

2007-2008
Update
to
XI STATE HISTORY
VOL. II



Xi State Historians:

Audrey Mae Doak, Alpha Alpha
Pam Ramage, Beta Iota

Awards and Achievements 2007-2008

2007 Scholarships

Louise Oakley

Carolyn E. Moss, Alpha Rho

Mary Hall

Melissa Wood Morton Rice, Alpha Chi

Evangeline Hartsook

Linda Sue Baxter, Beta Pi

Lottie McCall

Teresa C. Brown, Alpha Alpha

Maycie K. Southall

Lana Lynette Foster, Beta Beta

Isabel Wheeler

Diane Bruce Anderson, Gamma Alpha

Special

Deborah Ann Gillespie Frey, Omega

International Scholarships

Linda Eller, Alpha Lambda

Deborah Frey, Omega

Anne Littleford, Beta Delta

Lucille Cornet Awards

Angie Bashears, Beta Phi

Dr. Denise Dunbar, Alpha Nu

Liz W. Bradley Professional Growth Award

Amy E. Hicks, Lambda

Achievement Award

Audrey Mae Doak, Alpha Alpha

International Guest

Dr. Barbara Day, President, 2006-08

2007 Order of the Rose

Mrs. Connie Crowell, Alpha Psi

Mrs. Dorothy Douglas, Beta Xi

Mrs. Martha Kage, Alpha Lambda

Mrs. Vida Bunting, Gamma Mu

Mrs. Dean Stegall, Alpha Rho

Mrs. Elizabeth Redmon, Gamma Eta

Mrs. Genevieve Carr, Alpha Beta

Mrs. Martha Wells, Beta Phi

Mrs. Katherine Hurst, Pi

Mrs. Carlene Tenpenny, Beta Eta

Mrs. Cynthia Crispell Ripp, Phi

Mrs. Peggy Wright, Alpha Xi

Dr. June Gorski, Zeta

Mrs. Deanna Howell, Alpha Alpha

Mrs. Grace Steele, Beta Zeta

Mrs. Mildred Welch, Alpha Iota

Mrs. Shirley Dowell, Beta

Mrs. Jane Pickel, Nu

Mrs. GeorgiaAnn Boles, Alpha Gamma

Mrs. Judy Jackson, Rho

2007 VISIONARIES

Dr. Barbara Day, International
President

Gail H. Watson, Alpha Beta

Miriam Bowman, Gamma Gamma

Dr. Dovie Kimmins, Beta

Martha Scarbrough, Alpha Pi

VISIONARY Chapters

Alpha Gamma Chapter

Marilyn Roberts, President

Nu Chapter

Cynthia Conrad, President

Phi Chapter

Marilyn Shaver, President

Delta Kappa Gamma Education Foundation

Sheila Hickman, Beta Rho

Dr. Marcia Stewart, Alpha Psi

2007 -- 50 Year Members

Dorothy Bayless	Alpha Xi
Kathryn Cobb	Pi
Rose Hart Dale	Alpha Upsilon
Marie Hunter	Iota
Margaret Leach	Mu
Alma Long	Mu
Janie Sue Massey	Alpha Xi
Mary Katherine Pace	Alpha Xi
Nancy Smith	Iota
Adena Varner	Alpha Xi
Dr. Sara Whitten	Beta

2007 -- 60 Year Members

Bertah Ashley	Alpha Pi
Frances Brickell	Mu
Rita Groseclose	Iota
Lacy Yarber	Alpha Beta

2007 -- 69 Year Member

Miss Helon Brixey	Zeta
-------------------	------

Tennessee Education Association Distinguished Educators of the Year

Dr. Debbie Smith	Alpha Beta
Donna Camper	Alpha Alpha

**2007 Xi State Advanced Leadership Management Seminar
University of the South
June 6-7, 2007**

Martha Bailey, Alpha Lambda
Linda Beth Barker, Beta Zeta
Orlean Bauman, Alpha Rho
Minnie Burnett, Beta Rho
Toni Lynn Campbell, Alpha Lambda
Jane Cumiskey, Alpha Lambda
Wanda H. Day, Alpha Lambda
Dr. Denise P. Dunbar, Alpha Nu
Harriet Harris, Alpha Xi
Sandra Hull, Beta Upsilon
Nancy Knight, Beta

