



# Pi Chapter Newsletter

Volume 15, Number 6 February, 2016

[http://xistatepichapter.com/public\\_html](http://xistatepichapter.com/public_html)



## Growing Possibilities 2015-2016

- Pi Chapter Officers/Leaders**
- President.....Deckie Conley
  - 1<sup>st</sup> VP .....Paula Campbell
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> VP ..... Gwen Payne
  - Recording Sec.....Pat Aldridge
  - Corres. Sec.....Rhonda Phillips
  - Parliamentarian.....Ann Brown
  - Treasurer ..... Kathleen Benedict
  - Editor /Webmaster.....Pat Stonecipher

Dear Pi Sisters,

I believe winter has finally arrived. I look forward to our first snow, but I want it to be enough to cancel school. I love gazing at the beauty of sparkling clean snow covering trees, roofs and railings. But I remember the treachery of just enough snow to make some roads slick but not enough to call off school. Snow can be great for retirees but a real headache for those who must get out.

For those attending the DKG International Convention in Nashville, it is time to register. The "DKG News" from International for Jan/Feb contains the registration form on page 9. We need to decide on roommates and make hotel reservations. The registration information for Xi State Convention should be published in the next issue of "Xi State News." If you have never been to a Xi State Convention, let me encourage you to attend at least one time. It is really a part of being in DKG. Think about the great friends you have made, meaningful projects you have been a part of, and challenges you have met here at the chapter level. Now magnify all that and you have what it is like at the state level; some of the most outstanding personalities you will ever meet.

In order to register for either convention, each member needs to be up-to-date with her member identification. Members must also use this new ID to gain access to the members-only area of the DKG website. Go to [dkg.org](http://dkg.org), "My DKG." Use your member ID number for the user name and the default password is dkg2014society. If you do not know your member ID, contact either Kathleen Benedict or myself.

Our nominations committee is working on the new slate of officers for 2016-2018. When a committee member approaches you to be an officer, please say yes. If you do not know what is involved for that office, a good place to start is our yearbook, which lists the responsibilities for each office. You don't know but what that particular office is something you may feel good about. If there is an office you would rather do or an office you are interested in, please say so. Felecia Reynolds is chair for nominations and she would love to talk with you about being an officer.

Our program for this month features our corresponding secretary Rhonda Phillips. She will talk about heart health. We will also hear from the Rules Committee about changes in the chapter's rules. This month includes Valentine's Day (think chocolate) and adds a day to make Leap Year. WooHoo! An extra day of winter.

Deckie

**Tuesday, February 2, 2016**  
**Memorial United Methodist Church**  
**5:00 p.m.**

**Inspiration**  
Patsye Thurman

**Hostesses**  
Laura Boden, Lucy VanCleve, Pam Allen,  
Lisa Swisher, Louise Childress, Susan  
Fowler, Kay Porter


**Program**  
Matters of the Heart

**Business**  
Recommendation for New Members

**Remember to Bring**

Change for Change Donations  
Box Tops for Education

*Wear your official DKG pin  
or pay fifty cents.*



**Don't forget – If Anderson  
County Schools are closed, our  
meeting will be cancelled!**

## Pi Chapter Local News

### Joys and Concerns

**Happy February Birthdays to:** Vikki Burns (2<sup>nd</sup>), Diane Alsop and Susan Jonely(27<sup>th</sup>)

Condolences to Kelly Ray Williams on the death of her father in December.

Congratulations to Julie Capps who received her Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction!



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](mailto:patstonecipher@att.net)) know of any joys or concerns to include in the newsletter.

### Dates to Remember

#### February 2, 2016

Pi Chapter Meeting  
Matters of the Heart (Rhonda Phillips)

New Member Recommendations

#### March 1, 2016

Pi Chapter Meeting  
Legislative Issues

#### April 5, 2016

Pi Chapter Meeting  
Initiation

#### May 3, 2016

Pi Chapter Meeting  
Founder's Day Banquet  
Installation of Officers

### Recipe Corner

**Potato Bacon Chowder** (submitted by Gwen Payne – served at our January meeting)

- 1 cup chopped onions
- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 cup chopped carrot
- 3 cups diced red potatoes (skin on)
- 1- 1 pound bacon (cut into small pieces)
- 1 cup all purpose flour
- 1/8 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 6 cups chicken broth
- 1 quart half and half
- 16 oz. sour cream
- 1 tblsp. dried parsley
- 1 tblsp. dried basil
- 2 tblsp. Morton Natures Seasoning (spice blend)
- Grated cheddar cheese to garnish (optional)



