

# DKG-Alpha Omega January Rosette 2020



## President's Message

*Susan Fujii*

Dear Ladies of Alpha Omega,

Happy New Year to all of you! I hope you enjoyed treasured time spent with family and friends over the holidays. It's always a special time to reflect on life experiences and events of the past year, as well as hopes and dreams for the coming year.

As an Area Director of DKG California, I just had the opportunity to attend our winter leadership conference in Sacramento, along with our Area III Leadership Team, and many Area Directors and Leaders in our great State of California. It was truly inspirational and exciting to see all that is being accomplished by DKG California, as we listened to reports from the various committees throughout the state and were brought up-to-date on past activities, as well as those yet to be realized.

The Area Directors spent time choosing a task for the upcoming state convention in May. I volunteered for the Display table and my group will be creating an electronic presentation which will showcase key work DKG California has been doing. In addition to the electronic presentation, our ambitious group intends to have a visual display of characteristics our leaders aspire to and exhibit. We hope that many of our chapters and members are able to attend this event. I will provide more information for you as the time draws near.

The CALICO Blanket Sewing Party at Janie Dobbs' home was a success! Members were able to create and sew over 20 blankets to donate to CALICO, in addition to collecting donations of toiletry items, journals, and Scholastic books. A gigantic "thank you" to all members who contributed to this very important event. A very special "thank you" to Donna Goldenstein and Janie Dobbs.

Another gigantic "thank you" is in order for Helen Condos for hosting our Holiday Party! Helen not only offered her lovely home for the venue, but also arranged for the delicious refreshments and dinner for the occasion. Everyone enjoyed the opportunity to relax and enjoy the holiday spirit with delicious food and conversation! Thank you, Helen!

An upcoming date to keep in mind is **Monday, January 20, which is the Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Event, which will be held at Chabot College, 25555 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward beginning at 4:30 p.m.** This is such an important event, and we hope that many members are able to attend. We are fortunate to have Marilyn Baker-Madsen, Virginia Williamson, and Bonnie Hansen who have been instrumental in planning this event. Our DKG Chapter is now becoming a recognized part of this annual community event. A big "thank you" to Marilyn, Virginia, and Bonnie for all their efforts. We hope to see many of you there to celebrate with us! If possible, please email or text the undersigned if you plan on attending. We will save you a seat in our DKG section of the hall. Spouses, family and/or friends are welcome!

The January meeting is on **Wednesday, January 29, 2020**, at the China Bistro. Our speaker will be Freddy Davis, President of the Hayward-South County Chapter of NAACP. Freddy will share with us her

journey to being a woman making a difference. Our schedule will be Registration at 5:00 p.m., Dinner at 5:30 p.m., Meeting at 6:30 p.m., and Program at 7:00 p.m.

Looking forward to seeing you! Susan



## MEETING MINUTES

### Alpha Omega Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma

November 20, 2019

*Marilyn Baker-Madsen, Recording Secretary*

**Present:** Marilyn Baker-Madsen, Barbara Bishr, Janie Dobbs, Susan Fujii, Elisabeth Gieger, Donna Goldenstein, Jennifer Gonsalves, Bonnie Hansen, Linda Henika, Jeanne Lycett, Nonnie Moore, Nancy Wales, Virginia Williamson

**Guests:** Monica Blakely, Donna Edwards-White, Ghislaine Gery, Andrea Richards, Irlanda Santiago, Sunny Sprugasci

**Welcome Members and Guests:** President Susan Fujii welcomed members and guests. She invited Linda Henika to present Alpha Omega Grants. Linda acknowledged the good work of her fellow committee members, Donna Goldenstein, Jeanne Lycett, Donna Morris and Marsha Riley. Linda introduced Andrea Richards, from Lorin Eden who has been teaching for 24 years. Her \$500 grant will provide 8 Kore Wobble Chairs to be used in two 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms which would provide flexible seating options for students that allow for subtle body movements. Donna Edwards-White of Mt. Eden who has been teaching for 10 years was introduced. Her \$425 grant will provide an opportunity for students to investigate and discover anatomy through observation and manipulation of chicken wings and sheep hearts. Sunny Sprugasci of Stonebrea who has been teaching for 20 years was introduced. Her \$474 grant will provide Cali Paddle Out back bean back chairs and Kore Wobble Chairs. Monica Blakely of Faith Ringgold School who has been teaching for two years was introduced. Her \$150 grant will provide white boards and markers for her 2/3 class for ELA support.

