



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
www.deltakappagamma.org/NY



Pi Lights

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Fall 2013

Join Pi State Sisters at the Spring Executive Board Meeting/Seminar

April 25-26, 2014
Syracuse Sheraton Hotel
801 University Avenue
Syracuse, NY 13210

Look for registration forms and more information in the mailed Winter Issue of *Pi Lights*.

Want to create your own Chapter website?

The *Pi State Communications Committee* is seeking interested members who want assistance in creating their own Chapter website. Contact **Sue Genthner**, *Pi State Communications Chair*, at subeart@aol.com. For more information, refer to p. 12.

Joan C. Slagle Recognized at NE Regional NYS Key Woman Educator of Vision



Joan Slagle, Past Pi State President and current FDF (*Financial Development Fund*) Administrator, was honored by Beverly Helms, DKG International President 2012-14, for demonstrating the International theme of "Sharing Our Vision ~ Strengthening Our Society." She was one of only twenty-two recipients recognized for this honor at the NE Regional Conference in Portland, Maine, in July 2013.

Photo by Jacqueline & Associates

Pi State Leadership Development Seminar for Incoming State Chairs



Pi State President Dr. Joyce Tang addresses LDS for State Chairs at Hilton Garden Inn, Syracuse in July.

Pi State 2013-14 Directories

are now available for \$25, including postage. If you have not ordered yours, order forms are on Pi State website.

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"Invigorating Pi State"

Dr. Joyce Tang

Pi State President-Elect 2013 - 2015

***Save the date for the
Spring Executive Board Meeting and Seminar
April 25 and 26, 2014 at the Syracuse Sheraton Hotel!***

I am delighted to inform you that 60 Pi State members and guests attended the 2013 Northeast Regional Conference (NERC) held from July 24 to 27 in Portland, Maine, accounting for 10% of all registrants [see "Pi State Delegation to the Northeast Regional Conference"]. We attended leadership seminars or training sessions for State Officers (**Joyce Tang** and **Beryl Szwed**), Editors (**Mary-Martha Harvey**), Webmasters (**Mary-Martha Harvey** for **Barre Hall**), Educational Excellence and Membership Chairs (**Jennifer Lee-Alden** and **Diane Bootie**) and "*Strengthening Chapters*" (**Terri Palmiero** and **Karen Varricchio**).

Pi State's contributions to the formal, well-organized, and very demanding Conference were enormous. We:

- [1] Participated in four General Sessions, Maine Night Celebration starring humorist **Gary Crocker** and singer and songwriter **Dave Mallett**, Celebration Luncheon, *New York Dines Out* (organized by **Erin Merrill** and **Karen Butters**), U.S. Forum (**Karen Crumley** as Liaison for **Barbara Bostwick-Quinn**), *We Are The Strength of The Society* Breakfast, Presidents' Banquet, Breakout Sessions (e.g., Election, Golden Gift, Arts and Humanities, Nominations, Strategic Action Planning - **Deborah Bedard**, **Lochie Musso**, **Karen Crumley**, **Dr. Andrea Morris**, **Jeanne Schenk** and **Joyce Tang**);
- [2] Held demonstrations at Society's Info Fair "*Lobsters, Lighthouses, and Learning*," (Treasurers - **Suzanne Patrick**; Education Foundation - **Jane Tanner**; Eunah Temple Holden Committee - **Karen Crumley**; Expansion Committee - **Lochie Musso**; and Leadership Development Committee - **Joyce Tang**);
- [3] Presented or presided at workshops (**Jane Tanner**, **Agnes Becker**, **Grace Murphy**, **Anne Marie Carlson** and **Dr. Andrea Morris**);
- [4] Volunteered as hostesses, accompanists or singers (**Beryl Szwed**, **Dr. Andrea Morris**, **Karen Butters** and **Dr. Roselyn Freedman-Baum**);
- [5] Accepted an invitation to attend an informal reception hosted by **Marguerite Niforos**;
- [6] Contributed to the Emergency Fund Collection of \$7,142; and
- [7] Joined tours to have fun, of course!

Betty Flynn from Indiana's *Beta Gamma* Chapter was the winner of Pi State's Meet the Block Donation coordinated by Immediate Past President **Jeanne Schenk**.

Seven Pi State members were lucky winners of Meet the Block Drawing: **Dr. Andrea Morris**, **Rosemary Van Wart**, **Joan Slagle**, **Joan Goldstein**, **Ellie Robinson**, **Margaret LaPadula**, and **Jane Crosby**.

The 2015 Northeast Regional Conference will be held in Baltimore, Maryland.

Continued on page three

*Concluded from page two***Accomplishments and Announcements****CONGRATULATIONS!**

Dr. Roselyn Freedman-Baum is a recipient of the 2013 Etz Chayim Award from Temple B'rith Kodesh for Community Service in Rochester.

Past Pi State President **Anne-Marie Carlson** was elected as Chair of the Executive Committee of Non-Governmental Organizations associated with the United Nations Department of Public Information.

At the NERC, Past President **Joan Slagle** was recognized "to represent the members from Pi State as one who embodies the theme: *Sharing the Vision ~ Strengthening Our Society.*"

I also want to congratulate our Leadership Development Committee members: **Ruth Ann Fultz** (Chair), **Sheila Brady-Root**, **Jeanne Schenk**, **Wanda Ward**, **Joan Slagle**, **Deborah Bedard** and **Dr. Lucy Smassanow** for organizing an efficient and effective Leadership Development Seminar for Pi State Committee Chairs (2013-15) in East Syracuse on July 8 and 9.

Your Cooperation or Participation is needed:

- [1] Chapter Treasurers filing **IRS Form 990** – Send a copy of the filing to Treasurer Suzanne Patrick for the Society's files.
- [2] Go to the Society's website www.dkg.org to share your opinions on **Regional Conference Format** and **Electronic Voting**.
- [3] Please join me and your DKG sisters for:
 - [3.1] **Committee on Teaching about the United Nations (CTAUN) Conference** "Promoting Peace Through Education" at the UN on January 31, 2014.
 - [3.2] **National Legislative Seminar** in Washington, D.C. from March 16 to 19, 2014.

Pi State Delegation to the 2013 Northeast Regional Conference in Maine

Antonucci	Janet
Baker	Audrey
Baldari	Mary Ann
Becker	Agnes
Bedard	Deborah
Bishop	Bridget
Boliver	Doris
Bootie	Diane
Brassard	Mary
Butters	Karen
Carlson	Anne-Marie
Carroll	Joanne
Connoly	Margaret
Crosby	Jane
Crumley	Karen
Daane	Fern
Davison	Diane
Detweiler	Loretta
Freedman-Baum	Roselyn
Frost	Carol

Genthner	Susan
Gilbert	Harlene
Goldstein	Joan
Hagadorn	Laura
Harvey	Mary-Martha
Hoeltzel	Kathleen
Janas	Laura
Kenoyer	Susan
Kulhanek	Sharon
Lapadula	Margaret
Lapan	Diane
Lee-Alden	Jennifer
Ludwig	Della
McCurry	Margarethe
Morris	Andrea
Murphy	Grace
Musso	Lochie
Niforos	Marguerite
Noble	Donna
Olinger	Catherine

Palmiero	Theresa
Patrick	Suzanne
Patrick	Sharon
Pennock	Sue
Peters-Bush	Susan
Pisterzi	Candace
Robinson	Ellie
Schenk	Jeanne
Slagle	Joan
Spivak	Susan
Strever	Martha
Swiatek	Marcia
Szwed	Beryl
Tang	Joyce
Tanner	Jane
Van Wart	Rosemary
Varricchio	Karen
Voegeli	Phyllis
Wagner	Jean
Wallace	JoAnn

Pi State Delegation to NE Regional Conference



Photo by Jacqueline & Associates

Sharing Our Vision at NE Regional

Portland, Maine was the meeting place for the *Northeast Regional Conference from July 22-27, 2013*. Along with sixty Pi State sisters, I had the opportunity to visit this historic, seaside city and share the vision of DKG while learning how to strengthen our society.

