Glances Into the Past . . .
Glimpses Into the Future

Seventy-five Years
of
Xi State Memories

1935-2010
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Founders</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expansion, Significant Events, Service</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accomplishments</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convention Traditions</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional/Personal Growth</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta Kappa Gamma Memories</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glimpses Into the Future</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Index</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>References</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
August 31, 2009

Dear Members of Xi State:

Congratulations on your seventy-fifth anniversary as a state organization in The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. This is indeed something to celebrate! You are to be commended for the many accomplishments that have occurred during these years. You have initiated members, trained exceptional leaders, and supported a variety of projects that promoted excellence in education.

Tennessee members have had a vision and taken action to advance the Society. Thank you for all your contributions in the past. I look forward to continued leadership from Xi State in the future.

Best wishes as you celebrate this important occasion.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Rants, Ed. D
International President 2008-2010

From Vision to Action: Advancing the Society
Dear Xi State Sisters,

“Glances into the Past...Glimpses into the Future: Seventy-five Years of Xi State Memories” is the theme for Xi State’s Seventy-fifth Anniversary Celebration, June 10-12, 2010. All Xi State members in eighty-one chapters have had the opportunity to help make this a memorable year.

On the historic date of November 30, 1935, Dr. Annie Webb Blanton, regaled in her academic gown, conducted a solemn initiation ceremony for sixteen women educators who became the Xi State Founders. These important visionaries made major contributions to the Society. The Society’s heritage, growth, and progress are preserved, promoted, and sustained by the current membership.

Among the first states to develop a strategic action plan, Xi State has provided numerous growth opportunities since its founding. Members have benefited from scholarships and Vision Foundation Grants. They have gained knowledge and skills from participation in meetings: e.g., leadership conferences and seminars, legislative symposia, technology workshops, a creative arts retreat. They have been challenged through committee service and in other leadership roles.

In 1960, Xi State published Light from Many Candles, a book highlighting pioneer women educators. Other state projects have included sponsorship/support of Children’s International Education Centers, high school essay contests, installation of Alpha Chapters in Guatemala and Estonia, Books from Birth, and the Trent Lott Middle School disaster fund.

As we prepare for Xi State’s future, we are grateful for the past seventy-five years and what our founders and the members have accomplished. With renewed dedication, let us all vow to work together to meet the challenges of the future.

Sincerely,

Dee Dee Rives
Xi State President 2009-2011
Theme: Persist, Commit, Celebrate
Preface

Glances into the Past . . . Glimpses into the Future: Seventy-five Years of Xi State Memories became a reality less than three years after President Nancy Davis, in June 2007, appointed Vera Jo Henegar and Lois Jones to serve on a task force to plan and implement a Seventy-fifth Anniversary Celebration. The idea of publishing a book of memories was submitted to the task force as one of several ways to commemorate this milestone, and a subcommittee was selected to produce the book.

The Memory Book Committee first met on November 15, 2008, at the home of Chairman Lois Jones. The chosen title, suggested by Dr. Sharon Chaney, reveals the plan for the content: to reflect upon memorable experiences of Xi State’s past and to predict how social, cultural, financial, and world events will impact its future. The committee decided to commission past presidents, Achievement Award recipients, and other highly involved members to write articles about state accomplishments and convention traditions. They invited chapters to submit an article to be written by one of their members about a professional/personal growth experience through Delta Kappa Gamma. Any member could submit an interesting/entertaining anecdote. For predicting the future, the committee asked chapter presidents to recommend possible authors.

In addition to requesting articles, the Memory Book Committee provided content about the Xi State Founders, the state organization’s expansion and other achievements, and members’ service at the National/International level. Since the emphasis of the book is on memories, most of the historical information prepared by the committee appears in concise list format.

The intent of the book is threefold: (1) to celebrate Xi State’s past with pride and appreciation—pride in both individual and collective accomplishments, and appreciation for all members who have contributed to its success; (2) to inform members of present opportunities for professional/personal growth, for supporting other members through carrying out the Society’s purposes, and for improving the quality of education for students; and (3) to think creatively about the organization’s future.

Although it is impossible to acknowledge all individuals who have contributed to the success of this book’s publication, the committee wishes to acknowledge and thank the following: all authors of articles and anecdotes, all chapter presidents who informed and encouraged their members to participate, all members who provided historical information needed for articles, Dr. Jens J. Souders who designed and formatted the book, and state presidents Nancy Davis and Dee Dee Rives for their support.

The committee chairman expresses appreciation to Dr. Sharon Chaney, Memory Book editor, who gave countless hours to editing responsibilities and to Doris Ann Hendrix, Vera Jo Henegar, Linda McCrary, and Dr. Willene Paxton for researching and writing the historical sections of the book. She also thanks Janice Sorsby and Linda Eller, both of Alpha Lambda Chapter, for their contributions during short terms of committee service. During all phases of the book’s production, the chairman has appreciated the team efforts of the committee.

memory book committee
Dr. Sharon Chaney, Beta Chapter, EDITOR
Doris Ann Hendrix, Beta Chapter
Vera Jo Henegar, Pi Chapter (also 75th Anniversary Task Force Chairman)
Linda McCrary, Alpha Gamma Chapter
Dr. Willene Paxton, Gamma Chapter
Lois Jones, Beta Chapter, Chairman
Section I

FOUNDERS
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society, an honorary organization formed to help remove barriers limiting the advancement of women educators, was founded by Dr. Annie Webb Blanton in Austin, Texas, on May 11, 1929. This prominent educator believed that, through united efforts, key women educators could work toward the needs of women educators and the improvement of education. Six years later through Dr. Blanton’s efforts, Xi State became the fourteenth state of the Society. This momentous event took place at Nashville’s Hermitage Hotel on Saturday, November 30, 1935.

Preparation for the event had begun months earlier with the identification of twenty key women educators to whom Dr. Blanton sent handwritten letters describing duties and responsibilities of state founders. She wrote, “A founder must have had at least five years of experience; she should be a woman well known in the state in her line of work, a teacher of fine character, good personality, and good social qualities. We like to have about half college teachers and half public school teachers, and women of different lines of work, residing in different parts of the state.”

Seventeen of the twenty educators accepted the invitation to meet with Dr. Blanton at the Hermitage Hotel. The first to arrive were Ada Earnest, Evangeline Hartsook, and Ina Yoakley from Johnson City. Mary Mackinlay and Amanda Bibb Russell came from Chattanooga and Mary Hall, Mary Morrow Frizzell, Tommie Reynolds, and E. May Saunders from Murfreesboro. Nashvillians in attendance were Julia M. Green, Julia M. Harris, Julia Hodgson, Elizabeth Oehmig, Nell Parkinson, Elizabeth Randall, Dr. Helen Lacy Shane, and Dr. Maycie Southall.

Dr. Blanton welcomed the women into a parlor of the hotel, where she had arranged a setting for the initiation ceremony. The women were asked to introduce themselves and to give their professional positions. Next Dr. Blanton explained the Society purposes, discussed the role of founders, and distributed printed information. Because there was one more educator in attendance than the maximum sixteen permitted to become founders, Tommie Reynolds’s name was drawn to become the first state member rather than a founder. Dr. Blanton then donned her academic gown and conducted an impressive initiation ceremony.

Dr. Blanton appointed a nominating committee and charged its members with the responsibility of presenting Xi State’s first slate of officers later in the day. After a luncheon, during which members became better acquainted, the following officers were elected: President, Dr. Maycie Southall; First Vice-President, Mary Morrow Frizzell; Second Vice-President, Mary Mackinlay; Recording Secretary, Elizabeth Oehmig; Corresponding Secretary, Mary Hall; Keeper of the Records, Julia M. Harris; Parliamentarian, Ada Hornsby Earnest; and Treasurer, Julia M. Green.

The memorable meeting came to a close early in the afternoon because Dr. Annie Webb Blanton needed to return to Austin in time for resuming her teaching responsibilities at the University of Texas on the following Monday. Before leaving for the train station, she charged the sixteen founders and the first state member to uphold the purposes of the Society and to expand the organization into every part of Tennessee. Their cooperative work, through the leadership of President Maycie Southall, was soon to begin.
ADA HORNSBY EARNEST  
(1884-1982)

Education: Graduated Centenary College. BS and MA, Teachers College, Columbia.

MARY MORROW FRIZZELL  
(1892-1974)

Education: Attended both David Lipscomb University and MTSU. BS and MA, Peabody College.
Career: First Grade Teacher, Chattanooga. Supervising Teacher, Peabody Demonstration School. Faculty member, MTSU. Professor, David Lipscomb. Bequeathed extensive collection of rocks and minerals to David Lipscomb.

JULIA GREEN  
(1873-1961)

Education: Private tutors. Studied at Peabody College; Teachers College, Columbia; and the University of Tennessee.
Career: First Supervisor of Schools in Tennessee (Davidson County), beginning in 1912. One of the first three members of Davidson County to join NEA. With Elizabeth Oehmig, co-chaired arrangements for the 1934 National Convention of the Association for Childhood Education. Designated Supervisor Emeritus of Character Education upon retirement. An elementary school in Nashville is named in her honor.
MARY HALL  
(1895-1991)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** First Xi State Corresponding Secretary (1935-1940). Vice-President and Acting President (1948-1950). Charter member, Delta. Assisted in organizing eight chapters. Originated conventions at the University of the South (1950). Wrote a history of Xi State, *Trail of Tears*.

**Education:** Attended Ward-Belmont, the University of Tennessee, Peabody. BS (1928), MA (1931), Peabody.

**Career:** Organized community World War I Red Cross unit. Elementary school teacher, Cannon and Rutherford County Schools. Laboratory Teacher in the Training School at MTSU (1928-1936). State Supervisor for Middle Tennessee, one of the first three supervisors appointed (1936 to early 1950s). Appointed by State Commissioner of Education as the State Supervisor of Extended School Service to develop and oversee an after-school program for students during World War II. First female professor in Department of Elementary Education, MTSU. First Dean of Women, MTSU. Instrumental in establishing the first state-funded kindergarten and an Early Childhood Program for teacher training, MTSU. Retired in early 1960s. State President, Association of Childhood Education. Founder of the local American Association of University Women, President (1949 and 1965). Awarded the “Certificate of Service in Civilian Defense” for faithful service to Tennessee and the nation. A dormitory at MTSU is named for her. Dr. Rita Schaerer King, Beta Epsilon Chapter, wrote a doctoral dissertation, *Mary Hall: A 20th Century Pioneer in Educational Progress in Tennessee* (published 1993).

JULIA M. HARRIS  
(1891-1979)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** First Xi State Keeper of Records. Charter member, Beta.


**Career:** Principal, Okmulgee, OK (1920-1925). Faculty, Peabody until 1947. Enlisted by Houghton Mifflin to write a series of readers. Co-authored *Supervision and Teaching of Reading*. Returned to Russellville, AL, upon retirement to manage a substantial farm and teach at a local school.

EVANGELINE HARTSOOK  
(1900-1979)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** Xi State First Vice-President (1938-1940). Organized five chapters, one of which was Gamma where she served as charter member and the second president.

**Education:** Attended Martha Washington College, Peabody, the University of Tennessee, and Harvard. BA, Vanderbilt (1923); MA, Teachers College, Columbia (1935). Studied at Ashridge College, England.

**Career:** Taught history, Science Hill High School, Johnson City (1923-1925); Wichita Falls, TX (1925-1927). Headed Science Hill High School History Department (1927-1946). Faculty, ETSU, 1946 until retirement, attaining the rank of Associate Professor. Miraculously survived meningitis.
**Dr. Julia Hodgson**  
(1891-1948)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** Charter member, Beta. Organized Eta.  
**Education:** BS (1924), MA (1925), PhD (1939), Peabody College.  
**Career:** Teacher, Mt. Pleasant, TN. Learned telegraphy and managed a relief office for Western Union during World War I. Supervising Teacher, Demonstration School, Peabody. Active in many professional organizations. Published articles on geography and arithmetic. Revised parts of Compton’s Encyclopedia with a fellow teacher. Collaborated in the writing of a sixth-grade arithmetic drill book.

**Mary H. Mackinlay**  
(1871-1952)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** First Xi State Second Vice-President (1935-1938); Parliamentarian (1940-1942). Organized Alpha, Lambda, and Sigma Chapters. Charter member and first president, Alpha Chapter. Appointed by Dr. Southall to the National Constitution Committee (1938-1940.)  
**Education:** Born in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England. With family immigrated to Morgan County to found the English colony of Rugby supported by Thomas Hughes, author of *Tom Brown’s Schooldays*. Attended Grant University, Columbia, University of Chattanooga, and University of Tennessee.  
**Career:** Supervisor of Primary Grades in Chattanooga for 60 years, teaching summer institutes in various counties and at the University of Chattanooga. Researched pioneer women in Tennessee.

**Elizabeth Oehmig**  
(1869-1954)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** First Xi State Recording Secretary (1935-1938). Charter member, Beta.  
**Education:** Attended Winchester Normal School, Peabody College, and the National College of Education in Evanston, IL.  
NELL PARKINSON  
(1895-1994)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** Organizer, charter member, and first president, Beta. Appointed by Dr. Southall to the National Progress Committee (1938-1940).  
**Education:** BS (1923), MA (1927), Peabody College.  

ELIZABETH CHASE RANDALL  
(1877-1950)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** Charter member, Beta.  
**Education:** Early education in Madison, NJ, and Toledo, OH, prior to college training at Columbia University of Chautauqua, NY, and Peabody.  
**Career:** Taught “domestic science” in Toledo, OH. At age 23, charged with introducing Home Economics into the Nashville School System: Pupils came to a central location until Home Economics became part of the curriculum 11 years later. Supervisor for 32 years, retiring after 45 years’ service. Cookbook dedicated to her by the home economics teachers at the centennial of Nashville City Schools.

AMANDA BIBB RUSSELL  
(1876-1937)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** Founding member.  
**Education:** Diploma, Alabama Normal School, 1895. BS, MS, New York State Normal College. Later, BA, University of Chattanooga (1910), MA, Columbia (1914).  
**Career:** Taught in Tennessee and Alabama elementary and secondary schools before teaching in Akron, OH. Moved to Chattanooga and became English Department “Head” at Central High School. Served as Intermediate Supervisor for Chattanooga City Schools, 1920 until her death in 1937. Taught summer school at the Universities of the South and Chattanooga. Wrote stories, poems, pageants, articles, and gave speeches. A direct descendent of the first governor of Alabama.
**E. May Saunders**  
(1884-1969)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** Organized Delta with Mary M. Frizzell. Charter member, Delta.

**Education:** Attended Forest Park University in St. Louis, MO, and later Peabody College. BS, Middle Tennessee State; MA in Music, Columbia.

**Career:** Taught Music Education at MTSU for almost half a century. From 1922 to 1925, chaired the music section of TEA, and later at MTEA, as well as serving as First Vice-President of the Southern Conference for Music Education. After retirement, presented two weekly radio broadcasts for Rutherford County Schools. A building is named in her honor at MTSU.

---

**Dr. Helen Lacy Shane**  
(1901-1966)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** Charter member, first parliamentarian, Beta.

**Education:** BS (1922), MA (1928), PhD (1934), Peabody. Majored in Modern Foreign Languages and English. Studied in Mexico (Summer, 1948), Sorbonne (1956).

**Career:** Taught at Copperhill High School (1919-1921), ETSU (1922-1925), Peabody Demonstration School (1925-retirement). In 1942, married Dr. Milton Lanning (Lannie) Shane, Professor, Chair, Modern Language Department, Peabody College: No children, but reared her younger brother and a niece. Installed a model foreign language laboratory at Peabody. Helped students win national honors and competitions. Died within a week of her husband in 1966.

---

**Dr. Maycie Katherine Southall**  
(1895-1992)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** First President of Xi State (1935-1938), Fourth President of National Society (1938-1940). With Dr. Blanton founded five states. Arranged for the first National Scholarship during her presidency. Received National Achievement Award (1941). Charter member, Beta.

**Education:** Two-year Diploma, MTSU. BS, MA, and PhD (1929), Peabody College. Attended University of Chicago and Columbia.

INA YOAKLEY
(1873–1951)

**Delta Kappa Gamma:** Organizer and charter member, Gamma. Appointed by Dr. Southall to the National Equal Opportunities for Women Committee (1938-1940).

**Education:** BS, Milligan College (1895). BS (1910) and MA (1912), Teachers College, Columbia. Studied for doctorate, 1912-1913. Completed course requirements for PhD, Clark University.

**Career:** Teacher, Science Hill High School, Johnson City. Taught in New York while attending Teachers College, Columbia. Taught physics, geology, and later headed the Geography Department, ETSU (1912-1945). Dean of Women (1929-1945). Author of “The Geography of Tennessee,” a supplement to *Our World Today*, the state-adopted book for the fifth grade, as well as numerous articles for *The Journal of Geography*. Traveled extensively. Resolution passed by National Council of Geography Teachers expressing sorrow at her death. A building is named in her honor at ETSU.
Section II

Expansion, Significant Events, Service
REMEmBERING DR. ANNIE WEBB BLANTON’S CHARGE TO EXPAND THE XI STATE ORGANIZATION INTO EVERY AREA OF TENNESSEE, DR. MAYCIE SOUTHALL, XI STATE’S FIRST PRESIDENT, SET AS HER MAJOR GOAL THE TASK OF INITIATING STATE MEMBERS AND ORGANIZING CHAPTERS THROUGHOUT TENNESSEE. WITH THE HELP OF THE OTHER FOUNDERS AND NEW STATE MEMBERS, SHE ESTABLISHED THE FIRST SIX CHAPTERS DURING HER TERM OF OFFICE, 1935-1938. THE CHAPTERS WERE LOCATED IN CHATTANOOGA, NASHVILLE, JOHNSON CITY, MURFREESBORO, MEMPHIS, AND KNOXVILLE.

AT THE CLOSE OF THE ORGANIZATION’S FIRST FIVE YEARS, XI STATE MEMBERS HAD HELD FOUR STATE CONVENTIONS AND HAD CO-HOSTED WITH NORTH CAROLINA THE 1939 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN ASHEVILLE. THEY HAD ORGANIZED TEN CHAPTERS, MADE CONTRIBUTIONS TO A SCHOLARSHIP FUND, AND IMPLEMENTED A WELL-DEFINED PROGRAM OF WORK. SOME OF THEIR LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS HAD CENTERED ON ELIMINATING DISCRIMINATION AGAINST MARRIED WOMEN IN EDUCATION AND PROMOTING KINDERGARTENS. DR. SOUTHALL HAD SERVED WITH DISTINCTION AS THE FOURTH NATIONAL PRESIDENT, 1938-1940, AND FIVE OTHER MEMBERS HAD BEEN APPOINTED TO NATIONAL COMMITTEES.

DURING THOSE EARLY YEARS, DR. SOUTHALL AND XI STATE’S OTHER KEY WOMEN TEACHERS SET HIGH STANDARDS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE PURPOSES OF THE SOCIETY. THEIR VISION, COMMITMENT, AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS INSPIRED MEMBERS WITH WHOM THEY WORKED. THROUGH THEIR INFLUENCE, NEW LEADERS ROSE TO PROMINENCE, CHALLENGED MEMBERS TO WORK CO-OPERATIVELY FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATION AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN EDUCATORS, AND CONSEQUENTLY HELPED TO SHAPE THE SOCIETY’S HISTORY AT ALL LEVELS. THIS PATTERN OF INFLUENCE HAS CONTINUED THROUGH THE YEARS AND THUS ACCOUNTS FOR THE FOLLOWING LISTS IN THIS SECTION.

- **Expansion:** This list records the names and locations of all Xi State chapters in the order of their installation.
- **Significant Events:** This selected list recognizes noteworthy events.
- **Service:** Lists acknowledge the service of Xi State members as National/International officers and/or committee members and as state presidents. Xi State Achievement Award recipients are named.

Included are articles resulting from interviews of two Xi State presidents: Dorothy Morton, 1979-1981, and Dr. Isabel Wheeler, 1985-1987. For more detailed information about the service of other state presidents, see *Frontiers: A History of Xi State* by Pearl Cross, and *Xi State History, Volume II* compiled by Martha Marshall and Audrey Doak plus Updates and *Xi State History Highlights* also compiled by Martha Marshall and Audrey Doak. All can be found online at Xi State’s website, www.xistate.org.

Designations following name of author: SP = State President, AA = Achievement Award Recipient
## Extending the Frontier: Xi State Chapters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Charter Date</th>
<th>Location (County/City)</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alpha</td>
<td>March 22, 1937</td>
<td>Hamilton/Chattanooga</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta</td>
<td>March 23, 1937</td>
<td>Davidson/Nashville</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma</td>
<td>April 30, 1937</td>
<td>Carter-Unicoi-Washington/Johnson City</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delta</td>
<td>January 15, 1938</td>
<td>Rutherford/Murfreesboro</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epsilon</td>
<td>January 29, 1938</td>
<td>Shelby/Memphis</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeta</td>
<td>March 19, 1938</td>
<td>Knox/Knoxville</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eta</td>
<td>October 27, 1938</td>
<td>Montgomery/Clarksville</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theta</td>
<td>April 1, 1939</td>
<td>Chester-Madison/Henderson-Jackson</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iota</td>
<td>May 28, 1940</td>
<td>Sullivan/Kingsport</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kappa</td>
<td>May 28, 1940</td>
<td>Henry/Paris</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lambda</td>
<td>April 19, 1941</td>
<td>Bradley/Cleveland</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mu</td>
<td>June 6, 1942</td>
<td>Blount/Maryville</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nu</td>
<td>June 6, 1942</td>
<td>Roane-Loudon-Monroe/Kingston-Lenoir City-Madisonville</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xi</td>
<td>June 13, 1942</td>
<td>White/Sparta</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omicron</td>
<td>September 12, 1942</td>
<td>Henderson/Lexington</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pi</td>
<td>June 5, 1943</td>
<td>Anderson/Clinton</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rho</td>
<td>October 23, 1943</td>
<td>Williamson/Franklin</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sigma</td>
<td>December 2, 1944</td>
<td>Marion/Jasper</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tau</td>
<td>January 30, 1945</td>
<td>Gibson/Humboldt</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upsilon</td>
<td>January 31, 1945</td>
<td>Dyer/Dyersburg</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phi</td>
<td>August 18, 1948</td>
<td>Giles/Pulaski</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chi</td>
<td>March 7, 1946</td>
<td>Shelby/Memphis</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psi</td>
<td>May 20, 1950</td>
<td>Greene/Greeneville</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omega</td>
<td>November 18, 1950</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Alpha</td>
<td>May 5, 1951</td>
<td>Sullivan/Bristol</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Beta</td>
<td>May 12, 1951</td>
<td>Franklin/Winchester</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Gamma</td>
<td>May 19, 1951</td>
<td>Macon-Trousdale-Smith/Lafayette-Hartsville-Carthage</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Delta</td>
<td>May 17, 1952</td>
<td>White/Sparta</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Epsilon</td>
<td>February 4, 1953</td>
<td>Anderson/Oak Ridge</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Zeta</td>
<td>March 17, 1952</td>
<td>Hamblin/Morristown</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Eta</td>
<td>May 10, 1952</td>
<td>Lake-Obion/Union City</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Theta</td>
<td>March 16, 1955</td>
<td>Claiborne-Campbell/Tazewell-Jacksboro</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Iota</td>
<td>April 30, 1955</td>
<td>Hawkins-Rogersville/Hancock-Sneedville</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Kappa</td>
<td>April 30, 1955</td>
<td>Rhea/Dayton</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Lambda</td>
<td>January 28, 1956</td>
<td>Shelby/Memphis</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Mu</td>
<td>March 23, 1956</td>
<td>Knox/Knoxville</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Nu</td>
<td>April 23, 1956</td>
<td>Davidson/Nashville</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Xi</td>
<td>January 12, 1957</td>
<td>Hamilton/Chattanooga</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Omicron</td>
<td>September 7, 1957</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Pi</td>
<td>December 7, 1957</td>
<td>Coffee-Franklin/Manchester-Winchester</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Rho</td>
<td>May 16, 1959</td>
<td>Lewis/Hohenwald</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Sigma</td>
<td>February 11, 1961</td>
<td>Shelby/Memphis</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Tau</td>
<td>April 23, 1961</td>
<td>Knox/Knoxville</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Upsilon</td>
<td>November 12, 1961</td>
<td>Overton/Livingston</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Phi</td>
<td>November 18, 1961</td>
<td>Hamilton/Chattanooga</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Chi</td>
<td>April 5, 1962</td>
<td>Montgomery/Clarksville</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Psi</td>
<td>April 28, 1962</td>
<td>Davidson/Nashville</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Omega</td>
<td>June 5, 1962</td>
<td>Cocke/Newport</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Alpha</td>
<td>May 16, 1964</td>
<td>(Dissolved June 1995)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Beta</td>
<td>October 24, 1964</td>
<td>Morgan/Warburg</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Gamma</td>
<td>October 30, 1965</td>
<td>Shelby/Memphis</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Delta</td>
<td>April 11, 1968</td>
<td>Washington/Johnson City</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Extending the Frontier: Xi State Chapters

**Continued**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Charter Date</th>
<th>Location (County/City)</th>
<th>Area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beta Epsilon</td>
<td>April 5, 1969</td>
<td>Rutherford/Murfreesboro</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Zeta</td>
<td>April 26, 1970</td>
<td>Sequatchie/Dunlap</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Eta</td>
<td>October 9, 1971</td>
<td>Madison/Jackson</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Theta</td>
<td>May 19, 1974</td>
<td>Warren/McMinnville</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Iota</td>
<td>February 21, 1975</td>
<td>Shelby/Memphis</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Kappa</td>
<td>April 24, 1976</td>
<td>Marshall/Lewisburg</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Lambda</td>
<td>April 22, 1978</td>
<td>Cumberland/Crossville</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Mu</td>
<td>May 6, 1978</td>
<td>Decatur/Decaturville</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Nu</td>
<td>August 21, 1978</td>
<td>Bedford/Shelbyville</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Xi</td>
<td>August 29, 1978</td>
<td>Summer/Gallatin</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Omicron</td>
<td>April 14, 1979</td>
<td>(Dissolved June, 1991)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Pi</td>
<td>April 24, 1979</td>
<td>Union/Maynardville</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Rho</td>
<td>May 16, 1981</td>
<td>Maury/Columbia</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Sigma</td>
<td>June 27, 1981</td>
<td>Fayette-Hardeman/Bolivar-Somerville</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Tau</td>
<td>September 12, 1981</td>
<td>Blount/Maryville</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Upsilon</td>
<td>November 14, 1981</td>
<td>Davidson/Nashville</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Phi</td>
<td>March 19, 1982</td>
<td>Campbell-Claiborne/Jacksboro-Tazewell</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Chi</td>
<td>April 9, 1983</td>
<td>Dickson/Dickson</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Psi</td>
<td>April 25, 1983</td>
<td>Knox/Knoxville</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta Omega</td>
<td>April 19, 1984</td>
<td>Weakley/Dresden</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Alpha</td>
<td>November 14, 1985</td>
<td>Carroll/Huntingdon</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Beta</td>
<td>June 8, 1987</td>
<td>Scott/Huntsville</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Gamma</td>
<td>May 16, 1988</td>
<td>Roane/Kingston</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Delta</td>
<td>June 4, 1988</td>
<td>Fentress/Jamestown</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Epsilon</td>
<td>April 5, 1990</td>
<td>Sullivan/Bristol</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Zeta</td>
<td>October 12, 1991</td>
<td>Meigs/Decatur</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Eta</td>
<td>September 12, 1992</td>
<td>McNairy/Selmer</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Theta</td>
<td>February 9, 1995</td>
<td>Carroll/Huntingdon</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Iota</td>
<td>June 5, 1999</td>
<td>Sevier/Sevierville</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Kappa</td>
<td>April 9, 2000</td>
<td>(Dissolved June, 2000)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Lambda</td>
<td>September 8, 2002</td>
<td>Hamilton/Chattanooga</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Mu</td>
<td>February 1, 2003</td>
<td>Johnson/Mountain City</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Nu</td>
<td>April 12, 2003</td>
<td>Sevier/Sevierville</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gamma Xi</td>
<td>September 24, 2004</td>
<td>(Dissolved 2007)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Note:** Chapter locations are based on county and county seat or large city. Areas are as assigned at the 2009 Xi State Convention.

