

# Presidents' Letters Share Information

Dear Alpha Omega Sisters,

It was great to see so many of you at our first meeting of the year. We were able to pack 11 new teacher bags with all sorts of goodies that we hope will help ease some of the stress this school year has inflicted upon teachers! Evelyn delivered them to School City of Hobart.



Amongst the goodies were: lots of snacks (including chocolate), packets of tissues, sanitation wipes, lotion, lip balm and much, much more.

I hope we will have an even better turnout for October 6th considering that it is one of our favorites of the year. We meet at the First United Methodist Church, 352 S. Main St., in Crown Point. Set-up begins at 5:30 p.m. in the large Fellowship Hall so we can be socially distant. Not only will we be enjoying a potluck meal but also we'll be holding the Pound Auction to raise funds for our Grant-in-Aid. For new members, the Grant-in-Aid is a \$500 stipend awarded to a high school senior girl who will be entering a program to

To participate in the Pound Auction, you bring something weighing a pound and valued at a minimum of \$10. Wrap it so that it cries out "Buy Me, Buy Me!!" Each item is then auctioned off with the proceeds being added to our Grant-in-Aid Fund. Be clever or practical with your surprise package. The more intriguing it is, the more money it is likely to raise! In the past we've had wine, chocolate, coffees and teas, pretty mugs or home accessories, holiday or themed items and so on.

Please, if you are unable to attend or chose not to attend because of COVID 19, send a donation to Barb Gillan, 513 E. 92nd Place, Merrillville, IN 46410 for the Grant-in-Aid Fund.

Regarding the potluck, each person brings a favorite dish to share. These can range from salads to soups, casseroles, meat, vegetables and desserts. We will provide coffee, paper ware, cups, and flatware.

We are pleased to have Becky Lee-Zolp as our new treasurer. Thanks to Laura Norman for serving for the past several years in this very important position. Laura is a really busy teacher who has recently rekindled her love for music and has become involved with some performing groups. This has required more of her time, so she is stepping down as treasurer. Since music is a great stress reliever, it's no surprise that Laura has returned to playing during this crazy time!

Now that all of our active teachers are back in the classroom, be sure to be on the lookout for prospective members you'd like to invite to membership in DKG. Traditionally November has been the time when we do this, but we are not bound to invite new members only in November. CON'T P 2



At the September meeting Barb presented co-editors of the newsletter, Carol Borowski and Carol Bangsberg, the 2019-2020 Five Star Newsletter Award from Indiana State Organization. "We depend on contributions from each member of our chapter to create a meaningful newsletter," the editors agreed. Each issue is given points with possible being 20 points. Some categories are: aesthetics, journalistic style, readability, reorientation which is education of DKG, announcements, chapter projects, highlights of previous meetings, news of members, and announcements covering local, state, and international .

### Con't from Page 1

Please share with your female colleagues the positive experiences and rewards you have had since becoming a member. You can bring your colleague to any of our meetings as a guest. My final comment for October is that I hope you are finally adjusting to the "new normal" for education during the pandemic.

## Don't Forget to Plan Ahead:

**Oct. 6** Pound Auction and Potluck meeting at First United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall (large one) with set up at 5:30.

**Oct. 24** Tentative Prospective New Member Tea at 11:30 a.m.

**Nov. 21** Meeting at First United Methodist Church; possible installation of new members.

**Feb. 20** Meeting at Phil's Friends, our Community Project this year.

**Mar. 6** Council One meeting at Innsbrook Country Club with Leslie Goddard on "Remembering Marshall Fields."

**April 23-25** Alpha Epsilon State Convention at The Resort at Swan Lake near Plymouth, IN.

**May 13** At 5 p.m. at Innsbrook Country Club. Carol Rivero's presentation on the St. James Pilgrimage in Spain.

**Any time** Read the Hoosier Newsletter for Sept. 2020 at [www.dkgindiana.org](http://www.dkgindiana.org). And, DKG News is now only online at [dkg.org](http://dkg.org). Sept.-Oct. issue now available.

Please, **update your profile** for international should you change name, address, or other. Check your profile at [dkg.org](http://dkg.org).

Delta Data is created to share information within the chapter.

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

Send information for the November issue by November 15 to Carol Borowski (co-editor with Carol Bangsberg) 201 Sherwood Drive, Crown Point, IN 46307 or [carolborowski@sbcglobal.net](mailto:carolborowski@sbcglobal.net), or phone 219-663-7414 Clipart from: [publicdomainvectors.org](http://publicdomainvectors.org) and [dreamstime.com](http://dreamstime.com)

## Grant-in-Aid Recipient Hayley Studying at Purdue

Hayley Morgan Matlon received our Grant-in-Aid last year. She is now doing both in-person and online classes down in Lafayette at Purdue University. “I really have a good mix, which I like a lot because I would much rather be in the classroom than staring at a computer screen.”

She is majoring in Elementary Education. “I decided to go into education because I love helping people learn. I went specifically into elementary education because I love working with kids.”

Although she will not be at our October meeting because of being in classes, we hope to meet her in person whenever possible.



## Coaching Cross Country During a Pandemic

by Jennifer Pugh

This is my third year as a cross country coach for Taft Middle School, but it has proved to be a season like no other. To be honest, I am just really happy that we have been able to have a season as I know there are some schools that are not playing sports. Running cross country in 2020 has been a good outlet for everyone on the team. Being outside and getting fresh air (also being away from electronics and actually interacting with people) has been so positive and so needed by everyone. The exercise part of our sport has been a huge plus as well. I know this coach gained some COVID weight . . . eek!

