



# Gamma Eta News

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Alpha State  
Gamma Eta, Chapter 79  
Area XII



Including: Cottle, Crosby, Dickens, Kent, King, and Motley Counties

Volume 27, Issue 3

November 1, 2012



## Words from Wigley

### Gamma Eta Officers Administrative Committee

President: Janie Wigley  
First Vice President: Amy Jarrett  
Second Vice President: Vicki Sellers  
Recording Secretary: Lindy Stafford  
Corresponding Sec.: Cheryl Hindman  
Parliamentarian: Becky McGalliard  
Past President: Donna Anderson  
Treasurer: Sharon McDougle

**Delta Kappa Gamma Mission**  
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

November 5, 2012, Monday, 5:30,  
First United Methodist Church, Spur

Rhea Melton, Editor  
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There's a chill in the air. That chill turns our thoughts to Thanksgiving which is my favorite holiday. Family gathering together, great food prepared with loving hands, and fantastic football games are just a few of thoughts about this holiday. Thanksgiving brings thoughts of thankfulness. I am thankful. I am thankful for the members of Gamma Eta. When we gather for our monthly meeting we are like family. Of course, we always have great food at our meetings. Football...well maybe not!!!! There may not be football, but we always have a program ready that meet the needs of our group.

Amy has a great program lined up for our November meeting. Rhea and Debbi have partnered up to get us ready for anything technology can throw at us!!! We will meet on Monday, November 5, 2012, at 5:30 p.m. at Spur High School. Bring your laptops, iPads, iPhones, Tablets or Nooks. I'm positive these two will have something to say about all of the above and more!!



See you in Spur,  
Janie

## Election Day Coming Up

The following article is from, US FORUM CONNECTION #105, SEPTEMBER 2012 ,United States Forum of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International written by Dr. Angela O. Bedenbaugh, The University of Southern Mississippi..

### DECIDING HOW TO VOTE

You can use the Project Vote Smart web site to see how your opinions agree with candidates running for U. S. President. Go to <http://votesmart.org/> then click on "Find Your Political Soulmate with VoteEasy" on the left-hand side of the screen.

**The initial screen asks you to donate and register. You do not have to register to participate.** The site then shows pictures of the six candidates running for President of the United States. You can then check on how each of these candidates agrees with your position on twelve major issues which are 1) abortion, 2) Afghanistan, 3) the budget, 4) the economy, 5) education, 6) energy, 7) the environment, 8) guns, 9) health care, 10) immigration, 11) marriage, and 12) Social Security. After you have checked your opinions on each of these topics, the site will give you a "best match" based on the percentage of your responses which agree with a candidate. If you click on a candidate's picture, it will show the percentage of your opinions which agree with that candidate and give you more information about the candidate.

Delta Kappa Gamma Vision ~ Leading women educators impacting education world wide.

**To honor Miss Mila Marion**, past member of Gamma Eta, I am going to send a donation in her name to The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Funds. If any other members would like to do this I can get you the form or I can send your donation in her memory along with mine. Please see me at our meeting in Spur to address this donation.

## Looking Around

International President Dr. Beverly Helms and Texas State President Joanne Davis shared an important message in the recent edition of *Lone Star News*. They stressed that membership is the key to our organization.

According to an online survey, family and/or professional conflicts cause 44% of membership drops. Indeed, I have heard that reason from several of the people I know who have dropped their membership. The article stated other reasons such as transportation 1%, health 7%, economics 17%, conflict in schedules 11%, and failure of the chapter to meet their needs 5%.

For me, the road trip to and from chapter meetings is a joyful experience. The car full of local members has a chance to visit and reconnect with each other. I sincerely hope that past members of Gamma Eta did not drop their membership because their needs were not met. Our executive committees have provided surveys and requested input on programs for our chapter. We plan a wide variety of programs to meet the needs of new, current, and retired teachers. These committees encourage and welcome all input on program topics.

Texas State President Joanne Davis mentioned multiple initiations, and our chapter is already practicing this. Mrs. Davis also mentioned that members are always welcome to return to the chapter by simply paying their yearly dues. Possibly some past members have had changes in their situations and would like to return to the chapter but don't know how. We have discussed inviting perspective new members to come to a meeting to get to know us, but it is equally important that we make past members feel welcome and comfortable with rejoining.



**“Our greatest natural resources is the minds of our children.” Walter Elias Disney**

## October Minutes

Gamma Eta chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma met on October 1, 2012 at the First United Methodist Church in Spur, Texas. Sixteen members and one guest enjoyed a Taco Pile On meal. Following dinner, Larry Burton, pastor of First United Methodist Church in Spur, presented the program, "Meeting Family Needs". Larry has a background in sociology and counseling, and he has been the pastor for Spur FUMC for 18 years.

Following the program, President Janie Wigley asked for committee reports. According to Chairperson Brenda Karr, the Audit Committee will meet during November. Pat Hightower, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, turned her report over to Sharon McDougal who presented the expenses and proposed budget for this year. Linda Hicks, Chairperson of the Legislative Committee, encouraged members to look at a current proposal Senator Robert Duncan has on Property Taxes to fund school systems. Cheryl Hindman reminded everyone that mass emails do not get read by political office holders; however, personal letters or emails are read. Karen Rothwell suggested that members can look at the web site <http://www.insidewith.com/> to read where candidates post their positions. Brenda Karr, member of the Scholarship Committee, reminded members to seek assistance from past scholarship award winners in order to complete applications.

