

# theLamp

FURISHE E

WHERE WILL IT LEAD YOU?









# ARCHIVAL

The iconic photo of our six Founders was taken in November 1902. Upon the momentous occasion of the chapter picture, the photographer suggested a slight decolletage would make a more pleasing portrait and five Founders rushed about seeking their lowest-necked frocks, or mercilessly slashing out good lace yokes from their Sunday bests. Anna Keen, thinking the matter over, decided that such a low neck was against her convictions and should not be recorded against her for posterity's criticism; hence, for all to see, the high collar and the firm set of her mouth in the photo demonstrating her convictions as high!

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Get inspired by three Delta Zeta alumnae who have let curiosity lead them in their lives. And then think, where can my curiosity lead me?

#### **20 Choose Curiosity**

Speaker and author James Robilotta challenges us to make curiosity a choice in our interactions with others.

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#### ALFA

News, Chit-Chat, Your Words, Show of Hands, Take Note, Six (Plus One), Heritage



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Inspiring Leadership





#### **THE LAMP**

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

# The LAMP of Delta Zeta

VOLUME III, ISSSUE I Spring / Summer 2022

# DELTA ZETA SORORITY NATIONAL COUNCIL 2021-2023

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#### **FOUNDERS**

Alfa Lloyd Hayes, 1880-1962 Mary Collins Galbraith, 1879-1963 Anna Keen Davis, 1884-1949 Julia Bishop Coleman, 1881-1959 Mabelle Minton Hagemann, 1880-1929 Anne Simmons Friedline, 1879-1932

# THE ORDER OF THE LAUREL

Irene Caroline Boughton Iota-Iowa

Grace Mason Lundy Epsilon-Indiana

Elizabeth Coulter Stephenson Alpha-Miami (OH)

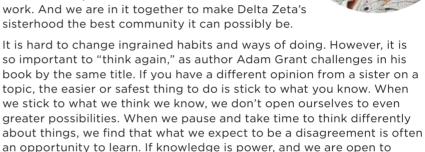
> Myrtle Graeter Hinkly Delta-DePauw (IN)

Norma Minch Andrisek Gamma Alpha-Baldwin Wallace (OH)

# Thinking Differently

opportunities, we gain more knowledge.

Delta Zeta builds community. We build community through our curiosity for each other, and the relationships developed through our shared experiences. That doesn't mean community building is easy. It takes a lot of work to understand and appreciate the differences which make up our sisterhood. Sisterhood takes work. And we are in it together to make Delta Zeta's sisterhood the best community it can possibly be



This year, Delta Zeta has been thinking again about what we know, or don't know, about the member experience. Just this spring, our collegiate members took part in a membership experience survey in partnership with the Timothy J. Piazza Center for Fraternity and Sorority Research at Pennsylvania State University. As we await the final reports on what our current collegiate members tell us their experience has been, we need to remain open to the feedback and use it to shape the future.

We have also been rethinking the alumnae experience. There is no longer a "typical" life path after graduation. Structures that have worked in the past do not effectively work for the alumnae leaving our campuses today. Volunteers have been examining the alumnae experience to create more ways to continuously engage members throughout their lives. We've seen some of that work already with the newly redesigned Truly Connected series, which offers in-person and virtual networking events and has expanded to include Delta Zeta's mentorship platform, TC Grow.

These are all exciting opportunities for our sisterhood. And they require some hard work as well! Unraveling ingrained habits and ways of doing are extremely difficult. There are some bumps along the road, but, in the end, by being a bit more curious and open to a new way of thinking, we will find ourselves with a much stronger community.

Christy M. Phillips-Brown

**National President** 

# ALFA

Six (Plus One)

# How to Navigate a Mentoring Relationship

I am the daughter of Vietnamese refugees. Without an influence at home to guide me through the process of high school, college and career, I discovered the power of mentorship. Consider the impact a mentor could have on your life, and use these tips to navigate, nurture and make the most of the relationship.

#### ONE

#### **Know Yourself.**

Why do you want mentoring? You can have a general mentor or one for a specific area. Decide which direction you want your career or personal growth - and the mentoring relationship - to take.

#### **TWO**

#### Ask for the first meeting.

Ask for a simple meeting first, not a full-on mentorship. You need to build a relationship before you make a larger ask (and also know if this person could actually be your mentor).



#### PLUS<sub>1</sub>

Show up for yourself! It's an incredible feeling when you discover what you're capable of by being your own advocate. While it can be scary to ask for what you want because of the fear of rejection, you must believe in yourself and have the confidence to act on those beliefs.

#### **THREE**

#### Get to know

them. Once the relationship is established, get to know each other on a personal level. You don't always need to talk about careers. Most people will be thrilled to share their interests outside of work. and this gives you the opportunity to make a deeper connection.

#### **FOUR**

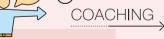
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#### Express gratitude. Show

your appreciation for the attention and guidance your mentor is providing. Start by writing a thank you note, after each meeting, acknowledging their time and that you appreciate it.



# MENTORING



#### **FIVE**

#### Keep them updated.

A simple text or email update, mentioning that you'd taken your mentor's recommendation, goes a long way. As a mentor myself, I can say there's nothing more rewarding.



Offer to help. Have you noticed something your mentor mentions where you could potentially help? Offer your time back to them. Mentoring isn't one-sided. Find ways you can help them as well.







#### MOTIVATION



Janet T. Phan is a Senior Technical Product Manager for Amazon's Project Kuiper, launching satellites to get fast, reliable broadband to underserved and unserved communities around the world,

the founder of Thriving Elements, a global nonprofit that connects girls in underserved communities with STEM mentors, and the author of "Boldly You: A Story about Discovering What You're Capable of When You Show Up for Yourself," available at boldly-you.com.

### AIFA

# Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging Course

Launched for Collegiate Members and Advisors



#### **DELTA ZETA HAS BEEN ENGAGING**

in planning and discussions around the member experience and organizational operations, striving to create the best environment for our members to thrive and find deep and lasting friendships and, most importantly, belonging. Meaningful and long-lasting change to an organization of Delta Zeta's scale takes time and intentionality. It takes a commitment to engage in uncomfortable but necessary conversations. We have wonderful sisters who do not always agree, see the same world or know what the best answer is - that is why we have these discussions together to learn and grow together.

In Fall 2020, Delta Zeta engaged subject-matter expert Dr. Ianthe Dunn-Murad to chair Delta Zeta's Vision Committee, comprised of stakeholders and members representing the diversity of the Sorority in race, ethnicity, background, experiences and roles. The National Council charged the committee to examine the entire membership experience, including organizational culture, recruitment, leadership opportunities and membership benefits. The Vision Committee submitted their recommendations to National Council, and adopting further

education on diversity, inclusion and belonging was a part of their recommendations.

Delta Zeta has partnered with Vector Solutions, formerly EverFi, a leading digital learning provider, to present the "Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging for Students" course. The course is available for all collegiate members and alumnae advisory board members. Additionally, all Delta Zeta Chapter Presidents,

# PRELIMINARY COURSE FEEDBACK

720/0 of respondents said the course improved their knowledge and skills to reflect upon their power and privilege.

64% replied that that the course content was very important to them.

770/0 of respondents agreed that the Delta Zeta membership experience encourages them to interact with others who are not like them.

70 0/ said that the Delta Zeta 0/0 experience supports their identity development.

010 of respondents said the Delta Zeta experience.

College Chapter Directors, regional and national volunteers have completed the course to advance their pursuit of knowledge around diversity, inclusion, equity and belonging.

Participants are completing a pre- and post-survey that will provide Delta Zeta with valuable data regarding member knowledge and current membership experiences around diversity, inclusion and belonging. This information will be used to guide future education and development opportunities and potential operational updates.

Over the coming months,
Delta Zeta volunteers and staff
will continue peer-to-peer
conversations around the course
and topics addressed. College
chapters are encouraged to consider
implementing the course for all
chapter members. •

#### **COURSE OVERVIEW**

Introduction • Your Identities
• Intersectionality • Bias
•Identity Management • Your
Influence • Power • Equity
• Oppression • Allyship •
Your Community • Inclusion
Strategics • Microaggressions

• Intent vs. Impact • Conclusion



#### OCTOBER 24, 2022 FOUNDERS DAY CHALLENGE

The Delta Zeta Foundation is planning another day of sisterhood and fundraising with Founders Day Challenge on October 24! Find out more at www.deltazeta.org/foundation.

#### JULY 14-17, 2022 2022 NORMA MINCH ANDRISEK LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE RETURNS

Emerging leaders will be joining us at the 2022 Norma Minch Andrisek Leadership Conference July 14-17 at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. Find out more at www. deltazeta.org/collegians/norma-minch-andrisek-leadership-conference and follow #NMALC22 on social media for highlights from the experience!

#### Digital Exclusive



# HAVE YOU CONNECTED ON TC GROW?

Delta Zeta's Truly Connected Grow is our exclusive networking platform. Are you a new graduate? Are you looking to connect with other professionals? Or maybe just looking for connections with shared interests? Head to trulyconnected.deltazeta. org and plug into the network!

