



# GAMMA OMEGA FOCUS

Gamma Omega Chapter  
Texas State Organization  
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
*Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide*



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

Volume 45 Number 8 Summer 2022 Area 7 No. 96 Austin, Burleson, Lee, Waller, and Washington Counties  
Editor: Lou Pruett Focus Contact: Lori Jackson

**DKG 2020-22 International Theme:**  
**Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide**

**2021-2022 TSO Theme**  
**Journey: Which Way Will You Go?**

with my sweet grand blessings these dog-days of summer and do you think I would let them walk along the creek by themselves?!? My how time changes things! Stay cool my friends!!

Thank you for the honor of the Achievement Award. I just want you to know how much this award means to me. This past year has been wonderful but has not been easy, this position is not easy, at least not for me. I am a usually a great follower, I do whatever I am asked. However, I had to get out of my comfort zone and step up to be a leader. I have learned a lot. I have a lot more to learn. I have made mistakes and I will make more. But wow, in doing this I have gotten to know all of you, and what a blessing. I know I can count on you to be there if I need you. I could have never done this without your words of encouragement, or your smiles as I look over the podium at meetings. I am so grateful to Jessie Kokemor for writing down your comments from the voting ballots. I have actually framed that little piece of paper. Those words mean the world to me. Thank you for your support and your confidence. You are the reason I want to do this! "Take pride in how far you've come."

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Take pride in how far you've come. Have faith in how far you can go. But don't forget to enjoy the journey."

— Michael Josephson

I hope all of you are having a wonderful summer and staying cool while doing so! I remember my childhood growing up in the country and how I loved spending all days outside, from sun-up to sun-down. Surely those days were hot, but I don't remember feeling the heat, not like I do now. I had a special live oak tree I would crawl up in to read right next to a big tank. I could stay in that tree for hours. Never once did I worry about taking long walks in the woods or the creek. Oh, those carefree and wonderful days! Funny, it is not near as easy staying outside

On Wednesday, Trudy, Mary, and I embark on our journey to Lubbock! I am so excited! (Maybe not so much about the drive...enjoy the journey, right...) I cannot wait to be in that environment once again, to sing our song with all those voices, to be with a group of women that have touched the lives of so many, to be inspired. I want to come back and be an inspiration to you and energize you and strengthen our own Gamma Omega chapter! You are a very special group of ladies, and you deserve the best leadership. A goal of ours is to be good leaders for you. This chapter can make a difference! Let's do this...the journey continues...please

join me and the other officers at the summer planning meeting and at kickoff in August!" Have faith in how far we can go!" "Enjoy the journey with us!"

Looking forward to seeing all of you soon!  
In Love and Sisterhood,  
Lori Jackson

### Summer Planning Meeting

June 29, 2022. 11:00 A.M.  
St Paul's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall  
Phillipsburg, Texas  
**Hostesses:** Bellville  
**Cost:** \$1.00  
**Prayer TBD**  
**Door Prize TBD**  
**Replies to:** Lori Jackson  
lorijackson518@gmail.com  
Text or call 979-885-9340

The summer meeting includes planning programs for each of the monthly meetings as well as meeting in our committee groups if needed. The service project for 22-23 will be decided upon. Focusing Families was this past year. If you know of a group you would like for us to support, please present that group for discussion. Many of you have signed up for a committee to serve on this next year. If you have not, you will be assigned a group. I will be sending out a complete committee list before the summer meeting, so you know what group you are a part of. Thank you for stepping up and being part of whatever group, it is. They are all so vital to Gamma Omega.

Also, perhaps there is something that has been done in meetings past that you liked that sort of has been forgotten and you would like it brought back. Bring it up for discussion. Or maybe there is a new idea out there you would like to try at our meetings. Please feel free to bring it up for discussion. It is always fun to try new ideas or bring back old ones.

