

Alpha Epsilon State Indiana



A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, SHARON RICHIE

Warm Winter Greetings!

Congratulations Alpha Sigma members on the fantastic. successful bake sale!! Thanks to everyone that baked, set up, managed and worked the sale. A shout out to Margaret and Shelly for being in charge. I also know The Salvation Army thanks the members who rang the bell to raise funds for needy families.

It is a wonderful feeling to be able to present another \$1,000 Grant-In-Aid this spring. I am proud of our chapter to meet this goal.

Remember our liaison, Penny Schaefer, is planning to attend our February meeting. Hopefully, we'll have our coffee program, a quorum to vote on our amended Chapter Rules, and several new inductees presented for review.

I sincerely wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

Sharon



Alpha Sigma News

December 2018

IN THIS ISSUE

A Note from our President

The Merit Foundation

Budget Development and Audit

Schools for Africa

Support for Early-career Educators

Bake Sale Fund Raiser

Rules Changes from the International Convention

Council 2 Meeting

Golden Key Chapter in Our Future? – Make It Happen!

Alpha Sigma Member Profile: Kay Horn

The Merit Foundation



James Young, Pastor of Heartland Christian Assembly Center – Assembly of God and a member of the North Judson Town Council, spoke to our chapter about the Merit Foundation.

James is the vice president of the Board of the Merit Foundation, a newly created foundation dedicated to taking Starke County from the worst to the best.

According to a Robert Wood Johnson report card that rates the health of a community in the areas of smoking, obesity, dentists, doctors, etc., Starke County ranks rather low in Indiana. Businesses look at the "health" of a county to determine if they will locate in the county. The Merit Foundation is looking for creative ways to make Starke County attractive to businesses. They are also looking for people to volunteer to work through the foundation to develop and support foundation projects.

Some projects being developed include a Coffee Café in downtown Knox, Indiana, where entrepreneurs, artists, and musicians can meet to entertain and engage in creative discussions. "Historically, some great things have come out of coffee cafés," says Young.

Another project is a Starke County Transition Center to help those with drug and alcohol addictions regain their ability to function without these addictive substances.

The Merit Foundation would also like to create a world-class mentorship program to help adults with budgeting, parenting, and adult literacy.

Other projects include energy independence, building 100 affordable homes, projects and activities to increase active living in Starke County, and technology to assist with medical advice and diagnosis.

The Merit Foundation has an office in Knox, Indiana, and is currently working on grant proposals through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Young also indicated that anyone in our society is welcome to volunteer and/or give financial assistance to the Foundation by calling him at 219-246-8598. More information about the Merit Foundation is available on Facebook.

Schools for Africa

The Alpha Sigma members briefly discussed how to meet the chapter's financial obligations for Schools for Africa. Nila Beauchamp of the International Projects Committee stated that the committee would meet before the next meeting and will present a formal plan for supporting Schools for Africa.

Support for Early-career Educators

Sheila Akers reported that 19 firstyear women teachers were given Delta Kappa Gamma gift bags which included a brochure of information about DKG the Alpha Sigma chapter. A follow-up email message was also sent to them. She encouraged Alpha Sigma members to contact the teachers that work in their district or former district to offer assistance and encouragement. Sheila sent a list of the first-year teachers to Alpha Sigma members with their email addresses via email.

Bake Sale Fund Raiser



Under the direction of Margaret Radtke and Shelley Stonecipher, the Delta Kappa Gamma Bake Sale at Mark Bailey's Discount Center, on Saturday, December 1, was a great success. Asking for donations instead of setting prices, the chapter earned \$804. Members donated a variety of wonderful products including a variety of cookies, pies, brownies, fudge and other goodies.

Besides selling baked goods, Alpha Sigma members also rang the Salvation Army Bell for holiday donations. Members assisting Margaret and Shelley were Sharon Henderson, Sherry Lippelt, Susie Norwich, and Carol Tripenfeldas.

See more photos of the bake sale on our website.



Budget Development and Audit

Kathy Ward, treasurer, announced that the Finance Committee will present a budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year in February. Anne Eckert was asked to replace Leslie Hampton as the chairman of the Budget Committee. Sharon Richie and Sheila Akers offered to assist develop the budget if the Finance Committee needs assistance. Nila Beauchamp and Venita Cunningham will audit the financial records by the April meeting.

Upcoming Events

April 26-28, 2019 – State Convention Lawrenceburg, Indiana

July 10-12, 2019 – Regional Conference "Leadership" Des Moines, Iowa

November 15 & 16, 2019 – Fall Arts Retreat Our Lady of Fatima, Indianapolis, Indiana

See the December issue of the *Hoosier Newsette* for more information

Rules Changes from the International Convention

Sharon Richie presented the changes in our chapter by-laws and rules made to coincide with the recent changes to the International rules for the first reading. State and chapter rules must comply with International rules.

Some new rules:

New members will be inducted, not initiated.

We can have collegiate members and as there is no longer a threeyear teaching requirement, those collegiate members can become full members upon completion of their degree and employment as a teacher.

