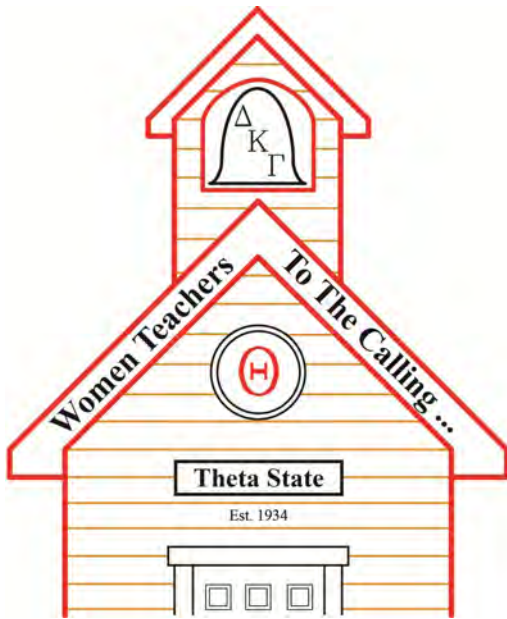


# Theta State News

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International of New Mexico  
Leading Women Educators; Impacting Education Worldwide

## Calling Sisters to Attend the 81st Birthday Luncheon and Fall Meeting



Are you ready for the School Year? Then you will be ready for a break. The **81st Theta State Birthday Luncheon and Fall Meeting** are just what you will be looking for on **November 7, 2015**.

The Executive Board meeting begins at 8:00 a.m. All chapter presidents, past Theta State Presidents, and officers are members of the board and should attend. Committee chairs will give reports so that we can see the progress of Theta State.

Between the meeting and the workshops, you will be able to shop in

the vendor area. Then, you will be able to attend two workshops (they are always exciting).

**Courtney Custer**, will be speaking about the Roots of Empathy. **Courtney** is the Director of Communications for Southwest Family Guidance Center. She holds a bachelors degree in psychology and a masters degree in counseling from the University of New Mexico. **Courtney** is a licensed mental health counselor and is a member of the **American Counseling Association** and the National Board of Certified Counselors. She has worked as a therapist in schools and community agencies with families, couples, and children. **Courtney** currently serves as the **Roots of Empathy** coordinator in New Mexico. In this role, she handles school involvement, stakeholder contribution, volunteer recruitment, and ongoing program support.

Of course, we will wish Theta State a happy birthday! Gathering with sisters from around the state is always invigorating.

**SEE YOU THERE!**

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Registration is on page 9

## Women Teachers to the Calling. . .



### Ring Ring....Hello...

Thank you for answering the call from your Theta State President. I have just a few things that I would like to share with you. First, if you are still teaching, I wish you a successful year filled with many memories and opportunities to touch the lives of your students. If you have finished your teaching career, I wish you success in all that you do.

We are working diligently to prepare for a wonderful **Fall Birthday Luncheon** and meeting. Please save the date and join us. The list of workshops has something for everyone. The **CCC** has planned an event where we can tend to the business at hand, enjoy a great meal with an outstanding speaker, and still have time to catch up with our fellow sisters from all around the state. Please send in your registration form found in this edition of the Theta State News.

New Mexico was well represented at the Southwest Regional Conference in Wichita Kansas this summer! The training for new state presidents was very informative. This was the first time I had to introduce myself as the state president and not the incoming president. It was one of those “ah ha” moments. The ladies in Kansas took very good care of us with wonderful meals,

excellent workshops, and plenty of time to meet new friends and reconnect with old friends. I encourage everyone to start saving their pennies. The next International Convention will be in Nashville, Tennessee, and then we will go to Hawaii for the next Southwest Regional Conference. If you have never been to a convention or conference, talk to the ladies who went and see just how much fun we had and get them to share what they learned at the workshops.

I have placed many calls in the last few weeks, and I am very grateful to all who have answered the call to service for Theta State. We have many new committee chairs, and I have contacted them to get everything going. Please help these chairs complete their tasks by joining their committees or completing what they ask of you. I truly believe that Delta Kappa Gamma is a great organization and, with a little work from each of us, we can continue to improve and accomplish our goals. My favorite teacher always told us that we get out of anything what we put into it, which may be one of the reasons why my favorite quote is from **Thomas A. Edison**. He says, “Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.”

