



Alpha Tau Tales



Alpha Tau Chapter 43 Area 9
Organized April 15, 1933
Kaufman County, Texas
Texas State Organization

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

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Editor: Suzy McCook
suzmcc69@gmail.com

from our President

Look for Him in Christmas



President

Cathy Stewart
cstew1974@sbcglobal.net

1st Vice President

Karrie Pharris
kgpharris1986@gmail.com

2nd Vice President

Aydee Reyna
aydee.reyna@sbcglobal.net

Recording Secretary

Laura Buie
lauragbuie@gmail.com

Corresponding Secretary

Suzy McCook
suzmcc69@gmail.com

Treasurer

Jerri Coates
coatesjerril@gmail.com

Parliamentarian

Vivian Themer
redwings11mom@aol.com

Christmas is a wonderful time of year! The time to reflect on the birth of Jesus Christ and what He means in our life.

I enjoy the decorations and how they reflect our Lord. I treasure the ceramic manger scene that sits on our mantle every Christmas. My mother-in-law hand-painted it years ago and it is a special memory of a dear lady who loved the Lord.

What about the Christmas music? There are the traditional songs: Angels We Have Heard on High, Away in a Manger, The First Noel, Silent Night...to name a few!. There are always new songs emerging along with remakes of the traditional. My favorite contemporary song is "Mary Did you Know?" It begins with "Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water" and continues with the miracles of His life. The Christmas music ushers in the season.

The Christmas lights reflect the beauty of the season in many different ways. What a delight to drive through and see how others celebrate this special time of year. It brings me joy when Jesus is shown through the manger scenes and lights that remind us that He is the Light of the World.

This year I learned the significance of the Christmas wreath, which will hold special meaning. The circle, which has no beginning or end, symbolizes the eternity of God and the everlasting life we can find in Jesus.

The Christmas Eve service leads us into Christmas Day and is a meaningful time of worship, reflection, and praise. I love ending the service with the glow coming from each person holding a candle as "Silent Night" is sung.

The family, food, gifts, and joy of the day are a reminder of our many blessings. It is such a special time to stop and reflect on His love and thank Him for coming as a baby...God's gift to mankind for all who accept Him.

As we look around, we will see Him throughout this Holy season!

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas!

Cathy

Calendar

September 12, 2023

October 10, 2023

November 14, 2023

December 2023
Christmas Brunch

January 9, 2024

February 13, 2024

March 2024
"OC" Forney ISD

April 9, 2024

May 14, 2024

Meetings

2nd Tuesdays
Sign-in & visit 5:00
Meeting begins 5:30
Kaufman County Library
Community Room
3790 S. Houston Street
Kaufman, TX 75142

Mission Statement: 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

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Christmas Brunch

Saturday

December 9, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Chisholm Country Store

1251 Hwy. 205

McLendon-Chisholm, TX 75032



December

13 Judy Barton

27 Joan Moore

31 Peggy Johnson

All About You

Aydee Reyna's second granddaughter was born November 9! Penelope Naomi Rivera weighed 7 lbs. 12 oz. and is healthy and doing well.

Peggy Johnson's grandson graduated from Texas Tech with a degree in Computer Engineering. Her granddaughter enters law school at Tech in August.

Sondra Perry granddaughter, Hannah Perry, went to the NCAA volleyball tournament with ETBU; she has received a ring and traveled to Wisconsin. Her grandson, Caden Wiley, graduates from Texas Tech in December with a degree in Business

Mollie Kasper made a trip to Santa Fe with her parents, where her Mom, Dr. Barbara McClanahan, was installed as president of the Association of Literacy Educators and Researchers.

Suzy & Marvin McCook traveled to the bottom of the world, touring the South Seas, French Polynesia, New Zealand and Australia most of October.



Please Remember in Your Prayers



Please remember all our sisters in prayer.

Please remember the family of Nancy Newton in your prayers. Nancy passed November 4th. She is a past TSO President and Area 10 Iota Pi chapter.

Please pray for Alpha Tau sisters and their families. Pray for our teachers and students and for a safe productive and smooth school year.

DKG Years of Service Awards

Wow! Lots of years in DKG here! The following awards were bestowed upon Alpha Tau members.



Joan Moore—45 years

Virginia Fineout—40 years

Jane West—35 years

Ann McDonald—25 years

Suzy McCook—25 years

Jana Garner—5 years

Shown at left: Virginia Fineout (zoom), Suzy McCook, Ann McDonald & Joan Moore



Alpha Tau Teacher Grant Recipients 2023

At our November 14 meeting, we honored our Teacher Grant Recipients and their families.



