



Theta State News

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International of New Mexico

Theta State Celebrated an 80th Birthday!

The Annual Theta State Birthday Luncheon and Executive Board meeting was a great success. Chapter presidents, Theta State officers, and past state presidents agreed to release \$1,000 to the Scholarship Committee and \$250 to the Professional Affairs Committee so that we can fulfill one of our DKG purposes.

Between workshops, members could shop at the vendor tables. Gamma offered their book table, Alpha Iota offered a beautiful array of dehydrated goods, Beta chapter came with jewelry, Alpha Beta was represented by **Beverly Stern** selling horsehair pottery. Even a DKG husband showed up to man a vendor table. **Melissa Blaine-Harris** handed out “money” to encourage Theta State sisters to be involved in non-dues revenue projects.

The workshops featured topics from improving memory to funding chapter activities (with decorating in between). **Lonna Griffin** had the workshop attendees telling stories to teach mnemonic tricks for memorizing lists. Boy, were the participants good at repeating the list!

Ann Calderwood, president of Alpha Iota, welcomed us to the Birthday Luncheon. The Color Guard from La Cueva High School R.O.T.C. posted the Colors. **Sherri Williams** gave Greetings from the Theta State President and **Gay Simpkins**, TS Music Chair, led us in singing Grace. **Ella Kelly** passed the basket for World Fellowship, and the members contributed over \$200.

After eating a delicious meal, we each lit a birthday candle while **Gay Simpkins** led us in the DKG Birthday Song.

Marilyn McGee had the honor of introducing our guest speaker, **Dede Feldman**, former state senator and author. **Dede** said that when she arrived at the NM Roundhouse, she “felt like Alice in Wonderland.” **Dede** read passages from the book, *Boots, Suits and Citizens*. She was available after the luncheon to sell and sign her books.

Dede encouraged all of us to develop relationships with our legislature and legislators.

Our luncheon closed with a musical tribute to the founders of DKG in NM. **Yvette Moore** and troupe (**Gladys Hielkema, Joe Ann Clarkson, Gay Simpkins, and Jeannette Vigil**) performed the words of the Delta Kappa Gamma song to tunes that were known in 1935 (DKG NM’s second year). (You had to hear it to believe it.) **Birdie Adams**, aka **Jeannette Vigil**, read *The Temple of Delta Kappa Gamma* and we closed with the Delta Kappa Gamma Song.

Pictures of the event are on page 7. If we have this much fun at the Fall Meeting, you can bet that the State Convention, April 24 - 26th will be a wonderful experience!

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the
Lodge
at Santa Fe



Strengthening the Bond; Strengthening Theta State

Dear Sisters,

The 2014 Theta State Fall Executive Board meeting and Birthday Luncheon were just what I needed to set me in the right frame of mind for the "Holiday Season." Seeing all of my Theta State sisters and spending time with you reminds me of the special words I associate with this time of year – thankfulness, blessings, and celebration.

As written by Ralph Waldo Emerson ¹

For each new morning with its light,
For rest and shelter of the night
For health and food,
For love and friends,
For everything Thy goodness sends
I'm Thankful!

One of my favorite sayings which hangs in my room reminds me, "What if I only had tomorrow what I am thankful for today!"

I am thankful for each and every one of my sisters who brings a unique and special aspect to our society and to education. For me, you are a blessing, and I hope to celebrate with you again, soon. I am thankful for my family, this special time of year, and the celebration of Thanksgiving we are able to observe in this great nation; whether it is a religious or cultural tradition. I am mindful that this time of celebration in our country is for giving thanks for the blessings we have received this day and all the days of the preceding year. May each of us remember to be thankful for each of the blessings we celebrate each day.

"Blessing" is another word I am constantly reminded of when I am around my DKG sisters. A blessing is defined as a special favor, mercy, benefit or gift by God that brings you happiness. In that case, my life is so full of blessings! I just want you to know how very special you are. Each of you is a blessing to your sisters every time you give those little words of encouragement.

