



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Indiana State Organization



Alpha Sigma News

March 2021

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, JODY ARNDT

Greetings, Alpha Sigma!

As April approaches, the pandemic continues to be the dominant force in our lives. The good news is that COVID-19 vaccines are available to those who choose to schedule appointments or be placed on waitlists. Waitlists help ensure that no vaccine doses go to waste. I am not 65, but I asked to be placed on a waitlist and received my first dose of Pfizer on February 9th. Just think-- by this time next year most of us, if not all, will be vaccinated.

Like many of you, I miss the wonderful fellowship that only occurs when meeting face to face.
The Alpha Sigma Executive

Committee will meet this month to discuss social distancing protocols and the location of April's chapter meeting. Please contact me if you wish to share your thoughts.

As we move into spring, let us move forward with hope and think positive!

Jody

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*Today a reader,
tomorrow a leader.*

Margaret Fuller

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IN THIS ISSUE

- A Note from our President
- Young Artist Conference
- Leadership Development Sessions
- Chapter Dues
- Coordinating Council Changes
- Prospective Members
- Our April Meeting
- State Convention Changed to One-Day Event
- Silent Auction
- B.o.B. Continues
- Alpha Sigma Member Profile: Donna Rowe
- Cornetet Award Opportunity
- 2021 International Conference

Young Artist Conference

A scaled-down Young Artist Conference will take place at North Judson-San Pierre Elementary School on Saturday, April 24. From 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., elementary registrants will participate in artistic endeavors in printing, writing, and illustrating.

Communicating via Zoom, presenters will lead the participants in their activities while teacher volunteers monitor the 30-minute sessions.

Students must pre-register and pay a \$5.00 fee to attend. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, a smaller than usual number of students will be allowed to participate and only North Judson-San Pierre students will be invited this year.

The Young Artist Conference is supported by local community organizations and businesses. Psi Iota Xi organizes the event.

Leadership Development Sessions

President Jody Arndt participated in several of the DKG Leadership Development Sessions. From these sessions, she received several tips and ideas to make DKG meetings more meaningful.

These ideas include...

- inviting state officers to meetings,
- connecting with people who are not Zooming with us and sharing their comments,
- including a social time prior to or after the Zoom meetings,
- having a themed meeting once a year,
- inviting other chapters to attend one of our meetings,

- remembering to tie in the purposes of the Society, and

- managing time by cleaning your workspace at the end of the day, making lists, and taking control of your talking time.

Chapter Dues

Sharon Henderson reported that if the chapter dues need to be raised, our Chapter Rules provide for this to be done in April. The Finance Committee will report on the state of chapter finances and present a budget at the April meeting. This will aid in determining whether to raise chapter dues or not.

Coordinating Council Changes

Sharon Henderson reported that the number of Coordinating Councils will be reduced to five: Northwest, Northeast, Central, Southwest and Southeast. Every five years a Coordinating Council will be responsible for a State Convention or Conference. More information about this will be published in the March edition of the *Hoosier Newsette*.

Prospective Members

It's time to think of new-member prospects. Do you know of someone who would be an asset to our Society? Submit her name to Alpha Sigma membership chairman Carol Tripenfeldas. The New Prospect Cards are available on the Alpha Sigma website. A card will also be included in the April meeting reminder email.

alphasigmaindkg.org

Our April Meeting

Our Chapter Executive Committee has decided to try a hybrid meeting in April. It has been a year since we've been able to gather, but with social distancing and masks, the Committee feels that we will have a safe environment. Those who are reluctant to attend or who are unable to attend in person will have the opportunity to attend the meeting via Zoom.

Vice-President Lauren Akers has arranged a program which relates to the Delta Kappa Gamma project – Schools for Africa. Cheryl Bockstahler, a first-grade teacher at DeMotte Elementary School, will share her experiences as a teacher in Ghana.



State Convention Changed to One-Day Event

The State Convention has been changed to June 12, 2021, at the Primo Banquet Hall & Conference Center, 2615 National Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana. Rooms have

been reserved at the near-by Comfort Inn.

Coming Events:

State Convention

**Primo Banquet Hall
& Conference Center**

June 12, 2021

The one-day Convention will include the following:

- Ceremony of Remembrance
- Introduction of the Chapter Presidents
- Honors Program
- Induction of New Officers
- Business Meeting

More information will be found in the March edition of the *Hoosier Newsette* and on the State website.

