



CALIFORNIA STATE, AREA XIII  
BETA MU CHAPTER

Debbie Sims, President  
Penny Keach, President

Jan.-Feb., 2023  
Diane Deal, Editor

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Coming up in February is the **Area XIII Conference**. At that event, each chapter presents their **Most Valuable Member**. Our MVM this year is **Sharon Komoto**, who is serving her second term as our First Vice-president, Program. Sharon's work during the pandemic kept our chapter together and strong. Thank you, Sharon, and congratulations!



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## *Presidents' Patter*

Where has the year gone? As we start marking dates on our 2023 calendars and planners, we can recall an eventful start to the 2022-24 biennium: A delightful potluck at Jean's home, a talk on mindfulness at Bonita High, and our soil regeneration and vermiculture talk in the Bonita High library. Our December luncheon at the Peppertree Café was a rousing success. Sharon Komoto and her helpers put together an enjoyable event that raised our spirits and raised money for our chapter projects, recruitment grants and citizenship awards.

The fall season has not been without sad moments, however. Carolyn Gomm suffered a fall at the potluck; she's feeling much better. Karen Oaks, after providing holiday music at the luncheon, fell and fractured a hip, and Peggy Redman fell while walking her dog and broke several fingers. Judy Lewis has had a stubborn illness, too. In November, the passing of Carolyn Smith, a Beta Mu member for 21 years, left us sadly remembering a dear friend. Her service on December 10 was a lovely tribute to a remarkable woman. Our sympathy goes out to Debbie also, whose sister passed away recently.

On a more positive note, our chapter has added so many new members so far this year that it's hard to keep up! We welcome with open arms Lou Jones, Edith Orcasitas, Nicole Neeley, Christina Quon, Lorraine Canales, and Rachel Roy. Thank you, Jean Bristol, for making their path to membership so smooth!

Our January meeting, on Tuesday, January 17, at 6 pm, again at the Bonita High School library, will be a double-header. We will be introduced to three student teachers on their way to a meaningful teaching career with our recruitment grants. We will also honor our Woman in History, a member who has been very active in our chapter, her career, and her community.

There is still time to register for the Area XIII Conference on Saturday, February 4, at Kellogg West at Cal Poly. Registration is online, and checks for \$40 need to be sent to Sue Fernandes. Our Most Valuable Member, Sharon Komoto, will be honored at this event, so it would be great to have a big group to cheer her on! Raffle baskets are being prepared by Debbie, Jean, and Sharon. Our chapter is selling tickets for the raffle, and we are still firming up volunteers for that.

So far so good, and even better next year! Happy 2023, everyone!

Penny Keach and Debbie Sims  
December 2022

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The past two months...



### November

Professor Benjamin Brown presented to Beta Mu an informative and interesting lecture on the importance of composting and how to compost. Professor Brown shared that even people who live in apartments or small condos can do vermiculture composting by feeding their food scraps to red wiggles worms that live in small bins on the patio. The worms break the scraps down to rich organic fertilizer, which enriches the soil in container gardens. It was a fascinating presentation. We even had gummy worms in chocolate Oreos soil as part of our refreshments!

-Sharon Komoto

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## December

On December 3, Beta Mu had their Christmas fundraiser luncheon at the Peppertree Cafe in Glendora, where the members has a very tasty buffet lunch, Christmas gift drawings, and a Christmas sing-along led by Candy Campbell and Lou Jones. Christmas music was provided by Music Chair, Karen Oaks, on the keyboard.



The program ended with the Delta Kappa Gamma song and Silent Night. Holiday spirit was felt by all!  
- Sharon Komoto

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In November, we were saddened by the passing of **Carolyn Smith**, a Beta Mu sister since 2001. The last office she held in our chapter was second vice president, membership. Carolyn was a retired special education teacher in the Pomona district. She will be remembered for the lovely decorations she provided for her table at the Christmas luncheons, and for her joy in sharing our Spring Tea with her family members. Carolyn always did things with a flair! Beta Mu was well represented at her memorial service.

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#### **From the Editor:**

This space is for all members!

- We encourage you to share your creativity, be it a poem, a drawing, a photo...
- We would rejoice with you and your happy events, such as special anniversaries, additions to the family, accomplishments, or awards...
- We would enjoy stories from your teaching career that may be helpful to young teachers, or just fun to relate...Please send your contributions to Diane Deal at [lavernedeals@gmail.com](mailto:lavernedeals@gmail.com).

