Jeannette Zúñiga, the DKG International representative to the 86th TSO Convention, will speak at the business portion of the convention, help with Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents training and present two breakout sessions. She was born in Costa Rica, a tropical country in Central America which is characterized by its nature, peace and cordiality. Zúñiga has a wide experience in the field of education, enriching her knowledge in this field for more than twenty-five years serving as a teacher in almost all levels of education. She has a degree in law, and she has won national prizes and contests with her watercolor paintings. Her paintings have been exhibited in famous art galleries in her country.

At the international level, Zúñiga has served on several international committees. She was the 2002-2004 Latin American Area Representative, 2010-2014 Member-at-Large, and she is currently the Second Vice President of DKG. She promoted and organized the expansion of the Society into Panama. She says, “Serving as a DKG member for more than thirty-one years at all Society levels has proven to be especially rewarding and enriching to me.”

LaDonna Gatlin is the speaker for the Birthday Luncheon on Friday, June 24th. Gatlin grew up on stage performing with her brothers, the legendary Gatlin Brothers. In the mid 1970’s, this Texas native chose to follow her heart and “sing a different song” apart from her famous family. That “song” has taken her from the heights of success to the depths of clinical depression. Emerging a stronger, wiser person, LaDonna brings that wide range of experience to her presentations.

She is the author of The Song in You: Finding your Voice, Redefining Your Life. She is also a contributing writer to the best-selling book series, Chicken Soup for the Soul.

Tim Lee is the Executive Director of the Texas Retired Teachers Association. Lee is a strong advocate for protecting the defined benefit pension plan and other post-employment benefits many states provide for retired public educators. Seeing these benefits as an economical way of ensuring retirement security for public school employees, he champions adequate and consistent contributions to pension funds by both the employer and employee.

Lee will be featured in two sessions discussing important information on how teachers can work together to ensure that the TRS pension fund and TRS–Care health insurance program are preserved and improved.
The Heart of the Society is its Members

Marilyn Gregory
Texas State President
2015-2017

The second goal of the biennium is Education – “to educate members about the importance of membership and encourage them to make an impact on their communities and the world.” What are Texas chapters doing to accomplish this goal? They are involving members in outstanding programs and projects and learning about current issues to make a difference locally and worldwide.

Chapter newsletters include articles of programs where members learn about issues around them. Some programs include homeless children, human trafficking, child abuse, domestic violence, women’s crisis centers and cyber bullying. While these subjects aren’t always pleasant to face, chapters are educating their members about critical concerns in their local communities.

Along with the programs, members are participating in projects by donating teddy bears for local police officers, placing books in hospitals for children, gathering school supplies and manipulatives for classrooms, organizing backpack meals for children, giving baby showers for women in crisis and providing many hours of community service. The Texas State Organization of DKG is a giving organization that helps teachers, children, families, veterans and victims of disasters.

Members also help internationally. Many chapters have projects to earn money for Schools for Africa and World Fellowship, the international projects which make a global impact on women and children in their countries. In addition, one chapter sends shoes and socks to a low income community on the Mexican border; one maintains a food pantry to help international students when the university is closed for holidays; one funds a group to identify children in Uganda who are not in school and then works to help finance the children’s yearly cost for education. Another chapter helps by making and stuffing handmade kits with sustainable hygiene products for girls and women in 85 countries.

In helping others, we are educating the community about Delta Kappa Gamma. Members learn about current local concerns and participate in projects of action which impact members in their area and worldwide.

Chapters that need new program or project ideas can check chapter websites as well as the state and international websites for ideas.
Another busy time for treasurers is upon us. Update that “To Do” or “Reminder” list. Please review the following items and take action if you need to do so.

If your chapter has initiated or will initiate new members before April 1, the initiate must pay 2015-16 state and international dues ($60); scholarship fee ($1 or $.40); and the initiation fee ($5), all of which is sent to TSO headquarters in Dallas. You collect a $10 initiation fee, but send only $5 to us. Mail it to the Dallas office immediately.

If your chapter initiates new members after April 1, only the initiation fee is paid. Make it a priority to send the money and the initiate card (or form) attached to a Form 18 immediately after the initiation.

Have you sent initiate cards or reinstatement cards for all of your new members? The information included on the card is the means by which the individual is entered into the Society database and receives all of the Society communications.

Have you made another contact with members who did not pay dues this year? It is never too late to reinstate a member. The guidelines about dues are the same as for initiates in regard to April 1. There is no fee for reinstatement.

