

Eta Mu Musings

SPRING 2023 VOLUME LV, No. 3

NEWS OF ETA MU CHAPTER AREA XVII DKG CA

DKG CA-Invitation to a New Beginning

**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA
SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**

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



Vision Statement:
Leading Women
Educators
Impacting Education
Worldwide

A "TOP TEN" DKG CA NEWSLETTER 2021



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Welcoming Words from Our Presidents



Hello, Eta Mu Sisters!

At the April Executive Board meeting, our Membership Committee, led by Vice President Wendy Bruce, shared some exciting plans to bring in new DKG members to our Eta Mu chapter. It was also decided that Orientation of new members will take place via Zoom to accommodate work schedules. Induction of new members is currently planned for our June 3rd Garden Party.

No chapter meeting is planned for May, but several Eta Mu members will be attending the May 5th - 7th DKG California Convention. If you're unable to attend the convention, reports will be shared at the business meeting portion of our June meeting.

Finally, a reminder that DKG dues are due by the end of June. If you haven't yet paid, you can do so at the June Garden Party. Just remember to bring a check for \$100 or your credit card to use the Square app (a small fee applies). You can also mail your check to Theresa Foote, 1412 Citrus Drive Modesto 95350.

Judy Trask and Linda Chrabas, Eta Mu Co-Presidents 🦋🦋

DKG California: Educational – Professional - Making an Impact

CURRENT NEWS AND EVENTS

A Note from the Editor



The days have gone by too quickly and it's been too long since I have sent out a newsletter. We have been very busy as a chapter with lots of great meetings. We have just two more events this year, the DKG California Convention and the June Garden Party with a guest speaker, Lisa Cooper Wilkins as well as the initiation of new chapter members. Please share your thoughts and photos of these two events for our next newsletter.

I am looking for a co-editor, one who not only will proof the copy but help with the design. Please let me know if you are interested. Since I have been Area Director this biennium and will be on the State Nominations Committee next, I find I have less time and energy to devote to this newsletter.

ETA MU SPRING EVENTS



February's Chinese Dinner and Cooking Lesson with Debbie

Eta Mu Members met for their annual Chinese New Year Celebration and Cooking Lesson with member Debbie Mar. Debbie shared her cooking talents, and all enjoyed the lovely meal.



March 2, Read Across America at Mary Lou Dieterich Elementary School



Finally members were able to read to classes at Mary Lou Dieterich Elementary to celebrate “Read Across America” at the school named after chapter member Mary Lou Dieterich. Mary Lou is pictured with a group she read to. Students are always excited by a visit from the educator after whom the school is named.

Students welcomed the readers and guided them to classrooms. Each Eta Mu reader brought books to both read and donate to the school’s library. Students look forward to checking out the new additions to their school library.



MARCH POTATO FEST AND BUNCO PARTY



In March Eta Mu members met for their annual “Potato Fest” and Bunco Party at the home of Joyce Brooks. After sharing dinner, members engaged in a lively game of Bunco with prizes going to the both the highest and lowest scorers.





April's Flowers, Butterflies, and Hummingbirds by Morris Nursery's Holly Krahenbuhl



In April members gathered in Pat Elston's garden for a demonstration on planting a pot filled with flowers to attract butterflies, hummingbirds, and bees. Holly Krahenbuhl from Morris Nursery in Riverbank discussed the benefits of the planting.

After the program, Eta Mu members attended a business meeting during which the Early Career Educator Award recipient nominated by Eta Mu was given a check from Area XVII Director Pat Elston. The evening was rounded out with a social hour and desserts.

Dawn with former student and Master Gardener Holly.

Upcoming Delta Kappa Gamma Eta Mu Chapter Events 2023

May 5-7	DKG CA Convention, Burlingame 🌹
June 3	Garden Party 🏡 🌸

MEMBER NEWS

Member Highlights

Eta Mu is welcoming new members who will be inducted at the June Garden Party. We are pleased to have them join our chapter.

Alicia Garcia, a recipient of the Area XVII Early Career Educator Award, who teaches at Chrysler Elementary will be one of our newest members. Alicia teaches fourth grade along with Wendy Bruce and was nominated for the ECE Award by Denise Carlson-Nieto.

