



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 5

Marylin Nease, editor

February 19, 2018

President's Message

By Lou McMillan, 2016-2018 Chapter President



Happy Valentine's Day! ♥ I almost can't believe February is here and we will soon complete the 2016-2018 biennium!

Speaking of Valentine's Day, I want to share something special that I witnessed in Frisco, Texas, Tuesday, February 6. **Maureen Baker, Susan Bell, Carolyn Power,** and I traveled to

Frisco in the early morning to attend the TRTA meeting and welcome candidates running for state offices in the March Primary Election.

The two top contenders present (who will run against Dan Patrick for lieutenant governor) were Scott Milder-R and Mike Collier-D. Both men are personable, well informed, and passionate about their stands on public school education in Texas.

We four met them personally, and they both were charming and well versed on their platforms. What I saw and heard were two politicians who not only had great respect for one another, but also could talk about their differences and their positions in a caring, respectful way.

All of us were in awe of two men on "different sides of the *The President's Message continues on page 2.*

Monday, February 19, 2018

Time and Agenda:

4:30 p.m. – Fellowship

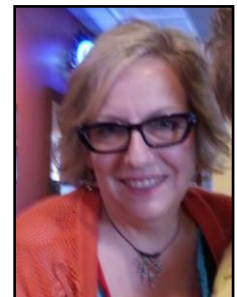
5:00 p.m. – Program



Sherrie Negrete,
Social Arrangements Chair

February Hostesses: **Katrina Hallman, Barbara Harris, Lou McMillan, Carolyn Miller, Ashraf Mobh, Marylin Nease, Mary White**

Denise Barker, Program Presenter,
**Knots of Love:
A Fleece No-sew, Tie-blanket
DKG Service Project**



Location:

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

What to Bring?

Box Tops for Education coupons for Hillier project • a prospective member • fabric scissors, rotary cutter and mat, and/or a yardstick (see p. 2) • \$33 for CCDC luncheon (see pp. 14-15) ♦

Inside This Issue...

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pp. 15-16: Texas State Organization News

pp. 16-17: SW Regional and International News

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...

fence" who conducted their speeches and exchanges in such an amiable way. Both expressed their concerns to help educators and students receive all that they deserve, and to keep other politicians from taking advantage of the TRTA. They renewed my faith in the political system and in a love for our fellow countrymen, regardless of our differences and opinions. ♦



Programs and Service Projects VP's Report

By Barbara Clinton, Programs/Projects VP

● February 19 Program

Denise Barker, chapter member, will present our February 19 program, "Knots of Love: A Fleece, No-sew, Tie-blanket DKG Service Project." This program is also our TSO Week of

Caring project for 2018.

Denise says, "At the February meeting, we will cut and tie our no-sew blankets as a service project for local seniors. *I need about five people to bring the following: fabric scissors, rotary*

cutter and mat, and/or a yardstick. Drop me a text or email if you can bring one or more of these items. Make sure they are clearly labeled with your name.

"We will have 10 tables set up in groups of two. We will lay out each blanket on a table, and four ladies will sit around each table to collaborate on creating a blanket." ♦



● **Denise Barker: Wife, Mother, Student, Businesswoman, Churchwoman, Teacher, Mission Worker, Interior Designer, Activities Director, Gardener, Artist, Crafter— Whew! Wow! Go, Denise!**

First of all, I've been married to [REDACTED] for 34 years, and we're parents of three pretty cool adults.

Now, going back a bit, I moved to Dallas after graduating from **Louisiana Tech University with a BA in Fashion Merchandising**. After completing an internship with **Dillard's** Department stores, I decided to make Dallas my home. I worked for **Neiman Marcus** stores for 11 years and was consistently a top-ten salesperson for many years there. After completing my master's degree in business, I transferred to the NM Finance Department as a Store Analyst, creating reports for new store openings. During those years I helped open 13 new Neiman Marcus stores around the country.

During that time I met and married my **husband** [REDACTED] at Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas, where we were members for 20 years. In those years we welcomed **three children** [REDACTED] into our family. As our children grew, I began **teaching Sunday school** at HPUMC and **writing my own curriculum**, eventually chairing the Elementary Sunday School Committee as well as organizing two Vacation Bible School events in 1994 and 1999. I also wrote the Third Grade Bible Retreat curriculum and chaired the weekend for two years and wrote curriculum for the Fourth Grade Bible Retreat and weekend for four years.

After moving to the Sunnyvale, we transferred our membership to First Rowlett United Methodist Church, where we currently worship.

I received my **teaching certification through Region 10** and began **teaching Family and Consumer Science at Berry Middle School in Mesquite in 2002**. The class, **Personal and Family Development**, included units on communication, choosing careers, child development, money management, food and nutrition, and basic sewing skills. **Basically, Adulting 101**. I started an FCCLA Club and took many groups of students to state and regional competitions. I also co-sponsored the National Junior Honor Society at Berry for six years. In 2005, I was asked to be a part of a four-person committee charged with **writing lesson plans for a new class called Principles of Human Services**. We also input our entire lesson plans online over a 12-month period. Mesquite ISD is still using the curriculum that I helped write and input online. In 2007, Mesquite opened a new middle school called Terry MS, and I split my day between the two schools until I left teaching in 2013.

