

ETA TAU 5 STAR NEWS

September 2019

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Volume 54 Issue 1 Eta Tau Chapter Austin, Texas September 2019

Texas State Organization Area 7 No. 187

International Theme: Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

State Theme: YOU are the key

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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. Vision statement: Leading women educators impacting education worldwide.

September Meeting

When: September 16, 2019 6:45 PM

Where: St. John's United Methodist Church

***5904 Wynona** (middle of the block across from church)
Austin, Texas

Program: Salad Supper

Hostesses: Cathy Harris
Lois Mayes

Door Prizes: Cathy Harris
Patti Groce

Inspiration: Lois Mayes

For the September meeting: Bring your favorite salad, along with copies of the recipe to share. Don't miss out on an evening of delicious food, great fellowship, and looking ahead to the 2019-2020 year for Eta Tau!

Directions: From Mopac: Take the Northland Drive Exit (also 2222). Go east on Northland Drive. Northland Drive is also Allandale. Turn left on Wynona Drive. Wynona Drive is 1 block west of Burnet Road. www.stjohnsaustin.org

**Call a friend
and carpool to
the meeting!**



P.S. from Patti

By Patti Groce

Dear DKG Sisters,

Here we are enjoying our warmest season. Hope you have been able to stay cool. Since it is August, it is time to think about our new Eta Tau program year. Our first meeting will be September 16th. Thanks to Cathy Harris and the generosity of St. John's Methodist Church, we will be meeting in one of the houses across the street from the church. This larger space will be more accommodating to our current members and new members whom we will invite.

Our chapter focus this year is again growth in membership. We have a small dedicated group of members, but we can share the benefits of our chapter and DKG with others. Please invite someone to our first meeting in September, a salad supper, and continue to invite to each meeting those women who will benefit from their association with DKG.

I hope you were one of the nine members who attended and enjoyed our summer social luncheon at Fuego Latino Gastropub in Round Rock. Debbie Koehler made the arrangements and Laura Packard made the suggestion of this excellent restaurant. We held our Executive Committee meeting before the lunch meeting started.

Laura Packard and I had a great time in Arlington at the Texas State Convention of DKG. Next year's convention will be held in McAllen. Please attend next June. Convention gives the larger picture of the advantages of DKG membership and the scope of our assistance in the field of education.

Several of our chapter members attended the funeral of our beloved member Janie Knolle who passed away on July 4th. Janie was a loyal and active member who will be greatly missed. All DKG members are our sisters. We all feel the loss of Janie, our sweet sister.

In Gratitude,

Patti Groce





Patti Groce and Debbie Koehler...for hosting our April meeting.

Lois Mayes and Donna Slathar...for providing door prizes at the April meeting.

Mary Wallace...for conducting the 54th birthday program at the April meeting.

Patti Groce and Laura Packard...for attending the 90th Texas State Convention in Arlington in June.

Debbie Koehler...organizing our summer luncheon at Fuego Latino Gastropub.

Patti Groce, Mary Wallace, Laura Packard, Cathy Harris, Lois Mayes, Karen Alexander, Debbie Koehler, Lois Pendley, and Donna Slathar...for attending the Executive Board/Program of Work meeting and luncheon in July to discuss chapter business and make plans for 2019-2020.

Travel Tidbits



From Laura.....

“In June, Robert and I took our daughters, son-in-law, and grandchildren to a wonderful house in Hunt, Texas for four days of family time. The house had a lovely pool and hot tub, a fishing pond, a huge screened porch, and chickens that gave us fresh eggs for breakfast. The two favorite activities were swimming and fishing, but we also enjoyed playing games and just being together with no outside distractions.

The week of July 4th, we all went to Portland, Oregon and met up with my two sisters and my brother and their families for a little reunion. After a stop to see my sister’s farm in the Hood River Valley, all 16 of us stayed in a house close to the top of Mount Hood for 5 nights. It was Aiden and Becca’s first trip to the mountains, and they loved hiking, waterfalls, fishing, learning new games, and even playing in the snow at Timberline Lodge.

A few weeks later, Robert and I flew to Montreal. After four days of sightseeing in the beautiful and historical city, we flew to St. John’s, Newfoundland and spent nine days immersed in the beauty, history and culture of that remote island.”



Membership News

Our dear Eta Tau sister and friend, Janie Knolle, passed away on Thursday, July 4, 2019. Janie was a member of Eta Tau Chapter for 36 years. Janie was a truly dedicated DKG sister and an inspiration to all of us. Her kind and generous heart will forever be remembered. Our prayers and sincere sympathy are extended to her family. We will remember Janie at our September meeting.



*Her smiling face no longer greets us;
Her generous spirit can give no more.
Her encouraging words are now silenced;
Her humble soul steps aside one last time.
Our sister, our mentor, our friend –
Janie,
Always a heart remembered.*



Debbie Koehler will have knee surgery on September 9th.
We wish you a safe surgery and a speedy recovery...see you in October!

