



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 2018

Volume 1 Issue 1

Dear Zeta Tau Sisters,

Whew, the year is just getting started, and it's off to the races. I'm looking forward to this year, and I hope you are too. As you can see looking at the calendar, we have a variety of events planned, are trying some new things, and hope to see each of you at every meeting.

In Waco, I spent five hours in president training and worked at the registration desk. I really enjoyed that as well as those times when I just got to sit with a sister from some other chapter to compare notes, garner new ideas, and just enjoy each other's company. The suitcases were barely unpacked when it was time to head to Austin for the International Convention. This was my first international convention, and I already have plans to go to the Regional Convention in California next year.

Are you registered to vote? The elections are quickly approaching and it's very important that you vote as the state legislature will be in session this upcoming year. You know what that means. There are forces out there that want to take away our pensions and go to a 401k type program only. That's important to both active and retired teachers. You need to let your voice be heard. We'll have more information at our October meeting and throughout the year as needed.

The Executive Board has met this summer to plan the upcoming year. Some of the new things: Mini-grants for new teachers; Service projects—goody bags for teachers at Spring Woods Middle School and Christmas, rather than a gift/ornament to share with each other, we'll have gifts for children; an Archive committee; member pictures in the yearbook and a Saturday meeting. Also, we're going to sing the DKG song, but only the first verse. That's what they did at International, and we're going to follow suit. One thing that will be going away is the Z Award. It's being retired and will be placed in our Archives.

I've entitled our first meeting "Reorientation, Shoring Up the Foundation". Just as bridges need occasional repair and strengthening of support so too does our knowledge of Delta Kappa Gamma. We'll also be signing up for committees as I want everyone to be on a committee. Those who are not at the meeting can either email me, or I will just assign anyone who does not sign up.

One of the things our speaker at the convention (Zander) emphasized is how important it is to "be present". That doesn't just mean your body is there, but rather your mind is and you actively take part in our meetings. Talk to someone you've never talked to before; sit with someone new; ask and answer questions. Be present! (Your phone is not part of that, so please, phones away at the meeting.)

I look forward to seeing you on the 18th.

Diana

MEETING CALENDAR

Meeting start time @ 4:30 unless noted otherwise

- Sep 18:** "Reorientation, Shoring Up the Foundation" @ Frostwood
- Oct 16:** "Bridging Communication from Us to Them" with Bonnie Moore @ Frostwood
- Nov 6:** Service Project and Silent Auction @ Frostwood
- Dec 4:** Taste of Texas, book/toy collection for Spring Branch Family Development Center
- Jan 12:** "Connecting the Past with Today" @ St Peter Church with tour
- Feb 19:** Gaming with ASTEF, Service Project
- Mar 19:** "Fostering a Healthy Mind and Body with Natural Products and Essential Oils" with Sasha and Pam @ Frostwood
- Apr 16:** New Members Initiation @ Memorial Drive Christian Church
- May 7:** Founders' Day and Birthday Party @ Los Tios



Six Very Happy New Teachers

Zeta Tau's Executive Board decided to try something new this year. Instead of giving money to an incoming freshman planning to go into education, we would give six \$100 mini-grants to new teachers. Having all been new teachers, we knew money can be tight, plus it would get our name out into the school community.



Diane, Dora, Sasha & Terrie

Contacts with SBISD were excited about the plan, and so we started pulling things together. DKG flyers were picked up in Austin, new business cards and table sign were created and give-aways were gathered.

Zeta Tau was the only non-SBISD entity on the program the morning of August 1 as New Employee Orientation began. Diana spoke on DKG and explained why we were giving the mini-grants. Sasha helped

with pulling the names and handing out the crisp \$100 bills. The winners were McKayla Bobbitt @ Shadow Oaks, Sydney Duplechin @ Bendwood, Maddison Sigler and Kenya Zahir, both @ Northbrook Middle, Lindsey Walston @ Stratford High, and Matthew Chan @ Memorial High.

At the "faire" later, Terrie, Dora, Sasha and Diana manned the table handing out materials and taking names of those interested in DKG. It was a successful and fun morning as we got 3 transfers, 1 reinstatement, and 3 pages of names!



Upcoming Events:

Area 18 Workshop Saturday, Sept. 15

Nine members of Zeta Tau will be attending the Area 18 Workshop at St. Timothy Lutheran Church. Besides the general sessions, there will be multiple break out sessions. Zeta Tau member, Terrie Cardwell, will lead a session for chapter treasurers. The unifying project for the Workshop is Schools for Africa (promoting education in Africa is a focus of DKG). Sister Jane Meyer of St. Agnes will speak on the project and the work being done in Africa.

