



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS  
**DELTA KAPPA GAMMA**

## Alpha Epsilon State Indiana



Program: Cookie Decorating

Susan, Jody and Sherry try their hand at decorating cookies.

# Alpha Sigma News

October 2018

### A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, SHARON RICHIE

#### Warm Autumn Wishes!

Our biennium has begun! 41% of our membership attended the organizational meeting in September. I hope to increase this percentage as the biennium progresses. Great programs, pertinent information and warm sharing occurs at the meetings. Don't lose out! You never know what word, thought or action may "inspire" a positive change in your daily meanderings!

Thank you Arielle Jacobsma, daughter of member Margaret Radtke, for inspiring our sweet tooth! How exciting to start your own business! I know the members enjoyed eating and decorating the melt-in-your-mouth sugar cookies!

Alpha Sigma members wish you continued success.

Congratulations to Sheila for our newsletter's Honorable Mention award at the State Executive Board meeting September 8!

Now to business, I do expect ALL committees to meet and gather information to provide a report at designated meetings. Committees selected to present will be notified by myself and through the newsletter. So, for our November meeting- Finance Committee, Legislation Committee, International Projects and Rules will be accountable for their reports. Finance needs to bring a written budget for the

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## Gift Bags for New Teachers

Sharon Richie, Sheila Akers and Lauren Akers delivered gift bags to new teachers at North Judson- San Pierre, Knox, Oregon-Davis, and Argos. Culver had no new teachers and Rochester did not respond to our request for a list of new women teachers.

Each bag contained a bag of microwave popcorn, candy, sticky notes, a pen, breath mints, Excedrin, and hand sanitizer as well as a Delta Kappa Gamma-Alpha Sigma brochure. The red bags with Alpha Sigma gift tags were delivered in time for new teacher orientation at their respective schools. The gift bags are part of our chapter's Support for Early-career Educators.



In mid-October, the new teachers will receive an email from Corresponding Secretary Sheila Akers

## Town-Wide Yard Sale



This year's participation in the North Judson Town-Wide Yard

Sale netted Alpha Sigma \$322. This was matched with an anonymous donation to bring the total to \$644 which will go toward our 2019 grant-in-aid.

## Permanent Membership Cards

Treasurer Kathy Ward distributed membership cards as members paid their dues. She cautioned members to hold on to these cards since they are permanent. New cards will not be printed and distributed each year. Kathy will mail cards to members that have paid dues, but were not in attendance at the September meeting.

## Newsletter Award

Sharon Richie presented Sheila Akers with an Honorable Mention Award for the Alpha Sigma News. This award was presented to Sharon at the Executive Board meeting on September 8 in Indianapolis. The newsletter will need to be published five times a year instead of four to be considered for a 5-Star award.



## Bake Sale Fund Raiser

Alpha Sigma voted to have a bake sale at Mark Bailey's Discount Center in conjunction with ringing the bell for Goodwill. President Sharon Richie will contact Bailey's

to reserve the preferred date and time for the bake sale - Saturday, December 1, 2018, from 8:00 a.m. until noon. Plans will be finalized at the November meeting.

## Rules Changes from the International Convention

Sharon Henderson reported on changes that will affect our chapter that came from changes enacted at the International Convention in San Antonio, Texas, in July. She will be making changes in our chapter by-laws and rules to coincide with the International rules to present to the chapter for first reading at our November meeting. State and chapter rules must comply with International rules. The name of the International Society will remain Delta Kappa Gamma Society for Key Women Educators.

Some new rules:

New members will be inducted, not initiated.

We can have collegiate members and as there is no longer a three-year 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.

Our next meeting: Saturday, November 10

9:00 AM Country Kettle, Knox

Program: Merit Foundation

School for Africa & Support for Early-career Educators

## Mmmm. Cookies!

Arielle Jacobsma, daughter of member Margaret Radtke, showed Alpha Sigma members how to decorate sugar cookies. Arielle has assisted her family in their catering business for many years, but recently has started her own cookie business besides working part-time as a surgical technician and mothering two small daughters.



After Arielle's demonstration and decorating tips, members decorated and ate their own sugar cookies. Mmm!

**Vote on November 6.  
Every vote counts!**

## Up-to-date Info

Now that the chapter year book has been published and distributed we will occasionally have changes that need to be made. Please take note of changes that are sent to you via your email messages or through the regular mail. If you have a paper year book, please

write in the changes. Those who requested an electronic year book will receive a new copy with changes via email whenever changes to email addresses, postal addresses, or other changes are made. The Alpha Sigma website is updated frequently and is where you can always find any chapter information that you need.



