



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Indiana State Organization

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



Collaborative Comments - Co-Presidents News

The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.

William Arthur Ward

In trying to come up with a theme for this President's Letter that would be worthy of following those of our fearless leader, Pat Dains, and former leader, Saundra Brown, the word "change" is the one that most frequently comes to mind. So... I googled "change" and "quotations"... and voila! The quote above, by William Arthur Ward, hit me hard.

Have you never heard of Mr. Ward? No, I hadn't either - but chances are good you've run across him before, whether you know it or not. During his lifetime (1921-1994) he is credited with more than 100 articles, poems and meditations that were published in such magazines as Reader's Digest; The Phi Delta Kappan, and others. Of course, this info comes from Wikipedia, so I can make no guarantees personally about the authenticity of this claim.

The fact that I can sit at my keyboard and find everything above in mere minutes, with the help of my best friend, Google, drives home how much change is a factor of life these days. And that's not likely to "change" anytime soon! I can vividly remember our last in-person Omega meeting, March 12, at the MCL on west 86th Street. Our presenters were so very passionate about their work! Somehow, a bit of a buzz picked up during the conversation afterward, that all schools were to be closed the next day. I hadn't been very conscientious about keeping up with my email or texts by phone - another "change" - and figured I'd check it out when I got home. Since I retired from classroom teaching several years ago, I started working part time at the high school that services "my" elementary students, so a change in the calendar would impact me, too. First I found an email from the district stating that not only would schools be closed the following day, but for another two weeks beyond, until spring break. Of course, you all know the rest; before those weeks were over, all schools in Indiana were told to switch to virtual learning for the rest of the year. Ever since then it seems that circumstances "change" from day to day. Suddenly the Coronavirus, which had seemed like something "others" had to deal with, became real.

The wind is now changing - again! When we "met" to plan our calendar for this new DKG year, we tried not to be overly pessimistic; but were certainly not "optimistic" about the chances of having a "normal" year. The "realistic" way to plan seemed to be adopting Zoom as our meeting location of choice, while reserving the clubhouse at the Overlook for some "just in case" meetings later in the year. How fortunate we are to have so many residents of The Overlook amongst our membership!

We will most likely need to 'adjust our sails' frequently over the months ahead. Many of us are at an age (ahem) that causes us to think twice about venturing out in public, or even among friends unless it's absolutely necessary. We realize that our membership is not 100% computer/internet/Zoom savvy, and would like to do whatever we can to stay in touch regardless. If you are able to access our meetings via Zoom, please try to do so!

We can do short 'practice' sessions just about any time if you're uncertain of the process. While the ideal (is there such a thing now?!) platform, in my opinion, is working with an actual desktop computer, it's quite possible to use a laptop, a tablet, or even a telephone. Please let me know if you'd like help to navigate these strange waters - we definitely need to hear from everyone!

We had the opportunity to snag a Zoom session with Barbara Tully, president of a new non-profit organization named "Indiana Vote By Mail" in August, and jumped at the chance to hear how this effort might "change" how we in Indiana think about elections. Those of you who were able to attend can vouch that it was such an informative session! If you missed it, feel free to contact Carol Killen, Program Chair, for the upcoming year, for a chance to look through the slides. Yes, it was a "change" for our program year to start in August; be thinking as this year progresses as to whether you'd like that to become part of our 'normal' rather than an anomaly for just this year. After all, my school was supposed to start on July 28 - so much for waiting until after Labor Day anymore!

Hopefully you've all received your yearbook by now. THANK YOU to all of our helpers who were able to safely deliver them directly to your door! (including the US Postal service, on whom we relied for a few members living a bit farther away from clusters of others). Of course, there are already some "changes" that should be noted: Congratulations to Nan Wolfe, who opted to retire this year from her post at Hamilton Southeastern, and has a new email: nanner@att.net. Annie Cole is taking advantage of an opportunity to revisit the "one room schoolhouse" idea of long ago to work with a family of students in Fishers rather than return to IPS this fall. (Her email remains the same.) Please let us know if you have "changes" in your life. We don't want to lose touch!

DKG chapter presidents are scheduled to meet September 12 (virtually, of course) so Pat and Marti will no doubt have more news for you at that time. In the meantime - PLEASE stay safe - healthy - and SANE!

