



# the Lamp

OF DELTA ZETA

COMMUNITY



BRINGING

For many Delta Zetas, the sense of community becomes a mindset — one that guides careers, deepens friendships and inspires service well beyond campus.



*Leadership workshop participants gather for a photo at Nebraska Wesleyan University.*



*These were the Delta Zetas in attendance at the leadership workshop held at the University of Alabama.*



*Indiana University was the site of the leadership workshop attended by these Delta Zetas.*

# ARCHIVAL

The summer of 1980 saw the beginnings of what would eventually become the Norma Minch Andrisek Leadership Conference (NMAC). That year, 140 collegians attended one of three Regional Leadership Workshops held at Epsilon-Indiana, Beta Tau-Nebraska Wesleyan and Alpha Gamma-Alabama chapter houses. NMAC, now held annually at Miami University, is now one of Delta Zeta's most impactful leadership experiences that unites sisters from across the nation. ♡

Don't miss out on this year's NMAC, July 16-19, 2026! We hope to see you there!

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#### THE LAMP

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## The LAMP of Delta Zeta

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Epsilon-Indiana

Elizabeth Coulter Stephenson  
Alpha-Miami (OH)

Myrtle Graeter Hinkly  
Delta-DePauw (IN)

Norma Minch Andrisek  
Gamma Alpha-Baldwin Wallace (OH)

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

# Grateful for Community



What an exciting start to 2026! I have watched our members grow in insightful ways that make me proud to be part of Delta Zeta.

Lately, I have been thinking about the many small communities which we may be part of — our families, our workplaces and our sisterhood all serve as communities in which we each play a meaningful role.

Each of you carry unique strengths and qualities into every community you join. Some of you lead, some of you solve problems and some of you create. Yet what strengthens a community are the things we share in common. We are all generous — with our time, our resources and our love. We are philanthropists, movers and difference-makers. I recognize these qualities whenever I meet a Delta Zeta sister. Each time, I feel a deep sense of gratitude, and I am reminded that this is the community I joined when I was initiated and the one where I will always belong.

Our Founders — Alfa, Anna, Julia, Mabelle, Mary and Anne — created our Delta Zeta community, opening a door of opportunity and belonging for hundreds of thousands of women across the world. Every campus that welcomes a Delta Zeta chapter, and every town that calls an alumnae chapter home, serves as an extension of our ever-growing community, and it is through these communities that we, as Delta Zetas, impact lives.

What are the communities in your life? Do you participate in other campus organizations? Do you support local non-profits or national charities? Many of us belong to multiple communities, each holding a different place in our hearts, and our priorities often change as we grow. As for me, I am grateful for the communities that surround me and for the privilege of being part of our remarkable sisterhood.

Truly,

Cathy I. Painter  
**National President**

# How to Build Community

By Sofia Fernandes, Pi Tau-Sacred Heart (CT),  
Marketing and Communications Intern

## One

### Root Community in What Matters

Every lasting community begins with shared values. When people unite around a common purpose, it gives the group a strong foundation. Establishing these shared goals helps everyone stay connected and focused. When you know what your community stands for, it becomes easier to move forward together.

## Two

### Everyone gets a Seat at the Table

A true community thrives when every voice is heard. Encourage participation by inviting all members to get involved. Share ideas, let others have the chance to lead a project and celebrate each other's successes. When people know their contributions matter, they stay invested.

## Three

### Go Outside to Break Barriers

Building a community means stepping beyond what is familiar, both literally and figuratively. Sometimes the best connections happen beyond the usual walls. Sure, spending time outdoors at an event or service opportunity is great, but sometimes "taking it outside" means pushing beyond your comfort zone — trying new ideas, mixing up traditions and exploring creative ways to connect. Getting into new spaces builds fresh energy and helps

members see one another in new, authentic ways.

## Four

### Celebrate the "Us"

Traditions, inside jokes, shared experiences — these can make a community feel special. It can be your chapter's events or spontaneous coffee runs. These shared moments remind everyone that they are part of something bigger than themselves. Appreciate the glue that connects you.

## Five

### Celebrate Differences

Strong similarities do not erase differences. What makes a community strong is variety. Embracing individuality and diversity builds a community that is open-minded and socially aware. It enforces a reflection of the world beyond your circle. When everyone feels seen and valued for who they are, connections run deeper than ever.

## Six

### It's Second Nature

A real community feels like a second family. They should cheer for you, listen without judgement and show up no matter what.



Building that kind of bond means being there through the highs and the lows. Over time, those everyday moments of care become memories you will never forget.

## Plus One:

### Keep It Going (Online)

Currently, community happens both in person and online. Social media has become one of the most powerful tools for connection and storytelling. Use platforms intentionally. Create a strong digital brand by being consistent and sharing content that is genuinely heartfelt. Social media is more than just an aesthetic feed. When used wisely, it has the power to build resilient and connected communities. 🔥

ALFA

# Legacy Rooted In Community

Three essays on culture, belonging and sisterhood.

For decades, the Theta Omicron Chapter has been a place where friendship grows into family and community becomes legacy. Here, Dr. Juanita C. Garcia and her great-nieces, Sofia and Alexia Serda, have each found a space to belong. They share a bond that spans from Pan American College in the 1960s to today's University of Texas/Rio Grande Valley. For them, sisterhood is defined by a deep sense of community and tradition that spans generations.



## “A beacon in my life.”

Sisterhood is the everlasting, genuine bond between women who hold each other through the best and worst times of their lives. Personally, I view sisterhood as a beacon in my life, exemplifying empowerment, generosity, growth, strength and love.

My first experience in Delta Zeta was wonderful — from the moment I met the other potential new members in our Epsilon Eta class and the active sisters who welcomed me with open arms. Moreover, it was intimidating beginning college in a post-pandemic world with a lot of others navigating the new experiences university brought. However, I never felt alone through this because, from the beginning, I knew I always had women to guide me from the smallest troubles to my biggest personal challenges. I felt so driven to strive for all I wanted to accomplish through my time in university because I felt so supported and loved from the beginning. Meeting other sisters with similar interests and majors allowed me to find support choosing and planning ahead for my future classes, complete two internships in physical



therapy, work an on-campus job, and get involved with other organizations on campus.

As an eighth-generation Tejana who has recently learned so much about our history, this experience being a part of a mostly Hispanic campus among my sisters has made me feel that I will always have a home in Delta Zeta. Having representation of our sisters within similar backgrounds at the local and national level feels empowering to strive high on future endeavors. Personally, it also helps me feel more connected to my roots and family history in the Rio Grande Valley.

My hope for my future sisters is that they can find a future home with Delta Zeta just as I did — where they can feel represented culturally, individually and as one sisterhood. I hope, for generations to come, girls can continue to make friendships that last a lifetime and rely on each other for support through all life has to offer.

— SOFIA I. SERDA, THETA OMICRON-TEXAS/RIO GRANDE VALLEY

## “Nurtur[ing] my pursuit of my education, hopes and dreams.”



It was the '60s — the decade of the Beatles, civil rights and the Vietnam War.

It was the age of Aquarius, a time of social and cultural change, full of hope for the future.

I was a sixth-generation Tejana, or Mexican American Texan, pledging the Theta Omicron

Chapter of Delta Zeta at the previously known Pan American College in deep South Texas.

As only one of two Mexican Americans pledging, I felt welcomed and accepted by my new sisters. Delta Zeta valued my cultural diversity and experiences amid an atmosphere of fun, friendship and sisterhood. We bonded, and a strong emotional connection developed. My sisters provided a family support system that nurtured sisterhood and nurtured my pursuit of my education, hopes and dreams. My sisters modeled the Delta Zeta vision of friendship, community and sense of belonging.

Presently, I am a tia abuela, or great aunt, to Sofia and Alexia Serda of Theta Omicron Chapter at the University of Texas/Rio Grande Valley. In our culture, a tia is a mentor who makes a significant difference in the lives of her nieces and nephews. My hope is to be the bridge between generations connecting the past and the future. I am so proud of my nieces who, as Delta Zeta sisters, continue the legacy as eighth-generation Tejanas.

— DR. JUANITA C. GARCIA, PH.D.,  
THETA OMICRON-TEXAS/RIO  
GRANDE VALLEY

## “More connected with my community here in the Rio Grande Valley.”



When I think of sisterhood, I think of a unique and empowering bond shared with intelligent and powerful women. It is a community unlike any other in which strong and loving women come together to help each other flourish and support one another. Within this space, they cultivate growth, uplift one another, and create a comfortable environment to inspire each other to search for opportunity and reach their greatest potential.

One of my first experiences with Delta Zeta included my new members retreat with my Epsilon Lambda class. While we bonded at recruitment, it mostly consisted of information about the Sorority to prepare us to join rather than us learning about each other. The new member retreat gave all of us an opportunity to really converse and get to know each other better. As we bowled and played games, we planted the seeds to begin the growth of our beautiful sisterhood.

Delta Zeta greatly helped me navigate the academic system at our university. Our chapter would graciously provide us with study rooms in the library every week. As a freshman trying to find her way at college and keep up with her 15 hours of classes, I tried my best to utilize this wonderful opportunity Delta Zeta gave me. The study rooms allowed me to ask my sisters for help on classwork I struggled with, and they would provide me with advice on how to navigate as a freshman. Not only did the study rooms help me with my grades, but it helped me discover all the resources available at our library. Because of this, Delta Zeta helped make the journey of my first semester seem like a cakewalk.

As an eighth-generation Tejana, this experience with Delta Zeta has greatly impacted my cultural identity and sense of belonging by allowing me to join a sisterhood with others who have similar cultural backgrounds. Connecting with my sisters has allowed me to appreciate and embrace my culture more than ever. It has opened a door to becoming more connected with my community here in the Rio Grande Valley. My sisterhood has welcomed me with open arms and offers reassurance that I belong here, and I am exactly where I am meant to be in life.

