



# Nu Chapter News

**Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Texas State Organization**

**Goal:** "Reaching out to create fellowship by expanding our membership to like minded educators and strengthening community involvement"

Editor: [debrazupancic@gmail.com](mailto:debrazupancic@gmail.com)



Deb Zupancic, Bev Still, and Pat Ricks show off the badges Linda ordered for everyone.

## From the Co-Presidents

Greetings,

We had a very successful meeting in September. Those members who were unable to attend were greatly missed.

Linda and Loretta gave us a very informative presentation about the convention in McAllen and the changes DKG plans for Future conventions. We finalized the dates, times, and location of our meetings. The first two meetings at the Wimberley United Methodist church and two meetings in 2024 at the San Marcos Public Library. We approved the programs for 2023-24.

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SAVE THE DATES

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**OCTOBER 16**

Regular Monday Meeting 5:30 pm

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**DECEMBER 14**

Trail of Lights Thursday 6-9 pm

EmilyAnn Gardens

3

**DECEMBER TBA**

Christmas Party time TBA

Cheryl's in San Marcos



**2023-2025**

**TSO Theme:**

**SOAR**

**to New Heights**

**S** seek new members & opportunities

**O** pen your heart, mind, & attitude

**A** ct to serve & share

**R** each to renew, respond, and relate

DKG Promotes professional & personal growth of women educators & excellence in education.

Vision Statement: "Leading women educators impacting education worldwide."

**FROM THE CO-PRESIDENTS,** continued from page 1

A suggestion was made about providing meals for the meetings so everyone doesn't have to cook more than once. Since we have eight members in Wimberley, we decided four members would provide the meal for September and the other four in October. San Marcos ladies will decide if they want to do the same for the spring.

We decided to provide LAUNDRY DETERGENT AND BABY WIPES for the Hays – Caldwell Women's Shelter in October. We are asking our members to bring LAUNDRY DETERGENT or BABY WIPES to our next meeting in October. Linda and Tonda will deliver the donations.

The Chapter approved sending birthday cards to our members. We will give the birthday ladies a candy bar at the meetings to celebrate.

The Chapter approved our raffle idea of having each member contribute \$15 to \$20 instead of making raffle baskets. We collected \$130.00 at our September meeting. This money will pay for our contributions to State in the Spring. We hope the members who missed our September meeting will make a donation in October.

At our October meeting we will discuss NU Chapter t-shirts. On October 16 Hugh Campbell will make a presentation on El Camino Real de Los Tejas National Historical Trail. He is working very hard on his presentation (expect 30 minutes) and will have handouts. Please plan to attend. It would be nice to have a large group attending.

At the meeting, we will talk about how our Chapter can help with Proposition 9. Suggestions: put an article in the Wimberley & San Marcos newspapers, put signs at the polls during voting and talking to people.

See you in October.  
Linda and Tonda

## October Meeting

**Monday, October 16**

**5:30 Social/Dinner**

**Provided by Wimberley Group 2  
(Deb, Pat, Bev, Robin)**

**6:00 Meeting**

**Wimberley United  
Methodist Church**

**RR 12 and CR 1492**

**Inspiration by Pat Ricks**

**Presentation by Hugh Campbell about the  
El Camino Real de los Tejas National  
Historical Trail**

**Bring donations for the Hays Caldwell  
Women's Shelter "Baby Basket Project":  
NU IS ONLY BRINGING LAUNDRY  
DETERGENT AND BABY WIPES.**

### **ALL ABOUT YOU! CHERYL BLAKE**

Education: Southwest Texas State University, Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education

Taught 34 years in San Marcos CISD, grades 6, 7, 8 - taught reading and history

Substituting for 6 years now also in San Marcos

Honors: Teacher of the Year, Veterans of Foreign Wars Teacher of the Year

Family: Husband Mark, married 38 years, a son Joshua married to Johanna with two daughters, Raelynn and Camryn. They are both teachers and he is the Offensive Coordinator for Florence ISD Football team. Daughter Nicole who is a hair stylist.

Also mom to four-legged children: Red, Blue, Lucy and Ethel (dogs) and Bonnie and Palmer (cats)

Hobbies: Love to travel, read, exercising, spend time with family, gardening and sewing.



**Minutes Texas State Organization  
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Nu Chapter  
United Methodist Church, Wimberley, TX  
September 18, 2023**

Nu Chapter of the Texas State Organization of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International met on Monday, September 18 at 5:30p.m., Wimberley, TX for a regularly scheduled meeting followed with socializing. Co-Presidents Tonda Frady & Linda Brown and Secretary Cheryl Blake were in attendance.

