



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Indiana State Organization



Alpha Sigma News

March 2022

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, JODY ARNDT

Greetings, Alpha Sigma!

It was great to see so many members at the March meeting. Thank you for coming. For those of you unable to attend, our new business included

- voting to accept a new slate of officers;
- approval to transfer funds from the General Operating Fund to Grant-in-Aid, Support for Early-Career Educators, and Schools for Africa;
- a date change for the next meeting;
- and the required revision of rules.

Following the business meeting, Sylvia Dumas encouraged members to share their artistic talents on canvas. I can't thank Sylvia enough for driving from Indianapolis on a Saturday morning with her cartload of art supplies. The members that were able to stay thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Thank you, Sylvia, for the lesson!

I'd also like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Donna Kida, Susie Matzat, Beth Cohagan, and Sheila Akers for accepting officer positions for the next biennium. I truly appreciate their willingness to take on leadership roles in the Society.

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Mission

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International promotes the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

Our Next Meeting:

Saturday
May 14, 2022
9:00 AM Central

Country Kettle
Knox

Program: Installation of
Officers and
Recommitment Ceremony

Roll Call: Besides your commitment to Delta Kappa Gamma, to what else are you committed?

Opening Thought: Sharon
Henderson

Media Review: Katrina Harper
Refreshments: Order from the Menu
Closing Thought: Sherry Lippelt

Schools for Africa

Art ala Klimt



Alpha Sigma member and former art teacher Sylvia Dumas shared her love of art with fellow chapter members by leading those present in a step-by-step lesson to paint a tree of life in the Art Nouveau style from the Symbolist period of Austrian Gustav Klimt, a late nineteenth - early twentieth century artist.



All chapter artists enjoyed the experience and renditions of the tree of life ranged from faithful to fanciful. We are grateful to Sylvia for driving from Indianapolis where she currently resides to present this delightful program.

A Note from Our President

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Alpha Sigma will install its new officers on Saturday, May 14, at the Country Kettle in Knox. Members of our chapter will also take time to reflect on their commitment to The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in a short ceremony following the installation. Please note this date change and mark your calendars today!

Jody

Chapter Rules to be Amended

Sharon Henderson is in the process of completing changes to our chapter rules to coincide with changes made at the state level. Our chapter is now a member of the Northwest Council. This will be reflected in our revised rules for the chapter. As soon as Sharon is finished, the rules will be posted online and sent to members.

Council 1 / Northwest Council Brunch

Sharon Henderson, Jody Arndt, Donna Kida, and Sharon Richie attended the Council 1 / Northwest Council Brunch at the Avalon Manor Banquet Center in Merrillville on March 12. Professional actress Leslie Goddard portrayed Eleanor Roosevelt to the delight of Northwest Council members.

New Officers

Sharon Richie presented the slate of new officers for the approval of Alpha Sigma chapter members.

Dates to Remember

Alpha Sigma Chapter Meeting
May 14, 2022
Country Kettle, Knox

State Conference
April 23, 2022
Hendricks County 4-H Fairgrounds
Danville, Indiana

International Convention
July 12-16, 2022
New Orleans, Louisiana

Janet O'Neal Seminar
November 25, 2022
Columbia City, Indiana

State Convention
April 28-30, 2023
Evansville, Indiana

The 2022-2024 officers are President – Donna Kida, Vice-President – Susie Matzat, Recording Secretary – Beth Cohagan, and Corresponding Secretary – Sheila Akers.

Dues Now Being Accepted

Treasurer Kathy Ward will be happy to take your dues for the coming year beginning now! Dues are \$73 for active members and \$38 for reserve members. Although your dues are not due until June 24, getting them paid early helps our treasurer meet her deadlines.

Make checks out to DKG and send them to Kathy Ward, 2156 E 250 S, Knox, IN 46534.

B.o.B. Continues

Your donations of new and/or gently used books to be donated to Kids' Closet can be given to Lauren Akers. She will place a label in each book recognizing the Alpha Sigma Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma as the donating entity.

If you want to give your books directly to Kids' Closet, you can contact Lauren for labels.

CCOT in June

In-person CCOT for chapter presidents and treasurers will take place on June 8 at the MLC on 86th Street in Indianapolis. Zoom meetings for chapter officers and Communications Chairs are also in the works.

Janet O'Neal Seminar

The Janet O'Neal Seminar will take place on November 25, 2022, in Columbia City, Indiana. The seminar will feature Dr. Lorie Desautels who will speak about *Connecting the Brain for Learning*.

