

Michigander



Phi Theta Kappa,
Michigan Region

Let's Get Ready To Rumble!

The second weekend in July proved to be very beneficial for the outgoing and incoming regional boards. The two boards and the Supreme Being (also known as Tom Obee) converged upon Port Huron for a meeting of the minds. The meeting was the annual new officer orientation. The 2007-2008 Regional board walked away with newfound knowledge of our positions and ready to get started.

The weekend was filled with stage fright, nausea, and plenty of questions! Seriously, the two days were knowledge filled and sprinkled with laughter and fun. Each officer was mirrored with the outgoing officer in

their discipline to better relay duties and expectations of each position. During the weekend we all got to know each other better and go over goals for the region. The regional challenge and project were birthed, the treasury report tweaked, the mentorship initiative mulled over, and speeches nervously rendered.

If you are anticipating running for a regional office this event is the most important undertaking besides the actual job. After this weekend you will be basically on your own, given the keys to the city, afraid, excited, irritated, gung-ho, and moreover, better equipped to step into

your new leadership shoes that you will wear for the next year.

The 2007-2008 regional board would like to salute and thank the 2006-2007 regional board (and the Supreme Being) for their support and kindness shown through this transitional process.

Regional
Team 2007-2008
**LET'S GET
READY TO RUM-
BLE!!!!!!**

Jocelyn F. Brown
Regional President
2007-2008

Volume 1, Issue 1
September 2007

Dates to Remember:

- **Regional Mini-Honors**
11/02/2007 -
11/04/2007
**St. Clair County Com-
munity College, Port
Huron, MI**

Inside this issue:

<i>That's The Way I See It!</i>	2
<i>Running For Regional Office</i>	3
<i>Try, Try, Try Again</i>	3
<i>What Is MRAA?</i>	4
<i>Pumpkin Pie Recipe</i>	4 - 5
<i>Recycling Efforts Set High Standards</i>	5

That's The Way I See It!



Left to Right: Carlos Harp, Douglas Rohrabough, Mahmedein Mahmedein, Jocelyn Brown, Elizabeth Russell

On June 16th the Michigan Regional Officers (Jocelyn, Douglas, Elizabeth, and Carlos) attended the International Leadership Conference at Wheaton College in Wheaton Illinois. The International Leadership Conference, or the ILC, is a conference designed to help new Regional Officers better understand their leadership roles within Phi Theta Kappa.

The 2007/2008 International Officer Team and Phi Theta Kappa Headquarters Staff prepared insightful presentations and entertaining team building exercises for those in attendance. The team building did not stop with the exercises, nor did it begin with an exercise either. Jocelyn, Douglas, Elizabeth, and Carlos began building a strong team

the moment they sat down together. These four Regional Officers from Michigan were almost always together at every meal and event throughout the ILC. Outside of the scheduled events and activities Jocelyn, Douglas, Elizabeth, and Carlos were together quite often as well, discussing their future plans for the great Michigan Region. It was in Wheaton Illinois where the team created the proposed 07/08 Michigan Regional Challenge and Project that will be announced at the Mock Chapter/Leadership Conference in Traverse City, Michigan.

There were however, times that the members of the group went their separate ways in order to make new acquaintances from other regions. Con-

tact was made between Michigan Regional Officers and officers from Michigan's sister region, Alabama. The Michigan Regional Officers have also reached out to two other regions in hopes to form new friendships throughout the organization of Phi Theta Kappa. Much to the officers delight the weekend did not consist entirely of work. They had plenty of time to take a long walk and get to know a bit more about one another. The team also engaged in a delightful card game of B.S. and witty banter.

In my opinion the Michigan Regional Officer Team is well on the way to providing their region with one sensational and entertaining year. Jocelyn, Douglas, Elizabeth, and Carlos will, without a doubt, be one of the most dedicated, hardworking Regional Officer Teams within Phi Theta Kappa. ...well that's the way I see it!

Douglas Rohrabough
Regional Vice President



Scholarship

Running for Regional Office

When running for office it is important to remember one thing, have fun. Make sure that through out the process you enjoy yourself, otherwise what's the point? Beyond that there are a few details which you should remember before run for office.

Before you run you should know first off which office you want to run for and the requirements that the office demands. Contact your advisor, fill out and hand in the forms in. After you've registered it's time to start getting ready for your campaign. You should come up with a slogan and platform that not only obviously

represents your ideas, but also you yourself. For example Samantha Russell's slogan was Sam I Am, I Am Sam, I myself used Queen Elizabeth.

The next step is to put together your campaigning material. For your table you should have a display board of some sort with pictures and information on events that you participated in. You should also have pamphlets or items of some sort that you hand out. This will get your name out and keep you on their minds as they go around to the other booths. In addition you should have some sort of advertisement of your champagne, such as giant

cat in the hats or crowns to add a visible effect to your champagne, and remember what ever you do; DO NOT wear your champagne supplies before they inform you to or you will be disqualified. In addition to all that you need to have good goals and ideas for the upcoming year.

Elizabeth Russell
Regional Secretary/
Treasurer

Leadership

Try, Try, Try Again

I did something new. I ran for a regional office...again. Some may remember that I ran at Mock Chapter 2006 and was not elected. I must not have had enough punishment so I tried again and was successful.

Running for regional office forced me out of my comfort zone and I had to adapt to new situations. I had to trust others to speak on my behalf and represent me. The most uncomfortable situation had to be the speech that is given front and center of everyone. Public

speaking is not high on my list of things to do for fun. Yes I joined for the food and to socialize, but I was not thinking it would include the entire region.

