



# Buckeye Newsletter

Editor: Sandra Crossen

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE OHIO REGION!

### REGIONAL GOALS:

Reduce the region's carbon footprint at all regional events.

At each regional event collect items for care packages to be sent to military troops overseas.

Promote and encourage a healthier Ohio at regional events.

Increase member attendance at all regional events by 3%.

Increase chapter participation in Five Star Chapter Development Program, reaching Pinnacle, and the Hallmark Program by 3%.

Provide interactive programming during breakout sessions for attendees of regional events.

We look forward to hearing from our members with any ideas on how to achieve our goals!

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## NEW DISTRICT RECOGNITION CERTIFICATE

The District Recognition Certificate was created to recognize, praise, increase participation and encourage chapters within the districts. Each district representatives will select a chapter that best demonstrates the Phi Theta Kappa spirit within each district.

### Guidelines:

- Communicate and report on a consistent basis with your DR
- Execute and achieve regional goals
- Makes strides to achieve their Five Star level
- Makes strides to achieve Pinnacle goals
- The award will be given out four times a year in conjunction with the Buckeye
- Reports will be printed in the Buckeye Newsletter and the chapters that win will also be announced at the next regional event
- Awards will not be given if not deserved (by default)
- Do not need to be present at a regional event to win

Simply put, these chapters can always be counted on to stay in communication with the region supply requested information in a timely manner. This chapter not only strives to make their chapter stronger, they also participate on a Regional and International level, and to promote cooperation between other chapters within the district. Congratulations and keep up the good work!

Alpha Mu Delta effectively uses their District Representative as a liaison between them and the Ohio Region, while extending their heart-felt invitations to the whole region for chapter events.

Timothy Davis, Southeast District Representative

Alpha Nu Lambda continually initiates communication with the regional officer team in an attempt to not only grow personally; but, to assist the Ohio Region any way they are able.

Deanna Stewart, Southwest District Representative

Alpha Zeta Delta has taken on a self sustaining service project that epitomizes the Phi Theta Kappa spirit.

Their inspiring, imaginative, and honorable reconstruction benefits Fetal Alcohol Syndrome victim's lives and is ultimately autonomous.

Martina Thomas-Catlin, Northeast District Representative

Beta Theta Eta communicates regularly, demonstrates adherence to the HIA guidelines, and continues to strive for excellence in every event in which they participate.

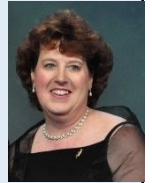
Lisa Ottenberg-Diehl, Central District Representative

No chapter was chosen.

Angie Posada, Northwest District Representative



## CINDY CARBONE REGIONAL COORDINATOR



I recently attended a workshop on Servant Leadership that fits wonderfully into this newsletter issue. I used the holiday movie *It's A Wonderful Life* to apply the components of Servant Leadership. (For those of you who have taken the Phi Theta Kappa Leadership Development course, the components of servant leadership are based on the works of Robert Greenleaf.) During this session we examined how servant leaders SERVE-see the future, engage and develop people, reinvent continuously, value results and relationships, and embody values. (Blanchard, K. 2007. *Leading at a higher level*. Upper Saddle, NJ: Prentice Hall.) We also talked about the 10 characteristics of servant leadership outlined in Greenleaf's work-Listening, Empathy, Healing, Awareness, Persuasion, Conceptualization, Foresight, Stewardship, Commitment to the Growth of People, and Building Community. It was an enjoyable session as we went through clips from the movie and saw how George Bailey embodied these components without realizing what he was doing; how he was a reluctant leader; and how even though he had dreams of his own, he always put those aside when it came to developing the people of Bedford Falls. George Bailey didn't set out to lead or to be anyone great-he just saw a need, was committed to the foundations, values, and relationships in Bedford Falls, and chose to build and develop his community. He was not self serving in any way, shape, or form. He, instead, was a steward of his community-humble in his actions, yet one who helped the community grow, develop, and prosper through the power of teamwork and collaboration. He truly embodied the characteristics of servant leadership.

So why the mini-lesson on servant leadership? Because it is time to consider servant leadership on the regional level. At our conference in October, we opened nominations for next year's officer team and several offices received no nominations. I have to admit this was disappointing. Serving as a regional officer is an extremely rewarding experience- ask any former officer. Or ask the alumni. I'm sure they will all give you honest responses since mine would be biased! But I want to encourage you to think about serving the region in a larger capacity-as a member of a larger entity-the regional officer team. Think about what it means to **serve-see** the future, **engage** and develop people, **reinvent** continuously, **value** people and results, and **embody** the values of Phi Theta Kappa. Think about what the experience may mean for you-how it may change your life-how you may impact others lives-how you may grow and develop. Serving as a regional officer is certainly a good investment in yourself and the rewards will last you a lifetime.

On another note, this is also the season for hallmarks! Chapters are busy gathering details about the projects you have been working on all year. Just remember that it is all worth it! The reward is in the process, the pride you take is in the accomplishment of this momentous project, and the participation in our pinnacle program. And remember, you are not alone! Many resources exist that will help you write a successful entry. Please check them out! Here are several links which you may find helpful as you go through the process:

<http://www.ptk.org/hallmarks/>  
<http://www.ptk.org/hallmarks/faqs.htm>  
<http://www.ptk.org/hallmarks/judgestips.htm>

<http://www.ptk.org/hallmarks/rubrics/>  
<http://www.ptk.org/hallmarks/award-winning-entries/>

So use your resources well and have fun pulling your hallmark entries together. Just remember to send on copy to headquarters and one copy to me at COTC. The deadline is Feb. 3, 2010, by 5p.m.