Christmas time is the perfect time to be thankful for all blessings. So, as you enjoy

your holiday season of thankfulness, blessings and celebration, don't forget the important place you hold in the hearts of your Theta State sisters all over the state. As we enter a new year, may we all continue to be mindful of the blessings for which we are thankful.

In celebrating a new year, please remember the 2nd purpose of DKG to honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education. Look for chapter members to honor first, then look outside your chapter at other women educators who need to be recognized. May we strengthen our bond as we nominate and elect new state officers. Remember that this is a job for each of us. So, please help Melody Bassing and the nominations committee by submitting names to them as soon as possible or let one of them know that you are interested in serving. I can honestly tell you that the blessings of service far outweigh the work load.

I wish you a thankful, blessed and joyful season of celebration and a happy and prosperous new year!

Respectfully with love and **thankfulness**,

Sheri Williams
TS President

¹ *Ralph Waldo Emerson. (n.d.). QuotesWave.com. Retrieved November 11, 2014, from QuotesWave.com. Website: <http://www.quoteswave.com/picture-quotes/432459> Read more at <http://www.quoteswave.com/picture-quotes/432459#dWdD1yOhvMv65Fk> I.99*



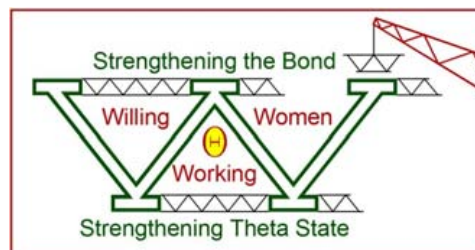
Sheri Williams, Theta State President



POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
Theta State News (USPS 371-010) P.O. Box 1071
Corrales, NM 87048-1071

Theta State News is a publication of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Editor:
Yvette Moore
3040 Cheyenne Drive
Las Cruces, NM 88011-5269
Business Office:
Dianna Valdez
P.O. Box 1071
Corrales, NM 87048-1071
Published Quarterly: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter
Periodical Postage Paid at
Albuquerque, NM 87101-9651



The B. June West Recruitment Grant Needs a Recipient

In April, the Professional Affairs Committee was delighted to present the B. June West Recruitment Grant to Stephanie Swope of Deming. **We now need your help in finding a worthy recipient of the Grant (\$250) for 2015.**

The Grant is awarded to a female (non-member) to advance her educational studies. Your nominee must meet these requirements:

- A graduating high school senior, or
- A college student in education, or
- A worthy woman needing educational assistance

Please submit an application no later than March 1, 2015. The form may be completed by the applicant or a DKG member who is recommending the possible recipient. The winner will be announced at the 2015 State Convention in Santa Fe.

LET'S DO THIS!!!!

Sharron Stepro
Professional Affairs Chair

Applications are available on line at: thetastatenmdkg.weebly.com/forms

Apply for a Scholarship and Advance!

The 2014 Executive Board approved a Theta State Scholarship of **\$1,000.00** to be awarded to a Theta State DKG member in Santa Fe **April 24-26, 2015**. Interested! Go to our website thetastatenmdkg.weebly.com for more. Look under "Report Forms" for Scholarship guidelines and the application. Get your application and supporting documentation to Ina Jean Barnes at ijbarnes@q.com postmarked by **March 1, 2015**. This is such a great opportunity to advance one's self personally and professionally. Delta Kappa Gamma Members are the Heart of our **SOCIETY**. Why not do something today?

Ina Jean Barnes
Scholarship Chair

APPRENTICES WANTED!!!

Wanted!!! A few talented leaders to serve Theta State New Mexico in our new apprenticeship program. Step up now, and learn the trade of Treasurer, Editor, Parliamentarian and Webmaster of Theta State New Mexico Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Are you interested, or do you know someone who would be interested? Act today by getting a letter of interest detailing qualifications for the position, commitment and reason for applying for the apprenticeship, along with a letter of recommendation from your chapter President to our State President, **Sheri Williams**, at williamss78@live.com. The deadline is **July 1st 2015**. A training session for current and prospective apprentices will be offered at **Leadership Seminar in Hobbs 2015**. For more information about the Apprenticeship Program you may contact **Carmen Pennington** (carlpennington1004@yahoo.com) or **Ina Jean Barnes** (ijbarnes@q.com).

