



The Drexel Society, Inc.  
Houston Chapter



Drexelaine Elise LeNoir Morris  
October 25, 1916 – July 31, 2016



## NEWSLETTER

2026 May - June

*From the Desk of President Elizabeth Owens:*

### **Happy Mother's Day-May What it means to be a Mother**

In the busy rush of our daily lives—between appointments, milestones, and the endless “to-do” lists—it is easy to lose sight of the incredible magnitude of the role you play. Today, we wanted to take a moment to pause and reflect on what it truly means to be a mother.

Motherhood isn't just a title; it's a verb. It is a constant, evolving act of courage. It means being the “calm in the storm” when things get difficult. It means being a teacher, even when you feel like you're still learning the lessons yourself. It means possessing the unique ability to see the world not just as it is, but as it could be for your children.

Within this organization, we see that strength every day. We see it in the way you support one another, the way you advocate for your families, and the way you show up—even on the days when your own tank is running low.

We also know that the path to motherhood looks different for everyone. Motherhood is defined by the heart, not just by biology. To the adoptive mothers who chose their children with fierce devotion, the foster mothers providing safe harbor, the stepmothers navigating new waters with grace, and the grandmothers, aunts, and members who have stepped up into the gap—you are mothers. Whether you mother by birth, by choice, or by circumstance, your bond is forged through presence, sacrifice, and the daily choice to put a child's needs above your own.

**Being a mother means being an architect of the future. Every small act of kindness, every firm boundary set with love, and every moment of shared laughter is a brick in the foundation of the next generation.**

To every woman in our community who carries the heart of a mother: thank you for your resilience and your unwavering commitment. You are the heartbeat of this organization, and we are so proud to walk this path alongside you.

### **Happy Father's Day, June What it means to be a Father**

Fatherhood has long been defined by provision and protection. But we know that true fatherhood is measured by the strength of his presence. Being a father is a commitment to being a steady anchor in a fast-moving world. It is the choice to be a teacher, if integrity, a listener in times of doubt, and a consistent source of encouragement. It is about showing up—not just for the big games and graduations, but for the quiet Tuesday nights and the difficult conversations that shape a child's character. We also recognize that the title “Father” is earned through love, not just lineage.

### **Fatherhood is a bond of the spirit, not just biology.**

To the adoptive fathers who claimed their children with intention, the stepfathers who chose to step in and build a bridge of trust, the foster father providing stability and a safe place to grow, and the mentors, uncles, and grandfathers who have become the father figure a child needs—you are fathers. Your impact is not defined by a shared name or DNA but by the guidance you offer and the legacy of kindness you leave behind.

To all the men in our community, thank you for the work you do. Whether you are a father by birth, by choice, or by circumstance, you are an architect of the next generation. Your leadership and unwavering support are the foundations upon which our children build their dreams.

## ***Save the Date:***

October 2—4, 2026.

### ***The Drexel Society, Incorporated 25<sup>th</sup> Biennial National Convention***

**Hosting Chapter: Breaux Bridge**

**Double Tree by Hilton Hotel-Hotel Lafayette**

**1521 West Pinhook Rd.**

**Lafayette, Louisiana 70503-3158**

**337-235-6111**

Shared bus transportation arrangements – pending



#### **Convention Bus Transportation:**

On April 23, 2026, a letter was sent, via email, to all members regarding scheduling a cost-sharing bus trip to the National Convention in Lafayette, Louisiana. The letter details some important facts you may need to know about the trip. Please check your method of mail receipt (email, etc.) and respond accordingly. There's work to do and a place for you at Convention 2026.

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## **Spotlight**

**O N E M O R E T I M E !!!**

Thank you, thank you, and again, thank you to all for an outstanding, elegant, sophisticated, uniquely memorable Presentation Charity Ball night. It was an overwhelmingly successful occasion. Thank you for your commitment to making a difference.