#### **Chit-Chat**

The opportunity to study abroad has returned! Meghan Pierce, Chapter President, Pi Chi-Western Kentucky, was one of 19 Western Kentucky University students selected this year to receive a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship for study abroad. She spoke with the LAMP about her upcoming experience.

# Where do you plan to study now that you've received this scholarship?

I'll be leaving June 4 to participate in a nine-week intensive Arabic language experience through CET Jordan which will take place in the capitol city of Amman.

## Why did you choose this program?

As an international affairs and Arabic major, with a minor in economics, speaking fluent Arabic would help me with my future goals working in international affairs in the Middle East.

# Where did you develop your interest in the Middle East?

In high school, I was exposed to internal affairs, from watching the news and seeing where conflicts were occurring in the world. After undergrad, I'd like to work for the United States State Department,



perhaps in the Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, to work on policy issues in the Middle East. This opportunity will help me reach my future goals!

The Gilman Scholarship started in 2001, and over 125,000 applications have been received and over 34,000 scholarships have been awarded to students participating in study abroad programs and internships around the world.

Do you have a study abroad experience to share? Tag @Delta ZetaNatl on social media!



Some discounts, coverages, payment plans, and features are not available in all states, in all GEICO companies, or in all situations. GEICO contracts with various membership entities and other organizations, but these entities do not underwrite the offered insurance products. Discount anount varies in some states. One group discount applicable per policy. Overage is individual. In New York a premium reduction may be available, GEICO may not be involved in a formal relationship with each organization; however, you still may qualify for a special discount based on your membership, employment or affiliation with those organizations. The GEICO Mobile app and site received #1 rankings according to the Dynatrace OI and 03 2019 Mobile Insurance Scorecards. Customer satisfaction based on an independent study conducted by Alan Newman Research, 2020. GEICO is a registered service mark of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, DC 20076; a Berkshire Haltaway Inc. substilary. GEICO Gecki-o5 image ©1999-2022 © 2022 © 2022 © 2022 Conducted Score Company. Washington, DC 20076; a Berkshire Haltaway Inc. substilary.

### AIFA

#### **Your Words and Pictures**



#### 🗖 Via our inbox

The Delta Zeta shared value that I treasure most is friendship. I firmly believe that having a group you can count on helps you get through the hard times. Friendships have always been my support system and my chapter has given that to me. The friendships I have made in Delta Zeta will last a lifetime. I am surrounded by a group of women that are strong, supportive, caring and trustworthy. I know they will be there to pick me up when I am down, but they will also be my biggest cheerleaders when I succeed. Without Delta Zeta, I would not be who I am today and, for that, I am so grateful.

 Baylee Richter, Omicron Omicron-Lindenwood (MO)



### Via our mailbox

Jean Leberman Milway, Omicron-Pittsburgh (PA) was delighted to receive her Order of the Diamond for 75 years of Delta Zeta membership. She wrote to say, "I'm from a small town in Pennsylvania, and I made many friends that I kept in touch with over the years. I even met my husband, Dean through a sorority sister. I have lived in several cities and always joined the local alumnae chapter and enjoyed being a part of the groups. I gained a lot of self-confidence because of Delta Zeta."



# **f** Via Facebook

Our tribute to Elvina Torra Armento, Gamma Eta-Hunter (NY), went viral on the Delta Zeta Facebook page. Elvina graduated college in 1943 and attained centenarian status on January 16, 2022! Originally a member of Phi Omega Pi, which merged with Delta Zeta, Elvina returned to Hunter College to officially be initiated into Delta Zeta with more than 425 Phi Omega Pi members. Following her initiation into Delta Zeta, she became an active alumna member and joined the San Francisco Peninsula Alumnae Chapter.

# WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE DISNEY MOVIE?

We asked our Instagram followers to tell us their favorite Disney movie! These top six movies certainly inspire our imaginations!



# ALFA



ears ago, in a beautiful land, there was a lovely garden filled with all manner of flowers and watched over by a wise Gardener. In the midst of the garden there was a portion which was the pride of the Gardener's heart. Here were roses of every kind. They were varied in hue and fragrance, in size, beauty and texture. The Gardener worked and dreamed among his roses and watched them with careful eyes. Dreaming there came the desire to add a new variety of a more delicate hue than any there, one that would be fine in texture, rich in fragrance and of enduring strength.

Searching, at last upon the banks of the Killarney in the Land of Loving Kindness, he found a fragile wild rose. From this he took a cutting and returning to his garden he grafted it upon the Red Rose of Courage. With infinite care and tenderness, he watched the cutting and found that it grew and would bloom. The unfolding petals showed the hue he desired, a firmer pink than that of the wild rose, but with the added petals of the Red Rose; united were the strength of the one and the fragrance and delicacy of the other.

From the new growth of the pink rose he selected another cutting. Having prepared a rich soil, he planted it with loving care. Over it he placed the glass called Truth. That no harm might come to his rose he selected six of his worthiest handmaidens to take charge of it. One was named Enthusiasm. Her zeal never tired. Early and late in the midst of her other labors she watched the rose that it would not wither and die. She directed the efforts of her sister, Protection, who guarded the rose that no enemy might do it harm. Sympathy, another sister watched lest the earth around the precious cutting should become dry. Sister Knowledge studied the ways of cultivation, that the rose might be rugged and fragrant. Purity hovered near washing off the plant, taking care that nothing soiled the freshness of its petals. Tenderness ministered both to her

sisters and the rose. Under the care of the Wise Gardener and with the ministrations of the six sisters the new rose flourished and bloomed.

After the cutting took root, the stem developed. The stem of a flower is its pushing force. The stem of our rose is the Council, which through its splendid co-operation and efficiency has given us strength and vigor for the fragile plant so that it has branched out far and wide and has become strong enough to fight successfully any destroying force. Now one stem supports a lovely rose bush bearing hosts of beautiful blossoms. The roses, and every petal of them, know whence the supporting strength of that stem comes and are thankful.

#### The first buds to brave the cold and breeze are our first chapters.

The first buds to brave the cold and breeze are our first chapters; many of their petals are opened out to show a deeper shade of color. Close to the heart of the plant are the unopened buds just lifting their soft-hued faces to the light. These are the newest chapters.

Though every bud is different, for were they all alike the plant would never be so beautiful, it would not be a rose. Yet there is about them a certain similarity in form and harmony, in shading, that marks them all as children of the same mother plant. No bud or half blown rose is unnecessary or unimportant, none must droop or have imperfect edges for the marring of one bud or bloom, or one petal ruins the beauty of the whole plant. May each chapter have the vision of the perfect rose, each girl see the glory of the perfect petal, that the petals may make a perfect full blown rose and the plant become a most beautiful blending of color and form, a perfect creation 6

Legend of a Rose Garden." was written by Elizabeth Coulter Stephenson. Alpha-Miami (OH), Order of the Laurel and Past National President, With poetic feeling. Mrs. Stephenson conceived the Sorority as symbolized in its flower, the lovely Killarney rose, and worked out an appropriate scheme based on that motif. Introducing the entire work with the little story of the Gardener and his search for the perfect rose, she carried her simile on through such later chapters as the Soil (Miami University), the Handmaidens (naturally, our Founders), Thorns (early difficulties) and so on. The scheme was favorably received by the Sorority, and in somewhat modified form was the basis for the toast program at the 1916 Convention.

THE LAMP

"The

### READING ROOM



#### **Dead End Dating**

Kimberly Adams Groff, Delta Theta-Houston (TX), writing under the pseudonym Kimberly Raye, is a USA Today bestselling author, Kim started her first novel in high school and has been writing ever since. To date, she's published more than seventy novels: two of them are prestigious RITA Award nominees, Romance Writers of America's highest award of excellence. She's also been nominated by Romantic Times Book reviews for several Reviewer's Choice awards, as well as a career achievement award. Her books have been featured in numerous magazines, including Cosmo and Better Homes and Garden. Most recently, her bestselling "Dead End Dating" series, featuring vivacious vampire matchmaker Lil Marchette, is being adapted for television by Big Screen Entertainment. Kim has written for several major publishers, including Harlequin Books, Random House, St. Martin's Press, Amazon's Montlake Romance and Warner Books. She lives with her husband in the heart of the Texas Hill Country, where she is hard at work on her next book.

Learn more at www. penguinrandomhouse.com/series/ AHH/dead-end-dating.



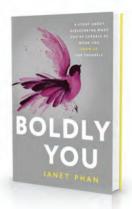
# HR Leadershift: The Five Distinctions of a Strategic HR Leader

Changing realities in the modern workplace have emphasized the need for human resources (HR) to step up to lead—or become obsolete. But while many HR pros have coveted a seat at the proverbial strategic table for years, few currently consider themselves significant contributors to the organizational development strategy. In "HR Leadershift: The Five Distinctions of a Strategic HR Leader," Sara Gabel Christiansen, Epsilon Rho- Northwest Missouri State, identifies five distinctions that set Strategic HR Leaders apart from their traditional counterparts: Impact, Influence, Inspiration, Innovation and Integration. With both strategic thinking and tactical advice, the book offers HR readers a guide for overcoming fears, hurdling obstacles, and pulling up a chair so they can make a difference—differently.

