



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 7 April 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?

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



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“Life is about accepting the challenges along the way. Choosing to move forward and savoring the journey.” Roy T. Bennet

Well it finally happened...I had my first DKG nightmare. Of course in my dream, I was a complete fail at the April meeting, I was not prepared, had no roses for the former presidents, no one wanted to go to the conventions with me, and so on. It was enough of a fail for me to wake up in a cold sweat at exactly 4:17 A.M. Like after waking up from other bad dreams, I tossed and turned for the next couple of

hours with a million thoughts going through my mind. Once I got over the shock of the nightmare and I realized it was just that, I started thinking of everything I needed to do before April 9. At the time it felt somewhat overwhelming. However, it was also the inspiration I needed to get on the ball, to move forward, and prepare for the last meeting before the summer activity.

My challenge is to continue to learn about DKG and to represent you, Gamma Omega, well. I am looking forward to the learning opportunities in the summer and I hope to be smarter, more energetic and inspiring come August. I also challenge you to join me. Together we can do this and become an inspiration for educators today.

So ladies, let's continue the journey, together! We have opportunities to grow in DKG with the convention in Lubbock, the international convention in New Orleans, and the area meeting in Austin. As I mentioned in the March Newsletter, for many of you it will be a time to reconnect with old friends, for some it is a time to make new friends. It is also a time to collaborate new ideas in efforts to energize DKG. Let's journey together, have some fun, savor the journey and strengthen Gamma Omega.

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

Lori Jackson

PROGRAM: FOUNDERS DAY AND BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

April 9, 2022. 9:30 A.M.
St Paul's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
Phillipsburg, Texas
Hostesses: Somerville
Cost: \$1.00

Meditation: Mackie Meyer
Collect: Kathleen Davis-Wright
Pledges: Lynda York
Mission Statement: Rhonda Bentke
Prayer: Gloria Sager
Door Prize: Linda Pinkerton
Perfect Attendance Prize: Carol Brinkman
Replies to: Linda Pinkerton by Monday, April 3, 2022
 ldpinkerton@yahoo.com. Cell phone: 979-567-1104

COMMITTEE REPORTS

These committees will report at the April Meeting. If another committee would like to add any news or information to the meeting, please do.

Legislative - Lou Pruett
 Program - Mary Keienburg
 Service Projects - Jackie Romine

MARCH RECAP

The Hempstead and Caldwell members were the cowgirls in charge of the March meeting. The Texas decor was amazing and serving the brunch items in cast iron pots was “ace-high”! It was a “rootin’-tootin’” great day with 39 members present for the regular business meeting and the “journey across Texas”!! Twin sheets and pillows were collected for Focusing Families. Thank you, thank you for your continuous donations to this worthy group. Please read the upcoming minutes to see all the business details! Jessie Kokemor acknowledged March Birthdays and gave a shout-out to administrative people and counselors. Cheryl Pritchett did “In the Spotlight” and recognized Lou Pruett, Peggy Ueckert, and Lee Brodhead. I love this segment because we find out how amazing our ladies are, not just for their teaching but to hear their life story beyond teaching. The morning ended with a delightful program, door prizes and the Delta Kappa Gamma Song. beyond teaching.

I am including at the end of this newsletter, the prayer Adriana shared with us. It is a great prayer for all of us. A timeless reminder of how we should be no matter who we are or what we do. Thank you Adriana!
 If you still would like to distribute pamphlets of “who we are”, they will be available. Let’s spread the word of what a wonderful organization this is...just for the special people in the education world!



Cheryl spotlights Lou Pruett



Peggy Ueckert is next in the spotlight.



Lee Brodhead has an interesting story to tell.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 5 Joy M.
- 5 Melanie U.
- 11 Lynda Y.
- 22 Joan Z.
- 23 Susan M.
- 27 Kathleen L.

MAY BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Kay O.
- 4 Melanie S.
- 7 Gloria S.
- 18 Lori J.
- 19 Linda K.
- 21 Joyce G.

SERVICE PROJECT

In April we will be collecting personal hygiene items for moms and children. Focusing Families is a phenomenal, non-profit organization. They give a life do-over to individuals and families suffering from abuse. With donations such as ours, the organization’s job is a little easier. Thank you for the support you have given this year.

Jackie Romaine asked what the Shelter needed most. The following list is the toiletry items needed at the Shelter.

- Shampoo (Reg size)
- Conditioner (Reg size)

- Body wash/ bars of soap
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Lotions
- Hairsprays/ Gel
- Brushes
- Combs
- Hair Accessories (scrunches, hair ties, etc.)
- Deodorants (men & women)
- Feminine napkins/ tampons (all sizes)
- Q tips (travel sizes if possible)
- Kleenex (travel size)
- Baby wipes
- Baby diapers (any size is appreciated)
- Baby soap
- Baby lotions

TRIED AND TRUE SCHOOL LUNCHEON RECIPES

With Easter approaching quickly, everyone loves a good, iced sugar cookie. I do not have enough patience to do the cute cookie cut-outs and decorating. This year I found a sugar cookie recipe with an almond cream cheese icing to try with my grandson. With him the more ingredients the better!

Sugar Cookies. www.togetherasfamily.com

- 1 1/2 cups salted butter softened
- 1 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- 4 large eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 1/2 tsp almond extract
- 5 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp baking powder
- 3/4 tsp salt

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Either line or spray a cookie sheet.

