



Pi Lights

Vol. 66, No. 4

Published by the New York State Organization

Summer 2011

2011 Pi State Convention Elects Biennium Officers for 2011-2013



Jeanne Schenk, *Alpha Tau*
President



Joyce Tang, *Alpha Phi*
First Vice President



Erin Merrill, *Beta Chi*
Second Vice President



Deborah Bedard, *Alpha Epsilon*
Secretary

See more *Convention News* included in this issue.

You're Invited to
**2011 Fall Executive Board
Meeting/Seminar**
September 23-24, 2011
Riverwalk Hotel & Conference Center
Binghamton, NY 13901

Friday, 23 September

3:00pm	Registration
5:30-6:30pm	Optional Dinner
6:30-7:15pm	Session I
7:30-8:15pm	Session II
8:30-9:30pm	Welcome Program (See p. 6)
9:30pm	Dessert Reception

Saturday, 24 September

7:00-8:30pm	Optional Breakfast
9:00-11:00pm	Executive Board Meeting
11:15pm-noon	Area Council Meetings
12:15pm	Fall Luncheon

See INSERT for *Registration Form* and
Hotel Reservation/ Directions

Refer to the NY website for Session information.
Workshops will focus on technology, digital
photography and music in the classroom.

*"The heart
of DKG
is what
happens
in our
Chapters."*

- Linda Eller



International Guest Speaker,
Linda Eller, with Pi State
President, **Joan Slagle**, at 2011
Convention Welcome & Keynote
on Friday, 29th April.

The *2011 Pi State Executive Board* elected the
following Committee Members for term 2011-2015.

Elected to the **Finance Committee**

Della Ludwig, *Omega*, East Central Area
Catherine A. Mlyniec, *Beta Gamma*, West Central Area
Noreen LeCann, *Beta Xi*, Southeastern Area
Cindy Baker, *Alpha Sigma*, Southwestern Area
Sharon Kulhanek, *Alpha Lambda*, Northwestern Area

Elected to the **Nominations Committee:**

Margarethe McCurry, *Alpha Epsilon*, Capital Area
Lochie Musso, *Alpha Eta*, Eastern Area
Ruth Mowry, *Psi*, Northern Area
Ellen Nowyj, *Alpha Iota*, North Central Area
Kelley-Jo Riker, *Beta Rho*, South Central Area



Wasn't it a "Gem of a Convention?"

*"Honoring the Past -
Connecting to the Future -
We Are Connected!"*

Joan C. Slagle

Pi State President 2009 - 2011



When Karen Cunningham, *Beta*, came up with our theme, we all felt it was a fine way to title our **75th anniversary as a Delta Kappa Gamma state**. *I hope you were there to experience it.* Thank you for indulging my request to wear hats and gloves to the Birthday Luncheon. It was quite the scene with regalia from many eras.

Convention is the culminating activity of the State Biennium and this year's included celebrating milestones, important business sessions, honoring sisters who deserve recognition for various achievements, participating in informative workshops, remembering sisters who have passed on, electing new officers, hearing from our International guest, **Linda Eller**, and so much more. *It is definitely a must attend event.*

Congratulations to our new State Officers for the next biennium: **Jeanne Schenk**, President; **Dr. Joyce Tang**, First Vice President; **Erin Merrill**, Second Vice President; **Deborah Bedard**, Secretary. They will lead us to *"Be the Spark - Ignite the Flame."*

Many thanks to the outgoing team of officers who joined together under the theme, *"Honoring the Past - Connecting to the Future - We are Connected."*

Wouldn't **Dr. Annie Webb Blanton**, our Founder of the International Society, be pleased to see that we have continued to promote the professional and personal growth of key women educators? Shouldn't we be pleased with ourselves for being key women educators?

One way to continue our progress in promoting that goal is to be vigilant in communicating. Traditional face-to-face meetings and hard copy mailings are important. However, New York is a big state with busy women doing so much that it is helpful and really necessary to send and retrieve information about our business by computer conferencing and frequently accessing our website and e-mail. **Linda Eller's** inspiring messages came through loud and clear on this. In fact, soon after, I received an invitation from Past Pi State President Andrea Morris to connect to her *LinkedIn* session! These suggestions are for every member, not just Chapter Presidents. Soon, we will all be packing our tablets along with our smart phones to take to our functions.

As members, do you know what our governing documents, the Standing Rules and Bylaws, are all about? Are you aware that they describe the parameters of our awards, grants-in-aid and scholarships? This is where you look to find out duties of officers, committee chairs, chapter responsibilities and so much more. The recent revisions approved at Convention will be incorporated into the current documents and posted online. Every member can read the Minutes of State Meetings online and see what happened. Messages from State Chairs, forms and applications, and issues of **Pi Lights** are all online for you to access. Please take some time to look around the sites for DKG and NY.

I encourage you to seek new members. It will allow other key women educators to enjoy the privilege and affirmation of membership. It will bring new life to your Chapter. We have much to offer retirees, early career educators and those well into their careers. Visiting Chapters was such a delight as your State President that I can't imagine anyone not wanting to be a part of the camaraderie and professional dynamic. I look forward to seeing you in *Hershey at the NERC* and at the *Fall Executive Board Meeting & Seminar in Binghamton, September 23-24*.

Thank you for the opportunities of the last two years to lead Pi State's Executive Team. Yes, as the song says, you light up my life!



