



California Alpha Delta Kappa
Southern District Conference
March 7-9, 2025
Fairfield Inn & Suites, Menifee, California

1.0 Call to Order

Virginia Riding, State President

President Riding called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

2.0 Silent Roll Call

Ann McCarty, State Secretary

Members present

President	Virginia Riding	<i>Gamma</i>
President Elect		
Immediate Past President	Rosena Kruley	<i>Beta Alpha</i>
VP Membership	Teresa Heitmiller Olea	<i>Beta Eta</i>
Treasurer	Ginny Williamson	<i>Beta Kappa</i>
Secretary	Ann McCarty	<i>Alpha Lambda</i>
Historian/Sgt-at-Arms	Linda Barker	<i>Gamma</i>
Chaplain	Debbie Waltzer	<i>Iota</i>
Interim President Elect	Susan Raffo	<i>Beta Rho</i>

3.0 Land Acknowledgment

Rosena Kruley, SWR DEI Chair

Native People of this area, the Temecula Valley, are the Pechanga people. Artifacts over 10,000 years old have been found. The great oak nearby on their reservation is over 1000 years old and embodies strength, wisdom, longevity and determination. In 1875, they were evicted from their lands, homes and possessions. Their reservation was established a few years later. They currently run several gaming casinos. Refer to this [website](http://www.pechanga-nsn.gov) for more information about the Pechanga tribe. (www.pechanga-nsn.gov)

4.0 Review of Norms

Linda Barker, State Hist./Sgt.-at-Arms

- R** Responsibility for what you say and feel without blaming others
- E** Empathetic listening -feel what the other person is saying
- S** Sensitivity to differences in communication styles
- P** Ponder what you hear and feel before speaking
- E** Examine your own assumptions and perceptions
- C** Confidentiality - board discussions stay on the board

T Trust ambiguity - don't debate who is right or wrong

5.0 Approval of Agenda

All

The agenda was approved as modified with no objections from the Board.

6.0 Opening Activity

Virginia

The Board participated in an activity led by President Riding, as a precursor for an activity at tomorrow's Southern District gathering.

7.0 Opening Thought

Debbie Waltzer, State Chaplain

Debbie shared a thought: Happy are those that take life day by day, complain very little and are thankful for the little things in life.

8.0 Approval of Jan. 24-26, 2025, January 29, 2025, and February 26, 2025 Minutes

Ann

Jan. 24-26 minutes were accepted as amended.

Jan. 29 zoom meeting minutes were accepted as written.

Feb. 26 zoom meeting minutes were accepted as written.

9.0 Correspondence

All

9.1 Jeanne McCann-Scholarship Thanks

Virginia

Virginia received a thank you from Jeanne in Beta Rho who received a district mini-grant, which she used to purchase student decodable books.

9.2 Beta Phi Concern

Virginia, Susan

The Board recently learned of an issue having to do with registration for the Northern District conference held in Pleasant Hill in Oct. 2024, caused by legitimate mistakes on the part of the host council. Virginia will respond to the chapter that was impacted on behalf of the Board. The Board agreed to review and revise the President's Council Handbook as needed.

The Board also discussed ways to avoid similar errors in the future. It was recommended Virginia communicate with all chapter and council presidents that they refer to the President's Council handbook as a reference while planning their conference in order to avoid mistakes.

9.3 Pam Collins - Headquarters Director

Virginia

Pam contacted Virginia to inform her that the S/P/N presidents and the ADK Foundation can help assist Californians impacted by Los Angeles wildfires.

Virginia responded to her email that we will keep this offer in mind as needs arise.

9.4 Katie Cobban - New Hampshire MU Co-President

Virginia

Katie contacted Virginia seeking best ways to donate to the Educators Helping Educators fund in a legitimate manner. Virginia responded to her with instructions on how to do so.

10.0 Treasurer's Report

Ginny Williamson, State Treas.

Ginny began by acknowledging Diana Galvan for assistance with preparing the budget.