Donna Lamkin, Alpha Xi
Cindy Lynn, Beta Beta
Marsha Rains, Omega
Linda Richardson, Alpha Rho
Marilyn Shaver, Phi
Suzanne Turner, Beta Rho
Gail H. Watson, Alpha Beta
Rachel C. Weir, Beta Sigma
Mary Jo Wilson, Alpha Lambda
Shelia Yarborough, Gamma Zeta
Susan H. Young, Beta Beta

**Xi State Leadership Management Seminar
Gatlinburg, TN
April 25-27, 2008**

Dianne Anderson, Gamma Alpha
Marsha Brewer, Beta Upsilon
Donna Campbell, Beta Pi
Gail Huffstutler, Alpha Xi
Donna Jerden, Beta Beta

Patricia A. Jones, Zeta
Sara Key, Zeta
Trina LeMarr, Beta Phi
Betty Scarborough, Beta Phi
Sandra K. Smith, Alpha Gamma

HISTORY OF THE 2005-2007 BIENNIUM

Prepared by Elaine Warwick

Elaine Warwick, from Franklin in middle Tennessee, was elected and installed as state president at the state convention at the University of the South in Sewanee on Friday evening June 10, 2005 in Upper Cravens. Other officers installed were: Nancy Harris (Chi), first vice-president; Nancy Davis (Gamma Mu), second vice-president; Beverly Smith (Beta Upsilon) recording secretary; Mary Evelyn Perkinson, (Gamma Zeta), corresponding secretary; and Linda McCrary, (Alpha Gamma), treasurer. Lois Jones (Beta) was appointed by the president to serve as parliamentarian but was unable to attend the convention and was installed at a later date. Related personnel serving at this time were Dr. Jensi Souders, Xi State Executive Secretary and Linda Eller, Xi State Editor. Beginning as the first Xi State Webmaster was Judy Cross whose position had just been approved by the executive board at the 2005 convention.

President Warwick chose as her biennium theme “Inspired by the Past, Empowered for the Future”. Warwick emphasized that we must remember our founders and build upon their pioneering spirit and foresight using it to inspire us to continue what they began as they blazed new trails for women in education. The past should be, for us, a guidepost for the future, not a hitching post. For us to grow we must change with the times and let the purposes and high ideals set forth by our founders empower us to move the Society forward in the 21st century. Warwick pledged to make the Society more visible in each community across the state during the biennium through involvement in a statewide literacy project.

2005-2006

In late July, 2005, seventy-seven members from Xi State attended the Southeast Regional Conference in Williamsburg, Virginia. President Elaine Warwick as well as Jensi Souders, Xi State Executive Secretary, attended the pre-conference seminar for new state presidents; Nancy Harris, Dorrie Powell, Linda McCrary and Linda Eller attended preconference seminars for state program chairmen, state membership chairmen, state treasurers, and state newsletter editors, respectively. Vera Henegar, as a member of the International Leadership Committee, helped to present the pre-conference seminar for new state presidents. Workshop presenters from Xi State included Becky Sadowski, Jensi Souders, Linda Eller, Nancy Harris, Judy Jackson, Kay Awalt Musgrove and Elaine Warwick. Becky Sadowski presented an inspiring speech entitled: “Excellence in Action in Education” during the opening session of the convention. Jensi Souders presided at the presentation and recession of the state flags while introducing the out-going and in-coming state presidents. Nancy Davis and Dr. Annette Gregory shared their musical talents with convention attendees. Xi State presented a “Moment of Excellence” at the third general session.

The fall Leadership Conference for State Committee Planning was held at Goodpasture Christian School in Nashville, Tennessee on September 23-24, 2005 for all standing committees and one new ad hoc committee, the Strategic Planning Task Force. Of the 169 members assigned to committees or elected as state officers, one hundred forty were in attendance at this conference. Each committee had representation from each grand division of the state. Each committee was given charges by President Warwick for the committees' consideration which, by no means, was meant to limit the committees in planning for their biennium accomplishments. At the conference, Lois Jones was properly installed as Xi State Parliamentarian.

The 2006 Xi State Legislative Symposium was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in downtown Nashville on February 7-8, 2006. Karen Garner and her committee planned an outstanding conference for us. Over 75 Xi State members were in attendance for the meeting on the evening of the 7th and many more were in attendance at the breakfast on the morning of the 8th before walking across the street to Legislative Plaza to attend committee meetings and meet with legislators from their respective districts.

