

## President's message

Aloha HSO DKG Sisters,

Happy Lunar New Year! As I was reading more about the Year of the Tiger and what lies ahead for us this year, I learned the tiger is an uplifting animal that gives people hope. As we go into our third year of the pandemic, I hope this year brings healing and a return to normalcy for you, both in and out of the classrooms.



I was honored to participate in three in-person chapter holiday celebrations. Seeing so many familiar faces and meeting several of our new members brought true holiday joy for me. Thank you to *Beta*, *Epsilon*, and *Mu* Chapters for your kind invitations. I hope to see more of you in-person in 2022.

A few reminders:

- Spring Convention, hosted by *Iota* Chapter, is set for Saturday, April 9, 2022. Please mark your calendars. Southwest Regional Director Janis Barr is our keynote speaker. We will also celebrate our chapter Blooming Roses on Friday, April 8, 2022 (tentatively in-person).
- The DKG International Convention is set for July 12–16, 2022, in New Orleans. Registration is now open under the Events tab at [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org).
- The Leadership Development Workshop for 2022–2024 Hawai'i State Organization chapter officers is set for Saturday, June 18, 2022.
- We continue to meet on the first Tuesday of the month for Talk Story Tuesday. Come join us! Guests are welcome! Check with your chapter president for the link.

Take care and stay safe!



Lori Furoyama  
Hawai'i State President

### IN THIS ISSUE

**PARTNERSHIP WITH JAPAN**

**SPRING CONVENTION 2022**

**CHAPTER UPDATES**

**NEW MEMBERS**

**BLOOMING ROSES**

### Kappa updates

Kappa Chapter members, *Donna Shiroma*, *Lena Kanemori*, *Adele Wada*, *Leatrice Higuchi*, *Gail Ogawa*, *Carole Mitsuyoshi-Sugai*, *Maddie Oshiro*, and *Cindy Maeshiro*, enthusiastically assembled gift boxes with encouraging messages to support the statewide early-career educators initiative.



*Adele Wada*, *Merri Wada Tanji*, and *Lena Kanemori* distributed our appreciation gifts to the first-year teachers at Moanalua Elementary. *Carole Mitsuyoshi-Sugai* and *Donna Shiroma* distributed our gift boxes to the first-year teachers at Salt Lake Elementary but met with them over WebEx.

-*Leatrice Higuchi*, Kappa



## Spring Convention 2022

The Hawai'i State Spring Convention 2022 will be held virtually on April 9, 2022. The keynote speaker is Janis Barr. Janis earned a bachelor's degree from California State University, Long Beach, attended the University of Uppsala in Sweden, and received a master's degree from Fresno Pacific University in Administrative Services.

She has had extensive training in leadership development, curriculum, and technology. Janis taught at the elementary and junior high school levels for 15 years. She also taught childbirth education classes for nine and a half years. She was a Title I/EIA/SIP resource teacher and an instructional media coordinator where she started a new school library and two computer labs. Working for the State of California, she was a member of the California Technology Assistance Project Steering Committee, a technology trainer, and a grant reader and writer. Janis was an administrative assistant/counselor at the junior high level for two years and an elementary principal for 11 years. She also served on the Administrative Credentials Program Advisory Board for Fresno Pacific University and Chapman College.



At the chapter level, Janis has served as treasurer and president of Epsilon Psi Chapter in Area XVII and vice president and president of Zeta Iota Chapter in Area I in California. At the state level, she has served as an area director, a member and chairwoman of the Communications Committee, chairwoman of the Bylaws Committee, state recording secretary, state second vice-president and area director coordinator, state president, and a California State representative to the chartering of Japan in 2012. Finally, at the International level, Janis has been on the Leadership Development Committee, trained incoming state presidents from the US, Latin America, and Japan, was the 2018 International Elections Committee chairwoman and Steering Committee co-chair of the 2019 Southwest Regional Conference and is currently the Southwest regional director.

## HSO Spring Convention 2022: Call for presenters

Please consider sharing your special talents as leading women educators at our virtual Spring Convention on Saturday, April 9, 2022, via Zoom from 8:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m. In keeping with our theme, *Mohala pono i ke ao ākea* "Blooming Wherever You Are," we are seeking a variety of 45-minute presentations addressing personal and professional development topics which will inspire us as educators and learners to pivot with the changing needs of our society. Based on the feedback from the 2021 Fall Forum and the Statewide Leadership Development Survey, areas of interest include personal growth, health and wellness, DKG-related current/specific topics, technology-related, classroom/DOE-related, and current topics in the community, state, and nation.

