



PEARLS OF WISDOM

SIGMA KAPPA

Voices Strong. Hearts United.

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY
SIGMA KAPPA ALUMNAE CHAPTER

Spring 2016

Calendar

- Sat. April 2nd, 11:30 AM:** Social SIG, Pandor Artisan Boulangerie & Café, Newport Beach
- Thurs. April 14th, 6:00 PM:** Sigma Kappa Connect: Sigma Kappachino, Pacific Whey, Newport
- Sun. April 24th, 11:00 AM:** Family SIG: Pretend City
- Wed. May 4th, 7:00 PM:** Make "Good Luck on Finals" care packages for Kappa Rho
- Tues. May 10th, 6:30 PM:** Movie SIG, TBD
- Thurs. May 19th, 7:00 PM:** Book SIG, Huntington Beach
- Mon. May 23rd, 6:30 PM:** Kappa Rho's Order of the Triangle, Irvine
- Wed. June 1st, 6:30 PM:** Social SIG, Honda-ya, Tustin
- Sat. June 11th, 10:00 AM:** Flower Arranging Event, Orange
- Sat. June 25th, 2 PM:** Factory Tour: ChocXO Chocolatier, Irvine

Have programming ideas for our alumnae group?

We encourage all of our members to suggest events for our calendar. Please email us at OCSigmaKappa@outlook.com and share your idea with us.

A Letter from our President...

Dear Sisters,

Last quarter was full of fundraising events, with our Chipotle dinner, Kappa Rho's Casino Night, and our morning at the Irvine Museum. I want to thank you all for reaching into your wallets so many times. Your generous donations helped us exceed our goals and continues to support the Sigma Kappa Foundation.

I am also happy to announce that our chapter is now using Billhighway to collect money. A few of our members tested the payment process by pre-paying their Founder's Day cost. The system proved to be very user friendly, so we will continue using it to pay all dues and fees this year.

I look forward to sharing another exiting quarter with our current members, getting to know our most recent alumnae initiate better, and welcoming many new alumnae in June when our collegiate sisters graduate.

Happy Spring,
Katie Tomici



Our Chipotle Fundraiser was a hit and we met the Sigma Kappa Foundation Challenge by successfully raising over \$1000 to go towards the Carolyn Tieger (Epsilon Epsilon) matching contribution.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sigma Kappa Connect: Sigma Kappachino with Kappa Rho

Thursday, April 14th, 6 p.m.

Pacific Whey, 2622 San Miguel Dr, Newport Beach

Our **national organization** has deemed April 14th as **Sigma Kappa Connect Day**, and we are encouraged to connect with our sisters and post our celebration on social media with the hastag #SKConnect.

The idea is simple, grab a sister and do something fun – meet for a drink, have a lunch or dinner, watch a movie, have a play date with your kids, etc. **Do anything! Do something!** Just do it with a Sigma Kappa.

To celebrate this fun new tradition, we're heading over to Pacific Whey to have a tasty treat and drink! To join this event with our goal of building stronger relationships with our sister collegiate chapter, this will **be a mixer between the ladies of Kappa Rho and our alumnae**. Don't miss the fun and get some social media recognition!



We celebrate our Ultra Violet fundraiser at The Irvine Museum.

MAKE "GOOD LUCK ON FINALS" CARE PACKAGES FOR OUR SISTER COLLEGIATE CHAPTERS

Wednesday, May 4th, 7:00 p.m.

Location: TBD

As an ongoing tradition, we want to wish our sister collegiate chapter **GOOD LUCK ON FINALS WEEK** by making them care packages with our good luck wishes. Kappa Rho has approximately 100 women, so your thoughtfulness and generosity will make a difference. **PLEASE BRING** boxes of snack chips, nuts, candy, cookie packets, granola bars, etc. to contribute to the care packages. If we each bring 2-3 dozen packets of goodies we can create fun care packages. This is a great meeting for catching up with each other, while doing something nice for the women of Kappa Rho. You may also choose to come to the chapter house to deliver these baskets on May 23rd with Katie Tomici.

FACTORY TOUR: CHOCXO CHOCOLATIER

Saturday, June 25th, 2:00 p.m.

9461 Irvine Center Drive, Irvine, 92618

Let's join together and learn about chocolate! This will be a **1 hour full factory tour that includes samples of the full chocolate making process and three tastes from the chocolate case.** A member of the ChocXO team will walk the group through the chocolate making process from the bean to the bar. You'll walk along an educational wall and see a scale model of a cacao tree, learn how chocolate is fermented and dried, then view the ChocXO factory to

find out what happens next. You'll sample raw cacao pulp, cocoa nibs, cocoa liquor, and, of course, the finished product of chocolate bars, filled chocolates and chocolate bark. Tickets for a group rate will be \$17 per person. Check out our upcoming evite for more details.

SAVE THE DATE: 2016 FOUNDERS DAY @ The Hills - Anaheim Hills Golf Club

Saturday, November 5th, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

6501 East Nohl Ranch Road, Anaheim, 92807

We are excited to announce that the 2016 Founder's Day Celebration will be hosted by our very own alumnae chapter. Early bird tickets are available at \$38 and you can pay via Billhighway. The Founders Day committee is still ironing the event details and will share more as information becomes available. If you have questions in the meantime, please contact Katie Tomici.



Location of the 2016 Founders Day Celebration hosted by the Orange County Alumnae Chapter.

CAPTIONS FROM KAPPA RHO

. . .our sister collegiate chapter at UCI

The recent **Ultra Violet Casino Night** was a huge success raising close to \$10,000 in donations. This was the 6th annual event that Kappa Rho has hosted making it the most successful event thus far. Great job to the ladies of Kappa Rho!