**Interesting facts:** Chapters are usually assigned Greek names alphabetically according to the Greek alphabet and in order of their organization date. However, according to records from International Headquarters and as recorded in the Xi State History, note that Alpha Epsilon was organized after Alpha Zeta.
**Significant Events in the History of Xi State Organization**

1935 Xi State organized by Dr. Annie Webb Blanton at the Hermitage Hotel, Nashville, November 30, 1935

1936 First State Convention held, Nashville

1938 National presidency assumed by Dr. Maycie K. Southall, Xi State founder, first Xi State president

1939 National Convention held in Asheville, NC, co-hosted by Tennessee and North Carolina

1945 First state scholarship of $75.00 awarded

1949 First State Convention speaker from outside Tennessee invited

1950 State Convention held first time at Sewanee

1951 First formal publication of the *Xi State News*, September issue, distributed

1952 First Xi State directory published

1953 First Special Scholarship of $1000.00 awarded

1953 First Xi State Chorus performed


1963 Southeast Regional Conference, Gatlinburg, hosted by Xi State

1964 Public-funded kindergartens endorsed

1964 First Leadership Development Conference for chapter presidents held, Nashville

1964 Delta Kappa Gamma organized in every Tennessee county

1965 First Leadership Development Conference for state officers and committees held

1965 Chapter Treasurers’ Honor Roll established

1972 Leadership Development Conference held first time at Henry Horton State Park

1973 *Trail of Memories*, by Mary Hall, presented at State Convention

1973 Honorary Xi State membership extended to Wilma Dykeman Stokley, Tennessee author

1974 First Xi State Achievement Awards presented

1974 Mary Hall given state president’s pin

1975 Alpha Chapter, Guatemala, sponsored by Xi State, installed, August 12

1976 Literacy named a Xi State project

1978 Ann Robertson Cockrill plaque presented and placed in TEA building on James Robertson Parkway

1978 *Frontiers: A History of Xi State*, by Pearl Cross, commissioned

1979 First Legislative Seminar held, Nashville

1979 First *Xi State Policies and Procedures* approved

1980 First International Leadership/Management Seminar attended by Dr. Willene Paxton

1980 A decade of special financial support for the International Educational Foundation begun

1981 Southeast Regional Conference, Memphis, hosted by Xi State

1981 *Maycie Katherine Southall: Her Life and Contributions to Education*, by Dr. Louise Brown, published

1982 Children’s International Education Center (CIEC) adopted as a Xi State project

1983 First Leadership/Management Seminar held, Wartrace, Walking Horse Hotel, April 15 – 16

1983 First *Xi State Bylaws* approved

1984 First Legislative Breakfast held, Hermitage Hotel, Nashville, April 10

1985 Fiftieth Anniversary of Xi State celebrated

1985 Tradition of photographing past presidents in front of University of the South, All Saints’ Chapel, begun

1986 First High School Essay Contest sponsored

1988 First Spotlight Awards presented

1988 First Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award presented

1988 First Orientation Tea for first-time attendees held
1990 Three traveling teams established to conduct informational sessions at Area Workshops

1990 Dr. Annie Webb Blanton’s National Achievement Award, a bracelet given to Dr. Maycie K. Southall, presented to International Headquarters

1991 First Advanced Leadership/Management Seminar held, Sewanee Inn, June 12-13

1991 First speaker sponsored by International Speakers Fund at Xi State Convention

1991 First Awards Luncheon at State Convention held

1991 Special Achievement Award presented to Dr. Isabel Wheeler

1992 Xi State recognized by the Society for 100% participation in contributions to Int. Speakers Fund

1994 International Convention, Opryland Hotel, Nashville, hosted by Xi State

1994 Xi State History, Volume II, by Audrey Mae Doak and Martha Marshall, published

1995 First Past Presidents’ Breakfast at Rebel’s Rest, Sewanee, held

1995 First Personnel and Convention Steering Committees appointed

1995 Area Directors given increased responsibilities

1996 First Legislative Symposium held, Nashville

1996 First Personnel Manual approved

1996 Xi State Bylaws revised in their entirety

1996 Convention offered workshops for which members could receive in-service credit

1996 Xi State identified with an Internet website (first state to establish a website)

1997 Xi State Rules revised in their entirety

1997 First Chapter Excellence Awards presented

1997 Dolly Parton inducted as honorary member of Alpha Omega Chapter

1999 International recognition received by Xi State website, December 21

2000 First copies of Xi State Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Convention Minutes included in the Annual Reports Book

2000 Tradition of Xi State officers’ and past presidents’ procession at the Ceremony of Remembrance expanded to include Achievement Award recipients

2001 Southeast Regional Conference, Chattanooga, hosted by Xi State

2002 First incoming chapter officers’ training held

2003 Order of the Rose Awards (previously called Spotlight Awards) presented for first time in a ceremony during the opening convention session

2003 Xi State Vision Foundation chartered and first Foundation Board meeting held

2004 First Vision Foundation Awards granted

2004 First Executive Secretary employed

2005 First Official Webmaster employed

2005 First copies of Xi State Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Convention Minutes included in the Annual Reports Book

2006 Governor’s Books from Birth Foundation program endorsed as Xi State’s literacy project

2006 First annual Tennessee Imagination Library Week supported by Xi State

2006 Trent Lott Middle School adopted as an ongoing state project

2007 First Finance and Personnel Committees elected

2008 Xi State Strategic Plan developed (one of first states to do so)

2008 Alpha Chapter, Estonia, sponsored by Tennessee and other states, installation, March 8

2008 First Creative Arts Retreat held, September 26 – 27

2009 State Strategic Action Plan adopted and Strategic Planning Committee established as a standing committee

2009 First state officer/related personnel retreat held

2010 Dr. Jens P. Souders nominated as International President, 2010-2012
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Biennium</th>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Office/Committee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1936-1938</td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Program Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Corresponding Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>National President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938-1940</td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Chairman, Permanent Fund Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Chairman, Scholarship Fund Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Membership Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nell Parkinson</td>
<td>Progress Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ina Yoakley</td>
<td>Equal Opportunities for Women Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Mackinlay</td>
<td>Constitution Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tommie Reynolds</td>
<td>Membership Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sue Powers</td>
<td>Retirement Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940-1942</td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Chairman, Membership Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942-1944</td>
<td>Dr. Mildred Dawson</td>
<td>Resolutions Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Mildred Dawson</td>
<td>Educator’s Award Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Tommie Reynolds</td>
<td>Committee for Pioneer Women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944-1946</td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Educator’s Award Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950-1952</td>
<td>Alyse H. Morton</td>
<td>Necrology Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Hall</td>
<td>Program Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Chairman, Scholarship Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952-1954</td>
<td>Clevie Cullum</td>
<td>Teacher Welfare and Morale Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Awards Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Publications Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mable Hughes</td>
<td>Legislation Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954-1956</td>
<td>Dr. Flora H. Rawls</td>
<td>Organization in Foreign Countries Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Awards Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary F. Betts</td>
<td>World and Community Service Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956-1958</td>
<td>Alyse H. Morton</td>
<td>Chairman, Constitution Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Mildred English</td>
<td>Chairman, Educator’s Award Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958-1960</td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Awards Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lottye K. McCall</td>
<td>Personnel Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alyse H. Morton</td>
<td>Member-at-Large, Administrative Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Juliaette Jones</td>
<td>Music Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Flora H. Rawls</td>
<td>Pioneer Women Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960-1962</td>
<td>Ival W. Aslinger</td>
<td>Membership Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Freda Kenner</td>
<td>Necrology Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ival W. Aslinger</td>
<td>Chairman, Pioneer Women Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962-1964</td>
<td>Alyse H. Morton</td>
<td>Southeast Regional Director, Administrative Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Jo Husk</td>
<td>Personal Growth and Services Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lottye K. McCall</td>
<td>Personnel Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964-1966</td>
<td>Lottye K. McCall</td>
<td>First Vice-President, Administrative Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Flora H. Rawls</td>
<td>Board of Trustees, Educational Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alyse H. Morton</td>
<td>Nominations Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966-1968</td>
<td>Ival W. Aslinger</td>
<td>Finance Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Freda Kenner</td>
<td>Membership Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall</td>
<td>Recognition of Foreign Women Educators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alyse H. Morton</td>
<td>Chairman, Headquarters Staff Salaries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968-1970</td>
<td>Ival W. Aslinger</td>
<td>Finance Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Jo Husk</td>
<td>World Fellowships Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Martha Youmans</td>
<td>Professional Affairs Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970-1972</td>
<td>Mary Jo Husk</td>
<td>Chairman, World Fellowships Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1972-1974</td>
<td>Alyse H. Morton</td>
<td>Southeast Regional Director, Administrative Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Margaret Hopper</td>
<td>Board of Trustees, Educational Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1974-1976</td>
<td>Alyse H. Morton</td>
<td>Membership Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eleanor C. Osteen</td>
<td>Scholarships Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Margaret Sherer</td>
<td>Nominations Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1976-1978</td>
<td>Alyse H. Morton</td>
<td>Board of Trustees, Educational Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mary Jo Husk</td>
<td>Nominations Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Ruth Knowlton</td>
<td>Expansion Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eleanor C. Osteen</td>
<td>Personnel Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1978-1980</td>
<td>Dr. Margaret Sherer</td>
<td>Golden Gift Fund Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eleanor C. Osteen</td>
<td>Chairman, Membership Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Ruth Knowlton</td>
<td>Travel and Study Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Ruth Knowlton</td>
<td>Expansion Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980-1982</td>
<td>Mary Jo Husk</td>
<td>Golden Gift Fund Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Ruth Knowlton</td>
<td>Expansion Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eleanor C. Osteen</td>
<td>Personnel Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr. Margaret Sherer</td>
<td>Golden Gift Fund Committee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Biennium** | **Member** | **Office/Committee**
---|---|---
1982-1984 | Donna Cotner | Personal Growth and Services Committee
Lois Jones | Golden Gift Fund Committee
Dr. Willene Paxton | Research Committee
Eleanor C. Osteen | Personnel Committee
1984-1986 | Elizabeth Whorley | Second Vice-President, Administrative Board
Dorothy Morton | Leadership Development Committee
Dr. Margaret Sherer | Board of Trustees, Educational Foundation
Dr. Isabel Wheeler | Expansion Committee
1986-1988 | Elizabeth Whorley | Constitution Committee
Lois Jones | Leadership Development Committee
Linda C. McCrary | Chairman, Golden Gift Fund Committee
Dorothy Morton | Educator’s Award Committee
Patsy Pope | Board of Trustees, Educational Foundation
Dr. Isabel Wheeler | Professional Affairs Committee
Dr. Margaret Sherer | Communications Committee
1988-1990 | Dr. Isabel Wheeler | Southeast Regional Director, Administrative Board
Dr. Margaret Sherer | U.S. Forum Steering Committee
1990-1992 | Barbara Hinson | Expansion Committee
Linda C. McCrary | Communication Committee
Patsy Pope | Board of Trustees, Educational Foundation
Dr. Isabel Wheeler | U.S. Forum Steering Committee
1992-1994 | Barbara Hinson | Chairman, Expansion Committee
Linda C. McCrary | U.S. Forum Steering Committee
Dr. Isabel Wheeler | Constitution Committee
Dr. Margaret Sherer | Government Services Administrator
1994-1996 | Barbara Hinson | Program/Membership Services Administrator
Patsy Pope | Travel and Study Committee
Janice Sorsby | Finance Committee
Patricia Morrow | Leadership Development Committee
Dr. Isabel Wheeler | Membership Committee
Linda C. McCrary | Program/Membership Services Administrator
Dr. Jens P. Souders | Chairman, U.S. Forum Steering Committee
1996-1998 | Dr. Isabel Wheeler | Chairman, Research Committee
Linda C. McCrary | Program/Membership Services Administrator
Dr. Jens P. Souders | Program Committee
1998-2000 | Linda C. McCrary | Southeast Regional Director, Administrative Board
Janice Sorsby | Research Committee
Patsy Pope | Finance Committee
Dr. Jens P. Souders | Chair, Communications Committee
Dr. Isabel Wheeler | Program/Membership Services Administrator
1998-2000 | Vera Jo Henegar | World Fellowships Committee
Linda C. McCrary | Co-Chairman, National Legislative Seminar
Dr. Jens P. Souders | Member-at-Large, Administrative Board
2000-2002 | Vera Jo Henegar | Program Committee
Vera Jo Henegar | Chairman, Research Committee
Linda C. McCrary | 75th Anniversary Committee
Dr. Jens P. Souders | Member-at-Large, Administrative Board
2002-2004 | Vera Jo Henegar | Chairman, Ad Hoc Lucile Cornetet Bequest Committee
Vera Jo Henegar | Leadership Development Committee
Linda C. McCrary | Board of Trustees, Educational Foundation
Dr. Jens P. Souders | First Vice-President, Administrative Board
2004-2006 | Vera Jo Henegar | Chair, Ad Hoc Lucile Cornetet Bequest Committee
Linda C. McCrary | Board of Trustees, Educational Foundation
Dr. Jens P. Souders | Chairman, Ad Hoc Lucile Cornetet Bequest Committee
2006-2008 | Vera Jo Henegar | Board of Trustees, Educational Foundation
Linda C. McCrary | Ad Hoc Online Leadership Committee
Linda C. McCrary | Golden Gift Fund Committee
Becky Sadowski | Southeast Regional Director, Administrative Board
2008-2010 | Linda C. McCrary | Board of Trustees, Educational Foundation
Linda C. McCrary | Ad Hoc Online Leadership Committee
Dr. Jens P. Souders | First Vice-President, Administrative Board
Dr. Jens P. Souders | Board of Trustees, Educational Foundation
Elaine Warwick | Personnel Committee
Becky Sadowski | Leadership Development Committee
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Range</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1935 – 1938</td>
<td>Dr. Maycie K. Southall*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938 – 1940</td>
<td>Tommie Reynolds*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940 – 1944</td>
<td>Dr. Mildred Dawson*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1944 – 1946</td>
<td>Dr. Flora Rawls*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946 – 1948</td>
<td>Mary Katherine Tanner*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948 –</td>
<td>Eula Jarnagin* **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1948 – 1950</td>
<td>Mary Hall* **</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950 – 1951</td>
<td>Louise Oakley*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951 – 1953</td>
<td>Helen Zuccarello*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953 – 1955</td>
<td>Alyse Morton*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955 – 1957</td>
<td>Lottye McCall*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957 – 1959</td>
<td>Elizabeth Voss*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959 – 1961</td>
<td>Ival Aslinger*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961 – 1963</td>
<td>Nora Smith Barker*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963 – 1965</td>
<td>Ruth McDonald*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965 – 1967</td>
<td>Gertrude Michael*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967 – 1969</td>
<td>Eleanor Osteen*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969 – 1971</td>
<td>Margaret Hopper*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971 – 1973</td>
<td>Mary Jo Husk*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1973 – 1975</td>
<td>Dr. Ruth Knowlton*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1975 – 1977</td>
<td>Souci Hall*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977 – 1979</td>
<td>Dr. Margaret Sherer*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979 – 1981</td>
<td>Dorothy Morton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983 – 1985</td>
<td>Patsy Pope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985 – 1987</td>
<td>Dr. Isabel Wheeler*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987 – 1989</td>
<td>Lois Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989 – 1991</td>
<td>Dr. Willene Paxton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991 – 1993</td>
<td>Janice Sorsby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993 – 1995</td>
<td>Linda C. McCrary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995 – 1997</td>
<td>Dr. Virginia (Jensi) Souders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997 – 1999</td>
<td>Anne Medearis Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999 – 2001</td>
<td>Doris Ann Hendrix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001 – 2003</td>
<td>Vera Jo Henegar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003 – 2005</td>
<td>Rebecca (Becky) Sadowski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005 – 2007</td>
<td>Elaine Warwick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007 – 2009</td>
<td>Nancy Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009 – 2011</td>
<td>Dorothy (Dee Dee) Rives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Deceased

**Mary Hall, first vice-president, assumed most of the presidential responsibilities when Eula Jarnagin became ill. Hall was recognized with the state president’s pin in 1974.
I became aware of the existence of Delta Kappa Gamma and Xi State shortly before I was initiated into the Omega Chapter, which included the counties of Fayette and Hardeman. This was in the early fifties, I believe. I believed then that membership in Xi State would improve me professionally and enrich me personally, and this has been true. I found that working with other dedicated women teachers offered a realm of experiences and opportunities that had been missing in my life. I especially loved the conventions.

One of my favorite friends in Xi State was Eleanor Osteen, and we traveled to many state, regional, and International Conventions together. One memory that remains vivid is the time Eleanor and I were driving to the International Convention in New York: I forget the year. Our car was loaded with specialty chocolates, sent as gifts from Tennessee. It was a HOT summer! It took three days to reach our destination; each time we stopped for the evening, we had to shift the entire carload of chocolates into the motel because they would melt in the heat. What a trip!

I have been asked to define “turning points” in the history of Xi State. Implementing the Leadership Seminars was a specific event of importance in Xi State’s history. Changing the structure of the Presidents’ Banquet was also a turning point, but perhaps not a favorable one; the outgoing and incoming presidents should be required to attend, and some degree of formality should be encouraged.

I do understand that membership is declining in Xi State. We must get back to our “roots.” We must stress that members are invited because we have something to offer them that no other organization can: ways to improve the quality of education through legislation, shared ideas, and united support.

--Jan Dacus, Beta Iota Chapter, and Dorothy Morton, (SP, AA), Beta Sigma Chapter

With seniority in age and presidential service, Dorothy Morton is the present Dean of Past Presidents. Initiated into Omega Chapter on April 1, 1954, she led the chapter as president and through other important roles. Active in the expansion of Omega, she became a charter member of Beta Sigma Chapter.

In addition to her role as president, Dorothy served Xi State as second vice-president, parliamentarian for two terms, and as treasurer for twelve years. She was also member and chairman of numerous committees. As chairman of the Bylaws Committee, she led in drafting Xi State’s first set of Bylaws. In 1983, she received the Xi State Achievement Award.

At the International level, Dorothy served on the Constitution Committee and as member and chairman of the Committee to Study Future Needs of the International Headquarters Building. She also served as member of the Board of Trustees of the Educational Foundation for six years.

Dorothy began her career as fourth-grade teacher in Moscow Schools, served as principal of Moscow Elementary School, and later became Director of Instruction for Fayette County Schools. She is author of many professional and historical publications.

Linda McCrary, a past state president, writes, “Admired and respected by colleagues, Dot Morton was always available to listen, advise, and assist with implementation of projects. Her language, decisive and exact, led us to make tough decisions. Her organizational skills were legendary. As treasurer, she encouraged Xi State to spend carefully and invest wisely. She exemplified stability, confidence, and knowledge.”

Linda McCrary, a past state president, writes, “Admired and respected by colleagues, Dot Morton was always available to listen, advise, and assist with implementation of projects. Her language, decisive and exact, led us to make tough decisions. Her organizational skills were legendary. As treasurer, she encouraged Xi State to spend carefully and invest wisely. She exemplified stability, confidence, and knowledge.”
When asked to share her most memorable Delta Kappa Gamma experiences, Isabel mentioned the word honor as part of each recollection. Isabel’s fondest memory of a Xi State experience is her Kappa Chapter initiation held in the Women’s Bible Classroom of her own Paris First United Methodist Church. Serving the Society as Program/Membership Services Administrator is her happiest memory of the 90s. Another highlight was receiving the International Achievement Award presented by International President Jean Gray.

Isabel relates that Delta Kappa Gamma has enriched her more than other organizations to which she belongs. Following are her top reasons that Xi State is a tremendously effective organization.

1. Fellowship, resulting in close spiritual bonds genuinely felt, creates sisters for life.
2. Society purposes provide inspiration and goals to reach.
3. Personal and professional growth occurs through participation in programs and by attending workshops, conferences, and conventions.
4. Leadership growth occurs from active membership.
5. The Forum provides an outlet for legislative action.
6. Each member has value and contributes to the vitality of the Society.
7. Sewanee is sacred to us and is an ideal place for our Xi State Convention.
8. The Necrology Service means a record of membership even after we are gone, and the service is meaningful and sacred to those attending.

Isabel continues to focus on attracting and retaining Society members. She believes strongly that our programs must be vital, timely, and varied. Teachers in many different areas of education, including school nurses and administrators, should be invited to present programs. Isabel suggests immediate follow-up with these presenters to assess their level of interest and value as members of the Society. She encourages chapters to have multiple initiations during the year to bring individuals such as these presenters into the Society in a timely manner. She also believes that providing a mentor for initiates is critical.

---Becky Sadowski, (SP, AA), Alpha Lambda Chapter
and Dr. Isabel Wheeler, (SP, AA), Kappa Chapter

---

A TENNESSEE PEARL

The thoughts above, shared with Becky Sadowski and Barbara Hinson, are some of Dr. Isabel Wheeler’s last words. Her death occurred on October 22, 2009.

Fondly called a Tennessee Pearl by fellow state officers, Isabel endeared herself to members at all levels of Delta Kappa Gamma. An English Professor and Humanities Department Chairman at Bethel College, she was initiated into Kappa Chapter in 1973. From that year until her death, she valued her membership and friends in the Society. Her contributions were made through numerous leadership roles, including Kappa Chapter president, Xi State president, U.S. Forum member, and member/chairman of committees at the chapter, state, and International levels. From 1990-2000, she served the Society as Program/Membership Services Administrator at International Headquarters.

In recognition of her service, Isabel received a special 1991 Xi State Achievement Award and the 2004 International Achievement Award. Her nomination form for the highest honor awarded to an active member for distinguished service to the Society at the International level included these words: “She is the epitome of enthusiasm. . . . She is truly a remarkable woman who is passionate in her beliefs and values. She is an example of what Delta Kappa Gamma members should be.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1974 | Dr. Maycie K. Southall*  
Mary Hall* |
| 1975 | Lottye McCall*  
Alyse Morton* |
| 1976 | Louise Oakley*  
Ival Aslinger* |
| 1977 | Helen Zuccarello* |
| 1978 | Dr. Flora Rawls* |
| 1979 | Margaret Hopper* |
| 1980 | Eleanor Osteen* |
| 1981 | Mary Jo Husk* |
| 1982 | Dr. Margaret Sherer* |
| 1983 | Dorothy Morton |
| 1984 | Mary Ayleene Bryan |
| 1985 | Pearl Cross |
| 1986 | Elizabeth (Liz) Whorley Bradley |
| 1987 | Dr. Willene Paxton |
| 1988 | Dr. Ruth Knowlton* |
| 1989 | Virginia Wingo* |
| 1990 | Martha Marshall* |
| 1991 | Doris Ann Hendrix  
Dr. Isabel Wheeler* |
| 1992 | Patsy Pope |
| 1993 | Lois Jones |
| 1994 | Anna Belle Darden* |
| 1995 | Linda C. McCrary |
| 1996 | Patricia Morrow* |
| 1997 | Vera Jo Henegar |
| 1998 | Janice Sorsby |
| 1999 | Dr. Virginia (Jensi) Souders |
| 2000 | Marilyn Ivey |
| 2001 | Anne Medearis Lee |
| 2002 | Miriam Bowman |
| 2003 | Barbara Hinson |
| 2004 | Betty Ball |
| 2005 | Dr. Annette Gregory |
| 2006 | Rebecca (Becky) Sadowski |
| 2007 | Audrey Mae Doak |
| 2008 | Betty Only |
| 2009 | Elaine Warwick |

**Note:** In 1974, 1975, and 1976 multiple awards were presented in recognition of the service of many individuals since the establishment of Xi State Organization in 1953. Guidelines for the Achievement Award were established in 1976. After that date one award was presented annually, with the exception of 1991, when Dr. Isabel Wheeler was recognized with a Special Achievement Award prior to assuming the position of Program / Membership Services Administrator at International Headquarters.
Section III

ACCOMPLISHMENTS
The Xi State accomplishments described in this section are varied in nature and purpose. Some promote the professional and personal growth of members. Others foster the growth of non-member educators from other countries and of children and youth. Some record the history of our organization. Others focus on preparation for the future. Some are results of ongoing efforts and contributions. Others have reached fruition following short-term endeavors. The common thread throughout is that all accomplishments have been achieved through the efforts of many Tennessee members working cooperatively.

In 1935, Dr. Annie Webb Blanton charged the state founders to expand Delta Kappa Gamma throughout the state. Xi State reached that goal on October 24, 1964, when Beta Beta Chapter was organized, thus creating a total membership representing every Tennessee county. Since that date, membership has increased as new members have been initiated into existing chapters and new chapters have been formed.

Another early goal was to facilitate communication between state and chapter levels. The forties produced the first mimeographed newsletters. In 1951, the first official issue of *Xi State News* was published. In the late nineties, the Xi State website—through which members can access electronic copies of the *News*, online history, and other pertinent information—was created. Area Directors were appointed in 1995, and the first Executive Secretary was approved in 2004. Both actions were taken to help provide stronger connections among state and chapter leaders.

At both the state and International levels, great strides have been made in establishing and annually supporting scholarships and professional grants for members. In addition to Leadership Development Conferences for chapter and state officers and state committees, Leadership/Management Seminars for other members have been initiated and conducted. Through Legislative Seminars/Symposia, members have been informed of, and encouraged to support, legislation promoting education and women educators. To assist members during loss from natural disasters, Xi State members have contributed consistently and generously to International’s Emergency Fund.

In addition to co-hosting the 1939 National Convention, Xi State members have served as hosts of the 1963, 1981, and 2001 Southeast Regional Conferences and the 1994 International Convention. They have supported the installation of Alpha Chapters in Guatemala and Estonia. They contributed to “Flight ‘87” to defray expenses of British members attending the 1987 Southeast Regional Conference. In recognition of the Society’s thirtieth anniversary as an International organization, Tennesseans exceeded the requested goal of contributions to the International Speakers Fund—a fund that facilitates the exchange of Society speakers among member countries.

All of Xi State’s accomplishments resulting from statewide endeavors are not included in this book. Neither are the innumerable accomplishments of individual chapters, whose literacy projects, grants-in-aid, and other community service activities assist others and increase the local visibility of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

Designations following name of author: *SP* = State President, *AA* = Achievement Award Recipient, *SRD* = Southeast Regional Director
EXTENDING THE FRONTIER: THE Expansion of Xi State

After Dr. Annie Webb Blanton installed the Xi State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma in 1935, the expansion process began. The first chapter, Alpha Chapter in Chattanooga, was formed on March 22, 1937. One day later, Beta Chapter in Nashville was organized.

By the end of the 1930s, Xi State had established eight chapters, beginning with Alpha in Chattanooga and ending with Iota in Sullivan County in East Tennessee. During the war years of the 1940s, thirteen more chapters were installed, bringing Xi State’s total to twenty-three and membership to 777. By 1951 the membership had increased to 954 in twenty-seven chapters. By 1961, there were forty-five Xi State chapters with 1,867 members.

In Frontiers: A History of Xi State, Pearl Cross writes, “On October 24, 1964, when Ruth McDonald organized Beta Beta Chapter in Morgan and Scott Counties, the frontier was closed. Delta Kappa Gamma had been organized in every county in Tennessee.” Although “the frontier was closed” with the installation of its fiftieth chapter, Xi State has continued to grow. According to January 2009 records, the number of chapters was eighty-one and membership was 3,471.

Glimping into the future, we predict an upward growth of members within the state. We must grow to survive. And so, we continue to seek key women educators and form new chapters as needed in order to fulfill the dream of Dr. Annie Webb Blanton.

--Vera Jo Henegar (SP, AA), Pi Chapter

Xi State News

Whether from the mimeograph machine’s slow churn or the Internet’s lightning speed, the Xi State News has spread the word. News from International, Xi State, and chapters goes to members. How did this informative publication get its start?

During Flora Rawls’s biennium, 1944-1946, the first mimeographed newsletters were mailed to chapter presidents. Louise Oakley continued this practice during 1950-1951. The first official News, published in September 1951, came during Helen Zuccarello’s presidency. Margaret Butler, the first official editor, continued the work using a mimeograph machine. Each of these women understood the importance of communication with members.

According to available historical accounts, Alyse Morton’s editor, Phyllis Coker Shutt, published the News three times each year from 1953-1955. Edythe N. McNabb then gave 17 years of service. Editor Doris Hendrix, serving 14 years, expanded the newsletter to sixteen pages. One of her first color photographs featured Dr. Maycie K. Southall, past National President, in May 1992.

Dr. Jensi Souders served as acting editor during her presidency, 1995-1997, becoming the editor in 1997. Souders developed a new masthead and used red throughout the newsletter. The first electronic version of the News came during Souders’s presidential biennium.

In 2003, Souders began mentoring Linda Eller; thus, the 2003-2004 issues of Xi State News had an editor and editor-in-training. In April of 2004, Eller became editor. The first full-color publication was released in April 2009. As the 2009-2011 biennium began, Eller became the Society’s Communications Services Administrator in Austin, Texas, and Patsy Peckenpaugh was appointed the new editor.

--Linda S. Eller, Alpha Lambda Chapter
FROM SCHOLARSHIPS TO SCHOLASTICS:
THE XI STATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Hundreds of students from pre-school through post-graduate programs have been the beneficiaries of the advanced education that Xi State members have experienced with the financial assistance of our scholarship program. With the help of every Xi State member for the past sixty-five years, exemplary educators have become skilled administrators, compassionate mentors, best-selling authors, and vital community leaders. Since 1945, more than 360 Xi State members have been awarded over half a million dollars in scholarship money. Sisters from seventy-six different chapters have received assistance with the costs of work toward advanced degrees that have enriched their lives personally, academically, and professionally.