Available at amazon.com.

# Are you a Delta Zeta author?

Share your publications with us by emailing LAMP@deltazeta.org



#### Boldly You: A Story about Discovering What You're Capable of When You Show Up for Yourself

Janet T. Phan, Kappa-Washington, was featured during National Mentoring Month on Good Morning America on January 26, 2022. In 2016, she established her non-profit, Thriving Elements, a 1:1 mentoring program whose mission is to create access and opportunities for underserved, underprivileged girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). She has now published her first book.

"Boldly You: A Story about Discovering What You're Capable of When You Show Up for Yourself" is a close-up look at hardships, life lessons and stories of resilience. In this honest, insightful, heartfelt account of Janet's experience as a young woman struggling to overcome the obstacles in her life, readers will find wisdom and advice to help them rise above their circumstances, recognize their limitless potential and achieve their goals.

Learn more at https://boldly-you.com.

### AUTHENTIC

# Melissa Wasser

Kappa Chi-Youngstown State (OH)



rowing up in Ohio, Melissa was always interested in law and government. She went out of her way to study the political process in high school and earned a full

scholarship to attend Youngstown State University. A former chapter president, Melissa acknowledges that her time as an undergraduate member prepared her for the next major step in her life, law school at The Ohio State University. Now, she finds herself in the unique position as a member as a

member of Ohio State's Alumni Association Board



# WHAT WAS THE INSPIRATION BEHIND YOUR CHOICE TO GO INTO LAW AS A CAREER?

Even though the law isn't perfect, it is a way that you can change lives. I'd always been interested in the entire political process as far back as high school. While at Youngstown State. I learned that the Board of Trustees had student representatives and I applied. The Governor's office later selected me to become a Student Trustee. I feel fortunate to have been included in conversations around issues affecting students. Representing others as a Student Trustee helped solidify my choice to go into law for my career.

#### WHAT MOTIVATES YOU IN YOUR PROFESSIONAL ROLE, AND WHAT TYPE OF IMPACT DO YOU WANT TO MAKE?

A quote by Theodore Roosevelt sums up my motivation. "Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing." My work provides me the opportunity to improve lives through policy making, which has been a lifelong goal of mine. Even though some days advancing government transparency might not seem immediately impactful. I'm able to see the long-term change we make and further the principles our country is built upon.

# WHY DID YOU SAY YES TO VOLUNTEERING WITH THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION?

I volunteer because I want to give back to the university that took a chance on me. I was originally wait-listed and six weeks before classes started, they contacted me that there was a spot open, so I took it, changing my carefully laid plans. As I went through law school. I realized how the classic law school journey didn't fit me. I wanted to give back and be the person for others that I didn't have during law school. Being one of the youngest board members helps me bring my diverse perspective to the table and contributes to the board's strategic growth. To give back to the university that made me who I am today, through the Board of Directors, helps me pay it forward and share my love of Ohio State.

#### WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO OTHER DELTA ZETA SISTERS JUST STARTING OUT?

Plans change, so don't be afraid to change them.

Make sure to take your chance when it's presented to you and continue to open the door for others coming after you. No one achieves anything alone, and you should always lift as you climb. Finally, don't compare yourself to what others are doing: you are on your journey, and you're exactly where you're supposed to be.

Melissa earned her J.D. at the Moritz College of Law and an M.A. in Public Policy and Management at the John Glenn College of Public Affairs at The Ohio State University in May 2017. She graduated summa cum laude from Youngstown State University in May 2014. Melissa currently serves as the Policy Counsel for ACLU-DC.

# GLOBAL AMBASSADOR



at a discounted rate.

Delta Zeta added American Society for

(ASDC) as a national

partner in 2020.

Delta Zeta

learn ASL,

of Deaf

If you are

mily was on bed rest for months of her pregnancy. She and her husband, Joe, worried that they were going to lose the baby throughout the pregnancy. So, in November 2017, they were thrilled when Arthur came into the world early at thirty-two weeks gestation.

Authur had three major surgeries during his 60-day stay in the Newborn Intensive Care Unit. He developed necrotizing enterocolitis, which caused his intestines to rupture. He became septic and was very sick. He also failed his hearing screening multiple times. A few days before being released from the hospital, Arthur passed a hearing test, and doctors told his parents to follow up in a year. A year later, Arthur failed that hearing test. Both Joe and Emily knew that Arthur could not hear by that point. The audiologist explained that he had profound hearing loss in one ear and severe hearing loss in the other. At first, the news was shocking, scary and worrisome. Joe and Emily did not know any Deaf people. It was hard for them not to worry about the future. Emily said, "We spent a few days mourning the future we had imagined, knowing he'd never hear our I love you's."

# They have learned that they can communicate "I love you" to Arthur just as easily through sign language as verbally saying the words.

Emily and Joe started finding ways to make language accessible to Aurthur. They reached out to a local Deaf school about their infant services and used the internet to start teaching themselves how to sign the alphabet in American Sign Language (ASL). They practiced finger spelling "A-r-t-h-u-r" over and over again. Emily says, "I have cried many tears thinking that I'd never be able to communicate the things I'd always imagined sharing with our son. But, like most things you learn, we've gotten in a groove and

figured out how we best learn to sign."

The American Society for Deaf Children (ASDC) came into the family's life in 2019. As a family, they have attended multiple ASL weekends hosted by ASDC. They were immersed in ASL, learned about Deaf culture and had a wonderful time with the other attendees and Deaf instructors. They have participated in ASDC's

SignOn program, where they practice ASL one-on-one with a Deaf mentor. Arthur's older brother and grandparents have also attended ASDC classes to help them learn to communicate with Arthur better.

Emily and Joe say, "We would be lying if we said it was easy. There has been lots of practice, lots of turning our voices off and putting our hands up. It has been a fun experience, too. We're learning together and can support each other in a way we wouldn't have otherwise. We've seen how hard we will work for our kids and our family." Emily and Joe want people to know that Arthur is just like any other kid! They shared that Arthur's journey has shaped them in many ways. They have learned to be advocates for Arthur.

American Society for Deaf Children brought Arthur's family closer together. Emily and Joe both agree when they say, "Because of ASDC, we can communicate with our son!" They have learned that they can communicate "I love you" to Arthur just as easily through sign language as verbally saying the words. Arthur and his family continue to be a strong, happy family. Learning ASL has helped Arthur grow closer with his older brother and enjoy the ordinary joys of being siblings. He is the happiest little boy surrounded by friends and family who are inspired by him every day. The family looks forward to everything ASDC offers and will support it in any way possible. ASDC has changed and shaped their lives forever, and they hope other families become touched by them as well!



#### LEARNING SIGN LANGUAGE FROM THE VERY START

Since 1967, American Society for Deaf Children has been supporting parents of children who are deaf and hard of hearing. Their mission is to ensure that every deaf child can learn sign language from the very start. Their programs include ASL instruction through their ASL weekends and online courses, a peer program called Friends Like Me, a mentoring program called SignOn, and a children's camp called Camp Belong. They also offer a wealth of resources on their website deafchildren.org/.

# GURIOSITY: WHERE WILL IT LEAD YOU?

When you're curious, you find lots of interesting things to do. So says Walt Disney, one of the greatest imaginations of all time. We all can cultivate curiosity, no matter our age. Whether curiosity leads to new professional opportunities or crossing an item off a bucket list, we can go anywhere when we stay open to learning new things. Get inspired by three Delta Zeta alumnae who have let curiosity lead them in their lives. And then think, where can my curiosity lead me?



#### THE MAGIC IN SCIENCE

BY CHEYENNE ROBB, LAMBDA KAPPA-ALABAMA/HUNTSVILLE

MY LOVE FOR CONSERVATION and science started with trips to the local zoo, botanical gardens and science center growing up. My family would go to one of these places almost every week, allowing me to get involved in the sciences from an early age.

When I was 10, we visited Disney's Animal Kingdom. I got to participate in their education program called Kids' Discovery Club. Throughout the program, you could take a safari journal card around the park and learn about paleontology, veterinary science and other aspects of zoological studies. Seeing how scientists could work in labs and work to educate others about science really inspired me

as a kid. That's when I knew I had to find a way to work at Disney.

I enrolled at the University of Alabama in Huntsville as a Chemical Engineering major. Throughout my time in engineering, I realized my passions lay with the environment, not with engineering. I soon swapped to Environmental Chemistry, where I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Shanhu Lee's Atmospheric Chemistry lab. There I studied the effects of different pollutants on our atmosphere. I also had the opportunity to work in environmental education for the Birmingham Zoo; this led to my realization that some students do not receive solid science

education in school. I did not think that was fair, and this motivated me to pursue science education.

