



Pi Chapter Newsletter

Volume 22, Number 5 January, 2023

<https://xistatepichapter.weebly.com>



**Anywhere is
Home
2020-2022**

Pi Chapter Officers/Leaders

President.....	Diane Alsop
1 st VP.....	Amanda Powers
2 nd VP.....	Vikki Burns
Recording Sec	Ann Gann
Corres. Sec	Kathy Hurst
Parliamentarian.....	Linda McCune
Treasurer	Kathleen Benedict
Editors/Webmasters.....	Pat Stonecipher Chelsi Meredith

Dear Sisters,

We bid goodbye to 2022 charmed by the Clinton High School choir and our heartstrings tugged by Andrea Townsend when she told us about Isaiah House 1:17. Having looked up Isaiah 1:17 in the Bible prior to the meeting, I found there was no way to tie this Bible verse to the house being built in Clinton. Andrea put that first impression to rest when she said that at 1:17 each day, all work directed at completing the house ceased and all workers prayed for the children it would shelter. She also gave each of us a bracelet that could serve as reminder to take part in this time of prayer. Then, the lighthearted silent auction filled with laughter and an array of wonderful items made the evening complete. Thank you for your orchestration of this event, Patsye!

We will welcome the New Year by welcoming new sisters. See article below. Everyone who has had contact with them has been excited that they will be joining us and bringing new ideas and talents to our sisterhood. Also in January, Jeni Irwin, vice principal at Anderson County High School, will speak about Anderson County Schools New Teacher Institute and its ongoing efforts to support teachers new to the profession. In a widely quoted study, Abdallah (2009) notes that 50% of teachers are likely to leave the profession within five years. Of the first-year teachers assigned a mentor in 2007-2008, around 8% left the profession in 2008-2009. Of the first-year teachers not assigned a mentor during those same years, about 16% were not teaching the next year and about 23% were no longer in the profession by 2009-2010. (*Beginning Teacher Attrition and Mobility*, Institute of Education Science, 2011, p. 3) In another study outlined in the *International Journal of Educational Research*, Volume 62, pages 259-268, the results suggest that improving student engagement, experiencing professional challenges, and enjoying collegial support are the most important factors influencing teacher decisions to stay in the profession. Beginning teachers polled in this study indicated that remuneration, recognition, and external factors such as class size and location play a lesser role in their decision to remain as teachers. Chapters across Tennessee have ways they have supported new teachers listed on tndkg.org. Some endeavors mirror the support we have given in the past while others are admirable and quite different. After considering the research and hearing our speaker, we should be able to institute a successful pathway employed in the past or a new channel of support for local early educators.

(continued on next page)

Tuesday, January 10, 2023
5 p.m.
Memorial United Methodist
Church – Fellowship Hall

Hostesses: Pat Aldridge, Diane
Alsop, Abbi Hill, Chelsi
Meredith, Shannon Cramblitt,
Pat Stonecipher

Inspiration
Amanda Powers

Program
Jeni Irwin, Vice Principal,
ACHS, “New Teacher
Institute/Teacher Retention
Members “Special Objects”

Business
Induction of New Members
TNSO DKG Essay Contest
Report, TNSO DKG Updates

**Be sure to bring an
object that is special
to you!**



Pi Chapter Local News

This year's Pi Chapter yearbook is dedicated to Louise Childress, our oldest member. Louise adeptly shared her talents in music and art with her students during her teaching career. Another career she could have excelled in would have been as a stand-up comedian. Her quick wit and one-liners make her fun to be around, traits her students were sure to enjoy. What a charming lady she is! Josh Anderson, chairman of the Anderson County Commission, will be our guest speaker in February. Josh will provide an overview of educational issues being addressed at the commission and answer any questions we may have. Louise will be coming to our meeting; Josh represents Norris where she lives. Be sure to mark your calendars for this special evening.

Pi Chapter Second Vice President Vikki Burns submitted our yearbook to TNSO First Vice President Marsha Brewer in early December earning Highest Honors for her hard work. Thank you, Vikki! Others have submitted required documents in a timely manner but will not know the status of their awards until spring. Knowing that each has received Highest Honors in the past, we can expect that will be the case this year. Shout-out to Pat S. and Kathleen!