PS: Did you know that almost anyone can qualify for an absentee ballot in Indiana? The one that makes the most sense to me is that you "will be confined to (your) residence, a health care facility, or a hospital due to illness or injury during the entire twelve(12) hours that the polls are open". Of course, if you are at least 65 you qualify, or if you have a disability and apparently there's no follow-up on that condition to determine exactly what KIND of disability you may have. While there's quite a bit of controversy surrounding how reliable the US Postal Service will be by the time of the election, most experts agree that by requesting an absentee ballot SOON - as in RIGHT NOW - you'll be among the first to have one mailed to you as soon as they are available. You can then determine whether you want to trust USPS to return your sealed ballot or simply opt to drop it by your usual polling location. It must be received by noon on election day to be counted - so keep that in mind, too.

PPS - Have you completed a census survey yet? The window is rapidly closing, but it's very easy to do. You can respond online (2020census.gov), by phone (844-330-2020), or mail back the paper questionnaire sent to your home. The census is the basis for so many decisions that affect your daily life - your answers count!

Hope to see you (literally, by Zoom) in September!

Marti Daily - 317-8728257 - m-daily@comcast.net
Pat Dains - 317-409-7323 - patdains@comcast.net



PURPOSES

1. To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship.
2. To honor women who have given or who evidence a potential for distinctive service in any field of education.
3. To advance the professional interest and position of women in education.
4. To initiate, endorse, and support desirable legislation or other suitable endeavors in the interests of education and of women educators.
5. To endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators in pursuing graduate study and to grant fellowships to non-member women educators.
6. To stimulate the personal and professional growth of members and to encourage their participation in appropriate programs of action.
7. To inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in a world society.

Chapter Meeting Information



FIRST MEETING OF 2020-2021 – JOIN US VIA ZOOM

At our first meeting, scheduled for Thursday, September 10, we will “Celebrate Educators”. Robin LeClaire, the Chief Academic Officer with Indiana DOE will fill us in on “The Current State of Indiana Schools”. Now that’s one topic that will definitely change quite a

bit over the course of the year! Feel free to log in as early as 5:30pm so we can do some good old fashioned ‘chatting’, but the program itself is scheduled to start at 6:00pm. A regular business meeting will follow the program. The agenda is below.

As previously, when using ZOOM, we will always use every possible security measure in order to make the meeting as online secure as possible. Those measures are that the meeting is set up with a uniquely generated meeting ID and requires a password. Please do not forward any meeting information to ensure this security. In addition, once you have been connected to the meeting via computer, you must wait to be admitted by the host. Only one person can be admitted at a time, so be patient if you have to wait a second or two for admittance. See you on ZOOM in September!

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Introduction of each of our Zoom attendees
2. Introduction of Presenter by Carol Killen - Robin LeClaire, Chief Academic Officer, Indiana Department of Education – Topic: "The Current State of Indiana Schools"
3. Question and Answer Period
4. Reports from: Secretary – Dr. June Fishback
 - A. Treasurer – Marti Daily
 - B. Membership – Heidi Stone
 - C. Ceremonies – Betsy Clark

Committee Reports



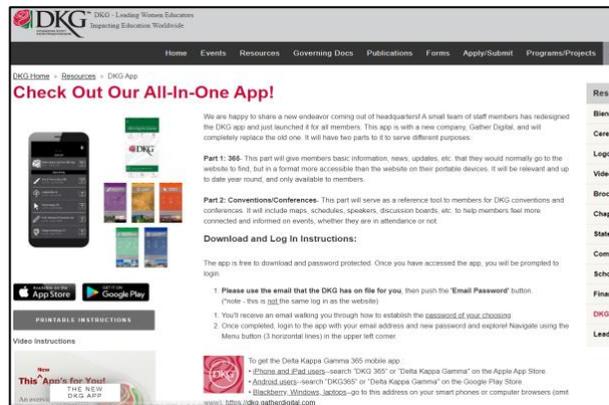
Membership

Welcome to a new month! September is here and our first virtual DKG meeting is just around the corner! As we look to a new way of coming together, please do not forget that we can still invite a guest to our meeting(s). If you have someone of interest, please send me their name, email & phone number and we will get them added to our ZOOM in September. From there, I can send a digital DKG brochure, calendar, and any information for new potential members. Please encourage new candidates to come to our meetings (virtual for now) to see who we are and what we do!

Back in March, I mentioned there is a DKG app for smartphones. You can go to the DKG website at dkg.org to find the steps to downloading the app.

