September 2004 Volume 16, Issue 1

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Did You Know...

2003-2005 North Harris County Alumnae Chapter Officers President: Liz Rimer 713-270-6832 eirimer@aol.com VP Membership: Open VP Membership: Open VP Programming: Alison Love 281-877-0856 alison@springisd.org Secretary: Linda Gaarder 281-367-3732 gaarder@pdq.net

VP Finance: Carole Townsend 936-597-6146 cotowns@consolidated.net

North Harris County Web Site: http://www.geocities.com/ nhc\_sigma\_kappa/

North Harris County Alumnae Chapter of Sigma Kappa Chartered: December 22, 1989

### North Harris County Alumnae's

# SIGMA K COMMUNI K

### President's Corner

Liz Rimer

Dear Sigma Kappa Sisters,

Last year we had an exciting year of programs. This year we have planned as many fun-filled programs.

In November, we will be holding our first ever joint Founders' Day with the Houston alumnae chapter. Come and meet other Houston area sisters.

In December, we'll celebrate the chapter's 15th anniversary. We have had so many great accomplishments.

At convention in June, the chapter won the Outstanding Fundraiser Award. This is the fourth consecutive (1998, 2000, 2002, and 2004) convention that we have won this award. Thanks to everyone who has participated in our Birdies for Charity program in conjunction with the Shell Houston Open. This year we raised \$218.56. The spring newsletter will include information and a pledge form for next year's program.

We will continue to support the Beta Epsilon chapter at Louisiana Tech University who won the Three Stars Standards of Excellence award at convention.

I invite all alumnae to any of our events. If you have any questions or need information about the chapter, please feel free to contact me.  $\blacklozenge$ 

#### **BETA EPSILON NEWS**

#### Kristy Zabasky

Five collegians and two advisors attended convention this June in Cincinnati. The chapter received a Recruitment Award and Three Stars Standards of Excellence Award and the advisory board received the Outstanding Advisory Board Award. Recruitment days are September 1-4 with Bid Day on the 5th. Whitney Bullard worked on a special Bid Day theme this year. We will have the Kappa Carnival with booths, carnival food, donations, and prizes being donated from alumnae.

Last spring, we volunteered our time at the nursing home for birthday parties, dance parties, and arts and crafts. We participated in Relay for Life to raise money for cancer, donated over 5,000 cans of food for the food drive and won the 2004 Greek Week.♥

#### CAROLE TOWNSEND ELECTED NVPA

Our very own Carole Townsend is continuing her service to Sigma Kappa as a member of National Council. At convention in June, Carole was elected National Vice President for Alumnae. We are so proud of everything you do for Sigma Kappa. ♥

#### TOMBALL MEMORY WALK

A regional Memory Walk will be held at the Texas Sports Medicine Center, 28120 State Highway 249 in Tomball on Saturday, October 9 at 9:30 am. This walk will support the Alzheimer's Association Houston and Southeast Texas chapter.

Signup at <u>www.alztex.org</u> as a member of "Team Sigma Kappa". Registration is \$25 for adults, \$10 for children, and \$5 for dogs.

You can make a donation even if you can't walk. Join "Team Sigma Kappa" as we show our support for our national philanthropy. Let's be the top ranked team!!♥

#### **CHAPTER EVENTS**

(Contact hostess listed for additional directions or information on a ride to each event.)

Sept 9 (Thur) at 7:00 PM Dinner at Carrabba's Italian Grill 5440 FM 1960 Road West 281-397-8255 1960 & Champions Forest Contact: Alison Love 281-877-0856

Oct 9 (Sat) at 9:30 AM Alzheimer's Memory Walk at the Texas Sports Medicine Center, 28120 State Highway 249, Tomball (registration starts at 8:30 AM) (see article on page 1) *Contact: Liz Rimer* 713-270-6832

Oct 14 (Thur) at 7:00 PM Pottery Painting Madora's Pottery 27326 Robinson Road (east of I-45) 281-292-0915 After pottery painting, we'll go for refreshments at Sam's Boat *Contact: Alison Love* 281-877-0856

