

Name: Terry Kinstrey
Pledge Class: Fall 1978
Officer Position: First Vice President

As a prospective officer & leader of the ODPAA, what do you consider your greatest strengths? Weaknesses?

I am a very organized person and I keep good records. I work well with others. I also honor my commitments and will be an active participant and will show up for meetings.

If elected or re-elected to the position you seek, what is your commitment to serving out the full term?

I am committed to the full term.

Please describe accomplishments in your career and personal life that would benefit the ODPAA.

I have been an active participant and officer in Omega Delta Phi AA before as Historian when it was a Board position. Also, as Song-leader I led the ladies during song learning and recording while making the Omega Song Book at 3 reunions. I was also Co-Chairman of the Constitution Committee. I am a retired teacher and have worked on several district committees including curriculum committees, technology committee, and grant writing in my schools. I also have been on several committees in other organizations including PTA (membership chairman, Secretary, constitution committee) Co-op nursery school (chairman of school, constitution committee, and Board of Trustee) Shared Decision Making, and Jaycees (citywide Easter Egg Hunt). Through these organizations I've learned how to delegate responsibility and utilize my committees.

What is your vision for the future of the ODPAA? What changes would you advocate and why?

Even without an active ODP membership, the ODPAA should be able to survive and flourish. We should be able to put more energy into philanthropy for both schools and the village of Potsdam. I also envision more events around the country that are started by the ODPAA to keep us connected.

If elected or re-elected, please describe what you seek to accomplish:

Besides what I've said above, I'd like to re-evaluate our Constitution and make changes to keep it relevant to what we do. We may need to simplify it so we actually use the Constitution. If it is too cumbersome, it may be more than what we need. I'd like to form and oversee a committee to look into this. I will also work closely with the President. I would also keep us using parliamentary procedures in our organization.

What does Omega Delta Phi mean to you? Please describe your experience as both an active member and an alumni.

It's funny because I never thought I was the sorority type. But as it turns out Omega Delta Phi has been one of the most influential things in my life. In school, my sorority helped me get through school when I was so far from home. The ladies I met then are my closest friends now. But it's more than that. There are as many, if not more women from Omega that I've met since I've graduated that are just as important to me. Both older and younger alums that I couldn't imagine not having in my life. Omega is amazing.

How would your sisters describe you?

I hope they describe me as a good friend who truly cares for them and is kind to people I meet.

Please describe your approach to communicating and working with the ODPAA membership.

I think the most important part of being an officer is communicating with the membership. If we don't keep the membership informed, they will leave and we won't have an association anymore. We won't always agree. But we need to be civilized even if we don't.

How do you deal with difficult people & situations?

Please describe a situation in which you took a position that upset someone else, and explain how you handled it. I think we have all worked with difficult people in our careers. I don't know if I've ever taken a position that upset someone else. But I have worked with a parent who was combative. I tried to find a commonality that we could share. To push back at someone only causes the other to push as well. I tried to keep it friendly and find what was truly bothering her. Through this approach I actually formed a very good relationship with her.

How do you motivate others?

I really listen to what they say. I let them know I am interested and want to learn more.

How do you handle criticism?

This is a work in progress. As I get older I handle criticism better than I did when I was younger. I separate what they are criticizing from me as a person. Just because they criticize my idea, doesn't mean they are criticizing me personally.

What top 3 qualities do you think a leader should have?

A good listener.

Well organized.

Able to say she doesn't know right now but will find out.

Would you rather be liked or respected? Why?

I would like to be liked and respected. I wouldn't want to be respected because I was feared. I also wouldn't want to be liked because I was thought of as a pushover either. To me, these go hand and hand.

How do you spend your free time?

I belong to a huge group of women who do all kinds of activities together. We are a social group like Omega and we have both social and philanthropic activities. I also sing in a Chorale. I run a Bunco Group. And on my own I go fishing, boating, swimming, I do genealogy, artwork and quilting.

For Fun: What's your 'superpower' or 'spirit animal' and why?

My superpower is my gift of gab. I enjoy learning about things from my friends.

Is there anything else that we haven't already covered/asked that you would you like to share with your sisters?

Nope. Truthfully, this is longer than most interviews I had. I think you've covered most everything. Thanks.