Through my church volunteer efforts, I fell in love with mission work and **have participated in over 32 mission trips** throughout my adult life. I have worked with Habitat for Humanity International in India and have also participated in a mission trip to Maua, Kenya, where our group helped build a new wing of the hospital there.

In my leisure time, I enjoy volunteering with United Methodist Women at my church and have served in many officer positions over the years. I just finished serving four years as the **North Central District President for United Methodist Women**. I have also served as a **delegate to The North Texas Conference of Churches** from First Rowlett UMC for four years.

In addition, I have a **passion for interior design** and have helped a few friends through remodeling their homes.

Currently, I am working as **Activities Director at Stonefield Assisted Living and Memory Care in McKinney**. I love my job and really enjoy working with senior adults.

I also **love to garden, sew, paint, crochet, and craft** when I have the opportunity.

Editor's note: Denise told me, "Just pick a few sentences for the newsletter. I got carried away writing."

I loved what Denise wrote, and I learned a lot about her. I included all she sent me. Thank you, Denise! ☺ ♦

● 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; **Marilyn 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



ceremony.

We look forward to Cindy's initiation ceremony! ♦

Please join us for the initiation of **Cindy Braley** during our February meeting.

Cindy joined us in the fall as a guest of **Denise Barker**. Cindy attended the orientation tea in November at TSO Headquarters but was out of state at the time of our November meeting and initiation

● Spotlight on DKG Initiate Cindy Braley

Position: Corporate Trainer, AT&T

Previous Positions: KinderCare Director; Corporate Trainer for T.I.

Best Advice for a New Teacher: Be organized and patient.

Hobbies/Interests Beyond the Classroom: Scrapbooking, photography

Favorite Movie: *The Apartment*



Favorite Travel Memory: Hawaii with my husband

Family: [REDACTED]

Community Involvement: FUMC Rowlett, choir member; UMW President, Leadership Team, Lay Pastor

Where Born: Fort Worth

Most People Don't Know This About Me: Lived in Europe the first three years I was married

My Dream Plans One Year from Now: Retirement from AT&T ♦



● Thank You, Jean Wallace!

Our thanks go to **Jean Wallace**, ceremonies committee chair, and her committee members for conducting Cindy's initiation ceremony. ♦

Recording Secretary's Report



Minutes, January 22, 2018 By Susan Bell, Recording Secretary

On January 22, 2018, members of Delta Omicron Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International met at Highland Park Presbyterian Church. Members and guests numbered 35. Appreciation goes to the social arrangements committee chair, **Sherrie Negrete**; committee members **Kay Keeland** and **Margaret Thompson**; and the January hostesses for planning and arranging the meeting room and refreshments for fellowship time at 4:30 p.m. and program time at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Opening:

Lou McMillan, president, opened the meeting and welcomed attendees.

Carolyn Miller, personal and professional enrichment committee chair, shared an inspiration.

Lou McMillan asked members whether there were additions or corrections to the minutes. There were not, so they stand approved as printed in the chapter newsletter.

Mary Gill, treasurer, was not present because of travel, but her report was in the January chapter newsletter.

New Business:

Margaret Arnold, nominations committee chair, read the proposed slate of officers and nominations committee for the 2018-2020 biennium. **Lou McMillan** explained that she will be continuing as president. Other nominated officers are first vice president (programs and projects): **Katherine Grogan**; second vice president (membership): **Melanie Rudebeck**; corresponding secretary: **Leah Black**; and recording secretary: **Katrina Hallman**.

Leesa Cole stated that she is willing to serve as treasurer if the executive board votes it.

The nominations committee for the next biennium will be **Carolyn Power**, chair; and members **Mary Gill**, **Nancy Johnson**, **Kay Keeland**, **Carrie Parsons**, and **Becky Quigley**.

Serving on the 2016-2018 nominations committee have been **Margaret Arnold**, chair, and members **Susan Bell**, **Leesa Cole**, **Melanie Rudebeck**, and **Margaret Thompson**.

Old Business:

Lou thanked **Elenora Asbury**, hostess for our December gathering, and all of the December hostesses who provided food for the Christmas brunch. Also, Lou thanked **Sherrie Negrete** and **Kay Keeland** for their organizing and calling all the ladies who prepared dishes. Beautiful party! Lots of fun!

[REDACTED] legislative committee chair, and **Carolyn Power**, past state legislative committee member, discussed the March Primary Election, stressing how important it is to get out and vote, as well as telling others to go vote.

