



Eta Mu Newsletter

California State Area XVII Eta Mu Chapter www.etamucaliforniadkg.org Volume LI, no. 7 May 2020
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Mission Statement

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

International Vision Statement

Key Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide

DKG California Vision Statement

DKG California - Educational - Professional - Making an Impact

California Biennium Theme

Crossing Bridges Together



Presidents' Message

Greetings, dear Sisters,

As I face writer's block in deciding what to pen for this month's newsletter, a random question pops into my head. What does one call a quarantine that lasts longer than 40 days? 50 days - A quinantine? 60 days - A sexantine? Stop right there! This is not THAT kind of publication!!! However, it does point out the fact that we've all been cooped up for far longer than we first expected, and the end date has become a moving target that seems to be vanishing in the distance. How's your head-talk going these days? You know, the monologue that nobody else hears that is your constant companion during waking hours? There's no getting around the fact that there is much about which to be concerned, and the daily news tends to accentuate it, perhaps making the internal dialogue a pretty dismal one. That makes it so important to reach out and stay connected with our various circles of loved one, friends, and colleagues - to hear each other's voices sharing our concerns, letting us know we're cared for, and helping us keep perspective. That's why you've gotten some phone calls through our chapter phone tree over the last month and a half. We want to make sure all of our Eta Mu members know that we're a real sisterhood, made up of women who want to be available to each other and willing to lend hearts and hands in times of need.

So, where are we now, at the intersection of our plans and state and federal mandates? Relentlessly optimistic, we have pushed back our eagerly anticipated Paint Nite at Pino's Palette to the last week of May, probably Tuesday, May 26th or Thursday, May 28th. The other change is to our garden party. Due to a mandatory DKG California Leadership webinar for incoming officers of the next biennium that hijacked our Garden Party date of June 6th, we have moved the party to Friday, June 5th, 10 am - 1pm, at the home of Lynn Lysko, 2328 Lover's Point Lane, Modesto. Be on the lookout for an Evite for both events. I would also like to make sure you all read the documents included at the end of the newsletter that have valuable information with regard to DKG procedural and international concerns arising due to CoVid19.

Finally, I'd like to give a warm welcome to Julie Kelley, a kindergarten teacher at Big Valley Christian School, who is a prospective member referred to us by DKG California President Sue Noyes. Julie has been added to our email block, and both I and our Membership Director Debbie Mar have already connected with her. Julie's mother is a long-time DKG member in Portland, Oregon, and Julie also serves as Director of Student Service K-6 for Big Valley. We are hopeful of being able to meet face-to-face with her, and with all of us, for that matter, VERY soon!

Missing you and praying for you and your circle of loved ones,
Janice Freeman

Save the Date

Paint Night at Pinot's Palette



Postponed to later in May
Look for your Evite before the event



Dues Reminder

Attention, Eta Mu Sisters!

If you have not already paid your DKG/Eta Mu dues for 2020-2021, please do so this month. Dues are \$100 for active members and \$40 for chapter-authorized reserve members. You may send a check payable to DKG-Eta Mu to Adele Little, [2805 Veneman Avenue, Modesto, CA 95356](https://www.google.com/maps/place/2805+Veneman+Avenue,+Modesto,+CA+95356) or contact Janice or Lynn re paying by credit card via Square. In the new DKG time schedule implemented last year, all dues must be paid by June 30.

Thanks,
Adele

Birthdays



MAY 9 Bev Eaton
10 Linda Chrabas
17 Denise Carlson-Nieto

Member Updates

Ty George's daughter Karie says that after Ty's recent health issues, her pain level is pretty high now, and they haven't been able to curb it much, but she is still smiling. She is able to stand up now with help, and will hopefully be able to take a step soon. Kyrie added, "My son and I made signs and put them in her window last week. She says they bring a little 'happy' to her room."

