Iota Chapter Report

Our dear and dedicated 51 year IOTA member, Patty Bickar passed away on August 14, 2020. She was Iota’s president from 1975-1978 and was Beta Gamma State President from 1985-1987. She will be remembered for all that she did as a DKG member and for all of her family, church, school and community involvement.

At our November meeting we initiated four new members, a counselor, a special education teacher, a Spanish teacher, and retired early childhood teacher.

To improve meeting attendance and program interest we sent out a survey in September and asked specific questions to help us plan for our year. A change we made was having our meeting start 1 hour later to accommodate our very busy members.

With Covid and not being able to meet face to face we felt like our theme of CARING - financial, personal, family and community care would be of interest to both the young and older members especially during this time. At our November meeting we have invited a financial planner. Members will email the speaker suggestions of what they want her to talk about - so she can focus her talk on the needs of the group. At another meeting - a few members will share information on what we need to know and do prior to and when family medical situations happen.

To show our support - We awarded 2 mini grants last spring before the pandemic and we just awarded 5 more mini grants to educators to help with needs created by the Covid protocols for all classrooms. During American Education Week we will be making trays of individually store-bought snacks to show our appreciation to the administrators, teachers and support staff in all the schools.

Due to the pandemic - we can’t go into the classrooms to help teachers so discussed ideas of special projects we can do outside of the classroom like put together the school lice kits, personal care kits for the high school or collect specific clothing items that schoolds need for the elementary children.

We have now had 5 meetings by ZOOM and I am very thankful to all the members I can turn to for help. It’s a challenge but we are glad we can see each other once a month to meet, share and continue making a difference.