June 20-22

State Convention in Arlington

July 17-20

Southwest Regional Conference in Costa Mesa, California

Convention Memories!

FROM JULIE:

Attending DKG conventions is always a highlight of my summer!! Not only to I get to spend time with my Zeta Tau sisters, I get to reconnect with members from all over Texas and around the world!! This summer at state convention, I was privileged to work on the committee to train in-coming chapter presidents!! It was exciting to be a part of this special training for those who have accepted the Presidency in their chapters!!

At the International convention , I met teachers from many countries and found that we have so much in common no matter our continent!!

We voted on over 100 amendments to our constitution, so we worked hard too!! A name change seems to be in our future!! Any ideas about what you think would be a good change???

Join me in Arlington and Costa Mesa, California next summer!! That's where I'll be in June and July!!!



Mary Ann, Paula, Diana, Pat, Terrie, Julie & Elke

FROM PAULA:

International convention is something everyone should experience at least once. They have the most magnificent speakers. The first one was Benjamin Zander and he was scheduled for two hours. I said " I cannot sit and listen to anyone for 2 hours" so I sat in the back of the room. I was spellbound and couldn't believe it was over. Then I thought how can anyone top that and then they did, with Nadia Lopez who is a fascinating woman with a true 'American Story". She had me in tears and once again I was amazed that she was finished. I wished I could have sat and talked to her for hours. Ask about these people and anyone there will gladly share their beliefs and experiences. Join us next time.



Diana, Pat, Terrie, Chris Morrison (friend of Terrie), Elke, Julie, Mary Ann and Paula.

FROM TERRIE:

The Waco convention was especially exciting for me since I was the state registrar for the first time. It was lots of work ahead of convention, receiving lots of mail for 3 months before, entering their information, receiving payments, keeping the books and designing, printing tickets and assigning each person to a table for the birthday luncheon and president's banquet. But it was so rewarding seeing all of the faces arrive in Waco – faces I connected to the many registrations and emails I processed. DKG ladies are so special and had such kind words of encouragement for me all along the way. I sat at the registration table the whole convention, but I saw the best part – our beautiful members!!!



Jimmy Don from "Fixer Upper"

MORE FROM DIANA On International Convention:

I went to some great breakout sessions on Google (one of my goals is to learn how to use all those Google add-ons, ie Google docs, sheets, hang-outs) and other technology available to use. We had two fabulous speakers. The first, Benjamin Zander, talked of possibilities both for ourselves and our organization. He was spellbinding and held us in awe. The second, Nadia Lopez, spoke of her own personal struggle and the struggles she encountered when trying to open an innovative middle school in Brooklyn, New York. Now that school is thriving, and its graduates have all gone on to receive diplomas where before most dropped out. It's a remarkable story that can be found in her book, "The Bridge to Brilliance". As to the business of the convention, there were the hours and hours of by-laws amendments! Hopefully, the change that bylaws will be dealt with every two years rather than every four will better facilitate this process. All in all, one of the great things about convention is the time you get to spend with fellow Zeta Tau sisters; whether in the car traveling to and from, going to lunch, evenings near the fire (it's 107 outside and JW Marriott had a fire with heat going), or just chatting between events.



Elke with speaker Benjamin Zander



Lorena, Pat, Terrie, Dora, Julie, Diana, Paula, Elke & Mary Ann

Meet Our Newest Members!

Zeta Tau Sisters - I am super excited to be part of a wonderful organization. This school year, I will be starting my 12th year teaching. I have only taught with Spring Branch ISD! I have taught bilingual and ESL 3rd and 4th grade. I have a passion for literacy and LOVE reading aloud to my students. My hope is to start grad school in the near future to further my career and passion with literacy! I am also a Vanguard teacher for SBISD - modeling blended and personalized learning in my classroom. When I'm not at school, I'm at home in the Cypress area with my husband and two little boys who spoil me!



Tabitha Pena



I'm writing to tell you a little about myself. I was born in Easton, Maryland and then moved to a beautiful part of Florida where I was raised on a golf course and gorgeous beach!

