**Theta Gamma Thoughts**

Theta Ga.m.ma, Chapter # 195, Area V, Corpus Christi

The Delta Kappa Ga.m.ma Society International, Texas State Organization

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Mission Statement: The Delta Kappa Ga.m.ma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

 Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

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**President’s Message**

Dear Sisters,

My birthday! I was surprised and gifted with a trip to NYC from Kim and Sarah! They had kept it a secret for several months. I had no idea and even on the morning of my birthday, I couldn't believe it was really real - was it a dream? Well, the trip was real and full of memories that make me take a deep sigh and smile. We were there together making the surprise come true. Shows, ballets, museums, memorials........ and that was just the beginning!



Kim Donna Sarah

Our time as sisters in Theta Gamma is a gift with friends who share a special bond as teachers. We give daily to our students, fellow teachers, administrators, parents, and our families. As an educator, a surprise awaits you any moment!

I am sure many surprises await us as we continue to grow in our professional and personal lives. I say, let's enhance our

chapter with those experiences and surprises as we make memories in the next few months.

We have an opportunity to invite friends to our meeting with the Magnificent 7 Principals and the Area V Workshop! Bring a friend or several to the meeting February 20th!

Let's make some memories and take a deep sigh with a smile!

See you soon.

Donna

**Next Meeting Information:**

**February 20, 2014 5:15 p.m.**

“The Magnificent 7” high school principals in CCISD will be our guests and will participate in a panel discussion. This is the first time ever that all of CCISD’s high school principals are women.

**\*\*\*New Meeting Location\*\*\***

Collegiate High School will host the event in the St. Clair Building, Room 206 (elevator available). The St. Clair Building (S on the map) is immediately north of the Library (marked L). Refreshments to follow the discussion..

<http://dmc122011.delmar.edu/resources/maps/east.php>

**March Joint Chapters Luncheon Information**

March 22nd

CC Country Club 6300 Everhart Road

We are responsible for the event this year. The menu will be Chicken Yucatan and will be $24 a person.

**Get your check to our treasurer**

Linda Uballe

3102 Santa Fe # 4C

78404

 **No later than February 28**

**January Meeting Minutes**

Theta Gamma Chapter

Minutes of Regular Meeting

January 23, 2014

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:55pm by President Donna Rodenberg, the secretary Angela Steagall being present, at St Paul the Apostle Parish Hall in Flour Bluff.

Present were: Sharon Phillips, Kim Brumley, Carol Walker, Ann Falkner, Angela Steagall, Eileen Rogers, Beverly Tackett, Donna Rodenberg, Sylvia Swift, Margaret DeVille, Norma Janice, Vilma Zuniga, Sylvia Gonzalez,

Debbie Van Zandt, Luanna Ortiz, Libby McGee, Neva Gentry. Absent were Christy Solis (family) and Kay Schroeder (health).

Minutes from the last meeting were approved as read with no corrections. The treasurer Linda Uballe was absent so Norma Janice reported the current ending balance is $1437.83 as of December.

Discussion was brought forth about the Luncheon on March 22. We will be responsible for the event this year. Through some connections, we are able to get the Country Club at no cost. The menu will be Chicken Yucatan and will be $24 a person. We need to provide table decorations, make the programs and get a speaker. Kim Brumley has arranged for Angela Gonzalez-Roe as our speaker.

The Area V Workshop will be held August 9 at Gloria Hicks Elementary School. We need ideas for sessions. The state convention will be held in Lubbock.

For the Fill-A-Purse Project, we have 19 purses so far. We need 35 to meet our commitment. Calls will be made to those absent to remind them about the purses. They can be taken to Donna’s home for collection.

The program was great fun. The retired teachers provided a wonderful chili supper and those in attendance played bunco. $80 was raised for the scholarship fun and $9.75 was raised for the PACE.

Angela Steagall

Recording Secretary

**Fill-A-Purse Project**

Our Fill A Purse project was delivered February 12 for the clients at the Women's Shelter.

 **Member News**

For the last 27 years, the Corpus Christi Independent School District has recognized excellent teachers who have demonstrated outstanding teaching skills and dedication to their students, their school, and the community.

