

# Eta Mu Musings

NEWS OF ETA MU CHAPTER AREA XVII DKG CA

*DKG CA -Crossing Bridges Together!*

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## 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

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## Welcoming Words from Our 2020-2022 Presidents

Welcome back, Eta Mu sisters! It's been a strange summer of cancelled plans, Zoom gatherings with friends and family, and outdoor dining in the summer heat while longing to be inside an air conditioned restaurant once again. Your Program Committee has planned some socially distanced, outdoor gatherings for our initial meetings with the hope that we're free (and safe!) to meet indoors at some point in the 2020 - 2021 schedule of events.

Our Kickoff catered brunch will be held in Judy Trask's backyard on September 12th. Please respond to the Evite that Theresa Foote will be sending out so we can get an accurate head count. We had hoped to induct our new member, Julie Kelley, during this meeting but she has a prior commitment, so the induction will take place at a future meeting.

It's going to be a fun and fruitful year for our chapter despite the adjustments that have to be made in the way we meet and support each other while the health crisis continues. We encourage you to reach out to your sisters with texts, phone calls or cards, and please keep us updated with your concerns and needs so we can be a help to one another. This has always been a strength of Eta Mu—we uphold and uplift our sisters. We look forward to seeing you in September.

Judy Trask and Linda Chrabas, Co-Presidents



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS  
**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA™**

## CURRENT EVENTS

### ETA MU EXECUTIVE OFFICERS INSTALLED FOR 2020-2022



In June, Eta Mu installed officers for the 2020-2022 Biennium at a Garden Party at the home of Lynn Lysko. With social distancing in mind, members brought their own lunches and donned masks. Serving as Co-Presidents are Judy Trask and Linda Chabras. Vice President in charge of Membership is Debbie Mar and Vice President in charge of Programs is Theresa Foote. Secretary is Denise Carlson-Nieto and Lynn Lysko will be Treasurer. Janice Freeman is the new Parliamentarian.

### Eta Mu Chapter Service Awards for 2019-2020

Chapter Service Awards were given to three Eta Mu members.

- For her "Service to the Chapter," Judy Trask was recognized for the many years she has served as the editor of our newsletter, in addition to being chapter 1st VP. Currently Judy is serving as co-president for the 2020-2022 biennium
- For Professional Service, Adele Little was recognized for the wealth of guidance she has provided for area school districts as a consultant and grant writer, as well as for the many years she professionally handled our chapter's finances. Adele also has worked with Learning Quest and tutored students at all levels.
- For Public Service, Carol Vieira was recognized for her service to education through Stanislaus County Office of Education, and also for taking on the public role of Area XVII Director for the 2019-2021 Biennium.

Happy  
Birthday to  
You! 🎂

*July:*

- o 2 Debbie Mar
- o 18 Linda Collins
- o 24 Karen Moore
- o 27 Sally Price

*August:*

- o 6 Mercedes Hart
- o 12 Caroline La Bass
- o 16 Pat Elston
- o 16 Deb Dooley
- o 22 Marla Romanoff-  
Kitzmann

*September*

- o 2 Carol Wharton
- o 4 Karen Mendonca
- o 7 Cyndi Fletcher
- o 14 Janice Chan

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHTS

*In Memory of Maureen Donovan  
1944-2020*



Eta Mu member Maureen Donovan went home to the Lord on Saturday, June 20th. Maureen was initiated on August 1, 1990. Maureen was a great chapter president, however, the position she enjoyed the most was Vice President of Programs. Maureen loved a party!

Maureen had a passion for teaching young children. She began her career as a Kindergarten teacher at St. Stanislaus School in Modesto. She then moved to Okinawa, Japan with her husband. While in Okinawa, Maureen taught for the Department of Defense Dependent Schools; one year she taught 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at Camp Mercy and for two years she was an Art Specialist at Camp Zucaran. For art, the students would come to Maureen's studio. Upon returning to Modesto, Maureen taught Kindergarten and grades 1, 3, 4 and 5 at Coleman F. Brown and Standiford Elementary schools in the Sylvan Union School District.

Maureen enjoyed all things Japanese; food, culture, music and art. She loved getting together with friends for lunch, parties, celebrations, travel and theater. Maureen adored cats, seasonal flowers in her garden, and to decorate for all holidays. Because of Maureen's love of nature, Eta Mu donated to Covenant Care Hospice and a butterfly was released in her honor at the Love Flight Heavenly Butterfly Release on Saturday, June 18. Maureen will be missed by her Eta Mu sisters.

