

## STAY ACTIVE IN THE SISTERHOOD

The state of the chapter is tremendous. As you'll see in the columns from current chapter President **Claire Meakem '22**, Delta Links Chairman **Cristina Shaul '91**, and Property Committee Chairman **Robyn Secord '85**, we have had a busy, and very successful, year despite the limitations posed by COVID-19.

While it has been a challenging year for the House Corporation Board, it may have been one of the most satisfying years to be a board member. To elaborate, the impact of the programs initiated by the House Corporation over the past several years has been critical to the mission of Tri Delta and the stability and the growth of the chapter. The satisfaction of knowing you are making a difference, creating new friendships, and renewing connections with old friends has been extremely gratifying throughout these trying times.

After spending a few hours at the house this past weekend, I noticed that the primary differences between 50 years ago and today were the masks covering our faces and the cell phones in our hands. Otherwise, it could have been any year; the feeling of energy and camaraderie was the same, and it felt good.

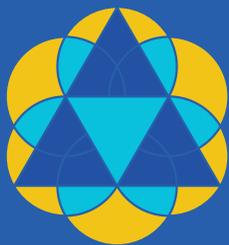
I would encourage more recent graduates to think about participating in committees and the House Corporation Board as part of your ongoing networking efforts. Not only will you benefit, but your input on how to build the initiatives toward supporting the current sisterhood and alumnae will also be a gift that keeps giving to all.

Please consider joining us on a House Corporation committee and/or the board. Have some fun and make a difference! Please reach out to Nominating Chair **Marianne Passarelli '82** at [marianne.passarelli@yale.edu](mailto:marianne.passarelli@yale.edu) or me at [jafoxmsw@aol.com](mailto:jafoxmsw@aol.com) to let us know of your interest.

Delta Love,  
**Judy Fox '72**  
President  
House Corporation  
[jafoxmsw@aol.com](mailto:jafoxmsw@aol.com)

Join us on Sunday, November 14, at 11 a.m. EST for our annual meeting via Zoom. You will need to provide your own mimosas, but we will bring the party for that morning. Email [alphabetahc@gmail.com](mailto:alphabetahc@gmail.com), and we will send you the Zoom link and phone numbers to join.

## UPDATE ON MAJOR CHAPTER HOUSE PROJECTS



Our House Property Committee continued to support the house facilities this past year as ongoing maintenance work and equipment replacements were thoughtfully planned. After two years, 55 custom storm window installations, and \$95,000 spent, our window restoration project was completed mid-winter.

Although supply chain issues related to COVID-19 delayed the work, the investment is a welcomed improvement to deter drafts and maintain the window frames. In addition to our window

installation project, a total of 15 frames were painstakingly repaired last year under stringent historical guidelines. Next on our agenda, we plan to take on window painting once contractors are relieved from COVID-19 scheduling woes.

With the assistance of an independent property evaluation, we deliberately worked on project planning over the past six years. From these evaluations, we compiled items for our long-term renovation plans, which include updating kitchen equipment and the heating system boiler.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## CHANGE IN LEGACY POLICY

Tri Delta National has formally eliminated the policy that supported legacies receiving invitations for at least two rounds and a guaranteed bid if invited to the final round. This change is part of their effort to increase diversity and inclusion. For the past five years, each chapter has had the ability to set their own policies, and at that time, our chapter chose to discontinue the legacy policy. Additionally, Cornell does not collect that information when women register for recruitment.

The fact that this information has not been fully communicated to the larger Tri Delta community has resulted in disappointment and some feelings of betrayal. It is hard to address the emotional response, as each of us experiences these changes differently. It is a challenging time for associations such as ours to deal with the misperceptions and stereotypes of the Greek system. If you wish for the chapter to easily identify someone you think would be a good member of Alpha Beta, it has been suggested you send a note to the Recruitment Chairman **Annie Rogers '23** at [ar745@cornell.edu](mailto:ar745@cornell.edu). We must trust the sisterhood to consider how each candidate can best contribute to the current membership of the chapter.

