

*Texas State Organization  
of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International*

Eta Zeta, Chapter 174, Dallas, Dallas County, Texas  
Texas State Organization, Area 9

Volume 58, Issue 3, October-November 2022

Mary Claire Welch, Editor

**DKG Vision Statement:**

**Leading Women Educators, Impacting Education Worldwide**

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

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*From the pen of...*

*President Marian Willard*

Greetings Eta Zeta:



*Happy Holidays!*

I am writing this letter to express my gratitude to each of you for making this organization "Great". We are in the holiday season which is such an amazing experience for me. I hope that each of you would find time to say thank you for all that has been done for you each day.

As the Holiday season approaches, I am reminded of those who have helped me along in my journey of life and profession.

Clearly, I don't get enough opportunity to personally say "thank you" even though I am thankful, each day. Yet at this special time, I want to personally express my deepest appreciation for placing your confidence in me and supporting my theme and leadership.

Eta Zeta, on behalf of this administration, we wish you and yours a very Happy Holiday Season. May the joy of the holidays extend to you and your family now and throughout the coming year.

Sincerely,

*Marian A. Willard*

President of Eta Zeta Chapter



## Join us for the November Eta Zeta Meeting!

**Date: November 28, 2022**

**Time: 5:30 p.m. Eating and Socializing  
6:00 p.m. Meeting begins**

**Program: Shalan Inmon, TSO President  
Induction Ceremony**

**Location: La Calle Doce  
1925 Skillman  
Dallas, Texas 75206  
214-824-9900**

**Hope to see you there!**

**A hybrid option will be attempted for those of our members who have difficulty attending the meeting "in person."**

## Special Events for Eta Zeta Chapter

**December 2022**

*Community Service Project*

**January 8, 2023**

*Spring Membership Orientation Tea*

**April 22, 2023**

*Coordinating Council of Dallas County Luncheon at  
Lakewood Country Club*

**June 14-17, 2023**

*TSO Convention at the McAllen Convention Center  
McAllen, Texas*

## Happy Birthday Eta Zeta Members



### October

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| Evelyn Hamilton      | October 21 |
| Maria Viera Williams | October 24 |
| Norma Matthews       | October 26 |

### November

|                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Heather Hawthorne | November 9  |
| La Toya Maxey     | November 12 |

### December

|                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Melba Timms         | December 3  |
| Leigh Taylor        | December 7  |
| Sandra Foster Brown | December 28 |
| Elaine Hudson       | December 30 |
| Melanie Moseley     | December 31 |

### January

|            |           |
|------------|-----------|
| Liz Taheri | January 2 |
|------------|-----------|

Eta Zeta Press wants to know...we are looking forward to hearing from you!

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Our next newsletter will be published in January of 2023. We would love to include news and pictures from your Eta Zeta activities.

### Acknowledgements:

Picture/Graphics Credits All

Graphics were taken from free online Clip Art. All pictures were taken by Eta Zeta members for placement in our Eta Zeta Press.

DKG logos and images used with permission and according to Society guidelines.

## Eta Zeta Programs at a Glance

### August 22, 2022

Spring Creek Barbeque  
3939 Emporium Circle Mesquite, TX 75150

Program: *Welcome Back Dinner!*

Members will share food and friendship and engage in "get acquainted" activities.

### September 26, 2022

Spring Creek Barbeque  
3939 Emporium Circle Mesquite, TX 75150

Program: *Strengthening Eta Zeta*

Natalie Perez-Brown will lead the chapter in the process of the SWOT analysis.

### October 17, 2022

Spring Creek Barbeque  
3939 Emporium Circle Mesquite, TX 75150

Program: *Memories of Importance*

Review of *Love Remembers* by Kathe Ambrose Goodwin and brief description of the Memory Garden program at the Arboretum by Leigh Taylor.

### November 28, 2022

La Calle Doce  
1925 Skillman  
Dallas, Texas 75206

Program: *Celebrating Our New Members!*

Shalan Inman, TSO President will join us in celebrating new members with an Induction ceremony.