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## For the Love of Reading

The primary mission of Beta Mu's For the Love of Reading committee is to provide books to teachers of elementary school-aged children. On November 4, Sue Fernandes, a member of the committee, was able to present Megan Shockey with over 60 books for her emergent readers. Ms. Shockey is a first grade teacher at Roynon Elementary in La Verne. She is in her third year of teaching, having taught 1<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades before. Megan received her Bachelor's in Educational Studies, Multiple Subject Teaching Credential and Masters in Education from the University of La Verne. Megan says it is challenging to have larger class sizes in first grade without an instructional aide. However, she still finds it amazing that some children come in not reading at all, and then by the end of the school year they are fully reading. We thank Megan for everything she does as a teacher and we trust these donated books will help her students reach their reading goals and develop a life-long love of reading. – Debbie Sims



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A new day begins...



A new year begins!

Peace. Health. Happiness. May they be ours.





## *Minutes from the November meeting:*

DKG Beta Mu Chapter Minutes

November 14, 2022

Meeting was held at the Bonita High School Library and was also viewed on Zoom

Members present: Jean Bristol, Candy Campbell, Diane Deal, Sue Fernandes, Carolyn Gomm,

Kathy Henkins, Gloria Holcomb, Penny Keach, Sharon Komoto, Peggy Redman, and Debbie Sims

Guests present: Robin Ring (guest of Diane Deal)  
Cathy Watanabe (guest of Debbie Sims)

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Co-President Penny Keach.

For November's Inspiration, Gloria Holcomb shared a free verse Thanksgiving poem by Joanna Fughs entitled *After The Turkey Is Gone*, that reminds us to focus on the positive aspects of life and to be thankful for them every day of the year.

Sharon Komoto introduced our speaker for the evening, Benjamin Reed Brown, Professor of Horticulture at Mt. SAC. Professor Brown is passionate about composting and gardening, and shares his knowledge with groups of all ages in the community. His topic was *Composting and Vermiculture Composting*, and we all learned the importance of composting with his interesting and fun presentation that included power point, videos, and time for questions. Bottom line is that we want to compost to accomplish regenerative agriculture to work as much as possible in the way nature does; for our health, and the health of our families.

The delicious refreshments after the presentation were provided by Sue Fernandes, Carolyn Gomm, and Kathy Henkins.

The business meeting followed. Our 2 guests present, Robin Ring and Cathy Watanabe, were formally introduced.

The October meeting minutes were sent by Betty Butler in the BOND newsletter and were accepted.

Sue Fernandes had sent her 10/18/2022 through 11/14/2022 report to the BOND and went over them at the meeting. The net expenditure was \$799.00. and the balance on 11/14/2022 was \$8,431.60.

Jean Bristol introduced pending member Lorraine Cannales via Zoom. Pending member Rachel Roy hopefully can join us in Jan.

Jean also heard from PVHMC. They said that Jared Boxes will be appreciated starting around Jan. in the pediatric ward. Jared Box parties were recommended for packing the boxes. Members are encouraged to pick up small items when shopping. Inland Valley Hope Partners is still an ongoing outreach project.

Sharon Komoto, along with Diane Deal and Carolyn Gomm, discussed both the Christmas Fundraiser at the Peppertree Café in Glendora on Sat. Dec.3rd from 12:00 to 3:00, and the Tues. Jan.17<sup>th</sup> Woman in History and Recruitment Grants at the Bonita High School Library at 6:00 p.m. At the Christmas Fundraiser the Buffet Lunch will be the 1<sup>st</sup> hour. A sign up sheet was passed to volunteer to bring a centerpiece for a table. The Christmas gift exchange will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> hour. Members and guests are asked to bring a \$10 wrapped gift, and each person will receive a ticket for the drawing, and each person will receive a gift. Christmas Carol singing will be during the 3<sup>rd</sup> hour. Karen Oaks will accompany all of us on her keyboard.

January Presentation of Woman in History and Recruitment Grants: Diane Deal needed 2 or 3 members to help with Woman in History and Jean Bristol and/or Peggy Redman should be filling those needed slots. The consensus for the Recruitment Grants seems to be that the power point time limit for each Grants in Aid recipient be limited to 5 minutes. Peggy Redman is heading up the Recruitment Grants.

Area XIII reps Penny Keach and Debbie Sims said that you can register online for the Feb. Conference and send Sue Fernandes the \$40 payment made out to Beta Mu DKG. Still in need of 4 volunteers to sell raffle tickets at the Conference and we need 24 little bags for tickets for the baskets. Jean Bristol, Sharon Komoto, and Debbie Sims volunteered to create the 3 baskets for the raffle. Chapter photos need to be sent to Janice Michaelson for the video at the Conference, [janicemichaelsondkgca@gmail.com](mailto:janicemichaelsondkgca@gmail.com) Keynote speaker's gift from DKG needs to be purchased. Volunteers need to be at the Conference by 7:30 a.m. the morning of the Conference.

