



# Zeta Tau News

Area 18, Chapter 163, Houston, TX

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

SEPT/OCT 2020

## 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.**

## *Greetings from President Lorena*

The start of the 2020-2021 school year brings a very different meaning to all educators around the world this pandemic year. Not only is it the fresh, new start our profession loves every year; it is also the first big step back to normalcy and routine for educational institutions and communities since last March. Growing up, a friend of mine's mother used to daily say, "Normal day let me be aware of the treasure that you are." She recently shared with me



that growing up she really never knew what that quote meant as a child. However, now as an adult she has a much deeper understanding of that statement. As educators, I know we will all treasure the "normal day" at a whole new level this school year. As a proud educator, our profession's response to the COVID-19 pandemic has left me in awe and overwhelmed me with emotion. I'm so honored to be an educator representing you- my DKG Zeta Tau- sisters and friends of 15 years. This is the start of my 23rd year in education. I have been blessed to serve as an assistant, teacher, assistant principal, and principal. Rarely does a day go by without me stopping to think about the seeds each of my teachers and mentors planted in me throughout my education and career. Many of you have inspired and motivated me to always bring my best. It is critically important that we all understand the vital role we each play in tending our greatest national treasure- our children. Let us all be aware of the seeds we are planting that encourage children and educators to learn and blossom into their fullest potential. For those of you still serving our school, I pray that you have an amazing, safe school year! Every day plant a seed of happiness, hope, success, and most importantly, love. For those of you now retired, I also pray that He give you all the will and strength to continue to support our schools and educators molding young minds. Sisters, I guarantee that it will all come back to you in abundance. No matter what, please remember to always take time to stop and smell the flowers!

**As our current DKG Texas State President, Patti Belknap, reminds us,  
*YOU are the key to endless possibilities!***

### September Meeting Reminder

"Quarantine Life" Zoom meeting in which you'll be sharing something you've been doing/learning/hobbies/pastimes/etc. while quarantining and/or social distancing this COVID-19 pandemic!

Thanks for coming prepared to share!

**Time: Sep 29, 2020 04:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2177323350?pwd=NTILV0tHZGFETU4xeUpad09ZaWJUQT09>

**Meeting ID: 217 732 3350**

**Passcode: 1226**



### **Copycat Starbucks's Mocha Frappuccino**

#### **IN A BLENDER COMBINE:**

- 1 1/2 CUPS ICE
- 1/2 CUP STRONG, COLD COFFEE
- 1/2 CUP MILK OR HALF AND HALF
- 1 TBSP SUGAR
- 1/4 CUP CHOCOLATE SYRUP
- WHIPPED CREAM OPTIONAL

**RELAX AND ENJOY!**

### *Pat Osborne's Legislative Updates*

#### Legislation



Postcards that matter Write your senators and congress members. For every 5 continuants they hear from action is taken. Now that most of us are sequestered it might be that opportunity for you to pursue a legislative issue that you are concerned about. Connecting with your legislators during Covid-19 has generated new challenges. Email messages and connecting to the legislator's website messages have now taken priority. Contact to local offices and District offices for Congress often generates quicker responses. More than ever, your physical address and area code are factors in receiving responses from these offices. These offices will respond to phone calls and emails. Mailing postcards is still a way to address concerns but be aware that many are working remotely. Information regarding your legislators can be found at congress.gov and local county, city and town websites

*Your Vote is Your Voice!*



### *Texas State Scholarships*

***Do you want to be a better leader in school, at church, in any organization to which you belong?*** This is your chance to attend an outstanding weekend of training in Dallas, February of 2021. Several members of Zeta Tau have attended the Leadership Training Seminar. Ask Lorena, Diana, Julie, Pat and Terrie. You have to get started on the application now. Members are chosen from all across Texas. No cost to you if you are chosen.

**Go to [dkgtexas.org](http://dkgtexas.org).** Leadership Seminar Application under Deadlines and Forms.

***You still have a chance to apply for a Mini-Grant for non-traditional professional training.*** The Mini Grant deadline is November 1. Go to [dkgtexas.org](http://dkgtexas.org) and look under the scholarship applications. Download the application and guidelines for November Mini Grant. The Grant is for \$750.00. It is open to both active and retired teachers. Read the guidelines carefully and follow directions exactly.

