

the Alpha Beta Data



..... delta delta delta at cornell university | fall 2014

2014-2015 Officers

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Cornell Tri Delta Hits the Interwebs

Wondering how you can stay connected to the goings-on of the Alpha Beta Chapter on a daily basis? Our chapter is very active on social media, and you can get all kinds of updates on our Facebook page (facebook.com/DDDAAlphaBeta), Tumblr (cornelltridelta.tumblr.com/officers), Twitter (twitter.com/cornelltridelta) and Instagram (instagram.com/cornelltridelta).

Our chapter Facebook page is where you can find the most frequent updates, from photos of our philanthropy events like Fat Talk Free Week in late October, to pictures of sisters participating in important school events like Homecoming and traveling together on schools breaks, to profiles of sisters who are seniors. We even post when sisters have upcoming

birthdays! The Facebook page is a great way to learn more about our current sisters, sisterhood events, and other major happenings in the Cornell community.

If you want to see even more photos of sisters and what they've been up to, they can be found on our Tumblr and Instagram. To keep updated about our efforts to raise money for St. Jude's, our Twitter page releases information about events like the day Chili's donates its profits to the hospital, as well as updates on the progress of Delta Delta Delta as a whole in meeting our fundraising goals. We hope our social media activity can help keep you updated and informed about all the amazing things we've been up to!

Emma Court '15

Letter From Alpha Beta House Corporation

Dear Alpha Beta Tri Delta Alumnae,

We had a very busy summer at the house in Ithaca. The major projects completed were refinishing 47 pieces of Stickle bedroom furniture and installing glass tops on these pieces; refurbishing all the wood trim, windows, and doors on the second and third floors; installing new window shades in all the bedrooms; cleaning, painting, and installing a new floor in the kitchen; and some exterior painting. Throughout the year, we will continue to complete additional maintenance projects.

Your board was re-elected for another term at the annual meeting on Sunday, October 19, over Homecoming Weekend, and the officers remain the same. We are very excited to welcome additional volunteers to our committees as we work on further improvements to the house and long-term planning.

The board members are: Jan Hendershot '77, President; Cathy Ko '76, Vice President; Sharon Hayner '84, Secretary; Barb Chamberlain '78, Treasurer; and

Hayley Neal '08.

The board had an opportunity in October to discuss the chapter with undergraduate officers and understand current needs, including furnishing a study room on the first floor, providing seating for chapter meetings and recruitment, and updating furnishings for the basement lounge room.

Thank you to all who sent donations in response to our spring *Alpha Beta Data*. These donations allow us to consider more capital improvement projects. Your continued support is appreciated. Donations can be sent to: Alumnae Records Office, Alpha Beta of Delta Delta Delta, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876.

We are maintaining a list of individuals who have offered to volunteer. So please contact me if you would like to assist the House Corporation or have a specific project you would like to support.

Jan Hendershot '77
Alpha Beta House Corporation President
jchenders@verizon.net

A Semester Abroad in South Caicos

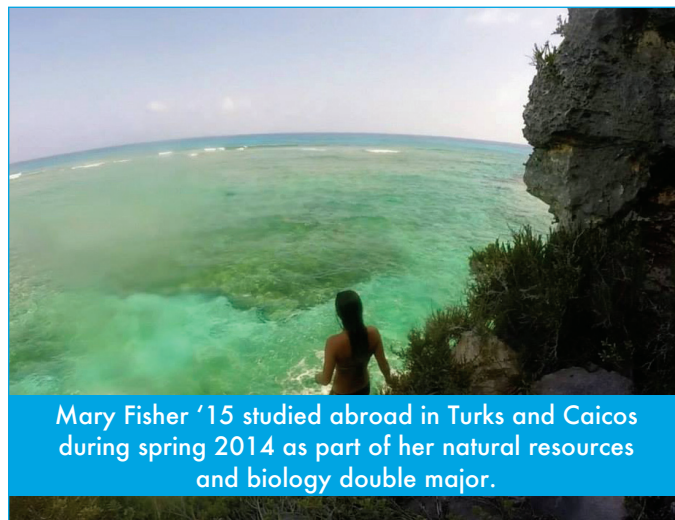
Most college students go to the Caribbean to escape reality; I went there to find it. During my term abroad in the Turks and Caicos Islands, I lived on a field station in an impoverished fishing village, in a society and economy far more common around the world than the multi-story hotels of tourist resorts.

