



Epsilon Psi Newsletter

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

VOLUME 57, ISSUE 4

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016

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: Julie Kellner

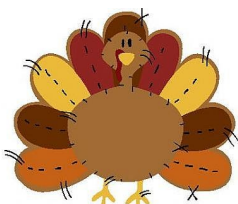


Julie Kellner,
President 2016-2018

Dear Epsilon Psi Sisters,

With Thanksgiving just around the corner I would like to take this opportunity to tell you how very blessed I am to be a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. I think of the many friendships I have made and what great projects I have been able to be a part of through Epsilon Psi. Our Storybook Christmas project started over fifteen years ago and is still going strong thanks to all the Epsilon Psi and Gamma Nu members and our community. On November 17th we will learn about another worthwhile project called the Women's Storybook Project of Texas. Volunteers visit women's prisons in Central and East Texas once a month to record mothers reading books aloud to their children. The volunteers then mail the books and CD recordings to the children. These children are among the most at-risk populations in the United States. A child whose parent is incarcerated is six to nine times more likely to wind up in prison than a child whose parent is not incarcerated. As you can see, this is a rewarding project for the women and children. Please make every effort to attend our meeting and hear more about the program. I look forward to seeing all of you on Thursday, November 17th.

Sincerely,
 Julie Kellner



Happy Thanksgiving

Clip-art from Microsoft Office

Next Meeting:

November 17, 2016, Thursday, 5 p.m.
 First Baptist Church
 505 Rollingbrook Drive Baytown

books that will be mailed to their children.

Please remember to bring your canned goods to the meeting.

Hostesses: Richie Butler, chairman; Judy Abshier, Ruth Blake, Ouida Carroll, Pat Cauley

A Storybook of Love

Judi Mitchell will share information with members about the Women's Storybook Project of Texas in which volunteers visit incarcerated mothers monthly to record their voices reading

Julie Kellner and Kristen Davis, editors
jkellner12@gmail.com and davisk0928@gmail.com



S



News from
Alpha State
and
International



Upcoming Projects

December: We will bring baby items to donate to the daycare at Peter Hyland Center.

February: We will donate stuffed animals to the local police and fire departments.

Monthly: Project Graduation; Food Pantry for First Baptist Church



Web Watch: International and Alpha State

Interested in attending a regional conference? You can now find out information for the 2017 Regional Conferences across the nation. Check out www.dkg.org and read up on the dates and places!

Check out www.dkgtexas.org for the latest edition of the *Get Connected* publication. This publication contains the blog from the Communications and Publicity Committee. You will also see information about the new white rose logo available for the use of members.

Web Watch: Epsilon Psi

We have a new website for our chapter. Please take some time to check it out!!

<http://epsilonpsitexas.weebly.com/>



December Meeting Dinner

The Christmas dinner will be catered by Iguana Joes, Mont Belvieu. The menu will be chicken fajitas with all the fixings. The cost is \$16 per person. Checks should be made payable to Epsilon Psi and brought to the November 17 meeting or mailed to Carolyn Francis at the address below no later than Friday, December 2.

Carolyn Francis
2104 Buchanan Drive
Baytown, TX 77520-5607

A Storybook Christmas

The book selected for this year's A Storybook Christmas is *The Gingerbread Bear*. Our packing day is on Monday, December 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Banuelos Elementary in Baytown. We would love to have all who can come and participate.

Newsletter

Do you like to type?? Do you love to spread the word?? We are looking for someone to do the newsletter for our chapter. If you are interested, let Kristen know!

davisk0928@gmail.com

Hospitality and Other News:

Therese Ruff's brother received his heart transplant on Saturday, Nov. 5th. He is up walking and making progress. He is even enjoying his favorite, Whataburger, during his hospital stay. He will stay with Therese and Chuck when he is released.

Joy Harrison-Going is currently in room 306B at Cedar Bayou Rehabilitation Center after breaking her hip.

Please let Judi Abshier know of any hospitality news.



Project Graduation



Members are to bring monetary donations for Project Graduation benefiting the four Goose Creek high schools.

