

Kite Tales

Wichita Alumnae Affiliate of Kappa Alpha Theta

A Letter From Our President



Dear Wichita Theta Alums,

Fall is definitely my favorite time of year, always has been. Cool crisp days mixed in with the sunshine of Indian Summer – it doesn't get any better than that! It's not just the weather; I've also always loved the "Back to School" mentality of Fall. New shoes, new school supplies, and new beginnings

can always make a girl feel happy.

Theta life in Wichita is no exception. It's exciting as we head into the new season of activities. Last week we kicked off the Fall schedule with our annual Mum Sale and Salad Supper. Thanks to many of you, we had a lovely autumn evening at the home of Mindy McCoy, and managed to successfully raise funds again for CASA and the Theta Foundation. We are also thrilled at the list of incredible new young Theta recruits from our Wichita area.

You won't want to miss the Allen Lambe House Tour

on October 20, or the Theta Shopping night at Traditions on November 10. This Fall also finds Theta alums nationwide exploring changed forms of communication – internet vs. U.S. mail, and a push for increased alumnae membership.

The season calls for fresh and new! Take a good look at this newsletter and see where you can fall into a new routine with the Wichita Theta Alums... it'll give you a chance to wear those new shoes!

Looking forward to seeing you.

Loyally,
Tracy Farrell



"It's exciting as we head into the new season of activities."

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CASA

Louise Holden, CASA Board President

CASA of Sedgwick County (Court Appointed Special Advocates) is celebrating its 30th year of service to the Wichita community. And while we pause to celebrate this milestone, we know that there is so much work to be done on behalf of the abused and neglected children in our midst. For 22 years, Kappa Alpha Theta has embraced CASA as its national charity, and across the nation, local CASA's have benefitted enormously from this partnership. Working at the local level, Theta chapters have partnered with their local CASA developing and executing fundraisers and service projects, serving on CASA boards and raising awareness about CASA's Mission and its work in the community. Here in Wichita, the Thetas have been steadfast supporters of our annual CASAINO fundraiser, which directly affects the number of children CASA can serve.



In 1977, Judge David Soukup, from Seattle Washington, saw the need to bring an advocate into the placement proceedings who could speak solely in the child's best interest. The existing social service system could not provide adequate representation for these children, so Judge Soukup proposed using volunteers, who would be trained and supervised, to advocate for these children's best interests, and thus the CASA program began. However, it was not until 1979, pursuant to federal legislation, that trained, supervised volunteers were finally authorized to appear in court on behalf of displaced children. CASA is the only non-profit that recruits, trains, and supervises these remarkable volunteers who go to court to speak for these children.

CASA's Mission is to provide caring, trained volunteers to advocate for the abused and neglected children of our community so that each child can reach his or her full potential. CASA achieves this goal by providing trained Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs) who speak for the best interests of children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect and are suddenly subject to the jurisdiction of the Children in Need of Care (CINC) docket in the eighteenth judicial district's juvenile court system. A CASA is solely accountable to the CINC judge overseeing the proceeding, thus the CASA is truly an independent voice empowered to speak for the child.

The 18th judicial district CINC judges repeatedly report how much they value the unique work and insight that a CASA volunteer brings to a proceeding, which is ultimately about determining the best permanent placement option for a child or sibling group. A CASA conducts extensive interviews with all parties – parents, grandparents, other family members, social workers, school principals, teachers, counselors – before filing a report with the judge outlining the permanent placement option the CASA deems is in the child's best interest.

Now, 33 years later, our community's need for CASA's services greatly outpaces our resources, but we continue to work and forge ahead serving as many of these deserving children as possible as well as marshalling community resources available to an abused or neglected child, to fill the gap left by our overburdened social service system. Overall, because of a CASA's attention, guidance, and advocacy, an abused or neglected child's dignity and self-respect can be restored despite the horrific circumstances thrust upon him or her. Simply put, a CASA can restore a child to a path for success in life.

Now, more than ever, we need to bring tools to the table that address the consequences that flow from of the cycle of abuse that plagues so many in our community, and which place significant human, institutional, and economic tolls on our community's resources. CASA would love to grow its relationship with the Theta sorority – by broadening our collaboration, we believe that CASA will be able to serve more children and achieve even greater Mission fulfillment.

