



# Pi Lights

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## 2013 Pi State Convention Elects Biennium Officers for 2013-2015



Joyce Tang, Alpha Phi  
President



Deborah Bedard, Alpha Epsilon  
First Vice President



Karen Butters, Beta Mu  
Second Vice President



Rosemary Van Wart, Alpha Pi  
Secretary

See more 69<sup>th</sup> Convention News in this issue.

### Thank you, Pi State Sisters

*"We are leading women educators impacting education worldwide. That is our vision statement. We are each a leading woman educator impacting education worldwide. Isn't that an awesome thought! Look at the women that were touched by you at the 2012 International Convention here in New York in that short time. They will never forget the experience. You ignited 2,000 women from 18 countries at the event. WOW! They carried this enthusiasm back to their State Organizations and Chapters. You did this as one State Organization. Think of the impact when we have 80 State Organizations working with one mission."*

*- Phyllis Hickey, 2013 Pi State Convention*



*The Electric Tower's spire, as seen from the second floor of Hyatt Regency Buffalo, was glowing in red to honor Pi State 2013 Convention, April 19 and 20.*

*Photo by Phyllis Hickey*

The 2013 Pi State Executive Board elected the following Committee Members for term 2013-2017.

Elected to the Finance Committee:

- Rebecca Carter, Pi, Capital Area
- Janet Judson, Alpha Gamma, Eastern Area
- Anne Bailey, Psi, Northern Area
- Susan Gruber, Beta Chi, South Central Area
- Jane Slack, Chi, North Central Area

Elected to the Nominations Committee:

- Patricia Alena, Beta Theta, East Central Area
- Carol Engle, Alpha Lambda, Northwestern Area
- Diane Battaglia, Beta Nu, Southwestern Area
- Barbara Brooks Quinn, Beta Eta, West Central Area
- Dr. Vasiliki Lagakis, Alpha Phi, Southeastern Area



*“Be the Spark - Ignite the Flame”*

**Jeanne Schenk**

**Pi State President 2011 - 2013**

On April 19 and 20, 2013, the **Electric Tower** in downtown Buffalo was aglow in red lights to welcome Pi State members to the 2013 Pi State Convention. It was one of many ways that our Convention theme, *“Be the Spark, Ignite the Flame – In Buffalo, the City of Light”* was fulfilled. I want to offer thanks to **Maria Weimer** and the **Convention Steering Committee**

for all their efforts in planning and successfully carrying out a fantastic Convention.

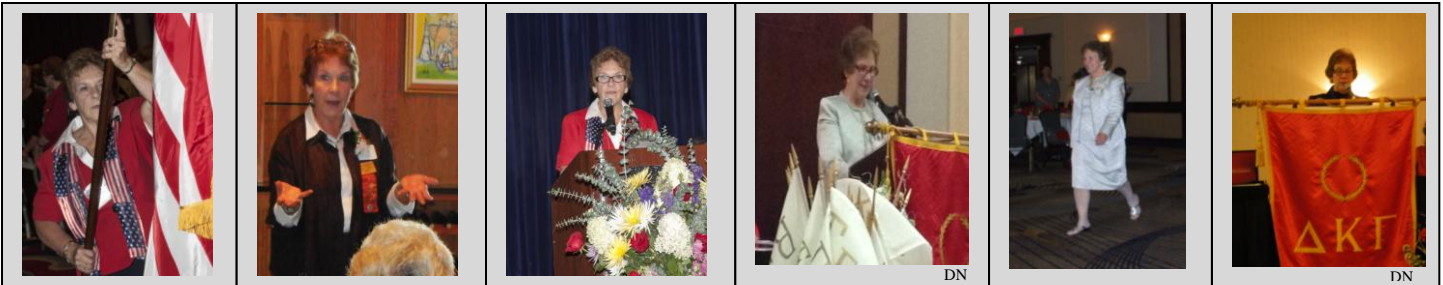
On Friday evening, after being welcomed by **Buffalo Deputy Mayor Ellen Grant**, delegates heard from our International guest, Phyllis Hickey, who updated Pi State on International news and shared with us some of the benefits of our membership. Everyone was impressed with our keynote speaker, **Dr. Wendy Paterson**, who spoke about the challenges facing today's educators. She reminded members that imagination is stronger than knowledge and that it is important for each of us to work to make a difference in our chosen profession.

The weekend included informative workshops and the opportunity to recognize award recipients and Chapter Women of Distinction and to honor our deceased sisters while also completing all of the business of the Convention at the Board Meeting and General Session. *Congratulations* to our newly elected officers: **Dr. Joyce Tang**, Pi State President; **Deborah Bedard**, First Vice-President; **Karen Butters**, Second Vice-President and Secretary **Rosemary VanWart**. During the upcoming biennium, these newly elected officers will be, in the words of Joyce, *“Invigorating Pi State!”*

As I look back at the two years of my biennium, I appreciate the opportunity I had to visit seventeen Chapters and four Area Conferences. Traveling to many parts of the State, I enjoyed many Chapter presentations and workshops on education reform, common core curriculum and the statewide testing programs. All of these are beneficial topics for our working teachers yet important issues for retired teachers who care about education. As key women educators, it is vital that we are aware of the current trends in education so we can make informed decisions. As Chapters meet to decide on programs for next year, please consider offering programs that will assist Early Career Educators and keep our members informed.

I want to thank the Executive Committee and my Committee Chairs for being *positive sparks* during the past two years. Through their efforts, many Pi State Chapters have shown new strength and State Committees have met their goals. I hope that each member of Pi State will *“Be the Spark, Ignite the Flame”* and offer encouragement to their Chapters, their members and Pi State.

I hope to see many of you in **Portland, Maine at the Northeast Regional Conference July 24-27, 2013.**



**Thank you, Jeanne, for your leadership, dedication and commitment to Pi State.  
You are our *spark!***

*“Invigorating Pi State”***Dr. Joyce Tang**

Pi State President-Elect 2013 - 2015



### Acceptance Address to 2013 Convention General Session By President-Elect Dr. Joyce Tang

“Madame President, Past State Presidents, Executive Committee, Executive Board and members, and Distinguished Guests, it is with honor and pride that I accept the position of Delta Kappa Gamma Pi State President for the 2013-2015 Biennium.

I want to thank **Ruth Mowry** and members of the Nominations Committee for nominating me for this office. Special thanks to my Chapter in the Southeastern Area, *Alpha Phi*, and Chapter President **Beth Borzone** for their support.

*Thank you* for giving me the opportunity and the responsibility of working with you to *invigorate Pi State*.

The theme for the next biennium is **“Invigorating Pi State.”**

It has been an honor to work with you to carry out the mission of Delta Kappa Gamma <http://www.dkg.org> —“to *promote professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.*” Moving forward, I need your help. I will organize my Speech by addressing three (3) questions.

#### [1] What could we do to **invigorate Pi State**?

To keep Pi State a leading professional organization for key women educators in the next biennium, I plan to invigorate Pi State by [a] **growing the membership**, [b] **enhancing the efficiency of our operation**, and [c] **enriching the content of our programs**.

#### [2] What do I expect from you?

[2.1] Help me **grow the membership**: We need to continue to work hard to keep current members and to reach out to new educators and recent retirees. Chapters demonstrating the evidence to recruit members should be recognized *and* invited to be mentors for Chapters who need new ideas and support for outreach. In addition to using the brochures and PowerPoints from the Society for recruitment, Chapters should be encouraged to showcase their activities and accomplishments in *Pi Lights* and submit their Chapter Newsletters for posting on Pi State’s website.

