



Alpha Mu...Sings...

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Texas State Organization, Alpha Mu, Area V, Chapter 36
Serving Key Women Educators in Brownsville & Los Fresnos

Photographer:
Graciela Alonso
athena_1941@hotmail.com



Editors:
Hilda Flores
Hiflores1978@gmail.com
MaryAnn Flores
utb_maflares@yahoo.com

Volume 87, Number 5

April 2021

Greetings Alpha Mu sisters:

Spring adds new beauty and new life and let us look forward to new growth. This past year we faced many challenges, nonetheless, we found strength to overcome what was before us. Our chapter was a true example of growth and optimism.

The Alpha Mu Chapter annual project was a huge success. Six female students from Porter ECHS received their graduation regalia. These young ladies were extremely grateful for their gift as their eyes were beaming with happiness. A sincere thanks to Mrs. Drue Brown for her generosity and for ordering the caps & gowns with Jostens.

The Grant-In-Aid committee worked diligently on selecting a recipient for the 2021 award. We are proud to announce, Dianey Morua, is the 2021 Grant-In-Aid recipient. She will be given her award during May.

Thanks to everyone who agreed on the survey to donate the \$80 that were collected for the 2020 State Convention totes to donate it to Sunshine Haven. A huge thanks to Mary Ann Flores for assisting with the survey. I am extremely grateful that Shelly Alonso and Sharlene Vazquez graciously took the time to collect additional monetary donations or household items. A future date will be announced when Veronica Lucio from Sunshine Haven can meet us to accept the donations.

We have one more meeting before the summer break, and it's time to collect membership dues by May 31, 2021. Our chapter treasurer, Linda Little, has done a fantastic job of sending an email to all the members and it includes various methods of payment. Great job Alpha Mu, about 50% of members have paid their membership dues!!

We welcome with huge virtual open arms our new Alpha Mu sister, Isabel Shea. Let us look forward to building a strong fellowship with Isabel.

May 25 meeting will be a very special meeting to attend. A memorial service for our dear Alpha Mu sister, Flo Benavides, will be organized during this meeting. Flo was a 37-year Alpha Mu member and had made many contributions to the chapter. In addition, we are celebrating Founder's Day. Be ready to wear your colorful hat!

Wishing you many more days full of blessings during this spring season!

Your Alpha Mu Chapter President
Norma Nelson

Mission Statement

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



Vision Statement

Leading women educators impacting education worldwide

APRIL 13, 2021 BUSINESS MEETING

We had another successful zoom business meeting. Great things happening in our chapter. We welcomed our newest member, **Ms. Isabel Shea!** She's an educator from Rivera High School. She was recruited by our Alpha Mu sister Graciela (Shelly) Alonso.



Ms. Isabel Shea has a bachelor's degree in history with a minor in government. She received her Master's in MAIS History in December 2017 from UTRGV. She started teaching in 2006. Currently she has been teaching at Rivera High School since 2010. Her certifications are: Social Studies 8th-12th, AP Certified, AP World History, AP European History, AP U.S. History and AP Human Geography. She is currently a History and Sociology Adjunct Instructor at TSC and a History Lecturer at UTRGV. She loves spending time with her family.



SUNSHINE HAVEN FUNDRAISER

Alpha Mu Fundraiser Project for April—Sunshine Haven Inc., Special Care Facility. We are collecting donations, in-kind or monetary, to help them continue to serve patients in South Texas.

- We are accepting donations through April 24th
- Contact Sharlene, via text 956-545-5758 or
- Gracie, via text 956-565-6505
- Sharlene will be at Lowe's parking lot on April 24 from 10:00-10:30a.m. to collect donations.

Monetary, or gift cards (Family Dollar, Wal-Mart, Target, Sam's, HEB, Home Depot, Lowe's, Staples). Gift cards help them purchase items for patients or supplies. The supplies needed include: Laundry Sheets, 13 Gallon Trash Bags, Tall Kitchen Trash Bags, Small Trash Bags-4-gallon, Laundry Detergent, Clorox Wipes, Paper Towels, Toilet Bowl Cleanser, Hand Soap Refill, Wipes, Zip lock Bags (Gallon & Quart), Aerosol Spray, Toilet Paper, Coffee, Coffee Creamer, Splenda, Bottled Water, Copy Paper, Blinders, Postage Stamps, Light Bulbs, Coffee, and Plants. Due to the last freeze, they lost all their plants. For questions or donations, please contact Ms. Veronica Lucio at 956-350-8400 or via email: vlucio@sunshinehaven.org.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE (1926-2021)

On March 23, 2021, **Florestela (Flo) Lerma Benavides** passed peacefully into Eternal Rest at her home in Brownsville, Texas surrounded by her children and caregivers. She ended her long and beautiful journey through this life at the age of 95.



