

## 2004-2014

Delta Theta began the 2004-2005 chapter year with the Area II Fall Workshop at Little Cypress-Mauriceville High. Officers included Karol Denby, president; Pat Briggs, first vice president; Tilda Thompson, second vice president; Tanya Davis, corresponding secretary; Sharon LaRue, recording secretary, Louise Lattimore, treasurer, and Mary Simon, past president and parliamentarian.

Meetings were held in the Family Life Center at the First Baptist Church in Groves. In November a memorial service was presented for Leo Rushing. Special memories of "Teacher Leo" were shared, and members viewed a beautiful pictorial tribute prepared by Leanne Johnson, granddaughter of Ms. Rushing.

- \* Mary Simon received the Chapter Achievement Award.
- \* Mary Jane Moore received the Donna Van Hoove-Helen Mock Scholarship for graduate studies at Lamar University, and
- \* Stacey Arnold received the Cora M. Martin-Frances Lowrance Scholarship for graduate studies at Texas A&M.
- \* Delta Theta's own Dr. Lani Randall became superintendent of Port Neches – Groves ISD.
- \* Dixie Tucker appeared in a video named *Waiting for Wooden Watermelons*.
- \* Lynne James was named to the Lamar University Educator Hall of Fame.

Alpha State President Carolyn Adkins was our special guest at the tri-chapter dinner in February. She spoke of her Special Membership Initiative. \$500 scholarships were awarded to Layla Coats, who received the Madie Harrison Kent Grant-in-Aid, and to Katie Jones, the Leo Rushing Memorial recipient.

Interesting programs presented during the chapter year included the following:

- \* *Respect the Past—Protect the Future* was presented in the form of a Delta Kappa Gamma Survivor Game using a CPS unit. The history of Delta Kappa Gamma and the biographies of its Founders provided questions for the game.
- \* *Learning about Family Services in Southeast Texas* was presented by Allison Howell of Family Services of Southeast Texas. Members contributed toiletries to the Women's Shelter.
- \* *Becoming Physically Fit* was presented by Barbara Comeaux, women's coach at PN-G High School, who discussed the importance of exercise and physical fitness and gave a tour of the facilities used by girls' athletics.
- \* *Making Plans for Spring Break and Summer*, by Gayle Shook of Airport Travel, included ideas of favorite vacations spots to visit.
- \* *Making Good Choices in the Foods We Eat* was presented by Marlinda Martinez, of Weight Watchers. Members prepared a meal using recipes from Weight Watchers and other weight control programs.

In May, chapter volunteers presented two books, *The Night Before Kindergarten* and *Miss Moo Goes to*

*the Zoo*, to Pre-K students in the district.

In June the state convention was held in Dallas with Karol Denby, Linda Harrison, and Mary Simon in attendance. Lynne James and Mary Simon were recognized in the *Lone Star News* for their accomplishments and achievements. Delta Theta received Five Star Status for an outstanding newsletter, the Exemplary Yearbook Award, and the Early Bird Award.

In all, it was a good beginning for Karol Denby's biennium.

At the beginning of the 2005-2006 chapter year, President Karol Denby, Mary Simon, and Linda Harrison attended the Alpha State Convention in Dallas, where the decision was made to purchase a new state headquarters through a program called Building Blocks. Area II member Catherine Davis was installed as the new state president and was our special guest at the tri-chapter dinner.

Delta Theta began the chapter year planning to host the 2006 State Convention in Beaumont with other chapters in Area II. Mary Simon and Lynne James served on the steering committee for the convention in Beaumont.

Because of Hurricane Rita in September, there was no October meeting. Several members received aid from the Delta Kappa Gamma Emergency Fund because of property loss.

Personal and professional milestones were reached by several members:

- \* Pat Briggs began serving as an assistant principal at PN-G High School.
- \* Marlene Portier, campus technology specialist at Port Neches Middle School, was the school district's Intel Master Teacher.
- \* Fae Sandifer served as the elementary principal for summer school in 2006.
- \* Mary Jane Moore received the Eugenie Terry/Laginia Hale state scholarship and Stacey Arnold received a \$5000 doctoral scholarship.
- \* Lynne Hollomon celebrated her thirtieth year in Delta Theta, and Marlyn Trahan celebrated twenty-five years.
- \* Members with at *least* twenty-five years in Delta Kappa Gamma were Mary Elizabeth Grubb (a charter member), Linda Harrison, Kay Hooper, Lynne James, Margaret Smith, Elnita Stanley, Dixie Tucker, and Charlene Williams.
- \* Suzanne Mondey celebrated her twentieth year.
- \* Fae Sandifer and Julie Gauthier became members of Delta Theta.