Crandall ISD

Stephanie Reyes

Amber Ragsdale



Forney ISD

Kate Masengill

Krystal Ramm



Kaufman ISD

Brandi Krenek

Channing McConnell



Scurry

Rosser ISD

Jennifer Henderson



Terrell ISD

Rachael Newland

Heather White



Congratulations to our wonderful Teacher Grant recipients. We were regaled with their heart-warming testimonials about how they came to be in education and how much they love it. Shown above are: Top left: **Heather White**, 1st grade, Long Elementary Terrell ISD, with her campus teacher mentor and dear friend, Sheridan Williams. Before teaching Heather was in the medical oncology field. Top middle: **Rachael Newland** with husband, Jesse, also from Terrell ISD. Top right: **Jennifer Henderson**, 8th grade ELAR, Scurry Rosser ISD. Beginning a career in the dental arena, she entered teaching as a PE aide, then moved into reading and loves what she is doing today. Bottom left: **Brandi Kranek**, senior English at Kaufman High School. She started as an aide and loves her seniors as her own today. Next to her is a teacher friend, then **Channing McConnell**, the enthusiastic Kaufman Animal Science teacher. In the next picture is **Amber Ragsdale** and her husband, John, a high school coach and her most ardent supporter in life. She also began her teaching career as an aide, moving into Crandall High School English and the cheerleader coach. Those unable to attend were Kate Massengill and Krystal Ramm of Forney and Stephanie Reyes of Crandall.

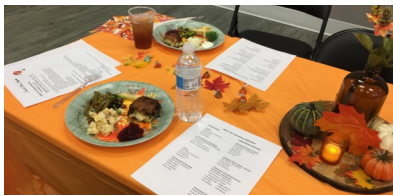
Many thanks to Bettye Penny for chairing this important committee and to Vivian Themer, Mollie Kasper, Vivian Yancey and Marnie Cushing for their invaluable help. Grant recipients are chosen by each school district.



November 2023 Meeting

Alpha Tau chapter met on November 14, 2023. We honored our Teacher Grant recipients, their families and friends with a feast of hot sliders, bean salad, potato casserole and other delectables followed by sumptuous desserts. Look for a couple recipes in this Tales. Shown below is Sammy Scarecrow, who gave the treasurer's report, Cathy Stewart & Nancy Shaw (gave a timely inspirational message), Judy Jedlicka with friend and returning member, Patty Care (top left). Bags for our members unable to attend were filled with the items shown below right, and Channing McConnell is shown lower right praising her current career as an Animal Science teacher where she belongs and loving every minute.

We also honored some members with years of service certificates.



Bean Salad

Joan Moore

(Make substitutions as needed)

Mix, chill and eat.

1 can Garbanzo beans

1 14 oz Kidney beans

1 can Black beans

1 large can (or more) Green beans

1 can yellow waxed beans

I added 1 cup Edamame

1/2 cup chopped green pepper

(I added red, orange, and yellow peppers)

1/2 cup - or more chopped purple onion

1/2 cup chopped celery

Dressing

3/4 cup Sugar

1/2 cup Oil

1/2 cup Vinegar

1/2 tsp. Salt

1/2 tsp. Pepper



Cherry Yum Yum

Sondra Perry (*Dream Whip*® recipe)



3/4 c. butter or margarine

1 1/2 c. all-purpose flour

2 Tbsp. white granulated sugar

3/4 c. chopped pecans

8 oz. pkg. cream cheese

1.3 oz. pkg. Dream Whip

z. can cherry pie filling

1 c. confectioners' sugar

Preheat oven to 350°. Combine butter/margarine, flour, granulated sugar and pecans. Press mixture into the bottom of a 9x13 baking dish. Bake 20 minutes.

Allow to completely cool before filling.

Prepare Dream Whip according to package directions. Blend the cream cheese and confectioners' sugar. Fold in Dream Whip. Spread over the cooled crust. Top with cherry pie filling. Chill until ready to serve.

Alpha Tau Minutes for November 14, 2023

Attendees: Laura Buie, Jerri Coates, Virginia Fineout, Judy Jedlicka, Peggy Johnson, Molly Kasper, Suzy McCook, Ann McDonald, Joan Moore, Bettye Penny, Sondra Perry, Aydee Reyna, Nancy Shaw, Cathy Stewart, Patty Cave

The meeting of the Alpha Tau Chapter was called to order by President Cathy Stewart at 6:02 pm at the Kaufman County Library Community Room. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Texas Pledge were led by President Cathy Stewart.

