



New England Region Newsletter

Phi Theta Kappa

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April 7, 2009

New England Regional Convention 2009

The 2009 New England Regional Convention was held on Friday March 20 through Sunday March 22. This year it took place at the Marriot in Rocky Hill, CT and was sponsored by Massasoit Community College.

The Convention was a weekend jammed packed with fun, fellowship and scholarship.

We kicked off the night with a little dancing. NERA was looking to “spice” things up. So there was an assortment of line dances. Members showed off their dance skills in the Macarena, Electric Slide, YMCA and the Cha Cha slide.

The Regional Officers gave members a the opportunity to work on their communication skills, uncover something untruthful

about their fellow convention attendees, and found out what 3 animal characteristics fellow attendees use within their lives everyday.

Friday night also began a new fixture to the Regional Convention..an ice cream social. This event gave members a chance to meet the 2009-2010 Regional Officer candidates.

Saturday was all business except for the Awards Banquet. The Regional Officers opened the day with announcements about Convention fundraisers, website and forum updates. Kim gave her presentation for the Salute to Troops and Jill had Brooke hollering for those dollar bills.

The morning also gave way to Regional Officer candidate speeches from Jill Bouchard,

running for Regional President and Quang Ngoc Nguyen, running for Northern Vice President.

Attendees enjoyed several educational and informative workshops throughout the day. Saturday night brought about keynote speaker Jim Luce and the Awards Ceremony. (For more details on the awards handed out on Saturday night, please see the regional website at www.netpk.org.)

Sunday brought about the Installation of new officers, raffle and the tearful farewells from your 08-09 Regional Officer team.

For more Convention news, please the inside of this newsletter

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Contact Information

Jill Bouchard, President
jbouchardptk@yahoo.com

Quang Nguyen, Northern VP
northernnewengland09@yahoo.com

Michelle Brinck, Coordinator
mbrinck@ncc.commnet.edu



Regional Officer, NERA and chapter members showing off their Macarena skills



Meet your Regional President 09-10-Jill Bouchard

I wanted to take a few moments to introduce myself....

My name is Jill Bouchard. My local chapter is Alpha Phi Xi at Central Maine Community College in Auburn, Maine. I was recently appointed the new President for the New England Region.

As your President, I am here as a resource and point of support. If you are facing any issues or would like a regional presence at your Phi Theta Kappa function, I would love to be that someone you contact. You can find my contact information at the bottom of this e-mail. Please use my e-mail for any question you may have.

As your President, I hope to keep the synergy that was started with the previous Regional Officers team started. My goal as your Regional President to make sure that each and every chapter officer,

member and advisors knows what the region has to offer them.

I would like to tell you a little about me.....

I was inducted into Phi Theta Kappa in April 2007 and was married 3 months later to my biggest cheerleader! I am also a proud parent of an 11-year-old boy with some developmental and physical delays. I am very thrilled to be a member of a Society that recognizes people of all ages and ethnicity for their academic achievements. I enjoy being able to represent Phi

Theta Kappa at all our community events and seeing the smiling faces of the lives that we touch.

Be looking out for e-mails updating you on Regional projects and upcoming events. Please feel free to contact me any time with news that is happening within your chapter or with your questions. We are here to support you and your chapter.

Jill Bouchard
09-10 New England Region President
jbouchardptk@yahoo.com

“If you feel like you are starting to travel down the wrong road; take the wheel and change the direction you are traveling.”

-Anonymous

Meet Regional Northern VP-Quang Nguyen

Hi all,
My name is Quang Nguyen. As a student from the Alpha Chi Nu Chapter of Southern Maine Community College, I am honored to be elected as the Northern Vice President of the New England Region.

As you can tell from my name, I am an international student from Viet Nam. This is my second year

in this country. These two years have changed my life so much, especially after being inducted into Phi Theta Kappa in the fall 2008. It has brought me an opportunity to find myself. I found that I could do much more for others and for myself. And also, it is an opportunity for me to have new friends, to talk to them about my beautiful country and to learn a new culture

as well.

With my new position, I would like to help bring all regional chapters closer and do activities together. As my main focus will be on the Northern end of the New England Region which includes: Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont; I plan to include the Central and Southern areas as well in my goal to connect the Region together. I will find the best way to come to you and your chapter. I also hope that you will use me as a resource for your questions and issues.

Quang Nguyen
09-10 New England Region Northern Vice President
northernnewengland09@yahoo.com





NERA-Update

Included in the NERA – the New England Region Alumni Association updates, Monique Savoie, president of the association, announced a new scholarship available to all New England Phi Theta Kappa members. Two one hundred dollar scholarships to help cover application fees for continuing education will be awarded at the 2010 Regional Convention. The Michael Rood Transfer Opportunity Scholarship honors a man who has devoted

a lifetime to furthering the education of students, especially Phi Theta Kappa members. If you would like to know more about how you can apply for this scholarship, contact any of the officers listed on the alumni page of the regional website, <http://neptk.org>.

