

# KAPPA ALPHA THETA

## *Houston Alumnae Chapter*



### KITE TALE

#### In This Issue

PRESIDENT'S  
MESSAGE 1

PANSY BOUQUETS  
CARE & CONCERN 2

ANTIQUES SHOW 3,4

CRYSTAL BRIDGES  
TRIP, MAH JONGG  
NEW THETAS  
VOLUNTEERING 5

MEETING  
AND INVITATIONS 6

RECRUITMENT EVENTS  
SCHOLARSHIP  
COMMITTEE 7

FOUNDERS' DAY  
THETAS HONORED 8,9

CALENDAR 10

***Don't Miss the  
Special  
Photo  
Christmas  
Issue***

#### PRESIDENT' MESSAGE

Dear Theta Sisters,

I hope your holidays were joyous What a delightful season we've had.

I was exceptionally moved at Founders Day .... celebrating our 75 Year Theta Charlotte Christie Clayton and five of our 50 Year Thetas; Ann Joiner Evans, Janis Frank Henry, Whitney Inness Neuhaus, Susu Scott Ross and Margaret Cecile Shilstone. We even had several 25 Year Thetas that attended. What fun to award Theta

of the Year to Deanne White, our Twin Stars to Nancy Bertin and Joanne Malinak and our Rookie of The Year to Mary Kristen Valentine. Read about them in this edition.

Enjoy this beautiful Kite Tale edition as Joanne always has great pictures and information presented in an appealing way!

I hope you will attend our meeting at Child Advocates and hear the remarkable work they do in the Houston area and that you'll be present to vote on the slate of officers for 2019-20 and the proposed beneficiaries for the 2019 Theta Charity Antiques Show. Please, note Panhellenic dates if you have any headed to college soon.

Suzanne Caram and I had a very interesting meeting with the presidents and president-elects of several other sororities in Houston. We are all facing much the same issues about getting members interested and involved in our chapter activities and finding good fun ways to interact and raise money for local and national non-profits. Know that we care deeply about Theta and are seeking any possible answers.

We also discussed the #StandUpToHarvard issue and all agreed it's time to take action to fight this movement especially at a time when some Greek organizations are having record numbers in the pledge classes. You'll be hearing more about this but you might consider going to the website, reading and signing the petition.

I hope you're enjoying this "winter in Houston" weather while so much of the country is living extreme days!

Loyally in Theta,  
Deborah DeFord Dunkum



## PANSY BOUQUETS TO :

Patty Mahlstedt for hosting the Nite Kites in her lovely & festive home for the Christmas Dinner and Gift exchange.

Carrie Cornelius for planning the Young Alums' White Elephant Party.

Sheryl Beck for opening her warm, inviting home for the Theta Travelers on Kappa Pilgrimage.

Maura McCarthy for being the planning person especial for the Kappa Pilgrimage.

Dorothy Cuenod for hosting the Christmas luncheon and Lois Wright and her industrious committee who planned the special event.

Cynthia Lange and Janis Henry who planned a memorable Founders Day.

Suzanne Caram who corralled our 50 and 75 Year Theta Honorees and stepped up to create the program.

Julie Long, Brittany Page, Julie Harris and Nancy Bertin who welcomed all attendees at Founders' Day

The Arnold Girls: Beverly, Susan Martin and Alice Helms who led the Ritual.

Ruth Hawk for reading our Chapter Roll Call.

Rhonda Barclay, Anderson Barclay and Marci Hamilton for collecting the Friendship Fund.

Those Alumnae who answered Monisa Cline's call to action with the Scholarship reviews.

Dinah McClymonds for her faithful coordinating Mah Jongg, Suzy Heine for Bible Study and Jan Neuenschwander for Bridge.

All Dues Paying Alumnae who attended the evening meeting or who voted online on the recommendation from the Long Range Planning Committee about our much loved Theta Charity Antique Show.

Margaret Buescher for mentoring me throughout the year.

Those Alums who have indicated an interest in participating in the Task Force to research the future endeavors of our chapter.

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## CARE AND CONCERN

To Anne Gorry on the loss of her husband Tony Gorry.

To Jeannie Frazier on the loss of her brother-in-law, Mike Frazier.

To Susu Ross on encouragement recovering from back surgery.

To the family of Mary Carter Hill on her death.

To the family of Nancy McDonough on her death.

