

CHI OMEGA

FRATERNITY *Flourish.*TM

Chi Omega Houston Alumnae Newsletter

May 2013

Letter from Our President

Dear Chi Omega Sisters:

As I near the end of my term as President, I have to say thank you once again to the Executive Board, Committee Chairmen, Recruitment Board and active members of the alumnae group. I am humbled by this amazing and fierce group of women and so proud of all we have accomplished together. Some of the things that I'll remember most – attending Chi Omega Convention in Phoenix over the summer, a visit from my Epsilon Gamma sister and future NPC President Jean Mermoud Mrasek at Fall Coffee, the laughs I shared with sisters at the Chi Omega Kaleidoscope Luncheon, and the ever impressive young women who shared their chapter's accomplishments at our Holiday Legacy Party. Other memories include hearing Iota sister Jana Banowsky Enloe speak of her experience joining the Houston Police Force at 40, crying quietly during *Les Misérables*, awarding \$21,000 in scholarships to very deserving active collegians and watching Farrell Harris Saunders accept our Houston Chi Omega Woman of the Year award at our Eleusinian Banquet.

I felt a strong sense of responsibility in leading this organization, but enjoyed the ride and am looking forward to continuing to serve.

Our membership campaign starts in June, so please watch your invitation to join the Chi Omega Alumnae Association of Houston. Have a great summer and hope to see you at an event soon!

Loyally in Chi Omega,



Mona Barron
Epsilon Gamma, 1985



2013 Woman of the Year Farrell Harris Saunders



Lynn Rosen Harris, Zeta Delta, Farrell Harris Saunders, Iota, Gayle Perry Saunders, Iota



Eleusinian Banquet

Sisters gathered on April 10th for fellowship, toasts and singing to celebrate the 118th birthday of Chi Omega with a Founders' Day dinner at the Briar Club. The event was beautifully planned by **Debbie Bennett Dugger**, Kappa Zeta, and her committee.

Chi Omega Houston's highest honor, the *Woman of the Year Award*, was presented to **Farrell Harris Saunders**, a graduate of the Iota chapter at the University of Texas and active alumna. She has held several key positions on the Alumnae Board, as well as exhibiting tireless support of all of Chi Omega's endeavors, such as scholarships, the Kaleidoscope fundraiser, the Chi Omega Foundation, and The Center. Chi O roots run deep in Saunders' family - her mother, mother-in-law, mother-in-law's mother, sister-in-law, and niece are all Chi Omegas too.

Additionally honored were fourteen 50-year members **Cherie Melancon Croom**, Psi Zeta, **Peggy Young Dunne**, Psi Zeta, **Cathy Goforth**, Psi Zeta, **Cathy Ashmore Helm**, Alpha Alpha, **Janet LeBlanc Juban**, Phi Gamma, **Myra Moncrief Luinstra**, Psi Zeta, **Kay Jones Maxwell**, Psi Zeta, **Carol Ann Weber Paddock**, Iota, **Jeanne Heisler Pellis**, Psi Zeta, **Jane Dewel Pfeifer**, Epsilon Gamma, **Pat Michael Ricks**, Chi Delta, **Betty Ross Smith**, Psi Zeta, **Jennie Rabun Trapolino**, Psi Zeta, and **Donna Phears Welch**, Psi Zeta, plus three 60-year members **Maureen Griffin Bouffard**, Nu, **Ann Harris Cissel**, Iota, and **Peggy Boston Duggan**, Alpha Alpha.

Scholarships were awarded with proceeds from Chi Omega Kaleidoscope's annual fundraising to sixteen Houston-area Chi Omega collegians. The University of Houston chapter presented *The Ferne Storm Symphony Award* to **Megan Thomas**, the *Cardinal and Straw Award* to **Megan Henry**, *Best Active Scholarship* to **Kristen McInnerney**, *Most Active on Campus* to **Sanny Rivera**, *Most Involved New Member* to **Suzanne Standly**, and *Most Improved Scholarship* to **Kaitlin Anderson**. Psi Zeta also recognized their sixteen graduating senior members. The evening concluded with recognition of the past Alumnae Presidents, Roll Call and "Shades" sung in a song circle.



Kaleidoscope **Charity Raffle**

We have an exciting raffle planned this year to benefit The Center, the Chi Omega Houston Scholarship Fund and the Chi Omega Foundation.

Check out just some of the exciting prizes:

Rejuvenating Retreat - \$4,000 Value

4 day, 3 night weekend stay for 2 at the Deer Lake Lodge Spa and Resort

Diamonds - \$2,100 Value

Beautiful ladies ring featuring 3 rows of diamonds and gold bands

Wine & Dine - \$1,178 Value

Bottles of premium wine, a gift card to Spec's and night out to Fleming's

Colorado Cabin - \$1,500 Value

7 day getaway at a fabulous mountain-top cabin that sleeps 10

Best Bites - \$1,966 Value

Gift cards to Houston's tastiest restaurants

Technology Package - \$1,500 Value

Apple Store spending spree

Houston Texans - \$1,464 Value

4 Club Level Tickets & Parking to a game & Johnathan Joseph autographed photo

**More Prizes to
Come...**
To donate, email
raffle@chiomegahouston.com

The drawing will be held at the Fall Coffee.

You need not be present to win.

Tickets can be purchased all summer at

raffle@chiomegahouston.com.

1 for \$25 or 5 for \$100

Congratulations to sister, **Cathy Coers Frank**, Psi Zeta, who was chosen as a *Fiesta City Belle* at the University of Houston's 2013 Frontier Fiesta. Her selection recognizes her lifelong dedication and commitment to UH. She is shown with her big sister (top row, left to right), **Janet Chandler Jones**, Psi Zeta, **Barbe Boland Bozeman**, Omicron, and little sister (bottom row, left) **Cheryl Thomas Lyman**, Psi Zeta, who attended the event to show their support for Cathy.