Program:

Barbara Clinton, programs vice president, introduced our speaker, Bonnie Moore, who spoke on "Being Clued into Effective Communication." Bonnie is TS0's 2017-2019 parliamentarian. She is a certified Life Coach and recipient of many high-level awards. She has certification in twelve different communication assessment tools. She spoke on "clues into our own personal communication style, as well as others' styles." She included verbal, nonverbal, and contextual listening skills.

How Bonnie worked was interesting. She began by giving us a test to get an idea of our particular communication style. She then grouped us in four or five groups according to our scores. Next, she presented us with a communication task and asked us to solve it. Most of the groups were fairly normal size, except for one, which contained only two of our members. This one was definitely the most analytical. This activity was fun and gave us a window into our styles.

Also, **Denise Barker**, next month's presenter, discussed her program for February: "No-sew Blankets." She collected \$8.00 for materials from members who will be participating. Some members plan to purchase their own materials and bring them. This will be another worthwhile program for us to look forward to.

Meeting Closing:

Before adjourning the meeting, members joined hands and sang "The Delta Kappa Gamma Song." ♦

Treasurer's Report

By Mary Gill, Treasurer



Our bank account balance on February 8 was \$3,386.63.

The Coordinating Council of Dallas County's annual spring luncheon will be on April 7, and the cost of the meal is \$33.00. If possible, please plan to give me your check made out to Delta Omicron at our February meeting.

More info about the luncheon is on pages 14-15 of this newsletter. ♦

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 10 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 10: November 19-23, 2017, Thanksgiving, Long-distance

We're Texas-bound for the holiday: [redacted] took a misstep at a football game, injuring his knee.

We'd planned to be in Oklahoma. [redacted] who is my youngest sister and

has cancer, had texted, "Can you come earlier this year? I'll be off work all week, but I need help lifting the turkey, etc."

Sunday:

[redacted] my Fort Worth sister, calls on arriving at our Oklahoma family farm.

"Sure quiet in the car without you.... Talked to [redacted] [our older sister] a couple of days ago. [redacted] said, 'A year ago, who could have known this lay ahead? We're blessed to have [redacted] with us.'"

[redacted] exclaims, "[redacted]'s in the yard! What are she and [redacted] doing?"

I hear [redacted]'s reply, "Putting up Christmas lights. Too beautiful a day not to be outdoors!"

That evening, I text my sisters: "[redacted] and I decided to start Thanksgiving tomorrow and enjoy it all week. Channeling Mother and [redacted] tonight—about to make roll dough and combread."

[redacted] answers: "[redacted] says you need to overnight FedEx pumpkin pie to him."

[redacted] adds: "Amen to me."

Monday:

I text my sisters a good-morning. Early-bird [redacted] answers: "Started fire. [redacted] not up. Would you make enough dressing for here?"

All day I send photos and texts of my progress—"Sautéing onions, celery, parsley, mushrooms for dressing. Used to wake up to this aroma at [redacted] house. She'd be up at dawn making dressing."

Later, [redacted] texts: "We just got home from buying groceries for the week. Need a loan 'cause I got more than groceries. Bought Christmas lights."

Still later, [redacted] texts: "DWTS was great tonight! Who do you think will win?... We've been busy. Cleaning. Two shopping carts full at Walmart! [redacted] finished decorations on front fence. [redacted] shot his first deer! So excited. He's having a great time w [redacted].... [redacted]'s scans are tomorrow. Appointment is 1:30. Cooking Wednesday.... [redacted] brought in an egg this morning. I said, '[redacted], it's still warm!' He said, 'Yes, she just got up.'"

Tuesday:

9:47 a.m., [redacted] texts: "We're off to OKC. [redacted] says to expect a long day."

5:58 p.m., [redacted] texts: "Headed home.... Go to this floor for that test, repeated about 5 times. Different Drs., different tests."

Wednesday:

[redacted] texts after dark: "Christmas at the White Lightning [our ranch's name]" with a pic of her 15' tree [redacted] made.

Thursday:

Before the meal for 18 in three generations, [redacted] sends a photo of the table setting—Grandmother's and [redacted] Blue Willow plates, blue stemware, red tablecloth, sunlight streaming across the table.

My nephew [redacted] texts "sacrilege" with a photo of store-bought rolls. I wasn't there to make Mother's rolls.

Later, [redacted] sends a three-sisters pic.

That night, [redacted] and [redacted] call. [redacted] reports, "It was after 5:30 when [redacted] left with [redacted] older son]. [redacted]'s having pecan pie. I'm cleaning the kitchen."

And so ends well our Thanksgiving, long-distance.

To be continued... ♦

Chapter Committee News...

Society Mission and Purposes



Scholarships 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 scholarships committee chair, for more information or assistance. Or, contact one of our chapter's recent awardees for inspiration.

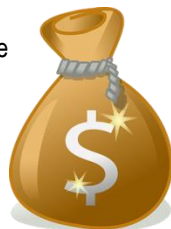
Deadlines to Apply:

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 a 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 scholarships 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

Vote in the March Primary Election!

