

ny delta doings

NY Delta Chapter of Pi Beta Phi at Cornell

Fall 2010 newsletter

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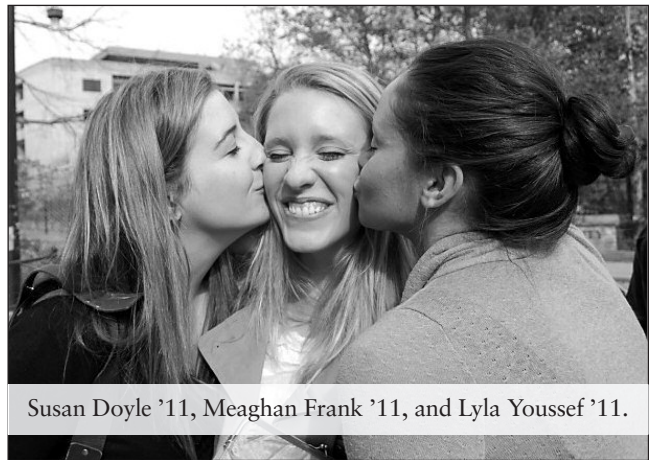
A Letter From the President

By Meaghan Frank '11
Undergraduate President

Hello, sisters!

I hope this letter finds you well. I'm in my second semester as president of Pi Phi, and my tenure has been a whirlwind of activity. I can't even bring myself to say that in a few short months I will no longer be the president of NY Delta. However, do not fear! The chapter is in very good hands. Sophia Zigouras '12, current VP finance, will be taking over the position of chapter president on Bid Day in January. Elections occurred on October 24, and I'm proud to announce that the chapter has chosen a phenomenal group for the executive council positions. That being said, I think it's going to be hard for me to let go.

My time as president has been a truly wonderful and very rewarding experience. Standing before 130 young women at a chapter meeting used to make me want to cringe with fear last January when I entered into my position, but now I don't give it a second thought. I have always thought of myself as having somewhat of a passive type B personality, so any sort of confrontation was extremely uncomfortable and terrifying for me. I frequently dreaded confrontations with chapter members and members of the executive council,



Susan Doyle '11, Meaghan Frank '11, and Lyla Youssef '11.

but now I feel as if I can handle each situation with a sense of understanding and professionalism. It is amazing how much I have grown as a person in just a few short months, and I can attribute all of this to our chapter. Being in this position has taught me that in order for individuals to work toward a common goal, they need to feel appreciated and respected. That mentality is something I will take with me in whatever professional field I choose to enter into.

I'm very saddened that my term as chapter president will soon be over, but NY Delta has many activities planned before the semester comes to a close. Before the close of the semester, there are two major philanthropy

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cornell greek awards

2010 has been a great year for New York Delta! This past

April, Pi Beta Phi won three awards during Cornell's Greek Awards Ceremony for outstanding facility management, outstanding financial management, and outstanding new member education program. Congratulations to the sisters of New York Delta for another outstanding year!

Bonding With Pi Phis

By Claire Shapiro '11
VP Communications

At New York Delta, we show our strong bonds of lifelong friendship and commitment by staying active. Whether through physical sports or leisurely time spent outside, this is becoming an increasingly common thread of the Pi Phi experience at New York Delta. First of all, every new member in our chapter's incoming pledge class completes an overnight retreat at a local nature center. The night consists of pizza and games to get girls actively moving and involved. This initial bonding experience for our incoming women sets the tone for our collective sentiment toward staying active as a bonding force between us as New York Deltas.

As seniors, we have started a tradition of a similar event to bond with one another one last time before graduation. Another way we show our active support is through our energetic spirit at any campus event we attend. In particular, our chapter happens to have a lot

of athletes, so we always have the loudest presence at games—complete with posters and even cutouts of people's faces held up on sticks. As a whole, we represent women on varsity field hockey, soccer, volleyball, lacrosse, swimming, basketball, softball, and crew. Not many chapters can boast such an array of talented athletic women. Many of our members who are not on varsity teams trained for the Philadelphia Half Marathon together (see their story on page four).

