

ETAGRAM

Eta Chapter

Area 12

Chi State

Presidents' Message- The Leader in All of Us

Louise recently attended the Chi State Leadership Retreat in Sacramento. She says, "What an incredible experience! The topic was: "You've Come a Long Way, Baby: Women, DKG, and Me!" Through the course of the weekend we first learned about the "Remarkable Women" exhibit at the California Museum in Sacramento. Through selections from the book When Everything Changed by Gail Collins, we studied the journey women (from 1960 to the present) have taken and the issues that have emerged in the workplace, at home, in sports, fashion, and concerning civil/equal rights—and what issues remain unresolved today. We heard excerpts from speeches given by honored DKG women past and present. Finally, we looked back ourselves at age 25, how we have evolved, and what we hope our legacies will be. The highlight for me was having the opportunity to share time and stories with so many dynamic, inspiring women who are our DKG sisters. We came, we shared, we laughed, we cried, we sang: 'I am strong, I am invincible, I am WOMAN!' I encourage each of you to attend next year's retreat."

This event brought to mind the question: What is *leadership*? Leadership is President Barack Obama, standing proudly as he delivered his second inauguration address to a cheering crowd. Leadership is our PEP girls—our past Eta presidents—who have led our chapter, step by step, to help it to become the well-respected, strong group of women that we are today. In his book The Essence of Leadership, Mac Anderson says, "Great leadership usually starts with a willing heart, a positive attitude, and a desire to make a difference." Doesn't that describe each of us? We, as teachers, have all approached our jobs with positive attitudes, given heart and soul, and strived to make a difference with the children in our classrooms.

Our February 23rd meeting will officially be held at **Hoover Middle School** at 9AM. This year the PEP Girls Auction will be a **silent auction only** with items provided by the board and a few other members. Please don't bring your gift bags. Instead bring your checkbooks for your donations to our recruitment grants as well as your "game faces." New games, more fun for all. Please join us for breakfast and bidding.

For those of you who were unable to attend our January meeting, our SAP (Strategic Action Plan) is progressing nicely. Under the direction of Karen Harmon, we met in groups and looked at our weaknesses as a chapter in the area of *membership*. We brainstormed possible solutions to these issues. Karen will review and consolidate these ideas and then present them to the board for further review.

Congratulations once again to our past co-presidents, Linda Frame and Leslie Jensen, for having their wonderful Eta Chapter brochure selected for the Chi State website. Another fine example of the leadership role these women have exhibited.

It's not too soon to register for the Chi State Convention in Burbank May 3-5. There will be a number of exciting interest sessions, keynote speakers, Chi State store, and a chance to get to know more of your DKG sisters from around the state. There is a registration form in your Chi State News or go online to the state website.

In closing, we would like to leave you with a quote from one of the speeches highlighted at the retreat. It's author, Mary Marchi, has served in DKG for 46 years in almost every capacity of leadership, including Chi State President (1995-1997.) Her words echo the theme for the Chi State Convention: *Celebrating the Bounty of Excellence*, as well as our theme of Leadership. Mary said:

"Seeds of change are very special seeds and come from a special source. We/You are that source—the fruit. The seeds of change we plant come from within us—our hearts, our minds, our beliefs, our values, our abilities, and our experiences. The seeds of change we sow contain the qualities of leadership...and these qualities once planted, end up with a fulfillment of a vision."



Louise and Shannon

Chapter Meetings for 2012-2013

Saturday, Feb 23 9 am
PEP Girls-Hoover Middle School

Monday, March 25 5:45 pm
Hoover Middle School- Jared Boxes
THAT hours due to Judy Sears

Thursday, May 9 5:45 pm
Barnes and Noble Marina Pacifica
Annual BARK Fundraiser

Saturday, June 1 11:30 am
Alida Steinhauser's Home-June Tea

.....Area XII Meetings.....

Beta Iota

March 11 at 6 pm in Home Ec room at Rodgers Middle School-Write for Wellness, author Julie Davey will be guest speaker

Sat, March 17 at 9am

Silent Auction at Prisk Elementary

Beta Omicron

April 20th Night at the Races at Los Alamitos Racetrack. Admission is \$50-fundraiser for Scholarship Fund

LIFE Foundation fundraiser at Barnes and Nobles during the month of March

Mark Your Calendar

Area 12 Spring Conference
April 13, 2013 at
The Grand

Chi State Conference
May 3-5, 2013 at
Burbank Airport Marriott

Chi State Legislative Study
Session
June 18-20

Southwest Regional
Conference
July 17-20 in
Branson, MO.....