**Brandey Addison has been selected as a semifinalist** in Corpus Christi Independent School District’s 2014 *Teacher of the Year* nominating process. She is one of ten semifinalist selected from among 33 Elementary nominations received for this year's program. She will now advance to the next round of judging where three Elementary finalists will be selected

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A large group of school and public librarians (from Orange Grove to Port Aransas, as well as all over Corpus Christi, **including several Theta Gamma members)** are busy planning for the 1st Annual **Teen Bookfest by the Bay** slated for late February 2015. It will be a chance for area teens to interact with published authors. There will be opportunities for volunteers, so mark your calendars and watch for more information to come.

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**Judith Whitlock’s husband, Tommy**, is having his right knee replaced on Tuesday the 11th. He will be in the hospital for 3 days if all goes as it did with the left knee. Chuck and Denise will get in on the 16th and be here until the 1st of March.

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Dear Theta Gamma,

We are loving our new home and area. We come and go from CC to see our two daughters and the grandchildren every few weeks and, of course, to go to Bellino's for a meal. Wouldn't miss that for the world!!

Hope all is going well with everyone in the chapter. I saw Margaret at Bellino's a few weeks ago. She looked great and said she would tell you all Hello.

I did get connected by email with a DKG chapter up this way, but haven't acted on it yet. We have been SOOOOO busy getting settled, etc.! Time has flown by.

Nancy Shaheen

If you don't already have a source to satisfy your Girl Scout cookie craving, Emily Brumley will be honored to provide you with many boxes of the eight varieties available this year: Thanks-A-Lot, Cranberry Citrus Crisps, Lemonades, Shortbread (Trefoil), Thin Mints, Peanut Butter Patties (Tagalongs), Caramel delights (Samoas), Peanut Butter Sandwich (Do-si-dos).

If you don't want the cookies, but want to make a difference, consider donating $4.00 that will help Emily's troop and provide a box of cookies to the local Food Bank.

Each box is $4.00.

Contact Kimberly Brumley at 877 3311 or kimberlybrumley@yahoo.com

**Future Meetings**

**March 22,** 2014

11:30 a.m. Joint Chapters Luncheon – Our responsibility this year at Corpus Christi Country Club

**April 24**, 2014

5:15 p.m. In the Library at TM Middle School

Shannon Club will speak of her experience mentoring teachers in an African village.

**May 22,** 2014

5:15 p.m. at the home of Kay Schroeder 15357 Bowsprit Ct. on the Island

Our recruitment grant scholarship and May Blyth grant to a member pursuing further studies will be awarded at our **Founder’s Day/Birthday celebration**. The new slate of officers will be approved and installed.

**Alpha State Convention**

Lubbock June 19-21, 2014

For information about hotels and workshops and all the frills so you can register early, go to [DKG STATE Convention 2014](http://2014convention.weebly.com/)

Or go to <http://www.alphastatetexas.org/> and use the link.

The international website has information about the international convention in July in Indianapolis. Check it out too!

Attending the state convention gives you the Big Picture about Delta Kappa Gamma—DKG is not just our chapter and our monthly meetings. We are part of an international organization that awards scholarships and grants to women all over the world. To belong to Delta Kappa Gamma means to be a part of an elite group of women educators who have worldwide impact.

Seeing a thousand or more Delta Kappa Gamma members in action at a convention is a wonderful sight and gives a feeling of pride in being a member of a great organization..

**TRS-Care Town Hall Meeting: How You Can Participate**

2/5/13, Update 62 - *Session* 83

Earlier this week, the Texas Retired Teachers Association (TRTA) sent out an *Inside Line* about next week’s Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) Board of Trustees meeting. During the first day of the meeting, the TRS Board is hosting a Town Hall event that will allow TRS-Care participants to communicate their questions, concerns and suggestions about the health insurance program.

As we mentioned in our update, this Town Hall event is very significant. The feedback you and other TRS-Care participants provide will impact the TRS-Care sustainability study presently being conducted by TRS. This sustainability study, first conducted in 2012, is being updated for the Texas Legislature. TRS is tasked with finding solutions for maintaining this vital healthcare program and presenting viable solutions to the Legislature before the 84th Legislative Session begins in January 2015.

TRS-Care faces a funding shortfall that could reach or exceed $1 billion by the next legislative session. This crisis MUST be addressed, and your participation in this meeting is vital. TRS will also discuss TRS-ActiveCare for current public school employees during this meeting.