As college graduation neared, I would search the Disney career website every morning. One morning I saw the application for the Wilderness Explorers team and knew that was exactly what I wanted to do. I applied as fast as I possibly could. This career felt unattainable for me as jumping from a small school in Alabama to Disney World felt crazy. As I went through each step in the interview process, it felt more and more real and gave me the confidence that I actually could work at Disney World. I was driving home from my job at a science museum when I got the call offering me the position. I was so excited and thankful that I began to cry on the phone with the HR representative. I will never forget what the HR representative told me on the phone



that day, "This is my favorite part of my job. This is what making magic is."

Science was not a priority in the school system where I grew up. My parents realized this and did everything to expose my sister and me to the sciences. In high school, I had the opportunity to become a lead volunteer at the science museum. This volunteer opportunity cultivated my love for math and science and encouraged me to pursue them in college. Once in college, I had the chance to be an education intern at my local zoo, inspiring other young Alabamians to fall in love with science. If it were not for the education and volunteer programs at my local zoo, botanical gardens and science museum, I would not have ended up with a STEM degree and working my dream job. I am beyond thankful that my community had built these science institutions to help fill those holes where the

education system was lacking.

So far, my experience at Disney has been everything I thought it would be: magical. A typical day starts with a pre-shift meeting with the team coordinators to discuss any changes in the schedule and any volunteer opportunities available to us. I got to volunteer tracking turtles at a nearby lake! It was such a true Delta Zeta moment! I then travel to different stations across the park, meeting new families and getting them excited about the nature around them. My favorite part of my job is meeting kids passionate about science topics, whether a particular animal or even dinosaurs. I ask them to teach me everything they know, empowering them to continue being passionate

and loving science. These kids are our future scientists and world leaders. I have the privilege of getting to help them along that journey.

After my internship with the Wilderness Explorers is complete, I hope to stay with Disney and work on one of their many conservation teams. Disney does so much work in conservation, and I hope to be a part of those global changes for the better. Disney also has a wide reach with young women through its business model. If not for Disney and the science centers around me, I would not be the scientist I am today. I hope that every young girl I meet realizes they can be a scientist, too.

# 2.

#### PLANTING THE SEED

BY MICHELLE BLENCOE KARPINSKI, EPSILON OMEGA-WISCONSIN/EAU CLAIRE

**GARLIC MUSTARD** is a plant commonly found in the Midwest, where I live. Brought to the United States in the mid-1800s, it is an edible plant used as an antiseptic for wounds. The seeds can remain viable for up to ten years, and it is an invasive species that takes over the native habitat.

Those last two facts struck me when I began to think about how in my late 50s, I came to climb Mount Kilimanjaro. Mount Kilimanjaro is a dormant volcano on the equator in Tanzania, Africa. It is Africa's contribution to the famous Seven Summits, the tallest peaks on each continent, and is the fourth tallest at 19,340 feet above sea level. Approximately 30,000 people attempt to summit Kilimanjaro in a typical year, but about half are unsuccessful.

In 2008, the local Boy Scout Council put together a yearlong leadership/mentoring program with a local entrepreneur who was also a Seven Summits climber. The program planted the seed to climb the tallest freestanding mountain in the world. I was the female leader, while my oldest son, Steve, was also selected. That year the stock market also crashed in an economic crisis. Donors who had pledged to help fund the trip were no longer able, so the trip was canceled. It was a huge disappointment, but we all vowed that, someday, we would make it happen.

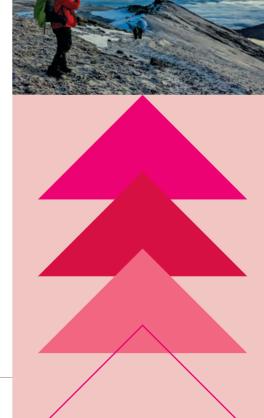
Life went on. As it often happens, priorities and obligations change, and sometimes so do dreams. Other times,



it is just a matter of timing, and when your curiosity stays strong, like garlic mustard, dreams are impossible to eradicate.

My dream of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro was dormant until October 2021, when I attended a wedding celebration for the son of close family friends. I began talking with Bruce, a mutual acquaintance, when the talk turned to adventures taken and adventures planned. When Bruce mentioned he would be climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro in December, that dormant seed of mine was suddenly fertilized. I told him how I hoped to take that same trip someday. To my surprise, he told me that one of the people in his group had dropped out. Would I be interested in going? I went to a wedding, and I said yes! I had six weeks to prepare.

Six weeks is not a lot of time to prepare for an expedition like this one. However, I already had a baseline fitness level from years of biking and hiking and could commit to the necessary training. Our group





Opposite Top: Michelle during her December 2021 trip to Africa.

Opposite Middle: Michelle's summit of Mount Kilimanjaro.

Below: Room with a view at the top of the world.

would take eight days to do the entire hike. First summitted in 1889, the fastest recorded summit and descent of Kilimanjaro was completed in six hours and 52 minutes. The first woman summitted in 1927, and the oldest person to summit was an 89-year-old woman in 2019.

Bruce and I met our climbing companions at the airport in Doha, Qatar. Lou and Emily were a father and daughter team. They had been neighbors of Bruce's, and we all hit it off immediately. We arrived at Kilimanjaro International Airport on the morning of December 3, 2021. After 24+ hours of travel, a shower, a nap and a good meal were welcome and needed. A local safari on day two was a great adventure and gave us time to begin acclimating to being 6,000 feet above sea level.

We began our climb in earnest on December 5, following the Lemosho Route, one of the mountain's longest and most successful routes. "Pole Pole," the Swahili word for slow, was something we would often hear from our guides, Dismas and Paul. We would face joys, like the birthday cake they surprised me with and the singing of "Happy Birthday" in English and Swahili. But there were also challenges. By the third day, Lou was ill with altitude sickness. He recovered, and we hiked through heat, rain and hail, knowing that the beautiful mountain would reveal itself when the clouds cleared, and we would be that much closer to our goal.

A snowstorm raged outside our tents on summit night as we tried to sleep before an 11 p.m. alarm. We would begin hiking at midnight. By then, the wind had died down, but the snow continued as we made the steep ascent. The days of hiking and acclimating had made our bodies strong. It was a mental game at this point. Although the flickering lights above us seemed high enough to be stars, they were the headlamps of those climbers ahead of us. At about 3 a.m., I thought that the only thing in my life that mattered was putting one foot in front of the other until I reached the top. We reached the volcano's rim around sunrise on December 11 and made our way around to the peak. We did it!

The seed planted years earlier took hold, grew and blossomed. I was 45 years old when I first dreamed of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. I accomplished the goal two days after my 58th birthday.

It was hard on my body but good on my soul, and that was the real lesson. My body will recover, and the sense of accomplishment and joy that I am living life to the fullest will remain.

You may never dream of climbing a mountain. Wherever life takes you, look for opportunities to try new things, be open to new possibilities, and say yes to something new and unexpected. You never know; that seed you plant now may one day take you to the top of the world.

# THE ONLY THING IN MY LIFE THAT MATTERED WAS PUTTING ONE FOOT IN FRONT OF THE OTHER.



#### LIFELONG DELTA ZETA

BY DAWN BUTLER VINCENT, GAMMA IOTA-MEMPHIS STATE (TN)

MY DELTA ZETA STORY begins with my mother, Mae Mae Wellons Butler Dunagan. She was initiated into the Beta Lambda Chapter at the University of University of Tennessee/Knoxville, sometime in the early 1930s. My mother told me about Delta Zeta, and I loved her lamp pin, which had a real diamond!

In the 1950s, the Gamma Iota Chapter was installed at Memphis State College. My parents were divorced, and my mom had little money, so I went to Memphis State and lived at home rather than go to Knoxville as she had. However, Mae Mae was determined that we had enough money for me to join a sorority.

I was never very outgoing, being a studious girl. I liked the DZ girls, and of course, they were my first choice. In January 1955, I made top grades in my pledge class of about 20 girls. I kept that scholastic record up in

college, majoring in chemistry and biology. For the first time, I didn't have any trouble making friends, and I even dated for the first time! When I graduated in 1957, I was engaged to a Sigma Phi Epsilon named Bill.

Bill went into the military, where he would have six weeks of basic training and then one year of service at Walter Reed Army Hospital in Washington, DC. So, I got a job at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in nearby Bethesda, Maryland, in the Cardiopulmonary Laboratory and lived with some roommates. That year convinced me that I wanted to get a Ph.D. and pursue a career in research. At the end of the year, Bill was determined to return to Memphis,

get married and start a family. So reluctantly, that's what I did.

In April 1962, I gave birth to a little girl we named Tracy. I reveled in the care of this amazing young child, but underneath it all, I still wanted to be in the lab. I did not know any woman who had pursued a career while having small children. I did have the example of my maternal grandmother Ida who, when her husband was unable to work, got a job in a flower shop to support



I HAVE NOT YET GIVEN UP MY LOVE OF TRAVELING OR TRYING NEW THINGS. Far Opposite: Dawn on her most recent trip in February 2021.

Opposite: Dawn and her mother, Mae Mae.