“Be the Spark - Ignite the Flame”

Jeanne Schenk

Pi State President-Elect 2011 - 2013

**Acceptance Address to 2011 Convention General Session
By President-Elect Jeanne Schenk**

“Madame President, Past State Presidents, Executive Committee, Executive Board and members, it is with honor and pride that I accept the position of Delta Kappa Gamma Pi State President for the 2011-2013 Biennium.

Thank you for placing your trust in me.

I want to thank **Ruth Mowry** and the members of her committee for nominating me for this office. *Special thanks* also to my Chapter, *Alpha Tau*, and Chapter President **Robyn Ballard** for their continuing support.

When I was initiated into *Alpha Tau* in 1986, a fellow teacher from Marcus Whitman who was a member of *Omega* Chapter, Betty Bay, told me to be an **active** member of my Chapter and then she told me that Delta Kappa Gamma members never say “No” when asked to do something. (Back then Betty would not allow anyone to say only DKG!) In 1998 an *Alpha Tau* sister, Mary Lou Angeline, spoke to me and said, “*Jeanne, it’s your time, do it!*” Since our Chapter needed a President, I agreed to fill the role.

I stand here today, agreeing to a much more daunting task, the Presidency of Pi State. I realize there are many challenges facing our state society. Membership in our society is the key. We are a society of **key** women educators. Membership is by invitation and it is an **honor** to be chosen. Therefore, we need to mentor the newest members in our chapters, and perhaps some of the not-so-new members, to help them see that DKG is not a tea and cookie group. Our membership holds the mission of promoting the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. We need members who can accomplish that.

The strength of our Chapters needs to be looked at. Over the past few years, several Chapters have dissolved. There are now other chapters in the State having serious difficulties, especially in finding members willing to accept leadership roles. We need to invite new, key women educators to join our Chapters. Some Chapters feel they are too large and already don’t know their chapter members well enough - so why invite more? Other Chapters have gotten quite “grey” and no longer know who in their area schools deserves membership. When new members are not invited, Chapters do not stay healthy and viable. We need to encourage the leadership qualities of our members so they will accept the challenge of holding a Chapter office or Chair a Committee. Chapter programs need to be interesting and informative. Members will make special arrangements to attend meetings that are about topics that interest them. We should stretch the minds of our members, anticipate their needs and offer meaningful programs.

I will ask the members of the Executive Committee who serve as liaisons to the ten areas of our State to take an active role in supporting the Chapters in their area through contact both before and after each state meeting. Perhaps each Area Council can also show extra assistance to troubled Chapters by offering joint meetings and include leadership development in their Area Conferences. This can be an excellent networking device for working teachers.

International President, **Dr. Jensi Souders**, has requested our support for an initiative known as **THAT**, “*Teachers Helping Another Teacher.*” This program requests that chapters and members creatively assist early career educators. Chapters will be asked to keep a record of the hours and money spent in support of the early career educators and student teachers. Next summer in Washington, D.C., a compilation of the hours and dollars will be shared with government officials to show the commitment of DKG to early career educators. Many Chapters and individuals already do this. Let’s keep track so that Pi State can add a significant amount to the totals. Our ***Excellence in Education Committee*** will have ideas to share and tally sheets for use.

Our President, **Joan Slagle**, has implemented several new communication tools during her biennium. She has held meetings using “*Go-to-Meeting*” for Executive Committee Meetings, the Awards Committee, Nominations Committee and Convention Meetings. Our website is better than ever and now offers many State forms and applications along with important State news. We will continue these changes and expand them when possible. It is my hope to send a monthly communication to Chapter Presidents and the Executive Committee.

Continued on page eleven



2011 Pi State Achievement Award to Karen Crumley

The *Pi State Achievement Award* was instituted in 1954 and its first recipient was **Gladys L. Mersereau**, Pi State President from 1946-1948 and the State's first Executive Secretary. It has been awarded annually ever since. The award is to honor members who have made outstanding contributions to the society at the state level.

This year's recipient is Pi State Immediate Past President, Karen Crumley.

Karen is a retired educator who started her teaching career as a Head Start Teacher's Aide while she was still in college. She taught in the primary grades. She

encouraged parents to read to their children by modeling reading aloud for them. She has been a member of DKG for 26 years. In *Tau* she served as Chapter Secretary, President, a member of the Standing Rules Committee and Parliamentarian and encouraged members to accept leadership positions at both the Chapter and State levels. She was involved in her Chapter's *Born to Read* and *Born to Read and Beyond* programs. Karen has served as Pi State Secretary, 1st and 2nd Vice Presidents and Pi State President 2007-2009. She attended the *Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar* and participated in the *International Parliamentarian Workshop* to enhance her leadership skills and knowledge of the society. As a Pi State officer, Karen encouraged faltering Chapters by helping them reorganize to remain viable. As Pi State President, she used the *Bea Small Speakers Fund* to bring **Dr. Jensi Souders** to Pi State to present two successful *Leadership Development Sessions* to new State Committee Chairs and to incoming Chapter Presidents. Because Karen recognized the importance of working teachers to our society and its future, she implemented an opportunity for them to receive *Continuing Education Units* while attending State Seminars and Conventions.

Wherever there are DKG members, you will find Karen whether at a *CTUAN conference at the UN in NYC* or at the *National Legislative Seminar in DC* or at a *Seminar in Purposeful Living*, Regional Conferences or State and International Conventions, representing the best of Pi State. She will continue her service to Pi State and the society by serving as the Steering Committee Chair of the 2012 International Convention in NYC.