[alphasigmaindkg.org](http://alphasigmaindkg.org)

**Attention  
Committee Chairmen!**

**Meet with your  
committee and have a  
report ready for our next  
meeting, November 10!**

## Professional Growth Points

Alpha Sigma members can earn Professional Growth Points by attending chapter and state meetings and conferences. A chapter PGP certificate contains pertinent information about the meeting and program and is signed by the chapter president. One hour of participation is equal to one professional growth point. If you need PGPs to renew your license, please keep your Delta Kappa Gamma meetings in mind and ask for a certificate. Participation at State meeting and conventions can also earn you PGPs. Help yourself by participating!

## DKG Jewelry

According to the Delta Kappa Gamma Standing Rules adopted in 2010, "it is suggested that on the death of a member the key pin and chapter president's bar pin be returned to the chapter." A form that can be kept with your Delta Kappa jewelry or attached to your will is posted on the Alpha Sigma website. While there is no legal ramification for not returning Delta Kappa Gamma jewelry, it is satisfying to know that when your jewelry is returned the chapter can give it to a new member or new president. This can be your legacy and gift to be used by another key woman educator who cherishes Delta Kappa Gamma and its regalia.

**Alpha Sigma Member  
Profile: Sharon Henderson,  
a key woman educator who  
exemplifies "motivated to  
make a difference"**



Sharon Henderson has been a Delta Kappa Gamma member since 1970. Sharon has served on committees at every level: chapter, state, and international. She has been a state president and an international second vice

president. To me, Sharon exemplifies a woman who makes a difference. I asked Sharon 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?

Sharon: My parents were involved in many civic and community activities when I was adopted at the age of nine. They taught me that belonging to organizations required a commitment to participate in their activities. They encouraged me to become a member of groups which had a purpose to serve the community and make a difference in the lives of people around me.

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

Sharon: A chapter liaison came to visit Alpha Sigma chapter in my third or fourth year of membership. Her report to the state president recommended that I should be a member of a state committee because of my involvement in the chapter. Early in that state committee service I became acquainted with Edna McGuire Boyd and Carolyn Guss who had both served as international presidents. Edna gave me some valuable advice: "When asked to serve in any capacity, do well in completing your responsibilities. Your abilities will be noticed and you will be asked to do more." I have tried to follow that advice. At the end of my term as state president, Edna asked me, "What do you intend to do now?" She

was not going to let me rest on my laurels!

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

Sharon: 1. Serving as Alpha Epsilon State president when we hosted the 1986 International Convention which gave me the honor of carrying the US Flag in the opening ceremony.

2. My interest in parliamentary procedure was expanded while serving on the Constitution Committee and later as its chairman taught me the importance of knowing the documents and how they work together.

3. The friendships that I have formed in the last 38 years of attending state, regional and international sessions are treasures which I would not have had without my membership.

4. Serving as the Northeast Regional Director (NERD) during the term of Jean Gray as International President was definitely a highlight of my journey in DKG.

5. My son, his wife and my 2 granddaughters are my only remaining family members. I count all of my DKG sisters as part of my larger family.

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

Sharon: Contributions to DKG—commitment to the various opportunities to serve, a sense of belonging to an organization devoted to helping women grow both professionally and personally; Past President of AE State; Chairman of Ad Hoc Committee to form the US Forum and service as

its 1<sup>st</sup> Chairman; served multiple terms as parliamentarian and Rules Committee chairman for Alpha Epsilon state

Contributions of service to community—past board member of Pulaski County Library for 16 years and president for 4 years; church board member for many years; volunteer at Community Reading Corner at the Westside Center of Council on Aging in Pulaski County, serving as a board member and Bylaws Committee Chairman for the Indiana Retired Teachers Association; serving as president of my chapter of Embroiderers Guild of America. Contributions to education—30 years of teaching in NJ-SP Schools, served as president and later as negotiator for NJ-SP C.T.A.; served on ISTA Board for 6 years; Women's Leadership Training Indiana team of NEA program for 4 years.

