



# Presidents' Message

Dear Alpha Upsilon Sisters,

*"I cannot endure to waste anything so precious as autumnal sunshine by staying in the house." Nathaniel Hawthorne*

Let's pay attention to Mr. Hawthorne and "walk out our front door" to appreciate this beautiful weather! It was wonderful to see everyone last month at our first meeting. Many thanks to **Pat Rabe** for hosting us at her lovely home as well as her committee for all the yummy refreshments, **Carol Vargas** for setting up Buck-a-Book, **Judi Healey** for setting up the speakers, and **Karen Wilcoxon** for reminding us about THAT. Let's all help an educator in the field this year.

If you know of someone you'd like to nominate for the **Penne Ferrell Award**. This award is available to non-members who have taught 3 years or less, OR have changed to a new grade level. **See page 6**. If you know someone who fits this category, you will have to help her get the very simple application because it is available in the member only section of the DKG California website. Funds are intended for use in purchasing books for classroom libraries or books needed for a particular curriculum. The applications are due November 1, 2023.

Everyone please look through the 2023-2024 Alpha Upsilon Directory to make sure you 'save the dates' of monthly meetings and other activities. Also look for your name to see what month you are helping bring refreshments. We had to add a few names to committees, so please look those positions over. You may be surprised!!

We hope to see everyone at the next meeting at St. George's Church on Wednesday, October 11.

**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**

# See you at the October 11, 2023 meeting?

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**First Meeting:** Wednesday, October 11, 2023  
**Time:** 4:00 p.m.  
**Place:** St. George's Episcopal Church  
808 Foothill Blvd., La Cañada  
**Program:** Opportunity to Learn More About Our Community Projects  
Riley Cobian, Director: School on Wheels



Ronald  
McDonald  
House  
PASADENA

Pat Kalish, Ronald McDonald House



school on wheels

**Refreshment Committee:** Connie Hanson\*, Joyce Hamdan, Judy Kearns, Carol Vargas

**REMEMBER: RSVP TO KAREN WILCOXEN**

## CASA

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CASA OF LOS ANGELES

The CASA committee wants you to know what is done with your cash donations and the money earned from the Holiday Party raffle. Your generous gifts pay the salaries of the Case Managers. My brother has been a CASA volunteer for over 20 years. He says with great passion that Case Managers are invaluable. Volunteers are people from all different fields of work that want to help children. They need expert advice and help for the many difficult situations and hard decisions that must be dealt with for the welfare of the children in the program.

For example, if a child is in a home with his Grandparents and one Grandparent is smoking marijuana what must the CASA volunteer do? The Case Manager might find that the grandparent has a medical need. The home is a stable, loving one. Ignore it.

Perhaps, when the child goes for a parent visit the father is printing off porn and watching it with the child. What does the volunteer do? The Case Manager will handle it, seeing that no plane tickets are purchased to make a future visit.

The Case Manager goes to court with the Volunteer and the child. The Case Managers are the support that the CASA volunteers need and it is your generous support the supplies that. Thank you so much.

**CASA Committee**  
**Donna Larson, Chair**  
**Mary Lou Langedyke**

## Happy Birthday to....



### October

- 4—Karen Wilcoxon
- 5—Irene Mendon
- 20—Judie Bakly

## Decorating Hillside



Thanks to the 9 ladies who signed up for decorating at Hillside. Mark your calendars for Thursday, December 7th! 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 and I will tell you what's needed.

Thanks so much.

**Susie Vernand, Chair**  
**626-484-9958**

## Membership News



As I drove to Pat Rabe's in September, I was very excited to see everyone at our first meeting – all I kept thinking about was I'm about to see my friends. Because that is what each and every one of you has become to me – a friend. Soooo good to see you all!!

What a kick-off to our 2023/2024 theme, "Exploring Opportunities." I could have listened to each one of our speakers for longer than their allotted time. This was Gail Dunham's second time with us, her first was last year as a guest and this year as a speaker. I'm hoping she'll become a member this year.

