



Psi Iota Xi

125 Years of People, Purpose & Passion



Psi Iota Xi July 2021 Newsletter

Greetings!

A Message from National President Andrea Niedenthal

I am grateful and honored to be your National President. It is my sincerest desire to conduct the functions of this office to my very best ability. With the support and help of my chapter, Zeta Tau Milroy and National Council, I feel confident that we will succeed in doing great things.

To share a little about myself, I grew up in rural Rush County, Indiana in a family of eight children, which now extends to 35 people when we get together for family holidays. With a family so large, I elected to make today a Ladies only day. I would like to introduce some of these special ladies from my family: my mother, Barbara Powers (who is a Psi Ote Alumna), sisters: Sharon Rhoades, Mary Wicker, Dawn Wineman, and Leslie Yazel (Active Psi Ote). I have one sister and two sisters-in-law who were not able to attend today. Thank to my family,



for being here to celebrate this honor!

I was given the opportunity to join National Council in June of 2011 as your East Central District Officer. Over the last 10 years, I have moved through all of the national offices except National Editor. Being in each of these roles, it has expanded my understanding of this organization and I have formed an even deeper passion for what we do. I have met so many wonderful ladies whom I now call my sisters.

Next year we will be celebrating 125 years of our organization being in existence and I would like to dedicate it to the **People** before us, the **Purpose** that drives us, and the **Passion** that is within us.

People: There have been so many people involved in this organization starting with five high school girls and three of their teachers whom on September 19, 1897 in Muncie, IN founded Psi Iota Xi. Do you think they would have ever imagined that during the life span of our organization we would have installed 238 chapters, that have covered 9 States (IN, IL, MI, OH, KY, TN, FL, WA, WI) and at one time the District of Columbia? Just as in the circle of life not all these chapters still exist but what they have achieved has helped lay the foundation of who we are today.

Purpose: Our Founders original purpose was for high school girls to study music and literature. Over the next decade they were able to install 15 chapters in other schools during a time when high school sororities were considered an evil by school authorities. In June of 1915 at the National Convention (held in Rushville, IN) the delegates voted to no longer be known as a high school sorority and to become a women's philanthropic organization and expanded our purpose to which it is today.

Passion: Just as the women who came before us, everyone sitting in this room has a great passion for the work we do in the name of Psi Iota Xi. It is with this passion that we have been able to stay a thriving organization. Think about this: in 1897, the First Library of Congress Building opens to the public. The tootsie roll has become a popular candy in the Mid-West and "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Clause" was first published in the New York Sun. Like all of these, Psi Iota Xi has stood the test of time and continues to be a recognized honored service organization.

Sometimes we wonder how recognizable we are, and I want to share a little story. About 5 years ago my granddaughter was only 5 months old and was rushed to Peyton Manning Children's Hospital in Indianapolis, as she was having breathing issues with an apparent blockage in her airways. She was immediately rushed into surgery so they could determine the cause. As I sat in the waiting room, the surgeon came in to explain how the surgery had gone and what had occurred. In mid-sentence he stopped and looked at my shirt (I was wearing a Psi Ote shirt that day) and he said, "My father is the only man in your sorority." I replied, "You must be Christopher Miyamoto." After he finished explaining Sophia's surgery, he went on to tell me the impact our sorority had on him personally and it was one of many reasons why he became an ENT specialist. Of course, my heart filled with joy and pride, but more importantly, I knew Sophia was in the right hands.

I know the last year and half have been a struggle for all of us, and has left several chapters wondering what to do next. Don't ever forget the importance you bring to your community and to our National projects and the impact that you have on someone you may not even know.

As another year in history is being written, I hope you will find something in the work that you do in the name of Psi Iota Xi that will prove worthy of our sorority and renew your commitment to this outstanding organization. Please use this next year to celebrate all the great things your chapter has achieved! I would be honored to be invited to share your success – you never know I may show up with a cookie tote of hot chocolate chip cookies to share.

Always remember the People before us, the Purpose that drives us and the Passion that is within us. I certainly look forward to seeing all of you in Muncie next summer to share in the celebration with our Alpha sisters. We will be honoring the last 125 years of impact that Psi Iota Xi has had - not just to those less fortunate about us, but also the impact we have had on one another.

***NEW* National Council Email Addresses**

After numerous issues with emails from council members going straight to Spam or Trash folders, National Council has made the decision to create email addresses based on name rather than office held. We hope that having names in the address will be seen as more trustworthy or legitimate by member email clients. The old title-based email addresses are still active for now, but please note the new email addresses below and expect important PIX communications to come from these addresses. We encourage you to add them to the safe list or contact list in your own email accounts to ensure our emails reach you. Thank you for your patience as we make this transition!