Member Lorita Lawton passed away in December following a long illness. Donations were made to the ALS Foundation in her memory.

Thuy and Hung Lam, parents of Chris Lam, were awarded the Friend of Education Award, which they would receive in October. Lana Smith was presented the Madie Harrison Kent Grant-in-Aid and Jillian

Hamilton received the Lorita Lawton Memorial Scholarship. During the chapter year, Denise Standley and Charlene Williams had perfect attendance. During that same time, Sharon LaRue, Dana LaRue, and Marlyn Trahan missed only one meeting.

Inspiring programs presented during the year included the following:

- \* Representative Ritter spoke on public education and school finance, calling our schools the “lifeblood of our communities.”
- \* Attorney Melanie Thomas Chappell presented information about the importance of having a will and estate planning.
- \* Christie Hirasaki demonstrated ideas for creating scrapbooks.
- \* Sharon Carter, a former teacher of PN-GISD and a specialist in working with parents, presented information about pervasive development disorder and autism, including ideas for working with children in the classroom.

In 2006 Delta Theta had forty-five members:

- \* Twenty-five of those had a master’s degree, with two members holding doctorates and three working on their doctorates.
- \* Thirteen members had been in the profession for 21-30 years while twelve had been in the profession 31-40 years.
- \* Eleven members were in leadership roles, not counting the eleven retirees who had already served in leadership roles.

In 2006, Delta Theta was definitely a richly professional group of key women educators.

In the fall of 2006 the biennium of Ann Daniels began. Serving with her were Fae Sandifer, first vice president; Dana LaRue, second vice president; Marlene Portier, recording secretary; and Benda Duhon, corresponding secretary. Louise Lattimore continued as treasurer, and Karol Denby served as immediate past president and parliamentarian. In August several members journeyed to Crockett for the Fall Workshop. Beginning this year, Delta Theta changed its meeting date from Thursday evenings to the second Monday of each month at 4:30 PM at the West Groves Education Center in Groves.

Featured in Member Spotlights during 2006-07 were Stacey Arnold, Mary Jane Moore, Fae Sandifer, Julie Gauthier, Renee Wells, and Marsha Comer.

Fae Sandifer became principal of Woodcrest Elementary. Charter member Mary Elizabeth Grubb celebrated her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in October. Newsletters were emailed to members who had email addresses in an effort to reduce the cost of postage.

Highlighting the programs for the year were the following:

- \* Marlene Portier, Campus Technology Specialist at PNMS and chapter member, discussed information parents and teachers needed to know when allowing children to access the Internet.
- \* In another program, members met in the computer lab at Port Neches Middle School and listened as Marlene Portier and Dana LaRue demonstrated how to use *Photo Story 3*.
- \* Another interesting program saw members clapping, patting, and stomping their way through a musical experience to show how and why body percussion is utilized in elementary music classrooms.
- \* Kenneth Denby spoke to members and guests about hurricane insurance coverage and what items and papers to include during an evacuation.
- \* Members participated in a Delta Theta version of the television show "What's My Line?" The object of the game was for a panel to surmise what a member's secret was by asking questions. Guests with secrets included Julie Gauthier, Dana LaRue, Marlene Portier, Fae Sandifer, and Elnita Stanley. Through fun and surprise we came to know "secrets" of our Delta Theta sisters!

Tiffany Rider received the Madie Harrison Kent Grant-in-Aid at the end of the school year. Debbie Addison, Amy Gil and Emily Rueda were initiated into Delta Theta. Karen Lee and Cathy Purgahn retired from PN-GISD. Mary Jane Moore completed her doctorate in Educational Leadership and Stacey Arnold completed hers in Educational Administration and Human Resources. Dixie Dubuisson and Elizabeth Martinez received the *Spotlight on Excellence* recognition from the PN-G school board for their completion of the AP audit required by college boards of teachers who teach AP classes at the high school level. Jennifer Moore was planning a wedding as the school year ended. At the state convention in Amarillo, Delta Theta received the President's Award for Chapter Excellence.

