



TAU IOTA NEWS

Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society



The Tau Iota Chapter Newsletter September 2004 Issue:

Welcome fellow and future
Kappans to Fall Semester!

As we start this fall semester of 2004 remember to stay focused on your goals and you will achieve them. I am pleased to say that we have many wonderful things planned for this academic year and hope that you will participate in them. We have a great series of seminars on pop culture. We also have plans for many guest lecturers. This year we will be working along with a number of the clubs and organizations on campus on various projects.

The Harvest Party, run by PTK alumni and the American Cancer Society, will once again be presented this October. Some of us participated in the AMC Christmas in July. Both of these projects are organized to benefit children with cancer and their families.

Cara McGrath (VP of Service) and I ventured out to Hershey Park for the annual PTK event. Amy Farina (VP of Communications) and Kathryn LaTona (VP of Leadership) attended the Middle States Officers Convention in June. We are hoping that you will join us on our next adventures.

Our meetings are held in Conference Rooms A & B (College Center Annex/Bookstore) as follows:

- September 28th 4:00
- October 26th 4:00
- November 16th 4:00
- December 14th 4:00

We look forward to sharing your ideas on what we can do with this years honors topic "pop culture". Our goal is to serve, but if we earn awards doing it, that's great too! Many hands make light work so come to our next meeting with your ideas!

Our fall induction will be held in the Fine Arts Theatre on Dec. 1st at 7:00pm. We strongly urge all members to attend to support the new inductees.

To all potential members, we remind you that to be eligible for induction you must achieve a 3.6 GPA with at least 15 credits from OCC and then maintain a 3.5 GPA. If you qualify, you will receive a letter of invitation. In the event you have not received a letter and you meet Phi Theta Kappa requirements for induction, please contact me at the address/number below.

We can not stress enough the importance of accepting the invitation to one of the finest chapters of Phi Theta Kappa. It will open the door to a whole new world. Take a chance and step on through.

Looking forward to meeting you and good luck for the new semester!!

Triche Sherman
Tau Iota Chapter President
Sherman1@verizon.net
732-295-4121

Regional Events Calendar for next month:

October 23, 2004

New Jersey Leadership Conference

Hosted by Alpha Epsilon Pi Raritan
Valley Community College/Beta Alpha Pi
- Hudson County Community College

Tau Iota Events Calendar: Fall Semester 2004*

(*look for additional items in next month's issue)

September 2004

- 14th Board meeting R246 - 4:00
- 26th American Heart Association
Heart Walk - Belmar
- 28th Open meeting Conference
rooms A/B - 4:00

October 2004

- 12th Board meeting R246 - 4:00
- 16th Harvest Festival @ OCC
- 23rd Raritan Valley/Hudson
City Leadership Conference
- 26th Open meeting Conference
rooms A/B - 4:00
- tba * Honors Seminar "Shaping
Modern Myth and Popular
Values"

November 2004

- 2nd Orientation Conference
rooms A/B - 1:40
- 5th Orientation Conference
rooms A/B - 6:00pm
- 16th Open Meeting Conference
rooms A/B - 4:00
- 30th Induction Set-up meeting
R246 - 4:00
- tba * In conjunction w/ Women's
Network Domestic Violence
Month Speaker on Domestic
Violence/Date Rape

**to be announced*

**Tau Iota Events Calendar:
Fall Semester 2004 continued...**

December 2004

- 1st Induction Fine Arts Bldg. – 7:00
- 7th Board Meeting R246 - 4:00
- 14th Open Meeting Conference rooms A/B - 4:00
- tba * Holiday Wrapping in conjunction with Breakfast with Santa

**Tau Iota Events Calendar:
Spring Semester 2005...**

...with more to come!

January 2005

- 15th 8th Annual PTK Getaway in New York City

February 2005

- 17th – Middle States Conference
- 20th Baltimore, MD
- tba* Surprize fund raiser

**FEATURED BIO OF THE
MONTH:**

*Triche Sherman
Tau Iota Chapter's 2004-2005
President*

It's been many years since I've been to school and being on campus at OCC has been, and will continue to be, a rewarding experience.

I would like to tell you a little about myself. I have been married for 25 years to my wonderful and most understanding husband, Corrie. We have two gorgeous sons, Jason and Cory. We live in an older cottage in Point Pleasant. Everyone knows which house is ours by the abundance of purple flowers! Purple is my favorite color!

I enjoy many hobbies including quilting, sewing, painting, drawing, reading, collecting Wizard of Oz stuff and going out on our boat. Most of all, I enjoy learning. The ability to attend college is a true blessing for me. I can't get enough.