The 2018 Primary Election will be on March 6, with early voting from February 20-March 2.

This primary is the most important election for educators and public schools.

Voters in the primary will determine which candidates will be on the General Election ballot next November. Texas has an open primary, which means voters can vote in either the Democratic or Republican primary, regardless of their usual party affiliation or preference.

Everyone needs to vote in the Republican Primary so we can retire some of the politicians in Austin.

Numerous Republicans in Austin are against teachers' healthcare and want to dismantle our defined benefit plan. Our defined benefit plan is a fixed income, which means consistent income every month.

In contrast, a defined contribution plan (401k) has all kinds of commission fees taken out of it. It is also based on the stock market, so you would never be sure of exactly how much money you would receive each month.

Please, do not let the politicians in Austin take everything from us. **VOTE!!!**



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

Chapter Committee News...

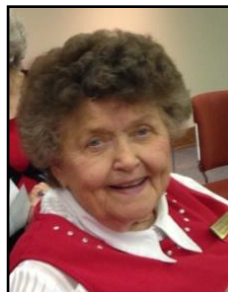
Special Committees

Fundraising Committee

By Wanda Spoonmore, Chair

To Our Colleagues in Delta Omicron,
The words *THANK YOU* are multiplied many times in our minds as **Marta Finlay** and I express our gratitude for your support in this year's Delta Omicron fundraising activities.

It is a pleasure to announce that the January fundraising activity brought in a total of \$85.00. The



amount raised at the meeting was \$75.00, and the items I took to Half-Price Books gave us another \$10.00.

The \$85.00, along with the \$66.80 that you raised at the October meeting, will go to the **ASTEF 2018 Individual and Group Contributors** and **ASTEF 2018 Chapter Donations to Projects** under the name of Delta Omicron.

Your support is appreciated.

Sincerely,
Wanda Spoonmore
Fundraising Committee Chair ♦



Hillier Project Committee

● Hillier School Movie and Tech Night

What:

Annual Fundraising / Family-and-Community Event

Please, Consider:

Giving a check or cash to help underwrite the event. All profits will go toward tech items for the students, such as Lego robots, coding materials, etc.

When:

Friday, February 23, 2018, 5:45-9:00 p.m.

Where:

HPPC Elliott Hall

Featuring:

Hillier School Choir, Disney's *Toy Story*, Food, Fellowship, Fun

Food for Purchase:

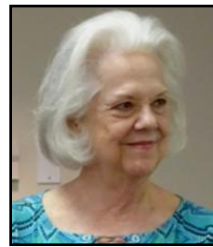
Pizza, popcorn
candy, water, etc.;
cash only



**Questions,
Contact Info:**

 Hillier
School office
manager:
214-525-6600, 3821 University Blvd., Dallas, TX 75205 ♦

● After-school Tutoring



✓ **Lou's Wednesdays at Hillier**

Lou McMillan reports, "This past month I've had the pleasure of taking on two more students.

"In fact, one of them is new to Hillier this semester. She loves to read, even though she has been diagnosed with dyslexia. You usually don't see

this happening. What a love of learning! I can tell she is going to be a delight to tutor.

"I also have a new eighth-grader, who will be graduating from Hillier at the end of the semester. He is so proud of his achievements in his studies, especially in reading and comprehension, and he is looking forward to his graduation and going to high school.

"The best part of working with children with learning differences is the appreciation they show when they know you really care, and when they see the improvement in themselves. These are the results that every teacher and every tutor hope for and are the reasons we choose to work with these very special students." ♦



✓ **Marilyn's Tuesdays at Hillier**

Who: Marilyn Nease

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

Where: The Hillier School, HPPC

When: January / February 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.

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Tutee #1 - 5th Grader

A Dog Called Kitty

Made Me Grin:

My tutee doesn't have her copy of the book we've been reading chapter by chapter. She heads to the bookcase to search for another book we might read. I tell her I brought my copy of our book, and she immediately makes a U-turn, eager to continue reading our Bill Wallace story. She loves this book!



Tutee #2 - 4th Grader

So You Want to Be President?

Made Me Proud:

After we've read as far as we can in this appealing history of U.S. presidents, our time is up for today. I can see my tutee is processing something; then, she announces, "This book doesn't have any girls!" We talk about it being time for that to change—maybe when she's old enough to vote.

Tutee #3 - 3rd Grader

Aqualicious

Whose Hair? Who's There?

Left Us Puzzled:

We enjoy the playful rhymes and the colorful illustrations of our second book. We read it again, trying to understand the ending's request to the reader. We decide the final page could have been better.

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

I'm out with the flu. Yuck! I'd rather be tutoring. ☺

Tuesday, January 30, 2018

Tutee #1 - 5th Grader

A Dog Called Kitty

Finding Common Ground:

We're about halfway through chapter six and the book. The main character is overcoming his fear of dogs after being bitten badly several years earlier. I ask my tutee what makes her fearful. The dark, she says, and I agree that imagination can create fear when we're alone in the dark.