Congratulations to Deb Dooley, who has announced her retirement from teaching. She is currently teaching 8th grade English at Ustach Middle School and has been there for 15 years. She is retiring after 29 years in education. During that time, she has been both a Middle School English teacher and an elementary school and middle school librarian. Deb says, "With the pandemic, my last year is ending in a very weird way. I am missing the end of year activities and the parties planned for retirement. I am excited about what the Lord has for me in this next phase of life."

CONVENTION UPDATE: Breaking the Silence A message from International President Cathy Daugherty with the support of the Administrative Board

DKG members, I wish I had the capability to look you square in the eye and deliver these remarks face to face. This is one instance where you need to see, and not just read, the sincerity and heart behind my words. But, with staff working remotely, the best I can do is to type out my thoughts and share facts with you regarding our scheduled convention in Philadelphia.

For several weeks I have wrestled with the dilemma of holding or canceling the convention. The decision the Administrative Board (AB) will make when they meet in May electronically is a two-edged sword: the physical health of the members versus the fiscal health of the Society. Trust me when I say that the physical health of members is foremost in my mind, motivates my every waking hour, and haunts my sleep. It will be the determining factor I espouse going forward with our plans, whether or not Philadelphia is “open for business” or not by July 1st. In speaking with members across the Society I am acutely aware of travel restrictions, closed borders, and concerns voiced by anxious families urging members not to travel this summer. It breaks my heart that our world is in such chaos and that I cannot reach out and reverse the situation. All I can do is promise to protect you within my role as your international president. I do not advocate that we hold a convention that would jeopardize the health and safety of our members. You are my first concern.

And, therein lies the other half of the dilemma, the fiscal health of the Society. An international convention is a one million dollar event funded by registrations, sponsors, meet the block tallies, meal events, etc. To cancel a hotel contract and other vendor/speaker contracts associated with the event with no revenue to support those expenses is a major blow to any group. To a group that relies almost exclusively on dues for the bulk of its income, this could be harsh. Currently, we are evaluating the potential fiscal impact based on government mandated Coronavirus imperatives. Hence, I have not spoken about cancellation possibilities until now.

Members charged the AB not only to put members first when you elected us, but also to be the financial guardian of the Society. In this situation to be hasty for one side might jeopardize the other side. Your patience up until now and your relative silence on the issue have given us the breathing space we needed to navigate a very difficult situation, but now it is time to break the silence.

During these past weeks together with our international parliamentarian, Dr. Helen Popovich, contingency plans have been developed to address the “bare bones” business that must go forward should the convention be canceled. They will appear in full in the May-June issue of the DKG News:

1. Holding the election of officers and elected committee members:

- Members who are registered to attend the convention on the day the convention is canceled, if it is canceled, will be eligible to put forward candidates “from the floor” via email, just as if we were meeting face to face at the convention.
- Executive Board (EB) members, who elect officers and elected committee members, will vote electronically, casting votes based on the voting strength of each state organization.
- A three-member committee headed by the appointed convention election committee chair will count the ballots and confirm the vote.
- The international president will announce the election results via website posting and an email BLAST to the EB and all chapter presidents.

2. Adoption of the 2020-2021 DKG Budget

- The International Finance Committee will begin drawing up the 2020-2021 DKG Budget within the next few weeks. Their May meeting will be electronic, not face to face.
- The budget will go out to all EB members for review with the option to submit questions to the committee for reply. All questions and replies will be sent out to all EB members.
- The EB will vote electronically to adopt the budget.

3. 2020 Proposed Amendments

If there is no convention, there is no business. Per RONR (11th ed., p. 237, II.6-13) the amendments proposed for action at the 2020 DKG Convention will “fall to the ground.” They may be resubmitted by a proposer for consideration at the DKG 2022 Convention. A complete statement about this issue has been prepared for the May-June DKG News.

