

TRI DELTA

Cornell Alpha Beta Alumnae

Alpha Beta Data

Spring 2023

Alpha Beta JOINS THE 21ST CENTURY

We have the most exciting news. **118 Trihammer has joined the 21st century.** Over winter break (and a little after), Wi-Fi with interior fiber optic connections was successfully installed in each room on all four floors. Perhaps a bit delayed, but as the saying goes, better late than never.

When COVID-19 hit and everything went virtual, we realized that a 100-year-old house was not designed to support two to three devices for each resident. With many chapter meetings utilizing online resources, the connections were underwhelming and unreliable. The survey of sisters conducted last year confirmed that inadequate Wi-Fi connection was a problem for those thinking about living in. Our attempts to augment the system were insufficient.

Finding an expert to retrofit the house was a challenge; implementing this kind of a project after the expense of the Delta Deck (third-floor sun deck) was downright scary, and finding a time when the installer could work in the house without inconveniencing sisters for another semester required some persistence and cooperation from all. In true Alpha Beta fashion, and with some strong leadership from the house manager, the new Wi-Fi is up and running!

In my day, as prelims, exams, and paper time was upon us, the dining room table was full of typewriters at all hours as sisters desperately tried to finish projects due the next day. Now, papers are sent via email to professors and, of course, no whiteout is needed. For those who do not know what whiteout is, be grateful.

We are asking for your help in financing the move from typewriters on the table to state-of-the-art Wi-Fi. This is a big leap with a significant price tag. If it is within your means, please take a moment to donate at tinyurl.com/GiveCornellTriDelta or drop a check in the mail to Alpha Beta House Corporation of Delta Delta Delta, 410 E. Upland Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850. Make your check payable to: Alpha Beta House Corporation of Delta Delta Delta to support 118 Trihammer as it joins the 21st century.

As you consider your contribution, remember your frustration when technology disrupts your life and recall the pressure all collegians are under. Your continued support of the sisterhood into the 21st century in all its dimensions is sincerely appreciated. Thank you!

Delta Love,
Judy Fox '72
House Corporation
President
alphabetahc@gmail.com



MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR OUR COLLEGIANS

National is looking for five brave, bold, and kind alumnae sisters to serve as virtual collegiate chapter advisors for Alpha Beta! These are two-year terms, and a volunteer can serve for three terms in one position. A new onboarding program has been developed, which includes modules on the National online learning platform, **Leadder.org**, monthly webinars on ConnectDDD, and the National Volunteer Leadership Conference this July in Chicago.

Make a difference and email Susan Marchand Higgins, Region 1 Collegiate Chapter Coordinator, at region1ddd@gmail.com today!

New Life for Delta Deck

Many of us have great memories of enjoying sunny spring days on the third-floor sundeck, now known as the Delta Deck. Today, it remains a popular spot for pictures, homework, music, and enjoying time together. Our Property Committee has worked to maintain the safety and integrity of the deck/rooftop by repairing the occasional leak and adding iron safety railings when code requirements changed.

In the fall of 2022, Delta Deck underwent significant reconstruction to eliminate water seepage into the house. This improvement was initiated after a water leak occurred in the rear of the Crescent in the fall of 2021. Residents of the Crescent were relocated to a local hotel for several weeks. After extensive evaluation, a repair of the room and roof areas was completed to enable occupancy through the remainder of the academic year, but we knew this was a temporary fix and our beloved sundeck needed more attention. Our board turned to a local engineering firm that provides us with consultations on such issues, and they provided architectural and roofing guidance for the project.

Work on the deck began in October 2022, and a 10-week plan included removing the capstones of the brick walls surrounding the deck, adding flashing, and updating gutters, scuppers, and more. We learned about brick repointing: the process of removing a portion of the deteriorated mortar and redoing the joints with new mortar. Repointing halts any further water infiltration through the mortar and behind the brick wall. We have learned that this process will be necessary for most, if not all, of the brick on the residence.

The updates to the Delta Deck totaled \$140,000, and we are looking ahead to the future costs of further masonry. Our finance and property committees will continue to provide long-term planning for this and other projects. As you consider a gift to Tri Delta, know that we are working hard to support this historic home that is still making memories that last a lifetime!



Delta Love,
Robin Secord '85
House Corporation Property Committee Chairman

PURSuing NEW JOURNEYS

It's never too late to pursue a new career path! That is exactly what **Susanna Klein '96** did, and she is excited to begin her next journey.

Susanna has always had a love of textiles, interior design, and clothes, so when she saw that Cornell College of Human Ecology offered studies in this area, she jumped at the opportunity to join the program. Following in a family friend's footsteps, she began her career in the buying program at

Bloomington's. From there, she went into luxury fashion and held several leadership roles at Chanel and Oscar de la Renta before starting her own business working with smaller brands and doing special projects for large houses like Burberry.

After a successful career in fashion, Susanna decided she wanted to move into the tech industry, so she created a new network for herself in the field and earned her Master of Business Administration at the University of Virginia Darden School of Business.

sisters and learning from them helped prepare her for success in her career.