It was wonderful to renew old friendships and meet members from across the large Northeast area. The success of last year's International Convention in New York City was mentioned often. I was very proud of the many positive comments about New York's hospitality and organization. *Our efforts were truly appreciated!*

The NE Regional offered several interesting keynote speakers and a wide variety of workshops. I attended workshops concerning society business, such as state and local strategic action plans and another that took a careful look at how regional conferences are held. For personal interests, I enjoyed workshops on technology and geocaching. FYI ... If you go to the International web site at www.dkg.org and check the Northeast Regional site, you will be able to download some of the printed materials from the Conference, including information from the "Strengthening Our Chapters" workshop.

Entertainment was plentiful with music and humor filling "Maine Night." Many New Yorkers attended a baseball game, lobster bake or dinner cruise during Friday's "Night on the Town." Lobster, whoopie pies and blueberries could be found in abundance and added to the flavors of the week. Shopping in Freeport, walking on the cobblestone streets of Portland and checking out the beach and seashore personally gave me plenty of steps on my step counter.

It is not too soon to plan to attend the **2014 International Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana** next July. The dates are Monday, July 28, through Friday, August 1. You can expect a week of excitement, stimulation and camaraderie. *I hope to see you there!!!*



*Immediate Pi State Past President
Jeanne Schenk*

Jeanne Schenk

Reports from Ad Hoc Travel Stipend Recipients**An Amazing Experience**

This July, I attended my first Delta Kappa Gamma *NE Regional Conference* in Portland, Maine. I am most grateful for my award of one of the *Ad Hoc Travel Stipends*. I was excited when I learned that I had been a recipient though had no idea what an amazing experience I was about to experience.

As I arrived at the hotel, I was quickly welcomed by **Jane Crosby**, *Alpha Tau*, my roommate, and taken under her wing. I met many amazing women. We shared stories, compared teaching techniques and ideas. I was immediately struck by how I was surrounded with like-minded professional women, who were extremely positive and supportive of each other. I enjoyed the general themed sessions and basket drawings. Listening to the speakers, **Susan Poulin**, encouraging us to “*find our inner moose*” and **Katie Snapp**, encouraging us to accept changes in our lives, were both inspirational and motivating. I found **Susan Scanlan**’s presentation very informative at the U.S. Forum. Her passion was clearly evident about women’s and children’s issues. She encouraged and expressed how important it is to become a strong voice in the choices and decisions that are made in our government. It was impressive.

At the end of the last day at the banquet, it was bittersweet. I was happy to be going back home to my two daughters but sad to say goodbye to all of the wonderful women with whom I made connections.

I hope to attend many more Delta Kappa Gamma conferences in the future! *Thank You!*

Laura Hagadorn, Alpha Epsilon

Inspired by DKG Sisters

Attending the *Northeast Regional Conference* in July was beneficial to me as an educator and as a person. The general sessions were well attended and interesting. I was inspired by being in the company of hundreds of other Delta Kappa Gamma sisters. I particularly enjoyed the speakers. They all emphasized the importance of caring for yourself, keeping a sense of humor and giving your best in daily professional life.

I had the opportunity to attend a special session, entitled “*It Doesn't Take Barbells to Strengthen Your Chapter.*” What I took away from that seminar was the value and importance of each and every member of our Chapter. Everyone has unique gifts and talents that are enjoyed by others.

As a first grade teacher who enjoys music, I particularly enjoyed two of the breakout sessions. One gave exciting ideas to incorporate music into Chapter meetings. The other dealt with text complexity and how to apply current reading teaching methods to the Common Core.

Portland was a beautiful location. In between the various sessions, I was able to enjoy the unique and relaxing surroundings. I encourage those sisters who haven't been to a Regional Conference to consider going next time. It was a wonderful opportunity that I know would be appreciated by all. *Thank you for this opportunity!*

Karen Varricchio, Omega

Sharing, Networking and Learning

Initiated in October 2011, I proudly joined DKG to participate and become professionally and personally enriched. Through attending DKG events from Chapter meetings, State Conventions and now the *NE Regional Conference*, I have experienced celebrations of sisterhood, intense professional development, a focus on personal care and growth and multiple opportunities for lifelong learning.

My personal goal is to continue being an architect in our educational system toward improved achievement outcomes for our students, educators and communities. The NE Conference gave me an opportunity to meet the many educators who share my goal and to experience firsthand the many diverse approaches to education and contemporary issues through workshops, speakers, displays and networking. I discovered new professional partnerships in women, who attended, and met many kindred spirits, who are truly making efforts everyday to ensure that every child will have every chance to succeed.

I learned that DKG has many, many resources and information to assist Chapter and personal development, an amazing network for education career professionals and an array of study and travel options. We have constant access to scholarly journals, magazines, newsletters, publications and resources. I really felt energized after each Conference day and enriched by fellow sisters’ sharing their instructional strengths and strategies. In this changing landscape of education, I feel that it is vital that we share our knowledge and leadership skills. *And we did!*

Many, many thanks for this stipend!

Audrey Marie Baker, Alpha Beta



Pi State Sisters at Reception before the Presidents' and Founders' Banquet, NE Regional Conference:
 (left to right) **Deborah Bedard**, Alpha Epsilon; **Joan Slagle**, Beta Omega; **Diane Lapan**, Alpha Epsilon; **Jane Crosby**, Alpha Tau; **Karen Butters**, Beta Mu; **Margaret Connoly**, Delta; **Mary Ann Baldari**, Alpha Beta; **Dr. Roselyn Freedman-Baum**, Alpha Xi; **Peggy Niforos**, Beta Omega; **Beryl Szwed**, Beta Mu; **Laura Hagadorn**, Alpha Epsilon.

Photo by Jacqueline & Associates

Report from Travel & Study Stipend Recipient: NE Regional

I had the great privilege and joy to attend the 2013 *Northeast Regional Conference* with 60 Pi State members and guests. The beautiful seaside city of Portland, Maine provided a conference setting that was rich with cultural opportunities and steeped in a friendly and relaxed pace. The panoramic ocean view provided a beautiful vista for our daily activities and, of course, the food was beyond measure!

From the moment I arrived at the Registration Table, I knew that this would be a wonderful experience. The warm hospitality and helpfulness made me feel that I was among friends from the onset. Wednesday evening, I was able to attend the First General Session. I was moved by the flag processional and welcoming ceremonies. I was especially proud of our own **Dr. Andrea Morris** who entertained us with a solo. The First Session was followed by Maine Night, which introduced us to the “*regional mindset*” through humor and music. This was an entertaining event that will be thought of each day when I open my new Maine Night lunchbox.

The General Sessions were both thought-provoking and enlightening. **Susan Poulin**, author of “*Finding Your Inner Moose*,” spoke during the Second General Session. Poulin took on the character, “*Ida Claire*” from Mahoosuc Mills—an out of the way community in Western Maine. Through her humorous and heartwarming tales about her family and friends, we were invited to look for ways to live a healthier and happier life. **Dr. Sherene McHenry**, author of “*Pick: Choose to Create a Life You Love*,” was our speaker during the Third General Session. Her personal story illustrated the importance of keeping our personal dreams alive. To achieve those dreams, she recommended we take three tangible steps toward the dream each day. During the Fourth General Session, our speaker was **Susan Kuhn**, who shared her insights about social technology and how it is changing the way we interact with our world. Each of the speakers was refreshing and left me with many ideas to apply to my life, my profession and my DKG role.

I was also able to attend the **US Forum** session, which was attended by nearly 230 members. **Susan Scanlon**, shared her “*Fighting for a Place at the Table*.” We also gained information about the proposed **National Women’s Museum** on the Capital Mall, government pension and pension funding, and teacher evaluation.

Thursday evening, I joined other Pi State members for the **NY Dines Out**. There I had a great opportunity to speak with others about Common Core, APPR and the future direction of education in NY.

