



Theta State News

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International of New Mexico

Past Presidents Honored At Convention

Past State Presidents were honored at the 2015 Theta State Convention held at The Lodge of Santa Fe, April 24-26. Past Presidents **O. Jean Leonard, Carmen Tapia, Ina Jean Barnes, Kay Hannum, Dianna Valdez, Jeannette Vigil, Yvette Moore,** and **Pat Burnett** attended the event. First Vice-president **Susan Swope** presented each with a crystal rose and a **DKG** bag of notes. Everyone in attendance was asked to choose pieces of colored paper and write a note to each of the past presidents. The current presidents of each past president's chapter were asked to write a letter on the chapter's behalf. The messages were uplifting. *81 Years of Excellence*, a media presentation, honored all the past presidents of Theta State with images, music, and information about each. Of the gift bags of notes, the past state presidents said: **Pat Burnett:** "What a delight to hear the gracious words written by my Theta State sisters! I felt so encouraged and energized by each note. It is exactly what makes **DKG** such a special family."

Ina Jean Barnes: "I felt respected and honored with such a creative and resourceful recognition. It was so very thoughtful and considerate and I deeply appreciated it."

Dianna Valdez: "The tributes given to all the Past Presidents at the State Convention touched my heart like only sisters can give. Love & Roses"

Yvette Moore: "The greatest honor bestowed on a member of Theta State is to serve her state as its president – and the honor is humbling."

The entire convention was beautiful, from the table decorations to the facilities. The workshops were informative and the business ran smoothly. Your TS Officers, Beta Chapter, and Rho Chapter hosted the event. West Council invited all of us to Grants in 2016 for the state convention. Start making plans now for next April!

Inside this issue:

President's Page	2
Scholarship Recipients	3
Grant Recipient/ TS Leaders	4
Convention Pictures	5
Red Roses/White Roses	6
US Forum	6
Chapter News	7
Golden Gift Information	8

Susan Swope Receives TS Achievement Award

Susan Swope, Pi chapter, Deming, received the 2015 Theta State Achievement Award at the TS Convention in Santa Fe on April 25, 2015.

Susan was initiated into Pi chapter in 1997. **Susan** is an agri-science teacher at Red Mountain Middle School in Deming. She sponsors the FFA Floriculture club.

Susan has served Theta State on most committees, as second vice president, first vice president, and is currently the president-elect of Theta State.

Susan is the wife of **James Swope**, and the mother of two daughters. She also helps in her mother's flower shop.

Susan has a "get it done" attitude. She has written numerous grants for Deming Public Schools and planned the workshops at Theta State events.

Susan exudes a quiet confidence that engenders success in all her endeavors. Theta State is certainly fortunate to call Susan one of its own!



Sandra Bull Is New Executive Director

The 2014-2016 International Administrative Board has selected **Sandra Bull** for the position of Executive Director of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. For more information, follow this link:

<https://www.dkg.org/content/bull-hired-executive-director>

Strengthening the Bond; Strengthening Theta State

Willing Women Working Together

Those of you who were able to attend the 2015 Theta State Convention at the Lodge of Santa Fe were a witness to the wonderful contributions and abilities of our Theta State sisters. Through sisterly and professional relationships, we created a mutual vision and were able to accomplish the enormous task of hosting a convention located miles from home in a place some of us knew very little about. It was gratifying to see how proud our international guest, **DKG International President, Dr. Lyn Schmid**, was of Theta State and how we love and care for each other and work together.

Willing Women Working Together was a wonderful slogan suggested to me by my dear Alpha Lambda sister, **Lonna Griffin**. She knew that I was taking on a huge responsibility when accepting the position of Theta State President two years ago. She knew I was counting on all my sisters working with me in order to make the biennium successful. Looking back, I realize that because of all the leadership potential around the state, the different types of leadership styles and unique leadership qualities each sister possesses, when all of these willing women work together, we are successful!

Leadership is difficult to define, and it means different things to different people and organizations. In **The Delta Kappa Gamma Society**, leaders set direction and help themselves and others to do the right thing to move forward in education whether in their school, community, chapter, state or international organization. To do this, they create an inspiring vision, and then motivate and inspire others to reach that vision. It's impossible to respect, value and admire great leadership if you can't identify what makes a leader great, and the

founding members of **DKG** certainly had a good idea of what it takes when they put together our purposes. **Dr. Annie Webb Blanton** would be delighted at how the tide is changing in education and more women are being elevated into leadership roles, but there is still much work to do.

