SPRING 2016







Page 27

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#### SPRING 2016



Friends & Leaders for Life

#### PI BETA PHI FRATERNITY $\Pi B\Phi$ Founded 1867

#### FOUNDERS

Emma Brownlee Kilgore Margaret Campbell Libbie Brook Gaddis Ada Bruen Grier Clara Brownlee Hutchinson Fannie Whitenack Libbey Rosa Moore Jennie Nicol, M.D. Inez Smith Soule Fannie Thomson Jennie Horne Turnbull Nancy Black Wallace

#### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Pi Beta Phi Fraternity for Women is to promote friendship, develop women of intellect and integrity, cultivate leadership potential and enrich lives through community service.

#### **VISION STATEMENT**

Pi Beta Phi Fraternity is committed to being recognized as a premier organization for women by providing lifelong enrichment to its members and contributing to the betterment of society.

#### CORE VALUES

Integrity Honor and Respect Lifelong Commitment Personal and Intellectual Growth Philanthropic Service to Others Sincere Friendship

The Arrow



## Features

- 20 Meet the 2015 Carolyn Helman Lichtenberg Crest Award Winners
- 23 Sisters Connected by the Heart
- 27 We Believe in the Power of Reading
- 36 College Weekend 2016 Creates Strong Pi Phi Leaders
- 38 Take a Look Inside a Founders' Day Time Capsule

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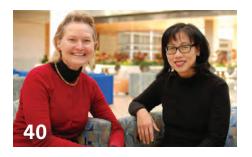
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# Departments

- 2 Perspective
- 3 From our Readers
- 4 Campus Living
- 6 Collegiate News
- **10** Alumnae News
- 14 Foundation
- **16** In Her Words
- 17 Remember
- **18** Read > Lead > Achieve®
- 40 Living our Values
- **41** Reunions & Anniversaries
- 44 In Memoriam
- 46 Pi Phi Express®
- 48 News & Notes

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ON THE COVER: In March, Pi Beta Phi hosted its third annual Fraternity Day of Service Signature Events in five cities. Each event included a donation of 20,000 brand-new books to children in need. The Signature Event in Kansas City, Missouri, included a book fair at Gordon Parks Elementary School, where this photo was taken.

Member Fraternity Communications Association

### Perspective

# In Service to Others

I have participated in many different types of service events throughout my life and am always amazed at the power that comes from a group of people working together toward one common goal. In February, I attended the Fraternity Day of Service Signature Event in Silicon Valley, California, where I met young alumna PAIGE CLARK, Pennsylvania Gamma. At first, I thought she was a volunteer because she wore Pi Phi letters, but quickly learned she was there to pick up donated books.



HALLEE WINNIE Foundation Executive Director Michigan Gamma Michigan State University

Paige, a sixth-grade teacher, represented one of more than 100 Bay Area schools and community agencies serving underprivileged children who would, together, receive 20,000 books donated by Pi Beta Phi. We chatted as she chose books for her school, and I learned she had only just graduated from college in May. Less than a year into her teaching career, Paige seized the opportunity to provide her students with the tools to be more successful — even if that meant an early Saturday morning and a 30-minute drive across town.

I saw this same enthusiasm on many faces throughout the day and continued to think about Paige. As a collegian, she engaged in service activities with her chapter. Now, as an alumna, she continues to exemplify service through her day-to-day work as a teacher. And as part of Fraternity Day of Service, I saw our sisterhood serving Paige and her community, bringing our core value of Philanthropic Service to Others full circle.

At the five Fraternity Day of Service Signature Events, which you will read more about on Page 27, Pi Beta Phi was able to give away 100,000 brand-new books thanks to donations to The Literacy Fund at Pi Beta Phi Foundation from chapters, alumnae clubs and individuals. If you have had the opportunity to attend one of these Signature Events, or participate in another Read > Lead > Achieve initiative, you know how lifechanging these books are for the children and teachers who receive them.

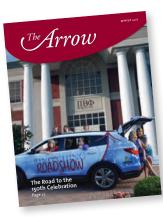
As I made my way back to St. Louis and thought about my experience, one of my favorite quotes, by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., came to mind: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?" In my work at the Foundation every day, I know what Pi Phis are doing for others, but it was humbling to see an example of Pi Beta Phi in action at Fraternity Day of Service. It was a great reminder that just one Pi Phi can make a difference in the lives of others. And together, as a sisterhood, we have the collective ability to make a tremendous difference in society.

Pi Phi Proud,

Dallee Wine

Hallee Winnie

# From our Readers



#### Indiana Alpha Makes Collegiate Tennis History

Congratulations Indiana Alpha CHELSEA HOWELL for all your hard work, great spirit and all your winnings. You are a special Pi Phi, indeed!

SUSAN CRAWFORD North Dakota Alpha — Henrietta, New York

#### To the Members of Pi Beta Phi

In regards to the story "To the Members of Pi Beta Phi," published in the Winter 2016 *Arrow*, Mississippi Beta CYNTHIA "CINDY" DOOLITTLE HARKINS initiated me at Ole Miss, and we all looked up to her. I am so proud and honored as a Pi Beta Phi Foundation donor to know that I was able to be there for my sister when she needed it.

CATHY FILSON COOPER Mississippi Beta — Richardson, Texas



We look forward to hearing from you. Email comments to the Editor at editor@pibetaphi.org or mail them to Pi Beta Phi Headquarters, 1154 Town & Country Commons Drive, Town & Country, Missouri 63017.

#### Like Mother, Like Daughter

After becoming a young widow, my mom attended college when my brother and I were just two and three years old. She never studied until we were tucked into bed at night, yet she established a 4.0 GPA her first year and earned numerous scholarships to fund her degree. After graduating, my mother continued to focus on raising two children as a single parent and building her career.

As a nontraditional, older student, my mother did not have the opportunity to go through recruitment and join a sorority. But the Pi Phi values I possess came from my mother. She is my original angel, the one who taught me how to be a leader, a strong woman and an outstanding member of the community. When I became a member of the Missouri Alpha Chapter at the University of Missouri, my mother was there for every step in my college career.

I moved back to the Phoenix area after graduation and joined the Phoenix Alumnae Club. While some daughters follow their mothers' footsteps in choosing a sorority, my mother followed mine. I learned from my club President that my mom could become a Pi Phi through the alumna initiate program. I didn't know such an option was possible. After going through the process, it was my pleasure to pin my mother during her Initiation Ceremony and be there to see her become a member of the family that took such good care of me while I was at Mizzou.

Many Pi Phis don't know about the alumna initiate program. I think the program is a great way to honor those in our community who are leaders and serve others, even though they may not have had the opportunity to go through a traditional college experience. While many think of celebrities or dignitaries as alumna initiates, I think it's important to highlight those people who represent Pi Phi values and give back to others every day. And I think my mom is a great example of a Pi Phi alumna initiate to share with my sisters around the world.

ADRIANNA AMATO Missouri Alpha — Chandler, Arizona

# **Campus** Living

# Mi Casa es Su Casa

This unique adobe facility is home to the New Mexico Alpha Chapter at the University of New Mexico. The house draws inspiration from the regional architecture of the Southwestern United States and features traditional pueblo-style details.





The New Mexico Alpha facility started as a lodge in 1949. That lodge only had a living room, kitchenette and a House Director suite. In 1952, a second story was added, along with a kitchen, chapter room, dining room, study room, 14 bedrooms, a bathroom and a lounge.

Today, the house sleeps 27 women. Unlike other chapters on campus, New Mexico Alpha is the only chapter that occupies their original facility. Alumnae love and appreciate this as they enjoy coming back to see the rooms where they made memories and lifelong friends as collegians.

The Chapter House Corporation (CHC) has made a few renovations along the way with the most recent being a new roof in 2015. These renovations were made possible by the CHC saving up over the years with focused plans of what they aspired the facility to become.





"Our chapter house has become my home away from home. It is a place I can come to and I know I will be welcomed with loving and open arms. Through every up and down, every high and low, the New Mexico Alpha Chapter house has offered me a loving home with sisters who have truly become my family."



BAYLEE BROWN, New Mexico Alpha









Share your chapter facility renovations and updates with *The Arrow*! Email stories and high-resolution photos of your chapter's transformed spaces to fhc@pibetaphi.org.

# **Collegiate** News

# **Collegiate Spotlight**

By: Illinois Iota CAROLINE CAMPANA

For Ohio Epsilon LAUREN BANKS, a junior at the University of Toledo, community service is a way of life. Because of her unrelenting drive, Lauren was recently awarded the Shining Star for Community Involvement Award from the University of Toledo's Provost office. This is the first time the award has gone to a student.

Outside of being the outgoing Vice President of Philanthropy for her chapter, Lauren is President of The Bridge, a service organization compiling hundreds of sack lunches and handing them out each Saturday to the Toledo homeless population. She is also a Presidential Ambassador, the Village Resident Advisor/House Manager for her chapter house and an active member of Order of Omega. Adding first student recipient of the Shining Star for Community Involvement Award is the icing on the cake for the dedicated collegian.

According to the Provost office, the Shining Star Award was created to recognize and honor those who continuously demonstrate their commitment to excellence in teaching, challenging and inspiring our students. While the distinction has previously only been awarded to faculty or staff, Lauren's boyfriend decided he should still nominate her because her accomplishments aligned with the award criteria.

"It was truly an honor to not only receive this recognition from the Provost of the University, but also to be the first student to do so," Lauren said. She was not aware she had been nominated, or that her boyfriend had reached out to the Provost office until she found out she had won. The Provost of the University of Toledo shared Lauren's story via a special video, promoted on the office's YouTube channel.

Lauren credits Pi Beta Phi with giving her the drive to achieve her goals and achieve many different things in her community. "Through joining this sorority, I have been introduced to many amazing leaders and role models," she said. "I have been challenged to step out of my comfort zone and push myself to reach feats I never knew were possible. I have met amazing women who support me in all I do and who have a drive to make a difference in the community just as much as I do."

One of the major initiatives Lauren spearheaded while Vice President of Philanthropy was to expand the Champions are



Ohio Epsilon LAUREN BANKS received the Shining Star for Community Involvement Award from the University of Toledo's Provost Office. The award honors Lauren's work to promote Read > Lead > Achieve, including hosting the Champions are Readers program, planning a literacy carnival and coordinating a 5K race.

Readers<sup>®</sup> (CAR) program in the Toledo area. Lauren initiated the idea for a CARnival, an interactive event helping promote reading-related activities to children in the area. Outside of reading activies, the CARnival included face painting, games, food and prizes.

Additionally, Lauren created and promoted a local 5K called the Color Me Literacy 5K, a The Color Run<sup>TM</sup>-esque 5K, which helped raise funds for Read > Lead > Achieve. "Pi Phi has allowed me to grow into a leader while fostering the importance of community service and providing me with lifelong friendships," Lauren said.

After finishing school, Lauren plans on attending the University of Toledo's occupational therapy doctorate program. "My career goals are to graduate with my doctorate in occupational therapy and continue my passion for service through providing therapy for others so that they can become independent in life," she said.

#### ARIZONA

The Arizona Beta Chapter at Arizona State University celebrated the initiation of its New Members with a Cookie Shine, gifts and songs. Alumnae, family and friends were invited to the event and encouraged to join the celebrations. This year, Arizona Beta GIOIA RYAN (right) joined the chapter as an alumna initiate. Pictured with Gioia is Arizona Beta ALISON KELLY.



#### COLORADO

A tradition held by the Colorado Delta Chapter at the Colorado School of Mines is Link Families. Each member is linked to a family within the chapter based on her major. The families host friendly competitions each week for the highest amount of study hours completed, community service hours fulfilled and office hours attended. After each semester, the Link Family with the most points receives a gift card to a coffee shop to celebrate their hard work.



#### CALIFORNIA

On Saturday mornings, sisters from the California Theta Chapter at the University of California, Davis, can be found at the farmers market sampling local produce. Additionally, the women enjoy picnics and live music at the market on Wednesday evenings. These excursions are a favorite chapter tradition. From left, California Thetas KALI SULLIVAN and ALLIE FAFARD.



