



Pi Chapter Newsletter

Volume 23, Number 3 November, 2023

<https://xistatepichapter.weebly.com>



**Anywhere is
Home
2020-2022**

Pi Chapter Officers/Leaders

President.....Diane Alsop
 1st VPAmanda Powers
 2nd 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,

At our November meeting, a Love Offering for Isaiah 117 House in Clinton, a home that has just been built for the purpose of providing a loving environment to children who will be transitioning into foster care, will gladly be received with the goal of helping supply the house with linens. In September, Pi Chapter's members proposed giving \$500 to help with this worthy cause. Also at the meeting, Abbi will conduct an election for the purpose of voting on the acceptance of potential new chapter members.

State President Marsha Brewer has just sent a comprehensive list of what we need to know on the individual, local, state, and international levels. This list can be found later in this newsletter. I hope you will read and note what is applicable to you and what you may wish to pursue during 2023-2024. There are so many responsibilities and wonderful offerings listed there. I have noted in the list what we have already accomplished.

Please be aware that the location of our December meeting has been changed from the ACCTC Culinary Arts Banquet Room to the Memorial United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. As a result, members are asked to bring a festive food for the occasion.

The TNSO Essay Contest will be for high school students this year. The chairs at the high schools, Rhonda and Judy, will remain as our contacts at each school. Committee members who are currently serving only on the elementary and middle school essay committee have been asked to volunteer for another committee, so that they can support Pi in other ways.

(continued on next page)

**Tuesday, October 7, 2022
5 p.m.**

Memorial United Methodist
Church – Fellowship Hall

Hostesses

Amy Graham, Lucy VanCleve,
 Judy Miller, Denise
 Houdeschell, Kate Roovers,
 Vikki Burns, Linda McCune

Blessing

Linda McCune

Inspiration

Deckie Conley

Program

Katherine Birkbeck, Executive
 Director of Historic Downtown
 Clinton

Business

Love Offering for Isaiah 117
 House
 Election for determining the
 consideration of new Pi
 Chapter members



Pi Chapter Local News

(continued from previous page)

Vikki Burns shared this beautiful photo of what I think may be a maple tree in full fall regalia taken on October 16, a cloudy day, in answer to my inquiry asking if Campbell County was showing more fall colors than Anderson County. She said it got even more beautiful later in the week. What a tree! Fall in East Tennessee, at its best!

Since Pat Aldridge and I have a scheduled trip to Greece during the first part of November, we will miss the November meeting. Amanda and Abbi will be taking our places. Thank you, Abbi and Amanda!

In harmony,
Diane



Joys and Concerns

Prayers of comfort and condolences: Many of our members and their loved ones continue to need our prayers. Only changes since the last inclusion in this newsletter will appear here.

Happy November Birthdays to: Laura Phillips (11th), Deckie Conley (22nd)

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

Pi Chapter Local News



Future Programs

- December 5th -- CHS Choir (back by popular demand)
- January 9th -- Kelly Johnson, Director of Clinton City Schools
- February 6th -- Junior Achievement/Aspire Park (tentative)
- March 5th -- All About House Plants (Amy Morrow)
- April 2nd -- CHS Jazzy Dragons (back by popular demand) in honor of Jazz Month
- May 7th -- Founders Day Banquet



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

Membership News

The committee met at the October meeting and discussed several things. We want to recognize those members who had perfect attendance or missed only 1 meeting last year. Those members who attended all 9 meetings are Pat Aldridge, Diane Alsop and Vikki Burns. Members attending 8 meetings are Kathleen Benedict, Shannon Cramblitt, Ann Gann, Kathy Hurst, Linda McCune, Amanda Powers, Pat Stonecipher and Patsye Thurmon. Congratulations to those sisters! We hope to recognize members who have perfect or near perfect attendance in our Founders' Day program in May.

We also discussed how to increase our membership with some younger members. We decided to recommend the 2022-23 female Anderson County Teachers of the Year for membership.