The following message was sent by TNSO President Elaine Vaughan in the January issue of *From the Heart*: "Welcome 2023 and Happy New Year TNSODKG. January 1st is a day known for making resolutions. Every year, millions of people set New Year's resolutions. However, 23% of people quit by the end of the first week and only 9% of the population successfully keep their New Year's resolutions. Nevertheless, the TNSO has been part of the 9% who has focused on a resolution concerning membership over several years. Beginning in the fall of 2021, chapter presidents participated in the Connections Survey and the Strategic Plan. The Reinstatement Project as well as the work on realignment of chapters in areas are other ongoing approaches for membership." Information concerning the Reinstatement Project was received by Pi Chapter Membership Chair Pat Aldridge who plans to work with the state and/or individually on reinstatement. In fact, three Pi Chapter members have already been reinstated during this biennium.

Let's make support of Pi Chapter one of our resolutions and be part of the 9% who succeed in accomplishing their New Year's goal! Looking forward to seeing everyone at the January 10 meeting! Don't forget to bring an item that is meaningful to you, but not of monetary value to share at Happy Jar time. Happy thoughts in lieu of or in addition to are always appreciated.

Diane



Future Programs

January – Jeni Irwin, Anderson County Schools' New Teacher Institute/Teacher Retention; Bring a special object that means something to you

February – Josh Anderson, Anderson County Commissioner, Local Educational Issues

March – Amy Morrow, "All Things Houseplants" and Maegan Elliott "Planter Plants; Legislative Update

April – Jazzy Dragons (in Honor of Jazz month); Induction of New Members

May – Founders' Day/ 80th Birthday Celebration with Becky Sadowski

Pi Chapter Local News

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of comfort and condolences for:

Continued Prayers for Pi Chapter's wonderful Laura Fitzgerald Phillips. Rhonda sent us Laura's address if you would like to drop her a card! (Laura Phillips, Ft. Sanders Specialty Select, Room 722, 50119th Street, Knoxville, TN 37916)

Prayers for members' husbands facing health issues.

Happy January Birthdays to: Mary Ruth Cook (9th), Felecia Reynolds (11th)

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 (stonecipherp@gmail.com) or Chelsi Meredith (cdmeredith2014@gmail.com) know of any joys or concerns to include in the newsletter.

SPECIAL NOTE FOR HOSTESSES

We are blessed that Memorial United Methodist Church will continue to provide Pi Chapter with the use of the fellowship hall at no charge. Instead of being deposited in the custodial closet, bags of trash should now be taken out to one of the two blue bins to the right of the back entrance of the church and located behind the Blessing Box. Because of a past issue, a \$50 cleanup charge (if needed) will be instituted in January. There has never been a problem concerning the condition of the hall after our meetings. The church committee in charge of scheduling the fellowship hall is very happy with the way we leave the facility.

Education News

Nashville, Shelby County to appeal court's dismissal of Tennessee school voucher case

Click here to learn more...

<https://tn.chalkbeat.org/2023/1/3/23537802/tennessee-school-voucher-appeal-esa-nashville-shelby-county-bill-lee>

Pi Chapter Local News



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Great news, Pi Chapter! We will be inducting new members at our meeting on Tuesday. Vicki Bible is a 4th grade teacher at Clinton Elementary, Lorrie Irwin is a technology coach and technology teacher for Clinton City Schools, and Jackie Stephan is a retired kindergarten teacher. Vicki and Lorrie attended our November meeting, and Lorrie presented information about the STEM programs at Clinton City Schools. We are so excited to have these ladies join us. Make them feel welcome!

Pi Chapter is hoping to join in the “Reinstatement Campaign” which President Elaine Vaughan and Chapter Strengthening Chair Beverly Hall-Maughan are implementing. They are reviewing those who have dropped their DKG memberships and are sending letters encouraging them to consider reinstatement. We have requested information to see what we need to do to be a part of this campaign.

Just for fun and so we can learn more about our chapter sisters, please bring a short tidbit of information about yourself that others may not know to the meeting. I will have index cards available at the check-in desk and an envelope for them. If we get enough responses, I'll type them and we'll learn some fun and interesting things about each other. If you can't be at the meeting, you can email your information to me at phaldrige73@gmail.com. Don't hold back. I promise not to send anything into the Courier!

Submitted by Pat Aldridge

Note: If your committee has anything to report, please submit it to Pat Stonecipher (stonecipher@gmail.com) or Chelsi Meredith (cdmeredith2014@gmail.com) know of any joys or concerns to include in the newsletter.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING after the regular meeting on January 10.

