

NY DELTA DOINGS

NY Delta Chapter of Pi Beta Phi at Cornell

Winter 2022–2023

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LEADING AND LEARNING WITH PI PHI

by **Charlotte Galasso**

Almost a year ago, I agreed to take on the role of Chapter President of NY Delta. I originally had not applied and told all of my close friends that I would never be president. I want to claim that it took a lot to change my mind, but the truth is that it didn't. I had served as VP of Risk Management for the year and it had been a big challenge, but it had also been rewarding. Despite the difficult decisions I had to make and the hard work of managing and representing the chapter, being a member of our executive leadership team had taught me so much and given me friendships, life lessons, and experiences that I would carry with me forever. It was easy to decide that I wanted to lead our chapter in 2022.

The beginning of my term was difficult. My role as VP of Risk Management had prepared me for a decent amount of my responsibilities as Chapter President, but I still had to adjust to taking charge and making executive decisions when necessary. Lauren Espinal, our 2021 Chapter President, helped me a lot in the first few weeks of my term. Lauren had led our chapter with kindness and grace, and her constant encouragement and advice contributed greatly to my personal growth as a leader when I became Chapter President. I have become more confident in my leadership, more thoughtful in my decision-making, and more dedicated to the success and sustainability of NY Delta as an organization.

A lot has happened this past year: we returned to fully in-person chapter operations and meetings, we navigated the new rules and regulations from the Cornell and Panhellenic administrations, and we pushed ourselves to be more committed to our sisterhood. In March, I initiated 40 new members into NY Delta, and they have quickly made an impact on the chapter through their passionate and dedicated involvement with Pi Phi. In May, we concluded our first semester with our inaugural VP of Inclusion, Alysha Sadarangani, who has done an incredible job implementing more diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programming into our chapter as well as encouraging



Charlotte Galasso '23

members' involvement in non-Greek related DEI initiatives and conversations on Cornell's campus. This past September, we successfully raised money for Read > Lead > Achieve through our annual Pie A Phi philanthropy event.

Looking forward, NY Delta is eager to soon initiate our 10-person fall '22 new member class as they come to the end of their new member period and complete the necessary initiation requirements. We also look forward to continuing to work with Susan Murphy, Treasurer of the Chapter House Corporation and NY Delta alumnae, on updating our chapter facility with new windows and safety measures in the coming years. As my term will come to an end in a few months, I am excited to continue learning and growing with my chapter. I could not be prouder and more honored to lead this group of incredibly distinguished young women.

RECRUITMENT

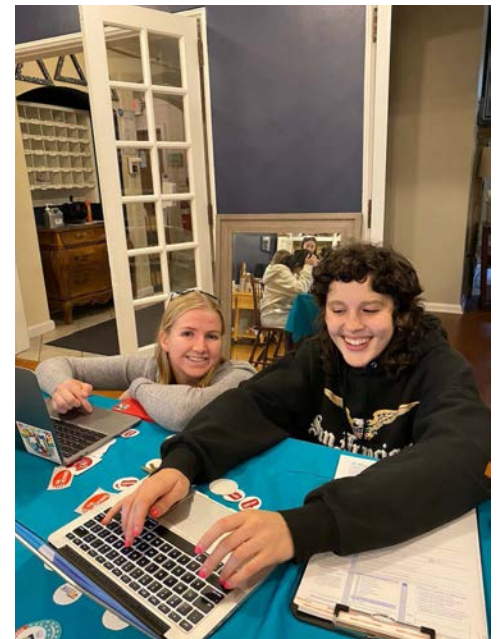


by **Sam Symons, VP of Recruitment**

NY Delta just completed a successful fall recruitment (continuous open bidding, or COB) cycle! We hosted a variety of open houses and coffee chats, where potential new members had the opportunity to finally be back in-person and see our house for the first time since before the COVID-19 pandemic. With informal fall recruitment, potential new members have the opportunity to attend events with whichever chapter they choose, and these events are a much more informal opportunity to meet the chapter as compared to formal recruitment in the spring! Following these events, we extended bids to 10 wonderful new members and had a fun bid day complete with shirts, fun

sunglasses, cupcakes, and more. We are so excited to add these amazing women to our chapter.