# Delta Kappa Gamma Fall 2020

Schedule of DKG Meetings for Fall 20-21 (all on Zoom at 4:30PM)

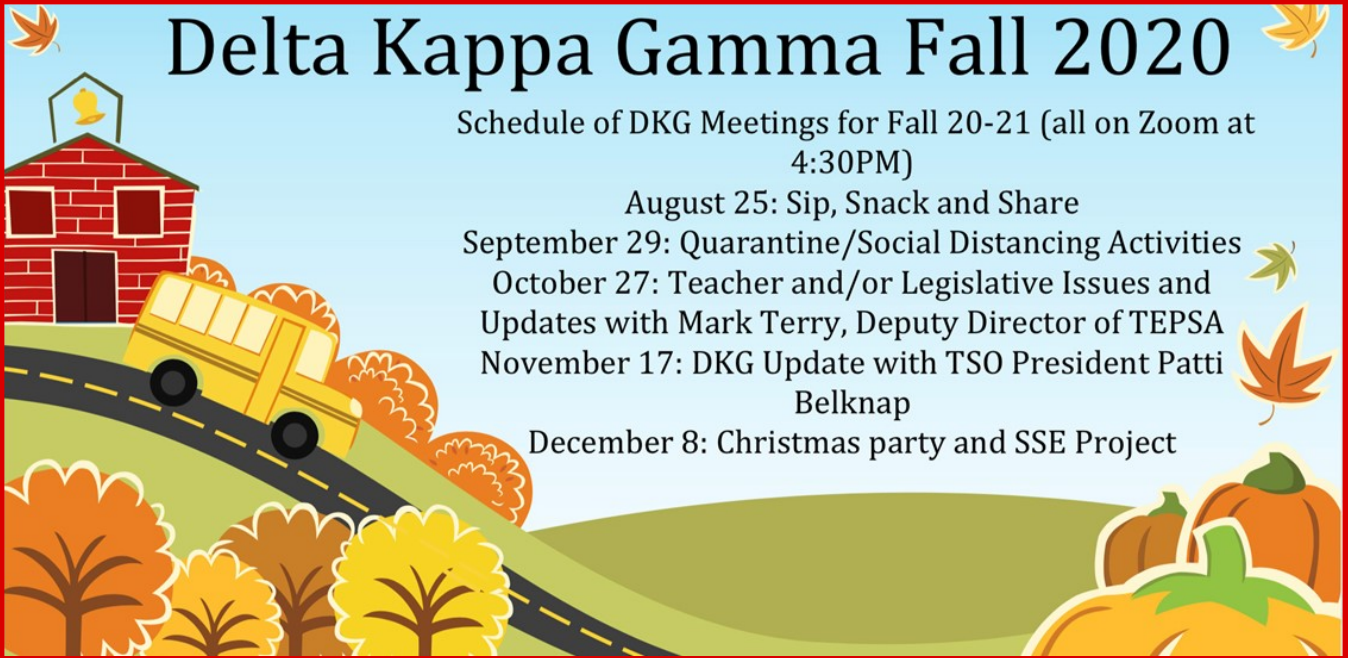
August 25: Sip, Snack and Share

September 29: Quarantine/Social Distancing Activities

October 27: Teacher and/or Legislative Issues and Updates with Mark Terry, Deputy Director of TEPSA

November 17: DKG Update with TSO President Patti Belknap

December 8: Christmas party and SSE Project



## *Thank you from our Area Coordinator, Julie Eisenhauer*

The Area 18 Workshop was held Saturday, August 29, via three Zoom sessions. It was a great success, despite the fact that we couldn't have our usual gathering in person. Over 100 people attended one or more of the sessions. Terrie Cardwell was the presenter for the Treasurer's session and did a great job!!!

I'm proud to announce that Zeta Tau had the most members in attendance with eleven members!! I'm so proud to call Zeta Tau my own chapter!!!

You all are the best! Thank you so much for your support of this Workshop !!

Thank you also for being a chapter who steps up to help your sisters when it's needed!!!!

*Love you all, Julie*

## **Zeta Tau Officers for 2020-2022**

President – Lorena Zertuche  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Cathy Cox  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President - Sara Norton  
 Recording Secretary – Jana Gwinn  
 Corresponding Secretary – Sasha Johnson



"Good friends are like stars.  
 You don't always see them,  
 But you know they're always there."  
 - Unknown



### Janet Kennedy

Despite the pandemic, July 2020 was a month of celebrations!!



### Jane Cooper

I spent my summer knitting and playing the ukulele.



### Paula Ely

Cliff and I sat around dreaming and planning for our first granddaughter's wedding, which happened in August! We also learned to "Zoom" around to different classes, friends and family. Hope this proves to be the most unique summer of our lives!



### Patty Corderey

Every morning I take the dog for a long walk, and I enjoy taking pictures of the sunrises and flowers that we see. In August my husband and I went on a mini getaway trip to a camping area near Navasota, where we did some hikes in the Washington-On-The-Brazos area. We sold my Mother's house in April, so I've spent much of the summer going through and organizing old family pictures and letters that had been stored in her garage.