The Cornell experience educates us, teaches us to be leaders, and encourages us to be agents for change. Yet all of this occurs in the secure microcosm of Ithaca, New York. We become conditioned to reach beyond our comfort zone, but only to a point. Rarely are we asked or do we receive the opportunity to step far beyond the safety of the American lifestyle. As a natural resources major learning about environmental change in third world countries, that was exactly what I wanted to do. And what I found in South Caicos.

A three-hour plane ride took me from an average day of classes and lunch at Trillium to washing my clothes by hand, showering in salt water, and finding heart-breakingly thin children asking for cold water at the gate to the field station. And

yet there is something incredible about a community that relies more on its people and its natural resources than its technology, where everyone shares what they have so that no one goes hungry, where the most revered individuals are not those who have the most money or the most political influence, but rather those who work hard and provide for their families.

Throughout those three months, I went scuba diving at pristine reefs twice a week, completed a research project, and contributed to data collection that will affect future management policies. But the most important thing that I learned was that while villages and countries such as these have many pressing issues to overcome, they also have a better underlying sense of community and connection with



Mary Fisher '15 studied abroad in Turks and Caicos during spring 2014 as part of her natural resources and biology double major.

the natural world around them than many people in "better" situations.

Now that I'm back in Ithaca, my experiences abroad have solidified my interest in pursuing a doctorate or master's degree in marine biology and continue to inspire me every day as I fill out graduate school applications and grant proposals.

Mary Fisher '15

Day Trips With My Sisters

Sisterhood is spending time together and creating memories. I was told this many times throughout recruitment, and I could not wait to begin my journey with Delta Delta Delta. I spent the summer between my freshman and sophomore year daydreaming about decorating my room and moving into the house. I had a job as a front desk associate, but I spent most of my day contemplating and planning the great adventures that would await me once the school year resumed.

I moved in on a rainy day in August, my car overflowing with Tri Delta crafts. When I pulled into the drive, I couldn't help but grin with anticipation of seeing my roommate for

the first time in three months. Fortunately, I did not have to wait long, since she was in the back driveway unpacking her own car. Within half an hour, our room was full to the brim with boxes and suitcases. They, and the two of us, were soaking wet.

Unpacking, going to dinner, and catching up with friends filled my days for the duration of orientation week. Every day my sisters and I would talk about how much we wanted to go swimming in the gorges. One day, my friend, Sam, and I decided very last minute that we needed to be swimming. The house was hot and steamy, and there was no time like the present. We hopped in the car, and started driving to Buttermilk Falls.

It was just after 5:00 p.m., but in Ithaca in August that means 82 degrees. It also means traffic. A drive that usually takes 15 minutes, was taking 30. Then 45. Then we found that a full hour had passed, and we were only just pulling into the Buttermilk Falls parking lot. Naturally, the park was closing, so we turned up the radio and sang all the way home!

Although we never reached our destination, Sam and I were able to have an unbelievable afternoon together.

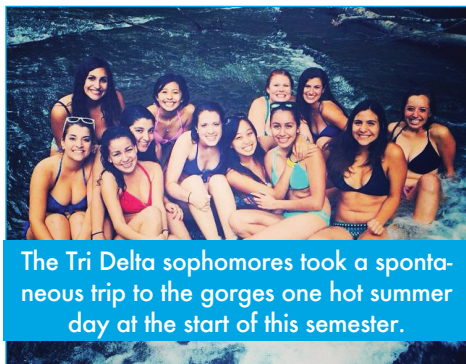
A week passed, and my pledge class

decided it was the perfect day to go to the gorges! I was thrilled because it was a running joke that I had never been to the gorges despite numerous attempts. It was a weekday, so we all planned on taking multiple cars as soon as classes ended and meeting at Truman State Park.

