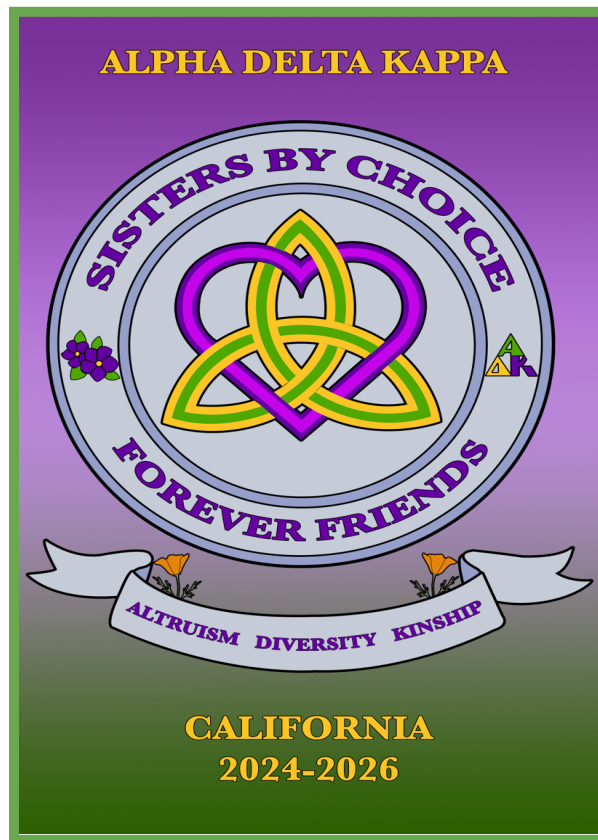




California Alpha Delta Kappa

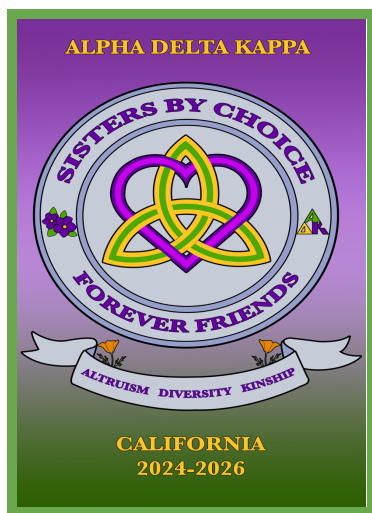
36th State Convention

May 1-3, 2026

Clovis, California

State President Virginia Riding

“Sisters by Choice, Forever Friends”

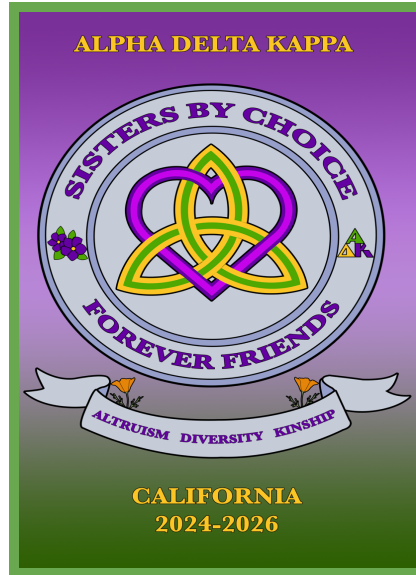


**Alpha Delta Kappa
36th California State Convention
May 1-3, 2026**

**Clovis Veterans Memorial Building,
Clovis, California**

Table of Contents

1.0	Minutes of Pre-Convention State Executive Board Meeting, Expanded Pre-convention State Executive Board Meeting, and Breakfast Meeting
2.0	Minutes of Convention Business Sessions: Summaries of Banquet and Omega Service
3.0	Minutes of Post-Convention Expanded State Executive Board Meeting
4.0	Reports of State Executive Board Members
5.0	Reports of State Standing Committee Chairs
6.0	Reports of State Convention Committee Chairs
7.0	Appendices 👑 Convention Program and Schedule 👑 Rules Governing the Convention 👑 Treasurer’s Report, Proposed Budget for 2026-2028, Budget Item Descriptions 👑 California State Bylaws 👑 California State Altruistic Project Nomination 👑 2026 Candidate Qualifications 👑 Membership Reports 👑 Banquet Program 👑 Omega Service Program 👑 Immediate Past President Virginia Riding’s Banquet Farewell Speech 👑 State President Donna McCartney’s Banquet Acceptance Speech 👑 State Convention Evaluation Form 👑 Chaplain’s Thoughts



Alpha Delta Kappa

36th California State Convention

May 1-3, 2026

1.0: Minutes

Pre-Convention State Executive Board Meeting
Pre-Convention Expanded Executive Board Meeting
President's Council Breakfast Meeting



**California Alpha Delta Kappa
36th California State Convention
Pre-Convention Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, May 1, 2026
Clovis Veterans' Memorial District Building
808 4th St. Clovis, CA 93612**

1.0 Call to Order

Virginia

Riding, State President

Virginia called the meeting to order at 1:33.

2.0 Roll Call

Ann McCarty, State Secretary

Members present

President	Virginia Riding	<i>Gamma</i>
President Elect	Donna McCartney	<i>Gamma Nu</i>
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>
Executive Advisor to the Board	Susan Raffo	<i>Beta Rho</i>

2.1 Introduce Guests

Virginia

Virginia introduced Jeanie Hinck, Southwest Regional President. She shared her excitement at being in Clovis, as it was her first time ever in the region.

3.0 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

4.0 Approval of Agenda

All

The agenda was accepted as presented.

5.0 Opening Thought

Debbie Waltzer, State Chaplain

Debbie read a picture book aloud called What Sisters do Best by Laura Numeroff, to honor Virginia's theme of Sisters by Choice, Forever Friends. She presented the book to Virginia as a gift.

6.0 Approval of March 23, 30 and April 4, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Ann

The minutes from the three online meetings were accepted as presented.

7.0 Treasurer's Report

Ginny Williamson, State Treasurer

7.1 Bank Account Updates as of May 1, 2026

Wells Fargo Bank Accounts

Checking:	\$19,116.62
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Scholarship:	\$9,713.96
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Reserve:	<u>\$46,084.70</u>
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Total Bank Accounts:	\$74,915.28
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Investment Account

Noel Leonard Fund (held in AΔK Foundation)	\$ 86,598.87
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OVERALL TOTAL	\$161,514.15
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7.2 Camp Kesem Contribution: We will be presenting a check for \$4500 to Camp Kesem at the upcoming State Convention.

7.3 Convention Expense Reimbursement: State Board members will be reimbursed for hotel and travel for the State Convention, on forms submitted to Ginny Williamson. The Board will not be reimbursed the daily \$35 stipend, per Policies and Procedure re: reimbursement of Board members at State Convention.

For those who incurred expenses directly related to the Convention, they will submit a reimbursement form submitted to Marlene Cordova.

DEBBIE MOVED THAT FOR THE MAY 1-3, 2026 BOARD MEETING WE FOREGO THE CUSTOMARY PRACTICE OF HAVING ALL BOARD MEMBERS REVIEW THE REIMBURSEMENT FORMS PRIOR TO THE TREASURER SENDING OUT CHECKS. THE TREASURER WILL REVIEW THE FORMS HERSELF AND REIMBURSE BOARD MEMBERS WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE BOARD MEETING. LINDA SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

7.4 Other: The request to cover the costs for 18 First Timers (\$200 each) to attend the State Convention from the Noel Leonard Fund held by International will be distributed directly to the recipients by International following the Convention. This will be a reimbursement for the first timers who have already prepaid their registration.

8.0 Membership Report

Teresa Heitmiller Olea, State VP for Membership

8.1 Chapter/Membership Status: Will be shared during the upcoming State Convention.

8.2 Convention Awards: Will be presented at the Saturday evening Banquet during the State Convention.

8.3 Delegate Status: Will be presented by Rita Pritchard following the State Convention.

8.4 Chapter Needs Assessment: Teresa has reminded Chapter Presidents that the Chapter Needs assessments are due by May 15. She will follow up as needed with the Presidents.

8.5 Other: No other business was presented.

9.0 Unfinished Business

9.1 2026 State Convention Update

Virginia

Virginia thanked the Board for supporting her during the planning of the Convention.

9.1.1 Omega Service

Debbie

Debbie is well prepared for the Omega Ceremony. Her intent is to make it somewhat interactive.

9.1.2 Other

No other new business was presented.

9.2 State Officer Applications/Vacancies Donna McCartney, State PE

Donna shared that there is now a candidate for Historian/Sergeant-at-Arms. Kathy Gutierrez, *Alpha Delta*, has volunteered for the position and will be nominated from the floor at the State Convention, along with Co-Vice Presidents for Membership, Teresa Heitmiller-Olea, *Beta Eta* and Carol Valcarcel, *Gamma Nu*.

9.3 Other Unfinished Business

No other unfinished business was shared.

10.0 New Business

All

No new business was presented.

11.0 Announcements

Virginia shared her appreciation for the current Executive Board and the bonds of sisterhood and friendship that have developed over the biennium. She distributed gifts of appreciation to the Board.

12.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.



**California Alpha Delta Kappa
36th California State Convention
Pre-Convention Expanded Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, May 1, 2026
Clovis Veterans' Memorial District Building
808 4th St. Clovis, CA 93612**

1.0 Call to Order

Virginia Riding, State President

Virginia called the meeting to order at 2:50 p.m.

2.0 Roll Call

Ann McCarty, State Secretary

Members present

President	Virginia Riding	<i>Gamma</i>
President Elect	Donna McCartney	<i>Gamma Nu</i>
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>
Executive Advisor to the Board	Susan Raffo	<i>Beta Rho</i>

2.1 Introduce Guests

Virginia

Leanne Funk	Balloting Chair	<i>Gamma</i>
Jeanie Hinck	SouthWest Regional President	<i>CO</i>
Susan Blough	State Altruistic Projects	<i>Zeta</i>
Rita Pritchard	Registration	<i>Beta Eta</i>
Marlene Cordova	Treasurer	<i>Phi</i>
Mari Page	Candidate Qualifications	<i>Gamma Mu</i>
Mollie Acosta	Convention Co-chair	<i>Xi</i>
Mary Ann Englehart	Convention Co-chair	<i>Xi</i>

3.0 Reimbursement Procedures

Marlene Cordova, Convention Treasurer

Marlene has shared a Convention Expense reimbursement form electronically. She asked that the completed form and receipts be sent directly to her and she will reimburse in a timely manner.

3.1 Board, State Standing Committee Chairs, Convention-Related Chairs

No business was presented.

4.0 Convention Program Run-Through

Virginia

Virginia reminded chairs and others making reports at the Convention to be at the podium prior to their time to speak, in order to facilitate the flow and timely sharing of reports.

4.1 Other Questions

No questions were presented.

5.0 Post-Convention Transition

Virginia

Virginia reminded Committee and Convention chairs that there will be an opportunity to pass useful info along to their replacement at the meeting following the Omega Ceremony. Examples would be a flash drive, hard materials or Google drive link. If not done at that time, new President Donna McCartney will facilitate the transfer as needed.

5.1 Sunday after Omega Service

There will be a brief outgoing Executive Board meeting prior to the expanded meeting with new Board members following the Omega Service.

6.0 Announcements

Jeanie brought greetings from the International Executive Board (IBB). She expressed her appreciation for the important and excellent work the CA Executive Board has completed this biennium. She invited all to attend the upcoming Regional Conference in Las Vegas on June 24-26, 2026. There are 24 states and 3 countries represented in the three regions of this Regional Conference.

7.0 Closing Thought

Debbie Waltzer, Chaplain

Sisters are like branches of the same tree - rooted in love and forever connected.

8.0 Adjournment

Virginia adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.



**36th California Alpha Delta Kappa Convention
Presidents Council Breakfast Meeting Minutes
Veterans Room, Clovis Veterans' Memorial District
Clovis, CA
5/2/2026**

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Elect Donna McCartney at 8:00 a.m.

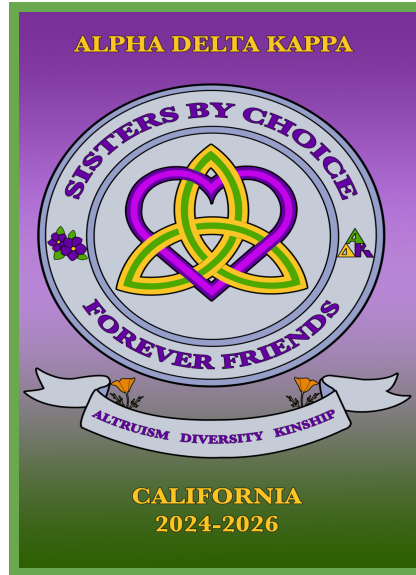
Welcome

Donna welcomed guests and invited them to get morning snacks and beverages before seating.

Program

Donna introduced the topic of Leadership in ADK. The sisters in attendance were broken into teams of two and asked to brainstorm ideas to promote leadership in our chapters and organization. The ideas were recorded on a provided form and then shared orally with the group. Donna collected the forms for the board to review in the future.

The breakfast meeting was adjourned at 8:50.



Alpha Delta Kappa

36th California State Convention

May 1-3, 2026

2.0: Minutes and Summaries

Minutes of Convention Business Sessions

Summary of Banquet

Summary of Omega Service



**California Alpha Delta Kappa
36th Annual Convention
Business Sessions Minutes
Saturday, May 2, 2026
Veteran's Room, Clovis Veteran's Memorial District**

First Business Session 9:00 a.m - 11:45 a.m.

Call to Order: Virginia Riding, *Gamma*, State President at 9:00 a.m.

Welcome:

Virginia welcomed Alpha Delta Kappa guests. She invited State Sergeant-at-Arms Linda Barker and the other Sergeants-at-Arms present to escort the Past State Presidents in attendance and to share their name, years of their presidency and presidential theme.

Parade of Past State Presidents

Rosemary Heenan, 2008-2010: A Bright Future for AΔK
Susan Raffo, 2010-2012: Seize the Spirit - Scholarship, Service and Sisterhood
Mollie Acosta, 2012-2014: Making a Difference
Mary Ann Englehart, 2014-2016: Sisters with Heart
Diana Galvan, 2016-2018: Reflect the Vision
Karen Kirby, 2018-2020: Ride the Wave of Inspiration in AΔK
Sara Cooper, 2020-2022: California Proud
Rosena Kruley, 2022-2024: Step into the Future

Parade of Chapter Presidents or designee

Representatives from the following chapters paraded in with their chapter banners, introduced themselves and stated how many sisters from their chapter were in attendance.

Host Chapter, *Gamma*, August 26, 1953 Fresno - 15 attending
Alpha, August 25, 1953 Oakland- 2 attending
Theta, August 27, 1953 Bakersfield - 2 attending
Zeta, August 29, 1953 Long Beach - 1 attending
Iota, Nov. 7, 1954 Riverside - 1 attending
Xi, June 2, 1956 - 6 attending
Phi, May 21, 1958 San Francisco - 4 attending
Alpha Alpha, March 21, 1959 Berkeley - 1 attending
Alpha Delta, Nov. 12, 1959 Redlands - 1 attending
Alpha Lambda, Dec. 2, 1960, Sunnyvale - 2 attending
Alpha Nu, Feb. 24, 1961 Oakland - 4 attending
Alpha Pi, March 18, 1961 San Bernardino - 2 attending
Beta Alpha, Sept. 15, 1962 Concord - 2 attending
Beta Eta, Jan. 6, 1964 Roseville - 6 attending

Beta Iota, Jan. 17, 1965 Yucaipa - 1 attending
Beta Kappa, May 2, 1965 Alameda - 1 attending
Beta Xi, Jan. 16, 1967 San Francisco - 1 attending
Beta Pi, March 30, 1968 San Jose - 2 attending
Beta Rho, April 29, 1969 Burlingame - 4 attending
Beta Upsilon, Nov. 11, 1969 Antioch - 2 attending
Gamma Eta, April 15, 1972 Palm Springs - 2 attending
Gamma Mu, June 11, 1983 Mission Viejo - 2 attending
Gamma Nu, Feb. 25, 1984 Irvine - 4 attending

The Joint Honor Guard of Clovis VFW Post 3225 and Clovis American Legion Post 147 presented the colors, followed by the flag salute.

Land Acknowledgement: Rosena Kruley, *Beta Alpha*, Immediate Past President; SW Region Chair for the Access, Belonging and Community Committee.

Rosena gratefully acknowledged the Yokut tribe of the San Joaquin Valley, and the native peoples on whose ancestral homelands we gather. There were approximately 60 individual tribes of from 400-600 people per community in the area prior to European contact, which was diminished by 93% between 1850 and 1900. Currently there are 2000 enrolled members in the Yokut tribe.

Opening Thought: Debbie Waltzer, *Iota*, State Chaplain

Use your voice for kindness;
your ears for compassion;
Your hands for charity,
your mind for truth
and your heart for love.

Welcome: Tom Wright, Clovis Veterans' Memorial District Board Member, Educator

Tom welcomed guests to the convention and Clovis. He shared the history of the Veterans Memorial District Board in Clovis, which began after WWII. The special memorial District was established via State legislation to honor and remember veterans. The result was a center for the community in Clovis known as the Veterans' Memorial District. It has served as an important part of the community of Clovis for 7 decades. The current facility has been expanded and remodeled over the years and is now outfitted with up to date technology and security and continues to honor veterans.

Presentation of the State Executive Board and Honored Guests: Virginia Riding

Virginia acknowledged and thanked the current Executive Board members, asking them to stand as she called their names.

Immediate Past State President – Rosena Kruley, *Beta Alpha*
President-Elect – Donna McCartney, *Gamma Nu*
Vice President for Membership – Teresa Heitmiller Olea, *Beta Eta*
Treasurer – Ginny Williamson, *Beta Kappa*
Recording Secretary – Ann McCarty, *Alpha Lambda*
Historian/Sergeant-at-Arms – Linda Barker, *Gamma*
Chaplain – Debbie Waltzer, *Iota*

Introduction of Honored Guests

Virginia Riding

Virginia introduced International Representative and Southwest Regional President, Jeanie Hinck. Jeanie expressed appreciation and thanks for Virginia and the State Executive Board for their service. She shared the logo from the International President, which is meant to inspire and promote an organization that is open to new ideas; welcomes, honors and brings in new members; and evolves and grows as an organization.

Jeanie shared that the next International Convention will be held July 14-18, 2027 in Spokane, WA. She also invited sisters to the Regional Conference to be held June 24-27, 2026 in Las Vegas which will include chapters from the Northwest, Southwest and North Central regions. Jeanie also welcomed Convention attendees to speak to her this weekend, as she appreciates hearing from sisters across the region and takes their feedback to the International Executive Board.

Virginia introduced Molly Acosta, *California Xi*, Past International Vice President to the Southwest Region, International President for 2021-2023 biennium, current Chair of the Alpha Delta Kappa Foundation and co-chair of this Convention.

Virginia introduced Mary Ann Englehart, *California Xi*, Immediate Past President of the Southwest Region, currently a 4 year member of the International Board and co-chair of this Convention.

Welcome from Convention Co-Chairs:

Mary Ann Englehart and Mollie Acosta

Mollie welcomed attendees and thanked them for attending in person. Mary Ann encouraged sisters to explore the Veterans' Memorial Building where the Conference is being held.

Mollie thanked Convention Registrar Rita Prichard and pointed out the past presidents' archives in the back of the room. Mary Ann shared that the Past Presidents are conducting a raffle during the Convention, which will benefit Camp Kesem. It was also noted that Molly and Mary Ann have provided a wreath to the Veterans' Memorial Building in AΔK colors, to honor members and family members of AΔK sisters who

have served in the military and invited attendees to view it in the inner courtyard of the building.

Introductions:

Virginia Riding

Virginia introduced the following special guests:

Betty Jo Evers from Arizona, Past International Vice President for Membership, Past International Vice President of the Southwest Region and current Southwest Regional Fraternity Education Chair.

Carol Fenwick, CA *Alpha Lambda*, who is serving as Parliamentarian.

Recognitions of State and Chapter Leaders

Virginia Riding

Virginia asked sisters to stand for recognition if they have ever held an office on the State Executive Board, or served as a Chair of a State Standing Committee, or as a member of a State Committee. She also asked sisters to stand for recognition if they have ever served as President of a Chapter or President of a District Council.

First Timers

Virginia Riding

Virginia recognized sisters who are attending their very first State Convention. She shared that Past State President Noel Leonard left money to California AΔK specifically to be used to encourage attendance at State Conventions. In the 2024 and 2026 bienniums, the Executive Board approved awarding \$200 for all first time Convention attendees. They will receive reimbursement via check in the mail following the Convention.