#### ILLINOIS

Holt House is a very important part of chapter traditions for the Illinois Alpha Chapter at Monmouth College. The chapter hosts weekly chapter meetings at Pi Beta Phi's founding home. Members also appreciate the opportunity to initiate New Members at Holt House as well as host a celebratory Cookie Shine after the ceremony.



#### INDIANA

Arrow Week, the week leading up to the initiation of New Members, is a special tradition for the Indiana Alpha Chapter at Franklin College. During Arrow Week, the women attend an ice cream social and family dinner where big sisters give handmade, arrowshaped pincushions and pin boxes to their little sisters. From back left, Indiana Alphas KIA HRENO, ALLEY GUFFEY and RACHEL HAWKINS. From front left, Indiana Alphas OLIVIA FISHER and KATIE KAVANAUGH.



#### **NEW MEXICO**

This January, the New Mexico Alpha Chapter celebrated Pi Beta Phi's 150th and hosted the Ring Ching Roadshow. For the celebration, the chapter decorated their dining hall for an alumnae lunch and covered the living room in pink sheets for a Cookie Shine. During the Cookie Shine, senior members and alumnae shared their favorite Pi Phi memories. From left, New Mexico Alphas KATLYN CUYLER, FRANCESCA GENTILE, JAIMIE LIN and MIMI VUONG.



#### MAINE

Each holiday season, the sisters of Maine Alpha hold an event for the chapter and local alumnae called "Christmas Tea." This year, the event was at the Wilson Center on the University of Maine's campus. Current chapter members and alumnae bonded over a beautiful spread of coffee, tea, punch, snacks and Pi Phi cookies. One alumna even brought her antique tea set for attendees to admire.



#### **ONTARIO**

This year, the Ontario Beta Chapter at the University of Western Ontario held a photo shoot for the incoming Executive Council members. The women used the time as an opportunity to bond outside of the chapter setting. From left, New Executive Council for Ontario Beta NAREESA DHALLA, TIFFANY LEW, WENDY KRUKIN, SOFIA LIANG, JANELLE TAM, ANGELA MAZZOLIN, NANCY JING and KELLY CHAU.



#### PENNSYLVANIA

An important tradition for the Pennsylvania Gamma Chapter at Dickinson College is the annual trip to Founder ROSA MOORE'S grave during the New Member Education Program. While at the cemetery, the chapter places roses on Rosa's gravestone and senior sisters recount their favorite Pi Phi memories. From left, Pennsylvania Gammas VICTORIA VINALL, ABBY MARRIOTT, LILLIAN CORMAN and AUDREY OWENS.



#### VIRGINIA

Virginia Theta's favorite tradition and celebration is Bid Day. This year, the chapter at Washington & Lee University planned a Mardi Gras-themed event, complete with beads, giant balloons and photo props. The celebration included introductions, singing, pictures, dancing and a pizza dinner. The night culminated with another one of their favorite traditions — a Cookie Shine!



#### VIRGINIA

Each year, the Virginia Eta Chapter at the University of Richmond celebrates Bid Day at the Pi Beta Phi cottage with music, dancing and gifts. The celebration is followed by a sisterhood event that changes each year. After this year's Bid Day, the chapter spent the afternoon bowling and bonding with their New Members.



#### WEST VIRGINIA

The day New Members are introduced to their big sisters is a special celebration for the West Virginia Alpha Chapter at West Virginia University. Sisters spend the day bonding and taking photos. A popular destination is Cooper's Rock, a state park 10 miles from campus. From center clockwise, West Virginia Alphas TAYA WILKES, KIMBER KING, KATHERINE CAMARA, CHASTITY ORELLANA, BLES'D YOUNG, MORGAN PARSONS, CIARA WILLIAMS and EMMA WAGNER.



# Alumnae News

# Alumnae Spotlight

By: California Delta CONSTANCE DILLON GIBBS

In seventh grade, Oregon Alpha KATIE LIGHTFOOT became friends with a young girl with cerebral palsy. That summer, at the urging of her friend's mother, Katie volunteered with BOOST Conductive Education, a program helping children with cerebral palsy achieve and refine life skills like standing, walking and eating independently. For the next 12 summers, Katie continued to volunteer for the program, and today, she serves as its Director.

At BOOST, a program of the United Cerebral Palsy<sup>®</sup> of the North Bay, wheelchairs and walkers are left at the front door. Classes are led by professional Conductive Education Teachers known as "conductors" and parents and caregivers attend the special classes side-by-side with their children. The work of Conductive Education is based on the child as a learner with the teacher modeling how to perform everyday movements, while also promoting confidence. The approach has its own wooden equipment including boxes, ladder frames and slatted tables.

Each day begins with singing and active stretching on the floor followed by gross motor activities like standing, walking and jumping. Later in the day, the children practice fine motor activities like arts and crafts and snack time. Local schools donate space for the program and nearly all supplies, from construction paper to finger paint to snack food, are donated by community members.

"We're giving the children confidence," Katie said. "We're showing them we believe they can do it. And in turn, they want to do it. They are my heroes." Katie also attributes much of the children's success to the structured routine of the program. Each day has the same schedule so the children understand what is expected of them and at what time.

The first BOOST program, held in 2001, consisted of less than 10 children in one classroom. This past summer, the program had grown to 24 children across four classrooms. Families come from all over California and as far away as Nevada, Texas and Australia to participate. Many families learn about the program from word-of-mouth and some attend the program for several years. BOOST provides scholarships to help those families who need financial assistance, often to subsidize the cost of housing.

Katie's passion lies not only in helping the children grow, but also in bringing volunteers to BOOST. In college, Katie



As part of BOOST Conductive Education, an intensive six-week summer program, Oregon Alpha KATIE LIGHTFOOT is helping children with cerebral palsy achieve and refine life skills like standing, walking and eating independently. This past summer, Katie (back right) worked with twins Jake and Luke, their mother CHRISTINE PIKE KIEFER (back left) and aunt RACHEL PIKE (front right), both Nevada Alphas.

created the role of Volunteer Coordinator to recruit other young people to help with the program. Like parents and caregivers, the volunteers attend class and assist children with activities. "It's amazing to me how many of our volunteers change their life perspective after working with BOOST," Katie said. "I am very fortunate I found my life's work, and that is the case for many of our volunteers, too."

Katie is currently applying to medical school where she plans to specialize in physical therapy and rehabilitation. Her dream is to one day expand BOOST to a year-round program serving both children and adults. She also hopes to start a nonprofit foundation to guarantee the program is free of charge for all families. "I want to create possibilities and make an empowering experience for everyone involved," Katie said.

#### ARKANSAS

In January, the Conway, Arkansas, Alumnae Club gathered for an angel and arrow gift exchange. The women look forward to this post-holiday celebration each year and enjoy spending time with fellow Pi Phi alumnae and their children. This year's event, held at the home of Mississippi Beta KATIE BAILEY-HARRIS, featured many unique angel and arrow gifts as well as angel cookies for dessert.



#### CALIFORNIA

To kick off the new year and their healthy resolutions, members of the Palo Alto, California, Alumnae Club hiked to a local farm. From left, Washington Gamma TRICIA OHLSON GWYNN, California Alpha CAROLINE CAIRES SPANGLER, Oregon Beta KAYE BAILEY LOUGHMILLER, Oregon Gamma SAMANTHA BARNES, D.C. Alpha ALISSA TURNIPSEED and California Delta CHRISTINA ROSALES CURTIN.



#### **FLORIDA**

Pennsylvania Gamma JOANN WILSON ROSE celebrated her 95th birthday with her Pi Phi sisters from the Brevard County, Florida, Alumnae Club. Another club member, Georgia Alpha MARY GROTHJAHN VAN HORN, shares the same birthday. The two women blew out candles on a Pi Phi birthday cake and opened presents together.



In November, the Fort Myers, Florida, Alumnae Club commemorated its 45th anniversary with a Cookie Shine. The celebration also included a slideshow of historical club photos, a presentation on the history of the Cookie Shine and a report from the 2015 Convention. The club also honored its Past Presidents. From left, Past Presidents Indiana Beta ANN LYONS SUTTON, Florida Delta KIM OGBURN, Indiana Beta SUSAN CRANE KYLE, Illinois Theta ROBERTA LAY NACK, Florida Delta STEFANIE DULLARD CAPPS, Arkansas Alpha MARY ANN CLINTON WASSON and Vermont Beta SHIRLEY NICHOLS CHRISTLIEB.



#### INDIANA

The Indiana Beta Chapter at Indiana University helped celebrate Indiana Beta MARY BRIGGS GRADY in honor of her 89th birthday. During the surprise visit to the chapter house, arranged by her daughters, Mary enjoyed lunch with chapter members and received roses and a birthday cake from the chapter's House Director. From left, Indiana Betas MARIANNE GRADY KOBY, COLLEEN GRADY COLVIN and MARY BRIGGS GRADY.



#### OHIO

Ohio Betas gathered for the 50th anniversary of The Ohio State University's mascot, Brutus Buckeye. Ohio Beta SALLY HUBER LANYON created the first Brutus Buckeye out of papier-mâché in 1965 on the lawn of the Ohio Beta Chapter house. Today, Brutus is an ambassador of spirit, scholarship and service to others. From left, Ohio Betas NICOLE SCHUMACHER and MARY BURNETT BROWN, Ohio Epsilon LINDA BROWER MEEKS and Ohio Beta SALLY HUBER LANYON.



#### **NORTH CAROLINA**

Pi Phis from Raleigh, North Carolina, attended a book signing for California Gamma REE SMITH DRUMMOND, aka The Pioneer Woman. The women reminisced about Pi Phi and sang Ring, Ching, Ching. From left, Virginia Zeta MARY WILLIAMS, Mississippi Beta TRICIA MCGRAIL, North Carolina Alpha BETSY PIERCE, California Gamma REE SMITH DRUMMOND, Oklahoma Alpha CARMEN FELDER, Virginia Eta LORI POVEROMO HAIGHT and North Carolina Alpha ADDIE MOODY.



#### TEXAS

In December, the Brazos Valley, Texas, Alumnae Club hosted a holiday luncheon. From back left, Texas Delta PHYLLIS PERRYMAN PARDEE, Texas Gamma GAIL LEWIS MOORE, Louisiana Alpha SUE MILLER HILL and Texas Alpha JANIE GRANT MCDOUGAL. From front left, Kansas Beta KAY NORDSTROM ZOOK, Texas Gamma BARBARA MCDOUGAL, Texas Zeta JULIE ZOOK TOTH, Florida Beta BETTY RENNELL and Texas Zeta ALICE PORTER HICKERSON.



#### TEXAS

The Dallas Alumnae Club celebrated its 100th anniversary with an evening full of antique cars, music from the early 1900s, historical displays and a slideshow commemorating the club's history. From left, Event Chairmen MELISSA WOODARD UTLEY and CAROL COOK DALTON, Texas Betas; hostess CHERYL WRIGHT HENRY, Texas Beta; and Dallas Alumnae Club President MARY JOY DAVISON HINTON, Texas Alpha.



#### VIRGINIA

This fall, Virginia Zeta alumnae participated in a 5K in memory of fellow Virginia Zeta and dear friend, MICHELLE COSTELLO HOWARD. The race raises money for cancer research and team "Michelle's Angels" were among the top fundraisers. From left, Virginia Zetas GRETCHEN WELBORN BIERNOT, ERICA HEISLER, SUSAN STRONG, KRISTIN SHERBURNE DOLSON, MEG BALSBAUGH and JENN HVOZDOVIC.



#### VIRGINIA

More than 55 years ago, Virginia Gamma MARGA LARSON BALES and her husband eloped with two Pi Phis and their dates as witnesses. In June, the couple hosted a vow renewal. During the reception, the Pi Phi sisters gave speeches about their memories from the elopement. From left, Maryland Beta MARGE DUNCAN LOCKER, Virginia Gammas NANCY MOORE KISER, JUDY DICKERSON BULLOCK, MARGA LARSON BALES and JACKIE GOOD LEGG WASH and Florida Alpha ANN TAYLOR MOORE.



