



**In This
Issue**

President's
Message

Fall Forum
Wrap Up

Educational
Excellence

Seiwaloah
Experience

Strategic
Action Plan

Hands Across
the Pacific to
Alpha sisters

Red Roses

News from
Chapters
Across the
State

**Beta Beta
Hawaii
Chapters**

Hawaii
Zeta

Kauai
Eta
Xi

Maui
Gamma

Oahu
Alpha
Beta
Delta
Epsilon
Iota
Kappa
Lambda
Mu
Theta



President's Message

Mele Kalikimaka me ka Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!

First, thank you to Gamma Chapter for hosting a fabulous Fall Forum at UH – Maui Campus. People are still talking about the stimulating keynote, varied breakout sessions, delicious food, and the academic venue. It was so good to see such a big turnout and have the opportunity to meet the Gamma sisters in person.

Special thanks to Gamma President Susan Alivado and Forum Chair Colleen Shishido.

In November Vivian Hee, Mu Chapter President, and Ruby Jung of Epsilon Chapter traveled to Seiwa High School, Kochi, Japan. Past Beta Beta State educators did such a superb job introducing and demonstrating collaborative teaching strategies to the staff and students that the school asked that we send two more this year. Read Vivian's article about their experiences.

Exciting news!! The Expansion Committee under the leadership of Pat Park and Ellen Tanoura have been working with Zeta Chapter Past-President Valerie Takata and President Rhona Uyetake to establish a new chapter in West Hawaii. Pat, Ellen, and I flew to Kona to meet with 12 powerful and enthusiastic women educators. Working with former DKG members, Sandra Taosaka and Shirley Ann Fukumoto, there are 16 prospective members waiting to be initiated into a new West Hawaii Chapter. Installation of the new chapter will be scheduled sometime after the Spring Convention. All who would like to join us at the installation and initiation are invited to attend.

The countdown has begun – seven months to go – the Southwest Regional Conference will be here soon. Everyone is working hard and chapters are getting ready. The Steering Committee headed by Fay Toyama has been working with SWR Director Pat Park to finalize plans with the Sheraton Waikiki and International. The January 21st meeting will be a key event in the planning. Please make sure that your Chapter liaison is there!

Speaking of the Southwest Regional Conference, July 4 – 7, 2017, I hope that you plan to attend and volunteer. Attending an International event is a fabulous experience. Listening to inspirational and informative keynote and breakout speakers. Meeting our Southwest sisters from the US, Mexico, Central America, and Japan. And, networking with our Hawaii sisters. Plan to attend. Plan to volunteer. Plan to stay at the Sheraton. Do it for your chapter (we need the help). But mostly importantly, do it for yourself. You deserve it.

Thank you to all the chapters who have invited me to their chapter meetings. I have visited with about half of the chapters and would love to visit with the rest. I have enjoyed meeting DKG members from across the state.

continued on p.2

President's Message cont.

Reminders:

- Chapter Presidents' and Necrology Reports: due 2/1/17
- International Scholarship Application: due 2/1/17
- By-Laws Revisions: due 1/1/17
- Mark your calendars --Spring Convention: April 7 & 8, 2017, Pacific Beach Hotel
- Southwest Regional Conference: July 4 – 7, 2017, Sheraton Waikiki Hotel



Happy Holidays. Spend time with your families and take time for yourself.

Aloha pumehana,
Donna Min Shiroma

Fall Forum 2016: A Maui WOWie Event!

Submitted by **Gloria Kishi**

It takes a lot to transform a cafeteria into a setting to which you'd say, "Wow!" upon entering, but our Gamma sisters managed to do just that! Breath-taking protea arrangements, ruby-red rose coasters, lovely red and gold colored lei, and gracious Gamma sisters greeted us on October 15th as we arrived at the University of Hawaii – Maui campus for Fall Forum 2016. This eye-opening welcome was matched, if not surpassed, by a day spent in a lovely facility, enjoying ono food, finding great bargains at the Country Store, and attending a well-organized and facilitated Forum. For a fun activity, we even got to take selfies with fellow BBS sisters on our table and practice sending it electronically to each other!

Gamma President Sue Alivado and Vice-President Fern Markgraf challenged us to take to heart the theme of the forum: *Pūpūkāhi i Holomua: Unite to Move Forward*. They reminded us that great things are possible for DKG BBS, united as a powerful group of women educators with noble founding purposes. Keynote speaker Pūlama Collier kept us connected to the theme, delving into the many layers of *'ike* and the need to have a strong sense of purpose for unity (for what) and clear focus for movement forward (towards where). As participants commented, "Awesome," and "(A)n incredible message."