I look forward to visiting each of the chapters over the next couple of years. Please contact me, and we can work out a time when I can come for a chapter visit. I want to see all the great members of our state and learn about what each of you is doing.

Until My Next Call...Goodbye

*Susie Swope*  
Theta State President



*Susan Swope, Theta State President*



## 2015 Leadership - Successful Leaders Form a Team

Theta State officers and committee chairmen attended the Leadership Seminar on May 29 – 30, 2015. *Successful Leaders Form a Team* was the theme for the training. The seminar was held in Hobbs, NM. Attendees participated in various activities, workshops, and informative sessions. Nineteen members from across the state attended. Those attending obtained information, requirements and duties of their various positions.

Along with the training, members enjoyed the wonderful fellowship of their DKG sisters. A big THANK YOU to Taylor Memorial Baptist Church for the use of their facilities and the delicious meal prepared by **Joy Funderburk** and others.

I would like to express my gratitude to all the presenters, assistants, and the Leadership Committee members: **Kay Hannum** and **Yvette Moore**.

*Lonna Griffin*

*2013 – 2015 TS Leadership Chairman*



2013-2015 Leadership Committee

# Plan to come in 2016



Alpha Theta arriving (what most participants look like when they arrive)



Welcomers!



Ginny learning her job from Jeannette



Lonna begins our **Success Pyramid** with a story.



Pyramid complete



Terri Castillo & Gwen Hamilton collaborate



Not enough caffeine. Nearing the end for Sheri



Lots of learning - Notice that Shawna has the right answer.



Susie brings humor to the training



True Colors Gold - most of our leaders fall in this category, only a couple of greens & blues, only 1 orange (and her name begins with Yvette)

### 2015 Leadership Class

*Front Row (L-R) Sheri Williams, Susan Swope, Gwen Hamilton, Ella Kelly; Second Row (L-R) Shawna Denny, Ina Jean Barnes, Dianna Valdez, Jeannette Vigil; Third Row (L-R) Yvette Moore, Diane Fesmire, Joe Clarkson, Deborah Fagan, Sharee Hanes, Ginny Hill; Fourth Row (L-R) Lonna Griffin, Christine Mitchell, Kay Hannum, Lissa Crombie, Terri Castillo*

## 2015 Southwest Regional - Wichita

The 2015 SW Regional Conference in Wichita, Kansas was exciting, educational, and exceptional. We celebrated “85 Years and Beyond: Advancing Key Women Educators for Life”.

We were welcomed to Kansas, the sunflower state and enjoyed wheat fields, flint hills, the beautiful Arkansas River, the old west cow town, and the bronze art statues along the streets leading the way to the Hyatt Regency Hotel and Convention Center.

We listened and were inspired by wonderful presentations at the general sessions. **Dr. Justin W. Patchin** talked about preventing and responding to “Cyberbullying”. For more information, please visit [www.cyberbullying.us](http://www.cyberbullying.us). **Dr. Maureen Clemmons** told her story of thinking outside the box. She developed a new theory that wind power and the use of kites could have been used to construct the ancient pyramids and how she has tested her hypothesis. **Dyane Smokorowski**, Kansas teacher of the year, talked about making meaningful connections with students and keeping “education real” for kids. **Sandra Smith Bull** spoke to us about Delta Kappa Gamma. “Are we a Sorority, Society, Social Club, or a Professional organization?” What do you think? Are we a little bit of all of these? What will be our legacy?



**Ina Jean Barnes**, member of the elected International Nominations Committee 2014-2017, was busy at the info-fair giving out information about nominations along with rose screen cleaners from Sweden for your cell phones. She invited members to have a fancy ice-water drink, meet and greet the DKG International President **Dr. Lyn Babb Schmid**, and have their picture made with her. **Ina Jean** gave the inspiration at the Birthday Luncheon “Celebrating our Milestones”. She presented at two breakout sessions on how to complete applications for International Nominations, Scholarship and Golden Gift Management Seminar. This was the first time ever; that several International Committees successfully presented together at one workshop.

**Amanda Matray** participated in Paint the Town: Age 35 and under special event sponsored by Delta Kappa Gamma “Celebs”. The young Delta Kappa Gamma members were asked to share their art work at “Celebrating the Possibilities,” in the Third General Session.

What a Conference! The winds of change began in Wichita and will continue to evolve and support members’ needs. At the banquet, we celebrated in “Boots and Bling” and were entertained by a Southwest Regional talent showcase of music and dance. For the first time in my 40 years being in Delta Kappa Gamma, we did not conclude the event with the singing of the *Delta Kappa Gamma Song*.