Salinda Padilla, a College and Career Educator at Turlock High School, another new member invited by Wendy Bruce will be joining Eta Mu.

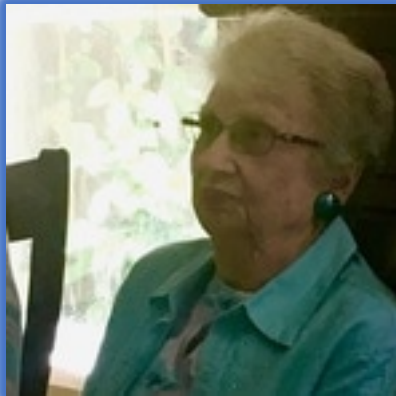


Pat Elston, Editor would like to share that:

Eta Mu Musings, has been selected as a TOP TEN winner in the 2022 DKG California newsletter competition! Thank you all who send photos and articles to make Eta Mu Musings so informative and interesting.

IN MEMORIAM BETTY HARRELL

March 28, 1929 - April 10, 2023



By longtime friend and Eta Mu member Adele Little

Betty Harrell was a committed and valued member of Eta Mu Chapter for 45 years. She held every leadership office in the chapter-- President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer. She also served as DKG Area XVII Director.

As a long-time member who held all the leadership roles, Betty knew all the “ins and outs” of DKG—even the most obscure rules that obtained in the 1970s and 1980s! She was always the authority. I learned she was a taskmaster when I succeeded her as treasurer of Eta Mu Chapter. She was generous with her time, teaching me the responsibilities and procedures.

She was also very strict when it came to the yearly auditing of the chapter's financial records which she did after her tenure as treasurer. She was very hospitable, inviting me into her home for these sessions.

I first met Betty in the 1970s when she was the Special Day Class Teacher at Muncy School. She was a skilled, dedicated, and caring teacher. Her contributions were recognized as she received numerous awards, including 1971 Stanislaus Area Special Education Teacher of the Year, 1990 School Bell Award, and 1997 AAUW Grant Award.

Betty contributed to her community as docent at the McHenry Museum and McHenry Mansion. She also belonged to quilting and antique clubs.

Betty was proud of her family and talked often of them. Into her old age, she endured the long train trip to Tacoma to see her son, a trip that was normally 13 hours but could take as long as 24 hours.

Betty Harrell will remain legendary in the annals of Eta Mu Chapter. May she rest in eternal peace. Well done, good and faithful servant!



From Betty's Member Bio and Obituary:

Betty led a full life as an educator, a parent, a DKG member, and was involved in the local community.

Betty had an A. A. from Santa Rose Junior College, a B. A. from the College of the Pacific, now UOP, and from 1951 to 1980 Betty took Professional Advancement Courses from CSU, Stanislaus. She held 3 Life Credentials; General Elementary, a Credential to teach Mentally Retarded and a Credential to teach Learning Handicapped. Betty taught 1st grade, 2nd grade and 2nd/3rd combination at Burbank Elementary School and Franklin Elementary School in Modesto City Schools. For 26 years she taught Special Education in the Stanislaus Union School. Betty was the Stanislaus Area Special Education 1971 Teacher of the Year, the School Bell Award in 1990 and was AAUW Named Grant Awardee in 1997.

Betty was initiated into Eta Mu in October 1977. She was Chapter Vice President 1984-1986 and for the 1986 -1988 biennium, Betty was President. Then Treasurer 1988-1994. She also served as Chapter Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Parliamentarian, Chairman of Professional Affairs Committee, Chairman of the Finance Committee, a member of the Nominations Committee and the Communications Committees as well as an Auditor. Chapter Recording Secretary,

Treasurer 1988-1994. Betty has also been Corresponding Secretary, Parliamentarian, Chairman of Professional Affairs Committee, Chairman of the Finance Committee, a member of the Nominations Committee and the Communications Committee as well as Auditor. Betty served at the state level as Area XVII Director from 1989-1991. She enjoyed being a DKG member and remained active in Eta Mu until her sight failed.