I was able to take in several workshops throughout the conference. Some workshops, such as “*Strengthening our Society through Strategic Action Planning*,” “*Membership: Making a Caring Community*,” “*We Have Money to Give Away*” and “*Tools to Recruit and Retain Members*” will be used to strengthen our Omega Chapter. Other workshops such as “*Healthy Living through Technology*,” “*Managing Change: It’s All About Me*,” “*Creating Your Social Media Presence*” and “*Educational Excellence*” will be useful both in my personal and professional life.

A highlight of the conference was the *Presidents’ and Founders’ Banquet* Saturday Night. State President **Dr. Joyce Tang** and Immediate Past President **Jeanne Schenk** were recognized at this grand event.

In closing, I was glad that I took time out from my summer schedule to travel to Portland for the Northeast Regional Conference. I had the opportunity to strengthen my understanding of our grand society and to recharge my enthusiasm. I was able to expand my understanding of DKG from a local, area and state level to a regional level. I had time to share ideas and best practices with a wide range of interesting people. *I wish to thank the Pi State and the Travel and Stipend Committee for giving me this opportunity to share in the vision of DKG.*

Della Ludwig, Omega

TEAM = Together Everyone Accomplishes More



Ruth Ann Fultz, Leadership Development Chair and Seminar Co-Chair, explains the Seminar agenda and introduces participants to printed resources.



Sheila Brady-Root, Leadership Development Committee member and Seminar Co-Chair, presents a powerpoint on goal-setting and leads discussion.



Ruth Ann Fultz presents "Wearing Pins" Awards to Sheila Brady-Root, Dr. Joyce Tang, Dr. Roselyn Freedman-Baum, and Deborah Bedard



Pi State Awards Committee meets with Chair Erin Merrill.



Maria Toulas, Chair Verna Mulholland Friend of Education, Agnes Becker, Chair Pi State Foundation, and Lochie Musso, Chair Nominations, discuss goals.



Diane Bootie, Chair Membership & Expansion, and Rosemary Van Wart, Pi State Secretary discuss ideas for membership.



Emilie Stris, Chair World Fellowship, and JoAnn Wallace, Chair Pi State Achievement, review their notes to record goals on keys.



Ruth Ann Fultz and Jeanne Schenk present the "KEY" challenge.



Karen Crumley, Chair BYLAWS & Standing Rules, and Karen Butters, Pi State Second Vice-President, finish goal-setting project.



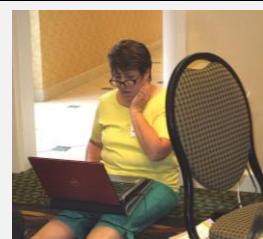
Arlene Ida, Chair Native American Grants-in-Aid, Jean Sekel, Chair Audit, and Rosemary Van Wart review BYLAWS & Standing Rules.



Sheila Brady-Root with Dr. Roselyn Freedman-Baum, Chair Bea Small Leadership Fund, Dr. Joyce Tang, Rosemary Van Wart and Maria Toulas



Sheila Brady-Root answers questions with Joyce Krupnik, Chair Travel and Study Stipend.



Jennifer Lee-Alden, Chair Educational Excellence, works on her computer on Committee materials.

Pi State Visitations 2013 – 2014

Date 2013	Chapter(s) / Area	State Representative
March 16	<i>Psi</i>	Deborah Bedard
May 7	<i>Alpha Phi</i>	Jeanne Schenk
May 14	<i>Chi</i>	Jeanne Schenk
May 16	<i>Alpha Eta</i>	Joyce Tang
May 16	<i>Tau</i>	Grace Murphy
September 9	<i>Alpha Iota</i>	Jane Tanner
September 22	<i>Gamma Epsilon</i>	Beryl Szwed
September 26	<i>Beta Nu & Beta Gamma</i>	Mary-Martha Harvey
October 5	<i>South Central Area Conference</i>	Mary-Martha Harvey
October 17	<i>Alpha Psi</i>	Rosemary Van Wart
October 19	<i>North Central Area Conference</i>	Joan Slagle
October 19	<i>Southeastern Area Conference</i>	Jeanne Schenk
October 24	<i>Alpha Sigma & Beta Epsilon</i>	Mary-Martha Harvey
November 6	<i>Beta Alpha</i>	Rosemary Van Wart

Date 2014	Chapter(s) / Area	State Representative
March 29	<i>Alpha Nu</i>	Jeanne Schenk
April 24	<i>Alpha Chi & Nu</i>	Joyce Tang
May 7	<i>Mu</i>	Jeanne Schenk
May 17	<i>Omega</i>	Joyce Tang
May 30	<i>Rho</i>	Joan Slagle
June 5	<i>Alpha Theta</i>	Jeanne Schenk

Refer to future issues of Pi Lights for updates.

Hoosier Hospitality Looks Ahead to 2014

DKG International Convention, July 28 – August 1, 2014

JW Marriott, Indianapolis, Indiana

Watch for information and registration forms at www.dkg.org.

“Everyone Getting One”

“Membership in Delta Kappa Gamma is a GIFT.”

It is a *gift* from someone who saw and appreciated your potential, your talents and your professionalism. It is a *gift* that inspires, that empowers, that enhances, that opens new vistas and provides outreach. It is a *gift* to be valued, to be nurtured and to be developed. It is a *gift* to be shared.

Ernie Fletcher says that “*Education is our greatest opportunity to give an irrevocable gift to the next generation.*”

Source: Sherry Watkins, 2nd Vice President/ Membership Chair, 9.13 in “*The Hoosier Newsletter.*”

Sharing our experience in DKG is our *gift* to our fellow educators.

Let’s join International’s goal of “**Everyone Getting One**” and honor professional educators you admire with an invitation to membership in your Chapter.

Hello from your Pi State Music Rep.

I am excited to start my new position on the *Educational Excellence Committee*, Chair **Jennifer Lee-Alden**. I would like to thank President **Joyce Tang** for asking me to take on this new position with Pi State. I have been singing with the Choir at Pi State functions for the last six years and also performed on flute at the *Hour of Remembrance* this past April in Buffalo. For the past four years, I have been *World Fellowships Chair* for Pi State. My chapter is *Alpha Alpha* which is in the West Central Area of the State.

I am retired from teaching music K-6 in the Hilton School District. Prior to that, I also taught in Brockport and Depew, in NY and Bath, Maine. I received my Bachelor degree in Music Ed from *Nazareth College* in Rochester and a Masters Degree in Education from the *University of Maine*. My current musical activities include performing as cantor and directing my church Choir, playing flute in a community band, directing the Retired Teachers Choir in the Rochester area, coordinating a small woodwind ensemble, singing with the Brockport college/community choir, and teaching piano and flute lessons. I attended the *Northeast Regional Conference* in Maine this past July and was thrilled to hear wonderful soloists and instrumental ensembles. I hope to incorporate this for Pi State.

I am looking forward to directing the Pi State Choir at the 2014 Spring Executive Board Meeting/Seminar on April 25 and 26 in Syracuse. I hope to see many familiar faces and meet new sisters. We will sing as a group for several functions during those two days. I also would like to include instrumentalists and soloists.

Please e-mail me (meanmom5@rochester.rr.com) and let me know if you are interested in participating as a Choir member, soloist or instrumentalist. *I am certain that Pi State has a wealth of musically talented members.*

Bridget Bishop

Report from Travel & Study Stipend Recipient: European Regional

New Yorkers often refer to Amsterdam, the Netherlands as Holland or to American author, *NY Times* journalist and historian, Sir Russell Shorto's book, "*The Island at the Center of the World*," as the Dutch origins in NYC or according to my 17 year-old granddaughter as the most liberal city in the world. Now DKG sisters can refer to Amsterdam as charming as a high-heeled Dutch wooden clog with our red rose symbol painted on its vamp.



