Birthday High Tea

A High Tea organized by our First Vice President, Rosemary Armstrong, was a wonderful and fun way to celebrate our Lambda Alpha Chapter’s birthday, DKG International Society birthday, and the birthdays of all the members of the chapter on October 4, 2016 at the Trini Mendenhall Harris County Community Center. Members enjoyed wearing their special hats, a spot of tea, delicious food, and a special birthday cake baked by our President, Brenda Lozano. After the tea and chapter meeting, Clara Reimers led a special memorial remembrance ceremony for Billie Golden and Mary Linnenberg. A special thank you goes out to Rosemary Nelson for organizing this event, Brenda Lozano for the lovely and delicious birthday cake, and all the members that attended and contributed to make this birthday celebration one of a kind.
Billie Golden Remembrance

Billie L. Golden, was a founding member of the Lambda Alpha chapter in Spring Branch Independent School District when 'dinosaurs walked the land'. She would often make this remark during her 33 year teaching career with the district. Billie and her fellow 'dinosaurs', Jane Burke and Ina Schmidt wanted to share their love and appreciation for teaching with fellow teachers and eventually influence previous students to join them in the academic arena.

The transformations that occurred over the past decades in the field of education have been monumental. Adjustments were required by educators to address the ever-changing attitudes of the students, curriculum, and the teachers themselves. Nevertheless, these few men and women banded together, taking time from their daily routines demanded by their schools and families to encourage fellow teachers to look to the horizon for a better world. It was difficult for them; the revolutionary 60's, the laid back 70's, the parents from the 80's eventually teaching children of their former students. Often they were rewarded by influencing those with an unseen aptitude for teaching, brought out by the resolve of this organization.

Billie sincerely loved teaching and the rewards it brought forth. She retired knowing her contemporaries would have opportunities to improve their status through Lambda Alpha's scholarship programs, as would students pursuing educational degrees. The road was less onerous for them thanks to the facilitation of Lambda Alpha and their sincere desire to continue improving education in our country. Ann Golden Schmalz (reprinted from October 2015)

A tribute to Mary Linnenberg will be in the November newsletter.
Upcoming

October 27, 2016 - We will be selling cards and pumpkins at Tallowood Baptist Church. Set-up at 9 a.m. and sell from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

November 5, 2016 – There will be an optional Lambda Alpha Gathering for lunch at Brookwood at 11:00 a.m. If you would like to carpool and did not attend the last meeting, then you need to contact Rosemary Nelson for further details on carpooling. There will be members that will be meeting at a specific location at 10:45 a.m. to carpool to the event.

December 3, 2016 – Holiday Luncheon at the Junior League at 10:45 a.m. Menu choices due on November 18th to Rosemary Nelson. Please bring a wrapped toy for presentation to Buffalo Creek students. If unable to attend, please consider either getting the toy to one of the members going or contributing a monetary gift so that a toy can be purchased in your name.

January 7, 2017 – Lambda Alpha Meeting at Toby Unrath’s house, 2619 Manila Lane at 10:00. Brunch followed by the program Hope for Youth which is an extension of the Star of Hope.


February 7, 2017 - Lambda Alpha Meeting at Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt @ Westview. Refreshments and social time starting at 4:30 p.m. Program will be presented by the SBISD Police Department.

March – date to be announced social opportunity to see the performance of To Kill a Mockingbird at AD Players.

April 4, 2017 - Lambda Alpha Meeting at Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt @ Westview. Refreshments and social time starting at 4:30 p.m. Program is State Bound.

May 2, 2017 – Founders Day Banquet at Fratelli’s Restaurante, 1330 Wirt Road at Westview at 5:30 p.m.

Lambda Alpha Sister in the News

From information given to us from Elaine Sorsby, the outgoing President of HATFL: On Saturday, October 1st, Mary Moreno was honored at the Houston Area Teachers of Foreign Languages annual meeting with the Honorary Lifetime Membership award. This award is given to HATFL members who have served Houston area foreign language teachers well and promoted the learning of foreign languages among our students. Mary was presented with a framed certificate and an arrangement of roses.

After working in the business world, serving 24 years in the Air Force and Texas Air National Guard, Mary got certified to teach business and found her way to Stratford High School in the business department. She saw the light and moved over to the Foreign Language department where she has been a Spanish teacher for 16 years – including being mobilized with the reserves after 9/11. Mary laughs to tell that she came to sub at Stratford on a Friday and never left!

We are very proud of our Lambda Alpha sister.

Dues Payable to Mary Moreno ASAP
Birthdays

October: none

November: Debbie Connally 15th, Theresa Decker 23rd, and Brenda Lozano 24th.

If we have missed someone, please let us know. We are going off the information in the Year Book and do not want to miss a single birthday.