As she reflects on her Alpha Beta experience, she recalls it was a place where she could be herself. She loved the sisters she met during recruitment and appreciated that the house was down-to-earth and was filled with diverse members from various majors, sports, and hometowns.

She also got to know women whom she might not have ever met had she only spoken with people in her major or friends of friends. "To this day, I call this group my closest friends, and we are regularly in touch about everything in life!"

Susanna is proud to share that her niece is graduating from Cornell in May. In her free time, Susanna enjoys word games and recently attended the American Crossword Puzzle Tournament in March.

You can connect with her at susanna_klein@hotmail.com.



SUSANNA'S CAREER ADVICE

"It is never too late to transition to do something else later in life. It may take a while, but keep moving ahead and you will land where you are meant to be. Always keep LinkedIn updated and add everyone you meet in a professional setting."

"This was an incredibly transforming experience that helped me to pivot to career 2.0 in tech at Oracle," she shared.

Susanna's time spent living and working with her Tri Delta

Welcome, New Members

Sanmathi Priya Abiram '26	Campbell Key '26
Maura Beatty '26	Prakriti Khanal '26
Abigail Bishara '26	Emiline Labbe '26
Arianna Camberio '26	Nichole Lopez '26
Lauren Chan '25	Anna Loy '26
Nina Chehab '26	Praise Makinde '25
Anjali Das '25	Jana Mildner '26
Nina Davis '26	Lily Nicholson '26
Belen del Castillo '26	Caroline Ongchin '26
Megan d'Erizans '26	Anais Ozer '26
Lakshmi Devi '26	Serene Pan '26
Grace Downing '26	Kate Porcello '26
Isabel Escalante '26	Allison Schwartz '26
Alexandria Fennell '26	Maria De Oliveira Segura '25
Natalie Ferguson '26	Alyssa Serebrenik '26
Hadley Flanagan '26	Alexa Sheldon '26
Graylin Gogolak '25	Samantha Smith '26
Sydney Goldberg '26	Deb Suarez '25
Amelia Haggerty '26	Katherine Thrope '26
Yamileth Alvarez Haro '26	Alexia Uriarte '26
Susan Hickey '26	Camila Urteaga '26
Samantha Johnstone '26	Victoria Varkonyi '25
Elizabeth Jung '26	Sloane Wachs '26
Yewon Kee '26	Mallory Watts '26
Clara Kennedy '25	Elizabeth Way '26

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President Sophie Roth '24	Director of Administration Elizabeth Way '26	Director of Ceremonies and Rituals Lily Nicholson '26
VP of Operations Kyrah Barnett '25	Director of Member Finances Alexa Sheldon '26	Director of DEI Yewon Kee '26
VP Chapter Development and Programming Alessandra Kaestner '25	Director of Financial Operations Aiti Pal '25	Philanthropy Assistant Izzy Erskine '25
VP Membership Experience Ava Glowney '25	Director of Facility Operations Hadley Flanagan '26	Recruitment Assistant Jana Mildner '26
VP Community Relations Shohum Finkelstein '25	Director of Risk Management and Wellness Eushin Vitale '25	Merch Chairmen Anne Ehrenreich '25 Maggie Mesiter '24
Director of Philanthropy Marlee Pincus '24	Director of Recruitment Rae Fox '25	Social Chairmen Sydney Goldberg '26 Nichole Lopez '26
Director of Member Selection Kristen Ikle '24	Director of Academic Excellence Ally Schwartz '26	FYE Assistant Praise Makinde '25
Director of First Year Experience Danielle Koutsainis '25	Director of Lifetime Membership Aisling Mannion '24	Wellness Chairman Catherine Martin '25
Director of Social Events Sarah Lin '25	Director of PR and Marketing Maria De Oliveira Segura '25	Sisterhood Chairmen Natalie Ferguson '26 Lily Nicholson '26



IMPROVING OUR HOME

My name is **Kyrah Barnett '25**, and I am a sophomore from Georgia double majoring in development sociology and information science within CALS. I'm proudly serving as the house manager of Alpha Beta Chapter.

After beginning the position, I noticed both a need and desire for upgrades, so I made it my mission to leave the house better than I found it. This year began differently from most because we did not have a house director. I found myself taking on additional responsibilities, which gave me a greater understanding of improvements that would benefit our home.

My first project was to refinish the kitchen tables, which have seen better days due to the weather and humidity. This now gives us space to congregate together outside of mealtimes. After this project, I proactively sought input, ideas, and feedback from my sisters. After deciding my course of action, I created a proposal complete with mockups, notes, and budgeting to present to the House Corporation Board for approval.

We added some photos to the front entrance, bought a new buffet for the dining room, added new stools and benches in the living room that can be used for seating when we

have chapter meetings, and added a table, chairs, and whiteboard to the study room in the basement.