Ria Bleeker, Rier Smits and their Committees made the sub-theme of this Regional, "*Friendship in Education, Worldwide*," evident in their staging of events and activities. Amsterdam's Regional Community College, where Ria teaches, served as the venue for most speeches, workshops and market place. The presentation of the flags of the nine countries that make up the *European Region* was truly impressive. Greetings were given by the Regional organizers and International President, **Dr. Beverly Helms**. Representing the Mayor of Amsterdam, Alderperson **Carolien Gehrels'** opening remarks made everyone feel welcome and valued as an educator.

In her opening remarks, **Maria Heimback**, *European Regional Director*, explained the themes and goals for the Conference. She shared of her torment as a German in the city of Anne Frank. She spoke of her friendship, developed while she was a student at Plattsburgh, with the daughter of German Jews. Her friend's family had fled Germany and finally settled in the Adirondacks. Her Mother was denied her PhD because she was a Jew. Maria related that when she finally learned about this injustice, she contacted her University and one of the too many wrongs was set right. Her friend's Mother who was by then 93 years old was awarded her degree.

Dutch Night was "*verrassing*"—a *surprise*. Dutch treats such as "*bitterbal*," a deep fried meat ragout ball covered in bread crumbs, were served with other specialties. The camaraderie and conversations were wonderful. Dutch brewed beer and wine, although the latter was not made from tulips, was served. A band livened up the festivities.

At the First General Session, our International Headquarters Administrative Staff presented "*Ignite*." I hope that this spiffy presentation about our Society will be packaged and available to local Chapters. It would make a great Founders' Day program.

The theme of citizenship was woven into presentations on women's right to vote in Norway, the art of movement, songs from Iceland and an update on the crippling teachers' strike in Denmark over "pre-time." Following workshops and afternoon tours participants met at Town Hall for a reception hosted by Alderperson **Carolien Gehrels**. We then boarded boats for the canal trip to the Stork restaurant for our *Night on the Town*.

The Second General session focused on language. **Maria Heimback** wrote in the program for the Conference that "*out of necessity, Europe has agreed on a lingua franca: English is taught as the first foreign language at schools at all levels throughout Europe*." **Dr. Adriana Fishta-Bejko** from Calgary, Canada lamented that although hundreds upon thousands of dollars have been spent on bilingual education, the results have amounted to only "*kitchen-English vocabularies*." She stressed the need for incorporating brain-based research with Structured English Immersion (SEI). **Taina Hokkanen** spoke about teaching Finnish to Immigrant Women.

Our own Pi State Past President and current BYLAWS & Standing Rules Chair, **Karen Crumley**, introduced **Florence Naduk**, who spoke about her life as member of the nomadic people of Karamajong, Uganda. **Grace Murphy** along with **Patricia Odessa** presented a workshop about the status of DKG as a NGO at the UN. Now how's that for acronyms and for the *Pride of Pi*? That evening not only did DKG members and their guests gather at the banquet at the *Miranda Paviljoen* but also two women from the *People Republic of China* attended. They had registered for the Conference but due to circumstances beyond their control, were only able to attend the last days. **Maria Heimbach** said they had also attended the Regional in Germany. The high point of the Banquet was the announcement that **Dr. Sigrum Klara Hannesdottir** from Iceland was the recipient of the International Achievement Award. This was a first for the European Region.

The Third General Session focused on technology, social media and education in the 21st Century. Too soon it was a time for good-byes. It was also a time for "*see you*" in Indianapolis in July 2014 at DKG International Convention and in Sweden in 2015 at the European Regional. *Hope you can make both events!*

Thank you Pi State for this extraordinary opportunity.

Jean Fontana

Congratulations to **Gamma Delta**, our newest Chapter website, and Webmaster **Heidi Himes**.

Gamma Delta's website received certification from International in May 2013.

To view Gamma Delta's website, go to Pi State website, www.deltakappagamma.org/NY; click on Pi State Area Council Information, Chapter Websites, scroll to bottom of page and click on website.

REMINDER: Pi State Bylaws and Rules

When your Chapter revises their *Chapter Rules*, please send copies of newly revised *Rules* to the Pi State President, **Dr. Joyce Tang**, Chair of the BYLAWS & Standing Rules Committee, **Karen P. Crumley**, and the Pi State Parliamentarian, **Eleanor Robinson**. During each biennium, your Chapter should review their *Rules*, vote on changes made and submit the most recent *Rules* by June 30, 2015 to the above listed people.

At the *Spring Executive Board Meeting/Seminar*, April 25-26, 2014, a vote may be taken on *Pi State Standing Rule* changes only.

If a Chapter Committee wishes to make *Pi State Standing Rule* changes, please submit them to Karen P. Crumley, kcrumley@hvc.rr.com, by December 1, 2013.

Karen P. Crumley

Educational Excellence Committee News

As the days become crisp and cool, the EEC is working to develop resources and plan workshops to promote excellence in education, empower women and increase global awareness.

One of our goals this biennium is to establish a space on the Pi State webpage for Educational Excellence Committee. Chapters and individuals will soon have access to a variety of information, including a link to the International Educational Excellence Committee and a brochure on *Supporting Early-Career Educators*. Please look for our space on the State website later this fall!

Have you ever considered presenting a workshop at one of our State meetings? This experience offers the opportunity to share your talents and expertise with others in a supportive environment, while promoting personal growth. Let the Educational Excellence Committee assist you with fulfilling this goal! It is as easy as completing the interactive Workshop Presentation Proposal Form and mailing/e-mailing it to the ECC Chair. (*The form can currently be found on the state website, under "General Forms."*)

If you need help choosing a workshop topic, you may want to check out the suggestions on the International EEC page, or feel free to contact a Committee member or me directly. Proposal forms are due by November 1st. We would love to have a buffet of workshops to enhance the *Spring Executive Board Meeting/Seminar* next April. We strive to make a positive impact on education in New York State and worldwide!

I would also like to warmly invite you to participate in the musical activities next April under the creative direction of **Bridget Bishop**. Sharing your musical talents is an ideal way to build collaboration and community in Pi State. Please look for Bridget's message in this issue of *Pi Lights* to learn how you can join the fun!

Jennifer Lee-Alden

Who is a Pi State Leader?

What does a Pi State Leader look like? Well, look in the mirror – it could be **YOU!** Good leadership qualities are one of the reasons you were invited to join *The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International*. Opportunities abound to express these talents beyond your Chapter level.

The Pi State Executive Offices of President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President and Secretary are elected by the State. (*Bylaws: Art. VI, Sec. A*) The Financial and Nominations Committee members as well as two seats on the Gladys L. Mersereau (GLM) Board of Trustees are also elected positions. There are ten representatives, one from each Area, on both the Financial and Nomination Committees chosen by ballot. The term of office for members of these Committees is four years with five persons being elected each biennium. A trustee on the GLM Board serves a five year term.

The Nominations Committee will be seeking qualified candidates beginning in the fall of 2014. Chapter Presidents, Area Council Chairs and fellow sisters ... Take note of those members around you who are already demonstrating their leadership skills or those who show potential but are a bit reluctant. Inform newer members and remind "*seasoned*" sisters of the benefits of being involved at the State level. Being part of the "*Bigger Picture*" is both rewarding and invigorating. And, when you are considering candidates be sure to look in that mirror. **YOU** could be the perfect applicant!

Nomination forms can be found on the website. Contact Nominations Chair, **Lochie Musso**, lochie@optonline.net or 845-354-4147 or your Area representative with your recommendations.

Lochie Musso

Awards Committee Benefit Drawing

Thanks to you Pi State sisters, the scholarships available to members and non-members continues to thrive!!! *Thank you for your help.*

“How have I helped,” you ask. Well here are two ways...

1. **Check out the Pi State website**
<http://deltakappagamma.org/NY/ASaGiA.html> for a list of awards, scholarships and grant(s)-in-aid. There are many prestigious awards just waiting to be used to recognize the accomplishments of members as well as women in our community who support education or are becoming educators. *We all know at least one person who fits into one of these categories.* Please make sure they are identified and honored with a Pi State Award.
2. **Purchase Pi State Awards Benefit Tickets at your Chapter meetings.** The money raised from the sale of these tickets goes directly to the Awards, Scholarships and Grant(s)-in-Aid Fund.

