

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 16 Issue 2

September 2018

Alpha Xi Honors Essay Contest Winners



First row: Amari Ratliff, Tyner Academy-Second Place; Virginia Condry, Chattanooga High Center for Creative Arts-First Place; and Taniya Nichols, Tyner Academy-Third Place. Not pictured is Graham Shults, Chattanooga High Center for Creative Arts-also Second Place.

Second Row: Eva Ratliff, grandparent; Jeanie McKenna, Alpha Xi president; Debbie and Mike Condry, parents; Maxine Williams, Educational Services Committee chair; Kateria Arnold, parent.

Third Row: Deana James, committee member.

The Educational Services Committee presented awards to the winners of the 2018 high school essay contest. The students and their parents joined members at our annual summer picnic at Spangler Farm. Each contestant read an excerpt from her essay and shared her plans for college.

This committee works hard each year communicating with local high schools about the contest. They assemble the entries and forward them on for judging at the state level, spending hours reading and judging them for our own Alpha Xi awards.

Your dues and annual contributions help fund these awards.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 13, 2018

PLACE: O'Charley's Restaurant in
Hixson

Please note location change!

TIME: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

MENU: Order from O'Charley's
menu

PROGRAM: Hosted by Educational
Services Committee. DKG Constitu-
tion Update

Service Project for September: Wish
list for DuPont Elementary Teachers.

You can shop the DuPont teacher
wish list online at

[https://www.walmart.com/lists/
view-events-registry-items?
id=da3883b4-24c5-4327-8adf-
3efaf690a464](https://www.walmart.com/lists/view-events-registry-items?id=da3883b4-24c5-4327-8adf-3efaf690a464)

President's Message

In the 17th century, English poet John Donne crafted an eloquent reflection on death titled "Meditation 17." The phrases "for whom the bell tolls" and "no man is an island" are its most well-known quotes, but the real theme of the essay is its assertion that death is, in fact, not something to mourn but something to treasure. Death is a sad certainty of living, but it can be transformed, says Donne, when we observe another's death (hearing the church bell toll) as a reminder of our own mortality and our common humanity.



Donne writes, "...all mankind is of one author, and is one volume; when one man dies, one chapter is not torn out of the book, but translated into a better language; and every chapter must be so translated; God employs several translators; some pieces are translated by age some by sickness, some by war, some by justice; but God's hand is in every translation, and his hand shall bind up all our scattered leaves again for that library where every book shall lie open to one another."

I thought of this passage as I attended Eloise Litz's memorial service a few weeks ago. How nice to think of death as a better translation of ourselves, of a library as a heaven! I believe it is a message Eloise would have agreed with whole-heartedly. Her memorial in itself, planned to the last detail by Eloise, perfectly reflected her personality and beliefs.

Her service felt like a kind of challenge: to make every act a representation of your true self; to make every decision align with your principles. Daunting, isn't it?

Our choice of profession, our choice to become a member of Delta Kappa Gamma... these are reflections of our values and our commitment to them. Our membership is an opportunity to put our values into action, to be of service to others, and to enjoy the journey in fellowship with one another.

We may not be called a "sorority," but we **are** a powerful sisterhood. Our power is in our unity—unity of purpose and unity in action. On August 7th that unity was on display as an Alpha Xi crew descended on Woodmore Elementary to deliver teacher goody bags to celebrate the new school year. Over 30 bags were filled by generous member donations. This is who we are. This is what we are.

"Forward moving ever!"



Jeanie

Alpha Xi Officers 2018-2020

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MEMBER NEWS



Piles o' Supplies

Alpha Xi members donated supplies for teachers at Woodmore. Supplies were delivered by Beverly Smith, Diamond Kelley, Karen



Prospective Members

If you wish to sponsor a new member, please complete the membership form. You can find the form at <http://alphaxichattanooga.weebly.com/membership-application.html>

The form is interactive so members can download it to your computer, type on the form, save it, and then attach it to an email to Jeanie. Otherwise, you should bring the completed form to the October meeting, but please email the prospective member's name to Jeanie before the meeting date so that all nominees' names can be on the ballot.

Please consider asking someone to be a member of DKG and particularly our chapter!



Yearly dues can be paid at the October meeting or

mailed to:

Karen Phillips

6603 State Line Rd., Chattanooga 37415

Looking Ahead...

Oct. 16 Meeting hosted by Communications/Finance Committees*

Nov. 13 New Member Initiation. East Brainerd Church of Christ

Dec. 10 Christmas Tea at Nancy Bibler's Home



EDUCATIONAL SERVICES PROJECT

2018-19 Xi State Essay Contest

34th Annual High School Essay Contest

Deadline: **December 8, 2018**

Purpose:

To encourage, to recognize, and to reward Tennessee high school students who demonstrate outstanding writing skills.