It’s time to book your travel to the 2016 DKG International Convention at the Gaylord Opryland resort and convention center in Nashville, Tenn. See you there!

*Ina Jean Barnes*  
*Psi Chapter, TS Corresponding Secretary*

My trip to Wichita began in Granbury, Texas, for a few days before my mother and I embarked for *The Sunflower State*. My mom, **Judy Renshaw**, had broken her foot the day before I arrived, so we were challenged but undaunted! We drove to Abilene, Kansas to find my grandmother’s roots. From Abilene we drove to Hutchinson (Hutch), Kansas. We found every house my grandmother had inhabited in her hometown. We took a trip through the *Strataca*, the salt mine in which my great-grandfather worked. With a wheel chair always available, the trip was a joy. While 650 feet below the surface, mom and I met other women touring *Strataca*. They were Delta Kappa Gamma sisters! After a lunch in Yoder, Kansas at the Carriage Inn (amazing home cooked Amish food), we finished our journey to Wichita and the SW Regional Conference.



Photograph courtesy of *Photographs by Jim*, Floresville, Texas

From *A Taste of Kansas* to the *Boots and Bling Banquet*, the Southwest Regional Conference was an informative and exciting event. Sixteen New Mexicans and their two guests networked with DKG sisters from around the Southwest region. Two New Mexicans attended the event for the first time. The Society honored **Deb Feagan** with a seat at a front table for being one of the recently initiated members to attend the conference. **Ina Jean Barnes** invited all who attended the InfoFair to take part in a “water tea”, receive information about International Nominations, and have a picture taken with the International President, **Dr. Lyn Schmid**. **Salethia Morris** told us, “Although we are identified as key women educators, we are so much more than that....I challenge each of us to continue to be the risk takers that our founders were and to maintain integrity and wisdom in the face of adversity.”

**Lavon Hamblin’s** daughter and my mother were adopted by Theta State! My mother commented that she thought teachers were haughty before she attended the conference. Now she believes that we are all the most wonderful women in the world. Most of the women she met thought she was a teacher or the sister of past Texas state president, **Vicki Davis**. Our sincerest thanks to all who wheeled her around the conference.

*Yvette Moore*  
*Omega Chapter, TS Editor*

# 2015 Southwest Regional - Photo Gallery



Photograph provided by Jim Miller, *Photographs by Jim*, Floresville, Texas

Front Row: (L-R): Sharon Sevachko, Dianna Valdez, Judy Renshaw, Pat Burnett, Susan Swope, Lavon Hamblin, Ella Kelly, Jeannette Vigil  
Standing Back Row (L-R): Yvette Moore, Gwen Hamilton, Terri Castillo, Deb Feagan, Amanda Matray, Gladys Hielkema, Joe Clarkson, Ina Jean Barnes, Kay Hannum



NM at the Old Mill Tasty Shop. Photo taken by **Mark Sevachko**



Here We Are

Photograph provided by Jim Miller, *Photographs by Jim*, Floresville, Texas



Joe Clarkson in the choir



Sunflower & Boot table decoration



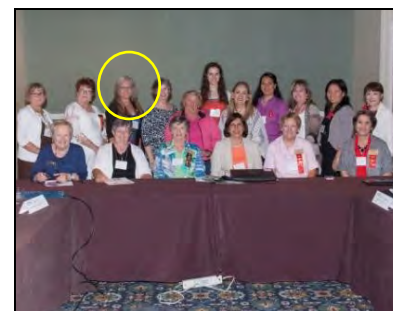
Trouble-makers in the back



Yvette Moore & Donna Miller ready for the banquet



Sharon Sevachko in a workshop



Ella Kelly & 2nd Vice Presidents

## White Roses

### Sibyl Mitchell



“Be active. Stay ready for constant change. Enjoy today.” That was **Sibyl Mitchell’s** advice to anyone, especially teachers, to ensure a long, happy life and a successful career. Her main goal was to become a master teacher, and that she did.

**Sibyl** graduated from West Texas State Teachers College in Canyon, Texas, in 1945; and her first teaching job was in the high school at Floydada, Texas. She and her husband, **Pres**, were given the responsibility of sponsoring the class of 1947-1950. They accompanied the class on all their trips and chaperoned at the proms. This class continued to invite them to all of the their reunions throughout the years. The last one **Sibyl** attended was the 59<sup>th</sup>.