Many personal goals were met during 2006-2007 and technology became a major part of chapter life.

The 2007-2008 chapter year began in with a special Founders' Day program in the form of an old-fashioned tea party which took us back into the history of Delta Kappa Gamma International and our chapter, Delta Theta. A skit was presented by chapter members Tilda Thompson, Linda Harrison, and Dixie Tucker to inform others about the Founders of our organization, as well as the history of Delta Kappa Gamma. Members listened to stories about the wonderful women who founded our Society. Refreshments were later served and included tea, small cakes and small sandwiches in keeping with the tea parties of 1929, when the Society was founded. This special event was held at The Courtyard in Groves.

Following her retirement, Cathy Purgahn transferred to a chapter in North Carolina.

"Shining Stars" included Jennifer Moore, who received her doctorate in the summer of 2007, and Julie Gauthier, who became the Elementary Curriculum Coordinator.

New members initiated in May included Holly Sartin, Brenda Holmes, Lisa Mitchell, Suzanne Benson, Monique Baker, and Shelley Broadddus.

Brenda Duhon received the Sarah Tobolowsky-Edyth Bosse Scholarship for graduate work at Lamar University.

Memorable programs were the norm:

- \* Lisa Mitchell, business education instructor, addressed the importance of dressing professionally. Members then evaluated their personal dressing style with regard to professionalism and effectiveness.
- \* Dorothy Griffin of the Women and Children's Shelter encouraged members to become involved in supporting the shelter.
- \* A CASA volunteer informed members about the value of CASA and encouraged us to become involved in supporting the work of CASA.
- \* "Texas Travels," the chapter's "Annie Award" entry, required each member to bring a picture, a brochure, or a postcard – something that reminded her of a favorite Texas location. The memorabilia was used to label a large Texas map as members shared their favorite Texas locations. A Texas trivia game concluded the program with prizes given to those who answered the most questions.
- \* Dr. Lori Graham, a Lamar University program director, described the Cardinal Buddies Program, a collaborative effort between Lamar University and Groves Elementary.

Judge Brad Burnett was named Friend of Education for his efforts to thwart truancy. Chelsea Glaze received the 2008 Madie Harrison Kent Grant-in-Aid. Ann Daniels, Lynne James, Mary Simon, and Denise Standley attended the state convention in June at The Woodlands. Delta Theta received the "Annie" Award at the convention.

Chapter president for the 2008-2010 biennium was Denise Standley. Serving with her were Tanya Davis, Vanessa Spiegel, Amy Gil, Linda Harrison, Louise Lattimore, and Ann Daniels.

The year began with the Area II Workshop at C. O. Wilson Middle School in Nederland. The normal routine of beginning a new year was interrupted by two hurricane evacuations, Gustav and Ike. Although some members were affected by Ike, they were able to return to their homes.

The chapter increased dues to \$95 because International dues had doubled. Dixie Dubuisson and Beverly Guidroz returned to active status, and Suzanne Mondey relocated away from Mid-County. Our meeting place changed from the board room at the curriculum center to the Parlor at First Baptist Church.

Members participated in Hurricane Ike recovery by providing childcare and cleaning houses and yards of debris. PN-GISD adopted Bridge City schools, and Delta Theta donated basic school supplies to High Island ISD. The chapter also collected donations for the Women and Children's Center. One hundred

twenty early childhood students were presented a book called *The Big Mouth Frog*.

New members were Nancy Vannett, Lisa Noland, Scarlet Hammersmith, Staci Gary, Meredith Brawner, and Leslie Balsamo.

Shining Stars during the year include the following:

- \* Dr. Stacey Arnold, former principal at Ridgewood Elementary in Port Neches, was appointed Director of Special Programs for PN-GISD!
- \* Julie Gauthier, former Elementary Curriculum Coordinator, became the principal at Ridgewood Elementary!
- \* Tanya Davis, former math teacher at Port Neches Middle School, became Middle School Curriculum Coordinator!
- \* Perfect attendance honorees included Stacey Arnold, Karol Denby, Lynne James, Louise Lattimore, Marlene Portier, Dixie Tucker, and Charlene Williams.