Patti Groce has moved to Georgetown to be closer to her son and his family.
Happy New Home, Patti!

Patti's new address is:
210 Country Road
Georgetown, Texas 78628
Home# 512-943-0564

You might remember Peggie Price. Peggie visited with us last year as a prospective transfer from Lubbock. Peggie was diagnosed with Guillain-Barre syndrome this summer. Peggie would love to hear from her DKG sisters. You can reach out to Peggie at Crestview Court, Room 1314, 2505 E. Villa Maria, Bryan, TX 77802

Where have you been??? What are you doing????

Please send your news to dwslathar@sbcglobal.net. Eta Tau members love to hear about others' travel adventures, stories of grandchildren and family, professional news, and anything else you'd like to share.



April Meeting

By Donna Slathar

Our April meeting was held at Delta Kappa Gamma International Headquarters. Eta Tau celebrated its 54th birthday. Eta Tau was organized on April 10, 1965 at the Terrace Motor Hotel in Austin, Texas. **Mary Wallace**, First Vice-President, led the members in a birthday program. As always, refreshments and fellowship were enjoyed by members as we shared plans for the summer.

Membership Chair, **Donna Slathar**, presented perfect attendance awards for 2018-2019 to four members. The members recognized for their strong commitment to Eta Tau were **Cathy Harris, Lois Mayes, Laura Packard, and Patti Groce.**



Perfect Attendance: Cathy, Lois, Laura, and Patti

CONGRATULATIONS, ETA TAU!

At the Texas State Organization 90th Convention in Arlington, Texas, Eta Tau was recognized for the following honors...

Early Bird Yearbook Award

Exemplary Yearbook Award

Five-Star Newsletter Award

ASTEF Scholarship Honors

Rosebud Award

To achieve these recognitions, it takes contributions and hard work from all chapter members. Good job, Eta Tau!!

Founders' Day Luncheon

By Mary Wallace



To commemorate the 90th year of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, the Coordinating Council of Austin and the Williamson County Chapters cohosted a birthday luncheon on May 4, 2019, at the Joe C. Thompson Conference Center on the campus of the University of Texas. The speaker for our Founder's Day Luncheon was Jody Conratt, currently serving as Special Assistant for Women's Athletics at the University of Texas. Coach Conratt coached women's basketball for 38 years, 31 of those years at the University of Texas. Her 1986 team at UT won the National Championship with a 34-0 record. As a coach, Jody Conratt's teams accumulated 900 wins, and she has been inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame and the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame. In her message to us, Coach Conratt emphasized the need for commitment, passion, and focus in order to be successful. Communication skills are of utmost

importance, and being a team player versus an individual player can make the difference between success and failure. It is my personal belief, as a Delta Kappa Gamma sister, that determinedly working together will make our society stronger and more influential in the future. We each must be committed, passionate, and focused!



Patti and Margaret

At the luncheon, Eta Tau was proud and excited to honor **Margaret Eisenbeck** as the recipient of our Outstanding Educator Award. Eta Tau President, **Patti Groce**, presented the well-deserved honor to Margaret.

Eta Tau members, **Karen Alexander, Patti Groce, Margaret Eisenbeck, Laura Packard, and Mary Wallace** attended the 2019 Founders' Day Luncheon.



Karen, Patti, Margaret, Laura, and Mary

TSO Convention

By Laura Packard

Patti and I drove up to Arlington on Thursday, June 20, for the TSO Convention and returned on Sunday, June 23rd. The days were filled with activity, starting with Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents at noon on Thursday and ending with the Presidents and Founders Banquet on Saturday night. In between there were:

- numerous breakout sessions
- an ASTEF event featuring Elizabeth McCormick, a retired Army Black Hawk Helicopter Pilot
- a student art show from Arlington ISD
- vendors
- ASTEF raffle and silent auction
- the Birthday Luncheon
- donations to CASA of Tarrant County
- updates from DKG International President Cathy Daugherty
- the Presentation of Chapter Presidents
- the Celebration of Life and Remembrance
- the business meeting at which we elected new TSO officers, who were installed at the banquet.

We had lots of opportunities to connect with old friends and meet new ones, which is one of the best things about going to conventions. We also got to visit with Carole Lowe, our new Area 7 Coordinator.



Patti, Carole, and Laura



Patti and Laura attending the banquet.

Patti represented Eta Tau beautifully in the Chapter Presidents presentation. Eta Tau was recognized in the program for these awards:

- Five-Star Newsletter
- Exemplary Yearbook
- Early Bird Yearbook
- Rosebud Award for maintaining membership
- ASTEF Scholarship Honors

It would be great to have a large group of Eta Tau members go to next year's convention June 17 – 20 in McAllen!



