

Eta Delta Data



Eta Delta Chapter 172 Area 3, Houston
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, Texas State Organization

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

Vision Statement: Leading women educators impacting educators worldwide.

Ann Mahan, editor, annmahan@comcast.net



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Jane Flinn



CHAPTER MEETING FEBRUARY 7, 2015

- TIME:** 9:45-11:30
- HOME:** **GERRI MANLOVE**
5003 Oak Forest Drive
Houston 77018-1909
(713) 681-6875
- SPECIAL GUEST:** **BETTY JO WATTS,**
AREA 3 COORDINATOR
- INSPIRATION:** **DONNA PATCH**
- PROGRAM:** *Taking Care of the State of Education:
Legislative Update*
- PRESENTERS:** **DR. DEBRA ROCKEFELLER, DR. LEIGH
ELIZONDO and DEDE DREXLER**
- HOSTESSES:** Donna Patch*
Trish Jenkins
Brenda Paulk
Elly Nisayas
- DIRECTIONS:** If coming from the Galleria area, take 610 to Ella, turn left on Ella. Stay on Ella to 43rd Street and take a left. Go to Oak Forest Drive (at the traffic light and Kroger's); turn right. Gerri's house is several blocks down on the left on the corner. (Allow for construction on 610.)
- REMINDER:** Wear your keypin to all meetings. Piggy needs feeding.

You are the best, Valentine!

You make my heart smile.

February is the month of hearts, flowers, and love. This year we also celebrate the 84th legislative session. On Saturday, February 7th, Leigh and Dede have a guest speaker who will give us an update on education bills to watch. As these bills move toward becoming laws, you will receive updates, and calls to action. When asked, please let your voice be heard. Eta Delta members are respected by Houston area legislators and their staff members.

With our hearts and our words, we can make a difference for students, educators and retirees.

Valentine, I'm lucky to have an Eta Delta Sister like you.

*Happy Hearts and Flowers Day,
Jane*



During this month of love, practice random acts of kindness.

→♥←



Eta Delta Takes Care of...

- **Ourselves** with pamphlets of different health issues and through personal encouragement / support.
- **Our future educators** by providing mentoring and teacher surprises and classroom supplies.
- **Our chapter members** by having meaningful meetings and projects.
- **Our community**
 - with contributions of personal hygiene products, snacks, and gloves to LOTS (a ministry to the homeless downtown).
 - by donating money to Durham Elementary Library to buy books.
 - by collecting Tops for Education for Bane Elementary.
 - With contributions to the Wesley Community Center summer food pantry (last year we donated 900 pounds of food at a single meeting!)
- **Texas State** by having members on state committees and by making a “good show” at annual conventions—AND by filling our piggy!
- **Our Society** with our contributions to ASTEF, Change for Children (Schools for Africa).

Eta Delta Cares!



Eta Delta’s generous donations for LOTS.



Gift bags for new teachers.



Debbie Brand, Kathy Froehlich, Shirley Moan, Debbie McCart, and Brenda Paulk nominated the new teachers and delivered Eta Delta’s gifts. Debbie Brand delivered gifts to Jessica Suddeth, a kindergarten teacher at Durham,, Debbie McCart gave gifts to Rachel Blake, a Sp. Ed Resource teacher at Layway M.S., and Brenda Paulk’s nominee Emily Mingle, a kindergarten teacher at Sinclair Elementary



Kathy Froehlich and Shirley Moan present new teacher Lauren Ayers, 3rd grade teacher at Durham, with classroom supplies and gifts. Kathy and Shirley nominated Lauren as a new teacher needing a helping hand..



Have you heard . . .

- **Brenda Paulk** retired as Music Director of St. Stephen’s United Methodist Church on January 11. The church members gave a luncheon for her January 18 to honor the thirteen years Brenda served. She will, however, continue to teach Pre-School music.
- **Regina Williams** has a new title and position in HISD. No longer an IB Coordinator, she is now the Performance and Continuous Improvement Manager. She will be training principals and assistant principals in the use of the teacher appraisal process. Congratulations!
- **Bonnie Moore** also has a new title—President Elect at ATD Houston area. Congratulations! She has been at Neurobusiness Group for four years.



