

# Theta Lambda News

Winner of the 2011-2012 Five-Star Award

Volume 43 Issue 2

Area 18, #203

October 2012



### Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
Meeting information	1
Meeting Highlights	2
Member Birthdays	2
Open Gate Service Project	3
Treasurer's Report	4
Dues Reminder!!!!	4

**Editor:**  
*Carol TenBrook*  
[ctenbrook@pwarch.com](mailto:ctenbrook@pwarch.com)

## President's Message

"Failure is an event,  
never a person."

I am not sure who said this quote, but as a perfectionist I felt like a failure many times in my own journey through life. I have a failed marriage, I failed my first-year students because I didn't always know what I was doing...didn't even know how to set up a gradebook, failed at not connecting with or liking all of my students over the years! It is so easy to focus on the negatives without celebrating the successes!

Mark Spilman is our guest for our meeting this month. Mark will share with us how the **Open Gate** program has helped so many young adults find their way. I am quite sure many of them feel like failures in our society. I am sure they feel they have failed their family and friends. But as I reflect on the quote above, I know I can help these young adults feel successes in their lives. Just as in walking, small steps need to be and will be celebrated. The fact they come to dinner on Sundays is a measure of success.

I talked with a Fort Bend ISD first grade teacher recently as she reflected on how patient she needs to be right now! She's in a hurry to get them more independent realizing how far she took her first grade students last year. It is a process which takes time! I reminded her to acknowledge and remember where they are right now in their learning processes so she can celebrate their journey in May! Will there be events along the way which don't quite make it during the year? Yes! Are the students the failure? Is she the failure? No!

Please join our meeting with the thoughts and feelings of "how can we help these young adults?" Many kids this age have problems but rely on their family for love and support! We need to help these young adults realize they are not failures, only riding on one of life's learning curves.

Respectively,  
Laura Downes



### Come join us for Theta Lambda's October meeting!

**Where:** Home of Nancy Dobbs

**When:** Monday, October 15, 2012  
5:30 Refreshments  
6:00 Business meeting

**Hostesses:** Robin DeLaRosa  
**Inspiration:** Jodi Knuppel  
**Program** "Open Gate" with Mark Spilman

## Meeting Highlights

**Theta Lambda Chapter**

**Delta Kappa Gamma**

**September 17, 2012**

Minutes of the September 17, 2012 Theta Lambda Meeting

The regular meeting of Theta Lambda was held on Monday, September 17, 2012 in the home of Stacy Frenchwood. The hostesses were Jodi Knuppel, Nancy Dobbs, and Miriam Watson. The energizer was given by Laura Downes.

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Laura Downes, President. The recording secretary, Lillie Beth Wilson was present and recorded the minutes and attendance. Fifteen members were present.

Minutes from the May, 2012 meeting were approved as published.

The May, 2012 Treasurer's Report was approved as posted in the newsletter by Sandra MacConnell, Treasurer. She presented the Budget for the 2012-2013 year.

The resignation of Judy Sanchez, reserve member, was read by Sandra MacConnell.

Catherine Hague, First Vice President, asked members to complete a program feedback form.

Stacy Frenchwood, Second Vice President, provided "thinking of you" cards that were signed by members and were mailed to members unable to attend the meeting.

President Laura Downes recognized members who attended the Delta Kappa Gamma Area Workshop on September 15, 2012. Each member summarized sessions that they attended at the workshops.

Members were encouraged to bring perspective members to the October meeting. Also, members were asked to bring paperback books to be donated to the Open Gate program. Mark Spilman, Director of the Open Gate program, will be the guest speaker at the October meeting.

Carol TenBrook discussed the website, use of the Evite invitation, and the process to enable the Theta Lambda newsletters to be posted on the state website.

The door prize was won by Robin DeLaRosa.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

*Lillie Beth Wilson*

*Laura Downes*

Recording Secretary

President



### October Birthdays

9 Nonie Ripley

15 Cheryl Flick

11 Jayati Sengupta

18 Catherine Garcia-Prats

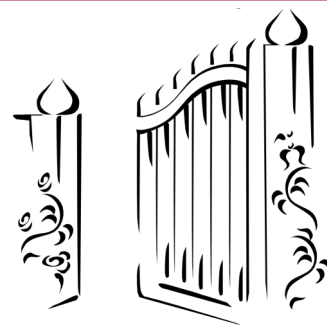
14 DaNell Wilkins

20 Mary Harris

Check out Theta Lambda's website at <http://thetalambda.weebly.com/> for more information.

## Theta Lambda Project 2011-2012

Theta Lambda's service project for the 2012-12 year is **Open Gate**.



**Open Gate** was established on Sunday, March 4, 2007 by Rev. Andy Noel at Bering Memorial United Methodist Church. The focus is on 18-24 year old homeless young adults who need a safe and welcoming place. The commitment from these youths to join is an agreement of no weapons, no drugs, no alcohol and no violence either in speech or actions.

Hawthorne Dinners are family-style meals served on Sunday afternoons. The young adults can visit with peers and discuss topics of importance to them at a safe and friendly site. Before and after dinner there are games, TV, videos, conversations with volunteers, and snacks. This is a place for conversation or to just safely hanging out in the small library, using the computers, and providing a place for art and writing. These young adults are mentored in music, drama, tutoring, and assisted with studying for their GED. There are varying support activities such as speakers, printed information and representatives from agencies and service providers. These contacts at the Hawthorne Dinners are resulting in these young adults obtaining jobs, housing, and needed services.



Theta Lambda members will help provide books for the small library, volunteering at the Hawthorne dinners on Sundays, tutoring for the GED, and providing some supplies for both art and for drama to continue at this fabulous facility.

**TREASURER'S REPORT****October, 2012****Balance reported at September meeting** **\$ 1238.77****Receipts****+ \$ 1496.59**

Dues Collected	\$1331.00
Area Workshop Fees	120.00
Donations	30.00
Fund Raiser (raffle)	15.00
Aug. – Sept. Dividends	.59

**Disbursements****- \$ 181.30**

Area Workshop Registration	\$ 132.00
Postage Stamps	24.30
Remembrance Gift	25.00

**Current checking account balance** **\$ 2554.06****Savings**

Previous savings account balance \$ 1045.57

Dividend 9/30 .52

**Current savings account balance** **\$ 1046.09**

Previous term certificate balance \$ 1547.29

Dividends 9/30 1.34

**Current 6-month term certificate balance** **\$ 1548. 63**

(Maturity Date 1/13/13)

**Total assets of chapter** **\$ 5148. 78****REMINDER!**

It's time to **renew your membership** in Delta Kappa Gamma. Chapter dues are \$75 for active members (\$40 for International, \$20 for State, \$1 for required scholarship fee, \$14 retained in the Chapter). Reserve member dues are \$28, all of which go to State and International. As always, and if needed, you may meet your obligation in two payments, one in September and one in October.

**Bring your check, made payable to Theta Lambda Chapter—DKG to the October 15th meeting.**

Newsletter questions or suggestions? Contact: Carol TenBrook at [ctenbrook@pwarch.com](mailto:ctenbrook@pwarch.com)