Left: Dawn, her mother and Dawn's sister, Sherri Butler Freeman, who was also initiated into the Gamma lota Chapter at Memphis State University.

the family. She did so well that she eventually opened her own shop.

To pursue the career I wanted, I needed to get a Ph.D. The National Institutes of Health was pouring money into the education and training of young scientists. I took the Graduate Record Exam and did well enough to secure full tuition and books, plus a tax-free stipend that would cover the cost of help to take care of the house and baby. Of course, I still had to do all the shopping and cooking! My husband agreed, thinking I would probably last on this schedule for about six months. I also said I would have another child when I finished my Ph.D.

I did finish my Ph.D., and I did have a baby boy, Kevin, about a year later. But I had also outgrown my husband and his friends. I had my own friends, plus a career I loved. We divorced, and I agreed I would not leave Memphis to maintain custody of my children. I secured a three-year postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center and then took a job at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. I worked in Virology and Molecular Biology for 17 years. During that time, I met the love of my life, Jack, a Health Planner for the Memphis Medical Center Council. We married in March 1981.

In the meantime, I had applied for a sabbatical from St. Jude and, with support from the Eleanor Roosevelt Cancer Foundation in Switzerland, was selected for a year-long sabbatical at the Centre National de Recherche Scientifique in Strasbourg, France, to learn how to sequence adenovirus DNA. My children were old enough for me to leave for a year. Tracy was a sophomore in college, and Kevin was

almost 13. I took Kevin on a four-week trip around Europe, and then he flew back to live with his father at about the same time my husband joined me, and Tracy came at Christmas. What a wonderful year it was! Yes, Jack and I missed our respective children, but it was an opportunity to get to know each other that few people in second marriages have.

In August 1988, Jack and I moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where I assumed the position of Scientific Program Director at the American Cancer Society, Inc. Those were good years. It was there that I became involved with the DZ alums in the Atlanta area and was honored with the Order of the Golden Rose to commemorate my 50 years as a Delta Zeta. The older alums met for lunch once a month, and I am still in contact with some of them via Facebook.

In 2010, Jack began having transient ischemic attacks (TIA). We decided to move back to Memphis, where both our families were. It is good that we did, as he died from a massive stroke in 2013. Although I would like to return to Atlanta, my children are in Memphis, and I am now an old woman. But I can still walk unassisted and get up off the floor on my own if I fall!

Even now, after receiving my Order of the Pearl for 65 years of Delta Zeta membership, I have not yet given up my love of traveling or trying new things. I have been in all 50 states, on all seven continents and visited the seven wonders of the modern world. My list of countries totals 105 of the United Nations' 195 sovereign nations. Not having been able to travel for the last year and a half, I have scheduled six overseas excursions for 2022! After that, I may slow down—maybe! •



# **CHOOSE CURIOSITY**

RY JAMES PORILOTTA

n a flight from Washington D.C. to Syracuse, NY, I met Arlene. She is a spitfire of a 60-year-old who could run laps around me with her fun energy. Arlene lives and works in D.C., but she was going to Syracuse for a training program. We wound up talking the entire flight, and it was pretty magical.

I learned that Arlene is a Pittsburgh native who attended Chatham University, previously an all-women's school with one of the country's prettiest campuses. She is the middle child of five girls. Each one is more impressive than the next. One is a doctor, and one is a professor, one is a rocket scientist and most are also mothers. One sister grew up with mild schizophrenia. Arlene told me stories about her sister coming to her in the middle of the night saying someone was standing at the top of her stairs and a unicorn was in the yard. Being a good sister, Arlene would go over and check on her and assure her that no one was there.

What I loved about Arlene was how sure of herself she was. It was very impressive and contagious. When talking about her work at Lockheed Martin Mission Systems and Training, she spoke about standing up for herself in rooms full of men and never letting anyone talk down to her. She went to college when not nearly enough women

were encouraged to do so. I asked her where she got her confidence and drive. Was it something her parents instilled in her or just something she picked up? She said her parents never limited her or her sisters. Education was very important in their household. They always knew they would go to college and could do whatever they put their minds to.

While we munched on some snacks and drank ginger ales, Arlene told me a story about when she was quite young and her family went to her aunt's house. Her aunt kept picking on her, and Arlene was starting to unravel, even crying because of the incessant rude comments. Her father saw this and pulled Arlene outside to talk to her. He knelt next to her and looked her in the eyes, saying, "Do you want to leave? We don't have to come back here ever again." When she finished telling me the story, Arlene was in tears, and my eyes were also ready to open the floodgates. She said her father always supported her and how amazingly grateful she was for him.

As our descent started, Arlene told me she waited until she was 45 to get married because she was too busy living and loving life. This impacted me because, at the time, I was in a marriage that was ending. After all, while it was good, I thought I deserved great. She told me about her husband, who is a good man but does not like to travel, so she was



ditching him soon for a few weeks to see all the spots in Europe she has wanted to see. Nothing stands in her way, and it is awesome. When we got off the plane, we hugged it out and thanked each other for the great questions and the flight friendship.

Friends, I do not share this story with you because there is a surprise plot twist that Arlene is a Delta Zeta. She is not. She certainly could be because she is a fellow strong, empowered, civically minded and brilliant woman! I share this interaction with you because Arlene is a fellow human deserving of being learned about. Arlene is more than our snapshot assumptions would have us believe. I share this story because curiosity creates community.

Yes, curiosity creates community, and curiosity is a choice.

The human brain is a brilliant pattern creator. Think about all the things you do that are routine. The direction you put toothpaste on your toothbrush, how you eat your cereal while reading something or how you can find your way to class or work without a map no matter how exhausted you are. You do not have to think about any of those. They are patterns that have solidified.

We also have patterns with the people we see regularly. We are excited to see some people because we know the conversations we have with them leave us in a better place. Others, when we see them, we take a deep breath and give ourselves a mini pep talk because they spike our nerves. How about your patterns with those you don't know? Do you clam up and get worried about saying something stupid? Do you try to avoid them? Do some people make you nervous? Do you come alive and initiate conversations? Do you get curious?

No matter what your patterns are, remember that assuming is easier than learning. Just because something is

easier does not make it right. Assuming may be the opposite of curiosity. We must get better at asking questions and caring about the answers. We must get better at recognizing that our patterns of communication with those we do not love AND those we love may be limiting the depth of our understanding of each other.

Arlene was a stranger, and we built community because we made the decision to care. We made the decision to lock in and think maybe this moment could matter. We then asked follow-up questions and said, "tell me more about that."

Curiosity is a choice. You know you have chosen curiosity if you find yourself asking a question because you want to hear the answer, not because you want to answer the same question. You know you have chosen curiosity if you lose track of time in a conversation. You know you have chosen curiosity if you say, "this person is really cool/interesting/different. I want to know more." You know you have chosen curiosity if you think, "this person thinks/looks/believes/votes/loves differently than I do, and after listening to what matters to them, I respect them and have a greater understanding of another way of looking at life." You know you have chosen curiosity if you keep saying, "Wow, my sisters are just the best!"

Curiosity creates community. Curiosity is a choice. Are you making it? ♦

James is a professional speaker, writer and facilitator who helps others pause and think about the way they lead, the way they connect, and the way they can impact their world. In July, he will be the keynote speaker at the 2022 Norma Minch Andrisek Leadership Conference. Learn more about James and his work at jamestrobo.com.

### ROSE & GREEN

# Twirling Pink and Green Sisters

By Allison Lynch St. Germain, Alpha Upsilon-Maine, Managing Editor

rowing up in the small community of Grand Island, New York, near Buffalo, the Proctor sisters were twirling batons while they were practically learning to

walk. Their mom Tamara, a competitive twirler herself, taught them and encouraged the sisters in their twirling pursuits. In addition to competing in individual events, they were also members of the Ambassadors Twirling Corps and the Crescendo Twirling Team for many years, winning numerous titles at local, state, national and international levels. In 2018, representing Team USA, they both earned gold medals at the world championships in Norway at the World Federation of National Baton Twirling Association. Both were also members of Team USA in 2019, competing in Limoges, France, at the Grand Prix competition, where Morgan automatically advanced to the finals round and Miranda won another world gold medal. Miranda and Morgan are not only experienced

respective universities! And, to add a bit of pink and green to the story, the biological sisters are also sorority sisters!

world-class athletes, but they are now

Division I featured twirlers at their

A junior, Miranda Proctor, Beta Delta-South Carolina, is a feature twirler with the Carolina Band, while freshman Morgan Proctor, Beta Gamma-Louisville (KY), is the feature twirler for the Cardinal Marching Band. "Twirling is like a sisterhood," shared Miranda. "It is a small world. Because of my experiences with the sport, I have made some of my best friends." One of Miranda's favorite memories was traveling in 2018 to Peru with a group of twirlers to participate in their International Springtime Festival. She was performing at events across the country while being an ambassador with a group of 14 other twirlers, some of whom are her closest friends today.

