

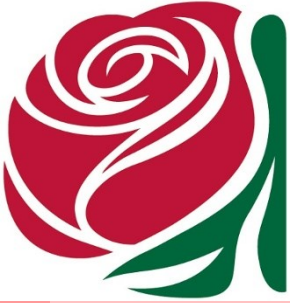


DKG Mission Statement:

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

Volume 13 Issue 5

January 2024



THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

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Karen Gollhardt
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ALPHA UPSILON NEWS
Area XIII

A "TOP TEN" DKG CA NEWSLETTER 2022



Presidents' Message

Happy New Year, Alpha Upsilon Sisters!

"You can get excited about the future. The past won't mind." Hillary DePiano

We hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season with time for family, friends, and relaxation. A big thank you to all the members who attended the Holiday Party for CASA. Thank you, **Donna Larson**, for organizing our donations and getting them to CASA. Thank you, **Robin Williams**, for opening your home to all of us. And finally, thanks to the members of her refreshment committee (**Kathy Cockerill, Jean Chubb, Patty Compeau, Paige Salardino, Penny Schopfin, Marty Unger, Jill Waters, Christine Werner, and Robin Williams**) for providing delicious food and drink!

Cheers to **Susie Vernand** for organizing, and with all her little helpers, bringing holiday cheer to Hillside. A final thanks to **Jan Tappan** and her mini grants committee. Locate more information about this in Jan's article located on **page 4**. A huge thank you to all who have registered for the Area XIII Conference scheduled for Saturday, February 3, at Cal Poly, when we will be honoring our Outstanding Chapter Member, **Rose Gant!** Thanks to our conference basket trio, **Kathy Cockerill, Ana Haskins, and Christine Werner**, for preparing our AU baskets for the conference raffle!

Reminder: the Nominations Committee will be presenting the slate of officers for the 2024-2026 biennium at the February meeting. Plan now to be there to congratulate our new leaders!

Join us at the first meeting of 2024 which is Wednesday, January 17, at Christine Werner's home, with refreshments provided by **Gale Caswell*, Ana Haskins, Carol Vargas, and Christine Werner**.

Willy Crouse and Karen Gollhardt, Co-Presidents

A Few Articles in This Issue:

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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

Our January Speaker Is Not a Pasta!



Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 17, 2024
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Place: Home of Christine Werner
Program: The Joy of Volunteer Opportunities

Cambria Tortorelli only sounds like a delicious Italian dish. In truth, she was born and raised in Bermuda, has lived in four countries on three continents, and serves as the Executive Director of the International Institute of Los Angeles. Unfamiliar with IILA? It was started by the YWCA in 1914 to give immigrant women from Europe and Asia a rare opportunity to socialize and adjust to life here. These days, the 145 multi-cultural staff members provide services for families from all over the world, especially refugees, immigrants and survivors of human trafficking, with the skills and resources they need. Many these days are from the Ukraine or Afghan Allies. Cambria led the Camino walk Judi Healey took in May, and Judi is now a member of her book club. Warm and wonderful, she will speak not only on volunteer opportunities but also on the honor of giving and the humility of receiving.

Refreshment Committee: Gale Caswell, Chairman; Ana Haskins, Carol Vargas, Christine Werner

RSVP TO KAREN WILCOXEN

Thank You for Supporting CASA!!

The Alpha Upsilon chapter of DKG is a generous group indeed. The Christmas Party raffle and donations above and beyond the raffle raised \$1,526.00 that we donated to CASA. That is a wonderful, incredible, fabulous gift that you all have given to a very worthy organization. It would never be possible without **Robin Williams** offering her lovely home at a very busy time of year. It would never be possible without the aid of all of her "elves" that help organize, set up, and run the raffle. It would not be possible without all the volunteers who make and bring the amazing cookies, and dips (nod to Marty!) brownies, meatballs....you get the idea. The table looked beautiful and the food was worth every calorie. Thank you to all who worked so hard to make this happen.

Hi Donna,

Thank you for once again organizing this generous gift from the Pasadena Alpha Upsilon Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society. I would like to confirm that we received a total of \$1526 this year. Acknowledgement letters will be sent out to those whose information was provided in your letter. Thank you again and let me know if you have any questions!

