

PRESIDENTS DINNER

LEADING WITH COURAGE

THURSDAY JUNE 23, 2016



A black and white photograph of three young women standing outdoors in a bright, sunny setting. They are all wearing white, sleeveless dresses with intricate lace or floral patterns. The woman on the left is smiling broadly and holding a large, dark letter 'K'. The woman in the middle is also smiling and holding a large, dark letter 'K'. The woman on the right is smiling and holding a large, dark letter 'F'. The background is slightly out of focus, showing what appears to be a campus or park area with buildings and trees. The overall mood is cheerful and celebratory.

K K F

Presidents Dinner

THURSDAY JUNE 23, 2016

Kappa Blessing

Dinner

Program

“Leading with Courage”

*Please join us in the foyer for conversation
with the Presidents and program signing.*





BETH UPHOFF BLACK

EPSILON, *ILLINOIS WESLEYAN*

PRESIDENT 2014–2016

Change is the law of life.
And those who look only
to the past or present are
certain to miss the future.

JOHN F. KENNEDY

Initiated at Epsilon Chapter, *Illinois Wesleyan*, in 1978, Beth began her extensive experience in volunteer work with Kappa in 1990. She served the Elgin-Crystal Lake Alumnae Association as President and Alumnae Reference Chairman before being elected Province Director of Alumnae in 2000. Two years later, she became a Regional Director of Alumnae while also serving on the House Board for Epsilon Chapter.

Beth was elected to Fraternity Council in 2006, serving as the Director of Alumnae, Director of Chapters, Fraternity Vice President and Director of Programs and Education prior to being elected Fraternity President in 2014. While serving on Fraternity Council, Beth still found time to serve

as President of the Peoria Alumnae Association from 2012–2014 and as a Leadership Academy program staff member in 2006, 2007 and 2013.

Highlights of Beth's presidency include a major partnership with It's On Us, the national campaign against sexual assault on college campuses, which welcomed Kappa as their first Greek women's organization partner. Her term also saw the launch of an online reference system for Membership Recruitment and the complete digitization of *The Key* magazine.

Beth and her husband, Al, reside in Washington, Illinois. She is the mother to three sons: Sam, Randall and Dan. Her daughter, Sarah, is a Kappa from Mu, *Butler*.





JULIE LESHAY

DELTA ZETA, *COLORADO COLLEGE*
PRESIDENT 2010–2014

Kappa Kappa Gamma will
empower women to pursue
a lifetime of excellence.

KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA VISION STATEMENT

Julie pledged at Colorado College, just like her mother, Vera Lewis Marine, Director of Alumnae from 1987–1992. However, with a passion for theatre arts, Julie transferred to the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Pasadena, which led to a 10-year acting career in Los Angeles.

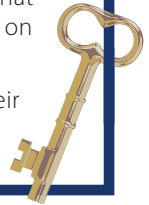
Later, when Julie and her husband, Jeff, moved to Chicago, she served as an adviser to Upsilon Chapter, *Northwestern*. She was elected President of the North Shore Alumnae Association, was appointed as a Coordinator of Chapter Development, then elected Province Director of Chapters and Regional Director of Alumnae before being elected to Council in 2004 as Fraternity Treasurer. After two terms as Treasurer, Julie served as Fraternity Vice President before becoming Fraternity President in 2010.

Council highlights during Julie's terms as President included an updated Fraternity vision statement, newly-designed website along with the 'aspire to be' branding, a redesign of *The Key*, increased use of social

media, online reporting systems, the successful rollout of GIRLS Academy, and the installation of six new Kappa chapters. In conjunction with the Fraternity's 2013–2014 Long Range Planning Task Force report, the Fraternity's strategic plan for 2013–2018 was adopted to inspire, prepare, impact and connect members ahead of Kappa's Sesquicentennial in 2020.

"I loved getting to know so many Kappas during my time on Fraternity Council," says Julie, who is known as a thoughtful, loyal leader. "I enjoyed the travel, the personalities, seeing the chapter facilities, working with Headquarters staff and having lifelong friends in all parts of North America." Julie is currently serving the Fraternity as the Kappa Travels Chairman, overseeing partnerships with travel companies to provide educational and cultural travel programs that delight Kappa alumna travelers and guests. "Travel on your own, but not alone!"

Julie and Jeff reside in Scottsdale, Arizona, with their cat named Blue, and a garden bursting with irises.





DENISE RUGANI

EPSILON OMICRON, *UC DAVIS*
PRESIDENT 2006–2010

We don't accomplish anything in this world alone—and whatever happens is the result of the whole tapestry of one's life and all the weavings of individual threads from one to another that creates something.

SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR

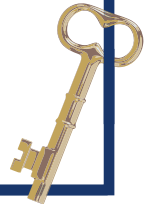
Denise began her Kappa leadership journey as Epsilon Omicron Chapter President. In 1989, Denise served as a Traveling Consultant (now Leadership Consultant) followed by serving as a Chapter Consultant for Gamma Psi Chapter, *Maryland*. She then served as Province Director of Chapters and Regional Director of Chapters. Denise was elected to the Fraternity Council in 2000, serving as Director of Chapters and Fraternity Vice President before being elected Fraternity President.