Abbi Hill brought 2 of her colleagues to the meeting. We are happy to announce that Kaitlin Hall and Jessica McClintock want to join us. We will be voting on all these ladies at the meeting on Tuesday. We have letters ready to go out to these excellent educators if the membership votes them in. Since some of these ladies have younger children, we want to provide childcare at the church for them. Rhonda Phillips has agreed to check with her NHS members to see if they would be willing to provide that service for us. It won't cost the chapter anything because they will use the hours for community service.

It's not too late to nominate someone for membership. Forms will be available at the meeting. We plan to have an induction ceremony in February. If you are still teaching, look for those teachers who might want to become a member and invite them to our December meeting!

Submitted by Pat Aldridge

Pi Chapter Local News

**IMPORTANT MEETINGS WITH DR. DEREK BLACK
AUTHOR OF SCHOOLHOUSE BURNING**

Sponsored by Anderson County Clinton City Retired Teachers Association



Welcome Dr. Derek Black

December 7, 2023 at 5:00 PM

Public education needs your help in protecting the legacy of America's public schools. Dr. Black deserves an audience of parents, educators, school board members, and students to hear him speak of the vital importance of public education to American democracy and the history that public education and democracy share.

**Please join us in this celebration of public education
at Clinton High School's Little Theater.**

Pi Chapter Local News

SPECIAL NOTE FOR HOSTESSES

We are blessed that Memorial United Methodist Church will continue to provide Pi Chapter with the use of the fellow ship 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.

Important Legislative Notice

The TN Legislature is considering a decision to turn down \$1.8 BILLION Federal Tax dollars for funding education in TN. **These are tax dollars that TN citizens have paid in federal taxes to the U.S. Government that would go to other states for education.**

A 10 member panel was appointed September 25, 2023 to: determine whether the state can legally reject the money; and to recommend a strategy before the legislature convenes January 9, 2024.

Granted, federal tax funds for the 2021-2022 school year increased due to the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) with TN school systems receiving between 1%- 34% of their budgets from federal funds. (This information is taken from the Tennessean, October 25, 2023)

The following figures are from NEA rankings as of April 2023.

TN's average teacher salary of \$53,285 ranks 45th in the nation.

TN's average starting salary of \$40,280 ranks 32nd in the nation.

The minimum living wage in TN is \$46,745.

TN's per pupil spending of \$12,157 ranks 37th in the nation.

All DKG members are encouraged to write your legislators and Governor Lee BEFORE the legislature convenes. Share your concerns regarding the use of federal funds of \$1.8 billion dollars to support children's education in TN.

Could federal dollars improve conditions in buildings, in classrooms, and for families and educating our TN youth?

Some systems have funded almost a 1/3 of their budgets with federal funds.

TN systems advertise for bus drivers. There is a teacher shortage. Many areas of instruction are unable to be filled with certified teachers in the areas of math, science, special education and ELL.

TODAY, Please Go to the TN GENERAL ASSEMBLY web site to educate yourself on this issue and find all the information you need to write, email or call your legislator. Just make three supporting statements with your contact as an educator.

There will be five meetings open to the public at the Senate Hearing Room at the Cordell Hull State Office Building located at 425 Rep. John Lewis Way N in Nashville: Monday, Nov. 6 at 2 p.m., Tuesday, Nov. 7 from 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 8 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 14 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m., and Wednesday, Nov. 15 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. (all times Central)

Treasurer's Report

October 2023 DELTA KAPPA GAMMA, PI CHAPTER

TREASURER'S REPORT

KATHLEEN BENEDICT, TREASURER

kbbenedict21@yahoo.com

BEGINNING BALANCE.....	5,785.75
Deposits	+ 502.00
DISBURSEMENTS.....	- 00.00
ENDING BALANCE.....	6,287.75

TOTALS IN EACH FUND

Grant-in-Aide Fund (Funded by donations and fundraisers) **684.00**

Balance 10-31-2023 Beginning Bal: 382.00 + 45.00 Happy Jar + 257.00 Lasagna Dinner = 684.00

Thank you!

