



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

December 2011

Volume 35, Issue 4

# Kappa Theta Keynotes

*Exploring Possibilities: Let Our Vision  
 Light the Way!*



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Season's Greetings, Kappa Theta Sisters!

No better way to experience holiday joy than at a festive Kappa Theta Christmas Party! You just can't beat the fellowship, the fun and the food, plus the inspiration of the initiation ceremony for new members. I'll bet there will be more Christmas stockings for Mom this year due to the message from Dowanne Jones in her meditation presentation, also.

Kathleen Ives and the Ceremony Committee made every detail of the initiation ceremony very meaningful for everyone in the room, especially Rhonda Godbey, Sheila Canida, Alisha Odoms, Heather Bowen, Amanda Killough and Debra Grebel, our new members. The ceremony serves as the culmination of the work of Mary Walker and the Membership Committee who walked the nominees through the whole process toward membership in Delta Kappa Gamma. A big "thank you" to both committees from all of us!

Joel Wright, the director of the Stilwell Retirement Center in Waco, one of our favorite places to visit, told wonderful stories and showed pictures of the place and people we hold dear with our Stillwell Project in the spring. Then Kate Fite, a renowned storyteller, drew us into the Christmas season with a wonderful story. So, we had a great time of information and inspiration slipped in between our dinner and business.

Kappa Theta Sisters certainly can multi-task because we signed Christmas cards for the Stilwell members, signed the food list for the Chili Supper, and picked up our raffle tickets, all while visiting, eating and listening to our speakers. That made the business meeting quite short!

Tickets for the raffle to be held at the January Chili Supper were handed out for each member to sell, which won't be difficult with the great raffle packages put together by the Raffle Committee. Likewise, the great food provided by the Kappa Theta Sisters should show our appreciation for the LISD School Board, Administrators, and retirees, the invited guests to the Chili Supper, all under the supervision of the Chili Supper Social Committee. The work and planning of these committees made it easy for each member to do their part. If you missed out, contact Cathy Champon for raffle tickets and Gail Warner for the food list.

What a great party! Thanks to Cindy Neander, Marcie Cooley, and their Social Committee for a very enjoyable and memorable way to celebrate Delta Kappa Gamma, Kappa Theta and all the work done to fulfill the goals of the Society.

Peace and Blessings,

*Diana*

### Next Meeting:

January 9

4:30 p.m

Bolin Center

Chili Supper and  
 Grant-in-Aid Raffle

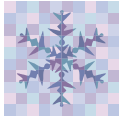
Happy new initiates! Alisha Odoms, Amanda Killough, Deborah Grebel, Rhonda Godbey, Heather Bowen, and Sheila Canida.



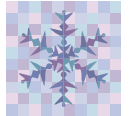
Members catch up before the meeting.



Dowanne Jones gave a lovely meditation she found in *Chicken Soup for the Soul*.



# DECEMBER MEETING HAPPENINGS!



Chris Johnson, Shirley Vanderford, and Rannette Dean show off the Christmas cards which will be sent to Stilwell residents.



Guest speaker Joel Wright gave a presentation on life at the Stilwell Retirement Home.



Guest speaker Kate Fite presented an inspirational Christmas story.



Members wait to congratulate new initiates.



New initiates are excited to be members of Kappa Theta!

Members enjoyed the "Christmas Sing-Along"!





# MYSTERY MEMBER OF THE MONTH

- \*This month's mystery member was initiated in 2009. She is currently serving on Kappa Theta's scholarship committee.
- \*She teaches AP Human Geography and World Geography at LHS Harmon 9th Grade Campus.
- \*She received her degree in social science education from Florida State University and a Master of Education Administration degree from National Louis University.
- \*She has been married to her wonderful husband for twelve years and has a beautiful ten-year-old daughter.
- \*She says, "There is nothing unusual about me!" She likes to read, travel, and talk!
- \*\*See if you can guess which Kappa Theta member this is! The answer will be announced at our January meeting and posted in next month's newsletter!

NOVEMBER'S MYSTERY MEMBER OF THE MONTH WAS... **GAIL WARNER!**

## CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

Many Christmas customs originated in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. These customs include sending Christmas cards and hanging a sprig of mistletoe in a room or hallway. According to tradition, a person may kiss anyone standing under the mistletoe. On Christmas Eve, children hang up stockings for Father Christmas, the British version of Santa Claus, to fill with presents. On the afternoon of Christmas Day, most British families watch their monarch give a special Christmas message on television. In England, dinner on Christmas Day features roast turkey and dessert of mince pie and plum pudding. During the days before Christmas, children or groups of adults go from house to house singing Christmas carols. Children ask for money for themselves, but adults usually ask for money for charity. This tradition began many years ago, when visitors sang carols in return for a drink from the wassail bowl. The bowl contained hot punch made from ale, apples, eggs, sugar, and spices. The word, wassail, comes from "Was haile", an old Saxon greeting that means, "Be healthy". Today, English people at large parties still drink punch, but it is usually made from wine and other alcoholic beverages, fruit, and spices. In Ireland, people put a lighted candle in their window on Christmas Eve as a sign of welcome to Mary and Joseph. In Wales, people have caroling contests during the weeks before Christmas. Roast turkey is the main course for dinner. People in Scotland also have roast turkey and exchange small gifts. Some Scottish families decorate a Christmas tree and sing carols, but most hold their main celebrations on New Year's Day.

Myers, Robert J. "Christmas." *World Book Student*. World Book, 2011. Web. 12 Dec. 2011.

 <p><b>Celebrate</b> being a DKG WOMAN</p>	<p>MERRY CHRISTMAS AND <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b> TO YOU AND YOURS !!</p>  
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# DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Pauline Arnold  
Cathy Champon  
Roberta Gould  
Amanda Killough

Janet Bass  
Julie DiSalvo  
Dowanne Jones  
Heather Lewis



## FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE...

Kappa Theta members – are you in the process of growing professionally? Would you like to have some help with the funding of your educational opportunities? We have a solution!!!

Kappa Theta has scholarships available (up to @\$250) to fund professional development opportunities. Alpha State also has scholarship money available for those working on a Masters or Doctoral Degree. The funding is there – you just have to apply and meet the criteria!

Please check our Kappa Theta website: <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/TX-kappatheta/KTLocalScholarshipapplication.pdf>.

The deadline is April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012.

For those interested in scholarship information regarding Alpha State Scholarships visit the Alpha State website: <http://www.alphastatetexas.org/scholarships.html>.

Have questions??? Contact Kathy Uhlich ([uhlichk@lisd.net](mailto:uhlichk@lisd.net)), Juanita Harmon ([jwharmon917@verizon.net](mailto:jwharmon917@verizon.net)), or Erika Lowery ([loweryea@lisd.net](mailto:loweryea@lisd.net)).



## UPCOMING EVENTS...MARK YOUR CALENDAR



January 9—Chili Supper and Grant-In-Aide Raffle—Bolin Center, Conference Room D—4:30 p.m.

February—Tri-Chapter Dinner—Denton—Time and date TBA

March 5—Chapter meeting—Marcus HS—6:15 p.m.—Bring canned goods for CCA; Program: Zumba

March 9—Writing project entries due; Grant-in-Aide scholarship applications due



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