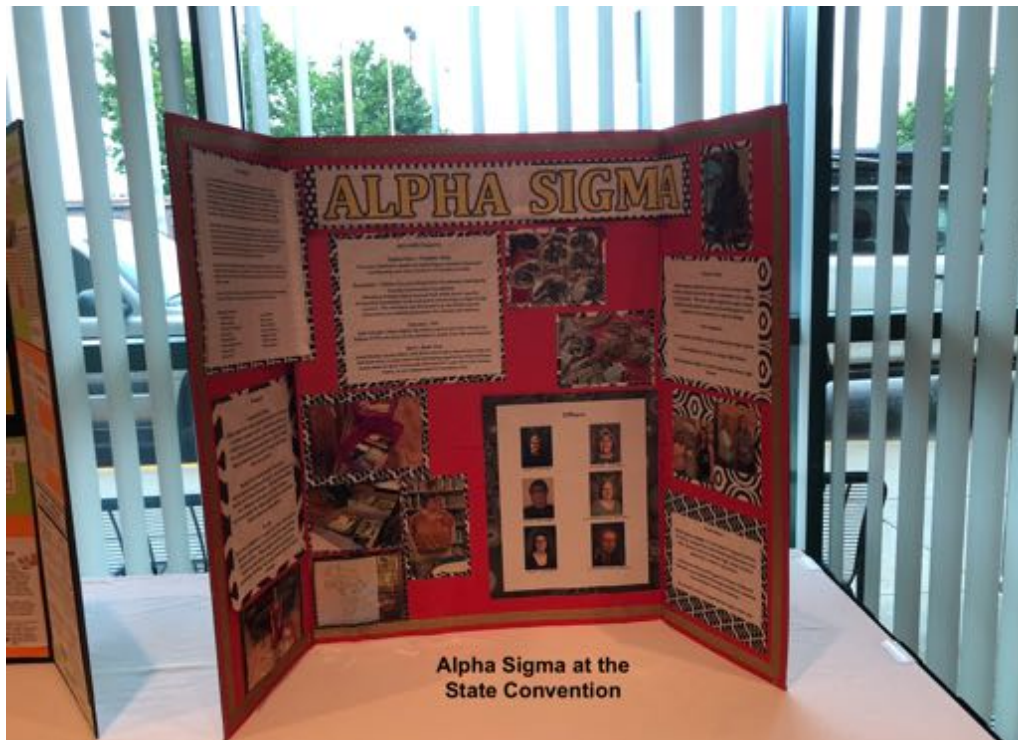




INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Indiana State Organization



Alpha Sigma News

May 2023

Volume 7, Issue 4

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, DONNA KIDA

Greetings, Alpha Sigma!

Back in February, my little Chihuahua, Sassy, died from cancer. She was 11 years old. I adopted her in the spring of 2014, before my husband passed away that fall. She was my emotional support dog, even though she was not specifically trained. She would patiently listen to my thoughts and concerns, and did not pass judgment.

In our church, an emotional support dog accompanies a parishioner to Mass. You don't even know the dog is there. The dog quietly sits and watches his master. I have even observed this dog at a parish dinner, with all the tempting food, showing

his best behavior. He remains focused on his master.

We all need emotional support from time to time, whether it be from a person or from an animal, but always without judgment. Teaching has become more stressful over the years. There's high-stakes testing, curriculum designed by non-educators, and, yes, school shootings. I urge you to find your own emotional support, from home or at school. Retirees, as well, need support. Getting together with other retired teachers is very therapeutic.

I wish you all a very restful, quiet summer. Enjoy!

Donna

IN THIS ISSUE

A Note from Our President

We Are Not from Here

"Home"

Northwest Council News

Clarifying Grant-in-Aid Eligibility

2023 Grant-in-Aid Recipient

Photos from the State Convention

Birth Announcement

Dues

DKG Indiana
(dkgindiana.org)
Password:
DKGINFeb2023

Mission

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

Our Next Meeting:

