

Theta Lambda News

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The latest edition of the Lone Star News is now online!

President's Message

Theta Lambda Sisters,

Thanksgiving! I love Thanksgiving and get a little sentimental this time of year. As I look back, I am reminded that I have much to be thankful for and believe you likely feel the same way. Life is not always easy but we have food on our table, have family and friends who love us, have had some adventures and challenges over the years that have enriched us, and have had the opportunity to touch the lives of students and their families as educators. And, in addition to all of that, we are part of a small but mighty group of amazing women who support each other, learn together, and serve others. Even during 2020, we have things to be thankful for and an attitude of gratitude certainly helps in years like this.

Our new year is off to a great start. Our first hybrid meeting was held in September as we installed new officers, presented Lillie Beth Wilson with the Achievement Award and made plans for the coming year. In October, Jan Randolph gave a wonderful presentation on how we can 'Bring Our Brain Back to Life'. This month we will have our first virtual Silent Auction as well as an update on Parks Youth Ranch from the Executive Director, Shannan Stavinoha. As you saw in the Yearbook, Catherine Hague and her committee have planned wonderful programs for the rest of the year. We have much to look forward to.

I want to encourage you to identify educators you know and respect who might enjoy being a part of Theta Lambda. Invite them. As Jan said, don't assume they

will say no. Invite them and see what happens! Someone invited me and I am so glad she did, even though I said no several times before I finally made it. Someone invited you so now reach out to a fellow educator who just might be searching for a group like Theta Lambda. And who knows, your rose garden may grow and you might just win the grand prize. See you in November! Can't wait to start bidding. I already have my eye on several things and hope you do, too.

Sally Kubiak ~ Theta Lambda President



Come join us for Theta Lambda's November meeting!

- Home:** Laura Downes or Zoom
- Hostesses:** Jayati Sengupta
- When:** Monday, November 16
- Inspiration:** Alisha Procter
- Music:** Stacy Frenchwood

Program ~ Shannon Stavinoha, Parks Youth Ranch and Virtual Silent Auction

**TREASURER’S REPORT
November 2020**

Checking balance reported in October		\$ 402.54
<u>Receipts</u>		\$.02
October Bank Dividend	\$.02	
<u>Disbursements</u>		- \$ 10.68
Postage (4 Yearbook mail-outs)	\$10.68	
Current checking account balance		\$ 391.88
Current savings account balance		\$ 560.24
Current CD Balance		\$1633.82
Total assets of chapter	\$2585.94	

What Theta Lambda Means to Me

By Lillie Beth Wilson



When asked to write what Theta Lambda means to me, the first word that came to mind was **constant**. For over forty-four years I have enjoyed the opportunity to meet together and share a common bond of education, serving others, and friendship. I was 29 years old, teaching elementary school in Alief, and a soon-to-be mother when I was invited to become a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. Schools have changed, positions changed from teacher to principal of three schools, leadership as president of TEPSA, The Texas Elementary Principals and Supervisors Association, service as a university student teaching supervisor, and now retirement where I enjoy time with family and our two grandsons. Yet, membership in Delta Kappa Gamma has been the common link throughout these years. Our small, but mighty chapter has seen the sadness of members lost and the joys of new members. Service projects are our arms and heart into the communities near and as far away as Africa. Smiles are never lacking and encouragement has prevailed even in the most challenging of times. We each are present to lift up those around us. I have always remarked that from local chapter meetings to district and state meetings, professionalism is a constant.

It’s been hard to keep on, keeping on at times over these years, but by choice, I have chosen to cherish Theta Lambda membership, leadership and the friends gained on this journey of life. The words of John Wesley wisely describe our chapter.

“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.”

Chapter Fundraising



It's Virtual Silent Auction time! Peruse that catalog. Share it with your friends and family - the more the merrier! Get those bids ready to enter and be prepared to outbid others! It's a great time to get gifts for loved ones and for yourself, too!



That's my pan, my bamboo bbq grill set, my bistro mug, my cutting board, my insulated tumbler, my cookie tin, and the list goes on. These personalized items are great as gifts to friends, family, and even yourself!

This is a great opportunity to raise money for Theta Lambda with a quality product. One way, of course, is to find something to order as a gift for others or yourself. But the best part of this is you don't have to be the one to spend any money. If you are not interested in purchasing products, share the website with someone you think might want to order for themselves or others.

