



Theta State News



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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

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Achievement Award to Yvette Moore

Recipient of the 2013 Theta State Achievement Award was Yvette Moore. Yvette attended the DKG Golden Gift Leadership Class several years ago.

Yvette was the Omega Chapter President from 2002-2004 and 2004-2006; she is currently serving as President again, 2012-2014. She also served as Recording Secretary, Parliamentarian, Communications/Publicity Chairman, and Membership Chairman for Omega.



At the state level, she has served as:

Theta State president 2009-2011, 2nd Vice President 2007-2009, Parliamentarian 2005-2007, Scholarship Chairman 2003-2005, and Expansion Chairman 2011-2013.

She has been selected to be editor of *Theta State News*, beginning with the next issue.

Recently retired from the Las Cruces school system, she finds time to be a pastor's wife and mother of James, who is now a college student. Congratulations, Yvette!

*Sunday morning
our Necrology
Service was held at
the new Western
Heritage Museum*



This old cowboy nodded as we approached, his eyes followed us as we moved, he gestured with both hands and spoke to us about his exhibit. Kay Hannum got his full attention. (For quite a while, your editor thought he was a real, live human!)

Barbara Whiting Blesses Theta State

*Barbara
Whiting
leading "Do
Twice as
Much in Half
the Time"
workshop*



International Representative Barbara Whiting had lots of down-to-earth remarks at the Theta State Convention, but her suggestions at the "Do Twice as Much in Half the Time" workshop were especially meaningful. She asked if we would feel rich if we were promised \$86,400 every day, as long as we would spend it all that day. Then she reminded us that each of us has 86,400 seconds each day; whether we are rich depends on how we use that time. Here are a few of her suggestions:

- Subtract clutter, distractions, time wasters (have a plastic bin for stuff to give away).
- Add programs, planners, purpose.
- Multiply your expectations for yourself and others.
- Divide your time. Make sure you get the best part. Notice that the important part of time is ME.
- Keep things moving; stop trying to be perfect; just try to be better. Write things down in one place.
- Tell solicitors you don't donate over the phone.
- Move from quantity to quality.
- Store things where they are used.
- Some rules need to be broken, like "Don't put off till tomorrow what you can do today."
- Maximize every minute. If you try to do two things at once, you have to take 50% longer.
- "Finish what you start" is not always best.
- Don't schedule your day more than 80%.

She concluded by quoting Mark Twain, "Begin every day by eating an ugly frog. The rest of your day will be a breeze." In other words, do the hardest job first.

Theta State President's Page: Sisters - Caring, Sharing, Mentoring...

We create our future by honoring our past. By valuing our past, we forge a stronger future. Neither can exist without the other, or there will be no foundation for dreams and no sky in which to fly. On that foundation we should be building our walls. The walls are today, and they must be strong. We must make the present worthwhile and never miss an opportunity to do a kind deed, share a smile, lift up a sister, or mentor an early career educator.

During this biennium, we have worked hard to prepare for the days to come by working on and approving new Bylaws and Standing Rules. This is never an easy or quick process. However, because of the outstanding efforts of Carmen Tapia (Alpha Delta) and her committee, many good ideas were brought before the general session. Thanks go to the committee for many hours of work. I also need to thank all of you who were so gracious and patient as we discussed at length the many changes during our state meetings. We are better for our time spent working together. As Carmen mentions often, these two foundational items are living documents that we will continue to review and change in the years to come so that they match our intent and purpose as an organization.

Another committee I must thank was led by Karen Ransom (Alpha Epsilon). She and her committee members represented every region of the state and worked diligently to design a workable schedule for convention duties. The work was well done and allows all of us time to prepare for future state meetings in an organized way.

Gwen Hamilton (Alpha Theta) and her nominations committee prepared an outstanding slate of officers, etc. The upcoming biennium will be well equipped to lead Theta State into the future.

