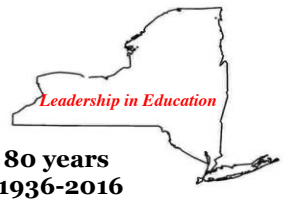




The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
www.deltakappagamma.org/NY



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Winter 2016

Pi Lights

Join Pi State Sisters at the

Spring 2016 Executive Board Meeting/Seminar

“Celebrating the Invitation of Membership by Embracing Leadership”

April 29-30, 2016

The Sheraton Syracuse Hotel & Conference Center

801 University Avenue

Syracuse, NY 13210

Look for Registration Form & Hotel Reservation/ Directions on pp. 21 & 22 of this issue.

Schedule at a Glance

Friday, April 29th

3:30-4:45pm	Executive Committee Meeting
2:00-9:00pm	Registration
4:00-6:00pm	Music Rehearsal
4:00-9:00pm	FDF Sales
5:00-6:00pm	Optional Dinner
6:15-7:00pm	Workshop Session I
7:15-8:00pm	Workshop Session II
8:15-9:00pm	General Session & Keynote
9:15-10:15pm	Dessert Reception & Area Council Meetings

Saturday, April 30th

7:30-9:00am	Registration
7:30-8:15am	Optional Continental Breakfast
8:15-8:30am	Executive Board Sign-in
8:30-11:00am	Executive Board & Corporation Meetings
11:15-11:45am	Hotel Check-out
11:15-11:45am	Educational Foundation Annual Meeting
12:00-2:00pm	Birthday & Awards Luncheon

Refer to p. 4 for descriptions of Session I and II Workshops.

Keynote Address:

“Formal and Non-Formal Learning Environments for Six to Nine Year Old Children in Iceland”

Refer to p.4 for more information.



Kolbrún Pálsdóttir

Assistant Professor in Leisure and Youth Studies at the University of Iceland, **Kolbrún Pálsdóttir** will present the Keynote Address at the *Pi State Spring Executive Board Meeting/Seminar*. She is a DKG member in Iceland and will be available for questions during the conference.

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Deadline for Pi State Scholarships, Awards, Stipends and Grant(s)-in-Aid

March 1, 2016

More details on pp. 6-9 of this issue

Refer to the Pi State website “Application Forms” box.



“Celebrating the Invitation of Membership”

Deborah Bedard

Pi State President 2015 - 2017

See you at the April 29-30, 2016 Pi State Executive Board Meeting/Seminar at the Sheraton Syracuse Hotel



The joy of traveling and becoming acquainted with Pi State members throughout our state has proved quite a journey this fall. I can personally attest that many of our Pi State members have indeed accepted ***“The Invitation of Membership”*** and are fully engaged!



Members from our **Northern Area Council** attended a meeting organized by **Lambda** Chapter. All members heard from **Regent Beverly Ouderkirk** about the state of education reforms in New York State. Questions and concerns from our Northern sisters were shared with Regent Ouderkirk.

Opportunities to advocate for our profession, public education and our students exist in all levels of our Society. *Thank you Lambda* sisters for providing a chance for Pi State members to advocate!



I was able to attend two Area Conferences: North Central and Capital Area.

Our **North Central** members provided experiences for life-long learning and a seminar with opportunities for DKG members.

At the **Capital Area** Conference members worked together to develop goals the Council could address to meet the needs of both members and their Chapters. An afternoon session on Writer's Workshop given by our Membership & Expansion Chair, **Melanie McDonald, Beta Omega**, helped members use their writing voice and advance life-long learning.

The **East Central Area** Council also hosted a conference. Two speakers presented an interesting program to members and their guests. **Jacqueline Johnson, Omega**, spoke regarding her *“Journey of Discovery through Cancer”* and **Jennifer Klein** spoke about *“Women's Stress and Self-Care”*.



Alpha Psi Chapter members held a fundraising for scholarships and extended the invitation and honor of membership to area educators.



Congratulations to Alpha Beta on 60 years of service to members of Pi State. I enjoyed celebrating with **Alpha Beta** members and congratulating their newly inducted members.

Continued on page three

President's Message*Concluded from page two*

My fall visits concluded as I represented Pi State Members in honoring Pi State Past President, **Catherine Olinger** (1993-1995) during "**Catherine Olinger Day**" in her hometown community on Long Island. I know of Catherine's legacy as a Pi State leader and now I am beginning to understand the scope of Catherine's efforts as an advocate and volunteer in many different areas and endeavors. Read more about this special day on pages 11-12 in this issue of *Pi Lights*.

This is but a small slice of the engagement that Pi State Sisters have shown this fall in their Chapter, Area Council, State and International activities. Our Society offers women educators opportunities that no other professional organization can match.

Registration for the **2016 DKG International Conference** at Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center, Nashville, Tennessee, **July 5-9** will open soon. Refer to the International website, www.dkg.org, for information and online registration. *Contact your Chapter President for new codes to be used when registering online.*

Throughout this winter and spring, I look forward to visiting more Chapter meetings and becoming better acquainted with members throughout our state and seeing the power of members engaged throughout our state.

As you make your New Year's Resolutions over the holidays, remember to vow to engage your voice as a DKG member. Celebrate the New Year by extending "**The Invitation of Membership**" to future members to ensure DKG opportunities will continue to unite, honor, advance, endorse, endow, stimulate and inform key women educators throughout New York State.

*Deborah Bedard***Save the Dates:****2016 DKG International Convention, July 5-9, 2016**

Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center, Nashville, Tennessee

Pi State Leadership Development for New & Returning Presidents, August 1-2, 2016

Hilton Garden Inn, Syracuse

Pi State Fall Executive Board Meeting & Seminar, October 14-15, 2014, Woodcliff Hotel & Spa, Fairport**Pi State 2017 Convention/Executive Board/Seminar, April 28-30, 2017**

Otesaga Resort, Cooperstown, NY

Pi State Visitations 2015-16

Fall 2015		Chapter(s) / Area	State Representative
	October 17	<i>North Central Area Conference</i>	Sue Kenoyer
	October 20	<i>Alpha Psi 54th Anniversary</i>	Deborah Bedard
	October 24	<i>Capital Area Council</i>	Karen Butters
	October 25	<i>Alpha Beta 60th Anniversary</i>	Deborah Bedard
	October 27	<i>East Central Area Council</i>	Karen Butters
	November 14	<i>Alpha Iota 56th Anniversary</i>	Mary-Martha Harvey
	November 18	<i>Alpha Nu</i>	Jennifer Lee-Alden
	November 19	<i>Beta Delta 50th Anniversary</i>	Karen Butters
Spring 2016			
	April 27	<i>Alpha Tau</i>	Ellie Robinson
	May 5	<i>Alpha Chi 54th Anniversary</i>	Deborah Bedard
	May 5	<i>Delta Founders' Day</i>	Jennifer Lee-Alden
	May 19	<i>Sigma</i>	Karen Butters
	May 20	<i>Beta Omega</i>	Sue Kenoyer
Fall 2016			
	October 1	<i>Northwest/Southwest Area Conference</i>	Mary-Martha Harvey

Refer to future issues of Pi Lights and the Pi State website for updates.

Pi State Keynote Speaker: April 29, 2016**Kolbrún Pálsdóttir*****“Formal and Non-Formal Learning Environments for Six to Nine Year Old Children in Iceland”***

In this presentation **Kolbrún Pálsdóttir** will discuss the Icelandic school system and the development of leisure-time centres for the youngest school children. Iceland has a population of 320,000 people. The majority of the population lives in the capital area of Reykjavik. The rest of the nation lives in small municipalities along the coast line of the island. Schools are run by municipalities and guided by the Icelandic Educational Curriculum.

In 2011 six pillars of education were introduced into the National Curriculum: literacy, sustainability, health and welfare, democracy and human rights, equality and creativity. These pillars are expected to be reflected in the working methods, content and the learning environment at every school level. Leisure-time centers trace back to the 1970's when women's participation in the labor market increased. A recent survey showed that 92% of municipalities operate leisure-time centres. Kolbrún will talk about her research on informal learning in the leisure-time centres and how such learning can support the children's overall well-being and progress in school.

Kolbrún P. Pálsdóttir is an Assistant Professor in Leisure and Youth studies at the University of Iceland. She earned a BA degree in philosophy in 1997 and a Master's degree in education in 2001, both from the University of Iceland. She took on an active role as a professional in the development and coordination of after-school programs for six to nine year old children in Reykjavik between the years of 2002 to 2008, first as Leader in one program and then as Department Leader in one neighborhood.

Kolbrún defended her Ph.D. thesis in education *“Care, Learning and Leisure: the Organisational Identity of After-School Centres for Six to Nine Year Old Children in Reykjavik”* at the University of Iceland in 2012. Her research interests include leisure-time pedagogy, ethics and professionalism, and the relationship between formal and informal learning. Her current research is on integrated learning and the collaboration of leisure-time staff and teachers.