Anyone who orders has to go through our group specific website for Theta Lambda to receive our portion. It is www.thatsmypan.biz/FRTX69665. Paper order forms are also available by contacting Sally Kubiak.

2020 Membership Drive

By Jan Randolph



Let's Grow!

Let's grow in numbers, and together let's grow in our professional and personal lives.

Goals

- * Each current member invites one guest to a meeting. Member receives rare rose seeds. **(Plant a seed.)**
- * Have invited guest actually attend a meeting. Bottled rose favor for member and guest. **(Watch us bloom.)**
- * Have guest initiated into membership. The inviting members' names will go into a drawing for a gift basket. Drawing to be held at May meeting.

Watch for good teachers everywhere in schools and out ~ it could be someone who does professional training in the business world, or in the medical professions. It might be your grandchild's teacher or someone you teach with, or a neighbor that is a teacher. Watch and talk about the benefits of DKG membership and invite. Don't make the mistake of failing to invite because you think they have too much going on. Let's grow.



Theta Lambda Monthly Meeting Agenda

October 19, 2020

Members Present: Jayati Sengupta, Carol Ann Shipp, Jan Randolph, Carol TenBrook, Catherine Hague, Nancy Dobbs, Cheri Flick, Sally Kubiak, Lillie Beth Wilson, Michelle Glick, Alisha Procter, Linsey Bove, Robin De La Rosa, Pamela Baker, Miriam Watson, Laura Downs, Sandra MacConnell, Stacy Frenchwood

Old Business

Inspiration – Sally Kubiak

I am a Teacher by Wynona Montgomery, Gamma Nu Chapter

Approve Minutes

Laura made a motion Robin seconded. Everyone voted and it passed unanimously.

Approve Financial Report

Lillie Beth made a motion Linsey seconded. Everyone voted and it passed unanimously.

Membership Committee – Jan Randolph

Let's Grow

Personally and professionally

For Membership

- Everyone invites a guest and the member will get some rare rose seeds.
- If you invited and someone came then you will get a bottle with a miniature rose. This will go to the member and the guest.
- If you invite a guest and then they join you will be entered into a drawing for a fun basket.

Invite away and don't make assumptions. You never know. Also, do not say no for them. They may say not now however they may say yes!

You can invite paraprofessionals as well.

Monthly Meeting Slots – Alisha Procter

Laura will host in November.

Silent Auction – Carol TenBrook

Will open the auction the Wednesday before the next meeting. We will go through the meeting. We may or may not know who the winners are that night.

Carol will send an email with everything that is on the catalog.

She is going to do this through SignUp Genius.

New Business

Parks Youth Ranch Holiday Boxes

Feature article for newsletter - What Theta Lambda Means to Me

That's My Pan Fundraiser – Please look the product is great. You can decide what design you would like and you will not misplace your item.

Program

Bring Your Brain Back to Life presented by Jan Randolph

Other Business

Music – Sandra MacConnell



Birthday Celebrations

November 8 ~ Michelle Glick
November 14 ~ Mary Herlitz
November 21 ~ Pam Baker
November 26 ~ Ramona Nance



A Copy of the October Inspiration

I AM A TEACHER

by Wynona Montgomery
Gamma Nu Chapter

NARRATOR:

I am a teacher. To me is entrusted the lives of many children on a daily basis. Parents send their children to me and expect me to impart to them knowledge and skills that will follow them throughout their lives. I accept this responsibility gladly. However, even as I say, "I am a teacher," I'm not sure exactly how that sentence should be delivered. Should I say, "I am a teacher" to establish my credibility, "I am a teacher" to convey my state of being, "I am a teacher" to designate that although I am asked to do more than one job, I still remain a teacher not many teachers, or "I am a teacher" to establish my identity. Perhaps instead of a statement this sentence should be phrased as a question "I am a teacher?" or "I am a teacher?" As you can see sometimes even teachers have difficulty defining our roles, this confusion is compounded when we consider the demands placed upon us by the public, by administrators, by state boards and even by our students. Our role as a teacher is no longer one-sided, but has become multi-faceted. As a teacher I wear many hats during the course of a day, and just like the peddler in the children's story Caps for Sale, I have to keep each one on straight or they will all come tumbling down. Watch, listen, and see if you can identify with any of these roles.