On March 17-18, 2006, one hundred forty-seven ladies representing fifty-three chapters gathered at the Nashville Airport Marriott Hotel for the Chapter Officers' Training. Forty-seven of them were incoming chapter presidents; twenty-five were incoming chapter program chairs, twenty-one were chapter secretaries; and eight were chapter communications chairs. The remaining were state officers, related personnel, area directors, state committee chairs and workshop presenters. The theme for the training was "The Positive Power of Chapter Leadership."

A wonderful positive attitude was present as these chapter leaders participated in general sessions, as well as break-out sessions for training in their specific chapter responsibilities for the 2006-2008 biennium. Chapter presidents were presented an updated copy of the Chapter Presidents' Handbook which contained many documents and materials which would be useful to them as they lead their chapters.

President Warwick and Judy Jackson (Rho) attended the National Legislative Forum in Washington, DC on March 19-22, 2006. They attended sessions which prepared them to meet with their senators and congressman on Capitol Hill.

The 2006 Xi State Leadership Management Seminar was held on April 7-8, 2006 in the Pin Oak Lodge of the Natchez Trace State Park. The theme for this seminar was "Blazing New Trails of Leadership Excellence-Inspired by the Past, Empowered for the Future". Twenty-two participants were in attendance as well as the Xi State officers, the leadership development committee and Xi State area directors.

The seminar presentations focused on a holistic leadership effectiveness model with the committee members as presenters. The seminar received an excellent evaluation from 31 of the 35 attending participants. Dr. Annette Gregory served as chair of the Xi State Leadership Development Committee.

Severe weather and tornadoes drove through Tennessee on April 7, 2006. Golf ball size hail fell at the Pin Oak Lodge prior to the meeting. The severe weather spun tornadoes which damaged and/or destroyed the homes of Sharyn Curbo, Linda Brown, and Jennifer Walker of Beta Xi in the Hendersonville/Gallatin area and Denise Clark of Tau Chapter in west Tennessee. President Warwick submitted their names to the International Emergency Fund for assistance.

During the first year of her biennium President Warwick visited thirty-eight chapters where she participated in initiation of members, installation of officers, Founder's Day programs and addressed chapter members.

2006 XI STATE CONVENTION

The 2006 Xi State Convention was held on June 8-10, 2006 on the campus of the University of the South in Sewanee. Our international guest was Dr. Beverly Helms, International Member-at-Large from Mu State, Florida as well as the Golden Gift sister of President Warwick. Special guests at the convention were Carolyn Pitman (Arkansas) Southeast Regional Director; Sandra McKiernon (Mississippi) teacher at Trent Lott Middle School; and Elizabeth Garner (Alabama) friend of Vera Henegar and past president of Beta State, Alabama. Three hundred forty-three Xi State members were in attendance at this convention. Thirty-three workshops were offered for which members could receive in-service credit. There were sessions for every level of education and for active and retired members. State program chair and first vice-president Nancy Harris planned these wonderful workshops. Twenty-one members were honored with the Order of the Rose for their contributions to their chapters and communities.

Favors for convention attendees were linen bookmarks embroidered with a red rose, the symbol of our Society. Becky Sadowski was honored with the Xi State Achievement Award for her outstanding service to the Society on the state level. The Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award and the Xi State Vision Foundation Award were presented to Leigh Anne Durham (Kappa) and Kathie Harned (Beta Upsilon) respectively. Sheila Hickman (Beta Rho) received a \$4,000 grant from the Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation for the annual storytelling festival in Columbia. Also receiving an award from the Foundation was Dr. Marcia Stewart (Alpha Psi) who received a \$1,250 grant for a project working with ELL students. Of the 28 International Scholarships presented, three were presented this year to Xi State members. They were:

Sophie Prather, Gamma Eta, who received the Carolyn Guss Scholarship; Martha Thweatt, Gamma Eta, Maycie K. Southall Scholarship; and Ina Maxwell, Beta Lambda, who received the Hazel Johnson Memorial Scholarship. Xi State scholarships were awarded to seven members: Kimberly Grace, Alpha Upsilon; Anne Littleford, Beta Delta; Ursula Ann Thompson, Alpha Mu; Pamela Walden, Beta Phi, Martha Thweatt, Gamma Eta; Linda Eller, Alpha Lambda; and Margaret Abernathy, Alpha Phi.

