

Theta Lambda News

Volume 51 Issue 5

Area 18, #203

February, 2021



Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Meeting Information	1
Do You Know February?	2
Treasurer's Report	3
Birthday Celebrations	3
What Theta Lambda Means to Me	4
Yearbook Awards	5
Spring Programs-REVISED 2021	6
Membership Drive	7
DKG—Dates to Remember	8

Editor: Catherine Hague
chague1558@gmail.com

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

President's Message

Dear Theta Lambda Sisters,

What comes to your mind when you hear 'February'? Groundhog Day, Super Bowl, Valentine's Day, President's Day, Black History Month, and American Heart Month are all in February! For such a short month, February sure is busy. On top of all of this the Texas Legislature is in session. Love is in the air and spring is around the corner. Of course, in Houston, February means that winter, spring, and summer can all happen in the same week. Some days the flowers are as confused about the weather as we are!

For us, February means that we will have a wonderful meeting at Lillie Beth Wilson's. Whether attending in person or virtually, we will have a chance to enjoy each other's company for the first time in 2021. Our own Carol TenBrook is doing our program "F2F, Virtual, or Hybrid: Teaching in the Times of COVID-19". Whether you are teaching in public or private school, serving as an administrator supporting teachers, or retired and active in virtual meetings and services, this program will help you. Carol will explore some of the difficulties teachers face with technology and share helpful hints to navigate the ever-changing landscape without losing our sanity. This is a great meeting to invite someone to join us. While they may hesitate to come to one more virtual meeting or get on the road after another long day, this is a topic for all teachers and you know they will enjoy our small but mighty and very welcoming group.

February is a great month to show a little love to those around us. Write a note to a teacher you know, make a plate of brownies for a neighbor who is isolating and leave it on their front porch, call a friend or family member you haven't talked to

in a while. Love yourself by taking time to do something you love even though there are lots of 'have to dos' on your list for the day. As we have learned in 2020, the little things really are important.

Looking forward to seeing everyone on the 22nd!

Sally Kubiak
President
Theta Lambda



Please let us know how you will be attending the meeting—either in person or via Zoom—when you RSVP to the invite.

Come join us for Theta Lambda's February meeting!	
Home:	Lillie Beth Wilson or Zoom
Hostesses:	Lillie Beth Wilson and Sandra MacConnell
When:	Monday, February 22
Inspiration:	Robin DeLaRosa
Music:	Catherine Hague
<i>Program ~ "F2F, Virtual, or Hybrid: Teaching in the Times of COVID19" by Carol TenBrook</i>	

DO YOU KNOW?

In February we celebrate several things. Do you know their beginnings? Do you know which one has been around the longest?

Groundhog Day - The first official Groundhog Day celebration took place on February 2, 1887, in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. It was the brainchild of local newspaper editor Clymer Freas, who sold a group of businessmen and groundhog hunters—known collectively as the Punxsutawney Groundhog Club—on the idea. *(Of course, in Houston not even Phil can predict our crazy weather more than a few days out.)*

Super Bowl - The First AFL-NFL World Championship Game in professional football, known as the Super Bowl, was played on January 15, 1967 at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. The NFL champion Green Bay Packers defeated the AFL champion Kansas City Chiefs by the score of 35–10. *(While not as old as Tom Brady, Packers Bart Starr was no spring chicken at 33.)*

Valentine's Day, also called St. Valentine's Day, is when lovers express their affection with greetings and gifts. The holiday has origins in the Roman festival of Lupercalia held in mid-February. The festival, which celebrated the coming of spring, included fertility rites and the pairing off of women with men by lottery. At the end of the 5th century, Pope Gelasius I replaced Lupercalia with St. Valentine's Day. It came to be celebrated as a day of romance from about the 14th century. *(How will you celebrate Valentine's Day? Whether or not you have a sweetheart, reach out to someone to let you know you are thinking about them.)*

President's Day -The origin of Presidents' Day lies in the 1880s, when the birthday of Washington was first celebrated as a federal holiday. In 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Bill, which moved a number of federal holidays to Mondays. During debate on the bill, it was proposed that Washington's Birthday be renamed Presidents' Day to honor the birthdays of both Washington (February 22) and Lincoln (February 12); although Lincoln's birthday was celebrated in many states, it was never an official federal holiday. Following much discussion, Congress rejected the name change and continued to call the holiday Washington's Birthday. After the bill went into effect in 1971, however, Presidents' Day became the commonly accepted name, due in part to retailers' use of that name to promote sales and the holiday's proximity to Lincoln's birthday. *(How many years did I teach students that President's Day honored Washington and Lincoln? I didn't know I was being influenced by retailers and thought I was sharing facts!)*

Black History Month - The story of Black History Month begins in 1915. That September, the Harvard-trained historian Carter G. Woodson and the prominent minister Jesse E. Moorland founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH), an organization dedicated to researching and promoting achievements by Black Americans and other peoples of African descent. The group sponsored a national Negro History week in 1926, choosing the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. The event inspired schools and communities nationwide to organize local celebrations, establish history clubs and host performances and lectures.

In the decades that followed, mayors of cities across the country began issuing yearly proclamations recognizing Negro History Week. By the late 1960s, thanks in part to the civil rights movement and a growing awareness of Black identity, Negro History Week had evolved into Black History Month on many college campuses.