Recognized as Friend of Education was Karen Theis, owner of The Courtyard.

Brenda Duhon received the Sue King-Edna Graham Scholarship for graduate work at Lamar University.

Recipients of the Madie Harrison Kent Grant-in-Aid were Emily Cammarata and Kathryn Hyatt. Two grants were awarded because the 2008 recipient did not accept her award.

Among the programs presented during the year were the following:

- \* "Going Green," an interactive presentation, encouraged members to become involved in "going green."
- \* Larry Begnaud educated the members about current policies, along with changes, that had occurred in income tax laws.
- \* Dr. Robert Nicks gave an overview of the Lamar University Academic Partnerships. The university and school districts partnered to allow participants to complete a master's degree within eighteen months.
- \* Members participated in a goal-sharing project by bringing plants, gloves and tools to a meeting. In groups, they created unique arrangements while sharing stories about their goals for continued growth. Completed arrangements were taken to area nursing homes. This was the chapter's entry for the "Annie" Award.

President Denise Standley, Mary Simon, and Lynne James attended the Alpha State Convention in Corpus Christi where Lynne helped present Denise and other chapter presidents at the banquet on Saturday evening. Delta Theta received several recognitions at convention:

- \* "Annie" Award for outstanding program
- \* Five Star Newsletter Award

- \* Yearbook Early Bird Award
- \* Exemplary Yearbook Award
- \* Tudor Rose Award for increasing membership

The first year of the biennium saw the chapter increase membership as well as gain several Alpha State recognitions.

Highlighting the 2009-10 chapter year were several membership milestones:

- \* Meredith Brawner had triplets—all boys!
- \* Elnita Stanley received the Distinguished Professional Award from Lamar University for her many contributions to the Speech and Hearing Department at the university.
- \* Louise Lattimore was given the Chapter Achievement Award.
- \* New members initiated included Alicia Barnett, Janice Kelly, Annette Meier, Laura Shipman, and Crystal Werkheiser.

Delta Theta made contributions to the Humane Center of Southeast Texas and the Women and Children's Center in Beaumont. In addition Van Buren and Woodcrest libraries received copies of the book *Llama, Lama, Red Pajamas* from Delta Theta.

Area 2 lost a special sister in the death of Frances White of Alpha Omega and a former Alpha State president. A contribution was made to the Texas State Headquarters Fund in her memory.

Informative and enlightening programs were typical:

- \* Delta Theta members shared special memories of someone who inspired them to teach and connected those memories to their professional lives. The recollections were included in a booklet named *Memories Are Made of This*, which was the "Annie" Award entry.
- \* Brenda Duhon led an interactive presentation with the *Classroom Performance System* to acquaint members with their fellow Delta Theta sisters.
- \* Lloyd B. Hughes, a certified appraiser with the Jefferson County Appraisal District, informed members of policies regarding county, city, and school taxes along with any changes that had occurred during the previous year.
- \* Dr. Aaron Spiegel, local veterinarian and son of member Vanessa Spiegel, spoke to members about maintaining a healthy pet, along with ways to improve the quality of life for all animals. He provided information so members could collect needed items to contribute to the Southeast Texas Humane Society. Members were also updated on ways to prepare animals for inclement weather conditions.
- \* Mike Hoke, managing director of Shangri-La Botanical Gardens and Nature Center in Orange, shared information about the world-class facility and how the Nature Center improves and enriches the quality of life in Southeast Texas for students, teachers, and the general public.

\* Dr. Sandra Harris, director of the Center for Doctoral Studies in Educational Leadership at Lamar University, was the guest speaker at the tri-chapter dinner held in February.

PN-G graduate Lacey Renee Shields received the Madie Harrison Kent Grant-in-Aid at the Honors Ceremony at the high school.

As the year came to a close, retiring President Denise Standley, in-coming President Stacey Arnold, Mary Simon, Margaret Smith, and Lynne James attended the Alpha State Convention in Waco in June, where Margaret was honored at the convention for her 50 years of membership in Delta Kappa Gamma.

