

**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,

*"A huge thank you to the teachers who work so hard for and with our kids. May this be a wonderful school year for everyone."*

Welcome back everyone! We hope your summer has been relaxing and enjoyable! Hopefully people have been traveling and experiencing life as we knew it way back in 2019!!

The Executive Board has met and planned out the upcoming year. We are looking forward to a year of interesting and meaningful programs, **Judi Healey**, Program Chair, has arranged. Our first meeting is September 15th which will be hosted at **Betsy Bazardich's** home and the refreshment chair is **Connie Hanson**. We will be distributing our annual red Directories at this meeting, so be sure to pick yours up. **Karen Wilcoxon**, Corresponding Secretary, will be sending out a reminder for this meeting so be sure to reply back to her with your RSVP. Much appreciation and thanks to **Judy Kearns** for putting together our yearly directory and updating the information. We also like to thank **Mary Lou Langedyke** and her committee for reviewing and adjusting the budget as necessary.

Welcome to our five collegiate members: **Candace, Asusena, Katie, Stephanie, and Ariel.**

We encourage you to put this year's meeting dates on your calendars.

See you all soon!

**Willy Crouse and Karen Gollhardt,  
Co-Presidents**

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL

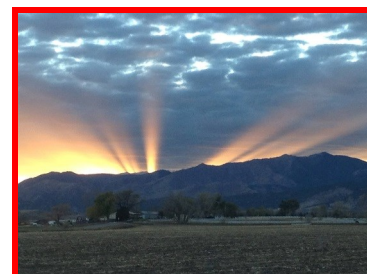
Co-Presidents: Willy Crouse  
Karen Gollhardt  
Newsletter Editor: Judy Kearns  
judykearns24@gmail.com

ALPHA UPSILON NEWS  
Area XIII

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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**

# Ready for Our First Meeting of the Year?



**First Meeting:** Thursday, September 15

**Time:** 4:00 p.m.

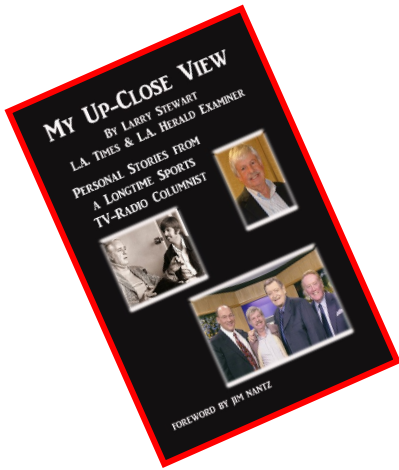
**Place:** Home of Betsy Bazdarich  
2033 Orchard Lane, La Cañada

**Program:** Avenues of Writing from Two Perspectives: The Professional and Those of Us Who Teach Young Children

We are kicking off our 2022-2023 year with an emphasis on writing. Those of you who are active in the classroom tell us writing is the subject area most impacted by COVID and virtual learning. To that end, we will be sharing our best practices with one another and also welcoming our speaker, Larry Stewart.

Our very own Karen Wilcoxon was a proofreader for his new book, My Up-Close View. Larry is full of entertaining tales about Vin Scully, John Wooden, and other beloved sports icons he's known over the years. "One anecdote in my book...I had a 25 minute one-on-one conversation with then governor Pete Wilson at a fundraiser and he thought I was a big donor, not a reporter. I hit him with lots of questions, including "Why are teachers so underpaid? Hear his answer on September 15." We're hoping he may also share thoughts about teachers who impacted his writing and ideas for inspiring today's students. Don't miss this one!

## REMEMBER TO RSVP TO KAREN WILCOXEN



## Calendar 2022-2023 Meetings



Mark your calendars **NOW** with the dates of the 2022-2023 Alpha Upsilon meetings. Judi Healy has some great things planned!

- Thursday, September 15, 2022: Home of Betsy Bazdarich
- Wednesday, October 12, 2022: Home of Gale Caswell
- Thursday, November 17, 2022: St. George's Episcopal Church, La Cañada
- Sunday, December 4, 2022: Holiday Party for CASA: Home of Robin Williams
- Thursday, December 8, 2022: Decorate at Hillside
- Wednesday, January 11, 2023 Christine Werner's Home, La Cañada
- Saturday, February 4, 2023: Area XIII Conference, Cal Poly Pomona
- Thursday, February 9, 2023: St. George's Episcopal Church, La Cañada
- Thursday, April 14, 2023: Annual Friendship Tea, Home of Pat Kalish
- May 5-7, 2023: DKG California Convention, Burbank Airport Marriott
- Wednesday, May 18, 2023: Home of Willy Crouse
- July 12-16, 2023: DKG International Conferences: Michigan, Arizona, Finland

## Op Ed Of Interest

Our September speaker, Larry Stewart has shared this Op Ed piece from Joy Horowitz, "...a USC Professor and former colleague..."