My car filled up, a sister put Truman in her phone GPS, and we were on our way! When we got to the lot of a "Truman State Park," there were no gorges in sight. We kept driving the same way, completely lost, and then called our friends. They were all splashing and laughing in the gorges. They were at Truman **H.** State Park. The one letter made all the difference to our GPS. We didn't let the mix-up phase us, though, so we again headed on our way.

When we finally arrived, it was still hot, and we all ran to the water joking about the fact that only Ithaca would have two state parks with the same name. All in all, I finally got to go to the gorges and have an amazing time. Even when plans get a little skewed, my Tri Delta sisters always make it an amazing time full of laughs and memories.

Alana Askari '17



The Tri Delta sophomores took a spontaneous trip to the gorges one hot summer day at the start of this semester.

Traveling Europe With My Big

Fate is something that we create ourselves. I could have sat at home winter break 2013 and re-watched seasons of *Game of Thrones*, but instead I coughed up some hard earned money to enjoy the U.K. and Italy with my big in Tri Delta, Emma Court '15. Certainly this was a trip to earn us bragging rights, but it was something I never thought I would spontaneously do.

After the long trip dotted with samplings of cured meats, pastas, and wine while gushing over historical wonders, I learned a lot about myself:

My navigation skills are minimal—left is right, right is up. Emma, who is from New York City, has had much more experience navigating buses and subways. I complemented her skills with my ability to pick up on cultural cues and speak the language enough to get by.

I have a strong sense of the present. I

had never felt that way before, but there was something about escaping that helped me get to this ideal of being spontaneous and embracing life as it comes. However, I think I learned that there isn't an ideal orientation—constantly planning for the future isn't exactly a problem, since it can be a helpful skill.

Food should not be something to feel guilty about. A succulent veal chop or creamy mozzarella pizza is perfectly okay to indulge in. Taking a moment to savor it is living in the present. But food just does not taste the same alone. The clinking of wine glasses, the sputter of laughter, and the spill of secrets is what makes a dining experience.

I truly admire my big. Every time we visited a museum, Emma would be able to cite the work of literature or historical event associated with the artifact. I was dazzled by her worldliness. She kept us entertained



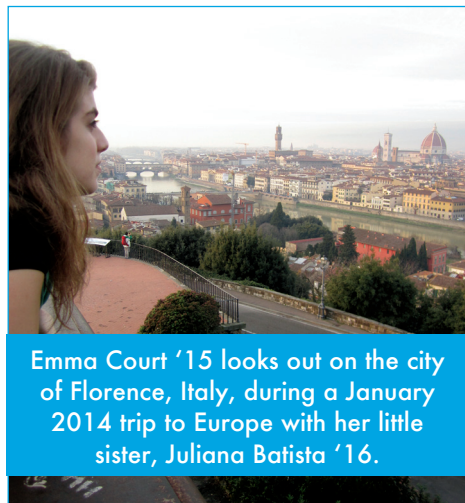
Emma Court '15 and Juliana Batista '16 eat pizza together on a food tour of Rome, Italy.

by asking big questions and got me to think from a different perspective.

Sometimes you get stuck and everything you needed is right in front of your nose. I lost my cell phone on the trip and it put a damper on the entire day. But, my big was persistent that we would find it and spent an entire morning scouring the city by retracing our steps. Come to find out, the phone was in the itinerary folder stuffed in my purse. I had stressed out over nothing, but knew that my big would be there to get to the bottom of it.

I hope that in a year or so from the trip that I can blink and transport myself back to that feeling in Florence: russet rooftops lining the Arno blanketed with a sky of lavender. I felt so lucky to have been able to take such a memorable trip, all the while getting to bond with my big.

Juliana Batista '16



Emma Court '15 looks out on the city of Florence, Italy, during a January 2014 trip to Europe with her little sister, Juliana Batista '16.



Juliana Batista '16 and Emma Court '15 pose on Ponte Vecchio, a bridge in Florence, Italy, during a trip they took to Europe in January 2014.