## JENNIFER JOYCE '93 RECOUNTS ALPHA BETA MEMORIES

As a new student all the way from Oregon, **Jennifer Joyce '93** was elated to start her journey with Cornell's Alpha Beta Chapter. Arriving to college not knowing a familiar face is daunting, especially when you grew up over 2,000 miles away, but the ladies of Tri Delta made Jennifer feel right at home.

"Tri Delta was a lifeline for me at a time when I knew no one. As I'm from Oregon, they taught me everything I needed to know about the East Coast—like how bagels are an essential, all-day source of nourishment," Jennifer shared.

Her favorite undergraduate memories are cramming eight ladies into a tiny hotel room during a road trip to St. Petersburg, Florida, forgetting her wallet at a Burger King rest stop, pulling pranks on the brothers of Alpha Sig's Iota Chapter (Rockledge), and just the everyday moments with her sisters.

"We stole a composite from Rockledge and made it across the bridge from their house before being caught by some brothers," Jennifer admitted. "Good thing we didn't get apprehended by campus police!"

Despite now living in different states across the country, Jennifer and her pledge class sisters try to get together each year to reconnect. "It's always like we just saw each other yesterday," she said.

Jennifer recognizes the role that these women have played in her life and continues to build relationships with sisters in New England and the mid-Atlantic area. When she joined the House Corporation, she

emailed the Tri-Deltas in New England and organized a gathering for Alpha Betas living in the area. The event took place on October 16. "I am hoping we can make it a regular thing!"



Outside of her work with Tri Delta, Jennifer serves as president of SpotOn Fence, a company that provides pet owners with safe and portable dog fences.

"We are a startup, so we are lean; I am learning all parts of the business, from designing a consumer electronic to figuring out how to manufacture it," Jennifer said. She made the switch to startups nearly 20 years ago after working for larger companies like Deloitte and Staples.

"Once I caught the bug, I was hooked!" Jennifer shared. "It's fun to build things from scratch and see them be successful."

Her first startup, an online poker company, did extremely well, growing to \$150 million with a successful financial exit.

After familiarizing herself with all things East Coast, Jennifer settled in Newburyport, Massachusetts. In her free time, she enjoys kayaking, swimming, and boating. She is also an avid traveler and has visited every country in Europe and many in Latin America. "I hope to visit Africa and Asia someday!"

You can hear more about Jennifer's Tri Delta stories, business endeavors, or where her travels will take her next by emailing her at [jenbjoyce@gmail.com](mailto:jenbjoyce@gmail.com).

## MAJOR CHAPTER HOUSE PROJECTS

(Continued from page 1)

The 2009 boiler surpassed its expected years of service and a modern \$9,500 replacement is now pending installation. Similarly, a review of our kitchen operations identified a need to replace the main reach-in refrigerator. Fortunately, an appropriate \$4,500 replacement was selected with no need to widen the threshold for placement.

House safety is supported by many inspections, whether for fire safety or building code, and we rely on an experienced team of maintenance staff to care for our members in their Delta Delta Delta home. From installing a new dryer to renovating the chapter president's bathroom, the team met many challenges this year as they sufficiently coped with COVID-19 restrictions and safety measures. Our house manager, **Gwen Pipes '20**, continues to do an extraordinary job in her role as well.

We want to thank everyone involved in overseeing our Chapter House renovations. We look forward to an exciting year ahead!

Loyally,  
**Robin Secord '85**  
[rsecord1@verizon.net](mailto:rsecord1@verizon.net)

**Kathleen Kelley '76**  
[thleen16@aol.com](mailto:thleen16@aol.com)

## STAY CONNECTED WITH DELTA LINKS!

Delta Links, an exciting networking, mentoring, and personal and professional development initiative launched by Alpha Betas for Alpha Betas in January 2021, is still going strong this fall semester. We've been having fun connecting with the active sisters and our fellow alumnae—thank you all for your support and participation.

