



The 4:15



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

Volume 60, Issue 5

Marilyn Nease, editor

January 23, 2017

++ President's Pen

By Lou McMillan, 2016-2018 President

Dear Delta Omicron Chapter Members,
I hope all of you had a wonderful, safe holiday season of fun, family, and friends!



I spent my time in the Big Bend with my oldest son, [redacted] and his family; as well as with my daughter [redacted] and her family.

At Thanksgiving time, I was fortunate to be with my youngest son [redacted] and his family. We stayed in a beautiful home for a whole week in Pagosa Springs, Colorado.

I can honestly say I was blessed to be in two of the most beautiful places on Earth!

Just seeing the Milky Way and the other unbelievable constellations—seeing those sights were two of the best gifts I received! I hope each one of you has an opportunity to "get out of the city" for just a while to view the grandeur of "the heavenly firmament"!

I am so excited about the events that Delta Kappa Gamma and our chapter have in store for us in 2017!

Barbara Clinton has some of the most interesting programs lined up for us to enjoy, starting with Leah Black's program "Memories in Your Attic" in January! (FYI: we're swapping our scheduled January and March programs) Marilyn Gregory (our state president) is visiting in February, and our TSO convention will be in Houston in June! Convention will be so much fun, as well as educational! Please plan to join those of us already committed to attending!

Wishing you all a very bountiful and blessed New Year! ■

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Chapter Meeting News

Monday, January 23, 2017

Time and Agenda:

4:30 p.m. – Fellowship and Food

5:00 p.m. – Program



Program Presenter:
Leah Black

Her Topic:
Memories in Your Attic



Social Arrangements:
Committee Chair – **Sherrie Negrete**

January Hostesses - **Bonnie Ethridge, Marta Finlay, [redacted], Mary Gill, Elyse Griffin, [redacted], Katrina Hallman, Barbara Harris, Mary Carol Hughes**

Location:

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

What to bring: (1) a copy of a heart healthy recipe for our February meeting cookbook, (2) Box Tops for Education coupons for our Hillier School project, (3) if you wish, an item for Leah to appraise—see p. 2. ■

Delta Omicron's The 4:15*

Five-Star-Award 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 News...

Part 1 - Officers

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**



Programs and Service Projects VP's Report

By Barbara Clinton, Programs/Projects VP

● January 23 Meeting Info

Delta Omicron member **Leah Black** is presenting a "how to" program on liquidating an estate.

Leah and her husband [REDACTED] started their own estate sales business in 2001 and have conducted over 100 sales in the DFW metroplex and surrounding areas.

Leah's program will include tips on selecting an estate sale dealer as well as tips on how to conduct your own sale. Leah's goal is to educate members so the process will not seem so overwhelming. For members who have had experience in liquidating an estate, Leah welcomes input on what did or did not work well so that we all can benefit from those experiences.

Members are welcome to bring an item for Leah to evaluate and price during our meeting if minimal research is required.

● Plan Now for February 20 Meeting

Reminder: Please bring a heart healthy recipe to our January meeting, or email one to Barbara Clinton.

Recipes received will be copied and given to members at our February chapter meeting, which will be on "Heart Health." ■



● 2016-2017 Service Projects

▶ CHAPTER:

• **All Hands on Deck for Hillier** – ASTEF-funded program 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) **Completed**

▶ TSO:

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

• **Unifying Project** - project that serves needs of state convention community, 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) **Completed**

• **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



● Members' Personal Touch

Welcome to 2017!

I look forward to sharing the fun activities and events of spring 2017 with our new members.

Reflecting on last year, I am so pleased to be a part of an organization with members who truly care about each other. Our network of warm-hearted ladies is constantly working to support chapter members and to identify and intervene on behalf of members who may be reconsidering their membership.

