

Sibling Revelry

California Alpha Delta Kappa

Volume 2 Issue 2 September 2025



President's Message



Fall is here, the new school year is well underway, and we have a lot going on in Alpha Delta Kappa. Our very first virtual Northern District Conference will be held on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 10:00-12:00, soon to be followed by the virtual Valley District Conference on Saturday, Nov. 1. Scholarship and grant opportunities are opening as well as applications for a position on the State Executive Board. Dues will soon be due, and chapters are meeting again after their summer break. Keep reading for more important information.

Thought for the Day

As we begin planning for the new year of the biennium, let us be that small group of thoughtful, committed sisters who make a difference and positive change in the world around us.

President-Elect Update

It is with great joy and gratitude that I introduce myself as the President-Elect of California Alpha Delta Kappa. Joining the State Executive Board for this final year of the biennium is both an honor and a privilege, and I am excited to serve alongside such dedicated and inspiring women.

As President Virginia Riding noted in her recent summer edition of Sibling Revelry, my leadership in Alpha Delta Kappa has spanned across states, beginning in Pennsylvania where I was born and raised, and continuing here in California since my move in 2015.

After 36 years of teaching, retirement allowed me to relocate closer to my two beloved granddaughters and my son who moved here in 2004 for law school and has practiced law in Orange County ever since.

I have had the pleasure of getting to know many of you and I eagerly look forward to meeting even more of you as we continue our journey together in AΔK service. Our shared commitment will foster strong connections and meaningful contributions, and I am optimistic about the future we will build together.



Mark Your Calendars

The State Convention Is Coming!

The 36th Alpha Delta Kappa California State Convention will be held **May 1-3, 2026** in charming Old Town Clovis. Clovis is located just east of Fresno in the Central Valley. Old Town Clovis is known for its antique shops and buildings, dining facilities, Farmers' Market, and more. It is also famous for its rodeo and western way of life. Its motto is The Gateway to the Sierras.

Meetings, the Omega Ceremony, and the banquet will be held in the beautiful Clovis Veterans' Memorial Building located at 808 4th Street, Clovis, CA 93612. Lodgings will be a bit different from previous conventions.

Where You Might Stay

Because we are using the Clovis Veterans' Memorial Building as our meeting/banquet venue for this convention, you do not have to stay at a particular hotel so that we can meet our room quota. Sisters may choose from several hotels conveniently located nearby to stay. Some of these include:

- **Best Western Clovis Cole** (across the street from Veteran's Memorial Bldg.)
415 Clovis Ave., Clovis, CA 93612
- **Comfort Suites** (a block from Veteran's Bldg.)
143 Clovis Ave., Clovis, CA 93612
- **Fairfield Inn & Suites** (two blocks from Veteran's Bldg.)
50 N. Clovis Ave., Clovis, CA 93612

Other options that chapters are investigating are nearby rental homes and Bed and Breakfasts.

Wherever you choose to stay, plan on a fun and friendly weekend with your Alpha Delta Delta Kappa sisters.

State Officer Candidate Applications

Don't forget that if there's an upcoming convention, there must be State Officer positions opening up. Just say YES and apply to join the 2026-2028 State Executive Board. Your Board sisters will surround you with love and support, so don't be afraid to try something new. You will learn to appreciate Alpha Delta Kappa on a whole new level and will meet sisters by choice who will truly become your forever friends.

To find an application and more information, go to the California website (adkcalif.org) and click on State Conventions. Applications should be sent to Gamma Mu sister Mari Page (adkmari.page@gmail.com) by December 5, 2025.

Let your voice be heard. You have a story to tell, opinions that count, and a difference to make.



Nominations for State Altruistic Project

Another State Convention requirement is choosing a new State Altruistic Project. Look around your area to find an organization that would be a perfect recipient of our famous Alpha Delta Kappa altruistic generosity. Then nominate it! State Altruistic Chair Susan Blough (Zeta) (susanblough@gmail.com) and her committee have been working hard to update the application and rubric. You should be receiving an email with more information soon, but be looking for that project to nominate now.

