



Theta Nu News

Texas State Organization
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Leading women educators impacting education worldwide

Theta Nu Chapter #205 Texas Area 1, Smith County, Texas October, 2023. Volume 36 Issue 2
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BYODDC – Bring Your Own Dinner, Drink, and Chair!

Bev's Buzz

Hello Ladies,
My fingers hover over the keyboard to type a thought but I strike it out immediately; backspace, backspace. I type a new line with what I think is a different promising idea and backspace all over that one again. My heart, I'm sure yours as well, is overwhelmed— seeking solace and peace with only thoughts of our friend CindyS and her upcoming battle. Perhaps what we need most at this time and what could be helpful is to just be together at our very favorite parking lot meeting and share multiple hugs with the friends we love and cherish and do what we always do— support each other and learn together every time we gather. Come Thursday and we'll hug each other, find comfort for ourselves, and line out strategies to minister to CindyS. Sincerely, Beverly



Don't Be Left Behind... Technologically

Theta Nu is committed to becoming more knowledgeable about newer technologies. In October, we'll learn about drones and how they are used in education. Then in May, we will introduce AI and ChatGPT and talk about implications for its use in education and all of society. While we won't become experts in one session, maybe we won't look like "deer in the headlights when someone mentions these topics to us.

The Mission of the Society

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education



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TSO Goal 2023-2025: Open your heart, mind, & attitude

When is the last time you heard, "You get out of it what you put into it." Annie Webb Blanton had the expectation that members of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International/DKG would never say NO when asked to assume a responsibility for the society. If DKG is to thrive, it is time to open your heart, mind, and attitude with the mindset that "work for others is the leaven that inspires our band!" Let's SOAR to new heights.

Photo Source: <https://bit.ly/3KaAoNU>



Busy September for Theta Nu

The beginning of the chapter's 55th year was filled with activity!

- Awarded the first Whitehouse Beginning Teacher Award to Landon Odom, Whitehouse Junior High.
- Published the September Chapter Newsletter.
- Sent required copies of the newsletter to TSO personnel.
- Met as a Chapter on 9/5/23 with a quorum.
- Delivered monthly "thinking of you" treat to LandonO.
- Visited KaryleneH with birthday wishes
- Achieved monthly donation goal to Whitehouse Foodbank
- Prepared monthly One and Done Project: "Stuffed Purses" for Women's Crisis Center
- Posted at least weekly to the Theta Nu Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/453559393293006>
- Provided Texas November Constitution Election Information to members
- Began year 2 of the Theta Nu Book Club
- Provided Theta Nu Yearbooks 2023-2024 to members
- Submitted Theta Nu Yearbook to TSO Yearbook Committee for evaluation
- Mailed Yearbook to Smith County Coordinating Council Chair
- Texted members when needed, such as the link to the fall LoneStar News
<https://bitly.co/L1as>
- Prepared October update to chapter website <https://thetanutx.weebly.com>
- Delivered chapter yearbook to KaryleneH
- CindyS, TSO Global awareness committee member, wrote a Sisters Across the Borders infobit for this newsletter
- SharonG, TSO Communications committee member, collected all the newsletters from Area 1 chapters and shared them with all the area newsletter editors.
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1JaJc-S-iLvHEw4WHzUI79oDLFLQ_N2S7



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Socktober

The One and Done project for October is a repeat from last year. Purchase new dark heavy-duty adult socks and bring them to October's meeting. These will be sorted by CindyL's grandchildren and added to those they collect each year for the Tyler Street Team, Salvation Army, and St. Paul Children's Services. Last year Rose and Peter collected 748 pairs of socks.



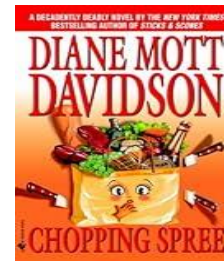
Theta Nu Book Club

CindyL had a chance encounter with Sasha Vukelja at Sam's a couple of weeks ago. Cindy told Dr. V how much the Theta Nu Book Club enjoyed reading her book, *Seeds: A Memoir*. It's a truly remarkable story and is available from the Tyler Public Library or several chapter members have personal copies if you read the book.



Vukelja (l) and Loughmiller (r)

The book for October is **Chopping Spree** by Diane Mott Davidson, a cozy mystery. It can be found at both the Tyler and Whitehouse libraries and on Libby and CloudLibrary.



"For Colorado caterer Goldy Schulz, business isn't just booming--it's skyrocketing. Her friend

Marla is constantly warning her, "Success can kill you." But Goldy doesn't take the warning literally until her next booking: a cocktail party for the Westside Mall's Elite Shoppers Club.