Tutee #2 - 4th Grader

The Legend of Mistletoe and the Christmas Kittens

What We Like:

My tutee's favorite part of this sweet, satisfying story is the kittens. Mine is Mistletoe's coloring: green body, red ears and paws, and candy-cane-like tail striped red, green, and white.

Tutee #3 - 3rd Grader

Brave: Big Bear, Little Bear

Pinkalicious: Apples, Apples, Apples!

Good Memories:

(1) When we start our second book, my tutee asks, "Can we do what we did last time—take turns reading pages?" And we do, letting her feel less intimidated by the length of the text on each page.

(2) While my tutee reads, I notice she twirls a strand of hair around her finger, just like my youngest sister did when she nursed from her baby bottle 60-plus years ago.

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Tutee #1 - 5th Grader

A Dog Called Kitty

Like Real Life:

My tutee and I are over halfway through our book. Our main character, Ricky, has conquered his fear of dogs, but

along comes a new problem for him to deal with: neighboring farmers are setting traps to catch coyotes and wild dogs that have been killing livestock. Now, Ricky has to keep his new friend (a dog called Kitty) safe from the traps.

Tutee #2 - 4th Grader

A Fairy-Tale Fall

Busy Parenting Day:

My tutee and I finish our first book, one filled with lots of Disney characters celebrating Halloween.

Then, her father arrives early to pick her up because my tutee's sibling has an activity the family will attend.

Her dad introduces himself and thanks me for tutoring his daughter. ☺ ♦

Chapter Members' News...

Professional

● TCEA Convention

Jaime Callahan reported on February 7, "I am currently attending the Texas Computer Educators Association convention in Austin with several others from Highland Park ISD.

"We are enjoying this time to investigate new ways to empower student learning." ♦



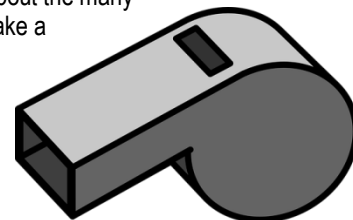
● Teachers Fight Back with Class!

Carolyn Power alerts us to educators using whistleblowing to spread the word about the many ways and times educators make a difference in students' lives.

Want to feel proud to be an educator? Want one more reason to cheer on our fellow educators?

Carolyn tells us to

- (1) Follow this link <https://trta.org/inside-line-blog/>
- (2) You'll see a photo of the TRS Board of Trustees. Scroll down to the paragraph with the title/heading "Primary Election Update." Read the paragraph.
- (3) Select "Click here to check it out." ♦



● Lt. Gov. Candidate Forum in Frisco

Carolyn Power reports, "Four members of Delta Omicron Chapter attended a meet-the-candidates forum February 6 in Frisco: **Maureen Baker, Susan Bell, Lou McMillan,** and I. The meeting was informative, and we enjoyed each other's company.

"Hostesses from the Frisco TRTA chapter welcomed us at the Frisco Career and Technical Center. The Frisco

superintendent, Dr. Mike Waldrip, gave a presentation concerning school finance.

"We listened to Mike Collier, Democratic candidate, and Scott Milder, Republican candidate, share their visions for Texas. We also had an opportunity to meet them. Other candidates running but not present at the forum were Dan Patrick, Republican, and Mike Cooper, Democrat.

"Afterward, we enjoyed lunch at Breadwinners in Plano. Great food. We appreciated Lou driving us to the event. We had an easy, fun trip.

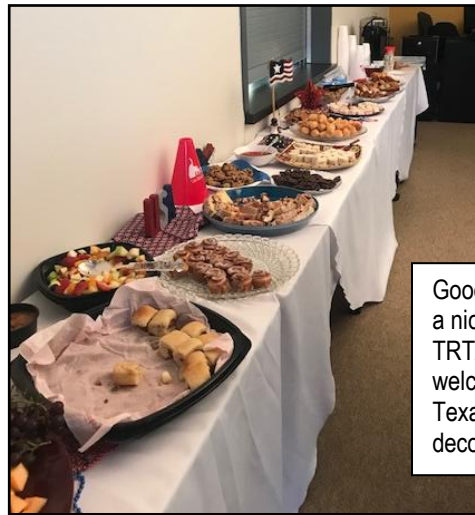
"More information about the forum is in **Lou McMillan's** 'President's Message' on page 1."



Maureen Baker,
Susan Bell



Carolyn Power
meets Scott Milder,
Republican
candidate for
lieutenant governor.



Good food,
a nice Frisco
TRTA
welcome.
Texas
decorations.



Mike Collier, Democratic
candidate for lieutenant
governor.



Lou McMillan,
Carolyn Power



After the forum, Carolyn Power, Lou McMillan, Susan Bell, and Maureen Baker enjoy lunch at Breadwinners. ♦

Chapter Members' News...