From the humble beginnings of a $75 scholarship awarded to Louise Oakley who would become the eighth Xi State president, our state organization now budgets $17,000 annually to recognize outstanding women educators. Seven scholarships are named in honor of past Xi State presidents: Dr. Maycie Southall (who later served as a National president), Mary Hall, Louise Oakley, Lottye McCall, Eleanor Osteen, Dr. Isabel Wheeler, and state founder Evangeline Hartsook. The eighth award is designated as a Special Scholarship. Annual member dues, donations, and fees (not endowments) fund our state scholarships.

When interest rates sank to historic lows in 2004, the Scholarships Committee asked past recipients to donate $75 in recognition of the Diamond Jubilee Anniversary of the Society. Recipients generously donated $3,450 and were spotlighted in a multimedia presentation at the convention that year. The effects of these scholarships on the education of America’s youth have been incalculable.

--Dr. Elaine Alexander, Beta Epsilon Chapter

RECOGNITION OF PIONEER EDUCATORS

Two books and a plaque recognize pioneer women teachers in Tennessee. The first book, *Light from Many Candles*, contains biographies of Xi State founders and other early women educators. It developed through the direction and perseverance of Louise Oakley, who urged Xi State members to submit biographies of outstanding teachers. Miss Oakley collected and edited the material, secured an author and printer, and formally presented the first copy to President Ival Aslinger at the 1961 Xi State Convention. At that time, International called the book one of the best publications ever done in any state.

The second book, *Maycie Katherine Southall: Her Life and Contributions to Education*, recognizes Delta Kappa Gamma’s fourth National president. It was written as a doctoral dissertation by Dr. Dorothy Louise Brown, Xi State member, and was placed in most major university libraries in the United States. When Beta Chapter presented a copy of Dr. Brown’s book to our International guest at the 1982 Xi State Convention, she stated that Xi State was first to publish a biography of a National/International president.

The plaque honors Ann Robertson Johnston Cockrill, the first known woman school teacher in Tennessee. While researching a paper on *Pioneer Women of Tennessee*, Dr. Juliaette Jones discovered Mrs. Cockrill’s fascinating story and recommended that Xi State recognize her. On May 20, 1978, in the presence of some of Anne Cockrill’s descendants, Tennessee dignitaries, and Xi State members, the plaque was unveiled and hung in the TEA Building in Nashville. Recognition? Indeed!

--Lois Jones (SP, AA), Beta Chapter
AREA WORKSHOPS

The desire to create fellowship and the evidence of love of members toward each other in the local chapters prompted Xi State President Ruth McDonald to initiate area workshops in 1963. These informational meetings were held in each of the state’s ten areas in even-numbered years to reach members who often could not attend the Xi State Convention. Workshops provided members an excellent opportunity to interact with state officers and with each other.

The appointed area workshop director planned and facilitated the meetings. The Xi State officers journeyed to each of the workshops, which offered programs on topics ranging from Society business to personal and professional growth. Outstanding speakers, music, and food were also featured. Most workshops reported excellent attendance, as members delighted in the opportunity to “visit” while strengthening their leadership skills and Society knowledge.

In 1990, Xi State voted to change the number of areas from ten to nine, scheduling all workshops on the same weekend. Three four-member “traveling teams” (consisting of present and past state officers) conducted workshops for new chapter officers and committees. Each team visited three area workshops in one of the Grand Divisions of the state.

In 1995, area workshop directors were renamed area directors with biennial responsibilities: e.g., serving as liaisons between the Xi State president and local chapters, mentoring new chapter presidents, and guiding chapter growth. Because of the effectiveness of the area directors’ ongoing work and the decreasing area workshop attendance, the workshop concept was dissolved during the 2001-2003 biennium. The changes that evolved were needed; however, the fellowship enjoyed by members during their meetings with state officers would be missed.

--Dr. Kathleen Harned, Beta Upsilon Chapter

1963 SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE, GATLINBURG

Tennesseans were prominent in hosting the ninth Southeast Regional Conference held in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, July 30-August 1, 1963. Knoxville’s Alyse Morton, Southeast Regional director, chose the theme: “A Wide Door for Effective Work Has Opened for Me.” Ival Aslinger was conference chairman. Of the 937 members attending, 444 were Tennesseans dressed in orchid or purple dresses. Many greeted members who arrived by train, bus, or car.

The conference opened with Tennessee night. A welcoming song, written by Dr. Juliaette Jones, was sung to the tune of “On Top of Ole Smokey.” Wilma Dykeman, noted Tennessee author, entertained with Tennessee mountaineer stories. A reception hosted by the Knoxville chapters followed.

At Tuesday’s session, Tennesseans Nora Smith and Julia Householder welcomed members. Madge Rudd, International executive secretary, gave the keynote address. Later, a panel discussed “Developing Leadership Competencies.” The evening session featured a symposium titled “Changing Patterns in American Culture.”

Wednesday morning brought the Society workshops. At the Birthday Luncheon, Eunah Temple Holden, past National president and past International executive secretary, gave the address, “Standing at the Door.” Afternoon and evening tours took members to Clingman’s Dome and to Cherokee, North Carolina, for the outdoor drama, “Unto These Hills.”

Following Thursday morning’s general session, a group traveled to Cades Cove. The conference concluded with the beautiful Presidents’ and Founders’ Banquet where candles and irises adorned the tables. There, International President Alida Parker gave a challenging sendoff, “A Wide Door is Opening.” Tennesseans departed with feelings of success and optimism.

--Martha McCluen, Zeta Chapter
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCES FOR STATE COMMITTEES/CHAPTER OFFICERS

Dynamic Xi State Leadership Development Committees have prepared state committees and chapter officers for their crucial roles. They have conducted biennial conferences for state committees in odd-numbered years and chapter officers training in even-numbered years.

In 1964, when Ruth McDonald was state president, a Leadership Conference for chapter presidents was initiated in Nashville. Then in 1965, when Gertrude Michael was president, a Leadership Conference for Xi State officers and committee chairmen was held in Chattanooga. Conferences have continued in the serenity of Henry Horton State Park, the historical grandeur of the Hermitage Hotel, the bustle of Murfreesboro, and the loveliness of Brentwood.

State committees at the Leadership Development Conferences for Planning convened on a fall weekend, followed the biennium theme, and met in general and committee sessions where goals for a two-year period were established. Their work had a statewide impact as chapter committees responded to the goals.

At the Leadership Development Conferences for the Executive Board, chapter presidents were taught advanced leadership skills and informed of Xi State projects. As an additional result of this training, some future Xi State officers and committee chairmen emerged. Before 1994, these conferences were held in the fall. In 1994, the Leadership Development Training for chapter presidents was scheduled for March. Expanded in 2002 to the Xi State Leadership Seminar for Incoming Chapter Officers, the seminar trained chapter presidents, vice-presidents, secretaries, and treasurers in technology, orientation/reorientation, and parliamentary procedure.

Laurels of leadership go to the planners of the Leadership Development Conferences.

--Maxine Williams, Alpha Xi Chapter

CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL FUNDS

Xi State has always supported International funds: e.g., Golden Gift, Educational Foundation, International Speakers, World Fellowships, Scholarships, and Emergency. Members contribute to some funds annually. When there has been a special emphasis, Xi State has accepted the challenge.

The Golden Gift Fund, established in 1974 to commemorate the Society’s Golden Anniversary, finances International conferences, special study stipends, and Leadership/Management seminars. During a special emphasis from 1974-1979, Xi State members contributed, as suggested, one dollar annually to that fund.

Established in 1964, The Educational Foundation collects, manages, and distributes funds for the benefit of education. In 1979, The Foundation, in an effort to expand its projects, proposed The Educational Foundation Thrust (TEFT). Members contributed 80 cents per year for the decade of the 80s. TEFT Coordinators Marilyn Ivey and Pearl Williams led the drive in Tennessee and conducted a quilt project for four years. Chapters giving 80 cents per member could place a square on a quilt. Members could also donate one dollar for a chance to own the quilt. The funds were donated to The Foundation and lucky members received the quilts.

The International Speakers Fund (ISF), established in 1982 in recognition of the thirtieth anniversary of the internationalization of the Society, facilitates the exchange of Society speakers among member countries. When asked to contribute one dollar per member, Xi State responded. At the 1989 State Convention, ISF Committee Chairman Anne Elizabeth Lokey reported that Xi State had contributed $4,730.55. Total state membership at the time was 4,317.

Xi State members have contributed generously to all International funds. Through these efforts, Tennessee educators “participate effectively in a world society” (Purpose 7).

--Pearl Williams, Nu Chapter
CHILDREN’S INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CENTER
(CIEC)

CIEC was a dream that began with Dr. Maycie K. Southall’s belief that world peace and understanding of all cultures could begin with children. The Children’s International Education Center became a significant project orchestrated by Dr. Southall in 1979. The project’s purpose was to bring together the best of children’s literature and artifacts from around the world in order to enrich lives of children and increase their understanding of a global community.

The Nashville CIEC became a reality September 30, 1981, in the Nashville Public Library. Xi State adopted CIEC as a project during the 1981-1983 biennium. As a result of Xi State’s promotion of CIEC, five other centers (Clarksville, Murfreesboro, Martin, Memphis and Columbia) were organized in subsequent years.

A major effort to inform all Society members of CIEC’s mission occurred during the 1994 International Convention in Nashville. Books and materials from other countries were displayed. An informative video ran continuously and brochures were given to all visitors.

Although three centers have dissolved since the beginning, Xi State can be proud of the centers existing in Martin, Columbia, Nashville, and Johnson City. These words written by Margaret Hopper, 1982-1983 Nashville CIEC president, present a challenge for us today:

If we can catch the vision of what we might accomplish, if we could fill our hearts with a mighty urge to press forward, the vision and urge could bring great results for Tennessee’s future children’s understanding of other cultures. . . . Opportunities to accomplish great things are ahead.

--Dr. Gwen Arnold, Beta Epsilon Chapter and Frances Hunter, Delta Chapter

INSTALLATION OF ALPHA CHAPTER IN GUATEMALA

In 1975, Guatemala became the sixth country to join The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. For the first time, Guatemala’s flag was included in the flag procession at the 1976 International Convention in St. Louis.

Xi State members became interested in Guatemala when a series of earthquakes left the country in devastation. Xi State members sent a gift of $2,346.54 to assist with medical needs and rebuilding. At the same time, Memphis City Schools was involved in a teacher-exchange program with Guatemala. Mrs. Lottye McCall and Dr. Ruth Knowlton, both Xi State past presidents, participated in this exchange program and shared their experiences, which inspired Xi State members to make a difference in the lives of Guatemalan teachers.

At the 1975 Xi State Convention, the Xi State Special Projects Committee recommended that Xi State sponsor a chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma in Guatemala. This recommendation was enthusiastically accepted by the membership, and under the leadership of Mrs. McCall and Dr. Knowlton, immediate plans were made to install the first Guatemalan chapter.

On August 12, 1975, twenty-six Guatemalan teachers became charter members of Alpha Chapter when they were initiated into The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The initiation ceremony was conducted in both English and Spanish. A large group of Tennesseans, including Dr. Shelby Counce (Deputy Superintendent of Memphis City Schools) and Dr. Rex Enoch (representing Memphis State University) attended this impressive ceremony. Also attending were a distinguished group of Guatemalan officials and a delegation of Xi State members.

--Janice Sorsby (SP, AA), Alpha Lambda Chapter
**First Policies/Procedures and Bylaws**

While serving as Xi State president, 1977-1979, Dr. Margaret Sherer gave Patsy Pope, Xi State parliamentarian, the task of developing policies and procedures for the state. Some members asked why rules were needed since Xi State had increased membership and carried out the Society purposes. Patsy immediately began to collect information from the past Xi State presidents, the officers and committee members, and from all Southeast Regional presidents. From this information, she compiled the first edition of *Xi State Policies and Procedures*, which was approved by the Xi State Executive Board on June 14, 1979.

Later, it became necessary for each state organization in the Society to develop its own bylaws. Elizabeth Whorley, 1981-1983 Xi State president, appointed a committee composed of Chairman Dorothy Morton, Eleanor Osteen, and Dr. Ruth Knowlton to write a set of bylaws for Xi State. After attending a two-day workshop on developing state bylaws, the committee began drafting the bylaws, which were reviewed by Mary Jo Husk and Souci Hall. The new *Xi State Bylaws* were adopted by the Xi State Executive Board at the Xi State Convention on June 19, 1983, and were approved by the International Constitution Committee on July 7, 1983.

The first Xi State governing documents were prepared in accordance with the accepted customs and traditions of Xi State and, in addition to and compatible with, the *International Constitution and Handbook*. With periodic amendments, they continue to be important reference guides for directing the work of the Society.

--Patsy Pope *(SP, AA)*, Beta Zeta Chapter

---

**Legislative Seminars/Symposia – Purpose Four**

In 1979, Xi State President Dr. Margaret Sherer charged Evelyn Hyde and the Professional Affairs Committee with hosting a seminar on Saturday morning to inform members about pending legislation. This began Xi State’s long legacy of leadership in our Purpose Four admonition “to support desirable legislation.” Early issues included *A Nation at Risk*, merit pay, insurance, mandatory kindergarten, and school funding. Members often convened in Legislative Plaza to hear speakers, primarily from the legislature and governor’s offices.

Xi State President Patsy Pope appointed the first Legislation Committee in 1983. Breakfast at the Hermitage Hotel in Nashville was begun, at the suggestion of Dr. Maycie K. Southall, to facilitate face-to-face interaction among members and the General Assembly who were invited as guests. Each chapter contributed $40.00 for expenses. In 1985, Xi State invited legislators to lunch through formal invitations from the Legislation Committee. Early programs featured students, parents, and teachers supporting mandatory kindergarten, which passed as part of the School Improvement Act in the early 90s.

The legislative seminar and separate luncheon gave way to an evening symposium, and a box lunch with one’s legislator in the office the following day. This offered great opportunities for legislator-constituent interaction about issues important to education: e.g., cost-of-living raises for retirees, school safety, special-needs children, and No Child Left Behind. Currently, members attend an evening symposium and visit their legislators; the following day, they attend committee meetings and general sessions. Xi State’s support of Purpose Four is reaching to heights never imagined by International Society Founder Dr. Annie Webb Blanton.

--Diana Womble, Alpha Rho Chapter
As the new Xi State president, hosting the 1981 Southeast Regional Conference at the Rivermont-Holiday Inn in Memphis on July 22-25 was considered a special way to begin the new biennium. Memphis proved to be the perfect setting. The careful planning of the steering committee, led by Eleanor Osteen, was evidenced everywhere, from the sounding of the opening gavel to the final singing of “The Delta Kappa Gamma Song.” Other committee members were Dorothy Morton, Ruth Knowlton, Louise Stephenson, Anna Belle Darden, Margaret Hopper, Patsy Pope, Mary Jo Husk, and Dr. Willene Paxton.

Some members arrived by car, some by plane, and certainly some by bus, since a four-day pre-conference tour brought members from Knoxville to Memphis with stops at Lookout Mountain, Rock City, and Opryland, USA. All attendees were welcomed, and assisted throughout the conference, by approximately three hundred fifty Tennesseans wearing iris-appliquéd skirts.

Southeast Regional Director Mildred Bingham’s chosen conference theme, “Many Pathways to a Common Goal,” focused on improving the Society and the image of education. The varied and stimulating program included workshops categorized as “Pathways to a Better Society.” Other workshops, “Pathways to Better Schools,” centered on innovations and renewals in education; educational law; and the teacher, principal, and administrator triumvirate. Beautiful music, lovely meal functions, and interesting Memphis tours complemented the program.

Members, including the new Xi State president, left Memphis inspired to be the best Delta Kappa Gamma members possible. They also departed with a renewed commitment to improve education for students.

--Elizabeth “Liz” Whorley Bradley (SP, AA), Beta Epsilon Chapter and Mu Sigma, Alpha State

LEADERSHIP/MANAGEMENT SEMINARS

Always interested in the growth and development of its members, Xi State was one of the first to offer a state Leadership/Management Seminar. After being chosen one of thirty International members to attend the first two-week, all-expense-paid Leadership/Management Seminar at Baylor University in 1980, Dr. Willene Paxton was asked by then State President Liz Whorley (Bradley) to develop a weekend seminar for Xi State members in 1983.

The Seminar was announced, members applied and were chosen, and the group assembled at the Walking Horse Hotel in Wartrace. The International curriculum was shortened: Dr. Paxton helped each participant study her personality type; Dr. Judith Carlson of North Carolina, one of her fellow International participants, led work on health and lifestyle issues; all developed plans for the future. For fun, a Tennessee Walking Horse demonstrated gaits, and a fashion show helped the group dress for success.

Since then, twenty-one Xi State members have attended the International Seminar, Lois Jones has been director, and Dr. Margaret Sherer has served as an observer. All have been invaluable in keeping the state seminars current. In 1991, during Dr. Paxton’s presidency, Dr. Jens Souders led the first Advanced Leadership/Management Seminar at Sewanee immediately preceding the state convention. To date, 752 have attended the Leadership/Management Seminars and 259 the Advanced Seminars. Many have gone on to become officers and committee chairs at the chapter, state, or International levels.

Participants particularly enjoy the opportunities to bond with others, learn about themselves, and grow personally and professionally.

-- Dr. Willene Paxton (SP, AA), Gamma Chapter

29
**Preservation of Xi State History**

Xi State salutes Mrs. Pearl Cross, Beta Beta/Gamma Beta Chapters, for researching and writing the organization’s first history, *Frontiers: A History of Xi State*, encompassing the years of 1935-1983. Included in the book are presidents’ reports, expansion reports, scholarship and Achievement Award recipients, Regional Conferences and International Conventions. The history also contains an account of special projects, such as *Light from Many Candles*, World Fellowships, Navajo Indians, and Guatemala Chapter.

In 1994, Martha Marshall and Audrey Mae Doak of Alpha Alpha Chapter compiled *Xi State History, Volume II*, a continuation of the previous work. *Volume II* highlights the International Founders, the Xi State founders and officers, presidents’ biographies and biennial reports, awards, and miscellaneous facts. Additional information includes the Vision Foundation and its activities; Leadership/Management Seminar attendees; Order of the Rose Award, Cornetet Award, and Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award recipients; and the recognition of 50-year Xi State members.

Prior to 2008, annual history updates were distributed to chapter presidents and Xi State officers and committees. Today both books are available on the Xi State website with annual updates posted.

An ad hoc committee was appointed in 1980 by President Dorothy Morton to secure a location for the “Restoration of Historic Papers.” Anne Elizabeth Lokey and Margaret Hopper of Beta Chapter were instrumental in securing the archives in the Tennessee Education Association (TEA) Building. Later the archives were moved to the University of the South at Sewanee. Today they are housed at the Metropolitan Government Archives in Nashville.

--Audrey Mae Doak (AA), Alpha Alpha Chapter

---

**Golden Anniversary Celebration**

When President Patsy Pope appointed the Golden Anniversary Celebration Committee, she selected women who would work tirelessly to plan an awesome celebration. Chairman Margaret Sherer and members Pearl Cross, Margaret Cook, Anna Belle Darden, Margaret Fletcher, Marilyn Ivey, Dr. Isabel Wheeler, and June Wilcox chose the theme: “Golden Memories Launch a Golden Future.” Then work began in order to inspire members to recognize past achievements and plan for a ambitious future.

Chapters celebrated their histories, honored golden members, and recognized chapter achievers. They submitted articles and photographs for a book, *Achievements Highlight Our Golden Anniversary*, edited by Pearl Cross; contributed to a Golden Anniversary Project Award; and completed other projects for the state’s celebration.

Excitement filled the air as over 500 women educators gathered at the University of the South, June 13-15, 1985, to celebrate. Soon the arts and crafts displays, “Heirlooms of the Future,” and the chapters’ Golden Anniversary Observance exhibits were set up. Chapter banners were hung in Convocation Hall and Bishop’s Common. The celebration began with Phebe Emmons, past International president, as the keynote speaker.

On Friday afternoon, Margaret Hopper coordinated a festive program featuring the Children’s International Education Center. On Friday evening, Anna Belle Darden and Margaret Fletcher directed a dramatic presentation of “Golden Memories” that correlated the history of our nation and Xi State from 1935-1985. On Saturday, Dr. Isabel Wheeler directed a drama, “Launch a Golden Future.”

The year-long celebration of Xi State’s founding on November 30, 1935, was indeed an awesome golden celebration.

--Pearl Cross (AA), Gamma Beta Chapter and Betty Jackson, Beta Beta Chapter
Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award

Preparation for Xi State’s Golden Anniversary Celebration led to the creation of the Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award. The process began in 1985 when Dr. Alicia Tilley, Xi State Scholarships Committee chairman, responded to the Golden Anniversary Committee’s interest in funding a special project—a project that would produce monetary awards for members pursuing a non-college-credit professional growth experience.

Dr. Tilley pledged $100 annually for five years, challenged scholarship recipients to contribute $10 dollars, or one-tenth of the amount of their scholarship, and encouraged chapters to collect voluntary contributions in November—the month of Xi State’s birth. In June 1986, Liz Whorley Bradley, 1981-1983 Xi State president, donated $5,000 to the Golden Anniversary Fund. The Golden Anniversary Committee then recommended that the award, first known as the Golden Anniversary Project Award, be renamed in her honor. The committee also recommended that every Xi State member make a one-time contribution of five dollars.

Recipients of the award have used it in a variety of ways. Some have attended conferences: e.g., the Australian Library Conference in Perth, the International Federation of Home Economics Council in Austria, and the National Art Education Association Conference in Arizona. A school counselor wrote and published a book, Character Tales: Learning to Respect the Rules. Another member conducted estuarial research at the Maritime Forest and National Seashore in North Carolina, after which she wrote a curriculum for an environmental studies program.

Professional opportunities abound. Our Golden Anniversary celebration gift makes some of them possible.

--Barbara Hinson (AA), Alpha Rho Chapter

Xi State High School Essay Contest

The Xi State Essay Contest, offered to all Tennessee high school students in grades 9-12, gives young writers an opportunity to explore a topic, win prizes, and get their work published. Begun during the 1985-1987 biennium, the 2010 Xi State High School Essay Contest marks its twenty-fifth consecutive year of existence.

As articulated in the guidelines, the purpose of the annual essay contest is “to encourage, to recognize, and to reward Tennessee high school students who demonstrate outstanding writing skills.” The High School Essay Contest Committee selects a different quotation as the topic for each year’s essays. Inspiring words written by leaders and thinkers such as Franklin D. Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, Edmund Spenser, and John Dewey are chosen to challenge young writers.

The Society advertises the essay topic to teachers throughout the state, specifying deadlines for submission. Essays from both male and female writers are accepted. In some cases, the essays have won local contests, sponsored by Delta Kappa Gamma chapters. Since local schools and chapters frequently conduct preliminary contests, total student participation in the state contest is extensive. Following the submission deadline, readers rank the writings according to established expectations regarding content, original development, and writing skills.

Three winners are selected, and monetary awards of $300, $200, and $100 are given to first-, second-, and third-place winners. With the permission of the student authors, the winning essays may be published in the Xi State News.

--Dr. Sharon Chaney, Beta Chapter
1987 and 1989 Flights “Across the Pond”

Leaders in Delta Kappa Gamma dream big, establish goals, develop plans, and work tirelessly for the accomplishment of their aims, often energizing the members around them to work toward a common objective. Such was “Flight ’87.”

When Great Britain was inducted into Delta Kappa Gamma in 1977, these new members were assigned to the Southeast Region and remained in that region until 1998 when the Europe Region was created. Attending the Southeast Regional Conference was often a financial challenge for the members.

When Dr. Margaret Sherer was Southeast Regional director from 1986-1988, Virginia and Tennessee created a fundraising project, “Flight ‘87,” to raise money to defray expenses of British members attending the 1987 Southeast Regional Conference in Richmond. All states in the Southeast Region participated in the project. More than $8,000 was raised, with Tennessee contributing approximately $3,400. Tennessee’s efforts were spearheaded by Xi State President Dr. Isabel Wheeler and Betty Ball, Personal Growth and Services Committee chairman. The funds exceeded the need, and remaining money was used for a 1988 seminar in Bath, England.

Members from Great Britain enriched the Society with their participation in Southeast Regional and state activities. When they issued an invitation to the region to attend their March 1989 Conference at Kent University in Canterbury, England, thirty-one Xi State members accepted with delight. The conference theme, “Moving Outwards,” challenged educators to take more important roles in education and other fields of work. Xi State members also enjoyed some extended time “across the pond” touring, shopping, attending plays, and making new friends.

--Betty Ball (AA), Alpha Alpha Chapter

Mandatory Kindergarten

On February 12, 1897, William Harris, Commissioner of Education, stated in a speech before Congress:

The advantage to the community in utilizing the age from 4 to 6 in training the hand and eye; in developing habits of cleanliness, politeness, self-control, urbanity, industry; in training the mind to understand numbers and geometric forms, to invent combinations of figures and shapes, and to represent them with the pencil…will I think, ultimately prevail….

Legislative support for kindergarten emerged in the 60s in Tennessee and was continued by a number of organizations through the decades of the 60s, 70s, and 80s. Dr. Maycie K. Southall, Xi State founder and National president, and Professor of Early Childhood Education, was instrumental in making the Tennessee General Assembly cognizant of this need. Xi State President Margaret Hopper saw the legislature pass a law mandating that every school system operate an improved kindergarten program and that required kindergarten attendance be a condition for students to enroll in first grade.

--Erline Patrick, Beta Kappa Chapter
In 1996, Anne Medearis gave Xi State its initial presence on the World Wide Web by establishing the first state website in the Society. In 1999, the Xi State Technology Committee, led by Dr. Dovie Kimmins, redesigned the initial state site to include the components required by the International Society for an official website. As a result of their endeavors, the Xi State website received its official certification on December 21, 1999. Assisting Dr. Kimmins were the members of the Technology Committee: Sandra Pineault, Linda Eller, Juana Cates, Nancy Sims, and Judy Duke.

During the 2001-2003 biennium, Linda Eller served on the Technology Committee and kept the website current as part of her committee responsibilities. Judy Cross served in a similar capacity during the 2003-2005 biennium. During the 2005 Xi State Convention, the Personnel Committee recommended to the Executive Board that the position of webmaster be a separate position. At that time, Judy Cross became the first Xi State webmaster to serve in that official position.

In 2001, Beta Beta Chapter became the first Xi State chapter to have a website. More than 20 chapters now have official Society websites.

From its beginnings, the Xi State website has grown in popularity and is visited by many members on a regular basis. Members, chapters, and committees are encouraged to submit news for the website, and a multitude of Society forms are available for download. Photo albums of various Xi State events, including annual conventions, add to the popularity of the website.

--Judy Cross, Beta Beta Chapter

1994 International Convention, Nashville

“I was the best of times.” Working with International President Dr. Ruby Matthews and International Executive Coordinator Dr. Theresa Fechek to plan the International Convention at the Opryland Hotel on July 23-30, 1994, was a joy and a challenge. Implementation of the convention was a team effort, involving most of Tennessee’s more than four thousand members. Xi State President Linda McCrary was the official Xi State representative; Pat Morrow led the Steering Committee; Pam Bucy oversaw the finances; Diana Womble and Doris Hendrix marketed the events. During the convention week, approximately 1,000 Xi State members, easily identified by purple iris tee shirts, responded to any need.

Tennessee Night featured favors and flavors from the state: e.g., greetings from Andrea Conte, First Lady of Nashville; remarks with Wilma Dykeman, state historian; “Opryland USA”, a stage show from the Opryland Theme Park; and performances from singer, Louise Mandrell. The evening concluded with the Festival of the Arts extravaganza.

Dr. Ruby Matthews conducted the business sessions with dignity and skill. The U.S. Forum elected Linda McCrary, member of the U.S. Forum Steering Committee since 1990, as chairman of the U.S. Forum for 1994-1996. Barbara Hinson, Patsy Pope, Dr. Willene Paxton, Dorothy Morton, Jens Pastors, Pat Morrow, and Linda McCrary performed International committee responsibilities.

Evaluations of the convention were extremely positive. Martha Marshall, Xi State historian, used these words to describe the convention:

We nurtured our dreams,
We dared to achieve unusual tasks,
And we accomplished our highest goals.
Congratulations, Tennessee, for a job well done!

It was indeed the best of times for Tennessee members.

--Linda McCrary (SP, AA, SRD), Alpha Gamma Chapter

Xi State Website

In 1996, Anne Medearis gave Xi State its initial presence on the World Wide Web by establishing the first state website in the Society. In 1999, the Xi State Technology Committee, led by Dr. Dovie Kimmins, redesigned the initial state site to include the components required by the International Society for an official website. As a result of their endeavors, the Xi State website received its official certification on December 21, 1999. Assisting Dr. Kimmins were the members of the Technology Committee: Sandra Pineault, Linda Eller, Juana Cates, Nancy Sims, and Judy Duke.

