

April Rosette 2017



Alpha Omega Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma Meeting/February 8, 2017/ Minutes

Present: Marilyn Baker-Madsen, Barbara Bishr, Annette De Julio, Susan Fujii, Jeanne Lycett, Donna Goldenstein, Jean Groth, Linda Henika, Susan Levy, Nonnie Moore, Nancy Wales, Virginia Williamson.

Presentation. Following social time and dinner at the Crow Canyon Country Club and the Zeta Zeta Chapter business meeting (agenda follows), Christine Clemens and Darla Tuning, new members of Zeta Zeta and instructors at the Conservatory, spoke about the history of music education and the programs and missions of the Conservatory of Vocal and Instrumental Arts (COVA) with two campuses, one for elementary and middle school and one for high school (COVAH) in Oakland.

Next Meeting: March 2017 is Alpha Omega Chapter Virtual Meeting.

Meeting Dates: April 25, May 17.

Respectfully Submitted,
Marilyn Baker-Madsen
Recording Secretary

BUILDING YOUR VOICE WITH DKG is the theme for California State 2015-17

AGENDA – February 8, 2017

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA ZETA ZETA CHAPTER

6:30 Business Meeting
Call to order and welcome

Attendance – members and guests (Welcome Alpha Omega Chapter)
Approval of minutes – January 12, 2017

SOCIETY BUSINESS

Treasurer’s report – budget and dues collection
Communication and Marketing
Membership
Newsletter
Website and Directory
Correspondence

SOCIETY MISSION AND PURPOSES

Educational Excellence – Programs for the Year Update
Educational Law/Policy

PROGRAM OF WORK

Two Bucks a Book
Backpacks
Professional Library
Shepherd’s Gate
T.H.A.T. Hours
Hospitality and Opportunity Drawing
Opportunity to Volunteer



April Treasurer's Report



Beginning Balance, March 1	\$4773.78
Expenditures	0.00
Receipts, Virtual Meeting	430.00
Ending Balance, April 8, 2017	\$5203.78

Respectfully submitted,
Nonnie Moore



The Treasury Needs YOUR Help!

Alexander Hamilton would write a very eloquent plea here, but I shall merely state the case.

- ❖ In January we voted to allocate the proceeds from the Virtual Meeting to a \$1000 scholarship in the Hayward Public Library's the Career Online High School Program.
- ❖ We have 41 Alpha Omega members. If each were to donate their \$25, we would raise \$1025.
- ❖ To date, the Treasurer has received \$455.
- ❖ If we are to be able to honor our other scholarships of \$1000 (new teacher) and 3x\$300 (classroom teachers), we will need 100% participation for the Virtual Meeting!

You have two options to donate:

1. Bring your donation to the April 25 meeting.
2. For the 20 or so members who do not attend the meetings, please immediately send your check for \$25 to:
Nonnie Moore
3309 Streamside Circle #303
Pleasanton, CA 94588

Thank you!





Legislative News

By Sandy Daley

It is the time of the year when every school is writing their SPSA plan and finalizing their budget for next year. Any residual money for the year has to be spent by March 15th, which can be a challenge to spend those funds strategically. As most of you know, a school's new budget begins July 1st. However, the state has to present its budget at the beginning of the new fiscal year. In January, Governor Brown presented the first draft of the budget for 2017-18. Late last year, he announced a deficit of 1.5 billion, due to an accounting error. The good news is that of the \$177.1 billion budget proposed for 2017-2018, he has increased the education budget for public schools and community colleges to \$73.5 billion. That amount is up (\$2.1 billion) from last year's \$71.4 billion and nearly double the 2011-2012 low of \$47.3 billion. Of course with our new administration on the federal level, things could change. Other important aspects of the budget include:

- ❖ LCAP (Local Control) increases (\$744 million over last year) for those high-risk students: socio-economic, EL's and foster youth.
- ❖ An increase of \$300 in per pupil spending to \$10, 900.
- ❖ The continuation of the quarter cent sales tax increase from 2012's Prop 30. Remember, 2012 was the year with the lowest educational funding. Prop. 30 also taxed the wealthiest Californians, which will continue for 12 more years with the passage of Prop. 55 in November of 2016.