<u>Nov 6 (Sat) at 11:00 AM</u> Founders' Day Brunch with the Houston Alumnae Chapter McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant 1151 Uptown Park Blvd 610 Loop at San Felipe 713-840-7900 \$25 per person *Contact: Alison Love* 281-877-0856

Dec 9 (Thur) at 7:00 PM Ornament Exchange Bring a wrapped Christmas ornament to exchange 25807 Clear Springs Way East of I-45 off Louetta Hostess: Monique Malmgren 281-353-0530

Jan 13 (Thur) at 7:00PM Book Talk We'll be discussing two books by Nicholas Sparks: *The Notebook* and *The Wedding* Palotta's Black Walnut Café 2520 Research Forest Drive 281-362-1678 Contact: Alison Love 281-877-0856

Feb 10 (Thur) at 7:00PM TBA Contact: Alison Love 281-877-0856

<u>Feb 18-20</u> South Central Regional Conference Menger Hotel in San Antonio *Contact: Liz Rimer* 713-270-6832

> Mar 10 (Thur) at 7:00PM TBA Contact: Alison Love 281-877-0856

> Apr 14 (Thur) at 7:00PM TBA Contact: Alison Love 281-877-0856

<u>May 12 (Thur) at 7:00PM</u> Officer Installation and Potluck Dinner TBA *Contact: Alison Love* 281-877-0856

#### NATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT

Suzanne Rainer

The national convention "A Masterpiece By Design" was quite impressive. The host alumnae of the Cincinnati area make everyone feel so welcome.

The first formal business meeting covered the election of officers. All nominated officers were elected and eager to serve Sigma Kappa. The second business meeting covered the proposed constitution and bylaw amendments.

I was privileged to accept the award for the chapter for an outstanding fundraising event in conjunction with the Shell Houston Open. I also shared the fun with Patricia Flournoy in accepting the outstanding advisory board award.

BE alumna Harriet Frazer led the Confirmed Conventionite celebration. Costumes ranged from authentic antique dresses to boas and ribbons in the hair.

Under Hot Topics for Alumnae one item would be membership of the group and how to increase chapter's numbers. Barbara Wilmer suggested having one alumna initiate each year. It would be an effective way to increase membership and active participation in the alumnae chapter.  $\checkmark$ 

## REGIONAL CONFERENCE

The South Central Regional Conference will be held February 18-20 at the Menger Hotel in San Antonio. Watch your email for more details.♥

#### **DUES REMINDER**

Last year our membership reached 30 paid members. Our goal is to once again reach 30 by January. We are well on our way with 10 paid members already. If you have not yet paid dues, please complete the form in this newsletter, enclose a check for \$30 (what a deal!) and mail to Carole Townsend. You will enable us to continue to produce two annual newsletters that go to over 300 area alumnae, and help us support our national organization, our local panhellenics, our assigned collegiate chapter, and the Sigma Kappa Foundation.

You may now pay your dues with Paypal. Send your payment to nhc\_sigma\_kappa@yahoo.com.

Even if you are not able to join us for meetings, consider sending in your dues – your money will be put to good use!!♥

#### **DID YOU KNOW...**

...Congratulations to **Monique Malmgren** on the birth of Evan K on May 5 at 12:04 pm. Evan was born in Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital, weighed 8 lbs, 14 oz and was 20" long.

...A second Sigma Kappa legacy was born to **Valarie Morton**. Sarah Lynn arrived on June 25, weighed 8 lbs, 11 oz and joins big sister Lauryn who turned three in March.

...Jennifer Teat will be attending pharmacy school at the University of Louisiana/Monroe.

...Congratulations to **Jennifer Gaarder** on her recent engagement and upcoming wedding to Tommy Skinner on December 4 at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church in The Woodlands at 5:30 pm. The reception follows at 7:00 pm at Savannah Gardens on FM 1488 between The Woodlands and Magnolia.

...Linda Gaarder attended a family reunion in Portland, Oregon in July.