Key women educators are passionate about what they do and the pursuit of excellence. Key women educators develop innovative and resourceful ways of strengthening their relationships with students, parents, and each other. Key women educators are strategic thinkers, opportunity-driven, and have a mindset of optimism despite adverse circumstances. Key women leaders have purposeful and meaningful standards that guide their work. Above all, **DKG** sisters believe in the traditions, mission, goals, and values of our Society. They seek to insure that the women of our Society are inspired, supported, protected, esteemed, and that the legacies of leadership remain strong. **DKG** provides unique opportunities for the growth and development of these vital educators.

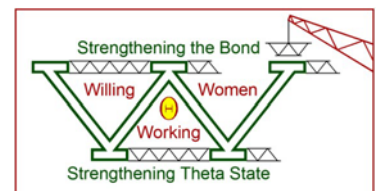
Although I was already aware of the importance of our organization, my experiences of the past two years have reiterated the value and significance of the foundational roots of **The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**. I want you to know that we have selected a leader for the next two years that exemplifies leadership. I am so excited to see how Theta State will grow and prosper under the leadership of **Susan Swope** – our Theta State President 2015-2017. Let's all join together and support **Susan**, doing our parts as leaders in our Society of **Key Women Educators!**

Respectfully written with sincere thanks and love,

Sheri Williams
TS President, 2013-2015



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

Two Theta State members receive International Scholarships in 2015



Amanda J. Matray of Alpha Delta, Albuquerque has been awarded the **Dr. Evelyn L. Milam Scholarship** from The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. **Amanda** has served Theta State as its Communications Committee Chair. She has attended TS Leadership and presented workshops and panels. She is currently working towards her Master's Degree in Secondary Education at **UNM**. Amanda receives \$6,000.00 for graduate studies.



Cheryl Martinez of Alpha Theta, Roswell has been awarded **The Sixtieth Anniversary Scholarship** from The Delta Kappa Gamma International Society. **Cheryl** is attending the **University of Nebraska at Lincoln**, where she is majoring in Educational Leadership.

Cheryl Martinez is a graduate of **Roswell High School**, 1977; **University of New Mexico**, 1981, BA; and **New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology**, Master's of Science & Technology, 1989. She is the daughter of **Carroll Dow** and the late **Tommy E. Dow**. She is married to **Ernesto B. Martinez**, and they have seven children. **Cheryl** has been teaching at **New Mexico Military Institute** for 29 years. She has also taught as an adjunct professor for **ENMU, Portales**. **Cheryl** receives \$10,000.00 for her doctoral degree.



*Ina Jean Barnes, Psi Chapter
Theta State Scholarship Chairman*

The International Scholarship Committee awarded a total of \$96,000 in scholarships for the 2015-2016 year. Of the 10 recipients, 9 doctoral candidates received \$10,000 scholarships, and 1 candidate received \$6,000 for advanced studies (www.dkg.org).

Contact Gwen Hamilton

BOOKMARKS
8 for a \$1.00

GIFT PINS
\$2.50 each

AKT

Not Actual Size

Matray Receives TS Scholarship



The Theta State 2015 scholarship recipient is **Amanda J. Matray** of Alpha Delta Chapter, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Amanda was born and raised in Las Cruces where her mother worked with

teachers at The Teacher's Center, and her father taught history at **New Mexico State University**. She grew up wanting to be a veterinarian, but found a passion to teach during high school where she worked with Title I reading classes through the Youth Tutoring Youth program. In 2002, she moved to Albuquerque to attend college at the **University of New Mexico** with the intention to teach high school English. While taking classes, she found her second passion, history. Through a series of events she ended up student teaching 8th Grade Social Studies at **Grant Middle School** where she fell in love with the community. Eight years later, **Amanda** still works at **Grant** where she teaches Social Studies and AVID. In 2012, **Amanda** joined Alpha Delta chapter in Albuquerque to help support her teaching and to make connections with excellent teachers around the state. Her favorite part of the society is the friendships she has made with such amazing women. She is currently working toward her Master's Degree in Secondary Education at **UNM**.

*Ina Jean Barnes, Psi Chapter
TS Scholarship Chairman*

Editor's Award

Pi Chapter received the Theta State Editor's Award. *Pieces of Pi*, edited by Wendy Lendhart is a colorful and informative publication. The minutes of the meetings are included with chapter updates, member updates, birthdays, pictures, and much, much more.



2015 TS Convention Highlights

Emergency Fund

Each Spring, during the Theta State Convention luncheon, money is collected for the International Emergency Fund. This fund is used for assistance to members who sustain major losses from floods, tornadoes, hurricanes and other catastrophic disasters. Currently, these gifts are \$500.00 per chapter member. This includes active, reserve, and honorary chapter members. This year Theta State sisters gave \$434.00. Our New Mexico members have used this fund several times during past years. The opportunity to share and give back has challenged the generosity of our state. We are generously meeting the challenge to help DKG sisters in need.



