



Pi Chapter Newsletter

Volume 18, Number 1 September, 2018

http://xistatepichapter.com/public_html



**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

Summer is coming to an end! I loved spending my summer with grandkids, fellow DKG sisters and relatives. I hope you had a good summer and will share your adventures at our September meeting. I am excited to see each of you as we begin a new year.

School is now underway with teachers and students working to accomplish their goals. Pi Chapter is also busy at work in July. Members Pam Allen, Laura Boden, and Rachel Pemberton organized and worked our breakfast for the New Teacher Institute for ACS. (Remember to bring items for teacher gift bags!). Also a lively and productive Executive Board meeting resulted in plans for programs, fund raisers, and chapter projects. In August, I began to focus on asking members to serve on various committees. Thank you for saying yes! Our October meeting will provide a time for committees to meet.

I am humbled to serve as your president for the 2018-2020 Biennium and so proud to be a member of Pi Chapter. As dedicated, successful women educators, we do make a difference in the lives of our students, serve our community and state through various projects, and continue to make our concerns known to our state legislature. To be successful, Pi Chapter needs **EACH** of you to be actively involved. Thank you for your commitment to education and to Pi Chapter.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our “Welcome Back” meeting on September 4th. Bring your covered dish/food item to share, a summer story to tell during our Happy Jar time, and a prospective new member.

Ann

Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Memorial United Methodist Church
5:00 p.m.

Inspiration

Melanie Lamberson

Hostesses

Members should bring a covered dish to share

Program

Potluck Picnic
Assemble New Teacher Bags

Business

Convention Reports
Committee Reports

Remember to Bring

Pot-Luck Dish
Dues
Items for New Teacher Bags
Change for Change Donations
Box Tops for Education

Wear your official DKG pin or pay fifty cents.



Pi Chapter Local News

TREASURER'S "TIDBITS" September 2018



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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!

Thank you also to all the members who give an extra 15.00 when you pay dues to benefit the Recruitment Grant!!!!

Remember to pay dues at the September or October meetings! If you need to make payments, just make a down payment and tell me how you want to pay. I will willingly work with anyone, in any way to help out!

The Finance Board will assist me in calling members to remind them about dues. Thank you Finance Board for this valuable help!

All of our Pi Chapter members contribute in so many creative ways to fulfill our mission! Many of you who cannot attend all the meetings send in donations with members who are coming and communicate with me to send money supporting our projects. Thank you!! Whatever you contribute, you are appreciated!

Remember, that the October meal is a FUNDRAISER for our Recruitment Grant. Please be generous. Our retired teachers are providing a lasagna supper with all the trimmings. If you cannot attend, please send a donation with a fellow member. Thank you in advance!

Thank you for your generosity!

Your Treasurer, Kathleen Benedict 865-599-1646 kbenedict08@comcast.net

Joys and Concerns

Congratulations and a Fond Farewell to: Kelly Williams has moved to New Mexico where her husband, Alan, is working. She has accepted a first grade position at Pablo Roybal Elementary School in the Pojoaque School District. She has already found the local DKG chapter. Her new address is Kelly Williams, 36 Grand Canyon Drive, White Rock, NM 87547.

Congratulations to Lisa Harrison Smith on the birth of her daughter, Ella Claire, born on August 2nd.

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

Happy September Birthdays to: Angela (Hoppy) Merryman (6th), Kate Roovers (14th), Cheryl Harris (18th), Terri Gilbert (22nd), Judy Miller (23rd), Marilyn Buckner and Kay Porter (27th), Patsye Thurmon (29th)

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.



**Ella Claire
Smith**

Pi Chapter Local News

Pi Chapter Pays Tribute to 2016-2018 President - Rhonda Phillips

Pi Chapter President, Rhonda Phillips, presided over the Founder's Day Banquet on May 1, 2018 celebrating the 75th Anniversary of Pi Chapter and the end of a successful biennium in the office of president.

During President Phillips term of office, Pi Chapter has been awarded Gold Chapter for overall excellence. Additionally, the website and newsletter have been honored as best in state as have been the scrapbooks, posters, and legislative activities. Rhonda has capably led all committees and fulfilled all Xi State duties for the chapter.

During this biennium, President Rhonda Phillips had presided over general meetings, committee meetings, projects and tasks with professionalism, kindness and humor. She brought her own brand of "hominess" to each person and event she touched. All Pi Chapter members knew from earlier years her story of heart problems and sickness and eventual restored health. We rallied around her when she was sick and rejoiced with her every year after when she enjoyed good health.

Rhonda presented an excellent monthly program to Pi Chapter on "Healthy Hearts" and she was able to add all of her personal challenges and surgeries with many good suggestions for everyone to improve and to protect the heart.