Our 6th grade runners don't realize how our cross country season is different this year, as this is their first experience with the sport. However, our 7th and 8th grade runners know that this season has been very different from their prior seasons and much has changed. Any invitationals that were held in the past have all been cancelled. (An invitational is an event where more than two teams compete.) Each year we take our runners to Culver Academy to compete with teams from all over the state of Indiana. Obviously, during a pandemic, it is not the best idea to be around tons of other people like we would experience at the Culver run.

At our upcoming conference meet, we will only be able to take our top runners - not everyone will be able to participate this year. Our 6th graders have no idea that we are NOT playing games such as “Sharks and Minnows” or dodgeball, or having friendly water balloon fights on really hot days. they don't realize that we are NOT high-fiving others for having an awesome race or doing a great job. Then there are the masks. We wear masks when we are gathering together on school grounds before and after practice and also during stretches. Thank goodness we can remove the masks during our actual runs — that would be pretty terrible! Masks must be worn if students are riding on the bus to or from a meet.

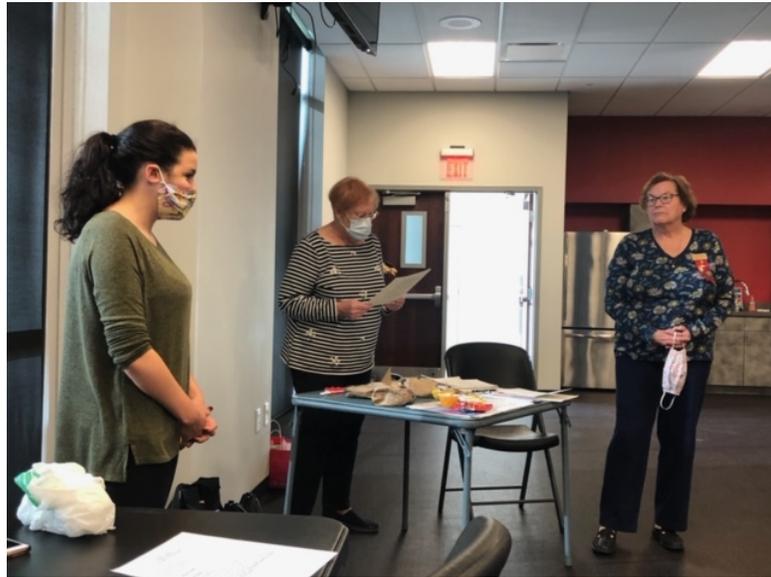
Overall, our cross country runners have done a great job with wearing their masks. They realize that we might not be able to have a season if we don't follow the rules or protocol set by the school. One of the protocol set by the school has been what we call the “COVOD talk.” At the beginning of each practice, we read through a list of symptoms to our runners and ask that they tell a coach if they are experiencing any of the symptoms. If that is the case, we call home and have parents pick them up from practice immediately. Surprisingly, this hasn't happened too frequently (not even by those kiddos who don't love running!).

It's certainly been an interesting season for our cross country team - but we are so happy to be running!!! I am hopeful that our track season will look and feel a lot different in the spring.

## September Meeting

Our September meeting was held at the Crown Point Bulldog Pavilion which enabled us to self distant whenever we wished. After the Opening Thought by Tiffany Hill Sabal, Evelyn Campbell conducted the installation of two presidents. This is a first for our chapter, but both presidents are working well together.

Laura reported we have \$432.58 balance in the treasury. We agreed that the grant-in-aid should go directly to the recipient.



Laura will contact Grant-in-Aid recipient Nicole Brown about this fact. She reminded us that in October we will be having the Pound Auction to raise funds for the Grant-in-Aid.

Barb then presented the 5 Star Newsletter Award from Epsilon State to Carol Bangsberg and Carol Borowski as co-editors. Also, she reminded everyone to update their personal information on the International DKG website, [www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org).

A new Finance Committee was created and the community project is an ongoing discussion to be decided at the October meeting.

The Indiana State DKG Convention will be at Swan Lake Convention Center in Plymouth, IN on April 23 to 25. Since they wish to have a tri-fold poster of our chapter, Melissa agreed she would do that for us.

Council One 2021 Brunch will be March 6 at Innsbrook Country Club again. "Remembering Marshall Fields" is the program topic.

Because State DKG has new rules, we need to be sure our chapter rules work with those. Carol Borowski moved we put our Alpha Omega Chapter Standing Rules in the yearbook so all members have copies. Motion passed. Barb reminded us that we need to check to be sure our Rules agree with the State Rules.

Carol Bangsberg went over the book titles to read on women's struggle to gain voting rights. These were in the September newsletter.

Toni Sulewski said the Grant-in-Aid application needs revising. Evelyn Campbell agreed to work with Carol Bangsberg and Toni Sulewski on that. Then, Carol Borowski requested that applicants give their email addresses so she can send newsletters, and the treasurer has an additional way to contact the one awarded the Grant-in-Aid. We then moved to close the meeting and assemble the gift bags for the 11 new teachers at School City of Hobart.



In our last newsletter we had lots of information about where to get information about voting. Please check that article again. Also, other sites of information: [www.vote.org](http://www.vote.org) has 8 categories of help including check your registration, register, vote by mail information, get election reminders, pledge to register (those not of age yet), polling place locator, become a poll worker, the 2020 census. AND [www.ballotready.org](http://www.ballotready.org) includes request ballot, research candidates on ballot, st time, date, go to address. Each of these is by your address.