

Epsilon Phi Epistle

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Alpha State Texas Area 5
Epsilon Phi Chapter 141
Weslaco, Texas

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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

2021 Important Dates

February	ASTE F Month of Giving
February 9, 2021	Chapter meeting
February 15, 2021	Application to present at TSO convention
February 24, 2021	US Forum (See Executive Board notes for details)
March 1, 2021	Mini Grant & TSO Scholarship applications due Aspiring Educator Grant Application due
April 1, 2021	ASTE F Project Stipend application due
April 12, 2021	Chapter meeting



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President's Words

Did you know February has been designated American Heart Month since 1964? President Lyndon B. Johnson made the observance official with Proclamation 3566, signed Dec. 30, 1963, according to the American Heart Association. Since we are the best teachers we need to remember, *The best teachers teach from the heart not from the book* (Anonymous). However, we must not forget our own heart health especially with the current issue of the COVID virus.

Vicki Rainwater, president



February Meeting

Our February meeting is on Tuesday, February 9, 2021. The meeting will begin promptly at 5:15 p.m. at the Faith Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall. The church is located at 300 South Border Ave., north of McCaleb's Funeral Home. Parking is along Third Street. Enter the western most door facing Third Street. There will be a speaker on heart health and Denise Harris, area 5 coordinator will be visiting via zoom.



If you have an article or information that should be included in this newsletter, please send it to Lori via email, lshontzdkg@gmail.com, no less than 10 days prior to the next meeting. Deadline for the next newsletter is April 2, 2021.

Perfect Attendance

The perfect attendance contest began with the first meeting. Eight members have attended both meetings held so far. Since there are fewer meetings this year, it should be easier to maintain perfect attendance. If you are unable to be there physically, President Vicki Rainwater will make arrangements for you to attend digitally. Digital attendance will count towards perfect attendance, so please contact Vicki (vickirainh2o@gmail.com) if you need her to set this up for you.

Epsilon Phi Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at approximately November 10, 2020 5:00 p.m. by President Vicki Rainwater

Members present were:

Debbie Benedict
Tonya Bugher
Carolyn Donalson
Marla Garlic
Vicki Rainwater
Jackie Reposh
Pam Scott
Lori Shontz
Violet Thomas
Chris Warren

May minutes stand approved as distributed.

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Treasurer Jackie Reposh

Previous Balance: \$6977.69
Debits: \$6.00 (Bank Fees)
New Balance: \$6971.69

Tonya gave an update on the Area V refund.

Committee Reports:

- a. Communication/Yearbook
 - i. Lori Shontz reported that received the Early Bird and Exemplary Award for the Yearbook
- b. Bylaws/Rules
 - i. Chris Warren and reported that the chapter has already voted on Chapter Bylaws.
- c. Membership
 - i. Violet Thomas gave a report on the Membership meeting hosted by Bonnie Moore. Prospect cards were distributed.
- d. Ceremonies
 - i. Lori Shontz led the chapter in the Founders' Day Program honoring the 12 founding members. It was our 61st birthday. Our chapter was established on November 7, 1959.

Brag Box Debbie Benedict bragged on her grandson Charlie Jones.

Next Meeting will be February 9, 2021

Respectfully Submitted by:

Violet I. Thomas, Secretary

January Executive Board

Vicki Rainwater sent the following email to the Executive Board members. Email was sent January 26, 2021.

The Executive Board responded in agreement by email with the items listed below from Vicki's email.

Members participating:

Tonya Bugher
Vicki Rainwater
Jackie Reposh
Violet Thomas
Tina Wells

Upcoming scheduled meetings:

February 9, 2021 Heart Healthy (If you have any suggestions please let me know)
Area Coordinator wants to attend this meeting. I know it will be through Zoom.

April 12, 2021 Governmental Issues possibly Armando Martinez

Dues

Due in May to DKG.

DKG Convention

Registration Form is on the website. This is the link:

<https://dkgtexas2021convention.weebly.com/>. It is scheduled to be held at the Embassy Suites in Denton, Texas June 17 - 19, 2021 at the Denton Convention Center. We may need to consider an alternate hotel as the Embassy does not have anything but King size beds available with a pull out sofa bed. I saw there were multiple hotels in the area. If planning on attending, registration must be postmarked on or before May 15, 2021. We need to find out who plans on attending.

