Margaret Thompson shares, "Happy New Year to all!

"We had a lovely visit with our son, [redacted]. He spent about three days with us before heading out to spend time with his Dallas friends through New Year's. We had an adventure at Escape the Room with Lee one evening, which I recommend to anyone who likes to solve mysteries!

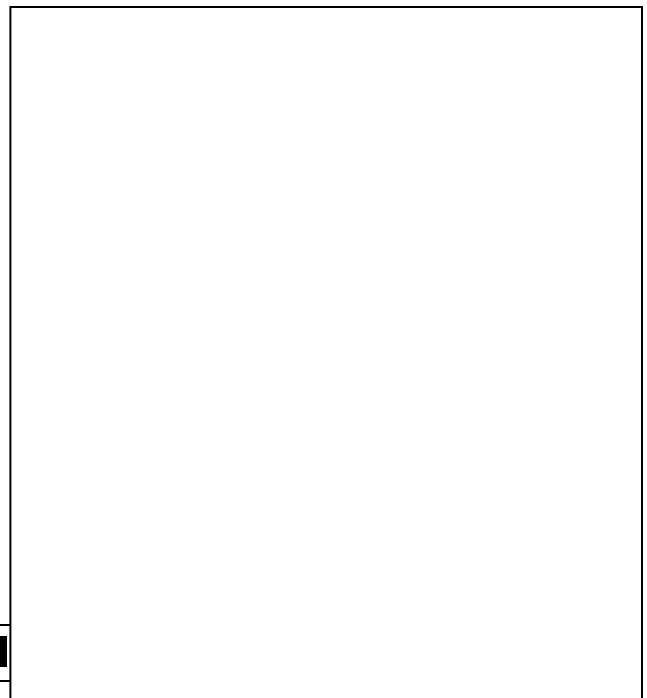


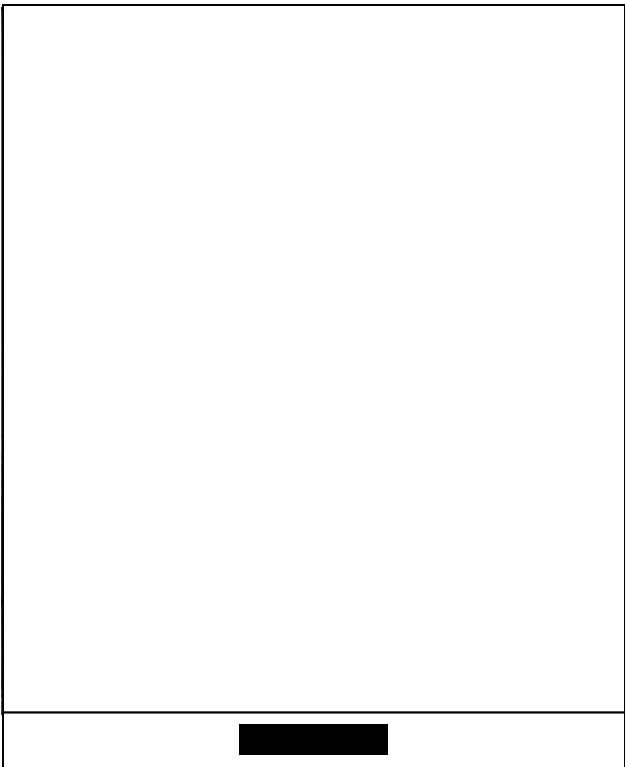
"Can't wait to hear everyone else's news."

In the family photos below, **Lou McMillan** shares memories from her recent holidays. In the pics, you'll see Lou's



You'll also see Lou's





Lou relaxing with some of her granddogs ♦

More Member News: Birthdays, Birthdays!



December

January ♦

Chapter News...

Meeting, 11/13/17, Photo Highlights Initiation Dinner and Program



Lou McMillan opens our meeting.



Barbara Clinton introduces our speaker.



Carolyn Miller delivers an inspirational message.



Wanda Spoonmore informs and inspires us with her review of DKG's past that led to our present and future.



Festive fall centerpieces for our dinner tables—thanks, Sherrie Negrete!



Jaime Callahan introduces our initiation of new members Mai Gile and Katherine Grogan.



Initiation ceremony: Lou McMillan, Carolyn Miller, Sherrie Negrete, Jean Wallace, Grace Delatour, [redacted], Jaime Callahan. Initiates: Katherine Grogan, Mai Gile.



