

Presidents' Message

Dear Alpha Upsilon Sisters,

"If life was a book, every day would be a new page, every month would be a new chapter, and every year would be a new series." Elizabeth Duivenvoorde

One month already over in 2024, so welcome to a new chapter!

Thank you to **Christine Werner** for hosting our January meeting at her home and to **Judi Healey** for arranging our speaker, Cambria Tortorelli.

We look forward to seeing many of us at Cal Poly at our Area Conference on Saturday, February 3rd, and honoring **Rose Gant** as our Outstanding Chapter Member. We'd like to acknowledge Alpha Upsilon's part in the conference: thanks to **Judy Kearns** for making the program and the online evaluation form and thanks to **Kathy Cockerill, Ana Haskins,** and **Christine Werner** for putting our conference opportunity raffle baskets together. Those attending, remember to bring cash money to buy raffle tickets! There are 24 baskets from which to choose! On each table, there will be an envelope for donations (yes, checks as well as cash will be accepted) for Area XIII's scholarship fund.

Don't forget the chapter's next regular monthly meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 15th, at St. George's Episcopal Church. We will be looking forward to being presented to the new slate of officers for 2024-2026.

Have a 'lovely' Valentine's Day!!

Willy Crouse and Karen Gollhardt,
Co-Presidents

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DKG Vision: Leading women educators impacting education worldwide.



DKG California
Educational, Professional,
Making an Impact

DKG California
2023-2025
Theme:
Our Compass is on New Horizons

Alpha Upsilon
2023-2024 Theme
Expanding Opportunities

Classroom Discipline: How is it Changing?

Next meeting: Thursday, February 15, 2024
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Place: St. George's Episcopal Church
808 Foothill Blvd., La Cañada
Program: Sages and Seekers
Linda White, Presenter



Sages & Seekers

Our own Linda White is also a volunteer for this worthwhile, intergenerational program. As the name implies, Sages & Seekers brings together Sages (adults 60+) with Seekers (students 15-24) so each age group is enriched by the other. We'll watch a short video and then learn from Linda how this program helps diminish ageism and makes it possible to transfer life lessons to the next generation.

REMEMBER TO RSVP TO KAREN WILCOXEN

Coming Attraction!!



Saturday, March 16, 10 am - 11:30 am
Rubel Castle, 844 N. Live Oak, Glendora

This is going to be a great outing! There are nearly 20 registered. If you haven't paid, you can just send Rose a check for \$10 or bring money the day of the outing. A few days before, I will send out the waiver form, and you can bring it with you (or do that when you arrive). They do want us to know there are stairs and tunnels, so they can't have wheelchairs or walkers. There are no rest benches along the touring routes. Sturdy footwear is required – heels or flip-flops are not recommended. If this doesn't work for any of you, just let me know and you will be refunded your \$10.

Happy Birthday to....



February

- 4—Harriet Furuya
Linda White
- 7—Norma Russel
- 10—Mary Jane Hufstedler
- 19—Betsy Bazdarich
- 23—Laura Strametz

Summer Opportunity



CFC IS HIRING!

THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN IS HIRING!

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED:
-TEACHERS MUST HAVE 12 UNITS
-ASSISTANTS NO UNITS REQUIRED

2902 MONTROSE AVE.
LA CRESCENTA, CA 91214
(818)249-8124
DIRECTOR: PAT CHAMBERS

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE @
CENTER4CHILDREN.COM

ALSO HIRING FOR SUMMER CAMP!

Now that she has completed her credential program, **Candice Bautista** is transitioning from her work at [Center for Children](#) childcare center and into elementary education. She will be the summer Day Camp Director and will be hiring

teachers, teaching assistants, drivers to get children to and from the Center. Perhaps you know some college students, male or female, who might be interested. If so, show them this information or direct them to the website and urge them to apply!!

