



# Pi Chapter Newsletter

Volume 20, Number 1      September, 2020

<https://xistatepichapter.weebly.com>



**Anywhere is Home  
2020-2022**



### Pi Chapter Officers/Leaders

Co-Presidents.....	Abbi Hill & Vikki Burns
1 <sup>st</sup> VP .....	Susan Jonely
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP .....	Linda McCune
Recording Sec.....	Patsye Thurmon
Corres. Sec.....	Diane Alsop
Parliamentarian.....	Susan Fowler
Treasurer .....	Kathleen Benedict
Editor /Webmaster.....	Pat Stonecipher

Dear Sisters,

We want to extend a heartfelt thanks to the committee chairs and our officers for a successful executive board meeting in July. We accomplished much and have a strategy for approaching our continued fellowship during the fall. Some of the many things we accomplished follow:

\*We will be meeting through Zoom Meetings virtually until further notice for everyone’s health. You do not have to have a Zoom account in order to join a Zoom meeting. All you have to do (the first time you join) is the follow the directions provided in the section of the newsletter labeled “Let’s Zoom!”. We believe this platform will serve Pi Chapter well. If you have questions regarding access, please reach out to either of us.

\*You should have received a reminder card from the membership committee regarding scheduled DKG meeting dates and dues payment reminders for next year. Hopefully you can keep the card in a handy location. Of course, Pat will continue to send out newsletters, but we thought the card reminder was a great reminder option for you, our sisters.

\*Pi Chapter funded the Anderson County and Clinton City Schools New Teacher Training Breakfast. At the Executive Committee meeting we also decided that in lieu of our previous program of having members bring in school supplies to distribute to new teachers in October, we would fund tote bags for the new teachers to utilize at the Teacher Depot sponsored through the Education Foundation for Anderson County and Clinton City Schools. We distributed fifty bags to new teachers, 45 in Anderson County and 5 in Clinton City Schools. Promotional material was placed in the bags regarding the activities and programs of Pi Chapter. We were able to purchase enough bags to continue this project for the next three years (based upon the average number of new teachers in both school districts). We will be asking that each current member contribute a small dollar amount this year for this project.

\*Finally, we are looking into setting up a VENMO account for Pi Chapter to make it easier for you, our sisters to pay dues and make monetary donations to memorials and other projects throughout the year. We will fill you in on those details as they come about.

\*Over the summer we have attended multiple zoom sessions from International and State along with the President to President monthly meetings to keep informed about happenings across our state and with the International organization. The week of July 07 – 10 were full of important topics to inspire and expand our knowledge. All sessions can be accessed through the DKG.org website. After you login to the site, select “events” then “conference highlights” to see all sessions available.

Abbi and Vikki

## **Joys and Concerns**

**Congratulations to:** Diane Alsop, recipient of 2020 Xi State Order of the Rose; Amanda Powers named as Assistant Principal of Clinton High School

**Happy Belated May Birthdays to:** Lori Price (10<sup>th</sup>), Paula Campbell (12<sup>th</sup>), Pam Allen (19<sup>th</sup>), Mary Pat Williams and Kristen Whitaker (20<sup>th</sup>), Shannon Smith (23<sup>rd</sup>), LeeAnn Eaves, Candace Eubanks, and Lisa Swisher (24<sup>th</sup>), Amy Graham (29<sup>th</sup>)

**Happy Belated June Birthdays to:** Kathleen Benedict (5<sup>th</sup>), Sara Idzik (11<sup>th</sup>), Hazel Johnson (13<sup>th</sup>), Ann Gann and Judy Jones (14<sup>th</sup>), Brittany Roland (25<sup>th</sup>), Carol Brown (29<sup>th</sup>)

**Happy Belated July Birthdays to:** Lucy VanCleve (10<sup>th</sup>), Abbi Hill (20<sup>th</sup>), Linda McCune (23<sup>rd</sup>), Gwen Payne (24<sup>th</sup>), Amanda Powers (29<sup>th</sup>), Paula Tackett (31<sup>st</sup>)

**Happy Belated 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>)

**Happy September Birthdays to:** Kate Roovers (14<sup>th</sup>), Cheryl Harris (18<sup>th</sup>), Terri Gilbert (22<sup>nd</sup>), Judy Miller (23<sup>rd</sup>), Melanie McDaniel (24<sup>th</sup>), Marilyn Buckner and Kay Porter (27<sup>th</sup>), Patsye Thurmon (29<sup>th</sup>)

**Our condolences to:** Abbi Hill upon the death of her grandfather Rev. Bill Roop. His obituary can be found at

<https://www.holleygamble.com/obituary/rev-william-bill-roop>

Paula Tackett upon the death of her husband Joe Tackett. His obituary can be found at <https://www.hatmakerfuneralhome.com/obituary/Joe-Tackett>

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.