Highlights of Denise's term as President were the creation of a five-year Strategic Plan to ensure that Kappa remains relevant to our members, the launching of an e-learning platform, creation of a bilingual Friends and Family page on the website

and seeing the endowment for Leadership Academy become fully funded. The inaugural GIRLS Academy took place at Riverview Middle School, where Denise served as principal. Currently, Denise is the Fraternity Bylaws Chairman and the Ritual/History Specialist for Pi Province.

"We must not stand for mediocrity but instead promote greatness by inspiring our members to make changes for the betterment of Kappa as well as all Greek-letter organizations," says Denise.

Denise resides in Concord, California, and is the Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources for the Liberty Union High School District.





PRIS MURPHY GERDE

GAMMA DELTA, *PURDUE*
PRESIDENT 2004–2006

You can't live a perfect day
without doing something
for someone who will never
be able to repay you.

JOHN WOODEN

An adviser in residence with the Krannert School of Management at Purdue University following a 37-year corporate career with Eli Lilly and Company, Pris began as an alumnae association officer following graduation. She moved to the chapter side as an adviser at Iota Chapter, *DePauw*, and then Advisory Board Chairman and Chapter Council Adviser to Gamma Delta Chapter, *Purdue*, before being elected Province Director of Chapters. Pris then served as a Regional Director of Chapters before being elected Director of Standards for two terms, followed by a term as Vice President.

With a strong desire for input from all members, Pris initiated a "Strategic Plan Survey" and focus groups to gather input for the next biennium's goals. A Convention "Leadership Festival" was created to

allow participants to view all areas of Kappa with Fraternity officers and Headquarters staff manning display tables and providing information on how members could utilize everything Kappa has to offer.

"In reflecting over the past biennium, I am reminded of how often what we do, the decisions we make and our motivations for our actions are tied to relationships," said Pris. "The vibrancy and growth of Kappa Kappa Gamma is in all our hands."

Pris currently resides in Battle Ground, Indiana.





ANN STAFFORD TRUESDELL

RHO DEUTERON, *OHIO WESLEYAN*
PRESIDENT 2000–2004

The talent of success is
nothing more than doing
what you can do well, and
doing well whatever you do.

H.W. LONGFELLOW

Prior to being elected President, Ann served as Province Director of Chapters, Chairman of Chapter Administration, Assistant to the Director of Chapters, Director of Field Representatives, Director of Chapters and Vice President.

After a successful Leadership Academy pilot program near the end of Ann's presidency, the official Leadership Academy weekend became an annual event with the purpose of cultivating leadership among members who show potential for shaping our Fraternity and the world.

Other highlights of Ann's presidency were the philanthropic partnership with Reading Is Fundamental and the identity study that resulted in more effective ways to promote Kappa's Tradition of Leadership. Ann also made technology a

priority, saying, "We are women drawn together in a supportive environment of mutual trust and respect, working together toward common goals. Technology will offer us many new avenues to communicate, connect and conduct Fraternity business, but the bonds of friendship will remain a constant amid the flurry of technology."

Following her presidency, Ann was appointed Public Relations Chairman as well as serving the National Panhellenic Conference. From 2008–2013, Ann led the Kappa Kappa Gamma Foundation as Executive Director. She also served on the board of the North-American Interfraternity Conference Foundation.

A former teacher, Ann resides on the North Coast of California with her husband, Tom.





CATHY THOMPSON CARSWELL

EPSILON, *ILLINOIS WESLEYAN*
PRESIDENT 1996–2000

Look up and not down;
Look out and not in;
Look forward and not back,
Lend a hand.

WRITTEN BY EDWARD EVERETT HALE
AND ADOPTED BY YOUNG THEODORE
ROOSEVELT AS HIS MOTTO.

Prior to serving as President, Cathy was elected

Director of Personnel, after which she initiated the bylaw revision that changed the name of that position to Director of Standards. She also served as Director of Chapters before becoming Vice President. In addition, Cathy served as Program Chairman, President of the Westchester (N.Y.) Alumnae Association, Province Director of Chapters and Regional Director of Chapters. Currently she serves on the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of Illinois Wesleyan University.

During Cathy's administration, *Pathways: Kappa Kappa Gamma's Continuous Education Experience* was launched and *History 2000...Kappa Kappa*

Gamma Through the Years was published. With a renewed commitment to academic standards, Cathy's term saw another significant achievement—the Fraternity-wide chapter grade point average reaching the goal of 3.1.

"We must educate all Kappas—especially our new members—about the standards and values that make our Fraternity a timeless organization," says Cathy, who often emphasized Kappa's founding values. "Many of our lives have been shaped by our belief in those values and our love for Kappa Kappa Gamma."

Cathy resides in Greenwich, Connecticut.





