



INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR KEY WOMEN EDUCATORS
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

Omega Chapter

2008-2010 Biennium

Let's Collaborate, Communicate, and Commemorate...

2008-2010 Committees

Name	Chair	Committee
Mary King	President	
Lynda John	1 st VP	
Della Ludwig	2 nd VP	
Mindy Ritter	Secretary 2008	
Kathy Burke	Secretary 2009-2010	
Linda Upchurch	Treasurer	
June Renner	Parliamentarian	
Evie Bottorf	Area Council Representative	
Claris Schwing	Historical Records	Judy Kiehle, Jerry Fletcher
Jeanne Guastaferro	Research	Maggie Wiegand, Natalie Clark, Mary Shelley, Evie Bottorf, Corry Cochol
Mary Cherniss	Scrapbook	Regina Czora, Cynthia Myers, Maggie Wiegand, Deborah Poplasky
Judy Kiehle	Finance	Barbara Morgan, Cheryl Birx, Patricia Rice
Kay Van Deusen	Membership	Sue Gray, Jan Wright, Beverly Lanoue, Helene Goodberlet, Kerry Smartt
Gail Rumsey	Nominations	Donna Klage, Susan Onze, Amy Story, Jill Antonucci, Julie Hadyk
Cindy Lynch	Legislation	Mary Dorgan, Dawn Scales, Agnesmary Karol, Mary Martha Harvey
Deb Trombino	Ceremonies	Marie Pagano, Linda Smith, Barbara Heinzman, Luisa Dovideo Susan Cunningham
Christine Taylor/ Sharyn Powell	Music	Jacqueline Johnson, Karen Varricchio, Jean Wright, Laura Hill
Linda Coons	Personal Growth	Sally Maxson, Betty Mussack, Kammy Catchman, Eunice Barnes, Mindy Ritter
Sandy Voigt	Professional Affairs	Julie Winston, Jennifer Spina, Cindy Avery, Janalee Weaver, Jennifer Davison
Lynda John	Program of Works	
Betty Bay (2008-2009)	Cheer	Liz Koster, Diane Clark, Lydia Berrong, Margo Van Haneghan
Edna Choffin (2009-2010)		
Gail Burr	Communications	Elaine Kennedy, Lois Ludwig, Marilyn Nicholson
Peg Snyder	Scholarships/Grants	Jennifer Bay, Adelle Miller-Wadsworth, Ann Orman, Holly Rich
Kathy Burke (2008)	World Fellowship	Denny Clark, Liz Hezel, Arlene Eddington
Beverly Simons (2009-2010)		
Kay Nemecek	Auction	Liz Koster, Jerry Fletcher
Carol Ramsey	U.S. Forum Rep.	



Program 2008-2009

Summer Book to Read: The Last Lecture by Randy Pausch

August 20, 2008 – 12:00 pm – Executive Board Meeting at Mary King’s residence – Phelps – Luncheon

September 9, 2008 – 5:00 pm- Burnham’s Canalside, Newark

Books and Business – Chapter Kick-off

Purpose VI: Personal and Professional Growth

October 7, 2008 - 5:00 pm – Wegman’s, Canandaigua

Five Chapters East Central Area Council Meeting

Purpose I: Genuine Spiritual Fellowship

November 18, 2008 – 5:00 pm – Club 86, Geneva

Annual Fundraiser Auction

Purpose V: To Endorse Scholarships and Grant Fellowships

Purpose IV: Initiate, Endorse and Support Desirable Legislation

January 10, 2009 – 9:00 am – Executive Board Meeting at the United Methodist Church – Canandaigua

March 10, 2009 – 5:00 pm – Phelps Hotel, Phelps

Administrators’ Evening

Topic: National Board Certification

Purpose III: Advance the Professional Interest

Purpose VI: Personal and Professional Growth

April 7, 2009 – 5:00 pm – Trinity Church, Geneva

Speaker: Dr. Charlie Temple, professor at Hobart and William Smith College

Purpose VII: Inform Members

May 12, 2009 – 5:00 pm – Ventosa Vineyards, Geneva

Initiation and Founders’ Day Ceremonies

Purpose II: Honor Women for Distinctive Service

Purpose III: Advance the Professional Growth

June 9, 2009 – 5:00 pm – Steamboat Landing, Canandaigua

Celebration

Speaker: Eleanor Stearns: Portrayal of Emily Dickinson

Violinist: Devin Burgess

Purpose I: Genuine Spiritual Fellowship

Purpose II: Honor Women for Distinctive Service



Program 2009-2010

**Summer Book to Read: Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin
Reading Lolita in Tehran by Azar Nafisi**

August 11, 2009 – 12:00 pm – Executive Board Meeting at Mary King’s residence – Phelps – Luncheon

