

DKG-Alpha Omega Rosette

January 2021



President's Message

Susan Fujii
Area III Director, DKG California
President, Alpha Omega Chapter

Dear Ladies of Alpha Omega,

A new year – 2021 – and hopefully, a beginning of good things to come! One very good thing that I am excited to announce is that Alpha Omega is one of seven chapters in Area III recognized with Honor Certificates of Excellence for outstanding achievement as a Five Star Honor Chapter! What a great start to the new year!

I hope all of you and your families were able to celebrate the holidays in December in a safe and joyful way. Our Chapter had a “Virtual Holiday Party” which many of us attended. It was such a meaningful meeting where members shared activities they have been enjoying during this very unusual time in our history. Our active classroom teachers shared their experiences teaching in a virtual classroom and the many challenges they have had to overcome to reach out to their students. Toni Schlobohm shared how she is visiting each of her students once monthly to add a personal touch to uplift her students. She even spoke of tutoring certain students while keeping within the distancing guidelines. Linda Henika shared that she made a leap to create her first ever piecrust! Such a moving story of having the time, while home, to focus on new beginnings!

Evelyn LaTorre shared her presentation of a book talk in an outdoor setting with distancing and masks. Susan Levy shared that, even with the restrictions she has been experiencing, she still has been able to keep in touch with the classroom teachers with whom she has worked. Donna Goldenstein was able to share her beautiful Christmas tree which was camera ready positioned behind her in our meeting. Janie Dobbs shared that she and her family were able to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday beside the ocean in Cambria, where they have a second home. Nancy Wales shared the many activities of her daughter, son-in-law, and grandson who are currently sharing their household. She stated that this special one-on-one time with her grandson is quite special and he is enjoying every minute spent with his grandparents and family! Barbara Bishr shared that both her daughters are facing challenges during this pandemic. One daughter has been teaching virtually, while the other daughter, serving as a nurse at Presbyterian Medical Center in San Francisco, has shown great bravery in treating those patients affected by the virus.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 27, via Zoom, at 4:00 pm. Our speaker will be Dr. Kathleen Kinley, Chair of the DKG California Educational Law and Policy Committee, who will present new California legislation that will affect education. Please remember to review this January issue of *The Rosette* to see the Minutes and Treasurer's report. We look forward to “seeing you” on the 27th!

Sincerely,
Susan





Alpha Omega Members' Corner

Virginia Williamson

Celebrating Nancy Hansen's 55 Years!



Nancy Hansen is a reserve member of Alpha Omega, DKG California, who is celebrating a 55 year anniversary with DKG this year!! She joined DKG in 1966 while working at the HUSD Office in Hayward. Her friend and coworker, Esther Coleman, was already a member and encouraged Nancy to join our chapter. She has great memories of her membership and has made many lasting friendships among the teachers in our society.

Nancy provided some information regarding her teaching career spanning 35 years before her retirement some 30 years ago. Her teaching career included teaching grades three, four, and five at Gansberger, Schaefer Park, Glassbrook, and East Avenue Elementary Schools. Nancy then went on to serve as a vice-principal. Post retirement, Nancy provided GATE testing at the Hayward District Office for some ten years. Nancy mentioned that she is a close friend of Cathy Crossman, a first grade teacher, who recently retired from Stonebrae Elementary. She shared that Cathy's mother and she were great friends. Cathy, along with her mother, were members of DKG, with Cathy's mother taking a leadership role in our chapter many years ago. Nancy also mentioned that she and Cathy student-taught together and enjoyed their teaching experience.

Nancy relocated to Lodi from the beautiful community of Escalon some years ago. She treasures the teaching experiences she had in Escalon, as well as those she had in Hayward. In fact, she offered that she still remains in contact with many of the students she taught over the years, as well as their families. Quite a legacy Nancy! Congratulations! We are so proud to celebrate this very special anniversary!

Susan Fujii



Alpha Omega Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma



MEETING MINUTES

Linda Henika, Recording Secretary

November 18, 2020

The meeting was called to order by Susan Fujii, President, at 4:08 pm.