[Op-Ed: Let us now praise great teachers - Los Angeles Times \(latimes.com\)](https://www.latimes.com)

Enjoy!!



## Happy Birthday to....

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### September

- 3—Susie Vernand
- 11—Jean Chubb
- 15—Trisch Diaz
- 21—Joyce Hamdan
- 25—Judy Kearns

## Special Message

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### PLEASE NOTE:



There are a couple email changes in the new directory:

Judy Kearns: judykearns24@gmail.com

Irene Mendon: irenemendon21@gmail.com

New email for Mary Lou Rodearmel will be published as soon as possible

## New Look for State Website

DKG California's website has a new face! You can still access the website at the usual address [dkgca.org](http://dkgca.org). But when you get there, you will notice a green box in the upper right area of the home page that reads **MEMBERS**. To enter this section, type in the word "sisterhood" when prompted. This allows members to access forms, information, etc., designed for the use of members only. This allows the home page to be a tool to explain DKG to site visitors.

## Membership News

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### WELCOME BACK!

I am so looking forward to seeing all our members at the September meeting. This year promises to be an exciting one and I am really looking forward to growing our membership. It is exciting to welcome our new collegiate members, **Candace Bautista, Asusena Camacho Raudales, Katie Gordon, Stephanie Hall** and **Ariel Yi**. We will be having an induction ceremony to officially welcome them to DKG.

Membership will be reaching out to our scholarship awardees and advocating for them to join our chapter. BUT, who else do we know that might be interested in joining our chapter? I know that Kim Frank and Laura Castagnari have reached out to some other former Toll teachers to encourage their interest. Yes, more Toll teachers!! I know two people from my church who might be interested, one is retired, and the other is a first year teacher!

As I said in June, look around you, potential members are everywhere! Our programs can also be a tool to interest potential new members. We are so lucky that Judi Healey chooses "hot topics" that may be perceived as challenges in today's education, i.e. discipline, science, lesson planning. We ask chapter members or outside experts who have worked with a problem to give a presentation. We need to invite teachers from a diverse pool of educational institutions, not only schools, to benefit from these presentations.

I hear in the news that the field of education is struggling to attract teachers. Let DKG and Alpha Upsilon be the place for those new teachers to receive support from our members.

See you soon!

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



## Return of the Raffle!!

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Yes, the raffle at the annual holiday party December 4, is returning due to “popular demand”!

Remember that every dollar collected is donated to CASA. Plus, you get to REDUCE and RECYCLE items you no longer want to keep and REUSE awesome items you “win.” The Raffle has been very successful in the past and because of your generous donations of quality items valued at least for \$15 or more or much more. Some examples of items from the past include: household decor, scarves, children’s toys, tools, purses, jewelry, antiques, pet supplies, gift certificates, bottles of wine, etc. (Please do not buy anything to donate – that would defeat our eco-friendly goal).

You may begin bringing any items to the September, October or November meetings so they can be stored before the event.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Thanks and “good luck hunting!!

**Robin Williams**

## Supporting Covenant House



Covenant House CA is excited to be seeing a light at the end of the tunnel coming out of Covid, and is slowly bringing groups back on campus for volunteer opportunities. They opened the first youth homeless shelter in Anaheim earlier this year, and the new complex on Crenshaw is set to open any day now, adding 30-40 additional beds. With the homeless crisis in LA at an all-time high, the waitlist at CHC is currently 3-4 months, so the need for donations and volunteers is at an all-time high as Covenant House remains committed to solving the youth homeless crisis. At this time, they are still unable to accept the toiletries donations. However, please continue to hold on to any items you may have collected because hopefully that situation will change soon. Thank you so much!

**Laura Strametz, Chairman**



Hi Ladies,

2021-2022 was quite a year of wonderful in person and online meetings. Since we cannot predict the future, we are proposing that once again this year we make monetary donations to School On Wheels. Technology is something that is always needed.