In this month of love, we send special roses with love and good wishes to our reserve sisters:

- ♥ Shirley Cousins
- ♥ Berta Deleza
- ♥ Shirley Felcman
- ♥ Helen Lewis
- ♥ Boots Reese
- ♥ Joan Watson

→♥←



STAR Treatment

The serene setting of Camp Allen produced a sense of tranquility that contributed to the success of the inaugural **S**pectacular **T**exas **A**rt **R**etreat (STAR) January 16-18, 2015.

Seventy DKG sisters—even some from Illinois and Tennessee—gathered in genuine spiritual fellowship creating “art” from such things as tea cups, duct tape, dominoes **OR** learning new skills such as crochet, knitting, photography **OR** joining the performance arts of music, dance, or drama. No prior experience required and everyone had fun.

Ann Mahan enjoyed performing in the melodrama *Confusion Abounds at Camp Allen*. “I have already signed up for STAR 2016 in February, and I encourage you to do so, also. It will be the best \$225 you will spend!” said Ann. “The retreat enriched the spirit and the soul.”



Country cousin Mimosa (Ann Mahan) with her country beau Floyd (Barbara Derrick) performed in the melodrama at STAR.

→♥←

500 Dalmatians Need Donations

Named for Mylie E. Durham, a highly respected Houston physician in the Heights area, Durham Elementary opened in 1966.

Durham boasts an amazing HISD Leadership Magnet program, and has also earned the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program. Over 500 students attend Durham with 74% qualifying as low SES. Pre-K classes start at age 4, as well as kindergarten through 5th grade.

In addition to classrooms full of rigorous academic lessons, students may also participate in programs such as art and Mandarin Chinese. These bright young people devour books, so they always need new ones to satisfy their interests.

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No Excuses for Bullying!

by Jane Flinn

More than half the students in school will experience bullying. Victims of bullying are impacted physically, psychologically, and socially. Teachers and administrators are often the first to notice changes in a students’ behavior and / or performance. It is imperative that educators be aware of the signs that a child is being bullied; however, not all students display symptoms.

Signs that a student is the victim of bullying *may* include:

- Injuries that are not explained.
- Loss of personal property (e.g. books, clothing, technology)
- Frequent symptoms of illness, real or imagined.
- Changes in eating patterns. (Skipping meals at school, loss of appetite, or binge eating).
- Sleep patterns are disrupted and students report having nightmares.
- Decline in grades, failing to do or complete assignments, not wanting to attend school.
- Withdrawing from friends and social activities.
- Pervasive feeling of helplessness and decreasing self-esteem.
- Self-injurious behaviors (e.g. running away, harming themselves).

Tragically, some students see suicide as the only escape from bullies and being bullied. Death by suicide is the 3rd leading cause of death in young people. Students who are victims of bullying are two to nine times more likely to commit suicide. Victims who are girls may be at a higher risk for suicide.

If a student reports being bullied, educators must investigate each incident, discipline the student(s) involved in bullying, change the student's class(es), if necessary, and provide counseling. Most important, a campus must create a safe learning environment that does not tolerate bullying, and encourages students to report incidents of bullying.

Just a thought . . .

Every man is guilty of all the good he didn't do. *Voltaire*

If you concentrate on finding the good in people, it is easier than finding evil. Goodness has nothing to hide—evil does. *(Author unknown)*

The gift of kindness is always just right.

Eta Delta Members Attend GCASE Law Conference

By Leigh Elizondo

Eta Delta was well represented at the Gulf Coast Administrators in Special Education (GCASE) Law Conference held at the Westin Galleria on December 5, 2014. The purpose of this conference is to provide up-to-date information about the legal aspects of the provision of services to students with disabilities in special education.

Jane Flinn, Debbie McCart, Elizabeth McDowell, Kirby Gor, and Leigh Elizondo attended several power-packed sessions throughout the day. Topics presented by some of the top law firms in the State of Texas ranged from Dealing with Difficult ARDs, Due Process: Timelines and Procedures to Do's and Don'ts for Administrators. Upon return to our campuses and work sites, we shared the information to help others.

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New Members & Conventions: PART II

This time, I will take a look at Society purposes and relate them to state conventions and point out how conventions fulfill the purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma.

SOCIETY PURPOSES:

- *To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship. (1)*
The convention sessions and meals give members a chance to reunite with old friends and to meet new ones. Members attending for the first time may feel overwhelmed, but will soon feel a part of the group. *First timers wear a badge to identify them so that others can welcome them and offer any assistance if needed.* Remember, everyone was a first timer once.
- *To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education. (2)*

At conventions, you get a broader perspective of the workings of the Society through recognition of the women who have enriched the field of education.

