

Kite Strings



APRIL 2011

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

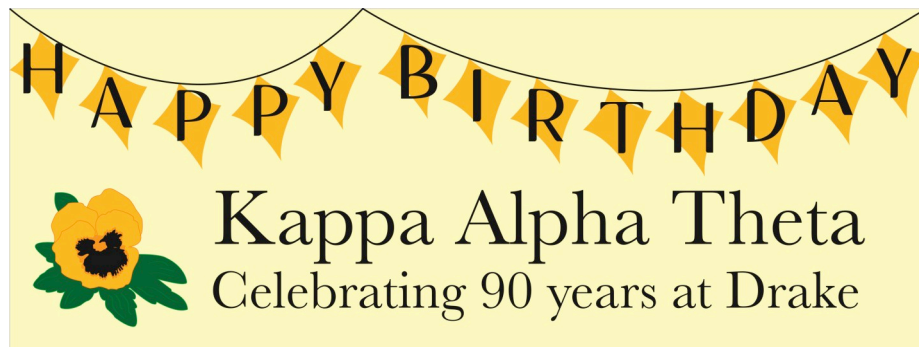
- Beta Kappa Celebrating 90th Birthday!
- Initiation for Spring New Members
- After Initiation Sisterhood
- Spring Formal
- Senior Spotlights!!
- Beta Kappa Links

90 Years of Theta Love

On April 29, 1921, the Beta Kappa Chapter of Kappa Alpha Theta as established at Drake University. Today, ninety years later, we continue to uphold the same ideals that our sisters did 90 years ago. Beta Kappa was part of 4 sororities to be established

at Drake during one weekend in 1921. Delta Gamma, Kappa Kappa Gamma and Kappa Alpha Theta are still at Drake today and proud to celebrate 90 years on campus. Since being established at Drake, Theta has played

an integral role in furthering the development of women by providing opportunities for leadership, participation in philanthropic events, and strengthening the bonds of our sisterhood. It is an honor to be a part of an organization that strives academically and creates friendships lasting friendships. We all proud to be Theta's for a Lifetime.



Relays Brunch

In April, the Beta Kappa chapter hosts a brunch in celebration of the chapter's 90th anniversary on Drake's Campus. This event is on **Saturday, April 30th from 10:30 am to 1 pm** at our home

on **1335 34th Street**. All alumnae are invited to attend! The women of Beta Kappa are so excited to have the opportunity to see all the alumnae in and around the Des Moines area, along with all our sisters from our own house!



Spring Initiation



On April 14th, the Beta Kappa chapter initiated our five new spring members into our sisterhood. The chapter was so excited to have five new members added to our chain of sisters here at Theta. Welcome to Kappa Alpha Theta Sarah Thune, Kristin Turnquist, Samantha Melz, Caroline Salozzo, and Lara Hendersen. Congratulations to the entire chapter!



Post-Initiation Sisterhood

"My favorite Theta memory is when...Do I only get to pick one?" At the post-initiation sisterhood event, we began by having a "cozy" - all sitting in the same room, connecting our paperclip chain and sharing our favorite Theta memory. For some women, it was a

difficult choice, but we all enjoyed hearing what being a Theta means to each sister. Later, we had an Easter egg hunt, did crafts and played games and ate some snacks as we welcomed our five new

active members into our sisterhood.

Spring Formal

Standing 34 stories above Des Moines and looking out at the city scape, the Thetas of the Beta Kappa chapter danced the night away at our Spring Formal. Social chairs Kirsten Anderson and Hannah Fordyce worked hard and planned an elegant evening, complete with a three course, sit-down dinner, at The Des Moines Club in the

Ruan Building in downtown Des Moines.

The nights theme, "Fly Me to the Moon, Let Me Play Among the Stars," was certainly appropriate as we watched the sun set while singing and dancing with our sisters.



Senior Spotlights



Colleen Dermody

Future Plans: Teach elementary students (I can add to this more when I get a job!)
Major- Elementary education with endorsements in Reading, English/Language Arts, and Theater/Rhetoric/Communication Studies

Hometown: Peoria, Illinois

Why Theta?: I instantly felt a connection when walking in the door. I had an instinct

and my conscience told me that this was the chapter to join. I looked forward to coming back to Theta each night and enjoyed my conversations with the actives. They really wanted to get to know me personally and we had a lot in common.