Thank you for your devotion to each other and our chapter. Your personal touch is ever effective. ■

Recording Secretary's Report



By Susan Bell, Recording Secretary
Note: Our chapter's holiday event was Saturday, December 10, 2016. This fellowship gathering requires no minutes. ■

Treasurer's Report



By Mary Gill, Treasurer
Note: At our chapter's January 23 meeting, Mary will report on our chapter's current balance and our chapter's December project to assist the Denton State-Supported Living Center. ■

Chapter News continued... Part 2 – Committees: Society Business

Communications and Publicity Committee

● Thank You to Committee Members

By Marylin Nease, Committee Chair



A thank-you also goes to **Mary Louise Milliorn** for making phone calls to members without email. ■

Thank you to **Chris Brunner** for keeping our non-email members informed. Each month Chris prints and mails *The 4:15* to our five members without email.



● **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 articles are human interest ones. Members think back to the fall, winter, spring, and summer breaks of their careers—the good, the bad, the different, and the strange.

School Breaks?!

Compiled by Marylin Nease, Editor



Best/Worst Winter Break!

By Lou McMillan

My first year teaching! I started teaching second grade in the fall of 1964 right after graduating from SMU in May.

I married [redacted] (whom I met at SMU my freshman year) on December 19, 1964 (the day Neiman Marcus burned to the ground with my wedding dress, sisters' bridesmaids dresses, veil, shoes, everything).

However, it all turned out just fine because so many friends and family helped out! And, we spent a glorious ten days in Nassau, the Bahamas. It was weird seeing Santa Claus with his reindeer (all live) on a gorgeous white, sandy beach! But, it was a great honeymoon, and a great way to spend a holiday break! Although we could have done without the infamous Neiman's fire!

For more details, contact me personally! Waaaaay too many to put in print! ■



Of Europe, Surgery, and Hacking

By Marylin Nease

[redacted] and I spent our 1999 summer break in Europe. We returned to Dallas the night before I had to report to school the next morning. Great summer break!

At the start of our 1982 (?) winter break, [redacted] drove me through an ice storm to Presbyterian Hospital for a tonsillectomy. My doctor promised surgery and recovery would be a breeze to complete during winter break. I missed the first week of school in January, still recovering. Rough winter break!

Those two school breaks rank high on my list of memories. Then, there was a spring break in the late 1980s....

[redacted] and I had company and stayed in Dallas that break. In the middle of it, our phone began to ring with calls from my students' parents. At the time I was teaching junior-year honors English at Dallas ISD's Thomas Jefferson High School. One parent after another inquired about progress reports they'd received. I was puzzled: I couldn't recall sending any for their children. Trying to figure out what was going on, I asked what items were marked as areas of concern. My puzzlement grew when parents responded with a range of "Speaks in a nasal tone of voice" to "Fails to raise his/her hand before answering a question." I thought quickly and assured the parents those options weren't listed on any progress reports I'd used. Our calls were cordial, and I assured the parents there had been a mistake and I'd resolve the mystery when school resumed after break.

On Monday the principal and registrar determined a student in one of my classes had somehow broken into the district's electronic record system, modified the standard progress reports to suit his own ends, and mailed "official" reports to the homes of classmates he found annoying. My principal concluded this

young man was brilliant and would end up someday either as a famous novelist or in jail. I don't know his life's outcome.

However in the short term, I needed him to help me finish the school's literary magazine. He was the most skilled student on the small, after-school, all-volunteer staff. The principal had banned him from using the school's computers. I bargained with her, and she agreed to let him assist on two conditions: I had to be present in the room at all times, and he could not touch any computer. So, he sat behind me, looking over my shoulder at the screen, and I followed his directions to complete the last of the magazine's design and layout. I learned a lot from him! ☺

Another funny note: the first day back at school after spring break, a student in one of my classes approached me with a paper in his hand and asked, "Mrs. Nease, where do you want me to turn this in? I have the 100-line poem in rhymed couplets you assigned me during spring break."

Needless to say, I hadn't assigned a poem, but this dutiful young man had written one to "my" specifications. Of course, I accepted his poem, and I'm sure I gave him extra credit. ☺ ■



Home Schooling

By Jaime Callahan

I recently had a conversation with someone about the "home schooling" I received from my parents.

I attended public school K-12, but school did not end when I left the school building. Even in the summer,

my mom had an educational plan for my siblings' and my learning.

