

President's message

Aloha HSO DKG Sisters,

I hope the start of the second quarter is going well for everyone. This past month, several of our Hawai'i sisters had a unique opportunity to A'o Aku, A'o Mai - To teach and learn with our sisters from across the Pacific Ocean.

Ten sisters from four chapters were joined by International DKG President *Debbie LeBlanc* and immediate past Southwest Regional Director *Janis Barr* for Japan's 10th anniversary celebration. This issue highlights some of the events from the 8-day trip. We will also have a report from attendees at the 2023 Spring Convention. In the meantime, some of the highlights are featured on our HSO DKG social media sites. We look forward to continued partnerships and connections with Japan. Omedetō, Japan!



We continue to teach and learn from each other at the monthly Talk Story Tuesday events. We are fortunate in HSO to have so many talented members. In September, *Lisa Nagamine (Theta)* shared Google 101 and the basics of navigating the Google workspace. In October, *Carole Mitsuyoshi-Sugai (Kappa)*, *Gail Ogawa (Kappa)*, and *Sooboo Tan (Mu)* shared their reflections on the Japan Trip.

In November, we started our Web Wednesday on the last Wednesday of the month. We will use the same Zoom link as Talk Story Tuesday. Our first session was held on November 30 at 7:00 p.m. and hosted by Dr. *Carli Miyashiro (Theta)* on how to utilize Google Forms. We have all used them to submit conference registrations, membership data, and even meeting RSVPs. Join us to learn how to create one yourself. We hope you will continue to join us online every month for Talk Story Tuesdays and Web Wednesdays. If you have suggestions for topics at upcoming sessions, please email them to hystate.dkg@gmail.com.

Mark your calendars for the Spring Convention on April 14 and 15, 2023, at the Pagoda Hotel in Honolulu, hosted by *Kappa* Chapter. On Friday, April 14, we will honor our 2020-2023 Blooming Roses at a reception. On Saturday, April 15, we will hold our executive and general membership meetings and install our new state officers. We look forward to seeing everyone at our first statewide event in over three years!

Happy holidays and best wishes for a safe new year.



Lori Furoyama, PhD
Hawai'i State President

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Delta's Alma White Scholarship

Alma White was a member of the *Delta* Chapter for many years. Her last position was as the principal at Kaiulani Elementary School. It was her wish that scholarships be awarded to promising teachers-in-training. This year, the Alma White Scholarship (currently managed by the Hawai'i Community Foundation) awarded scholarships to four deserving students:

Tara Clayton, a Kaiser High School alumna who is now a junior at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, majoring in Early Childhood Education, received \$5,000.

Abigail Eli, who attained a GED and is now enrolled as a junior at Chaminade University of Honolulu, majoring in Secondary Mathematics Education, received \$5,000.

Chasity Brianna Lani, an Aiea High School alumna, currently a second-year student in the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Graduate Program, majoring in Educational Administration, received \$5,000.

Summer Derrickson, a Punahou alumna, currently working towards a Master of Education at the University of Cincinnati to become a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst, received \$2,500.

-Karen Koles, Delta

2nd Vice President message

Member retention and recruitment still serve as main focal points for our organization. The 2nd Vice Presidents play a pivotal role regarding membership for their chapters. They keep valid and up-to-date membership information for DKG to function properly. In addition, accurate membership data is studied and discussed for suggestions and recommendations for state and chapter organizations and used for budgeting and event planning. They develop and support a membership plan to sustain and expand the chapter's membership. And they, along with other chapter officers, help to empower our members and encourage them to take on an active role in the Society.

Some simple ways to give members a sense of belonging and to keep them actively engaged is for them to reach out and encourage chapter members to serve as a mentor in some capacity, stay current on worldwide issues by assisting in a committee, program, or leadership role, foster fellowship among our DKG sisters through on-going communication, and help to plan and participate in meaningful chapter activities and events. Communication is key. Offering various modes of communication (e.g., text, email, phone call) can help to build relationships. Talking with and listening to members about what they care about builds trust and friendship while providing personal and professional support and encouragement for members with a mode of communication in which they are comfortable.

Mentoring is the act or process of helping and guiding another person to support their personal and professional development. Mentoring is great for relationship building, allowing the mentor to offer and share their knowledge with the mentee, who grows through the experience. Here are a few ideas about mentorship that you may want to incorporate into your chapter goals.