Other deadlines to note are the scholarship deadlines that you will find elsewhere in this newsletter and on the web site. Take advantage of those opportunities as well!

So as you prepare for the upcoming season take a moment to watch *It's A Wonderful Life*. I am sure it will be on several times. But this time watch it with "Leadership eyes" and observe how George Bailey becomes a Servant Leader. He can become a *wonderful* model for all of us to emulate in our *lives!*

Big hugs!



## JEFF GERKEN, REGIONAL PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I would like at this time to talk to you as the student that I was prior to my involvement with Phi Theta Kappa. I was attending classes, with the goal of graduating and securing employment when I was finished. I had no interest improving my public speaking skills, enhancing my organizational skills, strengthening my leadership skills, or building a network of friends who are like family to me. Then I made the leap, like many of you, I became a chapter officer. I struggled to find my way through the first couple of months, but I made it. As I grew personally and began to feel more comfortable in my position, I began to reach out and embrace the next level of opportunity that was offered, Regional officer.

Again this is a learning curve, but with the leadership provided from former officers as well as the guidance of our advisors, this transition is not as bad as one might think. Being a part of two Regional Officer Teams has provided me many more lessons, which will continue to help me grow the rest of my working life. Developing the three "C's" of teamwork; collaboration communication and cooperation, will empower me with the ability to be the most effective leader I can be. It is through the Phi Theta Kappa's ideals, we are challenged to be the most effective student leaders we can.

Student leadership takes on many forms in Phi Theta Kappa; chapter officer, regional officer, or international officer. Leadership is not about someone's title as much as it is about the capacity to influence "positive change" around them. People, who provide positive change, are individuals who are committed to realizing a vision that enhances the communities they are a part of. Their ability to influence change is connected to a sincere desire to improve the lives of those around them in meaningful ways.

Leadership alone means nothing more than being followed. This is why my goal is not only to encourage someone to be a leader, but to be an honorable leader as well. An honorable leader is different than an effective leader or an influential leader. An honorable leader can be effective and influential and most likely will be. But what separates an honorable leader, is that an honorable leader leads in the right way for the right reasons. Those who lead in the wrong way or for the wrong reasons do not deserve honor.

John C. Maxwell in his book, The 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader, says that commitment "separates the doers from the dreamers." He also lists the six leadership principles which can be found in a successful leader.

**An honorable leader has a righteous cause.**

**Honorable leaders have integrity.**

**An honorable leader is a committed leader.**

**An honorable leader is teachable.**

**Honorable leaders empower their followers.**

**Honorable leaders will serve their followers.**

With this in mind I would like to again encourage you to consider running for a Regional Officer position. The Ohio Region offers the opportunity to expand your leadership potential, grow your personal network, and increase your organizational skills. The only question is, "are you ready to flex your leadership muscles?"



## ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIPS SUBMITTED BY TERRI WILLIAMSON

Many of you may not know me or be aware of my involvement with Phi Theta Kappa so I would like to start out giving some background. I had the honor of being invited to become a member of Phi Theta Kappa in 2004. Since then, I have had the honor to serve as a chapter officer including the office of president. I have had the honor of serving as a regional officer and during my term, I also had the honor and privilege to visit Phi Theta Kappa Headquarters in Jackson, MS. I have had the honor of meeting

several International Officers including past International Presidents. I have had the honor of meeting a diverse group of individuals throughout the Ohio region as well as throughout the country.

Now, many individuals take the opportunities offered through Phi Theta Kappa to learn leadership skills. While I have refined my leadership skills through the years, that is not my reason for becoming a part of this wonderful organization. My main reason was to meet new people and make new friends. What I actually got was an extended family. This family is there to support me in any endeavor I may take on and any difficulties I may encounter in life and for that, I am eternally grateful. Moreover, they tell me what I need to hear, not what I want to hear which endears them to me even more. Thank you for that.

So how do I repay an organization that has given so much to me? While I continue to be active and give of my time and talents, I wanted to do more. I am honored and pleased to announce that I have established two endowment funds through a planned gift. For those who may not know what a planned gift or endowment are, a planned gift usually comes from a persons estate or life insurance policy after death and an endowment is a gift that continues to give which means the initial funds are invested and the scholarships will be paid out of the interest earned. I worked with the Stark State Foundation to establish an endowment fund for \$7,500 that will allow a Beta Gamma Epsilon chapter member to attend a Phi Theta Kappa Convention by providing funds to pay for the registration fee. I believe the annual convention to be the ultimate Phi Theta Kappa experience and wanted to do what I could to help ease the financial aspects thereby allowing a chapter member to attend. In addition, I worked with the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation to establish an endowment fund for \$25,000 for the Ohio Region that will provide a scholarship for an Ohio Phi Theta Kappa member wishing to continue their education at a four-year institution.

Again, thank you my Phi Theta Kappa family for all that you have given me. It is such an honor to be a part of this family.



## LICENSE PLATE UPDATE – WHERE WE HAVE BEEN AND WHAT'S NEW BY DAVE SIGMUND

Greetings Ohio Region! It has been some time since we kicked off the Ohio Phi Theta Kappa License Plate initiative. In that time, the region has added many new members and this may be a good time to recap what we have done.

The purpose of the license plate is to raise money for Ohio Region scholarships. Each set of plates will cost an additional \$35.00 - \$10.00 to the state for administrative fees and \$25.00 to the Ohio Region. Anyone in the state can buy them, not just Phi Theta Kappa members. Each year a *total* of 500 sets of plates must be sold to maintain the plate; with over 30,000 members



in Ohio, that should not be a problem. A minimum of 500 sales will provide \$12,500 each year in scholarship money! Not too shabby!!

