



# Pi Chapter Newsletter

Volume 16, Number 1      September, 2016

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



## Growing Possibilities 2016-2017



Dear Pi Sisters,

“I dwell in possibility...”—Emily Dickinson

I love the season that September brings: Fall decorations and pumpkin candles, UT football games, sweaters, boots, scarves, and hopefully cooler weather. In some ways, fall is a fresh start. We have started a new school year that is full of possibilities with a new group of students. Every year I think of what I can do differently in my classroom to support and teach my students. This year we have over 65 new teachers in Anderson County and Clinton City. (I feel like I am showing my age when I realize that close to ten of these new teachers are my former students.) Their new beginning may be somewhat stress-filled, so it is awesome that Pi Chapter supports them with new teacher goody bags. We are starting a new biennium in Pi Chapter, and as I am taking on the new role of President, this is a new beginning for me as well. I hope to have a positive impact on our chapter, and I am blessed to be working with a great group of officers. Our Xi State President, Dorrie Powell, has the theme of Growing Possibilities for her biennium, and I would like for us to think of the “growing” possibilities of our chapter. At the September meeting, we will brainstorm to think of possible new members for Pi Chapter. We are a strong chapter, but we can be even stronger!

At the September meeting, we will begin taking donations for our gift baskets for the silent auction that will be held in November. This silent auction will help fund our two recruitment grants, so we hope to have some amazing baskets. Also, be sure to bring all kinds of goodies for our new teachers to our first meeting.

On a personal note, September is also the month of the American Heart Walk in Knoxville, TN. I participated in this walk for the first time last year with a group of students from the Clinton High School National Honor Society. I had a strong sense of pride to be recognized as a survivor, and that experience reminded me again of how thankful and blessed that I am. If you would like to join us this year, the walk takes place on Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. See you soon!

Rhonda

### Pi Chapter Officers/Leaders

President.....Rhonda Phillips  
1<sup>st</sup> VP .....Patsye Thurmon  
2<sup>nd</sup> VP ..... Reita Yadon  
Recording Sec.....Amy Graham  
Corres. Sec.....Lee Ann Eaves  
Parliamentarian.....April Perry  
Treasurer ..... Kathleen Benedict  
Editor /Webmaster.....Pat Stonecipher

### Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Memorial United Methodist Church  
5:00 p.m.

#### Inspiration

Deckie Conley

#### Hostesses

Officers

Members should bring a covered dish  
to share

#### Program

Assemble New Teacher Bags

#### Business

Membership

#### Remember to Bring

Pot-Luck Dish

Dues

Items for New Teacher Bags  
Change for Change Donations  
Box Tops for Education

**If you have a DKG t-shirt, please wear it to the September meeting!**

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



## Pi Chapter Local News

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

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

#### **Renew Your Delta Kappa Gamma Membership – 2016-2017**

Join Pi Chapter for another exciting year of projects, meals, speakers, and fulfilling a mission and vision for key women educators. Pi Chapter needs YOU!

*You impact education — renew your membership today.*



**Annual dues will remain \$85.00. We are fortunate to be able to do this!**

Each year, some members have generously and voluntarily given an extra \$15.00 with the annual dues (for a total of \$100.00) with the extra 15.00 applied to the Recruitment Grant-in-Aide. If you wish to do this, I will list this donation in the Treasurer's Report as I usually do.

**I am happy to offer you the following options for paying dues by November 10:**

1. Mailing dues to me – Kathleen Benedict/P.O. Box 355/Knoxville, TN 37901
2. Paying dues in full or in payments at the September, October, or November meeting.
3. Paying dues electronically with credit or debit card at the September, October or November meeting. A \$2.35 bank fee will be added to the credit or debit card.

Obviously, the sooner you can pay your dues or alert me that you intend to pay, the better! Then, I will know how to plan our finances and forms. I will and have worked with anyone, in any way I need to, in order to help you, but I need to know

that you do intend to pay membership dues for 2016-2017 in order to be a member!

In the event that you must decide to drop your membership from DKG, please write Pi Chapter President Rhonda Phillips (6207 Jim Fox Lane/Powell, TN 37849) a letter to explain your wishes.

Thank you so much for attending to this important matter.