Betty is survived by sons James (Chris) and Jeffrey (Linda), grandchildren Amiee (Eric), Bryan, Gregory (Tommy Jo), Jon, and her step grandchildren Josh (Julie), Matt, Ashley, and Andy. She had five great grandsons and three great granddaughters. Betty was preceded in death by husbands James Hiatt and Marshel Harrell.



Betty was very active in the local community. She was a Docent at the McHenry Mansion and a volunteer in the Gift Store as well as a Docent at the McHenry Museum. She was a member of County Crossroads Quilters, CRTA, Wooden Nickel Antique Club, AAUW and AARP. Among Betty's interest were quilting and antiquing. Some of her collections include Raggedy Ann and Raggedy Andy dolls and teapots

Member Birthdays: Happy Birthday to You!



April 🌧️

- 3 Wendy Bruce
- 13 Janice Freeman
- 27 Carol Vieira

June ☀️

- 13 Kathleen Heinzinger
- 24 Dawn Pitcock

May 🌻

- 9 Bev Eaton
- 10 Linda Chrabas
- 17 Denise Carlson0-Nieto



SISTER TO SISTER



Personal News:

Great News From Heather Nonaca:

I have been nominated by a colleague for the Gilder Lehrman National History Teacher of the Year Award.

Started in 2004, the History Teacher of the Year Award highlights the crucial importance of history education by honoring exceptional American history teachers from elementary school through high school. The award honors one exceptional K-12 teacher from each state, the District of Columbia, Department of Defense schools and US Territories. The National History Teacher of the Year is chosen from this list of state winners. State winners receive \$1,000, an archive of materials for their school and recognition at a ceremony within their state. The National History Teacher of the Year Award, a \$10,000 prize and is honored at a ceremony in New York City. The award is sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and Preserve America.

CONGRATULATIONS HEATHER 🙌!

MORE FROM HEATHER: In February I attended the CTA Good Teaching Conference in San Francisco. If you'd like to learn more about some of the sessions that I attended, click [here](#) to review my notes. My favorite session was on digital notebooks.

Kathleen Meets the President!



DKG International President,
Dr. Debbie LeBlanc

Mark and I traveled to New Orleans, LA, Jackson, MS, Memphis, TN, Little Rock, AK, Idabel, OK, and Austin, TX. While in Austin we stopped by DKG Headquarters and Bill Staples, Office & Facilities Manager, gave us a tour. As we were talking, I was very surprised to see President Dr. Debbie LeBlanc walking towards us. I did not expect to see her. Debbie was most gracious, and I learned her brother lives in Modesto. I told her the next time she visits her brother, I will plan a joint chapters' meeting! I also had a lovely visit with Nita Scott, Executive Director, and met Peggy Jones, Finance Director. Bill was a wonderful host.



Nina Scott, Executive Director

We are currently in Waco, TX, visiting family, then driving to Dallas to visit family. We fly home May 2nd, in time for convention.



Janice Enjoys Traveling Through Central California

Recently, Tom and I had a wonderful time sharing central California with very special friends. Jimmy (US Army CWO, retired) and Lenda Callaway welcomed us to McKee Barracks in Crailsheim, Germany, in August of 1985, when we arrived for our 2-year teaching assignment with the Department of Defense Dependents School system. They and their daughters quickly became BFFs and traveling buddies with us as we explored Europe. We've been lucky to see them a handful of times in Texas (they retired to Waco), but this was their first opportunity to head our way. We made the most of it by hitting as many beautiful vistas as we could! Our itinerary was very full!



- A scenic drive over Pacheco Pass with its gorgeous super bloom of wildflowers.
- Cannery Row and the Monterey Aquarium
- 17-mile Drive
- Carmel
- Santa Cruz, including Henry Cowell State Park to see the Redwoods
- A leisurely drive up Highway 1 to San Francisco to visit Fort Point, Ghirardelli Square and Pier 39 and the sealions



Interspersed with all the sightseeing were so many HOURS of catching up and reminiscing - a terrific 9 days of joy!

