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ALPHA UPSILON NEWS
Area XIII

A "TOP TEN" DKG CA NEWSLETTER 2022



DKG Mission Statement:

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

Presidents' Message

Dear Alpha Upsilon Sisters,

"Gratitude turns what we have into enough."

We had another successful meeting last month. Thanks to Judi Healey and St. George Episcopal Church for allowing us to have our DKG meeting there. And also, thanks to Connie Hanson and her committee for the refreshments!

The **Penne Ferrell Award** applications are due November 1st. Find a teacher who could benefit from this. The application information is available through the link above.

Note that the **Area XIII Conference** will be held at the Kellogg West Conference Center, February 3, 2024. Mark your calendars now. Our chapter can sit together provided you have sent your check to Rose Gant **WAY BEFORE** December 1st. When your check is received by Rose she will let us know so we can be sure you have registered on line.

AND with this conference comes an opportunity for us to recognize an **Outstanding Chapter Member!** Email the name of a member you feel is deserving of this award AND a short description of why you think this member should be honored to Willy or Karen by mid-November.

If you have any items for the December 3rd Holiday Party to benefit CASA, arrange with **Robin Williams** to get them to her home before December 1st. DO NOT bring items on the day of the Holiday gathering.

Contact **Susie Vernand** to help contribute holiday decorations or a monetary donation to brighten up a Hillside cottage on December 7th.

Our next meeting is Thursday, November 9th on Zoom. The program is *Expanding Arts Curriculum for Students* and will be presented by our own Gayle Nicholls Ali. We are looking forward to seeing you on Zoom, Thursday, November 9th, at 4pm. The information and link to join will be coming via your email. Look for it a few days before the meeting.

There are two busy months coming up, so in advance: Happy Thanksgiving, Happy Hanukkah, Merry Christmas, and Happy Kwanzaa.

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

Zooming Into November



Next Meeting: Thursday, November 9, 2023
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Place: Zoom online
Program: Expanding Arts Curriculum for Students

The November 9 meeting is going to be special in several ways. Our very own **Gayle Nicholls-Ali** is deeply involved at the state level with the NAEA and CA Arts Media & Entertainment Institute and is currently in the thick of working with the state on new standards for arts and media. **Gayle** is an incredibly vibrant and accomplished teacher for La Cañada Unified, and has been teacher of the year. She has also received LACOE digital voice awards and the technology integration award, so it seems like a natural to have her as our ZOOM speaker.

This November meeting would be an ideal time to invite guests, particularly current teachers who want to get the latest on California's vision for arts and media in our schools.

Refreshment Committee: Yourself!!!!

CASA



CASA appreciates your donations and puts them to good use! The proceeds from the holiday party are donated to CASA. For the last two years, we have also sent individual donations. If you are kind enough to donate to CASA, make your check directly to CASA and send to:

Donna Larson
1337 Rossmoyne Ave
Glendale, CA 91207

OR

Bring a check made out to CASA and I'll collect donations at the Christmas party.

Thank you very, very much

CASA Committee
Donna Larson, Chair
Mary Lou Langedyke

Happy Birthday to....



November

- 2—Donna Larson
Gayle Nicholls Ali
- 5—Ana Haskins
- 18—Christine Werner

Decorating Hillside



Thanks to the 9 ladies who signed up for decorating at Hillside on Thursday, Dec. 7th, at 4 pm; mark your calendars!

Let me know if others want to join in on bringing lots of love & joy to a cottage of kids for the holidays. YOU WILL BE BLESSED!! Text or call me & I will tell you what's needed.

Thanks so much.

Susie Vernand,
Chairman
(626) 484-9958

Membership News



We've had great speakers at our first two meetings. I love that one of our members has been a speaker at each. We have such talent and dedication in our members. It's great that all three of our new members have attended at least one of the first two meetings as well.

About two weeks ago, I participated in a state-wide Zoom membership meeting. It was very similar to the one Willy and I attended last spring. Members shared ideas they have and activities they use to encourage meeting attendance. We already do so many of the things other chapters do. **BUT**, two things stood out to me. The first is that some chapters invite local superintendents, principals, or their representatives to meetings to not only talk about their districts but to learn more about DKG. They can knowledgeably promote DKG to their outstanding women staff members.

The second thing was to have at least one meeting a year in a school and invite the staff to join us. I know Toll would be a wonderful place to have such a meeting (hint, hint). We could invite teachers from THREE schools as Keppel, Hoover, and Toll are all on the same block. We can't schedule that this year as our meetings and their places are already set. But next year. . . If you know a school where we could have a meeting, please let me know and I'll be sure to pass it along to next year's program and membership chairs.