Our members have been pushing each other to run further and longer than they ever have before. At New York Delta, we bond over our abilities to be both motivators and athletes. Every girl can comfortably find her place within these two realms, and even those who



Megan Fitzpatrick '11, Alli Koehler '11, Jane Whalen '11, Katherine Kies '11, and Jackie Carlson '11

don't want to run a half-marathon are there in support of those that choose to do so, every step of the way. Also, this semester our executive board even completed a day of ropes course activities together, which allowed us to reflect on our leadership and communication skills while completing physical and mental challenges. By staying active and supporting our sisters, our entire chapter has been able to stay happier and healthier, and remain incredibly close in spite of our chapter's diversity.

Philanthropy on the Horizon

By Jackie Carlson '11

At the time of this writing, NY Delta is planning to host two of its biggest philanthropy events of the year. The first one, "Battle of the Chefs," is taking place on November 9. For this event, we have many other Greek houses on campus participating by cooking food to serve in a food competition. Each house cooks any type of food and this is served to the students on campus, and then the students vote for their favorite chef. This is an event that we

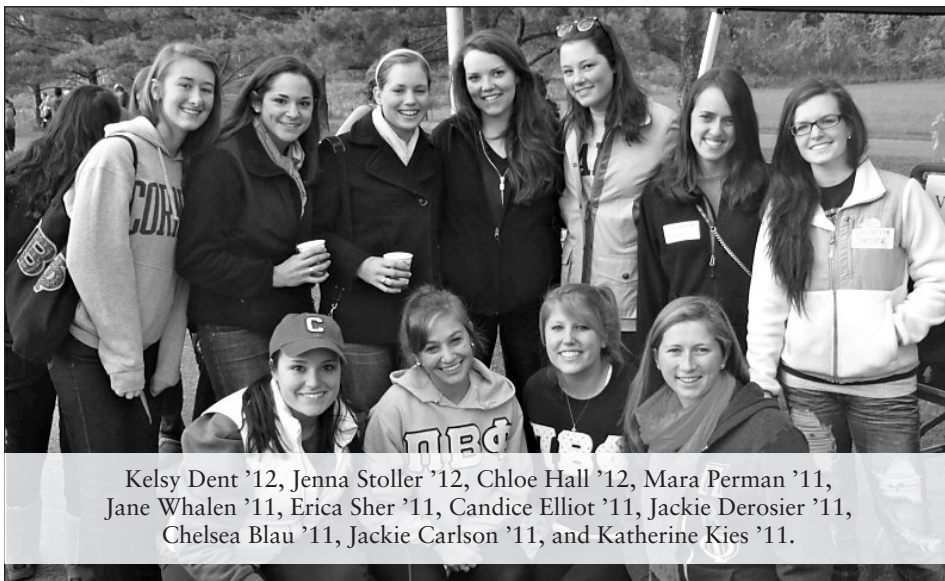
have been doing for many years, and we really enjoy this because of its emphasis on the whole Greek community and their involvement in philanthropic service.

The second event is called "Freshman 14," and this will be taking place on November 13. "Freshman 14" is an athletic competition that allows each of the freshman dorms to compete for the "best dorm on campus" trophy. We are extremely excited about this year's event for many reasons. First, this will only be the second year that we have hosted this

event, and last year, we took much more of a back-seat role. This year, we are personally doing a lot of work for the event, and this is great, because it helps our members feel a responsibility toward this event. The proceeds will all be donated to the T.A.K.E. Foundation, and in this coming February, we will host the T.A.K.E. organization at Cornell's campus for a women's self-defense seminar. This is extremely exciting, because we have never held this seminar on campus before, and this is the first year that we have been actively donating to the T.A.K.E. Foundation.

One last reason that our members are extremely excited about "Freshman 14" is because we are partnering with both Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity and the freshman class council in order to make this event a huge success. Originally, the class council was not involved at all, but after they saw us advertising for the event, they were extremely interested and contacted us to help. We are very excited about this experience, because we have never held an event that had the potential to be as noteworthy as this does. Having the class council's involvement allows us to be able to advertise to more freshmen, and ultimately to have a larger event that raises even more money to give to a great cause.

We cannot wait to see how the next couple of weeks go, and as a chapter, I believe that NY Delta is extremely excited for these great philanthropic opportunities.



Kelsy Dent '12, Jenna Stoller '12, Chloe Hall '12, Mara Perman '11, Jane Whalen '11, Erica Sher '11, Candice Elliot '11, Jackie Derosier '11, Chelsea Blau '11, Jackie Carlson '11, and Katherine Kies '11.