*This is a new feature for our Pi Chapter Newsletter. If you have a favorite recipe that you just KNOW we all would love to try, please submit it to [patstonecipher@att.net](mailto:patstonecipher@att.net).*

In a heavy soup pot, sauté bacon and olive oil until crisp over medium heat. Add onion, celery, carrot and sauté for 5 minutes. Add flour to these ingredients, and cook this roux for approximately 10 minutes (it will get very thick). Heat chicken stock in a separate pot or microwave and whisk into roux. Increase heat to medium-high. Bring to a boil for 2 minutes to thicken, then, reduce heat to medium-low. Add basil, parsley, Natures Seasoning, potatoes, and half and half. Simmer for 30 minutes or until potatoes are fork tender. Whisk in sour cream just before serving. Garnish with grated cheddar cheese.

## Pi Chapter Local News

### MEMBERSHIP MINUTES

Membership recommendation forms will be available at our January meeting and will be due in February. We will vote in March and initiate in April. This will be our last initiation this biennium, so please nominate that special teacher you have had in mind. You can bring your nominations or email them to Diane Alsop -- [dianealsop@comcast.net](mailto:dianealsop@comcast.net)

### Clinton High School Students Finish 13<sup>th</sup> at NCF Envirothon

From left to right - Karen Abercrombie, Wesley Queener, Daniel Sain, Courtney Johns, and Rachel Ryan.

These Clinton High students finished 13<sup>th</sup> in the nation at the recent NCF Envirothon Competition at Missouri State University.

Five Clinton High students competed in the 27<sup>th</sup> annual North American Envirothon competition, held this year at Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri. They competed against 52 state and provincial championship teams from across the US and Canada, capturing 13<sup>th</sup> place overall. This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> best effort ever by a Tennessee team at this level of competition. The competition is sponsored by the National Conservation Foundation and is open to high school students across North America.

The students won the right to represent Tennessee by winning regional and state competitions this spring. Each year over 500,000 high school students from over 4,000 high schools compete in local and state Envirothon contests, with state winners advancing to the national finals. Students are tested in five areas: Aquatic Ecology, Wildlife Management, Forestry, Soil Science, and a special topic that varies each year. This year's special topic was Urban Forestry.

Sara Idzak, Pi Chapter member, is one of the faculty sponsors of this group.



Your challenges will not flee,  
even if you do.

*Amy Dickenson*

## Pi Chapter Local News

### TREASURER'S "TIDBITS" \$\$\$\$\$\$

In order to minimize the time I talk at meetings, I thought that I might include in the newsletter some thoughts that you would find of interest. Hope these help! Kathleen Benedict

- ✓ Thank you to all members for submitting dues! I am still waiting on a few members to pay on make last payments on dues. Please remember to take care of this important detail.
- ✓ Pi Chapter currently has 59 active members, 2 reserve members and 1 chapter honorary member, for a grand total of 62.
- ✓ The Treasurer's Report will reflect changes made by motion at the January meeting! We now have a "Xi State Convention Fund for First Time Attendees" area on the report. This is exciting!

Progress Towards Recruitment Grant – Goal \$1,000 **February, 2016**

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Lasagna Dinner and the Silent Auction!

Here is the progress thus far towards our \$1,000 goal to provide to grants to seniors from CHS and ACHS who will major in education:

Beginning balance ..... \$924.37 November, 2015

Happy Jar..... \$70.00 January, 2016

TOTAL 1-31-2016.....\$994.37 FUNDS STILL NEEDED: \$5.73!!!!

If we continue to use the Happy Jar money for the recruitment grant and if, when possible, each member could put in a little extra, then we can meet our goal without another fundraiser. Members have been very generous with funds for our worthy goal!



The most violent element in  
society is ignorance  
*Emma Goldman*

## Important Legislative Update

### **This is a Call to Action!**

You are needed to take action to **block TN House Bill 1049!**

A school voucher program, House Bill 1049 made its way out of a House budget subcommittee, and helping clear a major obstacle for the legislation. The bill passed on a voice vote, and it was unclear who voted for the bill. Also, the bill was pushed thru on a snowy day, with a key Republican opponent out for surgery.

This Voucher program offer government-funded scholarships that can be used for private school tuition. Vouchers drain money from our public schools and private schools are the ones who will have "choice" as they do not take all children and our public schools do. NO new state funding is being offered for this voucher program – money will come from public schools!