[2.2] Help me **enhance the efficiency of our operation**: Pi State’s website <http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NY/> is the *most* efficient means to get the information about our Organization to 2,600 members in 61 chapters and to State Chairs and State Committee Members. Anyone who is interested in finding out more about the benefits of membership, dues structures, responsibilities of State Chairs and Chapter Presidents and our meetings should be able to get updated information and reports from our Website. This can promote understanding between the State Organization, State Committees and Chapters and enhance our overall productivity. We should continue to promote the use of Go-To-Meetings by the Executive Committee and State Committees to conduct official business.

[2.3] Help me **enrich the content of our programs**: The Fall and Spring Seminars offer State Committees, Chapters and members the opportunity to showcase their work or projects for recognition and present work-in-progress for feedback. To meet the diverse interests of participants (who are new educators, active teachers and retired teachers), we can offer talks or panel discussions on intellectual topics, career and business and cultural issues.

#### [2.4] So what can you do?

[2.4.1] **Get involved** - Volunteer to serve on State Committees as Chair or member.

[2.4.2] **Stay connected** with one another by sending out newsletters, reports and cards to one another.

[2.4.3] **Take time out from your busy schedule** to go to Chapter meetings, State meetings, Regional Conferences,

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Dr. Wendy Paterson

### Keynote Address by Dr. Wendy Paterson, April 19<sup>th</sup> “Be the Spark ... Ignite the Flame”

“When Ellie Robinson invited me to share this evening with you back in July, I was both honored and challenged! What might I say about “*the most important things happening in education now*” to a group of female educators who have amassed countless hours of experience and expertise? It’s not really hard for me to fill 25 minutes just by musing about the challenges I face in a single day as Dean of the School of Education at Buffalo State College, my alma mater and my very favorite place to become a teacher. Heck, I can do a 3 hour class, no sweat! The challenge then is to bring you *in brief* what you can say at a cocktail party when they find out you are a teacher and people either avoid you altogether or snare you into a discussion about how teachers make too much money, have too many days off, and can be lousy at their jobs but still keep them. You probably know that rant well.

It is rather ironic that these past two Sundays I have been sharing with my adult class “*What’s going on in Education today.*” They are a different audience because they are mostly uninitiated, so I started by giving them a quiz called “*Clues for the Clueless*” where I tested their knowledge of educational issues using the acronyms that have great and weighty meaning for educators. See how many of these you know: APPR, edTPA, NAEP, CAEP, NCTQ, RtI, PISA, SPA, PDS, CCLS, SLO...and on and on. Without spending too many of my 25 minutes on these titles, let me just say that in over 30 years of teaching, I never thought that the alphabet would ruin my life!

It would take me many hours to fully discuss how each of these harmless little acronyms has had a huge impact on education and educators over the past decade, but that would most certainly *not* light your fires! So I think I will leave them in their alphabet soup and talk to you instead about **sparks**. When I prepare an address for a scholarly audience such as you, I first look to the wisdom of the ages: the bards, the philosophers, the theoreticians, the researchers, the pundits, the meaning-makers...No, not Piaget or Vygotsky or even Dewey. For this speech as for many others, when I am tasked to reflect on what is happening in education today, I turn to the greatest makers of wisdom—kindergarten teachers—and here is the one statement that has and always will guide my thinking, particularly in these most difficult times for teachers [from *All I Really Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten: Uncommon Thoughts on Common Things* by Robert Fulghum, 1989]:

*“Share Everything.*

*Play Fair.*

*Don’t hit people.*

*Put things back where you found them.*

*Clean up your own mess.*

*Don’t take things that aren’t yours.*

*Say you’re sorry when you hurt somebody.*

*Wash your hands before you eat.*

*Flush.*

*Warm cookies and cold milk are good for you.*

*Live a balanced life—learn some & think some & draw & paint & sing & dance & play & work every day some.*

*Take a nap every afternoon.*

*When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands, and stick together.*

*Be aware of wonder. Remember the little seed in the Styrofoam cup:*

*The roots go down and the plant goes up and nobody really knows how or why, but we are all like that.*

*Goldfish and hamsters and white mice and even the little seed in the Styrofoam cup—they all die. So do we.*

*And then remember the Dick-and-Jane books and the first word you learned—the biggest word of all—LOOK.”*

Everything you need to know is in there somewhere: *The Golden Rule* and love and basic sanitation; ecology and politics and equality and sane living.

Now that I shared with you the essence of what makes our task as teachers so very critically important to the survival of the world, let me also say that in over 30 years of teaching and educational leadership, I do not recall a time when teachers - even our brightest **sparks** - have been so unhappy. You probably have had someone give you a T-shirt or a mug that says, “*You can’t scare me! I’m a teacher!*” and that rings true for the many daily challenges of keeping 30 first graders amused, engaged and reasonably cooperative, but not so for the oppressive load of tests, accountability measures, curriculum and mandates that make time for keeping kids engaged almost out of reach.

We aren’t afraid of assessment or evaluation! *Bring it on!* Good teachers have done that for themselves and for each

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April 19, 2013 was proclaimed "DKG International Day" in Buffalo.



Marcia Swiatek, 2013 Convention Publicity (left) and Beryl Szwed, Pi State Executive Secretary (right) with Dr. Ellen E. Grant, Deputy Mayor of Buffalo



Buffalo's Mayor Byron W. Brown's Proclamation to honor Pi State 2013 Convention



International Guest Phyllis Hickey holding Pi State gifts at the Executive Board Meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> (Special thank you to Jean Sekel for the beautiful crewelwork)



Pi State Executive Board Meeting  
Photo by Phyllis Hickey



DKG banner welcomes sisters in the lobby of The Hyatt Regency Buffalo  
Photo by Donna Noble



Ena Farley, Alpha Alpha, 25-Year Member with President-Elect Joyce Tang & Chapter President Donna Noble  
Photo by Bridget Bishop



Pi State 2013 Convention Chair, Maria Weimer, Alpha Lambda, with Patti Bartz, Gamma Gamma, Registration Table Co-Chair  
Photo by Rhonda Ball



International Guest, Phyllis Hickey, and Pi State Past President & BYLAWS Chair Karen Crumley, Tau  
Photo by Bridget Bishop



Joyce Thompson-Hovey, Gamma Gamma, at her Workshop, "Female Civil War Surgeon"  
Photo by Rhonda Ball



Ad Hoc Travel Award Audrey Marie Baker, Alpha Beta, with Chair, Karen Crumley



Convention Choir directed by Karen Butters, Pi State Music Rep  
Photo by Christey Arnold



Awards Brunch Hostesses



The Castellani-Andriaccio Guitar Studios at the President's Banquet (Students have been studying the Suzuki Guitar Method from as young as four.)  
Photo by Donna Noble



Joan C. Slagle

## 2013 Pi State Achievement Award to Joan C. Slagle

*“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. The award is a small gold pin in the form of a Tudor rose. This year’s recipient is Pi State Immediate Past President, Joan C. Slagle.*

Joan is a 27 year member of DKG in *Beta Omega* Chapter. On the Chapter level Joan held many positions from Scholarship Chair to President to present Historian, Legislation and Scrapbook Chairs. A former dedicated educator, Joan is a retired Department Chair, Social Studies Teacher and Curriculum Supervisor in the Galway Central Schools. Her leadership and service to education was reflected by her commitment to her students, colleagues and school district as both a Teacher and Supervisor, earning recognition in

many areas including being named *“Teacher of the Year.”* Her commitment to education continues as she now serves on the Board of Education.