So...a little about the initiative and where we are. At the July 2008 Chapter Officer Academy, the Beta Gamma Epsilon Chapter of Stark State College announced the license plate initiative. Prior to the academy, Phi Theta Kappa International Headquarters granted permission to proceed and State Representative W. Scott Oelslager agreed to introduce the bill. However, we first needed to collect 500 signatures from licensed drivers and present them to the Ohio Bureau of Public Safety. This is where the Ohio Region chapters came in. Sixteen chapters, including many many members, stepped up and helped circulate petitions, and by the November Leadership Conference, we achieved our goal! Representative Oelslager and Representative Jennifer Garrison cosponsored HB217, which they introduced to the state legislature in the spring of 2009. On June 09, of the same year, the legislature passed the bill to the Transportation & Infrastructure sub-committee. After review, the sub-committee incorporated HB217 into HB27, a bill that covers numerous transportation and infrastructure issues. On October 28, 2009, the bill passed the House by a vote of 95-0, and the next day went to the Highway and Transportation Senate sub-committee! We are hopeful that the Senate will pass the bill soon; however, at this time, there is no committee action scheduled. We will need to be patient, maybe after the holidays it will happen.

Rod Risley, the Executive Director of Phi Theta Kappa, is especially pleased with our progress and made the statement that he would like to see other regions follow our example. It must be reiterated that this initiative would never have happened without the teamwork and dedication of all those in the region who helped.

Ohio will be the first state in the union to commission a Phi Theta Kappa specialty license plate!

Kudos to the Ohio Region for leading the way!



## CALLING ALL PHI THETA KAPPA PERFORMING ARTISTS AND THE NEW HONORS STUDY TOPIC

BY: [HTTP://WWW.PTK.ORG/BREAKINGNEWS/NOV09/202.HTM](http://www.ptk.org/breakingnews/nov09/202.htm)

Here's your opportunity to be part of the *Democratization of Information* presentation at Phi Theta Kappa's 2010 Convention in Orlando.

At the Convention we'll be focusing on a **new Honors Study Topic, *The Democratization of Information: Power, Peril, and Promise***. One aspect of the democratization of information is that we are no longer bound by space and time to communicate, come together and share experiences and knowledge.

So we're inviting all members, alumni, chapters, states, regions, and divisions to be part of a practical demonstration of the new Topic. Using a format similar to that used by "Playing for Change," Phi Theta Kappa will create a multimedia presentation of the song "What A Wonderful World." We'll feature members and advisors singing, dancing and coming together in a blended performance to promote fellowship through information sharing.

To access more examples of integrated performances visit the *Democratization of Information Music Video Project* page on [Facebook](#), where you can also download the skeleton audio and video tracks of the song and sheet music to chart your arrangement.

The submission deadline is January 4, 2010. The presentation will be part of a Convention General Session. You do not have to attend the Convention to participate.

Save your contributions in one of the following formats: Video, QuickTime movie format 720x480 or larger (no compressed video), Mini DV tape, Audio, Wave, AIFF, MP3

Mail your performance for receipt no later than January 4, 2010, to: Dr. Ken Kerr, Frederick Community College, 7932 Opossum town, Pike Frederick, MD 21702.



## REACHING FOR THE STARS WITH THE FIVE STAR PROGRAM

### BY DEANNA STEWART, SW OHIO REGIONAL OFFICER



What is the purpose of the Five Star Program?

This program is designed to make your chapter stronger through increased understanding of what Phi Theta Kappa is and increased participation on the chapter and regional levels. Chapters that participate in this program will advance through each stage until they meet or exceed their goal.

Chapters may work on multiple level requirements at any given time but must complete one level before being granted the recognition of the next level. In other words, a chapter can complete the requirements for level three but cannot attain that level's status until the requirements for levels one and two have been met.

I strongly encourage each chapter to utilize the [ptk.org](http://ptk.org) website. It has everything you ever wanted to know about everything Phi Theta Kappa.

To research the Five Star Program, go to [ptk.org](http://ptk.org) and click on **Programs** under the **Members Tab**. You will find the information on the Five Star Program listed under the title **Chapter Development and Recognition Program**. There you will find the mission statement, the requirements for each level and a place where you can track your chapter's progress through the program. One section that I find quite useful is the 10 Steps to Chapter Success. These steps are:



1. Gain an understanding of the Five Star Chapter Development Program by reviewing this web site.
2. Review the **Program Requirements** to help guide your chapter's planning.
3. Determine a realistic goal for your chapter to reach within the year.
4. Plan Honors in Action activities that are meaningful for your chapter. Use this easy **planning model**.
5. Schedule those activities in your chapter calendar.
6. Delegate responsibility for implementation of the planned activities.
7. Reassess progress at chapter meetings.
8. Advisors or Chapter Presidents report your progress **here**.
9. Meet with the college administration to select a College Project. Click **here** for example projects.
10. Receive **recognition** for your success in the Five Star Program!

Courtesy of the [ptk.com](http://ptk.com) website

There are also sections that cover frequently asked questions, project ideas, recognition, and program resources. You can also find contact information for the Key Service Analyst, Faye Christian, in case you have a question you cannot find the answer to.

Also under the title **Chapter Development and Recognition Program**, you will find the information on submission deadlines (Update Forms are due: April 30; September 30; November 30; February 1) and a link for the chapter President and Advisor to update your chapter's information.