Congratulations to our 2nd VP!

Happy New Year, Vikki!

I am pleased to let you know that Pi's Yearbook has earned Highest Honors for the Tennessee State Organization. I know that your yearbook will serve as a valuable resource to your chapter members with information about all levels of DKG. Attached to this email is a certificate that you can print out and display with your other chapter awards. Congratulations!

Thank you,

Marsha Brewer

DKG

Tennessee State Organization First VP

Treasurer's Report

December 2022 DELTA KAPPA GAMMA, PI CHAPTER

TREASURER'S REPORT

KATHLEEN BENEDICT, TREASURER

kbbenedict21@yahoo.com

BEGINNING BALANCE.....	6,876.05*
Deposits	+ 295.00
DISBURSEMENTS.....	- 100.00
ENDING BALANCE.....	7,071.05
*Corrected beginning balance from November Report. November Report corrected.	

TOTALS IN EACH FUND

Grant-in-Aide Fund (Funded by donations and fundraisers) 1,131.40
 Balance 12-31-2022 Beginning Bal: 836.40 + 50.00 Happy Jar + 230.00 sale of raffle tickets for Silent Auction + 15.00 sale of table flowers = 1,131.40

Vera Jo Henegar Scholarship Fund 3,324.17
 Established in Memory of Pi Chapter member Vera Henegar and funded with kind gifts...

Xi State Convention Fund for First Time Attendees* 0.01
 Balance 12-31-2022 0.01 [Includes Gifts In Memory of Joe Tackett, husband of Paula]

Discretionary Fund (Funded by donations.) 298.10
 Balance 12-31-2022 = 298.10

Hazel McCreary Classroom Grant Fund (Funded by donations.) 219.24
 Balance 1-31-2022 219.24

AVAILABLE REGULAR FUND..... 2,098.13
(Member dues, collected each year, fund a budget for this fund.)
 12-31-2022 Beginning Bal. 2,198.13 - 100.00 donation to CHS Advanced Choir = 2,098.13

TOTAL MONEY IN ACCOUNT..... 7,071.05

Anna Mae Lane Memorial Fund (Established by gifts from the family and friends of Mrs. Lane in tribute to her longtime service to education.) Balance 12-31-2022 = 210.00
 [This fund part of the Regular Fund.]

[*When the goal of \$1,000.00 has been reached for the 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.]

Pi Chapter Local News
Moments from our December meeting with Clinton
High School Chorus, McCall Bohannon, Choral
Director and
Andrea Townsend, Isaiah1:17 House





State and International News

Inside International Monthly Zooms Hosted by International Leadership and Headquarters Staff Tuesday, January 10 at 12:30 p.m. Central Time/1:30 p.m. Eastern Time

Did you know members are invited to join a monthly Zoom with international leadership and headquarters staff? Look for the link in the rotating feature for “Inside International” on the home page at www.dkg.org. The Zoom is held on the first Tuesday each month and will include greetings, Question & Answer sessions, and general information brought to you by staff, administrative board, and international committee members. Zoom will take place at 5:30 p.m. Central Time/6:30 p.m. Eastern Time in February.

Digital Chapter Presidents' Page

Please use the following link to watch the video from International President, Dr. Debbie LeBlanc, and Membership Director, Trish Woodley, in December 2022/January 2023 updates in information. There is also a shoutout to the TNSO members. https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLqsKf5cYj-q6lQ-Aksxb3eWnugV_cLv56

Virtual Events

If you or your chapter would like to present a virtual workshop, please contact TNSO President Dr. Elaine Vaughan, mevaughan@ortn.edu at any time to schedule for the 2022-2023 year. Please enjoy these virtual workshops with your chapter members, friends, and family members.

Recordings for Past Virtual Workshops (Virtual Workshop Recordings may also be found on the tndkg.org website Resources/Virtual Events)

Zoom Caroling Virtual Event

Presenter: Nancy Davis, Music Representative EEC

Please enjoy Zoom Caroling as Nancy Davis, Music Representative for EEC, leads TNSO members in singing Christmas carols. Nancy Davis will also be a featured soloist with Kathy Smith, Harriet King, and Beth Naylor sharing a Christmas poem or reading.