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Hats Off to a Great Convention!

National Psi Ote(s) of the Year

The most important job of the Conductress is to chair the Psi Ote of the Year Committee and oversee the selection process. Initially, I was worried that we wouldn't have many submissions, but in fact we had 25 wonderful ladies nominated by their chapters. I have

found that in this year of turmoil, many Sisters have stepped up to guide their chapters through all this confusion. They emailed, called, delivered meals, and hand delivered treat bags for their sisters among many other things just to make sure everyone in their chapters are taken care of.

I would like to thank all of you who submitted your Sisters for consideration. They are truly all winners!

I would like to also thank my committee members for the time spent reviewing the nominations and all of the lively discussion that went into this decision. It was a lot of fun! Committee members were Sandie Carlson, Northeast District Officer; Phyllis Cunningham, Southeast District Officer; Mona Knight, West Central District Officer; and Kim Crawley, Past National President.



As good as this committee was, we just couldn't decide! We had limited it to two ladies, both equally special in their contributions to their own chapters and Psi Otes as a whole. I remember saying, "So what do we do now, draw straws?" And then the suggestion was made that we should just have two winners!! Really? Everyone thought that was wonderful decision! Let's do it! Nobody on the committee wanted to pick just one of these two ladies because they are both such wonderful Sisters!

Here is what their chapters shared with us about their Sisters:



She has a humble heart and has been an incredible leader, especially this year given all the challenges with Covid in our community. She has been a member for 7 years, attended several conventions, held multiple offices and this year she has chaired and/or served on 7 committees, along with being our President.

She's worked so hard to communicate with our chapter members and to keep them actively connected with zoom meetings and in-person meetings with masking and distancing. Our sister encourages taking care of other sisters, rather it



Our Sister has been constantly active (as much as was allowed) with Covid 19 in our community and has been for the last 18 years. She has held every office in our chapter at least once, this year being our president. She has only missed 3 conventions in all her years as a member and in fact one year right after major surgery.

She makes sure she is in contact with & checking in on all of us. She tries to remain up-beat, even when she is aching or is worn out herself. She has volunteered to get anything her elderly sisters needed during the pandemic because she had to work and was out anyway. She was sad when our fundraisers were cancelled, but remained positive around us saying "hopefully, next year will be better and we can get donations out

be sending cards just because or to support them on personal issues. She organized sending cards to sister's children that were away at college, so they didn't feel alone during these trying times.

Her positive attitude has helped us remain as active as we possibly can be and still make an impact on our community. She has helped us to continue to provide the same programs people have come to expect from our chapter, just in new and different ways. She has also helped with our summer lunch program and she made sure each student received a little "gift" when receiving their lunch. This year she helped organize our first Facebook Purse Raffle. This tapped into a different group of supporters and her husband sold 3 of the winning raffle tickets to ladies at his work!

She is an active mom with two great kids being active in 4-H, travels to swine exhibitions, and sports. Family is her priority, but this year she took on a new responsibility, nurse for our school district. The knowledge she has shared with her sister Psi Otes to educate and inform us about the facts of Covid-19 helped us to protect ourselves from becoming infected.

Her contributions to our chapter, her students and her community are endless and we are honored to have her named as the 2021 Psi Ote of the Year. She is an amazing person inside and out!

It is my pleasure to introduce from Theta Kappa chapter, the 2021 Co-National Psi Ote of the Year...

Heather Sheline

like we all want to." She was constantly looking for "easier" fundraising ideas that our chapter might be interested in and could be done within the Covid guidelines. She came up with a few new ones to try and with the help of all of our sisters we are hoping for success!

She, her mother and sister are all Psi Otes in our chapter, thanks to her. Psi Iota Xi is truly family to her. She put out a challenge to us to think of ladies that may be interested in joining us and it was successful. We should have SEVEN new sisters by the end of this year! She keeps us laughing and definitely makes sorority fun!

She is a dedicated daughter, mother, sister and proud Nana to three grandsons, ages 4 months to 5 years old & LOVES spoiling them as all Nanas do.

If there is a need in our community – she finds a way for us to be involved! You know, as our opening verse reads, "to help those less fortunate about us."

We are proud to nominate our sister for National Psi Ote of the Year!

It is my pleasure to introduce from the Theta Psi chapter, the 2021 Co-National Psi Ote of the Year...

