



KAPPA ALPHA THETA
Houston Alumnae Chapter
KITE TALE

In This Issue

President's Message

1, 2

Care & Concern 3

Pansy Bouquets

4

Theta of the Year

Nominations

5

How to Make a Memorial
Gift in Cooky Mays' Honor
Follow us on Social Media

5

Bayou Bend Virtual
Lecture

7

Pictures from Drive By
Book Signing/Donation
Drop-off

6,8

Job Opportunity

9

Special Interest Groups
Theta Journal

10

Directory Changes

11

“One of the most courageous things you can do is identify yourself, know who you are, what you believe in and where you want to go..”

Sheila Murray Bethel

Greetings Theta Sisters!

We have made it to November, after several months of anxious planning. I have to commend our chapter members for your patience and understanding. Those of you who answered our Pandemic Comfort Survey in September helped me and our board see a way around this virus, and we made plans that are safe and pleasant for everyone to enjoy. It still takes a lot of people to make this happen, so indulge me while I give the credit where it is REALLY due!



Thank you to the following stellar Theta sisters:

Lindsay Chernosky for designing the Survey and putting our new Member Directory on our website. If you haven't accessed the Directory yet...please log in and check your own contact information. The password is twinstars (no caps). **Jeannie Osborne and Amy Sedano** held my hand through this entire process, and they continue to be the ones who will make sure our Directory is accurate and useful for our needs. High fives to them!

Laura Suffield, Cynthia Lange, and Janet Lionberger, who have been ready and willing to comfort and help our members experiencing illness, family distress, and just general malaise during this difficult time. These incredible women have never wavered in their care for our sisters.

Jennifer O'Donnell, who suggested that we start a Theta Journal, to be shared among our members as a reminder that we are bound by ties that even a pandemic cannot break. I made the first entry in the journal and passed it along...have you received it yet? If not, we have over 450 members, so don't despair. One day, it may appear on your front porch or in your mailbox. On the last page of this Kite Tale is a photo to show you what it looks like! What a special way to say "Theta Love."

Continued on Page 2

President's Letter Continued

To the **Executive Board**, who met to consider a chapter gift to the Theta Friendship Fund, which has been depleted due to requests from Thetas suffering during the pandemic. Disease, job loss, natural disasters, all of these have take their toll on Theta's most enduring symbol of LOVE. Our chapter leaders authorized a \$2500 gift (from our reserves) to the Friendship Fund. Our sisters will never know, but we are supporting them in ways that make a difference. Well done, Thetas.

To **Deborah Dunkum**, our HAPA delegate, for attending the first in person meeting of this very active group of sorority women. HAPA continues to be strong in the face of adversity, and Deborah is representing Theta in fine fashion!

To those of you who volunteered to supply a meal or snacks to Norma Jean Brown's family, who are still dealing with the difficult task of settling her estate and dispersing her belongings. Norma Jean's daughter Gretchen had to travel here from New Zealand to manage the funeral and take on the duties of emptying her house. She was most appreciative of your gifts of food and funds to purchase meals for their extended family. **Jane, Liz, Suzy (and Theta Bible Study members), Cheri, Patsy, Janet, Vicki, Deborah, Deanne and Kate**, your generosity means a lot to the Brown Family.

To **Liz Rigney, Jennifer O'Donnell**, and dozens of **Theta volunteers**, who planned and executed a delightful Book Signing/Kids Meals Food Drop Off for Sandy Lucas and Sarah Eilers' gorgeous new book and Bettie Locke Hamilton's Birthday. With the wind blowing and the temperatures dropping, our spirits just got higher and higher. What fun to be together, and to see what Girl Power can accomplish! These Theta smiles will last for weeks!

Sarah and Sandy with their impressive new book, [Expressive Interiors](#).



A festive tent and huge balloons make for a fun day, despite the weather. Thank you to all who participated and volunteered to make this a successful and safe event!

With Theta Love,

Dinah

CARE AND CONCERN

AUGUST, 2020

MARY KRISTEN PLUMHOFF VALENTINE...COMFORT AND LOVE ON THE LOSS OF HER FATHER, CRAIG PLUMHOFF

CYNTHIA JONES LANGE...ENCOURAGEMENT AND PEACE AS HER SISTER, BRENDA, IS IN HOSPICE

JOANNE KELLY MALINAK...STRENGTH AND ENCOURAGEMENT AS HER HUSBAND BOB IS IN THE HOSPITAL FOLLOWING BACK SURGERY COMPLICATIONS