In addition to the above budget, Governor Brown has proposed a \$14.6 billion for the higher education budget. This is an increase of anywhere from 2.5%-5.3% for the Cal State and University systems. Community colleges receive \$121 million.

Many in California feel that higher education for the UC, CSU, and Community colleges should be free for California students. Many Faculty members want to restore the Master Plan For Higher Education, which was developed in 1960. The Plan reclaims spaces for in-state students, re-emphasizes the public service mission, and makes a financial commitment through an annual income tax surcharge called the \$48 fix. Median-income families pay \$48 per year, 2/3's of the families pay less than \$150, and the upper income earners (top 5%) pay \$7,100. By 2016, the State was spending 39% less per student than it had 15 years before. Less money impacts students, the classes they can take and the number of years it takes them to go through the system.

CTA is urging members to contact any member of the Assembly Education Committee and ask them to vote YES on Transparency Bill 1478 on Wednesday April 5th. This bill, crafted by Reginald Jones-Sawyer of Los Angeles, would require charter schools' governing boards to follow the existing transparency and accountability laws already in place when operating taxpayer-funded schools. You can contact them via Twitter or phone. Our closest contacts are:

Kevin McCarty (Sacramento) 916-319-2007
@AsmKevinMcCarty

Tony Thurmond (Richmond) 916-319-2015 @TonyThurmond



APRIL MEETING:

We will be meeting at China Bistro on April 25th. Check in between 5:00-5:30 pm.
Cost: \$25.

Click on the [RSVP](#) link below to reserve your dinner.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfVqec-FgXZt7u6RAW5Cs2wRx2DsBXInKPQM4voY2Oie5BTg/viewform>



Book Notes

By Marilyn Baker-Madsen



I first became acquainted with bestselling author, Kate Morton, last March when I read the Advanced Copy of her latest book, The Lake House. I was on vacation in a little cabin in Point Arena when torrential rains held me captive in the cabin for two days! I curled up on the sofa in front of the fire and lost myself in this beautifully written, mysterious, multigenerational saga of the Edevane family. The family suffers a tragic loss at their county house, *Loanneth*, in Cornwall in 1933. The loss is so great that the family abandons *Loanneth* forever.

Seventy years later, after being forced to take a break from her duties when she became personally involved in a particularly difficult case, Sadie Sparrow, a Detective with the Metropolitan Police in London, stumbles on the abandoned house where she is staying with her grandfather in Cornwall. Her detective's background leads her to discover the story of the Edevan's baby boy who disappeared without a trace.

Alice Edevane, the older sister of the missing boy is now an older lady who has become a bestselling author of detective novels. She is drawn back into the family secrets she has worked so hard to escape by the tenacious Sadie Sparrow who is trying to solve not only this mystery, but the one in London that resulted in her forced leave of absence. The astonishing conclusion of this gripping novel caught the reader by surprise!

I found this book such an engrossing read that I got copies of two other books by Kate Morton, The House at Riverton and The Forgotten Garden. Both of these novels are also beautifully written and satisfying reads with tantalizing secrets and drama. *The House at Riverton* was Kate Morton's debut novel about the Hartford

family's daughters, Hannah and Emmeline, and their lady's maid, Grace Bradley. In 1924, during a society party at the house at Riverton, a young poet shoots himself. Hannah and Emmeline were the only witnesses, and only the girls and Grace knew the terrible truth.

Many years later, Grace is living in a nursing home when she is approached by a director who is making a film about the events in the summer of 1924. Grace's memories of the time and aristocratic privilege are reawakened as is the stunning secret that she had been keeping all of her life.

The Forgotten Garden is another page turning novel of family intrigue and generational secrets. In 1913 a small girl is abandoned on a ship headed for Australia. She is raised, as their own, by the dockmaster and his wife. When Nell turns 21, they tell her the truth and she begins to search for her real identity. Nell finds clues that lead her to Blackhurst Manor on the Cornish coast and the secrets of the Mountrachet family. However, Nell is not able to bring all of the pieces of the puzzle together before her death. Her granddaughter, Cassandra, takes up the search and eventually unravels the mystery.

Other books by Kate Morton that I have not read are The Distant Hours and The Secret Keeper.

