

TRI DELTA

Cornell Alpha Beta Alumnae

Alpha Beta Data

Spring 2018



△△△ *Sisters' Support Important During Difficult Times* Alumnae Invited to Join House Corporation Board

Happy spring, Alpha Betas! I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the blossoming of flowers, lengthening of days, and smiles on your faces as you squint into the brightening sun. I'm not sure about you, but this year has already had its fair share of challenges, so lightness in the air is good for my spirit and soul.

In January, my sister, **Stephanie Britt Griffin '96**, and I lost our uncle, our father's identical twin brother, and then our mother, all within three short weeks. Stephanie and I, both Alpha Beta members, have been reminded so many times over the past few weeks of our founding motto, "Let us steadfastly love one another." Alpha Beta sisters have reached out from far and wide, holding us in their hearts, prayers, thoughts, and actions. We have received cards, Facebook notes, calls, text messages, and food from across the country.

It is during times like these (and let's face it, life is always throwing times like these our way), that we realize how important our connections, friendships and sisters are, and how to make our way through this world. I hope you take a moment in the next month to reach out to a sister you have not heard from recently, someone you've been thinking and wondering about, just to catch up. Say hello. Express your love.

The support of great women, especially as we tackle injustice and inequality, and push one another to be the best version of ourselves, is *very* important. △△△ is one of our most important tribes; it is our sister family, generational connection, and support system in our complicated world. Looking to reconnect with some of your Alpha



Betas? Join us for our annual Pansy Breakfast and Reunion Gathering. View the Save the Date feature on page 4 for more information.

Please know that the Alpha Beta House Corporation is always looking for new members. We welcome anyone who is interested in helping. Consider the opportunity to reestablish the bonds of sisterhood with alumnae of all decades, and help maintain the future of Alpha Beta at Cornell University.

There are opportunities to serve on our board or one of our committees. The finance committee works on fiscal issues; the property committee keeps the Chapter House in shape; our communications committee strategizes our biannual newsletter and social media presence; and the nominating committee handles recruitment and ensures the board and committees are filled with actively involved alumnae. The time commitment is typically only a few hours per month. Please consider giving back by volunteering your time. You may contact board Secretary **Marianne Passarelli '82** at marianne.passarelli@yale.edu if you are interested.

Here's to celebrating our sisters, welcoming our new members at Cornell, and reveling in the steadfast support we offer to each other. Happy spring!

In the bonds and always fondly,
Heather Britt '93
President, Alpha Beta House Corporation
heather.rae.britt@gmail.com

ALUMNAE DONATIONS HELP MAKE THE HOUSE BEAUTIFUL

We are especially thankful for the generous contributions to the Alpha Beta House Corporation made by the following alumnae in fall 2017. You make a difference in the future of Alpha Beta at Cornell University. Your gifts went toward furniture last fall. Donations sent this spring will go toward upgrading the windows. To give online, please visit www.alphabetaadd.kintera.org/donate.

Below is a list of our fall 2017 contributors. If an error has been made in recording your gift, we sincerely apologize. If corrections to your giving records are needed, please contact our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661. Thank you, again, for your loyal support.

Jean Schultheis Brechter '49
Lucy Gale Gaven '61
Kathy Yourich Egan '77
Jean Jacobs Marcus '77
Barbara Wooten Chamberlain '78
Ann Gerber Malarcher '85
Jennifer Ritter Kelly '89

A Figure Skating Alpha Beta

Louise Vacca Dawe '75 on Finding Support through ΔΔΔ

Louise Vacca Dawe '75 came to Cornell University with a passion for figure skating, a sport she began learning at the age of 8. "I was dedicated to my training and devoted hours to it, even becoming the U.S. junior figure skating champion at one time," she shared. As an undergraduate, she had self-established a prerequisite that any Greek organization she joined had to support her ongoing training.

The women of ΔΔΔ at Cornell were not only welcoming to Louise as a potential new member, but were supportive of her figure skating. "My future chapter sisters were caring and made the Alpha Beta house a home," she stated. After joining the chapter, Louise stayed busy with her studies, her ΔΔΔ engagements, and training for various skating competitions. In 1972, she represented the U.S. and Cornell at the World University Games in Lake Placid.

After graduating from the university with her degree in human nutrition and food, Louise went to work in Canada for Toshiba, where she performed as the company's home economist, whilst also teaching figure skating from time to time. Soon after, she married a Canadian hockey player and fellow Cornell alumnus who, coincidentally, had worked for ΔΔΔ.



Louise eventually returned to school at the University of Toronto, where she earned a second bachelor's in education. She spent 17 years as a middle and high school teacher, specializing in family studies and science.