Dee Dee Rives and Mary Evelyn Perkinson were selected to attend the International Leadership Management Seminar in Austin, Texas in July 2006. Those Xi State members serving on the International level at this time were Vera Jo Henegar, Leadership Development; Linda McCrary, Educational Foundation Board of Trustees; Dr. Jensi Souders, Ad Hoc Lucile Cornetet Bequest Committee; and Elaine Warwick, International Executive Board.

Business at the 2006 Xi State Convention included the following:

1. Both the state finance and personnel committees were made an elected committee. Each committee will be composed of six members, two from each grand division of the state, to serve staggered four-year terms. The state president shall appoint one of the three continuing members from each committee as the chairman for the biennium. The first election is to be held in 2007 with one member from each grand division to be elected for a two-year term and one member from each grand division to be elected for a four-year term. Thereafter, one member from each grand division will be elected for a four-year term at the end of each biennium.
2. The duties of the state technology committee were transformed from website maintenance to providing support for the state webmaster and technology support and encouragement for chapters and members.
3. The contracts for Xi State Treasurer Linda McCrary and Xi State Executive Secretary Jensi Souders were approved by the personnel committee for another two years.
4. Xi State endorsed the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation program as its literacy project.
5. In order to bring Xi State guidelines in line with International guidelines for scholarships, the Executive Board approved an amendment which states that "All applicants must have been members of a Xi State chapter for at least three years."

6. The Xi State Executive Board approved the adoption of Trent Lott Middle School in Pascagoula, MS as an ongoing state project until such time as the school has recovered from Hurricane Katrina and no longer needs assistance.
7. Two proposals were approved by the Executive Board via a mail ballot. The first proposal approved a Strategic Planning Task Force for the purpose of monitoring follow-through of committee actions and be a “think tank” of ideas to recommend to membership for discussion. The second proposal will create a renewal task force committee made up of former Xi State presidents for the purpose of using their expertise to assist “under involved” chapters or to intervene when a chapter appears to be in crisis.
8. A proposal was approved to send the proceeds from this year’s Silent Auction to International to help replenish the International Emergency Fund which has been exhausted from Hurricane Katrina and other natural disaster relief. Over \$3400 was collected from this year’s Silent Auction.

2006-2007

The second year of the biennium began with forty-three Xi State members journeying to San Diego, California for the 2006 Delta Kappa Gamma International Convention. The convention was held at the San Diego Marriott and Marina Hotel from July 16-22, 2006. Once again Xi State was well represented as members served in various roles during the convention. President Warwick and Xi State Executive Secretary Jensi Souders attended the International Executive Board meeting immediately prior to the convention. Several Xi State members presented workshops during the week including Nita Scott and Dorrie Powell, Beta Sigma; Jensi Souders, Alpha Phi; Dr. Marcia Stewart, Alpha Psi; Linda McCrary, Alpha Gamma; Vera Jo Henegar, (Pi); Judy Jackson and Elaine Warwick, Rho. Nancy Harris served as chair of the Credentials Committee for the convention. Dr. Jensi Souders was installed as International Southeast Regional Director and Linda McCrary was installed as a member of the Educational Foundation Board of Trustees. These Xi State members were recognized for receiving their doctoral degrees: Dr. Vicki T. Maddox (Phi), Dr. Beverly Hall (Alpha Rho), Dr. Gwen W. Hobbs (Beta Zeta), and Dr. Joy O. Yates (Lambda). Xi State members serving at the International level during the 2006-2008 biennium include Dr. Jensi Souders, Southeast Regional Director; Linda McCrary, Educational Foundation Board of Trustees; Vera Jo Henegar, chair, International Insurance Committee, Becky Sadowski, Golden Gift Fund Committee and Elaine Warwick, member International Executive Board.

On September 26, 2006, President Warwick met with Vera Jo Henegar, State Personnel Chair, and Betty Ball, State Finance Chair, at the Cracker Barrel in Morristown, TN. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a procedure for upgrading and replacing/providing needed equipment for Xi State related personnel. It was decided to conduct an inventory of all state officers, committee chairs and related personnel as to equipment they have. The related personnel were also asked what they projected they would need in the near future. Once this survey is done then the three would get back together.

On October 23, 2006, President Elaine Warwick, Vera Jo Henegar, State Personnel Chair, Betty Ball, State Finance Chair, Jeni Souders, Xi State Executive Secretary and Linda McCrary, Xi State Treasurer met at the Cracker Barrel in Crossville, Tennessee to update the list of needed equipment for the responsibilities of the Xi State related personnel. Each related personnel was asked to prioritize their equipment needs.

