

# XI CHAPTER *Symphony*

WINTER 2016

Inside: Chapter house history | Recruitment |  
Med student in India | Alumnae updates



## Chapter house gets a gorgeous facelift

By **JANE HIRT**  
ALUMNAE RELATIONS ADVISOR

The Chi Omegas of Northwestern started a fresh, new school year with a fresh, new first floor in September.

The House Corporation

Board and House Director **Susan Parmentier** worked very hard over the summer to get the renovations completed in time. **Kelly Brest van Kempen, Rogie Sussman Faber, Carrie Hoza, Bethann Olsavsky, Annette Stover** and Parmentier

heard pitches from three interior designers, and selected Laura Schreiber and Karen Lasik. They did a lovely job.

The project involved the parlor, TV room, foyer and front entrance. The new color scheme throughout pays homage to our

colors cardinal and straw, with neutral walls and floors, which has brightened each room.

The dark parquet floor in the foyer was replaced with a light-

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## INTERVIEW WITH THE PERSONNEL ADVISOR



**Carrie Perll Von Hoff, '97**  
**Personnel Advisor**

**Q:** *What has Xi Chapter been up to this school year?*

**A:** It has been a great year. The chapter raised \$4,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation during Wish Week this fall. The week included cookie sales, a get-together with the family of a wish recipient, and an a cappella concert. The chapter has now granted another wish! The collegians also celebrated Halloween with the annual date party, held this year at the Lincoln Tap Room. Formal Recruitment was a great success; we are about to initiate 35 amazing new women into our sisterhood. Our newly slated executive board just had officer training and will assume their new roles at the end of February.

**Q:** *What are you most proud of?*

**A:** I am so proud to watch my collegiate sisters grow into fantastic leaders. It is a privilege to advise such bright, thoughtful young women and to keep in touch with them through the years as they become leaders in their professional and personal lives. I'm also so proud to be part of

such a strong advisory board. My fellow advisors are deeply committed to the health of the chapter and the development of each sister. They have all become dear friends, and I treasure them and all they give! I could not do my job without them.

**Q:** *What are you looking forward to?*

**A:** I'm so excited to attend Convention in Orlando this summer with GH Emma Brick, GKA Megan Imundo, and Cardinal Cabinet Advisor Mary Howard Freeman Wood. It is always a great time — I can't wait to share the experience with them.

**Q:** *How can alumnae get involved with the chapter?*

**A:** There are so many ways to get involved. Each winter, many sisters volunteer during Formal Recruitment. (Those water glasses at recruitment parties don't fill themselves.) If you are interested in a longer term commitment, the advisory and house corporation boards are always glad to meet sisters willing to invest their efforts in mentoring a collegiate sister in a leadership role or preserving and administering our beautiful chapter house. Please contact Kelly Brest van Kempen to inquire about the house board or contact me (vonhoff@me.com) to find out more about advising.

## First floor facelift

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colored tile, and a neutral, wide-striped wallpaper replaced the blue-and-gold wallpaper.

The windows received new treatments, and the front entrance now features a little marble counter with inlaid XΩ letters.

The rooms were filled with new furniture in the new color scheme, and the seating layouts in the parlor and TV room were changed to better use the space.

The sisters were delighted when they saw it.

They used words like “inviting” “amazing,” “modern,” “fun,” and “happy” to describe the improvements.

Many thanks to HCB for making this happen. ~



A shot of the parlor before the summer refurbishment — lots of blue and beige.



# How the Chi O chapter house came to be

As part of Northwestern's Sesquicentennial in 2000-2001, a "Brief History of 1870 Orrington Avenue" was published at [www.nu150.northwestern.edu](http://www.nu150.northwestern.edu). Excerpts are reprinted here by permission of Northwestern.

Prior to the 1920s, Northwestern University offered its female students few housing options. Most women lived in the "old Willard Hall" dormitory (now the Music Administration Building), in boarding houses or private homes in Evanston.