All the best,
Zoe, **Development Associate**
zmoctezuma@casala.org
323-859-2888 x 6378



Happy Birthday to....



January

12—Laura Castagnari

13—Houry Mandjikian

Thank You for Bringing Joy to Hillside!



Thanks so much to the 7 ladies (Kim Frank, Karen Gollhardt, Joyce Hamden, Connie Hanson, Mary Linda Vandavelde, Carol Vargas and Donna Larson) for bringing goodies & decorating at Hillside Sierra Cottage. Also, thanks to all those who contributed a total of \$530 for purchasing Target gift cards! Your generosity brought holiday cheer and blessed everyone!

**Susie Vernand,
Chairman**

Membership News



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope you all had great holidays; we sure did.

Our holiday party was a great success, so much fun to be together and bid on all those raffle items. I had donator's remorse – I bid on an item I donated because I wanted it back, and I got it! We had thirty-two members plus guests, spouses, and other family members party together. Thank you, Robin, for opening up your home and making it so fun for all of us again this year. We missed those of you who could not join us this time – next year!

I hope 2024 will bring more time to those of you who have not been able to join us in 2023 and I encourage your attendance at meetings. Attendance is important as it

- keeps members informed
- makes conducting chapter business easier
- keeps project ideas flowing and completed
- helps members stay in touch with each other

We don't give out perfect attendance medals, nor do we cancel your membership because you have not attended meetings for a while. BUT, we do miss you. If there is something we can do to help you come to meetings, please reach out and let us know.

Now that it's a brand new year, my resolution is to bring new members to Alpha Upsilon. I hope it's one of yours too. We have some fun activities and interesting topics coming up that will interest many people.

See you January 17, 2024 at Christine Werner's!

**Marty Unger
Second VP, Membership**



Recruitment Grants Have Been Awarded!

The Mini Grant award cycle was extremely successful this year. There were 49 applicants in total, requesting a total of requests for \$22,289.49, from teachers in grades K through 12. The Committee was able to award grants to 40 of the applicants. In summary, there were 10 teachers from Alhambra who were awarded grants, 18 from Arcadia, 7 from Glendale, 2 from La Cañada, and 3 from Pasadena School districts. Nine applicants were not given grants as the application did not fit our guidelines. Thirteen applicants were fully funded, and 27 were partially funded. All of the \$14,000 in budgeted funds was allocated.

The categories of grants were:

Classroom library books: 6
Garden plants and materials: 2
Student productivity: 3
Drama and art materials: 3
Computer related materials: 4
(this category includes a Nintendo for a school's eSports team, CIF certified!)
Wellness and SEL materials: 4
Science materials: 4
Engineering and robotics: 4
PE materials: 1
Virtual field trip to Monticello: 1
Teaching materials 5
Music related materials: 2
Camera for student use: 1



Here are some details about some of the more unusual grants funded this year:

- a teacher who wanted fruit trees to plant on school grounds for students in the new gardening class to learn about sustainable agriculture while also eating the fruits from the new trees.
- a teacher who wanted to buy specialized nano-particle infused 3D printer filament that was only available in France. It was to be used to print a turbine disk for the school's rocketry club. The club members would then put the disk through a sintering and annealing process to make it suitable for use in the rocket.
- a teacher who wanted a vertical motion seismograph so students could monitor earthquakes in the classroom and, through world-wide connections, also monitor earthquakes throughout the world.
- a teacher who is teaching a new precalculus course without books wanted materials that could be used for the course. They requested a variety of teaching materials for the course.
- a dual language teacher (Mandarin) who wanted costumes and props to support a performance of a classic Chinese fiction novel as live theater and shadow puppetry.

The teachers' stories of how the grant was used in their classrooms in this newsletter, will be shared throughout the spring in the newsletter.

Jan Tappan,
Chair, Recruitment Grant Sub-Committee

Get Ready for the Annual Chapter Field Trip!!



This year's special activity is a visit to Rubel's Castle in Glendora. It's a former citrus packing house that was turned into a stone castle with a dungeon, a bottle house, a Santa Fe caboose, and even a drawbridge. There are videos on line if you want to learn more about this funky place. The date is **Saturday, March 16, 2024, 10 am**. Alpha Upsilon will pay half (\$10) of the admission for all members who attend.