Resolve to Write a Resolution

Got a great idea that will make Alpha Delta Kappa even better? State Conventions are the time to turn those great ideas into reality via the resolution process. On the California website (adkcalif.org) in the State Conventions section, you can find directions and hints to help you write your resolution properly.

Once you've written your resolution, you'll need to fill out the application (on the California website in Forms). Still have questions? Contact State President Virginia Riding (adk.virginiariding@gmail.com). Applications are due by December 5, 2025.

Virtual District Conference Reminder

The State Board recently met and came up with a fun and informative virtual District Conference program that you won't want to miss. Be on the lookout for emails with information and zoom links a few weeks before your scheduled District Conference.

Conferences start at 10:00 AM, but there will be time to socialize from 9:30-10:00. The dates are as follows:

Northern District	October 4, 2025
Valley District	November 1, 2025
Marina District	January 24, 2026
Southern District	March 14, 2026 (sorry for the error in the last issue!)

If for some reason you can't attend your own District Conference, or you find it's so fun you want to experience it again, feel free to join another conference. Questions? Contact Virginia Riding (adk.virginiariding@gmail.com).

Treasurer's Information

Money Matters

by Virginia Williamson, State Treasurer



It's that time of year again ... time to be thinking about ADK dues! State dues are **\$30**, and members should give their Chapter Treasurer a check for State dues. When dues have been collected, Chapter Treasurers should include a list of members who are paying and send a chapter check for all state dues to the State Treasurer: Virginia Williamson, 22586 Fifth Street, Hayward, CA 94541.

International dues are **\$40**, and when paying International dues, members have a choice. They may pay online (see www.adkcalif.org "Treasurer's Corner"), or members may include this amount in a check to their Chapter Treasurer. For all International dues paid by check, the Chapter Treasurer will send a chapter check to: Alpha Delta Kappa, 1615 W. 92nd St., Kansas City, MO 64114. Again, be sure to include a list of members who are paying by check.

In addition to International dues, each chapter is assessed a fee of \$20.00 for ITE. You may be wondering what that is. ITE is the **International Teacher Education** program, established in 1961 to offer scholars from around the world the opportunity to learn about cutting edge education theory in some of the greatest universities in the world, so they can return to their home countries ready to apply their new knowledge to improve education. To help support this opportunity, the Alpha Delta Kappa Foundation provides money to help fund their graduate studies through each chapter's \$20 ITE fee and through contributing \$1 from each member's dues.

Here are some important deadlines for dues:

- The deadline for payment is **December 31, 2025**.
- Dues not paid by **February 1, 2026**, will incur a late fee of \$5.00.
- If dues are not paid by **March 1, 2026**, the member will be dropped.

Thank you for your membership and for your support of the mission of Alpha Delta Kappa. I wish you a productive, fulfilling year with your chapter sisters!



Educators Helping Educators

submitted by

Ann McCarty, State Secretary

Did you know that California ADK has money to give away to both members and non-members who have been victims of some sort of crisis? Educators Helping Educators, the California crisis fund, is funded by donations from CA and other sisters - and we have \$300 per request to give away.

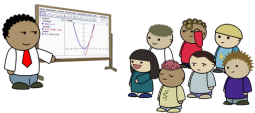
Who is eligible???? Any California ADK member, an individual non-member groups of educators, members or not, at a school site.

What is a crisis???? Typically we think of natural events, such as the recent Los Angeles fires or other fires across the state. Flooding, mud slides, excessive wind, or other such things. Bottom line, something that led to damage or loss of some sort that the funding could help to replace.

What can it be used for???? Whatever you decide. There are no strings attached to this funding, though we do ask for applicants to explain how they will use the grant.

How to apply???? Use the link below to download the easy, two page application. After completing it, please submit it via either e-mail (adk.virginiariding@gmail.com) or snail mail (4735 N. Malvern Ave., Sanger, CA 93657) to our State President, Virginia Riding. More info can be found on the [CA ADK website](#).

[Educators Helping Educators Application](#)



Membership News



Connection is Contagious !!!



Chapters around our state are already doing fun, interesting, and enriching activities...and the year has just begun! These activities all serve to build CONNECTION which strengthens our membership.