To Robert Catlin and Family on the loss of Winifred "Dede" Jacobson Catlin.

To Frances Stewart on the death of her husband, Peter Smith.

To Juile Taetz and Claire Moughon on the death of their father Peter Smith.

### Correction

To Alison Ayers Bell on the loss of her father, George Ayres.



# 2018 Charity Antiques Show

pictures by Jenny Antill



Co-Chairs Vicki Lovin  
and Jennifer O'Donnell



Alumnae President Deborah Dunkum  
Arrow Freedom Place, Debi Tengler



Aston and Ruth Hawk



Toni Wallingford



Sheryl Beck



Peggy Roe



Courtney Ferttia, Jennifer O'Donnell and  
Honorary Show Chair, Ashley Woodson Bailey



Lila Malone, Stephanie Tsuru and  
Walk Leader, Courtney Tartt Elias



Julia Hilton, Liz Rigney and Walk Leader, Hallie Sims



Rebekah Stratton, Allison Ayres and Artist, Will Isbel





Lindsey Herod



Lisa and Mary Elizabeth O'Leary



Wynne and Frances Sharp



Caroline and Laura Suffield



Devon Liedtke and  
Walk Leader, Paloma Contreras



CEO Second Serving, Barbara Bronstein  
and Suzanne Caram



Brad and Lois Wright



Cathy Wilson, Mary Helen Norman  
and Jessica Jacobe



Betty and Steve Newton



Laurie Dorfman,  
Margot Shaw, Editor in Chief of FLOWER  
and Mary Kristen Valentine



Giggy Tanhauser and Melissa Schnitzer



Kate Scott, Artist, McKay Otto  
and Anne Scott Ebert



An Exciting trip to Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, a 2 night stay at the 21c Museum Hotel and a tour of other sites in Bentonville.

Only a few places left. April 9-11, 2019

Contact Cheri Fossler at [cfossler@gmail.com](mailto:cfossler@gmail.com) or Susan Martin at [susan@twmartin.com](mailto:susan@twmartin.com) for more information

or go to the calendar on [www.houstonthetas.org](http://www.houstonthetas.org) and, click on "Theta Travelers - Crystal Bridges" then find link to "event website" for details



**TIME TO  
START  
ANOTHER  
MAH JONGG  
GROUP!**

If you are interested in learning Mah Jong and possibly helping to organize a second group, our original group be happy to help in any way we can.

Please contact Joanne Malinak at [jokm1812@gmail.com](mailto:jokm1812@gmail.com) or 713-725-1667 if you are interested.

## NEW THETAS

**UVA**

Nina Wells \*

**Vanderbilt**

Margret Runnels\*  
Caleigh Doran  
Anna Hogan

**Cornell**

Reagan Newton\*

**Baylor**

Alex Tello  
Georgia Drager

**USC**

Ali Ammons\*

**Tulane**

Ali Rincon

\*Legacy

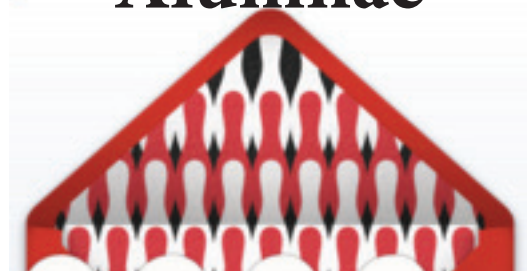
## Calling for Volunteers!

I am building my leadership team for May 2019-April 2020, and welcome members to join me! If you are interested, please reach out via phone or text, 832-860-3861, or email [sfcaram@comcast.net](mailto:sfcaram@comcast.net).

There are multiple types of positions to fill, and we can find one that best suits you.