I hope that my future includes the many bonds I have created within my sisterhood, and I hope to remain close to all my sisters. I hope that with Delta Zeta's philanthropy of speech and hearing, I can help many people as I pursue a career as a speech-language pathologist. I hope that my sisters and I use every opportunity Delta Zeta has given us, and we become our community's brightest minds, most empowered women and its greatest leaders.

As former and present Delta Zeta sisters, we commend the vision of sisterhood and legacy. We pledge to continue the vision that ties us with each other through generations. It is our hope that the wisdom we have gained through our experiences offer a unique perspective to understanding our sisterhood. ♡

— ALEXIA A. SERDA, THETA OMICRON-TEXAS/RIO GRANDE VALLEY

## Take Note

## FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION UPDATE

Applications for the 2026-2027 Foundation Scholarships have closed, and the review process is now underway. Last year, the Delta Zeta Foundation awarded \$418,500 in scholarships to 115 undergraduate and graduate members. Learn more about the Foundation's scholarship program at [deltazeta.org/foundation/scholarships](https://deltazeta.org/foundation/scholarships).



## IT'S TIME TO TRULY CELEBRATE!

Through our annual awards, we celebrate our members and chapters by shining a light on their outstanding service, leadership and philanthropic efforts. Applications for 2026 recognition are now closed. Recipients will be announced over the summer.



# Founders Day Challenge

Helping every Delta Zeta grow



During the Delta Zeta Foundation's eighth annual Founders Day Challenge (FDC) held October 23-24, 2025, sisters, family and friends from across the globe came together to celebrate 123 years of sisterhood, give to the Foundation and inspire one another. Together, 1,490 donors contributed a record-breaking \$315,902 to ensure Delta Zeta can continue investing in every sister's education, leadership development, well-being and sense of belonging. That generosity moved immediately into action, powering programs and resources that strengthen our sisterhood in meaningful, lasting ways — creating a place for every sister to belong, including:

- Scholarships for collegians and alumnae
- Leadership programming like the Norma Minch Andrisek Leadership Conference and Leader Summit
- Mental wellness resources including Protect Your Shell

Thank you for giving graciously this Founders Day! Your support continues to shape the future of Delta Zeta. 🌹

TOTAL DOLLARS RAISED:

## \$315,902

TOTAL DONORS:

### 1,490

FIRST-TIME DONORS:

### 293

COLLEGIATE DONORS:

### 302

FRIENDS OF DELTA ZETA DONORS:

### 187

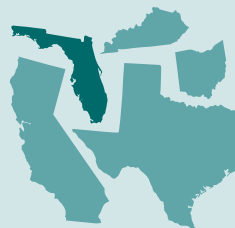
FDC ADVOCATES:

### 48

Advocates share information about FDC and personalized links to galvanize fundraising during the challenge.

TOP 5 FDC ADVOCATES:

1. **Chloe Hutt**
2. Mim Starr
3. Nancy Russell
4. Paula Harfst
5. Stephanie Begley



TOP 10 STATES WITH THE MOST DONORS:

1. **Florida: 251**
2. Texas: 163
3. Kentucky: 103
4. Ohio: 97
5. California: 83
6. Illinois: 68
7. Georgia: 63
8. Virginia: 47
9. Pennsylvania: 46
10. South Carolina: 43

## Your Words



### “What’s your favorite part of Everlasting?”

At Everlasting Cincinnati, held on November 8, 2025, one theme echoed through every conversation: the joy of reconnecting. Whether it was seeing sisters for the first time in years, meeting new faces who instantly felt familiar or sharing moments of inspiration during panels and keynote sessions, attendees described the day as a homecoming. Stories of long missed friendships picked up seamlessly, multigenerational connections celebrated and warm welcomes that set the tone for a meaningful gathering all painted a picture of what made Everlasting so special.

“I think just seeing people that I’ve known over the years that I haven’t seen forever. You walk in, it’s like you’ve never been apart. And you all have the same foundation and the same values, and even though you were in different chapters, you just feel like you’re home.”

– Cindy Brenner  
Fitzpatrick, Beta Chi-Wittenberg (OH)

“Just reconnecting with people that I haven’t seen in a number of years and picking up those relationships exactly where we left off. For some of us, it’s been seven years since I talked to them, and it’s like yesterday. Just reconnecting again, that’s been great.”

– Pam Gehlhausen Asher,  
Gamma Kappa-Kent State (OH)

“I think my favorite part is reconnecting with sisters that I haven’t seen that live in a different part of the country than me. Also, hearing from each of the volunteers and our keynote speaker about empowering women was fantastic.”

– Laura Baxter Hedenberg,  
Gamma Beta-Connecticut



### Nativity Passions

Two Delta Zeta sisters, Betty Henry Wright, Delta-DePauw (IN) and Arlene Thompson Amstutz, Beta Chi-Wittenberg (OH), recently made a surprising discovery about a shared passion. After reading about Betty’s impressive nativity set collection in the spring 2025 edition of The LAMP, Arlene sent her a letter, sharing that she, too, has a passion for collecting nativities. Her letter only included an address, so Betty — who has trouble writing — reached out to National Headquarters for help. With a little detective work, we were able to connect them by phone. The joy on both ends was instant — they were thrilled to share their passion for nativity scenes and lifelong love for Delta Zeta. As Arlene said, “It was meant to be!”

## Digital Exclusive

### Connect and Grow!



Your Delta Zeta sisters are looking for you! Connect with industry professionals, or discover new friendships with TC Grow. Log in or create

a new user profile and watch your network grow, and find Delta Zetas who can help you thrive. <https://trulyconnected.deltazeta.org>



## Heritage

# A Gift to Posterity

From the September 1975 issue of *The LAMP*

*Fifty years ago, Florence Hohnbaum Harvey, Beta Theta-Bucknell (PA), National President, gave the President's Address at the 1975 National Convention. Her remarks addressed the Sorority's upcoming 75th anniversary. As the Sorority now prepares for our 125th anniversary in 2027, discover ideas from President Harvey's speech that still ring true today.*

**H**

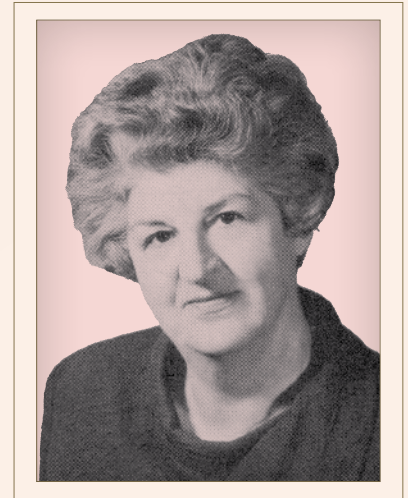
eritage is a gift to posterity. A heritage remembered bestows a horizon to mold.

We in Delta Zeta give support to the present with the wisdom of our own past, so that the continuity of our Founders' thoughts and the ideals which they established for us as a national sorority, will not be lost. Our Delta Zeta heritage serves as a framework to steer a successful course through college: scholastically, morally and socially; to alumnae, a framework based upon faith in ourselves and our loyalty to purposes we respect and honor. Delta Zeta is a wonderful gift — a membership for a lifetime.

We try to teach and impress on the minds and in the hearts of our members the outstanding record of the admirable achievements of our past, those significant events in our Delta Zeta history, our heritage, which serves today as an indication of putting our beliefs and convictions

into practice. Over the years, our philanthropic and service programs, our many scholarships, loans, grants and awards have given and continue to give impetus to Delta Zeta's original aims and purposes. Thanks to our college and alumnae chapters, the Foundation, the Colonnade Clubs and National Councils, we can recall with pride the many gifts of love and service made over the years. The volunteer work of a multitude of Delta Zeta sisters has raised thousands upon thousands of dollars for our altruistic projects.

Another large part of our heritage is the substantial, cherished and shared memories of lovely, happy, meaningful occasions and experiences which we never would have known except for our membership in Delta Zeta — membership given us by sisters who believed so much in the Delta Zeta way of life that they not only shared it, but they cared enough to pass it on to us. Think of the scores of sisters



“

**Another large part of our heritage is the substantial, cherished and shared memories of lovely, happy, meaningful occasions and experiences which we never would have known except for our membership in Delta Zeta.**

who have repeated our beautiful Creed; think, too, of the scores of sisters who will follow us and who will be saying the Creed just as we will tomorrow morning.

Delta Zeta gives us the opportunity. What a fantastic feeling it is to realize that when we were pledged, each member of our chapter put the reputation, love and friendship of Delta Zeta in our hands and trusted us to make the most of it. Even though as individuals we are diverse in our interests, talents and abilities, we do share a unity of purpose which is profound in its faith and almost sacred in its intent.

At every Convention, we set our goals. We have reached almost all of these. We have tried to develop meaningful chapter and alumnae programs, adjusting our procedures, policies and voluntary leadership accordingly. Our philosophy emphasizes that flexibility along with protected growth and renewal will be essential to the new goals we establish at this time to ensure our continued stability. This week, together we must plan carefully and think through these plans all the while maintaining our perspective — that what we do now in June 1975 must aim toward the tangible future on our Delta Zeta horizon. We should recognize and use all the resources available to us to make Delta Zeta more effective than she already is. There are unending resources in our sisters, resources which are ready to be marshalled toward unprecedented service, strength and growth. This potential should be nurtured and developed by all of us. We need our collective interests, enthusiasm and



participation. Let us do more than talk and plan. Let us forge a link between thought and direct action.

It is like climbing a mountain, all that I have said to you. It is done on the shoulders of others. Part of the way up we follow the path that others have made for us. Then we come to the horizon where no one has ever been, and we blaze the trail. We reach our limit, but someday others who follow us will go safely over the route we travelled and then they will continue on — ever toward the summit. But at least a part of the way will be the way we have marked. We cannot do this alone. We need to be reminded again that we hold in trust the work of others — sisters who have helped create the privileges we enjoy.

