



The Mu Tauker

The Mu Tauker editor Lavonne Dennis
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The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Texas State Organization

Area 1 Chapter 307 Mu Tau Chapter

Cedar Creek Lake Area

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

Nancy's Notes



JOURNEY
Which way will you go?

Mu Tau Sisters, new and not so new,

It is hard to believe I am finishing my first year as president. It really has been a fast year. Bless you all for putting up with me!

As I look back over the year, it is clear how our chapter has once again proven how amazing you are. We began our year with our birthday celebration and memories of Mu Tau. We were informed about virtual learning and teaching. We heard a firsthand account of a Normandy trip and D-Day remembrance. Christmas was a delightful time of visiting and enjoying delicious food. We heard about Annie Webb Blanton. Last month we inducted two wonderful new members and were served a delicious meal with an amazing dessert table! I hope everyone enjoyed the programs as much as I did. On that note, if you have any ideas for programs for next year, please let anyone on the Program Committee know.

Once again, I am realizing how blessed I am to be surrounded by such a supportive, talented, and special group of Mu Tau sisters. You have made my year so much easier, and I am truly grateful to each of you. I look forward to seeing what our next year brings!

Our meeting on Monday will be at the Victorian Lady tearoom for a meal and a celebration of our founders. I hope to see all of you there. I thank you for a terrific year, and I hope everyone has a restful and enjoyable summer!

—Nancy



Mu Tau Meeting

Monday, May 8, 2023

4:45 PM

Victorian Lady Tearoom

Mabank

Hostesses: Barbara Jedlicka, Pam Gromley, DeAnna Smith

Meaningful Moments

Monica Fortenberry

Program

DKG Founders Day

Dinner

\$25.00 per person

Mu Tau Projects

Little Free Libraries

Boxtop\$ for Education

Mu Tau Scholarship

Schools for Africa

SEE

Forever Families

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

MAY 8-12

Happy Mother's Day!



Find us: <http://dkgtxmutau.weebly.com>

Webmaster Pam Gromley

www.dkg.org

www.dkgtexas.org

Mu Tau calendar 2022-2023**May 8, 2023 DKG Founders Day, Victorian Lady Tearoom****June 14-17, 2023 94th TSO Convention, McAllen, TX****July 18-22, 2023 International Conference, Phoenix, AZ**

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Mu Tau Dollars and Cents**\$\$\$\$\$****The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International****Mu Tau Chapter**

Treasurer's Report April 1, 2023

BALANCE 4-1-2023 \$1,835.25

Deposits

2023-24 Dues Deposits 1,510.00

Total Available \$3,345.25

Disbursements : 00.00

Ck. #964 Scholarship Fund 40.00

Statement Fee 4.00

Total Disbursements \$44.00**BALANCE 5-1-2023 \$3,301.25****Libby Horton, Mu Tau Treasurer****Reminder: Dues are due by May 28, 2023.****More Important reminders from Libby:**

Also remember that dues deposits apply to the 2023-2024 budget.

Four \$20.00 Walmart gift cards were sent for the ASTEF Mystery Mania.

A gift basket of Van Zandt gourmet coffee with Yeti coffee mugs will be the Silent Auction item from Mu Tau.



Mu Tau
Executive Board
2022-2024

President

Nancy McDonald

First Vice President

Mindy Sutton

Second Vice President

Beverly Hart

Recording Secretary

Mary Ann Gregg

Corresponding Secretary

Angela Barton

Treasurer

Libby Horton

**Parliamentarian**

Janice Sutton

Immediate Past President

Monica Fortenberry

The Mu Tauker Editor

Lavonne Dennis

*Victorian Lady**Menu for Mu Tau Founders Day**Sandwiches**Chicken Salad & Orange Turkey**Fruit & Chips**Cakes**Almond Joy & Strawberry**Beverages**Spiced tea Slushy punch Water**We may choose an entire sandwich or half of each kind.**We may have a piece of each kind of cake.*

Minutes of the April Mu Tau Chapter Meeting

First Presbyterian Church, Mabank, TX

April 10, 2023, 5:00 pm

Following the Mu Tau Induction ceremony in the church sanctuary, President Nancy McDonald called the April meeting of the Mu Tau Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International to order at 5:20 pm. Members present were Lavonne Dennis, Monica Fortenberry, Mary Ann Gregg, Beverly Hart, Libby Horton, Barbara Jedlicka, Nancy McDonald, Jean Robinson, Janice Sutton, Amanda Schmidt, Angela Barton, Sheila Lewis, Rebecca Stephens, Angelya Saine, Kim Johnson, Alison Neighbors, and Pam Gromley.

Nancy McDonald blessed the meal and, for Meaningful Moments, shared her reflections titled "Sisters."

Hostesses Kim Johnson, Mindy Sutton, Janice Sutton, and Nancy McDonald provided an exceptional meal with several creative dessert offerings.