Delta Council: Vicky Cupp, Sharon Higbee, and Kathleen Meadows

Golden Gate Council: Nikki Sullivan

From Peninsula/So. Bay Council: Jeanne McCann, Sara-Maria Menendez, and Carol Shimizu

Sierra Council: Jaci McAleer

Fresno/Modesto Council: Karen Basham, Kathi Carrle, Cami Cipolla, Stephanie Guerra, Nicole Hansen, Kristan Kesterke, Kathleen Lehman, Amy Micu, Amanda Rayburn, and Dee Dee Sary

First Timers Speaker:

Nikki Gonzales Sullivan, *Phi*

Nikki is a fourteen year teacher of high school social studies. She shared a compelling account of her teaching experiences. She has witnessed the impact of social media on her students. She related her belief that our responsibility as educators is to teach students to

think and read deeply, write clearly, and understand the benefit to learning from “sitting” sit in the discomfort of not knowing.. She shared her awe for her students, the challenges they face, their heart and thoughtfulness for others, and her joy in working with this student population.

**Please see the text of her full talk in the appendix.*

Recognition of Pearl, Violet, Silver, Sapphire, Golden, Diamond and Platinum Sisters

Virginia Riding

Virginia asked sisters to stand according to their years of membership. Pearl (less than 10 years), Violet (10-24 years), Silver (25 - 34 years), Sapphire (35-49 years), Golden (50 -59 years) and Diamond (60 - 69 years) Sisters.

Recognition of State Committee Chairs and Convention Chairs

Virginia Riding

Virginia acknowledged and thanked the following State committee Chairs.

State Scholarship Chair: Susan Raffo, *Beta Rho*

Altruistic Report Chair: Fran Dunleavey, *Beta Rho*

Tech chair/ webmaster: Karen Kirby, *Gamma Mu*

Bylaws: Colleen Golden, *Beta Rho*

Excellence in Education: Kathy Gutierrez, *Alpha Delta*

State Altruistic Project: Susan Blough, *Zeta*

World Understanding Chair: Kim Donovan

Candidate Qualifications: Mari Page, *Gamma Mu*

Virginia acknowledged and thanked the following State Convention Committee Chairs

Co-chairs: Mollie Acosta and Mary Ann Englehart, *Xi*

Registrar: Rita Prichard, *Beta Eta*

Treasurer: Marlene Cordova, *Phi*

Balloting Chair: Leanne Funk, *Gamma*

Decorations: Kathi Carrie, *Gamma*

Parliamentarian: Carol Fenwick, *Alpha Lambda*

Keynote Speaker:

Joanne Grimm, *Alpha Alpha*, *KAPPAN* editor

Joanne shared the story of her personal life journey, which included a start in journalism while still a high school student. From there she became one of the few women in the journalism department at San Jose State University. Marriage and 3 children followed and eventually she became a substitute teacher in Oakland Unified School District. She earned her teaching credential and eventually became principal at Oakland High School, a very ethnically and linguistically diverse school. She was invited to attend an AΔK meeting, not knowing what it was about and is now a sapphire sister. She is also the current editor of the Kappan magazine. She talked about the reality of ageism - there is

no sell by date on thinking and creativity and ended by encouraging us all to continue to grow, learn and contribute throughout our lives.

Registration/Credentials Report: Rita Prichard, Convention Registrar. *Beta Eta*

Rita presented the first Registration and Credentials Report:

Chapter delegates (one per 10 active members): 28

State Executive Board Members: 7

Past State Presidents: 7

Chairs of State Standing Committees: 3

Chairs of the State Convention: 3

Presidents of Councils: 2

Sustaining (one per 10 registered and attending): 0

Total delegates: 50 registered and present

MOTION Made by Rita Prichard:

**ON BEHALF OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE, I MOVE THAT
THIS LIST OF DELEGATES BE THE OFFICIAL ROLL OF THE
CONVENTION.**

Virginia stated that the motion does not need a second, as it comes from a Committee and reminded the attendees that only delegates may vote. The motion was unanimously approved and the delegates were seated.

Adoption of Rules of Convention: Molly Acosta

Virginia reminded attendees that they had received the Rules of Convention via email prior to the Convention and they have also been posted on the CA State Website. They will not be read orally today.

* See appendices for the rules of convention.

MOTION Made by Molly Acosta:

**I MOVE FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF
CONVENTION FOR THE 2026 CALIFORNIA ALPHA DELTA
KAPPA STATE CONVENTION. CAROL VALCARCEL
SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

Virginia reminded the attendees that only delegates may vote. The motion was unanimously approved through vocal acclamation and the 2026 Rules of Convention were adopted.

Acceptance of Convention Program:

Mary Ann Englehart

Virginia reminded attendees that they had received the Convention Program via email prior to the Convention, and they were also provided a copy at the registration table. No corrections were noted.

MOTION Made by Mary Ann Englehart:

**ON BEHALF OF THE CONVENTION COMMITTEE, I MOVE
FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE CONVENTION PROGRAM,
WITH FLEXIBILITY AS WRITTEN/CORRECTED.**

Virginia stated that the motion does not need a second, as it comes from a Committee and reminded the attendees that only delegates may vote. The motion was unanimously approved through vocal acclamation and the 2026 Convention Program was adopted. The 36th California Alpha Delta Kappa State Convention is officially in session.

Approval of 2024 State Convention Minutes: Ann McCarty, *Alpha Lambda*, State Secretary
The 2024 CA State Convention Minutes were read and approved by a committee composed of Past State Secretary Marilyn Bracelin, *Alpha Phi*, Harriet Kelly, *Gamma Nu*, and Ann McCarty, *Alpha Lambda*. The minutes for this 36th State Convention will be prepared and read by Ann McCarty, Kathy Gutierrez, *Alpha Delta* and Pam Burris, *Gamma Nu*.

The official Minutes of the Convention will be published by the first District Conference of the new biennium, in October 2026. They will also be available on the California website.

Correspondence:

Ann McCarty

There was no correspondence to be read.

Treasurer's Report:

Virginia Williamson, *Beta Kappa*, State Treasurer

Virginia Williamson reported the following balances as of May 1, 2026

Wells Fargo Bank Accounts

Checking: \$19,116.62

Scholarship: \$9,713.96

Reserve: \$46,084.70

Total Bank Accounts: \$74,915.28

Investment Account

Noel Leonard Fund (held in AΔK Foundation) \$ 86,598.87

OVERALL TOTAL \$161,514.15

Virginia shared that donations totalling \$4500 had been received for our State Altruistic Project, Camp Kesem. They will be presented with a check later in the business meeting. She also shared that money from the “Educators Helping Educators” crisis fund had recently been distributed to a number of teachers impacted by the 2025 Southern California wildfires, in the total amount of \$5800. That leaves a balance of \$4,654.00 in that account. Virginia also noted that the San Francisco chapter of CALRTA donated \$5000 to this fund.

Proposed 2026-2028 State Budget:

Virginia Williamson

The State Budget Committee met last fall to prepare the proposed budget. It was composed of current treasurer, Ginny Williamson, *Beta Kappa*, Diana Galvan, *Beta Eta*, Karen Kirby, *Gamma Mu*, Donna McCartney, *Gamma Nu*, Lynn Keating, *Gamma Eta*, and Virginia Riding, *Gamma*. The budget has been shared with the delegates in the registration package and is posted on the State website.

*See appendices for a copy of the proposed budget.

MOTION Made by Virginia Williamson

**ON BEHALF OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE, I MOVE THAT
THE 2026-2028 PROPOSED BUDGET BE ADOPTED AS THE
OFFICIAL BUDGET FOR CALIFORNIA ALPHA DELTA KAPPA.**

Virginia stated that the motion does not need a second, as it comes from a Committee. Voting by delegates only will take place upon the recess of the first business meeting.

Resolutions:

Virginia Riding

Virginia shared that Resolutions Chair Kathleen Waffle, *Beta Eta* was unable to attend the Convention. Virginia reported that there were no resolutions submitted during the biennium.

Bylaws:

Colleen Golden, Bylaws Chair, *Beta Rho*

Colleen reported that the California Bylaws were written using a Jotform provided by International Headquarters in order to mirror the International Bylaws. The California Bylaws have been submitted to the International Bylaws Committee and a hard copy is available for any attendees to review.

MOTION made by Colleen Golden

**COLLEEN MOVED THAT THE 2026 PROPOSED CALIFORNIA STATE
BYLAWS BE ADOPTED. JACI BAKER, *BETA ETA*, SECONDED.**

Voting by delegates only will take place upon the recess of the first business meeting.

State Altruistic Project:

Susan Blough, *Zeta*, State Altruistic Project Chair

Susan thanked and acknowledged the State Altruistic Committee which consisted of Anita Brown, *Alpha Lambda* from the Northern District, Becky Robbins, *Pi*, from the Marina District, and Laurie Goodman, *Xi*, from Valley District

Susan reviewed the process for the nomination process. Only one nomination for State altruistic project was received, which was a renomination of Camp Kesem by *Beta Omicron*. Voting by delegates to approve this will take place upon recess of the first business meeting.

Presentation of Candidates for State Executive Board: Mari Page, *Gamma Mu*, Candidate Qualification Chair

Mari thanked and acknowledged the Candidate Qualification Committee which consisted of: Anita Brown, *Alpha Lambda*, Northern District, Leanne Funk, *Gamma*, Valley District, Karen Kirby, *Gamma Mu*, Marina District, Grete Lima, *Beta Iota*, Southern District.

Mari shared the following slate of candidates for the 2026-2028 Biennium and asked them to come to the front of the room. She noted that information about each candidate can be found on display in the foyer.

Candidates:

Donna McCartney	State President, <i>Gamma Nu</i>
Ann McCarty	President Elect, <i>Alpha Lambda</i>
Virginia Williamson	Treasurer, <i>Beta Kappa</i>
Rita Prichard	Secretary, <i>Beta Eta</i>
Linda Barker	Chaplain, <i>Gamma</i>

Virginia noted that typically the President position is not one that is voted on. However, as Donna McCartney was appointed rather than voted in as President Elect in the previous biennium, it is necessary to elect her officially as president at this time.

The following nominations from the floor were made. Mari indicated that their applications for each has been reviewed and verified:

Harriet Kelly, *Gamma Nu*, nominated Carol Valcarel, *Gamma Nu* for Co-Vice President for Membership
Mary Ellen Chaboya, *Beta Eta* nominated Teresa Heitmiller-Olea, *Beta Eta* for Co-Vice President for Membership
Sara Cooper, *Beta Iota*, nominated Kathy Gutierrez, *Alpha Delta*, for Historian/Sergeant at Arms.

Virginia thanked Mari and her committee for their work in certifying the candidates. According to Alpha Delta Kappa International Bylaws, officers on the ballot who are running unopposed are declared elected by acclamation. As there is only one candidate for each office, Virginia declared the officers for the 2026-2028 biennium have been elected.

Balloting Instructions

Leanne Funk,

Delegates will check in to receive their ballots in the lobby; mark the ballot indicating their choice and place marked ballots into the provided locked box. Voting will be completed on the altruistic project, approval of bylaws and budget. Marked ballots will be turned into the provided locked box.

Announcements:

Mary Ann Englehart and Molly Acosta

Announcements were made related to lunch and lost items.

Chaplain:

Debbie Waltzer shared a thought before lunch.

Today is a good day to have a great day,

To smile more, worry less, to be the very best version of you.

To do more of what makes you happy every day.

To be positive and regret nothing.

To be humble and work hard.

Every day may not be good, but find something good in every day.

Laugh, Love, Live.

Follow your dreams, believe in yourself and remember to be Awesome!

Recess: Virginia recessed the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

Luncheon: 12: 00 - 1:00



**California Alpha Delta Kappa
36th Annual Convention
Business Sessions Minutes
Saturday, May 2, 2026
Veteran's Room, Clovis Veteran's Memorial District**

Second Business Session 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Call to Order: Virginia Riding

Virginia reconvened the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Guest: Sisters in Motion - Michael Rodriguez; Fitness Coach at Herndon FitBody Boot Camp in Fresno.

Michael made a number of suggestions for easy fitness that can be completed in everyday settings and with minimal and/or everyday equipment. Some suggestions included: Use a weighted vest or carry a loaded purse while doing squats or lunges. Push ups on the edge of a table. Crunches on a classroom table. Use a fitness band, carry heavy books, put items into cupboards above your head, seated calf raises, standing crunches, drink water with supplements, and HIRT- High Intensity Resistance Training for bone health.

Balloting Results: Leanne Funk, *Gamma* for Dianne Poettgen, Balloting Chair

The following officers have been approved for the 2026-28 Biennium by acclimation.

Historian/Sgt at Arms	Kathy Gutierrez, <i>Alpha Delta</i>
Chaplain:	Linda Barker, <i>Gamma</i>
Secretary:	Rita Prichard, <i>Beta Eta</i>
Treasurer:	Ginny Williamson, <i>Beta Kappa</i>
Co-VPs for Membership:	Carol Valcarcel, <i>Gamma Nu</i> and Teresa Heitmiller-Olea, <i>Beta Eta</i>
President-Elect:	Ann McCarty, <i>Alpha Lambda</i>
President	Donna McCartney, <i>Gamma Nu</i>

The Chair declared an election and the 2026-2028 Executive Board has been approved..

Other balloting results:

Camp Kesem received 50 votes for the State Altruistic Project.. The Chair declared an election.

The proposed Bylaws received 50 votes. The Chair declared an election and the Bylaws approved..

The Proposed CA Budget received 50 votes. The Chair declared an election and the budget approved as the official budget for the 2026-2028 biennium.

International Representative Presentation: Jeanie Hinck, Southwest Regional President

Jeanie shared some thoughts about growing our chapters through connections with our sisters. She asked how we can create a culture where curiosity creates growth in order to enrich our sisterhood? For example, through reciprocal mentoring and/or shared leadership. Strong leadership evolves and values voices from all generations. Continuous growth is the goal. Leadership opportunities are not limited to officer roles. Chapters need to evolve.

The attendees watched a video on the topic of: Engage, Communicate and Listen to members. Some topics shared were: Look at ways to mix up meeting formats, locations, themes; Share leadership through co-officers; Listen to members to hear their needs and to get to know each other better - the goal is to build community and connection.

The attendees broke into small groups to discuss the following questions:

- How can your chapter introduce new voices?
- How can we experiment with leadership opportunities and style?
- How do we encourage members to go beyond the chapter level to fully embrace and experience our sisterhood?
- How can we grow and experiment with new activities and ideas so we can learn together?

Jeanie encouraged attendees to consider the following: What is the one action you are going to take back to your chapter to discuss ways to energize them into the future.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Report: Teresa Heitmiller-Olea, *Beta Eta*, State VP for Membership

Teresa shared the following statistics re: membership in this past biennium.

763 members

57 New Initiates in CA this biennium.

80 under contract

39 chapters

4 chapters disbanded

Teresa encouraged sisters to continue this momentum of growth - it is real.

Staying connected with our sisters is the key- because Connection is Contagious.

Featured Speaker: Betty Joe Evers, *AZ Iota*, Fraternity Education Chair;

Betty Joe gave a talk about Leadership Made Easy. based on info presented in the International leadership academy; research, and her own experience as an international consultant.

She shared the Webster dictionary definition of leadership: Your ability to guide, influence and inspire individuals or groups toward achieving a shared vision/goal. She told us we are all leaders by virtue of being asked to join AΔK.

Betty Jo presented the Three P's of Leadership: Preparation; Presentation and Personalization.

Preparation: This can be either a deal maker or deal breaker

Audience: Know your audience, who are you speaking to?

Content: Match the content to the title that has been advertised and to your experience and research. Debrief at the end to see if the goal of the presentation was met?

Script: Mark it, color code, sticky notes, highlight, underline, turn down page corners so they turn easily; hold your script in a folder etc.....to make sure you deliver all your content;

Plan B: have a back up copy or share your script with someone else in case you need it for back up if tech fails; Keep power point text large (size 30 or greater).

Materials: Gather early, make a list as needed.

Dress: Do a final check before leaving: is badge on and straight; clean appearance

Arrival: Arrive 30 minutes early to greet; stay 30 minutes after for questions.

Set up: Organize them in the order you will use them

Presentation - does not need to be formal

Purpose: Why are you speaking; what do you hope to accomplish

Podium Protocol: don't grip the podium

Present yourself: Dress one level above your audience, reduce distractions such as hair, long earrings, lots of bracelets, Scarves can get tangled in microphone

Eye contact: look at back wall from one side to another

Stand up straight, with belly towards the audience.

Speak Slowly

Never Apologize or over explain

Speak over the mic, not into it.

Read your audience - change it up when they start falling asleep - e.g. turn and talk; high five, movement, hammer clap (one fist on another to make a silent clap)

Do not read the entire slide -embellish and give examples

Look comfortable

Podium is home away from home.

Share your story, listen to other stories, show them you are human to the audience, make them feel you are one of them.

Personalization:

Be yourself
Use humor
Share personal stories
Use active listening
Mentoring is vital/powerful

Extra Nuggets: Get comfortable with being uncomfortable.

With leadership comes responsibility - embrace it.

Leadership is not about what you know, but who you are.

Start from where you are now - and Grow!

Betty ended her presentation with the following quote: *If the door of opportunity opens, go through it - you will not regret it, but may regret that you did not.*

Altruistic Report: Colleen Golden, *Beta Rho* for Fran Dunleavy, *Beta Rho*, State Altruistic Chair

Colleen thanked all the chapters who assisted by submitting their altruistic reports and shared the following report.

REPORT SUBMISSION RATES**2024-2025**

85% 35/41 chapters

2025-2026

95% 35/37 chapters

CONTRIBUTIONS**2024-2025**

Hours of service

28,982

Monetary gifts

\$190,782

Non-monetary gifts

\$82,357

Scholarships

\$46,445

Annual Totals

\$319,584

2025-2026

33,295

\$185,904

\$63,524

\$45,129

\$342,620

BIENNIUM TOTALS

Hours

62,277

Altruistic donations

\$662,204

State Altruistic Project: Susan Blough, *Zeta*, Altruistic Project Chair

Susan presented a check for \$4,500.00 to Camp Kesem, which was accepted by Camp Kesem representative Victor Martinez-Ambriz. Victor shared information about Camp Kesem, which is a summer camp for any child impacted by a parent's cancer and the positive impact the camp has on students, staff and Victor himself.

Featured Speaker: Cami Cipolla, *Xi*

Cami is a College instructor in History at West Hills College and contributor to the Fresno County Historical Society. She gave a presentation about Oral Histories in the classroom.

Cami shared the importance of oral histories in the classroom by starting with her own personal story about her lifelong journey to AΔK, first as a child helping her mother Mary Ann Englehart with AΔK related events. Everyone has many stories that they don't often get to share. Oral histories are histories told by those who lived it: recorded first hand accounts that capture memory, experience and cultural identity. Oral histories are about our shared, lived, human experience. Why is it important in education?

- Makes history personal and relatable
- Strengthens intergenerational learning
- Encourages critical thinking and empathy

Recording oral histories also builds learning skills such as research and interviewing; active listening; storytelling and writing, and cultural understanding. Cami shared a clip of a video she is helping to make as part of a grant to record local oral histories. She ended by encouraging us all to share our stories with others and sharing this quote: *History is who we are and why we are the way we are. David McCullough*

Scholarships:

Susan Raffo, *Beta Rho*, State Scholarship Chair

Susan began by thanking and acknowledging her committee members, one from each district. They were Lila Peres, Valley (in attendance), along with Catherine McAweeney, Southern District; Becky Robbins, Marina District, and Maureen Boland, Northern District who were not in attendance.

Susan shared the following report about the work of the Scholarship Committee: Eleven sisters throughout the state were awarded more than \$6000 in scholarships from the Scholarship Fund this biennium. At the regional level, eight CA sisters were awarded more than \$6000.

Presentation by 2024 Eleanor Bendell CA State Scholarship recipient: Danielle Camou, *Phi*

Danielle used the funds from the scholarship to pursue a Masters in Special Education with an autism certificate at George Ansom University. . She was inspired to pursue this path through her son Eric who is on the Autistic Spectrum and her focus is on Equity, Inclusion and Opportunity for all students.. She shared that the funds helped her to fully engage in coursework and improve her skills in supporting students with autism and diverse learning needs and their families. She expressed her deep appreciation to California AAK for their support, which helped deepen her professional and personal growth.

Presentation of 2026 State Scholarship: Susan Raffo

Susan announced the 2026 Eleanor Bendell State Scholarship is granted to Brigetta S. Pryor, *Alpha*. Brigetta is a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) in Oakland USD. Her plan is to use the scholarship funds to better develop her skills in supervising and supporting new SLP's in training.

Invitation to 2026 Northwest/Southwest/North Central Regional Conference: Jeanie Hinck
Jeanie invited all attendees to the upcoming Regional Conference on June 24-26, 2026 in Las Vegas at the Park MGM. Twenty four states, Four Canadian provinces and three countries are represented at this conference. The Altruistic Project is Opportunity Village - a Las Vegas based program to support people of all ages and there will be multiple ways to support them during the Conference, including by sharing talent and items for donations. Please look at the SW Regional Connect for more info.

