

Beta Tau NEWSLETTER



Aspire to create positive change through collaboration, service, and leadership opportunities.

Cultivate growth of members and chapters.

Thrive together by fostering a sense of belonging and celebrating success.

Teressa's Message

September President's Greeting

I am writing this message on behalf of our President, Teressa, who is dealing with some challenges at this time. One thing we know for sure in Beta Tau Chapter, is that we can turn to each other when we need a helping hand.

As we begin this new academic year and year of chapter life together, I wish each of you the blessings that God richly bestows on us as educators, including the friendship and love that our precious chapter life provides. For those who are "back in the saddle again" in the classroom, office, or whatever capacity in which you serve education, just know that we who have moved out of that life have your back. We all know the challenges facing education today in a general sense, but your words to us and specific enlightenment will help our chapter better serve teachers and students. For many of us who are now retired or in other employment, we still experience the pull of the classroom, and every year as we buy school supplies to fill our backpacks for CAM, we feel the nostalgia. I was truly blessed by my fifty years of teaching English and still feel the magnetic force that interaction with students and colleagues provides.

We have another wonderful year ahead for 2025-2026 of programs, service, socialization, and celebrations as a chapter. Plans are still in the works for some months, especially our 90th birthday party in January. Please make a commitment to invite a woman educator to our meetings to help us grow and promote our purposes.

Jeanette Pierce

Beta Tau Newsletter

Beta Tau Chapter
San Antonio, Texas
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SAVE THE DATE

<p>Saturday, September 13th 2025 10:00 a.m. Welcome Back Brunch Social-Business Meeting Global Awareness Presentation Committee Reports and Convention Update</p>	<p>MacArthur Park Lutheran Church 2903 Nacogdoches Rd. San Antonio, TX 78217</p>
<p>Saturday, October 11, 2025 10:00 a.m. Red Bowl Auction Social-Business Meeting</p>	<p>MacArthur Park Lutheran Church 2903 Nacogdoches Rd. San Antonio, TX 78217</p>
<p>Saturday, November 15, 2025 10:00 a.m. Scholarships ASTEF Project Work Based Learning</p>	<p>MacArthur Park Lutheran Church 2903 Nacogdoches Rd. San Antonio, TX 78217</p>
<p>Saturday, December 13, 2025 10:00 a.m. Silver Scholarship Fundraiser Social Meeting Homemade Cookie Sale</p>	<p>MacArthur Park Lutheran Church 2903 Nacogdoches Rd. San Antonio, TX 78217</p>
<p>Saturday, January 17, 2026 "Happy 90th Birthday, Beta Tau" Speaker: Beverly La France, Area 6 Coordinator Social Meeting</p>	<p>TBD</p>
<p>Saturday, February 14, 2026 10:00 a.m. Social-Business Meeting Presenter: Cathy Criner STAR Slate of Officers 2026-2028</p>	<p>MacArthur Park Lutheran Church 2903 Nacogdoches Rd. San Antonio, TX 78217</p>
<p>Saturday, March 21, 2026 11:00 a.m. Social Meeting Regional Area Workshop Plans</p>	<p>Silo Elevated Cuisine 434 N. Loop 1604W San Antonio, TX. 78232</p>
<p>Saturday, April 11, 2026 10:00 a.m. Health-Mind, Body, Wallet Co-presenters</p>	<p>MacArthur Park Lutheran Church 2903 Nacogdoches Rd. San Antonio, TX 78217</p>

CONVENTION FUN



Happy participants: Myrna Burke, Scotta Williams, and Kay Aguilar.

“Oh no! Not another treasure’s duty!”



Jeanette Pierce and Kathy Moran at the Founders Banquet in Denton.



Check out Beta Tau's Website
<http://deltakappagamma.org/TX-betatau/>



Group picture after Founders Banquet at convention.
San Marcos is the location for 2027 - let's get an
Airbnb, y'all! Fun, fun & close to home!!!!



