



Theta Gamma Thoughts

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Alpha State Texas
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Corpus Christi, Texas: Area V
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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Vision Statement - Leading women educators impacting education worldwide

Dear Sisters:

It's February 2011; do you know where your Theta Gamma Sisters are? There are quite a few of us that are attending meetings and trying to enhance our Chapter's involvement in the community. As I have heard my husband, who has been president of the Coastal Bend Pest Control Association and Regional Director for the Texas Pest Control Association, say numerous times that if it wasn't for the strength of the membership and focus of the Chapter, we would have no reason to exist. Every member is a key member, not just a chosen few.

As we strive to accomplish our goals for the year, let us not forget the reasons we are members of Theta Gamma. Our membership is not just about meetings, it's also about involvement. To be frank, we need everyone's help. Our biggest fundraising project, the Book Auction, is fast approaching like the end of a school year. Last year we raised approximately \$1100 for the purchase of books for Driscoll's Children Hospital. As it was our first year, we were excited with the amount raised as we did not know what to expect. I would hope, my fellow sisters, that we can meet and beat last year's total.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting on February 15th at Tuloso-Midway Middle School Library.

Respectfully yours,

Kay Schroeder

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 theirs to work on the first Monday of every month. Show our organization off to others – we may pick up a new member that way.



February 15th Meeting Information:

We will begin at 5:15 in the Tuloso-Midway Middle School Library at 9760 La Branch,

Our Program will focus on Professional Affairs and Legislation committee members sharing vital information about upcoming elections and critical issues for active and retired teachers. Members will receive up-to-date information to facilitate contact with lawmakers.

For a fundraiser to benefit the scholarship fund a themed basket will be raffled off at the meeting. Tickets may be purchased for \$1.00. The business meeting will start promptly at 5:30.



Use the link below if you need a more informative map.

[TM Middle School](#)

PACE monies will go to the Golden Gift Fund.

Babysitting will be provided for \$5 per family. If you need childcare for the meeting please let Donna know by Saturday, February 12th at donnarodenberg@yahoo.com or 361- 215 - 5127.

Minutes of the January 18th Meeting

A Chili Supper was provided by the retirees at Kim and Donna's house. It was delicious and everyone enjoyed themselves. Thank you to all the cooks.

Members absent: Family Commitment - Libby McGee, Brenda Machen, Angela Steagall, and Sarah Moore; Illness - Cynthia Besosa and Sheila Jenkins; Professional - Sylvia Benitez and Naomi Santana; Other Conflicts - Carol Walker, Gwen McMath and Bettie Mitchell.

Members present were Beth Adams, Laura Day Brown, Kim Brumley, Shannon Clubb, Elnora Corbin, Leslie Jo Elmore, Angie Flores, Shayla Floyd, Neva Gentry, Sylvia Gonzalez, Norma Janice, Jennifer Krnavek, Kimberly Picozzi, Donna Rodenberg, Eileen Rogers, Kay Schroeder, Sylvia Swift, Beverly Tackett, Linda Uballe, Theo Wagner, Judith Whitlock, Debbie Van Zant, and Vilma Zuniga.

The December minutes were approved as reported in the newsletter.

Linda Uballe gave the treasure's report. The balance on hand in December was \$618.42. Deposits for dues totaled \$68.00, fundraiser-\$77.00, and the Pace Pig-\$18.27. Interest

amounted to \$.06, which made a total deposit of \$163.33. No disbursements were made. Available funds on hand as of January 18, 2011 are \$781.75.

Theo Wagner reported that Rose Gunji sent a Christmas card with a family picture. We took a picture of everyone present to send to her.

Book Auction Update - The auction will be May 14 from 1:00 - 3:00. Set up people need to be at Driscoll by 11:30 AM. We need to check with the city about putting up a banner to publicize the Book Auction. Vilma Zuniga will check on the banner for us. Possible guest speakers are Bill Walraven, Tom Huser, Brad Thor, Kathryn Childers and Dora Longoria. Brandey Addison needs a list of titles and authors for the power point she will make.

Members that have passed away are Ella Medford and Willidean Stubbs. A motion was made to make a donation of \$30.00 in memory of each lady to the May Blythe Scholarship Fund.

Theo Wagner and Kim Brumley will join all DKG sisters in Austin for the rally. Theo said we all need to know our representatives. Things will be very serious concerning the teacher retirement funds. Governor Perry wants to have access to the teacher retirement funds.

Our next meeting will be February 15, at the Tuloso-Midway Middle School Library.