The following individuals will furnish the raffle prizes for the **November** meeting: **Lori Woods, chairman; Benny May**

Thomas, Michelle Verdun, Shirley Wright.

The following individuals will furnish the raffle prizes for the **December** meeting: **Mattie Sharp, chairman; Dorothy Shields, JoAnn Short, Cara Skinner, 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*

December Meeting:

Dec. 8th

4:30 Fellowship

5:00 Meeting/Dinner

Peter E. Hyland Center

1906 Decker Driver

Celebrating Christmas Traditions in Song

Epsilon Psi members will enjoy a catered dinner and listen to local singer Don Cunningham share several holiday songs. Members will also participate in sending Christmas cards to World Fellowship recipients and donate presents for the Peter Hyland Center's PRS Program.



Meredith Durham and Paula Jackson worked in the DKG and Lee College Mobile Go Center at the Barbers Hill Fall Fest recently. A lot of fun was had by all!!



New Members: Alicia Brooks and Juanita Hatfield



Minutes of the Epsilon Psi Chapter of The Delta
Kappa Gamma Society International
October 27, 2016

Members of the Epsilon Psi Chapter of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International met at First Baptist Church on October 27, 2016. The secretary and a quorum being present, President Julie Kellner called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Carolyn Francis led the Chapter Collect and Response.

Two new members were officially welcomed into Epsilon Psi in a beautiful Delta Kappa Gamma initiation ceremony. Joyce Cloudt provided music, and Pat Cauley ushered in the initiates. Julie Kellner led the initiation ceremony with the help of chapter officers. Our new members are Alicia Brooks and Juanita Hatfield.

After the initiation ceremony, President Kellner thanked Pat Cauley, membership chairman, and Kristen Davis for presenting an orientation session for our new members at the Hi-Tech Learning Lounge in Barbers Hill. She also thanked Carolyn Florus, ceremonials chairman, and her committee for the beautiful initiation ceremony and the hostesses for the evening: Dewolyn Hullum, chairman, Carol Peterson, Suzi Powers, and herself.

Reports of Officers and Standing Committees:

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as printed in the October DKG Newsletter. The treasurer's report was also in the newsletter and will be filed for audit. Pat Cauley, membership chairman, read a resignation letter from Joy Harrison-Going and made a motion that we regretfully accept Joy's resignation. Dewolyn Hullum seconded the motion. The motion carried. Pat also made a motion to accept resignation from Tammy Davis due to health issues. It was seconded by Diane Keene. The motion carried. Pat reminded the members that it is acceptable to have another initiation in January and encouraged everyone to submit names for membership. Current enrollment in Epsilon Psi is 47 members. She read "secrets" that two members turned in earlier, and we tried to guess to whom the "secrets" belonged. Diane Keene and Meagan Lowrey were our mystery members. In the absence of Paula Jackson, programs chairman, President Kellner announced our next meeting will be held in the chapel at First Baptist Church on November 17, 2016. The founder of the Women's Storybook Project will speak at that meeting. President Kellner also reminded the membership that packing day for A Storybook Christmas will be on December 5, 2016, at Banuelos Elementary. The times are 9am to 11am. Carolyn Francis distributed new Epsilon Psi yearbooks.

Reports of Special Committees

Judy Abshier, hospitality chairman, asked for reports. Joy Harrison-Going is home from the hospital. Therese Ruff's brother, Mike, has been put on a temporary heart pump at St. Luke's Hospital until a heart becomes available for transplant. Ouida Carroll broke her finger and had hand surgery. Karen Coffey is living at First Place Motel until her home can be remodeled. Suzi Powers' husband, Sam, is not doing well. Carolyn Florus is having foot problems, and Charlotte Laughlin had back surgery. On a happier note, Kathryn Wright has bought a house in Baytown and plans to rejoin Epsilon Psi. Carolyn Francis presented President Kellner with a plaque recognizing Epsilon Psi as a \$1,000 Luminary Club from Bay Area Relay for Life.