There is a high level of competition at the elite twirling level the sisters have attained, and there is an incredible support network. "I stay motivated because of my sister," says Morgan. "And I also know that our coach is a phone call away whenever I need her." Miranda attended Morgan's first game with the University of Louisville this past fall. She traveled

Twirling is like a sisterhood. It is a small world.

to see her younger sister take
the field at the Mercedes Benz
Superdome in Atlanta, home
of the NFL's Atlanta Falcons. It
was a full circle moment because
the twirler for the opposing team
from Ole Miss was also Miranda's
former twirling duet partner!

Miranda is one of three feature twirlers on her campus and joined Delta Zeta in the spring of 2020 through informal recruitment right before campuses started sending students home due to the pandemic. "Fall semester freshman year, I was too busy with band to consider recruitment, so

Miranda Proctor, Beta Delta-South Carolina, left and Morgan Proctor, Beta Gamma-Louisville (KY), right.



Top: The Proctor sisters earn gold in 2018.

Left: Miranda on the field in South Carolina.

Bottom: Morgan representing Louisville.

I joined in the spring," said Miranda. "I then found myself back home in New York finishing my new member experience via Zoom dates online with my DZ big sister." Morgan, a junior in high school at the time, had been doing her college search herself and was narrowing her options down based on open twirling positions. "When I visited Louisville, I knew that I would love it there," Morgan shared. After a competitive audition process, Morgan was named the university's featured twirler. Visiting campus with her mom and sister, they joked that the pink Beta Gamma Chapter house was exactly where Morgan should live. Ironically, after balancing both band practice and formal recruitment this past fall, that is where she ended up.

Both Miranda and Morgan have created special Delta Zeta memories with their respective chapters. "My favorite memory is my chapter's philanthropy project called Sweet Caroline, named after a sister who passed away from leukemia," shared Miranda. "Our chapter holds a bone marrow registry drive to add names to the national list to find a match for someone that needs it. I am so proud of my sisters' energy with that effort, which made it even more special." And although Morgan has been a member for a shorter

time, she has made her own special Delta Zeta memories. "Our big/little reveal is one of the most special memories I've had so far," she said. "During recruitment, it was hard for me with my schedule to meet everyone. I couldn't even stay at Bid Day the entire time because of band commitments. I was not expecting my Big at all, and now we have such a special bond."

Twirling will be a part of their lives in the future and has also influenced their career goals. Miranda, an exercise science major, plans to attend chiropractic school after graduation. And Morgan, who loves the travel she has gotten to do because of her twirling experiences, is majoring in nursing and hopes to be a traveling nurse one day. These are two very special, not only Delta Zeta sisters but siblings as well!

# ROSE & GREEN

# Alumna Named First Latina National School Counselor of the Year

Alma Lopez, Epsilon Epsilon-California State/Fresno, lead school counselor at California's Livingston Middle School, was named the 2022 School Counselor of the Year by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA). ASCA announced that Alma is the first Latina School Counselor of the Year.

The 804 students in the rural school where Alma works serves grades 6-8 and receive free or reducedprice lunch. The 2,500-student district had only two school counselors when Alma started working there; her advocacy efforts in 2015 contributed to the district's decision to expand the number to five. "Alma is passionate about supporting our students in succeeding in middle school," said Jorge Arteaga, Livingston Middle School principal. "As she plans and organizes support services, Alma always thinks of equity and access to ensure our neediest students get the support they need to be

THE LAMP

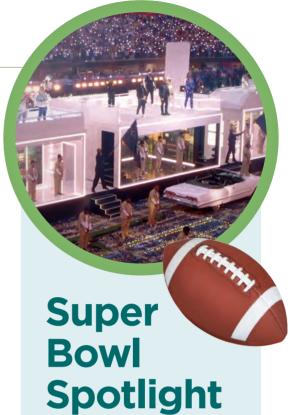


# Sigma Alumnae Celebrate 50 Years of Friendship

It's a friendship that began in the fall of 1971 when six young ladies enrolled at Louisiana State University and pledged Delta Zeta Sorority. The next year, one more pledged, and so began a lifelong friendship for the "Yaya7," Heidi Holstead Mahaffey, Bobbie O'Keefe Dyer, Jonelle Cooper Budden, MaryJane Neuner Riley, Patti Kleinpeter Hart, Rita Gill Lemoine and Nancy Nafe Lemann.

After many years of regular reunions, things were put on hold for a while due to Covid. But, the Yaya7 met in October 2021 in Blowing Rock, North Carolina, celebrating 50 years of friendship! Some drove, some flew, but everyone made it. This trip included hiking, visiting and learning about the legend of The Blowing Rock, the swing bridge at Grandfather Mountain, beautiful frescoes, Linville Falls, Little Switzerland and, of course, lots of shopping. Everyone agreed that the time just went too fast.





There was a Delta Zeta connection in this year's Super Bowl Halftime show. Nicole Guy, Xi Tau-Millersville (PA), the Graphics Lead at ATOMIC Design, had a hand in designing the graphic. which covered 31,000 square feet of the field. "This project was something that took a few months of collaboration and many long nights to meet our deadlines. To see it come together with all the other components and musical guests performing on it was something special for me," Nicole shared. "I couldn't share my involvement on this project with anyone until the performance, so seeing my friends and family members watch and enjoy the show was special."

# ROSE & GREEN



# Beta Kappa Celebrates 90 Years

Iowa State University's Beta Kappa
Chapter celebrated 90 years of
sisterhood with a Founders Day
celebration in October 2021, with
more than 170 collegians and alumnae
in attendance. Marilyn Warner
Kollmorgen, Beta Kappa-Iowa State,
was awarded the Order of the Pearl
for her sixty-five years of membership.
Sandy Hart Horton, Past National
Officer, Beta Kappa-Iowa State, was
surprised with handwritten letters
from members far and near in a
personalized Delta Zeta chest for her
dedication to the chapter.





# Friendship Through Tragedy

#### BY KERI SMITH JANTON, BETA XI-AUBURN (AL)

Kristin and I met at the Beta Xi Chapter at Auburn University. We floated in a bubble of fun and laughter. We dreamed of marrying, landing jobs and having families.

After graduation, our dreams were coming true. I married Dan,

and we had three sons. Kristin married Adam, and they had two babies, a girl and a boy.

My oldest son, Max, was born with special needs. He was diagnosed with Costello syndrome, a genetic condition that causes problems Below: Beta Xi sisters who volunteered at the 2nd Annual Friends Fore Max Janton Golf Classic. From left to right: Kelly Cieslak Goodman, Ashley Johnson

Mathiesen, the author Keri, Kristin Yelton Wint, Shauna Carpenter Edwards

that affect the heart, muscles, bones, skin, brain and spinal cord and affects about

I in 30 million. Max was a glorious child who effortlessly illuminated this world.

In 2017, after a seemingly successful heart surgery, Max had a catastrophic stroke and passed away. Kristin sat in the sanctuary for the service, shoulder to shoulder with our Delta Zeta sisters. Weeks later, she told me about how Max's story deeply touched her and that she would carry him in her heart forever. Her words were kind and meaningful, as were the actions that followed.

When Dan and I created a foundation in Max's name, Kristin was there to help. She was the first to volunteer at Max's annual golf tournament. The company she works for even sponsored the event. This summer, she volunteered at the foundation's first 5k, and she's already raised her hand to volunteer for the next one. When I started donating blood in Max's honor, Kristin began donating blood in his honor, too.

Life without Max is the biggest fight I've ever known. I am grateful that Kristin is always there, honoring his memory, loving me at my worst and offering hope as I grapple with life's deepest questions. She is a source of strength, encouragement, faith and understanding. There are many words to describe Kristin Yelton Wint, but my favorite is sister.

# ROSE & GREEN



**WALK TRULY** 

# To those closer ones...

#### SISTERS ARE ALWAYS THERE TO HELP, ESPECIALLY THOSE CLOSEST, OUR MEMBERS.

When the Theta Iota Chapter at Western Carolina University found out that their Ritual Advisor, Madison Beaver's father, Ian, was in a serious car accident, they wanted to help. An object flew into the windshield, fracturing his face and breaking his jaw. Kirby Dent, Vice President of Philanthropy, coordinated a Delta Zeta Bake Sale on campus. Dozens of sisters donated their time to make baked goods and then sold everything, from cookies to cupcakes to banana bread, to people on campus. Theta Iota raised \$581 to give to Madison to go toward surgery costs for her dad. To date, Madison's dad, Ian, is recovering slowly.

In December 2021, western Kentucky was devastated by multiple tornados. The town of Bowling Green, Kentucky, the home of the Pi Chi Chapter at Western Kentucky University, experienced significant damage. While the campus was safe, much of the surrounding area would never be the same. Rachel Beckett, was safe on campus, but her family home suffered significant damage.



The chapter organized an online fundraiser to help cover the cost of what they lost and the medical bills they have endured. The chapter

Above: Madison Beaver, Theta Iota-Western Carolina (NC), with her father, Ian.

surpassed \$11,500 in donations. "We see the value of this sisterhood every day," says Holly Buske, LAMP Editor, "In hard times, we are especially thankful to have so many sisters to lean on."