For those who walk truly in the light of the flame, it is heart warming to know that we have added a little of ourselves to Delta Zeta. We look forward to the many years ahead and know that together we can build our Delta Zeta and enable her to continue to serve college women for all the generations to come.

As we look to this horizon, let us be faithful to the trust given to us. ♠



## Digital Exclusive



### DELTA ZETA ARCHIVES

Read President Florence Hohnbaum Harvey's full address as well as other

full issues of The LAMP in the Delta Zeta Archive at [www.deltazetaarchive.org](http://www.deltazetaarchive.org).

# COMMUNITY MINDSET



**IT'S AN INTERESTING THING** to think about how we end up where we do — the careers we find ourselves in, the friends we make, the communities we become a part of and the memories we cherish. For many Delta Zetas, the sense of community remains a compass long after graduation. It becomes a mindset — one that guides careers, deepens friendships and inspires service well beyond campus.

For Kayce Davis, Maria Maffucci and LeeAnn Vogelberger Chievtz, sisterhood didn't just give them friendships. It helped reveal the kind of leaders they wanted to be in their communities, committed to making life better for the people around them. Their stories unfold in different corners of the country, but together, their journeys remind us that giving back doesn't just strengthen our communities — it transforms us, too.

These three Delta Zeta sisters show the power of community. Whether through careers, volunteer work, or everyday acts of support, being part of something larger allows you to connect, grow and make a difference. Their stories show that when we invest in the people around us, we create a ripple effect — building not just better lives for individuals, but a stronger, brighter community for everyone.





K

Kayce Davis, Theta Iota-Western Carolina (NC), hadn't given Greek life a thought before college, but life has a way of nudging us toward the communities we're meant to be part of.

Kayce and a friend from high school, Victoria (Tori) Urban, Theta Iota-Western Carolina (NC), decided to attend Western Carolina University together. When Tori joined Delta Zeta during their freshman year, Kayce witnessed her friend become part of a community built on support and purpose. By sophomore year, she decided to go through recruitment and found her new home along with Tori.

A criminal justice major, Kayce knew she wanted to serve the community through law enforcement. Participating in Delta Zeta philanthropy events for hearing and speech helped her see service as something broader than a career path.

"I became a police officer because I wanted to help people. It was that same mindset of helping people, whether it's raising money or giving out hearing aids or doing good through philanthropy. And then that transitioned into helping people as a police officer," she said.

After graduation, Kayce maintained close ties with her sisters, especially her Little and Big Sisters. From the ups and downs of her daily work, Kayce stressed the importance for police officers who have non-police friends they can talk to.



"Most of my non-police friends are my DZ friends. So, whenever we have a critical incident, or whenever I was on patrol — if I had a bad day, or I would go to a call that got me down, they would always just be there to let me know it's okay to feel however you need to feel."

The importance of that support became tragically clear when a pledge sister, a close friend, took her own life.

**"I don't think that I would have been able to make it through that time without the love and the support of our pledge sisters."**

"I don't think that I would have been able to make it through that time without the love and the support of our pledge sisters," Kayce said, her voice wavering over the memory of her lost sister. "We probably haven't talked since college, but when that happened, they all came together, and we were able to get through that hard time together."

Kayce's passion for serving her community eventually led

her professional journey to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department (CMPD) where she joined the Community Engagement Unit. In her role, Kayce works to bridge the gap between police and the community.

"We want people to feel safe with us, and with everything going on in the world right now, and seeing the things that the media puts out there — it seems like everything is bad, but our main job is to turn that narrative to show people that it's not just what you see on TV. There's more good that happens than bad," Kayce said.

Philanthropy has now also become a focus of her work through the department's partnership with Special Olympics NC. From programs like Cops on Top and polar plunges to truck convoys, torch runs and Tip-A-Cop events, Kayce's work enables awareness and increased fundraising for Special Olympics NC.

Looking back, Kayce credits Delta Zeta with igniting her passion for philanthropy.

"We wouldn't be where we are today, not just the police department, but also society in general, if it wasn't for everybody around us, right?" Kayce stated.

W

hen Maria Maffucci, Alpha Upsilon-Maine, left her home in Massachusetts to attend the University of Maine, she arrived not knowing anyone on campus. During recruitment, she connected with Delta Zeta and on bid day, she knew she had found her new home. "It was probably one of the happiest moments of my life," she said. "It was such a great day!"

Through Delta Zeta, Maria gained an entire community of friends that extended well beyond the reach of her campus. With newfound confidence, she became more involved on campus through the Panhellenic Council and volunteer work.

After graduation, Maria realized that despite a thriving career as a legal assistant, she missed the sense of community her collegiate chapter had provided. To reconnect and continue giving back, she joined Maine's Chamber of Commerce, serving on the board of Propel, the Chamber's young business professionals group. She also became a member of Junior League Portland, Maine, and took an active role in The Maine Women's Conference as Sponsorships Chair.

Maria's passion for philanthropy eventually drew her to enter the 2024 Maine for America Strong pageant as Miss Portland. Unlike traditional pageants, participants advocate for a nonprofit of their choice instead of showcasing a talent. As an advocate for survivors of sexual assault, Maria selected the Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine (SARSSM), to coincide with her pageant campaign. Through the pageant, she hopes to

increase awareness for SARSSM and grow their volunteer base.

Since 2023, Maria has been a volunteer advocate with SARSSM, where she is one of only two unpaid volunteers. Maria serves SARSSM by monitoring their crisis hotline weekly, promoting the organization on social media, organizing community events and planning fundraisers.

### Despite a thriving career as a legal assistant, Maria missed the sense of community her collegiate chapter had provided.

Maria's work as a legal assistant has also allowed her to aid her community. Through her work, she supports the legal process and helps bridge the gap between the judicial system and the community. You might think assisting attorneys would be stressful,

but not for Maria. She said her work is low stress because of the open communication between everyone she works with.

"We're a small enough firm where we can just walk down the hall to each other, or give each other a call and just say, 'what do you need to do now? What can wait?' and just help prioritize the day."

Having a well-connected community has allowed Maria to excel both in her career and her philanthropic endeavors. Her community involvement through the Junior League, Maine Women's Conference, Maine for America Strong pageant and SARSSM has helped her to not only build her personal skills but share her talents and philanthropic heart with others.





LeeAnn Vogelberger Chievitz, Kappa Chi-Youngstown State (OH), has always been a go-getter. When she attended Youngstown State University, she knew she would join a sorority, deeply wanting to be a part of a great group of people. Through her roles in the chapter working with new members and her service on Panhellenic Council, LeeAnn learned valuable skills she carried throughout her career.

“That really helped shape my personality because in high school, I was kind of outgoing, but not as much as I was then,” LeeAnn said. “And I think that just really brought out the marketing and PR person in me.”

After owning her own lawfirm for 30 years, LeeAnn retired and she and her husband moved to a new home in Canton, Ohio. Down the hill from their home sits the local YMCA and a non-profit organization for children and elder community members called JRC.

After some consideration, LeeAnn decided that having a part-time job or two in her retirement might be nice, and she put in applications with both.

While both organizations contacted her, in what would prove to be a spark of opportunity, JRC asked if she wouldn't mind working full time for a brief period. Now in her ninth year as the public relations and marketing coordinator with JRC, LeeAnn has directly impacted her community through the creation of an Intergenerational Connections Program and an effective volunteer program that has grown from a few volunteers to nearly 600.

Most Saturday mornings, LeeAnn

spent her time watching the NBC show, “The More You Know.” One episode featured a program where children and seniors were able to interact with one another. Seeing the benefits, when she joined JRC and realized they didn't have an intergenerational program, LeeAnn created one.

**“My mission in life is to keep on my path with my non-profit in making a difference in my community for our children, adults and seniors.”**

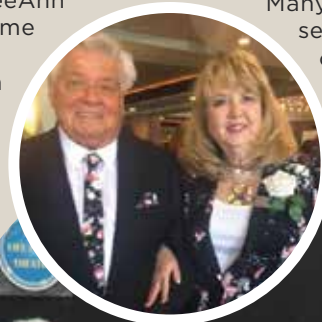
She now helps plan and run the Intergenerational Connections Program with other volunteers, where senior citizens get to interact with young children, helping each other learn and grow together.

Many of the seniors in their community have worked hard, and

now that they are retired, they are struggling. The same goes for children of hardworking parents, who struggle to stay afloat, which is a large part of the support JRC provides. LeeAnn said her organization provides attendees with better, more fulfilling lives.

“I want to help these seniors — because I'm a senior now. I want to be treated the way these people are being treated,” LeeAnn said. “I want that, and I want everybody else to feel that too — to be able to treat these people better ... They deserve that ... These little ones are our future, and some of them have a very tough life, and we want them to learn things that they're going to take with them in the future, and remember and look back and say, ‘oh my gosh, that made a difference for me.’”

LeeAnn emphasizes that her work with this group and all JRC attendees strengthens her community and builds a stronger Canton. “My mission in life is to keep on my path with my non-profit in making a difference in my community for our children, adults and seniors.” 🔥



## AUTHENTIC

# Jennifer Dowling Maxson

Xi Psi-Grand Valley State (MI)

Jennifer has been named a 2025 Top Executive Coach by Real Leaders Inc. Whether you're just starting out or stepping into a new chapter, Jennifer reminds us that leadership is a journey, and you don't have to walk it alone.

## WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO START JENNIFER MAXSON & ASSOCIATES?

I have been in the learning and development field for 29 years and, during this time, I had the opportunity to coach leaders at all levels and in different industries. In 2019, I decided to invest in myself and enrolled in a coaching certificate program at the University of Wisconsin/Madison. Since graduating, I have received additional certifications from the International Coach Federation and Global Team Coaching Institute.

In 2017, I founded Jennifer Maxson & Associates, a leadership development organization that inspires leaders at all levels to "Lead to the Max!" After 22 years of working for others, I decided to go out on my own.

