



KAPPA ALPHA THETA

Houston Alumnae Chapter

KITE TALE

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“Resilience is accepting your new reality, even if it's less good than the one you had before. You can fight it, you can do nothing but scream about what you've lost, or you can accept that and try to put together something that's good”

Elizabeth Edwards

Dear Theta Sisters,

Welcome to the fall of 2020, Thetas! We have all had an extended summer, but it was probably not the carefree time we expected to have. So much has changed in our world, but I hope you think of your Theta experience as timeless, and your Theta friends as constant.



So, while it might be impossible for us to gather in person this fall, I hope we can still schedule some activities that will keep you entertained. Let's be spontaneous and creative! If you have an idea or two, feel free to pass them along to me. Surely with all the talented members in our chapter, there will be some great ideas to explore. It could be that the challenges we face will lead us to even more exciting things for our chapter to do together in the future, when the virus is no longer a hindrance to our plans.

I want you to know that we will do everything we can to provide activities that all of us can do safely. That will mean some flexibility on your part. Instead of our regularly scheduled monthly meetings, we might send out an email blast a few days in advance, asking you to come to an outdoor venue for socially distanced conversation, with some coffee and breakfast treats, or maybe even a picnic lunch. Or a late afternoon or evening Happy Hour in a yard that is large enough for everyone to spread out. We'll also schedule events on Zoom, providing another way we can “gather” without risk. We'll be taking this slowly, from month to month, based on the recommendations of our city officials and health experts. I am sure you understand our limitations, and we understand your concerns.

I also want to suggest that we be much more casual and relaxed. If we must meet outside or on Zoom, then please dress casually! This is not the time to wear your church dress or serious suit. If we are able to schedule an indoor event, depending on the program, you'll know what to wear. In fact, since we've been in our yoga pants and tee shirts all summer, it might be fun to dress up for a change. This is all part of our “new normal,” so get ready to shake things up!

I am personally pleased to welcome each of you to the Theta Alumnae Chapter, to enjoy it at your own speed, in your own time, and with your own friends. Less structure, more fun! Let's work to make this WORK. Without YOU, there is no chapter. So please help me by being **earnest, faithful and enthusiastic** participants in this new venture called Kappa Alpha Theta, circa 2020.

Loyally,
Dinah McClymonds
Chapter President, 2020-2021

PANSY BOUQUETS

So many Thetas have been working tirelessly to keep our chapter humming! They kept up the pace, even when we had no idea what the year would bring. I cannot thank them enough for their help.

Jeannie Osborne, Amy Sedano, and Lindsay Chernosky for their technical expertise in preparing our database, directory, and website. There is no way to say how much we appreciate their hard work, but you'll see it in the emails you receive, the new digital directory you use, and on our beautiful website. Incredible work, ladies.

Maura McCarthy, who cheerfully helped me bounce ideas around. Whether on chapter programming or how we can best utilize our new Special Interest Groups, she was always willing to talk. Thank you, Maura.

Beth Cozby and Marci Hamilton for their seamless transition in our Treasurer job. With Marci's help, Beth was able to efficiently handle our dues paying process with ease. Great work!

Laura Suffield, who wrote the most beautiful and meaningful notes to our Theta sisters who experienced health issues, and even deaths in their families. It has been a terrible time for many of us, but Laura's notes were an expression of love and faith to those who were hurting. Thank you, Laura.

Cynthia Lange and Janet Lionberger, who agreed to Chair the Care and Concern Committee, which was busy this summer, supplying small gifts to those who were ill, or experienced tough family situations. Thank you, ladies.

Melinda Chernosky, who listened to my complaints and questions, and helped me get some resolution to my problems. Thanks for your advice, Melinda!

Suzanne Caram, who was a great help and sounding board this summer, as I assumed the Presidency. And... she was able to dramatically reduce the amount of "President's stuff" and deliver it to me in June. She also organized a Zoom meeting of all the local Sorority Presidents, so that we could share ideas and strategies for operating in a difficult time. Thank you so much, Suzanne.

Christina O'Shell and our entire Recruitment Committee, thank you for your flexibility this year, when nothing was the same as before. The ability to forge forward, when the rules have changed, is a gift. And

Elizabeth Biar is a wizard at posting great news on Facebook and Instagram, including photos of our new Thetas. A BIG thank you to all of you!

And to **Dina Ormiston**, who is reaffirming her status as a Twin Star, by efficiently assembling our first Kite Tale of the year. Kuddos to Dina!

Many other Thetas have been silently doing their jobs, without fanfare. ALL of you are so appreciated! We are so lucky to be sisters, yes we are!

