



ZETA TAU CHAPTER 163, AREA 18,
HOUSTON, TEXAS

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
TEXAS STATE ORGANIZATION

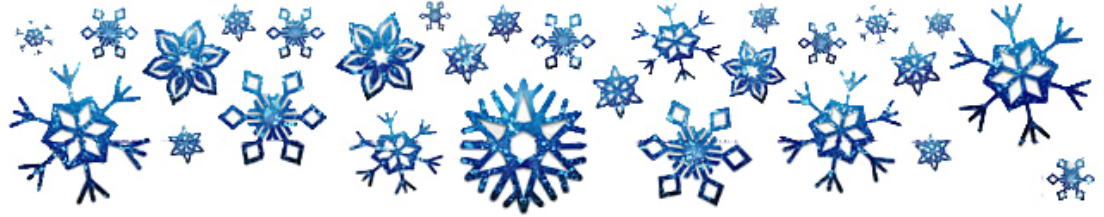
Vision Statement
Leading Women Educators,
Impacting Education Worldwide

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

Zeta Tau News

January/February 2020

Volume 2 Issue 4



2020 Greetings. Hope the new year has gotten off to a good start for you.

Zeta Tau's first meeting of the year is February 4, 4:30 pm at Frostwood Elementary. The theme is "February is for ASTEF". Pat Osborne will help us learn more about ASTEF (TSO's Foundation) and we'll play Left, Right, Center to raise money for ASTEF. You'll each need to bring 3 \$1 bills to play. We'll also continue supporting the staff members at Spring Shadows Elementary by making candy sweetheart notes for them.

We will also be discussing and voting on a new business item. As Julie will begin collecting dues for next year in March, we need to decide now about how we're going to pay for scholarships and mini-grants. The new business item will call for a \$20 stipend from each member to be added to the dues. If that is adopted, there would be no auctions to raise funds next year.

I'll also bring to the meeting the thank you cards we got from the teachers at Spring Shadows for the mountains of school supplies and books that members brought to the December meeting. Look for pictures on page 2. A special thanks to Sasha for collecting boxes and boxes of books she gathered through her school's Good Neighbor program. Rachel Martinez, SSE's principal, said the teachers were just overwhelmed when they saw everything. Good work Zeta Tau!!! Also, wasn't that dinner delicious! Thanks to Terrie for arranging the catering.

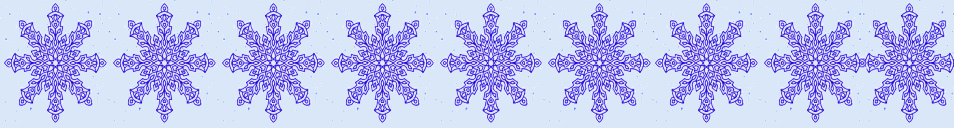
February would also be a good time to bring possible new members so they can see more about our organization, and we can meet them. Look about you, especially those of you still in the classroom, for promising and exceptional women...a team leader, department chair, school teacher of the year, the fabulous teacher in the next classroom.

Have you made your plans for McAllen? I know there are several of us planning on going, and I hope many more of you will decide to join us. We have a good time together, learn much, and build closer bonds as Zeta Tau sisters. All information on hotels and registration is available on the TSO website.

See you soon.

Diana





MEETING CALENDAR

Meeting start time @ 4:30 unless noted otherwise

Mar 3: "Make and Take" with Sasha and Pam @ Frostwood

Apr 13: "Induction of New Members" @ Taste of Texas

May 7: "Birthday Celebration & Officer Induction" @ Chavez

December Meeting Highlights

Twenty-two Zeta Tau sisters came together for their holiday meeting at Spring Shadows Elementary December 3, 2019. To celebrate, sisters chose to work on their service project by providing various and a multitude of supplies for their adopted school's classroom teachers. Members packed school supplies in decorative bags with tags denoting each teacher's name and grade level. Goodie bags were also packed for the teachers' mailboxes in January. In addition, Zeta Tau members collected and brought new and gently used books. Organized by Sasha Johnson, a large number of books were received from the Good Neighbor Book Drive at Bunker Hill Elementary.



Teacher goody bags!



Zeta Tau sisters gather for a group shot with all their donations

Thank You!! and Way To Go Sasha!!

After all had items had been organized, Diana Apsey began the meeting with our guests Rachel Martinez, Principal; Yesenia Zapata Briones, CIS Liaison; and Cindy Arnold, Assistant Principal. Silent Auction procedures were explained by Sasha and donors thanked. Everyone was encouraged to sign up for a month to provide a donated auction or raffle item. The November 5 minutes were read, Julie gave her Treasurer report and noted that Judy Grisell had dropped membership. Julie also led Brags and Pins. Sasha then handed out paper copies of the yearbook to those who wanted one. Terrie encouraged us to consider taking an officer role and is taking nominations. The next gathering is January 14th, 4:00 PM, at Chavez Mexican Restaurant for happy hour and dinner. The next regular meeting is February 4th at 4:30 PM at Frostwood Elementary. Longtime member Lora Ringler is moving to Lubbock, but she will continue to produce our newsletter for a short while.