One of Karen's Letters of Recommendation stated:

"For her success in the awesome task of governing Pi State; her leadership abilities in her career and on all levels of the society; her personal goals and standards; her charming personality and generous interest in other people and finally her accepting as her own the challenge to be informed, inspired and involved..."

We are proud to present Karen Crumley with the 2011 Pi State Achievement Award.

Catherine Olinger



Dr. Andrea Morris, *Alpha Beta*, Past Pi State President, accepted **Travel & Study Stipend** to attend the *2011 Southwest Regional Conference* in Denver, Colorado as an invited guest solo artist. She is a retired Secondary Music Teacher and has worked as an adjunct professor of Education at St. John's University.

Erin Merrill



Phyllis DiMiero and **Louanne Hogan**, *Alpha Theta*, (right) accepted their **Travel & Study Stipend** to attend the *2011 Northeast Regional Conference* in Hershey, PA to learn about Registrar procedures and to shadow the NERC Registrars. They have accepted the call to be 2012 International Convention Co-Registrars. They are both retired Elementary classroom teachers

Erin Merrill



Harlene Gilbert, *Beta Delta*, announced **Native American Grant(s)-in-Aid** to **Chrystal Cybulski-Newberg** and **Brittany Merritt**. Chrystal, member of the Seneca Nation, is a freshman at St. Bonaventure University in Pre-Med with support for the fall semester. Brittany is associated with Onondaga Nation and a junior at SUNY Fredonia in Speech Pathology. This is her second semester of support.

Harlene Gilbert



Marcia Swiatek, *Alpha Lambda*, gives award to **Jeanette D'Agostino Banker**, *Alpha Alpha* (right)

Frederica Hollister Professional Educator's Award

Marcia Swiatek, *Alpha Lambda*, Pi State Second Vice President, presented **Jeanette D'Agostino Banker**, *Alpha Alpha*, with the **Frederica Hollister Professional Educator's Award**.

Jeannette is a 47-year member of her Chapter. She is a retired Associate Professor from SUNY Brockport's Education and Human Development Department where she held varied positions of leadership and influence. She was the first female in the history of the College to serve as President of the Faculty Senate. She was a Demonstration Teacher and Student Teacher Supervisor at the Campus School, Director of International Overseas Programs and Coordinator of overseas teaching centers in the American Schools in Dusseldorf, Germany and in Portugal. Jeannette developed a teaching center

in the Greece Central School District and served as Supervisor and Director of the Center until her retirement.

Since retirement, Jeannette continues to do volunteer work at the College. She will be honored with the establishment this spring of a new scholarship in her name – *The Jeanette D'Agostino Banker International Scholarship*. Jeannette truly epitomizes the criteria of the Hollister Award.

Marcia Swiatek

The Bea Small Award

The Bea Small Award is given for outstanding Chapter projects that are ongoing for at least two years. Named for *Omega* Chapter member **Bea Small**, the project must respond to the needs of a particular population within the Chapter's geographical area. This year four awards were given with funds from the Awards Committee.

"April Showers"

Alpha Chapter: **Colleen Greco**, President, and **Deborah Hill**, Project Facilitator. This project gives baby clothing and other items, as well as children's books for needy families in the city of Newburgh.

"Warm-Up America"

Alpha Theta Chapter: **Ruth Houserman**, President, and **Louanne Hogan**, Project Facilitator. The Chapter makes knitted, crocheted and fleece blankets for women's shelters in Niagara and Orleans counties.

"Alpha Xi Project at Hope Hall"

Alpha Xi Chapter: **Jane Hogan**, President, and **Patricia Corcoran**, Project Director. Members of the *Alpha Xi* Chapter tutor the children of Hope Hall, a private school outside of Rochester with many educationally at-risk learners. Book sets have been purchased for the school along with organizing and cleaning the Science, Computer Lab and Library. The Chapter also supports the school breakfast program.

"Chances and Changes-Battered Women Outreach"

Beta Tau Chapter: **Jonette Lancos**, President, and **Susan Schedlbauer**, Project Director. *Chances and Changes* offers emergency shelter for battered and abused women in the Livingston county area. *Beta Tau* provides exit baskets of much needed house wares, small appliances and cleaning supplies to help women receive a new start in a safe environment.

Jeanne Schenk



Deborah Hill, *Alpha*, Project Facilitator, accepted the **Bea Small Award** for Chapter's project, "April Showers."



Louanne Hogan, *Alpha Theta*, (left) and **Ruth Houserman**, President, accepted the **Bea Small Award** for Chapter's project, "Warm-Up America."

The DKG Society International promotes the professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

"Engage ... Collaborate ... Connect" – Linda Eller



Marion Buchner, Pi (center) with **Dr. Margarethe McCurry, Alpha Epsilon**, Pi State Parliamentarian, (left) and **Joan Slagle, Beta Omega**, Pi State President (right)

Marion “Bonnie” Buchner 60 Years of “Loyalty” to DKG 1951 - 2011

When **Dr. Jensi Souders**, DKG International President 2010-2012, sent a congratulatory letter to **Marion Buchner, Pi**, praising her achievement of membership in DKG for 60 years, she remarked:

*“What an exceptional woman you are! ... You have noticed the changes in the world, in your community and in the Society through the years, but one thing has remained constant: **your loyalty**. We treasure you.”*

Marion shared her fondest memories in DKG. She stated: *“As a very young and inexperienced teacher in 1950, I survived on the love, helpfulness and sympathetic understanding extended to me by the members of the Pi Chapter.”*