How to increase CONNECTION? IN PERSON activities. A short survey of your chapter members can give you ideas for program planning. Make the surveys anonymous to really find out what your sisters would like to see happen.

My chapter did a simple survey a few years ago and we discovered that our retired sisters were interested in getting together for lunch once a month. We also learned that our working sisters wanted to have opportunities on the weekend for something social, altruistic, and fun. The feedback from those surveys helped our chapter thrive. Our connection and altruistic efforts were attractive to FOUR educators, and they were initiated in April!!

This leads me to our international effort to enhance membership with a sense of belonging, connection, and purpose. It's called "Onboarding" and many of you are already familiar with it. Call, email, or text me if you would like more details.

Our Sisterhood gives us a place to BELONG, and feel WANTED. We can find our purpose as educators in and outside the classroom as part of our Alpha Delta Kappa INTERNATIONAL sisterhood.

Teresa Heitmiller Olea
California Vice President of Membership



State Chaplain Thoughts

by Debbie Waltzer



Hello Sisters! I am the CA State Chaplain for this Biennium. Here are some thoughts I would like to share.

When I was voted into this position, I looked at the responsibilities of this job, which were mainly to deliver an opening thought and ending thought at various meetings. I decided that it was best to make the thoughts short and sweet as well as thought provoking, leaving the audience with something to think about afterwards.

All of my thoughts from last year are posted on the California ADK website. I am a Peanuts fan, so all of my thoughts have been related to Charles Schultz, who had many wonderful insights and thoughts through his characters.

Soon it will be May and we will be at the State Convention where I will be responsible for the Omega Service. I want it to be reflective of all the good our sisters did and celebrate them for their accomplishments. I plan to use President Virginia Riding's theme, "Sisters by Choice - Forever Friends".

I look forward to seeing all of my sisters at the next conference or convention.



Calling All ADK Historians and Chapter Presidents

In an effort to make your life easier, I am asking that you send me 5-10 photos you've taken in this last year (June 2024 to Sept. 2025) of your chapter meetings and events. A group photo would be great. I will use these photos to create a beautiful photo book for Virginia Riding, our current State President, as well as to keep in this biennium's archives.

Please send the photos to me at:

adk.lindabarker@gmail.com

Include your chapter name as well as a brief caption under each photo.

Linda Barker, State Historian 2024-2025

California State Altruistic Project



As you know, Camp Kesem was chosen as the California State Altruistic Project at the 2024 State Convention. This program for children ages 6-18 whose parents are in cancer treatment or who have lost their battle with cancer has 130 nationwide chapters serving 7,000 children. Twenty-two chapters are in California, including on many UC campuses and state universities.

California Alpha Delta Kappa donations will be allocated to cover costs to allow as many children as possible to attend Camp Kesem. **We will continue collecting donations until a new project is chosen at the state convention in May.** Chapter and individual donation checks should be made out to California Alpha Delta Kappa and sent to State Treasurer Virginia Williamson at 22586 Fifth Street, Hayward, CA, 94541.

\$ Keep Sending Donations! \$



Scholarship Update

*The [CA website](#) is currently being renovated. Please use the links provided to access the various scholarships and grants. The Scholarship Committee hopes that including links will increase accessibility to the many opportunities available.

Susan Raffo, State Scholarship Chair

Look What's New! CA Mini Grant Digital Format

CA District Mini Grant – 2025

The Scholarship Committee is excited to announce that the **CA District Mini Grant** can now be submitted in a digital format. Our goal is to make scholarship dollars readily available to all members, actively involved in education or retired.

The purpose of the **District Mini Grant** is to promote continuing personal or professional growth to assist self, other members, and/or the community-at-large with the cost of materials and/or services.

One mini-grant is awarded to each District annually, up to \$500. Applicants must be a CA member in good standing - retired or actively engaged in education. The scope of the mini-grant includes attendance at non-Alpha Delta Kappa conferences, workshops or coursework, as well as assistance with the cost of materials and/or services that benefit self, other members, or the community-at-large. A member may receive a District Mini Grant only once during a biennium. If you have any questions, or cannot access the digital application, please contact a member of the scholarship committee listed on the CA website.