Mai and Katherine light their ceremonial candles.



Mai Gile signs the chapter's membership book.



Mai Gile receives her DKG membership pin from sponsor Sherrie Negrete.



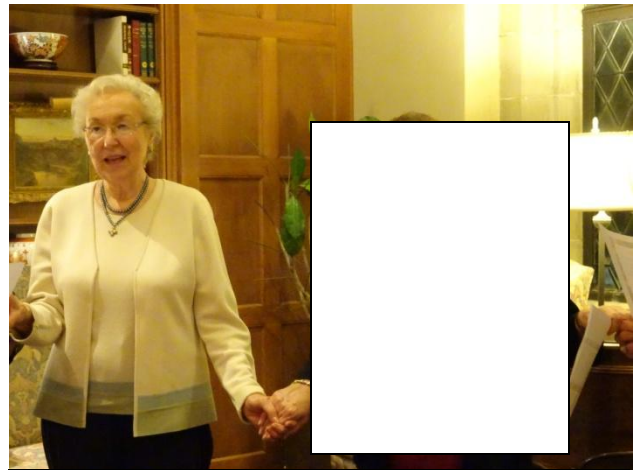
Katherine Grogan signs the chapter's membership book.



Members gather in a circle, join hands, and sing "The Delta Kappa Gamma Song": Wanda Spoonmore, Sara Coleman, Marta Finlay, Lou Brown, Margaret Arnold, Mary Gill.



Margaret Arnold



Grace Delatour, [REDACTED]



Marta Finlay, Lou Brown



Jean Wallace, Mai Gile, Sherrie Negrete



Wanda Spoonmore, Sara Coleman



Susan Bell, Katherine Grogan, Carolyn Miller

"Oh, Delta Kappa Gamma, / In thy fold we gather!"



Lou McMillan, Jaime Callahan, Barbara Clinton



Carolyn Miller, Jean Wallace, Mai Gile, Sherrie Negrete, Grace Delatour

"And we shall win for aye!"



██████████ Carrie Parsons, Jan Nance



New member Mai Gile with sponsor Sherrie Negrete



Margaret Thompson, Carolyn Power



Sponsor Carolyn Miller with new member Katherine Grogan

*Hand in hand our loyal band,
Forward moving ever!*

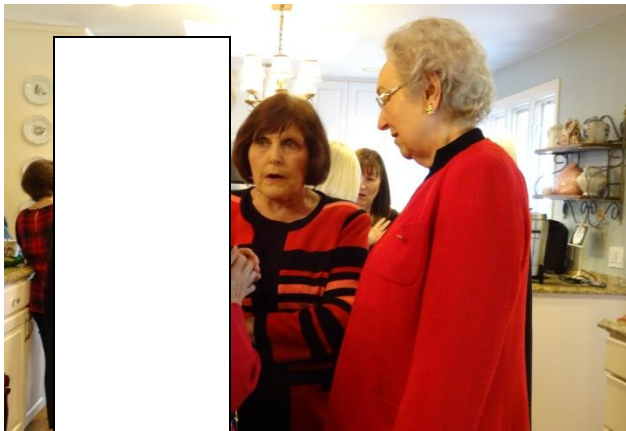
Holiday Brunch, 12/9/17, Elenora Asbury's Home, Photo Highlights



Thank you to Elenora Asbury for welcoming us into her lovely home! Thank you to our December hostesses for providing their tasty dishes of holiday foods!



One tiny example of Elenora's festive decorations!



Sara Coleman, Grace Delatour



Catherine Donahue, Susan Bell, Cindy Braley



Maureen Baker, Lou Brown



Barbara Harris

*A Holiday Gathering
of Key Women Educators*



Marylin Nease, Jan Nance



Margaret Thompson, Lou Brown



Sara Coleman



Maureen Baker, Cindy Braley



Marta Finlay, Mary White, Susan Bell, Grace Delatour



Cindy Braley, Marylin Nease

DKG Purpose #1: To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship!



Nancy Johnson, Katy Kunofsky, Becky Quigley, [REDACTED]



Becky Quigley, Mary Gill



Elenora Asbury, Sara Coleman



Lou Brown, Mary Carol Hughes



Elenora Asbury, [REDACTED]



Another festive touch!

"For our sisters watch e'er keeping..."



