

The Delta Kappa  
Gamma Society  
International

Epsilon Kappa  
Chapter #130

Alpha State  
Austin, TX  
Area 7

# The Reporter

**International Mission:** Delta Kappa Gamma promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education

**International Theme:** DKG: Leading Women Educators, Impacting Education Worldwide

**State Theme:** The Heart of the Society is its Members

**Chapter Theme:** Forward With Heart (Health, Education, Achievement, Reflection, Teamwork)

Volume 60, Issue 5

April / May 2017

## President's Message

It has been a joy and pleasure to serve as Epsilon Kappa's President this year. The time has gone quickly and I have learned a lot, and appreciate the mentoring of Evelyn Barron, Marilyn Gregory, Marcia Kirkland and Earin Martin. Teamwork has been a big part of what makes Epsilon Kappa so special. The Executive Board, Committee Chairs and their members, all reflect our chapter goals. We have initiated four new members and welcomed five transfers. In April, we will initiate 4 more! I am SO proud of our chapter. Marilyn Gregory ends her biennium as TSO President, and my hope is that you will seriously consider going to Houston for the State Convention, June 22-24 even, if only, for one day-Saturday. We are blessed to have Phyllis Richards' grant opportunities for those who apply through the Epsilon Kappa Educational Foundation. The Spring *Lone Star News* has all of the details and the registration form. Consider joining the TSO choir under the leadership of our very own Deb Acevedo-Tamminga.

At our March meeting, our chapter brought LOTS of things for the TSO Unifying Project. These items will go to Child Advocates, a nonprofit organization that is the Harris County Court Appointed (CASA) program. They help children who are victims of severe child abuse, neglect and abandonment. Please continue to bring items to the April meeting for the Unifying Project.

A highlight of my year was being selected to

attend the Leadership Seminar in Frisco in February. I met creative, outgoing, energetic, fun loving educators from across the state. We used the book, Strengths Based Leadership by Tom Rath to determine our individual leadership strengths in the areas of Executing, Influencing, Relationship Building and Strategic Thinking. Teams were assembled of DKG members consisting of each of the four domains, because although individuals need not be well-rounded or have strengths in all areas, teams need to be. At the end of the weekend, teams were given challenges to solve and the solution had to be presented in a minute and 20 second video. We saw each team's work. What an interactive learning experience!!

Thank you for your love and support this year and the opportunity to grow in my leadership skills.

*Forward with Heart*

--Pam Kelly



## Educational Excellence Committee

### Education Excellence Committee Program – Bullying and Cyber Bullying Epsilon Kappa Chapter Meeting

February 4, 2017

Luncheon at Saltgrass Steak House, Austin, Texas

Members received valuable information from guest speaker, Kathy Martinez-Prather, Texas School Safety Center, San Marcos, about Bullying and Cyber Bullying. Highlights include:

- Bullying can affect the emotional, social and physical development of victims.
- Schools are recommended to put together a best practices prevention program by:
  1. Assessing the prevalence of the issue especially from the student perspective
  2. Targeting hotspots throughout the school through the use of all campus staff to be aware and share through increased supervision
  3. Creating a safe environment through investment of time, inclusion of the whole community within school policy, creating fair and consistent classroom norms
  4. Engaging parents in the effort
  5. Creating a campus safety and security committee
  6. Developing training on how to define, identify, handle and intervene
  7. Implementing and enforcing fair rules
  8. Empowering and encouraging staff intervention, plus including the practices in the school discipline plan

There was time for members to ask questions and Mrs. Martinez-Prather shared that there are videos related to the topic. They can be viewed at the following website:  
<https://txssc.txstate.edu/>



Submitted by Deb Acevedo-Tamminga



## Educational Excellence Committee

At our March meeting at TSBVI, we were fortunate to have Jeanette Abrajan and Hilda Diaz present “The Bridge” dual language learning model. Jeanette emphasized that this model is teacher initiated, brings languages together and bridges academic content to another language.