Eileen Rogers will look up the address for the permanent name tags for the new members.

We took a group picture and ended the meeting with our song at 7:20 PM.

The program was presented by Laura Day Brown on Literacy and Culture.

Laura shared the following information concerning functionally illiterate percentages from Nueces County and the neighboring counties. Nueces-17%, Aransas-17%, San Patricio-20% and Kleberg - 23% of the residents are functionally illiterate. 1 in 7 people in the United States are functionally illiterate. To read a recipe, you need a 7th grade reading level. To read directions and use a microwave, you need an 8th grade reading level. To read the newspaper, you need a reading level between 7th and 10th grade. To read an insurance policy, you need a 12th grade reading level. A person needs a college reading level to understand a rental contract.

DKG state offers scholarships and grants. February 1 is the deadline for applications. The grand total of money awarded in 2009-2010 was \$1,645,595.91. The majority goes to International Scholarships.

Stories of positive influences made by our members during their teaching careers were shared. Leslie Elmore shared a story about a student that wrote saying, "Thank you for believing in me when no one else did." He is now in jail. Theo Wagner told us about a young man who learned that Theo was his principal's mother. Sylvia Swift was offered a free tattoo by a former student.

There were three raffle baskets-#1 had a gift card to Macy's, a dinner card, candy and snacks to go with a movie card; #2 a dinner card to Olive Garden or Applebees, Jr. Mints, and a shawl; #3 a children's basket with cars and an Activity Book. The raffle earned \$93.00. Beverly Tackett won basket #1. Judith Whitlock won basket #2. Neva Gentry won basket #3.

Sincerely,
 Eileen Rogers
 Recording Secretary

Scholarship Applications

Applications for the two scholarships our chapter offers – the Esther Jane Hahn Recruitment Grant for Aspiring Educators and the May Blyth Application for a grant to members are attached to the email in which you received this newsletter. Each scholarship is for a minimum of \$300.00

The May Blyth Scholarship for members may be used for tuition, fees, books, and/or supplies for any non-society continuing education event, seminar, workshop, or graduate class.

The Esther Jane Hahn Recruitment Grant is awarded to an aspiring educator from the coastal bend pursuing a career in any field of education at any level. The grant may be used for tuition, books, fees, or supplies. A transcript must accompany the application reflecting a minimum overall average of 2.0. Preference is given to relatives of chapter members.

All applications must be completed and turned in to one of the committee members (Bettie Mitchell, Elnora Corbin, Norma Janice, or Carol Walker) by April 1.

Full Treasurer's Report

		TREASURER'S REPORT	JANUARY 18, 2011	
Balance on Hand	(DECEMBER)			\$618.42
Deposits				
Dues:		\$68.00		
Fundraiser		\$77.00		
PACE		<u>\$18.27</u>		
		\$163.27		
Bank Interest		\$0.06		
TOTAL		\$163.33	AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$781.75
DISBURSEMENTS:				
TOTAL		\$0.00		
			BALANCE ON HAND	\$781.75

Respectfully Submitted: Linda Uballe, Treasurer

Red Roses of Recovery to:

Shayla Floyd
Brian Machen, son of Brenda Machen
Laura Day Brown's mother

Future Meeting Information

February 15th 5:15 PM at TM Middle School Library
Hostesses: Leslie Elmore, Sylvia Swift, Suzy Lefevre, Sarah Moore, Kim Picozzi

March 26th Joint Chapters Luncheon 11:00 AM

April 5th Holiday Inn Emerald Beach, 5:15 PM
Hostesses: Suzy Lefevre, Connie Seago, Angie Flores

April 30th 11:30 AM Our Founders and Chapter Birthday Luncheon Celebration graciously hosted by our president, Kay, and her husband, Bill, at their home at 15357 Bowsprit Ct. on the Island.

Special Focus Topics @ [International Regional Conferences](#)

Check out a regional conference where these topics are sure to be of interest to you –

- Bullying
- Diversity
- Mentoring All Ages
- Managing Students With Special Difficulties
- Education in the Digital Arena

Lots more to do at these conferences and the destinations are great places to visit as well.

Quick Links

Copy these into your favorite's browser for quick reference to our society sites:

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

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

Theta Gamma Chapter: <http://www.orgsites.com/tx/thetagamma/>

Have You Changed Your Address/Phone/Email?

If you have changed *anything* about your address, phone or email, please notify Carol Walker at 937-3604 or walkerbc64@msn.com and our Treasurer, Linda Uballe at 537-5762 / 882-6628 or ljuballe@sbcglobal.net