#### WASHINGTON

California Delta JOAN LITTLE FORSYTH received a First Place ribbon and a coveted Grand Champion ribbon at the Washington State Fair in the Category of Calligraphy: Hand Lettered Books. Joan's entry, an accordion book with hand lettering, featured stamps of the Chinese zodiac. Joan is a master calligrapher and her art has been featured in many national publications as well as various communications for the Seattle Alumnae Club, of which she is a member.



# Foundation

# Remembering Amy Biehl and Keeping Her Legacy Alive

By: California Alpha CAYLA PETTINATO

On August 25, 1993, California Alpha AMY BIEHL was tragically killed by an angry mob outside of Cape Town, South Africa. Amy was completing a 10-month stay in Cape Town researching women's roles in the transition toward democracy. She was killed just two days before her planned departure to begin doctoral studies at Rutgers University in New Jersey. More than 20 years since her passing, Amy's life and legacy continues to inspire our sisters.

In late 2015, after reviewing our chapter's finances with our Alumnae Advisory Committee, we decided to establish an undergraduate scholarship with Pi Beta Phi Foundation in Amy's memory. She may have lived a shortened life, but she made the most out of her time on Earth. Our chapter loves what she stood for — she exemplified the difference just one person can make in the lives of others. We emailed Amy's family to let them know of our intent to start the



California Alpha AMY BIEHL (left) with friends at the chapter's 1989 Spring Formal. This year, the California Alpha Chapter established the Amy Biehl Memorial Scholarship to honor Amy's legacy.

Amy Biehl Memorial Scholarship, and we were thrilled when they gave us their blessing.

Amy's mom, Linda, and her sister, California Zeta MOLLY BIEHL CORBIN, describe Amy as a determined achiever. She was known for her conviction and drive in all things she did. She was valedictorian of her high school class. As a freshman at Stanford University, she walked onto the diving team, only to become their captain and lead the team toward a national championship. She was a Fulbright scholar and worked tirelessly to educate herself on human rights issues in South Africa and advance the cause of those oppressed populations, especially women.

She was also a sincere friend. One of Amy's best friends, California Alpha CAROLE SAMS HOEMEKE, said Amy took friendships very seriously. "She use to send postcards to sisters, updating us on her work and travels," Carole said. "This was before email, so she would use the smallest handwriting to fit in everything. Amy was always thorough, and she always took time for her sisters, even when she was thousands of miles away." Growing up, Amy and her family lived in Sante Fe, New Mexico, where her parents owned an art gallery. Amy's mom shared that Amy's experience living in Sante Fe was an impetus for the person she would become.

"After her death, we found her high school journal," Linda said. "In it, she wrote about the homeless people that she and her friends would see on their way to the gallery. Amy's friends would often talk about helping those individuals. In Amy's journal she wrote, 'If I'm gonna say it, I'm gonna do it.' Amy always believed in fairness, and I think seeing those people struggling triggered something in her, and led her on the path to being an ardent activist and champion for others."

Amy's life and legacy lives on in our chapter through this scholarship. We hope by establishing it, we can help sisters reach their goals and dream big, just like Amy did. And, we hope the story behind our scholarship encourages recipients to work hard and live by our Pi Phi core values.



California Alpha AMY BIEHL (far right) was known for her conviction and drive in all thing she did. The new Amy Biehl Memorial Scholarship will help other California Alpha sisters reach their goals and dream big, just like Amy did.

#### Can I establish a Foundation scholarship?

Yes! Chapters, alumnae clubs and individuals can establish scholarships for undergraduates, graduate students and alumnae wishing to continue their education. Scholarships can have some sort of restriction or preference established, generally either by chapter or by state of residence.

#### How much do I need to donate to establish a Foundation scholarship?

All scholarships are either expendable or permanently endowed. An expendable scholarship is one that is established for a short period of time, usually five years. The current minimum for an expendable scholarship is \$10,000. An endowed scholarship is one that is permanently established to yield scholarship awards in perpetuity. The current minimum for a permanently endowed scholarship is \$50,000. Memorial scholarships established to honor members who have passed away are exempt from minimum dollar amount requirements, although if the total donated/raised is less than what is needed to make an award, the gift will roll into the general scholarship fund.

#### How are scholarships awarded?

All scholarship awards, with the exception of the Sign of the Arrow Melissa Scholarship, are based on three criteria: financial need, GPA and record of service to Pi Beta Phi, campus and community. Committees for undergraduate, graduate and alumnae continuing education awards review every completed application and score each applicant on the published criteria. Pi Beta Phi alumnae from across the U.S. and Canada comprise the committees, which will evaluate anywhere from 20 to 300 applications in a one-month period. Each applicant is reviewed by at least two committee members. Committee scoring yields a ranking, and applicants are then matched to available scholarships.  $\checkmark$  For more information about establishing a Pi Beta Phi Foundation scholarship, visit pibetaphifoundation.org or call (636) 256–1357.



# IN HER WORDS



# EUGENIE BONDURANT Alabama Beta

#### IN A NUTSHELL ... TELL US ABOUT YOU

I am an acting coach, perform cabaret with my husband, perform live Radio Theatre in an ensemble and am a lover of old houses with history. Oh wait, I forgot to say I play "Tigris" in The Hunger Games: Mockingjay – Part 2, the oddest character in a series of odd characters.

#### PI PHI TAUGHT ME ... "Everyone has something to give."

BEST ADVICE YOU'VE EVER RECEIVED

#### GIVE US A PEEK INSIDE YOUR TYPICAL DAY

Once I've checked in with production, I go to the hair and makeup trailer. When I'm finished there and changed into wardrobe, I am required to be on set. I have completed work on my character, my lines are memorized and I am ready for rehearsal and lighting checks. Filming a scene can go on for hours, so I must be prepared to work.

#### WHAT INSPIRES YOU

Watching people and seeing how they behave. As an actor, I'm constantly studying and questioning human behavior.

#### FAVORITE WORKPLACE EXPRESSION

Turning around. It means the camera is turning around to get a different point of view of the scene. This means the director got what he or she need from me or it's now time for my close-up.

ADVICE FOR UP-AND-COMING PROFESSIONAL WOMEN Educate yourself. Make sure you are up to date on current trends in your industry. Just because you think you may have aged out of a career, it doesn't mean you have.

FAVORITE PI PHI MEMORY Attending Crimson Tide football games with my sisters. Roll Tide!

Left Brained Right Brained Heels Flats iPhone Android a.m. coffee a.m. iced tea Hours a week 40+ 50+ 60+

PEOPLE WHO SPEAK TOO MUCH MAY BE FULL OF HOT AIR



By: FRAN DESIMONE BECQUE, New York Alpha Fraternity Archivist and Historian

# Honoring our Distinguished Alumnae

In 1991, Grand Council created the Crest Award, honoring Pi Phis who had proven themselves and exemplified the Fraternity's core values, either in their career or volunteer capacity.

The Crest Award was created largely because outstanding alumnae were recognized biennially at convention, but there were no awards recognizing outstanding Pi Phis annually.

The Summer 1991 issue of *The Arro*w announced the first-ever winners of the award. Four Pi Phis were selected for their outstanding contributions to their professions and four Pi Phis were selected for their outstanding contributions to their communities. The winners included a scriptwriter/ composer, a Dean of Graduate Education at Harvard University, a finance columnist, an entrepreneur and four philanthropists.

Later that year, the Crest Award was renamed the Carolyn Helman Lichtenberg Crest Award. Ohio Alpha CAROLYN HELMAN LICHTENBERG served as Grand President from 1985 to 1991. Upon her retirement from Grand Council at the 1991 Convention in St. Louis, Carolyn was surprised by her Grand Council friends when the name of the Crest Award was changed to honor her service.

The award was originally a wooden plaque emblazoned with the Pi Beta Phi crest. In the early 2000s, the award became a covered glass jar with an etched Pi Beta Phi crest and the winner's name on the front. Two plaques listing all the winners are displayed above the guestbook in the foyer of Pi Beta Phi Headquarters in Town & Country, Missouri. During the Recognition Lunch at convention, it was always a highlight for Carolyn to host a table for Carolyn Helman Lichtenberg Crest Award winners in attendance.

Since 1991, more than 170 women have been honored with the Carolyn Helman Lichtenberg Crest Award for outstanding leadership in their career or volunteer service to their communities. Nominations are due by October 1 and may be submitted by collegiate chapters, alumnae clubs or an individual alumna.





Top: At the 1991 Convention, past Grand President CAROLYN HELMAN LICHTENBERG, Ohio Alpha (far right), was surprised by her Grand Council friends when the name of the Crest Award was changed to honor her service to Pi Beta Phi.

Bottom: Originally a wooden plaque, the Carolyn Helman Lichtenberg Crest Award became a covered glass jar with an etched Pi Beta Phi crest and the winner's name on the front in the early 2000s.

# Read > Lead > Achieve

# Mother-Daughter Team Helps Refugee Children

The village of Glen Ellyn, Illinois, is located just 25 miles west of downtown Chicago. Though largely middle class, more than 1,200 of its elementary school students qualify for free or reduced lunch. The community has also seen a growing number of Asian, African, Hispanic and other refugee residents in recent years, most forced to flee their home countries because of war or other crises.



Indiana Beta LUCY COMERFORD (back center) works for the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center. Her mom, North Carolina Beta CLEO BURTIS, serves on the Center's Executive Board. The mother-daughter team help children from low-income, refugee and immigrant families develop their reading, writing and social skills.

Searching for a way to help those in need within their community, North Carolina Beta CLEO BURTIS and her daughter, Indiana Beta LUCY COMERFORD, discovered the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center. The Center exists to help children from low-income, refugee and immigrant families acquire the academic and social skills needed to move successfully through grades K–12. Many are learning to read and write in English for the first time. The Center provides free after-school and summer programs and uses the talents of teachers and volunteer tutors to support the children in their reading development. Tutoring takes place one-on-one and focuses on both schoolwork and personal challenges.

Cleo serves the Center as a member of its Executive Board, currently serving as Co-Secretary. As a Board member, Cleo supports two annual literacy-themed fundraisers. The first event is a community-wide spelling bee called Spellapalooza. The Glen Ellyn Police Chief emcees the event and several teams compete against one another. Teams are made up of local teachers and administrators, businesses, associations and even members of the state champion high school football team.

The second fundraiser is a Meet the Author event. Authors give a presentation, answer questions and then participate in a book signing. The event takes place at a local golf course and includes cocktails, appetizers and raffle prizes. A different author is featured each year. This year, the Center welcomed Pulitzer Prize finalist and best-selling author Luis Urrea.

Cleo also attends special holiday and year-end events where the children, their families and the Center's tutors, staff and Board members gather for pizza dinners and special entertainment provided by the students.

"As a stay-at-home-mom turned retiree, I have been active in leadership roles with a variety of nonprofit organizations for more than 25 years," Cleo said. "But for me, the one organization that keeps me volunteering, year after year, is the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center."

Cleo takes great pride in all students who have attended the Center's programs and grown in their reading, writing and social abilities. But she is most proud when past students succeed in their adult lives. One such individual is Denise Umubyeyi, who settled in Glen Ellyn as a refugee with her Rwandan family. She has since graduated from the University of Notre Dame, works for a Chicago consulting firm and serves on the Center's Board as Social Media and Community Awareness Director.

Recently, Cleo's daughter, Lucy, took on the role of Program Director for Hadley Junior High School's English as a second language (ESL) club. The club is sponsored by the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center. It operates as an after-school program, geared toward low-income, refugee and immigrant students, who gather for reading and homework help. Between 15 and 25 students attend daily with origins from countries like Ethiopia, Iran, Myanmar, Nepal, Mexico, Poland, Iraq and Albania.

When Lucy first met her ESL students, they seemed like average American kids. They listened to Justin Bieber, doodled on each others' hands and gossiped about their crushes. They laughed, teased each other and complained about their homework. But as Lucy has grown to know them, she has learned how deeply their stories extend. "Many of my students moved several times before arriving in the U.S.," Lucy said. "I have students who casually reference 'the war' back home, as if it's a normal topic of conversation. These brave children have gone through things I can hardly imagine."