During the 2001-2003 biennium, Linda Eller served on the Technology Committee and kept the website current as part of her committee responsibilities. Judy Cross served in a similar capacity during the 2003-2005 biennium. During the 2005 Xi State Convention, the Personnel Committee recommended to the Executive Board that the position of webmaster be a separate position. At that time, Judy Cross became the first Xi State webmaster to serve in that official position.

In 2001, Beta Beta Chapter became the first Xi State chapter to have a website. More than 20 chapters now have official Society websites.

From its beginnings, the Xi State website has grown in popularity and is visited by many members on a regular basis. Members, chapters, and committees are encouraged to submit news for the website, and a multitude of Society forms are available for download. Photo albums of various Xi State events, including annual conventions, add to the popularity of the website.

--Judy Cross, Beta Beta Chapter
2001 SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CONFERENCE, CHATTANOOGA

When the president calls, you know something important is about to happen. In this case, the call came from Xi State President Ann Medearis, and the important happening was the Southeast Regional Conference to be held July 11-14, 2001. President Medearis asked Barbara Northcut to serve as conference chairman. The amount of time and number of dedicated members required to produce this conference were staggering. The steering committee included Dr. Jeni Souders, Barbara Hinson, Vera Jo Henegar, Ann Medearis, Becky Sadowski, Sally McReynolds, and Rosina Heywood. Susan Westbrook planned Tennessee Night, an evening with James Rogers and the Choo Choo Kids. Pat Crabtree directed the favor productions. Nancy Henry was the first of hundreds of volunteers to answer the statewide call for help in preparing for this important event. During the conference, 277 Tennesseans clad in Choo Choo shirts welcomed and assisted members from other states. Total attendance exceeded 800.

Southeast Regional Director Dr. Barbara Day, whose conference theme was “Partnerships: Advancing Teaching and Learning,” expanded professional offerings by securing educational speakers. Linda McCrary coordinated the Society Information Fair, an event requiring cooperation and creativity. Through these offerings, members gained information and skills to share with chapter members and with other colleagues in individual educational settings.

City-wide cultural events (e.g., dinner at the Chattanooga Theater Center, picnicking at Coolidge Park with music provided by the Mid-South Band) provided personal growth and stress release. At the conference’s conclusion, Tennesseans realized that we received more than we gave. Job well done, Xi State!

--Barbara Northcut, Alpha Phi Chapter

XI STATE VISION FOUNDATION

In 2001, International Parliamentarian Ardith Inman championed the concept of a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, tax-exempt foundation presented by Xi State President Doris Ann Hendrix. Ardith spoke enthusiastically of the benefit to the members of her state, Illinois, and the opportunities to raise funds for support of such a foundation.

In 2002, the Xi State Executive Board approved the Bylaws and Rules establishing the Xi State Vision Foundation. The Foundation provides funds for members of Xi State to conduct educational research, to develop special projects related to the improvement of education, and to participate in non-degree-seeking personal and professional growth activities. The Xi State Executive Board transferred the Liz W. Bradley (LWB) Professional Growth Award into the Foundation, both to afford contributions tax-exempt status and to embody Liz’s ideas in the Foundation.

Marilyn Ivey was selected initial chairman. Chief among the responsibilities of the Board of Directors is fundraising for the Foundation. A 14k gold pin is presented to donors of $1,000 or more. Currently, there are twenty-seven gold Visionaries, twelve gold Visionary chapters, and two platinum Visionaries (donors of $5,000 or more). Fifteen chapters and seven individuals are recognized as silver Visionaries (donors of $200 - $999). Integral and successful fundraising events are a part of Xi State Conventions.

The Foundation awarded its first LWB Professional Growth Award and Vision Foundation Grant in 2004. Ten Project Grants of approximately $1,000 each have been funded, and six LWB Awards have been funded for participation in professional development activities.

--Doris Ann Hendrix (SP, AA), Beta Chapter and Marilyn Ivey (AA), Alpha Tau Chapter
Executive Secretary Position

In 2003, the state Personnel Committee recommended to the Executive Board that Xi State create the position of Executive Secretary. This action followed data collection from other state organizations and their executive secretaries.

Findings indicated that a central person, having information needed by members and the expertise to communicate it quickly and accurately, would serve the membership more effectively. The Executive Secretary could assume all of the secretarial and some of the administrative duties of the state president, allowing her more time to spend with chapters and members. The secretary could also facilitate the state’s work during officer and committee biennial transitions.

Qualifications for the position include extensive knowledge of the Society’s structure at all levels, experience in the use of technology, and excellent interpersonal skills. Dr. Jens Souders was approved as the first Xi State Executive Secretary in June 2004, with Elaine Warwick following in 2008.

While serving in this role, Jens and Elaine have facilitated communication in many ways: e.g., by formatting, reproducing, and mailing each state president’s bimonthly letter to chapter presidents; updating the state directory; building files for easy reference purposes to assist chapters and members; compiling and producing conference materials; and handling e-mail notifications. The creation of the position of Executive Secretary has provided a strong link connecting state and chapter leaders, thereby promoting greater involvement in carrying out our Society’s mission.

--Betty Only (AA), Alpha Sigma Chapter

Assistance to Trent Lott Middle School

In late summer 2005, Americans were stunned by the television coverage of damage caused by Hurricane Katrina. Xi State sisters would soon be involved in a two-year project to help Trent Lott Middle School (TLMS) in Pascagoula, Mississippi, recover from the disaster.

In September, Sandra McKiernon, a teacher at TLMS, e-mailed her Tennessee friend Dr. Jens Souders about the destruction. Soon, Xi State chapters collected $6,000 to assist with the critical need for library books. Later at the 2006 Xi State Convention, Sandra gave a PowerPoint presentation about the destruction. The message tugged at everyone’s heart; Xi State members donated $4,000 to the school. At the 2007 Convention, Sandra McKier-non gave an update and received another donation from Xi State. Our total contributions to Trent Lott Middle School reached almost $11,000!

For many reasons, Tennessee is called the “Volunteer State.” Chattanooga chapters donated a truckload of teaching materials. A Sevierville chapter donated desk chairs for teachers. President Elaine Warwick, Dr. Jens Souders, and Mary McLain transported these items to Pascagoula. Three librarians from Phi Chapter (Sherry Woods, Lynn Caruthers, and Barbara Edwards) answered the call to help Librarian Tommy Saunders. They traveled to Pascagoula in July 2006 and worked at the school for three days. Having developed a bond with Sandra and Tommy, the librarians returned during the summer of 2007 to help process books that the school purchased with Laura Bush Foundation Grant funds.

Assisting Trent Lott Middle School restore their school was a rewarding experience for Xi State volunteers.

--Sherry Woods, Phi Chapter
BOOKS FROM BIRTH: STATEWIDE LITERACY PROJECT

In the fall of 2005, Xi State became a partner with the Governor’s Books from Birth Foundation, which is affiliated with the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. The ultimate goal of this foundation is to assure that each child in Tennessee, from birth to age five, receives one new, age-appropriate hardback book by mail each month.

In September 2006, Xi State chapters participated in the first annual Tennessee Imagination Library Week by assisting the local affiliate in their area. Members designed and facilitated various opportunities to enroll children in the program. Through these chapter/member initiatives 4,970 children were enrolled in the Books from Birth program from September 2006 to March 2007. During the 2007-2009 biennium, more than 1,000 additional students were enrolled in the program. In addition, Xi State chapters have made monetary donations in excess of $10,000 since the partnership began.

The efforts of Xi State members in the Imagination Library Week activities have continued each year and have helped to enhance the literacy of Tennessee students. Xi State chapters have supported the Foundation in other ways: e.g., inputting data for the program, encouraging teens in their area to participate in the Foundation’s League of Extraordinary Teens. More than thirty chapters have participated in this part of the Foundation’s program. This statewide literacy project continues; the possibilities for impacting literacy in Tennessee via the Books from Birth program and the creative energies of Xi State members are limitless.

--Elaine Warwick (SP, AA), Rho Chapter

NEW SISTERS IN ESTONIA

Against a backdrop of falling snow outside the large window of the National Library in Tallinn, Estonia, twenty-four educators became members of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The initiation of members, installation of Estonia State Organization, installation of Alpha Chapter, and installation of officers were made possible, in part, by the $500.00 contribution by Xi State.

Early in the fall of 2007, International President Dr. Barbara Day called Xi State President Nancy Davis to ask whether Tennessee would like to contribute to the installation ceremonies. The immediate answer was a resounding “Yes!”

Five Americans (two from California, one from Georgia, one from North Carolina, and Nancy Davis from Tennessee) along with fifteen Europeans from various countries gathered to welcome our new sisters on March 8, 2008, International Women’s Day. This date was significant because Estonia has been a free country for only eighteen years. It was an afternoon-long event, complete with a snack halfway through the program. At the end of the ceremonies, all sang “The Delta Kappa Gamma Song” to Nancy’s accompaniment at the keyboard.

After the ceremonies, amid toasts, well wishes, tears, and laughter, each country presented Alpha Chapter with a gift. From Tennessee, each lady received a pin of Tennessee and a gold medallion with a rose on the front and “From Tn. 3-8-08” engraved on the back. Many were heard to say, “I shall wear the medallion close to my heart.”

At the 2008 International Convention, two Estonians joined Xi State members at the Tennessee Breakfast. They were presented a red ribbon holder for themselves and one for their other two officers. Tennessee and Estonia will forever share a special bond.

--Nancy Davis (SP), Gamma Mu Chapter
FIRST CREATIVE ARTS RETREAT

Have you ever thought about “getting away” from it all and going off somewhere with your Delta Kappa Gamma sisters on a retreat for a day or two? That is just what fifty sisters from sixteen of Xi State’s chapters did on September 26-27, 2008!

From across the state, they traveled to Vonore in East Tennessee for Xi State’s first Creative Arts Retreat—an event that formed in the mind of President Nancy Davis and materialized through the work of Chairman Vickie Allen and other members of the Personal Growth and Services Committee.

The retreat began on Friday evening with music, dance, and drama. Storyteller Sylvia Eaglin from Chi Chapter in North Carolina entertained the group with fascinating family stories. Breakout sessions on Saturday included more storytelling, line dancing, and craft activities: e.g., cross-stitching, making origami books, stamping, and quilting. One session explored the teaching of American history with a “hands-on” approach, and another the teaching of literacy and music for elementary students. During a break, some members toured Fort Loudon, while others played cards and visited with friends.

This retreat, designed to promote personal growth and fellowship among Xi State members in a relaxed setting, achieved the goals. Returning to their homes with new interests and friends, members valued Eden Froust’s words on commemorative magnets made for them by Storyteller Eaglin: “Relationships create the fabric of our lives. They are the fibers that weave all things together.” Future plans are to offer a Creative Arts Retreat once each biennium.

--Vickie Allen, Nu Chapter

STATE SUPPORT OF WORLD FELLOWSHIPS

Xi State has consistently and generously supported the World Fellowships program. Initiated at the 1946 National Convention in San Francisco to assist women in war-torn countries, this heartwarming program fulfills the first and fifth purposes of our Society: to unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship, and to grant fellowships to women educators from other countries.

Since the program’s inception, fellowships have been awarded to 761 women, representing 111 countries, who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma. These fellowships allow the recipients to work toward advanced degrees in various fields at universities in the United States and Canada.

Because the number of fellowships awarded is determined entirely by voluntary contributions from individuals, chapters, and states, Xi State chapters have devised creative methods of fundraising: e.g., white elephant sales, tired book sales, silent auctions, and international tasting parties. In addition, donations may be given in honor of a chapter member or as a memorial to a deceased member.

Xi State’s World Fellowships committees have also planned annual fundraising opportunities. At Sewanee conventions, they have sold pins, shirts, tote bags, and other attractive items. All proceeds have been designated for the World Fellowships Fund.

When World Fellowship recipients are announced, the state committee frequently matches chapters and recipients. The committee encourages chapters to communicate with their adoptees by sending letters, greeting and gift cards, care packages, stationery, and stamps. Sometimes, recipients are invited to chapter meetings. Caring and sharing provide a personal touch to World Fellowships awarded to these recipients who desire to make a difference in their countries.

--Rosalene Coleman, Phi Chapter
Xi State’s Strategic Action Plan: A Guide to Future Success

Xi State had a Strategic Plan in the mid-1990s, but no process was in place to assure implementation, accountability, and continuity. In 2007, State President Nancy Davis appointed an ad hoc Strategic Planning Committee to write a new plan modeled after International’s new Strategic Action Plan. The committee was to seek input from members across the state, incorporate all state committees’ charges and goals into the plan, and serve as an oversight committee to assure the plan’s implementation. Also, they were to suggest additional actions/activities that would foster Xi State’s growth and vitality.

After reviewing each state committee’s charges, the Planning Committee recommended implementation strategies. They focused on membership, leadership development, finance, marketing, communications, Society impact on education, and organizational effectiveness. The committee queried, “How does the state need to improve?” and “What works for chapters?” The International Successful Chapter Practices Survey results from Tennessee were used. In 2009, the resultant action plan was adopted and the committee was made a standing committee.

A correlation between the Strategic Action Plan and the Chapter Excellence Award criteria was developed in 2009-2010. The correlation helps chapters “plug in” their activities that relate to each objective, and to design objectives and activities that help an individual chapter improve and succeed. The Strategic Action Plan and Chapter Excellence Award Correlation were presented to chapters at the 2010 New Officers’ Training Sessions. Chapters were encouraged to use the state model to create a Chapter Success Plan that guides growth.

When Xi State and its chapters are successful, the Society is stronger and more successful. An ever-changing Strategic Action Plan, designed to fulfill the Society’s mission, will be a guide to Xi State’s future success.

--Patsye Jones, Upsilon Chapter
Section IV

CONVENTION

TRADITIONS
After Xi State’s founding on November 30, 1935, one of the first traditions was the practice of holding annual conventions. The first conventions were held in 1936 and 1937 at the Hermitage Hotel in Nashville. In 1938, the convention was held at Monteagle’s Old Assembly Inn, where Miss Mary Hall gathered honeysuckle vines and wild roses from the woods for dinner decorations.

Annual conventions continued to be held with the following exceptions: in 1939, when Tennessee and North Carolina co-hosted the National Convention in Asheville; in 1943, when gasoline and food were rationed; and in 1963, when preparing to host the Southeast Regional Conference in Gatlinburg. Other convention locations were Chattanooga, Memphis, Murfreesboro, and Gatlinburg.

In 1950, Miss Mary Hall met with the Public Relations chairman at the University of the South to arrange for a convention in Sewanee. The charge was ten dollars per member for the weekend—Friday afternoon through Sunday morning. That arrangement began another tradition. Except for 1964, when the convention met at the Read House in Chattanooga, every subsequent convention has been held on the beautiful campus of the University of the South.

Since its inception, the tradition of holding state conventions has provided Xi State members with opportunities for fellowship, inspiration, growth, and service. Members meet longtime friends and make new ones. They become informed about educational trends and issues. They plan for supporting the professional and personal growth of women and excellence in education. Each year, they reflect on their heritage as Society members and look to the future. Through the leadership of officers and committees and their own participation, convention attendees return to their chapters better informed and more motivated to carry out the Society’s mission.

The convention traditions described in this section were introduced as earlier innovations and have been maintained or changed to meet the needs of members. Each serves one or more Society purposes: e.g., to unite, honor, advance, inform, stimulate, support, endow. Some may remain relatively unchanged. Others may evolve to accommodate future changes in our Society.
**Dutch Treat Luncheon: A Homecoming**

Being first sets the stage for what follows. Xi State’s Dutch Treat Luncheon at Sewanee Inn accomplishes several “firsts.” It’s the first time all the sisters of Xi State see each other for the year’s convention. It takes place during the first days off from teaching, and summer is just around the corner. It’s another first glance at the beautiful campus of the University of the South at Sewance.

When all our sisters begin to arrive for the luncheon, they see the glorious top of the Mountain. This is one happy event! There are smiles, hellos, hugs, laughs, and stories. These greetings are for the new friends made from year to year who meet for the first time at Sewanee Inn.

The Dutch Treat Luncheon gives everyone a convention preview and builds excitement toward the coming days. More important than any menu for this noon meal (which is always delicious) is to discover who’s here, who’s coming later, who’s presenting a workshop, and who’s who among the sisters of Xi State. These Dutch Treat Luncheon “firsts” truly make one want to come back to Xi State year after year.

---Judy Collins, Beta Upsilon Chapter

**Welcoming First-time Attendees**

The first Orientation Tea occurred during the biennium of President Lois Jones in 1988. Xi State needed a way for first-time attendees to meet and bond at the state convention, as well as meet Xi State officers and past presidents. President Lois Jones suggested the Tea, which was planned by Jensie Souders, first vice-president, and Maxine Williams, second vice-president, and presided over by Margaret Cook, membership chairman. State officers and past presidents were introduced, and the vice-presidents discussed the convention program with first-time attendees. The Orientation Tea has been held at Rebel’s Rest, the French House, and Bishop’s Common.

Today’s agenda remains much like that of the original Tea. Invitations are sent by the membership committee, chapters take turns being hostess, and the Xi State president selects a person to preside each year. Those attending are given an opportunity to mingle before being asked to introduce themselves. State officers and past presidents are introduced, information about the convention program is discussed, and first-time attendees are sometimes given an opportunity to win prizes by obtaining signatures of officers and committee chairmen. The Orientation Tea continues to be a very popular event prior to the convention.

---Wynona Dye, Zeta Chapter

**Cherishing Freedom; Recognizing Responsibility**

The presentation and retirement of the flags at the Xi State Convention were visions of President Linda McCrary during her 1993-1995 biennium. The Tennessee Flag and the United States Flag were readily available, but the Delta Kappa Gamma Flag was custom-made by a manufacturer recommended to First Vice-President Anne Medearis by Dr. Paula Dent who had been instrumental in securing the flag for Michigan.

The First General Session of the 1995 Xi State Convention opened with the presentation of three flags directed by Jensie Souders. Wanda Powell, Katherine Wardlow, Pam Bucy, Sharon McMahan, Mary Ann Kenik, and Linda Fontaine carried and guarded the flags. Since then, many members have cherished the task of moving the flags through the narrow, winding stairs onto the stage in Guerry Auditorium, protecting these symbols and every precious freedom and responsibility they represent.

The 1995 ceremony made an everlasting impression on Sandra Smith and was an unforgettable experience for this first-year attendee who was filling in for an absent sister. The flags, presented and recessed at every Xi State Convention since 1995, are an integral and solemn part of the opening and closing ceremonies.

---Sandra K. Smith, Alpha Gamma Chapter
**SOUNDS OF MUSIC**

Do Re Mi Fa So La Ti Do! These are a few of the musical sounds made at the convention by the Xi State Chorus. The first Xi State Chorus performed in 1953 under the direction of Anita Jones. This musical tradition continues today when choir members gather at the beginning of the Xi State Convention to practice the spectrum of music they will perform throughout the convention. The Xi State Chorus director selects a repertoire of music to be presented at the Presidents’ Banquet and the Birthday Brunch.

In addition to the Xi State Chorus selections, a potpourri of other music is presented at Xi State Conventions: e.g., preludes, postludes, quiet and appropriate music for the Ceremony of the Rose, presidents’ march, stately music for the flag ceremony, fun music, and music from the pipe organ, flutes, and carillon bells. Succinctly, this is the tradition of the Xi State sounds of music. May this tradition continue as we sing “Hand in hand our loyal band, / Forward moving ever” (Annie Webb Blanton and Cora M. Martin, 1929).

--Dr. Annette Gregory (AA), Alpha Beta Chapter

**AWARDING CHAPTER/COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Surprised, delighted, honored, humbled: These are words that the Order of the Rose recipients often use to describe their emotions upon receiving this prestigious award—an award given for outstanding service to one’s chapter and community.

Begun in 1988, this award was first known as the Spotlight Award. One or two members were spotlighted during various general sessions, luncheons, and dinners. In 2003, this recognition was renamed the Order of the Rose Award, and all honorees were presented to Xi State Convention attendees during the Thursday evening general session in Guerry Auditorium. As this ceremony has evolved, it has become more beautiful and inspiring.

While music is played, recipients walk onto the stage, accompanied by escorts. One by one, these marvelous women educators stand alone in the spotlight, while their accomplishments are told. Each is presented a rose, a rose guard, and a certificate. No matter what each member has accomplished in her chapter and community, the recognition inspires her to do more for the Society. Following the general session, a receiving line is formed to allow attendees to greet and congratulate the recipients. What a special way to recognize and applaud the accomplishments of worthy honorees!

--Donna Camper, Alpha Alpha Chapter

**SHOWCASING MEMBERS’ TALENTS**

In 1976, Mary Ayleene Bryan was invited to take her spinning wheel to Sewanee. In the Guerry Hall lobby, she demonstrated the art of making thread. Later, she was asked to spin at the 1976 International Convention. While visiting the art exhibit there, she thought, “We could have such an exhibit in Tennessee!” The result was a show of Xi State members’ paintings in Bishop’s Common in 1977.

In 1979, First Vice-President June Wilcox envisioned that a display of Xi State members’ creative work would be an ideal way to celebrate our Society’s Golden Anniversary. She requested that each chapter ask one member to exhibit her work at the state convention. Chapters responded enthusiastically.

Mary Ayleene and June, valuing creative arts as a stress release from professional responsibilities, encouraged Xi State members in these pursuits. Before the 1980 Convention, an Arts and Crafts Committee was established with Mary Ayleene as chairman. The resulting exhibit officially began the tradition now known as the Visual and Performing Arts Exhibit. Held in Convocation Hall on Thursday evening, the varied displays showcase chapter members’ creations: e.g., needlework, decorated objects, paintings, creative writing. Members’ demonstrations of crafts or performances on instruments add to the pleasure of the evening.

--Mary Ayleene Bryan (AA), Beta Upsilon Chapter
FUNDRAISING FOR LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Silent Auction? Did you say “silent?” The Xi State Silent Auction is anything but silent. As Xi State members bid on wonderful, unique, and exciting items donated by chapters across the state, the air is punctuated with a cacophony of sounds. Ecstatic “oohs” and “aahs” can be heard as the items are first displayed; ultimately shrieks of delight pierce the air when the bidding ends and the winners are informed. The high bidders take home true treasures, such as gardening baskets, summer reading baskets, hand-painted iris plates and glasses, antique bowls, and hand-made quilts. Small wonder the bidding is so animated and fierce.

Each chapter brings a special item to the Xi State Convention held at the University of the South in June. The bidding begins immediately after the Special Events Committee sets up the auction in Guerry Hall and continues there until the items are removed to Lower Cravens, where the final bidding takes place during the Dessert Reception. The Silent Auction began in 1994 through the work of the Special Events Committee. Since then, more than $25,000 dollars has been raised to help fund leadership development.

--Paula Campbell, Pi Chapter

PAST PRESIDENTS’ BREAKFAST: “STEAL” MAGNOLIAS

Magnolias are a tradition at the University of the South. Watch them, enjoy them, protect them, but do not take them for your own personal pleasure. In 1993, President Linda McCrary reinstated Maycie K. Southall’s Past Presidents’ Breakfast. Linda suggested magnolias from the campus for the centerpiece. Randall Taylor, University employee, looked at Ann Sherrill, honorary Xi State member. She returned the glance. Silence permeated the room. Ann Sherrill, spoke meekly: “It is forbidden to pick the magnolia blossoms.” Randall commented, “We have security guards to make sure the blooms are protected.” Tension was in the air. What would happen? Would Ann Sherrill be arrested for gathering blooms? Would Randall Taylor bring disgrace to the campus by providing magnolia blossoms for the breakfast? Glances were exchanged, but no one spoke a word.

The day of the breakfast dawned. In the dining room, beautiful magnolia blooms had been placed on the table. How did they get there? Who did the deed? No one knows the answer. The morning was priceless, and the breakfast was a success. Xi State’s tradition of the “Magnolia Breakfast” at Rebel’s Rest continues. Even though no one admits to having picked them in 1993, magnolia blooms always grace the Past Presidents’ Breakfast table.

--Anne Medearis Lee (SP, AA), Omicron Chapter

FORUMS: DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

Following the creation of the Forums in 1990 at the International level, states were encouraged to appoint Forum liaisons and conduct Forums to discuss educational issues. The Forum became an integral part of the Xi State Convention and traditionally follows the Second General Session with a strong attendance of as many as 200 members.

Relevant and interesting topics have included parenting, educational funding, teacher involvement in decision making, and health-related issues including insurance. Presenters have included Xi State members, visiting state presidents, Southeast Regional representatives to the U.S. Forum, Tennessee State representatives, and Tennessee Education Association (TEA) leadership staff. Presentations have taken the forms of informative speeches, question/answer sessions, and small-group discussions.

Xi State members participate in Forums at Regional Conferences and International Conventions. The National Legislative Seminar, sponsored by the U.S. Forum Steering Committee, always attracts Xi State members.

--Karen Garner, Delta Chapter
WORKSHOPS: SPECIAL GIFTS

Workshops do not come in packages gaily wrapped with bright ribbons and bows. Still they are gifts given from member to member, sister to sister. Workshops are ways of sharing personal experiences, talents, wisdom, and knowledge; ways of fulfilling personal needs and individual growth. Their presenters are not paid professionals who talk about their areas of expertise; they are Society members who willingly share their individual passions.

In past workshops, participants have discussed schools in other countries, received tips for teaching with technology, and learned line dancing, to name just a few of the many topics that have been offered over the years. Chapter officers and committee chairs can learn the “tricks” of Society business to help their chapters move along the paths of improvement and success.

Each year, it is the responsibility of the state’s first vice-president and Program of Work Committee to fill Friday with the workshops. The offerings are always widely diverse, fun and interesting, and targeted toward individual needs, both professional and personal. Attendees can receive certificates and points, which can be used toward fulfillment of their school district’s in-service requirements. They may also develop a new recreational interest. In either case, with these gifts everyone leaves the Mountain with renewed spirit and energy.

--Nancy Harris, Chi Chapter

ADVANCING GROWTH; CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE

The Awards Luncheon is a highlight of the Xi State Convention. First held in 1991 during Dr. Willene Paxton’s presidency, it is a time for recognizing and awarding excellence. Prior to that time, awards were presented throughout the convention.

A hostess chapter decorates for this celebratory occasion, and its president presides. Members gather to applaud honored individuals and chapters. The Xi State Chorus sings. Individuals receiving Xi State and International academic scholarships, Vision Foundation Awards, and other distinctive awards are announced. A few long-time members stand to be recognized for their fifty-year memberships.

When their chapter’s name is called, chapter sisters stand to receive a Communications or Yearbook Award. They applaud if their chapter is announced as having the most members, or the highest percentage of members, attending the convention. The proudest time of all is when their chapter is recognized with a Chapter Excellence Award (established in 1997). Chapters excelling in carrying out the Society’s mission may receive a Gold, Silver, Bronze, or Honorable Mention Award.

The Awards Luncheon is indeed a time of celebration. It is Xi State’s way to showcase jobs well done.

--Edna Clemons, Beta Zeta Chapter

RECOGNIZING EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE

The most prestigious honor presented at the state convention is the Xi State Achievement Award. Established in 1974, the award was first presented to the two living founders, Dr. Maycie K. Southall and Miss Mary Hall. After three years of honoring two members, the decision was made to present only one award each year.

Part of the excitement of the presentation is the tradition that the recipient’s identity be withheld until the announcement is made. On one occasion, the committee prowled the crowd looking for the recipient as clues were read. On another, all audience members were asked to stand and then to sit when clues were read that did not pertain to them. The delighted recipient was the last member standing. Whether the presentation is in the form of poetry, prose, or a skit, members of the audience are active participants as they try to determine the honoree’s identity. Whispers begin: “I bet it’s . . . .” When the recipient’s identity is finally revealed, the honoree receives a gold medallion to wear proudly, knowing that she has joined an elite group of women who have been recognized for exceptional service to Delta Kappa Gamma.

--Beverly Smith, Alpha Xi Chapter
**HONORING LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT**

The Presidents’ Banquet at Cravens Hall on Friday evening is a highlight of the state convention. Traditionally, it has been a time for formal evening attire as members gather to honor the Xi State president and chapter presidents.

Although the accepted attire has become more casual in recent years, the tradition of spotlighting chapter presidents remains the same. After the entry of the head-table dignitaries, chapter presidents are presented. In even-numbered years, both incoming and outgoing presidents are introduced. Incoming presidents are identified with a sash, and outgoing presidents carry a flag. Both sashes and flags bear the names of their chapters.

Following a meal at elegantly decorated tables, members enjoy music presented by the Xi State Chorus. Other highlights are the announcement of the Xi State Achievement Award recipient and an inspirational speech by the International representative. The banquet ends with the singing of “The Delta Kappa Gamma Song.”

Immediately following the banquet a reception is held in Lower Cravens Hall. It is a time for honoring Xi State officers, past state presidents, the International guest, and the newly named Xi State Achievement Award recipient. Delicious refreshments and genuine fellowship complete the evening.

