

# Sigma Star

Sigma of Alpha Delta Pi Building Corporation | University of Illinois | Spring 2014  
www.illiniadpi.com | Alumnae Relations Office | P.O. Box 80828 | Atlanta, Georgia 30366



## From the Sigma Housing Corporation



*Hello Sisters!*

It's a really exciting time to be a part of the Housing Corporation! I am especially excited because this summer I will be attending the Alpha Delta

Pi Leadership Summit in Atlanta on behalf of our corporation to learn from and network with other housing corporation members.

Since my time in the chapter I've served as a Chapter Advisor and as a member of the District team, but being on the Housing Corporation is still relatively new and I have much to learn so I'm very excited for the opportunity! I'm looking forward to the time I'll spend there in the home of Alpha Delta Pi and I'm hoping to squeeze in seeing a few of my sisters who are in the area as well! Just another reminder that the sisterhood we share extends well beyond the college years!

You know that saying about the more things change the more they stay the same? Well, I think that especially applies to our house. It has changed and adapted over the years (I still remember when we had a house phone and internet was only in the basement!) but one of the things that really hasn't changed in a long time is the bathrooms. If you initiated sometime in the past 30 years, it's likely that the bathrooms look the exact same today as they did when

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## Alumnae Spotlight: *Alicia VanBebber '92*



**Editor's Note:** For this issue of the newsletter we're shining the Spotlight on Sister **Alicia VanBebber '92**. Having recently returned from a mission trip to Peru, Alicia dedicates her medical skills as a Pediatric Perfusionist to the community and beyond. With a BA of Science in Kinesiology followed up by a degree with the (CPS) Cardiovascular Perfusion School, she set out to find her dream job. From the hometown of Loami, IL, our sister started out as a walk-on track and field athlete as a freshman with a javelin specialty. She rushed as a sophomore and worked her way through school with two jobs – one as a lifeguard for Division of Campus Recreation and the other as the Director of Swimming for NYSP. Alicia even participated in the Walt Disney Summer Program as a life guard and instructor. Alicia's strong work ethic has taken her across the country and back in order to find her current place at the Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt. Outside of work, she has recently begun reconnecting with the ADPi Nashville Alumnae Association. Read on to find out more about our dedicated sister!

### **Back in school, how did you get involved with the Walt Disney Summer Program?**

My part-time job in college was as U of I lifeguard. My co-worker informed me of the Disney on campus interviews and invited me to go. Of course I jumped at the opportunity to work for "The Mouse." My summer of '94 was spent at Disney learning about their business model (for college credit), lifeguarding, and instructing swim lessons.

### **After graduation, what led you to California?**

California was a dream come true. All of my life I had dreamed of making it to the West Coast to partake in the CA way of life — sun,

sand, and Hollywood. Fortunately for me, my job as a perfusionist affords me many opportunities in many wonderful places around the world. I didn't get my dream job right out of perfusion school, but one year of hard work paid off and I was hitting the road to sunny California.

### **As a perfusionist, how does the competitive flexibility give you the ease to transfer?**

Perfusion is an incredible, highly specialized profession of which there are only about 3800 in the United States. Due to the specialized nature of perfusionists, when you have an open mind about your geographical location, you will find opportunities around both professionally and personally. Competition is strong and your flexibility and ability to network weighs heavily in your success.

### **Has your work led to any new and exciting opportunities?**

Upon graduating U of I, I moved to New Jersey to pursue training as a perfusionist. Since completing Perfusion School, I have lived in Washington D.C., Los Angeles, Chicago, San Juan, P.R., Phoenix, and Nashville. Each of these moves was for my career and goals I set for myself. I have also worked as a traveling perfusionist going to Des Moines and Chattanooga and a medical company clinical specialist in the western 13 states.

**VanBebber** (Continued on Page 3)



*2013 Bid Day*

# Chapter News

*From the Chapter President*  
**Sarah Sandberg**



*Hello Sisters!*

I am thrilled to be serving as the President of Sigma Chapter of Alpha Delta Pi for the next year! I am currently a sophomore studying Political Science and French at the University of Illinois. After

one semester of Presidency under my belt, I have learned a lot about the details of how our sorority is run. I have already had an incredibly rewarding experience working with my executive team and look forward to the positive improvements we have begun to implement in our chapter.