Membership News



February is a month of special occasions – Black History Month, Lincoln’s Birthday, Valentine’s Day, Ash Wednesday, President’s Day, and this year, Leap Day. It’s also the month we come together with the other chapters in our area to celebrate our combined membership. I’m looking forward to seeing everyone from Area XIII on February 3rd. Who knows, I might win another raffle prize!

We are a bonded group. Member bonding fosters a sense of belonging, feeling connected and included; nurturing strong relationships that make people feel respected, valued, heard and seen; building trust and a sense of community that helps us understand more about each other’s backgrounds and experiences; and leads to collaboration and cohesion. Alpha Upsilon is an outstanding chapter to be emulated and admired for our meaningful meetings, communication, member engagement, and relationships that are nurtured, mentored, and supported.

Membership is about stepping up when there is a need. I am elated that we all feel the same and that the slate of officers is complete for the next biennium. Thank you to our nominating committee who worked so diligently and hard to put this group together. Congratulations on a job well done! I look forward to seeing who our new leadership is at our next meeting. You have my support and I will assist you in any way I can.

See you February 15, 2024, at St. George’s Episcopal Church as we learn yet another volunteer opportunity.

With gratitude,

Marty Unger
Second VP, Membership



Use a Personal Growth Opportunity to Save Our Earth

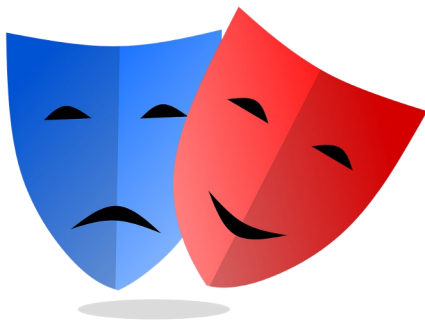


TreePeople offers well-maintained hiking trails in Coldwater Canyon Park, off of Mulholland Drive. There are guided night hikes, concerts, access to California Native plants for your own garden, and volunteer opportunities. There are also amazing field trip opportunities! There are various guided tours to choose from. **Candice Bautista** took a group of kids there during day camp last Spring Break. Their tour discussed composting, pollution, and rain water. Really a great resource! Events are posted weekly. You can sign up for their newsletter on the website for upcoming Moonlight Hikes!

<https://www.treepeople.org/>

Candice Bautista, Laura Strametz
Leadership/Personal Growth Committee

Theater in LA



Gail Caswell, of the Visual and Performing Arts Committee, has compiled a list of theatre opportunities in the LA area. The list is too long for the newsletter but is attached to the email sending the newsletter. As **Gail** urges, Happy Theatre Adventures!!

Plan to Register for the 2024 DKG California Convention



SAVE THE DATE!

DKG California Convention

May 3-5, 2024

Santa Clara Marriott

“Setting Our Course Together”

Join us for learning, leading, sharing,
and so much more! Plan NOW to be there!

Are YOU ready to register for this annual event! REMEMBER Alpha Upsilon will pay for your registration, (including convention meals) and lodging.

Your Donations Provide Love and Support!



**Covenant
House
California**

Covenant House provides a safe haven for young people experiencing homelessness. There they are provided sanctuary and help in order to start a new path forward with the support from trusted adults. The youth are starting the New Year with resolutions about reconnecting with their families, securing employment or finding a new career path, or wellness for both their bodies and minds. Supporting Covenant House helps to provide mentorship, unconditional love, and a safe home so the youth are set up for success. Our donations of toiletry items in one small way helps in the process of making this success happen. Thank you again to those of you who have donated items and everyone is encouraged to continue – it is greatly needed and deeply appreciated!