CARE AND CONCERN

MARCH, 2020

SHARON TEVIS MYERS...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE DEATH OF HER BROTHER JIM TEVIS

MAY, 2020

MARY KAY FENNEL MOHRMANN... PRAISE AND JOY THAT SHE CONTINUES TO BE CANCER FREE

JUNE, 2020

CAROLYN HAMILTON CRUSE...STRENGTH AND ENCOURAGEMENT AS SHE NURSES HER HUSBAND, SAM BACK TO HEALTH

COOKY MADDOX MAYS...PEACE, HEALING AND STRENGTH AS SHE RECOVERS FROM COVID AND PNEUMONIA

LAURA ELLIOTT SUFFIELD...JOY AND CONGRATULATIONS ON THE BIRTH OF HER GRANDSON, JACK THOMAS PATTERSON, JUNE 18TH

EMILY ATWELL CROSSWELL...STRENGTH AND ENCOURAGEMENT DURING THE ILLNESS OF HER HUSBAND, HOLCOMBE, AND DAUGHTER, CLARE

LINDA BEELEY DENISON...COMFORT AND STRENGTH AS SHE AND HER HUSBAND, MACK, RECOVER FROM COVID

JULY, 2020

CHRISTI NEUENSCHWANDER PARKER...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE DEATH OF HER FATHER, DON NEUENSCHWANDER

LINDA LITTLE BROWN...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE DEATH OF HER MOTHER, HELEN KOEHLER LITTLE

MARJORIE SHEPHERD NELSON...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE DEATH OF HER HUSBAND, DICK NELSON

SANDY DREWS LUCAS...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE LOSS OF HER MOTHER, MICKY DREWS

DEBORAH DEFORD DUNKUM...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE LOSS OF HER BROTHER, RON DEFORD

MARY KRISTEN PLUMHOFF VALENTINE...PEACE AND PRAYERS AS HER DAD IS IN THE HOSPITAL WITH COVID, PNEUMONIA

ANNE UHRBROCK CLUTTERBUCK...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE LOSS OF HER FATHER-IN-LAW, DONALD CLUTTERBUCK

COOKY MADDOX MAYS...WENT HOME TO BE WITH THE LORD ON SUNDAY, JULY 19...COMFORT AND PRAYERS TO HER FAMILY

BEVERLY BINTLIFF ARNOLD...NOTE OF THOUGHTS AND LOVE

OLIVIA FORD MUNSON...NOTE OF THOUGHTS AND LOVE

SUSAN HARVIN LAWHON...NOTE OF CONDOLENCE ON THE LOSS OF HER THETA MOTHER, HELEN BECK HARVIN

CHERYL COLLIE BRUYERE...COMFORT AND LOVE ON THE LOSS OF HER MOTHER-IN-LAW, JANE ROBINSON BRUYERE ENGLISH

CYNTHIA JONES LANGE...NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND LOVE AS HER SISTER IS IN HOSPICE

WENDY BOULD WRIGHT...NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND LOVE AS SHE RECOVERS FROM KNEE REPLACEMENT SURGERY

AUGUST, 2020

JOANNE MALINAK...PEACE AND PRAYERS AS HER HUSBAND BOB RECOVERS FROM COMPLICATIONS FROM BACK SURGERY

ALLISON ALLISON... COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE DEATH OF HER MOTHER, SUZANNE CAIN

AMY SEDANO...STRENGTH AND ENCOURAGEMENT AS SHE RECOVERS FROM HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY

Jo ANN (PAT) PATERSON HODGES...A RECENT 75 YEAR THETA HONOREE, PASSED AWAY ON AUGUST 13

SUZANNE SIKES MCKENZIE...NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT AND LOVE AS SHE RECOVERS FROM A STROKE

Theta Foundation Announces Houston Scholarship Recipients for the 2020-2021 Academic Year

Due to the generous support of **Houston Kappa Alpha Theta Alumnae and the Antiques Show**, 17 Theta scholars will further their education. They are among the 308 college and alumnae Thetas who received \$869,130 in scholarship funding this year. Recipients embody the Theta ideals of academic excellence, commitment to community, and genuine love for Theta. A special thanks to the members of the Houston Scholarship Application Review Committee for their hard work and dedication evaluating scholarship applications in the midst of a global pandemic!