It is up to **us** to grow our membership, without new members, we are in jeopardy of losing something very important to each of us. There is an excellent article about membership in the latest issue of the *DKG News*. Here are a few things that struck me. You can read the entire article at:

[https://www.dkg.org/DKGS/Publications-Documents/DKG\\_News/DKGS/Publications/NEWS\\_Flipbook\\_Issue.aspx?hkey=a5a7af7f-99e1-4a7e-80ab-1aa26acf52cc](https://www.dkg.org/DKGS/Publications-Documents/DKG_News/DKGS/Publications/NEWS_Flipbook_Issue.aspx?hkey=a5a7af7f-99e1-4a7e-80ab-1aa26acf52cc)

"Members matter at each level of the Society, and we need them for this organization to flourish and thrive into the next decade and beyond. ... After all, ... we can move heaven and earth at the international and state levels, but the buck truly stops with the chapter. ... However, after reaching our peak in 1991 with over 168,000 members, we have unfortunately fallen to less than 1/3 that number this year. Our decrease has become critical." From International President Dr. Debbie LeBlanc and Executive Director Nita R. Scott, CAE

**It is vital that we "spread the word" about DKG and all that we offer.** Put on your thinking caps, who can YOU invite to a meeting? We have plenty of informational brochures. Can you walk to your nearest elementary, middle or high school and drop some off? I'd be happy to give you some! I can either drop them off, or you pick up some at the next meeting. **Most of all, let's not stop our "buck!"**

See you October 11, 2023 at St George's Episcopal Church in La Cañada!

**Marty Unger**  
**Second VP, Membership**



## Keep Those Raffle Items Coming!!

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The October meeting is your easiest opportunity to bring donations for the CASA Fundraiser that takes place at the December Holiday Party. Since the November meeting is on Zoom, if you have items but cannot get to the October meeting or you need more time to gather them, no worries just contact Robin Williams in order to arrange a pick up or delivery – no donations the day of the party please!!

So far, 10 generous and organized members have brought some fabulous items to the September meeting. Remember our goal is to have all members contribute something. Hopefully that something will help you “Recycle, Reduce or Reuse” and raise money at the same time.

If I you have any questions, please contact Robin Williams---call, text, email, or talk to me at the October meeting..

Happy Hunting - I hope to see the donation pile grow at the October meeting!!!

**MERRIMENT, MONEY AND MEMORIES await!!!**

**Robin Williams**  
**Holiday Party Chair**



## Support Covenant House

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Bring any personal care items you may have collected during your summer travels to the October meeting. The residents of Covenant House are so grateful for them.

**Laura Strametz, Chairman**



## Who Will You Nominate?

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# Supporting School on Wheels



## school on wheels

**ALERT! ALERT! ALERT!**

A representative from School on Wheels will be the Speaker at the Wednesday, October 11 meeting. We are proposing this year we continue to make monetary donations to School on Wheels rather than buying items.

\*We are suggesting the following:

\*We will collect money at the meeting on Wednesday, October 11.

\*Our goal is \$1000

\*Checks should be made payable to **School On Wheels**.

\*Cash is also welcomed.

\*Gift Cards such as **Amazon and Target** with attached **Activation Receipts** are greatly appreciated.

\*If you cannot make the meeting On October 11, send your checks/gift cards to Kathy on or before October 11.

Kathy Cockerill,  
3408 Markridge Rd.  
La Crescenta, CA 91214

\*Checks and gift cards seem to be preferred. However, if you have already purchased school supplies, bring them to the **October 11** meeting.

*Thank you for your generosity and caring. If you have any questions, please contact:*

### Co-Chairs

Kathy Cockerill [katsltr74@aol.com](mailto:katsltr74@aol.com)

Penny Schopflin [schopflin@aol.com](mailto:schopflin@aol.com)

## Enjoy this Benefit of Membership

**TECH TIPS**  
**ZOOM ROOM**

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Sharing Information  
with Google Classroom

October 17th  
4:30-5:30 PM PDT

Using Technology to Connect  
  
DKG California  
Communication and Technology Committee

The DKG California Communications/Technology Committee is hosting 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 on October 17, from 4:30-5:30 PM. The focus this month will be "Sharing Information with Google Classroom." 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.

# Challenges for Homeless Students

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Dear Kathy,

Students experiencing homelessness face numerous challenges when starting a new school year, as their lack of stable housing can significantly impact their educational experience and overall well-being. Some of the key challenges they may encounter include:

- **Educational disruption:** Frequent moves and the uncertainty of their living situation can lead to stress, anxiety, and a sense of insecurity.
  - **Limited access to resources:** Our students need access to essential resources such as backpacks, school supplies, and a stable internet connection for remote learning.
  - **Transportation issues:** Getting to school regularly can be a challenge for our students, especially if they live far from their school. Dependence on public transportation or walking long distances can lead to tardiness and absences.
- Stigma and discrimination:** Our students likely face stigmatization from their peers, leading to shame and reluctance to seek help or engage in school activities.