Member Celebrations

Happy Jan Birthday to
Judy Sears (1), Cynthia Grennan (4), Barbara Jenkins (8), Miep vanTyne (17), Linda Frame (20), Dora Bush (26)

Happy February Birthday to
Leslie Jensen (13), Charlotte Nakao (14)

Happy March Birthday to
Shelley Fernald (2), Sara Forster (2), Barbara Furusawa (8), Emiko Furuta (11)

Conference/Convention Information

Area 12 Spring Conference April 13 at The Grand

Your check (made out to DKG) of \$26 is due to Tina Neff (3338 Petaluma LB CA 90808) no later than March 11th, along with your meal choice, A-All American or B-Fruit Plate. We will be honoring our Golden Rose Recipient. This year's centerpiece theme is "filling your bucket" based on the book, "Have You Filled Your Bucket Today?" by Carol McCloud.

Chi State Convention, May 3-5th in Burbank

Rooms are open for reservation at Burbank Airport Marriott- go to www.chistate.org for more information.

Southwest Regional Conference in Branson, Mo July 17-20

Rooms are available at the Hilton and direct flights to Branson can be booked from Southwest Airlines. July 18th will be the Chi State Night.

Scholarship Opportunities

The Helene Going Green Award

Thank you for your interest in "Helene Going Green Award" which is administered by The Chi State Learning Is For Everyone Foundation. These awards will be made to educators who are members of Delta Kappa Gamma and willing to use the funds received to instill in our children the awareness and desire to become involved in personal actions that will lead to protecting our Planet Earth by reducing, reusing and recycling items that would otherwise end up in our landfills. To be eligible to apply for an award, the following criteria must be met:

1. The project must comply with the purpose of The LIFE Foundation as stated in the mission statement:
"The mission of The LIFE Foundation is to promote and support special projects related to learning and literacy within the State of California."
2. "Helene Going Green Awards" must specifically address the instruction of our children as to the importance of taking care of Planet Earth and must show evidence that the project can be replicated in other educational settings.
3. Individuals, groups or chapters shall submit the completed "Helene Going Green" application form and Preliminary Budget to the President of the Foundation at the business address below.
4. Grant funds will only be awarded up to a maximum of \$200 for any one project for learning and literacy materials that promote taking care of Planet Earth. These materials can be purchased or created as part of the project.

Application can be found at www.chistate.org

Inauguration: 2013

“On a typical commute day, no one talks.” This statement came from an average-looking Virginia businessman who was explaining his daily routine to the out-of-town visitor seated next to him on the Metro train. The speaker might have been a typical commuter, but this was no ordinary day. It was January 21, 2013, and an estimated one million people would converge near the U.S. Capitol building in Washington D.C. for the 57th Presidential Inauguration. On this day, the train was abuzz with chatter and with laughter. The excitement was contagious and had even reached that average commuter, who kept up a lively conversation with his seat-mate all the way to his workday destination.

Before we had boarded the train, I was snapping a picture of Sal, Rebecca and David when a large man stepped into the photo. He laughed, and apologized. “Can I see the picture?” “Sure.” Laughing even harder when he saw himself, he asked, “Is this one going into the album?” “Of course,” I said. “You’re part of our family now.”



On Sunday, we went to Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez’s office to pick up our tickets. People we met near the Capitol were all on missions--getting tickets to inaugural events. Again, perfect strangers struck up conversations with one another. Everywhere we went and with everyone we met, there was a level of excitement in physically being there for the Inauguration.

At the Longworth Building, our first step was a security check, with at least half a dozen guards manning the entrance. They, too, were chatting with each other and with all the folks coming in. Security meant taking off all those layers of clothing that might set off an alarm, and ridding oneself of purses, belts, contents of pockets, etc. After a successful visit, we emerged with a precious packet of memorabilia, and most importantly, four tickets. Reaching the security gauntlet again on our exit, Sal was greeted by the tallest of the female guards. “Did you get the tickets?” she asked. When he said, “Yes,” he was rewarded with a big smile of approval and a knuckle bump of congratulations.

