



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

September 2019



Volume 2 Issue 1

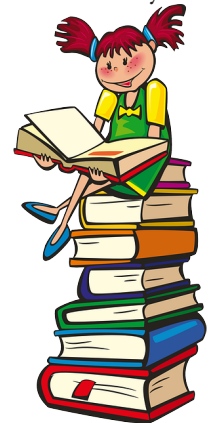
Dear Friends,

Welcome to a new year of exciting, educational, and empowering times with Zeta Tau! The Executive Board met twice this summer planning our upcoming year, and we hope to have met your wishes expressed both at our April meeting and in the end-of-year survey.

You wanted to go back to working with one school this year. To that end, Terrie and I met with the principal, Rachel Martinez, and the CIS person, Yesenia Zapata Briones, at Spring Shadows Elementary (SSE) on August 21. (SSE was chosen because it was on the list of failing elementary schools posted in the Chronicle earlier this year.) Both were exceedingly pleased that we were offering our help. Terrie and I will be introduced at a faculty meeting on August 28 along with other community partners. We will hand out flyers about Zeta Tau along with candy. Then for our October meeting we will meet at SSE and hear from the principal.

Here are some ways we will* or can help SSE:

- *Dictionary program, established by SBISD to get a dictionary in the hands of every 3rd grader. We will pay for the dictionaries this year, and I will lead the ceremony on September 6 to hand them out. If anyone else would like to attend, please let me know.
- Book fair-September 16 to 21 during the day and September 19, 4-7p.m., (an opportunity for active teachers to take part). We need volunteers to sit with the books and help kids select a book.
- Volunteer as readers in grades 1-3 twice a month as SSE is now part of the Bush Literacy Program.
- Volunteer in the library as they only have a substitute teacher in the librarian position right now.
- *Collect school supplies for 2nd semester and fill a bag for each classroom teacher. Give to teachers in December.
- *Collect new or gently used books for a giveaway to students in December. Can be in English or Spanish, especially grades K-2
- *Goody bags for faculty in October. Other gifts of appreciation during the year.



If you look at the calendar, one other change you'll see is that there is no auction listed. Most people think it's time, whether live or silent, has come and gone. Therefore, we've come up with another way to earn money which will be explained at the first meeting. With our plans to help SSE, we will need that money as just the dictionaries will cost about \$350. To that end, if any of you would like to make an extra donation to cover a few dictionaries (\$5 each) or just because, we definitely would appreciate that. Just send the donation to Julie or bring to the first meeting. Check made out to Zeta Tau.

I spent part of last evening reading the latest Collegial Challenge. Lots of good articles. (I especially liked the one about the possibility of changing the name, but then again I know I differ from many of you on that topic!) Remember, now the newsletters and magazines of the Society are digital. Do you have the app on your phone so you get a notice when new ones are available? Also, you need to make sure that your email is current with DKG. You should use a personal email, not a school email. To sign into DKG, you need your member number found on your membership card.

It's not too early to make plans to attend the 2020 TSO and International Conventions. The TSO one will be in McAllen in June, and I've only heard fabulous reviews of the last

one held there. The International one will be in Philadelphia in July, a chance maybe to visit for the first time this historic city or to go back and revisit good memories.

Looking forward to seeing you all in September 3 at Frostwood. We will be learning about magnificent, marvelous women. Do you know some of them? I do....my sisters in DKG/Zeta Tau! Please bring your own drink.

Diana

MEETING CALENDAR

Meeting start time @ 4:30 unless noted otherwise

- Sep 3:** "Marvelous Magnificent Women" @ Frostwood
- Oct 1:** "Partnering with Spring Shadows" @ Spring Shadows
- Oct 22:** Happy Hour @ Ciro's
- Dec 3:** Preparing Teacher Bags for Spring Shadows @ Memorial Drive Christian Church, catered dinner
- Jan 14:** Social hour & Dinner @ Chavez
- Feb 4:** "February is for ASTEF" @ Frostwood
- Mar 3:** "Make and Take" with Sasha and Pam @ Frostwood
- Apr 7:** "Induction of New Members" @ Taste of Texas
- May 7:** "Birthday Celebration & Officer Induction" @ Chavez

Four Lucky New Teachers

It's your first day on the job, sitting listening to a band of your now fellow teachers, a student choir, and messages from the School Board and your new superintendent. And then, there's a drawing, and you walk away with a \$100 bill! That was the experience of four lucky recipients of the Zeta Tau grants-in-aid this year. The winners were Leah Harlan, Houseman, Jennifer Wismer, Westchester, Amanda Sierra, and Matthew Rovegno, Northbrook High. All teachers starting their first teaching job. Originally, two elementary and two secondary names were drawn, but one of the elementary teachers was not there. Drawing again from the nearest box, Matthew's name was pulled. Matthew stopped by our booth after the presentation, and thanked us profusely as he really needed that money. Fate at work!

At the booth, teachers (new and experienced) signed up for a raffle, and we gave away two \$25 Visa cards. They went to Cathy Wolfe and Meredith Johnson. Manning the booth were Terrie, Sasha, Lori and Diana.

It was a great morning for Zeta Tau, getting our name out there, gathering the names of potential members, and generating much good will with SBISD.

Here's the email Diana received from one recipient:

Good morning Diana,

Thank you and the Zeta Tau Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma for the very generous mini grant! It was an unexpected gift that I look forward to investing in my classroom. How very encouraging to have so many wonderful role models



Upcoming Events:

September 27-28

GHACC State DKG President Presentation

If you plan to attend please have your money to Julie by September 15

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.