The minutes of the February meeting and Orientation were approved as printed in the April newsletter.

The treasurer's report as printed in *The Mu Tauker* was accepted. It will be filed for audit.

Finance Committee Chairman Janice Sutton presented the budget for 2023-2024. Jean Robinson moved to approve. It was approved by unanimous vote.

For Chapter Correspondence, Angela Barton read a thank-you note from Mindy Marder.

Libby Horton explained the collection of dues and accepted payments. She will accept VENMO payments and checks until May.

ASTEF: Mystery Mania gift cards will be sold at the McAllen convention this summer. A motion was approved by raising of hands for Mu Tau to contribute \$100 in gift cards. These cards are due by the end of May. The ASTEF theme is **Back to the Future**. The convention dates are June 14th-17th.

In New Business, Mary Ann Gregg moved that we have the Founders Day meeting on May 8th, at Victorian Lady tea-room, which will provide sandwiches, chips, dessert, and a beverage, and we will hold our Founders Day Program after the meal. The motion passed with a show of hands.

Melody Stephenson is recovering from hip surgery. Mindy Marder is suffering from a sinus infection. Area Coordinator Linda Anderson fell, has stitches in her chin, and will undergo an MRI. Prayers are requested for her.

President Nancy McDonald adjourned the meeting at 5:37 pm.

Mary Ann Gregg, Recording Secretary

Nancy McDonald, President



94th TSO Convention. McAllen, Texas. June. 2023

Mu Tau birthdays

May

Lavonne Dennis, 5/6

Monica Fortenberry, 5/29

June

Kathy Clardy, 6/5

Tana Hoelscher, 6/29

Jan Jones, 6/13

Amanda Schmidt, 6/28

July

Janice Beasley, 7/13

Barbara Jedlicka, 7/2

Melinda Robertson, 7/28

Thelma Stegman, 7/31

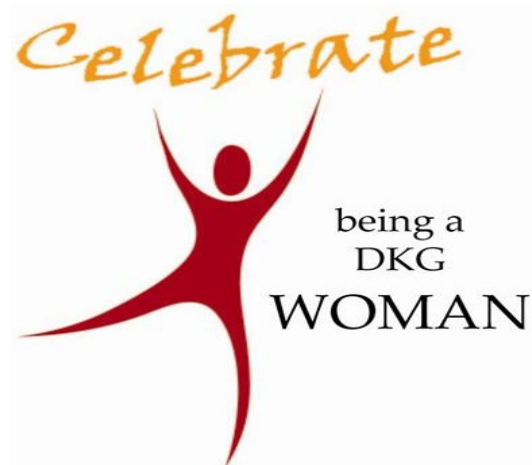
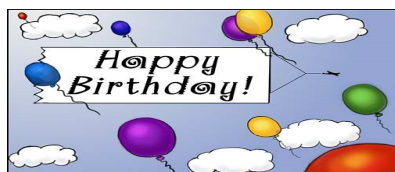
Melody Stephenson, 7/3

August

Pam Gromley, 8/23

Kim Johnson, 8/1

Dana Parker, 8/17

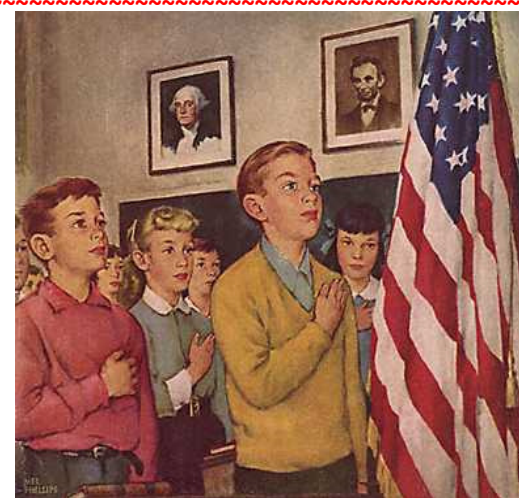
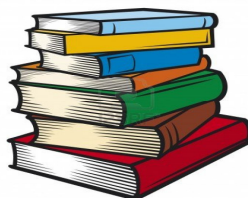
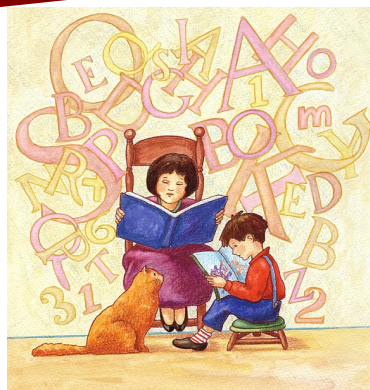


Kim Johnson's culinary artistry on full display at Mu Tau Induction feast



Note: Boxtop\$ help our schools help our kids. **Boxtop\$** are now to be submitted by photos from your smart phone.

BOXTOP\$ for education



Donate **used** books to help stock Mu Tau's Little Free Library at Northpark.

