



Texas State Organization
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Theta Nu News

Leading women educators, impacting education worldwide

Theta Nu Chapter #205 Texas Area 1, Smith County, Texas November, 2022. Volume 34 Issue 4

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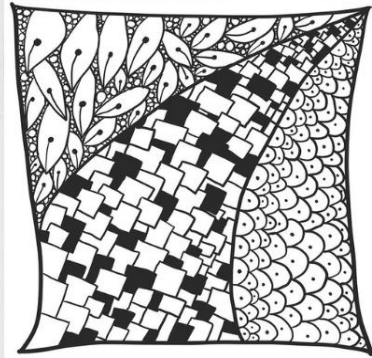
Theta Nu Chapter Meeting

Discover the Art of Zentangle

No artistic talent needed

November 3, 2022

4:30pm



Important: Please bring a #2 pencil and a black ball point pen to the November meeting!

Bev's Buzz

Hello Ladies!

As I sit down this morning and find a minute to write I've had to turn on the heat for the first time this season. Late yesterday afternoon I followed the weather station's recommendations and transferred all my hanging baskets too delicate to face this first cold snap to the garage for a few days until the weather warms back up. While I'm bundled up in my sweater and in my house shoes still, I'm thinking back to the last meeting and the good time we had in the warm shade of the big trees in the parking lot at Cain. I'm truly thankful to be joined together with such a service minded group of faithful women. There was so much cereal donated that it overflowed the wagon! We also gathered many socks to be a blessing for "Socktober"

MaryT's inspiration that afternoon with her poetry reminded us of the sometimes-soft changes in nature and sheer wonder of the world around us when we take a quiet pause to notice. Our MaryT seems to me to see the blessings in nature first and thinks in words that rhyme and meandering lines of thought most often. After our special time together outside in our favorite parking lot, I questioned myself on the drive home; "How do you see?" How often do I stop to see that wondrous beauty in nature like MaryT does? Do I see the order and systematic creation in our world? Do I notice the subtle changes in shapes and lines, shading and patterns that seem to appear overnight?

Let's take a pause and notice. Let's make a plan to quiet our chaotic thoughts for a time and just stop. You may do that sometime today on your own, but we also have a plan to try a new meditative technique to

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quiet our minds called Zentangle at our meeting on Thursday, November 3rd at LindaT's house at 4:30. All you will need to bring is a black pen and a #2 pencil, everything else will be provided. LindaT and SharonG promise me that it takes no artistic talent whatsoever! Come and join us Thursday! I know it will be fun to try something new!



Action Item: One-Time Project for November

It's "Glove" month. Bring at least one pair of heavy adult gloves to donate to the Tyler Street Ministries. It's important to provide the heavier type gloves.



Theta Nu Book Club

The Theta Nu Book Club will kick off on November 3 after the regular chapter meeting with a book about librarians, specifically about the packhorse librarians of East Kentucky in the 1930's. *The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes is a novel based upon facts about Franklin Roosevelt's effort to raise the literacy rate in the Appalachians during the Depression. Moyes has crafted a novel that is a definite page-turner. The book is available in print from the Tyler Public Library, and the Whitehouse Community Library has 2 copies. You can also access the book online from either public library, but must have an active library card/number. Half-Price Books in Tyler may still have some copies left, and, of course, Amazon and Barnes and Noble are always a source. See the last page of this newsletter for some added resources.



Ramblin' Roses

Out and About in East Texas

Dinner and a Light Show

Perhaps, the only thing better than a Christmas light show is one that can be enjoyed from the comfort of your own vehicle. A quick search online reveals several in our area including Up in Lights in Tyler, Land of Lights in Athens, Santa Land in Lindale and Carmela's Magical Santa Land. My favorite, Santa Land, is a spectacular display of lights and definitely a good way to get in the Christmas spirit. Just a short drive from Santa Land is the Dinner Bell Cafe in Van. Each year, this little cafe shuts down and decorates from top to bottom for Christmas and each year, the theme is different. I recently called and they are putting up their decorations on the weekend of Nov. 12 and the theme is a secret! My recommendation is to be at Santa Land at about dark and then follow up with some country cookin' at the Dinner Bell or vice-versa. Admittedly, the food is a bit greasy and the decorations a bit corny, but under the light of the twinkly holiday lights, it is magical especially in the eyes of a child. Since we are talking about Van, I'd like to give a shout out to one of my favorite boutiques in East Texas, Bouquets and Bows. It offers home decor, clothing, accessories, and seasonal decor. Also noteworthy are Soulman's BBQ in Van and Collin Street Bakery in Lindale. Happy Holiday Ramblin!