I have enjoyed beyond measure my visits in your chapters, visiting with you at state meetings, and watching as many of you stepped up into leadership roles. The team of officers, appointees and committee chair with whom I have served this biennium was outstanding in every way. Each woman cared about her job in Theta State and was intent on doing her best as a team member working for her New Mexico sisters. I particularly want to thank Faye Dunn (Phi) who has been our editor for several years. She is stepping down as this biennium ends leaving a legacy of beautiful newsletters and gracious service to Theta State.

To Lambda and Alpha Lambda chapters from the Hobbs area, I give my sincerest thanks and applause. What a wonderful convention you planned and carried out! Each of us who attended felt so welcomed by you and the city of Hobbs. Each part of the program was well designed and delightful. Tremendous!

Finally, let me thank all of you in Theta State for taking our project "Inching to Mentor" and turning it into a lifestyle choice rather than just a biennium focus. Our challenge, whether still in the classroom or retired, is to share, care and mentor. In my very first article, I encouraged you to accept the challenge at the chapter and state levels to become SISTERS - CARING, SHARING, MENTORING. What a joy to have walked alongside you as we have reached out to each other and to early career educators to fulfill that request. You have enriched my life with your strength, your encouragement, and your faithfulness. I am honored to have served with you. May God richly bless each of you!

Pat Burnett, Theta State President 2011-2013



*Pat Burnett,
Theta State President*

Dates to Remember:

May 31 - June 1, 2013

Leadership Training, Roswell, NM

July 17 - 20, 2013

SW Regional, Branson, MO

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Reports from Theta State Committees

Election Results...

Another biennium is almost over, and we have a new slate of officers and committee members. Those elected at our convention meeting in Hobbs, NM, to serve in the 2013-2015 biennium are:

Officers

President: Sheri Williams, Alpha Lambda
 1st Vice President: Susan Swope, Pi
 2nd Vice President: Nola Miller, Alpha Theta
 Recording Secretary: Shawna Denney, Kappa
 Corresponding Sec.: Gladys Hielkema, Upsilon

Committee Members

Finance, NE: Wendy Pacheco, Beta
 Finance, Central: Diane Wesner, Gamma
 Finance, SW: Robyn Cook, Kappa
 Nomination, SE: Anne Chaffin, Lambda
 Nomination, SW: Navora Richardson,* Omega

*Kathryn Dietz is moving out of state. Since Kathryn was unable to fulfill the SW duties, Navora Richardson was nominated from the floor.

Submitted by Gwen Hamilton, Nomination Chairman

Theta State, "Miracle Maker"



Lambda and Alpha Lambda members contributed thirty-seven items to be bid on in the Silent Auction held at the Theta State Convention in Hobbs April 26-28. All the money generated by the auction has been forwarded to the

Educational Foundation to qualify Theta State as a participant in the "Make a Miracle" campaign.

A \$500 contribution to this tax-exempt foundation qualifies a person or state as a maker of miracles. Members who made offers for the various selections, as well as some who made unsolicited donations, gave a total of \$675 to the Educational Foundation, which, among other activities, allots funds to individuals and chapters for educational projects and seminars.

Thanks to all who gave and all who "bought!"

Submitted by Kay Hannum,

Theta State Liaison to the Educational Foundation

World Fellowship Report...

Several years ago, one of my co-teachers at Mosquero Schools and her family sponsored a high school student from one of the "break-away" countries that had previously been the U.S.S.R. The student, Astin, spent a year with her host family in Mosquero. This young lady was extremely bright and very talented. Her future goal was to become a doctor like her father. Her mother did not work outside the home because unemployment was so high in their homeland; jobs were mostly given to men.



Astin's parents and extended family were able to pay for her first year of college. Because of the changes in the government and his political affiliation, her father lost his job. Astin was no longer able to attend college because she and her family had no way to pay for tuition and books.

Our church looked into the possibility of wiring her money so she could continue her education. The problem with this good intention was that, because of government red tape, she probably would not receive the money; or the government would take most of it.

