



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 2 October 2021 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



"The journey is never ending. There's always gonna be growth, improvement, adversity; you just gotta take it all in and do what's right, continue to grow, continue to live in the moment." -Antonio Brown

Little did I know when I accepted the position of 1st Vice President, the position would change in my 2-year term. A big shout out to all the former presidents for the leadership Gamma Omega has had with these wonderful women. Being President is BIG, something I never envisioned for myself, but I promise I will do the best I can. Thank you to Janet Allphin for leading us this past year while in pandemic. Calm, diligent, so caring, and always up for the challenge, Janet will be missed this year by everyone, especially me!! I appreciate everything she has done for me in the transition process and as they say...I have some really "big shoes to fill"!!

Saturday, in reflection of the 20th Anniversary of 9/11, I also thought of all the other trials we have faced recently in our world. Covid, the February freeze, rains, hurricanes, the division in our country, and the personal tragedies we each have endured, it can all be so overwhelming. However, with tragedy and certaintess we also see the good in people. All of our journeys include good and bad moments. What is so wonderful about the journey is the people we meet along the way. You...the ladies in Gamma Omega are a prime example of the good people. Thoughtful, caring, giving and uplifting, it is you that makes this journey bearable and such a joy to be on. I would like to thank each one of you for being part of this wonderful group and for being the special person you are. As we search for new members to be part of this dynamic group, when they see the ladies they could be a part of, how could they not accept the invitation?

As I said in August, I am not sure where this journey will take us, but I have great faith in the group I am traveling with! Thank you for coming along with me.

In Love and Sisterhood,
Lori Jackson

OCTOBER MEETING

Program: Destressing from Stressors of School and the World
October 2, 2021. 9:30 A.M.
St Paul's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall
Phillipsburg, Texas
Hostesses: Burton/Washington County
Cost: \$1.00
Meditation: Elizabeth Jurica
Collect: Carobeth Bockhorn
Pledges: Molly Russ
Mission Statement: Anna Breddin
Prayer: Cheryl DaBera
Door Prize: Bertha Upshaw
Perfect Attendance Prize: Mary Keienburg
Replies to: Bertha Upshaw by Monday, August 27th
bupshaw@academicplanet.com or 979-421-3841

COMMITTEE REPORTS

These committees will report at the October Meeting

Legislative - Lou Pruet
Yearbook - Gail Schroeder/Linda Braun
Scholarship - Carole Fry
Rules & By-Laws/Technology - Mary Keienburg
Membership - Adriana Mendoza
Looking forward to hearing names of nominees for new members!!! Goals!!! It would be phenomenal to have at least one or two nominees from each of our towns!!

AUGUST RECAP

Waller provided a lovely brunch with cute decorations and program based on the book The Little Engine that Could. Trudy and Lori gave a Denton convention report. Honors and awards were acknowledged. Congratulations to those members contributing to those awards. The regular business meeting was held along with reports from the Program, Finance, and Membership Committees. Birthdays were recognized for August and September. "In the Spotlight" also recognized three

members which are current teachers. It was a great meeting and I am so thankful it was held in person.

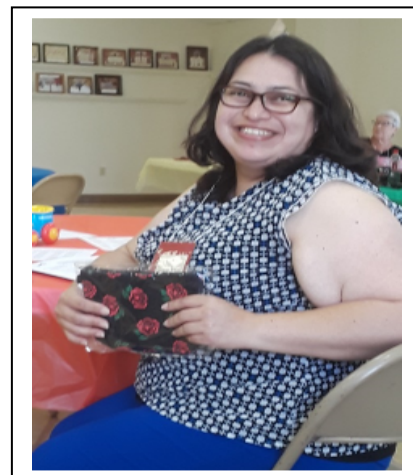
If you need to contact Lori, use email (lorijackson518@gmail.com) or cell phone (979-885-9340). No longer has a land line.



Cheryl spotlights Christina



.....and Sharon.....



.....and Adriana

A PAT ON THE BACK

Chapter rules are reviewed and updated each biennium. I received an email from Judy Evans, the TSO Bylaws and Rules Chair, at the end of August. Our chapter rules were submitted the last biennium and approved. As she stated we do not have to resubmit. A big Thank You to Mary Keienburg and her committee to keeping us in check.

A very touching moment at the state convention was "The Celebration of Life and Remembrance" Three former state presidents were honored, Mary Frances Rowlette, Sandra Whitney, and Catherine Davis, names you may recognize. Most importantly, one of our own, Barbara Koy was remembered from our chapter. Truly a beautiful part of the convention.

AREA 7

For your information, here is contact information for some important people in the organization.

