



Omega Chapter

June 6, 2017

Ray's Restaurant, Canandaigua

Attendance: 44 members and nine guests, including most of this years Omega scholarship winners.

Meeting called to order at 5:22 p.m.

Scholarship: Peg Snyder and Holly Rich introduced the five recipients for the scholarships this year: Paige Boor from Geneva; Skylar Guest from Canandaigua; Alexandra Blazey from Canandaigua; Kayli Krossber from Marcus Whitman and Anna Socha from Phelps-Clifton Springs. The young women present- Paige, Skylar and Alexandra- read their winning essays. The two unable to attend had their essays read by their scholarship liaisons. Jennifer Bay, Omegan from Canandaigua, and Tammy Olmstead, Omegan for Geneva, participated in the awards ceremony for the future educators. The committee gave special thanks to the liaisons for the schools and praised them for the excellence of the applicants and the increase in the number of scholarship applicants this year. Following the presentations, the meeting was suspended through dinner and resumed about 6:30 p.m.

Review of May Minutes: Judy Kiehle noted that the dates on the Treasurer's report was erroneous and will be amended reflecting that the report is April/May rather than March/April. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report: Judy Kiehle's monthly finance report

Fundraiser basket: Sue Cunningham brought in a gift basket that is a community fundraiser for the family Ontario County deputy, Joshua Shaver who died of injuries following an auto accident in May. Sue was selling tickets for the basket at a dollar each. It will be auctioned off later in the week.

Bi-laws Committee: Lois Ludwig presented the findings of a survey on whether to amend the standing rules to allow for formal recognition of the passing of former Omega members who ceased membership due to issues of health, incapacitation or moving away. Based on the survey results (13 members responded), Lois Ludwig asked the members whether this should be a change in the standing rules or just an informal decision by the chapter. In order to address the issue, Lois made a motion to call for an amendment to the standing rules. Maggie Weigand seconded. After much discussion, the proposal was **rejected**. *It was recommended that Omega can discuss each of these events on a case by case basis and individual members can make suggestions and possibly collect money in order to recognize the passing of a former Omegan.*

Meeting changes: Sally Maxson presented a proposal that the chapter forego its March meetings and replace it with an “Omega Gets Social” event in the summer. Sally made the motion: seconded by Gail Burr. Motion was passed.

There are three summer events already scheduled: 6/23 from 3 p.m. on at the Wine Bar in Phelps; 6/28 at 10 p.m. at Ganondagon followed by lunch at the City Tavern in Victor; 8/16 Picnic at Seneca State Park in Geneva.

Membership Recruitment: Mary-Martha Harvey, Pi State President and Omega chapter member, presented the new international plan for DKG recruitment of new members. (**Attachment #2.**) There was a

lengthy discussion about the changes. Some concerns were raised about the changes in the guidelines for recruitment. Mary-Martha noted that the chapter's guidelines are NOT overridden by the international guidelines. However, the process is one that the international wants followed.

It was suggested that the Membership committee review the standing rules on this issue to see how it meshes with the new guidelines. Membership will meet over the summer. Volunteers were requested to be part of that committee Lois Ludwig, Sharry Cirulli, and Gail Burr volunteered to join the committee for the review process.

Motion to Table Program Ideas: Co-presidents Kerry Smartt and Mary Cherniss said that their plan for brainstorming sessions on future programming will either be held in September or a survey will be e-mailed to members for their response to the questions in that survey.

Hostess committees: Adelle Miller-Wadsworth noted that the co-chairs of the hostess committees have received packets outlining their duties. Adelle says that one shift that is being made is to have the hostess chairs disperse the reservation forms as a way of saving time. Adelle says it's important that the future hostess committees contact the venues over the summer to get pricing and menus in place as quickly as possible. Adelle noted that when she sends out the reservation form, she tends to get several responses from members who apparently do not notice that it is the hostess committee to whom those responses must be addressed. There was some discussion as to this change in some executive committee duties but Adelle said it was something they were going to try in order to expedite the information more quickly.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40: Motion from Linda Coons; seconded Lois Ludwig. Approved.

Respectfully submitted by:

Beverly Lanoue, Secretary

Attachment #2:

The Delta Kappa Gamma International Society

Pi State Omega Chapter

Omega Membership Committee

DKG Recruitment Membership Plan

Chapters throughout the Society are searching for new ways to increase membership. The International Membership Committee encourages the use of this new plan that has been used successfully to revitalize struggling Chapters, to energize healthy Chapters, and to develop new Chapters in several State Organizations.

During a Chapter Meeting, members receive prospect cards on which they record the name and contact information of an educator they would like to nominate. Chapter members might nominate an enthusiastic teacher they noticed at a district training session or a talented music teacher they noted directing her school's student musical. A retired teacher could nominate a beloved teacher she learned about from a grandchild or a teacher she noticed while volunteering in a school. A member could record the name of an educator whose outstanding teaching ability she witnessed while receiving instruction at a photography or painting class, a master gardener session, or technology training.

Once the cards are collected and a vote is taken on the prospects, the Chapter mails an enthusiastic letter to the prospective members inviting them to an Orientation Meeting. Research shows that holding the Orientation on a weeknight from 7-8 p.m. is optimal for attendance. During the Orientation, the prospects are introduced to the Society

via the Pride in the Big Picture presentation, featuring specific Chapter program and project highlights, benefits of membership, and shared stories of the power of DKG to transform lives. After Initiation, the new members may also receive prospect cards to honor someone they know with membership in the Society.

Step 1: The Prospect Card

This plan emphasizes the honor of membership in DKG. The Chapter Membership Committee should request members to submit a name via a prospect card at one or two meetings. They should then compile a list to present to the membership for a vote. These active public and private school teachers and retirees do not have to be contacted before recommendation. (Key to

making up this list is to choose those women whom you really want in your chapter-assume nothing would prevent them from saying yes. Don't eliminate them because you "assume" they would say no. Let them decide for themselves)

NOTE: Prospective members are not contacted until the Chapter votes on their membership.

Step 2: The Personal Letter

Each prospective member should be informed in a special, personal letter that she has been chosen for membership in our prestigious Society. Key elements of the letter are that the prospect was recommended by a member (named) based on her stellar qualities as a teacher and approved by the entire Chapter. Brief info on DKG and the Chapter is included, as well as the Invitation to an Orientation Meeting. The letter emphasizes the honor of membership and asks them to RSVP for the meeting.

Step 3: The Orientation Meeting ••• "Buddies" ,

Some may decline; some may call with questions; and some may agree to come immediately. For each of those who plan to attend, invite an equal number of current members to serve as "Buddies" at the orientation.

Step 4: The Orientation Meeting

At the Orientation, provide social time for current and prospective members and then present the Pride in the Big Picture slide show. Current members can meet with the prospects in small groups to answer any questions. At the conclusion of the hour-long meeting, ask the prospective members to make a decision to accept or decline the invitation to become members. (Remember, no one has approached these women about joining prior to the letter.)

Step 5: Chapter Member Application

The current member "Buddy" can use the Chapter Member Application to obtain information about the prospective member. This application serves as the Recommendation for Membership or Form 11 used by many Chapters to obtain member information. It can also serve as a commitment from the prospective member.

Step 6: The Initiation Ceremony

Invite the prospective members to the Initiation Ceremony with the Initiation Letter.