Following fall recruitment, the chapter is already looking toward formal recruitment in the spring. We hosted an open house with the women of Kappa Delta on October 1. At this open house, we decorated cookies and made hot chocolate, and many women thinking of recruitment in the spring were able to stop by and meet our members while enjoying the warm Ithaca weather and some treats. In the coming weeks, we will be doing various presentations for recruitment and also nailing down plans for work week before recruitment!



DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

by **Alysha Sadarangani & Jenna Chiarella**

Pi Beta Phi's New York Delta Chapter's diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) team has been expanding in members and scope in the past few years. Our goal is not only to educate our members about diversity and inclusion, both in Greek life and more generally, but also to prevent discrimination from occurring in our chapter and recruitment process. In the rare instances when discrimination does occur, we have worked to address root causes, find appropriate solutions, and assist with further resources.

In the last year, we have worked to implement at least one DEI presentation per month at chapter, created and presented by members of our DEI committee. The presentations have covered a wide scope of topics, including cultural

appropriation, religious tolerance, colorism, and ableism. By educating members on a range of topics, we have been able to broaden the social awareness of our members. We have further pushed this goal by sending out weekly current events updates to the chapter, ensuring members are aware of what is happening in our community as well as around the world.

In order to build community, Pi Phi has partnered with other organizations on campus. In September, our DEI team spearheaded a voter registration event with two other Panhellenic chapters. At this event, we had dozens of members show up to register to vote, request their absentee ballots, and learn more about civic engagement. Because of these efforts, our chapter was 99% registered to vote during the midterm election.

We provided stamps to all members that needed to send their ballots in and provided rides to the polls on November 8, ensuring there were no barriers to voting access for chapter members.

We hope to expand these efforts next year through further new initiatives. In our planning, we have decided to start hosting diversity dinners. Through these dinners, we will partner with local minority-owned restaurants to support their businesses and discuss various diversity-related topics over dinner. This breaks away from the lecture format of our past presentations and allows more members to engage with new material. The progress we have made recently as a chapter has been extremely significant and we hope to continue our growth in the future.

PHILANTHROPY

by Kaycee Arias

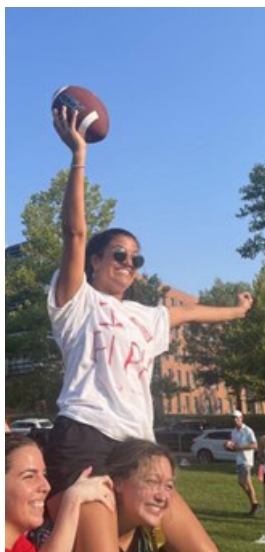
The NY Delta Chapter started the fall semester strong by holding a powder-puff rematch game against the sisters of Alpha Xi Delta. Before the game began, Pi Phis showed their sisterly love and support for the team by chanting positive words to the players and huddling as a team. Throughout the game, Pi Phis demonstrated their strong spirit by tackling, defending, and scoring three touchdowns for the team! The game ended with a score of 21-7 and the Pi Beta Phi chapter continues to hold its winning streak for the second time in a row. This sporting event was a great way to incorporate teamwork in the chapter, as well as fundraise for our literacy initiative Read > Lead > Achieve.

The next philanthropy event that we held was Pie a Pi with the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity on campus. The public was able to throw pies at our fellow sisters and brothers in order to fundraise for Read > Lead > Achieve and

the Ability Experience. Pi Beta Phi members united as one to rack up those pie throws! After much pie-throwing fun, members began to pie themselves as a way of displaying their support for our cause.