In the early 1920s Northwestern's sororities enthusiastically embraced a movement to create a women's housing quadrangle. Each sorority agreed to raise one quarter of the total construction cost (about \$60,000 per house) to create 14 sorority houses bounded by Emerson Street, University Place, Sheridan Road, and Sherman Avenue. In 1924 the North Shore Chi Omega Association was formed to act as the chapter's House Board that would manage the maintenance, operation, and upkeep of the house. By 1926 the sorority's fundraising efforts—including food and rummage sales, bazaars, and sales of cook books, hand-tinted Chi Omega "Symphony" cards, and Christmas cards—raised more than \$21,000.

The University's architect James Gamble Rogers designed all of the buildings in the residential quadrangle with the exception of North and South Mid Quads, which were added in 1981. Mr. Rogers also designed Dyche Stadium (1926), now called Ryan Field, Deering Library (1932) and Scott Hall (1938).

Each of the buildings in the women's quadrangle exemplify Rogers' eclectic



"Collegiate Gothic" style that included picturesque composition and steeply pitched roofs. Constructed with Lannon-Wisconsin limestone with Bedford stone trim and a slate roof, the 24-plus room Chi Omega house was completed

Each of the buildings in the women's quadrangle exemplify Rogers' eclectic "Collegiate Gothic" style that included picturesque composition and steeply pitched roofs.

in 1927.

The Collegiate Gothic architectural styling linked Northwestern to the European educational tradition and to the well-established east-coast institutions of higher learning. ...

The house was first furnished for about \$10,000 in 1927. The furnishings were de-

scribed by alumnae as "home-like, harmonious, and substantial, rather than extravagant." In the early 1930s, the living room was featured in *Better Homes and Gardens* "to show how charmingly Early American furniture can make a home." ...

Private phones in students' rooms replaced hallway pay phones in the 1970s. In the mid-1990s, Internet ports were added to each room to provide high-speed Internet access comparable to that of the University's residence halls. ....

The living room features ornate plasterwork on the ceiling. The 3 layers of borders (ivy, egg and dart, and standard dentil molding) create an elaborate effect. The dentil molding border was repeated in the wooden mantel piece—added about 30 years ago—that surrounds the fireplace. ...

In 1966 the fourth floor attic was converted into one triple and three double occupancy sleeping rooms that expanded the capacity of the house from 27 to 35. The second and third floors have 2 triple-occupancy rooms, 8 double rooms and 6 singles. ...

To this day, all men guests (excluding

dads) are not allowed on the sleeping floors of the sorority house except on special occasions like move-in day. Sorority members are not allowed to have alcohol in the house at any time. Restrictions such as these contribute to the secure and wholesome living experience that sororities offer. ~

## 4.0s power Xi to a 3.58 spring finish

By **AMY BANIEWICZ**  
CHAPTER VICE PRESIDENT

The ladies of Xi have been working very hard on scholastic achievement for the past few quarters, and it has certainly paid off. We are proud to say that during this past spring quarter, 10 collegians achieved a 4.0 GPA, and in Fall 2015, eight collegians got a 4.0.

Chi Omega's all-chapter Spring 2015 GPA of 3.58 placed us

fourth among Northwestern's 12 PHA sororities, who averaged a 3.52. NU's all-women's average was 3.54, and Chi Omega's national GPA averaged 3.34 during the same time period.

The Cardinal Cabinet scholarship team planned fun surprises and study incentives during Reading Week and Finals Week for our sisters to support these grades.

In Fall 2015, the chapter earned a 3.51 GPA, which placed us 10th among PHA sororities, who together averaged 3.58.

Academics at Xi have always been a priority, and we are continuing our tradition of high achievement into the new quarter. ~

# When the students become the teachers

By JANE HIRT

ALUMNAE RELATIONS ADVISOR

Not so long ago, **Varshini Cherukupalli**, '11, was roaming the halls of 1870 Orrington Avenue in a Chi O T-shirt.

These days, she's in a white lab coat, roaming the halls of Northwestern's Medical School—or, if it's summer, she's in India helping rural villagers.

