



Pi State

Omega Chapter

**Omega Chapter Meeting, October 16, 2012
Wegmans, Canandaigua, NY**

Social Time: 5:00 – 5:30

Welcome & Celebration: 5:30-5:45

President Della Ludwig welcomed members by reading *Four Japanese Tanka* by Adelaide Shaw. Guests were introduced as follows: Carol Emerson and Jackie Wittschen were guests of Gail Burr, Kathi Nacca was Linda Coons' guest, Mary Martha Harvey brought Donna Noble from Alpha Alpha Chapter, Betty Mussack brought her daughter, Sylvia, and Karen Varricchio introduced tonight's guest of honor, Evan Dawson.

Pledge of Allegiance: Sharyn Powell

Song of Welcome: Sharyn Powell

Celebration: President Della Ludwig formally welcomed 60 women initiates from Kochi Prefecture in Japan, the 18th country to be added to Delta Kappa Gamma International by reading some background information and then offering a traditional Japanese toast, "Kampai!"

Dinner: 5:45-6:30

Blessing: Mary Shelley

Pink Pig: The winner of the pink pig provided by Mary Cherniss was Maggie Weigand.

Pin and Nametag Money: Linda Upchurch

Business Meeting: 7:00-7:30

Call to Order: President Della Ludwig called the Business Meeting to order at 7:00, requesting that the business meeting be conducted before the Program so that all members could finish their meal.

Secretary's Report: Secretary Katja Stevens read correspondence which included thank you letters from the Ludwig family and the Potentate of Damascus Shrine. A letter of resignation was read from Barbara K. Heinzman.

A motion was made by Linda Coons to accept Barbara's letter with regret. The motion was seconded by Maggie Weigand and approved unanimously without discussion by the membership.

Roll Call: Kerry Smartt reported that 47 members and 6 guests were present.

Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2012 Meeting: A motion was made by Cindy Lynch to accept and approve the minutes as presented. All were in favor and the minutes were accepted with no corrections.

Treasurer's Report: Linda Upchurch reported

Balance on 8/31/12	\$6025.17	Checking: \$7339.41
Total Receipts	\$3566.25	Savings: \$1,712.51
Total Disbursements	\$540.00	Total: \$9051.92
Balance on 9/30/12	\$9051.92*	

*\$0.50 discrepancy even after audit

Standing Committee Reports:

Area Council: Deb Trombino reported that the committee met last week and agreed to switch the next Area Council meeting to October 2013. Brainstorming ideas for the meeting theme included "Antique Road Show," "Women's Night Out," and a historical visit to Seneca Falls. Deb would welcome other ideas and asks that you email her.

Omega Website: Lois Ludwig reported that the website has a new look due to formalized standards for Certification that have been implemented by International. Lois recently received an email from the International Communication and Publicity Committee Member and News Editor informing her that although Omega's site is informative, there are several things that need attention if we are to maintain our certification. These items include deleting all phone numbers, fixing font size, ensuring links are working, and that committee reports are completed. She has until October 31 to make these changes. Lois asks that committee chairs help her by submitting completed reports. The meeting minutes are now posted on the website under *Officers and Committees* and the Personal Growth and Services Committee has included the schedule and list of books for the Omega Book Club. Finally, Lois asked members to vote on one statement that they felt best described the primary focus of Omega. The website prize went to Betty Mussack.

Auction: Kay Nemecek reported that there will be no major changes this year over last year. She passed out instructions and description sheets and asked that if a member has several of one item, to mark each multiple item and attach a corresponding bid sheet. Silent bidding will occur before dinner and about 10 items will be pulled for verbal bidding after the auction. Members can make their own descriptor card, but must be sure to include all items and the approximate retail price.

Professional Affairs: Jen Bay gave a brief summary of changes in New York State standards including the new Common Core Standards with which curriculum must be aligned. Aligning

the curriculum is challenging and some of the new curriculum is not yet available. Schools can choose their own evaluation tool. It is a stressful time for teachers and teachers are really doing the best that they can.

Cheer Committee: Jan Wright recognized members who have October birthdays. Betty Mussack celebrated her 89th birthday in October!

Unfinished Business:

- Magnet-backed ribbon order - Della reported that she is having difficulty finding the magnet-backed ribbons, but will continue her research.

New Business:

- Pi State Fall Executive Board Meeting - \$30,000 was raised at New York Night. There is a surplus of funds that will be divided as follows: a reduction of \$20 in the registration fee for the Spring Executive Board Meeting, \$6000.00 to go towards assisting new members (1-5 year members) to attend the Northeast Regional Conference in Maine or the International Convention in Indiana. Remaining funds will go to the DKG Educational Foundation. Omega members are encouraged to join. There is a \$25 lifetime membership fee. There are currently eight Omegas who are members.
- Woman of Distinction Honor – email Della with recommendations for this Pi State honor.
- March meeting – Della asks that administrators are contacted now to put this date on their calendar.
- November meeting – members are asked to bring books to support the Little Red Bookshelf project and Geneva Reads project.

Program: Evan Dawson “Summer in a Glass: The Coming of Age of Winemaking in the Finger Lakes.”

Joys and Concerns: Della shared concerns: Lynda Johns’ daughter, Daphne, is still dealing with complications from her surgery. Kammy Catchman's daughter, Lesley, is still waiting to be put on the list for a double lung transplant. Gail Burr's mother remains in Strong Hospital and is making small steps toward recovery. Jackie Johnson is undergoing treatment for breast cancer. Carol Ramsey is at the NYS Retired Teachers Conference. Edna Choffin, Pat Rice, and Sharry Cirulli are in Florida. Ann Orman is in South Carolina and Marilyn Nicholson is leaving for Portugal.

Special Thanks: Thank you to tonight’s Hostess Committee: **Deb Poplasky – Chair**, Jan Astles, Jen Bay, Kathy Eckler, Mary-Martha Harvey, Della Ludwig, June Renner, and Deb Trombino.

Announcements: Kathy Burke needs help with the November hostess committee. Please contact her if you are able to help.

Adjournment: 8:05 pm

Delta Kappa Gamma Song

Dates to Remember:

November 13, 2012	Annual Fundraiser Auction Club 86, Geneva, NY
January 12, 2013	Omega Chapter Executive Board Meeting United Methodist Church, Canandaigua, NY
January 18, 2013	CTAUN Conference United Nations, NYC
March 12, 2013	Administrators' Night/Honoring the Arts Phelps Arts Center, Phelps, NY
April 15, 2013	Schools for Africa Program Warfields, Clifton Springs, NY
April 19-21, 2013	Pi State Convention Hyatt-Regency, Buffalo, NY
July 24-27, 2013	Northeast Regional Conference Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland, ME

Respectfully submitted,

Katja Stevens, Secretary