One student moved to Glen Ellyn last year when he was in sixth grade. His parents had lived in the U.S. for some time, but had been forced to leave him behind in Mexico to be raised by his grandfather. When the student arrived in the U.S., it was his first time attending school. Not only did he have to learn to read and write in English, but he also had to adjust to a school schedule and routine — something most students take for granted.

"My students continue to amaze me with their capacity to be caring and attentive in the face of so much adjustment," Lucy said. In February, when Lucy casually mentioned to a couple of students that her birthday was the following day, she did not expect to be greeted with ecstatic birthday wishes and a rowdy rendition of "Happy Birthday." "I was most touched when one student, who really struggles with reading and writing, presented me with a handmade birthday card," Lucy said.

In honor of the Center's work to improve the lives of children, Pi Beta Phi Foundation awarded the Center a \$10,000 Special Impact Grant, to be used for their literacy programs. Cleo and Lucy served as Pi Phi sponsors during the grant process. "The award means so very much to all who care about our children," Cleo said.

The Center was also the recipient of 500 brand-new books thanks to the Glen Ellyn-Wheaton, Illinois, Alumnae Club, of which Cleo is a part. The club applied for and received one of the FDS500 book grants in honor of Fraternity Day of Service. The Pi Phis celebrated with a reading event at the Center, which included a birthday party for Dr. Seuss<sup>®</sup> and a visit from The Cat in the Hat<sup>®</sup>.







The Glen Ellyn-Wheaton, Illinois, Alumnae Club held a reading event at the Glen Ellyn Children's Resource Center. Top, Illinois Zeta KARIN POLSON KRAMER read aloud. Middle, Iowa Zeta ALISSA SWEARINGEN SPORER visited with students. Bottom, members of the club in attendance included, from back left, Illinois Zeta KARIN POLSON KRAMER, Iowa Zeta ALISSA SWEARINGEN SPORER, Michigan Epsilon KATE CORNWELL and Illinois Iota CARRIGAN MANETTI. From front left, Indiana Gamma CHELLE HUMAN MILLER and Virginia Epsilon KRISTIN PIPER CLARK.

# Meet the Carolyn Helman Lichtenberg Crest Award Winners



First presented in 1991, this award honors Ohio Alpha CAROLYN HELMAN LICHTENBERG, who served the Fraternity as Grand President from 1985 to 1991. Recipients are distinguished alumnae who exhibit excellence and outstanding leadership in their career or volunteer service to their communities.

#### Carolyn Helman Lichtenberg Crest Award for Community Service



WENDY MILLER DAVIS Illinois Epsilon Northwestern University



NANCY RUEHLOW HURT California Epsilon San Diego State University

"Many of my lifelong friendships are because of Pi Beta Phi," Wendy said. "I joined the Arlington Heights, Illinois, Alumnae Club in 1964 and never looked back! Our sisterhood is about supporting one another through friendship and service, which in turn gives us the confidence to go out into the greater world and support others." — Wendy is committed to making a difference in the lives of children worldwide and does so through her involvement in Rotary International<sup>®</sup> and Heifer International<sup>®</sup>. She has traveled to more than 10 developing countries to participate in polio immunization campaigns and work with families receiving livestock, impacting the lives of children.

"Winning this award means a great deal to me because I set a goal for myself many years ago, and the award validates that I reached my goal," Nancy said. "I am proud that over the years, I have provided hundreds of people with food, warm words and a smile." — *Nancy recently celebrated 30 years of service as a driver for Meals-on-Wheels*<sup>®</sup>. She delivers food and fellowship to homebound seniors in North County San Diego. Nancy is often the only person the seniors see all day, particularly for those men and women living alone.



KATHRYN SCHLEDWITZ LEWIS Mississippi Alpha University of Southern Mississippi



**LAURA TAYLOR SALVATO** Colorado Beta University of Denver

"When I heard the news I was a recipient of this award, I felt h-u-m-b-l-e: happy, unique, meaningful, blessed, loved and excited," Kathryn said. "I have always known Pi Beta Phi is a lifetime of sisterhood, support, philanthropy and celebrating our values. This award provides me with a wonderful way to say thank-you to our Fraternity." — Kathryn helped transform Stone County, Mississippi, through her work in literacy, education and the arts. Because of her efforts, Stone County has celebrated its legacy through theatrical productions, oral histories, children's books and 35 murals located throughout the region.

"It means a lot to be recognized for the work I have done throughout my life," Laura said. "It is quite an experience to look back on my journey. The Lighthouse Center is the most significant project of which I've been a part, and it gave me an urgent sense of purpose. I am enriched by the work I was involved in and the people I encountered along the way." — Laura founded the Lighthouse Women's Center, a clinic and crisis center for pregnant women and their boyfriends, spouses, families and friends. The Center serves the Denver metropolitan community and provides support free of charge for men and women.

#### Carolyn Helman Lichtenberg Crest Award for Professional Achievement



JAN HOWARTH DONATELLI Virginia Gamma College of William & Mary

"Pi Phi has so many talented and dedicated alumnae that I am incredibly honored to be selected for this award," Jan said. "Outside of my military service, I consider this award one of the highlights of my professional life. It honors the work I have accomplished for our veterans and their caregivers, especially for our post-9/11 wounded warriors." — Jan is helping military veterans and their families live a better life. Drawing on her 16 years of experience as a pilot for the U.S. Navy and Delta Airlines, she provides communication and policy support for aviation, labor and political issues. She has helped author legislation and lobby on behalf of those acts as well as lead resolution of labor issues.



**STACIA LONG GLAVAS** Oklahoma Beta Oklahoma State University



**CAROL WHITE POORE** Arizona Beta Arizona State University

"It is a privilege to empower single mothers who have limited resources to become educated and learn life skills so they can support their families and feel pride in themselves," Stacia said. "I believe who I am as a woman, mother, wife, friend and member of my community is deeply influenced by my experiences in Pi Beta Phi." — *Stacia is Founder and President of Brevard Rescue Mission, an organization seeking to break the cycle of homelessness by providing resources and skills necessary to help families become self-sufficient. The Mission operates two homes for homeless women and their children and provides training on topics such as finance, nutrition and GED diploma preparation.* 

"I hope my story inspires other Pi Phis to lead with determination and build their career and community service around an articulated purpose," Carol said. "This award signifies that my accomplishments didn't happen overnight. They happened with steadfast steps year after year — to make a difference in pursuits where I found heartfelt passion and purpose." — *Carol is President of Phoenix Phabulous Experience, an organization bringing people together to celebrate the past, present and future of Phoenix. The organization hosts events that engage visitors and residents through art, technology, storytelling and dialogue.* 



JILL BROUWER POWELL Michigan Beta University of Michigan

"I am proud of my dedication to try to make the world we live in, and my children are growing up in, a better place than it was the day before," Jill said. "I am grateful to the leadership of the St. Louis Alumnae Club for nominating me for this award and humble to be recognized among such accomplished Pi Phi sisters." — Jill is committed to women's health and researching solutions to women's issues, including ending domestic and sexual violence. She is a practicing OB-GYN, an associate professor for Saint Louis University School of Medicine and a champion for Safe Connections, an organization working to reduce the impact and incidence of domestic and sexual violence.

# Sisters Connected

By: California Delta CONSTANCE DILLON GIBBS

n a beautiful Sunday morning, Oregon Alphas ALYSIA KEZERIAN and JEN KIRST set out on an "ExplOregon" adventure to Smith Rock State Park. The park is known for its hiking trails, craggy scenery and rock climbing areas. Despite the August temperatures creeping toward 100 degrees that afternoon, the women set out on a hike as soon as they arrived. They chose the Misery Ridge trail, popular among day hikers for its panoramic views.

Since classes had ended two months prior, the women had filled their summer break with explorations of Oregon's magnificent scenery. Summer months in the Pacific Northwest are particularly breathtaking. Lush, green trees stand in full foliage and waterfalls surge with crisp springwater from the Cascade Mountains to the west. Alysia and Jen had gone on numerous hikes, many of them deep into the woods or high up into the mountains. They shared pictures of their adventures on Instagram, one postcard shot after another, with excited captions describing the beauty around them.

The ascent to Misery Ridge would soon be another item enthusiastically crossed off their summer bucket list. Along the switchbacks, the women took pictures and sent Snapchats to friends, in-between chatting with other friendly hikers along the trail. When Alysia and Jen arrived at the summit, they stopped to take in the view. On a clear day, like this one, many of the major Cascade peaks are visible from the viewpoint, including Mount Hood.

The top of Misery Ridge is also littered with boulders of varying sizes, just like much of the park. Alysia was feeling the itch to climb after hours on the trail, passing rock after rock. She loved climbing, having taken lessons over the years, and especially loved bouldering, a form of rock climbing performed without the use of ropes and harnesses. She selected a boulder and easily made it to the top.

On the way back down, Alysia grabbed for a jutting rock. She knew it was strong and could support her weight because she had used the same hold on the way up. But this time, when she reached for the rock, it broke away. Alysia fell 10 feet, hitting the ground hard. The fall took her off the trail and she began to tumble 40 feet down the side of the mountain.

"I've heard people say that in near-death situations they are frantic and afraid, with their life flashing before their eyes," Alysia said. "When I was falling, I felt oddly calm. I thought about Jen, who was watching from above, and I thought of my parents. And then I thought, I can't die."

Alysia locked her fingers to grab onto anything she could. Miraculously, the falling stopped. From above, Jen called 911, and then slid down to be by Alysia's side. The first responder on the scene was a Deschutes County Search and Rescue member who had just finished a climb in the park. He helped stabilize Alysia to prevent her from sliding down the slope any further.

They soon learned Alysia couldn't be airlifted out of the park because of her location on the trail. When other rescuers finally arrived, after hiking up to the group, Alysia was loaded onto a backboard so she could be carried down the mountain. The six-hour rescue also required an inflatable boat to take Alysia across the park's river. She was then delivered into the hands of emergency medical personnel waiting at the trailhead.

Alysia was taken to the nearest hospital, St. Charles Medical Center, in Bend, Oregon. Several tests and X-rays revealed that Alysia's second lumbar vertebrae had shattered, damaging her spinal cord. The damage most likely occurred from the initial impact of her fall. Though she was scared, Alysia asked the question she knew she had to ask, "Am I ever going to walk again?" And the doctor responded, "No."

"I'm not the type of person who dwells on the negative when something bad happens," Alysia said. "So I moved onto plan B after hearing the news. Though I didn't know anyone who was paralyzed, I thought of the movie 'Remember the Titans.' The character in the movie ultimately lived a good life, so I imagined myself continuing to live my life and continuing to be happy."

A few hours later, Alysia's mom and sister arrived at the hospital. Jen had called them from the trail earlier in the day to tell them about the accident. After checking flights, they decided it was faster to drive the eight hours to Bend, leaving their Bay Area home as soon as bags were packed. Alysia's father would follow the next day. The women didn't learn the severity of Alysia's injury until they arrived at the hospital a little past midnight.

"I can't even remember who told us about the paralysis," said Alysia's mom, Gail Kezerian. "But the news was so surreal that I had no reaction. I couldn't even comprehend it. I went into the room to see Alysia — and she looked beautiful. She didn't have a scratch on her. We talked and hugged and cried a little bit, but Alysia was Alysia. She was so positive."

Alysia would undergo two surgeries in the week following the accident. The first removed as many bone fragments as possible from her lower back. The second rebuilt her spinal cord with metal rods and screws.



Simultaneously, the fraternity and sorority community was reacting to Alysia's story in a big way. At first, cards and gifts flowed in from University of Oregon (UO)

fraternities and sororities, followed by University administration and staff. Gail even received a call on her cell phone from the UO President.

But then the cards and gifts began arriving from Pi Beta Phi members from across the United States and Canada. Whole chapters sent notes of encouragement and countless Pi Phi alumnae sent personal letters to let Alysia know they were keeping her in their thoughts and prayers. Text messages, emails and Facebook messages also poured in - hundreds and hundreds of them - not only from Pi Phis, but also from members of other fraternities and sororities across North America. A hashtag using Alysia's nickname, #LeeshyStrong, started trending on social media and a GiveForward campaign, to cover medical expenses not covered by insurance, raised more than \$83,000 in a matter of days — easily surpassing its original goal of \$50,000.