- The new Member Sponsor can sit with the mentee at meetings, respond to questions, ask questions, and communicate regularly with the mentee in between meetings.
- A chapter committee chair can encourage members to take on active roles through committee work to engage them in activities and events while helping them develop their leadership skills and remain active.
- Chapter officers can help to mentor members following in the line of succession. They communicate, ask questions, and offer help and guidance in performing their role. They also invite members to think about becoming a future officer and highlight skills, abilities, or talents each member can offer to the chapter while helping keep members actively engaged.
- Other members can mentor each other; it's a way to share the many skills members bring to DKG. Everyone has a talent, strength, or skill they can offer to the chapter. For example, young educators are knowledgeable in technology and would be willing to share with and teach their chapter members.

Remember that we are more likely to retain members if we keep them actively engaged. Mentorship opportunities are a simple way to keep members in our chapters and the Society while reminding us of our purpose and connection with other women educators.

-Robin Awa, HSO 2nd Vice President

Finance committee news

Since the last publication of *Aloha i ke Akea*, the Finance Committee has not received questions. However, if there are last-minute questions about the state dues, please forward them to hiratap@byuh.edu.

The suggested increase in state dues is proposed with concern to continue programs such as scholarships, state conferences and conventions, and taxes. Therefore, a suggestion for your next chapter meeting is to discuss a potential increase in dues:

- If your chapter plans to vote "yes" for the state dues increase of \$5.00 incrementally for the next three years resulting in an increase of \$15 by 2026, your chapter should review how the increase will affect your yearly chapter dues. Each chapter collects a different amount for chapter dues, where dues are distributed to the International and States. The remaining amount is for chapter activities.
- If your chapter plans to vote "no," there might not be a need for chapter discussion.

DKG is approaching its 75th birthday in 2024. HSO must continue to unite our sisters in programs and activities that promote professional and personal growth and excellence in education. This can only be accomplished with adequate funds for HSO.

-Peggy Hirata, Finance Committee



Theta's SEE projects

Since initiating the Supporting Early Educators (SEE) project, *Theta* has enthusiastically taken on the challenge. In charge of the Pearl City/Waipahu Complex Area, *Theta* first volunteered at all of the new teacher meetings, helping wherever and whenever we could.

The pandemic shifted our focus to helping new teachers directly with gifts that can inspire and help them with their teaching. This is our second year creating gifts for roughly 100 first and second-year teachers. We have five projects a year and have completed two thus far.

Our gifts are sprinkled with encouraging words, practical suggestions, and support for attitudes. In addition, we proudly provide items such as Teacher Tool Kits, Grit Kits, and inspiring stress balls. This kind of service has become a priority for *Theta* and has added a powerful incentive to keep striving to improve education.

Mahalo to Jean Matsui, who lead the state initiative, and *Fay Toyama* and *Claire Uehara*, who have spearheaded these projects.
-Gwen Mau, *Theta*

Celebrating Japan State's 10th anniversary

Sixteen travelers representing 4 Hawai'i chapters and DKG International traveled to Osaka, Japan, on Tuesday, October 18, 2022. Excited yet anxious to join our Japan State sisters in celebrating their 10th anniversary, we were well acquainted with each other, yet unsure of what to expect in Kochi. Upon reaching Kochi, *Carole Mitsuyoshi-Sugai (Kappa)* stated, "We get along so well now that we no longer represent our chapters, we represent DKG Hawai'i State."

Celebrating Japan State's 10th anniversary included a whirlwind of activities chaired by Yasuko Kita. Our initial meeting with the Kochi sisters was at dinner at Coco's Restaurant. It was great to meet the members of Japan State, but dinner served by a robot was the highlight of our first meal.

The next day was a cultural experience at Chikurinji Temple. We enjoyed learning to play a 1-string koto and were treated to a calligraphy demonstration by Taeko Ogawa depicting her passion for world peace. She gave each Hawai'i State member a book, "Spirit of Hiroshima, Transcending Generations from Hiroshima to the World." She brushed characters with messages of peace on four scrolls that were then gifted to members of our group. We practiced calligraphy writing the characters for "Peace."



