



# Epsilon Psi Newsletter

Epsilon Psi Chapter (#143), Area III, Baytown  
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International,  
Texas State Organization

VOLUME 62, ISSUE 1

AUGUST 2021

## 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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## President's Message by: Kristen Davis



Kristen Davis  
President 2020-2022

Dear Sisters,

What an exciting time! We are beginning a new year in Epsilon Psi. I am looking forward to face-to-face meetings again. Our new TSO President Shalan Inmon's theme for

her biennium is Journey: Which way will you go? Her goals include to Nurture: Develop relationship with current and new members; Serve: Give of your time to others; Educate: Promote the purposes and mission of DKG to others; and Wonder: Dream, Ask, Reflect. We have prepared new programs that I feel fit beautifully with this new theme. I look forward to this

new journey with you! A quote that I came across recently was, "A journey is measured in friends rather than miles." (Tim Cahill) Our journey is so much sweeter having each other. I am very grateful to have you a part of mine!

August 14<sup>th</sup> is our breakfast with Gamma Nu. This will be in place of our missed banquet. Please check your email for a link to RSVP. The breakfast will be held at **The Mustard Seed Tearoom** (911 Massey Tompkins Rd., Baytown, TX 77521) from **8:00–10:00** on Saturday, August 14. The meal will cost **\$15** per person. You can pay via **Venmo** (@Mona-Bonds) or **check** (made to Gamma Nu and mailed to Mona Bonds @ 436 S. Burnett Dr., Baytown, TX 77520). I look forward to seeing you there!!

Enjoy the journey,

Kristen

## Next Meeting:

**August 14, 2021**

Please RSVP

Location: The Mustard Seed Tearoom  
911 Massey Tompkins Road  
Baytown, TX 77521

8:00 am—10:00 am

Kristen Davis [davisk0928@gmail.com](mailto:davisk0928@gmail.com)  
and Alicia Brooks [asbrooks77@gmail.com](mailto:asbrooks77@gmail.com), editors



News from  
Alpha State  
and  
International



## Upcoming Projects



December: We will bring baby items to donate to the day-care at Peter Hyland Center. We will also deliver the books for A Storybook Christmas to local elementaries.

February: We will donate

stuffed animals to fire and police departments.

**Monthly:** Project Graduation; Food Pantry for Rollingbrook Fellowship Church

## Web Watch: International

After you log in to [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org), you will see lots of information! Did you know there is a DKG app? You can download it from the App Store for your iPhone or iPad or from the Google Play store for your Android. [https://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/365\\_DKG\\_App.aspx](https://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/365_DKG_App.aspx)

## Web Watch: Alpha State

Did you miss the Denton Convention this year? No worries, handouts from the sessions are now available for download from DKG Texas website.

<https://www.dkgtexas.org/resources.html>

# Hospitality and Other News

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It is with great sadness that we report the death of longtime Epsilon Psi member Aida Dyer on May 25, 2021.

Judi Craig's son, Russell Steven Craig, passed away on June 28, 2021 following a short illness.

Congratulations to Alicia Brooks on her new job as Director of Information Services for Goose Creek CISD.

Please let JoAnn Short know of any hospitality news, [jshort@bhisd.net](mailto:jshort@bhisd.net) or [sjhshort@comcast.net](mailto:sjhshort@comcast.net).

## Project Graduation

Members are to bring monetary donations for Project Graduation benefitting the six Goose Creek high schools. The following individuals will furnish the raffle prizes for the August meeting:

**Kristen Davis, chair; Joan Mangum, Ginger McKay, Laura Smith**

If you cannot attend the meeting, please give your prize to another Epsilon Psi member who will be in attendance.

***“Education  
is not  
preparation  
for life;  
education is  
life itself.”  
John Dewey***



## September Meeting

**September 23, 2021, Thursday, 5p.m. (fellowship),  
5:30 p.m. (meeting)**

**Rollingbrook Fellowship Church  
505 Rollingbrook Drive, Baytown**

**Program:** “Helping Others in Need: UMCOR-  
Relief Kits”

**Chapter Projects:** (1) Project Graduation and (2) A  
Storybook Christmas and (3) UMCOR-Relief Kits

**Hostesses:** Meredith Durham, chair; Mary Cooling,  
Laurie Curry, Debbie Reynolds

**Project Graduation Raffle Prizes:** Julie Kellner,  
chair; Jayme Curry, Susan Minix, Elma Villanueva

Materials and packing instructions for the  
UMCOR School Kits may be found online at  
[https://umcmmission.org/wp-content/  
uploads/2020/11/School-Kit-Assembly-  
Instructions\\_September-2019.pdf](https://umcmmission.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/School-Kit-Assembly-Instructions_September-2019.pdf).