...Jennifer Roth started a new job at Boys and Girls Country as the administrative assistant to the Executive Director. It houses 88 youth, ages 5-college, who cannot be at home due to family conflicts. Her son Brendan started kindergarten this year and daughter Emily turned one.

...Liz Rimer started a new job in March at the Greater Houston Builders Association. She is the administrative assistant to the Executive Vice President & CEO and to the Vice President/Director of Government Affairs.

...**Alicia Goodrick** began a new job teaching 5th grade science at Hamblen Intermediate in the Channelview ISD.

...**Melissa Cole**, R.D. L.D. (registered and licensed dietician) has started her own nutritional counseling business in the north Houston area. Her website is <u>www.targetnutrition.com</u> and would love to hear from sisters who might be interested in her services.

...Wilma Mysak received a grant from NEH to attend a workshop in Salem, Massachusetts for National Culture, International Horizons. She was in competition with teachers from across the U.S. to get selected for this workshop. Her son Jeffrey graduated from high school with a High Service Voluntary Award.

...**Carole Townsend** headed to Wichita, Kansas for a national women's bowling tournament in the spring. She also bowled in tournaments in Reno, Nevada and the Texas

state tournament in Clear Lake. Carole spent time at Astros Spring Training in Florida this year. During All Star Week, she served as a volunteer at MLB Fan Fest.

...**Blanche Bronner** and her mother, Eleanora Burton, traveled in July to The Hague in The Netherlands to visit her daughter Deborah. Special points of interest included sightseeing in Germany and Belgium.

...**Deborah Bronner-Westerduin** and her husband traveled to the U.S. to celebrate their one-year wedding anniversary. They also cruised along the Yucatan Peninsula to Mexico and Belize. Deborah joined four European alumnae chapter members for a trip to Antwerp, Belgium. She serves the European chapter as the Vice President of Membership. Deborah continues to work at The American School of The Hague as the Enrichment Coordinator.

...**Courtney Buffington** was selected as a Sigma Kappa field consultant for 2004-2005 and will be based in Michigan.

...Lauren Alewyne is a Forensic Accountant with KPMG, LLP.

...We were sad to say goodbye to **Margee McCafferty** who relocated to Carson City, Nevada with her husband.

...Our sympathy to Linda Gaarder on the death of her sister-in-law.

...Our sympathies to the Beta Epsilon chapter on the recent death of new initiate, Devie Sabalza-Robinson.

...There were two changes in National Headquarters staff. Cassondra Votroubek is the new Executive Director of Sigma Kappa Sorority and Allison Lewis is the new Executive Director of the Sigma Kappa Foundation.

...In January, our program will be a "Book Talk". We will be discussing two books by Nicholas Sparks: *The Notebook* and *The Wedding*. If you have either of these books, please bring them to any of the fall meetings so we can share them and not everyone will have to buy them.

...If you would like to host a spring meeting at your home, please contact Alison Love.

...Do you know of anyone (friend, coworker, relative) who would like to become a Sigma Kappa? If so, contact Liz Rimer for information on becoming an alumna initiate.

Houston Alumnae of Sigma Kappa North Harris County Chapter P O Box 35897 Houston TX 77235

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

| NORTH HARRIS COUNTY ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF SIGMA KAPPA SORORITY  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| NAME:  |                                 |
| ADDRESS:   |                                 |
| TELEPHONE: HOME: BUSINESS:   | )                               |
| COLLEGIATE CHAPTER:  | YEAR OF INITIATION:             |
| PROFESSION:  |                                 |
| E-MAIL ADDRESS:  | BIRTHDAY (M/D):                 |
| I am interested in joining the North Harris County Alumnae Chapter. Enclo  | sed are my annual dues of \$30. |
| I am not able to join the alumnae chapter at this time, but would like to make adonation to help support our local and national philanthropies and our sister collegiate chapter |                                 |
| Please return this membership form to:<br>Carole Townsend, NHC VP of Finance<br>3 Claremont Court<br>Montgomery, TX 77356<br>(936) 597-6146                                      |                                 |