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News from Delta

Delta Chapter celebrated the induction of *Dr. Doris Ching* to the Roosevelt High School Hall of Fame. Ever humble, Doris tends to downplay her many accomplishments: Forty years at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (UHM) as an administrative and educational role model and champion of students, first female vice president for student affairs, the first woman of color and first Asian Pacific Islander elected president of the National Associate of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA), UHM College of Education Distinguished Alumna, recipient of the Hawaii Okinawan Association Legacy Award as well as the NASPA Legacy Award. Recognizing her many amazing talents, ten years after Doris "officially retired from, but still involved" in the UHM system, she was appointed interim chancellor at the University of Hawai'i at West O'ahu. Doris has been a member of *Delta* Chapter for over 48 years, served as Chapter President and State Program of Work Committee Chairwoman, and currently serves as recording secretary.

Past Chapter President *Pua Ka'ai* is leading the chapter's participation in the State's Early Career Educators initiative by expanding the definition to include inexperienced teachers, experienced teachers, and part-time teachers who are new to the culture of the school. To that end, 30 copies of *Feeling Grateful* by Kobi Yamada will be distributed to "new" teachers at Mid-Pacific Institute and another school yet to be selected. The message: gratitude transforms everything it touches.

Delta is excited about finally being able to offer face-to-face Chapter meetings and Zoom meetings. Our first meeting of the year was a planning session with President *Gale Ikeda* challenging members to plan meetings aligned with our chosen SAP goals.

Since October is Farm to School month, our second meeting featured Samuel Kakazu, Jr. His informative presentation shared about the Farm to School program, which will enhance the total well-being of students, families, and school and community food systems. This program is comprised of three core elements: 1) school gardens and farms, 2) experiential education, and 3) school food improvement through local procurement.

-Karen Koles, *Delta*

Kahauiki Village Project

The DKG sisters have been active at Kahauiki Village (KV) throughout the Fall. *Vivian Hee (Mu)*, *Sharon Inamine (Mu)*, and *Ellen Tanoura (Mu)* exposed the KV children to mochi making, along with historical and cultural connections. These ladies taught the students the entire process, from sweet rice to forming them, to eating them.



Over Fall Break, HSO sisters joined KV for Halloween fun! Children at KV were joined by the Mad Hatter



(*Sharon Inamine*), the Waikiki Tourist (*Jackie Jaeger, Mu*), Dr. Suess (*JennyLee Tam Sing, Mu*), a princess from Aladdin (*Vivian Hee*), and a pumpkin (*Ellen Tanoura*) who is not

visible in the picture. These ladies helped the KV staff who created a haunted house, games, and activities for the families.

Thank you to all of those that continue to provide support and expertise to the KV children. A special thank you goes out to *Lambda Chapter* for donating Fisher Hawai'i gift cards to KV to purchase school supplies. For additional volunteer information, please contact *Ellen Tanoura* at ellen.tanoura@gmail.com.
-*Ellen Tanoura, Mu*

Scholarship opportunities

The State Scholarship Committee is once again accepting applications for three scholarships! The Eva Phillip Curry State Scholarship provides stipends of up to \$500 to active members who request funds for special certification or professional improvement or funds a school, state, or community program. The Josephine E. Day Perpetual Scholarship Fund provides stipends of up to \$1000 to active members who desire to pursue National Board Certification. Lastly, the Lucille Hodgins Selective Recruitment Grant provides up to \$1000 per grant for any college student pursuing a career in education. Please share the Lucille Hodgins Grant with any college student in a teacher training program in the school year 2023–2024. All applications are due by January 31, 2023, and must be sent to dkghi.scholarships@gmail.com. The applications are linked as a PDF above.
-*Wini Tatsuta, HSO Scholarship Committee*

2022 Blooming Roses

Gamma Chapter's Blooming Rose is *Melanie Nakashima*. She is currently the vice principal at Pomaikai Elementary School and is a lecturer for Leeward Community College. She is committed to supporting students, teachers, and families.



Melanie always exhibits the willingness to do and to lead. She is conscientious. She spearheaded the nomination committee for the slate of officers in the 2022–2024 biennium. She has encouraged her colleagues to join our *Gamma Chapter* to advance the professional interest and position of women in education.