VERY IMPORTANT! Has your chapter made its contributions for this year? April 1 is the deadline for contributions in order to be recognized at convention. We check the postmark so you do not need to spend money sending them special delivery.

Do you need certificates to honor those chapter members for 25 and 50 years of membership? The certificates may be ordered from state headquarters. Call or email, and they will be mailed to you for $3 per 25-year certificate and $5 per 50-year certificate (postage included).

Have you checked the international website and read the wonderful publication, “Focus on Finance”? Treasurers should have also received a copy by email from a member of the Finance Committee.

Texas is well-known as a large state, even in Delta Kappa Gamma. Because we are unique, we often customize items to specifically meet our needs. You are encouraged to check the state website first for forms, deadlines and other information. More and more forms are interactive and can be found either on the state or international website.

Again, treasurers, you are wonderful. You are to be commended for being so positive, cooperative and supportive. You really outdid yourselves in completing the treasurer’s report, filing the 990-N and submitting dues this year. Your dedication and efforts are greatly appreciated. Special plans are being made for you at convention in Frisco; make your plans to attend.
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Texas State Organization Convention  
Frisco, Texas, June 23-25, 2016

All members must register. Please use one form per member. Only one form is necessary for a member with a guest. To avoid late fee, registration must be postmarked on or before May 16th. No meals may be ordered after June 8. Address registration questions to Sandi Causey at 512-892-0433 or crcausey@sbcglobal.net. Mail completed form to Sandi Causey, 6105 Oakclaire Drive, Austin, TX 78735. Please type or print plainly.

NAME  
Title  Last  First  Middle Initial  Badge Name

MAILING ADDRESS  
Street Address or PO Box  

City  State  Zip  Chapter  Area  Daytime Phone

EMAIL ADDRESS (for a receipt)

Special Needs—Check all that apply.  
Diabetic  Vegetarian  Gluten-free  Limited Mobility  Hearing/Visually Impaired

Please check if you are the current president or will represent her at the Executive Board meeting:  
I will represent my chapter at the Executive Board meeting on Saturday, June 25, 2016.

Please check all that apply.  
2016-2018 Chapter President  2014-2016 Chapter President  1st State Convention Attendee  
Member 50 or 50+ Years  Member less than 3 years

Indicate number of tickets you want for each function. Cost includes tax, service charge and facility fee.

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<th>Cost</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<td>Box Lunch (Sat, June 25) —Ham —Turkey —Veggie Wrap</td>
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<td>Presidents and Founders Banquet (Sat, June 25)</td>
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<td>Continuing Professional Education Credit (CPE)</td>
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Voice Part Requested: Soprano I Soprano II Alto

Contribution to ASTEF

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

CHECK (Payable to Texas State Organization Convention Fund) OR MasterCard VISA

Cardholder’s Name  Card Number  Exp. Date

Cardholder’s Billing Address:  3-digit Sec. Code

Cancellation requests must be made in writing to Convention Registration Solutions, 6105 Oakclaire Drive, Austin, TX 78735, and postmarked by May 23rd.

By your attendance at this event, you grant permission to be filmed, videotaped, audio taped or photographed by any means, and you grant full use of your likeness, voice and words without compensation.

Remember to fill out the form on page 5 or go to the convention website to get the registration form to purchase your ticket for the Friday Family Fun Night at the ballpark. Deadline May 1st.
New convention hotels open for reservations

Located across the street from the Embassy Suites and Convention Center, the Hyatt House and Hilton Garden Inn will serve as the convention’s overflow hotels.

Both hotels offer king ($135) and double ($145) suites—plus, complimentary hot breakfast, shuttle service and wi-fi. Reservations may be made through the TSO 2016 Convention website, http://dkgtexas2016convention.weebly.com. Click on the lodging link for information.

Singers encouraged to join the TSO choir

Deb Acevedo-Tamminga, Music Chair

Singing in the choir is a wonderful opportunity to share the gift of music while making and renewing friendships. The TSO Frisco Convention Registration Form in this issue can be used to join the choir and purchase the music. The choir will sing in the Necrology/Celebration of Life Service, Birthday Luncheon and Presidents & Founders Banquet. Music will include a range of contemporary to Broadway tunes. Music will be distributed at rehearsals beginning Thursday, June 23. Participants are requested to bring a black three-ring binder, a pencil and a highlighter. Dress for the Necrology/Celebration of Life Service will be any combination of black and white, colorful solids for the birthday luncheon and fancy dress up of choice for the banquet. Two CPE credits can be earned for participation in this major function of the convention.