Ina Jean Barnes
Apprentice Program

NOMINATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

DKG Purpose #2 is to honor women. At the Convention in April, Merit awards will be given to members who have served Theta State. The Theta State Achievement Award (our highest honor) will also be bestowed on one of our sisters. You can find the requirements for these awards in the Theta State Standing Rules on the website (see page 8). Please send your nominations to **Cathy Maxwell** (cathymax7@yahoo.com) by **March 15, 2015**.

White Roses

CLAIRE MILLER

1921-2014

“School and teaching have been my life,” Claire said in an interview in 2011. In college, she tutored other students in science and math. After completing her student teaching, she was hired to teach in a Los Angeles school district where she taught for two years. Then she went to Brazil to teach in an American school there. Returning to Los Angeles, she continued her career as a teacher and principal in several elementary schools.

When she retired, she moved to Albuquerque where she started a successful tutoring program which she supervised for eleven years. At the age of 90, she was still acting as a resource person for other tutoring programs. Claire ended the interview by stating, “Good teaching is what I love. That’s why I love my dance instructors.” Claire was also an accomplished ballroom dancer and had received many trophies at national competitions.

Claire became an active member of Delta Kappa Gamma in 1962. She transferred to Alpha Iota Chapter in 2000 and remained active. She served in several positions on numerous committees, and as president of Alpha Iota 2010-12, hosted countless chapter meetings in her home, and was still playing in Alpha Iota’s Marathon Bridge Club.

Claire died of natural causes while on a trip to California on October 25. Her funeral service will be held in California, and she will be buried next to her husband. Her daughter is planning an Open House at Claire’s home in Albuquerque on December 6 at 4:00 or 5:00 p.m. We have lost an irreplaceable member of Delta Kappa Gamma and Alpha Iota.

*Picture and article submitted by Alyce Cummins
Alpha Iota*



Chapter News

Omega Highlights

CHAMPIONS (Colleagues Honoring All Making Positive differences In Our Nation's Schools) is the theme of Omega's new president, **Sharon Sevachko**. The chapter is already on the lookout for teachers to receive a CHAMPIONS certificate.

One highlight of the September 2014 meeting was beautiful, solemn White Rose Ceremony presented by **Yvette Moore** in honor of **Shari Ritter** and **Gayle Smithers**.



Bertha Cantu & Cynthia Smith

Bertha Cantu and **Cynthia Smith** shared their "Heartfelt Stories": **Bertha** was a volunteer this summer serving the 250 refugees from Central America, who were briefly housed in Las Cruces. Being bilingual, she was the first to meet many of the refugees and the first to hear their individual stories. **Cynthia** used her sewing talents and dedication to make 40 pillowslips that were presented to the Gospel Rescue Mission and to victims of domestic violence. Omega is extremely proud of these two civic-minded members.

*Sharon Sevachko
Omega Chapter President*

from Pieces of Pi

The October issue of *Pieces of Pi*, Pi Chapter, Deming’s newsletter, informed about Pi’s most recent meeting. “Yenny, Darien, and Blanca shared their dreams, journeys, and the success of their current lives. They all have been met with paths filled with struggles, pain, and sacrifice which they overcame in order to live their dream. DKG Pi Chapter thoroughly enjoyed the inspirational stories from each woman.”