4. Registration Refunds Should the Convention be Canceled

Members who are registered on the day the convention is canceled will have three (3) options regarding registration refunds:

- Receive full refund including all meal event purchases with no \$40 cancellation fee charged
- Apply full refund, including all meal event purchases, to the 2022 DKG Convention with no \$40 cancellation fee charged.
- Donate full refund, including all meal event purchases, to the Society’s Foundation with no \$40 cancellation fee charged

Members who cancel their registration prior to the cancellation of the convention will forfeit the standard cancellation fee of \$40 as noted on the registration form.

Next week additional contingency plans will be developed and shared when finalized.

This is where we are at this point, April 10th. You know as much as I know. With that knowledge I hope you spend some time contemplating what I have shared and the next steps your elected leaders will be taking over the course of the days and weeks to come. When decisions are made you will know them as soon as possible.

Together we will move forward. Again, I thank you for listening and I sincerely hope you understand the situation better for reading what I’ve written. I also hope that you support the actions already taken on your behalf.

Cathy

Cathy P. Daugherty | International President The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International 416 W. 12th St.
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Guidelines for Chapters That Have Cancelled Meetings

Many of you have found it challenging to do essential chapter business in accordance with our DKG governing documents and your own chapter rules, even though you have had to cancel your chapter meetings. Therefore, at President Cathy Daugherty's request, I offer the following information and some suggestions about how you may abide by all relevant rules and parliamentary procedures in handling your chapter business, especially about how you may enable prospective members to join your chapter, adopt budgets, elect and install new officers.

Some rules in the international, state organization and chapter governing documents may be temporarily null and void.

National, province, state, and local laws; statutes; and orders that have the force of law always have greater authority than the governing documents of any organizations within their respective jurisdictions. Thus, if the mayor orders that there be no meetings of more than five people, that ruling has more authority in your community than the DKG Constitution or any subordinate international, state organization, or local governing documents. If you have a chapter rule that says you will meet at some time while the order is in effect, your chapter rule is null and void for as long as the mayor's order is in effect.

Chapters may meet electronically and do business by mail.

The DKG Constitution gives chapters great leeway in determining how to conduct chapter business. Article IX, Section A.1 says:

“b. All members being notified, chapter meetings may be face-to-face, through electronic communications, or through a combination of the two, as long as members present may simultaneously hear one another and participate during the meeting.

c. A quorum for chapter business shall be determined by the chapter.

d. All members being notified, matters requiring immediate chapter action may be voted upon by mail (postal or electronic) that provides a valid receipt of each responding chapter member's vote. A majority vote of chapter members shall be required for action.

e. Ratification of all voting by mail (postal or electronic) must be made at the next face-to-face meeting of the chapter.”

Note three things: 1) a quorum must be present for electronic meetings, just as for face-to-face meetings; 2) “a majority vote of chapter members” means a majority vote of all chapter members; and 3) these constitutional rules have greater authority than any chapter rules that may be more restrictive.

Prospective members may join chapters at any time.

“An individual becomes a member of the Society when she pays her dues” (DKG Constitution, Article III, Section A.2). You may simply collect dues from a prospective member at any time and she will immediately become a member, eligible for all DKG benefits such as scholarships, access to DKG publications, etc. The new member(s) may be inducted later at a face-to-face meeting if the chapter wishes, but induction is not mandatory.

Chapters may elect officers without having a face-to-face or electronic meeting.

These guidelines, written here in my own words, are based almost entirely on those that were prepared by Ohio State Organization Parliamentarian Joyce Jones Weinkam. Remember that they are guidelines, not directives. They were written without reviewing each chapter's own rules, and chapters may modify the guidelines to best fit their own chapter circumstances.

In many cases, chapters will not have to take a vote to elect their officers.

If a chapter's rules do not require that a ballot vote be taken, the chapter may follow the procedure given in DKG's parliamentary authority Robert's Rules of Order newly Revised, 11th Edition, which says "If only one person is nominated and the bylaws [in this case, the chapter rules] do not require that a ballot vote be taken, the chair, after ensuring that, in fact no members present (in this case, no chapter members) wish to make further nominations, simply declares that the nominee is elected, thus effecting the election by unanimous consent or "acclamation" [RONR (11th ed.), p. 443, ll.7-12].

