

Eta Mu Musings

NEWS OF ETA MU CHAPTER AREA XVII DKG CA

DKG CA - Crossing Bridges Together!

FEBRUARY-
MARCH 2021

ETA MU, DKG CALIFORNIA

etamucaliforniadkg.org

[Eta Mu's Facebook Page](#)

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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Presidents' Message



Hello Eta Mu sisters,

Well, we survived 2020 and everything it threw at us. Now we have a new year and the reality of the Covid vaccinations to cheer us as we look forward to meeting in person someday soon. In the meantime, our January meeting was on Zoom, and our upcoming February 11th meeting will be via Zoom as well.

At that time, Debbie Mar will do a Virtual Chinese Cooking Demonstration for us, and those who wish can cook along with her from the safety of their own homes!

It will be wonderful if the March Potato Fest can be a meeting where we actually eat the potatoes together in the same room, but if not, your quick-thinking Executive Board will come up with a creative alternative. Stay tuned and stay flexible!

Please keep reaching out to your Eta Mu sisters through calls, texts and cards during the remainder of this tough time. Not even a year-long pandemic can keep us from being a strong support to one another.

Judy Trask and Linda Chrabas, Co-Presidents



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
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ETA MU EVENTS



December Cookie Exchange



Eta Mu members met in December in the backyard of Lynn Lysko to exchange cookies and enjoy some hot chocolate while “social distancing”. Everyone baked enough cookies to take a bag of goodies to members who were unable to attend. One member Valerie Spencer sent a thank you saying that this was a well appreciated treat.



*Celebrate Being
a DKG Woman*



*Happy
Birthday to
You!* 🎂

February ❤️

o No birthday

March 🍀

- o 14 Lynn Lysko
- o 16 Heather Nonaca
- o 17 Anice Beary
- o 26 Valerie Spencer
- o 28 Betty Harrell

MEMBERS' NEWS

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



An In-depth Interview with Charter Member Adele Little

By Debbie Mar, V.P. Membership

Could you tell me about your background experience with ETU MU?

I was elated to be asked to be a charter member of a new chapter of DKG. I still remember the excitement of receiving the invitation. In those days, the invitation process was all very secret. I never knew who recommended me. We received an excellent orientation and had a lovely initiation. During my tenure in the chapter, many Eta Mu members have been friends and colleagues. I am the only current member of the 17 who were initiated in 1968 as charter members.

What were some of the highlights of your teaching career?

I began teaching at age 19 on a provisional credential. In the mid-1950s, there was such a teacher shortage that one could obtain a provisional credential with 60 units of college. I had 90 (junior standing). My future husband Stan also obtained a provisional credential (he had senior standing.) His obtaining a teaching job beginning September 1955 meant we could be married in December 1955. I started teaching fourth grade at Oakley Elementary School in 1956. We both continued college with night classes and three years of 10-week summer school.

The teacher preparation at College of the Pacific (now University of the Pacific) was excellent. We had separate classes for teaching each of the elementary school subjects. I taught fourth grade for six years (in Contra Costa County), fifth grade for one year (Sherwood School) followed by three years of teaching kindergarten (Chrysler School). Going from intermediate grades to kindergarten was a difficult transition, but I consider that by teaching kindergarten, I really learned to teach – breaking down lessons very deliberately step-by-step and giving very clear directions.

In Contra Costa County, Stan and I taught at the same school (Byron Elementary) for four years. We had so much freedom to teach creatively in those days. We were given texts with very good teacher manuals, shown the classroom door, and left to our own devices. The principal and a consultant from the county office would observe twice a year. Although we administered CTBS tests every year to document student progress, there was no pressure regarding test results. Our goal was simply that kids be at or near grade level on the tests.

The unit study method allowed for creativity in correlating subject matter across the curriculum. Active learning, including projects, was encouraged. We were allowed to have activities for the students such as original plays and musicals which Stan wrote, hayrides in the fall, Halloween parties in our home, and field trips to many places. For our fourth-grade study of California history, we enlisted parents to drive students on field trips. Each year, we just piled kids into cars and went to Sonoma (General Vallejo Home), Columbia, Sacramento, and the nearby John Marsh home. Parents were frequently at the school, taking an active role in student activities such as cooking and serving a Mexican lunch when we studied Early California history.