Kari Tietjen

Future Plans: Graduate school for Student Affairs, go into student affairs eventually!

Major: History/
International Relations

Hometown: Lincoln, NE

Why Theta?: I felt the most comfortable at Theta, and the conversations I had during recruitment were just relaxed and fun! As silly as it sounds, Theta felt like home and I just felt like I fit here!

Best Theta Memory: Living with Kelsie Anthony and Laura Kirchner for practically 3 years, driving home to Nebraska with Heather Boone and the hilarity that ensues, and initiation, of course!



Emily Krstulic

Future Plans: Next year I will be traveling to Shi jia-zhuang, China to teach English at Number 42 Middle School. I'm SO excited to get this opportunity through Drake and have this cultural experience before returning to the states and beginning my teaching career.

Major: Secondary Education with endorsements in All Language Arts and Middle School.

Best Theta Memory: The Winter Olympics, my junior year. I was never really interested in them aside from figure skating, but living in the house changed that. There was ALWAYS someone watching curling (and curling mysteriously was always on when I came home



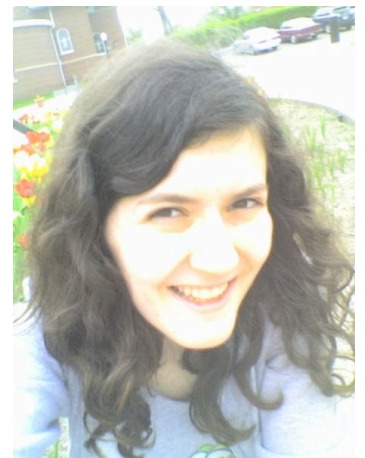
Traci Gwinn

Future Plans: Attending Mercy College of Health Sciences in September 2011, so I'll still be in Des Moines! (text me!)

Major: Biochemistry Cell and Molecular Biology (BCMB)

Hometown: Johnston, IA

Why Theta?: Everyone in the house warmed up to me immediately. I didn't feel like I was being judged, that I could just be me! And look how well you all put up with me for three years
 best theta memory - When my biological sister passed away, my Theta sisters all rallied around me, I can never thank you all enough for the support and love you gave me.



Senior Spotlights

Continued...

Andrea Everling

Future Plans: graduate school

Why Theta?: The women of Kappa Alpha Theta are very diverse and yet come together to work with one another towards common goals/values. Theta provided the opportunity to share my college experience, and life, with amazing women which I otherwise would not have formed such strong bonds.

Best Theta Memory: Tearin' up the dance floor at social events with my sisters!



Jessica Shalita

Major: Pharmacy

Hometown: Las Vegas, NV

Best Theta Memory: It's so difficult to pick just one! There are so many, but it's got to either be Spring Break 2011 in

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico with Kate, Meredith, and Jess; Sweetheart Sing 2010, when we performed the Spice Girls routine that I wrote, choreographed, and taught with the help of my lovely sisters; or every single year of formal fall Recruitment and Initiation, because recruitment and ritual are two of the most important things about Theta.



Sara Kollauf

Major: Pharmacy

Hometown: Greenfield, WI

Why Theta?: I knew I wanted to go Greek from the moment I came to Drake; I was hoping to find a "home away from home" since my real home was 6 hours away and I didn't know ANYONE here. I instantly made friends in all of my classes (which was easier than I thought), and realized that many people already cared about me within my first few

weeks of school. Once I rushed, I saw all of the familiar faces of the friends I made during class at Theta - I knew this was where I belonged because there was no one I would rather be around than with my best friends.

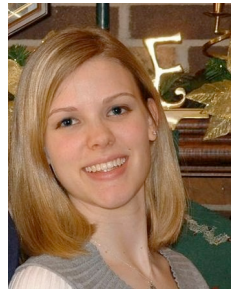
Best Theta Memory: Racing a giant fishbowl with an unknown amount of servings and waking up with a bruise on my thigh the size of a soccer ball that lasted over two weeks - but the memories lasted much longer.



