

ETA TAU 5 STAR NEWS

September 2021

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Volume 56 Issue 1 Eta Tau Chapter Austin, Texas September 2021

Texas State Organization Area 7 No. 187

International Theme: Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

State Theme: JOURNEY: Which way will you go?

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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 20, 2021 7:00 PM

**Be safe...
Stay healthy!**

Where: Home

How: Virtual via WebEx (6:45 PM)

Program: Salad Supper

Inspiration: Donna Slathar

For the September meeting:

Laura will send an email with the WebEx link to the meeting. She will open the link at 6:45 and the meeting will start at 7:00. Prepare your salad and be ready to share the recipe with members.





A Letter from Laura

by Laura Packard

My dear Eta Tau Sisters,

Thanks to all our members who were able to participate in our virtual meetings this summer as we planned and re-planned our meetings for 2021-2022. We had hoped to resume meetings at the church, but at least for the September meeting we will have to continue to meet virtually. We'll play it by ear for the rest of the year, hoping that the COVID situation improves and that we can feel safe getting together again. I will send the link to our September 20th meeting sometime over the weekend.

I love the way our little chapter pulls together to plan and solve problems in these trying times. You ladies are the best!

Love you all,

Laura



To our active teachers...



We wish you a successful 2021-2022 school year!! We know this is not an easy time for our teachers and students. We are here to help you in any way we can. Please know we recognize and support your dedication!



Roses to.....

Lois Mayes...for conducting the Recommitment Ceremony in April.

Marion Horowitz and Emily Farnsworth...for leading the Birthday Program celebrating Eta Tau's 56th birthday.

Laura Packard...for ordering the donations for the Austin Sunshine Camp.

Susan Harmon...for representing Eta Tau at the TSO Convention (Denton) in June and at the International Conference (San Antonio) in July.

Eta Officers and members...for attending the virtual Executive Board/Program of Work and Planning meetings in July and August to discuss chapter business and make plans for 2021 -2022.

Cathy Harris...for working with the church and sharing information with all of us.

Marion Horowitz and Emily Farnsworth...for planning more great programs for 2021-2022 and choosing an excellent book for our book discussion.

Patti Groce...for serving on the TSO 2021-23 Personal and Professional Enrichment Committee.

Susan Harmon...for serving on the TSO 2021-23 Finance Committee and the TSO 2021-23 Communications Committee.

All our Eta Tau 2020-22 officers, committee chairmen, and members... for being so willing and flexible.

Be in the know... Publications

Find out all you need to know about Delta Kappa Gamma from these publications. You can view them on the International website (www.dkg.org)

The Bulletin, the official publication of the Delta Kapa Gamma Society International, promotes publication of their writings.

Bulletin: Collegial Exchange, focuses on practice and experience related to education, the Society, women and children, as well as personal reflections and creative works.

Bulletin: Journal, focuses on research-based and documented works, position papers, review of literature, and other topics of interests to educators.

DKG News, a bi-monthly publication to keep members informed in a timely manner. Each issue covers topics related to professional educators and the Society.

Get Connected!, a newsletter from The International Communications and Publicity Committee.

Lone Star News, the official publication of the Texas State Organization (www.dkgtexas.org)



Membership News

Get well wishes are extended to **Laura Packard** and her husband, Robert. We hope their road to recovery is short and fast! Our thoughts and prayers are with you!

Susan Harmon is the TSO Communications and Publicity committee member from Area 7. We are very proud of our newest Eta Tau member!

It was good to hear that members are venturing out and enjoying family and friends more since we last met.

From Patti...

I did take a trip to Wimberley for a crafting day at Bella Vida Bed/Breakfast with my paper crafting circle. As far out of town as I have been in two years! The same group is planning a 4-day crafting retreat in late October in New Braunfels.

I also joined a Zoom Book Club. We read Greenlights by Mathew McConaughey and The Light Between Oceans by M.L Stedman and Miss Benson's Beetle this summer.

From Donna...

After 18 months of missing holidays, birthdays, and just being together, we finally made trips to Georgia and Indiana to visit family. For a short time there was a sense of “normalcy” to our lives as we celebrated a niece’s wedding, our grandson’s First Communion, a family reunion, and our youngest granddaughter’s 6th birthday. Zoom and FaceTime are great but nothing compares to a real hug or fist bump from a loved one. Fortunately, all family members are staying safe and remain healthy!

