



Pi Lambda Theta
Fort Wayne Area Chapter

(260) 432-6552
ruby@ctrainingexcellence.com
www.pilambda.org

PLT 2004-2005 Officers

Ruby Cain, President
Miles S. Edwards, PhD, Vice President
Greg Smith, CPA,, Treasurer
Mary Crowley, Recording Secretary
Connie Oswalt, Corresponding Secretary
Karen Wakley, Parliamentarian
Marjorie Souers, PhD, Advisor

Committee Chairpersons

Miles S. Edwards, PhD, Program
Janet Keith, Finance/Audit
Joan Lewis, Ways & Means
Diana Jackson, Membership
Susan Holleran, Service Project
Shelly Sinclair, Dinner Reservations
Dot Easterly, Calling Committee
Niki Steitz, Scrapbook
Karen Wakley, Nominating

PLT Membership is open to undergraduate and graduate students in education, educators, and professionals who have contributed to education (including psychologists, counselors, nutritionists, librarians, etc.) with 3.5 or higher GPA.

For more information, contact PLT Membership Chair, Diana Jackson at (260) 480-4115 or djackson@ivytech.edu.

Pi Lambda Theta

International Honor Society and Professional Association in Education

PLT Perspectives

Spring 2004 Volume 3, No. 1

From the Desk of the President: “Leadership Development”



As 2003 PLT International Chapter of Honor, the Fort Wayne Area Chapter could have no more fitting charge for the program year than “Leadership Development.” We enjoyed another record year with relevant and topical programming, increased attendance of members, outreach to the community at large, and aggressive membership recruitment and retention.

Programs for the year included, Promises and Pitfalls of NCLB, Eleanor Roosevelt Birthday Celebration (co-sponsorship with AAUW), Learning Through International Student Exchange, Educating Your Palate on Chocolate, Early Childhood Literacy—Lessons Learned in Oxford, England, Installation/Initiation Potluck followed by concert with Heartland Chamber Chorale, and Helping Parents (Grandparent) To Help Their Children Achieve Academically (also induced “First Steps and 40 Assets of

Youth Development).

PLT International Office recommends that multiple informal initiations be included as a part of the chapter’s membership recruitment strategy. We held our first informal initiation in December 2003 at Indiana Institute of Technology. The second informal initiation was held in May 2004 at International Business College. Formal initiations were held in July 2003 and March 2004, netting a total of 16 new members.

Succession Strategy included identifying 2004 Officers in 2003 and mentoring them. All three were invited to participate with the Executive Committee meetings. Regrettably due to unforeseen circumstances, Shelly Sinclair had to decline the position of Recording Secretary. Many thanks to Mary Crowley for agreeing to fill this position.



Thetan Milestones



Congratulations to Thetan, Thelma J. Brown, who celebrates 50 years of membership with Pi Lambda Theta, this year. Thelma has been an exemplary leader, holding membership in Evansville and Fort Wayne Area chapters, simultaneously. She resides in Newburgh, Indiana for the majority of the year. She spends the summer in Syracuse at her lake cottage. Thelma has worked twice as hard as any other president of the Fort Wayne Area Chapter. Why? She has the added distinction of being the only member serving two full terms as president, 1967-69 and 1977-79. She has also served as

International Vice-President. Each summer Thelma returns to Syracuse to her lake cottage and serves as a spectacular host for our July retreat/meeting. In 2002 and 2003, the lake has served as the backdrop for our summer Initiation.

Congratulations to Thetan, Sheila Kiefer (2002-04 Vice President & Program Committee Chair), who celebrates 25 years of membership, this year. She co-presented with Marjorie C. L. Seeley “Helping Parents (Grandparents) To Help Their Children Achieve Academically” in April.

