



Eta Mu Newsletter

California State Area XVII Eta Mu Chapter www.eta mucaliforniadkg.org October 2016 Volume XLIX, No. 2

Mission Statement

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



UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 3 A Dress for Every Girl

Dec. 6 Jared Boxes Workshop

Dec. 15 Opus Handbells/Dinner



Birthdays

October 16 Susan Neufeld

October 17 Trudi Sigmon

October 17 Judy Trask



Flapjack Fundraiser

By Kathleen Heinzinger

There are only a few weeks remaining to sell your tickets for Eta Mu's first Flapjack Fundraiser at Applebee's. Each ticket is \$10 and we ask that you sell 5 tickets. For each ticket sold, Eta Mu will receive \$6.50. Of course you can sell more tickets!

The flapjack breakfast is on Saturday, October 29, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., at Applebee's, 3900 Sisk Rd., Modesto. We ask that you arrive at 7:30 a.m. if you are serving or greeting. Sisters that signed up to serve are Lynn, Judy T., Janice, Pat, Heather, Carol V. and Kathleen. Sisters that signed up to greet and sell raffle tickets are Linda Ch., Trudi, Mary Lou and Janice C. If your name is not listed, please let me know if you can serve or greet. Please come to have breakfast even if you are unable to serve or greet. As Janice Freeman shared, "This breakfast will be a fun gathering of family and friends as those are the people buying tickets."

I will be contacting you Friday, October 21, 2016 for the number of tickets you have sold. Tickets **will not** be available at the door. Do you have a Halloween costume to wear at the breakfast? I have my costume and I heard Heather has her costume, too.

The proceeds from selling flapjack tickets and raffle tickets will be used for scholarships and grants. If you have a raffle item, please let me know. Raffle items we have are a bottle of wine with a pound of See's Candy and a gift card to Applebee's. We look forward to a successful, profitable and fun Flapjack Fundraiser. If you need more tickets or have any questions, please call, 577-3420 or email, kathleenetamu@att.net.



If it had not been for Delta Kappa Gamma, I would not be where I am today. The fifth purpose of DKG is "to endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators". Delta Kappa Gamma offers a variety of support for professional development and graduate study. Whether it subsidizes a trip to the legislature to advocate for women in education or grants a scholarship to pursue masters or doctoral study, the Society fulfills this purpose each and every year.

My sisters in Eta Mu encouraged me to pursue my doctorate 9 years ago. Because of their support, I was first awarded a Chi State scholarship for graduate study then, later, a Delta Kappa Gamma International scholarship to focus my doctoral study on how to create successful programs for English learners. Having the support of my sisters over the 5-year program was invaluable to my success. Many were the times that I was discouraged by how long it was taking or that I couldn't wrap my head around an analysis but they never let me give up. Their encouragement built my resilience to guide me to finish strong, even earning an award for "most outstanding doctoral study" that year at the university.

My sisters in Eta Mu never once let me give up. A call from one to offer a ride to a meeting, a note or card from another to wish me happy birthday or congratulate me on a new job gave me the strength to challenge the status quo and break glass ceilings all in the service of students predominantly from socio-economically disadvantaged situations. Many of you know my work. Those sisters who are new to Eta Mu, please hear this: the group of women who comprise Eta Mu is exceptional. Be proud to be a part of this group. Encourage each other to pursue a scholarship or go to convention for the first time. The planning committee put together program ideas for one of the best years in the last decade so call another sister and offer her a ride to come to the monthly events. Make it a personal and professional goal to apply for a scholarship or grant and attend at least 6 Eta Mu events this year. Read and internalize the Seven Purposes.

I have always said that this group of women in Eta Mu are my sisters, aunts, grandmas, and cousins by adoption since I reside so far away from my family. I look forward to serving this biennium of co-presidency with Pat and hope to see you all at as many meetings as you can. I promise you it is worth it.

Dr. Lynn Lysko



Reminder: The AREA XVII Luncheon will be held on Saturday, October 15, 11 AM – 2 PM at The River's Edge Restaurant 17525 Sonora Rd. Knights Ferry CA 95361 (209)-881-3466. The theme of the luncheon is "Let the Outdoors In" with speaker Pat Logan.



