

# Kappa Alpha Theta

## Gamma deutron chapter

*at Ohio Wesleyan University*



The Gamma deutron house on Spring 2012 bid night

### **Gamma deutron Thetas are Balanced Women**

As our most recent pledge class went through new member education, junior Allyson North, Chief Education Officer, organized programs for each of the other classes to continue growing as Theta women. Through Gamma deutron's "Balanced Woman" program, each class's program had a theme: "learning" for freshmen, "growing" for sophomores, "excelling" for juniors, and "Theta for a lifetime" for seniors. Sophomores participated in a yoga lesson instructed by sophomore Rachel Vinciguerra, juniors attended a résumé writing workshop held by OWU's Career Services office, and seniors had an information session led by Samantha Sharpe, Event Coordinator for the Columbus alumnae chapter.

### **Thetas Honored at Greek Awards**

Ohio Wesleyan's Greek Awards were held on March 6, 2012. Once again, the Gamma deutron chapter did a splendid job of representing Kappa Alpha Theta. Our chapter received the Chapter Excellence Award, Alumni Relations Award, and Program of the Year Award for our fall philanthropy event, Mr. OWU.

Junior Allyson North, Chief Education Officer, was the recipient of the Developing Leader Award. Junior Chelsea Leeds, Chief Operating Officer, and junior Amy Siemon, Chief Executive Officer, were both inducted into Order of Omega. Finally, several members of the chapter were inducted into Gamma Sigma Alpha, the Greek honor society.

## Going to Bat for CASA



With spring came flowers, a new pledge class, and of course, Kats and Bats. Kats and Bats is our annual spring philanthropy event to raise money for CASA. A team from each Greek organization on campus joined us on fraternity hill for a sunny afternoon of wiffle ball. This year, sophomore Ellie Feely, Philanthropy Chair, asked a representative from

Delaware CASA to speak about the work he does before the games began. Spectators bought burgers and lemonade and competed for several raffle prizes while cheering on their teams, and unexpected wind allowed for kite flying. When the dust settled, the tournament winners were Phi Kappa Psi and Delta Gamma.

## Welcome, New Members!

This school year, our chapter welcomed 20 new Thetas. Six went through informal recruitment and became active during the Fall 2011 semester, while 14 new girls joined through formal recruitment earlier this Spring semester.

Juniors Ashley Brown and Grace Wallace were initiated with sophomores Katie Sponseller, Natalie Duleba, Marissa Popeck, and Deanna Wu. These exceptional new Thetas chose to go Greek through informal recruitment for various reasons. Sponseller said this alternate process “took away a lot of the

pressures and stresses of formal.” She stressed that going through informal was not an experience lacking anything compared to formal; it was just another way to get involved in the Greek community at a different time. She also commented that there is still a strong bond between the Fall 2011 pledge class. Since there are only six of them, they became “extremely close extremely fast.” The house is so glad these women chose to join Greek life, and they encourage anyone curious about Greek life to try out informal and get a unique experience of rushing and bid day.

This Spring, Theta welcomed sophomore Alyssa DeRobertis and freshmen Hannah Snapp, Emma Goetz, Breezey Snyder, Lauren Rump, Lauren Holler, Natalie Mangene, Annie Pappenhagen, Brenda Gable, Mackenzie Schroeder, Mady Smith, Ellie Magner, Riley O’Brien, and Lauren Moore. Formal recruitment was overall a popular route to take this year. DeRobertis commented that she got to know each of the five houses, but “Theta felt like it was the right place for me because it was so easy to talk to all the girls and have normal conversations with them.”

## Farewell to the Class of 2012



Gamma Deuteron's senior class is one of the largest classes to graduate in recent history. The seniors not only represent a large portion of the current house membership, but also are a great example of the academic and personal diversity of our chapter. Theta has truly fostered the senior class's academic achievements, and we cannot wait to see where they go next!

Even with the incredible diversity in the senior class, a quarter will be going into the education field. Maddy Hargis, who received OWU's Promising Educator Award, will be going into Early Childhood Education at the Greenwich Country Day School. Holly Gilbert and Michelle Strong

are also receiving their degrees in Early Childhood Education. Michelle will be doing Teach4America in Arizona after graduating. She is also the recipient of Dale J. Bruce Top 50 Scholar/Athlete Award. Christina Tierney is looking for opportunities to apply her Spanish Education degree. Maren Oehl is doing Integrated Social Studies, hopefully in Chicago. Diane Bizzarro will be using her English and French majors to teach in France for the upcoming year.

DeLaine Mayer used her time at OWU to take advantage of theory to practice opportunities. "I have a self-designed major in Peace, Justice, and Conflict Resolution. I received a Theory to

Practice Grant last summer and traveled to Kenya," Mayer said. We cannot wait to see where her passion for social justice takes her.