Final Registration Report:

Rita Prichard

- a. Chapter delegates 28
- a. Chapter alternates 3
- b. Chapter Members 14
- a. State Executive Board Members 7
- b. Past State Presidents 7
- c. Chairs of State Standing Committees 3
- d. Chairs of the State Convention 3
- e. Presidents of Councils 2
- f. Sustaining Members 0
- g. International Representative (1) *not counted in grand total
- h. Parliamentarian 1
- i. Guests 2 Betty Jo Evers; Jeanie Hinck

GRAND TOTAL 70

Announcements:

Mary Ann Englehart and Mollie Acosta

Evaluations will be distributed electronically after today's Convention. The format will be 3 stars and a wish. Drop off plastic name tags before leaving. Please remove all archives and other materials from the room. Wine will be served starting at 5:30 in this room. Photo of all attendees will be taken at 6:15 in front of the building. Dinner begins at 6:45. The Omega ceremony is Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. in the Patriots room.

Closing Thought:

Debbie Waltzer

Debbie shared a closing thought related to thinking positive thoughts every day. *See appendix for the text.

Final Resolution: Mary Ann Englehart and Mollie Acosta for State Resolution Chair Kathleen Waffle

Mary Ann and Molly presented the following closing resolution:

Whereas, the 36th California State Convention of Alpha Delta Kappa assembled in Clovis, California, May 1st, 2nd, and 3rd and is drawing to a close, and

Whereas, the membership, attendees and guests wish to thank the Chapters of the Valley District for so graciously hosting this Convention, and

Whereas, we have celebrated how California Sisters by Choice, Forever Friends promote fraternal education and excellence in education, contribute countless volunteer hours and make generous monetary donations, and work to increase world understanding in our communities and state to make the world a better place, and we've laughed and learned and loved really being together, and

Whereas, the attendees at the Convention accomplished the on-going business of the state for the 2024-2026 biennium; established a strong foundation for the 2026-2028 biennium; and inspired and embraced our sisters by choice and forever friends as we have achieved the goals of Alpha Delta Kappa

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that we express our thanks to the 36th California State Convention Planning Team, our appreciation to the California State Standing Committee Chairs and their Committee members who tirelessly served the sisters of this state throughout the biennium and this convention; our thanks to our International Representative, Jeanie Hinck, for her graciousness, inspiration and sincerity, and our deepest gratitude to the State Executive Board, and especially to President Virginia who have served their sisters in California

Alpha Delta Kappa during this biennium with dedication, energy, strength and with so much heart, and

Be It Resolved, that this 36th California Alpha Delta Kappa State Convention be adjourned.

The Closing Resolution was adopted by unanimous vocal acclimation.

Adjournment:

Virginia Riding

Virginia adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.



36th California Alpha Delta Kappa Convention

Summary of Banquet/Installation of Officers

Saturday, May 2, 2026

Veteran's Room, Clovis Veteran's Memorial District

President's Reception

State President Virginia Riding and State President Elect Donna McCartney welcomed and greeted Alpha Delta Kappa sisters and guests.

Welcome/Dinner

State President Elect Donna McCartney welcomed attendees and invited guests.

Opening Thought

***see appendices**

Debbie Waltzer shared an opening thought related to being a positive thinker.

Membership Awards

Vice President for Membership Teresa Heitmiller Olea distributed Rock Star membership awards to the following individuals:

Gamma Nu: Myrna Capsuto

Gamma: Alethea Traskin

Alpha Alpha: Judi Yeager

Beta Omicron: Monda Forrestal and Alice Bullard

Beta Xi: Madeleine McCormick, Linda Guitron, and Shirley Perkins

Alpha Lambda: Ann McCarty, Anita Brown, and Janet Armstrong

Gamma Mu: Pat Renga

Teresa also acknowledged the following chapters that initiated new members this past biennium, leading to a California membership gain of 57 new members:

Alpha Delta, Alpha Lambda, Beta Eta, Beta Iota, Beta Kappa, Beta Omicron, Beta Rho, Beta Upsilon, Eta, Gamma, Gamma Beta, Gamma Beta, Gamma Eta, Gamma Mu, Gamma Nu, Gamma Tau, Lambda, Phi, Pi, Psi, Tau, Theta, Xi, Zeta

She also recognized *Gamma* as the chapter that initiated the most members in 2024-2026.

Excellence in Education Award

Kathy Gutierrez, EIE Committee Chair

Kathy announced the 2026 California Excellence in Education award for notable achievements in education is being awarded to Sara-Marie Menendez, *Beta Rho*. She

received a check for \$500 from the Alpha Delta Kappa Foundation and an Excellence in Education pin.

Sara-Marie is a bilingual teaching professional with over 12 years of success in elementary and university settings. She has an M.A. in curriculum and instruction. She has taught business classes and is currently working as an administrator. She has received many other recognitions including:

Aspiring Latino Leadership Fellowship
San Bruno Community Foundation
California Ass. Of Latino Superintendents & Administrators
California Reading & Literature Project Advisory Committee

Her previous awards include:

The San Bruno Star with a Heart Award
Paul Harris Fellow Award Pushing Love Forward Award
California Reading & Literature Project Award

Sara-Marie graciously accepted the award and thanked CA AΔK for recognizing her with this honor.

Betty Rosenberg Golden Chapter Award

Virginia presented the Golden Chapter Award to *Beta Eta* chapter.

President's Farewell Address

***see appendices**

Virginia thanked her family in attendance, her Gamma chapter sisters, the outgoing State Executive Board and many others for their support during her biennium. She ended her thoughts with a poem.

Special Presentations

Outgoing Immediate Past President Rosena Kruley was presented with a memory book of the 2022-2024 Biennium as President and a California State Life Membership. Outgoing state Executive Board members were acknowledged and thanked.

Installation of officers

Southwest Regional President Jeannie Hinck installed the following officers for the 2026-2028 Biennium:

President: Donna McCartney, *Gamma Nu*
Immediate Past President: Virginia Riding, *Gamma*
President-Elect: Ann McCarty, *Alpha Lambda*
Co-Vice-President for Membership: Teresa Heitmiller-Olea, *Beta Eta*
Co-Vice-President for Membership: Carol Valcarcel, *Gamma Nu*
Secretary: Rita Prichard, *Beta Eta*
Treasurer: Virginia Williamson, *Beta Kappa*
Historian/Sgt-at-Arms: Kathy Gutierrez, *Alpha Delta*
Chaplain: Linda Barker, *Gamma*

Virginia presented 2024-2026 Immediate Past President Rosena Kruley with the State Presidents Pin and Gavel. She presented the California President's guard to Donna McCartney. Donna then presented the Past Presidents guard to Virginia for her badge.

President's Acceptance Speech

***see appendices**

Donna told of her childhood in Pittsburgh, PA, her early experiences teaching in Houston and in the Panama Canal and her 25 years of teaching science in the Pittsburgh Public Schools. She has also served as President of the Pennsylvania chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa prior to her retirement and move to California in 2015 to be closer to her son and granddaughters. She has not looked back. Donna thanked various California sisters who welcomed, supported and guided her into leadership roles in California. Donna shared her theme and banner: Sharing the Sunshine of Sisterhood, which to her means treasuring and benefiting from the close friendships developed through membership in Alpha Delta Kappa. She shared information about the positive health benefits of social connection and encouraged us to use the model exemplified by Cross Fit in terms of recruiting busy teachers to join Alpha Delta Kappa.

Past President's Drawing

Rosena announced that the Past Presidents raised \$420 from their drawing, which will be donated to Camp Kesem.

Closing Thought

***See appendices**

Debbie Waltzer shared a final thought for the Convention with the message to take a moment every day to think positive thoughts.

The Banquet ended with the singing of the Lamp of Alpha Delta Kappa

Submitted by: Ann McCarty, *Alpha Lambda*, State Secretary



Summary of Omega Remembrance

Sunday, May 3, 2026

Patriot's Room, Clovis Veteran's Memorial District

Theme: A Patchwork Quilt

*see appendices for program and names of the Omega Chapter sisters

Prelude: Instrumental Music

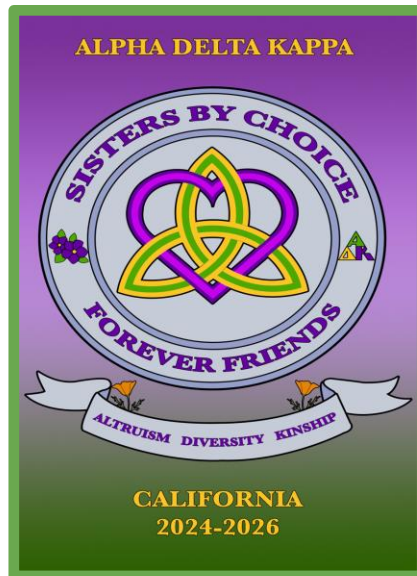
Welcome/ Opening Thoughts

State Chaplain Debbie Waltzer welcomed sisters to this memorial presentation to remember our beloved sisters who have joined Omega Chapter in the past biennium. She shared the following quote as an inspiration as we think of our Omega sisters

:

"Each of us is a patchwork of all the people we've known. Even if you never again see someone who has lent their thread to the fabric of your life, they are always with you. We are all connected, forever woven together into the lives of one another."

Debbie presented a video of a reading of the book The Patchwork Quilt by Valerie Flournoy, read by Isabel Sanford. She also shared a paper patchwork quilt that she had made, featuring the name and chapter of each of the 28 California sisters who joined Omega this biennium.



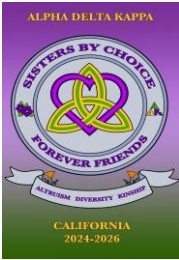
Alpha Delta Kappa

36th California State Convention

May 1-3, 2026

3.0 Minutes

Minutes of Post Convention Expanded State Executive Board
Meeting



**California Alpha Delta Kappa
36th California State Convention
Post-Convention Expanded Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Sunday, May 3, 2026
Clovis Veterans' Memorial District Building
808 4th St. Clovis, CA 93612**

1.0 Call to Order Virginia Riding, Immediate Past State President
The meeting was called to order by President Riding at 10:00 a.m.

2.0 Roll Call Ann McCarty, Outgoing State Secretary

Members present

President	Donna McCartney	<i>Gamma Nu</i>
President Elect	Ann McCarty	<i>Alpha Lambda</i>
Immediate Past President	Virginia Riding	<i>Gammaa</i>
VP Membership	Teresa Heitmiller Olea	<i>Beta Eta</i>
Treasurer	Ginny Williamson	<i>Beta Kappa</i>
Secretary	Rita Prichard	<i>Beta Eta</i>
Chaplain	Linda Barker	<i>Gamma</i>
Historian/Sgt-at-Arms	Kathy Gutierrez	<i>Alpha Delta</i>

2.1 Introduce Guests	Virginia	
Leanne Funk	Balloting Chair	<i>Gamma</i>
Mollie Acosta	Convention Co-Chair	<i>Xi</i>
Mary Ann Englehart	Convention Co-Chair	<i>Xi</i>
Jeanie Hinck	SouthWest Regional Pres	<i>CO</i>
Susan Raffo	Scholarship Chair	<i>Beta Rho</i>
Debbie Waltzer	Outgoing Chaplain	<i>Iota</i>

3.0 Approval of Agenda All

Agenda was accepted as presented.

4.0 Opening Thought

Debbie Waltzer, outgoing Chaplain

Debbie read from the Book I Love my Sister by Eric Carle.

5.0 Review of Norms

Linda Barker, Historian/Sergeant-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

6.0 Review of Bills/Receipts

Ginny Williamson, Treasurer

Ginny encouraged Board Members to submit their reimbursement forms for this Convention.

DEBBIE MOVED THAT THE STATE EXECUTIVE BOARD BE REIMBURSED FOR THE HOTEL COSTS FOR THREE NIGHTS IF THEY ARRIVED TO THE CONVENTION ON THURSDAY AND FOR TWO NIGHTS IF THEY ARRIVED ON FRIDAY. LINDA SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

One Convention registrar who canceled shortly before the Convention has requested reimbursement for some or all of the Convention fees. The Policies and Procedures state that all the Convention bills must be finalized before consideration of this request. The Board will revisit this in August.

7.0 Convention Report

Mollie Acosta & Mary Ann Englehart,
Convention Co-Chairs

Mollie shared appreciation for all who helped support. The Convention report will be submitted soon. One recommendation is that items purchased for the Convention be retained for subsequent Conventions by the

Immediate Past President. Another recommendation is that any leftover wine be sold at the end of the evening.

Evaluations: 8 have been received so far. The speakers were noted for appreciation, along with venue, tone, time with sisters and lunch. One recommendation was to build in more movement time. The summary of all the evaluations will be shared with Virginia and Donna and included in the Convention Report.

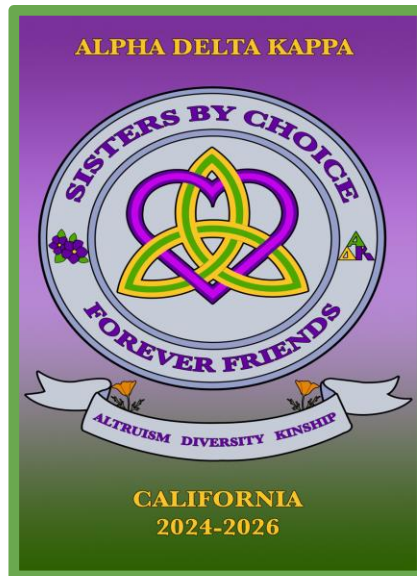
8.0 Closing Thought

Debbie

Debbie's final thought as State Chaplain was to read the picture book Sisters by David McPhail.

International SW Regional President Jeanie Hinck thanked the Board for welcoming her to California and shared how much she enjoyed her time here.

9.0 The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.



Alpha Delta Kappa

36th California State Convention

May 1-3, 2026

4.0 Reports

State Executive Board Members

REPORT OF THE 2024-2026 CALIFORNIA STATE PRESIDENT

Members of the Executive Board and California Sisters,

On April 27, 2024, International Representative Mary Ann Englehart installed me as California's 36th State President. My theme, "Sisters by Choice, Forever Friends", and banner reflected my goal to bring an attitude of welcome and friendliness to California Alpha Delta Kappa. This in turn was intended to increase and maintain membership.

State Standing Committee chairs and members as well as State Convention chairs and members were appointed. Current and past Board members were assigned to be liaisons for their nearby district councils. They were instructed to bring information to the councils from the Board and questions and concerns from the councils back to the Board.

In August of 2026, a leadership training retreat was held at a B & B in Clovis, CA. Board norms were established. Job descriptions were covered. But most importantly, time was allowed for bonding and fun.

The first year of the biennium included four in-person district conferences, a regional conference in Bellevue, WA. The district conferences were virtual during the second year, but there was an in-person International Convention in Austin, TX. The board also held another leadership retreat at the home of VP for Membership Teresa Heitmiller Olea in September of 2025. Agendas were prepared for all of these and other Board meetings.

I attended several chapter zoom meetings and both in-person anniversary meetings for CA Beta Eta. Ten newsletters were e-blasted to the sisters over the biennium. Zoom meetings addressing board business were held as needed, and other presidential duties were completed.

Planning the State Convention was made easier by the expert advice and constant help of co-chairs Mollie Acosta and Mary Ann Englehart. I am proud that we found a lovely venue and nearby hotels in Old Town Clovis. Separating the hotels from the venue eliminated the typical required room rentals and food and beverage requirements which ultimately allowed the 2026 convention to meet all its financial requirements with a small profit. The entire \$7,500 seed money granted from the board was returned as well as a small amount extra.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve as California State President this biennium, but I could never have done this without the kind, supportive, and talented Executive Board with whom I was lucky enough to work. These wonderful women have made me laugh, helped solve tricky issues, and presented an excellent example of how to work through differences in a positive, healthy way. They are truly my sisters by choice and have become my forever friends.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Meet with the President-Elect and Current President as needed to facilitate learning and offer guidance.
2. Create a Policy and Procedures Committee consisting of the Immediate Past President (IPP) as well as two or more past presidents that will handle updates/changes/etc. outside of Executive Board meetings. Direct the IPP to bring updates to the board for approval.
3. If offering the Honor a Sister option at the State Convention, specify where funds earned will go.
4. Consider hiring a PR person to promote CA Alpha Delta Kappa and increase membership.

In Sisterhood,

Virginia K. Riding

CA State President, 2024-2026

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT-ELECT 2024-2026

California State President and all California Alpha Delta Kappa Sisters: I am grateful for the opportunity to serve as President-Elect for the second half of this biennium. We had an unusual beginning to the biennium with no President-Elect on the Board. Susan Raffo, Past State President, stepped in to assist the President and did most of the duties until I joined in May of 2025. She was a valuable assistant and continued to provide support during the remainder of the biennium. During my time as President-Elect I have:

1. Attended all State Executive Board meetings and assisted the CA President as needed. Participated in the four District Conference Zoom Sessions during the second year of the biennium.
2. Attended President-Elect meetings with Southwest Regional leaders and State Convention preparation zoom sessions with the CA President and the Convention Co-Chairs.
3. Purchase gifts as required for CA State Officers and International Representatives.
4. Attended the May 2026 State Convention in Clovis, California. Was sworn in as 2026 – 2028 California State President and attended all related meetings.
5. Served as Board Liaison for the Channel Islands Council. Reported on meetings that were held during the biennium.

Recommendations:

1. The President-Elect should observe the CA State President and take notes. Ask questions for clarification as needed.
2. Beginning the January before the 2028 State Convention, the President-Elect should start to think about and work on the logo for the next biennium. By March or April the ideas should be finalized and the banner printed for the convention.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna McCartney

Donna McCartney, President Elect, Gamma Nu

REPORT OF THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Madam President, Members of the State Executive Board, and Alpha Delta Kappa Sisters: It has been a honor and a privilege to have serve on the California State Executive Board past eight years and complete my tenure as the California Immediate Past President 2024-2026 biennium.

1. Revised, updated and reformatted the digital CA Policy & Procedures manual and published on the CA website following the changes.
2. Served as a mentor, parliamentarian, and resource for the State President and the State Executive Board.
3. Served as the liaison to Peralta and Delta Councils.
4. Currently serving since the 2013 inception as the Chair of the Southwest Region Access, Belonging & Community Committee.
5. Attended 8 district conferences and hosted Zoom for four of them.
6. Hosted all Zoom meetings the State Executive Board as needed.
7. Attended the International Convention in Austin, TX, July 2025
8. Represented CA AΔK at the NW/SW Regional Conference in Bellevue, WA, July 2024
 - a. Co-presented workshop on dealing microaggressions - *"Peel the Onion"*.
9. Represented CA AΔK at the NC/NW/SW Regional Conference in Las Vegas, NV, June 2026
 - a. Co-presented workshop on *Survival Skills in Controversial Times*.
10. Researched, developed, and presented Land Acknowledgements for the CA State Executive Board meetings, 8 District Conferences and CA State Convention.

Recommendations:

1. Seek advice from a parliamentarian regarding procedures for creating state bylaws, a governance document independent of the International Constitution and Bylaws.
2. Adopt bylaws format for the CA State Bylaws and it chapters that is similar to the International Bylaws.
3. Update the Manual for the State Officers, State Standing Chairs, and Convention Chairs to align with the Policy & Procedures.
4. Consider follow-up feasibility study for the 2024-2026 biennium from CA AΔK members regarding the rotation of in person (1st year) virtual (2nd year) conferences.
5. Continue to be an advisor to the State President

The theme "Sisters by Choice - Forever Friends" truly captures the spirit of everyone who served on the Executive Board this biennium. It has been a sincere pleasure to work alongside such exceptional, talented, and committed women dedicated to the purposes of Alpha Delta Kappa. Thank you for your hard work and commitment especially with the Policy & Procedures.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosena B. Kruley

Rosena B. Kruley, *Beta Alpha*

California Immediate Past President

REPORT OF THE CALIFORNIA VICE PRESIDENT FOR MEMBERSHIP 2024–2026

Madame President, Members of the California Executive Board, and Alpha Delta Kappa Sisters:
During the 2024–2026 biennium, your Vice President of Membership completed the following:

1. Attended the 2024 Northwest/Southwest Regional Conference, Executive Board Retreat, State Executive Board meetings, four in-person District Conferences, and four virtual conferences, along with additional virtual State Executive meetings as called.
2. Supported State Membership goals and addressed Membership concerns. Trained new Chapter Membership Chairs in Fall 2024.
3. Reviewed Chapter Needs Assessments (CNAs) in Fall 2024 and responded to each chapter.
4. Shared updates from the Southwest Regional Consultant and International with chapters. Sent monthly emails to Membership Chairs and Chapter Presidents with deadlines and recruitment ideas, and contributed articles to the State President's newsletter.
5. Participated in monthly regional Zoom meetings led by the Southwest Regional Vice President for Membership to discuss training, member care, growth, and related issues.
6. Supported chapters facing leadership or sustainability challenges through direct contact and consultation. Provided guidance on the "Shared Leadership" model and "Onboarding". Explained the Sustaining Chapter option. Supported chapters who voted to disband.
7. Contacted all California chapters by phone or text regarding needs and deadlines and offering help with jotform submission.
8. Supplied Chapter Presidents and Membership Chairs with updated delegate allocations for the state convention.
9. Presented Membership Awards during the State Convention.
10. Compiled a digital file of essential documents for the incoming Vice President of Membership.
11. Served as State liaison to the Sierra Council.