From our eight Houston area scholarship funds, 10 members were awarded \$21,175. **Congratulations!**

Scholarship	Recipient(s)	School	Amount
Betty B. Hatchett	Shea McClellan	Tulsa	\$2,175
Dorothy W. Heard	Megan Hopkins	Wake Forest	\$1,875
	Malvi Mehta	UT Dallas	\$1,200
	Amanda Perez	Occidental	\$1,000
Houston TCAS	Riley Malloy	TCU	\$2,700
Lucille M. Garrett	Anna Fritz	TCU	\$2,625
Marilyn C. Lynch	Lyndsay Parks Schoenhals	Oklahoma State	\$2,850
Mary Frances Couper	Jordan Lazenby	Missouri	\$2,150
Mary M. McDonald	Kelley Skinner	UT Dallas	\$2,350
Virginia B. Shilstone	Mihkai Warren Wickline	TCU	\$2,250

Scholarships funded by these Houston alumnae were also awarded:

Anne S. Budill	Catie Brumit	Stetson	\$1,100
Mary Catherine Miller	Sarah Byrne	Washington & Jefferson	\$1,050
Monisa C. Cline	Grace Bush	Georgetown	\$1,500
	Harper Taylor	Baylor	\$1,000
	Ellie Thomas	Baylor	\$1,000
Dinah McClymonds	Riley Malloy	TCU	\$1,375
Judy Sauer	Claire Gilmore	Texas A&M	\$2,250

In addition to these scholarship funds, thanks to the **Houston Alumnae Chapter Named Grant Endowment Fund**, the following Theta alumna received a grant to participate in a non-degree educational program:

Robyn Powell	UC San Diego	\$2,250
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Bastille Day!!



WildKats Investment Club Zooming

**MAKE A MEMORIAL GIFT TO
BAYOU BEND IN COOKY MAY'S HONOR**

MFAH Development has confirmed the official name of the endowment is Theta Charity Antiques Show Accessions Endowment.

You may send donations to my attention at Bayou Bend PO Box 6826 Houston TX 77265. Make the check out to Bayou Bend Collection and Gardens. Include a short note indicating it is for the Theta endowment in Cooky's memory. If you like you can also note on the check memo line: TCAS Endowment.

If there is someone in the family you would like notified that you have made a gift to the endowment in her memory, please include that name and address information in the note you enclose.

I know Cooky would be so touched that you thought to do this. The endowment is a forever source of funding for the Bayou Bend Collection that through her Theta service she helped enrich over the decades.

Bonnie Campbell
Director of Bayou Bend

**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





Amanda Perez escaping the city!

Theta Charity Antiques Show Funds at Work

Holly Hall was a beneficiary of the 2019 TCAS and received funding for It's Never Too Late (iN2L) program. iN2L is a picture-based touch screen device that allows residents to simply "touch" their way to find engaging, educational, spiritual, and personalized content that is appropriate to their own level of ability. There are endless opportunities for engagement, exercise, rehabilitation, worship and more. The systems are portable and can deliver one-on-one engagement or be setup in a larger space for community activities. Holly Hall has been utilizing iN2L to provide residents the opportunity to video chat with their families during the COVID-19 pandemic. In times such as these, this technology is extremely valuable to residents' social engagement.



Samantha Page, a new Theta at Texas Tech is the younger sister of Brittany Page, our Young Theta Chairman



Mihkai Wickline, alumna and former chapter president of Gamma Psi Chapter (TCU), recipient of the Virginia Bryant Shilstone Scholarship

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.

WELCOME FALL 2020 NEW MEMBERS

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

Audrey Birdwell - Memorial*
 Joan "Caroline" Bruce - Stratford
 Caitlyn Coerver - St. Agnes Academy
 Grace Gammill - Memorial
 Emma Gilliam - Kinkaid**
 Addy Hoss - St. Agnes Academy
 Kelsey Hranicky - Memorial
 Carson Keller - Kinkaid*
 Eliza Lawrence - Kinkaid
 Virginia Lummis - Episcopal, VA*
 Olivia Nance - Memorial
 Emme Patterson - Memorial
 Delaney Peters - Lamar*
 Gigi Talbert - Memorial
 Allison Tucker - Memorial*
 Anna Van Os - Kinkaid*
 Isabelle Vobbe - Episcopal**
 Lily White - Memorial*

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

Ana Goodman - Lamar
 Claire Sullivan - St. Agnes Academy*

* Denotes a Theta Legacy
 ** Denotes a Sophomore
 * ** Denotes a Sophomore Theta Legacy

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Cameron Cunningham - St. John XIII
 Danielle Demoës - Memorial* **
 Avery Graham - St. Agnes Academy
 Kendall Pennington - Second Baptist*
 Emory Reilly - St. Agnes Academy
 Abbey Shewmake - Second Baptist
 Annie Stephens - Memorial* **

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Tayln Burgess Jiminez - Memorial
 Laine Cohen - Emery/Weiner
 Lauren Cooke - St. Agnes Academy
 Nicole Krueger - Second Baptist
 Sophie Louis - St. Agnes Academy
 Charity Perito - Second Baptist
 Rachel Reed - Kinkaid

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Kendra Evans - Memorial

Sincerest Thank Yous To The Houston Alumnae Chapter

One of the most pleasurable experiences for the President of the chapter is that she receives the thank you notes from the Thetas this chapter has helped by funding scholarships they have received. These women are then able to pursue their educations at all levels and also to participate in life-changing non-academic pursuits. A few examples:

Kalila Shapiro, alumna of Theta Kappa Chapter (Rochester), who received the Houston Alumnae Chapter Grant fund. She was scheduled to attend PyCon and run the first ever technological art show, but it was canceled due to the coronavirus. She nevertheless wrote us a very heartfelt note of thanks for supporting her in her endeavor as one of our Theta sisters.

