

KITE TALE

The President's Message

The first few months of our Chapter year have been busy and full of fun and fellowship! Having the privilege of leading this group continues to reward me with new and deeper friendships, new learning experiences, and the awe of seeing all of the diverse talents and energies of our local Thetas! As usual, I can't begin to sufficiently thank all of you who have been organizing, leading, hosting, entertaining and attending our events so far this year. What an amazing group of women!

Our next general meeting will be held on November 15 at 10 a.m. at the home of Sheryl Bech. Our guest speaker will be Geoffrey Westergaard, owner of Carl Moore Antiques, speaking to us about Theta Design Weekend. Geoffrey will be an exhibitor at the event, and he will be sharing with us his enthusiasm and excitement about our new format from an outsider's perspective. I am looking forward to Geoffrey's always entertaining and engaging conversation, highlighting many of the changes we will see. I hope you can join us!

I can hardly believe that our new **Theta Design Weekend** is almost here! The weekend will **kick off with our Preview Party on November 30, with opening day December 1.** Our chair Waverly Gage and many Theta volunteers have been working tirelessly to make this event a huge success. But we need YOU to come and bring your friends! Whether it is buying tickets to the Show, or to one of the luncheons, or to one of the art or designer walks, we need your support. This is sure to be an exciting weekend that you won't want to miss! With your participation we can produce a tremendous event that will be a gift to our community, fun for all

of our guests and Thetas and most importantly, will raise funds to support our very worthy beneficiaries. I look forward to seeing you there!!

Before we know it the holidays will be upon us, and I hope you will join us for one of our holiday events. The **Nite Kites Christmas party will be on Tuesday, December 12 at 6:30 p.m.** at the home of Patty Mahlstedt. Our annual **Christmas luncheon honoring Theta actives, legacies and their mothers will be held on Wednesday, December 20 at 11:30 a.m.** at the home of Susie Smith. Both of these events are for Thetas of all ages, so I hope that you will come, bring a friend and celebrate the season with your Theta sisters. Please also mark your calendars for our annual **Founders' Day event, to be held at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, January 24, 2018** at the Junior League. Details for all of these events are included in this Kite Tale.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful and blessed holiday season.

Loyally in Theta,

Margaret McCullough Buescher



Founders' Day
Honoring
50 and 75 Year Thetas
Wednesday, January 24
11:00 a.m.
The Junior League
1811 Briar Oaks Lane, 77027

RSVP www.houstonthetas.org.



Annual
Christmas Luncheon
Honoring
Theta Actives, Legacies and
their Mothers
Wednesday, December 20
11:30 a.m.
at the home of
Susie Smith
5619 Bordley Drive, 77056



Nite Kites
Christmas Party
Tuesday, December 12
6:30 p.m.
at the home of
Patty Mahlstedt,
2203 Arlington Street, 77008

Gift Exchange (\$15 limit)
Dinner \$20 payable at
www.houstonthetas.org.

Pansy Bouquets to:

Sallie Mansell for hosting our first board meeting of the year in her lovely home.

Ruth Hawk for graciously hosting a fun kick-off evening for Nite Kites.

Krissi Reid for hosting our welcome back luncheon and meeting in her beautiful home.

Adele Spalding and Maura

Montgomery for entertaining and educating us with a fun flower arranging program at Krissi's home.

Each of you who donated underwear for our Undies for Everyone drive at our September meeting.

Cheri Fossler for her hospitality in opening her lovely home for our October general meeting.

All of you who helped greet and host at our fall events.

Virginia Lahourcade for hosting our Theta Travelers with a delicious luncheon in her beautiful Galveston home.

Judy Sauer for arranging our incredible and educational personal tour of the Bryan Museum by founder J.P. Bryan.

Ruth Hawk and Jana Phillips for taking care of our bus travelers with delicious snacks to and from Galveston.

Deanne White for creating a magical evening at her beautiful home for a fabulous Fall Feast.

Marci Hamilton for leading our Theta Mothers' Club this year.

Waverly Gage and her committee of volunteers working to produce the sure to be exciting Theta Design Weekend.

Vicki Lange, Peggy Roe, and Anna Beth Hill for continuing to provide support and caring to Thetas in need.

