



Lyre Letter

SPRING 2020

The Race Is On, the Need Is Real, the Time Is Now Help Psi Chapter Cross the Finish Line First!

Since our last update, more than \$1.6 million has been received in cash or pledges for the *Second Century* campaign! With less than \$1.9 million needed to reach our goal of \$3.52 million, we are confident that Psi can break ground in 2021 on a new home for Alpha Chi Omega at the University of Oklahoma!

The campaign push is very important and very real. Alpha Chi Omega is not alone in needing major updates to its facility; two houses on campus were renovated in the last two years and another is currently being fully remodeled. Additionally, at least *four other sororities* have started campaigns to rebuild or remodel. **We are in a race and we cannot be left behind.** In the next five years, the sorority houses at OU will look significantly different. Much like the fraternities, many will be transformed into beautiful new residences. We want to be one of the first to unveil our amazing new house. We want to be the leader, not the follower.

The house corporation is eternally grateful to everyone who has helped get us this far. But,

there are *still many sisters we have yet to contact* about this important project. To meet the final goal of \$3.52 million, Pennington & Company, a consulting team specializing in capital campaigns for sororities, has been hired to help us raise the final dollars needed to finish the campaign.

Within the next **six** months, it is important to get as many gifts and commitments as possible. Our campaign team, along with Pennington & Company, will focus on making phone calls and sending email and text messages asking you to help by donating to the *Second Century* campaign. Every gift is important but stretch gifts—where you reach a little deeper than you might typically think of giving—are needed. For most, this is a once-in-a-lifetime donation to the organization that played an important role in shaping who you are today. There will not be another time in your life that Psi Chapter will ask for this amount from our alumnae. Your gift **will** make an everlasting impact on the chapter.



A rendering of Psi Chapter's library, which will be a warm and inviting place for sisters to study.

If you are interested in helping Alpha Chi finish first, to be the leader on campus, please contact **Sheffra Brown Stauder '82**, *Second Century* campaign manager, at rstauder@cox.net or (918) 693-5662.

LITB,
Teresa McAfee O'Donnell '85
Psi House Corporation President
teresa_odonnell84@yahoo.com

Where Are They Now?

What you're doing is more exciting than you think! Let us know what's happening in your life. Look for news items about you and your Psi sisters in this issue and future issues of *Lyre Letter*.

1950s Alumnae

Beverly Jordan Sprehe '52 has eight children and 16 great-grandchildren. She enjoys reading.

Roberta Reid Young '54 lives in Shell Point Retirement Community in Florida and remains active in volunteer groups.

1960s Alumnae

Karen Ritchey Turner '65 celebrated her 48th wedding anniversary with her husband, Tom. She has fond memories of Alpha Chi—sisters **Linda Brust Ochs '65**, **Nancy English '65**, and **Vicki Burton Dunscombe '64** were her bridesmaids.

1970s Alumnae

Janet Townsend Crain '71 enjoys spending summers in Angel Fire, N.M.

Katherine Hawthorne Cotton '75 is the executive director of Leadership Alabama.

1980s Alumnae

Audrey Kamp Micinski '81 teaches A.P. Physics in Decatur, Texas. She's been teaching for 35 years and loves it!

Karen Borman Maxton '85 enjoys the empty nest life, living near San Antonio and working as an ultrasound and nuclear medicine technologist. Karen and her family lived all

over the world while her husband was a career military person.

1990s Alumnae

Suzette Wolfer Hartz '96 was blessed with the birth of her daughter, who came eight weeks early, on Suzette's 40th birthday—January 5, 2018. The little Alpha Chi legacy was welcomed home by proud dad and her big brother.

2000s Alumnae

Alli Benkley Coleman '05 is a self-employed event coordinator and designer. She lives in Edmond with her husband, Theo, and their dog, Glavihe.

Writing the Next Chapter of Psi Together

Don't Miss this Opportunity to Leave Your Mark on AXΩ!

