

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 2

Oct / Nov 2016

President's Message

What a special start to this biennium to have Marilyn Gregory, our TSO President, tell us about her first year in office and all of the things that have been accomplished. Aren't we blessed to have Marilyn as an Epsilon Kappa member, too? She even made time to present two sessions for the Area 7 Workshop in Marble Falls:

1. *Fatty Acids, Recipes and Nutritious Snacks* – Members learned how to keep their body balanced, received some healthy easy recipes and enjoyed healthy food samples that are alternatives for fatty fast foods.
2. *Embossing* – Members learned how to emboss notecards by using embossing tools, stencils and light boxes.

After being so well represented at the Area 7 Workshop, we can be proud of our commitment to DKG.

Carol Rose, our Area 7 Coordinator, also shared her vision for the coming year at our first meeting, and then I presented Epsilon Kappa Chapter goals for the 2016-2018 biennium:

- Support education in Austin and around the world.
- Recruit and retain early career educators.
- Provide fun and engaging professional growth.
- Promote ongoing information about scholarship and grant opportunities.
- Embrace technology – from digital immigrant to digital native.

It was exciting to welcome members whom I did not know at our first meeting and to have time to discuss the possibility of adopting a campus to provide encouragement to all teachers with quotes,

snacks, or other things. Cara Hamlin and the Educational Excellence Committee have worked to provide interesting, relevant programs spiced with knowing one another better and having fun.

Orientation brought four fantastic educators who will be initiated in October. I can't wait for you to meet them. They are all very special ladies. A big welcome, also, to Dr. Glenda Ballard, Dean of Education at St. Edward's University, and Amparo Shanor, Spanish teacher at Lockhart High School, who are transferring to Epsilon Kappa. At the October meeting we will also remember Montie Simpson and Genelle Schlickeisen, two members we lost during the past year, and celebrate members with 90+ birthdays.

Carolyn Pittman, international DKG president, will be our October speaker. She will share how DKG makes a difference. Don't miss it.

In November, we will hear from the Refuge Ranch for girls 11-17 who have been rescued out of sex trafficking and are provided a Circle of Care. EEC appreciates Jo Watts' suggestion for this very serious issue.

I am so honored to be the president of this fabulous chapter. Please make plans to attend the October 3rd meeting at DKG Headquarters to meet our new initiates, hear our international president, and celebrate our members.

Forward with Heart

--Pam Kelly



Area 7 Fall Workshop ASTEF Raffle a Huge Success!

Our Epsilon Kappa chapter was responsible for coordinating the ASTEF raffle at this year's Area 7 Fall Workshop in Marble Falls on August 27. Fifteen Area 7 chapters contributed an "item" valued at approximately \$25 to be raffled. "Items" consisted of a framed print, a handmade quilted heart table runner, Hill Country wine and accessories, tea and coffee-related items, pampering items, a glass tea or lemonade dispenser, and gift cards, to name a few. Altogether, Area 7 raised \$536 from the raffle items to benefit the ASTEF Projects Fund.

Epsilon Kappa member Debbie Sansom's mom, Lucille Edgarian, donated an original watercolor that she painted just for the area workshop. Entitled "*Texas Springtime Vista View*," it was a beautiful depiction of spring in the Texas hill country with yellow huisache trees in bloom (also known as sweet acacia) and bluebonnets in the foreground. Not only is Lucille Debbie's mom and proud grandmother, she is a professional artist, author, and entrepreneur, recognized at points in her career in both the *Notable Women of Texas* as well as *Who's Who of Women Executives*. Lucille's formal art education includes training at the American Society of Fine Arts and the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. While living in Pordenone, Italy, she also became the first female apprentice to one of Italy's most noted artists, Professor Pio Rossi. Thanks so much to Lucille for donating such a beautiful gift she so lovingly created.

Because Lucille would normally sell this size painting for \$270, we decided to put it up for silent auction. When it came time at the end of the workshop to select the winner with the highest bid, we had a little "bidding war" going on between 3 of the ladies, and then finally down to 2. Our own Janet Bernard and Alpha's Rosemary Morrow battled it out down to the dollar, and Janet finally gave in to Rosemary, allowing her to take home the coveted prize for \$175. But even though Rosemary's final winning bid was \$175, she paid \$200 for it!

So Area 7 sent a contribution to ASTEF totaling \$736! That's amazing! The Epsilon Kappa ladies who attended the workshop helped draw the names of the raffle winners and distribute the items. A special thanks to Norma Jost, who helped set up and take down the raffle posters and materials, and to Jo Watts for so competently collecting and organizing the raffle sales money. Thanks also to Elizabeth Newell for assisting Jo with selling raffle tickets and for selling ASTEF pins.