Thank you for considering.  
Suzanne FitzGerrell Caram,  
President-Elect

## Young Theta Alumnae



Bowling Social  
Tuesday, February 19  
7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
Del Mar Lanes  
3020 Magnum Rd. 77092  
RSVP  
713 899 3107



Young Theta  
Alumnae  
and Figis  
Golf Event  
at  
Top Golf  
Sunday, March 24  
details on Facebook

## Winter Coffee and General Meeting

Wednesday

9:30

February, 20

Child Advocates (CASA)

3701 Kirby Suite 400,

77098



## Houston Alumnae Kappa Alpha Theta Philanthropic Reception

Wednesday, March 6

10:00 a.m.

at the home of  
Ellie Bales

310 Longwoods, 77024



Upcoming Recruitment Event  
for your Calendar!!!  
SAVE THE DATES



### Houston Alumnae Panhellenic Association (HAPA) Recruitment Roundtable

**When:** Saturday, February 16, 2019  
**Time:** Choose a session to attend  
           Session #1 – 10 am  
           Session #2 – 12 noon  
**Where:** St. John the Divine Episcopal Church  
           2450 River Oaks Blvd., Houston, TX 77019  
**Who Should Attend:** High school senior girls or  
           current college undergraduates, residing in  
           Houston, and interested in sorority recruitment

For More info, go to  
[www.houston-panhellenic.org/recruitment](http://www.houston-panhellenic.org/recruitment)



### Theta Legacy Recruitment Coffee Informational Meeting

**When:** Thursday, February 28, 2019  
**Time:** 9:30 a.m.  
**Where:** At the Home of Christina O'Shell  
           Recruitment Chairman  
           130 Radney Road, Houston, TX 77024  
           Rsvp if attending to  
           christinaoshell@gmail.com  
**Who Should Attend:** Mothers and  
           Grandmothers of Theta legacies participating in  
           recruitment in  
           Fall 2019 or Spring 2020

For More Information, go to  
[www.houstonthetas.org/recruitment](http://www.houstonthetas.org/recruitment)



**It is such a joy to participate in encouraging  
our Theta Sisters in their education.**

**One way is to serve on the  
Houston Scholarship  
Application Review Committee.  
This is an online process completed on your  
own time between Friday  
March 23 and April 11. It's an  
especially good way to serve  
Theta if attending  
meetings is a challenge for your schedule!  
This year it is being chaired by  
Monisa CLine (monisacline@gmail.com)  
Please contact her if you want further  
information or want to participate in  
changing the lives of those deserving Thetas.**