A delicious catered dinner was served and everyone enjoyed having completed a wonderful evening of gifts for fellow teachers at our adopted school.



Thank You cards from Spring Shadows Elementary Faculty and Staff for all our December donations and support

January Happy Hour!

Members gathered at Chavez Mexican Cafe on January 14, 2020 for happy hour and dinner. Much discussion and laughter ensued. Patty and Terrie, who have been Zeta Tau members for years, discovered they both went to Spring Woods just one year apart!



L to R: Julie E., Diana A., Jane C



Top: Jane C & Patty C
Left: Jo Ann A & Terrie C

Upcoming Events: 2020 Conventions

TSO Convention

June 17-19, McAllen

Notice the days have shifted as it starts on Wednesday and ends on Friday.



International Convention

July 7-11,
Philadelphia

DKG is offering a Go Ahead

Tour in New York City, July 12-16. Registration Deadline for the Tour is September 27. Information on the DKG Web site.



Images:
All Zeta Tau photos - personal donated; all other images from Pixabay Creative Commons and Open Clipart.

Newsletter Editor is Lora Ringler.
Please send ideas and articles for upcoming newsletters to: lora.ringler@yahoo.com

And the Award Goes To.....

EARLY BIRD AWARD

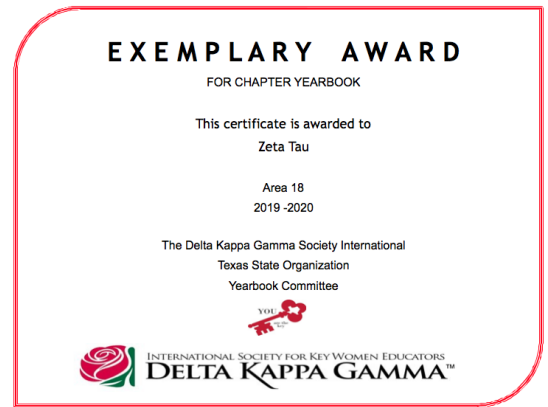
FOR CHAPTER YEARBOOK

This certificate is presented to
Zeta Tau
Area 18

**Thank you
Sasha for a
Great Job!!**



2019-2020



Spotlight on a DKG Founder: Mrs. Lalla M. Odom 1874-1964

Adapted by Maureen Kraker

Born April 8, 1874 Deceased April 14, 1964. Lalla grew up in Fayette County, Texas the second oldest of seven children. Annie Webb Blanton and Lalla were school friends in La Grange. Lalla had a sharp mind and obtained a B.A. by the age of seventeen. Later on she attended the Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati even though she had obtained earlier degrees from Baylor University and training at Waco Female College.

After her marriage to William Edgar Odom, they lived in several towns in Texas and Oklahoma before settling in Austin in 1917. There was a population boom and she was immediately hired to teach at Metz Elementary School. At the end of the year she was notified that it was contrary to the policies of the Board of education to issue contracts to married teachers. The superintendent supported her position because of the discriminatory regulation. Just weeks later the Board reversed its ruling. Mrs. Odom helped break down this barrier and became one of the first married women teachers in Austin to receive a regular contract.



Lalla M. Odom,
download from
DKG website

“The Allen Junior High was the first of its kind to separate as a division of public schools and was an experiment. Mrs. Odom was named to head the department of mathematics there. To prepare herself for this responsibility she continued her study, earning A.B. and A.M. degrees at the University of Texas. Plus, from time to time she added graduate courses in education and English.”

Mrs. Odom participated in city, state and national political affairs. She also actively participated in professional organization such as the Classroom Teachers Association, Texas State Teachers Association and the National education Association. Dr. Blanton believed Lalla could assist with the new Delta Kappa Gamma Society. Lalla brought the point of view of a junior high school teacher of mathematics and the desire to banish discrimination against women in the profession. The two longtime friends, Dr. Blanton and Mrs. Odom, installed Alpha Chapter (June 3, 1929) within a month of the founding of the nation

Society.

Mrs. Odom was Alpha’s first president. From 1929-1933, she was the corresponding secretary for the state-national organization and chairman of the Committee on Constitution (1931-1932). Other national committees on which she worked included: Legislation (1942-1948 and 1952-1956), editing the Constitution (1956 and 1958). She represented the Founders on the National Planning Committee (1948- 1952) and the Administrative Board (1958-1960). She died April 14, 1964, in her home and her burial was in Oakwood Cemetery in Austin, Texas.

BIRTHDAYS!

JANUARY

27 Lori Dismukes

FEBRUARY

- 01 Linda Horstmann
- 10 Diana Apsey
- 12 Barbara Stephens
- 20 JoAnn Arlitt



February Donations for Auction/Raffle

Martha Meyer:
Karen Scott Earrings



Jana Gwinn:
\$25 Cinemark Gift Card

