

KITE TALE

Message from the President

My heart is overflowing with Theta Love as I have the privilege and the vantage point of observing all of the Houston Thetas in action. We are a most active group, and we are in pursuit of social, intellectual and moral growth while aiming for the widest influence of good. This is our theme for this year, and we are living this dream!

Not long ago I was in a meeting with some Theta sisters, and a Theta leaned over to me and winked at me and asked if I got it. I knew what she was talking about...the Theta love that was exploding in that room. Yes, I did get it, and it seems like y'all do, too! We have a welcoming bond of loyal sisters who are ready to help, serve, laugh, cry and go the extra mile as needed.

I can't tell you how much I've enjoyed getting together with y'all at meetings and special Theta events. I feel like I leave being filled up to the top with so much love from my sisters. You have blessed me and other sisters with support and love from the bottom of your hearts. When one sister is in need, others are available to help step in and ease her load. That's the Theta way!

A Touch of Gold, our 2016 Theta Charity Antiques Show, was hugely successful because of the leadership of our Co-Chairs, **Nancy Bertin** and **Julie Harris**, and the active participation of over 200 Thetas who volunteered to produce such a remarkable Show. What a wonderful gift we give to our Houston community and to our beneficiaries. Like many of you, I am very proud to be a Houston Theta!

I hope that you will be able to join us for some Christmas cheer at one of our holiday gatherings. **Maura Montgomery** is organizing our Theta Travelers as we take a bus tour of homes on the 75th Anniversary of the Kappa Pilgrimage. **Elizabeth Galtney** and her committee are planning a fabulous Christmas Luncheon where we honor our college actives and their mothers. We are grateful to **Katherine Keenan** (Nite Kites) and **Sarahbeth Pipkin** (Young Alumnae) for hosting Christmas parties for their groups. And don't forget to come to Founders Day on

January 25th at the Junior League as we celebrate our 50 and 75 year Thetas! Consider coming with your Big or Little or another Theta Sister to any of these fun events!

Blessings to you and your family during the holiday season!

Loyally in Theta,

Cynthia Jones Lange



Christmas Luncheon

Wednesday, December 21st

12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

At the home of **Elizabeth Galtney**
3414 Del Monte, 77019

Honoring Theta Actives, Legacies and their Mothers

Chairs: Elizabeth Galtney and Patricia Hamilton



Founders Day Luncheon

Wednesday, January 25th

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

At Junior League of Houston
1811 Briar Oaks Lane, 77027

Honoring our 50 and 75 Year Thetas!

Chairs: Alison Bell, Kelly Duenner and Janie Schubert

Thank You to those who submitted articles and pictures for our Kite Tale. A special **thank you** to **Annette Boatwright** and **Kathy Waugh**, our Houston Theta Alumnae photographers.

Theta Travelers Presents

The First Annual KATS on the Kappa Pilgrimage

Friday, December 9th

10:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

\$50/person includes transportation, tour and lunch

Board the bus at 10:15 a.m. at St. Martin's Episcopal Church
(NW corner of the parking lot at Sage and Woodway)

Enjoy the beautiful Christmas décor of four homes on the 75th
Anniversary of the Kappa Holiday Pilgrimage Home Tour
And lunch at the home of **Lois Wright**

Non-Theta friends are welcome to join us!

Chair: Maura Montgomery

Pay online at houstonthetas.org or mail check payable to Houston Alumnae of KAT to Molly Marks, 6020 Inwood Drive, 77057



Pansy Bouquets to:

