

THE
Delta Kappa Gamma
SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL
Indiana Epsilon Chapter Newsletter



ISSUE #1 September 15, 2022

Important Dates

Fall Executive Board Meeting
Saturday, September 24

Embassy Suites Hotel
3912 Vincennes Road
Indianapolis, IN
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Next Meeting

The next meeting of our DKG Chapter will take place on November 3, 2023 at 4:30 PM at the Putnam County Museum. The hostesses will be Betty McGill and Sandy Rissler.

President's Letter

Dear DKG Sisters,

“Autumn is the season that teaches us that change can be beautiful” For our classroom teachers I wish you a year of joy and happiness. Remember you are the inspiring individual who teaches so much more than curriculum. You are the Autumn that brings about a beautiful change in your student's life. Your hard work, efforts and care are much appreciated. Have a great year!! We met on September 1, 2022 at the Putnam County Museum. As most of you know, our Epsilon Chapter lost a wonderful friend and teacher. We had a lovely, memorial service for Susan Stewart. Thank you to the members who shared

their many special memories and her impact on so many lives. Lee, Susan's husband, came to our ceremony and was very humbled by those special memories of Susan. A big thank you to Rita Fish who organized our program books and emailed them to the state representatives. They were distributed at the meeting. Thanks to Rita and the officers who helped to plan our year of events. Our program was given by Jo Jones. She was our state president for 4 years, including the time during the pandemic. She told of her experiences and the impact of being a DKG member. She encouraged all of us to reach out and ask educators to consider belonging to our organization. One point she made, DKG is not a sorority but a society of educators

President's Letter

trying to make a difference in helping each other. In the September Hoosier Newsette there is an article about an upcoming International opportunity. Indiana is taking part in the International Revitalization Process. There is a meeting scheduled for Saturday, October 29th from 9 AM - 4PM in Indianapolis. There is no cost to attend and lunch will be provided. Dr. Lyn Schmid, from International, will be facilitating the day. RSVPs are due October 8th. The meeting will take place at the Evergreen-Oriental Masonic Lodge located at 5370 W. 46th St, Indianapolis, IN 46254.

Chelsey Meluch graciously established two communication methods for our chapter. One method is for our chapter community items, ex. scholarships. That site is <https://sites-google.com/cloverdale.k12.in.us/dkgindianaepsilon>.

Secondly, she has created a DKG specific email address to use for any DKG business in place of using your personal e-mail, That address is dkgindianaepsilon@gmail.com. We have been encouraged by our state officers to implement more technology so we can be more "technology friendly" sharing information. Chelsey will be happy to answer questions or concerns.

Stephanie Walsh is concluding her biennium as state president of DKG this year. As you know her theme has been "Don't Give Up the Ship." So as FDR stated:

"To reach a port we must sail-
Sail, not tie an anchor-
Sail, not drift

Everyone have a wonderful September and October. I hope everyone has a great Fall Break and a Happy Halloween. I am looking forward to seeing everyone in November.

Stay safe and healthy.
Marcia Murtagh
DKG Epsilon President

Other Dates

November 5th
Janet O'Neal Seminar (Columbia City)

April 28-30
State Convention at the Bally's Hotel in
Evansville

July 11-16
International Conference (Detroit,
Michigan)

Member Updates

A quick website for member references can be found at:

<https://sites.google.com/cloverdale.k12.in.us/dkgindianaepsilon>

Lucy Wieland and her husband took a **took a long-postponed and dreamed of land, sea, and air tour of Alaska to celebrate our summer milestone birthdays and wedding anniversary.**

Jo Jones, Mu chapter and Past Indiana State Organization President, and Chairman of the State Leadership Development Committee visited Epsilon Chapter for our September 1st meeting. Jo's visit inspired Epsilon members to build membership by creating meaningful projects.



Last Meeting

The last meeting of our chapter was on September 1, 2022 at 4 pm at the Putnam County Museum. The minutes of this meeting are attached at the end of this newsletter for your reference.

About DKG

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

DKG meets to encourage and support our local women educators and to learn about and work towards educational advancements.

