



# Zeta Chapter Newsletter

January-February, 2007

Zeta Chapter  
Alpha State, Texas

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

Vol. 25, No. 3  
Area VIII, Chapter 6  
Waco, Texas

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## From the President:

Dear Zeta Members,

Susan B. Anthony said, "Cautious, careful people, always casting about to preserve their reputation and social standing, never can bring about a reform. Those who are really in earnest must be willing to be anything or nothing in the world's estimation, and publicly and privately, in season and out, avow their sympathy with despised and persecuted ideas and their advocates, and bear the consequences." To make changes one must take risks, but before one can take risks one must have courage.

Our founder, Annie Webb Blanton was a risk taker. She was a pioneer in the women's suffrage movement. Ms. Blanton did not accomplish all she set out to do. But, she had the courage to try things that had not been done before. Although she was the first woman elected to a public office in Texas, she was defeated in her run for U.S. Congress. Yet, she opened many doors for women educators in Texas and ultimately throughout the world because she had the courage to try new things.

One cannot know the impact one can make on her world until she tries. It is amazing how much of the world's virtue comes from one little word: "Try." Trying something for the first time often calls for bravery. "Try, try again," on the other hand, requires that related virtue: perseverance, as illustrated by the story of *The Little Steam Engine*. "I think I can. I think I can." If we believe it, we can do it.

Many times we fail to voice our opinion, offer an idea for a program or project, fail to volunteer for a committee, etc. because we fear that our ideas may be rejected or they may not live up to a certain standard. And yet, each of

us is a "key woman educator." We each possess unique qualities that enrich our chapter and we each can contribute to the growth and success of Zeta Chapter.

I challenge each of you as a Zeta member to have the courage to voice your ideas, to volunteer for the committee that you would like to serve on or the office that you would like to run for. Share the ideas you have that will enrich our chapter; that will strengthen it and make it an effective part of our lives as educators. Each of you knows your talents, strengths, and experiences. Added together, the sum of those traits is a wealth of knowledge and ability. Do not be afraid to try something new.

Linda Ewing

### *How the Little Kite Learned to Fly*

"I never can do it," the little kite said,  
As he looked around at the others high over his head.  
"I know I should fall if I tried to fly."  
"Try," said the big kite, "only try!  
Or I fear you will never learn at all."  
But the little kite said, "I'm afraid I'll fall."

The big kite nodded: "Ah well, goodbye;  
I'm off, " and he rose toward the tranquil sky.  
Then the little kite's paper stirred at the sight,  
And trembling he shook himself free for flight.  
First whirling and frightened, then braver grown,  
Up, up he rose through the air alone,  
Till the big kite looking down could see  
The little one rising steadily.

Then how the little kite thrilled with pride,  
As he sailed with the big kite side by side!  
While far below he could see the ground,  
And the boys like small spots moving round.  
They rested high in the quiet air,  
And only the birds and the clouds were there.  
"Oh, how happy I am!" the little kite cried,  
"And all because I was brave, and tried."

## Zeta Holds December Luncheon at Hamilton House

Eighteen Zeta members met at Hamilton House on December 16, 2006 for the December meeting and luncheon. The meeting was called to order by President Linda Ewing and Barbara Rountree read the Collect. The minutes were read by the recording secretary, Laura Speegle. Lorraine Doshier gave the treasurer's report. Linda Ewing shared "Birthday Sentiments" and passed out angel ornaments to the members. The members in attendance wrote Christmas cards to those who were not in attendance.

Gail Herring asked the blessing and the group retired to the dining room where they enjoyed a delicious meal while listening to Christmas music. Eula McKown read "A Cup of Christmas Tea". She also placed tea cups and tea pots on the tables as centerpieces. Lacreata Carr lead the birthday ceremony and the meeting concluded with the singing of the Delta Kappa Gamma Song. Laura Speegle won the door prize. The Hamilton House was beautifully decorated for the Christmas season.



Above: Linda Ewing lights her birthday candle from Ruth Haigood's candle; Below: members Enjoy the wonderful lunch.