The second list is democrats on the committee who are not in support of this bill, but need to know they are supported.

Since it is an election year for all these members, **please pass along to friends** who live in these districts & encourage them to contact their representative! Contacts from constituents tend to be given more attention!

Please call and email before **Tuesday's** voucher vote.

#### **Republicans on Committee:**

**Charles Sargent** Phone: (615) 741-6808 [rep.charles.sargent@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.charles.sargent@capitol.tn.gov) Dist. 61 Franklin, TN Chair  
**David Alexander** Phone: (615) 741-8695 [rep.david.alexander@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.david.alexander@capitol.tn.gov) Dist. 39 Winchester, TN Vice Chair  
**Kevin Brooks** Phone: (615) 741-1350 [rep.kevin.brooks@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.kevin.brooks@capitol.tn.gov) Dist. 24 Cleveland, TN  
**Mike Carter** Phone: (615) 741-3025 [rep.mike.carter@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.mike.carter@capitol.tn.gov) Dist. 28, Ooltewah, TN  
**Bill Dunn** Phone: (615) 741-1721 [rep.bill.dunn@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.bill.dunn@capitol.tn.gov) Dist. 16, Knoxville, TN  
**David Hawk** Phone (615) 741-7482 [rep.david.hawk@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.david.hawk@capitol.tn.gov) Dist. 5, Greenville, TN  
**Patsy Hazelwood** Phone: (615) 741-2746 [rep.patsy.hazelwood@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.patsy.hazelwood@capitol.tn.gov) Dist. 27, Signal Mountain, TN  
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**Steve McDaniel** Phone: (615) 741-0750 [rep.steve.mcdaniel@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.steve.mcdaniel@capitol.tn.gov) . Dist. 72, Parkers Crossroads, TN  
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**Curry Todd** Phone: (615) 741-1866 [rep.curry.todd@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.curry.todd@capitol.tn.gov) Dist. 95, Collierville, TN

#### **Democrats on Committee:**

**Karen Camper** Phone (615) 741-1898 [rep.karen.camper@capitol.tn.gov](mailto:rep.karen.camper@capitol.tn.gov) Dist. 87, Memphis, TN  
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## **Xi State News International News**

### **EDUCATION BILL SIGNED INTO LAW**

#### ***U.S. FORUM CONNECTION #144, DECEMBER 2015***

[acronyms: NCLB = No Child Left Behind; ESEA = Elementary and Secondary Education Act; ESSA = Every Student Succeeds Act]

The new education bill which was passed and signed into law is now being referred to as ESSA. It will not take effect until the 2017-18 school year. Any state waivers which were granted under NCLB will expire August 1, 2016. The 2016-17 school year will be transitional between NCLB and ESSA as states develop policies to comply with the new law. Major issues which the new law addresses are testing and accountability, teacher evaluation, grants and fiscal accountability. The Congressional Record summary of the bill follows.

“The bill provides states with increased flexibility and responsibility for developing accountability systems, deciding how federally required tests should be weighed, selecting additional measures of student and school performance, and implementing teacher evaluation systems.

It includes grants for providing language instruction educational programs, improving low-performing schools, and developing programs for American Indian and Alaska Native students. The bill provides rural school districts with increased flexibility in using federal funding. It also revises the Impact Aid formula.

The bill requires school districts to consult stakeholders in planning and implementing programs to improve student safety, health, well-being, and academic achievement.

It combines two existing charter school programs into one program that includes grants for high-quality charter schools, facilities financing assistance, and replication and expansion.

The bill provides states with flexibility in meeting maintenance of effort requirements for state and local education funding to supplement federal assistance.

The bill prohibits the Department of Education from imposing certain requirements on states or school districts seeking waivers from federal laws.

It provides that ESEA dollars may be used to improve early childhood education programs and specifies requirements to ensure that homeless youth have access to all services provided by the states and school districts.”

(Remember that this bill sets forth policies; however, the funding to implement these policies will be determined by the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee and possibly a joint committee to resolve differences in the bills from the two bodies.)

#### **Important Dates from Xi State**

**June 2-4, 2016: Xi State Convention, Sewanee**

**July 5-9, 2016: International DKG Conference:**  
Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN

#### **Important Dates from International**

**July 14-18, 2015** Southeast Regional at  
Westin Hotel in Savannah, Georgia

**July 5-9, 2016** International at Gaylord  
Opryland Hotel in Nashville, TN

***Xi State...Growing Possibilities***