



# Lambda Alpha

## Letter from the President

Welcome back!

I just spent a delightful morning perusing Lambda Alpha newsletters from the first in our Chapter to the present. I discovered that we have gathered in the fall with a salad supper or salad luncheon from the very first year! What a nice tradition we have established. I sincerely hope that everyone will make a concerted effort to join fellow members at all scheduled meetings this year. I am so honored to serve you as your president for 2012-2014, and hope to get to know each of you much better at our future meetings. Please do try to attend so I can put faces with the names! But not just for me and my hope to know you all, Lambda Alpha Chapter needs every one of us to do our part, to attend meetings, and to make our chapter better and stronger.

This year, our focus will be not only toward the future, but we will also be looking back. There are plans to feature a past President of our chapter in each future newsletter. Our chapter has a rich history and these women educators helped form us into the caring, growing chapter we are today. Many of these women

still contribute to our chapter and I hope to give you a glimpse into their lives since giving so much to us as president.

What follows is a quote from our very own Lambda Alpha brochure for new members. Do we remember how it felt to be invited to join Delta Kappa Gamma? I know I was honored, and joined in 2004 enthusiastically.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is a [professional](#) honorary Society of women educators with [over 100,000 members in 18 countries](#).

Established in 1929, DKG has attained major objectives in improving opportunities for qualified women employed at every level of education, as well as in [advancing the status of women educators](#). To this end, the Purposes set forth by the Founders continue to embody the spirit of the Society.

Membership is by [invitation only](#) and considered a prestigious honor with a variety of benefits and privileges.

[Membership is offered to outstanding women](#)

employed in or retired from a professional education position in any field and at any level.

...What inspiring words! Let's all try to recharge our DKG batteries this year, beginning with [reflecting on the feelings we had when first asked to join](#), and continuing with attendance at as many of the carefully planned meetings as we can!

Sincerely,  
Leigh LaVergne

Newsletter  
September 2012  
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### New Lambda Alpha Member

Hooray for our newest member, Martha Lynn Lewis! Martha Lynn has been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, Zeta Upsilon chapter of Galena Park, TX since 1977, and we look forward to many years of fellowship with her in Lambda Alpha!



## Important Dates

**Sept. 6 Meeting** – craft meeting—jewelry hangers, pumpkins, etc. that we make will make money for us at the area workshop on September 15 when we sell them. Hope we sell out!! If you have any of the following lying around at home, bring wooden frames without glass or backer, cup hooks, glue sticks for glue guns, fall fabrics for pumpkins, leaves from fake foliage, needles, thread.

**Oct. 9--Meeting-** 4:30 PM meeting, Rummel Creek Elementary--625 Brittmoore, 77079

**Oct. 20 (Saturday) Fundraiser** – 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM - Garage Sale – St. Christopher's Episcopal Church-1656 Blalock--see "Help Wanted for Garage Sale" article below.

**November 1--Birthday Celebration Meeting-**4:30 PM Location: Rummel Creek Elementary

**December 8--Luncheon at Junior League-**11:15 AM

**February 5--Meeting purposeTBD** - 4:30 PM at Rummel Creek Elementary

**March 7--Tri-Chapter Meeting** - 4:30 PM Location TBD

**April 9--Business Meeting--**Rummel Creek Elementary

**May 2--Founders' Day Meeting (banquet?)-**Location TBD



## Help Wanted for the Garage Sale!

Thanks to Mary Moreno for volunteering to be the Chairperson for the Garage Sale October 20! People are needed to help with the garage sale in many ways, and Mary can't do it all. One thing everyone is urged to do is contribute used items [with a price attached](#). It is so hard to price the day of the event. Consider stapling the price to a tag on garments. It is at St Christopher's Episcopal Church, 1656 Blalock.

- [Garage Sale drop-off](#)– Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup> in the evening and Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> during the day will be the times for drop-off. If you can work during those times (specifics at the meeting or in e-mails to follow), you would be so helpful. If you cannot bring things by before, please bring them Saturday EARLY so we will reach the biggest market for your castoffs. Clara Reimers has graciously offered to store items in her garage the week before the garage sale if the Thursday and Friday schedule for drop-offs is inconvenient. Contact any officer for directions to her home.
- [Advertising](#) – Corresponding Secretary Cathey Jones will be sending a blurb to the neighborhood section of the Chronicle, but if you have any other suggestions for places to send the information, that would be great. Please send ideas to Cathey at [catheynjones@gmail.com](mailto:catheynjones@gmail.com).
- [Cashbox personnel](#)—Those who want to handle money and have a good head for math can help take money.
- [Salespeople/security guards](#)—You can assist while people are milling around on the day. You can also make sure no price tags are switched and no items walk off.