## CONGRATULATIONS!!!

**Angela Reiher** was selected to receive the Golden Apple Award from KWTX-TV. **Laura Speegle** won the door prize at the December meeting. **Linda Ewing's** classes and FCCLA group put together and sent sixteen shoeboxes full of items for children in third-world countries through Samaritan's Purse. They also collected over 50 food items for the Moody Food Pantry.

## In Our Thoughts

**Jewel Lockridge's** father is not doing well. **Treasure Malone** has not been able to attend chapter meetings, but has been getting out some to go to the grocery store, post office and doctor's office. Please keep Treasure in your thoughts. **Carolyn Wallace** will be living in San Antonio for the next few months and will not be able to attend chapter meetings during that time. She is caring for her two grandsons. **Cindy Damon's** mother is still experiencing health problems, but may get to move home in the near future. **Lorraine Doshier's** husband is doing much better after his hiking accident. **Lynette Hollingsworth** is having a very tense school year. Until the school's rating improves, the staff members at her school are being monitored, questioned, and observed and this has been very time consuming and stressful. **Glory Rivera** is in the same situation at her school. These teachers are having to put in many extra hours during the week and on the weekends to satisfy the demands put upon them.

## January--February Birthdays

|                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1/1 Jo Ann Tucker  | 2/9 Caralou Young    |
| 1/13 Nan Miller    | 2/10 Jeanne Boettger |
| 1/16 Betty Clark   | 2/13 Lilian Rathman  |
| 1/24 Sheila Lawson | 2/26 Mary Ila Colvin |
| 2/7 Angela Reiher  | 2/28 Susan Godfrey   |
| 2/8 Glory Rivera   |                      |



## UPCOMING MEETINGS!

**JANUARY MEETING  
HOOVER BRANCH LIBRARY  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2007  
2:30 P.M.**

**FEBRUARY MEETING  
HOOVER BRANCH LIBRARY  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2007  
10:30 A.M.**

## NEW EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR TO BE HIRED

The International Personnel Committee is searching for a new executive coordinator to be employed at International Headquarters in Austin, Texas. The Administrative Board will interview candidates in May for the position, which has a tentative starting date in early summer.

Qualified members interested in applying should request specifics relating to the position and the salary:

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
P.O. Box 1589

Austin, Texas 78767-1589

E-mail: [AnitaW@deltakappagamma.org](mailto:AnitaW@deltakappagamma.org)

Toll-free telephone: 888.762.4685

Fax: 512.478.3961

(Source: Delta Kappa Gamma Website)

## Chapter Guard Pins Available

Award Concepts now has pin guards denoting the Greek letter for our chapter name. Members may attach these to a keypin or president's pin. To order contact Award Concepts via Email at "Customer Service" or "Information" for your special order.

### Type/Metal Quality/Price

1 Letter Plain Gold Kase \$16.00

1 Letter Plain 10KY Gold \$28.25

1 Letter w/pearls Gold Kase \$39.75

1 Letter w/pearls 10KY Gold Kase \$52.00

## Upcoming Alpha State Deadlines

- Feb. 1 - Chapter President's Annual Report  
State Necrology Annual Report  
Alpha State Achievement Award Nomination  
Golden Rose Nomination  
Book List (to Catherine Davis)  
International Scholarship Application  
Nominate State Honorary Members  
Alpha State Recommendation Form (for area Coordinators, chairmen and members of state committees)  
Submissions for *Lone Star News*
- Feb. 15 - Southwest Regional Conference  
Workshop proposal forms
- Mar. 1 - Chapter *Survey* tally page  
Scholarships

## Tri-Chapter Coordinating Council Plans May Meeting

The Tri-Chapter Coordinating Council met at Stillwell Retirement Center on Thursday, January 11, 2007 to plan the tri-chapter luncheon. Zeta Chapter members are responsible for the meeting location, the menu, the room set-up, name tags, decorations, and place cards for the head table.

The members of the tri-chapter council are Chairman Lynette Hollingsworth (Zeta), Linda Ewing (President – Zeta), Taddie Kelly (Past President – Eta Sigma), Cynthia Denmark (President – Eta Sigma), Dee Dee Evans (Past President – Epsilon Chi), Bonnie Luft (President – Epsilon Chi), and Frieda Grisby (Area VIII Coordinator). Attending the meeting were Lynette Hollingsworth, Linda Ewing, Dee Dee Evans and Cynthia Denmark. The council will meet again on February 22<sup>nd</sup> to finalize plans for the meeting. Currently the luncheon is set for May 5, 2007.

