

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 63, Issue 2, October 21, 2019

Marilyn Nease, editor

President's Message



Welcome to fall, y'all!

It's hard to believe autumn has arrived, the State Fair of Texas has begun, the Dallas Arboretum is ablaze with pumpkins of all colors and sizes, and, yet some days' temperatures are still in the 90s...and with high humidity as well. Thank goodness for AC, that's all I can say.

I am glad we held a lot of committee meetings this summer, and got a lot of problems solved and work completed. I've met with the Finance Committee twice (thank you, **Leesa Cole**, **Sara Coleman**, **Marta Finlay**, and **Mary Gill**). These ladies are amazing, and they all have made wise decisions that have benefited our chapter in a myriad of ways.

The Executive Committee has also been hard at work as well, and I would like to give a "shout out" to [redacted], who so graciously has stepped in to be our new recording secretary for the remainder of the biennium. Thank you again [redacted] for "stepping up."

Last, we have secured a new meeting place, at least for the rest of my term: Northway Christian Church (Room F103), 7202 W. Northwest Highway. More info will follow on page 3 and via email. We will meet there Monday, October 21. Hope to see you there!

Stay cool!

Lou McMillan



Chapter Meeting News

Monday, October 21, 2019

4:00-4:30 p.m. - Fellowship



Social Arrangements: Elenora Asbury & Kathy Rodriguez

October Hostesses: Margaret Arnold, Elenora Asbury, Maureen Baker, [REDACTED], Susan Bell, Leah Black, Lou Brown, Joy Burger, Jaime Callahan, Barbara Clinton, Leesa Cole

Agenda for Business Meeting & Program, 4:30-5:30 p.m.

1. Welcome

Lou McMillan (2M)

2. Inspiration (3M)

3. Approval of September Minutes (1M)

4. Treasurer's Report

Leesa Cole (4M)

5. Announcements (3M)

Kathy Rodriguez/Elenora Asbury

a. Induction Dinner

Mon., Oct. 21, 2019

Write \$25 checks to Delta Omicron for Induction Dinner.

Give to Leesa Cole.

b. Holiday Party

Sat., Dec. 14, 2019, 11-1

Elenora Asbury's Home

6. New Business

a. Carolyn Power - US Forum (5M)

b. [REDACTED] - Global Awareness Committee, Schools for Africa (5M)

c. Katherine Grogan – Receiving members' written ideas for chapter projects (1M)

d. Carolyn Power - Nominations Committee (5M)

7. Program



Founder - Vickery Meadow Summer Reading Academy (20M)

8. Adjournment and DKG song (1M)

What to Bring to the Oct. 21 Meeting?

- ✓ Prospective member or prospect's name and contact info
- ✓ Box Tops for Education (for Hillier)
- ✓ Your idea for our next chapter project
- ✓ \$25 check written to Delta Omicron to give to Leesa Cole for your Nov. 18 induction-dinner reservation

[REDACTED], Vickery Meadow Summer Reading Academy

★ One of the largest volunteer reading programs serving Dallas ISD

★ Instructs students during DISD's summer break

★ Reading and writing, as well as personal academic and life skills

2019-2020 Meetings and Programs

NOTE: Oct. 21 meeting is at **Northway Christian Church, Room F103. Address: 7202 W Northwest Hwy 75225. Park and enter on Northwest Hwy side of church. Greeters will direct you to F103.**

Monday, September 16, 2019, 4:30/4:45 p.m. Salad/Dessert Supper. **Marylin Nease and Melanie Rudebeck** "YOU Are the Key to Membership Growth." **Chapter Project:** TBD. (1, 6)

Monday, October 21, 2019, 4:00/4:30 p.m. [REDACTED], "Vickery Meadow Summer Reading Academy: Volunteers Tutoring Children." US Forum, Carolyn Power. **International Project:** Schools for Africa (SfA). (1-3-6-7)

Monday, November 18, 2019, 4:00/4:30 p.m. [REDACTED], "Tales from a Collin College Developmental Math Professor." Induction Ceremony. (1-2-3-6)

Saturday, December 14, 2019, 11:00 am -1:00 pm. Home of Elenora Asbury. Brunch and Fellowship. **Chapter Project:** Denton State-Supported Living Center. (1, 6)

Monday, January 13, 2020, 4:00/4:30 p.m. [REDACTED], "Having Fun with Yoga." **International Project:** Support Early-career Educators (SEE). (1-2-3-4-6)

Monday, February 17, 2020, 4:00/4:30 p.m. Rose-Mary Rumbley, "February Fun." **ASTEF Giving Month.** (1, 6)

