

Sigma Tau Delta Eastern Region

Special Interest Articles

This year's common reader is Kim Edwards' 'Secrets of the Fire King'

Want to go 'On The Road' to see Kerouac's work?

Calling all Alumni! Sigma Tau Delta wants YOU!

Individual Highlights

Greetings from the ASR	2
Common Reader	3
Jack Kerouac's 'On The Road' Scroll on tour	4
Alumni Epsilon: Sigma Tau Delta's Alumni Chapter	5
Banned Book Week	6
Globe's Labor's Won	7



Greetings From The SR **Ashlee Hazeltine, Eastern SR**

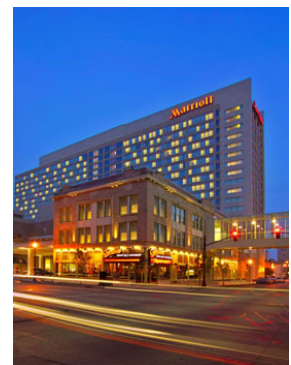
Greetings from slightly chilly Massachusetts! As I write this, the weather is a cool 62 degrees out, the leaves are starting to turn colors and with college back in session, it's clear that fall has finally arrived! Also, as I write this, I have just returned from a trip to Louisville, Kentucky, the site of the 2008 convention. There are a lot of great things that are planned for this year's convention, including the ever popular bad poetry contest as well as fantastic speakers. The common reader this year is Kim Edwards, who you might know for her second book, *The Memory Keeper's Daughter*. It is Edwards' first book, recently reissued, called *Secrets of The Fire King* that is this year's common reader. Naomi Shihab Nye and Suzan-Lori Parks will also be on hand at the convention. Don't forget about the deadlines for

the scholarships as well! You can find out more about them by going to 2 of this newsletter.

As for the city itself, Louisville is a beautiful city with a lot of things to do. Coming from a Boston girl, I found that the city had enough entertainment to find something to do every night. Just two blocks from the Downtown Marriott is Fourth Street Live!, a street where restaurants, bars, clubs and even bowling all combine into one great party. This is certainly the place to go at night, as the street itself even shuts down to oncoming traffic so you can hang out in the streets as well. Another cool thing about Louisville is the Louie Link, something that two other SRs and I were able to explore one rainy day in the city. The Louie Link is a skywalk that connects all the major hotels, Fourth Street Live and

other places so you can travel through downtown Louisville without touching a foot on the sidewalk. So when you're done with convention activities for the day, you should check the Louie Link out at night! This is only a brief description of what the city holds, if you'd like a list of more things to do, write me at ahazeltine0165@wsc.mia.edu and I will be more than happy to tell you what else the city has to offer!

I hope everyone has a productive fall, and I look forward to meeting all of you at the 2008 convention! Happy reading!





"Fortunately art is a community effort - a small but select community living in a spiritualized world endeavoring to interpret the wars and solitudes of the flesh."
- Allen Ginsberg

Check These Links Out!

Here are a few links you should know about:

<http://www.english.org/scholarships.shtml> – Don't forget about the scholarships that are offered through Sigma Tau Delta!

<http://www.english.org/louisville/papers.html> – The Call for Papers for the Louisville Convention is November 14th, so start thinking about what you

are going to submit!

http://www.english.org/chap_updates.shtml – Need to update Sigma Tau Delta with new sponsors for your chapter, or new school information? Let us know!

<http://www.english.org/students.shtml> – Finally and not least, if you feel you are up to the challenge to become a

Student Representative or Associate Student Representative, you should take a look at this link. On the website, all the information about both positions is there, so if you're interested, check it out! .

Greetings From The ASR Donald Dilliplane, Eastern ASR

Hey everyone!

We're having a very rocky start out here in Reading, PA. We had our first meeting last month and we had to have our secretary run the meeting! It went well, though, and we're getting started on some fundraisers and other programs, like the high-school writing contest we hold each year. We're all very excited

about this year with all our new members and the convention coming in March.

Alvernia is still buzzing with friendly, intelligent professors trying to expand our minds and horizons. We started using a very nice new building a block or two away from the main campus. It has wireless internet, great air conditioning, and

comfortable rooms for learning and discussion. This is an exciting year to be a senior!

Eastern Region Facebook Group!

