

KITE TALE

Message from the President

2018 is off to a wonderful start for our Houston Thetas after celebrating a fabulous 2018 Founders Day on January 24! There was much to celebrate as 16 of our Thetas received their 50-year pins, and our 2018 Theta of the Year award was presented to a very deserving Laurie Dorfman. Melinda Chernosky and Jeannie Osborne were awarded the Twin Star awards, and Renee Lewis was awarded the Rookie of the Year award, well deserved by all. Please read more about these wonderful ladies later in this newsletter. It was a very special day!

I hope you didn't miss any of the new and fun events at Theta Design Weekend last month. Under the leadership of Waverly Gage, the former Theta Charity Antiques Show broadened its focus to include many new design elements. Thanks to Waverly, her executive board and all of the Theta volunteers who contributed to making the weekend such a success! We are looking forward to sharing the proceeds from the weekend with our very deserving beneficiaries at the **Philanthropic Reception, to be held Wednesday, March 7 at 5:30 p.m.** at the home of Janis Henry. Please plan to join us, as this is one of the most rewarding times we spend together sharing the results of our hard work with our community.

Coming up on **February 7 at 5:30 p.m.** is a casual evening **"Celebrating Friends" with our Pi Phi friends** at the home of Heidi Binet. Ashley Clark and Heidi Binet are organizing what is sure to be a fun event, and all Thetas are welcome!

Also, on **February 21 at 10 a.m.**, our general meeting will be held **at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft**. This is an important meeting for two reasons, the first being that we will be voting on the slate of officers to be proposed for the 2018-2019 year, as well as the beneficiaries for the 2018 Theta Design Weekend. Secondly, the meeting will be **hosted by founder Sara Morgan and Anne Kinder**, who have arranged a private tour of the Center led by curator Kathryn Hall, a fellow Theta. We will be viewing "Light Charmer: Neon and Plasma in Action". **Following the tour, Sara and Anne are treating us to a light lunch.** I hope to see you there for this important, fun and interesting meeting!

The fun doesn't stop there! On **March 2 the Theta Travelers will be "On the Trail"** again for the annual River Oaks Garden Club Azalea Trail. As mentioned the **Philanthropic Reception will be on March 7**, and then **on April 18 we have our biennial Kite and Key luncheon**, celebrating Theta and Kappa friendships.

More information on all of these upcoming events can be found in this newsletter, online and in your directory. I hope to see you there!

Loyally in Theta,
Margaret Mc Cullough Buescher



Theta - Pi Phi Happy Hour

All Thetas are Welcome

Wednesday, February 7

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

at the home of

Pi Phi Heidi Binet

11120 N. Country Squire, 77024

Questions: Contact Ashley Clark

at ashclark2003@yahoo.com



Philanthropic Reception

Wednesday, March 7

5:30 p.m.

at the home of

Janis Henry

640 Pifer Rd, 77024

Celebrating our

2017 TDW Beneficiaries!

WINTER COFFEE

Wednesday, February 21

10:00 a.m.

at the



Houston Center for
Contemporary Craft

4848 Main Street

Hosted by

Sara Morgan and Anne Kinder
Meeting followed by a private
tour and light lunch

Pansy Bouquets to:

Waverly Gage, Chair of the 2018 Theta Design Weekend, and all of the **volunteers, donors and supporters** who helped make this year's TDW a great success!

Susie Smith for so graciously hosting over 100 Theta alumnae, Thetas actives and their mothers for our annual Christmas luncheon.



Patty Mahlstedt for hosting the Nite Kites for a delicious Christmas dinner and gift exchange in her beautiful home.

Carrie Cornelius for leading our Young Alumnae group, and arranging a fun Christmas party and gift exchange for our young Thetas.

Alison Bell, Janie Schubert, Kelly Duenner, and Ruth Hawk for organizing and arranging a fabulous Founders Day event! Thanks also to **Cynthia Hazard and Rhonda Barclay** for their help at the event.

Cynthia Lange for her hard work and hours of dedication chairing this year's Nominating and Philanthropic Committees.

Deborah Dunkum for helping to host the Young Alumnae Founders Day event.

Dinah McClymonds for doing such a wonderful job chairing our Theta of the Year committee.

Kathy Waugh and Annette Boatwright for taking such beautiful pictures at all of our fall and winter events.

Christina O'Shell for her continued hard work leading the Recruitment Board through spring recruitment, and already preparing for next year!

CARE AND CONCERN

To Gayle Hightower Durie
on the death of her father, Bill Hightower

To Cathy Taylor Chapman
on the death of her husband, Paul Chapman

To Nancy Sellingsloh Bertin
as she recovers from a recent illness

To Jana Laird Phillips as she recovers
from recent surgery

To the friends and family of Margo Loeffler, who
passed away Thursday, January 25

In Our Hearts, Thoughts and Prayers

***New Pledges*****Washington & Lee**

Ellie Davidson

Vanderbilt

Alexis Heim

Jennifer Jacobe*

Caroline Rippeto*

Emory

Emily Talbert*

Legacy*

Baylor

Brittany Bryant*

Hannah Cervone

Catherine Cohen

Chelsea Collmer*

Alexis King*

Hayley Turner

Kimbely Duong

Theta Travelers
KATs on the Trail !
Friday, March 2
10:15 a.m.- 2:30 p.m.