- *To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to women educators from other countries. (5)*

Learning about the kinds and generous amounts of scholarships often encourages members to apply.

- *To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action. (6)*

Multiple sessions allow members to explore different aspects of the Society, to receive CPE credit, and just have fun. The *Lone Star News* prints a preliminary convention schedule that allows you to plan your sessions.

- *To inform the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society. (7)*

Notice the key word—inform. The Society brings attention to various issues by providing information that allows members to take action according to personal decision.

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2015 Convention Reminders

- **Hotel reservations** are a must; do it now. If you are driving, remember self-parking is \$13 per day at the Hyatt.
- **Shuttle service from the airport** to the downtown area is \$20.00 to 25.00 one-way or \$36.50 round trip.
- **Taxis** allow from two (2) to six (6) people to ride for the price of one--\$24-\$26, tips *NOT* included.
- Unlike previous conventions, **totes or bags will NOT be given in San Antonio.** Instead, you are to bring your own favorite from a previous convention. Mine is actually from the 2005 SW Regional in San Antonio! (But, alas, it is almost worn out from being used as my tutoring bag.)
- **First Timers WILL receive a tote / bag, but it, too, will be from a previous convention.**
- Anyone who has a previous convention bag, please share your selection with our first timers. Then contact Billinelle Currie at billinellecurrie@msn.com if you are willing to donate a bag to the state for the convention.
- Each year, the convention adopts a project to dedicate to the needs of the host community. **The 2015 Convention Unifying Project: Boys & Girls Club of San Antonio.**

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2015-2017 Slate of State Officers Nominees

President	Marilyn Gregory (Area 7)
1 st Vice President	Patti Belknap (Area 9)
2 nd Vice President	Cooke Johnson (Area 12)
Corresponding Secretary	Sandi Causey (Area 7)
Recording Secretary	Shalan Inmon (Area 12)

Eta Delta Website
dkgalphastateetadelta.weebly.com

Alpha State Headquarters in **Dallas**
dkgtexas.org (*NOTE CHANGE*)

International Headquarters in **Austin**
dkg.org



LOOKING AHEAD

Here we come!

86th Texas State Convention

June 24-27, 2015
Grand Hyatt San Antonio
Make reservations now!

A 2nd hotel, Marriott Rivercenter Hotel,
is close to the convention center
<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/e97049f3>
Remember to mention DKG

87th Texas State Convention

Dallas

88th Texas State Convention

Houston

Southwest Regional Conference

Hyatt Regency Hotel
Wichita, Kansas
July 22-25, 2015

2016 International Convention

Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee
July 5-9, 2016

2018 International Convention

JW Marriott
Austin, Texas
July 16-20, 2018

NEWS FLASH!

The **2015 ASTEF Road Scholar** trip (#11376) is October 11-16 in Savannah, Georgia. \$100 deposit saves your place. Call (800) 322-5315 for a reservation. More details soon.

Change for Children Collection

At the Birthday Luncheon, the **red** Change for Children boxes will be collected. Be sure to secure your box to prevent losing any change.

Rose Sister Reveal

Also, at the Birthday Luncheon, the identity of Rose Sisters will be revealed.



- Bring Box Tops for Education for Bane Elementary.
- Remember donations to buy books for Durham Elementary.

*Eta Delta's Birthday Luncheon
March 7, 2015, at the Junior League*

Martha LaRue will answer any questions about details of menu at the February meeting. You must make your meal selection by February 27. Make checks to Eta Delta; \$32 per meal. Don't miss this special event! (See separate email) We welcome all guests, especially prospective new members.

Happy Valentine's Day



Free Clip Art: all-free-download.com; public-domain-photos.com ; clipartguide.com ; clker.com ; webweaver.nu/clipart/stars; polyvore.com; fotosearch.com ; dreamstime.com

MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 6, 2014

Eta Delta Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International held its regular meeting on Saturday, December 6, 2014, at the home of Kathy Froehlich. President Jane Flinn called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. Shirley Moan recorded the minutes in the absence of Recording Secretary Debbie Elrod.