On behalf of the CASA board of directors, our staff and volunteers, we look forward to strengthening the ties between your Theta chapter and your local CASA office. I believe that together, we can effect real change.

What is a Sustainable Community?

Elizabeth Cohn

This is a question that each of us individually and in our respective communities will be answering in the months and years ahead. For each of us, it means different things but as communities we will come together to answer it. Our alumnae chapter is no different.

Our Wichita chapter has already begun the process by forming a committee under guidance of our President Tracy Farrell. Its initial meeting will take place this fall and report to the Board. The focus is how to effectively and efficiently use all of our resources (i.e. time, money, paper or people) to enhance our Theta community.

However, the committee and the Board **need your help** in defining what a sustainable Wichita Theta community means to you. We need to hear from you as membership is a key component of sustainability. We will also require your patience and understanding as we try new things to incorporate the needs of all generations into our community. Some of the ideas we are thinking about are electronic invitations, an email with a link to an online newsletter and reducing the number of paper invitations. Our focus is to link sustainability goals with the needs of our membership so please send us your thoughts and comments (in favor and against) by email: wichitatheta@yahoo.com or by mail: Elizabeth Cohn, 427 S. Belmont, Wichita, KS



KAPPA ALPHA THETA MISSION STATEMENT

Yesterday, today and tomorrow, Kappa Alpha Theta exists to nurture each member throughout her college and alumnae experience and to offer a life-long opportunity for social, intellectual, and moral growth as she meets the higher and broader demands of mature life.

Salad Supper and Mum Sales

Frances Foster and DeLyn Mattingly



Left to right around perimeter: Jill Bajaj, Sheila Pritchard, Anna Mills, Mandy Jordan, Cathy Lisenby, and seated (left to right) are Carol Olander, Pat Myers, Cathy Losee, and Katie Pott.

We had a great Salad Supper hosted by the board at Mindy McCoy's. Mindy was a very gracious hostess and every one had a great time. Approximately 30 Thetas attended. In addition to enjoying salad and dessert together, we had a short business meeting, and raised money for our philanthropies with a condensed silent auction featuring K-State, KU and WSU gift baskets. All this followed a very successful finish to the mum sale.

Twenty Five Thetas sold 182 potted mums this year for our annual fundraiser, Mum's the Word. Our total income for the event was

\$2680.00 which will net \$1100.00 for Theta philanthropies. Thank you to Mindy McCoy, Mandy Jordan, and Tracy Farrell for unloading and sorting the mums. Thank you to all who sold mums, picked them up at the annual Salad Supper, and delivered them to your friends. Those who participate in this philanthropic project know that selling mums is easy. They're beautiful, reasonably priced and the perfect accent for a front porch. Best of all, you know you are contributing to worthwhile Theta endeavors. *So remember next year....Mum's the Word.*

Greenery Sales

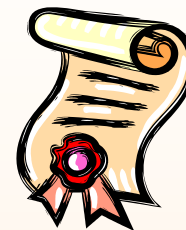
Our annual greenery sale is just around the corner. This is a great way to raise money for scholarships! Please contact Linda Ralston, hcrlkr@hotmail.com or visit the web site, www.wichitathetas.org for more information.



Angel Tree

Pat Myers is helping to coordinate volunteers for the Angel Tree at Towne East Square. The Angel Tree begins the day after Thanksgiving. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Pat, prmyers13@cox.net.

Panhellenic Scholarships



Wichita Alumnae Panhellenic hosted a luncheon this year at Wichita Country Club. Scholarships were awarded based on grades, leadership, activities, community service, and career goals. The recipients are as follows:

Celia White

Andale High School

Katie Gilbaugh

Kapaun Mount Carmel

Bailey Buer

Kapaun Mount Carmel

Kelsey Martin

Andale High School

Grace Winter

Andale High School

Congratulations!

Women from the Wichita Area that are Thetas at Various Universities!