Allie Bryant, Darian Zachek,
Blanca Holguin

*Pieces of Pi
Sent by Wendy Lenhardt*

More Chapter News

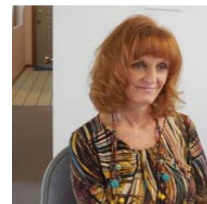
Upsilon Chapter hosted the fall meeting of the Northwest Council in September providing a soup and salad luncheon to members of Psi (Grants), and Alpha Epsilon (Farmington) Chapters. The food was prepared by Upsilon Chapter members who are excellent cooks. Dessert was included in the menu, which included fried bread, homemade pies, cakes and cookies. Theta State President **Sherri Williams** was invited to speak to the group.

She gave a very inspiring and encouraging talk regarding the uniqueness of members in Delta Kappa Gamma. **Ina Jean Barnes, Ella George, and Gladys Hielkema** and **Sheri Williams** also shared their experiences of the International Convention held in Indiana with the group. Everyone had a great time sharing and being in fellowship with one another.

*Clara Enriquez
Upsilon Chapter*



Karen Ransom, Ella Kelly, Jinny Hill, Lavon Hamblin



Sherri Williams, TS President



Lavon Hamblin, Jane Williams, Gay Simpkins

Alpha Iota Update

Recipes with stories resulted in a delicious lunch and an entertaining program at our September meeting held at the home of **Alyce Cummins**. Each member brought a sample of one of her favorite recipes and told the story behind the recipe.

Several of our members helped with the CCC conference, *Early Career Educators*, held on October 4. The Early Career Educators and seasoned teachers who attended gave it favorable reviews. Mary **Beth Garrett** from Alpha Iota led a round table discussion concerning Special Education

issues. Other members of AI working at the conference were **Ann Calderwood, Betty Begeal, Donna Moore, Diane Bonnell, Karen Carlson, and Reta Thomas**.

Russell Goff, NMAER Representative to the ERB, was our guest speaker at the October meeting at **Jean Leonard's** home. He gave us encouraging news regarding our pension and health care programs by declaring that both are solvent for at least 20 more years. However, he warned us that both programs are being threatened by certain individuals, and that we

should not be too confident that our benefits will remain the same. The way we can combat this threat is to keep informed of bills that come before the Legislature and contact our representatives and senators to urge them to help us protect our benefits.

*Alyce Cummins
Alpha Iota*



The Fall Bulletin Is Online!

The whole world is going digital! The Fall Edition of the Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin is now online. You can go to: <https://www.dkg.org/content/bulletin-fall-2014>

and read *Teaching Performance*. If you aren't checking into www.dkg.org often, you might be missing out on professional development. The online source for *The Bulletin* is also a great resource for our younger,

technologically savvy members and prospective members.





2012 Theta State Convention Registration Form

April 24, 2015 - April 26, 2015

The Lodge at Santa Fe 750 N. St. Francis Drive Santa Fe, NM 87501

(505 992-5800)

“80 Years Strong and Growing!”

Name _____ Chapter _____
 Address _____ Chapter Office _____
 City, State, Zip _____ ☉ State Position _____
 Phone Number _____ E-Mail Address _____

| FUNCTION | FEE | NUMBER TO ATTEND | AMOUNT ENCLOSED |
|--|----------|------------------|-----------------|
| Registration | | | |
| MEMBER: | | | |
| Early Bird Registration <i>Postmark before Sat, Jan. 31, 2015</i> ----- | \$35.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Regular Registration <i>Postmark before Tues, March 31, 2015</i> ----- | \$40.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Late Registration – received after Tues, March 31, 2015----- | \$50.00 | _____ | _____ |
| NON-MEMBER: | | | |
| Early Bird Registration <i>Postmark before Sat, Jan. 31, 2015</i> ----- | \$45.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Regular Registration <i>Postmark before Tues, March 31, 2015</i> ----- | \$50.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Late Registration – received after Tues, March 31, 2015----- | \$60.00 | _____ | _____ |
| *Meals are not guaranteed with walk-in registrations. | | | |
| MEALS | | | |
| Dinner- Friday – 5:30pm . . . Turkey or Ham Sandwich Bar | \$15.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Lunch- Saturday – 12:30pm . . . Multiple Choices Available Strawberry Fields Salad and Cake _____ Brie and Almond Stuffed Chicken (Cranberry Harvest Rice, Fresh Seasonal Vegetables) _____ London Broil (Black Peppercom Demi Glace, Asiago Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables) _____ Roasted Vegetarian Strudel | \$30.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Banquet- Saturday – 6:00pm. . . Dinner Multiple Choices Available Mediterranean Salad and Cake _____ The Tower (Two Grilled Portobello Mushrooms stacked with Layers of Grilled Vegetables, Light Marinara) _____ Organic Breast of Chicken (Stuffed with Organic Goat Cheese, Sundried Tomatoes and Pine Nuts, Light Herb Demi) Herb Roasted Red Potato, Steamed Asparagus _____ Petite Sirloin (Black Peppercom Demi-Glace,) Herb Roasted Red Potato Steamed Young Asparagus | \$40.00 | _____ | _____ |
| Rose Corsages Corsages can be picked up at 4:00pm | \$ 12:00 | _____ | _____ |
| Total Amount Enclosed ----- | | | \$ |