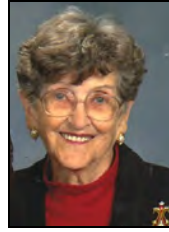
**Sibyl** received her MA in Elementary Education from the University of Indiana in 1958, and moved to Albuquerque the same year. **Pres** became the first director of KNME, and **Sibyl** began teaching 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Montgomery Elementary. She retired in 1980 after having taught 22 years at Montgomery.

**Sibyl** joined Alpha Iota chapter in 1974 and served in many positions including president. She was also active in Theta State as chair of the Scholarship Committee as well as the Red Chile Committee and serving as a member of the Finance Committee.

**Sibyl** traveled extensively all over the world and was still on a bowling team at the age of 90. She lived her own advice by staying active, taking change in stride, and enjoying today. Her Memorial Service was held at the First United Methodist Church in Albuquerque.

*Submitted by Alyce Cummins  
Alpha Iota*

### Helen Posten



**Helen Gertrude Abarr Posten** died on August 3, 2015 at the age of 104 in Georgetown, Texas. **Helen** was the daughter of Theta State Editor, **Jane Posten**. She retired from teaching in the mid 70’s and moved to Santa Fe. **Helen** was an active member of Delta Kappa Gamma and PEO. She served at the state and national levels of both. **Helen** was president of Beta Chapter in 1978-80.

**Helen** moved to Austin, Texas in the late 70’s to be with her daughter, **Jane**. Of late, she lived at the Wesleyan, a nursing home. She was an active member of Northwest Hills United Methodist Church.

**Helen** was preceded in death by her daughter **Jane**. She is survived by many nieces and nephews.

*Thanks to Ernestine Hagman, Beta Chapter  
for the information and picture*

## Red Roses



**Martha Deveneau**, a member of AI since 1974, was awarded 5 blue ribbons at an Iris Show which was held last Mothers’ Day in Albuquerque. **Martha** has grown Irises for many years and has won numerous ribbons of all colors, but this year was different. All five of her entries won a blue ribbon, and one of them placed second best of show.

**Congratulations, Martha!**

*Alyce Cummins  
Alpha Iota*

## 2014-2015 Initiates

Gina Hartwick - Alpha Theta  
Jerolyn Wagner- Alpha Theta  
Nancy Hein- Alpha Theta  
Molly Marley- Alpha Theta  
Linger Stearns- Alpha Theta  
Candice Buckles- Alpha Theta  
Virginia Smith - Omega

## Chapter News

### Alpha Iota News

Alpha Iota's Program Planning meeting, held at the home of **Diane Bonnell**, resulted in a variety of ideas for our upcoming year. One innovative idea was the "spontaneous meeting". President **Ann Calderwood** described this as a way for those members who are unable to attend some scheduled meetings to stay in touch with the other members. They could call or e-mail their AI sisters to invite them on a trip, to an exhibit at a museum, a good movie or stage production, or just to enjoy a meal at a new restaurant.

**Diane Bonnell** and **Alyce Cummins** have been busy preparing for the start of the Alpha Iota Marathon Bridge group in September. The members will play each month, except December, through April, 2016. This year, we are playing at a new venue, the Elegante Hotel, and will have 28 regular players and 7 substitutes. The AI Marathon Bridge group originated in the late 1970's and is AI's principal fund raising activity.

Our next meeting will be the traditional salad supper with Sigma Chapter. **Marilyn McGee**, Sigma, will host this event at her home on August 24.

Alpha Iota Chapter was designated the recipient of contributions made in memory of **Sibyl Mitchell**. We feel honored and very appreciative. The funds will be used for scholarships.

*Alyce Cummins*  
*Alpha Iota*

### Omega CHAMPIONS

The April meeting for Omega was highlighted by 2 special events. **Toni Hull** presented a program titled "Finding Time to Honor Your Commitments". In her presentation, **Toni** mentioned multiple ways to fulfill commitments including writing down a goal and doing something to meet it daily, even for a few minutes. The second highlight of the meeting was the enjoyment of Freddie Olhausen-Finkner's key lime pie (You had to be there)!



The initiation of **Virginia Smith** occurred at the beginning of the May meeting. Virginia was surprised and delighted by the attendance of her special friend, **Shawna Denney**, Theta State Recording Secretary from Kappa Chapter. The year ended with a social/potluck, and YOU GUESSED IT, more of Freddie's pies.