Vera Jo Henegar Scholarship Fund **2,674.80**

Balance 10-31-2023 3,374.17 – 699.37 DKG bags for 3 years, Jinx Logos = 2,674.80

Established in Memory of Pi Chapter member Vera Henegar and funded with kind gifts...

Xi State Convention Fund for First Time Attendees* **0.00** 10-31-2023

0.00

[Includes Gifts In Memory of Joe Tackett, husband of Paula]

Discretionary Fund (Funded by donations.) **298.10**

Balance 10-31-2023 = 298.10

Hazel McCreary Classroom Grant Fund (Funded by donations.) **307.24**

Balance 10-31-2023 307.24 *Thank you!*

AVAILABLE REGULAR FUND..... **2,323.61**

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

Balance 10/31/2023 = 2,123.61+ 200.00 donations to Isaiah House [P. Stonecipher 100.00;

D. Alsop 50.00; Pat Aldridge 50.00 = 2,323.61

TOTAL MONEY IN ACCOUNT..... **6,287.75**

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 10-31-2023 = 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 Budget for 2023-2024

Receipts brought forward from 20 22-2023	\$1,088.95
37 paid Active member dues @ 30.00 per =	1,100.00
2 paid Reserve member dues @ 7.00 ea. =	14.00
Total Receipts.....	\$ 2,202.95
Membership: 37 Active; 2 Reserve; 1 Collegiate; 1 Chapter Honorary = 41 (as of 08-31-2023)	

200.00	Monthly programs/initiations/Misc. fees -100.00 CHS Choir; - 100.00 CHS Jazz Band =	200.00
200.00	Founder's Day Banquet -34.87 flowers, T. Gilbert;- 100.00 plates, silverware, ect. P. Thurmon; [-700.00 to Culinary Arts Class ACCTC; + 690.00 collected money for banquet] -10.00 =	164.87 Total Costs
400.00	Contributions (combined not to exceed)/Donations.....	
	Golden Gift@ 1.00 per active member; World Fellowship @1.00 per active member; Education Foundation, Literacy & CIEC; Vision Foundation =	400.00
125.00	Memorials, Illnesses, and Gifts -50.00 gift donation to TNSO for President's gift =	50.00 Total
100.00	Postage/Office Supplies - 21.95 Stamps; -111.45 Overnight postage of all contribution checks; -25.00 Stamps =	135.40 total
200.00	President's travel, honorarium -25.00 fee for Advanced Leadership Training, TNSO for Diane Alsop; 175.00 Diane Alsop honorarium =	200.00 total
100.00	Projects -93.91 Membership materials; -12.00 roses for Induction Ceremony, S. Idzik =	105.91 total
175.00	Early Career Educators \$0.00 expenditures =	0.00
175.00	State/International Meetings -20.00 TNSO Convention Order of the Rose fee; -50.00 TNSO Silent Auction donation =	70.00 Total
75.00	Yearbook supplies -27.40 flowers for L. Childress/Yearbook Dedication; - 31.38 reimbursement to V. Burns for supplies and postage for yearbook =	58.78 Total
2,202.95	Total Available Budget	2,212.95
	2023-2024	2022-2023
	Total Available Budget	Total Available
	1,810.00 Total Budgeted Expenses	1,850.00 total Budgeted
	+392.95 Remaining Balance	+ 435.04 Remaining Balance
	(If all budgeted money is spent.)	(If all budgeted money is spent.)

Pi Chapter Local News



Pi Chapter Committees for 2022-2024 Biennium

Society Business

Committee to Digitize Historical Documents Ann Gann, Linda McCune, Pat Aldridge, Chelsi Meredith, Pat Stonecipher

Scrapbook Denise Houdeschell

Communications/Publicity Pat Stonecipher, Chelsi Meredith (Co-Chairs)

Finance Paula Campbell (Chair), Kathy Hurst, Deckie Conley Ex Officio Members: Kathleen Benedict, Treasurer, Diane Alsop, President

Membership Pat Aldridge (Chair), Abbi Hill, Sara Idzik, Felecia Reynolds, Paula Tackett. Vicki Bible, Lorrie Irwin, Jackie Stephan