This may be the plight of many young ladies all over the world who want to become teachers, as well. There were seventy-five applicants for World Fellowship money for 2013-2014. The Committee awarded \$100,200 to forty-three deserving women. They will be attending colleges and universities in the USA and Canada. Some of the women received an extension to their original Fellowship. More than 600 women in over 100 countries have benefited from this fund. I encourage my Delta Kappa Gamma sisters to make a donation to World Fellowship at each meeting! WE can make a difference in education worldwide.

Submitted by Jane Roby-Trujillo, Beta Chapter

Theta State Scholarship Report

I am very sad to report that there were no scholarship applications received for the Theta State Scholarship of \$500, nor for the B. June West Scholarship. I hope more members take advantage of the opportunity to use these funds for furthering their education. Your new scholarship chair will be Ina Jean Barnes.

Submitted by Clara Enriquez, Scholarship Chairman

More Reports from Theta State Committees

Bylaws Committee Report...

During the Hobbs Convention, the 2011-2013 Bylaws Committee presented revisions to the Theta State Standing Rules and additions to TS Bylaws for consideration at the Executive Board meeting and the General Session. Amendments to the recommended revisions were suggested by those in attendance at the General Session. They were discussed and approved during the General Session on Saturday. Several new ideas have been implemented which should be of interest to all members. All who attended the General Session were provided with printed copies of proposed changes/additions. The corrected revisions will be available on the Theta State Web Site when the committee receives minutes corrections from the convention meetings. Check the web site for complete corrected documents (Theta State Bylaws and Standing Rules) to be posted by late May or early June. The latest revisions/additions bring Theta State documents in alignment with the International Constitution and Standing Rules.

A newly revised Procedures Manual for state officers and committee chairmen has been posted on the state web site. Incoming officers and committee chairmen will find the manual helpful as they begin the 2013-2015 biennium.

The committee also revised a suggested Chapter Rules template and will include a suggestion sheet for chapter presidents to use as a guideline when reviewing their current chapter rules. All is set up to help keep chapter rules in line with recommendations from the International Constitution. Chapters will need to have a 2010 copy of the International Constitution and Standing Rules available from headquarters and a copy of the newly revised Theta State Bylaws and Standing Rules available soon from the TS Web Site when revisions, additions, or corrections to chapter rules are made.

Submitted by Carmen L. Tapia, Bylaws Committee Ch.

Webmaster Reports...

Thank you for all the support concerning the web site and for me personally. I love doing the site and keeping it as current as I am able with the help of you, the members.



New on the website is the updated *Procedures Manual* which outlines the duties of each officer, chairman, and appointed person. The latest updates to the *Bylaws* and *Standing Rules* will be forthcoming shortly.

Chapters, please keep me updated on deaths of members in order to keep the memorial site current. Just send me the same notice that you send to the state office. It is important that our membership statewide be kept current on the passing of these dear sisters.

Please send more pictures of chapter activities and projects. They make our website more meaningful to our readers.

Let me encourage each chapter to go to "weebly.com" and begin or renew your chapter web site. It can be as simple or as elaborate as you choose, but please consider having a web site to keep your chapter current. In some cases, these have taken the place of the chapter newsletter, since they impart the same information with more possibilities.

The Hobbs convention was wonderful. Thanks to all who had a hand in organizing and putting it together. The memorial service was very moving. Good job by Susie Swope and her helpers! Again, thank you for your support and continuing response to the web site.

Submitted by Nadyne Gartman, Theta State Webmaster

Communications Report...

The 2013 Theta State Communications Committee had positive outcomes to share with members in New Mexico at the recent 79th Theta State Convention held in Hobbs.

- Delta Kappa Gamma members in New Mexico have been kept informed about the work of our "Society."
 - Delta Kappa Gamma members in New Mexico have been encouraged to participate in the programs and activities that support the purposes of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.
 - We celebrate Delta Kappa Gamma success at the chapter and state level, the Heart of our "Society."
- Three chapters were awarded the Communication Award in 2013. They are: Alpha Delta (Albuquerque); Phi (Portales); and Psi (Grants).

