



Pi Chapter Newsletter

Volume 19, Number 8 April, 2020

<https://xistatepichapter.weebly.com>



**Explore, Dream, and Discover
2018-2020**

Pi Chapter Officers/Leaders

President.....	Ann Gann
1 st VP	Rhonda Phillips
2 nd VP	Linda McCune
Recording Sec.....	Patsye Thurmon
Corres. Sec.....	Laura Phillips
Parliamentarian.....	Susan Fowler
Treasurer	Kathleen Benedict
Editor /Webmaster.....	Pat Stonecipher

I began the previous newsletter with “March is here and may it bring good health and lovely spring weather.” And I continue to hope that all of you are in good health and able to enjoy the beauty of spring.

As I enjoyed the warmth of the sunshine, green grass, and early blooming plants, I found it so hard to wrap my mind around the suffering and death that is stalking us. I felt so safe and so happy to be outside. All is so “normal” in my neighborhood as I see people taking walks and hear the lawn movers and leaf blowers. Yet, I read and hear the news and know that the world as we have known it is rapidly changing. I encourage you to continue what you are doing to ensure that you and your family are safe, feed and healthy.

Both our March and April meetings were cancelled. That was the right thing to do, but I am sad that we cannot laugh, encourage and support one another face-to-face. I enjoy seeing many of you on Facebook and am so thankful for social media that allows us to stay in touch. Please reach out to your Pi sisters if you need help with getting supplies you need or to have a friendly conversation.

No decision has been made concerning our May Banquet. The Executive Board and I will “talk” around the middle of April. With the President’s extension of “stay-at-home” to April 30th and the expectation that we have not reached the peak of Covid-19 cases yet, I think we may need to also cancel the May meeting.

Sending you love and hugs and praying for God’s protection, comfort and guidance during this stressful time as each of us seeks to remain healthy and supply the needs of our families.

Ann

Tuesday, April 7, 2020

Memorial United Methodist Church

5:00 p.m.

Meal at 5:15 p.m.

Inspire

Am

Pat Stonecipher, Lisa
Laura
April Perry

Program

Installation of New Officers

Remember to Bring

- Box Tops for Education



*Wear your
DKG
pin with
pride!*

**Don't forget to mail your dues to
Kathleen Benedict!**

Pi Chapter Local News



Note: If your committee has anything to report, please submit it to Pat Stonecipher (stonecipherp@gmail.com)

Joys and Concerns

Happy April Birthdays to: Carrie Stewart and Laura Boden (1st), Rhonda F. Phillips (11th), Amanda Weaver (13th), Jennifer Taylor (14th)

Condolences to Marilyn Buckner upon the death of her husband, Richard, who passed away on March 2nd. Amanda Weaver, upon the death of her father, Cliff Stephens, who passed away on March 27.

Continued prayers for all of those working during this crisis – police, all medical personnel, essential retail workers.

Please let us know if you or another sister has had a health-related problem so that we may let the chapter members know.

Please let Pat Stonecipher (patstonecipher@att.net) know of any joys or concerns to include in the newsletter.



Our May meeting will be our annual Founders' Day Program.

Pi Chapter Local News

Announcements for Pi Chapter Members

- Do you know of someone you would like to nominate to join us in Pi Chapter? Please think of those you might want to nominate. We would like to have an induction ceremony in the spring.
- We are responsible for cleaning up and returning room to original setup (if tables and chairs are moved). Trash bags removed from cans to storage room.
- Notify Rachel Pemberton (rpemberton@acs.ac) if absence is from school activity such as teaching or attending school or other educational meeting.



I have been so impressed, amazed and thankful for the quick actions by both ACS and CCS. The immediate response to school closings by our local educators (administrators to teachers) is HEROIC - creating a “virtual school” plan, preparing and handing out work packets and food, reading to kids via Facebook and quickly getting an online classroom set up and teaching students – just to give a few examples. Our students are blessed to have forward thinking leadership that supports a strong Office of Technology and provides the needed tools for our students to be successful in a digital age.

As Kathleen Benedict said in a recent email: “Without any direction from the state department, in fact, despite them, our teachers - without any fanfare - assessed the situation, organized lessons for all their students, making each ability appropriate, organized food for all families who needed it, arranged for pickups or delivered them, maintained contact and calmness with their students and the community and managed to also take care of themselves and their families as well!! Teachers have always had to make "do", so they are the ones best prepared for any emergency! **God Bless Them!**”

Submitted by Ann Gann

Pi Chapter Local News

Just a reminder that your Pi Chapter, DKG, dues for 2020-2021, are due and payable before June 1, 2020 to the Treasurer, Kathleen Benedict. Still, 85.00. If you want to make a 15.00 donation to next year's Grant-in-Aide Fund, then you may want to increase amount to \$100.00.

You can mail your 2020-2021 dues to me: Kathleen Benedict/ P. O. Box 355/ Knoxville, TN 37901 or give it to me at the February, March, or April meetings or the May Banquet. Kathleen's cell (865) 599-1646

If you need to make a down payment and then payments, mail the first payment to the same address or give it to me at the same above-named meetings or May Banquet. [4 payments 21.25 each; 3 payments 28.33 each; 2 payments 40.00 + 45.00]

The important thing is to communicate with me or our President, Ann Gann (865 457-4669), or the Finance Chair, Lucy Van Cleeve(865 690-5766).