Meeting in a school would enable us to show off what we do to teachers we might not otherwise reach. Plus, we always have wonderful refreshments to entice them and teachers like to eat!

See you on November 9, 2023, on Zoom!

Marty Unger
Second VP, Membership



Keep Those Raffle Items Coming!!

The Holiday Party and Raffle is still 6 weeks away, so that means plenty of time to find items to donate. (If you're at a loss, bottles of wine and gift cards are always big ticket items). I've had at least 5 members arrange to get their donations to me and I urge you to do the same. It's no bother to me – just give me a call or text and we'll figure something out.

Thanks to the members who have already donated truly wonderful items.

Hopefully we'll reach our goal of:

MERRIMENT, MONEY AND MEMORIES!!!!

Robin Williams
Holiday Party Chair



Support Covenant House



Thank you to everyone who has brought toiletry items for Covenant House. All donations have been delivered there and will be extremely helpful and valuable for the kits they prepare for the youth in need. Please know how grateful they are for your contributions and the staff send many heart-felt thanks. Please continue to collect items and bring to any meeting, or I can make arrangements to pick them up.

Thank you so much,

Laura Strametz, Chair

Give Someone the Gift of Leadership

LEADERSHIP

Who Will Be Our Next President? It's up to you! You can be part of the process. Remember—we were each nominated for membership in DKG because we showed a potential for LEADERSHIP!!

If you think someone should be considered, or if you want to do more, let us know. It's easy. Just send an email to: marylinda-vandavelde@gmail.com

Supporting School on Wheels



school on wheels

Hi Ladies,

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

Your generous hearts and donations made it possible for us to surpass our \$1000 goal. We were able to send \$1225 to School on Wheels to help them provide needed assistance with the many programs they provide for children in need. For those of you that attended the October 11 meeting, we were privileged to hear an incredible presentation that expanded our knowledge on ways to help and volunteer.

Again, many thanks for making our world a better place,

Co-Chairs

Kathy Cockerill katsltr74@aol.com

Penny Schopflin schopflin@aol.com

Kathy Cockerill katsltr74@aol.com

Penny Schopflin schopflin@aol.com

Co-Chairs, School on Wheels

November Tech Tips—A Benefit of Membership

TECH TIPS

ZOOM ROOM

Gathering Information
with Google Forms

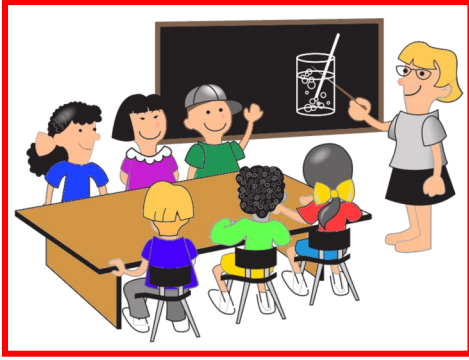
November 21st
4:30-5:30 PM PST



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 November 21, from 4:30-5:30 PM. The focus this month will be “Gathering Information with Google Forms.” 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.

Time to Spread the Word!!



The Mini Grant Committee has been hard at work updating the BNEF Mini Grant application. It is ready for distribution to the school sites in districts represented by our membership. Now it is the job of each member to reach to a teacher and make her aware of this opportunity to do that extra project she couldn't afford! Awards are made up to \$500! Encourage the teachers you know to apply. The following are attached to this newsletter:

- ◆ Mini Grant Cover Letter
- ◆ Mini Grant Information
- ◆ Mini Grant Application

DO IT TODAY! There are potential members out there who need to learn about DKG !!

Do You Have This Date Saved?



“Setting Our Course Together”

DKG California State Convention

Santa Clara Marriott,
Santa Clara

May 3-5, 2024

STEP Up To THAT!!

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/1k1QCCpBsiUURE7iGuQPgLiPLqQXI0LuWsf001imUYM/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** (Support Team for Emerging Professionals) 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 Wilcoxon
THAT/STEP Chairman

Make This the Summer to Attend an International Convention!!

- 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
- Shop with a variety of vendors
- Relax and enjoy the Gaylord Resort Hotel on the Potomac River



Get Ready for Dungeons and Dragons!



This year's special activity is 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. Our date is Saturday, March 16, 2024, 10 am. Alpha Upsilon will pay half (\$10) of the admission for all members who attend.