This is a letter we received from Charles Evans that shows what is currently need.

Hi Kathy,

It is great to hear from you. I hope all is well. We are still giving out devices such as tablets and Chromebooks, so accessories such as headphones or earbuds would be great. We could use monetary funds to purchase devices, but gift cards such as Amazon and Target are greatly appreciated. Let me know if you have questions.

**Charles Evans**  
Executive Director



school on wheels



\*We will collect money in the fall at our **SECOND** meeting on Wednesday, October 12.

\***Our goal** is \$1000

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

\*Suggested **Gift Cards with attached Activation Receipts** are welcomed

\*If you cannot make the meeting On October 12, please send your checks/gift cards to Kathy on or before **October 12**.

\*Checks and gift cards seem to be preferred. However, if you have already purchased school supplies, please bring to the **October 12** meeting.

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

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

**Kathy Cockerill** [katsltr74@aol.com](mailto:katsltr74@aol.com)  
**Penny Schopflin** [schopflin@aol.com](mailto:schopflin@aol.com)

**Co-Chairs**



# Treasurer's Report

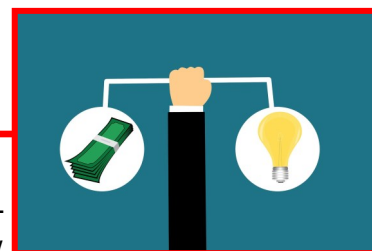
## THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL DKG California State Organization

### Treasurer's Report Alpha Upsilon Chapter August 1, 2021

<b>BALANCE ON HAND:</b> July 1, 2022			\$ 6,704.81
<b>RECEIPTS</b>			
Active dues	46 X \$ 85	\$ 3910.00	
Reserve dues	2 X \$ 50	100.00	
Collegiate	2 X \$ 30	60.00	
LIFE		131.00	
Interest		2.08	
Total receipts for July		\$ 4,203.08	
<b>Total available</b>			<b>\$ 10,907.89</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
Total disbursements for July			\$ 0.00
<b>BALANCE ON HAND:</b> August 1, 2022			<b>\$10,907.89</b>



## Proposed 2022-2023 Budget



The Finance Committee met on August 10th to create the proposed budget for 2022 - 2023. The committee consists of Judy Kearns and Mary Lou Langedyke assisted by Rose Gant, treasurer, Willy Crouse and Karen Gollhardt, co-presidents. We would like to thank the committee chairs and officers for submitting your financial needs for the upcoming year.

For the past three years, the budget document and process has evolved providing us with the ability to track expenditures and plan for the year. The first change was to provide a two-year overview. Next, specifics for membership expenses was added as well as two new expenditure categories, Committee Expenses and Officer Expenses. Rentals and Teacher Appreciation are new line items.

A budget is a working document, a guesstimate of future needs. Some items were below expectation, some on target, and one or two over budgeted amounts. Expenditures of \$ 50 or more over the stated budgeted amount must have approval of the Chapter President. (Chapter Rules, Article 4, B1).

You will note that membership numbers stayed the same this year. The numbers in parenthesis indicate those numbers. The first number is membership in 2021-2022, the second number is from 2022-2023.

The proposed budget will be voted on at the September meeting. The Finance Committee will be happy to answer any questions you may have. Remember, the purpose of a budget is to guide and help planning for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