Present: Susan Fujii, Janie Dobbs, Donna Goldenstein, Linda Henika, Virginia Williamson, Susan Levy, Evelyn LaTorre, Bonnie Hansen, Nancy Wales, Nancy Wolf, Jeanne Lycett, Donna Morris, Jen Gonsalves, Marilyn Baker-Madsen

GUESTS: Yvette Franklin, retired HUSD teacher and author; Daphne Cagle, DKG CA membership committee

WELCOME: Susan welcomed our guests and gave us a preview to Evelyn's presentation.

BUSINESS:

- A. Approval of Minutes – October 28 , 2020
Evelyn LaTorre **Moved**, Donna Goldenstein **Seconded**. **PASSED with 1 abstention**
- B. Approval of Treasurer's Report – November 2020
Bonnie Hansen **Moved**, Marilyn Baker-Madsen **Seconded**. **PASSED**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Scholarship Committee – Linda Henika
Linda thanked Marilyn Baker-Madsen for reaching out to the Communications director for HUSD who is sending the scholarship information out to all teachers, and Janie Dobbs for including the information in the Rosette for all our members. Reminder, these are open to all teachers, female and male, new and veteran.
- B. Correspondence – Bonnie Hansen
Bonnie read a letter from Gloria Gaylord who thanked us all for our concern. She also sent some pictures that Bonnie will share in another email.

PRESENTATION: Evelyn LaTorre, author of "Between Inca Walls".

Evelyn shared with us her inspiration for the book, and how her experiences in Montana, California, Mexico and Peru shaped the book she started writing as a way to share her life with her family. She reminded us of the importance of Journaling and encouraged everyone to do so. Plus, she shared with us her journey into publishing her book and now writing the sequel. She graciously answered many questions from members at the end of her presentation.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 pm.



Next Chapter Meeting

January 27, 2021
4 pm

Our next meeting will also be via Zoom. The Meeting ID # and the link will always be the same for each of our meetings. You only need to register once for these meetings at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/tZUlfumpqT8rG9yLci13BOy5Gykxt4rd7u5g>
After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

If you attended the last meeting, there is no need to re-register. You can log-on in one of two ways:

- Click on this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81890174118>
- Or go to zoom.us, click on “Join a Meeting”, Enter Meeting ID: 81890174118

Zoom should also send you a reminder before the meeting. See you there!



Treasurer's Report

January 10, 2021
By Nonnie Moore

Beginning Balance November 1, 2020		\$3627.72
Expenditures		
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	\$0	
Receipts		
<i>Total Receipts</i>	\$0	
Ending Balance 1/10/21		\$3627.72
Respectfully submitted, Nonnie Moore		

Current members = 25 Active, 7 Reserve





Book Notes

Submitted by Janie Dobbs

All the Devils are Here (#16 in the Inspector Gamache Series) by Louise Penny, is set in Paris. The death of Armand Gamache's godfather is made to look like an accident, but Gamache and his family suspect it is a deliberate murder. Soon the entire family is involved with searching for the truth, unraveling a web of lies and deceit, and facing danger from many directions.

The Silent Patient by Alex Michaelides is a psychological thriller of a woman's act of violence against her husband—and of the therapist obsessed with uncovering her motive.

Girl in Translation by Jean Kwok is a story about a young girl and her mother who emigrate to Brooklyn from Hong Kong and struggle to make a life in America. They work in Aunt Paula's factory and live in a very substandard abandoned building in Brooklyn. Kimberly has a secret double life: exceptional schoolgirl during the day, Chinatown sweatshop worker in the evenings. It is a moving tale of hardship and triumph, heartbreak and love.

Please share the books you are reading with our group. Submit your book recommendation with a short synopsis to Janie Dobbs janie.dobbs1@gmail.com or Barbara Bishr bbishr@gmail.com



Did You Know?



February is Our Virtual Meeting Month

Years ago, Alpha Omega voted to designate February as Virtual Meeting Month. Members stay at home and send their checks for the dinner (\$25) to the Treasurer to bolster our Scholarship Fund. If all members donate, we would collect \$800. Obviously this year we're virtual every month. Our Scholarship Committee has chosen 5 teachers to receive the \$2500 that is currently in our fund. This may be our only chance to rebuild the fund as we have no fundraisers planned.

So... please send your check for \$25.00 to Nonnie Moore, 3309 Streamside Circle #303, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

Our colleagues on the frontlines will thank us!