Submitted by Ina Jean Barnes, Communications Chair, and her committee members, Amanda Matray and Ginny Hill.

Thank You, Theta State...



Dear Theta State,

Thank you for your warm welcome and the outstanding convention in Hobbs. I was impressed with all the special touches and the exceptional women of New Mexico!

I congratulate you on all your projects to support early career educators and for joining the Make a Miracle campaign as a state. Theta State has so many talented women. Keep looking for ways to move from 211 degrees to 212 degrees, and you will be amazed at the results.

Thanks for all the little gifts. The best gift of all was the gift of being present and feeling a part of an extraordinary group! I look forward to seeing you again.

Barbara

Barbara L. Whiting, International Board Member-at-Large

White Rose Ceremony Held...



Theta State members gathered on Sunday morning at the end of the Hobbs convention to honor our sisters who died since the 2012 convention. Susan Swope (Pi) led the service, which was held at the beautiful Western Heritage Museum. Members who were honored included:

- ▶ Ann Baldwin, Omega Chapter, Las Cruces
- ▶ Aubrey Notman, Alpha Beta Chapter, Belen/Los Lunas
- ▶ Jean Nereson, Rho Chapter, Los Alamos
- ▶ Natalie Orand, Lambda Chapter, Lovington
- ▶ Patricia Richards, Alpha Lambda Chapter, Hobbs
- ▶ Celia Romero, Alpha Delta Chapter, Albuquerque
- ▶ Virginia Warren, Omega Chapter, Santa Teresa.

Gladys Hielkema accompanied the group as we sang “ ‘Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus.”



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Yvette Moore will officially start her duties July 1, but any contributions you have before that date for the August issue of *Theta State News* need to be sent to her.

Alpha Epsilon, Farmington...

Alpha Epsilon Chapter (Farmington) initiated Karen Hohmann on Monday, May 6, at a dinner prepared and served by the Culinary Arts students at the Farmington School District's CATE Center. Karen is a math teacher at Mesa Alta Junior High School in Bloomfield with 15 years experience in the district. She was invited into membership by Melody Bassing and Karen Ransom.



Submitted by Karen Ransom

Phi Chapter, Portales...

Three members of Phi Chapter attended the Theta State Convention in Hobbs. Martha Crane, Faye Dunn, and Becky Walker thoroughly enjoyed the weekend. We loved how the Hobbs-area chapters incorporated the theme of “Energizing Education” throughout the weekend. The business was just ... business, but we got it done. The decorations were marvelous; the food was delicious; the accommodations were outstanding; the workshops* were fun and interesting. The fellowship all through the weekend was most enjoyable, as always. Kudos to those Hobbs gals for their extraordinary hospitality and putting on a superb convention. (See Phi’s pictures of workshops on page 8.)

Submitted by Martha Crane

Psi Chapter, Grants...



*Cindy
McMinn,
Left*

*Shannon
White,
Right*

Shannon White was initiated in January by Psi Chapter. Shannon is from Grants and got her degree at NMSU. She taught her first year in Gallup/McKinley Schools. She has been teaching in Grants-Cibola County Schools at Milan Elementary for the past four years. She is a great kindergarten teacher and a wonderful asset to Psi Chapter. Welcome, Shannon.

February saw three members of Psi Chapter and one prospective chapter member compete in the Mt. Taylor Quad. This race is 43 miles and consists of 4 different sports. Patty Lopez (prospective member) biked 23 miles, Alicia Gallegos (past president) ran 8 miles, Jane Williams (past president) skied 5 miles, and Lynette Schmitt (past president) snow-shoed 4 miles. Our team came in second in the over fifties division in a little over 7 hours. Well done, ladies.