Join us for our first virtual Pi Chapter meeting on **Tuesday, September 1, 2020, at 5:30 p.m.** An email will be sent out on Sunday, August 30, with the link and will include the meeting ID and Passcode.

## LET'S ZOOM!

- 1) Make sure you have a camera, speakers, and/or microphone on your device...a phone/tablet/computer works fine.
- 2) Open the link that will be sent to you inviting you to the meeting. The first time you join, the application will ask you to download/launch the zoom meeting app and will ask you to check your audio and video connections...if you don't have video, not a problem. If you have video you can always shut it down but remain in the meeting and listen. If you don't have audio/microphone, that could be a problem, you would be able to hear but not necessarily respond/participate during the meetings except through the "Chat" option. (I always use my earbuds with the built in microphone.)
- 3) Click on the three dots on your video screen that shows your name or symbol (device identity). You will see options to mute/unmute and stop/start video. Within that pane, at the top will be options for viewing other participants with arrows at the bottom of the pane for scrolling through participants.
- 4) The frame around the screen will drop in when you scroll over it to show chat options, raising a hand, and other options like adding a virtual background from your gallery.

If you would like, here are a couple of basic tutorials for Zoom that you can find on the Zoom.us website:

[https://www.youtube.com/embed/hIkCmbvAHQQ?rel=0&autoplay=1&cc\\_load\\_policy=1](https://www.youtube.com/embed/hIkCmbvAHQQ?rel=0&autoplay=1&cc_load_policy=1)

[https://www.youtube.com/embed/ygZ96J\\_z4AY?rel=0&autoplay=1&cc\\_load\\_policy=1](https://www.youtube.com/embed/ygZ96J_z4AY?rel=0&autoplay=1&cc_load_policy=1)

## Treasurer's Report

We have received gifts of \$350 in memory of Anna Mae Lane. The gifts will be placed in the Anna Mae Lane Fund, which at the family's request, becomes part of the regular fund to be used as needed. We also have received two gifts thus far, in memory of Paula Tackett's husband, Joe. The gifts will be added to the First Time Attendees to Convention Fund. I will send out a detailed Treasurer's Report in a later email.

*Submitted by Kathleen Benedict*

**Just a reminder that your Pi Chapter, DKG, dues for 2020-2021, are due and payable before June 1, 2020 to the Treasurer, Kathleen Benedict. Still, 85.00.** If you want to make a 15.00 donation to next year's Grant-in-Aide Fund, then you may want to increase amount to \$100.00.

**You can mail your 2020-2021 dues to me: Kathleen Benedict/ P. O. Box 355/ Knoxville, TN 37901 or give it to me at the February, March, or April meetings or the May Banquet. Kathleen's cell (865) 599-1646**

If you need to make a down payment and then payments, mail the first payment to the same address. [4 payments 21.25 each; 3 payments 28.33 each; 2 payments 40.00 + 45.00]

The important thing is to communicate with me or our Co-Presidents Abbi and Vikki.



Pi Chapter donated fund tote bags for the new teachers to utilize at the Teacher Depot sponsored through the Education Foundation for Anderson County and Clinton City Schools. We distributed fifty bags to new teachers, 45 in Anderson County and 5 in Clinton City Schools.

## Pi Chapter Local News

### Announcements for and From Pi Chapter Members

- Do you know of someone you would like to nominate to join us in Pi Chapter? Please think of those you might want to nominate. We hope to have an induction ceremony later this year. (You can find the nomination form on our website <https://xistatepichapter.weebly.com/forms.html>)
- Rachel Pemberton wrote, “I am now teaching 6th grade social studies at Jefferson Middle School as well as Instructional PLC coach. I love it so far! I also will be teaching an online critical thinking class to 7th graders.”
- Judy Miller wrote, “ I encourage all DKG sisters to SHOP LOCAL and to VOTE. Retired teachers are needed to substitute for ACS. Please contact ACS for details.”
- Patsye Thurmon wrote, “ I’ve finally gotten a good report on my eye that had a detached retina both in November and in December. I’ve been cleared to get a new prescription for that lens in my glasses and even to go back to my contacts. Those that have had detached retinas are 100 (or 1000?) times more likely to get another one than the average bear, so I will be checked every four weeks just to be sure I’m maintaining. It feels as if this has gone on forever!