Nominations Rhonda Phillips (Chair), Amanda Powers, Laura Phillips, Terri Gilbert, Sara Idzik

Rules Kate Roovers (Chair), Laura Boden, Lisa Smith, Lucy Vaclav

Society Mission and Purposes

Educational Excellence (EEC) Amanda Powers (Chair), Pam Allen, Mary Pat Williams

Legislative Susan Jonely and Abbi Hill (Co-Chairs), Susan Fowler, April Perry, Amy Kelly Graham

Pi Chapter Projects Essay Contests

Marilyn Buckner (Elementary and Middle School Chair), Abbi Hill (Andersonville Elem.), Chelsi Meredith (Fairview Elem.), Laura Boden (Claxton), Felecia Reynolds (Dutch Valley) Mary Pat Williams (Grand Oaks Elem.), Brenda Phillips (Briceville Elem., Lake City Elem., Lake City Middle), Lisa Swisher (Norris Elem. and Norris Middle), Lorrie Irwin (Clinton City Schools), Amanda Powers (Clinton Middle), Shannon Cramblitt (Norwood Elem., Norwood Middle) Peggy Stooksbury (wherever needed)

Judy Miller and Rhonda Phillips (Co Chairs) Anderson County and Clinton High Schools

Scholarships/VJH Grant Award Rhonda Phillips and Judy Miller (Co-Chairs)

Special Events Patsye Thurmon (Chair), Ann Brown, Terri Gilbert, Linda McCune, Laura Phillips, Rhonda Phillips, Amanda Powers, Lisa Smith, Shannon Cramblitt, Peggy Stooksbury

Ad Hoc Committees

Strategic Plan Diane Alsop, Executive Board

Chapter Excellence Diane Alsop, Vikki Burns

State and International News

State President Marsha Brewer recently sent the following information:

[The additions to a previous update appear in red. Messages to individual members (Chapter New Officer Training and Beginning Leadership Symposium) appear in blue. All that Pi Chapter has already accomplished has been changed to green.]

Reminders for Chapters:

- Connection Survey and Reinstatement Campaign (Vaughan)
- Chapter Yearbook Submissions due December 15, 2023 (Bauman)
- Dates for New Chapter Officers' Training: West TN, March 23, 2024 at South Side High School in Jackson; Middle TN, April 20, 2024 at Goodpasture Christian School in Nashville; East TN, April 6, 2024 at Central High School in Knoxville.
- Time to nominate new chapter officers.
- Consider paying dues for Reserve Members who are no longer able to do so, keeping them eligible to be honored at the Ceremony of Remembrance.
- Please video your Chapter Projects.

News from TNSO Committees:

- Legislative Survey (Tucker/Oldham) Please the names and email addresses of your chapter legislation committee chair to ladybaldwintucker@gmail.com or travelers4043@bellsouth.net so that Dr. Carolyn Tucker and Brenda Oldham, co-chairs of the TNSO Legislation Committee can send updates and information.
- Strategic Plan Update due November 1, 2023 (Warwick)
- Maycie Chapter Excellence Award due April 1, 2024 (Naylor)
- Achievement Awards Nominations due March 15, 2024
- Bylaws and Rules – Chapters will receive documents to update Chapter Bylaws

State and International News

News from TNSO Committees (continued):

- Leadership – Beginning Leadership Seminar scheduled for March 15-16 2024. Location is Henry Horton State Park. Applications will be available on November 15, 2023 and will be due by January 15, 2024.
- State Projects – Submissions for High School Essays due February 29, 2024. Chapters can still conduct an essay contest for Elementary and Middle School levels and receive points on the Maycie Award. Only High School Essay Contest winners should be submitted to the state this year.
- Special Events – Begin planning to donate items for the Silent Auction at the TNSO Convention May 30-June 1, 2024. You can also earn points on the Maycie Award with a monetary donation (minimum of \$25.00) in lieu of a Silent Auction item. There is a contribution form on the state website.
- Scholarships – Applications due February 1, 2024. Check out the brochure for members on the state website.
- Vision Foundation applications will be accepted beginning October 1, 2023. All applications must be submitted by December 31, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. and awards must be used between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025. Classroom project awards have been increased from \$1000.00 to \$1500.00.