--Miriam Bowman (AA), Gamma Gamma Chapter

**REMEMBERING THE INFLUENCE OF OTHERS**

Gothic arches, stained glass, flickering candles, silent tears, pipe organ, carillon, uplifted hands—these are images of the necrology service at Sewanee. Set in the university’s exquisite All Saints’ Chapel, this service makes a lasting impression on all who attend.

Early Xi State Conventions, in various locations, included a poorly attended necrology service because members departed early for home. During Gertrude Michael’s 1965-1967 biennium, Xi State moved the service to Saturday morning in All Saints’ Chapel, a setting inextricably linked with the ceremony.

Now called the Ceremony of Remembrance, the service begins with a solemn procession of officers, past presidents, Achievement Award recipients, and International guests while the notes of the pipe organ reverberate. The Membership Committee’s ceremony incorporates scriptural responses, beautiful music, and moving words of remembrance. As a white candle is lighted and each name is proclaimed, family and chapter members rise in silent tribute. After all have recessed from the chapel and formed a circle, “The Delta Kappa Gamma Song” rings out on the carillon. Contemplative, grateful, mournful, and glad, we join hands and experience the spiritual fellowship evoked by the familiar lyrics. With the concluding measure, we raise our hands aloft as the carillon’s final notes fade away.

--Dr. Dorrie Powell, Beta Sigma Chapter

**REFLECTING ON THE FOUNDERS; REACHING FOR THE FUTURE**

The Birthday Brunch, previously a luncheon, is an uplifting and joyous event—a time for featuring the past, present, and future. First held in Gailor Hall, the brunches are now held in Cravens Hall on Saturday morning following the Ceremony of Remembrance.

The Birthday Brunch honors our Founders. The program includes a presentation of interesting, inspirational facts about these dedicated educators. Past state presidents are introduced. First-time attendees are recognized. The Xi State Chorus sings. Amusing skits emphasize the importance of attending Society conferences and conventions. The biennial climax comes when the presiding president hands the gavel to the incoming president.

After singing “The Delta Kappa Gamma Song,” the convention ends with friends exchanging goodbyes and returning to their chapters with renewed enthusiasm captured from their mountaintop experience.

--Nancy Leach, Beta Phi Chapter
UNITING WOMEN IN GENUINE SPIRITUAL FELLOWSHIP

Xi State has long been known for its Southern hospitality. One of our traditions contributing to this perception is our Tennessee Breakfast held annually during the Southeast Regional Conference or the International Convention. Organized by the Xi State corresponding secretary, this early-morning event involves much more than food. Xi State members and invited guests, including many of our Society leadership, enjoy conversation and beautiful favors as well as singing and dancing. A highlight is our energetic rendition of “Rocky Top.”

One never knows who may drop in for this gathering. Some of our most famous guests making surprise appearances and sharing their talents have been Elvis Presley and Dolly Parton (also known as Vera Jo Henegar and Charlotte Cain). Several state breakfasts may be occurring at the same time, but there is never any question about the location of the Tennessee Breakfast. Even through closed doors, one cannot miss the sounds of love, laughter, and fellowship coming from the other side.

While our members are excited to work closely with other Delta Kappa Gamma members from around the world, we also appreciate sharing with others this special opportunity for “a genuine spiritual fellowship.”

--Becky Sadowski (SP, AA), Alpha Lambda Chapter
Section V

Professional/Personal Growth
The professional/personal growth articles in this section are evidence of Xi State’s focus on the Society’s mission: to promote professional and personal growth of women educators and excellence in education. Through their writings, the authors testify that Xi State members are encouraged to, and do, take advantage of growth opportunities offered at the chapter, state, and International levels. They tell of the exciting and beneficial growth experiences of individual women educators and some of their students from pre-school through college ages.

Some Xi State members have grown through the acceptance of new leadership roles at the chapter and state levels. Some have been inspired and coached by mentors. Others have benefited from conferences, seminars, scholarships, stipends, and project grants provided by Xi State, International, and their foundations. One writer was motivated by having a poem published in *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin*. Many have expressed gratitude for others’ interest and faith in them and for their colleagues’ nurturing and encouraging words and actions. These are only a small percentage of the total number of Xi State members who have grown professionally and personally through membership in Delta Kappa Gamma.

Although not all growth opportunities offered through our Society are mentioned in this section, many are. While reading the interesting experiences of others, both novice and veteran members may discover appealing opportunities and resources applicable to their needs and interests and be inspired to apply for them. Members also may be reminded of the importance of their individual and collective influence on the growth of their Delta Kappa Gamma sisters. By continuing to inform, encourage, and support each other, members can make a significant difference in the lives of other women educators and in education.
In November 2005, I was initiated into Beta Sigma Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma with a limited picture of the Society, a fuzzy awareness of its purposes, and little understanding of its workings. By June 2006, I had participated at the chapter level and was “volunteered” to lead a workshop at a Xi State Convention and again at the 2006 International Convention in San Diego. Would I have stepped out like this all on my own? Why, of course not.

When I think of Delta Kappa Gamma and its members, I think of the words nurturing and encouraging. At chapter, state, and International levels, I have met women who have encouraged my participation, expected my service, and expressed gratitude for my work.

Specifically, two members of my chapter, Dorrie Powell and Rachel Weir, have actively pushed me from my comfortable spot on the sidelines and watched me soar to new successes. They have encouraged me along the way to lead workshops, to serve on committees, and to attend leadership seminars. As a result of my participation, I have found rich fellowship, nurturing relationships, and deep friendships-in-the-making with women around the world.

I am experiencing and savoring the wonder and richness of Delta Kappa Gamma. The catalyst for my growth has been a core of women who, like a mother bird, simply would not let me rest comfortably in the nest.

--Nita Scott, Beta Sigma Chapter

Growth Rewards of Being a Chapter President

Alpha Sigma Chapter selected me as chapter president for the 2000-2002 biennium. I was honored that fellow members placed their faith in me, and their gesture challenged me to accept the responsibility.

The position helped me grow as a leader as I learned how to conduct meetings under the guidelines of the Society. What most endeared me to the ladies of Alpha Sigma was the graciousness and support that they gave me throughout my term as chapter president. Getting to know the members of my chapter and working with them to reach goals were life-changing experiences.

The leadership responsibility challenged me to grow in Delta Kappa Gamma beyond the chapter level. I attended Xi State Convention for the first time in 2000 and have continued to attend every year. At the state level, I have had the opportunity to serve Delta Kappa Gamma in many areas: e.g., Awards and Nominations Committees—once as chairman; Area IX Director for the 2007-2009 biennium. I am presently serving Xi State as Personnel Committee member. All of these responsibilities stem from having served as chapter president.

When I participated beyond chapter to state, regional, and International levels, I was even more proud to be a member of this International Society. I will continue to serve because of the support and confidence that my chapter always gives me.

--June Reasons, Alpha Sigma Chapter
**FRIENDSHIPS ACROSS THE BORDER**

To unite women educators of the world in a genuine spiritual fellowship

The first of the seven Purposes of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International became very personal to me when I met our International guest, Margot Salinez de Resendez, at the 2000 Xi State Convention. Since I am a Spanish teacher, she quickly got my attention by speaking Spanish during her opening remarks in Upper Cravens Hall. Someone asked for a translator, and I raised my hand to oblige.

All of Margo’s checked luggage had been lost by the airlines, so she and Jens Souders were sharing clothes for most of the weekend. Nonetheless, she kept her sense of humor about the entire wardrobe malfunction and made it a point to meet and greet as many Xi State sisters as possible.

When I discovered that Margot is from Monterrey, México, I asked if she knew a long-time teacher friend of mine, Cecilia Rodriguez. When Margot returned home, she invited Cecilia to attend a Delta Kappa Gamma meeting. Soon, Cecilia was invited to join the local chapter and has become very involved in the program of work of our Latin American sisters. She eventually became president of her chapter and most recently was elected executive secretary of Gamma State (Nuevo Leon). In 2009, she was invited to represent Gamma State at the 2009 Southwest Regional Conference. Next September, she will be an International speaker, sponsored by the International Speakers Fund, at Costa Rica’s Delta Kappa Gamma meeting.

The bonds of friendship within our sisterhood know no geographical boundaries.

--Mary Wadley, Beta Eta Chapter

**LIVES CHANGED BY TRAVEL**

Imagine being able to go to school half a day for half a year with only volunteer teachers. Imagine valuing education and cherishing the opportunities awarded to you as one of the privileged students. Imagine being a serious learner who leaves school in order to support the family by selling souvenirs at a roadside stand. These are the revealing images of teenagers’ lives in Siem Reap, Cambodia, that I gleaned while attending a teachers’ Global Conference in 2007.

Thanks to Delta Kappa Gamma’s Golden Gift Stipend, I was able to participate in the American Council for International Studies trip titled “Cities of Indochina.” In March 2007, seventeen Americans spent ten days visiting and photographing typical native routines and lifestyles. Though my visits to schools were limited to one area around Angkor Wat, the impression was vivid and lasting. Seeing school children in blue and white uniforms, riding three on a bicycle and jabbering enthusiastically as they returned home at noon after a day’s lesson, indelibly impressed my educator’s heart.

I was eager to share pictures and realia with my school population, our four local chapters, our state convention, and interested local groups. The interest level was keenly positive as my American audiences connected with the everyday dreams and struggles of people halfway across the world. Their vicarious visit was overwhelmingly supportive. The images of children, squinting to see, spirited a joint project with Lens Crafters through which Zeta members donated eyeglasses to be transported to Angkor Wat by visiting optometrists.

--Saralee Peccolo-Taylor, Zeta Chapter
A HESITANT PRESIDENT

Despite the fact that I had enjoyed serving my chapter as recording secretary and first vice-president, I was hesitant to accept the position of president. The women in my chapter are brilliant leaders in education and in Xi State. In my job, they are my supervisors, my mentors, and my heroes. How could I possibly lead a group of such accomplished women when, in reality, I look to them for inspiration and guidance?

However, when I attended the Xi State Officers’ Training on April 11 and 12, 2008, in Brentwood, many of my fears were relieved. I remember the words of Xi State President Nancy Davis, stressing repeatedly that we can always ask for help, that there are no silly questions, and that we are “all in this together.” The more I listened to the Xi State officers give suggestions and ideas, the better I felt about my ability to serve my chapter.

As I worked through my first year as president, I did ask for help—from past Beta Epsilon presidents, from Nancy Davis, from Area Director Judy Jackson, and from various Xi State committee chairs. I was amazed at how quickly everyone responded with exactly what I needed. I could not have made it though the year without them. More importantly, I was always surrounded by supportive, encouraging ladies in my chapter. I gained new friendships, invaluable experience, and deeper appreciation for all that Delta Kappa Gamma has to offer. It was a year of memories that I shall always treasure.

--Anne Mayes, Beta Epsilon Chapter

MY FIRST CHRISTMAS AS AREA II DIRECTOR

It was the fourth day of December 2008, and this school day began in the usual manner. However, as the day began to wind down and evening settled in, I became more and more anxious: I was scheduled to attend my first meeting as Area II Director along with Xi State President Nancy Davis. We were visiting the Alpha Epsilon Chapter in Oak Ridge that night.

When I arrived, President Davis was already there. It was reassuring to see a familiar face. Everyone was extremely friendly, and I knew instantly that I was among friends. As we mingled and talked with each other, I found myself enlightened by every conversation. Each lady had something interesting to share about Delta Kappa Gamma. I began to realize that being an area director is definitely a learning experience and you can take something valuable away from each meeting.

After saying my goodbyes and traveling home on that December night, it occurred to me that a tremendous amount of growth had taken place in a short time. From that meeting I gained the courage and the confidence that I needed to visit with my chapters without being anxious about what was expected of me. I knew that I would be greeted with open arms and treated like family from that moment on.

--Pam Jefferies, Beta Phi Chapter
"WOMEN TEACHERS TO THE CALLING"

The year was 1967. The Delta Kappa Gamma initiation ceremony was the first time I had heard these words to this song: “Women teachers, to the calling / Firmly rally, never falling . . . .”

A few weeks earlier, I had received an official invitation. Mrs. Sarah Moss, a highly respected teacher, had contacted me. However, she was not a close acquaintance, nor was she someone who taught across the hall from me. I was so honored when she informed me that she had nominated me for membership to Alpha Eta, the Delta Kappa Gamma chapter for Union City, Obion, Lake, and Weakley counties, and the women educators of the University of Tennessee at Martin.

A practice took place so that the initiation would be perfect, and so it was. I recall the elegant brass bowl containing the one dozen, long-stemmed, crimson-colored roses. I can still see the three glowing candles and the tables set for a wonderful dinner to follow the initiation. It was truly a night of candlelight and professional inspiration.

I realized I was in the midst of many of Northwest Tennessee’s key women teachers. I exited the hotel dining room humming: “Women teachers, to the calling / Firmly rally, never falling, / Duty ne’er upon us palling, / Staunch, courageous we!”

Today in 2009 as an active member of Alpha Eta Chapter, I am still humming that tune.

--Ann M. Moore, Alpha Eta Chapter

PRIDE AND PASSION

Just being a member of Theta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma has been a growth experience for me. Before joining, I led a full life as an active church member, wife, mother, and teacher; I did not have time for even one more obligation.

When approached again by a colleague about the benefits of membership, I mentioned this to my family. My youngest son, Austin, remarked that he did not know how I could refuse, that this was my opportunity to actually do something for myself. Soon I was accepted into the Theta Chapter and became immersed in the philosophy of “women teachers to the calling, firmly rally, never falling,” as our song so beautifully expresses.

The 2007 Xi State Convention at Sewanee was truly a “mountaintop experience” for me. I was amazed at the quality of professional development ideas that I could take back to the classroom. However, the most impressive aspect of my first experience at Sewanee was the pride exhibited toward our profession, both in manner and dress. How humbled I felt at each ceremony, imagining the painstaking planning and efforts behind each ritual. Pride for my vocation stirred within me, particularly at the Ceremony of Remembrance.

Delta Kappa Gamma has rejuvenated my passion for teaching. Educators tend to work long hours for our students, truly reaping the fruits of our labors when we are energized. I have gained wisdom from my sister teachers who have helped me realize that we grow best when we are united and uplifting one another.

--Melinda Carol, Theta Chapter
TALE-WAGGIN’ TEACHERS:
MOTIVATING A MEMBER TO FOLLOW A DREAM

As an elementary school counselor in Cleveland, Tennessee, I wanted to write a book that would assist me in teaching character education lessons. Hoping to find help with the publishing expense, I applied for the 2007 Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award and, to my surprise, I received it!

My book, Character Tales: Learning to Respect the Rules, was the finished product. The book is a true story of my two dogs and their experience of being lost and finding their way home. It is used statewide to teach children in elementary schools the importance of rules and why we must follow them. Developing the book took time, patience, and courage; it was an amazing journey.

Attending the Awards Luncheon at Xi State to receive the check was a moment of pride—not just for my accomplishment, but for being part of a caring group. That first year, I met new friends whose warmth I will never forget. The next year, I was asked to present a workshop on the book at the Xi State Convention. It was exciting to share my adventure and to encourage others to step out and follow their dreams. I have received great support from sisters at Xi State.

Thank you, Xi State Vision Foundation, for this award, which has opened many doors. I have made presentations at workshops statewide and even presented at the Tennessee School Board Convention. Xi State and this award helped make all this possible. --Amy Elmore Hicks, Lambda Chapter

SPINNING WEBS ON HALLOWEEN

I arrived at the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT) in Cullowhee, North Carolina, on October 31, 2008. This beautiful setting in the colorful mountains of western North Carolina is where I attended the Delta Kappa Gamma Newsletter/Website Camp for two days. Held on Halloween weekend, the camp taught me many “tricks” for improving newsletters/websites and offered many “treats” of fun-filled opportunities to meet new people.

At the camp, I reviewed grammar rules and photography guidelines. Most of my time, however, was spent learning about website design. Our instructor for the “Spinning Webs” course was Judy Cross, the Xi State webmaster. Judy wove us through the process of creating a web page, including web page etiquette, vocabulary, and maintenance of a website. I had a chance to put all of these skills into practice by actually creating a web page during the camp. Judy masterfully guided her students through production of our designs, even though most of us began with very little prior knowledge about how to develop a web page.

The Newsletter Camp participants wrote their camp newsletter, titled “Tricks of the Trade,” in which I was quoted: “I’m so excited to experiment with what I have learned.” I was surprised that I had learned so much in that short amount of time. Halloween weekends can sometimes be scary, but for me in 2008, the days were fun and informative. --Kay Porter, Pi Chapter
A TRANSFORMED MEMBER

Little did I know when I accepted an invitation to join Beta Beta Chapter of Xi State in 1978 that my shy nature would experience a transformation. I attended chapter meetings regularly, but was not actively involved. At the urging of my friends Avilee Galloway and Betty Jackson, I attended my first state convention in the late 1980s and was hooked! Though I loved the convention, my subsequent activity in the chapter remained limited to committees.

In 1988 when Betty became chapter president, I was asked to become the chapter treasurer. With this chapter responsibility, my metamorphosis began to take place. Six years later, as the 1994-1996 chapter president, I became more consistently involved in Xi State and International.

At the 1994 Delta Kappa Gamma International Convention in Nashville, volunteers were needed to escort the International officers at their installation. I volunteered myself and other members of Beta Beta. It was my privilege to escort incoming International President Dr. Irene Murphy during the installation ceremony. Members of my chapter quip, “Stay away from Mona, or she will volunteer you.”

Because of my friends’ encouragement, my professional and personal life has grown through Delta Kappa Gamma leadership experiences. I have progressed from little involvement to chapter president, from chapter committees to state committees (serving as Expansion Chairman and a member of others).

With the help of my friends, I have become a leader. Although Avilee Galloway is no longer with us, I shall always remember and treasure her role in my transformation.

--Ramona Justice, Beta Beta Chapter

ME AND MY SHADOW

Pat Morrow was a person who commanded attention by her presence. My professional growth was impacted by her enthusiasm and dedication to Delta Kappa Gamma, my efforts for the Society by her personal and professional influence. Pat was totally committed to improving educational opportunities for all women. After my initiation, I traveled often to Xi State and Regional/International meetings with her. As Pat’s shadow, my efforts (behind the scenes and unknown to most) often enabled Pat to assume her leadership roles effectively: e.g., chairing the 1994 International Convention Steering Committee at Opryland.

Encouragement from Pat to be active in professional organizations motivated me to develop and refine my leadership skills. I served my chapter as membership chair, president, nomination chair, and historian. I quickly moved into active roles with the Society at the state level: e.g., chairing the Leadership Development Committee, which planned both the Leadership/Management Seminar and the Advanced Seminar for two bienniums.

As an Alpha Psi Chapter member, I grew and developed leadership skills, enabling me to train potential teachers more competently. Pat modeled high expectations from which I was able to profit as an individual and a professional educator. As a result, I have successfully led various and numerous seminars and workshops on growth and leadership.

Knowing the value of continued professional growth, I attempt to provide similar opportunities for others to shadow a professional. As I teach and mentor beginning teachers, I try to model daily the basic principles learned through the examples of great Delta Kappa Gamma Society members such as Pat Morrow.

--Joyce Brackett, Alpha Psi Chapter
IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Being spotlighted at the 1988 Xi State Convention was an unforgettable experience. When I looked out over the audience, my first thought was about what an honor it was to be on that stage with the other recognized members. Then I felt that I did not belong because I had not done all the wonderful things they had; nor had I been a member as long as they. Having been nominated by my Beta Mu Chapter sisters, I wanted to live up to their faith in me and to make my chapter proud. Until then, I only participated in my local chapter.

This spotlight recognition inspired me to become a more active member in my chapter and to attend more meetings beyond the local level. Since that time, I have served as chapter president and am currently the chapter treasurer. Deciding to become more active at the state level, I began to volunteer to serve on state committees. Through my committee work, I gained many new friends and learned to work out of my comfort zone on many occasions. I grew in confidence and developed better communication skills through these activities. I even conquered my fear of public speaking by reading the names at the Ceremony of Remembrance one year.

Attendance and participation at Xi State Conventions from 1988-2007 certainly contributed to my professional and personal growth. Although my husband’s health has prevented my recent attendance, I am grateful for the Spotlight Award that motivated me to become a more involved member.

--Diane Vernon, Beta Mu Chapter

GROWTH AS SPECIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Serving as the 2007-2009 Xi State Special Events Committee chairman helped me grow professionally and personally. Not having served previously on a state committee, I was given incredible support by members--both in my local chapter, Beta Omega, and at the state level.

My first challenge was to make arrangements for another printing of iris note paper. Since no money was budgeted for this project, I contacted several state-level leaders—the president, treasurer, Finance Committee chairman, and previous Special Events Committee chairmen—for information. Each one went “the extra mile” to help me. Several phone calls and e-mails later, money was allotted, and I was given permission to proceed with negotiations with the printing company. By that time, the company’s original quotation was no longer valid. Since prices had risen, I ordered less paper. Finally, on the first day of my spring break in April 2008, my long-suffering husband drove me 100 miles to the printer in Bartlett, Tennessee, to pick up twenty-four cases of iris note paper.

Throughout the eight months that it took to climb my mountain and reach my goal, my Xi State sisters were patient, kind, and encouraging all along the way. As my budgeting and negotiating skills grew during this time, so did my confidence. I now serve as the Box Tops for Education coordinator at our school. With this experience, I look forward to serving Delta Kappa Gamma again at the chapter and state levels.

--Peggy Finch, Beta Omega Chapter
THE LUCILE CORNETET AWARD: A PASSPORT TO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

The Lucile Cornetet Award for Professional Development was awarded to me so that I could attend the 2008 annual American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) Conference in New York City.

Here is the story. In 2006, I attended the AACTE Conference and met a group of professors who taught online courses. This group invited me to write a proposal to present for the 2007 AACTE Conference. I developed two proposals. One proposal was for the symposium on “Building a Consensus on the Assessment of Online Learning in Teacher Education.” The second proposal was for the interactive dialogue on “Strengthening and Enhancing Online Teacher Education Programs: A 2007 Review.”

Both proposals were accepted. When we conducted our presentations at the 2008 AACTE Conference, the response was very positive with good discussions and interactions afterward. As a result, I am collaborating on a publication with professors across the country. Additionally, my paper that I presented at the AACTE Conference was published in the fall 2008 issue of the peer-reviewed journal, Tennessee Educational Leadership.

With the funds for the Cornetet Award, I was able to pay for many of the expenses I incurred while traveling to New York City. Diminished funding resources for conference costs make such Delta Kappa Gamma awards even more attractive to members. Becoming involved at a national level can make a positive significant difference in an educator’s professional life.

--Dr. Denise P. Dunbar, Alpha Nu Chapter

MIRACLE IN THE MAILBOX

Two of my most humbling and awesome Delta Kappa Gamma moments occurred while I stood at my mailbox. On March 15, 2008, I received a letter from Sandra Juarez, Xi State Scholarship Committee chairman, awarding me the Xi State Maycie K. Southall Scholarship. I was in shock as I processed this incredible news. I think my neighbors were really concerned, seeing me in the middle of my driveway holding a letter and shaking like a leaf.

A few weeks later, on April 18, I received a “fat” envelope from Headquarters in Austin, Texas. Once again I stood in my driveway while I opened a letter awarding me the Lettie P. Trefz Scholarship from International. I began to cry and stood immobile for a few seconds. Again, I couldn’t believe I had been chosen; this was a dream come true. When I finally calmed down, I realized that I no longer had to take out loans to finish my doctoral degree. At last, my dreams were within my financial grasp. It was overwhelming, to say the least.

Today, I am more knowledgeable in the field of education because of classes funded by my scholarships. Most important, I am more appreciative of my “gifts” of support, courage, and wisdom received through relationships within Delta Kappa Gamma. Words cannot begin to convey how important the women of our Society have been to me since I began my quest to complete the doctoral degree. --Marsha H. Rains, Omega Chapter
MY GIFT OF GOLD

In 2006, I was one of thirty applicants selected to participate in The Delta Kappa Gam-
ma Society’s International Golden Gift Leadership/Management Seminar. My heart was
pounding and my knees were weak as I read my acceptance letter. Then I laughed and cried
at the same time.

Arriving in Austin, Texas, on June 25, I was met by a Delta Kappa Gamma sister from
Texas and whisked off to San Jacinto Residence Hall on the University of Texas campus.
There I joined twenty-nine amazing Delta Kappa Gamma sisters from six countries who
were also seminar participants. Thus began the most rewarding personal and professional
two weeks I could ever imagine.

More than twenty sessions were presented by twelve outstanding speakers over the two weeks. The sessions
were intense and interesting, covering many aspects of leadership. Time flew. A visit to International Headquar-
ters was just one of the many highlights. Participants also had time for fun, sharing, and bonding. Living and
working so closely together helped us to form lasting friendships and become “The Golden Roses.”

Since 2006, I have successfully served as Xi State corresponding secretary and Leadership Development
Committee co-chair. I am now Xi State recording secretary and county chair of the Democratic Party. Participat-
ing in the Golden Gift Leadership/Management Seminar provided me with skills to become a better leader in
the Society, in my community, and in my profession as an adult education supervisor.

--Mary Evelyn Perkinson, Gamma Zeta Chapter

GROWTH IN A DIFFERENTIATED MANNER

In June 2009, prior to the state convention, the Xi State Vision Foundation sponsored a
seminar on differentiated instruction led by one of our own, Dr. Rita King. Thirty members
from across Tennessee were able to participate at no cost.

Differentiated instruction is a buzz word often heard, but seldom demonstrated in an eas-
ily managed way—that is, until Rita came along. Dr. King gave an all-day workshop filled
with hands-on activities. The participants learned how to pre-assess an entire class in just
minutes. Dr. King gave examples of how to write lesson plans for each level of learner with-
out getting overwhelmed. Each person participated in these activities throughout the day.

Activity-filled packets were used, including written instructions for each activity. Every idea came from
one of the books co-authored by Dr. King and Carolyn Chapman. At the conclusion of the workshop, each
participant was allowed to choose one of these books, depending on her area of interest. I chose Differentiated
Assessment Strategies: One Tool Doesn’t Fit All.

These ideas will be wonderful in my gifted classroom. I have already contacted my cohort, and we have be-
gun creating lesson plans to include many of the ideas from the workshop strategies and materials. I even tried
out a few of these ideas during Vacation Bible School with great success. Because of the professional growth
opportunity provided by the Xi State Vision Foundation and Dr. Rita King, I feel far more prepared to meet the
different needs of my students.

--Leigh Anne Durham, Kappa Chapter
In October 2007, I received an e-mail from a representative at Staff Development for Educators (SDE) asking me to submit a presentation for the First Grade Conference to be held in San Antonio, Texas, in July 2008. I thought, “What an honor to be asked to present at a national conference!” SDE would pay the registration costs for me to attend the four days, but I would be responsible for flight and hotel expenses. I wasn’t sure how I would come up with that kind of money. That was when Xi State President Elaine Warwick suggested that I apply for the Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award.

I was so excited when I boarded Southwest Airlines for San Antonio on July 19. The moment had come. My math presentation was one of the first ones on Monday morning. Forty participants were present to find out how to integrate math into a thematic science unit on the frog habitat.

At this conference, I also attended many informative sessions and returned with fresh ideas to implement in my classroom and share with colleagues. One of those ideas was how to initiate an individualized spelling program in my second-grade room. This year that strategy delighted my parents and other staff members. Now the second-grade team has requested my assistance in helping them establish this curriculum change.

I am very appreciative of the opportunity this award afforded me to grow personally and professionally.

--Carolyn Bingham, Rho Chapter

Splash! I had said “Yes” (the recommended response for all Delta Kappa Gamma members) and jumped into the chapter “pond” as social chairman. Could I really manage this responsibility? How could I make each meeting’s refreshments special? Would I receive help? I had taken the plunge and said “Yes.” I must dig into the depths of my inner resources and follow through. All my sisters graciously assisted, and they encouraged and complimented ME for my creativity and organization.

My next plunge was into a “lake.” Would you be second vice-president? Gulp! Splash, splash! “Yes.” What have I done? Can I plan orientation, reorientation, the initiation ceremony and banquet? With the confidence gained from my previous chairmanship, I expanded skills I already had in order to fulfill these new expectations.

Surely I had reached the pinnacle of my talents, hadn’t I? No. Splash, splash, kerplunk: right into the “river” as first vice-president with responsibilities for preparing the yearbook and directing program planning. I had grown personally from my two previous offices and by attending officers’ training and our leadership seminar. I fulfilled the requirements of first vice-president with a sense of confidence: “I CAN do this!”

What next? It was a high dive into the “ocean” as chapter president: a daunting job. With the knowledge, confidence, and skills I had gained from previous Delta Kappa Gamma leadership opportunities, I was able to swim-- not sink-- in this “ocean” of responsibility.

I encourage each sister to take the plunge when asked. You will surprise yourself by what you will gain and give.