**Alpha Upsilon: 2022-2023 Proposed Budget**

	2021-2022	2021-2022	2022-2023	2022-2023
	Proposed	Actual	Proposed-2023	Actual
<b>ANTICIPATED INCOME</b>				
<b>Member Dues:</b>				
Active: \$85 (47) (47)	\$3,995.00	\$3,995.00	\$ 3,995.00	
Reserve: \$50 (4) (2)	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$ 100.00	
Collegiate: \$30 (1) (2)	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$ 60.00	
<b>Bank Interest</b>	\$60.00	\$18.00	\$ 20.00	
<b>LIFE</b> (Buck a Book)	\$150.00	\$200.00	\$ 200.00	
<b>BNEF Transfer</b>	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$781.00	\$0.00	\$ 99.00	
<b>Total receipts</b>	\$8,216.00	\$7,413.00	\$ 9,474.00	\$ -
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>Member Dues:</b>				
<b>International</b>				
Active: \$40 (47) (47)	\$1,880.00	\$1,880.00	\$ 1,880.00	
Reserve: \$20 (4) (2)	\$80.00	\$80.00	\$ 40.00	
Collegiate: \$20 (1) (3)	\$20.00	\$0.00	\$ 60.00	
<b>DKG California</b>				
Active: \$24 (47) (47)	\$1,128.00	\$1,128.00	\$ 1,128.00	
Reserve: \$10 (4) (2)	\$40.00	\$40.00	\$ 20.00	
Collegiate: \$10 (1) (5)	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$ 50.00	
<b>DKG California Fees</b>				
Scholarship \$1.00 (51) (49)	\$51.00	\$51.00	\$ 49.00	
Insurance: \$1.00 (52) (54)	\$52.00	\$52.00	\$ 54.00	
Publications: \$2.00 (52) (54)	\$104.00	\$104.00	\$ 108.00	
Inductees: \$2.50 (4) (8)	\$12.00	\$0.00	\$ 20.00	
<b>Area XIII Assessment</b>				
55 @ \$4.00	\$204.00	\$208.00	\$ 220.00	
<b>Committee Expenses</b>				
Grants/Scholarships			\$ 125.00	
Membership			\$ 350.00	
<b>Officer Expenses</b>				
President/s			\$ 100.00	
First Vice President			\$ 100.00	
Second Vice President			\$ 50.00	
Corresponding Secretary			\$ 75.00	
Treasurer			\$ 50.00	
<b>Chapter Induction</b>				
8 inductees @ \$15	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$ 120.00	
<b>Programs</b>				
Honorariums	\$300.00	\$100.00	\$ 300.00	
Meeting Supplies	\$750.00	\$538.00	\$ 100.00	
<b>Conferences/Convention</b>				
State Convention	\$2,000.00	\$1,240.00	\$ 3,000.00	
Area/Other	\$1,000.00	\$471.00	\$ 500.00	
<b>LIFE Donation</b>	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$ 200.00	
<b>Postage</b>	\$150.00	\$10.00	\$ 100.00	
<b>Printing</b>	\$200.00	\$178.00	\$ 175.00	
<b>Rentals</b>			\$ 250.00	
<b>Teacher Apprec. Week</b>			\$ 150.00	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	\$60.00	\$934.00	\$ 100.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$8,216.00	\$7,214.00	\$ 9,474.00	\$ -

## Teachers Need Our Help!!

Welcome you to a new school year and the opportunity to support your fellow educators through the **T**eachers **H**elping **A**nother **T**eacher (**THAT**) Program. Life is a little more “normal” this year, as school districts have started their year with in person education with optional masks and social distancing. The need to teachers definitely still exists, perhaps more now than ever, as we all strive to help students compensate for skills and time lost during the pandemic.



For those of you in the classroom, go to the linked form and indicate how members can assist you either in person or by doing something at home for you. Your needs will be shared in the newsletter.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JmFBDxtFoCAwiENH9jEDwY9YtL7q2-IH4cnZtkHxHb8/edit?usp=sharing>

For those of us who are retired, or working part time, and have extra time on our hands, share any information with me regarding a teacher, program, or school that you hear about who could use our help, or an idea you might have for volunteering our time.

**THAT** is only one part of the DKG’s **STEP Program (Support Team for Emerging Professionals)**. Look at the state website page ([www.dkgca.org](http://www.dkgca.org)). There is a wealth of valuable information there! Accessing the information is a little different this year. Click on the word **MEMBERS** at the top right of the homepage. The password is **sisterhood**. This will allow you to access information for Members Only. By clicking on **THAT**, you will find the form to record volunteer hours. 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, 2023**.

**STEP** is also available on the website. Along the top of the page, click on Committees, and scroll down to STEP. There you will find past publications, a blog, and a new opportunity called Tuesday Teacher Tips. Once a month, a one hour zoom meeting will be scheduled, featuring a guest speaker discussing a relevant educational topic. Register in advance on the website. Exploring the STEP Program is definitely worth a few minutes of your time!

**Karen Wilcoxon**  
**THAT/STEP Chairman**

## Info up To Date?



- ◆ When is the last time you checked your personal information at the DKG International website?
- ◆ Are you receiving a copy of the DKG California Highlights?
- ◆ Did you receive at least four (4) copies of the *California Connections* last year?
- ◆ Have you accessed the DKG News and other publications on the International website?

