

KITE TALE

Message from the President

What a wonderful start to 2016! We had our annual Founders Day Luncheon on January 27th at the Junior League where we celebrated the 146th year of the founding of Kappa Alpha Theta and the 96th year of our Houston Alumnae Chapter. We honored twelve special Thetas who received their Fifty Year pins, and we awarded the 2016 Theta of the Year to **Susan Arnold Martin** and the Twin Star Award to **Susan Akright Stanton**. Congratulations, Susan and Susan! What a special day!

I enjoyed a delightful lunch with the Theta Bridge Group on January 21st, and I was honored to be with Theta friends at the Bo's Place Luncheon on January 28 as we applauded our Theta sister **Peggy Roe** for receiving the Robin Bush Award. Thank you, **Jan Neuenschwander** and the Bridge Group, and thank you, **Cynthia Lange**, for organizing our Theta tables at the Bo's Place Luncheon. Congratulations, Peggy!

Chapter Advisor **Susan Martin** did an outstanding job chairing both the Nominating and Philanthropic Committees in January, and we are so happy to present the 2016-2017 Slate of Officers to you in this Kite Tale. The slate has been approved by the Board and will be presented to the Chapter for a final vote at the February 17th Meeting. In addition, the 2016-2017 TCAS Executive Board had their inaugural meeting on January 20th, and **Waverly White Gage** was unanimously approved as the 2017 Theta Charity Antiques Show Chair. We are very blessed that we continue to have such talented and capable women serve our Houston Alumnae Chapter.

On Wednesday, February 17th, **Waverly** will host our meeting at her home, and Stephanie Jamison of Flora Bella Designs will talk to us about "Blooming Ideas". I can personally vouch for Stephanie's talent and delightful personality after working with her this past year on my son's rehearsal dinner and my daughter's wedding! I hope to see you there!

Loyally in Theta,

Melinda McConn Chernosky



Winter Coffee & Meeting
Wednesday, February 17th
10:00 a.m.

At the home of **Waverly Gage**
711 West Creekside Drive, 77024

"B l o o m i n g I d e a s"

Speaker: Stephanie Jamison, Flora Bella Designs

Legacy Coffee

Wednesday, March 2
10:00 a.m.

At the home of **Emily Bolin**
8 Pinewood Circle, 77024



Mothers and grandmothers of graduating seniors are invited to meet with Recruitment Board members.

Philanthropic Coffee Celebrating our TCAS Beneficiaries

Wednesday, March 9th
9:30 a.m.

At the home of **Frances Arnoult**
3702 Del Monte Drive, 77019

Chairs: **Frances Arnoult** and **Louise Symmes**

Speaker: **Lois Wright**, 2015 TCAS Chair

See page 6 for pictures of our lovely Thetas at our wonderful and fun-filled events!



Pansy Bouquets to:

- ❖ **Stephanie Hamilton** and **Judy Ann McCartney** for hosting the beautiful Christmas Luncheon in December.
- ❖ **Jana Phillips** for hosting the festive Nite Kites Christmas Dinner in her home.
- ❖ **Sarahbeth Pipkin** for hosting the very well-attended Young Alumnae Christmas Party and Gift Exchange in her home.
- ❖ **Alison Bell** and **Kelly Duenner** for their hard work in organizing our 2016 Founders Day Luncheon.
- ❖ Chapter Advisor **Susan Martin** for many hours dedicated to Theta these past few months as Nominating Committee Chair and Philanthropy Committee Chair.
- ❖ 2016 TCAS Co-chairs **Nancy Bertin** and **Julie Harris** for so much work already done and with so much enthusiasm!
- ❖ **Lindsay Chernosky** for helping with the Founders Day invitation and program, for getting us set up with a "Square" for debit/credit card payments and for generously sharing her technology skills.
- ❖ **Cynthia Lange** for hosting the Young Alumnae Founders Day and for organizing our tables at the Bo's Place Luncheon.
- ❖ **Peggy Roe** for an outstanding job chairing the Theta of the Year Committee and for being honored by Bo's Place with the Robin Bush Award.
- ❖ The leaders of our Special Interests Groups – **Suzy Heine**, **Jan Neuenschwander**, **Patsy Holmes**, **Dinah McClymonds**, and **Jana Phillips** – who continue to volunteer their time.
- ❖ All of **you** who pitch in when called upon so that everything we do continues to work smoothly!



