



# President's Corner

By Beth Torres

It is very exciting to be writing this letter for the first Chicago Alumnae Panhellenic (CAP) Newsletter! I'd like to thank Julie Emms for her work on this terrific communication tool, it is a great way for all of the alumnae of NPC organizations to share information.

As you will see, there are a lot of exciting activities planned for this year. We are lucky to have a strong group of women assembled on the CAP Executive Board and chairing the committees.

CAP will anniversary our successful events from past years, including the

football watching party and the Alumnae Roundtable. And there are plans to initiate new opportunities through High School/Pre-Recruitment plans and focusing on philanthropies. These wonderful ideas can only be brought to life with your support. There are several opportunities to get involved and any member of an NPC organization is invited to participate and volunteer.

Please encourage your Delegate and Alternate to share what is going on at CAP meetings. Consider making your Delegate a member of your Executive Board, invite the Delegate and Alternate to share updates at

meetings, or include a Panhellenic section in your newsletter. Let CAP know what is going on in your alumnae clubs so that we can share that information. And if you have not had a chance to check out the NPC website recently, take a look:

[www.npcwomen.org](http://www.npcwomen.org).

Please feel free to share any feedback you have. We are here to support you!

I am looking forward to sharing all of these events with you. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I can be reached at home (312.337.6775) or e-mail [elizabethtorres@worldnet.att.net](mailto:elizabethtorres@worldnet.att.net).

## Spotlight on CAP Events

By Paige Stoltenberg

On August 5, 2003, *Chicago Alumnae Panhellenic* held its Summer Social Event in Grant Park to view the movie "In the Heat of the Night", starring Sidney Poitier and Rod Steiger, the 1967 Oscar winner for Best Picture.

The Grant Park Summer Movie festival is a popular summer time activity, as people arrive at the park as early as 5 p.m. to stake out space. Forty Panhellenic women met in Grant Park for a night of chatting and movie watching. Women began arriving at the Park at 5:30 p.m. Before the movie, a group of Panhellenic women met

before at the Atwood Café. The group that attended dinner at the Atwood Café thought the restaurant had great décor and great food. All in all, it was great spending time with many different Greek women and the movie "In the Heat of the Night" was excellent. Thanks to Beth Torres, Connie Witstock and Candace Thrash we were able to reserve a large space close to the front. Another big thanks is extended to Candace Thrash who spent time in the park holding space AND then went to the Atwood Café to help bring the 2<sup>nd</sup> group to our spot in the dark.

Don't miss the football watching Party on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> from 12 – 3 p.m. Come for the fun, food and football watching at Wrightwood Tap, 1059 W. Wrightwood. Please email Paige Stoltenberg at [pstolten@ltp.org](mailto:pstolten@ltp.org) if you are interested in helping as a volunteer for the Football Watching Party.

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# A HISTORY OF CHICAGO ALUMNAE PANHELLENIC (CAP)

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By Beth Torres

For over 100 years, the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) has been working to unify and organize women's Greek organizations. Bringing women together, supporting each other, and striving for excellence has been a cornerstone of NPC. The benefits of NPC are felt by all women in the Greek community — collegiate and alumnae alike. Alumnae have a special duty to help support local NPC alumnae chapters as well as promote the Greek system to potential new members as they prepare to attend college.

In 2001, Aileen Wright-Bacon (Alpha Omicron Pi) and Beth Torres (Pi Beta Phi) sat down for coffee with Peg Crawford, AOPi and NPC Area Advisor. Together, they discussed the need for an alumnae panhellenic in Chicago, IL and the steps that should be taken to establish the group. After that cup of coffee, Aileen and Beth got to work — calling and e-mailing NPC organizations and local contacts to determine if there was an interest

and to find volunteers to organize the alumnae panhellenic. The interest was overwhelming and as the women met for the first time on June 13, 2001 at Fado, an Irish pub in Chicago, there was 19 of the 26 NPC organizations represented.

These great women had dinner and shared stories of alumnae and collegiate experiences. There was no shortage of conversation! As the idea of an alumnae panhellenic was discussed, the discussion turned quickly to successes and struggles that alumnae chapters were facing, goals that the women had for themselves, their alumnae chapters and their NPC organization. This group was motivated to make improvements and share ideas. At the end of the dinner, a date for an official meeting was set.