I attended Florida State University (Seminoles) with a major in Humanities/Art History. I completed my education in Florence, Italy on the foreign study program. Seeing all the art that I studied in textbooks or film was amazing, not to mention the traveling I did. I moved to a booming Houston in 1979 and was immediately hired by OXY. I spent two years working in the private sector, then married and had two terrific sons. The thread that has remained a constant in my life has been children. Starting with babysitting, camp counselor, Sunday School and PreSchool teacher, and then becoming a certified teacher. I've always loved the feeling of hearing children say "I've got it!" or seeing the knowing recognition in their eyes when a concept is understood. I taught for four years at Cage Elementary in HISD, then for 16 years at Nottingham Elementary, and starting my fourth year at Frostwood Elementary.

Boasts, etc!

Pat is the new president of SBARSE.

Donna has a new granddaughter.

Summer travels:

JoAnn-Grand Canyon

Paula-Grand Canyon

Pat-Chicago

Robin-Florida

Julie-Wisconsin and Las Vegas

Elke-Las Vegas

Donna-Las Vegas

Martha-Niagara Falls

Diana A-Michigan

Terrie-Oklahoma

Sandy-China

Lorena-Florida

Ana-New York



My teaching career has provided many moments of inspiration, growth, leaving my comfort zone, and adventure for the past twenty-four years and counting! I look forward to connecting with all of you.



Robin Swanson

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

11 Elke Eisenhauer
20 Lora Ringler
30 Cathy Roth



MAKE A NOTE!

Dues: \$85, due by **October 15**. Bring to first meeting or send to Julie Eisenhauer, 2262 Woodland Springs, Houston, TX 77077

We need your recent headshot!

We're going to put pictures in our yearbook along with information this year. Send a digital picture to Sasha Johnson sasha-lee.johnson@springbranchisd.com or sasha_luther@yahoo.com or bring a print picture to the first meeting.



SENBAZURO FROM JAPAN

by **Dr. Lorena Zertuche**

2018-2020 OFFICERS:

- PRESIDENT:** Diana Apsey
1ST VP: Terrie Cardwell
2ND VP: Sasha Johnson
RECORDING SECRETARY:
 Jo Ann Arlitt
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:
 Pamela Calder
TREASURER: Julie Eisenhauer
PARLIAMENTARIAN: Donna Handlin



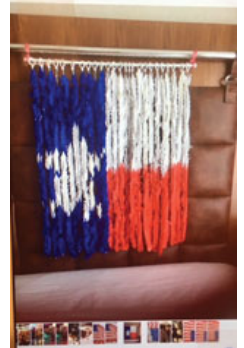
Front to Back: Sasha, Julie, Pamela, Jo Ann, Terrie & Diana

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

- RULES (ByLaws):** Martha Meyer
CEREMONIES: Paula Ely and Dora Aschenbeck
COMMUNICATIONS: Lora Ringler
MEMBERSHIP: Jane Cooper
YEARBOOK: Sasha Johnson
ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS: Linda Horstman and Cheryll Ownby
LEGISLATIVE: Barbara Stephens
PROGRAMS: Terrie Cardwell
HOSPITALITY: Robin Swanson
SCHOLARSHIP/GRANTS-IN AID:
 Lori Dismukes
ARCHIVE: Mary Ann Slaughter

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

Dr. Lorena Zertuche, Katy ISD principal, was the happy recipient of 1,000 beautiful peace paper cranes (“senbazuro” in Japanese) this summer at the International Convention in Austin delivered by the DKG Japanese delegation as a gesture of peace for BCE and the Bear Creek Community and part of the “1 Thousand Paper Cranes Peace Project”.



The purpose of the project is that students think about peace with the hope of starting the cultural exchange between schools in Japan and the USA. They were graciously made by students at a school in Kochi, Japan. Here are also some pictures of when Lorena received them at convention from the gracious women from Japan and how it ended up in the glass case at the entrance of BCE! Her students are currently working on writing thank you notes to the students of the To-sayamagakusya School in Kochi City, Japan.

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Happy Hours Are Back!

Need a break? Want to just catch up a bit more with one of your sisters you haven't seen in awhile? Or get to know one better? A DKG Zeta Tau style Happy Hour might just be what the doctor ordered!

Several sisters met at Diana A's home and shared talk, snacks, games and an overall good time on Monday, July 30. We even had a great cake made by B. Lozano. It was delicious! Another big hit was Diana's Sausage Dip! Here's the recipe:

Sausage Dip

- 1 pound sausage (I used Italian)
- 1 can Rotel
- 1 16 oz carton of sour cream
- 1 8 oz package of cream cheese

Brown sausage and crumble. Add Rotel and simmer for 30 minutes. Add sour cream and cream cheese. Stir until well blended and warmed thoroughly. Serve warm. I use Tostito Scoops.