Pi State Workshops**April 29, 2016**

Presenter	Title of Workshop	Description of Workshop
Deborah Bedard <i>Alpha Epsilon</i>	<i>“Finding The Child in Common Core”</i>	Lead the students within your classroom to develop common core skills by using developmentally appropriate activities. The art of teaching can help us ensure all our students meet success
Melanie McDonald <i>Beta Omega</i>	<i>“Membership Makeover: Recruit! Retain! Reinstate!”</i>	The Pi State Membership Committee will share information about the DKG International 2015 New Member Recruitment Plan and review ideas and resources to help you implement it in your chapter.
Karen Crumley <i>Tau</i>	<i>“How to Develop Leadership in Chapters”</i>	A panel discussion with past Pi state Presidents on how to develop leadership skills within your chapter. This will involve a question, answer format with a moderator.
Barbara Bostwick-Quinn <i>Beta</i>	<i>“The Pi State Strategic Action Plan Impact”</i>	Members of the Pi State Action Plan Committee will discuss the plan, its development and implications for the future.
Sue Norris <i>Beta Mu</i>	<i>“Using Caldecott Books to Teach Common Core”</i>	Teaching the award winning Caldecotts, helping elementary students to enjoy reading and analyze stories and their illustrations. This program will show how to teach the CCS through the art and literature of the Caldecott picture books.
Karen Butters <i>Beta Mu</i>	<i>“You, Too, Can Learn to Play an Instrument!”</i>	Brief overview of the Lap (or Mountain) Dulcimer and instruction to play a few folk songs.
Leah Moses Maxwell School of Syracuse University	<i>“Healthy Mondays and Its Impact for You”</i>	Leah Moses, Program Coordinator, Lerner Center for Public Health Promotion, will share SU's <i>Healthy Monday Program</i> with participants and provide resources and suggestions to make our lives healthier in 2016.

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International
Pi State Proposed Standing Rules Changes for April 30, 2016

Karen P. Crumley, Tau, Chair

*Please bring this page with you to the Spring Executive Board Meeting at the
 Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel & Conference Center, Syracuse, NY*

Amend **Section 2 Finance** by amending **2.12**

To Read:

Travel mileage for official business is to be figured at forty cents (\$.40) per mile plus tolls for use of private automobile. Each recipient is to be responsible for information as to the number of road miles from her home to destination and return.

Rationale: The cost of travel has increased significantly and this encourages women to take on leadership positions.

Amend **Section 2 Finance** by amending **2.71**

To Read:

Upon request of the Convention Chair, the Pi State Treasurer shall distribute a gift of money not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$ 1,000) for financing a State Convention to the host area. These monies will be used exclusively to reduce registration costs of members.

Rationale: By decreasing the member cost of attending a Pi State Convention, more members will be able to attend.

Amend **Section 6 Meetings** by amending **6.22** if **2.71** passes

To Read:

Pi State funds not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000) shall be gifted to the Hostess Chapter(s) or Area Council upon request to the Pi State Treasurer. This money is to be used to offset the cost of Convention registration for attending members.

Rationale: By decreasing the member cost of attending a Pi State Convention, more members will be able to attend.

Pi State Guidelines for vouchers will be adjusted for mileage if SR 2.12 passes on April 30, 2016.

Awards Committee Benefit Drawing

Thanks to you Pi State sisters, the scholarships available to members and non-members continues to thrive!!! **Thank you for your help.** As is tradition, the **2016 Benefit Ticket Sales Challenge** has been set by Pi State President Bedard at \$6335.

"How can I help achieve this goal?" you ask. Well here are two ways...

1. **Check out the Pi State website** <http://deltakappagamma.org/NY> for a list of Awards, Scholarships and Grant(s)-in-Aid. There are many prestigious awards just waiting to be used to recognize the accomplishments of members as well as women in our community who support education or are becoming educators. *We all know at least one person who fits into one of these categories.* Please make sure they are identified and honored with a Pi State Award.
2. **Purchase Pi State Awards Benefit Tickets at your Chapter and Area Council Meetings.** The money raised from the sale of these tickets goes directly to the Awards, Scholarships and Grant(s)-in-Aid Funds.

**2016 Pi State Awards Benefit Ticket for State Awards,
 Scholarships and Grant(s)-in-Aid**

Name _____
 Chapter _____
 Phone _____
 Drawing at Pi State Spring Executive Board Meeting/Seminar
 April 29-30, 2016
Donation: 1 for \$1; 6 for \$5; 12 for \$10

We can all participate in "Celebrating the Invitation of Membership" by supporting the Pi State Awards Benefit through ticket purchases and applying for awards!

Erin Merrill

Attention All Musicians

Are you planning on attending the Spring **Pi State Executive Board Meeting & Seminar on April 29th and 30th in Syracuse?**

Sign-up to sing with the Pi State Choir! Instrumentalists, too!

Our rehearsal will take place on Friday, April 29th from 4:00pm to 6:00pm.

Come early and SING!!

Please contact Music Rep. to Educational Excellence Committee, **Bridget Bishop**, 585.637.2422,

meanmom5@rochester.rr.com if you are able to sing or play or for further information.

Bridget Bishop

Opportunity Knocks!

There is a saying that opportunity does not knock twice! Well, here at Pi State opportunity knocks three times! There are three offices at the State level that need new Pi State women to take leadership roles.

Pi State Personnel Committee is seeking candidates for the following State

Offices: **Executive Secretary, FDF Administrator and Webmaster**

Applications are on the Pi State Website under “*Application Forms*” in the “*Pi State Awards, Scholarships & Grant(s)-in-Aid*” box. Look for “*Pi State Elected Personnel*.” **Applications are due by March 1, 2016 to Personnel Committee Chair Sheila Brady-Root, 760 Penfield Road, Rochester 14625, sroot@sifc.edu, 585-218-9642.** Detailed Job Descriptions are on the Pi State Website under “*Job Descriptions*” in “*Pi State Officer and Elected Personnel*” box.

Pi State **Executive Secretary for 2016-2020**

The first opportunity is Pi State Executive Secretary. There are many of you with the qualifications for this office: an active DKG member in good standing and evidence of leadership skills, administrative abilities, and knowledge of information technologies with computer skills. This office is part of Pi State Executive Committee.

A four-year term beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2020 with appointment by the Pi State Executive Board upon recommendation of the Personnel Committee, the position of Pi State Executive Secretary has an annual honorarium that is recommended by the State Finance Committee and approved by the Pi State Executive Board.

Responsibilities include:

- Serve on State Executive Committee and designated State Committees
- Complete and monitor arrangements for Pi State Executive Board Meetings, Conventions, Committee Meetings and Leadership Development Seminars with hotels and their restaurants
- Prepare, arrange printing and distribution of Pi State Directory, Biennial Booklet of Pi State BYLAWS & Standing Rules and the Convention Biennial Reports
- Completing tasks assigned by State President.

Pi State **Webmaster for 2016-2019**

The second Pi State opportunity is Pi State Webmaster. If you love working on the computer and are an active DKG member in good standing, organized and familiar with new technologies and programs that will make the Pi State website user-friendly for all to use, you are the perfect candidate.

A three-year term beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2019 (to complete term 2015-2019) with appointment by the Pi State President upon recommendation of the Personnel Committee, the position of Pi State Webmaster has an annual honorarium that is recommended by the State Finance Committee and approved by Pi State Executive Board.

Responsibilities include:

- Upload and archive documents approved by Pi State President or her designee in a timely fashion and maintain current website protocol and up-to-date content
- Present consistent visual images through uniform fonts, style sheets, formatting, icons, images and layout
- Refine web strategies, standards, graphic design, screen layouts and navigational features for State website

Pi State **Financial Development Fund Administrator for 2016-2020**

The third Pi State opportunity is Pi State Financial Development Fund Administrator (FDF). You are a great candidate for this position if you are you a person with a smile and good word who has a bit of saleswoman in her and knows the organization. Qualifications as FDF Administrator include an active DKG member in good standing, ability to keep financial records of items, and organizational skills to locate popular items, transport and arrange display sales.

A four-year term beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2020 with appointment by the Pi State Executive Board upon recommendation of the Personnel Committee, the position of Pi State FDF Administrator has an annual honorarium that is recommended by the State Finance Committee and approved by the Pi State Executive Board.

Responsibilities include:

- Store, transport, display, sell and maintain FDF inventory and add new items periodically
- Attend Pi State Executive Board Meetings, Conventions and Leadership Development Seminars to display and sell FDF items as well as provide items requested for sale at Area Conferences and Chapter Meetings
- Maintain inventory, sales and audit records

Sheila Brady-Root

Awards, Scholarships & Grant(s)-in-Aid

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS and APPLICATIONS: March 1, 2016

Refer to the Pi State website www.deltakappagamma.org/NY for applications and further information.

Applications are in the "Application Forms" box and Committee information by title of Committee.