Symphony Society
(\$100,000 to \$249,999)

Lynn Self Ford '70
Kandi Murphy McCasland '82
Stauder Family
Sheffra Brown Stauder '82
Tristin Stauder '10
Kaylyn Stauder '12
Taran Stauder '19

Psi Society
(\$75,000 to \$99,999)

1115 College Avenue Society
(\$50,000 to \$74,999)
Jane Hand Pefanis '80
Shelly Stone Armstrong '81

Hera Society
(\$25,000 to \$49,999)

Barbara Green Durrett '49
Lynette Lemon Wert '57 and
Andrea Wert Ebeling '80
Eleanor Smith Fox '58
Jari Askins '72
Mita Minnett Bates '73
Heather Carrio '04

Seeking the Heights Society
(\$15,000 to \$24,999)

Barbara Eskridge '49
Marsha Harris Haubelt '68

Olive and Scarlet Society
(\$10,000 to \$14,999)

Betty Wall '55
Gay Elder Kirby '62
Dianne Reaugh Bauman '64
Beverly Green Ellis '70
Tina Kelley '81
Tammy Aikman Powell '86

Red Carnation Society
(\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Rita King Moore '51
Marie Cook Sommerfelt '72
Paula Tigner Torrence '73
Carolyn Higginbotham '74
Robin Rodgers Gladstein '78
Lori Johnson Hunter '82
Alyse Bailey '83
Jennifer Johnson Swisher '83
Teresa McAfee O'Donnell '85
Deborah Phillips Powers '85
Lisa Franck Rogers '86
Sherry Buerger Carr '87

Golden Lyre Society
(\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Kathryn Harrison Madsen '53
Johanna Boren '54 and
Jennifer Boren '83
Kay Carmichael '78
Gina Waller Hill '82
Lisa Owens '82

Kristin Klein Daffern '85
Kristin Lee Collins '86
Melinda Barton '88
Susie Stoltz Butler '88
Marissa LeBleu Gilbert '88
Marla Gornetski Williams '89
Shelley Liegl, Chapter Advisor

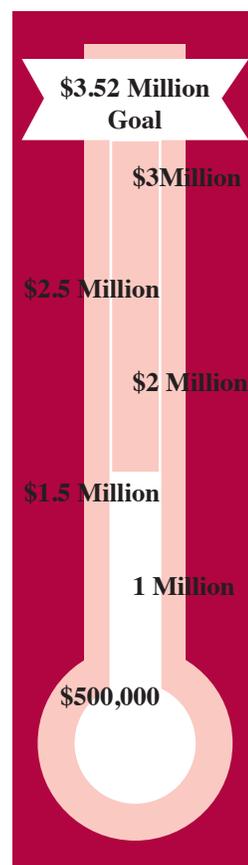
Pearl Society
(\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Bessie Merritt Olivo '56
Sharon Butler Clarke '57
Peggy Jane Hoag '59
Susan Bentley Francis '60
Rosemary Riddle Simpson '61
Judith Sherman Smith '61
Sharon Meikle '62
Susan Austin Traynor '65
Mary Schneider Brown '66
Vicki Adair Angus '68
Susan Ehlen '70
Donna McLain Hope '72
Patricia McGlothlin Palmer '74
Suzanne McClendon Symcox '76
Lucinda Nelms Cox '81
Lisa Kippenberger '82
Sandra Gill Carpenter '83
Lisa Drew Sander '83
Tracy Bohannon Rinehart '84
Cheryl Hammond Raper '85
Ginger Bateman Cookson '87
Brandi Doss Ezell '87

Shannon Watkins Holmes '87
Jennifer Howell McElreath '89
Tracy Bauman Zimmerman '89
Jill Hazeldine '90
Malena Brown Putnam '91
Jennifer Bess Shindler '02
Tabitha Dunham Arias '05
Sarah Barnes '10
McKenzie Wells '12
Kate Pickering, *Phi '03*
Recruitment Advisor
In memory of
Rita McDowell Litton

Sisterhood Society
(\$500 to \$999)

Mary Hamilton Chapman '56
Janice Alden Harrison '56
Marilyn Smith Grace '58
Carolyn Easterling Knapp '59
Kristy Gilbert Souders '85
Kathryn Middleton Decker '96
Jill Hanan Wolf '86
Holly McCollum Yeagle '86
Angie Constantine '87
Krista Straka Costilow '88
Marie Celeste Hickman '02
Caitlin Lydia Mazaheri '04



CAMPAIGN PROGRESS BY THE NUMBERS

Since June 13th through February 13th



\$3.52 Million
Goal



\$1.6 Million
YTD Receipts/Pledges



\$1.3 Million of \$1.6 Million
Is Cash in the Bank



46%
Of Goal Raised



100+
Donors



Over 2,300
Active Alumnae

PLEDGE CLASS CHALLENGE

How Does Your Class Rank?