Past meets present in Frisco RoughRiders baseball

Q - Frisco Roughriders? Why give a baseball team the name Roughriders?
A - The allusion is to Teddy Roosevelt and the soldiers he led in the Spanish-American War.

To learn more, go to http://atmilb.com/1VR7DUw

Members will find a rousing tale about Teddy and his men. The stirring six-minute film brings history to life. No wonder the Texas Rangers baseball organization named its Double-A affiliate the RoughRiders.

DKG Family Fun Night at the Ballpark is Friday, June 24, 2016. Wear red and get ready for Frisco RoughRiders baseball. Buy your tickets ASAP.

Print Name___________________________________ Email ___________________________________
Cell Phone___________________________________ Chapter__________________________________
Number of tickets @ $39______________
Make checks payable to Alpha State Texas Convention Fund
Cost: adult or child/$39; 2 & under/free
Mail reservation form and check to Tish Mulkey, 2312 Northcrest Dr., Plano, TX 75075.
The Communication Committee offers awards to individuals and chapters. The award applications can be found on the TSO website under forms and deadlines. Check the applications for changes to the award qualifications.

**Members in Print Award:** Application is due April 1, 2016. Requirements include 1) Publish in a professional journal 2) Publish a book 3) Write a chapter in a collection of articles published in book form 4) Publish a series of articles, 3 or more, which deal with education.

**Media Recognition Award:** Application is due April 1, 2016. Coverage of educational news and local chapter news. (See the application for details.)

**Five Star Newsletter Award:** All newsletters are due May 1, 2016. Chapter newsletters should follow the newsletter rubric and publish a minimum of 5 newsletters by May 1, 2016.

**Seal of Merit Award:** All newsletters are due May 1, 2017. Chapters can earn a bonus distinction for their Five Star Newsletter. This bonus award will be given out at the 2017 Texas State Convention in Houston. The Seal of Merit Award will be given to the chapter newsletters that exceed the standards for the Five Star Newsletters. (See the rubric for details.)

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Eula Lee Carter Fund helps Latin American members

Sandra Morales, E. L. Carter Fund, Chair

The Eula Lee Carter Memorial Fund, named for one of our Society’s Texas honorary founders, is just one of the ways the Texas State Organization helps women wishing to further their education. The fund is available to any member in a Latin American country in the Southwest Region, thus giving it international status.

Each year, one or two members apply for the grant which is made possible by generous donations. Dr. Carter had a love for the Spanish language and enjoyed visiting and organizing 202 chapters in Texas and Mexico. Today she would be pleased with the availability of funds to assist these members. She would promote the interest taken by DKG members in building the fund. She would be honored that its impact extends to Panama.

A breakout session in Frisco will focus on Eula Lee Carter and information about this unique fund.

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DKG Night at the Ballpark • Friday, June 24, 2016
My DKG is secure portal to member information
Michelle Grandinetti, Membership Committee Chair

Sometimes members need access to information about the Society that is not public information. To solve this problem, the DKG website now has a member portal or gateway to information accessible through a secure member login. The secure area is called My DKG.

To access My DKG, members can go to www.dkg.org, and sign in using the “sign in” button top right of the home page or through My DKG on the menu bar. The username is a member’s DKG ID number. The initial password to set up a personal password is available from the chapter or state president.

Once logged in, members can join collaborative communities, search for members and have access to personal information. In the My Account area, members can keep their member information updated through the DKG Profile. This will guarantee that the Society has the correct data to communicate with members. In addition, members can donate directly to any of the DKG funds, shop for supplies and register for conferences.

Members needing more information about My DKG can watch a video called My DKG Profile New Website or read about the Profile Premiere Project on the Communications committee page of the DKG website. Questions about logging in may be answered by calling 512-478-5748 or sending an email to mem@dkg.org.

Exploring My DKG with a chapter would be a worthwhile program. All members in TSO are encouraged to sign up, sign in, and begin using this great tool that has been designed just for members.

Survey shows possibilities for new ideas
Connie Rensick, Global Awareness Chair

The Global Awareness Committee surveyed chapters to find out what global programs and projects they are already doing, and what they want to learn more about. Seventy-nine chapter presidents responded.

Many chapters are already presenting programs on World Fellowship and teacher travel. The top three topics chapters want to know more about are teacher travel and teaching abroad, DKG member countries, and Schools for Africa. Last year 89% of chapters donated to World Fellowship and 51% donated to Schools for Africa. Thirty-five percent of chapters have a project that helps a global cause. A listing of global and local projects has been compiled and posted on the TSO website.

