For those of you who are still in the classrooms, I hope that your school year has gotten off to a great start. For those of you who are retired, I hope you are enjoying the last few days of summer and are ready to welcome fall. I know I am looking forward to the changing of the leaves and sweatshirt weather!

I have two items I want to focus on in this newsletter. First, I want to introduce you and your chapter members to the new state project. Projects chair Pat Shedlock of Nu Chapter found two very worthy project ideas when I asked for her input. At my board meeting in August, the Executive Committee decided that the new state project would be "Adopt a Library." As an English teacher, I love books and reading. While I applaud those of you who have embraced technology and read books on a Kindle or a Nook, I love opening a new book and diving into a new story. Libraries are one of my favorite places to spend time, searching for a new adventure in which to immerse myself.

For many years now, libraries have suffered due to budget cuts of all kinds. I would like to see our Pennsylvania State Organization members go into their local communities and support local libraries. How? There are several ways. Pat Shedlock did some research when she was looking for a project idea for me, and she found a very interesting site called The Little Free Library. Their website can be accessed at littlefreelibrary.org. This group's mission is "to promote literacy and the love of reading by building free book exchanges worldwide and to build a sense of community as we share skills, creativity and wisdom across generations." If you take a look at their website, you will see there are many ways to support a Little Free Library. You can start a Little Free Library, and the website has tools to help you start a book exchange. You can find Little Free Libraries, and the website has a map to

help you find book exchanges near you. You can help Little Free Libraries, and the website has opportunities for you to support the cause. If the Little Free Libraries isn't for you, your chapter could support your local public libraries or your local school libraries in many ways: volunteering time, financial support, donating books, etc. Whatever way you and your chapter members choose to help our libraries...it's up to you. I would love to hear from all of you to see how you are embracing the new state projects. Please send me stories and photographs showing how our DKG chapters are supporting libraries!

The second item I want to call your attention to is the DKG New Member Recruitment Plan. Many of you may already be familiar with this plan that Dr. Lyn Schmid has developed. If you go to the International website and go to the drop-down menu Committees, you can click on Membership. Near the bottom of the page you will see New Membership Recruitment Plan 2015. There are five items listed there. The first one explains the plan in great detail and will likely answer any questions you and your members may have. I am asking that all of our members take a serious look at this plan and that you made an effort to implement it in your chapters. It is a very simple way to help increase our membership across the state. If you have any questions regarding the recruitment plan, please contact Membership Chair Eileen Little. Eileen is a member of Chi Chapter and has worked with the recruitment plan. Her email is selittle@embarqmail.com.

I was asked recently if there is a special protocol for requesting me to visit a chapter. The answer is no! An email or a phone call will do nicely. I've received many requests so far and am looking forward to starting my travels. If you have a date in mind for a visit, please contact me as soon as possible. Saturdays are filling up quickly!

I have ordered copies of the DKG membership brochure entitled "A Journey for Life." It is brand new and beautifully done. If you would like copies for your chapter's use, please contact me and I will gladly send them to you.

Finally, on the final page of this newsletter you will find a list of important deadlines of which all members need to be aware. Please share these with your members.

I hope your fall chapter meetings are filled with genuine spiritual fellowship and stimulate the personal and professional growth of all members.

**Chapter Dues** 

Due by 10/31/15

In DKG, Tracey R. Dusch, Psi Pennsylvania State Organization President <u>trae917@brockwaytv.com</u> 814.771.7773

## **Upcoming Deadlines**

Rule Changes Deadline 10/15/15

Deadline to submit membership dues to Wanda Keller, State Organization Treasurer 11/10/15

Last day to E-file 990 to IRS – send a copy to Wanda Keller, State Organization Treasurer 11/15/15

Workshop Presenters

Nancy Grove Visionary Fund

Deadline 1/15/16

Deadline 2/1/16

Scholarships and Enrichment Grants Deadline 2/1/16

Rosebud Recognition Album of Distinction
Deadline 3/15/16 Deadline 4/1/16