



KAPPA ALPHA THETA
Houston Alumnae Chapter
KITE TALE

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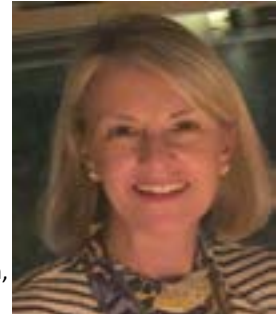
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***“You will find truth
more quickly through
delight than gravity. Let
out a little more string
on your kite.”***

Alan Cohen

Dear Theta sisters,

Today is March 31. I write this letter while peering out our living room windows at a beautiful spring evening in Houston. Many families are walking dogs and keeping children active. Earlier we learned that County Judge Lina Hidalgo and Mayor Sylvester Turner have extended the “Stay Home/Work Safe” mandate through, at least, April 30. The COVID-19 pandemic is real and relentless.



As Judge Hidalgo mentioned, these are uncharted times. And since we are a social group, this is particularly difficult for many of us. I hope you and your family are well, and that you remain safe and physically distant from others as requested by our city and county leadership.

I am sad to cancel our Kite & Key luncheon that Cooky Mays, Patsy Holmes and Joanne Malinak worked on so diligently. In addition, we have cancelled our in-person End of Year Board meeting and luncheon on Wednesday, May 6. We will have a Zoom meeting for the Board that day and I am arranging a Zoom meeting for our general membership as well. More news on that in an upcoming Mail Chimp eblast.

As of printing deadline, we do not know the status of the HAPA Scholarship luncheon on May 7 at the Junior League. As soon as we are notified, we will share with those who have registered. *If there is a change*, HAPA leadership has told us the event will be cancelled rather than postponed as too difficult to arrange scholarship attendees, speaker, etc. On a positive note, we will be notified soon about the recipient of the HAPA/Houston Alumnae Chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta \$2000 scholarship. All of these scholarships are need-based, so it is very impactful providing this financial support to these young collegians...especially at this time.

This is my last Kite Tale edition. It has been my honor to serve you as Alumnae Chapter President. I cherish the new friendships made and other friendships strengthened these past 12 months. Our chapter is in extremely capable hands with Dinah McClymonds taking the helm. She has been a joy to work with and I look forward to supporting her next year. Due to our May meeting cancellation, we will hold the 2020-2021 board installment at the first meeting in the fall.

I look forward to “talking” with you via Zoom. And may each one of you have a wonderful summer holiday. With prayers, let us hope these difficult times pass and we can return to a more comfortable pace of life.

Theta love,

Suzanne FitzGerrell Caram
President
Delta Omega '78

P.S. Within the next couple of weeks, we will send a MailChimp eblast asking for a vote on the February meeting minutes as well as the Chapter's 2020-2021 budget.

Congratulations!!

Houston Theta Alumnae Chapter Slate of Officers 2020-21

President	Dinah Hampton McClymonds
President-Elect	Monisa Cox Cline
Vice President	Maura Aiken McCarthy
Recording Secretary	Courtney Williams Blair
Corresponding Secretary	Laura Elliot Suffield
Treasurer	Beth Bridges Cozby
Treasurer-Elect	Cathy Davis Bell
Editor	Dina Sullivan Ormiston
Panhellenic Delegate	Deborah DeFord Dunkum
Chapter Advisor	Suzanne FitzGerrell Caram
Financial Advisor	Marci Curry Hamilton



Left to Right - Marci Hamilton, Beth Cozby, Deborah Dunkum, Monisa Cline,
Dina Ormiston, Maura McCarthy, Suzanne Caram
Not Pictured: Dinah McClymonds, Courtney Blair, Laura Suffield, Cathy Bell

PANSY BOUQUETS to :

Jennifer O'Donnell for hosting our Winter/February Coffee "Smart in the Kitchen" with Marcia Smart, and the hostess committee who assisted her including **Mimi Brown, Nancy Craig, Lindsey Herod, Elyse Kalmans, Vicki Lange, Vicki Lovin** and **Ruthie Waldrop**.

Christina O'Shell for hosting our Legacy Recruitment Meeting and **Dinah McClymonds** for organizing and getting the word out. Our Recruitment Committee for 2020-2021 including Chair **Christina O'Shell, Emily Bolin** and **JudyAnn McCartney** (UT), **Dawn Koenig** and **Susie Smith** (A & M), **Alison Martin** (SMU), **Madeline Gregory** (Baylor), **Sydney Leach** (TCU), **Katherine Belk** (Tech), **Andrea Ferruzzo** and **Kelly Zenner** (Out-of-State Fall), and **Megan Parker** (Out-of-State Spring).