The Five Star Program is not a competition between chapters. It is a challenge of self growth. Following the steps for each level in this program will give your chapter direction and enable your chapter to be stronger and more successful.



Chapters	Members Reported 2008	Members Reported 2009 (YTD)	Percent Increase	Awards Received
<a href="#">Alpha Alpha Alpha Chapter</a>	39	61	56	5
<a href="#">Alpha Alpha Psi Chapter</a>	8	20	150	5
<a href="#">Alpha Epsilon Eta Chapter</a>	28	25		0
<a href="#">Alpha Iota Theta Chapter</a>	65	22		0
<a href="#">Alpha Lambda Eta Chapter</a>	80	60		0
<a href="#">Alpha Mu Delta Chapter</a>	83	97	16	3
<a href="#">Alpha Mu Epsilon Chapter</a>	67	79	17	3
<a href="#">Alpha Mu Xi Chapter</a>	15	27	80	5
<a href="#">Alpha Nu Lambda Chapter</a>	139	91		0
<a href="#">Alpha Omega Pi Chapter</a>	160	187	16	3
<a href="#">Alpha Omicron Eta Chapter</a>	199	73		0
<a href="#">Alpha Omicron Mu Chapter</a>	72	49		0
<a href="#">Alpha Omicron Nu Chapter</a>	62	37		0
<a href="#">Alpha Psi Rho Chapter</a>	123	126	2	0
<a href="#">Alpha Rho Epsilon Chapter</a>	264	298	12	2
<a href="#">Alpha Rho Gamma Chapter</a>	81	89	9	1
<a href="#">Alpha Tau Mu Chapter</a>	37	59	59	5
<a href="#">Alpha Theta Zeta Chapter</a>	103	107	3	0
<a href="#">Alpha Zeta Chi Chapter</a>	0	13		5
<a href="#">Alpha Zeta Delta Chapter</a>	96	74		0
<a href="#">Beta Beta Theta Chapter</a>	30	42	40	5
<a href="#">Beta Epsilon Delta Chapter</a>	27	25		0
<a href="#">Beta Gamma Epsilon Chapter</a>	156	158	1	0
<a href="#">Beta Gamma Sigma Chapter</a>	196	222	13	2
<a href="#">Beta Lambda Nu Chapter</a>	23	20		0
<a href="#">Beta Nu Phi Chapter</a>	0	0		0
<a href="#">Beta Nu Pi Chapter</a>	16	53	231	5
<a href="#">Beta Omicron Eta Chapter</a>	13	35	169	5
<a href="#">Beta Pi Omicron Chapter</a>	0	4		5
<a href="#">Beta Pi Xi Chapter</a>	60	41		0
<a href="#">Beta Theta Eta Chapter</a>	84	58		0
<a href="#">Beta Theta Mu Chapter</a>	47	73	55	5
<a href="#">Beta Xi Chi Chapter</a>	27	16		0
<a href="#">Chi Omega Chapter</a>	135	175	29	5
<a href="#">Nu Pi Chapter</a>	107	138	28	5
<a href="#">Omega Epsilon Chapter</a>	93	42		0
<a href="#">Phi Pi Chapter</a>	260	83		0
<a href="#">Upsilon Psi Chapter</a>	35	41	17	3



## ATTAINING PINNACLE SUCCESS BY DEANNA STEWART, SW OHIO REGIONAL OFFICER

The Pinnacle Award has been established to recognize Chapters and Regions for their increase in membership over the previous year and to promote an increased awareness of the Society within its members.

The recognition comes in the form of certificates and trophies, which can serve as tangible proof of acclaim for the college, as well as scholarships, which help cover International fees.

With each 5% of growth (up to 25%) in membership over the previous year, a \$45 scholarship will be credited to the Chapter's account. If a 10% membership increase is noted across a Region, that Region will receive a \$500 stipend.

To research the Pinnacle Award, go to [ptk.org](http://ptk.org) and click on **Programs** under the **Members Tab**. You will find the information on the Pinnacle Award listed under the title **Chapter Development and Recognition Program**. There you will find links to The Pinnacle Award Program Index (an overview of the program), Pinnacle Progress (track the progress of individual Chapters and Regions throughout the Society), a Sample Membership Acceptance Script (for contacting prospective members), 10 Proven Strategies for Success, ideas for Phone-a-thons (guaranteed to increase membership), and Success stories.

So, where does your chapter stand on your Pinnacle Progress?



### **LISA OTTENBERG-DIEHL** **REGIONAL CENTRAL** **DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE** **Chapter Feature: Beta Theta Eta**

For many public schools, the arts are first on the chopping block when budgets are cut. Many community outreach projects focus on keeping children fed, clothed, and sheltered and do not have the funds to bring art, music, and dance to children in the community. Beta Theta Eta realized this need and in May of 2009, created a project that brought the Arts to 66 local elementary students. In partnership with the Richland Academy of the Arts, Beta Theta Eta created four classes for these students, which included keyboarding, arts and pottery, hip-hop, and creative movement. To pay for this valuable project, the chapter raised funds through the sale of roses at graduation and hosting hotdog and bake sales. These funds covered the instructional fees for Richland Academy teachers. The chapter also helped pay for the students' transportation.

The chapter volunteers participated in every activity with the children. They made clay animals in the pottery class, learned a hip-hop routine, created a family shield, played a keyboard solo, and experienced translating various pieces of music into a dance. This project was so successful that Beta Theta Eta plans to bring another class of elementary children to Richland Academy in December. They have also expanded their efforts to helping children experience theatre. They have taken several groups of students to see plays such as "Rainbow Fish" and "Christopher Columbus: The Shame the Glory". Members of the chapter enjoyed the time spent with these children and felt it was very rewarding. Chapter President, Rhiannon Wright, said that it was wonderful to see one child come alive while dancing and another express himself in a painting.