#### Society Websites

**Gamma Omega**  
[www.gammaomegatx.weebly.com](http://www.gammaomegatx.weebly.com)

**Delta Kappa Gamma International**  
[www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)

**Texas State Organization**  
[www.dkgtexas.org](http://www.dkgtexas.org)

### APRIL RECAP

The Somerville members hosted the April meeting in a sweet church in Somerville due to water issues in our normal spot in Phillipsburg. The spring and Easter decor was precious and of course the brunch just as delicious as always. 36 members were present for the regular business meeting and the great visit from the Area 7 coordinator, Nancy Varljen. Toiletry items were collected for Focusing Families. Thank you, thank you for all the donations throughout the year to this worthy group. Jessie Kokemor acknowledged April and May Birthdays and gave several different awards, including chapter achievement. Lori presented roses to all past presidents present for their service and the officers for 2022-2024 were installed. The morning ended with a delightful program based on Founder's Day and the Birthdays of DKG and Gamma Omega. The lucky door prize winner was Kelly Frank, and the Perfect Attendance Award winner was Carolyn Golan. The meeting concluded with the Delta Kappa Gamma Song.



Lori Jackson, Trudy Holland, and our guest, Nancy Varljen



Perfect attendance award recipients



**We honor our past presidents with a rose**

### **AWARDS**

Our Chapter has been made aware of two awards so far.....

#### **EXEMPLARY AWARD FOR CHAPTER YEARBOOK for 2021-2022**

A big THANK YOU to Gail Schroeder, Linda Braun, Sharon Lange, and Mary Keienburg for all their hard work putting together our yearbook and pictorial directory!!!!

#### **FIVE STAR AWARD FOR CHAPTER NEWSLETTERS**

This would not be possible without Lou Pruett!!! Thank you, Lou, for formatting all my stuff!

Hopefully, at convention we will find out a few more! It takes a village!

#### **JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

- 4 Trudy H.
- 7 Mary W.
- 10 Carolyn G.
- 11 Heather S.
- 18 Joy Ann K.
- 24 Sharon L.
- 25 Allene P.
- 28 Carole F.

#### **JULY BIRTHDAYS**

- 1 Liz L.
- 4 Treva B.
- 11 Christina G.
- 16 Annette B.
- 21 Melanie C.
- 23 Myra N.
- 23 Kathleen D.
- 25 Pam Y.
- 26 Jackie R.
- 30 Eunice S.

#### **FOCUS COMMITTEE**

Lou Pruett, Editor  
Lori Jackson  
Members of the Bellville Group

### **SAVE THE DATE**

#### **June 15-18 TSO Convention in Lubbock**

Trudy, Mary, and Lori will be having a rootin' tootin' time and wishin' you were there!

**June 29** - Summer planning meeting hosted by the Bellville group. Looking forward to all of you attending. We will be planning and organizing the meetings beginning in August. We need new fresh ideas and that requires all of you!!! I have listed the dates and hostesses. If we need to make corrections or changes, we will be discussing all of this at our meeting.

- |                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Aug. 6 - Burton Members     | Oct. 1 - Brenham    |
| Nov. 5 - Sealy              | Dec. 3 - Lee County |
| Feb. 4 - Hempstead/Caldwell |                     |
| March 4 - Somerville        | April ?? - Waller   |

**July 12-16** International Convention in New Orleans, another fun opportunity to get together! A few of our ladies have already expressed interest!! Gladys Avis, Carol South, Treva Bullard, and Linda Pipes are signed up so far!

**August 6** - Kickoff Meeting for 2022!!!

**August 20** - Area 7 Workshop at Patsy Sommer Elementary in Austin It is not too late to sign up! Cheryl Pritchett, Mary Keienburg, Trudy Holland, Shelley Nies and Lori are signed up.

### **JUST A THOUGHT...**

**"Life's too short to wake up with regrets. So love the people who treat you right, forgive the ones who don't, and believe that everything happens for a reason. If you get a chance, take it. If it changes your life, let it. Nobody said it'd be easy, they just promised it would be worth it."** -Dr. Seuss

I absolutely love Dr. Seuss! I recently did a whole volleyball season of inspiration for Coach Brewer and her girls based on Dr. Seuss books and his wisdom. You will probably be seeing more of his quotes and work throughout the year!! I felt this quote basically speaks to me about our first year together. Yes, I was scared to death last year as I took on the role of president, but there are no regrets. I am so glad I took that leap of faith because it has changed my life. No, it was not easy, and no one said it would be. But oh, my goodness...it was so worth it! Thank you all for being a part of Gamma Omega and I so look forward to seeing all of you amazing ladies soon!!