Ashley Ann Wright and Cooky Mays for their continuing hard work representing Theta with HAPA.

All of YOU for participating and making our group the best ever!



Getting To Know Deanne White, Author and Artist

Deanne, our gracious Fall Feast hostess, grew up in Southern California where her life was heavily influenced by the Pacific Ocean. During her childhood, she played on the beach and made sandcastles, but her favorite childhood interests were reading and drawing pictures. Painting classes in Balboa Park and the San Diego Zoo became a favorite Saturday morning experience thanks to the wide assortment of interesting and active animals.



Later in life, Deanne graduated from UCLA where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature. After completing her education, she taught high school and middle school English for many years in California, Arizona and Texas. Deanne has recently become a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

After observing otters for many years at Monterey Peninsula, her husband, Perrin, encouraged her to get out the brushes and put those otters on paper. The result of her work has been the two books about Otty. A third in the series to be published soon.



Care and Concern

To Jane Perry Porter and Trish Perry Chambers on the death of their mother, Mary Margaret Finnegan Perry McDonald

To Ken Dusek and his family on the death of his wife, Ruth Ann Dusek

To Sally Trammell Hale on the death of her mother, Lorraine Trammell

To Leigh Bonner the death of her husband, Louis "Buck" Bonner

To Sharon Young - Kappa Kappa Gamma on her recent illness. She has been very helpful to the Thetas with social media.

To Nancy Capps Forester on the death of her brother, Richard

To Helen Day Ewing on the death of her brother, Lawrence

In our hearts, thoughts and prayers

November Meeting

Join us on Wednesday, November 15
10:00 a.m.

at the home of **Sheryl Bech**
123 Point Broad Oaks, 77057

Our program will be
presented by one of our **TDW** exhibitors,
Geoffey Westergaard of Carl Moore Antiques.

Bring a Theta friend.

Let's get in the swing of things for the new
Theta Design Weekend!!



ATTENTION ALL THETAS

We need **all Thetas** to sign up for one job!! Sign-up is simple- just go to www.thetadesignweekend.com find out what interests you most as well as what fits with your schedule. Please note that if you are on a mobile device, you must choose from a drop down menu to see all the different areas. If you are on

a desktop, the different areas are listed as tabs across the top of the screen. Please sign up for multiple slots if you have the time. If you have any questions please contact

Emily Bolin at emilybolin@att.net

We NEED VOLUNTEERS TO

Sell & Take up Tickets • Greeters • Luncheon Speaker Check-In •
Designer Walks • Volunteer Check In • Floaters • Dealer Move In and Move Out

PLEASE JOIN US FOR LUNCH

SPEAKER LUNCHEON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1

MARK SIKES AUTHOR OF *Beautiful All American Decorating and Timeless Design*

SPEAKER LUNCHEON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

THE MCALPINE GROUP - BOBBY MCALPINE, SUSAN FERRIER, RAY BOOTH AND DAVID BAKER

MODERATOR- MARGOT SHAW

MOTHER DAUGHTER BRUNCH SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

ANTON DISCLAFANI

AUTHOR OF *After The Party*

NAMED ONE OF SOUTHERN LIVING'S

"BEST BOOKS OF 2016 BY SOUTHERN AUTHOR"





Theta Tributes

A long Theta tradition encourages attendees to make memorial and/or honorary gifts to our annual fund raiser. These gifts are a meaningful way to remember and respect individuals involved with Theta Design Weekend, as well as others. Our philanthropies will be the ultimate beneficiaries. Please fill out the form found at www.houstonthetas.org.

Go to www.houstonthetas.org. Choose Design Weekend pop up window. Select and complete the Tribute Request Form.

IT IS STILL NOT TO LATE TO BE A SPONSOR

There are many levels from which you may choose. Go to www.thetadesignweekend.com Choose Sponsors where you will see all the benefits for your donation.

