

Theta Lambda News

Winner of the 2012-2013 Five-Star Award with the Seal of Merit

Volume 44 Issue 5

Area 18, #203

March 2014



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NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!

President's Message

Dear Theta Lambda Sisters,

I just have to ask: Has anyone been performing their yoga? I have been doing some of the stretches, plus I found a series on cable and I have put them on my DVR. Of course I have to watch them and actually do the exercises for it to make a difference! I so appreciated our yoga session at **Carol TenBrook's** home in February! Have you seen the pictures? What a fun meeting! Your daughter and son-in-law were amazing!

Mark your calendar for March 24th! Our program is titled: Trends in Education and **Karen Foster** is our guest speaker! If you have never heard Karen sharing her knowledge and enthusiasm about education, then you are in for a treat! Karen is "in the know!"

I haven't heard for sure where our meeting is going to be held, but I know **Robin DeLaRosa** has a handle on it! **Michelle Glick** and **Terri Marrow** are our hostesses and **Mary Herlitz** will be our inspiration.

We do have an important vote on Monday, March 24th. We have our slate of officers to vote into office! (*Ed. See page 4 of newsletter.*) What an amazing group of women! Theta Lambda will be in excellent hands for the next biennium!

Spring Break! I still love hearing those words! I'm traveling to Georgia with a good friend, and my friend from Florida is meeting us, too, so my sister's home will have four crazy women enjoying the holiday together! I'm so looking forward to relaxing, shopping at Blue Ridge (a quaint town in the Blue Ridge Mountains) and laughing until my sides ache!

Faithfully,
Laura Downes
Theta Lambda President

Come join us for

Theta Lambda's March meeting!

Where: Highlands Elementary School
2022 Colonist Park Dr.
Sugar Land, Texas

When: Monday, March 24, 2014
5:30 Refreshments
6:00 Business meeting

Hostesses: Michelle Glick
Terri Marrow

Inspiration: Mary Herlitz

Program: "Trends in Education"
Guest: Karen Foster

Meeting Highlights

Minutes of February 18, 2014 Theta Lambda Meeting

Members and guests gathered in the home of Carol TenBrook. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by President, Laura Downes. Hostesses Jodi Knuppel and Stacy Frenchwood were thanked for the delicious meal. The inspiration was given by Sally Kubiak. She spoke about the invisible bucket theory. She read from Simple Faith in Mister Rogers and challenged us to take a minute and think who makes a difference and give a little silence to be thankful for the people who made us who we are.

Zak and Christine Perret presented a program about wellness and taught and demonstrated yoga movements that are helpful for body strengthening, reduction of anxiety and flexibility. Handouts were provided to members as a resource.

Old business was discussed from the December meeting. Minutes and treasurer's reports were accepted. Early career educator motivators were provided. It was announced that \$163.80 had been collected for the Change for Africa project. Members will continue collecting until May 2014. Toiletries and clothing items were determined to be given to Sister Jane as she participates with her students in the Living Water projects in Africa that creates self sufficiency. Member moved to send money collected for Change for Africa to the St. Agnes Africa Project. Theta Lambda has budgeted \$25 for the Delta Kappa Gamma Change for Africa Project and remaining dollars be given to the St. Agnes project.

It was reported that all reports to state and national headquarters had been mailed in before required deadlines. Stacy Frenchwood gave a legislative report and handed out information on recent state TEA waivers and changes in graduation level credits.

Venues for the Theta Lambda birthday celebration were discussed. It was decided that the event will be at Berryhills on Highway 59. We are encouraged to bring guests to the celebration. Members are encouraged to recruit new members for a May initiation.

Application deadlines were given for scholarships. The nominating committee is meeting to bring forth a list of officers. The Alpha State Convention was discussed and \$1000 is allotted for both the President and incoming president to attend. Members celebrated the nomination of former Theta Lambda member, Karen Duke, for an international honor.

It was announced that Michelle Glick will be participating in the Adobe training in San Antonio. She will be discussing research using the Reading Invention Model.