Recommendations:

1. Continue supporting chapters with effective recruitment strategies.
2. Provide ongoing support to struggling chapters, with reminders of the Shared Leadership model option and regular communication.
3. Assist members, especially in smaller chapters, with completing CNAs.
4. Maintain monthly membership communications, newsletter contributions, and recognition of achievements.
5. Engage members at meetings and events, listen to concerns, and respond appropriately.

Respectfully submitted by Teresa Heitmiller Olea, Beta Eta, Vice President for membership

REPORT OF CALIFORNIA STATE TREASURER 2024-2026

Madame President, Members of the California State Executive Board, and Alpha Delta Kappa Sisters: I assumed the office of State Treasurer at the 2024 State Convention and fulfilled the following responsibilities for the 2024-2026 biennium:

1. Attended all in-person and virtual district conferences, meetings of the Executive Board, 2024 Regional Conference in Bellevue, Washington, 2025 International Convention in Austin, Texas, and the 2026 State Convention in Clovis, California.
2. Served as liaison to the Peninsula/South Bay Council.
3. Continued use of Quicken accounting program to track income and expenditures.
 - a. Monitored state budget and provided income and expenditure reports to CA Executive Board at each executive board meeting.
 - b. Provided a report of all account balances at each district conference.
4. Corresponded with and supported all CA chapter treasurers.
5. Updated information in the Treasurer's Corner on the CA ADK website.
6. Tracked completion of each CA chapter's annual required financial reports and the filing of required federal and state e-Postcards for two fiscal years.
7. Collected and tracked receipt of CA state dues from each chapter.
8. Mailed letters, emailed and/or telephoned each member of CA Sustaining chapter informing them of the amount of their International and CA State dues. Collected and paid those dues as received.
9. Prepared and provided quarterly transaction reports to Accurate Accounting Services for auditing and preparation of tax returns. Reviewed IRS and Franchise Tax Board tax returns.
10. Collected reimbursement requests with substantiating receipts. After receipt and review, wrote reimbursement checks and mailed them along with a summary of reimbursement details.
11. Renewed the State Treasurer's bond annually.
12. Requested funds from the Noel Leonard Legacy and disbursed scholarships and grants.
13. Formed a state budget committee with representatives from all four districts and met with the committee to develop the 2026-2028 state budget.
14. Updated budget descriptions and explanations of proposed budget for state convention packet.
15. Presented proposed budget at CA State Convention.
16. Reconciled and monitored monthly all CA bank accounts, including general checking, scholarship savings, reserve savings, Noel Leonard Legacy, Educators Helping Educators, and altruistic gifts.
17. Tracked and acknowledged donations for the 2024-2026 CA State Altruistic Project, Camp Kesem, and donations to Educators Helping Educators and Scholarship funds.
18. Presented to Camp Kesem at the 2026 State Convention a check for \$4,500.00, total funds donated in 2024-2026.
19. Distributed \$5,800.00 Educators Helping Educators funds to 12 recipients following the Southern California fires in 2025.
20. Maintained, purged, and stored CA financial records as required by International.

Recommendations:

1. Continue to use an electronic financial program to track and reconcile income and expenses for CA Alpha Delta Kappa.
2. Provide in-depth training to incoming 2028-2030 state treasurer, including use of Quicken or other electronic financial program.
3. Serve as mentor to incoming 2028-2030 state treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia L. Williamson

Virginia L. Williamson, CA Beta Kappa
California State Treasurer

REPORT OF THE STATE RECORDING SECRETARY 2024-2026

Madame President, Members of the State Executive Board and Alpha Delta Kappa Sisters,

As State Secretary for the 2024-2026 biennium, I have fulfilled the following responsibilities:

1. Attended 4 in person District Conferences and 3 Virtual District Conferences.
2. Attended all Executive Board meetings, both in-person and virtual, and took complete minutes for each of them.
3. Sent a draft of all minutes to the President and two other Board members for review and forwarded the final draft to the rest of the Board for approval at Executive Board meetings.
4. Sent a pdf version of approved minutes to the State Website Webmaster for posting on the AAK State Website.
5. Organized, and saved all documents related to all Recording Secretary duties in a Google Drive folder.
6. Created the slide deck for the four Virtual District Conferences, using Google Slides. Incorporated an interactive app called Slido into the deck to be used during the conferences and trained sisters on how to use it.
7. Served as Executive Board liaison to the Golden Gate Council, attended their meetings and shared reports back from them to the State Executive Board.
8. Attended the 2026 State Convention. Took minutes at the pre-convention and post-convention Board meetings, as well as the Business Sessions, breakfast meeting and Omega Service.
9. Collected reports from the State Executive Board members, State Committee Chairs and State Convention Chairs, along with all programs, speeches, reports and handouts from the State Convention for inclusion in the Proceedings of Convention.
10. Post State convention, collated all the collected minutes, reports and documents from the Convention into the 2024-2026 Proceedings of Convention. Published this document in hard copy form for the State Executive Board and as requested by members. Shared the document in pdf form to be posted on the CA AAK State Website.

Recommendations:

1. Become familiar with Google Drive and Google Docs as a tool to save and organize all the many documents that the Recording Secretary handles.
2. Support the incoming State Secretary for the new biennium in how to use Google Drive to make her job easier.
3. Distribute drafts of meeting minutes within one week of the meeting and ask for feedback from the readers within two weeks of their receiving them.
4. Encourage other Board members to share their reports digitally prior to the meetings, for example, treasurers report, membership report, etc.

It has been a pleasure serving on the State Executive Board this biennium. The Board has worked collaboratively and collegially and benefited from wonderful leadership. I have grown and learned, met many sisters, traveled the state and expanded my knowledge and appreciation for Alpha Delta Kappa.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann McCarty

Ann McCarty, *Alpha Lambda*, State Recording Secretary

REPORT OF THE STATE HISTORIAN 2024-2026

Madame President, members of the California State Executive Board, and Alpha Delta Kappa sisters.

It has been my honor to serve my Alpha Delta Kappa sisters as part of the California Executive Board during the 2024-2026 biennium. I fulfilled the following responsibilities:

1. Followed the job descriptions found in the Officers' Manual.
2. Attended all in person District Conferences and Zoom Conferences..
3. Attended my first International Convention in Austin, Texas in July, 2025.
4. Updated the State website Historian's Corner.
5. Created the format for the State President's Biennium Book and emailed all State Presidents and Historians directions for putting pictures and captions on their individual chapter site.
6. Took lots of pictures at each event I attended.
7. Asked State President Virginia Riding to send personal photos she would like included in her biennium book.
8. Made myself available to assist Historians via phone or email with questions they had for making entries for the State Biennium Book.
9. Sent pictures to the various ADK sisters asking for pictures ,including the Southwest Regional Historian and Kappan.

Submitted by Linda Barker, *Gamma*
California State Historian

REPORT OF THE STATE SGT-AT-ARMS

Madame President, members of the California State Executive Board and Alpha Delta Kappa sisters.

It has been my honor to serve my Alpha Delta Kappa sisters as part of the California Executive Board. During the 2024-2026 biennium I fulfilled the following responsibilities:

1. Followed the job descriptions found in the Officers' Manual.
2. Attended all the District Conferences in person.
3. Opened each District Conference by leading the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance. As a member of the Executive Board, I participated in fraternity education activities.
4. Opened each Executive Board meeting stating the norms to set the tone.
5. Attended my first International Convention in Austin, Texas July 10-14th. 2025.
6. Made myself available to assist Chapter Sgts-at-Arms via phone or email to help with any items necessary.
7. Updated the Sgt-At-Arms ADK California website.
8. Organized the sisters who volunteered to help as assistants at the May 1-3 State Convention in Clovis, CA.

Submitted by Linda Barker, *Gamma*
California State Sgt-at-Arms

Report of the State Chaplain 2024-2026

Madam President, Members of the California State Executive Board and Alpha Delta Kappa Sisters.

It was my honor and pleasure to serve as chaplain for the 2024-2026 biennium. My goal was to bring and present inspiring thoughts to district conferences, Executive Board meetings and at the 2026 California State Convention. These thoughts were drawn from a website

<https://lovequotehub.com/snoopy-quotes/> 100+ Peanuts Wisdom Snoopy Quotes For Every Occasion

Each quote was short, thoughtful and meaningful and sometimes funny. My goal as Chaplain was to bring laughter, engagement and enjoyment to each event.

It was my pleasure to serve as the liaison for the Inland Cities Council and San Diego President's council in which I attended all of their meetings to deliver my opening and closing thoughts for each one.

President Virginia Riding's Theme, "Sisters By Choice, Forever Friends" was the inspiration for my thoughts at the State Convention and I used books about sisters during the executive board meetings.

The Omega Service 2026 theme was inspired from the following quote:

EACH OF US IS A PATCHWORK OF ALL THE PEOPLE WE'VE KNOWN. EVEN IF YOU NEVER AGAIN SEE SOMEONE WHO HAS LENT THEIR THREAD TO THE FABRIC OF YOUR LIFE, THEY ARE ALWAYS WITH YOU. WE ARE ALL CONNECTED, FOREVER WOVEN TOGETHER INTO THE LIVES OF ONE ANOTHER.

So this inspired me to use the theme of quilts and I made a paper quilt with all of the Omega sisters names and chapters- 28 total this Biennium. I also included a video of the story, "The Patchwork Quilt" by Valerie Flourney read by Isabel Sanford. I presented the Omega Ceremony with the assistance of four board members at the 2026 State Convention.

I attended and presented my thoughts at the eight district conferences both in person and virtually. I also attended all virtual Executive Board Meetings called by the state president. I attended the International Convention in Austin, Texas in July 2025.

As chaplain I presented two online training sessions via zoom to new chapter chaplains at the beginning of the Biennium. I wrote Chaplain thoughts for the state newsletter. My thoughts are also found on the CA website in the Chaplain's Corner.

Recommendations:

- 1. Confer with previous State Chaplain regarding planning and preparing for the Omega service-she can be very helpful in providing a list of Omega sisters**

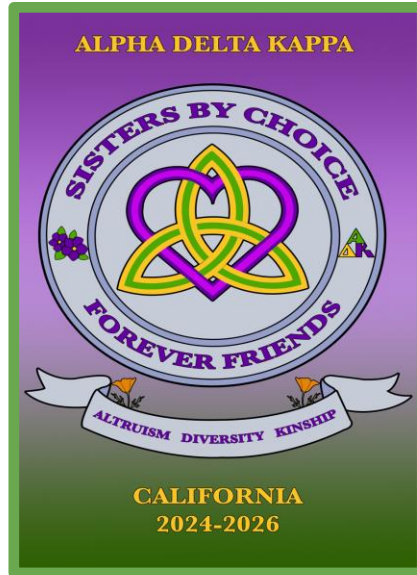
2. Keep it short, thoughtful and inspiring and perhaps provide a little laughter won't hurt.
3. Search the internet to help with finding meaningful and appropriate thoughts.
4. Enjoy this position on the board! I know that I did!

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Waltzer

Debbie Waltzer, Iota

California State Chaplain



Alpha Delta Kappa

36th California State Convention

May 1-3, 2026

5.0 Reports

State Standing Committee Reports

Report of the State Scholarship Chair 2024-2026

Madame President and the State Executive Board. It has been my honor to serve as the Chairman of the State Scholarship Committee, representing the four Districts in the state: Lila Perez, Valley; Catherine McAwenney, Southern; Becky Robbins, Marina; and Maureen Boland. During the biennium the Committee “advertised” scholarship & grant opportunities at all levels: California, Regional & International in a variety of ways: fliers via email with the help of the CA Webmaster; reminders in the President’s Newsletters and email reminders to council & chapter presidents.

During this biennium the Committee created digital application formats for CA grants & scholarships using Googler Forms, streamlining the application process, especially for busy educators. We were pleased - the number of applications increased this biennium. We also reviewed & revised scoring rubrics to make them more relevant to application content. During the 2024-2026 biennium, eleven (11) sisters throughout the state were awarded more than \$6000 in grants or scholarships from the State Scholarship Fund held in the Noel Leonard Legacy Fund, held in the Foundation. At the Regional level, more than \$6000 was awarded to eight (8) CA sisters. Grand total: \$12,000+ in 2024-2026.

The Scholarship Committee adjudicated District Mini-Grant applications in the Fall of each year of the biennium – 2024 and 2025. The applications for the Eleanor Bendell State Scholarship were adjudicated in the Spring of 2026. This scholarship, valued up to \$3500, was presented at the 36th California State Convention. The Committee followed the application guidelines outlined the Policies and Procedure document. Periodic reports were made to the Executive Board at each of their scheduled meetings.

At the 2026 State Convention, **Danielle Camou** (Phi Chapter), the 2024 Eleanor Bendell State Scholarship recipient, shared her journey to receive a master’s degree in special education with an Autism certificate to implement research-based strategies that foster inclusivity. **Brigetta S. Pryor** (Alpha Chapter) the 2026 recipient of this scholarship, is a special education clinician in the Oakland Unified School District. She provides direct therapy for language & speech skills; communication strategies for parents; and supervision related to clinical strategies with graduate students. She plans to pursue strategies to increase her supervision skills with future educators.

Submitted by: Susan Raffo, CA Beta Rho

Susan Raffo

State Scholarship Committee Chair

Recommendations:

1. Continue to review and revise scholarship guidelines, applications & rubrics; report regularly to the Executive Board; encourage CA sister to apply for state opportunities; proactively advertise scholarships and grants in a timely manner to sisters at the state level, as well as other opportunities in Alpha Delta Kappa.

CALIFORNIA ALTRUISTIC REPORT 2025-2026

As the Altruistic Chair for the state of California, I did many things. The most time consuming was building a list of chapter presidents, alphabetical by chapter. Then I had to contact each president to find out who the Altruistic Chair was. The International Website was lacking the vast majority of altruistic chairs and had frequently had stale information. I worked closely with Becky Hawkins, the Southwest Region Altruistic Chair. Connecting with each chapter altruistic chair was not an issue, once contacting information was gained. Chapters were familiar with the altruistic process.

Four chapters have disbanded; CA Alpha Pi, CA Alpha Rho, CA Beta, and CA Delta.

REPORT SUBMISSION RATES	2024-2025	2025-2026
	85% 35/41 chapters	95% 35/37 chapters

CONTRIBUTIONS	2024-2025	2025-2026
Hours of service	28,982	33,295
Monetary gifts	\$185,904	\$190,782
Non-monetary gifts	\$ 63,524	\$82,357
Scholarships	\$45,129	\$46,445
Annual Totals	\$342,620	\$319,584

BIENNIUM TOTALS

Hours	62,277	Altruistic donations	\$662,204
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Recommendations

1. One Altruistic survey could be generated by International. It could be structured to compile data at the chapter, state, and national level. Google Forms or a similar tool could be used. Using such a tool would streamline the entire Altruistic Reporting process.

Using Google Forms or a similar tool,

- A. International sends an altruistic survey to each member of every Chapter.
- B. The first gathering of information is by Chapter.
- C. Chapter information is then gathered at the State Level.
- D. State information is then gathered at the National Level.
- E. One survey can be structured to provide all this information. This would eliminate the need to State Altruistic Chairs.

2. If Google Forms is not used, then Chapter Altruistic Chair information needs to be readily available. A list of state presidents, alphabetized by chapter, needs to be easily available. Perhaps Altruistic Chairs could be accurately listed on the international website.

Frances M. Dunleavy, *California Beta Rho*
Frances M. Dunleavy
California Altruistic Chair

REPORT IF THE STATE TECHNOLOGY CHAIRMAN/WEBMASTER

Madam President, Members of the CA Executive Board, and Alpha Delta Kappa sisters: This biennium, as Technology Chairman, I spearheaded the committee work of the Greek Squad. The purposes of the Greek Squad are to provide technology support for California sisters in AΔK technology issues, provide online trainings on such things as the California website, and assist sisters in completing forms. The Greek Squad was comprised of five sisters with a balance of PC and MAC expertise. The Squad met via Zoom to plan technology workshops. We planned and presented a series of 4 workshops on using Google Tools, including Google Docs, Google Sheets, Google Forms, Google Slides, and how to organize Google files. These workshops were announced in the monthly newsletter. An invitation to each of the four workshops were eblasted to all California sisters. A Google form was created as one method of requesting Greek Squad assistance. A separate email address was created for the business of the Squad, cagreeksquad@gmail.com. A Google form was sent to all attendees to assess the efficacy of the workshops. Also, I set up council and chapter Zoom meetings when requested by council or chapter presidents.

The main responsibility of the Webmaster is to maintain the California website and update it when necessary. I updated the content on the website based on information provided by the California Executive Board, the State Committee Chairmen and information from International. I protected the integrity of the website by monitoring all website maintenance fees such as Site Backup and Restore, Domain Name Protection, Site Lock Protection and more. I monitored and implemented updates suggested by iPage. I posted all the biennium's newsletters, the chaplain's thoughts from meetings, the minutes from those meetings, and posted new chapter websites. I worked with each State Officer to revise their officers corners on the website.

Another responsibility as Webmaster is to send out eblasts to all California sisters when directed to do so using iPage Webmail. Eblasts included all the president's newsletters and other communications sent by the state president. I worked with the State Scholarship Chairman to eblast to all California sisters all award, grant and scholarship opportunities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Continue leadership on the Greek Squad. Continue offering technical support to CA sisters and chapter presidents.
2. Provide information to all chapter presidents on chapter officers' duties and responsibilities that are posted on the California website.
3. Provide training on the components of the International website. Training would be planned and presented by the Greek Squad,
4. Continue to provide technical support to the State President and the Executive Board.
5. Continue to monitor, update and maintain the California website.
6. Write newsletter articles regarding Greek Squad offerings and technology news.

Submitted by: Karen Kirby

Karen Kirby, *CA Gamma Mu*, CA Technology Chairman/Webmaster, Greek Squad leader

CALIFORNIA ALPHA DELTA KAPPA BYLAWS COMMITTEE REPORT 2026

International Headquarters provided the State bylaws chair with a Jotform to create the proposed California bylaws document that mirrors International bylaws. The Jotform was completed online and submitted to the International bylaw committee. The California bylaws were approved and sent back to me. The bylaws were then sent to the State Executive Board and placed on the website.

A hard copy of changes is available to view. Reach out to Colleen Golden for details.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve as the California State Bylaws Chairman.

Submitted by:

Colleen Golden

Colleen Golden

CA State Bylaws Chair

Excellence In Education Award Report

Madame President. Members of the State Board, and Alpha Delta Kappa Sisters,

It has been my pleasure to serve as Excellence in Education Chair for the 2025 - 2027 International Biennium. My first responsibility was to learn the new procedures for reviewing EiE award nominees and notifying those who qualified as official applicants. The application and adjudication processes are now completed online through Kaleidoscope under the direction of the Regional EiE Chair. Each state chair in the Southwest Region adjudicates all candidates for the region. To qualify as an applicant, a candidate must earn at least 85 points in the first round of adjudication. With support from the staff liaison at International Headquarters, the scores are compiled and averaged. The application with the highest average score in each state is named the official awardee, and the State EiE Chair announces the decision at the state convention. Those state awardees then advance to the regional round, with results announced at the regional conference. The Excellence in Education committee considered: Dedication, Expertise, and Achievements. Collaboration and contributions to education and their participation in Alpha Delta Kappa when making their decision. Finally, the regional awardees compete at the International Convention for international recognition.

Alpha Delta Kappa International, through its Foundation, provides EiE award funding at every level. Each state awardee receives \$500, each regional awardee receives \$1,000, and the international awardee receives \$5,000. After reviewing the Southwest applicants, I can say their professional accomplishments are inspiring. Every awardee is truly deserving of both the financial award and the recognition of their Alpha Delta Kappa sisters.

Recommendations:

- The Executive Board and CA EiE Chair should encourage chapters, councils, and districts to identify strong nominees early in the next biennium. This will give candidates time to complete their initial nomination forms and subsequent applications.
- Ensure that EiE nominees understand the importance of detail in their personal and philosophical responses. Encourage applicants to include specific examples that show their commitment to and passion for education.

I appreciate the opportunity to support and celebrate Alpha Delta Kappa's essential mission: Excellence in Education.