Developing Our Values as a Chapter

By Sarah Sprague '11
VP Membership Development

NY Delta's VP of membership development (VPMD), Sarah Sprague '11, recently had the opportunity to go to the fraternity's headquarters in St. Louis. In February of this past spring semester, she participated in Pi Beta Phi's Leadership Academy. This convention was meant to educate the VPMD from every Pi Phi chapter on how to carry out Pi Phi's revamped "Leading with Values" programming. Pi Beta Phi's six core values are integrity, lifelong commitment, honor and respect, personal and intellectual growth, philanthropic commitment to others, and sincere friendship. The point of the "Leading with Values" program is to teach the members of each chapter about Pi Phi's values and about what it means to live out these values while in college. To do this, Sarah oversees workshops on these values for the whole NY Delta chapter.

So far, Sarah has completed four values workshops. The first workshop was called a "values refresher," which went over the six core values. Through this workshop, the members of NY Delta voted on the values they felt the chapter best represented, and the values they most wanted to improve upon. The chapter unanimously agreed that sincere friendship and philanthropic service to others were NY Delta's strongest values. The sisters also agreed that personal and intellectual growth, honor and respect, and lifelong commitment were values they wanted to learn more about. So that is where Sarah started.

This past semester, NY Delta members Erin Rose Briggs '12, Meredith Kueny '12, and Emma Schnur '13 helped Sarah facilitate the "personal and intellectual growth" workshop,

teaching members how to best cope with stress and keep up with current events, as well as some self-defense skills. The "honor and respect" workshop highlighted what it meant to be respectful while working on a team with differing opinions.

This semester, Sarah facilitated an "integrity" workshop that turned into a discussion on challenges college students face these days and how Pi Phi can help members to face these challenges with integrity. Sarah is in the middle of planning the "lifelong commitment" workshop, where alumni will talk to the current members of NY Delta about what it really means to make a lifelong commitment to Pi Phi, and why they are happy they have done so.

So far, the NY Deltas have responded very positively to this new "Leading with Values" programming by having high attendance at values workshops and by participating in insightful discussions about these values. "It's really exciting to be able to have discussions about how to live out these values within our sorority. These are important discussions to have, and it's amazing how receptive the members have been to this new programming. I like to take the outlines that the fraternity provides us with for each value workshop and add a little twist to relate it more to the problems that are specific to members of the NY Delta Chapter. I'm so happy that I am a member of a chapter that is so willing to work on living out Pi Phi's core values together, and as a result, Pi Beta Phi is really leading the Greek community in values-based learning," explains Sarah.

Sarah hopes to finish three more values workshops by the end of the semester, and is so excited to have the next VPMD, Sylvia Sable '12, continue the "Leading with Values" programming once this semester is finished.



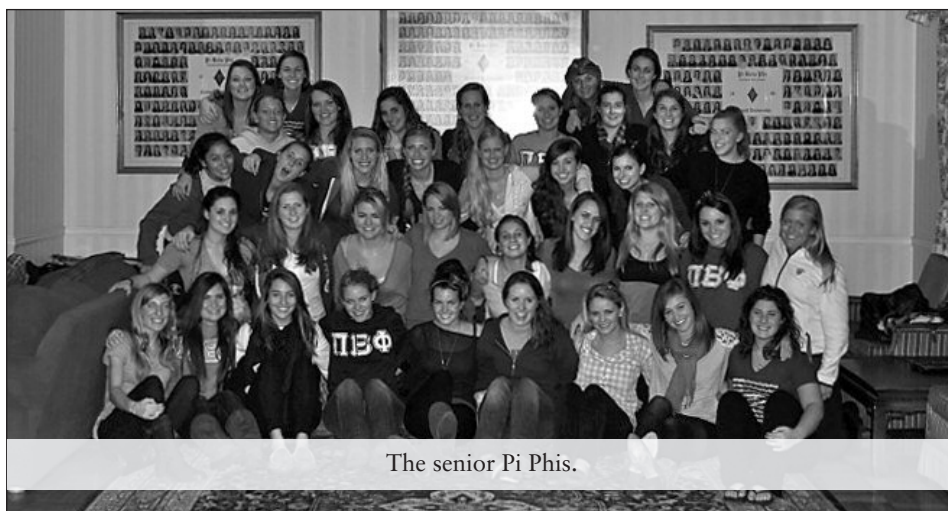
Home Improvement

By Molly Simon '12
House Manager

Many of us have fond memories of our time living in the Pi Beta Phi house at 330 Triphammer Road. The house is a place where sisters form lifelong bonds and cement their commitment to our fraternity. Just as we are always striving to improve our sisterhood through sister-sister activities, leading with values, and philanthropy events, we also strive to make physical improvements to our home to make the lives of live-in sisters that much more rewarding.