Allison Stephens

Future plans: Because I received a two-year scholarship from the U.S. Air Force, I will be promoted to a Captain when I graduate from pharmacy school in 2013, and become an active duty pharmacist in the Air Force for three years. My first assignment would be to attend commissioned officer training in Alabama for five weeks. I hope to travel and explore different areas of pharmacy while in the Air Force before I settle down, if I ever settle down.

Why Theta: I joined Theta because it was a home away from home. I wanted to have someone to come home to from class, work, or just a plain bad day. I found this at Theta. I found women that accepted my quirks and were understanding of my woes. I also found many women who inspired me and have definitely impacted my future and outlook on life.



Senior Spotlights

Continued...



Hillary O'Brien

Future Plans: I plan to work in industry for a couple years and then attend medical school.

Why Theta?: I chose Theta because of the women; I just felt at home here.

Best Theta Memory: I have a lot--MONOPS Club; El Aguila; Steph, my BFF; Private Dancer; GoldenEye; Teach Me How to Snaggy Snag!

Catherine Bangasser

Future Plans: Continuing with Pharmacy School at Drake
Major - Pharmacy

Hometown: Excelsior, MN

Why Theta?: I felt very welcome in the house and got along with the girls I talked to during recruitment really well

Best Theta Memory: Studying abroad with Kate Searing



Kelsie Anthony

Future Plans: My future plans include making the short move to West Des Moines where my friend Jami and I have an apartment. I will be keeping my current internship at Iowa Health-Des Moines where I work in the public relations department until I find a full-time job. I am also looking forward to getting married this fall on September 10 to my fiancé, Drew Zomermaand, in my hometown of Le Mars, Iowa!

Why Theta?: When I went through formal recruitment, I will admit that Theta was not my first choice. But once I went to the bid day activity and met the girls of my pledge class, I knew that this would be my home. I have met so many great women here and I am so glad that chose Theta. It has been such a great experience and I am proud to call the women of Kappa Alpha Theta my sisters. I would have to say that some of my fondest Theta memories include my roommates, Laura Kirchner and Kari Tietjen. Living together for a long time, we have had many fun nights of pillow talks and bedtime google searching hilarious and random things.



Stephanie Sattler

Future plan: Working at Grant Thornton in Minneapolis

Major: Accounting

Hometown: Edina, MN

Best Theta Memory: Fun roomies. Impromptu late night baking at Theta. Wednesday fun.

Senior Spotlights Continued...

Kristen Klimas

Hometown: Arlington Heights, IL

Why Theta?: When I went through recruitment I really connected with the girls in the house. Oddly enough the first person I talked to on day one of recruitment was eventually my pledge mom.

Best Theta Memory: I have many but my favorite memories are family nights with the cabbage patch family.



Meredith Lamberti

Future Plans: graduate school I'm going to be teaching English at the No. 42 Middle School in Shijiazhuang, China. Following my year in China, I'll be going to law school. I just have no idea where yet.

Best Theta Memory: My memory was my freshman year. I was going through a rough time at the end of my first semester, but I hadn't really told anyone about it. Even though I never mentioned it, one night Jo, Cori, and Heidi came and stole me from my dorm room and took me to the house. They had bought ice cream and rented a cheesy movie from Redbox and we sat down and watched movies and ate ice cream for hours. It really hit home for me because they knew that something was wrong without me even having to say it.



Laura Kirchner

Future Plans: Looking for Elementary Teaching positions!

Major: Elementary Education, Endorsements in: Reading, Early Childhood, English as a Second Language

Best Theta Memory: Staying up late talking and laughing with my roommates!

Not Pictured: Megan Schini and Kathryn Searing. Megan's major is Elementary Education and Kate's is Pharmacy!

Our Links...

- view pictures of recent events on **shutterfly**:
<http://kappaalphathetabetakappachapter.shutterfly.com/>
- follow Beta Kappa on **facebook**:
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Kappa-Alpha-Theta-Beta-Kappa-Chapter/107917209232590?ref=ts>
- follow Beta Kappa on **twitter**:
<http://twitter.com/drakeTheta>
- view the chapter's **official website**:
<http://www.kappaalphatheta.org/chapters/betakappa/index.cfm?pageCode=home>
- check out Beta Kappa on **Drake's website**: <http://www.drake.edu/news/db/official/archive.php?article=5613>