September 15, 2009 – 5:00 pm- Burnham’s Canalside, Newark

Books and Business – Chapter Kick-off

Purpose VI: Personal and Professional Growth

October 13, 2009 – 5:00 pm – Notre Dame Retreat, Canandaigua

Speaker: Ann Orman: Educational Issues

Purpose III: Advance the Professional Interest

Purpose IV: Initiate, Endorse, and Support Desirable Legislation

November 17, 2009 – 5:00 pm – Club 86, Geneva

Annual Fundraiser Auction

Purpose V: To Endorse Scholarships and Grant Fellowships

January 23, 2010 – 9:00 am – Executive Board Meeting at the United Methodist Church – Canandaigua

March 16, 2010 – 5:00 pm – Phelps Hotel, Phelps

Irish Dancers

Purpose I: Genuine Spiritual Fellowship

April 13, 2010 – 5:00 pm – Belhurst Castle, Geneva

Educational Panel

Purpose III: Advance the Professional Interest

May 11, 2010 – 5:00 pm – Wegman’s, Canandaigua

Speaker: Pi State President Joan Slagle

Speaker: Canandaigua Mayor Ellen Polimeni

Founders’ Day Ceremony

Purpose VII: Inform Members

June 8, 2010 – 5:00 pm – Mary King’s Residence, Phelps

Installation of Officers and Retirement Celebration

Purpose I: Genuine Spiritual Fellowship

Purpose II: Honor Women for Distinctive Service



Memories of my biennium.... Have you read the History of Omega? Past Presidents continually dedicated themselves to create in Omega Chapter – an organization in which we are proud to be a member. The title: President of Omega Chapter is an honor to forever cherish. I am well aware that only with the assistance of over eighty encouraging women was I able to fulfill my biennium theme.....

Let's Collaborate, Communicate, and Commemorate.

My biennium began with the summer of 2008. Immediately, the Shirley Crosby Committee tackled the goal to disperse the donation from Past President Shirley Crosby's family. Members desired to have "something tangible" commemorating Shirley. Items purchased: a gavel inscribed with Shirley's name and date of her biennium; a PA system to provide the President with a "voice" (no doubt some now have second thoughts!); and a computer projector along with a screen. The remaining money was designated for later use as the chapter would "surely" need this "Shirley Fund".

The Research Committee with Jeanne Guastaferrero at the helm was given the charge: collaborate to create ONE scrapbook to commemorate each Past President's most important biennium's events. Each Past President was provided with one page spread to document these events. Now Maggie Wiegand's attic could be reclaimed! The goal was accomplished and furthered as Mary Cherniss used her "magical tech power" for a digital scrapbook. In fact, later Omega chapter decided that all future scrapbooks would be digital!

Hurray for History – Claris Schwing kept us updated and Judy Kiehle worked tirelessly to complete the history on CD!

Kay Van Deusen and her committee, Membership, quickly worked that first summer to start our new member process. Nominations were compiled. In September, we voted and then proceeded to "groom" these candidates for possible members. As a result, in May 2009, Omega Chapter initiated the following new members: Corry Cochol, Susan Cunningham, Arlene Eddington, Jennifer Davison, Julie Hadyk, Laura Hill, Deborah Poplasky, Holly Rich, and Kerry Smartt. Congratulations to each of them!

The Music Committee with Sharyn Powell and Christine Taylor... The concept of Teacher Troubadours was to perform sing-a-longs at places such as assisted living or nursing home facilities. Goal accomplished in Canandaigua one snowy evening! The Welcome Song certainly deserves to be remembered for the lyrics:

We share the company, join in the friendships.
As we pursue all our hopes and our goals.
Roses and candlelight frame our affections.
Spending this time puts a song in our souls.