To apply, **complete the online application link, then click to submit by October 30 at 11:59 pm.** It will be directly forwarded to the State Scholarship Committee Chair. You will receive a response from the committee chair within one week confirming the receipt of your application. Because the CA website is “undergoing renovation”, use these links to access the application and rubric.

[District Mini Grant 2025](#)
[Rubric for District Mini Grant](#)

Eleanor Bendell State Scholarship

The Scholarship Committee’s next task is to convert this scholarship into a digital format, **submission date March 1, 2026**. This scholarship, named and endowed by former State President Eleanor Bendell, was created to encourage professional growth: applicants must be enrolled in an academic degree program at an accredited college/university or involved in a worthy education project. **The recipient will receive up to \$3000 at the State Convention. Watch for an e-blast in the next few months for a link to the Eleanor Bendell State Scholarship application.**

Other CA Awards

The [Elizabeth “Betty” Rosenberg Golden Chapter Award](#) is presented at the State Convention to honor chapter participation throughout the biennium. The application is completed by the chapter president and must be **submitted to the State President, Virginia Riding, by February 15, 2026**, to be considered. A description and application can be accessed using the link above.

Regional/International Scholarship Opportunities for Fall

When searching for International scholarships/grants, check out the [Scholarships at a Glance](#) chart on the website (Members Only>Foundation>Scholarships and Grants). To increase accessibility, links are included.

The upcoming grants, scholarships & awards below were featured in the previous President’s Newsletter or distributed via e-blasts.

Nominations for the [Excellence in Education Award](#) are due November 1. [Go to the International website> Members Only>Membership>Awards and Recognition](#)

[Classroom Grant](#) deadline: October 1, 2025

[Regional Mini Fall Scholarship](#) deadline: October 15

[Innovation Grant](#) deadline: November 15



What Are The ABCs of the SWR?

by

Rosena Kruley, Chair
AΔK, SWR Access, Belonging & Community
adk.kruleyr@gmail.com

The Southwest Regional (SWR) Newsletter from June 15, 2025 explains the change in the title of our Committee.

The Alpha Delta Kappa (AΔK) Southwest Access, Belonging and Community Committee is constantly growing. We have members who have been with the committee since its inception four years ago, and new members who have joined along the way. This committee has developed into a space where we can discuss what is on our minds. We started off with members telling their personal stories, which gave them a sense of belonging to the group. We then moved on to having book discussions. We have also used a variety of media to broaden our sense of awareness.

Below are excerpts from individual members of the Committee about what the Committee means to them:

“This meeting has helped me to become more informed on current topics. The readings and videos are not something I normally know about. I have become more aware of current issues, others’ points of view, etc. I’ve been able to express myself to the group and share my point of view on subjects and topics.”

“Participation with the Committee helped me to appreciate the situations and circumstances faced by my sisters in various parts of the country. Discussing books and hearing the thoughts and opinions of others has helped to open my eyes. This committee is extremely valuable to help us face things that need to be changed in our lives and throughout our world.”

“While I have only been here for a short time, what this committee has done for me is it has helped me feel like I belong in this sorority, because I wasn't sure that I was in the right place until I sat in my first meeting here.”

“What this Committee means to me is all in the word belonging. Alpha Delta Kappa should be a place where everyone is welcome, and everyone feels like they belong.”

In case you are wondering when the next meeting is, it is Thursday, September 25th, at 4.00 pm.

How can you join? Easy. Send me your email address! Everyone is welcome!

Information you should know: Over the summer, we read “*Queen of Sugar Hill*” by Reshonda Tate, the story of Hatti McDaniel.



2025 Fundraising Final Totals:

Alpha Delta Kappa Global Team:

94 Teams, 335 Participants

Goal: \$250,000

Raised: \$303,951.68

California Cares:

7th of all teams

Goal: \$10,000

Raised: \$11,511

California Cares Participants:

Gamma Mu: \$3,220 (13th of all participants)

Diana Galvan (Beta Eta): \$2,676

Beta Kappa: \$770

Beta Omicron: \$755

Alpha Lambda: \$680

Beta Xi: \$470

Psi: \$170

Donations directly to California Cares: \$2,550

Submitted by Karen Kirby, Longest Day chair for CA ADK



Alpha Delta Kappa's Breast Cancer Awareness Community has begun the 2025 Breast Cancer Campaign. We are reaching out to all of our Sisters to let them know we are back.