--Marilyn Shaver, Phi Chapter
**Life from My Kitchen Window**

Since my departure from the classroom, I have adopted a more leisurely morning routine. Gradually rising a little later, I usually prepare my breakfast at the kitchen window facing the street. From there, I have a clear view of the comprehensive high school across the way. Every morning starting at about 6:40, bevis of school buses pull in and deposit their loads of students at the front doors. Ordinarily, this procedure does not take long.

After a period of observing this occurrence during the school year, I was motivated to write a poem about the priceless cargo of the school buses, which I titled “The Behemoths.” Having read bulletin-submission guidelines, I submitted it to *The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin: International Journal for Professional Educators* in the summer of 2008. I was elated to see “The Behemoths” published in the 2009 Winter issue of the *Bulletin*.

Subsequently, I have been encouraged to continue my writing efforts, which began in a creative writing class at the Retirement Learning Center at Vanderbilt University. The recognition by the *Bulletin* has stimulated me to “put on paper” other incidents relating to my educational background and experiences that will preserve information for my family.

My most recent endeavor is “Dispossessed,” depicting squirrels frantically leaving their home when the huge oak tree in my front yard was condemned and taken down. I now realize that my forte is writing about what I see or know, and I am grateful to Delta Kappa Gamma for helping to make this a reality.

--Marion Pickering Couch, Beta Chapter

**Benefits of the Lucile Cornetet Award for College Students**

In 2005, I received the Lucile Cornetet Award for Professional Development to attend the Mazza Institute at the University of Findlay in Findlay, Ohio. The Mazza Institute is a week-long experience of intensive education in the art of children’s books. The Institute hosts outstanding illustrators of children’s books who discuss and demonstrate their work in both large- and small-group sessions.

This experience was helpful to me since I teach children’s literature to college students who are preparing to teach. It is challenging to keep abreast of new works, current trends, and the careers of well-known artists and authors. The Mazza Institute, along with the Mazza Museum—the largest gallery of original art from children’s books—provides educators from around the world an opportunity to stay current in this field.

Insights gained at the Mazza Institute continue to enrich my classes. I am able to share information about such artists as Tomie de Paolo, Alexandra Day, and Rosemary Wells with immediacy and insight. I can tell students about Day’s real-life dog, Carl (who is the inspiration for her Carl series), since Carl was part of our conference and even stayed in our hotel. I can incorporate insights about Tomie de Paolo’s art and his recent autobiographical work. Being able to meet these authors and others, share meals with them, and ask questions added personal pleasure. How grateful I am to Delta Kappa Gamma for this opportunity; I use what I learned that week in each children’s literature class that I teach.

--Dr. Victoria L. Barker, Alpha Zeta Chapter
FROM BUD TO BLOOM:
NEW GROWTH AFTER RETIREMENT

In March 2008, I was elected president of Beta Gamma Chapter. Newly retired, I was to experience an unexpected growth spurt. Like a climbing rose, I was to climb and bloom anew. Fed by a sustaining relationship with Dr. Alicia Tilley (who had been guided by International Founders after joining Alpha Chapter, Texas, in 1942, and who persevered to become the first female academic dean at Memphis State University), I began to grow. In conversations with me, Dr. Tilley recounted the past, yet predicted a bright future, stressing “discovery and openness to new ideas.” Her inspiration has been steadfast and grounded in promise.

Only as the bud sheds its protective coating does the flower peek out. Following New Officers’ Training in April 2008, I returned to my chapter extolling thrival, not mere survival. I flourished as a flag bearer at my first Xi State Convention in 2008. Evidencing new growth, I then graduated from both the Leadership/Management and Advanced Leadership Seminars, recognizing communication as integral to connectivity. Leading a workshop at the state convention was really a blossoming experience for me. As current president-elect of the Memphis/Shelby County Coordinating Council and 2009-2013 Xi State Finance Committee member, I will strive to cultivate the mission of the Society.

Retirement left much security behind, bringing challenges to act anew. Through the support of Dr. Tilley and other nurturers, I climbed to new heights. Strengthened, I am on my way to blooming as a Society leader.

--Carol Moling, Beta Gamma Chapter

MEMORABLE MOMENTS IN DELTA KAPPA GAMMA

For me personally, attending the Xi State Conventions has afforded me the personal and professional growth opportunities that have made me the educator I am today. I am certain the Founders would be extremely proud of the workshops that I have attended that have enabled me to be the Humboldt Teacher of the Year. The professional growth opportunities I experienced each June at Sewanee meant that I was energized and organized for the new school year long before August appeared on my calendar. I also experienced personal growth from attending the various workshops and collaborating with Tennessee teachers while at the conventions.

Watching the leaders of Xi State conduct the business of the organization and manage forums on current issues in education at the conventions gave me the tools I needed to be a leader in my local chapter, in my church, and in my community. I have served as the regent for my local National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution chapter, on various church committees, and on the local library board.

Xi State Conventions have provided the most memorable moments in my personal and professional experience in Delta Kappa Gamma. Convention attendance for more than thirty years has made me the woman I am today, personally and professionally.

--Pat Barnett, Tau Chapter
ENHANCING IDEAS AND POSSIBILITIES THROUGH INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

A
fter being nominated and issued an invitation to attend the People-to-People Ambassador Program for the 2006 U.S.-China Joint Education Conference as a U.S. delegate, I was overwhelmed by the possibilities and opportunities afforded me. As soon as I received permission from my school system, plans began to unfold for this awesome experience. Although preliminaries were obtainable within the deadlines, getting the financial support was more difficult. My attitude was to forge ahead, hoping the money would become available.

After budgeting and self-sacrificing, I learned from our Alpha Pi president about the Lucile Cornetet Professional Development Award for financial assistance through The Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation. I was thrilled when my application was accepted; the award supplemented my budget needs.

My unbelievable journey, from Los Angeles to Beijing, China, began on November 10, 2006. As a teacher of gifted students, I had opportunities to visit elementary school gifted programs, interact with students and professional peers, and share ideas and methods needed to meet the needs of this student population.

Following my return home on November 18, 2006, I taught my students about the Chinese students, language, currency, and the history of the country. I also shared with fourth- and fifth-grade students at the other elementary school in my system. Invitations to present programs in the community (e.g., the Coffee County Retired Teachers Association, Lions Club, church groups, Rotary International, Alpha Pi Chapter, and Xi State Convention workshops) were added blessings of sharing.

--Carmen Morrell, Alpha Pi Chapter
2000: A Watershed Year

Memories of the year 2000 consist of either reflections from the nonevent of Y2K or of the historic Supreme-Court-decided election of George Bush. It was definitely a watershed year. However, for me what stands out most is my being tapped to direct Tennessee Night at the 2001 Southeast Regional Conference in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Though I had been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma for 22 years, I had never served beyond the chapter level. Through the persuasion of Barbara Northcut and Jens Souders, chapter sisters and 2001 Southeast Regional Conference planning leaders, I accepted a new role.

As I began to carry out plans for the Tennessee Night entertainment, I remember feeling almost overwhelmed at the prospect of carrying out such a daunting task. However, in Delta Kappa Gamma, one presses forward—there is no room for stumbling. I simply borrowed from the bold leadership styles of my Delta Kappa Gamma sisters (especially Barbara and Jens) and focused on completing the task at hand.

On that special night, hearing the thunderous applause of the attendees, I accredited the sense of accomplishment that I felt to those who came before me. The opportunity to be put through the fire and not be annihilated was uniquely mine in Delta Kappa Gamma. That opportunity had made 2000 a watershed year for me.

--Susie Westbrook, Alpha Phi Chapter

Accomplished Leaders Sharing Successful Strategies

Working with members of Delta Kappa Gamma sets the stage for perfection in any undertaking. With an abundance of style, grace, talent, wisdom, experience, and energy, combined with a commitment to quality, these educators can address any challenge. Practical learning with other enthusiastic educators is such a rewarding experience.

Montgomery Bell State Park, March 2001, was the site of a Leadership/Management Seminar planned by the Xi State Leadership Development Committee. It was an honor to be selected to attend, and all the entertaining activities were beneficial beyond the weekend. Proven leadership strategies were presented without charge to the thirty attendees. Phenomenal preparation and organization were demonstrated by the six presenters. Participants worked in groups with others of limitless talents and potential, utilizing organizational patterns with broad problem-solving application. Role-playing challenges were presented to generate on-the-spot creative thinking. Each participant received a valuable notebook designed for classroom use.

In my current position as university mentor of student teachers, I strive to help them envision their classroom possibilities. Many of the strategies used in this seminar are applicable in a beginning teacher’s class. They enhance instruction and increase student engagement in discussions. Using organizational patterns to stretch the imaginations of students provides opportunities for successful group work. Indeed, knowledge and skills gained from the seminar have been invaluable to me and my students.

--Brenda Oldham, Beta Upsilon Chapter
Journey of Learning

Even though I was a new Delta Kappa Gamma member, I already understood that we should say “yes” when asked to serve. In the summer of 2000, I received a request that I chair the Communications Committee and, as such, be responsible for our newsletter, Alpha Alpha Bits. I had not chaired a committee or held an office yet, but naively agreed to a long journey.

The journey started with regional training and a newsletter workshop taught by Dr. Jens Souders at Walters State Community College. I began learning as soon as our caravan left Bristol to attend the regional meeting. That day I met many people and learned much, coming away with skills and enough confidence to produce a newsletter. Thus, the real journey commenced.

The experienced chapter members supported me and generously gave me information monthly for my endeavors. With the publication of each newsletter, I was bathed in encouragement and kudos. I learned about Delta Kappa Gamma’s history and mission, about Xi State’s history and pride, and about Alpha Alpha’s regional history and the people.

This experience has made me a better professional through leadership roles, creative efforts, and connections with impressive people. My writing and technology skills have been greatly enhanced. As I still contribute to our chapter’s Communication Committee, I continue the journey in developing my professional skills, strengths, and confidence.

--Teresa Young, Alpha Alpha Chapter

Meaningful Community Involvement for Retired Educator

Retirement seemed real in the fall of 2006, when many of my friends went back to the classroom and I did not. While looking for ways to make a positive contribution in my community, I became a volunteer for Read To Succeed, a literacy organization that serves Rutherford County.

Reading in the Schools Day is a signature event for Read To Succeed, bringing volunteer readers on a Friday in September to read in every classroom from pre-school through grade five in the Rutherford County and Murfreesboro City school systems. It is followed by the Reading Rally, a partnership with local libraries, to create a free family event. I coordinated both events along with the Read To Succeed staff.

In 2007, I applied for and received a Vision Foundation Project Grant to purchase supplies for both events. Funds were used to buy reward stickers and balloons with the Read To Succeed logo and to rent costumes of popular children’s characters. Posters were printed publicizing the Reading Rallies. A large banner was purchased to suspend over Main Street in Murfreesboro, giving dates and times for the Reading Rallies. Volunteer readers read to more than 24,000 children in classrooms, and more than 3,000 attended the rallies.

I am pleased that I was able to touch so many children in my county through my membership in Delta Kappa Gamma. The Vision Foundation resources helped me reach into the classrooms and homes of all children in my county.

--Sandra Pineault, Beta Epsilon Chapter
admired society members who inspired professionalism

From the time I first heard from my aunt about Delta Kappa Gamma, I have been inspired by its members for their professionalism. Paulette Crews, my aunt and member of Gamma Alpha Chapter, was the epitome of a true professional educator. Her dedication to students as a high school English teacher, librarian, and guidance counselor was unending.

Now as an Alpha Epsilon Chapter member, I associate with many other professional educators whose enthusiasm and thirst for knowledge in their current positions, or as retirees, also inspire me. Like my aunt, they model the drive of a professional educator: e.g., Mary Jane Williams and her passion for literacy with our Read-to-Me program, through which books are given to new mothers in the hospital; Bonnie Hedrick and her guidance with our Grant-in-Aid scholarship, offered to a future female educator.

Recognizing the high professional standards set by these and other Society members, I have accepted the challenge of working with the finances of our chapter. As chapter treasurer and Finance Committee chairman, I have worked to guide our chapter in providing the needed money to encourage women in their educational and professional endeavors. I find it very rewarding to be a part of a support system that allows present and future teachers to be successful professionals.

--Greta Hensley, Alpha Epsilon Chapter

grant writing after retirement

After retiring in 2002, I looked forward to leisurely days of reading, reflecting, and writing. Those plans changed when I was cajoled into beginning the Train Stop Storytelling Festival of Maury County Park in Columbia. I accepted the chairperson’s role with the promise that I would have no fundraising responsibilities. After my committee had met, employed nationally known storytellers, rented a tent, and circulated early publicity, the county tourism director reported that there were no funds available.

My action plan was clear. I would call on my Beta Rho sisters who know that storytelling is a concomitant skill for literacy. Through individual contributions and support from First Farmers and Merchants Bank, the show went on. Yet I needed to be more resourceful if the festival were to be continued.

While searching the Delta Kappa Gamma website, I found information about the Educational Foundation’s Project Grants. Honing my writing skills, I wrote about the need to promote literacy through our storytelling festival. Although I had never written a grant, I learned that following instructions and writing precisely can yield results.

In four of the last five years, the Educational Foundation has generously supported our annual festival with a total of $11,000. A retired English teacher, I have grown through grant writing. Beta Rho Chapter has greater community visibility with a clearly defined annual project. More important, thousands of students and hundreds of teachers have experienced an outstanding event at no cost.

Through its Project Grants, The Delta Kappa Gamma Educational Foundation has been instrumental in establishing a Middle Tennessee tradition—the Train Stop Storytelling Festival.

--Sheila Hickman, Beta Rho Chapter
Section VI

DELTA KAPPA GAMMA MEMORIES
INTRODUCTION: DELTA KAPPA GAMMA MEMORIES

Xi State members from Mountain City to Memphis have shared their interesting and entertaining Delta Kappa Gamma memories. There is a memory about Xi State’s connection with Founder Annie Webb Blanton through a gold bracelet. There are ones about secured keys and lost rules, shoes and no shoes, anxiety and comfort, and sadness and joy. There are memories of meaningful chapter programs and purposeful projects—about ceremonies and celebrations.

The anecdotes included in this section reveal Xi State members’ experiences with genuine spiritual fellowship: e.g., friendships, camaraderie, belonging, dedication, love, admiration, appreciation, encouragement, support, cooperativeness. These relationships, emotions, and practices create a unity that permits individuals and groups to do their best work in furthering our Society’s mission. The memories give evidence of the immeasurable value of Delta Kappa Gamma membership realized by many Tennessee educators.

Designations following name of author:  
SP = State President, AA = Achievement Award Recipient, 
SRD = Southeast Regional Director, IFVP = International First Vice-President
Dr. Annie Webb Blanton’s Achievement Award Presented to International

Dr. Maycie K. Southall (State Founder, State President 1935-38, and National President 1938-40) for many years wore the first National Achievement Award, a gold bracelet originally presented to Dr. Annie Webb Blanton. Dr. Blanton chose Dr. Southall to receive it upon her death. When she was ninety-four, Dr. Southall presented it to Xi State. Imagine our awe as we passed the precious artifact around! It was placed into a shadow box and, as Xi State President, I presented it to the International President at the 1990 International Convention. The bracelet now resides in a cabinet in the Blanton Room at Headquarters.

--Dr. Willene Paxton (SP, AA), Gamma Chapter

Dr. Annie Webb Blanton Remembered
Excerpt from taped interview of Louise Oakley at 88 years of age
by Dee Dee Rives and LaVonne Scott, Theta Chapter, October 1997

I went to the National Convention held in Asheville, North Carolina, while Dr. Annie Webb Blanton was visiting. She was a little woman, short in stature, and very demanding. She wanted everything so-so. We were the hostesses and had to stay up until 2 a.m. polishing the glasses. She wanted every speck off the glasses. She wanted it perfect. It was an outstanding convention. I will never forget seeing her preside. She was certainly able to follow through with the work that she did. She was certainly a person that was capable.

--Louise Oakley (SP, AA), Theta Chapter

Our Trip to the Mountain

Each year dedicated Omicron members make our annual trip to the Mountain for the Xi State Convention. At times we are laughing so hard that it is not safe to drive. Sometimes we just need to share our troubles or successes in a group therapy setting. We also take time for a little shopping trip: “How does this look on me?” Oh, yes: We must not forget our favorite little restaurants that hurl diets out the window and the delicious snacks that we share on the way! When the time comes for Friday night’s banquet, we are wondering whether we can get into our dresses.

--Gail Walker, Omicron Chapter

The Birthday Cake

What a privilege it is to be a member of Alpha Tau Chapter—a chapter blessed with wonderful women who have contributed to our Society. Being able to sit at the feet of those who have gone before us and listen to their stories is indeed inspirational. One of those members, Alyse Morton, was very active in Xi State, having served as president. She liked to tell the story of going to Sewanee for the annual Xi State Convention—on a bus—with the birthday cake for the Birthday Luncheon on her lap. What a precious memory to be able to pass on to others.

--Elaine Alexander, Alpha Tau Chapter
MY FIRST XI STATE CONVENTION

I attended the 2007 Xi State Convention with lots of family worries. My younger daughter had had a rough pregnancy and could deliver my grandson at any time. I shared this at the “first-timers” meeting and apologized for having a cell phone attached and on. From that moment, Xi State members gave me words of encouragement and support. Fortunately, I was able to attend the entire meeting without disruption. The care shown me during that convention caused me to understand the bond that can be shared by Xi State sisters.

--Harriet King, Beta Chi Chapter

XI STATE CONVENTION ICEBREAKER

My first visit to a Xi State Convention was most memorable. I traveled with Debbie Sides, Epsilon Chapter president. The drive from Memphis was uneventful until we passed through Nashville and heard that 65,000 tickets had been sold for the Bonnaroo Festival in Manchester, Tennessee. At last, we arrived at the beautiful Sewanee campus, checked into our dorm, and prepared to shower for the nighttime events. As we approached the showers, we heard squealing and laughter: There was no hot water. The water wasn’t just cold; it was freezing. This was the best icebreaker I have ever experienced.

--Jenny Payne, Epsilon Chapter

EMBARRASSED

While attending one of the state conventions, Martha Brown and I were invited to take a trip out to “The Cross” with our new Delta Kappa Gamma friends. Nina Parks, second vice-president, had a huge automobile and probably ten people piled into the car. I, being much smaller at the time, sat in someone’s lap. When we got back to the dorm, I was embarrassed to learn that I had been sitting in the lap of State President Souci Hall.

--Barbara Hinson (AA), Alpha Rho Chapter

RANDALL: A SPECIAL XI STATE CONVENTION MEMORY

Memories of Xi State Conventions at the University of the South must include Randall Taylor. Randall, Director of Auxiliary Services at the University, has brought “Greetings from the University” many times. Members appreciate his sense of humor, his dedication to meeting Xi State’s needs, and his generosity. At the 2002 Convention, Xi State surprised Randall by designating him an “Unofficial Honorary” member. He received a proclamation written by Dr. Dovie Kimmins and a large cardboard keypin made by Rita Hackler. Each year, Randall wears his keypin when members come to the Mountain. The framed proclamation hangs on his office wall.

--Vera Jo Henegar (SP, AA), Pi Chapter

COOKIES AND KEYS

Several years ago, Alpha Kappa Chapter was responsible for providing cookies for the workshop break at Xi State. Barbara Mauldin, Eleanor Rhea Williams, Beulah Gillespie, and Phyllis Smith took cookies along with tablecloths and decorations for the break. Everything was safely locked in the trunk of Eleanor Rhea’s car, including her keys. As always, the staff at Sewanee “saved the day” and got the car unlocked in time to get everything set up. Xi State members should always appreciate the folks at Sewanee for their great work in helping the Xi State Convention run smoothly.

--Amy Ballentine, Alpha Kappa Chapter
MY XI STATE QUILT

At the 1987 Xi State Convention, a raffle was held to earn money for The Educational Foundation Thrust (TEFT). As the lucky winner of the raffle, I received a beautiful quilt made by fifty-four Xi State chapters. Each quilt square includes a chapter name and a depiction of something representing that chapter’s area of the state. Eighteen gold squares recognize chapters’ previous participation in the project. This quilt has special meaning for me. Its squares remind me of Tennessee’s history. Its making symbolizes the way Delta Kappa Gamma members in Tennessee work together to accomplish great things.

--Janice Sorsby (SP, AA), Alpha Lambda Chapter

THE ROSE CONVENTION, 1995

Since it was Alpha Gamma’s turn to provide table decorations for the Presidents’ Banquet, Annette Cothron volunteered fresh rose centerpieces for each table. For days Annette cut, refrigerated, and saved roses from her garden. When the day arrived to journey to the Mountain, all cars were loaded with coolers of roses, a water pick for each rose, and supplies for decorating. Little room was left for passengers. Annette, Margaret Cook, Marion Casady, Mel Wilson, and other available Alpha Gamma members spent Friday arranging roses and decorating tables. We felt rewarded when we saw beautiful Cravens Hall that night. We will never forget what we refer to as “the rose convention.”

--GeorgiaAnn Boles, Alpha Gamma Chapter

2009 XI STATE CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE

One year ago, Xi State President Nancy Davis contacted me to ask if I would “sign” her musical benediction at the Ceremony of Remembrance held in the beautiful All Saints’ Chapel. Of course, I readily agreed. On June 6, 2009, Nancy and I performed “It Is Well with My Soul” together; she sang with her lovely voice and I signed in American Sign Language. It was indeed an honor to perform with outgoing President Nancy. Hopefully, the two of us gave new spiritual insight into the hymn with the addition of the sign language interpretation. I shall treasure this memory always.

--Bea Lyons, Gamma Lambda Chapter

ONLY BLACK PATENT LEATHER SHOES FOR A ROOMMATE

As Theta Chapter’s new president, I attended the 1986 Xi State Convention while Dr. Isabel Wheeler was state president. Wanting to attend the 1986 International Convention in Indianapolis, and not having a roommate, I asked if anyone needed one. Only Isabel responded. She stated that I could room with her, but all I would see in the early morn or late night would be her black patent leather shoes. Thus, for five days the only thing I saw of Isabel was her shoes! As the current Xi State president, I now understand!

--Dee Dee Rives (SP), Theta Chapter

BAREFOOT COMFORT

As new Omega Chapter initiates, Mary Mueller and I had just left our mountaintop experience in Sewanee. We had enjoyed a great retreat and were making plans for the following year. During our journey home to Savannah, Mary wanted to stop by a shop in Lawrenceburg. I chose to relax in the car, opening the door to rest my tired feet on the pavement. Soon we were on our way again. Our next stop would be at a Waynesboro restaurant. My barefoot comfort would need to continue because I had left my sandals back in the parking lot in Lawrenceburg.

--Barbara Morgan, Omega Chapter
A Clown Car of Members

Transportation to the 2007 Xi State Convention one year included seven Beta Pi members in one car--luggage, hats, and all. Our arrival was successful. However, the offerings from the Silent Auction that year were exceptional, and six of the seven successfully bid on rather large baskets. Though it was a tight fit, we managed to get all of our things (and ourselves) into the car for the trip home. To observers, our car must have looked like one of those clown cars from the circus when we arrived home to unload: People and baskets just kept coming out of the car.

--Donna Campbell, Beta Pi Chapter

My First Convention

Upon returning home from my first Xi State Convention, my husband asked what we did. I gave him this report: “Well, Carlene Ford and I practiced with the chorus, then we ate. Then they had a meeting, and we had refreshments. The next morning, we ate breakfast and had another meeting. After that, it was almost time for lunch. We practiced with the chorus, and then went to a banquet. On Saturday, we had a lovely ceremony, and then brunch. Being new, I didn’t understand much in the meetings, but those ladies really know how to eat!”

-Marsha Brewer, Beta Upsilon Chapter

Miss Mary Hall’s Admonition to Members

Miss Mary Hall was one of the Xi State founders when it was organized in 1935. Until her death in 1991, she was devoted to the Society. Following our annual Delta and Beta Epsilon brunch on April 4, 2009, I overheard a member discussing whether to accept a responsibility. She used Miss Mary’s admonition, which is quoted frequently by individuals who knew her: “Delta Kappa Gamma members never say ‘no.’”

--Dr. Rita Schaerer King, Beta Epsilon

Advice: Help Decrease Unemployment

Many years ago I was chatting with Dr. Maycie Southall. I commented that teaching fulltime, working toward my Master’s, transporting two young children to ballet and soccer, and trying to keep order in our house were real challenges. She said to me, “Connie, you owe it to unemployment to hire someone to clean your house. If you work outside the home, then someone else should work to help you with your housework.” That had never entered my mind. I guess we could help decrease unemployment today if we followed that advice.

--Connie Crowell, Alpha Psi Chapter

When Asked, Just Say “Yes”

Each day a person’s life is impacted by another person, event, experience, or attitude. Many years ago I was positively influenced by Margaret Hopper, a very dedicated member of Delta Kappa Gamma. Margaret served as Beta Chapter president, Xi State president, and Southeast Regional director. Margaret’s motto as it related to Delta Kappa Gamma was this: “Do not say ‘no’; just say ‘yes.’” Many times she requested that I prepare or perform something for Delta Kappa Gamma. Before I could respond, she would look piercingly at me and say, “I DID hear you say ‘Yes.’”

--Joyce Brackett, Alpha Psi Chapter
MODELS FOR DAUGHTERS

Anna Belle Darden, my Alpha Chi sister and mentor, and I were both principals in the mid-70s. One day she told me I should attend more Delta Kappa Gamma meetings. I responded that, as a single mother of three girls, I couldn’t always attend. She replied that this was a perfect opportunity for me to model for my girls the importance of supporting an organization to which one belonged. Her encouragement to set an example has remained with me. I believe it also affected the girls. One of my daughters currently serves as president of Alpha Chi, the organization which Anna Belle loved. --Betty Cobb, Alpha Chi Chapter

LESSONS LEARNED FROM ELIZABETH WIGGINS

While driving Xi Chapter member Elizabeth Wiggins to Dallas for the 1998 International Convention—a fourteen-hour drive—I learned many lessons. Already in her eighties, Elizabeth was spry, fun, and full of wisdom. She spoke of her triumphs and trials. Her triumphs included forty-two years of teaching second graders, learning to fly an airplane, and traveling. Her trials included losing her childhood home and all its belongings to fire, almost dying from an automobile accident, and losing her beloved male companion to cancer. These two things she impressed upon me: Embrace life with all its ups and downs, and have a childlike (not childish) enjoyment of everything encountered on life’s journey. --Susan LaFever, Alpha Delta Chapter

MISS GEORGIA BELL

Henry L. Barger Elementary School was big news in 1955 because it represented new Chattanooga growth. For the Barger open house, Miss Georgia Bell—dedicated one-woman department for Home Economics at the University of Chattanooga and active Alpha Chapter member—asked her students to serve refreshments. As a department freshman, I learned quickly the meaning of Delta Kappa Gamma service. Miss Bell represented all that was good about Delta Kappa Gamma. I felt honored to be asked to assist her. At the time, I did not suspect that Delta Kappa Gamma would become such an important part of my life.

--Patsy Williamson, Alpha Chapter

MEETING MY MENTOR

My first day in the teaching profession is one that I shall never forget. After taking her established parking space in the school parking lot, I soon met Alva Cavnar—now my mentor and friend. A talented and creative teacher, she has taught me to care about my profession. Ten years ago, Alva invited me to join Delta Kappa Gamma. While traveling to chapter meetings, we share ideas about making Beta Kappa a better chapter. Through her encouragement, I am presently second vice-president. How grateful I am for meeting Alva Cavnar, who has helped me make a difference in Delta Kappa Gamma and in students’ lives.

--Kim Anderson, Beta Kappa Chapter

MY BEST MEMORY

I have many great Delta Kappa Gamma memories, but I have to say my most memorable one was that day in October 1976, when I received my invitation through the mail to join Alpha Beta Chapter. Truly this is my happiest, most rewarding, and satisfying memory. I knew I would join!

--Mary Elizabeth Faris, Alpha Beta Chapter
SETTING A MEMBER UP FOR SUCCESS

As a new member, my first assignment was program planning with the county associate superintendent of schools and a college professor. We brainstormed having an educational panel, consisting of local superintendents and the college president. I was asked to contact the men, as my colleagues were apparently “at odds” with them. I called, thinking they would say “no” to an unknown “whippersnapper.” To my awe, each expressed delight, clearing his calendar for that date. My confidence soared. The program, packed with spectators, made front-page news. Years later, I learned that those women had called each gentleman, alerting him that he would receive a call from me, and telling him to accept! They set me up for success.

--Dr. Jensl Souders (SP, AA, SRD, IFVP), Alpha Phi Chapter

A WEALTH OF WARM MEMORIES

It was Violet Tudor’s habit to call sisters to remind them of the upcoming chapter meetings. I was on her list. Her consistent and friendly monthly chats have become warm memories, and so have the meetings. At our meetings, the atmosphere is alive with excitement, friendliness, and fondness. The feeling I experience when I walk into the room has become a wealth of ongoing warm memories. --Ursula Thompson, Alpha Mu Chapter

A WET BEGINNING

Each new “class” of Beta Nu is initiated at our Holiday Dinner in November. The year of my initiation, the meal and ceremony were held at one of Bedford County’s quaint dining establishments. Each of us entered the little brick building, shaking out our umbrellas and wiping our damp feet—the results of a late fall rain shower. As our plates were served, a torrential rain began. By ceremony time, numerous rainwater fountains spurted through the old brick walls. Those of us who joined the Society that night signed the membership book while standing in water.