At the Waco convention, Delta Theta received the Five Star Newsletter Award, The Early Bird and Exemplary Award for Yearbook, the Tudor Rose Award for increasing membership, and the Presidential Award for Chapter Excellence, better known as P.A.C.E. The end of Denise Standley's first biennium as president of Delta Theta was very memorable.

In 1980 Stacey Sheppard was given the chapter's Madie Harrison Kent Grant-in-Aid when she graduated from PN-G High School. In 1987 Stacey Sheppard Arnold was initiated into Delta Theta. In the fall of 2010, Dr. Stacey Arnold began her biennium as president of Delta Theta. Other officers serving with her included Patsy Edmonds, Dr. Brenda Duhon, Elizabeth Martinez, Nancy Vannett, Louise Lattimore, and Denise Standley.

- \* Dr. Brenda Duhon, our second vice president, was named Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction/Technology for PN-GISD.
- \* Mary Simon was selected to attend the Alpha State 2011 Leadership Seminar.
- \* Dr. Barbara Baethe, chairman of the International Speakers Fund Committee, was the guest speaker at the annual tri-chapter dinner in February.
- \* Marlene Portier transferred to Lambda Tau chapter in Houston.
- \* Margaret Smith was presented the Shining Star for her 50 years in Delta Kappa Gamma as was Mary Simon for being selected as an attendee at the Leadership Seminar.
- \* Mary Beth McDuff, recently an Orange resident but now living in Port Neches, was reinstated into Delta Kappa Gamma as a member of Delta Theta. She was joined by new initiates Jennifer Fecowycz, Angela Lewis, Lisa LeTulle, Lana Parker, and Susan Daigle.
- \* Julie Gauthier was elected to the city council in Port Neches.

Programs that advised and enlightened were numerous. Among them were the following:

- \* Jesse Fournet of the Port Neches Police Department and a member of the Gang Task Force presented facts about gangs and gang activities in our area. In addition, he discussed measures that were being taken to ensure citizen safety.
- \* Vickie Frederick, a licensed manicurist, revealed the secrets of reflexology and explained how the condition of the body is reflected in the feet. She also provided stress relief techniques for the

frazzled educator!

- \* Kay Herrington, Region 5 Service Center Technology Coordinator, demonstrated the attributes of the latest technology gadgets such as iPad, iPhone, iTouch, Flip, video camcorder, smart phones, and others.
- \* Dr. Brenda Duhon, Dr. Mary Jane Moore, Dr. Stacey Arnold, Staci Gary and Tanya Davis, all Delta Theta members, provided information regarding changes in accountability affecting all aspects of education in the state of Texas, including 4x4, new graduation requirements, End-of-Course Exams, and accountability standards. Information was also provided regarding the next generation of student tests called STAAR.

At the end of the chapter year, Steve and Colleen McReynolds were selected for the Friend of Education Award; Kori Harrison, granddaughter of member Linda Harrison, received the Madie Harrison Kent Grant-in-Aid; and Denise Standley received the Chapter Achievement Award.

Stacey Arnold and Mary Simon made plans to attend the Alpha State Convention in McAllen in June, where Mary Simon would begin her tenure as Area II Coordinator.

The 2011-2012 chapter year began with unusual circumstances: our president Stacey Arnold and her husband had moved to the Austin area! Stacey, however, managed to make all of our chapter meetings! Following the state convention in McAllen the previous summer, Stacey and Mary Simon were eager to share convention highlights, among them the many recognitions Delta Theta received:

- \* “Annie” Award for Outstanding Program
- \* P.A.C.E. Honorable Mention
- \* Rosebud Award for maintaining membership
- \* Early Bird Award for Yearbook
- \* Five Star Newsletter
- \* Hundreds for Headquarters (for donations made toward the building of a new state headquarters)

Throughout the fall months members made contributions to Garth House. Each month a particular area of their needs was highlighted. In coordination with our yearly project, chapter members donated several boxes of supplies and a \$225 Walmart gift card to help meet some of the needs at Garth House.

