



DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
ALPHA STATE * AREA XVI
DENTON COUNTY * CHAPTER #248
KAPPA THETA * LEWISVILLE, TX

April 2011

Volume 34, Issue 7

Kappa Theta Keynotes

President's Message

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Next Meeting

Monday, April 4

6:15 p.m.

Marcus H.S.
Library

More details
inside!



Greetings, Kappa Theta Sisters!

So, did you all go home and dig in the dirt after our great program on Monday night? I was pleased to see that my Knock Out Roses were among the "Earth-Kind" ones in the brochure. I actually bought compost for them; now I just have to get it out of the bags and on the ground! Thanks to Lynda Harvey from the Denton County Master Gardeners for inspiring us all.

The hostesses surely put us in the mood for St. Patrick's Day with all the GREEN! Great food and great fun! Thanks, too, to Janice Shuffield for a meditation message that fit the theme of sowing and reaping. After collecting more than 100 food items for CCA, Robyn's ice breaker activity had us going strong.

Our last three projects of the year are coming to a big finale in April. The writing samples from LISD elementary students will be evaluated on March 22; many Kappa Theta sisters will be needed for the task at Lewisville Elementary at 4 p.m. Likewise, the applications for the Juanita Harmon Grants-In-Aide will be ranked by available members during Spring Break. Please participate in both if you can. The winners in both projects will be presented at the April 4 Kappa Theta meeting, a big night for students, parents and teachers. The following Saturday, April 9, Kappa Theta sisters will take goodie bags to the residents of Stillwell Retirement Home in Waco. Those making the trip will eat lunch with the Stillwell residents and enjoy personalized tours of the facility. What a busy time for us all!

The best part of the evening was recognizing Kappa Theta members who have been named to Alpha State positions of leadership for the 2011-2013 biennium: Marcie Cooley will be the Area XVI Coordinator, Cheryl Crawford will be Chairman of the Headquarters Committee, Cindy Neander will be Co-Chairman for the 2012 Alpha State Convention to be held in Los Colinas, and Juanita Harmon will serve as an advisor to the convention planners. How proud we are of all of them! With this pride comes a commitment to be active participants in the planning and running of the convention in 2012, which will start with advertising at this year's convention in McAllen. There is still time to register for the trip, June 22-26. Come join us!

It will be especially good to have many Kappa Theta sisters at the April 4 meeting to meet the winners, parents and teachers for both the elementary writers and the high school senior women future teachers. Please make plans to attend. Robyn will be conducting the ceremony and the business meeting, as I will be taking a once-in-a-lifetime trip to Tuscany. Just couldn't pass it up, and I know Robyn will do a great job.

Have a great Spring Break!

Diana

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MARCH MEETING!!



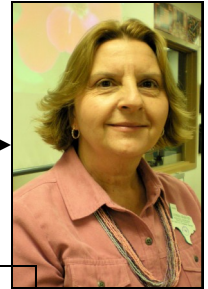
Cheryl Crawford will serve as Headquarters Committee Chairman for the next biennium--CELEBRATE!



March hostesses prepared green refreshments.



Missy Mayo and Amy Bailey enjoyed March treats!



Denton County Master Gardener Lynda Harvey told us about "Earth-Kind" gardening.



Members participated in a spontaneous "ice breaker" called "All About Me!" involving personal questions.

Rosemary Odoms shows off boxes of canned goods for C.C.A.



Marcie Cooley will serve as Area XVI Coordinator for the next biennium.



Kari Wiggins and Shirley Vanderford visit before the meeting.

March fun, food, and folks!



Cindy Neander will serve as Co-Chair of the 2012 Alpha State Convention.



FROM THE PERSONAL GROWTH COMMITTEE (Stilwell Subcommittee)...

April 9—Trip to Stilwell Retirement Home in Waco, TX.

Meet at 7:30 a.m. in the Lewisville High School parking lot.

Lunch at Stilwell will be \$7.00. We will return home around 2:30.

For more information, contact Shirley Vanderford.

NEWS ABOUT THE UPCOMING APRIL MEETING!

Bring a book for the book swap and share!

Awards ceremony for the Writing Contest winners and the Juanita Harmon Grant-in-Aid winners!