Finally, thanks to all of the Area 7 chapters for making the ASTEF raffle a huge success!

Submitted by Earin Martin



Rosemary Morrow



Kathy Milhalik



Cindy Gruner & Norma Jost



Bernadine Eaton, Deb Acevedo-Tamminga, & Cindy Gruner

News Eye on the Web

Did you know that members can interact with others through blogs on the DKG Web site—particularly in the social network within MyDKG?

For more information come to the October meeting or visit www.dkg.org.

The screenshot shows the DKG website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, Committees, Events, Forms, Resources, Be a Member, Projects, About Us, MyDKG, and Contact Us. Below the menu, there is a section for 'Communities' with a 'Return to My Profile' button. A message states: 'Please contact Nita Scott at nitas@dkg.org if you would like to create a new Community or have a question about Communities.' Below this is a table of communities:

Name	Description
DKG Book Club	A DKG Community for members interested in reading and reviewing books.
DKG Collaborative Communities	An online community dedicated to professional collaboration among DKG members where educators can share ideas, strategies, research and best practices.
DKG Communications & Publicity	A community dedicated to sharing ideas for communicating and publicizing DKG.
DKG for Social Media	A DKG community where members can explore venues, best practices and ethics in the world of social media.
DKG Home Life	A DKG community where members can share ideas for the home: recipes, do-it-yourself projects, home design, gardening, and all matters of the home.
DKG in Canada	A community for members in Canada
DKG Membership Forum	A DKG forum where members can share strategies and tips for growing membership in chapters and state organizations.
DKG Mentoring	A community dedicated to mentoring among DKG members.
DKG Test	Test Community
DKG Travels	A community for DKG members interested in sharing travel experiences and opportunities.
DKG with a focus on the Arts	A DKG forum for discussion about music, art, photography, and creative writing.

Website linkage process streamlined

The process for linking of chapter and state organization websites to www.dkg.org has been simplified, beginning in the 2016-2018 biennium.

Rather than submitting sites for rigorous review and certification by members of the Communications and Publicity (C&P) Committee, webmasters simply submit a compliance assurance form to Society Headquarters indicating that they have reviewed their website against the standards set by the C&P Committee and provide assurance that the site meets those standards.

As in the past, link renewals are due to Society Headquarters by October 31 of even-numbered years, and sites that submit assurances will receive a linkage seal.

Our own chapter website has been updated and reviewed against the DKG standards and the form was submitted for renewal in September 2016. Our website <http://deltakappagamma-tx-epsilonkappa.weebly.com/> has the new DKG certification emblem for the next biennium.

We will continue to use Weebly to manage the site and add a secure portal for chapter members.

Check for updates on International, State, or Epsilon Kappa websites. TSO convention handouts are available now.

Submitted by

Kathy Mihalik

Epsilon Kappa Chapter Webmaster

Area 7 Music Workshop Held for Chapters

Deb Acevedo-Tamminga, with Cathy Frioux of Alpha Chi Chapter, conducted the music workshop for the Area 7 workshop.

The session included information on copyright rules and public domain, plus many hands-on activities for using quick and fun ways to include music in meetings (ice breaker, group work to put the DKG song in order using sentence strips, playing homemade instruments to music, writing parodies using public domain tunes, and time for participants to share activities they have used in their chapters.)

All attendees selected two of the homemade instruments to take back to their chapters to give them incentive to create their own chapter set of instruments.

Submitted by Deborah Tamminga



Creative Commons Image

Become Connected to DKG

Want to be able to change your e-mail or mailing address to keep DKG current on how to reach you? Want to connect with DKG members from around the world who share your same interests? These are just two reasons to learn how to log in to the secure part of the DKG website.

At our meeting in September many members were assisted in the process of gaining access to their personal profile page and other secure parts of the DKG website. The process is simple if you have the right information. Use these steps to get connected:

1. Go to www.dkg.org. On the home page upper right hand corner click on "Sign In"
2. On the next page, enter your six digit member number as your "Username." Your member number is on your membership card or can be obtained from Marcia Kirkland, chapter treasurer.

Enter "dkg2014society" as your temporary password and click on "sign in"

You will be taken back to the home page.

3. Click on the box at the top right hand corner of the home page that has your first name in it. You will be directed to your personal profile page. You can access information regarding your membership and contact information here. You can even upload a picture of yourself to add to the profile.
4. Final Step: On this profile page, click on the link under the heading "Change Password." You will be taken to a page where you are prompted to enter the "Current Password" which is the temporary password - "dkg2014society" - you used above. Then enter a password known only to you in the "New Password" box and "Confirm new password" box. Then "Save."