Finding Home Sweet Home in the Kitchen

As a senior, when I look back at my sophomore year I remember all of the great memories I had living in the Tri Delta house. Specifically, I remember how I planned my daily schedule around one of the best parts of living in the house: Chef Steve and his amazing cooking.

Every day, I looked forward to opening the Tri Delt door and being hit with the delicious scent of Chef Steve's dinner that filled the house and had everyone anxiously waiting for food to be served. Chef Steve is a valuable member of the Tri Delta family not only because of his incredible cooking, but more importantly because he really cares about the

women in the organization. He would always ask us how we were doing and check in with us if he knew we had a busy week or a difficult exam coming up. He did everything he could to make us feel at home. He made us special meals to celebrate the Super Bowl, Thanksgiving, and other holidays. He even made us comfort food such as smiley fries and hot dogs during finals week, when he knew all of us were very stressed. Having Chef Steve really made the Tri Delta house feel just like home, and I couldn't imagine having a more talented, caring, and respected chef.

Joanna Mlezco '15



Chef Steve has been the much-beloved Tri Delta chef for nearly a year and a half.

Why Living-in Sophomore Year Is So Great

As a member of the sophomore pledge class, I was extremely excited to return to Cornell this fall and move in to our beloved house at 118 Triphammer. I had high expectations for living in the house, and thus far, my experiences have surpassed them. Here are some reasons why living in the house has been great this semester:

1. Living in a single is far from lonely.

Last year, after deciding to live in the house, I decided I would enter the single lottery. When picking my options for housing as a freshman, I said I would be happy with any living arrangement as long as it wasn't in a single: Single rooms seemed lonely and scary, too removed from the company of others. Living in, however, means that you have the company of 30 other women. Whether you're in a single or a triple doesn't matter, a friendly voice is always available in the basement, kitchen, or down the hall.

2. You always have a study buddy.

Speaking of company, while living in the house, there is always someone to study with. A big concern for my parents about living in was that I would always be distracted from my studies. This has largely been proven wrong. Instead of being distracted, the house has frequently helped me focus by always having someone there who is willing to walk to the library, or stay up until 2:00



Living in a single in the Tri Delta house this year, Julia has made the space her own.

a.m. in the kitchen studying for prelims. Even if there is no one in the house with your exact classes, the support system of having 30 of your sisters close by even on the roughest study nights is great.

3. You also have a lot of fun. Don't get me wrong, we work very hard at the house, but that doesn't mean that there's no play. When the weekends come, it's really nice to have so many other women getting ready for the same social events with you. We often trade clothes to dress up in themes for mixers or help one another find just the right outfit for date nights. We usually have a lot of fun getting ready together.

4. FOOD! SO MUCH GREAT FOOD.

While living in the house, we have the

privilege of access to our awesome kitchen 24/7. Snacks are always there when we need them, stocked with care to our preferences by Chef Steve. Everyone looks forward to when Steve posts what's for dinner, and it's bound to be something great. We come home to a warm, delicious dinner every evening, which allows us to unwind and have a nice talk with friends. We also have a yummy salad bar, sandwich options, and leftovers that many of us pack for lunch.

5. Major bonding opportunities. Overall, living in has been a major opportunity to bond with my pledge class. Although not everyone lives in, our whole pledge class often comes to the house for meals or to hang out. Sisters find opportunities for fun bonding activities. For example, while sitting in the kitchen eating snacks earlier in



Julia Montejo '17 and the rest of the Tri Delta pledge class have made 118 Triphammer their home this year.



Julia Montejo '17 and Katrina Stropkay '17 pose for a photo before attending Tri Delta date night in late September.

the semester, it was so hot that we spontaneously decided that we would go to the gorges after class, and had lots of fun swimming and laughing together. We never have to question where to sit down to eat at dinner, because we all are much more comfortable with one another now. We've made memories in just half a semester that we will never forget, and we've really strengthened our bond as Tri Delta sisters.