During the remainder of 2001, the group met monthly and everyone worked together to communicate with as many NPC organizations as possible. By the end of the year, the Bylaws were created, the name of Chicago Alumnae Panhellenic (CAP) was selected, a petition was

submitted to NPC for membership as an alumnae panhellenic, and an Executive Board was appointed:

- Aileen Wright-Bacon, President (Alpha Omicron Pi)
- Beth Torres, Vice-President (Pi Beta Phi)
- Julie Dillon, Treasurer (Alpha Xi Delta)
- Rebecca Zanatta, Secretary (Alpha Phi)

By March 2002, CAP received its charter from NPC and began its work as an official alumnae panhellenic. The primary goals of the group were established: support local alumnae chapters, assist NPC organizations that wished to establish an alumnae chapter in Chicago, and promote the Greek experience to the community and high school students. The success of this organization has been a tribute to the hard work and dedication of every woman involved. The Chicago Alumnae Panhellenic continues to strive toward its primary goals and has set bolder, long term goals as well. The women involved make

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## CAP Exec Board

President

Elizabeth "Beth" Torres, Pi Beta Phi  
[Elizabethtorres@worldnet.att.net](mailto:Elizabethtorres@worldnet.att.net)

Vice-President

Julia "Julie" Dillon, Alpha Xi Delta  
[Axd84@aol.com](mailto:Axd84@aol.com)

Secretary

Allison Peters, Kappa Delta  
[allisonharveypeters@yahoo.com](mailto:allisonharveypeters@yahoo.com)

Treasurer

Nancy Dschida, Alpha Chi Omega  
[nancy@nmd-company.com](mailto:nancy@nmd-company.com)

AREA ADVISOR

Chris Dickey, Alpha Delta Pi  
[chrisdickey@prodigy.net](mailto:chrisdickey@prodigy.net)



# CAP CALENDAR

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## October, 2003

*Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m., 541 N. Fairbanks Court:* Chicago Alumnae Panhellenic Council Business Meeting. This meeting is open to all CAP Delegates and Alternate Delegates.

*Wednesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6 – 8 p.m., 541 N. Fairbanks Court:* Chicago Alumnae Panhellenic is excited to facilitate the second annual Alumnae Roundtable. Alumnae chapter presidents and CAP delegates will be in attendance. The roundtable will be beneficial to those organizations that do not currently have a local alumnae chapter. The participants involved in the roundtable will drive the discussion. Topics could include recruitment, retention and programming. The roundtable will be facilitated by past CAP Secretary, Rebecca Zanatta (Alpha Phi). This event provides a great venue for sharing and learning about other clubs strengths and challenges. For more information contact Rebecca at [rzanatta@alphaphi.org](mailto:rzanatta@alphaphi.org).

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## October 2003

*Friday, October 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m., Drury Lane in Oak Brook Terrace:* The Elmhurst Panhellenic presents a Fashion Retrospective. Doors open at 6 p.m., dinner is at 8:15 p.m. with a fashion show following. We will have a vendor boutique, silent auction, raffle, and 50/50 raffle (last year's winner received about \$1,500!). Tickets to the event are \$40. 50/50 tickets are \$25 each. If you are interested in attending, please contact Kathy Sullivan phone: 630-575-5711, [elmhurstpanhellenic@hotmail.com](mailto:elmhurstpanhellenic@hotmail.com). (Kathy is also the president of the Chicago Alumnae Association of Theta Phi Alpha).

## November, 2003

*Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 12 - 3 p.m., Wrightwood Tap, 1059 W. Wrightwood Ave.:* All alumnae Greek women are invited to the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual CAP Football Watching Party. The cost will be \$15 for a wristband that provides drinks and food! We hope to see you and your alumnae sisters there! For more information contact Paige E. Stoltenberg [pstolten@ltp.org](mailto:pstolten@ltp.org).

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## Alumnae Member Groups Calendar

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*Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m., Lincoln Park Zoo 2001 N. Clark St.:* Join CCAA (Chicago City, IL Alumnae Association) the Alpha Xi Delta Chicago Alumnae chapter, as we help hand out treats to the adorable trick-or-treaters for the Lincoln Park Zoo's Spooky Zoo Spectacular. Don't forget to wear your costume! This event is open to the public. For more information contact Julie Dillon [axd84@aol.com](mailto:axd84@aol.com).

