



Tau Talk

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Newsletter of Tau Chapter, #19
Limestone-Freestone Counties, Area VIII
Alpha State Texas
Delta Kappa Gamma International

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Hello Tau Sisters:

Happy New Year to all! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas full of family, friends, and memories! We had a wonderful time at our Tau Christmas Dinner and Auction! It was a small group but the food and fellowship was great! There were some wonderful auction items and generous attendees that made a good start for the funding of our grant-in-aid for next year.

We decided to extend our auction to the January meeting, after hearing from many sisters that they had items but could not attend. So make plans to join us to celebrate Tau's birthday Saturday, January 9, 2016 at 10:30 am in Fairfield at the home of Edye Gillen-Hall.

As we wind down from the hustle and bustle of the Christmas holidays, may we all recommit ourselves to making a difference in everything we do! As for me, I'm so happy and proud to be your Tau Sister and friend!

Alicia

Tau Chapter President

Vision Statement

Leading women educators, impacting
education worldwide.

Treasurer's Report:

Grant-in-aid	Total as of 12/31/2015	\$ 242.00
Balance on Hand:	November 1, 2015	\$ 873.17
Deposits		79.67
Dues		40.00
Grant-in-Aid		<u>325.00</u>
Total Income		\$1317.84
Expenses		
Dues State/Int.		61.00
Yearbook		100.00
Returned Check		<u>42.00</u>
Total Expenses		\$ 203.00

Balance on Hand December 31, 2015 \$1114.84

Projects:

Tau Christmas stockings were delivered to Freestone and Limestone CPS Boards as well as to Navarro College STU Board for at-risk and international students.

Thanksgiving and Christmas Tray Greetings were delivered to our seven local rehab and nursing facilities.

Many thanks to all those that took part in making Thanksgiving and Christmas a little brighter for others.

Mission Statement of Delta Kappa Gamma

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Dates to Remember:

*Saturday, January 9, 2016 Home of Edye-Gillen Hall
410 CR 228, Fairfield
Time: 10:30 am-Noon
Program: Happy 85th Birthday, Tau!
Inspirational: Vickie McDougal
Hostesses: Tau Members

*No Meeting in February

*Tuesday, March 1, 2016 Fairfield High School
631 Post Oak, Fairfield
Time: 4:30—6:00 pm
Program: Technology Training
Inspirational: Denise Butler
Hostesses: TBA

Invitation:

You are invited to come to a Tau Tea Party and celebrate Tau's Birthday on January 9, 2016 at 10:30 am. Be sure to bring some items for the silent auction and remember the money raised is funding our annual grant-in-aid for the local "O" year teachers. Also bring about 15 items and a medium size bag to make "Birthday Bags" to deliver to local 0-5 year early career teachers. Come celebrate Tau's Birthday!

Edye is looking forward to seeing everyone at our "tea party" Tau style! Alicia will bring her famous egg and sausage casserole. Please bring some fruit or sweet to add to our Tau brunch refreshment table. Edye's address is 410 CR 228, Fairfield As always, let's make a plan to meet somewhere to carpool. Start the party early, be sure there is parking for everyone, and save some gas!

Correction:

In December's Tau Talk, I mistakenly identified Virginia Riddle's grandchild as Katie Courville. This precious child's name is Sophie.

Message from Ann Mahan:

Area VIII's Co-ordinator, Ann Mahan has asked that two articles regarding leadership be shared with Tau members. Please see this article on pages 5, 6, and 7.

Delores and Mother Martha Orphanage Update:

In 2015 Alicia, with the help of Martha and Anna Pat, applied for grant money from the DKG Educational Foundation for our India Project. We were so lucky to receive funding for the items we asked for to help support the children of the

MDMMOH. Because necessary school items have been taken care of, the children can attend school with confidence and be able to study and learn without worrying.

Application for the 2016 DKG Educational Foundation Grant for MDMMOH and the Mid-Year report has been sent to DKG International. Last year the orphanage received \$3296.00 for school uniforms; books, notebooks and other school supplies; shoes; and bus transportation. This application requested all of the above for 54 children and included the full year for bus transportation @\$140/month for 11 months, and vaccinations for the 36 younger children at the cost of \$12.00 per child (\$432).

Martha has been paying for the vaccinations for the past 5 years so the chapter thought this would also appear in the application. If not Martha will continue to fund the vaccinations.

Christmas at MDMMOH in Bobbarlanka, India.

The 36 widow ladies received new saris and shoes, each child received a blanket, other presents as well a toothbrushes, toothpaste, and other personal items. The donors from Michigan sent funds for the Christmas dinner and food for the widow ladies for a month and for the blankets. Jim and Martha Kirgan sent donations for the children's Christmas items such as new T-shirts for boys and girls and new pajamas for the girls and other items deemed necessary by John and Hepshiba.