Founders' Day Banquet

May 5, 2020\

Gather at 5 p.m. Eat at 5:30 p.m.

Memorial United Methodist Church

Speaker: Dr. Beverly Hall, Tennessee State Organization President

Fajita Bar/Dessert/Drinks \$15

Make your reservations now!

Kathleen will be ready to collect your \$15 along with your dues in the upcoming meetings

Just in Case!



Abbi Hill attended the Tennessee State Beginning Leadership Management Seminar, March 13-14, 2020 at the Natchez Trace State Park in Wildersville, Tennessee.)



Treasurer's Report

March 2020

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL, PI CHAPTER

TREASURER'S REPORT

KATHLEEN BENEDICT, TREASURER

BEGINNING BALANCE..... 6,485.19

DISBURSEMENTS..... - 113.59 DEPOSITS.....

..... + 133.64

ENDING BALANCE..... + **6,505.24**

TOTALS IN EACH FUND:

Grant in Aide Fund **1,279.17**

(Funded by donations and fundraisers.) [279.17 over 1,000.00 goal]

Balance 03-31-2020 1218.17 + 61.00 March Happy Jar = 1,279.17

Summary Vera Jo Henegar Scholarship Gifts 3,270.00

Memorial donations to date 1-28 100.00; 2-5 1,305.00; 2-13 400.00; 2-19 940.00;

2-25 50.00; 3-22 150.00; 4-8 125.00; 4-18 50.00; 4-30 100.00; 5-1 100.00;

5-7 50.00 5-7 - 100.00 transfer to regular fund cost of scholarship award wrominners and guests Total = 3,270.00 38 gifts, all receipted and acknowledged

Xi State Convention Fund for First Time Attendees 400.00

Balance 03-31-20 [When the goal of 1,000.00 has been reached for two recruitment grants, Happy Jar money will go towards the fund for Xi State first time attendees.* If no one applies, all monies will remain in Grant - in - Aide Fund.] Voted January, 2016.

Hazel McCREARY CLASSROOM GRANT FUND 402.24

(Funded by donations only.)

Balance 03-31-20 402.24

Discretionary FUND..... 72.20

(Funded by donations only.)

Balance 03-31-20-Beginning balance 72.20

AVAILABLE REGULAR FUND 1,081.63

(Member dues, collected each year, fund a budget for this fund.)

Beginning balance 03-31-20 1,122.58 + 45.00 reservations to May Banquet

+ 27.64 Schools for Africa donations -20.00 fee for Application Order of the Rose

- 93.59 contribution to UNICEF Schools for Africa from Pi Chapter 2019-2020

= 1,081.63

Total Money in Account: 6,505.24

CC: Ann Gann, President, Lucy Van Cleve, Financial Committee Chairman,
Patsy Thurmon, Recording Secretary

2020-2021 Dues Pi Chapter Deposits*

[*These funds will remain separate from 2019-2020 funds until July 1, 2020.]

Dues

January 2020 - 85.00

February 2020 - 963.33

Donations

Grant-in-Aide

135.00

L. VanCleve, A. Gann, L. McCune,

P. Thurmon, T. Gilbert, P. Stonecipher,

D. Conley

Discretionary Fund

45.00

K. Benedict

D. Alsop

P. Aldridge

Total dues collected 1,755.33

Summary 3/25/2020 Active 21/50 members paid
Reserve 1/3members paid
 (Chapter pays for 1 Reserve member)
Chapter Honorary 1
 (Does not pay, but she always donates!)
54 Total Members

Items Needed for our Founders' Day Banquet

If you have any of the following items please contact me. We need these hats for the Founders Day Program.

- broad brimmed flowered party hat
- country bonnet
- green accountant shade
- big straw hat
- head band with black bow
- sequined dinner hat

Just in Case!

Thanks! Paula Campbell

Our Tennessee State Organization convention will be June 4-6 at the University of the South, Sewanee, TN. We have co-presidents who will be presented at the convention and we have nominated members for Order of the Rose and Rosebud Award. I know you want to be there to support these ladies.

Link to registration form on homepage <https://www.xistate.org/>

If you hope to attend our state convention, please let me know now so that we can begin the process of selecting dorms and lining up our rides.