Monday, March 16, 2020, 4:00/4:30 p.m. Talbots, 19720 Preston Road. "Spring Fashion Show with [REDACTED]." **TSO Project:** Week of Caring. (1, 6)

Saturday, April 4, 2020, 9:30 a.m. Lakewood Country Club, 6430 Gaston. Coordinating Council of Dallas County: Annual Spring Luncheon. (1-2-5-6)

Monday, May 18, 2020, 4:00/4:30 p.m. Ceremonies to Honor Our Founders, Celebrate Our Chapter's Birthday, and Announce Chapter Scholarship, Grant-in-aid, and Achievement Award. Marylin Nease, "An Interview with Almost Golden Member Carolyn Miller." **TSO Project:** Unifying Project for McAllen Convention. (1-2-3-5-6)

ENGAGEMENT in purposeful programs and projects to increase member involvement. 2019-2021 Biennial Goal #2, Patti Belknap, TSO President

2019-2020 Projects:

Chapter - TBD (October-May), also Denton State-Supported Living Center (December).

TSO - Week of Caring (March), also Unifying Project (May).

International - Schools for Africa, SfA (October), also Support Early-career Educators, SEE (January).

Recording Secretary's Report



By [REDACTED]

Minutes, Sept. 16, 2019, 4:45-6:30 p.m.

31 members attending: Maureen Baker, [REDACTED] Lou Brown, Barbara Clinton, Leesa Cole, Sara Coleman, Janet Cundiff, [REDACTED] Susan Endicott, Marta Finlay, Mary Gill, Katherine Grogan, [REDACTED] Barbara Harris, Kay Keeland, Shirley Kochman, Katy Kunofsky, Penni Lewis, Lou McMillan, Carolyn Miller, Marilyn Nease, Carolyn Power, Becky Quigley, Margie Rohde, Kathy Rodriguez, Melanie Rudebeck, [REDACTED] Wanda Spoonmore, Margaret Thompson, [REDACTED] Jean Wallace, Mary White

4 guests attending: [REDACTED]



Welcome, Lou McMillan:

- Introduction our 2019-2021 Area 9 Coordinator -- **Marylin Nease**
- Introduction of our 2019-2021 Coordinating Council of Dallas County, Chair -- **Carolyn Miller**
- Introduction of our 2019-2021 Texas Liaison for the U.S. Forum -- **Carolyn Power**
- Introduction of our Chapter Parliamentarian as Meeting Timekeeper -- **Kay Keeland**

Welcome guests and new members:

- *New members:* [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] have moved to Dallas and transferred their memberships to Delta Omicron from Kappa Upsilon (in Duncanville).
- *Visitors:* [REDACTED] taught at the Winston School and Hillier School, and [REDACTED] is the Office Manager at the Hillier School.
- *Planning to reinstate memberships:* [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] are former members of Delta Omicron and plan to reinstate their membership.



Inspiration, Margaret Thompson, Personal and Professional Enrichment Committee

Dinner

Salad Supper -- Social Arrangements Committee, Co-chairs: Kathy Rodriguez, Elenora Asbury
Salads -- Hostesses: all members attending except the three who brought desserts

Desserts -- Hostesses: Elenora Asbury, Lou McMillan, Kathy Rodriguez



Business Meeting

Members approved the May 20, 2019, meeting minutes as printed in the chapter newsletter.



Treasurer's Report, Leesa Cole

- Total Estimated Income -- \$5,550.00
- Total Available for Budget -- \$9,005.99
- Total Estimated Expenses -- \$7,462.50
- Estimated Balance August 2020 -- \$1,543.49

Announcements

- **Mary White** and **Katherine Grogan** thanked everyone for phone calls, emails, and cards sent during their time of need.
- **Kay Keeland** talked about the upcoming field trip to "Top o'

Hill" in Arlington on October 21, 2019.

- **Wanda Spoonmore** said our next lunch gathering will be on October 11. Time and place will be determined at a later date.



Hillier Project Committee

- **Becky Quigley** (chair) reported on last May's end-of-the-year treats for teachers, which committee members **Katy Kunofsky**, **Carrie Parsons**, and she delivered and arranged in the teachers' lounge.

-- Delta Omicron has volunteered at Hillier School for five years. Hillier was the chapter's ASTEF-funded project for three of those years: Hillier received stipends for reading and math manipulatives, teacher-selected teaching materials, and technology equipment. After a point, ASTEF expects chapters

to find other ways to finance an ongoing project so that ASTEF can fund chapters' new projects. Chapter members' suggestions so far ranged from working in a secondary school to having a fundraiser such as an auction for goody baskets, plants, and gift certificates.