In large bowl mix the butter and both sugars until fluffy. Add in eggs one at a time mixing well after each egg. Add the vanilla and almond extracts. Add 2 cups of flour, baking powder, and

salt. Mix on low speed, increase speed as needed. Add the remaining flour. Roll the dough out 1/4 to 1/2 inch thickness. Cut into circles or preferred shape. Bake for 6-9 minutes. Don't overbake. Let the cookies cool completely; remove from cookie sheet and frost.

Frosting

- 1 bar (8oz) cream cheese softened
- 1/2 cup butter softened
- 4 cups powdered sugar
- 1 tbsp heavy cream
- 1/2 tsp almond extract

Beat butter and cream cheese until smooth. Add powdered sugar, heavy cream, and almond extract. Can add a few drops of food coloring if preferred. Frost and add sprinkles, or decorate as you choose.

SAVE THE DATE

April 9 - DKG Meeting - BIG MEETING!!!!

The ceremonies committee will induct new officers.

The chapter Achievement Award will be given out, as well as perfect attendance, and recognition for 25 years of membership.

Past presidents will be recognized
We will be celebrating the organization's birthday and the Founders of DKG.

Our Area 7 Coordinator, Nancy Varljen, will be in attendance. Now is our chance to show off what a fabulous group we have.

You will also be signing up for a committee you would like to be on. We would love for you to choose your committee then be assigned one. On a side note...Mary Keienburg is the current web master. She has been doing it for quite a while and is ready to give the honor to a new member. If you love the internet and technology is your thing, you may want to consider this job!!

I am looking forward to celebrating with all of you! Let's make it a record attendance for this BIG MEETING!!

June 15-18 TSO Convention in Lubbock Mark your calendars now and make plans to join me in attending!!! Let's make a "big Gamma Omega presence" at the state convention!!!!It will be a routin-tootin time I know!!

June ?- End of the month (date to be determined)
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.

August 6 - Burton Members
October 1 - Brenham
November 5 - Sealy
December 3 - Lee County
February 4 - Hempstead/Caldwell
March 4 - Somerville
April - Waller (Not sure of the day)

July 12-16 International Convention in New Orleans, another fun opportunity to get together! A few of our ladies have already expressed interest!!

August 20 - Area 7 Workshop at Patsy Sommer Elementary in Austin

If you are interested in a little traveling...plan to **attend either/both conventions and/or the area workshop meeting!!** Please let me know so we can begin making plans. I do need to turn in an estimate for the workshop in August. We need to have at least 7 in attendance. You can email me directly or let me know at the meeting. Please consider any or all three of these!!

We have \$1500+ designated to aid in expenses.

*****Trudy Holland has begun taking dues for this next year. Checks for \$83.00 can be made to Gamma Omega and given to Trudy in April.*****

Society Websites

Gamma Omega

www.gammaomegatx.weebly.com

Delta Kappa Gamma International

www.dkg.org

Texas State Organization

www.dkgtexas.org

JUST A THOUGHT...

Based on - Oh, the Places You'll Go by Dr. Seuss

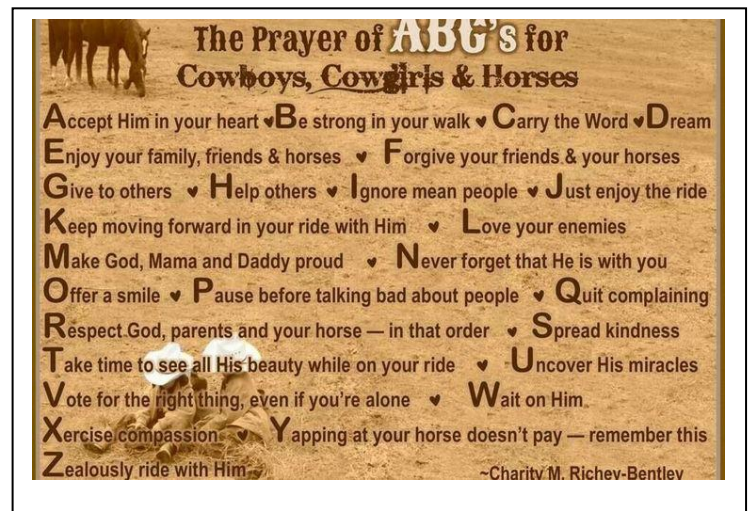
And you will succeed! Yes! You will succeed (98 and ¾ percent guaranteed.)

KID, YOU'LL MOVE MOUNTAINS!

Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting.

So...get on your way!

Throughout life we are given challenges. It is those challenges that make us stronger. This year I was given a challenge to continue the work of a wonderful president and even sweeter person. Not necessarily 98 and 3/4 percent sure I succeeded, but I know it has made me a better DKG member. The mountain is waiting as I continue to be your president for two more years. Yes, I will get on my way but not without all of you. Thank you for being the caring and forgiving ladies you are. I can't imagine continuing the journey without all of you and your support. Let's cross the mountain together!



FOCUS COMMITTEE

Lou Pruett, Editor

Lori Jackson

Members of the Bellville Group

Remember to **reply promptly** telling the hostesses whether or not you will attend the meeting. An **email** or phone call is sufficient.

If you can't attend, please tell us and give a reason. Thanks for helping out your Gamma Omega Sisters.