CARING & CONCERN

Jody Smith Henderson on the death of her husband, Boyd Lewis Henderson.
Susu Scott Ross on the death of her brother, Monty Scott.
Mary Nell Jeffers Lovett on the death of her mother, Nell Elise Walker Jeffers.
Mary Eliza Lovett Shaper on the death of her grandmother, Nell Elise Walker Jeffers.
Elizabeth Jeffers on the death of her grandmother-in-law, Nell Elise Walker Jeffers.
Ruth Hardin Suffield on her recent fall and some broken ribs.
 Encouragement for **Justine Klinke** on the premature birth of her twin girls.

Houston Alumnae Chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta Slate of Officers 2016-2017

President	Cynthia Jones Lange	Corresponding Secretary	Laura Howard Heyser
President-Elect	Margaret McCullough Buescher	Editor	Socorro "Suzie" Paz Jones
Vice-President	Louise Halberstadt Symmes	Panhellenic Delegate	Patsy Ford Holmes
Treasurer	Molly Wehner Marks	Panhellenic Delegate Alt	Ashley Ann Wright
Treasurer-Elect	Cynthia Ralphs Onstott	Chapter Advisor	Melinda McConn Chernosky
Recording Secretary	Mary Ford	Financial Advisor	Margaret McCullough Buescher

THETA CHARITY ANTIQUES SHOW A SMASHING SUCCESS!

I am proud to report that the Show was a smashing success! Please join us on Wednesday, March 9th for the Philanthropic Coffee - your hearts will be touched and you will be proud as we hear about the work of the fine agencies we are supporting.

\$230,000 will be distributed to the seven 2015 agencies and four permanent beneficiaries:

- Bridges to Life
- CCSC-Martha's Way training program
- Freedom Place,
- The Harris School
- The HAY Center
- L.I.F.E. Houston
- TUTS-River Performing and Visual Arts Center and
- Texas Children's Cancer Center
- Bayou Bend Collection & Gardens
- Child Advocates
- Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation Capital Campaign



What an outstanding gift to our community and none of it would have happened without you! For 2015:

- 60% of the underwriters were Thetas.
- 178 shifts at the show were staffed by a Theta or Theta related volunteer.
- 111 volunteers filled the shifts and of those 87 were dues paying Chapter members (Thank you, Theta Moms and friends!) Not included in this number are the Thetas who worked ahead of the show on many different "jobs".
- 19% of you purchased the 6 + 1 free "commitment" tickets (~150 out of 649 Alumnae Chapter members).
- The catalog was funded by gifts to the commemorative page, with local ad sales and dealers' ads.
- 50 dealers displayed the finest of antiques.
- We successfully made the move to the Bayou City Event Center.

It takes all of us to promote, fund, and make this show happen. We support this great endeavor however we can and the return on our investment is priceless. So, whether you have 5 hours or 5 months or \$500,000, please support the Theta Charity Antiques Show. As **Vicki Lange**, past TCAS Chair said, "One thing that cannot be measured in a dollar amount is what we gain as Theta sisters of all ages working together toward a common goal. I have made friendships that I count as my closest. I gained those through working with amazing women on the Show." I agree!

Don't wait to be asked, call and say you have some time to pass out posters in your neighborhood; to write thank you notes; to stuff envelopes; to "like" a Facebook posting or "share" an Instagram; to contact one business about buying an ad; to work from home on the database update process; to share a skill, like photography; or on one of the many other tasks.

My deepest appreciation goes to each and every member of the Houston Alumnae Chapter. Our show is a wonder and you should be so proud of our grand accomplishment.

-Lois Hamilton Wright, 2015 Show Chair

We need your help collecting information on previous TCAS!

Do you have information on the dealers from past Theta Charity Antiques Shows?

Do you have files, programs, floor plans, etc., from the years before 2002? We can pick up the information and return it once we have added to our spreadsheet or you can donate it to this project.