Flo was an educator with the Brownsville Independent School District. She taught at Canales and Resaca Elementary schools for over 20 years until she became part of the original faculty which opened Porter High school in 1974. She served her remaining professional years as a teacher at Porter until her retirement in 1988.

Flo had also been a member of DKG, Alpha Mu Chapter, since April 1, 1984, and made many contributions to the chapter. She will always be beautifully remembered and missed by the Alpha Mu sisters who knew her. If you would like to read more about her life [click here](#) to read her online obituary.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- May 1 – International Cornet Award for Professional Development
- May 1 – Five Star Newsletter deadline
- May 15 – Deadline for Embassy Hotel for State Convention in Denton, TX
- May 25 – (Tuesday at 7 p.m.) Alpha Mu Business Meeting via Zoom
- May 31– Deadline for Membership Dues

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- Maria V. Gonzales
- Patricia L. Segura



GRANT-IN-AID RECIPIENT

The Grant-in-Aid committee members met earlier this month and reviewed applicants for the \$500 scholarship. **Ms. Dianey Morua**, an education major at UTRGV, has been selected. Next month, we will recognize Ms. Morua at our May meeting. She will read her essay and receive her Grant-in-Aid scholarship check.

CAPS FOR GRADS

The Alpha Mu Chapter Project for **2020-2021 is Caps for Grads!** The chapter sponsored caps and gowns for five students, and our Alpha Mu sister, Drue Brown, sponsored an additional student. Our chapter presented a total of six regalia to BISD female students from Porter Early College High School. This project enables qualifying low-income students that do not have money to purchase their graduation cap and gown to participate in their high school graduation ceremonies. The approximate cost of the graduation regalia per student is \$45. Our chapter has been coordinating this project with the senior counselors at Porter E.C.H.S. The six female students received their graduation regalia earlier this month. These ladies were extremely happy and grateful for their gift. Pictures are coming next month!



92ND TSO CONVENTION-DENTON

The 92nd Texas State Organization convention will be held in Denton, Texas. Activities will begin with the Children's Art Show and Leadership Seminar Reunions on Wednesday evening, June 16, and will conclude with the Celebration Brunch on Saturday, June 19.



Read all about the upcoming 92nd TSO Texas State Denton Convention on June 17-19, 2021 in the convention newsletter, *The Key*. Click on the link below.

[The Key Volume 1](#)

2021 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE – SAN ANTONIO, TX | JULY 22-24, 2021

The final format of the conference (hybrid vs virtual) is still pending. See the [Jan/Feb DKG News](#) for more information.

Annie Webb Blanton had a vision for our Society, and it will come alive at the San Antonio, Texas International Conference July 22-24, 2021! President Becky Sadowski invites us to celebrate the DKG: Opportunities, Contributions, and Impact our members have realized because of their membership in the organization. The

conference features engaging and real-world speakers, informative and timely workshops, and short presentations, exhibits and vendors. San Antonio Marriott River Center Hotel is hosting the conference. For more information visit, [2021 International Conference San Antonio - TX \(dkg.org\)](https://www.dkg.org/2021-International-Conference-San-Antonio-TX)

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Just a friendly reminder that all dues need to be paid by May 31, 2021. Active members, \$75; Active Retired, \$70; Reserved, \$40.

Methods of payment include:

- Deposit at Wells Fargo Bank, DKG Acct#**2984030303**
- Online banking via Zelle, please use Norma Nelson's phone number, **956-455-0871**
- CashApp to **\$nagn88**, please notify Norma Nelson
- Personal check, payable to DKG
- Checks should be mailed to **Linda Little, Chapter Treasurer, 717 Santa Ana, Rancho Viejo, TX 78575**. To help us keep track of the payment, please notify Mrs. Linda Little via email at rlbklttl@cs.com or text her at **956-497-8501** with the following information:
 - Your method of payment and the date it was completed.



ALPHA MU OFFICERS FOR 2020-2022

Norma Nelson – President
 Melissa Saldivar, 1st Vice-President
 Drue Brown, 2nd Vice-President
 Letty Hernandez, Recording Secretary
 Esmeralda Torres, Corresponding Secretary
 Linda Little, Treasurer
 Mary Sullivan, Parliamentarian

ALPHA MU WEBSITE

Stay-up to date by checking Alpha Mu's Website!
 See link below:

<https://Dkgalphamu.weebly.com>