### Congratulations to Diane Alsop

Diane Alsop is Pi Chapter’s latest recipient of the Xi State Order of the Rose. This recognition is for members who have made *outstanding contributions to chapter and community*, but who have not received recognition at the state level through other means and shall have been an active participating member for *at least 15 years*.



## Pi Chapter Local News

### Pi Chapter Committees for 2020-2022 Biennium

#### Society Business

**Archives/Scrapbook** Amy Graham (Chair), Lisa Smith, Melanie McDaniel, Jennifer Taylor, Rachel Pemberton

**Communications/Publicity** Pat Stonecipher, Gwen Payne, Linda McCune, Lisa Swisher

**Finance** Deckie Conley (Chair), Lucy VanCleve, Ann Brown, Diane Alsop, ExOfficio Members: Kathleen Benedict, Treasurer; Vikki Burn and Abbi Hill (Co-Presidents)

**Membership** Sara Idzak and Amanda Powers (Co-Chairs), Joan Vick, Paula Tackett, Paula Campbell

**Nominations** Pat Aldridge (Chair), Amy Graham, Kathy Hurst, Amanda Powers

**Rules** Kate Roovers (Chair), Ann Gann, Brenda Phillips, Pat Aldridge, April Perry

#### Society Mission and Purposes

**Educational Excellence (EEC)** Susan Jonely (Chair), Laura Boden, Laura Phillips, Mary Pat Williams, Patsye Thurmon

**Legislative** Susan Fowler and April Perry (Co-Chairs), Susan Jonely, Felicia Reynolds, Rhonda F. Phillips

**Pi Chapter Projects (CIEC, HS Essay, Literacy)** Marilyn Buckner (Chair), Cheryl Harris, Janie Jackson, Judy Jones, Deckie Conley

**Scholarships/Grants** Judy Miller (Chair), Terri Gilbert, Rhonda A. Phillips, Amanda Powers, Sara Idzik

**Special Events** Krista Petrick, Kay Porter, Vicky Curtis, Pam Allen, Amanda Weaver



Note: If your committee has anything to report, please submit it to Pat Stonecipher (stonecipherp@gmail.com)

#### Information Needed!!!

If you have not been included in the Member Spotlight, please be on the lookout for an email from Sara Idzik with questions to answer so your fellow sisters can get to know you better.



## Pi Chapter Local News



### Spotlight on Members

To welcome in our new year, meet our new co-presidents: Vikki Burns and Abbi Hill.

**Vikki Burns** earned her bachelor's degree in marketing and business administration from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and never intended to pursue a career in education. She received two job offers after she graduated, one in North Carolina and one in Chicago, but did not feel either was right for her. Instead, she kept mentally circling back to her elective classes in the College of Education and one professor who had made an impact. When she was contacted about an interim position at Campbell County High School teaching business economics and business law, Vikki decided to follow her gut. From there, she moved on to LaFollette Junior High School to teach US History, Algebra I, physical education and to coach cheerleading. She then returned to Campbell County to work with underserved youth by setting them up for post-graduation success. After three years, she was contacted about a position at Clinton High School teaching distributive education/marketing. Vikki accepted the position in 1985 and remained at CHS until 2011. During this time, she also completed her master's degree in education at UTK and her EDS in Instructional Leadership at Tennessee Tech University. After leaving CHS, Vikki went to Clinton Middle School as an assistant principal and from there moved into her current position as CTE Program Coordinator, where she oversees dual enrollment, student industry certification, work-based learning, and CTE funds and grants. In her spare time, Vikki loves to travel and is often found at her brother's house in south Florida- or anywhere with water and sun. Next year, she hopes to attend a family reunion in Canada and travel to Vietnam since both trips were postponed this year. When she's not traveling or enjoying water sports, you can find her at home with her rescue pups. She also volunteers with two animal groups in Campbell County: "Warm the Critters," which provides food and wood chips for pets in the wintertime, and a local spay/neuter group. Vikki's favorite part of DKG is helping with projects that support teachers. As co-president, Vikki is looking forward to getting current members more comfortable with online procedures. She hopes our chapter can find more ways to contribute and be engaged through online meetings and activities to help increase membership numbers.