Minutes from the October Meeting

Minutes Lambda Alpha Chapter Delta Kappa Gamma
High Tea with Birthday Celebrations
October 4, 2016

Lambda Alpha members gathered at the Trini Mendenhall Harris County Community Center to celebrate the birthday of Lambda Alpha Chapter and all the members of the Chapter as well as DKG International Society. A memorable memorial remembrance followed honoring Billie Golden and Mary Linnenberg. Rosemary Nelson, First Vice President, planned a beautiful High Tea for the celebration. Hot tea, delicious food and beautiful birthday cake baked by Brenda Lozano was enjoyed by all.

The business meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m. by President Brenda Lozano. Brenda welcomed the 14 members present and complemented all the beautiful hats and enhancers worn by the members. The previous minutes were approved as published in the newsletter with Clara Reimers making the motion and Mary Moreno seconding it.

Mary Moreno handed out copies of the Treasurer’s Report. The balance of the checking account is $5,003.54 and the balance of the Savings Account is $3277.03 as of September 30, 2016. The total amount from the sales of pumpkins and cards at present is $2281.79. Scholarships were given to Jasmin Rodriguez and Elvira Campos for $750 each as the girls are attending Texas A & M University. The Chapter received thank you notes from both girls. Members were reminded to pay dues as they are due to State at the end of the month.

Kathy Gardner discussed the scholarship applications for this year. The Billie Golden Memorial Scholarship fund is $1995 to date. Plans are being made to give a scholarship in Billie’s memory for the next several years. This will be discussed further at the January meeting.

On Thursday, October 27th there will be a Fall Market sale at Tallowood Church where members will sell Pumpkins and Cards. Then on November 3rd or 4th, several members are planning on attending the Annual Quilt Show and on November 5th, members plan on having lunch at Brookwood and enjoy a day of shopping. Members are to let Rosemary Nelson know if they plan on attending either event. On December 3rd, the Christmas Luncheon will be held at the Junior League at 11 a.m. Again the choice form and checks should be sent to Rosemary Nelson. The January 7th meeting will be a brunch at 10 a.m. at Toby Unrath’s home. Rosemary passed a signup sheet for volunteers to bring the refreshments.

Lambda Alpha assignment for the State Convention is June is Vendors and selling Ads for the Program. The Chapter will be giving scholarships to pay for registration and for parking. More information and assignments will be coming forth as all of the chapter members will be needed to help.

The High Tea concluded with a Remembrance Ceremony Honoring Lambda Alpha Charter member Billie Golden and longtime member Mary Linnenberg. Clara Reimers conducted the ceremony with help from Brenda Lozano, Tobey Unrath, and Kathy Gardner. Ann Swartz, Billie’s daughter, addressed the chapter about her mother following the ceremony and thanking the members for their part of her mother’s life.

The meeting was unofficially adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Martha Lynn Lewis
Recording Secretary
President’s Letter

It just seems like the 4th of July and Labor Day were yesterday but now we are heading into the busy, tiring, but exciting holiday season. The stores are quite ahead of me. I am still waiting for the colder weather and cannot quite yet let sugarplums dance in my head. We have had a busy month. Three of our four fall pumpkin and card sales are successfully finished. Thanks go out again to all who designed, prepared, crafted, advertised and sold our pumpkins and cards. Tallowood remains on the 27th of October with sales from 10:00-12:00. While we may not need more workers, stop by to visit and shop if your schedule permits.

Rosemary Nelson organized and masterfully executed a wonderful tea party and Birthday celebration for our Lambda Alpha Chapter and sisters. Clara Reimers organized and led the touching remembrance ceremony for Billie Golden and Mary Linnenberg. We were so glad Billie’s daughter, Ann, could join us. You will find the tribute to Billie Golden in this newsletter and the tribute to Mary Linnenberg will be in the November newsletter.

Please pull out your calendars and make sure you have the dates for the following: Brookwood November 5th, Quilt convention that same weekend, the Christmas Luncheon at the Junior League on December 3 at 11:00(meet at 10:45), and the January 7th brunch meeting on the first Saturday of the new year. Menu choices due to Rosemary by November 18th.

We have also received our job for the State Convention to be held June 22nd through the 24th at the Hyatt Downtown. We are in charge of the vendors. It is a BIG job and we will need help from all. A big job divided into many smaller chunks becomes doable. This is our time to shine. Thanks go out to Sue and Martha Lynn for preplanning brainstorming. We are off to a great start. We will be meeting at the hotel in November and will report back.

At this busy time of the year, if we can be of help, please let us know. Those of us that are retired may have a bit of extra time and those still teaching may have some skills or information that could help our group. If you need help getting through the next couple of months, reach out and let us know. The season of giving is upon us. If you cannot attend the Christmas luncheon, please plan on getting your gift for a student at Buffalo Creek to one of the officers before the luncheon. A monetary gift is fine, as we can purchase the toys and wrap them for you before December 3rd. Hope to see you in November and December.

Brenda