And here's a bonus: this counts as one of your three (not required) expanded opportunities, and you might prefer it to a hike!

Judi Healey,
First VP, Programs

January Tech Tips—A Benefit of Membership

TECH TIPS
ZOOM ROOM

Tips and Tricks for
Gmail

January 16th
4:30-5:30 PM PST

Using Technology to Connect

DKG California
Communications and Technology Committee

The DKG California Communications/Technology Committee hosts monthly sessions entitled "Tech Tips Zoom Room." Held on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, these sessions are designed to assist members with technology, answer their questions, and introduce new Tech ideas. The next session will be January 16, from 4:30-5:30 PM. The focus this month will be "Tips and Tricks for Gmail."

The sessions offered differ in content—there is something for everyone actively working or retired.

You can [register for this or any session](#) by following this hyperlink.

And We Have a Winner!!



Samantha Tula
Kindergarten Teacher
Highland Oaks Elementary
☎ 626-821-8354
✉ stula@ausd.net

Alpha Upsilon is delighted to announce the applicant sponsored by the chapter for this year's Penne Ferrell grant was approved!! Willy Crouse worked with Samantha Tula to complete the application. Samantha will receive her check at the Area XIII February conference. Let's support her in her journey to becoming a successful and happy educator!

DKG's Future? Join the Discussion.

AVENUE M REPORT DISCUSSION

Next in a series of Town Halls via Zoom:
Saturday *January 13th* at *9:30am CT*
Tuesday *January 16th* at *7:30pm CT*



Mark your calendar!



Join the conversations about the future of DKG! Saturday, January 13th @ 9:30am CT & Tuesday, January 16th @ 7:30pm CT via Zoom. Click here & sign in for the report & the zoom link: https://www.dkg.org/DKGSi/Other%20Rotator/Avenue_M_Report.aspx

[#dkgsi](#) [#keywomeneducators](#)

Save These Dates!!



“Setting Our Course Together”

DKG California State Convention

Santa Clara Marriott,
Santa Clara

May 3-5, 2024



- Learn more about DKG
- Meet members from the 17 member countries
- Attend outstanding workshops for personal and professional growth opportunities
- Hear excellent speakers:
 - Margot Shetterly, author of *Hidden Figures*
 - Andre Bradford, award winning Slam Poet/ Author
- Participate in Society business
- Shop with a variety of vendors
- Relax and enjoy the Gaylord Resort Hotel on the Potomac River
- Registration information available soon at the International website

STEP Up To THAT!!



Happy 2024! Welcome to a brand new year, offering you many new opportunities to help your fellow educators.

For members who are actively teaching:

Fill in the THAT Help form on google drive indicating areas where you need assistance. Link: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JmFBDxtFoCAwIENH9jEDwY9YtL7q2-IH4cnZtkHxHb8/edit#gid=0>

Each month your needs will be included in the newsletter for members to see

Even if you don't need any help right now, complete the Google document with your current grade level, school, and district

As the holidays approach, think of ways we can help you motivate and celebrate your students and staff

For members who are retired or working part time:

Volunteer at your local school or for a teacher that you know

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/1k1QCCpBsiUURE7iGuQPqLjPLqQXI0LuWsF001limUYM/edit#slide=id.gf44a806ab7_0_48

Record volunteer hours on the THAT form. Enter your name and volunteer information, as well as Alpha Upsilon and Area XIII.

Record all THAT hours by **March 1, 2024**

For all members:

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.

Attend the **Tech Tips Zoom Room**, which meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month ([see page 5](#))

Karen Wilcoxen
THAT/STEP Chairman

Time to Think About Recruitment Grants



Recruitment Grant season is upon us! There is an updated the application. Everyone's help is needed to get copies to local colleges and universities a few weeks earlier than in the past. This year, interviews are scheduled for March 23,

2024, via Zoom. One to two other individuals are needed to be in on these interviews. The process is easy. The interviews usually start at 8:30 and finish with discussion by 1-2 p.m. Let **Sue Fuelling** know if you would like to participate.

Help Bring Smiles to Children!!



The time to get Jared/Activity Bags ready for Ronald McDonald House is here!!