Debbie Pedrick for orchestrating a delightful Azalea Trail outing, and **Deanne White** for hosting in her lovely home....and assisted by **Janis Henry**. We had a full bus of Thetas and friends and a perfect spring day!

Margaret Buescher and **Cindy Balderach** for chairing our lovely Beneficiary Coffee, and to **Janis Priest** for opening her warm and beautiful home. Thanks also to the greeters including **Ruth Hawk, Joanne Malinak** and **Paige Griffin**, and to greeters who assisted with our beneficiaries. And finally, to the entire Antiques Show Committee for making our \$281,000 gift tally a grand finale!

Although cancelled: to **Patsy Holmes, Cooky Mays** and **Joanne Malinak** for planning our Kite & Key event; to **Cheri Fossler** and **Nicole Manning** for planning the End of Year Board meeting and luncheon.

And finally, to **Dina Ormiston** for publishing our beautiful Kite Tale; to **Marci Hamilton** for keeping tabs on our budget and to **Liz Rigney** for supplying us with nametags.

Everyone has a part to play in making this chapter the special group that it is. Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

CARES AND CONCERNS

JANUARY

TO NANCY GORDON DEWALCH ON THE DEATH OF HER FATHER, DON GORDON, ON JANUARY 12TH

TO SUZIE GORMAN WILSON FOR ENCOURAGEMENT AND STRENGTH AS SHE AIDS HER HUSBAND IN RECOVERY FROM AN ACCIDENT

FEBRUARY

TO LINDA BEELEY DENISON FOR ENCOURAGEMENT AND STRENGTH AS SHE HEALS FROM AN ANEURYSM

TO NANCY SAUER ON THE DEATH OF HER MOTHER IN LATE JANUARY

TO JAN WASHINGTON DAVIS FOR ENCOURAGEMENT AND STRENGTH AS SHE HEALS FROM A FALL

TO MELINDA MCCONN CHERNOSKY ON THE BIRTH OF HER GRANDSON, ABRAM MARTIN JOHNSON, ON FEBRUARY 3RD

TO ELIZABETH LOOK BIAR ON THE DEATH OF HER BROTHER, GARY LOOK, ON FEBRUARY 3RD

TO THE FAMILY OF TRACEY LYNN NELSON ON HER PASSING ON FEBRUARY 12

TO MARTHA TAYLOR JONES FOR STRENGTH AND ENCOURAGEMENT AS SHE HEALS FROM KNEE REPLACEMENT

TO VIRGINIA MITCHELL PURCELL ON THE DEATH OF HER SISTER IN FEBRUARY

TO LAURA A. EASTON ON THE DEATH OF HER FATHER, BOBBY EASTON, ON FEBRUARY 20TH

MARCH

TO KRISSI HORNE REID ON THE DEATH OF HER FATHER-IN-LAW, JOSEPH REID, ON MARCH 5TH

TO LISA LOWRY SCHWARTZ ON THE DEATH OF HER FATHER ON MARCH 27

TO DEBORAH DUNKUM ON THE PASSING OF HER BROTHER JEFF ON MARCH 27

TO THE FAMILY OF MARGARET MCCULLOUGH BUESCHER ON HER PASSING ON MARCH 31

APRIL

TO JUDY CAMP SAUER FOR STRENGTH AND ENCOURAGEMENT AS SHE NURSES HER HUSBAND BACK TO GOOD HEALTH

TO LIZ WINFIELD RIGNEY ON THE BIRTH OF HER GRANDDAUGHTER, ROSIE JAMES RIGNEY, ON APRIL 2ND

TO ELLIE BALE ON THE PASSING OF HER MOTHER MARY FRANCES HILLYER HARTER

KATS on the Trail!!

Thetas on the River Oaks Garden Club's Azalea Trail Home and Garden Tour



CHAPTER & INDIVIDUAL GRANTS

Did you know that Theta Foundation offers grants to college **and alumnae chapters** as well as individual college **and alumnae members** for participation in non-degree programs? Examples of programs that Thetas have participated in with the help of Theta Foundation grant funding include:

- An alumna presenting her research at an academic conference,
- An alumna obtaining a specific non-degree certification to improve her career trajectory,
- An alumna with aspirations of pursuing medicine participating in a medical mission in a developing country,
- An alumnae chapter hosting a self-defense and conflict resolution workshop for members, their families, and collegians from nearby college chapters.