Elaine Warwick, Dee Dee Rives, Nancy Davis and Beverly Smith met in Sewanee on January 14-15, 2007 with University of the South officials to plan the 2007 Xi State Convention.

The 2007 Xi State Legislative Symposium was held on February 6-7, 2007 at the Millennium Maxwell House Hotel in Nashville, Tennessee. There were 116 members present on Tuesday evening with ninety-five in attendance at the breakfast the following morning. Speaking at the evening meeting was Gray Sasser, chair of the Democratic Party in Tennessee and Jerry Winters, lobbyist of the Tennessee Education Association who shared items which were scheduled to be brought before the Tennessee General Assembly.

The Leadership Development Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Annette Gregory, held the 2007 Leadership Management Seminar at the AmeriSuites Hotel in the Cool Springs area in Franklin, Tennessee on March 30-31, 2007. Twenty-three ladies attended the seminar along with Xi State officers, area directors, past state presidents and members of the Leadership Development Committee. The theme for the seminar was "Silhouettes and Vignettes of Leadership Excellence".

The Leadership Development Committee presented the 2007 Advance Leadership Management Seminar on June 6-7, 2007 immediately prior to the 2007 Xi State Convention in Sewanee. The theme for this seminar was "Leading with Wisdom and Passion-Empowering Key Women Leaders for the Future". Nineteen ladies were in attendance along with Xi State officers, Leadership Development Committee members and past Xi State presidents.

From August, 2006 to May, 2007 President Warwick visited forty-nine chapters participating in the initiation of members, Founders' Day programs and addressing chapter members.

2007 XI STATE CONVENTION

The 2007 Xi State Convention was held on the campus of the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee on June 7-9, 2007. The International representative to the convention was International President Dr. Barbara Day. This was the first time that an international president attended the Xi State Convention while in office. Dr. Day attended the Advanced Leadership Seminar as well as participating fully in the convention and giving the keynote address at the President's Banquet.

Three hundred ten ladies were in attendance at this convention. Of these, thirty-one were first timers, eight were initiates, forty-nine were chapter presidents and nine were past state presidents. Twenty-seven workshops over a variety of topics were presented during the course of the convention. Twenty ladies were honored with the Order of the Rose at the first general session.

Convention favors were beautiful, handmade beaded bracelets with an iris charm. These favors were specially made by the members of Rho Chapter. Audrey Doak (Alpha Alpha) was presented with the 2007 Xi State Achievement Award for her outstanding service to Xi State. The Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Development Award was presented to Amy E. Hicks (Lambda). The Vision Foundation Project Grants were presented to Sandra Pineault (Beta Epsilon), Marsha Rains (Omega), and Mary F. Wadley (Alpha Omicron). Seven Xi State scholarships were presented to: Melissa Wood Reece, Alpha Chi; Deborah Ann Frey, Omega; Lana Lynette Foster, Beta Beta; Diane Bruce Anderson, Gamma Alpha; Linda Baxter, Beta Pi; Teresa Brown, Alpha Rho; and Carolyn Moss, Alpha Alpha. Three Xi State members received International scholarships this year. They are Linda Eller (Alpha Lambda); Debbie Frey (Omega); and Anne Littleford (Beta Delta). Sheila Hickman (Beta Rho) and Dr. Marcia Stewart (Alpha Psi) each received an Educational Foundation Award. Two Xi State members, Angie Boshears (Beta Phi) and Dr. Denise Dunbar (Alpha Nu) each received a Lucille Cornet Award from International. Donna Camper (Alpha Alpha) had been recognized this year as a Distinguished Educator by the Tennessee Education Association.

Important business transacted at the convention includes the following:

1. The Executive Board approved the purchase of a new CPU for the Xi State Treasurer at a cost not to exceed \$1500.
2. The dissolution of Gamma Xi Chapter was approved and all monies from Gamma Xi Chapter will be returned to Beta Chi Chapter because when Gamma Xi was formed Beta Chi gave half the money in its treasury to begin the new chapter.

