

ALPHA SIGMA TIDINGS

Fall 2022

President's Message

It is November! Wow! Time flies and it is beautiful outside! Traditionally we step back to reflect on our blessings. I am thankful for our DKG founders. On May 11, 1929, they believed there was a need for an organization in which women educators could unite for education. I still see that need. I am also grateful for each one of our chapter members. You inspire me.

The poet Raquel Franco penned, "And the sun took a step back, the leaves lulled themselves to sleep, and Autumn was awakened". "Awakened"! Let us awaken what brought us into education. Let us continue to use that fiery passion!

With that Awakening, let us "Soar"! Delia Owens the zoologist, conservationist, and author wrote beautiful, descriptive language in her book, "Where the Crawdads Sing". In her book she talks about Autumn so beautifully, "Autumn leaves don't fall, they fly. They take their time and wander on this their only chance to soar". Soar above the people that pull us down. Soar above the naysayers. Soar above the negativity. Soar!

Nathaniel Hawthorne also had something to say about Autumn in "The House of Seven Gables" and "The Scarlet Letter". In his wisdom, he wrote, "I cannot endure to waste anything so precious as autumnal sunshine by staying in the house". Do not "Waste" your talents! Use them. Stay involved.

Ladies, let us be grateful for our blessings! Count them! Awaken your fiery passion for education! Soar above the negativity! Do not waste your talents!

I hope to see you at our next meeting!

Thankful,
Sonja

Next Meeting

Please join us to hear about the program at **Moriah House** serving women whose lives have been shattered by domestic abuse, depression, drug and alcohol abuse, and prostitution.

Saturday, Nov. 12, 10am, at Kelly's home, 294 Blackberry Cove, Collierville

If you would like to help Moriah House, bring backpacks or duffle bags for the women to use for weekend passes. Call or text Kelly, 901-489-1044 with any questions.

ALPHA SIGMA TIDINGS

Fall 2022

**The spotlight on contributions to DKG this month will be the Vision Foundation.

Chapter Activities

August

On August 13, we met at the Collierville library where Kelly led us in two fun and rewarding activities. We learned more about the history and accomplishments of DKG by completing two virtual modules on the DKG website earning points towards our 2023 Maycie Award in the process. Then Kelly shared a poem, Where I'm From by George Ella Lyon. After her presentation we began writing our own personal poem beginning with the prompt "I am from . . ." We learned more about ourselves and each other after sharing our spontaneous openings. We will continue the process and share our completed poems at our December 10 meeting. Contact Kelly to find out how you can catch up with your homework. Contributions were collected for our Scholarship fund at the meeting.

September

There were seven of us who met Sept. 17 at Germantown UMC from 10 am-12 pm where we conducted a lot of business and planning and completed more modules on the DKG website. We discussed member recruitment and the upcoming 4-chapter meeting in October. This month we collected donations to Schools for



Kelly leading us Aug. 13

October

The Fall Celebration was a huge success. There were 65 DKG members from the four chapters in the Memphis Area in attendance. The food and fellowship were excellent. Everyone seemed to enjoy the less formal buffet luncheon. Becky Sadowski was the keynote speaker and was very uplifting. She is such a

ALPHA SIGMA TIDINGS

Fall 2022

genuine, thoughtful, and passionate person, that those traits always come through when she is speaking. We acknowledged each chapter's members for their years of service and four lucky women took away a lovely basket of goodies prepared by each chapter for the raffle that raised funds to help new members pay to attend the 2023 TN State Organization Convention. There will be a repeat of the raffle this spring, when we meet for Founders Day and Induction, so go ahead and save the date, **April 22, 2023.**



Trish, Sonja, Laura, and Linda
Having a great time celebrating fall!



Becky Sadowski being wise and
funny at the same time.

Educational Issues

As the next Tennessee congressional meeting approaches, it is important that we research the issues facing our teachers and students so that we are informed and prepared for the legislative actions that may be taken in 2023. Here are some of the current topics being discussed on the Hill in Nashville:

ALPHA SIGMA TIDINGS

Fall 2022

- Governor Lee's focus on funneling money to voucher projects, in lieu of fully funding public schools.
- Fair salaries for teachers, counselors, nurses, and school staff.
- Reduction of requirements for teaching employment. How low should we go?
- Promoting common sense laws on gun control that will help prevent gun violence in Tennessee schools.
- Encouraging meaningful mental health support for students from counselors and social workers.
- Insuring that all children are reading at grade level by the end of third grade and strengthening basic mathematics for all grades.

Member News

At the Fall Celebration we recognized nine members for their years of service with DKG. Two of them are mother and daughter. Judy Martin was inducted in 1981 and has earned a 40-year pin, while her daughter Alison Bryan has earned a 20-year pin for her service since being inducted in 2000. Unfortunately, neither was able to attend the Fall Celebration so they will be awarded their pins at the next opportunity.

Upcoming Events

Dec. 10, 2022	Chapter Meeting Seminar	Details to Follow
March 6-8, 2023	DKG US Forum Legislative Forum	Washington, D.C.
April 22, 2023	Memphis Area Founders Day	Details to Follow
June 1-3, 2023	87 th Tennessee State Convention	Sewanee, TN
July 2023	International Conferences:	11-16 Detroit
		18-22 Phoenix
		26-29 Finland
July 9-13, 2024	International Convention	National Harbor, MD