- Questionnaires seeking members' ideas for new chapter project ideas will be distributed at the October meeting. A possible goal is submitting an application to ASTEF for new project funding.



Program: "Member Recruitment Plan"

Marylin Nease, Area 9 Coordinator, and **Melanie Rudebeck**, Delta Omicron Membership VP

- Membership in DKG as a whole has been declining over the past decade or two, and we need new members in order to stay in existence.

-- Marylin and Melanie led members through the five steps in TSO's "Member Recruitment Plan." Lou Brown, Vicky Hamilton, and Mary White distributed handouts and collected completed Prospect Cards.

- Marylin and Melanie encouraged members to continue thinking of

prospective members and submitting prospect cards.

YEARLONG involvement in recruiting, mentoring, and leading.
2019-2021 Biennial Goal #3,
Patti Belknap, TSO President

Closing – Members sang "The Delta Kappa Gamma Song." Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

By Leesa Cole, Treasurer



Balance: The checking account balance, as of 9/30/19 was \$3,600.99.

Income: Income for Sept. included 3 dues payments.

Expenses: Expenses included chapter dues to CCDC & Cora McFarland Scholarship, payment for PCBC meeting room, and chapter checks order.

Upcoming financial activity:

(1) Collect money for the Nov. dinner & pay the caterer, room cost for upcoming meetings.

To order a dinner for the Nov. 18 meeting & induction ceremony:

- Write a check for \$25 to Delta Omicron (cash also accepted)
- Give to Leesa at the Oct. 21 meeting
- Mail to Leesa by Oct. 31 - [REDACTED]

(2) Members will vote on the updated proposed budget at the Oct. meeting. The updated budget and dues chart was emailed to members in early Oct. for input or questions prior to the meeting.

(3) Updated budget & Fall Membership Dues

Finance Committee (**Lou McMillan, Leesa Cole, Mary Gill, Marta Finlay, & Sara Coleman**), with input from Membership Committee and **Marylin Nease** (Area 9 AC), met 9/29/19 at Lou's to discuss dues payments for members who join our chapter in the fall as well as meeting room costs.

The committee recommends the following:

Membership & Dues Payments

- Members joining our chapter with Active status each Sept.-Dec. will pay \$60 dues to International & TSO to establish membership in the Society. Chapter dues of \$40 are waived at this time.
- For these fall members, Delta Omicron will pay to TSO the \$.20 per member scholarship fee + the \$2.50 fee per inductee (this fee does not apply to reinstated or transferred members).
- To renew membership for the following year with Active status, members will pay \$100 no later than May each year.

Meeting Room Cost

- Northway Christian Church room [REDACTED]
- The proposed budget, Misc. line item has been increased to \$550 to accommodate these costs - no other changes were made to the proposed budget.
- The Finance Committee plans to meet again in Dec. to finalize meeting room options.

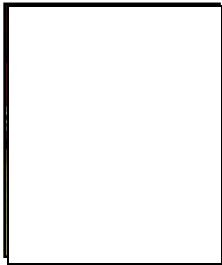
Communications and Publicity Committee



By Marylin Nease, Chair

Many thanks to **Leah Black**, corresponding secretary, for printing and mailing copies of each month's newsletter to our members who do not have computer access to email.

Legislation Committee



By [Redacted] Chair

Two bills have been filed in Washington to change the **Windfall Elimination Provision**. Kevin Brady filed HR 3934, and Richard Neal filed HR 4540. If passed, these bills will create a fairer formula for retirees.

Texas Retirement System (TRS) is conducting **sessions across Texas discussing TRS Care for Medicare and Non-Medicare**. Tim Lee, Executive Director of Texas Retired Teachers System (TRTA), will attend some of these sessions. Webinars will also be provided.

The Texas Retirement System of **Texas (TRS) is going to lease three floors, which is more than 100,000 square feet**, starting in 2021 from a new building in Austin, the Indeed Tower. The new building will host the TRS investment division.

TRS is not going to release the details of the lease until a future date. Many educators are concerned about TRS using the Texas Teachers Pension Fund to pay for the new offices. **TRS also has an office in London and has proposed opening an office in Singapore, China.**

TRS, as a state agency, is subject to sunset review during the next legislative session. Keep in touch with your legislators! Many of the legislators are up for re-election!

Fellowship Committee

Wanda Spoonmore and Kay Keeland, Co-Chairs



Gambling, Prohibition, and Baptists

Six chapter members and two guests enjoyed an excursion to Tin Cup restaurant and Top o' Hill Terrace historical site, both in Arlington, on Sat., Sept. 21.

