Volume 10 Issue 7 **April 2021**

Newsletter Editor: Judy Keams

Judydkg13@aol.com



Presidents' Message

DKG Mission Statement:

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

Dear Alpha Upsilon Sisters,

"Spring has sprung, and nature will resume her loveliness. Do not stay in the house any longer. Go out and breathe the air deeply again and your soul will revive."

As you all know, we were unable to go on our annual outing and attend the multi-chapter dinner last month, but that did not stop us from getting together on Zoom. Thank you to all who participated in the fun on March 17th at Game Night where we incorporated celebrating Women's History and St. Patrick's Day. Special thanks for Jan Tappan for playing "The Irish Washer Woman" on her fiddle. We even had a guest BINGO participant - Kathleen McPherson, our Area XIII President. Congratulations to our three game winners: Pat Rabe, Gale Caswell, and Nancy Gunther. All received a \$25 Amazon gift card; Nancy should have been awarded a \$50 gift card, but she chose to donate half of her winnings to LIFE.

We encourage members to attend DKG California State Convention April 30th – May 2nd. This year's convention will be virtual. There is a \$25 registration fee. Look on page 5 of this newsletter for more details.

Thank you to everyone who voted and approved our new member, Debbie Bump!!! Welcome Debbie to our chapter! We are so glad you can join us!

It's that time of year when annual dues for 2021-2022 are due. Please send your \$85 check to Rose Gant before May 15th. There are national and state dues to pay by June 1st. We thank you in advance for your payments.

April Zoom Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 14th, and the theme is our annual Friendship Tea. Have a cup and saucer filled with tea on hand so at least we can imagine we are celebrating together. Pat Kalish, our hostess, has prepared a slide show of previous Teas; be sure not to miss seeing photographs from years past. Maybe we will get a laugh at some of the hairstyles!

Willy Crouse and Karen Gollhardt Co-Presidents

A Few Articles in This Issue:

2
3
3
4
4
5
6
7
8-12

DKG Vision: Leading women educators impacting education worldwide.

DKG California



2019-2021 Theme: Crossing **Bridges Together**

DKG California Educational, Professional, Making an Impact

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ш I DATE: Wednesday, April 14, 2021

TIME 4:00 p.m./ Zoom

PROGRAM: DKG Friendship Tea: A Walk Down Memory Lane

Pat Kalish will be sharing a bit of the history surrounding this annual event. She will share some highlights of our themed teas over the years. Pat has been hosting the Friendship Tea for 24 years having taking over what Alice Kenison had started. Pat's creativity has taken the Friendship Tea to a whole new level!

Be on the lookout for a special tea favor: napkin, tea bag and note! On the day of the tea, April 14, grab your cup of tea, your special napkin and settle in for a tea story!

Directory Changes

Please make these changes in your Alpha Upsilon member directory:

Betsy Bazdarich

New Email: betsv.baz@icloud.com

Address:

Liliana Castillo 2071 Valderas Dr., Apt 4. Glendale 91208

Mandy Redfern 3166 N. Verdugo Rd. Glendale 91208 Trisch Diaz 900 E. Harrison, **C-16** Pomona 91767

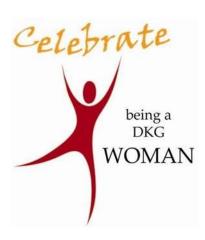
Page 2 ALPHA UPSILON NEWS

Happy Birthday to....



April

- 1—Patty Compeau
- 3—Karen Gollhardt
- 8—Shirley Sauvageau
- 10—Mary Jane Hufstedler
- 19—Betsy Bazdarich
- 23—Laura Strametz



Leadership Opportunities

Membership News



Happy Spring to One and All!

Of those who cast their ballot, our chapter has unanimously voted "Yes" to extend a membership invitation to Debbie

Bump. She has accepted our invitation. I am so excited to welcome her into our sisterhood.

We will have an orientation meeting soon and will hold a virtual induction ceremony at the April meeting. I can hardly wait until we can meet her in person!