TRISH PERRY CHAMBERS...PEACE AND COMFORT ON THE LOSS OF HER HUSBAND, DUNBAR

SUZANNE SYKES MCKENZIE...ENCOURAGEMENT FOLLOWING MIRACULOUS HEALING AND CONTINUED RECOVERY FROM STROKE

MARY MCFARLIN DYER...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE LOSS OF HER MOTHER, ANN MCCULLY MCFARLIN

ALLISON CAIN ALLISON...LOVE AND COMFORT ON THE LOSS OF HER MOTHER, SUZANNE CAIN

SEPTEMBER, 2020

GIGGY MARTIN THANHEISER...LOVE AND COMFORT ON THE DEATH OF HER HUSBAND, MATT THANHEISER

PHOEBE BRIAN TUDOR...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE LOSS OF HER MOTHER, MARGARET ELLIS BRIAN

OCTOBER, 2020

NORMA JEAN BROWN...WENT HOME TO BE WITH THE LORD ON OCTOBER 4TH AFTER A STROKE

DEANNE WAGNER WHITE...HEALING AND COMFORT NOTE FOR SOME BAD ACCIDENTS

JANET KNIGHT...ENCOURAGEMENT AND COMFORT FOR HER HUSBAND'S ILLNESS

BEVERLY BINTLIFF ARNOLD...WENT HOME TO BE WITH THE LORD_

ALICE ARNOLD HELMS...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE LOSS OF HER MOTHER, BEVERLY BINTLIFF ARNOLD

SUSAN ARNOLD MARTIN...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE LOSS OF HER MOTHER, BEVERLY BINTLIFF ARNOLD

MARJORIE BINTLIFF JOHNSON...COMFORT AND PEACE ON THE LOSS OF HER SISTER, BEVERLY BINTLIFF ARNOLD

NOVEMBER, 2020

BETSY EVANS ACHE...ENCOURAGEMENT AFTER HER FALL

BETH WELSH BLACK...COMFORT AFTER A FRIEND'S DEATH

NANCY ANN SHARP...ENCOURAGEMENT AFTER LUMPECTOMY SURGERY

JANE FALKENBURG JOSEPH...ENCOURAGEMENT AFTER HAND SURGERY

SUSAN BROWDER DRIVER...ENCOURAGEMENT AFTER FRACTURED SHIN BONE



Drive by Book Signing and Kids Meals Donations

THETA OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

It is not too early to be thinking about who YOU feel is worthy of being Theta of the Year! While we have not been together, we've had no philanthropic event, and we have no idea what the future brings, we surely know Thetas who have been devoting time and energy to this chapter and our community. This year, our Founders Day will be moved to the spring of 2021. The exact date is yet to be decided. Something to look forward to!

When and if we can gather to celebrate, it will also be the 100th Birthday of the Houston Alumnae Chapter, so it is a particularly special year. Please starting thinking NOW about someone special who should be Theta of the Year, or one of our Twin Stars, and Rookie of the Year.

The nomination forms are posted on our website, under the FORMS tab. Lois Hamilton Wright (loiswright@me.com) will be the chair of the committee that determines our honorees, and you can use the forms, or simply send her an email with your suggestions when they pop into your head. I know she will appreciate hearing from you.

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





At the fun Book Signing/Kids Meals Food Drop off for Sandy Lucas and Sarah Eilers' new book and Betty Locke Hamilton's Birthday. Andrea Ferruzo, Liz Rigney, Dinah McClymonds, Danya Bogart, Karen Donovan, Jennifer O'Donnell, Cheri Fossler, Maura McCarthy, Laurie Dorfman and Lisa Schwartz.

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.

Bayou Bend Lecture and Questions Virtual Experience for Thetas and Friends!

When it appeared that we would need to create various virtual experiences for our members, the staff at Bayou Bend stepped in to fill our needs! We are so grateful for their time and expertise, and we want to show our appreciation by attending the **November 18th lecture**, “Texana in the Bayou Bend Collection,” given by Curator, **Bradley Brooks at 10:00 a.m.** This is a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the very unique items contained in our favorite historic home, with the ultimate “tour guide.” I hope you will mark your calendars and invite your friends to enjoy the experience with us. An email blast with details will be sent to the membership in early November, which you may share with your friends. It promises to be very enlightening, and a special way to share our connection with Bayou Bend.

And this news to share with you from Bayou Bend: A magnificent example of Egyptian design in American Classical furniture has been added to the Collection, with the help of funds from the Theta Charity Antiques Show, in honor of Betty Black Hatchett. It is a large chest of drawers with Egyptian motifs on its corner columns and a beautiful veneer, made in 1815, and attributed to Joseph Barry of Philadelphia. Here is a photo of the purchase:



THETA THANK YOU NOTES

We are still receiving thank you notes from Thetas who have received our chapter's scholarships and grant. These women have very exciting and impressive careers ahead, and you can all be proud of what our chapter has contributed to their educations.