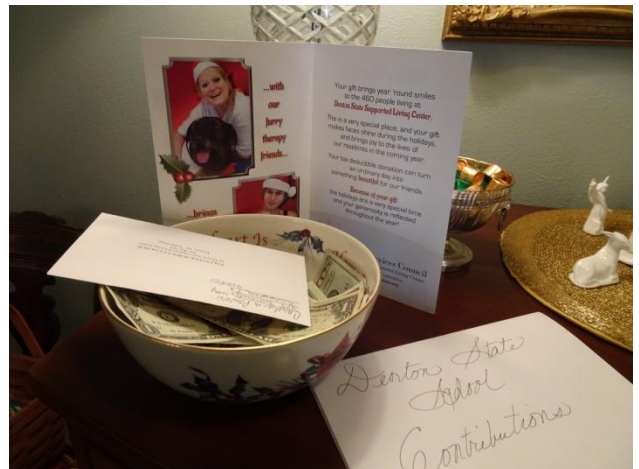
Mary White, Cordelia Venechanos



Sara Coleman, Joy Burger
Thank you to Joy for sharing her books with us!



Marilyn Nease



Thank you to members for giving to our chapter's decades-old December project:
monetary gifts to the
Denton State Supported Living Center!

*"Work for others is the leaven
That inspires our band!"*



Carolyn Power, Catherine Donahue, Mary Carol Hughes
Be sure to ask Carolyn and Catherine to share their Christmas ornament stories!

Thank you for another festive touch:
take-home treats!





Mary Carol Hughes, Mary Gill, Marta Finlay, Lou Brown



Cordelia Venechanos, Joy Burger, Carolyn Power, Sherrie Negrete



Katy Kunofsky, Becky Quigley, [REDACTED]

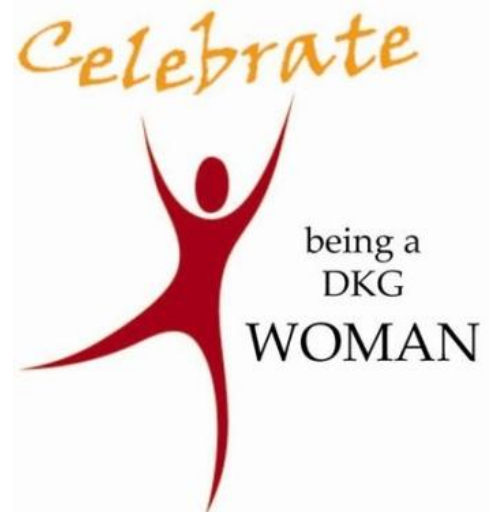


Joy Burger, Cordelia Venechanos ♦



Elenora Asbury, Maureen Baker

*"To us pioneers have given;
We return their gifts to heaven..."*



Coordinating Council of Dallas County News...

The CCDC Spring Luncheon is April 7, 2018, at the Lakewood Country Club. 10:00 a.m.
Theme: Valuing the Past—Embracing the Future. ♦

Area 9 News...



About Bridges, Nuts and Bolts, and DKG

By Area 9 Coordinator Jennifer Bernabo

One of the duties of an area coordinator is to be the liaison between your chapter and the 2017-2019 Texas State Organization president, Dr. Jo Murphy. Dr. Murphy set her theme as “Bridging yesterday and tomorrow” and her symbol of a bridge so that we can look back and reflect while building up excitement about what is going to come.

Bridges are complex and grand, awe-inspiring mechanical works of art. Most of the time, we see the overall image, but we forget about the nuts, bolts, and trellises that hold bridges together.

The following are my goals as your Area 9 Coordinator so that we can tighten the nuts and bolts, repair and/or find new trellises to strengthen our chapter bridges.

1. Create a community within Area 9 so that we can learn together and help each other find creative and out-of-the-box ideas to help grow our chapters.
2. Use the recruitment plan to help identify and recruit new members while supporting and growing our current key women educators in our chapters.
3. Communicate often and regularly to keep everyone informed of the information, plans, and updates of what is going on within DKG.
4. Celebrate and share each of our successes! ♦

Do you know how many DKG chapters are in TSO’s Area 9?

A. 5 B. 12 C. 19 D. 27

The answer is on the newsletter’s page 21. ♦

Texas State Organization News...

