

Presidents' Message

Dear Alpha Upsilon Sisters,

Happy New Year, everyone!

"The bad news is ... time flies. The good news is ... you are the pilot." By Matt Altshuler

We hope everyone had a nice, quiet holiday season. A big thank you to all the members who attended the Holiday Happy Hour and looked so festive! Thank you to all the presenters and especially **Kathy Cockerill** for organizing the Twelve Days of Christmas. It was wonderful to hear about some holiday traditions from around the world! Most of you are pretty good Christmas Carol Pictionary players since y'all were able to answer all the puzzles quickly!!! Congratulations to **Nancy Gunther** for winning the raffle!

We'd also like to thank **Jan Tappan** and her committee for their diligent work on the BNEF Mini-grants. Cheers to **Susie Vernand** for organizing and all her little helpers in carrying out holiday cheer at Hillside.

A huge thank you to all who have registered for the Area XIII Conference scheduled for Saturday, February 5, at Cal Poly. It's only a month away, so **register now** if you haven't already. Thanks to our conference basket duo, **Kathy Cockerill** and **Christine Werner**, for turning in the Alpha Upsilon basket donations for the conference before they were due!

All members should be thinking about taking on a leadership role for the chapter. The nomination committee, **Betsy Bazarich**, **Connie Hanson** and **Jean Chubb**, will be looking to present a slate of chapter officers and the nominations committee members at the February meeting in 2022. Let this committee know your preference as soon as you decide!

The next Meeting is Thursday, January 13, at Christine Werner's home in La Canada. If we have not seen you in a while, plan to join us!

Willy Crouse & Karen Gollhardt, Co-Presidents

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DKG Vision: Leading women educators impacting education worldwide.



DKG California

**2021-2023
Theme:**

**Invitation
to a New
Beginning**

DKG California

Educational, Professional,

Making an Impact

Next Meeting

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 13, 2022
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Place: Home of Christine Werner
4759 La Cañada Blvd.
La Cañada
Program: Rejuvenate Ourselves!!
Lisa Bowman, Former KABC and KMPC
Sportscaster & Author



Refreshment Committee: Mary Lou Langedyke, Chair
Marcelyn Bible, Joyce Hamdan, Ana Haskins, Donna Larson, Carol Vargas

Last month Sue Fuelling introduced us to ways our teaching can be re-packaged and rejuvenated. Our January speaker will rejuvenate us in her own way. She is an author and much more. Lisa is my star speaker of the season, and (for starts, she is flying in from Lafayette just to be with us!). Her focus is ours for the year: how do we reinvent ourselves over time?

Her first professional job came at the age of nine: she danced three performances with the Bolshoi in San Francisco. In her twenties, she was on KABC as their first full time female sportscaster. Often she sang the national anthem for the Dodgers, the Angels, etc. Name it; she sang. In recent years, she has written a book or two. She will tell you about all that.

I met Lisa at an LCF YMCA Step class in the early Eighties. I really liked her hair and she was kind enough to tell me where to go. Years later, she was a parent in my classroom! Today, her son Stephen is a post production supervisor, and husband Chuck Bowman is a successful network film director and producer.

I have, and continue to be, amazed by this lovely woman, I am eager to introduce her to you. I really encourage you to bring a friend.

Judi Healey,
Program Chair

CASA

What a generous and giving group of women! The CASA donation is currently \$1,175.00 and there are still a few days before the donation to CASA will be sent to CASA. This is a wonderful organization that helps many, many children who need love and attention. It is especially important at this time of year. Thank you to all who contributed. **YOU ARE SIMPLY THE BEST!!!**

Donna Larson,
CASA Chair



Happy Birthday to....



January

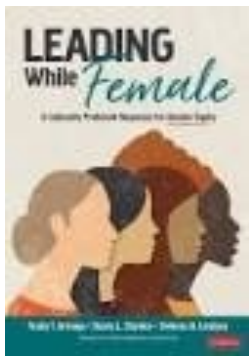
12—Laura Castagnari
13—Houry Mandjkian

Annual Leadership Seminar: January 22, 2022

Friday, January 21 (Optional Evening Social)
and Saturday, January 22, 2022.

Open to ALL Inquiring, Aspiring, and Inspiring Leaders!

Registration is open for this exciting and enriching Leadership Event



Authors of the book, "Leading While Female: A Culturally Proficient Response for Gender Equity", Delores B. Lindsey, Stacie L. Stanley, and Trudy T. Arriaga will be the keynotes and facilitate breakout groups focused on mentor-

ships and sponsorships. The book is available on Amazon or through Corwin, the publisher. This seminar is open to ALL Interested Individuals, including DKG members and non-members are urged to attend.

BNEF Mini Grants Are Awarded!!