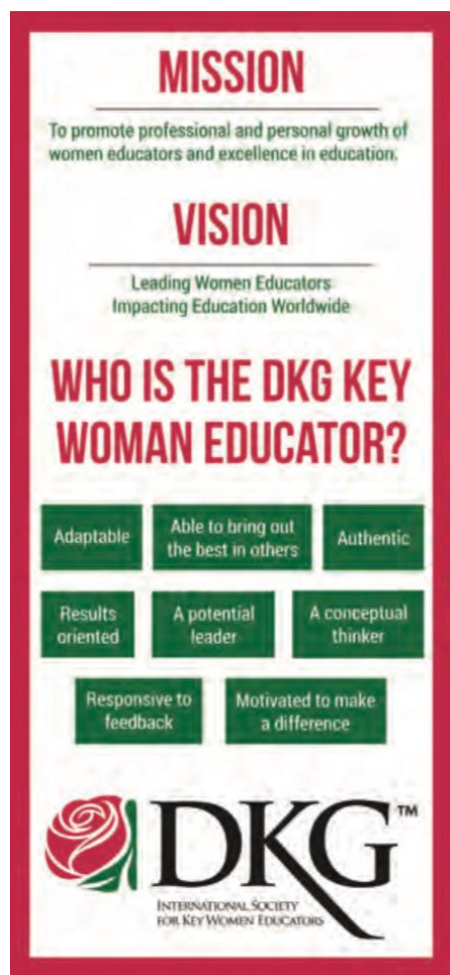
Sheila: Anything else you'd like to add?

Sharon: I have benefited so much from accepting the leadership responsibilities given to me at all levels of the Society. The opportunity to know many outstanding women whom I would not have known without my membership has impacted my life in so many ways.

The sense of commitment which I learned from watching and listening to my parents to carry through on assigned and volunteered tasks is what I would like to pass on to all of the people with whom I come into contact.

Periodically, members of our chapter will be featured in the *Alpha Sigma News*. If you would like to nominate an Alpha Sigma to

be interviewed and featured, please let Sheila know. We have so many extraordinarily talented women teachers in our chapter. Let's get to know them better and celebrate their unique contributions to our Society, our community, and to our schools.



## President's Message, continued from p. 1

biennium. Legislation - a report on the recent results of the mid-way election and legislation pertaining to education.

International Projects - ways the chapter can raise funds for international projects (World Fellowship, Schools for Africa, Emergency Relief and/or Support for Early Career Educators.)

An advance thank-you goes to Sharon Henderson who will help our chapter re-write our by-laws to comply with the amendments passed at the 2018 International Convention. She will be holding mini-workshops to assist us.

The search is on for members wishing to be involved at the state level DKG. If interested, let me know and I will submit your name for a state committee. What an opportunity to see the mission and purposes of DKG at work!

Looking ahead, the state convention will be held in Lawrenceburg, April 26-28, 2019. If you have a presenter idea, poster idea and/or want to be DKG singer I have the applications or you can go on-line. But what I really want, is to invite all of you to attend because I applied for the Golden Key Award! It would be great to have a delegation with me to celebrate Golden Key, Honors, or Honorable Mention. Please, mark your calendars and make a commitment.

Lastly, I challenge each member to present a prospective member to the membership committee. There are many deserving instructing women (certified and non-certified) who would enhance our chapter. Don't be shy! Let's grow our membership!

Wishing you all a bright and beautiful fall,

Sharon

## Message Sent to New Teachers

Corresponding Secretary Sheila Akers sent an email message to all the new teachers in the North Judson-San Pierre, Knox, Oregon-

Davis, and Argos School Corporations as a follow-up to the gift bag given to them just before school started.

The message included well-wishes from Alpha Sigma, an offer of children's books from our B.o.B. collection, and an invitation to attend our November meeting as a guest. What follows is the text of the message:

*We hope your school year is going well and that you are enjoying your experience in your new school. We in the Alpha Sigma chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma are experienced teachers and know the joy and stress of practicing our profession in today's world. We want to encourage you to call on us if you need us in any way.*

*Our chapter has been collecting children's books to give to teachers, libraries, and groups that support children. If you have a need to start or enlarge your classroom collection, please let us know. We would be happy to send you a list of the available titles and should you request some of them, we will make arrangements to get them to you.*

*Our next Delta Kappa Gamma meeting is on Saturday, November 10, 2018, at 9:00 a.m. Central time at the Country Kettle Restaurant in Knox. Please accept our invitation to be our guest at the meeting. To learn more about us, please visit the Alpha Sigma website at <[alphasigmaindkg.org](http://alphasigmaindkg.org)>. We look forward to hearing from you.*

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