Varshini travels there to work with Project RISHI, which stands for Rural India Social and Health Improvement. It's a non-profit organization whose mission is to promote the sustainable development and growth of rural Indian communities. The group addresses the developmental disparities fed by the cycle of poverty and educates and empowers the residents to overcome them.

Northwestern's chapter is one of 10 in the U.S. and was founded in 2011 by a group of students including two Xi Chapter Chi Omegas, Varshini and **Manisha Bhatia**, '09. Though Varshini and Manisha have graduated from NU undergrad, Project RISHI goes on at Northwestern.

I recently sat down with Varshini, who is in her second year of medical school, to hear more about her experiences. She's still involved with Project RISHI, and last summer she traveled once again to the community she's been helping, her fifth time there.

**Q:** *You've said that if it weren't for Chi Omega, Project RISHI wouldn't exist at Northwestern. Could you elaborate?*

**A:** During my freshman year at Northwestern, Manisha and I had attended a global health talk and were particularly inspired to "do something." It was Founder's Day (2011), and as we walked back to the house for pizza and cake, we talked about how we should try to start a global health project in India. I had heard of Project RISHI from my friends at other Project RISHI chapters, and I suggested starting a chapter at Northwestern. Manisha and I worked together to establish the chapter with our peers.



Xi chapter Chi Omegas Varshini Cherukupalli (right) and Manisha Bhatia have been spending their summers in Nanakpur, India, with Project RISHI, a group they founded together at Northwestern.

Without Chi O, I would not have met her!

**Q:** *What's the name of the community you help in India and what's it like there?*

**A:** Our partner community is called Charnia, located in Nanakpur, Haryana — a rural area that sits right at the foot of the Himalayas. Nanakpur's population consists of primarily migrant brick laborers and farmers, most of whom struggle to maintain stable access to health care. As of now, I have been to Nanakpur five times, and each time, I learn something new about the people living there. That's why I find it challenging to describe the community in just a few words — each individual I have met so far is so unique. Overall, the population has varying levels of literacy, but more educational and health disparities are evident in the brick laborer population. Those are the deficiencies RISHI attempts to target.

**Q:** *How long do you stay there and what specifically do you do?*

**A:** Our Project RISHI trips usually

last 2-3 weeks. Over the past few years, we have established partnerships with physicians at the local health centers and hospitals, and they have been an essential part of our projects. In 2012, we completed around 200 household surveys to understand the needs of the community. Then we conducted research on anemia and malnutrition, and we worked with the government community health workers to improve distribution of iron/folic-acid supplementation. Currently, our RISHI members are focusing on improving access to sanitary pads with the support of the community health workers (who are amazing). We also hold annual health camps, and we recently opened a small clinic in Nanakpur.

This past summer, Manisha and I were interested in looking at the surgical needs of the Nanakpur population, as well as the broader systemic barriers in accessing surgical care. Traditionally, surgery has not been a major focus of global health. But the need for surgical care in low- and middle-income coun-



tries is becoming more pronounced.

Since Nanakpur has many individuals who work as laborers and are thus susceptible to injuries, we hoped to characterize access to surgical care in the community. We used a tool called SOSAS (Surgeons Overseas Assessment of Surgical Need) to conduct villager surveys in Nanakpur; and we also conducted a survey called PIPES (Personnel, Infrastructure, Procedures, Equipment, and Supplies) at local health centers to understand their trauma and surgical care capacities. Next summer, we plan to go back to Nanakpur to follow up on our research and conduct first responder courses in Nanakpur.

**Q:** *What's your favorite memory from your travels to India with Project RISHI?*

**A:** It's so hard to pick one! I would say our first health camp is one of my favorite experiences. We had requested physicians of different specialties to participate, and we had medicines ready for distribution. We thought we had everything prepared, but we did not expect over 200 people to show up. Long story short, it was a day of organized chaos, but we somehow survived. Also, crashing a wedding, doing group Insanity workouts, and going to as many restaurants as possible in Chandigarh (the nearby city) are definitely at the top of my list.



Varshini Cherukupalli, shown here with her family, is in her second year at Northwestern's Feinberg School of Medicine.