The breakout sessions were the heart-and-soul of Fall Forum, providing participants with opportunities to hone skills, share knowledge, and network with DKG sisters. Mu Chapter's Patti Jenks inspired participants to look at shared leadership and to practice the tried-and-true teacher skills of "Let's Take Turns." One person in the session commented, "Terrific . . . always something to learn." The Digital Classroom session led by Aletia Michell (Gamma) wowed the audience with "great technology to showcase the content." Chris Putzulu (Epsilon) and Megan Cummings (Alpha) led a fascinating workshop on SEESAW, inspiring a group of participants to see how this technology could be implemented in their classrooms. Southwest Regional Director Pat Park (Epsilon), in her session on global learning, presented activities that one participant noted as relevant for both classroom teachers and grandparents. Another shared that Pat, "(I)nspired me to spread kindness and to be culturally aware." Overall, the Fall Forum participants noted that the sessions had excellent and knowledgeable presenters, provided good resources, and were creative and inclusive.

Happily, we met the BBS Strategic Action Plan goal of having at least 10 first-timers at a state function with twelve first-time attendees at Fall Forum 2016. First-timer Barbara Bloemke (Eta) was super-excited to have attended her first state event, noting that she especially loved the technology information she received at the breakout sessions. Barbara commented, "I have increased what I'm doing with Google and have even shared with fellow teachers some of the techniques I learned at the forum." She is also looking forward to adding the "Kahoot" component to her classroom.

Sales at the Country Store added over \$1,000 to our fund for the 2017 Southwest Regional Conference. Overall, a wonder-full and WOW-filled day on Maui. As one evaluation expressed so deservedly on behalf of all of BBS, "Thank you, Gamma Chapter for your aloha. Maui nō ka 'oi."



Ready for an Adventure?

Check out Austin and the DKG International Society

submitted by **Patti Jenks**

Have you ever wondered about Texas where our founders gathered in secret to begin this amazing women's educational society, Delta Kappa Gamma? Have you ever wondered about the actual building, offices and people who manage the worldwide business and heartbeat of our organization? If so, here's a glimpse from a first timer to the DKG Society International headquarters in Texas.

I traveled to Austin for three days of meetings with women from each of our five regions, the International President, the International Member Services administrator, and our DKG representative at the United Nations. We were all newly appointed members of the Educational Excellence Committee and were gathering to determine the focus of the committee and to identify our roles in planning for the state 1st Vice President training at the Regional Conferences.

Led by International President Carolyn Pittman's charge to Lead Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide and to be bold, be brave and dream big, we were inspired by her words and the synergy in the room. We envisioned what we could become making sure we retained the best of what we are.

The discussions were robust with ideas pinging from one end of the room to another. We worked collaboratively with a sincere desire to impact the organization and members and also ensure organizational growth and value. We laughed, shared stories of home, celebrated our differences and gained strength from our similarities.

We came not knowing one another and without a clear idea about our role as Educational Excellence Committee members. We left with great optimism about the future of DKG, the conviction of the power of women, and with 15 new lifelong friends.

I encourage you to consider the rich International DKG experience through applying for committees, committee chairs or officers of the organization. This summer's Regional Conference in Hawaii is an excellent opportunity to meet women from the Southwest Region, connect to the organization beyond our island home, and meet the leaders of the organization. Also consider planning now for the International Convention bringing the entire organization together in Austin, Texas, July, 2020.

If you'd like more information, contact me at jenks.patti@gmail.com. For a video tour of the DKG International Headquarters, check this link:

http://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/About_Us/DKGMember/About.aspx?hkey=64e3b9c3-9060-4e4f-8a56-5604d5d9bacb



Photos from Austin, Texas

We had lunch in the room honoring Annie Webb Blanton and the experience was almost spiritual as she joined us from her place above the fire place!



Musings of Seiwa School and Kochi submitted by Vivian Hee

It is 5 a.m. and I am getting ready for my morning classes with the Seiwa High School students. Sensei Sayuri (DKG sister) will be taking us in her car for the 30+ minutes drive to the school. I wonder if we are going to get one of her delicious homemade lunches today. The students are getting better in speaking English and some of them are calling me "Vivian" instead of "sensei" as they practice their "v" and not "b" sound.

Today we will be singing the songs in English that we created to the tune of a Japanese children's song. The Seiwa students will realize that they can also be creative songwriters like Stevie Wonder from their Japanese-English textbook.



Vivian and the Penguin Story

Will the students really understand the story of the Penguin if they become penguins too? Will they understand the vocabulary words such as huddle, bumping, glistening, etc., if we do creative movement and acted like penguins? Sensei Naomi (DKG) will participate and encourage her students. We will emphasize choral reading and pronunciation of the words.

