



# Eta Mu Newsletter

California State Area XVII Eta Mu Chapter [www.eta-mu-california.org](http://www.eta-mu-california.org) Winter News January/February 2017 Volume XLIX, No. 5

*Mission Statement: 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*

*California Vision Statement: DKG California - Educational - Professional - Making an Impact*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2--Read Across America (volunteers and book donations needed)

March 3-- LearningQuest

March 15-- Potato Fest



## Birthdays

No February Birthdays.

**2017 DKG Convention**

**May 5-7, 2017**

**Los Angeles LAX Airport Marriott**

<http://www.chi.stateca.org/calendar/2017dkgcaliforniaconventionlax.html>

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## NEW DAY FOR CHILDREN

**Tuesday, February 28, 2017, 6 – 8 PM**  
**Patterson Room – Stanislaus County Office of Education**  
**Speaker Kathy Wilson**

"New Day for Children seeks to recover children caught in the despair of child sex trafficking and to restore their stolen childhoods. New Day for Children operates from its own facilities and in partnership with others, who provide various services such as housing, school, horse therapy and more.

They operate from safe and secure locations in the western United States. Working with law enforcement, other faith based/community organizations and families themselves, they provide for the needs of American girls ages 10 to 18 and 18+ (in separate programming) suffering from the desperation of human trafficking." You can read more about this wonderful organization at <http://www.newdayforchildren.com/> .

Please join us to hear about the wonderful work going on in Northern California that offers hope in the midst of this tragedy. Finger foods will be provided. Hostesses are Judy Trask and Marla Romanoff-Kitzmann.



During this biennium, our term of office, Lynn and I have been focusing on the Purposes of DKG in our messages. As we look at a new calendar year and move forward in the first year of this biennium, there are many of the Seven Purposes that our chapter fulfills on a regular basis.

This past month we have awarded a Grant-in Aid to a student at MJC thus fulfilling Purpose 5: "To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators." We can further our efforts in this area by nominating Outstanding Student Teachers using the form [http://chistateca.org/images/OSTA\\_Area\\_2017\\_w.pdf](http://chistateca.org/images/OSTA_Area_2017_w.pdf) . If you know of a student teacher that deserves this award, please download, fill out, and submit the form.

Our upcoming meeting on February 28, "A New Day for Children", fulfills Purpose 7: "To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society." We may invite others to this meeting (<http://www.etamucaliforniadkg.org/uploads/6/0/3/4/60341261/february.pdf>)



to build awareness of the human trafficking issues and provide support for organizations such as New Day for Children.

Check out the purposes of DKG and consider other ways our chapter can working to fulfill these purposes. Let our Leadership Committee know of any other opportunities to fulfill the 7 Purposes of DKG. Let us be committed to making a difference as we advance the role of women educators in the world.

Wishing all Eta Mu members success in their endeavors to fulfill the Purposes of DKG.

Chapter Presidents,  
Pat and Lynn

## April Alternative Activity



**Susan Neufeld's annual Spring Tea Fundraiser for the ABC Book Project will be held Saturday, April 29th, 1:30 p.m., in Turlock. The tickets are \$15. In addition to the Tea, there will be a silent auction and raffles. Also, a Coach handbag will be raffled**

WELCOME

The ABC Project, Abundant Books for Children, is a book distribution and family literacy program available to Turlock children ages birth to 5. Working with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library, books are mailed each month to registered children until their 5th birthday, at no cost to the families. These books are purchased at a fraction of retail cost, and we are able to support one child for a year for \$30, 12 books with a retail price of over \$120!



**Mary Lou Dieterich** just returned from Florida, spending ten days having a wonderful time with Karen and her family at the theme parks.

Next, Mary Lou and her friend from North Dakota are going to Palm Springs for a week and then over to Kauai for ten days. She will be out of town for the entire month of February as they are also going to spend time sightseeing in California as well. She says, "See everyone in March!"

### *More Member News from Kathleen*

We extend our deepest sympathy to Judy Aprile and her family on the passing of her husband, Will. Besides Will's wife and family, he leaves behind many friends and many former students. Judy, please know you and your family are in our thoughts and our prayers.

Donna McRae was a member of Eta Mu until the decline of her health. She was an amazing and devoted teacher at Ceres High School and Modesto Junior College for more than four decades. Donna received a Bachelor's degree in Spanish from San Jose State in 1959. She traveled and studied extensively in Mexico. Among other multiple journeys were three independent travel trips to Europe and many other countries. She is survived by her husband of 53 years, Art, her son, Kyle and his family and numerous other family members. Donna passed away on November 4, 2016 and a memorial service was held December 10, 2016. (Information for this article was from the Modesto Bee Obituary, published December 7, 2016).

The garden of Lauren and Dave Willoughby, 3404 Norton Avenue, was selected as the December Garden of the Month, by the Modesto Garden Club. Lauren and Dave are both avid gardeners, but the back yard pool didn't leave enough gardening room. So they tore up the traditional front yard and installed 9 raised planter beds, made of stone with a smooth paver top perfect for weeding and planting or just for sitting and enjoying the garden.

Throughout the year there will be at least 75 different herbs and vegetables planted, harvested and re-planted for a new season. Almost everything is edible, including some of the flowers. Sometimes Lauren just wants some color and plants something non-edible. One of the planter beds features lemon grass which they use in Thai cooking.

The planters also have some small trees: Figs (a spring fig and a winter fig), lemons, limes, persimmon and Seville orange. (To read more about Lauren and Dave's garden, see Modesto Garden Club December Newsletter. This article was from that newsletter).



## Scholarship Recipient

**Stefanie Menera**, a student at Modesto Junior College, is the recipient of a \$500 scholarship provided by Eta Mu. Stefanie entered school without any knowledge of English. She quickly became fluent, and English became her strongest subject. However, math was always a challenge. In third grade, she was diagnosed with Attention Deficit Disorder. She says, "The battle with math and focus would follow me to this very day." Throughout her years in school, several history teachers made an impact on her, gave her the confidence to be successful, and motivated her to become a history teacher. Stefanie says, "I am adamant that every citizen of the Earth must understand the past if they wish to shape the future, and I am thrilled and eager to participate in the education of young Americans so that they may understand their country's story."

## Corrections and Changes from Janice Freeman

Please make the following corrections and changes to your yearbook or calendar:

Heather Coons Nonaca's email address will now be hcoons92@gmail.com , also she is in the Social Sciences Department at Lodi High School, not the Science Department.

Sheila Efflandt's address is incorrect in the membership directory. The correct address is 2801 Lou Ann Drive, Modesto, 95350.

Pat Elston has moved! Her new address is 3141 Bramham Court Modesto 95355. Her email and phone numbers will remain the same.

On October 30, 2016, charter member Ardis Bashaw passed away.

The May Garden Party date has been changed to Saturday, June 3, due to the graduation of our host Lynn Lysko's daughter on the May 20th date. Everything else – time, location, etc. will remain the same.

Please make sure you RSVP yes OR no by the stated dates on invitations/evites. Our programs and events do require advance planning and preparation, and it's important to allow our hosts and co-hostesses enough time to make arrangements for everyone's comfort.

*If you'd like to attend a meeting or event but transportation is a problem, please call Janice Freeman 484-3416 or Kathleen Heinzinger 572-3420. We are committed to making it easy for ALL our members to enjoy these wonderful opportunities to connect and enjoy their sisters!*

## Literacy Network Luncheon

On March 3, the Literacy Network of Stanislaus County will hold its eighteenth annual Celebrate Literacy event. At the celebration three outstanding adult education students will be honored for their achievements. Additionally, the Betty Mulnix Service Award will be presented to an individual who has performed distinguished service in the field of literacy, and the Jean and Clyde Dunlap Award will be presented to a community member who has made outstanding contributions to the cause of literacy in Stanislaus County.

Veronica Miranda, assistant superintendent in Patterson Unified School District, will be the featured speaker. Mrs. Miranda, the daughter of immigrant farm laborers, entered school without knowing English. She struggled to learn the language until the middle grades when a compassionate teacher gave her special attention and instruction that propelled her toward high achievement.

Eta Mu members are cordially invited to attend. See the registration form below for details. Registration is \$30 including lunch. A check with your reservation should be returned no later than Friday, February 24.

**PRESENTS**

# Celebrate Literacy!

2017

**DATE:**  
Friday, March 3, 2017

**PLACE:**  
**CrossPoint Community Church**  
(formerly First Baptist Church)  
Top floor of the Pavilion  
1325 12th Street, Modesto, CA  
Park off 11th Street between M and Needham

**TIME:**  
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**REGISTRATION:**  
**\$30**  
Registration includes materials and lunch catered by O'Brien's Market

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND:**  
Business owners, CEOs, managers, human resources and training personnel, community members, school personnel, literacy program volunteers and participants and adult education providers.

**WHAT YOU WILL LEARN:**  
Personal stories of literacy achievements; services for upgrading the skills of your workforce; how to impact productivity through training and education; and about existing adult training programs.

**Paid reservations due by Feb. 24**

Mail reservations to  
Stanislaus County  
Office of Education  
Attn: SPIE  
1100 H Street  
Modesto, CA 95354  
Phone: 209.238.1766  
Fax: 209.238.4254  
Email registration info to  
sple@thevision.net or  
druiz@stancee.org  
Make checks payable to  
SPIE/Literacy Network of  
Stanislaus County

**Registration for Celebrate Literacy! 2017**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/Email \_\_\_\_\_

An individual or company may elect to be a sponsor for \$160. This includes two paid registrations and recognition as a sponsor.

Check box if interested in a sponsorship. Duplicate form for additional reservations.