Here are a few examples:

A note that is particularly interesting came from DeLaine Mayer, who received our chapter grant, attended a Space Resources Program at the Colorado School of Mines. This program helped her understand the "intersection of science and politics," relating to the aerospace industry, which seems very timely! "At a time when it can feel hard to find optimism, it has been uplifting to work on projects that others may deem impossible, but which I've found to be achievable with the right collaboration, drive, and perseverance."

Another note, from Lyndsay Schoenhals, who received the Marilyn Lynch scholarship, details her graduate level work at Boston College in Educational Leadership and Policy. She is also an active alumnae volunteer as an officer in the Oklahoma City alumnae chapter and as an Advisor for the Beta Zeta chapter at OSU. Her hope is to work with children with learning disabilities and students who identify as LGBTQ in Oklahoma.

And our dear Virginia Purcell, who wrote that she has had a long hard recovery from a medical mishap, but she is finally on the road to recovery. "Your kind words and support mean so much during this difficult time." Feel better, Virginia!

And, finally this heartwarming photo of our lovely Deanne White, who has been dealing with the aftermath of some falls she took while summering in California. We delivered one of the huge balloons from our event to her front porch, then received this darling photo of her, dressed to impress!





Job Opportunity for Theta alumnae or high schoolers looking for part time employment. Ke Wallace is a young Theta alum here in Houston. Message from Ke -

I am writing as a Delta Omega -Texas A&M - Theta Alumni class of 2014. I have currently relocated to Houston as a store manager for Favor the Kind - an eclectic boho boutique in the heights district! I'm currently looking for part time girls who would be interested in working for my store (either just for the holidays, if they are home from college or throughout the year if they are in high school!)

Our store Favor the Kind is looking for part time associates or what we call "Crowd Pleasers". We have big expectations for our Crowd Pleasers, as they have the most critical job in the company: to create joy for our customers!

Some other key qualities we look for are:

- Building relationships with customers
- Treating customers like guests at a party
- Finding opportunities to sell product
- Learning and understanding our product selection
- Styling looks for customers
- Helping customers find the perfect gifts

And depending on your schedule Crowd Pleasers can work from 5-29 hours a week - with some weekend availability!

If anyone is interested in this opportunity or just learning more about the company our website and Instagram are linked below!

<https://www.favorthekind.com/>

<https://instagram.com/favorthekind>

Also feel free the reach out to me personally through email: ke@favorthekind.com.



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 an 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.



Keep your eyes peeled for the Theta Journal. It may appear on your front porch or in your mailbox. Please add your entry and pass it on to another Theta. It is a special way to say “Theta Love.”

Additions and Corrections to the Directory As of 11/8/2020

Additions:

Anderson, Mrs. Diane Dredge (Steve Anderson) Alpha, 1973, Depauw
107 Englewood, Bellaire, TX 77401
e-mail: dredgie@att.net Birthday: Nov 15
(c) 713-560-3609

Heath, Mrs. Jennifer Reid (Paul Heath) Alpha Theta, 1981, Texas
6411 Yoakum Blvd., #1710, Houston, TX 77006
e-mail: jheath13@sbcglobal.net Birthday: Sep 23
(c) 214-755-2213

Inbody, Miss Shelby Epsilon Epsilon, 2016, Baylor
1 Hermann Museum Circle Dr. #1118, Houston, TX 77004
e-mail: shelby_claire@yahoo.com Birthday: Nov 12
(c) 281-222-3218

Kansas, Mrs. Annie Nelson (Wayne Kansas) Alpha Theta, 1978, Texas
9710 Mariposa St., Houston, TX 77025
e-mail: akansas@miltonstreetcap.com Birthday: Nov 26
(c) 713-725-5559

Mosbacher, Mrs. Lucy Raulston (Peter Mosbacher) Alpha Epsilon, 2005, Brown
3122 Winslow St., Houston, TX 77025
e-mail: lucy.mosbacher@gmail.com Birthday: Oct 28
(h) 713-581-4897 (c) 713-301-1533 (w) 713-535-6400

Whaling, Ms. Mary Burkett Alpha Theta, 1974, Texas
5134 Tangle Ln, Houston, TX 77056
e-mail: marybwhaling@yahoo.com Birthday: Nov 21
(h) 713-622-7887 (c) 713-816-1433

Changes:

Cline, Monisa: correct cell number (c) 832-332-2837
Lee, Alicia Diane: correct Birthday Feb 29, remove home number
Lindamood, Shannon: new address 3818 Center St., Houston, TX 77007
Purgason, Edie: correct street number 229 Warrenton