

*2011 Michigan Region of Phi Theta Kappa
Leadership Conference
September 9-11, 2011
Host Chapter: Alpha Rho Pi
Northwestern Michigan Community College, Traverse City, MI
Conference Minutes*

The 2011 Leadership Conference held at the Leelanau Outdoor Center or LOC

Friday, September 9th

Registration and Icebreakers

Registration took place under the Big Ash Tree and was set to start at 1:30pm. As chapters registered they were given “buffs”, nametags, and survival packs. . . . and Participated in a high-ropes course from 2pm to 4pm. After registering chapters were then shown to their cabins by members of the board and Alpha Rho Pi and were allowed to settle in prior to dinner. Dinner was set to start at 6pm in the Great House. At 7pm on the Great Deck an orientation from the Leelanau Outdoor Center staff informed all members of the general rules and regulations that they would have to observe for the weekend. Once the rules were established it was time for some icebreakers. Members were informed that the color of the “buff” that they had been given at registration determined which team they would be a part of for the weekend. Teams were then instructed to create a team name and cheer that they would present to the group. This provided members an opportunity to establish new fellowship ties. The teams that were established are as follows:

The Executive Marmosets

The Marshmallow Mammals

(I cannot remember the other teams)

Once teams were acquainted and named they were then instructed to enter back into the Great House to create their team flags, on the way in members were advised to gather objects that they could use on their flags. Each team created a flag that represented them as a team.

Present

Michael Wisniewski, President

Nathaniel Erickson, Vice President

Ashley Flees, Secretary/Treasurer

Hope Buell, PR/Historian

Roger Hammonds, Alumni Representative

Kari Kahler, Regional Coordinator

Regional Business Meeting

Michael Wisniewski, President of the region opened the meeting with a warm welcome and introductions

Roll Call and Minute Approval

Secretary, Ashley Flees, began the roll call and “spirit stick” competition. At the completion of this Ashley announced the grand total in attendance to be 69. She then presented the Conference Minutes from the Regional Convention to the Region. Corrections were made to these minutes and a motion to approve the minutes as corrected was made by:

Tina Rensi of Alpha Delta Omega, Glen Oaks Oakland Community College
Seconded by Katie Andreson of Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College

The minutes were approved as corrected by majority vote.

Budget

Kari Kahler, Regional Advisor, presented the treasury report and the proposed regional budget. After some discussion and explanation a motion to approve the budget was made by:

Gregory Lane of Lambda Mu, St. Clare Community College
Seconded by Jenny Bower of Alpha Delta Omega, Glen Oaks Community College

The budget was passed by majority vote.

Regional Goals and C.O.R.E.

Vice President, Nathaniel Erickson, carried the meeting on with the proposed regional goals and C.O.R.E. Program. After some discussion a motion to approve the goals and C.O.R.E. Program was made by:

Steve Detkowski of Beta Lambda Kappa, Macomb Community College
Seconded by Megan Hanson of Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College

Regional Honors in Action Project

Michael Wisniewski, President, followed Nate with the Boards proposal for an Honors in Action Project. In reaction to the recent events in Alabama and the devastation that nature has dealt there, the board feels that a reaction of some sort needs to occur. The question of how technology aids people in aiding others drove the board towards adapting question two of the Honors in Action Question Guide. Further research is needed but the board feels that the action side of the project should consist of various fundraisers for the effected regions of Alabama. Utilizing the technology of Text-a-Code the Region hopes to raise funds that will be then distributed to those in need residing in our sister region. Members are asked to submit any research that they may conduct to the regional email address. Further fundraising ideas are also welcome. After further discussion a motion to approve the Honors in Action Project was made by:

Joel Smith of Lambda Mu, St. Clare Community College
Seconded by Melody Teodoro-Kurtis of Mu Tau, Lansing Community College

Regional Newsletter

Regional PR/Historian, Hope Buell, asked members to look over the newsletter that had been provided and beseeched members to submit their own articles for the upcoming newsletters. Members can submit their articles and photos either via email or snail mail.

Chapter Yearbooks

Hope continued by speaking about the changes that have been made to the year book requirements. The requirements have been updated to include technology.

Website

Our Regional Website has changed to a different provider from Freewebs to Anglefire. Hope explained the reason for such changes and that the current website of mighiganregionptk.org will still be our domain. Hope also requested that chapters update their websites on our chapter directory of the regional website so that all chapters can easily access one another's websites. Also if members are interested they are more than welcome to sign up to our regional list serve.

By-law Committee

The Region feels that the by-laws need to be updated to include technology clauses. Mike requested that members interested in being a part of the committee to please meet with him after the Regional Business Meeting.

Updates

A special observance of 9/11 will be held on Sunday.

MRAA Update

Roger Hammonds, MRAA Representative, announced the both the Blue Water Alumni Association and Alpha of Michigan Alumni Association as well. He also recapped on the new members of the MRAA Board and announced the MRAA Hospitality event that would take place after the business meeting.