This program adds increased value to the sisterhood and showcases our lifelong alumnae relationships by offering opportunities for networking and career-focused programmatic experiences. Delta Links helps our collegians build bonds and open connections that will last a lifetime.

### How Can YOU Get Involved?

1. We'd love for you to join our **Networking Directory** by creating a profile so active sisters can reach out for career advice, information, and mentorship. Please visit [www.cornelltrideltaalumnae.com/register](http://www.cornelltrideltaalumnae.com/register) to get started. You'll need this invitation code to set up an account: 28pi4hjk59l.

(Continued on page 3)

## WELCOME BACK, IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES!

**M**y name is **Claire Meakem '22** and I am Alpha Beta's chapter president for the 2021-22 academic year. I'm from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and I'm elated to be a senior at Cornell earning my College of Arts and Sciences degree in psychology.

This semester, we have full in-person classes and activities for the first time since March of 2020. To care for the health and safety of our community, we wear masks in classrooms and the Tri Delta house and get COVID-19 tested twice a week. Thanks to these mitigation measures, we held chapter in person for the first time in a year and a half!

Over the past six months, our executive team—**Amelia Chikota '22**, **Annie Rogers '23**, **Asha Patt '23**, and **Jessica Johnstone '23**—and 23 other chapter leaders have been working diligently to restore aspects of our sorority life that were paused during the pandemic. We are so excited to announce our initiatives for the academic year.

This semester, our philanthropy team—**Miranda Mix '22**, **Chloe Chavez '23**, and **Anjali Ghosh '24**—has organized a fundraising event for St. Jude. We will be selling Halloween goodie bags, called Boo-Bags, which participants can buy in varying sizes and quantities that sisters will deliver on campus.

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2. We've matched 32 undergraduate members with alumnae in our **Pansy Pal** program, a way to spread some one-on-one cheer to our active sisters throughout the academic year, similar to being a pen pal. Thank you to those who are currently serving in this role! If you'd like to be a Pansy Pal in the future, please email us at [cornelldeltalinks@gmail.com](mailto:cornelldeltalinks@gmail.com) with "Pansy Pals" in the subject line.

3. We're launching a **Job Posting Board** so alumnae can post job and internship opportunities, and actives can solicit ideas for opportunities. Stay tuned for details.

4. We're hosting **Virtual Programs**:

- Interview skills and finding the right fit, led by **Taylor Wagner '14**
- Saving and Investing, led by **Eileen McPeake '90**
- Career panels and industry discussions
- Happy hours

I'd like to thank the Delta Links Steering Committee for sharing their ideas and

As far as fall recruitment, we have made some changes. For the first time, we participated in informal recruitment. While 90 women expressed interest in our process, our member selection committee—**Annie Rogers '23**, **Maddie Sand '23**, and **Maya Voelkel '22**—planned to accept 17 new members. Our recruitment process consisted of coffee chats and outdoor picnics; we were excited to welcome new members to our sisterhood in early October!

To celebrate our chapter's graduating seniors, our director of lifetime membership, **Stella Linardi '22**, has planned a senior appreciation week for October 24-30. The event comprises activities such as a senior brunch (from the amazing chef Steve Johnston) and a karaoke night. Stella has also worked with alumna **Cristina Moeder Shaul '91** to create a Delta Links Directory and connect undergraduates with Pansy Pals. In partnership with the Tri Delta NYC Alumnae Chapter, we are starting a NYC mentorship program this semester as well.

We are so thankful for alumnae support and investment in our chapter. After coming out of a challenging year and a half, we are excited to reconnect and grow our Tri Delta sisterhood.

expertise: **Judy Fox '72**, **Jennifer Barber Joyce '93**, **Cathy Chang Ko '77**, **Debbie Lathrop Lechner '77**, **Stella Linardi '22**, **Claire Meakem '22**, **Terry Schuster Petracca '76**, and **Emily Roehr '16**. If you have an interest in serving our chapter in this way, we invite you to join the Delta Links Steering Committee. Please email us at [cornelldeltalinks@gmail.com](mailto:cornelldeltalinks@gmail.com) for more information.

