Dear Chapter Presidents,

Greetings from Brockway! Since this is my first message to you as Pennsylvania State Organization President, I want to tell you a little about myself.

I have been a member of Psi Chapter for 16 years. Psi Chapter encompasses Jefferson, Clarion, Elk, and Clearfield counties. I will begin my 29th year of teaching at Brockway Area High School this fall where I teach 7th grade English, Theatre, and Yearbook. I am also the Drama Club adviser, Yearbook adviser, and Prom co-adviser. My husband Rick and I just celebrated our 24th wedding anniversary.

I have chosen as my biennial theme – "Our DKG Journey." What has your journey of membership in our Society been? Where will your DKG journey take you next? In my speech Sunday morning at State Convention, I talked about "getting on the train." The image of standing on a train platform waiting to "get on the train" caused me to think of how each of us approaches our membership in DKG. Is your chapter content to stay on the platform and watch others participate in the Society beyond the chapter level? Or are you and your chapter members "getting on the train"? Are you taking full advantage of the multitude of DKG opportunities at the state, regional, and international levels? I hope that when I see the DKG train coming down the track toward my platform that each of you is already on the train waiting for me!

I attended the Northeast Regional Conference in Baltimore at the beginning of the month to begin my state president's training. Our very own Dr. Lyn Schmid led the training along with Sandra Smith Bull from International Headquarters, Northeast Regional Director Dr. Kay Clawson, and Dr. Debbie LeBlanc, a member of the International Leadership Development

Committee. What a wealth of knowledge and information these leaders have given me! And as my biennium moves forward, I will share items from that training with you.

I am very excited to begin my travels across the state visiting our 58 chapters. I look forward to making new friends during the next 2 years and strengthening existing friendships while serving as State President. I value your commitment to DKG and your willingness to take on the leadership of your chapters, your opinions on issues that affect our members, and your questions, suggestions, and comments that will help me be a better leader of the Pennsylvania State Organization. I can not do this job alone: you, your chapter members, my fellow officers, and my committee chairs and members are all essential parts of the leadership of our state organization. I thank you in advance for the roles you will fulfill to help advance Pennsylvania, not only during this biennium but beyond.

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