In yesterday's senior advanced grammar class, the students understood English better by diagramming the sentence first then discussing the meaning of the words. Using the creative thinking strategy will help the seventh graders understand the "Recycling, Reuse and Reduce" story.

At the request of Seiwa School's administration, educators from BBS were asked to return to continue modeling instructional strategies. They realized how the strategies helped their students with English and found funds to continue. Ruby Jung, Epsilon Chapter, and I applied and were accepted for this Seiwa sponsored project.

We spent 2 weeks teaching English to all Seiwa's 7-12 grade students. We led the English Conversation Club, the Study Abroad classes, and talked about job experiences. We judged the students' oral presentations and offered suggestions for improvement. In addition, we conducted cooking classes in the afternoon and Hawaiian culture classes where we taught them about the Hawaiian kings and the first Japanese who came to Hawaii.



Our Alpha Japan DKG sisters hosted us by taking us sightseeing, shopping, to dinner, and to church and museums. It was such a pleasure to see them again. One of the highlights was the private "concert" of Japanese children songs by DKG sister and opera singer, Reiko Sumi. We all sang along and you could hear us singing as we headed for the restaurant. We were truly in Japan!

I had a great time teaching English to high school students. The entire staff at Seiwa and especially the Japanese English teachers were so dedicated and open to new ideas. We hope that they will continue using the ideas and various strategies we (and those who visited before us) modeled. It certainly has been a wonderful learning experience for all of us who have visited and taught at Seiwa. And like Stevie Wonder's song "...thank you from the bottom of our hearts".



Special Book Signing Event on Kauai



Kunie Quon of Eta Chapter presented Barbara Kawakami with a beautiful quilt she made entitled "Illusion."

Barbara Kawakami (mother of Fay Toyama – Theta Chapter) was the special guest at the Hanapepe Public Library, Kauai on December 3, 2016. She shared excerpts from her book, **Picture Bride Stories**, a collection of stories from sixteen Hawaii picture brides.



Eta and Xi sisters with Fay and her mother, Barbara.

Red Roses



Beta Beta State is proud to announce: **Soo Boo Tan's** "Water Lily Silhouette" photograph has been selected for inclusion in the 2016, Volume 83-2 issue of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Collegial Exchange*. Fantastic!



Zeta Chapter Member, **Dr. Michele Ebersole**, became a full Professor at the University of Hawaii at Hilo during the Summer of 2016. Congratulations!

Southwest Regional 2017 Update

Aloha and Happy Holidays!

Just as you might be counting the days to Christmas, we are counting down the 7 months to the SWR conference, starting on July 4, 2017.

SWR Director Pat Park and the Steering Committee are working on the details with DKG International and the Executive Board as we finalize our plans.

Thank you to the chapter liaisons and committee members who were able to attend a very productive meeting after Fall Forum on Maui. Please notify your chapter liaison on how you can help with the conference by: hosting a table for lunch and/or at the banquet, helping as a techie, getting donations for the conference bag, or getting donation ads for the program booklet. Everyone can help as we have much to do!

A work session will be held on January 21, 2017, from 8:30-3:30 at Moanalua Middle School library for the chapter liaisons and committee chairs to coordinate and collaborate on conference details. It is an exciting time for Beta Beta State!

Many chapters are very innovative in supporting our members financially. Thank you for being proactive and beginning with the end in mind! Registration for host state members for the 4-day conference is \$135, and we need everyone's help!!! Rates for 1 or 2 day attendance will also be posted. All volunteers need to be registered.

Building leadership in our members is ongoing, and we are so fortunate that we have members willing to mentor others as well as taking on a leadership role in The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

With Gratitude,
Fay Toyama
2017 SWR Conference Chair





Rise and Shine

with your Strategic Action Plan (SAP)



submitted by Peggy Hirata and Gloria Kishi

The June 2016 Leadership Development Workshop provided DKG sisters with an excellent opportunity to view the “fit and trimmed down” version of the Beta Beta State’s Strategic Action Plan (BBS SAP). This revised BBS SAP continues with the same broad goals in membership, leadership, and communication while checking off met objectives and adding new ones to reflect the BBS and International 2015-17 biennium’s initiatives and priorities. During winter 2016-17, we will be developing a quick and simple way for chapters to complete a “temperature check” to share progress on SAP goals and targets.