The deadline for applications for programs beginning on or after June 1 is **April 15 at 3:00 p.m.** Eastern Time! For more information about Theta Foundation grants, [please visit Theta's website](#) or [contact Foundation Programs Manager Mary Kate Smith](#). Apply now!



HAPA Foundation 34th Annual Scholarship Luncheon

Unlock the Potential

Guest Speaker:

Carole Jones, Alpha Omicron Pi

National Panhellenic Conference Chairman 2019-21

Recognizing:

2020-2021 Collegiate Scholarship Winners

Welcoming: Suzanne Stiles, Pi Beta Phi

Incoming HAPA President 2020-2021

PENDING

Benefitting:

The HAPF Scholarship Program

Thursday, May 7, 2020

11:30 am

(Check-in begins at 11:00 am)

Junior League of Houston, Ballroom

1811 Briar Oaks Lane

Houston, TX 77027

Please join your Theta sisters at our table!

Mail your \$65 check, payable to Houston Alumnae of Kappa Alpha Theta 5773 Woodway Drive, #260, Houston, Tx. 77057. **Deadline April 30.**

Questions??

Contact Suzanne Caram sfcaram@comcast.net,

832-860-3861 or

Laura Guillory lauraguillory@gmail.com, 713-757-2779.

Submit your Expenses!

Please send in all outstanding Requests for Reimbursements by May 1. Reimbursement forms can be found at houstonthetas.org. Go to Forms/Houston Alumnae Chapter Forms. Any questions? Contact Marci Hamilton, marcihamilton5@gmail.com. Thank you!

Let's Get Social!

Let's Talk!

Please follow the Houston Alumnae of Kappa Alpha Theta on social media and tell others!

Houston Thetas on Instagram

Houston Alumnae of Kappa Alpha Theta on Facebook



Margaret McCullough Buescher
1954-2020

It is with a heavy heart that I share the sad news of Margaret Buescher's passing. She died on March 31 at the young age of 65. Margaret held many offices and committee chairmanships in our beloved chapter. Among her varied roles, she will be remembered as a stellar Chapter President as well as a much-deserving "Theta of the Year". Her private burial service was held in Kerrville on April 5. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Society of Colonial Dames of America, Vanderbilt University, Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation or a charity of your choice. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. We will keep you posted. God rest her soul!
We will keep you posted as we are working on a memory book for Margaret's family.

Winter Coffee and General Meeting with a cooking demo by Marcia Smart of Smart in the Kitchen



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

Special Interest Groups

Bible Study	The group is very casual, very friendly, most welcoming. Join Us! Contact: Suzy Heine suzyq819@gmail.com or 713-858-0802.
Bridge	Theta Bridge meets at The Forrest Club for bridge and lunch. All bridge players are welcome. If you would like to play, please contact Jan Neuenschwander at janeuen@aol.com or 713-542-1823.
WildKats Investment Club	Meets monthly followed by lunch. If interested, contact Kathy Waugh at kathleen_waugh@me.com .
Mah Jongg	We take turns hosting in our homes. Currently, our group is full, but occasionally, we add a player or two. If you are interested, please contact Dinah McClymonds at 832-242-3191, or at Dinahmcc49@gmail.com .



THETA WILDKATS CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Hello Thetas,

As next year's chapter President, I wanted to say a few words about our ever-changing situation. You will be reading this after being quarantined in your home for days, possibly weeks. Thinking about NEXT YEAR is impossible when we don't know what the next day will bring. My job is to think about our chapter, and I am sure that we love helping our community while fostering our friendships. This national crisis has changed so many things, but not that. So, the board and I will work to plan next year's schedule just as before, hoping that we can all convene in September to share laughs, hugs (!) and lots of stories.

There are many new ideas in the works for next year already. Soon, you will receive your dues letter and the Interest and Involvement Sheet, which lists many more opportunities for you to get involved. I hope you will read it closely and check those things that interest you, as we want to have fun, but we also hope to utilize your talents and skills in new ways! Your dues letter will be arriving in May, but the deadline to pay will be extended to mid-June. **There will be NO increase in dues.** In fact, if you are a Theta Star member (\$100), we hope to dedicate the extra funds you pay (\$35) to offset the membership of Young Thetas and others who cannot afford to pay dues next year. "Paying it Forward" will allow Thetas to remain alumnae members during this difficult time.