#### **Sponsors/Donors Acknowledgments**

To our sponsors, donors, and supporters, we thank you so much for your invaluable contributions to our biennial fundraiser, The Presentation Charity Ball. We are grateful for the generosity extended to our program and cannot express the positive impact of your support. Thank you, thank you and thank you.

Scholarship Donations:

- Neema Property Management Foundation
- Silent/Anonymous Donor
- Drexelaire Carole Phillips, in honor of Charter Member, the late Drexelaire Winnie Reid
- All others.

*"Lord, show me how I can help my neighbors." (by Julia Greeley 1833-1918)*

#### **Congratulations and Best Wishes to our Presentation Charity Ball winners:**



- |                             |                                 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ○ Miss Presentee 2026       | Presentee. Lyric Bre'Nay Martin |
| ○ 1 <sup>st</sup> Runner up | Presentee Annette Joseph        |
| ○ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Runner up | Presentee Aniyah Hunter         |
| ○ Miss Perseverance         | Presentee Annette Joseph        |

#### **Miss Presentee Reign 2019-2025**

We gratefully thank Krystal Willis, our 2019 Ms. Presentee, for carrying the "crown" over the last five-plus years, standing steady through it all. She has been a "rock" for everyone, and seeing her relinquish this role is a huge loss. Now, she passes the torch to another (Ms. Lyric Bre'Nay Martin), leaving behind a legacy of strength. We love and appreciate her more than words can say, and we wish her well in the next chapter of her life. Blessings to you, Krystal!

## Empower Wellness/Breast Cancer

### Awareness Committee:

The committee is asking help gathering promotional products .to assist in raising awareness for breast cancer at convention. Example products could include the following: *Breast cancer pink awareness ribbons, pink ball point pens, face mask, notebooks, cups, sunglasses, kitchen towels, badges, bracelets, etc. Pink is breast cancer color.* Please give your donations to Chairperson Drexelaire Gloria Griffin or any of the Wellness team members

## **MEMBERSHIP** Committee

Thank you, Chairperson Drexelaire Yvonne Freeman and committee members, for your diligence in selecting four candidates who meet the “on board check” list for Neophytes. They are now working hard to meet Orientation and Induction requirements. Good luck to all four. We look forward to welcoming them as they achieve Drexelaire status.

### Orientation for Neophytes



#### **Save the Date:**

The date of **June 20, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.** has been tentatively set as Orientation for the four Neophytes selected to become full members of The Drexel Society, Inc. Orientation will take place at St. Mary of the Purification Catholic Church, 3006 Rosedale Street, Houston, Tx. 77004, in the church building, room 100, 1<sup>st</sup> floor (located near the back parking lot entrance, across from the rectory building). Telephone no. 713-528-0571. You will be advised of a change in venue, if necessary. Members, please come out and support our potential new members on this special occasion. Attire: Business/Smart casual

### Dreams Alive/Lenoir-Drexel Awards:

Thank you, Drexelaire Sylvia Carrier, for a thorough and detailed report of Project Dreams Alive and the Lenoir-Drexel Awards [Cultural & Literary Award and Humanitarian Award] See the March 21, 2026, end-of-minutes for more information on nominations. Members, please, please consider nominating someone in either of these prestigious award categories. We want representation at the convention.



### Queen Candidate:



Our new candidate for Houston Chapter Queen is Drexelaire Kim Charles. Please remember to support her efforts to raise money for this year. We want her to “reign” In The Drexel Society, Inc.

### Adopt-A-Family:



A Presentee (also part of Adopt A Family) has shared a moving and emotional testimony since the Ball. It will be discussed at the meeting. Be there!

