Area V Newsletter January 2018

**Dear Area V Leadership Team,**

A warm welcome to 2018! I’m still happily remembering our hugely successful Area Conference in November. Cindy and Kimberly, you outdid yourselves with organization, planning, delegation, enthusiasm, and calmness. The rest of the committee, presidents and other members of various chapters, excelled at all of their tasks: decorations, awards, auction, etc. Mary Dixon’s preliminary notes indicate that it was very successful financially also. I’m looking forward to her final numbers at our area meeting next week. Thank you, thank you, thank you, to all who worked so hard. I’m excited that we have the same date, same location, and hopefully the same chairwomen for next year!

I hope you have been paying attention to all the e-mails I send you. Some of the information is for you, as members of the leadership team. Some is to be distributed to all the members in your chapters. As an example, the information on recording your THAT hours should be send on to your membership. As Karen said in a newsletter last year…..”This is one big chain, and there are many links along the way”….state, area, chapter presidents, general membership

Be forewarned….there is a LOT of information in this newsletter. Hopefully you can read it carefully, and it will help to shorten our meeting on February 2!

Mary Dixon asked about the President’s report due on February 1. This report is NO LONGER needed! YAY!

I have begun my project of lengthy phone calls with all members of the leadership team, starting with the presidents. I had a most enthusiastic visit with Caroline Caracciola yesterday. She LOVES her Gamma Alpha chapter, and I’m so impressed with what this small group of about 24 women is doing in the community. They sponsor a weekly literacy program located at the Morgan Hill Boys and Girls club. Approximately 25 volunteers, some DKG and some from Rotary and other community areas, show up once a week to read one-on-one with K-2 children. They also work with the Learning and Loving Center which reaches out to adult women who are learning English, may need help with housing, getting their GED, etc.

Evie Bolante also has a smallish chapter of about 33, but their average attendance at meetings is 27-28!!!! Good for them. Their programs sound fascinating. They’ll be doing a tech training on Chrome and Google in March. Their community outreach includes Books and Bears for children in shelters, toiletries for homeless women, and donation of professional clothing for women to wear to job interviews.

**CONVENTION**

The Call to Convention should be out on February 1. Be sure to encourage as many members of your chapter as possible to go!

**Winter Leadership Planning Session**

This was the “biggy” for January! The state leadership team assembled at Embassy Suites in Sacramento for an information packed weekend. Friday was an “extra” day, with tech training for everyone. It was informative, intense, exhausting, overwhelming, but extremely well organized and presented.

The Area Directors discussed the training for new presidents at Convention in May. We’re looking forward to a new group of leaders, but I know I will miss the current group…..I’m just barely getting to know you!

One of the important aspects of WLPS is reports of State Committees:

**Finance Committee:** Judy Kearns

\* Mandatory training for all treasurers and presidents will be held this summer. I have requested Saturday, August 25 as our first choice, hopefully at Marylu Mesa’s house in Prunedale.

\* There’s a new policy on DKG items being sold at events. Unfortunately, this will eliminate the shirts that Janet Lew sold at our Area conference. Janet DID make a donation to our treasury based on a percentage of her sales.

**STEP** (Support to Emerging Professionals)

\* Area V was way down in our THAT hours, so please encourage your members to submit them. Sadly, Delta Lambda has just lost two of our most active volunteer members. The top THAT hours’ earners in each area will be honored at Convention.

\* There were 62 applicants, of which 45 were given checks from the Penne Ferrell fund. Gamma Alpha had quite a substantial showing!

**Membership**

\* If you are having an issue with membership in your chapter, please let me know immediately. If necessary, I will help you contact Gaye Renna, the state membership person assigned to our area. She will be at our February meeting to give a report, so if you have issues, you can discuss them with her. I suggest you give both her dkgcamember6@gmail.com and me a heads up before the meeting

**\* The Order of the Rose Ceremony** will honor all chapters who have initiated 3 members during the year.

To qualify, a chapter must have a total of THREE Initiates/Transfers/Reinstatements on or before April 15, 2018. Chapters that had initiations and qualified last spring but were not honored may apply. Within one week of receiving your application, an email or phone call will confirm the receipt of your application. If you do not receive any notification, it is your responsibility to follow up by contacting dkgcamember2@gmail.com.

\* **Necrology forms** must be sent to Pat Twyman by April 1. It doesn’t appear as though it can all be done electronically.

**Educational Law/Legislation Committee**

\* Information was passed out regarding the focus of DKG’s lobbying focus: Advocacy, Violence against Women, Women’s Health Care, and Youth Suicide Awareness and Prevention.

**Legislation**

\* Fire funding in California is likely to affect education funding! The new federal tax law is also likely to affect education funding. On a humorous note, revenue for special ed and early childhood will be coming from sales of pot!!!! We no longer “adopt a legislator”…..we “make a legislator connection”!

\* Since we all learned how to create a google doc/survey, all the committees said they would be sending out surveys. So far, it hasn’t been too overwhelming!

**WOW** Thisis surely enough for now. We will continue disseminating information at our February meeting. I will send out the agenda, minutes from the December meeting and directions to my house within the next few days. There will be more information on deadlines. March is a big month.

Do you have any dietary needs that I should know about? I’m planning some sort of Costco soup and salad!