Looking back at my school breaks as a child, I realize we always took our vacations in the summer and my mom made those vacations educational. She had us research our destination before we left, mostly by reading books about it. We designed a portfolio to take with us and collect artifacts along the way during the trip, then journal about each tour or site that we saw.

My mom still has those portfolios from our summer vacations, and I cannot help being thankful for her persistence in our life-long learning as children. I know it has had a tremendous effect on me as a teacher! ■

Membership Committee

Data

● December Attendance

Attendance at our December 10 holiday social was 14 members.

● Chapter Profile

Our chapter has three members with more than 50 years of membership, six with 40-49 years, six with 30-39 years, 10 with 20-29 years, 12 with 10-19 years, and 19 with nine or fewer years of DKG membership.

We have 20 members employed full-time in education, and 36 members semi- or fully retired (including one honorary member).

Total membership is 56, with 55 active status and one honorary status. ■



Part 2 – Committees: Society Mission / Purposes

Legislation Committee

By [Redacted] Committee Chair

● TRTA Convention in March

The TRTA convention will be held on March 28-29 in Austin.

This is an important year because legislation may include our TRS-Care, as well as our defined benefit plan. ■

Scholarships Committee

By Leesa Cole, Committee Chair



Working on a doctorate or masters degree? Been a member of DKG for at least three years? The International scholarship deadline is February 1.

Use this link <https://goo.gl/SZd4FN> for more information on the requirements. To gain access to the application, contact me, or sign in to dkg.org and use the Forms menu button, then click on

Applications. ■

Part 2 – Committees: Special

ASTE/ Hillier Project Committee

● 2016-2017 ASTEF Project: All Hands on Deck for Hillier, Year Three—

Teacher-Encouragement in December

Reported to Marylin Nease by Margaret Arnold, Katrina Hallman, and Kay Keeland



Many thanks go to chapter members (above) Kay Keeland, Margaret Arnold, and Katrina Hallman for encouraging Hillier's staff in December!

Margaret reports, "Kay, Katrina, and I got the things together, and Kay delivered them to the teachers."

In early December the three shopped separately and then met to assemble teacher-encouragement bags for Hillier's staff. Afterward, Kay delivered the gifts to Hillier.

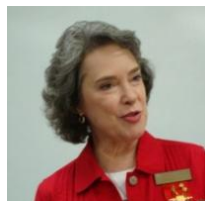
Kay shares, "The cute Christmas tree bags were filled with pencils, erasers, paper clips, colored pencils, pens, markers,

hand lotions, and lots of Christmas candy—all tied with red streamers and personalized name tags.” She adds, “We had so much fun doing these goody bags.”

██████████ Hillier’s executive assistant, reports, “The DKG group made Christmas sacks for all the staff! Everyone really appreciated the goodies!”

Great teamwork, Katrina, Kay, and Margaret! Way to go, Katrina: initiated in November, participating in December! ■

● After-school Tutoring at Hillier



TUTORING TUESDAYS! by Marilyn Nease

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

Tutee #1 – My first tutee today is the fifth-grade boy I’m volunteering with for the third year.

Before we begin reading, I explain my absence last week and show him a photo from my trip to North Carolina. I ask him whether he’s looking forward to Christmas break. He says no because he’ll miss reading. We talk about procedures for checking out Hillier’s library books to take home during the holiday and his worry about getting them back on time without the penalty of a lunch detention. I hope I have reassured him.

His first book to read today is *Believe Me, I Never Felt a Pea! The Story of the Princess and the Pea as Told by the Princess*. I enjoy this new and fun version of the classic tale. I notice and compliment my student on how he now reads with more expression in response to punctuation marks and plot details. Progress!

While he is selecting a second book from the ones in the Hillier library, where we are reading, his English teacher stops by. She shows him some books other students have read and recommended. I ask her about his taking books home to read during the holidays. She indicates he can as long as he keeps them in the plastic sleeve in his binder when he’s not reading them. She thanks me for reading with him. For today, he chooses to return to *Jump*, a book we read five chapters in earlier. We refresh our memories on what we read before, and then he reads another chapter, which has a cliff-hanger ending just as our 30-minutes run out. I urge him to check out the book to finish during Christmas break. He puts it in the plastic sleeve in his binder. ☺

Tutee #2 – My second tutee is a fourth-grade girl new to Hillier this year.