Rita Seelow

NATIONAL AWARDS



Largest Amount Per Capita For All Music Projects

NE- Gamma Zeta, Ossian – \$2,728.23

NW- Gamma Beta, Remington

EC- Alpha Phi, Fortville

WC- Eta Lambda, Beech Grove

SE- Beta Sigma, Austin

SW- Beta Beta, Sullivan

Largest Amount Per Capita for Fine Arts Projects

NE- Eta Zeta, Nappanee

NW- Eta Mu, Rochester

EC- Alpha Phi, Fortville

WC- Eta Lambda, Beech Grove – \$184.09

SE- Alpha Omega, North Vernon

SW- Alpha Omicron, Vincennes

Largest Amount Given To All Cultural Projects

NE- Gamma Zeta, Ossian – \$24,554.11

NW- Eta Mu, Rochester

EC- Alpha, Muncie

WC- Gamma Nu, Brownsburg

SE- Alpha Omega, North Vernon

SW- Beta Mu, Brownstown

Largest Amount Given to Literature/Literacy

NE- Theta Theta, Fort Wayne

NW- Beta Alpha, Flora – \$6,805

EC- Beta Gamma, Peru

WC- Gamma Theta, Speedway

SE- Alpha Omega, North Vernon

SW- Zeta Gamma, Fort Branch

Largest Amount Per Capita For Literature/Literacy

NE- Theta Theta, Fort Wayne

NW-Beta Alpha, Flora – \$400.29

EC- Beta Gamma, Peru

WC- Gamma Theta, Speedway

SE- Alpha Omega, North Vernon

SW- Zeta Gamma, Fort Branch

Largest Amount Per Capita for Speech and Hearing

NE- Eta Omicron, Kalamazoo

NW- Eta Gamma, Valparaiso

EC- Beta Gamma, Peru

WC- Gamma Nu, Brownsburg

SE- Theta Nu, Lexington – \$500

SW- Zeta Mu, Jasper

Largest Amount Per Capita for Other Projects – Community Outreach

NE- Eta Zeta, Nappanee

NW- Beta Alpha, Flora
EC- Beta Delta, Van Wert
WC- Gamma Delta, Attica
SE- Beta Sigma, Austin – \$909.81
SW- Iota Rho, Odon

Largest Amount Per Capita for All Philanthropic Projects

NE- Gamma Zeta, Ossian – \$2,860.87

NW- Beta Alpha, Flora
EC- Beta Delta, Van Wert
WC- Gamma Nu, Brownsburg
SE- Beta Sigma, Austin
SW- Iota Rho, Odon

Largest Amount Given to a Single Project

NE- Gamma Zeta, Ossian – \$24,254.11

NW- Eta Mu, Rochester
EC- Beta Gamma, Peru
WC- Gamma Nu, Brownsburg
SE- Beta Sigma, Austin
SW- Zeta, Bloomington; Zeta Mu, Jasper; Iota Lambda, Ferdinand

50/50 PNP Raffle Update

Mistakes Happen.

Mix together the differences between Kentucky's gaming laws and those we are more familiar with in Indiana, the excitement of over 300 of our sisters wanting to purchase raffle tickets, and the enthusiasm of our PNP sisters for selling those tickets (and adding to the funding for the Gallaudet Dance Scholarships!) and you have the perfect recipe for errors. While the sisters of Zeta Iota and the PNPs counted and re-counted, reconciling ticket numbers and cash, somehow \$648.00 failed to be added in to the 50/50 Raffle total; that money had somehow been set aside after sales on Friday evening. It was located after Convention had been adjourned Sunday afternoon, and the winner of the raffle, Sarah Lasker, has been notified; the remainder of her winnings will be sent to her immediately. The grand total for the 50/50 was \$2018. Sarah's total winnings are \$1009, and \$1009 to the PNP account for the Gallaudet Dance Scholarships.

Apologies for the confusion, but many thanks for understanding, and even greater thanks for the continued support of the PNP's Gallaudet Dance Scholarship project.

Loyally,

Kim Crawley, PNP
President of Past National Presidents
Sigma – Greensburg, IN

An Historical Connection Across Districts



As my last article as the Southwest District Officer, I'd like to share a story that connects me with the East Central District. In 2015, National Council decided to do away with the award icons that had been presented with the awards on Saturday night of dinner of Convention. The icons consisted of paintings and several different silver pieces. These were auctioned off and the money ended up going to the Long-Term Project of the time. One of the pieces was the silver platter. It was the award for money donated to symphonies. The battle was on between myself and members of Alpha Chapter, Muncie. Alpha Chapter had won the award several times as their name and the dates won were engraved on the back of the platter. At the end of the auction, I prevailed with the top winning bid.