The March 1962 issue of *Pi Lights* on page 3 featured a photograph of Marion with this caption: *“Pi Lights wishes space permitted listing even a few of the political, educational and community activities of Mrs. Marion Yates Buchner, Pi, your kinetic Chairman of Legislation, to prove conclusively that she practices what she preaches.”*

Marrying in 1941, she lost her teaching job because her District restricted female teachers to marry; lobbied in Washington, DC for the Elementary and Secondary Education Bill; worked to change education policies, including substitutes and length of school day; attended the White House Conference on Children and Youth; and was a Counselor for 17 years and continued in retirement. Currently, she is an entertainer and dancer who shares her talents in Florida in nursing homes, Veteran’s Hospitals and ship’s Reunions. She designed *“some tap dance socks and slip those over bed slippers so former tappers can enjoy the rhythm, the music and the ambience.”* She treasures her visit to DKG Headquarters with her husband before his death and writes:

“We and every school child owe a debt of gratitude to the Founders and followers of our great Delta Kappa Gamma.”



Wanda Ward, Alpha Xi, Past Pi State President, accepted the **Bea Small Award** for Chapter’s project, *“Alpha Xi Project at Hope Hall.”*



Jonette Lancos, Beta Tau, President, accepted the **Bea Small Award** for her Chapter’s project, *“Chances and Changes –Battered Women Outreach.”*



Mary Whalen, Gamma Epsilon, 50-Year DKG member (right) with **Grace Murphy, Alpha Beta**, Chair Personal Growth & Services (left) and **Joan Slagle, Beta Omega**, Pi State President (center)

Pi State Honors Our 50-Year Members

Initiated from January 1, 1961 through December 31, 1961

Chi: Kathleen Zehr

Alpha Nu: Doris Daley

Alpha Omega: Evelyn Davis

Alpha Tau: Shirley Carney, Freida Mulheron, Jeanne Baker, Lucia Wheeler

Gamma Epsilon: Mary Whalen

Welcome Program for the 2011 Fall Executive Board Meeting/Seminar

Friday Evening, 23 September 2011

Dr. Joyce Tang, Alpha Phi, Pi State Secretary and First Vice President-Elect, will present the *Welcome Program: “Educators and Founders: How Leadership Evolved.”* The program “is about women promoting women in education from a Sociologist’s perspective. We will address the question - How did a 17-year-old **Annie Webb Blanton**, teaching in a rural school in Texas, end up being the founder of an organization with over 100,000 members in 17 countries?” Attendees will also have an opportunity to meet **Annie Webb Blanton** in person through the talents of **Dr. Margarethe McCurry, Alpha Epsilon**, Pi State Parliamentarian.

Pi State Honors Our 25-Year Members

Alpha:	Agnes Reis
Delta:	Mary Ann Boord, Diane Davison
Theta:	Nancy Pankow
Kappa:	Mary Rollinger
Lambda:	Sandra Bondellio, Diane Drummond, Sylvia Hayes, Sandra Tomalty, Catherine Welsh, Suella Young, Rickie Zappia
Pi:	Joanne Mickle
Tau:	Karen Crumley, Nancy Susan George, Mary Etta Hornicek, Patricia Newman, Karen Rupp, Dorothy Will
Chi:	Barbara Gray, Lynette Robinson, Linda Ann Yousey
Omega:	Linda Coons, Janice Wright
Alpha Alpha:	Linda Kotwas
Alpha Beta:	Christine Gilmartin, Louise Pirrello
Alpha Gamma:	Mary LoScalzo
Alpha Zeta:	Linda Ahlin, Alice Baker, Patricia Coon, Linda Greenblatt, Janice Scriber
Alpha Eta:	Carol Boyatsis, Myrna McQuade, Penelope Miller, Maureen Miney, Amy Weishaus
Alpha Lambda:	Catherine Benjamin, Lois Frazita, Patricia Harmon, Dr. Sharon Kulhanek, Joellen Ann Kuzina, Joanne McIsaac
Alpha Nu:	Patricia Ackley, Wendy Diskin, Maryanne Overbaugh, Dawn Van Buren
Alpha Omicron:	Barbara Walker
Alpha Rho:	Sharon Slingerland Kmetz, Livia Trexler, Donna Marie Kole, Diane Woodhouse
Alpha Tau:	Kathryn Braddon, Jeanne Schenk, Rosemary Wallace
Alpha Psi:	Kristine Mowers, Claudia Shaylor
Alpha Omega:	Catherine Poniatowski
Beta Alpha:	Gail Mary Fowler
Beta Delta:	Barbara Rizzieri
Beta Epsilon:	Martha Jean Nenno, Kathleen Sprague, Judith Ann Toner
Beta Xi:	Patricia Allen, Donna Sherry
Beta Omicron:	Susan Morales
Beta Rho:	Loretta Curtin, Kay Heiss, Kathleen Maskin, Jill Dianne Weston
Beta Tau:	Marcia Ayers
Beta Phi:	Martha Evans
Beta Chi:	Cheryl Ann Jordan, Virginia Tripp, Sheila Murray Mahady
Beta Omega:	Lois Patrick, Joan Slagle, Rosemarie Wysocki
Gamma Gamma:	Christey Arnold, Deborah Jean Brooks, Marie Butts, Joan Marie Ciszak
Gamma Epsilon:	Mary Colton, Wanda Jean Renick, Joanne Stickler

Pi State Hour of Remembrance**In Loving Memory of
Our Departed Chapter Sisters
2010-2011**