Telephone-Care-Attendance and Yearbook committees had no reports. Debbie Ball, Chairperson of the Music Committee, told members that we would sing an upbeat version of our song at the close of the meeting.

Cheryl Hindman thanked Gamma Eta for their diligent work at the Area Workshop. 74 members registered. A special thank you was given to Sharon McDougal for her work keeping the books for the Area Workshop.

Debbie Ball voiced a concern that a member had not received a single rose after a death in her family. After looking in the Chapter Bylaws, President Wigley stated that the Constitution and Bylaws committee would work on the misstep and present the actions to be taken at the next meeting.

During New Business, President Wigley presented a letter from Brenda Dennis, Corresponding Secretary, resigning from the Chapter because of her move out of state. The chapter accepted the resignation with regrets. Cheryl Hindman was nominated as the Corresponding Secretary. Karen Rothwell made the nomination. Rhea Melton seconded it. She was elected unanimously. Cheryl then read correspondence to the chapter.



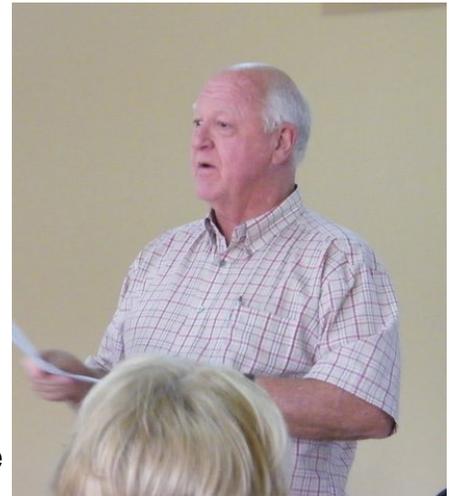
Adopt-A-Teacher nominated teachers from each district will be invited to the March meeting. Crosbyton has identified 4 teachers, Spur has identified 8 teachers, and Guthrie has identified 1 teacher. Patton Springs and Matador have not finalized their numbers.

Programs Chairperson, Amy Jarrett, reminded the members that next month's meeting will be in Spur. "Social Networking" with Debbie Ball and Rhea Melton will be presented at the Spur High School business lab. Bring your own laptops, tablets, or smart phones. Hostess group Spur B will be in charge.

Jean Williams, hostess, presented "Trick or Treat" bags as door prizes to Linda Hicks and Donna Anderson.

The chapter's business meeting concluded with Debbie Ball leading the group in an upbeat version of our society's song.

*Women teachers, to the calling,  
Firmly rally, never failing,  
Duty ne'er upon us palling,  
Staunch, courageous we!  
Loyalty and trust e'er heading,  
Mindful of our sisters needing  
Aid and guidance from those leading...*



## Chapter Announcements

### Happy Birthday

Vicki Sellers, Nov. 11th  
Chelsea Read, Nov. 14th  
Christy McClenny, Nov. 15th  
Rhea Melton, Nov. 15th

### Congratulations

Susan Chastain on her daughter Allison's wedding-9/22/12  
Japan becomes 18th member country 10-14-12

### Prayer Concerns

Rain  
Marion Family



WE'RE ON THE WEB!

<http://www.deltakappagamma.org/TX-gammaeta/>

## Chapter Project Adopt-A-Teacher

**From The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International web site:** Education is a challenging career, and retaining quality teachers is an issue worldwide. According to Richard Ingersoll, the rate in U.S. of beginning teachers leaving the profession in the first year is a little more than 10%; with 33% leaving by Year 3 and 46% by Year 5. In addition, around 15% of U.S. teachers overall leave the profession each year. (Is There Really a Teacher Shortage, Ingersoll, 2003, p. 14)

Each members school will identify and mentor to new and new teachers to their district. Members will support them in various ways, such as supportive visits and phone calls, assisting with lesson plans, offering advice on their schools classroom management and parent-teacher meetings, and provide support in any way that is appropriate and practical.

Another item from this article that I found very interesting was to keep a record of time and money spent on our new educators as a means to show our government how much our Society has saved them because of our support. .

[http://www.dkg.org/site/c.meJMIOwErH/b.6521289/k.5FAAEarly\\_Career\\_Support.htm](http://www.dkg.org/site/c.meJMIOwErH/b.6521289/k.5FAAEarly_Career_Support.htm)

John F. Kennedy said, "In each one of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefits for everyone and a greater strength for our nations."

## Future Meetings

November 5, 2012  
Spur High School, Spur  
5:30 pm / Hostesses Spur B

### The PITS and PEAKS of Social Networking

Debbi Ball and Rhea Melton will introduce common social networking sites that can be used personally and professionally and answer your question and concerns. Bring your own device:



January 7, 2013  
Crosbyton Middle School  
5:30 /Hostesses Crosbyton A

### New Year, Better You

J'Anna LeClair will speak on women's breast health and demonstrate proper bra fitting.

#### Spur B (11/5/12)

Susan Chastain  
Becky McGalliard  
Merla Watson  
Pat Hightower

#### Crosbyton A (1/7/13)

Vivian Morris  
Sharon McDougale  
Linda Hicks  
Ruby Cook