We'll take a head count of interested members in November, so we can let Rubel's Castle know roughly how many of us might 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

Minutes: September 14, 2023

DKG Alpha Upsilon Minutes
October 11, 2023
St. George's Episcopal Church, La Cañada

Program and meeting: meeting was called to order at 4:30 by Co-President Willy Crouse. Willy thanked Connie Hanson and her committee for refreshments.

Inspiration: Ana Haskins shared "The Israel Forever"—articles of inspirational messages that people share throughout the world, a reminder of the resilience of the Jewish people.

Purpose: Willy shared the following purposes for the meeting:

- #1 to unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship
- #6 to stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action
- #7 to inform the members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society

Introduction of guests: Kim Frank introduced her friend, Shirley La Cum

Program: Judi Healy introduced speakers Ariel Lopez, Berkeley, and Pat Kalish for two community projects:

School On Wheels: representatives Ariel Lopez and Berkeley shared their personal experiences as volunteers to enhance educational opportunities for homeless children, shrink gaps in children's learning, and provide positive mentoring and educational assistance.

Ronald McDonald House: Pat Kalish shared her 11 years of charity work in providing comfort and support for families with critically ill children. Pat also suggested many ways to help, such as preparing meals, organizing activities, creating special kits

Meeting: there were no corrections for September minutes

Treasurer's report (Rose Gant): there is a balance of \$7,991.49 for the beginning of October

Correspondence (Karen Wilcoxon): attendance today--30 members and one guest; a thank-you note was sent to Pat Rabe for hosting the September meeting; get-well cards were sent to Betsy Bazdarich and Jean Chubb

School on Wheels (Kathy Cockerill): total amount collected--\$825.00

Mini Grants (Jan Tappan): a budget of \$14,000 is designated for mini grants; members are encouraged to distribute applications to people in public education, due date—November 27

Holiday party (Mary Lou Langedyke): first Sunday in December; contact Robin regarding donations pick-up

Nominating Committee (Mary Lou Langedyke): members are encouraged to sign up for a position for next year or suggest someone to be invited to a leadership position

Hillsides: Thursday, December 7; contact Susie Vernand for a list of items to decorate Hillsides

Schools for Africa: total amount collected at meeting--\$19.85

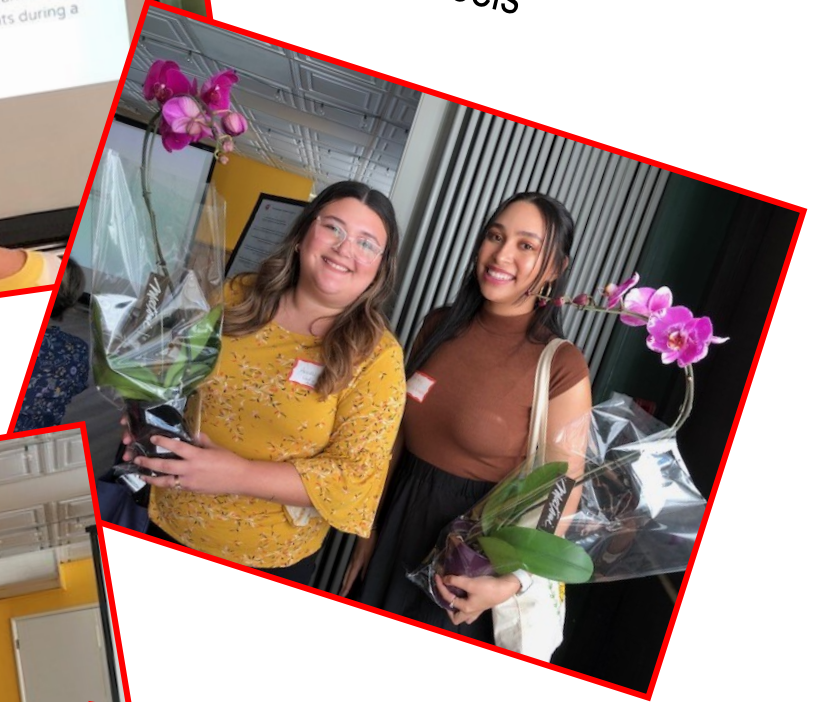
Who's Who: born and raised in Indiana, taught English, loved classical music and most operas; hobbies—reading, traveling, playing bridge, watching movies-- * **Norma Russel**

Respectfully submitted,
Rose Gant, Acting Secretary

More Volunteer Opportunities in October!



School on Wheels



Ronald McDonald House

