



# Carolina Crier

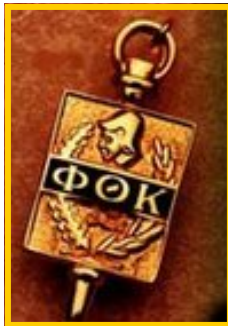
*Carolinas Regional Newsletter*



**HAPPY 35th**

**BIRTHDAY**

**CAROLINAS REGION!**



This year begins the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Carolinas Region! Another wonderful year winds to an end while we begin to celebrate the next one. We kick off this great time with the Regional Convention in beautiful Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. There will be wonderful speakers, excellent guests, regional officer elections, and much, much more. We will see gorgeous banners flying on the balconies of each chapter in attendance. We, your Regional Officers, would like

to welcome everyone to beautiful, warm, and sunny Myrtle Beach. It has been a great year for the Carolinas Region and I am sure the tradition will continue into the next year. We hope everyone has a great time at this year's 35<sup>th</sup> Regional

Convention Celebration! In this edition is some past and present memories of what Phi Theta Kappa has meant to some of the Carolinas Region members. ENJOY THE MEMORIES



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### A Message from your North Carolina Vice President 2009-2010

**Wow where has this year gone? I would first like to thank you for allowing me to serve as the Regional Vice-President of North Carolina. It has been a whirl wind experience, I have been places I have never been, met new friends who I will never**

**forget and obtained leadership skills that will shape me into the person I am and the person I will be. I would like to thank my fellow regional officers for supporting me through the good and bad times. I would also like to thank Papa John for being**

**one of the kindest and endearing regional coordinators. Truly, nothing is Finer then the Carolinas! Thank you again Carolinas Region of Phi Theta Kappa. I love you with all of my heart.**  
**Dawn Dressman**  
**Regional Vice-President**



***“Thank you again Carolinas Region of Phi Theta Kappa. I love you with all of my heart.”***

***Dawn Dressman***

## **A Message from your Regional Secretary 2009-2010**

I would like to thank every one of the members of the Carolinas Region for allowing me to serve as your Regional Secretary for the past year. It has been my honor and privilege to serve you. I have learned so much from so many different people this year. It has been a whirlwind of fun and excitement that I will always hold near and dear to my heart. It may have started out rough, but let me tell you it has ended with a huge bang. I would like to thank Stephanie for stepping up and filling the enormous shoes that Myles Dunn so abruptly and tragically vacated last

year. I would like to thank Papa John for his wonderful, sweet, kind and patient manner as I learned to produce the newsletter. He received countless emails, text messages, and phone calls from Myles and me at the beginning of our reign. I want to thank all the chapters for sending me the best articles to print in the newsletter. You saved my life! I would like to thank Kerry Cutler for her wonderful and inspiring contributions to the newsletter as well. I would like to send out a grateful thank you to my fellow Regional Officers who have stood by me through thick and thin, trag-

edy and jubilation. It has been a great year. I look forward to seeing whom the Carolinas Region will choose to lead them in the coming year and I offer my support and any advice I may be able to give to the next Regional Officers. Let us celebrate 35 years of excellence in a special Carolinas way because nothing is finer than being a Carolinas Region member! Thank you for the memories and the great times. I will always cherish each and every one of the memories from the past year.

Sandi Little

## **FROM A MEMBERS PERSPECTIVE**

For me, Phi Theta Kappa has meant meeting new people, learning new things, making lifelong friends, and experiencing things that I might never have been able to do had it not been for Phi Theta Kappa. I've met so many people that think so differently than I do, and it has taught me that two people can have two completely different opinions about something and still be right. Phi Theta Kappa has given me a place to belong.

Evelyn Jean Brook Chagarov  
Vice President of Leadership  
Head of Fundraising  
Phi Theta Kappa  
Alpha Chi Sigma Chapter  
Cape Fear Community College  
Wilmington, NC

Thank you Evelyn for sharing your thoughts and your campus this fall, it is a beautiful campus. We had a great time there.

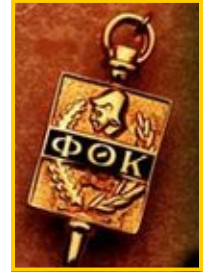
## AN ALUMNI'S POINT OF VIEW

Being a member of Phi Theta Kappa changed the direction of my life. Being a member of the Carolinas Region remains essential to my emotional wellbeing and serves as a constant in my life. Having served as a regional officer, I always feel a bond to the newest slate of officers because of my experience. Even though I served more than a decade ago, the privilege of service and the unparalleled joy of receiving the support of the region's members remain among the highlights of my adult life. I especially enjoy the benefits of social networking sites, which are allowing many of us who are alumni to rejoin the fellow-

ship that we shared as active members while at the same time expand that fellowship to include today's active members. The very fact that we seek to reconnect serves to answer the question. Despite our diversity, we share commonality and find comfort with one another. We are truly fortunate to belong to this extraordinary region, built by the strong leadership of alumna Joan Keller and passed on to alumnus John Sharpe. Joan set the bar for excellence in leadership, and John maintains it with character and a commitment to making active membership an enriching experience. As an active alumna, I am proud

to continue to be a member of the Carolinas Region. My heart remains firmly ensconced in the exploration of new ideas (scholarship), the development of new leaders (leadership), the creation of wonderful regional experiences (service), and a welcoming atmosphere for all who join us at regional events (fellowship). In many ways, membership in this region is among the truest examples of unconditional love, which I find so refreshing in an increasingly judgmental world. I hope you, the reader, find similar joy in belonging.

Pepe Zerda



***"I had the opportunity to grow as an individual and as a leader."***

***Traci Trouton-Burr***

## A THOUGHT FROM A FORMER REGIONAL OFFICER

"Phi Theta Kappa has opened so many doors of opportunity for me that I never would have had the chance to experience without being a member of the Society. I have made life-long friends, traveled all across the United States, and learned a wealth of knowledge. But, more importantly, as a chapter officer, regional officer and an international officer candidate, I had the opportunity to grow as an individual and as a leader. I have learned more about myself in the time spent in Phi Theta Kappa than any other time in my life. This Society, quite literally, changed my life and helped me grow into a more confident, unafraid person who is no longer hesitant about believing that dreams do come true!"

Traci Trouton-Burr

## A PAST NATIONAL OFFICER REMEMBERS HER PHI THETA KAPPA EXPERIENCE

I've been involved with Phi Theta Kappa since I became a member in 1981. I was inducted into the Alpha Beta Kappa chapter at Delaware Technical and Community College and attended my first National Convention in Houston, Texas the same year. The next year I was asked to run for national office and was fortunate enough to be elected to serve as the New England/Middle States Vice President. It was a great experience which influenced the direction of my life. I've been an alumni member since 1983 and have participated in various capacities since that time. I had the pleasure of becoming part of the Carolinas Region as a chapter advisor in 2004 and as the alumni advisor in 2006. The experiences I've had in Phi Theta Kappa are unparalleled. There is nothing that compares to helping others and being a small part of such a great organization. I've made lifelong friends along the way and wouldn't trade my experiences for any other!

Beth Carraway

## THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE AND THANK YOU FOR THE MEMORIES CAROLINAS REGION