While setting up, Goldy is nearly run down by a truck with no intention of stopping. Then she finds an old friend in a pile of sale shoes--stabbed with one of Goldy's new knives. Goldy must catch the real killer between whipping up Sweethearts' Swedish Meatballs, Quiche Me Quick, and Diamond Lovers' Hot Crab Dip. Why was the victim carrying a powerful narcotic? Who hired a private investigator shortly before the murder? Goldy's gourmet instincts tell her the final course in this case will be a real killer." ~Amazon



September Chapter Minutes

Theta Nu Chapter Meeting Minutes
September 5, 2023

The regular chapter meeting was called to order at 4:30 with 9 members present thus establishing a quorum. A welcome back greeting was given to all after a nice summer break by President BeverlyK. Inspiration was given by CathiP. Beverly gave the treasurer's report with \$3,182.70 in the checking account and \$2,963.28 in the savings account. A motion to approve the minutes attached to the newsletter was made and accepted.

Old Business:

*Last year's donations from checks for cereal (Whitehouse Food Pantry) was \$1,450.00 in addition to the boxes of cereal donated. The members voted to continue giving to the foodbank as the main chapter project.

*The Secret Sister activity was evaluated and the decision was made to not continue at the present time.

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New Business:

*The TSO theme for the new biennium, SOAR: Seek new members and opportunities, open your heart, mind, and attitude, Act to serve and share, Reach to renew, respond, and relate was discussed. *Thoughts about next year were discussed for possibly one year President term or a Co-President for support. Beverly Kelly shared her experience with the group.

*To encourage the recipient of the Beginning Teacher Aware, a monthly treat for Landon Odom were prepared. SharonG provided treat bags with inspiring quotes, and members will provide some kind. These treats will be delivered to Landon's campus.

*For the monthly One and Done project, gently used purses were stuffed with toiletries for women at the East Texas Crisis Center.

Personal:

*Long time member, MeriamE, passed away. Her memorial service is on November 11 at Marvin Methodist at 10:00am.

*Birthday cards were collected for KarlyeneH. Some members were going to deliver them along with flowers.

The meeting was adjourned by the president at 6:15pm. Respectively submitted, NancyB



Theta Nu Executive Board Minutes... May 18, 2023

The spring Executive Board Meeting of Theta Nu Chapter was called to order by BeverlyK, president, at 5:30pm on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at the Corner Bakery.

All board members were present.

New Business:

The board was asked for program and projects ideas for 2023-2024. A list of possible programs and One and Done projects was created. BeverlyK and CindyL, vice-president, will narrow the lists and set the final meeting programs for the year. SharonG, yearbook editor and webmaster, will create the meeting calendar and include it in the yearbook and on the chapter website.

With the hope of attracting new members, Beverly had asked CindyL and Sharon to brainstorm some new ideas for raising the awareness of Theta Nu to all the teachers and staff in Whitehouse ISD. They narrowed their ideas to one suggestion. Knowing that door prizes are given at the annual Convocation, the recommendation was to give a gift of an Amazon Wishlist for \$150 to a beginning certified teacher or media specialist (male or female) and be selected through a random drawing. Money for this project would be funded by the annual donation to the chapter by an unnamed benefactor.

A question was raised about whether men could be included since DKG is a women's organization, and scholarship and grants are restricted to women. Sharon made a reference to ASTEF guidelines to which all Texas members belong to. ASTEF guidelines: "Because ASTEF is a public charity and serves members as well as non-members, projects that serve teachers and other educators must include both men and women in the provision of all goods, services, and activities. Men must not be excluded...[We] are encouraged to consider projects related to the DKG international focus of Supporting Early-Career Educators and to incorporate some form of mentoring activities and encouragement for early-career teachers in addition to the more tangible forms of support, such as teacher and classroom supplies that are so desperately needed by new teachers." (2023-2024 Project Stipend Application Guidelines).

A motion was made by NancyB, secretary, to recommend giving the Beginning Teacher Award for one year and ask the members to vote via electronic means since there would be no chapter meeting before the Convocation. The motion carried.

TeriG, treasurer, made a motion to add a third signature to the checking and savings account card at Austin Bank as a backup in case either the treasurer or president were not available to sign a check.

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After a discussion the Executive Board voted to add a third signature. The third signature is not required and will only be used if necessary. The member who will be the third signature will be selected by the president and must live in Whitehouse or Tyler. The motion carried.

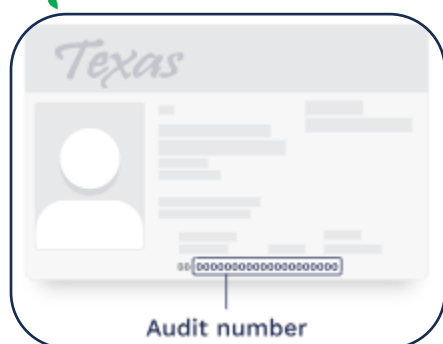
Announcements: SharonG will represent Theta Nu at the annual Convention in McAllen and will attend all president training sessions as a substitute for BeverlyK. In addition, she will co-present 3 program sessions: *Steal These Ideas* and *Programs: BIG and small* with MarshaE, Phi, and *Trafficking Alert: What is Happening in Texas?* with LibbyH and other members of the Legislation Committee.