**Q:** *How has your experience with Project RISHI affected your perspective about the world?*

**A:** I have realized that you can form incredibly meaningful relationships with people who have completely different life experiences and cultures. It's all about understanding what their stories are. Even though I didn't know of its existence six years ago, Nanakpur now feels like a second home to me.

That is solely because of the people who live there, who have welcomed me and shared their stories with me. Because of Project RISHI, I have come to understand that we all have so much to learn from each other. You just have to start the conversation.

*To learn more about Project RISHI or to donate, visit <http://www.projectrishio.org/northwestern>.*

## Survey of Greek donors studies Chi Omegas' giving

Last year, Chi Omegas from across the nation joined other Greek participants in the largest study of fraternal donor behavior in the country.

More than 67,000 donors and alumni from 19 women's fraternities/sororities and 19 men's fraternities took the online survey; 3,500 of them represented Chi Omega.

Highlights of the survey, which was conducted by Cygnus Applied Research in May and June, will appear in upcoming issues of *The Eleusis*. Here are some of the findings:

- Chi Omega had higher 2014 average donation value and alumnae participation compared to other sororities and Greek foundations.
- Chi Omega's revenue growth soared above other fraternal organizations, almost exclusively driven by alumnae who made new donations at or above \$10,000. Many of these gifts were made in support of our Sisterhood Never Stops Campaign.
- Chi Omega has the largest women's fraternity alumnae population with current addresses: 239,855.

"Taken as a whole, the survey shows Chi Omegas living our values with loyalty to our Fraternity," Chi Omega Foundation President **Jane Rogers** said in a letter to participants. And there is tremendous opportunity for further engagement, she said.

To that end, the foundation will be working to create a deeper understanding of the importance of annual giving and of the foundation's activities and how donors' contributions are put to work. The foundation also will strive to build a better sense of connection among Chi Omega alumnae.

The Chi Omega Foundation provides philanthropic support for the fraternity, ensuring that the educational and leadership development needs of its collegians and alumnae are met. More than 8,800 donors each year enable the foundation to offer grants for an impressive array of life-changing educational and developmental opportunities.

If you are interested in supporting the foundation, visit <http://www.chiomega.com/wemakeadifference>

# From bar exams to Broadway, sisters conquer all

## RACHAEL (LEU) HAGNER, '66

I live in San Francisco where I've worked as an architect and currently run a design program at the University of California Berkeley Extension. I enjoy long lunches with Northern California Xi sisters **Pam Priest Naeve**, '64 (president of the house '66-'67), **Pat Hunter Gregory**, '65, and **Sue McShannock**, '63 (house president '65-'66.) They got together in November when **Carolyn Head Benthien**, '65 (president '67-'68) came out to visit.



## AUDREY HONIG GERAGOSIAN, '86

**Audrey Honig Geragosian**, (right) '86, is director of the Hartford-area Northwestern University Alumni Admissions Council and was pleased to meet up with **Caroline Tripp**, (left) '05, who just moved to the area. Audrey met Caroline through the Xi Chapter alumnae group on Facebook and reports that Caroline has signed up to help interview prospective Wildcats at the council's annual Interview Day.

## LAURA MIAO OLSON, '04

I now live in Menomonee Falls, Wis., with my husband, Franklin, and my two dogs, Taco and Crackers. I am currently the Recruitment and New Member Advisor for the Theta Delta chapter of Chi Omega at Carroll University in Wauke-



sha, Wis. I work at Cielo, a company that takes on the HR Recruitment function from other companies, as an operations manager, making sure that people optimize their tools and technologies to the best of their ability. Email me at [laura.olson510@gmail.com](mailto:laura.olson510@gmail.com). Working at a recruiting company means I have a lot of experience looking at resumes and developing interviewing skills, and I'm always happy to help!