At the beginning of February, Sigma Chapter was thrilled to welcome 9 new Alpha Members. We held a recruitment event where potential new members wrote valentines for Ronald McDonald House, drank hot chocolate, and got a tour of our chapter house. After a tough Membership Selection Session, we were pleased to offer bids to 9 women, all of who accepted! Unfortunately, due to the extremely cold weather and snow, our Alpha Ceremony had to be postponed one day later than originally scheduled, but that didn't stop anyone from coming! We also had an enormously successful Chapter Retreat the weekend after Alpha Ceremony. Members all came to the Illini Union where we had presentations from the Membership Education Team, the Risk Management Committee, and a special



Cassie Poulos, Sofia Bello, Jenny Richman, and Marie Johnson-Dahl at the ADPicnic.

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## Chapter Spotlight: Jennifer "Jenna" Josephs



*Editor's Note:* Representing our chapter as Spotlight is our past Director of Standards and Ethics and graduating Senior, **Jenna Josephs**. Jenna has continuously been involved on campus and in Alpha Delta Pi. She has been an incredible resource for our incoming executive board and has helped us find our bearings when it comes to leading a chapter. Pursuing her degree in Agricultural and Consumer Economics with a concentration in Financial Planning, Jenna has been polishing her skills on campus as the Vice President of Internal Relations with the Global Business Brigade. From the hometown of Elmhurst, IL, Jenna has already put stamps in her passport with a trip to Costa Rica, Panama, and recently to the Dominican Republic for spring break! After graduation she will begin her work experience towards becoming a Certified Financial Planner with a firm in San Francisco. Read on to find out more!

Last year over spring break, I traveled as part of Global Business Brigades to Panama. I traveled with forty other undergraduate students and two academic advisors from the University of Illinois. We were divided among two indigenous communities where we worked with members of the community to start their own co-operative bank. The main topics that we covered include leadership structure, examples of collateral and addressed different situations relating to corruption. In teaching this material, we used mostly poster diagrams and also completed role play scenarios. We recently heard from Global Business Brigades that the co-operative is going well and expanding membership to other communities.

My most exciting trip so far was when I traveled to Costa Rica with my family. We stayed in the town of La Fortuna which is located at the base of the Arenal Volcano. We were able to hike around the volcano, raft and zip line in the area. We also spent a day in the hot springs, pools that contain all natural water from the volcano. Zip lining and exploring the hot spring pools with my family were definitely the highlights of the trip!

With my degree in Financial Planning, I am hoping to earn my Certified Financial Planner Designation within the next few years. I hope to work for a Registered Investment Advisor firm and potentially develop a focus in estate planning.

After graduation, I am moving to San Francisco! I will be working as an Analyst for Hall Capital Partners LLC. This firm specializes in building global multi-asset class investment portfolios for families, endowments and foundations. I am planning to move this coming July.



Jenna hiking with her family around the volcano!

## Save the Date

August 17 - 23, 2014

**Spirit Week**

Sept. 9-7 and Sept. 13-14, 2014

**Formal Recruitment**

Sept. 15, 2014 - **Bid Day**

October 24 - 25, 2014

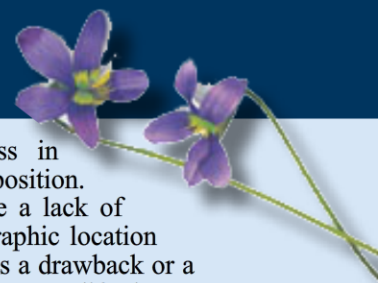
**Homecoming Weekend**



Jenna working with the local community in Panama while on a trip with the Business Brigade.

## A Little About Jenna...

- I enjoy watching the shows Game of Thrones, The Voice and The Bachelor/The Bachelorette.
- Also in my free time, I love going to group fitness classes such as Turbokick, Body Combat and Zumba.
- For extracurricular classes, I've taken Ice Skating, Outdoor Adventure and am currently taking Advanced Tap Dance.
- I'm currently on the roommate/apartment hunt for when I move to San Francisco.