Kathy Gutierrez

Kathy Gutierrez, CA EiE Chair, 2024-2026

REPORT OF CALIFORNIA STATE ALTRUISTIC PROJECT CHAIR 2024-2026

After the 2024 convention, I contacted individual members to represent districts on the committee and submitted those names to CA President Virginia Riding. In August 2025 Virginia contacted me to begin the nomination process. We agreed to go back to the original timeline with a November 1 deadline for applications. The committee and Virginia worked on a revision of the nomination form and the rubric that addressed the issue of local versus statewide projects and added a question about financial transparency. In September an e-blast with a letter encouraging nominations and forms to nominate was sent to chapter presidents and posted on the state website. A request for nominations was published in Virginia's October newsletter. Per my chair instructions, I contacted Beta Omicron of San Diego to see if they wished to renominate Camp Kesem, this biennium's project, and if renominated the project would automatically be on the ballot. They did want to renominate and they provided information for the revised nomination form. I also updated the synopsis to reflect Camp Kesem's activity during this biennium. I sent this nomination form and synopsis to the committee members. I would like to acknowledge the committee members for their input in the revisions made to the nomination form and rubric and for their willingness to evaluate the projects nominated: Anita Brown, Alpha Lambda - Northern District; Becky Robbins, Pi - Marina District; Laurie Goodman, Xi - Valley District.

By the November 1 deadline, only one project had been nominated – Camp Kesem. Normally I am supposed to let the projects know if they are on the ballot, but this biennium was different. Beta Omicron already knew Camp Kesem would be on the ballot, but it was decided that the committee should not share that it was the *only* project on the ballot until published in the convention packet in February. I gave Beta Omicron and Camp Kesem this information after the convention packet was sent out.

The updated synopsis of Camp Kesem was published in Virginia's April newsletter and was on display at the convention. There was an affirmation paper ballot vote taken and Camp Kesem was declared the 2026-2028 CA Altruistic Project. I also contacted Camp Kesem to have a representative come to the convention and accept the donations check for the biennium. It was a bonus that he was there to talk about Camp Kesem after it had been declared the next biennium project.

I am in the processing on getting the folder in order and putting documents on a thumb drive for the next altruistic project chair.

Recommendations:

1. I guess I did not do publicity early enough to the chapters. I suggest that the chair sends a letter to all the chapter presidents in June of the second year of the biennium to get them thinking about possible nominations and then send a second letter in August with nomination forms rather than September as I did. The letter should note that Camp Kesem cannot be nominated a third time, so the field is wide open for nominations.
2. I suggest exploring the possibility of sending the letter and form to *all* members. Getting all members to think about projects might get some grassroots interest. In this case, it is imperative that the accompanying letter stresses that nominations are made by the chapter and so the member needs to work with her chapter to make the nomination.

Submitted by

Susan Blough

Susan Blough, CA Zeta

CA Altruistic Project Chair

Report of the World Understanding Chair 2024-2026

Due to the current global conditions, the International World Understanding Project Program has been deferred until further notice. Thus there were no real assignments for the State Chair to complete, other than occasional articles submitted for inclusion in the State President's newsletter.

If and when the program is reinstated at the International level, the World Understanding Chair should reassume responsibilities related to that role.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann McCarty, State Secretary on behalf of:

Kim Donovan, *Beta Eta*, California World Understanding Chair

Candidate Qualification Chairman Report

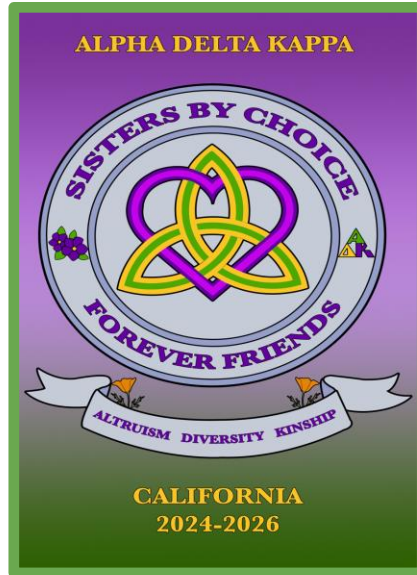
Overview of task accomplished

1. A committee was organized by districts. With one member selected from each of the four California Districts: Northern, Valley, Marina and Southern
2. Discussed with State President (by email) candidate submissions and the need to obtain more submissions for California State Executive Board offices.
3. Sent an email informing candidates that application was received.
4. Provided each member of the committee, a copy of the application submitted by the candidates by email.
5. Received confirmation from most of the committee members on all candidates acceptance. No members felt any of the candidates were not qualified.
6. Each candidate was informed by email that their application was accepted and met the requirements to run for office.
7. Prepared a spreadsheet which contained candidates information.
8. Sent a copy of the spreadsheet to California Webmaster to post on the website and to the conference chairman to distribute to the membership..
9. A copy of the spreadsheet was sent to be included in the convention packet.
10. Display board was made for the state convention with necessary information showing candidates information and statements. The board was on display at the conference. Copies were kept of the applications for qualifications file.
11. Candidates were presented at the convention
12. Attended the pre-convention expanded executive board meeting to review the agenda for the state convention.
13. Applications for the following positions were received before the March 31, 2026 deadline; President, President Elect, Treasurer and Secretary. After the March 31, 2026 deadline applications for the office of Co Vice President Membership were received and the two candidates were nominated. Position of Historian was vacant.

Recommendations.

1. Application needs to be digitized so that applicants can easily submit it. Digital copies are more easily used rather than handwritten ones. Handwritten copies can be difficult to read when they are photographed and sent in. Mailed copies can sometimes be slow in arriving and need to be copied before they are sent to the committee by email.
2. All information should be sent out well ahead of due dates to avoid short time issues.
3. The size of the committee could be reduced. With only one qualification for executive board acceptance (holding a chapter office) and two additional qualifications for president elect (being a chapter president and serving on the state board) 5 committee members seems superfluous.
4. The Policies and Procedures need to be revised to address the above concerns under the section on Candidate Qualification Chair. And Committee Members.

Submitted by: Mari Page Candidate Qualification Chair.



Alpha Delta Kappa

36th California State Convention

May 1-3, 2026

6.0 Reports

State Convention Committee Chairs

California Alpha Delta Kappa 2026 State Convention Co-Chairs Report

Planning this convention began late in 2024, with State President Virginia Riding, Mary Ann Englehart and Mollie Acosta meeting. The chairs wish to thank President Virginia for the opportunity to serve. The following is a chronological list of the tasks that were accomplished.

First steps:

- ❖ Shared folder created; previous convention docs added
- ❖ Initial discussions; beginning of site selection
 - Contacted local visitors bureau for options
 - Developed Request for Proposal (RFP)
 - Preferred dates
 - Events/expected attendance
 - Special requirements
- ❖ SAVE THE DATE flyer posted in CONNECT; sent to all CA sisters via CONNECT

At 18 months before the convention:

- ❖ Seed money deposited in convention checking account (\$7500)
 - Marlene Cordova, convention treasurer and
 - Rita Prichard, convention registrar had access)
- ❖ Regular planning meetings with the state president and convention co-chairs commenced
- ❖ Meeting with all key players to review duties (convention chairs; applicable state chairs)

At 13 - 15 months before the convention:

- ❖ Visits to potential sites; obtained quotes based upon RFP
- ❖ Developed draft of schedule
- ❖ Negotiated with potential sites re: cost/ food and beverage (F&B)
- ❖ Gathered info on nearby hotels
- ❖ Developed 1st draft of budget
- ❖ President-Elect joined planning meetings

At one year before convention:

- ❖ Signed contract with venue
- ❖ Determined food events
 - Welcome

- Lunch
- Banquet
- Registration packet contents determined
- Initial program drafted
- Registration
 - Cost
 - Payment methods: Mail and Zelle
 - Google form

January 2026 through April 2026

- ❖ Finalize program
- ❖ Finalize speakers
- ❖ Send out registration packet
- ❖ Meet with Committee Chairs
- ❖ Arrange for chapter sales
- ❖ Finalize contents of registration bags
 - Bags donated by St. Jude's
 - Swag from Clovis and Fresno County Visitors Centers
 - St Jude's lip balm
- ❖ Convention program done
- ❖ Banquet program done

NOTES:

- ❖ Venue: Various hotel options were investigated, but the option of using the Clovis Veterans Memorial District building quickly proved to be more suited to our needs as well as economical. We were able to get a 15% discount at Veterans because one of our members is a resident of the community. By not using a hotel as the venue, we did not have to meet a food and beverage minimum or a room block. The negotiation of the contract itself is critical; it is vital that details are included to cover every aspect. For example, overtime was charged because we had the main room for more than 8 hours. Insurance was also an issue and unanticipated cost. Veterans Memorial District required that the insurance list the name of the member who signed the contract, but the insurance provided by Headquarters cannot list an individual member.
- ❖ CONNECT is an effective communication tool. A State Convention Community was created with every California sister added as a member. This allowed us to share information about the location, hotels, things to do and see, etc.

Community members received weekly updates. Using CONNECT, we were also able to email registration materials directly to all California sisters.

- ❖ Local chapters were an integral part of planning and contributing to the success of the convention. Gamma was especially helpful in stuffing registration bags and contributing door prizes. Xi contributed gifts for speakers. Both chapters helped with set up and clean up. We are very appreciative of their efforts!
- ❖ The evaluation form was done by jot form and sent by email to all attendees. This resulted in more than half of attendees responding. Attendees were asked to list three 'stars and a wish'. The stars almost all consisted of the speakers and the venue. Wishes were for breaks in the afternoon to stretch and move around and better technology during the Omega Service.
- ❖ The Honor-A-Sister idea was borrowed from the Colorado State Convention. Members could contribute \$25 to honor another sister or \$50 to honor a group of sisters. They were asked to submit a short statement and a picture with their contribution. The pictures and statements were shared in a power point loop during lunch.

SUGGESTIONS:

- ❖ Provide all Convention and Committee Chairs copies of previous convention reports.
- ❖ Designate one person to run all technology and have rehearsals prior to the convention.
- ❖ Continue to solicit local visitors bureaus and St Jude's for contributions. **St Jude's also sent us lanyards that are available for the next convention.**
- ❖ Having members as speakers was a big plus. We were able to highlight new members who are working teachers as well as enjoy the expertise and wisdom of members of long standing.
- ❖ Take advantage of the contacts and talents of local members in planning the venue, speakers, etc. Encourage as many chapters and sisters as possible to be actively involved; this shares the myriad of tasks and encourages attendance.
- ❖ Consider Co-Convention Chairs with one being local to the selected site.

Respectfully submitted,

Mollie Acosta, Xi
2026 Convention Co-Chair

Mary Ann Englehart
2026 Convention Co-Chair

CALIFORNIA ALPHA DELTA KAPPA
CONVENTION TREASURER'S REPORT

The 2024 California State Convention Seed Money was kept in a Wells Fargo Checking Account until this biennium due to the difficulty in opening a new account. Also, Rita Prichard (in charge of registration) and I (treasurer) remained with the same jobs in 2026.

Rita Prichard, our Registration Chairperson deposited the checks into our account and I kept an accounting of them, plus paid any bills that we incurred.

Before the convention, I sent by email all committee chairpersons a chit sheet to submit bills and paid them. I attended a Zoom Meeting before the convention to prepare for the convention.

At the convention I met with Rita and helped at the registration desk. Everything went perfectly due to Rita's organization and knowledgeable skills. I closed our account after all bills were paid and checks cashed. Then I closed our account at Wells Fargo and sent a check of our balance to Virginia Williamson to keep as Seed Money for the next state convention.

Submitted by:

Marlene Cordova, *Phi*

Marlene Cordova

California State Convention Treasurer

2026 California State Convention Financial Report

Balance from 2024 State Convention (Seed Money)	\$5,715.63
Deposit from State Treasury	1,784.37

<u>Total Seed Money</u>	\$7,500
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Income:

2/27/26 Deposit (Registration)	\$2,465
3/31/26 Deposi. (Registration)	\$5,570
4/30/26 Deposit (Registration)	\$4,250
5/11/26 Deposit (Wine sales at receptions).	\$ 692
6/11/26 Deposit	
\$1,000 Veteran's Refund, \$199.83 (1/2 of room charge),	<u>\$1,369.83</u>
And \$170 registration for first-timer	

<u>Total</u>	\$14,346.83
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Expenses:

4/01/26 Clovis Veteran's Memorial Hall Rental	\$5,052
4/22/26 Classic Catering	\$5,822.99
4/23/26 Myrna Capsuto (cancelation for convention)	\$ 90.20
4/27/26 Candidate Qualification Committee	\$ 30.86
4/30/26 CA ADK (Honor a Sister Donation)	\$ 125
4/30/26. Virginia Riding (Deposit on Veteran's Hall)	\$ 556.75
5/05/26. Historian/Sergeant-at-arms Committee (gift card)	\$ 25
5/05/26 Virginia Riding (Catering Deposit)	\$ 500
5/05/26 Membership Committee	\$ 19.84
5/05/26 Registration Committee	\$ 48.14
5/09/26 Mollie Acosta (Liability Insurance)	\$ 196
5/09/26. Virginia Riding (Wine for Receptions)	\$ 231.69
5/09/26. Mollie Acosta (Food for 5/2 reception)	\$196.27
5/11/26. Chaplain (Omega Ceremony)	\$ 69.22
5/11/26 Mary Ann Englehart	\$. 32.29
5/12/26 Molly Acosta (Jeanie Hick Home Stay)	\$253.23
5/13/26. Susan Raffo (Parliamentarian's hotel room).	<u>\$399.66</u>

<u>Total Expenses:</u>	\$13,649.14
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Income (including seed money).	\$21,846.83
Expenses:	<u>\$13, 649.14</u>
Total Assets:	\$ 8,197.69

2026 State Convention Report of Balloting Chair

Madame President, Members of the California State Executive Board, and Alpha Delta Kappa sisters,

I was responsible for the voting process with the following committee members: Kathi Carrle and DeeDee Sary. The delegate list was compiled and finalized by Rita Prichard. She designated the delegates on each sister's nametag, making it very easy for the ballot workers to spot and record them on the master delegate list of voters. The 50 delegates were divided into two groups by the initial of their last name: A-L and M-Z. The formal ballot was printed and included the following three parts: Proposed Altruistic Project, Proposed By-laws, and Proposed Budget.

These are the results of the written ballots:

1. **Camp Kesem** received 50 votes by of 50 delegates, or 100% of the votes for the **California State Altruistic Project** for the 2026-2028 biennium. They ran unopposed.
2. There were 50 votes by the 50 delegates, or 100% of the votes to **accept the bylaws** as amended. **The bylaws have been approved.**
3. There were 50 votes by the 50 delegates, or 100% of the votes to **approve the adoption of the 2026-2028 budget. The budget has been approved.**

The officers for the 2026-2028 biennium, by acclamation, have been elected:

President:	Donna McCartney
President-Elect:	Ann McCarty
Co-VPs for Membership:	Carol Valcarcel and Teresa Heitmiller-Olea
Treasurer:	Ginny Williamson
Secretary:	Rita Prichard
Chaplain:	Linda Barker
Historian/Sgt-at-Arms:	Kathy Gutierrez

President Virginia Riding declared the election valid.

Recommendations:

1. Continue stating "Delegate" on name tags.

Respectfully submitted by Leanne Funk, *GAMMA*, Convention Balloting Chair

Leanne Funk

REPORT OF THE STATE CONVENTION REGISTRATION CHAIR, MAY 1-3, 2026

Madam President, Members of the State Executive Board, and Alpha Delta Kappa Sisters,

It was my pleasure to serve as the State Registration Chair for our 36th State Convention. As you read this report, keep in mind that we were in a unique facility which required no more than 50 steps to get to any room of the venue. This was a game changer. Marlene Cordova (State Convention Treasurer) and I did not have to set up the account this biennium, which got the process of deposits and payments off to a solid start. Mollie Acosta and MaryAnn Englehart (State Convention Co-chairs) had revised the Registration Form and had linked it to a Google Spreadsheet that saved me hours. The attempt to collect money through Zelle (and subsequent use of Venmo) was an excellent move toward modernizing the process and saved time! As registrants appeared on the Googledoc spreadsheet and payment was received, I indicated the form of payment and emailed a personal confirmation to each registrant. I alphabetized the registered/paid participants on the Googledoc spreadsheet as payment was received. The Google spreadsheet was being shared with all interested parties, reducing the modified spreadsheets I prepared last time to committee chairs. Again, a time saver. This time, I prepared the "First Registration and Credentials Report" three days before my departure to Clovis and Mollie prepared a slide so that it could be projected, adding a visual-learner component. The "Final Registration and Credentials Report" was accomplished quickly as we began the convention.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT

1. Do not email the registration form/packet until accounts are modified and the payee is clear. You are looking at a new "crew" next year and changing account access takes time.
2. Keep the account at Wells Fargo. Our 16+ year relationship with them was helpful. Zelle was a snap at the same bank.
3. As the registrant information was propagated, why did we get multiple registration versions for the same person? This bug needs to be pursued.
4. Develop a QR Code for payment options to include Zelle, Venmo, Apple Pay, direct account payment - offer it all (fees paid by registrant)
5. All "First Timer" grants must include a physical address and AΔK ID # at Registration and must be paid in advance, as is required. The "First Timer's" chapter should make sure their "First Timer" is covered and eligible.
6. CA Gamma has insight into recruiting sisters to attend the business meeting of their organization and should be a featured presentation at the Southwest Regional Conference.
7. Provide a clear procedure to inform the registrar that a sister is not coming.
8. Friday registration needs to end at 6:00 pm, not 9:00 pm.
9. Send a statement with the confirmation that could say "If you know that you will commute to the Convention on Saturday and you are a delegate, kindly arrive 30 minutes before the gavel."

Respectfully submitted,
Rita Prichard, *Beta Eta*
Rita Prichard

2026 State Convention Registration Chair

**FIRST REGISTRATION AND CREDENTIALS REPORT
MAY 1-3, 2026**

Chapter delegates (one per 10 active members):	28
State Executive Board Members:	7
Past State Presidents:	7
Chairs of State Standing Committees:	3
Chairs of the State Convention:	3
Presidents of Councils:	2
Sustaining (one per 10 registered and attending):	0
TOTAL DELEGATES:	50 registered and present

*(Note: This report represents the number of delegates registered and present at the gavel. Sisters who qualify in two or more categories are listed only **one** time.)*

On behalf of the Credentials Committee, I move that this list of delegates be the official roll of the Convention. PASSED - unanimously.

**FINAL REGISTRATION AND CREDENTIALS REPORT
MAY 1-3, 2026**

Chapter delegates	28
Chapter alternates	3
Chapter members	14
State Executive Board Members	7
Past State Presidents	7
Chairs of State Standing Committees	3
Chairs of the State Convention	3
Presidents of Councils	2
Sustaining Members	0
International Representative	[1]
Parliamentarian	1
Guests	2
• Betty Jo Evers, SWR Fraternity Ed Chair	
• Jeanie Hinck, SWR President	

GRAND TOTAL: 70

California Alpha Delta Kappa 2026 State Convention Decoration Chairman

Madam President, Members of California State Executive Board and ADK Sisters,

I was asked by Leanne Funk, President of Gamma Chapter, in November of 2025 to be the Decoration Chairperson for the 2026 State Convention in Clovis, California on May 1-3, 2026.

Virginia Riding, Outgoing State President, explained that the theme would be "Sisters by Choice, Forever Friends." She wanted simple decorations which would emphasize the importance of connections between sisters. A zoom meeting was held to discuss processing of tickets, notification of members when their registration fees were received and budget for the chairpersons to use.

Donna Campbell, DeeDee Sary, and Donna Sullivan volunteered to help with the planning and decorating of the meeting room at the Veteran's Memorial building. Quotes about sisterhood and friendship were collected. We discussed which quotes to use and how to display them. We decided on acrylic stands to hold the quotes. Simple vases and flowers with small flameless candles in glass holders were used to complete the centerpieces. We assembled the lighted jars and vases during a meeting the week before the convention.

I would like to thank Donna C., DeeDee, Donna S., and Kristen for their help with ideas, planning, setup and donations of their supplies, talents and time. I could not have done it without them.

Decorations expenses were sent to Marlene Cordova by me for reimbursement:
\$200.25

Donations made by team members: Flowered paper - Donna C., filler for vases - DeeDee, lighted friendship jars - Kathi.