It's been wonderful to see our space improve to benefit our community. I have been seeing my sisters, both in-house and out-of-house, enjoy the changes and it makes me proud. All these projects increase usability and enjoyment to help us grow closer. Through this experience, I have also become closer to everyone who works and volunteers for our chapter. I'd like to sincerely thank each one of them for their encouragement and support in our new improvements.



Left: Studying just got a whole lot more enjoyable with these new upgrades. Center Left: New benches in the living room. Center Right: We now have plenty of seating for meetings and downtime in the living room! Right: Our members have been enjoying the new buffet.

Celebrating Our Sisterhood

This semester, we successfully completed in-person recruitment for the first time since 2020. During the weeks after, we participated in Continuous Open Bidding and recruited 11 new members, which brought our spring 2023 new member count to 49! A huge shoutout to **Nuray Ozden '24**, **Kristen Ikle '24**, **Julia VanPutte '24**, **Maddie Sand '23**, and **Maia Koszarsky '24** for all their hard work with recruitment.

We hosted our initiation ceremony for our new members on March 5, which was awesome, and all our new members joined the family tree with Big/Little reveal on March 4. We also had a wonderful Superbowl and Valentine's Sisterhood event as well as our semesterly Date Night at Moonies.

Lastly, we slated our new officer team for the 2023-24 cycle.

Coming up, we have a clothing sale philanthropy event, many Delta Links workshops, and a few more chapter-wide social events. We are pleased to share that two of our members, **Cassidy Christian '23** and **Taylor Haines '23**, were accepted into Cornell Law School for the 3+3 pathway. Congratulations, sisters!

Delta Love,
Sophie Roth '24
Chapter President



Some of our current seniors during Preference Round of Formal Recruitment!



Kyrah Barnett '25 (left) and Ria Sodhi '25 at 2023 Bid Day. Our theme was Fly Tri Delta!



Initiation Day at the house. From left: Yewon Kee '26, Deb Suarez '25, Maria Segura '25, Clara Kennedy '25, and Praise Makinde '25.

STOP BY TRI DELTA DURING THE 2023 CORNELL REUNION!

The Tri Delta house at 118 Triphammer Road will be open for any alumnae or undergraduates who are on campus from 4-6 p.m. on Saturday, June 10, during Reunion Weekend.

We'll have simple refreshments, and there will be time to meet and visit with other Tri Deltas and do a lot of reminiscing and laughing.

A Special Thank You to Loyal Sisters

Our sisterhood truly appreciates the following sisters for contributing in the fall of 2022. Your gifts make a difference in the lives of Alpha Beta's undergraduates and provide opportunities for sisters following in your footsteps!

Thank you, **Diane F. Dow '72**, **Barbara W. Chamberlain '78**, **Karen R. Davis '79**, **Jean L. Davis '84**, and **Jennifer B. Fiorino '90**.

Cornell Alpha Beta Alumnae
Delta Delta Delta
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To celebrate our graduating seniors, we plan to hold a Circle Ceremony on **Sunday, May 7**. The Pansy Brunch will start around 11:30 a.m. and we will aim for the ceremony to start around 12:30 p.m., or as soon as everyone is done with brunch. All alumnae are invited! RSVP to Alessandra Kaestner at alessandrakaestner@gmail.com.

 cornelltrideltaalumnae.com

 Cornell University Tri Delta

 Cornell Tri Delta Alumnae

Alumnae News

Mina Karen Culcan '70 has lived in Chicago since 1993, working as head of child and adolescent psychiatry at Children's Hospital of Chicago and as a professor of psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Northwestern's medical school. She continues to mentor in her field. She has authored numerous books and study guides published (multiple editions) by the American Psychiatric Association Press, including *Dulcan's Textbook of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, *Concise Guide to Child and Adolescent Psychiatry*, and a resource book, *Helping Parents and Teachers Understand Medications for Behavioral and Emotional Problems*. Married to Richard Wendel since 1998, Mina enjoys gardening and Pilates in her free time. Send your Alumnae News to alphabetahc@gmail.com.

Delta Links Updates

Delta Links has been very active with our undergraduates and alumnae this semester. We appreciated the efforts of **Jen Gershberg '99**, who led a detail-packed virtual session on study skills and another on résumé writing, and **Eileen McPeake '90**, who gave us the ins and outs of saving and investing—thank you, Deltas!

We also hosted some virtual social hours across all the generations to discuss books to read and must-watch movies and shows. To congratulate the seniors on their graduation, Delta Links gave them gifts to get them started on this next chapter.

We're planning some summertime meet-ups, so please visit cornelltrideltaalumnae.com/delta-links or connect with us on Facebook at **Cornell Tri Delta Alumnae** or LinkedIn at **Cornell University Tri Delta** for more details.



Laurie Ceglowski Fronhofer '91 (right) meets up with her Pansy Pal, Shohum Finkelstein '25! Laurie was in Ithaca to visit her daughter, Scout (Cornell class of 2022), who is now in a Ph.D. program at Cornell.