My next teaching venture was teaching reading at Sylvan School where Sheila Efflandt was my teaching partner. She taught reading to Grades 1-3 and I taught reading to Grades 4-6. I was paid by Title I funds so during this time, I learned all about the administration of state and federal programs. This prepared me for six years as Director of State and Federal Programs in the Sylvan District Cooperative which was comprised of Sylvan and two to three other districts over the years.

Beginning in 1975, there was an influx of Vietnamese students who required ESL. During this time, I met Debbie Mar, who was teaching ESL at Coleman F. Brown School. I observed her skillful teaching of foreign students as well as programs she prepared for families. For three years, I developed and implemented summer classes for teachers to help them teach second language students.



After retirement and a three-year stint living aboard our boat, the StanDel, Stan and I began a consulting business which we operated for more than 20 years. During this time, I was able to persuade Martin Petersen that SCOE should have literacy classes for adults. I coordinated the StanRead Program for 15 years. Here again, I had Eta Mu members as colleagues. Sheila Efflandt, Betty Mulnix, Jean Hannah, Virginia Irons, Karen Moore, and Mary Lou Dieterich were all teachers in the StanRead Program.

What were your greatest challenges?

Writing grant proposals was a big part of our consulting business. It was challenging to convince clients that they needed to be involved in a team effort to develop the most effective grant proposal. Deadlines were always looming and oftentimes required marathon sessions including a few all-nighters. We were gratified to be able to bring in 24 million dollars of grants to school districts, government agencies, and non-profit organizations in Stanislaus, San Joaquin, and Mariposa Counties.

Another consulting task which was challenging was preparing high school staffs for Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) accreditation visits. They had to be convinced that they had an important role to play in the process. This required many meetings and discussions to form the basis of the written reports.

Upcoming Events

Look for Evites for locations and RSVP online

Chapter Events

February 11

 Chinese New Year's Cooking Demonstration via Zoom

 March 16

Potato Fest and Bunco TB2/2/21

Future events will be scheduled according to Covid-19 restrictions.

What best advice would you give to a young teacher entering the educational field?

- Find a good mentor.
- Learn about successful classroom management.
- Generate student interest by making your lessons exciting and fun.
- Have lots of projects and hands-on activities for memorable learning.
- Connect classroom learning to real life experiences.
- Don't hesitate to talk to parents on a regular basis regarding their child's progress or lack thereof.
- Don't let kids get behind. Intervene!

MEMBER TO MEMBERS



☺ Member Pat Elston would like to thank her Eta Mu sisters for reaching out and sharing their condolences and for the cards, meals, and visits after her husband passed away. She is grateful for the support, prayers, and thoughts from her "sisters" during this difficult time.

☺ Janice Freeman says see what is going on with Modesto Gospel Mission, a community organization that Eta Mu Supports. Follow this [link](#) for the latest Gospel Mission news. Our official donation dates are September, January, and June. We will be collecting donations for MGM at our next meeting or you can mail your check to Janice. Donations are credited to Eta Mu, but you will receive a receipt for personal tax deductions.

☺ Don't forget to check out Love Modesto scheduled for April 24. Think of a way that Eta Mu could volunteer.

☺ Charter member Nancy "Boots" Lee passed away on December 27, 2020. She taught in Modesto City and Empire Schools. She was active in the community and will be missed. Her generosity and her kindness will live on as her legacy.

NEWS ABOUT UPCOMING EVENTS

February 11

 *Chinese New Year's Cooking
Demonstration via Zoom*



Even though pandemic restrictions are keeping us from gathering together indoors, we continue to find ways to keep our Calendar of Events going. Please join us on Thursday, February 11th at 6:00 p.m. as Eta Mu member Debbie Mar presents a Virtual Chinese Cooking Demonstration. Interested members can pre-purchase the ingredients from the recipes Debbie is providing and then cook along with Debbie during the Zoom meeting. Those not wishing to cook can sit back and enjoy the cooking demonstration. They just won't get to enjoy the results.