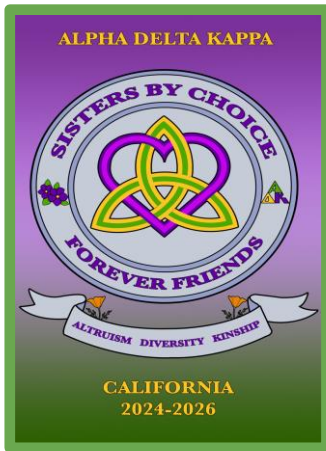
Recommendations:

1. A clearer idea of what actually needs to be decorated ie. number of tables, if signs are needed, etc.
2. Start earlier to gather materials. To help with the overall cost, we were able to use the same materials from the morning event but add more lighting for the evening.
3. I needed clearer idea of the budget. I was told \$60 but maybe more for decorations.
4. It was so nice to have a committee to rely on. They were so wonderful.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathi Carrle

Kathi Carrle, Decorations Chair. *Gamma*



Alpha Delta Kappa

36th California State Convention

May 1-3, 2026

7.0: Appendices

- ❖ 2026 State Convention Program
- ❖ 2026 State Convention Schedule at a Glance
- ❖ 2026 Rules Governing the Convention
- ❖ Treasurer's Report
- ❖ Proposed Budget for 2026-2028, Budget Item Descriptions
 - ❖ California Alpha Delta Kappa Bylaws
 - ❖ California State Altruistic Project
 - ❖ 2026 Candidate Qualifications Report
 - ❖ Membership Report and Information
 - ❖ Banquet Program
- ❖ Outgoing President Virginia Riding's Farewell Speech
- ❖ Incoming President Donna McCartney's Acceptance Speech
 - ❖ Omega Service Program
- ❖ 2026 State Convention Evaluation Form and Summary
 - ❖ 2026 State Convention Chaplain's Thoughts



“Sisters by Choice, Forever Friends”

36th California State Convention Program

Thursday, April 30th, 2026

6:00-8:00 PM **State Executive Board Dinner**

Salsa's Cantina

Friday, May 1st, 2026

1:00-2:30 PM **State Executive Board Meeting**

Patriots A/B

2:45-3:45 PM **Expanded Board Meeting**

Patriots A/B

Convention and Standing Committee Chairmen

3:00-9:00 PM **Registration**

Atrium

5:00-7:00 PM **Meet-and-Greet Social**

Patriots A/B

Cash bar

Dinner on your own/Visit the Farmers Market

List of restaurants included in registration packet

7:00-9:00 PM **Past State Presidents' Dinner**

DiCicco's Italian Restaurant

Hostess: Rosena Kruley, Immediate Past State President

Saturday, May 2nd, 2026

7:30-8:45 AM Deliver chapter archives

8:00-8:45 AM **Leadership Mini-Continental Breakfast (all attendees invited)**

Veterans

7:30-9:00 AM **Registration**

Atrium

8:45 AM Past State Presidents and Chapter representative(s) with chapter banner line up outside the Veterans room for the Parade of Presidents.

9:00-11:45 AM **First Business Session**

Veterans

Call to Order - Virginia Riding, California State President

Parade of Presidents, Roll Call: Linda Barker, State Historian/Sergeant-at-Arms

Presentation of Colors

Pledge of Allegiance: Linda Barker

Land Acknowledgment: Immediate Past State President Rosena Kruley

Opening Thought: Debbie Waltzer, Iota, State Chaplain

Welcome: Tom Wright, Clovis Veterans Memorial District Board Member, Educator

Presentation of the Executive Board and Honored Guests

Greetings from International Representative Jeanie Hinck, SW Regional President

Welcome by Convention Co-Chairmen: Mary Ann Englehart and Mollie Acosta

Introductions - Virginia Riding

Recognition of First-Timers

Featured Speaker: First Timer Nikki Sullivan, Phi

Recognition of Pearl, Violet, Silver, Sapphire, Golden and Diamond Sisters

Keynote Speaker: Joanne Grimm, **KAPPAN** Editor

First Registration/Credentials Report: Rita Prichard, Beta Eta, Convention Registrar

Adoption of Rules of Convention: Mollie Acosta

Acceptance of Convention Program: Mary Ann Englehart

2024 Convention Minutes Approval Committee Report: Ann McCarty, State Secretary

Correspondence: Ann McCarty

Treasurer's Report and Presentation of the
2026-2028 Proposed State Budget: Virginia Williamson, State Treasurer
Presentation of Proposed 2026-2028 State Bylaws: Colleen Golden, Beta Rho, Chairman
Nominations for State Altruistic Project for 2026-2028: Susan Blough, Zeta, Chairman
Presentation of Candidates for State Executive Board:
Mari Page, Candidate Qualification Chairman
Announcements: Mary Ann Englehart and Mollie Acosta
Recess: Balloting

12:00-1:00 PM **Luncheon** Veterans

1:00-4:00 PM **Second Business Session**

Call to Order: Virginia Riding
Sisters in Motion: Michael Rodriguez
Balloting Results: Leanne Funk, Gamma for Dianne Poettgen, Balloting Chair
Evolving with Curiosity Program from International Representative: Jeanie Hinck
Southwest Regional President

Officer and Committee Reports
Membership: Teresa Heitmiller-Olea, Beta Eta, State Vice President for Membership
Featured Speaker Betty Jo Evers, AZ Iota - Leadership Made Easy
Altruistic Reporting: Colleen Golden for Fran Dunleavy, Beta Rho, State Chair
State Altruistic Project: Susan Blough, Zeta, Chair
Presentation to Camp Kesem, accepted by Victor Martinez-Ambriz
Featured Speaker: Cami Cipolla, Xi
Scholarship: Susan Raffo, Beta Rho, Chair
Presentation by 2024 State Scholarship recipient Danielle Camou, Phi
Presentation of 2026 State Scholarship: Susan Raffo
Invitation to 2026 Northwest/Southwest/North Central Regional Conference
Final Registration Report: Rita Prichard
Announcements: Mary Ann Englehart and Mollie Acosta
Final Resolution: Mary Ann and Mollie
Closing Thought: Debbie Waltzer
Adjournment: Virginia Riding

5:00 **Photos of Outgoing and Incoming State Officers** TBA

5:30-6:30 PM **Presidents' Reception** Veterans

Virginia Riding and Donna McCartney will welcome guests.
No-host bar will be available.

6:45-9:30 PM **Convention Banquet** Veterans

Welcome/Dinner
Membership Awards: Teresa Heitmiller- Olea
Excellence in Education: Kathy Gutierrez, Chair
Presentation of 2026 Elizabeth Rosenberg Golden Chapter Award
Installation of 2026-2028 State Officers: Jeanie Hinck

Sunday, May 3rd, 2026

9:00 -10:00 **Memorial Service** Patriots

Debbie Waltzer, Iota, State Chaplain, presiding

10:00 -12:00 **Changeover Board Meeting** Patriots

Outgoing and Incoming Officers and State Chairs

“Sisters by Choice, Forever Friends”

36th California State Convention Schedule-at-a-Glance

Friday, May 1st, 2026

2:00-4:00 PM	State Executive Board Meeting	Patriots A/B
3:00-4:00 PM	Expanded Board Meeting	Patriots A/B
	Convention and Standing Committee Chairmen	
3:00-7:00 PM	Registration	Lobby
4:00-7:00 PM	Meet-and-Greet Social	Patriots A/B
	Dinner on your own	
7:00-9:00 PM	Past State Presidents’ Dinner	DiCicco’s Italian Restaurant
	Hostess: Rosena Kruley, Immediate Past State President	
7:00-9:00 PM	State Executive Board Dinner	Salsa’s Cantina

Saturday, May 2nd, 2026

7:45-8:45 AM	Deliver chapter archives/Set up for chapter sales	
8:00-8:45 AM	Leadership Continental Breakfast (all attendees invited)	Veterans A/B
7:30-9:00 AM	Registration	Lobby
8:45 AM	Chapter rep(s) line up by council outside Veterans A/B for Parade of Presidents.	
9:00-11:30 AM	First Business Session	Veterans A/B
	- Presiding, Virginia Riding, California State President	
	- Speaker: Joanne Grimm, <i>KAPPAN</i> Editor	
12:00-1:00 PM	Luncheon	Veterans A/B
1:00-4:00 PM	Second Business Session	
5:30-6:30 PM	Presidents’ Reception	Veterans A/B
	-Virginia Riding and Donna McCartney will welcome guests.	
	-No host wine bar will be available.	
6:45-9:30 PM	Convention Banquet	Veterans A/B

Sunday, May 3rd, 2026

9:00-10:00 AM	Memorial Service	Patriots A/B
	Debbie Waltzer, Iota, State Chaplain, presiding	
10:30-12:00	State Executive Board Meeting: Outgoing and Incoming	Patriots A/B

APPENDIX #1

RULES GOVERNING THE CONVENTION

California Alpha Delta Kappa State Convention Rules Governing the Convention

All members shall receive credentials and badges from the registration desk as follows:

Each state executive board member	1 vote
Each past state president	1 vote
Each chairman of a state committee	1 vote
Each chairman of a state convention	1 vote
Each president of a chapter presidents' council or her alternate	1 vote
One delegate (or alternate) for every ten (10) active members in a chapter, with a minimum of one delegate per chapter	1 vote
One delegate for every ten (10) sustaining members or major fraction thereof registered and attending the convention, delegate(s) to be determined by the sustaining members who shall meet and select their delegate the first day of the convention	1 vote

These rules will become effective for this convention, if adopted, at the opening of the convention.

No delegate shall be entitled to more than one vote. No voting proxy shall be allowed. The delegate shall cast the vote. In her absence, the alternate shall vote, but in no case may both vote.

All delegates and alternates shall be active members of California Alpha Delta Kappa.

Any member may speak, but only delegates may make motions or vote.

All members are required to wear the convention status badge to attend business meetings.

All delegates shall be seated in the delegate section.

A quorum shall consist of a majority of the registered delegates. A quorum, once established, shall be considered as established for the entire convention.

All sessions will begin promptly at the hour announced. Doors will be closed during speeches, musical numbers, and reports.

The state president shall appoint a committee of three to approve and correct the convention minutes.

The report of the program chairman, when adopted, shall become the order of business of the convention.

The procedure for making a motion shall be as follows:

1. When the presiding officer shall call for the presentation of the motion, it shall be presented by the sponsoring delegate as follows: "Madam President, I (name and name of chapter), move ..."
2. The president shall then call for a second. If seconded, the motion shall be written and signed by the mover and shall be handed to the convention secretary.
3. The president shall then call for discussion. Each motion may be discussed for ten (10) minutes unless two-thirds vote consent is obtained to extend the time, with no members speaking for more than three (3) minutes.
4. At the conclusion of the discussion of the motion, the vote shall be taken.

Amendments to the bylaws shall become effective at the close of the convention unless otherwise specified before their adoption.

An officer-elect will take possession of her office at the post-convention expanded executive board meeting.

Committee or officer reports will be presented orally, if directed by the state president. Oral reports will be limited to three (3) minutes. Officer reports are limited to three (3) minutes. A delegate may make a motion for officer reports to be filed after the presentation of the reports from the president, president-elect, and vice president.

Any member may rise to a point of order any time she feels that the argument is contrary to law, the Constitution of Alpha Delta Kappa, or the Rules of Convention.

The convention timer will be the official timekeeper and shall give the signal for stopping the reading or discussion.

All matters of procedure shall be decided by:

1. The Constitution of Alpha Delta Kappa
2. The California State Bylaws
3. The Convention Rules
4. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised

Return to: [Table of Contents](#)

Balances as of May 1, 2026

Bank Accounts

Wells Fargo Bank:	Checking	\$ 19,116.62
	Scholarship	\$ 9,713.96
	Reserve	<u>\$ 46,084.70</u>
TOTAL Bank Accounts		\$ 74,915.28

Investment Account

Noel Leonard Fund - AΔK Foundation	<u>\$ 86,598.87</u>
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OVERALL TOTAL	\$161,514.15
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1	2026-2028 Proposed State Budget	2026-27	2026-27	2026-27		2027-28	2027-28	2027-28
2		Proposed	Revised	Actual		Proposed	Revised	Actual
3	Income							
4								
5	Dues 785@\$30	\$ 23,550.00			Dues	\$ 23,550.00		
6	From Noel Leonard Account in ADK Foundation	\$ 4,200.00				\$ 6,000.00		
7	From Scholarship Savings Account					\$ 3,700.00		
8	Donations to State Altruistic Project	\$ -				\$ -		
9	Donations to Leadership/Scholarship/Memorial	\$ -				\$ -		
10	Donations to Educators Helping Educators	\$ -				\$ -		
11	Interest from Bank Accounts	\$ -				\$ -		
12	Carryover from Prior Year	\$2,642.50				\$ (1,292.50)		
13	Total Income	\$ 30,392.50				\$ 31,957.50		
14								
15	Expenditures							
16	International Convention/Spokane, WA							
17	Travel - Executive Board					\$4,200.00		
18	Hotel - Executive Board					\$4,500.00		
19	Subtotal:	\$ -				\$8,700.00		
20	Regional Conference/Las Vegas							
21	Travel - Executive Board	\$ 3,000.00						
22	Hotel - Executive Board	\$ 2,900.00						
23	Leadership: 9 Committee Chrm	\$ 900.00						
24	Noel Leonard Grants for Council Presidents	\$ 2,200.00						
25	Subtotal:	\$ 9,000.00				\$ -		
26	Executive Board Meetings/State Convention							
27	Executive Board Rooms/Hotels	\$ 6,000.00				\$ 1,062.50		
28	Per diem - \$35/night	\$ 2,240.00				\$ 560.00		
29	Transportation	\$ 5,500.00				\$ 1,250.00		
30	Noel Leonard Grants for Convention First Timers					\$ 4,000.00		
31	Subtotal:	\$ 13,740.00				\$ 6,872.50		
32	ADMINISTRATION							
33	Bookkeeping Fees/Bank Fees	\$ 700.00				\$ 1,000.00		
34	Office Equipment / Maintenance / Website	\$ 1,900.00				\$ 2,000.00		
35	Postage	\$ 70.00				\$ 250.00		
36	Printing	\$ 200.00				\$ 250.00		
37	Supplies	\$ 75.00				\$ 200.00		
38	Tax Preparation (IRS) & Tax Amount	\$ 495.00				\$ 495.00		
39	Treasurer Surety Bond	\$ 100.00				\$ 100.00		
40	Subtotal:	\$ 3,540.00				\$ 4,295.00		
41	OFFICIAL BUSINESS							
42	Courtesy	\$ 200.00				\$ 500.00		
43	District Conferences - Registration	\$ 1,000.00				\$ -		
44	Leadership Development	\$ 1,500.00				\$ 100.00		
45	Membership Development	\$ 200.00				\$ 200.00		
46	Miscellaneous, Fees	\$ 25.00				\$ 25.00		
47	Recognition	\$ 50.00				\$ 75.00		
48	State Publicity, Technology, Archives Chairperson	\$ 80.00				\$ 80.00		
49	State Scholarship Chairperson	\$ 60.00				\$ 60.00		
50	State Excellence in Education Chairperson	\$ 30.00				\$ 30.00		
51	State Altruistic Northern Chairperson	\$ 30.00				\$ 30.00		

52	State Altruistic Southern Chairperson	\$ 30.00				\$ 30.00		
53	State Altruistic Project Chairperson	\$ 30.00				\$ 30.00		
54	State Candidate Qualifications Chairperson	\$ 30.00				\$ 30.00		
55	State Resolutions Chairperson	\$ 30.00				\$ 30.00		
56	State By-laws Chairperson	\$ 30.00				\$ 30.00		
57	State World Understanding Chairperson	\$ 30.00				\$ 30.00		
58	State Historian	\$ 50.00				\$ 250.00		
59	Subtotal:	\$ 3,405.00				\$ 1,530.00		
60	STATE SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS							
61	District Mini Grants	\$ 2,000.00				\$ 2,000.00		
62	Bendell State Scholarship	\$ -				\$ 3,500.00		
63	Excellence in Education Award	\$ -				\$ 200.00		
64	Subtotal:	\$ 2,000.00				\$5,700.00		
66								
67	Total Expenditures							
68	SUMMARY							
69	Total Income	\$ 30,392.50				\$ 31,957.50		
70	Total Expenditures	\$ 31,685.00				\$27,097.50		
71	Difference	\$ (1,292.50)				\$ 4,860.00		

CALIFORNIA ALPHA DELTA KAPPA
BUDGET ITEM DESCRIPTIONS
2026-2028

California Alpha Delta Kappa's adopted "Policy and Procedures Manual" provides direction to the California Executive Board regarding the disbursement of each item in the adopted budget.

Budget Development – The proposed budget for the biennium was prepared by the State Treasurer and Budget Committee under the direction of the California State Executive Board.

INCOME

Income shall consist of:

1. **State Dues** collected from each dues-paying member in the state each year of the biennium. (Life Members, Limited Members, and Honorary Members do not pay state dues.)
2. **Donations** to altruistic, leadership, scholarship and Educators Helping Educators accounts.
3. **Profit** from sales of state funding projects.
4. **Noel Leonard Legacy Fund** invested in the Alpha Delta Kappa Foundation.
5. **Interest** from state bank accounts.

EXPENDITURES

1. **International Convention** (odd year) – Travel and hotel expenses of the state president, president-elect, immediate past president, vice president for membership and treasurer shall be reimbursed up to the budgeted amount. Additional specified board members may be assisted with travel/hotel expenses as approved by the California State Executive Board.
 - a. **Hotel/Hospitality Suite** – Accommodations for the attending executive board shall include a suite, if financially feasible, during the time of the convention. If a suite is available, it shall also provide a place for hospitality and informational meetings for California members, receptions, and for any other state function. The suite must provide sleeping accommodation for at least three (3) people.
2. **Regional Southwest/Northwest /Conference** (even year) – Travel and hotel expenses of the state president, president-elect, immediate past president, vice president for membership and treasurer shall be reimbursed up to the budgeted amount. Additional specified board members may be assisted with travel/hotel expenses as approved by the California State Executive Board.
 - a. **State Committee Chair Leadership Training** – The budget shall allow for attending state committee chairs to each receive up to one hundred dollars (\$100) to assist with travel expenses.

- b. **Noel Leonard Legacy Fund** – Interest from this account will be used to support a one-hundred-dollar (\$100) grant to the council president or her designee from each of the eleven councils to pursue leadership training at the Northwest/Southwest Regional Conference. If funding from this account falls below \$35,000 a loan from the state may fund these grants if necessary.
- 3. **State Board Meetings**
 - a. **Hotel** – Accommodations for the state executive board shall be paid for each night's stay required.
 - b. **Executive Board Room** – The fee will be paid for the meeting room of the state executive board held the night before and the afternoon/evening following the four in-person district conferences and Sunday morning if needed.
 - c. **Per Diem** – Per diem shall be paid to each state executive board member in attendance at the rate of thirty-five dollars (\$35) for each overnight stay required while attending to state business. This is not a line item expense for International Convention or Northwest/Southwest Regional Conference. The International Convention and Northwest/Southwest Regional Conference are not intended to conduct official California Alpha Delta Kappa business. Therefore, the executive board members are not to be paid per diem for attending either of these two events.
 - d. **Transportation** – Costs for state executive board members shall include airfare at the lowest available economy rate plus necessary ground transportation, parking, tolls, baggage and tips. Automobile travel shall be reimbursed at the current mileage rate, or a commercial car rental cost and fuel, whichever is the lesser expense. However, transportation costs shall not exceed the lowest airfare(s) for the same trip.
- 4. **Administrative Expenses** – Expenditures shall include those items necessary to conduct state business, such as printing (district conference materials, etc.), office equipment and supplies, treasurer's surety bond, audit expenses, income tax preparation, tax and banking fees and website costs. All bills are to be approved by the California State Executive Board.
- 5. **Official Business**
 - a. **Courtesy** – Purchase of the past president's guard and the traditional state gifts of appreciation shall be made and presented to the state president and retiring board members as they leave office. Courtesies may also be extended to International dignitaries, Southwest dignitaries and other guests of the state. To honor a California member elected to the International Board, a twenty-five-dollar (\$25) donation will be made to the Honor a Sister Program at International Headquarters.
 - b. **District Conferences** – Expenses incurred by the California State Executive Board to provide materials for workshops at these meetings are to be reimbursed by the state. The published registration/luncheon cost shall be paid for each attending state executive board member.