Thank you Beta Theta Eta for sharing information about your successful and unique project!  
No reports were submitted by other chapters.



**MARTINA THOMAS-CATLIN  
REGIONAL NORTHEAST  
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE**

**“Alpha Epsilon Eta”, Cuyahoga Community College, Highland Heights**  
No report submitted

**“Alpha Omicron Nu”, Jefferson Community College**  
No report submitted

**“Alpha Psi Rho”, Lakeland Community College in Kirtland**  
No report submitted

**“Alpha Zeta Delta”, Cuyahoga Community College in Cleveland**

We have been very busy with the preparations for our Fall Induction Ceremony . We used Google Docs to keep a log of tasks and those involved were able to check off their finished tasks as they were completed. This format worked very well and we will use it again in the Spring.

Through a craft sale, we were able to raise over \$200 for our newest project Journey of Hope (JOH). We also helped JOH with their big Fund Raiser Luncheon the first weekend in November.

Alpha Zeta Delta will be hosting a viewing of the Honors Seminar Series with discussions and prizes!  
December 16th from 3 - 6 P.M. at our WiFi Cafe. \*\*Finals will be over at this point, so no one will need to sacrifice study time\*\*

**“Beta Gamma Epsilon”, Stark State College in Canton**

Beta Gamma Epsilon inducted another 37 members. As of September 2009, we are currently 3/5 through the five star program. We will be participating in the Hallmark program and have collected 192 hygiene products for the Regional Troops Collection at HIA.

We have a continuous recycling program on our campus with cans, plastic bottles, and plastic bags. We held an Honors Green Day on November 14, where we had activities and events that covered Operation Green and the Honors Study Topic. Movie: FernGully: The Last Rainforest, presenter on “Our Environment” from the National Wildlife Federation and their affiliate, the League of Ohio Sportsmen, collection of hair for Locks of Love, haircut donations for planting trees in Ohio, cell phone and accessories collection.

The chapter is participating in Project Graduation, Better World Books, Relay For Life and USA Today Community College Readership Program.

Martin Dimitrov was selected as one of our two nominees to represent the All-USA Community College Academic Team/ Coca-Cola All-State Community College Academic Team.

**“Chi Omega”, Cuyahoga Community College, Parma**  
No report submitted

**“Phi Pi”, Lorain County Community College, Elyria**  
No report submitted

**“Alpha Alpha Psi”, University of Akron, Akron**  
No report submitted

**“Alpha Zeta Chi”, University of Akron, Orville**  
No report submitted



**ANGIE POSADA  
REGIONAL NORTHWEST  
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE**

**Alpha Mu Epsilon**

No Report Submitted

**Alpha Omicron Mu**

No Report Submitted

**Alpha Tau Mu**

No Report Submitted

**Alpha Omega Pi**

Alpha Omega Pi is preparing for a collection for the Lucas County Foster Children for the holiday season. The collection will consist of hats, gloves, mittens and a variety of toys. We continue to participate in Better World Books, Pinnacle and the Phi Theta Kappa Book Activity Club. Our fall induction ceremony was on Saturday, November 14 showing a current increase of 13% from last year.

**Beta Xi Chi**

No Report Submitted

**Beta Pi Xi**

No Report Submitted

**Beta Pi Omicron**

No report submitted



**DEANNA STEWART  
REGIONAL SOUTHWEST  
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE**

**Beta Gamma Sigma**, Cincinnati State Tech Community College-Cincinnati will need 225 members to reach Pinnacle. No report submitted

**Alpha Nu Lambda**, Clark State Community College-Springfield

Will need 146 members to reach Pinnacle.

This chapter is participating in the International Service Program through education, recycling programs, and beautification of the community.

This chapter is participating in Hallmarks.

This chapter collected 10 boxes of books for Better World Books.

**Alpha Iota Theta**, University of Cincinnati-Batavia will need 68 to reach Pinnacle. No report submitted

**Beta Epsilon Delta**, Miami University-Middletown will need 28 members to reach Pinnacle. No report submitted

**Upsilon Psi**, University of Cincinnati-Cincinnati will need 42 members to reach Pinnacle. No report submitted

**Alpha Lambda Eta,**

Edison State Community College-Piqua

90 members, which surpasses the number (84) required to reach Pinnacle.

Working on the two star requirements with the goal of achieving three star status this year. This chapter is participating in the International Service Program through education, recycling programs, and beautification of the community.

This chapter is participating in Hallmarks.

This chapter has applied for a grant to fund a new bike rack at the Greenville campus.

This chapter has raised \$125 for breast cancer research through the Chris Cianciolo 5k race.

This chapter is collecting clean, used shoes for the Well of Hope International Group benefiting the underprivileged in Kenya. This chapter is collecting canned goods for a local food pantry.

This chapter is organizing a blood drive for later this fall. This chapter is making Christmas packages for local needy children.



People from left to right are: Tyler Meyer, Lauren Altenburger, Deanna Stewart, Yuanyi Zhong, and Justin Bowman.



People from left to right are: Deanna Stewart, Lauren Altenburger, Tyler Meyer, (I don't know the inductee's name)



People from left to right: Yuanyi Zhong, Lauren Altenburger, Loleta Collins, Tyler Meyer, and Edison Community College President Kenneth Yowell.