Lets jump ahead five years and as I was cleaning out items and came across the platter. At the convention in Fort Wayne last year (where it was auctioned), I spoke with Sister's from Alpha Chapter and decided to donate it to them since they were the ones that wanted it as badly as I did.

This month I traveled to Muncie to attend their monthly meeting and officially present it to the chapter. It was with great joy to see their happiness when I presented it to the membership.

Pictured with me are Valerie Helms-Mejia, East Central District officer and Alpha's President Julie Bering.

Loyally,

Terri Resler
National Editor
Alpha Psi – Washington, IN

Welcome to Our New District Officers

Hello Sisters!

I am delighted to introduce myself as the Northeast District Officer. My journey here has been a long, strange one starting in 2011 when my mom, PNP Connie McDaniel (2019), invited me to the Beta Lambda, Bedford, annual Christmas auction social. At the time, I was living in Bloomington, IN, and working in Bedford, and I had no idea what an adult philanthropic sorority was. After that first event, I was hooked! I was initiated as a legacy in the spring of 2012 and was an active member until 2015 when I moved to Ann Arbor, MI.

There is no chapter near Ann Arbor, so unfortunately I had to go inactive with the promise that I would come back and help at my mom's convention in French Lick, IN. During that year of my mom's presidency, I was invited to join council as National Editor by PNP Pat Menge (2020). My first reaction was that I didn't have enough experience as a Psi Ote to serve on National Council, but I was honored to be invited. Eta Omicron, Kalamazoo, warmly welcomed me into their chapter in spring 2019 so that I could be an active member again and serve on National Council. I am so grateful for their willingness to give me a home chapter, despite the distance, and for Pat giving me the opportunity to grow as a Psi Ote through serving on National Council.

As your district officer, I look forward to meeting more of you, attending your events and meetings, celebrating your successes, and helping to navigate your challenges. I would encourage anyone who is interested, even if you don't think you have enough experience as a Psi Ote, to serve as an officer in their chapter, volunteer to be on a national committee, or even become a district officer. I have learned so much about Psi Iota Xi and the legacy we uphold during these past two years, and learning through experience is such a meaningful way to connect to our 125-year history. Let's make our 125th a great one!

Loyally,

Jessica Lucas
Northeast District Officer
Eta Omicron – Kalamazoo, MI

Hello my Psi Ote Sisters,

Here we go again. I served on National Council a few years ago, four as the Northwest District Officer and one as National Conductress. During the years I learned a lot and made a lot of new friends and memories as well. When it can time for me to step down, I was sad to say goodbye to new friends I had made, but I soon found out that once you have a Psi Iota Xi sisters as your friend you will always have a friend.

I first took the role as district officer when my only daughter/best friend went away to college, and I went in her room and sat down and cried thinking what will I do now? No more school events, no more rushing to sporting events and no more, "Hey mom, they are looking for someone to coach this event. Will you do it?" It was hard, but I had a good friend that said you really need to find something to do. Well, that day came when I opened an email that said they are looking for a district officer and I said this is it. So, I made the call and boy was I glad I did. It was just what I needed. I walked into a room without knowing anyone and soon it felt like I had known these ladies forever. As the years went on my husband knew that this is what really made me happy, helping people and getting my sister Psi Ote fix when it came to meetings and other social events. Or even taking a trip with a Psi Ote sister. After having a little break, I was asked to come back and it did not take me long to say yes. I feel like serving on council and being a Psi Ote has made me become a better person to put others first and to help those out when help is needed.

I have been a member of the Gamma Beta Chapter of Remington for 29 years and have held every office, some more than once. When I first joined, I had no idea what was happening or what anything was. As time went on and I attended conventions and state meetings, things started to fall in place. I used to look at National Council

thinking they know so much wow. Little did I know that one day that would be me. I have been married for 32 years to Randy and we live on a farm where he grew up. We have three children Ethan, Erica (husband Brock), and Austin. I have driven a school bus for 15 year and this last year it seems like forever! I also have an office job working for a real estate investor. So, I like to keep busy. In my free time I love to travel, but in the summertime, you can find me in my pool.

I am looking forward to seeing old faces, meeting new ones, and making new memories. Let us make 2021-2022 an awesome year!

Loyally Yours,

Andrea English
Northwest District Officer
Gamma Beta – Remington, IN

Hello Southwest District Sisters!