- c. **Liaison** – Travel expenses of state officers may be paid when they are required to attend a council meeting to aid in solving problems, assist in the formation of new or colonizing chapters, or to fulfill other duties as directed by the state president. The officer will be reimbursed for mileage or alternative transportation costs which shall not exceed mileage costs. Whenever possible, liaison shall be accomplished using Zoom technology to avoid the need for travel expenses.
 - d. **Leadership Development** (even year) – Expenses will be reimbursed for travel, hotel, and per diem expenses for the newly elected executive board to convene for planning and training in the summer prior to the first district conference.
 - e. **Membership Development** – Money will be provided to develop new chapters and to expand membership.
 - f. **Miscellaneous** – Approved expenses will be reimbursed to cover items not specifically line budgeted.
 - g. **Fees** – Fees related to banking or investment expenses, tax-exempt status, or federal or state tax reporting will be paid.
 - h. **Recognition** – Expenses related to acknowledgment of our members' achievements and contributions to the organization will be covered upon approval by the California State Executive Board.
 - i. **State Committee Chairs** – Each chair is allowed up to thirty dollars (\$30) for supplies, postage, and printing. The Scholarship Chair may receive sixty dollars (\$60). The Publicity/Technology/Archives Webmaster may receive up to eighty dollars (\$80). When the duties of the above chairs require travel, hotel, or other expenses, reimbursement may be given with prior approval by the California State Executive Board.
 - j. **Historian** – The State Historian/Sergeant-at-Arms will be reimbursed for expenses related to maintaining the state archives and creating an archive for the current biennium.
6. **State Convention** – The California State Convention is funded with \$7500 seed money and is financed exclusive of the state budget. To align with International Bylaws the convention operational (seed) money is to be returned to the state treasurer by June 30 following the close of convention.
- a. **Noel Leonard Leadership Grants for First-Timers** – The interest from the Noel Leonard Legacy Fund, which has been established with the International Alpha Delta Kappa Foundation, will be used to fund one or more grants of one hundred dollars (\$100) or more to all first-time attendees to State Convention.
7. **Scholarships/Grants**
- a. **District Mini Grants** – These grants are offered once each year for personal and professional growth to one member in each of the four districts when there is a qualified candidate. If there are no applicants from a district, monies for these grants will go to the next qualified candidate from another district.
 - b. **Eleanor Bendell California State Scholarship** – This scholarship may be awarded once per biennium to a California Alpha Delta Kappa member for professional growth or to fund a worthy project when there is a qualified candidate. It shall be given to a member who is currently in good standing and

has been in good standing for at least two (2) previous years. The recipient shall remain in good standing for at least two (2) years after the scholarship is received. Otherwise, the amount of the scholarship is to be repaid without interest. The scholarship award shall be paid from the interest earned on the Noel Leonard Legacy Fund.

- c. **Excellence in Education** – The state recipient of the Excellence in Education award shall be given a monetary award. The amount is to be determined by the California State Executive Board.
8. **Altruistic** – An amount approved by the California State Executive Board will be awarded annually to the State Altruistic Project selected by a vote of the delegates at the previous state convention. Monies to fund this donation will be donated by chapters and other contributors to this altruistic fund.
9. **Reserve Account** – The amount in this account must be equal to at least one year's operating budget.
10. **Line Items in Budget** – Monies from one line in the state's general operating budget may be transferred to another line item at the discretion of the California State Executive Board.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

Virginia "Ginny" Williamson, Beta Kappa, State Treasurer, Northern District

Diana Galvan, Beta Eta, Past State Treasurer, Past State President, Northern District

Virginia Riding, Gamma, State President, Valley District

Donna McCartney, Gamma Nu, State President-Elect, Marina District

Karen Kirby, Gamma Mu, Past State President, Past State Treasurer, Webmaster, Marina District

Lynn Keating, Gamma Eta, Southern District



ARTICLE I — NAME

The name of this organization shall be California Alpha Delta Kappa of Alpha Delta Kappa, hereinafter referred to as California Alpha Delta Kappa. The first chapter of California Alpha Delta Kappa was chartered on Aug 25, 1953 in Piedmont, California.

ARTICLE II — PURPOSE

The purpose of California Alpha Delta Kappa shall be to promote the purposes set forth in ARTICLE II of the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa*.

ARTICLE III — MEMBERSHIP

Refer to ARTICLE III in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on membership, transfer, resignation, reinstatement, termination, Omega Chapter, and dues, fees and assessments. See also California Policies and Procedures Manual on dues, fees and assessments.

ARTICLE IV — CHAPTER ORGANIZATION

Refer to ARTICLE IV in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on chapter organization.

ARTICLE V — SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF CHARTERS

Refer to ARTICLE V in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on suspending and revoking of charters.

ARTICLE VI — INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD and REGIONAL COUNCIL

Refer to ARTICLE VI in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on the International Executive Board and Regional Council.

ARTICLE VII — OFFICERS

Refer to ARTICLE VII in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa*. See also California Policies and Procedures Manual.

Additional officers may include, but are not limited to, president-elect, immediate past president, vice president for membership, historian, chaplain, corresponding secretary, president of the council of chapter presidents and sergeant-at-arms.



The provided list is exhaustive..

ARTICLE VIII — BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Refer to ARTICLE VIII in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on State committees. See also California Policies and Procedures Manual.

The state, province or nation may establish special committees and/or any of the following standing committees: altruistic, budget, bylaws, candidate qualifications, fraternity education and membership.

Alpha Delta Kappa month, scholarship, resolutions, publicity/ technology, and State convention and balloting..

Note: Per Section 2. Standing or special committees, except the candidate qualifications committee, which is elected by the executive board, shall be appointed by the president as authorized or required by the Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa and state, provincial or national bylaws and/or policies and procedures manual.

ARTICLE IX — INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Refer to ARTICLE IX in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on International convention.

ARTICLE X — INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF PRESIDENTS

Refer to ARTICLE X in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on the International Council of Presidents.

ARTICLE XI — REGIONS, REGIONAL LEADERSHIP AND REGIONAL CONFERENCES

Refer to ARTICLE XI in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on regions and regional conferences. California is in the Southwest (SWR) Region, one of the seven regions in Alpha Delta Kappa.

ARTICLE XII — State CONVENTION

Refer to ARTICLE XII in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on the State convention. See also California Policies and Procedures Manual.

Per Section 3. Delegates to the State convention shall be:



California ALPHA DELTA KAPPA BYLAWS

- a. Each elected state officer, each past president, each state committee chair, and each chapter will have one delegate (or alternate) for every ten members per chapter with a minimum of one
- b. Each delegate has only one vote. If a designated delegate is unable to vote, only an alternate may vote; there are no proxies.

ARTICLE XIII — California COUNCIL OF CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Refer to ARTICLE XIII in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on the State council of chapter presidents.

The state council of presidents shall meet in conjunction with the state convention in the even numbered years. All members are welcome to attend this meeting.

ARTICLE XIV — DISTRICTS

Refer to ARTICLE XIV in the current Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa, for information on districts.

four districts have been established by the California executive board to provide a strong, vital link between the chapters and the S/P/N.

- a. The districts shall meet annually to implement the adopted purposes of the districts.
- b. Each district elects a chair, chair-elect, secretary, and any other officers deemed necessary.

ARTICLE XV — CITY/AREA COUNCILS OF CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Refer to ARTICLE XV in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on city/area councils of chapter presidents.

See also California Policies and Procedures Manual.

ARTICLE XVI — MEETINGS

Refer to ARTICLE XVI in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on chapter meetings.



California ALPHA DELTA KAPPA BYLAWS

ARTICLE XVII — State AND CHAPTER BYLAWS

Refer to ARTICLE XVII in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on State and chapter bylaws. See also California Policies and Procedures Manual.

Section 1. California Alpha Delta Kappa shall adopt bylaws and/or policies and procedures manual, which must be in compliance with the *Constitution of Alpha Delta Kappa* and *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa*. Each biennium, the State bylaws chair shall send for certification, a current copy of the State bylaws or the official policy statement, from the California Policies and Procedures Manual, that satisfies the requirement of the Internal Revenue Service for states of the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, to the International Bylaws Committee Chair by October 15 of even-numbered years.

Section 2. The chapters shall adopt bylaws and/or policies and procedures manual, which must be in compliance with the *Constitution of Alpha Delta Kappa*, *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* and the California Bylaws and/or the California Policies and Procedures Manual. Each biennium, the chapter bylaws chair shall send, for certification, a current copy of the chapter bylaws or the official policy statement, from the chapter policies and procedures manual, that satisfies the requirement of the Internal Revenue Service for states of the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, to the State bylaws committee chair by March 15 of odd-numbered years.

ARTICLE XVIII — PUBLICATIONS

Refer to ARTICLE XVIII in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on publications.

See also California Policies and Procedures Manual.

ARTICLE XIX — PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Refer to ARTICLE XIX in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* for information on parliamentary authority.



ARTICLE XX — AMENDING OF BYLAWS

Refer to ARTICLE XX in the current *Bylaws of Alpha Delta Kappa* and the California Policies and Procedures Manual for information on amending the bylaws.

Section 1. These bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the official delegates present and voting at any regular State convention provided that:

- a. the proposed amendments shall have been proposed by the State executive board, the State bylaws committee or by a chapter.
- b. a copy of the proposed amendments shall have been sent to all chapters at least thirty (30) and not more than ninety (90) days prior to the State convention.

Section 2. Unless otherwise provided prior to its adoption or in the motion to adopt, an amendment to these bylaws shall become the law of California Alpha Delta Kappa at the close of the State convention at which it shall have been adopted.

Article XXI – DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION

The Internal Revenue Service requires upon the dissolution of the corporation's states, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any chapters within, the assets of the state or chapter(s) having assets which remain after payment of its obligations has been made or provided for, and after return, transfer, or conveyance of assets held upon condition requiring such return, transfer, or conveyance, shall be transferred to one or more nonprofit organizations whose purposes are substantially similar to those for which the corporation is organized and which at the time of such distribution are described in section 501 (c) (3) of the Code and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of the Code.

Altruistic Project

Camp Kesem was the only altruistic project nominated.

Camp Kesem is a program for children, ages 6 – 18, whose parents are in cancer treatment, are cancer survivors, or who have lost their battle with cancer. Most organizations focus on cancer research or treatment; but there are 5 million children nationwide coping with a parent's cancer diagnosis. Kesem creates experiences and a sense of community to support these children who often feel anxiety, emotional isolation, loss of social interest, and feelings of hopelessness. This support includes its flagship program Camp Kesem, a free, fun-filled summer camp, as well as year-round support, communication, and "Friends and Family Days." Program chapters are on college campuses where Kesem recruits student leader volunteers. With oversight and guidance from Kesem, they undergo extensive training on how to create an environment where these children will feel safe and respected as they cope with their parents' diagnosis. The volunteers also receive leadership training as they are responsible for yearlong fundraising, organizing, hosting the camp, and being camp counselors. There are 130 nationwide chapters serving 7,000 children and 22 chapters in California including many UC campuses and state universities. It has the goal to serve at least 10,300 children by 2025. All Kesem programs are provided at no cost to families thanks to the generosity of individuals, foundations, and corporate partners, California AΔK funds will be allocated to cover costs to allow as many children as possible to attend Camp Kesem.

California Alpha Delta Kappa State Pfficer Candisate Qualifications 2026										
Name	Chapter	Positions	Date Initiated	Chapter Offices	State	State Offices	State	Regional	International	Education
				Held	Committees	Held	Conventions	Conventions	Conventions	Background
Donna McCartney	Gamma Nu	President	1998	President Numerous	Attruistic Chair.	Chaplain/ VP Membership Pres Elect	2003-2025	2004, 2006,2008 2012--2022	2003, 2005- 2025	BA ME
Ann McCarty	Alpha Lambda	Pres. Elect	2002	President, Pres Elect,	Greek Squad	Secretary	2022 2024	2017 2019	2021 2023 2025	Masters in Speech Path.
Carol Valcarcel	Gamma Nu	Co -VP Mem	2002	President Treasurer Membership	None	Treasurer	2022 +	Several	Several	BA MA
Teresa HeitMiller Olea	Beta Eta	Co-VP Mem	2016	President Recording Sec.	None	VP Membership	2018,2022, 2024	2023 +2	2022	Masters in Special Ed.
Virginia Williamson	Beta Kappa	Treasurer	2000	CO President Treasurer	None	Treasurer	2024	2024	2025	BA
Rita Prichard	Beta Eta	Secretary	2012	Secretary, Pres. Elect, President Chaplain	Ways& Means	None	2016, 2018 2024	2016, 2022	2023, 2025V	BA
Kathy Gutierrez	Alpha Delta	Historian/ Sgt	1995	Treasurer President MVP	Greek Squad	None	2024	none	2015	BA MA
Linda Barker	Gamma	Chaplain	2003	President Pres. Elect Secretary Historian	Registration Chair Altruistic Chair	Historian/ Sgt. At Arms	2003 on	none	2025	BA



"Connection is Contagious!"

✨ **39** California Chapters

🥳 **763** members

80 of our sisters are working under contract.

 Cheers to these chapters for initiating new
sisters into Alpha Delta Kappa! 

Alpha Delta, Alpha Lambda,
Beta Eta, Beta Iota, Beta Kappa, Beta
Omicron, Beta Rho, Beta Upsilon,
Eta, **Gamma**, Gamma Beta, Gamma
Beta, Gamma Eta, Gamma Mu,
Gamma Nu, Gamma Tau,
Lambda, Phi, Pi, Psi,
Tau, Theta, Xi, Zeta

Celebrating our 2024-26 Initiates

~Welcome to our New Sisters, our Forever Friends~

**Sheila M. Warren
Angelica Faustino
Sarah E. Muscolina
Lynne Liebelt
Maria D. S. A. Johnson
Sydney T. Merk
Corinne Y. Griswold
Jasmine Lopez
Harriet M. Huggins
Ruth M. Anderson
Diana R. Valdez
Julie A. Greywacz
Nicole Provensal
Gail V. Wickenberg
Amy E. Micu
Jacqueline Sims-Esquivel
Melissa Lent
Brenda Ridenour
Kathy B. Brandes
Stephanie Guerra
Kristan Kesterke**

**Janet L. Martin
Diana Ray
Maria Clemo-Ohms
Kathleen E. Bacharach
Leona D. Goebel
Kristin L. Stout
Therese Shanahan
Patricia I. Goytia
Cami Cipolla
Pam Stull
Mariana Macamay
Patricia J. Motschall
Rebecca DeVoe
Alma C. Rogers
Margaret S. DeLoach
Dorothy A. Stapleton
Kathleen Lewis
Victoria R. Olivadoti
Theresa M. Weber
Dena M. Starnes
Gail N. Boyle**

**Heidi Brown
Margarita Posadas
April J. Bishop
Grace Anne M. Ono
Nicole M. Hansen
Amanda Urrutia-Rayburn
Sue M. Lippert
Linda E. Dugoni
Lara Goldman
Sonya L. Sanchez
Debie Collins
Marilyn Newman
Suzie Carroll
Kathleen E. Alexander
Ellie R. Huynh
Mary Wolfe
Jaci McAleer
Kathleen Fairwell
Anna Marie Gonzalez**



Timers!

Delta Council:

Vicky Cupp, Sharon Higbee,
Kathleen Meadows

Golden Gate Council:

Nikki Sullivan

Peninsula/South Bay Council:

Jeanne McCann, Sara-Maria Menendez,
Carol Shimizu

Sierra Council:

Jaci McAleer

Fresno/Modesto Council:

Karen Basham, Kathi Carrle, Cami Cipolla,
Stephanie Guerra, Nicole Hansen,
Kristan Kesterke, Kathleen Lehman,
Amy Micu, Amanda Rayburn, DeeDee Sary,
Jacqueline Sims-Esquivel

Supports Alpha Delta Kappa with her words and actions
Helps our membership grow
Expresses a passion for Alpha Delta Kappa... and it's contagious!
Shares a positive attitude about her chapter, state, and international activities and altruistic efforts
Helps wherever she can
Says YES when asked to help

California's 2024-26

Membership Rockstars



MEMBERSHIP ROCKSTARS 2026

- Gamma Nu's **Myrna Capsuto**
- Gamma's **Alethea Traskin**
- Alpha Alpha's **Judi Yeager**
- Beta Omicron's **Monda Forrestal and Alice Bullard**
- Beta Xi's **Madeleine McCormick, Linda Guitron, and Shirley Perkins**
- Alpha Lambda's **Ann McCarty, Anita Brown, and Janet Armstrong**
- Gamma Mu's **Pat Renga**

Lamp of AΔK

To Alpha Delta Kappa
we pledge our loyalty.

To sisters who
are always true,
we'll ever faithful be.

The sacred lamp of learning
upon our altar stands.

Its radiant glow
will e'er bestow
a light to all the lands.



Banquet Program

*California Alpha Delta Kappa
State Convention*

May 1-3, 2026

"Sisters By Choice,
Forever Friends"
2026 Convention Banquet

Presiding

Donna McCartney, State President-Elect

Opening Thought

Debbie Waltzer, State Chaplain

Dinner

Membership Presentation

Teresa Heitmiller-Olea, State VP Membership

Excellence in Education Award

Kathy Gutierrez, EIE Committee Chair

Betty Rosenberg Golden Chapter Award

Virginia Riding, State President

Farewell Remarks

Virginia Riding, State President

Presentation of Memory Book

Presentation of Life Membership Card

Presentation of Presidents' Plaque

Presentation of Gifts

Installation of Officers

Jeanie Hinck, SW Regional President

Presentation of State President's Pin and Gavel

Acceptance Speech

Donna McCartney, State President

Past State Presidents' Drawing

Rosena Kruley, Past State President

Closing Thought

Debbie Waltzer, Past State Chaplain

Announcements

Mollie and Mary Ann

President's Banquet Farewell Speech 2026

President Donna, members of the past and present State Executive Boards, Alpha Delta Kappa Dignitaries, Gamma Girls, all my other ADK Sisters, and Guests,

Before I start, I would like to introduce my family: the ever-supportive Bob, who has enjoyed (endured?) almost 47 years of marriage with me; our oldest son Andy, the talented artist responsible for creating my beautiful banner; our youngest son, Jeff, who is diligently working to make our air cleaner at the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District; our sassy, clever, smarty-pants granddaughter Nola who I'm sure is going to run the world someday; and my brother-from-a-different-mother Teddy, who has too many talents and skills to list. Thank you for joining me tonight. I love all of you!

It has been my great honor to serve as your CA Alpha Delta Kappa President these past two years. There are so many memories I'll cherish and people I'll never forget. The thanks I owe are immeasurable, but I must share a few.

My Gamma sisters, the Executive Board, and the many other women who helped me carry this work forward every day taught me that this was never "my" presidency. It was ours. Those who nudged and guided, who believed in me when I wasn't so sure-Susan Raffo, Molly, Mary Ann, Rosena, Jeanie, Linda, Leanne-the list goes on and on. Your influence is all over everything I did. I am so lucky to have had all of you in my life.

Tonight, as my term ends, I am pleased to pass this responsibility to Donna McCartney. She is a strong woman who will take our organization into the future as she Shares the Sunshine of Sisterhood. We are lucky to have her leading us.

Finally, I'd like to end with a poem:

We gathered as strangers some years ago
Not knowing how far along this road we'd go
We met, we planned, we laughed a lot
We solved a few things. Some, we did not.

We gained some sisters who soon became friends
And discovered this friendship wasn't meant to end
Because titles may change and roles move on
But the bonds we have built will never be gone.

Thank you!

In Sisterhood,

Virginia K. Ridling

CA State President, 2024-2026

Incoming State President Convention Banquet Speech
Donna McCartney, May 2, 2026

Immediate Past President Virginia, members of the past and newly elected California State Executive Board, International dignitaries, guests and members.

I am honored to accept the position of California Alpha Delta Kappa State President for the 2026-2028 biennium. This has been an amazing journey for me starting in Pennsylvania almost 30 years ago and ending up here in California with you today.

There are many people I need to thank for helping me get to this moment. Many of them are back in Pennsylvania where my Alpha Delta Kappa journey began. Many more are here in our wonderful state of California and some of them are here this evening. Thank you! I will get to all of you in a minute, but first let me tell you a little bit about this grateful sister standing before you right now.

I was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania into a traditional working-class family. I had a pretty usual American childhood being raised in the 50s and 60s. Which means that our parents didn't want us underfoot. When we weren't in school we were sent out to play with the neighborhood kids for hours at a time. They call that a free-range childhood now but to me it was a pretty healthy way for children to grow up. My parents didn't know where we were in the neighborhood but they knew we were safe and would come home if we needed them. Because we were not heavily supervised we were forced to figure things out for ourselves and developed some strong skills like negotiating, persuasion, self-reliance; skills I've often used over the years.

Both of my parents emphasized the importance of an education. My father had to drop out in 10th grade to go to work, so he deeply understood how an education can make a difference in a life. I was very close to my father growing up and he made sure I understood that if I didn't perform in school there would be a lot of trouble waiting for me at home. I know I got my work ethic from him. Most important of all, my father always made me feel good to be me, as perfectly imperfect as I am.

I went to Penn State University and, because I love science, I received a BS in Biology with a certification in Science Education. I started out teaching High School Science in Houston, Texas and then moved to the country of Panama to teach military children in the Department of Defense Schools right there by the Panama Canal. Living in Panama was a wonderful cultural experience for me. I decided to go back for my master's degree at the University of Pittsburgh and finally, taught for 25 years more years in the Pittsburgh Public Schools where I finished my career as an Elementary Science Specialist.

When I retired in 2015, I did not want to be 3,000 miles away from my son and granddaughters so I moved here to California. What a great decision that was! Who doesn't love California weather? I have been happily watching my granddaughters grow up. They are turning 16 years old next month and will be going to college in a couple of years. Life is good!

Now, back to you, my fabulous California sisters. As Virginia Riding said in her wonderful speech to you two years ago, you are the best kind of sisters: sisters by choice. Ones who grow into forever friends, now who doesn't want that?

