



# Presidents' Message

Dear Alpha Upsilon Sisters,

*"When the wind in your sails is not there, you change course."*

That seems to be the case in this crazy world we are living in presently. We've become resilient and stronger because of it. We have navigated to do new things; we found a way to connect with others, projects left undone have gotten more attention, bonded even more with those we live with, found in our hearts to still support the causes we believe in, and many others each of us individually can come up with. Kuddos to changing your course!

Thank you to **Jan Tappan** and her committee for getting the Mini-Grants underway. Those lucky teachers are happy to have been chosen to enhance their programs for their students.

**Judi Healey** changed course from an originally planned presenter and was able to bring us speaker, Amy Ross, who very clearly explained how the COVID-19 Virus works and gave us timely updates as to what is happening with rolling out the vaccines. Well done, Judi! We know we'll have many more interesting programs.

We look forward to seeing many of you at the Area Conference XIII on Saturday, February 6. You can still register so those of you who haven't, check out the flier on page 7 and sign-up today! Thanks again to all those involved in this huge project. Don't forget the chapter's regular monthly Zoom Meeting will be on Thursday, February 11.

Willy Crouse and Karen Gollhardt,  
Co-Presidents

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**DKG Vision: Leading women educators impacting education worldwide.**

**DKG California**

**2019-2021  
Theme:**

**Crossing  
Bridges  
Together**



**DKG California**

**Educational, Professional,  
Making an Impact**

## Next Meeting

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**DATE:** Thursday, February 11, 2021

**TIME:** 4:00 p.m., Social; 4:30 p.m., Meeting

**PLACE:** Zoom (virtual meeting)

**PROGRAM:** How to Become a Super Ager

Joyce Ruygrok (age 92) and Ted Davis  
(age 99, will be 100 in August!)

## February's Speakers

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How do you stay upbeat even when your feet hurt and your mask keeps fogging up your glasses? All of us already have valuable tips worth sharing. But if we want to be superb as Super Agers, we can listen this month to Joyce Ruygrok, 92, and Ted Davis, who turns 100 in August. Joyce re-invented herself long before that was a buzzword. Among other things, she was an actress under contract with MGM during the golden years, did a TED Talk at age 90, and was seeing clients as a nutritionist in her nineties. You may remember Joyce as she is the one who introduced her daughter Amy at our January meeting. Ted Davis had a career in pharmaceutical marketing and a lifelong habit of staying alive physically and through volunteer service. For years he taught fitness classes at the YMCA as a volunteer; he played tennis into his nineties, and has served as president for various foundations, including kidney and Alzheimers. Until COVID, he volunteered weekly at Verdugo Hills Hospital, among other things. His daughter is Judi Healey.



## Happy Birthday to....



### February

- 4—Harriet Furaya
- 7—Norma Russel
- 10—Mary Jane Hufstедler
- 19—Betsy Bazdarich
- 23—Laura Strametz

## Are You Up To Date?

**Update Your Member  
Information at  
MyDKG at [dkg.org](http://dkg.org)**

Click to watch the video tutorial.

Is your personal information for DKG ? Are you receiving the weekly *Highlights*? Does the *California Connection* come to your inbox four times a year? If your answer is no to these questions, you need to update your information in the Society database. Visit the [DKG California website](http://DKG California website) and look at the rotator at the top right of the page. When you see the above picture, click on it and get started! It's important that you stay up to date so you don't miss out on any benefits of membership!!!!

## Membership News



First of all, thank you all for your prayers and support during our grandson's recent hospitalization. Jeremiah was at Children's Hospital for two of his first four weeks. I'm happy to report he came home on Friday, January 22, 2021



and is thriving. We are very grateful that his infection did not spread and was caught before he suffered any long-term effects. We are all thrilled he and his mother are home.

I am so excited that Willy invited Debbie Bump to join us for our January meeting. I hope she comes to many, many more. So, it is possible to grow the chapter even during this difficult time? You bet it is. I heard that one local chapter has EIGHT new members this year! If they can do, so can we.

I'm including two paragraphs from DKGSI (similar to California's *Highlights*) regarding membership:

"Have you ever pondered why your membership in Delta Kappa Gamma matters? Our vision statement clearly defines why our membership matters: Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide. Annie Webb Blanton believed in the power of education and members across the world are impacting the lives of students today around the world.

Membership matters because members are passionate about making the world a better place to live and work. Members matter because your dues and donations create a ripple effect that spreads globally."

Please, please invite your colleagues, retired, working or ??? to our conference and next meeting, and encourage them to become members of our very worthwhile organization.