Title	Description	Send Applications to
Frederica Hollister Professional Educators Award	Nominations can be made by a Chapter or an individual. Nominees must meet the criteria set forth in <i>Pi State Standing Rules (SR 14.72)</i> : "...the woman who has exemplified the best in education in New York State...had considerable visibility...and made a significantly positive impact on education in New York State and possibly at the national level. Her contributions should be varied, widely known and should be well documented over a period of five years." <i>Frederica Hollister</i> was a <i>Beta Rho</i> Chapter member and the 15th Pi State President in 1967. She was instrumental in beginning our <i>Native American Grant(s)-in-Aid</i> and was a dedicated educator and scholar during her lifetime. The Award was established in 1988 from a bequest made by her to recognize fellow members who have impacted education significantly.	Sue Kenoyer 254 Allen Rd. Plattsburgh 12901 <i>sue.kenoyer@charter.net</i>
Gladys L. Mersereau Grant(s)-in-Aid	Established in 1975 to honor <i>Beta Rho</i> member and past Pi State President <i>Gladys L. Mersereau</i> (1946-1948) who wanted to help women become teachers, this award is given to a non-member whose education was interrupted and who now needs financial aid to complete certification requirements.	Deborah Bedard P.O. Box 782 Glens Falls 12801 <i>dmbedard29@yahoo.com</i>
The Verna Mulholland Friend of Education Award	This award with a plaque and a stipend for travel expenses up to \$300 to attend the State Conference is given to a New York State woman, ineligible for membership, who has provided outstanding service to education.	Harlene Gilbert PO Box 269 Geneva 14456 <i>wilmacpeebles@gmail.com</i>
Native American Grant(s)-in-Aid	Award is \$500 per semester with a maximum of \$5000 and given to Native American women pursuing college study in the field of education and social service.	Arlene Ida 3 Sherwood Park Drive Burnt Hills 12027 <i>aiddski@nycap.rr.com</i>
Pi State Achievement Award	The Pi State Achievement Award is presented annually to honor a member of at least five years. A Chapter or member may nominate a member who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to education and exceptional service to <i>Delta Kappa Gamma</i> at the state level. Instituted in 1954, the award is a small gold pin in the form of a Tudor rose.	Agnes Becker 3448 East River Road Grand Island 14072 <i>ambecker13@gmail.com</i>
Bea Small Award	Established in 1999 in memory of Bea Small, a member of <i>Omega</i> , the Award is presented to a Pi State Chapter(s) having an outstanding existing program or project, which addresses a need of a specific population within the Chapter's geographic area.	Karen Butters P.O. Box 136 Blue Mountain Lake 12812 <i>kbutters@frontier.com</i>
Travel & Study Stipend	Two stipends may be offered not to exceed \$1000.00 each in accordance with the <i>Pi State Standing Rules</i> . Efforts will be made to award one stipend to a retired member of the <i>Pi State Delta Kappa Gamma Society International</i> and one to a Pi State member currently employed in the profession. Preference will be given to first time attendees. The stipends are available to help with expenses at Convention, <i>Seminar for Purposeful Living</i> , CTAUN Conference or travel/study of your choice.	Pat Turner 7200 Brookside Drive Lockport 14094 <i>tunes14@yahoo.com</i>
Scholarship	Pi State Scholarships information, criteria and applications are available on Pi State website with a \$2000 maximum. International Scholarships are due February 1 by application to DKG International. Applications are available on website www.dkg.org .	Rosemary Van Wart 105 Tomahawk Street Yorktown Heights 10598 <i>rvw20@optonline.net</i>

DKG INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS
due FEBRUARY 1, 2016

Remember that there are up to 30 awards available -
\$6,000 toward a Masters, second Masters or graduate level Special Area degree and
\$10,000 toward a PhD or an EdD in an accredited program. For applications and information refer to
<https://www.dkg.org/category/committee/scholarship>

Pi State Achievement Award

Is there a member of your Chapter who serves at the State level, perhaps as a State Committee member, a Convention Committee member, a Pi State officer, etc. and is a hard-working, involved member?

In keeping with our Society's second purpose, "*honoring women educators*," there is a way to honor such women through the prestigious **Pi State Achievement Award**. The Award, a small pin in the shape of a Tudor rose, is presented at the Spring Executive Board Meeting/Seminar.

To nominate that individual who has made a significant contribution to Pi State, an individual or a Chapter should complete the application form found on the Pi State website in the "*Application Forms*" box. The nominee's Chapter President must also submit a letter of recommendation. Letters from three state members who have worked with the nominee will complete the application.

The Nomination Form and all letters should be sent to the *Pi State Achievement Award Chair*, **Agnes Becker**, 3448 East River, Grand Island 14072, ambecker13@gmail.com, 716.773.3152. Committee members will review all applications and select the nominee considered most deserving.

Since the award is a surprise, the nominee should not be contacted for information. Completed applications are due by March 1, 2016. All information received by the Committee is considered confidential. Applications are kept and considered for two consecutive years.

Agnes Becker

The Gladys L. Mersereau Grant(s)-in-Aid

The *Gladys L. Mersereau Grants(s)-in-Aid* was started in 1975 by Past Pi State President **Gladys L. Mersereau, Beta Rho**, whose wish was to assist more women becoming teachers. The purpose of this Award is to provide funding to a non-DKG member(s) whose education was interrupted and now needs financial help to complete teacher certification requirements.

During your fall Chapter meetings, please take some time and survey your membership to see if you know of such a woman. All Chapters are invited to nominate worthy applicants. Questions may be sent to **Deborah M. Bedard**, Chair, dmbedard29@yahoo.com. Application form, due March 1, 2016, is available on Pi State's website in the "*Application Forms*" box.

Deborah Bedard

Frederica Hollister Professional Educators Award

Do you know an uncommon educator?

Do you know a woman who has been a member of Pi State for at least five years and has made significant and recognizable contributions to education in New York or nationally?

Nominate her to receive the **Frederica Hollister Professional Educators Award**! The Board of Trustees of the Award is looking for strong candidates. Go to the Pi State website and in the *Committees Subject to Endowment* box, look up *Frederica Hollister Professional Educators Award* to see all of the criteria.

If you know a woman who qualifies, contact **Sue Kenoyer**, sue.kenoyer@charter.net, 518-561-4538. The application form for the **Frederica Hollister Professional Educators Award** may be printed from the website. Look in the "*Application Forms*" box.

Let's CELEBRATE the fantastic educators in Delta Kappa Gamma!

Sue Kenoyer

Pi State Scholarships

Is there continuing education or a degree in your future?

If so, Pi State has scholarship opportunities for you!

Pi State offers scholarships for the following areas:

Master's Study

Doctoral Study

Post-doctoral Study

Enrichment Study

Research

Educational Publication

Road Scholar Programs Created by Elderhostel

Continuing Education

Applications are available on the Pi State website in the "Application Forms" box.

For further information, you may contact your Chapter President, a Pi State Scholarship Committee member or **Rosemary Van Wart**, *Pi State Scholarship Chair*, 105 Tomahawk Street, Yorktown Heights 10598, rvw20@optonline.net, 914-248-5397.

Applicants must be Pi State members in good standing for at least 3 years.

All applications must be in the Scholarship Chair's email inbox or postmarked by March 1, 2016.

Rosemary Van Wart

Travel and Study Stipend

The *Travel and Study Stipend Committee* will award travel and study stipends to active and retired educators and promote interest in Society Seminars, Conferences, Regionals or Conventions.

The Pi State *Standing Rules* note that there can be two Travel & Study Stipends awarded not to exceed \$1000.00. Efforts will be made to award one Stipend to a retired member of the Pi State and one to a Pi State member currently employed in the education profession.

Taken into consideration on the application are the following criteria:

1. Number of years of membership and type of service to DKG.
2. Major reasons for applying for the Stipend.
3. The outcome of achievements obtained in attending the Seminar or event.
4. The ways that achievements will be used in the future of DKG and in professional and/or personal growth.

All sections of the application must be completed in order to be considered. The *Travel & Study Stipend* application is due March 1, 2016 to **Patricia L. Turner**, Chair Travel and Study Stipend Committee, 7200 Brookside Drive, Lockport 14094, tunes14@yahoo.com, 716.434.0012. The application is available on the Pi State website in the "Application Forms" box.

Pat Turner

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.

This Award is given annually to a woman who is not a member of *Delta Kappa Gamma Society International* or eligible for membership in the Society but rather someone outside the profession, who has worked toward improving the educational opportunities of others. The Award consists of a plaque and a stipend for travel expenses up to \$300 to attend the *Spring Executive Board Meeting/Seminar* to receive the award.

Chapter members and Chapters are requested to submit nominations for this award. The application form is available on the Pi State website in the "Application Forms" box. Complete applications are due March 1, 2016 to Chair of the *Verna Mulholland Friend of Education Award Board of Trustees* **Harlene Gilbert**, P.O. Box 269 Geneva, NY 14456, wilmacpeebles@gmail.com.