2014 Pi State Awards Benefit Ticket for State Awards, Scholarships and Grant(s)-in-Aid

Name _____
Chapter _____
Phone _____

Drawing at Pi State Executive Board Meeting/Seminar
April 25-26, 2014

Donation: 1 for \$1; 6 for \$5; 12 for \$10

Thank you for your purchasing Benefit Tickets! **The power and pride of Pi State members is what is “Invigorating Pi State!”**

Erin Merrill

The Bea Small Leadership Speakers Fund

The Bea Small Leadership Speakers Fund was established in 1996 from a bequest of **Bea Small, Omega**, with additional contributions by **Barbara Woodworth**, Bea’s daughter.

Interest derived from the base money is to be used annually or biennially for leadership development. Leadership development is to occur at a workshop for Pi State officers, Committee Chairs, the Fall or Spring Seminar or the Pi State Convention.

Any member of Pi State may contribute money to this Fund. Increased value of the Fund will make possible increased opportunities for Pi State to offer leadership development workshops in the future.

Please consider making a contribution to *The Bea Small Leadership Speakers Fund*. Consider making a contribution in honor or in memory of someone who recognized your leadership potential and recommended you for membership.

Dr. Roselyn Freedman-Baum



Karen Butters, Pi State Second Vice-President, accompanies Regional Chorus at NE Regional
Photo by Jacqueline & Associates



Dr. Andrea Morris’ performs solo at the First General Session at NE Regional.
Photo by Jacqueline & Associates



Dr. Joyce Tang, Pi State President, and Joan Slagle, Past Pi State President, demonstrate their “Super Woman” potential ready to soar.
Photo by Bridget Bishop

World Fellowship

The *World Fellowships* Program is one way through which Delta Kappa Gamma empowers women to take action and impact education worldwide. DKG’s *International World Fellowship* Committee awards grants to women educators who are not DKG members and live in countries other than the United States and Canada. Refer to the International website for information on educators’ universities and studies. We can support these women who study in our geographic areas.

The **Pi State World Fellowship Committee** supports the *International World Fellowship Fund* by encouraging donations from local Chapters and individuals. Individual contributions to the fund are tax deductible. Information and forms for donations are available on the Pi State and International websites. Let’s *invigorate* this program in 2013-15.

Emilie Stris

Greetings from the Pi State Secretary

As I begin this biennium as Pi State Secretary, I would like to share with you what my job will entail. My main function is to record the minutes at the Pi State Executive Committee, Pi State Executive Board meetings and the Pi State Corporation meetings. I will do my best to take accurate minutes since those are the records of the business Pi State conducts. There are proof readers to assist me in achieving accuracy and consistency. For the Executive Committee Meeting minutes, the President, the Executive Committee and the Immediate Past President and Past Secretary serve that function. For the Executive Board Meeting minutes, the President proof reads and then the Committee to Approve the Minutes, consisting of three Chapter Presidents, serves that purpose.

Chapter Presidents: You will receive a copy of the minutes for the Executive Board Meetings. Since they are the official summary of the business that was conducted, please read them, especially if you were unable to attend the meeting and share the information with your Chapters.

The Secretary, as the keeper of the minutes, is usually the one to look through minutes if at some future date a question arises about a decision that was made or if something needs to be reviewed from a past meeting. She can find the discussion and/or motion pertaining to that question.

The Secretary acts as Liaison to Committees designated by the President. In this biennium, those Committees are the ones Subject to Endowment Provisions. The list includes *The Verna Mulholland Friend of Education Award*, *The Gladys L. Mersereau Grant-in-Aid Award*, *The Frederica Hollister Pi State Professional Educator's Award* (I am also on that Committee.), *The Bea Small Award*, and the *Bea Small Leadership Speakers Fund*. Each award is unique in its purpose. If you check the Pi State Website, you will find all of them listed as well as information about the award, about the woman for whom the award is named, the requirements for application, the applications themselves, and contact information for the Chair of the Committees administering them. ***All of these awards have a March 1 deadline for applications.***

Since there is no *Fall Executive Board Meeting/Seminar* this year, why not put a discussion about the awards on your Chapter agenda for your next meeting? Deadlines always seem to creep up on us so the sooner you learn about the awards, begin Chapter discussions and decisions on a nominee and begin the application process, the better.

All Pi State Officers act as a Liaison to at least one of the 10 Area Councils. I am the Liaison to the Capital Area Council. The Liaison helps to keep the Chapters in each Council informed about Pi State and International news and to bring the Chapter concerns and achievements to the Executive Committee.

I look forward to working with you to ***Invigorate Pi State*** as President Tang has challenged all of us to do.

Rosemary Van Wart

Communication Committee Call for Creating Websites

Communication involves more than passing along information. When we communicate beyond our local Chapters, we truly expand our networking resources allowing stronger bonds to be established within DKG Pi State. **We are looking for interested members who are seeking assistance in creating their own website!** Contact Sue Genthner, Pi State Communications Chair, at subeart@aol.com to be included in our latest plans for this venture.

Our Pi State Website has been refreshed by **Barre Hall**, *Gamma Epsilon* (Northern Area) with an eye for the visual and continues to link us efficiently to DKG Society International news. **Mary-Martha Harvey**, *Omega* (East Central Area) our *Pi Lights* Editor, encourages us all to contribute photos, recent news items announcing upcoming events and member accomplishments.

A Triple Communication Coup would be for Pi State to establish regional websites to connect the Chapters in their area to heighten the interest in jointly attending Chapter events and meetings. At present there are six Chapter websites. These websites share newsletters and Chapter news and information for members of their Chapter and DKG as well as access for a greater community.

Pi State welcomes the generous assistance of **Leslie Chambers**, *Alpha Sigma* (Southwestern Area) in our quest to tutor members in creating websites for their Chapters and/or Regions. As an Adjunct Professor in the School of Education at St. Bonaventure University, Leslie has taught grad students the art of web design through personal 90-minute lab sessions as well as through virtual meetings online. We are currently planning at least one workshop in a centralized location this fall and anticipated interest in online sessions. ***Our Committee will keep your Presidents posted but do let us know as soon as possible if you are interested in creating and /or in adding to your website.***

Sue Genthner

The U.S. Forum

The U.S. Forum is an important asset to Pi State Members. The *International U.S. Forum* website can be found at www.dkg.org/US-Forum/. It provides information that allows members to have an active role in legislative actions that affect woman, children and education at all levels. In reintroducing you to the U.S. Forum, it is important to understand our mission, purpose and advocacy. This will assist you in utilizing the U.S. Forum in your Chapters and Area Councils.

MISSION: *The U.S. Forum* seeks to serve the interests of members and reflects the purposes and mission of the Society. Emphasis is on sharing information and ideas that explore solutions to common problems.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the *U.S. Forum* is to identify and select major issues affecting women, children, and education upon which members may take action. At the national, regional, state and chapter levels, it serves as a viable vehicle through which members may participate in efforts to make the purposes of the Society come to fruition through action.

ADVOCACY STATEMENT: The *U.S. Forum* is dedicated to being an advocate for children by implementing actions which enable change and improvement in social institutions, systems, legislation and practices that impose hardships or impacts negatively on individuals, groups or families.

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES FOR CHAPTERS:

- Provide information through speakers, panel discussion, handouts, etc.
- Visit organizations or facilities that relate to the identified need or issue.
- Contact local and state representatives/legislators.
- Involve members in lobbying efforts at all levels.
- Build coalitions with other organizations or civic/community groups which are concerned with the same issues.
- Invite Chapters to study, plan and execute actions.
- Network, volunteer expertise, advocate for education.
- **Attend the National Legislative Seminar: March 16-19, 2014 in Washington, D.C.**
- Provide regular communication with Area Councils

SUGGESTIONS ON HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED AND INFORMED ABOUT LEGISLATION THAT AFFECTS NEW YORKERS:

Know your representative, answer surveys. Sign up for online alerts, use the power of the web and pen. It was noted that most legislators react to the number of e-mails that they receive from their constituents.