Before I talk about my logo and goals for this biennium, I want to talk about three special California sisters, although there are many, many more of you. When I first moved to California, Myrna Capsuto, from my Gamma Nu Chapter, made a special effort to welcome me and make me feel at home in our chapter. Unfortunately, she isn't able to be with us here today, but I feel her loving and supportive presence. A few of my Gamma Nu sisters were able to come, so please stand so I can acknowledge and thank you for your friendship, kinship, as Virginia calls it. A number of our members weren't able to join us today, but you made the extra effort to be here, and I really appreciate it!

Another sister from our Marina District, Karen Kirby, reached out to me ten years ago and has, over the years, encouraged me to go into California state leadership, working my way up eventually becoming one of the 3Ps, as we call ourselves, like I did in Pennsylvania before moving here. She asked me to be State Altruistic Project Chair during her biennium and I've never looked back. Please stand, Karen so I can acknowledge you. Thanks!

Finally, I want to thank Molly Acosta for encouraging me into state leadership over the years. Molly has asked me over the years to join her for lunch since I moved to our wonderful state. We've already heard from another sister who said, watch out, Molly is recruiting you. *(pause)* I thought it was because she likes me. Well, I think she does like me but she was really teaching me that in order to encourage sisters to step up to leadership roles, you need to spend some time getting to know them and show them how valuable they are to the future of California Alpha Delta Kappa. Please stand, Molly, so I can acknowledge you. Thank you!

Now back to the rest of you. We need lots of sisters to step up to serve on State Committees. So, please think about stepping back from another obligation that keeps you busy and step up to State Leadership. You won't regret getting to know and deepening your relationship with the amazing women we have on our Board and on our Committees. You can be at the heart of "Sharing The Sunshine of Sisterhood," so join us, you won't regret it!

Speaking of "Sharing The Sunshine Of Sisterhood," that is my logo for the 2026 – 2028 biennium. Here is my banner. Molly, I loved your "Share the Love" logo for your 2021 – 2023 biennium as International President, so I began mine with the same thought about sharing. Sisters are good at sharing, right? "Sharing The Sunshine Of Sisterhood" means treasuring and benefiting from the close friendships you develop on this Alpha Delta Kappa journey.

We've been hearing a lot lately about the importance of social connection. Several years ago, Harvard did a large study of 28,000 people that linked longevity with socializing. According to an article in "Harvard Health Publishing," more frequent social activity was associated with significantly longer survival. In fact, the greater the frequency of socialization, the greater the likelihood of living longer. So, being a sister is really good for your health!

As far as goals for this biennium, besides “Sharing the Sunshine of Sisterhood,” membership is always at the top of our list of goals. I think that chapters that focus on creating events and running our organization in ways that appeal to women who are 50 years and younger and not 60 years and older, like me, is the only way we will have a future.

Change won’t be easy, it never is! As the world changes around us, we have to step up to change the way we do things and feel the discomfort of that change. The alternative is to continue to lose members and end up as one of our disbanding chapters. Sadly, we lost more chapters this past biennium.

People say, “teachers today do not join organizations.” Tell that to CrossFit. They will show you how they have appealed to people in our target group of teachers and made a lot of money doing it, too!

That is our challenge going forward. Learn about the many organizations that do appeal to our current teachers. Find out what makes them so appealing that overworked and stressed 50-year-olds and under flock to them. And then let’s change how we do things so those in that demographic are as interested in us as they are in CrossFit.

We know our future members love altruism, they love socializing and they love students. Let’s change to meet them where they are right now. That is one of my biggest goals for 2026 – 2028. Come join me in this adventure. We can do it! Thanks!

Submitted by Donna McCartney, Gamma Nu
Incoming California State President

May 3, 2026 CA State

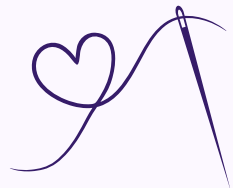
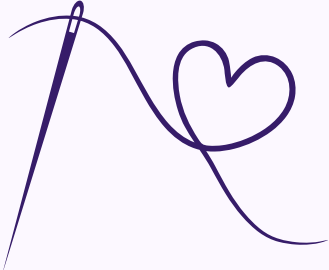
Convention

Omega Service





"Each of us is a patchwork of all the people we've known. Even if you never again see someone who has lent their thread to the fabric of your life, they are always with you. We are all connected, forever woven together into the lives of one another."



Pamela C. Mallory
Frances Posthumus
Gladys E. Williams
Gloria J. Medina
Carrie Jack
Marilyn E. Cain
Catherine A. Shim
Mary Ann Dews
Dona L. Scandura
Etienne E. Simon
Marion Grady
Dorean L. Barnes
Dorothy Vaio
Peggy J. Tudor
Vera Aalgaard
Lola V. Johnson
Patricia M. Kennison
Valda C. Tormey
Marilyn Renna
Ellen C. Champlin
Adena M. Miller
Patricia J. Allen
Carol Aguirre
Rita M. Liston
Barbara B. Rebolt
Mary J. Morgan
Joan McKenna
Nancy Wilkison

Beta Pi
Beta Phi
Beta Phi
Beta
Beta Eta
Beta Eta
Alpha Lambda
Gamma
Iota
Beta
Beta
Beta Rho
Beta
Alpha Nu
Beta Eta
Sustaining
Beta Rho
Alpha Lambda
Gamma
Phi
Phi
Alpha
Gamma
Alpha
Delta
Beta Alpha
Beta Xi
Alpha Pi

2026 CA State Convention Evaluation - Three Stars and a Wish

Please complete ASAP. Thank You!!

* Indicates required question

Three Stars

Please list 3 highlights/most enjoyable experiences during the convention.

And a Wish

Please make one recommendation for improvement/change.

To view all the responses submitted, click this link:

[2026 California State Convention Evaluation Feedback](#)

2026 State Convention Evaluation Summaries

The following is an AI generated summary of the Evaluation for the 2026 State convention

Based on the responses, the three strongest positives are:

1. **Outstanding Speakers and Engaging Presentations**

Attendees consistently praised the keynote speakers and presentations, especially Nikki Sullivan, Joanne Grimm, Tom Wright, and other featured speakers. Participants appreciated the inspiring, informative, and emotionally engaging content, as well as the variety of presentation styles.

2. **Strong Sense of Fellowship and Connection**

The opportunity to reconnect with longtime friends, meet new sisters, and build relationships across chapters was one of the most frequently mentioned highlights. The welcoming, friendly atmosphere fostered meaningful conversations and strengthened the spirit of scholarship, altruism, friendship, and leadership.

3. **Excellent Organization, Venue, and Overall Experience**

Respondents commended the smooth organization, well-paced schedule, convenient Clovis venue, accessible facilities, and thoughtful planning. Many also highlighted the affordability, quality food, walkable location, and overall welcoming environment as contributing to a successful convention.

Based on the feedback, the most common **areas for improvement** can be summarized into four themes:

1. **Build in More Breaks and Opportunities for Interaction**

Many attendees felt the Saturday program was too long with extended periods of sitting. They recommended adding short stretch breaks, movement activities, longer lunch or networking breaks, and more opportunities for socializing, exploring the local area, or participating in fun activities such as games or scavenger hunts.

2. **Streamline the Program and Reduce the Number of Speakers**

Participants suggested limiting the number of guest speakers, shortening business reports and recognition speeches, and enforcing presentation time limits. Many felt the afternoon schedule became too lengthy, making it difficult to stay engaged.

3. **Enhance the Omega Memorial Service**

The Omega Service was the most frequently mentioned area for improvement. Attendees requested a more personal and meaningful tribute by including photos, years of membership, memorial reflections, smoother technology, better organization, quieter music, and a more respectful, cohesive program.

4. Refine Logistics and Attendee Experience

Several respondents suggested small improvements such as providing more comfortable seating, offering vegetarian and hot tea options, clarifying dress expectations, improving presentation visuals and catering, providing name tags at dinner, and continuing efforts to recruit more attendees and younger members for future conventions.



USE YOUR VOICE FOR KINDNESS,
YOUR EARS FOR COMPASSION,
YOUR HANDS FOR CHARITY,
YOUR MIND FOR TRUTH,
AND YOUR HEART FOR LOVE.

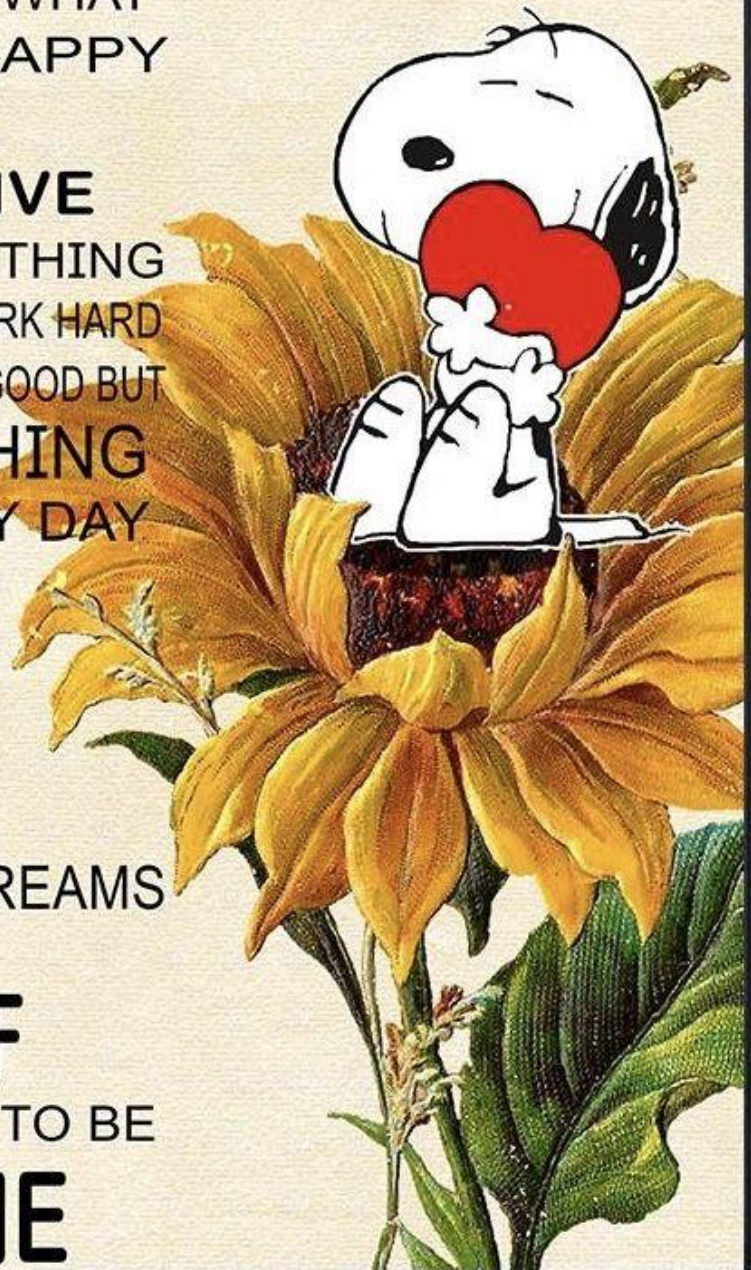
~ANONYMOUS

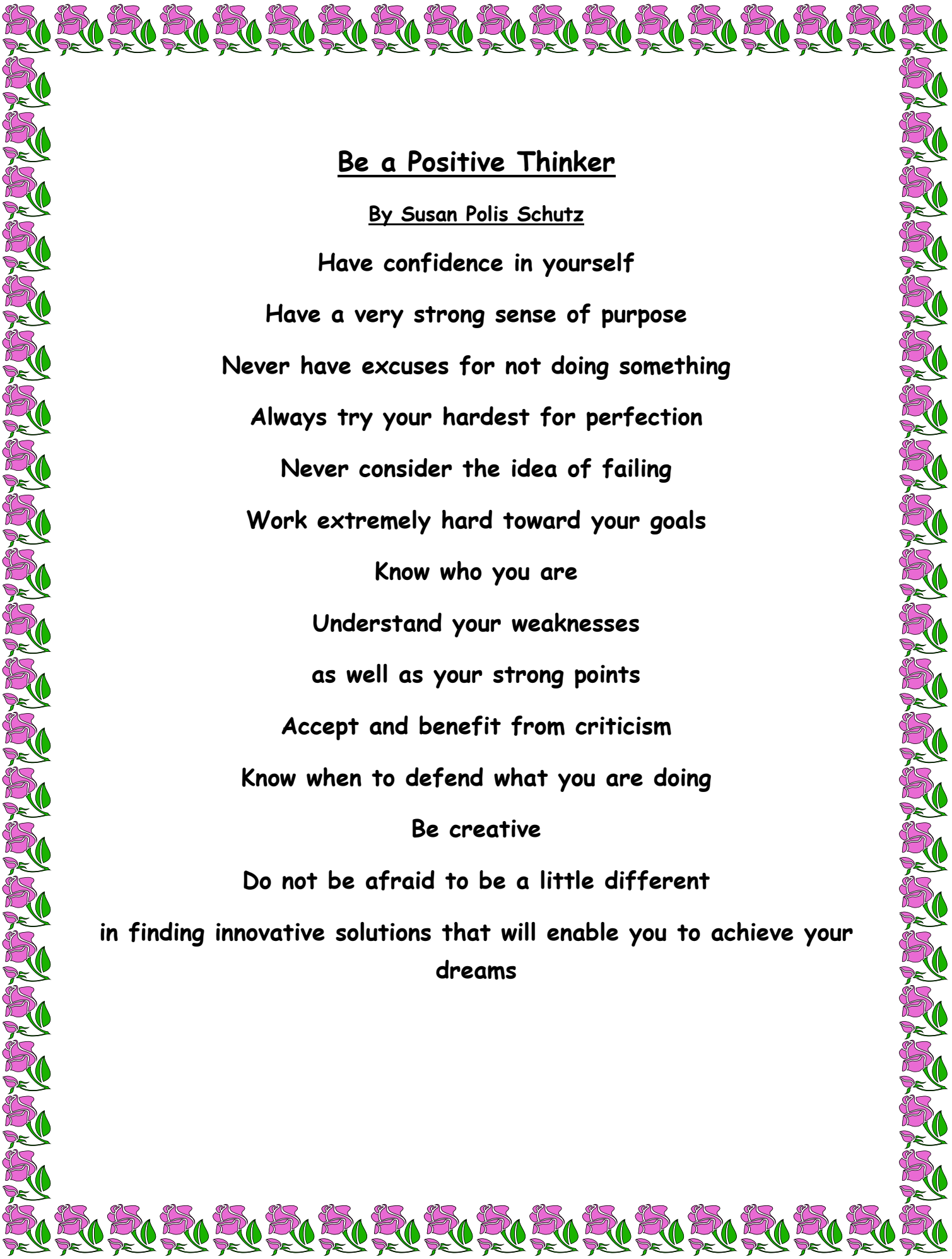


TODAY IS A GOOD DAY
TO HAVE A GREAT DAY
TO SMILE MORE
WORRY LESS
TO BE THE VERY
BEST VERSION OF
YOU

TO DO MORE OF WHAT
MAKES YOU HAPPY
EVERY DAY
TO BE POSITIVE
AND REGRET NOTHING
TO BE HUMBLE AND WORK HARD
EVERY DAY MAY NOT BE GOOD BUT
FIND SOMETHING
GOOD IN EVERY DAY

LAUGH
LOVE
LIVE
FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS
BELIEVE IN
YOURSELF
AND REMEMBER TO BE
AWESOME





Be a Positive Thinker

By Susan Polis Schutz

Have confidence in yourself

Have a very strong sense of purpose

Never have excuses for not doing something

Always try your hardest for perfection

Never consider the idea of failing

Work extremely hard toward your goals

Know who you are

Understand your weaknesses

as well as your strong points

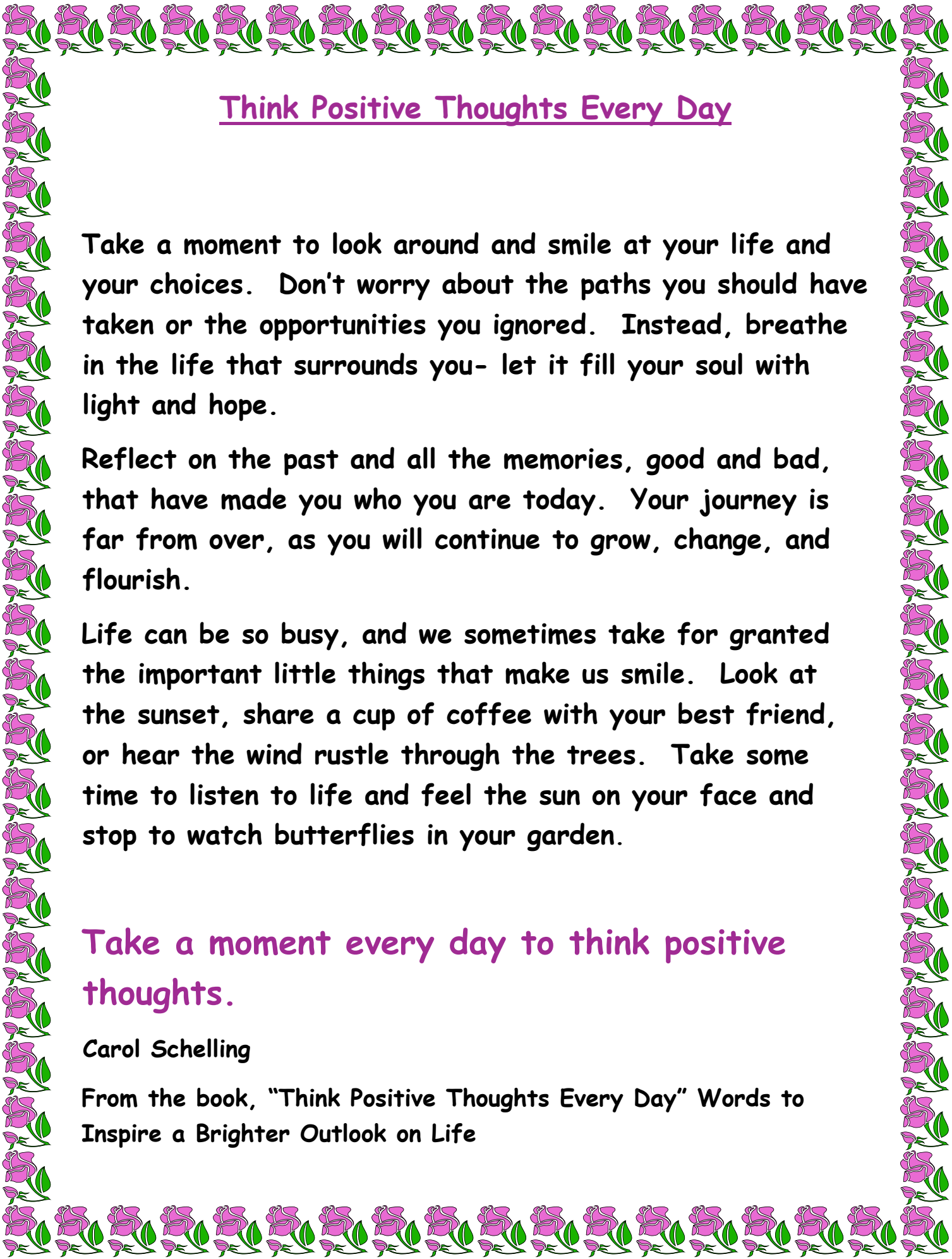
Accept and benefit from criticism

Know when to defend what you are doing

Be creative

Do not be afraid to be a little different

**in finding innovative solutions that will enable you to achieve your
dreams**



Think Positive Thoughts Every Day

Take a moment to look around and smile at your life and your choices. Don't worry about the paths you should have taken or the opportunities you ignored. Instead, breathe in the life that surrounds you- let it fill your soul with light and hope.

Reflect on the past and all the memories, good and bad, that have made you who you are today. Your journey is far from over, as you will continue to grow, change, and flourish.

Life can be so busy, and we sometimes take for granted the important little things that make us smile. Look at the sunset, share a cup of coffee with your best friend, or hear the wind rustle through the trees. Take some time to listen to life and feel the sun on your face and stop to watch butterflies in your garden.

Take a moment every day to think positive thoughts.

Carol Schelling

From the book, "Think Positive Thoughts Every Day" Words to Inspire a Brighter Outlook on Life

EACH OF US IS A
PATCHWORK OF ALL
THE PEOPLE WE'VE
KNOWN. EVEN IF YOU
NEVER AGAIN SEE
SOMEONE WHO HAS
LENT THEIR THREAD
TO THE FABRIC OF
YOUR LIFE, THEY
ARE ALWAYS WITH
YOU. WE ARE ALL
CONNECTED, FOREVER
WOVEN TOGETHER
INTO THE LIVES OF
ONE ANOTHER.

