

2003 Wrap-Up: What Your Sisters Have Been Up to the Last Six Months

Jacksonville Sigma Sisters have been busy gathering for casual dinners and game nights, holiday parties and sorority philanthropic activities. Here's a recap at what we've been up to the last several months. If you haven't joined us yet, come on out! There's no such thing as strangers, only sisters you haven't met!



BUNCO night at Trista's House

Events at the homes of members have continued to be successful. In August, Trista Wallace opened her home for "BUNCO Night." It was an evening filled with food, drinks and figuring out the rules of BUNCO. Fun was had by all who



Sisters gather at Atlanta Bread Company to mail last August's alumnae chapter newsletter

attended and everyone was encouraged to bring canned goods to donate to the Second Harvest Food Bank. We also donated a portion of our BUNCO winnings to the Sigma Kappa Foundation.

Also in August, we were invited to participate in Beta Tau's Mock Recruitment and Luncheon on Saturday, August 16th, 2003. Six Jacksonville alumnae (Rachel Davis, Jennifer Kresge, Jennifer Lisella-Marcellus, Rebecca Patel, Michele Stover, Donna Wagoner) traveled to Gainesville to attend. It was a

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Invite Your Relative, Friend or Co-Worker to Join Sigma Kappa

Do you have a female relative, friend or co-worker who never joined a sorority, but who would like to be part of the fun and sisterhood that a sorority alumnae group has

to offer? The Jacksonville Sigma Kappa Alumnae Chapter is accepting applications for new alumnae initiates. Applicants must have at least a bachelor's degree

from an accredited college and provide two references. For more information, contact Hilary Hinds, VP of Membership at hhinpvb@aol.com or (904) 280-4658.

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wonderful way to meet the ladies and to help them out with their Recruitment activities. We also had



Alumnae help out at Beta Tau Recruitment

the opportunity to meet other alumnae from the state of Florida. In Sept. 2003 we celebrated summer with a casual dinner gathering to enjoy pizza at the Mellow Mushroom in Southside. We had a great turn-out, as we usually do when food is involved, and saw more new faces again.

In October it was time once again for the Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk in San Marco. We were lucky to have another beautiful fall day and enjoyed taking in the charming sights while exercising for a great cause.



Founder's Day

Nov. meant it was time once again for Founder's Day, celebrating 129 years of sisterhood. Truffles Coffee House and Bakery was the meeting place

for this event with 9 members

attendance. We shared photos from



Founder's Day Brunch

our scrapbook and enjoyed looking at the many wedding pictures of Becky Baynard's nuptials, in both the American and Hindu ceremonies! Lavender scented bath gels were provided to all members in attendance.

December brought the holidays into full swing with a party hosted by Cara Ameer and a Chinese Gift Exchange.



Holiday Party at Cara's House

The Chinese Gift Exchange got a bit intense as sisters eyed many cool gifts including wine charms, candles, a golf

set (for the spouses in attendance) and a few gag gifts too. We also used this event to collect a financial donation for the Maine Sea Coast Mission as a part of our philanthropic activities for the year.



Britta Fortson & Becky Patel at the Holiday Party

January 2004 brought a new year and we held our kickoff event with dinner at The Olive Garden in the Southside area. We had a great turnout and enjoyed seeing many new faces again. Enthusiasm was running high as we discussed our ideas for the new year

and elected our new officers. Well, actually most of them are the same, but they're all just as excited to do their jobs for another year!

This year, we hope to get more involved in volunteer events, fundraising for the Foundation (possibly

raising funds with a gift wrapping event) and to participate in more activities with Beta Tau.

Alumnae Member Accomplishments & News

Cara Ameer was awarded the "Rookie of the month" award from Watson Realty Corp in Nov. 2003.

Virginia Hash teaches in St. Petersburg, Russia during March & April each year and was awarded the Outstanding Volunteer of the Year.

Becky Baynard married Rakesh Patel on October 4th. They honeymooned in Maui.

Kirsten Tesdall attended the Tour de France 2003 (100th Anniversary) and toured Northern Italy and Switzerland.

Charlotte Ostrout gave birth to a healthy baby girl.

Looking for Satellite Interest Groups

The Jacksonville Sigma Kappa Alumnae Chapter is interested in forming Satellite Interest Groups (SIGs). SIGs meet at their discretion, depending on the common interests and time of the particular SIG members.

SIGs are also members of the alumnae chapter and may participate in all regular alumnae chapter functions and have a representative on the alumnae

chapter's executive board. Below are some examples of possible SIGs.

Silver Sigmas (Senior Alumnae)

Young Alumnae

Lunch Bunch

Locality (Beaches, Southside, Orange Park, etc.)

Single Sigmas

Mother's Morning Out

Dinner Club

Bridge, Bunco, etc.

Travelling Sigmas (Day trips or longer)
Cultured Sigmas (Shows, Symphony, Museums)

Sporting Sigmas (Football, Hockey, Basketball, etc)

If you are interested in starting or participating in a SIG in the Jacksonville area, please contact Hilary Hinds, VP of Membership at hhinpvb@aol.com or (904) 280-4658.