Coordinator Update

Kari Kahler, Regional Coordinator, welcomes all the members present to her home as she lives but minutes away from LOC. Many thanks were given to those that helped make the conference a possibility. If any members have questions throughout the weekend they are more than welcome to raise these concerns or ask questions to any of the board members.

Regional Events Update

The next regional convention will held by the Lambda Mu Chapter October 28-30. in St. Clare, Michigan. Flyers and more information can be found on the regional website.

An issue has come to light concerning the dates of the Regional Convention. It was originally proposed for May 20-22 but due to issues with the hotel this may need to change. The host chapter will have to make a decision that accommodates as many as possible. Chapters are to contact their C.O.R.E. chapter officer with their suggestions.

This concludes the regional business meeting. Following the meeting MRAA held their hospitality event.

Saturday, September 10th

The General Session, Leadership Development was led by Kari Kahler. Utilizing the Hundred Acre Wood characters members looked at their personality qualities and how each brought a special aspect to a team. Members grouped themselves in the categories of Pooh, Tiger, Rabbit, and Owl.

Following the Leadership Development members participated in team building exercise led by the LOC staff.

After working up an appetite and satisfying it members then went to the Leadership Survival Workshops of their choice. There were two rounds of workshops.

Round 1:

CollegeFish.org: Mike Wisniewski

College Project and C4: Ashley Flees

Diversity—The Puzzle Pieces of Success: Nate Erickson

How to Build Your Chapter's Website: Hope Buell

Alumni Status—you next step in Phi Theta Kappa: Jacob Smallegan

Honors in action/Hallmark Writing: Kari Kahler and Roger Hammonds

Round 2:

Diversity—The Puzzle Pieces of Success: Nate Erickson

How to Build Your Chapter's Website: Hope Buell

Honors in action/Hallmark Writing: Kari Kahler

Running for Regional and/or International Office: Erica Hamilton and Mike Wisniewski

Social Media—How to use Facebook, linked In and Twitter to promote you and your chapter: Nicholeen Frusti

The MRAA Business meeting was held from 2:45-3:45

Teams then had the opportunity to get back together and discuss what others had participated in and then as a team participated in a Fire Building Competition.

Members then had dinner and were let loose for games on the lawn and a "Bond" fire on the beach.

Sunday, September 11th

A remembrance of 9/11 took place throughout the morning and the day. At each of the historical moments that occurred on that day ten years ago a cannon was fired to signify the moment. After breakfast members gathered around the LOC flag pole and stood in silence as our American Flag was raised and then lowered to half-staff. After the flag was positioned we all stood in silence while our national anthem was sung. Members were then able to group together and have their own moments of remembrance.

The day continued with Regional Sharing and Announcements.

The winners of the spirit stick completion was announced, Alpha Rho Pi of Northwestern Michigan College now proudly hold the spirit stick in their possession until the next conference and competition.

Chapter Announcements

Suggestions to re-vamp the spirit stick were brought up. The idea to create a new Spirit stick was discussed. Enida Huremouic and Allan May of Beta Lambda Kappa, Macomb Community College suggested the changes. A motion to approve the creation of a new spirit stick was made by:

Megan Hanson of Beta Xi Xi, Muskegon Community College
Seconded by Denea Venoy of Opsilon Zeta, Wayne County District College

Joel Smith of Lambda Mu, St. Clair County Community College announces some of the details of the Mini Honors Conference to be held on October 28-30 in St. Clair. Joel passed around some flyers and announced that registration would cost \$70 and a hotel room for around \$90.

Erica Hamilton of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College thanked all members and LOC staff for being part of such a fantastic weekend. Special thanks goes out to all the sponsors of the event.

Erica Hamilton then went on to present Shauna Quick of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College with a special thank you card. Shauna had a huge hand in making the Leadership Conference possible.

Kari Kahler was presented with an honorary membership to Northwestern Michigan College's chapter Alpha Rho Pi. Erica Hamilton presented her with a certificate, a membership key pin, and a pair of wooden roses.

Kari went on with an update from Headquarters. Luke Davis will not be able to make it to Mini Honors. Also Montcalm will also be holding a special signing day at their college and have invited Rod Risley to attend. He has accepted this invitation. At Mini Honors West Williamson will attend in order to provide a presence from HQ.

Clara Cherry of Alpha Rho Pi, Northwestern Michigan College representing MRAA announced that there would be scholarship drawings during lunch. She also reminded members that the MRAA newsletter is available to all at mighiganregion.ptk.org.

Michael Wisniewski of Omicron Iota, Schoolcraft College announced the American Cancer Society Relay for Life. The Relay will occur on October 21 and is being opened to the region to participate in and raise funds for. Teams will be gathered next Monday. Interested members please sign up to the list serve.

Michael then concluded the last business meeting of the weekend. Members were then dismissed to lunch and a final group activity lead by the LOC staff and a presentation.

Respectfully Submitted by
Ashley Flees (2011-2012)
Secretary/Treasurer, Michigan Region