As I gave my speech I mention "Will you be remembered as the person who comes only for the food..." and I saw my chapter among all smiling and on the verge of laughing knowing that I was referring to why I joined. That is a moment that I will forever cherish.

In all seriousness I want to serve the state and make a positive difference. I would encourage all to run win or lose and having experience both I can say it was worth it.

Carlos Harp
Regional Public Relations /
Historian

What Is MRAA? “All For One And One For All”

MRAA (Michigan Region Alumni Association) is a group of dedicated individuals who do what they do, not for themselves, but for the Michigan Region. MRAA members share their time, talents and experience for the Michigan Region.

There are many times in the lives of people when moving on is the next step. While MRAA members do move on, they continue to serve the Michigan Region as anchors for current members. Experience speaks volumes when it comes to success and taken from Madonna University’s motto, “Your Success is our Greatest Achievement.”

Here are a few highlights that MRAA coordinates for the Michigan Region of Phi Theta Kappa:

- Assists in facilitating the Officer Orientation for incoming Michigan Region Board Officers.
- Judges Mock Chapter Hallmark submissions and shares ideas and positive feedback for “real” Hallmark submissions presented at the end of the year to International Headquarters.
- Holds workshops that focus on specific topics within Phi Theta Kappa.
- Facilitates break-out sessions at Mini Honors for the Phi Theta Kappa International Initiatives.
- Holds its’ own 50/50 drawings at all three conferences. These funds go toward scholarships afforded

for Michigan Region members.

- Holds a backpack drawing at all three conferences. These backpacks are filled with supplies needed during the course of a academic year, including a valuable Flash drive to store documents for convenience! These funds are also marked for scholarship awards.

Should any Phi Theta Kappa Michigan Region members want to join us after you finish your career at your community college, please contact any MRAA member. We are “One for All and All for One!”

Carolyn Verla
Alumni Representative

Service

Pumpkin Pie

Makes one 9-inch single-crust pie

For the crust:

1 cup whole wheat pastry flour
1/4 teaspoon sea salt
1/3 cup plus 1 tablespoon unsalted, cultured organic butter, well chilled
2 to 3 tablespoons cold water

For the filling:

1 sugar pumpkin
2 eggs
1 1/2 cups organic cream
1/2 cup unrefined cane sugar
1/2 teaspoon sea salt
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon freshly grated nutmeg
1/8 teaspoon ground cloves
Preheat the oven to 350°F.

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Combine the flour and salt in a large mixing bowl. Cut the butter into 1/4-inch cubes and add them to the flour mixture. With your fingertips, quickly and deftly rub the butter into the flour to make a dry, crumbly

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

mixture. Sprinkle 2 tablespoons of water over the mixture. Using a fork, rapidly stir the dough until it gathers into clumps. If the mixture seems dry, add more water to hold the dough together. Gently form the dough into a disk. Wrap in plastic and place in the refrigerator to rest and chill for 15 minutes to 1 hour. Meanwhile, cut the pumpkin in half, remove the seeds, place the pumpkin halves in a pan, shell side up, and bake for 1 hour or until the pumpkin is tender and exudes liquid and the shell starts to sag. Scrape the pulp from the shell and purée it with a fork or potato masher or in a blender. Measure 2 cups of the purée and set it aside. Reserve any additional pumpkin for another use.

Lightly butter a 9-inch pie pan. Place the dough on a lightly floured surface and, starting from the center out, roll the dough to about 2 inches larger than the size of the pan. Loosen the pastry, fold it in half, lift it and unfold it into the pan. Press it into place, trim off the excess dough and crimp the edges.

Increase the temperature of the oven to 425°F.

In a large mixing bowl lightly beat the eggs. Add the purée and the remaining ingredients and stir to blend. Pour the mixture into the dough-lined pan. Bake for 15 minutes and then reduce the heat to 350°F and bake an additional 45 minutes or until a knife inserted comes out clean. Allow to cool slightly before serving.

Let's have a good year with plenty of articles for the Michigander. Send in your articles for upcoming volumes. The article can be as little as a paragraph to a page, so don't be shy and give it try!

Recycling Efforts Set High Standards

In keeping with Project Green – Improving our Communities, Alpha Omicron Psi decided to take a different approach from many other chapters. Our chapter recycles. It seemed like such a simple idea to cover a box with plastic and stick it in a few classrooms for students to put their drink containers in, both recyclable and returnable. Once the effort got rolling there was no stopping it. Boxes ended up in over 30 classrooms. Each week a member would go around to each classroom and empty the boxes and separate the items into plastic, glass, and aluminum. We also collected the returnable cans

and bottles. Every can was de-tapped after collection. The returnable items were counted before being taken each week to the South Oakland County Resource Recovery Authority facility in Troy, Michigan.

Over the last week the count of items that were kept out of landfills by our recycling efforts topped 5,000. We are setting a challenge to the Royal Oak campus of Oakland Community College to raise that total to 7,500 by the end of the Fall 2007 term. That term will end December 18. In addition to the boxes in the classroom, we have spread notices

throughout the campus reminding students that they are part of this planet and reminding them to recycle. We placed colorful posters in the common area letting students know the various ways that they too could make the world a better place to be. This is all done in an effort to get the students on our campus actively engaged in the process of improving our community. If we can all work together, there should be no reason that we can't keep 10,000 items out of landfills.

Trish McMinn
Alpha Omicron Psi

Fellowship