I’m glad to work with her again and explain my absence last week and show her my NC photo.

She wants to go back outside for after-school play time, but I urge her to select a book and read 20 minutes before heading back out to play. She sorts through two series she’s already read before moving on to a new book, *Little Miss Miss*. We agree to take turns reading pages as a way to encourage her to read. She likes it when her pages are shorter and mine longer. ☺

Little Miss Miss takes place at a summer camp and seems to present a discussion of pageants for girls. Are they more than beauty contests? Are they also talent shows and opportunities for

travel and learning? The characters are pre-teen girls; one is a nice/encouraging, well-to-do girl who has participated in a Little Miss Miss pageant before, and the other is a shy girl of limited means who begins to consider the possibility of what a pageant might offer her.

We are not able to finish the book in our 20 minutes of reading, but I can see my tutee is more engaged toward the end, and she reads a bit past our time. I thank her for reading with me and send her back out to play.

I ponder why reading varies for children: it seems naturally easy for some and painfully difficult for others. I hope this bright little girl will in time find reading becoming easier. I hope I can be part of what Hillier’s teachers are doing to make a difference for her. ☺

Tuesday, January 3, 2017

Tutee #1 – I meet today’s first tutee before I enter Hillier. She is standing with students waiting for their parents to pick them up after school. Her teacher asks whether she’d like to read with me, and she immediately says yes, so we enter and head upstairs to our tutoring room. This is the second time I’ve worked with this fourth-grade girl. We set the timer for 20 minutes.

We select a storybook from the math teacher’s collection: *The Penny Pot*. It uses a tale about children at a school fair having fun at a face-painting booth and learning to count coins.

Next, we choose a book titled *Sir Cumference and All the King’s Tens*. My tutee and I take turns reading pages. This story uses a crowd coming to the king’s castle; the crowd must be counted so the cook will know how many meals to prepare. Several methods of counting the crowd are tried: small groups, lining up and numbering off, etc. Finally, the people gather in rows of ten with ten rows per group. Eventually, we learn 987 meals must be prepared! Wow!

Tutee #2 – My next tutee is a second-grade boy, and this is my first time to work with him. We get acquainted. He, like my first tutee, is delighted to be back in school after the winter holiday. We set the timer for 20 minutes.

He selects *The Penny Pot*, and we take turns reading pages. We pause when he notices the lights go off in the hallway, and he tells me he gets scared when lights are not on. I tell him our room lights are on and remind him of the after-school class next door. He wonders about his lunchbox and backpack next door, so I ask whether he’ll feel better if he has them. When he tells me he will, I send him to retrieve them.

I learn he is copying/writing a book about dinosaurs at home, and I ask him to bring it next time so he can read to me from it. He’s definitely interested in dinosaurs, Pokemon characters, and such. ☺

Tutee #3 – My third tutee is a fourth-grade girl I’ve worked with several times. She is a reluctant reader and a wiggle-worm, but she is willing enough when her teacher encourages her to read with me and helps her select a book. We set our timer for 20 minutes.

We start with *The Tug*, and we alternate reading pages. At first, she is delighted with this arrangement that gives her a reading break, but before long she is reading two pages in a row

I ask her if she’s ready to read with me, and she says yes, and we head inside. Her teacher gives me a private thumbs-up, and we celebrate with our eyes. This child is a reluctant reader, so hooray for her accepting my invitation!

instead of telling me it's my turn. ☺ The story centers on a tug helping boats to shore and a character who doesn't like dogs until a dog at the dock barks to guide the tug safely through fog.

Our second book, also recommended by her reading teacher, is *Fun in the Hills*. Again, we start by alternating pages. Our main characters are running up and down hill avoiding a cub and its mother. We aren't able to complete the tale before our timer sounds, and we know her mother is waiting.

I tell my tutee that I can see a lot of improvement now compared to our first reading session earlier in the fall. ☺ Her mother thanks me as we three exit Hillier together.

