The North Central Area Council is serving as the Pi State 2011 Convention Steering Committee and is proud to announce that Linda Eller will be our International guest in East Syracuse. She will be Keynote Speaker on Friday, April 29, 2011. She will share with us some of the ways her office can assist us as we work to improve our communication. Linda has created online training venues for teachers to address professional development; serves as an Adjunct Instructor for online blended courses at the University of Memphis; served on planning team for one-to-one laptop initiative and managed online environments designed for instructional planning and curriculum development as well as all project management duties for the Memphis City Schools; served as DKG Tennessee State Editor and Chairs of several State Committees; served as Adjunct Instructor for Christian Brothers University; was a Teacher at Desoto County Academy and Jackson Tutorial Academy in Mississippi. She has authored national and local articles and is the recipient of numerous honors in education.

As the International Information Services Administrator at Headquarters in Austin, Texas since 2009, Linda will be a valuable asset throughout the 2011 Convention.
During my travels around the beautiful state of New York, it has been a distinct pleasure to visit many chapters and Area Council Conferences. Your hospitality and planning have been impressive. Our work as key women educators shines through. I do note the need to keep members involved and to retain members. Some even ask me:

“What are the benefits of membership?”

My answer is always that it allows us to stay connected to our life’s work and to encourage others in leadership if we are retired. For active teachers, it affirms us as key women educators, allows us to practice our leadership skills, present professional writing and workshops and access awards and scholarships for classroom projects and coursework. For all of us, it provides camaraderie and sense of promoting personal and professional growth as a society dedicated to this goal.

Like life, the strength of the Chapter depends on constant renewal and that means letting members try their wings as committee members, chairs and officers. It should be a process, not a tag - You’re it kind of thing! The process needs to be reasonable - a new member may not be ready for an office but neither should that member have to be one who has 10 years of membership. Not every member is really the best suited to every position.

I hear members say that they are too busy to really participate. Attending meetings is not the only way we participate. Many write professional articles, present thoughtful workshops, serve on committees, and continue exemplary work in their chosen fields. If the Chapter programs are not meeting the members’ needs, perhaps it is time to find out why: Is it content, time, cost, transportation or another reason?

There are many members who do not see the connection to the other layers of our Society. For example, does your Chapter plan to attend the Pi State Convention in East Syracuse April 29-May 1? The Steering Committee has worked hard to prepare a wonderful program for you. Please accept our sincere invitation to come.

Another example would be the CTAUN Conference on January 14, 2011 at the UN in NYC. It is an enriching experience to hear top quality experts communicate on vital topics of interest to all. Information is available on our website. Please check it out.

And many are working diligently to prepare for the International Convention in Manhattan, July 2012 that New York/Pi State is hosting. We hope that all of our members will take the opportunity to go. If you have never attended an International Convention, this is the one to enjoy!

Thank you for being part of a wonderful coterie of women who know that their chosen profession is vital in this world and that are recognized as truly dedicated and accomplished.
Membership Committee

At the Fall Executive Board Meeting/Seminar, I presented a workshop entitled “Membership: The Key to a Healthy Chapter.”

I presented a compilation of responses from 1200 chapters to a survey that International President, Dr. Jens Souders and International Member-at-Large Dr. Helen Popovich conducted, titled “Successful Chapter Model.” They identified practices that are repeated over and over by successful chapters.

There are six general categories:
1. Purposeful and focused meetings
2. Meaningful topics and projects
3. Good communication in multiple ways
4. A strategic approach to chapter growth
5. Adhering to Society principles and traditions and
6. Offering benefits that members cannot get elsewhere.

Delta Kappa Gamma offers members many benefits. International and State as well as some chapter-sponsored scholarships are available for members to apply.

Did you know that there are 30 scholarships in the amount of $6,000 each that International offers? While the preference goes towards women pursuing a doctorate, it is not limited to that. The qualifications are listed on the DKG website.

Pi State offers scholarships for either active or retired members (who have at least three years membership in DKG) for graduate study, research, continuing education, enrichment study, masters or doctoral degree study and Elderhostel travel in amounts ranging from $500-$1,000. Other grants and scholarships are listed on the Pi State website along with the applications.

The Pi State Education Foundation has grant money available to members of the Foundation for class projects. Education Foundation membership is $25.