- *Suggested Website for Information on NY Legislature:* <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/ils/legislature/legis.htm>
- *For Federal Information:* www.usa.gov/
- *For information on your issue in the 50 states:* www.statenet.com

The web has brought information to our fingertips. Legislators know its power and are now using *Facebook* and *Twitter*. NYSUT, NYSRT, and other organizations you belong to share website updates on NY and Federal Legislature. NY and United States Legislature websites have information regarding your Senators and Congressmen, schedules, bills in process, and so much more.

We are an information Society so be informed and involved and you will help shape our Society!

Barbara Bostwick Quinn



Call for Travel and Study Stipend Applications: due 1 March 2014

The *Travel and Study Stipend* Committee has been very pleased to receive five applications during each of the last three years. Some members have wished to attend a *Seminar in Purposeful Living* in order to network with other Chapters to make their Chapters stronger and learn ways to increase membership. Some applicants want to attend the *CTAUN Conference* at the United Nations. Members have also submitted applications wishing to attend an educational conference. The recipients of the *Travel and Study Stipend* can then share their experiences with their own Chapters and members of their Area Councils as well as submit an article to *Pi Lights*.

Jean Fontana, retired education 2013 stipend recipient, attended the European Regional: “*Going beyond our borders enabled me to experience and savor the impact of belonging to this International Society. The daily challenges that we face as educators, even those that seem to be local, are in fact global.*”

The *Pi State Standing Rules* note that there can be two *Travel and Study Stipends* to attend Delta Kappa Gamma Seminars. Any other events encouraged by the Society may be considered. No one stipend is to exceed \$1000.00. Efforts are made to award one stipend to a Pi State member who is retired and one to a member currently employed in the profession. You can contact **Joyce Krupnik** at skrupnik@aol.com with questions. The application can be found on the Pi State website.

Joyce Krupnik, Chair

THE PI STATE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

In June the *Pi State Educational Foundation* awarded the following two project grants of \$600.00 each:

- ✓ A grant was awarded to **Nancy Catalano**, *Tau*, for their project “*Born to Read*”. This Foundation award is the second grant given to *Tau* for this project. Since then *Tau* Chapter has continued to provide reading packets for new mothers and children’s books for toddlers all of whom receive services through their county’s *WIC Program*. The project has doubled since it began in 2004 and is also financially supported by local businesses and service groups.
- ✓ The second grant was awarded to **Susan Coolican**, *Alpha Rho*, for their project “*Picnic in the Park*.” The grant will allow the Chapter to provide more books to young children in summer park programs that provide lunch. Previously, they had provided slightly used books to children. Now they plan to purchase new books for preschoolers. Chapter members help distribute the books at lunch time.

Project grant applications are available on the Pi State website. The next deadline is November 1, 2013. An applicant must be a member of the *Pi State Educational Foundation*. Membership and donation forms are also available on the Pi State website. Donations may also be given “*in memory of*” and “*in honor of*” those you want to honor. Projects must promote literacy but are not limited to just reading. Projects may be new or ones that have already been started. They may be individual or Chapter projects.

Since 2005 the *Pi State Educational Foundation* has awarded over \$9,000 to members’ projects. *As President of the Foundation Board, I extend our warmest regards and gratitude for all our Pi State sisters and friends who have donated to the Foundation.*

Agnes Becker

*Foundation Project Grant Applications due November 1, 2013 and May 1, 2014.
Find forms on Pi State website.*

Pi State Educational Foundation Donations

(June 2, 2013 to September 1, 2013)

Mary Jane Fonte, *Gamma Delta*, in honor of Cheryl Chamberlain
Janet B. Judson, *Alpha Gamma*, in memory of James M. Pittman
Susan T. Kenoyer, *Psi*, donation to the Foundation
Janet B. Judson, *Alpha Gamma*, in honor of Helen Brass’s 100th Birthday
Ellen Hicks, *Alpha Rho*, donation to the Foundation
Kathleen Clute, *Beta Theta*, donation to the Foundation
Mary R. Carr, *Alpha Rho*, donation to the Foundation

Pi State Educational Foundation Lifetime Members

(June 2, 2013 to September 1, 2013)

Alpha Phi
 Jean Fontana
Alpha Beta
 Audrey Marie
 Baker
Alpha Rho
 Mary R. Carr
 Mary Jane Eckel
Alpha Pi
 Rosemary Van Wart
Zeta
 Kelly Geraghty
 Nancy Lussier

Pi State Foundation Directors

2012-16

Agnes Becker, *Gamma Delta*, Chair
Anne Price, *Gamma Zeta*, Vice-President
F. Carol Ramsey, *Omega*, Secretary

2011-15

Jane Tanner, *Beta Kappa*, Treasurer

2013-14

Virginia (Ginny) Dudko, *Tau*



Jane Tanner, Treasurer Pi State Educational Foundation, presided at “We Are the Strength of the Society Breakfast” at July’s NE Regional in Portland, Maine.

Photo by Jacqueline & Associates

Frederica Hollister Professional Educators Award

Frederica Hollister was a member of *Beta Rho* (SC) and was the 15th Pi State President in 1967-1969. She was a driving force behind the *Native American Grants-in-Aid* and was a dedicated educator and scholar throughout her lifetime. The *Frederica Hollister Professional Educators Award* was established in 1988 from a bequest made by her to recognize fellow members who have made a significant contribution to education.

There are many Pi State members who deserve this honor. *Look at your Chapter members and submit a nomination. Does your Chapter have that special member deserving of this recognition?*

Nominations may be made by a Chapter or an individual. Nominees must meet the criteria set forth in *Pi State Standing Rules* (SR 11.6) ... *“the woman who has exemplified the best in education in NY State...had considerable visibility...and made a significantly positive impact on education in New York State and possibly at the national level. Her contributions should be varied, widely known and should be well-documented over a period of five years.”*

The Nomination Form and guidelines for submission are online on the Pi State website. Nominations are due March 1, 2014. For more information, contact **Karen Butters**, Chair, kbutters@frontier.com.

Karen Butters

Verna Mulholland Friend of Education Award

Verna Mulholland was president of *Alpha Phi* and *Pi State* President. She and **Gladys Mersereau** were planning the State Convention to be held in Lake Placid at a future date, when they were both killed in a car accident. Verna had always envisioned giving an award to someone who made an outstanding contribution to education but wasn't eligible for membership.

This award is given annually to a woman who is not a member of *Delta Kappa Gamma Society International* nor eligible for membership in the Society but rather someone outside the profession, who has worked toward improving the educational opportunities of others. The Award consists of a plaque and a \$300 stipend to cover the cost of attending the *Spring Executive Board Meeting/Seminar* to receive the award.

Chapter members and Chapters are requested to submit nominations for this award. Application forms, due March 1, 2014, are available on the Pi State website. For questions, contact **Maria Toulas**, Chair, mjtoulas@gmail.com.

Maria Toulas

Gladys L Mersereau Grant-in-Aid

The *Gladys L. Mersereau Grant(s)-in-Aid* was initiated and funded in 1975 by Pi State Past President **Gladys L. Mersereau**, *Beta Rho*, who wanted to help more women become teachers. Funding comes from interests generated from the *Grant(s)-in-Aid* along with members' generous contributions.

The purpose of this *Grant(s)-in-Aid* is to provide funding to non-DKG member(s) whose education was interrupted and who now need financial help to complete teacher certification requirements. The recipient(s) will be invited to the *Fall 2014 Awards Luncheon* to speak in detail about how this award will be used.

All Chapters are invited to nominate worthy applicants. Questions may be sent to **Joyce Tang**, Chair, erindale@verizon.net. Application forms, due March 1, 2014, are available on Pi State's website.