These challenges, among others, require School on Wheels to collaborate with schools, communities, and other agencies. Providing access to resources, tutoring services, and a supportive and inclusive learning environment can significantly improve the educational outcomes and overall well-being of students experiencing homelessness.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our generous donors and volunteers for their invaluable support in providing essential back-to-school supplies and support, empowering our students with the tools they need to succeed academically and ensuring a brighter future for each of them. As we gear up for an exciting new school year, we humbly request you to continue spreading the word about the need for more supporters, as together, we can create a lasting difference in the lives of many more students.

With gratitude,

## Penne Ferrell Fund

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Penne Ferrell was a devoted DKG member in Area XIV. She left a bequest to DKG California and the [Penne Ferrell Fund](#) was established in her honor. Penne loved teaching reading, mentoring young teachers, and DKG. The award is to go to a non-member who has been teaching three years or less or is changing grade levels. Funds received are to be used to purchase books for a classroom library or for a curriculum project.

Do you know a young teacher who fits this description? Or can you take information to your school and advertise this award?

Visit the [DKG California website](#) and get the [application](#) for a young teacher. As a member, you must help her complete the form and submit. Let's have an Alpha Upsilon sponsored recipient this year!!

# Treasurer's Report

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THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL  
DKG California State Organization  
Treasurer's Report  
Alpha Upsilon Chapter  
September 1, 2023

BALANCE ON HAND: August 1, 2023 \$ 11,287.36

Receipts/ Total receipts/  
Disbursements Disbursements

RECEIPTS:

Interest \$ .03  
Share certificate interest 9.22

Total receipts for August

\$ 9.25

\$ 9.25

**Total available**

**\$ 11,296.61**

DISBURSEMENTS :

DKG International \$ 1900.00  
DKG California (fees) 198.00

Total disbursements for August

\$ 2098.00

- 2098.00

**BALANCE ON HAND: September 1, 2023**

**\$ 9,198.61**



## THAT Reminders

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### 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, please complete the google document with your current grade level, school, and district

### 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/1k1QCCpBsiUURE7iGuQPgLiPLqQXI0LuWsF001limUYM/edit#slide=id.gf44a806ab7\\_0\\_48](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1k1QCCpBsiUURE7iGuQPgLiPLqQXI0LuWsF001limUYM/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**

**Karen Wilcoxon**

**THAT/STEP Chairman**

**Save the Dates!!**

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**“Setting Our Course Together”  
DKG California State Convention  
Santa Clara Marriott, Santa Clara**

**May 3-5, 2024**

**REMINDER:** Since the 2024 DKG California Convention will be in the north this year, Alpha Upsilon will pay the registration fees and hotel charges for interested members to attend. Remember—the convention is for **ALL** members. It’s an opportunity to learn about the Society outside of the chapter level, meet outstanding educators from throughout the state, learn new things and have a good time doing it!



## Leadership and Personal Growth

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### Enrich Your Fall with These Personal Growth/Leadership opportunities:

- **California Teachers Association Special Education Conference “Meeting the Challenge of Inclusion” Regency Orange County October 6th-8th** Strategies, tips and proven research to help you support your exceptional students. Visit [cta.org](http://cta.org), only open to CTA members.

-**Pretty Empowered 2023 Girls Empowerment Conference at Glendale Community College October 14th 9am-1:30pm** Presented by YWCA, encourage young women in leadership! Workshops include Career exploration with Ulta Beauty Representatives, STEAM Education Activity, Beauty and Health. Breakfast and lunch provided, FREE event for girls in grades 5th-9th. Contact Candice Bautista for more info!

-**Educator Workshop at the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum October 21st 9am-12pm**

Take a deep dive into one area of museum content! Hear from an expert, explore Museum spaces, discuss practical strategies for introducing content in your classroom, and receive related resources. And the best part is, this event is FREE to all informal and formal educators with advanced registration! Registration will be released 2 weeks prior to the event. Visit [nhm.org](http://nhm.org), check out their *Calendar* link or *Educational Resources*.

-Keep an eye out for the **Los Angeles Discovery Cube Open House** on November 3rd! More information to come in the November issue or visit their website, [nhm.org](http://nhm.org) and enter “open house” in the site’s search bar.

**Candica Bautista**  
**Laura Strametz,**  
**Personal Growth/Leadership Committee**

## Time to Get Out Those Mini-Grant Applications

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It’s that time of year!! Time to think about where you will distribute mini grant applications to schools and teachers. Many schools have grown accustomed to the DKG Grants and look forward to receiving this supplemental income. Reach out to schools near you and urge the teachers there to apply. It’s a great opportunity for them to finance that special project they want to do. **Jan Tappan** will be sending the updated application to all members ASAP!!