Kappa Rho initiated its 3rd alumnae initiate, **Shannon Shea**, on March 5th. Sister Shea learned of Sigma Kappa's philanthropic focus on gerontology and Alzheimer's research and became immediately interested in becoming a sister who shares in the same values and community efforts as her own. Shannon is

on the path to obtain her **Masters in Social Work focusing on gerontology**. She is also an **HB Senior Services Volunteer for the City of Huntington Beach**. Sister Shea resides in Huntington with her fur baby, Snickers. We are happy to have sister Shannon Shea as part of our Sigma Kappa sisterhood – **Welcome!**

Property Committee (PC) has been working hard to help Kappa Rho maintain their beautiful university owned accommodations and providing the live-ins with a little extra TLC through a recent breakfast event. **PC hosted a lovely breakfast, themed 'Living in SK Sisterhood'**. The menu included waffles, quiche, yogurt cups and fruit juice. Sisters enjoyed eating and going around the table sharing their favorite memory of living in the house together. As for the Chapter house, they put a **design committee** together with some **Chapter members** for input into new concepts and needs for the furniture renovation. Thus far, they have painted the interior of the house, re-upholstered two sofas and an ottoman, installed new window blinds and privacy drapes and restored two of the dining tables. **Some upcoming projects** they have scoped out for 2016 include, gaining a loan application to finance and complete interior design updates and looking into changes its PC status to that of a Corporation Board or Housing Affairs due to National Housing Council's new direction to limit and protect liability.

As Property Committee continues to work on interior design updates, **they are looking for a licensed designer to help them complete their work**. Specifically, they need an official blueprint of the room with all of the current and proposed furniture. **If you are or know of a Sigma Kappa alum who is a professional designer, please reach out to Lynda Badum at lyndabadum@yahoo.com.**



We enjoyed participating in Kappa Rho's Ultra Violet Casino Night event.



We thank all the women of Kappa Rho who came out to support our Chipotle Fundraiser event.

NATIONAL SIGMA KAPPA THE BIGGER PICTURE

The **Sigma Kappa Foundation** is overwhelming excited to have reached their \$500,000 goal to be **matched by Carolyn Tieger (Epsilon Epsilon)** for a **grand total of 1 million dollars** to be donated to the Alzheimer's Association. This was a 5 year goal that we, all sisters across the world, achieved in 3 years. A heartfelt **'Thank You'** goes out to every sister, near and far, who helped make this possible.

Support the **Profile Contest!** Five chapters. Five hundred dollars. Five weeks. Fill out the new and improved Live Sigma Kappa profile for a **chance to win \$500** for your chapter toward an alumnae/collegiate event. The five chapters with the highest percentage of alumnae at or above 80% completion will win the prize. Details can be found on our Facebook page and the National Sigma Kappa website.

Planning to attend the **87th national convention** at the Sheraton Grand in **Chicago**? Located in the heart of downtown Chicago, the Sheraton Grand Chicago is ideally situated on the Chicago River, within walking distance of Navy Pier, Magnificent Mile shopping, Millennium Park, the Loop business district, and all of the other local favorites that make Chicago a one-of-a-kind destination. **Registration opens March 15.**

Last year we colonized 5 new Sigma Kappa Chapters, and just this year, **we successfully colonized at American University in Washington DC, and recolonized at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana.** Congratulations to these two new Chapters.

Our sister **Donna Crain King**, *Epsilon Rho*, was installed as **Chairman of the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC) on October 24, 2015**. The position of Chairman is a two-year term that rotates through all 26 NPC member groups, so this opportunity only comes along every 52 years.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

We want everyone to enjoy the main activities of our alum chapter, but we offer **SIGS** so smaller groups of women can get together, enjoying friendship around shared interests. Our **SIG** leadership follows:

FAMILY SIG: These events are significant other and child friendly. **Contact: Jennifer Spielvogel**
Phone: (951)529-5926 E-mail: jenferanet@aol.com

SOCIAL SIG: Connect with your sisters in a social setting. **Contact: Kelsey Frasher**
Phone: (760)221-3281 E-mail: kelsey.frasher@gmail.com

MOVIE-GOERS SIG: Love movies and popcorn? Let's go together! **Contact: Carol Hudson**
Phone: (949)759-3648 E-mail: rspidea@aol.com

BOOK SIG: Read and share about recent books you've read. **Contact: Phyllis Smith**
Phone: (714)848-1356 E-mail: pmmsmith@verizon.net



We enjoyed fun conversations and treats at our Wine and Chocolate Soiree event.



At the History of Toys: For the Fun of It educational event led by Sister Joan Bogarty.

NEWS & MILESTONES

A very special thank you goes to our volunteers and donors that supported our **Ultra Violet Event at The Irvine Museum**. We raised **\$1,600** to go towards the Sigma Kappa Foundation for Alzheimer's research. We'd like to especially thank our fearless leader, **Charlene Melrose**, who orchestrated the planning of this event.

A note from VPPS, Charlene Melrose regarding the Ultra Violet Event at The Irvine Museum: "I'd like to personally thank **Carmen Smith, Carol Sneary, Kelsey Frasher, Angie Bordador, Sue Green, Phyllis and Zach Smith, and my husband Jim Melrose** for their time and event donations. And I particularly thank our group for coming and for donating and supporting the Sigma Kappa Foundation and also for inviting their friends, hence the success of the event."

Congratulations to Sarah and Craig Cieslik who welcomed beautiful baby boy **Chace John Walter** on February 3rd. He was 7 lbs, 4 oz, and 19 in.

Congratulations to **Sarah Jane Savage** who accepted the **Senior Staff Attorney** role at the **Hartford Group**.