Tuesday, January 10, 2017

Tutee #1 – I snag my first tutee today when I see her waiting with her teacher and other students during parents' pick-up time after school. She's a fourth-grade girl I've worked with before. I ask her if she's ready to read with me, and she says yes, and we head inside. Her teacher gives me a private thumbs-up, and we celebrate with our eyes. This child is a reluctant reader, so hooray for her accepting my invitation!

Climbing the stairs, we talk about how long we'll read. She asks for 10 minutes. I suggest we start with 10 and then do another 10. She picks out two Dr. Seuss books, and we begin with *Ten Apples Up on Top!* She reads every page, and we pause now and then to react to the fun of the story.

We start *One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish* next. She reads a few pages before the 10 minute timer sounds.

She decides she wants to shift to her "Poetry Book" (a binder of practice pages for learning sight words like *go, do, am, and have* through rhyme and repetition). She reads through a dozen pages and is delighted when the timer sounds again.

With a "See you!" she heads for the door. I call her back, and we talk about saying thank-you and about putting the books back where we got them. I am pleased with her response. Together we return the books, and she says thank-you. ☺

Tutee #2 – My second tutee is a fifth-grader I'm working with for the third year. He comes in with a book and a smile, ready to read.

When he opens his book and reads, I look at the words and the book's size and listen to him read. I have to force myself not to turn teary. This child has come so far in the two and a half years that he's been at Hillier and that we've worked together as part of our DKG chapter's ongoing ASTEF project.

Today's book is Mike Lupica's *True Legend*, a 292-page sports story. The main character is a high-school junior with lots of basketball potential and lots of growing up to do. The author weaves in the names of real-life basketball players, and I can tell the technique increases my student's interest.

In our 20 minutes, he reads several pages of this demanding book. He gets well into an awareness of the character's development, and I can see from his facial expressions that he recognizes the names of the real-life professional basketball players.

I look forward to seeing whether he stays with this book. He can handle the vocabulary. I hope he can handle the journey of 292 pages. ☺ ■

TUTORING WEDNESDAYS! by Lou McMillan

Wednesdays, December 2016



I have been having the best time ever working with two of the sweetest kids at Hillier. One is a fourth-grade boy who loves to play ice hockey, and the other is a second grader who has more confidence in her little finger than most do in their whole bodies!

I know this...working with these children makes my week! Come join us! It will make your week, too! ■

Chapter News continued... Part 3 – Members' News

Members' Professional News

● You Never Know...

By Marilyn Nease

On my way home from tutoring at Hillier January 10, I stopped for a few groceries. Standing in the checkout line, I exchanged routine greetings with a man in the line parallel to mine.

Then, he asked, "Are you still teaching?"

"Yes," I answered and began telling him about my volunteer tutoring at Hillier. Then, I stopped mid-sentence and asked, "How do you know I teach?"

"Because you were my teacher," he replied with a smile.

You never know which one of your students you'll run into in the course of your everyday retired life. I taught this man in 1983 at Dallas ISD's Thomas Jefferson High School, so he's now in his early 50s. I learned he is a corporate trainer for Chili's around the world.

Only in the teaching profession can a grocery store encounter make someone's day the way he made mine! ■

Members' Personal News

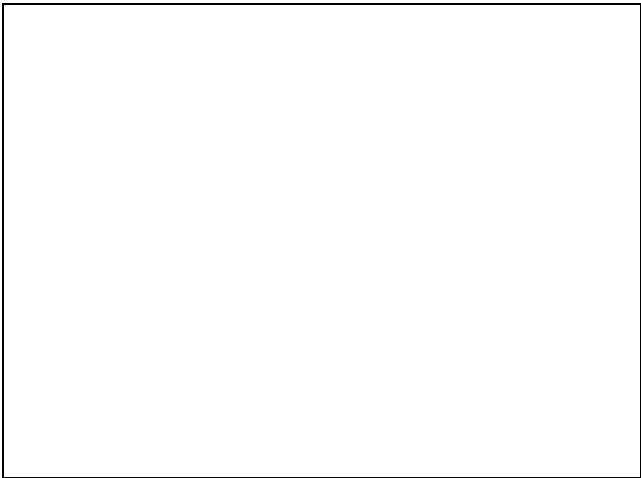
● Personal News Bits

Margaret Thompson reports, "We had a nice Christmas surrounded with family and friends.