Veteran Leaders: PLT Members for 20+ years

Thelma J. Brown	50 years	Dr. Ken Keller	20 years	Marlene Rutz	47 years
Kathy Bruns	30 years	Sheila Kiefer	25 years	Dr. Gloria Shamanoff	24 years
Adeline Coe	48 years	Darlene Kurtz	49 years	Dr. Marjorie Souers	39 years
Dot Easterly	45 years	Susan Kay Longworth	34 years	Lee Spade	22 years
Barb Fries	40 years	Cheryl Lovinger	24 years	Eleanor Strahm	43 years
Betsy Gemmer	41 years	Cheryl Miller	32 years	Karen Wakley	41 years
Henrietta Goetz	21 years	Ruth Minsel	55 years	Jan Younger	21 years
Betty Gorrell	23 years	Kathleen Murphy	37 years		

Future Leaders: 2003-04 New PLT Members

Thursday, April 24, 2003

- Robert Bedford, Consultant
- Mary Crowley, retired, FWCS
- Shirley Hollis, Ph.D., Professor, Sociology, IPFW
- Otis Jones, Parkview Hospital
- Verleash Jones, Consultant, Adjunct Faculty, Ivy Tech College
- Joan Lewis, retired, FWCS
- Shelly Sinclair, Business Owner, Graduate Student
- Gregory Smith, CPA, Consultant, Adjunct Faculty, Indiana Business College

Thursday, July, 17, 2003

- Diana Jackson, Assistant Director of Diversity, Ivy Tech College
- M. Alan Roth, substitute teacher, EACS

Thursday, November 13, 2003

- Christine Brownlee, retired teacher, FWCS
- Sondra K. Mergenthal

Thursday, December 18, 2003

- Waltrina DeFor, Doctoral Student (Educational

Leadership) at Indiana State University

- Dr. Norma Friedman, Professor, Indiana Institute of Technology
- Deborah Godwin Starks, Visiting Professor - Communications, IPFW and President/CEO, Quasi, Inc. - Stellar Women on the Move

Saturday, March 27, 2004

- Chioma Aneke, Information Technology Specialist & Nursing Student
- Joshua Cryer, E/E Technologist & Student
- Troy Fansler, H.S. Teacher, EACS
- Susan Holleran, EdS, Assistant Professor, Special Education, University of Saint Francis
- Laurie Roberts, Human Services & Pre-Education Student
- Zenaida Velez, Accountant & Student

Tuesday, May 25, 2004

- Christopher Douse, Assistant Director, IPFW Multicultural Services
- Kathryn Carlson Heler, PhD, Associate Professor, Manchester College

Present Leaders:

- Roma Jean Bradburn: Active on local, state, and national levels of Indiana/American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences
- Ruby Cain: Named one of FW's 50 most influential African Americans by INK Newspaper, FW African American Cancer Alliance Advisory Board President, member of The Links, Inc., AAUW, YWCA Board, United Way - Study Circles Steering Committee, FW Education Foundation Board
- Adeline Coe: Block Captain, Bradenton American Cancer Society, Church groups
- Dot Easterly: AAUW Program Chair, New Haven Women's Club Meeting Liaison, Volunteer Tutor, 1st Presbyterian Church, - several committees
- Miles S. Edwards, PhD: United Way Diversity Initiative, Treasurer & Co-Founder of African/African American Historical Society, FW African American Cancer Alliance Advisory Board Member, Vice President Heartland

Chamber Chorale Board, member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Fort Wayne Black Expo Board member.

- Barb Fries: Outreach Chair, Trinity Episcopal Church, Allen County First Steps Council & Transition Committee Co-Chair, CANI Head Start Professional Development Committee & Health Advisory Committee, Women's Bureau Public Policy Committee
- Karin Huttzell: 2003 PLT Research Grant Recipient
- Janet Keith, Northeast Indiana Homemakers Association - First Book
- Sheila Kiefer: Volunteer Receptionist, FW Philharmonic
- Niki Steitz: Church Elder, Day Camp Leader 1st Presbyterian Church, AAUW Recognition Chair



November 18, 1978: 30 Year Anniversary of FW Chapter. Back row on left is National VP, Barbara Michaels, on right is Thelma Brown (President)



April 24, 2003: Gregory Smith, CPA, Otis Jones, Verleash Jones, Robert E. Bedford, Shirley Hollis, PhD, Mary Crowley, Joan Lewis, Ruby Cain (Pres)