**GET THE WORD OUT!!**

# Minutes: September 14, 2023

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## DKG Alpha Upsilon Minutes

September 14, 2023

Home of Pat Rabe

4:35 p.m. - Welcome: meeting and program began with Co-President Willy Crouse leading the Pledge of Allegiance. Thirty-four members were in attendance, with 3 guests. Thank you to Pat Rabe for opening her house for this meeting and to her and her committee for refreshments: Marcelyn, Ardis, Marty.

-Willy encouraged the chapter to embrace the Alpha Upsilon theme this year: "Expanding Opportunities" by considering an AU position on the board next year.

-Inspiration: Ana challenged members to "walk out our front doors and take risks." She gave an example of her willingness to learn academic Spanish to help students at her school.

-Purpose: Karen Gollhardt, Co-President. shared this meeting will address goal #1: to unite women educators of the world in genuine spiritual fellowship, #3: to advance the professional interest and position of women in education, and #6: to inform members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

PROGRAM: Judi Healey. introduced three volunteer opportunities and the women who would speak on them.

1. Pasadena Humane Society: Sarah shared that a volunteer may work with the public, as well as with animals. There is a self-paced application. The Humane Society has free adoption days, free educational talks, and one-time service projects.

2. Glendale Memorial Hospital Neonatal Intensive Care Unit: Gail Dunham shared her volunteer work experience and encouraged members who are interested in cuddling newborns (older than 35 weeks gestation) to apply. Other possible tasks are answering phones, stocking bedside carts, and running errands to the lab/pharmacy.

3. STEP and THAT: Karen Wilcoxon highlighted why help is so vital in classrooms today. Due to factors such as lack of teacher prestige, satisfaction, increased stress, unreasonable expectations, teacher shortages are at a crisis level. DKG members can help by being a mentor, working as a volunteer in schools, and supporting teachers through the needs list that Karen will post on Google Docs.

Chapter BUSINESS:

1. Auditor's Report for 2022-2023 by Pat Rabe and Robin Williams: Everything is in order with the financial records.

2. Treasurer's Report given by Karen Gollhardt in the absence of Rose Gant. There is approximately \$9,000 in the bank.

3. Budget Presentation for 2023-2024 by Judy Kearns: The proposed budget, which was previously sent to the membership, was voted on and approved.

4. Membership by Marty Unger: more brochures are available for distribution.

5. Correspondence by Karen Wilcoxon: A get well card (knee replacement) was sent to Sue Fuelling and a card received from Harriet Furuya was read to the chapter.

6. Committee Reports:

a) Schools on Wheels -Collection will be taken next meeting.

b) Covenant House: Donations will be accepted next meeting.

7. Who's Who in AU?:

Clues: Born in New Jersey, Was a speech and drama major at Dominican College, Loves to read, especially historical fiction, Enjoys traveling, particularly on cruise ships.

Did you guess Judy Kearns??!

9. Next Meeting is at St. George's Episcopal Church on Wednesday, October 11, 2023.

5:44 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Debbie Bump, Recording Secretary

# September Memories!!



# Mini Grant Recipient Shares

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Jan Tappan heard from one more of the 2023 Mini Grant recipients and her use of her grant.

## The Get Your Teach On Experience in My Classroom By: Arus Boggs

The purpose of the grant was to be able to pay for registration for the Get Your Teach On (GYTO) conference. This conference is like no other! There is a message of self care for teachers at the forefront of education, but there is not very much support out there. That's where GYTO comes in. This organization is about pouring into the individual and empowering teachers; as well as providing teachers with teaching strategies to bring engagement into the classroom. This conference not only reminded me about my "why?" (Why did I want to become a teacher?), but also introduced me to new research-based strategies that I was able to implement immediately upon our return from summer vacation. One of the many strategies was new ways to build a classroom community where students are comfortable with making, and learning from their mistakes: as well as supporting and encouraging/ uplifting each other. Other strategies included many ways to engage and connect my students to what they are learning by making their learning fun, through an interactive experience, like a Totally 80s themed instructional day or an interactive Escape Room around a specific standard. One of these activities includes playing a game of "Tic Tac Toe" while reviewing concepts taught in math. Playing games brings out the competitive side of students, and they don't realize they are learning. Through these activities, students are enjoying learning and getting to know each. This conference, and in turn this grant, taught me new tips and tricks, on best practices, as well as new ways to build a successful, engaging and rigorous classroom.