It was heartening to note that many chapters are already engaged in activities directly supportive of the BBS SAP goals and objectives. There was an alignment of chapter programs and activities to the BBS SAP in the following areas:

- **Membership:** All chapters reported that the recruitment, retention, and reinstatement of members are of prime importance. Chapters shared ways in which they encouraged active participation by members through use of surveys, for example, to find out areas of interests in designing their programs. Chapters also sought to retain membership with “miss seeing you” calls and cards, and recruited new and diverse members through their support of new and beginning teachers.
- **Leadership:** A belief in a “leader is in every chapter seat” found chapters encouraging leadership opportunities for all members. One chapter subsidized registration, for example, for first-time attendees to BBS functions. Another chapter reported on the use of a team rotation system of leadership (officers); this ensured that every member will be afforded an opportunity to hold a leadership position at some point.
- **Communication:** Mindful of the BBS SAP goal to have 100% of chapter members complete their profile on the International website, chapters were encouraged to hold meetings in which time is set aside to complete the registration of chapter members onto the International site. This will enable chapter members to participate in activities at the tri-levels as well as maintain communication with BBS sisters.

Hopefully, this “rise” in chapter use of their SAP as their road map to implement programs meaningful to chapter members and supportive of BBS and International focus areas will continue. Each chapter’s 1st Vice President is responsible for the chapter SAP and are challenged to:

- Share a crosswalk of your chapter’s and BBS’s SAP goals and objectives
- Align chapter activities with BBS goals and initiatives
- Determine chapter’s needs and interest areas for possible new chapter programs and activities
- “Pick Your Passion” – include in your chapter SAP programs and activities that excite, invigorate and capture the imagination and passion of your members. We want everyone to enjoy and value their membership in DKG
- Do a quick review at each of your chapter meetings to take stock of whether any of your chapter activities addressed your SAP goals, i.e., did we do or share anything related to membership, building leadership skills, becoming more tech-savvy, etc.

We encourage all chapter members to “rise” and support their 1st Vice Presidents in making your chapter’s SAP and programs “shine.”



Beta Beta State Extends Kokua with Aloha to DKG Sisters in Japan

submitted by **Eileen Clarke**

Several members and chapters of Beta Beta State recently opened their pocketbooks to support the efforts of the newest member nation, Japan State Organization. This fledgling but compassionate and determined group, hosted a music concert on August 21, 2016 to raise funds for their fellow teachers and students devastated by a series of earthquakes in their neighboring island of Kyushu in May. As President Donna Shiroma and Mu Chapter President Vivian Hee and I were in Kochi in April to continue our "Hands Across the Pacific" ongoing partnership with Seiwa School, we were strongly encouraged to return in August to support their efforts. As August was just a few months away, none of us initially planned on returning there so soon.

As my deceased cousin's wife and daughter were living in Kumamoto, however, I thought I'd make a simple call to inquire how the earthquake affected them. Nothing prepared me for the information I received that they had lost both of their homes in the disaster and were currently staying in a community shelter! It took me only a few minutes to realize and understand that perhaps one of the best ways I could personally support them was to return to Kochi in August and attend the concert being hosted by the Japan State Organization on their behalf.

Before returning to Kochi, however, I thought it might be a good idea to share my story and invite others to voluntarily join me in my efforts. There was much to be done to actualize my plans, primary of which was to determine how our American checks could be deposited into their Japanese bank. Leaders of DKG Japan made several trips to their bank and finally informed me of the process their bank suggested. Though time was very short, I made every effort to get in touch with chapter presidents and sisters with whom I had made contact with.



Several members and two chapters, Theta and Eta, made generous donations which I compiled and proudly presented at their Sunday afternoon concert featuring our Kochi sister soprano Reiko Sumi, accompanied by pianist Misuzu Ohno, flautist Yanami Sakahashi, and a new member of our Society, Ms. Narumi Sugimoto. Despite the narrow window of time available, Beta Beta State contributed over \$1,000 to Japan State Organization. In addition, California's Eta Chapter, represented by former resident of Japan, made a sizable contribution on their behalf.

Presenting the gift from Beta Beta State to Fusa Nakagawa, President of the Japan state organization

POSTSCRIPT:

- When I returned to Kochi in August, my mother gave me a mission to find our relatives and give them some yen. Japan State Organization Dr. Fusa Nakagawa, together with two other DKG sisters, very generously and kindly DROVE for nearly 10 hours from Kochi in Shikoku to Kumamoto in Kyushu where we very fortunately were able to locate my relatives!
- The Japan State Organization in September personally visited the city of Mashiki which was at the epicenter of the earthquake to present another mini-concert at two schools as well as to present the monies they raised,
- As it turned out, the checks we made could NOT be cashed or deposited in the Japanese bank without a heavy processing fee of approximately \$80 per check! These uncashable and undepositable checks were returned to me. I returned them to their owners, most of whom rewrote the checks to me. These were converted to yen and taken to Japan by former Expansion Committee Chair, Ellen Tanoura.