## KELLEY HOLLIS, 07

Hello Xis! At the beginning of June I will be making my European debut by embarking on a recital tour through the Czech Republic as a featured artist with the American Spring Festival, organized by the International Antonín Dvořák Society and partnered with Radio Prague. I'll be performing a recital including works by some of my favorite European and American composers, including Dvořák, Puccini, Schoenberg, Satie, Libby Larsen, George Gershwin, and Rogers and Hammerstein. The first performance in the Czech Republic is June 2nd, however, I'll be premiering the recital in New England sometime in the spring before I depart for the Czech Republic. My email address is [sopranokelleyhollis@gmail.com](mailto:sopranokelleyhollis@gmail.com)



## STEPHANIE TANG, '09

Hi Xis! Hope everyone is doing well. After three long years of law school at the University of Illinois College of Law, I

finally graduated Magna Cum Laude last May. After what felt like an even longer summer, I took and found out I passed the Illinois Bar Exam and was officially sworn in as an attorney in November. Now I'm back in Chicago, working as an Associate Attorney at Hurst, Robin & Kay, a divorce law firm in the Loop. I'd love to re-connect with other Xi alumnae now that I'm back in the city. So far, I've been lucky enough to have incredible visits from **Manisha Bhatia**, '09, **Teresa Caya**, '10, and my wonderful Little, **Emily Gai**, '10, from Texas, Wisconsin and Georgia, respectively. I'm hoping to see more sisters in 2016. Please let me know if you're ever in the Chicago area. My email is [StephanieTang@hrkfamilylaw.com](mailto:StephanieTang@hrkfamilylaw.com).

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## EMILY EMBER, '11

Emily recently signed with Actors Talent Group and is about to graduate from The Second City Conservatory. This is Emily (2nd from left) in a show.





She did! M.J. Bradley walks down the aisle with husband, Nic, during their May 23 wedding in Pennsylvania.

**MEGAN J. BRADLEY, '09**

2015 was a whirlwind! In May, I married my husband, Nic, in my hometown of Strasburg, Pa., surrounded by family, friends and, of course, my Xi sisters. After an amazing honeymoon exploring Colorado, we returned to Chicago just in time to change apartments and for me to start a new job in June. After three years as a Nielsen consultant, I accepted a position with my client, Beam Suntory, as a Category Manager supporting the sales team. Although my day-to-day responsibilities are quite similar to my previous role, changing companies has offered countless learning opportunities and new experiences. These have helped me to consider my long-term career goals more seriously, and I look forward to 2016 as a year of professional and personal growth.



**DEBRA DIMON DAVIS, '78**

I finally had enough of the northern winters and relocated to St. Petersburg, Fla., where I am teaching high school Spanish. I am singing in the choir of the Cathedral Church of St. Peter and enjoying the beach in my spare time. Come visit! In this photo I'm cheering for the NU Wildcats on New Year's Day 2016 in the Tampa, Fla., Outback Bowl with Chi O Sister **Ellen Peichl Peterson, '76**.

**TORI BRYAN, '09**

Fellow Xi alumna **Aliza Weinberger, '10**, and I just wrapped up working on BroadwayCon, the first-ever fan convention for the Broadway community. Despite a blizzard of epic proportions in New York, the event was a huge success, featuring panels and workshops with top Broadway stars. Even when The Broadway League canceled all shows on Saturday, BroadwayCon kept going. And to top it all off, one of the company's executive directors is a sister as well. When sisters work together, the show will always go on! The company we work for is Mischief Management. We also present two other annual fan conventions, GeekyCon (a general fan convention) and LeakyCon (a Harry Potter fan convention).



Aliza Weinberger (from left), Co-Executive Director Stephanie Shaffer Dornhelm (Kappa Lambda, '96) and Tori Bryan in New York at BroadwayCon.



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**MEGAN McCORMACK, '11**

I am working for a health-care publishing company on the operations team. I'm directly responsible for account management, overseeing digital campaigns and leading design for internal and external projects. When I'm not at work, I am doing lots of traveling around the Midwest and back home to Texas. I've also taken up a keen interest in 5Ks and other fun fitness activities; and of course, I am still seeking to provide every individual with the tastiest baked goods they've ever had!



Adriana Lopez (left) and Ariel Silverstein, '13, at convocation.