BACKPACK PROJECT

Our backpack project was once again very successful and CAM was super appreciative! Fifteen members participated to provide thirteen backpacks stuffed with supplies!

The photo shows Lynda Haile, her grandson and Ginny Stowell dropping off their bags.



Beta Tau Chapter
Delta Kappa Gamma
Meeting Minutes for April 26, 2025
MacArthur Park Lutheran Church
2903 Nacogdoches Road
San Antonio, TX 78217



During a period of social time, ladies signed in and received their name tags. Fifteen members were in attendance, including longtime member Charlotte Hains Gates.

President Teressa Lowrance called the meeting to order at 10:22 a.m. She pointed out the survey about membership and programs on the back of the agenda. Those could be filled out at the meeting or returned to her at presbetatau@gmail.com which is her email address.

Brenda Krueger gave the devotion based on the idea of Sabbath and giving yourself permission to rest. She followed the reading with a prayer for protection and peace for teachers.

Door prizes for this meeting were provided by Patty Raney. Winners were Suzette Price, Carolyn Dahlgren, Kathy Moran and Ann Carter.

President Lowrance gave an update on the health status of Myrna Burkes, her daughter and granddaughter and on Bel Rocha's sister Odette. Cathy Criner reported on Texas State President Bonnie Moore's progress after her car accident and on former President Marilyn Gregory's recovery after her automobile accident. Price relayed information to the group that Rose Bradley's brother had died unexpectedly. Prayers were requested for all of these ladies.

Lowrance gave the Beta Tau Key Women Educator Award in Chapter Service to Kathy Moran who was not able to attend last month when the other awards were presented.

The Founder's Day Luncheon is May 3, 2025, and the Beta Tau Chapter is to provided the table decoration which is to honor Mamie Sue Bastion, a Delta Kappa Gamma founder. Lowrance asked for help on gathering items for the centerpiece. She is providing one basket for the silent auction, and another basket is being donated by Patty Raney and Ginny Stowell. Beta Tau can have up to four baskets, and the proceeds come back to the chapter. Scotta Williams gave an oral list of those who have paid to attend the event.

Jeanette Pierce told that our scholarship recipient, Patricia Flores is working on her teacher certification through the "Texas Teachers" certification program. She will receive the \$500 scholarship in the fall.

Pierce then gave information about the “Educational Savings Account” bill that has been passed by the Texas Legislature and signed by Gov. Abbott. The education savings account (ESA) program, also known as a school voucher program, is designed to provide funding for families to choose private schools or homeschooling. SB 2. The program is capped at \$1 billion in its first year. Families can use the funds for private school tuition, homeschooling expenses, and other approved educational costs. Pierce suggested that Beta Tau members look for more information in publications such as Texas Monthly and The Texas Tribune. More information could be found through teacher unions and organizations such as the American Federation of Teachers, Texas State Teachers Association, Association of Teachers in Public Education, etc. A list of all bills proposed before the end of the current legislative session is available at Legiscan. LegiScan LLC is an impartial and nonpartisan legislative tracking, reporting and data service utilizing LegiScan GAITS and LegiScan API.

Treasurer Williams reported that 22 members have paid their chapter dues including Jeannette Ferguson who was previously approved for reserve status. Available cash in the checking account on April 26, 2025 is \$4,336.75. She said that at this point there are six members attending the June 24-27 Texas State Convention in Denton. May 15 is the deadline for registration for the event.

Beta Tau member Patty Raney presented a show and tell of items she had collected during her 16 years of living in Okinawa.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzette Price, acting secretary



MEETING PICTURES

Cathy Criner and Kathy Moran reconnect. They are probably discussing choir business.



Scotta Williams, Charlotte Haines Gates and Brenda Krueger eagerly await the April meeting.



Patty Raney shares some of her mementoes from Okinawa with the chapter.



Patty Raney, Brenda Krueger, Ginny Stowell, Carolyn Dahlgren and Kathy Helmke smile for Suzette Price.