Area 18 Workshop

Saturday, August 29, 2020

of confident, capable professionals in this profession.

While I am excited and nervous about my first year of teaching, I am confident that I too will be able to share in this wonderful and noble profession (eventually!).

Best,
Jennifer
Jennifer Wismer, MA
Career and Technology Teacher
Westchester Academy for International Studies



Arlington Convention!



Diana, Mary Ann and Julie.

Early mornings, late nights, and lots of information in between--that describes the convention. Five Zeta Tau members, Pat, Julie, Mary Ann, Terrie, and Diana, attended the convention. As usual people were going in many different directions, except for Terrie who spent all her time at the registration desk. Pat was busy with ASTEF, Julie and Pat with STAAR, and Diana with presidential training.



The featured speaker, Elizabeth McCormick, a former black hawk helicopter pilot, told her story of perseverance, to make it when people in the Army kept telling her she couldn't. She was so funny and so motivating. Other highlights included the birthday luncheon, Presentation of Presidents, and the banquet on Saturday where the new 2019-2021 TSO Officers were inducted.



Top left picture: Pat with other ASTEF members
Bottom Picture: Elke, Terrie, Diana, Pat and Julie



Mandy Moore-Recording Secretary,
, Judy Mesick-1st Vice President,
Patti Belnap-President, Bonnie
Moore-2nd Vice President, Emma
Jovan-Corresponding Secretary &
Connie Resnick- Parliamentarian

Spring Branch Good Neighbor Program

Congratulations Zeta Tau on being recognized as a Spring Branch Good Neighbor for the 2018-2019 school year!

From the district website:

Good Neighbors:

- **Believe** that our schools and our communities are inextricably linked, with each dependent upon the success of the other.
- **Commit** to accomplishing three or more activities over the course of the school year in support of the district, a campus, our teachers, or our students.
- **Receive** recognition of the Good Neighbor status in the form of publicity, window decals, official certificates, and other promotional items.

We qualified because of our \$600 grants-in-aid to new teachers, goody bags for the faculty at two middle schools, and mentoring by members in the schools. Our donations to Baby U at the Spring Branch Family Development Center was icing on the cake as those babies will soon be Panda Path students, and we helped them off to a good start. There will be a ceremony this coming February where we'll receive our recognition along with hundreds of other Good Neighbors.



**Spotlight on a DKG Founder:
Annie Webb Blanton
1870-1945**

Did you know? In 1916, Annie Webb Blanton was the first woman to be elected president of the Texas State Teachers Association. While in office she was able to establish a fund for financing campaigns for securing more support for public schools. Her success as president led teachers to encourage her in a bid for State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Her candidacy was sponsored by the Texas State Women Suffrage Association. In 1918, supported by the State Department of Education and numerous civic organizations, educators and legislators, she was the first woman elected to a public office in Texas.



Annie Webb Blanton, download from DKG website

May Meeting Highlights

Twenty-two Zeta Tau sisters finished the 2018-19 year at Los Tios Mexican Restaurant on May 7.

After some socializing with appetizers, the meeting was held. In addition to normal business, we all approved



L to R: Sasha J., Diana A., Patty C., Linda

to accept our new revised chapter rules. Next, awards were presented by Linda Horstmann and Cheryl Ownby. Perfect Meeting Attendance was received by Diana Apsey, Terrie Caldwell and Pat Osborne. Membership Awards went to Dora Aschenbeck (15 years), Patty Cordrey, Carolyn Morris and Judy Grissell (10 years), and Diana Apsey (5 years). The Achievement Award was received (or found)



LtoR: Jane C., Paula E., & Mary Ann S.

by our newslet-

Boasts, etc!

Julie is the new DKG TSO Area 18 coordinator!

Donna retired!

Paige has a new position at Edgewood Elementary as an Instructional Specialist working with grades 4 & 5

BIRTHDAYS!

JUNE

- 12 Lorena Zertuche
- 19 Cathy Cox

JULY

- 4 Joan Salamanchuk

AUGUST

- 3 Martha Meyer
- 9 Pam Calder
- 15 Dora Aschenbeck, Maureen Kraker & Mary Ann Slaughter
- 22 Julie Eisenhauer
- 27 Carol Thielemann

SEPTEMBER

- 20 Lora Ringler
- 30 Cathy Roth



If your birthday was missed, please email Lora with the month and day!

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

Images:
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ter editor Lora Ringler.

Led by Paula Ely, we honored our founders by celebrating the seasons of their births and various members reading interesting excerpts about them. Mary Ann Slaughter recognized our past chapter presidents and we all celebrated Delta Kappa Gamma's 90th birthday along with Zeta Tau's 57th birthday. The evening continued with many members sharing a lovely dinner, tasty birthday cake and wonderful camaraderie.



LtoR: Cathy, Sasha J.

June Happy Hour

Tuesday, June 4, 4 pm @ Chavez Mexican Cafe on Hwy 6, just south of West Little York

August Happy Hour

We had a great turn out for our August 1, 2019 Happy Hour at Chavez Mexican Café on Gessner. It was so good to see each other and catch up after months apart. Everyone stayed through happy hour and had dinner there too. Fun times!

International Vision Statement

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

2018-2020 International Theme

DKG - Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

2019 - 2021 TSO Theme

You are the key

2019 - 2021 TSO Biennium Goals

Unlock the door to cooperative strategic planning through:

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.