Each pledge class raising \$100,000 will be recognized on the Wall of Giving in the new house! Encourage your pledge sisters to join the challenge.

Current Leaders:

1. Initiated 1982, more than \$100,000
2. Initiated 1970, more than \$100,000
3. Initiated 1981, \$61,000
4. Initiated 1980, \$50,000
5. Initiated 1949, \$45,000

The Second Century Campaign

\$3,520,000 Fundraising Goal

Gifts Secured	Gifts Needed	Gift Size	Total
0	1	\$500,000	\$500,000
0	3	\$250,000	\$750,000
3	3	\$100,000	\$300,000
2	3	\$50,000	\$150,000
6	15	\$25,000	\$375,000
2	20	\$15,000	\$300,000
6	30	\$10,000	\$300,000
12	40	\$5,000	\$200,000
104	462	up to \$5,000	\$645,000
TOTAL			
135	577		\$3,520,000

Growing Up Around Real. Strong. Women.

Katy Harrison Madsen '54 Reflects on Lessons from Grandmother, Mother, AXΩ Sisters

While **Katy Harrison Madsen '54** wasn't alive in 1919, that year is special to her for a couple of reasons. Not only did Congress pass the right to vote for women, but Katy's mother, Juliet Ahrens Harrison, graduated from the University of Michigan.

What's more is that Juliet became a second-generation college graduate. Her mother, Kate Shaw Ahrens, graduated from Female Baptist College in 1887. Katy still feels blessed about being in a rare position to learn valuable lessons from two college graduates.

"I remember my grandmother saying, 'When you educate a woman, you educate a family.' She just always expected everyone to go to college," Katy said.

Kate and Juliet were born in Indian Territory before Oklahoma became a state. Kate was one-fourth Creek Indian and was one of 16 girls from the five civilized tribes chosen to attend Northfield Seminary, now Northfield Mount Hermon Prep School, in Northfield, Massachusetts.

After drawing inspiration from Kate, Juliet and Katy began their respective experiences at Stephens College. Juliet spent two years at Stephens before finishing her degree at Michigan. Katy transferred after her freshman year to the University of Oklahoma, where she joined Alpha Chi Omega.

While Katy lives in New Jersey, she stays in touch with several Psi Chapter sisters, most of whom remain in Oklahoma. Katy has been a loyal financial contributor to the Alpha Chi Omega Foundation and Psi Chapter and was actively involved in numerous AXΩ alumnae groups.

"Every place I went, I joined the Alpha Chi club," Katy said. "First when I was married, I was teaching in Long Island and I joined that Alpha Chi club. Then we moved to Matawan, New Jersey, and I joined the Alpha Chi club in Monmouth County."

Katy treasured the lessons from Kate and Juliet and Alpha Chi's values of friendship, leadership, learning, and service throughout her career as a home economics teacher. She epitomizes what it means to be a Real. Strong. Woman, as does her daughter, **Juliane Madsen Steenkamer, University of Delaware '87**. Juliane exhibited her strength this past year when she entered a paired kidney exchange program for her nephew, Noah. Juliane's kidney went to a 55-year-old man in Maine, while Noah received a kidney from a person living in the Pacific Northwest.

The time spent with Juliane and her family meant that much more to Katy this past holiday season. Katy is thankful to be in a family full of Real. Strong. Women.



Katy Harrison Madsen '54 with her daughter, Juliane Madsen Steenkamer, University of Delaware '87.

Psi Sisters Seek the Heights

Focused on Philanthropy, Sisterhood, and Leadership

Fall 2019 was packed with impressive achievements and accomplishments for Psi Chapter. We began with a successful recruitment and welcomed 99 new members into our sisterhood. In October, Homecoming brought forth many opportunities to make memories with our sisters. The end of the semester brought graduation; it was bittersweet to see a handful of our members graduate and begin their new lives, but we know they will always be our sisters!



Tristian Williamson '16, Jillian Robinsin '16, and Macy Norvell '16 at fall 2019 recruitment.

Philanthropic Endeavors

Under the leadership of former VP of Philanthropy **Cali Landry '17**, we raised more than \$12,800 for the Women's Resource Center of Norman. Our new Vice President of Philanthropy, **Alli Kliever '18**, hit the ground running with several exciting events for Healthy Relationships Week in February. Other philanthropic events this spring include Soonerthon, The Big Event, and Relay for Life. Our Soonerthon success the last two years has been impressive, and we are hoping to top that this year!