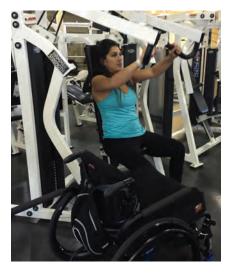
"It was beautiful to see how the fraternity and sorority community came together to support one of their own," Alysia said. "It makes me proud to be part of such an amazing group."

Once her surgeries were complete, Alysia traveled to Denver to spend 10 weeks at Craig Hospital, a worldrenowned rehabilitation hospital specializing in patients with spinal cord injury and traumatic brain injury. The Kezerian family had researched several rehabilitation facilities, but chose Craig because of its specialties and its work with young people.

At Craig, Alysia's days followed a strict routine. Her first class of the day, mat class for stretching, began at 8 a.m. Occupational therapy followed, where Alysia







learned how to take care of herself in everyday situations, such as getting clothes on and off, getting in and out of a car and traveling on an airplane. After a lunch break,

> afternoons were filled with physical therapy to work on balance and fit class for strength training, with the day ending around 4 p.m.

"Craig's sole purpose is to prove all the can'ts wrong," Alysia said. "The staff showed me I could do whatever I had planned to do before the accident, and showed me the ways to do them." Alysia's recovery even included tennis lessons in a tennis wheelchair and an outing to the UO versus University of Colorado football game, as well as visits from several Pi Phi sisters. Alysia also FaceTimed with the entire Oregon Alpha Chapter during a weekly chapter meeting.

When the time came to leave Craig, Alysia went home to her parents' house, just in time for the holidays. Though she was happy to be home, Alysia told her parents she was ready to go back to school. It was decided Alysia would return to campus for the upcoming winter term.

The plan was something the Kezerian family had been discussing for months, including conversations with the Oregon Alpha Chapter House Corporation (CHC). The Oregon Alpha Chapter had celebrated its centennial that fall, and the CHC had recently completed major renovations to the Oregon Alpha Chapter house in honor of the celebration. Those renovations included ramped access to the house and the addition of a first-floor bathroom to meet federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access guidelines. But with

the news of Alysia's return to campus, the chapter and the CHC worked together to ensure Alysia could move back into the chapter house. Chapter members voted to allow the house's sunroom, also located on the first floor, to be converted to a bedroom for Alysia. And an ADA compliant shower was added to the first-floor bathroom.

On the day Alysia moved back into the Oregon Alpha Chapter house, she was greeted with a welcome banner decorated by her sisters, numerous hugs and cheerful greetings. "Having Alysia return to the house in January was a triumphant day for all of us," said Oregon Alpha CHC President JANET UHLENHAKE CLAY, Oregon Alpha. "We are grateful Alysia can continue to heal at the wonderful place that is Oregon Alpha. In the house, she can be with her sisters and work toward her future — all in a safe place."

Alysia's new bedroom is located right off the living room. The Moroccan-themed room is decorated with bright colors and pictures of family and friends, with a chandelier hanging above the fluffy white bed. She loves keeping her door open so visitors can stop by. Her Pi Phi sisters pop in and out; some just to say "hello" while others stay to study or watch Netflix. Alysia's younger sister, Oregon Alpha COURTNEY KEZERIAN, also lives in the chapter house this year and can often be found hanging with the group in Alysia's room. "Having Alysia back is huge for our chapter," said Oregon Alpha EMILIE HIGGINS. "Everything feels right again." Emilie explains the feeling is shared across New Member classes, even for the freshmen who didn't get a chance to meet Alysia in-person until this term.

Life has returned to a steady cadence since Alyisa returned to school. She attends classes, socializes with friends and participates in Pi Phi and campus activities. In February, when her sisters traveled to Las Vegas, Alysia made the trip, too. And this summer, Alysia will participate in a UO study abroad program in Vienna, Austria. There are many things to celebrate, and her Pi Phi sisters top the list.

"I feel lucky to be part of something so much bigger than myself," Alysia said. "Especially something that says, 'We're here for each other,' not just for four years, but for life. I personally got to see our sisterhood in action, and I feel so fortunate to be a Pi Beta Phi."

"It was beautiful to see how the fraternity and sorority community came together to support one of their own. **It makes me proud to be part of such an amaging group**."

We Believe in the





of Reading



Pi Beta Phi has been celebrating Fraternity Day of Service for 12 years, on or around March 2, in honor of Dr. Seuss' birthday. This year, Pi Beta Phi hosted its third annual Fraternity Day of Service Signature Events in five cities: Columbia, South Carolina; Jackson, Mississippi; Kansas City, Missouri; Silicon Valley, California; and Tampa, Florida. Each event included a donation of 20,000 brand-new books to children in need. With each book, we made a difference for one child, at one moment in time, resulting in one life changed forever.

# Counting Down the Days Till the Signature Event

By: Kansas Beta **DEBBIE LOUK CAMPBELL** & Missouri Alpha **DIANE DICKENS BRADSHAW** Signature Event Co-Chairs 2016 — Kansas City, Missouri

When the Greater Kansas City Alumnae Club leadership decided to apply to host a Signature Event, they asked if we would co-chair the event. We accepted knowing distributing 20,000 brand-new books to children in our city would be rewarding and fun.

After being selected, we followed the event-planning schedule from Pi Beta Phi Headquarters. We are both detail oriented, and it gave us both confidence knowing the other one was thorough. As with any large event, we faced some unexpected challenges. For example, our original event space fell through and then our backup space fell through as well. We eventually found a third space, a warehouse, which was perfect for the event. It was great to have a co-chair to work with through these challenges. We were each other's "angel wing" women.

Obviously, we could not have staged an event of this size and scope on our own. Each subcommittee chair was a well-qualified, experienced leader and played a key part in the overall planning. The subcommittee chairs led recruiting of volunteers, scheduling of recipient groups, sourcing of meals and supplies, organizing school activities and the promotions on our website and social media. Through months of planning, there was mutual support, communication and collaboration among all committee chairs. And we also had fun together!

During the actual Signature Event, we did a little bit of everything. We made boxes, set up tables, hung signs, sorted books and assisted recipient groups with their book selections. But most importantly, we were cheerleaders, working alongside our volunteers every step of the way. Being a part of something significant like this was an uplifting experience. The days of planning were an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young children in need and an opportunity to strengthen friendships with new and old Pi Phi friends. These were the true rewards for all of our hard work.

As part of the Kansas City Signature Event, students at Gordon Parks Elementary School got to pick out two brand-new books during a book fair. The students also made bookmarks and participated in coloring stations.



# Where Do the Books Lome From?

The Literacy Fund at Pi Beta Phi Foundation plays a critical role in the success of Read > Lead > Achieve. Gifts to The Literacy Fund support all Pi Phi reading initiatives under Read > Lead > Achieve, including Fraternity Day of Service.

Donations to The Literacy Fund are used to purchase brand-new, high-quality books from Pi Phi's partner, First Book<sup>®</sup>. Thanks to this special relationship, Pi Phi has access to discounted books from publishers like Disney Publishing Worldwide and Penguin Random House.

Chapters and alumnae clubs making donations to The Literacy Fund should use the FT1 and FT2 Giving Forms, located in the Resource Library. Individuals can make gifts online at www. pibetaphifoundation. org/donate-now or mail gifts to Pi Beta Phi Foundation, P.O. Box 801867, Kansas City, Missouri 64180.



Top, volunteers from the South Carolina Alpha Chapter and the Columbia, South Carolina, Alumnae Club. Right, Pi Beta Phi Foundation Trustee KATHY WAGER EWING, Alabama Gamma, with two event attendees.



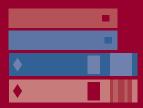
By: Ohio Eta **LEISA EBELING LOWREY** Director Programming and Philanthropy

When I attended my first Fraternity Day of Service Signature Event in 2014, I had no idea what to expect. I can still see the 4 x 4 x 6-foot cargo boxes — 13 of them — waiting to be unloaded and sorted and wondering if we would ever be able to do it. Of course, we did (with lots of helping hands)! Now that I have three Signature Events under my belt, I can look back at each of them as being unique in their own way. And for me, each one was different than the previous one as we learned from our successes and challenges.

This year, I attended the Signature Event in Columbia, South Carolina. The Columbia Alumnae Club and the South Carolina Alpha Chapter are clearly enthusiastic about literacy service. I was impressed by the way the Pi Phis leveraged their connections to secure donated supplies, fantastic press coverage and local celebrity guest readers, including two pageant queens, a policeman and a star football player.

My favorite part of every Signature Event is seeing the delight in the eyes of the children as they try to choose a few books from the overwhelming stacks piled high throughout the room. Will it be a book about dinosaurs, trucks, superheroes or princesses? Many of the children have no books at home, and some are incredulous as we reassure them that, "Yes, you can take this book home and keep it forever." I was also touched when I was helping a grade school student find her books, and she said she wanted to find one she could read to her younger brother and sister. I saw that by impacting her life, we were also impacting the lives of even more children.

I often think back on how the Pi Phis reached out to the isolated Gatlinburg, Tennessee, community more than 100 years ago and brought literacy to those families. We didn't call it Read > Lead > Achieve back then, but that is what it was. Today, we want every single Pi Beta Phi collegian and alumna to impact the life of one or 10 or 20 children, in some way, through her time, treasure or talent. I think it is important the Fraternity as a whole models the way by hosting the Signature Events. We are demonstrating the powerful impact our reading initiatives can have, one life at a time.



# An Oasis in the Book Desert

Board books for preschool children are very expensive. So the nonprofit Kids Need to Read was thrilled to pick up 400 brand-new board books last year at the Fraternity Day of Service Signature Event in Phoenix. Armed with the supply of books, Kids Need to Read contacted local agencies serving young children to get the books into the hands of those boys and girls.

A majority of the books were given out during a presentation at the Teen Pregnancy Outreach Services in Mesa, Arizona. Kids Need to Read staff illustrated reading aloud techniques, handed out books and encouraged parents and parents-to-be to read with their children.

"Study after study indicates the single most significant factor influencing a child's success in school is being read to at home," said Denise Gary, Executive Director for Kids Need to Read. "Yet, many disadvantaged children live in book deserts, including homes where books are an unfamiliar luxury. Providing reading resources is absolutely crucial to increasing reading proficiency levels, and that is what we did with the books from Pi Beta Phi."

At the conclusion of the program, a young father approached the Kids Need to Read staff. He inquired for a business card, wanting to visit the organization's office to look at books and pick out a stuffed reading buddy for his daughter. His devotion to his daughter moved the staff members and was the perfect culmination to the day's events.

# Bringing the Joy of Reading to Children Everywhere

#### By: Jennifer Frances Founder of Bess the Book Bus

After having partnered with the Clearwater, Florida, Alumnae Club for several years, I was excited to learn about the Fraternity Day of Service Signature Event happening across the bay in Tampa, Florida. The mission of Bess the Book Bus is very similar to the goals of Pi Phi's philanthropy, Read > Lead > Achieve. We are a mobile literacy outreach program dedicated to promoting reading and getting books into the hands of underprivileged children across the country. We touch the lives of 30,000 children each year.

I started Bess the Book Bus in 2002 in honor of my Nana, Bess O'Keefe. Every weekend, we would walk into town where I was able to choose a new book. I could not wait to get home and have her read to me. Nana opened a new world for me every time she opened a book and started to read. Bess the Book Bus was founded on one simple premise: bring that same joy of reading to children everywhere.

Originally a Volkswagen van, today's Bess the Book Bus is a donated Mercedes-Benz Sprinter. The back has been converted to a library complete with shelving and brightly colored murals of plants and animals. The bus travels to schools, after-school programs and early childhood education programs like Head



# FDS500 Grants Put Books into Children's Hands

Each year, Pi Phi offers 100 grants for a donation of 500 books to schools, after-school programs or community programs. Each FDS500 grant covers the cost of 500 books from the First Book Marketplace, including shipping and handling. Chapters and alumnae clubs can sign up for a FDS500 grant in September during Read > Lead > Achieve Month. Books are delivered in February to coincide with chapter and alumnae club Fraternity Day of Service celebrations like book fairs and literacy carnivals. To learn more about the FDS500 grants, visit www.pibetaphi.org/fraternitydayofservice.