From Marion...

This summer we went on our long awaited trip to Florida. Our main purpose of the trip was to visit relatives and to go to Disney World to the new Star Wars part of the park. It was awesome and if you are into Star Wars, it is a must see! We also went to Clearwater Beach for some relaxation after Disney and then headed back home.

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.



TSO Convention

Eta Tau's Susan Harmon attended the 92nd TSO Convention in Denton in June. Here is a review of the convention from Susan.



Dear Eta Tau Sisters,

I had a great time representing you in Denton. The first event was an ice cream social for our Leadership Seminar groups. Who knew Laura's and my attendance in 2013 would result in our someday living in the same neighborhood as well as being in the same DKG chapter? I did have dinner before this event with my former chapter, so I will need to share with Patti about the meal and the charcuterie board they made for me.

Thursday we were supposed to hear from Tim Lee but he was unable to attend and sent Brock Gregg. He was fabulous! I am confident that I'll get my own Social Security someday, and that they know how to proceed for the COLA and the 13th check in the future. I was able to stand up at the evening meeting for Eta Tau for the Five-Star Newsletter and the website (Thank you, Donna!). I

was also able to be recognized for our donations to Leadership, Scholarship, and Program (Thank you, Cathy!).

Friday, the proposed TSO budget passed without any discussion (thank goodness!), and we heard a lot about our foundation, ASTEF. I attended the workshop with presidents and Area Coordinators and ours will be fabulous. Nancy Varljen (Varl-yen) lives in Georgetown and is a principal in Round Rock.

Then Saturday, at the memorial service, Janie was recognized and her name was pronounced correctly! I have 4 paper programs for the event and was so glad to be in attendance. I met Janie at the International Convention in Austin when I volunteered to take ladies to headquarters on the bus tours--a constant reminder of how precious life is. A member of my Midland chapter, who I filled the library position of at an elementary school, was also recognized.

What a great weekend I had at the beautiful, brand-new Embassy Suites. I got my library certification at UNT and things have definitely changed since 1999! And who knew there were 2 Buc-ee's between here and Denton?

Now I plan to head to San Antonio in July for the International Conference. I have served TSO for 4 years as the Finance Chair, so I was happy to hand off my information to the next woman. Now I have time to fill the other positions that Laura has suggested for me!

Looking forward to the fall and some in-person meetings!

Susan Harmon

P.S. I forgot to mention the Unifying Project. CASA received over 250 gift cards totaling over \$6,150. I'm so glad we were a part of that!

Susan also attended the International Conference in San Antonio where she volunteered at the registration desk as well as being a table hostess.

"Area 7 Ladies" at the International Conference in San Antonio



Susan, thanks for representing Eta Tau!

CONGRATULATIONS, ETA TAU!

At the Texas State Organization 92nd Convention in Denton, Texas, Eta Tau was recognized for the following honors...

Early Bird Yearbook Award

Exemplary Yearbook Award

Five-Star Newsletter Award

ASTE F Scholarship Honors

Website Recognition

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



Perfect Attendance

Seven Eta Tau members were recognized with Perfect Attendance for 2020-2021 at the April meeting. In spite of the challenges of virtual meetings, these members continued to "show-up" and support their chapter.

Congratulations to Laura, Lois, Cathy, Debbie, Patti, Marion, and Donna!



TSO Members Contribute...
During the Celebration Brunch at the TSO Convention, TSO members collected and donated \$4,821.35 to the Emergency Fund!! Donations are always welcome to the International Emergency Fund.





Eta Tau Committees 2021-2022

Society Business:

Membership/Attendance

Chair: Debbie Koehler

Ceremonies/Necrology

Chair: Lois Mayes

Nominations/Achievement Award

Chair: Mary Wallace
Donna Slathar
Patti Groce

Finance/Auditing

Chair: Lois Mayes

Communications/Publicity

Chair: Donna Slathar

Social:

Chair: Laura Packard

Educational Excellence:

Programs

Co-chairs: Emily Farnsworth
Marion Horowitz

Research/Chapter Rules/Archives

Chair: Patti Groce

Yearbook

Chair: Mary Wallace

Service Projects/Global Awareness/ Personal & Professional Enrichment/ Scholarships

Co-chairs: Marion Horowitz
Emily Farnsworth

Legislation:

Chair: LaVonne Rogers

Music:

Chair: Cathy Harris



Looking for new members...