If your answers are recently, yes, yes, and yes! then great! If not, then follow these directions to be sure your information is updated:

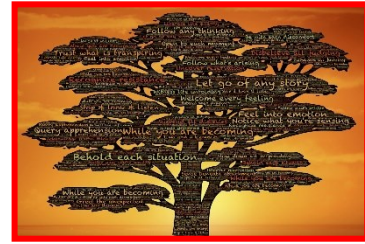
- ⇒ Go to [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)
- ⇒ Select “Sign In” in the upper right corner
- ⇒ Use your membership number as your Username (this number is available from Rose Gant if you don’t know it)
- ⇒ The generic password is: delta2014society. You should change this ASAP to your own password.
- ⇒ Select “Sign In”
- ⇒ Look at the top right area and you will see your first name between “Sign Out” and “Store Cart”; click on your name
- ⇒ All your information should now be there. If you click on the little pencil, you will come to a screen that will allow you to check and update your personal information
- ⇒ **UPDATE!!**



# What Are You Doing for Your Personal Growth?

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## What is Personal Growth?



Personal growth is a lifelong journey. People who intentionally set out to enrich their lives through self-growth and development report that they are happier, more successful and have better relationships. Whether it be intellectually, morally, physically or all of the above, personal growth is the direct result of efforts made to improve yourself. Sometimes referred to as self-improvement or self-actualization, the purpose of personal growth is to improve one's habits, behavior, actions and reactions. Some examples of personal development include:

- Learning to control your anger
- Learning to overcome the urge to procrastinate
- Taking time to be there for your body through exercise and a healthy diet
- Developing new skills and learning new things
- Changing your mindset
- Adopting a more positive attitude

**Strategies for personal growth:** While everyone's personal growth path varies, here are some habits you can adopt to get your transformation started:

- 1. Keep learning:** The ability and desire to learn are powerful skills that can have a positive impact on many areas of your life, including professionally. Learning can take place in a traditional sense through reading or studying, or in a more interpersonal sense through listening.
- 2. Volunteer your time:** Volunteer opportunities are a wonderful way to do some good, learn some new skills and gain valuable perspective.
- 3. Experience new things and places:** As with volunteering and learning, traveling is a vital part of gaining perspective. It can be easy to forget that there are people and places that are radically different from what you're used to. Traveling can challenge your thought processes, senses and personal growth.
- 4. Get creative:** Creativity promotes self-awareness, which is an important aspect of personal growth and development. Whether you decide to dance, draw, write, photograph, play music, act or choose any other creative pursuit, you will find that the act of creating is cathartic and, ultimately, it's way more important than the end result.
- 5. Make your health a priority:** Personal growth requires commitment and self-discipline. It means prioritizing what is good for you, rather than what's easy. Treating your body with care and respect is an important part of your individual development.

**Laura Castagnari, Dianah Greenlees**  
**Personal Growth Committee**

# LIFE (Learning Is For Everyone) Foundation

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Buck - a - Book returns in September. Please bring those books you enjoyed during the summer to our first meeting on September 15th, donate that dollar and take home something to enjoy this fall. Last year we were able to make a donation of \$200 to the LIFE Foundation thanks to your generosity. Let's do this again this year!!

Books take us on journeys which enrich our lives. Willa Cather's Death Comes for the Archbishop took me again to Taos, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Window Rock and Canyon de Chelly the setting of her 1927 classic. Her descriptions of the land, the sky, the mountains were lyrical. The stories of the Southwest in the 1800's through the eyes of two missionary priests were magical. If you love New Mexico, you too can travel to favorite settings just by reading this book. Enjoy!

Oh the places we can go through our books!

Mary Lou Langedyke  
LIFE Committee Chair

**2023 DKG CA Convention**

*Save the Date*  
*DKG California Convention 2023*

*Hyatt Regency San Francisco Airport Hotel*  
*Burlingame, May 5-7, 2023*

*Shaping Tomorrow Together*

Contact: Pamela Townsend  
2023 Convention Arrangements Chair  
[pamelatownsenddkgca@gmail.com](mailto:pamelatownsenddkgca@gmail.com)

The poster has a pink background with a white curved top-right corner. It features a globe with green leaves growing from it, held up by silhouettes of people. The Golden Gate Bridge is shown in the bottom right corner against a sunset background.