Sending virtual hugs,

Heidi Stone
Membership Chairman



Program

Hooray!! The time for our first meeting has finally arrived! A time to get together, celebrate old and new friends, and kick off an exciting new year for Omega.



Crank up your Zoom (we will be sending the link closer to the meeting) and join the group. Our topic will be, "The Current State of Indiana Schools", with Robin LeClaire, Chief Academic Officer, IDOE along with reports from our own Omega Chapter active teachers. Our donation continues to be PPE contributions - masks, disinfectants, etc. If you have not contributed and would like to, please bring your donation to (new location):

Carol Killen
6925 Central Ave.

I can't wait to see you all on the 10th. Enjoy these beautiful summer days!

Get out the Vote, Omega!

On August 12th, Omega was fortunate to sponsor a zoom meeting with Barb Tully, President of Indiana Vote by Mail. It was an excellent and informative presentation. If you would like to view Barb's slides, they were included with the newsletter as an attachment.

Barb also has suggested some helpful tips if you are considering applying for an absentee ballot.

- * **Check** that your voter registration is current with correct address. **Deadline - October 5, 2020**
www.indianavoters.in.gov - (317) 327-2051
- * **Request** your absentee ballot application as soon as possible. This may be done online or by phone. You may also copy the application from the website. Be sure to also copy the list of county election office addresses. If you are in Marion County, you will send your application to the following:
Election Service Center
3737 E. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46201
Deadline - October 22, 2020 (This might be too late due to mail delays)
- * As soon as your ballot arrives, **read it carefully, complete, and return**
 - 1) by mail (ASAP)
 - 2) hand deliver to county clerk's office
 - 3) hand deliver to the polls**Deadline - by noon on Election Day, November 3, 2020**

Please share this information with your friends and family

Barbara Fearnow and Carol Killen
Co-1st Vice Presidents & Program Chairs

Floro Torrence School #83 Update

The "Welcome Back" planned for teachers at Floro Torrence was put on hold, so I (Kaaren) was invited to bring the masks to the school on the day that families were picking up their computers and other materials for the start of online learning. You might remember, the masks for the teachers were provided in partnership with Suzanne Clifford whose program is at two IPS schools. I agreed to provide the masks for Floro Torrence. Below is a picture of me giving the masks to two teachers. The other photos are ones of "Thank You" from Suzanne's empowerment program for the 5th and 6th grade girls.



Committee members: Betsy, Jane Ellen, Tina, Barb and Kaaren



OCTOBER IS BOOK STUDY SHARING TIME – At our October 10 meeting we will have a book/media study as we “Celebrate Culture”. Last month a list of suggestions was provided that included books, films/videos and experiences. That list is provided once again this month. Please add to the list, “Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor” by Layla F. Saad. Remember, it is

necessary for you to select something from the list. Pick something you want to share. Jamyce will be our facilitator for sharing. So that she can be prepared, please send your choice to her at wit@witconsultinginc.com by **September 30**. Looking forward to sharing and learning in October!

Options to Consider for October Sharing

LEARNING JOURNEYS

- Crispus Attucks Museum – (Indianapolis Public Schools) Indianapolis, IN
- **Equal Justice Initiative, Legacy Museum and National Memorial for Peace and Justice** – Montgomery, AL
- **National Museum of African American History and Culture** – Washington D.C.
- **National Underground Railroad Freedom Center** – Cincinnati, OH
- **Civil Rights Trail** – 100 locations across 15 states

NOTE: Boldface indicates you can click on it to access the content

BOOKS

- *The Alternative: Most of What You Believe About Poverty is Wrong* – Mauricio Miller
- *Between the World and Me* – Ta-Nehisi Coates
- *Chokehold: Policing Black Men* – Paul Butler
- *Citizen: An American Lyric* – Claudia Rankine
- *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* – Richard Rothstein
- *Decolonizing Wealth: Indigenous Wisdom to Heal Divides and Restore Balance* – Edgar Villanueva
- *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* – Matthew Desmond
- *The Family* – John Sharlet
- *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption* – Bryan Stevenson
- *Lies My Teacher Told Me: Everything Your American History Textbook Got Wrong* – James Loewen
- *The New Confessions of an Economic Hit Man* – John Perkins
- *The New Jim Crow* – Michelle Alexander
- *Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools* – Monique Morris
- *The Religious Instruction of the Negroes in the United States* – Charles Colcock Jones
- *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America* – Ibram Kendi
- *How to be an Antiracist* – Ibram Kendi
- *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism* – Robin DiAngelo
- *White Trash: The 400-Year Untold History of Class in America* – Nancy Isenberg
- *Black Like Me* – John Howard Griffin
- *Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?: And Other Conversations About Race* – Beverly Daniel Tatum