Communication flourished with Gail Burr as she kept the press abreast of all that was happening in Omega. Furthermore, Lois Ludwig continued to make Omega's website the most outstanding website in Delta Kappa Gamma. Everything that you needed to know and remember was on the web. The chapter is so fortunate to have both Gail and Lois to expedite communication.

The Legislation Committee with Cynthia Lynch as chair kept us reminded about voting and even quizzed us about what we knew! Assemblyman Brian Kolb was invited to present information regarding his mission to garner grassroots support for the People's Convention to Reform New York, an initiative to effect change in New York State's government.

World Fellowship with Beverly Simons prepared a special basket with the theme from the summer read: Three Cups of Tea, which raised money to further that committee's efforts internationally.

Importantly, Omega Cheer continued to be spread with first Betty Bay and then Edna Choffin along with the committee.



The Auction Committee and Kay Nemecek..... Baskets Galore! Kay Nemecek recommended a new concept for baskets: members would canvas local businesses to support this fundraising event with contributions. Businesses were extremely generous! Members created numerous baskets as well as many homemade items for our auction. Once again, Omegans rallied to support grants-in-aid for two women graduates from FLCC, funds for Native Americans, World Fellowship, Pi State Awards, Omega member stipends, and future projects.

Scholarship Committee... Peg Snyder and her committee kept communication about available scholarships flowing. FLCC grant-in-aid recipients for 2009: Erika Saavendra and Ashlyn Thomas. For 2010, the recipients were: Laren Abdaliah and Karen Haas. Each received \$1000 to further their education.

Parliamentarian, June Renner, worked diligently with a small group to maintain our Standing Rules' efficiency. As a result we have a workable quorum number. Also, the new member process is more streamlined.

Leading the Program Committee was Lynda John. Thank you for providing such innovative programs! Omega's first potluck dinner: the meeting was inundated with the very most delicious selections! No one should have left this meeting hungry. And ...one of the most well attended meetings.

Ohhh... how about Omega member, Ann Orman, who ended that intense October 2009 evening with her program? She provided us with issues women face in education, as well as how to cope. Her advice- maintain your sense of humor. Her finale proved just that as she provided us with a humorous Jib Jab Can-Can clip of some Omega sisters – talented dancers on stage!! What fun!

At that same meeting ...Dr. "B" Gracious", Betty Mussack, made a comeback with her hints emphasizing the importance of laughter in your life.

June 8, 2010... my final meeting held at my home. It was an honor for me to have the opportunity to share my home and my back yard with Omega members. The installation of new officers: Lynda John, Della Ludwig, and Jeanne Guastafarro, was held in the gazebo (Thank you to the Nominations Committee for the outstanding slate of officers and Ceremonies Committee for the superb ceremony.). We celebrated accomplishments, retirements of Kathleen Burke, Corry Cochol, and Gail Rumsey, and said our good byes to this biennium and hello to a new biennium.

Sandy Voigt and the Professional Affairs Committee always came forth with the most professional suggestions and support to advance Omega Chapter.

The Five Chapters East Central Area Council held their meeting in October, 2008 at the Canandaigua Wegman's. Thank you to Maggie Wiegand and Evie Bottorf and their committee for a delightfully delicious program. The program consisted of cooking styles stations and samplings, followed by dessert. What an informative meeting!

Under the direction of Linda Coons and the Personal Growth Committee, Omega members continued to provide for the needy. School supplies, socks, mittens, and underwear were donated to local school districts for students in need. Books and more books were contributed to the Little Red Bookshelves.

Omega endorsed the "Geneva Reads" program. Members contributed a basketful of items for Safe Harbors. Members agreed to purchase a "school in a box" to help rebuild education in Haiti. An ad hoc committee with Cindy Lynch as chair was created to investigate the dispersion of remaining 2009 Omega funds to other organizations.

Furthermore, the new professional Omega Brochure provides us with a way to effectively communicate who we are.

Della Ludwig needs to be thanked for all of her hard work.

Flat Annie...Marguerite Wiegand and Karen Varricchio's work of art resulted in Dr. Annie Webb Blanton being "flattened" so that she could be mailed to other Omega Chapters in The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The goal was to send along information and in turn receive information so that Omega sisters could become more acquainted with one another. The result was letters from Illinois, Iowa, New Mexico, Ohio and Tennessee. We are hoping to meet our fellow Omega sisters at the 2012 International Convention in New York City!