**Nu Pi,**

Sinclair Community College-Dayton 138 members

This chapter has raised over \$170 for breast cancer research through the Walk for Life.

This chapter is collecting towels for a local homeless shelter.

This chapter is collecting pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House.

This chapter is collecting personal hygiene items for local refugees from Burundi, as well as our troops overseas.

This chapter is collecting pet food for the needy.

This chapter is adopting a local needy family for Christmas.

This chapter is conducting litter patrols throughout the year.

This chapter is participating in the International Service Program through education, recycling programs, and beautification of the community.

This chapter is participating in Hallmarks.

This chapter is looking forward to hosting the Regional Convention and Award Banquet this coming March.

**Alpha Omicron Eta,**

Southern State Community College-Hillsboro will need 209 members to reach Pinnacle.

This chapter is participating in the International Service Program through education, recycling programs, and beautification of the community.

This chapter is participating in Hallmarks.

This chapter is currently working on their three star level.

This chapter has collected 800 books for Better World Books.

This chapter is collecting toys and other items for the needy for Christmas.

This Chapter sponsored a safe trick or treat event for local children.



## SOUTHEAST DISTRICT REPORT BY: TIM DAVIS

### Alpha Alpha Alpha

Pinnacle program received 5 awards and inducting over 61 members this year,

### Alpha Mu Delta

Pinnacle program received 3 awards, inducted 100 members this year which is a chapter record, raised over \$75 in a penny drive for carbon foot printing, participated in adopt-a highway, participated in the river clean-up, satellite seminars offered to the region, attended all regional events this year, working with the green club to help the campus become greener, donated \$100.00 for the Hites scholarship, raised \$100 for American Cancer Society, have two members have applied for the All USA, collected books for better world books and conducted two leadership retreats

### Alpha Rho Gamma

Pinnacle program received 1 award, inducting over 89 members this year, attended regional events bringing advisors and officers and alumni, have achieved 3 stars and working on 4

### Beta Nu Phi

Pinnacle program received 5 awards tripling their member ship from last year

### Beta Theta Mu

Pinnacle program received 5 awards and inducting over 73 members this year

### Omega Epsilon

Achieved 4 star and inducted over 43 members this year.

### Beta Lambda Nu

No report submitted

**“A GOOD OBJECTIVE OF LEADERSHIP IS TO HELP THOSE WHO ARE DOING POORLY TO DO WELL AND TO HELP THOSE WHO ARE DOING WELL TO DO EVEN BETTER.” JIM ROHN**

## LEADERSHIP TIPS FROM ALUMNI BY: ALPHA OF OHIO MEMBERS

- “Never put yourself first. Always be sure to listen well” *Julie Sproul*
- “My leadership tip is to lead by example.” – *Terri Williamson*
- “Don't procrastinate! ~Avoid procrastination at all costs. You may think you still have time to do that term paper, but before you know it that time is now and you are frantically trying to get it done.” *Tiffany McEl-downey*
- “Understand what motivates the people you are leading. This will help to provide a reward if needed.” *Tonya Strahler*
- “Lead by example: Don't ask people to do something that you wouldn't do yourself.” *Heather Clippinger*
- “It is easy to convince yourself that you are the leader and far harder to inspire others to see you in that light.” *Chuck Bohleke*
- “Try to understand situations from the other person's point of view.” *Tonya Strahler*
- “Whether you plan to or not, inspiring others to make a difference makes you a leader.” *Connie Myers-Kerr*
- “Leadership Tip: COURAGE – As a former regional officer serving two terms, I had the fear of public speaking. I took a giant leap of COURAGE and in return I gained an experience that changed my life. I received a personal transformation that I could not imagine. I encourage you to have the COURAGE to serve as a regional leader.” *Sondra Holbert*



**CONNIE MYERS-KERR**  
**2009-2011 ALPHA OF OHIO PRESIDENT**

### Alpha of Ohio Report

Alpha raised a total of \$285.55 at Honors in Action this past October. \$50 of it will go towards the Ohio Region Leaders of Promise Scholarship while \$150.55 of it helps the regional officers' goal of offsetting the region's carbon footprint. A check from Alpha will be sent to International Headquarters in the amount of \$100 for the Hites Scholarship Challenge. An officer meeting was held on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> while a general members meeting was held on Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup> during Honors.

We will be raffling off another basket to benefit a regional scholarship at Ohio Region Convention this March with the theme of "Spring into Action." All alumni are asked to donate an item related to spring for the basket as well as wear a blue shirt of any hue as long as it is different from the regional officers' uniforms. The alumni's new website is up and working. Now, anyone can check out Alpha news from the Ohio Region's website by clicking on the "Alumni" link.

The alumni are busy finalizing new merchandise to sell for the region. We need help 'manning' the academic marketplace table at International Convention once again. Please have your chapter members, if attending, donate at least one hour of their time to help the region raise funds to continue our excellent programming and cheap event rates. A sign-up sheet with listed times will be available at regional convention. No one is being asked to work the table during the regional meeting and general sessions.

Keep your eyes and ears open for more projects Alpha is working on for the Ohio Region!



**HEALTHIER OHIO RECIPE**  
**SUBMITTED BY: SONDRAL HOLBERT**

#### Banana Pudding Squares

Prep Time: 30 min Ready In: 3 hrs 30 min Makes 24 servings.

#### Ingredients

35 Reduced Fat NILLA Wafers  
 1/4 cup margarine  
 1 pkg. PHILADELPHIA Neufchatel Cheese  
 1/2 cup powdered sugar  
 1 tub COOL WHIP Sugar Free Whipped

#### Topping

3 banana

Prep Time: 30 min Ready In: 3 hrs 30 min Makes 24 servings.