## WHAT DOES BEING NAMED A 2025 TOP EXECUTIVE COACH MEAN TO YOU?

Being named by Real Leaders Inc. as a 2025 Top Executive Coach is a significant honor as only 80 coaches from all over the world made

“

**To our current collegiate members and recent graduates, I want you to know that your career is a journey, and there will be twists and curves along the way.**

this list. Receiving this recognition is rewarding, inspiring and motivating to keep coaching leaders. Through coaching, I am often reminded of our Delta Zeta Creed, "To those whom my life may touch in slight measure, may I give graciously

of what is mine." For me as a coach, this means being present for someone else, offering a different perspective and championing future leaders.

## HOW DO YOU APPROACH LEADERSHIP COACHING?

As a coach, my approach is to provide support, focus, feedback and accountability in a nonjudgmental and psychologically safe environment. One of the most rewarding aspects of working with clients is seeing them set a goal and achieve it. This success builds confidence and energy to keep moving forward.

## WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR WOMEN LOOKING TO MAKE AN IMPACT IN THEIR CAREERS AND COMMUNITIES?

Delta Zeta was one of the first real opportunities that I had to make an impact on others and our community. The leadership development and learning opportunities as a collegiate member have been fundamental in my approach to leadership. To our current collegiate members and recent graduates, I want you to know that your career is a journey, and there will be twists and curves along the way. Second, we all need

mentors throughout all stages of our career — find individuals that are willing to be formal and informal mentors. Your mentor does not need to be in the same industry or profession; the best mentors are those that bring you different perspectives. Consider connecting with other Delta Zeta sisters, including alumnae — we would be honored to be a mentor. Don't be afraid to ask for leadership development opportunities. Delta Zeta has many formal and informal leadership opportunities. Look for internal classes your organization provides or consider working with an outside coach. 🔥



## ROSE &amp; GREEN

# From the Desk to the Hall of Fame

Building a community on and off the air

Co-written by Emily Worthmore, Omicron Omicron-Lindenwood (MO), Marketing and Communications Intern, and Megan White, Epsilon Gamma-Central Missouri.

**I** was privileged to deliver the news to my family and friends; people who knew me, who had watched me grow up, who were rooting for me. You work harder when Mama and Daddy are watching, when your high school English teacher is correcting your grammar or when your old buddies are chuckling at your mistakes. Forty years later, I wouldn't change a thing."

From her broadcast start in Mobile, Alabama, to becoming one of the state's most recognizable anchors, Janet Hall O'Neil has built a career that stands as a testament to hard work, resilience and a passion for storytelling.

A proud member of the Alpha Gamma Chapter at the University of Alabama, Janet credits her sisters for helping her grow personally and professionally by showing her "the value of friendship, the power of loyalty and the gentle touch of servant leadership."

When asked about her journey, Janet reflects not just on the headlines she's covered, but on the people and values that shaped her path. From discovering her calling as a college student to reporting from Ground Zero after 9/11, her story is one full of passion and loyalty.

Like many college students, Janet didn't have her entire future mapped out. On her last day of sophomore year at the University of Alabama, she was asked if she enjoyed writing. It was an easy answer for her as she discovered her passion for storytelling and the power of journalism, and the rest was history.

"I thought I'd only be in Birmingham a few years before moving on to a bigger market," she said. "But my roots reached up and grabbed me." With an incredible 40-year career at WBRC FOX6, Janet has been a trusted voice in



Birmingham and an inspiration to viewers across Alabama.

In 2001, Janet's career took her to New York City in the wake of the devastating 9/11 attacks. It was an assignment that would become one of the most challenging and defining moments of her life.

"Ground Zero was still smoking in the distance. Flyers showing the faces of missing people were taped to every surface. My job was to find Alabama connections to the story, not to simply repeat what the national news was already covering," she shared.

Over the course of the week, she spoke with Alabamians whose stories brought hope to the heartbreak. She recalls interviewing Rebecca Luker, an Alabama native, who was starring in a Broadway play at the time. "We both got emotional as she described leading the cast in singing 'God Bless America' with the audience," Janet said. She also met with Alabama law enforcement officers who were in New York to help with security around Ground Zero.

But one story stayed with her the most. "We were set up on a sidewalk to do our live shots every night for a week," she remembered. "I made a poster that we propped up next to us. It said, 'Are you from Alabama? Tell us your story.'" A young woman came out of a florist shop where she was working and with the sweetest Southern accent, said 'I'm from Alabama!' She shared her experience during the

**Left: Anchoring election coverage in 2018. Bottom Left: Live coverage from the 1987 Republican National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana.**

attack and looked into the camera to tell her parents back in Gadsen that she was okay.

“Seeing the reactions and the resilience of New Yorkers to this unimaginable attack left me with a pride in the power of journalism to tell their stories and renewed personal patriotism as I watched the country pull together.”

The experience in New York became a defining reminder of why Janet pursued journalism in the first place. She wanted to give a voice to others and connect communities through stories that matter. But just as the stories she covered evolved, so did the world of broadcasting. Janet’s leadership both on and off camera has helped lead the way for women who came after her.

“When I first started, I was one of only a few women in the newsroom,” Janet recalled. “Producers, managers and main anchors were almost always men. More than 40 years later, women are involved in every level of management, production and on-air work. We’ve broken the glass ceiling, changed the good old boy network and are now leading the way as journalism evolves through challenges like streaming, social media, artificial intelligence and a polarized audience.”

Recently, Janet’s commitment to truth, connection and compassion was recognized with one of the highest honors in Alabama journalism — her induction into the Alabama Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame. “It’s a great honor that puts an exclamation point on my long career. I’m humbled to be listed among the icons of broadcasting that I grew up watching, that I was lucky enough to work beside and that I am proud to have built my career upon,” she shared.

Janet’s sense of loyalty to her community and values is something she says was nurtured early on as a Delta Zeta.



**“You work harder when Mama and Daddy are watching, when your high school English teacher is correcting your grammar or when your old buddies are chuckling at your mistakes. Forty years later, I wouldn’t change a thing.”**

“Delta Zeta gave me some of my dearest friends and fondest memories. It gave me a sisterhood full of love and support as I grew and matured throughout my college career.”

For Janet, the lessons and values she learned from Delta Zeta didn’t end at graduation. They became a framework of how she led in her newsroom. “I hope young women

will see in me an example of how to be successful, and maintain a happy and balanced life. My Birmingham audience watched a 24-year-old woman become a mature journalist. They also saw me get married, go through two pregnancies, raise those kids and celebrate anniversaries. I am proud of my career but even prouder of my family and the blessings throughout my life.”

She shares with us that hard work pays off no matter what you decide to pursue.

“Find your passion, and go for it. Don’t be afraid to start in a small market or in a small job. That’s where you will learn the basics. Be kind to everyone along the way. You never know who will be a great connection in your life. Enjoy the journey. Make good and thoughtful decisions. My early years were some of the best times of my life, but it just keeps getting better!”

From her earliest Delta Zeta days at the University of Alabama to spending decades behind the anchor desk, Janet’s story is one of integrity and gratitude. She reminds us that true success lies not just in achievement, but in the lives we touch along the way. 💜



**Left: Janet’s pledge class on squeal day in 1973. Above: Janet and her two sisters Emily and Susan, who are also Delta Zetas.**

## ROSE & GREEN

### Greater Seattle Alumnae Chapter Lamplighter Gala Supports Local School

The Greater Seattle Alumnae Chapter hosted their annual Lamplighter Gala on March 22, 2025, benefiting Listen and Talk, a local non-profit school based in Kirkland, Washington, focused on children's programs, blended preschool classrooms for Deaf, hard-of-hearing and hearing students, full day Pre-Kindergarten classes, listening and spoken language therapy, and much more. The event included a silent auction, a catered luncheon, and special guest speakers from Listen and Talk. This year, the Greater Seattle Alumnae Chapter raised \$3,100 for Listen and Talk!

The alumnae chapter is very grateful for the dedication, time and the creative vision of their Lamplighter Gala Committee, which included Chairwoman Diana Fergusson, Kappa-Washington, Sara Fergusson Kuffel, Kappa-Washington and their mother, Sue Fergusson. They would also like to thank the alumnae and their family members who attended this event.

For more information visit: <https://listenandtalk.org>



Above:  
Sue Fergusson,  
Sara Fergusson  
Kuffel, Kappa-  
Washington



### Pie a Prez! Philanthropy with a Side of Laughter

Xi Nu Chapter-Tarleton State's (TX) new and creative philanthropy event, Pie a Prez, was a huge success this year, raising more than \$12,000 in support of the Starkey Hearing Foundation. The fundraiser gave students, faculty and community members the chance to donate for an opportunity to throw pies at chapter leaders, university officials and even a fraternity president — making for a hilarious and memorable way to give back. Beyond the laughter, the event highlighted Xi Nu's dedication to service and its mission to make a positive impact. By combining fun with philanthropy, Pie a Prez not only brought the campus community together but also achieved a record-breaking contribution to a meaningful cause.

### DZ ROCKS THE BLOCK FOR HEARING & SPEECH

Alpha Sigma Chapter-Florida State hosted its DZ on the Block event, selling 1,149 tickets and raising nearly \$12,000 for Delta Zeta's speech and hearing philanthropy partners. The chapter engaged the campus through a sweetheart competition that rewarded members for ticket sales and promoted the event through personal outreach and social media. Their efforts resulted in \$9,549 in ticket sales, plus additional donations that helped the chapter make an incredible impact on hearing and speech initiatives.





## The Power of Influence

Melissa St. John, Xi Omega-Purdue (IN), was named one of Purdue University's Fraternity, Sorority and Cooperative Life (FSCL) 150 Most Influential Alumni of 2025. She is one of only 16 women to receive this recognition.