Based on these results, the Global Awareness Committee has proposed two workshops for the TSO convention in Frisco. One will be about building DKG Global Connections. The other will be Travel for Educators.
Alpha State Remembers

We mourn the passing and celebrate the lives of those cherished members of the Society whose deaths have been reported to Texas Necrology Chair Candy Carroll between November 1, 2015, and January 31, 2016. They are reported by their chapter and place of residence at time of death using Form 6, Report of the Death of a Member found at www.dkgtexas.org under Committees, Necrology.

Martha Carswell, Iota Theta-1, Lufkin
Tammy Dickson, Theta Nu-1, Troup
Frances Layne Landry, Eta Mu-2, Beaumont
Florene Little, Gamma Chi-2, Lovelady
Azile Bonneau, Epsilon Pi-4, Austin
Marjorie Nell Huchlefeld, Eta Pi-4, Victoria
Graciela Estringel, Mu Omega-5, Premont
Dorothy L. Ingram, Beta-6, Thorndale, PA
Dene Anderson, Tau-8, Thornton
Geneva McCulloch Hughes, Beta Nu-8, Waco
Kalva Sue Scott, Eta Zeta-9, Dallas
Martha Oden Surratt, Epsilon-9, Dallas
Claire Haden White, Delta Omicron-9, Amarillo
Dorothy Nell Watts, Alpha Gamma-10, Cleburne
Norma Jo Prather, Epsilon Delta-11, Bovina
Sue Koch, Beta Gamma-16, Vernon
Peradine Ketchum Bains, Alpha Zeta-17, Bossier City, LA
Reba Kirby, Alpha Pi-17, Texarkana
Billie Jo (B.J.) West, Epsilon Gamma-17, Mineola

Dr. Sylvia Reyna, Kappa Beta (San Antonio-6), was inducted into the 2016 San Antonio Women’s Hall of Fame for her service and contributions to education k-12.


Polly Walton, Eta Upsilon (Arlington-10), was elected to the Arlington ISD School Board.

Jeanette Pierce, Beta Tau (San Antonio-6), received the 2015 College of Humanities, Arts and Social Science Award for Teaching from Incarnate Word University.

Dr. Barbara Qualls, Sigma (Nacogdoches-1), had an article, “Change: It’s More Than What You Get Back from a Dollar!,” included in The Collegial Exchange, Volume 82-2.

Renee Fairchild, Iota Xi (Hardwood-4), received her EdD from the University of Houston in Professional Leadership.

Julie Eisenhauer, Zeta Tau (Houston-18), was awarded the Outstanding Advocate for Mentoring from the Texas Mentoring Summit at The University of Texas at San Antonio.

Katrina Tilly, Delta Omicron (Dallas-9), will be serving a two year term as secretary of the Texas Association for the Gifted & Talented (TAGT) communications committee.


Risa McCann, Mu Pi (Kingwood-18); Robyn Rucker, Kappa Theta (Corinth-16); Judy Reinhart, Alpha (Austin-7), were chosen to attend the 2016 Leadership Management Seminar in Austin.

Patsy Newborn, Lambda Beta (San Antonio-6), received her PhD from the University of the Incarnate Word in Mathematics Education.

See Members, 9
Betty Vines announces retirement
Cheryl Crawford and Leesa Cole

For the past eight years when someone in the Texas State Organization has needed the answer to a question about dues, budget, convention, audit, headquarters, reimbursement, committee meeting arrangements, bank deposits, investments and many, many other topics, the go-to person has been our Executive Secretary/Treasurer, Betty Vines. Betty is a treasure and a unique source of the history, protocol, and essence of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society and Texas’ vital place in the Society. Her delightful personality, her artful diplomacy and her skilled leadership provide a constant support for members across the state. Those who call or visit Headquarters appreciate her graciousness, her willingness to listen, and her patient, considerate, honest attention to their needs. Many weekends find Betty on-call for, if not actively participating in, a myriad of committee meetings. Betty has served selflessly and faithfully whenever called upon throughout her tenure in office. Her family has generously shared her with us, but the time has come for her to devote her time and energies to the family she loves so dearly and the life of leisure she has put on hold until now. Betty has announced her retirement effective September 1, 2016. While we shall all miss her in countless ways, we must bid her a fond farewell, dry our tears, put a smile on our faces for her and wish her the very best retirement has to offer.

