

# 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.*

### “Focus on the Real Common CORE: Cultivating Our Renewed Excitement”

Dear Sisters,

One year ago I agreed to become the president of the Alpha Xi Chapter of DKG. What a year filled with things to learn! I want to thank all of you for all you have done during the year. Many of you have been there to lead me through the responsibilities of president. To you, I say thank you for saving me. And to those who entrusted this position to me and supported our work, I have learned what a great chapter we are. We have demonstrated that we care for each other, our profession, our organization, and our community.

I just finished our chapter application for a gold award. I knew that we had super members, but I was really excited to see how many things we accomplished. At our March meeting three of our more recently initiated members told us some of the things that attracted them to DKG and why they choose to continue their membership. One of the things they mentioned was fellowship. Following their presentation we divided into groups to work on items for Founders' Day. After the meeting, I realized that we do not always take time to enjoy one another. I want us to plan for more fellowship opportunities next year in addition to our regular programs. Some chapters have worked together to make quilts or fleece blankets. Do you have any suggestions for a group project for us? Let Jeanette know since she will be planning the programs. She already has some great plans for us, but will welcome your suggestions.

We still have one more meeting this year when we honor the founders of Delta Kappa Gamma. The Founders' Day celebration will be April 25 (10:30 am) at the Red Bank United Methodist Church. The catered brunch will cost \$13.00. Judy Leach should receive your check (make it



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to Alpha Xi) by April 9. We are looking for a big turnout for a traditionally lovely morning. Please make an effort to be there.

Next up is Xi State Convention (June 4-6). Last year was my first year and what a fun, interesting three days. Beverly Smith will complete her term as Xi State President and we want to have as many members as possible to support her as well as to see how DKG works on a State level.

Mark your calendars for our July picnic (see dates to remember) at Camp Jordan. More details will follow on this event. We have had a busy year and your executive board is busy planning for the upcoming year to be an opportunity for fun, learning, service, and fellowship. Esther and Betty have already set dates for many of the meetings. Please mark your calendars for these meetings when they email the dates.

Sincerely,  
Deana James

## MEMBER NEWS

### Kim Thurman and Esther Clark Attend Leadership Seminar

Two of Alpha Xi's members, Kim Thurman and Esther Clark, participated in the Xi State Leadership Seminar held at Henry Horton State Park in March. Kim stated that it was everything she expected and more. The seminar centered around the personal and professional growth practices outlined in *The Art of Possibility* by Rosamund and Benjamin Zander. Becky Sadowski facilitated the discussions that allowed each participant to consider the many ways we can "dwell in the possibility". Members left with heads swimming with all the ideas presented and eager to put to use what was learned in order to transform their personal lives, classrooms, and roles in their chapters, state, and Delta Kappa Gamma. Kim said she was grateful for the opportunity to attend and mindful of all the hard work required to have a seminar of this quality. She wants to give a heart-felt thanks to Jenny Lusk and all of the Leadership Committee.



### Can You Help Find Our Lost Sheep?

One of the many activities prepared for us at the March meeting by Jeanette Esch was a tri-fold board displaying the names of former members as our "lost sheep". Members were encouraged to take the name and contact information of at least one former member to call and let them know we miss them. We were also asked to invite them to

## BIRTHDAYS

### April

3 Ellen Craig  
10 Beverly Smith  
17 Jennifer Allen  
28 Harriett Harris  
30 Ernestine Eldridge

### May

5 Martha McMillan  
14 Liz Morton



attend the July picnic at Camp Jordan, even if they have no interest in rejoining (but we hope they will).

If you were not able to attend in March or forgot to get your sheep to take home, please contact Jeanette and get a name. Many of these former members had reasons for not continuing that might have changed, and they would be willing to restore their membership. Remind them that there is no longer a reinstatement fee, so all they have to do to be a member again is let us know and pay their dues.



*Congratulations! Your chapter has received the Highest Award for Communication and Publicity. Your chapter newsletters have been outstanding. You have submitted articles/pictures to the Xi State News. The members of the committee have found your chapter to be exemplary in communicating with your chapter members and publicizing your chapter members and activities. Your chapter will receive a certificate at Xi State.*

## Greater Chattanooga Sports Hall of Fame 2015 inductees

Our Ernestine Eldridge who was recently inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame was featured in an article in Metro Weekly insert in the Chattanooga Times Free-Press. A nice photo appears on page 2 of the insert.

Congratulations, again, Ernestine!

**Ernestine Eldridge (basketball):** Daughter of Ernest "Big Boy" Eldridge, a member of the Greater Chattanooga Hall of Fame, she accepted the girls' basketball coaching position at Sale Creek, one of the smallest schools in the area at that time. In her 14 years as coach, Sale Creek had only one losing season and played in the District finals four times. Each of those times, the school reached the region tournament. Eldridge also coached the volleyball team, winning the Times Regional tournament three straight years. She graduated from the University of Chattanooga, but the school had no women's sports team at the time. She is in the Soddy-Daisy HS Hall of Fame.

<http://www.timesfreepress.com/news/sports/local/story/2015/feb/08/charley-hannah-among-greater-chattanooga-hall/287187/>





## CONCERNS

**Norma Cate** – Her husband has had skin cancer removed and two more biopsies taken. His additional biopsy reports have returned benign. Keep him in your prayers.

**Liz Morton** -- She will be moving to Morning Point in Powell, TN just north of Knoxville. Liz is one of the cornerstone foundational blocks of Alpha Xi. Her zests for life and uncompromising generous spirit have been an inspiration to Alpha Xi for many years. Because Liz has not been well, she has made a tough, yet wise decision to relocate near her family.

**Janie Sue Massey** – She got a good report from her doctor and won't have to see him again for six months.

**[DO NOT FORGET TO CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE!](http://alphaxichattanooga.weebly.com)**  
**[HTTP://ALPHAXICHATTANOOGA.WEEBLY.COM](http://alphaxichattanooga.weebly.com)**

## IMPORTANT DATES

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|--------------------------|---|
| April 25 <sup>th</sup>   | Founders' Day<br>Red Bank United Methodist Church @ 10:30 a.m.  |
| May 1 <sup>st</sup>      | Xi State Convention Registration due (save \$30)<br>Visit <a href="http://xistate.org">xistate.org</a> for more information |
| June 4-6 <sup>th</sup>   | Xi State Convention at Sewanee<br>Visit <a href="http://xistate.org">xistate.org</a> for more information                   |
| June 8 <sup>th</sup>     | Deadline to register for Southeast Regional<br>Form and information in March/April <i>DKG News</i>                          |
| June 9 <sup>th</sup>     | Carl's Family Restaurant @ 11:00 a.m.<br>Board Planning Meeting   |
| July 15-18 <sup>th</sup> | Southeast Regional in Savannah at the Westin Resort and Spa   |
| July 27 <sup>th</sup>    | Chapter family picnic at Camp Jordan in East Ridge at 5:30  |