Bring the books to Beverly Hart. Reading helps people in our communities to become better readers and perhaps better citizens.



Mu Tau Induction 2023
Sanctuary
of
First Presbyterian Church
Ceremonies Chairman
Mary Ann Gregg



Alison Neighbors accepts DKG pin from sponsor Mary Ann Gregg.

Sponsor Monica Fortenberry bestows DKG pin on Angelya Saine.

Member Spotlight

Amanda Schmidt



I was inducted into Mu Tau in April of 2022; my sponsor was my younger sister, Angela Barton. Even though Angela is younger than I, I have always looked up to her. She knew from a young age that she wanted to be a teacher and had it all planned out. When she became one, I admired her hard work and was envious of the time off she had. I had a young son and was working as a paralegal in Dallas and decided to make a career change to spend more time with him and not in traffic. I didn't go the traditional route. I was fortunate to have known the principal at Wills Point High School (he had been the athletic director when I was in school, and I graduated with his daughter). He hired me on the spot to teach geometry, which was my least favorite math in school, but I got better at it through teaching! I ended up later teaching Pre-AP Algebra 2, as well as a few other courses.

I went through alternative certification and was completely lost for several years on what to do with teenagers and all of their emotions in my math classroom. By year two, I learned that I really enjoyed getting to know my students and hearing about their lives a lot more than teaching math. At the end of year four of teaching, I decided to start classes for school counseling at Texas A & M University at Commerce. This was by far one of the best decisions I have ever made in my life. I learned so much about myself (yes, we were forced to go there!) and have been a different person ever since. Battling your own demons helps you be more present and compassionate with others. While working on this degree, I also took a few extra courses to pursue my counseling license. I was fortunate that the school where I taught during that time (A+ Academy in Dallas) created a position for me as a school counselor, and I began counseling fulltime in 2013.

In April of 2018, I became a Licensed Professional Counselor-Intern and was hired part-time at Behavioral Health Connections in Dallas. I started conducting mental health assessments on hospitalized and emergency room patients who were having a mental health crisis. This work has assisted me tremendously in schools as well, and I have almost completed five years there.

I became a fully Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) in early 2020, right when the pandemic was about to hit. Being licensed has opened more doors for me, and I am now in a position for the second year in Wills Point ISD as the District Crisis & Intervention Counselor. The work is extremely rewarding, and I get to spend a lot of time with students, staff, and families, doing work that a traditional professional school counselor does not typically have time to do, due to testing, scheduling, and "other duties as assigned." I just finished a HUGE project organizing the Shattered Dreams Program at Wills Point High School on April 14th. Many students' lives were impacted by watching this educational program about the dangers of impaired driving. All of the work that the students and first responders put into it was amazing to watch.

I am truly thankful to be part of DKG now. Being here with Angela and Sheila as well has been icing on the cake! I met Sheila through Angela many years ago, and we have now worked together for two years. I have not been able to attend as many meetings this year due to school events on the same days as meetings, but I feel so welcomed at meetings and love being part of such a supportive community of women celebrating each other. Thank you to all of you for what you do and for all of the countless hours you have spent loving students over the years.



At my request, Nancy approved my publishing her thoughts about sisters that she gave last month at our Induction meeting. I treasure it. I hope you will too. Also, she assured me that these thoughts have been garnered over several years of reading. She is not a plagiarist; she just knows good stuff when she sees it's worth sharing. So do I.
—Ltd

SISTERS:

Since we are welcoming new sisters today, I thought I would give you my perspective on sisters.

Sisters share a special bond that is impossible to describe. It can be felt and understood only by the sisters who share it. We go through life together as a team, helping and supporting each other. We smile together; we laugh together; we cry together. You can always confide in your sisters. We will be by your side, not matter what. We will be there for you through the good and the bad times of your life. A sister knows you're not okay even when you say you are. We are your new sisters, and we will always be your friend.

Of course, as most of you know, I do have an older sister, so I would like to include a little more about sisters.

Sisters never quite forgive each other for what happened when they were younger.

Never let an angry sister comb your hair.

A sister is your mirror, shining back at you with a world of possibilities. She sees you at your best and at your worst, and loves you anyway.

She is your partner in crime, your teacher, your defense attorney, and even your shrink.

Some days, she is the reason you wish you were an only child!

Scorpions living in the same hole get along better than sisters in the same house.

If your sister is in a hurry to go out and won't catch your eye, she's probably wearing something of yours.

I always knew my older sister loved me because she gave me all her old clothes and had to go out and buy new ones.

My sister taught me everything I really need to know, and she was only in the sixth grade at the time.

However, a sister is a little bit of childhood that can never be lost.

The best thing about having a sister is that she is always there for me and is my best friend. Your Mu Tau sisters will also always be there for you and will be your friend. You will be hard pressed to find a better bunch of ladies and sisters! We are delighted to welcome you to the DKG sisterhood!