*Your Treasurer,*

*Kathleen Benedict*

865-599-1646

[kbenedict08@comcast.net](mailto:kbenedict08@comcast.net)



#### **Check Out Your Member Benefits:**

- ✓ Fellowship and Networking with other key educators around the world; DKG Publications
- ✓ Leadership Roles and training. Access to the DKG Social Network.
- ✓ Opportunities to impact education worldwide. Scholarships for academic study and projects.
- ✓ Professional environment for presenting and publishing.

## Pi Chapter Local News

### Joys and Concerns

**Happy Belated June Birthdays to:** Kathleen Benedict (5<sup>th</sup>), Sara Idzik (11<sup>th</sup>), Ann Gann and Judy Jones (14<sup>th</sup>), Vera Jo Henegar (15<sup>th</sup>), Carol Ann Brown (29<sup>th</sup>)

**Happy Belated July Birthdays to:** Lucy VanCleve (10<sup>th</sup>), Linda McCune (23<sup>rd</sup>), Gwen Payne (24<sup>th</sup>), Paula Tackett (31<sup>st</sup>)

**Happy August Birthdays to:** Karen Long (4<sup>th</sup>), Janie Jackson (13<sup>th</sup>), Caroline McGaha (16<sup>th</sup>), Vicky Curtis (27<sup>th</sup>), Rhonda Phillips (30<sup>th</sup>).

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



### Dates to Remember

**October 4, 2016**

Pi Chapter Meeting

**November 1, 2016**

Pi Chapter Meeting

**December 6, 2016**

Pi Chapter Meeting

Interested in traveling to England, Ireland, and Wales June 2017? Please check out the tour at [www.eftours.com/1841564XF](http://www.eftours.com/1841564XF). If you have any questions, please let Rhonda Phillips know.



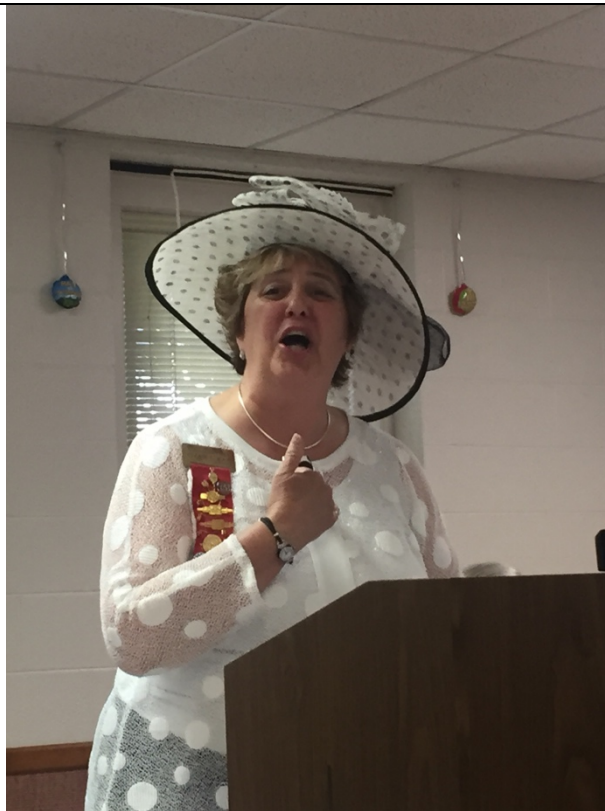
### Call for Recipes!

Do you have any good recipes you would like to share? If so, please submit them to Pat Stonecipher ([patstonecipher@att.net](mailto:patstonecipher@att.net)) for inclusion in our next newsletter.

**Moments from May Meeting  
Founders' Day Banquet**



**Scholarship Winners**



**Dr. Nancy Davis  
Xi State Representative**

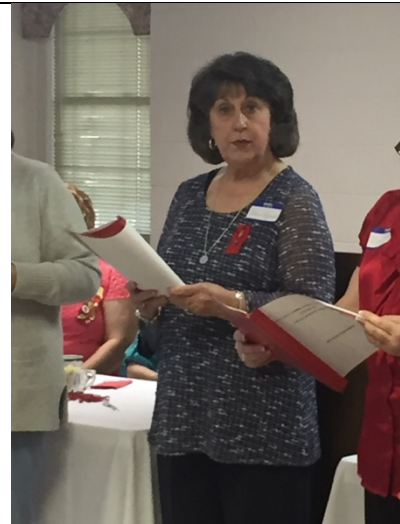


**Outgoing President Deckie Conley & Kathleen  
Benedict**





**Installation of Officers**



**Felecia Reynolds**



**Program on the Founding of Delta Kappa Gamma**





**Xi State  
Sewanee, TN June 2-4, 2016**



**Pi Chapter Attendees at Xi State: Kelly Ray Williams, Pat Stonecipher, Vera Jo Henegar, Kathleen Benedict, Rhonda Phillips, Ann Gann, Deckie Conley, Linda McCune, Pat Aldridge (not pictured Kathy Hurst)**