**REMINDER:** Since the 2023 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.

# News From Our Members

**Mary Lou Langedyke** and her husband, Bruce, travelled back to Wisconsin for a family reunion in mid-July. Home is Little Chute, Wisconsin in the Fox Valley. We found the area so changed after being away for six years. Some of the paper mills along the Fox River has been replaced by condos and four story apartments with river views. Little Chute was founded by Dutch settlers in the 1850's and celebrates its heritage with a full sized working windmill imported from Holland. This is the view of town from our hotel window - that's right a new hotel was built on Main Street and we just had to spend a night! A trip memory!



**Christine Werner** had a wonderful summer with her family. They traveled to Greece, Italy and Germany.



**Laura Castagnari's** summer started with the beautiful wedding of her son, in Malibu, on June 25th! It was a perfect day! Then, it was time for a "Central Coast Getaway" where she and her husband toured Hearst Castle and enjoyed the cool coast.

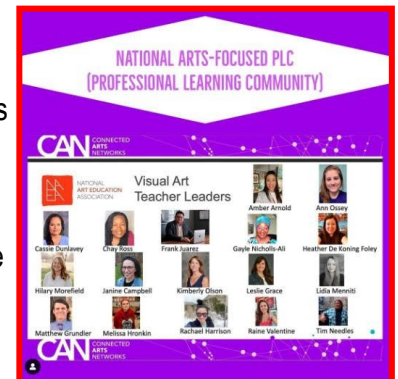


**Harriet Furuya** and her husband Ken's highlight of the summer was attending the 90th Anniversary Pageant of the Masters in Laguna Beach, Wonderful World theme, then a surprise backstage tour afterwards! So sorry no photos were allowed! Cooler ocean breezes, dining out, the Sawdust Festival, some shopping and free trolley system were a welcomed get-away for hubby's 80th birthday and our 55th anniversary.



**Carol Vargas** reports that she didn't do anything exciting. Instead she cleaned and got rid of stuff!! Editor's Note: Personally I think that sounds pretty exciting!

**Gayle Nicholls-Ali** is thrilled to be "tooting her own horn!" She is excited to be chosen as a teacher leader to participate by the National Arts Education Association, art educators in the Connected Arts Network. This is a national professional learning community with a specific arts focus incorporating social-emotional learning as well as Equity Diversity & Inclusion. It is funded by the US Dept of Education for educators in music, dance, theatre & the visual arts! **Gayle** is one of fifteen art teachers representing the visual arts. Congratulations, **Gayle!** Alpha Upsilon is thrilled for you to receive this recognition!





## News From Our Members

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**Connie Hanson** and her husband, Dave, were delighted to attend the graduation of their grandson, Seth, from Santa Clara University in June. After the graduation festivities, Dave and I had a little vacation in Carmel, our favorite place! Then their summer took an “interesting” turn as Dave was diagnosed with prostate cancer and has been receiving radiation, Monday-Friday for the last six weeks. This will probably continue into September but the great news is Dave’s prognosis is very good.



**Ariel Yi** took time this summer reflect - both personally and professionally. I took this time to mourn the passing of my maternal grandmother who passed earlier in May, a week before finals. I also gave myself time away from work to just enjoy the summer break. I made time to read, sleep in, cook healthy and delicious recipes for my family, garden, and catch some rays and waves at the beach. It’s been well-needed but now I’m ready to get back in the classroom and help our students.



**Sue Feulling**, and her husband, Tom, travelled to Mammoth after the 4th of July. Sue spent much of the summer visiting her mom in Santa Barbara and playing golf. The Feullings are going on a trip to Switzerland in August so **Sue** will lots more to share after that adventure!

**Karen Wilcoxon’s** reflection back over this summer, shows it was a relatively quiet one, but she definitely appreciated the start of a return for normalcy. Family gatherings and vacations, visits with friends, concerts at the Arboretum, Hollywood Bowl, and Greek Theatre, and musicals and plays at the Pantages, Pasadena Playhouse, and La Jolla Playhouse filled her time. **Karen** got to spend time with her grandchildren, enjoying all their favorite activities. (The photo is of my 3 year old granddaughter enjoying s’mores at the beach).



For the first time in 3 years, **Karen** and her husband traveled out of the country to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. She is grateful for their health and the opportunity to spend time together.