## Spotlight on Mary Endress

Mary Endress received the Virginia Johnson Award given to an outstanding member in memory of Virginia Johnson, a founding member of our chapter who died in 1993. As such, Mary is our highlighted member this issue. Mary has been an officer in Houston Area Teachers of Foreign Languages, Texas Foreign Language Association, and is currently the president of TextESOL (Texas Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages.) Your editor has seen her in action on Stratford CIT as well. She has spent 30+ years in education spanning all ages from kindergartners to seniors. Currently, Mary works for Katy ISD as the Instructional Officer for Secondary ESOL. In the past, she taught Spanish and French in Spring Branch ISD, including the after-school program at Rummel Creek Elementary where she taught another of our chapter members, Erin Johnston. She is the proud mother of another teacher who is one of our members as well, Maryanne Endress, and of her son. She is very practiced at juggling various roles since she is also the wife of a Methodist minister. She is a tiny dynamo who can organize a meeting, a class, a party, or dinner as needed. We're glad you're a member of Lambda Alpha, Mary!

## Texas State Convention

By: Cathey Jones



Packing to go--Cathey Jones, Gloria Montalbano, Clara Reimers, and Leigh LaVergne--what a fun group!!

I have heard Chris Morrison, Sue Thompson, Clara Reimers and others talk about how much fun the state convention was for the past few years that I have been a member of Lambda Alpha. I, Cathey Jones, am now one of those who say the same thing. The sessions were varied: personal growth, professional growth, and DKG-office specific. I enjoyed a variety, of course. Gloria Montalbano, Leigh LaVergne, Clara Reimers and I did some dividing and conquering so we could get coverage of different courses. I wanted to share with you one of the sessions I enjoyed the most.

You will want to check out [www.roadscholar.org](http://www.roadscholar.org) if you love guided travel with educational add-ons. I have always loved taking students on tour to Europe with a well-established company because we can focus on the information their experienced guides have to share and I can have time to share with my students the most beloved knowledge I have of my favorite authors, art, and culture. From the enthusiastic descriptions of the ladies who had travelled with Road Scholars, the trips are well-arranged and include admissions to cultural sites with accompanying talks and guides much like those student tours.

(More from other convention-goers in the next issue.)



Chris Morrison, Kathy Gardner, Debbie Connally

If you had to speak to someone about DKG and all it has to offer, if you had the opportunity to invite a key woman educator to join DKG would you remember the most salient aspects of the organization? Get re-acquainted with the organization by reading the new re-orientation guide for existing members. You can find it at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org) on the Membership Committee page.

**President**

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**Celebrations needed**

**Please send me news--new grandchildren, husbands, honors, vacations, anything we can all rejoice in for the next issue!**

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**Area XVIII Workshop****Explore the Possibilities; Let Our Vision Light the Way**

- **Attend** training for chapter officers, committee chairmen and members
- **Be Inspired** by displays of successful chapter programs and activities from our Area
- **Meet and Greet** sisters from our Area to network solutions to chapter concerns
- **Raise Funds** for your chapter's favorite projects and shop at other chapters' booths.

**Saturday September 15, 2012**

**Cypress Ridge High School 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

**Hope to see you there!**

**2012 Scholarships:**

- 1) Kelsey Miller from Westchester Academy for International Studies, currently attending the University of Houston
  - 2) Sally Fox from Memorial High School currently attending Texas State University
- Thank you Kathy Gardner and the Scholarships Committee for continuing to work so hard!

**Reminders:**

- Don't forget to check out Lambda Alpha's website: <http://lambdaalphadkg.weebly.com/>
- Also be sure to check the TSO website: <http://www.alphastatetexas.org/>
- Are you considering working on a master's or doctoral degree? Find out about the many scholarships available at the State and International levels.

**Mission Statement:**

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