10.1 Current Status of Accounts

Ginny walked the Board through the budget. Our dues have come in less than what was budgeted by @ \$3000. Bottom line is we have money to meet our expected obligations.

10.2 Educators Helping Educators Donations

The fund currently has a balance of \$12,467.63. Donations of \$3,199.00 allocated for the Los Angeles fires have been recently received.

Camp Kesem currently has \$1500 in its fund.

10.3 State Dues/ITE Payments Update

Ginny has learned that some CA chapters did not include the \$20 International Teacher Education fee when paying their dues. It is not a requirement, but an expectation. She has reached out to the treasurers in the chapters who did not donate to request that they contribute. So far, one chapter has responded to her. It was noted that a couple of the chapters listed as not participating may have disbanded. She will follow up again with the remaining chapters.

10.4 Other

No other items were presented.

11.0 Southern District Gathering

All

11.1 Review of Program/Agenda

All

The Board reviewed the agenda for the program at the Southern District gathering.

11.2 Sales

Teresa

Teresa will sell some selected items to benefit the state scholarship fund.

11.3 Other

No other business was presented.

Meeting recessed at 7:45 p.m.

Meeting Reconvened at 3:15 p.m. on Saturday, Mar. 8

12.0 Reconvening Thought

Debbie

Debbie shared a thought: Don't assume someone knows that you love them... be sure to tell them. Better yet, be sure that you show them.

13.0 Southern District Gathering Evaluation

All

The oral feedback from participants was very positive, as was the written feedback on the evaluation form. The positive comments focused on: gratitude for the opportunity to meet and socialize with other sisters and the Board; the organization of the day; the program; the activities and interactive nature of them; the casual setting and positive vibe. The Chubby Cheeks Meadery in Temecula venue worked very well for this event and some sisters shared that it inspired them to think outside the box for venues for future events. The improvements noted on the evaluation form were about the room temp and the sound system. The Board also commented that the revised evaluation form gave us good feedback.

It was suggested that the President designate the President elect to review the Conference planning document for Host Council in the President's Council Handbook. The intended outcome is to make sure it is clear what the expectations, duties and responsibilities are for organizing and planning for the District conferences.

Teresa reported that the Scholarship committee took in \$243 from sales at the gathering today. .

14.0 Membership Report

Teresa Heitmiller Olea, State VP for Membership

14.1 Member Statistics

Membership continues to grow slowly. Our current statistics as of March 2025 are as follows:

Number of chapters: 41

Number of sisters: 800

New members enrolled in this biennium: 26

Number of reinstatements in this biennium: 8

Number of sisters working under contract: 68
Number of Omega Sisters in this biennium: 15

14.2 Other

Teresa shared an idea based on Rotary Club's e-membership and wondered whether a similar idea could be utilized by ADK for recruiting new members who may not be able to participate fully in meetings and events. It might be a variation of our current Sustaining Membership. Teresa will share this idea with Judy Ingham (Southwest VP for Membership) and Mary Ann Englehart.

Teresa had some questions about Fidelis Chapters, which in the past were made up exclusively of retired teachers. This option is no longer available. At times in the past, some Fidelis chapters partnered with another active chapter, with special parameters for how it operates. It is not possible for someone to be initiated into a Fidelis chapter. They must join a standard chapter in order to become members.

15.0 Unfinished Business

15.1 Reply to Laura Courtney (District Conference Study)

Virginia

Virginia has received a positive response from Laura about the new schedule for the revised District Conference Schedule (in person year one/ online the second year)

15.2 Policy and Procedures

Rosena Kruley, IPP

Rosena shared that we cannot change the language in Section C, Finance/Income as recommended in January 2025, because of previous Board action in November 2024. These two sections are cross-referenced in the Policy and Procedures. The language will remain as it is written.