After all was said and done, Beta Beta State reached their hands across the Pacific even further, bringing support to our Japan State organization and a bit of comfort and joy to the children and schools devastated by the earthquakes in Mashiki, Kumamoto.



News From Across the State

Zeta Chapter – Hawaii Island

This biennium has started great and has been going at a quick pace. Zeta chapter members met for the first time in September and initiated new member, Denise Scott at the meeting. We all got to network with each other and hear about this year's biennium activities and programs. We also got to reconnect with each other as twenty-three of our members attended.

Rhona Uyetake, the biennium's chapter president, told everyone that her theme this year is Carpe Diem! (Latin translation: Seize the Day!) She said that now that we have "Grown Our Leadership by Design ---- GOLD" during our Zeta past president Valerie Takata's tenure it is time to take advantage of all that we have worked for as women educators and live each day to its fullest. We got to take this to heart when our Personal Growth Committee put together a health and wellness presentation for our members for our second meeting on November 19, 2016. Our seventeen members who attended this meeting heard about the Blue Zones Project and its overview. They also signed the pledge to be part of the East Hawaii Project.

During the last part of Valerie's tenure as chapter president and carrying on this new biennium we have the pleasure of working with Beta Beta State President, Donna Min Shiroma, Beta Beta State Secretary, Ellen Tanoura and Southwest Regional Director Patricia Ann Park on possibly welcoming a West Hawaii chapter to Beta Beta State. We were able to meet with prospective, enthusiastic women educators on November 28, 2016 in Keauhou, Kona. What a great time to be a DKG member! We are hoping to initiate them in April 2017.

Editor's Message: Kudos to **Jo-An Goss**, Epsilon Chapter and BBS Finance Committee Chair. Jo-An has been an invaluable contributor of photographs for Aloha I ke Akea! Her efficiency and photography skills are truly appreciated!

Epsilon Chapter – Oahu

Epsilon has been busy planning for their *Holiday Reading to Children Service Project* to be held on December 17, 2016. They will be revisiting Mayor Wright Homes Family Library for a Saturday Story Time with Hawaii Literacy.

Epsilon is hosting the **2017 Spring Convention** "Initiate, Ignite, and Inspire"

E Ho'omaka, e Hō'eu, a e Ho'oulu

Date: April 7 & 8 at the Pacific Beach Hotel.

They celebrate Ruby Jung, Epsilon Vice-President as a Recipient/Participant of the Seiwaloaha Project.



Charley, Pat, Chris, Peggy, Jo-An at Fall Forum

Eta Chapter – Kauai

Mele Kalikimaka me ke Hauoli Makahiki Hou!

The first meeting for 2016-17 was held on on October 20th at the Kauai Community College. Our new executive board lead by President Robyn Keawe provided time for our chapter 's four Program of Work and Legacy of Leadership Projects to review accomplished benchmarks and plan for further projects. Books for Keiki shared that the next step after distributing books to families in need will be to meet with the families at a child and family services facility. They also plan to meet the public librarian and possibly plan an event for families in the future.

cont. on p.9



Eta Chapter cont.

Hand Up to the Next Step reported that the committee has presented to Waimea Canyon Middle School students two times. They are scheduling meetings with Kapaa Middle School and Chiefess Kamakahelei Middle School. Kapaa High School's Senior Capstone Program led by Jan Gowan announced the next presentation will December 7 and there is a need for judges, inviting ETA sisters to volunteer. Lastly, Support for Early Career Educators lead Beck Fries shared that the committee will contact DOE district to coordinate support and continue to look for opportunities to work directly with schools. In addition, President Robyn Keawe proposed a new endeavor to catapult the chapter into a new biennium called Kumu's Cupboard. It is a new store located at Kukui Grove Shopping Center (Lihue) that will enable Kauai's teachers to shop for FREE! It will be filled with school supplies, office supplies, materials for art projects and things that can be used as student incentives. ETA will volunteer to wrap presents during the Christmas holidays as a way to raise much needed funds and serve as volunteer store clerks.

Happy Birthday Gloria!



Another reason Fall Forum was so special.

**Get connected! Stay connected! Easy!
Visit dkg.org Have your member # ready**

Fall Forum Photos Maui Community College October 15, 2016



Friendly Gamma smiles at the Country Store



Pat and Donna line up for the processional entrance

Meagan and Chris



DKG sisters stand up for Educational Excellence

Keynote speaker Pulama Collier