TSO Website
www.dkgtxas.org ♦



Diane Moose, TSO Webmaster



Lone Star News, Winter 2017 Edition

[Winter 2017 Lone Star News](#) (PDF)

Carol McMillan, TSO Editor/Photographer ♦

TSO President, Theme, and Goals, 2017-2019

Dr. Jo Murphy

Theme:

Bridging yesterday and tomorrow



Biennium Goals:

- (1) Encourage members to strengthen their chapters by building membership diversity including members of all ages and ethnicities, as well as those who work in all types of schools.
- (2) Honor our heritage as we build membership, strengthen chapters, and take on new challenges in schools and communities.
- (3) Encourage healthy living strategies for our members and their families.
- (4) Support initiatives and programs that will enlighten and inform members about education worldwide. ♦

TSO’s ASTEF



Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Q: What is ASTEF’s mission?

A: Impacting Education by Impacting Educators!

Q: How does ASTEF carry out its mission?

A: Through funding (1) scholarships and (2) leadership events, which support the professional and personal growth of Texas women educators, and through funding (3) projects, which promote educational excellence for Texas students.

Use the *LSN* Link for the Latest ASTEF News!

Page 5 – Online Auction, February 14-28

Page 6 – Advocate for Education nominee

Page 11 – Stay at Home Tea, January

Page 11 – Shop for ASTEF

Page 14 – Month of Giving, February

[Winter 2017 Lone Star News](#) (PDF) ♦

TSO Coming Events



89th Texas State Convention

Waco Convention Center

Waco, Texas

June 14-16, 2018

TSO Committee, 2017-2019



From Area 9, Delta Omicron:
Carolyn Miller, member,
Bylaws Committee ♦

The latest *Lone Star News* is packed with convention info! [Winter 2017 Lone Star News](#)

Q. Are you considering presenting a breakout session?

A. From *LSN*, page 5, here's what you need to know: "Proposals for breakout sessions and applications for presenters will be open on the Personal and Professional Enrichment Committee page of the TSO website beginning on December 1, and must be submitted to the committee chair by the **February 17 deadline.**" ♦

TSO Committee, 2017-2019



From Area 9, Delta Omicron:
Marilyn Nease, chair,
Headquarters Committee ♦

Southwest Regional News...

The Southwest Region's next conference will convene in July 2019 in California.

Texas is one of 22 member states in the Southwest Region.

TSO Committee, 2017-2019



From Area 9, Delta Omicron:
Carolyn Power, member,
Research Committee ♦

Do You Know the Southwest Region's 22 States?

Arizona • Baja California • California • Colorado •
Costa Rica • El Salvador • Guatemala • Hawaii •
Jalisco • Japan • Kansas • Mexico D.F. • Missouri •
Nevada • New Mexico • Nuevo Leon • Oklahoma •
Panama • Puebla • San Luis Potosi • Texas • Utah

TSO Projects

- **Week of Caring**, February, March 2018
- **Unifying Project**, May, June 2018 ♦

Regional conferences and international conventions meet in alternate years.

The five DKG regions are the Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, Southwest, and European. ♦

International News...



Website

www.dkg.org ♦

Purposes

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International has seven basic *purposes* that govern its program of work and study. The activities of each level of the Society implement the *purposes* of the Society. <https://www.dkg.org/content/purposes> ♦

Vision Statement

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide ♦

Projects

- Schools for Africa (SfA) usforumdkg.org
<https://www.dkg.org/content/schools-africa-0>
- Support Early-career Educators (SEE)
<https://www.dkg.org/content/see-support-early-career-educators> ♦



President and Theme, 2016-2018

Carolyn Pittman
DKG—Leading Women Educators ♦

Get Connected (Newsletter of the International Communications and Publicity Committee)

In an atmosphere where social media garner significant attention and are often considered the first choice for keeping in contact with friends and family, newsletters have taken a backseat.

Newsletters, however, still have a place in communicating and publicizing Delta Kappa Gamma state organizations and chapters, and digital newsletters are proving to be an inexpensive, quick, and efficient way to keep members informed and involved.

(Text copied from TSO website)

[Get Connected January/February 2018](#) ♦

2018 International Convention (hosted by Texas)

July 16-20, 2018
JW Marriott Austin
Austin, Texas
Convention Chair, JoAnn Brooks

2018 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION TIMES



[2018 International Convention Times,
Issue 1](#)

[2018 International Convention Times,
Issue 1 Texas Edition](#)

If you would like to donate \$5.00 for a Texas pin created by Nancy Newton, 2013-2015 TSO president, please contact JoAnn Brooks. joannbrooks@verizon.net All proceeds will be used to pay for Texas night at International Convention.