We are also working diligently to adjust our budget. We depend on your dues (the chapter keeps \$34 of your \$65 payment, \$31 goes to the Fraternity) to operate, and we will still need to ask you to pay to attend individual events such as Founders Day. We will cut back where we can and be creative with our funds...the same way you budget at home. We hope you will consider your Theta membership important enough to sustain, for "a lifetime."

One of the changes we are making this year is to create a digital Directory. Most other organizations, and virtually all Theta alumnae chapters have stopped printing a directory, due to the high costs of printing and postage. We have been working on this for a while now, and we will make it "user friendly," so don't worry. I think you will see what a useful tool it is for us, and you'll feel SO SMART when using it. We will all be learning how to use it together, so please be patient and help us make this a smooth transition. In closing, I am going to share with you some words directly from Theta Headquarters:

This is definitely a time of uncertainty! But since our founding 150 years ago, Thetas have experienced good times, bad times, and in-between times. During all of these, our sisterhood has supported and uplifted us and helped us be resilient and strong. With patience, kindness, and perseverance, we will all come through this.

My very best to all of you, please stay safe.

Theta love and mine,

Dinah McClymonds, President, 2020-2021

The following are the HAPA Committee Sign-up Sheets. They need this information for next year’s yearbook and to plan for next year’s meetings and events. If interested, please notify Dinah McClymonds, dinahmcc49@gmail.com, 832-242-3191, by June 1, 2020.

HOUSTON ALUMNAE PANHELLENIC ASSOCIATION

COMMITTEE SIGN UP 2020-21 - DUE 6/1/20

SORORITY _____

Delegates and Presidents: Please ask members of your sorority to sign up and serve on one or more of the following committees in Panhellenic. Make sure that all their contact information is included! We would like a good mix of groups serving on each committee. For more details of each committee, please see HAPA Bylaws and Standing Rules in the Yearbook.

SEND TO YEARBOOK CHAIRMAN 2020-21

LIZ AREND

servicehj.lizarend@gmail.com

Bylaws Committee: Reviews the Bylaws and Standing Rules annually for recommendations and changes. Refers changes to the HAPA Executive Board.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
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2.

3.

Community Service Committee: Our Community Service Project is RIF-- Reading is Fundamental. Members help the Chairman and the Librarian at Spring Branch Elementary each year.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
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1.

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Courtesy Committee: Members help the Chairman with Name Tags at Board Meetings and General Meetings.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
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Finance Committee: The Finance Committee is made up of members selected by the Chairman in accordance with the HAPA Bylaws, Article VII. Standing Committees, Section 5, (D)

Membership Committee: Members of this committee gather a list of each sorority's names and addresses of their President, Mothers' Club President, and National Officers living in the Greater Houston Area and any other information requested to provide to the Corresponding Secretary.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
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Nominating Committee: The Nominating Committee is selected by the Chairman in accordance with the HAPA Bylaws, Article X – Nominating Committee, Section 2

Program Committee: Assist the Chairman with planning Programs for the General Meetings.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
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Publicity Committee: Assist the Chairman with print, electronic and social media publicity.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
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2.			
3.			

Recruitment Committee: Members should sign up to serve on this committee, however, the specifics of who will serve and for how long is defined in the HAPA Bylaws, Article VII – Standing Committees, Section 5, (I)

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
1.			
2.			

Recruitment Information Committee: Handles all matters pertaining to the collection and distribution of Houston recruitment information and assists with Recruitment Roundtable held annually in February.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
1.			
2.			
3.			

Research and Education Committee: Plans a Roundtable for area Panhellenic members in the fall.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
1.			
2.			
3.			

Scholarship Selection Committee: Selects the HAPA Scholarship Recipients. Must be able to attend a day-time meeting in March.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
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Social Committee: Assists the Chairman as needed at the General Meetings.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
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Ways and Means Committee: Responsible for the May Annual Luncheon which is given to raise funds for the HAPF Scholarship Program.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
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Wine Tasting: Assists with planning and staging the Wine Tasting. This function is a HAPF event, however, committee chairmen and members are not required to be a Foundation Trustee

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
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Yearbook Committee: Prepares, proofs and distributes the yearbook

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address with Zip</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>email</u>
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DEADLINE 6/1/20