Hello from Marge Phillips, President of Phi Kappa Phi Chapter 260

I feel like the semester goes so swiftly. As I am writing this article, the fall semester is almost over. Thanksgiving is next week and Finals Week will be a couple weeks after. Just a few weeks ago we were complaining that it was too hot; now we are complaining that it gets dark too early each day! We are always busy and Phi Kappa Phi wants to keep busy in doing things with our members.

Great News! The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi has recognized our chapter, #260 at Southeast Missouri State University, with a special award. We have achieved Chapter of Excellence status. This
past year, 44 out of 316 chapters achieved this recognition status. With the award, we also received a check for $500 to be used for chapter projects.

We had our first meeting for the semester on September 24. Members who attended labeled and put inserts in about 1,000 “Little Golden Books”. (Each of the hospitals have gotten deliveries of several boxes of the Little Golden Books. Thank you Mary Elizabeth Ambery for making the deliveries.) We also discussed the fundraiser that we were going to have on October 7, 4 – 8 pm, at Culvers in Cape Girardeau, MO. We also discussed having the induction ceremony on April 17, 2016 in Academic Auditorium. More information is below.

Born to Read books – Mary Elizabeth Ambery, Chair of “Born to Read” has secured a grant of $2,500 to buy more books for this project. In the last few years the number of babies has doubled and we need help so we can continue this project and buy the books. Mary Elizabeth also reported that the Riverside Regional Library in Jackson, MO has also agreed to partner with us. They are going to order an additional amount of books (750 to 937 books—they are negotiating the buying price). She also has been discussing our project with Elizabeth Shelton, Executive Director of United Way SEMO. United Way may agree to partner with us also. Twylla James, Public Relations Officer, was able to purchase 61 “Little Golden Books” for $1 each to be used for this project.

The fundraiser at Culvers was fun. Various members helped from 4 – 8 pm where we greeted customers, took orders out to the customers, and cleaned the tables off. We made approximately $96. I enjoyed visiting with the members who helped and talking with customers as they came into Culvers.

**Honors Convocation and Commencement** -- Phi Kappa Phi has been asked if we would be interested in ushering for the Honors Convocation and Commencement on December 19, 2015 so we need ushers for both ceremonies. If a member is on the commencement committee, she or he cannot really help with this but other members can help. A member could work the Honors Convocation or the Commencement or both.

For Honors Convocation, please show up by 9:15 am – hand out programs and direct students to the check-in table and families to the sitting area. For Commencement, members should show up by noon, place programs on floor seats, hold “reserved” area, distribute programs to guests and direct students to the Rec Center for their lineup. For those working during the Honors Convocation, they are usually finished by about 10:30 am. For those working during the Commencement, they are usually finished by about 2:00 when the ceremony starts. Phi Kappa Phi will receive a stipend for ushering both events.

**Induction** – Sunday, April 17, 2016 – plans are starting to take shape for the induction. It will be held on Sunday, April 17 at 2 pm in Academic Hall Auditorium. We will need help with the induction so put this date on your calendar now.

Our chapter has the following committees and we hope you will volunteer to help with one or more of the committees.

**Committees:**
A. Initiation/Induction Committee – April 17, 2016 has been reserved for the induction ceremony
B. Born to Read – Our literacy project
C. Web Committee (helps keep our web site up-to-date) Facebook Fan Page
D. Membership Committee (Seek faculty, staff and alumni nominees for PKP membership and encourage eligible students to apply for membership when invited)
E. Fellowship Committee: Students can win a $5,000 -- $15,000 scholarship for graduate work.
F. Fundraising Committee – for Born to Read activities. Grants can be applied for and received for 2 consecutive years, then must wait one year before can reapply.

G. Activities Committee

The 2015-16 Officers for Chapter 260, Southeast Missouri State University, are listed below. If you have questions, please contact one of our officers. Current officers are listed below:

☐ Marge Phillips, President
☐ Doris Dumey, President-Elect
☐ Twylla James, Public Relations
☐ Shawn Guiling, Treasurer
☐ Cecilia Larson, Secretary
☐ Student Vice-Presidents, Alicia Ticer and Misaki Makino
☐ Suhair Amer, Past President

-----The following are grants/opportunities for Phi Kappa Phi members to receive funding for further education.