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 Debbie Koehler, Eta Tau Membership Chair.**

Upcoming Events.....Mark your calendars!

September 20 – Eta Tau Chapter Meeting – Virtual
June 14-18, 2022 – 93rd Texas State Convention – Lubbock, TX
July 12-16, 2022 – International Convention – New Orleans, LA
June 14-17, 2023 – 94th Texas State Convention, McAllen,, TX

Chapter Officers 2020-2022

President: **Laura Packard**
Co-First Vice Presidents: **Emily Farnsworth/Marion Horowitz**
Second Vice President: **Debbie Koehler**
Secretary: **Lois Mayes**
Parliamentarian: **Mary Wallace**
Treasurer: **Cathy Harris**
Past President: **Patti Groce**

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

Delta Kappa Gamma websites:

www.etatautxweebly.com

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
Credit for photo: TSO Website

Send your Eta Tau committee reports and membership news to Donna Slathar. The deadline for the October newsletter is October 1, 2021. dwslathar@sbcglobal.net



Delta Kappa Gamma International
Eta Tau Chapter
April 19, 2021

The meeting was held virtually on WebEx. There were 10 members present.

Call to Order

Laura Packard called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Inspiration

Lois Mayes led a Recommitment Ceremony. She defined recommitment and gave examples.

Program

Emily Farnsworth and Marion Horowitz led Eta Tau's 56th Birthday Celebration. The ceremony was "Rejoice! The Birthday Party is a Real Jewel." Member read a passage about the jewels that represent each of the 12 months. Members with birthdays during the month were wished a happy birthday. Everyone had a piece of cake with a lit candle. Cathy Harris sang the song "This is the Birthday of Eta Tau Chapter."

Member News

Margaret Eisenbeck is doing well. She wants to continue paying dues even though she is not able to attend the meetings. Susan Harmon has moved to Georgetown.

Minutes

The minutes for the March meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurers Report

Cathy Harris reported a bank balance of \$2,893.28. Donations for the Austin Sunshine Camp Service Project are \$295.

Committee Reports

Programs—Emily Farnsworth requested ideas for programs for 2021-2022. She also ask for the names of books to consider for discussion at the February meeting.

Someone will check to see if the Palace Theater in Georgetown will be having live performances in March 2021.

Membership—Debbie Koehler reported that 7 members have perfect attendance. They are Patti Groce, Cathy Harris, Lois Mayes, Laura Packard, Donna Slathar, Debbie Koehler and Marion Horowitz. She suggested that we continue to phone members during the summer to check on their welfare.

Web Watcher—Donna Slathar wants member news about summer activities for the September Newsletter. She gave the Web Watchers report.

International—The spring 2021 Art Gallery is on the website. Headquarters has a new phone system. Be patient during the transition. Deadlines: May 15 Bulletin Journal submissions, June 30 Chapter dues due, July 15 Chapter Treasurers Annual report due. DKG International has 1,728 new members.

State—results of the communication and marketing survey are in Get Connected. Read the Convention newsletter, *The Key*.

Legislation—Lois Mayes reported that TRS has enough money to provide a Cost Of Living Adjustment without additional money from the Legislature. The bill is under consideration. Laura Packard said that the Red Letter Campaign was successful.

Unfinished Business

A discussion was held to determine how to use the \$295 donated for the Austin Sunshine Camp Project. It was decided that the chapter will buy 2 bean bag chair and 1 pole lamp for a total of \$175 plus tax. The remaining money will be used to purchase books that are on the camp's wish list. A motion was made and approved. Laura Packard will make the order.

Announcements

Laura Packard stated that a planning meeting will be held in July. Several suggestions were made concerning programs and meeting places. The suggestions will be discussed at the July meeting. Susan Harmon will represent Eta Tau at the State Convention in Denton in June.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.