*Pat Burnett
Alpha Theta Chapter*

Sevachko Receives Recruitment Grant



CONGRATULATIONS TIANNA SEVECHKO!

The Professional Affairs Committee is delighted to announce that **Tianna G. Sevachko**, daughter of **Mark and Sharon Sevachko**, is the recipient of the \$250 **B. June West Recruitment Grant** for 2015. She is an honor graduate of **NMSU** with a Bachelor of Science degree awarded on May 10, 2013. **Tianna** is currently completing the second year of graduate work at **UNM** in the field of pharmacy with the goal of becoming a university professor while doing research in the field of pharmacy.

*Sharron Stepro, Omega Chapter
Professional Affairs Committee Chairman*

Theta State Leaders for 2015-2017

President - Susan Swope, Pi, Deming
 First Vice President - Gwen Hamilton, Alpha Theta, Roswell
 Second Vice President - Ella Kelly, Alpha Epsilon, Farmington
 Recording Secretary - Shawna Denney, Kappa, Cloudcroft
 Corresponding Secretary - Ina Jean Barnes, Psi, Grants
 Treasurer - Dianna Valdez, Gamma, Albuquerque
 Editor - Yvette Moore, Omega, Las Cruces
 Webmaster - Nadyne Gartman, Texas
 Parliamentarian - Kay Hannum, Alpha Lambda, Hobbs
 Imm. Past President - Sheri Williams, Alpha Lambda, Hobbs
 Finance Comm. Chairman -
 Nominations Comm. Chairman -
 Leadership - Jeannette Vigil, Gamma, Albuquerque
 Non-Dues Revenue -
 Communications - Lissa Crombie - Alpha Lambda, Hobbs
 Technology - Terri Castillo, Alpha Theta, Roswell
 PR/Red Chile -
 Rituals/Ceremonies - Clara Enriquez, Upsilon, Gallup
 Personal Growth - Joe Ann Clarkson, Alpha Lambda, Hobbs
 Professional Affairs - Sharron Stepro, Omega, Las Cruces
 Research -
 Music - Gay Simpkins, Upsilon, Grants
 US Forum - Sharee Hanes, Pi, Deming
 Awards - Sharon Sevachko, Omega, Las Cruces
 Scholarship - Amanda Matray, Alpha Delta, Albuquerque
 World Fellowship - Jane Williams, Psi, Bluewater



Please join your DKG sisters for an Ah-some Southwest Regional Conference in Kansas, the land of Ahs!
 July 22-25, 2015

Wichita, Kansas
 Hyatt Regency Hotel

Ah-some fellowship! Ah-some speakers! Ah-some activities! Ah-some workshops!



Convention Memories



See anyone you know?



Check out the Photo Gallery on our Website:
www.thetastatenmdkg.weebly.com

Red Roses



Jeannette Vigil, Gamma Chapter, was installed as president for the International Reading Association of New Mexico on May 16. NMIRA is a non-profit organization whose primary purposes are to promote effective literacy programs at all levels and to provide its members and the community with resources to increase their awareness of the current issues and practices in the field of reading. Congratulations, Jeannette!

News about Helen Posten



Helen Posten (former member of Beta Chapter, Santa Fe, and mother of deceased Bulletin Editor, **Jane Posten** - also a member of Beta Chapter)



celebrated her 101st birthday recently. She lives in a nursing home in Austin, Texas.

Helen is still talking about her birthday party, but not much else. She is now in a wheelchair and likes to sleep. If you would like to contact her just to talk, please contact **Ernestine Hagman** or **Yvette Moore** for Helen's contact information.

Chapters Receive Communications Awards



This years yearbook submissions were amazing! It was a hard choice, but the Communications Committee presented the awards for outstanding yearbook to Upsilon Chapter, Alpha Epsilon Chapter and Alpha Delta Chapter. A big thank you goes out to everyone who worked so hard on the yearbooks. It is a huge job. Please remember to give a copy of your yearbook to the communications chair at the fall meeting!

*Amanda Matray
Theta State Communications Chairman
Pictures by Yvette Moore*

White Roses

Sadly, **Sybil Mitchell** has passed. The TSN will run a full article about her life and her contributions to Theta State in the Fall 2015 issue. For more information, contact an Alpha Iota member, or see the information on Theta State's Website.