The first meeting for 2023-2024 will be held at CindyL's house on Tuesday, September 5 at 4:30pm. The program topic is yet to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm. Respectively submitted, NancyB, secretary.



Life Tips for Members:



You can replace a lost Texas driver's license or make an address change easily online if you have the Audit Number. (It's a long number!) So, make a record of your DL Audit # and keep it in safe place. You might be glad you did. No one wants to go to the Tyler Driver License office unless they absolutely have to.



You've probably heard about an online store called Temu that offers really cheap products that look so good in the photos. But be aware before you place an order, *6 Scams on Temu You Should Be Aware Of* <https://bit.ly/3LzGjgc> especially #2 and #5.



Cost of Living Raise for Texas Retired Teachers

During the last Texas Legislative session, a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for TRS retirees was approved. BUT, for this to really happen, Texas must approve an amendment to the Texas Constitution to allow for a COLA for educators. Proposition 9 will NOT increase Texas taxes because funds for the amendment have already been set aside by the Legislature. Even if you are not a retired teacher, consider the effect Prop 9 could have on your DKG sisters. Please watch this short video. <https://bit.ly/464YVN7>

Sisters Across the Borders: Did You Know?

There are 17 countries that have DKG local chapters and state organizations: United States, Mexico, Canada, Iceland, Norway, Finland, Great Britain, The Netherlands, Sweden, Estonia, Germany, Panama, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Japan

Contributed by CindvS. TSO Global Awareness Committee.

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<p>DKG Links:</p> <p>Theta Nu Website: https://thetanutx.weebly.com Theta Nu Twitter (X): https://twitter.com/thetanutexas Theta Nu Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/453559393293006</p> <p>TSO Website: https://dkgtxas.org TSO Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/tso.deltakappagamma</p> <p>DKG International: https://dkg.org DKG International Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/dkgorg/ DKG International Twitter: https://twitter.com/dkg_si DKG International Blog: http://dkg.si.blogspot.com/ DKG Podcast: https://dkg.si.podbean.com/ DKG International YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/DKGAustin</p>	<p>Birthdays</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> <p>October 13 – Cindy Wingate 21 - Sue Sides</p> <p>November 16 – Mary Tindall</p> <p>Image Sources Heart. https://bit.ly/3Py1HVo Sunflower. https://bit.ly/3PIYBTI Owls. https://bit.ly/46bbHt8 Happy Birthday. https://bit.ly/3sku54b</p>
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Declutter 365 Missions: Declutter Your Home In 15 Minutes A Day

Find The Full Getting Started Guide & FAQs Here: <https://www.home-storage-solutions-101.com/declutter-365-faqs.html>

What To Declutter In October 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Quote of the month: “I can’t do it” never yet accomplished anything, “I will try” has performed wonders. — George P. Burnham						1 Declutter mudroom/back entrance to home
2 Week #40: Living & Family Room and declutter under and in between couch cushions	3 Declutter coffee table and other flat surfaces in living or family room	4 Declutter living room and/or family room, focusing on storage areas	5 Cont. to declutter and organize living or family room, focusing on the floor	6 Declutter or display collections and collectibles	7 Get clutter out of house by taking items to the dump	8 Declutter hallways
9 Week #41: Dining Room & Entertaining and declutter dining room table	10 Declutter table linens, napkins and placemats	11 Declutter or properly store china and silver	12 Declutter china cabinets, side boards	13 Declutter serving dishes	14 Get clutter out of house by renting a dumpster	15 Continue to declutter dining room
16 Week #42: Photographs and gather loose photos and negatives into central location	17 Sort and organize photos into photo safe containers for proper storage	18 Create routine to organize photos from now on	19 Declutter digital photos and organize & back up rest	20 Declutter/organize memory cards, flash drives, computer CDs and discs	21 Declutter framed photographs and other wall art, plus get clutter out of your home	22 Declutter photography and video equipment
23 Week #43: Crafts and declutter unfinished craft projects	24 Declutter hobby/ craft supplies and equipment	25 Declutter kids' hobby/craft/art supplies and equipment	26 Declutter craft room or area	27 Continue to declutter and organize craft room or area	28 Get clutter out of house by scheduling junk removal pickup	29 Declutter candles
30 Week #44: Books and begin to declutter books	31 (Halloween) Cont. to declutter books, including on bookcases and bookshelves					

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Get The Full 12 Month 2023 Calendar Here: <https://www.home-storage-solutions-101.com/declutter-calendar.html>

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