Memorials may be made to Pupz N Palz Rescue, 2625 F Coffee Rd #  
Modesto Ca 95355 in honor of Maureen's love of her kittens.



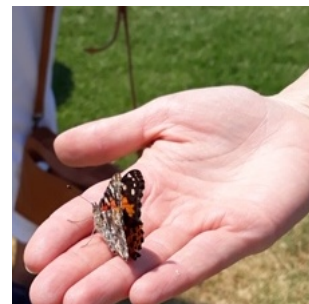
## *Adele's Memories of Maureen*

I will remember Maureen fondly. On many occasions, I had the opportunity to see her teach and see her class present plays and programs. She was a gifted teacher who did magic with her "kiddos". She went over and above to enrich her students' experiences. She greatly enjoyed her lovely home and garden. She loved a party and was a generous hostess for many Eta Mu events. I got to know Maureen well when she was president of Eta Mu and I was newsletter editor. Each month, she came to my home to co-edit the newsletter. As we chatted, we often shared stories about the Catholic education we both had experienced as students. She was a unique person who had many talents and an always sunny disposition. Many people will miss her presence in this world. She had a steadfast faith so I know she is reaping her reward for a well-spent life. Requiescat in pace, Maureen.

### *Love Flight - A Gift of Love*



On a sunny Saturday morning, on the lawn of Calvary Baptist Church in Turlock, Covenant Care Hospice held a Heavenly Butterfly Release. Family and friends were present to witness the butterfly release in memory or honor of loved ones. Eta Mu sponsored a butterfly in memory of Maureen Donovan, a thirty-year member of the chapter who passed away June 20. The program opened and closed with bagpipe solos (Highland Cathedral and Amazing Grace.) There were prayers, an inspirational speaker, a poem recitation, and music before the monarch butterflies were released. The butterflies flitted about, landing on people's hands, shoulders, and hair before soaring away. Stan Little was able to hold one in his hands. Members of Stan's family were present to honor his recently deceased sister. Stan and Adele represented Eta Mu chapter to honor Maureen.



### **MEMBER TO MEMBERS**

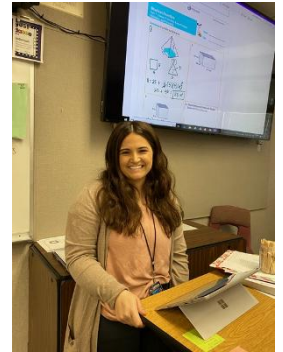
- ☺ Tom and I were so touched by the many thoughtful and loving cards we received following his mother's passing. We can't thank my dear Eta Mu sisters enough for the prayers and love that were sent our way. *Janice Freeman*
- ☺ Julie Kelley, who attended our June Garden Party has accepted the invitation to membership and we plan on formally inducting her at our October meeting.



# AREA XVII NEWS

## Area XVII Early Career Educator Award

Each year Area XVII Awards Early Career Educators with a check funded by the Area Raffle. This year Eta Mu nominated ShiAnn Anderson who was recommended by Marla Rucobo. ShiAnn is a first-year math teacher at Hanshaw Middle School in Modesto. She is an Enoch's High School graduate who graduated from Stanislaus State with a degree in math and a California Teaching Credential in May 2019. ShiAnn immediately become involved in more than just her classroom with her first teaching assignment. She does after-school tutoring, is a member of the AVID site team, and is always willing to go the extra mile for her students. She is a deserving recipient of this award.



## AREA XVII AWARDS

This year's Area Service Awards were given to Michelle Zachold, Kandy Woerz, and Linda Christensen.

Michele Zachlod has supported and supervised student teachers and interns in the area for many years.

Kandy Woerz is a program manager for the Stanislaus County Office of Education whose primary focus is on College and Career Readiness for all students while providing the additional support needed for underrepresented students. Her passion is helping young people with tools that will guide them in developing a plan and pathway to accomplish their dreams. Kandy has done great work for the last decade getting kids to college and has had a strong impact and influence in our region.

Linda Christensen has served Area XVII as Membership Chair for several years and shared much information on how to maintain and increase membership in our chapters.



# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Hello Sisters,

I hope this finds you well and embracing that educator-creativity inside you to navigate the COVID-storm we're all facing. I've been asked to give you an update on all things legislation. Hold on to your hats because there is a lot to report!