"Our son [redacted] announced big news: he has accepted a job in the Foreign Service with the State Department! He will report to Washington, DC, in early March for orientation and training!



"Lee will have to make arrangements to get his furniture stored and house leased, so we'll be busy the next couple of months. Who knows where he'll be this time next year?" ■



Elyse Griffin shares, "Our newest little bundle of a blessing is here! [redacted]"

"Big sister is smitten. We are overjoyed and thankful!" ■



Sara Coleman shares, "December was very special this year as [redacted] and I celebrated our 50th wedding anniversary on December 23. We had a great dinner at one of our favorite restaurants."

"We celebrated Christmas early as [redacted] left on December 22 for a 10-day ski trip to Telluride, Colorado. They bought a condo

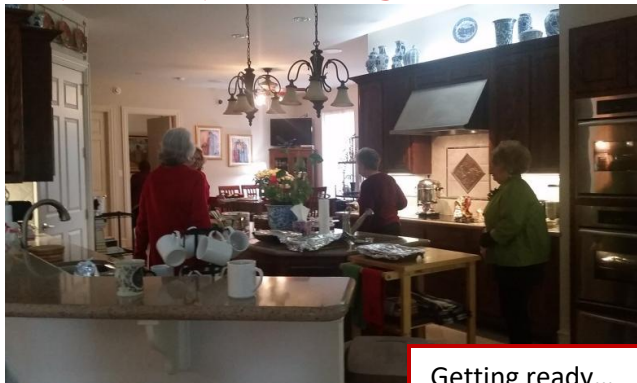
there two summers ago and go there as often as they can. Unfortunately, [redacted] cannot make that trip, so we have to look at pictures instead of going." ■



● *Happy January Birthdays!*

Denise Barker, 5; Sara Coleman, 9; Shirley Kochman, 23 ■

Photo Album: December 10, 2016, Holiday Social



Getting ready...



Sara Coleman, Janet Cundiff

Sara shares, "Our members who were unable to attend the Christmas gathering on December 10 at Kathy Rodriguez's home missed a treat. Kathy was a very gracious hostess. Her home is very special as it was designed so that it will always meet their needs as long as they live there. It should be on one of the home tours! The decorations and poinsettias were beautiful."



Susan Endicott, Carolyn Power, Sherrie Negrete

Susan reports, "Kathy's home was delightful with all the lovely decorations for Christmas! It put me in the holiday spirit, as did the company! Lovely food and conversation rounded out a perfect get-together!"

Thank you, Kathy Rodriguez!



Kathy Rodriguez, Mary White



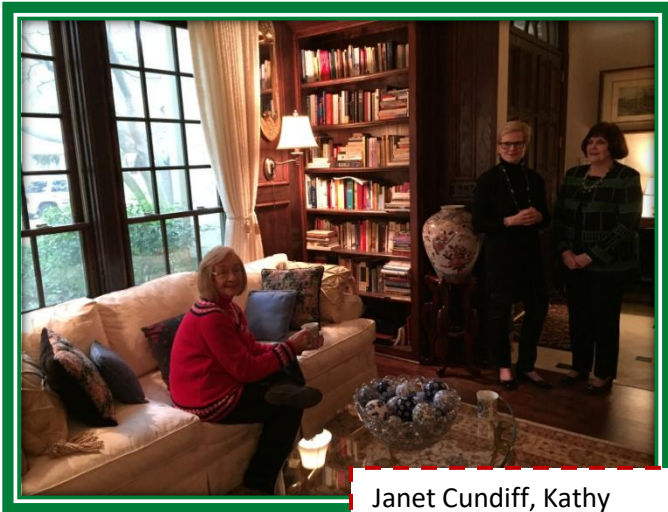
Above: Denise Barker and Mary White

Below: Jean Wallace, Janet Cundiff, Mary Gill, and Sara Coleman



Lou McMillan (above) reports, "It was a perfectly beautiful gathering. Kathy's home is a showcase that belongs in *House Beautiful*. It was decorated magnificently! We had several varieties of egg casseroles, delicious trays and bowls of fresh fruit, and scrumptious trays of homemade breads and sweet rolls! It was a great time to be together to celebrate the season! Kathy has graciously offered to host our Christmas Brunch next year as well! I only wish more of our chapter members could have attended."