Harlene Gilbert

Native American Grant(s)-in-Aid

In 1967 Past Pi State President **Frederica Hollister** selected as her special project a plan to help Native American girls in New York State who were hoping to enter the teaching profession. It started as a temporary project which had to be approved by the Executive Board each year, but in 1975 the Board voted to make the Indian Affairs Committee a continuing committee and in 1989 the Committee was renamed **Native American Grant(s)-in-Aid Committee**. Changing conditions over the years have necessitated some changes in the original plan. The most notable change is the amount of the award increasing from \$250 to \$500 per semester and including enrollment in either a service related field or education as one of the criteria for selection.

Pi State members are encouraged to recommend Native American girls who might wish to pursue a career in education or service related field to the *Native American Grant(s)-in-Aid Committee*. Chapters are also encouraged to contact recipients who are in the Chapter area, invite them to a meeting, send them a card or help support them financially. *Let them know you care.*

Two \$500 Grant(s)-in-Aid were awarded in 2014-15 to **Kaitlyn Lauzon** and **Alanna Pyke**. Both Native American women are members of the Mohawk Nation, St. Regis tribe and reside in Hogansburg, NY. Kaitlyn is attending SUNY Canton in the Nursing Program. Alanna plans to study biomedical engineering with minor in Native American Studies. It is an honor for Pi State to support these deserving young women.

If you have questions, wish additional information or have suggestions for reaching out to the Native American population, please contact: **Arlene Ida**, Chair Native American Grant(s)-in-Aid Committee, 3 Sherwood Park Drive, Burnt Hills, 12027, aiddski@nucap.rr.com. The application form is available on the Pi State website in the "Application Forms" box. **Completed applications must be postmarked by the deadline March 1st and sent to Native American Grant(s)-in-Aid Chair.**

Arlene Ida

Bea Small Award

Chapters are encouraged to submit an application to support a current project to the *Bea Small Award Board of Trustees* Chair **Karen Butters**, P.O. Box 136, Blue Mountain Lake 12812, 518.352.7726, kbutters@frontier.com **by the deadline of March 1, 2016**. Forms are available on the Pi State website in the "Application Forms" box. The Chapter recipients will be recognized at the April 29-30 *Pi State 2016 Executive Board Meeting/Seminar* at the Sheraton Syracuse Hotel & Conference Center.

Established in 1999 in memory of **Bea Small, Omega**, the Award is presented to a Pi State Chapter(s) having an outstanding existing program or project which addresses a need of a specific population within the Chapter's geographic area. Recent awardees include: **Alpha Iota** "Serving Children from Head to Toe;" **Alpha Zeta** "Grace Smith Literacy Project;" **Beta Omicron** "Treasure Totes for Tots;" **Gamma Delta** "Seneca Street Reading Camp;" **Psi** "Welcome Bags for New Teachers."

The submitted project must have been originated by the Chapter and be ongoing for a minimum of two years. The application must be submitted by the Chapter President, a Chapter Officer or the Chapter Project Chair. The Chapter President must also sign the application. The Award consists of a certificate and a monetary amount to be determined by the Board of Trustees. There is a Post-Project Report Form that is to be submitted by March 15. The Award will be publicized in issues of *Pi Lights* and on the Pi State website.

Karen Butters

The Bea Small Leadership Speakers Fund

The Bea Small Leadership Speakers Fund was established in 1996 from a bequest of **Bea Small, Omega**, with additional contributions by **Barbara Woodworth**, Bea's daughter.

Interest derived from the base money is to be used annually or biennially for leadership development. Leadership development is to occur at a workshop for Pi State Officers, Committee Chairs, the Fall or Spring Seminar or the Pi State Convention. Any member of Pi State may contribute money to this Fund. Increased value of the Fund will make possible increased opportunities for Pi State to offer leadership development workshops in the future.

Please consider making a contribution to *The Bea Small Leadership Speakers Fund* in honor of or in memory of someone who recognized your leadership potential and recommended you for membership.

Diane Battaglia

Honoring Pi State Past President, Catherine E. Olinger

Photographs Provided by Sue Miller



Pi State Past Presidents Andrea Morris, Karen Crumley, Cathie Olinger and current Pi State President Deborah Bedard at the Celebration

The Mercy Center Ministries, Inc. honored **Pi State Past President Catherine (Cathie) Olinger** at its 32nd Anniversary Celebration on November 8, 2015 at the Island Hills Golf Club in Sayville. Mercy Center Ministries, Inc. is a non-denominational, not-for-profit organization founded in 1983 with the purpose “to assist young women to develop valuable independent living and parenting skills, so that they may become productive, contributing members of society.” Mercy has three shelters for 16 to 21-year old homeless girls from Suffolk County, providing on-site child care for their residents so the young mothers can attend local high schools. The three homes have 24-hour staffing, supervision and guidance. There is also case management, group and individual counseling, educational workshops and recreation. **Cathie O. joined the Mercy Board of Directors in 1996, serving as Secretary in 1997 and President in 1999.**

In her Tribute to Cathie, **Briana Taylor**, LMSW, *Executive Director of Mercy Center*, www.mercycenterministries.org, stated:

*“Cathie’s professional and community service resume, is really impressive. It’s fantastic to imagine all of the lives she has touched through her endeavors. It is no coincidence that Cathie chose the teaching profession as she is patient, understanding, talented and very smart. She spent 33 years teaching at Patchogue Medford School, 14 of which she served on the Executive Board of **The Congress of Teachers**. But her love of teaching and respect for the importance of education went beyond the classroom when she became a member of Delta Kappa Gamma 43 years ago in 1972 ... She served as State President from 1993-1995 and is still a member today.*

*On the local level, Cathie has done a great deal and continues to do so. Cathie has served on the **Town of Brookhaven Office of Women’s Services Advisory Board** since 1991 and **The Patchogue Pilot Club** since 1989. Women’s services assists women and families in crisis or transition with services and support while Pilot Club emphasizes help for youth development, uplifting families through service and education. Cathie is still a member of both organizations today.*

*For 15 years Cathie delivered meals to homebound seniors as a **Meals-on-Wheels** volunteer ... As a **Brookhaven Hospice Volunteer** for 5 years, Cathie assisted those with terminal illness in getting to appointments and assisted loved ones with transportation during and after their loss. Cathie served as a **Trustee for the Patchogue Library** as well as **Director for the Patchogue Chamber** for 6 years.”*

Continued on page twelve



*Pi State Sisters attending the Celebration for Cathie Olinger:
Back row(l to r): is Valerie Cordiale, Fern Daane, Ann Walker, Beverly Jefferson, Karen Crumley, Pi State President Deborah Bedard, Katrin Summers, Sue Segelski
Front Row (l to r): Fran Brida, Michele Smith, Dr. Andrea Morris, Honoree Cathie Olinger, Zobeida Acevedo, Phyllis Voegeli, Barbara Bruce*



Honoree Cathie Olinger (center) with her family at the Celebration

**Past Pi State President
(1993-1995)
Catherine Olinger**

Honoring Pi State Past President, Catherine E. Olinger

Photographs Provided by Sue Miller
Concluded from page eleven



Pi State President Deborah Bedard holds plaque to Honoree Past Pi State President Cathie Olinger, holding flowers, with the staff of Mercy Center Ministries

You'll notice a trend in the service organizations Cathie has membership in. Though she doesn't discriminate in her giving, she's been a Feminist since long before it was trendy and has clearly dedicated much of her life to supporting youth and women's causes. So when she found her way to Mercy, it was a match made in heaven. Like any organization Mercy is ever evolving. This requires grounded yet flexible leadership. It also requires smart, efficient, direct and consistent leadership. These are qualities that make Cathie such an effective Board President but more importantly she is compassionate, kind, caring, supportive and did I already mention----very smart. It goes without saying but I will say it anyway, that Cathie is also a staple at all of our events, a sponsor, a speaker, a planner and preparer. ...

For all of her efforts it would be fitting to crown Cathie the Queen of Community Service. Only I think she isn't much for thrones or gold crowns. She likes to spend time with people, helping, serving, applying tactical knowledge and life experience to ease the burden of others and come up with solutions and plans for growth. **A champion for women and youth and supporter of all who are less fortunate and need our help, we are proud to Call Cathie our 32nd Anniversary Journal Honoree.**

Pi State President **Deborah Bedard** honored Cathie's many contributions to Pi State in her Tribute remarks. Cathie is a charter member and Past President of *Beta Psi* and is the 28th President of Pi State. In Pi State she has held all elected State offices and served as Chair of the Audit and Nominations Committees. **"We can make a difference"** was her call to action and her main focus was gender equity as well as tolerance. In August 1993 she presented a workshop on Gender Equity at the Northeast Regional in Chicago. An Activity Guide for Parents was published during her biennium and given to each Chapter. Two new Chapters of *Gamma Zeta* and *Gamma Eta* were formed. Addressing the specific needs of Chapters, her priority was to strengthen them. Her *"great energy, enthusiasm, commitment and leadership contributed to a most successful biennium and her continuing years of service to Pi State."*

Congratulations, Cathie!