Alpha	Diana Stigbert	8.4.10
	Robin J. Wheeler	6.2.10
Beta	Marjorie Wilbur	5.24.09
Zeta	Gail Cauthers	9.22.10
Kappa	Janet L. Berlinghoff	1.22.11
	Glennedene M. Crofoot	5.5.10
	Carmen O. Lydell	7.29.10
Lambda	Judith G. Greene	4.28.10
	Helene M. Mellen	3.19.10
Chi	Eleanor C. Greene	7.28.10
Omega	Thelma Messinger	1.9.11
Alpha Alpha	Marguerite H. Browne	5.10.10
Alpha Beta	Catherine Mary Piszko	12.20.10
	Mary Frances Regan	1.3.11
Alpha Delta	Anne Pfifferling	11.10
Alpha Zeta	Carol Mahony	1.20.11
	Margaret Martinko	3.10.10
Alpha Theta	Velma Jean Laird	8.21.10
Alpha Iota	Bertha L. Bond Emerson	12.28.10
	Elda Wight	3.5.10
Alpha Nu	Ann C. Martin	4.7.10
	Marion Bleezarde Roberts	7.23.10
Alpha Xi	Elizabeth Olmstead	10.9.10
Alpha Omicron	Muriel Gazverde	1.31.11
Alpha Tau	Carol Bacon	8.3.10
	Joanne Kepner	6.27.09
	Doris Macomber	10.5.10
	Susan W. Vorce	11.30.10
Alpha Psi	Alberta B. Wright	2.13.10
Beta Gamma	Diane Wood	10.21.10
Beta Epsilon	Verna Clark	9.17.10
	Karen Haas	7.21.10
Beta Zeta	Dorcas Marie Smith	3.23.10
Beta Theta	Elisabeth Coman	7.11.10
Beta Lambda	Alice Marie Shimer	6.2.10
Beta Mu	Elsie Bartholomew	8.4.10
Beta Psi	Bess Carmichael	10.27.10
	Evelyn Wilson	5.10
Gamma Zeta	Janet Richardson	2.24.10

Always in our hearts ...



Pi State Chapter Women of Distinction Awards

<i>Alpha</i>	Patricia Hershberger
<i>Beta</i>	Jeanne Sangiorgi
<i>Delta</i>	Sharon Patrick
<i>Epsilon</i>	Patricia McDonnell
<i>Kappa</i>	Jane Lindboom
<i>Lambda</i>	Kristina Ann Kowalchuk
<i>Mu</i>	Carol Berry
<i>Nu</i>	Judith Parker
<i>Pi</i>	Jean Sekel
<i>Rho</i>	Jane Miller
<i>Sigma</i>	Linda Evans
<i>Tau</i>	Mary Keiter McCarty
<i>Phi</i>	Anne-Marie Carlson
<i>Chi</i>	Sue Pennock
<i>Psi</i>	Anne Bailey
<i>Omega</i>	Mary King
<i>Alpha Alpha</i>	Judy Fuller
<i>Alpha Beta</i>	Patricia Cuzzocrea
<i>Alpha Gamma</i>	Janet Judson
<i>Alpha Delta</i>	Margaret Misner
<i>Alpha Epsilon</i>	Deborah Bedard
<i>Alpha Zeta</i>	Martha Strever
<i>Alpha Theta</i>	Jeanette Lindke
<i>Alpha Iota</i>	Gail McKinnon
<i>Alpha Kappa</i>	Susanne Williams
<i>Alpha Nu</i>	Sandra Gill
<i>Alpha Xi</i>	Elizabeth Svitavsky
<i>Alpha Pi</i>	Jean Kennedy

<i>Alpha Rho</i>	Harriet Sweet
<i>Alpha Sigma</i>	Cindy Baker
<i>Alpha Tau</i>	Jane Crosby
<i>Alpha Phi</i>	Emilie J. Stris
<i>Alpha Chi</i>	Rose Marie Hosp
<i>Alpha Psi</i>	Leslie Hooper
<i>Alpha Omega</i>	Charlotte Munoz
<i>Beta Gamma</i>	Diane McCallum
<i>Beta Delta</i>	Delia Olufsen
<i>Beta Epsilon</i>	Mary Kula
<i>Beta Eta</i>	Susan Moses
<i>Beta Theta</i>	Susan Barnes
<i>Beta Kappa</i>	Patricia Slaski
<i>Beta Lambda</i>	Marcia Rajcak
<i>Beta Mu</i>	Rose Ann Hickey
<i>Beta Nu</i>	Elizabeth Wascak
<i>Beta Xi</i>	Beverly Rostin Krouse
<i>Beta Rho</i>	Annette Varcoe
<i>Beta Tau</i>	Jean Batzing
<i>Beta Phi</i>	Suzanne Walker
<i>Beta Chi</i>	Laura Bronson
<i>Beta Omega</i>	Kathleen Hoeltzel
<i>Gamma Alpha</i>	Rita King
<i>Gamma Gamma</i>	Rhonda Ball
<i>Gamma Delta</i>	Joan Holesko
<i>Gamma Epsilon</i>	Patricia Washburn
<i>Gamma Zeta</i>	Anne Price

The Pi State Educational Foundation

The existence of the *Pi State Educational Foundation* was very evident at the *2011 Pi State Convention* in Syracuse. On Friday night, **Susan Genthner**, *Alpha Alpha*, presented a workshop, “*A Children’s Journey as an Author, Illustrator and Performer.*” This hands-on exploration for students to become authors, illustrators or performers was originally funded through a grant awarded to Susan by the Pi State Educational Foundation.