John and Hepshiba with some of the children in their new pajamas

Dearest Mommy,

It was so nice to read your message and You already wrote so nicely what happened to these kids with the kind support from DKGEF. We are ever grateful to them for granting the funds to bless these kids with such complete education that, we can never ever dream of even providing for these kids in our life. We are thanking Lord for HIS graciousness towards these less fortunate ones and providing such great help through you and them.

Till last year, kids were not allowed to sit in their classes as each of our kids didnt had any text books and had only a few notebooks and they even had to struggle for one pen or pencil. They used to borrow from their classmates but not every day they could get any help. Now with the help from DKGEF, kids have complete text books and notebooks, they even have extra note books to use when they are out of their books. The kids have sufficient school supplies, pens, pencils, rulers, Geometrical instruments, colors and everything they truly need to use for their studies and they are giving full concentration on their studies and are not worrying about tomorrow being in need of any book or pen. We even got them some special training books to use for their studies at home and this has truly helped the kids to get better grades in their tests.

The teachers were appreciating John for all the care he has been taking in providing such good education for these orphans and he shared how DKG Educational Foundation has helped with this great need through you. During this academic year. John truly felt so happy and proud of all his kids.

Often the children were made fun of as they didn't had any uniform. the one uniform they used to wear gets so dirty in three days and the rest of three days, they used to wear the same soiled clothes and within few months, their clothes used to torn down. The other students and even the teachers kept our children far from them as their soiled clothes used to smell so badly and this truly made our kids ashamed of they all were like didn't want to go to school the rest of the days until their uniforms get washed. Kids were highly humiliated but NOW, God Lord changed their lives into such happiness that everyday they are going to school without any fail. They have clean washed uniforms to wear all the six days of the school. The two pairs of uniforms have truly blessed our children with such great joy that it is like the Kids are Clothed in Happiness.

Everyday children usually walk six miles to and fro school and without proper footwear, their feet used to get boils and hurt them so much that this also made them to skip school many days. Specially during Summer hot days, their condition was really so horrible, walking in such heat roads, truly made them all so sick and many kids specially

kids like Soumya who was having difficulty with walking due to her Polio, Mammu who has HIV, they really suffered severely walking without proper footwear, but now, DKGEF has provided such nice footwear that, the kids walk so nicely to school and also the kids were not punished now for not having any shoes to school and are able to go to school regularly.

Transportation was such a great need for these orphans that kids used to walk and specially during the rainy season, they sued to walk in rain and fall sick terribly. They used to get wet and their books used to get wet and spoil too. But now, DKGEF has provided such great help by paying for four months bus fare during rainy season. It was such great help that, we are highly thankful to them. Praying to Lord to have this help for every month of this coming academic year of school.

Kids usually be absent to school only when they are sick or when the weather is too bad, but there is not a single day when kids were absent due to improper uniform or lack of books or supplies or shoes or bus during rains.

DKGEF has provided such great help in providing such valued Education for all these orphans that, we at Mother Dolores-Mother Martha's Orphanage are ever and ever grateful to the Ministry and all our TAU Chapter ladies for making this possible. Without your kind help, it would have never happened and our kids never got such appreciated education in their lives.

Thank you mommy for allowing me to share these things to you about the schooling of our kids. This year, we are praying for Transportation for the whole year, Backpacks for all the kids and Vaccines to our kids before they can start schooling. Praying and believing in Lord for all HIS help in this regard. Thankyou for all your efforts and prayers in this regard.

Mommy, Please let me know of anything that you need from me. I will do it.

Thankyou for everything.

Yours,
Hepshiba.

Final Words:

As we say goodbye to 2015, we think back on the year that has past. It has been a year since we lost our sister Wynona. It was a shock to loose her so quickly. I was not sure if we could make it through the Delta Kappa Gamma song without her...but we did.

We have had a successful year thanks to hard work and dedication of so many of Tau members. Virginia was chosen to attend the Leadership Seminar in February. There are only a few that get honored with an invitation to attend each year. We were very proud to have Virginia representing Tau chapter at the next DKG level.

In March Martha received the letter telling us that we received the grant money from the Educational Foundation for the Mother Dolores and Mother Martha's Orphanage in India. It was such a thrill to see the pictures of the happy children in their new uniforms with their school supplies. We received many honors during the Texas State Convention this summer.

Thanks to Goldia for her diligence for getting out Tau Talk and Yearbook printed with specifications needed to be recognized.

Thanks to Lisa and all those that helped put together our award winning programs.

Thanks to everyone that worked on the many Tau Chapter projects: Christmas stockings, tray greetings, birthday bags, and welcome bags for new teachers.

Martha has done a great job on getting all things about Tau into the local newspapers..spreading all the good things that we are doing in our community and education worldwide.

Lastly, we said goodbye to Dene Anderson, long time member of Tau Chapter. Rest in peace, Dene, we will miss you.