**Program:** "Women Making a Difference . . . She Believed She Could, So She Did! Women Speak! Marilyn Baker-Madsen informed the group that the person invited to speak at the November meeting never got back to her and she was not able to get another speaker on short notice, so the program for this evening will be Chapter Members sharing personal stories of a time in their lives when they followed a passion for something or were offered an unexpected opportunity to do something they may not have done otherwise. Marilyn shared her experience of being invited to the Hayward Library Director Assessment Center. As a young Youth Services Manager for the Glendale (Arizona) Public Library, she accepted the invitation as a "growth" experience vowing to be Miss Congeniality and was flabbergasted to be selected as Library Director out of a 12 candidate pool. Nancy Wales recounted an interview that she went to with several teeth missing. Others recommended against her going that way; however, after explaining her being in the middle of a dental process, she completed the interview and was offered the job. Linda Henika spoke about fellow member Jeanne Lycett who was called a very derogatory name. It was a difficult and extended time for Jeanne who weathered the incident with grace and integrity. Linda reports that Jeanne always does what is right. Ghislaine Gery told about wanting to have a home birth only to be opposed by her husband. Research for and selection of a midwife was conducted and her husband was converted. Donna Edwards-White Program, continued: talked about her concerns that her school only had a part-time nurse so she took classes and became a board certified EMT.

**DKG Alpha Omega Chapter Highlights:** Donna Goldenstein spoke about CALICO (Child Abuse Listening & Coordination Center) an organization that our Chapter began supporting after a staff member made a presentation at a meeting. In addition to donating stuffed toys, books, blankets and other items, members of our Chapter help with the yearly fundraising drive by hand-addressing envelopes.

## Business Meeting

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Susan Fujii at 7:17pm.

**Minutes from October 30, 2019:** Recording Secretary Marilyn Baker-Madsen presented the minutes from the last meeting. It was moved by Donna Goldenstein and seconded by Jeanne Lycett to accept the minutes as presented. The motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** Co-Treasurer, Nonnie Moore, distributed and presented the Treasurer's Report for November 2019. Nonnie also advised that we should include on the January Meeting Agenda a discussion about allocating more funds to pay for guest dinners. It was moved by Linda Henika and seconded by Barbara Bishr to accept the report. The motion passed.

**Correspondence:** Corresponding Secretary Bonnie Hansen reports that no correspondence was received this month.

## Committee Reports:

**MLK, Jr. Birthday Celebration Committee:** Marilyn Baker-Madsen informed the group that an invitation to the Hayward – South Alameda County NAACP Annual Service Award Gala, Dinner and Auction had been received too late to present to our Chapter. This invitation was hand-delivered at a meeting of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration Committee. In response to the invitation, Virginia Williamson designed a business card for our Chapter that was included in the program in an ongoing effort to raise awareness about the Alpha Omega Chapter of DKG.

**Legislative Committee:** Nancy Wales noted that she is the only member of this committee at present and said she would appreciate having new committee members to help report on educational legislation.

## Old Business:

**Update on Grants:** Linda Henika noted that the Scholarship Committee was delighted with the new protocol and the number of grants that were funded this year.

**Global Awareness, DKG International Projects:** Virginia Williamson spoke about the three projects that include Schools for Africa, a partnership with UNESCO that supports education and schools in Africa; Save Our Earth, a California only project that Virginia will put information about in The Rosette, and World Fellowship, a project that was initiated in 1946 that funds a woman from anywhere in the world to study in America.

## New Business:

**Donation to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Committee:** Marilyn Baker-Madsen informed the Chapter about this annual free celebration which is sponsored by the City of Hayward, the Hayward Unified School District and Chabot College. The committee fundraises to help support the event through solicitations to groups in Hayward. She noted that groups donating to this event are listed in the program, yet another way to raise awareness about our group. It was moved by Nonnie Moore and seconded by Nancy Wales to donate \$100 dollars to this event. The motion passed.

**DKG Mailing Party for the MLK Event:** Marilyn noted that DKG members volunteered to support the second mailing last year and hopes that members will consider helping out this year as well. The mailing party is scheduled for January 3, 2020 and she will email our Chapter membership with details following the holidays.

**Holiday Party:** Helen Condos has graciously agreed to host this event. Helen lives in Fremont and an online invitation to this event will be emailed to our membership with details and location.

**Meet and Greet and Tour:** Marilyn shared that the Leadership Committee thought hosting an event at the new Hayward Public Library in February (our virtual meeting month) would be a good way to introduce our Chapter to teachers who might be interested in learning more about us and about the new library. No date has been selected at this time.

**Upcoming Membership Expansion Meeting/Membership Toolkit:** This agenda item refers to the meet and greet tour proposed for February at the new library. We need help on outreach to teachers.

**Announcements/Questions:** An inquiry was made about our Chapter doing something in memory of Rachel Major. Barbara Bishr will make inquiries on behalf of the Chapter.

**Next Meeting, Tuesday, December 10, 2019:** Annual Holiday Party at the home of Helen Condos in Fremont.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:55pm by President Susan Fujii.