My name is Jane Patton, and I am your new Southwest District Officer. My membership in Psi Iota Xi began with Alpha Omicron, Vincennes in 2001, and then in 2007 I moved to Martinsville where I transferred to Eta Chi. In 2012 life got too busy and I had to take a hiatus. I missed the fun of chapter meetings, special events, and conventions, so in 2018 I rejoined my original chapter in Vincennes. I look forward to my chapter's monthly meetings, spending time with my Psi Ote sisters and my real sister, as well as the many events and projects our chapter holds in our community each year.

After many months of COVID, I am so happy that meetings, fundraisers, and events have begun to get back to normal. Hopefully the days of putting everything "on hold" until after COVID are at an end. I must admit many months of not being able to plan and hold events was getting boring and was glad when spring flower sale delivery day and Artventures Camp arrived this year for my chapter. I'm sure each of you are feeling the same about your chapter as well. It was wonderful to be able to gather in Louisville for our National Convention in June with many of the limitations of 2020 behind us. I am looking forward to visiting your chapters and see first-hand how you are making a difference in your communities. I am also excited to be your representative on National Council so if you have concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. I will be contacting some of you soon to set up chapter visits. Also, if your chapter has a special occasion or event planned in the coming months, I would love to attend those as well. It is my goal to meet as many of my fellow sisters as I can this year. Here's to a productive, fun, and safe year!

Jane Patton
Southwest District Officer
Alpha Omicron – Vincennes, IN

Fundraiser & Event Invitations



Have you ever wished you could invite all Psi Ote sisters to your chapter's fundraiser or special event? Your chapter Helicon articles detail all the amazing events and fundraising activities you accomplish in your individual chapters and communities. Now we'd like to offer chapters the opportunity to submit invitations to their events and fundraisers via the monthly newsletter by emailing them

to terriresler@psiitaxi.org.

Electronic money transfer apps like Venmo plus virtual platforms like Facebook Live make it possible for even our most distant sisters to participate in another chapter's fundraisers with ease. You can support your sisters across the organization, and you might even get a few ideas for your own chapter!

100th Anniversary Celebration

Phi chapter of Huntington IN wants to announce the celebration of their 100th anniversary on Sunday, July 25, 2021. Due to Covid-19 we could not hold it last July, so we have celebrated all year and look forward to seeing all our sisters!



100th  **ANNIVERSARY**
OPEN HOUSE

Psi Iota Xi
Phi Chapter

Sunday, July 25, 2021

2 - 4 PM

Historic Forks of the Wabash
3011 W. Park Drive
Huntington, IN 46750

Fallen Petals



Please send obituaries to terriresler@psiitaxi.org to be included in the next newsletter and the Helicon.

Convention Invitations

The logo features a central blue circle with the text "Celebrating 125" in white. Surrounding this circle is a black ring containing the words "People - Purpose - Passion" at the top and "Psi Iota Xi Sorority" at the bottom in a white script font. Two white diamond shapes containing the Greek letters ΨΙΞ are positioned on the left and right sides of the ring. To the left of the ring, the numbers 1, 8, 9, and 7 are stacked vertically in a blue, stylized font. To the right, the numbers 2, 0, 2, and 2 are stacked vertically in the same font. Below the ring, the dates "JUNE 24-26 2022" are written in blue on the left, and "MUNCIE, INDIANA" is written in blue on the right.

Convention 2022

Convention 2022 will be hosted by Zeta Tau, Milroy, in Muncie, IN, June 24-26, 2022

Book your rooms now at the special \$129/night group rate!

Click here to visit the [Courtyard Muncie at Horizon Convention Center](#) reservation page

Convention 2023

Convention 2023 will be hosted by Zeta Gamma, Fort Branch, in Evansville, IN

Convention 2024

Convention 2024 will be hosted by Theta Theta, Fort Wayne

National Council

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National Vice President

Andrea Niedenthal, Zeta Tau

Maureen "Mo" Dix, Zeta Gamma

National Treasurer

Rhonda McNall-Crisenbery, Theta Theta

National Secretary

Mickie Hansen, Upsilon

National Project Chair

Taffy Day, Omega

National Conductress

Sandie Carlson, Theta Kappa

National Editor

Terri Resler, Alpha Psi

Northeast District Officer

Jessica Lucas, Eta Omicron

Northwest District Officer

Andrea English, Gamma Beta

East Central District Officer

Valerie Helms-Mejia, Alpha

West Central District Officer

Mona Knight, Iota Theta

Southeast District Officer

Phyllis Cunningham, Theta Nu

Southwest District Officer

Jane Patton, Alpha Omicron

National Advisor

Sandy Johnson, Zeta Iota

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If you have any questions about this newsletter, the National Website or have an address/ phone/email update please contact your National Editor Terri Resler. terriresler@psiitaxi.org or 812-295-6524 (call/text)

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