### January 30, 2023

The Great James Madison High School  
3000 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard  
Dallas, Texas 75215

Program: *On the way to Financial Literacy!*

Student participants will share what the program meant to them.

### February 27, 2023

The Great James Madison High School  
3000 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard  
Dallas, Texas 75215

Program: *Notes from the Heart*

Natalie Perez-Brown will present a Legislative Update for Education in Texas. Ardina Colby will give a vocal miniconcert for the chapter.

### March 27, 2023

The Great James Madison High School  
3000 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard  
Dallas, Texas 75215

Program: *Pioneer Women*

Tales of women in the early days of Texas as presented by DKG members from Wharton, Texas.

### April 22, 2023

Coordinating Council of Dallas County Spring Luncheon

# Orientation Yields New Members for Eta Zeta Chapter

By Mary Claire Welch

As the 2022 – 2023 year began for Eta Zeta Chapter, membership has been a goal. Maria Viera Williams, Membership Chair, and Mary Bixler, Co-Chair have been encouraging our membership to nominate those amazing women educators they know and have worked with to come and join our chapter. Women educators who have been recognized for excellence in their professional practices are those who we are seeking for membership in Eta Zeta Chapter.

Four prospective members were nominated by Evelyn Hamilton. The outstanding women educators nominated were Elaine Hudson, Melba Timms, Lauren Timms, and LaToya Maxey. An Orientation meeting was planned for the prospective members in a private room at Chubby's Restaurant on November 6, 2022 from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. The ladies were welcomed to the Orientation meeting by Membership Chair Maria Viera Williams, Eta Zeta Chapter President Marian Willard, Evelyn Hamilton, and the Past Chapter President Mary Claire Welch. Each of the guests shared a bit about who they were, their educational experiences and why they were interested in joining our chapter. Delta Kappa Gamma Society folders filled with resources about our Society, our Mission, and Purposes were given to each of the prospective members. A welcome was given by Chapter President Marian Willard. Maria went through the "Pride in the Big Picture" resource to give our prospective members an idea of how the organization was founded and how it has grown to extend across the globe. President Willard, Evelyn Hamilton and Mary Claire Welch contributed as needed to support the presentation or to answer questions. All the prospective members told the Eta Zeta members they would like to join Eta Zeta Chapter.

On November 28, 2022 an induction ceremony has been planned to be conducted at La Calle Doce restaurant at 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. during the November Eta Zeta Chapter meeting. Our Texas State Organization President, Shalan Inmon, will attend the meeting to join in the Induction ceremony and to deliver a message of inspiration. We are so proud to welcome Elaine Hudson, Melba Timms, Lauren Timms, and LaToya Maxey to become new members of Eta Zeta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.



Left to Right: Evelyn Hamilton, Melba Timms, Lauren Timms, Elaine Hudson, LaToya Maxey, Mary Claire Welch and President Marian Willard.



Melba Timms is retired after 33 years of teaching 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders with a specialty in Reading. She taught Gifted and Talented also. Her hero was her mother who was also a woman educator of excellence. She loves a classroom with a diversity of students from a variety of cultures.

Lauren Timms is an active teacher of 9 years. She studied at Texas Woman's University. Lauren has a love of dance and has a Masters of Kinesiology. She has taught Kindergarten, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th grade levels and is now teaching dance to 6th through 8th graders.



LaToya Maxey is an active educator who organizes and conducts ARD meetings for students in Special Education in Dallas ISD. She earned a B.S. in Mass Communications and a Masters degree in Administration. Her hero is her great grandmother who was an outstanding woman educator until she was 85 years old.

Elaine Hudson initially earned a degree in Social Work at T.W.U., then earned teacher certification to teach secondary in Social Studies, and later earned a degree in Library Science. She has been an educator for 41 years. A life long learner, she is now learning Spanish.