JAPA News

This year, we'll continue our involvement with the Jacksonville Area Panhellenic Association. Below are some upcoming events:

Sigma Kappa is scheduled to co-host the March 9th Meeting. We will provide the food. Please contact Anne Weeks at cagweeks@bellsouth.net if you plan to attend. More details to follow.

JAPA's Spring Luncheon is planned for May 15, 2004 at The University Club - Please save the date.

The next Lunch Bunch is planned for March 17th at European Street in San Marco. Please RSVP to Anne Weeks at 904-721-1010.

Beta Tau Update

Recruitment 2003 - Beta Tau initiated 27 women on October 18th, 2003.

October 7th, 2003 - The Chapter held their 2nd Annual Sorority Boys Pageant to benefit Alzheimer's Disease Research. The Beta Tau sisters took over the XS Nightclub on University Avenue. 10 Fraternity men strutted their stuff through a series of competitions including evening gown, talent and Q&A. The turnout was great and they raised more money than the prior year.

Homecoming 2003 - Beta Tau was paired with Delta Upsilon Fraternity. They participated in a various events through out the week.

Founder's Day 2003 was celebrated at the Beta House with deli platters from Publix. It was Homecoming weekend as well, and everyone enjoyed watching the Gators beat the Commodores.

Various SIR events are planned for the Spring. Their Spring Bid Day is planned for February 23, 2004. Spring Break is March 8th - 12th. Inspiration Week is scheduled for the last week of March with Initiation planned for April 2, 2004. Anyone interested in attending Initiation - Please contact Donna Wagoner at donnawagoner@bellsouth.net.

Possible FSU Recolonization

Recently we received notice Florida State University has voted to open for extension, which is a potential recolonization of our Omega chapter. Sigma Kappa is in the process of deciding whether we should go

forward and submit Sigma Kappa's expansion materials. Local alumnae commitment to our colonization effort and continuing support of our new chapter is one of the most important factors in our decision-making process.

If you'd be interested in assisting, please contact Jen Hohman, Director of Expansion, at hohmans@comcast.net. February 27, 2004 is the deadline for submitting materials. The colonization is anticipated for fall 2004.

Jacksonville Alumnae Chapter

Sigma Kappa Sorority
C/o Becky Patel
1958 Birch Run East
Orange Park, FL 32073

If you're interested in officially joining the Jacksonville Sigma Kappa Alumnae Chapter, or being added to our email list, please contact Becky Patel at REBABAY@aol.com.

2004 Jacksonville Alumnae Chapter Board

President - Becky Patel
Vice President of Membership - Hilary Hinds
Vice President of Programming - Cara Ameer

Corresponding Secretary - Trista Wallace, APR
Recording Secretary - Missie Stover
Vice President of Finance - Charlotte Ostrout

Alumnae Panhellenic Delegate - Anne Weeks
Alumnae / Collegiate Liason - Donna Wagoner
Foundation Chairman - Kirsten Tesdall

Did You Know ?

The Jacksonville Sigma Kappa Alumnae Chapter contributed **68 hours and \$750** to foundation and other philanthropic organizations during 2003 through our BUNCO donation (cash and food), holiday collection for the Maine Sea Coast Mission, our participation with the Memory Walk, Basket for JAPA Scholarship, goodie basket to Beta Tau and more!



Mark Your Calendar: Fall 2003 Activities

February 28th - 7:05 pm

Hockey Night - Jacksonville Barracudas.
RSVP to Hilary Hinds at hhipvb@aol.com or 904-280-4658.

March 24th - 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Pottery Night @ Pottery Works RSVP to Cara Ameer at cameer@comcast.net or 904-230-0295.

April 22nd - 6:00 pm

Group Dinner at Bucca De Beppo. RSVP to Mary Alice Marley at farmerron345@aol.com or 904-264-7566.

May 18th - 6:30 pm

BUNCO Night @ Trista Wallace's House. RSVP to Trista Wallace at trista@creativetypes.net or 904-886-4394.

June 23rd

Movie Night at San Marco Theatre RSVP to Becky Patel at REBABAY@aol.com or 904-276-1763.

July

Bowling night - TBD. RSVP to Bet Lentz at bettiger@att.net or 904-230-9431.

August

Ice Skating - TBD. RSVP to Hilary Hinds at hhipvb@aol.com or 904-280-4658.

September 15th - 6:30 pm

Happy Hour and Dinner @ Dave and Buster's. RSVP to Donna Wagoner at donnawagoner@bellsouth.net or 904-215-9931.

October

Memory Walk - TBD. RSVP to Becky Patel at REBABAY@aol.com or 904-276-1763.

November 6th (tentative)

Founder's Day Tea - Ritz Carlton, Amelia Island. RSVP to Cara Ameer at cameer@comcast.net or 904-230-0295.

December 2nd - 6:30 pm

Holiday Party and Chinese Gift Exchange - Cara Ameer's. RSVP to Cara Ameer at cameer@comcast.net or 904-230-0295.