Dues will be collected by June 30 from now on to coincide with the fiscal year which is July 1 – June 30.

Former members may be reinstated upon request without a vote being taken at a regular meeting.

Voting can be done electronically or by mail with the vote to be ratified at the next meeting.

The chapter decided to add the following changes to Section C: Financial Controls:

Registration expenses shall be paid to the chapter officers or their representatives for attendance at the required CCOT.

Mileage shall be paid for two members driving to the required CCOT.

The chapter also decided that a change in wording was in order in Remembrances on page 6. The written "red" rose should be changed to "white" rose.

A copy of the changes to be made was sent to all chapter members prior to the meeting. They also reside on the Alpha Sigma website: alphasigmaindkg.org.

A vote will be taken to accept these rules at the February meeting.

Council 2 Meeting

Sharon Richie reported on the Council 2 meeting that she, Sharon Henderson and Sylvia Dumas attended on Saturday, October 20. Council II will host the State Convention in 2021 at Swan Lake in Plymouth, Indiana. Planning for this convention is beginning now. The Council is responsible for breakout sessions, presenters, field trips, and persons to introduce speakers.

Golden Key Chapter in Our Future? - Make It Happen!

President Sharon Richie encouraged chapter members to assist in the quest to become a Golden Key Chapter by attending the State Convention in Lawrenceburg on April 26-28. See the December issue of The Hoosier Newsette and the Indiana website dkgindiana.org for more information. Make your travel plans now!

Our Next Meeting

Thursday, February 7, 2019 Lutheran Fellowship Hall, North Judson 4:00 PM CT

Program: Coffee with Mitch

Alpha Sigma Member Profile: Kay Horn, a key woman educator who exemplifies "motivated to make a difference"



Kay Horn has been a Delta Kappa Gamma member since 1967. Kay has served as our chapter's recording secretary, first vice president, communications chairwoman, treasurer, and a member various of other Kay exemplifies a committees. woman who makes a difference. I asked Kay 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?

Kay: I believe my Granddad Hiram Harvey probably influenced me the most. My parents were dirt-poor, but I didn't know this. We always had food and clothes; lots of love, but I always wanted to be a teacher just like my Grandpa, but never thought I could afford to go to college. My parents began working outside the home and things began to turn around financially. All through school I still thought I wanted to be a teacher and saved every penny I got ahold of and when I was ready to graduate high school my aunt and uncle said they would help me go to college. They lived at Yorktown near Ball State and that is where I went to college.

Nadine Sriver was my 3rd and 4th grade teacher and she was a wonderful teacher and I admired her greatly and wanted to have a classroom just like hers. As it turned out, I chose physical education and English as majors and the rest is history.

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

Kay: Nadine [Sriver] and Agnes Schael were mentors when I got into Delta Kappa Gamma. This was before mentor was a buzz word. They made sure I went to meetings, both DKG and teacher's meetings and those professional meetings to better understand teaching. I was an officer all through the ranks until I became president and of course went to the state meeting in Indianapolis. [It was a} very memorable experience to be sure.

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

Kay: I remember one summer there was a bus load of DKG members who went to Chicago and took a cruise along the river to admire the architecture along the waters, then toured the American Girl place and had lunch at The Cheesecake Factory. [It was] just a bonding activity that let me get better acquainted with more members.

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

Kay: I think the most important contribution to DKG is my desire to do the best I can for the most I can. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to live up to that with age catching up and arthritis issues, but am glad my daughter is a member even though with all her school activities she is not able to attend meetings and contribute to the Society. Maybe when Evan graduates next year, she'll have more time.

I have greatly enjoyed my time in Delta Kappa Gamma and will continue to participate when I can.

Other activities I've been involved with are IRTA delegate to the Representative Assembly; Fulton County Retired Teachers Association President. Currently I am Secretary-Treasurer of FCRTA. Delta Zeta Sorority, Indiana State Quilt Guild, Plymouth Friendship Quilt Guild, Riverview Community Church Financial Secretary are also groups in which I'm active. I read to elementary students for Partners in Education at Rochester Schools, bowl in a bowling league, and will be ringing a bell for the Salvation Army this Christmas season at our Save-a-Lot.

I have been quilting since the 1980's. I have given "quilt" related lectures (Power Point shows) at our library. I have given a lecture to speech communication classes at IUPUI titled "Quilts as a means of Communication". I have done a trunk show to senior citizens at their nutrition sites in Bourbon, and Rochester about my guilts, I have had quilt classes for seniors at our RSVP Center with the quilt we made being raffled off and then the proceeds going to the Center's activity fund, and also organized a quilt show-display at our local library, showing guilts from other quilters in the Rochester, Argos, and Plymouth area.

I won the Blue Cross Blue Shield Top Volunteer clock award for my volunteering hours in 2009 from the Indiana State Teachers Association for Fulton County and have been fortunate enough to be among the Top Ten since then. I donated one of my quilts to DKG Alpha Epsilon state convention auction a few years back.

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