President Cathy Stewart welcomed everyone in attendance, returning member, Patty Cave, and our Grant Recipients from the Kaufman County School Districts. This month's hostess committee, the Red and Green team, were thanked for the food, and Aydee Reyna for all the work setting up the Zoom and preparing care bags.

The inspiration was given by Nancy Shaw who shared how thankful she was for her Alpha Tau sisters.

Second Vice-President Aydee Reyna presented members with Membership Awards:

Jana Garner - 5 years

Suzy McCook - 25 years

Ann McDonald - 25 years

Jane West - 35 years

Virginia Fineout - 40 years

Joan Moore - 45 years

Program: Bettye Penny introduced each of our Grand Recipients. President Cathy Stewart thanked Bettye for putting the Grant program together, and everyone who helped (Vivian Yancey, Marnie Cushing, Vivian Themer, Mollie Kasper).

Forney - Kate Masengill, Krystal Ramm

Crandall - Stephanie Reyes, Amber Ragsdale

Scurry/Rosser - Jennifer Henderson

Terrell - Rachael Newland, Heather White

Kaufman - Brandi Krenek, Channing McConnell

Board Reports:

First Vice President: President Cathy Stewart filled in for Karrie Pharris. The December meeting will be a Christmas Brunch at the Chisholm Country Store on December 9th at 10:00 am.

The January Program: Bee Happy: Adult Day Program in Kaufman for individuals with special needs.

Please read & study these minutes prior to the next meeting in order to accept with or without changes

Second Vice President: Aydee Reyna items to make bags for our five homebound members. The bags will be delivered.

Corresponding Secretary: Suzy

McCook reminded everyone to send news for the Tales. Treasurer: Jerri Coates sent her friend, Sammy Scarecrow, to help present the budget. Balance: \$3373.30 Suzy McCook moved to approve, and Judy Jedlicka seconded. Budget was approved by unanimous vote.

New Business: President Cathy Stewart asked the chapter to look over the handout listing the various committees for 2023-2024. If there are any changes that need to be made, let Cathy know.

Joan Moore expressed her thanks to everyone who helped with getting Proposition 9 passed!

There were no objections to the September minutes, so those will stand as written.

President Cathy Stewart read over new amendments. Cathy asked for any discussion. Suzy McCook moved to approve, and Joan Moore seconded.

President Cathy Stewart discussed the date of the next Northeast RAW (Regional Area Workshop) June 22, 8:00 am to 5 pm, to be held in Rockwall, Texas. She encouraged members to save the date.

Door Prize was drawn: Winner Bettye Penny

Meeting Adjourned at 6:27 pm

Respectfully Submitted by Acting Secretary Laura Buie



Alpha Tau Hostess Teams 2023-2024

Date	Program	Hostess Teams
9/12/2023 ✓	Flamingle Kaufman County Library Community Room	Gold Team *Vivian Themer, Jana Garner, Judy Barton, Alberta Smith, Janice Dowlearn, Jane West, Judy Jedlicka, Suzy McCook (Molly Kasper)
10/10/2023 Canceled	Craft 1st Baptist Church Terrell ROC	Red Team *Joan Moore, Ann McDonald, Vivian Yancey, Sondra Perry, Laura Buie, Jerri Coates, Peggy Johnson (Rachel Calvery)
11/14/2023 ✓	Friendsgiving Event Teacher Awards KCLCR	Green Team & Red Team above *Marnie Cushing, Karrie Pharris, Bettye Penny, Jo Lynn Maddin, Nancy Shaw, Virginia Fineout, Cathy Stewart (Aydee Reyna)
12/9/2023	Christmas Brunch	Chisholm Country Store 10 a.m.
1/9/2024	BEE-Happy KCLCR	Gold Team
2/13/2024	Keno KCLCR	Green Team
March, 2024	March Outing	Opportunity Central "OC" Forney ISD www.theoc.net
4/9/2024	Birthday Celebration Book Study—KCLCR	Red Team
5/14/2024	Officer Installation Fun & Games-KCLCR	Mixed Team



Northeast Regional Area Workshop
Saturday, June 22, 2024
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Dr. Gene Burton College and Career Academy
2301 John King Blvd.
Rockwall, Texas
Cost: \$50 if paid before May 15, 2024
On site registration: \$65.00