# Power to Her

The Theta Eta Chapter at Creighton University partnered with Theta Phi Alpha Sorority to promote "Power to Her," an effort to support the female population with the Women's Center for Advancement (WCA) in Omaha, Nebraska, that may be experiencing difficulties right now.

"For the last several years, Delta Zeta and Theta Phi Alpha have been collaborating to host Power to Her, the philanthropy event that supports the WCA," said Emily Carpenter, Vice President of Philanthropy. "Ava Verzani of Theta Phi Alpha and I were carrying on a tradition of uniting our sororities to help the local community."

The chapters accepted a wide variety of items, but diapers, feminine products, winter clothing, reusable grocery, tote bags and hygiene



# ROSE & GREEN



# Seen on LinkedIn ...

Sophia Osterberg, Epsilon-Indiana, shared that she is interning with the U.S. Department of State at the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs (OES) this spring in Washington, D.C. A junior environmental management major with minors in Law and Public Policy and Spanish, she is interested in the environment and fascinated by policy and its global diversity.

Melanie Shoemaker Griffin, Alpha Sigma-Florida State, was named Secretary of the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation. Appointed by the Governor to head the agency beginning January I, 2022, Melanie leads Florida's regulation of more than I.4 million licensees across more than 30 fields of industry.

Morgan Bonekovic, Zeta Phi-Slippery Rock (PA), received the 2022 Young Leader Award from the Allegheny (PA) County Bar Association's Homer S. Brown Division at its 18th annual Black History Month celebration. Morgan is an Associate with Pollock Begg in Pittsburgh, PA.

Gretchen Crumpton Oldt, Lambda Xi-Texas A&M, a Senior Merchant at Sam's Club, had the unique opportunity to work closely with Elton John as he launched his first eyewear collection with the chain. Months of work went into the launch, which Gretchen called a pinnacle of her career.



Top: Gretchen Crumpton Oldt, Lambda Xi-Texas A&M.

Middle-Right: Melanie Shoemaker Griffin, Alpha Sigma-Florida State.

Middle-Left: Morgan Bonekovic, Zeta Phi-Slippery Rock (PA).

Bottom: Sophia Osterberg, Epsilon-Indiana.

# **DZs Showin' the Love**

Delta Zetas celebrated Valentine's Day — pink and green style! The Theta Iota Chapter at Western Carolina University passed out Valentine's Day sweets on campus, along with buttons and Delta Zeta information cards. It was a perfect excuse to get some sunshine and meet new people on campus. Lambda Pi-Georgia College & State held their first "Send A Greek A Rose" philanthropy event which was a big hit. Andrea Truax, Vice President of Philanthropy, ordered 400 roses, and they sold out, raising more than \$700 for the Starkey Hearing Foundation! She made sure to note that next year to purchase many more roses! Sarah Hamdan, Vice President of Philanthropy for the Omicron Nu Chapter at the University of Windsor, spent February 13

baking and packaging desserts to bring to the Windsor Youth

Centre, a local food bank that provides meals, activities and a safe space for struggling youth. She baked chocolate chip cookies and made rainbow vanilla and red velvet Above: Haley Collier, Emily Sage and Haleigh Duncan, all Lambda Pi-Georgia College & State

waffles packaged in Valentine bags with a Valentine Card and a tattoo. She shared, "Some youth face harsh realities, and we forget they don't make the memories of being a kid, like getting Valentines. While I don't have the funds to give them all lifetime meals, I loved giving them a sense of normalcy."