In addition to monetary opportunities for personal and professional growth, there are numerous opportunities for interaction among a diverse group of educators in our Society, not to mention their friendship and camaraderie as well as community service.

Let’s continue our efforts to make our Chapters the most successful they can be and to bring more new members on board. As always, The Membership Committee welcomes your comments, your success stories and any questions with which we can help.

Rosemary Van Wart

Historical Records/Scrapbook Committee

You may have noticed in recent State and International publications that everything is going electronic. With all the new ways to record events and transmit information, it is time to update how we in Pi State keep our Chapter and State history.

The Historical Records and Scrapbook Committee is looking forward to presenting a workshop at the 2011 Convention in Syracuse. Included will be easy ways to keep your Chapters’ history, using digital technology.

Come and see how easy it can be with only the click of a mouse!!

Linda Evans

We’re looking for Northeast Regional Conference Choir Members!

July 20 – 24, 2011
Hershey, Pennsylvania
“The Sweetest Place on Earth”

Contact Shirley Newhart, Music Director at snewhart@comcast.net or at 921 Butler Court, Hummelstown, PA 17036 by February 1, 2011.

Please include the following:
Name
Voice part (S1, S2, A1, A2) and Home Address and E-mail.

Shirley Newhart

Pi State Webmaster Position

Beginning July 1, 2011, the Webmaster position will be open for interested sisters for a 4 year term.

If this is a job which interests you, e-mail Ellie Robinson, erka2ymf@roadrunner.com for a full job description and application form.

Applications are due March 1, 2011.

Ellie Robinson
President: Jeanne Schenk

Mrs. Jeanne Schenk, Alpha Tau, East Central, is currently Pi State 1st Vice-President and has served as 2nd Vice-President and State Secretary. Jeanne brings an abundance of experience in all levels of our Society. She has served for several years as the Chair of the State Scholarship Committee. At the Chapter level, she served as President, Secretary and on various Alpha Tau committees.

Jeanne has experience as an active participant at the Delta Kappa Gamma Regional and International levels, Northeast Regional and International meetings and Conventions from 1995 to 2010.

She has also prepared and written many articles for Pi Lights.

A graduate of D’Youville College and SUNY Colleges at Buffalo and Geneseo, Jeanne taught elementary school for 37 years. She is an active member in various community activities including her church, the Hospital Guild and sports events.

Jeanne's leadership skills are enhanced by an enthusiasm and understanding of our Society's work and her positive attitude when working with other members.

Jeanne Schenk’s MISSION STATEMENT:

Jeanne plans to continue the changes and expand the use of the new communication ideas that have been implemented on the state level. A greater use of the State website in sharing information, such as forms and applications, is part of Jeanne's agenda.

As Pi State President, Jeanne would like to help with local Chapters' difficulties in finding members willing to accept leadership roles. "I would like to see the Executive Committee liaison to each area take an active role in supporting the Chapters in their area through contact before and after each State meeting."

Jeanne Schenk sees the 2012 International Convention in New York City as a way to "showcase our state with pride and enthusiasm."

The Pi State Nominations Committee:
- Ruth Mowry - Chair, Georgeanne Albanese, Patricia Alena, Carol Engle, Kathleen Hoeltzel, Patricia Mineo, Ellen Nowyj, Candace Pisterzi and Barbara Brooks Quinn recommend this 2011-2013 State of Officers and State Committees of Finance and Nominations.

First Vice-President: Joyce Tang

Dr. Joyce Tang, Alpha Phi, Southeastern, was initiated as a member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International in 1998. Currently, she is State Secretary. Joyce has also served as Epsilon, Southeastern, President, Corresponding Secretary and Recording Secretary. She is a member of the Planning Committee for the Southeastern Area Conferences and State Communications Committee and has attended International Conventions in Minneapolis, Spokane and the Northeast Regional Conference in Burlington. Joyce enjoys having the opportunities to work with members of Pi State to help more women enter and advance in education.

As an educator, researcher and mentor, Joyce recognizes the importance of the Society in promoting professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. Joyce brings a new dynamic and insights into the State Executive Board Meetings. She would like to have the opportunity to continue to serve the State membership by bringing in her experience and perspective as a Sociologist.