Melanie has agreed to become co-president for the next biennium and serves as the leadership committee chair. In addition, she is the lead for the yearly fundraiser with the Maui Food Bank. She also presented at the Hawai'i State DKG Conference.
-*Jan Kakiuchi, Gamma*

Zeta Chapter celebrates *Donna Foster* as our chapter's 2022 Blooming Rose! *Donna* has shown commitment, dedication, and ingenuity as a member of our chapter. She has led our Scholarship/World Fellowship Committee by ensuring the success and sustainability of our *Country Store*. During the pandemic, lockdown, and virtual meetings, *Donna's* vision and ingenuity helped to develop, refine, and sustain a new way to conduct our *Country Store*, which builds genuine fellowship amongst members and sustains our chapter's scholarship fund. She has also shown initiative in creating an efficient and equitable selection process for our chapter's scholarship by providing reflective feedback and revisions to our selection criteria.



Her most recent exemplary service in our chapter is her willingness and commitment to serve as 1st vice president in the next biennium. She accepted the position without reservation and was willing to take on further responsibilities. She has been actively involved in taking the initiative to ensure the continuation of thriving leadership in our chapter. On a professional level and only after a few months into retirement, she returned as the Testing Coordinator at her former school this past semester. Another heartfelt congratulation to *Donna!*
-*Kahanu Nguyen, Zeta*

Celebrating Japan State's 10th anniversary (continued)

Excitement followed when it was announced that *Eileen Clarke (Iota)* and her husband, Hugh Lee, would be dressed in Japanese wedding *kimono* and *kazari* and groom's *hakama*. *Donna Shiroma (Kappa)* and her husband, Dallas, were dressed as *nakahodo*, the matchmakers who serve as a go-between for the couple. Everyone in the group selected *kimonos* and was dressed by an expert. Dressing in *kimono* provided an appreciation of how Japanese women stood with straight postures and walked with small steps.



On Sunday, the 10th Anniversary Celebration began with greetings from Japan State. Messages of congratulations from Governor David Ige were presented by *Gail Ogawa (Kappa)* and from Mayor Rick Blangiardi, presented by *Kathy Sakuda (Iota)*. HSO sisters performed a hula as a gift to the Japan State sisters. The program included slides of the 10-year history of Japan State. A touching moment was the presentation of a certificate of appreciation from Japan State to Japan member Shige Yamanaka, who started the "Kochi Kimono Wearing Class" and retired after 50 years of teaching *kimono* dressing. Yamanaka sensei was a charter member of DKG Japan and promoted Japanese culture at DKG International events. Another *sugoi* moment was a video showcasing the K-9 students of Sensei Miwa Kawagoe from Tosayama Gakusya. HSO members were each given gifts created by the students. Finally, an "aha" moment was expressed by *Soo Boo Tan (Mu)*, who realized that Japan State included traditional classroom teachers as well as a diverse group of educators who taught opera singing, nursing, calligraphy, and kimono dressing.

On Monday, Hawai'i and Kochi sisters visited Kochi dignitaries. HSO, accompanied by DKG International President *Debra LeBlanc* and her sister, Julie Anderson, represented DKG with dignity and professionalism when meeting with the Deputy Governor, Hirouki Inoue. She was interviewed by KUTV, Japan, where she "encouraged the mentoring of teachers in the country, promoting literacy for all children, and collaborating to support early teachers." The group then visited Mayor Seiya Okazaki. Both the Deputy Governor and Mayor received certificates from DKG International. *Ellen Tanoura (Mu)* presented gifts and lei as Eileen addressed the group in Japanese, "Despite our geographical distance, differing educational systems, and interesting customs and cultures, we are amazingly united as women educators."



After the visits, activities included washi and soba making. Then, after a stop for drone shots on the Nagoya Sunken Bridge over the Niyodo River, we continued to the Ryōma Sakamoto Museum. Sakamoto Ryōma of Tosa - now Kochi Prefecture- is honored as he was one of Japan's favorite historical figures known for his efforts to overthrow the shogunate 150 years ago.

After three busy days, the Hawai'i sisters said their aloha to the Japan sisters. The memories formed a bond for sisters of both states to continue collaborating and strengthening relationships that will endure as we meet at regional conferences and international conventions. At the end of this incredible trip, we leave each other with memories that will forever influence our DKG lives.

Be on the lookout in the December issue of the DKG Collegiate for Debbie LeBlanc's article on Japan's anniversary. Also, the Japan trip will be included in parts of the Spring Convention in April at the Pagoda Hotel.

-Peggy Hirata, Epsilon



Hula at the Japan State Anniversary celebration



Deputy Governor, Hirouki Inoue, HSO, and Japan State Officers



Visting Kochi Castle