**ADRIANA LOPEZ, '12**

Hi sisters! I finished undergrad this past June and moved back to California. I'm currently working in L.A. as the Volunteer Coordinator for Junior Achievement of Southern California. My first job is going well. I'm enjoying the fast-paced nature of the work because staying busy keeps my mind off of missing Northwestern and Xi Chapter. Staying in touch with Chi Omega has been difficult since graduating, so I'm hoping to meet more sisters in L.A. If you're in the SoCal area, I'd love to hear about how you stay connected with Chi Omega. My current email address is [lopez.m.adriana@gmail.com](mailto:lopez.m.adriana@gmail.com) ~

*The dates that appear after names in this newsletter refer to the sister's initiation date, which is the way Chi Omega national organizes us all.*



**Chi O Reunion**

Lillian Chen (from left), Victoria Tannenbaum, Julia Simkowski, Varshni Cherukupalli, Yoon Lee and Hailey Arterburn gather for a reunion in Chicago. All were initiated in 2011 except for Julia, who is a 2010.



**1980s Hall of Fame fashion photo**

1986 and '87 initiates (from left) Jenny Engle Fanning, Ginny Levy, Lisa Kivist, Kris Strunk, Audrey Honig Geragosian and Michele Maiken strike a pose at the 1986 Xi Fall Formal. A more perfect collection of '80s dresses you'll rarely find. Poofed sleeves, check. Floral print, check. Dyed-to-match satin pumps, check!



# The Omega Chapter

## BARBARA STONE SULLIVAN, '54

Sadly, Barbara Stone Sullivan, '54, entered the Omega Chapter June 25, 2015.

*The Chicago Tribune* wrote a lengthy obituary that recounted Barbara's life and 40-year journalism career, which included 21 years as a reporter at the *Tribune*.

Barbara earned her bachelor's degree from Medill in 1957 and went on to work for several newspapers around the country, according to her obituary. A *Tribune* colleague recalled for the article all of her passions, which included travel, tennis, literature, theater, food and wine.

The *Tribune* article can be found at <http://trib.in/1S7qFaX>

—Jane Hirt

## LINDA YUCCAS DODS, '61

Linda unexpectedly left husband, son, family, friends and her Xi sisters on Jan. 7 after surgery in the Chicago suburbs. Born in Berwyn, Ill., she grew up in Glen

Ellyn, Ill., and entered Northwestern and Xi Chapter in fall 1960.

After leading an active campus life and completing her degree in psychology, Linda continued on to the University of Connecticut in Storrs where she earned a master's degree and doctorate in clinical psychology and met the love of her life Dr. Richard Dods. They worked first in the area, then on to New York City environs where son Steven was born and finally circled back to Chicagoland where Linda worked years and wonders in her private therapy practice. Since 1979, she and Dick have attended each and every one of our joyous and farflung reunions for our Chi O class of '64.

As a sister, pledge trainer and personnel chair, Linda brought energy, enthusiasm and caring to our house on Orrington and to our hearts for years cut much too short.

Read Linda's complete obituary [here](#).

—Judith Greasley Mich, '61



## Welcome Home

Actives and alumnae initiated in 1987 gather in the sunroom during the Homecoming Open House Oct. 17. **Suzanne Wahl** (with the carnation corsage) and her husband, Bill, and daughter, Lily, chat with **Laura Leavitt**, **Lynn Walker**, and "honorary Chi O" Bill Gray. The house opens every year before and after the Homecoming game, no matter what time kickoff is. So please plan to stop by for tours, hot drinks and warm memories.

# Update your Chi Omega contact info

Chi Omega relies on you to keep your contact information up-to-date. Would you please take a moment to visit our national database website to update your contact information? Updating this periodically ensures you'll continue getting the free *Eleusis Magazine* and this *Xi Symphony* newsletter.

1. Go to [everyday.chiomega.com](http://everyday.chiomega.com)



2. If this is the first time you're visiting, click on "create an account." Follow those instructions.
3. If you have been to this site before, log in. If you've forgotten your user name or password, click on the links to retrieve them.
4. Once logged in, update your profile in the left rail.
5. Then explore this cool site, including the "Find a Chi O" member search tool.