Theta Design Weekend

Permanent Beneficiaries

BAYOU BEND AND GARDENS/
MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, HOUSTON

CHILD ADVOCATES

KAPPA ALPHA THETA FOUNDATION

TEXAS CHILDRENS CANCER CENTER

2017 Beneficiaries

THE JUNG CENTER

YELLOWSTONE ACADEMY

TIRR FOUNDATION

RIVER OAKS CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

CRIME STOPPERS OF HOUSTON

WORK FAITH PROJECT

2017 THETA DESIGN WEEKEND

PREVIEW PARTY
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30
7-10 PM

GEORGE R. BROWN
CONVENTION CENTER
1001 Avenida De Las Americas,
77010

PREVIEW PARTY CHAIR
Deborah Dunkum

Honorary Chair
Mark D. Sikes

YOUNG COLLECTORS CHAIRS
Laura Renauc, Hallie Sims,
Julia Rigney, Brett Longoria
and Madeline Gregory

SHOW CHAIR
Waverly Gage

WWW.THETADESIGNWEEKEND.COM

The Arrangement - Our September Meeting

At the September meeting Maura Montgomery and Adele Spalding presented a program on arranging roses. They entertained and instructed the group arranging roses from the corner grocery, a little greenery in your yard and inexpensive containers from a craft store. Voila!!!!!! You can see the process ongoing, as well as the beautiful bouquets that they created. Maura and Adele did a great job showing us the tricks of the trade!

“Game Faces On!”

The Work of Two Talented Thetas

Thank you, Maura and Adele!




October General Meeting

Our Theta program was presented by Alecia Lawyer, a graduate of Julliard School of Music and an accomplished oboist. She is in the 13th season as a founder, artistic director and performer of ROCO, River Oaks Chamber Orchestra. ROCO has 40 virtuosic musicians performing 36 concerts in 16 venues with 9 world premieres. Alecia’s enthusiasm is exceeded only by making it a success. We were mesmerized as she presented a piece by Benjamin Britten. We were amazed with her interpretation and talent.

To learn more about Alecia and ROCO, go to www.rocko.org for information and a schedule of upcoming concerts. ROCO performances at St. John the Divine Church are both entertaining and informative. The performers mingle with the audience during intermission and there is a reception after the performance. Tickets start at only \$35 and \$25 for seniors. You will certainly be entertained! The next performance will be Nov. 11.

Reed Kit
Did you know oboists make their own reeds?





THETA

LEADING WOMEN

On November 28,
Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation will host its third annual #GivingTuesday fundraiser. The unrestricted donations made on #GivingTuesday will support Theta programs including Emerging Leaders Institute, Sisters Supporting Sisters, and the annual Service Trips. To make a gift, please visit www.GivetoTheta.org!

Calling All Thetas

Do you know a Theta that has not paid her dues? Give her a ring or text. Bring her to the November 15 general meeting. Buddy with her to volunteer for the Theta Design Weekend. On sign up genius it only takes a minute to choose a job.

TDW is our Show!

We need to support our beneficiaries by helping make it a success. Hope to see you and a friend at the next meeting. See you at The Show!!!



The Bryan Museum

The West As It Will Never Be Seen Again!

Theta Travelers toured the Bryan Museum, located in the former

Galveston Orphan Home. The museum has a collection of historical artifacts, documents and artwork relating to Texas and the American West assembled by J. P. and Mary Jon Bryan that spans more than 12,000 years. The 70,000 items range from ancient Native American cultural artifacts to modern 21st century objects representing fine arts to cowboy chaps. The Theta Travelers really experienced a "Cooks tour" of the museum with our tour led by founder J.P. Bryan himself. For more information on the Bryan Museum, go to their web site, thebryanmuseum.org. It is fascinating. A must for your Texas Bucket List!!

Before visiting the museum, the travelers were hosted by Virginia Lahourcade at her lovely Galveston home. The group enjoyed lunch and beautiful weather accompanied by gorgeous bay views. Of course the journey home with wine and lite bites rounded out a perfect day for Texas culture and Theta fellowship.



Marilyn and Tita having lunch at Virginia's home.