Please bring the materials with you to the  
meeting, and we will pack them for mailing  
at the meeting.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Epsilon Psi Chapter  
Minutes of the Meeting  
Thursday, April 22, 2021

The Epsilon Psi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Kristen Davis using the Zoom format with a quorum established and the secretary being present. Roll was taken by Carolyn Francis with 14 members and a guest being present.

Karen Coffey gave the Chapter Collect, and Joyce Cloudt led members in the Response.

**Old Business:**

The March minutes were approved as printed in the April newsletter.

The March financial report prepared by Treasurer Carolyn Francis was printed in the April newsletter and will be filed for audit.

**New Business:**

President Kristen Davis conducted the business meeting.

**Reports of Officers and Standing Committees:**

Carolyn Francis announced the form to remit dues is attached to the newsletter. Dues need to be paid before May 31, 2021.

First Vice President Alicia Brooks reported that Gamma Nu, the host of the Founders' Banquet scheduled for May, regrettably has had to postpone the banquet due to the pandemic. Gamma Nu plans to host the celebration of our founders at a joint August 14, 2021 breakfast meeting. More definite plans will be provided when they are available.

Michelle Verdun reported that the Scholarship Committee met on April 12 and chose one scholarship recipient from each of the three schools that applied. Congratulations to these students who will each be awarded a \$300 scholarship.

Emma Davis is graduating from Impact Early College High School and also from Lee College with an Associate's Degree. She plans to attend Stephen F Austin State University. Emma states her calling is to become a high school math teacher.

Taya Cook is graduating from Ross S Sterling High School. She plans to attend Lee College and transfer to Texas State. Taya wants to become an elementary school teacher so she can share the gift of knowledge and fulfill her purpose in life.

Marissa Lemus is graduating from Goose Creek Memorial High School and plans to attend West Texas A&M. She knew as a young child she wanted to be a teacher. Every Saturday morning she would "teach school" to her stuffed animals.

**Reports of Special Committees:**

**Hospitality Committee Report**

Happy news for Alicia and Ernest Brooks, big Texans fans, who won a trip to the NFL Draft in Cleveland, Ohio next Thursday.

Exciting times for the Davis family. Kristen's youngest son, Austin, is ready to graduate from Barbers Hill High School, and her two older sons will soon graduate from college.

Many in Barbers Hill are supporting the Eaglettes Dance Team as they prepare for the Spring Show.

Kathryn Wright has been in the Panhandle with her niece, Tonya, who is very ill. Her niece is presently being treated in the emergency room.

Our sympathy to Michelle Verdun whose 104-year-old uncle recently died. He was in good health until two weeks prior to his death.

Meredith Durham's daughter, Courtney Durham, was selected "Educator of the Year" by the PTA at Honey Elementary in Lubbock, where she is a first-year teacher. That makes four generations of second grade teachers: Eulala Knudson, Richie Butler, Meredith Durham, and Courtney Durham. Thank you, Kristen, for giving Courtney exactly what she needed in fourth grade.

Happy April birthdays to Meredith Durham and Suzi Powers. Happy May birthdays to Ginger McKay and Donna Mohlman. Happy June birthdays to Susan Minix, Carolyn Florus, and Laura Smith. Happy July birthdays to Lisa McBride, Julie Kellner, Carolyn Francis, Alicia Brooks, Debbie Reynolds, Debbie Denson, Judi Craig, and JoAnn Short.

**Program:**

Kristen introduced Ryan Holzaepfel, Emergency Management Coordinator for Chambers County. He presented the program "Preparation Is the Key: Hurricane Preparedness". Ryan reminded us that hurricane season is June 1 through November 30. He began with storm terminology: Watch means conditions are possible; Warning means storm expected so action will be necessary; Tropical Depression means 38 mph wind or less; Tropical Storm means 39 mph wind and better organized. Hurricane category designation begins at 74 mph wind speed for Category 1 and increases with the wind speed all the way up to Category 5. Surge is measured in feet and indicates the level of water the hurricane brings in above the mean tide. You need to evacuate if you are in a surge zone. Run from water. Hide from wind. Be sure to check on friends and family. Leave early if you are in a mobile home, or a low-lying area, or if you need electricity for medical equipment because you may not be able to leave later. Emergency vehicles may be unable to respond. If you leave, turn off the electricity. You can sign up on your county's website if you need help evacuating or have special needs. Disaster supply kits are useful whether you decide to leave or stay. You can purchase one or you can make your own in a waterproof container. Include prescriptions, flashlights, batteries, nonperishable food items, bottled water, and items for pets. Don't wait until the last minute when everyone hurries to the store.

To prepare your home, close and board up windows to protect them from wind driven objects. Lower or remove outside antennas, secure lawn furniture, kids' toys, and garbage cans. Brace the garage door to help stabilize the opening and avoid roof damage above the door. Strap boats down to trailers and tie down. Tie down trampolines and anchor metal buildings. Trim limbs close to the house. Be careful while preparing and be mindful of electrical hazards. After the hurricane, during cleanup, ladders can pose dangers, and falls from roofs increase during this time. Generators can be helpful, but you must keep them 15 to 20 feet away from windows and doors to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning.