Jeanette demonstrated the 3 different types of learning bridges:

- 1) The “Diagram or Illustration Bridge” engages students in metalinguistic analysis and allows students to practice terms in a new language. Teachers are to elicit major concepts from students in the LOI (Language of Instruction) and add words as labels onto an existing picture. Hilda demonstrated labeling the parts of a flower on a diagram.
- 2) The “Side by Side Bridge” elicits major concepts from students in the LOI and lists on the corresponding language side of a chart. Hilda demonstrated the teacher charting student’s responses.
- 3) The “Asi se dice Bridge” matches one language to the other sentence by sentence. This allows students to review a linguistic expression, statement, paragraph or poem in the LOI. Students experience reading the paraphrased text in new language.

Our DKG sisters were active participants and were highly engaged as they worked in pairs to complete this activity. When completing this activity, different color pens are used for each language. Red is used for Spanish and blue is used for English. Jeanette and Hilda closed the presentation by having our DKG students follow along as they demonstrated TPR (Total Physical Response) activities used in the classroom to further engage students as they acquire a second language. Special thanks to Jeanette and Hilda for bringing to life a dual language classroom with engaging activities for second language learners.

Submitted by Gracie Esquivel, Education Excellence Committee Co-Chair



Please plan to be at DKG International Headquarters on Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. We will initiate four new members, celebrate member achievements, and present the Outstanding First-Year-Teacher Award. Join us to meet our new initiates and celebrate our chapter accomplishments.

Monday, April 3, 2017 at 6:00 pm - Achievements, Initiation, Awards Meeting

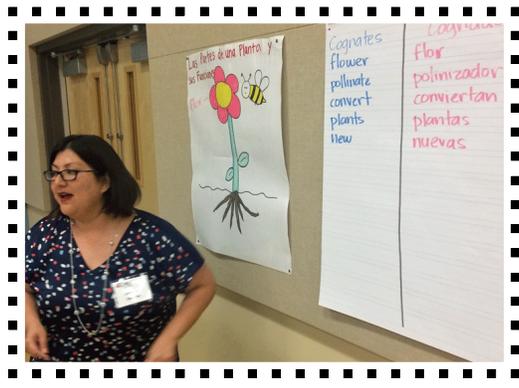
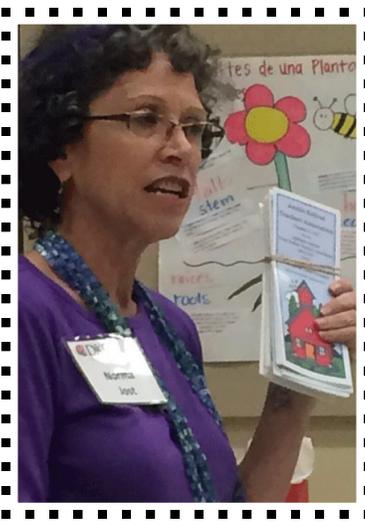
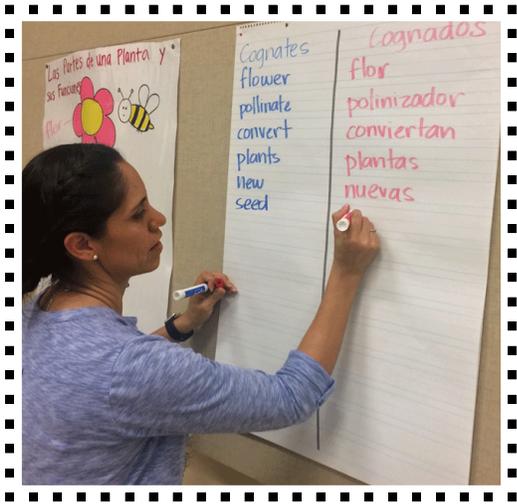
Location: DKG International Headquarters - 416 W. 12th Austin, TX 78701

**Topic: New Member initiation, member achievements, Outstanding First-Year-Teacher**

Our Founder’s Day Luncheon will be Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>. Please join us as we celebrate DKG and recognize our Area 7 fellow members. See invitation on page 11.