#### Health & Wellness:

Body signs you should notice:

|                                       |                                   |                                   |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Too much yawning: Low oxygen          | Headaches: Dehydration            | Constant tiredness: Low vitamin D |
| Bad breath: Gut trouble               | Cold hands/feet: Poor circulation | Dizziness: Low blood sugar        |
| Ringing ears: High blood pressure     | Burning tongue: Low vitamin B     | Night cramps: Low magnesium       |
| Hair loss: Low iron                   | Weak smell: Low zinc              | Numb fingers: Low B-12            |
| Swollen legs: Heart or kidney disease | Bleeding gums: Low vitamin C      | Sugar cravings: Low magnesium     |



Kenya (Ricks) Bonnie  
Rose Braxton

Michele Courtney  
Barbara Price  
Michelle Duplechain  
Gloria Griffin  
Mary Ida Reed  
Geneva Charles  
Shirley Hall  
Karen McGarthy



Prayer Breakfast Committee:

Thank you March Prayer Breakfast Committee whose theme – “Papal Intention-Disarmaments, Peace, and U.S. Global Conflicts,” provided needed reinforcement that we, as faith believers, in unity and tradition, continue to await in hope for the state of our country, and its families.



Awards:

Submit names for Culture and Literacy awards to Drexelaire Sylvia Carrier. We want representation at the convention.

**NEXT MEETING and Refreshment Dates 2025/2026:**

| Meeting Date       | Refreshment Group                                                                       | Meeting Location/Room#                                                   |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| May 16, 2026       | St. Anne de Beaupre; Our Lady Star of the Sea; St. Vincent de Paul; Sacred Heart-Manvel | St. Dominic Ctr. – 2401 Holcombe Blvd., Morkovsky Hall, Room 202         |
| July 18, 2026      | St. Benedict the Abbot                                                                  | St. Dominic Ctr. – 2401 Holcombe Blvd., Morkovsky Hall, Room 106         |
| September 19, 2026 | Our Mother of Mercy; St. Monica; St. Rose of Lima                                       | St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church, 4600 Reed Rd., Harris Hall (Pending) |
| November 21, 2026  | St. Philip Neri; St. Peter the Apostle                                                  | St. Dominic Ctr. – 2401 Holcombe Blvd., Morkovsky Hall, Room 104         |

**Prayer for the Sick, Shut-In & Families of Deceased:**

Please continue to pray for our members who are sick and/or shut in. Also, pray for the consolation of families of deceased members, relatives, and friends.

**Dates to Remember**

**May**

**10 - Mother's Day**

**14 - The Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)**

**25 - Memorial Day (Observed)**

**June**

**21 - Father's Day**

**19 - Juneteenth**

**20 - Neophyte Orientation**

Youth Awareness:

Don't forget to **bring New Books** to meetings and give them to Drexelaire Angela Duplechain. We want representation at the convention.



**Houston Chapter**

Meeting St. Dominic Center  
Morkovsky Hall, Rm 202

**Saturday, May 16, 2026**

**9:30 a.m.**

**AGENDA**

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Opening Ceremonies**
  - A. Welcome
  - B. Opening Prayer
  - C. Roll call/Sign-in
  - D. Adoption of Agenda
- III. **Minutes**
- IV. **Correspondence**
- V. **Report of Financial Officers**
  - A. Financial Secretary
  - B. Treasurer
- VI. **Unfinished Business**
  - A. Ways & Means update
  - B. Convention Bus Travel update
  - C. Travel/cost-share status
  - D. Battered Abused/Hunger/Homeless
  - E. Stay at Home Tea
  - F. Empower Wellness
  - G. Operating Budget updates
  - H. Strategic Planning update
- VII. **New Business**
  - A. Call to Convention Packets
  - B. Youth Awareness/Education
  - C. Thanksgiving Baskets
  - D. Senior Citizens Project Gala
  - E. Adopt a family
  - F. Neophyte Orientation
  - G. Silent Auction-4 items/chapter
  - H. Dreams Alive/Lenoir-Drexel Awards
- VIII. **Good of the Order**
- IX. **Announcements**
- X. **Closing prayer**
- XI. **Adjournment**