**Visit the Alpha State Website:**  
[www.deltakappagamma.org](http://www.deltakappagamma.org)

**ZETA CHAPTER MEETINGS  
2006-2007**

- Sept. 9, 2006**—Area VIII Workshop  
Temple 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Center, Temple, TX
- Oct. 19, 2006**—Barbara Rountree’s classroom  
Waco High School, 4:30 P.M.
- \*\*\* Note time change from 10:00 to 10:30  
for Hoover Library. Meeting room will be  
open at 10:00.**
- Nov. 18, 2006**—Hoover Branch Library (across  
from HEB, Wooded Acres) 10:00 A.M.
- Dec. 16, 2006**—Hamilton House, Austin Ave.  
10:00 A.M. (meal will be served)
- Jan. 27, 2007**—Hoover Branch Library  
2:30 P.M. (refreshments will be served)
- Feb. 17, 2007**—Hoover Branch Library  
10:00 A.M. (refreshments will be served)
- March 17, 2007**—Greater Zion Church,  
2626 S. 28<sup>th</sup> St., Waco, 10:00 A.M.  
(meal will be served)
- April 21, 2007**—Hoover Branch Library  
10:00 A.M. (refreshments will be served)
- May, 2007**—Tri-Chapter Meeting—(TBA)  
(meal will be served)
- Sept. 15, 2007**—Hoover Branch Library  
10:00 A.M. (refreshments will be served)
- Oct. 20, 2007**—Hoover Branch Library  
10:00 A.M. (refreshments will be served)

**From Lone Star News**

Mark the Following Dates on Your Calendars:

- 2007 Alpha State Convention, Amarillo, Texas  
June 14-17, 2007
- 2007 Southwest Regional, Oklahoma City, OK  
July 12-14, 2007
- 2008 Alpha State Convention, The Woodlands  
June 19-21, 2008
- 2008 International Convention, Chicago, IL  
July 22-26, 2008

**Alpha State Building Fund**

Goal: \$300,000; Contributions to date: \$76,422

**Congratulations to 2006-2008  
International Committee Members**

**Gail Herring**, Zeta (VIII-Waco, *Personal  
Growth and Services*)  
**Sandy Whitney**, Eta Kappa (XV-El Paso),  
*Educator’s Award Committee*  
**Linda Anderesen**, Beta Eta (III-Bellaire),  
*Communications Committee*  
**Kathryn Wright**, Epsilon Psi (III-Baytown),  
*Research Committee*

**Exhibit in Hall of State  
Honors Founder Blanton**

Our founder, Dr. Annie Webb Blanton was among those honored in an exhibit of “Texas Heroes” at the Hall of State in Fair Park in Dallas. Blanton was one of 30 Texans featured in the display. Blanton (1870-1926) was listed as a suffragist and the first woman to hold a statewide office in Texas.

**SPOTLIGHT ON CHAPTER  
MEMBER**

**LOU AYERS**

Lou was born Mamie Lou McCollam in Dallas, Texas. By the time she started school, she and her family were living in Greenville, Texas. She attended the Greenville Public Schools. At the time of her graduation, World War II was the “news of the day.”

During Lou’s first semester at Texas A & M University in Commerce, she found that the U.S. Government would train Cadet Nurses. Lou accepted the offer and three years later she graduated from Dallas Methodist Hospital School of Nursing. She received two years of college credit from Southern Methodist University and was certified as a Registered Nurse by the State of Texas.

After several years of employment in nursing and nursing supervision at a variety of government owned hospitals, a corporate hospital (owned by Phillips Petroleum Company), and doctor owned clinics, Lou decided to complete her Bachelor of Science degree. Upon receiving her degree from North Texas in Denton, she began her teaching career, teaching fourth graders in

Borger, Texas. Later, she taught in Austin, Texas. While in Austin, Lou taught grade four in Casis School and in the University of Texas Laboratory School. She later supervised student teachers at the University of Texas. Her last fourteen years of teaching in Austin was as a homebound/ hospital teacher. She taught grades one through twelve (always several grades at the same time).