Laura and Patti at the Presidents Presentation.

*To our active teachers...
We wish you a successful
2019-2020 school year!!*

Become an ASTEF Traveler

Join Us in
~ **GALVESTON, TEXAS** ~
A Scientific Look at the Grand City by the Gulf
October 11, 12, 13, 2019

The Galveston Weekender includes:

2 Night Stay ~ Sheraton Four Points Hotel on the Beach - 4-Star Rating – elevators available

Saturday Transportation in a fully air conditioned new mini-bus

Hot/Cold Breakfasts, Lunches, Friday Night Kickoff Dinner, Welcome Reception, and snacks
Meals Include:

- Friday Night Kickoff Dinner – Landry’s on the Seawall
- Saturday Lunch at the Rainforest Pyramid Restaurant located in Moody Gardens
- Saturday Night - dinner on your own
- Sunday Lunch - box lunch

Admission to all attractions including:

- Moody Gardens Aquarium – see the newly renovated Penguin Exhibit
- Learn and hear Moody Gardens’ “Trunk Presentation”
- Ocean Star Oil Rig Museum
- Harbor Tour (boat ride and narrated tour)
- University of Texas Medical Branch’s Big Red - Private Tour and Lecture offered only to us by their Museum Curator Paula Summerly
- Texas A & M, Galveston – an exclusive look inside A & M’s campus by the bay given by Associate Vice President Dr. Donna Lang

Tips for all events are included. However, a voluntary donation for bus drivers will be collected on Saturday.

*Trip includes a small donation to ASTEF...“OUR” Foundation!

Cost: \$315 ***Deposit** of \$75 holds your spot. **Trip limited to 50**

No refunds after September 5. You are however, welcome to find your own substitute. **DEADLINE TO SIGN UP and PAY DEPOSIT IS SEPTEMBER 10.**

Final Payment is due no later than **October 3.**

Send all checks, made payable to ASTEF, to:

Dr. Barbara Derrick

4214 Bolton Ave.

Santa Fe, TX 77510

For questions contact Barbara Derrick at Travel@astef.org

Registration form is located on homepage of ASTEF website - www.astef.org.

Membership

A candidate for membership must be employed as a professional educator at the time of her election or retired from an educational position. Members can be invited at any time during the year. Note: Eta Tau has voted to reduce dues for new members to half price for the first year. Please **submit names of prospective members to Donna Slathar, Eta Tau Membership Chair.**

Upcoming Events.....Mark your calendars!

September 16 – Eta Tau Chapter Meeting – St. John’s United Methodist Church

June 17-19, 2020 – 91st Texas State Convention – McAllen, Texas

July 7-11, 2020 – International Convention – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Chapter Officers 2018-2020

President: **Patti Groce**
First Vice-President: **Mary Wallace**
Second Vice-President: **Donna Slathar**
Secretary: **Lois Mayes**
Parliamentarian: **Debbie Koehler**
Treasurer: **Cathy Harris**
Past President: **Pat Guthneck**

Lone Star News is available online at www.dkgtexas.org.

Delta Kappa Gamma websites:

www.orgsites.com/tx/etatau

www.dkgtexas.org

www.dkg.org

Credit for graphics: www.dkgtexas.org www.dkg.org

Credit for Birthday Cake graphic: Free Vectors all-free-download.com

Photos by Donna Slathar, Mary Wallace, Laura Packard

Send your Eta Tau committee reports and membership news to Donna Slathar. The deadline for the October newsletter is October 1, 2019. dwslathar@sbcglobal.net



(A **business** meeting was **not** held on April 15, 2019. The following are notes taken from our meeting.)

Draft Delta Kappa Gamma International
 Eta Tau Chapter
 April 15, 2019

Notes from the meeting

The meeting was held at International Headquarters. The hostesses were Patti Groce and Debbie Koehler. Cathy Harris collected money for the Founders' Day luncheon and dues for 2019-2020. Donna Slathar presented Cathy Harris, Laura Packard, Patti Groce and Lois Mayes with gifts for perfect attendance. Mary Wallace asked for suggestions for a book to read for the February discussion. She thought that Where the Crawdads Sing by Delia Owens might be a good selection. Educated by Tara Westover was also considered. Mary also wanted ideas for programs. Debbie Koehler reminded the members that a luncheon during the summer is in the planning stages. Laura Packard thought that Fuego Latino Gastropub, 206 N Mays Street, Round Rock would be a good location. Mary Wallace conducted the 54th birthday celebration for Eta Tau. Lois Mayes and Donna Slathar participated in the reading of the script. There were three fold wishes for the group— friendship, loyalty, and helpfulness. Door prizes were provided by Lois Mayes and Donna Slathar.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Mayes

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