- ❖ 2016 Theta Charity Antiques Show Co-Chairs **Nancy Bertin** and **Julie Harris**, Preview Party Chairs **Janis Henry**, **Dinah McClymonds** and **Julia Rigney**, the entire TCAS Committee and all 200+ volunteers for an amazing Show filled with “A Touch of Gold” and Theta love.
- ❖ **Allison Allison** for hosting our September Board Meeting in her newly remodeled home.
- ❖ **Janis Priest** for hosting our Welcome Back Luncheon in her beautiful home and for her hostesses **Andrea Elliott**, **Ann Snodgrass**, **Ellie Bale**, **Laurie Dorfman**, **Courtney Fortney**, **Waverly Gage**, **Dinah McClymonds**, **Laurie Moody**, **Jennifer O'Donnell**, **Dina Ormiston**, **Melissa Schnitzer**, **Cathy Watson** and **Nicole Zarr**.
- ❖ Speaker **Leslie Sinclair**, founder and owner of Segreto Finishes, who enlightened us with her talk on “Finishing Touches” and who donated \$646, 20% of the proceeds from the sale of her Segreto Vignettes book at our September General Meeting, to our 2016 TCAS.
- ❖ **All Thetas** who attended our Welcome Back Luncheon and who purchased Leslie's books.
- ❖ **Laurie Dorfman** who handled every detail for our Young Alumnae event with our TCAS Designers at Relish Restaurant and Bar, and **Adele Spalding** who created and donated the beautiful flower arrangement.
- ❖ Alumnae District Directors **Jennah Jones** and **Kathy Schultz** for bringing breakfast drinks and snacks and facilitating our first ever StrengthsQuest event in the Houston area.
- ❖ **Elizabeth Walsh** who organized our Team Theta at the Child Advocates Superhero Run.
- ❖ **Cheri Fossler** who made wonderful arrangements for our October General Meeting.
- ❖ **Gayle Durie** for hosting our October General Meeting and for hostesses **Nancy Craig**, **Janet Lionberger**, **Betty Clarke**, **Anne Conner**, **Deborah Dunkum**, **Julie Harris**, **Vicki Lange**, **Marge Nelson**, **Liz Rigney** and **Lois Wright**. All these Thetas are currently serving or have served on the Holly Hall Board.
- ❖ Holly Hall speakers **Jane Wise** and **Susan Thraen** who shared about the Music & Memory Program, and **all Thetas** who contributed \$440 in cash or iTunes gift cards to Holly Hall for our Theta Day of Service.
- ❖ **Andrea Elliott** for opening her lovely home for our Fall Feast and for **Ashley Clark**, **Suzanne Muchard**, **Janis Priest**, **Melissa Schnitzer** and **Anne Marie Wood** for their help in making it so successful and so much fun.
- ❖ Chaplains **Deborah Dunkum**, **Gayle Durie**, and **Cheri Fossler** who provide inspirational devotionals before our meetings.
- ❖ Vice President **Louise Symmes** who created our new Theta name tags for our meetings.
- ❖ Recruitment Board Chair **Emily Bolin** for her continued diligent work on Fall Recruitment.
- ❖ Website Coordinator **Lindsay Chernosky**, Treasurer **Molly Marks**, and Thetabase Chair **Nancy Forester** for their help in keeping our Chapter running smoothly.
- ❖ **Cooky Mays** who ably Co-Chaired the successful HAPA in NAPA Wine Tasting Event.
- ❖ Delegate **Patsy Holmes** and Assistant Delegate **Ashley Ann Wright** for their Panhellenic service.
- ❖ Corresponding Secretary **Laura Heyser** for many notes of compassion and her desire to organize an iPod drive at her son's junior high school for the Holly Hall Music and Memory Program.
- ❖ Caring Committee Chairs **Vicki Lange**, **Jennifer O'Donnell** and **Peggy Roe** and their committee for showing Theta love to our members in need.
- ❖ Recording Secretary **Jennifer O'Donnell** for creating the minutes from our meetings.
- ❖ Each of **YOU** for your enthusiastic support in attending meetings and Theta events!



(l-r) Cheers to **Julie Harris** and **Nancy Bertin**!
64th Annual TCAS Co-Chairs



**The 64th Annual Theta Charity Antiques Show
emanated that**

“TOUCH OF GOLD”!

Thank you volunteers!

You can still contribute to TCAS by going to our website
at www.thetacharityantiquesshow.org



See pages 6-7 for more pictures of
Theta Fun and Fellowship!

Many thanks to Andrea Elliott and her committee for a fabulous Fall Feast! Everyone had a ball! Dinner was delicious, and we loved the brandy freezes! So many of you asked for the Spa Lemonade recipe, so here it is:

Spa Lemonade

2 jugs of Tropicana Simply Lemonade

4 large cucumbers (chopped)

8 Jalapeños (slice all, no stems)

Mix together an hour before serving.

Ahhhhhh! Enjoy!

CARING & CONCERN

To the family of **Maura Aiken McCarthy**, on the death of her mother, **Barbara Haugh Aiken**.

To the family of **Elyse Kalmans** on the death of her grandmother.

To the family of **Anne Lund Stewart** on her passing.

To the family of **Mary Ruth Benson** on her passing.

To the family of **Jeannie Frazier** on the death of her mother-in-law.

To the family of **Allison Wardroup** on the death of her grandmother.