## “Memories of Importance”

By Mary Claire Welch

Eta Zeta Chapter welcomed Kathe Ambrose Goodwin, author of *Love*



*Remembers*, and Leigh Taylor, Eta Zeta member, as speakers at the October meeting of Eta Zeta Chapter. Kathe shared the story about her husband’s diagnosis and care after receiving a diagnosis of early onset Alzheimer’s. Leigh brought information about a program offered by the Dallas Arboretum entitled “The Memory Garden Project.”

Alzheimer’s is a progressive disease with memory loss as a hallmark symptom. It is a disease that affects so many people’s lives. The family member diagnosed with Alzheimer’s loses memories of importance to their lives. Family members and friends find themselves on the journey of caregiving. They find the need to learn the best way to manage the changes in their loved one’s life and their own lives. The support of their community and family can bring strength, encouragement, and healing to the family. Kathe’s book documents her family’s journey as they have navigated the progression of her husband, Steve’s, path through memory loss.

Leigh Taylor has been volunteering at the Dallas Arboretum to help with the “Memory Garden Project.” Families are offered the opportunity for their loved ones to participate in a series of four classes in the Fall and in the Spring at the Dallas Arboretum. The classes offer gardening experiences for family members with Alzheimer’s disease and their care partners. The experience often involves some touring of the beautiful gardens by tram.

November is National Alzheimer’s Awareness Month and National Family Caregivers Month. Eta Zeta Chapter is thankful to our speakers, Kathe Ambrose Goodwin and Leigh Taylor, for bringing us their positive and informative presentations on “memories of importance.”

## Supporting the Rainbow Room Project

Eta Zeta Chapter voted to provide supplies to the Rainbow Room as a community project for the year. The Rainbow Room is one of the resources created to support the mission of the Community Partners of Dallas. The mission is: ***To provide what abused children urgently need today to thrive tomorrow.*** Founded in 1989, Community Partners of Dallas was created to support the work of the Child Protective Services in Dallas County. 9,787 children were served by the Rainbow Room in 2021. The Rainbow Room provided supplies to children who had been removed from homes because of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, abandonment, neglectful supervision, physical neglect, and refusal to accept parental responsibility.

Currently, the greatest needs for the children being served by the Rainbow Room are:

- Winter coats in all sizes
- Girl’s shoes (size 8)
- Boy’s pants (size 14/16)
- Boy’s short sleeve shirts (size 10/12)
- Boy’s pajamas (size 10/12)

There is a facility where supplies can be dropped off at 7950 Elmwood Drive, Dallas, Texas 75247. Eta Zeta members please bring your items to the upcoming meeting so they may be delivered to the Elmwood Facility.

### Liz Garrett, Area 9 Coordinator, Attended October Meeting



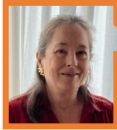
We were honored to have our Area 9 Coordinator visit our chapter. She thanked Eta Zeta members for their participation in the Area 9 Workshop emphasizing her admiration for Eta Zeta

Chapter’s longevity in its history of Texas State Organization and DKG. Liz encouraged members to attend the upcoming TSO convention to be held in McAllen, Texas in June. We were so happy that Liz could visit our chapter to enjoy our program on “Memories of Importance.”



## Eta Zeta Members—What Do You Think?

What signs of Autumn are meaningful to you?



Cooler weather!



The color of leaves turning from red to gold!

Crisp morning air. Silver leaf maple suddenly glowing yellow one morning.



What are your favorite activities during the Fall season?



Halloween, Thanksgiving, State Fair, family gatherings, preparing new and favorite recipes, attending nephew's games.



Roasting marshmallows, listening to music while sitting outdoors, reading a book in my gazebo.

What is an activity you have always wanted to do during the autumn season?



Travel to a new place.



Travel in the "off season" when it is not crowded.



To tour the Adirondacks.



A trip to see the Fall colors.



Read a scary story in English and Spanish to children. The ending would be safe, of course.

