



Siblings Revelry

California Alpha Delta Kappa

Volume 2 Issue 4 November 2025



President's Message



Two virtual conferences down, two more to go. Both the Northern and Valley District Conferences were filled with information and chances for interaction. Sisters that attended were overwhelmingly positive. If for some reason you weren't able to attend your own District Conference, or you found the one you did attend was so much fun you want to experience it again, feel free to join another conference. Questions? Contact Virginia Riding at (adk.virginiariding@gmail.com).

Virtual District Conference Reminders

Zoom links will be emailed to all district members a couple of weeks before each conference. Conferences start at 10:00 AM, but there will be time to socialize from 9:30-10:00. The dates are as follows:

Marina District	January 24, 2026
Southern District	March 14, 2026

I look forward to seeing you at a virtual conference soon!



Mark Your Calendars

The State Convention Is Coming!

Miss meeting in person with your ADK sisters? The 36th Alpha Delta Kappa California State Convention will give you that opportunity. Plan to spend the weekend of **May 1-3, 2026** socializing in charming Old Town Clovis. (Clovis is located just east of Fresno in the Central Valley.)

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 any particular hotel so that we can meet a 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.



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.



President-Elect's Message

AΔK Needs YOU To Go Into State Leadership!

Fearful Thinking: Who, me? I've been in leadership at the chapter level, but the state level? I don't think I can do it. 😞

Positive Thinking: The sisters currently in state leadership started at the chapter level, too. They were encouraged to try state leadership. Even though they had worries, their chapter sisters knew they could do it. Sisters throughout the state helped them learn their new roles. It was easier than they thought. Plus, they discovered a new layer of sisterhood above their chapter level. They gave it a try and learned with fabulous teacher leaders who are fun to hang out with.

Courageous Thinking: I'm going to give it a try! 😄

You can do it! Contact me to find out more about becoming an AΔK CA State Leader.

Donna McCartney, CA President-Elect,
adk.donna.mccartney@gmail.com or 412-443-7915.



Treasurer's Corner



Kudos to You!

California Chapters work toward earning “Pearls of Achievement” in Alpha Delta Kappa by completing the required criteria. I’m happy to report that ALL California chapters have earned a pearl by completing the **IRS Form 990 Filing**. EVERY California chapter has filed the Federal form 990-N with the Internal Revenue Service and has sent their confirmations as proof of filing. It is this filing by every chapter that allows Alpha Delta Kappa to retain its tax-exempt status. Thank you, and congratulations!

Another requirement to earn a pearl is **Timely Reporting**. At this point, ALL California chapters have submitted the new Financial Summary 2025 to International Headquarters! Wonderful! There are additional requirements for this pearl, but you’re well on your way. Thank you!

Chapter Dues

Chapter dues have begun coming in... You are so appreciated! I want to provide this friendly reminder:

- **State Dues are \$30** and are paid to the Chapter Treasurer.
- **International Dues are \$40** and members have a choice of paying online or to the Chapter Treasurer.
- When sending International Dues, Chapter Treasurers are reminded to also **include the \$20 ITE fee**.

Here is a reminder of the dues deadlines:

- **December 31** – Dues are due

- **February 1** – Dues not paid will incur a \$5.00 late charge.
- **March 1** – Dues not paid will result in the member being dropped

Chapter Treasurers have a big job, and you are appreciated beyond measure for all you do! Thank you!

Virginia “Ginny” Williamson, CA State Treasurer



Educators Helping Educators Fund Has Money to Give Away!

submitted by Ann McCarty, State Secretary

Who is eligible: Any Alpha Delta Kappa sister can nominate themselves, a fellow sister, a non-ADK person, even a group. You may be retired, but colleagues at your former school or in your district might need help replacing items lost in a local disaster.

What are some examples: Anyone who has lost items, **personal or other**, due to a disaster of any sort - fire, flood, earthquake, etc. Teachers who lost school supplies, classroom books, art supplies, or technology can apply. **The loss can also be personal**, such as a home or vehicle in a fire. When in doubt if your loss qualifies, apply!

What does it take to apply: It is a very simple process - fill out the form attached below and mail it to our state president. This is a no-strings-attached grant - **we want to get money into the hands of worthy applicants as easily and quickly as possible.**

Where did the money come from: These are funds donated by fellow California ADK sisters as well as donations from sisters across the country. **We do not want it to**

sit in our bank account - we want to distribute it. **ACT NOW** for an up to \$300 grant!

[EDUCATORS HELPING EDUCATORS APPLICATION](#)

Email completed application to State President Virginia Riding at

adk.virginiariding@gmail.com

or mail it to her at:

Virginia Riding, 4735 N. Malvern Ave., Sanger, CA 93657



Membership News

State VP for Membership Teresa Heitmiller Olea's chapter, Beta Eta, recently celebrated Founder's Day in a unique way. Their president-elect wrote a skit that focused on their local founders, the ladies that started their chapter in Roseville back in 1964. They discovered that three of their sisters have local elementary schools named after them and that some of the daughters of their founding members are now current members in Beta Eta.

Go to the link below to watch their fun and creative way to celebrate Founder's Day.

https://youtu.be/tTPKlsvc_sM?si=9lzwdjoC4sThS

[Udx](#)

Also, don't forget to keep sending Teresa your nominations for the **“Rockstars of Membership”** award which will be given during the upcoming 2026 State Convention in Historic Clovis. What a great way to honor those sisters who are helping their California chapters thrive!