It's been a joy to connect with and meet new sisters of all ages while providing a service to our younger generation of amazing Deltas. What a pleasure to help them prepare for and navigate their post-Cornell phase of life.

Please visit our website today for more details, including links to the Networking Directory to create a profile, mentoring program "Rules of the Road," and Pansy Pal sign-up at: [www.cornelltrideltaalumnae.com/delta-links](http://www.cornelltrideltaalumnae.com/delta-links).



*Ellie Zhang '24, Cassidy Christian '24, Eshita Sangani '24, and Anjali Ghosh '24 at Homecoming!*



*Ayesha Chowdhury '23 and Angela Sem '23 enjoying lunch together.*

Delta Love,  
**Claire Meakem '22**, Chapter President  
[cbm83@cornell.edu](mailto:cbm83@cornell.edu)



*Olivia Javidi '21 met up with her Pansy Pal, Debbie Lathrop Lechner '77, this summer in San Diego before she headed off to New York City to start her new job.*

Loyally,  
**Cristina Moeder Shaul '91**  
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**Attention:** This newsletter is intended for alumnae, undergraduates, and parents. If your daughter is still attending Cornell University, she will receive a copy at the Chapter House. If she has graduated, please send us her permanent address to update our records. Thank you.

## ALUMNAE NEWS

**Kayla Rakowski Dryden '08** reports that after living in New York, Singapore, and San Francisco after college, she moved to Austin earlier this year to be closer to family. Kayla is still working in the arts after starting her career at the Johnson Museum on campus. She is a mom to two young girls. Please send your updates to [alphabetahc@gmail.com](mailto:alphabetahc@gmail.com)!

## WELCOME, 14 NEW MEMBERS!

**Ruby Berger '24**, New York, N.Y.  
**Lily Childs '24**, Pelham, N.Y.  
**Susan Cook '25**, Redwood City, Calif.  
**Eliane Ferrer '24**, Centereach, N.Y.  
**Adelaide Graham '24**, Schenectady, N.Y.  
**Taylor Haines '24**, Nassau, Bahamas  
**Aisling Mannion '24**, Quincy, Mass.  
**Maura Mayhew '24**, Sellersville, Pa.  
**Grace O'Malley '24**, Chagrin Falls, Ohio  
**Amira Olingou '23**, Evanston, Ill.  
**Mackenzie Rosin '24**, Media, Pa.  
**Ehina Srivastava '24**, Rockville, Md.  
**Kate Scuderi '24**, Fayetteville, N.Y.  
**Rachel VanderVen '24**, Honeoye Falls, N.Y.

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO LOYAL SISTERS

Our sisterhood truly appreciates the following sisters for contributing in the spring of 2021. Your gifts make a difference in the lives of Alpha Beta's undergraduates and provide opportunities for sisters following in your footsteps!

**Lucy Gale Gavin '61** in honor of her lifelong friend, **GINNY HOFFMAN NORTHLAND '62**, **Alice Payton '74**, **Wendy Schaenen '79**, **Linda MacDowell McMaster '80**, and **Jean Leskovec Davis '84**.

Make your donation online at [tinyurl.com/GiveCornellTriDelta](https://tinyurl.com/GiveCornellTriDelta), to help preserve our historic house, or as a tribute in honor or in memory of someone special. You can also mail your donation to: "Alpha Beta House Corporation of Delta Delta Delta, 410 E. Upland Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850." Please make your check payable to Alpha Beta House Corporation of Delta Delta Delta.

## STAY CONNECTED WITH ALPHA BETA



[cornelltrideltaalumnae.com](https://cornelltrideltaalumnae.com)



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