Applications for Alpha Upsilon Mini Grants were received from five districts: Alhambra (2), Arcadia (12), Glendale (3), LAUSD (3), and Pasadena (4). A total of \$11,137 in grants for a variety of projects was approved. The 2021 Mini-Grant Committee granted funds to twenty-five projects in these categories:



- 5 Books
- 2 Art materials and tools
- 3 STEAM and maker space materials
- 1 Materials for science experiments
- 5 Social-emotional support, enhancing collaboration
(includes 1 conference attendance with associated materials)
- 2 Music instruments & music
- 1 Aids to increase student focus in class
- 4 Dual language & culture immersion materials to enhance programs

The BNEF Board of Directors applauds the Committee in their choices. It is a delight to support the excellent programs represented by these grant applicants!

**Jan Tappan, Harriet Furuya, Carol Leining, and Mandy Redfern
BNEF Mini Grant Committee**

Jared Boxes/Bags Update



For more than 20 years [Jared Boxes](#) have delivered countless smiles, laughter and hope to children in hospitals across the country. Jared Boxes have been a great way for chapters in DKG California to bring the gift of play to young patients as they navigate through their hospital experience. City of

Hope will not take our donations due to Covid, so we have been looking for other possible venues.

Pat Kalish has put the committee in touch with Ronald McDonald House to see if we might be able to provide Jared Bags for residents receiving treatment. Thanks, Pat! We are in the midst of communicating and should have an update at the January meeting.

**Sue Fuelling, Debbie Bump, Mandy Redfern,
Jared Boxes/Bags Committee**

Membership News



The December Holiday Zoom party was so much fun. I really enjoyed learning how our members celebrate the holidays whether it be “just” family traditions or ones from one’s cultural background. We all bring so much to share with each other and our community.

In reading the latest [*The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin, Collegial Exchange*](#), “[*Marketing DKG Within/Beyond the Society*](#),” I was struck by the use of the word “marketing.” I’ve never thought of it that way, but every time we invite a guest to a meeting or talk about DKG to a friend, we **ARE** marketing our organization. The first step is to implement a plan that includes the five “W”s and a How:

WHO needs DKG?

WHAT are the benefits of DKG?

WHEN is the time to market DKG?

WHERE is the place to market DKG?

WHY DKG?

HOW to market DKG

I highly recommend this article. If you did not receive the *Collegial Exchange* in the mail, you can access it on the [DKG International website](#). This is the only publication from the Society that is sent to you in a hard cop, The professional bulletin and the DKG News are only available electronically.

Our DKG International Constitution gives some guidelines about membership and again, there are several classifications of membership. These are active, reserve, honorary, and collegiate members. Our chapter has members in each group. As I wrote last month, we can look for members in areas we don’t think of as educational. When I worked for 20th/21st Century Insurance Company, we had a large corporate training department. Believe me, if any of them lived in this area, I’d invite them to a meeting in a heartbeat because they provided valuable training and guidance to implement company policies. My son taught swimming and trained lifeguards. If he were my daughter instead of my son, I’d invite him! Please refer to last month’s newsletter for other places where we find educators.

As a chapter, we should talk about where do we want to expand our membership and what constitutes an educator.

Let’s all make a New Year’s Resolution to bring someone new to at least one meeting. I’ll see you January 13 at Christine Werner’s for “Rejuvenate Ourselves! Don’t forget about the Area XIII conference on February 5 which is another excellent opportunity to introduce someone to DKG.

Happy New Year!

Marty Unger
Second Vice President, Membership



A Word of Inspiration from Ana

For those of you who have given up on New Year's Resolutions; for those who think you are too old to start something new; for those of you who start each year with "why bother I never get past February?" I hope this will inspire you.

In sixth grade I was put into the low reading group - a scarlet letter for which I was ashamed. I loved books, picture books mostly as I have no recollection of any teacher putting a chapter book into my hands and believing I could be a reader. Oh how I would look forward to our weekly walk to the school library. The beloved librarian would make me giggle while she read aloud about the antics of Mrs Piggie Wiggle, who had a cure for everything. If only I was a reader. Did she have a cure for that?

It was high school before I truly read a novel cover to cover under the guidance of Mrs Selsby at Hoover High. She made The Great Gatsby come alive and for a moment I thought I was a reader. I wanted it. I hoped for it. I even attempted it over and over. But I quickly accepted the fact that I did not identify as a reader.

Years later, I realized that not being a reader did not mean I wasn't smart. In fact I could read a handful of pages at the beginning and a handful at the end, pick a fact or two from the center and I could write an "A" paper that would be returned garnished with generous comments on my understanding of the book. Yes, I became an honors student and even graduated from a top university, making teaching my career. A teacher who wasn't a reader?