Did you know that 1 out of 8 women in your life will be diagnosed with Breast Cancer? We know that there are sisters in our organization that have had or are experiencing breast cancer right now.

Our group has started working on our 2025 platform for **October's Breast Cancer Month**. We want to show our support as well as educate our sisters with important information about Breast Cancer.

First, this committee has created a Jotform for sharing a Breast Cancer Journey story from our survivors. Also, we are asking for additional stories of how sisters have supported another sister through her journey with Breast Cancer. These stories give all of our sisters the **Hope** and **Healing** needed in our **Community**.

(Link for -"Share Your Story" -- <https://form.jotform.com/252326113859155>)

The stories received will appear on our Social Media venues and our Breast Cancer Awareness Community on CONNECT.

Next, we are continuing our "**CHALLENGE**" for sisters to get a **MAMMOGRAM**. Early detection is the key. Do you know that 1 in 2 women don't get their annual screening done? We are hoping that more sisters join us this year for our challenge. Keep a look out for the numbers of sisters who have taken our challenge as we share the results.

(Link for "Mammogram-A-Thon" -- <https://form.jotform.com/252326797535063>)

Another way you can show support is to join our Breast Cancer Awareness Community on CONNECT. Our CONNECT Community will be sharing stories and information. Also, other CONNECT Communities can be used as a vehicle for questions and discussions.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month means different things to different people. For some, it has changed their lives forever. For others, it is a chance to show support to our sisters who have been diagnosed with this disease.

Alpha Delta Kappa's sisterhood is one of the most precious gems we get when we join. As a community, please join us and stand together to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month. And please take the time to share our message with your members.

Joyce McAloon, Breast Cancer Survivor
Pam Collins, Supporter
Phyllis Robinette, Supporter

The GRreek Squad Can Help

Does your chapter or council need help setting up Zoom meetings? The GRreek Squad can do that for you. Contact the Greek Squad either one of three ways:

1. (Preferred) Send an email to caadkgreeksquad@gmail.com, including your name, chapter, email address, phone number, PC or Mac user, and a brief description of your issue.
2. Call 949-466-8786 and leave a voicemail for Karen Kirby including your name, chapter, email address, phone number, PC or Mac user, and a brief description of your issue.
3. Submit the *Google Form* by clicking on this link: [Assistance Request Form](#)

Recently, the GRreek Squad repeated their presentation on navigating the California AΔK website at a Beta Pi chapter meeting. The presentation was conducted via Zoom. If this is something you would like to have at your chapter meeting, contact the GRreek Squad using the above methods.

The Logo of International President, Conway Blankenship



Calendar

September 1	Regional Officer Candidate Application opens
September 24	Send birthday emails, gift cards, etc. to ITE scholar Meri Kadagidze
October	Alpha Delta Kappa Month
October 1	Classroom Grant Deadline
October 1	Kappan submissions deadline (Did you know that the Kappan's editor is California's own Joanne Grimm?)
October 4	Virtual Northern District Conference
October 15	Fall Regional Mini-Scholarship application deadline
October 15	Chapter Needs Assessment (CNA) Reflections NO FORM-Conversation with State VP for Membership
November 1	Regional Officer Candidate applications deadline
November 1	Excellence in Education Award Nominations deadline (may be nominated by chapter or self-nominated)
November 1	Virtual Valley District Conference
November 1	State Altruistic Project nominations due
November 15	Innovation Grant Deadline
December	Send cards, emails, etc. to ITE scholar Meri Kadagidze
December 5	State Officer applications due
December 5	State Resolution applications due
December 15	State Excellence in Education Application packet deadline
January 24	Virtual Marina District Conference
March 14	Virtual Southern District Conference
May 1-3	State Convention in Old Town Clovis

Remember, send articles and pictures for the next issue!