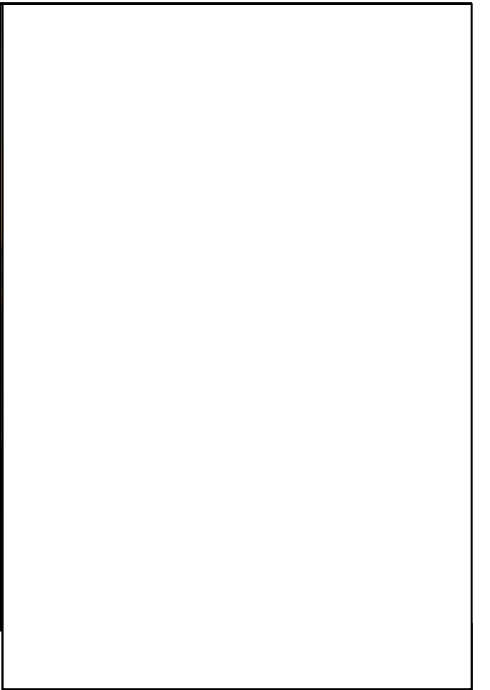
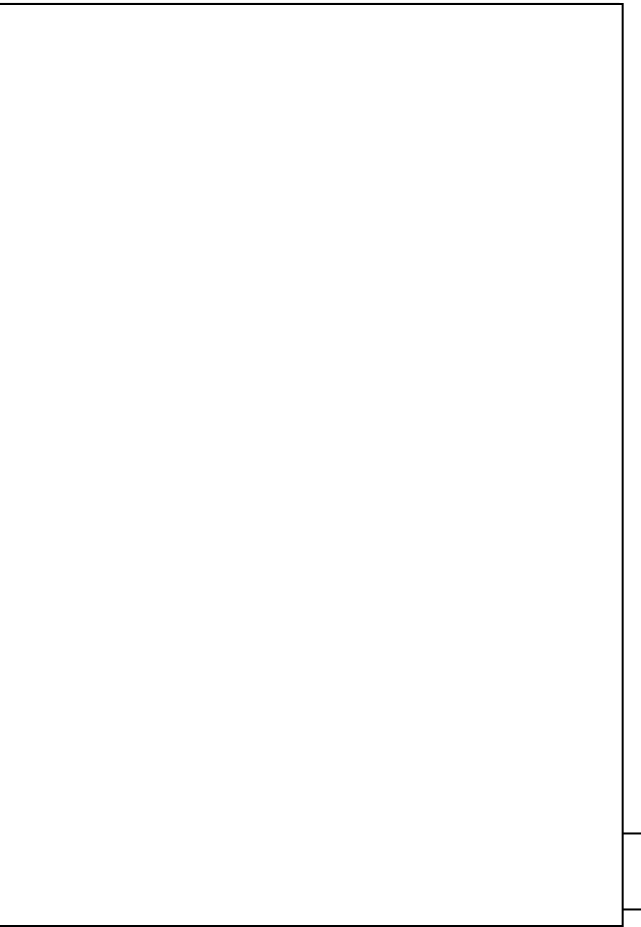
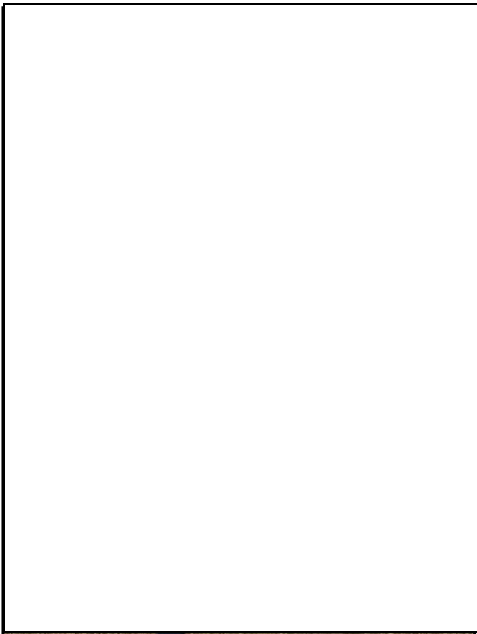
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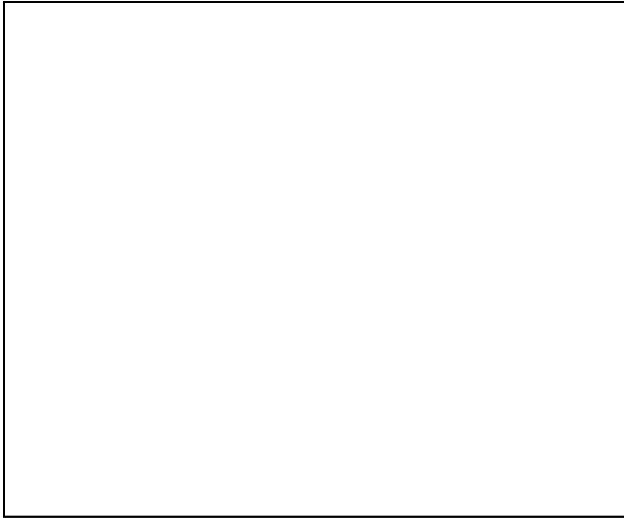
Mary Gill reports, "My recent time in North Redington Beach, Florida, was action packed most days from morning until night.