At the *Pi State Educational Foundation Annual Membership Meeting*, Judith Dwyer’s recently funded project, “*Music Needs Maintenance*” was presented to attendees. Judith of *Gamma Zeta* works with teachers to organize packets of supplies necessary to maintain instruments that have been donated to students in need.

The *Pi State Educational Foundation Challenge* continues. At the Executive Board meeting *Gamma Zeta* was recognized as the Chapter having the greatest percentage of members of the Foundation. The plaque was accepted in honor of member, **Denise Huggler**. The Challenge continues. Another Chapter will be recognized next spring. That Chapter must exceed *Gamma Zeta’s* 54%.

At the *Founders/President’s Banquet*, Pi State President **Joan Slagle** presented the Foundation with a contribution of at least \$1,000.00, a portion of the President’s Gift - 2011 Convention.

Membership and Contribution Forms were available to Chapter Presidents at the Convention and are available on the Pi State web site. Monies are used to support Chapter projects. Application forms are available online.

Applications for Chapter Projects Awards are due May 1st and November 1st.

Since 2005, the *Pi State Educational Foundation* has awarded members \$5,900.00 to support projects that promote literacy. Members’ support of the Foundation through memberships and contributions is a “must” for its existence.

Agnes Becker

President-Elect Jeanne Schenk has appointed the following Pi State Committee Chairs for Society Business, Society Mission and Purposes and Committees Subject to Endowments in accordance with the revised Committee Structure.

Society Business Liaison: Erin Merrill

Audit

Jean Sekel, Pi, C
128 Inghams Mills Rd. Little Falls 13365-3432
315.823.1519 jean16@usadatanet.net

BYLAWS and Standing Rules

Karen Crumley, Tau, E
P.O. Box 51, Rock Hill 12775-0051
845.434.6022 Kcrumley@hvc.rr.com

Communications and Publicity

Susan Genthner, Alpha Alpha, WC
31 Talamora Trail, Brockport 14420-3032
585.637.5103 subeari@aol.com

Finance

Noreen LeCann, Beta Xi, SE
209 Howell Ave., Riverhead 11901
631.727.7714 nlecann@optonline.net

Historical Records & Scrapbooks

Linda Evans, Sigma, NC
215 Park Terrace, Sherrill 13461
315.363.7097 lindaevans2343@hotmail.com

Leadership Development

Diane Bootie, Sigma, NC
9146 Main Street, North Brookfield 13418
315.861.2879 dmbbootie@hotmail.com

Membership and Expansion

Rosemary Van Wart, Alpha Pi, E
105 Tomahawk St., Yorktown Heights 10598
914.248.5397 RVW20@optonline.net

Nominations

Ruth Mowry, Psi, N
67 Ashley Rd., Plattsburgh 12901
518.562.9404 rhmowry@charter.net

Personnel

Collene Richardson, Beta Xi, SE
11 Robert Street, Riverhead 11901
631.722.4089 Collenerichardson@msn.com

Pi State Educational Foundation

Agnes Becker, Gamma Delta, NW
3448 East River Road, Grand Island 14072
716.773.3152 aggieb@buffalo.com

Pi State Adopts Revised BYLAWS and Standing Rules

At the 2011 Pi State convention, the Pi State Executive Board approved the revised BYLAWS and Standing Rules as presented in the insert in the winter 2011 issue (Vol. 66, No. 2) of *Pi Lights*. Chapters will update their Rules to include these changes.

Mary Keiter McCarty

~Important~

The State Committee Guidelines have just been updated for the upcoming Biennium 2011-2013. There are several very important changes that should be noted by the Chapters. Changes in the Chapters' *Standing Rules* should reflect these changes.

The Committee Structure was changed by a Constitutional vote last summer at the *2010 International Convention* in Spokane, Washington. These changes may be viewed on the New York State website ~ State Links of Interest under the heading *Proposed BYLAWS and Standing Rules Changes* for 4/30/11.

The following items should be noted by each Chapter as they update their Committees for next year:

1. Each Chapter will continue to have a category of *Society Business Chairs* which will include: Standing Rules, Finance, Historical Records/Scrapbooks, Membership/Necrology and Nominations.
2. **NEW: Communications/Publicity will now be under *Society Business Chairs*.**
3. Program of Work will now read *Society Mission and Purposes*.
4. *Society Mission and Purposes* will include Educational Excellence, Scholarships and World Fellowships.
5. The **Educational Excellence Committee** will consist of a Music Representative and a member responsible for each of the following: Legislation, Personal Growth & Services, Professional Growth and programs or projects that promote Excellence in Education.
6. Please note **Educational Services Committees no longer exist.**

If any Chapters have questions as they begin this process of updating their documents, please don't hesitate to call 845.434.6022 or e-mail me kcrumley@hvc.rr.com. I am always willing to help in any way that I can.