Registration forms are available on the State website, www.dkgindiana.org, under Forms. Registration begins May 1 and ends October 1. There is a \$25 registration fee.

There will be two breakout sessions in the afternoon. The first session will be "Quick Techniques for Stress Release and Relaxation" and the second session will be a tour of the newest high school in Indiana.

This presentation has received the Lucille Cornet Seminar Professional Development Award of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

DKG International Convention

The 2022 Convention of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International will take place in New Orleans from July 12 to July 16. New Orleans will be an exciting place to visit with many museums and sites to explore during the convention which will feature two keynote speakers.

Courtney Clark will speak about resilience. She works with people who want to adapt faster and achieve more. She has spoken to worldwide businesses and organizations and has just authored her second book *The Successful Struggle: Powerful Techniques to Achieve Accelerated Resilience*.

Ingvi Ómarsson is an acclaimed educator from Iceland. A graduate of Stanford University, he works as a senior advisor in Iceland's Ministry of Education. He leads the implementation of Iceland's national Educational Policy. In 2018 Mr. Ómarsson was voted Teacher of the Year and in 2020 he

received the Icelandic Educational Awards for his outstanding contribution to education in Iceland.

Alpha Sigma Member Profile: Susan Christian, a key woman educator who exemplifies "motivated to make a difference."

Susan Christian has been a Delta Kappa Gamma member since 2003. I've gotten to know Susan through Delta Kappa Gamma and other organizations to which we both belong. I asked Susan to answer some questions for me via email to find out more about her and how she is motivated to make a difference. Here is our email interview.

Sheila: To what or to whom do you attribute your drive to make a difference?

Susan: Growing up in the Mennonite church and with parents who were faithful servants, I learned from an early age about making a difference. I saw from them and many others that even what seemed like the smallest thing could mean something important to someone and could affect that person's life in a meaningful way.



Sheila: How has your membership in Delta Kappa Gamma influenced the direction of your activities?

Susan: I think it has enabled me to keep my toes in how education is evolving and to perhaps give some insight to younger educators if they so desire.

Sheila: What are your most memorable "adventures" with Delta Kappa Gamma?

Susan: I really haven't had any "adventures" as such in DKG unless you count some of our conversations at meetings. While I was at Goshen College we were on the trimester system and each student was required to do a trimester abroad. My trimester was spent in Costa Rica and I would certainly consider that an adventure - from being the first time I traveled by plane to being in a country where I only knew three phrases in the language. The bus left Goshen College and stopped at towns along the way picking up students all the way to Miami. From there we flew to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and then took a puddle jumper to San Jose, Costa Rica, where we met our host families. Seven weeks were spent studying the language, history and culture of Costa Rica and then the final seven weeks were spent in service. I did mine in a guardaría - a day-care center - and saw poverty unlike any I'd ever seen before. The other student who was also there and I both wished we could just pack up the little ones and bring them back to Indiana with us. On weekends, the entire group of students would take field trips both to do service projects and for pleasure. One weekend we went to the west coast to Puntarenas and while we were in the water the natives started shouting "tiburón,

"tiburón" which meant there was a shark in the water! WE GOT OUT OF THERE IN A HURRY! After it was captured, the older ladies on the beach were arguing over who would get the shark fin to make their soup. It was a wonderful adventure in a beautiful, peaceful country.

Sheila: What do you feel are your most important contributions to Delta Kappa Gamma, your community and to education?

Susan: Being able to lend a hand to others is still foremost in what I want to do - whether it be to teachers, seniors, or anyone who needs something I can provide help with. I have a hoodie that has the following printed on it: I may be retired but I'm always a teacher.

Sheila: Is there anything else you'd like to add?

Susan: After I had our sons I was fortunate enough to be able to stay home with them and then when they started school I got the opportunity to work with the Adult Education program in Starke County. I taught in both Knox and North Judson with people studying to take the GED test as well as ESL students learning English as a second language. I had no idea how many people from Romania there were in our area. I had one young man from Russia who spoke NO English - that was a real challenge but we managed. Talk about a very different language. I had students ranging from 16 who had just dropped out of school and were often mandated by the probation department and really didn't want to be there to those mandated by the welfare department to come to class and some who were retirement age and wanted to finish what they hadn't when they quit school to either go to work and help

their family or join the service. There were lots of wonderful success stories including students who not only passed the GED test but went on to higher education. There were also the sad ones who broke my heart. I really got the GED lady name when I had some students at the Starke County Jail aka the Starke County Hilton. Whenever I would go over there, the jailers never used my name - they would announce." The GED lady's here!" The name stuck.

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