"It is an incredible honor to be recognized by Purdue," Melissa said in a press release shared by her company, Relocation Strategies. "Being one of only 16 women makes this especially meaningful, and I am proud to represent women who are shaping the future of leadership."

Melissa is the owner and CEO of Relocation Strategies. Her passion for women's entrepreneurship and leadership development have aided her in forging a path for young women in business and leadership.

## Ally's Advocacy

Ally Blaszyński, is a proud member of the Pi Omicron Chapter at Indiana University/Indianapolis, but her path to college was far from typical. Diagnosed with Hereditary Angioedema (HAE), Ally spent most of her high school years in hospitals and doctors' offices. Despite the challenges, she never let her diagnosis define her. Ally gives 100% to everything she does — always striving to be her best.

Ally now channels her strength and compassion into advocacy, involved with the Hereditary Angioedema Association — all while maintaining high scholastic achievement and serving as Vice President of Administration and Alumnae Relations Chair for her chapter.

Ally began her involvement with the HAE Association as a social media intern, where she brought awareness to HAE through digital advocacy. She shared patient stories, designed graphics and helped connect individuals from around the world. She also produced podcasts highlighting her life with HAE, including a recent episode about navigating college with a rare disease. This podcast was part of a project for the Hereditary Angioedema International LEAP program, which brought together 20 young people from around the world in Copenhagen, Denmark, to develop professional skills and create passion-driven projects.

Ally has attended Capitol Hill Day twice, an event held every year that allows patients and caregivers to advocate for rare diseases in Washington, D.C. Each time, she has taken on a leadership role — mentoring other young advocates and speaking directly to legislators about the impact of bills like the Safe Step Act.

In off years, Ally participates in the national summit, where patients, caregivers, researchers, physicians, and pharmaceutical leaders gather to share stories and scientific advancements. At the summit, she contributes to the Youth Program, helping teens and young adults find their voice, and learn how to advocate for their rare conditions.

It fills me with pride to see the legacy of Delta Zeta carried forward so beautifully in the next generation. Ally is a shining example of how our sisterhood continues to inspire and empower women to make a meaningful impact.

— Submission from Ally's Aunt,  
Denise Kenston Blaszyński,  
Gamma Rho-Northern Illinois



## ROSE & GREEN

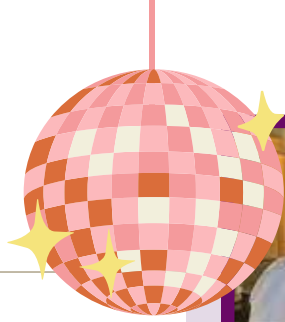
# Alumna Now Leads Global Safety Community

Safety industry leader Linda Dennison Tapp, ALCM, CSP, CPTD, Epsilon Zeta-Drexel (PA), has officially begun her one-year term as President of the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP).

A resident of Madison, New Jersey, Linda brings over three decades of occupational safety and health experience to the role, including work in the U.S., U.K. and Netherlands. She is the founder of SafetyFUNdamentals, a company that helps professionals enhance their training through creative, evidence-based learning tools.

Linda credits much of her early leadership development to her experience as a member of Delta Zeta and her time serving as Chapter President. A defining moment, she says, was attending the Norma Minch Andrisek Leadership Conference, which sparked a lifelong interest in mentorship and professional growth. "That conference was one of the first times I realized the power of leadership and connection. It gave me the confidence to take on bigger roles, and I still draw on those lessons today," said Linda.

[www.assp.org](http://www.assp.org)



## Dancing For a Cause

This year, the Omicron Nu Chapter at the University of Windsor (Canada) came together for a night filled with music, movement and meaningful impact. Their annual Dance-A-Thon drew outstanding participation from members and supporters, all rallying behind the Starkey Hearing Foundation. By the end of the event, the chapter proudly announced that they had raised just over \$1,300, contributing to Starkey's mission of providing hearing health services to individuals around the world.

The success of the Dance-A-Thon reflects not only the chapter's fundraising skills, but also its continued belief in the power of accessible communication, connection and community support.

## Dukeout Week Is a Knockout

Delta Zeta's Lambda Rho Chapter-Illinois State, participated in Dukeout Week, one of the most exciting philanthropy events of the year! Throughout the week, the chapter hosts a series of fun and meaningful activities to raise money and awareness for the Starkey Hearing Foundation. The week kicks off with a bake sale, followed by SigPi Pie in the Face and bracelet sales on the quad — all leading up to the big event, Hoops for Hearing, a basketball tournament that brings together students and organizations across campus.

## From Sister to Advocate: Rebecca Schlosser's Enduring Delta Zeta Legacy

By Shelby Harrell Perusi, Theta Iota-Western Carolina (NC)  
and College Chapter Director for Theta Iota

Western Carolina University recently celebrated the generosity and vision of Rebecca Heafner Schlosser, Theta Iota-Western Carolina (NC) whose transformative gift has renamed the university's Counseling and Psychological Services facility as the Schlosser Family Center for Counseling and Psychological Services.

Rebecca's advocacy for mental health is deeply personal. Following the loss of her son, David, in 2008, she and her late husband, Michael, dedicated themselves to ensuring other families and students would have access to critical resources and support.

Through this gift, the Schlosser Family Center will expand services, increase outreach and help destigmatize seeking help — meeting a growing need among today's college students.

"It was our family's goal to provide funding that supports counseling and psychological services while helping to destigmatize the challenges surrounding mental health," Schlosser shared. "Our family wishes to help shine a bright light of hope along this very difficult pathway."

Delta Zeta played a special role in the naming ceremony,



as Rebecca's was surrounded by her sisters in celebration of this meaningful milestone.

Ten Theta Iota alumnae and three collegiate members attended, demonstrating the strength of sisterhood that extends far beyond graduation. Their presence reflected not only pride in Rebecca's impact but also Delta Zeta's enduring values of friendship, community and belonging.

"Tonight is the first time in 50 years that we have all been on campus wearing our Delta Zeta pin," Rebecca told the crowd after acknowledging her sisters present at the event. "This is all about

friendship and camaraderie; what a special connection Western Carolina gave us."

Her sisters' support underscored how Delta Zeta continues to unite women across generations. From collegians to alumnae, members of Theta Iota came together to honor Rebecca's leadership, compassion and advocacy.

Her legacy is not only one of generosity, but also one of sisterhood — proving that the bonds of Delta Zeta last a lifetime.



## ROSE & GREEN

# Chapter Anniversaries



### THETA PSI CELEBRATES 60 YEARS

Earlier this summer, 150 alumnae from Theta Psi-Ashland (OH), celebrated the 60th anniversary of their founding and the unveiling of the newly renovated chapter suite. The formal ribbon cutting was attended by National Vice President Laura Baxter Hedenberg, Gamma Beta-Connecticut, and Theta Psi alumnae responsible for the renovation. Ashland University President Dr. Jon Parrish Peede noted, "This suite now reflects the Delta Zeta sisterhood so perfectly — bright, welcoming and full of joyful energy."



### THETA PHI 60TH MINI REUNION

Members from Theta Phi-Old Dominion (VA), celebrated the upcoming 60th anniversary of their chapter! Members present had initiation dates ranging from 1997-2018.



## CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SISTERHOOD

In April 2025, the Lambda Pi Chapter celebrated 50 years of sisterhood at Georgia College and State University. Installed in November 1974, the chapter welcomed alumnae across five decades back to campus for a joyful weekend of emotional reunions, lots of laughter and reliving cherished moments together.

## A NOTE OF GRATITUDE

Linda Carter Heath, Epsilon Beta-Northwestern State (LA), received the 2025 Golden Hoosier Award, presented to her and 11 others by Indiana Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith in collaboration with the Indiana Family and Social Services

Administration (FSSA) and AARP. This award is the highest honor that a citizen of Indiana can receive from the Lt. Governor. It recognizes outstanding individuals 65 years or older for their service and commitment to their communities. Linda was highlighted for her 19 years of volunteering at the Eskenazi Museum of Art at Indiana University, as

well as her membership with the Bloomington Garden Club, where she helps coordinate the Annual Summer Garden Walk to support local gardening education. She has also served 28 years on the advisory board for the Epsilon Chapter at Indiana University.

"I owe a note of gratitude to every Delta Zeta I have known through the years, and you are certainly one of the sisters that has made this award possible, along with my other volunteer activities," Linda said.



## Special Delivery: Sisterhood in a Box

When it comes to building meaningful relationships within a virtual sisterhood, sometimes you have to think outside the box — or in this case, inside the box! For the Surfing Sisters Alumnae Chapter, one of their most beloved traditions is the themed exchange program, which brings members together throughout the year, no matter the miles between.

Themes range from a Galentine's Card Exchange, sending joy through handwritten notes and thoughtful messages to "Pink Goes Good With Green" and "Boo Boxes," filled with spooky, cozy and autumnal treats.

Megan Wagner, Kappa Chi-Youngstown (OH), reflected, "I love these exchanges. It gives me a sense of connecting with my sisters on a personal level." 🔥

# FLAME ETERNAL

## Phyllis Berens Ross, Delta Omega— Fort Hays State, (KS)

Past National Officer



It is with deep sadness that we share the passing of Phyllis Berens Ross, Past National Officer, on October 19, 2025. Phyllis initiated into the Delta Omega Chapter at Fort Hays State University. She had a deep appreciation for a life of service, sisterhood and leadership.

As an undergraduate, Phyllis was recognized as Outstanding Senior Woman on Campus, crowned Homecoming Princess and nominated for multiple Delta Zeta awards — honors that reflected her talents and character.