Saturday
June 3, 2023

9:00 AM Central

Country Kettle, Knox

Fun, Food, and Fellowship

Presentation of check to the 2022
Grant-in-Aid Recipient

Dates to Remember

DKG Conferences

Detroit, Michigan
July 11-16, 2023

Phoenix, Arizona
July 18-22, 2023

Tempere, Finland
July 26-29, 2023

Alpha Sigma Chapter Meeting

June 3, 2023
Country Kettle Restaurant, Knox

Chapter Goal Setting Planner

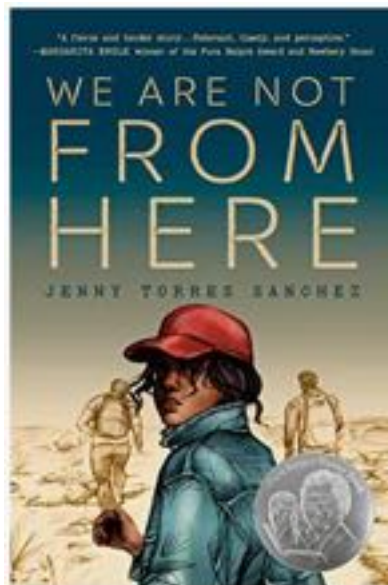
November 1, 2023

FAR

November 10-11, 2023
Madison

We Are Not from Here

We are Not from Here was discussed during our Book Club Program. Susie Matzat, Lauren Akers, and Sheila Akers led the discussion.



Three teens have no illusions about the town they've grown up in and the dangers that surround them. Even with the love of family, threats lurk around every corner. It is when those threats become all too real, the trio knows they have no choice but to run: from their country, from their families, from their beloved home.

The discussion revolved around immigrant children we often meet in our schools who are part of ESL classrooms and how their homeland situations must be desperate for them and their families to leave, often entering the United States illegally. Lauren Akers who is an ESL teacher stated that the children she works with are told by their parents never to talk about what has happened to them and how they internalize their trauma. This book helped members understand the impetus that causes people to leave their homes and how we can and

should treat them better when they come to the United States for a better life.

Susie Matzat shared the following poem that pertains to the subject of the book discussed. I found this poem on the internet. The poem appears below.

"Home"

a poem by Warsan Shire

*no one leaves home unless
home is the mouth of a shark
You only run for the border
when you see the whole city
running as well.*

*your neighbours running faster
than you*

*breath bloody in their throats
the boy you went to school with
who kissed you dizzy behind the old
tin factory is holding a gun bigger
than his body
you only leave home
when home won't let you stay.*

*no one leaves home unless home
chases you
fire under feet
hot blood in your belly
it's not something you ever thought
of doing
until the blade burnt threats into
your neck
and even then you carried the
anthem under your breath
only tearing up your passport in an
airport toilet
sobbing as each mouthful of paper
made it clear that you wouldn't be
going back.*

*you have to understand,
that no one puts their children in a
boat
unless the water is safer than the
land
no one burns their palms
under trains*

*beneath carriages
no one spends days and nights in the
stomach of a truck
feeding on newspaper unless the
miles travelled
means something more than
journey.*

*no one crawls under fences
no one wants to be beaten
pitied*

*no one chooses refugee camps or
strip searches where your body is
left aching
or prison,
because prison is safer
than a city of fire
and one prison guard
in the night
is better than a truckload
of men who look like your father
no one could take it
no one could stomach it
no one skin would be tough enough*

*the
go home blacks
refugees
dirty immigrants
asylum seekers
sucking our country dry
niggers with their hands out
they smell strange
savage
messed up their country and now
they want to mess ours up
how do the words
dirty looks
roll of your backs
maybe because the blow is softer
than a limb torn off*

*or words are more tender
than fourteen men between
your legs
or the insults are easier
to swallow
than rubble
than bone
than your child body
in pieces.*

*I want to go home,
but home is in the mouth of a shark*

*home is the barrel of a gun
and no one would leave home
unless home chased you to the shore
unless home told you
to quicken your legs
leave your clothes behind
crawl through the desert
wade through the oceans
drown
save
be hunger
beg
forget pride
your survival is more important*

*no one one leaves home until home
is a sweaty voice in your ear
saying-
leave,
run a away from me now
i don't know what i've become
but i know that anywhere is safer
than here.*

Northwest Council News

By Jody Arndt

The Northwest Council of the Indiana State Organization consists of representatives from nine chapters: Theta, Rho, Sigma, Alpha Gamma, Alpha Sigma, Alpha Omega, Beta Sigma, Gamma Kappa, and Gamma Mu.



At least one joint activity for the chapters in the area is planned every year. This year, all chapters and past state presidents were invited to a brunch held at Meadow Springs in Francesville on March 11. Sharon Henderson, Donna Kida, and

Jody Arndt were in attendance along with 32 other ladies including four past state presidents. The event provided an excellent opportunity to meet and reconnect with women in education living outside our area. In addition to socializing, those in attendance enjoyed a delicious brunch prepared by the venue staff.