Our ongoing chapter project is to increase membership by spreading the word of DKG among our fellow outstanding women educators.

This newsletter was edited by Chelsey Meluch. She can be reached at dkgindianaepsilon@gmail.com

Legislative Update

The 2022 legislative session seems to never end. During the regular session, teachers and their supporters were able to prevent the passage of HB 1134, which would have severely impacted the public school curriculum by allowing some parents to decide to “opt-out” their students for certain lessons. Teachers would have had to post lesson plans for the entire year, then face scrutiny from a committee made up of 60% community members and 40% educators. I fear that this bill will resurface in pieces or in its entirety during the 2023 legislative session.

The Indiana General Assembly has reconvened this summer to pass bills about abortion and possible “recession relief”. The Indiana House voted 93-2 to use the state’s unexpected surplus to send \$1 billion in taxpayer rebates to Hoosiers. With \$6.1 billion in combined reserve accounts, the General Assembly may pass a bill to redistribute the funds back to Hoosiers in the form of \$225 checks. Lawmakers advanced different proposals for using the surplus in each chamber. House Bill 1001 also expands the eligibility of Hoosiers for the checks to include those using Social Security and disability benefits. This bill also repeals the state’s diaper tax.

The Senate approved \$45 million in financial support for mothers and children. The vote was 46-1. The bill now moves to the House where they passed a nearly \$60 million in proposed aid that will include tax credits, remove the sales tax on diapers, and more. Nearly half of Indiana’s taxpayers still have not received their \$125 from the automatic taxpayer refund earlier this year. Senators voted to divert most of the \$1 billion to the capital construction fund and pension liability in Senate Bill 3. There is an estimated cost of \$400,000 to send checks out to taxpayers. For this reason, many legislators favor paying pension obligations with the surplus. Senate Bill 3 also would stop the collection of utility sales taxes for six months and repeal a one-cent gas tax increase from July while capping gas use tax collections for the next year. This does not erase the prior one-cent per-year increases on the gas tax since the bill passed to charge a gas tax.

Please stay tuned for further updates.

Education Update

Hindman Settlement School Is Recovering from the Flood

Five weeks after the terrible flooding in Kentucky, the Hindman Settlement School is reaching out for donations via Amazon or any other method. The flood destroyed much of the school's furnishings and learning materials. They have salvaged what they can.

The school specializes in tutoring children K-12 who have been diagnosed with dyslexia and assisting their parents. Hindman Settlement School provides tutoring after school in Knott, Leslie and Perry Counties in southeastern Kentucky.

In addition they sponsor Grow Appalachia to help provide food to the area communities, Imagination Library, Writers Workshops, and Traditional Arts that include music, arts and crafts.

If you would want to donate, you may visit their web sight (hindman.org) which includes a link to their wish list. I ordered on Smile Amazon and received free shipping to the school! (Plus Smile Amazon made a donation to the National Women's History Museum to be located in Washington, D.C. which is my selected charity.)

Hindman Settlement School, 51 Center Street, P.O. Box 844, Hindman, KY 41822
Phone: 606-785-5475

Please see the attached documents at the end of the newsletter that describe our scholarships and grants available through Delta Kappa Gamma.

Minutes of the Delta Kappa Gamma Epsilon Chapter Meeting

September 1, 2022

President Marcia Murtaugh, held at the Putnam County Museum, 4:30. She introduced Lee Stewart, husband of Susan Stewart and Jo Jones, Past President of DKG Indiana. We then held a memorial service for Susan. Lee presented the chapter with Susan's pins. He also invited us to participate in the ice cream social next summer as actors portraying illustrious members of Putnam County history. Roll Call was taken with eleven members present. The minutes were read and approved. The treasurer's report was read and approved subject to review. We have \$5,654.15 in our General Fund.