Candy Campbell brought the completed 2022-2023 Beta Mu Chapter Yearbooks to the meeting, Diane Deal sent out a Bond Newsletter, and Kathy Henkins set up and gave out the website information.  
<https://www.facebook.com/DKGBetaMuCA> betamu4you.weebly.com

Penny Keach and Debbie Sims announced that Sharon Komoto was voted the Beta Mu Chapter's Most Valuable Member and will be honored at the Area XIII Conference. Penny and Debbie presented Sharon with a certificate and a rose.

Sue Fernandes purchased 60 books for the first grade classroom at Roynon and it was moved by Diane Deal and seconded by Sharon Komoto that Sue

Fernandes be reimbursed by Beta Mu. It was voted on and passed to reimburse Sue.

Our Chapter rules/by laws, need to be updated now, and most probably will need to be done again soon thereafter because of some pending changes in State and National.

Voting was done by ballot for the coming 2022 Woman in History and voting was available online for those not in attendance.

Adjournment was at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gloria Holcomb (for Betty Butler- Recording Secretary)

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*Sue's December Treasurer's report:*

Delta Kappa Gamma Treasurer Report 10/18/2022 through 12/7/2022						
12/27/2022	Date	Num	Description	Memo	Category	Page 1 Amount
<b>BALANCE 10/17/2022</b>						<b>9,230.60</b>
	11/7/2022	1716	DKG Area XIII	2 tables	Conferences:Area confere...	-640.00
	12/3/2022	1721	Peppertree Cafe	Christmas luncheon incl. tip	Christmas expense	-475.00
	11/14/2022	1720	Benjamin Brown	Speaker	Programs	-75.00
	11/8/2022	1717	DKG International	Neeley	Dues	-40.00
	11/8/2022	1718	DKG California	Neeley	Dues	-40.00
	11/8/2022	1719	DKG California	Neeley	State fees incl. Insurance	-4.00
	11/15/2022	DEP	... Deposit		Book Sales	7.00
	11/30/2022	DEP	... Deposit		Misc Inc:Area Conference	80.00
	12/7/2022	DEP	... Deposit		Membership dues	85.00
	12/7/2022	DEP	... Deposit	14@10	Christmas fund raiser	140.00
	12/7/2022	DEP	... Deposit		Donations	147.00
	11/30/2022	DEP	... Deposit		Christmas fund raiser	380.00
	11/15/2022	DEP	... Deposit	10@ \$40	Misc Inc:Area Conference	400.00
	11/30/2022	DEP	... Deposit		Donations	975.00
	<b>10/18/2022 - 12/7/2022</b>					<b>940.00</b>
<b>BALANCE 12/7/2022</b>						<b>10,170.60</b>
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>						<b>2,214.00</b>
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>						<b>-1,274.00</b>
<b>NET TOTAL</b>						<b>940.00</b>

## *Minutes from the December meeting:*

DKG Beta Mu Chapter Minutes

Christmas Luncheon Fundraiser

Peppertree Cafe

December 3, 2022

Twenty-three members and guests attended.  
Co-Presidents, Debbie Sims and Penny Keach, welcomed everyone.  
Members then introduced their guests.

A discussion of the February Area XIII Conference followed. Penny said they still need people to sell tickets. Betty Butler volunteered to help.

Debbie reminded us that Carolyn Smith's Memorial Service will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at the Church of the Brethren in La Verne.

Candy Campbell asked us to take our yearbook, if we haven't done so. She also asked members to bring a yearbook to a member who lives close to them.

Sharon Komoto went over the menu for today's luncheon and explained the procedures for getting the food and for the gift drawings.

Gloria Holcomb shared inspirations about Christmas: "Let Everyday Be Christmas" and "Somehow Not Only for Christmas."

After the luncheon and gift drawing we sang Christmas carols, led by Candy and Lou Jones, accompanied on the keyboard by Karen Oaks.

We ended the luncheon by singing the Delta Kappa Gamma Song.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Butler





Delta Kappa Gamma Treasurer Report  
10/18/2022 through 11/14/2022

11/14/2022

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11/8/2022	1717	DKG International	Neeley	Dues	-40.00
11/8/2022	1718	DKG California	Neeley	Dues	-40.00
11/3/2022	1719	DKG California	Neeley	State fees incl. Insurance	-4.00
<b>10/18/2022 - 11/14/2022</b>					<b>-799.00</b>
<b>BALANCE 11/14/2022</b>					<b>8,431.60</b>
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>					<b>0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>					<b>-799.00</b>
<b>NET TOTAL</b>					<b>-799.00</b>