A *Shining Star* was given to Dr. Brenda Duhon, who created a QR code for *The Delta Kappa Gamma Song*. By scanning the code on a smartphone, the words to the song are at your fingertips!

Staci Gary received the \$1500 Catherine Davis-Dr. Barbara Baethe Scholarship to Lamar University to further pursue her superintendent certification.

Tracie Billeaud, Kim Bell, Julie Gregory, Rhonda Walters, Rachel Richard, and Linda Broussard were invited to join the chapter. All accepted.

The tri-chapter dinner was held at the Pompano Club in February with Alpha State President Joanne Davis as the guest of honor.

Programs, as always, were a major focus of our meetings:

- \* Port Neches Police Chief Paul Lemoine told us how technology has changed the way policemen carry out their day-to-day duties.
- \* Cheryll Moreau of Hannah Bay's demonstrated the latest in fashion accessories for all occasions.
- \* Kim Hanks from the Garth House talked to members about the signs and symptoms of sexual abuse in children and teens.
- \* Mrs. Jay Sheppard, Director of Dispute Resolutions for the Better Business Bureau, spoke about safety issues and local scams to be aware of through e-mail or phone as well as in person.
- \* Bonnie Brooks, Outreach Coordinator for 2-1-1 Texas Area Agency on Aging, shared information on how the agency is committed to helping Texas citizens connect with the services they need.

In May Dr. Stacey Arnold was presented the Chapter Achievement Award.

Lauren Harvey received the Madie Harrison Kent Grant-in-Aid.

The Professional Growth and Services Committee reported that each child in the Pre-K programs at Woodcrest and Taft had been given a copy of the book *Chicken Little*.

At the end of Stacey's biennium, members were preparing to host the 2012 Area II Workshop in August of 2012.

Denise Standley began the 2012-2013 biennium, her second as president, in the fall of 2012. Her executive board consisted of Marlyn Trahan, Staci Gary, Susan Daigle, Linda Harrison, Louise Lattimore, and Lynne James.

The chapter year began with the Area II Workshop at Groves Middle School hosted by Delta Theta. It was Mary Simon's first "official" duty as Area Coordinator. Reports from the state convention in Las Colinas exhibited a strong year for Past President Stacey Arnold as the chapter was awarded the Five Star Newsletter Award, the Early Bird Award for yearbook, the Tudor Rose Award for increased membership, the Annie Award for outstanding programs, and Honorable Mention for the P.A.C.E. Award for chapter excellence. Lynne James was a presenter at the convention with a workshop titled "PowerPoint: More Than a Slide Show."

Margaret Smith, a member for 52 years, had relocated to Spring to be near her daughter Gari Martin. Past President Stacey Arnold and her husband Joe were finally settled at their 20-acre ranch in Florence, Texas, and Stacey had transferred her membership to Kappa Lambda Chapter in Round Rock. She was a

half-time employee of the Round Rock ISD, where she served as a supervisor for professional development.

Crystal Werkheiser was named chapter webmaster as Delta Theta sought to have a Delta Kappa Gamma certified website.

The yearbook was sent to members via email for the first time; those few without email received a printed copy. Members also began to receive text message reminders of upcoming events. Delta Theta was truly into the digital age.

Sheri Furby joined Delta Theta as a transfer when she moved here to join the high school faculty. Initiates included Becky Hebert, Lea Johnson, Mary Murdock, Cheryl Worley, Elisa Breuer, and Jamie Evans.

On a sad note, charter member Mary Elizabeth Grubb passed away in April of 2013 at the age of 96.

Programs that energized our meetings were many:

- \* The HAND UP YOUR HANDBAGS project was introduced by Staci Gary. Members were encouraged to participate in a community service project by collecting new or gently used bags filled with needed items for the Women's Shelter. Donations were collected throughout the spring. The program included several fun activities with the handbag/purse theme. The handbags were used by the shelter as Mother's Day gifts. The program was submitted for the "Annie" Award and was presented at the state convention by Susan Daigle.
- \* Becky Tschirhart, co-owner of the Mid-County Chick-fil-A, spoke to the membership about God's leadership in their move to Mid-County and the importance of helping educate their young employees. Becky also spoke of how the Chick-Fil-A corporate instills in all their employees the value of being a good steward of what God has given each of us.
- \* Sheigh Summerlin, a former PN-G student from the Jefferson County Young Lawyers Association, presented *R U Safe*, a tool to teach children of all ages the importance of cyber safety. *R U Safe* is available upon request to schools or other organizations through the Jefferson County Young Lawyer's Association.
- \* Susan Daigle informed chapter members about Nanna Camp, a yearly "camp" time she spends with her grandchildren. Activities ranged from mud pies to water Olympic games. Members were encouraged to enlighten children within their sphere of influence outside the classroom.