After earning her Bachelor of Arts in English with honors, Phyllis taught English at Highland Junior High School and Oak Park High School in the Kansas City area. She shared her love for American literary classics with her students. Beyond the classroom, she continued to lead and inspire through her involvement with Delta Zeta. From 1975-1982, Phyllis served as the College Chapter Director for the Zeta Rho Chapter at William Jewell College. She then served as Province Alumnae Director from 1988-1991 and again in 1995. She served on National Council as National Director of Pledge Education from 1991-1993 and National Vice President of Alumnae from 1993-1995. In 2000, Phyllis received the Achoth Award for her long and faithful volunteer service, and she served as an Alumnae Chapter President in 2004. Her contributions were further recognized with the Outstanding Initiate Award from the Delta Omega Chapter and the Austin Alumnae Panhellenic Woman of the Year honor.

Phyllis' creativity and service extended into her personal passions. She collected antiques, enjoyed a second career in interior design and created beautiful needlework pieces that now carry her memory in every stitch. She was a devoted Girl Scout, a talented cook and a friend known for her humor, warmth and generous spirit.

Phyllis will be remembered for her hard work and kindness. She is survived by her daughter, Anne Ross-Weldy, Lambda Xi-Texas A&M University, son-in-law, two grandchildren, sister, two brothers and other cherished family members. She was preceded in death by her husband of 52 years, Norman "Bud" Ross, sister and parents.

Phyllis exemplified our values through her leadership and her genuine kindness toward others, and she will truly be missed by her family and sisters.

## Carol Sharpe Harper, Beta Gamma— Louisville (KY)

Past Historical Museum Trustee



Delta Zeta learned of the passing of Carol Sharpe Harper, Past Historical Museum Trustee, on July 19, 2025. Initiated into the Beta Gamma Chapter at the University of Louisville, she was known for her intellect, charming wit and inspiration. Carol made

her mark on Delta Zeta not just as a collegian, but through her alumnae volunteer positions including Province Alumnae Director, Louisville Alumnae Chapter President and Kentucky Reference Chairman. She was named Province XX Outstanding Alumna, and in 1991, Carol was a recipient of the Achoth Award for her faithful service and continued loyalty to Delta Zeta, particularly in her local community. She also established the Carol Sharpe Harper Lecture Fund with the Delta Zeta Foundation to host distinguished speakers for our National Conventions and conferences.

After graduating from the University of Kentucky with her bachelor's degree, Carol followed in her father's professional footsteps by becoming a pharmacist. She was one of a small but growing number of women pharmacists during the 1950s. Carol was the first woman to become a member of the Rho Chi Pharmacy Honorary Society and would later obtain another bachelor's degree in botany and her master's degree in clinical psychology from the University of Louisville. Carol went on to serve as a psychologist for both Jefferson County and the Louisville Board of Education. She was also a registered pharmacist for her family's pharmacy, Sharpe's Drugstore.

Carol married her husband, Spencer E. Harper Jr., and they had two children. Married for 61 years, their time together was filled with love and service. Both were supporters of many foundational Louisville arts organizations, including the Speed Art Museum Charter Collectors and the Kentucky Opera, where Carol served as a board member and president of the Friends of the Opera. They were also members of Second Presbyterian Church, where Carol taught Sunday and Bible School in her spare time.

Carol was preceded in death by her husband and her son, Grafton. She is survived by her son, Spencer, III.

Carol was considered a sharp-minded woman with a quick wit who gave graciously to those in need. She will be deeply missed by her Delta Zeta sisters who cherished her mentorship and treasured her presence at gatherings and events.

This list includes obituaries reported to us from July 1, 2025 to October 31, 2025.  
The year of initiation is after the member's name.

**Barbara Jones Brotherton, Past National Officer, Theta Nu-Minnesota State/ Moorhead**

At press time, Delta Zeta learned of the passing Barbara Jones Brotherton, Past National Officer, Theta Nu-Minnesota State/ Moorhead, on December 29, 2025. She will be dearly missed by her family, Delta Zeta sisters and friends. Her Flame Eternal will be printed in the Summer 2026 LAMP.

**ALPHA**

Virginia Belden Kurtz, 1941  
Jane Stevens King, 1942  
Jo Anne Holbrock Apfeld, 1948  
Gertrude McCullough Shaw, 1949  
Virginia Askew Suhring, 1950  
Janice Gay Sayre, 1955

**GAMMA**

Joyce Snow Ostergren, 1944

**DELTA**

Phyllis Luttrell Smith, 1948  
Mary Helen Lockhart Smiley, 1957

**EPSILON**

Joann Scruby Oesch, 1945

**IOTA**

Audrie McManus Fred, 1956

**KAPPA**

Darlene Cohen Lane, 1954

**MU**

Geraldine Mackey Vinson, 1943  
Marilyn Moser Ausman, 1949

**XI**

Marilyn Cones Nelson, 1950  
Monte Wismann Foster, 1952

**OMICRON**

Shirley Snyder Toothman, 1947

**PI**

Phyllis White Skoglund, 1947  
Elizabeth Hancock Harmon, 1958

**RHO**

Deveney Woodall Stormes, 1991

**SIGMA**

Dorothy Babcock Pruy, 1944

**TAU**

Karen Kennedy D'Orazio, 1952  
Joan Shaft Luedtke, 1955  
Barbara Morris Dahl, 1960  
Marjorie Krask Schick, 1960

**CHI**

Lois Johnson Hopkins, 1953  
Marjorie Knapp Reuling, 1953  
Nancy McCoy Carey, 1960

**PSI**

Margaret Schmidt Downey, 1945  
Joanne Ashworth Mitchell, 1954  
Karen Johnson Capps, 1964

**OMEGA**

Donna Rae Covalt, 1950

**ALPHA ALPHA**

Karen Hukkala Gould, 1957

**ALPHA BETA**

Barbara Horton Hartman, 1958  
Charmaine Tourville Fitzgerald, 1962  
Anne Lace Stevens, 1968

**ALPHA CHI**

Jean Kolonsky Sowers, 1959

**ALPHA GAMMA**

Emma Claire Hunt Copeland, 1952  
Frances Raiford Langford, 1964  
Lane Chambers Nestman, 1965

**ALPHA EPSILON**

Phyllis Webster Mayberry, 1949  
Barbara Schumacher Lorenzen, 1960  
Mary Kallal Culpepper, 1970  
Janene Sheffer Yost, 1974  
Anne Roberts Hayhurst, 1975  
Jana Allred Upton, 1979

Debra Sargent Thompson, 1983

**ALPHA THETA**

Dorothy Seath Teater, 1949  
Marcia Kells Corn, 1961

**ALPHA OMICRON**

Mary Catherine Pridgen Greer, 1973

**ALPHA SIGMA**

Betty Ann Pool Guyton, 1954  
Catherine Peak Parrish, 1954  
Sondra Underwood, 1957  
Mikki Rosicka Hogan, 1971

**ALPHA TAU**

Alice Bunch Black, 1950  
Sally Painter Ficken, 1958

**ALPHA UPSILON**

Laurie Ann McDonald, 1978

**ALPHA PSI**

Nancy Eveson Wallace, 1957  
Sue Germany Brown, 1958

**BETA ALPHA**

Barbara Carrier Spear, 1975

**BETA GAMMA**

Carol Sharpe Harper, 1953

**BETA THETA**

Nancy Louise Kunz, 1953  
Carolyn Morton Moore, 1962

**BETA KAPPA**

Lois Rooker Adamek, 1939  
Marilyn Larson Alford, 1947  
Angela Bryant Smith, 1950  
Bettie Holvik Hunchis, 1954  
Susan Whorley Frelund, 1962

**BETA LAMBDA**

Ferol Diane Panter, 1970

**BETA XI**

Kate Sophia Bambeck, 2020

**BETA PI**

Geraldine Stedman Bell, 1942  
Marcia Todd Wadley, 1959

**BETA RHO**

Whitney McIntyre McDonough, 1976

**BETA SIGMA**

Joan Daniels Dovilla, 1950

**BETA TAU**

Ruth Lowson Frye, 1943  
Aileen Ross Johnston, 1946  
Irma Nelson McBeth, 1947  
Shirley Hampton Noyes, 1947

Dorothy Christner McDonald, 1955  
Carol Routh Becker, 1963

**BETA OMEGA**

Susan Osthoff Beaton, 1960

**GAMMA ALPHA**

Donna Heffelfinger Carmel, 1951  
Jamae Wolf Fitch, 1955  
Karen Hallam Clark, 1966

**GAMMA BETA**

Ethel Chaosky Fopeano, 1946  
Judith Baldwin Stoltz, 1960

**GAMMA GAMMA**

Carol Sue Spreckelmeyer Spellmann, 1955

**GAMMA ZETA**

Genelle Doering Kalmbach, 1950  
Mary Ann Kalmbach Richter, 1953  
JoBeth Serres Brown, 1956

**GAMMA ETA**

Concetta DeNave, 1953

**GAMMA THETA**

Marilyn Thompson Hill, 1948  
Wynette Ekonen Rova, 1954

**GAMMA IOTA**

Carolyn O'Briant Nowlin, 1964  
Catharine Hazen Kent, 1969

**GAMMA KAPPA**

Betty Steinkemper Jones, 1951

**GAMMA MU**

Jean (Chris) Miller St. Leger-Barter, 1948

**GAMMA NU**

Elizabeth (Sue) Morrison Scott, 1952  
Janelle Blocker Svozil, 2005

# FLAME ETERNAL

## GAMMA OMICRON

Dona Pillsbury  
Barner Romaine,  
1949

## GAMMA RHO

Mary Hilliard  
Hoselton, 1956  
Karen Havlik  
Schmidt, 1962  
Darlene Franzen  
DeSantis, 1964  
Susan Siekmann  
Ramelli, 1964

## GAMMA SIGMA

Lynne Neibauer  
Robertson, 1962

## GAMMA UPSILON

Joyce Bogard  
DeCordova, 1946  
Sharon Bunnell  
Norris, 1960

## GAMMA PHI

Joyce Reynolds  
Frey, 1956  
Ruth Blohm Mohr,  
1958  
Janice Elaine  
Fetrow, 1975