Betty Vines

Officer forms due March 15

A list of 2016-2018 chapter officers must be submitted to TSO headquarters by March 15. The form is on the state website in both electronic and paper form. Read the instructions carefully and save a copy; international will request the same information later.

Visual artists wanted

Members are invited to apply by April 15, 2016, to be a part of the the Visual Arts exhibit at the Frisco Convention. The exhibit is an opportunity for Texas members to display their best and most creative endeavors. Artists are responsible for displaying their art, as well as setting up and taking down. Only tables will be provided at convention. Artists will need to bring their own easels. Any member interested in sharing art, should complete the Visual Arts application found on the TSO website.

Job Opening at TSO Headquarters

Due to the retirement of Betty Vines, TSO Secretary/Treasurer, effective August 31, 2016, the TSO Personnel Committee is seeking qualified members who would like to apply for this position. If you have been a member of DKG for 5 years, can manage technology efficiently (including basic accounting and budgeting techniques), are self motivated, and possess good verbal and communication skills, then you are qualified. Perks of the job include working with wonderful people in a beautiful atmosphere, helping other DKG members and financial benefits. If you are interested, contact Billinelle Currie, TSO Personnel Chairman at billinellecurrie@msn.com.
**Convention schedule at a glance**

**Wednesday, June 22**
- 10:00 a.m.  ASTEF Board Meeting: Frisco 1
- 2:00 p.m.  Texas Executive Committee: Longhorn Suite, Embassy Suites
- 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  Registration: Frisco Convention Center
- 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  Unifying Project: Registration area
- 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.  Welcoming Reception: Atrium, Embassy Suites

**Thursday, June 23**
- 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  Registration: Frisco Convention Center
- 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  Annie Boards/ASTEF Boards accepted: Frisco CC hallway
- 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  Unifying Project: Registration area
- 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.  Vendors set-up in Frisco 7, 8, 9
- 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  Choir Rehearsal: Frisco 6
- 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.  Headquarters Tour (ticketed)
- 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.  Vendors: Frisco 7, 8, 9
- 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  ASTEF boxes & silent auction: Registration area
- 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Visual Arts Display
- 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  Box Lunch: outside Frisco 1, 2
- 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Leadership Development for Chapter Presidents (LDCP): Frisco 1, 2
- 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Legislation Workshop: Frisco 4, 5
- 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  First Timers: Indian Trail at Embassy Suites, 2nd floor
- 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  Experience the Heart in Frisco: Dinner on your own
- 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  Choir & Necrology Rehearsal: Frisco 1 & 2
- 6:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.  Flag Rehearsal: Frisco 6
- 7:00 p.m.  Opening Session and Entertainment– Frisco 6

**Friday, June 24**
- 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  Registration & Unifying Project – Frisco Convention Center
- 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  Ceremony of Remembrance: Frisco 1, 2
- 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  Vendors: Frisco 7, 8, 9
- 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  Visual Arts Display: Frisco 3
- 9:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.  Chartering of Frisco Chapter: Nu Delta: Frisco 1, 2
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  Breakout Sessions (including First Timers, repeat session)
- 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  Meet the 50 and 50+ members
- 12:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.  87th Birthday Celebration Luncheon: Frisco 6 (ticketed)
- 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Vendors: Frisco 7, 8, 9 and Visual Arts Display: Frisco 3
- 2:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Registration & Unifying Project: Frisco Convention Center
- 2:45 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.  Breakout Sessions
- 3:45 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.  Breakout Sessions
- 3:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Leadership Seminar Tea
- 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  Men’s get together: Embassy Suites Atrium
- 6:15 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.  Friday Family Fun Night at Dr Pepper Ballpark (ticketed)

**Saturday, June 25**
- 8:00 a.m. - noon  Registration & Unifying Project: Frisco Convention Center
- 9:00 a.m.  TSO Business Session & ASTEF Annual Meeting: Frisco 6
- 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  Visual Arts Display: Frisco 3
- 12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.  Vendors: Frisco 7, 8, 9
- 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  Box Lunch: outside Frisco 1 & 2
- 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.  Breakout Sessions
- 2:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  Breakout Sessions
- 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.  Breakout Sessions
- 4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.  Breakout Sessions
- 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.  Choir Rehearsal: Frisco 6
- 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Pick - up Annie and ASTEF Boards: Frisco Convention Center hallway
- 7:00 p.m.  Presidents and Founders Banquet: Frisco 6 (ticketed)
“Experience the HEART!” - 16 things to do and see
Marylin Nease, Frisco Publicity Chair