Fellowship
The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi currently awards fifty-one Fellowships of $5,000 each and six at $15,000 each to members entering the first year of graduate or professional study. Each Phi Kappa Phi chapter may select one candidate from among its local applicants to compete for the Society-wide awards.

Literacy Grants: The Literacy Grants program was initiated to mobilize members and resources of Phi Kappa Phi and the higher education community to champion literacy initiatives. Grants of up to $2,500 are available to Phi Kappa Phi chapters and individual members to fund ongoing literacy projects or to create new initiatives. The Society’s commitment to the cause of literacy grows out of and is consistent with its mission, which was expanded to include "…and to engage the community of scholars in service to others." Application Deadline – usually April 1.

Love of Learning Awards
Love of Learning Awards help fund post-baccalaureate studies and/or career development for active Phi Kappa Phi members to include (but not be limited to): Graduate or professional studies, doctoral dissertations, continuing education, career development, travel related to teaching/studies, etc.

Study Abroad Grants
Phi Kappa Phi Study Abroad Grants are designed to help support undergraduates as they seek knowledge and experience in their academic fields by studying abroad.

For more information on these awards/grants, please contact phikappaphi.org.

I hope you will become involved in Phi Kappa Phi activities. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Marge Phillips, President
mphillips@semo.edu

Book Stamping for the “Born-To-Read” Project
CONGRATULATIONS, Phi Kappa Phi!!!

The Chapter of Excellence Award is presented to

Southeast Missouri State University

In recognition of an active commitment to Phi Kappa Phi’s standards of excellence for 2014-2015.

[Signature]
President

[Signature]
Executive Director
Culver’s Night: Fundraising for Born-To-Read Project!

“Thank you again to all that worked last night at Culver’s. It is much appreciated when people agree to something and then are there on time and working hard. This was the case throughout the evening, and even though it was a small band of us, we did a good job!!!”

-Dr. Shawn Guiling, Treasurer
Seventh Annual Mittens n’ More Tree

Kent Library is again sponsoring a campus-wide mittens-gloves-hats-scarves-socks drive for children in need of warmth during the coming winter season. A tree has been placed on the main level of Kent Library for donations near the rear door. These items will be distributed to Jefferson Elementary School. The drive will run through Monday, Dec. 14th.

New this year, The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi will also be participating in the Cape Jaycees' 41st annual Toybox program. The program reaches more than 1,200 children in the community every year, and each child in the household receives three to five gifts, depending on their age and requests. New toys may be brought to Kent Library and placed under the Mittens n’ More Tree through Monday, December 14th.

Thank you for your generosity!

For more information, please contact Twylla James 986-4988 or tjames@semo.edu
Call for Volunteers

Phi Kappa Phi has been invited to participate as ushers at the Honors Convocation and Commencement ceremonies. The responsibilities are very simple, and the chapter will receive an honorarium. If you are interested in volunteering for one or both of the areas listed below, please let me know at mphillips@semo.edu. Honors Convocation and Commencement are on Saturday, December 19, 2015.

Marge Phillips, CAP-OM, MA
Writing Associate
Center for Writing Excellence
Memorial Hall 206B
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
651-2460

Editorial Note to the Members

Greetings to Everyone!

It is my great pleasure to collate the fall issue of PKP Newsletter! There will be another issue soon, in spring. If you have any news to share with the members, please submit your items to Jayanti Ray at jray@semo.edu by March 15, 2016. The submissions may be in the following categories:
1. Honors/awards/fellowship news
2. Pictures of PKP activities/events
3. Student/faculty articles (experience, accomplishments, research, etc.)

In closing, I would like to thank Twylla James, Cecelia Larson, and Marge Phillips for their contributions to the newsletter. Have a wonderful holiday season!