



**Pi State**

**Omega Chapter**

**Omega Chapter Meeting, March 12, 2013  
Phelps Arts Center – Phelps, NY**

**Social Time & Exhibit Review:** 5:30 – 5:45

**President's Welcome & Introduction of Guests** (5:45-6:00): President Della Ludwig welcomed all with a poetry reading. Guests were introduced and presented with gifts from the chapter as follows: Karen Cameran and Tammy Wood (guests of Sue Gray), Nina McCarthy and Sarah Cupelli (guests of Sharyn Powell and Laura Hill), Scott Donneally (guest of Cyndy Lynch), Pat Bell (guest of Adelle Miller-Wadsworth), Janice Driscoll (guest of Kerry Smartt), Tracy Marchionda (guest of Christine Taylor), Maaike Burr and Vernan Tenny (guests of Maggie Wiegand), and Silvia Hughson (guest of Elizabeth Mussack). Della also introduced poet and teacher Carol McMahan.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** Sharyn Powell

**Song of Welcome:** Sharyn Powell

**Dinner:** 6:00-6:30

**Blessing:** Sue Gray

**Pink Pig:** Jen Spina. The winner of the Pink Pig was Cyndy Lynch

**Pin and Nametag Money:** Linda Upchurch

**Program:** Carol McMahan, Poet & Teacher

**Business Meeting** (7:00-8:00): The business portion of the meeting was called to order at 7:20 pm by President Della Ludwig.

**Secretary's Report:** Katja Stevens read thank you correspondence from June Renner and Evie Bottorf. In addition, a sympathy letter from the Pi State Membership Committee was read regarding the passing of Omegan Donna J. Klage.

**Roll Call:** Kerry Smartt reported that 40 members and 10 guests were in attendance.

**Approval of the Minutes from November 13, 2012:** A motion was made by Lois Ludwig that minutes be accepted as printed. The motion was unanimously approved and carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Linda Upchurch reported that January and February were combined:

Balance on 12/31/12	\$10,403.17	Checking: \$8338.94
Total Receipts	\$72.22	Savings: \$1,712.95
Total Disbursements	\$424.00**	Total: <b>\$10,051.39</b>
Balance on 2/28/13	<b>\$10,051.89*</b>	

\*\$0.50 discrepancy

\*\*424.00 was for the check to pay ahead for magnetic ribbon order

### **Standing committee reports:**

**Webmaster :** Lois Ludwig reported that she will be retiring from this position at the end of this biennium. “Know your Society” program has been discontinued. Webmaster will now work on an Omega Pictorial directory. 95% of membership uses email and most communication is done by internet. Lois has updated Omega Chapter Membership, Initiates and Transfers report and the Past Presidents List. She made changes in format to make it easier to read and be used.

**Membership:** Kerry Smartt asks that we think ahead to when we will be inducting new members. Given that the Early-Career Educators’ Seminar will take place May 2014, induction of new initiates will be in April 2014 which means that considerations should be made and submitted to membership committee by June 2013 to give time for perspective members to visit meetings and time for committee to look at nominees. The Membership Committee asks that we look at requirements before making the invitations. Nominees must have professional training, 3+ years as an educator, must be employed in education, should live/work in our general chapter area, have leadership potential, be involved and a contributing member of professional organizations, accept responsibility and participate in Chapter activities, and must be sponsored by 3 members who know of her professional competence. Please talk with other members that you know in your school district to see how we can fill in some of the gaps that we have in our chapter. For example, if one grade level is well represented, perhaps look at another grade level.

**Personal Growth:** Sally Maxson is away in Florida but Della reported that Sally and the Personal Growth committee have planned an outing before our meeting next month. They have set up a visitation to MORS Schoolhouse for those who are interested. Della will send out the necessary information.

**Scrapbook:** Mary Cherniss reported that the past presidents book (1968 to present) is done. Judy is doing the final proofread. She asked the membership how the book should be distributed – whether a copy should be made for each member or put on the web. Each president has 2 pages. Deb Trombino’s and Maggie Wiegand’s pages are missing at this point. A lot of pages take up a lot of memory on the website. A suggestion was made to burn the book onto a CD that would be available for a nominal fee to cover the cost of the CDs. A motion made by Maggie Wiegand to burn the scrapbook onto CDs. Mary Martha Harvey seconded the motion. Discussion included whether a DVD would hold the photographs better? Mary will talk to AV people regarding which would be best. Hard copies will be made for those members without computers. An amendment to the motion was made as follows: the scrapbook will be put on CD or DVD with hard copies made for those w/o computers. Mary asked that if members photos or memories from the missing years to please share. The amended motion was unanimously approved and carried.