**Laura Strametz
Chairman**

Treasurer's Report

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
DKG California
Alpha Upsilon Chapter, Area XIII
Treasurer's Report



BALANCE ON HAND: December 1, 2023

\$ 7,617.07

RECEIPTS

Interest \$.03
Share certificate \$ 19.18

Total receipts for December \$ 19.81

Total available \$ 7636.88

DISBURSEMENTS

Area XIII Conference (19 members) \$ 760.00
Area XIII Conference (one member) 40.00
Area XIII Conference (one member) 40.00
Karen Wilcoxon: stamps, cards \$ 18.26
Kathy Cockerill: pens, cider, sandwiches \$ 125.98
Reorder of checks \$ 22.44

Total disbursements for December \$ 1006.68

BALANCE ON HAND: January 1, 2024

CD value \$ 5530.85

Checking Acct \$ 1099.35

TOTAL \$ 6630.20

Important Updates



Thanks to all who have distributed applications for our grant. We are in holding pattern now, awaiting submissions, which are due by March 14th. We are in good shape on interviewers for March 23rd, as Betsy will now be in town and able to participate.

**Sue Fuelling,
Chairman**



More 2 gallon Ziploc bags will be available at the February meeting. The sign-up sheet will also be available. If you have already filled a bag and want to bring it to the next meeting, feel free to do so. Otherwise, bags are due at the April tea.

**Sue Fuelling,
Chairman**

Minutes: January 17, 2024

DKG Alpha Upsilon Minutes, January 17, 2024
Home of Christine Werner

4:30 pm: Welcome by Willy. Thank you to Christine Werner for offering her home and thank you to the refreshment committee of Gale C., Anna, Carol V., Christine.

-Introduction of Guests: Lori Novak (DKG president of Epsilon Chapter), and Denise (friend of Judi Healey.)

-Inspiration: Ana Haskins: Teachers have two fresh starts in August and in January. Ana quoted Les Brown, a man who overcame mental disabilities to become a motivational speaker. "Someone else's opinion of you does not need to become your reality." "You have greatness within you."

-Program: Judi Healey introduced Cambria Tortorelli, Executive Director of the Institute of Los Angeles, an organization dedicated to providing services to families worldwide, particularly refugees, immigrants, and survivors of human trafficking.

-Meeting:

1. No corrections to the November minutes.

2. Treasurer's report: (Rose Gant) Balance on 12/1/23: \$7,617.07, Balance as of 12/31/23 was \$6,630.20.

3. Correspondence: (Karen Wilcoxon) A thank you note was sent to Robin Williams for hosting the Christmas party. Holiday greetings were sent to reserve members and Mary Jane Hufstedler-32 members were in attendance.

4. Committee Reports:

a. Mini Grants: (Jan Tappan) 49 applications. Some amount of money was given to 40 applicants who qualified. There was a wide variety of requests. Thank you to her committee of Pat Rabe, Harriet Furuya. Laura Castagnari

b. Recruitment Grants: (Sue Fuelling) Applications are due March 14, 2024, with Zoom interviews on March 23, 2024.

c. Jared Bags: (Sue Fuelling) Due in April. Be sure to include a book in the large Ziplock.

d. Area XIII Conference: February 3, 2024. There are 23 Alpha Upsilon members who have registered.

Rose Gant, the 2024 Outstanding Chapter Member will be honored at the conference. She was presented with a bouquet of flowers tonight. Thank you to Kathy Cockerill, Ana Haskins, and Christine Werner, for the three baskets made for the conference raffle. The proceeds will be used by Area XIII for scholarships.

e. March outing to Rubel's Castle: (Judi Healey) Please make out a check to AU or give cash (\$10) to Judi. The chapter is contributing \$10 for each member, who would like to attend.

f. Schools for Africa: (Debbie Bump) Purses were purged. A total of \$80.60 was collected.

g. Nominating Committee: Members were encouraged to stretch and find their greatness in service to the chapter by accepting a board position.

h. Red Folders: (Karen Gollhardt) Committee chairs are to prepare notes for next year's chairperson, if not serving in the same capacity for an additional term.