**JANUARY 29 MEETING**

**RSVP**

China Bistro

Registration at 5:00. Dinner at 5:30. Meeting following.

Please click on the RSVP link below.

<https://forms.gle/8SxLfsLAPuxKm3ZT6>

(It helps to right click on the link and then select "open link.  
Or you can copy the link and paste it in your browser.)

If for some reason you are unable to open the link, please contact Nonnie Moore at 510-507-2944 or email [nonniemoore303@gmail.com](mailto:nonniemoore303@gmail.com)



## Treasurer's Report

Nonnie Moore

### January 2020

Beginning Balance 11-10-19 \$4214.50

#### Expenditures

Chefs China Bistro \$525.00

Grant- Monica Blakely 150.00

Grant- Sunny Sprugasci 474.00

Grant- Andrea Richards 500.00

Grant Donna Edwards-White 425.00

MLK Celebration Ad 100.00

*Total Expenditures* \$2174.00 \$2040.50

#### Receipts

Dinners \$350.00

Savers 507.22

Virtual 25.00

*Total Receipts* \$882.22

Ending Balance 1-03-20 \$2922.72



## February is Virtual Meeting Month!

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Years ago, Alpha Omega voted to meet “virtually” one month a year. The \$25 donation from each member would then be added to our Scholarship/Grant Fund. If each of our 33 members participated, we would raise \$825 for projects chosen by dedicated teachers! This fall the awards ranged from \$500 to \$150 with projects ranging from student-made books to white boards and dry erase pens!

CONGRATULATIONS TO NORMA SAKAMOTO for the first donation! Yea, Norma!

Please join Norma by donating at the January meeting or sending your check to Nonnie Moore, 3309 Streamside Circle #303, Pleasanton, CA 94588.

Our colleagues thank us!



## Book Notes

Marilyn Baker-Madsen

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By now, it is probably no surprise to you who read our Book Notes that Carl and I are huge, avid fans of the mystery writer Louise Penny. The following quote from **The Cleveland Plain Dealer** hits the nail on the head: *“How much do I love Louise Penny’s Three Pines mystery series? So much so that I don’t merely crave the next installment – I want to live in Three Pines and have (almost) all the characters become my new best friends. . . .”* And with her latest title, **A Better Man**, she has given us another beautifully written book.

The world of Three Pines, a little village outside of Montreal, is populated with finely drawn characters that we get to know as people. Chief among them is Armand Gamache, Chief Inspector of Homicide for the Surete du Quebec. He commands his forces with integrity, quiet strength and charm. His long and loving relationship with his wife, Reine-Marie, is woven into each story. Carl always says he wants to be Armand Gamache when he grows up and I, definitely, would like to be like Reine-Marie. Three Pines is served by two gay men, huge and buoyant Olivier Bruel at Olivier’s Bistro and by slim and self-sufficient Gabriel Dubeau (Gabri) with a B&B. Crusty, cranky, foul mouthed and, mostly drunk, Ruth Zardo is a woman of old and indeterminable age who is a celebrated Canadian poet. She rescues a clutch of duck eggs and is successful in hatching one of them, so a constant companion of Ruth is Rosa the duck who sounds like she is saying the F word when she quacks. Artists, Clara and Peter Morrow, host get-togethers at their home for Three Pines residents. Peter is hugely successful and Clara undiscovered as the series begin. Myrna Landers, a former psychologist who escaped to Three Pines to find a more meaningful life after seeing some patients for over 25 years who never improved, operates a used book store and still plies her trade in this alternate and more satisfying setting. And there are the exceptional staff that serve faithfully

under Gamache's steady leadership – his second in command, Jean Guy Beauvoir, and Agent Isabelle Lacoste. These beautifully told stories of love, life, friendship and tragedy are full of intelligent observations and insights. Throughout each story and every book there is an underlying theme of food as a means of community communion. The memorable characters are featured in each book as they grow and change, so the reader must start at the beginning to experience the powerful dynamics of each story. In **A Better Man** we come full circle as Gamache rises to, and falls from the position of Superintendent of the Surete du Quebec to return to the position of Chief Inspector. These riveting stories will grab the reader, as they did me, and keep them on the edge of their seats – what a ride!

Following is a list in order of publication of award winning books:

**Still Life, A Fatal Grace, The Cruellest Month, A Rule Against Murder, The Brutal Telling, Bury Your Dead, A Trick of the Light, The Beautiful Mystery, How the Light Gets In, The Long Way Home, The Nature of the Beast, A Great Reckoning, Glass Houses, The Kingdom of the Blind and A Better Man.**



## Committee News

*What are we up to?*

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A group of DKG-Alpha Omega members put together our annual donation to CALICO, an organization very dear to our hearts that coordinates services for abused children. Each year, we provide CALICO with books, blankets, stuffed animals and/or toiletries. Thanks to the bighearted generosity of our DKG-Alpha Omega members, we collected \$285. Additionally, Donna spent \$84.59 on toiletries at Bath and Body Works (actually, a more, but she couldn't find the third receipt.) Janie also spent \$152.24 on fabric and notions for making fleece blankets. There was a surplus of \$60 after purchasing the books, so Janie and Donna will split that to cover some of their expenses.