3. The slate of new officers was presented by the Nominations Committee and approved as presented. They are:

President: Nancy Davis (Gamma Mu)
First Vice-President: Dee Dee Rives (Theta)
Second Vice-President: Beverly Smith (Beta Upsilon)
Recording Secretary: Dr. Dorrie Powell (Beta Sigma)
Corresponding Secretary: Edna Clemons (Gamma Zeta)

4. For the first time, the Xi State Personnel Committee was elected by the assembly. They are:

East Tennessee: Donna Camper (Alpha Alpha--four year term
Nancy Leach (Beta Phi)--two year term
Middle Tennessee: Denise Dunbar (Alpha Nu)--four year term
Sandra Pineault (Beta Epsilon)--two year term
West Tennessee Rachel Weir (Beta Sigma)--four year term
Patsy Smith (Beta Gamma)--two year term

5. For the first time the Xi State Finance Committee was elected by the assembly. They are:

East Tennessee: Judith Kerley (Beta Zeta)--four year term
Amy Starnes (Gamma Epsilon)--two year term
Middle Tennessee: Rosalene Coleman (Phi)--four year term
Dr. Kathleen Kester--two year term
West Tennessee: Susan Woods (Kappa)--four year term
Betty Only (Alpha Sigma)--two year term

6. The following were approved by the Executive Board to serve as trustees of the Vision Foundation Board:

Chair: Doris Hendrix (Beta)
Leigh Anne Durham (Kappa)
Marilyn Ivey (Alpha Tau)
Barbara Hinson (Alpha Rho)

7. The following were approved by the assembly to serve on the 2007-2009 Xi State Nominations Committee. They are:

Chair: Dr. Elaine Alexander (Beta Epsilon)
East Tennessee: Maxine Williams (Alpha Xi)
Judy Fleenor (Zeta)
Middle Tennessee: Shirley Dowell (Beta)
Dr. Gwen Arnold (Beta Epsilon)
West Tennessee: Kate Faulk (Theta)
Paula Marshall (Alpha Lambda)

8. The Executive Board endorsed the nomination of Dr. Jensi Souders for International First Vice-President and International Second Vice-President.
9. The Executive Board endorsed the nomination of Elaine Warwick for a position on the International Personnel Committee.
10. Linda Eller (Alpha Lambda), Xi State Editor and Judy Cross (Beta Beta), Xi State Webmaster, were both rehired for the next two years.
11. The Xi State Personnel Committee will draw up a formal plan for the hiring of a treasurer-in-training to work with Linda McCrary in preparation for succeeding her in that position.

2007 SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CONVENTION

The 2007 Southeast Regional Convention was held June 26-30, 2007 at the New Orleans Riverside Hotel in New Orleans, LA. Seventy-two Xi State members attended the convention which was planned by our own Jensi Souders, Southeast Regional Director. A pre-convention seminar funded partially by a Cornetet award, with Xi State President Elaine Warwick serving as registrar, was held at the hotel. Forty ladies attended the seminar, titled "Sell Your Success" which was presented by Dr. Fancy Funk of Florida State University, a Society member. Xi State members were much in evidence during the convention. Workshops were presented by Lisa Keith-Lucas, Dr. Kathie Harned (Beta Upsilon), Linda McCrary, (Alpha Gamma), Dr. Dorrie Powell, (Beta Sigma), Mary Evelyn Perkinson, (Gamma Zeta), Becky Sadowski (Alpha Lambda), Elaine Warwick, (Rho), Patricia Guffey, (Alpha Kappa) and Dr. Marcia Stewart (Alpha Psi). Eight Xi State sisters facilitated workshops as well. Dr. Jensi Souders (Alpha Pi) presided at the opening session of the convention. Vera Jo Henegar (Pi) and Linda McCrary (Alpha Gamma) were very visible as they were in charge of the drawings and auctions of items for the International Emergency Fund. Elaine Warwick, Nancy Davis and Dr. Dorrie Powell shared a story of wisdom and passion, based on the first verse of the Delta Kappa Gamma song, at the Celebration Luncheon. Dr. Annette Gregory and Ernestine Eldridge provided piano accompaniment during the general sessions. Our own Eloise Litz was the keynote speaker at the President's Banquet on Saturday evening. She was introduced by Xi State President Elaine Warwick.