As a tribute to her dedication to Pi Chapter, as a parting gift at the end of the Founder's Day Banquet, chapter members presented a 400.00 donation to the American Heart Association in Rhonda's name in recognition for her work on behalf of Pi Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma and the American Heart Association. Thank you President Rhonda Phillips!

As the new Legislative Committee Chair, I have nothing to report regarding legislation which affects education. However, as we approach the mid-term elections, I encourage DKG members to consider the words of Jay Griffiths and John F. Kennedy respectively. "Being adequately informed is a democratic duty, just as the vote is a democratic right. A misinformed electorate, voting without knowledge is not a true democracy." "The ignorance of one voter in a democracy impairs the security of all." **Wise voting requires active preparation.** You may want to check out and download the GoVoteTN app for phones and tablets.

Submitted by Susan Jonely

Focus on our Charter Members

Each month we will focus on one of the charter members of Pi Chapter. Thanks to Pat Aldridge and the 75th Anniversary Committee for this great idea!



Irene Wallace (Nov. 14, 1904-June 3, 1990) Served as 1st Pi Chapter President 1943-45 and served again as President from 1966-68 and 1972-74. She began teaching in 1922 right out of high school with a teaching certificate at Lower Windrock School and served at 6 schools over her 48-year career. She earned her BS degree in elementary education from UT in 1942. She was the first woman president of ACEA in 1961-62. She taught her last 25 years at Lake City Elementary and worked in the Head Start program.

Pi Chapter Local News



Spotlight on Members

This is a new feature in this year's newsletter. As Membership Chair, I urge everyone to speak up on behalf of your sister and let us know what great things you all are up to in this school year. We would love to spotlight our members! If you or someone you know has made a shift, moved up, or has any recent awards or recognition, please let Pat Stonecipher (stonecipher@gmail.com) know when she sends out an email requesting newsletter submissions.

Thanks for all you do!

Submitted by Rachel Pemberton

Pi Chapter member **Kate Roovers** graduated summa cum laude from Carson Newman University on May 4, 2018, with a Master's Degree in Administration and Supervision, K-12. After obtaining licensure, she was assigned to be an assistant principal at Brickey-McCloud Elementary School in Knox County this school year. Brickey-McCloud Elementary has 1100+ students with a principal and two assistant principals. Kate reports that she is "loving all parts of her job thus far". Kate had been an Academic Coach at Brickey-McCloud for 4 years. Previously, she had taught Second and Third Grades at Powell and Inskip Elementary Schools.

Melanie Lamberson, Pi Chapter member, has left Anderson County Schools, where most recently she had been the Job Placement Director for Special Education to take a job with the State of TN, Department of Education. In her new job, Melanie is the IDEA Consultant for East TN District. Her job supports districts in East TN in all things special education, which could mean working with districts who didn't meet APR or working with districts who received grants through IDEA. Melanie works with 22 districts across East TN. Thus far, Melanie said she has visited Special Education Directors to discuss their needs and she has conducted two trainings with many more scheduled. Part of her job requires her to also attend conferences on special education issues of note. Melanie remarked that she "enjoyed the flexibility" that the job offers.

Angela (Hoppy) Merryman and her work with the Gear Up TN Anderson County was recently honored by a Resolution from the ACS Board of Education. A 2012 grant of over \$1.4 million will end in 2018 and a second grant (1 of 14 given from a pool of 100 applications) of over \$1 million will begin in 2018 through 2024. Hoppy and the Gear Up grant has helped ACS improve statistics in several areas and provided students with great educational experiences and options.

Rachel Pemberton has transitioned from 8th Grade ELA to Academic Coach at Norris Middle School.

Pi Chapter Local News

75th Anniversary of Pi Chapter Proudly Planned and Celebrated



The 75th Anniversary of Pi Chapter Committee who planned the May Founder's Day Banquet last May 1, 2018, at Calhoun's Banquet Hall on Melton Hill Lake, certainly outdid themselves to honor DKG Founders and Pi Chapter's Founders.

Each month of 2017-2018 this loyal, talented committee methodically planned each part of an informative, entertaining and fun event! A beautiful East TN day set the stage for a delicious buffet in a festive room overlooking the river. Each round table included favors and information about the DKG Founders. Large, delicious cakes, that were consumed later decorated tables on one wall of the room. A large screen continuously showed scenes of past DKG members and momentous events throughout the years, 1943-2018.

The head table drew everyone's attention as Amy Kelley Graham gave an inspiration that all in attendance will remember entitled, "Tame One Another". Xi State President Elaine Alexander addressed the group with a stirring speech entitled, "Hats Off to Delta Kappa Gamma".