Joyce obtained her doctorate in Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania. She is a Professor of Sociology at Queens College of the City University of New York. Her work about scientists and engineers has appeared in numerous publications. She is the author of two books, Doing Engineering: The Career Attainment and Mobility of Caucasian, Black, and Asian-American Engineers and Scientific Pioneers: Women Succeeding in Science and a co-editor of Women and Minorities in American Professions.

Besides listening to new age music, Joyce often visits family and friends in Hong Kong and Toronto.
Second Vice-President: Erin Merrill

Erin K. Merrill, Beta Chi, South Central, is currently Chair of the Pi State Travel and Study Stipend Committee and serves on the Pi State Nominating Committee. Erin has served as Co-chair of registration for Pi State Executive Board Meeting in Corning and as Area Council Chair. She is currently her Chapter’s Communications Chair and has served as President, Vice-President and chaired various committees.

Erin has served as Co-chair of registration for Pi State Executive Board Meeting in Corning and as Area Council Chair. She is currently her Chapter’s Communications Chair and has served as President, Vice-President and chaired various committees.

A graduate of Nazareth College and SUNY Plattsburgh, Erin has twenty two (22) years professional experience as a teacher at Corning-Painted Post School District. Erin has served her community as a Board member of the Spencer Crest Nature Center, Coordinator of Volunteers at the Corning Festival of Art and volunteered at the after-school program run by the Salvation Army. Her interests include travel, reading, and gardening.

Secretary: Deborah Bedard

Deborah M. Bedard, Alpha Epsilon, Capital Area, was active on the Pi State World Fellowship Committee for four years. She served as registrar for the Executive Board Meeting held in the Capital Area and was on the Steering Committee for the Pi State Convention held in Saratoga. Deborah chaired the Capital Area Conference in Saratoga, "History & Horses."

In Alpha Epsilon Deborah has served as Recording Secretary, 2nd Vice-President, 1st Vice-President and served as President for two terms. She is currently Corresponding Secretary, which includes responsibility for the e-mailed newsletter.

Deborah's educational focus at Russell Sage was in Social Studies and Elementary Education. She also has a degree in English Language Arts from Castleton State College, Vermont. She has taught Reading & Writing (5-12) and is currently a 1st grade teacher at Johnsburg Central School.

She is a respected, efficient and dedicated member of Delta Kappa Gamma. Her professional attitude and computer proficiency will be positive assets in the office of State Secretary.

A Call for Interested Pi State Committee Members For 2011-2013

If you are interested in serving on one of the Pi State Committees for 2011-2013 biennium, please complete this form and mail or e-mail to:

Joan Slagle
1524 Amsterdam Road
Ballston Spa, NY 12020-3318
Jns172@yahoo.com

Name _______________________________________

Committee ___________________________________

Chapter _______ Telephone ____________

E-mail ______________________________________

Nominations for the Finance Committee:

Noreen LeCann from Southeastern Area
Catherine A. Mlyniec from West Central Area
Cindy Baker from Southwestern Area
Sharon Kulhanek from Northwestern Area

Nominations for the Nominations Committee:

Lochie Musso from Eastern Area
Ruth Mowry from Northern Area
Erin Merrill from South Central Area
Workshop Session #1:  7:00-7:45pm  
Friday, April 29, 2011

A. Pi State Education Foundation  
Presenter: Agnes Becker, Gamma Delta

B. Digital Scrapbooking  
Move into the Electronic Age! Learn about digital scrapbooking to record your Chapter’s history with the click of a mouse.  
Presenter: Linda Evans, Sigma

C. A Children’s Journey to Literacy as an Author, Illustrator and Performer  
The focus will be a “hands on” exploration - either as an author, illustrator or performer - providing teacher resources to take home. A synopsis of I Can Hear the Sun by Patricia Polacco, other selections and project outline will be provided.  
Presenter: Sue Genthner, Alpha Alpha

D. Choir Rehearsal  
Presenter: Karen Butters, Beta Mu

Workshop Session #2:  8:00-8:45pm  
Friday, April 29, 2011

A. DKG Moving Forward  
This is an opportunity to discuss the proposed changes to the Pi State By-Laws and Standing Rules and their impact on Chapters. Recent changes to the International Constitution and their impact on Chapters as well as the Society will also be addressed.  
Presenter: Mary McCarty, Tau