Julia Montejo '17

Finding My Niche in Tri Delta

When I first joined Delta Delta Delta I was not sure what to expect. I knew I would find great friends and have the college experience I always dreamed of. Recruitment was exhilarating, as I was first introduced to the Cornell Greek community. I had met so many women and extended my social circle just from those weekly events. Bid night came, and I was officially a new member of the Cornell Delta Delta Delta Alpha Beta Sorority. I was greeted with a warm welcome from the whole chapter. This began the myriad of experiences I would have through my four years. But what I did not know that bid night was what Delta Delta Delta love I would find in my lineage.

When I was a freshman, I was welcomed into an amazing lineage. Kaitlin Wolcott '12, Marissa Linne '13, and Katie L'Abbate '14 welcomed me with open arms. We never had a lineage name, so we made up quite a few, ranging from the relationship lin, to the Italian lin.

The most treasured person I have gained out of Tri Delta is my big, Katie. The most special bond I created was with my big, whom I even lived with last year. Katie is literally the same person as me and to this day shares the same values as I do. She was the most caring person I had met through my Cornell experience. She is selfless, and compassionate, and

even has a big Italian family, just like I do. Needless to say, Katie and I bonded over food, family, boys, and more food. I even joke with her that no matter what I'll be in her wedding! Every week, we would make our weekly Dunkin Donut's trips together to get our French vanilla iced coffees (Katie always got decaf up until she started medical school this year). She would even come back from break with stacks of packaged homemade food that her mom sent her up with. Between her and I our fridge was stocked with chicken cutlets and homemade pasta and sauce. She was also encouraging academically, as we would sit and study biochemistry together on Friday nights.

She is an aspiring doctor, who is now a medical student at Hofstra University. I always joked with her that she would be my doctor when I got older. I am so proud to look up to my big and all of her achievements, and I am forever thankful for all of the support that she has given me. Katie has inspired me to be an amazing big to my lineage. I have spent the past four years treasuring my little Madeline Salinas '16 and littlest Mary Khalaf '17. I am proud to say that I have a friend forever in my big, and I'm so grateful to have met her through Delta Delta Delta.

Grace Altamura '15



Grace Altamura '15 and Mary Khalaf '17, who are in the same lineage, pick pumpkins during a sisterhood event at a pumpkin patch in mid-October.

New Events Coming Soon!

This semester, Alpha Beta hopes to join the hundreds of chapters across the country that participate in Tri-Hop, a national Tri Delta philanthropy event involving all-you-can-eat pancakes. We are currently in the works of coordinating the event, strategically set in Mann Library around finals week to lure hungry library dwellers.

Also brewing is a Panhellenic and Interfraternity Council-wide event for the spring semester. We plan to bring back an old-fashioned type of dating game called the Fratchelor. A member of each Greek house will represent their chapter in a blind competition, promoting inter-Greek relations with light-hearted fun.

We anticipate these events will be very successful at raising money and awareness for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and we cannot wait to do so!

Paisley Terenzi '16



Good Sportsmanship

The Alpha Beta Chapter is involved in various activities encouraging wellness and positive relations with other chapters in the Greek community. This semester our sisters have been showcasing our athleticism in a co-ed intramural volleyball league. Our sisters have joined the brothers of Kappa Sigma to form a volleyball team that competes every Wednesday from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m.

We continue to encourage positive relations within the Greek community by displaying positive sportsmanship conduct. We are currently leading our division in wins and hope to carry this momentum with us through the rest of the season.

Sarah Turgeon '16

Alumnae News & Notes

Eleanor (Walbridge) Morgan '38 celebrated her 100th birthday with her family this past July! Send birthday wishes to 3 Salem Circle, Pittsburgh, PA 15238.