**Members in Attendance:** Loretta Eiben, Cheryl Blake, Tonda Frady, Debra Zupancic, Linda Brown, Brenda Butler, Beverly Still, Ginger Chiles, and Pat Ricks

Inspiration was shared by Zupancic.

President Frady called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

Members were asked to sign a card for Dave Thompson, our Treasurer Connie Martin's husband.

**Reading of minutes** were dispensed by a motion because minutes are posted in the newsletter, no corrections were submitted.

**Treasurer's Report** ~ Report prepared by Martin. Current checking balance is \$1661.00 Report on file with the minutes. Check number 1001 will need clarification; is this for our membership numbers for the TSO scholarships?

**Correspondence:** Brown received a thank you from Special Hearts in the Arts for her contribution. Brown & Zupancic received a note to acknowledge a gift made in their names by Still to the DKG International Educators Foundation Projects Fund. Sandra Morales sent a note saying she was doing well and hopes to attend the next meeting. Still shared a note for the DKG newsletter stating that the organization is in dire straits and support is needed.

**Committee Reports:** none

**Old Business:**

**State Convention:** Report from Brown & Eiben. They attended as many sessions as possible. Our yearbook has been out of compliance and they learned what needed to be done to become compliant. Zupancic is doing an awesome job with the newsletter. There will be no state convention next summer, but several Tri-Area conventions that will be one day in length and closer to home in hopes more members can attend. They both came away with many new friendships.

**New Business:**

**Membership:** A new membership list was shared with members. There will also be a section in the newsletter to showcase at least one member per newsletter.

**Programs for 2023~2024:** October program will be a presentation on El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historical Trail. The April program will be Essential Oils and the May meeting will be the Future of Texas Water.

**Christmas Party:** Will be held at Blake's house and we will have a Chinese gift exchange with a pot luck meal in December.

**Installation of Officers:** May 25, Tri-Chapter meeting and Seguin will host.

**Projects for 2023~2024:** Hays Caldwell Women's Shelter, members will donate laundry soap and baby wipes for the October meeting. Wimberley Trail of Lights will be in December. The Chapter will apply for an ASTEF Grant for emerging readers at Rodriguez Elementary in San Marcos. Still suggested that we also consider Little Dresses for Africa and to participate in a fund raiser to raise funds for the Wimberley library. Ideas were shared for ways to be involved in area schools.

**Publicity:** Members were asked to share news articles with local newspapers to get our name out there.

**Committee Assignments:** The list was reviewed.

**Raffles:** It was decided we would not hold raffles but asked members to donate \$15-\$20 to cover the expenses of the Chapter's obligations.

**Birthdays:** Each member will receive a birthday card and if they are in attendance at the meeting closest to their birthday they will receive a candy bar.

**Adjournment:** 7:16 p.m.

Next meeting, October 16th, Wimberley United Methodist Church.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cheryl Blake

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Minutes prepared by Cheryl Blake  
Nu Recording Secretary  
Tonda Frady & Linda Brown  
Nu Co-Presidents



## Missing You!!!

Members posed for photos to update the yearbook/directory.

If you missed the September meeting, you can have your photo taken in October, OR you can text one to Deb Zupancic.

Clockwise from Top/Left: Cheryl Blake (Secretary/Website), Bev Still (Communications), Ginger Chiles (Website), Loretta Eiben (VP/Programs/Services), Linda Brown (Co-President/Ceremonies/Finance/Legislation), Tonda Frady (Co-President/Finance/Programs/Services/Social), Pat Ricks (Personal & Professional Enrichment/Global Awareness/World Fellowship), Brenda Butler (Scholarship), Deb Zupancic (Communications/Newsletter)



### RECIPE CORNER FROM TONDA

5 eggs	1 1/4 cup shredded Cheddar cheese, divided
1/2 cup milk	2 cups shredded potatoes
1/2 tsp. salt	1/2 cup cooked ham, bacon or sausage
1/4 tsp. Pepper	1 T dried parsley flakes
3/4 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese	

### BREAKFAST PIE

Preheat oven to 350. In a large bowl, whisk together eggs, milk, salt, and pepper. Stir in shredded Monterey Jack cheese and 3/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese and set aside. Grease a 9" pie pan. In a separate bowl, toss together shredded potatoes and remaining 1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese. Press potato mixture into prepared pie pan to form a crust. Sprinkle cooked meat over crust. Pour egg mixture over meat. Sprinkle parsley flakes over pie. Bake for 35-40 minutes until pie is set. Serve hot or reheat in microwave before serving.

