



Indiana State Organization



Alpha Sigma News

December 2019

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, SHARON RICHIE

Greetings!

Alpha Sigma sisters, we have journeyed together for another year! We have celebrated through meetings, programs, donations (Support for Early Career Educators, Schools for Africa, BoB) our newsletter gaining 5 Star status and becoming a Golden Key chapter! Yes, a year of celebration!

BoB, our chapter's project, will donate books to Kids' Closet. Please, give books to Sheila so DKG stickers can be added to each book's cover. When presenting books, as a group or singularly, be sure to take a picture to place in our newsletter.

Jo Jones, Indiana DKG state

president, and I met November 8. We now have Indiana Conference/Convention Planning Guidelines and the black book containing DKG Indiana conventions material. All I can say is it will take all our membership to have a successful 2021 state convention.

Nominating and Scholarship committees should be meeting. Please fill out prospective member cards and give them to the membership committee. Our goal is to present in February, vote in April, have orientation in the summer, and induct in September.

Continued on page 4.

IN THIS ISSUE

A Note from Our President

Charlie Adams: His Career in Broadcasting

Women of Distinction

Committee Reports

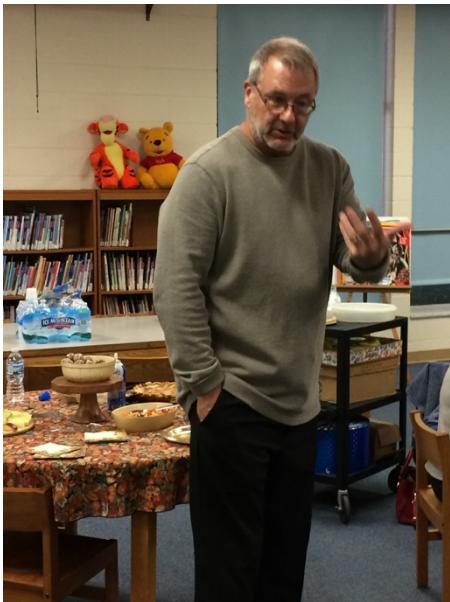
B.o.B. Status

**Alpha Sigma Member Profile:
Jody Arndt**

Committee Obsolescence?

Bake Sale on December 14

Charlie Adams: His Career in Broadcasting



WKVI radio personality Charlie Adams now lives in North Judson, but his career has taken him from Oxford, Mississippi, where he was born in 1962, to Bakersfield, California, and South Bend, Indiana.

Charlie is proud of his background and roots in education. His mother taught at the University of Texas and Duke. She also taught reading in Washington, D.C., and Hawaii. He feels that his drive comes from his mom while his interest in sports and the outdoors comes from his dad.

Charlie graduated with a degree in elementary education and spent much of his student teaching in gym classes. He had 150 children in his PE class and he thinks that since he had all the students enrolled in the school, the other teachers went into town for coffee while he minded their children.

He entered broadcasting when he walked by a sign that asked for broadcasters in news and sports.

He didn't have a background in broadcasting, but he had played sports, so he gave it a try. From this experience, he got a job in Bakersfield, California, as a sports announcer. In 1988, he pursued a job in South Bend, Indiana, with WSBT television and was hired. At the time, there was no class basketball in Indiana and Charlie thought that all people did in the Hoosier state was play basketball.

He created a segment featuring people who overcame problems or positive news. He later became the anchor of the Saturday morning news.

In 2005 he started his public speaking career. He learned from Craig Tornquist the ins and outs of speaking in schools and that one could make a good living if one became a powerful speaker.

With WSBT and through his speaking career, he connected with the people of Michiana. Eventually he left WSBT to focus on his speaking career. He married and moved to North Judson.

When WKVI radio learned that he lived in the area, they contacted him and asked if he would like to host the morning show. He accepted and now has four hours to fill with any stories he wants to tell. He feels that God gives us a purpose and working at WKVI allows him to give inspirational snippets during his show.

Charlie noted that WKVI is celebrating its fiftieth year in radio broadcasting which reminds him of WSBT which is the oldest television broadcasting station in South Bend.

Charlie has a great affection for and affinity with teachers. He was

influenced not only by his mother, but also by a high school basketball coach who encouraged him to play when he was in the 11th grade and a high school English teacher who had him make announcements.

Women of Distinction

Women of Distinction Awards are moving from a two-year cycle to an annual schedule. Anyone in our chapter can nominate a fellow member for this award. This would be a good time for you to nominate an Alpha Sigma member you admire for the Women of Distinction Award.

5- Star Award



The *Alpha Sigma News* was named a 5-Star newsletter at the September Executive Officers meeting in Indianapolis. To earn this award, newsletters are judged on aesthetic, journalist style, masthead, mission statement, reorientation, announcement of meetings, dates and deadlines, chapter projects, highlights of previous meetings, news of members, and editor's name, address, phone number and email. The newsletter must be published at least five times per year.

Committee Reports

Jody Arndt – Membership

The Nominating Committee will present a slate of officers in February. Sharon Richie offered to be a co-president and to attend all Council and State meetings if someone else would develop agendas, conduct meetings, and write the President's Note for the *Alpha Sigma News*. Sheila Akers agreed to continue as Corresponding Secretary.