STATE PROJECTS DURING THE 2005-2007 BIENNIUM

KATRINA PROJECT

On August 30, 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastated the city of New Orleans and its' surrounding communities with such fury and much human suffering. The news each night for several weeks was full of stories of the plight of the people in that area. Jensi Souders received an e-mail from her friend Sandra McKiernon who taught at the Trent Lott Middle School in Pascagoula, Mississippi. She related the immense damage that was suffered at the school from the hurricane. The school was inundated with water up to the window sills ruining thousands of library books and destroying textbooks and teaching materials. The school was in dire need of help. A memo was sent to all chapter presidents telling them of this situation and asking them, if they so chose, to ask their members to make a monetary donation for the school at their next chapter meeting. This money was to be sent to state treasurer Linda McCrary, who, in turn, would send the check to the principal of the Trent Lott Middle School. Over \$6,000 was sent which was earmarked to purchase needed library books to replace those that were lost.

Xi State members wanted to help in other ways as well. In May of 2006, President Warwick, Jensi Souders (Alpha Pi), and Mary McLain (Alpha) took a truckload of teaching materials to the school donated from the Chattanooga area. A chapter from Sevierville helped the school to get desk chairs for the teachers.

In June 2006, Sandra McKiernon attended Xi State Convention to give an update on Trent Lott Middle School. During the Friday morning business session, Sandra presented a very moving PowerPoint detailing the devastation at the school and the progress that had been made thanks to the donations of Xi State members. There was not a dry eye in the house after her presentation. Xi State members again opened their hearts and pocketbooks and took up over \$4,000 which was presented to Sandra. This amount was earmarked for library books and bookshelves for the teachers' classrooms.

President Warwick appealed to Xi State school librarians to volunteer their time and expertise to help get the school library back on its feet. The school librarian had received hundreds of new and donated books and needed help bar coding them and several hundred books which had been salvaged from the hurricane. Xi State sisters came to the rescue! Three librarians from Phi Chapter, Barbara Edwards, Lynn Caruthers, and Sherry Wood, journeyed to Pascagoula and spent three days of their summer vacation assisting the librarian at Trent Lott Middle School catalog his books. Their help, I know, was greatly appreciated.

Xi State sisters continued their support of the Trent Lott Middle School throughout the following year. Sandra McKiernon again returned to Xi State

Convention in June, 2007 to give an update to members. The refurbished school library was almost ready to open at the end of the 2006-2007 school year. A final check was given to Sandra from Xi State members. Letters were received from the school principal and teachers thanking Xi State members for their generosity and many kindnesses. In all Xi State members gave almost \$11,000 to this school. We are a generous lot!

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL COOKBOOK

Because of the devastating, far-reaching effects of Hurricane Katrina in the New Orleans area in August, 2005 and other natural disasters throughout the United States, the Delta Kappa Gamma International Emergency Fund had been depleted. Since Society members in the southeastern United States received the bulk of these funds, the presidents of the southeastern region felt that something needed to be done to help replenish these funds. As a result, the idea of a cookbook was born. Under the leadership of Dr. Ann Lumsden, Mu State President, a committee of Mu State members was formed to pursue this idea. It was decided to ask each state to submit special events that take place within their state. After submission to the committee, a final list of events was given to each state. For each of these events, a menu was to be developed with recipes to accompany them. Committees were formed in each state to accomplish this. The Xi State Personal Growth and Services committee under the leadership of Dr. Martha Glover were given this task. After submitting the recipes, the cookbook was compiled and arranged alphabetically by state. Each state was then asked to order cookbooks to sell within their state with the profit going to the International Emergency Fund and their state emergency fund.

After consultation with the state treasurer, President Warwick ordered 1000 of the cookbooks. Word was sent to the chapter presidents asking that their chapter buy ten (10) of the cookbooks at a cost of \$12 each. They could then sell them for whatever they wished.

In early March 2007, one thousand cookbooks were delivered to President Warwick. She, in turn, distributed them to each of the ten area directors who were to take them to the chapters who had ordered them and collect the money for them. They were then to send the money to Treasurer Linda McCrary. After expenses were met, the remainder of the money, almost \$4,000, was sent to the International Emergency Fund.

XI STATE LITERACY PROJECT

One of the goals of President Warwick's biennium was to make Xi State chapters more visible in their communities. Each chapter in the state has at least one, and many times more than one project, that they contribute to in their community. During the biennium, Xi State became a partner with the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation. At the 2005 Xi State Convention, Claiborne

Gayden, assistant director of the Governor's Books from Birth Foundation presented a workshop to explain the program and how it worked. President Warwick attended this workshop, talked with Mr. Gayden and the seeds of the partnership were sown.