Area Coordinator - Nancy Varljen
coordinatorarea7@gmail.com

Area Mentor - Stacey Arnold
sjarnold31@gmail.com

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

6 Grace Holtkamp
15 Helen Jean Kueker
15 Beth Franke
19 Jeanell Dallmeyer
23 Janyce Beyer
24 Carobeth Bockhorn
30 Adriana Mendoza



School supplies for Focusing Families

SERVICE PROJECT

This year our service project is Focusing Families. A big thank you to everyone who brought school supplies for the children in August. This month we will be collecting items for babies. This includes; **baby toiletries, diapers of all sizes, wipes, diaper bags, onesies, blankets, etc.**

Go together with a partner or your town group to furnish items if you prefer. Remember, some things like diaper bags can be gently used and donated. Focusing Families will be appreciative of any items we can give them. Thank you for having such a generous spirit!

TRIED AND TRUE SCHOOL LUNCHEON RECIPES

One of the things I miss being retired is the monthly birthday and special day luncheons set up in the teacher's lounge!! The aroma drifting through the 3rd grade hall was mouth watering and so tempting! I remember running through the teacher's lounge to the workroom and stopping to grab a morsel or two! This month I am posting 2 of the recipes that were always a big hit. If you have a recipe that was a favorite or still is, send it my way and I will add it to an upcoming newsletter.

No Name - Dip - Cheryl Pritchett

1 bunch green onions, chopped
1 small package almonds (sliced or slivered)
1 jar REAL bacon bits
1 8 oz. package sharp cheddar cheese
Mayonnaise or Miracle Whip until spreading/dipping consistency

Mix ingredients together and serve with Wheat Thins or other crackers/chips of choice.

Chocolate Ribbon Dessert

There are many versions of this recipe and I know **Sharon Lange** does a great lemon version with a vanilla Oreo base.

35 Oreos finely crushed
6 TBSP butter or margarine, melted
1 pkg. (8 oz.) cream cheese softened
1/4 cup sugar
2 TBSP milk
1 tub (8 oz.) Cool Whip Whipped Topping
3 cups cold milk
2 pkgs. (4-serving size) Jello Chocolate Favor Instant Pudding

Mix crushed cookies (save a little to sprinkle on top of dessert if desired) and butter and put in 13X9 inch pan. Press firmly onto bottom of pan and refrigerate while prepping the cream cheese and pudding mixtures.

Beat cream cheese, sugar and 2 TBSP milk in large bowl till smooth. Gently stir in 1/2 of the whipped topping.

Pour 3 cups of milk into large bowl and pudding mixes. Beat and pour over the cream cheese layer.

Refrigerate. Before serving add the remaining whipped topping. Garnish with crushed Oreo crumbs or chocolate shavings. Store in refrigerator.

DATES TO REMEMBER

November 1 - Early Bird Yearbook Submissions - Thank you Gail Schroeder, Linda Braun, Sharon Lange, and Mary Keienburg for all of the hard work your group does to always make this deadline!!!

November 1 - STAR applications due (Spectacular Texas Arts Retreat) It will be held January 14-16.

November 6 - Meeting hosted by the Brenham/Washington Group

June 14-18 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!!

PRESIDENT'S MEETING AREA 7

This past Saturday, I attended an area 7 president's meeting in Round Rock. Our area coordinator, Nancy Varljen, led us in a morning filled with conversation and ideas to focus on for this coming year. The concentration was on recruitment and retention of members as well as community-building. What can we do in our journey to get new member, keep them involved, and how can we make ourselves known in our community? Well to be honest, 3 hours was not long enough to address the three areas!

However, it was a start, and it will be a topic for DKG sisters all over Texas as we continue to meet in person or online. "Relationships" was a key word!

The Area workshop will be held August 20, 2022. We began planning for that special day that will be held in the Austin area. Our theme will be "Oh, the Places we will go!" Dr. Seuss. Our chapter will be involved in making the programs and publicity. I wanted something we could handle from two hours away! I will keep you informed as I find out more information. If anyone has great marketing skills and would like to help me, I would appreciate it! Each chapter will also donate 2 door prizes for the day. It should be a great day!

JUST A THOUGHT...

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

"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes. You can steer yourself in any direction you choose. You're on your own and you know what you know, and YOU are the one who'll decide where to go."

So many times we become part of a group and after a while we become passive and led down the same paths as others. I know this is so true for me. We get busy with life and we take the easy route just to survive. However, while in attendance at the state convention, I was so inspired and decided to accept responsibility, shape my own path and become a more involved member of DKG. We are a dynamic group of women

with power we don't realize we have. Join me in this journey to make 2021-2022 a stand-out year in the Gamma Omega chapter! Oh the places we will go...

Can't wait to see all of you on October 2nd!

FOCUS COMMITTEE

Lou Pruett, Editor
Pruett6468@outlook.com

Lori Jackson
Bellville Members

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.

Brenham to Phillipsburg Church:

Take Highway 36 south to Austin County line; turn left at the first road, Church Road (a very short distance). Then turn right on Phillipsburg Church Road, you will see the Church on the right.

Sealy/Bellville to Phillipsburg Church:

Take Highway 36 north, turn right on Sempronius Road (approx. 1 ½ miles from the Kenney overpass). At the cemetery turn left on Phillipsburg Church Road, and the church will be on the left