

ALPHA BETA STAYS BRIGHT

Tri Delta Bonds Remain Steadfast—No Matter the Season

I hope the launch of your fall season is going well, that the shortening of days is helping you slowly prepare for our hibernation season, and that your friends and family are gathering around you to reflect on a summer well-lived and a glorious entrance to the cooler seasons. In Minnesota the days get shorter quickly and the winter is long, so we revel in the ups and downs of the fall, the beauty of the colors, and the celebration of the last remaining green. It seems a perfect time for winding things down and that's what I'll be doing, transitioning off the House Corporation board and out of the president's role. I'm looking forward to our board members carrying the torch of support for the chapter and the Chapter House, to their increasingly deep relationships with the collegiate members, and to the ongoing improvements to our lovely historic home at 118 Triphammer. Please join me in thanking them for their service and their work! Official announcements about roles will take place at our Homecoming meeting on October 5, so if you're in the Ithaca area, join us for brunch or dial into the conference call to listen and learn more.

I had the fortunate opportunity to spend a long weekend in late July with a bunch of Deltas from the 1990s. A special thanks to **Lara, Jen, Karen, Evelyn, Mary,** and **Christy** for the laughs, memories, honest conversation, hiking, pizza and beer, shopping, and, most of all, the connection. I had just started a new job when we got together, and I realized what a special gift it is to spend time with those who know you—who knew you—who remember the you that sometimes you've forgotten, the bold and engaged young person now a bit older, the familiar face and laugh and story. Being surrounded by so many new people at work makes me relish those who deeply know me and the acceptance that comes with that knowledge. I've said it before and

I'll say it again, those long relationships, those deep connections, keep us afloat when the waves get rough and the skies get dark. I hope you and yours are staying connected to your Tri Delta sisters, reaching back through time to find them, planning for and spending quality time together. The safety and grace of these relationships are treasures!

For those wondering what we've been up to regarding the house this summer and fall, think paint, windows, window sills, and all things windows. We're embarking on what will likely be a two- to three-year project replacing and updating storm windows as needed, addressing window sills that need repair, and painting windows. The end product will be more energy efficient, safer, and beautiful, so we hope you'll take some time to stop in if you're ever in the area. Another ongoing project is the kitchen receiving a fresh coat of paint. It is one of the most used areas of the house and in need of a more modern and refreshed update. Pictures to come!

As always, if you're interested in board membership or joining one of our committees (property, finance, and communications are our key teams), we hope you'll let us know. I have cherished the chance to get to know Deltas from over the years, connecting to women I didn't know in college but who are a part of this dynamic legacy we're building together. What a privilege and a joy. Thank you for allowing me to serve!

Delta Love,
Heather R. Britt '93
 Outgoing Alpha Beta House Corporation President

A Wonderful Time at 118 Triphammer Road



The 2019 Cornell University Reunion and Open House at the Tri Delta Chapter House.

YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED!

Repairing and Improving the Windows at the Alpha Beta House

THE CHALLENGE

The House Corporation and undergraduates have long identified window replacement as a much-needed but challenging improvement to the Chapter House. During the past two years, this project has been a priority, which led to many conversations with both potential contractors and town officials. Due to the historical status of the building, there are restrictions and approvals required by the City of Ithaca's Historical Commission. The IHC considers windows a character defining feature of the property and replacement or repair must comply with strict guidelines. In this case, wood windows may only be replaced IF there is a substantial issue with wood rot at greater than 50% of the window; otherwise, the windows must be repaired.

The harsh Ithaca winters have taken a toll on the 81 windows in our historic Chapter House, but none currently meet the IHC requirement to allow replacement. Nonetheless, many of the window casings and sills are ill-fitting due to shrinkage and cracking, creating drafts and gaps. After a thorough investigation, 15 windows have been identified to receive labor-intensive repair. In addition, over 75 windows need storm window replacement to protect further deterioration of our wooden windows and reduce the drafts in the bedrooms and common rooms.

THE COST

The Finance Committee and House Corporation have approved contracts to

move forward with this two-pronged effort over the next year and a half. Fortunately, we found a Syracuse-based company with well-regarded craftsmen to perform the complicated and critical window repairs this fall for \$27,000. In addition, a vendor and installer has been hired to replace over 75 storm windows in 2020 for \$33,000.