Malvi Mehta, recipient of the Dorothy Whitehurst Heard Scholarship. She is attending medical school at UT-Health Houston, where she is studying Pediatrics.

Amanda Alissa Perez, alumna of Eta Mu Chapter (Occidental College) also a recipient of the Dorothy W. Heard scholarship, who is entering graduate school to attain her MBA. Amanda is a member of the Houston Alumnae chapter! See the photo of Amanda on her tour of National Parks this summer.

Anna Fritz, alumna of Gamma Psi Chapter (TCU) and Duke University (Beta Rho), the recipient of the Lucille Moore Garrett Scholarship, who is pursuing her doctorate in Nursing Practice with a specialty in Pediatric Acute and Primary Care at Johns Hopkins University.

Kelley Skinner, a senior at Zeta Upsilon Chapter (UT-Dallas), who received the Mary Margaret Perry McDonald Scholarship. Kelley is co-captain of the UT-D Women's Basketball team and is getting an Education degree to become a teacher and coach.

Mihkai Wickline, alumna and former chapter president of Gamma Psi Chapter (TCU), recipient of the Virginia Bryant Shilstone Scholarship, who will earn her PhD in Nursing at the University of Washington. Mihkai has worked for 24 years as a nurse specializing in bone marrow transplants, and wants to now teach other nurses how to care for cancer patients. She sent a photo of herself with her three pre-teenage children (see above), saying this scholarship will allow her to go to school for 60-80 hours per week and take care of her family without having to work.

Robyn Powell, alumna of Zeta Rho (University of CA, Davis), who received our chapter's Named GRANT, allowing her to attend a 5-month program, learning the skills needed to coach others to achieve their life goals. Robyn is also serving as the Alumnae District Director of District XIV as a Theta alumnae officer.

NOTES FROM OTHERS

From Suzanne FitzGerrell Caram, thanking the chapter for making a gift in her honor to the Delta Omega Theta in Need Fund, after her year in service as President of the Houston Alumnae Chapter.

From the Family of Margaret McCullough Buescher, in appreciation of our kindness and sympathy after Margaret's passing on March 31, 2020.

From the Houston Area Panhellenic Foundation, condolences on the loss of Cooky Mays, who served as a Trustee of the HAPF Foundation, from Merry Adamcik, HAPF President. And, a thank you note from Debbie Jones, for the full-page ad the chapter placed in the HAPA Directory, in honor of Cooky.



September General Meeting
By Zoom

Kappa Alpha Theta is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Theta General Meeting

Time: Sep 16, 2020 10:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/95418493483?pwd=VFBxS3pWS3BQZ01yWHRKWW1wcHVSdz09>

Meeting ID: 954 1849 3483

Passcode: 626791

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,95418493483#,,,,,0#,,626791# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 954 1849 3483

Passcode: 626791

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/adAalUB9Lp>



Special Interest Groups

Bible Study	Is not meeting at this time. Bible Study looks forward to meeting in person when city and St. Luke Methodist Church guidelines indicate.
Bridge	Is not meeting at this time.
WildKats Investment Club	What is the difference in a market order vs. a limit order? Join the fun of the Theta “Wildkats” investment club. It’s been around since 1997 and always welcomes new members. You can visit one of our Zoom meetings and see if it might be something you would be interested in. As one member declared, it has empowered her to feel confident in investing and through the years, she has learned so very much. Meetings occur the second Wednesday of the month from 11:30 – 2:00; we meet monthly from September through June. Please contact Melissa Jones for the zoom invite! markandmelissajones@gmail.com
Mah Jongg	We play every Monday afternoon, starting at 1:00 pm. During the pandemic, we have only been playing online (REAL MAH JONGG, subscription required), and play until 3:00 pm or so. This is an established group, but when members are unable to play, there is room for others, even if they can only play on a irregular basis. If you are interested, please contact Dinah McClymonds at 832-242-3191, or at Dinahmcc49@gmail.com . A second group may form. Please check the next Kite Tale.



Looking back at Fall Feast October 2019. Keep your eyes peeled for notifications on Spring 2021 events.