In April, we will also recognize our DKG anniversaries. Because of the coronavirus, I don't believe we were able to acknowledge ten of us who had an anniversary in 2020. We will celebrate them as well as six sisters this year. That's over twenty-five percent of our chapter who has celebrated 5 years or more over the last two years. WOW! And just wait until next year, we have two notable anniversaries to recognize then!

I'm looking forward to April when we acknowledge new and continuing members. In the meantime, stop, smell the roses, and enjoy the beauty of Spring

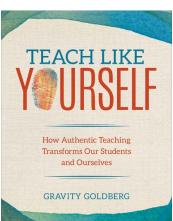
Marty Unger, Second VP, Membership



While many of you are familiar with the leadership training that DKG offers through pre-conference training for incoming state officers and The DKG Ignite: Leaders Empowering Leaders Program did you know there is more? Yes, just by going to the <u>DKG.org</u> website you will find information to help you to further develop your leadership skills. Once you are on the website go to **Resources** \Rightarrow **Leadership Lab**. Here you will find hyperlinks to noted leadership experts like Susan Leahy, Mike Figliuolo, Sarah Sladek, and Amanda Gore. You will also find hyperlinks to webinars made by the international leadership development committee, parliamentary leadership information, advice for leaders on how to analyze problems from Gallup and their leadership blog, and self-publication insights from Gail Goolsby.

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 7

Teach Like Yourself: Professional Book Suggestion



Teach Like Yourself by Gravity Goldberg, the educational consultant, coach and teacher, is a "manual" for teachers for mastering the facets of teaching which are important for a career and developing productive relationships with students. This book was in the top five of works considered to the Educators Book Award.

Even though the author somewhat criticizes self-help books, this book seems to be one. Using her wide experience of teaching and working with teachers, she guides the readers to find their own way in the teaching profession. She doesn't give any recipes or instructions, but through teachers' on t stories, experiences and reflections she shows how they have found their answers, and how they found their way. These reflections make you think and look for answers in yourself.

The author takes you step-by-step through the mental exercises to find yourself as a teacher. The value of the book is that it offers certain practical activities and questions that guide the readers

through the process of exploring their teaching potential.

Even more than a teacher's self-help book, the book has value in teacher education (pre-service as well as in-service). The book gives well-described tasks and activities that enable teachers to reflect on their regular teaching practice and look for new ways of teaching. The book is valuable for younger teachers who are still looking for their way or the experienced teachers who might be standing on the crossroads or face the identity crisis and are looking for opportunities for changes or for deeper sense-giving of their professional life.

International Conferences: Register Now!!

DKG International will be offering professional conferences for all members this summer:



One will be in Portland, Oregon, July 7-10.



The other will be held in San Antonio, Texas, July 21-24.

Registration is now open for both the <u>Portland Conference</u> and the <u>San Antonio</u> Conference. At this time it is anticipated the conferences will be held in-person. However, there is a possibility they will have to be totally virtual or a hybrid. When you register for the event note the registration fee will be non-refundable as it will be used to facilitate whichever version of the conference is held.

Page 4 ALPHA UPSILON NEWS

DKG California Virtual State Convention: April 30-May 2, 2021



The Calendar of events for the DKG California 2021 virtual convention has been decided. The Executive Committee is working hard to virtually provide members with the full convention experience. All elements of a traditional convention will be there—-Order of the Rose, Celebration of Life, Annual business meeting, Keynote speakers, Personal and Professional Development Sessions, Awards, Installation of 2021-2023 Officers—-all that will be missing is the hugs! There is a minimal registration fee of \$25. Registration will be open on April 6 at the website: www.dkgca.org

PLAN NOW TO REGISTER FOR THE 2021 DKG CALIFORNIA CONVENTION

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL DKG California State Organization

Treasurer's Report Alpha Upsilon Chapter March 1, 2021

BALANCE ON HAND: February 1, 2021 \$ 7,150.89

RECEIPTS:

Interest \$ 3.36

Total Receipts \$ 3.36

Total Available \$ 7,154.25

DISBURSEMENTS:

Total Disbursements for February

BALANCE ON HAND: March 1, 2021 <u>\$ 7,154.25</u>











Going Green

Do you dream of where you might travel next year or maybe think about where you have been in the past. Lonely planet list some **sustainable** cities. This link allows you to explore eight of the world's most sustainable cities.