"I lived for 39 years on the Navajo Indian Reservation at Ganado, Arizona, where my husband was a trader," writes **Barbara (Van Slyke) Anderson '44**. "I taught school, raised three children, published a book. I now live in a retirement community in the Phoenix area, still spending much of my time at my computer and keeping up a wide correspondence. Between Ganado and Glendale, we were 17 years near Santa Fe, New Mexico. Through it all, much involved with Native Americans." (6651 W. Alice Ave. #9, Glendale, AZ 85302; dba86505@gmail.com)

Ann (Stewart) Burch '46 celebrated her 90th with family and friends in Norway. She is getting in the travel while she still can! It was Ireland last year and Greece next! (93 Sherwood Rd., Aurora, NY 13026)

"I returned home early from my 60th Cornell Reunion in June to enter St. Joseph's Hospital in Tucson, Arizona, with a bladder cancer infection," reports **Lisa (Rink) Kelly '54**. "This is being taken care of by my urologist, and I am resting at home, catching up on correspondence. Much of my time is devoted to making quilts. The first one went to my eldest grandson as he entered Lyndon State College in Vermont last year. Now on the list is my oldest granddaughter's wish for a coverlet in purples and pink. I also have my mother's fabric scraps, which she gave to me before she died in 1968." Reconnect with Lisa at 7942 E. Rosewood St., Tucson, AZ 85110.

Jane (Gregory) Wilson '54 was delighted to go to Tri Delta reception during alumnae weekend this past June along with four of her sisters. Jane wrote, "The new house is very nice. We had lived in the old house by the falls. Can't believe 60 years ago we would climb down the rock wall to the pool that is halfway to bottom of falls to cool off

during exams week with a swim." Write to Jane at 1605 Dower Way, Sun City Center, FL 33573.

"After 30 years in Memphis, Tennessee, I am moving to the Annapolis area to be closer to family," writes **Michele (Landis) Morisy '76**. "My daughter, Kat (A&S'11), works in D.C. following her year as a Fulbright Fellow in Jordan. My son, Michael (A&S'07), is leaving Boston for a year at Stanford as a Knight Fellow in journalism. Looking forward to the next Alpha Beta Deltas of the 1970s Reunion in Napa in November!" Keep in touch with Michele via her new address: 315 Dawnwood Dr., Edgewater, MD 21037.

Marie (Contois) Olson '76 retired from Nestlé Prepared Food Company after 35 years! Marie reports, "Now I train for Chesapeake Bay Retriever for AKC Hunt titles, Agility and Confirmation. I so enjoy working with all the dogs and new 'dog' people. I practice yoga for joy and peace and garden and enjoy life with my husband and grown children." Catch up with Marie by writing to 17880 Bridge Creek Trail, Chagrin Falls, OH 44023; or send email to rolson9895@gmail.com.

"2013 was a year of change," writes **Nayla Rizk '80**. "The highlight was getting married to Bob Taijan in Big Sky, Montana, on July 5, after 12 years together. We were surrounded by family (his three daughters and my two sons) and a few very close friends. Married life is great, but still bi-coastal as we commute between my original home in California and his home in Princeton, New Jersey, where he is still professor of computer science at Princeton University. My youngest son, Andrew, graduated from Princeton in economics in July and headed off to Wall Street as an analyst. My oldest son, Peter, is at MIT for his MBA. Everyone is busy and happy." Send congratulations to Nayla via email at naylar@aol.com.

Nancy (Kane) Boyle '82 has been a

paramedic for more than two years now. She doesn't get paid that well, but at this stage in her life she doesn't care. Every day she goes to work and makes a difference in people's lives! (107 Ash-down Rd., Ballston Lake, NY 12019; me@nancykaneboyle.com)

"We welcomed identical triplet boys in July 2013, three months early," reports **Amy Peterson '98**. "Torsten, Callan, and Oskar DeMent just couldn't wait to be born! They are doing very well and growing quickly. I am home with them and our daughter, Avery (5.5), for the time being. I'm getting a little stir-crazy as it's hard to go anywhere with three babies!" Get in touch with Amy by writing to 1516 El Sombro, Lafayette, CA 94549; amy.peterson@gmail.com.

Lauren (Eade) Smith '01 just welcomed her first child, Isabella Duff Smith, on June 15, 2014 (Father's Day)! Send congratulations to 2031 6th Street South, Arlington, VA 22204; laureneade@gmail.com.



DECEASED

Florence P. Pfanner '28
September 4, 1998

Leah (Collins) Hamman '38
October 11, 2013

Virginia (Young) Scarlett '42
May 8, 2014

Bonnie (Haynes) Parsons '53
January 7, 2014