The Eastern Region of Sigma Tau Delta has a facebook group? Yes, you heard right! Along with all the other regions, a facebook group has been created so that all chapters of the eastern region can talk. There

are various discussions started about fundraising ideas, what your chapter does to stay active and other discussions about anything under the sun! If you'd like to join the

facebook group, search "Sigma Tau Delta Eastern Region" or enter the following into your browser:

<http://ma.facebook.com/group.php?gid=3057315296>



Necessary Contradictions

The theme for this year's convention in Louisville, KY is "Necessary Contradictions and is actually taken from a Walt Whitman quote from "Song of Myself":

"Do I contradict myself?
Very well then I
contradict myself,
(I am large, I contain
multitudes)"

To read more about this year's convention theme

and to learn more about the convention chair, visit our convention website at :
<http://english.org/louisville/index.html>



Kim Edwards' first collection of stories, *Secrets of a Fire King*, has been selected as the 2007–2008 common reader. The goal of the common reader is to celebrate the works of our featured speakers, to provide a common text for our own reading and enjoyment, and to establish a focus for chapter activities fostering literacy and

the pleasures of reading in our local communities. Sigma Tau Delta is offering \$150 for the best convention presentation (in any genre) featuring the common reader.

Extra, Extra! (Did you read all about it?)

This year the six Student Representatives and two Student Advisors put together an extra newsletter, just for you!

The newsletter was all about the different

scholarships and awards that you can enter to win from Sigma Tau Delta!

Though most of the deadlines are coming up fast or have already

passed, you can still read the newsletter!

Just visit the Sigma Tau Delta website and click on "Extra, Extra" or go to

http://www.english.org/pdf/regions/extra_extra_fall07.pdf

Jack Kerouac's 'On The Road' Tour

Donald Dilliplane, Eastern ASR

For those of you who aren't aware, and even for those of you who are, Jack Kerouac's "On the Road" scroll is on tour. Hard to think of a scroll being on tour, isn't it? Well, you have Jim Isray to thank for that. Isray is the owner of the Indianapolis Colts, and back on May 22, 2001, he bought the scroll at an auction for \$2,200,000. Many were upset when the scroll was initially put up on auction, thinking it would be better on display in a public place for study, rather than owned and hidden by one man. Fortunately, Jim Isray had every intention of putting out for the public. And since January 2004, it has been on tour to places such as: Emory University (Atlanta), University of Iowa Museum of Art, San Francisco Public Library, even in Rome, Italy.

Jack Kerouac was from Lowell Massachusetts, grew up speaking French with his French-Canadian parents. After losing a big football scholarship his freshman year at Columbia University when he broke his leg, he dropped out and started to meet a lot of

people he'd end up traveling with and writing about. This was the beginning of "The Beat" movement. He lived in New York City's Upper West Side for a few years with his girlfriend, and then moved in with his parents there.

Kerouac wrote many novels, but could never get published. In April of 1951, however, building from drafts called "The Beat Generation" and "Gone on the Road," he wrote "On the Road." "On the Road" is mostly autobiographical, describing his road trip adventures and was published in 1957. This became known as the defining novel of the Beat Generation, and Kerouac became known as the "King of the Beats." The Beat Generation was a group of anti-conformists, -



consumerists, and - materialists. The group was full of writers and poets with a strange, experimental style, and most found the experimental use of drugs useful, powerful, and part of the life experience.

So if you have time, stop by and see this wonderful work of writing, written over fifty years ago on semi-translucent pages taped together when it stops at a museum near you, or find time to read some Kerouac's brilliant work, and learn what the Beat Generation was all about.



**"My fault, my failure, is not in the passions I have, but in my lack of control of them."
- Jack Kerouac**



**"If I read a book
and it makes my
whole body so
cold no fire can
ever warm me, I
know that is
poetry."
- Emily Dickinson**

Regional Officers Elections

With the end of the 2007-2008 school year comes the new elections for the new Student Representative position, as well as the Associate Student Representative position. Also this year, there is an opening for the Student Advisor position. If these sound like something that you

would like to run for, please check out the information about each position on the Sigma Tau Delta website. The elections will be held at the Regional Caucus during the 2008 Louisville Convention. Be sure to attend and vote for who you think would best represent the Eastern Region!

Student Representative
Position:

http://english.org/students_sr.shtml

Associate Student
Representative
Position:

http://english.org/students_asr.shtml

Student Advisor
Position:

http://english.org/students_sa.shtml

Alumni Epsilon: The Alumni Chapter

Think your life with Sigma Tau Delta ends once you graduate? Think again! Sigma Tau Delta's Alumni chapter, Alumni Epsilon is looking for new members! With the alumni chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, you can still participate in everything you were

involved with your undergraduate chapter, and you can still attend the conventions and present.

Also, if leadership is your thing, a position has been created for the alumni chapter called Alumni Representative

or AR. The AR will be the alumni's voice to the Organization and will work alongside the SR's, ASR's and SA's for international duties.

For more information, check out

<http://english.org/alumni.shtml>

New Eastern Region Chapters

Please welcome the following chapters into the Eastern Region! If you ever have any questions regarding your chapter or the region itself, don't hesitate to e-mail your Student Representative!