In April Psi Chapter welcomed three new teachers from NMSU and UNM into the teaching profession with a reception. Each new teacher received a bag full of goodies for her classroom. We hope they all stay close to home. We are inching to mentor but did not measure every item in the bags (just toooooo many inches), but each bag was stuffed and would measure about 18 inches high and about 15 inches wide. We enjoy giving these young teachers these gifts to encourage them. Psi Chapter hopes to have a mentor for each of them next year when she starts her new job.

Psi Chapter has awarded the 2013 grant-in-aid to Richelle Windhorst. Richelle has completed 42 hours toward her bachelor's degree in science in Early Childhood Education. She is a mother of 9 children and is a caregiver to her mother-in-law. Richelle is also busy in her community as a member of the PTA, a member of Neighborhood Works, and is very involved in children's education. Her future plans include a Master's degree in education.

*Submitted by Lynette Schmitt,
Psi Communications Chair*

Alpha Iota, Albuquerque...

Frances Dodd led the program at the March meeting of Alpha Iota. The title was "Writing Personal History." The members were instructed to bring an excerpt of something of interest from their personal histories which they read to the group. This proved to be a very entertaining meeting. The members were encouraged to keep a record of outstanding incidents in their lives for the benefit of their families.

Technology was the subject for our April meeting which was held in the fifth grade classroom of Kandy Dickinson at Mark Twain Elementary. Kandy demonstrated the use of the interactive digital whiteboard as a teaching tool. Connected to a laptop computer or other electronic devices, the board can upload exercises and information so that the class can work collectively discussing problems and doing exercises. Barry Calloway, Mark Twain Tech Specialist, elaborated on the limitless uses for this teaching tool. He also discussed future electronic devices which will further enhance education in the classroom. Also speaking to the group was Carrie Williams from Cherry Hills Public Library. She discussed the technology available in public libraries.

Our May meeting will be held at the Cooperage Restaurant. Our guest speaker will be Russell Goff, NMAER Representative to the Educational Retirement Board. He will discuss bills passed by the State Legislature in the last session which affect the educators' retirement plan.

Sibyl Mitchell, DKG member since 1974 and a member of Alpha Iota, recently celebrated her 93rd birthday. Congratulations, Sibyl!

Submitted by Alyce Cummins

Thanks to all of you...

If Dianna can still remember 2003, she can tell you how reluctant I was to accept the position of editor. After all, I taught junior high math and was more acquainted with finding areas and square roots. I never dreamed how much fun the job could be, or how kind all those folks were who wrote notes after the first issue came out. I got to meet and correspond with sisters all over the state, and to travel to Scottsdale and San Diego and Minneapolis and Denver and many other fun places.

I will always consider the ladies of Theta State the greatest folks in the world! Thank you for the opportunity to be your editor. I know Yvette will do a beautiful job of putting out *Theta State News*.

Faye Dunn

Pi Chapter, Deming...



Left to right: Gwen Hamilton, Yvette Moore, Javana Black, and Theta State President Pat Burnett

Pi Chapter's end of the year banquet entertained Theta State President Pat Burnett, her traveling companion Gwen Hamilton, and former Theta State President Yvette Moore. Mrs. Burnett gave encouraging support commending our *Pieces of Pi* newsletter. She shored up our involvement in the SEE project initiated by International DKG President Dr. Beverly Helms to mentor and care for our early-career educators who are educating our children. Pat promoted the chapter's use of Kindle and the www.dkg.org website to keep informed and updated to the Society's developments. She invited all to make plans to attend and register for the SW Regional Conference in Branson, Missouri, as soon as possible. Mrs. Burnett's warm heart was felt in her encouraging presentation.

Susan Swope (Theta State 2nd Vice President) and Kathy Lopez (Vice President of Pi Chapter) recognized Joyce Bell for 40 years and Gertrude Kretek for 50 years of service in the DKG organization. They also recognized Harriet Juricich for her outstanding work representing Pi Chapter as a leader in the promotion and support of a variety of educational projects.

