

Jen's Gems January 2024

Moving Forward with Manageable Leadership

Dear NYSO DKG members,

I hope you have all had a great start to 2024!

Please read this issue of *Jen's Gems* for:

- important announcements regarding leadership changes in some of our personnel
- reminder to Chapters to file Form 2 Necrology report by February 1st
- fillable form for the spring NYSO Exec. Board meeting and Seminar
- repost of hotel information for the spring meeting
- registration flyer for South Central Area Council conference in October
- registration flyer for Capital Area Council conference on May 19
- announcement about the format for the fall NYSO Executive Board meeting and Seminar
- link to the the NYSO website to find applications for our Scholarships, Awards and Grants-in-Aid



As always, please feel free to email NYSO Officers with any questions. You may find our contact information at the end of every *Pi Lights* and in the membership directory.

Best,

Jen

Jennifer Lee-Alden

NYSO President 2021-2025

nysdkgpres2123@gmail.com

WELCOME TO OUR NEW NYSO TREASURER!

I am pleased to announce that after an extended search by the Personnel Committee, we have found a NYSO DKG member to fill the position of **NYSO Treasurer**. **Marie Scoles** was initiated into



Beta Delta Chapter, East Central, in 2011 and is currently serving as chapter president (2020-2024). In addition she has served as vice president and on her chapter's Program, Finance and Scholarship Committees. At the state level Marie has worked on the Finance, Bea Small Award, and Communication and Marketing Committees. She has attended State Executive Board meetings and Conventions.

As a high school graduate Marie was awarded the Grant-in-Aid Scholarship from Beta Eta Chapter. She holds a dual BS degree in Mathematics/Secondary Mathematics Education from SUNY at Oneonta and a MS in Secondary Mathematics Education from SUNY Brockport. Marie retired after working for the South Seneca School District for 36 years where she taught all levels of Math, grades 7 - college, and was also an adjunct professor for Tompkins/Cortland Community College. She remains active in the Retired Teachers of Seneca County and the Association of Mathematics Teachers New York State. Marie is married and has two adult children. She enjoys traveling, reading and spending summers at her cottage in Canada.

The term of Marie's appointment is February 1, 2024 - June 30, 2026. You may reach her by email at courian@aol.com. Chapter treasurers will receive information from her soon!

Reminder to Make Your Hotel Reservation for the Spring 2024 NYSO Executive Board Meeting/Seminar

Please keep in mind the hotel room block is open for the **2024 NYSO Executive Board Meeting/Seminar, April 19-20, 2024** at the Delta Hotel in Utica. In 2022 the room block sold out and some members needed to stay at another nearby hotel. **Please do not let that happen to you - make your reservation now!** Use the link below or call 315-797-8010 to book your room now. Please be sure to ask for the group rate for Delta Kappa Gamma using code **APR2024**. We have a great room rate of \$149+taxes/night, effective Thursday, April 18 - Sunday, April 21. This allows members to extend their stay before or after our event and enjoy the Upstate New York area!



The registration form for our 2024 Executive Board meeting and Seminar is also included below in fillable format. The post marked deadline for *early registration* is **March 20, 2024**.

[Delta Hotel NYSO DKG reservation link](#)
[2024 Spring Executive Board meeting fillable registration form](#)

Amber (Gladle) Aldridge named as new NYSO Editor

Amber (Gladle) Aldridge has been appointed to the position of **NYSO Editor**, effective **February 1, 2024 - June 30, 2026**. Inducted in September 2017, Amber is currently serving as president of **Gamma Epsilon** chapter in the **Northern Area Council**. As a relatively new member Amber has



quickly risen to leadership positions, serving as chapter secretary and co-president, then as the **Northern Area Conference Chair** in June of 2023.

At the ten year mark of her career, Amber holds certifications in 7-12 English Language Arts and K-12 Library Media Specialist. She works as the 7-12 Library Media Specialist for Ogdensburg Free Academy and is the regional Summer School librarian for the St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES. You may recognize Amber as the mom of one of our youngest state meeting guests - she recently celebrated her marriage on October 1, 2023!