Any members who need help setting up Zoom on their phone, tablet, or computer are encouraged to contact Lynn Lysko. Lynn has offered to be the tech support needed to get connected. Eta Mu wants all members to have the opportunity to take part in our virtual gatherings.

Here are the ingredients you will need to have to cook along with Debbie:

Grocery items needed :

- 1 lb. of shrimp, chicken breast, pork tenderloin, or top sirloin
- 1 pkg . dry noodles (soba or chow mein noodles)
- 1/2 lb. each of broccoli, zucchini, green beans, or other green vegetable
- 1 pkg. mushrooms
- 1/4 can water chestnuts, opt.

Seasonings:

- Soy sauce, light and dark
- Oyster sauce
- Sesame oil
- Rice Vinegar
- Garlic salt
- Fresh shallot (opt)
- Ginger powder
- Fresh garlic
- Chili flakes
- Fresh lemon
- Cornstarch or Rice flour

For the complete recipe with directions go to the Google Doc, [Debbie's Noodle Recipe](#), by clicking on this link.



Eta Mu Librarian's Corner

Ideas for books you might like to read- by Deb Dooley, member and retired Librarian/Teacher

So, we all have been reading more due to being Covid quarantine and staying home. I am hoping to give you some ideas for good reads. I'm going to start with some Historical Reads. Other reviews will feature, Fluff Reading, Romance, Mystery, and Other Good Reads. If you want to recommend a book just email me the title, author, and why you liked it. debdooley@sbcglobal.net

Historical Reads

Through Streets Broad and Narrow by Gemma Jackson

Ivy Rose Murphy awakes to find her world changed forever. Her irresponsible Da is dead. She is grief-stricken and alone – but for the first time in her life free to please herself.

After her mother deserted the family, Ivy became the sole provider for her Da and three brothers. Pushing a pram around the well-to-do areas of Dublin every day, she begged for the discards of the wealthy which she then turned into items she could sell around Dublin's markets.

As she visits the morgue to pay her respects to her Da, a chance meeting introduces Ivy to a new world of money and privilege, her mother's world. Ivy is suddenly a woman on a mission to improve herself and her lot in life.

Through Streets Broad and Narrow is a story of strength and determination in the unrelenting world that was Dublin tenement life. -Amazon

Deb's review- I really enjoyed watching Ivy Rose bloom as she figures out who she is and what she wants now that she is free from her demanding family. This is set in the tenements of Dublin. It also is a series, there are four books. So, if you like Ivy Rose there is more about her.

Temple Secrets and Gullah Secrets -Susan Gabriel

Every family has secrets, but the elite Temple family of Savannah has more than most. To maintain their influence, they've also been documenting the indiscretions of other prestigious southern families, dating as far back as the Civil War. When someone begins leaking these tantalizing tidbits to the newspaper, the entire city of Savannah, Georgia is rocking with secrets.

The current keeper of the secrets and matriarch of the Temple clan is Iris, a woman of unpredictable gastrointestinal illnesses and an extra streak of meanness that even the ghosts in the Temple mansion avoid. When Iris unexpectedly dies, the consequences are far-flung and significant, not only to her family—who get in line to inherit the historic family mansion—but to Savannah itself. At the heart of the story is Old Sally, an expert in Gullah folk magic, who some suspect cast a voodoo curse on Iris. At 100 years of age, Old Sally keeps a wise eye over the whole boisterous business of secrets and the settling of Iris's estate.

In the Temple family, nothing is as it seems, and everyone has a secret. - Good Reads

Deb's Review - I was intrigued by the characters in these books. The inner workings of a wealthy prestigious family and their secrets were interesting. I liked watching the secrets revealed and the growth of the characters. Ok, I also liked the ghost.