Susan Nesbit Barnett, Iota, joined the Omega chapter on March 19th.

Best wishes to **Amanda Van Tilborg Faubion**, Psi Zeta, who married on March 30th. She also began graduate school at LSU this summer.

Congratulations to new grandmother, **Polly Cox Kent**, Rho Epsilon. Her granddaughter, Stella Lee Vickers, was born April 11th.

Kelly Philbeck Owens, Xi Kappa, welcomed new baby boy, Pender K Owens, on May 13th.

Correction from the March newsletter: **Paxton Tanner's** name was misspelled. She is a new member at the University of Mississippi.



2013 Scholarship Recipients

Since 2004, Chi Omega Kaleidoscope has presented 78 Chi Omegas with over \$118,000 in funds for their educational pursuits. At the Eleusinian Banquet, scholarships totaling \$21,000 were presented to Houston-area Chi Omega collegians. Sixteen were given at the Banquet and one additional scholarship was awarded in May at the Houston Area Panhellenic Foundation luncheon. Congratulations to these 2013 Chi Omega Houston Scholarship Fund recipients.

Taylor Adams, Wake Forest University
Dakotah Appelhans, University of Houston
Caroline Bortz, University of Georgia
Laura Dunn, University of Pittsburgh
Amy Finkelstein, Texas A&M University
Mindy Green, Texas State University
Lauren Hines, Stephen F. Austin State University
Olivia Kent, University of Mississippi

Lindsey Koszela, University of Texas, Austin
Madeline Magee, University of Missouri
Kennedy Packwood, Texas A&M University
Lauren Riddle, Texas Tech University
Elizabeth Russell, University of Houston
Madison Schrimsher, Baylor University
McClary Snow, University of Mississippi
Kelly Wood, University of Houston

Additionally, Chi Omega Mothers' Club presented two scholarships totaling \$1,000, to **Julie Carnett**, Texas State University, and **Kathryn West**, Baylor University. The Psi Zeta House Corporation awarded **Elizabeth Russell** their first scholarship as well.

Upcoming Events

May 26th

Chi O Movie Group

12:30 - 4 p.m.

Lunch at Café Adobe & *Great Gatsby* Movie at Edwards Marq*E
7620 Katy Frwy., Houston 77024

May 31st

Chi O Walking Club

10:30 a.m. - noon
Memorial Park

June 13th

Chi O Cocktails

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Crisp Wine Bar
2220 Bevis, Houston 77008

July 18th

Chi O Cocktails

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Bar Boheme
307 Fairview, Houston 77006

August 8th

Chi O Cocktails

5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Hay Merchant
1100 Westheimer, Houston 77006



2013-2014 Executive Board

Congratulations to these sisters!

Sally Sellers Reed	President
Jo Williams Crake	President-Elect
Mona Barron	Past President
Melissa Claybrook DeLaGarza	V.P. Kaleidoscope
Dawn Olgetree Murphy	Secretary
Carey Dill Dow	Treasurer
Geyer Wise Dybesland	Recruitment Chair
Lou Thompson Black	Membership Chair
Taylor Hodges Thompson	Communications Chair

Save the Date

*The Houston Alumnae Panhellenic Foundation
will honor*

Joe and Polly Cox Kent

*at the annual wine tasting event
"Uncorked"*

Friday, October 18, 2013

6:30 - 9 p.m.

*St. Cecilia's Community Center
11740 Joan of Arc, Houston, Texas 77024*

Chi Omegas attended the Houston Alumnae Panhellenic Foundation Luncheon on May 2nd. They are joined by the recipient of the Chi Omega Houston Scholarship Fund award, Caitlyn Wilkinson, Delta Delta Delta (in coral).

Psi Zeta News:

Scholarship Before Social Obligations... Three Psi Zetas, **Marissa Blumenthal**, **Kathleen Hash**, and **Mitra Khumbatta**, were inducted into Phi Kappa Phi, a national honor society for the top 10% of seniors and top 7.5% of juniors at the University of Houston. **Dakotah Appelhans**, **Kristen McInnerney** and **Kelly Wood** recently received scholarship awards from the Kingwood/Humble Alumnae Chapter. The first Chi Omega Psi Zeta Scholarships were also awarded to **Dakotah Appelhans**, **Vivian Hernandez** and **Nicole Sitz**.

Other happenings... The Psi Zetas are *Delta Gamma Anchor Bowl Champions* this semester. They hosted a successful Chi O Carnival for the residents of The Center. Due to the Psi Zeta's outstanding fundraising last semester, they were able to grant a wish through the Make-A-Wish Foundation to a young lady named Kelsey, whose wish was to visit Bora Bora with her family. To celebrate her trip, the Psi Zetas held a tropical island-themed send-off party for Kelsey.

Congratulations to the graduating seniors (right):

Phoebe Armbruster
Marissa Blumenthal
Vanadie Carpio
Katelyn Clasen
Laura Hargraves
Kathleen Hash
Megan Henry
Florence Lee
Mitra Khumbatta
Molly Marek
Kristen McInnerney
Taylor Miner
Isela Pachicano
Megan Thomas
Chelsea Wong
Kelly Wood



***Alumnae Association
Membership Renewal
starts JUNE 1st***

***Log on to
www.chiomegahouston.com
to renew your dues***

***For questions regarding membership,
email Lou Thompson Black at
membership@chiomegahouston.com***