



Eta Mu Newsletter

California State Area XVII Eta Mu Chapter www.etamucaliforniadkg.org Volume L, No. 4 Dec/Jan 2017-18

Mission Statement

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



Presidents' Message

Happy New Year from Eta Mu's President

2018 marks Eta Mu's 50th year as a chapter. A celebration of our organization is scheduled for April 22, 2018. For 50 years our chapter has fulfilled the first purpose of Delta Kappa Gamma, To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship. Let us continue to unite women educators and honor those members who have served as educators.

Let's strive to keep Eta Mu an active chapter for another 50 years. Mark the date on your calendar, help with the event, come and celebrate our charter members who have been with the chapter for the past 50 years.

Best Wishes for a Wonderful Year,
Pat

January Soup Supper



When: Tuesday, Jan. 23, 2018 from 6-8 pm

Where: Marla Romanoff-Kitsmann's home 2008 Shaddox Ave., Modesto

Co-Hostess: Carol Vieira

Our annual Soup Supper will include a presentation from *JerLisa Stitches of Love* founder Nikki Larsen. You won't want to miss her powerful story. Your invite to this tasty and informative event will be arriving in your inbox soon. Please respond to the invitation or RSVP by Tuesday, January 16 to Janice Freeman at 209-484-3416.

Jared Box Workshop

Eta Mu members met December 7th at Judy Trask's house to assemble 23 Jared boxes and 10 bags for donation to local hospitals.



The mission of the Jared Box project is to "lift the spirits of children in the hospital." The project's website reminds us that these "boxes symbolize the importance of play and are filled with well wishes, hope, and love...A Jared Box is a plastic storage box filled with small gifts, toys, games, and fun activities..Jared Boxes provide a special diversion for young patients in emergency rooms, patient rooms, surgical centers, and clinics as they receive chemotherapy and other medical treatments."



Eisenhut School

Don't Forget! Eta Mu has adopted Eisenhut Elementary School. The Adopt-A-School Committee is Cyndi Fletcher, Joyce Brooks and Kathleen Heinzinger. Would you be willing to volunteer? This could be one day a week or once or twice a month, for an hour or more, whatever fits in your schedule. All we ask is that you commit to the schedule you choose. We know even with the best plans, life happens. In that case, we would ask you to contact another volunteer to take your place or switch times with you.

Kathleen is volunteering two mornings a month at Eisenhut. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Cyndi Fletcher at cletcher@stanunion.k12.ca.us. Kathleen emails Cyndi a day or two before her scheduled day for Cyndi to locate a teacher that needs a volunteer. You will need to provide your TB Clearance. If you have any questions, please contact Kathleen.

MJC Student Brittany Ross Winner of Eta Mu 2017 Grant-in-Aid

As teachers, you will find the following excerpt from Brittany's essay very inspiring and heartwarming:

"My conclusion to study English was one that came as no great surprise to me, but the decision could be counted back to one personal epiphany. Ms. Geiser was my high school sophomore English instructor. She was a popular one among the students due to her wit and ability to connect with the students. To me she was much more. I had always had a partiality for reading, therefore, I could always be found with a book in my hand. However, I did find myself rereading many books, and not really challenging myself. Ms. Geiser taught me how to delve deeper into my books, to attempt to understand the character's motives and the underlying meaning behind the content. She taught me to be a critical thinker and inspired me to challenge myself more. She was my motivator and my biggest fan. The last day I walked out of her class was the first day that I truly felt better for having taken a class, and that is why I aspire to be like her. I wish to inspire children the way she does. I want to be the role model that literature lovers look up to years after taking my class. That is why I chose English."

Brittany is pursuing a double major: English and Liberal Studies. She explains the reason:

"Deciding to do a double major, despite the extra work load, was not a hard one to make. I feel that by majoring in both, I am opening up numerous doors for the future. I will have the ability to teach children of all ages and make lasting differences in different ways. I will also have the ability to further my education and build upon my degree to teach at a college level if I so choose. Whatever path gets paved in front of me, one thing is for certain; I will be using my degrees to better the generation of our future,"

Member News

Janice Freeman reports that she and husband Tom had a wonderful 3-week trip to New Zealand from Nov. 27 through Dec. 18. It lived up to some very high expectations, and they had such a great time touring both the north and south islands.



Message from a member

Susan Neufeld encourages members to think of contributing to Bret Harte whose recent fire destroyed two 5th grade classrooms, the computer lab, and the school library. The Modesto Bee link is here: <http://www.modbee.com/news/article192310864.html>

Susan has two graduate students who teach at Bret Harte, and their classrooms are okay, but this is a school that will desperately need to replenish their library, so the children will have access to books.



Birthdays

December 12 Nancy Lee
December 16 Joyce Brook
January 16 Judy Aprile
January 20 Mary Lou Dieterich
January 28 Roberta Bica
January 29 Ty George