This summer, the project initiated by the chapter house corporation and Alumni Advisory Committee (AAC) was to extend our driveway, nearly doubling it in size. The improved driveway spans from Triphammer to Country Club Roads. In the past, when the snow began to pile up in our driveway, our sisters would essentially be snowed in due to the lack of space for a plow to enter and exit the narrow driveway. Thanks to the new construction, there is plenty of space and multiple exits to allow for maximum winter maintenance, which ensures the safety of our sisters during the long winter months. The added space also allows for increased parking for out-of-house sisters to attend chapter or just simply pay a visit!

In preparation for recruitment this winter, the executive board has worked in conjunction with the chapter house corporation and AAC to plan for increased landscaping to further improve the visual appeal of our already beautiful home. All parties are working on increasing the visibility of the Greek letters on the facade of the building so that potential new members can easily recognize our house during recruitment. Come by for a visit and see all the new and exciting improvements for yourself!



The senior Pi Phis.

Keeping it Social

By Rebecca A. Mitchem '11
VP Event Planning

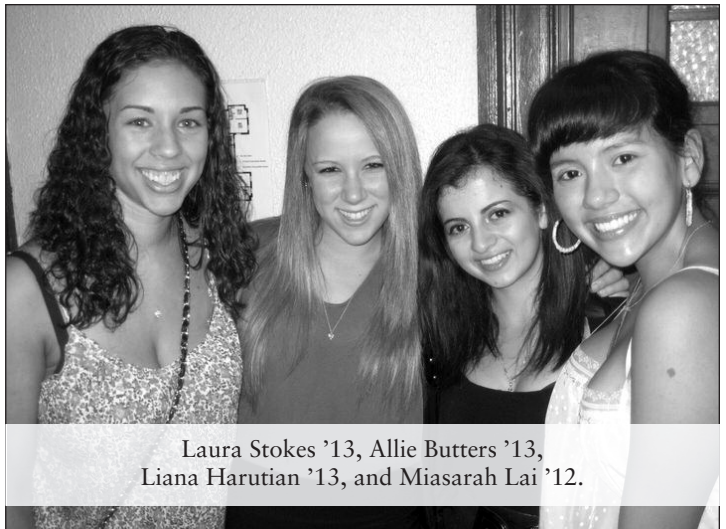
Parents' Weekend at the NY Delta Chapter has always been one of the most loved events by the sisters, especially for those who are living in the house. It is often one of the first and only opportunities to share our sisterhood with our families. We take this weekend to show our parents our home, our friends, and our sisters.

Traditionally, we host a small dinner off-campus on Friday, an event on Saturday, and possibly a breakfast on Sunday. However, we have decided this year to take advantage of our campus resources, as well as the short amount of time, to plan even more events. We are making these changes to show our parents the best aspects of both Cornell and Pi Beta Phi.

We plan to kick off this special weekend with a dinner in one of Cornell's largest dining facilities. We are utilizing Cornell's catering and decorating services as well. We hope that this will give our families a better sense of our lives at Cornell and the actual places we are

spending our time. During this three-course, sit-down meal, we hope to project pictures of the sisters for all of the families to see. We will follow this meal with a cocktail hour, so that parents have additional time to meet and learn about the sisterhood.

On Saturday, we will be exploring the beautiful scenery that Ithaca has to offer. We are hosting a wine tour that will give our parents the opportunity to enjoy the Finger Lakes, as well as locally produced wine. This will be the first time that many will experience a wine tasting or a tour the vineyards. We will conclude our festivities on Sunday morning with a brunch at the Pi Phi house. Our wonderful chef will provide the meal. This will provide another glimpse into the



Laura Stokes '13, Allie Butters '13,
Liana Harutian '13, and Miasarah Lai '12.

lives of sisters and give the families an opportunity to explore the house and see each uniquely decorated room. During brunch, an a cappella group will stop by to provide an extra taste of Cornell life.

Our sisterhood and friendships fill a very special place in our lives here at Cornell. At the end of the weekend, we hope that our families will have a better understanding of why and how much we love Pi Beta Phi.