--Missy Eakin, Beta Nu Chapter

A MEMORABLE EVENING

Early in the 1980s, my former second-grade teacher, Georgia Johnson, called to ask me a few questions. She was very vague and secretive about why she wanted the information. I forgot about the conversation until I received an invitation for membership to Alpha Alpha Chapter. Accepting, I traveled to Bristol with the Mountain City members, knowing only that Alpha Alpha Chapter is a part of Delta Kappa Gamma. Upon arrival, I was asked to stay in another room until summoned. What a beautiful initiation it was! Each time I participate in an initiation, I think of my own awesome evening.

--Carol Stout, Gamma Mu Chapter

DRESSING UP

On November 11, 1976, I was initiated into Omicron Chapter at the local country club. At that time, the custom was to dress in formal attire for initiations. Since I had few occasions to dress formally, I enjoyed “dressing up” for those ceremonies. We later exchanged formal wear for church wear, which still made an initiation ceremony a “dress-up” occasion. Today’s trend toward even more casual dress makes this memory seem ancient history.

--Edith Taylor, Beta Mu Chapter
DOLLY PARTON HONORED

September 1997 was a most memorable time for Alpha Omega members. They initiated an honorary member, their “hometown girl made good,” in recognition of her constant support of literacy and her emphasis on the importance of education. Through her programs (such as the Imagination Library, Scholarships, and the Buddy Program), students are encouraged to finish high school. With quiet dignity and grace, Dolly Parton listened to the goals and principles of the Society and accepted membership. Four of her former teachers watched with pride as she visited with members and posed for numerous pictures. In 2003, her membership was transferred to Gamma Nu in her home county, Sevier.

--Julia Householder, Alpha Omega/Gamma Nu Chapters

LIFTED UP BY DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SISTERS

On November 8, 1995, my life changed forever. My home was destroyed by fire and my husband Gary killed. The next day my Beta Kappa sisters had a new wardrobe for me and a $700 monetary gift. They called me, took me out to eat, and kept me in their prayers. At the next Beta Kappa meeting, they had a Christmas tree decorated with ornaments and money gifts for me. Xi State members from across Tennessee sent cards and money gifts. That is what is special about Delta Kappa Gamma. We are truly sisters—always ready to lift each other up. I tip my hat to my sisters: I love you.

--Martha Wolf, Beta Kappa Chapter

A WHIFF OF PERFUME

As a new Delta Kappa Gamma member, I was impressed by Doris Hendrix’s speech at the Beta Theta Founders’ Day Celebration. She emphasized the daily influence that teachers have on children. She said that we cannot know what children experience before arriving at school—whether their last thought of home is pleasant or distasteful. Reminding us that we can smell good for those children, she suggested spraying perfume on our knees and ankles. “The students will get a whiff as you go past, and that will be a pleasant scent they can remember about being in your classroom.” Doris, I use your advice daily.

--Kerry Mullican, Beta Theta Chapter

A SPECIAL MOMENT WITH EXPERIENCED TEACHERS

Several of our retired teachers presented a fun-filled program to members a few years ago. They designed special shirts to wear during the program as they discussed their teaching careers in the 50s and 60s and compared those experiences with teaching in the 90s. Many younger teachers sat in awe as they listened to Alyse Morton, Katherine Reed, Katherine Luton, and others share their classroom stories. It was a special evening for all.

--Pat Satterfield, Alpha Tau Chapter

GIFTS

On March 17, 2007, my school burned. As principal, I stood helpless at the scene and cried with my staff. Determined to have school somewhere on Monday morning, we could not linger. After a busy weekend of planning sessions, we opened school in the gym at Tennessee Technological University. On the way home that Monday, I remembered our Xi Chapter meeting. Grateful to sit and rest, I slipped into the back of the room. The meeting stopped. My sisters surrounded me with concern and well wishes. They had just voted to give my school $250 for whatever we needed. We needed everything, but what I needed most, I had just received.

--Dr. Teri Anderson, Xi Chapter
TCAPS Recovery Night

One of my fondest memories of time spent with my Psi sisters is a springtime meeting we have labeled “TCAPS Recovery Night.” It is a time when we gather to discuss annual plans for hosting the retired teachers’ brunch for our county and city schools. Last year, we watched Nim’s Island at a new theater—a first trip for many of us. In fact, some members admitted that they had not attended a movie in years. This was a special time when longtime and new members came together to relax and laugh. When reflecting on the evening, I smile at the mental images of our ladies sitting together in the stadium seats, enjoying jumbo drinks and popcorn.

--Cindy Monroe, Psi Chapter

Christmas at Wynnewood

Beta Xi Chapter has helped decorate historic Wynnewood in Sumner County for Christmas. This house is the oldest log house structure in Tennessee. We made festive arrangements from natural items such as pine, magnolia, and holly. We also made cookies to serve with hot cider during their Christmas open house. Wynnewood was damaged by the tornado in 2008, and sadly, this past year, we were not able to participate in this project. Hopefully, this beautiful old home will be restored, and once again we will be able to help them celebrate the Christmas season. We take pride in promoting Tennessee history.

--Linda Daniels, Beta Xi Chapter

Laura Ingalls Wilder Christmas Dinner

In Memory of Dean Sanders (1936-2003)

One of the most memorable Beta Psi meetings was in December 1996. Dean Sanders, chapter president (1992-1994) and librarian of Bearden Elementary School in Knoxville for many years, invited the members to a Laura Ingalls Wilder Christmas dinner. Dean, a Little House on the Prairie enthusiast, dressed as Caroline Wilder and shared her stories of traveling west to all of the sights related in the books. We had a traditional pioneer Christmas dinner and went home with a homemade ornament. It was a very special evening.

--Pam Jackson, Beta Psi Chapter

A Gamma and Beta Delta Tradition

A tradition began soon after Beta Delta Chapter was formed in 1968 with several Gamma members comprising the core group. Members from both chapters craved fellowship. The first Saturday in December was chosen for a joint annual meeting at the Johnson City Country Club. After sipping wassail and enjoying fellowship, a luncheon and Christmas program (including carol singing) followed. Members valued interacting with teachers at all levels of the educational system and learning about their work. Begun in 1968, the tradition continues.

--Dr. Patricia Bonner, Beta Delta Chapter

Founders’ Fashions

One of my most memorable chapter meetings was a fashion show honoring our Society Founders. Several members dressed in early 1900s fashions, borrowed from our local historical society, and walked through the room while music from that era was being played. Each lady represented a different Founder and was identified as such. When the Founder reached the front of the room, she introduced herself with a short autobiography. It was a meaningful way to celebrate Founders’ Day.

--Rosemary Smith, Iota Chapter
**FOUNDERS’ DAY: A VICTORIAN CELEBRATION**

In Memory/Honor of our Charter Members

One of Beta Tau’s most memorable activities was our Founders’ Day Celebration, May 2008. We always celebrate with Mu Chapter, alternating years for serving as hostesses. Wanting a “Victorian Celebration,” we had dinner at a Victorian Tea Room. Each member wore a hat supplied by our president. How delightful to see all thirty-three members from both chapters wearing hats while dining! Following dinner, we enjoyed an overview of the history of the Society and the Founders. The celebration was such a success that we will repeat the theme in May 2010. As an added feature, we will include a historical interpretation of our own chapters.

--Dr. Margie Carico, Beta Tau Chapter

**FOUNDERS’ DAY LUNCH AT A ONE-ROOM SCHOOL**

On May 8, 2008, Kappa Chapter welcomed Gamma Alpha and Gamma Theta Chapters to their celebration of Founders’ Day. Almost 70 ladies assembled in a renovated one-room school in Henry County to reminisce. Liberty IV School served hundreds of rural students from 1917 to 1951 when many small rural schools closed during the consolidation of schools. The ladies enjoyed a lovely meal, presented in lunch buckets. They learned about the school from school-marm-clad Geneva Johnson, whose mother and uncle attended the school in the 1930s. Gamma Alpha President Dianne Anderson then introduced Becky Sadowski, the guest speaker.

--Geneva Johnson, Gamma Alpha Chapter

**TRANSFER AND INVOLVEMENT = LASTING FRIENDSHIPS**

In 1994 I moved to Tennessee, transferring my Michigan Rho Chapter membership to Beta Lambda in Cumberland County. Since Rho Chapter was composed mostly of retirees, many of whom spend winter months in Florida, chapter service projects consisted of monetary contributions. Therefore, my first involvement in a Tennessee service project with younger members was a reluctant one. Later, when I told a Michigan colleague that I had picked up trash along the road that morning, she screamed, “You did WHAT?” I assured her that this was only a biannual task that would help me bond with my new Beta Lambda sisters.

--Judith Carol Campbell, Beta Lambda Chapter

**CIEC SUPPORTED BY BETA RHO**

As an ongoing community project, Beta Rho has established and continues to support the Children’s International Education Center (CIEC) at Maury County Library. We provide books, videos, and artifacts about many countries. As our members travel, they collect and donate items. We frequently purchase “book bags” which provide a handy collection of books and materials about a country. These resources are available to members of our community upon request.

--Mary L. Pilkinton, Beta Rho Chapter

**HAPPENINGS AT THE APPALACHIAN FAIR**

In August 2008, Iota Chapter was seeking venues to support the Books from Birth program. I thought about all the people that attend the Appalachian Fair at Gray. Organizers of the Fair donated a booth in which we displayed our message. In four days, we met former students and other friends and signed up 209 children to receive books. The biggest surprise was an unexpected visitor carrying an awesome purse that caught my eye. Nancy Davis, our Xi State president, belonged to the purse, and she came by our booth for a conversation and a photo.

--Joan Holt, Iota Chapter
AUCTIONS FOR GRANTS-IN-AID

Each year members of Upsilon Chapter look forward to the December meeting’s Christmas auction. The chapter is fortunate to have an official auctioneer as a member. Martha Sue Glover has taught chapter members to be savvy bidders as she auctions items that chapter members have donated. Some members no longer bid against their own bid, some are sneaky, and some run the bid up with no intention of buying. Members enjoy this event so much that the chapter now has a spring auction, too. The auction proceeds fund two $500 grants-in-aid to Dyer County High School and Dyersburg High School students.

--Patsye Jones and Pat Jones, Upsilon Chapter

YARD SALE FOR VISION FOUNDATION

Achieving Visionary status was no small feat for our small chapter. One of the money-making schemes that we devised was a yard sale. Alice Golden said we could have it at her church’s shelter so that “rain or shine” we could have our sale. However, rain was not the issue that day—it was cold, especially for April. Luckily, many of us had brought clothes to sell, so we ended up layering on our wares in an effort to stay warm. Selling things that we were wearing gave new meaning to “the shirt off my back.”

--Carolyn Powell, Alpha Theta Chapter

PAPER TOWELS: A SIMPLE SERVICE PROJECT THAT MEANS SO MUCH

Living as we do in a rural area, the Alpha Omega Chapter members carefully choose our service projects. Without doubt, our favorite is the county library system. We designate one monthly meeting as a time for all members to bring cleaning supplies. When we deliver those supplies to the libraries, we are met with much excitement and appreciation. Throughout the year when we encounter librarians, they remember to thank us again and again. Though gifts of paper towels and dusting cloths seem so trivial, our contributions mean so much.

--Nancy G. Brawley, Alpha Omega Chapter

PREPARATION FOR GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

For Xi State’s Golden Anniversary Celebration, Anna Belle Darden directed part of the special musical presentation. Eta Chapter members wrote songs, sang, danced, and acted—things only our beloved director believed we could do. In preparation, Anna Belle wanted to see the stage at Sewanee and invited me to join her for the journey. The trip to Sewanee inspired our director. We shared our Sewanee photographs, sketches, and notes with our Eta Sisters. Then we rewrote lines, adjusted costumes, perfected dances, and worked tirelessly on projection of lines and music. The production was a great success.

--Imogene Rye, Eta Chapter

LOST CHAPTER RULES

In the 2007-2009 biennium, I was asked to serve on the Xi State Rules Committee, later becoming chairman. The responsibility was a wonderful learning experience. The only disconcerting thing was that, as I was organizing the chapter rules, I couldn’t find ones from my own Iota Chapter. The result was that Iota generated a new set by revising and updating our practices. The exercise invigorated Iota members as well as the Xi State Rules Committee chairman.

--Joy Branham, Iota Chapter
Beta Phi’s First Legislative Symposium
In Memory of Alice Golden

Years ago some Beta Phi members attended our first Legislative Symposium. Not knowing the way, we accepted Alice Golden’s invitation to ride with Alpha Theta members. Alice picked us up in a monsoon; our best duds and hairdos were ruined! Packed like sardines, fifteen miles into the trip, “Boom”: The alternator went out. Determined Beta Phi members called for another vehicle. Leaving Alice and other Alpha Theta ladies at a garage, we sped toward Nashville. Unable to see the road, we took a wrong turn. Sworn to secrecy about our error, we arrived late, only to see our Alpha Theta sisters sitting in the symposium composed and smug. We’re still laughing! Haven’t missed a Symposium since!

--Martha Wells, Beta Phi Chapter

An Alpha Gamma Member in a Liquor Store

Attending the 1987 Delta Kappa Gamma Conference in Richmond was a memorable experience. Three ladies squeezed into a car loaded with backdrops and paraphernalia for depicting a German café. We were presenting a schnerenschnitte (paper cutting) demonstration. When we arrived at the hotel, the valet shook his head. Our scene was almost complete: table, bread, cheese. Lacking was a bottle of wine. I had to find a liquor store. Heavens: an Alpha Gamma member in a liquor store! The bottle of wine completed the scene, and Margaret Cook presented her remarkable demonstration. Now, did we uncork the wine and celebrate? I’ll never tell.

--Marion Casady, Alpha Gamma Chapter

Making Friends at a Southeast Regional Conference

As a new Delta Kappa Gamma member, I attended a Southeast Regional Conference for the first time in Little Rock. One evening Brenda Mize and I spent an hour in the room of Xi State President Dee Dee Rives and Executive Secretary Elaine Warwick, getting them set up with a Facebook account. We had a lot of fun getting to know these veteran members and creating lifelong friends.

--Amanda Cannon, Gamma Iota Chapter

Fast Friends

International Conventions promise fabulous fun, especially when four fast friends share a hotel room. Rosie Coleman, Frances Pinckley, Vivian Shields, and Avis Henderson returned from a marvelous session at the 1990 New Orleans Convention, rode up the elevator at the Riverside Hilton Hotel, stepped into the hallway, and waited for Frances to unlock the door. She tried, deciding right away that this was the wrong door. Abandoning her three friends, Frances sped down the hall and up the stairs to their correct room, one floor above. Rosie, Vivian, and Avis, swept along by Frances’s momentum, glided quietly past many wrong doors toward the safety of their assigned room.

--Avis Henderson, Phi Chapter

Honored to Receive Scholarships

I extended my education, beginning in 2004 with National Board Certification, then completed a Reading Specialist certification, an MA in Education, and an EdS in Educational Leadership. My student loans accrued at an alarming rate, and I knew that if I paused, I would lose my momentum toward an EdD. With the support of my chapter, I applied for and received the Xi State and International Doctoral Scholarships. Following the completion of my work in May 2010, I plan to celebrate with a submission about my research to The Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin.

--Deborah Frey, Omega Chapter
LEGISLATIVE LINK

“If legislation is your passion, you’ll love this seminar!” These prophetic words were spoken to me by Kathy Flynn of Colorado, as the U.S. Legislative Forum convened in Washington, D.C., on May 2, 2004. This experience provided me new insight into meeting with national legislators to address priority education issues.

--Judy Jackson, Rho Chapter

A GOLDEN GIFT MAKEOVER

My 2002 Golden Gift Leadership Management Seminar class is a remarkable group that includes numerous state presidents as well as members of the International Administrative Board and Headquarters staff. Still, we all dreaded one afternoon session titled “Improving Your Professional Image.” We came under intense scrutiny for makeup, hairstyle, wardrobe, and accessories. It was truly intimidating, and none of us escaped unscathed. I was wearing “my” color, but the consultant still found fault: I needed to pull up my bra! In fact, the consultant issued this advice so often that our seminar motto became “Lift and Fluff,” and many favorite wardrobe items left Austin in someone else’s suitcase.

--Dr. Dorrie Powell, Beta Sigma Chapter

HANSEL AND GRETEL

While attending a September 2001 performance of Hansel and Gretel (presented by the Bolshoi Ballet at the Bolshoi Theatre in Moscow, Russia), a lady approached me during intermission to ask whether I speak English. During our subsequent conversation, she told me she was from California and was sure we had been in a workshop together at the 1998 International Convention in Dallas, Texas. We chatted and realized that Delta Kappa Gamma members travel and meet across the world. Hansel and Gretel brought us together in a country far away from California and Texas.

--Robin Goddard, Mu Chapter
Section VII

Glimpses into the Future
Glimpses into the Future: An Introduction

What does the future hold for Xi State? As the ninth-largest state organization of the larger Delta Kappa Gamma International Society for Key Women Educators, we play a vital role in the continued success, even the existence, of an organization that can impact education worldwide.

In this section, Xi State leaders, present and future, envision our future—in education, in society, and in Delta Kappa Gamma. Since Xi State members have always been at the forefront of leadership in the International Society, will time prove our vision realized?

Whatever our future holds, we, as leaders in the profession, will not sit back and let others drive the vision. We, as Xi State members, will support and mentor young educators and provide the kind of organization in which they will be eager to take part. We, as part of a great philanthropic organization, will support programs and actions around the world that will foster a more peaceful future for everyone on the planet.

How will we do this? With enthusiastic participation and proactive leadership in the education profession and in our Society. Why will we do this? Because we are Delta Kappa Gamma. We are Key Women Educators Impacting Education Worldwide.

Designations following name of author: SP = State President, AA = Achievement Award Recipient, SRD = Southeast Regional Director, IFVP = International First Vice-President
**Glimpses into the Future:**

**A Growing Network of Sisterhood**

The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International has long realized the power of networking in order to advance the dual mission of promoting women educators and excellence in education. Shared history and experiences have been integral forces in achieving the purposes of the Society. However, the future will challenge the Society to develop a more global networking structure that will support educational and cultural exchange at all levels of the organization and beyond.

Delta Kappa Gamma members are leaders with a sincere desire to obtain knowledge and skills that will support service to others. In order to be most effective, Society members must have access to the rapidly increasing bank of knowledge available via technology. Imagine an extended network that moves beyond the exchange of information between Society entities to include exclusive access to research institutions, opportunities for debate, and interaction with other women’s organizations to address the needs of a critical mass of women around the globe. Such a network would also provide a forum for content developed by Society members who serve in the trenches of educational reform to support fellow educators and offer new paradigms for educational excellence.

The Founders of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society were forward thinkers who recognized the power of networking beyond the classroom door in order to achieve their purposes. Today’s members must accept the challenge to grow this network—and our Society—to reach out to the world.

--Dr. Deborah L. Smith, Beta Chapter

**Looking into the Crystal Ball**

Our Society is moving with vision toward modernization, with social and cultural changes, in particular, affecting our efforts:

**Membership opportunities** will grow as we
- Recruit active members who show potential after only one year’s service;
- Offer associate membership to upper-class university women majoring in education; and
- Expand into Japan and Australia while continuing to grow current member countries.

**Philanthropic efforts** through the United Nations and state/chapter projects will make our name, mission, and vision household words through
- Educational Foundation grants that spread our name to the wider educational world;
- Educator Edge being used worldwide by educators who are seeking growth opportunities;
- Emphasis on service in communities that increases media coverage;
- Increased Society scholarship/grant amounts that help members reach professional goals; and
- Opportunities such as lifelong learning grants that honor members’ many years of service.

**Society operations** will change as
- Regional Conferences focus on “hot topics” in education that are marketed to all educators;
- Conferences become smaller in length and number, but have more events that draw young and seasoned participants;
- Updated communication tools enable social/business networking by members, chapters, states, committees; and
- Long-term members continue in the Society without payment of International dues.

**Important traditions** will remain as
- Seminars in Purposeful Living, initiation and installation rites, personal and professional growth, and the wearing of the key pin remain in place; and
- The emphasis on “genuine spiritual fellowship” remains key to our success.

These projections are but a glimpse of a visionary organization of “leading women educators impacting education worldwide.”

--Dr. Jensi P. Souders (SP, AA, SRD, IFVP), Alpha Phi Chapter
Today’s young woman professional faces a different culture from that of our mothers. Many of us are hard-working, career-driven, single women. Like our mothers, we are experts at multi-tasking and handling challenging situations. At the same time, we are juggling our careers, advancement, homes, faith, dating, computers, blackberries, and Facebook. We are constantly in contact with each other and the world that we live in; this is networking at its finest. We have access to information that we need within seconds at any time. We text, e-mail, twitter, instant message, skype, upload, download, install, activate, upgrade, voicemail, and actually sometimes just telephone to communicate. We are also an extremely transient group. We will change classrooms, schools, and job titles many times during our careers.

As a Society, the future of Delta Kappa Gamma should be a loud one. It is vital for the perpetuation of our organization that we constantly examine ways to implement the tools for knowledge and communication. Many of our chapters already have web pages, but the future will have us on webcams and participating in webcasts. We already have the capacity to communicate with any chapter or member anywhere in the world instantly. The resources are unlimited – not only for Society use, but for sharing with our sisters our best classroom practices, successes, frustrations, and encouragement.

In order for Delta Kappa Gamma to continue to be the magnet that draws key women educators to become members, the Society must listen to the young professionals and include our insights as a vision for future success is created.

--Krista Harned, Beta Upsilon Chapter

Rosabeth Moss Kanter writes these words, “A vision is not just a picture of what could be; it is an appeal to our better selves, a call to become something more.”

What do I envision for the Society?

I envision a Society that is vibrant, growing, enthusiastic, and internationally recognized—one in which all members are involved and contribute. Leadership at all levels of the Society is responsible for the continued involvement of all members. Transparency in the actions and decisions of leaders at all levels is a given. Members are encouraged to ask questions and to seek information from their representatives or other available sources. The free flow of information is evident.

I envision a Society in which online work is routine. Online collaboration groups, webinars, and social networks will help accomplish goals, involve members, improve efficiency, and increase innovation while striving for educational and professional excellence.

I envision a Society that uses the latest tools to reach all educators with accurate information, that encourages appropriate action with appropriate agencies to effect desirable change, and that visibly supports the advancement of women educators in their professional locales.

I envision a Society that embraces fellowship, but does not permit it to become a driving force, and a Society that seeks the best leadership.

I envision a Society in which personal and professional growth of the individual is expected, encouraged, and strongly supported from all levels.

I envision a Society in which educators seek membership.

--Linda McCrary (SP, AA, SRD), Alpha Gamma Chapter
HEALTH OF OUR EDUCATORS: A FUTURE PERSPECTIVE

As key women educators, Xi State members are visionaries—women of vision who have solid values that characterize us as possessing integrity and ingenuity. We stand for something of worth in our Society and throughout our world. As we celebrate our 75th anniversary, we look back into our past and forward into the future of our Society in Tennessee. We will keep our eyes on the future benefits for our students, families, and Delta Kappa Gamma sisters as we instill the passion for learning and stand for all things of worth in our constantly changing world. Changes within our schools, our communities, our finances, and our government will not prevent us from becoming builders of hope in our Society, in our state, our country, and indeed throughout the world.

We will keep alive the vision of our International and state founders through our work in the Society. Even through hard times, Xi State Delta Kappa Gamma members will face the challenges that will keep our Society together as we implement our seven purposes. We will continue to strive to transform the old and the discouraged into the new and encouraged. We will not lose sight of our vision nor the empowerment toward excellence for our Society, families, and students.

Our Xi State sisters will call for a reversal of negativism. We will be risk takers. We will redesign our chapters through creative thinking and exceptional motivation.

--Mildred Welch, Alpha Iota Chapter

A GLIMPSE INTO THE FUTURE: BECOMING BUILDERS OF HOPE

As key women educators, Xi State members are visionaries—women of vision who have solid values that characterize us as possessing integrity and ingenuity. We stand for something of worth in our Society and throughout our world. As we celebrate our 75th anniversary, we look back into our past and forward into the future of our Society in Tennessee. We will keep our eyes on the future benefits for our students, families, and Delta Kappa Gamma sisters as we instill the passion for learning and stand for all things of worth in our constantly changing world. Changes within our schools, our communities, our finances, and our government will not prevent us from becoming builders of hope in our Society, in our state, our country, and indeed throughout the world.

We will keep alive the vision of our International and state founders through our work in the Society. Even through hard times, Xi State Delta Kappa Gamma members will face the challenges that will keep our Society together as we implement our seven purposes. We will continue to strive to transform the old and the discouraged into the new and encouraged. We will not lose sight of our vision nor the empowerment toward excellence for our Society, families, and students.

Our Xi State sisters will call for a reversal of negativism. We will be risk takers. We will redesign our chapters through creative thinking and exceptional motivation.

--Mildred Welch, Alpha Iota Chapter

Women educators are confronted with health concerns. This quotation by Warren Buffett can be applied to health status: “In the business world, the rearview mirror is always clearer than the windshield.” If we take preventive measures, some problems can be delayed or eliminated.

Educators will continue to experience fatigue and stress. To help reduce these problems, school systems can sponsor programs such as walking clubs, exercise and yoga classes, and dance lessons. Increased amounts of physical activity and nutritious foods can assist in maintaining acceptable lipid, cholesterol, glucose, and blood pressure levels. Driving this effort will be insurance companies wanting to encourage healthy lifestyles. People who continue to engage in high-risk behaviors will be charged higher premiums or denied health insurance. Additionally, more school systems will provide onsite primary care clinics for routine screenings and treatments. These clinics also benefit the system by helping staff remain productive with less absenteeism or time off for medical appointments.

Prevention of infectious diseases demands vigilance and personal hygiene. Thus, hand sanitizers should be located in every schoolroom. In-service education will be offered on environmental hazards such as black mold, toxins, chemical pollutants, and the effects of sick-building syndrome. Health promotion for staff is one component of coordinated school health. Collaboration with community partners is critical to ensure healthy and safe working environments.

As evidenced by the Society’s purposes, Delta Kappa Gamma is a resource for promoting health. Our members can exhibit healthy behaviors and advocate for health benefits in their educational systems and communities.

--Dr. June Gorski, Zeta Chapter
ADAPTING TO CHANGE

The teaching profession is changing and becoming more challenging for educators. Teachers must adapt their teaching styles to individualize and meet the needs of today’s students who have a wide variety of learning styles. Teachers need to create a learning environment in which students are active participants in their own personal development. This may require teachers to become adept in using technology and developing the role of facilitators. Teachers must be able to integrate concept-level video clips, virtual labs, and other interactive technology into their lessons. They must be able to measure achievement on an ongoing basis and effectively help prepare students to succeed.

Schools, likewise, must provide the technology needed for students to go online in search of information. Engaging students globally motivates them with meaningful content and authentic learning experiences. Computers open the door for students to acquire unlimited knowledge and travel anywhere to learn about other cultures. Educators must provide students with opportunities to use such technology to engage them in their own learning. Search engines need to be available for students and teachers to use with sites specific for education. Interactive whiteboards help students become involved in the learning process because of the visual, interactive nature of the lessons. Parents should be able to go online to learn their students’ assignments and grades.

As Delta Kappa Gamma members, we will need to face the changes that technology is bringing upon us and become role models for others in the teaching profession.

--Sherry Rogers, Nu Chapter

A DEEPENING PURPOSE

As a special educator in an urban school, I bear witness to increasing changes in the education profession with each new school year. Standards continue to be raised annually for teachers and students alike. Skills that were once expected of third graders are now expected of second graders. Teachers face increasing pressure to teach these skills, frequently to be deemed successful only if test scores show evidence of improvement. Furthermore, students beginning their kindergarten year seem to be entering with fewer experiences and basic skills. Facing what appears to be a crisis in the urban public schools, one may easily give up.

A member of Delta Kappa Gamma only since November 2008, I have been incredibly impressed with the passion displayed by other members toward the mission of Delta Kappa Gamma. Contrary to giving up, Delta Kappa Gamma has thus far encouraged me to persevere on this challenging course.

As more changes continue to be made in the education world, it is imperative that Delta Kappa Gamma not only continue with the Seven Purposes but also deepen each purpose. I challenge each member, as well as myself, to read again our Seven Purposes and truly contemplate how we can delve even deeper into them. Our purposes are a call to action, and I have every confidence that Delta Kappa Gamma will continue to rise to the challenges of today’s education world.