On the State level, Joan has been Pi State Secretary, Second Vice President, First Vice President before assuming the Presidency (2009 - 2011). After our FDF (*Financial Development Fund Administrator*) resigned, Joan volunteered to assume the position with all its responsibilities. She has been actively involved in maintaining and organizing Pi State headquarters for many years. Actively representing Pi State at several Northeast Regionals and International Conventions, she served on the 2012 International Convention Steering Committee in NYC as well as Co-Chairing the Signage Committee. She truly is the epitome of our unofficial motto *“a DKG woman never says no when asked to serve.”*

The most impressive recommendations describe our recipient’s generous spirit, excellent communication skills, integrity, sense of humor and vision. They praised her inspiring role as a mentor encouraging Chapter members to accept the challenge of becoming more involved in leadership roles in DKG. To quote one member: *“As a true leader, she does not seek personal recognition, but contributes her time and talents wherever and whenever they are needed. We are a better society because of her.”* She continues to be a true advocate for Pi State. We are honored to present the prestigious Pi State Achievement Award to Joan C. Slagle, a woman of distinction for both Pi State and DKG.”

**We are proud to present Joan Slagle with the 2013 Pi State Achievement Award.**

*Joann Wallace*



Joanne Wallace presents Pi State Achievement Award to Joan Slagle  
Photo by Donna Noble

### Milestone Chapter Birthdays in 2013

Chapter	Area	Date Organized	Birthday#
Beta	North Central	February, 1938	75
Lambda	Northern	October, 1948	65
Phi	Eastern	April, 1953	60
Alpha Kappa	Capital	April, 1958	55
Alpha Lambda	Northwestern	June, 1958	55
Alpha Omega	North Central	April, 1963	50
Beta Eta	West Central	November, 1968	45
Beta Omicron	South Central	June, 1973	40
Gamma Delta	Northwestern	April, 1988	25
Gamma Epsilon	Northern	June, 1993	20
Gamma Zeta	South Central	October, 1993	20



Pi State President Jeanne Schenk with President-Elect Joyce Tang  
Photo by Rhonda Ball

### Pi State Honors Our 50-Year Members

*Initiated from January 1, 1963 through December 31, 1963*

**Alpha:** Nancy J. Nielson

**Beta:** Ruth O. Whiting

**Theta:** Patricia A. Bulger

**Kappa:** Frances T. D'Angelo

**Psi:** Anne Cordick

**Alpha Gamma:** Wanda J. Flickinger



*Beta Delta President Janet Driscoll and Second Vice President Erin Merrill with Gertrude Shaffer*

## Frederica Hollister Professional Educator's Award

Albert Einstein said, "I never teach my pupils; I only attempt to provide the conditions in which they can learn." He surely was speaking of the recipient of the Frederica Hollister Professional Educator's Award. **Gertrude Shaffer**, *Beta Delta*, personifies the ideals of educator's everywhere. This award asks that the recipient demonstrate contributions to education and other related fields in NYS and nationally. In some ways, the Hollister Award underestimates the impact of an educator like Gertrude, whose actions reverberate internationally.

Throughout her over 20 year career, Gertrude has worked to create authentic experiences for her English students by a multitude of methodologies. Some of these methods include service-based learning, where she models her belief in active citizenship. Gertrude's focus on human rights means that students

must grapple with experiences to produce visible results, resulting in student-designed programs to raise funds and attention to organizations like the Lost Boys of Sudan, the Global Run Water Project for Uganda, the Seneca Habitat for Humanity, UNICEF, and Rwanda's Mizeo/Hope Fund, SEVA. The total for the last seven years of work exceeds \$25,000. Gertrude has been recognized by multiple organizations such as NYSUT and the NYS Senate. It should be no surprise that Pi State adds its voice to recognizing Gertrude through the **Frederica Hollister Award for 2013**.

*Dr. Annette Varcoe*

## The Bea Small Awards

**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's awards were given with funds from the Awards Committee.

**Gamma Zeta's "Salvation Army Backpack Program"** has provided 500 new backpacks with school supplies (filled by *Gamma Zeta* volunteers) to needy students in Steuben County, primarily in the Corning-Painted Post Area School district, before the start of school year. Hundreds of needy children receive new backpacks and supplies to start school each year, thus raising their self-esteem and making them more positive about learning and about themselves.

**Alpha Sigma's "Books for Babies"** is targeted to the newborns and their mothers in two hospitals: Olean General Hospital in Olean, NY, Cattaraugus County and Jones Memorial Hospital in Wellsville, NY, Allegany County. It is within these two counties that *Alpha Sigma* members live. The project donates a new book appropriate for a newborn that is placed in an envelope along with a tri-fold explaining the benefits of reading to a child. The books are then presented to the maternity ward of the two hospitals and handed out to every new mother upon the birth of her child. In 2012, approximately 1,081 births at two hospitals had benefited from this project.

**Beta Alpha's "Books for Babies"** provides a literacy and early language package to each newborn at United Memorial Medical Center (UMMC). The packet includes a board book, a bib that reminds adults to "Read to Me," a book mark and a pamphlet with suggestions as to how best to talk, play and read to their child. Age appropriate book titles are provided as well as a list of local libraries in Genesee County. Since 1998, *Beta Alpha* has distributed 4,500 book packets to newborns at UMMC. Approximately 600 babies benefit from **Beta Alpha's** project each year.

The purpose of **Alpha Rho's "Traveling Books"** project is to expose young children to good literature and develop a love of books and reading. Each month volunteer readers visit a variety of daycare providers' homes, bringing bags of books chosen by librarians and teachers to appeal to children under age of five. The volunteers read several stories to the children at each visit and leave a new batch of books that are then left with the daycare provider to be enjoyed by the children until the next month's visit. Currently, fifteen daycare providers are participating in the project.

One third of the children in the Patchogue Medford School District qualify for some kind of subsidy for school lunch and getting ready for school each September is a financial burden for many families. In the spring of 2011, **Beta Psi's "Starting School Right"** project helped families in need by providing school supplies for their children at the

*Continued on page seven*



The Bea Small Awards: (front row l to r) Jan Przybylski, *Alpha Rho*; Suzanne Babbitt, *Mu*; Dr. Joyce Tang, Pi State First Vice President; Mary Linda Williams, *Alpha Sigma*; (top row l to r) Maureen Nicolo, *Alpha Rho*; Fern Daane, *Beta Psi*; Francis Brida, *Beta Psi*; Doris Knowles, *Gamma Zeta*; Laura Janas, *Alpha Tau*; Margaret Lawrence, *Beta Alpha*; Maribeth Crowell, *Mu*

### The Bea Small Awards (Continued from page six)

#### *Beta Psi's "Starting School Right"* (continued from page six)

beginning of the school year. The first year members donated a carload of school supplies. The second year the Chapter budgeted and bought 36 backpacks and each member purchased enough school supplies to fill two backpacks each. They were donated to a local church's outreach program for distribution. Not only are the children *Beta Psi* helps better equipped to begin the school year but they may feel better about themselves.

*Mu's "Born to Read"* project provides bags, including board books, to newborns and their parents in the maternity ward of a local hospital. Included in the bag is a pamphlet giving parents list of books and ideas on how to read to their children. The gift of board books to newborns will encourage parents to read to their children and foster lifelong reading. Since 1997, *Mu's* project has benefitted 1,500 families in the rural area of the Southern Tier of New York State.

