

1984-1994

In 1984, the chapter began its fourth decade with lofty goals:

- To involve more people in meetings and activities
- To obtain more chapter and Society publicity
- To render more community service, and
- To improve attendance at chapter meetings

Serving as chapter president during this decade were Florence Fox, Juanell Jones, Margaret Smith, Suzanne Monday, and Lynne James.

This decade saw many of the charter and retired members leaving active status, thus depriving the membership of their valuable insight and interesting stories of "what it was like to teach back when---."

The grant-in-aid remained at \$500 throughout the fourth decade, but several memorial scholarships were given in memory of those who were deceased. In 1985 the chapter established a "Friend of Education" award to be given yearly, with Dr. Thomas Huff, PNGISD superintendent, as the first recipient. Later that same year, the chapter co-sponsored a reception for in-coming superintendent Zack Byrd. The first tri-chapter meeting of Alpha Omega, Delta Theta, and Iota Rho was held in the 1986-87 chapter year at the Pompano Club. Stacey Arnold was initiated in 1987, becoming the first grant-in-aid recipient to later become a chapter member. By 1994, the membership had reached 61, an all-time high at that point in time. During the fourth decade, invitations to membership were extended to 34 women, with 33 accepting, and two additional members transferred to Delta Theta. Delta Theta celebrated its fortieth birthday in 1994 with a dinner at the Boston Tea Room in Nederland. Fifty-two present and former members attended. Charter member Mary Elizabeth Grubb was honored with the chapter's Achievement Award *twice* during this decade, indicative of her continued value as an active member.

Service became a watchword during the decade. In 1986 food and clothing were purchased for a high school senior girl who lived alone. Donations were made to scholarship funds or memorials to former educators Gilbert Massey and Lyndall Griggs. Members donated teddy bears to the Port Arthur Police Department for their use in counseling young children who faced tragedy in their lives. Books were purchased for students in the early childhood program at Ridgewood Elementary and Taft Elementary.

Program topics included computer and our future, nuclear energy, teacher retirement and healthcare, wellness, safety in the 90's, the environment, and a program on parenting skills, which Pat Briggs made available to patrons of the district as well as to chapter members.

Sadly, we said goodbye to several members who had been with us for many years and who had made great contributions to the chapter: four moved away, five went on inactive status because of health reasons, and three passed away. But in spite of our losses, members felt at the end of forty years that life for Delta Theta Chapter was still strong.