Rosena presented the following sections for a **second** reading:

**Note: The page numbers listed below are the current paging and may change in the future when the Table of Contents is revised.*

Section C Finance/ Expense:

- a. Noel Leonard Leadership Grant (p. 70)

Section D Scholarships, Grants, Awards

- a. Eleanor Bendell State Grant (p. 91)
- b. Eleanor Bendell State Grant: Account Status (p. 92)
- c. Eleanor Bendell State Grant: Application Process (p. 93)

ANN MOVED THAT WE APPROVE THE CHANGES TO ALL OF THE ABOVE SECTIONS (C AND D) IN THE POLICY AND PROCEDURES. DEBBIE SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED. MOTION CARRIED.

Rosena presented the following sections for a **first** reading:

Section A: Organizational Structure

- a. Policy and Procedures (p. 12)

Section D: Scholarships, Grants, Awards

- a. District Mini-Grants (p. 94)
- b. Betty Rosenberg Golden Chapter Award: Outstanding State Chapter (p. 96)
- c. Noel Leonard Leadership Grant: First Time Attendees to State Convention (p. 99)
- d. Noel Leonard Leadership Grant: Regional Conference (p. 101)
- e. Noel Leonard Leadership Grant: Additional Leadership Funding (p. 102)
- f. International Excellence in Education Award (p. 102)

Section E: Altruistic

- a. Educators Helping Educators in Crisis (p. 110)

Rosena recommended, based on input from Diana Galvan noted in the November 2023 Executive Board meeting, that all pages that have been retired will be included in an addendum to the Policy and Procedures. The Board agreed and authorized Rosena to take this action.

15.3 Proceedings of Convention

Rosena

This is a continuation of the Proceedings of Convention that has been previously discussed at Board meetings in November 2024 and January 2025.

Reports from Committee Chairs - Section 6.0

Co-Chairman of convention Susan Raffo

All the recommendations were accepted as written.

State Convention Registration Chair - Rita Pritchard

An additional recommendation was made to ensure an easily accessible power source for the registration table and access to the venue internet.

Balloting Chair - Patrice Mallory-McCarley

A recommendation was made to eliminate item 1 - 3 (in person voting at the convention) and replace it with the option to have the attendees vote online prior to the convention. In the event of a tie vote, a runoff will take place online as well. The outcomes of any votes will be announced at the convention.

Decoration Chair - Pam Burris

The report appears to be outdated (from 2018). However, the recommendations are valid.

It was noted that the document that the secretary sends out to all the committee chairs and officers in regards to style, expectations, etc of their report following the convention is missing. Susan will track it down and forward to the current State Secretary. This concludes all review of the Proceedings of Convention from April 2024.

15.4 International DEI Steering Committee

Rosena

No report at this time, due to the current political situation re: DEI. Rosena is awaiting further information from the International DEI Steering committee.

15.5 State Needs Assessment Goals

Virginia

Virginia shared the goals she wrote based on an online State's needs assessment she completed in Fall 2024. Her goals are written below:

Goal 1: The California Alpha Delta Kappa State Executive Board will review and update/alter/replace/delete state policies and procedures at least four times per year.

Goal 2: The 2026 State convention will provide a variety of learning sessions, of which at least 50% will focus on professional development and leadership training.

Goal 3: The State California State Executive Board will analyze geographic areas in the state that have the potential for the founding of new chapters. At least one new chapter will be founded during the 2024-26 biennium.

Goal 4: An active Scholarship Committee with representatives from each of the four districts in California will be maintained. The number of scholarship and grant applications from California sisters will increase by 20% for the 2024-26 biennium.

15.6 Other Unfinished Business

No other unfinished business was presented.

16.0 New Business

16.1 Eleanor Bendell State Scholarship Amount **Susan Raffo, SSC Chair**

The current scholarship account balance is \$7,881.

LINDA MOVED THAT WE ALLOCATE \$3000 FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP ACCOUNT FOR THE ELEANOR BENDELL CALIFORNIA STATE SCHOLARSHIP. ROSENA SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting suspended at 6:45 pm

Meeting reconvened at 8:35 a.m. on Sunday, March 9

Reconvening Thought

Debbie

Debbie shared several thoughts related to friendship.

