



The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

# Pi Lights



Vol. 66, No. 2

Published by the New York State Organization

Winter 2011

You're Invited to the 2011 "Gem of a Convention"

Celebrating 75 Years of Pi State

April 29 – May 1, 2011, Doubletree Inn & Suites, East Syracuse, NY

## 2011 Pi State Convention Schedule

### Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup>

- 2:00-10:00pm Registration & FDF Sales
- 5:30-6:30pm Optional Dinner
- 7:00-7:45pm Workshop Session #1
- 7:00-8:45pm Choir Rehearsal
- 8:00-8:45pm Workshop Session #2
- 9:00-9:45pm Welcome and Keynote
- 9:45-11:00pm Dessert Reception

### Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>

- 8:00am -4:00pm Registration & FDF Sales
- 7:00-8:30am Optional Breakfast
- 8:15-9:15am Executive Board Meeting
- 9:15-11:15am General Session
- Noon-2:00pm Birthday Luncheon
- 2:30-3:15pm Workshop Session #3
- 3:30-4:15pm Workshop Session #4
- 6:00-10:00pm Founders/President's Banquet
- 9:30pm Receiving Line

### Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>

- 8:00am Registration
- 8:00-10:00 Hour of Remembrance
- 10:15am-noon Scholarship/Awards/  
Grant(s)-in-Aid Brunch



Linda Eller

Pi State  
Welcomes  
International  
Guest Speaker

**Linda Eller**

Information  
Services Administrator

Delta Kappa Gamma  
Society International

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.

### REGISTRATION FORMS for CONVENTION and WORKSHOPS Enclosed

- \* Early Convention Registration due March 4<sup>th</sup>
- \* Workshop Registration due April 1<sup>st</sup>
- \* Hotel Reservations – call direct 315.432.0200



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

**Joan C. Slagle**

Pi State President 2009 - 2011



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. Jeni 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](mailto: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, [ebrka2ymf@roadrunner.com](mailto:ebrka2ymf@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



Jeanne Schenk

*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 *Slate of Officers* and *State Committees of Finance and Nominations*.

NOMINATIONS Continued on page five

**First Vice-President: Joyce Tang**

Dr. 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 Merrill

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



Deborah Bedard

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 Johnsbury 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](mailto: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

**Delta Kappa Gamma Society International  
Pi State  
Program of Work: Conference Workshops  
April 29 - May 1, 2011**

Capacity for workshops is limited.

Please select the workshops of your choice by ranking each:

**#1 for first choice, #2 for second choice and #3 for third choice IN EACH WORKSHOP SESSION.**

**Return Workshop Registration Form to:**

**Karen Cunningham, 6 Townley Avenue, Cortland, NY 13045 or e-mail: [kcunnin3@twcny.rr.com](mailto:kcunnin3@twcny.rr.com)**

**Workshop Registration Form**

*(on page seven)*

**Due by April 1, 2011**

**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 Intergraded 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**

**2011 Pi State Convention Registration Form**

Please refer to the insert.

**Early Registration Due March 4, 2011**

With payment for registration and meals selected

**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@twenvy.rr.com](mailto:kcunnin3@twenvy.rr.com)

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**Workshop Session #1: Friday, April 29, 7:00-7:45pm**

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Pi State Education Foundation  
\_\_\_\_\_ B. Digital Scrapbooking  
\_\_\_\_\_ C. A Children's Journey to Literacy as an Author, Illustrator and Performer  
\_\_\_\_\_ D. Choir Rehearsal

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\_\_\_\_\_ B. Gardening for Today – The Green Way  
\_\_\_\_\_ C. Choir Rehearsal

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

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. 2012 DKG International Conference Steering Committee Meeting  
\_\_\_\_\_ B. Improve Your Memory  
\_\_\_\_\_ C. DKG and the United Nations  
\_\_\_\_\_ D. Using Howard Gardner's Multiple Intelligences in Dance Education

**Workshop Session #4: Saturday, April 30, 3:30-4:15**

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. 2012 DKG International Conference Steering Committee Meeting  
\_\_\_\_\_ B. Point of View in Selected Children's Novels  
\_\_\_\_\_ C. Creating a "Simple and Easy" Chapter Picture Directory

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:mswia18@aol.com)

### Secretary

**Dr. Joyce Tang**, *Epsilon-SE*  
4140 Union St., Apt. 12P,  
Flushing, NY 11355-8009  
718.997.2839  
E-mail: [erindale@verizon.net](mailto: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: [kcrumley@hvc.rr.com](mailto:kcrumley@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](mailto:szwed@northnet.org)

### Treasurer

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

### Pi Lights Editor

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*Omega - EC*  
185 Park Street  
Canandaigua, NY 14424  
518.394.3409  
E-mail: [mharvey@frontiernet.net](mailto:mharvey@frontiernet.net)

### Parliamentarian

**Dr. Margarethe D. McCurry**,  
*Alpha Epsilon-C*  
178 Sunnyside Rd.  
Queensbury, NY 12804-7761  
518.793.0793 & fax

## 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	<b>EC Area Conference</b> Karen Crumley
October 16	<b>SE Area Conference</b> Joan Slagle
November 8	<b>Alpha Gamma, Alpha Pi</b> Joan Slagle
November 13	<b>Alpha Xi</b> Jeanne Schenk
November 14	<b>Beta Phi</b> Joan Slagle
December 12	<b>Alpha Kappa</b> 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](mailto: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](http://www.deltakappagamma.org/NY)



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

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