Cindy Swinney



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Web Watchers

- **The Location of Emotions.** <https://www.dailyinfographic.com/the-location-of-emotions> Very interesting. Be sure to read the narrative below the graphic.
- **Alexa Settings You'll Want to Change ASAP.** <https://www.cnet.com/home/smart-home/alexa-settings-youll-want-to-change-asap/> This article will guide you through setting some



Chapter Meeting Minutes: October 2022

Theta Nu Chapter Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2022

The monthly meeting was called to order at 5:30 at Cain Elementary parking lot with an established quorum of 14 members and 1 guest, MarshaE, Area I Coordinator. The member sign in sheet was passed around as LindaT motioned to accept the September minutes and CindyS seconded the motion. MaryT gave the inspirational talk, "Polish the Stars", a poem she wrote. The treasure report was given with \$2951.16 in the savings account and \$3,333.67 in the checking account.



Unfinished business:

- The members will continue with our cereal donations as well as fruit cups to Whitehouse Food Bank. Members can give checks to TeriG. \$140 donations were given to the food bank in September, \$65 from members and \$75 from the matching funds. In addition to this, 23 boxes of cereal and 25 packages of fruit cups were donated.
- Seventy pairs of adult socks were collected for the Tyler Street Ministries for October. CindyL volunteered to deliver them.

New Business:

- Discussed President ShalanI and the new theme for this year: Which way will you go? Each point on the compass stands for a TSO goal. Are we doing our part?
- Reminders to contact your secret sister/"The smallest good deed is better than the greatest intention." We then wrote notes of encouragement to the person to our right to add to our blessing ring.
- Update on our new Facebook page as well as our monthly newsletter written by SharonG.
- CindyL discussed our new book club/The Giver of Stars by JoJo Moyes as well as speaking on the Kindle Reader and Libby (Tyler Public Library App).
- CindyS shared information on owning an Alexa and what it can be used for.
- SharonG motioned for the donation of \$250.00 to go to the organization, For the Silent, and Linda Tatum seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00

Respectfully submitted, NancyB, Theta Nu Secretary

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Action Item: *Getting Ready for our March Meeting*

In March, our program topic will focus on being prepared for an Unexpected Journey or creating a Grab and Go or Emergency binder. A “grab and go” makes it faster to get out of the house with all your important papers or copies of your important papers in case of an emergency.

So, to make it easier in March, we’ll start now with a few small steps. I recommend this step first! Make a copy of the items listed below for each individual family member, even the kids. (You can put each person’s set of cards on one or two pages.) Temporarily store these pages in an envelope and put them in a safe, but handy place.

- Driver's license
- Credit cards [front and back], so that you’ll have the phone numbers to call in case of loss or theft
- Social Security card
- Health insurance cards
- Other ID cards from work, school, organizations or associations, including a copy of your DKG membership card.

In December and January and February, a list of a few more documents will be included in this newsletter. By March, you will be well on your way to having a complete Grab & Go File. Don’t worry you will not be sharing any personal information with anyone; this activity is for your eyes only. 😊



Cindy L’s Top 10

10. I'm a picky eater and will often say I don't like a food without ever having tried it.
9. Though we hope to travel to many more places, I doubt anything can compare to our trip to Israel.
8 While I'm basically an extrovert, I can happily spend hours curled up with a good book.
7. My grandma name is Sugar.
6. Our family is a mini-Brady Bunch - with Mark having two girls and myself having two boys
5. When I get tired of shopping, I...wait! I don't get tired of shopping!
4. I'm a Disney World fanatic.
3. I was shopping in Estes Park, Colorado, and a bear came in!
2. Mark and I met because he signed up to watch kids so their parents could sing in the choir at church
1. Last April, we backpacked and camped at the bottom of the Grand Canyon.
Never have I ever:
Tried calamari, oysters and most other seafood (see #10 above)
Had a pizza I didn't like
Regretted the exhaustion, stress and demands of teaching when compared to the benefits of impacting students



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Don't Be Left Behind: Facebook

If you listen to the old rumors, Facebook leaves you open to exposure on the Internet. But with new protocols and a little knowledge about creating a FB profile, the risk is limited. Cindy Loughmiller wrote these directions for us.

To create a Facebook account:

1. Go to [facebook.com/reg](https://www.facebook.com/reg).
2. Enter the name you go by in everyday life.
3. Enter your email or mobile phone number.
4. Select your gender and date of birth, and choose a password.
5. Tap **Sign Up**.
6. To finish creating your account, you need to [confirm your email or mobile phone number](#).
7. When you set your profile, you can just leave everything blank that would let people know your school, hometown, etc.
8. Also, under your profile, go to Setting and Privacy. Then Privacy Center. You will see many options to click through to limit who can see your information, or search for you.
9. Once you have officially joined Facebook, search for Theta Nu (Texas) Delta Kappa Gamma or <https://www.facebook.com/groups/453559393293006>

Blessing Ring

Is your Blessing Ring growing? During our November meeting, you'll receive at least 3 new items.