I have a few philosophies of life which are often posted on the chalk board in the club organizational room:

1. Life's too short to sweat the small stuff (..and everything is small stuff)
2. Life is about choices, choose wisely, but admit your mistakes
3. When life gives you scraps, make a quilt
4. When a door closes, a window opens somewhere else (borrowed from Confucius)
5. Appreciate everything, even the bad stuff, it's there for you to learn
6. There is always someone worse off than you; it's your job to help them

As president of Tau Iota, I will be using these philosophies as we undergo a rather productive year. We have already begun working on our Awards programs, done charity work, and had many meetings to try to bring the best to our fellow Kappans. We have a terrific Seminar Series this year focusing on Pop Culture. Keep an eye out for the notices around campus. As always, much of this needs your support. When we ask you to help, please remember philosophy number 6! It enriches your life as well as theirs. Our door is always open. You can e-mail me or phone me when you have questions. PTK is there for you to use for **scholarship**, **fellowship** and **friendship**. Join us in **leadership** and **service** in our quest to make this a better world!

Written by: Triche Sherman (President)

**Congratulations to the
2004 - 2005 Middle States
Regional Officers Team!**



(pictured from left to right)
Al-Muccadin Gravesande: New Jersey State President, Meghan Six: Maryland State President, Christine Topolewski: Delaware State President, Christopher Earle: Middle States Regional President, Judie Ogin-Senay: Pennsylvania State President

**2004 – 2005
Tau Iota Executive Board**



President

Triche Sherman
Sherman1@verizon.net

VP of Leadership

Kathryn A. LaTona
phatisha@yahoo.com

VP of Scholarship

Deanna Margaritell Alber
dmargaritell@yahoo.com

VP of Fellowship

Nadine De Sousa
nadesousa@aol.com

VP of Service

Cara McGrath
mfluffylove@aol.com

VP of Administration

Beth Matyas
bethmatyas@yahoo.com

VP of Communications

Amy Anna Farina
artemisdeese@yahoo.com

Attention Phi Theta Kappa graduates: Ford's College Grad Program offers a \$400 cash bonus on new car purchases and leases.



This program supports Phi Theta Kappa's community service initiative, Project Graduation.

The 2004 Honors Satellite Seminar Series is here!



Movies and American Values...Hip-Hop Music and Youth Culture...Advertising and Body Image...Sex and Marriage...Sports and Big Business...

The Satellite Seminar Series will feature exciting, interactive discussions on these hot topics related to the 2004-06 Phi Theta Kappa Honors Study Topic, Popular Culture: Shaping and Reflecting Who We Are.

Presentations by Popular Culture Experts. Come hear presentations by these experts in the field of popular culture:

Dr. Robert McElvaine

(Mis)understanding History: Shaping Modern Myth and Popular Values

Dr. Tricia Rose

Creating and Marketing Youth: Youth Music and Culture in 20th Century America

Dr. Susan Bordo

The Empire of Images: Growing Up Male and Female in a World Dominated by Popular Culture

Prof. Stephanie Coontz

Courting Disaster? Changing Values about Love, Sex and Marriage

Dr. Richard Lapchick

Sports in Popular Culture: Are We Winning or Losing?

While Phi Theta Kappa places Scholarship first in its mission, the Society also encourages its members in the belief that scholars have a responsibility to serve. In addition to providing an Honors Study Topic for scholastic enhancement, the Society also

selects an International Service Program to unite Phi Theta Kappa's army of scholars toward a single beneficent goal. To provide a greater scope for learning and service, the Society's two major programs, the Honors Study Topic and the International Service Program, **Conquering Cancer: Continuing the Fight**, complement each other through related themes. *(Courtesy of PTK.org)*

RECOGNITIONS

Item of the Month: Phi Theta Kappa Backpack



Make the class load bearable with the Phi Theta Kappa Backpack.

This durable backpack features plenty of space to carry all you need for a full day of classes. Purchase this new backpack and other jewelry, accessories and wearables from Recognitions Online. Contact Recognition Services at 1.800.946.9996.

Tau Iota goes to Middle States Officers Academy and Honors Institute at Cabrini College in Radnor Pennsylvania.

On Thursday June 10th Kathryn and I arrived to attend the Officers Academy at Cabrini College. At dinner, the Middle States Regional Coordinator, Dan Houghtaling and his supporting staff warmly welcomed us as an outset of the four day event.

After dinner, we kicked off the evening with the Officers Academy. Kathryn and myself were each assigned to a different 'mock' chapter. We learned about the requirements of a Phi Theta Kappa officer and leader. The evening ended with an excellent presentation on "Motivating your Members" given by Pattie Vanatter.