Reception for all winners and their parents and teachers.

We will write thank you notes to teachers of the Writing Contest participants.

**Make plans now to attend the
Alpha State
Convention in McAllen
June 22-26, 2011.**

Contact Diana Brown for more information.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Venita Blake

Clair Bradford

Becky Davila

Becky Dewald

Megan Diercks

Surita Hatton

Valerie L'Huilliere

Linda Stokes

Ann Thiede

THE EASTER EGG

One of the most distinctive food elements of the Easter celebration is the Easter egg. In earlier times, Easter eggs were much more a part of the formal culture than they are in America today, where individual families determine the range of the custom. In the European village context, Easter eggs were once used as part of one's tithe to the landlord, or given as festive (and expected) gifts to the village pastor, the schoolmaster, the sexton and bell-ringer, the parish gravedigger, and even the village shepherd. Of course, they were hospitably presented to visitors, bestowed as favors upon servants, and, above all, given to children. Courting couples exchanged them as tokens of love, and godparents usually regaled their godchildren with gifts of decorated eggs.

From:

Yoder, Don. "Easter." *Encyclopedia of Food and Culture*. Ed. Solomon H. Katz. Vol. 1. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 2003. 545-547. *Gale Virtual Reference Library*. Web. 14 Mar. 2011.



From the Spring, 2011 issue of *The Lone Star News*...

“New Chapter Will Be Installed in April” by Jo Anne Brooks, Expansion Chairman



The Texas State Organization is forming a new chapter, Mu Psi. This chapter will be located in the upper northeast corner of Area 5 in the town of Tivoli in Refugio County. The school district in the area is Austwell-Tivoli ISD. Charter members will consist of transferees and initiates. Members are invited to attend the Founding Ceremony on April 30, 2011, at 1:30 p.m. at the Dow Clubhouse, Hwy. 185, Seadrift, between Tivoli and Port Lavaca. Please RSVP to Expansion Chairman, JoAnn Brooks, joannbrooks@verizon.net, if you plan to attend. Members or chapters wishing to support this new chapter by a gift of money or an item for their chapter ceremonies, please contact JoAnn Brooks. We will recognize and honor this newest chapter in the Texas State Organization at our state convention in McAllen.

Brooks, Jo Ann. "New Chapter Will Be Installed in April." *The Lone Star News* 64.3 (Spring, 2011): 10. Print.

FROM THE PERSONAL GROWTH COMMITTEE (Writing Contest Subcommittee)...

Writing Contest Judging: March 22, 2011 at 4:00 p.m.

Lewisville Elementary School, Room 710

285 W. Country Ridge Road in Lewisville

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to help judge!

For more information, contact Jeannie Cumbie.

**FROM THE WINTER, 2010 ISSUE OF *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin*...****TECHNOLOGY, PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES (PLCS), & SMALL LEARNING COMMUNITIES (SLCs)**

Technology is not essential for a learning community, but it definitely can enhance the interactions of the community. Blogs allow members (whether teachers and administrators in a PLC or students, teachers, administrators, and parents in an SLC) to engage in continual conversation even when not physically present. Wikis can be an effective knowledge management tool, allowing members to collectively build a knowledge bank. Podcasts and videocasts allow members to capture moments for others to view at their leisure, specifically allowing new members to the group to gain from past meetings, lessons, discussions, etc.

While MySpace and FaceBook are widely known, Ning (www.ning.com) is a social network venue that allows you to create and control your own social network. This allows educators greater control over the social network. Schools often block MySpace and FaceBook because the interaction goes well beyond the context of school. I believe products like Ning will allow schools to make better use more important role. A social network is a learning community in many ways. Schools can now create virtual learning communities toward improving student achievement. Learning communities can now extend beyond the local school and beyond scheduled meetings. I believe blogs, wikis, social networks – Web 2.0 tools – will greatly enhance learning communities.

Merz, Judith. "From Isolation to Collaboration and Community: An Interview With Dr. Nancy Sulla." *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin* 76.2 (Winter, 2010): 49-53. Print.

**“Advance the Society:
Believe, Engage, Learn, Lead!”**



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