Janet Cundiff, Kathy Rodriguez, Sara Coleman



Denise Barker and Susan Bell



Kathy Rodriguez, Lou McMillan, Mary Riddle, Mary White



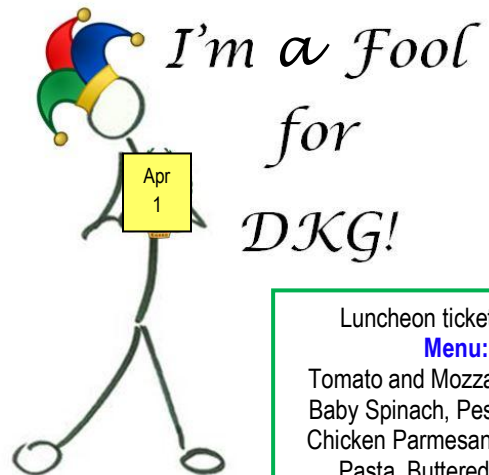
Kathy Rodriguez and Sherrie Negrete

DKG

Dallas County News

● 2017 Spring Luncheon

Save the date: April 1, 2017, Fellowship/9:30 a.m., Program/10 a.m., Lakewood Country Club, Annual CCDC Spring Luncheon, with speaker Marilyn Gregory, TSO president.



Luncheon ticket: \$30.00

Menu:

Tomato and Mozzarella Salad,
Baby Spinach, Pesto Dressing
Chicken Parmesan, Angel Hair
Pasta, Buttered Broccoli
Chocolate Mousse Cake ■



Area 9 News

● Heart to Heart

Happy New Year, Dear Sisters!
2017 is here, and we are looking forward to a lot of fun and exciting events coming up.

If you signed up for the Spectacular Texas Arts Festival (STAR), you are one of the lucky ones. The weekend of January 13-15 in Navasota, the festival will take place. I hope all of you who are going have a wonderful experience!

Our 88th Texas State Convention is set for June 22-24 in Houston. You may have heard that the venue has changed. We will be at the Westin Galleria at 5060 W. Alabama, Houston 77056. Reservations are open and ready for you to register! Convention Chair Bonnie Moore and her steering committee are working hard to create a great convention.

July 4-7 is the Southwest Regional Conference in Honolulu, Hawaii. I hope you are saving up for this great adventure as well. I know those ladies in Hawaii are excited about all of us from the mainland coming and having a great time in their state!

Then, we want to saddle up our horses, put on our boots, and grab our gear to pull out all the stops for the International Convention in Austin in 2018. The dates are July 16-20. I am so excited about this fantastic opportunity to show off our great state and our capital city! Not only must we look like cowgirls, but WE MUST KEEP AUSTIN WEIRD!

I hope each of you will have a great start to 2017!

Until next time,
Cathy Criner
Area 9 Coordinator ■



Texas State Organization News

TSO Website

www.dkgtxas.org

Lone Star News, Winter Edition

The winter edition is an online version only. Follow this link:
<http://www.dkgtxas.org/uploads/4/2/8/3/42835841/winter.isn.2016.pdf> ■

TSO Projects

- **Week of Caring**, February, March 2017
- **Unifying Project**, May, June 2017:
<http://dkgtxasconvention.weebly.com/unifying-project.html> ■

TSO President and Theme, 2015-2017



Marilyn Gregory
The Heart of the Society Is Its Members

Biennium Goals:

Health – to encourage members to practice healthy lifestyles, which promote healthier chapters

Education – to educate members about the importance of membership and encourage them to make an impact

on their communities and the world

Achievement – to achieve our goals as leaders in our chapters and recognize our accomplishments as key women educators

Reflection – to reflect on our heritage as we advance the Society

Teamwork – to work as members of a team to strengthen involvement in all levels of the Society ■

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. ■

TSO Committees, 2015-2017

From Area 9 and Delta Omicron:

- **Marilyn Nease**, Headquarters Committee
- **Carolyn Power**, Legislation Committee
- **Mary White**, Ceremonies Committee ■



2017 State Convention



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> ■



Make plans now to attend the June 22-24, 2017, state convention in Houston at the Westin Galleria Hotel! ■

Visit the convention website to read issues of the convention newsletter (*Heartline*), learn about the 2017 Unifying Project, and discover everything convention related!