Thanks to everyone for your attendance, support, and participation in Tau Chapter. I am excited about the year ahead and all that will be accomplished in 2016 by Tau Chapter and DKG! Come, join in the fun and help us advance our mission of elevating education and celebrating women in education!

Chapter Officers

President: Alicia Smith

1st Vice President: Lisa Rogers

2nd Vice President: Goldia Liles

Recording Secretary: Vickie McDougal

Corresponding Secretary: Ronda Brewer

Treasurer: Martha Kirgan

Parliamentarian: Virginia Riddle

More Pictures of Thanksgiving from India



*Photos of people in the pictures are printed with their permission

SEEKING NEW LEADERSHIP

Chapters will soon be assembling a slate of officers to serve for the 2016-2018 biennium. Too often, chapter members don't fully understand just what being a chapter officer means or requires. Some feel that being a member is enough or that leadership is for "someone else." Remember, your invitation to membership was based on someone holding you in high esteem for your work ethic and high standards and believing in your potential. In other words, each member was recognized for her leadership *before* being invited to membership. **You** are officer material.

So, what does it take to be a good leader? Two things are essential—a willingness to accept the challenge and responsibilities of the position and a genuine desire to act in the best interest of the chapter using personal talents and professional expertise.

In even-numbered years, the chapter nominations committee selects a slate of officers and they are voted on by the membership. To be official, officers are installed at a chapter or joint meeting before July 1st.

CHAPTER OFFICERS: *no officer except the treasurer may serve in the same office longer than two (2) terms in succession.*

Elected Positions

President

(1st) Vice President

Secretary

Selected by the executive board: Treasurer

Appointed by the president: Parliamentarian

Optional Elected Positions

2nd Vice President

Corresponding Secretary

The chapter president

- represents the Society at meetings, conferences, and other events
- fills by appointment all vacancies

serves as a member of the state organization executive board and votes at state conventions

Every officer will have the support of area and state officers to help newly elected chapter officers to learn "how to do the duties of office." ***person approached to serve as president should be willing and at least try to attend the state convention for President's Training.*** Even those who have served before should attend training because of new expectations.

State Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents (LDCP) Chair Corlea Plowman stated in the winter 2015 LSN: *"This is a great opportunity for incoming presidents," Chair Corlea Plowman emphasizes. "We will help them have a terrific successful biennium and then they will be ready to lead."*

Q: What are the duties of a chapter president?

A: The primary duties of a chapter president are

- to act as presiding officer at regular and called meetings (minimum of four per year)
- to direct the activities of the organization; act as chairman of the executive board
- to appoint a parliamentarian
- to represent the Society at meetings, conferences, and other events

Q: Who decides who the officers will be? Does a member just volunteer?

A: The chapter nominations committee selects a slate of members to serve as officers, then presents the slate to the chapter for a vote. Nominations may be made from the floor with the approval of the person being nominated.

Q: If asked to serve as an officer, is a member required to take the office?

A: A good Delta Kappa Gamma sister never says *NO*. However, if circumstances beyond your control prohibit your fulfilling the duties of office, then answer "Not at this time."

Q: Does a member have to be a math major to serve as treasurer?

A: Absolutely not! Treasurers receive training at the state convention and at area workshops for each step required, so anyone can serve as treasurer.

Q: How many officers must a chapter have?

A: Chapter members elect a president, a vice president, and a recording secretary. Chapters may also elect a 2nd vice president and a corresponding secretary. The executive board will **select** a treasurer, and the president will **appoint** a parliamentarian.

Q: Our chapter is rather small. How do we fill all the committees?

A: The purpose of committees is to carry out the work of the Society. *The chapter decides the best way to complete the work of the Society.* Some committee duties may be combined or overlapping.



First Timers & Conventions: Part I

Ann Mahan, Area 8 Coordinator (2015-2017)

Delta Kappa Gamma conventions have an infectious vitality that once experienced is not to be missed again. Checking in at a convention is noisy with friends greeting friends in a background of laughter. It's like a big family reunion!

For those who have never attended a state convention, this will be the first of several articles dedicated to providing information about the annual state conventions. Frequently asked questions: *What is the state convention? Where is the convention held? Why should I attend?* I will provide some answers that may help new members and any others who have yet to attend a state convention.

WHAT IS THE STATE CONVENTION?

Each June members of DKG from all across the state of Texas meet to conduct business related to the Society—mainly state, but chapter and international as well. The *Lone Star News* reports any key issues that require action.

Each convention is an opportunity to learn more about the functioning of the Society.

WHERE ARE STATE CONVENTIONS HELD?

The location of state conventions is announced two years in advance to assist in planning.

The 87th state convention is June 23-25, 2016 in Frisco and the 88th is June 2017 in Houston.

WHY SHOULD I ATTEND?

First and foremost, attending a convention fulfills all Society Purposes, but I will focus on only a few in a later article.

In odd-numbered years, we elect new **state** officers. The *Lone State News* provides information about each nominee. You may not know them personally, but you can learn how these women have served DKG.