Alicia scrubbing in before surgery.

**How did you adjust to your new home in Puerto Rico?**

Puerto Rico was an absolute surprise on my journey and aside from my career, I was otherwise unprepared. I didn't speak Spanish and my foreign language in college? Lingala! My journey in Puerto Rico was life changing; I met my husband Joseph while working there. We didn't speak each other's languages, so the dictionaries were a staple.

**What made you branch out to work in medical education as a Clinical Specialist?**

My time in Puerto Rico came to a close due to a renegotiation of service contracts. In my career, rather than just take any job, I have always tried to maintain flexibility in order to be a part of a job I love. Perfusion didn't have an ideal opportunity for me at that time, so I decided to try my hand in the medical industry as an educator. I love to teach and I love to travel so it was a great fit! Ultimately I missed patient care and sought the opportunity to return to perfusion in pediatrics exclusively.

**When was your first medical mission trip and what have you enjoyed most?**

My first trip was to Hue, Vietnam in 2004 with a pediatric cardiac team I was privileged to call friends. This was my first BIG trip out of the country and we had the time of our lives, provided quality care to very sick children during the Chinese New Year and celebrated a culture which welcomed us with open arms. The gratitude and graciousness was so amazing, I really wanted to stay! Obviously I returned and have since traveled on mission trips to Santiago, D.R. and Lima, Peru.

**Outside of work, what do you do for fun?**

My husband and I enjoy spending time on our 'ranch' where there is always maintenance to be done. Between our chickens, cats, dog, and rescue donkeys, we definitely have our hands full! The outdoor activities and greenery call to us. We also enjoy all of the musical talent offered here in Nashville. Travel is also a large part of our fun time!

**How do you stay connected with your Sigma sisters?**

Over time and all of my moving about, it has been difficult to maintain contact through all of life's changes. The Sigma Star provides me wonderful insight to the lives of my Sigma sisters past, present and future. Facebook has been an incredibly useful tool to reconnect too! The U of I Alumni Association also provides great resources.

**What advice can you give our alumnae and young actives about pursuing their dream job?**

Pursue your dreams and be fluid in how you can achieve them. Your flexibility will prove invaluable. Above all, take care to ensure

your happiness in your career/position. Some perceive a lack of choices, geographic location for example, as a drawback or a shortcoming. In my life, however, I have taken full advantage of the "limitations" to take me to places where I meet special people and learn more than I ever could have imagined. The experiences and the memories are irreplaceable.



Alicia and Joseph in WaynaPicchu, Peru. "We hiked 2 hours to reach summit!"

President (Continued from Page 2)

presentation on lifelong membership from Katherine Levasseur, a leadership consultant who was spending five days with our chapter.

After Initiation in March, the executive board put on a *Diamond Development Workshop* modeled after a Kairos retreat. This retreat lasted from 8 pm until 1 am and included relationship building among sisters and self-reflection in an accepting environment where we could learn more about each other and bond as a group. Words cannot describe our experience at this retreat- it was such an incredible way to welcome the newest members of the Delta class.

Women opened up about tough life experiences and admitted things to each other that some had never even admitted to themselves.

April saw one of our Panhellenic Council's biggest events — *Walk A Mile In Her Shoes*. This event raises awareness for sexual assault in which men will walk a mile around the quad in high-heeled shoes and listen to sexual assault statistics to learn what it is like to walk in a survivor's shoes. Sigma Chapter had an amazing

turnout with around 100 women (more than half of our chapter) participating in cheering on the boys!

Last weekend, we also held our two philanthropy events: a lunch called ADPicnic, and Can You Kick It?! — *A Kickball Tournament!* The second annual ADPicnic was incredibly successful- many people came out to our chapter house to support the Ronald

McDonald House Charities. We served BBQ pulled pork sandwiches, macaroni and cheese, coleslaw, fruit, and cookies! Unfortunately, it was pouring rain last Sunday in Champaign so our kickball tournament was cancelled due to liability at the Champaign Park District level. The enthusiasm shown by the teams, however, was very encouraging and hopefully our next



Walk a Mile event.

philanthropy event in the fall will be just as successful!

