



## Celebrate 2010-2012

Fall with its cooler temperatures, falling leaves, mounds of pumpkins, and colorful mums makes me happy. Coming to Pi Chapter makes me happy too. I enjoy being with you. Despite your hectic day, you arrive smiling and willing to work together. Your dedication motivates me; your laughter lifts my spirits.

I am very excited about our October meeting and hope you are too. Kathleen Benedict will share her journey of the past year as she prepared for and then completed her travel through China. What an opportunity for us to learn through Kathleen's firsthand account of people, places, culture and education in China.

Two Ad Hoc Committees – Schools for Africa and Early Career Educators – have been created. Each committee will bring recommendations to our chapter concerning these International Projects. Lisa H. Smith, Sarah Idzik and Rhonda Phillips are reviewing the information on Schools for Africa and will offer suggestions on how we can participate in this project. Pam Allen and Laura Boden are looking at ways Pi Chapter can support our early career teachers. Many new teachers do not stay longer than 5 years and all teachers are experiencing added stress with the new evaluation system. Teachers need our support. If you are willing to work on this committee, please let me, Pam or Laura know of your interest.



President Ann Gann, Xi State Membership Committee member, and Kathie Hurst, member of the Xi State Finance Committee, are seen here with Area II Director Donna Campbell, Beta Pi Chapter. Ann, Kathie, and Vera Jo Henegar traveled together to committee meetings in Nashville on September 17.

### Pi Chapter Officers/Leaders

|                          |                   |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| President.....           | Ann Gann          |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> VP ..... | Joni Simmons      |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP ..... | Lisa Swisher      |
| Recording Sec. ....      | Rhonda Phillips   |
| Corres. Sec. ....        | Patsye Thurmon    |
| Parliamentarian.....     | Susan Fowler      |
| Treasurer .....          | Kathleen Benedict |
| Editor .....             | Vera Jo Henegar   |
| Newsletter Comm.....     | Bobbye Pointer    |
| Webmaster.....           | Kay Porter        |

### October 4, 2011

Memorial United Methodist Church  
Fellowship Hall  
5:00 p.m.

**Inspiration**  
Kathy Hurst

**Hostesses**  
Pam Allen, Laura Boden  
Lucy Van Cleve, Janie Jackson,  
Reita Yadon

**Program**  
Kathleen Benedict will present the program on her trip to China as recipient of the NEA Teacher of Excellence Award

#### YOU NEED TO BRING

- Box Tops for Education
- \$85 Dues
- \$2.00 for TN Reception
- Recommendations for Membership



*Wear your official DKG  
pin or pay fifty cents.*

### XI STATE HAS NEW COMMITTEES

One of Xi State's new committees is named the International Projects Committee. This committee will oversee Xi State's involvement in World Fellowship, Schools for Africa, Early Educator Mentoring, and Support of the DKG/UN Relationship. In other words, this committee will be the liaison between International and Xi State in matters concerning the projects of DKG International. They will then report to chapters on these projects. An Ad Hoc Committee has been appointed to plan the Tennessee reception at the International convention in NYC next summer. Xi State will be honoring International President Jensi Souders of Ooltewah, Tennessee.

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

**Happy October Birthday to Carmen Barrera on the second and Marsha Livingston on the ninth.**

Continue to remember **Mary Lou Stooksbury** as she recovers from foot surgery and fights diabetes.

**Pearl Rhea** is in the hospital. Remember Pearl in your prayers.

Also remember **Rhonda Phillips** as she cares for her ailing mother and for **Paula Campbell's** seriously ill brother.

Congratulations to grandmothers **Pam Allen and Marilyn Buckner**. Also, to

**Patsye Thurmon** who has a new daughter-in-law.

Congratulation to **Kelly White Williams** who became a bride this summer and who also received a grant for her library from ORAU.

Pat yourself on the back! **Pi Chapter** was awarded the Silver Award for Chapter Excellence at the Xi State Convention in June.

Pi Chapter members were saddened to learn of the death of **Reserve Member Gertrude Harness**. **Gertrude** was very active in Pi Chapter until health and age prevented her attending meetings. She was initiated in 1960.

Please let Vera Jo know of any joys or concerns to include in the newsletter.

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

Oct. 1 *Xi State News* deadline  
 Oct 4 Pi Chapter meeting  
 Oct 31 Deadline for dues  
 Nov 1 Pi Chapter meeting  
 Dec 1 Workshop proposal due  
 Dec 15 Chapter Yearbook due  
 Dec 25 Merry Christmas  
 Dec 31 Deadline for LWB appl.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

The following information is from Dr. Angela Bedenbaugh, Chair of the U.S. Forum.

The registration form for the National Legislative Seminar is available at <http://deltakappagamma.org/US-Forum/documents/files/NLS%20Reg%20Form%202012.doc>

Contact addresses for government information can be obtained through the Congressional Switchboard 1-866-327-8670 (this is a toll free number) or at <http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House of Representatives; <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the U.S. Senate.

Telephone numbers for the White House switchboard are 202-224-3121 or 202-225-3121

State government contact information can be obtained through

<http://www.emailyourgovernor.com/>  
 Information on how your congressman voted on key bills can be found at : <http://projects.washingtonpost.com/congress/11/bills>

**FIVE CONSTITUENT CONTACTS WILL CAUSE A LEGISLATOR TO PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO A GIVEN ISSUE.**

### **PI CHAPTER BUDGET APPROVED**

The budget for 2011-2012 for Pi Chapter was approved at the September meeting. A new line item included this year was the Et cetera Fund. Money in this fund will be use to pay for unexpected expenses. Money in this fund will be collected from member donations. Those members paying more that the dues amount may designate that the overage be put in the et cetera fund.

### **COMMITTEE NEWS**

**Research Committee** has set as its goals this year to highlight a member of the chapter in each newsletter and to update the Pi Chapter history. Of course, the committee will be available to assist the President when she calls upon them and to research info on programs for chapter meetings if asked to do so.

**Membership Committee** wishes to remind you to bring your recommendations for membership forms to the October meeting. Look around your school and other surroundings for quality educators.

**Legislative Chairman** Marsha Livingston announced a meeting with legislators at the OR Library on December 5 at 4:00 p.m.. Put this on your calendar.



Marsha Livingston has been a member of Pi Chapter since 2002.

## **MEET MARSHA LIVINGSTON**

by Susan Fowler

If Marsha Livingston had listened to her parents, she would not be a member of Delta Kappa Gamma. After graduating from the University of Tennessee with a BA in math, they encouraged her to become a computer programmer. Instead, she pursued an MA in French and became a teacher. During her 33 year career in Anderson County, she taught at Clinton Junior High School and Anderson County High School. Many of her students were French contest winners at both the state and national levels. Since retiring six years ago, she has had more time to pursue some favorite hobbies which include water skiing, reading, and square dancing with her husband, Mark .

Marsha serves as the legislative chair for Pi Chapter. Her role in that capacity has taught her that politicians, with the stroke of a pen, have the power to drastically alter public education in America. She finds this to be both a sobering and frightening reality.