Carolyn Smith and Ann Carter catch up at the sign in table.



Lola Hill, Carolyn Dahlgren and Brenda Krueger pose before the April meeting.

Suzette Price and Patty Raney looking over the textiles.



Thank you, Patty, for your contributions and your presence in our chapter. You made us better!

FAVORITE RECIPE

By
Kathy Helmke

MOM'S BANANA BREAD

Cream first: 1 c. Sugar, 1/2 c softened butter

Add: 2 eggs, 2 t. Vanilla, 1 c. Ripe mashed bananas (usually 2)

Combine & add: 2 c flour, 1/2 t. Baking soda, 1/2 t salt, 1/4 t. Nutmeg, 1/4-1/2 t. Cinnamon

Optional: 1 c. Chopped walnuts or pecans,

Add: 1/2 c. sour cream, 6 oz. Softened cream cheese

Bake at 350 degrees in greased 9X5 loaf pan for 45-50 minutes. Thanks, Kathy!!!!

SEPTEMBER MEETING

It'll be great to see everyone again and to catch up after the summer. Our meeting includes a Welcome Back brunch so bring your best brunch recipes - there's a stove in the kitchen to keep warm things warm. Reports from committees and convention updates will be presented. Hope to see you there!

MEMBER NEWS

Remembering Patricia (Patty) Raney

We celebrated the life of Patty Raney at her memorial service on July 29, 2025. Many of our Beta Tau chapter members gathered to participate in the portion of the worship service that included our Delta Kappa Gamma ceremony with special readings and the placing of red roses in her memory. Thank you to our Ceremonies Chair, Carolyn Smith, for printing the text for readers including Carolyn Dahlgren, Jeanette Pierce, and Carolyn Smith. She also provided the beautiful roses that were placed next to the altar by many chapter members. This act of love from Beta Tau was most appreciated by Patty's brother Jim and family. He remarked that he thought this was such a heartfelt gesture by our chapter, and it truly was. So moved was Pastor Charles Fredrickson that he commented on how beautiful the remembrance was both at the time of the service and even weeks later. Patty's memory will live on through us, her Beta Tau Chapter sisters.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Ann Morales and her husband recently celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary!



Condolences to our chapter members who have suffered losses of beloved family members and friends this summer. We remember:

Suzette Price and family on the passing of her husband, Jim.

Bel Rocha and family on the passing of her sister, Odette.

Former member, Marilyn Wienecke on the death of her son, Michael Trent Wienecke.

Our entire San Antonio community on the recent death of Susanne Jalnos, Holocaust survivor and friend to Jeanette Pierce.

Prayer requests:

Carolyn Dahlgren's brother Al

Please remember to send prayer requests and good news to the editor, Kathy Moran, president, Teressa Lowrance, and corresponding secretary, Ginny Stowell.



HAPPY SUMMER BIRTHDAYS!

MAY: Dawn Fenerty 14 Cathy Criner 16 Rose Bradley 19

JUNE: Charlotte Haines Gates 2 Brenda Krueger 4
Patsy Roe 14
Scotta Williams 24 Paula Moore 30

JULY: Ginny Stowell 24

AUGUST: Roberta Carlson 3 Ruby Lopez 9
Jeannette Ferguson 10 Kay Aguilar 26

Mission Statement

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes Professional and personal Growth of women educators and Excellence in education.

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Texas State
President

Dr. Stacie Arnold

Vision Statement

Leading Women Educators
Impacting Education Worldwide

Beta Tau Officers

PRESIDENT	Teressa Lowrance
1st VICE PRESIDENT	Jeanette Pierce
2nd VICE PRESIDENT	Kay Aguilar
TREASURER	Scotta Williams
RECORDING SECRETARY	Bel Rocha
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Ginny Stowell
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Myrna Burkes

We're on the Web!

<http://deltakappagamma.org/TX-betatau/>