<http://dkgtexasconvention.weebly.com/>



Southwest Regional News

2017 Southwest Regional Conference



Save the Date: July 4-7, 2017, Sheraton Waikiki in Honolulu, Hawaii—"Experience the Lifestyle of Aloha." ■

President and Theme, 2016-2018

Carolyn Pittman
DKG—Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education Worldwide

Editor's Note: Be sure to read Pittman's essay "The Butterfly Effect and our vision" on page 2 of the Sep/Oct 2016 edition of *DKG News*.



<http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Publications/DKG-NEWS.aspx>

"DKG, because of what multiple individuals do, moves lives." ■

The U.S. Forum

The [United States Forum](#) supports non-partisan federal legislation in the interests of education and women educators.

It provides U.S. members of DKG with relevant information on pending issues and legislator contact numbers to enable more effective advocacy.

At the national, regional, state, and chapter levels, the US Forum serves as a vehicle for members to participate in making DKG's Purposes come to fruition through action.

<http://www.usforumdkg.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum>

The U.S. Forum Connection is a free monthly e-newsletter designed to keep members informed about current legislation affecting education, women, and children. *Connection* subscribers can receive state-specific information that impacts the legislative process by sending a request to bedenbaugh.angela@gmail.com ■

CTAUN



The Committee on Teaching about the United Nations (CTAUN) provides educators opportunities to learn about the United Nations and its work. Through events and resources available on the website, CTAUN assists teachers in efforts to incorporate global awareness into classroom curricula and activities.

Upcoming CTAUN Conference:

Friday, January 27, 2017: "Refugees: The 21st Century Challenge."

Register for the Conference [here](#).

United Nations Headquarters
New York, NY

www.teachun.org or <http://www.ctaun.org/> ■

2018 International Convention



Save the date: July 16-20, 2018, JW Marriott, Austin, Texas.

If you are interested in helping with this endeavor, please contact Convention Chair JoAnn Brooks at joannbrooks@verizon.net ■

Lisbon, Seville, Madrid, & the Basque Country with DKG

13 days, Summer 2017

Within the borders of one small area, you'll find impressively distinct destinations. Relive the Age of Discovery in Lisbon, and discover Moorish influences in exotic Andalusia. Fast-forward to the present day to feast on tapas, drink sangria, and join the night life in Madrid before ending in the Basque Country, where an impressive culinary scene shines.

<http://portugalandspaindkg.grouptoursite.com/> ■

The DKG Bulletin: Collegial Exchange, 2016 • Volume 83-2

Marylin's Note: *I realize I was a little behind in reading the latest issue of Collegial Exchange, but just this afternoon I caught up on it! And I'm glad I did!* ☺

Here are my three favorite articles:

1. "Why Can't Johnny or Susie Learn to Read? The Eyes May Have the Answer"

Probably because I'm tutoring at Hillier as part of our ASTEF project and I work with students who struggle with reading, this article caught my eye. *Intriguing...*

http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Publications/Bulletin/Magazine/83-2/Why_Cant_Johnny_or_Susie_Learn_To_Read.aspx

2. "Three Stories of Immigration: Insights Shared at Europe Regional Breakfast 2016"

I love history, especially history told from personal perspectives, so this article intrigued me. I learned a lot.

http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Publications/Bulletin/Magazine/83-2/Three_Stories_of_Immigration.aspx

3. "Pestalozzi International Village and a DKG Chapter: A Collaborative Learning Experience"

Who knew this was going on—and for 50 years? I didn't!

http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Publications/Bulletin/Magazine/83-2/Pestalozzi_International_Village_and_a_DKG_Chapter.aspx

DKG

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