Congratulations to Virginia Hendra



Virginia Hendra, Gamma Delta, took her Meadow Elementary School 5th & 6th Grade chorus to the "Veteran's Day Program" at the Riviera Theatre in North Tonawanda to sing with the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus. It was a "no school" day but 60 of the 82 members participated!
Photo by Ellie Robinson

Leadership Development Seminar Planned for Incoming & Returning Presidents 2016-18

The Pi State Leadership Development Committee, led by Chair & Pi State Past President **Jeanne Schenk**, is currently planning the LDS for Incoming & Returning Presidents on August 1 and 2 at the Hilton Garden Inn, Syracuse.

The Committee is requesting feedback from Presidents who received training in 2014 at the start of their Biennium.

Please take a moment to send a note to Chair Jeanne Schenk, jmos29@aol.com in response to the following questions by 15 February 2016:

- What would you have liked to learn at the beginning of your biennium?
- Was there information that you found beneficial at the training?
- What would have helped you in your job as President?
- Were there duties, forms or ceremonies that you have had to address that you needed more information?
- What materials would you have liked covered that were not?
- Was it helpful to meet Pi State Officers and Committee Chairs? Is there a contact that you would have liked to access?

Your input is appreciated and will make the training more beneficial!

Jean Sekel

“Building Vocabulary through Storytelling” at P.S. 305 in Brooklyn

A Pi State Educational Foundation Grant

“Storytime is the time when youngsters are enriched and enchanted by verbal magic. The language of stories in books, even in its simplest forms, is the language of the adult world. Through stories they will learn more and more complex patterns of speech, more beautiful and imaginative forms of expression so that their store of language will become richer and more varied as they grow.” (Producing Brilliant Children, Dr. Jean Lloyd, J. 2012)

During the summer (2015) Gamma Alpha members **Debbie Rhem** and **Dr. Jean Lloyd** travelled to P.S. 305 in Brooklyn. They were implementing a proposal funded by a *Pi State Foundation grant*. The aim was to build the vocabularies of primary school children through storytelling. They found a book, *I Love You Night and Day* by Smriti Prasadam-Halls and Allison Brown, and distributed copies to students. Two cute animals cement their friendship using rhymed couplets. They were able to teach students to define words, suggest similar words and use their hands to illustrate descriptive words like tall, high, far, wide, deep, low, huge, vast, smooth and rough. **Barbara Berry Harris**, Gamma Alpha, Director of Woodwind Family, a social service at the school, was our facilitator and guide. *A good time was had by all!*

Dr. Jean Lloyd



Debbie Rhem sharing story with primary children in P.S. 305 classroom



Gamma Alpha members Debbie Rhem, Dr. Jean Lloyd and Barbara Berry Harris at P.S. 305 in Brooklyn



Dr. Jean Lloyd sharing story with Primary children in P.S. 305

Photos Courtesy of Joan Goldstein



Lucille Horton

Celebrating Pi State 50-Yr. Member from Tau Chapter

Lucille Horton taught high school Mathematics at Monticello High School for many years and was always an asset to Monticello. The 1984 Yearbook was dedicated to her. Lucille taught courses from Course I Math to Calculus and everything in between when asked by her administration. Lucille served as Math Team Advisor and performed in many of the school musicals. Lucille's three daughters are Monticello High School graduates. She has a grandson who will be graduating this June.

Correction for the 2015 Summer Issue of Pi Lights from Alpha Chapter to Tau by Pat Segar



(l to r) Ruth Robisch, Eliz Huggler, Maxine Evans, 1st Vice President Leah Exner, Mary Ann Ronkeese

Tau Chapter Members & Their “Born to Read” Project



“Born to Read” Co-Chairs, Nancy Catalano and Lauren Miller

Tau Chapter Members all worked together to assemble the “Born to Read” book bags. These bags are distributed by the local WIC office to parents with young children.

Photos & Text by Patricia Segar

Beta Nu Chapter Serves Community, Supports Educators

Photos & Text Courtesy of Patricia Keefe

Totes for Local Food Pantries



Tote bags filled with personal care items and children's books are filled for local Food Pantries in Beta Nu's effort to give families a helping hand as well as to promote reading and literacy.

This year, the membership donated enough toiletries and books to fill 52 totes. The large variety of books, both purchased and donated, each included Beta Nu's own bookmarks, listing facts about the benefits of reading.

Operation Christmas Child



Members participated in Operation Christmas Child, a program under the auspices of Samaritan's Purse, a humanitarian organization that does missionary work across the globe. Individuals or teams, sponsoring a boy or girl, wrapped a dozen shoe-box-sized gifts, containing apparel, toys, toiletries and other treasures and donated shipping to children in missions worldwide.

Gift Baskets for New Teachers



New Teachers in each of the Chapter's four member districts of Holland, Pioneer, Springville and West Valley were each welcomed with a gift basket full of classroom materials and other treats from crayons and colored cardboard to candy.

Alpha Beta Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Photos & Text Courtesy of Mary Ann Baldari



Immediate Past President Carole Dalton, Past President Grace Murphy, Pi State President 2015-17 Deborah Bedard, President Mary Ann Baldari, Past President Maureen O'Brien, Past President Pat Campbell and



Back row (l to r): Pi State President Deborah Bedard, Alpha Epsilon; Rowena Costa, Alpha Phi; Ann Walker, Alpha Delta; Selena Mitchell, Beta Psi; Beverly Jefferson, Alpha Delta; Joan Goldstein, Gamma Alpha Front row (l to r): Gerri Brown, Alpha Phi; Fern Daane, Beta Psi; Valerie Cordiale, Beta Psi; Eileen Venezia, Alpha Delta

Alpha Beta initiated two new members: Sharon Fine, Retired Principal of P.S. 50 and Tamara Shapiro, Guidance Counselor at Tottenville High School. Pi State President led a Recommitment Ceremony for Alpha Beta members and DKG member guests from the Southeastern Area Conference.

**2015-17 Pi State Biennium Theme:
"Celebrating the Invitation of Membership"**

Gamma Alpha



((front row l to r) **Initiate Deborah Ottenberg, Speech-Language Pathologist, New Jersey School for the Deaf and Secretary Patricia Kelly**
(back row l to r) **Joan Bruner-Timmons and Initiate Deborah Fudge-Rhem, retired NYC Elementary Teacher, District 11, Bronx P.S. 108 and Adjunct for College of New Rochelle**

Photo Courtesy of Joan Goldstein

Tau



Tau Membership Chair & 2nd Vice President Mary Ellyn Levy; Initiate Wendy Seward, Visual Arts Teacher in Monticello Central School District; Initiate Debi Levine, retired Elementary Teacher, Monticello Central School District; Tau Chapter President Ginny Dudko

Photo Courtesy of Patricia Segar

Alpha Theta



Initiate Laurel Pitzrick, 3rd grade teacher in Lyndonville Central School District; Chapter President Patricia Turner; and Initiate Laura Moore, 5th grade teacher in Lyndonville Central School

Photo Courtesy of Phyllis DiMiero

Beta Delta



Initiate Katie Wright, Director School Counseling in Waterloo CSD and Guidance/School Counselor at Waterloo HS; Initiate Erica Sinicropi, Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Waterloo CSD; Initiate Jennifer Bartlett-Prati, English Teacher in Romulus CSD; Initiate Amanda Pundt, Reading Teacher in Romulus CSD; Initiate Tara Montoney, Children's Librarian in Seneca Falls Library

Photo Courtesy of Elisa Keating

Reminder for Chapter Presidents

Chapter Presidents are responsible for submitting a **Chapter Biennium Report**. This year the report process has been simplified. You will be submitting one form which includes questions regarding membership, educational excellence programs, projects, scholarships, communications/publicity and World Fellowship. Membership Chairs will still submit the annual Necrology Report (*Form 2*). Chapter Biennium Reports are due February 1, 2016. Follow this link to complete the form in goggle docs: <http://goo.gl/forms/nWPWbmKNrr>.

Deborah Bedard

Alpha Rho Initiates



(Standing l to r) **Initiate Colleen M. Hurd**, GST BOCES Principal Coopers Education; **Initiate Sally Deane**, GST BOCES Principal of Special Education; **Initiate Wendi Walton**, Reading Teacher in Elmira City School District;

(Seated l to r) **Initiate Elizabeth Winsor**, Kindergarten Teacher, Diven School, Elmira City School District; **Initiate Jennifer Chervenik**, Science Teacher, Alternate School for Math & Science, Corning; **Initiate Linda Billotte**, retired Reading Teacher, Horseheads School District

Photo & Text Courtesy of Maureen Nicolo

Beta Omega



New members were welcomed into Beta Omega at their first meeting of the year.