5. Who's Who in AU? Ana Haskins was highlighted this month.

6. Announcements: a. Area XIII Conference on February 3, 2024 at Cal Poly Pomona; Kellogg West Conference Center from 8:30 -11:30 a.m.

b. Next meeting is at St. George's Episcopal Church in La Canada on Thursday, February 15th at 4 p.m.

c. Outing to Rubel's Castle on Saturday, March 16th.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Debbie Bump, Recording Secretary

Purging Your Purses Help the Less Fortunate



Thank you to all the generous Alpha Upsilon members, who “purged their purses” at the January 17th meeting. Those coins and bills totaled **\$80.60** !!

DKG International has recently decided to move away from UNICEF’s Schools for Africa project. A new project fund will be voted on at the 2024 International Convention. Until then, chapters may still direct their donations to UNICEF USA to support **Education in Africa** (specifically the Democratic Republic of Congo, where there are significant barriers to children accessing quality education).

**Debbie Bump, Global Awareness Committee
Schools for Africa**

Register for This Month’s Tech Tips

TECH TIPS ZOOM ROOM

Google Sheets Basics

**February 20th
4:30-5:30 PM PST**



The DKG California Communications Committee has been presenting monthly Tech Tips sessions for any interested member. You could even share the link with a non-member so they can see one of the benefits of membership first hand.

To register for this session of any of the [Tech Tips](#) sessions, click on [Tech Tips](#). There are only two sessions after this February one. So register now to take advantage of this opportunity!!

Take THAT STEP to Help a Teacher !!



Happy February! It's almost Valentine's Day, and there's no better way to spread love than by volunteering your time to help another teacher! This is a reminder to support your fellow educators through the Teachers Helping Another Teacher (THAT) Program.

Recently there was an article about THAT in the DKG California Highlights Newsletter. In case you missed it:

- **THAT** encourages members to **support current educators** by volunteering in classrooms, working with students, or supporting teachers with their daily activities,
- **Working professionals** can earn THAT hours by tutoring students, collaborating with colleagues or serving as a club advisor outside contract hours, or any unpaid professional support to colleagues on your own time.
- **Non-working members** can earn THAT hours by working directly with students, serving as a test proctor, supporting a teacher with classroom duties, assisting with student projects or activities, chaperoning a school event, or serving as a docent for student tour groups.
- **Reporting hours** spent as a DKG California member is another way of supporting teachers. DKG recognizes the efforts of members through THAT.
- Take time to review the guidelines and **submit your hours** whenever you work with students supporting a classroom or teacher.
- Record volunteer hours on the **THAT** form, found on the [DKG California Webpage](#). Click on **Members** on the top right side and enter sisterhood when prompted for your password.
A page will open with several icons, including THAT: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1k1QCCpBsiUURE7iGuQPgLiPLqQXI0LuWsF001imUYM/edit#slide=id.gf44a806ab7_0_48
- **Record volunteer hours on a weekly, monthly, or periodic basis** on the THAT form. Enter your name and volunteer information, as well as Alpha Upsilon and Area XIII.
Be sure to record all THAT hours by **March 1, 2024!**

STEP:

- Share information with our chapter about teachers, programs, or schools that could use our help
- Explore the [DKG California Webpage](#). Find the **STEP Program** (**S**upport **T**eam for **E**merging **P**rofessionals) under Committee Resources at the top of the website page. You will find valuable information, including a new quarterly newsletter with tips for teachers.
- This month's **Tech Tips Zoom Room** topic is **Google Sheets Basics (answering your technology questions)**. The meeting will take place February 20th @ 4:30 pm-5:30 pm.
The link to register is: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMvdeuvqTwrH9VfGw9TIZ3vGTJ9ymtwlL42>

Karen Wilcoxen
THAT/STEP Chairman

Mini Grant Recipient Shares!