New Business

Carolyn Francis made a motion that Epsilon Psi nominate Cara Skinner for the Member-in-Print Award to be presented at the Texas State Convention in 2017. It was seconded by Laura Kellner. President Kellner called for discussion. There was none. The vote in favor of this motion carried. Joyce Cloudt is the chairman of the hostess committee for our December meeting. She and her committee will make the menu decisions for our Christmas dinner, and Michelle Verdun will take care of decorations and desserts. Donna Mohlman gave a report on the Mobile Go project. There will be a family event November 12, 2016. If anyone is interested in helping, they can contact Donna by email.

A necrology ceremony in memory of Carmel "Boudy" Norton was led by Dewolyn Hullum. Members shared special memories of Boudy. Family members present were Boudy's daughter Alexine Deans, Boudy's daughter Therese Ruff and husband, Chuck, and Boudy's granddaughter Meredith Ruff. It was a beautiful time of remembrance for a beautiful Epsilon Psi sister and friend.

The Project Graduation raffle was held by Meagan Lowery, October chairman. Committee members were Dewolyn Hullum, Jean Lee, Joan Mangum, and Judi Mitchell. Winners were Tommye Glynn Clark, Kristen Davis, Michelle Verdun, Therese Ruff twice, and both our new members, Alicia Brooks and Juanita Hatfield.

The meeting was adjourned with the singing of "The Delta Kappa Gamma Song". A cake and punch reception was held following the meeting.

Happy Birthday!

November

7 Joyce Cloudt
19 Lori Woods
21 Cara Skinner
25 Joan Mangum

December

9 Paula Jackson
13 Benny May Thomas
24 Laura Kellner
27 Therese Ruff
28 Leslie McAlee



Treasurer's Report

| | |
|---|------------------|
| Balance, October 1, 2016..... | \$ 9,339.08 |
| Receipts | <u>18,192.71</u> |
| Total Available..... | \$27,531.79 |
| Disbursements..... | <u>18,143.27</u> |
| Balance, October 31, 2016..... | \$ 9,388.52 |
| Community Resource Credit Union | |
| General Fund | \$ 3,963.23 |
| Scholarship Fund | <u>11,481.11</u> |
| CRCU Balance, October 31, 2016 | \$15,444.34 |
| Total Funds Available, October 31, 2016 . | \$24,832.86 |



Perfect Attendance

The success of a good DKG chapter depends upon the commitment of its members. The Executive Board has planned programs that should be of interest to everyone, but programs cannot be successful if the members do not attend the meetings. Won't you commit to making Epsilon Psi one of the best chapters in the state of Texas? Commit 1½ hours the fourth Tuesday of each month to Epsilon Psi by attending and participating in its meetings, activities and service projects.

The following members have perfect attendance for 2016-2017: Alicia Brooks, Richie Butler, Pat Cauley, Joyce Cloudt, Kristen Davis, Carolyn Florus, Carolyn Francis, Juanita Hatfield, Diane Keene, Julie Kellner, Laura Kellner, Judi Mitchell, Therese Ruff, Mattie Sharp,

and JoAnn Short. If you think you had perfect attendance and your name was omitted, contact Carolyn Francis, crfranci@earthlink.net or 281-427-5930.

Attendance Watch for PACE Award

| | |
|-----------|----------------|
| August | 20 = 42.55% |
| September | 22 = 46.81% |
| October | 26 = 55.32% |
| Average | 22.67 = 48.23% |

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Richie Butler, Meredith Durham, Carolyn Francis, Meagan Lowery, JoAnn Short

YEARBOOK DISTRIBUTION

Yearbook Chairman Carolyn Francis will have the yearbooks available at the November meeting. If you cannot be present, please make arrangements to have someone pick up your yearbook for you.

2016-2017 Epsilon Psi Chapter Officers

Julie Kellner, President

Paula Jackson, First Vice President

Meagan Lowery, Second Vice President

Judi Mitchell, Recording Secretary

Kristen Davis, Corresponding Secretary

Carolyn Francis, Treasurer

Laura Kellner, Parliamentarian

Paula Jackson, Immed. Past President