*Pictured from left to right, **Initiate Maureen Whalen** with Sponsor Beta Omega President & Pi State Secretary **Jennifer Lee-Alden**; **Initiate Micaela Ethier** with Sponsor Beta Omega Treasurer **Joanne Donnan***

Photo Courtesy of JenniferLee-Alden

New Book from Jennifer Lee-Alden

Pi State Secretary, Capital Area Conference Chair & *Beta Omega* President **Jennifer Lee-Alden** has published a book, **Mission Composition**. The book is published by Heritage Music Press and can be purchased on the Lorenz Publishing Co. website, www.lorenz.com for \$24.95.

Composed and arranged by Matthew C. Cremisio and **Jennifer Lee-Alden**, **Mission Composition** is a teaching resource for music educators Grades 2-5, designed as a sequential framework for developing music literacy with elementary age students. Both early-career and veteran teachers will appreciate the teaching tools, including suggested lesson plans, reproducible worksheets, original songs and recordings, student scores and rubrics, all included on the multimedia CD. Students will express their musical creativity through listening, speaking (*singing and playing*), reading and composing.



Jennifer Lee-Alden

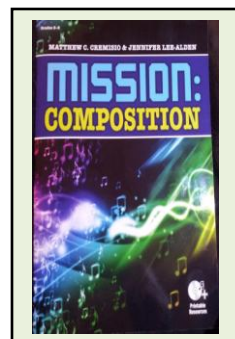


Photo Courtesy of Joan Slagle

Alpha Epsilon Fundraiser

Pi State President **Deborah Bedard** participated in her Chapter's fundraiser at *Barnes & Noble* in Saratoga Springs. She shared storytime with children attending. Parents were given an opportunity to purchase children's books. A portion of all books purchased with a voucher at the store were donated to the Chapter to be used for Scholarships.



Capital Area Conference

Extended Workshop with **Melanie McDonald**

“Moments of Being: Writing Your Life Stories”

Members of the Capital Area and other visitors from around the state gathered at The Powers Inn and Pub in Clifton Park for the Capital Area Conference on Saturday, October 24, 2015. The circa 1786 Inn and Pub has creaking stairs, multiple additions to the original house, two chandeliers shaped like sailing ships, and five, yes five, resident spirits (*according to the owner*).

The morning started with a brief Area Council business meeting conducted by Capital Area Chair **Jennifer Lee-Alden**, *Beta Omega*. She introduced Pi State Officers: President **Deborah Bedard**, First Vice President **Karen Butters** and Second Vice President **Sue Kenoyer**. Following the meeting, President Bedard spoke on her theme “*Celebrate the Invitation of Membership*”, the structure of Delta Kappa Gamma, and the role that Area Councils play within that structure. She used Pi State’s *BYLAWS & Standing Rules* to further describe how Area Councils can provide intermediary communication and support between Chapters and the State Organization. She encouraged members to continue to celebrate membership in their Chapters and to expand it at the Area, State, Regional and International levels of DKG.

Jean Sekel, *Pi*, was the Area Conference Chair.

Although we did not see any spirits, the program for the day lifted everyone’s spirits. **Melanie McDonald**, *Beta Omega*, conducted a writing workshop entitled “*Moments of Being: Writing Our Life Stories*.” Melanie discussed the treasures of writing the snapshots of our lives. With Melanie’s direction and encouragement, the attendees wrote and shared tidbits of their lives at each table and with the group as a whole. Members also rediscovered interesting memoirs of their lives and learned of others’ memories through the sharing process. Each attendee received a folder with materials to encourage us to continue writing in our daily lives. Evaluations indicated that members applauded this program as personal and professional development.



Melanie McDonald

During the lunch, the restaurant owner gave the group a history of the building. Our meeting room is reported to be inhabited by the spirits of a husband and wife but we must have engaged them so completely that they remained unseen and unheard. Hopefully, they had a chance to do their own memoirs!

Jennifer Lee-Alden and Jean Sekel

East Central Area Conference

October 27, 2015 Club 86, Geneva

“Women’s Health”

Spending an evening together gave East Central sisters opportunities to have dinner and fellowship with DKG sisters, raise money for *Pi State Educational Foundation* and *Pi State Awards, Scholarships & Grant(s)-in-Aid*, and learn about stress & self-care and our friend’s unique journey having cancer.

Photos Courtesy of Lois Ludwig



Guest Speaker Jennifer Klein, co-facilitator Healing Pathways, “Women, Stress & Self-Care”



Guest Speaker Jacqueline Johnson “A Journey of Discovery through Cancer”



Part of the 130 attendees of the East Central Area, including Chapters of Alpha Tau, Beta Delta, Beta Theta and Omega, and guests at the ECAC Conference on “Women’s Health”

DKG OFFERS ID THEFT PROTECTION

There is, unfortunately, a huge risk of identity theft. You see ads all the time on TV, hear them on the radio, and read them in our newspapers, magazines and online. DKG has an agreement with **ID Theft Assist**, the most comprehensive identity recovery service on the market. For more information refer to DKG web site, www.dkg.org, and type "identity theft" in the search box where you will find a list of articles.

If you are a member and your ID is stolen, you contact them. The following is from **ID Theft Assist website: www.idtheftassist.com**. *ID Theft works for you!!*

"We process the paperwork and deal with creditors, credit agencies and the Federal Trade Commission to report the crime and restore your identity quickly. We have the essential tools at our fingertips, saving you hundreds of hours of frustration.

Trans Union (TU), one partner in ID Theft Assist, is a leading global provider of business intelligence services. As one of the largest credit bureaus in the United States and Canada, TU provides us with direct access to a victim's creditors. This direct, immediate access to a major credit bureau sets us apart from other identity theft service providers. It enables us to reach your creditors and stop damage to your credit report within minutes of receiving your authorization. Once your credit is re-secured, we make sure the information is transmitted to the other major credit bureaus.

We understand that recovering from identity theft is not just about paperwork, which is why **Affinity Care (AC)** rounds out our support network. AC provides emotional assistance, available 24/7 to help an identity theft victim cope with the emotional aspect of recovery. We also provide long-term support, including financial and legal assistance through AC's extensive nationwide attorney network."

Cost of ID Theft Assist is \$90 annually. This reflects the DKG 25% discount.

Please note that the web site is undergoing a complete transformation.

If you have trouble connecting, please contact Jean Sekel, jeanbsekel@yahoo.com.

Top 10 Easy Ways to Prevent Identity Theft

1) **Be a minimalist:**

Only carry the personal information you need with you – this includes your Social Security card, your passport and your checkbook.

2) **Use common sense:**

When choosing passwords and PIN numbers, don't use predictable numbers like your Social Security number or anything else easily detectable (*pet's name, mother's maiden name, etc.*). Predators of identity theft are often acquaintances of the victim – *so don't make it easier for them to steal your identity!*

3) **Pay attention:**

If you are expecting a new credit card, driver's license or other sensitive material, watch the mail closely and contact the issuer immediately if it does not arrive when expected.

4) **Are they who they say they are?**

Do not give out your credit card number over the phone unless you have an existing business relationship with the company and you initiated the call.

5) **Shred the evidence:**

Make sure your account number doesn't appear in full on your receipts. If it does, shred it before discarding.

6) **Keep your Social Security number to yourself:**

Give your Social Security number out only when absolutely necessary.

7) **Pass it on or don't:**

Request that companies remove your information from their databases. Contact Lexis-Nexis at (800) 227-9597 and Information America, Inc. at (800) 235-4008.

8) **Computer Safety 101:**

Install a firewall on your computer to keep Internet hackers from accessing your data.

9) **Inquiring minds don't need to know via e-mail:**

Do not send confidential information over email and never respond to email requests for such information.

10) **Neither do inquiring web surfers:** (*Directions are in parentheses.*)

Visit online directories, like the following and remove yourself from them: www.411.com (*go to Contact Us*); www.Switchboard.com (*Click remove listing*); www.whowhere.com (*go to Help*)

Jean Sekel

ONTARIO Site of 2017 NERC

The Steering Committee for the 2017 *Northeast Regional Conference* announced that it will be in Ontario, Canada.

The 2000 NERC was held in Ontario.

Watch for more information in *DKG NEWS* and on the website, www.dkg.org. For travel ideas while in Ontario, refer to "Tourism Ontario – Yours to Discover," www.ontariotravel.net.

*Hope to see many
Pi State Sisters there!*



For further information on **Benefits of DKG Membership**, refer to the 2015 issues of *Pi Lights*:
page 28 of mailed summer issue and
page 22 online fall issue.

Discovering Your Leadership Style



This personal approach to **leadership** leads the reader on a journey to discover their own leadership style. **Mike Figliuolo** helps you "build a living document that communicates your personal passions, goals and standards that define your leadership style." By exploring four aspects to leadership: leading yourself, leading the thinking, leading your people, and leading a balanced life, the reader develops leadership maxims to guide their leadership decisions.