*Beta Omicron* created the "*Everybody Can" Disabilities Awareness Contest*" (sponsored by the Delaware County ARC) in summer of 2009. The purpose is to teach school children (so far K-8<sup>th</sup> graders) to be aware of people with developmental disabilities and to have compassion and caring in the knowledge that everyone has unique abilities. The Chapter saw this contest as an opportunity to expand "real life" knowledge of people with disabilities to all students, an opportunity to strive for excellence in education for all. The contest is also a way to address the issue of bullying.

Since 1993, *Alpha Tau* members contributed to the "*Books for WIC*" Project several times each year. Over \$80 a year was collected and books were purchased and delivered to the WIC officers in Ontario and Yates Counties. The books were given to mothers and children. Literacy is a prime concern in these counties. Putting books into children's hands at an early age has proven very helpful. Mother and children reading together is very nurturing.

*Dr. Joyce Tang, Chair*

### Pi State Adopts Revised BYLAWS & Standing Rules

At the 2013 Pi State Convention, the Pi State Executive Board approved the revised BYLAWS and Standing Rules as presented in the winter 2013 issue (Vol. 68, No. 2) of *Pi Lights*. Chapters will update their Rules to include these changes and mail copies to Pi State President, **Jeanne Schenk** and BYLAWS Chair, **Karen Crumley** in June 2013.

*Karen P. Crumley*



## Pi State Honors Our 25-Year Members

<b>Alpha:</b>	Patricia E. Hershberger
<b>Kappa:</b>	Deborah Chagnon, Freda Pytcher
<b>Nu:</b>	Elizabeth Bonsel, Georgianne Pirillo
<b>Phi:</b>	Edna F. Foley, Janet Matthews
<b>Chi:</b>	Irene Wilson
<b>Psi:</b>	Glenda S. Rowe
<b>Alpha Alpha:</b>	Dr. Edna Farley
<b>Alpha Beta:</b>	Viola Huston
<b>Alpha Epsilon:</b>	Esther Batchelder, Kathryn Tennyson, Rachel M. Quackenbush
<b>Alpha Zeta:</b>	Sarah S. Stevenson
<b>Alpha Eta:</b>	Marilyn Falt
<b>Alpha Theta:</b>	Sandra W. Kelley
<b>Alpha Iota:</b>	Beth A. Hallinan, Esther Mae Rogers, Betsy Sweeting
<b>Alpha Omicron:</b>	Barbara Walker
<b>Alpha Xi:</b>	Sheila Brady-Root
<b>Alpha Rho:</b>	Ellen A. Hicks, Phyllis Shore, Harriet S. Sweet
<b>Alpha Psi:</b>	Betty L. Buel
<b>Alpha Omega:</b>	Rennie Abraham, Naomi Cannon, Jo Ann Grower
<b>Beta Alpha:</b>	Diane Mills, Marjorie Sturm
<b>Beta Delta:</b>	Janet Driscoll, Diane Macaluso
<b>Beta Nu:</b>	Dawn M. Benzin, Mary Jane Virginia
<b>Beta Xi:</b>	Irene H. Gazza
<b>Beta Omicron:</b>	Lee Marie Burns, Janet Dolezel, Norma Ann Gabriel
<b>Beta Rho:</b>	Ernestine Marshall, Susan Wales, Andrea Lee Starzak
<b>Beta Psi:</b>	Catherine McDonnell
<b>Gamma Alpha:</b>	Irene B. Smith
<b>Gamma Delta:</b>	Beverly E. Anker, Agnes Becker

## 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.

**Nilka Hendricks**, this year's Verna Mulholland award recipient, attended Glen Cove High School, received her GED and then went on to become a Medical Assistant. After working in that field for a number of years, she attended the Culinary Academy (*Star Academy*) in New York City. Nilka worked as a caterer and in fine dining establishments. She was a competitor on the TV show "*Hell's Kitchen*". Nilka now runs her own business "*Chef'n it up Catering*," a special event service.

*Harlene Gilbert, Chair*

## Gladys L Mersereau Grant-in-Aid

The *Gladys L. Mersereau Grant-in-Aid* is given to non-members whose education was interrupted and who are now in need of financial help to complete certification requirements. This award was initiated in 1975 by Pi State President **Gladys Mersereau**, *Beta Rho*, who wanted to help women become teachers.

This year there are two recipients. *Congratulations* to **Christine Belongia**, *Beta Alpha*, sponsor for **Susan Perez** and **Patricia Thompson**, *Beta Omicron*, sponsor for **Doreen McGrath**.

*Jeanne Schenk, Chair*



*Joyce Krupnik (center) with  
Jean Fontana (left) and Della L. Ludwig (right)*

## Travel & Study Stipends

The *Travel & Study Stipend Committee* is to present travel and study stipends to active and retired educators and promote interest in Society seminars and conferences. No one award is to exceed \$1000.00 and efforts will be made to award one stipend to a retired member of the Pi State Delta Kappa Gamma Society and one to a Pi State member currently employed in the profession.

**Jean Fontana** has been a member of *Alpha Phi* since 1979, and is retired as a Staff Developer and Teacher Center Director. As a member of her Chapter, she has served in all offices except Treasurer. She has also been very active on the Pi State level. Some highlights were serving on the *International Speakers' Fund* and the *Native American Grants-in-Aid* Committee and chairing the Leadership Development Seminar Committee. Jean will be attending the European DKG Conference (*Regional 2013 in Amsterdam*).

**Della L. Ludwig**, a 7<sup>th</sup> grade English Language Arts Teacher at Williamson Central School District, is serving as the President of *Omega* which she joined in 2003. She has been very actively involved in her Chapter, serving in many capacities from publishing the Chapter Directory to keeping the Historical Records and Scrapbook. On the Pi State level, she is presently on the Finance Committee, has served as Co-Web master and presented at a Pi State Convention. Della will be attending the Northeast Regional Conference in Portland, Maine, which she says will build on her understanding and appreciation of DKG.