To use this procedure, the president or her designee must provide every member with the slate of nominees and state that any member who wishes to nominate an additional candidate for any office should submit the name of the candidate to the president by a certain deadline. If there are no other nominees submitted by the deadline, the president can declare the original nominees elected.

If there is more than one candidate for any office, a vote will be required.

If the chapter rules do not require a secret ballot for elections, the president or her designee may send out a ballot by mail (electronic or postal) with a deadline for when it is to be completed and returned. The president or her designee may count the votes and the president should announce that the winner is elected.

If the chapter rules require a secret ballot for elections, the chapter may follow this process:

- 1) If two or more members are able to meet together, the president should appoint two tellers. The president should mail each member: a paper ballot with instructions on how to fold it, a return envelope addressed to one of the tellers, and a deadline by which the ballot must be returned. The tellers should meet together, open the envelopes, put the folded ballots into a pile or container, shuffle them, and then unfold and count them.
- 2) If no two members (tellers) can meet together, the folded ballots should be returned to the president or her designee. The president or designee should open the envelopes, shuffle the folded ballots, and then unfold and count them.
- 3) The ballot count should be reported to the chapter president, who should announce that the winner is elected.

Further help is available.

If you have questions or concerns about any of the recommendations or if you have other questions that are not addressed here, feel free to contact me at hpopovich@mac.com.

Helen Popovich, Ph.D., PRP, International Parliamentarian

MISSION NEWSLETTER

MODESTO GOSPEL MISSION
MAY 1, 2020

Hello Champions,

Thank you for being so faithful in supporting the Modesto Gospel Mission these past few months as we have stayed open and operating, meeting the needs of those who have no home to shelter in place. In the face of COVID-19 and the Coronavirus pandemic, you have continued to bless this ministry and those we serve with your financial generosity, countless volunteer hours, donated food, and prayers. During these trying times, your steadfast support of the Mission has been a beacon to those we aid – men, women, and children who are the most “at-risk” during this pandemic.

In the last two months, much has changed in our world, and that certainly rings true here at the Mission as well. In March, we identified that there are significant challenges within the homebound senior community in obtaining vital food and household items, and so we developed a new program to help meet that need. Mission staff began delivering weekday “senior care packages” filled with essential items to anyone 60 years of age or older directly to their doorsteps.

This new care package program sparked a radical departure from our status quo. For years, we have focused almost exclusively on meeting the needs of the local homeless population and at-risk youth. However, we felt compelled by the Lord to expand our ministries to meet the needs of our senior neighbors during this pandemic since we had resources to help them. We are thankful for this opportunity to be servant ambassadors for Jesus in a new and different way. Like many of you, this pandemic is giving us the opportunity to contemplate and reflect on how we do things to help the poor and needy in our community.

Since the start of this new service, we have been able to complete 1,113 deliveries by distributing groceries and hygiene products directly to the doorsteps of many of our elderly neighbors in Modesto (and yes, these bags include toilet paper)!



1,113
Bags Delivered



7,791
Meals Served



2,226
Toilet Paper Rolls



“Just last night I prayed to God and told Him that I didn’t know how I was going to get groceries in my house. I have a couple of friends that sometimes take me grocery shopping, but they are not available because they are even older than I am, and they are afraid to leave their homes. I honestly didn’t know what we were going to do, and for the past two nights we simply ate hotdogs and beans.

I was sent a text message telling me what you guys are doing at the Modesto Gospel Mission, bringing food out to everybody over 60, and I was so grateful - that was a God thing. Although 65 is technically the elderly age, the fact that the Mission made it 60 allowed Evie (my roommate) and I to both be eligible and receive help, and we are very grateful. God is so good to answer my prayer that fast.”

-Hope T, Care Package Recipient.