



Pi State

Omega Chapter

**Omega Chapter Meeting, September 10, 2013
Wegman's – Canandaigua, NY**

Social Time: 5:00-5:30

President's Welcome & Introduction Guests (5:30): President Della Ludwig called the meeting to order at 5:33 with a reading of "In the Corners of Fields" by Ted Kooser. Della welcomed all members back. Karen Varricchio introduced special guest, Charles Benoit.

Pledge of Allegiance: Sharyn Powell

Song of Welcome: Sharyn Powell

Dinner: 6:00-6:45

Blessing: Mary Cherniss for Jill Antonucci

Ping Pig: Jan Wright (this month's winners were Linda Coons, Kathy Eckler, and Mary Cherniss).

Pin and Nametag Money: Linda Upchurch

Program: (6:30-7:00) An Evening with Charles Benoit.

Business Meeting:

Secretary's Report: Katja Stevens shared communication from Margo VanHaneghan, Lydia Berrong, and Jacqueline Johnson. Thank you letters were also shared from the Finger Lakes Community College Foundation, Safe Harbors of the Finger Lakes, Inc., Unicef United States Fund, and Friends of Borgne, Inc.

Roll Call: Kerry Smartt reported that there were 39 members and 1 guest in attendance.

Approval of the Minutes from June 11, 2013: A motion was made by Mary King to approve the June 11, 2013 minutes as presented. This motion was unanimously approved and carried.

Treasurer's Report: Linda Upchurch reported:

Balance on 6/30/13	\$5714.26	Checking: \$4001.10
Total Receipts	\$0.18	Savings: \$1713.34
Total Disbursements	\$25.00	
Balance on 8/31/13	\$5689.44	

Standing Committee Reports:

Nominations: Mary King and the Nominations Committee presented a skit on Chapter Officer roles: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, and Member-at-Large. The committee asked the membership to fill in nomination cards tonight or send them to the nominations committee by October 1.

Area Council: Deb Trombino reported that the next Area Council meeting will be on October 23, "Wednesday Night Out" at Club 86. Appetizers and a buffet along with different vendors such as Country Ewe, Crown Jewelers, Finger Lakes Basketry, Mary Kay Cosmetics, Nature's Way Massage Therapy, Pampered Chef, Premier Designs Jewelry, Tastefully Simple, Thirty-one, Stampin' Up, etc. will be available for everyone's enjoyment.

Finance: Linda Upchurch for Judy Kiehle. The Executive Committee was one person shy of a quorum at the August Executive Board Meeting therefore the budget is being presented to the membership at large. A motion was made by Maggie Wiegand to accept the budget. Lynda John seconded. It is the recommendation of those that were present that the budget be approved. The floor was opened for questions, but there was no discussion. A vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved and carried. Many thanks to the Finance Committee for their hard work this summer.

Membership: Kerry Smartt passed out descriptions of nominations for new members. A letter was read from Lynda John written about on behalf of one of the nominees. The floor was opened up for membership to speak on behalf of any of the nominees. An opportunity will be available at the October meeting as well before the vote.

Auction: Della reported for Kay Namecek to begin thinking about auction ideas, including gifts of talent (i.e. gardening).

Cheer: Pat Rice for Jan Wright celebrated September birthdays.

Unfinished Business:

Ad Hoc Committees:

Record Retention Policy: The Record Retention Policy Committee is still in need of lists of documents that various committees/officers have at home that are related to Omega. Co-chairs are Mary Martha Harvey and Lynda John.

Support Early-Career Educators' Seminar Steering Committee: The steering committee has had its first meeting. Della is very excited about this event that will take place in May. By the next meeting, the committee hopes to have all the leaders in place for all the various committees that will be needed. It will be a full-group meeting including a key note speaker. In addition, Dr. Joyce Tang, the Pi State President hopes to be in attendance. Participants will then break into smaller discussion groups including the topics of time/paperwork, professionalism, tapping into support systems, the promise and pitfalls of technology, and National Certification.

New Business:

Review of Grants-in-Aid: There was discussion at the Executive Board meeting about the Grants-in-Aid program. Della read a letter from Peg Snyder regarding concerns for this program, including the current FLCC process for selecting scholarship recipients and candidate appropriateness. The Executive Board would like to make a recommendation to create an ad hoc committee to investigate other college venues for the Grants-in-Aid program rather than sticking to just FLCC. Linda Coons asked about looking into high school seniors who are going to a four year college. The concern is that seniors often change their major once they get into college. Might be worth it to look at local 4-year colleges and focus on students who have declared their major. There might not be a change this year, but there is clearly a sense of frustration, and a change may be necessary for future years. Part of the problem was that the FLCC contact person retired a few weeks before paperwork was usually submitted to Omega. Are we on a scholarship list at FLCC? Is there a pamphlet available? Could the ad hoc committee meet with FLCC and inform them of the depth of the concern? Della will create an ad hoc committee to investigate opportunities for scholarships to education students in local colleges and report back to the membership. More than likely, this ad hoc committee will work in concert with Peg Snyder and her committee. Please let Della know if you are interested in joining this ad hoc committee.

Badge Ribbons Second Order: A second order is going to go out. Della will send out a reminder email. She hopes to send an order out before the end of September. Please let Della know if you are interest in ordering. Ribbons are \$17 – Della will confirm the cost in an email.

Northeast Regional Conference Report: Karen Varricchio, Mary Martha Harvey , and Della Ludwig all attended the Northeast Regional Conference. Look for a summary of their experience in the fall *Pi Lights*.

Announcements: Please mark dates in your calendar now so that you are able to attend as many meetings as possible.

Joys and Concerns: Jacquie Johnson, Agnesmary Karol, Evie Bottorf, Barb Morgan, Liz Koster, Jill Antonucci, and Carol Ramsey

June Renner thanked everyone for the cards she received. She thinks she is going to survive the ordeal. She has too much calcium in her body and doctors are trying to find out where it is. Otherwise she is doing well.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Lois Ludwig to adjourn the business meeting. The business meeting was adjourned by Della Ludwig at 8:25 pm.

Delta Kappa Gamma Song

Important Announcements: Thank you to tonight's Hostess Committee: **Sue Cunningham – Chair**, Jennifer Bay, Kathy Burke, Jerry Fletcher, Jeanne Guastafarro, Mindy Ritter, Claris Schwing, Margo VanHanaghan.

Dates to Remember:

October 15, 2013	Membership/Committee Business Dessert Meeting Dallywaters, Geneva, NY 6:00-7:30
October 23, 2013	Area Council Ladies' Night Out Club 86, Geneva, NY
November 12, 2013	Scholarship Auction Club 86, Geneva, NY
January 11, 2014	Executive Board Meeting United Methodist Church, Canandaigua, NY 9:30
January 31, 2014	CTAUN Conference "Promoting Peace through Education" United Nations, New York City, NY

Respectfully submitted,

Katja Stevens, Secretary