Luncheon at the
home of Linda Denison
3467 Ella Lee Lane, 77027

\$50 Includes Trail Ticket, Transportation and Catered Lunch
Park at the lot near St. Lukes' United Methodist Church
at the corner of Edloe and Kipling
The bus departs promptly at 10:30 a.m.
Tour four homes on the
2018 River Oaks Garden Club Azalea Trail

Pay online at www.houstonthetas.org
or mail a check for \$50 to
Cynthia Hazard, 1402 Regalia Court, 77055

Questions? email Maura Montgomery
at mauramont@yahoo.com or
713-253-6539



HAPA/HATF Annual Scholarship Luncheon

Smooth Sailing for Scholars!

May 3, 2018 at 11:30 AM
The Junior League of Houston

All proceeds benefit Houston Area Panhellenic
Association Foundation Scholarships

If you are interested in joining a Theta table,
please send a \$65 check payable to
Kappa Alpha Theta Houston Alumnae Chapter to:
Cynthia Hazard, 1402 Regalia Court, 77055

Raffle tickets can be purchased for \$1/each from
Ashley Wright at Ashley.ann.wright@gmail.com



Kite and Key Luncheon

Wednesday, April 18

11:30 a.m.

323 Longwoods Ln, 77024

Cost: \$25. Please pay online at
www.houstonthetas.org
or send Cynthia Hazard a check
made out to Houston Alumnae of KAO
at 1402 Regalia Court, 77055

Kappa Alpha Theta

Recruitment 2018-19 Legacy Meeting

Thursday, March 1

9:30 am

*Christina O'Shell's home
130 Radney Road, 77024*

*Do you have a daughter or granddaughter
going through recruitment in 2018/19?
Please join us for a casual informative meeting.*

NCJW Faith and Humanity Award presented to the Kalmans Family

Elyse and Lewis Kalmans along with their three daughters, Aerin, Kendall, and Tali, were honored with the NCJW Faith and Humanity Award at this year's gala. Elyse and her family were recognized for their passion for community service and advocacy through investment of their personal time and resources, including serving in many leadership positions.

The Faith and Humanity Award is presented to a person or persons whose dedication and commitment have contributed significantly to the improvement of the human condition. Congratulations to Elyse and her family!!



Kudos to Liz Rigney, who was honored Saturday evening January 27 at the Camp for All Gala for her long time support. Liz has provided countless hours of volunteer and board service to Camp for All, including former President of the Board.



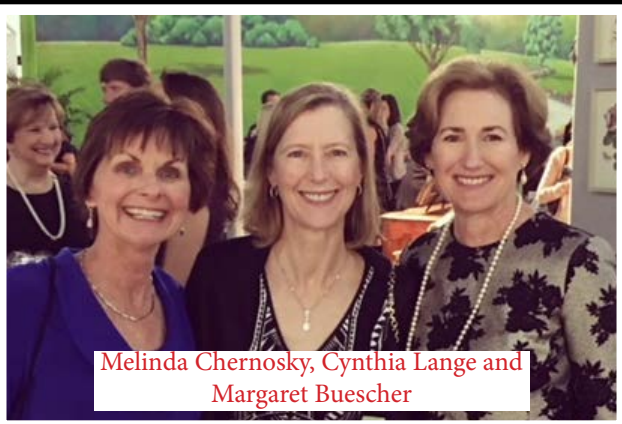
Congratulations Liz!!

Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation Scholarships Review Committee

It's that time of year when Theta Foundation's scholarship program kicks into high gear! Theta Foundation is looking for volunteers to serve on the Foundation's Houston Scholarship Application Review Committee. The 2018 Houston SRC is being chaired by Monisa Cline.

Participation on this committee is very rewarding, as you become a part of the process that makes our scholarship program one of the most respected in the fraternal community. You learn a lot and help change the lives of the fortunate Thetas who receive these scholarships. All reviews will be completed on members' own time via Theta Foundation's online system beginning Friday, March 23 through Wednesday, April 11. Committee service offers an ideal opportunity for those who cannot commit to long-term projects but still want to give back to Theta. If you are interested in serving, please contact Monisa Cline at monisacline@gmail.com for further information. All committee members must be confirmed by Friday, February 23. Thank you for considering this exciting opportunity!