--Amy Swoope, Alpha Phi Chapter
**FACING THE FUTURE**

To be a visionary by definition means to expand boundaries and see things that most people are unlikely to perceive. The act of doing so is a necessary first step toward evolving. In order to ensure that we continue to thrive as an influential organization, we must look at current trends and try to interpret what their meaning implies within the realm of a swiftly changing world.

If Global Warming, the Great Recession, pandemics, religious and drug-related wars, and other varied social, economic, and environmental ills fail to concern you, then perhaps “Educational Reform” may. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan is pushing for extended schedules, charter schools, alternative certification, merit-based pay, and Common National Standards. While these reforms may not be all bad, the difference between good and bad reform depends greatly upon educators: how we band together to uphold the truths to which we have dedicated our lives, how we utilize new technologies to communicate, and how willing we are to push ourselves beyond our comfort zones to champion our cause.

How Delta Kappa Gamma responds should be a reflection of our ability to work together as sisters toward advocating positive changes, and toward learning and adapting new skills in an ever-increasing technological world. In addition, we must become a more inclusive Society by reaching out to minority groups and becoming more distinctly multicultural. The future is uncertain, but together, as many voices, we can face it and ensure that our legacy lives on.

--Earline Lafont Fletes, Beta Gamma Chapter

**MAKING IT HAPPEN**

Dr. John M. Richardson, Jr., writes, “When it comes to the future, there are three kinds of people: those who let it happen, those who make it happen, and those who wonder what happened.” Xi State members will “make it happen.”

In the Society, Xi State will continue to be a leader. At all levels, we will work to grow the Society and prevent those blunders that lead to our demise. Continuing the Society’s purpose of sharing a genuine spiritual fellowship, members will be active and invigorated. The bond that Xi State members have together and with members in other states will be strengthened by the commitment to working for the betterment of our organization. Members will work to achieve new goals in recruiting new and younger members. There will be a push to change the membership requirement from three years of professional experience to one year. Xi State will play an integral part in that change.

In the political arena, we will be involved in the development and implementation of political policy affecting education. Members will work with, and even become, politicians to bring needed funding and change.

In our schools, members will be involved in developing new policies to prevent trends in cheating through new technological advances, in improving online learning, and in educating students in the use of improved technology. Members will learn, implement, and adapt new methods. We will make the future happen.

--Michelle Steen, Theta Chapter
Looking Forward Without Abandoning the Past

As we glimpse into the future of our Society, we continually charge ourselves with uniting women educators; honoring distinctive service; advancing the professional interest and position of women in education; endowing scholarships; stimulating the personal and professional growth of members; and informing members of current economic, social, political, and educational issues. Expanding the future does not include abandoning the past. It is with the future in mind that we are able to fulfill these seven strategies.

We are living in a time of great changes, especially financially, culturally, and socially. Because of all of these changes, teachers have to be ready to learn new ways to reach and to engage the students in the classrooms. Key educators will be researching and presenting best practices to other teachers to help everyone succeed. As the future comes closer to the present, more and more of our Delta Kappa Gamma sisters will be stepping up to share what is working in our classrooms throughout this period of great change.

We must continue to look to the past, not only to learn from our mistakes, but also to celebrate what works. We will study what has worked, find the research to support it, and share with others, to increase student knowledge, and to advance the positions of women in education. Our members will continue to be active in local and national organizations that foster excellence in educational endeavors as well as advancement of women as forward-thinking, honorable, professional educators. --Suzanne Flowers and Kim Hooper, Beta Rho Chapter

The Next Seventy-five Years . . .

The next seventy-five years will produce change that will impact our educational institutions both in content and methodology. Key women teachers must initiate and support desirable legislation, and we must have courage to speak for the needs of all students. Networking with recognized best practitioners and training teachers to use the latest classroom technology will be vital. Grants and scholarships must provide opportunities for professional development through advanced degrees, seminars, and leadership training. The organizations that survive will have a vision of the future that meets the needs of its profession and serves its students.

Yet, these watchwords have represented the work of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International since 1929. Honor for, faith in, and loyalty to excellence in education have always been the mission of Delta Kappa Gamma. Twelve visionary women in Texas wrote a prescription for change to accomplish educational opportunity for women, and in 1935 they extended an invitation to key women teachers in Tennessee to join them. Fortunately, their vision for change was not limited to Texas or Tennessee but included the world.

The obligations of key women teachers will not diminish in the future. Instead, the future will demand even more responsibility for monitoring the changes that will lead to the success of our Society, our educational opportunities, and ultimately the success of our students. The purposes of Delta Kappa Gamma provide a living framework that will serve its mission well for the next seventy-five years and beyond. The watchwords of Delta Kappa Gamma are timeless. Firmly shall we stand! --Dr. Martha M. Glover, Gamma Eta Chapter
**Seizing the Tomorrow Today**

Tomorrow’s classroom happened yesterday. Technology affects all facets of our lives whether socially, culturally, financially, or globally. It’s time for us to understand that the notion of a future is relative to the point of becoming arbitrary. With kids tweeting, texting, skyping, and friending, along with gaining most, if not all, their information from technological resources, such as computers and cell phones, it is the first and foremost charge of “today’s” educator to redefine herself.

Although we’ve come a long way from ringing the bell in our one-room schoolhouses, we look to the future and see our students from a whole new perspective. We are “less teacher” than ever as our students have the ability to teach us so much more than before. We must strive to be competent and informed facilitators who look to our students for collaboration and enlightenment. We are so ignorant of the future that we cannot make predictions; therefore, fluidity, flexibility, and a true willingness to learn will describe our best “future” teachers. The future is happening at a rate of speed that by the time we catch up, some knowledge can almost be categorized as passé. This “iWorld” dictates that teachers become highly adaptable creatures, who truly model what it means to be a learner.

Delta Kappa Gamma can play a pivotal role in sustaining this vision of the future. From providing professional development in technology to raising funds for software and equipment, its supportive possibilities are endless.

--Julie Bielskis, Alpha Sigma Chapter

**Shifting Sands**

Unlike the poet Tennyson who “dipp’d into the future, far as human eye could see / [and] saw the vision of the world,” I cannot see the future. My glimpses are influenced by reading, observations, trends, and concepts [predictions] that suggest a world that is teetering between dismal conditions or phenomenal success. Optimistically, I anticipate success. Historically, the extraordinary advancement of machinery [technology] has far exceeded that of the animal and plant kingdoms. Consequently, lifestyles and cultures are changing, whereas human emotions remain unchanged.

In the future, Delta Kappa Gamma members will be faced with many challenges and as teachers will also encounter many heart-warming experiences. A decade from now, programs might include a collection of “Teachable Moments” using Skype, a reading program designed to help students understand instructions, or a seminar about etymology that includes this question: “Can teachers save the word you, or will it be replaced by u?”

Another future challenge will be cultural and communication changes. The polarization of people [students] who hold strong opposing viewpoints, the continuing need for bi- or trilingual education, and the lack of civil and respectful behavior necessitate the “disagree agreeably or agreeably disagree” adage. Teachers can meet these challenges.

The enthusiasm, commitment, and dedication of Delta Kappa Gamma sisters help one to foresee hope for accomplishments and achievement in education. With shifting sands and constant change, a second glimpse is a renewal of faith and reinforcement of appreciation for the ideals of Delta Kappa Gamma.

--Dr. Jean Gray Litterer, Alpha Nu Chapter
Imagining the Society’s Response, Role, and Responsibility in a Changing World
from Phi Chapter’s brainstorming session, May 16, 2009

In 1929, compared to now, the Society and its nascent world were homogeneous and upheld traditional values. Expressed in our purposes were lofty ideals, such as uniting women educators in spiritual fellowship and informing members of current issues so that we might participate effectively in a world society. As the world becomes increasingly complex and our membership more inclusive, only tolerance can create a genuine spiritual fellowship. Likewise, informing members necessitates perceiving the world as it is, rather than as we would wish it. That requires courage. Being tolerant and courageous forces us outside our comfort zones. It requires effort and open minds and hearts. In this spirit we present the following thoughts on our response to various changes.

Social
With our culture’s acceptance of homosexual lifestyles, the likelihood increases that we will encounter homosexual students, parents, co-workers, community, and Society members. Also as public forums (e.g., MySpace, Facebook) encourage increasingly personal revelations, teachers must, in every circumstance, exhibit integrity and practice professionalism.

Cultural
Because of increasing community diversity, teachers need additional knowledge to serve racially and culturally disparate populations more effectively. Moral, ethical, and religious concerns of these cultures, especially as they relate to books, art, subject matter, and age appropriateness, must be considered constantly. Discussions and programs promoting cultural sensitivity are essential as teachers attempt a balance between censorship and discretion.

Financial
All components of education (e.g., programs, students, educators, facilities) are affected by economic downturns. We must be cognizant of participation costs on every level (e.g., field trips, fund raisers, professional dues). As people lose jobs and move away, tax revenues drop, pupil/teacher ratios rise, and fewer teachers are hired. This results in membership and financial strains on all chapters.

World Events—War
As the U.S. engages in war, parents of our students may (or may not) be involved in military deployments. As a result, children are uprooted and resettled into new living situations. Teachers, particularly, should be mindful of these events and supportive of these students and their extended families.

The world changes. Our purposes remain as ideals worthy of guiding us as change leaders.

--Cynthia Ripp, Phi Chapter
What is your vision for Xi State in 2020? That was the question asked of members across the state in preparation for the 2009 Southeast Regional Conference. The thoughts shared were displayed at the Information Fair in Little Rock, Arkansas, during the conference.

**Membership**
- Recruit new members, especially in the younger age bracket.
- Focus on mentoring new members.
- Strategize for retaining members.
- Strengthen chapters in rural/under-represented areas.
- Give members a strong voice and active roles.
- Keep members energized, united, and innovative.
- Provide mini-workshops or one-day training sessions for members and non-members.

**Communications**
- Meet with other chapters via the web.
- Use technology in new and different ways.
- Provide information that addresses challenges facing women, children, and education.
- Provide more media coverage of events so the public knows our mission.
- Show we care about one another through more personal communication, not just through e-mail.

**Chapter**
- Have 100 active chapters.
- Encourage strong chapter attendance and representation at Xi State Conventions.
- Mentor new educators and encourage their growth and service.
- Keep the traditions.
- Participate in projects that inform others of the Society’s purposes.

**Other**
- Advance legislation.
- Host a small legislative symposium in each area of the state.
- Promote regular communication of many types among members with community, state, and national legislators.
- Maintain awareness about current teaching trends.
- Formalize methods for providing resources for the classroom: e.g., babysitting co-ops, changing teaching force.

Xi State is well on its way to making many of these visions a reality. The future is just around the corner!

--Nancy Davis (SP), Gamma Mu Chapter
INDEX

**Bold Italics** = memory book article, ALL CAPS = subject, **bold number** = author’s article page

1963 Southeast Regional Conference, Gatlinburg 25
1981 Southeast Regional Conference, Memphis 29
1987/1989 Flights “Across the Pond” 32
1994 International Convention, Nashville 33
2000: A Watershed Year 62
2001 Southeast Regional Conference, Chattanooga 34
2009 Ceremony of Remembrance 69

Accomplished Leaders Sharing Successful Strategies 62
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 13, 14, 20, 44
Adapting to Change 84
Admired Society Members Who Inspired Professionalism 64
Advancing Growth; Celebrating Excellence 44
Advice: Help Decrease Unemployment 70
Alexander, Dr. Elaine 24
Alexander, Elaine 67
Allen, Vickie 37
Alpha Gamma Member in a Liquor Store, An 77
Anderson, Dianne 75
Anderson, Dr. Teri 73
Anderson, Kim 71
ARCHIVES 30
AREA WORKSHOPS 14, 25
Area Workshops 25
Arnold, Dr. Gwen 27
Aslinger, Ival W. 15, 17, 20, 24, 25
Assistance to Trent Lott Middle School 35
Auctions for Grants-in-Aid 76
Award “Leapfrogs” Members into National Arena 58
Awards Chapter/Community Service 42
AWARDS LUNCHEON 44
Ball, Betty 20, 32
Ballentine, Amy 68
Barefoot Comfort 69
Barker, Dr. Victoria 59
Barker, Nora Smith 17, 25
Barnett, Pat 60
Bell, Georgia 71
Benefits of the Lucile Cornetet Award to College Students 59

Beta Phi’s First Legislative Symposium 77
Beta Rho Supports CIEC 75
Betts, Mary F. 15
Bieliski, Julie 87
Bingham, Carolyn 58
Bingham, Mildred (SE Regional Director) 29
BIRTHDAY BRUNCH 45
Birthday Cake, The 67
Blanton, Dr. Annie Webb 2, 7, 10, 13, 14, 22, 23, 28, 66, 67
Boles, Georgia Ann 69
Bonner, Dr. Patricia 74
Books from Birth: Statewide Literacy Project 36
Bowman, Miriam 20, 45
Brackett, Joyce 54, 70
Branham, Joy 76
Brawley, Nancy G. 76
Brown, Martha 68
Bryan, Mary Ayleene 20, 42
Bucy, Pam 33, 41
Butler, Margaret 23
BYLAWS/GOVERNING DOCUMENTS 13, 14, 28
Cain, Charlotte 46
Campbell, Donna 70
Campbell, Judith Carol 75
Campbell, Paula 43
Camper, Donna 42
Can You Hear Me Now? 82
Cannon, Amanda 77
Carico, Dr. Margie 75
Carlson, Dr. Judith (NC) 29
Carol, Melinda 52
Caruthers, Lynn 35
Casady, Marion 69, 77
Cates, Juanita 33
Cavnar, Alva 71
CEREMONY OF REMEMBRANCE 45, 69
Chaney, Dr. Sharon iv, 31
CHAPTER MEMORIES 72-77
CHAPTER PROJECTS 64, 75, 76
CHAPTERS 11-12
Character Tales: Learning to Respect the Rules 53
Cherishing Freedom: Recognizing Responsibility 41
Children’s International Education Center (CIEC) 27
CHILDREN’S INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION CENTERS (CIEC) 13, 27, 75
Christmas at Wynnewood 74
Clemons, Edna 44
Clown Car of Members, A 70
Cobb, Betty 71
Cockrill, Ann Robertson Johnston 13, 24
Coleman, Rosie 38, 77
Collins, Judy 41
Conte, Andrea 33
Contributions to International Funds 26
CONVENTIONS, INTERNATIONAL-AL 14, 33
CONVENTIONS, STATE 13, 41-45, 67-70
CONVENTIONS, WORKSHOPS 44
Cook, Margaret 30, 41, 69, 77
Cookies and Keys 68
CORNETET AWARD 30, 56, 59, 61
Cothren, Annette 69
Cotner, Donna 16
Couch, Marion Pickering 59
Counce, Dr. Shelby 27
Crabtree, Pat 34
CREATIVE ARTS RETREAT 37
Crews, Paulette 64
Cross, Judy 33, 53
Cross, Pearl 10, 13, 20, 23, 30
Crowell, Connie 70
Cullum, Clevie 15
Dacus, Jan 18
Daniels, Linda 74
Darden, Anna Belle 20, 29, 30, 71, 76
Davis, Dr. Linda 61
Davis, Nancy iv, 17, 36, 37, 51, 69, 75, 89
Dawson, Dr. Mildred 15, 17
Day, Dr. Barbara (SE Regional Dir., International President) 34, 36
Deepening Purpose, A 84
Delta Kappa Gamma Bulletin 59
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA NEWSLETTER/WEBSITE CAMP 53
Dent, Dr. Paula (International President) 41
DKG Society International: A Growing, Involved, and Supportive Society of Women Educators, The 82
Room School 75
FOUNDERS’ DAY CELEBRATIONS 45, 74, 75
Founders’ Day: A Victorian Celebration 75
Founders’ Fashions 74
Frey, Deborah 77
Friendships across the Border 50
Frizzell, Mary Morrow 2, 3
From Bud to Bloom: New Growth and Retirement 60
From Scholarships to Scholarships: The Xi State Scholarship Program 24
Frontiers: A History of Xi State 13, 23, 30
Fundraising for Leadership Development 43
Galloway, Avilee 54
Gamma and Beta Delta Christmas Tradition, A 74
Garner, Karen 43
Gifts 73
Gillespie, Beulah 68
Glimpse into the Future, A 83
Glimpses into the Future: A Growing Network of Sisterhood 81
Glover, Dr. Martha M. 86
Glover, Martha Sue 76
Goddard, Robin 78
GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY 30, 31, 42, 76
Golden Anniversary Celebration 30
Golden Gift Makeover, A 78
GOLDEN GIFT PROGRAM 26, 50, 57, 78
Golden, Alice 76, 77
Gorski, Dr. June 83
Grant Writing After Retirement 64
Gray, Jean (International President, Parliamentarian) 19
Greene, Julia 2, 3, 5
Gregory, Dr. Annette 20, 42
Growth as Special Events Committee Chairman 55
Growth in a Differentiated Manner 57
Growth Rewards of Being a Chapter President 49
Hackler, Rita 68
Hall, Mary 2, 4, 13, 15, 17, 20, 24, 40, 44, 70
Hall, Souci 17, 28, 68
Hansel and Gretel 78
Happenings at the Appalachian Fair 75
Harned, Dr. Kathleen 25
Harned, Krista 82
Harris, Julia M. 2, 4
Harris, Nancy 44
Hartsook, Evangeline 2, 4, 24
Health of our Educators: A Future Perspective 83
Hedrick, Bonnie 64
Henderson, Avis 77
Hendrix, Doris Ann iv, 16, 17, 20, 23, 33, 34, 73
Henegar, Vera Jo iv, 16, 17, 20, 23, 34, 46, 68
Henry, Nancy 34
Hensley, Greta 64
Hesitant President, A 51
Heywood, Rosina 34
Hickman, Sheila 64
Hicks, Amy Elmore 53
HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST 13, 31
Hinson, Barbara 16, 20, 31, 33, 34, 68
Hodgson, Dr. Julia 2, 5
Holden, Eunah Temple (National President, Int. Exec. Sec.) 25
Holt, Joan 75
Honored to Receive Scholarships 77
Honoring Leadership and Achievement 45
Hooper, Kim 86
Hopper, Margaret 15, 17, 20, 27, 29, 30, 32, 70
Householder, Julia 25, 73
Hughes, Mable 15
Hunter, Frances 27
Husk, Mary Jo 15, 17, 20, 28, 29
Hyde, Evelyn 28
Imagining the Society’s Response, Role, and Responsibility 88
In Delta Kappa Gamma: Out of the Nest and into the Skies 49
In the Spotlight 55
Inman, Ardith (International Parliamentarian) 34
Installation of Alpha Chapter, Guatemala 27
INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS FUND 14, 26
Ivey, Marilyn 20, 26, 30, 34
Jackson, Betty 30, 54
Jackson, Judy 51, 78
Jackson, Pam 74
Jamagin, Eula 17
Jeffries, Pam 51
Johnson, Geneva 75
Johnson, Georgia 72
Jones, Anrita 42
Jones, Dr. Juliaette 15, 24, 25
Making Friends at Southeast Regional Conference, 2009 77
Making It Happen 85
Mandatory Kindergarten 32
Marshall, Martha 2, 14, 20, 30, 33
Matthews, Dr. Ruby (International President) 33
Mauldin, Barbara 68
Maycie Katherine Southall: Her Life and Contributions to Education 13, 24
Mayes, Anne 51
McCall, Lotty K. 15, 17, 24, 27
McCluen, Martha 25
McCrary, Linda C. iv, 16, 17, 18, 20, 33, 34, 41, 43, 82
McDonald, Ruth 17, 23, 25, 26
McKernon, Sandra (MS) 35
McLain, Mary 35
McMan, Sharon 28, 29
McNabb, Edythe N. 23
McReynolds, Sally 34
Me and My Shadow 54
Meaningful Community Involvement for Retired Educator 63
Medearis Lee, Anne 16, 17, 20, 33, 34, 41
Meeting My Mentor 71
Memorable Moments in Delta Kappa Gamma 60
MENTORS/ROLE MODELS 70-72
Michael, Gertrude 17, 26, 45
Miracle in the Mailbox 56
Miss Georgia Bell 71
Miss Mary Hall’s Admonition to Members 70
Mize, Brenda 77
Models for Daughters 71
Moling, Carol 60
Monroe, Cindy 74
More, Ann M. 52
Morgan, Barbara 69
Morrell, Carmen 61
Morrow, Patricia (Pat) 16, 20, 33, 54
Morton Alyse H. 15, 17, 20, 23, 25, 67, 73
Morton, Dorothy 2, 16, 17, 18, 20, 28, 29, 30, 33
Moss, Sarah 52
Mueller, Mary 69
Mullikin, Kerry 73
Murphy, Dr. Irene (International President) 54
My Best Memory 71
My First Christmas as Area II Direc-

Jones, Lois iv, 16, 17, 20, 24, 29, 41
Jones, Pat 76
Jones, Patsye 38, 76
Journey of Learning 63
Juarez, Dr. Sandra 56
Justice, Ramona 54
Kenik, Mary Ann 41
Kenne, Freda 15
Kimmins, Dr. Dovie 33, 68
King, Dr. Rita Schaerer 4, 57, 70
King, Harriett 68
Knowlton, Dr. Ruth 15, 17, 20, 27, 28, 29
La Fever, Susan 71
Laura Ingalls Wilder Christmas Dinner 74
Leach, Nancy 45
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT 13, 14, 26, 29, 30, 43, 51, 62
Leadership Development Conferences for State Committees/Chapter Officers 26
Leadership/Management Seminars 29
Legislative Link 78
LEGISLATIVE SEMINARS/SYM-POSIA 13, 14, 28, 77, 78
Legislative Seminars/Symposia: Purpose Four 28
Lessons Learned from Elizabeth Wiggins 71
Life from My Kitchen Window 59
Lifted Up by Delta Kappa Gamma Sisters 73
Light from Many Candles 13, 30
Litterer, Dr. Jean Gray 87
Lives Changed by Travel 50
Liz WHORLEY BRADLEY PROFESSIONAL GROWTH AWARD 13, 30, 31, 34, 53, 58
Liz Whorley Bradley Professional Growth Award 31
Lokey, Anne Elizabeth 26, 30
Looking Forward without Abandoning the Past 86
Looking into the Crystal Ball 81
Lost Chapter Rules 76
Lucile Cornetet Award: A Passport to Professional Development Activities 56
LUCILE CORNETET PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARD 30, 56, 59, 61
Luton, Katherine 73
Lyons, Bea 69
MacKinlay, Mary Hetherington 2, 5, 15
Parkinson, Nell 2, 6, 15
Parks, Nina 68
Parton, Dolly 14, 46, 73
Past State Presidents’ Breakfast: “Steal” Magnolias 43
Patrick, Erline 32
Paxton, Dr. Willene iv, 13, 16, 17, 20, 29, 33, 34, 44, 67
Payne, Jenny 68
Peccolo-Taylor, Saralee 50
Peckennaugh, Patsy 23
Perkinson, Mary Evelyn 57
Pilkinton, Mary 75
Pineault, Sandra 33, 63
Pioneer Women of Tennessee 24
Pond, Lake, River, Ocean: A Personal Growth Journey 58
Pope, Patsy 16, 17, 20, 28, 29, 30, 33
Porter, Kay 53
Powell, Carolyn 76
Powell, Dr. Dorrie 45, 49, 78
Powell, Wanda 41
Powers, Sue 15
Preparation for Golden Anniversary Celebration 76
Preservation of Xi State History 30
PRESIDENTS’ BANQUET AND RECEPTION 45
Pride and Passion 52
PROJECTS, CHAPTER 64, 74-76
PROJECTS, STATE 13, 31, 35, 36
Rains, Marsha H. 56
Randall, Elizabeth Chase 2, 6
Randall: A Special Xi State Convention Memory 68
Rants, Dr. Carolyn (International President) ii
Rawls, Dr. Flora H. 15, 17, 20, 23
Reasons, June 49
Recognition of Pioneer Educators 24
Recognizing Exceptional Service 44
Reed, Katherine 73
Reflecting on the Founders: Reaching for the Future 45
Remembering the Influence of Others 45
Reynolds, Tommie 2, 15, 17
Ripp, Cynthia 88
Rives, Dee Dee iii, iv, 17, 67, 69, 77
Rogers, Lucille 13
Rogers, Sherry 84
Rose Convention, The 69
Rudd, Madge (International Executive Secretary) 25
Russell, Amanda Bibb 2, 6
Rye, Imogene 76
Sadowski, Becky 16, 17, 20, 34, 46, 75
Salinas de Resendez, Margot (Nuevo Leon, Mexico) 50
Sanders, Dean 74
Satterfield, Pat 73
Saunders, E. May 2, 3, 7
Scholarship Motivated by Scholarship 61
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM 13, 56, 61, 77
Scott, LaVonne 67
Scott, Nita 49
Seizing the Tomorrow Today 87
SERVICE AT NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL LEVEL 15
Setting Up a Member for Success 72
Shane, Helen Lacy 2, 7
Shaver, Marilyn 58
Sherer, Dr. Margaret 15, 16, 17, 20, 28, 29, 30, 32
Sherrill, Ann 43
Shields, Vivian 77
Shifting Sands 87
Showcasing Members’ Talents 42
Shutt, Phyllis Coker 23
Sides, Debbie 68
SILENT AUCTION 43
Sims, Nancy 33
Smith, Beverly 44
Smith, Dr. Deborah 81
Smith, Nora 25
Smith, Phyllis 68
Smith, Rosemary 74
Smith, Sandra 41
Sorsby, Janice iv, 16, 17, 20, 27, 69
Souders, Dr. Jens P. iv, 16, 17, 20, 23, 29, 33, 34, 35, 41, 50, 62, 63, 72, 81
Sounds of Music 42
Southall, Dr. Maycie K. 2, 15, 17, 20, 23, 24, 27, 28, 32, 43, 44, 67, 70
SOUTHEAST REGIONAL CONFERENCES 13, 14, 25, 29, 34, 46, 62, 77
Special Moment with Experienced Teachers, A 73
Spinning Webs on Halloween 53
STATE PRESIDENTS 17
State Support of World Fellowships 37
Steen, Michelle 85
Stephenson, Louise 29
Stout, Carol 72
Strategic Action Plan 14
Swoope, Amy 84
Tale Waggin’ Teachers: Motivating a Member to Follow a Dream 53
Tanner, Mary Katherine 17
Taylor, Edith 72
Taylor, Randall 43, 68
TCAPS Recovery Night 74
TENNESSEE BREAKFAST 46
The Birthday Cake 67
Thompson, Ursula 72
Tilley, Dr. Alicia 31, 60
Trail of Memories 13
TRAIN STOP STORY TELLING FESTIVAL 64
Transfer and Involvement = Lasting Friendships 75
Transformed Member, A 54
TRENT LOTT MIDDLE SCHOOL 14, 35
Tudor, Viola 72
Uniting Women in Genuine Spiritual Fellowship 46
Vernon, Diane 55
VISION FOUNDATION 14, 30, 34, 57, 63, 76
VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS 42
Voss, Elizabeth 17
Wadley, Mary 50
Walker, Gail 67
Wardlow, Katherine 41
Warwick, Elaine 16, 17, 20, 35, 36, 58, 77
Wealth of Warm Memories, A 72
WEBSITE, STATE 14, 33
Weir, Rachel 49
Welch, Mildred 83
Welcoming First-time Attendees 41
Wells, Martha 77
Westbrook, Susan 34, 62
Wet Beginning, A 72
Whicker, Dr. Isabel 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 24, 30, 32, 69
When Asked, Just Say “Yes” 70
Whiff of Perfume, A 73
Whorley Bradley, Elizabeth (Liz) 16, 17, 20, 79, 31
Wiggins, Elizabeth 71
Wilcox, June 30, 42
Williams, Eleanor Rhea 68
Williams, Mary Jane 64
Williams, Maxine 26, 41
Williams, Pearl 26
Williamson, Patsy 71
Wilson, Mel 69
Wingo, Virginia 20
Wolf, Martha 73
Womble, Diana 28, 33
Women Teachers to the Calling 52
Woods, Sherry 35
Workshops: Special Gifts 44
WORLD FELLOWSHIPS 37
XI STATE CONVENTION ICEBREAKER 68
XI STATE HIGH SCHOOL ESSAY CONTEST 31
XI STATE HISTORY, VOLUME II 14, 30
XI STATE NEWS 13, 23
XI STATE NEWS 23
XI STATE VISION FOR 2020 89
XI STATE VISION FOUNDATION 34
XI STATE STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN 38
XI STATE WEBSITE 33
YARD SALE FOR VISION FOUNDATION 76
Yoakley, Ina 2, 8, 15
Youmans, Martha 15
Young, Teresa 63
Zuccarello, Helen 17, 20, 23

93
REFERENCES


Hall, Mary. Trail of Memories.


Note: Volumes of Xi State history, updates, and highlights may be accessed directly online at www.xistate.org or indirectly at www.deltakappagamma.net.