"Transforming My Classroom into a Quiet Learning Oasis with the Beebe Nuetzman Endowment Fund Mini Grant"

In my role as a teacher in Arcadia Unified, I envisioned enhancing the learning environment for my students. With the invaluable support of the Beebe Nuetzman Endowment Fund Mini Grant, I set out on a mission to transform my classroom into a peaceful oasis of education. One of the most significant changes I implemented was aimed at making the learning space quieter and more focused.

Thanks to the Beebe Nuetzman Endowment Fund Mini Grant, I was able to invest in a range of tools designed to reduce classroom noise. I introduced regular classroom headphones, allowing my students to fully immerse themselves in their studies without being disturbed by external sounds. Additionally, I acquired noise-canceling headphones, which proved to be a game-changer for students who had previously struggled to concentrate in a noisy classroom environment. These noise-canceling headphones not only blocked out distractions but also helped alleviate stress and anxiety, creating an optimal learning atmosphere.

The impact of these acoustic improvements was tangible. My students reported increased concentration, improved academic performance, and a newfound enthusiasm for learning. Thanks to the Beebe Nuetzman Endowment Fund Mini Grant and my dedication to my students' education, my classroom at Foothills Middle School, transformed into a serene sanctuary for learning, where the power of focused education was fully realized.

Fernando Ulloa, Ed. Specialist
Arcadia High School
Arcadia USD

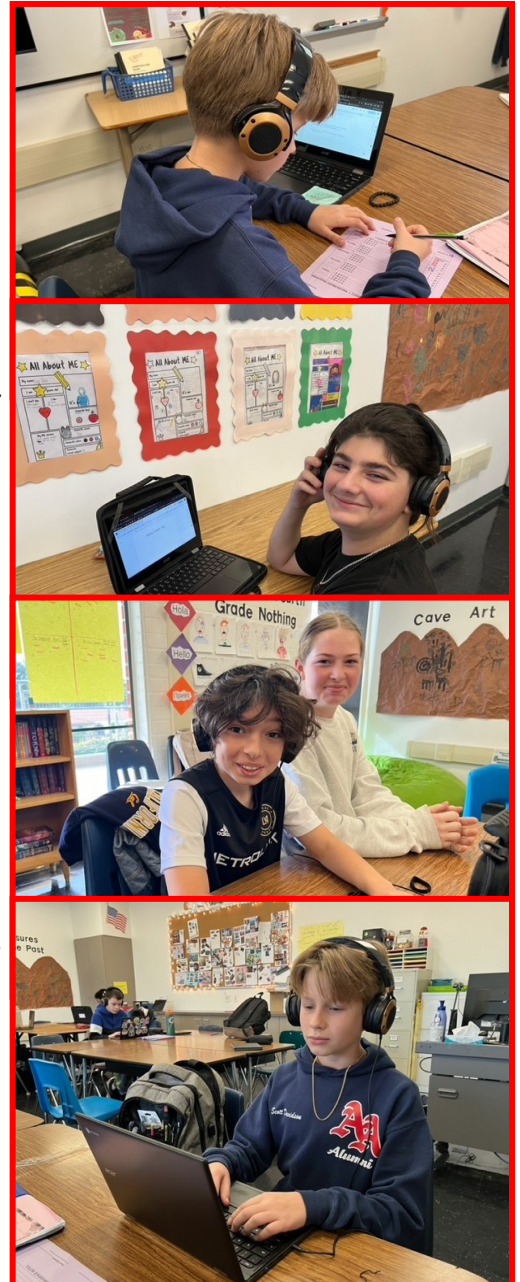


Photo Gallery



January Meeting

Christine Werner's Home



Photo Gallery



Our outstanding chapter (minus Norma Russel)



Tables of Beauties!!



*She made it!
Yeah,
Norma!!*

Photo Gallery

Rose Gant, 2024 Outstanding Chapter Member with DKC California President, Kathlan Latimer, and Second Vice President Barbara Bearden. Yeah, Rose!!



DKC California Officers and Committee Members in attendance



Ana hopes she is putting the winning ticket in the bag!!



And the winners are...!!



Members Connecting!