At the start of the next day, the focus point was implementing the Honors Study Topic and the requirements to obtain regional and international chapter recognition. Discussed was the implementation of the Five-Star Chapter Development Program and Pinnacle.

As the Officers Academy drew to a close the Honors Institute picked up the pace. On Friday, June 11th, the first of many presentations were given on the honors study topic. One of the best presentations given done by Pat Ramone and Regan Hicks-Goldstein of Delaware Technical and Community College. The entire audience roared at the banter and levity the two inspired. At one point the entire Middle States Regional staff and Regional Presidents were doing the 'Macarena' at which point the audience jumped in. Tau Iota quickly approached these two speakers to get them to give their presentation at Ocean County College. We'll keep you posted!

The following day we developed discussion forums in breakout sessions. Each of the breakout groups would develop their own presentation on the information presented. At the close of the program, we walked away with a better understanding of how pop-culture is a reflection of not only what we value, but also who we are.

Picture of Kathryn La Tona in presentation developed during breakout sessions:



Picture of: (1) breakout group presenting their take on our pop culture seminar by doing a mock of the Macarena and (2) Kath enjoying herself at the PTK bar-b-que:

(1)



(2)



written by: A. Farina (VP Communications)

PTK Members Needed!

Volunteer your time and get 5 star membership status!

Upcoming events and fundraisers need your help! Please email or contact Cara McGrath (VP of Service) or Triche Sherman (President) if you can volunteer any of your time for Phi Theta Kappa events.

Support needed for the following fundraisers:

- Bake Sales
- Fundraisers (auction / casino night)
- Breakfast with **Santa** must be able to wrap gifts!
- American Heart Association Heart Walk (walkers and sponsors needed!)
- Annual Harvest Party

**NOTE: Additional help is needed for setup of Harvest Party Friday night!!*

Support PTK and earn your five star membership. To get a star you must earn 20 points (attending four 5 point functions). To learn more about this program and upcoming events, contact a Chapter Officer or visit the PTK - Tau Iota Chapter website at www.ocean.edu/PTK/index.html.

Please come out and support our efforts!

For Your Info Corner:

Tau Iota Chapter Advisors:

Phone: 732.255.0400

. Dr. William Rickert Ext: 2179

. Prof. William Scott Ext: 2183

. Prof. Carolyn Showalter Ext: 2186

. Prof. Robin Weitz Ext: 2166

A LETTER FROM DR. RICKERT

On behalf of the faculty advisors for the Tau Iota chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, I am happy to welcome you back to a new semester at Ocean County College. I hope all of you are off to an excellent start in your academic work. I realize that some of you have been quite involved during the summer with Phi Theta Kappa in organizing activities for this academic year. I enjoyed meeting with some of you during the summer and it is my intention to be a resource for you in any way possible during your continued work at Ocean County College. I sincerely hope your membership in Tau Iota will be both rewarding and enjoyable. Please contact me if I can be of assistance to you.

Please keep in mind that important information about Phi Theta Kappa is available on the Internet at www.ptk.org as well as on the Ocean County College website. You may also wish to stop in and visit with our other advisors, Prof. Carolyn Showalter, Prof. William Scott and Prof. Robin Weitz.

Frequently, members of Tau Iota have found it to be personally rewarding to be a tutor. We specifically are looking for peer tutors in mathematics. If you would consider tutoring in any area of mathematics, please come to room R113 and speak with me or my secretary, Linda Atanasio. If you wish, you may call us at 255-0368. You may also wish to meet with Ms. Janice Hamdan in the Mathematics Tutoring Center in R123. You may call Ms. Hamdan at 732-255-0400 ext. 2341. If you wish to tutor in another academic area, please contact the Counseling Department at 255-0300 and identify yourself as a member of Phi Theta Kappa.

If you anticipate graduating from Ocean County College either in December, May or the summer of 2004, please stop by the

Mathematics office, R113, and pick up a Phi Theta Kappa Graduation Form from Linda Atanasio. We have no other way of knowing that you are graduating as a member of Tau Iota Chapter. This form gains you recognition on the graduation program, it allows you to wear the PTK stole and tassel at graduation, it enables you to obtain a gold seal on your diploma and it provides for all other benefits as a graduating member of Tau Iota Chapter.

Best wishes for a rewarding, successful and fulfilling semester at Ocean County College!

William J. Rickert

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*Graduation forms are available in the Mathematic Department. See Linda Atanasio in the Russell Building room R112 to obtain a form.*