"Mom (86) and I went to visit [redacted], at a time when Aunt [redacted] (85), Mom's sister and [redacted] mom, was visiting from Iowa.

"Beach sunsets, manatee viewing at the Ruskin Manatee Education Center, pontoon boating on the inner coastal waterways, daily Mexican Train domino games, Rummy 500 card games, quality family time, a fantastic ride in a four-seater Piper Pacer airplane over the coastline, flea markets, great food, Treasure Island, Dunedin, the movie *Molly's Game*—all these adventures made it one FABULOUS time!"



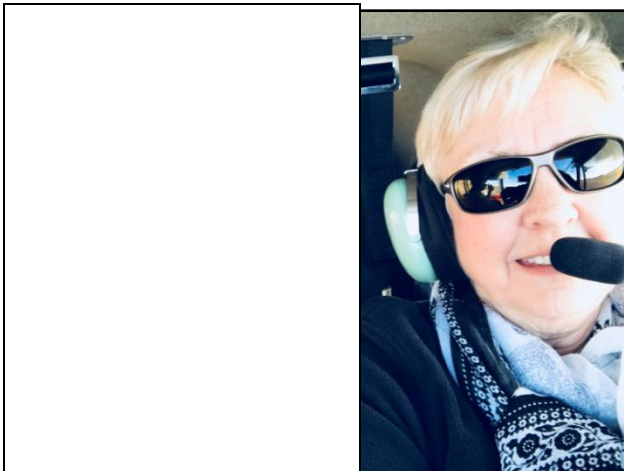
sters!



Weeeeeeee...
Can we go
again please?!

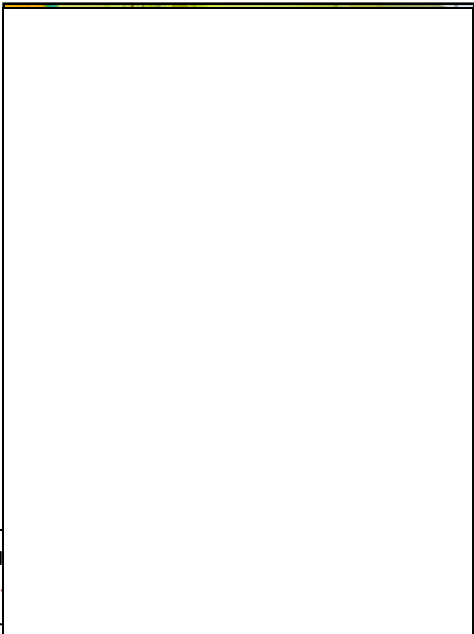


Prepping for flight



Back-seat riders and co-pilot

Tummies are full
ready for another day



More Member News: Birthdays, Birthdays!



February

**Katrina Hallman, 2; Mary White, 12; Marta Finlay, 15;
Catherine Donahue, 19; Marylin Nease, 22 ♦**

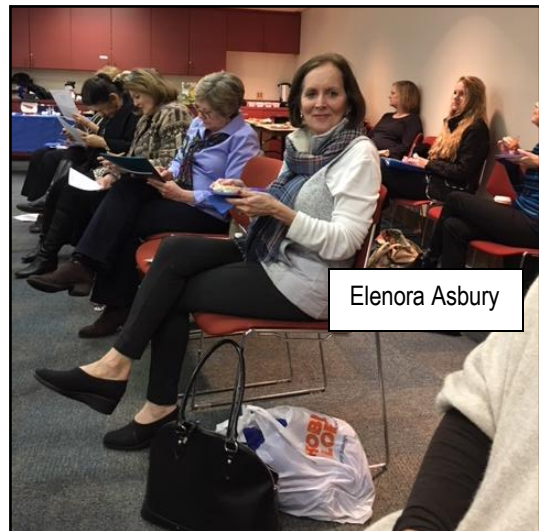


Margaret Arnold, Marta Finlay

Chapter News...