Nominations and questions can be sent to Teresa at TOLEACASA@GMAILCOM.



Please include a detail or two about why you are recommending your chapter sister for this special recognition. Feel free to nominate more than one sister if your chapter is lucky enough to have several Rockstars.

♥ Connection is Contagious! ♥

Teresa Heitmiller Olea, State VP for Membership

"Mrs. Aloha" 🌴



State Chaplain Thought

by Debbie Waltzer

You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending.



Calling All ADK Historians and Chapter Presidents!

submitted by
Linda Barker, State Historian

Please send me pictures of your 2024-2026 chapter events and meetings. These will be shared with the Southeast Regional Historian and also used for our current President Virginia Riding's memory book. Send at least 5 to 10 pictures with captions to adk.lindabarker@gmail.com.



California State Altruistic Project

Camp Kesem was chosen as the California State Altruistic Project at the 2024 State Convention. **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.

Scholarship Update

submitted by Susan Raffo, State Scholarship Chair

CA District Mini Grant – 2025

The application window for the **CA District Mini Grant closed on November 15**. The new digital format generated more applications than usual – at least one for each of the four districts in the state. Our goal was to make scholarship dollars more readily available to all members, and we did. The Committee hopes more CA sisters, retired or actively engaged in education, will apply in 2026.

Eleanor Bendell State Scholarship

The Scholarship Committee is currently working to convert the Eleanor Bendell State Scholarship application to a **digital format**.

This scholarship, named for 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 or university, or involved in a worthy education project. Information regarding the requirements can be found on the CA website.

The **recipient will receive up to \$3000 at the State Convention**. Now that the CA website is “up and running” thanks to our webmaster, Karen Kirby, we plan to post the link on the website.

The **submission date is March 1, 2026. Watch for an e-blast in the next few months for more information.**

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 State President Virginia Riding by February 15, 2026** to be considered. A description and application can be accessed using the link above.

Regional Professional Development Scholarship

Working on advanced studies, a post-graduate degree, or National Board Certification? The **Regional Professional Development Scholarship**, an award of up to \$1,500, may be used to assist you or other member-applicants engaged in education to support your professional development. Click on the link [Regional Professional Development Scholarship](#) for more information. **Due date: January 31, 2026**

Explore other International scholarships/grants by clicking on [Scholarships at a Glance](#).



SWR Access, Belonging & Community Report

What is LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT?

The ABC Committee of the Southwest Region promotes the need to present a land acknowledgement at the beginning of

meetings/conferences/conventions to honor the original occupants of the land where sisters are meeting.

The State Board has been doing so during this biennium, and we hope that you have also begun to open your own chapter meetings with land acknowledgements that pay tribute to the original inhabitants of the land: the native tribes, who, in most cases, were forced to move off their ancestral lands.

There are three elements to writing a good land acknowledgement:

First, describe the customs and traditions of the indigenous peoples who inhabited the land where the event is being held.

Secondly, relate the history of those peoples to understand why they no longer inhabit that area of land. It's important to be honest and complete in describing this history. Your statement should acknowledge the complexity of colonialism, identity, and the removal of indigenous peoples from their homes and history.

Third, discuss the current situation. What is their connection to their ancestral land?

A land acknowledgement does not just mean learning about the Indigenous peoples who lived on your land in the past. It also means recognizing that they are still a present part of your home and still have a claim to the land you use today. Learning and highlighting the present is just as important as recognizing the past.

Rosena Kruley, Chair (adk.kruleyr@gmail.com)



World Understanding

My name is Kim Donovan. I am the State World Understanding Chairman and a member of CA Beta Eta Chapter, located in Roseville, California. I tutor students, and four of my students have incredible parents who were raised in other countries.

Homework is a big challenge for these families. The parents are frequently unable to help much because they do not understand it. Consequently, completing homework often becomes a fighting match. Fortunately, these families can afford to hire me. It is such a pleasure to help bring peace to these families, and my connections with them have enriched my life.

I taught a mother to read. (I learned that libraries are always looking for volunteers to teach people to read.) Her goal was to be able to read notes from the teacher so she could help her son do his homework.

Many of these families are isolated from those who can help. In all four of my families, they only have friends from their own family and cultural community. When people are made aware of this issue, they can find a way to provide services to their neighbors. A family from the student's class could "adopt" the family in need in order to help them with their homework. Both families would benefit from the new friendship that would develop.

I would like to hear from each chapter about ways in which we can make the world a better place. How can we connect with all our brothers and sisters? Do you have a teacher in your group who has taught in another country or a teacher who was raised in another country? Is there something that she could share with all of us? Have you read a book that you recommend to help us understand different cultures? It would be nice to have a book review. Do you have a story or an example that would benefit all of us?

I would love to hear from all of you. This is a great opportunity to learn from each other. Please feel free to send your stories to me.

Kim Donovan

kimdonovan77@gmail.com

The GRreek Squad Can Help

Does your chapter or council need help setting up Zoom meetings? The GRreek Squad can do that (and more!) for you. Contact the Greek Squad 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](#)

Calendar

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



Happy Thanksgiving!