To keep her nursing skills active, Lou worked for the American Red Cross and during the summers she worked as a surgical and intensive care nurse at St. David's Hospital. In 1982 Lou's husband transferred with his company from Austin to Dallas. Lou accepted the position of school nurse at Grapevine High School. She had just received her Master of Arts in Human Services degree from St. Edward's University. Two years later Lou retired from teaching and nursing and took the position of Executive Secretary/Treasurer at the Alpha State Headquarters in Denton on the campus of Texas Woman's University.

Since her husband's retirement, Lou has resided at Fair Oaks Ranch (Bexar County) and in Waco, Texas. She has been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma for forty-five years and during that time has been a member of four different chapters. She has served on the following Alpha State committees: Publications, Scholarship, Finance, Yearbook, World Fellowship, Professional Affairs, Archives, and Achievement Awards. She also served on the International Travel-Study Committee.

Lou received the Alpha State Achievement Award in 1982 and there is an Alpha State scholarship named the Lou Ayers and Evelyn Laney Scholarship.

## **FROM ΔΚΓ NEWS**

### **Apply Now For Lucile Cornetet Professional Development Award**

February 1 is the next application deadline to apply for Lucile Cornetet Professional Development Award. The awards are given three times per year. Applications are available at [www.educatoredge.org](http://www.educatoredge.org) or [www.deltakappagamma.org](http://www.deltakappagamma.org).

### **Regional Meeting Theme**

The theme for the regional meetings is "Wisdom to Share·Passion to Care". This theme is aligned with the biennium theme selected by international president, Dr. Barbara Day. Her biennium's focus is "Leading With Wisdom and Passion." The Southwest Regional meeting will be in Oklahoma City, OK July 11 -14.

## **CTAUN Conference to Be Held in New York City**

Educators can explore ways to work with the United Nations to promote the well-being of children and youth by attending the annual conference of the Committee on Teaching About the United Nations (CTAUN) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City. The conference will focus on health and nutrition, literacy, security and the rights of the child.

The registration deadline is Wednesday, January 17. The early registration fee is \$50. Forms are available on the Society website (see NGO/UN) or from the CTAUN website, [www.teachun.org](http://www.teachun.org).

## *We Need Your News!*

SEND NEWS FOR THE MARCH-APRIL ISSUE OF **ZETA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER** TO Linda Ewing, 106 Rebecca Rd., Moody, TX 76557 [linda\\_ewing@moodyisd.org](mailto:linda_ewing@moodyisd.org)

## **Annie M. Forsgard Zeta's First President**

Zeta Chapter, Alpha State, Texas was organized on December 7, 1929 in Waco, Texas by the Society Founder, Dr. Annie Webb Blanton. The first president of the newly formed chapter was Annie Forsgard, a pioneer teacher who was truly loved by her students and co-workers. The following information about Ms. Forsgard was taken from an article written by a committee of Zeta members who knew her.

"Miss Annie Forsgard was born here, and knew Waco life in its transition from the pioneer to the modern. Her name suggests strong Scandinavian stock – the essence of pioneer blood. She was a young pupil when teachers were practically missionaries, in the days when education was not compulsory, but a distinct privilege and the stamp of mental aristocracy. She attended Waco Female College and later Old Central, and was graduated in 1892. She stood high scholastically when standards were held high, under such teachers as Miss Belle Edmond and Miss Marie Leslie. Mr. W.E. Darden inoculated her with the love of Latin, and it was her lifelong favorite. After her graduation from Texas University in 1896 she came back to Waco to teach, and spent her summers at the University of Chicago enriching her knowledge of Latin and history. Her fifty

years of teaching in Waco ran the gamut of the grades and high school. Even after she became Dean of Girls...she often substituted for or relieved a teacher in an emergency; saving the teacher a day of sick leave or just giving them a break during a long final examination.