*Joyce Krupnik, Chair*

<i>Alpha</i>	Deborah D. Hill
<i>Beta</i>	Brenda Comolli
<i>Delta</i>	Diane Davidson
<i>Epsilon</i>	Kathryn Bingay
<i>Zeta</i>	Nancy Lussier
<i>Theta</i>	Patricia Bulger
<i>Kappa</i>	Frances D'Angelo
<i>Lambda</i>	Donna Miller
<i>Mu</i>	Carol Berry
<i>Nu</i>	Sheila Bamberger
<i>Pi</i>	Rebecca Carter
<i>Rho</i>	Suzanne Patrick
<i>Sigma</i>	Diane Bootie
<i>Tau</i>	Dr. Lucille Smassanow
<i>Phi</i>	Anne-Marie Carlson
<i>Chi</i>	Sharon Tallman
<i>Psi</i>	Sue Kenoyer
<i>Omega</i>	Mary-Martha W. Harvey
<i>Alpha Alpha</i>	Pamela Eberhardt
<i>Alpha Beta</i>	Mary Ann Baldari
<i>Alpha Gamma</i>	Claudia C. Sullivan
<i>Alpha Delta</i>	Peg Misner
<i>Alpha Zeta</i>	Martha M. Strever
<i>Alpha Eta</i>	Kim Goldhirsch
<i>Alpha Theta</i>	Lochie Musso
<i>Alpha Iota</i>	Kathleen Fox
<i>Alpha Kappa</i>	Barbara Amedro
<i>Alpha Lambda</i>	Suzanne Williams
<i>Alpha Nu</i>	Joanne McIsaac
<i>Alpha Xi</i>	Virginia Nightingale
<i>Alpha Pi</i>	Sheila Brady-Root
<i>Alpha Rho</i>	Joan Lederman
<i>Alpha Sigma</i>	Karen Lesky
<i>Alpha Tau</i>	Joyce Krupnik
<i>Alpha Phi</i>	Betty Pilato
<i>Alpha Chi</i>	Emilie Stris
<i>Alpha Psi</i>	Nancy Zukowski
<i>Alpha Omega</i>	Leslie Hooper
<i>Beta Alpha</i>	Christine Spring
<i>Beta Gamma</i>	Kathy Broderick
<i>Beta Delta</i>	Ruth Gibson
<i>Beta Epsilon</i>	Diane Cappellino
<i>Beta Eta</i>	Margaret Smith
<i>Beta Theta</i>	Mary Anna Russo
<i>Beta Kappa</i>	Sally Burgess
<i>Beta Mu</i>	Joan Green
<i>Beta Nu</i>	Joan Donaldson
<i>Beta Xi</i>	Diane Battaglia
<i>Beta Omicron</i>	Eileen Petrillo
<i>Beta Rho</i>	Mary Jane Henderson
<i>Beta Tau</i>	Kelly-Jo Riker
<i>Beta Phi</i>	Betty Minemier
<i>Beta Chi</i>	Barbara Franzese
<i>Beta Psi</i>	Erin Merrill
<i>Beta Omega</i>	Catherine Olinger
<i>Gamma Alpha</i>	Mary Rose Holzhauer
<i>Gamma Gamma</i>	Irene Smith
<i>Gamma Delta</i>	Patricia Bartz
<i>Gamma Epsilon</i>	Ellie Robinson
<i>Gamma Zeta</i>	Lucinda K. Wells
	Anne Price

### Ad Hoc Travel Stipend

The three recipients of the *Ad Hoc Travel Stipend* have between one and five years of membership in *The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International*. This stipend was proposed by the 2012 International Steering Committee to support International's initiative, voted on in July at the 2012 International Convention, to support *Early Career Educators* in our Society. One recipient wrote, "I am like an olive tree flourishing in this International Society by participating in and taking advantage of the unique educational experiences."

**Audrey Marie Baker** has been a member of *The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International* since 2011. She is a member of *Alpha Beta*. Her Educational Area is Special Education and General Education K-12 and Administration. She was a volunteer at the 2012 International Convention last July.

**Laura M. Hagadorn** was initiated into *The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International* in the fall of 2012 and is a member of *Alpha Epsilon* Chapter. She is a first grade teacher in Johnsburg Central School. She is an early career educator and is currently in her first year of teaching.

**Karen Varricchio** is in her fifth year of membership in *The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International*. She is a member of *Omega Chapter*. She is a kindergarten teacher in the Victor Central School District. She has served as a member of *Omega's* Music Committee and is currently serving as *Omega Chapter's* First Vice-President.

*Karen Crumley, Chair*



*Capital Area Women of Distinction Awards*

### Native American Grant-in-Aid

The 2013 *Pi State Native American Grant-in-Aid* recipient is **Emerald Rain Jock**. She is a student at SUNY Canton in the Graphic and Multimedia Design program. Her goal is to work in the field of television, radio and film. She hopes to impact social media and would like to move on to Syracuse University's Newhouse School of Public Communication. *Congratulations* to this fine candidate.

The *Pi State Native American Grant-in-Aid* also continues to support the education of **Jennifer Martin** and **Aubrey Phillips**, the 2012 recipients. They are continuing their studies at St. John Fisher and SUNY Canton, respectively. Each has received an additional \$500 grant-in-aid for last semester's work. They are fine examples of successful, motivated Native American women.

*Deborah Packard, Chair*

President-Elect Dr. Joyce Tang has appointed the following Pi State Committee Chairs for Society Business, Society Mission and Purposes, and Committees Subject to Endowments.

### **Society Business**

**Liaison: Karen Butters**

**Audit:** Jean Sekel, *Pi, C*  
[jeanbsekel@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanbsekel@yahoo.com)

#### **BYLAWS and Standing Rules:**

Karen Crumley, *Tau, E*  
[Kcrumley@hvc.rr.com](mailto:Kcrumley@hvc.rr.com)

#### **Communications and Publicity:**

Susan Genthner, *Alpha Alpha, WC*  
[subeart@aol.com](mailto:subeart@aol.com)

**Finance:** (elected positions)

**Chair:** Noreen LeCann, *Beta Xi, SE (2011-15)*  
[nlecann@optonline.net](mailto:nlecann@optonline.net)

#### **Historical Records & Scrapbooks:** (TBA)

#### **Leadership Development**

**Chair:** Ruth Ann Fultz, *Beta Gamma, WC*  
[fultz2@frontiernet.net](mailto:fultz2@frontiernet.net)

Deborah Bedard, *Alpha Epsilon, C*

Sheila Brady-Root, *Alpha Xi, WC*

Jeanne Schenk, *Alpha Tau, EC*

Joan Slagle, *Beta Omega, C*

Dr. Lucy Smassanow, *Tau, E*

Beryl Szwed, *Beta Mu, N*

Karen Butters, *Beta Mu, N, Ex officio*

#### **Membership and Expansion**

Diane Bootie, *Sigma, NC*  
[dmbbootie@hotmail.com](mailto:dmbbootie@hotmail.com)

**Nominations:** (elected positions)

Lochie Musso, *Alpha Eta, E (2011-15)*  
[Lochie@optonline.net](mailto:Lochie@optonline.net)

**Personnel:** Collene Richardson, *Beta Xi, SE*  
[Collenerichardson@msn.com](mailto:Collenerichardson@msn.com)

#### **Pi State Educational Foundation:**

Agnes Becker, *Gamma Delta, NW*  
[aggieb@buffalo.com](mailto:aggieb@buffalo.com)

### **Society Mission and Purposes**

**Liaison: Deborah Bedard**

**Awards:** Erin Merrill, *Beta Chi, SC*  
[emerrill@cppmail.com](mailto:emerrill@cppmail.com)

#### **Educational Excellence:**

**Chair:** Jennifer Lee-Alden, *Beta Omega, C*  
[teachmusic@nycap.rr.com](mailto:teachmusic@nycap.rr.com)

**UN-NGO Rep.:** Grace Murphy, *Alpha Beta, SE*  
[gracemm630@aol.com](mailto:gracemm630@aol.com)

**Music Rep.:** Bridget Bishop, *Alpha Alpha, WC*  
[Meanmom5@rochester.rr.com](mailto:Meanmom5@rochester.rr.com)

**U.S. Forum Liaison:**

Barbara Bostwick-Quinn, *Beta, NC*  
[barbaraBquinn@rochester.rr.com](mailto:barbaraBquinn@rochester.rr.com)

#### **Native American Grants-in-Aid:**

Arlene Ida, *Alpha Kappa, C*  
[aiddski@aol.com](mailto:aiddski@aol.com)

#### **Pi State Achievement:**

JoAnn Wallace, *Alpha Omega, NC*  
[jctedi@aol.com](mailto:jctedi@aol.com)

**Scholarship:** Elaine McNulty, *Pi, C*  
[emcnulty@sjcsd.neric.org](mailto:emcnulty@sjcsd.neric.org)

#### **Travel and Study Stipend:**

Joyce Krupnik, *Alpha Sigma, SW*  
[skrupnik@aol.com](mailto:skrupnik@aol.com)