If you have any information to share, please contact **Jeannie Osborne** jeannieosborne@hotmail.com 713-780-0551 or 281-236-6321

64th Annual Theta Charity Antiques Show

"A TOUCH OF GOLD"

Friday, Nov 11–Sunday, Nov 13, 2016

Preview Party, Thurs, Nov 10, 2016

Bayou City Event Center
9401 Knight Road

Be part of the Show!
Many opportunities available!

Co-chairs, **Nancy Bertin** and **Julie Harris** are busy filling committees, and want and need you to be part of the show!

Form new friendships while working together and creating one of the most respected and philanthropic antiques shows in the nation.

Contact Nancy at 713-862-2628 or bertinnancy@gmail.com or Julie at julieharris1950@gmail.com or 713-599-0877.

Submit Kite Tale updates and photos to
Suzie Jones at socorrojones@icloud.com



CONGRATULATIONS!

Susan Arnold Martin, Theta of the Year
Susan Akright Stanton, Twin Star Recipient



(l-r) Susan Martin with Peggy Roe
Photo by KHVaugh

GIVE to Lead. GIVE to Learn.

Thanks to the many dedicated and generous donors, *Give to Lead, Give to Learn* has secured just over \$5 million to support the ELC and need-based scholarship programs. Thank you for making this milestone possible, and for your continued support. The campaign concludes this summer, but the opportunity to support these programs and the women who will benefit from them will exist in perpetuity. Visit www.givetotheta.org to learn more.



Meet Our Newest Theta!

Welcome **Jan Edwards**, our newest initiated Theta to our Houston Alumnae Chapter. Jan was initiated into the Epsilon Epsilon (Baylor) Chapter on December 5, 2015. Jan was joined by her two Theta daughters, **Laura** and **Mary Catherine**, and several of her good Theta friends, **Lisa Schwartz**, **Gayle Durie** and **Susan Martin**. Jan was our guest speaker at Founders Day last May and when **Laura Doerre**, Theta Grand Council President, heard her speak, she turned to us and said, "We need to make her a Theta"! And so, we did!

Pictured (back row) L-R: Gayle Durie, Jan Edwards, Lisa Schwartz, (front) Susan Martin



Theta Travelers: KATS on the Azalea Trail!

Friday, March 11th

10:15 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Cost is \$50 and includes Trail Ticket,
Transportation and Catered Lunch

- ❖ Board the bus at St. Martin's Episcopal Church
(Northwest corner of parking lot near Woodway
and Sage)
- ❖ Bus leaves promptly at 10:30 a.m.
- ❖ Tour four homes on the 2016 River Oaks Garden
Club Azalea Trail
- ❖ Enjoy a catered lunch at the beautiful home of
Cynthia Adkins

Pay online at www.houstonthetas.org or send check payable to Houston Alumnae of KAT
to Margaret Buescher at 5333 Longmont Dr. Houston, TX 77056
Questions? Email or call Maura Montgomery at mauramont@yahoo.com or 713-253-6539
Space is limited. Sign up early!

Kite & Key Celebration & Luncheon

Wednesday, April 13th

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

\$20 per person

At the home of **Krissi Reid**
402 Shadywood, 77057



It's our turn to host and it's always a fun event to visit with
old and new friends!

Grab a Theta or Kappa friend and join us!

Pay online at www.houstonthetas.org or send your \$20
check made out to Houston Alumnae of Kappa Alpha Theta
to **Liz Rigney**, 5531 Sugar Hill, 77056.

Your check is your reservation!

Chairs: **Tracey Brown, Sallie Mansell and Liz Rigney**

Any questions? Contact Liz at Irigney957@gmail.com

Houston Alumnae Panhellenic Association and Foundation 30th Annual Scholarship Luncheon

"In Perfect Harmony"

Thursday, May 5th

11:30 a.m. (Check-in 11:00 am)

Junior League of Houston, 1811 Briar Oaks Lane

Cooky Mays and **Patsy Holmes** invite you to join us!
Make your check payable to **Cooky Mays** and mail to her
at 12127 Tara Drive, 77024. (Your check is your
reservation.)