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Happy Reading, Deb

Thoughts and Information about the Covid Vaccinations

By Janice Freeman

Have you gotten your CoVid vaccination yet? If you are over 65 and live in Stanislaus County, you should consider yourself lucky! The minute Governor Newsom announced his mandate to open vaccinations up to anyone over 65, Stanislaus County was one of the few that actually carried out this mandate expeditiously, beginning to vaccinate residents over 65 the very next day. Both Tom and I went down to the Public Health Clinic on Scenic on January 14th. When we got into line, we were handed a brief form to fill out which we carried with us until we were checked in. (See below for a the link to a copy of the form, which you can print out and complete ahead of time to take with you). We were required to show our driver's license to confirm our residency, and we received a card that specified the type and batch of the vaccine we were receiving and the date for our second dose. After we received the injection, we had to wait in an observation room for 15 minutes, just in case there was an adverse reaction. The whole process took about 90 minutes. Other than a sore arm for a couple days, I had no side effects, and Tom experienced none at all.

Since then, the vaccination clinic has moved to Centre Plaza downtown, and several others have been set up around the county. The link here will take you straight to the County's website for its most current vaccination clinic schedules, or you can call (209) 558-7535. As you can see in the one I've included, certain days are reserved for either first or second doses, and there are also "open" days for people to receive either first or second doses. All these sites are on a "first come" walk-in basis.

There are also several other options that may be available to you. I understand that patients of Sutter Gould and Kaiser are receiving vaccinations at their sites. If you are under the care of a doctor at either of these, call to see how they are handling dispensing the vaccination to their patients. Currently, SaveMart pharmacies are also vaccinating people 65 and older, as well as Tier One health care workers and essential personnel. However, you do need an appointment.

[Vaccine Information - Coronavirus - HSA - Stanislaus County \(schsa.org\)](https://schsa.org)





LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Greetings Sisters! Here are a few Legislative Updates (“Nonaca’s News!”) that I’d like to share with you:

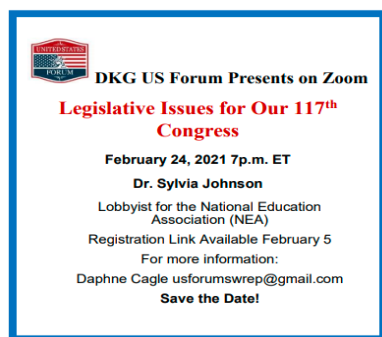
DKG CA, Educational Law and Policy News:

1. May Convention Legislative Sessions: Two Interest sessions will be offered. One will be an annual CA legislative update from our legislative advocate, Martha Zaragoza-Diaz, and another will relate to advocacy and actions to be taken on state and federal issues.

2. Legislative Study Session: June 22-24, 2021, Sacramento, CA: Gives members the opportunity to learn about the legislative process, become informed of educational issues addressed in current legislation, and visit with their legislators. There is a registration scholarship available: Application must be submitted by April 15, 2021.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe4EwayybJog53cFuQT5bNVEGMWUmj_BksYTDJrrSkmWZ6mew/viewform

DKG U.S. Forum Connection



1. January 2021 issue of the DKG Forum is now available! I emailed everyone a copy on 1/22/2021. If you did not receive it, please contact me. The purpose of the United States Forum is to identify major issues affecting women, children, and education upon which the United States members may take action.

Federal News:

1. A Teacher in the White House: First Lady Jill Biden has a background as an English teacher at the high school/community college level + 2 master’s degrees (in education and English) and a doctorate in education. She is currently teaching at Northern Virginia Community College. She held a virtual event on January 21st to honor teachers, meeting with teacher’s union presidents of the American Federation of Teachers and the National Education Association.

2. President Biden selects Miguel Cardona for Education Secretary: Mr. Cardona has a master’s degree in bilingual/bicultural education and a doctorate in education. He has a background as an elementary school teacher, principal, and most recently, the Commissioner of Education of Connecticut

3. January 21, 2021: President Biden signs “Executive Order on Supporting the Reopening and Continuing Operation of Schools and Early Childhood Education Providers.” President Biden previously announced that his administration will aim to help a majority of kindergarten-to-eighth-grade schools reopen within his first 100 days in office.

Stay Well Sisters!