Recording Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZXB80-x8b2M>

February Virtual Event

Informational Webinar on the Suggested Realignment of Areas and the Reinstatement Project

Presenter: Chapter Strengthening Committee

Date: Thursday, February 9, 2023, 7:00 p.m. CST/8:00 p.m. EST

Please join this virtual event to learn how TNSO is working with chapters with realigning the areas and revitalizing membership.

Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/sWjAUgrpU8X99jq2A>

State and International News

Important Time Dated Information for Chapters January, February, and March

(Most events may be found on the www.tndkg.org website under the Calendar.)

Tennessee State Scholarships: Due February 1, 2023

The Tennessee State Scholarship Application is now available, so members are encouraged to start their application process. All parts of the application must be submitted electronically to Donna Campbell campbelld1013@gmail.com no later than **February 1, 2023**, though earlier submissions are more than welcome (please!). Applications may be found on the state website under *Resources/Scholarship and Grant Applications*. Please contact a member of the scholarship committee if you have questions.



Educational Excellence: Iris Award Due April 1, 2023.

The Tennessee State Educational Excellence Committee would like to announce an upcoming award that will be instituted for chapter programs and projects. The "Iris Award" will be given at the Tennessee State Convention to the chapter that submits the best program or project. There will be an award in each of those categories. This award will be for chapters that submit their program and/or project to the EEC Corner Spotlight and then complete an "Iris Award" application. The applications will be judged on the following criteria: Relationship to Society Purposes, Involvement of Members, and Impact of the Program or Project. The EEC committee has seen so many excellent programs and projects submitted to the EEC Corner Spotlight and would like to see more recognition given to chapters in this area.



State and International News

International News and Deadlines (In order to view some information, you might need to log in to International Website with your member ID number and password. You may always use the chat if you are not sure how to log-in with your information.)

International Conferences for 2023

For information on the International Conferences in Detroit, Phoenix, and Finland, go to the International website www.dkg.org under Events. The TNSO will hold the Tennessee Event in Phoenix, Arizona.

***DKG Publications:** There are many articles and publications on the International Website concerning current issues with regards to our DKG Society, education, just to mention a few. Use the link,

<https://www.dkg.org/PublicationsPrivate?WebsiteKey=f2a9f9b2-97e4-46ea-a2f2-6b3771b0cb9d>

***DKG Blogs:** International Committees have Blog Spots. Interested? Check out the following: <http://dkgsi.blogspot.com/>

From the EEC: Debut of the International EEC Newsletter

The International EEC Committee has created a newsletter called “The EEC Umbrella”, and contains information on educator tips, recent activities, mentoring moments, global facts, EEC Booklist, Featured Blogs and Articles, and International EEC Committee Member contact information. To view the EEC Newsletter, go to the state website, www.tndkg.org, *EEC*. More information may also be found at www.dkg.org under *Blogs* and *EEC*.

State and International News

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Legislative Education and Legislation February and March 2023

Beginning in 1979, TNSO DKG has recognized the value of communicating directly with our state and federal legislators, particularly in support of our students and teachers. Members of the committee will host the Legislative Symposium in February and the Legislative Prep Rally followed by the Day on the Hill in March.

Tentative dates for the Legislative Symposium, Prep Rally and Day on the Hill are the following:

1. Virtual Legislative Symposium: Thursday, February 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. Central Time/8:00 p.m. Eastern Time.
2. The Prep Rally will be an in-person event the night before the Day on the Hill. Tentative dates are March 6th and 7th. Location TBD.

Our state legislators appreciate our communications with them. Our participation is necessary as we model effective participation to our students, schools, and communities. Please join the State Legislative Committee as we keep moving forward “From the Heart”.

Legislative Due March 15, 2023

Legislative Award: The Legislative Committee is also offering the Legislative Award for the 2022-2023 year. The form may be found on the state website *Resources/Chapter Forms & Reports*. Please submit form to Karla Mullins (kmullins55@gmail.com).

State Projects: Due February 28, 2023

Tennessee State Organization 2022-2023 Essay Contest

The State Projects Committee is pleased to share the new 2022-23 essay prompts for our Tennessee State Contest. Last year’s contest entries came from students across the state. Approximately 20 DKG chapters sponsored these students. We hope to see even more chapters involved this year! Share the prompts with schools in your areas and be sure that your chapter recognizes any students you sponsor. Everyone can not be in the top three, but we want to recognize students for their willingness to participate and encourage them to continue to participate in the future.