**Past Presidents of Xi State. Vera Jo Henegar Represents Pi Chapter**

**DKG International Convention  
Nashville, TN July 5-9, 2016**



**Pi Chapter Representatives to DKG International Convention: Kathleen Benedict, Vera Jo Henegar, Kathy Hurst, Kelly Ray Williams, Diane Alsop, Ann Gann, Pat Aldridge, Deckie Conley.**

**DKG International Convention**  
**Nashville, TN July 5-9, 2016**

**Pat Aldridge, Diane Alsop, Kathleen Benedict, Ann Gann, Vera Henegar, Kathy Hurst, Deckie Conley, and Kelly Williams**, members of local Pi Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International (DKG), joined with women educators from around the world in Nashville, TN, July 5-9, 2016. Established in 17 countries around the world, the Society defines its mission as promoting professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

The five-day event included keynote speaker Mike Figliuolo, founder of *thought LEADERS* and author of *One Piece of Paper: The Simple Approach to Powerful, Personal Leadership, The Elegant Pitch and Lead Inside the Box: How Smart Leaders Guide Their Teams to Exceptional Results*. Figliuolo offered DKG members effective steps in *Leading the Thinking: Setting Direction and Driving Action for Your Team*. He later held a special session for state organization presidents.

Other DK© convention speakers included classical violinist turned innovative composer, Kai Kight, who inspired attendees to compose unique ideas in a world that celebrates conformity; author of well-known children's book *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, Judith Voirst, gave the members her *Life Lessons from Under Eight Over Eighty: What We've Learned of need to help us develop and grow over the decades*; and Chief Executive Officer of the Girl Scouts USA Anna Maria Chavez, who celebrated the DKG – Girl Scouts collaboration.

More than 100 breakout sessions provided participants with cutting edge knowledge on communication/technology, educational excellence, empowering women, legislative advocacy, leadership, and much more. New to the convention this year were Hot Topics – mini sessions – and Cyber Center tech training using one's own devices.

Ann Gann said, "This opportunity to meet with women leaders from other areas of the world, to learn and be inspired provided enormous professional and personal development for me."

**Xi State News**  
**International News**

**Important Dates from Xi State**

**September 23-24, 2016: Creative Arts Retreat, Red Boiling Springs, TN**

**June 1-3, 2017: Xi State Convention, Sewanee**

**Important Dates from International**

**July 19-21, 2017: Southeast Regional Conference, Myrtle Beach, SC**

## Schools for Africa Project “Change for Change” 2016-2017



Pi Chapter will once again ask members to save “change” coins to donate to DKG Society’s Schools for Africa Project. Please consider helping this worthy cause by chipping in your collected change or a larger, one-time amount to help out!

Please consider this worthy project!

With Support from The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and Others, the Schools for Africa Program Is...

- Benefiting nearly 5 million children, with a special emphasis on girls, orphans, and children living in extreme poverty
- Building and rehabilitating almost 1,000 schools
- Training nearly 100,000 teachers
- Supplying notebooks, pens, desks, chairs, and other essential school materials
- Making sure schools have clean, safe drinking water and separate bathrooms for girls and boys
- Creating schools that offer a protective environment.

The Schools for Africa Collection “Green Tub” is always at the Check-In table for meetings! Help Support Pi Chapter’s effort to donate your loose “change” in the hope that your donation of change will, when combined with many other like-minded DKG members, make a real CHANGE in Africa by providing schools so that learning may be provided in areas where it is not now available. For more information:

<https://www.dkg.org/content/schools-africa>



In Memory of our DKG, Xi  
State sister:  
Dr. Willene Paxton  
1930-2016

*Xi State...Growing Possibilities*