Submitted by Cara Hamlin, Education Excellence Committee Co-Chair

# March Meeting Highlights



## ASTE F Giving Month a Success!

You may recall that this past February was **ASTE F Giving Month**, and February 14 was **ASTE F Giving Day**. Members and others interested in supporting ASTEF's mission donated online or via mail. Thanks to your generous contributions, ASTEF received a total of \$11,855 toward its Giving Month goal of \$15,000.

Thanks to members like you, ASTEF will be able to continue to meet its purpose in *impacting education by impacting educators* by providing scholarships, leadership opportunities, and project stipends to Texas DKG chapters, areas, and individuals.

If you were not able to make a contribution to ASTEF during that time and would like to help ASTEF fulfill its mission, you can still donate at any time during the year. You can donate from your own home in your pajamas by going to <http://www.astef.org/donate-now.html> and using a credit card, or you can download the "Individual Contribution Form" available on that same web page, complete the form, and mail it in with your check. And remember, donations to ASTEF are always tax deductible!

We're confident that all of the scholarship recipients across the state, all of the Texas DKG members who have attended the Texas Leadership Seminar, and all of the chapters and individuals who have received a project stipend would say a great big THANK YOU from the bottom of their hearts!

And don't forget when you are registering for the TSO Convention this coming June in Houston to purchase a ticket for ASTEF's fundraiser, Diva Doin's. All of the proceeds from your \$25 ticket will benefit ASTEF. **Please note there is a misprint on the registration form. Diva Doin's is actually Friday, June 23, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m., as stated on the Convention Schedule At A Glance, and not on Thursday, June 22, as stated on the convention registration form.**

Thanks for your continued support for ASTEF!

Submitted by Earin Martin

### Reminder:

If you are planning to attend either the TSO Convention in June or the Southwest Regional Conference in July, you may be eligible for a Phyllis Richards Grant to defray some of your expenses. For further information, consult the Epsilon Kappa website or email your questions to [ekedfound@aol.com](mailto:ekedfound@aol.com).

April 15, 2017 is the deadline for submission of Richards Grant applications.





**DR. PHYLLIS RICHARDS ENDOWED LEADERSHIP APPLICATION  
EPSILON KAPPA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

Name of DKG Activity, Location, Beginning Date, Ending Date

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First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Current Educational Position (Subject, Level, Title, Employer) \_\_\_\_\_

→ List and total anticipated costs of participation in this leadership activity, including registration, transportation, lodging, etc. Do not include any expenses that will be reimbursed from other sources.

<u>Expense category</u>	<u>Cost</u>

Total amount requested \_\_\_\_\_

If my request is approved, I understand that 1) I may receive an award for the full amount or only a portion of the amount requested; 2) I must submit verification of participation within fourteen (14) days after completion of the activity; 3) the award will be paid in accordance with Epsilon Kappa Chapter procedures only upon submission of proper documentation. I also understand that the funds are not transferable.

Signature (Required) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

→ Submit completed application by email to [ekedfound@aol.com](mailto:ekedfound@aol.com) or mail to EPSILON KAPPA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, 12314 W. Cow Path, Austin, TX 78727.

→ Deadline for submission: April 15, 2017

## Cornetet Awards Help Educators Participate in Professional Development

Chapter members who need financial assistance to participate in professional development opportunities not sponsored by DKG might be interested in applying for a Lucile Cornetet Individual Award for Professional Development. The Award is granted to educators to participate in professional seminars, workshops, lecture series, national board certification (initial certification only), on-line courses, and other non-degree programs. For more details and to apply, visit [www.dkgef.org](http://www.dkgef.org) and click on the "Apply" tab. Deadline: May 1.

Submitted by Pam Kelly

## Tapestry Singers Spring 2017 Concert

On May 6, 2017, at 7:00 PM, the Tapestry Singers Women's Chorus is honored to present a collaborative concert, A Living Voice, with two Middle School girl's choirs.