## GAMMA CHI

Janice Kirsch  
Halaschak, 1966  
Linda Black Smith,  
1977

## GAMMA PSI

Diane McDowell  
Ederer, 1959  
Jane Heisler  
Croftchik, 1967

## GAMMA OMEGA

Patricia Kindt, 1960

## DELTA ALPHA

Anne Davis  
Crawford, 1975  
Danelle Spencer  
Kisich, 1984

## DELTA EPSILON

Judy Reis Wallace,  
1956

## DELTA LAMBDA

Victoria Clay  
Bonsall, 1972

## DELTA MU

Marlene Berg  
Camilli, 1962

## DELTA OMICRON

Marjorie Martin  
Heifner, 1956

## DELTA PI

Nancy Boney Harris,  
1963

## DELTA SIGMA

Sandra Ables  
Kondrick, 1960  
Elaine Sladek  
Brookshier, 1973  
Doreen Yantis Allard,  
1974

## DELTA UPSILON

Neva Gail Lusk, 1975  
Kathleen Brown  
Schallom, 1975

## DELTA CHI

Nancy Miller  
Schouten, 1956

## DELTA OMEGA

Rose Petracek  
Arnhold, 1960  
Patricia Kindsvater  
Reynolds, 1961  
Phyllis Berens Ross,  
1964

## EPSILON ALPHA

Nancy Scheid Ickes,  
1966

## EPSILON EPSILON

Breeannon Sue  
Bailey, 2000

## EPSILON ZETA

Nancy Moore Norris,  
1958

## EPSILON THETA

Celeste Blockowicz  
Stasiowski, 1957

## EPSILON IOTA

Marianne Romaine,  
1978

## EPSILON KAPPA

Kathleen Graham  
Sturzl, 1960

## EPSILON MU

Wendy Eatherly  
Brandon, 1959

## EPSILON NU

Mary Lou Barnum  
Braswell, 1958

## EPSILON XI

Carol Jon Bueker  
Zimmerman, 1957

## EPSILON OMICRON

M. Luan Bown Wine,  
1957  
Charlotte Shawgo  
Kramer, 1959

## EPSILON PI

Julianne Jordon  
Mevis, 1958

## EPSILON RHO

Lore McManus Solo,  
1976

## EPSILON TAU

Annie (Vee) Weaver  
Tull, 1957

Shannon Davis  
Martin, 1992

## ZETA EPSILON

Jacqueline Hart  
Zeni, 1968  
Cheryl Jean  
Caldwell, 1973

## ZETA ZETA

Judy Moore, 1960  
Gina R. Gist, 1982

## ZETA THETA

Una Petty Jones,  
1959  
Cheryl A. Fowler,  
1963

## ZETA KAPPA

Carol Congos  
Parsons, 1959  
Debra Kirkendall  
Zimmerman, 1974  
Nancy Elizabeth  
Stuller, 2002

## ZETA LAMBDA

Judith Euglow  
Moore, 1961  
Cathy Chandler  
Culp, 1967

## ZETA NU

Mary Sue Nebel  
Hansen, 1961

## ZETA PI

Katherine Davis  
Mewbourne, 1968  
Theresa Walsh Burt,  
1987

## ZETA SIGMA

Patricia J. Morin,  
1966

## ZETA PSI

Rebecca McManus  
Showalter, 1972

## THETA NU

Ruth Neilson  
Midboe, 1965

## THETA XI

Judith Carol Boso,  
1978

## THETA OMEGA

Janet Winstead  
Harper, 1967

## IOTA ALPHA

Marie Novosad  
Morrey, 1966  
Patricia Tennant  
Rath, 1967

## IOTA DELTA

Antoinette DeLuca  
Mamula, 1968

## IOTA THETA

Bethany Cheyanne  
Nash, 2019

## IOTA KAPPA

Susan Zacher  
Krushenski, 1973

## IOTA PSI

Peggy Lee  
Widaman, 1967

## KAPPA THETA

Kim Shamp  
Huffman, 1974

## KAPPA IOTA

Jaymee Rock  
Prichard, 2012

## KAPPA XI

Dena Murray  
Finnegan, 2008

## KAPPA PHI

Acie Kelly Tatum,  
new member

## LAMBDA EPSILON

Danielle Wilson  
McCann, 1990

## LAMBDA OMICRON

Valsine Johnson  
Harrison, 1983

## OMICRON BETA

Michelle McLaughlin  
Young, 1997

## OMICRON PI

Shelly Mitchell  
Corcoran, 1994

## OMICRON SIGMA

Jessica Johnson  
Shivers, 2002

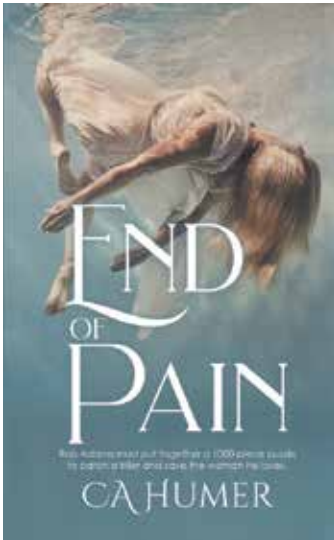
## PI BETA

Tanya Marie Kilty,  
2007

## PHI BETA

Mary Ann Mancel  
Bartol, 1956 

## READING ROOM

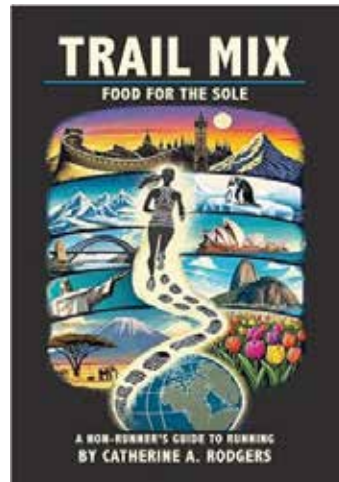


### “End of Pain”

*A mix of murder and romance.*

C. A. Humer, Gamma Theta-Carroll College (WI), published her latest work of fiction, “End of Pain,” this past August. An unyielding crime solver, Rob Adams must work to solve a string of murders, claiming the lives of blonde university co-eds. Despite being sworn off of any romantic relationships after his fiancé cheated, he meets Meg Lawrence, who quickly steals Rob’s heart. Can he catch the killer in time and find the courage to open his heart to Meg?

You can read C.A. Humer’s book on Amazon Kindle or purchase a paperback copy.

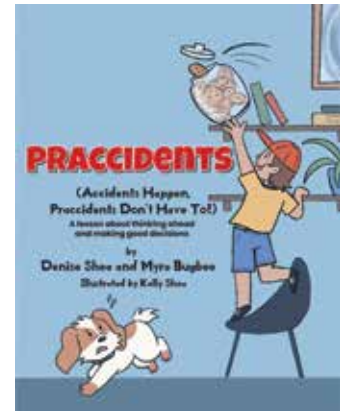


### “Trail Mix – Food For the Sole”

*A non-runner’s guide to running.*

Catherine A. Rodgers, Beta Mu-Florida Southern, started running, but despite all of the milestones and finish lines crossed, she felt she had little evidence that she was a runner. What she does have going for her is that she shows up at the start, and she figured if she could start, why not keep taking one more step? Join Cathy as she reflects on her adventure to running half marathons on all seven continents with her daughters as the first mother-daughter team to complete marathons on every continent.

Cathy’s book is for sale on Amazon, other online sellers, small boutiques and directly through her and her publisher.



### “Praccidents”

*(Accidents Happen, Praccidents Don’t Have To!)*

Myra Ball Bugbee, Kappa Theta-Virginia Tech, and her friend, Denise Shea, published a children’s book about thinking ahead and making good decisions. Their book is aimed at first through sixth grade students. In this adventure, a peer mentor helps a little boy discover that he is having praccidents (prevent + accidents). Through this mentor-peer relationship, the boy learns that thinking before doing can prevent accidents and is a good character trait. ♡

Myra and Denise’s book is sold on Amazon, at Barnes & Noble and other major retailers.

## GLOBAL AMBASSADOR



# Transformational Moments

Connecting communities with Starkey Hearing Foundation

By Bianca Hutton, Kappa Beta-Northern Kentucky

When Galadriel Stineman, Kappa Beta-Northern Kentucky, boarded the plane to El Salvador to participate in a Starkey Hearing Foundation mission, she admitted she didn't know what to expect. "I had no idea what it would be like, but the trip from beginning to end exceeded everything I imagined," Galadriel said. "To experience this as an alumna was incredible. The connections we made with patients and the local Starkey Hearing Foundation team members were unforgettable."

Over two days, Galadriel joined Delta Zeta members from across the country at the Starkey Hearing Institute in El Salvador, which

celebrated its first graduating class of trained hearing healthcare professionals this year. Together, they provided hearing aids and care to more than 1,000 patients.

"On the first day, I was nervous," Galadriel recalls. "We had a day of training, and then I was paired with someone more experienced. Soon, I felt comfortable doing the fittings on my own. It was just incredible, to be part of the moment when patients gain their hearing. I felt so capable and useful, and I could have kept going longer than two days!"

For Galadriel, transformational moments were immediate and profound. She recalled a construction worker who lost his hearing more than a decade ago:

"As soon as we got the right hearing aid, before even speaking to him, we noticed he could hear. His hearing impaired son and grandson also received hearing aids, and they all hugged and cried. Seeing the impact of our work for this family was humbling."

Other patients faced lifelong challenges. One 51-year-old man, deaf since infancy and accompanied by his mother, had never fully experienced spoken language. When fitted with a hearing aid, he heard his mother's voice for the first time. "I cried multiple times a day, tears of happiness," Galadriel admitted. "When we arrived, I noticed something special about returning volunteers. During our lunch break the first day, I remember looking around and thinking, 'Wow, now I get it. This is the feeling they've all experienced before.' It's truly life changing."