You can now navigate all areas of the DKG website by signing in using your member number and the new password you just created. Take some time to EXPLORE all of the resources available to you as a member on this secure area of the DKG website. Call Sandi Causey if you have a problem and she will be glad to assist over the phone.

Submitted by Sandi Causey

Looking Ahead—Save the Dates

Meeting Dates: The program at evening meetings will begin at 6 pm. Fellowship and refreshments will precede the meeting from 5:45-6:00 pm. The exception is the October 3, 2016 meeting held at HQ for Initiation and Remembrance. Refreshments will conclude the meeting. Meetings will be finished between 7:30—8:00 pm. Brunch and Luncheon meetings will generally be longer to allow time to eat, since members typically do not work the following day.

Expect more information about our Epsilon Kappa website as a source for minutes, and other chapter business as it becomes a secure site for members.

- November 7, 2016—TSBVI 6pm
- December 10, 2016—Deb Acevedo Tamminga's home
1716 Cliftwood 78733 at 10 am
- Executive Committee Meeting —January 7, 2017 at 1 pm
- February 4, 2017 – 11 am Salt Grass 10614 Research Blvd 78759
- March 9, 2017—TSBVI at 6 pm
- April 3, 2017 at 6 pm DKG International Headquarters
- May 6, 2016—Founders' Day Event

Membership News

Summer is ending and as we look forward to a new season, there's a lot to be thankful for in the world of "Epsilon Kappa"! We will be offering membership to four new ladies and await their initiation into our chapter during the October meeting. Yvette Cardenas, Luisa Hernandez, Eleanna Rodriguez, and Gracie Esquivel have agreed to accept membership and we look forward to getting to know them very soon.

Another Epsilon baby has joined our family and we are excited to watch this precious child grow up. Isabelle Leigh McMullen was born to Ashley White McMullen and her family on August 26. After a short stint in the NICU, Isabelle is now at home teaching Ashley how to be a great mom! Welcome Isabelle!!



Ashley & Isabelle

She joins Eleanor Jane Arnold, born on August 5, to Colleen Arnold and her family. Colleen now has three daughters and we see future members on the horizon. Welcome Eleanor Jane!!

Kate Miranda Garza gave birth to a healthy 7 lb, 11 oz baby boy on September 14th. Congratulations to Kate and Omar!

Calling all Epsilon Kappa members to show up on October 11 for the next Lunch Bunch! We will meet Jo Watts at Catfish Parlour on Ben White (east of IH 35) at 11:30. If you've never had really good catfish, this Texas place is one restaurant you should not miss. Please contact Jo Watts at jwatts35@austinrr.com to let her know you'll be there!! Let's have a record turnout this time!!!

Submitted by Janet Bernard

Membership Dues



EPSILON KAPPA CHAPTER DUES AND CONTRIBUTIONS 2016 - 2017

Name _____ Home Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

ACTIVE MEMBER DUES: \$ 90

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS:

EPSILON KAPPA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION (tax deductible)
Each member contributing at least \$50 will be recognized as a **Sustaining Donor**.

Phyllis Richards Endowed Leadership Fund \$ _____

Chapter Foundation Projects / SEE Project \$ _____

Make check payable to EPSILON KAPPA. Grand Total \$ _____

Mail by October 3rd to Marcia Kirkland, 12314 W. Cow Path, Austin, TX 78727 (phone 512-250-2026)

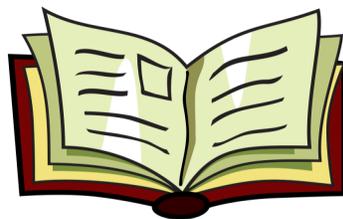
→ Contribution forms for state and international funds may be found in the **Forms** section of the respective websites (www.dkgtxas.org and www.dkg.org).

Photo Release: By submitting your membership dues and by your attendance at chapter meetings and events, you are granting permission to be filmed, videotaped, audio-taped, or photographed by any means at such meetings and events and are granting full use of your likeness, voice, and words, including publication on the world wide web (www) with access through the internet, without compensation.

Book Lovers

For your fall reading pleasure, you are invited to join in the selection the Book Lovers have chosen as the next discussion topic: *Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race*. This long title says it all. We certainly have many points to examine from ethnic contributions, to women in a male dominated field, to pursuing one's goals despite many roadblocks. We have not set any specific date to begin our first gathering, but we will announce where and which home in the near future. For more details contact Bernadine or Sandi.

Submitted by Bernadine Eaton



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Happy 100th Birthday!