**Marty Unger,  
Second VP, Membership**

# THAT

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Happy Valentine's Day! There's no better way to spread some love than by volunteering your time to help another teacher! If I can help in any way to spread the word regarding other areas where we might offer assistance to those who are teaching, please let me know. I am happy to generate a list of activities, and/or a list of teachers/schools/programs that could use a helping volunteer hand. If you think of non-THAT ways to show our gratitude and appreciation to current teachers (thank you notes, gifts of food or supplies, etc.), please don't hesitate to do so, and share any ideas with the rest of us. Reminder [please record your THAT hours](#) (the volunteer time you spend helping another teacher) online. All THAT hours **must be recorded online by 4/1/2021**.

Happy February, and thanks for everything you do to help others!

Stay healthy and safe!

**Karen Wilcoxon, THAT Liaison**

## International Conferences

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



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



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



And the third will be in Tampere, Finland, July 28-31.

DKG International President Becky Sadowski is encouraging the planners "...to consider how to find meaningful opportunities to contribute and to make a difference for a positive impact on women and children in our world." At this time plans are proceeding for in person conferences. It is possible they will be changed to virtual conferences. So mark the dates on you calendars now. In person or virtual these conferences will be DYNAMIC!!

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

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At this time the DKG California Executive Committee is continuing to plan for an in person 2021 Convention. They are well aware they may have to change plans to a virtual event like they hosted in 2020. The registration form and hotel registration information will be available soon. But for now [applications for the Art Gallery, choir and displays](#) are all available.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE DKG CALIFORNIA CONVENTION!**

# Treasurer Report

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THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL  
DKG California State Organization

Treasurer's Report  
Alpha Upsilon Chapter  
January 1, 2021

BALANCE ON HAND; December 1, 2020 \$ 7,482.52

RECEIPTS:

Interest \$ 3.71

Total Receipts \$ 3.71

Total Available \$ 7,486.23

DISBURSEMENTS:

DKG CA (3/01/20) \$ 17.00

Directories/postage \$ 172.06

Total Disbursements for December \$ 189.06

BALANCE ON HAND: January 1, 2021 \$ 7,297.17





**DKG**

***Leading the Way***

***Area XIII Virtual Conference  
Saturday February 6, 2021  
9:00 a.m. or 11:00 a.m.***

Our conference this year will feature talent from within Area XIII. We will enjoy a hands-on art demonstration (have paper, pencil, colored markers or pencils handy), science experiments, a recap of a hike up Mount Kilimanjaro, and a lesson on how teaching science has changed. It will be a fascinating, diverse, and very different conference.

Since this year will be a virtual conference, there will be no charge to attend. However, support for Area XIII student teacher scholarships is needed. Consider donating what you would normally pay for registration and raffle tickets. Send your check, payable to Area XIII, to:

Pat Bell  
660 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Apt F  
Sierra Madre CA 91024

Two different sessions of the conference will be offered, one at 9:00 a.m. and one at 11:00 a.m. Each session can accommodate 100 people, so **[registration is required](#)**. If attendance exceeds 200, we will add a third session at 1:00 p.m. You can register by clicking on the link in blue above.

***See you there!!!!***

## Mini Grant Recipient Shares!

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**Kelsey McKovich**

**Beebe Neutzman Endowment Fund Mini Grant**

**January 6th, 2021**

Technology in the classroom not only expands student knowledge but it also allows the teacher to broaden lessons and bring STEAM into the daily curriculum. My name is Kelsey McKovich and this is my 5th year teaching. I've taught 3rd grade, 8th grade, and now I am teaching 1st grade. This is my first year at Valley View Elementary School and my first year teaching first grade. It's unfortunate that we started the year virtually and we are still virtual come January. I don't get to see my kiddos in person daily and do hands-on activities but this predicament has allowed me to branch outside of the teaching norm and dive into the world of technology. Since the spring, I started following hundreds of teachers on Instagram across the United States to get inspiration during the trying times of distance learning that was heaved upon us in March. These teachers inspired me to step outside my comfort zone and try new things.