Carry Me to the Finish Line

By Chelsea Blau '11

Last year, two of our seniors elected to run the Philadelphia Half Marathon. They trained together, commiserated together, and after the event, shared their story with the rest of our chapter. As the spring semester rolled around, we were brainstorming new and interesting ways to raise money for First Book and the Pi Phi Foundation. That was when someone brilliantly suggested that we get a group together to train and run the Philadelphia Half Marathon to raise money for our philanthropy. We were all very excited to take on this endeavor. We came up with training schedules, made running groups, and sent letters to our friends and family asking for their support.

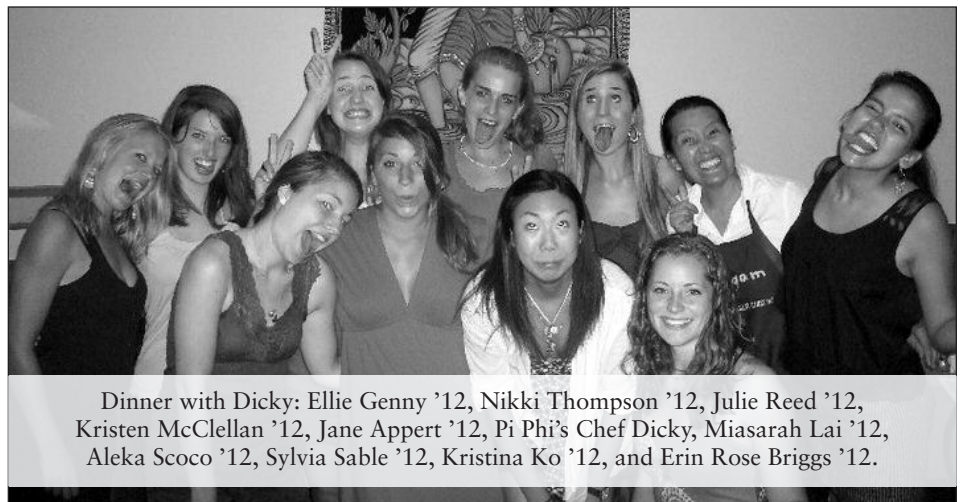
When I signed up for the half marathon in June, November 21 seemed like it would be decades away. I started running around my neighborhood with short runs at first, building up to four miles by the time school was starting. When I first got back to Cornell, I would do four-mile runs by myself, not really pushing myself to build up the mileage. As the weeks started passing, I realized that the marathon was only two months away, and I was terrified. I thought that I wouldn't be able to do it, and I was going to let down my

friends and family who were supporting me. That's when I contacted the other Pi Phis who were running and started training with them. My attitude completely turned around; I was excited to go running, and to push myself to further distances. We finally ran the full 13.1 miles, and I can honestly say that I never thought I would be able to do it—and I would never have been able to do it without my Pi Phi sisters by my side.

Now when we see each other on campus,

we not only talk about the typical college topics like classes and boys, but we also talk about how our training is going, or how our legs hurt, or how to stretch this muscle or swap really good protein-infused, carbohydrate-loaded pasta dishes.

This experience has taught me that I am capable of anything that I set my mind to; it has also shown me that I can't do it alone. The support of my closest friends is really what is going to carry me over that finish line.



Dinner with Dicky: Ellie Genny '12, Nikki Thompson '12, Julie Reed '12,
Kristen McClellan '12, Jane Appert '12, Pi Phi's Chef Dicky, Miasarah Lai '12,
Aleka Scoco '12, Sylvia Sable '12, Kristina Ko '12, and Erin Rose Briggs '12.

our alumnae share their news and notes

"I'm living here in 'God's lovely mountains,'" writes **Marion Louise (Walker) Patrick '41**. "I would love to hear from any of you!" Send greetings to 1055 Walker Rd., Waynesville, NC 28786.

Barbara (Schickler) Hankins '54 reports, "**Martha Caldwell '54, Sally (Binley) Boothby '54, Eunice (Labrecque) Purcell '54, Esther (Corcoran) Namian '54,** and I all got together for a mini-reunion in Washington, D.C. during the weekend of May 7–9. We had a great time!" Write to Barbara at 5225 Pooks Hill Rd., #A29N, Bethesda, MD 20814; barbara@hankins.net.