Kansas State University

Grace Burghart

Amy Hawley

University of Missouri

Jessica Thomas

Kansas University

Kelsey Chlothier

Maggie Alefs

Katie Gilbaugh

Jordan Jobe

Erin Johnston

Texas Christian University

Natalie Farha

Kelsey Phillips

Oklahoma State University

Madeline Engle

Wichita Alumnae Web Site

Have you visited the web site lately? If not, please take a moment and explore! You will find forms, the social calendar, pictures and more. You can also make suggestions and submit them online! This is a great way to keep up to date and learn more about our chapter.

www.wichitathetas.org



Save the Date!

Allen Lambe House Tour

October 20, 2011, 5:15-7:30 pm

(Spouses or guests are invited. The cost is \$ 15 per person which includes tour admission. RSVP to Frances Foster, 10301 E 19th St N, Wichita, KS 67206 or 636-2438. Checks may be made out to Kappa Alpha Theta. Please call for rides or directions too.) Refreshments will be served!

Shop Night

November 10, 2011, 6:30 pm at Tradition's
(20% discount offered and guests are welcome.)

Holiday Party

December 4, 2011, 6:30 pm hosted by Ingrid and Hugh Gill.

Founder's Day

January 28, 2012, 12:00 pm at Yia Yia's.

Triad

March 6, 2012, 6:00 pm at Wichita Country Club.
(Guest presenter will be Beth Tully of Cocoa Dolce.)

Please let Cathy Lisenby at 683-8079 or cathylisenby@sbcglobal.net, or Frances Foster at 636-2438 or fosterksu@cox.net if you have other ideas or requests for our social events. We want all our members to feel we offer things you want to be a part of. We hope to see you on October 20th!

Directory Updates

We will publish changes, deletions, etc. in each newsletter so you will be able to update the “hard copy” of your Directory.



Address Updates:

Ms. Jordan Henning
1313 N Maize CT APT 207
Wichita, KS 67212-1224

Ms. Sue Dondlinger
138 N Rutan ST
Wichita, KS 67208-3304

Ms. Denise Harley
1441 N Ridgehurst CT
Wichita, KS 67230-7260

Ms. Susie Kempin
7801 E Donegal ST
Wichita, KS 67206-1617

Ms. Thuy Tran
8510 E 29th ST N APT 1219
Wichita, KS 67226-2195

Ms. Cynthia Swan Dunne
ISO45 Spring RD APT F2
Oakbrook Terrace, IL
60181-4681

Ms. Theresa Lynn
6119 SW 26th ST APT A
Topeka, KS 66614-8207

Ms. Elissa Mahaffey
7516 S Toledo AVE
Tulsa, OK 74136-6109

Ms. Carol Luinstra
4512 Goldfield ST
Lawrence, KS 66049-4750



- *Visit www.wichitathetas.org*
 - *Mark calendar for KAO social events*
 - *Greenery sales*
 - *Email your thoughts to Elizabeth about sustainability for our alumnae chapter*
 - *Contact Pat Myers to participate in the Angel Tree*
 - *Pay Dues*
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Kappa Alpha Theta
1542 N. Gatewood Court
Wichita, KS 67206

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Wichita KS
No. 444

2011 Dues Paying Members

As of September 20, 2011:

Mary Boyer
Pat Butin
Shannon Devlin Carnes
Elizabeth Cohn
Barbara Cox
Molly Crowe
Betty Deal
Patty Dengler
Cathy DeSocio
Cathy Devlin
Tracy Farrell
Frances Foster
Kyle Futo
Lauris Gibson
Ingrid Gill
Taylor Gill
Barbara Hollar
Kathryn Hines
Anna Houchin

Donna Hull
Rhonda Johnson
Linda McMaster
Barbara Murfin Murphy
Faith Maughan
Lindsey Lane
Cathy Lisenby
Kathryn Losee
Jenny Magana
Judy Manning
DeLyn Mattingly
Linda McMaster
Anna Mills
Pat Myers
Doris Nelson
Carol Olander
Marilyn Pearson
Katie Pott
Sheila Prichard

Linda Ralston
Phyllis Robertson
Sara Rogers
Heather Schultz
Lisa Schriefer
Susan Schroeder
Janet Smith
Susie Steed
Barbara Thompson
Anne Travis
Mary Lynn Walker
Nancy Wandling
Mary Williams
Susie Williams
Virginia Zebold

Thank you!