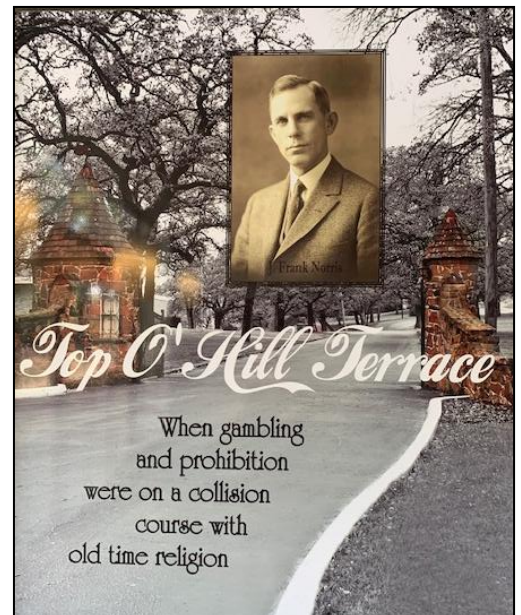
Many thanks go to **Maureen Baker** for recommending Top o' Hill to us, and to **Kay Keeland** for arranging for our lunch and tour. Maureen learned about Top o' Hill from the promotional materials that accompanied the 2019 TSO Convention in Arlington, and after Maureen took the tour

herself, she told Kay about the tour being worthwhile. Maureen was right!

Top o' Hill was billed as "Vegas Before Vegas" and was a place for gambling, alcohol, and all sorts of entertainment—until the local law authorities made one of their regular raids. That's when the numerous underground escape tunnels came in handy. Besides the police, a local Baptist minister named Frank Norris waged a moral battle against Top o' Hill. Today, Arlington Baptist College (ABC) shares its campus with Top o' Hill's historical site, and Top o' Hill's historian, archivist, and tour guide *extraordinaire* is the wife of a past ABC president.

Event attendees were Delta Omicron members **Barbara Clinton, Katherine Grogan, Kay Keeland, Penni Lewis, Lou McMillan, and Marilyn Nease**. Guests were [Redacted].

Katherine Grogan reports, "Top o' Hill is a hidden gem with lots of wild history from the past."



Marylin Nease shares, “The history was fascinating, and our tour guide outstanding! I needed a few days to pass before I could get some of the gory details out of my mind. The mafia was indeed ruthless!”

Lou McMillan reports, “Enjoying lunch together at Tin Cup before our tour was the perfect beginning to a fun and exciting afternoon. Top o’ Hill was one of the most interesting and informative tours I have ever taken! Our tour guide was extremely knowledgeable and made our experience very exciting. It’s definitely a part of history you need to visit for yourself!”

Kay Keeland shares, “What a great day spent with DKG sisters enjoying a delightful, fun lunch at Tin Cup. I definitely will return. After lunch we participated in a tour of Top o’ Hill, which was beyond outstanding. This was a hidden casino filled with gangsters and movie stars and underground tunnels. Fascinating!”

Barbara Clinton reports, “Spending time with Delta Omicron sisters was a real treat—especially since we were exploring my new city of residence, Arlington. The restaurant and historical site are both top notch. I especially enjoyed extending the field trip by inviting DKG sisters into my new home. Any time you are in the area, please consider coming by!”



Top: View from Top o’ Hill looking south across historic Bankhead Hwy (Hwy 80) shows the casino’s name fit its location.

Left: Historic marker for one of nine escape tunnels on the property.

Right: The tunnel’s exit to freedom from the law.





Happy October Birthdays!

Melanie Rudebeck, 6
Susan Endicott, 14
Wanda Spoonmore, 16
Lou McMillan, 27
Jean Wallace, 27

2018-2020 Executive Board:

President: **Lou McMillan**
Vice President, Programs / Service Projects: **Katherine Grogan**
Vice President, Membership: **Melanie Rudebeck**
Recording Secretary: [REDACTED]
Corresponding Secretary: **Leah Black**
Treasurer: **Leesa Cole**
Parliamentarian: **Kay Keeland**

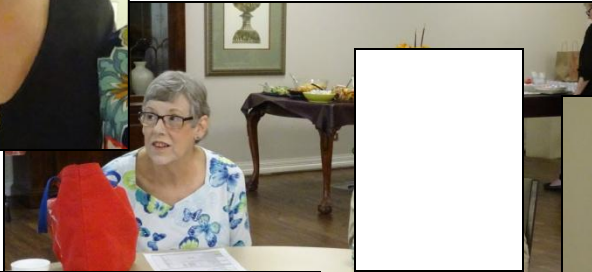
Chapter Website: <http://deltaomicrontexas.weebly.com/>

Chapter Webmaster: **Carolyn Power**

Chapter Webwatcher: **Marylin Nease**

Photo Highlights, Chapter Meeting, September 16, 2019







Coordinating Council of Dallas County (CCDC) News



Save the Date!

