

*save the date*

The sisters of the NY Delta Chapter of Pi Beta Phi would like to invite you to an upcoming event which will be held at our house at 330 Triphammer Road. Save the date for our **FOUNDERS' DAY BRUNCH**, which will take place on **MAY 1, 2011**.

## President's Letter: Strengthening our Chapter

**By Sophia Zigouras '12**  
Undergraduate President

Hello, sisters in Pi Phi!

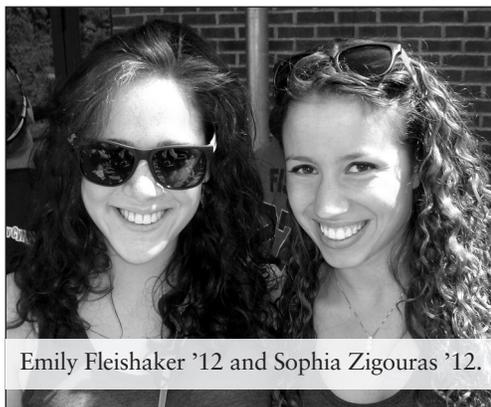
It is an honor to represent New York Delta as president this year and give back to the community that has provided my home away from home. I have taken great pleasure in working for our chapter and am excited to do so at an even more demanding level. In serving as president, I am presented with the opportunity to find new ways of enhancing chapter life. I am prepared to take full advantage of this opportunity. My main goal for the

year is to strengthen membership. My favorite New York Delta quality is the down-to-earth nature of our members and how well we all get along.

Through joining Pi Phi, we have all made sincere friendships. We enjoy spending time with our sisters, whether at 330 Triphammer or one of the Pi Phi apartments for upperclasswomen in College-town. However, our Pi Phi experience is not only about the friendships we make, but also the traditions we are a part of—our service and philanthropic events to benefit literacy, our Leading With Values program, our songs and our ceremonies.

I will be working with our executive council on increasing involvement in all aspects of chapter life. New York Delta is lucky to have members who are involved in a variety of campus activities. This also means that our members have hectic schedules without much time to spare. Thus, the challenge is to make Pi Phi's activities ones in which sisters will be sure to partake. I am eager to rise to the occasion and think of new ways to get sisters excited about being more active. By soliciting the input of all our members in planning new events and improving upon the events we already hold, we hope to increase participation.

I am looking forward to working and interacting with all our sisters to make this the most successful and fulfilling year ever.



Emily Fleishaker '12 and Sophia Zigouras '12.

## Pi Phi Sisters Focus on Philanthropy

**By Kristina Ko '12**  
VP of Philanthropy

Pi Phi had some extremely successful philanthropy events this past year, and we look to continue our success with more fun and exciting events this year. This past year, we hosted our annual "Battle of the Chefs" event, which brings together the whole Cornell Greek community. We invited chefs from all the sororities and fraternities located on campus to make a unique dish, which was then judged and voted on by students. The top two winners of the competition had proceeds from the

event donated to their charity of choice.

During the fall semester, seven sisters courageously ran the Philadelphia Half Marathon. They trained hard all semester and subsequently raised \$2,500 for First Book. At the time of this writing, we are planning events for the upcoming semester. We will volunteer for the Special Olympics in February, where we help administer the events and cheer on the athletes. This has always been a fun event for us, and we are excited to help out again this year. We are also planning to host our annual "Hearts for

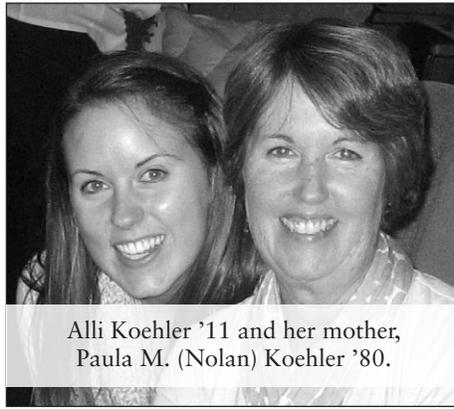
(continued on page three)

# When a Mother Becomes a Sister

By Alli Koehler '11

Except for the 30 years between us, my mom and I are essentially the same person: we look alike, have the same facial expressions and the same laugh, and even have the same annoying tendency to tear up during movies. Like me, my mom is a Cornellian and a NY Delta Pi Phi. As a sophomore, the best part about living in the same house that my mom lived in was the opportunity to giggle at her composite picture every time I passed between the second and third floor (sorry, Mom!) However, this year, somewhere between the panic and sentimentality that comes with my looming graduation, my mom's time as a Cornell Pi Phi has begun to mean more to me than it did in my previous three years of college.