US Forum

February 24, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Sylvia Johnson, NEA lobbyist will speak about legislative issues in the 117th Congress. Zoom Registration Link Available February 5 on Facebook @DKG.US.Forum.

Aspiring Educator Grant Application Link: <https://www.astef.org/forms.html>

Open for any woman pursuing a bachelor's degree in education and/or a Texas teacher certification are eligible to apply. Due March 1, 2021 Guidelines and applications are available on the ASTEF web page on Forms.

ASTEF Link: <https://www.astef.org/forms.html>

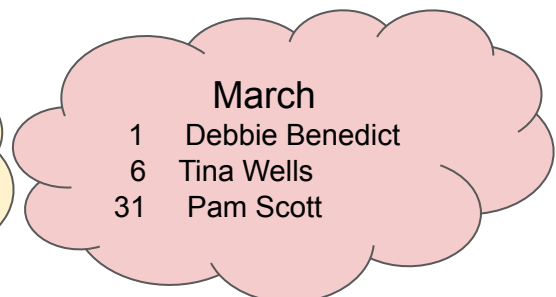
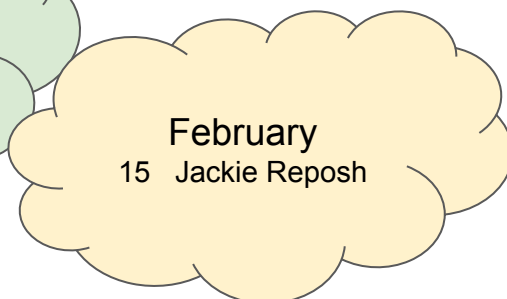
Asking for chapter to consider donating. They have available Scholarship, Leadership, or Project Funds. You can see under Contribution Form

2020-2021 Schedule

Date and Time	Location	Program
September 8, 2020 5:15	Faith Lutheran Church	Google Classroom
November 10, 2020 5:15	Faith Lutheran Church	Birthday Celebration
February 9, 2021 5:15	Faith Lutheran Church	Heart Healthy Month
April 12, 2021 5:15	Faith Lutheran Church	Governmental Meeting

2020-2021 Committees

Committee	Chair and/or Members
Communication/Yearbook	Lori Shontz
Bylaws/Rules	Tonya Bugher Chris Warren
Membership	Violet Thomas
Ceremonies	Debbie Benedict Carolyn Donalson
Nominations (elected May 2020)	Debbie Benedict Pam Scott Lori Shontz



ASTE F Month of Giving

This year the ASTEF theme will be **Follow the Yellow Brick Road to...Scholarship, Leadership and Projects!** They have set a goal of \$10,000. Giving month will last from February 1-February 28, 2021. All donations must be postmarked by February 28 to count towards our Giving Day goal.

Everyone is urged to visit the ASTEF website on or after February 1. The Donate button will be open for Project donations. In addition, a special Giving Month Donation Form will be available for other types of donations. The website also has a special thermometer that will track the giving toward the \$10,000 goal.

Wait ... there is more!

Later in the month there will be an online auction!
 Something extra special involving Bolden Tickets!
 Keep your eye on the ASTEF website for more information!



Individuals and chapters giving **\$25 or more** will be recognized in the TSO Convention program.

Help support the efforts of our foundation to *Impact Education by Impacting Educators.*

Webwatcher

DKG International Information on events, publications, and Programs/Projects
<https://www.dkg.org/>

International Regional Conference July 21-24, 2021 in San Antonio
 Information on hotel, schedule and forms
https://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/Events/2021_International_Conferences/2021_International_Con_SanAntonio_TX.aspx

TSO For information on committees, forms & deadlines, resources, publications
<https://www.dkgtexas.org/>

TSO 92nd Convention June 17-19, 2021 in Denton
 Information on registration, hotel reservations, schedule, and application to present
<https://dkgtexas2021convention.weebly.com/>

ASTE F Information on program grants, Month of Giving/donating,
<https://www.astef.org/>

Epsilon Phi For latest newsletters and program information
<https://epsilonphitxdkg.weebly.com/>

Check the Epsilon Phi website for pictures from the November meeting.