On November 23rd, Bonnie Hansen, Barbara Bishr, Donna Goldenstein, Linda Henika, Susan Fujii and Virginia Williamson joined Janie Dobbs at her house for a day of fun-filled, frenzied blanket sewing. This year, Barbara Bishr created some gorgeous quilts to add to the fleece blankets. Bonnie Hansen and Janie Dobbs went to the Scholastic Book Sale on December 4th and purchased six boxes of books and journals for children ages 8 and above. In the meantime, Donna Goldenstein made several trips to the Bath & Body Works Outlet Store and purchased wonderful bottles of lotions, soaps and sanitizers and wrapped them into delightful little bundles. Donna and Janie dropped off a carful of goodies at CALICO on December 11. Cory Blasi, CALICO's office manager, and her adorable dog, Tater Tot, greeted us with open arms and profusely thanked us for all of our gifts. CALICO sent Donna a very kind and thoughtful Thank You card.

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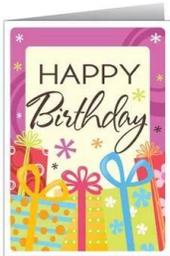
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## Alpha Omega Chapter Calendar 2019 - 2020

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Monday, September 9	DKG fundraiser at Gianni's Italian Bistro
Wednesday, September 25	Chapter Meeting at Chef's Experience China Bistro
Saturday, October 26	Chapter Fundraiser -Dublin Savers, 7117 Regional St., Dublin from 1:00-2:00
Wednesday, October 30	Chapter Meeting
Wednesday, November 20	Chapter Meeting
Tuesday, December 10	Holiday Party
Wednesday, January 20	Chabot College - Martin Luther King, Jr. Event
Wednesday, January 29	Chapter Meeting
February	Chapter Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, March 25	Chapter Meeting
Wednesday, April 29	Chapter Meeting
Wednesday, May 20	Chapter Meeting



*Happy Birthday to our Alpha Omega Sisters!  
May it be your best birthday yet.*

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### January Celebrations

9-Janie Dobbs  
21-Jennifer Gonsalves



## Meeting Highlights



Linda Henika presents Donna Richards with a \$500 grant.



Donna explains how she will use the grant to purchase 8 Kore Wobble Chairs for two 3rd grade classrooms for Lorin Eden Elementary School.



Virginia Williamson gives Donna our DKG-Alpha Omega brochure and encourages her to join our chapter.



Linda Henika presents Donna Edwards-White with a \$425 grant to purchase specimens for her students in her biology classes.



Donna Edwards-White thanks us for giving her students an opportunity to investigate and discover anatomy through observation and manipulation of real specimens.



Virginia Williamson invites Donna Edwards-White to join our DKG-Alpha Omega Chapter and gives her one of our brochures.



Linda Henika presents Monica Blakely with a \$150 grant.



Monica Blakely explains how she will purchase white boards and markers for her class for English Language Arts.



Virginia Williamson gives Monica our brochure and explains how to become a member.



Linda Henika presents Sunny Sprugasci with a \$474 grant.



Sunny Sprugasci tells the group how she will use her grant to purchase Cali Paddle Out Bean Bag chairs and Kore Wobble chairs for her students.



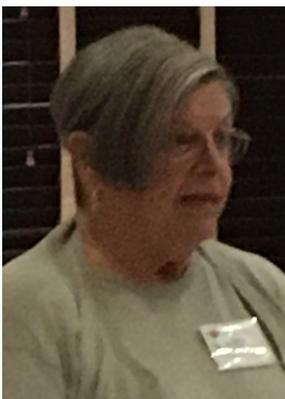
Virginia Williamson presents Sunny with our DKG-Alpha Omega brochure and encourages her to join our group.



Our chapter president, Susan Fujii opens our meeting, reminding all of us of our theme this year, Women Making a Difference.



Marilyn Baker-Madsen tells her "She Believed She Could, So she Did!" story.



Nancy Wales shares her story, "Believing She Could, So She Did."



Linda Henika shared a story about Jeanne Lycette and her courageousness when faced with a difficult situation.



Ghislaine Gery recounts her tenacity in sticking to her goals of having a home birth.



Virginia Williamson addresses the group about three DKG International Projects.



One of four of Barbara's gorgeous quilts for Calico.



Donna Goldenstein and the Office Manager, Cory Blasi, from CALICO pose with DKG-Alpha Omega's annual holiday donation of books, blankets and toiletries.