A few weeks ago, on bid night, our 50 new members signed their first pledge to Pi Phi in the living room. While the seniors waited in a circle around the room's perimeter, it occurred to me that my mom must have also signed that pledge, three decades ago. Within five minutes of searching the chapter room with our historian, I had uncovered a book of signatures dating back to 1920, a touching discovery in and of itself. And there, under "pledge class of 1978," my mom had signed "Paula M. Nolan" in a cursive identical to the one she uses today. After



Alli Koehler '11 and her mother, Paula M. (Nolan) Koehler '80.

the initial surprise of seeing her maiden name on the page, I was unexpectedly overwhelmed with emotion. It was incredibly poignant to know that my mom had signed her name in a worn-down book that would also contain the signature of her own daughter, 60 pages and 30 years later.

As an only child, when I first joined Pi Phi, the idea of having a "sister" was foreign and, frankly, a little strange. Now, a few months away from graduating, what scares me more than the uncertainty of the future is the idea of leaving many of the girls who have become my family here at Cornell. I think what has been remarkable about my Pi Phi experience has been the opportunity to share it with my mom, as well as the chance to watch the line between friends and family disappear. In four years, my best friends have become my sisters and my mother has become my best friend, and that is something that I will truly cherish forever.

# Recruitment Update

By Mara Perman '11

January was an exciting month for the New York Deltas: We welcomed 50 new members into Pi Beta Phi! As new member coordinators, or pledge moms, Michelle Grosso, Madison Kramer, and I have introduced this wonderful new member class to what it means to be a Pi Phi, both on Cornell's campus and beyond. After a successful recruitment run by seniors Kelly Mannix and Lauren Peterson, the new member period began with our delicious tradition of bid night at the Nines in Collegetown. Since then, new members and sisters alike have been busy getting to know one another at weekly sisterhood events and social functions. The wintry weather here in Ithaca was perfect for a snowball fight on Libe Slope, as well as indoor events such as bowling night on North Campus and a movie screening at Cornell Cinema.

In addition to these outings, new members have been taking advantage of weekly dinners at Pi Phi for some quality time with sisters who live in as well as with our wonderful chef, Dicky. Lastly, the new member period would not be complete without weekly "Leading with Values" lessons at the house, where we discuss Pi Beta Phi's mission, core values, and history. Although these lessons are meant for new members, I have learned a great deal about what Pi Beta Phi stands for and how strong the fraternity network is. It has been a real treat getting to know our 50 new members, who are the future of New York Delta. As a senior, I am constantly reminded of my own new member experience and am amazed at how fast the time has gone by. That being said, I cannot imagine my time at Cornell without Pi Phi, and like a proud parent, I am excited for the amazing memories and friendships this new member class has ahead of them!

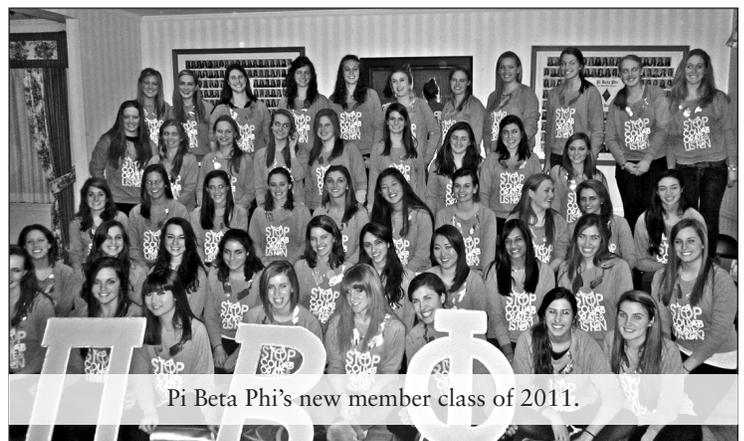
# Behind and On the Scene

By Alessandra Momo '13

Creating a skit that can reflect each sister's personalities in Pi Beta Phi was an extremely long process. We're a diverse house, filled with women who enjoy so many different aspects of life, who are all tied together by our sisterhood. The end result of performing a piece that reflected all of Cornell University's Pi Phis in front of tons of potential new members was one of the most exhilarating moments I have had in my time here. I started writing the skit with another sister in my new member class, Emma Schnur '13, weeks before recruitment. We spent hours on Skype, on the phone, and over e-mail to decide what, exactly, our skit should entail.