In *One Piece of Paper*, author Mike Figliuolo defines maxims as "simple, clear statements that serve as reminders for how you want to behave and lead and how you want your team members to behave ... Leadership maxims become simple daily reminders of how you should behave so your actions are consistent with who you want to be as a leader."

Throughout our International Leadership Training for State Organization Presidents at the 2015 *Northeast Regional Conference* in Baltimore, participants developed and shared their own personal maxims. Our training will continue in Nashville this summer at the 2016 International Convention, featuring work with Mike Figliuolo and his leadership maxims. Participants will receive materials prior to the Conference.

"Book Trail"

I have purchased four copies of *One Piece of Paper* for Pi State members to share. I would like to offer the opportunity for you to spend time reflecting on this simple approach to leadership. Each book will come with a simple journal for you to jot down thoughts or your own personal maxims to share with other Pi State Sisters. You will find my own personal leadership maxims in the journals. Upon your request I will mail the book to you in a priority box.

Once you have finished, I will provide you with the name and address of the next person who is waiting to experience the book. Each person requesting to be on the "Book Trail" will be asked to arrange and pay for the next shipping.

If you are planning to attend the International Convention this summer, reading Mike's book will help you to gain a deeper level of meaning from the experience. If you do not plan to attend our International Convention, reading this book will help you to strengthen your own leadership style.

Please contact dmbedard29@yahoo.com to be placed on our reading list!

Deborah Bedard

Membership Necrology Reports

When a Chapter member passes away, please remember that your Chapter Membership Chair needs to complete the **Death of a Member Report (Form 6)**. Pi State Membership Committee member, **Terri Palmiero**, will be sending written messages of sympathy and support to family members on behalf of DKG Pi State as soon as Form 6 is received. It is imperative that these forms are sent Pi State Membership Chair in a timely fashion.

The Membership Committee also uses Form 6 to prepare for the *Hour of Remembrance Ceremony* at the Pi State Convention. The interactive Form 6 is available on International website, <https://www.dkg.org/content/death-member-report-form-6-0>.

Your Chapter Membership Chair will receive an email soon with instructions for filing the annual *Chapter Necrology Report (Form 2)*. This report is required for every Chapter, every year. Even if your Chapter is not reporting a death of a member, we need to receive the report by February 1st with "NONE" written on the first entry line. This interactive form is available from International via this link <https://www.dkg.org/content/form-2-chapter-necrology-report>.

Melanie McDonald

Why should you go to a **DKG International Meeting**?

When I was starting my teaching career in the mid 1970's, some of my more experienced colleagues had the opportunity to take unpaid sabbatical leaves for further graduate study or travel/study opportunities or sometimes to trade places with another educator in another country and teach there while their counterpart taught here. In speaking to a few of those colleagues when they returned, all of them said they felt a new vigor for what they were doing and felt that they brought a new attitude and knowledge to their classrooms. Taking the time to step out of their usual routine and look back and reflect on it made them better at what they were doing in the classroom when they returned. Sadly, my school district did away with these leaves because it was thought they were "*frivolous*."

I bring this up because after I went to the *Northeast Regional Conference* in Baltimore this past July, it occurred to me it was like a mini-sabbatical! My Chapter sisters and I had the opportunity to hear interesting and inspiring speakers, tour a great city with rich history, see how the old run down Harbor in Baltimore could be restored to a beautiful, thriving new place, and participate in conversations and workshops to enrich our minds and knowledge about the field of education. On returning home, we had a new perspective on some of the "*hot*" topics in education today and an enthusiasm for life that travel brings. This was the same attitude that my colleagues who took sabbaticals had upon their return.

If you have not had the opportunity to attend one of our DKG International meetings, I urge you to give it a try. Maybe you can work it into your budget for 2016 when the **International Convention will be held in Nashville July 5-9 (And if it is your first DKG event, you could apply for a Travel and Study Stipend!)**.

If you want to start closer to home, Pi State will have a meeting in Syracuse in April 29-30, 2016. There are always interesting workshops and speakers at our Pi State meetings as well, not to mention the fact that professional development credits are available. The camaraderie that exists makes you feel part of the greater group that is Pi State and DKG. Attending could be your launch pad to other DKG events.

Hope to see you at one of these mini-sabbaticals soon! You will be glad you went.

Rosemary Van Wart

World Fellowship

The *World Fellowships* Program is one way through which Delta Kappa Gamma empowers women to take action and impact education worldwide. DKG's *International World Fellowship* Committee awards grants to women educators who are not DKG members and live in countries other than the United States and Canada.

The **2015-2016 World Fellowship** recipients include six who are studying in New York State:

- ✓ **Laura Corazon Cabochan** – e-mail: lauracabochan@gmail.com
Attending: City University of New York – School of Professional Studies
- ✓ **Analia Cascone** – e-mail: anacascone@gmail.com Attending: Columbia University
- ✓ **Bodahandi Ayodhya De Silva** – e-mail: malids10@gmail.com Attending: New York University
- ✓ **Huyen Hoang** – e-mail: hth2712@gmail.com Attending: New York University
- ✓ **Cecilia Hopp** – e-mail: ceciliahoppp@hotmail.com Attending: New York University
- ✓ **Hester Veitch** – e-mail: hetsiev@gmail.com Attending: Syracuse University

The following recipients from last year have received extensions. They are:

- ✓ **Hanita Djaya** – e-mail: hanitapd@yahoo.com Attending: State University of New York at Buffalo
- ✓ **Sun Young Pyo** – e-mail: pyo1056@naver.com Attending: State University of New York at Albany

I encourage all Pi State Chapter Presidents and World Fellowship Chairs to reach out to those attending schools in your areas.

I also encourage you to consider making individual and Chapter contributions to the *World Fellowship Fund*. Contributions may be made using Form 43 or with the on-line contributions forms. Both can be accessed at www.dkg.org under Forms, Contribution Forms. Your contributions to the World Fellowship Fund are tax deductible. Contributions and bequests determine the number of World Fellowship Awards given each year.

Emilie Stris

REGISTRATION FORM
Pi State Spring Executive Board Meeting & Seminars
April 29 - 30, 2016
Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel & Conference Center
Syracuse, NY 13210

Please **PRINT** the following information:

Name _____
E-mail _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Chapter _____ Position _____

Registration Fee includes Friday Night Dessert Reception, Saturday Awards Luncheon & meeting materials.

Early Registration Fee (Due by March 10th) **\$53.00** _____

Late or On-site Registration Fee (Postmarked after March 10th) **\$58.00** _____

Friday, April 29

Optional Dinner 5:30-6:30pm **\$30.00** _____

Please select one of the following:

_____ **Maple Glazed Roast Pork Loin** with apple, onion, and sweet potato compote

_____ **Chicken François** (chicken breast with lemon veloute)

_____ **Sautéed Mixed Greens Salad** with a grilled portabella mushroom cap and grilled fresh veggies

All meals include mixed green salad, Chef's veggies, oven roasted red skinned potatoes, rolls and coffee or tea.

Dessert Reception (Viennese Table) 7:45-8:15pm

Included in Registration

Elegant cakes, mini-dessert pastries, mousses, chocolate fondue with assorted sliced fresh fruit and assorted petit fours; fresh brewed coffee, decaf and tea

Guest Charge \$16.00 _____

Saturday, April 30

Optional Continental Breakfast 7:30-8:15am **\$15.00** _____

Danish Pastries, Muffins, Bagels or Mini Scones, Sliced Fruit Tray, Assorted Chilled Juices, Coffee, Decaf, and Tea

Awards Luncheon 12:00-2:00pm **Included in Registration**

Guest Charge \$25.00 _____

Please select one of the following (Assortment of Cookies at each table):

_____ **Traditional Caesar Salad topped with Portobello Mushroom** (served with Diced Tomato, Lemon Slices, Asiago Cheese and Croutons - Vegetarian)

_____ **Traditional Caesar Salad topped with Grilled Chicken** (served with Diced Tomato, Lemon Slices, Asiago Cheese and Croutons)

_____ **Balsamic Tenderloin Salad with Medallions of Beef Tenderloin** (served with Spring Mix, Romaine Greens, Red Onion and Crumbly Bleu Cheese)

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED FOR REGISTRATION AND MEALS **\$** _____

List any dietary needs _____.

Please make check/money order payable to **Delta Kappa Gamma Pi State**.

Mail to: Mrs. Cornelia Johnson, Registrar, 4333 Rt. 96A, Geneva, NY 14456

e-mail: cjohns22@rochester.rr.com phone: (315) 585-6379

Refunds and Cancellation Policies:

Cancellation notice must be made in writing. 100% of registration fees will be refunded if written cancellation is received before March 10, 2016. Cancellation and refund requests received after March 10, 2016 will NOT be accepted. All fees are non-refundable after March 10, 2016. Unfortunately, under no circumstances can Pi State issue refunds for no shows.