On September 4, family and friends, including several former students, gathered at Westminster Manor to celebrate the 100th birthday of Julia Mellenbruch. Several members of Epsilon Kappa came to extend best regards to her on this milestone. Julia planned this party so her family and friends could gather and get to know one another while sharing memories. Guests enjoyed light refreshments with both a chocolate cake and a larger white birthday cake. Her son, Larry, gave a general outline of her life and introduced family members. Julia gave a brief welcome also. Everyone joined in the usual birthday song. Then those who knew the traditional Mexican tribute, Las Mananitas, sang in Spanish, as Julia requests that for all of her birthdays. Many items on display showed her family life and items brought back from her many travels. The places she has visited were pinned onto a world map. It was a very loving tribute to a remarkable woman.



Submitted by Bernadine Eaton

Spotlight on Dr. Phyllis Richards

Faculty member at the University of Texas at Austin's School of Human Ecology, Division of Human Development and Family Sciences for forty years . . . a visionary leader and researcher in the field of early childhood education and development . . . a tireless worker who helped establish the Head Start program on the national level . . . board member and officer of the National Association for the Education of Young Children. And the list goes on and on . . .

These are only a few of the professional accomplishments of our own beloved member Phyllis Richards. Initiated into DKG in 1964, Phyllis has shared her efforts, her talents, and her financial resources generously with Epsilon Kappa Chapter. Chapter members acknowledged her dedicated service by giving her the chapter achievement award in 2010.

In 2007 Phyllis made the first of two substantial financial gifts to the chapter. The Phyllis Richards Endowed Leadership Fund was established to provide financial support for Epsilon Kappa members to attend DKG leadership events. Since 2010 the fund has been administered by the Epsilon Kappa Educational Foundation. All contributions to the fund become part of the restricted principal, and awards are made from the investment income.

The first Phyllis Richards Leadership Grants were awarded in 2011, and additional awards have been made each year since then. Thus far ten Epsilon Kappa members have received a total of \$3,273.70 in grants to attend state and international conventions or leadership seminars.



**Thank you, Phyllis, for your lasting influence
on the members of Epsilon Kappa Chapter.**

Submitted by Evelyn Barron

Spotlight On Our October Epsilon Kappa Initiates

Yvette Cardenas has a Masters in Educational Administration and is currently the Assistant Principal at Pillow Elementary School in Austin ISD. She has been an educator for nine years and previously was selected as an Austin ISD Teacher of the Year Semi-finalist and was honored by Office Max with an Outstanding Teacher award. She has served in many leadership roles such as ELL (English Language Learner) Summer School Principal and as the Bilingual Department Compliance Coordinator.



Graciela "Gracie" Esquivel is a twenty year veteran educator with a Masters in Educational Administration who is currently one of the Assistant Principals at Langford Elementary in Austin ISD. She has served in many leadership roles including as one of the ELL Summer School Principals for AISD.

Luisa Hernandez is currently one of the Elementary Coordinators for the Department of English Language Learners in Austin ISD. She is a 10 year veteran educator who began her career with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Instituto Tecnologico de Ciudad Madero. Luisa eventually earned her Master's in Education with Certifications in both Administration and Special Education. She has taught PreK, Grade 1, Grade 5, and been a Middle School Testing Coordinator. She was Assistant Principal at Ortega Elementary and has served as an AISD summer school principal.



Eleanna "Ely" Rodriguez is currently a bilingual second grade teacher at Wooldridge Elementary in Austin ISD. She was the Epsilon Kappa Outstanding First Year teacher recipient and the Wooldridge "Teacher of Promise" last year. She is originally from Puerto Rico but moved to Austin where she first taught at the Magellan International School and completed her Master's Degree in Special Education with a Specialization in Autism and Developmental Disabilities.

Submitted by Debbie Sansom

Celebrating 50 Years—Jo Watts

Jo Watts was not initiated into Epsilon Kappa but she got here as quickly as she could! And she has been a faithful, contributing member ever since.

This is exemplified by her service in leadership positions. Jo served two terms as chapter president: 1978-80 and 1996-98. She also served in other offices and as chairman and member of many committees. For many years, Jo was co-chairman of the Archives Committee insuring that our history would be accurately preserved. She shared her talents by frequently presenting at Area VII Workshops. The Chapter Rules and Policies (as well as the earlier Job Descriptions document) have Jo's mark on them, too.

Currently Jo is serving on two committees, Communications & Publicity and Membership. In addition she is the hostess/planner for our monthly "Lunch Bunch" get-togethers.

Jo received the Chapter Achievement Award in 2004.

Professionally Jo was a business education teacher. A number of her students still keep in touch – a testament to her effectiveness!

