

February 2008

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Violet*Sigma Kappa News***Welcome!**

The symbol that comes to mind when we think of February is the heart, a symbol that Sigma Kappas treasure every month of the year. The heart is celebrated in our open motto. The heart universally stands for love, the love we have for each other as sisters and the love we have for our beloved Sorority. Hearts will be all around you this month. Snap a photo of a special one and share it with us in Sister and Symbol Sighting section, a feature in [Simply Sisterhood](#).



Virtual Violet welcomes new subscribers this Saint Valentine's month. To every reader we wish you a month filled with the spirit of our Sigma Kappa motto - "one heart, one way."

Alumnae Panhellenic Opportunities

Are you interested in meeting other Greek women in your area? Becoming your area's alumnae Panhellenic delegate may be your answer! Alumnae Panhellenic Associations, community-based organizations affiliated with the National Panhellenic Conference, have been established in over 220 communities.



Sigma Kappa's National Panhellenic Council Delegation, Executive Director and National President. Front: Donna Crain King, Carole Cordray Syracuse, Barbara Collins Wilmer. Back: Lisa Jones Holliday, Rachelle Merkel, Jan Caspary Behm.

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Alumnae Panhellenic Associations:

- Inform sorority women of current trends
- Promote the fraternal community
- Improve Panhellenic image and stimulate a continuing interest in Panhellenic affairs

Sigma Kappa is represented in 79% of these associations, up 12% in the past two years. Help us get that number even higher. For a listing of Alumnae Panhellenic Associations that are currently without Sigma Kappa representation and to find out how you can help meet Sigma Kappa's goal to be represented in every alumnae Panhellenic across the United States, [click here](#).

Celebrating Chapter Anniversaries

Congratulations to our collegiate and alumnae chapters that are celebrating milestone anniversaries this year.

Alumnae Chapters

50 Year Anniversary

- Bluegrass, Kentucky

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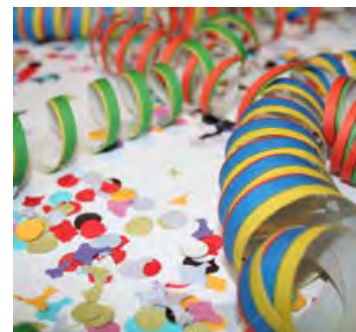
Collegiate Chapters

50 Year Anniversary

- Gamma Pi – Kentucky Wesleyan University

10 Year Anniversary

- Kappa Zeta - Elon University
- Kappa Eta – Texas Christian University



Thank you to all of our alumnae members for your dedication to Sigma Kappa Sorority!

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March 3 is International Badge Day!



The 26 member organizations of the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) will celebrate International Badge Day March 3, 2008. For over a decade sorority women have honored their Greek affiliation and Panhellenic spirit by wearing their badge or letters on the designated day. College and alumnae Panhellenics and collegiate and alumnae chapters are encouraged to celebrate NPC spirit and loyalty by organizing and/or participating in celebration events. Suggested events might include: regional alumnae/collegiate luncheon celebration; volunteer activity within your community honoring International Badge Day; honor distinguished alumnae; visit a local high school; send a press release to local newspaper, radio and/or television stations; wear your badge with fellow co-workers and go to lunch to celebrate Panhellenic sisterhood; ask your mayor to proclaim March 3, 2008 NPC International Badge Day. For additional information or questions contact a member of the Sigma Kappa NPC Delegation. This information can be found in [For Sisters Only](#), Directory, National Volunteer List.

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Alumnae Spotlights

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[District III](#) - Arlene Rupert Summerhill, *Gamma Delta*, Thiel College

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How did the heart come to be a symbol of Sigma Kappa?



The heart was adopted as an official symbol of Sigma Kappa at the 1988 convention to signify the bonds of love felt by members across the country.

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Did You Know?

Sigma Kappa is moving into the future with a new database. Sigma Kappa national headquarters is in the midst of implementing the new system, called iMIS. This system will give us the opportunity to look at our data like never before. iMIS has advanced search tools and the ability to web interface. To update your contact information, please log into [For Sisters Only](#) and click on "Update Your Information" in the top bar.