1. First time at convention? Attend a “First Timers” session Thursday afternoon or Friday morning.
2. Participate in “Heartline to Our Communities,” TSO’s 2016 Unifying Project.
3. Learn more about your job. Attend breakout sessions for chapter presidents, treasurers and committee chairs.
4. Get ideas. View the display boards for Annie programs and ASTEF projects.
5. Be inspired by speakers at general meetings, meals, and breakout sessions.
7. Be inspired. Watch the chartering of a new TSO chapter.
8. Honor our 50 and 50+-year members at a reception and at the Birthday Luncheon.
9. Use your musical talent through voice or instrument to add heartfelt notes to the Frisco Convention.
10. Celebrate the lives of our sister educators who taught their many students—and mentored us, too—at the Ceremony of Remembrance.
11. Win with ASTEF. For only $20 you can choose an ASTEF treasure box worth at least $25.
12. Shop, shop, shop the chapter and business vendors in the Frisco Convention Center.
13. Cheer for Marilyn Gregory as she throws out the first pitch and for Deb Acevedo-Tamminga as she sings the national anthem at Friday’s “Family Fun Night at the DrPepper Ballpark.”
14. Enjoy Frisco’s public art. Visit the Hall Collection and Texas Sculpture Garden in Hall Office Park.
15. Tour TSO headquarters if you have never been. It’s just minutes south of Frisco and contains many TSO treasures.
16. Appreciate the convention leaders. They’ve created a schedule that balances DKG business and fun with Frisco sightseeing.

TSO Unifying Project helps children in need
Lillian Hughes, Unifying Project Chair

The 2016 Unifying Project, Heartlines to the Community, invites TSO members to assist two Northeast Texas non-profits devoted to children in need. CASA and Hope Supply Co. (HSC) request new fleece blankets, new teddy bears, crayons, ruled notebook paper, pens and pencils.

Area 17’s CASA helps abused and neglected children placed in the foster care system. Court Appointed Special Advocates help find safe, permanent homes and distribute needed supplies.

Area 9’s Hope Supply Co. helps meet the critical needs of homeless children ages 0-18. Partnering with shelters and social service organizations, HSC provides necessities to enhance children’s lives.

Drop off your CASA and HSC supplies in the Frisco Conference Center’s registration area.
“She was so cruelly bullied, I can’t send her back to public school, and I can’t afford private school. What can I do?” These words from a mother in our Cleburne community have weighed heavily on my heart for five years as I worked toward getting a charter school in Johnson County. I was heart broken as I read about several suicides from bully activities. I believed I could create a safe environment for students to learn by holding high expectations for respectful interactions in my classroom. That environment would become Kaufman Leadership Academy.

My vision for Kauffman Leadership Academy is to provide small classrooms, student focused curriculum, a paperless and safe learning environment for middle and high school students. As the community members who form our 501(c)3 Board of Directors and I began the process to complete an application for a charter school, we received word that the Cleburne ISD was taking bids for the former Irving elementary school.

My husband, who has a background in property management, walked through the building with a friend who had worked as a custodian in Fort Worth ISD. They found some vandalism in the building, broken windows and loose bricks on one wall. All the windows and doors closed easily and there were 5 colorful, hand painted murals on the walls of the building. This was a workable property. Our bid of $5000 for 5 buildings and 4 acres of land was accepted, and we became owners of a school.

As we develop concepts for the classes, the class size will be limited to 15 students so that teachers and students can really get to know each other and build trustworthy relationships. We plan to have an extended day from 8 to 5 p.m. as a way for students to finish their work under the direct supervision of their teacher and to give them time to enjoy family life when they leave school.

During the day, we envision a Cultural Lunch Hour. Students will eat for 20 to 25 minutes in a cafeteria eating family style with their teachers. Guest speakers from the community will often be invited to share information about their career or craft. This will extend students’ learning beyond the curriculum. As the year progresses, we foresee inviting students to share projects or special presentations to the entire student body.

The charter school will be a safe environment for learning, and all adults will support the respect and safety of all students. Students will be encouraged to work 4 hours of community service each month to gain an appreciation for their community by being involved in it, and the community will gain a greater appreciation for their youth.