THE GOOD NEWS

In late May, we were excited to receive a Tri Delta National Housing Endowment Fund (NHEF) grant of \$8,000 toward the window repair project, thus reducing our out-of-pocket costs to \$19,000. House Corporation Treasurer **Terry Petracca '76** and I submitted an application to the Tri Delta NHEF in March. The NHEF grant was created through an amendment to the bylaws at Convention in 1994. The grant's intent is to support house corporations in maintaining their facilities at a premier level. The funds available to be awarded per category were increased this year to a maximum of \$30,000 (previously \$10,000). The board plans to submit an additional application to aid in the funding of the 2020 storm window project.

WHY SUPPORTING THIS PROJECT IS IMPORTANT

At first glance, the benefits of these repairs are obvious: reduced heating bills, better aesthetics, and a more appealing exterior during recruitment. Moreover, making the windows more air tight will significantly improve the daily lives of our undergraduate sisters—no more stuffing towels between

windows or wiping off frost from inside of the windows!

But the story is a bit more complex. Cornell has spent millions of dollars improving and expanding the dormitory options on campus, adding more single rooms, gym equipment, snack bars, lecture series, etc. Upperclasswomen have more options than ever before and many decide not to explore Greek life. Although dorm life may be more attractive today to young women, we know from our own participation that the Tri Delta experience of living in a house full of sorority sisters is precious. We cherish the memories of studying in the chapter room, late-night snacks in the dining room, and chatting in the Crescent.

As alumnae, we are all stewards of the Alpha Beta Chapter House. Unlike some sorority buildings on other campuses, all of us, as part of House Corporation, own the building and grounds at 118 Triphammer Road. It is imperative that we maintain the integrity of our historic home. It is the foundation of our sisterhood.

Use the enclosed envelope or visit tinyurl.com/CornellTriDeltaDonate to make your gift to this important project. Your donation will impact the house for decades to come. We hope that we can count on your support!

Loyally,
Robin Secord '85
House Corporation Property Chairman



I Want to Help Alpha Beta!

Make a gift to our window-repair project using the enclosed envelope. The cost for this fall's repairs is \$27,000. Help us meet our goal!

Thank you for your generous donation and continued support of Alpha Beta!



Left: During St. Jude week, our sisters gathered in Mann Library to sell delicious homemade treats. We love contributing to St. Jude and spreading awareness about the great work they are doing. **Middle:** The 2019 member class on Bid Day. **Right:** President Gwen Pipes '20 and Assistant Philanthropy Chairman Zoe Alcott '22 joined hundreds of Tri Deltas from across North America at this year's St. Jude Celebration in Memphis, Tennessee.



Left: This spring, we sadly said goodbye to our graduating 2016 member class. We wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors! **Middle:** Kaitlyn Zhao '21, Caroline Creaser '21, Hayley Nilles '21, and Samantha Lee '21 took a trip to Paris to meet up with Dorothy Quincy '20 studying in Copenhagen. **Right:** Aliza Maki '19, Athena Delgado '20, and Olivia Maurer '21 embrace Samantha Puzzi '22 into their lineage during this year's Big/Little reveal.



ALPHA BETA FOCUSES ON THE FUTURE

High Hopes for the Fall Semester

Fall semester will be an exciting time for the Alpha Beta Chapter. Our members have taken the initiative to start traditions and to be even more involved in our community and philanthropy this year. Before we dive into fall semester, let's look back at all the achievements and valuable moments we had in the spring and summer.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Last spring we welcomed 46 new members into our chapter during formal recruitment and continuous open bidding! We are filled with happiness to have such incredibly intelligent and caring new sisters among us. I can't wait to see the great things they will bring to our chapter throughout their time here.

PHILANTHROPY

Spring was a successful semester for philanthropy. **Liz Davis-Frost '20** and **Sam Hertle '21** contributed to the chapter's achievement through the ChoppeDDD, Cash for Cans, and Sincerely Yours events. We had a great turnout for ChoppeDDD, where teams of three competed against each other in a few rounds of food challenges. Cash for Cans went wonderfully, and we worked with many other Greek and non-Greek organizations on campus to make this happen. By far, the Sincerely Yours letter-writing campaign was

our biggest philanthropy event with a huge turnout from our chapter with over 90% participation!