Love and violets,

*Sarah Sandberg*

Sarah Sandberg



# Alumni News

**Mary Jo Mulcahy '57** - After a new left knee for me and two new shoulders for my husband, we are getting ready to resume some bird watching and travel expeditions.

**Joanne May '73** - Retired from public school teaching in 2009 after 33 years; currently teaching full-time as Chair of String Dept., Conductor of Orchestras, and Supervisor of Student Teachers at Elmhurst College. My daughter, Samantha, teaches music in Flossmoor, IL. My son, Zach, teaches music in White Plains, NY. My husband, Jack, is semi-retired.

**Patricia Bleizeffer '79** - I have worked as an occupational therapist in adult rehabilitation for many years. My husband and I have been married for 27 years. We have 3 wonderful sons, all who have attended U of I, Champaign-Urbana!

## Have Alumnae News?

*We want to hear from you!* Send your personal updates, accomplishments, adventures, and photos to our Account Manager Kasey Breedlove at [kbreedlove@thelaurusgroup.net](mailto:kbreedlove@thelaurusgroup.net), or simply fill out the tear-away form at the bottom of your cover letter and return it in the mail. We want to share it in the next issue of *The Sigma Star*!

## Central Illinois Alumnae Group

by **Ann Wheet**, President

Central Illinois Alumnae Association of Alpha Delta Pi



The bonds of friendship and the sisterhood of ΑΔΠ don't end when you leave college. First. Finest. Forever. Are you an Alpha Delta Pi alumna looking to reconnect and continue your involvement in Alpha Delta Pi? The Central Illinois Alumnae Association of Alpha Delta Pi welcomes you to join us as we continue our sisterhood through social and philanthropic events. The Alpha Delta Pi Central Illinois Alumnae Association strives to provide an atmosphere where:

- Friendships among sisters develop and grow
- Community service is emphasized
- Support for our collegiate chapters is a priority
- Varied programs maximize participation for our members

To join our association, send an e-mail to [ann.wheet.azsm@statefarm.com](mailto:ann.wheet.azsm@statefarm.com).



## Sigma Alumnae Walkway

Have you purchased your brick yet for the Sigma Alumnae Walkway? We still have room for more! For a donation of \$90 (one to three lines of text), you can purchase an engraved brick to commemorate your initiation or graduation, recognize your Diamond Sister, wish Love and Violets to a chapter sister, or have your parents or spouse purchase a brick in your honor. All money raised will go directly towards future home improvement projects so that alumnae, collegians, family, and friends can continue to take pride in our wonderful chapter house! Do not miss out on this opportunity to purchase a brick that you can see every time you visit the chapter house and show your Sigma pride and generosity to future generations! E-mail **Katie Nowicki '99** at [katielowicki@gmail.com](mailto:katielowicki@gmail.com) for more information.

## Housing

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you were there. And if you've ever done any kind of remodeling project at your home you can probably imagine how extensive a project we're embarking on in the effort to update all of them. Keep an eye out in the months ahead as we finalize plans for the remodeling and begin fund-raising efforts for this very big job.

And finally — have you been thinking about giving back to Alpha Delta Pi? Missing the days you spent in the “little old house on sorority row?”



Why not consider joining us on the Housing Corporation? It's an excellent way to “come

home” to Sigma and the time commitment is minimal — only 2-3 meetings a year and a handful of conference calls. If you are interested in joining or just want more information, please email me at [shannonsandoval@mac.com](mailto:shannonsandoval@mac.com). I'd be happy to answer your questions and tell you more about what I enjoy about serving on the Sigma House Corporation!

Spring blessings to you and yours — remember to show your Adelphean spirit and wear your pin on May 15th... and we hope to see YOU soon at 1202 W. Nevada!

L&V,

*Shannon*

Shannon Sandoval '94