Karen P. Crumley

Society Mission and Purposes**Liaison: Dr. Joyce Tang****Awards****Kelly-Jo Riker, Beta Rho, SC**

319 Howard Hill Road, Hallstead, PA 18822

570.967.2163 kriker@jcschools.stier.org**Educational Excellence****Chair: Susan Sharon, Sigma, NC**

PO Box 28, Durhamville 13054-0028

315.363.7948 Suzeoo79@aol.com**UN-NGO Rep.: Grace Murphy, Alpha Beta, SE**

77 Beverly Road, Staten Island 10305

718.727.6622 Gracemm630@aol.com**Music Rep.: Karen Butters, Beta Mu, N**

PO Box 1318 Blue Mountain Lake 12812

518.352.7726 kbutters@frontier.com**Native American Grants-in-Aid****Deborah Packard, Beta Alpha, NW**

232 Evergreen Rd. Brockport, 14420-1140

585.637.2373 dpackard@bataviacsdsd.org**Pi State Achievement****JoAnn Wallace, Alpha Omega, NC**

6246 The Hamlet, Jamesville 13078-9790

315.449.9622 jctedi@aol.com**Scholarship:****Elaine McNulty, Pi, C**

33 Stewart Street, Amsterdam 12010

518.573.7741 emcnulty39@yahoo.com**Travel and Study Stipend****Joyce Krupnik, Alpha Sigma SW**

372 North Main Street, Wellsville 14895

585.593.4828 skrupnik@aol.com**World Fellowship****Bridget Bishop, Alpha Alpha, WC**

115 Sherwood Drive, Brockport 14220-1453

585.637.2422 meanmom5@rochester.rr.com**Committees Subject to Endowments****Liaison: Deborah Bedard****Bea Small Award****Dr. Joyce Tang, Alpha Phi, SE**

4140 Union Street, Apt. 12P, Flushing, 11355

718.997.2839 Erindale@verizon.net**Bea Small Leadership Speakers Fund****Lynda John, Omega, EC**

PO Box 681, Geneva, 14456

315.781.0256 ljohn@rochester.rr.com**Frederica Hollister Pi State Professional****Educator Award****Erin Merrill, Beta Chi, SC**

2750 Davis Road, Corning, 14830-9514

607.962.026 Emerrill@cppmail.com**Gladys L. Mersereau Grants-in-Aid****Jeanne Schenk, Alpha Tau, EC**

7835 County Road 12, Naples, 14512

585.374.5728 jmos29@aol.com**Scholarship****Elaine McNulty, Pi, C**

PO Box 35, Ashland 12407

518.299.3720 emcnulty39@yahoo.com**Verna Mulholland Friend of Education Award****Harlene Gilbert, Beta Delta, EC**

5338 East Lake Road, Romulus 14541

315.585.6691 wilmacpeebles@gmail.com**Visitations (Spring 2011)**

March 26	Psi	Dr. Margarethe McCurry
April 8	Sigma	Suzanne Patrick
May 17	Alpha Epsilon	Joan Slagle
May 24	Alpha Tau	Joan Slagle
May 26	Beta Omicron	Karen Crumley & Joyce Tang
May 18	Beta Tau	Jeanne Schenk
June 1	Alpha Lambda	Joan Slagle

“New York Dines Out” – Important News!

We are delighted with the overwhelming response for our scheduled “*New York Dines Out*” to be held **July 21st at 6:00 pm at the Union Canal House in Hershey**. Fifty-one individuals signed up for this special evening. This is a traditional practice at the *Northeast Regional Conferences*. We will use two rooms to accommodate the fifty-one sisters, who signed up at the 2011 Pi State Convention. We may order off the menu. Although the restaurant, due to our numbers, will not be able to provide separate checks, the waitresses will issue one check per table for payment and will make a copy of the receipt, if needed, for individual expense account purposes.

Please return your confirmation or cancellation information to me as soon as possible.

One week prior to the NERC, the restaurant will be given a final count.

Please Note: The Union Canal House will assess a \$25.00 per person for any guests who confirmed their reservation with me and do not attend our event. If you do not attend “*New York Dines Out*” and have not notified myself by June 30th or **Erin Merrill** by **July 14th** of the cancellation of your reservation, you will be charged the \$25.00 assessment payable to **Suzanne Patrick**, Pi State Treasurer.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone in Hershey.

Marcia Swiatek

Acceptance Speech by Pi State President-Elect Jeanne Schenk

Continued from page three

No one has ever told me that I am too shy or that I talk too slowly, but I hope that through regular e-mails (and snail mail for those Presidents not yet on-line) that we can support each other and be advocates and motivators for the betterment of Pi State.

Our IPP, Immediate Past President, **Karen Crumley**, has been working very hard with preparations for the **2012 International Convention in New York City**. Many members have stepped up and agreed to help make this Convention a memorable one. So*When looking for hundreds of volunteers, where do you think she will go?* This is no time to look at your neighbor. This is the time to step up and show the entire International Community of DKG members just how great our State is. We will show New York at its finest!!! I hope each of you and **many** of your Chapter members will be in NYC in July of 2012. We will showcase our state with pride and enthusiasm.

I hope that I can count on each of you to be the spark that your Chapter and our State needs for an enthusiastic membership, a strong healthy Chapter and Pi State pride. My theme is

“Be the Spark - Ignite the Flame!”

I know that together we can make a flame that cannot be extinguished.”

Membership: Keeping Our Chapters Strong

Chapters with deceased members in 2010 and early 2011 have already said their good-byes and remembered their sisters in their own ways. Pi State has also said farewell to women who passed on from *January 2010 until January 2011* in the **Hour of Remembrance Ceremony at the Convention**.

Whether you are thinking about a particular woman because she was in your Chapter ... or you attended the Ceremony at the Convention ... or you are looking at the **“In Remembrance”** list on page seven of this **Pi Lights** issue, please take a moment to reflect on the varied contributions these women made to their classrooms or libraries, their schools, their communities and their Chapters. No matter what their circumstances, it all started with how much they loved working with children, and it blossomed as they influenced the students in their classes and grew in their professional positions. These women were what Delta Kappa Gamma stands for: **Key Women Educators**.