ST. JUDE VISIT

This June, **Zoe Alcott '22** and I attended the Tri Delta St. Jude Celebration in Memphis, Tennessee. It was incredible to see how we impact patients' everyday lives, from paying for procedures to giving them and their families a place to stay. It made a huge impression to see how Alpha Beta's support aids so many individuals.

FALL IS IN THE AIR

Fall is going to be a great semester. We have events for St. Jude and body positivity in the works. We are ready to get involved again and do our best to be a significant positive force in the community around us!

We look forward to seeing you at 118 Triphammer for Homecoming on October 5, or anytime you're in Ithaca. Our doors are always open to you!

Delta Love,
Gwendolyn Pipes '20, Collegiate Chapter President
gtp23@cornell.edu

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Alpha Beta Alumnae

Brunch and Annual House
Corporation Meeting

118 Trihammer Road
Sunday, October 5, 10:30 a.m.

All Cornell Tri Delta alumnae are invited to join us for brunch and the annual Tri Delta Homecoming Meeting at the Alpha Beta house or by conference call. To join the conference call, use the information below. Brunch will begin at 10:30 a.m., followed by the meeting at 11 a.m. Active members will be around the house, excited to meet you.

Please consider getting involved with the House Corporation. We could use your help and expertise! If you are interested in getting involved on the board or in one of our committees, contact **Heather R. Britt '93** at heather.rae.britt@gmail.com.

Conference call in information:

Dial-in Number: (712) 775-8972

Conference Code: 901054

Host Code: 7485

TRI DELTA

Cornell Alpha Beta Alumnae

Alpha Beta Data

Fall 2019

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

Address Service Requested

PRSFRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LAWRENCE, KS
66044
PERMIT #570

Stay Connected with Alpha Beta



www.cornelltrideltaalumnae.com



@CornellTriDelta



@cornelltridelta



Search "Cornell Tri Delta"



cornelltridelta.tumblr.com

Chapter Officers

Chapter President
Gwendolyn Pipes '20

Dennison, Minn.

(507) 838-0399

gtp23@cornell.edu

Vice President of
Membership
Boya Zhang '20

Oakville, Ontario

bz84@cornell.edu

Vice President of
Administration
Melissa Page '20

Victor, N.Y.

Vice President of
Chapter Development
Keymani Dunkley '20

Middletown, N.Y.

Vice President of Finance
Kyra Houle '20

Eaton, Ohio

Vice President of
Public Relations
Amelia Zohore '21

Potomac, Md.

Academic Development
Chairman
Emily Levin '21

Orlando, Fla.

Alumni Relations
Chairman
Megan Unrath '21

Parkville, Mo.

Continuing Education
Chairman
Chloe Jones '20

Pelham, N.Y.

Member Development
Chairman
Olivia Mauer '21

Lawrenceville, N.J.

Panhellenic Delegate
Olive Onyekwelu '21

Houston, Texas

Philanthropy Chairman
Samantha Hertle '21

Scottsdale, Ariz.

Social Events Chairman
Oniya Valencia '22

Tucson, Ariz.

Intramurals Chairman
Malama Toure '22

Staten Island, N.Y.

Activities Chairman
Lindsay Williams '22

Wheaton, Ill.

Risk Manager
Maya Voelkel '22

Indianapolis, Ind.

Chapter Correspondent
Reema Kumar '20

Floral Park, N.Y.

Music Chairman
Liz Davis-Frost '20

Sterrett, Ala.

Body Image Coordinator
Lori Zomback '20

North Bellmore, N.Y.

Licensing Chairman
Courtney Xu '21

Stamford, Conn.

Treasurer
Shelby Ragin '22

Jackson, N.J.

New Member Educator
Claire Meakem '22

Sewickley, Pa.

Reference Chairman
Athena Delgado '20

Cambridge, Mass.

House Manager
Samantha Puzzi '22

Orwigsburg, Pa.

Secretary
Alison Graziano '20

Williamsville, N.Y.

Special Events Chairman
Catherine Li '21

Ridgefield, Conn.