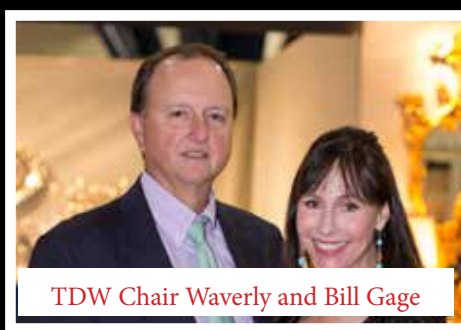
TDW 2017



Melinda Chernosky, Cynthia Lange and Margaret Buescher



Henry and Judy Sauer



TDW Chair Waverly and Bill Gage



Laurie Dorfman with Bill Sikes and guests



Preview Party Chair Deborah Dunkum



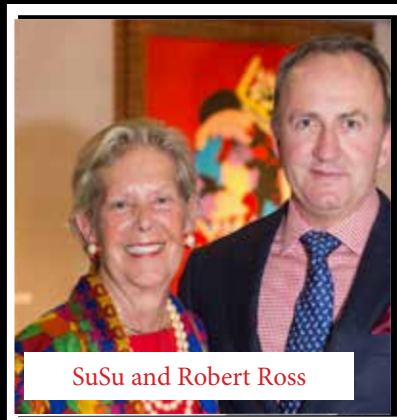
Sarah Eilers with TDW guest



Susan Martin with TDW guests



Sue Nan Cutsinger and Deane White



SuSu and Robert Ross



Laura Renaud, William and Hallie Sims and Guest



Vicki, Waverly and Jennifer with Geoffrey Westergaard



President Margaret Buescher and
Our Gracious Hostess Susie Smith



Lisa Dunwoody, Christina O'Shell,
Casey Rowland, and Elizabeth Biar



Pilar and Hannah Klein



Marisa Costa, Monisa Cline and her mom

OUR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON 2017



Danielle Scheffler and her mom



Allison White, Ann McCulloch and Connie Seger



Nancy Nees, her granddaughter, Avia & daughter, Rachel



Amy Delgado, Marie and Elizabeth Allen



KAPPA ALPHA THETA FOUNDERS DAY



Our Fabulous 50 Year Thetas

Theta of the Year



Laurie Dorfman has willingly taken some of our most difficult jobs and made them look like child's play. We are grateful that she tackles these jobs with apparent ease, making us all look good in the process. Her incredible drive and attention to detail have improved our TDW speaker's program immensely. We know that when Laurie is involved, the outcome will be a quality product. Yet, she never seeks acclaim, so we gladly acknowledge her talents now. We are thankful for Laurie's years of dedication to Theta, and for her long history of volunteering in Houston. There is no more deserving Theta of the Year than Laurie Dorfman.

Twin Star



Melinda Chernosky is everyone's smiling friend and sister. But she is so much more! From a long line of Houston Thetas, she is a behind the scenes cheerleader for all we do. Melinda has served us in many positions, including president of this chapter. Melinda's winning personality makes any difficult task seem less so, and her leadership over many years makes her a truly worthy Twin Star.

Twin Star



Jeannie Osborne stepped up this year to offer her strategic thinking to virtually every aspect of our Theta Design Weekend. Her influence from the very beginning of the show was critical, and assured us that we could make vast changes and still succeed. She applied real world solutions to our issues, solving sticky problems with ease. Everyone agrees...Jeannie is a Twin Star!

Rookie of the Year



Marketing guru **Renee Lewis Cary**. Renee completely revised the marketing plan for the Theta Design Weekend, increasing our profile in Houston's busy social and philanthropic schedule, with great success. She brought her professional expertise to us, and never wavered, even when we were unsure. Thank you Renee!

More Theta Fun & Fellowship



Young Theta Alums Founders Day



Dinah and friends at TDW



WildKats
Christmas Party



Mary Grey Mueroy, Ellie B. and Nina
Wells at the Christmas Party



Sarah Vandiver, Ella Arnold and Sara Grace Elliot
at the Christmas Luncheon



Frances and Ann Cochran
at the Christmas Luncheon



Marie and Susan at the
Christmas Luncheon



Young Theta Alums at the
Beckrew Wine House
celebrating the holidays

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Special Interest Groups

Bible Study	Every Monday, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. at St. Lukes'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, February 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	February 14, 11:30 at Home of Jan Neuenschwander, #6 Woodsborough, 77005 March 14, 11:30 am at the Forest Club, Mary Beth Murphy from Merrill Lynch will speak April 11, 11:30 am at the home of Anne Frischkorn . We meet at 11:15 on 2nd Wednesdays, September through June. If you are interested in joining contact Mary Helen Davenport 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

Wednesday, February 7 6:30 p.m.	Theta / Pi Phi Happy Hour at the home of Pi Phi Heidi Binet, 11120 N. Country Squire Street, 77024, Wine and light bites with our Pi Phi friends!
Wednesday, February 14 10:00 a.m.	Board Meeting at the home of Jane Humpherys, 1275 S. Post Oak Lane, 77056
Wednesday, February 21 10:00 a.m.	Winter Coffee at the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, 4848 Main Street, 77002, Tour the center founded by Theta Sara Morgan, followed by a light lunch.
Friday, March 2 10:15 a.m.	Hop on the bus as we tour the annual Azalea Trail and enjoy lunch at the home of Linda Denison. See details in the Azalea Trail invitation on page 3.
Wednesday March 7 5:30 p.m.	Philanthropic Reception at the home of Janis Henry, 640 Pifer Rd, 77024 Celebrating our 2017 TDW Beneficiaries!