For Galadriel, participating in the mission also sparked a reminder of the special bond we share as Delta Zeta sisters. "Traveling and meeting so many wonderful collegiate members, alumnae and staff made this trip even more special. It was amazing to experience a group of women with shared core values becoming best friends in just a few days," Galadriel says. "We also received so much appreciation and heard so many kind words from Starkey Hearing Foundation staff members. It felt like a Venn diagram with all the overlap between Starkey



Hearing Foundation and Delta Zeta during this trip!

“This mission felt so unique and authentic, it was not just for ‘show.’ It was incredible to see that the money we raise allows Starkey Hearing Foundation to provide the hearing aids for free, and our presence on the ground enabled us to serve the hundreds of patients that would line up each day without having to turn anyone away,” Galadriel shared. “I remember being at the 2006 Convention and seeing a Starkey Hearing Foundation video for the first time. The emotion I felt then has now multiplied, and it feels wild that all these years later, there’s this full circle moment of now being in one of those videos.

“I also realized that it’s been so long since I’ve been in college, that my two boys don’t really know much about my sorority life. Participating

in a recent Cincinnati Hike for Hearing and Speech event and being part of this Starkey mission has reinvigorated a desire to reconnect and get involved. It’s amazing to see and experience these kinds of philanthropy opportunities available to alumnae.”

Galadriel encourages everyone to consider participating in a Starkey Hearing Foundation mission. “The trip is so unique, and the mission work is incredible. I want to reach every alumna to let them know they can go, too! These trips are not just about giving graciously — they change lives, and everything was put in perspective in this world for me.” 🔥

Delta Zeta has partnered with the Starkey Hearing Foundation since 2006, raising more than \$8 million and sending over 100 members on missions in 15 countries.

### WANT TO PARTICIPATE IN A FUTURE STARKEY MISSION?

Every Delta Zeta member has the opportunity to participate in one of Starkey Hearing Foundation’s international missions in countries such as the Philippines, El Salvador and Zambia. Through fundraising events and personal online fundraising pages, members that individually raise \$7,500 secure a spot on the mission of their choice, while chapters can fundraise \$75,000 to send a member of their choosing. Flights are the responsibility of the member or chapter, while Delta Zeta and Starkey Hearing Foundation cover all other major expenses — including lodging, group meals, local transportation and excursions — making every mission an unforgettable opportunity to serve and make a global impact.

Learn more at [www.deltazeta.org/service-and-philanthropy/](http://www.deltazeta.org/service-and-philanthropy/)




## HOME



# New Look, Same Sisterhood

Inside Zeta Pi's Renovated Chapter House

By Katie Sigal, Zeta Pi-Georgia,  
Photos by Renata Rosal, Zeta Pi-Georgia

 On August 24, 2025, the Zeta Pi Chapter of Delta Zeta at the University of Georgia hosted a grand opening ceremony for their newly renovated house. Alumnae, active members and University of Georgia students and faculty, along with Delta Zeta dignitaries, were all in attendance.

“Our house means so much to us and operating without it this past year was a true challenge,” said Katie Padmos, Zeta Pi Chapter President. “I could not be prouder of the women of Zeta Pi for their resilience and cooperation as we navigated a new normal. It is a joy to welcome life back into the house. This building is so much more than a chapter house. It really is our home, full of energy, laughter and steadfast love. I am excited for this next chapter of Zeta Pi. I know our best days are yet to come.”





Sunlit rooms, elegant finishes and pink and green design details define the newly renovated Zeta Pi Chapter house. The expanded dining room, chapter room and kitchen now support shared meals and sisterhood celebrations while the brand-new TV room serves as a favorite spot for movie nights and a place to relax.

The renovation was completed over the 2024-2025 school year and was finished for members to move in before formal recruitment this past August. Updates include an expanded dining room, chapter room and kitchen, along with a brand-new TV room and updated bathrooms around the house.

“We have always loved our home, fondly referred to as the ‘DiZ.’ The changes make it perfect,” said Sherron Summerville Mills, Lambda Gamma-Jacksonville State (AL), Zeta Pi College Chapter Director. “The best part was the care and attention our National Housing Corporation

along with AMT, our Architectural firm led by David Matheny, used in developing the plans. They considered the needs of the chapter, taking our ideas and making them even better.”

Cathy Irvin Painter, Alpha Gamma-Alabama, National President, Michelle Albrecht Smith, Alpha Chi-California/Los Angeles, National Housing Corporation President, Katie Padmos, Chapter President, Sherron Summerville Mills, CCD along with Jere Morehead, University of Georgia President, assisted in cutting the pink ribbon tied around the house. Guests were then welcomed inside to tour the new renovations. In-house members showed guests around upstairs, and refreshments were also served.

“Being given the opportunity to live in the house has been nothing

short of magic,” said Marli Jones, House Manager. “I feel closer with not only my pledge class, but my Sorority as a whole. We have movie and reality TV nights in our brand-new TV room, we get to relax outside after class, and we have wonderful meals provided by the best chefs on campus. This opportunity has truly helped shape my sorority experience into something so meaningful. I am beyond appreciative of all the hands who have helped make these four walls back into the home we love.”

With its thoughtful updates and renewed sense of community, the Zeta Pi house will continue to serve as a home, a gathering place, and a foundation for friendship and sisterhood for years to come. 💖

## TRULY ΔZ

# Generous in Time and Heart

Merry Westbrook Adamcik, Distinguished Past National Officer, Delta Theta-Houston (TX), has stayed deeply connected with her Delta Zeta roots since graduating in 1971. She has served in numerous local, regional and national roles including National Council and the Foundation Board of Trustees. She currently volunteers as the Houston Alumnae Chapter Scholarship Chair and on the Houston Alumnae Panhellenic Executive Board.

## What attracted you to Delta Zeta?

The people. I can name who I talked to during recruitment. It was the group that I felt like I would fit in with. And I guess I was right because here I am. It was a really good experience for me, and I hope the collegians today are having a good experience like I did.

## What is your favorite line of the Delta Zeta Creed?

“To give graciously of what is mine.” I think a lot of people say that — because most Delta Zetas, I know, are givers. They’re not takers. They give their time as an alumna volunteer, as a chapter advisor, or, if they can, they give funds to the Foundation.

## What DZ memory truly impacted you?

As a collegian, at my first state day after I was initiated, we had 12 chapters in my state, and to go there and see 600 Delta Zetas, you kind of go, “Whoa. This really is bigger than my chapter.” I went to

National Convention and saw Delta Zetas from all over the country. That was something that really impacted me — I was really part of something bigger than my local experience. To see alumnae there who were still active made an impact on me. Delta Zeta doesn’t end after college. You spend many, many more years as an alumna.

“

I met my husband on a quadruple Delta Theta blind date. One of the girls was really tall, so she got the tall guy. Then another one was matched up for whatever reason, and so Roy and another guy flipped a coin. He got me.

## Why do you continue to volunteer?

It’s my way of giving back to Delta Zeta because I feel like Delta Zeta contributed to my development as a young woman. It gave me skills that I used with my children, but also in my work environment, such as how to run a meeting, give a presentation or organize an event. If you’ve ever had to organize a recruitment party, you need to know certain skills, and

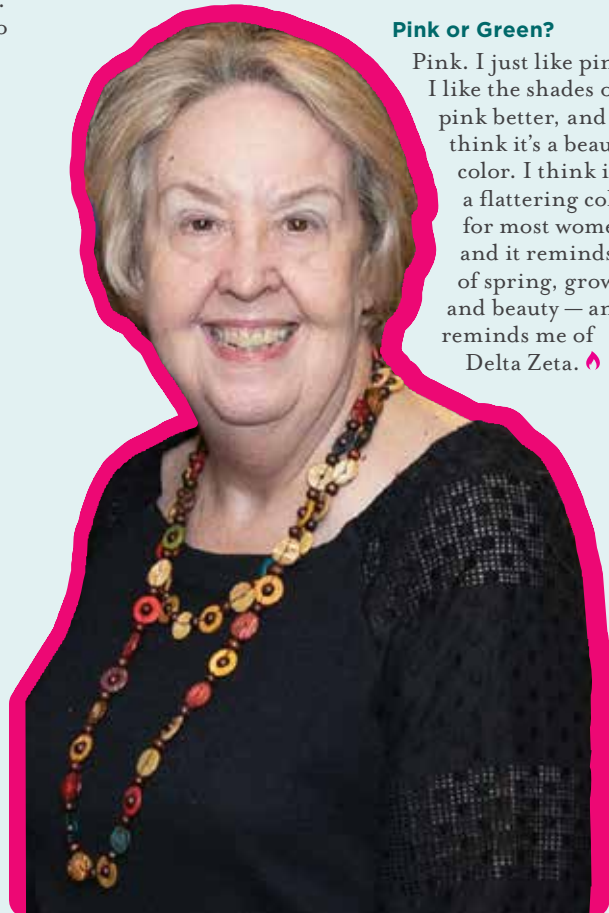
Delta Zeta gave me a lot of conversational skills and public speaking skills. I like to give back to organizations that I feel benefit college sorority women.

## What’s something that most people don’t know about you?

I met my husband on a quadruple Delta Theta blind date. One of the girls was really tall, so she got the tall guy. Then another one was matched up for whatever reason, and so Roy and another guy flipped a coin. He got me. I am the product of a coin toss, I guess! We’ve been married for 54 years in December. So, we’re doing quite well.

## Pink or Green?

Pink. I just like pink. I like the shades of pink better, and I think it’s a beautiful color. I think it’s a flattering color for most women, and it reminds me of spring, growth and beauty — and it reminds me of Delta Zeta. 🌸



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E. Recruitment Dangle #3606  
F. Alumnae Turtle Dangle #3570  
G. Chapter President Ring #0453  
H. Kylie Bracelet #KYLIE  
I. Single Pearl Chapter Guard #0500  
J. House Corp Dangle #0844  
K. College Chapter Director Dangle #0329



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# TRAVEL WITH *Delta Zeta*

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