JULIANA (J.J.) FRASER WALES

BETA NU, *OHIO STATE*
PRESIDENT 1992–1996

Do not wish to be anything
but what you are, and try to be
that perfectly.

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

J.J. served Beta Nu Chapter as President of

her pledge class, member of the Recruitment Committee, Vice President–Organization and President, and her service has continued uninterrupted.

J.J. served as Field Secretary (now Leadership Consultant) followed by Chairman of Fraternity Education. She then served as Province Director of Chapters, Director of Membership, Director of Chapters, Director of Field Representatives and Vice President before being elected President. After being President, she served as the Governmental Affairs Liaison, Extension Chairman, and spent many years on Kappa’s National Panhellenic Conference delegation including six years as the NPC Delegate.

A long-range planning process distinguished J.J.’s presidency. This process facilitated a plan for Fraternity growth, exemplification of Fraternity

values, financial security and more effective programming. Regional, intergenerational leadership conferences called “Kappa Kinetics” were developed, the precursor of today’s Leadership Academy. The Kappa *Leadership Guide* was published and a PR strategy was developed to promote the Fraternity’s right to be a single-gender organization.

“We recognize the value of women of all ages, linking their lives for the benefit of each other throughout life’s discoveries,” says J.J. “There is nothing ordinary about Kappa Kappa Gamma, our perspective, our leadership, our loyalty, our commitment, because there is nothing ordinary about any of us.”

J.J. and her husband, Ross, reside in Cincinnati, Ohio. They thoroughly enjoy spending time with their family, which includes five granddaughters.





KAY SMITH LARSON

BETA PI, *WASHINGTON*

PRESIDENT 1988–1992

Not everyone can be
famous, but everyone
can be great in service.

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

A resident of Rancho Mirage, Calif., Kay graduated

cum laude from the University of Washington where she served as assistant Scholarship Chairman and Vice President-Standards for Beta Pi Chapter.

She later served as Iota Province Director of Chapters before being elected to the Fraternity Council as Director of Membership in 1970, followed by Director of Field Representatives and Director of Chapters. She left the Fraternity Council in 1978 to take a position in the University of Washington athletic department, but accepted the appointment as Fraternity Housing Chairman in 1980. She was elected Fraternity Vice President in 1984 followed by Director of Personnel (Standards) before becoming President.

Following her presidency, Kay served as Bylaws Chairman, Fraternity liaison to the Minnie Stewart Foundation, History Chairman and chairman of the Fraternity's 2020 Sesquicentennial observance.

Kay's legacy always will be the incorporation in 1989 of the Kappa Kappa Gamma Foundation that was created by merging the Fraternity's Educational Endowment Fund, the Rose McGill Fund and the Founders' Memorial Fund for Students' Aid into one tax-exempt entity with its own board of trustees.

During Kay's presidency, the Regional Council was added to the Fraternity's governance and the *Keep Safe*, *INSIGHT on Domestic Violence* and *SEEK: Self Esteem for Every Kappa* programs were developed.

As Kay once said, "Our membership clearly can be compared to a garden, in which each individual flower adds to its splendor."





MARIAN KLINGBEIL WILLIAMS

THETA, *MISSOURI*
PRESIDENT 1984–1988

Courage is the most
important of all the virtues.

MAYA ANGELOU

Marian served her chapter as Panhellenic

Delegate and President. Her Fraternity service began as Eta Province Director of Alumnae and Chairman of Chapter Public Relations before serving on Fraternity Council as Director of Personnel (Standards), Director of Field Representatives, Director of Membership and Director of Chapters before being elected Fraternity President.

Following her presidency, Marian was appointed Extension Chairman and then served as our National Panhellenic Conference Delegate for 10 years. Marian remains a respected leader in the Panhellenic world, having served as Chairman of the NPC from 1999–2001. She also served Kappa as the Fraternity Nominating Chairman.

“Those Kappa leaders I have admired the most are those who are of strong character, adhere to core values and lead with integrity,” says Marian.

“They are the true leaders who have the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make tough decisions and the compassion to listen to the needs of others.”

As Fraternity President, Marian formed the first Long-Range Planning Committee and a Development Committee to raise funds to increase the endowment of the Fraternity’s philanthropic funds. She initiated the printing of an updated all-member directory and *The History of Kappa Kappa Gamma*, Vol. III (1976–1985) was published. Marian’s Council in 1986 developed the time honored Fraternity Mission Statement, which remains intact today.

A former teacher, Marian resides with her husband, Chuck, in Albuquerque, N.M.

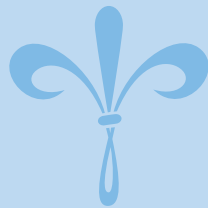




Kappa Blessing

FATHER,
WE ARE THANKFUL,
MAY WE EVER BE
MINDFUL OF THY BLESSINGS,
WE OF K.K.G.





KAPPA KAPPA GAMMA

71ST BIENNIAL CONVENTION