To **Cheri Fossler**, wishing her husband, Andy, a speedy recovery after his hospitalization with pneumonia.

In our thoughts... in our prayers... and in our hearts...

Theta of the Year / Twin Star / Rookie of the Year Awards!



Deadline: December 1, 2016

Honor a deserving Theta by nominating her for one of these special awards to be given out at Founders Day, 2017.

Criteria for Theta of the Year: "a Theta whose contributions to Theta and our community have been outstanding in recent years."

Criteria for Twin Star: "a Theta recognized for her long-time, often unheralded service to Kappa Alpha Theta."

Criteria for Rookie of the Year: a new award created to honor "a young alum who has exhibited outstanding service to the work of the Houston Alumnae Chapter this year or in recent years."

Start sending your nominations to **Liz Rigney** at Lrigney957@gmail.com or 4854 Post Oak Timber Drive, 77056.

Nomination forms can be found on pages 9-11 of this Kite Tale Issue. Questions? Call Liz at 713-805-1923.



(l-r) Reagan Ladd and Cindy Koester, TCAS Volunteer Chairs

Congratulations Cindy!

Cindy Smith Koester was honored by Texas A & M's Association of Former Students' 12 Under 12 Young Alumni.

Each year, the Association recognizes 12 Aggies who have graduated within the past 12 years for their outstanding accomplishments in business, civic service and philanthropy and for representing Texas A & M's core values of excellence, integrity, leadership, loyalty, respect and selfless service. Kudos to Cindy!

Spreading Holiday Cheer!



Young Alumnae Christmas Party & Gift Exchange

Sunday, December 11th
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
At the home of **Sarahbeth Pipkin**
1607 West Clay Street, 77019
Bring a dish to share!



Meet Our Newest Thetas! *Legacy

University of Texas

Brittany Aaronson – Episcopal
Annie Alexander – Memorial
Katherine Anderson – Memorial
Mia Bonner – Kinkaid
Claire Brudner – Lamar
Hope Brunner – Memorial
Casey Craft – St. Agnes
Kat Daffin – St. Agnes
Claire DeShong* - Memorial
Christiana Elliott* – Second Baptist
Mackie Gilchrist – Episcopal
Hannah Herrold – Episcopal
Mackenzie Hiskey – Lamar
Maddie Hiskey – Lamar
Kendall Keller – Lamar
Mary Pat Patrizi* - St. John's
Kylee Rocher – Memorial
Catherine Schell* - St. Agnes
Georgia Wahl – Episcopal
Erin Wallace – Bellaire
Emily Zenner* - Episcopal

TCU

Cokie Nerz* – Lamar
Jessica Shonbeck* - St. Agnes

University of Oklahoma

Morgan Rogers – Episcopal

University of Tulsa

Emma Jackson - Stratford

USC

Lexie Ammons – Kinkaid

LSU

Elizabeth Polikoff – Episcopal

Texas A&M

Sarah Duncan – Memorial
Rachel Hanchera* - Lamar
Madison Landis - Memorial
Libby Lorenz* - Bellaire
Molly Murphy – Stratford
Lauren Park – Second Baptist
Molly Persha – St. Pius



Please note not all names were available for Kite Tale Issue 1. This is a complete list of our Fall Recruits.

Theta Fun and Fellowship at TCAS!



What was your favorite memory of the 64th Annual Theta Charity Antiques Show? Send in your comments and memories for our next Kite Tale. Email to Suzie Jones, Kite Tale Editor at socorrojones@icloud.com



We look forward to seeing you at a Theta event soon!



More Theta Fun and Fellowship



(l-r) FIJI Treasurer David Devine, **Katherine Belk**, **Hillary Belk**, and FIJI President Vijay Sekhara at a Young Alumnae Happy Hour

Fall Coffee



(l-r) **Elizabeth Walsh**, Oscar Mayer Rep, and **Sarah Stahl** at CASA Superhero Run

Fall Feast



Many thanks to **Andrea Elliott**, **Janis Priest**, **Melissa Schnitzer** and **Suzanne Muchard** for a fabulous Fall Feast!