## FLAME ETERNAL

ALPHA

Marsha Morse Haffey, 1954

Joyce McKendree Silber, 1961

Lois Wilson Taylor, 1965

**GAMMA** 

Mary Jacobson Wasik, 1957

**DELTA** 

Marilynn Crask Hammond, 1942

**EPSILON** 

Norma Hinshaw Hyndman, 1958

Judith Jean Hall, 1969

THETA

Marian Cosma Webber, 1946

Linda Zufall Bilstein, 1961

KAPPA

Marydel Rehbein Leiter, 1947

ΜU

Ruth Kummerfeld Baker, 1964

ΧI

Norma Kolb Mundstock, 1954

Mary Riddinger Adcox, 1958

**OMICRON** 

Nancy Neiberg Kosanovich, 1962

DI

Jean Hoglund Loose, 1955

RHO

Thea Tollefson McTernan, 2007 SIGMA

Charlotte Champion Freeland, 1963

Sharon Smith-Sanchez, 1968

TAU

Anne Stubenrauch Goodell, 1946

Sue Goetz Willke, 1955

CHI

Betty Kruse McKinney, 1941

Adelle Ure Haselnus, 1950

PSI

Norma Sanders McQuinn, 1948

OMEGA

Nancy Hoerlein Harris, 1946

Carolyn Netzer Hartman, 1987

ALPHA EPSILON

Doris Dillon Durham, 1942

Carolyn Miller Bryant, 1953

**ALPHA THETA** 

Patricia Hine Morgan, 1946

Jane Dabney Pack, 1946

Frances Pearce Vice, 1955

ALPHA KAPPA Flaine Wright

Wilkie, 1943

**ALPHA SIGMA** 

Ann Oetjen Meek, 1946

ALPHA TAU

Marjory Schmidt Eckert, 1945

Elsie Wheeler McTee, 1952 Karen Heiberg Reuter, 1968

ALPHA CHI

Rosemary Jones Leonard, 1946

ALPHA PSI

Dorothy Hunter Douglass, 1955

Helen Tasto McMullan, 1956

Verdine Ford Thompson, 1961

**BETA ALPHA** 

Mildred Skilling Watson, 1943

**BETA GAMMA** 

Margaret Schoen Keach. 1949

Suzanne Lucheta Lennon. 1954

**BETA THETA** 

E. Norene Adams Carl, 1948

Jacqueline Jolly Ilg, 1951

Joyce Neeb Billetdeaux, 1954

**BETA IOTA** 

Vicky Brown Hance, 1971

Ann Marie Giansiracusa Seward, 1974

ВЕТА КАРРА

Mary Elizabeth Ingle Eldredge, 1944

BETA LAMBDA Eugenia Hamlett Curtis, 1943

Ethel Little Cole, 1954

Delores Prueitt Karter, 1955 BETA NU

Georgann Veeder Delling, 1947

BETA XI

Alice Jones Lumpkin, 1947

Helen Krauss Leslie, 1962

Joanne Kennamer Hood, 1965

BETA PI

Marjorie Sours Willadsen, 1955

**BETA RHO** 

Betty Thompson Betker, 1943

Jaclynn Cargill Fenster, 1977

**BETA SIGMA** 

Rita Larson Deines, 1956

**BETA UPSILON** 

Kathleen Kehl Waltman, 1957

BETA CHI

Susan Trimmer Bair, 1969

GAMMA ALPHA

Marilou Hoag Hiltabiddle, 1950

**GAMMA BETA** 

Dorothy Vinansky Baker, 1955

Maryalis Truehart Stevenson, 1958

GAMMA DELTA

Betty Vanderbeck Crockett, 1946

GAMMA EPSILON

Bettey Cysewski Boucher-Landon, 1946 GAMMA ETA

Stella Depasquale Baker, 1952

GAMMA KAPPA

Angeline Scourcos Fahlgren, 1948

Thelma Waddell Leppo, 1948

**GAMMA LAMBDA** 

Catherine Whidden Sweeney, 1961

Laurie Grossman Clevland, 1979

**GAMMA MU** 

Gloria Landin Dotzenroth, 1949

**GAMMA NU** 

Lillian Lee Alt, 1944

Jo Ann Wondrok Ribelin, 1953

GAMMA RHO

Beverly Ann Wasil, 1961

GAMMA TAU

Carolyn Coulter Weske, 1962

GAMMA UPSILON Merrilyn Gail Giles Lewellen, 1956

Jeannette Welander Pritchard, 1962

**GAMMA CHI** 

Connie Rutherford Wall, 1963

Michelle Anne Laidlaw, 1990

**GAMMA OMEGA** 

Ann Steingruby Knewitz, 1953 DELTA ALPHA

Barbara Harris Pakiz, 1954

DELTA DELTA

Mary Angier Ward, 1964

DELTA EPSILON

Michele Kinsell Polestino, 1955

**DELTA NU** 

Barbara Robinson Mitchell, 1966

DELTA XI

Ann Richardson Shattuck, 1980

DELTA PSI

Coralie Dungan Ainsworth, 1957

DELTA CHI

Mary Louise Pope, 1956

DELTA OMEGA

Donna Francis Paustian, 1957

Pamela Hester Williams, 1969

EPSILON GAMMA Nancy Bennett Good, 1974

EPSILON DELTA

Patricia Ann Barker, 1980

EPSILON ETA Dottie Harper Branson, 1956

Lynell Murphy Mueller, 1956

EPSILON THETA

Priscilla Burns Moore, 1957

EPSILON KAPPA Diane Herbert Reichow, 1956

EPSILON TAU

Joyce Smith McCool, 1961 **EPSILON UPSILON**Deborah

Deborah McWhirter Bruce, 1964

Lane Nicholson Ross, 1974

**ZETA BETA** Alma Hautamaki Dearth, 1957

Paula Heidel Rosenquist, 1962

**ZETA DELTA** Susan Patchin Drury, 1958

**ZETA ZETA**Charlotte McElroy, 1959

**ZETA THETA**Betty Page
Steubing, 1972

**ZETA KAPPA** Elaine Marie Denman, 1966

**ZETA LAMBDA** Sandra Sexton Curtis, 1969

ZETA PI

Sherry Bickerstaff, 1963

**ZETA RHO**Dana Youngs
McEachen, 1997

ZETA SIGMA Sharon Wisch Mason, 1964

THETA ALPHA
Constance
Kanatzar

Buhrmann, 1966
THETA KAPPA

Putnam, 1988

THETA OMICRON

Jeanne Trahan

M. Celeste
Buchanan Neel,
1966

THETA RHO

Karen Screech Praeger, 1974

**THETA TAU** Audrice Miller Hutson, 1965

IOTA ALPHA Ann Vandeventer Harper, 1970

IOTA IOTA Donna Marie Humphreys, 1995

IOTA TAU Susan Mahlke Hamilton, 1972

KAPPA ALPHA Jo Ann Cangemi, 1968

KAPPA EPSILON Sherri Ledoux Thompson, 1981

KAPPA ZETA Betty Shreffler Landrum, 1968

**LAMBDA LAMBDA**Nancy Jarvis
Snyder, 1977

LAMBDA NU Dana Marie Driscoll, 1985

LAMBDA XI Laura Clark Weiss, 1984

**LAMBDA PHI** Martha (Muffy) Watson Dayton, 1975

XI NU Jennifer Dawn Hestand, 1995

XI OMEGA
Davin Cardoso
Pryor, 1988

#### Deborah McWhirter Bruce

**Past National Officer** 

It is with great sadness that the National Council of Delta Zeta Sorority learned of the passing of Deborah (Debbie) McWhirter Bruce, Past National Officer.

Debbie was initiated into the Epsilon Upsilon Chapter at



the University of Central Oklahoma where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications. She was a Grace Mason Lundy Award recipient in 1967.

Debbie was an active alumnae volunteer serving as College Chapter Director for the Epsilon Upsilon Chapter at the University of Central Oklahoma and a member of the National Council in the roles of National Director, Secretary and Vice President of Membership. In 2008, the Greater Oklahoma City Alumnae Panhellenic Foundation honored Debbie as the Panhellenic Women of the Year.

Outside of Delta Zeta. Debbie had an incredibly successful career in both teaching and the law. She began her professional career as a speech and drama teacher at Star-Spencer High School in Oklahoma City. In 1987, Debbie earned her Juris Doctor degree from Oklahoma City University School of Law. Upon graduating, she entered the private practice of law while simultaneously teaching at the Legal Assistant Program at Oklahoma Junior College where she would later become the first Department Chair. In 1993, Debbie became the Director of Continuing Legal Education for the Oklahoma Bar Association, and she was honored for her expansion of programs to include more women and minority participants. In 1998, the Oklahoma Chief Justice recruited and appointed Debbie to the Director of Judicial Education for the Oklahoma Supreme Court, where she served with distinction. From 2005-2008, Debbie served as the first In-House Counsel and Deputy Director of Investigations for the Oklahoma Board of Nursing. In 2008, she became the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Osteopathic Board of Examiners where she served until her retirement in 2019.

Debbie was preceded in death by her husband, Bill. She is survived by her children, Deena, Cory, Brandon and Rebecca and their families, including 10 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

# HOME

If I ever needed to talk to someone or just wanted to hang out, there were always sisters around just for that!

-Susan Acharya, Kappa-Washington

Left Top: The Kappa Chapter house is just a block away from the University of Washington campus! Right Top: The beautiful formal living room is the best place for late night study sessions, visiting with sisters or playing piano. Bottom Left: Rooms in the annex, mostly filled by upperclassmen, allow for older members to have a bit more space while still living with sisters. Bottom Right: The dining room is not only where the chapter's wonderful chefs serve members hot meals but is also a great place to study and connect with sisters.









# **Delta Zeta:**

The Home Away From Home

By: Maggie Old, Omicron Gamma-Ohio, Digital Communications Intern

iving in the chapter house is an experience that brings the sisterhood together. Kappa Chapter at the University of Washington has built a great sisterhood in theirs! Special thought given to the design and use of the space helps Delta Zeta members feel they've found their "home away from home" within our houses.

Members also grow in their leadership skills, relationships and more ways than could be expected! Hope Klingenstein, Chapter President, used her experience living in the house to help shape how she led the chapter and the relationships that she built. "My perspective on being a leader has grown drastically from living in the house! [I am] able to better listen to other members' ideas and see what we are doing well, along with always being able to improve different aspects of the chapter," Hope said.

When living in any chapter house, you can guarantee that you will never find a lack of people there for you. "For me, the best







My
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Hope
 Klingenstein,
 Kappa Washington



part about living in the chapter house was that I never felt lonely. If I ever needed to talk to someone or just wanted to hang out, there were always sisters around just for that!" said Susan Acharya. Susan lived in the chapter house her sophomore year. She saw her sisters every day. They would study together, have meals together and more! "Because of living in the house, I was able to get to know so many of my sisters in a way I might not have if I didn't live there."

The experience members receive when they live in their chapter house goes deeper than the meals and relationships. It creates life skills like communication, time management, problem-solving and more that grow from the chapter house environment. "I thought it would be tricky living with that many women and, of course, there were some problems here and there,

but overall, everyone was understanding and caring, which made it a fun environment to live in!" Susan said. "It honestly changed my perspective on the world and changed me as a person. I learned to adapt and overcome so many things and wouldn't have wanted any other experience."

Delta Zeta houses thousands of sisters in chapter houses who create timeless memories across generations. Ask any Delta Zeta sister to share their experience in their home away from home, and we are sure they will tell you about the bonds they formed and how they are so glad they took the opportunity. If you're on the fence about living in a chapter house, take Susan and Hope's advice, and just go for it!

Left Top: Connected to Blue Room is a television and sitting area, a favorite place to watch movies or football games, Right Top: The study porches offer a quiet spot for members to focus on schoolwork. They are equipped with ample charging stations, as well as scanners and printers. Left Bottom: The courtyard is located between the chapter house and the annex and is the perfect place to sit outside and enjoy the sun! Right Bottom: The sleeping porches are the perfect place to get much needed rest. They are 24-hours of dark and quiet, which makes them great for midday naps!

## TRULY A7.

# **Inspiring Leadership**

s the National President during Delta Zeta's Centennial Convention in 2002, Karly K. Burns, Zeta Lambda-East Carolina (NC), Past National President,

found herself speechless during the Parade of Chapters. She thought about how far Delta Zeta had come and wondered what our Founders would think about that growth. And, like other Delta Zeta leaders who came before her, Karly continues to inspire generations of younger sisters with her energy and enthusiasm for the Sorority.

## Why did you join Delta Zeta?

It was simple — I enjoyed the women at Delta Zeta, and I felt comfortable there. When I attended East Carolina, I would walk downtown and go by the DZ house, where there were always people on the porch. It seemed like a place I could belong. I love staying in touch with my Zeta Lambda sisters and getting to see them at reunions.

# What is your favorite line of the Creed?

We owe it to ourselves to continue to learn. So, my favorite line of our Creed would be "To my mind, Growth."

## Who are Delta Zeta mentors in your life?

When I was a young alumna, I drove Florence Hood Miner, Alpha Beta-Illinois, Past National Officer, to the airport after a local visit. That interaction remains to me

THE LAMP

### What excited you most about Delta Zeta today?

I see Delta Zeta staying relevant to today's woman. We are flexible and try new ways of doing things. Delta Zeta has had to change to meet the needs of our current alumnae and collegiate members. That is exciting!

# What is something most people don't know about you?

I'm a huge Jeopardy fan, I love my iPhone, and I haven't tried Wordle yet!

#### Finally - pink or green?

Normally, I'd say green. But, my granddaughter, Alice, is four and a half and loves pink, so I've had a lot more pink in my life lately!

66

We owe it to ourselves to continue to learn.



# Why I Give

"I give to the Delta Zeta Foundation to pay forward all that I have gained from my membership in Delta Zeta. Through Delta Zeta, I've met women who challenged me, supported me and inspired me. I found my voice, my strength and my determination to pursue my dreams even when they took me far from home.

"I know that Delta Zeta can
offer all of this and more
to today's collegiate members
through leadership programs,
networking opportunities and
scholarships — initiatives that are only
made possible through the Foundation.

"Delta Zeta has always been there for me, a sisterhood and support network that I can come back to time and time again. My recurring gift to the Foundation is my way of helping to ensure that this sisterhood and all that it has to offer remains strong for future generations of Delta Zetas."

Deana Lewis Kaplan, Theta Iota,
 Western Carolina University (NC)



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If you would like to read The LAMP online to help the Sorority to go green, please email us at GreenLAMP@deltazeta.org.