DOCUMENTARIES AND FILMS

- *White Like Me* – Tim Wise (**available on YouTube**)
- *13th* – documentary directed by Ava DuVernay (**available on Netflix**)
- *When They See Us* – limited series created by Ava DuVernay (**available on Netflix**)
- *Oprah Winfrey Presents: When They See Us Now* – discussion series (**available on Netflix**)
- *American Son* – movie directed by Kenny Leon (**available on Netflix**)
- *True Justice: Bryan Stevenson's Fight for Equality* (**available on HBO and online at The Equal Justice Initiative**)
- *Night School* – Indianapolis documentary directed by Andrew Cohn (**available on Amazon Prime**)
- *I Am Not Your Negro* – documentary based on James Baldwin's unfinished manuscript
- *Attucks: The School that Opened a City* – documentary (**available through WFYY**)

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- On June 29, DKG state leadership met and Omega was well represented by Marti Daily (Co-President) and Mary Ann Schager.



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- Δ DKG is looking to the future with plans for the 2021 International Conferences. [Click here](#) or visit the DKG website (<https://www.dkg.org>) to view information on the International Conferences to be held in Portland, Oregon (July 7-10, 2021), San Antonio, Texas (July 21-24) and Tampere, Finland (July 28-31). You can also mark your calendar to attend the 2022 Convention (July 12-16, 2022) in New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Δ Public education continues to face challenges in the time of COVID-19. The recent DKG Journal provides interesting articles with topics that address these challenges including, changes in the education system, preparing future educators for virtual teaching, programs for gifted learners, and support for social and emotional learning. [Click here](#) or visit the DKG website (<https://www.dkg.org>) to view DKG publications.



SEPTEMBER

5 – Kaaren Rodman, 7 – Barbara Fearnow, 28 – Cappy Muehling, 10 – Marilyn Woods, 22 – Betsy Clark

KUDOS



This section is designed to recognize the personal and professional accomplishments and activities of Omega chapter members. Please submit your accomplishments to Jamyce Banks at wit@witconsultinginc.com by the 25th of the month for inclusion in the newsletter.

- ❖ Kudos and congratulations to Heidi and her fiancé Ben who bought a house in the Lawrence district. They are excited for this new journey! The house is located in a neighborhood off Binford.

Links of the Month



As we prepare to hear from Robin LeClaire, the Chief Academic Officer with Indiana DOE, on the state of Indiana Schools, this month's articles provide information on the issues, challenges and successes being faced by students, schools and school districts throughout

- ❖ [Click here](#) or visit <https://in.chalkbeat.org/republish/2020/9/1/21417243/indianapolis-teacher-refugee-students-virtual-learning> for a *Chalkbeat* article on the challenges Indiana refugee students face with virtual schooling.
- ❖ [Click here](#) or visit https://www.nwitimes.com/news/state-and-regional/indiana/state-launching-new-guidelines-for-schools-during-pandemic/article_d073d251-c548-5c72-82c4-2297b832e82d.html?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=cb_bureau_in for a Northwest Indiana Times article on the new state guidelines for schools.
- ❖ [Click here](#) or visit <https://www.chalkbeat.org/republish/2020/8/27/21404899/virtual-online-charter-enrollment-growth-pandemic> for an article on how virtual school enrollment is being impacted by COVID-19.
- ❖ [Click here](#) or visit <https://in.chalkbeat.org/republish/2020/8/21/21396538/indiana-teachers-union-will-sit-out-governors-race-despite-key-education-issues-at-play> to read an article on the Indiana teachers union and the Governor's race.
- ❖ [Click here](#) or visit https://www.wishtv.com/news/local-news/ips-community-partners-work-together-to-offer-supervised-classroom-environments-for-students/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=cb_bureau_in for an article on how community groups are supporting schools and parents by providing a learning environment for students engaged in virtual learning.

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Chapter Co-Presidents: Marti Daily and Pat Dains

To Unite • Honor • Advance • Endorse • Endow • Stimulate • Inform



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