Kristen thanked Ryan for sharing his expertise and his time with us and for reminding us we must be prepared for a hurricane that comes our way.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m. Joyce Cloudt led us in the singing of "The Delta Kappa Gamma Song".

Richie Butler, Recording Secretary

Kristen Davis, President

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
The Executive Committee  
Epsilon Psi Chapter  
Minutes of the Meeting  
Wednesday, July 21, 2021

The Executive Committee of the Epsilon Psi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International was called to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 21, 2021, by President Kristen Davis using the Zoom format. In attendance were Kristen Davis, Carolyn Francis, Juanita Hatfield, and Richie Butler.

Our business was to discuss the agenda items for the August meeting and to make plans for the meetings for November 2021 through October 2022.

Items discussed:

In-person meetings will begin this August. Gamma Nu Chapter had to postpone the May Founders' Banquet due to Covid. They will instead host the August Breakfast we originally planned to host, and we will honor our Founders at that time. Gamma Nu plans to hold the breakfast at the Mustard Seed Tearoom (911 Massey Thompkins Road, Baytown, Texas 77521) from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 14, 2021. The meal will be \$15 per person paid to Gamma Nu Treasurer Mona Bonds. There will be a basket available for our members to collect donations of school supplies for needy students.

The business agenda for the August meeting needs to be kept to a minimum. Agenda items will include recognizing members with perfect attendance from the past two years and recognizing retirees from the past two years. Dorothy Shields will be recognized as a 25-year member. The Nominations Committee will present a member to be selected as our Member-at-Large Representative to serve the Greater Houston Area Coordinating Council for the 2021-2023 term. The Finance Committee will present the Annual Budget (printed in the newsletter) for our approval.

The theme for our programs this year is "Journey". We discussed ideas for interesting and enjoyable meetings. A tentative schedule was approved and will be finalized as soon as presenters agree to share their expertise and choose a date that works for them. Thank you, Kristen, for approaching these presenters and finalizing the schedule.

With no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Richie Butler, Recording Secretary

Kristen Davis, President



## Happy Birthday!

### August

8	Dewolyn Hullum
9	Karen Coffey
21	Ruth Blake
30	Diane Keene
31	Dana Vela-Lopez

### September

28	Kristen Davis
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## Treasurer's Report



Checking:	
Balance, July 1, 2021.....	\$5,054.66
Receipts.....	<u>77.00</u>
Total Available.....	\$5,131.66
Disbursements.....	<u>0.00</u>
Balance, July 31, 2021.....	\$5,131.66
Savings:	
Scholarship Fund.....	<u>24,069.55</u>
Total Funds Available, July 31, 2021.....	\$29,201.21

### AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

The Audit Committee, chaired by Carolyn Florus, met at 5:30pm on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at Floyds Mont Belvieu restaurant. Members present were Alicia Brooks, Kristen Davis (ex officio), Carolyn Florus and Carolyn Francis. The Epsilon Psi books were examined according to the *Guide for State Organization/Chapter Financial Review Committee* guidelines and found to be correct.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Finance Committee, chaired by Carolyn Florus, met at 5pm on Tuesday, July 27, 2021, at Floyds Mont Belvieu restaurant. Members present were Alicia Brooks, Kristen Davis (ex officio), Carolyn Florus and Carolyn Francis. Carolyn presented the proposed budget for 2021-2022 based on income and expenses for 2020-2021. The proposed budget was approved by the committee to be presented to the membership via the Epsilon Psi newsletter since our August meeting will be a combined meeting with Gamma Nu.

# Epsilon Psi Chapter Budget

## Epsilon Psi Chapter Budget 2021-2022

Balance on Hand, July 1, 2021..... \$ 5,054.66

### ESTIMATED INCOME:

Dues:		
International active members (36 @ \$40)	\$1,440.00	
TSO active members (36 @ \$20)	720.00	
Chapter active members (36 active @ \$30)	1,080.00	
International reserve members (5 @ \$20)	100.00	
TSO reserve members (5 @ \$7)	35.00	
Chapter reserve members (4 @ \$15)	60.00	*
Total income from dues	\$3,435.00	
Scholarship Fees (\$1 per active/reserve member)	40.20	*
Honors Chapter Scholarship Fund (\$1 per member)	42.00	
World Fellowships (\$1 per member)	42.00	
Golden Gift Fund II (\$5 per new member)	0.00	
Induction fees (\$10 per new member)	0.00	
International Speakers' Fund (\$1 per new member)	0.00	
Local Scholarship/Grants-in-Aid/TSO Convention Incentive	800.00	*
Chapter Newsletter Subscription (\$12 per subscribing member)	72.00	*
A Storybook Christmas	549.00	
Project Graduation	350.00	
Transfer from Scholarship Fund (Scholarship/Grants-in-Aid/Stipends	3,850.00	
Miscellaneous	307.00	
Total Estimated Income .....	9,487.20	
Total Available for Budget.....	\$14,541.86	