Submitted by Wendy Lenhardt

Southwest Regional - Branson, MO July 17-20, 2013



Photo courtesy of Branson/Lakes Area CVB

Upsilon Chapter, Gallup...

Four members of Upsilon Chapter attended the Theta State Convention in Hobbs. Gladys Hielkema, Gay Simpkins, Kimberly Wells, and Clara Enriquez were the sisters who enjoyed a very well-organized and beautifully arranged convention. Kudos to the ladies of Hobbs, to the Hobbs High School students who helped, and also to the students who performed great drama pieces and to the band members who had our toes tapping.

Our guest speaker from International, Barbara Whiting, was just superb at the workshop she presented and the talks she gave to inspire us all. Well done! Kudos to the ladies who worked so diligently on the revision of the bylaws.

Part of our convention was spending time with Cynthia Gail, a former member of Upsilon Chapter who will be leaving New Mexico and returning to her family in another state. We will miss you, Cynthia, and we wish you well.

Upsilon Chapter is proud to announce the recipient of the first Mildred Holmes Grant-in-aid to Tracie M. Benally, a young lady from Crownpoint, NM, where Mildred also spent some years teaching. Tracie will be attending Smith College for women in Massachusetts, hoping to become a teacher. She plans to come back to serve her community, and she would also like to travel and teach. She has volunteered extensively in her community and in her school. She has been Tribal Recruitment Coordinator at Teach for America, and she has volunteered for the Boys and Girls Club of America. Tracie, accompanied by her mother Sophia Benally, received her grant during our Founder's Day Luncheon in Gallup. Upsilon members were quite taken with her humility, her passion for her future plans, and her confidence. She joined right along with the members who put on a skit called, "Hats Off to Delta Kappa Gamma!"



Blanche Spencer (13 years experience in teaching) and Orlinda Naswood (3 years experience in teaching) are our two recently initiated members pictured on page 8. Both received their DKG pins during the meeting. Both are early childhood teachers with Gallup Head Start. Seeing Blanche dressed traditionally reminds us of the unity in diversity which our organization so richly upholds. Our next meeting will be in late July to plan our next year's programs.

(Continued on page 8)

Upsilon, continued from page 7...

It is my pleasure to announce that Upsilon Chapter and the Americans for Native Americans have donated 100 books to the new charter school in Gallup.

The Uplift Community School, which currently serves grades one through four, received the books on May 7. Next year it will add grade 5. More books are being processed to be donated to the Uplift Community School and will be delivered to them within the next week. The Uplift School is an expeditionary learning school inspiring the motivation to learn, engage teachers and students in new levels of focus and effort, and transform schools into places where students and adults become leaders of their own learning. Upsilon Chapter is happy to help in this effort to provide excellence in education for all learners.



Stephie Petrella, school secretary, accepted from Clara Enriquez the books which were donated in honor of Leah Chapman and as a part of Upsilon's literary project.

Gladys Hielkema, Clara Enriquez, Gay Simpkins, and Kim Wells represented Gallup Chapter at the TS Convention



Lots of serious folks were listening carefully and trying to make the wisest decisions about our state business.



Article and pictures submitted by Clara Enriquez

Workshops at Convention...

Right: Maria Lee demonstrated "Delicious Ideas for Decoration," and the participants learned how to make beautiful cupcakes.



Left: The "My Power" workshop demonstrated ways to empower girls to navigate their teen years successfully.

Right: Beverly Ellis and Stephanie Holland taught "Arts and Crafts, SE New Mexico Style;" participants made fancy Drillers' Drinking Goblets.



Left: Amanda Matray led the workshop "Supporting New Teachers" which shared ideas for helping new teachers.

Other workshops included:

- "Self Defense for All Ages," led by Ron Haggerton, Michelle Fox, and John McMillan (no picture available).
- "Do Twice as Much in Half the Time," led by Barbara Whiting (see page 1).