**World Fellowship:** Emilie Stris, *Alpha Phi, SE*  
[ejstris@hotmail.com](mailto:ejstris@hotmail.com)

### **Committees**

#### **Subject to Endowments**

**Liaison: Rosemary Van Wart**

#### **Bea Small Award:**

Deborah Bedard, *Alpha Epsilon, C*  
[dmbedard29@yahoo.com](mailto:dmbedard29@yahoo.com)

#### **Bea Small Leadership Speakers Fund:**

Dr. Roselyn Freedman-Baum, *Alpha Xi, WC*  
[rozbaum@frontiernet.net](mailto:rozbaum@frontiernet.net)

#### **Frederica Hollister Pi State Professional**

**Educator Award:** Karen Butters, *Beta Mu, N*  
[kbutters@frontier.com](mailto:kbutters@frontier.com)

#### **Gladys L. Mersereau Grants-in-Aid:**

Dr. Joyce Tang, *Alpha Phi, SE*  
[erindale@verizon.net](mailto:erindale@verizon.net)

**Scholarship:** Elaine McNulty, *Pi, C*  
[emcnulty@sjcsd.neric.org](mailto:emcnulty@sjcsd.neric.org)

#### **Verna Mulholland Friend of Education**

**Award:** Maria Toulas, *Alpha Phi, SE*  
[mjtoulas@gmail.com](mailto:mjtoulas@gmail.com)



*New Officer Installation at the President's Banquet*

## Pi State Hour of Remembrance

In Loving Memory of Our Departed Chapter Sisters (January 1, 2011 - April 29, 2013)

	*Charter Member	
<i>Alpha</i>	Donna G. Donaldson	1.19.12
<i>Beta</i>	Evelyn A. Clark	1.9.13
	Gwendolyn T. McCabe	12.31.12
<i>Delta</i>	Mary Ellen Watkins Nevin	9.23.11
	Elizabeth Hittenberger Sipe	10.20.13
<i>Lambda</i>	Peggy L. Jenner	1.23.12
	Joanne M. Bigwarfe	5.29.12
<i>Mu</i>	Ruth A. Hicks	12.24.11
<i>Nu</i>	Mary Joye Johnson	5.5.11
	Ethel M. LePage	8.4.11
	<b>Maurine Beck *</b>	3.11
<i>Pi</i>	Ruth Richmond	2.14.11
<i>Rho</i>	Velma Green	5.7.11
	Margaret Hazlett	7.19.11
	Ruth A. Peckham	1.26.12
	Marguerite R. Waters	7.25.12
<i>Sigma</i>	Janet H. Gordon **	2011
	Betty L. Bonney	12.28.12
<i>Tau</i>	Dorothy Will	2.3.12
	Elizabeth Dennis	7.24.12
<i>Chi</i>	Barbara H. Haller	5.17.11
	Jane W. Thomas	10.13.11
	Kathleen LaJune Zehr	5.15.12
	Lynne Rice Getman	10.26.12
	Barbara H. Gray	12.30.12
<i>Omega</i>	Marie Pagano	3.16.12
	Lynn Broderick	5.3.12
	Donna J. Klage	1.12.13
<i>Alpha Beta</i>	Gwendolyn Simmons	10.28.11
<i>Alpha Delta</i>	Barbara LaSpina	1.14.11
	Lillian Hertlin	11.3.11
	Kathryn Dowling Pelish	1.6.12
	Beatrice Floody	4.22.12
<i>Alpha Zeta</i>	Marjorie Wheeler	11.24.11
	Maisry MacCracken	2.7.12
	Ann T. Gordon	1.8.13
<i>Alpha Eta</i>	Martha MacGuffie	3.7.11
	Martha Mary Magner	7.18.11
	Alice V. Laskoski	11.26.11
	Margaret Giles	12.10.11
	Alice Church	1.9.12
<i>Alpha Iota</i>	Gail Knox	7.5.11
<i>Alpha Kappa</i>	<b>Rachel A. DiGennaro*</b>	4.4.11
<i>Alpha Lambda</i>	Mildred Jerris	4.8.11
	Grace E. Caines	3.19.12

	**Honorary Member	
<i>Alpha Nu</i>	Ann H. Van Buren	3.28.11
	Mary Davidson	7.7.11
	Marie Muller	9.23.11
	Marilyn Alice Barry	12.27.11
	Laura M. Hill	4.5.12
	Joyce Gould Robinson	4.10.12
<i>Alpha Omicron</i>	Zenobia Bellert	1.31.12
<i>Alpha Pi</i>	Martha Christine Duff	4.18.11
<i>Alpha Rho</i>	Kelley Jean Bailey	5.16.12
	Lillian P. Shepardson	7.21.12
	Ruth Della Luce	11.16.12
<i>Alpha Tau</i>	Kim Verstringhe	9.21.11
	Alberta L. Fisher	12.30.11
	Lucia Wheeler	5.19.12
	Elizabeth E. Kocher	8.21.12
<i>Pi Alpha Psi</i>	Caroline Turner	5.9.12
<i>Beta Delta</i>	Viola Smith Winthrop	10.24.11
<i>Beta Epsilon</i>	Beatrice Husband	3.5.12
<i>Beta Zeta</i>	Jeanne Durni	6.11
<i>Beta Eta</i>	<b>Mildred Meyer*</b>	10.13.11
<i>Beta Lambda</i>	Kathryn Ramming	2.17.11
	JoAnn Demler	10.23.12
<i>Beta Nu</i>	<b>Angie (Anne) S. Geer*</b>	3.21.11
	<b>Mary M. Chassin*</b>	9.13.11
	Elizabeth E. Maxwell	9.4.12
<i>Beta Xi</i>	<b>Elisabeth Lapham*</b>	5.5.11
	Barbara B. Sayre	9.25.11
	Gertrude E. Koop	3.16.12
<i>Beta Omicron</i>	Christina S. Chichester	3.4.11
	Zada Lutz All	6.22.12
	Jean Morgan Hillson	8.22.12
<i>Gamma Zeta</i>	Audrey Cloos Phelps	8.11.12
<i>Beta Lambda</i> Chapter dissolved	Marcia Rajczak	11.11.12

Always in our hearts ...



(January 1, 2013 to April 29, 2013)

Will be honored at next Hour of Remembrance

<i>Beta Gamma</i>	Dorothy Cox	1.13
<i>Alpha Pi</i>	Carol Maloney Dunstan	2.28.13
<i>Alpha Phi</i>	Anne Forman	
<i>Alpha Phi</i>	Dorothy Hicks	2.15.13
<i>Beta Kappa</i>	Susan Ada Zimmerman	11.24.12

## Acceptance Speech by Pi State President-Elect Dr. Joyce Tang

*Concluded from page three*

and International Conventions. You will meet new people and get new ideas. You will see first-hand the passion of our Pi State sisters in different settings.

### [3] What can you expect from me?

Being your State Secretary and First Vice-President has given me an opportunity to work with many of you in the audience. You have shown me how to get things done through *cooperation* and *consensus*. I have seen firsthand many of you solve a lot of problems with *quiet strength* and *decisiveness*. Thank you so much for giving me a valuable lesson and allowing me to graduate from this great institution with a degree **PSD – Pi State Daughter**.

During the next biennium, I will continue to work hard and do my best to work with all of you to keep Pi State strong. I will challenge all of you (especially the new members and new Chapter Presidents) to take on responsibilities for your Chapter and for Pi State -- continue to bring in new members, support women educators and recognize their achievements.