Central State University
Wilburforce, OH
Upsilon Tau

Youngstown State University
Youngstown, OH
Psi Gamma

Bucknell University
Lewisburg, PA
Epsilon Beta

Lebanon Valley College
Annville, PA
Omicron Omicron

Saint Mary's College of
Maryland
St. Mary's City, MD
Alpha Eta Delta

Millersville University
Millersville, PA
Iota Phi

Banned Books Week Sarah Dangelantonio, Eastern Regent

Do you know what book received the most challenges of its content and/or appropriateness in 2006?

According to the American Library Association (ALA) website, there were 546 recorded challenges to books in 2006, and the most frequently challenged was an award-winning children's book, *And Tango Makes Three*, an account of a true event where a bonded pair of male penguins were given an egg from a male-female pair. The bonded same-sex pair then hatched the egg and parented the chick to adulthood.

During the week of September 26 through October 6, the ALA observed the 26th anniversary of Banned Books week, celebrating the freedom to read. At Franklin Pierce University, Sigma Tau Delta sponsored a "Read-Out, Speak-Out" event where members of the campus community came together to read from and listen to books that have been challenged and/or banned. Through the act of reading aloud,

we symbolically "freed" the book and raised awareness about intellectual freedom.

What surprised most participants were the sorts of books that were on the challenged or banned lists. When the readers chose from the basket of books available at the event, most were shocked at the titles they found in front of them – books which readers named as childhood favorites written by beloved authors.

As we are all members of an organization which promotes interest in literacy and literature on local campuses and in the surrounding community, and fosters the discipline of English in all its aspects, it seems appropriate to suggest that we must all make every effort to support the freedom to read. In the upcoming months and as 2007 draws to a close, I challenge each

of you to read at least one banned or challenged book and to challenge your friends, classmates and instructors to do the same. Though historian and educator A. Whitney Griswold wrote in his *Essays on Education*, "Books won't stay banned. They won't burn. Ideas won't go to jail. In the long run of history, the censor and the inquisitor have always lost." We owe it to ourselves, to our Sigma Tau Delta chapters, to the people with whom we live and work, to the authors who can no longer speak for themselves, to step up and support intellectual freedom.

For more information on ALA's Banned Books Week, check out <http://www.ala.org/ala/oif/bannedbooksweek/bannedbooksweek.htm>



**"Whatever you think, be sure it is what you think; whatever you want, be sure that is what you want; whatever you feel, be sure that is what you feel."
- T. S. Eliot**



Eastern Region Officers

Student Representative

Ashlee Hazeltine
Westfield State College
ahazeltine0165@wsc.ma.edu

Associate Student Representative

Donald Dilliplane
Alvernia College
donalddoland@gmail.com

Eastern Regent

Sarah Dangelantonio
Franklin Pierce University
dangelst@fpc.edu

Website!

www.english.org

Globe's Labor's Won Michael Duffy, Westfield State College

"The play's the thing," and from an actor's point of view, so is the theatre. This summer, I had the chance to vacation to England with my family. We stayed in London, home of the Globe Theatre, which is what I wanted to see the most on our trip. After schlepping around the city for what seemed like ages, we crossed the beautiful Thames River, and began walking along the cobblestone road paralleling the river.

Finally, I saw it...the Globe Theatre, Shakespeare's domain, pop right up in front of me. The actor in me proceeded to dance and do cartwheels. After squelching the urge to actually partake in the dancing and cartwheels in front of my family and southern London, I entered the tourist center/box office.

To my dismay, the attendant informed me that all of the seats for the

performances at the Globe were sold out, and no tours were being offered of the inside of the theatre because of the performances. This left me devastated! All I wanted to do was see it! With a heavy heart, I wandered around the visitor's center to the gift shop, and examined all the selections of Shakespearean stock.

After stepping out of the gift shop area of the visitor's center, I stepped over to the side of the center facing one of the entrances to the theatre. Three attendants, not counting the other three selling programs right outside the theatre, blocked the short distance from the visitor's center to the theatre. This made my heart sink even further.

Just then, the powers that be granted me a window of opportunity. The current performance had just ended, and the attendants began to usher people out of the theatre. I could not stand there and

allow this opportunity to pass by. To avoid suspicion, I feigned conversation with a bystander in close proximity to me, and then proceeded to work my way through the crowd.

Upon reaching the entrance, I had to feign another conversation in order to slip inside. A group lingering from the prior performance provided me with the necessary cover. I was finally inside The Globe Theatre! I gazed in awe at the brilliant structure around me, with its stage and seating adorned with balconies and pillars all stretching up towards the open thatched roof looking up to the sky.

The few seconds I spent in the Globe, before exiting with the rest of the stragglers, were indeed miraculous, and I felt as though I had just stood in the presence of greatness. My trip to London gave me so many memorable experiences, but the day that I snuck into William Shakespeare's Globe Theatre will always remain with me!