In Person:
The meeting is being held at the Education Service Center, Region 2, Room 3-23, located at 209 N. Water St., Corpus Christi, Texas, 78401 on Wednesday, February 12, 2014 between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. If you are able to attend in person, please do so! Here is a map of the meeting location:[**Education Service Center Map**](http://mapq.st/1lpGaLU)**.**Contact Us Before the Meeting With Your Questions, Concerns, and Suggestions:
We know many of our members are not able to travel to Corpus to participate in the meeting. Several of you have sent us emails this week telling us about your concerns and suggestions. Please know that TRTA board members and staff will be present at the meeting to share the information you have provided for us.

You can still send an email to**info@trta.org**with the subject line “TRS-Care” to give us your feedback! As we mentioned earlier this week, TRS will review ALL options when conducting their study: increased revenues, increased retiree premiums, benefit reductions, or a combination of factors. Let us know what avenues you think TRS should pursue and why, and what avenues you as a plan participant are able or not able to follow and why.

Watch the Meeting From Home:
For those of you who wish to watch the meeting broadcast from your home computer, you can view the live webcast through the TRS website [**www.trs.state.tx.us**](http://www.trs.state.tx.us)**.** The direct link (which will not be active until the meeting begins) is:[**trs.mediasite.com/mediasite/Play/3072175dfa5c4ab08b2a16333dba377a1d**](http://trs.mediasite.com/mediasite/Play/3072175dfa5c4ab08b2a16333dba377a1d)**.**As the meeting is being broadcast, you can also send your questions by email using a special feature. This feature will not be available until the meeting has begun, and complete instructions for sending in your email during the live broadcast are available through TRS here:[**http://www.trs.state.tx.us/global.jsp?&page\_id=/about/announcement\_townhall\_questions**](http://www.trs.state.tx.us/global.jsp?&page_id=/about/announcement_townhall_questions)**.**For those of you who use Twitter, you can even tweet your questions live by submitting them to the TRS Twitter account[**@TRSofTexas**](http://twitter.com/trsoftexas)and using the hashtag #TRStownhall. Please be sure to watch the webcast for answers. Although not all questions will be answered due to time constraints, similar questions will be grouped and a thorough answer provided.

**Let’s Help Get Him Elected!**

Every two years TRTA elects state officers. Leroy DeHaven will be running for the State Secretary/Treasurer of TRTA at the Spring Convention in April. The meeting is being held in Dallas. For more information contact him at 993-8719 or **lwdehaven@aol.com**



**Changed Your Address/Phone/Email?**

If so please notify Carol Walker at 937-3604 or walkerbc64@msn.com

**and**

Treasurer, Linda Uballe at 537-5762 / 882-6628 or [**ljuballe@sbcglobal.net**](http://mail.live.com/?rru=compose%3faction%3dcompose%26to%3dljuballe%40sbcglobal.net&ru=http%3a%2f%2fcid-6fa48c08b2f6932d.profile.live.com%2fdetails%2f%3fContactId%3d9f48f42c-47c3-4d80-b4c8-6b1c9a8aa290%26ru%3dhttp%253a%252f%252fby123w.bay123.mail.live.com%252fmail%252fContactMainLight.aspx%253fContactGroupID%253db9261bbd-69eb-4b1c-bcaa-1d120cc3e8d7%2526Page%253d2%2526ContactsSortBy%253dFileAs%2526n%253d1565279119)

**Quick Links to society sites:**

International: <http://www.dkg.org>

State: <http://www.alphastatetexas.org/>

The digital-only ***Winter 2013 Lone Star News*** is available [here](http://www.alphastatetexas.org/lonestarnews/2013.winter.pdf) and on the [Publications](http://www.alphastatetexas.org/publications.html) page.

Theta Gamma Chapter: [http://www.orgsites.com/tx/thetaga.m.ma/](http://www.orgsites.com/tx/thetagamma/)

**Take the time to find and wear your pin to the next meeting—you’ve earned it.**



Members still employed are also encouraged to wear their pins to work on the first Monday of every month. Show our organization off to others – we may pick up a new member that way.

**Make a firm commitment**

 **to Delta Kappa Gamma:**

True to “the calling,” as we “firmly rally” because “our sisters need us,” and because our pledge is that “Education e’er we’ll further!”

A commitment to Delta Kappa Gamma is a personal commitment to learning, to enjoyment, to friendship, to our lifetime service to education. - Mary Nabers – Nu Chapter