If, like many of us, you are doing home improvements just now you might find some ideas in this Earthwatch article about making your home more sustainable. Our 1940s house really needs insulation from the summer heat but that is not easily done. Maybe I could plant some more shade trees.

https://earthwatch.org/stories/10-ways-save-energy-waste-and-money-more-sustainable-home?fbclid=lwAR2 r-rH jfGKcavG4QhgVJB6OVZLoE9xNoCgkE7q0SLi0HivPcGK4drqCg

"Gratitude to all the essential workers, valuable healthcare solutions and amazing medical individuals, creative and dedicated teachers, and the gift of current technology that helped all of us celebrate the JOY of family and friends."

I also found a wonderful TED talk, which is an interview of Jane Goodall. If you have 25 minutes, enjoy her wisdom and gracious personality. Here is the link: https://www.ted.com/talks/jane goodall-every-day-you-live-you-impact-the-planet?
https://www.ted.com/talks/jane-goodall-every-day-you-live-you-impact-the-planet?
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Patty Compeau
Jill Waters
Global Awareness Chairmen

World Fellowship



The World Fellowship Committee evaluates applications from all over the world. These women applicants are very accomplished citizens within their countries. They are seeking to learn what they cannot learn in their own country; and they are searching for universities that are top notch in the areas they seek expertise. These women have a desire to return to their countries and help impact the lives of others. The students who apply are from varied backgrounds and have various interests. One applicant is interested in urban planning and teaching citizens how to improve entrepreneurial strategies to make life better. Another applicant is working on neuroscience and researching new developments in this field. Geology, particularly as related to petroleum development, is important to another student's country. Environmental law with a special interest in the

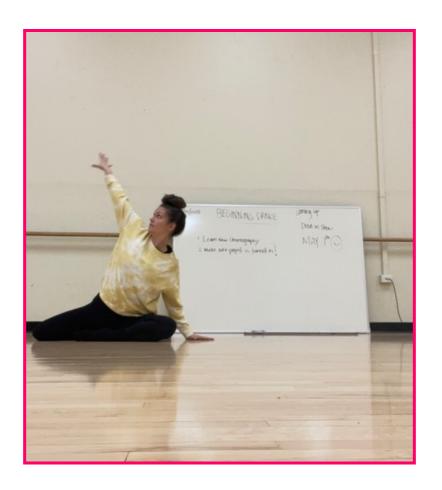
sustainable use of natural resources, especially water, will benefit another applicant's plans to help her country.

Women are changing this world. The World Fellowship Fund falls under the umbrella of the <u>DKG International Educators Foundation</u>. Your <u>donations to the World Fellowship Fund</u> make it possible for DKG to be at the forefront of helping make these changes possible. The generosity and efforts of our members are truly living examples of our vision statement. DKG members are truly leading women educators impacting education worldwide. Spread the great news!

Page 7 ALPHA UPSILON NEWS

This year, Pasadena High School's dance department is getting a much needed update! From a brand new room, to new technology, PHS is working really hard to provide students with the most beautiful Dance Space in San Gabriel Valley. Dance teacher Hillary Temple not only teaches virtually, but also uses this new space to teach students through video, online, and much more. This year, PHS was lucky enough to receive a grant from the Beebe Neutzman Endowment Fund. With this money, the PHS dance department decided to purchase a very large whiteboard and corkboard for student and teacher use. Current budget restrictions did not allow PHS to purchase this in creation of the new room. Because of this generous donation, Miss Temple is now able to use an appropriate size classroom whiteboard to help enhance the literacy, keep students informed, and teach vocabulary during her classes. She also received a 6' x 4' corkboard that will help students stay up-to-date with professional opportunities in dance through postings, job listings, performance opportunities, etc. PHS is really looking forward to having students back in the classroom so that they can take their dance skills to a new level! PHS and Miss Temple are so grateful for this gift and will continue to use the items this year and in many years forward.