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Bible Study	Every Monday, 1:30-3:00 p.m. at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, Room R23B. Join us! Contact Suzy Heine 713-858-0802 or at suzyq819@gmail.com
Bridge	Theta Bridge will meet in January on the 4th Thursday, January 26, 2017 at The Forest Club, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., for bridge and lunch. All bridge players are welcome. Please contact Jan Neuenschwander, 713-781-8899, or janeuen@aol.com
WildKats Investment Club	January meeting will be on Wednesday, January 11, 2017 at 11:15 a.m. at the home of Patsy Holmes , 247070 Fernglen Drive, Katy, Texas. Please contact Connie Seger at 713-622-8079 if you are interested in attending. We love having visitors and hope to grow our group!
Maj Jongg	Join us Monday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:30 p.m. Contact Dinah McClymonds 832-242-3191 or DinahMcC@aol.com for more information.
NITE KITES	Our Annual Holiday Party is scheduled for Thursday, December 8 th . Pay \$20 online or at the door. Please Rsvp by December 5 th to Katherine at Katherine@keenans.net

MEETINGS & UPCOMING EVENTS

www.houstonthetas.org

Dec 8 Thursday	6:30 p.m.	NITE KITES Annual Holiday Party at the home of Katherine Keenan , 3415 Sunset Boulevard, 77005. Pay \$20 online or at the door. Rsvp by December 5th to Katherine at Katherine@keenans.net
Dec 9 Friday	10:15 a.m. (Bus departs!)	First Annual KATS on the Kappa Pilgrimage with lunch at the home of Lois Wright . \$50/person includes transportation, tour ticket and lunch. Pay online at houstonthetas.org or mail your check payable to Houston Alumnae of KAT to Molly Marks, 6020 Inwood Dr., 77057 Non-Theta friends are welcome. Questions? Email or call Maura Montgomery at mauramont@yahoo.com or 713-253-6539.
Dec 11 Sunday	2:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.	Young Alumnae Christmas Party and Gift Exchange at the home of Sarahbeth Pipkin , 1607 West Clay Street, 77019. Remember to bring a dish to share!
Jan 25 Wednesday	11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.	Founders Day Luncheon , Junior League of Houston, 1811 Briar Oaks Lane, 77027



"It's always interesting to find out our gifts and strengths but more importantly, how we purposefully use that information! As a member of several volunteer organizations, it's crucial to engage new and younger members. I think as a "positivity" and "woo" it's my strength to work to engage and connect those who come and seem at loose ends. As an "input" I know also that I may be in the background doing administrative things (rather than on the front lines) gathering data and processing history and information."

Deborah Dunkum
StrengthsQuest Participant

Thetas at StrengthsQuest Workshop on Saturday, October 1, 2016

THETA OF THE YEAR

Each year, we have the privilege of selecting a Theta from our midst whose contributions to Kappa Alpha Theta and our community have been outstanding in recent years. You may solicit letters of support from as many as five *dues paying* Thetas to promote your candidate!

I nominate _____ as 2017 Theta of the Year.

My candidate was initiated in _____ (year) at _____.

Theta activities in which she has been outstanding:

Community activities in which she has been outstanding:

Your name _____ Theta Chapter _____

Email _____ Preferred Phone _____

Please complete this form and return it to Liz Rigney via email at Lrigney957@gmail.com or mail to 4854 Post Oak Timber, 77056. Forms must be received by December 1, 2016

THETA ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Nominees for the honor of Rookie of the Year are newcomers to the Houston Alumnae Chapter but whose work has made an immediate impact on the chapter or has influenced the success of the Theta Charity Antiques Show.

I nominate _____ as 2017 Rookie of the Year.

My candidate was initiated in _____ (year) at _____.

Theta activities in which she has been outstanding:

Your name _____ Theta Chapter _____

Email _____ Preferred Phone _____

Please complete this form and return it to Liz Rigney via email at Lrigney957@gmail.com or by mail to 4854 Post Oak Timber, 77056. All forms must be received by December 1, 2016.

THETA TWIN STARS

Nominees for the honor of Twin Star are recognized for their long-time, often unheralded service to Kappa Alpha Theta. You may nominate one or two Thetas to receive this award. You may solicit letters of support from as many as five *dues paying* Thetas to promote your candidate!

Candidate 1: I nominate _____ as a Twin Star.

My candidate was initiated in _____ (year) at _____

Theta activities in which she has been outstanding:

Candidate 2: I nominate _____ as a Twin Star.

My candidate was initiated in _____ (year) at _____

Theta activities in which she has been outstanding:

Your name _____ Theta Chapter _____

Email _____ Preferred Phone _____

Please complete this form and return it to Liz Rigney via email at Lrigney957@gmail.com or by mail to 4854 Post Oak Timber, 77056. Forms must be received by December 1, 2016.