2 pkg. JELL-O Vanilla Flavor Fat Free Sugar Free Instant Pudding  
 3 cups fat-free milk  
 1/2 square BAKER'S Semi-Sweet Chocolate

#### Directions

1) Mix crumbs and margarine; press onto bottom of 13x9-inch dish.

Refrigerate.

2) Beat Neufchatel and sugar in medium bowl with whisk until blended.

Stir in 1-1/2 cups COOL WHIP; spread over crust. Top with bananas.

3) Beat pudding mixes and milk with whisk 2 min.; spread over bananas.

Top with remaining COOL WHIP and chocolate. Refrigerate 3 hours.

*Nutritional info: Calories 130 Total fat 6 g Saturated fat 3 g Cholesterol 5 mg Sodium 200 mg Carbohydrate 17 g Dietary fiber 1 g Sugars 9 g Protein 2 g Vitamin A 6 %DV Vitamin C 2 %DV Calcium 6 %DV Iron 0 %DV*



**WHAT PHI THETA KAPPA MEANS TO ME**  
**BY: KERRY CUTLER**  
**2008-2009 'S INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT—DIVISION 1**

I'm an artist. I'm also poet. When I returned to college in the fall of 2006, excelling at anything other than art and creative writing was the last thing on my mind. I wanted nothing more than to plunk myself down in a classroom, relearn basic arts skills and sharpen my writing ability. So when I got a letter from my college president telling me that I was eligible to join an honor society, I dismissed it. Well, actually, that isn't true. I threw the letter away! Then, later in the semester, I was wandering around aimlessly at a Student Organization Fair when I ran into a rather talkative young woman who complimented my natural hair color. For those of you who haven't seen me before, my hair is red or rather copper, much like a slightly tarnished yet still spendable penny. But I digress. As we talked I realized that she was one of *those* people. She was an honor student! Over the course of our conversation, she asked what my GPA was. I thought it an odd question, but answered her. It was a 4.0. Before I knew it, I was being taken by the hand to the office of the lead advisor for our local Phi Theta Kappa chapter at that time. Her name was Dr. Kim Taylor. Dr. Taylor extolled the virtues and perks of being a Phi Theta Kappa member while my new friend filled in the blanks. I explained that I really didn't have time to get involved, but turned in the request for membership acceptance anyway. The rest, as they say, is history.

Does this scenario sound familiar? Many times we overlook opportunities when they come knocking. In some cases, we downright ignore them, effectively slamming the door on what could be the first step of a magical journey. For me the next step (following my induction), was getting involved. I didn't want to – at first. But several members convinced me to join them for a pizza sale that the chapter was sponsoring as part of our college's Career Day. Prior to attending that event, it had been a long time since I had that much fun! Only later would it dawn on me that I had just become part of something greater than myself. I had no way of knowing it then, but that first event was only the beginning for me. Since that day I've had the opportunity to serve as a Chapter Officer. I've learned more than I ever thought possible about topics that I never thought I would be interested in. I've had the good fortune of traveling to three International Conventions and three International Honors Institutes. I've met and made friends with other Phi Theta Kappa members from all over the world. And I've had the opportunity of serving as an International Officer with several of the most gifted and inspiring people I know.

Soon I will graduate and move on to a four year college or university. Lucky for me, I won't be leaving my Phi Theta Kappa family behind. I know they will be there just as they were from the beginning. Though many of us will be scattered across the country, we will still be able to keep in touch. Some of us may move on to serve as officers in our respective alumni associations. Some may go on to become Phi Theta Kappa Advisors or even Faculty Scholars. It does no matter how we serve, only that we do. I now know that it is through sharing the Phi Theta Kappa spirit, that spirit of Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Fellowship that we come to understand who we are and what our place is in this world. Regardless of where life takes us, we will always be Phi Theta Kappa members. I cannot imagine my life without Phi Theta Kappa any more than I can imagine living a life that does not include serving others.

Now it is your turn so tell me. What are you waiting for? Come learn with us. Grow with us. But most important, come share your experiences with us. Come! Be inspired!

## INFORMATION FOR WRITING HALLMARKS

[HTTP://WWW.PTK.ORG/HALLMARKS/](http://www.ptk.org/hallmarks/)

**Mission Statement:** The Hallmark Awards Program, which reflects the scholarly ideals of Phi Theta Kappa, serves to recognize superior individual and chapter achievement in Society programs. In this program, chapters compete against one another. Participation encourages excellence, reflects fairness, recognizes quality and leads to enhanced student, advisor and chapter development.

### December 1

- Begin writing the nomination forms and reminding writers outside your chapter of the upcoming deadline.

### January 5

- Members should proof and correct nomination forms before passing them to advisors for a final review.

Consider asking an English instructor, journalism instructor or a chapter alumnus to proof your award entries as well.

### January 18

- Assemble your packets. Prepare an Entry Form for each category entered, making sure your advisor and chapter president sign each one.

Complete and include the Entry Checklist and Media Information Form.

### January 21

- Double-check your package to ensure that all required elements have been included.
- Ship your applications so that they arrive before the deadline to International and Regional Coordinator Cindy Carbone.

### February 3

- Award entries must be RECEIVED at Headquarters by 5:00 pm CSI. Late, emailed or faxed entries will not be judged.