Start. After I read aloud with the students, I invite the children to take turns visiting the bus so they can pick out a book of their very own.

At Pi Phi's Fraternity Day of Service Event, we picked up more than 700 brand-new books to stock the bus' shelves. I was amazed at how many high-quality books were available for pick up, and even more amazed with the variety of titles. We always hope to stock the bus with as many different titles as possible, especially different chapter books for children ages eight to 14.

In fact, the most important part of our program is that children have a choice in what they are reading. Many of our children do not have a chance to use libraries. Some of our children's

schools have no libraries, leaving the students with very limited access to books in their homes. When they visit Bess the Book Bus, they can take the time to peruse and think about what interests them most. They can look at front covers, read the synopses on the back and even flip through the first couple pages. We want our children to learn that reading isn't a chore, but rather a chance to explore the world. Thank you to Pi Beta Phi for helping us bring this opportunity to life. The Tampa Signature Event was held at St. Joseph Catholic School, which serves students in prekindergarten through eighth grade. The books arrived in 13 shipping boxes with each weighing nearly 1,000 pounds!



# Opening Up a World of Possibility

#### By: Virginia Theta **BREE MELTON** Literacy Engagement Coordinator

As Pi Beta Phi's Literacy Engagement Coordinator, the Fraternity Day of Service Signature Events are not just my job, they are also my passion. The level of impact Pi Beta Phi has in our communities through the Signature Events is exactly the reason I felt drawn to work at Headquarters. By putting books into the hands of children, we are opening up a world of possibility.

One of the best parts of my job has been working with the women who served as the Signature Event Co-Chairs. In the months leading up to the Signature Events, the Co-Chairs worked tirelessly to make sure books would be given to deserving organizations and that there would be activities to get children excited about reading.

After months of weekly conference calls to discuss the best ways to execute the events, Fraternity Day of Service finally arrived. I attended the Silicon Valley Signature Event. As soon as I got off the plane, we toured the Macy's<sup>®</sup> where our event was going to be held.

The next two days were hard work, sorting books and setting up activity tables. Fortunately, we had wonderful volunteers who arrived in shifts throughout the day from chapters and alumnae

Attendees at the Silicon Valley, California, Signature Event enjoyed a presentation from NASA astronaut Dr. Yvonne Cagle. She told the crowd how important reading is and how it led to her career.

# Would You Like to Host a Signature Event in 2017?

The application to host a Fraternity Day of Service Signature Event in 2017 can be downloaded at www.pibetaphi.org/fraternitydayofservice. Please review the co-chair job description carefully before applying. Alumnae clubs and chapters in each city work together with Pi Beta Phi Headquarters staff to distribute books and get children excited about reading. We will be hosting a webinar in April for clubs and chapters interested in applying, and we will accept applications up until May 18, 2016. Start planning now if you are interested in hosting a Signature Event in Pi Beta Phi's 150th year!



clubs across the Bay Area as well as friends, family and local community volunteers. Since we were in the Macy's store during operating hours, we attracted a lot of attention. One shopper asked more about what we were doing. She was so moved that she came back the next day to volunteer!

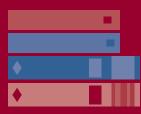
On Saturday morning, we made final preparations for the recipient groups to arrive and pick up their books. You could feel the excitement in the air. Pi Phi volunteers were dressed in wine-colored Read > Lead > Achieve T-shirts; many outfits accented with arrow or angel accessories to highlight our Pi Phi pride. Teachers, librarians and school administrators were lined up outside with cardboard boxes, suitcases and carts to carry away books. The first woman in line grew emotional with tears of joy as she explained to volunteers what these free books mean to her students.

By midmorning, the line wrapped around the escalators and children participated in six different craft stations. A DJ played in the background, interrupted only by a presentation which included NASA astronaut Dr. Yvonne Cagle, who spoke to the crowd about how important reading is and how it led to where she is today — training to visit Mars in 2030!

Several hours later, once all the recipient groups had come and gone, it was time to clean up. The day had been an incredible experience. To see the excitement of the children, and hear the impactful stories of educators for whom these gifts of free books would make such a difference, made every hour of work completely worth it. I left excited to roll up my sleeves and get to work on Fraternity Day of Service 2017!



After picking up their books, attendees at the Silicon Valley, California, Signature Event participated in arts and crafts activity stations. Attendees made book-themed hats and necklaces out of dry pasta, construction paper and glue.



# Reading for Fun

Nearly 400 children, ages six to 18, attend after-school programs every day at the Memorial Park Boys & Girls Club near downtown Oklahoma City. Almost all children at the Club come from low-income families who cannot afford to buy new books or who do not make reading a priority.

But last year, thanks to Pi Beta Phi, each Club member received his or her very own book to take home. The Club's staff picked up 500 brand-new books at the Fraternity Day of Service Signature Event and distributed them at their facility. Each child selected his or her book during an afternoon reading event.

"The books were important because unlike reading for school assignments, these books were for pleasure reading," said Jane Sutter, President & CEO for Boys & Girls Clubs of Oklahoma County. "Recreational reading can be a positive escape from challenging situations these children face in their lives. Reading can transport their young minds to worlds of hope and prosperity."

A few of the children have formed book clubs as a result of their Pi Phi books. The 10- and 12-year-olds read and discussed the mystery novel, "Circa Now." The teen group read and discussed the Greek mythology novel, "The Mark of Athena."

# Helping Children Find a Path to Success

#### By: Mississippi Gamma **OLIVIA MADDOX** Collegiate Volunteer

I am junior at Mississippi State University, and I love Pi Beta Phi more than words can describe. So you can only imagine my excitement when I found out a Fraternity Day of Service Signature Event was being held in my home state of Mississippi. I signed up to volunteer as soon as possible after hearing the news.

Apparently, so did every other member of Mississippi Gamma, because our Philanthropy Chair said we had too many volunteers. This was amazing news, but I was worried I wouldn't be chosen to attend. However, another sign-up sheet went around for members who "really, really, really" wanted to attend and yes, I wrote those exact words on the sign-up sheet. For me, this was a once-in-a-lifetime experience I was not going to pass up. Thankfully, I was one of the 30 lucky members chosen to attend.

I woke up at 4:30 a.m. the day of the event because of my excitement. After a two-hour bus ride, we arrived in Jackson. We were assigned to work with members from Mississippi Alpha and Mississippi Beta. Putting school rivalries aside, I made new friends and even met alumnae from the area. Working with multiple generations of Pi Phis allowed me to see the sisterhood within Pi Beta Phi. From standing on our feet all day, to carrying heavy boxes of books and chasing after children, I never heard one person complain. And even though we were strangers at the beginning of the day, it felt like we had known each other our entire lives at the conclusion of the event.

My favorite part of the day was helping a teacher, Mandy, pick out 150 books to take back to her class. Mandy shared stories with me about her students and how reading was their favorite activity. We ended up spending almost two hours selecting books. When we said goodbye, both our eyes filled with tears. Mandy was thankful for everything Pi Beta Phi was doing, and I was thankful for the chance to get to know her.

Up until Fraternity Day of Service, I never fully grasped the concept of Read > Lead > Achieve. Now, when I talk to my family and friends about the event, I get to tell them how many wonderful people I met and how Pi Phi's philanthropy Read > Lead > Achieve is a lot more than just giving books to kids. It's about helping children find a path to success.



The Jackson, Mississippi, Signature Event took place at the Mississippi Children's Museum. After an interactive storytime, attendees each received a Read > Lead > Achieve tote bag and got to pick out several books to take home to start their own personal library.







## 150,000 Books In Honor of 150 Years of Pi Beta Phi Sisterhood

In 2017, Pi Beta Phi will celebrate 150 years of sisterhood and we have already begun the celebration. Did you know the Fraternity expanded its Fraternity Day of Service efforts this vear to mark this momentous occasion? Not only did we give away 20,000 books in each of the five Signature Event cities, but we also gave away FDS500 grants to 100 community organizations across North America. That equals 150,000 books in honor of 150 years of Pi Phi! To learn more about other Read > Lead > Achieve initiatives honoring Pi Phi's 150th, visit www.pibetaphi.org/ readleadachieve.

## College Weekend 2016 Creates Strong Pi Phi Leaders

In January, collegians and alumnae traveled to St. Louis to attend College Weekend, the Fraternity's leadership experience for chapter leaders. The weekend was designed to engage Executive Council and Alumnae Advisory Committee (AAC) members in targeted ways and on specific Fraternity initiatives and programming through a variety of tracks, or "Colleges." To bring the unique weekend to life, we asked one collegian and one alumna to share their experiences.

#### We Receive More from Pi Beta Phi Than We Will Ever Be Able to Give

By: Chapter President MADELINE TACKEBERRY, Mississippi Beta

Having attended the 2015 Chicago Convention, I was thrilled to have the opportunity to continue nurturing my love for Pi Phi by attending College Weekend. As the Chapter President for Mississippi Beta, I went into the weekend eager and enthusiastic to cultivate my leadership skills, discover new leadership methods and reconnect and network with other Pi Phis.

I participated in the Chapter Operations College and found myself sitting with my fellow Collegiate Region Six leaders from Texas Tech University, Mississippi State University and the University of Southern Mississippi. Collectively, we discussed and shared ways to effectively communicate, increase member participation, raise morale and instill accountability within the chapter.

The most beneficial and meaningful time was simply talking and asking one another how we were doing in our new Pi Phi roles. Within just a few short hours, I came to the realization that while we may have different chapter dynamics, at the end of the day we all struggle with the same challenges. Being able to provide and receive words of encouragement and support from Pi Phi sisters reaffirmed my love for our Fraternity.

After being surrounded by nearly 700 influential, dedicated and inspiring Pi Phi women at College Weekend, I could not help but be in awe and have even greater pride for our sisterhood. I left feeling empowered and prepared to take back the knowledge I had gained and share it with my chapter. I began to brainstorm the

optimal way to present an immense load of information without overwhelming the chapter. But, then it dawned on me: what I wanted to share with them wasn't a thing, but



Mississippi Beta Chapter President MADELINE TACKEBERRY (fourth from left) said College Weekend 2016 left her feeling inspired and Pi Phi proud. Madeline is pictured with the other Mississippi Beta Executive Council members who attended College Weekend.

rather a feeling. I wanted to be able to give my chapter sisters the feeling you get when you sit in a room with women who are truly dedicated to the wine and silver blue. Women like Past Grand President SARAH RUTH "SIS"

> MULLIS, South Carolina Alpha, who has attended more than 25 conventions and continues to give back to the Fraternity with great spirit and zeal. Women like Past Grand President MARY LOY TATUM, Oklahoma Beta, who continuously promotes a strong sisterhood. And women like Grand President PAULA PACE SHEPHERD, Texas Epsilon, who said, "I got here today by saying yes."

These three women are the reason I wanted to give my chapter the feeling of inspiration that one will get way more from Pi Beta Phi then we will ever give. All we need to do is say yes.



#### People Support What They Help Create

By: Alumnae Advisory Committee member SARAH BROOKE BISHOP, Mississippi Beta

This year, my role on Mississippi Beta's AAC became counterpart to the Vice President of Membership (VPM). When I realized College Weekend 2016 was featuring a College on membership, I knew I had to be there. Several of our advisors had been to the first College Weekend two years ago, so I knew I was in for a treat.

It was interesting to discuss recruitment with so many different Pi Phi chapters. Some other large chapters, like Arkansas Alpha and Louisiana Beta, face similar challenges as Mississippi Beta, and we learned some great ideas on how they manage them. We talked about incorporating a house tour during recruitment. Both of those chapters already include a house tour in their recruitment process, and we had the opportunity to ask them what works best.

It was also encouraging to hear from Director Membership AMY LORENZEN SOUTHERLAND, South Dakota Alpha, about effectively delegating to get more members involved. She said "People support what they help create" and that statement really resonated with me. I want to adopt that motto for our chapter's recruitment this year. I believe every member has a role and participation makes a successful recruitment.