Outside on the Mall, beautiful patriotic music filled the air. The Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir was practicing the “Battle Hymn of the Republic,” followed by James Taylor singing “America the Beautiful.” The live renditions of both those songs were breathtaking. On huge screens that dotted the Mall, Sesame Street’s Count von Count could be seen and heard counting as he raised his fingers one at a time: “1, 2, 3, 4 more years.”

On Monday, we were up before dawn--driving to Falls Church Metro Station for the train ride to D.C. Arriving at the Mall, we made our way to the Gold Gate for security checks before proceeding to our section. Security guards were everywhere, and along the roofline of every tall building, trained sharpshooters were visible. Drug-sniffing dogs were seen at one of the few checkpoints where cars were allowed to pass. Only one helicopter was flying in the restricted airspace over the Mall. Spectators had been given a strict list of dos and don’ts regarding what they were able to carry. The system set up for crowd control was efficient and effective, and people arrived at their destinations in an orderly fashion well ahead of the designated starting time.

Again, conversations were struck up among strangers. We were not allowed to bring coolers, thermoses or food items larger than a small snack, so I had packed a quart-sized baggie with snacks for each of us. When David starting taking food from his tiny bag, one man asked, “You got a slab of ribs in there?”

“We, the people.” The President’s Inaugural speech was liberally peppered with those three words, “We, the people.” To me, that sums up what this experience was all about--the people. American people who took time out of their busy lives to chat with strangers and to share the energy, excitement, and electricity of a moment in history. A day later, those same people would carry the spark and the memory of that day back to where they had come from, back to the workaday world, and many would go back to that typical commute day, where no one talks.

Emma Janice Mills Sapien

Leaders of Eta Chapter

Since our theme for this Etagram with Leadership, we wanted to share some thoughts from our Eta Chapter Leaders. We asked our Past Eta Presidents to share about their bieniums.

Joan Hansen-Chapter President Bienium 1982-1984

Most rewarding aspects

***developed leadership – such as Julie Drysdale who continues to share her talents

***received invaluable help from previous presidents .. esp. Pat Parish and Anne Tubridy

Most proud of these actions of my biennium

***expanded membership so that we outgrew meeting in homes of members--used banks and libraries

***inducted Joyce Bennett – her lovely home and garden was the site of our June Teas for many years

Values of being president

***You will discover that so much guidance is available from Area leaders and other presidents – many of whom will become your lifelong friends.

***This is the first step on the ladder of Chi State leadership – happy climbing!

***You will widen your horizons beyond the Area to the Chi State and International levels – you might also enjoy attending Regional Conferences in Europe.

Tidbits

***Because we could not use the regular initials DKG – and had no internet with ready-made letters –we had to learn to draw the Greek alphabet characters.



***At my first Chi State meeting as a president, I met a member who had personally known and worked with our DKG Founder, Annie Webb Blanton – and this woman honored me by saying that I resembled that acclaimed leader (wow)!

Julie Mendell-Chapter President Bienium 1998-2000

My first reward was realized when I made it through the “steep learning curve” of information overload. However, the most lasting reward was really understanding the “nuts and bolts” of Delta Kappa Gamma’s work to realize our mission and vision. To any member considering serving as a Chapter President, I would say please know that the rewards and learning opportunities outweigh the commitment of time and effort. My best memories are not of funny or humorous moments, although there were plenty of those, but of the commitment of so many Eta members and their work to make the biennium successful.

Julie Mendell



If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader. —John Quincy Adams

Linda Frame and Leslie Jensen-Co-Presidents Biennium 2008-2010

What would you say was the most rewarding about being President of Eta?

Getting to know the women in our chapter and meeting other women from other chapters across the state. Learning more about our organization at the state and national levels - the functions of the different committees and offices, the resources available to members, and how to be better communicators working within the structures in place. We also enjoyed attending the various workshops and conferences during our tenure.

Is there something that happened during your biennium that you were particularly proud of?

We were the first co-presidents of Eta, breaking new ground, making it possible for more women to further develop their leadership skills in the role of chapter president. As editors of the Etagram, we received honorable mention twice in the newsletter competition at the state level. During our term, we initiated the sending of the Etagram by email thereby reducing costs of paper, ink, and postage for the chapter. Our 2nd Vice President, Cathy Lunniss, issued the chapter yearbook online for the first time. She also took on the project of taking pictures of each member for the yearbook.

What would you say to a member that was considering the President's position?