### Judges' Tips for 2010

#### **Scholarship Hallmark**

**Primary Focus:** Honors Study Topic

**Secondary Focus:** Tutoring, Mentoring and Recognizing/Encouraging Scholarship

#### **Leadership Hallmark**

**Primary Focus:** Society or Non-Society Leadership Positions or Roles Assumed by the Chapter

**Secondary Focus:** Leadership Development for Members and Others

#### **Service Hallmark**

**Primary Focus:** International Service Program

**Secondary Focus:** Service Activities Unrelated to the International Service Program

#### **Fellowship Hallmark**

The Fellowship Hallmark is a key component of chapter programming in the other three Hallmarks. Elements of Fellowship include getting to know other members, reaching out to the college campus, and the opportunity to meet and work with those outside of the chapter and college when programs are expanded into the community, region or beyond.

### **Tips for Preparing Quality Entries**

#### **Read the Entry Form Carefully...**

Each award category has a separate Entry Form, which outlines eligibility criteria and entry submission requirements. The Entry Form also lists the required Nominations for each award, and the questions that must be answered by each Nomination writer.

#### **Follow the Entry Submission Requirements Exactly...**

Failure to follow the entry submission requirements on the Entry Form will result in entry disqualification.

#### **Review the Judging Rubrics for each Category...**

The Judging Rubrics posted on the Hallmark Awards website will be used by judges to evaluate entries. Review the rubrics when planning programs and writing nominations, in order to provide the judges the information they need to assign your entry the score it deserves.

#### **Answer the Nomination Questions Specifically...**

Read each Nomination Question carefully and answer fully. If a question allows your chapter to describe up to four projects, do not describe five. Remember, however, that one project may consist of multiple events. For example, implementing the four-part Honors Satellite Seminar speaker series will count as one project.

#### **Focus on Your Best Projects...**

The Nomination Questions limit the number of projects that can be discussed in each chapter entry. Be sure to highlight the very best of your chapter's projects.

#### **Provide Precise Details of Project Outcomes...**

What impact did the activity have on individual members? On the campus? In the community? Use quotes from people to emphasize the impact on their lives. Keep track of the numbers of people who attended an event or that you reached with your activity.

#### **Submit a Well-Written Entry...**

Edit, revise, edit, revise, proofread, and proofread again. Don't just depend on spell check. Read the entry aloud to someone else. Have a person outside of your chapter who doesn't know about your projects read the entry. Is it clear to them? Do they have questions?

#### **Review Your Entry Submission Packet...**

Once the final drafts of all your chapter, individual & advisor award entries are ready, complete the Hallmark Awards Entry Checklist & Media Information Form, available on the Hallmark Awards website. Entries submitted without the checklist will not be accepted. Don't forget to have a chapter advisor and the chapter president or another officer sign each award Entry Form. Include in your submission packet the Checklist and two copies of each complete entry. No additional supporting materials may be accepted.

#### **Ensure Submissions Arrive on Time...**

The deadline for Hallmark Award entries is firm; all late entries are automatically disqualified with no exceptions. All entries must be received (not postmarked) at International Headquarters no later than 5 p.m. Central Time on the published deadline date. All award entries for the four Administrator Award entries must be received by Tuesday, December 1, 2009; all other Hallmark Award entries must be received by Wednesday, February 3, 2010.

## HONORS IN ACTION'S POVERTY SIMULATION INTERVIEWS BY: HEATHER CLIPPINGER

### **Ralph Carbone portrayed an illegal activities person**

*What did you learn?* People tend to be too trusting; but, criminals take this for granted. People are not very cautious with their belongings. People were leaving their things unattended and that's how I was able to get the things I did. When I robbed the lady, I just wanted the money; she refused so I shot her. A Good Samaritan came, he grabbed my gun, he got arrested and I was able to leave town.

*What did you gain from this?* A healthy respect for crime

*What did you think about this simulation?* Enjoyed this because I do a lot of role playing in my classes and I was hand-picked for this.

### **Rick Clever (Alpha Omega Pi Advisor) portrayed the role of someone who runs the Supercenter**

*What did you gain from this?* Better respect of families in this situation.

*What did you learn from this?* A lot of people are starving; but, they got better during the month. During the first week there were only four people who bought food for their family. There was only one person who bought food every week and there were two families I never saw.

*What did you think about this?* I enjoyed doing this.

### **Natalie Myer (Alpha Sigma Kappa and Indiana Regional Officer) portrayed the role of a 17 year old boy**

*What did you gain from this?* I realized that in the family I was in, the mom kept me with her so I would stay out of trouble. When "Uncle Rock-o" (Ralph Carbone) came by we thought he was a social worker; but, found out he was selling drugs. I was arrested while standing in line for a job application and "mom" was able to talk to the deputy and get me released. The money situation was interesting.

*What did you learn from this?* I learned to watch my kids even with little income to keep my kids out of trouble. Not to trust people; but, try to make small payments a little bit at a time.

*What did you think about this?* I had a blast! There should be more directions for teenager's role.

### **Tonya Evans (Beta Nu Pi) portrayed the role of a 15 year old daughter**

*What did you learn from this?* As a society we need to empathize more with people less fortunate. I now have a deep understanding of how frustrating this can be.

*What did you gain from this?* Family units need to work together; if we didn't work together we wouldn't make it through this.

*What did you think about this?* I enjoyed this, it was a wonderful experience! I would highly recommend an activity like this at every regional event. It brought us closer together.

## **POVERTY SIMULATION VIDEO FROM HONORS IN ACTION.**

Please give an allowance for uploading and note that sometimes it is more visually acceptable on the second time through., this is a homemade video.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTbnVk0Dljo>

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