



## 2006 Upsilon Mu Officers

President: Katie Hewitt

VP of Scholarship: Jonathan Sauder

VP of Leadership: Sarah Schertz

VP of Service: Jill Tieberg

VP of Fellowship: Anne Williams

Public Relations Admin: Sam Boyer

Newsletter Admin: Jaclyn Lewis

Co-Advisors: Prof. Jen Richrath  
Dr. Jill Wright

## The PTK Mission

To provide opportunity:

1. For the development of leadership and service
2. For lively fellowship in an intellectual climate for the exchange of ideas and ideals
3. For stimulation of interest in continuing academic excellence by recognizing and encouraging scholarship among students

## Grade-School Tutors Needed

Help area grade school kids learn the basics through PTK's Adopt-a-School program. All you need is one hour a week to make a difference at Woodrow Wilson Primary School. Contact Katie for more information.

Hello Phi Theta Kappans,

Welcome to Phi Theta Kappa. I would first like to congratulate all of you on your high academic success and achievements thus far. I am certain you will come to enjoy all the benefits Phi Theta Kappa and our Upsilon Mu chapter can offer you.

In my short time as a member and my even shorter time as President, I have made friendships that will last a lifetime, and I have had so many opportunities that I'm sure I would not have had if I were not involved in such a prestigious organization. I encourage all of you to get involved on campus and in the community; you will never regret a single second of your volunteerism.

Again, I congratulate you on your success and welcome you to Phi Theta Kappa. If you ever have any questions or need our help, our door is always open and we are happy to assist our members.

Congratulations and best of luck,



Katie Hewitt  
Phi Theta Kappa  
Upsilon Mu  
President

## Q & A: ICC Staff and Faculty

For this month's Q & A, find out what some of our hardworking ICC employees think about Halloween!

### **If you could dress up for Halloween, what would you be?**

"Dr. ICC with a cap and gown" –Ken Williams, Advisement, Counseling, Assessment & Career Services

"a college student (complete with backpack) to remind everyone how important learning is" –Lorene King, QUEST

"a 1940's movie star" –Jen Richrath, English Department

"an angel" –Deb Hart, Student Activities

### **What is your favorite Halloween candy?**

"peppermints or any kind of chocolates" –Ken Williams, Advisement, Counseling, Assessment & Career Services

### *Gold, Gods, and Glory:*

#### *The Global Dynamics of Power*

Learn and engage in lively discussion about the Phi Theta Kappa Honors Study Topic, *Gold, Gods, and Glory: The Global Dynamics of Power*, at our Satellite Seminar. The next Satellite Seminar is Monday, November 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. The seminar is titled "The Iraq War and Its Consequences in the Middle East."

### *Aaaaall Aboard!*

At this year's Train Fair, a special event for train sellers and enthusiasts, PTK will run a concession stand Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Breakfast and lunch shifts are available. To volunteer, contact Sarah for details.

### **Halloween candy continued...**

"It's a tie between candy corn and Reese's Peanut Butter Cups" –Jen Richrath, English Department

"candy corn and peanuts" –Deb Hart, Student Activities

### **What is your favorite spooky book, poem, or movie?**

"*The Exorcist*" –Ken Williams, Advisement, Counseling, Assessment & Career Services

"'The Black Cat,' a short story by Edgar Allen Poe, and Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho*—both very dark, but I love 'em!" –Jen Richrath, English Department

"*Sleepy Hollow*" –Deb Hart, Student Activities

### **Who is your favorite Halloween monster?**

"Dracula" –Ken Williams, Advisement, Counseling, Assessment & Career Services

"Casper the Friendly Ghost...why?...because he's friendly!" –Jen Richrath, English Department

"Gene Wilder's *Frankenstein*" –Deb Hart, Student Activities

### *Operation Green:*

#### *Improving Our Communities*

For this year's International Service Program, a volunteer opportunity in which all 1,200 PTK chapters take part, PTK has teamed up with Keep America Beautiful for "Operation Green: Improving Our Communities." With your help, Upsilon Mu will help make ICC a cleaner, greener campus for all of us to enjoy.

Watch for updates.

## Your Unlucky Day

According to the Stress Management Center and Phobia Institute in North Carolina, the airline industry lost approximately \$900 million in one day this month, Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, a day made even more sinister by landing in this spooky month of October. If you feel uneasy about Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, you're not alone. An estimated 17 to 21 million Americans experience mild to severe paraskavedekatriaphobia, a fear of Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> where sufferers feel a range of symptoms from "mild anxiety to full blown panic attacks" (Roach).

The fear of Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> may have originated from a Norse myth about 12 gods who sat down for dinner in Valhalla, the Norse heaven. A thirteenth, uninvited guest arrived, Loki, the god of mischief. Loki had Balder the Beautiful, the god of joy and gladness, killed by Hoder, the blind god of darkness, with a mistletoe-tipped arrow, thus plunging the Earth into darkness and mourning. As folklore historian Donald Dossey described it, "It was a bad, unlucky day" (Roach).

Research has been inconclusive as to whether Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> is really more unlucky than other days. While there is evidence that some people are more likely to get sick or have an accident on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, it's certainly possible that those paranoid about the day create their own bad luck. ~Jaelyn Lewis

For further reading:

John Roach, "Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> in Ancient History"  
<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/>  
Wikipedia, "Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>"

## Postmortem Poetry

Though Edgar Lee Masters may never have meant *Spoon River Anthology* to be Halloween reading, this collection of auto-epitaphs is quite chilling.

For your enjoyment, here is "Mabel Osborne" from *Spoon River Anthology*.

Your red blossoms amid green leaves  
Are drooping, beautiful geranium!  
But you do not ask for water.  
You cannot speak! You do not need to speak—  
Everyone knows that you are dying of thirst,  
Yet they do not bring water!  
They pass on, saying:  
"The geranium wants water."  
And I, who had happiness to share  
And longed to share your happiness;  
I who loved you, Spoon River,  
And craved your love,  
Withered before your eyes, Spoon River—  
Thirsting, thirsting,  
Voiceless from chasteness of soul to ask  
you for love,  
You who knew and saw me perish before  
you,  
Like this geranium which someone has  
planted over me,  
And left to die.



Contact Phi Theta Kappa  
Office hours are posted in  
Student Activities 302A  
(309)694-5263 | [iccptk@hotmail.com](mailto:iccptk@hotmail.com)

For Hi-Phi News comments and  
suggestions: [hiphinews@gmail.com](mailto:hiphinews@gmail.com)