While we are waiting to hold our first classes, the building is used by the community for Zumba, painting classes, yoga and the Johnson County Boxing Club. We also utilize the building as a home school support program and charge a minimum fee to make the tutoring affordable. In five years, the program has grown from one student and one teacher to 30 students and 5 teachers. The campus also hosts the Turner Museum of Natural History and Imagination Station, a children’s interactive museum. The Kauffman Leadership Academy building currently has about 3500 visitors each month.

The real journey will begin in June 2016 when we accept 150 students for the initial classes of Kauffman Leadership Academy charter school. Our perseverance, passion and hard work will become a reality.
Tours provide insight into history of TSO
Deborah Thomas, Archives Committee Chair

TSO headquarters in Dallas is being opened for tours during the Frisco Convention. Betty Vines, TSO Executive Secretary/Treasurer will tell the history of Dr. Annie Webb Blanton’s gavel, our Alpha State Charter, and other memorabilia. Headquarters tours are planned for 9-11 a.m., Thursday, June 23, in groups of 15. The first tour will leave the Conference Center at 8:30 a.m. Interested members need to indicate if they are attending LDCP so that they can be scheduled for the first tour. The only cost will be a charge for transportation.

Texas State Organization Archives are located at Texas Woman’s University in Denton. Many TSO archival treasures are stored in the Bragg-Huey Library’s Woman’s Collection which also houses archives for Texas Association of Women’s Clubs (TAWC), the Texas Federation of Women’s Clubs (TFWC) and the Women’s Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). This summer in Frisco, members will have a chance to visit TWU and check out all of these archives. Tentative tour times are Wednesday, June 22, midday to afternoon and/or Thursday, June 23. Transportation will be up to the members wanting the tour.

Any member wishing to tour either of these sites should contact Deborah Thomas, djtitx72@live.com.

Women fought for right to vote; exercise that right
Cookee Johnson, TSO 2nd Vice President

As leading women educators, members should be mindful of their responsibility to be civic leaders and stewards of history. One way to carry out that responsibility is to vote.

The Founders of the Society recognized the value of voting. Through the DKG purposes, members are encouraged to keep informed of currents issues and support desirable legislation in the interests of education.

This election year, citizens will be encouraged to express their preferences of leadership and voice an opinion on many issues. The U.S. Constitution has five amendments directly related to voting—a privilege most Americans hold dear. The founding fathers wisely left it to the people to make decisions about who should vote, and history bears witness that voting is a protected privilege for all citizens.

Members of the Legislative Committee are ready to assist any member who needs information about voting, registration, issues, names of representatives and their districts, and a wealth of information about elections. This committee is chaired by Ruthie Estes, and the committee members will assist our members upon request. This abundance of information can be located on the TSO website.

Members need to take a few minutes out of their busy day and make plans to vote this year. Every vote really does count.
Ideas become reality as TSO expands
Nancy Newton, Expansion Chair

Many new faces will be seen in Frisco this summer as members from three new chapters will join TSO at the 87th convention.

**Nu Beta, Area 18**, will be chartered on Saturday, April 16. This chapter is being sponsored by Mu Pi chapter of Kingwood. The Mu Pi members were concerned that no chapter existed in the New Caney School District area, and they devised a plan to sponsor the chapter. Initiates were brought into Mu Pi chapter in 2015, with the understanding the new members would learn about DKG, shadow officers and get a good foundation in the Society for one year. At the end of that time, these New Caney teachers would charter a chapter in their school’s area and transfer to the newly formed chapter. This exciting experiment was devised and supervised by Shirl Hawes, Brenda Pearson and Carolyn Mashburn on the way back from SW Regional in Branson in 2013. Risa McCann, Area 9 AC, and Nancy Morrison, Mu Pi President, have also worked closely with the new members in Mu Pi during the process.

**Nu Gamma, Area 9**, has set Sunday, May 1 as their chartering date. Nu Gamma is the result of the dream of Pam Hennigan, a former member of Gamma Beta. When Pam moved to Wylie, she was surprised to discover there was not a DKG chapter in that growing city in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. She began to look for ways to start a chapter and found DKG member, Martie James, who quickly joined her in recruitment activities. Pam will reinstate and Martie will transfer into the chapter along with twenty-eight initiates. This chapter is being sponsored by Gamma Beta, Area 9. The president, Laura Cooper, has been working with Pam and Martie, to insure mentors and encouragement is available for the new officers and members of Nu Gamma.