President Gerald Ford officially recognized Black History Month in 1976, calling upon the public to “seize the opportunity to honor the too-often neglected accomplishments of Black Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.” *(Take time throughout this month to learn about the amazing accomplishments of African Americans. Without all that they have achieved, our lives would be very different.)*

American Heart Month - President Lyndon B. Johnson, among the millions of people in the country who had heart attacks, issued the first proclamation in 1964. Since then, U.S. presidents have annually declared February American Heart Month. *(Take care of your heart – eat right, take a walk, smile and reach out to someone.)*

**TREASURER’S REPORT
February 2021**

Checking balance reported in December **\$1350.63**

Receipts **\$.12**

December Bank Dividend .06

January Bank Dividend .06

Disbursements **- \$.00**

Current checking account balance **\$1350.75**

Current savings account balance **\$ 560.38**

Current CD Balance **\$1636.15**

Total assets of chapter **\$3547.28**

Birthday Celebrations

February 3 ~ Laura Downes

February 15 ~ Stacy Frenchwood

February 19 ~ Kay Toedter



What Theta Lambda Means to Me

Finding My Tribe

By Alisha Procter

Being a member of the DKG Theta Lambda Chapter has been a wonderful experience. I can remember when Sally Kubiak invited me to my first DKG meeting as a guest in 2019; I was so excited. I was a little nervous because I did not know what to expect or what I would have to do. Even as a guest, after the meeting, I knew that I wanted to be a part of this group. I felt an immediate sense of community, support, and kindness. Something happens when you are surrounded by welcoming, friendly, knowledgeable, kind, patient, and inquisitive women who are all TEACHERS. I felt at home. I knew that the Theta Lambda group was where I wanted to be.

Professionally, I am an Adult Educator. I started teaching English to adult speakers of other languages in 2004 and believe it or not, it was almost by accident. One of my co-workers at the Cypress Creek YMCA, where I worked as the Women's Fitness Center Supervisor, mentioned that Lone Star Community College Greenspoint needed degreed English as Second Language instructors for their community enrichment program. My first reaction was "I am not a teacher nor do I know the first thing about teaching other people English!" After a lot of convincing, I submitted my resume anyway, then I was called in for an interview, ultimately got the job, and low and behold, my teaching career began.

At the end of the first semester, I decided I should get trained and learn how to properly teach adults English. I fell in love with teaching. It was not like any other kind of work I had done before, but I needed training. I enrolled in The University of Cambridge's Certificate to Teach Adults program which at the time was held at Lone Star Community College in Cypress, Texas. During that program, I learned of The School for International Training (SIT) in Brattleboro, Vermont that specialized in cultivating the best English as Second Language instructors, or so I was told. I decided right then and there, that I would attend SIT. I applied. I was accepted and before long in the summer of 2005, my children and I were headed to New England.

Once on campus, one of the things that I loved more than anything else was the sense of community. It was amazing. I was amongst people from all over the world who shared the same goal as I did. We wanted to learn how to become the best English as a Second Language instructors. We were an adventurous, gregarious, and studious bunch of "wannabe" teachers. The camaraderie that I felt at the little school on the hill will never be forgotten. It felt as if I had finally found my tribe. It has been 15 years since I left the little school on the hill. The times passed so quickly and I relish in my memories of that community. However, I have DKG Theta Lambda now.

I adore our amazing group of women educators. Thank you all for this incredible experience. It is certainly a treasure and a pleasure to be your DKG Theta Lambda sister. I have found my next level tribe.

EXEMPLARY AWARD

FOR CHAPTER YEARBOOK
This certificate is awarded to

Theta Lambda
Area 18
2020-2021

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Texas State Organization
Yearbook Committee



EARLY BIRD AWARD FOR CHAPTER YEARBOOK

This certificate is presented to
Theta Lambda
Area 18
2020-2021



THANK YOU, Sandra MacConnell, for the excellent job you always do on our yearbook!

REVISED SPRING PROGRAM SCHEDULE~2021

(Note: CookLearnGrow has been moved to the fall when more members may be ready to participate in this hands-on program. Get the Skinny about the Texas legislative session has been moved to February so we can be better prepared to influence the process.)

February 22, 2021

Program “F2F, Virtual, or Hybrid: Teaching in the times of Covid-19”

Presenter Carol TenBrook will explore some of the difficulties teachers face with technology while teaching during a pandemic. She will share helpful hints to navigate this ever-changing landscape without losing your sanity.

March 22, 2021

Program “Get the Skinny!”

Dr. Beth Egmont, Past President of the Coalition of Reading and English Supervisors in Texas (CREST) will give an insider’s view of the state educational policies. Testifying before the Texas State Board of Education and the Texas House Committee on Education, Dr. Egmont has gotten a bird’s eye view of the process. With the legislative session in 2021 and COVID, education has become THE hot topic. Come and hear what you can do to influence the process of providing the best possible education for Texas students. Come get the skinny on all things legislative!

April 19, 2021

Program “Theta Lambda’s 53rd Birthday Celebration”

Members will celebrate our chapter’s fifty-three years of women educators who share the purposes and vision of Delta Kappa Gamma Society.
Members will prepare notes to be sent to past and reserve chapter members.

May 17, 2021

Program “Founders Day: How Would Our Founders Respond to the Educational Needs of Children During the Pandemic?”

The Programs Committee will lead a discussion of the philosophies of our founders and how those beliefs can frame an educational COVID response.

2021 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.

DKG Texas and Theta Lambda Dates to Remember 2021

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