The concert will include the 7 movements from composer Linda Tutas Haugen's, *Anne Frank: A Living Voice*, which premiered on May 6, 2004. Info at <http://lindatutashaugen.com/AnneFrank.htm>

Anne Frank was between 13 and 15 years old when she wrote her *Diary*, while living in a secret upstairs annex over a warehouse in Amsterdam with her family, the Van Pels family, and Fritz Pfeffer. Despite all the fears and frustrations she experienced in over two years of hiding from the Nazis, Anne learned how to survive, to find beauty in small things, and to hold on to her ideals.

Composer Linda Tutas Haugen writes, "My goals for this composition are to honor the life of Anne Frank, and to gain a deeper understanding of what she, her family, and friends experienced during the Holocaust." Tickets will be on sale at the Tapestry Singers website and from chorus members for a 20% discount (\$10 regular, \$8 senior/student/Tapestry alum) up to a few days before the concert. More ticket info: <http://www.tapestrysingers.org/concerts/buy-tickets/>

Program ads may be purchased for as little as a \$30 business card ad to a full-color ad of \$270 by April 10th. More program ad info: <http://www.tapestrysingers.org/support-us/buy-an-ad/>

Concert info: May 6, 2017, 7:00 PM, St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 8134 Mesa Dr. Austin, TX 78759. Reception to follow concert.

Submitted by Norma Jost



## Membership News

Spring greetings! If you were unable to join us on Tuesday, March 21 for Lunch Bunch, you missed a fun time at la Madeline Mueller. It was a beautiful day following the rains and cool weather and we were able to get caught up on the latest happenings. We are all anxious to hear Marcia's impressions of her first rodeo that she was scheduled to attend that evening, so come to the next meeting at headquarters to hear her stories!

Speaking of the upcoming meeting, I am pleased to inform you that we will be initiating 4 new members into our society. I am pleased to announce that you have approved membership for: Jennifer Samaniego, Rebecca Blackmore, Kristal Espitia, and Julia Gonzalez. Please come and participate in the initiation ceremony for these ladies at our next meeting on April 3, at DKG Headquarters.

I close with a reminder to continue in prayer for Kaye Dunn as she mourns and yet celebrates the life of her son who recently lost his life in a motorcycle accident. This family has seen their fair share of tragedy and we pray for peace for Kaye and her family. We love you, sweet friend in Epsilon Kappa.

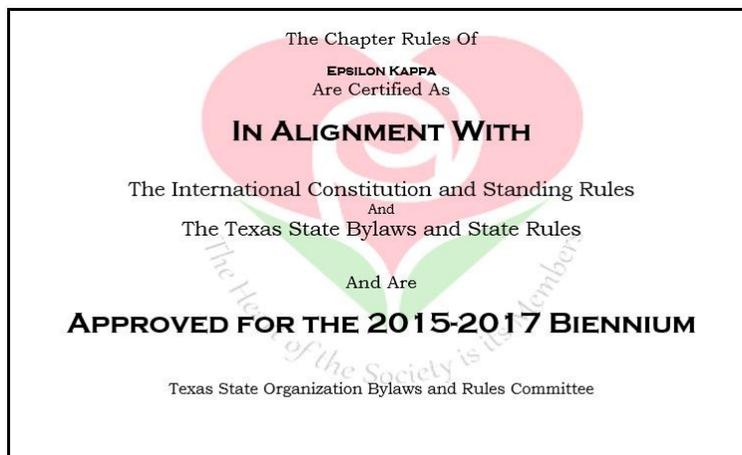
Submitted by Janet Bernard-Membership Chair

## Book Lovers

Best selling author, Sue Monk Kidd wrote **The Dance of the Dissident Daughter** to tell others how she moved from Christian male dominated traditions to find the Scared Feminine. It is a very personal look at long held beliefs that finally were not what she felt. Her discovery of the strong Female, long buried within religious thought, also brought an awareness of the secular cultural boundaries that also repress women. It is a very interesting awakening to the power women do possess.

There is no set date for a discussion on the book but will probably occur before the end of May. A notice will be sent out if others would like to engage in this "dance".