### ESTIMATED EXPENSES:

State and International Expenses:		
International active members (36 @ \$40)	\$1,440.00	
TSO active members (36 @ \$20)	720.00	
International reserve members (5 @ \$20)	100.00	
TSO reserve members (5 @ \$7)	35.00	
Induction fees (\$5 per new member)	0.00	
World Fellowship (\$1 per member)	42.00	
International Speakers' Fund (\$1 per new member)	0.00	
ASTEF Leadership Fund - Trailblazers (\$2 per member)	84.00	
ASTEF Projects Fund - Builders (\$2 per member)	84.00	
ASTEF Scholarship Fund - Double Honors (\$2 per member)	84.00	
TSO Scholarship Fees (20¢ per active/reserve member)	8.20	
Golden Gift Fund II (\$5 per new member)	0.00	
Eula Lee Carter Fund	25.00	
Educational Foundation Fund	25.00	
Emergency Fund (\$2 per member)	84.00	
Total International and State Expenses.....	\$2,731.20	

Local Chapter Expenses:

Scholarship Fees (80¢ per active/reserve member)	\$ 32.00**	
Chapter Scholarship Fund (\$20 per active/reserve member)	800.00**	
Founders' Banquet Reserve	25.00**	
Grants-in-Aid (5 high schools @ \$300 per recipient)	1,500.00**	
International/SW Regional Convention stipend for chapter president	500.00**	
January meeting	25.00**	
TSO Convention stipend for chapter president (2 @ \$500 each)	1,000.00**	
TSO Convention Incentive (3 members @ \$100 each)	300.00**	
A Storybook Christmas	549.00	
Area III/Greater Houston Area Coordinating Council	50.00	
Ceremonials Committee	150.00	
Chapter Newsletter Subscription (\$12 per subscribing member)	84.00*	
Flower fund	300.00	
Hospitality Committee	50.00	
Perfect attendance awards	50.00	
Postage	116.00	
Project Graduation	350.00	
Retirement gifts	100.00	
Supplies/jewelry	100.00	
Yearbooks	100.00	
Miscellaneous	<u>307.00</u>	
Total Local Chapter Expenses.....		<u>6,488.00</u>
Total Estimated Expenses.....		\$9,219.20
Estimated Balance, June 30, 2022.....		<u>\$5,322.66</u>

\* Epsilon Psi paid International and TSO dues/fees for one reserve member, which was reimbursed by a chapter member. Epsilon Psi was not reimbursed the cost of the chapter dues/fees.

\*\* To be deposited in Amegy Savings account:

**General Fund:**

- Founders' Banquet Reserve (\$25)
- January meeting (\$25)
- International/SW Regional Convention stipend for chapter president (\$500)
- TSO Convention stipend for chapter president (2 @ \$500 each)
- TSO Convention Incentive (3 members @ \$100 each)

**Scholarship Fund:**

- Grants-in-Aid (5 high schools @ \$300 per recipient)
- Chapter Scholarship (\$500)

## Perfect Attendance

It's the beginning of a new year and time to renew your commitment to support DKG and Epsilon Psi. Make a commitment to attend all meetings, virtual or in-person; after all, we only meet once a month for about 1½ hours. The Executive Committee has been working hard to try to find programs that will be of interest to every member. We need everyone to commit to attend meetings so our percentage of attendance will increase this year.

The time for our monthly meetings will be the same this year as last year. When we can begin in-person meetings, we will still have most of our meetings at Rollingbrook Fellowship Church, 505 Rollingbrook Drive. Our fellowship time will begin at 5pm, and the meeting will begin at 5:30pm. This gives those of you who are still working a little more time to get to the meetings.

We had 3 members who had perfect attendance for 2020-2021. Let's see if we can do a lot better this year! Those receiving perfect attendance certificates will be: Alicia Brooks, Kristen Davis and Carolyn Francis. If you think you had perfect attendance and your name was omitted, contact Carolyn Francis, [crfranci@me.com](mailto:crfranci@me.com) or 281-427-5930.



## 2020-2022 Epsilon Psi Chapter Officers

**Kristen Davis**, President  
**Alicia Brooks**, First Vice President  
**JoAnn Short**, Second Vice President  
**Richie Butler**, Recording Secretary  
**Julie Kellner**, Corresponding Secretary  
**Carolyn Francis**, Treasurer  
**Kathryn Wright**, Parliamentarian  
**JoAnn Short**, Immed. Past President