### Julie Eisenhauer

My COVID life has been so different as I'm sure everyone's has been!! In spite of never knowing what day of the week it is, I've enjoyed lots of time to read!!! So far I've read 31 books, participated in 6 on-line Bible studies, and eaten at Rockfish at least 5 days a week. I'm turning into a mermaid from so much fish! And I've walked about 200 miles around my neighborhood!! Not my usual habits but refreshing and uplifting!!! Sure miss hugs!!! The only hugs I get besides Elke's hugs are my waiter at Rockfish!! After all I'm with him every day at lunch, so we figure we are virus-free so far!!



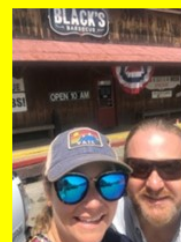
### Maureen Kraker

It was a great summer's plan to spend a month on Florida's west coast. I spent time hiking trails along the shoreline and on my dock fishing and crabbing. I was there to also check out my investment property and make repairs and updates. Hurricane Laura sort of spoiled it all for me. For a week, I watched the storm approach. Would it be Houston or the New Orleans area? No matter which one, I could not get home via my usual route on 1-10. I made a plan to avoid the area completely by driving north of the storm's path and deviation. I went up to Hattiesburg, MI and saw the Ole Miss campus. Then the next day, I drove to Shreveport and on into Texas using 59. It added another 250 miles to my usual trip but I was safe and saw a lot of the countryside.



### Sasha Johnson

Rosemary Beach, Florida  
Lockhart BBQ trail tasting!



### Pat Osborne

After spending Mar, Apr, and May in our apartments with everything delivered to our doors, we got a change for the months of June, July, and August. We've been able to walk down and get our own mail in our mail boxes and go to the Cafe and order a meal on the spot but we do have to carry it back to our apartment. My neighbors and I (4 of us) use this time to walk and chat and sit 6 feet apart to catch up and then pick up our meal to go home. We feel like teenagers who've just had their grounded rules relaxed. But Eagle's Trace was the place to be during this Pandemic. They have taken excellent care of us.

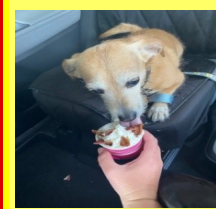


### Terrie Cardwell

My summer has been taking care of my mom's estate. Charlene passed away May 31<sup>st</sup> and she is really missed. There is so much to do and I have another month or so of finalizing probate. My family and friends have been so supportive and I have felt very loved. I spent time with my brother in FT Worth and we spent a cool day at the zoo.



### Paige Lantier



This summer I spoiled my dog more than normal. Puppy pie from Proud Pie in Katy, of course I had to get myself human pie. I also purchased my first house plant.

I do NOT have a green thumb. Proud to say my palm is thriving after a few months and I've recently bought a second smaller plant.



### Jana Gwinn

In June Jim & I went to Orlando for a non theme park vacation. We did some fun things including riding the Orlando Eye Ferris wheel & visiting Madame Toussauds Wax Museum.



### Lorena Zertuche

I spent lots of time with my family. Isabella is 11 and Marc is 7. Both pictures were taken in Galveston at the beach and playing putt putt golf.



### Mary Ann Slaughter

I spent most of this quarantine time reading! It was wonderful to lose myself in a good mystery or some historical fiction. My other passion is my yard!



My hibiscus bushes are my babies! I have thoroughly enjoyed working with them and watching them bloom. My grandmother would be proud!



## September

30th Cathy Roth

## October

7th Susan Strait

16th Robyn Flowers

18th Amy Houser

23rd Donna Handlin

25th Jane Cooper

26th Sasha Johnson



## Founder Factoids



Did you know that **Dr. Annie Webb Blanton**, the founder of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society, was born in Houston and had a twin sister? Just when you think you might be “too old” to try something innovative, remember Annie Webb Blanton was 60 years old when she founded Delta Kappa Gamma Society.

**What a role model for today’s young women!**

Overcoming adversity was a way of life for Annie Webb Blanton. She had three sisters and three brothers. Her twin sister died at the age of twelve. When Annie was in the second year of high school her mother died and her family moved from Houston to LaGrange. A year later her father died and Annie then moved the family to Austin where she taught school. For five years Annie was attending evening and summer classes at the University of Texas. She was enrolled as a Special Student without credit for those courses before she was permitted to enter the junior year as a regular candidate for a degree.

**I wonder how many of us would have had that kind of perseverance?**



*“Almost everything  
will work again if  
you unplug it  
for a few minutes,  
including you.”*

- Anne Lamott