Pi Phi is truly a diverse organization and that was very apparent while in the Membership Recruitment College. Even though there were chapters with 50 members sitting beside chapters with more than 400 members, we all have the same process for recruiting New Members. Values-based recruitment is the standard for all Pi Phi chapters and it creates a common thread among us, regardless of our differences.

Saturday night was the highlight of my weekend. We were lucky enough to have dinner with Grand President PAULA PACE SHEPHERD, Texas Epsilon. We asked her opinion and sought her advice about specific issues we face within our chapter. Her quick wit and creative ideas always leave you feeling inspired.

After dinner, we had a Cookie Shine by region. When our collegians stood up to introduce themselves to the group, I was proud to see how many up-and-coming leaders we have in Pi Phi. I think it was great for them to see all the AAC members showing the value of Lifelong Commitment as well.

Since we have been home, the VPM and I have discussed ways we can get more members involved. We planned specific committees for recruitment based on our members' interests and look forward to putting them into action this spring.







Top: Alumnae Advisory Committee member SARAH BROOKE BISHOP, Mississippi Beta (center), enjoyed hearing recruitment best practices from other chapters during College Weekend 2016. From left, Mississippi Betas HANNAH GADD, SARAH BROOKE BISHOP and RHONDA RUSSELL PURDY.

Middle: Mississippi Beta collegians and alumnae participated in a regional Cookie Shine.

Bottom: Members of Mississippi Beta's Executive Council with Libbie, the Pi Phi car from the Ring Ching Roadshow. The theme of College Weekend was celebrating 150 Years of Sisterhood in honor of Pi Beta Phi turning 150 in 2017. From left, Mississippi Betas ALEXIS FLAHERTY, KRISTEN BARTLETT and VIRGINIA SUMMER.

Take a Look Inside a tounder Time Capsule

On April 28, 1867, at Monmouth College, our 12 founders created a legacy that lives on today through the women of Pi Beta Phi. As we get ready to celebrate Founders' Day 2016, let's take a trip back in time to see what Founders' Day looked like throughout the years.



### 1924

Carrielehadenon Call

In 1924, famed suffragist CARRIE LANE CHAPMAN CATT, Iowa Gamma, visited the New York Alumnae Club Founders' Day Luncheon. At the event, Carrie was named the guest of honor and signed a favor for each attendee. Guests of honor are still a popular occurrence at Founders' Day celebrations.

## 1934

Founders' Day 1934 was exciting as Maine Alpha JANE BECK JOHNSON, wife to the American Minister to China, hosted a luncheon in



honor of the momentous day in Pi Phi history. The celebration took place in Peiping, China, now known as Beijing. This celebration included seven alumnae from seven different chapters. This photo was taken in Jane's home.



## 1967

In 1967, the Kansas Beta Chapter at Kansas State University was invited to a Founders' Day celebration in Kansas City, Missouri. The event took place on April 22, 1967, at the Carriage Club. The response from chapter members wanting to attend was so great the women decided to rent buses for the two-hour drive into the city.



## 1995

Twenty-three vibrant Kansas Alpha Pi Phis returned to Lawrence, Kansas, to celebrate their 50th pledge class reunion during Founders' Day weekend, April 21–23, 1995. Their Order of the Golden Arrow pins were presented during a luncheon. Other events for the weekend included dinner parties and a brunch, hosted by sisters in their homes.

## 2001

The Illinois Alpha Chapter coordinated a regional Founders' Day event in 2001. Pi Phis from several nearby chapters came to Monmouth, Illinois, to visit with the Illinois Alphas, tour Holt House, participate in a T-shirt exchange and visit five of the 12 founders' graves. This event was a wonderful way to showcase our sisterhood and our heritage.

## 2008

While Founders' Day has changed through the years, one thing has always stayed the same: the importance of Philanthropic Service to Others. In 2008, our sisters in Champaign, Illinois, used Founders' Day as an opportunity to give back through a Champions are Readers celebration party. Sharing the importance of literacy is a great way to help our founders' legacy shine.

## Founders' Day 2016

As we prepare to celebrate 150 years of sisterhood, Founders' Day becomes even more exciting. Looking to get more involved? Visit www.pibetaphi.org/150 for ideas on how to celebrate the last 150 years. Check out the Ring Ching Roadshow, read about our 150 ways to celebrate or learn about the history of Pi Beta Phi through our historical timeline. Who knows? Maybe in 150 years, future Pi Phis will be talking about Founders' Day 2016!

## Living our Values

## Pi Phis are Kindred Spirits

By: New York Zeta DEBBIE SUN WANG

A few years ago, I volunteered to serve on Illinois Kappa's Alumnae Advisory Committee as the chapter was being colonized at the University of Chicago. I knew my good friend, Jan, had a daughter who would be attending the University that fall. I sent a note over to Jan to give her fair warning that I'd be letting her daughter, Laura, know about my sorority — Pi Beta Phi — which was now at UChicago.

Imagine my surprise when Jan wrote back immediately to let me know she is a Michigan Beta! We were both shocked and speechless such close friends could both be Pi Phis and not know this fact about each other. We had been friends and work colleagues for 18 years, since Jan came back from maternity leave when her daughter was just three months old.

In fact, Jan and I had spent countless hours at work together, formulating strategies for clients while driving through cornfields to get to company headquarters in Ohio, hashing over consumer research on products and preparing for client presentations. More importantly, Jan was there when I got married and when my mother passed away after a very long illness. I was there when her father battled cancer and when her son was diagnosed with a learning disability. She provided a sympathetic ear when I expressed some concerns about the guy I was dating. Jan offered wise counsel on key qualities in a good husband. And she taught me how to overlook the small stuff to focus on the bigger picture of what makes a good life partner. (That guy is now my husband, by the way). We had spent so much time discussing big issues in life that we never got around to talking about sororities.

Jan is one of my favorite people in the world, and I am so grateful we had the chance to be a part of each others' lives. I have always had so much respect for her work ethic and high standards. Jan was always thinking about doing right by our clients; her internal compass consistently pointed toward integrity. Jan remains my go-to friend for advice.



From left, Michigan Beta JAN ANDERSON ANDERSON and New York Zeta DEBBIE SUN WANG have been work colleagues and friends for 18 years. Until recently, the two women did not know they were Pi Phi sisters.

She always generously offers the benefit of her experiences, a healthy dose of positive thinking and a little humor that lifts my spirits.

While I was very surprised to find out — after nearly two decades of friendship — we were both in the same sorority, it actually makes a whole lot of sense. There are a handful of friends in my life I'm completely in sync with, and they have all been Pi Phis. Jan was one of those people, even when I was totally unaware she was my Pi Phi sister. The way Jan conducts herself is very much in keeping with the values of Pi Beta Phi and it was women like her who first drew me to Pi Phi at Colgate University during my own college years.

Oh, and her daughter, Laura, is now an Illinois Kappa.  ${\cal J}$ 

## **Reunions** & Anniversaries

## Commemorating 125 Years of Minnesota Alpha

By: Minnesota Alpha DARCY DAHL

Like many Pi Phis, I firmly believe the more you put into your membership, the more you get back. Lifelong Commitment is one of our core values for a reason. While I have always been proud of my chapter, Minnesota Alpha, there are many reasons I am honored to be associated with these women today. From current chapter leaders to local alumnae support, it is a good time to be a Minnesota Alpha.

On November 20, 2015, nearly 200 women braved the cold weather to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Minnesota Alpha Chapter at the University of Minnesota. The reception was held at the Weisman Art Museum, a beautiful space on campus overlooking the Mississippi River. We celebrated the history and achievements of the women who have shaped our chapter through the years. If 125 years wasn't reason enough to celebrate, Minnesota Alpha is the current Balfour Cup Chapter. We were so proud to be able to display the Balfour Cup next to our charter, composites and mementos of our history.

We were joined by Grand President PAULA PACE SHEPHERD, Texas Epsilon, who drove the Ring Ching Roadshow car, Libbie, from Nevada to Minnesota that week. The last stretch of the trip was a blizzard, and Libbie had the icicles to prove it!

In 1890, AVA SUMBARDO met a Michigan Alpha wearing the golden arrow and was inspired to bring Pi Beta Phi to the University of Minnesota. Minnesota Alpha was founded with six charter members who were referred to as the "secret six." Pi Beta Phi became the fourth sorority on campus.

Today, the chapter has more than 140 members and the women have to conduct chapter meetings using Skype because they can no longer fit in one room. The size of the chapter and of the fraternity and sorority community are at an all-time high — and Pi Phi is excelling. With the top Panhellenic Council GPA on campus for the past three semesters, and philanthropic contributions exceeding Fraternity expectations, Minnesota Alpha continues to set a high standard to ensure we have reasons to celebrate for years to come.







In November, nearly 200 alumnae and collegians braved the cold to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the Minnesota Alpha Chapter at the University of Minnesota. The women celebrated their history as well as Minnesota Alpha's standing as the current Balfour Cup chapter.

## Nevada Alpha Celebrates 100 Years

By: Nevada Alpha DANIELLE CHRISTENSON

The 100-year anniversary of Pi Beta Phi sisterhood at the University of Nevada had finally come. For most of us, the time inside the chapter house flew by in the blink of an eye. But, it wasn't just the college years we celebrated on a beautiful weekend this past November. We also celebrated the years of cherished memories that came after we graduated from the University of Nevada.







Nevada Alphas from the University of Nevada celebrated the chapter's 100th anniversary in November. The three-day celebration included an informal reception, formal banquet and concluded with brunch and walking tours of the University of Nevada campus.

One thing can be said when you gather with your sisters: It doesn't matter if you haven't talked for months or years, what matters is when you reconnect you pick up right from where you left off — almost like no time has passed.

An informal welcome reception started the weekend off on Friday night. During the next sunny Saturday afternoon, we took Grand President PAULA PACE SHEPHERD, Texas Epsilon, to lunch and toured some of Reno's beautiful spots: Nevada Museum of Art, Reno's Downtown Arch, Bartley Ranch and Windy Hill. Paula was accompanied by Libbie, the Pi Phi car from the Ring Ching Roadshow.

Saturday's evening banquet was an event for all ages. A lovely video featured alumnae reminiscing about their time in Pi Beta Phi. This video left many with teary eyes and wide smiles. Seeing more than 170 sisters celebrating the very organization that brought beautiful memories, new friendships and self growth was truly magical.

The celebration concluded on Sunday with a brunch hosted by the University of Nevada Alumni Association. Brunch was special because it was held in the oldest building on campus, located right off the University's quad. Throughout the years, the quad has been home to breaks between classes, lunchtime picnics, homecoming pep rallies and spring graduations. After brunch, we participated in a walking tour of campus to see the newest buildings and also visit old favorites.

When the weekend officially ended, it had all Nevada Alphas asking one question: Can we have the 125th celebration already? Thank you to the Centennial Committee and everyone who put in the time and dedication to make the weekend one of the most memorable experiences I have ever had with Nevada Alpha.

#### ARIZONA

Members of the Arrowhead West-Phoenix, Arizona, Alumnae Club gathered in November to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the club's founding. The highlight of the day was viewing the movie "Holt House: Pi Beta Phi's Founding Home." The luncheon was held at the home of Washington Alpha ILEANA OLIVER WOOD.



#### **FLORIDA**

In September, nine Ohio Alphas gathered in Amelia Island Plantation, Florida, for a long-awaited reunion. For four days, the women celebrated more than 30 years of sisterhood and friendship. It was an amazing weekend filled with stories, shopping, sunshine and laughter.



#### **NORTH DAKOTA**

In November, three Golden Arrow Pi Phis from the 1961 pledge class of North Dakota Alpha reunited for homecoming at the University of North Dakota. The women had kept in touch over the years, but had not seen each other since graduation. From left, North Dakota Alphas PAT HEALY MARSH, PAM FALK ROBERTSON and MERYDE WITT HETZLER.



## In Memoriam

Because of space constraints, *The Arrow* will only print the entirety of an obituary for a past Grand President. If you know a sister who has died, please inform Pi Beta Phi Headquarters. Names will only be listed in *The Arrow* if accompanied by a published notice, including those names entered electronically via eReports, Pi Phi's online reporting system. Published notices include a newspaper or newspaper website obituary, a funeral program/prayer card or a listing in a college/university alumni newsletter. Email Alison Bauer at alison@pibetaphi.org or mail to Headquarters.