**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**  
**Texas State Organization**  
**Eta Zeta Chapter**  
**September 26, 2022**



**Members present:** Marian Willard, Mary Claire Welch, Evelyn Hamilton, Mary Bixler, Maria Viera-Williams, Leigh Taylor, Jean Morrison, Judy Bryant, Anna Penn, Norma Matthews, Betty Ackerman

**Members present via Zoom:** Sandra Foster-Brown, Brandley Sue Howell, Jane Walker

**Guests:** Norma Matthews' husband and Maria Viera-Williams' husband

**Location:** Spring Creek Barbeque Mesquite, TX

**Welcome:** President Marian Willard called the Eta Zeta Chapter Meeting to order at 6:18 pm. Both the Mission and Vision statements of DKG were read to start the meeting. Each attendee also had the opportunity to share something about their career path in education.

**Inspiration/Meditation:** Mary Bixler presented a meditation around the question, "Why did you become a teacher?" Various members shared their reflections pertaining to this question.

**Approval of Agenda:** There was a vote for approval of the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:** A vote was taken to approve the minutes from the August 22, 2022, Eta Zeta Chapter Meeting with corrections as noted.

**Approval of Treasurer's Report:** Leigh Taylor gave the treasurer's report that there was an ending balance of \$8,200.44 in checking and \$1,206.88 in savings at the end of August 2022. A vote was taken to approve the report.

**President's Report:** President Marian Willard shared some highlights from her zoom participation in the DKG Presidents' Meeting and how what she heard relates to the Eta Zeta Chapter. There seemed to be an emphasis on maintaining and growing membership and service projects.

**New Business:**

**Membership Report:** Maria Viera-Williams gave a report on numbers of members in various membership categories. She also presented names of two prospective members, and a vote was taken to invite them to an informational meeting.

There was discussion pertaining to organizing for orientation gatherings.

**Projects & Programs for the Eta Zeta Chapter to Support:** There was discussion about community, school and international projects including: Taking flowers to an area nursing home, providing student uniforms at James Madison High School or another school that might be in need, and participating in Schools for Africa. The membership also voted to continue supporting the Rainbow Room as an on-going project.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Mary Claire Welch requested getting a media release form signed to have on file for each member. She also helped recognize those with September and October birthdays and anniversaries.

There was a discussion about the importance of making contact and sending cards to members who are experiencing sickness or other life difficulties. Maria Viera-Williams brought some cards to facilitate the action of the group sending caring notes to members.

**Program:** Natalie-Perez Brown is providing guidance for using the *SWOT* as an activity for improving our organization. S = Defining Strengths; W=Recognizing Weaknesses; O= Identifying Opportunities; T= Recognizing Threats

**Meeting Adjourned:** President Marian Willard adjourned the Eta Zeta Chapter meeting at 7:32 pm.

**Next Meeting:** October 17, 2022 at Spring Creek BBQ in Mesquite, TX

Submitted by Betty Ackerman, Co-Recording Secretary

**The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International**  
**Texas State Organization**  
**Eta Zeta Chapter**  
*October 17, 2022*



**Members present:** Marian Willard, Judy Bryant, Jeannie Morrison, Mary Claire Welch, Evelyn Hamilton, Mary Bixler, Maria Viera-Williams, Leigh Taylor, Betty Ackerman

**Members present via Zoom:** Bradley Sue Howell, Sandra Foster-Brown, Liz Taheri, Cassandra Jones, Jane Walker

**Guests:** Elizabeth Garrett and Kathe Ambrose Godwin

**Location:** Spring Creek Barbeque in Mesquite, TX

**Welcome & Approval of Agenda:** President Marian Willard called the Eta Zeta Chapter Meeting to order at 6:01 pm. She welcomed special guest Elizabeth “Liz” Garrett who is DKG Area 9 Coordinator. Marian also extended a welcome to members attending in person and via Zoom. A quorum was recognized to be present to conduct business, and the agenda for the meeting was approved. Both the Mission and Vision statements of DKG were printed on the agenda.