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Alumnae Spotlight - District I



Tracy Young Gagnier, *Theta Pi*, State University of New York at Geneseo

Alumnae Chapter: Rochester Alumnae Chapter

Sigma Kappa Volunteer Activities:

- Advisory board – Theta Pi, State University of New York at Geneseo
- Faculty/staff advisor – Theta Pi, State University of New York at Geneseo

Occupation:

- Accounts and Records Clerk – The Geneseo Foundation
- Sales Advisor - Lia Sophia Jewelry

Education: Bachelor of arts – State University of New York at Geneseo

Professional/Civic Activities:

- Geneseo Central Parent Teacher Association – Vice president
- Inaugural inductee - State University of New York at Geneseo Greek Hall of Fame
- National Order of Omega member
- Campus Book Club organizer

Family:

- Husband - George

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- Daughter – Makenna, age 10
- Son – Jack, age 6

When not doing Sigma Kappa work:

- Fitting in her new job in jewelry sales
- Playing “ Mom’s taxi”
- Attending SUNY Geneseo athletic events
- Watching reality TV
- Keeping in touch with old friends
- Walking on the treadmill

Favorite things:

- Spending quality time with family and friends
- Making her kids laugh
- Going to the movies
- Game nights
- Chocolate

Words to live by:

“It is never too late to be what you might have been.” George Eliot

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Alumnae Spotlight - District II



Monica A. Pandya, *Theta*, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Alumnae Chapter: East Central Illinois Alumnae Chapter

Sigma Kappa Volunteer Activities:

- Advisory board member – Theta, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Greek relations proponent

Occupation: Assistant Director for Development - University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Education:

- Bachelor of science in psychology – University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- Master in education in human resource education – University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Professional/Civic Activities:

- CASE member
- University related committees for homecoming court selection, Greek excellence awards and scholar selection
- Advisor – Atius Sachem, leadership honorary

Family:

- Parents living in Naperville, IL
- Two sister and a brother-in-law
- Cats – Luke and Rocky

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- Puppy - Tucker

When not doing Sigma Kappa work:

- Traveling
- Reading
- Spoiling her pets
- Watching Illini and Chicago Bears football
- Enjoying live shows
- Spending time with family and friends

Favorite things:

- Her I-pod
- Anything peanut butter
- Summer road trips


Words to live by:

“Be the change you wish to see in the world.” Mahatma Gandhi

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Alumnae Spotlight - District III



Arlene Rupert Summerhill, *Gamma Delta*, Thiel College

Alumnae Chapter: Sierra Nevada Alumnae Chapter

Sigma Kappa Volunteer Activities:

- Sierra Nevada Alumnae Chapter
 - Vice president of finance
 - Charter member

Occupation: Retired teacher and administrator – Washoe County School District

Education:

- Bachelor of arts in chemistry – Thiel College
- Master of science in biostatistics – University of Pittsburgh
- Teaching certification – University of Nevada, Reno
- Doctor of education – University of Nevada, Reno

Professional/Civic Activities:

- Past president – Washoe County Concert Association
- American Association of University Women
 - Local chapter president
 - Past state president
 - Education Foundation chairman
- Pi Delta Kappa education honorary member
- Washoe County Math Association member
- International Reading Association member
- Member – several association for the gifted
- State president elect – Alpha Delta Kappa

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- Sunday school teacher
- Past Sunday School superintendent

Family:

- Husband – George
- Three sons
- Grand daughter – Sophia

When not doing Sigma Kappa work:

- Traveling
- Playing bridge
- Needlework
- Reading
- Playing the piano
- Reading mystery novels
- Gardening

Favorite things:

- Her grand daughter
- Violets
- The smells and tastes of vanilla and lemon
- Meeting new people

Words to live by:

“Don’t take your eyes off the goal because if you do all you will see are the obstacles.”

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Alumnae Spotlight - District IV



Lisa Barnett, Beta Tau, University of Florida

Alumnae Chapter: Gainesville Alumnae Chapter

Sigma Kappa Volunteer Activities:

- Corporation board treasurer – Beta Tau, University of Florida
- Gainesville Alumnae Chapter member

Occupation: Substitute Teacher

Education: Bachelor of arts in criminology – University of Florida

Professional/Civic Activities:

- Clay County Supervisor of Elections - Election poll worker

Family:

- Mother
- Brother in US Navy

When not doing Sigma Kappa work:

- Spending time with her family
- Sewing
- Crocheting
- Reading
- Doing crafts

Favorite things:

- Reading
- Music
- Old movies

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Words to live by:

“It is not what you get out of life, but what you put into it.”

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Alumnae Spotlight - District V



Danielle Harvey Mroczkowski , *Delta Nu*, Longwood University

Alumnae Chapter: Richmond Alumnae Chapter

Sigma Kappa Volunteer Activities:

- Richmond Alumnae Chapter
 - Co-vice president of membership
 - Past vice president of programming
- Recruitment supervisor – Delta Nu, Longwood University
- Past advisory board member – Delta Nu, Longwood University

Occupation: Middle school math teacher

Education: Bachelor of arts – Longwood University

Professional and Civic Activities:

- National “Something of Value” representative – Longwood University
- National Junior Honor Society advisor

Family:

- Husband – Marc
- Daughter – Sarah, age 5
- Son – Alexandre, age 3

When not doing Sigma Kappa work:

- Spending time with her family

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Planning weddings and events

Favorite things:

- Holidays
- Vacations
- Laughing
- Hot chocolate
- Ice cream

Words to live by:

“Enjoy every moment. Cherish those you love.”

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