ETA MU SUPPORTS OUR COMMUNITY



Jared Boxes

At the January Soup Supper members assembled Jared Boxes to donate to a local hospital.

ABC PROJECT TEA

Submitted by Susan Neufeld, DKG Eta Mu
Member and ABC Project Director



Eta Mu hosted a table at the ABC Project Spring Tea to support the Turlock affiliate of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Their table theme was *Green Eggs and Ham*, and the group enjoyed an individual charcuterie lunch with a variety of meats and cheeses and choice of crackers and pretzels. There were a variety of silent auction and raffle items to choose from and a short video highlighting the history of the Imagination

Library was shown. The new West Coast Regional Director for the Dollywood Foundation, Rachel King, was in attendance and presented Susan Neufeld (ABC Project Director) with Dollywood swag, including an autographed photo of Dolly herself, in appreciation for her 20+ years of work for the program and early literacy. Thanks for all in attendance and helping the ABC Project in hosting another successful event.



EDUCATION LAW AND POLICY UPDATE



Greetings Sisters! Here are a few Legislative Updates
("Nonaca's News!")

MAY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	<u>5</u>	6
7	8	9	10	11	<u>12</u>	13
14	15	16	17	18	<u>19</u>	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>			

May 5 Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to the floor **non-fiscal bills** introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(3))

May 12 Last day for **policy committees** to meet prior to June 5 (J.R. 61(a)(4)).

May 19 Last day for **fiscal committees** to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(5)).

Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet prior to June 5 (J.R. 61(a)(6)).

May 29 Memorial Day.

May 30-June 2 **Floor Session Only**. No committees, other than conference or Rules committees, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(a)(7)).

What's happening in the CA Legislature?

To see which bills CA DKG is following, click [here](#)

DKG CA, Educational Law and Policy News:



**2023 Legislative Study Session
Registration Opens in February**

When: Tue, June 20, 2023, 12pm – Thu, June 22, 2023, 3pm

Where: Virtual

Description: Learn about pending legislation and educational policies and speak with your legislators and other policy makers.

***Registration form for LSS will become available in May

DKG Forum News:

In March, The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), awarded 15 states each with \$1 million, one-year Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) planning grants. This announcement marks the first time these planning grants have been available since the program began in 2015.

The 15 states selected are Alabama, Delaware, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, New Hampshire, New Mexico, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont, West Virginia. In 2024, up to 10 of those will participate in the CCBHC Medicaid demonstration program and receive enhanced Medicaid reimbursement.

“The expansion of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics is part of President Biden’s commitment to expand and strengthen equitable behavioral health for all Americans,” said HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra. “These clinics serve anyone who requests care for mental health or substance use, regardless of their ability to pay, and connect people to the care they need.”

Anyone seeking treatment for mental health or substance use issues should call SAMHSA’s National Helpline at 800-662-HELP (4357) or visit findtreatment.samhsa.gov

DKG US FORUM PROUDLY PRESENTS

**“Our Schools, Our Responsibility, Our Democracy:” A
Conversation with Author, Educator Sarah Stitzlien**

May 9, 2023, 4:00PM Pacific Time

SPEAKER: Dr. Sarah Stitzlien, Professor of Education at the University of Cincinnati, and author of the book, *American Public Education and the Responsibility of Its Citizens: Supporting Democracy in the Age of Accountability*



Please know that as a member you have the right to request that DKG take action on any proposed legislation that aligns with our Legislative Platform. If you have input on any legislation that you want DKG to explore, you can let me know or you can contact our Legislative Coordinator, Hazel Powell, directly at teampowell@aol.com



Stay Well Sisters!

Heather Nonaca

*Area XVII Legislative Chair, Bill Evaluator, Eta Mu Chapter, Area XVII, Five Star
Chapter California State Organization, Delta Kappa Gamma Society International*

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Yousafzai

“One child, one teacher, one book and one pen, can change the world.” -Malala

**DON'T FORGET TO
REGISTER. IT'S
YOUR LAST
CHANCE!**

SEE YOU THERE!



**DKG International Vision Statement:
Key Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide**