Welcome to Amber as she joins the NYSO Executive Committee! Members should forward submissions for *Pi Lights* issues to Amber at gladle101323@gmail.com

Membership Form 2 - Deadline February 1st

As shared in the winter issue of *Pi Lights*, the annual Chapter Necrology Report (Form 2) **must** be submitted to **NYSO Membership and Expansion Chair Anne L'Hommedieu** by Thursday, February 1, 2024. This can be completed by the Chapter Membership/Necrology Chair or Chapter President. *The form should be sent even if there are no deceased members to report for your chapter* (there is a box to indicate this on the form).



A fillable form can be found [here](#). You may email the completed form to Anne at amlhommedieu@gmail.com

Remarkable Women with Inspiring Stories!

Lear Green (1839-1860) & Her Amazing Escape
portrayed by Yvonne Rollins

Julia Jones Beecher (1826-1905), "The Steam Engine"
portrayed by Jenny Monroe

Saturday, October 5, 2024
Tioga Downs Golf Club
151 Polo Blvd., Nichols, NY 13812

South Central Area Council announced for October 5th

The **South Central Area Council** would like to welcome NYSO DKG members to attend their area council conference on **Saturday, October 5, 2024 at Tioga Downs**. The theme for this event is *Remarkable Women with Inspiring Stories*. This is a great opportunity to gather for fellowship with other educators and learn about the amazing Lear Green and Julia Jones Beecher. More information and the registration form are included in the link below.

[South Central Area Council Conference flyer](#)

Join the Capital Area Council for a musical experience at Proctors!

The **Capital Area Council** is pleased to announce they will be enjoying a DKG fellowship experience with an Area Conference at **Proctors Theatre in Schenectady on Sunday, May 19th**. Please see the flyer for more information including an electronic registration form. **Payment must be received by February 15th to guarantee your ticket(s)**. Hope to see you there!

“She Who Laughs Lasts”
The Capital Area Council of NYSO DKG
2024 Conference

Join us for a showing of



Sunday, May 19, 2024
Proctor's Theatre (432 State St., Schenectady)
Showtime: 2 pm
Followed by a short presentation from a NYSO officer
Cost: \$60

RSVP by February 15 by clicking: <https://forms.gle/RFZC6KUZZGZU3szZ7>

Send payment (checks payable to Alpha Psi) to
Tracy Smith, 109 Cleveland Ave, Cobleskill, NY 12043

Fall Executive Board Meeting and Seminar - VIRTUAL format

Last August the Executive Committee initiated discussions on the format for the Fall Executive Board meeting and Seminar. With rising costs to host/attend the meetings and declining attendance, **the goal was (and is) to design a meeting experience that is affordable, relevant to our Mission and Purposes, valued, and well-attended**. The NYSO Executive Board (Chapter Presidents, Past Presidents and Elected Officers) and Committee Chairs were invited to complete a survey to offer their input on this decision.

The Executive Committee carefully considered the pros and cons of the feedback from the forty-two responses that were received as well as the hotel quotes obtained from three venues across the state. **The decision was to present the Fall Executive Board meeting in Virtual format on October 18-19, 2024**. A similar schedule will be offered, including workshops, the Executive Board meeting, as well as opportunities for virtual fellowship

Chapters and Area Councils may also wish to gather in-person at a local venue or home to enjoy the virtual experiences as a group.

This decision was not made in haste, but rather to help keep our budgets and schedules *manageable*. More information on the fall meeting will be shared at our in-person event in April.

NYSO DKG website has applications for Awards, Grants-in-Aid and Scholarship

One of the many benefits of your membership in NYSO DKG is recognition for your achievements as well as funding to meet your personal and professional development needs. Please see our [NYSO DKG website](#) to find applications for all of our Awards, Grants-in-Aid and Scholarships. **Many of the applications are now fillable forms**. As a reminder, completed applications are due by **February 15, 2024** to the appropriate committee chair.





Jennifer Lee-Alden, NYSO DKG President

Jennifer is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters