

# SIGMA TAU DELTA

The International English Honor Society



Eastern Regional Newsletter, Winter Update 2004

*Greetings From Associate Student Representative and Eastern Regional Student Representative*

Greetings! I hope everyone had a great Holiday and didn't stress out too much over finals this past semester. I hope the new semester starts off well for everyone.

First, I am pleased to announce the Eastern Region Email Contact List –

**[stdeasternregion@yahoo.com](mailto:stdeasternregion@yahoo.com)**

When you sign up and write a letter with this address you write a letter to all the advisors within our region. If you have not received any email until now you might not be on the list. If so, please email me at:

**[jennifermariebutler@hotmail.com](mailto:jennifermariebutler@hotmail.com)**

Anyone can join, there are a few students already receiving emails.

The second announcement is regarding the Pennsylvania Undergraduate English conference taking place this spring. For more information, you can email me. If you were unable to attend the fall conference, feel free to get in touch with me in regards to the spring conference, which will be held at Edinboro University.

I hope everyone is having a great semester, best wishes to those graduating! Good luck—make it safe and make it happy.

See you in the Spring,  
-Jennifer Butler

Greetings once again! This is the last Newsletter I have the pleasure of producing as Eastern Representative. I thank everyone in our Region as well as the Board for giving me the opportunity to serve these past two years. I sincerely hope someone with even more drive and purpose than I will take the reins as the incoming Eastern SR. More information about SR duties as well as information on how to apply is available in your Convention information packets. Information about the upcoming Convention and everything Sigma Tau Delta is always available at:

**[www.english.org](http://www.english.org)**

For all those who have submitted a paper, keep your eyes open for emails of concerning the status of your submission. For all those accepted and all those joining their friends who are reading, be sure to book your flight and hotel room ASAP!

In terms of Regional communication we are off to a great start thanks to Jennifer Butler, our unfaltering ASR. In order to increase communications, she has established our own Regional email list. If you are not receiving her emails, contact us with your address and we will add it right away.

Contact me about this or any other concerns at:

**[DarthShldn@aol.com](mailto:DarthShldn@aol.com)**

I look forward to seeing old and new faces in Daytona Beach. It's time to grab your books, your suntan lotion, and your best work for a fantastic Convention! Submit soon!

Thanks again,  
-John Sheldon

## Don't Forget to Bring Your Book Donation to Daytona!

One of the most important goals of Sigma Tau Delta is the promotion and proliferation of literacy and literature. The Annual Book Drive is a chance for all of us to give back to the community hosting our Convention in a way we know best: by donating books for local literacy programs.

This year, every member attending Convention must bring **one book each** to donate at the registration desk. Of course, chapters and members are encouraged to bring as many books as possible, but one donation is the absolute minimum.

We are sponsoring the Volusia County Region III Adult Literacy Center, an organization that helps build literacy among adults, children, and families as a whole.

This organization needs children's books, especially little Golden Books, for its many constructive programs. Other interesting books ranging from grade levels 0-3 are also great.

A flyer for this year's Book Drive is available on the Web. Feel free to print some out for your chapter members as a reminder! Consult the recent call for papers and Convention information packet for more details.

## Subscribe to E News!

At last we have a National list that will help keep members in all Regions in touch with what's going on throughout the Sigma Tau Delta World.

Signing up is easy, fun, and well worth a few moments of our time. All you have to do is go to the website, click on the eNews subscription icon, enter the password, and fill out a brief form. Contact the Central Office for the password.

Now you are on your way to monthly access to Convention updates, Sigma Tau Delta news, and important deadlines for scholarships!

Sign up next time you are online. While you are at it, browse the website for all the information you could ever want about Sigma Tau Delta including history, policies, contacts, and tons of other good stuff!

## A Crazy and Fun Way to Spread Some Serious Literacy!

Last year I came across an article about a strange website

### Bookcrossing.com

The site has a simple objective, which is the sharing of everyone's favorite books and authors with total strangers.

How it works is fun and easy. You find a copy of one of your favorite books, print up a small form from the website, and paste this form on the interior of the book. After that, you leave the book in a public place (supermarket, coffee shop, bowling alley) with the hopes that someone will see it, pick it up, and read it. After that, the reader goes to the website and logs in his reactions to the book. Then he leaves the book in a new place and the cycle of literacy continues.

Since each book has its own number, it is possible to track your book across your city, the country, or maybe the world.

Eventually we might set up a Sigma Tau Delta version of this website, but for now **bookcrossing.com** provides a great way to get someone reading something that's special to you!

## Haiku Corner

This section provides a place where you can pause to reflect on life and nature for a moment. I had hoped some people might offer some of their own Haiku, but we had no submissions. Maybe next time!

Included here are two Haiku: one from a Japanese disciple of Basho, Takarai Kikaku (1661-1707) and one from a modern North American writer, Alan Pizzarelli.

Remember that the 5-7-5-syllable structure is not important so long as the primary essence of that still, natural moment comes through.

the lightning...  
yesterday in the east  
today in the west

on the windswept corner  
traces of a puddle  
fade