This year we are adding an elementary prompt for students in grades 3-5. The prize money for the elementary students will be \$75.00 for 1st place, \$50.00 for 2nd place, and \$25.00 for 3rd place. The timeframe for the elementary will be the same as for the middle and high school. To find the prompts and other information for middle school, high school, and elementary school, go to www.tndkg.org *About Us/Essay Contest*. The contact person of each sponsoring DKG chapter should send essays and cover sheets to Fran Gregory, fehgregory@gmail.com by February 28, 2023. Please send any questions to Fran Gregory, fehgregory@gmail.com.

State and International News

Communications and Marketing Due March 15, 2023

Is your chapter working on Marketing Award points for the Maycie Chapter Excellence Award for 2023? Remember that you can earn 10 points for two members completing all 15 Member Education Video modules (watching videos and answering activity sheet questions). If four members complete all 15, your chapter earns 20 points, and if six members complete all 15, your chapter earns 30 points. Any chapters who had an odd number of completions last year — only one member complete or one over an award category — will automatically have a head start on the 2023 chapter award points. We have just updated the “International Officers” module including our own Dr. Beverly Hall as 2nd Vice President! All submissions due to DKG.member.edu@gmail.com or mailed to Dr. Elaine Alexander, 2811 Pavilion Place, Murfreesboro, TN 37129 no later than March 15, 2023.

First Vice-President Marsha Brewer Due March 15, 2023

Call for Workshops at State Convention

It is never too early to be thinking about presenting a workshop at the TNSO Convention in Sewanee, Tennessee on June 2, 2023. We hope to be able to offer a variety of sessions that will appeal to both active and retired teachers of all ages. Some recent suggestions from our “Young DKG” members include making seasonal wreaths or arrangements, presentation by a TEA representative, a legislative panel, a session on self-defense, and workshops/programs dealing with social issues. Please offer your expertise on these or other relevant and creative topics. The deadline for workshop proposals will be March 15, 2023, and the proposal form can be found on www.tndkg.org under “Calendar”.

Historical Preservation Chapter History Submission Deadline March 15, 2023

The Historical Preservation Committee is now ready to receive a chapter’s history. A chapter may include some or all the following. However, please also include stories or events that may be unique to the chapter.

- a. Date of chapter charter
- b. Charter Members
- c. Original chapter location (county)
- d. Chapter presidents and presidential term
- e. Honors or awards received
- f. Chapter Scholarships or grants
- g. Members served on International/State Committees or Offices

Chapters in Area I and Area II, or Area IV will send the chapter history to Judy Bailey Ogle and Laura Ogle, judybaileyogle@gmail.com.

Educational Excellence: Iris Award Due April 1, 2023.

The Tennessee State Educational Excellence Committee would like to announce an upcoming award that will be instituted for chapter programs and projects. The "Iris Award" will be given at the Tennessee State Convention to the chapter that submits the best program or project. There will be an award in each of those categories. This award will be for chapters that submit their program and/or project to the EEC Corner Spotlight and then complete an "Iris Award" application. The applications will be judged on the following criteria: Relationship to Society Purposes, Involvement of Members, and Impact of the Program or Project. The EEC committee has seen so many excellent programs and projects submitted to the EEC Corner Spotlight and would like to see more recognition given to chapters in this area.

Keep those programs and projects coming for the EEC Corner Spotlight. Remember that you can submit one program and/or one project for the 2023 Iris Award. The application is on the website with the EEC Corner submission form. A program or project must have been submitted to the EEC Corner Spotlight to be eligible. The deadline for the Iris Award application is April 1, 2023.

The Educational Excellence Committee would like to encourage chapters to share your great programs and projects to be uploaded to The EEC Corner on our state website. This is a wonderful resource for all chapters seeking ideas for meaningful meetings and projects. We would like to add a video component to The EEC Corner this biennium, so if you video your presentations, or use YouTube, please submit those as well. The EEC is asking that you submit one program and one project using the Corner Spotlight form found on the state website, *EEC Corner or Resources/Chapter Forms and Reports*. Chapters will receive 5 points each for the program and project on the Maycie Chapter Excellence Award. You can email your contributions to: Marsha Brewer (Tennessee State Organization First VP and EEC Chair) at gnash81@comcast.net.