We would encourage the member to take the presidential plunge because the experience is valuable. The position is a busy one and two years is a big commitment but there is a great deal of support from the Board of Directors and the chapter members. It can even be fun (it was definitely fun for us!). And the option to hold the office with another sister really makes it possible for just about anyone, no matter whether you are still working or retired.



Please feel free to add any tidbit or funny story about your presidency. We took a lot of pictures for the Etagram in different locations - backyards, pumpkin patch, and on our travels. During our first year, we decided to go out on location to Macy's for our Christmas picture. So, we dressed up in our Christmas sweaters, jewelry, and scarves and were ready to take a fabulous holiday photograph for you all to see. We chose the "trim a tree" department of the store and proceeded to pose ourselves amongst the decorated trees. As Linda's husband, Michael, began snapping away, Store Security came dashing up and very firmly shut us down. Little did we know, there was a Macy's policy prohibiting any

photography within the store. Luckily, they let us leave quietly and keep the camera. However, we got the shot and used it in the December Etagram.

Nancy Henry-Eta President Biennium 1992-1994

The most rewarding aspect of being an Eta President is the opportunity to get to know all the chapter members and to make lasting and new friendships with those on the Eta Executive Board, in Area XII, and at Chi State.



Being President gives you a chance to try out new ideas pertaining to leadership and to teach new members the heritage of the DKG Society.

I would encourage all new Eta members to take positions on the Executive Board and to find a mentor among our membership who would be your "go-to" person when a clarification is needed.

Active working members should encourage staff at their sites, friends at other schools, and professional acquaintances in the district to attend Eta Meetings and consider membership.

A leader is best when people barely know he exists, when his work is done, his aim fulfilled, they will say: we did it ourselves. —Lao Tzu

Barbara Yahn- Eta President Biennium 1990-1992

As president, I found it very rewarding to work with such creative, dedicated, and industrious women on my board. During my term in office, we were fortunate to have a wide variety of programs. We really tried to satisfy a range of interests while addressing the purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma. I think that we did accomplish this.



I would encourage members who are thinking about becoming chapter president, to take advantage of the opportunity for this leadership role. It provides a chance to really learn about the organization, network with other chapter presidents, and attend workshops to improve leadership skills.

Encouraging officers and members to attend conventions and workshops offered by the state and international organization became an important part of my role as president. Attending these events are a great way to appreciate the strength of Delta Kappa Gamma and the role that it plays in promoting women educators and supporting education. Besides learning more about the society, there is time for meeting and greeting both old and new friends and having fun! I have some funny stories and wonderful memories from my time in office.

World Fellowship Recipients – Eta chapter has “adopted” three recipients. Our goal is to help them feel welcome in their new homes, send a note of encouragement, (it’s not easy to be thousands of miles away from home) and to let them know how proud we are that they represent The Delta Kappa Gamma Society.



Natalia Salinas is from Ecuador and is getting her masters in Agriculture from Oregon State University. Her address is 1830 NW 27th St Corvallis, OR 97330. Her email is Natalia_salinas990@hotmail.com and her birthday is June 14th.

Liiri Oja is from Estonia and is getting her masters in Law from Georgetown University. Her address is 201 I St NE Apt 1209 Washington, D.C. 20002. Her email is liiri.oja@gmail.com and her birthday is February 14th

Munasir Kamali is from Bangladesh and is getting her masters in Literature from the University of Nevada, Reno. Her address is 1601 N. Virginia St. Apt 5 Reno, NV 89503. Her email address is munasir.kamal@gmail.com and her birthday is Dec 21st.



Be on the lookout for Eta Chapter Website. K.D. Chadbourne and Judy Sears have been working on a website for Eta Chapter. This is exciting news for our chapter and a big heartfelt thanks to both amazing ladies. We will let you know when it’s “live.”

We wanted to share this blurb on leadership found in the

February 2013 Southwest Newsletter

Knowing What is Happening

When you cannot see what is happening in a group, do not stare harder. Relax and look gently with your inner eye. When you do not understand what a person is saying, do not grasp for words. Give up your efforts. Become silent inside and listen with your deepest self. When you’re puzzled by what you see or hear, do not strive to figure things out. Stand back for a moment and become calm. When a person is calm, complex events appear simple. To know what is happening, push less, open out, and be aware, See without staring. Listen quietly rather than listening hard. Stay in the present. Attend to what is happening now.

Etagram Editors are Louise McCormick and Shannon Ramos

Any questions regarding the Etagram please contact Shannon at inga92648@yahoo.com