Baking and books combined our philanthropic pursuits as well as our sisterhood bonding by allowing members to hold a bake sale on campus, as well as bake their own treats as a group. An added aspect to this event was book donations in order to raise money for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

The chapter demonstrated its love for bringing literacy awareness to the Ithaca community by volunteering at the Ithaca Community Childcare Center. Groups of four to five Pi Beta Phi members facilitated activities at the childcare center and helped children as well as childcare educators. Our members aided in reading to kids, inspiring creativity, and building children's architecture pursuits by building the best Lego models you have ever seen!



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

by Theodora Kouloglou

As I'm approaching my last semester at Cornell, I've started reflecting on all the great memories I've made here. I realized that the people who have become most important in my life all came from Pi Phi.

I joined Pi Phi in the fall of 2020, at the height of the pandemic. I was entering my sophomore year of college and everything was vastly different. My home environment was not ideal and the isolation was grueling. When I met the women in Pi Phi, I knew right away that this was a community I would love to call home. My favorite part of it all was most definitely big/little reveal and all the excitement, anticipation, and newfound friendship. To this day, it amazes me how quickly we grew attached and how happy I am to have people surrounding me who feel closer than family. I had never noticed the comfort that came with always having someone to turn to, even in the hardest times, and I couldn't wait to be that person for someone else. Words cannot express



Theodora Kouloglou '23

the love I have for my lin and the gratitude I feel for all of the experiences Pi Phi has brought into my life.

These past four years have taught me that you never know what the future has in store for you. My plans after graduation have not been yet decided, but I am eager to find out where life will take me. I have always had a passion for dance, food, and healthcare. I will be graduating with a major in human development and minors in nutrition, psychology, and business. A long-term goal of mine is to open and operate an accessible maternal wellness center. This facility would incorporate preventative medicine such as nutrigenomic counseling to promote neonatal development, utilize treatments such as dance therapy to cope with mothers' postpartum depression, and address families' social determinants of health. This is quite an ambitious goal that will take time to come to fruition. In the process, I hope to work for a nonprofit organization aimed at reducing maternal and infant mortality.

AAC AND CHC NEED YOUR HELP TO KEEP NEW YORK DELTA STRONG

Behind the scenes keeping our house strong are the Alumnae Advisory committee (AAC) and the Chapter House Corporation (CHC) managed by a handful of alumnae volunteers. But there is strength in numbers, and we need your support to stay involved, whether you are near or far from Ithaca.

AAC and CHC work closely together. AAC connects with the young women on the executive board, guiding them through their roles and the overall effectiveness of the chapter. Individual advisors work with specific officers, helping them meet their goals along with headquarters' expectations. The Chapter House Corporation owns and manages the property at 330 Triphammer Road, maintaining the house's structural integrity, aesthetics, and finances.

CHC is well underway planning for substantial house improvements including window replacements and updating the current electrical system. We are able to get started on this necessary work because we have accumulated savings over the past number of years. However, our ability to continue with more improvements is dependent on fundraising and the "raising of hands" to support a campaign. Additional improvements will keep our house substantial and attractive to today's newest leaders.

So, the bottom line is **our chapter needs your support!** Here are some ways you may consider getting involved. If you have any interest

or expertise in any of the following, please email alumnaerecords@pibetaphi-cornell.org and we will be in touch. This list of **Ways to Volunteer** will also be posted on our website, www.pibetaphi-cornell.org.

Alumnae Advisory Committee (AAC) – as a member of the AAC, you are assigned to advise one of the women on the executive board. It usually involves a few emails, calls, or meetings a month plus perhaps an executive board or AAC meeting once a month. All of this can be done remotely or in person. We are fortunate to have several women currently serving as AAC members, but we need New York Deltas to join them!

Chapter House Corporation (CHC) – as a member, you work closely with the House Director and other alumnae, collectively overseeing and maintaining the house's structural integrity, aesthetics, and finances. We have a special need for alumnae with interior design expertise and interest. We also are looking for volunteers to enhance our alumnae communications, working with Elevate LLC, our business partner, to maintain our website, archive photos and alumnae stories, produce *Delta Doings*, and track and acknowledge gifts and donations.