Several of our senior sisters will be continuing their academic careers. Elizabeth Pease is graduating with a neuroscience and pre-medicine double major with minors in psych, chemistry, and zoology. Elizabeth will be attending Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in the fall. Katie Hurley will be attending Cleveland State University for her doctorate in physical therapy. Leah Puening was awarded a scholarship for the MS Accountancy program at Wake Forest University. Megan Hoffman will be studying at the John Glenn School of Public Affairs at Ohio State University, earning a Master's Degree in Public Administration.

The list of accomplishments, honors, awards, and majors that this class has accrued could go on for quite some time, and we can only imagine the diverse and incredible journeys they are about to embark on. We wish them luck and theta love, and know they will accomplish so much!

In an effort to strengthen our connections with alumnae, the Gamma Deuteron chapter is creating an "alumnae map." We will create a location map of all Gamma Deuteron graduates willing to be listed. By doing so, we hope to encourage collegiate members to make Theta connections outside of Ohio Wesleyan by having the contact information of alumnae. If interested in including contact information on the "alumnae map," please contact Elizabeth Riggio, Chief Marketing Officer and chair of the Alumnae Committee, at [ecriggio@owu.edu](mailto:ecriggio@owu.edu).

## Building Sisterhood, Making Memories at Retreat

Our spring retreat this year was short but sweet. Everyone looks forward to our fall and spring retreats at the Theta house. It is a great opportunity to unplug and just enjoy true sisterhood. The retreat committee, headed by Human Resource Director Sarah Hartzheim, did a fabulous job!

We started with some crafts, including door decorations and wall hangings with great class pictures that brought back memories. We also wrote and crafted additions for a time capsule the chapter will hopefully open next fall. We had a great time coming up with ideas, and ended up making some funny new memories as we wrote down cherished ones from before.

Clare Whitaker, Chief Recruitment Officer, led a recruitment workshop. Her committee was able to gather great feedback and reflection about our successful spring recruitment as well as plan for the future. We set plans for COB events in both the spring and fall. Clare showed great leadership and

poise as she answered questions about recruitment, which can be a confusing topic.

Games and more games came next! Thetas loved playing team-based tournaments of our favorite board games like Taboo, charades, and Pictionary. Even these classic games were no match for our competitive spirits. The two final teams then had an A-B-C themed challenge. Each team had to gather items from all over the house that started with each letter of the alphabet, all in a matter of minutes. It was a hectic and hilarious final challenge!

At the end of the day before a fabulous Mexican catered dinner we had some time set aside for more serious reflection and bonding. The chapter had several firesides for sisters to open up with one another and set goals for the rest of the semester. These moments allowed for the best bonding of all. We ended the day with our weekly chapter meeting topping the day with business after a day of great fun and bonding!

## Thetas Prove Greek Life Fosters Academic Achievement

This year proved a successful one in the classroom for our chapter. Last semester the average GPA for the house was 3.4, of which we are very proud! Aside from juggling all kinds of extracurricular activities, Thetas still manage to excel in their academics.

Nearly all departments are represented in the academic interests of our house, either in major or minor form. The more popular majors range from Theater to English and Journalism, Psychology to Education, Politics to International Studies, as well as various Art and Science majors. As many as two thirds of the house have double majors, and about half have some sort of minor. Thetas are dedicated to their majors,

which usually coincide with their passions. Chelsea Dipman and Diane Bizzarro are perfect examples, as Dipman received a cash prize for her painting depicting her best friend this spring, and Bizzarro was chosen to be published in the Ohio Wesleyan Literary Magazine, which are both coveted titles.

At least six women have studied abroad this semester, will travel and study this summer, or are preparing to go abroad in the fall. Internships include those at OWU's Early Childhood Center, positions in Amnesty International, and various women's health organizations.