B. Gardening for Today: The Green Way  
This presentation by a Cornell Cooperative Extension Master Gardener includes composting, soil testing, xeriscape planting (low water usage) and maintaining your garden using Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Techniques.  
Presenter: Barbara Bruce, Beta Psi

C. Choir Rehearsal  
Presenter: Karen Butters, Beta Mu

Workshop Session #3:  2:30-3:15pm  
Saturday, April 30, 2011

A. 2012 DKG International Conference Steering Committee Meeting  
Steering Committee members only  
Presenter: Karen Crumley, Tau

B. Improve Your Memory  
Remember what you have learned over your lifetime that you have never forgotten. Wouldn’t you like to experience that feeling every day? Learn to remember anything, using brain ignition techniques.  
Presenter: Dr. Lucille Smassanow, Tau

C. DKG and the United Nations  
This workshop provides an orientation to DKG’s presences at the UN and what it means to a Pi State member.  
Presenter: Grace Murphy, Alpha Beta

D. Using Howard Gardner’s Multiple Intelligences in Dance Education  
Learn about and experience Howard Gardner’s bodily-kinesthetic intelligence and how to incorporate it into your teaching.  
Presenter: Jonette Lancos, Beta Tau
Workshop Session #4: 3:30-4:15pm  
Saturday, April 30, 2011

A. 2012 DKG International Conference Steering Committee Meeting  
Steering Committee members only  
Presenter: Karen Crumley, Tau

B. Point of View in Selected Children’s Novels  
Discuss the myriad ways that point of view functions in terms of readers’ identification with characters and possible need for emotional distance from plot elements – focusing on the multicultural/historical novel, Dragon Wing by Lawrence Yep, and the contemporary novel, Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Patterson.  
Presenter: Dr. Margaret Gardineer, Alpha Eta

C. Creating a “Simple and Easy” Chapter Picture Directory  
Learn how to create your Chapter’s Picture Directory, including all the year’s needed information from addresses, phone numbers, officers, committees, calendar of events and much more! Be able to print it or send it electronically to all your members to use throughout the year. This is a great way for sisters to recognize all Chapter members - even those who cannot regularly attend meetings and events.  
Presenter: Barb Amedro, Alpha Iota

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Workshop Registration Form  
2011 Pi State Convention

Capacity for workshops is limited.  
Please select workshops of your choice in each session by ranking: #1 for first choice, #2 for second choice & #3 for third choice.

Return by April 1, 2011 to:  
Karen Cunningham  
6 Townley Avenue  
Cortland, NY 13045 or  
E-mail: kcunnin3@twcny.rr.com

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NAME ________________________________  
CHAPTER __________ PHONE ____________  
ADDRESS ________________________________________  
________________________________________________  
E-MAIL ___________________________________________  

Workshop Session #1: Friday, April 29, 7:00-7:45pm  
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_____ B. Point of View in Selected Children’s Novels  
_____ C. Creating a “Simple and Easy” Chapter Picture Directory
In Remembrance

Chi
Eleanor C. Greene
7/28/10

Alpha Alpha
Marguerite H. Browne
5/10/10

Alpha Tau
Carol Bacon
8/3/10

Beta Epsilon
Verna Clark
9/17/10

Beta Lambda
Alice Marie Shimer
6/2/10

Beta Psi
Bess Carmichael
10/27/10

Visitations (Fall 2010)

October 5  EC Area Conference
Karen Crumley

October 16  SE Area Conference
Joan Slagle

November 8  Alpha Gamma, Alpha Pi
Joan Slagle

November 13  Alpha Xi
Jeanne Schenk

November 14  Beta Phi
Joan Slagle

December 12  Alpha Kappa
Joan Slagle

Hotel Reservations for 2011 Pi State Convention
Doubletree Inn & Suites
Call 315.432.0200
Mention DKG for Convention Rate

February 1, 2011 Deadlines

Pi Lights for Spring Issue (online)
E-mail articles and Pride of Pi highlights to
Mary-Martha Harvey mharvey@frontiernet.net

Pi State Scholarships, Grants, Awards, and Stipend
Refer to Summer Issue of Pi Lights for further
information and forms or Pi State website
www.deltakappagamma.org/NY

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International Pi State
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