Dates to Remember

- November 15, 2023 - IRS form 990 must be filed
- December 15, 2023 - Chapter Yearbook submitted to Orlean Bauman
- December 15, 2023 - DKG Ignite application due (International Leadership Management Seminar)
- December 31, 2023 - Vision Foundation applications due
- February 1, 2024 - Tennessee State Scholarship application due
- February 1, 2025 - International Scholarship application due

State and International News

News from DKG International:

- The Status of Our Society video on International Website.
- Cornetet Professional Development Award Application due November 1, 2023
- DKG Ignite (LMS) Application due December 15, 2023
- International Scholarships Application due February 1, 2024
- Arts and Humanities Gallery Submissions due February 15, 2024
- DKGIEF Project Application due March 1, 2024
- Bulletin: Journal Submissions due March 1, 2024
- **Make sure that you add the following disclaimer from International to your social media pages:**
- **FOR AFILIATED WEB and SOCIAL MEDIA SITES (State Organizations, Chapters, Member Groups)**
- **Disclaimer (English)**
- The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is not responsible for anything posted to this site and makes no representation as to the accuracy or completeness of information contained in such material. The views expressed on this site do not necessarily represent or reflect the views of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is not responsible for, and disclaims any liability in relation to, anything posted by contributors to, or users of, the site.
- **Coda: Marsha Brewer is on this International Committee. All members on this committee are asking for teacher tips from their constituents. She has some tips but needs more. Please send any tips you would like to contribute to Marsha at gnash81@comcast.net.**

Harriet King and the Arts and Personal Growth Committee:

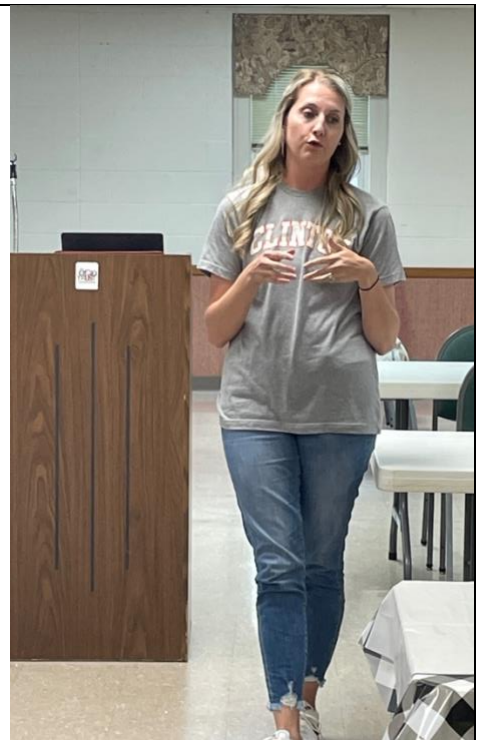
The Arts and Personal Growth Committee would like to announce the planning of a Christmas outing for all TNSO members. Where? - Graceland in Memphis, TN. When? - **December 9, 2023.**

Cost? - \$79.75 (possibly some tax) Included? - Elvis Experience Tour; Graceland Mansion Audio-guided tour; Self-guided tour of Elvis' Custom Jets; Full access to all-new Elvis Presley's Museum Entertainment Complex which includes Presley Motors Automobile Museum, Elvis: The Entertainer Career Museum, New Making of ELVIS Movie Exhibition, and Elvis Discovery Exhibits.

Before confirming reservations, the Arts and Personal Growth Committee would like to determine whether there will be sufficient interest in this event. Please email Harriet at hking13@outlook.com

to let her know if you would like to be a part of this event. They have to turn in a count by November 15. More information will available when the event is confirmed. You can also visit the website graceland.com

Moments from our October Meeting



Moments from our October Meeting