**Cheer Report:** Jan Wright – no report this month.

## Unfinished business

### **Ad Hoc Committees:**

Philanthropic Funds – A committee has been put together and will be chaired by Judy Kiehle. Speak to Judy if interested in being a member of this committee. Members should forward in writing any recommendations. It would be beneficial to have documentation (hard copy or website) from the organization being recommended. Members are asked to use criteria that was distributed at today's meeting: The organization helps fill an educational need, the organization helps women improve their lives (preference given to those that have an educational component), the organization helps women with children to gain skills and necessities that they can raise their children so that they are ready to learn, the program exhibits longevity, and that a balance is maintained between local, state, national, and international causes.

Record Retention – This committee will be co-chaired by Mary Martha Harvey and Linda Smith. Please see either of them if interested in being on committee. Responsibilities will be to make recommendations regarding record retention with the end goal of streamlining all the Omega documentation.

Support Early-Career Educators' Seminar – This committee will be chaired by Della Ludwig and Lynda John. The expectation is for everyone in Omega to play a role. If you want to help plan the seminar, speak to Della or Lynda. Responsibilities will be to lay the groundwork for the Omega-sponsored seminar scheduled for next spring.

**Badge Ribbon Order Update:** The badge maker was in Florida. Expect badges by April meeting. Please be sure to connect with Linda Upchurch to give her check or payment. She has paid upfront from the Omega treasury. Cost is \$17.

**Pi State Conference:** April 19-21, Hyatt Regency in Buffalo, Dr. Wendy Patterson will be the keynote speaker (Dean of School of Education at Buffalo State). More information can be found in the *Pi Lights* winter edition. Several Omegas are planning to attend.

**Northeast Regional Conference:** The 2013 packet is in DKG news. It is time to make reservations for the Portland, ME conference to be held July 24-27, 2013. Della has information for anyone wanting to participate as a vendor, presenter, or guest.

**RIT Women's History Month Celebration:** Maya Angelou will give the keynote address at 4:30 pm on Monday, March 25 in Gordon Field House and Activity Center. Currently, the program is closed out, but Della has secured 10 seats for Omega sisters who are interested. See Della if interested. First come, first served. Della has information on parking, shuttle busses, etc. Doors open at 2 pm and organizers advise attendees to get there early.

**Pi Lights:** The spring edition is online with information about the Pi State Educational Foundation. This foundation was established in 2004 as a non-profit supported solely by members. It is \$25 (tax-deductible) for a lifetime membership. As a member you can apply for a grant. Each spring, the chapter with the highest percentage of members is recognized at the Pi State Conference. Omega currently has nine members. During March, Omega has a special opportunity in that an anonymous donor will match each lifetime membership with an equal

contribution of \$25 in memory or in honor of whomever you wish. Forms have been provided and are due before March 31. Della challenged Omega to have the highest number of members. See Della if you have a literacy project for which you would like to apply for a grant.

**Special Thanks:** Thank you to tonight's Hostess Committee: **Sue Gray – Chair**, Kammy Catchman, Edna Choffin, Jenn Davison, Jeanne Gustaferro, Elaine Kennedy, Lois Ludwig, Kay Nemecek, Gail Rumsey, and Adelle Miller-Wadsworth.

**Announcements:**

Mary King – *Doctor Doolittle* commercial for Midlakes Theater Experience. Performances are on March 15, 16, 17, 22, and 23.

**Adjournment:** 7:50 pm

**Delta Kappa Gamma Song**

**Dates to Remember:**

April 16, 2013	Schools for Africa Program Warfields, Clifton Springs, NY
April 19-21, 2013	Pi State Convention Hyatt-Regency, Buffalo, NY
May 14, 2013	Celebration of Life & Founder's Night Belhurst Castle, Geneva, NY
June 11, 2013	Celebrations Notre Dame, Canandaigua, NY
July 24-27, 2013	Northeast Regional Conference Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland, ME

Respectfully submitted,

Katja Stevens, Secretary