**Debbie Bump**, and her husband Dan, and daughter, Rosalind celebrated son, Paul’s Stanford graduation in June. He is now Dr. Bump. We helped him drive across the country to Boston, where he is working on a postdoctoral research project.



**Mary Lou Rodearmel** is getting settled in her new Texas home, a quaint Medieval village in Texas! Boerne is under 10,000 population With 2 street lights! Bored, but Austin and San Antonio are near. Have seen lots of Mark’s family which is why I’m here! Grandson, Joseph is coming end of month for a visit. Then he heads to Senegal, Africa for Peace Corp. Might be safer there?

## News From Our Members

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**Marty Unger** and her husband spent their summer at home with the exception of one trip to Santa Maria for the Bent Axles car show in July. It's their favorite and the weather is always delightfully cool. It's also her all-beef weekend and they enjoyed the delicious Santa Maria tri-tip on more than one occasion. **Marty** served on jury duty in downtown LA for a civil case in August. She enjoyed taking the Gold Line/L to Union Station and then the Red/Purple lines to the Civic Center exit. The train is so much easier than driving, although one does see many interesting people on both the train and at the stations. Serving on a jury is always a rewarding experience, and she has done her civic duty – for now. The Ungers are eagerly awaiting the birth of their third grandchild in mid-September. The parents are their older son and his wife – they were married fourteen (14) years in July! **Marty** hosted a Harry Potter baby shower for the mother-to-be and attended another one in her honor. Both highlights of her summer. They also spent a lot of time with their other two grandchildren who are the lights of their lives. By the way, how many four-year-olds do you know that can use the word topiary in a sentence? I look forward to our great meetings this school year and most especially seeing each and every one of you at as many meetings as possible.

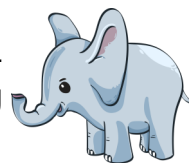


**Robin Williams** had a wonderful summer visiting with her son, daughter-in-law, daughter and her two darling granddaughters. Once they came down from Oregon to stay with **Robin** and then she traveled up twice which included a beach house rental on the Oregon coast for a week - heaven!!!

**Pat Kalish** had a summer filled with lots of family fun. She had Abby (8) and Ben (7) for two weeks of swimming, movies and museums. She visited Valerie (7) in Santa Clarita for soccer games, shopping and lunch!! The highlight was a family trip to Maui in July! They snorkled and enjoyed lots of beach time! As they end the summer, Pat and her daughter, Jen, have been working on creating an Art Cart program like Meet the Masters for Poloma Elementary where her grandchildren attend school. It has been a lot of fun and very gratifying!

**Asusena Camacho Raudales** had a perfect summer. Although, she did not have the opportunity to go on vacation. Still, it was perfect because she was accepted into the Rowland School District for my clinical practice (single subject Spanish). **Editor's Comment: CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Joyce Hamdan** is thrilled to share that her daughter and husband are expecting a baby boy in January 2023. They have 2 year old twins that will be big sisters in January.



**Rose Gant** reports that traveling to a different section of the country was truly a wonderful and educational experience. She had a terrific time cruising down the Mississippi River on the American Duchess from Minnesota to Missouri. Destinations included Red Wing, Minnesota; La Crosse, Wisconsin; Dubuque, Bettendorf, and Burlington in Iowa; and Hannibal and St. Louis in Missouri.



## News From Our Members

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**Jill Waters** and her husband, spent as much time as possible in the cool weather at their second home in beautiful Cambria. They enjoyed a visit from our grandson, son and wife.



**Judy Kearns** and husband, Paul, enjoyed different cruises. In May they sailed from Fort Lauderdale through the Panama Canal to Los Angeles on Cunard's Queen Elizabeth. Beautiful cruise marred, however, by Judy testing positive for Covid. She had to be isolated in a cabin separate from Paul for a week. Her symptoms were very mild, a stuffy nose and that was it. Unfortunately this was a cruise when the Kearns had been upgraded to the highest classification of staterooms. Then in July they boarded the Queen Elizabeth again in Vancouver. They enjoyed a great Alaskan cruise. Beautiful scenery, lovely people, delicious food. All was great until **Judy's** pinched nerve acted up. The last five days were spent in a wheelchair!! The crew were most helpful. Their plans for August/September (Transatlantic crossings on the Queen Mary 2 with ten days in England between crossings) have been cancelled.