Leadership Development

In January, the 2020 executive board came together for a retreat where we focused on goals and brainstormed ways to improve our sisterhood. Additionally, executive board members **Rachel Rogers '18, Kait Collins '18, Mariana Rincon '18** and I attended the AXΩ 2020 Leadership Academy in Indianapolis. It was a positive and empowering learning atmosphere that enabled us to hone in on our leadership skills and build connections with Alpha Chi sisters from across the country.

Sooner Scandals 2020

Tryouts for the 76th annual Sooner Scandals were also held in January. This year, Alpha Chi Omega is paired with the men of Phi Delta Theta, and we look forward to performing in April.

Proud to Be Psi Sisters

We have many outstanding members who are putting their amazing talents to good use outside of Psi through internships, executive councils, or directing committees. We are excited to see what they achieve this semester. Our new executive board is thrilled to serve the chapter in our new positions. We have many positive changes and uplifting ideas that we are confident are going to be refreshing for Psi. Alumnae are always welcome, and we encourage you to stop by 1115 College Ave.

Loyally,

Mackenzie Davis '17, Chapter President
ouaxopres@gmail.com | (580) 559-1517

Stay Connected with Psi Chapter!

Do you need to confirm or update your contact information in the Psi Alumnae Contact list?

If you have a “CF” listed **after** your name in the address, then you have confirmed your address. If not, please complete and mail the enclosure inside or email rstauder@cox.net. Please include the following: **Initiation/Pledge Year, Full Name, Address, Email, and Phone Number(s)**.

Also, please review the list of “LOST” sisters and help us locate them! Thank you for your help.

ITB,
Sheffra Brown Stauder '82 | rstauder@cox.net



Members of the fall 2019 member class at the Candyland Date Party.

Lyre Letter

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PSI CHAPTER
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Norman, OK 73072

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Marsha Harris Haubelt '68 Makes Meaningful Memories, Lasting Friendships Through AXΩ

From book club and bridge club to cruises and reunions, **Marsha Harris Haubelt '68** proves that Alpha Chi Omega sisterhood connections are for life. After more than 50 years as a member, she has an abundance of Psi Chapter memories, and her AXΩ ties know no generational bounds.

Her Alpha Chi Omega friends aren't limited to Psi Chapter though. After moving back to Oklahoma in the late '70s, she helped start a young alumnae group for all Alpha Chis in the Oklahoma City area.

"I'm close with several women from Gamma Tau Chapter, whom I met through the young alumnae club," Marsha shared. "We've been playing bridge together for almost 40 years."

She stays especially close with a group of Psi Chapter sisters who still reunite at each other's houses, go on cruises together, and meet for lunch quarterly.

"Looking back, I can't believe it's been over 50 years," she shared. "It's come full circle now that we've gone through good times and bad times and are still there for each other." Marsha has also stayed involved with Psi

Chapter over the years by serving as the recruitment advisor, as well as being involved on the house corporation board on two separate occasions.

Her Psi Chapter connections even carried over to her professional life.

"I was a teacher for more than 20 years, and the first couple of years, I taught with a younger AXΩ," Marsha said. "Later on, I taught with an older AXΩ, both from Psi Chapter."

While in her 40s, Marsha obtained her master's degree in early childhood education, which enabled her to develop and implement an early childhood program at Northridge Elementary of Putnam City Schools. Once the program was in place, Marsha was its first preschool teacher. Developing, implementing, and teaching in that program is an accomplishment she is most proud of.

Another aspect of her life that she is proud of is seeing her son, Jason, who has a learning disability, reach an amazing level of success thanks to her advocating for his education. He received his bachelor of science from



Marsha Harris Haubelt '68, Nancy Newbern '68, Chris Ann Rives Gibbs '68, and Donna Williams MCGinty '70.

Oklahoma State and is a senior global training manager for Medtronic.

"He had a really difficult time all through school, and I worked to make sure he had the right help," she shared. "When asked who his hero was, he picked me."

Marsha and her husband of 48 years, Garnett, also have a daughter, Kimberly, who is a fourth-generation teacher pursuing her doctorate while also working full time as the gifted and talented teacher at the Denver School of the Arts. You can connect with Marsha at mhaubelt1025@aol.com.