Dietary restrictions _____

If you need special accommodations please inform the Hotel.

_____ I understand if I choose not to give permission, it is my responsibility to remove myself from the photo.

Is this your first Theta State Convention? Yes _____ No _____

Write Convention in the memo line and make check payable to: Theta State

Mail to: Dianna Valdez, Treasurer P.O. Box 1071 Corrales, NM 87048-1071

Questions to: Dianna Valdez 505 898-3587 or valdez@aps.edu

Confirmations will be posted on the Theta State website after April 4, 2015.

* Each individual is responsible for making her own hotel reservations. **(505 992-5800) (deadline Tuesday, March 24, 2015.** Ask for the **Theta State Conference Delta Kappa Gamma** discounted room rate of \$89.00 + tax. It is important to stay at the convention hotel to keep costs for the convention as low as possible. Bring a copy of this Registration Form to convention check in.

Appropriate dress: professional attire for workshops and meetings, dressy-formal attire for banquet.

80 Years Strong and Growing

2015 @ STATE CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Friday – April 24, 2015 on the 3rd floor of the hotel

Registration: 4 PM to 8 PM

Friday Evening: 5: 30 PM Sandwich Bar Dinner

Executive Board Meeting: 6:30 PM

Saturday – April 25, 2015 on the 3rd floor of the hotel

Registration: 7 AM – 10:00 AM

Exhibitors set up: – 7:00-8:00 AM

Exhibitors: 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Awards Breakfast 7:30 AM (Free Continental Breakfast for Members staying in the hotel)

Theta State General Session: 8:30 AM-10:00 AM

Workshops: 1st Session: 10:10-11:00 AM – 5 wrkshps

2nd Session: 11:10-12:00 noon – 4 wrkshps

Luncheon: 12:15 – 2:30 PM

Tours & Shopping: 2:30 – 5:30 PM

TS Officer banquet rehearsal: 5:30 – 6:00 PM

Saturday Banquet: 6:00 – 9:30 PM

Sunday – April 26, 2015 on the 3rd floor of the hotel

Ceremony of Remembrance: 8:30 – 9:15 AM

Come and Go Breakfast Bags: 9:15 – 9:30 AM

Following Ceremony of Remembrance

Executive Committee Mtg: 9:30 – 10:30 AM

Fall Meeting Fun!



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

PERIODICAL POSTAGE
PAID AT
Albuquerque, NM
Permit no. 371-010

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
THETA STATE NEWS

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



CALLING ALL LEADERS!!!!

NOMINATIONS

It is that time, again.
January 6, 2015 is the deadline to
nominate the next slate of
Theta State Officers.
Who will you nominate?



If you need information about the process, talk to your chapter president.

There are many resources available.

Forms are available at:

<http://thetastatenmdkg.weebly.com/report-forms-convention-registration-scholarship-guidelines-and-application-yearbook-rubric-website-standards.html>