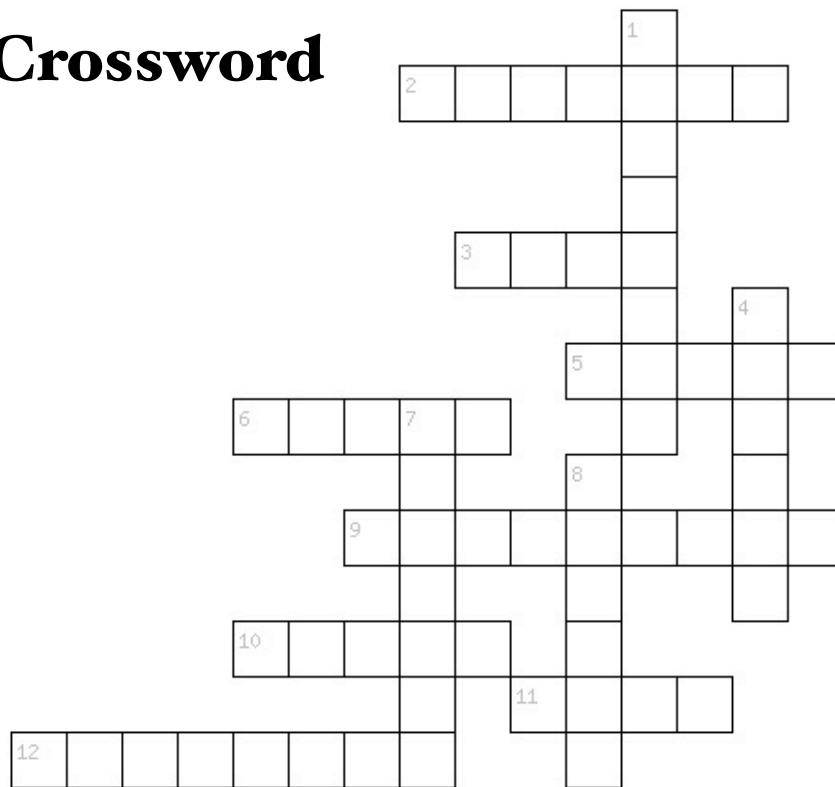
Senior Elizabeth Pease thinks highly of the internships that OWU students can attain. She has

gotten the chance to work in the Student Health Center for the past three years, saying she feels like she has "learned the ins and outs of running a doctor's office."

Sophomore Jenna Rodcay is excited to accept an intern position for the Summer on the Cuyahoga program. Through this opportunity, she will be able to "meet students from other schools and explore Cleveland." Our Thetas grow in so many ways from these internship experiences.

Thetas are present in almost every Greek-letter honors society, including Phi Eta Sigma, into which five freshmen Thetas were inducted this April. Others can be found participating in Mortar Board or receiving Golden Bishop Awards this spring.

# KAΘ Crossword



Down

- 1. This Theta will be teaching in Toulouse, France in September.
- 4. the number of new members in the 2011-2012 school year
- 7. Who said this: I interned in Senator Portman's Washington D.C. Office during Fall 2011
- 8. Which sister will be traveling to Bangladesh this summer to study the economic reasoning behind their continued poverty?

Across

- 2. Who traveled to Kenya to practice Swahili and work at an orphanage, then started the group KenyaOWU?
- 3. Theta's philanthropy goes to what organization?
- 5. Theta's Fall 2011 philanthropy event
- 6. Chelsea Dipman's prize-winning painting this semester depicted which senior sister?
- 9. Who said this: I spent one summer interning in Philadelphia doing breast cancer research.
- 10. Theta's flower
- 11. Theta's main symbol
- 12. The second Greek letter naming OWU's Theta chapter.

## Leaders in the Greek Community



Our own Chief Operating Officer, junior Chelsea Leeds, helped plan one of the campus trilogy events! Trilogy events are character-building programs put on by the campus Panhellenic Council and are required for members of each chapter. There are three of these events each year.

A forum on hate speech against women, the program helped all Greek women in attendance think about the language they use to address each other as friends and the implications their ways of speech have for the Greek community and women as a whole. Leeds developed this program with the assistance of Carrie Miller, Residential Life Coordinator, Dana Behum, Assistant Director of Student Involvement for Fraternity and Sorority Life, and Anna Cooper, Panhellenic president.

## Facility Corporation Board News

Your Facility Corporation Board has been meeting quarterly and working hard to ensure that the chapter house at 179 West Winter Street continues to meet the needs of our wonderful active Thetas. Now that the house is more than 50 years old, it is always a challenge to keep everything in good repair and make desired upgrades.

Just this past year we purchased a new 42" flat-screen TV and black glass stand, as well as a new area rug, all for the informal living room. The actives were thrilled with these new additions to the house! Now we must turn our attention to upgrades for the chapter room and powder room as well as exterior and interior painting.

Did you know that it costs approximately \$11,000 a year in real estate taxes, insurance, landscaping, cable TV, maintenance and repairs just to operate the house? Rent from the chapter and facility fees from new members meet the majority of these expenses, but we depend upon loyal alumnae like you to help us make improvements.

We trust that you will realize the need for financial support to help make these enhancements possible. Gamma deuteron needs your help! Please consider making an annual donation to the Facility Corporation improvement fund. We urge you to contribute at least one dollar per year for every year you've been a Theta. If you are able to do more, we would welcome it!

### Donation Form

**Please clip this form and mail it with your check made payable to Gamma deuteron Facility Corporation. Send to: Sandra Farber, 475 N. 3 B's and K Road, Sunbury, OH 43074.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Theta Initiation Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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EmailAddress \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in serving on the Facility Corporation Board for Gamma deuteron. Please contact me at \_\_\_\_\_.  
(telephone number)