In a continuance of the successful Officer Training Seminar held during the 2008 Leadership Conference, NERA also announced that



they will be hosting a one-day Chapter Officer/Advisor training seminar on July 18, 2009. Check your calendars because you're invited! All chapter officers and advisors are encouraged to attend. Diane Hutchins-NERA Advisor

New England Region Chapter Awards

Scholarship Hallmark Award

Alpha Lambda Zeta Chapter, Asnuntuck Community College
Alpha Iota Nu Chapter, Norwalk Community College
Beta Alpha Epsilon Chapter, Landmark College

Leadership Hallmark Award

Alpha Upsilon Mu Chapter, Cape Cod Community College
Alpha Iota Nu Chapter, Norwalk Community College
Beta Alpha Epsilon Chapter, Landmark College

Service Hallmark Award

Alpha Upsilon Alpha Chapter, Manchester Community College
Alpha Iota Nu Chapter, Norwalk Community College
Alpha Kappa Mu Chapter, Bunker Hill Community College

Distinguished Chapter

Alpha Iota Nu Chapter, Norwalk Community College

Milestone Award

Alpha Phi Xi Chapter, Central Maine Community College, ME
Alpha Phi Epsilon Chapter, Northern Maine Community College, ME

Continued Excellence

Alpha Kappa Mu Chapter, Bunker Hill Community College, MA
Alpha Kappa Upsilon Chapter, Massasoit Community College, MA
Alpha Lambda Zeta Chapter, Asnuntuck Community College, CT
Alpha Upsilon Alpha Chapter, Manchester Community College, CT

For a complete list of Award winners from the New England Region please go to:

http://www.ptk.org/regions/regawards_main.htm.

One Star

Alpha Xi Theta Chapter, Gateway Community College, CT
Beta Eta Phi Chapter, Bristol Community College, MA
Alpha Chi Epsilon Chapter, Lakes Region Community College, NH

Three Star

Pi Omicron Chapter, Community College Rhode Island
Alpha Chi Nu Chapter, Southern Maine Community College, ME
Alpha Phi Epsilon Chapter, Northern Maine Community College, ME
Beta Beta Omicron Chapter, Eastern Maine Community College, ME
Alpha Phi Xi Chapter, Central Maine Community College, ME
Alpha Nu Epsilon Chapter, Northwestern Connecticut Community College, CT

Five Star

Alpha Upsilon Omicron Chapter, NHTI-Concord's Community College, NH
Alpha Kappa Upsilon Chapter, Massasoit Community College, MA
Alpha Upsilon Mu Chapter, Cape Cod Community College, MA
Alpha Kappa Mu Chapter, Bunker Hill Community College, MA
Alpha Iota Nu Chapter, Norwalk Community College, CT
Alpha Upsilon Alpha Chapter, Manchester Community College, CT
Alpha Lambda Zeta Chapter, Asnuntuck Community College, CT



Phi Theta Kappa
New England Region

188 Richards Avenue
Norwalk, CT

Dates to Remember:

July 18, 2009-Chapter Officer and Advisor
Training @ Massasoit Community College

October 9 & 10, 2009-Leadership Conference

March 12-14, 2010-Regional Convention in
Portland, Maine



www.neptk.org

It was an honor and pleasure to have served as you 08/09 Regional Officer-at-Large. I have met a lot of new friends from all over the region. Even though we will go our separate ways and on to separate endeavors, the Hallmarks that brought us together will keep us close at heart. Nelson Mandela stated it best when said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." I hope in some way that we have contributed to this mission.

Joseph Fraiss, Officer-at-Large

Words cannot express the experience I have had being a New England Regional Officer. I have learned a lot about myself and what I am capable of. I have found a family that I fit into. I will never forget the amazing stories and things that I have learned from all the other members in the Region. I will take these lessons with me and use them for the rest of my life. It has been my pleasure being your Regional Officer-at-Large. But do not worry; I will always be here as an alumnus to help the future Regional Officers succeed in their position. Thank you to all those that have helped me in my path to discovering the best in myself and everyone else around me.

Jill Bouchard, Officer-at-Large

Farewell from 08-09 Regional Officer Team

This year, I had the most wonderful experience when I was given the opportunity to serve as your Regional President. It is hard to describe the many ways in which this opportunity has affected me and the path of me life. I have grown so much as an individual. And now, taking the experiences that I have gained through Phi Theta Kappa, I have so much more to offer in any and all of my upcoming endeavors. Not only that, but I have gained some true, life-long friends that I would have missed out on. I want to encourage all of you to take advantage of all the opportunities Phi Theta Kappa can provide for you. Thanks so much to the regional officer team for sticking together and making this year a wonderful one! Thank you, and good luck to you all!!

Brooke Bohannon, President 08-09

The opportunity to serve as the 08/09 Central VP has been nothing less than a gift and life changing experience. It's been an honor to meet and work with so many incredible people who are dedicated to the mission of Phi Theta Kappa. By far, the biggest reward for me has been to witness first hand, how Phi Theta Kappa changes lives. To see people reach, grow, and thrive has been a priceless gift. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of all of it. Scholarship, Leadership, Service and Fellowship; these four Hallmarks have made their mark on all of our lives. They have served us well and will continue to link us together in the future. I'm so proud of all of us, and look forward to the future. Wishing you all the best, always....

Kim Rodrigues, Central VP 08-09

It has been a privilege and honor to serve you for 08-09. This period in my life has created unique challenges and opportunities that I would not have experienced if I had not served in this capacity. The benefits that I have gained as a Regional Officer are long lasting. I have formed life-long friendships and feel as though I am part of the Phi Theta Kappa family. The personal growth that I have achieved is invaluable. As I continue working in my academic goals, I am confident that I shall reach an even higher level in both areas. I encourage all Phi Theta Kappa members to step out of their comfort zone and become better-rounded. Serving as a Regional Officer provides the opportunity to learn first-hand about the inner workings of the organization, creates long-lasting friendships, self-confidence and valuable leadership skills that one would probably not acquire otherwise.

Julie Larkin-Southern VP 08-09

It seems just like yesterday I was elected as you Northern VP. I still pinch myself everyday to make sure I am not dreaming. It has been a real pleasure and honor to serve with some of the best people I have ever met. In my time of need, the regional team was there for me. For that I cannot thank them enough. To my chapters and constituents, thank you for this honor and I will forever be in debt to you for giving me the chance to expand my own horizons of leadership while helping others start their own. Thank you

Craig Champley, Northern VP 08-09



08-09 Regional Officer Team with Division III VP, Shamil Mirzoev