In their honor, it is our continued quest to keep the Society they so loved vibrant by bringing in new members to each Chapter. In memory of your member who passed on, why not re-double your efforts to initiate a new member or two? If your Chapter has a large majority of retired members, you will have to work harder to bring new members on board because your in-school contacts are probably less than when you were in the classroom.

However, that doesn't mean you can't do it!

Maybe you have a friend/colleague who is newly retired, but is not a member of DKG. *Invite her to membership*. Surely that friend still has some contacts in school or has a young woman in mind with whom she taught who is an **Early Career Educator**. Try setting up an informational meeting to introduce DKG to them. **The DKG website has a section that is focused on orientation for prospective members**. There is a letter of invitation which you can personalize and print out. There is an orientation guide that is meant to accompany a new orientation power-point program called **“Pride in the Big Picture.”** You may use both resources. The guide can stand alone as an outline for your oral presentation.

Our Society is there to help you and all of us to continue our efforts to grow. I urge you to go the www.DKG.org to check out what's new and investigate the information available. If there is any way I can assist you, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Rosemary Van Wart

In Remembrance *(January 27- April 29, 2011)*

To be honored at Hour of Remembrance, Spring 2012

<i>Alpha Eta</i>	Martha MacGuffie	3/7/11
<i>Beta Nu</i>	Anne (Angie) S. Geer	3/21/11
<i>Alpha Nu</i>	Ann H. Van Buren	3/28/11
<i>Alpha Lambda</i>	Mildred Jerris	4/8/11
<i>Alpha Pi</i>	Martha Christine Duff	4/18/11

The *Awards Committee* would like to congratulate the winners of the **Pi State Sparkles Baskets**:

Celeste Crawford, Kathie Burnside, Peggy Palmer, Zita Kurtzman-Yennie, Susan St. John-Jarvis, Margaret Signer, Jane Crosby, Liz Logan, Elaine Stumpf and Beta Chapter. To be a winner next year, obtain your benefit drawing tickets from your Chapter President in the fall.

Mary Kula

2009-11 State Officers

President

Joan C. Slagle, *Beta Omega-C*
1524 Amsterdam Rd.
Ballston Spa, NY 12020-3318
518.885.7215 & fax
E-mail: jns172@yahoo.com

First Vice-President

Jeanne Schenk, *Alpha Tau-EC*
7835 County Road 12
Naples, NY 14512-9208
585.374.5728
E-mail: jmos29@aol.com

Second Vice-President

Marcia Swiatek,
Alpha Lambda-NW
3053 Upper Court,
Hamburg, NY 14075
716.648.5084
E-mail: mswia18@aol.com

Secretary

Dr. Joyce Tang, *Alpha Phi-SE*
4140 Union St., Apt. 12P,
Flushing, NY 11355-8009
718.997.2839
E-mail: erindale@verizon.net

Immediate Past President

Karen P. Crumley, *Tau-E*
P.O. Box 51,
Rock Hill, NY 12775
845.434.6022 & fax
E-mail: kerumley@hvc.rr.com

Executive Secretary

Beryl Szwed, *Beta Mu-N*
157 Kiwassa Rd.
Saranac Lake, NY 12983
518.891.5008
E-mail: szwed@northnet.org

Treasurer

Suzanne Patrick, *Rho-SC*
11189 County Highway 23
Unadilla, NY 13849
607.369.4817
E-mail: spatrick@franklincsd.org

Pi Lights Editor

Mary-Martha W. Harvey,
Omega - EC
185 Park Street
Canandaigua, NY 14424
518.394.3409
E-mail: mharvey@frontiernet.net

Parliamentarian

Dr. Margarethe D. McCurry,
Alpha Epsilon-C
178 Sunnyside Rd.
Queensbury, NY 12804-7761
518.793.0793 & fax
E-mail: omadoc432@adelphia.net

Looking for an FDF Administrator

Susanne Williams, *Alpha Kappa*,
Pi State FDF Administrator, is moving
to Maine in September. She will be
unable to complete her term (ending
June 30, 2012) but is willing and eager
to work with Pi State's new FDF
Administrator.

Are YOU that sister?

Have you ever wanted to open
your own store? Please review the
job description for this position on the
Pi State website. You may contact
Susanne if you have questions about
the position and download the
application form to complete and
submit. *Please apply before the
summer rush!*

Ellie Robinson

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*; learn about
Grants & Scholarships & **find lots more!**

Northeast Regional Conference in Hershey, PA "The Sweetest Place on Earth" July 20 – 23, 2011

Conference information on
DKG International website.

www.dkg.org

Click on Events - Regional
Conferences -
Northeast Regional Conference -
Select the box for information

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*"Hershey has it all— world-class shops and
culinary delights from around the globe."*

*Dr. Lyn Schmid
Northeast Regional Director*

Pi Lights for Fall Issue (online) – Due September 1, 2011

Look for more 2011 *Pi State Convention* features and photographs and
information for *Scholarships, Awards, Stipends & Grants-in-Aid*. E-mail articles,
Area Conference information and **Pride of Pi** highlights to:

Mary-Martha Harvey mharvey@frontiernet.net.

Pi Lights Deadlines for 2011-2012

September 1, 2011 ... December 1, 2011 ... May 1, 2012 ... September 1, 2012



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Pi State
Mary-Martha W. Harvey, Pi Lights Editor
185 Park Street
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Wilson Press, Inc.
56 Miller Street
Seneca Falls, NY 13148

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Seneca Falls, NY
Permit No. 14

Members send address changes to:

The Delta Kappa Society International, P.O. Box 1589, Austin, Texas 78767