**Thank you,  
Deborah Dunkum**



**“KITE ONLY  
FLIES IF IT IS  
TETHERED”**

**VICTOR ROBERT  
LEE**

# *KAPPA ALPHA THETA*

## *FOUNDERS' DAY*

*PICTURES BY ANNETTE BOATWRIGHT*



LIZ, RUTH AND LISA



MARCI AND KELLY



DEBORAH AND SUZANNE



ALICE, BEVERLY AND SUSAN



GRACE AND TAYLOR



BRITTANY, PATSY JUILE



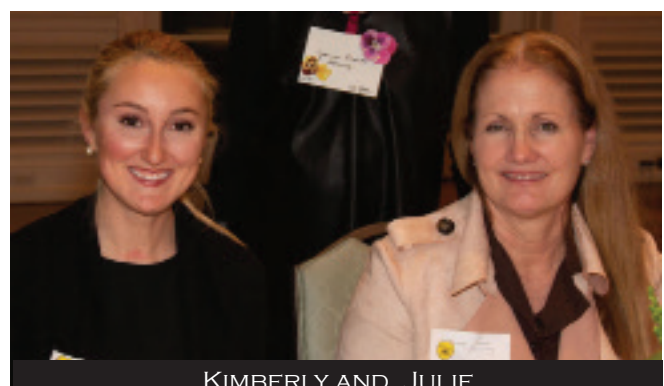
CYNTHIA AND VICKI



RHONDA AND ANDERSON



KELLY, ALLISON, DINAH AND LOIS



KIMBERLY AND JULIE



# FOUNDERS' DAY CONTINUED

## *Fifty Year Thetas pictured to the right*



ANNE CONNER, MARGARET SHILSTONE,  
BETH BLACK AND ANN JOINER



CHARLOTTE C. CLAYTON  
SEVENTY-FIVE YEAR THETA  
WITH JANIS HENRY



JANIS HENRY, BARBARA SHARMAN,  
WHITNEY NEUHAUS AND ALICE HELMS



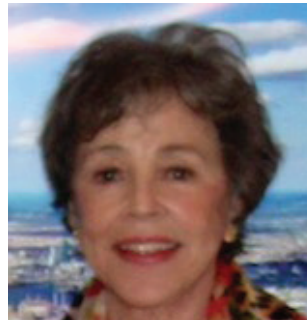
DIANNE TUCKER AND  
SU-SU ROSS



THETA OF THE YEAR  
DEANNE WHITE



TWIN STARS  
NANCY BERTIN AND JOANNE MALINAK



ROOKIE OF THE YEAR  
MARY KRISTEN VALENTINE

Deanne is a UCLA graduate with a degree in English Literature. She is an alumna who steps up to the plate for our chapter and the Antiques Show in many capacities, often reaching out to new Thetas. She has held offices and chaired multiple committees in the chapter and often hosted events in her home. She has been involved in Theta Bible Study. Deanne is charismatic, gentle, winsome, kind and loving, full of grace and humility. She has now found a new outlet for her talent as an illustrator and author. It was her love for animals and their environment that took her to this remarkable endeavor. The readers of her children's books, *Otty* and *Shelly* are indebted to her for her delightful stories. We look forward to the next adventure.

Nancy, Vice President of her chapter and Academic All Star, graduated from University of Texas. She is an alumna who has chaired many positions for the Antique Show including Administrator for three years and 2016 Show Co-Chair. Nancy recently served on the Long Range Planning Committee. She is a beloved and faithful member of the Mah Jong group. She is an administrative guru, guiding us into the future. Nancy has always been a thorough, calm and reliable worker. She has handled with true grace what ever life has brought her way.

Joanne graduated from a Emory University. She is truly "the hostess with the most-est." She has graciously hosted countless meetings for the Antiques Show, Theta Board, Day and Nite Groups. She has held various offices and served on many committees in both the alumnae chapter and the Theta Charity Antiques Show, the most challenging being chair of the Show. The most memorable of Joanne's many jobs was mailing 35,000 Show fliers with Kadge Gupton. This Twin Star has been described as dependable, loyal, organized and downright funny. She meets challenges and finds fun in all she is asked to undertake.

Mary Kristen graduated from University of Texas where she was president of her chapter. Shortly after she joined us it became apparent that she has a can do spirit. capable, organized, energetic, creative, and enthusiastic. Mary Kristen began her marketing career in New York with Phillip Morris. When she returned to Houston, she worked at Texas Children's Hospital, Depelchin Children's Center where she discovered her love of working with non-profit organizations. She recently started her own marketing company. One other first new clients was the 2018 TCAS which she led into a whole new marketing arena.

# CALENDAR

## SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Bible Study	We meet every Monday at St. Luke's Methodist Church Room, R23B1:30 - 3:00 p.m. The group is very casual, very friendly, most welcoming. Join Us! Contact: Suzy Heine suzyq819@gmail.com or 713-858-0802.
Bridge	Theta Bridge on Thursday, February 28 and March 28. We Meet at The Forest Club, 11:00 - 3:00 P.M. for bridge and lunch. All bridge players are welcome. Contact Jan Neuenschwander at janeuen@aol.com or 713-781-889
WildKats Investment Club	Meets 11:30 - 2:00 on the second Wednesday from September -June Meeting and lunch. Wednesday, February, 14 at the home of Jan Neuenschwander #6 Woodsborough, 77005 Wednesday, March 14, Forest Club, Speaker, Mary Beth Murphy from Merrill Lynch Wednesday, April 11, at the home of Anne Frischkorn, 3615 Piping Rock, 77027 Contact Mary Helen Davenport at 713-523-9065 or Marti Peterson at 713-254-4330
Mah Jongg	Meets every Monday from 1- 4:30 p.m. in our homes. Our current roster of players is full, but we have a substitute list, which you are welcome to join. If there is room, we will contact you with the location of the game. A second Theta Mah Jongg group may be formed as well. If you are interested in playing, either as a sub or in a second group, please contact Dinah McClymonds at 832-594-0407, or dinahmcc49@gmail.com.

## MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Board Meeting Wednesday February 13	Theta Board Meeting at the home of Maura McCarthy, 13507 Alchester, 77079
Young Theta Alumnae Tues. Feb. 19 7.p.m.-9 p.m.	Bowling Social at Del Mar Lanes, 3020 Magnum Rd. 77092 RSVP 713 899 3107
General Meeting Wednesday February 20 9:30 a.m.	Winter Coffee and General Meeting at Child Advocates (CASA) 3701 Kirby, Suite #400, 77098
General Meeting Wednesday March 6 10:00 a.m.	Philanthropic Reception at the home of Ellie Bale, 310 Longwoods Lane, 77024