Fundraising Committee – as a member, you can organize an ongoing effort to reach out to alumnae for gifts and donations. Right now, our urgent need is for volunteers to help with and lead a capital campaign.

SISTERHOOD

by Caroline Sun

Since sisterhood is the cornerstone of our chapter, it's so important to implement events that allow the women of Pi Beta Phi to spend time with each other and get to know each other on a deeper level. One sisterhood event was a picnic on the slope, where we catered sushi and watched the sunset all together. Since it was strategically placed after a mandatory event, the turnout was encouraging, and laughter and smiles were in the air.

This fall featured two more exciting sisterhood events. One was exclusive to MC '22 and our new fall '22 member class and includes making bracelets. With initiation approaching, the main purpose of this event was to let our newest members meet their potential bigs. However, our primary purpose for these sisterhood events remains the same: by giving our sisters the opportunity to make something tangible, we hope to create some forever bonds, crystallized by these bracelets.

Our other October sisterhood event was pumpkin painting, to get in the Halloween spirit. Not only did these pumpkins make for great room decor, but they were also such a great opportunity to showcase creativity and deepen friendships.



NEW MEMBERS: FALL 2022



Emma Dow



Emma Oleary



Gia Ramos



Isabel Voellmicke



Kate Dunn



Kyra Gunluk



Maddie Kaufman Schiller



Nia Butler



Shaylyn Nair

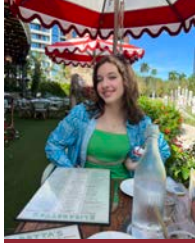


Sophia Watkins

NEW MEMBERS: SPRING 2022



Aimee
Tsang



Alex
Watson



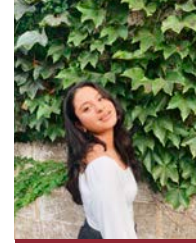
Allison
Chang



Allison
Kozak



Anjali
Kumar



Anoushka
Aggarwal



Ariana
Wanvig Dot



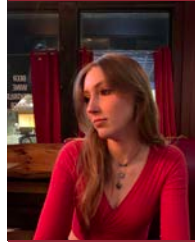
Ashley
Chou



Ava
Ramachandran



Ava Robillard



Avery
Belman



Carla
Gaveglia



Caroline
Sun



Clarisa
On



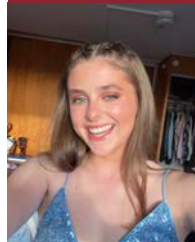
Elaina
Varriale



Ella
Hsu



Emma
Cerrato



Genie
Enders



Isabella
Capuano



Isabelle
Torch



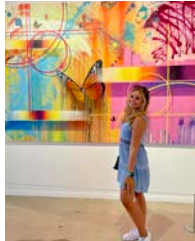
Jenny
Li



Jessica
Hensel



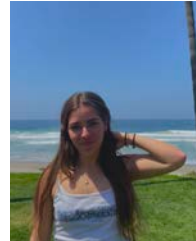
Kaitlin
Wheeler



Lauren
Ehnnot



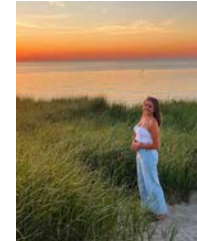
Marisol
Cassis



Megan
Benefeito



Molly
Ryan



Olivia
Boyle



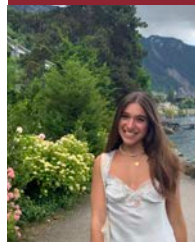
Olivia
Tassone



Rachel
Sulciner



Regina
Galvan Rumayor



Skyler
Haines



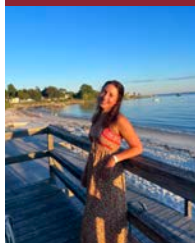
Sujin
Park



Summer
Ford



Summer
Seward



Sumner
Broadfoot



Sydney
Brister



Vanessa
Shoenholz

ALUMNAE SHARE THEIR NEWS



(Left to right) Joanne Cappucci Penne '87, Leslie Kalick Wolfe '87, Ellen Nordberg '86, Judy Marlinski '85, Lysbeth Adams '86, Iris Sunshine '83.