Questions? Email [jjhirt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jjhirt@sbcglobal.net) or [chiomega@chiomega.com](mailto:chiomega@chiomega.com)



## Putting more sister into the sisterhood

New members gathered for Bid Night in the parlor of the chapter house Jan. 12, a culmination of months of work by Xi actives, advisors and alumnae volunteers. Northwestern's formal recruitment Jan. 7-11 had a Set 1, Set 2, Set 3 and Pref Night configuration.

Many things have changed over the years: The process is called Recruitment rather than Rush. Women going through recruitment are called Potential New Members or PNMs, and new members are no longer called "pledges." The woman who guides them is called the New Member Educator, formerly "pledge trainer."

No food is served during any of the sets, and decorations are kept to a minimum. What remains the same are the great conversations, "rush crushes" and sore smiling muscles. It's all worth it when you see the new members. ~



The senior class gathers for a photo on the stairs to mark the end of Recruitment 2016.

### Sisterhood in action

Alumnae affiliated with chapters all over the country came to help Xi during Formal Recruitment Jan 7-11. If you'd like to help in the future, contact alumnae relations advisor Jane Hirt at [jjhirt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jjhirt@sbcglobal.net)

### Volunteers' chapter roll call

- Phi**, University of Southern California
- Tau**, University of Mississippi
- Omicron**, University of Illinois
- Xi**, Northwestern University
- Nu**, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Kappa**, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Gamma**, Florida State University
- Upsilon Alpha**, Syracuse University
- Phi Alpha**, George Washington University
- Rho Beta**, Drake University
- Theta Delta**, Carroll University
- Sigma Epsilon**, Vanderbilt University
- Theta Theta**, University of South Florida
- Upsilon Mu**, John Carroll University
- Rho Mu**, DePaul University
- Lambda Mu**, Loyola University

#chioisforalifetime #basementowls  
#gochio



# Checking in with the 2015 grads

Xi active Kate Guo, '14, and her alumnae relations team surveyed the 2015 Chi Omega graduates and presented their results to the chapter. Here is some of what they learned.

## WHERE ARE THEY?



## HOW HAS CHI OMEGA HELPED YOU?

“The **network** and **confidence** I've gotten from Chi Omega has helped me be **braver** and find the kinds of jobs I want to have! ~ Megan

“There's a large network of Chi Omegas, especially Xis, still in Chicago, which means I have a **great support system** while I'm starting my post-grad life. ~ Carley

“I feel like Chi Omega really helped prepare me for my job now in terms of **communication** and **people skills**. I work with a lot of different people, and being in Chi O was one of the biggest **influences** in my communication development. ~ Hannah

“Taught me how to have easy **conversations** with people — very useful for **interviewing**. ~ Michelle Lega

“**Immensely**. I wouldn't have become interested in **marketing** and **development** if it weren't for Chi Omega and serving as both PR and Philanthropy Chairs. Additionally, recruitment has certainly helped my interview skills. ~ Mary Fox

“**Recruitment skills are real!** Also networking/an alumnae support system. ~Alyssa

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“I've really developed as a person and gained **confidence** through my involvement with Chi Omega. Also, Chi O is a great way to **connect** with people during job interviews. Actually, the majority of my interviewers either were related to a Chi O or were Chi Os themselves. ~ Yuri

“I still have the same **great relationships** that offer a solid support system during post-grad life. **Recruitment** is also **super helpful** to talking to people you don't know! ~ Alexa

“I got **hired** as a freelancer thanks to Carley Lintz telling me about a freelance **opportunity** at her company. ~ Jenna

“Networking (aka recruitment)! As awful as it can be, it's so freaking important to know how to talk to people and get them to like you without even knowing you. **Leadership opportunities** are also hugely important. If you want to move up in your career post-grad, you need to be able to be a leader and manage other people. ~ Heather

“I haven't met any Chi Omegas here in Portland but I can say that doing recruitment helped my **interview skills**, which was very important in becoming an AmeriCorps member. ~ Madeline

## About this issue

This newsletter was edited by Alumnae Relations Advisor **Jane Hirt** (Kappa, '86) and designed by **Casey Regan Braun** (Xi, '91). Photos are courtesy of various collegians and advisors.