Thank you for working with me to **invigorate Pi State**.

In closing, I would like to thank State President **Jeanne Schenk** for giving me this opportunity to speak to you and my special thanks to my family in Hong Kong and in Toronto for their support. I am delighted that my sister **Hermia Leung**, brother-in-law **Jackson Leung**, nephew **Justin Leung** and Hermia's mother-in-law **Mrs. Suet-Bing So-Leung** are attending this Convention."

*Look for **Pride of Pi** news in the 2013 Fall Issue of Pi Lights.*

## Northeast Regional Conference in Portland, Maine July 24 – 27, 2013

The Holiday Inn by the  
Bay

Conference information on  
DKG International website,  
[www.dkg.org](http://www.dkg.org)

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

- \*Registration Form
- \*Hotel Reservations
- \*Schedule-at-a-Glance
- \*Pre-Conference Tours
- \*Pre-Conference Training
- \*Green Tree Tours
- \*Breakout Sessions
- \*Speakers
- \*Travel Discounts
- \*Info Fair
- \*Vendors

Register by July 9<sup>th</sup> to avoid  
additional fees. No meal tickets will  
be sold after July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Maine "Welcome" Night is July 24<sup>th</sup>.

Go to the DKG International website: [www.dkg.org](http://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! 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.

*Special Thanks to the 2013 Pi State Steering Committee for our  
exceptional Convention and all your volunteer work.*

### Visitations

(Spring - Fall 2013)

May 7	AlphaPhi	Jeanne Schenk
May 22	Alpha Eta	Joyce Tang
May 16	Tau	Grace Murphy
September 9	Alpha Iota	Jane Tanner
October 24	Alpha Sigma & Beta Epsilon	Mary-Martha Harvey and Jeanne Schenk

(Spring 2014)

March 29	Alpha Nu	Jeanne Schenk
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*2013 Convention Registrar,  
Kathleen Broderick, Beta Alpha  
Photo by Rhonda Ball*

### NE Regional Conference "New York Dines Out"

Join your Pi State sisters and friends for "New York Dines Out" to be held July 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at Zackery's Fireside Restaurant at the Fireside Inn, Portland, Maine. A menu will be available for us to order. Payment will be on your own via separate checks. This is a traditional practice at the Northeast Regional Conferences.

E-mail or mail your reservation to **Erin Merrill**, [emerrill@cppmail.com](mailto:emerrill@cppmail.com) or **Karen Butters**, [kbutters@frontier.com](mailto:kbutters@frontier.com) by June 15<sup>th</sup> and indicate if you will or will not drive to the restaurant.

*Erin Merrill*

**Pi State Foundation Annual Meeting  
April 20, 2013**

**Agnes Becker**, *Gamma Delta*, Chair *Pi State Educational Foundation* introduced Directors and held the Election for one Director. Nominees were introduced and a vote determined that **Virginia (Ginny) Dudko**, *Tau*, was elected. Membership is 39% of Chapters.

The financial report was given by 2012-13 Treasurer, **Jane Tanner**, *Beta Kappa*; balance on hand \$6407.51. There is an addition of 25 new lifetime members and \$3900 in donations year-to-date. The Foundation will receive funds from International Convention to be determined after *Pi State 2013 Convention* registration \$20 stipends are totaled. Since 2005 grants (totaling over \$8000) have been awarded. Grants are given for projects that support literacy.

Project reports from 2012-13 recipients were given: **Lenora McCabe**, *Alpha Eta*, "Warm Hands Active Minds" and **Dr. Anna Marie Bonafide**, *Alpha Nu*, "Women Helping Girls with Choices."

Membership concerns and questions were discussed.



*Pi State Foundation Chair  
Agnes Becker*



*Newly elected Pi State  
Educational Foundation  
Board member,  
Virginia Dudko, Tau*

**Pi State Foundation Directors**

<b>Agnes Becker</b> , <i>Gamma Delta</i> , Chair	2012-16
<b>Anne Price</b> , <i>Gamma Zeta</i> , Vice-President	2012-16
<b>F. Carol Ramsey</b> , <i>Omega</i> , Secretary	2012-16
<b>Jane Tanner</b> , <i>Beta Kappa</i> , Treasurer	2012-16
<b>Virginia (Ginny) Dudko</b> , <i>Tau</i>	2013-16

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

**Pi State Educational Foundation Donations**

**Sharry Cirulli**, *Omega*, in honor of Dawn Scales  
**Karen Prave**, *Beta Delta*, in memory of Joan Neubert  
**West Central Area Council** donation to the Foundation  
**Elizabeth Mussack**, *Omega*, in honor of My Dear Sisters  
**Katja V. Stevens**, *Omega*, in honor of Barbara Fish  
**Janice Astles**, *Omega*, in honor of Omega Chapter  
**Christine Taylor**, *Omega*, in honor of My Omega Sisters  
**Della Ludwig**, *Omega*, in honor of Mary-Martha Harvey  
**Mary Jane Fonte**, *Gamma Delta*, in honor of Cheryl Chamberlain  
**Ellen Hicks**, *Alpha Rho*, donation to the Foundation  
**Janet B. Judson**, *Alpha Gamma*, in memory of James M. Pittman  
**Janet B. Judson**, *Alpha Gamma*, in honor of Helen Brass' 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday

**Renee Durso**, *Omega*, in honor of Omega Chapter  
**Dawn Scales**, *Omega*, in honor of Omega Chapter  
**Linda Upchurch**, *Omega*, in honor of Omega Chapter  
**Della Ludwig**, *Omega*, in honor of Omega Chapter  
**Della Ludwig**, *Omega*, in honor of June Renner  
**Della Ludwig**, *Omega*, in honor of Lois Ludwig  
**Susan T. Kenoyer**, *Psi*, donation to the Foundation  
**Denise Clark**, *Omega*, in honor of Omega Chapter  
**Kerry Smartt**, *Omega*, in honor of Omega Sisters  
**Kathleen Clute**, *Beta Theta*, donation to Foundation

**Pi State Educational Foundation Lifetime Members**

(March 1 to June 1, 2013)

<b>Beta</b>	<b>Omega</b>	<b>Alpha Gamma</b>	<b>Beta Psi</b>
Mary Kay Hickey	Janice Astles	Janet B. Judson	Katrin Summers
<b>Delta</b>	Sharry Cirulli	<b>Alpha Pi</b>	<b>Beta Delta</b>
Sharon Patrick	Denise Clark	Joanne Carroll	Diane Cappellino
Marea B. Reid-Roberts	Renee Durso	<b>Alpha Rho</b>	Janet Driscoll
<b>Pi</b>	Della Ludwig	Mary Ann Caroscio	Elisa Keating
Lori Shuster	Elizabeth Mussack	Mimi Heher	Diane Macaluso
<b>Sigma</b>	Kerry Smartt	Ellen Hicks	Karen Prave
Diane M. Bootie	Katja V. Stevens	M. Jan Przybylski	<b>Gamma Delta</b>
<b>Tau</b>	Dawn Scales	<b>Alpha Nu</b>	Mary Jane Fonte
Nancy Catalano	Christine Taylor	Susan Leslie Campbell	Patti Montaldi
Virginia S. Dudko	Linda Upchurch	Patricia Wharton	Barbara Opera
Dr. Lucille Smassajow	<b>Alpha Alpha</b>	<b>Alpha Phi</b>	Janice Peters
<b>Psi</b>	Linda Kotwas	Jean Fontana	<b>Gamma Epsilon</b>
Susan T. Kenoyer	<b>Alpha Beta</b>	<b>Beta Theta</b>	Lisa Smithers
Ruth H. Mowry	Audrey M. Baker	Kathleen Clute	

## Keynote Address by Dr. Wendy Paterson, April 19<sup>th</sup> **“Be the Spark ... Ignite the Flame”**

*Concluded from page four*

other for many years. We aren't afraid of standards and curriculum. We've seen lots of them come and go! We aren't afraid of government intervention. We know that as long as teaching is primarily a female-led profession and politics is primarily male-led. Politicians will use classrooms as a bully-pulpit (*no pun intended!*). So what is happening in today's classrooms that threatens to put a bushel over our little candle lights?

