



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 5 February 2022 Area 7 No. 96 Austin, Burlleson, 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



Happy New Year! Can you believe it is the end of the first month in 2022!? I hope everyone is doing well. Our thoughts and prayers are with those of you that have had a tough beginning in the new year. Our wish for you is that the trials get easier as you learn to cope and continue to move on with the changes.

I don't know how much attention you pay to the news...whether it is on T.V., the radio, written, or in social media. The stories of educators and the current state of education are disturbing! From dealing with the pandemic and its results,

current behavior of students, the expectations that are not lessening, funding, lack of support from parents and administration, etc. it all sounds very bleak. Resignations are on the rise and the numbers of those entering the education world are dwindling. If you are currently teaching or in the education system, don't give up. You are needed more than ever. If you can make a student smile, make a connection, become a little more confident or simply given them the love they need, you are a CHAMPION. Mustafa Kemal Ataturk has said "A good teacher is like a candle - it consumes itself to light the way for others." We have all had our horror stories, we have felt like we couldn't do it another day, and we have also survived. Yes, the flame gets dim, but that is the life of an educator, we bring light and life to the students we teach. Somehow, we get through it and we are energized by the positive we see in just one of our students. Continue to pray for the educators and the education system. Let them know if they need anything they can count on us. Hopefully, we will begin to hear positive stories of what teachers and support staff have done for our youngsters. We can all make a difference, just like we always have.

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

FEBRUARY MEETING

Program: DKG Super Password
February 5, 2022. 9:30 A.M.
St Paul's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
Phillipsburg, Texas
Hostesses: Lee County

Cost: \$1.00
Meditation: Trudy Holland
Collect: Rebecca French
Pledges: Lynette Brown
Mission Statement: Rebecca French
Prayer: Trudy Holland
Door Prize: Lee County Hostesses
Perfect Attendance Prize: Lee County Hostesses
Replies to: Trudy Holland by Monday, January 31, 2022
hollandt@gmail.com or call her cell phone (512) 496.2779

COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Program – Lori Jackson
Global Awareness- Carolyn Golan
Scholarship - Carole Fry
Membership - Adriana Mendoza
Nominations – Janyce Beyer

DECEMBER RECAP

The Bellville members were the hosts for the December 4th meeting. The theme was centered on the book, The Polar Express. 38 members were present for the regular business meeting along with reports from the various committees. The annual Silent Auction followed. \$623.00 was raised. Thank you to all those that participated. Mom and Kid Pajamas were collected for Focusing Families. As always, thank you for your donations to this worthy group. Please read the upcoming minutes to see all the details! Jessie Kokemor acknowledged December Birthdays and gave a shout-out to Language Arts/Reading Teachers. Cheryl Pritchett did "In the Spotlight" and recognized Gladys Avis, Evelyn Turlington, and Carolyn Golan. Adrianna Mendoza and Joyce Gallway were the lucky door prize winners. Mary Keienburg was recognized for finding the symbol in the newsletter. Thank you to Mary for also leading the meeting in my absence. What a great meeting to end 2021!

Cheryl Pritchett spotlighted Gladys Avis.



Evelyn Turlington in the spotlight.....



Carolyn Golan spotlighted by Cheryl Pritchett.

NEW NEWS

- We have 87 Active members, 5 Reserve, and 2 Honorary members.
- The brochure was approved. They will be printed for the Feb. meeting and we will discuss how to distribute.
- Scott Nies, the son of Shelley and Brad Nies, graduated in December with a Graphic Design Degree
- I (Lori) have a brand-new daughter-in-law as of January 15! Kelsi and Grant live in Georgetown.
- Trudy Holland no longer uses a home phone. Her cell phone is (512) 496.2779

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Lynette B.
- 2 Joyce W.
- 4 Jody T.
- 4 Peggy U.
- 7 Carol O.
- 8 Mackie M.
- 13 Janet A.
- 13 Linda P.
- 16 Bertha U.
- 18 Mary K.
- 28 Barbara T.



SERVICE PROJECT

As you well know, our service project this year is Focusing Families. Thank you, thank you for the generosity you have shown thus far. Our donations make an impact and do not go unnoticed. Thank you to all who could donate the pajamas for kids and moms in December. This month we will be collecting kitchen and bathroom towels. You are so appreciated!!

TRIED AND TRUE SCHOOL LUNCHEON RECIPES

Just in time for Valentine's Day - a simple tea cake recipe to make heart shaped cookies!

Tea Cakes

- 3 cups flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 3 teaspoons baking powder
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup butter
- 1 cup sugar
- 6 tablespoons milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla

Cream butter, add sugar and well beaten eggs. Add vanilla. Sift flour, baking powder and salt and add to the butter mixture a little at a time, alternating with the milk. Chill for at least an hour. Roll ⅛ inch thick and cut into desired shapes. Bake in moderate oven (350 degrees) for 8-10 minutes. (baking time was not given, but 8-10 minutes is what works for my oven) (Handwritten recipe from my mother)

Surprise your valentine with heart healthy pancakes for breakfast or dinner. For a fun twist make heart shaped pancakes!

Oatmeal Pancakes

- ½ cup all-purpose flour
- ½ cup quick cooking oats (old fashioned oats also work)
- ¾ cup buttermilk
- ¼ cup milk
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 egg

Beat all ingredients in a medium bowl with a hand beater until smooth.

*** (I usually mix my dry ingredients together first and then add the wet ingredients. It works better.)

For each pancake, pour about ¼ cup of batter onto a hot griddle. Cook until pancakes are puffed and dry around the edges. Turn and cook other sides until golden brown. Serve with applesauce if desired.

Make 10-12 pancakes.*** I usually double the recipe.

(recipe taken from Alpha-Bakery Children's Cookbook)

SAVE THE DATE

February 5 - DKG Meeting Lee County Members

March 5 – DKG Meeting Caldwell/Hempstead members

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 rootin-tootin time, I know!!

July 12-16 – International Convention in New Orleans

August 20 – Area 7 Workshop

JUST A THOUGHT...

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

"headed I fear, toward a most useless place. The Waiting Place...For people just waiting. Waiting for a train to go or a bus to come, or a plane to go or the mail to come, or the rain to go or the phone to ring, or the snow to snow or waiting around for a YES or a NO or waiting for their hair to grow. Everyone is just waiting."

Sometimes in a journey people come to a time of waiting. For some there is not a choice. For some it is just easier to wait. Not teachers...normally we take charge and choose not to wait or procrastinate. We don't have time to wait as we are in a quick- paced, ever-changing world. We take action and try new and cool things. We don't want our students to be left behind or not know the latest and greatest! We may hit bumps and slumps in the road, but that doesn't seem to stop us. I mentioned earlier the discouragement teachers are feeling right now. Don't give up and plunge ahead, don't get caught waiting for everything to get better. Be proactive and remember who you are doing all of this for. Our youth do not have a chance without you. Continue in your journey and if you need support, go find it! "You'll find the bright places where boom bands are playing!"

My apologies for the Newsletter being late. January has been a whirlwind and time just got away from me. Thank you for your understanding. I look forward to seeing you in February!

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.