During our first rehearsal as a house, the skit did not come out as I had envisioned it. Being a perfectionist, I asked the women of Pi Phi to stay and rehearse and get critiqued by those who were not in it. We rehearsed so many times that we went to bed exhausted for four nights in a row. I thought that, by asking my

fellow sisters to rehearse so vigorously, tensions would rise. I was not only surprised, but also so pleased, with the support and cooperation of each Pi Phi. This attitude created a result that made an amazing impression on each potential new member that came through our home. To this day, I am still told by women who are soon to be initiated by not only Pi Beta Phi, but also by other sororities, that our skit was the best one that they saw. Pi Phi's lasting impression was not only made by the amazing sisters who performed in the skit, but also through the devotion and unity throughout our entire chapter.



Pi Beta Phi's new member class of 2011.

---

# Enjoying our “Last Firsts” With Pi Phi

By Kit Lyman '11

Being a last-semester senior brings feelings that are hard to place. It feels like just a label when I say it out loud, but certain things are starting to remind me that this is actually a reality. People are starting to care about “last firsts,” even if they are classes and tests, and nostalgia is beginning to hit us at random times. Just recently, I was walking to my dreaded 10:10 on a Friday with a group of fellow Pi Phis. It was quite the struggle that morning, but when I looked around at all of us laughing with one another and embracing the fact that we’re all in this together, it hit me: I’m going to miss this.

Finality is surreal, exciting, and scary, but it is something that everyone has to come to terms with eventually. However, the end of college is a lot to take in. It symbolizes the true end of our childhood and our initiation into the second phase of life. The one thing that makes finality hard to accept is feeling that you wish you had done things differently. When I think back on my three and a half years of college, I know deep in my heart that I was one of the lucky

ones. I am able to take away crazy stories, memories, and experiences, but I am also able to take something much more substantial than that. Some people have different ingredients for what makes a good college experience, but what I feel truly makes the difference is the people who surround you.

We don’t actually realize how big our decision is as a freshman, but looking back now, I am so thankful that I chose Pi Phi. Recruitment is a tricky thing that only works if people truly follow what they want to be, instead of what others tell them to want. I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to meet incredible women who have made an indescribable impression on my life. It wasn’t about all the superficial things for us; it was about the genuine interest we have in one another’s lives. Pi Phi is more than just a house on campus or a name to put on a résumé; it is a symbol of a group of girls who took a chance. It brings girls together who value friendship and don’t care about unimportant labels. During the final round of recruitment this past year, I looked around at my fellow seniors and couldn’t help but cry. It’s

nothing new to hear, because the final year of recruitment starts the countdown. It allows you to take in your college years and realize that we owe it all to Pi Phi. It’s hard to have the freshmen see and feel what you have, because you can’t truly fathom the impact unless you are at that finish line. Being in Pi Phi has allowed me to grow as a person and has given me a family in a place where we never truly understand how alone we could be. To all the new members, you will feel it just as I have. It may not feel like your decision could be a life-changer, but take it from someone who was a nonbeliever, it will happen.

---

## Focus on Philanthropy

(continued from page one)

your Hunny’ event around Valentine’s Day. At this event, we invite people to come and craft unique Valentine’s Day cards to be delivered to their special someone. We are also involved in various volunteer activities in support of literacy. We participate in the “Books through Bars” program, in which we read letters from prisoners requesting various books at a local bookstore and help distribute those to them. We see this as an extremely rewarding experience.

We’re really hoping for an amazing upcoming year filled with successful philanthropy events. One of our goals is to bring the T.A.K.E. self-defense program to Cornell in the fall. We also hope to create another large, campus-wide philanthropy event bringing together all of Cornell Greek life in the spring. We continue to search for creative and enthusiastic ways to promote literacy and raise money for First Book.



Kit Lyman '11 and fellow Pi Phi seniors at Homecoming in the fall of 2010.

## Our Alumnae Share Their News and Notes

**L. Ann (Bode) Muth Jennings '44** writes, “I still travel. I have five children and six grandchildren, and there is a chapter here of local alums who meet monthly for lunch.” Say “hello” to her at 14515 W. Granite Valley Dr., # C429, Sun City West, AZ 85375; abjenningsaz@cox.net.