"I enjoyed the newsletter," writes **Dorinda (Larkin) McNamara '58**. Catch up with her at 3 Scott Ln., Pinehurst, NC 28374; larkinmack@earthlink.net.

Carolyn (Carlson) Blake '60 reports, "I enjoyed visiting the house on Reunion Weekend and thought it looked good. Our 50th was great fun—**Marianna (Giacalone)**

Goodheart '60, Sydney (Clark) Menger '60, and I represented Pi Phi—we missed our other classmates who missed an outstanding Reunion. Keep up the good work." Say hello to Carolyn at 111 Midwood Ave., Allendale, NJ 07401; ccblake38@aol.com.

"I am trying to sell my home in Sewickley and move off to Hawaii, where my son, Josh Green, who is an ER doctor and state-senator, is located," writes **Natasha (Soroka) Green '65**. "Anyone moving near Pittsburgh? Sewickley is a lovely small town. I have spent the past four years building the Mary Roberts Rinehart Nature Park (www.mrrnaturepark.org)—a completely naturalized park that's a real treasure for the education of children." Find out more from Natasha by writing to at 1315 Linden St., Sewickley, PA 15143; natashasoroka@aol.com.

Keep in touch with **Marilyn (McCullough) Bartter '69** at 221 Apple Tree Rd., Winnetka, IL 60093; mmb@bartter.com.

Jayne A. (Schreiber) Page '70 has a new mailing address: 81 Southern Heights Blvd., San Rafael, CA 94901.

"No headlines for me," reports **Elisabeth (Kaplan) Boas '71**. "After more than a decade in the D.C. area and just turning 60, I can pause and see how I've succeeded in making a new life here (after 20 years in Fairfield County, Connecticut). I'm happily active in lots of rewarding voluntary leadership, particularly Cornell-related things, both locally and Ithaca-based. I still enjoy spending a month in Court Hall, taking four CAU courses each summer and doing off-campus courses with them (this past year: Southeast Asia, the Russian Far East, and India)—believe it or not!" Catch up with Elisabeth at 11 Oxford St., Chevy Chase, MD 20815; ekb7@cornell.edu.

"In February 2010, **Sherri (Koenig) Stuewer '73, Wendy (McKee) Wuest '74, Gerry Serotte '74,** and I surprised **Mary (Antenen) McIlroy '73** for her 60th birthday," writes **Susan Murphy '73**. "Organized by Mary's daughter, Sarah (a junior

at Davidson), we gathered with many other friends, along with Mary's other children and grandson, to greet her at dinner—a total surprise. The February event was a weekend of fun, surprise, and lots of Pi Phi love and friendship—shared for over 40 years!" Stay in touch with Susan at 49 Eastlake Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850; susan.h.murphy@gmail.com.

Joanne Eagle '74 recently moved; find her at 8 Temple Ct., Pennington, NJ 08534.

Leslie (Stevens) Weinberg '77 writes, "I have been living in Los Angeles since 1983. My husband, Jimmy, is in the real-estate development business (waiting for the economy to turn around!) My daughter, Abby, is a senior in high school, and son, Aaron, is a freshman." Reconnect with Leslie at 10030 Cheviot Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90064; lesliew1@ca.rr.com.

"We are still living in Switzerland—just moved to a town next to Lausanne," reports **Jeanine (Thomas) Riband '84**. "Love it here. Can't believe we've been in one place now for almost ten years. Our oldest, Daniel, will be starting at Penn in September. We will miss him terribly, but are very happy for him. Our daughter, who is 16, will probably end up going to the U.S. too. If anybody comes in this direction, let us know—you are welcome here." Contact Jeanine at Ch. des Boutettes 47, Lufry 1095, Switzerland.

Kim Shoop '84 writes, "I left the workforce 13 years ago and have been living in the same house for the past 17 years with my

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President's Letter

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events, fall formal, sister-sister activities, and chapter meetings. In addition, my work with the chapter will not conclude with chapter president. I will be the transitional officer in the spring semester, which means I will be planning events specifically for our very active class of 38 seniors.

My work for Pi Phi has defined my experience here at Cornell, and I'm not quite sure where I would be without it. Our chapter members are amazing and inspiring young women who I want to volunteer my time for. I'm so thankful and blessed to have such an extraordinary group of women serving on this year's executive council; AAC chair Beth Walkenbach, who is truly an asset to our chapter; a supportive house corporation; and, of course, a strong network of NY Delta alumnae. On behalf of the entire chapter of NY Delta, we wish you well! Happy holidays!