To understand the impact of the new focus on assessment and benchmarking, I need to stand again in Mrs. Kinney's kindergarten where the big rowboat in the middle of the floor is covered with quilted seats and loaded with teddy bears and kids looking at books by Shel Silverstein and Dr. Seuss and Lois Ehlert. I need to see my five-year old son walking onto the stage dressed in a wolf costume that his domestically-challenged Mother made for a kindergarten play that followed a unit of “research” on animals. I want to smell the aromas wafting from Mrs. Gentner's room as her five and six-year olds learn math and reading and writing while making apple sauce and pumpkin muffins and stone soup and where children get to eat the hard work of learning. That kindergarten still exists, but there are many more that no longer offer such treats of sight and smell and sound and joyful learning because there just isn't time to do creative things when you have to cover curriculum, and there certainly is even less time for free-range silliness.

Recently I had the opportunity to meet with four brilliant young women from a teacher's college in Nürtingen, Germany, who were amazed to see how our kindergarten children all knew how to “sit and listen” and were engaged in work they said never happens in German classrooms until at least first grade. Yet, American students supposedly lag behind their European counterparts on measures of math and reading.

Commissioner John B. King's vision for education in New York is to insure that all children must be “college and career ready” but what will that entail? Will I still get to stand on the roof of Kenmore West and stare through the telescope at the stars during an afterschool astronomy club or will I have to stay after school with the other failures in the Academic Achievement Support Center because I just don't get word problems? Might I be allowed to hear Miss Schwabe tell our biology class that “We are fearfully and wonderfully made” while we slice open our yucky earthworms or will such messy hands-on time be replaced by focused study of science text books? To know the real cost of the “shifts” in language arts education that will put greater value on “extracting meaning from text” and less on the creative magic of reader and author shared in great literature, I must clearly hear again that absolutely breathless fifth grade teacher who stopped me in the hall and said, “Dr. Paterson, you have **got** to read this book! My kids can't get enough of it!” The book was *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone* and my love affair with J. K. Rowling had begun.

Does getting kids “college and career ready” mean that we must now script our creative, imaginative teachers whose flair for engaging kids in authentic learning may not allow them to cover all the SLOs packed into a tenth grade year? If so, I want to go back to my 10<sup>th</sup> grade history class where Mr. Mooshie is giving us a lecture on the Renaissance—its art, music, literature AND history and I choose to read the *Agony and the Ecstasy* instead of *Little Women*. I can see him now in the middle his latest timeline lesson threatening to stand on his desk and show us his hairy legs if Steve falls asleep in class again. It was from *this man* that I learned to love the limitless connections of humankind through history, not from the tenth grade curriculum.

My 25 minutes are almost up, but I think you get my message. *What are the challenges to education today?* How appropriate that your theme is “Be the spark. Ignite the flame” because I suggest to you that the **spark** is definitely in danger of being extinguished. I do not suggest that we highjack Miss Frizzle's *Magic School Bus* and travel to Albany to unseat those who truly believe they have the best interests of children at heart, but I do suggest that we must continue to be a *vocal* and *voting* force for what really matters in education. It isn't whether or not we evaluate our teachers! *Bring it on!* It isn't an oppressive system of assessment that overwhelms the instructional day. *Masterful teachers will find a way to teach masterfully!* It isn't even that we are using college readiness to ruin kindergarten. ***Our real challenge is to prevent a loss of joy, of passion, of fun, of artistry, of the heart of a great teacher under a load of data and paper and accountability scores.***

Let me turn back to my guru Robert Fulghum for the final word, spoken in the *Storyteller's Creed*:

*‘I believe that imagination is stronger than knowledge.*

*That myth is more potent than history.*

*That dreams are more powerful than facts.*

*That hope always triumphs over experience.*

*That laughter is the only cure for grief.*

*And I believe that love is stronger than death.’*

**We are proud participants in the noblest profession. Let us not go gentle into that good night! ”**

*Special thanks to our Pi State 2013 Convention photographers:*

**Christey Arnold, Gamma Gamma; Rhonda Ball, Gamma Gamma; Bridget Bishop, Alpha Alpha; Phyllis Hickey, DKG International Guest; Sue Patrick, Rho; Donna Noble, Alpha Alpha; and Mary-Martha Harvey, Omega, Pi State Editor.**

## 2011-13 State Officers

### President

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### First Vice-President

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Flushing, NY 11355-8009  
718.997.2839  
E-mail: [erindale@verizon.net](mailto:erindale@verizon.net)

### Second Vice-President

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### Secretary

**Deborah M. Bedard**,  
*Alpha Epsilon-C*  
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E-mail: [thebedards@yahoo.com](mailto:thebedards@yahoo.com)

### Immediate Past President

**Joan C. Slagle**, *Beta Omega-C*  
1524 Amsterdam Rd.  
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## Membership: Focus on Honorary Members

Chapter Presidents, you have reached the half way mark in your biennium already! Being Chapter President is a big, yet rewarding job. You have Chapter sisters who can help in many ways, officers who work to accomplish their part of the business of running a Chapter, the Past Presidents who can advise you, and your State officers and Committee Chairs who are always willing to help as well as International. Speaking from experience, a particular associate in Membership Services at International was always helpful and responded quickly to the many questions I had.

At the end of every year, one of the reports that the Chapter President must fill out is a Necrology Report for your Chapter. The Membership Committee got an exceptional 82% return for the 2012 reporting year.

**Honorary Membership** is one of the levels of membership DKG offers and can be granted at the Chapter, State Organization or International level. When considering someone, it should be a woman who is not eligible for active membership because she is not employed in or retired from the education field, but who has “*rendered notable service to education or to women, and who is elected to honorary membership in recognition of such service*” (*Constitution and International Standing Rules, 2010, Article III, Membership, Section B.3*). This year we included **Janet H. Gordon**, a deceased State Honorary member at the 2013 Convention *Hour of Remembrance*. Nominated from *Sigma* Chapter in 1957, she was a prominent lawyer and NY State Assemblywoman from the Norwich area and did much for education and women.

Each year we in Pi State have an opportunity to nominate someone. Nominations should be submitted to the Pi State Membership Chair by October 15. The form to be used is **Form 11-Recommendation for Membership**. We have many prominent women in New York who have done much to advance education and women’s issues. We now need those connections more than ever.

As I end my second and final biennium as Pi State Membership Chair, I would like to *thank you* for giving me this opportunity to serve Pi State. It has been my honor.

**Rosemary Van Wart**

### **Pi Lights for Fall Issue (online) – Due September 1, 2013**

Look for more 2013 *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:

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### **Pi Lights Deadlines for 2013-2014**

September 1, 2013 ... December 1, 2013 ... February 1, 2014 ... May 1, 2014