**Willy Crouse** reports the summer seems to have flown by. She spent her summer at the beach in N. San Diego County, at Lake Arrowhead boating with the family, at home tending to her plants and hosting summer birthdays with swimming in the pool and barbecuing in the backyard. Hiking. All good memories. She was able to take a couple of days fishing the streams and lakes of the High Sierras too.



## News From Our Members

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**Ana Haskins'** highlight of the summer is Eden Grace, her 5 year old granddaughter, started Kindergarten. **Ana** has never seen a kid love school as much as Eden does. We were blessed with an amazing Kindergarten teacher and are so full of gratitude!



**Pat Rabe** reports that after a couple of years off traveling, the Rabe's are in full travel mode. In April, we went to Disney World and Clearwater. In May, we took a short trip to Dallas, in June, we tried to go to Tahoe, but COVID interfered. In July, we had three grandchildren here for a week of VBS, then took off for a 2 week trip to the Baltic ( mostly on an Ocean-ia cruise). In August, we had more grandchildren here, then went to New York to see our son, Phili to see our daughter's family, then a couple of days in the Poconos, and a trip to Legoland, NY. We will be home for a week, then back to Europe for a twice postponed Danube cruise, home for a week, then Maui followed by Tahoe. Whew! Mixed in between are three camping group weekends. See you all in November!



Legoland in New York



Hiking in Finland



Bornholm Island, Denmark

**Susie Vernand** and her cousin are celebrating their 80th birthdays in September by going on a Danube River Cruise and seeing the Oberammergau Passion Play. The play is performed only every 10 years! (More to be shared after enjoying the cruise!!)



# Mini Grant Recipient Shares

**Jan Tappan** received some Mini Grant Reports after the June newsletter was published. Those reports are being shared in this issue of the newsletter.

Originally, I was granted \$500 for an XP pen and headphones, because I need an XP pen for online teaching and headphones for students taking the AAPPL test. However, my school bought a box of headphones for each classroom teacher before the AAPPL test. Therefore in April, I asked if I could use the money for headphones on Mandarin materials that I need to buy from China and also for the shipping fee. My request got approved. I bought the materials from Taobao.com which is a popular online shopping platform in China. The materials were shipped on May 21th and it took 5 weeks to arrive in Los Angeles. I have to wait for all the materials to arrive to take pictures and write reports, that is why I turn in the report late. I bought the XP pen in March for my online teaching. I used it while I was presenting documents on the project. XP pen can help me annotate on digital documents much easier than a mouse.

The materials that I bought from China are Chinese lanterns, paper cutting materials, Chinese classroom decorations and Chinese reading and writing teaching supplemental materials. Since our program is a Mandarin dual immersion program and we emphasize Chinese language and cultures, we need a lot of Chinese culture supplies and materials that are hard to find in the United States, so I have to buy them from China and ship them to the United States. The Chinese lanterns are for the upcoming Moon Festival. I will use the lanterns as a hands-on activity to honor this important festival in Chinese culture. I have two Mandarin classes, and total is around 45 students. I bought 50 lanterns to make sure every student could get one.

The paper cutting materials are for upcoming Chinese New Year activities. The Chinese New Year is the most important festival in Chinese culture. Students are going to cut the red paper into different Chinese culture symbols and paste them on classroom windows.

I also bought a model for the Chinese great inventions. I will have students try the inventions while I am teaching the China unit in history class, so they will have a better understanding of how those inventions work.

Students are going to cut the red paper into different Chinese culture symbols and paste them on classroom windows. For the new school year, I bought some Chinese decorations for my classroom. One is a Chinese 3D wall poster, the other is a classroom bulletin board border.

Jingshuang Liu, Sierra Madre Middle School



## Mini Grant Recipient Shares

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Thank you very much for the opportunity to use grant money from your organization in order to teach kitchen science to my students. We focused on the science principle of matter and did about 5 different experiments that were written up by the students.

In the study of matter, we used food and other things from the kitchen to show how matter can change. We used ice cream floats, lava lamps, baking soda and vinegar volcanoes, turned milk into plastic, and did experiments with eggs. I have provided some photos from some of the experiments. The kids really had a great deal of fun with all of this. We did our experiments while learning about matter, and then picked up again, at the end of the year with more experiments. The kids really were able to explain and write up their process and results. We also did a cheetos pollination experiment for the ecosystems.

Carolyn Halpern, Second Grade Teacher, Sierra Madre Elementary