Now retired, Louise keeps in touch with several of her Alpha Beta sisters, sharing, "We have mini-reunions periodically, all over the country." She serves as a referee for the World Figure and Fancy Skating Championships each year, and invites her fellow alumnae to check out the official championship website at wfc.com. Louise is the author of three books, including *Patterns on Black Ice: The Art and Sport of Figure Skating*. You can connect with Louise at ldawe75@gmail.com.

Alumnae News

Diane Cox '53 is having a great time in New Hampshire, where she is closer to her family than she was while living in California. Now retired, Diane volunteers with the New Hampshire Food Bank and makes recipes out of the commodities donated to the organization. dianecox531@gmail.com

Janet DiMartino Foreman '65 retired when her husband, Bob, was diagnosed with brain cancer in 2008. She cared for him for three years until he died in 2012. Janet enjoys reading, is in a book club, does yoga, and is very active in her evangelical church. She mentors elementary and middle school students in a church outreach program. Janet travels internationally with her daughter and usually does an annual international mission trip with her church. She recently went to Seoul, South Korea. Janet lives in Greensboro, N.C. E-mail: j4man1@gmail.com

Christine McGredy Scott '75 and her husband, Mike, enjoy living in the beautiful Berkshires of western Massachusetts. They own a bed and breakfast, The Staveleigh House, which has allowed them to meet many interesting people from all around the world. "We stay busy and want to enjoy all of the cultural activities the area has to offer," she shares. Christine likes hiking, paddling, listening to great music at Tanglewood, visiting historic homes and sites, and the theater. She invites alumnae to "visit the Berkshires and stay with us!" chris@sprucehollow.com

Laura Friend Shulman '80 and her husband, Lee, became grandparents in April to Davis Reid, son of their daughter, Becky. "We are so lucky our kids and grandson live close to us in Chicago," she says. laf19@cornell.edu

Jacqueline Zoladz Buffon '84 has lived in Manhattan for the past 30 years, including 25 in the same apartment with her husband

and daughters. She runs the New York office of a large apparel manufacturer and is interested in sustainability and reducing the environmental footprint of clothing. Jacqueline's travels have taken her all over the U.S. and China. She reports "it has been great to reconnect with so many Tri Delta alumnae over the last several years!" jackiebuffon@gmail.com

Cecily Tatibouet Nisbet '95 lives in the southern part of heaven! She and her husband both work for the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, and have a son, Graham, who is a third-grader, and a daughter, Cornelia, a fourth-grader. Cecily is a Girl Scout troop leader and an active Cub Scout volunteer. cbt1@cornell.edu

Stephanie Wedekind '05 was married this past spring. She and her husband, David, hiked Mount Kilimanjaro for their honeymoon! stephanie.wedekind@gmail.com

Formal Recruitment Brings 43 New Sisters

Members Receive Values, Diversity, and Inclusion Training



Alpha Betas were delighted to return to Cornell for formal recruitment in mid-January, arriving to 118 Triphammer Road a week in advance to prepare the house for the 800 potential new members that walked through our doors. We spent recruitment week crafting, bonding, having dance parties, and enjoying a celebratory dinner at Old Mexico to culminate all of the festivities.

This year's recruitment cycle was one of the most successful in recent years, thanks to Recruitment Chairmen **Marissa Rifkin '18** and **Isabel LaRaia '19**. This inspiring duo planned extensively throughout the fall semester and winter break to ensure that our recruitment went smoothly and reflected Tri Delta's values. Marissa and Isabel helped pilot new aspects of formal membership recruitment at Cornell, including mandatory diversity training, a values activity for the third round, and

fewer groups of potential new members per day. The chairmen handled all of these tasks, as well as the normal ups and downs of recruitment, with poise and respect. Our members are so proud of their job well done.

Nearly 800 women went through formal membership recruitment this year, with around 550 ultimately making the decision to join a Panhellenic chapter. The entire recruitment process consists of open houses, house tours, philanthropy and values, and preference. Alpha Beta chose to demonstrate our strong sisterhood and genuine care for one another during recruitment and the preparation. We selected a values activity that highlighted our members' random acts of kindness and funny moments. A jar was passed around to collect anecdotes from members throughout the week, and stories were read aloud to give potential new members a glimpse into everyday

life as an Alpha Beta. Members shared thanks for being picked up and housed in unfamiliar cities after canceled flights back to Ithaca, humorous recruitment mishaps, and kind words about constant feelings of acceptance and support.

Post-recruitment, Alpha Beta extended bids to 45 potential new members, exceeding the average Panhellenic new member class size of 43. Our new member class encompasses all seven undergraduate colleges at Cornell and comes from 14 states and two countries. The new member class is incredibly diverse and we are so proud to welcome them into our sisterhood.