**Meeting, 1/22/18, Photo Highlights
Fellowship and Program**

*(with appreciation to **Maureen Baker, Susan Endicott, and Lou McMillan** for taking photos in my absence)*



Elenora Asbury



Margaret Thompson



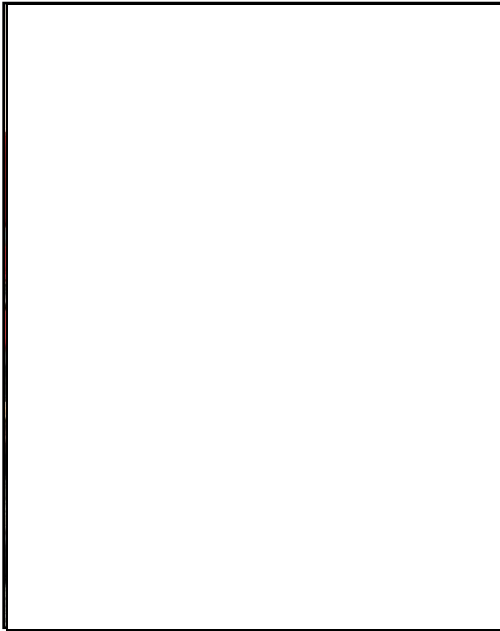
Janet Cundiff, Jean Wallace

DKG Purpose 1:

*To unite women educators of the world
in a genuine spiritual fellowship.*



Kay Keeland, Jaime Callahan, Katrina Hallman



Barbara Clinton, Carolyn Miller



Maureen Baker, Grace Delatour, Wanda Spoonmore



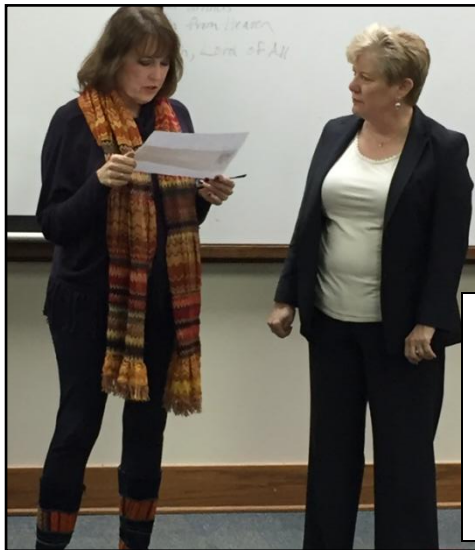
Jan Nance



Katy Kunofsky, Becky Quigley, Margaret Thompson,



Carolyn Miller presents an inspiration.



Barbara Clinton introduces program presenter Bonnie Moore.



Bonnie Moore's topic is "Clued into Effective Communication."

Program Feedback...

"Bonnie's presentation was excellent!"—**Barbara Clinton**

"I finally made a meeting! I've sent you some pics I took. It was a wonderful meeting!"—**Susan Endicott**

"We had a terrific program and meeting! Bonnie was fabulous! A great evening of food, fun, and fellowship! Bonnie's program was as entertaining and informative as it was in Hawaii."—**Lou McMillan**

"This was one of the best and most interesting programs we have had!

"Kudos to **Barbara Clinton** for being able to get Bonnie. This is a program that none of our members in attendance will forget!"—**Susan Bell**



Carolyn Power talks about a coming Frisco forum for lieutenant governor candidates. ♦

Coordinating Council of Dallas County News...



What:

Coordinating Council of Dallas County's Annual Spring Luncheon

When:

Saturday, April 7, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

Where:

The Lakewood Country Club, 1912 Abrams Road, Dallas

Speaker:

TSO President, Dr. Jo Murphy

Theme:

1929...Changing Times:
Valuing the Past, Embracing the Future...2018+

Dress:

Select a decade if you desire.

Menu:

Fresh fruit plate, spinach and mushroom quiche, grilled vegetables with lemon butter sauce, strawberry short cake

Cost:

\$33.00.

What to Bring:

Each chapter, please bring an item for the silent auction, benefitting CCDC scholarships. ♦

Area 9 News...



Area 9 Coordinator Jennifer Bernabo ♦

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 Committee, 2017-2019



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

TSO Committee, 2017-2019



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

TSO Committee, 2017-2019



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

TSO Projects

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

TSO Coming Events



89th Texas State Convention
Waco Convention Center
Waco, Texas
June 14-16, 2018

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.**" ♦

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.

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

Q. How often are regional conferences held?

- A. Every year
- B. Every other year
- C. Every three years

The answer is on page 17. ♦

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 ♦

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 ♦

**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



Many thanks to **Catherine Donahue** for printing and mailing copies of this February newsletter to our members without computer access to email. ♦



**2018 INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION TIMES**



Be in "the know." Read each issue of the *2018 International Convention Times*. Each one is a quick read. Follow the links below.

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

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

[2018 International Convention Times, Issue 2](#)

[2018 International Convention Times, Issue 2 Texas Edition](#)

Photos in The 4:15 were taken by and/or used with the permission of Maureen Baker, Jennifer Bernabo, Susan Endicott, Mary Gill, Katherine Grogan, Carol McMillan, Lou McMillan, Diane Moose, Dr. Jo Murphy, Marylin Nease, Carolyn Pittman, Carolyn Power.

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

The answer to the SW regional quiz on page 16 is...B. Regional conferences and international conventions meet in alternate years. ♦