

ALPHA XI NEWS



DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL XI STATE

THE DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL PROMOTES PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL
GROWTH OF WOMEN EDUCATORS AND EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION.

Volume 17 Issue 1

July 2019

Alpha Xi Members attend State Convention



Pictured from left, Karen Phillips, Barbara Carlton, Nancy Bibler, Beverly Smith, Deana James, Donna Lamkin, Jeanie McKenna, Maxine Williams, Jeanette Esch, Kim Thurman

Members of Alpha Xi attended the 84th annual Xi State Convention May 30– June 1 2019 at Sewanee. Attendees served as table hostesses, pages, and represented various state committees. They also attended interesting and informative breakout sessions and voted on a number of amendments to the state bylaws.

Once again, the efforts of the chapter paid off earning Gold level for the Maycie Southall Chapter Excellence Award, highest honor for newsletter and web page, and the Achievement award for Chapter Level Strategic Action Plan. Ten members were able to attend this year's convention.

For new members and those who have never attended, please consider going in 2020. The weekend is filled with great opportunities to grow as a professional and learn more about the organization in a beautiful and relaxing setting. We love our time on the mountain!

NEXT MEETING

Monday July 22, 2019

Annual Summer Picnic

PLACE: Soddy Daisy Community
Center

190 Depot Street

Soddy Daisy, TN 37379

TIME: 5-7 p.m.

MENU: Potluck Dinner

Visit perfectpotluck.com to sign up
for a dish to bring.

Coordinator: Phillips

Password: AlphaXi722

Service Project:

Bring package of Bic Highlighters for
teachers at Red Bank Elementary.
See page 3 for more details.

Hosted By: The Finance Committee

Members are asked to bring \$3 to
cover the cost of the rental.

President's Message

The campus of the University of the South with its Gothic architecture and lush, pastoral landscapes serves as a kind of Wayback (WABAC) Machine* for visitors such as the Tennessee DKG members who gathered there for our annual Convention. It was so easy to feel nostalgic for a simpler time of school bells, desks in a row, eager children gazing admiringly at the teacher in the front of the classroom. Ahhh, the good ol' days.



The good ol' days were also on display at Convocation Hall, essentially a gallery of old portraits of the men who had served as chancellors or vice-chancellors throughout the university's 162-year history. These portraits are all of men. All are white. I know they are just a realistic and honest snapshot of history, but they are also a reminder that it matters whose careers are honored; whose achievements are acknowledged. Let's remember that those good ol' days (for all of their delights), also represent repression of many who did not have the right to vote without fear or society's permission to seek a job in a "man's world."

Atop the Cumberland Plateau on that beautiful campus where time seems to stand still, members had the privilege to hear from this year's high school essay contest winner. His name is Taku Mabvuta, a graduate of Oak Ridge High School and a recent immigrant from Zimbabwe. In 18 months, he was able to master English and blaze a path of achievement at his new school. He thrilled his audience with his poise and the power of his words:

"Education will not only give us the sophistication we need to use our civil rights; it will also protect us from being mistreated. It will give us the reputations needed to command society's respect, making us accept our differences and treat each other as equals. Education is the only neutral zone where anyone can excel and achieve greatness."

Back in the good ol' days, America made a grand bargain with its citizens in founding public schools for all, but that original bargain has had to be re-negotiated many times over the years. Amid the furor, we would do well to focus on Taku's words. He gets it. Education is the great "neutral zone." Teachers are the ones who create that zone in classrooms every day. Public education is an invention of the past, but it need not be burdened by the past. The future demands we never give up on its promise.

To me, Delta Kappa Gamma represents having a foothold in both the past and the future. Our traditions and our sisterhood are a bulwark in a time of change and uncertainty. Our work on behalf of teachers and students is an act of love and hope that our diverse society will find common ground and build a stronger, more dynamic nation.

I am so grateful we have each other !



Jeanie

Alpha Xi Officers 2018-2020

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*WABAC—allusion to the time traveling machine created by Mr. Peabody, a character from the cartoon *Rocky and Bullwinkle Show* circa 1960s

UPCOMING EVENTS

ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC



**Make plans to attend the summer picnic at
Soddy Daisy Community Center**

Directions: From Hwy 27 headed north, take the TN-319 exit toward Soddy Daisy/Hixson Pike. Turn left onto TN-319 N (Hixson Pike)/Tsati Terrace. Turn right onto Dayton Pike. Turn left onto Durham Street. Turn right into the drive toward the pavilion— pass the basketball courts.

Sign up to bring a dish at perfectpotluck.com

Coordinator: Phillips password : alphaxi722

Please bring \$3 to cover rental cost

It's a new year! A time to celebrate our achievements and a time to look ahead. Please think about these two questions in advance of our picnic later this month:

- ⇒ Why did I choose to become a member of DKG (especially Alpha Xi)?
- ⇒ What can I contribute to the work of our chapter this new year?



Service Project: Highlighters for teachers at Red Bank Elementary School. Bring a package of Bic Highlighters (see picture). We will attach a note to each highlighter with DKG info.

MEMBER NEWS

In Remembrance

Three members of Alpha Xi were honored at the Ceremony of Remembrance at Sewanee on Saturday June 1st.

Floise Litz

July 1, 1920—August 13, 2018

(Alpha Xi member since 1960)

Charlotte Lasater

Died July 19, 2018, age 94

(Alpha Xi member since 1959)

Rose Dover

February 21, 1930— May 17, 2019



Email for Betty Thomason: bettycthomason@gmail.com

Email for Judy Leach: judyjoy6618@gmail.com

New address/phone for Ernestine Eldridge: Morning Pointe Hixson

5501 Old Hixson Pike

Room 410

Hixson, TN 37343

423-847-1370 (front desk)



Event Calendar



Looking Ahead...

July 22 Annual Summer Picnic

TENTATIVE September: "Libraries Transform Learning" led by Cristol Kapp at RBES

TENTATIVE October: Hispanic Outreach in the community. Led by a speaker from La Paz

TENTATIVE December: UTC Faculty Club

Dues are due!

The new deadline for dues is now June 30th. If you have not yet paid, please mail a check to Karen at

6603 Stateline Road, 37412

Dues are still \$80

Make checks payable to Alpha Xi, DKG

Member Updates & Concerns

Ernestine Eldridge is at Morning Pointe in Hixson and is experiencing a slow recovery. She asks for your prayers. If you would like to visit, please call ahead.

Please keep Beverly Smith and her parents in your prayers.

Judy Leach is working hard in therapy to walk again. She expects to be at Life Care in Ooltewah for several more weeks.

Birthday Club News:

The April-June group enjoyed a walk and refreshments at the Hunter Art District on April 27th. Beverly Smith, Michelle Bailey, and Jeanie McKenna discovered their shared love of gardening and learned more about their families.

The July-August group is scheduled to meet on Monday, July 15th at The Spot, 1800 E.Main St. at 10:30. RSVP to Cristol Kapp at kappcm@gmail.com



July

7 Norma Cate
12 Cristol Kapp
13 Ann Pinion

August

7 Jeanette Esch
14 Betty Julian
15 Dot Bayless
Julie Hughes
Suzanne Rushworth
18 Esther Clark
Pam Thompson
20 Raja Bhandari
21 Maxine Williams
31 Betty Thomason