By Carolyn Miller, 2019-2021 CCDC Chair

Our CCDC luncheon will be **April 4, 2020**, at Lakewood Country Club. Let's have the largest group in attendance again this year!

Area 9 News



By Marilyn Nease, 2019-2021 Area 9 Coordinator

Six Dates to Save

- ✓ **Saturday, March 7, 2020, Area 9 Field Trip** to the Dallas Museum of Art
- ✓ **Saturday, March 28, 2020, Dallas, Area 9 Reception** honoring 2019-2021 TSO President **Patti Belknap**
- ✓ **June 17-19, 2020, TSO Convention**, McAllen
- ✓ **July 7-11, 2020, International Convention**, Philadelphia
- ✓ **Saturday, September 19, 2020, Area 9 Workshop**, Region 10 ESC, Richardson
- ✓ **June 16-18, 2021, TSO Convention**, Denton

Three Key Points for Area 9 in 2019-2021

(1) **Membership Growth**—We **ALL** must recruit, reinstate, and retain members **ALL year long, every year**. We **ALL** must be thinking about educators we will invite to membership, former members we will invite to reinstate, and ways to retain our members.

(2) **Reception for Patti Belknap**—Our 2019-2021 state president is from Area 9. Our 25 Area 9 chapters will host a reception to honor and celebrate Patti as our TSO leader on **March 28, 2020**, in Dallas. More info will follow.

(3) **Area 9 Workshop**—Chapter presidents met August 10 to begin planning for our **September 19, 2020**, workshop. The workshop will be at the Region 10 Education Service Center in Richardson. More info will follow.

Texas State Organization News



Patti Belknap, 2019-2021 TSO President

Biennium Theme: YOU are the key.

Biennium Goals:

Knowledge of the Society's mission, purposes, and traditions.

Engagement in purposeful programs and projects to increase member involvement.

Yearlong involvement in recruiting, mentoring, and leading.

Support from officers, mentors, and others to increase stronger members and chapters.



Emma Joven
Area 9 Mentor

**TSO Convention,
June 17-19, 2020,
McAllen**

Key Makers



International News...



President and Theme, 2018-2020

Cathy P. Daugherty

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

***International Convention,
July 7-11, 2020,
Philadelphia, PA***



Delta Omicron's The 4:15*

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

To submit news, contact

Marylin Nease, editor



Why is *The 4:15* the title for our chapter's newsletter?

* *Delta* is the fourth letter of the Greek alphabet, and *Omicron* is the fifteenth letter.

* Also, on a good day, 4:15 is the time we leave school.

* Best of all, on a really good day, 4:15 is the time we head to a Delta Omicron meeting! ☺

Photos in The 4:15 were taken by and/or used with the permission of Patti Belknap, Cathy Daugherty, Katherine Grogan, Kay Keeland, Carol McMillan, Lou McMillan, Marylin Nease.

Graphic art is by DKG, TSO, and Pixabay.

See next page for BREAKING NEWS!

BREAKING NEWS!

Membership Update

Dear Members of Delta Omicron,

What an exciting month it has been for membership! We have received your recommended prospects for membership, and four potential inductees are coming to my house for an orientation on Sunday, October 13. We are so glad to have new friends join us in this wonderful organization.

I hope that each of you will consider inviting a friend to one of our meetings or outings to get to know other members and see if they would be interested in joining our group.

If you have any suggestions for ways to encourage others to join us, please let me know. I LOVE new ideas.

This group means so much to me, so I would love to share it with others!



*See you Oct 21st,
Melanie Rudebeck
Membership VP*

Celebration Lunch

Delta Omicron's most recent outing was a lunch gathering at Celebration restaurant on Fri., Oct. 11. Attending were **Maureen Baker, Shirley Kochman, [REDACTED] Margaret Thompson, Lou McMillan, Wanda Spoonmore, Penni Lewis, Barbara Clinton, Carolyn Power, and Kay Keeland.**

Kay Keeland reports, "Our lunch at Celebration was a fun occasion. Delicious food with our own private room. Enjoyed by all!"