Yearbook update

Sisters, it was wonderful to see so many of you at the kick-off! I hope you have had a good time getting acquainted with our new website. If you are someone on our "snail mail list," by now you should have received a printed version of the member directory, birthday page, and calendar of events. Anyone else who would like to have a hard copy for themselves can find the printable version on the website in the "Members Only" section. Just click on the button for the printable version, and cue it to print. Let me know if there are any problems! Janice Freeman



Modesto Gospel Mission

Usually we collect contributions for the Modesto Gospel Mission at our September Kick-off meeting, but since we had so much going on, we decided to postpone the collection until October. You can either mail a contribution to me, give a check to Pat at the Area XVII retreat, or bring it to the Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at Applebee's. Remember that we like to donate educational materials as well as financial gifts! As always, make checks out to Modesto Gospel Mission so that you can receive the tax deduction benefits. Thank you!

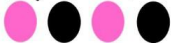


Dues Are Due

Thank you to members who have already paid their annual dues. In addition to paying their dues, a good number of members made generous extra contributions to support the Eta Mu budget. Donations are very much appreciated.

If you have not already paid the annual dues (\$100 for active members; \$40 for reserve members), please do so no later than October 20. (Payment to state and international must be made by October 31.) Make your check payable to DKG – Eta Mu and send it to Treasurer Adele Little, 2805 Veneman Avenue, Modesto, CA 95356.

Member News



Chapter member **Nancy Lee** recently fell and broke her back. She is recuperating at English Oaks in room 205A and would enjoy hearing from members.

Stan and **Adele Little** just returned from a very enjoyable cruise of the Adriatic, Ionian, and Aegean Seas. Aboard MV Voyager, they visited ports in Croatia, Slovenia, Montenegro, Italy, and Greece.

Susan Neufeld loves spending the first Saturday from May to October at the Turlock Farmers Market, where she has a booth to sign up children for the ABC Project (Abundant Books for Children). Through this program, Turlock families' children receive one book every month from ages 0 to 5. The first book they receive is The Little Engine That Could and the last book is Look Out Kindergarten Here I Come! These two books have a letter written by Dolly Parton. Although the project is affiliated with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, Susan is responsible for raising money for the project. Currently there are 750 children in the program with a cost of \$1,500 a month for books. Susan funds the project by writing grants, holding a Spring Tea and selling pins. Teachers also donate \$25 to have their students participate in a reading program that is held each October. This year Susan has 41 classrooms and she also reads to each classroom.

On October 1, 2016, **Kathleen Heinzinger** and **Gloria Bracco**, from Chi State Leadership Team had a glorious morning with Susan at the Turlock Farmers Market. Parents with their two-week old baby boy signed him up to receive the books. Susan shared, "He isn't the youngest to sign up as I had a grandma sign up her grandchild who had been born the day before." Quotes from parents and grandparents that stopped by the booth included:

My older children are 20 and 17 and we still have all our books. My youngest is 6, darn he's too old. Stacy

The books helped me how to learn. Because of the selection of books, I wanted to read more. Dominic, age 15

I love the program and it's always fun. Levi loves opening the mailbox and getting a surprise. Alexis

It will be no surprise to learn that Eta Mu is nominating Susan for the Chi State Distinguished Career/Professional Service Award.





Heather Nonaca was initiated at our Kick-Off Breakfast. From her biography:

My interest in teaching began after I graduated from high school and began coaching my high school's band and color guard. It was there that I realized how much I loved teaching others and watching them learn. This passion for teaching followed me to Modesto Junior College where I became a certified tutor at the tutoring center, revising students' essays and helping them study for exams. I also worked as a student mentor at Modesto Junior College's STAMP Program (Student and Transfer Math Partnership), mentoring 20-25 students within the program. My work with students continued after I graduated from Chico State. While working on my teaching credential I worked as a Recreation Leader for the City of Modesto Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhoods department, assisting and leading elementary and middle school children in reading and writing, enrichment, recreation and fitness activities. I also taught a dance program at Mark Twain Junior High School during this time.

After completing my credential program and student teaching at Downey High School in Modesto, I finally reached my goal of becoming a teacher in 2011 as a member of the Social Science Department at Ronald E. McNair High School in Stockton, CA and continue to teach there to this day. Thanks to McNair's block schedule I've been able to teach many different courses from Geography, World History, and AP United States History. I'm an active member of the school's community. I'm the assistant swim coach, a co-advisor for the Academic Decathlon, and I'm a teacher-leader on McNair's Leadership Team, assisting staff members and providing training for how to build and execute successful professional learning communities at our school site. I enjoy interacting with students, attend football games and choir concerts regularly, try to dress up on spirit days as often as possible, and attend Senior Trip every year. I love my job and all of the challenges and rewards it presents.

Eta Mu looks forward to supporting Heather and having her share her passions, enthusiasm and leadership skills.