Hello! In July 2022, there was a 135th-anniversary party for Cornell ATQ. It was a fabulous celebration, and many NY Delta Pi Phis were present.

Part of the weekend celebration included a picnic in Taughannock Park.



deceased

We regret to announce the deaths of:

Barbara S. (Schickler) Hankins '54

May 19, 2022

Laura Ray (Paradzick) Garman '79

February 26, 2022

Patricia Remela '60: At 84, enjoying marvelous health and wealth (max life-span is my study: no hand-held testing, internet, social media, facebook, etc., etc.). Longevity thru levity and a very unusual diet, much of it from my own gardens! It has been a waterfront life, from Middlesex Beach to Delaware to North Carolina to several beaches in Florida to Key West to Puerto Rico and St. Thomas (anyone remember Harry Bonar?), and now the Severn River front! For those who wish to commune, write to 1019 Rio Ln., Severna Park, MD 21146-4822. I can be reached by mail only.

Janet Hayes '61: 2022 has been a grand year. I'm got married to Ronald L. Zimmerman at our home November 23, 2022, with our combined families in attendance. 83 is, as they say, just a number. We are both blessed with pretty good health and a young spirit.

Diane Meakem '61: So far, four of my grandchildren have gone to Cornell. There are 16 altogether! Seven "younguns" are still in grade school. So, I'm hoping for more future Cornellians!

Catherine Baldwin '76: 2022's been a busy year for our family: two weddings and a move. Our two daughters were married: Cassie in College Station, Texas (Feb '22), and Analise in Charleston,

South Carolina (Apr '22). And, we took the month of March to move to Bluffton, South Carolina. We're finally settling in, having focused on our remodel. We will welcome a granddaughter in Jan '23. So fun!

Jill Flack '81: I recently retired from my job as a labor and employment attorney with Exelon. I am looking forward to playing pickleball with Kristi Bleyer, who has also recently retired.

Judith Doyno '85: After 35 years working at Fidelity Investments, I decided to retire and to begin my next career as an independent board of director. I just joined Newton Investment Management, owned by Jack New York Mellon, as chair of the UK and US board. Having flexibility to travel with my husband Dave to see our daughters in California while working part time has been fabulous.

Heidi Henderson '97: The kids are growing. One at UPenn, two in high school, one in middle school. and my baby in fourth grade! Still enjoy connecting with PiPhis. Reach out if you're in Rhode Island!



(From left) Lysbeth Adams '86, Betsy Mead Noel '86, Joanne, Cappucci Penne '87, Leslie Kalick Wolfe '87, Ellen Nordberg '86, Caroline Lubick Goldzweig '84, Judy Marlinski '85, Iris Sunshine '83.

STAY UP TO DATE WITH NY DELTA!

Starting in fall 2021, we have been sending hard copies of the *NY Delta Doings* to those who graduated before 1995. Anyone who graduated 1995 and after have been receiving virtual newsletters in the form of an email with a link to our NY Delta alumnae website (check your spam folders in case it goes there!).

To assure that you are receiving the latest newsletters, please make sure to **update your**

contact information with the chapter, both postal address and email address. You can do this two ways:

1. Fill out the news form included in this *Delta Doings* mailing; or
2. Update your information online through our NY Delta alumnae website: **www.pibetaphi-cornell.org**. You can get

a username reminder and reset your password by clicking on the links at the top right corner, and once logged in, you can update your profile, also from links in the upper right corner.

Thanks for keeping your information up to date!

NY DELTA DOINGS

Published regularly for friends and members of the New York Delta Chapter. News and photos should be sent to: Alumnae Records Office, New York Delta Chapter of Pi Beta Phi, P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851-0876, or emailed to: alumnaerecords@pibetaphi-cornell.org.