Silent Auction

Chapters are encouraged to donate a gift basket or box for the Silent Auction to be held at the State Convention. The proceeds of the silent auction will be donated to the DKG Emergency Fund to assist members who have sustained losses from natural disasters.

There was some discussion about what type of gift basket to donate. Sheila Akers stated that she intended to donate some of the books that are on the reading list she is formulating as a Five-Minute Break-out Session for the State Convention. Other ideas were put forth; no action was taken on those ideas.

B.o.B. Continues

"Bunches of Books", begun in Sharon Richie's tenure as Alpha Sigma Chapter President, will continue in President Jody Arndt's biennium. Gently used and new books can be given to Lauren Akers or directly to Kids' Closet. Donation stickers to put in the books you donate can be obtained from Lauren Akers at <laakers@outlook.com>.

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"Books are not made to be believed, but to be subjected to inquiry. When we consider a book, we mustn't ask ourselves what it says but what it means..."

Books are very important part of our life, because they contain the knowledge and information about the past and the history that we need.

Umberto Eco
The Name of the Rose

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

Donna Rowe has been a Delta Kappa Gamma member since 2015. She currently chairs the Finance Committee. I've known Donna for a long time and truly don't remember when I didn't know her. I have always admired her willingness to work with struggling students and the time and

commitment she gave to Academic Super Bowl as a Math coach. I asked Donna 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.

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*A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies...
The man who never read lives only one.*

George R.R. Martin

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

Donna: I attribute my drive to make a difference from my parents. They taught me kindness and to always help others. During my childhood, I have many family memories of giving and helping others. Our home was open to many with my mom always cooking and providing friends with warm hospitality and fun times. My membership in Delta Kappa Gamma has brought me opportunities to work with others and expand my friendships. During our meetings, I enjoy our sharing and programs. The scholarships

are very important to me as I think about my experiences and the importance of attaining an education. Teaching is not only rewarding, but exciting to me. I want to give and pass on my enthusiasm for teaching by inspiring future educators.

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

Donna: Teaching was a second career for me, after working in the banking field I realized I needed to make a change. It was the best decision I have ever made as my teaching career brought such joy and so many friendships. My 27 years of teaching experiences include grades 2-8 with 18 years of junior high mathematics and 9 years at the elementary level. I retired from my full-time position in June of 2020 and accepted a part time job as a Math Interventionist for grades 2-6. I feel like it is a dream job. I work with small groups to review and polish basic math skills in a fun and nonthreatening environment!

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

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

Donna: Those of you who know me, know I love the camaraderie of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society and its seven purposes.

Cornetet Award Opportunity

Cornetet Individual Awards will fund participation in conferences,

seminars, lecture series, online courses and workshops plus other degree programs. This award is given twice per year. The May 1 deadline is quickly approaching. Is there summer professional development in which you would like to engage? Here is your opportunity to receive funding for your summer pursuits. Visit https://www.dkg.org/DKGMember/DKGIEF/Funds/Cornetet_Award/Cornetet_Award.asp for more information and an application form. A link can also be found on the Alpha Sigma website.

Keep up with all the DKG news, information, and events...
Visit the State website...
<https://www.dkgindiana.org>
and
the International website...
<https://www.dkg.org>

2021 International Conferences

Two International Conferences are scheduled to take place within the United States in July, 2021. The Portland, Oregon, Conference will take place from July 7 through July 10. The Conference in San Antonio, Texas, will take place from July 22 through July 24.

According to the DKG International website, the final format (hybrid or virtual) is still pending. The prices

for one day or for the entire Conference are the same whether hybrid or virtual.

Online or mail registration is available and room reservations can be made via the International website.

The International Conference that was to take place in Tampere, Finland, has been postponed until 2023.

Our next meeting:
Thursday, April 15, 2021
5:00 PM Central
NJ-SP Elementary Library
Opening thought: Margaret Radtke
Media Review: Shelley Stonecipher
Closing Thought: Susan Norwich
Program: Cheryl Bockstahler / Teaching in Africa

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To learn to read is to light a fire.

Victor Hugo – *Les Miserables*

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