BellaVida Bed & Breakfast Wimberley, Texas [www.bellavidabandb.com](http://www.bellavidabandb.com)

## Tidbits!



### From Cheryl Blake

I was very fortunate this summer to spend 15 days in Hawaii. The first island I traveled to with my son Joshua and his family, Johanna, Raelynn, and Camryn, was to Maui. The beaches are absolutely beautiful. The island was dryer than normal so when we drove the road to Hana there were very few waterfalls but we enjoyed the drive. We spent our last day on Maui in the seaside town of Lahaina and took silly pictures under the 150 year old Banyan tree which suffered greatly in their recent fires. From there we went to the Big Island and were joined by my husband Mark and daughter Nicole. We had a blast going to various beaches and other sights. My favorite beach was the black sand beach, but seeing an active volcano was absolutely awesome.

### From Sandra Morales

The Class of '64 wanted to have a gathering, but the 'girls' back home didn't want to arrange anything. Wes said to just do it here. We hadn't done anything or gone anywhere since Covid and so I got busy planning. I had so much fun playing detective trying to find some classmates. True to our age group, a lot of us don't do any social media. But, I managed to locate a bunch we hadn't heard from in years.



### From Robin Estep

We have been in New Mexico since the 8th of August. John has been a miracle worker working on the back part of our cabin. We have had beautiful, sunny skies and temps in the high 70's and low 80's. We have also had some pretty intense storms since it is monsoon season in the Southwest. You can tell fall is on the way, as in the mornings, lots of times it's down to 44!! It does warm up quickly! I had clothes on the clothesline on our deck and went out in the early evening to retrieve them. We had a visitor!



### From Chris Winek

Chris Winek and husband Gary in the Italian countryside near Orvieto.



### From Tonda Frady

My family had lunch to celebrate Cathy's July 4th birthday. Colby (grandson), Cathy (birthday girl), Liz (great granddaughter), Claire (granddaughter), me (Nanny Tonda), and Milton (grandson). Cathy is Bobby and my daughter.

## Nu Chapter Activities

### From Alice Castillo

Alice is picking up yard signs from TRTA District 13 for Prop 9, which is to give retired teachers a COLA. We must vote on this on November 7 (there is also early voting). The second picture is at San Marcos Convocation - SMARTS (San Marcos Area Retired Teachers and Staff) with Erin Zwiener - spreading the word about Prop 9 and information on SMARTS.



**2023-2024 Meeting Dates:**  
**In Wimberley**  
 October 16, 2023  
 December 14, 2023  
**In San Marcos**  
 December Party TBA  
 April 15, 2024  
 May 20, 2024



### From Bev Still

I'm currently following this recent legislation. It's of tremendous importance to all educational stakeholders. There are two sides here, as there almost always are. Predictably, each organization reporting on this newly passed bill adds its own political spin. I encourage all of you to make yourselves aware of this impactful change. Here's a link to one article: *Chaplains Could Work as School Counselors Under Bill Passed in Texas* By [Elizabeth Heubeck](#) — May 25, 2023  
<https://www.edweek.org/leadership/chaplains-could-work-as-school-counselors-under-bill-passed-in-texas/2023/05>

## NU CHAPTER COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

- Achievement Awards: Chris Winek
- Archives: Lauren Kiesling
- Ceremonies: Robin Estep, Linda Brown
- Finance: Connie Martin, Tonda Frady, Linda Brown
- Legislation: Kathy D. Carriker, Linda Brown
- Nominations: \_\_\_\_\_
- Personal and Professional Enrichment: Sandra Morales, Pat Ricks
- Programs/Services: Loretta Eiben, Tonda Frady
- Social: Tonda Frady (Wimberley), \_\_\_\_\_ (San Marcos)
- Yearbook: Tanya Rhodes, Ginger Chiles
- Website: Ginger Chiles, Cheryl Blake
- Communications/Publicity/Newsletter: Debra Zupancic, Bev Still
- Global Awareness/World Fellowship: Pat Ricks, Peggy Parker
- Scholarship: Brenda Butler, Chris Winek, Alice Castillo

**Co-Presidents:**  
**Tonda Frady**  
 512-426-5225  
**Linda Brown**  
[lrpurr@hotmail.com](mailto:lrpurr@hotmail.com)  
**Membership inquiries:**  
**Connie Martin:**  
[cedm\\_painted\\_acres@yahoo.com](mailto:cedm_painted_acres@yahoo.com)  
**Texas State Organization**  
<http://www.dkg.org>  
**Nu Chapter Website**  
<https://nuchaptertxdkg.weebly.com/>