



San Diego San Diego alumnae participated in a cooking class taught by Carissa Seward, a finalist from *The Next Food Network Star*.



San Jose/South Bay At the annual holiday potluck party, members of the San Jose/South Bay Alumnae Chapter brought gift cards from local retailers to be given to the Silicon Valley CASA. We collected more than \$350 in gift cards to donate last year.



St. Paul Whitney Gigaand and Bethany Straub, both U/Minnesota; Niclle Campion, A.A./Washington; and Nikki Feeck, Nancy Netz, and Kahlryn Baugher, all Y/Minnesota, enjoyed the St. Paul Alumnae Chapter's holiday dinner.



Toronto Mary Doering, TE/Western Ontario; Sara Jane Kennefley, AT/Ohio State; and Joan McKaye, Judith Akman, Sheila Hambleton, and Doris Guyatt, TE/Western Ontario, enjoyed the Toronto Alumnae Chapter's Founders Day celebration.

serving tea every Wednesday in February at the Carmel Foundation, celebrated CASA with a lovely fundraiser luncheon, and wrapped up our year of events in October with our fall luncheon, where new membership directories were distributed, reflecting our growing membership. We welcome all alumnae in Monterey County to join us at any or all of our events. We are looking forward to a great 2008!

NORTHERN VIRGINIA

The Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter is a diverse chapter serving almost 135 women in the Northern Virginia area. Throughout 2007, alumnae participated in a variety of events, including dinner groups, lunch bunch, book club, Race for the Cure, a wine tasting, Ghost Tour of Old Town Alexandria, and our annual holiday party, to name a few. We also celebrated Founders Day in March with the Washington, DC/Suburban Maryland chapter, which is an annual tradition.

The Northern Virginia Alumnae Chapter is proud of its support of local CASA chapters in Fairfax and Arlington Counties. For the past three years, we have supported the Fairfax County CASA's Light of Hope Fundraiser by sponsoring a table. In addition, this was the first year we also supported the Arlington CASA chapter by collecting school supplies for CASA children in September.

Finally, we recently completed a "mass mailing" targeting all Thetas in the area hoping to increase membership and interest in the alumnae group. This mailing reached almost 2,000 Thetas and attracted almost 25 new members! We are looking forward to a successful 2008.

RALEIGH/DURHAM/CHAPEL HILL

We have had a busy year here in central North Carolina, starting with our Founders Day celebration. Approximately 50 alumnae and Beta Rho collegians attended. The Beta Rho members took an active part in the ritual and also presented a PowerPoint presentation about their chapter that was used at their recruitment events.

We had several very successful Club 31 Dinners, we participated in a dessert with the Beta Rho collegians

and recognized all the graduating seniors with small gifts, and we kicked off the fall with our Theta family potluck dinner. At this event, we collected school items from alumnae for children in the Raleigh Guardian Ad Litem program.

We would like to thank the women of our executive committee who worked so hard this year to plan our activities. Special thanks goes to Barbara Edwards Perkins, Alpha Mu/Missouri, who, with the help of her daughter, single-handedly edited, printed, and mailed more than 700 newsletters by our August deadline. Also, our website has been created by Lori Cammie Rice, Epsilon Nu/Virginia Tech. We are very proud of it. Please visit <http://trpithetas.com/>.

RICHMOND

The Richmond Alumnae Chapter had an incredible year! Our Founders Day brunch was attended by 20 area alumnae and 14 college women from the Epsilon Psi Chapter at Richmond. The annual senior tea and service included seniors from both the Epsilon Psi Chapter and the Epsilon Omicron Chapter at Randolph-Macon. In addition to the monthly "Club 15" events that include dinners at area restaurants, a wine and cheese jewelry party, and an ice cream social with a school supply drive, we held our annual fundraising event, a bowl-a-thon, with all proceeds donated to the Chesterfield CASA and Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation. As we prepare for another busy year, check out what's happening in the Richmond area at our website: www.richmondthetas.org

ROCKFORD

The Rockford Alumnae Chapter has been using a programming idea from Grand Convention 2006. In the months in which there is not a scheduled meeting, members have been getting together informally for coffee and conversation. Calling these get-togethers "hidden pansies," the intent is that the informality will be appealing to those who like minimal contact or for whom there is a schedule conflict with the regular meetings. The get-togethers are also meant for members who like to see Theta friends more often. Since most of our alumnae chapter meetings

are in the evening, "hidden pansies" have been held during the day at local coffee houses or new casual restaurants. Our last get-together was held at a chocolatier.