Interested presenters should submit the 2022 DKG Spring Convention Call for Presenters form by February 28, 2022. All proposals received by February 28, 2022, will be reviewed. You will be contacted shortly thereafter with information as to the status of your proposal. To complete the form, please click on the link below or copy and paste the URL link (case sensitive), into the address bar of your browser:

<https://forms.gle/Y4xMjRguPCKZfuEPA>

Please contact *Kathy Sakuda*, Breakout Presenters Chair, at [ksakuda665@gmail.com](mailto:ksakuda665@gmail.com), if you have any questions.

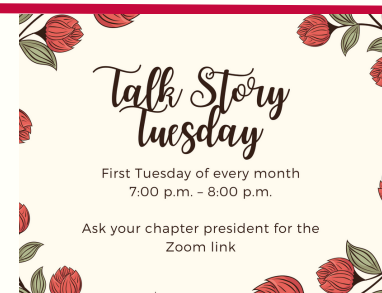
-*Camille Masutomi, Lisa Tsuruda, and Erin Yagi, Iota*

## Eta updates

*Eta* Chapter on Kaua'i has been in Zoom mode for almost two years. We met on Zoom for our first three meetings in 2020–2021 and the first two in 2021–2022. We were able to meet in person in May 2021 at Duke's Restaurant in Lihue. However, the attendance was limited to 25. We initiated two new members, *Michelle Molina* and *Kanoe Ahuna*, and presented two \$2000 scholarships: one to *Janel Aquina* and one to *Coryesa Silva*, the granddaughter of one of our members.

This year, on February 4, 2022, we decided to try another in-person meeting at an outdoor pavilion located at Kukui'o'lono Park in Kalaheo. We had hoped for it to be a combined meeting with our island sister chapter *Xi*; however, due to attendance issues, they did not attend. With 16 sisters in attendance, we were able to vote on receiving two new members and elect our next biennium officers. It was so great to see each other and share "talk story" face-to-face. We are planning on meeting in person again in May to initiate our new members and induct our new Executive Board.

-*Rebecca Fries, Eta*



## Theta news

*Theta* Chapter welcomed six new members on Sunday, January 23, 2022. We had a delicious luncheon at Waikele Clubhouse to induct our new members, to celebrate *Theta's* 59th birthday, to acknowledge *Gwen Mau* and *Fay Toyama* for 30 years of membership, and to prepare for a Valentine card-making activity for one of our sister chapters in Japan. The new members are mentioned in left to right order of the picture:



*Ashley Walkner* is a student at UH-West O'ahu, pursuing a degree in Elementary Education. Previously, she was a substitute teacher in Alaska. *Noelle Lum Kee* is a second-grade teacher at Makakilo Elementary School. Noelle is pursuing a Master of Education in Curriculum Studies, Multicultural Education from the UH-Manoa. *Sarah Iverson* has taught science and is currently an instructional coach supporting the math and science program at Kapolei Middle School. *Dominique Ho* is a student at UH-West O'ahu, pursuing a degree in Elementary Education. *Sheri Funasaki* started at Lanakila Elementary School and is now at Makakilo Elementary School. She is a special education teacher and is enrolled in a master's degree program in Early Childhood Education. Dr. *Sandy Cameli* started her teaching career on Hawai'i Island at Konawaena Middle School and Kealakehe Intermediate School. She has served as an induction and mentoring district resource teacher and part-time instructor at Leeward Community College, teaching educational assistants to become certified special education teachers. She is currently the director of the Teacher Leader Academy in the Hawai'i State DOE.

-*Deanne Kanekuni, Theta*

## One step at a time

In October 2012, 24 sisters visited, witnessed, and supported the initiation of 61 Japanese women educators into the first DKG chapter in Asia in Kochi, Japan! International President *Beverly Helms* and Executive Director *Corlea Plowman* also attended this momentous occasion. Led by their first state president, *Fusa Nakagawa*, and with the support and encouragement of many Hawai'i sisters, including organizers *Ellen Tanoura* and *Eileen Clarke*, the Japan State Organization (JSO) was founded, and Alpha Chapter was formed on October 12, 2012.

Fast forward ten years, JSO has not only survived but thrived, initiating Beta Chapter in August 2021, and are planning to celebrate their 10th anniversary on October 23, 2022! Several Hawai'i sisters are looking forward to visiting Kochi for this momentous occasion, pending the reopening of Japan to foreign visitors.