16.2 Council Liaison Reports

Virginia

16.2.1 Updating Photos on Shutterfly

Ann

The issue which surfaced at Golden Gate Council has been resolved. Debbie Waltzer encouraged the Board to have anyone with challenges with Shutterfly or their historian page to reach out to her directly.

16.2.2 Fresno/Modesto Council-Publicize EHE donations, application, awards as recruitment tool

Virginia

Virginia suggested that we use the Scholarship committee as a format to distribute info about requesting funds from the Educators Helping Educators. This will be done on an ongoing basis. Susan will work with Ann and Karen Kirby to handle that.

16.3 Summer Retreat

Virginia, Teresa

We will be gathering at Teresa's house July 31 - Aug. 3. The focus will be on planning for the upcoming virtual conferences in year 2 of the biennium.

16.4 International Convention

16.4.1 California Dinner Venue Update

Virginia

The costs for providing a venue for a planned Southwest cocktail gathering was prohibitive. Instead, Virginia will work on planning for a CA dinner/gathering for the CA sisters on Saturday evening, utilizing Paula Henry as a resource for local venues in Austin. Teresa will work on

trying to get a head count for how many sisters may be interested in attending this dinner.

Airfare and hotel room fees are covered for Executive Board members to attend the International Convention in Austin. There is no daily stipend.

16.4.2 Board Sales: Shirts, mugs, etc.

Teresa, Ann, Linda

It was decided to sell the badge backers and bracelets at the International convention, rather than transport larger and heavier items to Austin. Virginia will order more stickers.

Virginia will explore having t-shirts to sell at the State convention in 2026. The Board discussed some ways to market the shirts prior to the convention, including wearing them at our online meetings for other sisters to see what they look like.

16.4.3 Membership Service Award

Virginia

The Board submits one California sister noted for promoting service and support to encourage membership for receiving this award. There will be one person selected from each region and recognized at the International Convention.

DEBBIE MOVED TO NOMINATE ROSENA KRULEY FOR THE 2025 CALIFORNIA MEMBERSHIP SERVICE AWARD. LINDA SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

16.5 Payment of Bills

Ginny

The reimbursement forms to cover travel and hotel expenses for this weekend meeting were distributed and verified by all present.

16.6 State Convention Update

Virginia

Virginia has been seeking venues for the state convention in spring 2026. Possible locations she is investigating are San Luis Obispo, Fresno and Clovis. It has been challenging to get responses from local hotels. She will continue to investigate options and will keep the board informed. It is possible the date may be moved up to March.

16.7 Other New Business

16.7.1. District mini Grant

Virginia

There is the potential for up to 4 mini-grants per year, one per district, distributed in the fall. The criteria is fairly open ended and applicants can be either working and retired educators.

LINDA MOVED THAT WE ALLOCATE UP TO \$500 PER DISTRICT FROM THE STATE BUDGET FOR THE DISTRICT MINI-GRANT. THIS WILL BE FOR THE NEXT ROUND ON GRANTS IN THE SECOND YEAR OF THE BIENNIUM. ROSENA SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

17.0 Announcements

- **Kappan submission deadline-April 1, 2025**
- **Regional Spring Mini-Scholarship deadline-April 15, 2025**
- **International Convention (Austin): July 10-13, 2025**
- **Leadership Retreat-July 31-August 3, 2025**
- **State Convention (Fresno Area): May 1-3, 2026**

18.0 Closing Thought

Debbie

Debbie shared a thought: Don't cry over the past, it's gone. Don't stress about the future, it hasn't arrived. Live in the present and make it beautiful.

19.0 Adjournment -

Meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Minutes Addendum:

20.0 - Approval of Bills

After the conclusion of the meeting, it was noted that the Board had forgotten to make a motion to approve paying the bills for this Southern District gathering. This was done by email after the adjournment of the meeting.

DEBBIE MOVED TO ACCEPT THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE BILLS AS PRESENTED AND AUTHORIZE GINNY TO PAY THEM. ANN SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

*Minutes submitted by Ann McCarty, CA ADK State Secretary
Approved July 3, 2025*