The third new start, **Nu Delta, Area 9**, will be the first chapter for Frisco and will be chartered as a part of the state convention on Friday morning, following the Ceremony of Remembrance. The idea of having the chartering ceremony as a part of the state convention, will provide all Texas members an opportunity to experience a chartering service. Mu Mu chapter of Plano is the sponsoring chapter. Vickie Allen along with Jennifer Bernabo, Mu Mu President, have led this group into the formation of a strong chapter made up of initiates, transfers and reinstated members. The chapter-to-be has held two informational meetings with one more scheduled prior to state convention.

Expansion Committee Chair, Nancy Newton stated, “Having three groups in the process of becoming chapters is the most exciting thing that could be happening to our state this year. By having the Frisco chartering at convention, all TSO members will have the opportunity to share in the joy and excitement of a new start. Individuals are the key to the new chapters; they began the ideas, not the state. Which TSO member will have an idea for Nu Epsilon and Nu Zeta next year?”
ASTEF FUNdraisers planned for Frisco

ASTEF will award project stipends to chapters, individuals and others during the state convention this summer. To date, ASTEF has awarded nearly $35,000!

Funds generated from fundraisers conducted throughout the year are used to support scholarships, leadership and projects for Texas educators and students. The majority of the funds are raised during convention each year. When packing your bags for Frisco, be sure to leave room for items purchased from ASTEF FUNdraisers.

This year convention attendees will enjoy selecting a Mystery Treasure Box for $20. Each box will contain an item worth at least $25.00. Some boxes will have treasures valued at $100 or more inside! Who will be the lucky winners?

Once again, a silent auction will be held during convention. Two unique items will be included this year. Members can bid on a preferred seat at the Presidents’ Banquet on Saturday night. The winner will exchange her ticket for a seat at one of the Honors tables for an up close view of the festivities. The other will provide an opportunity to attend a Saturday afternoon tea with TSO President Marilyn Gregory and ASTEF President Carolyn Grantham. As a special treat, the tea will be served on Past International and State President Jessie Sim’s personal china. A chapter’s outgoing or incoming chapter president would enjoy one of these special items.

ASTEF will also unveil a new pin at convention. These will make great gifts to bring back to chapter members. There will also be a limited number of Delta Kappa Gamma aprons available for purchase. Members should hurry to the ASTEF table before they are all sold.

ASTEF Traveler Information will be available for the upcoming fall trips at the ASTEF Information Table. Members may come learn more or ask a question about OUR FOUNDATION. Directors will be on hand to help in any way.

ASTEF Project Stipends available

Funding for projects that support educational excellence for Texas students or Texas educators are once again available from ASTEF. Chapters, individuals, coordinating councils or areas are encouraged to apply for a stipend before the April 1 deadline. The application and guidelines are available on the ASTEF website (astef.org). The completed application should be sent to projects@astef.org.

Members should start the application process now. The deadline is April 1.
Nashville offers variety of activities

Nashville, Tennessee, is the place to be in July 5-9, 2016. Women from 17 member countries of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International will gather at the Opryland Hotel for educational networking, professional development and personal growth. The hotel itself is a destination resort with waterfalls, rivers, shops and restaurants. Outside the artificial environment is a city with music and shopping everywhere. Members can come early and take tours around Nashville.

The DKG Educational Foundation (DKGEF) is encouraging members to dust off the western wear and boots in anticipation of attending Call Me Country at the world – famous Wildhorse Saloon. The ticket includes a dinner buffet, line dance instructions, a live band and a DJ, billiards, shuffle board, a donation to the Foundation and transportation every 20 minutes between the Wildhorse Saloon and the Opryland Hotel. Since this venue is located in the heart of Nashville’s entertainment district, this visit to the Wildhorse is an opportunity for members to wander in and out of all the famous clubs and shops located in the area – with a ride home to the Opryland Hotel provided at each person’s convenience.

For more information about the convention, tours and the DKGEF event, check the Society website, www.dkg.org.

Bluebonnet Bash planned for Nashville

Instead of rising early for the Bluebonnet Breakfast, TSO members are invited to an afternoon Bluebonnet Bash to enjoy a Taste of Texas in Nashville.

When:     Friday, July 8, 2016. Come and go between 4:00 and 5:30 p.m.
Where:    Opryland Hotel, Nashville – Room to be announced
Cost:       $36 per ticket

Members will serve themselves beef or chicken fajitas at a fajita station before settling in for some laughter and socializing with TSO friends.

Please complete and mail along with your check payable to “TSO” to Betty Vines c/o TSO, PO Box 797787, Dallas, Tx. 75379. Deadline to order tickets is postmark June 1, 2016.