We're only taking one step at a time, cautiously but with great expectation, to again support our Japan sisters with our physical presence. Tentative plans are to spend the first few days touring the island of Shikoku and then terminating the tour in Kochi, where the Hawai'i supporters will celebrate JSO's 10th birthday and spend time getting to know their Kochi sisters.

Although nothing can be guaranteed, the birthday celebration date is firm. Plans are underway to secure accommodations and welcome visitors to this momentous gathering! We are hoping to form a small group of interested sisters and their spouses and/or friends to join us in this unique opportunity to visit perhaps the least known of the four islands that comprise Japan.

If interested, contact *Eileen Clarke* at [eileen33clarke@yahoo.com](mailto:eileen33clarke@yahoo.com) to indicate interest and to receive further information and updates as they occur. Though the current pandemic is still with us, we will be ready to move ahead once Japan opens its doors by taking one step at a time and with good planning and great faith!

-*Eileen Clarke*

## Supporting Friends of the Children's Justice Center

It was a beautiful, sunny day at the Sentry Tournament of Champions 2022 held at the Plantation Course of Kapalua on Maui, where the *Gamma* sisters came out to support the Friends of the Children's Justice Center (FCJC). In addition, the sisters volunteered at the concession stands, taking orders and plating hot dogs, fries, cheese curds, and drinks for the hungry and thirsty spectators who came out to follow their favorite golfers and enjoy the experience of a PGA tournament!

As the title sponsor of the tournament, Sentry Insurance continues to provide charitable dollars to Maui's non-profit organizations each year. FCJC is one of the designated charity beneficiaries who assist in organizing and providing volunteers, donating equipment and supplies, and much more to help welcome PGA golfers and their fans.

FCJC helps fund therapy and activities for children who have been abused, neglected, or assaulted and provides funding for projects to prevent child abuse in Maui. *Gamma* Chapter helps at the annual tournament and donates toys at Christmas, knowing the significance of the need for those we see in our schools and the positive impact that FCJC has in their lives.

-*Cindy Asato-Kochi, Gamma*

## Zeta Country Store pandemic pivot

One of the highlights every year is the Zeta Country Store (ZCS). The sisters showcase their talents and skills in food preparation, arts and crafts, and gardening. It is also a time to share personal treasures that sisters hold dear to their hearts but are willing to part with. The money earned goes to fund a \$500 scholarship which is given to at least one pre-service teacher in the UH-Hilo Master of Arts in Teaching program.

Before the pandemic, the sisters could browse around a physical store and inspect each item. Sadly, with the pandemic, the ZCS was in limbo. The ZCS in 2020 was showcased during the Scholarship Zoom meeting with a slide show presentation. Sisters typed in the chat the items they wanted to purchase, while one person monitored the chat, a second crossed off the items on the slide that were sold, and a third documented the sales on a spreadsheet. Sisters were then able to pick up their items at a designated location.

Fast forward to 2022 and the continued need to meet virtually via Zoom, significant changes were made to how the ZCS would operate. The items in the ZCS were again presented in a slide show, but members were allowed one day to preview the slides with items for sale. They were then provided three days to purchase items. Sisters typed their names on the slide next to the item, notifying others that the item was sold. Copies of the slides were provided to the sisters that didn't have internet access, and those who lived off-island paid postage to have the goods mailed to them. Sisters were then able to pick up their items again at a designated location. The ZCS committee truly made lemonade from lemons and still managed to maintain the spirit of the ZCS. Although we miss the gathering and laughter of sisterhood, we still get to share our talents through homemade goods and like-new items with our Zeta sisters. It's the event we look forward to all year. Special thanks to our Zeta Scholarship/World Fellowship Committee: *Donna Foster, Annette McComber, Lynn Fujii, Sandy Connick, Nancy Robbins, and Joanne Yoshida.*  
-Keikilani Meyer, Zeta



## Mu updates

*Mu* has been busy over the last year. Starting in June, President *JennyLee Tam Sing* hosted the Executive Board (EB) Tea. It was the first time the EB met face-to-face in over a year. *Jacky Jaeger, Maile Yasui, Jean Tsuda, Karen Ueyama, Mollie Sperry,* and State President *Lori Furoyama* quickly became friends. In July, *Lori Furoyama* and *Patti Jenks* attended the International Conference in Portland, Oregon. Also in July, the chapter packed 30 goodie bags for their Supporting Early-Career Educators project to welcome teachers in the Farrington-Kalani-Kaiser Complex Area. In August, *Ellen Tanoura* and *Karen Ueyama* joined the Oahu Coordinating Council as the chairperson and treasurer, respectively.