The Governor's Books from Birth Foundation is affiliated with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. The Foundation is sponsored and partially funded by the state of Tennessee. The ultimate goal is that each child in the state ages 0-5 years old receive one new, age-appropriate hardback book in the mail every month. The cost of these books per child for one year is \$27 of which the state pays half. The other half is to be funded by sponsors in each county of the state. Once sponsors in each county are found then children in that county ages 0-5 can be registered to participate in the program and receive books.

In July of 2005, President Warwick along with Lynda Gunter, literacy committee member, met with Mr. Gayden and the Foundation director Lady Jackson to share ideas and discuss the possibility of Xi State partnering with them. Our idea was to have a statewide sign-up in the early spring of 2006 for the Books from Birth Foundation. This was a great need of theirs and one way that Xi State could help them because we have Society members in almost all of the 95 counties in Tennessee. These members are willing to share their knowledge of the communities in which they live to help sign children up for this program.

In mid-October President Warwick, Xi State literacy committee chair Debbie Smith, and literacy committee member Lynda Gunter met with Mr. Gayden for a working lunch to talk further about the statewide sign-up for the Foundation. Several ideas were shared as to how Xi State could help in the organization of this sign-up. Plans were made to hold the sign-up in late April of 2006. The literacy committee worked together formulating how this sign-up could be organized as well as how Xi State could be accountable for the children they signed up.

In mid-December, 2005 President Warwick received word from Mr. Gayden that the Foundation wanted to postpone the statewide sign-up until the fall of 2006. The reason was due to logistical and monetary concerns at the state level. It was felt that by fall all counties in the state were projected to be on board with sponsors in their area. So, plans were put on hold at that time.

In mid-summer, 2006, President Warwick received word that the Books from Birth Foundation was sponsoring a statewide sign-up week for the week of September 18-24. The state would coordinate the efforts in each county where local fund-raising and enrollment events would be held. The state would handle the publicity. A call was sent to all Society chapters in the state to make them aware of the First Annual Tennessee Imagination Library Week. Society members assisted the Books from Birth local affiliate in each county, designing

and facilitating various opportunities to enroll children in the program. In addition, Xi State chapters made significant monetary donations to support the literacy program. The following specific accomplishments were recorded:

- Formation of official partnership between the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International and the Governor's Books from Birth program.
- Chapter accountability tickets recorded 4,970 children were enrolled in the Books from Birth program from September, 2006-March, 2007 as a result of chapter/member initiatives.
- Chapter accountability tickets recorded a total of \$5,000 in donations to the Books from Birth program. (Additional donations made by individual members were not recorded.)

The efforts of our Delta Kappa Gamma members in the Imagination Library Week activities helped to impact the literacy of Tennessee students. It is hoped that this statewide project will continue as the possibilities for impacting literacy in Tennessee via the Books from Birth program and the creative energies of Xi State members are limitless.

Nancy C. Davis 2007-2009

Xi State Delta Kappa Gamma welcomes its new president, Nancy C. Davis, for the 2007-2009 biennium. Nancy hails from the most northeastern part of the state, Mountain City. Her current chapter is Gamma Mu, but Alpha Alpha had the pleasure of initiating her as a member of Delta Kappa Gamma in 1988.

Nancy has been an elementary teacher for 23 years and currently is a music instructor at the Johnson County Middle School. She holds a Masters Degree in Elementary Education and has Career Ladder III certification. Twice she has been named "Teacher of the Year."

Working up the official ladder, Nancy has served Xi State in every capacity. Also she sings in the choir and has been soloist for numerous occasions including the Ceremony of Remembrance in Minneapolis and San Diego.

A graduate of the State Leadership Management and Advanced Seminar, she was chosen to attend the Golden Gift Seminar in Austin, TX in 2004.

Nancy is active in her church serving as adult choir director and directing the Ring for the King Band Chimes and the Junior Chime Choir. She plays the piano, has played the flute, and teaches voice and piano from her home.

She enjoys cross stitch, shopping, traveling, swimming, water-skiing, spending time with her family and working with husband, Wayne, on their 100 acre farm.

Nancy recalls, "One of the most treasured memories (other than seeing sisters from all over the state) is when I had the privilege of singing for the Ceremony of Remembrance. It was a moment I will never forget for several reasons." The Ceremony of Remembrance is held in the beautiful All Saints Chapel on the campus of the University of the South at Sewanee.

Excerpts taken from the Xi State News
Volume 53, No. 3, February 2007