**Approval of Minutes:** Betty Ackerman distributed copies of the minutes from the September 26<sup>th</sup> Eta Zeta meeting. A vote was taken to approve the minutes as recorded.

**Correspondence:** Mary Claire Welch shared some information from the last chapter newsletter.

**President’s Report:** President Marian Willard shared reflections from collaboration with other DKG presidents as they were asked to contribute 2 or 3 questions for discussion. Most of the questions were pertaining to how and when to go about increasing membership. Following Marian’s comments, the membership present engaged in a discussion of the topic of membership.

**Inspiration/Meditation:** Mary Claire read a poem by Priscilla Leonard titled, “Happiness.”

**Program:** Mary Claire introduced her friend from college days, Kathe Ambrose Godwin, as the guest speaker for the meeting. Kathe is an accomplished journalist. She authored a book in 2022 titled Love Remembers which is now on the Amazon Best-Seller List. Kathe’s presentation was based on her personal experiences and her book pertaining to facing early-onset Alzheimer’s. She encouraged those present to meet any pressing life challenges framed in a context of hope, love, and faith.

Leigh Taylor also contributed to the evening’s program by describing a volunteer opportunity she has been involved in at the Arboretum called “The Memory Garden Project.” The project is still in development and is likely to become an ongoing project to offer classes for participants struggling with memory issues and their caregivers.

Elizabeth “Liz” Garrett, DKG Area 9 Coordinator, contributed remarks in particular pertaining to attracting new members and retaining and involving existing members. She emphasized the importance of a warm atmosphere and relationships.



**Second Vice-Presidents' Membership Report:** Mary Bixler and Maria Viera-Williams presented findings about possible venues for upcoming events and led a discussion to make selections. It was decided the Orientation Tea will be held on November 6<sup>th</sup> at Chubby's Family Restaurant, and the monthly meeting will be held at La Calle Doce on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Treasurer's Report:** Leigh Taylor gave the treasurer's report. A vote was taken to approve the report.

**Parliamentarian's Report:** Evelyn Hamilton prepared and distributed a handout to heighten awareness of some parliamentary procedure details (Making a Motion and Amendment to a Motion). After Evelyn gave a brief overview, the membership voted to take the handout home to review.

**Approval of an Eta Zeta Chapter School Project:** The project of providing student uniforms at James Madison High School or another school that might be in need was brought up for further discussion. President Marian Willard who is also principal at James Madison HS relayed that there are currently about ten homeless students attending the school who could use help with obtaining uniforms. She also reaffirmed that if another school were to be identified that the help from Eta Zeta Chapter could be shared.

Mary Bixler made a motion that we continue to support the need at James Madison HS and Mary Claire Welch seconded the motion. In the absence of the First Vice-President, Natalie Perez-Brown, President Willard turned presiding over to Second Vice-President Maria Viera-Williams to carry the motion through to a vote. The membership voted approval to continue the Uniform Project at The Great James Madison High School for students in need of assistance.

**Nominations Committee:** Marian Willard will select the chair for this committee and make the membership aware of the selection.

**Birthdays & Anniversaries:** Birthdays and Anniversaries for October were announced and celebrated.

**Songs:** The membership present joined to sing in harmony The Birthday Song and The Delta Kappa Gamma Song.

**Meeting Adjourned:** President Marian Willard adjourned the Eta Zeta Chapter meeting at 7:25 pm.

**Up-Coming Gatherings/Meetings:**

Orientation Tea ~~ Chubby's Family Restaurant on November 6, 2022; 2:30 – 4:30 pm

Eta Zeta Meeting~~ La Calle Doce on November 28, 2022; dinner and visiting at 5:30 pm; meeting at 6:00 pm.

Restaurant address: 1925 Skillman, Dallas, TX 75206

Submitted by Betty Ackerman, Co-Recording Secretary