Vera Henegar, past State President and past Pi Chapter President and Ann Gann, Xi State Corresponding Secretary and current Pi Chapter President presented proclamations recognizing Pi Chapter for 75 years of service to the Anderson County area from the Anderson County Commission, Anderson County Schools, Clinton City Schools, City of Clinton, Senator Randy McNalley, State of Tennessee, and the past DKG International President Carolyn Pittman.

The Planning Committee presented a wonderful program entitled "Pi Chapter Plans A 75th Anniversary Celebration" that was informative to all in attendance and cleverly and humorously written. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the fruits of their hard work preparing this presentation. After the program, Chairman Pat Aldridge helped everyone with the answers to the 1943 Trivial Pursuit Challenge Tests that each guest received at the table and everyone had a good laugh comparing prices and trends in 1943 to those in 2018.

Pi Chapter's guests in attendance for the 75th Anniversary included members from twelve chapters in Xi State with SEVEN past Xi State Presidents, including our own Vera Henegar as well as one past INTERNATIONAL Delta Kappa Gamma president! We all were traveling in glittering royalty to celebrate our anniversary.

The 75th Anniversary Planning Committee truly brought the message to us that our founders laid out lofty goals for us to follow 75 years ago. Thank you, Planning Committee, for such wonderful, thoughtful work worthy of our founders!

Planning Committee: Chair: Pat Aldridge. Diane Alsop, Vikki Burns, Vera Henegar, Linda McCune, Rachel Pemberton, Laura Phillips, Rhonda Phillips, and Patsye Thurmon.

Submitted by Kathleen Benedict

Pi Chapter Local News

Renew Your Delta Kappa Gamma Membership – 2017-2018

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.

Active Members:

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.

Reserve Members:

Annual dues will remain \$27.00;

Some members have generously and voluntarily given an extra \$15.00 with the annual dues (for a total of \$42.00) with the extra \$15.00 applied to the Grant-in-Aide Fund. 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:

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 meetings.
3. Setting up payments to fit your financial situation. I am happy to keep track of this as long as we agree to it at the first of the year.

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 2017-2018 in order to be a member!

If you do not wish to remain a member, as set forth in our by-laws, please a letter to Pi Chapter President Ann Gann (604 Timbercrest Drive, Clinton, TN 37716) to explain your wishes.

I will need to mail our dues to our Xi State Treasurer by November 10, 2018.

Your Treasurer,

Kathleen Benedict
865-599-1646
kbenedict08@comcast.net



Pi Chapter Local News

Announcements for Pi Chapter Members

If you are absent from a meeting because of a school activity (teaching a class, attending another school or educational meeting, or attending a class), please let Rachel Pemberton know by emailing her at rpemberton@acs.ac We can count you present if your absence is due to these events.

- Dues may be paid at Sept. and Oct. meetings.
- Bring items for Teacher Gift Bags to Sept. meeting.
- New member recommendations may be turned in at Sept. and Oct. meetings. We will vote at Nov. and induct at Dec. meetings.
- 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.
- We **will** meet on Nov. 6th, Election Day. Vote Early!
- We will **not** meet on Jan. 1st. Instead, we will meet on Jan. 8th.
- October will be our fund raising meal – lasagna, salad, bread, drink, dessert



A Raffle of a “Home for the Holidays” basket (or two) has been suggested as a replacement for our Silent Auction as the major funding for our grants-in-aid. Think of merchants you might contact for a donation or items you can donate to the basket – such as: gift cards (restaurant, movies) UT items, candles, candy, wine, scarves, throw blankets, books, locally made items, etc. We need items you would enjoy using or that would make great Christmas gifts. Bring these items to the Sept. and Oct. meetings for our fund raising activity.

Founders' Day Program, May 2018



Founders' Day Program, May 2018



Schools for Africa Project “Change for Change” 2018-2019



Pi Chapter will once again send a contribution on behalf of “Pi Chapter, Delta Kappa Gamma” to UNICEF, the organization that administers the funds for the Schools for Africa Program. I am so proud to be a little part of this effort! Thank you for your kind help! Save your loose change each day and bring it to the monthly meetings to put in the “Green Tub” at the Check-In Table.

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” will be at the Check-In table each meeting! 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>

**Xi State News
International News**

Important Announcement!!

In an effort to sustain both the planet and the future of the Society, the decision was made by the Administrative Board to eliminate print versions of the *DKG News* and provide all issues of this publication online only. Members can access the *DKG News* at www.dkg.org by signing in with the member ID as username. The default password is still **dkg2014society** unless the member has already signed in previously and changed to a preferred password.

Because the July/August issue of the *DKG News* is already an online only issue, this change will be effective immediately. ***Please share this information with members so they will not be confused when they do not receive their September/ October issue in the mail.*** Please also remind them of the DKG website log in information as well