Joyce Tang

Pi State Achievement Award

Is there a member of your Chapter who always says “yes” when asked to serve at the State level and merits our recognition? The *Pi State Achievement Award* Committee is looking for these hard working, special members.

The *Pi State Achievement Award* is designed to honor a member who has made outstanding contributions to the Society at the State level. The nominees should have attended Pi State and International meetings and actively participated in DKG affairs in Pi State. This award is based on nominations submitted by the membership and will be judged by the Committee.

The nominee must be nominated by a member, approved by the nominee's Chapter President, supported by three letters of recommendations from Chapter and/or State members who have worked with the nominee. Since this award is a surprise, please do not ask the nominee for information but, instead, consult Chapter files, other members and/or the State Executive Secretary. All application information is considered confidential.

The **eligibility rules** are:

- Only active members who have made an outstanding contribution to education and exceptionally fine service to Society at the State level
- A minimum of **five** years of active membership in good standing
- No person may receive the award a second time.
- A State President is ineligible during time in office.

With these rules of eligibility in mind, look around you for a member who deserves this honor and submit an application for this outstanding woman. The application, due March 1, 2014, can be found on the Pi State website. For additional information or questions, contact **JoAnn Wallace**, Chair, jctedi@aol.com.

JoAnn Wallace

Native American Grant-in-Aid

Since 1968, when this special project was established, Pi State has offered *Grant(s)-in-Aid* to qualified Native American young women, who plan to continue their education after completing high school.

Did you know?

1. The grants are awarded to Native American women attending a two or four-year college and planning to work in the field of education or other related service field. Grants are for \$500 per semester and are renewable for a maximum of \$5000 over a period of five years. To be eligible, an applicant must have at least one Native American parent, be listed on a tribal role and complete an application form which is available on Pi State website.
2. There are currently two 2012 grant recipients attending colleges: Jennifer Martin at St. John Fisher and Aubrey Phillips at SUNY Canton.
3. There are eleven reservations located in Pi State – two on Long Island (Suffolk County), one in northern NY (Franklin County), two in central NY (Onondaga and Madison Counties) and the remaining six have tribal lands in Cattaraugus, Allegany, Genesee and Niagara Counties in Western NY.

The *Native American Grant(s)-in-Aid* Committee encourages all Pi State DKG Chapters to select a member responsible for the Native American Program in their Chapter to promote the *Native American Grant(s)-in-Aid* program. Potential contacts include the Native American community, Guidance Counselors and young women who are hoping to continue their education. If you have questions, wish additional information or have suggestions for reaching out to the Native American population, please contact: **Arlene Ida**, Chair, aiddski@nycap.rr.com. Application forms, due March 1, 2014, are available from Pi State's website.

Arlene Ida

Ad Hoc Travel Stipend

On July 28 to August 1, 2014, the **2014 International Convention** will be held in Indianapolis, IN. The *Ad Hoc Travel Stipend* Committee reminds Pi State sisters with one- to five-years of membership to apply for a \$1,000 stipend to be used for expenses to attend the **2014 International Convention**. This stipend was created to honor DKG's initiative to support *Early Career Educators*. This gives newer sisters a chance to see the Society at work on all three levels. There will be keynote speakers as well as a wide variety of workshops to advance both professional and personal growth. Fellowship with members from eighteen countries is an unforgettable experience.

This past summer the *Ad Hoc Travel Stipend* Committee awarded three stipends to women with one- to five-years of membership. One recipient was **Audrey Marie Baker**, *Alpha Beta*, who used her stipend to attend the European Regional in Amsterdam. Two recipients were **Laura Hagadorn**, *Alpha Epsilon*, and **Karen Varricchio**, *Omega*, who used their stipends to attend the *Northeast Regional Conference* in Portland, Maine. One of the women stated: *"I was immediately struck by how I was surrounded by like-minded professional women who were extremely positive and supportive of each other."*

Encourage all members with one- to five-years of membership in our Society to apply for three stipends of \$1,000.00 each to attend the 2014 International Convention. Application forms, due March 1, 2014, can be found on our website. For questions you can contact **Karen P. Crumley**, Chair, kcrumley@hvc.rr.com, **Jeanne Schenk**, *Alpha Tau*, or **Joan Slagle**, *Beta Omega*.

Karen P. Crumley

The Bea Small Award

"Invigorate Pi State" and the Society by nominating a Chapter whose current project deserves to be supported and recognized. The deadline for submitting nominations is March 1, 2014. Forms are available on Pi State's website. **The Chapter recipients will be recognized at the Awards Luncheon at Pi State's Spring Executive Board Meeting/ Seminar on Saturday, April 26, 2014 at the Syracuse Sheraton Hotel.**

Established in 1999 in memory of **Bea Small**, *Omega*, the Award is presented to a Pi State Chapter(s) having an outstanding existing program or projects which addresses a need of a specific population within the Chapter's geographic area.

Recent awardees include: **Gamma Zeta** *"Salvation Army Backpack Program;"* **Alpha Sigma** *"Books for Babies;"* **Beta Alpha** *"Books for Babies;"* **Alpha Rho** *"Traveling Books;"* **Beta Psi** *"Starting School Right;"* **Mu** *"Born to Read;"* **Beta Omicron** *"Everybody Can ~ Disabilities Awareness Contest;"* **Alpha Tau** *"Books for WIC."*

Deborah Bedard

Pi State Area Council Conferences Fall 2013

October 5 South Central Area Conference at The Glen Club at International Race Track, Watkins Glen ... *“Autism Spectrum Disorders: - Are we ready – REALLY ready?”* ... Guest speaker will be Dr. Dawn Hamlin, Assistant Professor Educational Psychology, Counseling and Special Education, at SUNY Oneonta and Past President of NYS Council for Exceptional Children. Start Time: 9:30am

October 19 North Central Area Conference at Matilda Joslyn Gage Center and United Church of Fayetteville, Fayetteville ... *“Engaging in a Vision for Equal Rights”* ... Participants will rotate through three 40-minute concurrent sessions: Gage Center Tour, United Church tour and historical overview and *“The Underground Railroad”* with storyteller Vanessa Johnson. A catered *“High Tea,”* featuring welcome from Dr. Sally Roesch Wagner, will be the luncheon. Start Time: 9:30am

October 19 Southeastern Area Conference at Molloy College, Rockville Centre ... *“A Taste of Africa”* ... Guest speaker will be Esther Mcheka Chilenje-Nkhoma, Representative of the Republic of Malawi Mission to the United Nations. *Schools for Africa* presentation and new member recognition are also featured. Proceeds will benefit the US Fund for UNICEF’s *Schools for Africa* program

2014 Pi State Awards Benefit Tickets for State Awards, Scholarships and Grant(s)-in-Aid will be sold at each Area Conference.

Tau Receives NYS Assembly Certificate of Merit



*Nancy Catalano, Lauren Miller,
Chapter President Ginny Dudko*

Photo by Pat Segar

On August 19, 2013, NYS Assembly member, **Aileen Gunther**, presented *Tau* with the *New York State Assembly Certificate of Merit* in recognition of service to the community and devotion to the children of Sullivan County for the *“Born to Read”* and *“Born to Read and Beyond”* projects that have, for over ten years, supplied the Sullivan County WIC program with new books that are given out to clients. The projects are chaired by **Nancy Catalano** and **Lauren Miller**, respectively. These women spend many hours decorating bags, buying books and

securing donations to fund the projects. *Tau* Chapter President **Ginny Dudko** organizes times for members to model reading to children for the parents at the WIC office.