### On Facebook?

Join the 596 members of the **Chi Omega Xi chapter friends and alumnae** group.

## Join an alumnae chapter

Connect on Facebook with the **Down-town Chicago Chi Omega Alumnae Chapter**, the **Chi Omega North Shore Chicago Alumnae Group**, the **Chi Omega - Chicago CW Suburban Alumnae Chapter** or one in your area.

## New address?

Know a Chi O not receiving emails or mailings? Send information to [chiomega@chiomega.com](mailto:chiomega@chiomega.com).

## Updates?

New job, wedding, baby or other update for the next newsletter? Send to [jjhirt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jjhirt@sbcglobal.net)

## Find a Chi O

Find sisters with the free online search at [www.everyday.chiomega.com](http://www.everyday.chiomega.com).

## Chapter scholarship lends a hand

The Helping Hand Scholarship is a Xi Chapter need-based scholarship established to help members struggling to afford quarterly dues.

Members in good standing may apply for the scholarship, and each applicant is interviewed by the scholarship committee, which consists of the president, personnel chair, treasurer and alumna personnel advisor.

Candidates who have demonstrated financial need are granted scholarships equal to one quarter, one third or one half of their quarterly dues. Those wishing to donate, may send a check with the memo "Helping Hand Scholarship" to the chapter address:

Chi Omega  
Attn: Treasurer  
1870 Orrington Avenue  
Evanston, IL 60201

## 2016-17 Executive Board Chapter Advisors

### President/GH

Emma Brick, '15

### Vice President/GTB

Lindsey Mehl, '14

### Secretary/GKA

Megan Imundo, '15

### Treasurer/GNV

Shannon Carlson, '15

### New Member Educator/GM

Kristi Tran, '15

### Personnel Chair

Katy Vines, '14

### Recruitment Chair

Brianna Downs, '15

### Panhellenic Delegate

Emily Moy, '15

### Personnel Advisor

Carrie Perll Von Hoff  
*Xi '97*

### Scholarship Advisor

Lauren Eckerle  
*Gamma, '99*

### New Member Advisor

Keren Sanchez Chookaszian  
*Omicron, '04*

### New Member Advisor

Allison Adams  
*Xi, '03*

### Financial Advisor

Pam Powell Rosenbusch  
*Sigma Alpha, '62*

### Recruitment Advisor

Cindy Day Erwin  
*Phi, '90*

### Recruitment Advisor

Janet Zaleski  
*Rho Beta, '73*

### Cardinal Cabinet Advisor

Mary Howard Freeman Wood  
*Tau, '00*

### Social Activity Advisor

Joan Parish Cunnane  
*Xi, '98*

### Social Activity Advisor

Alison Palma  
*Sigma Epsilon, '08*

### Alumnae Relations Advisor

Jane Hirt  
*Kappa, '86*

### Marketing Advisor

Kelsey O'Hearn  
*Xi, '09*

### Ritual Advisor

Tori Bryan  
*Xi, '09*

If you'd like to get involved with the advisory board, contact Carrie Von Hoff at [vonhoff@me.com](mailto:vonhoff@me.com).

## House Corporation Board

### President

Kelly Burn Brest van Kempen  
*Phi Alpha, '62*

### Secretary

Rogie Sussman Faber  
*Upsilon Alpha, '91*

### Treasurer

Annette Ashlock Stover  
*Eta Beta, '57*

### Members

Carrie Hoza  
*Theta Delta, '93*

Bethann Olsavsky  
*Xi, '01*

## Calling all Xi alums

We would love to hear about news in your lives so that we can share it with others in the next edition of this newsletter. Please tell us your name and initiation year and let us know of anything new in your life, such as jobs, new degrees, new businesses, new spouses, new successes, anything that you are proud of and would like to share. You may share it with us on our Facebook page or send this news to Jane Hirt at [jjhirt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jjhirt@sbcglobal.net). Please don't be shy! We also like photos.