PPL & mine,
Meaghan Frank, President

our alumnae share their news

(continued from page seven)

husband, Bob Reinhold. When I am not doing 'mom activities' for Andy (17), Abby (14), or Ashton (11), I am working out with girlfriends, training for local triathlons." Write to her at 2276 Crows Nest Ln., Reston, VA 20191; kjshoop@aol.com.

When she wrote to us in June, **Carrie Call '86** was working on a book, *Spiritually Healthy Divorce*, and was expecting it to be published sometime this fall. "My husband and I return to Ithaca whenever possible. My stepson graduated from Notre Dame last year and is working as a musician in Ithaca, so he's getting to know Cornell well! I would love to hear from any Pi Phis." Stay in touch with Carrie at 11002 Maumee Dr., Granger, IN 46530; ithacab@gmail.com.

Rana Glasgal '87 reports, "It's been a busy year, with travel for both work and fun, but the highlight was a last-minute trip to the

Olympics with **Meagan (McMahan) O'Connor '87**. We had a blast watching hockey together." Reconnect with Rana at 594 Springer Ter., Los Altos, CA 94024; rg87@cornell.edu.

"I'm still enjoying life on the beach," writes **Kim (Brown) Bixler '91**. "We moved from Northern California in July 2008 to Manhattan Beach. Tim (Cornell Law '93) is still working at International Rectifier. I continue to stay home with the kids, Kendall (12) and Robert (11), who are both in middle school. Where does the time fly? If you are in the area, contact us!" Get in touch with the Bixler family at 3616 The Strand, Apt. C, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266; kimbixler@earthlink.net.

Anne (Fogarty) Kain '92 has a new address: 76 Nod Hill Rd., Ridgefield, CT 06877. Drop her a line via e-mail at anne@kainmg.com.

Amy (Barbato) Martin '97 now receives mail at P.O. Box 3263, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32004. Keep in touch with her at abevonts@aol.com.

Alison Munsell '97 is now working for Sterling Brands in San Francisco. Catch up with her at 2677 Larkin St., Apt. 303, San Francisco, CA 94109; aem120@columbia.edu.

Laura (Snow) LeFever '99 and her husband, Matt (Cornell '98), are proud to announce the birth of their daughter, Brooke Elizabeth Lefever, in January 2010. Send congratulations to 500 E. 77th St., New York, NY 10162; laura.s.lefever@gmail.com.

Stay in touch with **Stephanie (Preuss) Terry '99** at her new address: 538A 28th Ave., San Francisco, CA 94121; or e-mail stepherry07@yahoo.com.

"I have just moved to southern Sudan to manage the U.S. government's food aid programs," reports **Soledad Birnbaum '00**. "It is truly an amazing experience, in which I am really able to make a difference. If

any of you find yourselves in East Africa, make sure to drop me a line." Find out more about Soledad's journey by e-mailing her at soledadbir@aol.com.

"I successfully passed my certifying examination in August, following completion of a residency in veterinary dermatology at the University of Wisconsin," writes **Alison Diesel '01**. "My soon-to-be-fiancé, Mike, and I then moved to Texas to start faculty positions at the veterinary school at Texas A&M University. We are looking forward to the change of scenery and good barbecue! If anyone is in the area, let me know ... it would be great to catch up!" Contact Alison at 4050 Pendleton Dr., #228, Bryan, TX 77802; ali_diesel@hotmail.com.

Mollie Klurfeld '03 has moved to 210 W. 19th St., Apt. 4J, New York, NY 10011. E-mail her at mollieklurfeld@gmail.com.

Julie Ruderman '06 graduated from Harvard Law School in May 2010. Reach her at 2031 W. Crystal St., Apt. 3, Chicago, IL 60622; julie.ruderman@gmail.com.



Julianna Enger '11 and Maxine Ames '10 at Homecoming 2010.

deceased

We regret to announce the deaths of the following alumnae:

Ethel (Quackenbush) Wadson '45
April 12, 2010

Joan (Kramer) Thurston '48
April 12, 2010

Clara (Newell) Lloyd '49
April 30, 2010

Margaret S. Turner '61
October 16, 2010

Anne Luise Buerger '65
June 27, 2010

Linda (Rappoli) Plank '68
December 13, 2009

Lisa (Brigham) McCarthy '87
January 11, 2009