In September, the chapter started their "Sister Care" program where each retired sister looks after, and creatively encourages, a working sister that she has "adopted." New name tags, ribbons, and polo shirts were purchased to be more visible in the community. In October, *Mu* helped HSO put together the 2021 Fall Forum. Throughout the fall, the chapter participated in events at Kahauiki Village.

In December, *Mu* welcomed three new members and reinstated two members in an in-person event. All of the sisters joined a recommitment ceremony. Also in December, the chapter fellowshiped with a BYOB event: Bring Your Own Bento.

In the upcoming months, *Mu* looks forward to a Personal Wellness session, putting together a chapter profile, and voting in our new slate of officers.  
-*JennyLee Tam Sing, Mu*

## Lambda updates

As with everyone else, COVID has impacted *Lambda* in holding face-to-face meetings and activities. We needed to be creative and were able to initiate three members in September: Dr. *Shawna Ortogero, Puanani Wilhelm,* and Dr. *Wing Kan Hui.* Much thanks to *Ronnie Kopp* for her hospitality in allowing us to do our Initiation at her home. Members were able to participate virtually in the initiation.

*Lambda* was also represented at the Fall Forum with a presentation by *Kelly Ralleta* and *Elizabeth Mahi* titled "SEE Mentoring on Techie Tuesdays" sharing virtual sessions that they presented for Nanakuli-Waianae Complex schools. Thank you ladies! You make us proud!

In December we were hoping to have a Christmas Tea but due to the growing numbers of COVID we had to have a virtual tea. Santa Claus gifted every member a red rose cup with tea bags and cookies.

As for plans for the rest of our biennium year, we plan on electing and preparing our new slate of officers. Mahalo to *Lambda* members for being so supportive and "hanging in there!"  
Holomua!  
-*Cynthia Choy, Lambda*

## 2021 Chapter Blooming Roses

*Eta* proudly introduces *Mahina Anguay* as our Blooming Rose. She has been a member since 2014 and has served as chapter secretary since 2018. For the past seven years, she has been principal of Waimea High School. In 2020, she was selected as Principal of the Year by the Hawaii Association of Secondary School Administrators. Under her leadership, Waimea High has become a model of a Future Ready School. She states, "My vision for my teachers and staff is very similar: that they continue to find personal value in teaching and grow professionally."

-Victoria Medeiros, *Eta*



*Maile Yasui* has been an active member of *Mu* for eight years, of which she served for four years as an Executive Board member as secretary and now as 2nd VP. She has obtained her National Board Certification and has been a Cooperating Teacher, mentoring student teachers for the College of Education. Maile handles challenges in a positive way that influences programs that can make a significant impact in the area of membership. Maile possesses qualities that embody the Seven Purposes of DKG, especially purpose numbers 2, 3, and 6. Maile is a wife and a mother of four children, the last two being twin boys. Maile is exemplary personally and professionally in attitude and character. We are so proud to present Maile Yasui as Mu Chapter's Blooming Rose.

-*Mu Executive Board*

As a wife, mother, grandmother, and educator, *Beth Uale* is an outstanding woman. Music is a prominent part of Beth's life. A graduate majoring in music at BYU-Hawaii, Beth went on to earn a master's degree and then a doctorate degree in educational leadership from the University of Southern California. She is currently working on another degree in music from Boston University. Beth is a former assistant director at Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus, and this past year she accepted a position as choral director at Leilehua High School.



Beth has been active in *Beta* Chapter since joining in 2011, assisting with music whenever she is asked. She has attended numerous state conventions. Beth has also served as chair of the State Music Committee. She is known for going the extra mile, sacrificing her time and talents to help young people, and tirelessly serving her church and community. *Beta* Chapter is so fortunate and grateful to have a blooming rose in Beth Uale.

-Corrine Matsumoto, *Beta*



*Leatrice Higuchi* was inducted into *Kappa* Chapter on April 12, 2013. From the moment she became a member, she willingly and enthusiastically accepted responsibilities that were presented to her. She served two biennia as 2nd VP, then two biennia as chapter president. During her tenure, she served as chair of the O'ahu Coordinating Council and on various committees. She is proficient in communicating with members to keep us in the loop about what is happening and give us a heads up on upcoming events and decisions made at the state and international levels.

Leatrice attends almost every meeting at the chapter and state levels. Her enthusiasm is contagious as she never shies away from activities and projects. She has been on top of notifying us of births, illnesses, deaths, retirements, and other celebrations, demonstrating her concern for every member. Along with the other chapter officers, they have raised participation in activities to our highest levels in many years.

-*Kappa Chapter members*