New Member Educators **Lydia Clemente '20** and **Melissa Page '20** helped instill Tri Delta's values in each new member by hosting a four-week program featuring Tri Delta's new Not Anymore initiative, which focuses on sexual assault awareness. The program also included diversity training, micro-aggression discussion, and information on our chapter history and policies. Alpha Beta's new members also participated in Alpha Week, a week of exciting bonding events for the two youngest member classes in preparation for Sponsor reveal. Sponsor Chairman **Chelsea Kiely '20** planned 12 days of ice breaker activities, including an ice cream social, laser tag, and ice skating.

We hope that the beginning of the semester instilled an appreciation and love of Tri Delta in our newest member class. Join us, alumnae, in welcoming our newest sisters of 2018!



Delta Love and Mine,
Lauren Goldman '19
Chapter President
lig34@cornell.edu

(1) Bid Night was exciting for all of our sisters. (2) The class of '18 celebrates Bid Day and their first official moment as Tri Deltas! (3) Emma Clarke '20 and Shay Sabir '21 during Big/Little reveal with Hannah Fuller '19 and Luey MacLean '18. (4) New members attend our winter ski-themed Bid Night. (5) Recruitment co-chairmen Marissa Rifkin '18 and Isabel LaRaia '19 after a successful first day of recruitment.

STAY CONNECTED
WITH ALPHA BETA



www.cornelltrideltaalumnae.com



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cornelltridelta.tumblr.com

Save the Date

Pansy Breakfast
May 23, 11 a.m.

Alpha Beta invites all $\Delta\Delta\Delta$ s to join us for our annual Pansy Breakfast. We will present the Circle Degree and dine with our graduating seniors.

Cornell Reunion Weekend
Open House
Saturday, June 9 2-4 p.m.
118 Triphammer

Alumnae attending class reunions this summer, are warmly invited to attend a $\Delta\Delta\Delta$ open house during Cornell Reunion Weekend. We'll be serving some delicious treats and encourage you to take a look at the latest improvements in our Chapter House. Catch up with sisters from across the decades! Reunion is a great time to reconnect and to spend a few moments celebrating our sisterhood in the beautiful house.

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Cornell Alpha Beta Alumnae

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Cornell Alpha Beta Alumnae
Delta Delta Delta
Cornell University
P.O. Box 442100
Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

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WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Amani Ahmed
Rockville, Md.

Margaret Groton
Baldwin Place, N.Y.

Emily Levin
Orlando, Fla.

Emery Bergmann
Montclair, N.J.

Shalini Gundamraj
Hartland, Wis.

Catherine Li
Ridgefield, Conn.

Jackie Berman
Staten Island, N.Y.

Allison Herstic
Bronx, N.Y.

Maeve Markowitz
Cos Cob, Conn.

Natalie Bonilla
Buffalo, N.Y.

Sam Hertle
Scottsdale, Ariz.

Olivia Maurer
Lawrenceville, N.J.

Kylie Brittz
Cape Town, South Africa

Delaney Ho
Beaumont, Calif.

Ellie Month
Scarsdale, N.Y.

Caroline Creaser
Montclair, N.J.

Olia Javidi
Poway, Calif.

Hayley Nilles
Barrington, Ill.

Dorothy Quincy
Tenafly, N.J.

Audrey Siaw-Asamoah
East Amherst, N.Y.

Courtney Xu
Stamford, Conn.

Mia Cura
Princeton, N.J.

Luz Jiminez
New York, N.Y.

Kendall O'Shea
Perkasie, Pa.

Julia Romanelli
Smithtown, N.Y.

Katherine Tam
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Annabel Young
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Jaimie Diamond
Berkeley Heights, N.J.

Nikki Juszcak
The Woodlands, Texas

Aneri Patel
Paramus, N.J.

Kate Ryan
Harrison, N.Y.

Megan Unrath
Parkville, Mo.

Kaitlyn Zhao
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Keymani Dunkley
Middletown, N.Y.

Samantha Lee
Hinsdale, Ill.

Gwen Pipes
Dennison, Minn.

Shay Sabir
Bayonne, N.J.

Annie Weiss
La Fayette, N.Y.

Amelia Zohore
Potomac, Md.

Chiara Fontaine
Chappaqua, N.Y.

Lane Letourneau
Sun Valley, Ind.

Ilissa Pipia
East Northport, N.Y.

Sara Saxena
Houston, Texas

Fem Woodruff
New York, N.Y.



Alpha Beta welcomes our newest initiates!