One thing that really stood out to me was how teachers were using an iPad or tablet to create worksheets and activities catered for their students. They were also using iPads and tablets to share their screen on Zoom and show students apps that brought lessons to life. I studied and followed these teachers so I can bring these resources to my students and help them learn in different and unique ways. With teaching a new grade level and making sure I make distance learning enjoyable and engaging, I decided I wanted to follow these amazing educators and take my teaching abilities to the next level. With the generous donation from the Beebe Neutzman Endowment Fund, I am able to make my "teacher dreams" come true! I've started creating worksheets and activities for students. I am even able to share my screen and draw and write directly on the tablet and have my students follow along on math and language arts lessons. It makes it so much easier to demonstrate skills to my first grades when I can actually handwrite on the device and they can see exactly what I am writing. I am now inspired to expand my Instagram and share my resources with other teachers to help them grow within their career. I am forever grateful for this donation as it has launched my teaching abilities and it makes learning more enjoyable for my students.





## Recruitment Grant Application Now Available

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The Recruitment Grant is ready to go out. Please make it available to those who meet the qualifications.

- Los Angeles County resident
- G.P.A. 3.0 or higher
- Qualified as upper division status working toward a credential in Education
- Two letters of reference by educators who can evaluate the applicant's academic and personal qualifications
- A 200-word typed autobiography addressing any obstacles faced in educational goals and financial needs
- Official transcripts (or verified facsimiles)
- Copy of current class schedule showing evidence of work toward a single or multiple subject credential.

It should be postmarked to Rhoda Coleman by March 19 so they will have almost 2 months to assemble their paper-work.

Rhoda e-mailed the grant application to all members. If you need an application and can't locate the e-mail, contact Rhoda ([rhoco@earthlink.net](mailto:rhoco@earthlink.net)) and she will send to you.

## LIFE Promotes Literacy

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The libraries are closed, my book clubs are reading selections I read years ago, so it is time to turn to Netflix. I am from New York and have all of those wonderful characteristics - talk fast, walk fast and will let you know what to think in a New York minute. A New Yorker can spot a New Yorker a mile away. So, it was that which attracted me to the new Netflix series, "Pretend It's a City." Days ago, I had no idea who Fran Lebowitz was, not a clue. Today, I am a fan. If you want a new take on the world and a few chuckles, check it out, she will delight, annoy and make you think. In the last episode Fran comments on her "take" on reading. Here is a sample **Think before you speak. Read before you think.** Enjoy!

Coming next month our plans for virtual Buck a Book.

Mary Lou Langedyke,  
LIFE Liaison

## Chapter Minutes: January 31, 2021

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The meeting was called to order by Co-President Willy Crouse at 4:30. There were 30 members in attendance plus 1 guest and 2 speakers joining us. Ana Haskins read and shared an inspirational piece by Alex Cravens that brought her a lot of peace from a teacher and mom perspective. Hoping it would do the same for all of us. Remember, Kids can handle whatever comes their way; they rise to the challenge and were born for a time like this! This is a time for some great teachable moments about life skills and integrity. Willy Crouse introduced her guest, Debbie Bump. So glad to have a guest at our zoom meeting.

Judi Healy introduced the speakers for today Super Ager Joyce Ruygrok and her daughter Amy Ross who gave us insight into the Corona Virus and Vaccine Distribution Phases. She praised teachers especially during these challenging time for instilling resilience.

### Reports:

\*There were no corrections for the November minutes.

\*Treasurer Rose Gant shared the current chapter balance of \$7,297.17.

\*Jan Tappan said there were 36 applicants for mini grants for a total of \$14,000 to recipients from a number of districts: (Glendale, Arcadia, La Cañada, LAUSD, Pasadena) Two of our chapter members, Ana Haskins and Gayle Nicholls Ali were very happy recipients as well.

\*Don't forget to register and attend the Area XIII Convention on Saturday February 6 at 9 or 11 a.m. Incentive from our co-presidents: you will receive 2 tickets for registering and 2 tickets for donating to scholarships to win a stained glass creation made by our own Karen Gollhardt. Two of our members Joyce Hamdan and Judi Healy will be presenters as well as Pat Rabe who has worked tirelessly on making this zoom conference an amazing experience for all.

\*Marty Unger encouraged us to bring friends in to join our group.

\*Patty Compeau told us about a book "All We Can Save: Truth, Courage, and Solution for the Climate Crisis" The book includes 50 essays and 25 poems.

Who's Who in AU introduced us to Ardis Bunn. She taught in 4 districts and many subject matters. Her family is religious and musical. Her 3 daughters live all over from London, to Nashville, to Pennsylvania

### Announcements:

\*Thanks to those who attended the Holiday Happy Hour and to Gayle who took photos.

\*Please sign up for the Area Conference mentioned above. We would like a strong showing for Alpha Upsilon.

\*Next meeting is Thursday Feb. 11 - 4 pm social; 4:30 meeting

Willy C. adjourned the meeting at 6:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Frank, Recording Secretary