Ann

Pi Chapter Local News



Spotlight on Members

Lisa Smith earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from The University of Tennessee, Knoxville and her Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) from Lincoln Memorial University. She began her teaching career as an intern at Anderson County High School, but she was hired in November as a full-time teacher at her alma mater, Clinton High School, where she remained from 2006 through 2017. During her teaching career, Lisa taught both ninth and tenth grade English and grades ten through twelve in her creative writing class. Many people ultimately inspired Lisa to become a teacher. She credits her mother for sparking her love of reading by reading to her nonstop as a child. Ray Oliver made her a better writer and a better all-around person through her time in his creative writing class. Fellow DKG member Rhonda Phillips also influenced her through the assigned books and projects that she still remembers. Angela Carico, current assistant principal at CHS, helped prepare her for college by holding her feet to the fire and drilling passive verbs into her head. Finally, she considers DeWayne Emert to be a life mentor; as many of us know, any teacher would be lucky to have a mentor like that. Even though Lisa has stepped away from the classroom to raise her two children, she is busier than ever with her photography business and as owner of Clinch Valley CrossFit. She still loves to travel even though beach visits are now more about sand castles and less about margaritas. She enjoys relaxing by reading, listening to podcasts, and binging Netflix shows. Even though Lisa is known for being fit and healthy, she still gets winded going up stairs and can never resist a cookies and cream blizzard from Dairy Queen!



Patsye Thurmon earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Auburn University, her master's from Memphis State University, her special education certification from UT Martin, and her certification in administration and supervision from The University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She began her teaching career in Dyersburg, Tennessee where she taught Title I math for grades 2-6 for eight years. She then taught resource reading and math for one year, a CDC class for a year and a half, and homebound county-wide for the remainder of her time in West Tennessee. After she moved to East Tennessee, she was busy throughout the Anderson County system. She began in 1991 by teaching resource reading at Norris Elementary, spent two years teaching math at the alternative school, monitored special education records at Central Office for a year, went back to the alternative school for a year, and then moved to Clinton High School for a year to teach in the Second Chance Program. In 1997, Patsye moved back to the alternative school where she taught upper level math until 2004; in 2005, she returned to Clinton High School and spent eight years as a transition coordinator. She spent her final year back at the alternative school in the 21st Century Workplace Program. Patsye was a born teacher and started by teaching her younger brother and sister at home. In the summer of fifth grade, she pedaled down to the local elementary school to teach at Head Start. Patsye came prepared with her first lesson plans, a book to read and a prepared craft for the children to complete. To relax, Patsye loves to read, knit, work jigsaw and crossword puzzles, play the piano, lift weights, and spend time with her dog, Sally. She also regularly visits the animal shelter to write newspaper features on adoptable animals in an effort to find them forever homes. While Patsye saves animals now, in high school she was known for showing them. She showed cattle throughout the state and was even FFA Queen her junior year!



Xi State News

From Beverly Hall, President

State Website Updates

Please go to our Tennessee State Organization website to view changes to the site (xistate.org).

Xi State Vision Foundation has a new page entitled Vision Foundation. Members can view the 2020 Vision Foundation grant recipients and a brief description of their projects.

Educational Excellence Committee (EEC) has a new page entitled EEC Corner. Members can view or download chapter projects and programs shared by Tennessee chapters. Project and program ideas have been broken down into the following categories: Community; Global Awareness; New Teacher Educators; Historical Events & Women's Suffrage; Legislative; Literacy; Physical, Social, Emotional Wellbeing; and Miscellaneous.

Music on the Mountain – Request from Music Representative Nancy Davis

If you play an instrument (especially piano) and would like to share your talent, please let Music Representative Nancy Davis know via e-mail nini02@embarqmail.com by April 1, 2020. (I am sure she would welcome an email even now)

Related Personnel Applications - Personnel Committee Chair Dr. Dovie Kimmins

State Webmaster

Applications for Tennessee State Webmaster for July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2022 are being accepted by the Tennessee State Personnel Committee. Information regarding the duties and roles of the state webmaster are attached and available in the Personnel Manual on the state website (Resources, Forms & Applications, Personnel Manual). Application deadline is May 15, 2020.

State Editor

Applications for Tennessee State Editor for July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2023 are being accepted by the Tennessee State Personnel Committee. Information regarding the duties and roles of the state editor are available in the Personnel Manual on the state website (Resources, Form/Applications, Personnel Manual). Editor application deadline is October 31, 2020.

Nominations- Committee Chair Mary Jo Wilson

Tennessee Nominations Committee is looking for dynamic chapter members to run for state officers and state elected committees. State Officer Nomination forms and State Elected Committee Nomination forms as well as Endorsement Forms are available on the state website (Resources, Forms & Applications). Forms are due October 31, 2020.

Moments from our March meeting Presentation by Tom Holland “Legislative Update”

Legislative Update Given at March meeting

Tom Hopkins, TEA UniServe Rep provided a legislative update at our March meeting.

The following items were mentioned but as far as I could tell were not finalized and may never be: Caseloads for special education teachers, two-week training for K-2 teachers in underperforming schools, limiting extra hours for teacher duties to 1 hour per week, teachers not being considered state employees, health care provided for teachers from time of retirement until eligible for Medicare for a total of 5 years, nurses in all schools, freedom from being criminally charged for restraint of students by teachers or bus drivers

He said that there were some small rural school systems with armed teachers. He mentioned the voucher lawsuits and the litigants' claim that vouchers are against the state constitution. A question was asked about teachers in the future not being state employees. He said it was a gray area.

By sending a request to asmirnov@tnea.org, you can receive email updates about actions in the General Assembly concerning education. You may already receive these. The address was in our last TEA Public School Advocate.

Submitted by Diane Alsop