**Follow this link for a five-minute video all about
our coming convention in Austin!**

http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Events/2016_International_Convention/2018_Austin_International_Convention.aspx?WebsiteKey=f2a9f9b2-97e4-46ea-a2f2-6b3771b0cb9d ♦

Many thanks to **Elyse Griffin** for printing and mailing copies of this January newsletter to our members without computer access. ♦



Photos in The 4:15 were taken by and/or used with the permission of Jennifer Bernabo, Elyse Griffin, Carol McMillan, Lou McMillan, Bonnie Moore, Diane Moose, Dr. Jo Murphy, Marylin Nease, Carolyn Pittman.

Graphic art is by DKG, TSO, Camille Kirkbride, and Pixabay.

The answer to the Area 9 quiz on page 19 is...D. 27! ♦

Recording Secretary's Report Minutes, November 13, 2017



By Susan Bell,
Recording Secretary

The members of Delta Omicron Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International met Monday, November 13, 2017, 5:00 p.m., at Highland Park Presbyterian Church in the parlor for a catered dinner, program speaker, and initiation ceremony. Attendees were 26 in number and were welcomed as they signed in.

A thank-you goes to **Sherrie Negrete** and her social arrangements committee for our table decor. Another thanks goes to committee member **Margaret Thompson** for planning the catered menu and coordinating with the HPPC staff for the parlor preparation.

Opening:

Lou McMillan, president, began the meeting and welcomed attendees. **Carolyn Miller**, personal and professional enrichment committee chair, shared inspirational thoughts.

Members enjoyed a buffet menu that included a main entrée of chicken breast with vegetables and rolls, and with a dessert choice of two types of pie, plus tea, water, and coffee. Attendees also enjoyed the fellowship of dinner conversation.

New Business:

Following dinner, President McMillan conducted a brief business meeting, starting with minutes from the last meeting. She asked whether members had any additions or corrections to the October minutes. Members did not, so they approved the minutes as printed in the November newsletter.

Mary Gill, treasurer, gave her report, and **Lou McMillan** asked members whether they had any questions. Members did not, so the treasurer's report will be filed for audit.

President McMillan reminded members of the Christmas Brunch change: **Elenora Asbury** will host the brunch at her home. The date and time will stay the same: Saturday, December 9, 2017, 11:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m. The hostesses for December will provide food. However, anyone else is welcome to help with providing dishes. Members are urged to let **Sherri Negrete** or **Kay Keeland** (both of the social arrangements committee) know what food item they are bringing

Old Business:

Wanda Spoonmore, fundraising committee chair, shared information regarding the October fundraiser.

Lou thanked **Leesa Cole**, chapter member and TSO treasurer, for setting up the chapter's orientation tea for our new members at TSO headquarters. At the tea, **Wanda Spoonmore**, past chapter president, shared information about

our Society's Founders and about member benefits at the international, state, and chapter levels of DKG. **Leesa Cole** showed an informative Society-produced orientation video titled *The Big Picture*. Kudos go to **Marylin Nease** for the idea to hold the orientation program at state headquarters. Tea attendees brought refreshments: Marylin, sandwiches; **Jamie Callahan**, membership vice president, and **Barbara Clinton**, program and projects vice president, pastries and cookies; **Lou McMillan**, fresh fruit. Initiates and their sponsors attending the orientation were **Cindy Braley** and **Susan Bell**, **Mai Gile** and **Sherrie Negrete**, and **Katherine Grogan** and **Carolyn Miller**. Mai, Katherine, and Cindy took turns sharing their professional and personal histories.

Program:

Barbara Clinton introduced our speaker, **Wanda Spoonmore**. Wanda's presentation was entitled "Why?" She talked about the many joys and "perks" of being a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, and how DKG membership can be an enriching experience for women, giving many examples from her rich experiences. Wanda is always an entertaining speaker as she weaves information, experience, humor, and inspiration into her message. We were fortunate to have her as our program presenter.

Next, **Jean Wallace**, ceremonies committee chair, began the initiation ceremony. Assisting Jean were committee members **Grace Delatour** and **Nancy Johnson**. Also assisting were **Jaime Callahan**, **Lou McMillan**, **Carolyn Miller**, and **Sherrie Negrete**. Following the ceremony, members congratulated and welcomed new members **Mai Gile** and **Katherine Grogan**. **Cindy Braley** will be initiated in February.

Closing:

Following the ceremony, members joined hands and sang "The Delta Kappa Gamma Song." The meeting adjourned. ♦