Guest Speaker: Shara Fryer, KTRH Morning News Anchor
Recognizing: 2016-2017 Collegiate Scholarship Winners
Benefitting: The HAPF Scholarship Fund

Ticket Prices

Individual Patron Ticket \$150 Individual Regular Ticket \$65

*A special thank you to those who
submitted photos for this Kite Tale and
especially to Kathy Waugh as our
official Chapter Photographer!*

KAPPA ALPHA THETA HOUSTON ALUMNAE AT SOME OF OUR EVENTS



Join the Theta fun and fellowship!

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Bible Study	Every Monday, 1:30-3:00 p.m. St. Luke's United Methodist Church. Contact Suzy Heine 713-858-0802 or at suzyq819@gmail.com We welcome newcomers anytime! Friendly, casual, good discussions. Come join us!
Bridge	Theta Bridge meets in February on the 4th Thursday, February 25 th , and in March on Thursday, March 24 th . We will meet at The Forest Club, 11:00-3:00 for bridge and lunch. All bridge players are welcome. Contact Jan Neuenschwander, 713-781-8899 or janeuen@aol.com
WildKats Investment Club	<p>The Theta WildKats Investment Club meets on the second Wednesday of the month, September through June. We meet in our members' homes at 11:30 a.m. and have lunch as we meet. We discuss our portfolio and hear from members about new stocks to consider as well as information about the stocks the club already owns. Our purpose is to gain knowledge of investment and learn more about how the stock market functions. We gain important information and enjoy the fellowship of working with our Theta sisters.</p> <p>The Club will meet on February 10, 2016, at 11:30 in the home of Jan Neuenschwander. Our March 9, 2016, meeting will be at Marti Peterson's home. The March meeting will begin at 12:00 noon to allow our members to attend the Philanthropic Coffee in the morning.</p> <p>The club is open to all members of the Houston Alumnae Chapter and we invite interested Thetas to join us. We ask that any Theta who wishes to visit, please contact Patsy Holmes, Club President, (281-395-0343) or Mary Helen Davenport, Club Vice-President (713-523-9065) if you are interested.</p>
Maj Jongg	Join us every Monday afternoon from 1:00 to 5:00. All levels of experience and we can also teach you how to play! Contact Dinah McClymonds 832-242-3191 or at DinahMcC@aol.com for more information.
Theta Tuesdays	Join fellow Thetas for your favorite beverage or bite to eat. Watch email on where to meet. Contact Jana Phillips 713-661-8311 or at jmlphillips@comcast.net

MEETINGS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit us at www.houstonthetas.org

February 16 Tuesday	7:00 p.m.	NITE KITES Theta Friendship Dinner at Grace's, 3111 Kirby, 77098. Rsvp by February 14th to Barbara Gray at clubfootbarbie@yahoo.com
February 17 Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Winter Coffee & Meeting at the home of Waverly Gage , 711 West Creekside Dr., 77024. <i>"Blooming Ideas"</i> Speaker: Stephanie Jamison, Flora Bella Designs
February 27 Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Houston Area Panhellenic Association (HAPA) Roundtable An informational meeting for senior girls and their mothers at St. John the Divine
March 2 Wednesday	10:00 a.m.	Legacy Coffee at the home of Emily Bolin , 8 Pinewood Circle, 77024. Mothers and grandmothers of graduating seniors are invited to meet with the Recruitment Board.
March 9 Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Philanthropic Coffee at the home of Frances Arnoult , 3701 Del Monte, 77019. Lois Wright , 2015 Theta Charity Antiques Show Chair, Celebrating our 2015 TCAS Beneficiaries
March 11 Friday	10:15 a.m.	Theta Travelers: KATS on the Trail Tour the Annual Azalea Trail! Limited availability! Sign up early! See Page 5 for details.
April 13 Wednesday	11:30 a.m.	Kite and Key Luncheon Fellowship with our Kappa Friends at the home of Krissi Reid , 402 Shadywood Drive, 77057 Pay online at www.houstonthetas.org or send your \$20 check made out to Houston Alumnae of KAT to Liz Rigney, 5531 Sugar Hill, 77056. Your check/payment is your reservation.