Following the meal, Carol Herzog, our state Executive Secretary and DKG Northeast Regional Director, shared a few words about the upcoming state convention to be held in Evansville and provided information pertaining to this summer's international conferences. In addition to her new titles, Carol remains active in her chapter, Alpha Zeta.

Kiera Crites Muller, the guest speaker, presented a slideshow about Food Finders Food Bank, Inc. located in Lafayette. Kiera and her team collaborate with other organizations to provide food for those in need and to educate, advocate, and address food insecurity in North Central Indiana.

Discussion regarding the success of this multi-chapter event will be held at the next Northwest Council meeting in June. Those with suggestions for next year's joint activity may speak with Sharon Henderson, Donna Kida, or Jody Arndt.

Clarifying Grant-in-Aid Eligibility

Article VIII: Section B 2: C: iii. states (that the Chapter Scholarship Committee) shall be responsible for disseminating information about the chapter grant-in-aid and determine its recipient.

The Scholarship Committee has proposed additional wording to clarify who can apply for the grant-in-aid.

Article VIII: Section 2: C: iii: a. will read: The application will be distributed to the high school counselors of the three Starke County high schools and will be available to any active member's school of employment upon request.

This amendment to our Standing Rules will require a vote at our September meeting.

2023 Grant-in-Aid Recipient

Scholarship Chairman Donna Rowe announced that the 2023 recipient of the Alpha Sigma Chapter Grant-in-Aid is Elizabeth Ciapponi. Elizabeth plans to major in elementary education at Purdue University Northwest.

Donna said that the committee was impressed with Elizabeth's essay and with her desire to be a teacher.

Elizabeth's essay:

What Teaching Means to Me

Ever since I was a little girl, I have wanted to become a teacher. I have sat in my bedroom with a whiteboard easel and "taught" lessons to my stuffed animals. I have saved old children's textbooks from when I was a kid. I have always loved learning and being in a

school environment. Pursuing a degree in teaching means a lot to me because it is so much more than a job.

For me, the level of compassion and understanding towards children of all different backgrounds is one of the most significant qualities to have when considering the field of education. The children that teachers have are going to be with them five days a week. I want to pursue a degree in education because of the compassion I am certain I will show these children. I am also certain that some of these children come to school in search of a safe place and I have always wanted to be the kind of teacher that provides a comforting environment for the children who may be struggling and really need it. Of course, there is actual learning to be done and a child's education is the main focus, but there will always be children who need the sort of safeness that I am seeking a degree in elementary education to provide for them.

My entire goal, once I obtain a degree in elementary education, will be to change lives. Teaching is more than just a job to me. A lot of people steer away from teaching because of the money. However, in my opinion, the opportunity to show up every day to educate the future of our world offers a better reward than any money could ever. I know that for me, it is very motivating to think about the opportunity I will be given to help shape the lives of a younger generation and this is why I want to pursue a degree in elementary education.

Overall, I am extremely excited to dedicate myself to pursuing a degree in education. Teaching is more than just a job to me. It is

knowing that I am going to do everything I can to make a difference. The level of compassion and understanding I have will highly improve children's lives. I am so ready to get a degree in education.

Photos from the State Convention

Submitted by Sharon Richie



Sharon Henderson, Donna Kida & Sharon Richie Attend State Convention





Dues Are Now Being Accepted

Active Members: \$73

Reserve Members: \$38

Due Date: June 24, 2023

Make check out to DKG

Send check to Treasurer:
Lauren Akers
0440 W 450 S
North Judson, IN 46366

or

Bring to June 3
Fun, Food, and Fellowship
Meeting



Born to Lauren (2020)
and Dalton Tunis

Evelyn Olive Tunis

April 5, 2023

Weight: 5lbs. 5 oz.

Length: 18 inches

Gracelynn loves her baby sister!



"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible."
The 14th Dalai Lama

Alpha Sigma News
Editor: Sheila Akers
313 Dahlke Street
North Judson, IN 46366
(574) 806-2612 cell
sjakers@gmail.com



"How do we change the world?
One random act of kindness at a time."
Morgan Freeman

"You can never do kindness too soon, for you never know how soon it will be too late."
Ralph Waldo Emerson