Eligibility:

All Tennessee high school students, public and private (grades 9 – 12) are eligible.

Guidelines for Submitting Essays:

If a school is only sponsored by one DKG chapter, the school official may submit up to four entries. When multiple chapters are represented in a school, the school may submit up to four entries per sponsoring chapter. There should be no duplication of entries. A student may only submit ONE essay to one chapter.

The student will email his/her essay to one school official (teacher, guidance counselor, instructional coach, etc.). The school official will email the essays to the contact person of the sponsoring DKG chapter by **December 8, 2018**. The contact person of the sponsoring DKG chapter will attach all of the essays from the school in one email and send it to xistate.essay@gmail.com by **December 15, 2018**.

In the case that a chapter is sending essays from more than one school, each school's essays should be sent in separate emails. In the subject line indicate your chapter name and the name of the school.

Topic:

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” – Nelson Mandela

Contact Kim Thurman at thurman_k@hcde.org with questions regarding the contest.

THIS & THAT

STAY INFORMED

VISIT THE ALPHA XI WEBSITE



<http://alphaxichattanooga.weebly.com>

Liz Morton Hospitalized Veterans Calendar Project

Alpha Xi will collect 2019 calendars now through December. Please bring any 2018 calendar (either purchased or received by mail) to **Suzanne Rushworth**.



XI STATE CREATIVE ARTS RETREAT

September 28-29

Casey Jones Village

Jackson, TN

OPPORTUNITIES

For Professional Growth

XI STATE VISION FOUNDATION

PROJECT/GRANT Guidelines

- I. All applicants must be a current member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, Xi State Organization.
- II. Grant Criteria: to provide financial assistance to conduct educational research and/or to develop special projects related to the improvement of education in Tennessee.
- III. Only applications which meet grant criteria and are submitted on the correct form will be considered.
- IV. No grant will exceed \$1000.
- V. This application must be electronically dated by midnight CST on December 31. All applicants will receive notification of the decision of the Vision Foundation Board by March 1. Checks will be issued shortly thereafter.
- VI. A record of your experiences must be submitted to the Chairman of the Selection Committee of the Xi State Vision Foundation within two months of the completion of the project.
- VII. Grant recipients will present a workshop and/or report at the Vision

XI STATE VISION FOUNDATION

Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award Guidelines

- I. All applicants must be a current member of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, Xi State Organization and employed in an educational setting during the period covered by the award.
- II. Award Criteria: attend a seminar, workshop, or professional meeting.
- III. Only applications which meet award criteria and are submitted on the correct form will be considered.
- IV. No more than one applicant will receive the Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award annually with the amount of the award not to exceed \$1000.
- V. This application must be electronically dated by midnight CST on December 31. All applicants will receive notification of the decision of the Vision Foundation Board by March 1. Checks will be issued shortly thereafter.
- VI. A record of your experiences must be submitted to the Chairman of the Selection Committee of the Xi State Vision Foundation within two months of the event.

Member Updates & Concerns

Our chapter has faced several sad loses this summer. We have bidden farewell to three dear friends who have touched our lives and contributed their talents and gifts to Delta Kappa Gamma.

Billie Bacon passed to her heavenly home on August 14th

Charlotte Lasater departed this life on July 19th

Eloise Litz “graduated to immortality” on August 13th

The following note was received from Eloise’s daughter Nancy:

Dear Alpha XI members,

Words cannot express my deep appreciation for the beautiful reception you provided and hosted before my mother's "Celebration of Life" service. Under Maxine Williams' capable leadership, you provided a memorable event. My husband described the reception as "exquisite," and my husband has never before used those words to describe a table of finger food. He said “Nancy, every tray was a work of art.”

Thank you for fulfilling my mother’s wish to have a reception before her “graduation to immortality” celebration. I'm confident that Mother would have reveled in the gathering of her friends. She would have thoroughly enjoyed the delicious food, and she would have been deeply touched by your generosity and hospitality.

Mother loved Delta Kappa Gamma, and she loved you. She often spoke of her deep connection with her DKG sisters.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers as we adjust to life without our much-loved Grand Matriarch.

With love and appreciation for what you have done to honor my mother,

Nancy Litz Oliver

September

6 Kim Thurman

7 Ronda Lyons

10 Heather Pinion

12 Brooke Hopkins

October

21 Jane Brower