Action Items: Summary for the Month

As an active member of Theta Nu, this is what you can do to support our chapter in November.

- Attend the chapter meeting on **November 3 at 4:30 pm at LindaT's**.
- Bring adult heavy-duty gloves for the Tyler Street Ministries.
- Start working on your Grab and Go file.
- Forward a copy of this newsletter to a friend
- Join and read Theta Nu's Facebook page at least once a week.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/453559393293006> See directions in this newsletter.
- Contact SharonG if you need more "I Need a Home" hearts.
- Send birthday wishes to MaryT who is having a birthday in November.
- Don't forget your Secret Sister!



November
16 – Mary T

December
28 – Linda K

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Happy November Theta Nu Sisters!

Like most of us, when November rolls around, my mind goes to Thanksgiving. What a great compound word: Thanks / Giving. Yet, it's so easy to forget to give thanks (no matter what month it is)! Years ago, I wrote a poem about remembering to be thankful. Feel free to send it to someone. And, as for me, it's a reminder to tell you ladies how much I appreciate your commitment to teaching (and future teachers), the sweet fellowship we share, and the little things you do that add up to making a big difference in the lives of others. I always look forward to our meetings and can't wait to see everyone in a few days!
Cindy Loughmiller

We say "thank you" to the sales clerk
Who assists us at the store.
We say "thank you" to the stranger
Who briefly holds the door.

Yet the ones who mean the most to us
May very seldom hear
How much we appreciate their assistance,
their guidance, help and cheer.

They gladly fill in where they're needed,
And though they're not looking for praise,
Their attitude and their friendship
Can lighten even the busiest day.

For me, you are one of those people.
I am grateful for all that you do.
It's been way too long since I've said it,
But now I offer a heart-felt, "thank you."



"The one thing that you have that nobody else has is you. Your voice, your mind, your story, your vision. So, write and draw and build and play and dance and live only as you can." ~Neil Gaiman



Graphic Sources:

Zentangle <https://www.flickr.com/photos/pascalmaramis/36393847050>

Happy Birthday. <https://pixabay.com/illustrations/happy-birthday-birthday-party-1169669s>

Picnic in the Parking Lot. Photography by MarshaE

Blessing Ring. Photography by SharonG

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***The Giver of Stars* by Jojo Moyes**

YouTube

- Pack Horse Librarians. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A6WTdXYHF6o> (3 minutes)
- Books, Boots & Bridles: The Story of the Packhorse Librarians. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lz-KMkD5U-k> (45 minutes)
- Packhorse Librarians. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jogf8sgkRVk>
- Packhorse Librarians as Described in The Give of Stars by Jojo Moyes. <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/HNh7NMW4unk>
- Kentucky's Pack Horse Librarians Make for Fascinating Reading <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yS-xdWsKA6g> (A book review)

PBS Video

Pack Horse Librarians of Appalachia on PBS (about 30 minutes)
<https://www.pbs.org/video/the-pack-horse-librarians-of-appalachia-ioouod/>

Articles

- Pack Horse Library Project. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pack_Horse_Library_Project
- Horse-Riding Librarians Were the Great Depression's Bookmobiles <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/horse-riding-librarians-were-great-depression-bookmobiles-180963786/> (Moyes inspiration for the novel)

Podcasts

- *Steel Magnolias* Podcast. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQKnZ0IKTcM>
- *The Keepers Librarians of Eastern Kentucky*. <https://kitchensisters.org/keepers/> Very interesting because you will hear actual voices of those involved in the packhorse librarian project. Program begins at 2:04 minutes and ends at 11:30 minutes.

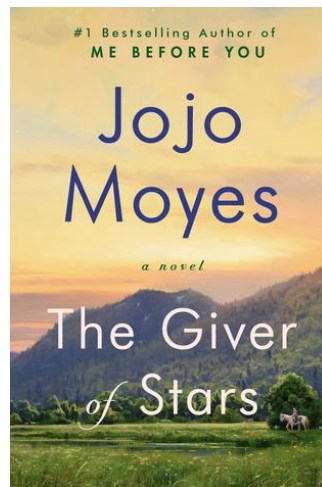
More Books about Pack Horse Librarians

Adult

Along the Storied Trail -Ann Gabhart
Book Woman of Troublesome Creek – Kim Richardson
Wonderland Creek – Lynn Austin

Children

The Book Woman – Heather Hinson
Down Cut Shin Creek – Kathi Appelt



Amazon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindle: - \$9.99 • Hardback – \$12.58 • Audible - \$20.90 	Barnes & Noble <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paperback: \$14.49 • Hardback: \$21.99
Also available online from the Tyler and Whitehouse Public Libraries.	

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