(Enter Mother)

MOTHER:

Who am I? I am a teacher, but I am also a mother. "Yes, Julie, I can reraid your hair, just a minute." "Bobby, why are you upset, do you need a hug?" "Johnny, eat your peas before you eat your cake." To a small child away from home maybe for the very first time, the gentle touch of a teacher's hand is a good substitute for mother. We can dry an eye, give a hug, or share a secret with our students. Yes, I am a teacher, but I am also a mother for my students.

(Step to side of podium. Enter Professor)

PROFESSOR:

Who am I? I am a teacher, but I'm also a student. For this high paying job, one degree is not enough. So I leave my classroom in the afternoon and hurry to the university to become a student. Teachers are probably the least likely group to complain about more education, we are after all in the business of learning, and I certainly want to improve myself, but some days I am so-o-o tired when I leave school. Can I face class tonight? Do I have to take this test? Yes, I am a teacher, but I'm also a student--forward moving ever.

future. But that's not true, we are constantly thinking of how our students will fare after they leave us. As we survey the classroom, we wonder, "Will Johnny be an astronaut, he's always reading about space, can Jane's musical ability carry her to the symphonic stage, and that little rascal Danny, he's such a smooth talker when he's in trouble, is he a dead ringer for a lawyer or what?" Will I one day see the President of the United States take the oath of office and think to myself, "I remember that student in the second grade. I always knew she would succeed." I am a teacher, I touch the future.

(Step beside Nurse. Enter Computer Expert)

COMPUTER EXPERT:

Who am I? I am a teacher. Now this role is not one that a lot of us have eagerly embraced. In fact, many of us (and you know who you are) have been pushed kicking and screaming in the computer age. A few years ago, I thought you ate an Apple, a RAM was a male sheep, a boot went on your feet. I called a monitor screen a TV, and I thought a disk problem was another name for a bad back. Now I know better. I AM COMPUTER LITERATE! I can delete with ease, I can move a block, copy a block, use my computer for my gradebook, you name it. But I still don't know as much as my students about computers. I am a teacher, (aside in a whisper), but my students show me how to work the computers.

(Step beside Futurist. Enter Angel)

ANGEL:

Who am I? I am a teacher. You see before you the way I am expected to be by the community in general. It hasn't been too many years since rules for teachers declared that teachers must not marry during the school term, could not be seen in public with a male unless he was a relative, and certainly couldn't wear revealing clothing, such as skirts with hemlines above the ankle. Times have changed, sure, but teachers are still expected to be perfect or at least angelic. Maybe some of this is not so bad, who better to teach morality than someone who lives morally, who better to teach a love of learning than one who loves to learn, but please remember that my halo may sometimes be tarnished, it may sometimes be askew, and don't think too harshly of me if that should happen, I am a teacher, trying to achieve sainthood.

(Step beside Computer Expert.)

NARRATOR:

Who are we? We are all teachers--not merely conveyers of knowledge, not only experts on TE's and curriculum guides, but we also become mothers, students, policemen, entertainers, efficiency experts, counselors, coaches,

DKG Texas and Theta Lambda Dates to Remember 2020-2021

September, 2020

21st – Chapter Meeting

October, 2020,

15th – DKG Leadership Seminar applications due

19th – Chapter Meeting

November, 2020

1st – Spectacular Texas Arts Retreat (STAR) applications due

1st – Fall Mini-Grant applications due

1st – ASTEF Project Stipend End-of-Year reports due

1st – *Lone Star News submissions due*

1st – Early Bird Yearbook submission due

16th – Chapter Meeting

December, 2020

14th – Chapter Meeting

January, 2021

1st – DKG International Foundation Project application due

15th-17th – STAR Retreat

February, 2021

1st – Nominations for TSO Achievement and Golden Rose Awards due

1st – *Lone Star News submissions due*

15th – TSO CPE Convention proposals due

22nd – Chapter Meeting

March, 2021

1st – TSO State scholarships and Spring Mini-grant applications due

22nd – Chapter Meeting

April, 2021

1st – ASTEF Project Stipend applications due

1st – *Lone Star News submission due*

19th – Chapter 53rd Birthday Celebration

May, 2021

17th – Chapter Meeting

June, 2021

16th-18 TSO Convention – Denton

July, 2021—21-24th DKG International Convention – San Antonio