Hillary Temple
Pasadena High School



Page 8 ALPHA UPSILON NEWS

March 15, 2021

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International DKG California Organization Alpha Upsilon Chapter % Jan Tappan 1938 Rose Villa St. Pasadena, CA 91107

Re: Beebe Neutzman Endownment Fund

Dear Members of the Beebe Neutzman Endowment Fund Committee,

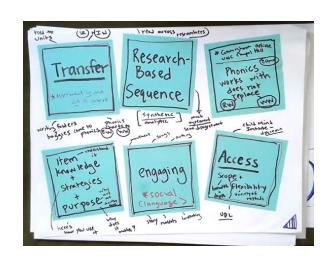
This letter is to serve as cover for the attached article regarding my professional development due to your generous support since receiving a mini grant from your organization. Since I have returned to the classroom this year after holding a different position in the district, I understand and highly value being able to continue to hone my craft and develop intentional ways of teaching that will greatly impact my students' learning lives. Immediately following my notification of receiving the grant, I applied for an Institute on Developing Character in Students through Read Aloud at Teachers College, Columbia University. I was accepted. However, the institute had to be cancelled due to lack of enrollment. Fortunately, I was able to enroll in TC's Spelling Institute which took place the last Saturday in February and first two Saturdays in March.

I cannot thank you enough for generously supporting myself and my colleagues in furthering our teaching practice, having time and space to reflect on our pedagogy and to learn from other leaders in the field. Thanks to Zoom, I didn't need to travel any further than to my computer and log in to three jam-packed sixhour sessions of learning. I hope the article that follows paints a clear picture of my learning from the institute, and how this will impact my class of first graders.

Thank you again!

Sincerely,

Deserie Bradvica
First Grade Teacher
Ramona School, Alhambra Unified School District
bradvica deserie@ausd.us



Page 9 ALPHA UPSILON NEWS

Mini Grant Recipient Shares (Cont'd from Page 9)

Teachers' College Spelling Institute, February 27, March 6 and March 13 - 8:00 am- 2:00 pm

Spelling instruction has a long history of controversy and heated debate in education. While we all agree it is necessary, especially in the primary grades, the best practices to help students understand spelling patterns and consistently apply those patterns can sometimes seem elusive. Over the past three Saturdaysl was able to join a community of learners from all over the world to study spelling in-depth and get a clear understanding of how to better support my first grade students with their burgeoning spelling development.

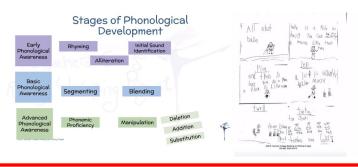
Across the three days we met in small groups based on grade levels, current roles in education and the format we're currently working in (hybrid, fully remote or in person instruction.) I will attempt to highlight some of the more salient points from the institute and conclude with the practices that I plan on immediately implementing with my students.

On the first day of the institute we began by learning about the guiding principles of spelling instruction. We were asked to reflect on how our overall guiding principles as a teacher impact our day to day instruction. In small groups, we discussed how one-on-one conferences during both reading and writing time can accelerate individual students' development and be tailored to their specific spelling needs. We studied the stages of spelling development and learned a format for a quick spelling assessment off of a writing sample which was labeled a "writing record" - akin to a "reading record." We ended the day by considering how video teaching can be designed to assist students with specific spelling needs.

On the second day of the institute we examined our spelling instruction from an equity lens. We were challenged to build collaborative communities of practice with families - building bridges to communicate our beliefs around spelling, get to know our students as individuals to understand their identities as spellers, readers and writers, revise our curriculum to make it more accessible and teach from an asset mindset. In small groups, we took on the task of designing small group work focused on spelling using the method of interactive writing. We created tools and structures for short and focused small group instruction. We examined writing records and teased out future instructional possibilities from the samples. In our role-alike groups we examined the relationship between Phonemic Awareness, Phonics and Spelling. At the end of day two, we received information regarding the stages of grammar acquisition as a reminder that while spelling can be taught directly, it also progresses through a series of observable stages.