“My husband, Jim, and I celebrated our 80th birthdays and 60th anniversary in 2010,” reports **Ann (Penney) Ross '51**. “All 11 of our children and their spouses came for the clam-bake and weekend. All but five of our 31 grandchildren were present. What a day! We were at Cornell in May for the graduation of our grandson, Peter Hunt. I was able to visit the ‘new’ Pi Phi house.” Send greetings to Ann at

57 Stonehenge Rd., Kingston, RI 02881.

**Dorinda (Larkin) McNamara '58** writes, “I am getting used to widowhood. This past June, I went to Las Vegas and the Grand Canyon with my stepson Terry, his wife, Mary, and their three daughters. It was a great trip, and the girls (ages 14, 12, and 8) were good travelers. This trip has inspired me to travel, and I am currently planning this year’s trips. If anyone is in Pinehurst, there is always a room with the McNamara clan. I hope to get to Cornell soon.” Contact her at 3 Scott Ln., Pinehurst, NC 28374; larkinmack@earthlink.net.

“Being a grandmother is my favorite job ever,”

reports **Beth (Hoover) Morsman '60**. “Tommy (9) and Truman (6) live nearby, and Audrey (3) and Gus (1) live in Denver, so I see them only every three months. And, of course, my husband and I travel, travel, travel—and will until we’re too decrepit!” Keep in touch with Beth by writing to 4011 E. Valley Rd., Deephaven, MN 55391; bethmorsman@msn.com.

“After a 12-year friendship, John and I married in 2008 and completed a house remodel, which I had started and moved to,” writes **Jean Chen '65**. “We’ve traveled to Amsterdam, Canada, Austria, and recently, Las Vegas (for a

(continued on page four)

# our alumnae share their news

(continued from page three)

traditional family wedding). John plays the piano, fly-fishes, and is a professor at the University of Washington, where he has been since 1984, after Harvard and the Peace Corps in Senegal. I've been remodeling homes in Seattle since 1987. My parents moved to Seattle, and my mother and I enjoyed years of art classes, theater, music, fine seafood dining, and travel to Hawaii, Arizona, Europe, and Asia. It's now time to sell these houses, travel, and study abroad. Anyone interested in investing in a rental house or a home, e-mail me." Write to Jean at 311 Ward St., Seattle, WA 98109; samchen00@hotmail.com.

**Natasha (Soroka) Green '65** reports, "I have no additional news, but I love reading the NY Delta Doings ... and am very saddened to hear of the death of **Anne Buerger '65**. She was a brilliant and beautiful woman. Perhaps our pledge class could come together to plant a tree in her memory on the Pi Phi property." If you're interested, you could contact Natasha about getting a group together: 1315 Linden St., Sewickley, PA 15143; natashasoroka@aol.com.

"After 42 years in Connecticut (32 in the same house), Mark and I have moved to Aspen, Colorado, to live temporarily with our daughter Rachel (Cornell '98) while our house in New Mexico is being built," writes **Barbara Jean (Kipp) Smith '68**. "I retired in June 2010 after teaching French and Spanish for many years in five different school systems. It's great not correcting papers! Please e-mail me at mrschmidt68@aol.com ... and P.S.: The skiing is great!" She receives mail at 217 Cottonwood Ln., Aspen, CO 81611.

**Debbie (Lyon) Fister '74** writes, "I always enjoy reading news about Pi Phi sisters, even the ones I have never met. I continue to edit theses, dissertations, and term papers for college students. I enjoyed the busiest year yet! When I am not working, I am either spinning yarn or knitting. I received a spinning wheel for my birthday, and even spun yarn that won 'best novice skein' at the Finger Lakes Sheep and Fiber Festival. Other activities include rubber stamping, church Bible study, and Jazzercise. I had a wonderful afternoon with **Peggy (Stewart) Kristofersen '74** this past summer. We reminisced

about Cornell and Pi Phi." Stay in touch with Debbie at 54 Sherwood Dr., Brockport, NY 14420; yarngirl1952@gmail.com.

"Rick (Cornell '78) and I are enjoying our 'empty nest' after many busy years with our children, William (Penn State '05), Matthew (Cornell '08), and Kara (SUNY Geneseo '11)," writes **Kathy (Kelly) Zimmerman '78**. "Rick runs his own agricultural consulting business and I find teaching health and FACS to middle-schoolers both fun and rewarding! I fondly remember life at 330 Triphammer Road and would love to hear from other Pi Phis." Write to her at 415 Stove Pipe Rd., Voorheesville, NY 12186; zimmfam15@aol.com.