2020 DKG Grants

Judith N. Okolie, \$500, Tennyson HS
Coding and Computing with Micro Bits

I am interested in teaching my sophomore students how to code during distance learning. I will introduce them to Scratch, which is a free web platform where students learn block coding. They can code interactive games, apps and interactive cards. I would like students to learn how to program the microbit, a small microcomputer to use as a controller for their games.

Amy Lindahl, \$260, Stonebrae
Design your volcano science experiment

Students will design and create their own volcano using a recycled bottle and modeling clay. We will review the science of volcanoes, look at volcanoes in the US. Then students will use the modeling clay and a recycled water bottle to design their own volcano. Once the volcano shapes are finished we will do a live science experiment on zoom with baking soda and vinegar. Students will discuss their results and observations.

Robert Alfaro, \$473.94, Music Teacher at various schools
Trumpet Mutes for Trumpet Students

Many of my trumpet students live in attached housing or dense neighborhoods. Having a mute would enable them to practice without disturbing their families and their neighbors. They not only cut down the total decibel output, but also keeps their sound from penetrating walls and doors.

Brittany Akemon, \$471, Palma Ceia
Books for Book Clubs and Shared Reading

My students have been learning 100% virtually this school year and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future. While their screen time has been increased during this time, I want them still to experience the joy of reading an actual book. I still meet with my students in small groups virtually, where we read books that are at their reading level and have deeper conversations than whole group lessons allow. Since my students only pick up supplies every month or so, having chapter books available to them prolongs our reading together. This project is to purchase sets of chapter books that are at their reading level so that we can continue this valuable learning during these unprecedented times. I am asking for several small sets of books, as well as one class set of books. We are currently reading "The Wild Robot" so I would love it if my students could continue the series as a class.

2020DKG Grant Recipients, continued:

Pia Duong, \$500, Bowman

Noise Cancelling Headphones for two classrooms to Help Students with Distance Learning

The nature of this project is to help facilitate an educational environment that is conducive to achieving learning objectives. The benefits are increased focus, reduced distractions, greater participation, and an overall better learning experience in all environments.



Barbara Bishr has brought this action to our attention. If you agree that it does not make sense to continue with Standardized testing during COVID-19, please sign this petition. [Stop Standardized Testing During COVID-19 Pandemic](#)



Celebrations

Happy Birthday to our Alpha Omega Sisters! Wishing you happiness on your special day and always.

JANUARY

6 Nancy Wolf
9 Janie Dobbs
21 Jennifer Gonsalves

FEBRUARY

17 Deanna Stemm
19 Bonnie Hansen
22 Susan Levy
25 Ardelle Ward

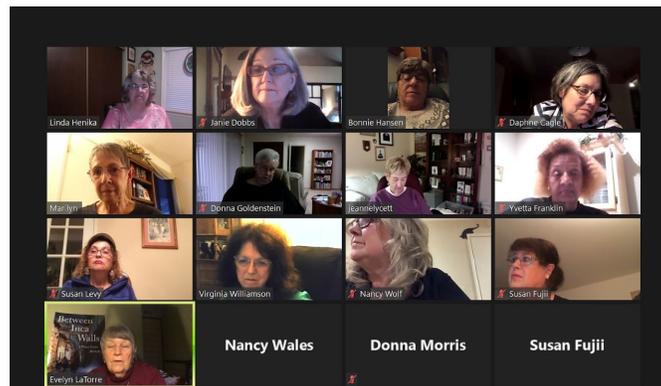


Alpha Omega Chapter Calendar 2020 - 2021

Wednesday, Sept 23	Chapter Meeting on Zoom	4:00 *
Wednesday, Oct 28	Chapter Meeting on Zoom	4:00 *
Wednesday, Nov 18	Chapter Meeting on Zoom	4:00 *
Wednesday, Dec 9	Tentative Holiday Party	4:00 *
Wednesday, Jan 27	Chapter Meeting on Zoom	4:00 *
February	Virtual Meeting	4:00 *
Wednesday, March 24	Chapter Meeting on Zoom	4:00 *
Wednesday, April 28	Chapter Meeting on Zoom	4:00 *
Wednesday, May 26	Chapter Meeting on Zoom	4:00 *



DKG Alpha Omega Highlights November 2020



November 18th meeting