Corresponding Secretary, Betty McGill read three notes from members who needed to resign: Janis Price, Harriett Dobson, and Leah Henry; and a note from Janet Peck. Mariette Barga moved with regret to accept the resignations, Lucy Wieland seconded, and the motion carried. Jo Jones was then invited to speak on her observations of DKG. She encouraged us to get our name out in the public and to take on a project. Perhaps invite DPU professors into our chapter. Make DKG what we want it to be! There will be a State meeting on October 29 th . The meeting will feature Lynn Schmid speaking on how to rejuvenate chapters. There will be a free meal served. She also explained that we are in the Central Council, and we will be included in the Council program book. If we as chapter members wish to have a hard copy, the cost will be \$3.00/\$4.00 per book. Otherwise, a downloadable PDF copy will be available.

Communications:

The newsletter will be published quarterly with the first one on September 15 th . A DKG email address has been set up.

Finance:

International Projects/World Fellowship:

Legislative:

Hopefully the legislature will leave education alone and there will not be any sessions until January.

Membership:

A potential member was identified. Annette will need to contact her and have an orientation meeting. Ellen moved to invite the member, Lucy seconded, and the motion carried. The Initiation service will take place at the December meeting.

Music:

Scholarship/Professional Affairs:

Old Business:

The Janet O'Neal leadership Seminar is November 5, 2022 in Columbia City. Dr. Lori DeSauters will be the guest speaker with breakout sessions and lunch for a fee of \$25.00. RSVP by October 1, 2022. Professional Growth Points are available.

New Business:

The program books are available. A huge thank you to Rita Fish for this!

Our next meeting will take place on Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 4:30 pm at the Putnam County Museum. Kathryn Dory will present the program, and Betty McGill and Sandy Rissler are the hostesses.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm.

Scholarships and Grants

The Scholarship/Professional Affairs Committee includes Sandy Rissler and Cheryl Steuerwald. We hope to inform members of opportunities to gain funding for their personal educations and classroom projects. Delta Kappa Gamma offers 3 levels of scholarships and grants to members.

At International level up to 30 \$6,000 scholarships for study at the master's degree level and \$10,000 for work at the doctorate level are available. Applications are due Feb. 1, 2023. You must be an active member for 3 years with a bachelor's degree. The application must be completed online at www.dkg.org.

Also at International level the Education Foundation offers the Lucile Cornetet Professional Development Individual Awards. These awards can be applied to conferences, seminars, lectures, online courses, workshops and other non-degree programs. There are 2 application deadlines: February 1 and May 1. The awards are available to members and non-members. In addition the Education Foundation offers project grants that are available to all educators. Applications are available at www.dkgef.org.

Alpha Epsilon State offers both scholarships and grants. Eight named scholarships for advanced study are available for \$1,000 each, 1 guidance/counseling degree scholarship for \$1,500, 1 doctoral degree scholarship for \$2,500 and 1 rotating scholarship for educational assistance for \$1,000. Applications may be made throughout the year prior to the studies for which the member wishes to use the monies. Applicants must have been active members for 2 years. Mini-Grants of up to \$500 may be awarded to members for educational projects. Applications may be made year round. Four Travel Study Grants for \$350 are available to members over age 55 each biennium. Visit www.dkg.org

Epsilon Chapter Grants are available to members. This money may help by paying \$50 for workshop registration, \$75 for a classroom project and \$200 for members pursuing a doctorate. Applicants must have been members for 2 years and share information about project or workshop. Annual distribution from the Epsilon Scholarship Fund shall not exceed \$325.

Recruitment Grant-in-Aid

Epsilon Chapter funds the Recruitment Grant-in-Aid through a \$5.00 assessments per member, proceeds from the Silent Auction held at our Christmas meeting and donations. Applicants must be female graduates of a Putnam County high school who are currently sophomores or juniors who are enrolled in an accredited teacher education program at a university. A high GPA, outstanding character, and an aptitude to become an excellent teacher are qualities we are looking for. The financial need of the applicant should be included. Applications are due to Sandy by February 28, 2023. Members will vote on candidates at the March meeting. The grant will be presented at the Founder's Day Brunch. Contact Sandy Rissler for an application.

(The Grant-in Aid Application is attached to the email for this newsletter)

Submitted by Cheryl Steuerwald