Remember to make your ROOM RESERVATIONS directly with Sheraton Syracuse Hotel 315.475.3000 or 1.800.395.2105. Mention DKG to receive room block rate. See back for HOTEL DIRECTIONS.

_____ Check here if you would like a roommate if you have not registered with someone.

Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel & Conference Center

801 University Ave

Syracuse, NY 13210

315.475.3000 or 1.800.395.2105

www.sheratonsyracuse.com



DKG Room Rates: Single, double, triple or quad room rate is \$150.29, including all taxes.

All rooms include parking for overnight guests.

When you call the hotel, state the name of roommate and that you are sharing cost of the room.

***Note:* DKG special room rate expires March 25, 2016 at 5:00pm.**

RESERVATION PROCEDURES

All guests will make reservations directly with the Hotel on an individual basis, identifying Delta Kappa Gamma for special room rate. The Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel and Conference Center phone number for those within the (315) area code may call 315.475.3000 and those outside the (315) area code may call the toll free number 1.800.395.2105.

GUEST CHECK-IN / CHECK-OUT

The Sheraton Syracuse University Hotel & Conference Center check-in time starts at 3:00PM. Check-out time ends at 12:00 noon. Every attempt will be made to accommodate either early arrivals or late departures based upon guest room availability. Later check-outs must be requested in advance and approved to avoid additional charges after 12:00 noon.

HOTEL GUEST PARKING

Complimentary Parking is available in the Hotel's attached parking garage for all overnight guests. There is a reduced fee of \$8.00 per vehicle for guests who are not staying overnight.

HOTEL DIRECTIONS

From Syracuse Hancock International Airport: The average cab fare to the hotel is \$28.

Take Interstate 81 South to Exit 18 (Adams Street). Bear left and go to the 2nd light. Turn left on East Adams. At the 4th light turn right on University Avenue. The hotel is 2 blocks on the left. *Distance from the hotel: 5 miles*

From New York City

Take Route 17 to Binghamton. Take I-81 North to Syracuse and then take Exit 18 (Harrison/Adams Street). Turn right on East Adams Street. Go to the 4th traffic light and turn right onto University Avenue. Hotel is two blocks on the left.

From the East

Take Interstate 90 to Exit 34A. Take 481 South to 690 West to the Teall Avenue Exit. Turn left onto Teall and go to the 2nd light. Turn right onto Erie Boulevard East and then left onto University Avenue. Go for 7 blocks and the Hotel will be on the left.

From the West

Take Interstate 90 East to Exit 39. Take 690 East to 81 South and take Exit 18 (Adams Street). Follow the signs to Adams Street and then turn left onto Adams. At the 4th light, turn right onto University Avenue. The Hotel will be on the left.

From the South

Take 81 North to Exit 18 (Harrison/Adams Street). Turn right onto East Adams Street. Go to the 4th traffic light and turn right onto University Avenue. Hotel is two blocks down on the left.

THE PI STATE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The *Pi State Educational Foundation* is a tax-exempt organization that promotes literacy and learning by supporting literacy projects developed by Pi State members and Chapters. Since these projects are supported solely by your donations, the Foundation is a great place to make a donation when you want to remember that "*special someone*" who doesn't need one more gift, but loves children and learning. How about making a donation in their name? And it is a great way to honor someone who has passed away or to remember someone on a holiday or other special day.

In the last year the Foundation had only grant application for funding. There are SO many worthwhile projects out there. The next deadline is May 1st. Please start thinking now about applying while there is lots of time. Maybe some of our retirees can help our busy teachers with the application process.

The Foundation President's Challenge is well on its way to being met! The Foundation President will donate \$5 for each new member--but \$10, if we add 25 new members. We are almost there already! Keep going Pi State! What do you say, Pi State? Can we together promote literacy through the Foundation?

Ginny Dudko

Pi State Educational Foundation Donations

(May 10, 2015 - November 30, 2015)

Beverly Rostin Krause, *Beta Xi, in honor of Jill Kruger*
Capital Area Conference in honor of Melanie McDonald
Capital Area Conference in honor of Deborah Bedard
Jane Tanner, *Beta Kappa, donation to the Foundation*
Virginia Dudko, *Tau, donation to the Foundation*
Sheila Brady-Root, *Alpha Alpha, donation to the Foundation*
Judith Wadsworth, *Alpha Alpha, donation to the Foundation*
Jean Sekel, *Pi, in honor of Joan Slagle*
Omega donation to the Foundation in honor of Alpha Alpha's 60th Anniversary
Anne Price, *Gamma Zeta, in honor of Jean Sekel and Ginny Dudko*
Agnes Becker, *Gamma Delta, in honor of Anne Price*
Harlene Gilbert, *Beta Delta, in memory of Erin Merrill's Mother*
East Central Area Conference donation to the Foundation
Beta Omega in memory of Charmaine Hutcheson

Pi State Foundation Directors

2014-18 Virginia (Ginny) Dudko, *Tau, Chair*

2015-19 Jane Tanner, *Beta Kappa, Treasurer*

Terms Ending 2016

Jean Sekel, *Pi, Secretary*

Sheila Brady-Root, *Alpha Alpha*

Agnes Becker, *Gamma Delta*

ATTENTION: FOUNDATION MEMBERS

The Annual Meeting of the *Pi State Educational Foundation* will be held at the Pi State Executive Board Meeting/Seminar at The Sheraton Syracuse Hotel & Conference Center in Syracuse on Saturday, April 30, 2016.

The Agenda and time will be announced.

Watch for information in the winter issue of *Pi Lights*

Pi State Educational Foundation Lifetime Members

(May 10, 2015 – November 30, 2015)

Alpha Alpha

Betsy Ann Balzano
 Rosemary Callard-Szulgit
 Pamela Eberhardt
 Annie Flesh
 Mary Ann Geonie
 Dawn Jones
 Zita E. Kurtzman-Yennir
 Margie Lovett-Scott
 Elizabeth Kuehne Svitavsky
 Judith Wadsworth
 Eileen Wuethrich

Alpha Pi

Janet Antonucci
 Julia Morreale

Alpha Rho

Virginia Pansero

Gamma Delta

Stacey Jafarjian
 Donna Krayenvenger

Nu

Janet Jury

Tau

Debi Levine
 Wendy Seward

*Foundation Project
 Grant Applications
 due May 1st and
 November 1st*

2013-15 State Officers

President

Deborah Bedard,
Alpha Epsilon-C
P.O. Box 782
Glens Falls, NY 12801-0782
518.793.8418
E-mail: dmbdard29@yahoo.com

First Vice-President

Karen Butters, *Beta Mu-N*
P.O. Box 136
Blue Mountain Lake, NY 12812
518.352.7726
E-mail: kbutters@frontier.com

Second Vice-President

Sue Kenoyer, *Psi-N*
254 Allen Rd.
Plattsburgh, NY 12901
518-561-4538
Email: sue.kenoyer@charter.net

Secretary

Jennifer Lee-Alden,
Beta Omega-C
227 Fayville Rd.
Galway, NY 12074
518.883.3046
Email: teachmusic@nycap.rr.com

Immediate Past President

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

Executive Secretary

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

Treasurer

Suzanne Patrick, *Rho-SC*
11189 County Highway 23
Unadilla, NY 13849
607.369.4817
E-mail: spatrick2@stny.rr.com

Editor

Mary-Martha W. Harvey,
Omega- EC
185 Park Street
Canandaigua, NY 14424
585.394.3409
E-mail: mharvey@frontiernet.net

Parliamentarian

Eleanor Robinson,
Gamma Delta-NW
61 Parkview Drive
Grand Island, NY 14072
716.773.3550
E-mail: ejb67r@gmail.com



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

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Seneca Falls, NY 13148

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Members send address changes to:
The Delta Kappa Society International, P.O. Box 1589, Austin, Texas 78767



Make plans now to attend the
2016 DKG International Conference
At Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center
Nashville, Tennessee
July 5 – 9, 2016
Find information & registration forms, www.dkg.org.

Pi State Membership

(December 30, 2015)

Active	2096
Reserve	216
Chapter Honorary	56
Active Life	4
Initiates	71

DKG
International
website:
www.dkg.org

"Curriculum of Hope" Newsletter

Curriculum of Hope is a Standing Committee of Alpha Kappa State. Their newsletter can be found online at www.deltakappagamma.org/CT/hopenews.php.

If you would like to receive a PDF version by email, please contact

Linda Shea, Subscription Manager, hshea@snet.net

Information for Spring Issue of *Pi Lights* (online) Due March 1, 2016

E-mail articles, photographs, Chapter Initiates, member accomplishments, Chapter service projects, Area Conference information and *Pride of Pi* highlights to:

Mary-Martha Harvey mharvey@frontiernet.net ... *subject line – DKG*

Reminder: Submissions are subject to editorial changes by the State Editor and Proofers due to space limitations and for clarity.

Pi Lights Deadlines for 2016

March 1, 2016 ... June 1, 2016 ... September 1, 2016 ... December 1, 2016