Picture & Info provided by Alyce Cummins

US Forum

Thank you, Theta State Sisters, for giving your attention to the **US Forum Connections** newsletters. This free publication is intended for your information about issues important to education, women and children. How you choose to use the information is up to you. However, you are urged to share it with other interested individuals who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma or who do not subscribe to this publication.

It has been my pleasure to forward this timely information to those on my contact list. If you would like to receive them directly from **Dr. Bedenbaugh** you may request to do so by e-mailing her at:

Angela.Bedenbaugh@usm.edu

For your convenience, you may also access the archives online at:

www.usforumdkg.org/us-forum-connection.html



*Jane Williams
US Forum Chairperson
Psi Chapter*

The United States Forum supports non-partisan federal legislation in the interests of education and women educators. We provide U.S. members of DKG with relevant information on pending issues and legislator contact numbers to enable more effective advocacy. Visit the US Forum on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/DKG.US.Forum

Have you seen the new DKG publication? Collegial Exchange

<https://www.dkg.org/content/collegial-exchange>

Chapter News

Alpha Iota News

“A Good Goodbye” was the subject of the program presented by Thanatologist **Gail Rubin** at Alpha Iota’s March meeting. In a humorous way, Gail, who is also an award-winning speaker, encourages people to plan their funerals ahead of time so that “the family gets it right.” Compose your own obituary or, at least, start a personal information file for the family to draw upon. They will be most appreciative when this is needed.

Chapter members enjoyed a docent-led tour of an exhibit at the Albuquerque Museum in April. The exhibit emphasized the diversity of our region with works of local artists which represent a variety of current cultural and political subjects and trends.

Several of our members attended the Theta State convention in Santa Fe: **Betty Begeal, Ann Calderwood, Diane Bonnell, Marilyn Ortman, Alyce Cummins, and Jean Leonard.** Jean was honored throughout the convention along with other past Theta State Presidents. She served as president from 1993 to 1995.

AI chapter members will submit ideas for the 2015-16 programs when they meet at the Black Angus Restaurant on June 1.

*Alyce Cummins
Communications Comm. and Tech Contact
Alpha Iota Chapter*



Betty Beagle, Ann Calderwood, Diane Bonnell, Jean Leonard, and Marilyn Ortman (Left to right) at TS Convention. Alyce Cummins provided the picture.

Omega CHAMPIONS



Omega Chapter recognized two outstanding third grade teachers, **Angela C’ de Baca** and **Debbie Pollard** of Monte Vista Elementary School, as CHAMPIONS in the classroom. Our 2nd purpose is “To

honor women who have given or evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education,” and these two women epitomize the expertise required for this honor. Their classrooms are models of excellence, where students are



not only physically safe, but where students feel safe in grasping challenging material. **Angela** and **Debbie** have scaffolded instruction so that learning is supported by a secure foundation of data and skills. Students do not fail in these classrooms, because their teachers offer a variety of instructional methodology and individualized accommodations, so that everyone is able to work to their fullest potential. CHAMPION certificates were presented to these ladies by Omega President **Sharon Sevachko** and by **Yvette Moore**, past Theta State President and current editor of Theta State News, in front of their principal, **Theresa Jaramillo-Jones**, and their students. Students were ecstatic in their applause for their teachers.

*Sharon Sevachko
Omega Chapter President
Pictures by Yvette Moore*

2014-2015 Initiates

Theta State Chapters initiated the following new members during this year:

Kelly Whitehead - Kappa	Laura M. Waarvick - Beta
Katie Lake - Alpha Delta	Kaileen Smith - Alpha Lambda
Irene Navarette - Alpha Lambda	

Kappa Chapter

On Monday, April 27, Kappa held their final meeting of the 2014/2015 school year. At this meeting, we honored our scholarship recipients for the year as well as two of our members who received awards at the Theta State Convention.



Lucy Shoaf receives her Merit Award from Theta State for all she does for Kappa Chapter ←

*Photos and information sent by
Shawna Denney, Kappa Chapter, President*



Diana Hamilton honors **Flo Irwin** for her 50 year service in → Kappa Chapter!

← **Laura Fox** receives Grant in Aide from Kappa Chapter to continue her Master’s degree work!

Kappa President **Shawna Denney** with High School Senior **Janelle Hernandez.** **Janelle** received Kappa’s scholarship to begin her career in Music Education at **New Mexico State** → **University** in the Fall.



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

The
Golden Gift
Fund



You can impact
education worldwide
with the Platinum
Century Collection.

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, or
Yvette Moore

https://www.dkg.org/sites/default/files/files-for-download/golden_gift2014.pdf