An important goal accomplished: a “hands-on” project. Finally, the MORS project, Midlakes One-Room Schoolhouse, with the help of Peg Snyder, Linda Coons, Jenn Davison, and Dawn Scales became that reality. Every Omega member contributed to its success in some manner. The one-room schoolhouse from Coonsville also known as Manchester District #12 was moved to the Midlakes (Phelps-Clifton Springs) School District. This one-room schoolhouse was to represent all early schoolhouses. So...how could our chapter assist this cause? The committee recommended the following: a white picket fence to be constructed for the front of the Schoolhouse; members could purchase bricks; purchase/donate authentic items for the Schoolhouse; and any member who attended a one-room schoolhouse could share a story. Project completed: the fence was constructed, painted by our members, and installed in time for the MORS Open House on May 18, 2010. In addition, items were donated, bricks were purchased, and a story was written. The schoolhouse was to be used as an educational tool for today’s children. Students could be provided with a realistic understanding as to what



life was like in a country schoolhouse. ...

Proud moments at Pi State events:

I was always proud to represent Omega Chapter at the Pi State Executive Board meetings, the Northeast Regional Meeting and so on. However, the most honorable event was at the 2009 Pi State Convention held in White Plains. With much pride, I carried the Omega Chapter Flag in the Presidents’ Processional prior to the banquet. Even more, I was proud to have two of our members, Janalee Weaver and Maggie Wiegand conduct workshops.

Sad moments...

During the very first September 2008 meeting Deb Trombino with her Ceremonies Committee led a wonderful tribute to Alice Hosenfeld. Alice was a dedicated member to Omega and the community. Lois Ludwig provided us with her final thoughts of Alice as Alice’s family joined us. Then at the October 2009 meeting, we said our good bye to Betty Bay. Sunflowers surrounded members and Betty’s family. Gail Burr’s Remembrance was heartfelt and the singing by Marguerite Wiegand and Sharyn Powell was beautiful. Both Alice and Betty will be sadly missed.

Outstanding Omega members to be recognized....

Julie Winston received her ED. D in Educational Administration from the University of Rochester in May 2008. She was awarded the Tyll van Geel Educational Leadership Award. Her dissertation was a program evaluation of mathematics academic intervention services (AIS) at the middle school level. Congratulations!

Janalee Weaver received the Dr. Evelyn L. Milan Scholarship in May 2009. Janalee retired from the Geneva School District. Her plan was to return to school for a second career in mental health counseling. Congratulations!

Betty Bay was recognized as a “Women of Distinction” by being a recipient of that award at the Pi State May 2009 Birthday Luncheon. This award is granted to a distinguished and dedicated woman in the chapter. Congratulations!

Mary Martha Harvey was elected to the “Pi Lights” Editor position at the Pi State Spring Executive Board Meeting, May 2010 – a very difficult undertaking. Congratulations!

Lois Ludwig was honored by being awarded the Pi State Achievement Award at the Pi State Spring Executive Board Meeting, May 2010. She was recognized as an active member who has made outstanding contributions to education. Furthermore, she has rendered exceptionally fine service to the Society and at the State and Chapter level. Congratulations!

A warm welcome...

Omega had three members who transferred membership during the second year of my biennium. They were Margo VanHaneghan, Katja Stevens, and Kathy Eckler. Omega was pleased and proud that they chose us!

Particular members to be remembered for their time and dedication to my biennium...

A special thank you to each:

June Renner who was always there for me- even through all kinds of weather; Judy Kiehle for “keeping me on my toes”, especially, when it came to the financial matters; All Past Presidents who readily conveyed their knowledge, support, and advice; Kathy Burke for stepping in to be Secretary; Linda Upchurch for being the holder of the money; Lynda John and Della Ludwig for doing whatever was needed at just the right time; and importantly, Maggie Wiegand as my mentor.

My final thoughts...

I appreciated all of your help, caring thoughts, support, and encouragement during my biennium. I learned so much about Omega and our members. I love you all and you brought me the joy, joy, joy I feel down in my heart. Oh what joy from rejoicing, collaborating, commemorating, mourning, praying, playing, and the list could continue... Now, I proudly pass Omega’s torch or should I say “gavel” to one of our most dedicated, compassionate, and hardworking members... Lynda John. Again, thank you to all Omega members!



Your Omega sister,

Mary King