## November 2003

*Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 7 - 11 p.m. Durkins, 810 W. Diversey:* Alpha Chi Omega Chicago Alumnae chapter will be holding their fall fundraiser. The cost is \$25 a person for domestic draft beer and well drinks. We will have guest bartenders and their tips will be donated to support our philanthropy, Domestic Violence Against Women. We will also have a raffle which will include various donated prizes and a grand prize cash award. Directions: Brown Line to Diversey. For more information contact Nancy Dschida [nancy@nmd-company.com](mailto:nancy@nmd-company.com).

*Tentative, Saturday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 11 - 3 p.m., Jewel-Osco Grocery Stores, 2940 N. Ashland:* Look for the CLS (Chicago Lake Shore) Alumnae Chapter of Alpha Phi for their Annual food drive to benefit the Lincoln-Belmont Food Pantry. Last year the food drive

*Wednesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m., 541 N. Fairbanks Court:* Chicago Alumnae Panhellenic Council Business Meeting & Program. This meeting is open to all CAP Delegates and Alternate Delegates.

## December, 2003

*Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup>, Time & location TBA:* Chicago Alumnae Panhellenic Delegates Dinner. This event is open to all CAP Delegates and Alternate Delegates.

was the most successful food drive in Lincoln-Belmont Food Pantry's 19 year history! Stop by, and help us to make it even more successful this year! All donations will benefit the Lincoln-Belmont Food Pantry. For more information contact Julie Emms [jmbasta98@hotmail.com](mailto:jmbasta98@hotmail.com).

## December 2003

*Tuesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 p.m. Location TBA:* Join CCAA (Chicago City, IL Alumnae Association) the Alpha Xi Delta Chicago Alumnae chapter, for a kick-off to the holiday season dinner. Please bring a donation of arts-n-craft supplies for the children living at Rainbow House. The children were so excited about last year's donation of craft supplies! For more information contact Julie Dillon [axd84@aol.com](mailto:axd84@aol.com).

*Tentative, Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, the 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 11:00 p.m., Borders Book Store, 2817 N. Clark:* Look for the CLS (Chicago Lake Shore) Alumnae Chapter of Alpha Phi at the Borders in Lincoln Park. We will host our Annual Holiday Book Wrapping fundraiser, wrapping items bought at the Borders location. All donations will support the Alpha Phi Foundation, which raises awareness and funds to support research in the fight against heart disease. For more information contact Julie Emms [jmbasta98@hotmail.com](mailto:jmbasta98@hotmail.com).

**CHICAGO ALUMNAE PANHELLENIC  
(CAP)**

Email: [chicagoalumnaepanhell@yahoo.com](mailto:chicagoalumnaepanhell@yahoo.com)

**We're on the web!**

[http://www.angelfire.com/folk/  
chialumpanhell/index.html](http://www.angelfire.com/folk/chialumpanhell/index.html)



*in your inbox for our next publication*

**January 2004!**

*If you would like to submit an article for the next newsletter or a calendar event for your alumnae chapter please contact the Public Relations Chair, Julie Emms, [jmbasta98@hotmail.com](mailto:jmbasta98@hotmail.com), by December 15.*

## CAP Chairs

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**Membership**

Nancy Dschida, Alpha Chi Omega  
[nancy@nmd-company.com](mailto:nancy@nmd-company.com)

**High School Recruitment**

**\*VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES\***  
Megan Bouche, Alpha Phi  
[mbouche@alphaphi.org](mailto:mbouche@alphaphi.org)

**Alumnae Relations**

Rebecca Zanatta, Alpha Phi  
[rzanatta@alphaphi.org](mailto:rzanatta@alphaphi.org)

**Internal Philanthropy**

Diane Rand, Alpha Sigma Tau  
[Diane\\_rand@comcast.net](mailto:Diane_rand@comcast.net)

**External Philanthropy**

Laura Geiger, Delta Zeta  
[Geigerl2@wemed.com](mailto:Geigerl2@wemed.com)

**Communications**

**\*OPEN POSITION – PLEASE  
CONTACT ALLISON PETERS IF  
INTERESTED\***

**External Social**

**\*VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES\***  
Paige Stoltenberg, Gamma Phi Beta  
[pstolten@ltp.org](mailto:pstolten@ltp.org)

**Internal Social**

Heather Breen, Alpha Omicron Pi  
[hbbreen@aol.com](mailto:hbbreen@aol.com)

**Public Relations**

Julie Emms, Alpha Phi  
**\*VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES\***  
[Jmbasta98@hotmail.com](mailto:Jmbasta98@hotmail.com)