Her own prescription for teaching was "wisdom, sympathetic understanding, a sense of humor, patience, vision." Mrs. Butler, an early Zeta member who knew Miss Annie, had the following to say about her. It was Miss Annie who nourished and encouraged the Waco High School unit of the Parent-Teacher Association in its beginning and for many successive years thereafter. Presidents and program chairmen conferred with her. Out of these conferences developed many a project for improvement of conditions and increased comfort of teachers and pupils alike. Program chairmen found in her tireless support. She furnished ideas and helped to carry them out.

One of the pleasantest memories of Miss Annie is the care she put into preparation for meetings of all kinds at Waco High School, whether PTA or faculty. She always saw that the meeting place was made as neat as possible and that flowers were on the desk. Who can forget the graceful arrangements of plumbago and queen's wreath that came from her own front yard?

As assistant principal and dean of girls, Miss Annie took a leading part in the activities of the school. She conducted assemblies for the girls and helped to plan and chaperone countless picnics, dances, and school parties. For various drives, Miss Annie served as the link between the school and community.

There must be hundreds of women in Waco who still remember that Miss Annie and the PTA made it possible for them to go to high school without embarrassment. The closet in her office was always filled with coats, sweaters, dresses, suits, and shoes of assorted sizes, which were generously given wherever need was brought to her attention. This service was not confined to girls.

Miss Annie unobtrusively saw to it that the undernourished had a wholesome lunch. Sometimes they were given opportunity to work for it; others received lunch money from unpublicized sources.

Miss Annie led a one-woman campaign for good grooming long before that area received specific attention in health and homemaking classes. She preached the gospel of proper care of teeth, hair, and nails; of cleanliness of person and clothing....She could often be seen bringing from home a cake of soap wrapped up in a towel. This she handed to the unwashed with the admonition, "Go over to the gym and take a good bath."

So with her devotion to the development of intellect, Miss Annie's heart made her the beloved teacher and friend. She was so sensitive to the needs of others that her own emotions often silenced her expression of them. Not only was she a pioneer in the teaching of grooming, she was also the embodiment of guidance long before guidance became an organized effort in the schools. She

believed that "out of the heart come the issues of life." She tried first of all to find the hidden cause of misbehavior or other trouble and to cure that, if possible. In my first year at Waco High School, I hadn't learned that a teacher might take the initiative and override an established rule, if circumstances warranted it. So I called Miss Annie one night to know what to do about a girl whose examination grade had fallen below the 60 allowed then, - though her daily average was well above 80. When I named the girl, Miss Annie's voice came back in shocked sympathy- "Didn't you see the morning headlines? That little girl's brother was sent to the penitentiary today! Don't you think that may account for some of her mistakes?" So, of course the girl passed, - as she deserved to pass. And I learned a lesson too, - that the spirit of any law is the right interpretation of it.

Miss Annie's gift of friendship took in those who were near or dear to her friends. How often did she surprise and warm us with her consideration of someone we loved!...Her thoughtfulness would fill volumes, and yet she preferred being "unsung." She was always overcome by praise, modest in any self-appraisal, pleased over the good fortune of others, - above all else sincere. And this was outstanding in her: I do not remember ever hearing from her anything to the detriment of another person, - nothing with identification. If she needed to tell of a discrediting incident for the sake of the moral involved, she refrained from naming the doer. She never lowered another in the eyes of her friends."

It is the hope of this writer that from this article we see Miss Annie Forsgard as the "key woman educator" she was. Miss Annie was a professional who sincerely cared for her students, her teachers, and her friends. Her sense of glory was seeing the accomplishments of those whom she came in contact with. Miss Annie retired in 1946 after fifty years in education, during which she touched the lives and hearts of many students in the Waco School District. Zeta's history of inspiring service began with Miss Annie. Her love supported Delta Kappa Gamma to the end. She was laid to rest with insignia above her heart.

## **CHAPTER OFFICERS:**

**President-Linda Ewing**

**First Vice President-Jewel Lockridge**

**Second Vice President-Marsha Jaska**

**Recording Secretary-Laura Speegle**

**Corresponding Secretary-Margaret Hool**

**Treasurer-Lorraine Doshier**

**Parliamentarian-Lynette Hollingsworth**

### **NEWSLETTER EDITOR:**

Eula McKown

2662 Plainview Rd.

McGregor, TX 76657

254-840-3646

eula42@prodigy.net