The next Theta Lambda meeting will be at Highlands Elementary in Fort Bend ISD.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35.

Submitted by Lillie Beth Wilson



Achievement Award Nominations!

It is time for nominations for the Theta Lambda Achievement Award for 2014. The past three winners who are currently members will make up the committee to consider your nominations. These members are Jan Randolph (2012), Carol TenBrook (2010), and Mary Herlitz (2002). Please send your nominations to Jan, who will be heading this committee.

Lori Loeschen was an encourager, teacher, leader, friend, parent, and supporter of children and the many staff members she worked with in the Alief Independent School District. How thankful I am to have had the opportunity to appreciate her talents, love, and support over the years. We do not always know of the thankful hearts of the parents whose children walk among us. Yet sometimes we do. "Michael's Story" was written by Lori when her son, Michael, was in second grade in Miss Tolbert's room at Outley Elementary. She shared this story with me and dedicated it to Miss Tolbert. This reprint is dedicated to the love that Lori had for the heart of all children big and small, especially her own son, Michael.

Lillie Beth Wilson, friend and former principal, Outley Elementary

Michael's Story

Some tried shouting, coaxing, begging, nagging

And the little boy was silent. His pencil grew cold.

Then second grade began with a parade of skills.

First spelling, then capitalization, followed by punctuation.

Bunny costumes, Abe Lincoln looks, Everyday Counts and

Finding the "perfect magic books."

Finally all was wrapped in book form transforming the boy into an author. It felt good.

The smile grew wide and the hugs squeezed tighter and the joy spilled across the safe place.

Miss Tolbert sat back and smiled big and wide....

A little boy's heart felt safe and cozy.

Learning was fun and exciting.

It happened without the little boy even noticing the work too much.

The little boy smiled big and wide too.

(And it didn't matter if anyone else was looking.)

Written by Lori Loeschen

A member may be recommended for the achievement award if she meets the following qualifications:

*Must be an active or reserve member who is regular in attendance and who has taken part in chapter projects and programs of work.

*Must have been a committee chairman or chapter officer sometime during her membership in Theta Lambda.

*Must have been a member of Theta Lambda Chapter for at least two full bienniums.

*Must have made an outstanding or unique contribution to Theta Lambda.

THETA LAMBDA ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

Sandra MacConnell	1976	Mary Peek	1996
Karen Duke	1978	Rose Jackson	1998
Margaret Scott	1980	Carol Ann Shipp	2000
Helen Atkinson	1982	Mary Herlitz	2002
DaNell Wilkins	1984	Judy Sanchez	2004
Miriam Watson	1986	Lori MacConnell	2006
Margaret Williams	1988	Lorrie Dawlearn	2008
Margaret Hayes	1990	Carol TenBrook	2010
Ruth Nichols	1992	Jan Randolph	2012
Alcine Hubbard	1994		

We have so many wonderful ladies in our chapter deserving of this highest honor. Please email your suggestions and a brief description of why you think this member should be our next Achievement Award winner for this biennium to Jan Randolph as soon as possible. The award will be given out at the April meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

March, 2014

Checking balance reported for January/February.....\$2308.59

Receipts + \$171.91

Change for Africa donations \$164.00

Raffle money collected 7.00

Dividends (Jan./ Feb.) .91

Disbursements - \$181.00

Contributions – state funds \$ 91.00

Contribution – international funds 65.00

UNICEF – Schools for Africa 25.00

Current checking account balance \$2299.50

Current Savings Balance \$1048.68

Current CD Balance \$1556.50

Total assets of chapter \$4904.68

New Officers 2014-2016



We will be voting for our new slate of officers for the upcoming 2014-2016 biennium at our March meeting.

- President: Nancy Dobbs
- 1st Vice President: Stacy Frenchwood
- 2nd Vice President: Robin DeLaRosa
- Secretary: Michelle Glick
- Treasurer: Sandra MacConnell
- Parliamentarian: Laura Downes
- Webmaster: Carol TenBrook