



Phi Delta Kappa Newsletter

A PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

San Diego, California Chapter 0077

Spring 2012

PHI DELTA KAPPA - San Diego Chapter KAPPAN NIGHT

Initiation & Awards Ceremony

Thursday, April 19, 2012

"friends, colleagues and well-wishers are invited to attend"

Initiation - Social Hour - 5:00 PM

Dinner - 6:00 PM Awards Program - 6:45 PM

Best Western Seven Seas

411 Hotel Circle South, San Diego 92108

Award Recipients Include:

Mitz Lee	Kappan Citizen of the Year
Mark Alcorn	Kappan Educator of the Year
Jim Cate	Kappan Unsung Hero
SD Rotary Club	Kappan Community Award
Kathy Guilfoyle	Kappan Leadership Award

Menu: Marinated Breast of Chicken, Rice Pilaf, Seasonal Vegetables,
Mixed Green Salad, Dessert, Coffee, Tea, Ice Tea (Vegetarian per request)

Cost: \$25.00

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Reservations required before April 10. Make check payable to PDK.

Complete the tear-off and send your registration to: Dr. Jeannie Steeg,
5380 Via Alcazar, San Diego 92111 or Fax to (858) 560-5748

Questions, phone Jeannie: (858) 560-4930 or e-mail js@jeanniesteeg.com

Name _____ E-mail _____

Work Location _____ Phone _____

Guest(s) _____

Total # of people _____ @ \$25 each Amount enclosed \$ _____

Kappan Awards

Leadership

Dr. Kathy Guilfoyle worked 30 years for the Sweetwater Union High School District then went on to the San Diego County Office of Education. She is now an independent consultant in education and the nonprofit sector. She is serving as Director of Administration for the Tierrasanta Village of San Diego, an organization that is dedicated to serving the seniors in the community. She teaches Legacy Writing for Seniors and leads a Writers Retreat group of writers.

Kathy received her Ed.D. in educational leadership from the University of Southern California where she was part of a group study that investigated the reform results at California high schools. Kathy taught at Castle Park High School where she was English/Journalism teacher, Department Chair, Categorical Coordinator, and a California Literature and Reading Project fellow. At the district office, Kathy was a Curriculum Specialist in Language Arts and Social Science. Kathy's work was instrumental in moving the district forward to a standards-based curriculum. As a Grants Manager, she was part of the department team which generated more than \$19 million dollars in grants during one school year.

At the County office as Secondary Language Arts Coordinator, Kathy trained both teachers and administrators in California High School Exit Examination preparation, expository writing readiness for college, and standards and frameworks. Between the district and county offices, Kathy has contributed/written eight educational books on writing, literature, and teaching. Kathy lives with her husband of almost 40 years, practices Tai Chi every day, and writes poetry. She believes that writing is a formula for happiness.

Educator of the Year

Mark Alcorn, the 2011 San Diego Unified School District Elementary Teacher of the Year and a 2012 San Diego County Teacher of the Year, originally planned to be a computer scientist. While working his way through college as an elementary school computer lab assistant, Mark knew that he connected with these young students and could make a difference in their lives as a teacher. "The light went on," he claims. Mark eventually earned a BA in Liberal Studies, a multiple subjects teaching credential, and an MA in Curriculum and Instruction.

He eventually became a workshop presenter

for other teachers in the area of elementary school mathematics instruction. Mark has spent the majority of his 22 years of teaching working with 5th grade students. Harking back to his own school career, Mark remembered a favorite computer teacher who gave every student his full attention and made each one feel challenged, supported, valued and respected. Mark embraced these ideas and they have guided his work for the last two decades.

Mark explains, "There is no higher reward in teaching than being able to witness the transformation of a student who has struggled, but will go to the next grade academically prepared with a renewed sense of confidence." Mark dreams of a future where teachers use technology as a forum to collaborate with each other on content, lessons, strategies, and coaching. Mark's proven track record as a leader of educators and a recognized classroom instructor make him a worthy ambassador for teachers everywhere.

Community - (Rotary Readers at Cesar Chavez Elementary)

The San Diego Rotary Club, currently celebrating its Centennial Year, is the oldest and largest community service organization in San Diego, with over 530 members. In 1988 the Club formed a partnership with Sherman Elementary, providing Rotarian classroom readers to the school. In 2004, when the closure of Sherman was pending, many of the participating teachers moved to Cesar Chavez, so the partnership moved with them. San Diego Rotary has been there ever since. At the present time, there are 11 Rotarians reading at the school, who spend one half hour a week in the classroom for the entire school year. Readers include a Federal Judge, Superior Court Judge, a CPA, an attorney and other professionals and business owners. At the end of the school year, every student being served is presented with a new, hard bound book to keep as their own. Teachers have said that, in many instances, it is the only book the student owns. In addition to the partnership with Cesar Chavez Elementary, the San Diego Rotary Club also has partnerships with Hoover, San Diego and Monarch High Schools, as well as Wilson Middle School. The San Diego Rotary Club places a strong emphasis on the importance of education, as evidenced by the support for these five partner schools.