## Pi Chapter Local News



### Spotlight on Members

**Abigail Hill** has taught at Norris Elementary, Fairview Elementary, and currently teaches second grade at Andersonville Elementary. She received her bachelor's degree from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and her master's degree from Lincoln Memorial University. Abbi's own love of learning is what inspired her to become a teacher, and she hopes to pass on that curiosity and quest for knowledge to her students. Abbi loves to spend time gardening and has used her extra time at home to install a new flowerbed. Like many others who are keeping Lowe's and Home Depot busy, Abbi and her new husband have also been completing house renovations and painting basically everything. While the home improvements have been a nice bonus to quarantining, Abbi can't wait to go to the movies again. She'll be first in line for *Wonder Woman 1984* when it's all clear. Abbi may be one of our newer members, but she has jumped into the organization head first. She loves spending time with strong, like-minded women who share a love for education. She is especially looking forward to her time as co-president and is excited to find additional ways to bring in new members while improving our retention rate.



## Grant-in-Aides for 2020

I wanted to share information on the winners of our Grant-in-Aides for 2020 so that more members than me would have the information.

Thank you to Judy Miller and Rhonda Phillips for once again vetting our candidates and culling all their bio information and sending it to Ann and me. You each do this so selflessly each year and I know that it means so much to our chapter as well as to these recipients! You are both so valuable to Pi Chapter!!

When our dear Vera passed away in January, 2018, the committee to manage the fund of money given in her memory had the idea to create a card to give to each of the recipients of the Grant-in-Aide awards each year that would explain who the award was in memory of and what is represented. Teri Gilbert and others designed a draft and text of a possible card and Ann Gann took it to C & D Printing to consult with Charlie Lane to fine tune the final product. I tell you all of this as background, to say, Ann brought me the newly printed cards and envelopes in late April so that I could mail the checks to our winners in these beautiful cards, which I did. You can all see them “virtually” on the next page and in person at our first meeting, but until then, take from me that they are both beautiful, classy and a fitting tribute to Vera and the impact she had on DKG and education!!

### **CHS Grant-in-Aide Winner: Paige Moore**

Paige Moore, a senior at Clinton High School, participated in many clubs and activities at CHS: Cheerleader for all 4 years, Captain, Senior year, member of the Advanced Ensemble Choir who performed for Pi Chapter in December, chosen to be on Youth Leadership Team at CHS, volunteer coach South Clinton Optimist Cheerleaders, volunteer in Second Grade at South Clinton Elementary School.

Paige plans to attend Roane State then enroll in 2+2 offered by TN Tech University in Elementary Education.

### **ACHS Grant-in-Aide Winner: Leigha Michelle Mozingo**

Leigha Mozingo, a senior at Anderson County High School, plans to become a Kindergarten teacher or First Grade teacher and will be studying for her degree at Carson-Newman University. In a thank you note sent to our chapter, Leigha stated that, "Receiving this scholarship will allow me to focus on the most important aspect of school - learning. Thank you again for your generosity and investment in students like me and in our education!"

Since we could not have our usual Founder's Day Banquet due to Covid-19, I wanted everyone to have the information and share in our joy and success

*Submitted by Kathleen Benedict*

### Mission

To promote professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education.

### Vision

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide.  
You can be a part of this great future for education.

### Who is the DKG Key Woman Educator?

A potential leader	Able to bring out the best in others	Authentic	Responsive to feedback
Results oriented	Adaptable	A conceptual thinker	Motivated to make a difference

Leading Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide  
<https://www.dkg.org/>

## Vera Jo Henegar DKG Grant





## Pi Chapter

# Vera Jo Henegar DKG Grant

Pi Chapter and Xi State lost a Tennessee “Treasure” on January 22, 2019, when Vera Jo Henegar of Clinton, TN, a 47 year member of Pi Chapter, passed away. Vera served as a “Mother Hen” to many leaders in Xi State as well as nurturing members in her own Pi Chapter.

She loved DKG and indeed epitomized a “key woman educator”. Vera taught school for 37 years from second grade to high school, teaching in Tennessee, Georgia, Indiana, and the Oslo American School in Oslo, Norway as she traveled with her husband in the Army.

Vera’s leadership and encouragement to Pi Chapter and Xi State left not only an impressive legacy but a model for member involvement: 3 state offices including Xi State President (2001-2003), 4 chapter offices, 3 special award, 6 international committees, 18 Xi State committees, 22 Pi Chapter committees, 13 international conventions, 16 regional conventions, 39 TN Xi State conventions, 59 workshops and legislative seminars (often as guest speaker), and 18 times as guest speaker at Pi Chapter meetings. Her love of DKG Society, its mission and purposes as well as her DKG sisters clearly showed in her life of service.

Pi Chapter sisters continue to honor Vera’s life and legacy with this grant awarded annually to deserving women as they enter into the field of education.



Pi Chapter of DKG International is pleased to award the Vera Jo Henegar DKG Grant to

---

On this day, \_\_\_\_\_

“*One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world.*” — Malala Yousafzai