Enjoying lunch with our hostess, Virginia are Virginia, Ruth and Laurie's guest, Kelly



The Galveston Travelers with J. P. Bryan

***Fellowship and Fun with
Theta Alumnae
and
Young Thetas***

*Photography by
Annette Boatwright and Kathy Waugh*



Suzanne and Julie



Jane and Vicki



***Cynthia and Tracey Welcoming Thetas to
our September Luncheon***



Allison, Anna Beth and Nancy



***Young Theta Alumnae with Fijis at
Happy Hour***



Lindsey, Elizabeth and Lindsay



Our October Hostess, Cheri Fossler with Linda, Rhonda and Debbie



Theta Foundation Officers, Mary Ellen Fitzsimonds and Donna Schmidt, with Margaret and Dinah



Liz, Cindy, Amanda and Anna



Waverly - TDW Chair



Alicia, Martha Claire and Dorothy

The 2017 Fabulous Fall Feast

Photography by Annette Boatwright



Haley , Elizabeth and Jessica



Cynthia and Virginia



Deanne and Maura



Cynthia, Annette, Gina and Rhonda



Debbie and Meggan

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Special Interest Groups

Bible Study	Every Monday, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. at St. Luke's Methodist Church, R23B. The group is very casual, very friendly, most welcoming. Join Us! Contact Suzy Heine at 713 -858-0802 or suzyq819@gmail.com
Bridge	Theta Bridge meets on Thursday, November 30 and January 25. We will meet at The Forest Club. 11:30 -3:00 p.m. for bridge and lunch. All bridge players are welcome. Please contact Jan Neuenschwander , 713-781-9065 or janeuen@aol.com
Wild Kats Investment Club	November 8, at the home of Mary Helen Davenport, 2727 Kirby, #14L, 77098 December 13, at the home of Kathy Waugh, 5145 Tangle Lane, 77056 (Christmas Party Lunch) January 10, at the home of Judy McEnany, 3428 University Blvd., 77005 We meet at 11:15 on 2nd Wednesdays, September through June. If you are interested in joining contact Mary Helen at 713-523-9065 or Cooky Mays at 713-502-9567
MahJongg	Join us Monday afternoons from 1:00-4:30 p.m. Contact Dinah McClymonds for more information at Dinahmcc49@gmail.com

Meetings and Events

November 15 10:00 a.m.	General Meeting, 10:00 a.m., at the home of Sheryl Bech , 123 Point Broad Oaks, 77056. Program: Geoffrey Westergaard, Carl Moore Antiques.
November 30 7:00 p.m.	Theta Design Weekend Preview Party at the George R. Brown Convention Center.
December 1- 3	Theta Design Weekend!! George R. Brown Convention Center Friday, and Saturday 10: a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sunday 11:a.m- 5:00 p.m.
December 12 6:30 p.m.	Nite Kites Christmas Party at the home of Patty Mahlstedt , 2203 Arlington Street 77008
December 20 11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m	Theta Christmas Luncheon honoring Theta mothers and actives at the home of Susie Smith, 5619 Bordley, 77056
January 20 11:30 a.m.- 1:00 p.m.	Founders' Day at the Junior League, 1811 Briar Oaks Lane, 77024

Theta of the Year Twin Stars Rookie of the Year

Honor a deserving Theta by nominating her for one of these special awards to be given out at Founders Day, 2018

Criteria:

Theta of the Year

A Theta whose contributions to Theta and our community have been outstanding in recent years!

Twin Stars

A Theta recognized for her long-time often unheralded service to Kappa Alpha Theta

Rookie of the Year

A young alum who has exhibited outstanding service to the work of the Houston Alumnae Chapter this year or in recent years.

Send your nominations or any questions to Dinah McClymonds at

DinahMcc49@gmail.com or 322 Bayou Glen, 77057

Nomination forms can be found on pages 9,10 and 11 of this Kite Tale issue.

DEADLINE DECEMBER 1

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 Dinah McClymonds via email at DinahMcc49@gmail.com or mail to 322 Indian Bayou, 77057. Forms must be received by December 1, 2017.

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.

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 Dinah McClymonds via email at DinahMcc49@gmail.com or by mail 322 Indian Bayou, 77057.

Forms must be received by December 1, 2017.

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 Dinah McClymonds via email at DinahMcc49@gmail.com or mail to 322 Indian Bayou, 77057. Forms must be received by December1, 2017