*Sharon Sevachko*  
*Omega Chapter President*



Please keep Carol Kellerman in your thoughts and prayers. She has been admitted to the hospital after being found by her husband unconscious.

## Committee Chair Communiqué



Are you looking for a way to liven up your chapter meetings? What about adding a tune? If the sisters in your chapter like to sing, you might have someone set the purposes to music and present the song in a meeting. How about a Purposes Rap? You could also play the Delta Kappa Gamma song from the Internet or from a CD.

If your chapter likes fine arts, you can take a tour of the DKG Fine Arts Gallery. Simply display the gallery on a large television or screen. The address is <https://www.dkg.org/content/dkg-gallery-fine-arts-0>. As you can see from the site, our members can submit work to the gallery for publication!

*Gay Simpkins*  
*TS Music Chair*



**81st Birthday Luncheon Executive Board Meeting, and Workshops**  
Theta State of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
**Saturday, November 7, 2015**

Courtyard by Marriott - 5151 Journal Center Blvd NE Alb. NM, US 87109  
(505) 823-1919 Toll Free Reservations: 1-877.905.4496  
Special Room Rates: \$85.00+tax until October 23rd (Request **Theta State Fall Event** rates)

**Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(Include St., Dr., Ave, etc NE, SE, NW, SW, Apt. #) City State Zip+4

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail\* \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter/Company \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\* Confirmation of registration will be sent via e-mail by October 30, 2015. If you do not receive confirmation by that date, contact Priscilla Brower @ browerpr@hotmail.com (505-463-1838)

**Birthday Luncheon** with Courtney Custer "Roots of Empathy"

**Cost:** \$22.00 Including tax and gratuity

Indicate Meal numbers: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$22.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ **Chicken Parmesan** Mixed Green Salad with Assorted Dressings, Chicken Breast, Roasted Red Potatoes, Vegetable Medley, Warm Rolls & Butter

\_\_\_ **Pasta Primavera** Mixed Green Salad with Assorted Dressings, Fresh Seasonal Vegetables and Farfalle Pasta tossed in Extra Virgin Olive Oil, Cracked Pepper, Parmesan & Asiago Cheeses, Warm Rolls & Butter  
Dessert: Strawberry Cheesecake or Carrot Cake with Nuts and Coffee, Tea and Water

List dietary restrictions : \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Meal Total

\_\_\_\_\_ Workshop Fee

\_\_\_\_\_ Sub Total

\_\_\_\_\_ Late Fee **DEADLINE: postmarked by OCTOBER 25, 2015 LATE FEE: \$5.00**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Total**

\_\_\_\_\_ I understand that if I do not want my photo to be taken, it is my responsibility to remove myself from photographs as they are being taken.



**Workshop Registration** Fee: \$5 per person to attend all workshops

Please send a form for each individual participant. \*\*complimentary for 1 per chapter, presenters (1 per session)

Fill in your workshop choice(s) (See descriptions on Fall Event Information page.):

8:00-10:00 TS Executive Board Meeting

10:15-10:45 Workshop # \_\_\_\_\_ 10:55-11:25- Workshop # \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you are using a complimentary registration.

\_\_\_ 1 Complimentary Workshop Registration for a chapter member to attend workshops.

\_\_\_ 1 Complimentary Workshop Registration for: 1 presenter presenting at a session.

Make checks payable to CCC  
Mail Checks and Forms to:  
**Priscilla Brower**  
3520 Jal Place NW  
Albuquerque, NM 87120

Contact information:  
Priscilla Brower, Fall Event Registrar,  
browerpr@hotmail.com





RETURN ADDRESS:  
YVETTE MOORE, EDITOR  
3040 CHEYENNE DRIVE  
LAS CRUCES, NM 8011-5269

Place  
Stamp  
Here

**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**  
**THETA STATE NEWS**

Deadlines:  
Spring—Feb 10  
Summer—May 10  
Fall—Aug 10  
Winter—Nov 10

The  
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December 1, 2015,  
is the deadline to apply for the  
2016 Leadership Management Seminar.  
Ask a New Mexico recipient of the  
Golden Gift for more information.

Jean Leonard  
Carmen Tapia  
Ina Jean Barnes  
Dianna Valdez  
Jeannette Vigil  
Kay Hannum  
Sheri Williams  
Yvette Moore

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