Heather Nonaca



Area XVII Legislative Chair
Bill Evaluator

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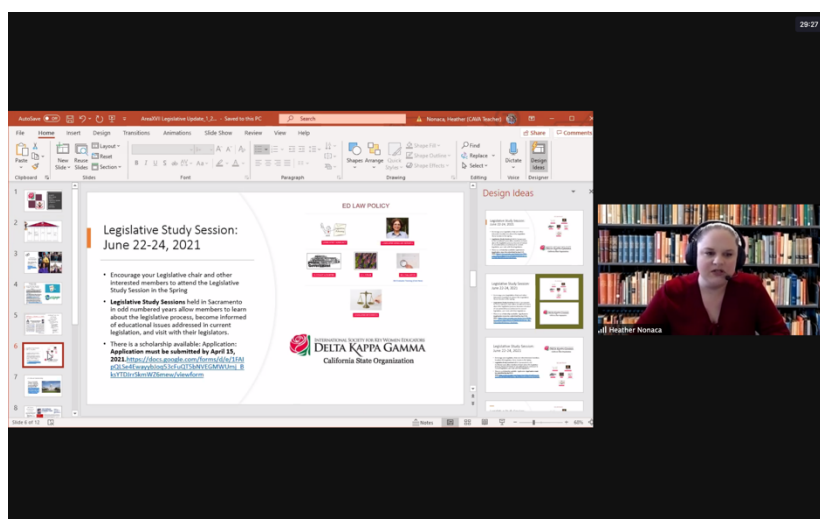
“One child, one teacher, one book and one pen, can change the world.” -Malala Yousafzai

AREA XVII NEWS

Area XVII held its winter meeting on January 23, via Zoom. Members discussed upcoming deadlines for awards and scholarships. Please check the Member resources on page 10 of this newsletter for links to the applications. DKG California has opportunities for members pursuing Master's and Doctorate degrees. There are also awards for outstanding student teachers or interns. Other Awards are Area Service Awards and Chapter Awards. Members of each chapter may submit nominations for these awards. A one-time award, the Dr. Salwa Zaki Scholarship 2021 is being offered by the DKG CA Leadership Development Committee. The applicant must be an outstanding female educator of color who is committed to Equity, Social Justice, and developing her leadership skills. This Scholarship is open to members and non-members. The [application](#) is available online.



Area Legislative Chair, Heather Nonaca gave an informative presentation about the DKG Legislative update and invited members to join the Zoom program, **Legislative Issues for Our 117th Congress**, on February 24, with Dr. Sylvia Johnson. The link to register for the event will be available on February 5, on Facebook @DKG.US.forum. Heather also shared ideas for chapter legislative chairs and urged all to subscribe to the DKG publication, the *US Forum Connection*. She announced that the Legislative Study Session for DKG California will be held June 22-24, 2021. The application for the [Legislative Study Session Award](#) to cover the cost of registration is due April 15.



Other topics of discussion included the upcoming DKG 2021 Convention, *Embracing the Journey*, planned for the LA Airport Marriott Hotel April 30-May 2. If circumstances cause this in-person event to be cancelled there will be a virtual conference. The committee also discussed some options for the Fall 2021 Area Event. Members will meet in March to begin planning for a conference.

Visit DKG
Websites

dkgca.org

dkg.org



MEMBER RESOURCES

DKG California Scholarships and Awards

The Spring deadline is coming up for DKG California Scholarships and Awards. DKG CA offers active members (initiated at least 2 years prior to June 1 or December 31 of the year of application) a Ph.D./Ed.D. Scholarship (\$4,000) or a Master's Degree Scholarship (\$2,000). For more information and the Google application form go to the [DKG California Scholarship](#) information page. Google forms must be submitted before June 1.

Outstanding Student Teacher/Intern Awards

If you know an outstanding Student Teacher or Intern be sure to submit her name to our Area Director Carol Vieira by March 1. One student teacher or intern in each area of DKG California will be awarded \$150 and recognized at the DKG CA Convention 2021. Send Carol a message at dkgcaad17@gmail.com and complete the [Google Nomination Form](#) for Area XVII.



Love Modesto
Coming April 24

LoveModesto.com for information on how you can participate.