I have since read many books, mostly professional and self-help type, or non-fiction books where I could skim or read parts as needed. Participating in many Bible studies and reading to know God more certainly filled up the rest of any time I had. I have read children's and preteen novels while teaching thousands of kids to read and how to love reading. I knew their tricks and showed them the right path. I would share my story with them and how I didn't want them to miss out on this amazing gift.

In January of 2021, I was invited to join a book club. However, this group would be full of readers. Adult readers. I thought to myself, "I am not a reader." "I won't be able to keep up. Don't they know I'm busy?" "I will embarrass myself." I hesitated, after all, I hadn't discussed a book with anyone over the age of twelve since college. But we were just ending 2020 and still very much in the middle of a pandemic that I wasn't sure I would survive. So in the face of death itself ...I set my New Year's Resolution to become "A READER." Twelve fiction novels, in twelve months, with monthly meetings at the end of each book to hold me accountable. My goal was set. I said YES! Yes to trying one more time. YES to a new beginning. YES to facing my fears.

Turning the TV off was not as painful as I expected. Reading soon became the escape I needed from my crazy pandemic filled life. The relationships the characters engaged in helped me forget for a time how I missed the face to face relationships we had pre pandemic. I admit some months I wasn't sure I could finish and engaged the help of Audible, a delightful app to help me multitask. I refused to quit! With each month I felt encouraged, I learned new things about myself, I made new friends, and read books I would have never thought to pick up, but enjoyed. My life is richer now.

As we come to the end of the year and I am reading the final book, I find myself slowing down, savoring each word, touching every page and inhaling it's very essence, as I realize that by the end of it I can say with full confidence,

I AM A READER!



Leadership/Personal Development

May the new year bless you all and your families with health, prosperity, and happiness! Let us all move into this new year with courage, hope, and patience with those who see things differently than we do.

We offer some thoughts to help start the new year off and remind us of just how precious this thing called “life” is!

This year:

- live in the moment
- start each day with gratitude
- laugh more
- create meaningful connections
- meditate
- focus on the positive
- believe it all will fall into place
- stick to your goals
- be generous
- choose happy



“We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year’s Day.” – Edith Lovejoy Pierce

“Do not wait until the conditions are perfect to begin. Beginning makes the conditions perfect.” - Alan Cohen.

“My wish for you is that you continue. Continue to be who you are, to astonish a mean world with your acts of kindness.” – Maya Angelou

Leadership Learning Opportunity

21st Century California School Leadership Academy in partnership with The Center for History-Social Science Education at the Los Angeles County Office of Education are proud to present:

Exploring Identity, Social Justice, and Empowerment in Today’s World

12 Day online, NO-Cost Series:

January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22, March 1, 8, 22, 29, and April 12, 2022

Ethnic Studies, equity, and civic engagement are grabbing the headlines in our world today. Across 12 sessions this series will prepare educators to address these competing issues together with students by exploring constructs of identity, social justice, and civic empowerment through the lens of the days and months that in turn launch years of life-long learning, honoring Martin Luther King, Jr., Fred T. Korematsu, Black History, Women’s History, Cesar Chavez, and Dolores Huerta.

Each session will provide resources, strategies, and historical background supporting exploration, critical analysis, understanding and civil dialogue; and through this context empower students as they develop their own unique identity as responsible actors for civil rights and social justice in the contemporary world while making their future their own.

For more information, contact: Tina Cunningham, cunningham_tina@lacoedu
562-469-4701



Laura Castagnari, Liliana Castillo, Carol Leining

THAT/STEP

Happy 2022!

Wishing everyone a happy, healthy and safe New Year! It's a brand new year which hopefully will provide many opportunities to volunteer time and help another teacher. This note is a reminder to support your fellow educators through the Teachers Helping Another Teacher (THAT) Program. In spite of the differences in our classrooms this year, the one constant is that teachers continue to need our help. There are numerous ways that DKG members can volunteer:

- working directly with students online,
- helping with grading,
- assisting teachers with materials and activities, planning and evaluation

Our current teacher members have indicated some of their needs: **Lilliana Castillo** (Kinder prep work such as cutting, gluing, stapling, etc.), **Laura Castagnari** (Possibly middle school individual tutoring).

If you are able to help any DKG teachers, reach out to them directly. If you are aware of other teachers, programs, or schools that could use our volunteer help, share that information with me, and I will add it to our THAT Help Form next month.

To record THAT hours, select the **THAT** icon on the home page of the DKG California website (www.dkgca.org), or click on the blue link provided above. The form is very easy to fill out. All you need to do is enter your name and volunteer information, as well as Alpha Upsilon and Area XIII. You will need to keep track of the hours you spend in THAT activities and record your hours by **March 1, 2022**.