On the final day of the institute, we considered the impact of read aloud and shared reading on children's spelling, especially by calling attention to salient features of repeated words. We designed interactive editing experiences for various levels of spelling stages and wrote blend poems as a fun method for instruction. We learned about a structure for teaching sight words, including sentence dictation as a method of support for some learners. We also learned about orthographic mapping and the recent thinking about what students who have dyslexia may find supportive for spelling in our classrooms.

The impact of this institute on my classroom has yet to be seen, but I know that I have already begun to implement ideas. I have begun each small group reading time with a warm up focused on the spelling stage of the students in the group. I have infused phonemic awareness into my science and math lessons. I also plan on completing writing records on each of my students so that I can design mini-editing opportunities for their conferences in writing workshop. After this institute, I have a better understanding of how to infuse spelling instruction across the day and how to gather data in a quick and useful matter for practical and immediate application









Page 10 ALPHA UPSILON NEWS

While I've been a teacher for 20 years and have taught in the Arcadia Unified School district for the past 14 years, this is my first year as First Avenue Middle School's Home Economics teacher. It's definitely been a learning curve, especially with teaching hands-on classes remotely, but it's gone well and students have had the opportunity to develop real life skills. In addition to cooking and sewing, I was hoping to, with this grant, expand student opportunities for hands-on learning, including crochet, knitting, and embroidery.

Kids are getting an abundance of screen time and I wanted to create the space, allowing them to do something other than interacting with a device. We are scheduled to return to campus on April 19. I'm not yet sure if we'll be allowed to cook and if we are allowed to cook, what that will look like, so these supplies are a godsend. I have enough crochet hooks, knitting needles, embroidery hoops and macramé cord for students to rotate through projects until June. Students can sit at their socially distanced desks, wearing a mask, working on their projects and socializing with their classmates, not a Chromebook or phone in sight.

On a final note, after learning I'd been awarded this very generous grant I realized that I would have the foundational equipment needed for an entire handicrafts class. I rewrote my class descriptions for the 2021-2022 school year and one of my courses is dedicated completely to handicrafts. I am so grateful to the Alpha Upsilon for helping me to provide students with meaningful experiences during this difficult time, but also for years to come.

Suzanne Zaima szaima@ausd.net First Avenue Middle School Arcadia, California



Page 11 ALPHA UPSILON NEWS

Dear Alpha Upsilon Members:

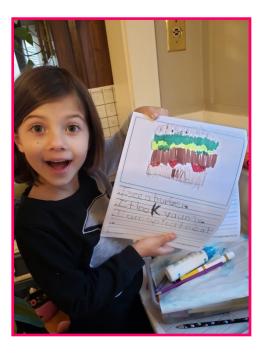
This school year has been a most unusual one. At this point, we have been in school for about 121 days and all of them have been on-line. Keeping anyone engaged in learning for that period of time would be difficult but, when those that you are trying to keep involved in their learning are Kindergartners, the difficulty is magnified exponentially! But, along comes an offer to help offset the difficulty from outside sources and on-line learning becomes a bit easier.

The mini grant from the Alpha Upsilon's Beebe Nuetzman Endowment Fund was one such offer that has truly helped keep my Kindergartners engaged and has helped support their mastery of Kindergarten standards. Using the funds provided, I purchased a drawing book called <u>How to Draw Cute Stuff: Draw Anything and Everything in the Cutest Style Ever!</u> The drawing book is used daily during our writing time. Students choose something from the book to draw and then write a descriptive or opinion paragraph about what they have drawn. (Not only does this activity support their mastery of basic handwriting skills, it also supports writing sentences and early paragraphs as well as science concepts.) In addition, I also purchased watercolor paper, watercolors, and dot art markers. These supplies are currently being used during our monthly art instruction with our visiting artist.

During the time my students have been using these materials, I have seen significant improvement in the legibility of their handwriting and writing abilities (some students are writing eight sentences about their drawings!!!) and, I believe, seen the birth of future artists. I don't think this growth would have occurred without this mini grant and the supplies it enabled me to purchase and send home. I can't thank you enough for helping me and my students. Your generosity has helped make this year successful in ways that I never imagined at the outset!

Sincerely,

Gretchen Elm Kindergarten Teacher Sierra Madre Elementary School





Page 12 ALPHA UPSILON NEWS