SAN ANTONIO

The San Antonio Alumnae Chapter had its annual fall meeting at the Central Market Cooking School under the guise of a Bistro Basics Cooking Class. This fall's cooking class/meeting/lunch has become a tradition, this being its fifth year in a row.

After a short but informative meeting, Thetas took notes as Chef David Holtzman presented and taught the group how to make soupe au pistou (vegetable soup), coq au vin (chicken with red wine), and a divine pear galette (tart) for dessert.

As each course was presented, the group was served the dish to eat. At meeting's end, everyone left with copies of the recipes and very good tastes in their mouths! It was a great way to get together to learn something new while having fun.

SAN DIEGO

The San Diego Alumnae Chapter's membership includes more than 130 Thetas from initiation years 1938 to 2005. We also represent 61 college chapters, so to say we're diverse is an understatement!

We offer traditional Theta alumnae events like Founders Day, a fall brunch, a holiday party and senior service. We support three very active college chapters, Gamma Sigma/San Diego State, Zeta Rho/UC San Diego, and Eta Iota/San Diego, and engage in philanthropic endeavors in support of CASA, Habitat for Humanity, and United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation (UMDF). UMDF is a recent beneficiary as we have a member, Gay Johnson Grossman, Gamma deuteron/Ohio Wesleyan, whose only child, Lilly, is afflicted by this disease about which much is still to be discovered. Lilly's grandmother is also a Theta, so she's one of our favorite future legacies!

We had three guests of honor at our fall brunch. Diana and Roxie (last names withheld) from Voices for Children, the San Diego CASA chapter, came to speak with us and share a



Portland The Portland Alumnae Chapter has presented their Santa's House fund-raiser for 30 years at a local dairy! Long-standing program directors Betty Silva Bauer (left), and Mary Settergren Sherwood (right), both BE/Oregon State, presented the representatives of Alpenrose Dairy with a plaque recognizing the dairy for their outstanding commitment to the community. Santa's House raises approximately \$15,000 each year for local and national charities, including Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation.

moving video about the challenges faced by children in the foster system. Roxie is a teen in the system and Diana has been her Court Appointed Special Advocate for 2 years. Our members fell in love with Roxie and plan many ways to support CASA and VFC. Our other guest of honor was Foundation President Wendy Sears Goshert, Gamma/Butler. She shared the mission of the Foundation and how alumnae can help, even with small yearly donations.

For the second time in four years, San Diego suffered the ravages of wildfires along with many of our Southern California neighbors. Our community and Fraternity came together in support, especially via the Friendship Fund.

SAN JOSE/SOUTH BAY

As a group, we definitely have too much fun—thanks to our energetic and involved alumnae. Our big fund-raising event this year was an extremely successful jewelry party, from which we received a percentage of the sales proceeds. These funds are earmarked for scholarships, as well as donations to CASA and to Kappa Alpha Theta Foundation.

We win awards, too! One of the recipients of this year's Atheta Award, given by the San Jose/South Bay Alumnae Panhellenic for outstanding

service to one's sorority and community, was Dana Bruning, who is also the alumnae district president for District VIII. Thetas have won this award eleven times!

We have enjoyed having a college chapter, Eta Lambda/Santa Clara, nearby, and our alumnae serve on the facility corporation and advisory boards, assist at initiations, and volunteer in other ways. A number of recent graduates have joined our alumnae chapter, and their enthusiasm is infectious.

ST. PAUL

The St. Paul Alumnae Chapter and Minneapolis Alumnae Chapter have shared Founders Day with area college chapters for many years. Last year, the theme of the event was "A Casa for Theta." *Casa* is the Spanish word for house, and CASA as an organization provides stability and warmth to children in the court system much like a house does. Our Theta facilities also have great meaning to us as alumnae. Our Theta "house," whether we lived in or not, holds great memories of sisterhood, friendship, fun and learning.

Our chapter also does many other fun activities throughout the year. The most recent event was our holiday dinner, including significant others. We also have monthly book clubs and a fall bonfire for the Upsilon Chapter at Minnesota after recruitment to cele-

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