Next Meeting

February 15, 2020

9:00 A.M.

at Lauren Akers's Home

Program: English Language Learners (ELL)

Sylvia Dumas – Educational Excellence

Sylvia reminded members of the February meeting at Lauren Akers's home. This is a carry-in and members should bring dishes appropriate for brunch.

Sheila Akers – Communication Committee

Sharon Richie presented Sheila Akers with the 5 Star Award certificate which the *Alpha Sigma News* earned this past year.

B.o.B. Status

Bunches of Books, a current Alpha Sigma project, will continue through the present biennium. The books will be donated to Kids' Closet, a philanthropic organization that gives clothing, school supplies, hygiene products, and other items to low-income children up to the age of eighteen. The books will be included in the

Kids' Closet backpacks. Each of the books carries a sticker identifying Alpha Sigma chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma as the donor.

Alpha Sigma Member Profile: Jo Ellen (Jody) Arndt, a key woman educator who exemplifies "motivated to make a difference."

Jody Arndt has been a Delta Kappa Gamma member since 1999 and has served our chapter in many capacities. Jody retired in May of 2019 after 39 years of teaching. She taught nine years at Knox Community Schools and thirty years at North Judson-San Pierre. I truly got to know Jody when we worked together at San Pierre Elementary. She taught second grade at the time. Besides second grade, she has taught third grade and in the K-5 library at North Judson-San Pierre Elementary. To me, Jody was an exceptionally gifted teacher. Any accolades our newsletter garners must be directed, at least in part, to Jody since she serves as my proofreader and editor. I asked Jody to answer some questions for me via email to find out more about her and how she is motivated to make a difference.



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

Jody: Family, colleagues, and friends have all contributed to my drive to make a difference. My mother was a very creative teacher who shared her passion of learning and teaching with me. At an early age, I knew I wanted to become an elementary school teacher.

I spent the first 13 years of my teaching career working in small rural schools where all faculty members were needed to serve on committees. Some of the in-house committees led to my attendance at meetings held in Indianapolis and other schools around the state. I loved networking with others who were also striving to make a difference in rural Indiana schools.

Colleagues from Knox Schools and North Judson-San Pierre Schools led me to membership in Tri Kappa and later Delta Kappa Gamma. It was a family friend who recommended that I serve on the Wayne Township Library Board years ago. He also introduced me to Kiwanis International. Fellow members of our congregation keep me active on the governing board and in various groups at St. Peter Lutheran Church.

I am thankful for the many individuals who have encouraged me to help make a difference in our schools and community.

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

Jody: Every member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG) is considered a key woman educator, a leader, who wants to make a difference. How each member chooses to lead is up to her.

Save the Date!

April 2020

State Conference at Ball State University

I was invited into membership in 1999. Being a member has helped me develop skills that make me a more effective leader. In the past twenty years, I served on numerous committees and accepted the nomination for presidency in 2008. I am currently the recording secretary for our chapter.

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>

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

Jody: Coordinating Council II organized the state convention held in South Bend during my presidency in 2008-2010. I remember that Cheryl Orkis and I made many trips north to discuss plans for the big event. Alpha Sigma members were responsible for signage and the silent auction. Cheryl and I were extremely proud of our chapter's accomplishments

and attendance at the convention. Most of our members were able to volunteer their time working the auction. It was a mighty fine auction indeed!

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

Jody: Education is my passion. I am retired, but I still support children and teachers through membership in DKG, Kiwanis, and St. Peter Lutheran Church.

I believe holding executive offices and recommending respected professionals in the educational community for induction are important contributions to our Society. I have done both.

The mission of Kiwanis is to improve the world by making lasting differences in the lives of children. I am treasurer of this local service organization that meets twice a month. We work to raise money to support local groups such as Kids' Closet and The Starke County Youth Club. Our organization also awards annual scholarships to high school seniors.

I support the preschool through eighth-grade students and teachers of St. Peter Lutheran Church and School. My contributions include teaching Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, serving on committees during the accreditation process, and accepting the secretary position of the Church and School Governing Board.

Sheila: Anything else you'd like to add?

Jody: My grandmother, mother, aunts, uncles, and I are not the only ones in the family to be

passionate about teaching. Our son Jonathan is a fourth-generation educator. He teaches math at Argos High School. I am proud to be associated with groups and organizations that strive to make a difference in our schools and community.

A Note from Our President (continued from p. 1)

Our chapter is only as strong as its members' participation.

May the light and love of Jesus Christ be with you this holy season.

Sharon

Committee Obsolescence?

Is the Remembrance Committee unnecessary in the age of electronic media? Cheryl Orkis posed this question and asked members to consider eliminating this committee. She feels that email from the Corresponding Secretary is taking the place of snail-mail cards. Think about this for the February meeting.

Bake Sale on December 14

Our chapter is holding its annual bake sale at Mark Bailey's Discount Center on Saturday, December 14, from 8:00 – 3:00. Bakers and workers are needed. Bake Sale proceeds support our grant-in-aid recipient. Watch your email for information and worker sign-up.

Alpha Sigma News

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