INSPIRATION

Leigh Elizondo's inspiration came from *Chicken Soup for the Soul* and was titled "The Christmas Lesson". It told of a student teacher's last day and her final lesson. She had worked hard to make sure this would be her very best lesson. She had every detail planned down to the very minute. However, all those plans changed when her students surprised her with a party to thank her for being their student teacher. She received sweet little gifts from everyone. At the end of the party, Joey gave her a letter with a dollar bill in it. In the letter, Joey said, "You're the best teacher I ever had." The young teacher knew that the money Joey had given her was his lunch money for the day. So she invited him to be her guest for lunch. When she reflected on the day, she realized that although she hadn't accomplished even one of her lesson plan objectives, the day had taught her the effect a teacher can have on her students.

THANK YOU FOR TODAY

Jane thanked the hostesses – Kathy Froehlich, Regina Williams, Kirbe Hunt-Montgomery, Bonnie Moore, and Shirley Moan. She also thanked Debbie McCart for presiding at last month's meeting in her absence. In addition, she thanked Shirley Moan for recording the minutes of today's meeting.

PROGRAM

Chairman Elizabeth McDowell announced that we would be sending bags of school supplies to the young teachers who had been nominated at the previous meeting. She also asked members to share their memories of their mentors when they were just beginning. Debbie McCart, Leigh Elizondo, Kirby Gor, Brenda Paulk, Debbie Brand, Kathy Froehlich, Jane Hall, Ann Mahan, and Elizabeth McDowell all told how her one special person helped her get through the tough times and helped her to improve her teaching skills. The one common theme all the mentors stressed was that "Students always come first!" Upon that, we all agreed.

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 1, 2014, MEETING

Jane asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes as they were mailed. Nancy Malone asked that under New Business her comment should be changed to read, "...so that we can better support the purchase of books for Durham." The motion was made to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded and approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Nancy Malone reported a balance on hand as of November 30, 2014, to be \$5413.47. After Nancy discussed her report and answered questions, the report will be filed for audit. Nancy also reminded us that we need \$105 more to fulfill Durham Elementary's book request. She would like to be able to present Durham with a check after the February meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Jane said she wrote notes to the 3 members who were dropped for failure to pay dues telling them they're welcome to come back at any time. She also announced that Virginia Marez is moving to Ft. Worth at the end of the year. Jane also announced that information about State Convention is now on the Alpha State website. Hotel reservations are open, so reserve your room now. If you find that you can't go, you can always cancel your reservation.

Nancy Malone also reminded Jane that our Chapter Rules state that we have to have a quorum in order to conduct chapter business. While she doesn't think we've failed to have a quorum, she just wanted to remind us that there is one.

Jane announced that Area III Coordinator Betty Jo Watts would be at our February meeting.

Jane thanked everyone for their generous donations to our service project, Lord of the Streets. Also don't forget to feed the "piggy" your change for our State project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Membership Chairman Debbie Brand reported that we had 18 members present today. She thanked everyone for their RSVPs. She also thanked us for giving to the new teachers because it's a way to acquaint them with DKG and Eta Delta. She asked that we turn in names for new members to her as soon as possible. Member retention and growth is our responsibility. She announced that we currently have nine members participating in Rose Sisters. If anyone else would like to participate, please let her know.
- Legislative Chairman Leigh Elizondo briefed us on legislation that will be of importance to us in the upcoming sessions of the U.S. Congress and Senate to keep an eye on. She predicts that the hot topics in Texas this year will be school finance and student discipline and behavior. Let's be ready to contact our representatives and senators to voice our opinions on these items as they come up for a vote!
- Scholarship Committee reminded us that there is a list of available scholarships in the yearbook. Special Education Betty Bliss Scholarship offers \$1500 for teachers and \$1200 for paraprofessionals. If you're interested in traveling abroad, talk to Debbie Elrod about how she received scholarships to travel to further her studies as a teacher.
- Social Committee Chairman Martha LaRue reminded us that the February meeting will be held at Gerri Manlove's home. In March, we'll be having our Birthday Luncheon at The Junior League. Be ready to make your reservation at the February meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS

- Regina Williams has a new title and position in HISD. She is now the Performance and Continuous Improvement Manager. She will be training principals and assistant principals in the use of the teacher appraisal process.
- Jane said she owes Carol Gillingham an apology for not providing her with the new Chapter Rules for our

yearbook. She then gave each of us a copy of the new Chapter Rules.

- Nancy Malone reminded us that any revisions to the Chapter Rules must be approved by the chapter. Jane explained that these changes were requested by our State organization.



ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

We then enjoyed the delicious luncheon that had been prepared for us by our hostesses.