Submitted by by Bernadine Eaton



## SEE Teacher Appreciation Project

Bake . . . package . . . deliver. On Tuesday, March 20, 480 “goodie bags” were delivered to the six AISD elementary schools where we serve as mentors to our SEE mentees. Chapter members provided over 90 dozen cookies and toffee pieces, while others donated money for candy to complete filling the ziplock bags. Bags were given to every adult at the schools, including office staff, custodians, and cafeteria workers.



Baking was done by Pam Kelly, Kathy Mihalik, Norma Jost, Debra Wissman, Janet Bernard, Bernadine Eaton, Kim Thonhoff, Charlotte Brown, Marilyn and Spark Gregory, Elizabeth Newell, and Marcia Kirkland. In addition, Debbie Sansom, Marilyn Gregory, Maurine Atwood, Glenda Ballard, and Jo Watts assisted with monetary donations. Bernadine, Evelyn, and Marcia worked the “assembly line” to package the goodies, and Norma and Marcia handled deliveries to surprised and appreciative employees. Thanks to all for support and assistance.

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**Tasty chocolate chip cookies, toffee pieces, and individually wrapped candies ready to be placed in bags**

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*Bernadine: Two or three cookies in each bag*

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## The Assembly Line

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*Evelyn: Quality control – sealing and packing*



*Sixty bags systematically arranged in each laundry basket*



*Baskets waiting to be loaded for delivery to schools*

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### Norma and the school secretary place bags into teachers' boxes at Wooldridge Elementary School

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*The Austin Chapters of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society  
International cordially invite you to attend our  
**Founders' Day Luncheon***

*Saturday, May 6, 2017*

*11:30 A.M.*

*Sterling Event Center*

*6134 U.S. 290 Frontage Rd.*

*Austin, Texas 78752*



*Guest Speaker*

*Khotan Shahbazi-Harmon*

*Director of Communications and Community  
Accountability, E3 Alliance*

*\$26.00 per person*

*Please make your check payable to **Epsilon Kappa** and mail by **April 15** to:*

*Marcia Kirkland, Chapter Treasurer*

*12314 West Cow Path*

*Austin, TX 78727-5752*

*Hosted By: Lambda Iota, Alpha, Eta Tau, and Epsilon Kappa*





## Newsletter Information

Please submit your articles and highlights for our next Chapter newsletter on or before Friday, May 19. You can send your submissions by email to Diane Sidoroff at [diane.sidoroff@gmail.com](mailto:diane.sidoroff@gmail.com) or to Pam Kelly at [epsilonkappapres@gmail.com](mailto:epsilonkappapres@gmail.com).

During this year, members may be asked to submit articles about their reflections of meetings or other DKG activities. We want to involve as many people as possible to highlight the diversity of our chapter. Also, let us know about your Life Milestones, whether you have attended a meeting or not. News is always appreciated.

Please contact Marcia Kirkland if you wish to receive a printed copy of the newsletter, though we are trying to “go green” and send most by e-mail. Thanks, Marcia, for your help with communications!

### Epsilon Kappa Chapter The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Diane Sidoroff  
901 Creekbend Drive  
Pflugerville, TX 78660

Chapter Website: <http://deltakappagamma-tx-epsilonkappa.weebly.com/>

## Let's Celebrate!

Here is a list of birthdays to celebrate in April and May:

Cindy Gruner	04-13	Marcia Kirkland	04-27
Barbara Braden	04-14	Kristen Lowrie	05-07
Margie Kincer	04-14	Leila Dumas	05-07
Charlotte May	04-19	Glenda Ballard	05-26
Beulah (Aggie) Curry-Jones	04-21	Elizabeth A Newell	05-27
Kate Garza	04-22	Sherri Greenberg	05-27
Norma Jost	04-26		



## 2017 Regional Conferences

**Northwest:** June 28-July 1 Spearfish, South Dakota

**Southwest:** July 4-7, 2017 Honolulu, Hawaii

**Northeast:** Canada's 150 birthday- July 12-14, 2017 Windsor, Ontario

**Southeast:** July 19-22, 2017 Myrtle Beach

**Europe:** July 26-29, 2017 Talinn, Estonia