While you are on the DKG California website, don't forget to explore DKG's **STEP Program** (Support Team for Emerging Professionals). You will discover many tips for teachers (veterans as well as emerging professionals), a STEP Pinterest board, a blog, information about conferences, resources, and other professional learning opportunities, and a variety of ideas to support new teachers. This month I noticed some information regarding use of technology. STEP is a most valuable source of information for educators!

Thanks for all you do to help others! Have a most successful and productive new year!

Karen Wilcoxon, THAT/STEP

Global Awareness

DKG has several International Programs:

As 2022 starts up in our lives, I am reminded of the challenge we all face: "Think Globally; Act Locally" !!!!! Every act of kindness matters, every engagement with loved ones is critical, every contribution given is important. COVID Issues remind us of the importance of our love for each other, and the value of our concern for others in this world.

If you have time or interest, take a look at the partnership of [DKG International World Fellowship Fund](#) and UNICEF USA. The web site is excellent; the Powerpoints and videos are excellent too.

The "[Schools for Africa](#)" program was DKG's first international project in 2010. It is now in partnership with UNICEF and helps 21 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. I provided my email address under the UNICEF connection. I suggest you might also like to see what our International DKG is doing in 2022. Every program has a red DONATE option.

Patty Compeau,
Global Awareness Chair



Decorating at Hillside's Sierra Cottage



Thanks to the following who donated and/or decorated at Hillside's on December 9, 2021: **Willy Crouse, Connie Hanson, Pat Kalish, Mary Linda Vandavelde, Sue Fuelling, Karen Gollhardt, Carol Vargas, Joyce Hamdan, Kim Frank, Laura Castagnari** and **Susie Vernand**. The cheerful holiday transformation was so appreciated by the ten young ladies at Redwoods Cottage; especially as many remain on campus for the holidays.

"It is always more blessed to give than receive."

Thanks so much.

Susie Vernand
Hillside's Coordinator

Virtual Holiday Party



Thank you, **Kathy Cockerill**, for arranging this year's Holiday Virtual Gathering! Thank you, **Mandy Redfern**, for the screenshot. Thank you for all who shared in the **Twelve Days of Christmas!**

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
DKG California State Organization

Treasurer's Report
Alpha Upsilon Chapter
December 1, 2021

BALANCE ON HAND: November 1, 2021 **\$ 7,633.56**

RECEIPTS:

Interest \$ 3.54

Total Receipts for November + 3.54

Total Available **\$ 7,637.10**

DISBURSEMENTS:

Directories, poster, welcome dinner \$ 383.21

Lanterman House (donation) 100.00

Area XIII reimbursement 15.00

Delta Kappa Gamma Area XIII fees 208.00

DKG Area XIII reservations—2 tables 640.00

Total disbursements for October - \$ 1,346.21

BALANCE ON HAND: December 1, 2021 **\$ 6,290.89**



An Invitation to... “Why Not?”

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International:
Key Women Educators

Area XIII 2022 Conference

Kellogg West Conference Center, Pomona

Saturday, February 5th, 2022

8:00 am – 12:30 (Breakfast seating at 8:45)

Registration: \$25



Meet Dr. Jackie

- Join us for a delicious breakfast
- Honor outstanding Chapter and Area members
- Raffle and door prizes
- Enjoy the company of DKG sisters

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jacqueline L. Sanderlin

Dr. Jacqueline L. Sanderlin (Dr. Jackie) is an accomplished educator, empowerment speaker, and leadership guru whose commitment to urban school-communities has led to dramatic improvements in some of Southern California’s toughest schools! She is the author of *The Why Not Challenge: Say Yes to Success with School-Community Partnerships*. Her passion and expertise for community partnerships is unparalleled! She has been able to forge sustainable partnerships with over 350+ corporations and local businesses with under-served schools. In addition, she has trained numerous educational and corporate teams about best practices for successful community partnerships. Dr. Jackie has been outspoken about her “Why not?” message, which is to build community, unity, and partnerships. She believes there is no better time than now to build unity!

Her work led to an appearance on the **Ellen Show**. Moreover, she became the consulting producer of the NBC reality show, **School Pride**. She is also on the board of the **Goldie Hawn Foundation MindUP**.

Dr. Jackie is currently the Founder/CEO of the Why Not Incubator, which is a non-profit organization and designed to foster wellness, hope, and resilience to all communities. Her passion and wide knowledge of community wellness and engagement is truly unequalled! Her motto is: **community empowerment starts with you...why not?**

Please click on the link below

[Area XIII 2022 Conference Registration Form](#)

DISCLAIMERS: Attendance at the Area XIII Conference constitutes permission for you to be photographed for DKG Publicity purposes. If you do not wish to be photographed, please notify the photographer.