**Carol Stabile '82** reports, "2010 was a hectic and rewarding year. Besides turning 50, I celebrated 25 years of marriage with Richard T. Rego (Cornell '82) and 20 years in medical practice. We traveled as a family with daughters Chiara (10) and Liana (7) to Antigua, Paris, and Sicily. Besides trying to keep up with my daughters' school and activities, I am managing partner of my group practice, and chief of service of the department of ophthalmology at Manchester Memorial. I enjoyed a recent get-together with **Karen (Gottschalk) Bakos '83**." Contact Carol at 115 Quail Run, Glastonbury, CT 06033; stabilemd@cox.net.

"Wow! It's been a long time," writes **Robin (Block) Marguleas '84**. "I am still living in southern California. I have an awesome job with an interior-design firm, which I love. My daughter Sydney is a sophomore at Boston University, and my son Oliver is a junior in high school. My husband, David (Cornell '83), would love to see or hear from CU friends!" Catch up with Robin at 76929 Sheffield Ct., Palm Desert, CA 92210; rbm@dc.rr.com.

"A big 'thank you' to **Ellen Hartwick '92** and **Jeanne Neeson '92**," writes **Carrie Koenig '91**, "who flew to San Francisco for a weekend this past fall to reunite and to offer me some much-needed support in nursing my mom through lung-cancer treatments. You are the best! Also, thanks to **Jenny Rosenburg '91**, who's now a superstar oncologist in Chicago. Your treatment advice was spot-on, and I really appreciated being able to lean on you and your expertise. Mom is doing great!" Keep in touch with Carrie

by writing to P.O. Box 2884, Telluride, CO 81435; or e-mail [carrie\\_koenig@yahoo.com](mailto:carrie_koenig@yahoo.com).

**Tracy (Furner) Stein '92** reports that she and **Shelley (Halloran) Holland '92**, **Sarah (Chambers) Potter '92**, **Jan (Best) Meyer '92**, **Kelly (Keim) Boniface '92**, **Theresa (Faraci) Berg '92**, and **Gina Johnson '92** celebrated their 40th birthdays together in Sayulita, Mexico. **Heather (McHugh) Cowan '92** and **Pam (Murray) Bilfield '92** were not able to join the group due to travel difficulties. Catch up with Tracy at 1904 W. Cuyler Ave., Chicago, IL 60613; [tracy.stein37@yahoo.com](mailto:tracy.stein37@yahoo.com).

**Carolyn Broadhead '96** writes, "We moved! (956 Mill Creek Dr., Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410) Heidi is 8 years old now! Anyone going to Reunion?" Drop her a line via e-mail at [cmbroadhead@comcast.net](mailto:cmbroadhead@comcast.net).

**Jeanette (Viggiano) Torti '97** reports, "I married the love of my life, Peter Torti, in June 2010 on the beautiful island of St. Lucia. My bridal party included **Meredith Ketchum '98**, **Catherine Cable '98**, and **Ariana Smith '98**. It was truly a dream wedding!" Send your congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Torti at 298 Garfield Pl., Brooklyn, NY 11215; [jeanette.torti@gmail.com](mailto:jeanette.torti@gmail.com).

"I got married on May 22, 2010, to Brendan Buhmann (Cornell '03)," writes **Adrienne (Dutt) Buhmann '03**. She also joined a technology startup this past fall. Find out how she's enjoying married life and the new job at 1761 Broadway, San Francisco, CA 94109; [adriennebuhmann@gmail.com](mailto:adriennebuhmann@gmail.com).

**Kimberley Goldfarb '09** received a master's degree in human rights from the London School of Economics in December 2010. "I'm currently in my first year of law school at Michigan. PPL!" Write to her at 55 Speir Dr., South Orange, NJ 07079; [kimberly.goldfarb@gmail.com](mailto:kimberly.goldfarb@gmail.com).

**Meagan Regina Hajjar '09** is completing an MS in physiology and will graduate in June. Write to her at 65 Newton St., Weston, MA 02493.

*More alumnae news and photos are available on the web; be sure to log in to our website at [www.pibetaphi-cornell.org](http://www.pibetaphi-cornell.org) for all the details! If you haven't signed up yet, you can get your username and password by visiting [www.pibetaphi-cornell.org/new\\_user.asp](http://www.pibetaphi-cornell.org/new_user.asp).*