Submitted by Elizabeth Newell

Proposed Amendments

In accord with the procedure specified in Epsilon Kappa Chapter Rules (Article X – Amendments), the proposals were presented and discussed at the September chapter meeting and will be voted upon at the October 3 meeting.

Proposal: To amend **ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE BOARD, Section B – Meetings**, by numbering the present statement as #1 and inserting a new item #2. If adopted, the Section will read as follows (new wording in red):

ARTICLE VII – EXECUTIVE BOARD

Section B – Meetings

1. The Executive Board shall meet at least twice each year. The president may call additional meetings as needed.
2. All board members being notified, matters requiring immediate board action may be voted upon by postal or electronic mail. A majority vote of board members shall be required for action.

Proposal: To amend **ARTICLE IX – CHAPTER MEETINGS, Section B – Schedule**, by adding an item #3. If adopted, the Section will read as follows (new wording in red):

ARTICLE IX – CHAPTER MEETINGS

Section B – Schedule

1. Regular meetings shall be held in accord with the *Constitution*, Article IX, Section A, 1.
2. The Executive Board shall set the dates for chapter meetings.
3. All members being notified, matters requiring immediate chapter action may be voted upon by postal or electronic mail.

Rationale: It is sometimes expeditious and necessary to conduct business between meetings when decisions need to be made quickly. These statements officially “legalize” voting by postal or electronic mail.

Submitted by Evelyn Barron



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SEE Project Assists Early-Career Educators

SEE committee members met in late August to begin the work of apportioning the \$8000 in grants we received from ASTEF and the DKG Educational Foundation. Both iPads and STEM books will be purchased to continue supplying early-career teachers with needed resources. First-year educators will choose books to expand their classroom libraries. Our second-year mentees will each receive two iPads for students to use in the classroom.

SEE Committee members have been busy visiting elementary schools to identify and meet our new mentees. We have given out reams of copy paper and electric pencil sharpeners to first-year teachers at seven schools.

These colorful iPad covers and shells have arrived and are patiently waiting for the twenty ordered iPads to be delivered.

Please email our committee at marciakirkland@gmail.com if you would like to serve as a SEE mentor. It really does not take much time at all . . . but you will be helping an early-career educator for a lifetime!!!

Submitted by Bernadine Eaton and Marcia Kirkland



DKG Texas E-pals Build Global Connections

DKG Texas E-pals is a program designed to connect Texas members with DKG members from other countries. It's fun to learn about each other's profession, DKG experience, personal interests, family and home country by emailing each other on a regular basis. It's easy to get connected. To register simply click the E-pals link on the Global Awareness Committee page on dkgtxas.org and fill out the easy form.



Creative Commons Image

Just for Laughs

The fattest knight at King Arthur's round table was Sir Cumference. He acquired his size from too much pi.

Looking Ahead

OCTOBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	35	26	27	28	29

- **October 3, 2016**—Initiation at International Headquarters, 6:00 pm
- **November 7, 2016**—TSVBI at 6:00 pm

Please put these dates on your calendar if you can get away for lunch. Please call or e-mail Jo Watts if you plan to attend.

NOVEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

- **October 11, 2016**—Lunch Bunch at Catfish Parlour, 4705 E. Ben White Blvd, 11:30 am
- **November 8, 2016**—Lunch Bunch at Brick Oven, 10710 Research Blvd. (North Hills), 11:30 am

Email—jwatts35@austin.rr.com

Phone—512-264-3912

Hope to see a large group!

September Highlights



Marilyn and Charlotte with certificates as SEE classroom mentors



Chapter members at the September Meeting



ASTEF Cash Clutches



**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/>

Newsletter Information

Please submit your articles and highlights for our next Chapter newsletter on or before Friday, Nov. 18. You can send your submissions by email to Diane Sidoroff at diane.sidoroff@gmail.com or to Pam Kelly at 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!

Let's Celebrate!

Here is a list of birthdays to celebrate in October and November:

Melisa Thompson	10-06	Evelyn Bollinger	11-08
Evelyn Barron	10-09	Shelia Thomas	11-10
Leslie Mellenbruch	10-09	Margie Cuellar	11-20
Deb Acevedo-Tamminga	10-12	Bernadine Eaton	11-22
Pamela M Kelly	10-14	Erin Bown-Anderson	11-23
Dr Kathryn (Kate) Starkes	10-24	Hilda Diaz	11-29
Charlene M Zimmermann	10-30	Dr Joan Burnham	11-30
Maria McPhail	11-06	Debra Wissman	11-30
Dorothy Baum	11-07		



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™