At year's end Denise Standley and Louise Lattimore were among those having perfect attendance, and their names were drawn to receive all or part of their dues paid for the next year.

Lynne James received the Chapter Achievement Award for 2013. Carol Broussard was named the Friend of Education by the chapter.

Zara Killman, daughter of Crystal Werkheiser, received the Madie Harrison Kent Grant-in-Aid, and Carissa Birdsong received the Mary Elizabeth Grubb Memorial.

The chapter year ended with Denise Standley, Lynne James, Mary Simon, and Susan Daigle preparing to attend the state convention in Austin.

The 2013 chapter year began with exciting news from state convention! Mary Simon, Denise Standley, Lynne James, and Susan Daigle, along with Stacey Arnold of Kappa Lambda in Round Rock, attended the Austin convention. Delta Theta was the recipient of several state-level awards, including

- \* the PACE Award as an outstanding chapter,
- \* “Annie” Award for outstanding program,
- \* Five Star Award and Seal of Merit for Outstanding Newsletter,
- \* Tudor Rose Award for increased membership,
- \* the Yearbook Early Bird Award, and
- \* Scholarship Honors for more than ten years as well as Leadership and Project honors from the Alpha State Texas Educational Foundation.

Three days of workshops, shopping, luncheons and banquets, shopping, sightseeing, shopping, and other activities kept them busy for three days.

Chapter members participated in the *Flash Kids* Project. Members were asked to collect a variety of flashcards on various grade levels and subject areas for local at-risk PreK-5th grade students. With donations from chapter members and a generous donation from BASF Total Petrochemicals, the chapter was able to provide 654 sets of flash cards to students at six elementary campuses.

Crystal Werkheiser updated members on the chapter website with a demonstration of how to navigate through the site as well as the wealth of information that could be found there. Members were definitely impressed!

Shining Stars were awarded to Crystal Werkheiser, Lana Parker, Alicia Barnett, Laura Shipman, and Susan Daigle.

Interesting programs included the following:

- \* Susan Daigle challenged the members to “Remember to Remember.” Memory activities engaged the members in direct recall. She concluded the presentation with details of how members would participate in the “Annie” Award project called Flash Kids.
- \* Staci Gary provided an overview of the Pinterest website. Hostesses prepared snacks from recipes found on Pinterest.
- \* Dr. Mark Albritton gave a slide show presentation about his trip to African orphanages.

- \* Ed Boone Jr. told us what to look for, when, and where before calling the exterminator. His special focus was termites and bedbugs.
- \* Nancy Newton, TSO State president, was the guest speaker at the annual tri-chapter dinner in February.

Before the 2013-14 chapter year came to a close, Delta Theta selected officers for the next biennium. They included Karol Denby, president; Jamie Evans, first vice president; Susan Daigle, second vice president; Crystal Werkheiser, recording secretary; Lisa Badon, corresponding secretary, and Louise Lattimore, treasurer.

Before the end of the biennium, seven new members were welcomed to Delta Theta: Donna Cole, Christy Elliott, Lori Halbert, Michelle Judice, Par Parker, Dr. Christina Puente, Laura Zito, and transferee Kathryn French. Elisa Breuer's daughter Taylor Breuer was awarded the Madie Harrison Kent Grant-in-Aid.

Although Delta Theta was not represented at the TSO State Convention in Lubbock, the chapter received several awards: Yearbook Early Bird and Exemplary Yearbook Awards, the Five Star newsletter Award, the Tudor Rose (membership) Award, and the Annie Award.

When done, the next set of officers and their supporting cast of never-say-no members were on their way to begin the seventh decade in Delta Theta's history.