In Memoriam lists the name and initiation year of each member who has died.

Memorial gifts made to Pi Beta Phi Foundation are a loving and lasting way to honor the memory of a beloved Pi Phi sister. When the gift is made, the Foundation sends a card to the family, notifying them of the thoughtful gift. To make a memorial gift, please call the Foundation at (636) 256–1357 or visit www.pibetaphifoundation.org.

#### Arizona Alpha

Susan Alstrin Britton, 1958 Suzanne Richards Cameron, 1955

**Arizona Gamma** Lisa Leombruno Kiermayr, 1991

Arkansas Alpha Lucy Nunn Bryan, 1941, affiliated Kansas Alpha

**California Delta** Marjorie Cody Burris, 1942 Peggy Kilgore North, 1937

**California Gamma** Kay Tomson Eichenhofer, 1947 Jo Ann Smith Lavigne, 1945

**Colorado Alpha** Jean Clark Auchterlonie, 1951 Grace Dunn Lazorchick, 1949

#### Colorado Beta

Betty Thibodeau Ambler, 1937 Patsy Chambers Burch, 1948 Margaret Clark Lemon, 1944

**Georgia Alpha** Caroline Cannon Harrington, 1960

Idaho Alpha Almira Primus Seubert, 1940

#### **Illinois Epsilon**

Joyce Walker Free, 1943 Anne McComb Swaney, 1995 Marcia Scott Tuthill, 1953 Betty Williams Wulff, 1945

**Illinois Eta** Pat Stitt Ott, 1943

**Illinois Zeta** Roberta Bradley Lukeman, 1942

#### Indiana Beta

Margaret Inglis Fuchs, 1949 Myrna LaTourette Greene, 1936 Virginia Barnes Markley, 1952

Indiana Delta Mary Bachelder Feist, 1940

Indiana Theta Margery Lembke, 1998

Indiana Zeta Barbara French Miller, 1953

lowa Beta Mary Leonard Ellingson, 1958

**lowa Gamma** Roberta Smith Brown, 1932

Kansas Alpha Mary Lauck Knightley, 1942 Jann Duchossois Lund, 1953 Virginia Anderson Townsend, 1938

#### **Kansas Beta**

Jane E. Compton, 1952

Kentucky Alpha Ellagarth Choate Woodward, 1934

Kentucky Beta Ciara Louise Meyer, 2010

Michigan Alpha Mary Harwood Foster, 1939

Michigan Beta Constance Fuller Berry, 1958

**Minnesota Alpha** Joanne Tufty Good, 1946 Gloria Boock Laughlin, 1931

**Mississippi Alpha** Nadine Saucier Caranna, 1979 Della Harris Faust, 1961 Barbara Askew Peattie, 1961

**Missouri Alpha** Alexa Goins Hu, 1996 Mary Tucker Platt, 1929

#### **Missouri Beta**

Mary "Sam" Lynn Abbott, 1967 Elizabeth Nelson Savard, 1955 Patricia Eoff Wolf, 1956

Missouri Gamma

Margaret Clayton Stribling, 1953

#### Nebraska Beta

Myrna Olson Anderson, 1954 Velasca Lortscher Bauer, 1940 Ann Schenck Bonham, 1962

Nevada Alpha Jackie McGowan Perkins, 1952

**New Mexico Alpha** Marylee Griffith, 1949

North Dakota Alpha Nancy de Waard Murray, 1946

#### **Ohio Alpha**

Elizabeth Johnson Cromer, 1954 Patricia Van Dame Neuhaus, 1944

**Ohio Beta** Louise Crafts Adams, 1945

**Ohio Delta** Martha Hart, 1967 Marilyn Jean Miller, 1973

Ohio Epsilon

Glenda Anthony Boehk, 1954 Marjorie Lunn Shedd, 1947

**Ohio Eta** Kate Gilbert Phifer, 1956 Marcia Engbers Shore, 1954

**Ohio Zeta** Judy Davis Whitacre, 1955, affiliated Ohio Delta

**Oklahoma Alpha** Gloria Martin Williams, 1946

Oklahoma Beta Janet Abrams Hicks-Evans, 1947 Charlotte Whitford Kincaide, 1943

#### **Oregon Alpha**

Sarah "Pene" Oesterling Holt, 1960 Dorothy Brigham Klaue, 1929 Gnan Goodsell Wheelock, 1936

#### **Oregon Beta**

Mary Glenn Mason, 1956

South Carolina Alpha

Patricia Quinn Tuite, 1956

South Dakota Alpha Nane McConnell Thomson,

Tennessee Alpha

1947

Barbara Fleming Pennington, 1951

#### Tennessee Beta

Jeanne Fonville Riddell, 1940 Blondy Nixon Stevens, 1948 Lucinda Thornton Trabue, 1967 Katharine Hibbett Wackenhuth, 1947

#### Texas Alpha

Sallie Tucker Anderson, 1954 Daisy Brown, 1945 Bettie Simmons Patton, 1933

**Texas Beta** Jane Moon Evans, 1953

**Utah Alpha** Elizabeth Creer Buehner, 1964

Virginia Alpha Sally Muire Wood, 1947

Washington Alpha May L. Carlson Knapp, 1949 Jane Criddle Slade, 1942

Washington Gamma Elizabeth Ann Breysse, 2014

#### Wisconsin Alpha

Dorothy Kashner Adams, 1932 Jean Baxter Sanderhoff, 1946

#### **Wisconsin Beta**

Helen Macklem Eldred, 1949



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## News & Notes

## Would You Like to Host a 2017 Fraternity Day of Service Signature Event?

The application to host a Fraternity Day of Service Signature Event in 2017 is available on the Pi Beta Phi website. Please review the co-chair job description carefully before applying. Alumnae clubs and chapters in each city work together with Pi Beta Phi Headquarters staff to distribute books and get children excited about reading. We will be hosting a webinar in April for clubs and chapters interested in applying, and we will accept applications up until May 18, 2016. Start planning now if you are interested in hosting a Signature Event in Pi Beta Phi's 150th year! For more information, visit www.pibetaphi.org/fraternitydayofservice.

#### The Arrow Seeks Freelance Writers

Have you ever wanted to write for *The Arrow* magazine? Are you interested in your Pi Phi sisters and capturing all their amazing accomplishments? Do you want to tell stories that honor our Pi Phi heritage, history and sisterhood? *The Arrow* magazine is currently seeking writers to help with news and feature stories. Selected individuals will work with *The Arrow* Editor on a freelance basis on story assignments.

Please email your resume and three writing samples to *The Arrow* Editor CONSTANCE DILLON GIBBS, California Delta, at editor@pibetaphi.org. Writing samples can include published articles, freelance work or materials from writing competitions. Please also link to your website and/or blog, if available.

# Support the sisterhood you love





#### Wisit www.piphigivingday.org on April 28 to:

#### Make a Gift

Give \$18.67 or more to Pi Beta Phi Foundation in honor of our founding.

#### Spread the Word

Share your Pi Phi pride on social media using #PiPhiGivingDay.

#### Get Involved

Sign up to volunteer or join your local alumnae club.

#### The Arrow Reader's Guide

Pi Phis Attend Largest U.S. Gathering for Undergraduate Fraternity and Sorority Leaders

In February, Pi Phi collegians and alumnae attended the AFLV Central Conference in Indianapolis. The conference is hosted by the Association of Fraternal Leadership & Values and brings together more than 2,800 participants to network and idea share. This is the largest gathering of undergraduate fraternity and sorority leaders from councils and chapters in the United States.

AFLV Central featured workshops and presentations addressing specific issues facing fraternal communities. The inclusive programming allowed for collaboration between campus administrators, national organizations and students to address issues like risk management, intra-council relationships and liability issues.

During the event, Pi Beta Phi hosted a luncheon to thank campus-based professionals who work with our undergraduate women. These men and women play a critical role in creating a life-altering membership experience for our members.

"It was wonderful to see the true partnership between Pi Beta Phi and campus professionals," said Indiana Alpha HELEN LAHRMAN, Supervising Coordinator of Fraternity and Sorority Life Programs at the University of Iowa. "I am forever grateful for my membership in Pi Phi and more often than not it is because of all the things Pi Phi does for the fraternal movement."



In February, Pi Phi alumnae and collegians attended the AFLV Central Conference, a leadership conference hosted by the Association of Fraternal Leadership & Values. The event brought together more than 2,800 participants and is the largest gathering of undergraduate fraternity and sorority leaders in the United States.

*The Arrow* of Pi Beta Phi is the official quarterly publication of Pi Beta Phi Fraternity. The purpose of *The Arrow* is to present matters of value to Pi Beta Phi; furnish a means of communication among collegiate chapters, alumnae organizations and officers; and represent the worthiest interest of Fraternity women.

#### CONTACT THE ARROW:

*The Arrow* of Pi Beta Phi Fraternity 1154 Town & Country Commons Drive Town & Country, Missouri 63017 TheArrow@pibetaphi.org Phone: (636) 256–0680 Fax: (636) 256–8095

#### HOW TO RECEIVE THE ARROW

Collegians receive quarterly issues of *The Arrow* each year with payment of collegiate dues through their chapter. Individual copies are mailed to each undergraduate member's permanent address, and each Pi Beta Phi chapter receives six copies.

The Fall *Arrow* is mailed to all alumnae. Dues-paying alumnae are mailed the winter, spring and summer issues. *The Arrow* is posted online, and non-dues paying alumnae who have a good email address listed with Headquarters (HQ) receive an email notification. Messages are also posted on the Fraternity's official social media accounts when the magazine is available online.

To receive four hard copy issues of *The Arrow*, pay your \$35 annual Fraternity alumna dues to your local alumnae organization or directly to HQ by mailing a check to Pi Beta Phi Fraternity, Alumna Dues, 1154 Town & Country Commons Drive, Town & Country, Missouri 63017. You can also pay your dues online at www.pibetaphi.org/dues.

#### HOW TO MAKE AN ADDRESS CHANGE OR NAME UPDATE

Visit the profile section of the website or email your name and/or address changes to headquarters@pibetaphi.org. You may also call Pi Beta Phi HQ at (636) 256–0680 or mail a written notice to Pi Beta Phi HQ.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Email your letter to the Editor at editor@pibetaphi.org. Please include your full name and chapter of initiation. *The Arrow* reserves the right to publish any letter received. Letters may be edited for space and clarity.

#### HOW TO GET PUBLISHED

All Pi Phis are encouraged to submit news and stories to *The Arrow*. All photos and written submissions become the property of Pi Beta Phi and are subject to editing for content, grammar and space constraints, and may be used for other educational or marketing purposes by the Fraternity. When submitting a story, be sure to include a member's preferred chapter, first, maiden and last names. As a general rule, *The Arrow* does not print stories about weddings, engagements, pinnings or birth announcements. Visit www.pibetaphi.org/arrow for more information and to download Pi Beta Phi's Photography Guidelines. We cannot guarantee the publication of any submission. We receive so many and space is limited.

#### **ARROW SUBMISSION DEADLINES**

Summer Issue: May 1 Fall Issue: August 1 Winter Issue: November 1 Spring Issue: February 1



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# **BUILDING FUTURE LEADERS**

The inaugural Pi Beta Phi Leadership Institute will be held July 21–24, 2016, in St. Louis. This event will provide collegiate members the tools needed to be successful as confident WOMEN leaders in their chapters, communities and personal and professional endeavors. Pi Beta Phi Leadership Institute extends beyond serving as a chapter leader. It serves as the premier leadership training experience.

In preparation for the event, we will share collegians' personal stories illustrating why this program is critical to their futures as well as why so many alumnae have volunteered to facilitate this brand-new program. Follow these inspirational stories at www.piphiblog.org.

> For more information on Pi Beta Phi Leadership Institute, visit www.pibetaphi.org/pibetaphileadershipinstitute.



PI BETA PHI Leadership Institute

\*Registration for Pi Beta Phi Leadership Institute is open until May 1, 2016. However, space is extremely limited, and we expect the event will sell out before the deadline.