We are looking forward to, once again, collecting bags for the children at Ronald McDonald House. Sue Fuelling will have a sign up sheet and lists of

suggested items to obtain at the January meeting. Take the time to familiarize yourself with the [Jared Box project](#). This very special project in memory of a very special little boy has been bringing smiles and joy for over 20 years!

Check Your Change!!



Time to dig into your purses again to purge them of coins collected over the last few

months. Alpha Upsilon will get back on track by cleaning your purses of change for Schools for Africa at the Wednesday, January 17, 2024. meeting,

Grow in 2024!!

Some Personal and Professional Growth Suggestions for you to think about:

1. SEL into Literature with the California Reading & Literature Project (PK-5)
 - Aligned with the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) frameworkClassroom lessons & student activities
January 26-27, 2024
San Diego, CA
Hilton San Diego Mission Valley
901 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, CA 92108
For more information: <https://centerx.gseis.ucla.edu/event/social-emotional-learning-through-literature/>

2. Friday Night Lecture: "Historic Aerial Photos of the Crescenta Valley"

Experience old Crescenta Valley from the air with a series of aerial photos from the past. "Fly over" streets and buildings dating from the late 1800s up to the 1970s. Your guide through the past will be local historian and author Mike Lawler. Sidenote, if you have yet to explore the Stone Barn Nature Center up at Deukmejian, you are truly missing out! They also offer free field trips for TK-6th grade. They include guided hikes and hands-on activities. They even sent our group home with souvenirs! If teaching students in lower Glendale, their GO! program offers a free bus ride for a child and parent to go up and explore on a Saturday morning.

Date: 01/26/2024 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
Location: Deukmejian Wilderness Park
[3429 Markridge Road](#)
[La Crescenta, California 91214](#)

Candice Bautista, Laura Strametz
Leadership/Personal Growth Committee

Minutes: November 9, 2023

DKG Alpha Upsilon Minutes
November 9, 2023 Zoom Meeting

4:31 p.m. Meeting called to order

- Co-President Willy Crouse welcomed the 19 members and four guests present.

-Inspiration: Judi Healey read a poem by George B. Shaw, stressing that one's life belongs to a community.

-Purposes by Co-President Karen Gollhardt reviewed the Purposes addressed at this meeting: #1: To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship and #3: To advance the professional interest and position of women in education.

-Introduction of Guests: Ava Smalley (Area XIII President), Laurie Novak (president of another chapter in area XIII), and two friends of Kim Frank (Sherry and Kathy).

PROGRAM: Expanding the Arts Curriculum – Gayle Nicholls-Ali

-A new source of funding through CA Proposition 28 was highlighted, along with CAN (Connected Arts Network) which brings together professional learning communities for teacher support.

MEETING:

No corrections to the October minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Balance is currently \$7,608 in the Credit Union account.

Mini Grants: 15 applications have been received thus far. Continue to encourage teachers to apply.

Correspondence: Karen Wilcoxon shared: two cards were sent to Mary Jane Hufstedler (a get well and sympathy card in the passing away of her son); a card sent to Jean Chubb who was in a car accident.

Holiday party: December 3, at Robin W.'s house at 4 p.m. 562 E. Mendocino, Altadena

-Checks for the raffle tickets should be made out to CASA

-Contact Robin if you are unable to attend on December 3rd, but would like to visit and put in raffle tickets for the items.

-RSVP to Kathy Cockerill to provide an accurate count of members, spouses, friends, who are attending.

6. Hillside: December 7- Contact Susie Vernand to volunteer time or donate decorations.

7. Area XIII Conference: February 3: 8:30-11:30 a.m. Register on-line and send a check of \$25 to Rose Gant (treasurer). The checks are due before Thanksgiving. This year is the 50th Anniversary of Area XIII. The chapter's Outstanding Member will also be recognized. (email your nominee for this honor to Willy and Karen asap.)

8. Who's Who in AU? This person was born in Palo Alto, was an exchange student to Japan, has a BA from UCSD & MA from Point Loma. She taught high school math and US History in Glendale, and loves to travel on cruises. She makes fused glass jewelry and owns 3 kilns!
(Did you guess Pat Rabe?!)

5:45 Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie Bump, Recording Secretary

Another Successful Holiday Raffle Party!



Another Successful Holiday Raffle Party!



The La Cañada High School Chamber Singers Provided a special holiday touch to the afternoon!