July 17, 2003: Thelma J. Brown congratulates M. Alan Roth and Diana Jackson



December 18, 2003: Miles S. Edwards, PhD (Membership Chair), Waltrina Dufor, Deoborah Godwin-Starks, Norma Friedman, PhD, Janet Keith (Treasurer)



March 27, 2004: Susan Holleran, EdS, June Robinson-Evans, Troy Fansler, Chioma Aneke, Zenaida Velez, Joshua Cryer, Laurie Roberts



May 25, 2004: Miles S. Edwards, PhD (2004-06 Vice Pres), Christopher Douse, Kathryn Carlson Heler, PhD, Ruby Cain (Pres)



2004 PLT Officers Installation Ceremony: Janet Keith (Outgoing Treasurer), Gregory Smith, CPA (Treasurer), Miles S. Edwards, PhD (Vice President), Mary Crowley (Recording Secretary), Ruby Cain (President), not in picture: Connie Oswalt (Corresponding Secretary)



Eleanor Roosevelt Birthday Celebration co-sponsored with AAUW. Marge Souers as Eleanor (seated in middle), Linda Manning (Marge's daughter) as Eleanor's daughter (back row, 1st from left), Ruby Cain as Mary McCleod Bethune (back row, 3rd from left). AAUW presented all program participants with Eleanor Roosevelt Award.

Eleanor Roosevelt Birthday Celebration co-sponsored with AAUW. Marge Souers as Eleanor (seated in middle), Linda Manning (Marge's daughter) as Eleanor's daughter (back row, 1st from left), Ruby Cain as Mary McCleod Bethune (back row, 3rd from left). AAUW presented all program participants with Eleanor Roosevelt Award.



Niki Steitz, Janet Keith, Nancy Grote, PhD, Ruby Cain at Eleanor Roosevelt Birthday Celebration

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Dr. Suellen Reed & Dr. Quinton Dixie to address Region II Conference in Fort Wayne, June 23 - 26.

Fort Wayne Area Chapter is the proud host of 2004 PLT Great Lakes Region II Professional Development & Leadership Conference, "Kaleidoscopes of Learning." The conference is open to prospective/current/retired educators from pre-k to adult, administrators, parents, and others committed to excellence in education. To view conference schedule and register visit PLT website at www.pilambda.org and click on PLT Region II conference. For more information contact Ruby Cain at (260) 432-6552 or ruby@ctrainingexcellence.com.

As hosts, we all need to be in attendance. Please register, ASAP. To work registration, be a facilitator, or act as runner, contact Volunteer Coordinator, Karen Wakley at (260) 485-4217 or nwakley@comcast.net.

Dr. Suellen Reed, Friday luncheon

keynote speaker, will address Indiana strategies for academic success. Fort Wayne native Quinton Dixie, PhD, keynote speaker for the opening session will address "Public Schools - Past, Present, Future: The Impact of Brown vs. Board of Education." He will also present on "The Place of Faith in the Educational Setting." Dixie is co-author of *This Far By Faith*, companion book to PBS TV documentary.

There will be presentations by four PLT International officers. Other local PLT presenters include Chioma Aneke, Ruby Cain, Pamela Cook, Waltrina Dufor, Kathryn Carlson Heler, PhD, Karin Huttzell, Diana Jackson, Verleash Jones, Joan Lewis, June Robinson-Evans, & Zenaida Velez.

PLT Briefs

Last year, Barb Hawley and Eleanor Strahm won the Perfect Attendance award—but not this year. Barb missed the March Installation/Initiation ceremony for a very good reason. She was getting married at the same time as the meeting to Preston Fries. Congratulations to Preston and Barb Fries.

PLT Fort Wayne Area Chapter mourned the loss of Thetans, Mary Lavon Kelly on July 3, 2003 and Nancy Brandt on February 6, 2004. 2003-04 was a difficult year for many of our members. Sympathy was extended to the following members for the death of their mothers: Patricia Eads, Janice Kirtz-Craig, Connie Oswald, and Karen Wakley. In addition, Connie Oswald lost her step-father and Karen Wakley lost her father. Robert E. Bedford lost his sister.