## What's Happening in the CA Legislature?

The last few months in the CA legislature have focused on the creation and agreement of the 2020-2021 Budget. Governor Newsom reached an agreement with Senate President pro Tempore Atkins and

Assembly Speaker Rendon on the 2020-2021 state budget on June 22, 2020 and since then the legislature has been working on trailer bills (these are bills required to implement the budget, decide apportionments/process, etc.). Below, I've provided a very brief summary of *some* of the items included in the education budget trailer bill as summarized by myself and our Lobbyist, Martha Zaragoza-Diaz.

## What Does the Education Omnibus Budget Trailer Bill (AB 77 & SB 98) Say About COVID-19 and requirements for LEAs?

- The budget addresses the challenges LEAs have faced as a result of COVID-19. These include how districts report their data to the state for funding purposes, what type of instruction schools offer (in-person and distance learning), allocation of monies for distance learning curriculum and instructional guidance, and the integration and alignment of online platforms into the CA Dashboard and how COVID-19 has impacted the CA Dashboard.
- A significant change for LEAs will be the need to create a Learning Continuity Plan in place of the LCAP. This plan needs to be created by September 30, 2020 that addresses the impacts of COVID-19 on pupils, staff, and the community in the areas of distance learning, learning loss, mental health/social emotional well-being of students/staff, professional development, pupil engagement and outreach, and school nutrition, along with the specifics expenditures the LEA anticipates needing in order to address these impacts. To see how the LCP differs from the LCAP, please see this chart <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1TVRJZy5EWbvulSah2ny9raP2Lil1LHwm/view>.

## What About Re-Opening Schools?

"Authorization has been given for schools to re-open in the fall. Much controversy around what the requirements should be remain. The ultimate decision as to whether a school will re-open is at the local level.

CDE has developed a guidance for schools-Stronger Together-A Guidance for the Safe Reopening of California Schools. This guidance was created through the statewide reopening schools task force that fostered a collaborative process for our educators and stakeholders to lend their important voices. Also informed by the technical assistance and advice of many health and safety organizations including the Centers for Disease Control, California Department of Public Health, California Division of Occupational Safety and Health, the intent of this document is to be a guide for the local discussion on safely reopening schools" (Zaragoza-Diaz).

Here is the URL: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/strongertogether.asp>.

Here is the URL for the CA Dept. of Public Health's guidance specific to schools and childcare centers:

[https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/School%20Guidance\\_ADA%20Compliant\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CID/DCDC/CDPH%20Document%20Library/School%20Guidance_ADA%20Compliant_FINAL.pdf).

CDE in its guidance to schools has identified instructional models schools should consider when re-opening schools.

Here is the URL: <https://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/he/hn/sandtinstschedule.asp>.

For those of us returning to the classroom soon, I wish you all a wonderful schoolyear. Give yourself grace as you enter your classroom this year (virtual or brick and mortar) and know that your sisters have your back, always. I return to my virtual school this week and I'm excited to "meet" my students and get to work, despite the challenges the year brings.

Warm Regards,

Heather Nonaca



For the full report go to [Heather's Legislative Update 80/2020](#)

## Upcoming Events

Look for Evites  
for locations  
and RSVP  
online

September 12  
KICKOFF MTG

October  
Saturday TBA

Painting in the  
Garden

October 17th  
DKG CA Free  
Online Technology  
Workshop

November 12  
Teaching 2020

December 8  
Christmas Cookie  
Exchange

## MEMBER RESOURCES

### *Get Acquainted with the DKG Website*

Delta Kappa Gamma International, DKG.org, has a multitude of resources for members of DKG. To access these resources, you must sign in. Your sign in is your member number and a password. First time users will use the password "Dkg14society". Then you will need to go into "My DKG" and update your personal information and set a password. This keeps the database current and allows other DKG members to find you as well as ensures that you receive all publications.

Explore the site and learn about all the benefits of being a DKG member. (If you can't find your number, our treasurer Lynn Lysko can send it to you.)

### Exploring New Pathways



In June, DKG California held a webinar in place of the convention. This year's theme, "Exploring New Pathways" resonated with members as the executive committee found new ways to communicate with members. This webinar is available to members on the DKG website. You will be able to view the webinar slides, video, chapter share and scrapbook, that has replaced the convention program. This link, **[DKG CA CELEBRATION](#)**, will open the page where you can access these documents.