Congratulations to **Linda Casler**, *Pi*, for her efforts to bring *Boston Strong* to the Utica area. Linda ran in the Utica Boilermaker, recognized as a premier 15K run, on Sunday, July 14. Runners come from around the world. She ran for the first time two years ago, a few years after retiring. Prior to the run, she was interviewed by the local TV station WKTU for a story on security at the race. *“When we did (the Boilermaker) last time, all the kids came and this year I knew they couldn’t come, but I was happy, almost, that they weren’t coming because I felt a little uneasy,”* Casler said. *“So my daughter, just listening to me on the phone, sent my husband and me a Boston Strong shirt, (saying) ‘Maybe this will make you feel better because this is how we’re feeling.’”*

*“Sharing Our Vision ~ Strengthening Our Society”
Dr. Beverly Helms’ ... International President 2012-2014*

Director of NIMS Honored



Linda B. Smith

The Democrat & Chronicle featured the work of **Linda Smith**, *Omega*, in the *Our Town* section in May, focusing on the Victor community. Linda is the Director and a volunteer driver for NIMS, *Neighbors in Ministry for Seniors*. NIMS was founded 11 years ago through the support of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, a national philanthropic organization that focuses on public health issues, four Victor Churches and especially due to neighbors like Linda. Seniors call in to schedule rides for medical appointments, groceries and whatever their needs are.



New Initiates for Chi

Chi member/sponsor Sue Peters-Bush (center) with Initiate Janet Ramsey (left), Culinary Arts teacher, and Initiate Laurie Cleveland (right), English teacher. Both initiates teach at the Howard G. Sackett Technical Center in Glenfield.

Photo by Sue Pennock



Anne-Marie Carlson, Phi, CTAUN Chair

Anne-Marie Carlson Elected Chair of NGO/DPI Executive Committee

Anne-Marie Carlson, Phi, was elected Chair of the NGO/DPI Executive Committee at United Nations. This is the group working with the 1300+ non-governmental organizations (NGOs) around the world which are affiliated with the UN's Department of Public Information (DPI) and their 6000+ representatives. She had served as Vice-Chair of the group for 3 years prior to last June and has been on a number of sub-committees for several years. She is also the Chair of CTAUN.

Two Pi State members were there for the Town Hall Meeting held in the UN's Trusteeship Council Chambers along with the announcement of election results. They are **Grace Murphy, Alpha Beta**, and **Eileen Venezia, Alpha Delta**, in addition to Ann Grosjean from DKG Connecticut State Organization.

Anne-Marie's term of office is 2 years and commenced on Monday, 1 July. For reference, the NGO/DPI website is www.ngodpiexecom.org.



Michelle H. Snyder

International Scholarship Recipient

Michelle H. Snyder, Psi, was recently awarded a 2013 \$10,000 Scholarship for Doctoral Studies from DKG International. She is enrolled in the Curriculum and Instruction PhD program within the Department of Educational Theory and Practice at the University at Albany, State University of New York. She has been a full-time faculty member in the Science Department at Clinton Community College, Plattsburgh NY since 2003. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she serve as the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Outreach Program Coordinator which focuses on public school and community engagement initiatives.

Her teaching emphasizes an inquiry-based approach to learning, use of case studies for application of scientific information, and implementing writing-to-learn strategies in the classroom and laboratory for greater student understanding of science. Her primary research interests have been in affecting science literacy outcomes for the undergraduate non-science major. Her doctoral research will look more closely at how students question scientific information presented to them in the media (i.e. print, internet, television, radio) and how their conceptual understanding of the nature of science (NOS) might impact the evaluation of this information.

Michelle states: "As a DKG Society International member, I have received much in the way of support from my fellow sisters. So many of you have been a source of inspiration and your kind words have given me the courage to move forward despite the long journey. Nothing great is ever achieved without the support of many along the way.

Thank you."

CTAUN Conference at United Nations "Promoting PEACE through EDUCATION" Friday, 31 January 2014

Speakers will include representatives from UN agencies, practitioners and noted peace activists and will be tailored to the needs of today's educators, including practical applications in the classroom. For more information on the Conference and application forms for "Best Practices Award(s)," due November 1, 2013, refer to www.teachun.org. Projects selected for the Award(s) will be recognized at the CTAUN Conference and will be posted on the website.



Beta Chapter, founded February 12, 1938, celebrates its 75th Anniversary.

"The Mystery Man-Alias: Lewis Powell/Paine/Payne"



Joyce Thompson - Hovey, *Gamma Gamma*, retired teacher from Attica Central School District, presented a program on Lewis Powell for her Chapter. Her interest in Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War has led her to develop several programs, including one on Lewis Powell and his connection to John Wilkes Booth and the assassination of President Lincoln. She was a presenter at the 2013 Pi State Convention.

Photo by Rhonda Ball

Pi State Congratulations to ...

- ❖ **Jayne Davignon** ... In 2003 **Jayne Garlapow** was a North Tonawanda High School senior and was awarded a \$400 grant from *Gamma Delta* Chapter as she began her higher education quest to become a teacher. On May 23, 2013, **Jayne Garlapow Davignon** was initiated into *Gamma*. *This membership was planted a decade ago!*
- ❖ **Maria Consoli Toulas**, *Alpha Phi*. She has had her book, THE CIVIL SERVANT, published by IUniverse Press. It is the story of a Greek civil servant who follows his bliss and becomes a citizen of the USA and a civil servant for New York State's Department of Health.
- ❖ **Mary Luckern**, *Omega*, who was named the Geneva Area Chamber of Commerce's **2013 Citizen of the Year**.



Chi members (standing left to right) **Karen Spooner, Karen Thomas, Donna Bibbins** and **Patricia Randall** visited with one of the classes in *Chi*'s "**Books for Keeps**" project. In this two-year old project, members have made about 345 colorful drawstring bags and put one or more books in each bag. Last year, the book bags were distributed to every *Headstart* student in Lewis County. This year they were distributed to the students in Jefferson County *Headstart*. Members who delivered the book bags spent time with the classes telling the children a story. The children made beautiful *thank you* cards for our Chapter that showed their appreciation.

Photo by Sue Pennock

School Board Member's Editorial

"Serving on board is a delicate balancing act."



Judi Geer, *Alpha Lambda*, is a retired educator and has been a member of the Holland, NY School Board for two and ½ years. Recently, the *Buffalo News* featured her editorial about her role on the School Board.

She was a guest speaker in a first grade class, she asked: "What do you think a School Board member does?" ... A wise little girl named Skylar piped up with, **'You help us grow up.'** Well! If I hadn't been sitting down already, I would have fallen down. A crisper description of the core of School Board membership is impossible to find. **How do we help the kids 'grow up' when our options are SO limited?** Over the past year, I have thought of Skylar and all the kids in our schools and often felt sorely inadequate to help them 'grow up' in these days of thinning budgets juxtaposed with overwhelming needs. Sometimes our district's problems are quiet and fixable, but more often they are noisy and painstakingly slow to repair. ...

Our kids are inspired every day by the many good people who work in our beleaguered schools.

2013-15 State Officers

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Alpha Alpha Donation



Pictured here is Alpha Alpha Chapter who donated \$1000 to Newtown Youth and Family Services. President Donna Noble stated in their letter: "We request that these funds be used to support counseling services for any Sandy Hook students, families or educators who may not be able to afford the full cost of such service. ... Our prayers continue, not only for the victims' families and their community, but in hopes that a tragedy such as this will never again happen!"

Go to the DKG International website: www.dkg.org

You can: * Join social network; use resources; refer to Committees; learn Conference details; refer to *Ideas & Projects*; use the library; learn about Grants & Scholarships & **find lots more!**

**And enter your comments/ questions on the survey by the
AD HOC ELECTION PROCESS COMMITTEE
on electronic voting at**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/D5LGWG6> or on website.

Pi Lights for Winter Issue (mailed) – Due December 1, 2013

- * *Pi State* features, photographs and information
- * Reminders for *Scholarships, Awards, Stipends & Grants-in-Aid*.
- * *Pride of Pi*
- * *Spring Executive Board Meeting/Seminar* Registration Forms

E-mail articles, List of Initiates, Area Conference information and photographs and *Pride of Pi* highlights to:

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Pi Lights Deadlines for 2014

February 1, 2014 ... May 1, 2014 ... September 1, 2014 ... December 1, 2014